



ANNUAL SRCC POTLUCK & ELECTION

Tuesday, March 7, 2017
Potluck 6pm, Elections 7:30pm

Once again, we gather to cast votes for the South River City Citizens Officers and Area Coordinators who comprise our Executive Committee. This is the team that we as a neighborhood elect to represent us at City of Austin council meetings, board, and commission hearings. They will govern the association and work diligently on our behalf for the next year! Our meeting will kick-off with our annual potluck meal at Life in the City United Methodist Church. This year the potluck dinner starts at 6pm. Following our social gathering, we will elect our officers and confirm the re-election of our Area Coordinators.

This year we have formed a nominating committee, which will follow Robert's Rules of Order for seeking qualified candidates for office, confirming their willingness to serve, and then reporting their findings and recommendations. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor. Anyone wishing to run for office is encouraged to contact any of the officers prior to the March 7th meeting (see back page for contact information). Please note that our meeting is on a TUESDAY, so make sure you mark your calendars, join your neighbors, make new friends, bring a favorite dish, and vote. Disposable dinnerware will be provided, but feel free to bring your own reusable plates, utensils and cups. Children are welcome!

ELECTION NOTE: Feb. 8 was the deadline to become a new member and vote at the general membership meeting, but if your membership has not lapsed more than two years, you can pay your dues at the meeting and vote. Of course, we encourage your membership in the neighborhood association at any time. Please come to the potluck dinner in any event to meet your neighbors!

Your Candidates

President:
Gretchen Otto

Vice President:
Dan Fredine

Treasurer:
Nancy Byrd

Secretary:
Seeking Candidate

Dear neighbors,
Please consider coming to Blunn Creek Nature Preserve for It's My Park Day. With help from the Austin Parks Foundation, we'll be volunteering there on Saturday, March 4th, from 8:30am to noon. We'll be working on removing invasive plants, putting in native seed and plants, picking up litter, and doing some other chores. It would be great to have your help if you can spare the time. Here's where you can register (and get a groovy t-shirt!):

<https://austinparks.givepulse.com/event/37620-Come-to-Blunn-Preserve-Your-New-Favorite-Park%21>

—David Todd



Goodbye to Garret

At our annual potluck and elections this year we will be saying goodbye to one of our most devoted and longest-serving officers, Garret Nick. He's been the secretary of SRCC since 2007—a full decade of attending (nearly) every SRCC meeting! Garret is moving to the Zilker area where he'll surely be a great asset to their neighborhood association. Here are a few words of thanks from fellow volunteers who have served alongside him:

Garret has been such a huge asset to our neighborhood and Austin. I've always greatly appreciated and admired his dedication to the community. I'll definitely miss his wit, humor and outspokenness, and I wish him and his family great happiness in their new home!

—Sounthaly "Tune" Outhavong

I loved working with Garret throughout my terms as VP and Pres. He was absolutely the cornerstone of the organization-- always there and ready to perform his duties but he also had so much context for every issue given his long-time commitment. He and I worked very closely on exploring new technologies on the Communications committee as well and we put a lot of heart-felt hours into that effort—his insight into current technologies as well as his understanding of what the community wanted was essential in getting to the solutions we finally proposed. These exec roles burn people out after a year or two but Garret always took it seriously and showed a level of commitment matched only by Jean Mather. He will be missed!

—Marc Davis

I'll miss Garret's sense of humor, his penchant for playing devil's advocate, and his colorful arguments. He's been a tireless champion for the neighborhood and a fun colleague who helps me remember to not take all this too seriously. I am clinging to the hope that I'll still be able to enjoy reading his couch-thoughts on the neighborhood listserv.

—Gretchen Otto

Garret has been a dedicated member and contributor to SRCC throughout many years--as far back as 2000 he was suggesting improvements for getting SRCC records online. He has a great sense of community and is such a delight to work with. He has that rare combination of humor, stamina, reliability, and wisdom that keeps volunteer organizations chugging forward. Let's wish him and his family the very best in their new neighborhood!

