



WINDOW on WINDSOR

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Vol XXXX No.10
October 2021

**Next
Neighborhood
Association
Meeting**

**Saturday, Oct
9th**

**STREAMING
starts at 10:15
but connect
early for some
visiting!**

**Please see
instructions on
the back page
for attending a
meeting online**

**Oct Meeting:
WPNA
officer
candidates**

Redistricting

**Committee
Updates**

Got something for
the newsletter?
Get it in by the 15th
to newsletter@
windsorpark.info

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President's Letter – October 2021

By Jackie Brooks, WPNA President

Y'all, we have some amazingly generous and hard-working neighbors dedicating their time to focus on many important things going on in our neighborhood (and beyond). I'm in awe of the skill, passion, and big hearts that I've encountered, and especially the new faces (even if it is behind a zoom screen for now) that have raised their hand this year with an eagerness to serve others. I've recognized a firm foundation of energy built from those that have been here much longer than I and continue to find ways to stay involved and help out when it's needed most; adding both invaluable perspective and setting an example for how neighbors show up for one another here in Windsor Park. Sometimes I just have to gush about it, and can't keep it to myself – Windsor Parkers Rock! (I'll save the rest of my gushing for our Holiday Party celebrations in December)

At our September meeting, Hector Martell, chair of our Transportation committee, showed up to walk us through the current proposals from TXDOT for the I-35 Capital Express Central project for our area. He pointed out on the proposed maps, the areas of corridors that will be expanding in our neighborhood and where the right of way for businesses will be taken over to add additional lanes/capacity for the highway. Some of the highlighted impact areas in Windsor Park fall adjacent to Capital Plaza where the dashed line indicating expansion essentially engulfs the parking at P-Terry's and runs up and down the corridor.

During the meeting, some neighbors shared their concern with the shortsighted long-term impact of the proposed solution: that after the long undertaking of building the expansion, any noticeable improvements would be short lived as driving habits adjust. The idea of investing in a proposed solution that will put us right back to having jam packed highways (something we understand TXDOT has acknowledged and is a clear pattern in many highway expansion projects), whilst also strongly impacting adjacent businesses and properties after a long and inconvenient construction process, seems like a reasonable idea to question.

Other neighbors called attention to the lack of addressing east to west connections which create major backups during commutes, as well as the minimal focus on including alternate modes of transportation, including bike and pedestrian, in these proposed solutions. Thankfully, this is on the radars of many stakeholders, including fellow neighborhood organizations. The NCINC (North Central I-35 Neighborhood Coalition) is questioning the approach and requesting a more comprehensive and thoughtful strategy while putting forth ideas and suggestions. Many neighbors have also reached out to educate others on social media and other networks to promote awareness and advocacy. Thank you to those who have been able to join the conversation and share your input, especially directly to our city and staff. We hope that we can find more clarity and alignment regarding the problems/goals this capital investment should address and advocate for a proposal that we can support with enthusiasm.

[Continues on page 2]

[President's Letter, continued from page 1]

Our nominations committee has also been hard at work engaging with potential candidates for Vice President. We will have our officer elections in November - see the candidate slate on page 3. The committee will share information about the full list of nominees in the November newsletter. Other things to look forward to this month (hopefully) are some cool fall breezes and more time outside without mosquitos. I also can't wait to see what fun, creative ways our neighborhood comes up with to decorate and share bits of spooky joy with one another for Halloween (more candy chutes and zombie zip lines?!). Stay safe everyone, and Happy Fall!

Yard of the Month

Sara Jane Lee

The October Yard of the Month winner is Rebecca Hamm. She has lived at 2001 Singing Brook Drive since 2011. The Mexican Feather Grass near the center of the yard looks appropriate for autumn. Trailing Lantana, Rock Rose, Esperanza (aka Yellow Bells), Salvia, Texas Lantana, Penstemon, and Texas Sage add color. Her Pride of Barbados near the corner is a beautiful bush adding much color. Though it might not last until November, it should still be gorgeous into October.

