

Andy Cantu

Growing up near South Congress, many of my earliest and fondest memories were made right here in the neighborhood - learning to ride my bike at St. Ed's, swimming at Big Stacy Pool, and gorging on Fran's Hamburgers (RIP). I understand what makes this such a special part of Austin, and I want to help preserve those unique qualities while also working to create a community that's diverse, vibrant, and inclusive.

In 2007, I flew the nest to attend college at Yale, followed by graduate school at Harvard where I studied urban planning, concentrating in housing policy and community development. Although I was fortunate to spend eight years in a region of the country so different from Austin, my roots called me back. This past summer, I moved into a home I own on Long Bow Lane with two of my best friends, Sarah and Julie. We love being so close to all that the neighborhood has to offer, in a place that's both familiar and new.

In my current position as Director of Regional Mobility at the Austin Chamber of Commerce, I work closely with elected officials and community and business leaders to develop innovative strategies for addressing Central Texas's congestion challenges. In my spare time I enjoy eating queso, giving our dog Myrtle tummy tickles, and volunteering as an ESL teaching assistant with Foundation Communities, a non-profit organization that provides affordable housing opportunities and support services for low-income families.

As someone who sees our community through the eyes of both a native and a newbie, I want to bring these complementary perspectives to bear as President of SRCC by providing a forum where all residents are welcome to contribute their time and energy to making our neighborhood better than it already is.

Andy Cantu
andrewbcantu@gmail.com



Goal: Grow SRCC's voice by encouraging all members of the community to actively participate in the life of their neighborhood

- ▶ **Expand** opportunities for engagement by hosting more informal get-togethers that fit members' schedules
- ▶ **Promote** greater participation and more sustained recruitment efforts by enhancing our communications strategy and integrating online discussion platform into website
- ▶ **Strengthen** commitment to fairness and transparency by making our voting, membership, and dues payment systems simpler and easier to use