—Carol Martin



Blunn Creek Nature Preserve

A group of your neighbors, including Marty Christman, Jeff Kessel, Elloa Mathews, Gretchen Otto, Betty Weed, and others have been working on an effort to protect a 9-acre parcel owned by AISD that includes the headwaters of Blunn Creek. Blunn Creek is the stream that runs through the heart of our neighborhood, including Blunn Creek Nature Preserve and Stacy Greenbelt. Supporters for the idea of a park there think this wooded tract (full of mature pecans, cottonwoods, and sycamores) will make a great site for recreation, outdoor education, water quality and flood protection, as well as provide critical space for another link in a watershed-long hike-and-bike corridor.

Last fall, we were excited to hear that AISD had offered the tract (located at 3702 Woodward, at the east end of Alpine) for sale, lease, or co-venture. Fortunately, the City of Austin, with support from both the Parks & Recreation and Watershed Protection Departments, entered a strong bid to buy the land and develop it as a park. We have been delighted that the Austin Parks Board, a number of south Austin neighborhoods

(SRCC, Dawson, Galindo, Barton Hills, and Zilker), and several conservation groups (the Hill Country Conservancy, National Wildlife Federation, Texas Conservation Alliance, and Travis Audubon Society), have all filed resolutions in support of the park proposal.

However, the tract's future as a park is still in doubt. The District has yet to vote, and is currently weighing the City's bid against a private offer to develop the tract. Since this is the last major unprotected piece of open space in our neighborhood as well as the source of Blunn Creek, we feel that the stakes are high.

To give this possible park its best chance of becoming a reality, we are strongly urging interested neighbors to contact the District through its board (trustees@austinisd.org), executive assistant (Elaine Hopkins at Elaine.Hopkins@austinisd.org), and attorney (Ylise Janssen at ylise.janssen@austinisd.org) to express your support for the tract's sale to the City, along with the creation of a park.

—David Todd, SRCC
Parks Committee Chair

Bylaws Committee Status Report

The Bylaws Committee has met monthly since January 2016 and continues to make progress in reviewing the current bylaws. The goal is to update the bylaws to reflect the ways SRCC currently works, clarify confusing sentences, and arrange content in logical order that will achieve a final document that is easier to reference.

The target date for bringing the final wording to a vote is the September 2017 General Membership meeting. To provide plenty of advance notification and allow time to gather input from the membership, the plan and timeline is as follows:

February General Membership meeting: committee presented an outline of amendments
March Annual meeting: committee will make available the latest outline of amendments and explain the process for distribution of proposed revision as well as the requirements to be met in order to approve amendments.

March-April: members may review the current bylaws and outlined amendments on website. The committee will take feedback from members and continue making revisions. Discussion of specific bylaws will *not* be

agenda items for March and April meetings.
May General Membership meeting: the full DRAFT of proposed revisions will be posted to website, distributed and discussed at this meeting. This is the key meeting for group discussion of the bylaws revisions.

May/July: committee will continue to make revisions based on feedback
August: the FINAL document containing the proposed revisions will be posted to website. Notification about bylaws amendments will be included in the newsletter and posted online. Notification will explain the process for voting on amendments, the timeline, and how to access a copy of the revisions. Members will have the option to request a printed copy.

Discussion of bylaws will *not* be an agenda item at this meeting.
September General Membership meeting: membership will VOTE on final revisions. This will be strictly an up-or-down vote—we cannot make further changes once we have distributed the final version for consideration.