It took Rebecca and her landscaper about two months to design and landscape her front yard. To cut down on water use, she chose plants that require little water. Many are natives. She wanted to add to the beauty of Windsor Park. She says that the yard takes practically no maintenance.

Rebecca will get a \$50.00 gift certificate from Shoal Creek Nursery. Shoal Creek has finished remodeling, and they have a good supply of plants, pots, and equipment. Their employees are helpful and friendly. It is a pleasure to visit. There are two entrances from the parking lot.

Do not be shy. If you like a certain yard, or more than one, tell us. We cannot visit every yard in the neighborhood each month. We may not have seen your yard, or your neighbor's yard. Feel free to nominate your own yard even if you do not think that it is perfect. People have won that way. Send your nomination(s) to WPNA YOMC. P.O. Box 16183, Austin, Texas 78761, call 512-928-0681 and leave a message, or email wpna.yom@gmail.com.



2022 WPNA Officers Slate

Nominating Committee: Alana Carpenter Moore, Rick Krivoniak, Peter Struble, Chito Vela, Jeanette Swenson

The WPNA Nominating Committee appreciates and thanks our candidates who have volunteered to lead Windsor Park in 2022. Candidates will introduce themselves in the November Window on Windsor. The election will be held at the November 13 WPNA monthly meeting. We will vote virtually. Please remember that to have a valid vote, you must be a WPNA member 30 days prior to the meeting.

2022 Candidates:

- President: Jackie Brooks (2nd term)
- Vice President: Cesar Benavides (1st term)
- Treasurer: Josh Pitts (2nd term)
- Secretary: Alice Gaulty (2nd term)
- Inter-Neighborhood: Peter Struble (2nd term)

Schools Committee Update

Emily Vitris

Thanks to your generous contributions to the Windsor Park Scholarship fund, we have successfully provided \$14,000 to local graduates who have begun college this fall semester! These freshmen are attending school at UTSA, Texas State, Concordia, ACC, St. Edwards and more! Intended majors range from mechanical engineering, education, business administration, criminal justice, biology, economics, and radio. Congratulations and best of luck to all our scholarship recipients as they embark on this new adventure! We're rooting for you!

Feeling inspired and want to get involved? Donate to the WPNA fund by clicking on the "Donate" button on our website: <http://www.windsorpark.info/scholarship>

If you'd like to get more involved with AISD, there are several committees looking for volunteers & voices from District 1. You can find information about these committees and how to apply on the AISD website.

- The School Health Advisory Committee (SHAC)
- Community Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC)
- Long Range Planning Committee

Pancake Breakfast to raise funds for the WPNA Scholarship fund

Michael Shirk

The Austin Mennonite Church is returning to its tradition of hosting a pancake breakfast to raise funds for the Windsor Park Neighborhood Association's Schools Committee. Since 2015, the Schools Committee has raised local donations to provide one of the \$1,000 scholarships for high school seniors at Northeast and LBJ and will be attending a 2- or 4-year college.

Please come out to this fun and neighborly event to enjoy freshly made pancakes, coffee, juice, sausage (veggie and meat) with your neighbors and support this great project of the Windsor Park Neighborhood Association.

WHERE: Austin Mennonite Church - 5801 Westminster Drive - next door to the Windsor Park Branch Library

DATE/TIME: Saturday, October 2, 2021 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

The food will be served and eaten outside and all COVID precautions will be followed including masks for anyone who goes inside, extra distance between the picnic tables, and hand sanitizer available at various locations.

If you are unable to join us, please consider going to the Windsor Park Neighborhood Association's website, click on 'Neighborhood Association' and select 'Scholarships' from the drop-down menu. Direct link: <http://www.windsorpark.info/scholarship/>

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October 2021 Mueller Update

Rick Krivoniak

At the September 14th Mueller Commission meeting, Christopher Born, President of Dell Children's Medical Center, gave an update on the hospital. It is the only American College of Surgeons Level 1 pediatric trauma center in Central Texas, and one of just three pediatric heart transplant hospitals in Texas. In April of this year, the Dell Children's Specialty Pavilion was completed, housing the Center for Pediatric & Congenital Heart Disease, the Blood & Cancer Center, Comprehensive Fetal Center, and UT Health Austin Pediatric Neurosciences Center. The 4th Bed Tower, to be completed in November 2022, will have 24 Pediatric ICU beds, 24 Hematology/Oncology beds, 24 Acute Care beds, a satellite pharmacy and space for future expansion. Garage 3, with 1250 spaces, will be completed in August, 2022. Serving a 46-county area and beyond, the hospital employs 2200 people, the largest employer in Mueller. About 10% of those employees reside in the 78723 ZIP code.

