

# Bouldin Bulletin

## President’s Message

– Jesse Moore

### Upcoming Zoning Re-Write Will Target Our Neighborhood for Accelerated Displacement

CodeNext version 4 - or whatever label you want to use - will target our neighborhood for accelerated displacement and change. Although this proposal will not be formally released until October 4, City staff have already indicated that they will be aiming particularly aggressive changes at our area.

Homes within “Transition Areas” will suffer the most displacement. Transition Areas may extend as far as several blocks from major roads, affecting most or all of our neighborhood, and will be zoned multi-family, resulting in large increases in taxes for owners (and rent for renters like me.) Losses of our older and less wealthy residents will increase.

Building heights and sizes will be increased in Transition Areas, and version 4 may go further than prior proposals by reducing impervious cover limits and rendering single-family as non-conforming uses in Transition Areas.

Impervious cover limits the footprint of buildings and other manmade ground-cover, thereby protecting trees and reducing flooding. By reducing impervious cover limits, CodeNext version 4 will accelerate loss of our urban tree canopy, making our neighborhood even hotter and less walkable, and increase risk of flooding.

CodeNext version 4 will make our streets less safe for pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers by eliminating parking requirements for new buildings in Transition Areas. This will lead to more on-street parking by the numerous new residents in those new multi-family buildings. This will further clog our narrow, mostly sidewalk-less neighborhood streets, increasing dangers for pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers.

Ironically, the strongest political support for this aggressive version of CodeNext comes from City

### Inside This Issue

President’s Message .....	1
Parks Update.....	2
Yellow Sector.....	2
Sector Info.....	3
Blue Sector .....	4
Austin’s Water.....	4
Travis Early College High School .....	5
Event Parking & Barricades.....	5
BCNA Contacts .....	6

politicians whose districts are not being targeted. Although these so-called leaders claim that this aggressive-but-narrow version of CodeNext will improve affordability and protect the environment, they have publicly told their own districts not to worry because CodeNext version 4 will target other districts, like ours.

This shocking hypocrisy – CodeNIMBY - will hopefully not win the day. The question at City Hall should not be “who should we sacrifice?” The City Council should instead ask what sacrifices all of Austin should make. CodeNext version 3 - which cost \$8 million dollars and took several years before being “withdrawn” -proposed moderate sacrifices and more equal and fair treatment of all neighborhoods. That proposal, which BCNA generally supported, still makes sense: Affordability needs to be promoted everywhere. The environment needs to be protected everywhere.

*Correction: In the prior issue I incorrectly stated that Kathie Tovo had voted in favor of the Council’s direction-to-staff for the land development code re-write at the May 2, 2019 council meeting. Her vote against that direction along with Councilmembers Alter and Pool has now been noted and corrected in the official minutes for the meeting.*

# Parks Update

— Ingrid Weigand

## Ricky Guerrero Update

Improvements at Ricky Guerrero Park are coming along well. The scope of work included the demolition of existing non-ADA sidewalks and replacing them with new, compliant ones; installing tree protection, landscaping, and a rain garden; site grading for drainage control and upgrading the splash pad; new picnic tables and pads, playground improvements and new site lighting fixtures to enhance park safety. Almost all of the work is completed at this point; the new playground and improved bathrooms look great and the splash pad, now called "Sprayground" is already in use. (It will close for the fall/winter season at the end of September). Most of the park is still fenced off while the contractor cleans up work areas and



places temporary irrigation for the new sod and the landscaping.

We are planning a neighborhood-wide Grand Opening Party next spring to celebrate the improvements. Initially, we had hoped to announce the party for this fall, but work most likely will not be completed until the end of November. We will let you know when the park is open for public use again, and you should definitely check it out. It is the most family-friendly of our green spaces.

## It's My Park Day

This fall's It's My Park Day takes place on Saturday, November 2. This year, we are considering offering neighbors a few different choices: volunteer in the West Bouldin Creek Greenbelt or Nicholas Dawson Park – both need minor maintenance such as trail-widening and trash pick-up - or help spread mulch in our roundabouts. As always, the Austin Parks Foundation will provide tools as well as T-shirts for those of you who register on their site. The Parks Committee will solidify plans and send out the registration link via Social Media, the listserve and NextDoor.

## Yellow Sector – Elizabeth Howard

Walking up and down South Congress Avenue these days, my eyes grow wide just thinking about the massive growth that's about to take place. Soon, more cars and pedestrians than ever could be jamming up the Yellow Sector on the weekends. But before it becomes unbearable to everyone, the city has enlisted the Downtown Austin Alliance to figure things out. In turn, the DAA wisely hired national mobility consulting firm Nelson Nygaard to come up with a parking strategy.