—Carol Martin, SRCC
Bylaws Committee Chair

Issues Continue with St. Edwards

Sherwood Oaks neighbors enjoyed a respite from unsafe parking, traffic, and commercial buses while St. Edwards University took its Christmas break. However, as construction continued on the Operations Building, neighbors reported problems with dangerous dump truck drivers, and the constant noise related to construction. Concerns were shared at a meeting on campus in November with the Sasaki firm hired by SEU to update the university's Masterplan. Coverage of that meeting is found here: <https://communityimpact.com/austin/city-county/2016/10/24/neighbors-new-st-edwards-facility-encroaching-residential-streets/> AND HERE: <https://communityimpact.com/austin/news/2016/11/19/neighbors-st-edwards-plans-disturb-areas-homes/>

With the spring semester, so returns baseball season, so neighbors are reminded to photograph and report visiting sports team buses parked on St. Edwards Dr. Although press coverage of the meetings with SEU's PR person reported that buses are being directed to park on campus, busses are continuing to park on St. Edwards Dr. The person St. Edwards has designated to report incidents to is St. Edwards Chief of Police, Scott Burnotes at scott.burnotes@stedwards.edu (please copy your email to Mr. Burnotes to the Sherwood Oaks/St. Edwards neighborhood liaison, Elloa Mathews, at elloamail@austin.rr.com).

Cars parked too close to intersections: State law specifies a clearance from cross walks of 20 feet, and a cross walk is implied at every single intersection of two roads even if it's not painted. If you are unable to see around a car parked at a corner onto St. Edwards Dr. call 311 and report the dangerous intersection and the license plate of the car parked closer than 20 feet to the intersection. The 311 operator will give you a report number. If you are a pedestrian, also document whether the car bears a St. Edwards parking permit, even if it has expired. Send all numbers to Elloa Mathews at ellomail@austin.rr.com This information is being compiled for the City of Austin to install signage and parking safety devices on St. Edwards Dr.

Future development on St. Edwards Drive: In December, SRCC was informed that the University had hired Kit Johnson, who was recently employed as the City of Austin Architect. A meeting with Kit Johnson and SRCC representatives is planned. Questions remain what plans for St. Edwards Dr. are in the works that would require a

dedicated staff person who is an architect.

University master plan addressed by Neighborhood Plan Contact Team: Questions arose in the winter at SRCC meetings about how the City of Austin approved the Operations Bldg. in Sherwood Oaks since the neighborhood is currently covered by an adopted Neighborhood Plan (NP). Neighbors discovered that the Sasaki firm also designed the Tulane University Masterplan in New Orleans. That city requires that any private institution (like Tulane or St. Edwards) with a master plan within the city engage in community outreach, and that the master plan be compatible with the surrounding neighborhood plans. A New Orleans newspaper covered this topic: <http://uptownmessenger.com/2016/01/tulane-begins-work-on-city-mandate-master-plan/>

In November, our Neighborhood Plan Contact Team voted unanimously to send a request to the City Council for an amendment to require the same type of stakeholder process and compatibility for private institutions in Austin that New Orleans requires in an effort to prevent this type of development from occurring again in the future. Our Contact Team if the steward of the NP which can be found here: <http://www.srccatx.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/gsrc-np.pdf>

—Elloa Mathews, SRCC Area 5 Co-Coordinator



Travis Heights Elementary Young Writer's Workshop

Travis Heights Elementary welcomed authors and musicians to our campus on February 7th to celebrate our 21st annual Young Writer's Workshop. With support from our community and parents, 15 different writing professionals shared with our students a little about their craft and allowed the kids to see that a love for writing can turn into a career! Singing and songwriting was also celebrated with our younger students.

We continue to celebrate how much our diverse learning environment is so well supported by the community.

**Kindergarten Orientation is Tuesday, April 4th.
Pre-K registration begins on April 3.**

CodeNext

At the open house on 2/1/17, a Code “Text” draft/preview release was presented. A high level anatomy of the code is described in a pamphlet titled “Shaping the Austin We Imagine”:

What it looks like: The code document has been designed to make regulations easy to understand and clear to navigate. A Table of Contents is included in each new section.

Graphics and illustrations visually explain regulations, indenting, section breaks, and labeling add clarity.

How it’s organized: “Relocated under a different number [23], an extensive reorganization of the Land Development Code elevates community priorities, consolidates procedures, and introduces a hybrid zoning code with new form-based [*emphasis SRCC*] standards.”