A presentation made to the Commission on Capital Metro's Project Connect, with feedback links, is available at <http://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=367412>.

The Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Advisory Commission meets next at 6PM on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 in the Austin Energy Headquarters conference room, 4815 Mueller Boulevard. Parking is available in the garage, but please do not park on the 1st floor or in reserved spots. Use the garage entrance to access the building. Masks are required. For agenda information, visit austintexas.gov/rmmapiac

Zero Waste Tip

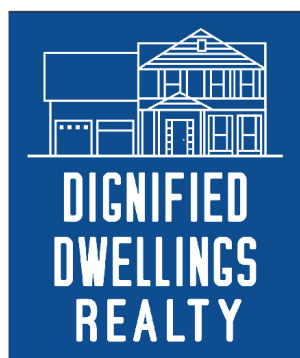
Gloria Neunaber

We are so fortunate that all single-family homes now have green carts to help the City of Austin. What can you add to yours?

Add leaves and grass clippings in the bottom each week and then all food scraps, including meat, bones, dairy, and seafood which typically aren't used in backyard compost. Other items that are great in compost carts: pizza boxes, shredded paper, paper bags, paper napkins, popsicle sticks among other things.

Questions on certain items, visit "What do I do With" on the city's website:

<http://austintexas.gov/departments/austin-resource-recovery>



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**Are you interested in a
FREE 2022 Calendar?**

If so, kindly email me your address and I will get one in the mail...and get you on the list to receive one each year.



WINDSOR PARK Market Statistics *AUG 2021*

AVG SOLD PRICE/SQ FT (AUG 2021) **\$375.55**

OF HOMES SOLD IN (AUG 2021) **13**

AVG SQ FT OF HOMES SOLD **1,675**

AVG DAYS ON MKT OF SOLDS **9**

ACTIVE LISTINGS ON MARKET **20***

*As of Sept 14th, 2021 - Single Family Homes.
Request a Detailed Report for Your Section of Windsor Park **

POMERLEAU PARK PROGRESS

Jeanette Swenson

Phase 1 of Pomerleau Park development will begin construction in early 2022. We anticipate celebrating the opening of Earl J. Pomerleau Pocket Park (1906 Patton Lane) in late 2022. See the flyer in Spanish and English posted on the WPNA website.

Features of Phase 1 include: seating areas with picnic tables, looped walking trails within the park, and maintained turf and preservation of meadow fields. Grants in early 2021 from Austin Parks Foundation (\$275,000) and City of Austin Parks and Recreation from Park Dedication funds (\$133,000) made implementation of Phase 1 possible.

Thank you all in WP who began this multi-layered process in 2017 - meetings with PARD officials, work days, small projects, participation in creation of Master Plan funded by Austin Parks Foundation, and participation in community meetings along with guidance and support from Austin Parks Foundation and Austin Parks and Recreation Department. For more information about the history of Pomerleau Park development: <http://www.austintexas.gov/department/earl-j-pomerleau-pocket-park-vision-plan>

PARK PLAN



- A - Looped concrete walking trail
- B - Open play lawn
- C - Pavillion
- D - Play area
- E - Fitness plaza
- F - Picnic tables
- G - Native grass meadow
- H - Decomposed granite trail



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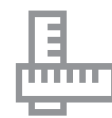


Windsor Park August 2021 Market Report



\$600,000

MEDIAN
SALES PRICE



\$377.88

MEDIAN
PRICE / SQFT



6
DAYS

MEDIAN DAYS
ON MARKET



NUMBER OF
HOMES SOLD



MOST
EXPENSIVE
HOME SOLD

\$900,000



\$363,000

LEAST EXPENSIVE
HOME SOLD

*SINGLE FAMILY HOME STATISTICS COLLECTED FROM AUSTIN BOARD OF REALTORS MLS

The craziness of the spring market is cooling off.