The consultants spent the summer documenting traffic patterns, our block to block differing RPP (Residential Permit Parking) restrictions, and parking availability, shortages and challenges along South Congress and surrounding streets. With all the data collected, they hope to come up with a plan that is amenable to the neighborhood and the merchants. It's a fine line to keep us all happy! And don't worry, they aren't going to take away our parking spots. I think the idea of future proofing our neighborhood against parking headaches is a long time coming - it's very welcome and exciting. Please email me with any concerns you have.

## BCNA Officer Elections

### Coming Up In December

The Bouldin Creek Neighborhood Association will hold its annual Officers election at the next General Association meeting on Tuesday, December 10.

In order to vote in the election or to run for office, you have to be a registered member of the Neighborhood Association. The deadline for registering prior to the election is November 30. Please contact Treasurer, [treasurer@bouldincreek.org](mailto:treasurer@bouldincreek.org) to sign up or to check whether your registration is current. Attendance (with sign-in) at any meeting within the last 2 years automatically updates your registration.

We are always looking for new members of the Executive Committee, either as Officers or as Sector Representatives. Being a Sector Rep is a great way to get to know neighborhood issues, and then move on to other positions.

If you have any questions about the roles below, you can contact any of the current Officers. An Election Committee will be formed soon; in the meantime, if you are interested in running for a position, please

email Ingrid Weigand at [ingweig@gmail.com](mailto:ingweig@gmail.com). We will publish a list of known candidates in the December newsletter.

Please see page 6 for a list of positions and current officeholders.

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## Sector Information

Discover which BCNA Sector you reside in at:  
<http://www.bouldincreek.org/sector-map/>

BCNA Officers as well as your sector rep and his/her information are always listed on the back page of the Bulletin. Or here: <http://www.bouldincreek.org/contacts/>

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### Parti Tim!!!

Austin is well known for its murals, like the Welcome To Austin mural we all know on Annie. And I can't pass up a special shout-out to the "Hi, How are You" mural by the recently passed great Austinite Daniel Johnston. But one of my favorite murals popped up about 5 years ago, just down the street from the library at Milton: "Parti Tim!!!" is a colorful mosaic that includes caricatures of a blue snowman (I think that's it?), a sunflower holding its tail, and other miscellaneous happiness. It was designed by a 5 year old at Becker elementary and then won the mural contest at the Becker mural contest party. Becker appropriated the tilework and the rest is history. They left the spelling of "Party Time" in the original phonetics of the 5 year old artist. I smile every time I pass by and I hope you do too.



The big "parti" last month at our local library was on Saturday 9/28 - a big celebration of Hispanic Heritage with bands, games, and food. Missed it? Don't hesitate to get down there and check out the calendar of cool events that happen all the time - Fun events for young, old, & in-between - humans, sunflowers, & blue snowmen.

## With Four Million People and Climate Change, Where Will Austin's Water Come From?

— Robert E. Mace

The drought of 2008 through 2016 was a wake-up call for Austin. As levels in the Highland Lakes, Austin's sole source of water, dwindled to near-record lows, the city enacted drought restrictions that threatened landscapes and businesses. Fortunately, the rains returned, but the ever-present threat of drought remains for our growing city.

In response to the drought, the city council formed the Water Forward Task Force to work with city staff and the community to develop a 100-year water plan for Austin. This planning effort focused on increasing the sustainability, reliability, and diversity of Austin's water supplies with an emphasis on (1) water conservation

and reuse; (2) projects that are technically, socially, and economically feasible; and (3) environmental protection. Unlike state planning efforts, which only extend 50 years into the future, Austin's plan also considers the potential effects of climate change on our water resources.

The challenges to meet Austin's future water needs are sobering. There are currently about 1 million Austinites. Demographers expect our population to grow to 2 million by 2065 and 4 million by 2115. On top of a rapidly increasing population are the anticipated effects of climate change, including increased temperatures and lower rainfall, both of which will result in less water flowing to our reservoirs. If Austin does nothing to shore up its water resources, the Highland Lakes may go completely dry for years at a time.

The good news is that Austin's Water Forward Integrated Water Resource Plan identifies solutions to Austin's growing water resource challenges. These solutions include both water efficiency and water-supply projects. Water efficiency includes installing smart water meters that will inform you when you have a leak, reducing leaks in the city's water pipes, and requiring water-effi-

cient landscaping in new construction. Eventually, new buildings will be required to use rainwater, stormwater, greywater (from sinks and showers), air conditioning condensate, and treated wastewater to meet non-potable needs. Water-supply projects include storing excess river water in (1) an aquifer for use during a drought, something San Antonio has done with great success and (2) an off-channel reservoir (essentially a ring dike located away from the river).