Of interest to those of us living in the SRCC area are the zoning codes relating “transect and non-transect zones + overlays”, and from the pamphlet: “The transect zones reflect the community’s vision for implementing the intent of Imagine Austin to strengthen or create walkable spaces, and produces a walkable urban environment of desirable character.” These zones range from less urban to more urban:

T3, up to 2 stories; to T4, up to three stories; T5, from 3 to 6 stories; T6, up to 16 stores (T6U), to unlimited stories (T6UC).” Non-transect zones + overlays are described as consolidated and refined, and will continue to be utilized primarily in suburban areas.” SF3 is considered as “low to medium density residential: single family detached, duplex” in this zone.

While we were not able to tell from the code text draft how SRCC will be affected (pending the mapping tool), it is possible that we will be considered in the last group: non-transect zone plus overlays. If so, the following could apply, again from the pamphlet: Overlay Zones are defined as: “Standards for the overlay zones are intended to ensure that proposed development is compatible with existing and future development within unique parts of the city that have a particular character or open space considerations.” Several different types of overlay zones are called out, including Neighborhood Plans. SRCC is in two Neighborhood Plan areas; areas 1-5 and 8 are in the Greater South River City NP, and areas 6-7 are in the East Riverside Oltorf Combined NP.

Recent comments on transect and non-transect zones from a recent

Austin American-Statesman article: “In fixing the system, CodeNEXT takes a Bifurcated approach, essentially dividing the city into two zoning areas: transect and non-transect zones. Non-transect zones are not expected to be controversial, given that *they would determine zoning mostly in suburban areas and resemble current zoning.* [*Emphasis SRCC*] It’s the transect zones that already are being criticized for opening central Austin neighborhoods to density in the way of apartments, duplexes or other such housing. Those zones, incorporating goals of Imagine Austin, would determine land-use and zoning mostly in central and urban areas of the city.”

However, *without zoning maps it’s impossible to know* [*emphasis SRCC*] how central Austin and other urban neighborhoods will be affected. For example, some will get zoning that allows buildings up to two stories, while other, will get zoning that permits high-rise buildings with zoning allowing an unlimited number of stories. More detail is provided in the draft code Division 20-3C.3 Residential Non-Transect Zones (see the link below). The Mapping Tool, draft

version of which is due for release in April 2017, will clarify which zone/overlay we fall into.

Next steps in public outreach process:

Meeting #2: Feb. 25, 2017, Districts 4 & 9
Lanier High School
(1201 Payton Gin Rd.)
1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Overview of CodeNEXT timeline:

Jan. 31: Council work session to review draft
Feb. 1: CodeNext public open house, 4 p.m. at Palmer Events Center
April 18: Draft zoning map released
June 7: CodeNEXT Advisory Group reports
August: Second draft of code and map released
September: Planning Commission, Zoning and Platting Committee public hearing
November: Council public hearings on new code set
December 14: First reading of second draft of code and map
March/April 2018: 2nd and 3rd reading of code and map
April 2018: New code adopted
Source pamphlet: http://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Planning/CodeNEXT/CodeNEXT_Pamphlet.pdf
Full Draft Code text: https://codenext.civiccomment.org/?mc_cid=1ad67109ae&mc_cid=36c655775c

—Russell Fraser

Area Coordinators

Area 1 Claudette Lowe 512-447-1514
 Area 1 Marylin Orton 512-440-7770
 Area 1 Lee Schneider 451-250-5936
 Area 2 Russell Fraser 512-771-9736
 Area 2 Eugene Kubelka 512-441-9262
 Area 3a Jo Webber 512-441-3117
 Area 3a Sara Newsom 512-444-8292
 Area 3b Brooks Kasson 512-444-8100
 Area 3b Marc Davis 512-656-2841
 Area 4a Sam Martin 512-441-5222
 Area 4a Mary Friedman 512-619-5773
 Area 4b Kris Asthalter 512-443-4963
 Area 5 Neal Nuwash 512-462-9093
 Area 5 Elloa Mathews 512-442-6986
 Area 6 Rachel McClure 512-326-5572
 Area 6 Laura Gass Weaver 512-444-4153

gassweaver@sbcglobal.net

Area 7 Kelvin Glover 512-415-2027

Area 7 Jackie Hatfield jackie.hatfield@gmail.com

Area 8 —Volunteer Needed!