We're seeing the usual cooling off of the fall compared to the rest of the year. We're even seeing a price drop here and there from people who were trying to get ahead of the market and priced too high. Windsor Park is still going strong and it's never really a "bad time" to sell in the Austin market. Builders are starting to add incentives back into offers, so if you're looking to sell your current home and build a new one, we should talk.

CLIMATE CORNER – Congressional Climate Legislation

Martin Luecke and Barrett Sundberg

YouTube

Search



When WPNA passed its climate resolution in 2019, we said we would share information about climate legislation with our neighbors. Congressman Lloyd Doggett helped us deliver on this promise as the lead panelist in the most recent episode of our talk show *The Climate Conversation*, live streamed September 16 via the new YouTube channel “Windsor Park Climate Conversation.”

As a senior member of the House Ways and Means Committee, Congressman Doggett was directly involved in the markup process detailing the budget reconciliation bill in which Congress may add climate provisions into the national budget for the upcoming year. “There was some progress in this bill,” Doggett reports, though at broadcast time, “the final version of the bill is far from determined.” From the Congressman’s viewpoint, because Congress and even Democrats are divided on legislative specifics, “the final version of the bill will not do much of what we want to have happen and what the crisis demands we have happen. Even then there is progress to report.”

Provisions in the bill at broadcast time included “incentives for improving the electric grid, incentives to move toward electrification of vehicles and for electrification generally, and other issues that we care about locally like the Climate Conservation Corps - which we’ve already started one here in Austin.” Other provisions were electric buses and money for climate resilience.

In short, he reported that “a modest, moderate approach” of climate change legislation would survive the markup being carried out by the various committees across Congress. Doggett reported Congress is so evenly divided the bill cannot lose 3 votes out of more than 200 in the House because the Republican party is “tragically locked into climate denial.”

“The approach that’s been taken in order to get the votes necessary to get the thing passed has been mostly carrot and not very much stick,” Doggett summarized. “And we really have to have both, because simply incentivizing good conduct by itself will not get us where we need to be. There has to be an enforcement mechanism, and I don’t see that happening in this bill.”

Congressman Doggett has historically supported climate legislation, having introduced a carbon cap and trade bill in 2009 which was narrowly defeated in the Senate, and currently co-sponsors The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, which puts a price on carbon. Program panelist Bob Hendricks from the Sierra Club and the Citizens Climate Lobby pointed out that “putting a price on carbon would

be the stick this bill requires.” The Congressman agreed, and said the Senate is considering the measure, and he would support it in the House.

The climate provisions are only a part of the \$3.5 trillion in the budget reconciliation bill, known as Build Back Better. To pass, the bill needs a majority in the House and 50 votes in the Senate. The 50th vote, Senator Joe Manchin, has publicly stated he will not support \$3.5 trillion. “He hasn’t said whether he will support \$3.4 trillion,” Doggett reports, so negotiations are ongoing. Some members of Congress have suggested cutting it down to about \$2 trillion, but that means that many parts of the bill would be cut. More details of the discussion are available in *Window on Windsor’s* online edition, including answers to many of the excellent questions WPNA members provided.

Five programs are recorded and available on our YouTube channel. Here is the link to the Doggett episode: <https://youtu.be/cte-AmzXkGM>

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Andrews Elementary School update

Elizabeth Morales, Community School Facilitator

Andrews Elementary was awarded the Special Grant Program by the Austin Ed Fund. The grant will provide students with the necessary shoes and clothing needed to learn outdoors, particularly in the winter months, while also introducing students to various outdoor learning activities in the community.