In the coming months and years, there will be opportunities for the community to voice opinions on implementation. With a changing climate, a growing community, evolving regulations, and developing technology, Austin will revisit and revise the plan every five years.

The Water Forward Integrated Water Resource Plan established Austin as a water leader in the state and the country. Working together, we can ensure that we meet our water needs while enhancing Austin's quality of life and the protection of the environment.

To learn more about Austin Water Forward, please visit [austintexas.gov/aiwrpctf](http://austintexas.gov/aiwrpctf).

*Robert Mace serves as a member of the Austin Water Forward Task Force as an appointee of Council Member Pool, District 7.*

### Travis Early College High School

Travis Early College High School is expanding its programs and support for students! Its Parent Teacher Student & Community Association is also growing and seeking community support. Among other things, neighbors could help us at campus work days on the following Saturdays: 10/12/19, 12/14/19, 2/8/20 and 4/11/20, from 8 AM-12 PM.

Park and meet at the back of the school. Bring gloves. Snacks and water provided. Just show up!

For more info on supporting Travis, please contact Deb Trejo - [dtrejo@kempsmith.com](mailto:dtrejo@kempsmith.com).

## Neighborhood Event Parking and Barricades

### Austin City Limits – Weekends of October 4-6<sup>th</sup> and October 11- 13<sup>th</sup>

Special Event Restricted Parking – Barricades will be set out on Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM

Bouldin Creek neighborhood barricades are located at the following intersections:

- ▶ Barton Springs Rd at Dawson Rd and at Bouldin Ave
- ▶ West Gibson Street at S 5<sup>th</sup> St and at Bouldin Ave

***Parking passes will be required to access residences within the barricades.***

**Neighbors who need parking permits can contact Thom Parker, BCNA Traffic Committee Chair at: [Tnkparker@aol.com](mailto:Tnkparker@aol.com) or 512-848-7977**

**For more information visit [AustinTexas.gov/FullCalendar](http://AustinTexas.gov/FullCalendar)**

ACL Music Festival, Zilker Park Information

[info@aclfestival.com](mailto:info@aclfestival.com)

Neighborhood INFO: Call in line for concerns, noise complaints etc.

512-806-7906 or 311.

**Additional Fall Special Events: visit [Austintexas.gov/CityStage](http://Austintexas.gov/CityStage)**

- |                                 |                                    |                     |               |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| ▶ Austin Heart and Stroke Walk  | Saturday October 19 <sup>th</sup>  | 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM | Road Closures |
| ▶ Livestrong Challenge          | Sunday October 20 <sup>th</sup>    | 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM  | Road Closures |
| ▶ ThunderCloud Subs Turkey Trot | Thursday November 28 <sup>th</sup> | 8:45 AM to 12:00 PM | Road Closures |



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**BOULDIN CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**  
[www.BouldinCreek.org](http://www.BouldinCreek.org)

**General Association Meeting:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, every other month  
**Steering Committee Meeting:** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, each month  
**Zoning Committee Meeting:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday each month  
**Newsletter Publication:** 2 weekends before General Meeting

#### OFFICERS

**President** – Jesse Moore [jtmoore624@yahoo.com](mailto:jtmoore624@yahoo.com)  
**VP Neighborhood** – Melynda Nuss [mellynuss@yahoo.com](mailto:mellynuss@yahoo.com)  
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**Zoning Chair** – Paul Strange [strange20@msn.com](mailto:strange20@msn.com)  
**Parks Chair** – Ingrid Weigand [parkscommittee@bouldincreek.org](mailto:parkscommittee@bouldincreek.org)  
**Traffic Chair**– Thom Parker [tnkparker@aol.com](mailto:tnkparker@aol.com)

#### SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES

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The Bouldin Bulletin, published every two months, is hand-delivered by your neighbors to approximately 2500 households. Please reach out if you would like to contribute to the distribution effort or if you would like to place an ad. (Ads are due one month prior to the GA Meeting.)

#### MEMBERSHIP

If you would like to join the Neighborhood Association to be able to vote or pledge a candidacy, please send your name, address, phone, and email to:

Jeff Seiden [treasurer@bouldincreek.org](mailto:treasurer@bouldincreek.org)  
 BCNA Treasurer  
 PO Box 3683  
 Austin TX 78764-3683

If you would like to make the optional dues payment, please include \$25 payable to BCNA.

#### BOULDINFORUM LISTSERV

To Subscribe, please email:  
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 Be sure to include your full name and address of residence in Bouldin Creek.

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