Area 8 Kim Lanzillotti 512-658-8565

Standing Committees

Planning & Zoning

Jean Mather 512-444-4153
 Kent Anschutz kent@kentanschutz.com
 Marc Davis marc.davis@gmail.com
 Russell Fraser russell_fraser@msn.com
 David Swann swanito@att.net

Parks, Schools & Environment

David Todd (Parks) 512-416-0400
 Sherri Ancipink (Schools) 512-707-2627
 Marty Christman (Environment) 512-912-0724

Transportation & Public Safety

Mike Sledge transportation@srccatx.org
 Jeff Kessel jeff@impactpro.com

Neighborhood Patrol Chair

—Volunteer Needed!

Ad Hoc Committees

Communications

Tina Buck communications@srccatx.org

Membership

Carol Martin membership@srccatx.org

Financial

Sam Martin 512-441-5222

Newsletter

Maia Reeves newsletter@srccatx.org

Norwood House

Wolf Sittler 512-447-2150

TH-FP Historic District

Michele Webre 512-422-1262

City District 9

James Bilodeau ancrep@srccatx.org

East Riverside (EROG)

Toni House 512-447-8090

CodeNEXT

Russell Fraser russell_fraser@msn.com

St. Edward's

Elloa Mathews 512-442-6986

South Central Coalition

Elloa Mathews 512-442-6986

Travis Heights Art Trail

Charlotte Bell 512-447-2150

Travis Park Apt/Austin Interfaith

Terry Franz 512-447-8786

SRCC Officers

President

Gretchen Otto president@srccatx.org

Vice President

Dan Fredine vicepresident@srccatx.org

Treasurer

Nancy Byrd treasurer@srccatx.org

Secretary

Garret Nick secretary@srccatx.org

Representatives

Austin Neighborhood Council

James Bilodeau ancrep@srccatx.org

City District 3

Kim Lanzillotti 512-658-8565

SRCC Meetings

1st Monday every month at 7:15pm at Life in the City United Methodist Church, 205 E. Monroe

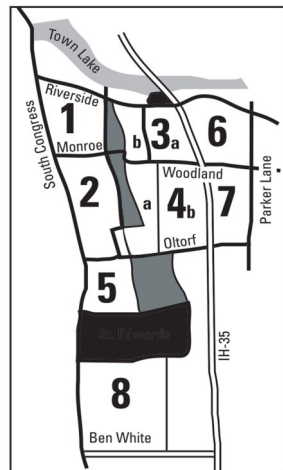
We thank all our officers, area coordinators, committees, and representatives for their dedication to our community! Call your coordinator for SRCC questions, volunteer opportunities, or to help

Membership Levels		
No. of Years	Individual	Family
1	\$20	\$35
2	\$35	\$65
3	\$50	\$95

Become a member and be eligible to vote! Join or renew online (www.srccatx.org) or at the membership table at meetings. To pay via PayPal, go to www.srccatx.org/membership-dues/. You can also send a check made payable to SRCC, along with this completed form to:

SRCC, Attention: Treasurer, P.O. Box 40632, Austin, TX. 78704.

Notes—For Family memberships, please provide the names of each family member (adults residing at the same address). When paying via PayPal, you can include the names of family members in the Instructions to Merchant or Shipping Details areas. Dues and contributions are **not**



Number of Years (circle one):

1 2 3

Membership (circle one):

Individual Family

Membership Fee Due: \$
Add'l Donation to
SRCC General Fund: \$
TOTAL: \$

Date: _____

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

SRCC Area (See Map): _____

Phone (s): _____

Email (s): _____