Become a Brighter Bites volunteer at Andrews Elementary! We need volunteers to help every other Thursday with bagging and distributing produce to the school community. For more information, contact Elizabeth Morales at elizabeth.morales@austinisd.org. Join the Andrews PTA, listed under F. Andrews Elementary, at joinpta.org

Harris Elementary School

Laura Tomlinson, Librarian

Harris Elementary had a successful Back-to-School Night on September 9, 2021. Over 100 families participated. Parents were greeted by the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA), were informed about the Gifted and Talented Program, and students received free books from BookSpring through the Harris Library. Parents visited teachers and learned firsthand about the academic learning in each classroom. All participants explored the new Harris Tech Cafe.

The Harris Library is having its Fall Scholastic Book Fair the Week of October 18-22. This will be our first in-person event since spring of 2020. Windsor Park Neighbors & Friends can support virtually through the Homepage: <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/harriselementaryschool17>. Please share it with your friends and family. On Thursday, October 21, 2021, Harris Will have it's Literacy Night* to celebrate and promote literacy. There will be activities for all grade levels and the Book Fair will be open for parents to attend. *This event may be virtual.

Red Ribbon Week is October 25-29. Bulldogs say, "No to drugs!" This week students will have a number of activities to remind them to live a drug free life. We want to encourage students with buttons and ribbons. Our counselor, Ms. Garcia is requesting donations to help purchase some of these items. Donations are being accepted through October 8, 2021. Checks can be made to Harris Elementary with a Memo for Red Ribbon Week. Funds will also be accepted through Venmo. Please make a note that funds are for Red Ribbon Week.

Bertha Sadler Means

Rosalind Oliphant, PhD, Mentor Teacher, Community Partnerships

Sadler Means students and staff celebrated International Dot Day by creating our own decorative dots. The beautiful collaborative mural is currently on display in the main hallway.

Our Dragon 7th and 8th grade volleyball teams are learning fundamentals like serving, bumping, and blocking. We are super proud of our girls and filling the stands, cheering them to victory! Go Dragons!

All Sadler Means students are reading and working through the lessons in Tiffany Jewell's, "This Book is Anti-Racist." Our young leaders have been excited to engage in the work of anti-racism, and it is clear that we have some future anti-racist leaders on campus! If you want to help support the library with more social justice books, you can give a one-time or recurring donation to Ms. Fischer's Donors Choose at https://www.donorschoose.org/classroom/meg-fischer?utm_source=dc&utm_medium=page&utm_campaign=teacher_profile&utm_term=teacher_6894448&rf=page-dc-2021-01-teacher_profile-teacher_6894448&challenge_id=21512658

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WPNA MEMBERSHIP FORM - CUT OUT AND SEND IN

WPNA is a 501(c)(3) organization, your dues and any other donations are tax deductible.

- ☐ Student/fixed income — \$5/person
☐ Standard / Individual — \$15/person
☐ Family — \$20
☐ Sustaining — \$35 or more
☐ Non-voting donations - gladly accepted

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Add'l Name : _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Referred by: _____

Attend a WPNA meeting online

1. Via facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/WindsorParkAustinTX>) where you can comment and ask questions.
2. Live stream from our website (<http://www.windsorpark.info/>) - available during the meeting

Library Update and Book Club

APL locations continue with express service and limited hours. The Windsor Park Branch is open Mon/Tues Noon-8pm & Weds/Thurs/Fri 10am-6pm. We will not provide indoor programming or open meeting room reservations. Library events calendar: <http://library.austintexas.gov/events>

You can register for as many Online Storytimes as you want for free, including WP's wonderful Mr. Gabriel on Mondays at 10:30am. All virtual story times require registration via Eventbrite. The registration cut off is 2 hours before the story time starts. Register here: <http://library.austintexas.gov/event/all-ages-storytime/virtual-all-ages-storytime-7691865>

The **Windsor Park Book Club** continues to meet over Zoom the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 7 – 8:30 p.m. If you're interested, contact Allen Michie at allenmichie@gmail.com. Upcoming books are:

- Oct 12th - Leave the World Behind by Ru-mann Alam
- Nov 9th - Hamnet by Maggie O'Farrell
- Dec 11th – various Mark Twain stories including "The Mysterious Stranger"

Austin Police Department District Representative for Windsor Park

Officer Andre Black:
(512) 974-6875
andre.black@austintexas.gov