

March Meeting

HPNA General Meeting Agenda for March 1

- Welcome
- Local Non-profit Spotlight: SAFE Alliance, with Julia Spann, Co-CEO
- Project Connect: Orange Line Update
- Hancock Golf Course: Update and Introduction to the Conservancies
- Announcements

Not a member? No problem!
You can attend anyway.

Join Zoom meeting at 7 pm at
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82897122797?pwd=dDl2QUJlcmZkbXhTTy81R0VCeGsvUT09>

Meeting ID: 828 9712 2797

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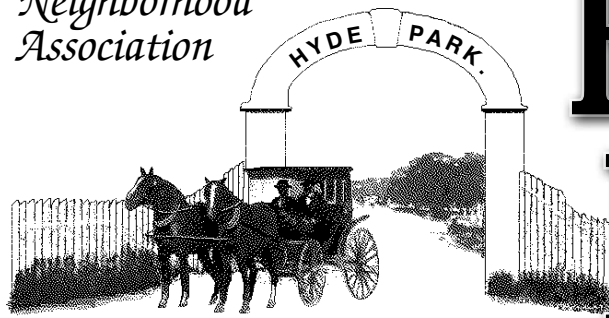
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The Hyde Park
Neighborhood
Association



Pecan Press

March 2021 • National Register District Neighborhood • Vol. 47, No. 03

Light Rail Coming to Guadalupe: Orange Line Update

With the transit bond election now behind us, planning has begun in earnest on Austin's new light rail system.

This includes the Orange Line, a portion of which will run on the Guadalupe Corridor at Hyde Park's western border, arguably one of the trickier stretches due to narrow street widths and constrained right of way on what is already a heavily used travel route. Cap Metro's engineering team is already working on plans for this area and hopes to have some very preliminary designs to share with the public by June.

The project is currently in the NEPA phase, named for the National Environmental Policy Act, which requires an Environmental Impact Study (EIS). Austin voters approved only enough funds to build out the line from the North Lamar Transit Center at 183 to Stassney Lane in the south. However, the EIS will examine the entire proposed line from Tech Ridge to Slaughter Lane.

The NEPA phase is a formal process involving Cap Metro, the City of Austin, and multiple agencies, groups, and community members. A draft EIS is expected to be available by spring of 2022 for public review. Once the EIS is finalized with a Record of Decision (ROD), the final design phase will take place from 2023 to 2024. Construction is slated for 2024 to 2028, with the 183-to-Stassney portion of the line expected to be up and running by 2028 or 2029. Cap Metro will continue to use 801 rapid buses south of Stassney and north of 183 until the full Orange Line can be completed.

Cap Metro and its consultants are still deliberating about the line's vertical profile on Guadalupe between the UT Campus and Crestview station: at grade, below grade, or above grade. Obviously, each option includes tradeoffs, and none are ideal on such a narrow stretch of road. The at-grade option, which is generally considered the default, would require a 28' width to accommodate north and south tracks. Planners are still committed to a tunnel under downtown, but have not yet decided how to cross Lady Bird Lake. The tracks will go aerial on the north and south ends of the line where trains must cross major highways.

Pursuant to NEPA, the Environmental Impact Study must identify and show how to mitigate impacts on the physical, natural, human, and cultural environment, including historical resources such as the Hyde Park Local Historic District. Several Hyde Park residents and business owners are currently serving on the Guadalupe Corridor Working Group and have made the Cap Metro team aware of the city's flood mitigation

Eliminating Restrictive Covenants

In the time I have lived in the neighborhood, neighbors have periodically discussed their sadness about the racially exclusionary deed restrictions that were placed on most lots in Hyde Park.

Even though these restrictions are unconstitutional and no one would attempt to enforce them today, it still troubles many neighbors that they were never specifically revoked.

This session bills have been filed in the Legislature - Senate Bill 214 and House Bill 485 - that will make it much easier to remove racially exclusionary provisions from documents that have been recorded in real property records. If the Legislature adopts these bills, a property owner will be able to petition in District Court for the racially exclusionary language to be

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From the Desk of the Co-Presidents



With the February cold snap behind us, our thoughts turn to spring. This is a magical time in the neighborhood as the red buds bloom and pockets of jasmine and mountain laurel perfume the streetscape. We'll have plenty of reasons to get out of the house and onto the avenues to walk, bike, skate, or scoot. While these modes of transport are filling our need for exercise now, they are also viable ways to commute.

Add to that a future light-rail option adjacent to the neighborhood. Capital Metro's Project Connect is a result of November's Yes vote for general investment in a comprehensive transit plan for the City of Austin. Plan elements include a transition to an all-electric bus system and a new rail system that features a proposed light rail transit corridor, the Orange Line, that travels along Lamar

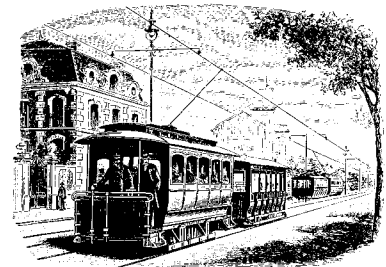
Boulevard and Congress to connect areas north of 183 with areas south at Slaughter Lane. The current plan shifts the path of the Orange Line off of Lamar and onto Guadalupe for a portion that stretches from the Triangle down to Auditorium Shores. A station serving Hyde Park is planned for the area around 38th Street.

Our HPNA General Meeting in March will feature this topic for information and discussion. CapMetro is inviting the public to comment during the initial scoping phase, which runs until March 5. The scoping phase is an early and open process for the public to provide input on a range of issues to be addressed, including air quality, noise and vibration, safety and security, cultural and historical

context, and visual and aesthetic aspects. More information can be found at www.capmetroengage.org/en/orangeline.

We look forward to seeing you via Zoom at the March general meeting. You don't have to be a member to attend; we welcome all neighbors and interested parties.

— Lisa Harris, Kevin Heyburn
and Michele Grieshaber
HPNA Co-Presidents



Hyde Park Neighborhood Association

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www.austinhypark.org

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- Syema Muzaffar • Marsha Riti • Elena Rojo

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Hyde Park Fire Station Update

Hello Neighbors,

Here is a quick update on the construction that is taking place at your fire station, #9! As you might know, this structure was built in 1929, making it almost 100 years old, so it was well past time for us to look at how our industry had changed



that will allow us to better serve you once construction is complete.

This work is a part of the Austin Fire Department's gender equity project that started almost 20 years ago. Many of our stations were built before women entered the fire service, so we have been going back to those as budget dollars are allocated and renovating locker and dorm rooms to better accommodate a more diverse workforce. At Station 9, this involves changing the single shared dorm and locker room into individual dorm rooms with gender-neutral restrooms. We are also taking the opportunity to address the

Continued on page 15

and to make the appropriate adjustments to this well-loved station. Although we have moved out of the station during the current renovations, we remain nearby and in service, ready to respond; whichever crew happens to be on duty currently lives in a trailer on San Jacinto Boulevard on property owned by The University of Texas. (Many thanks to UT for its generosity in allowing us to stay there!) The renovation of Station 9 is underway and we are excited for some of the innovations



Membership Information

- Membership in HPNA is open to all residents 18 years or older residing within the boundaries of Hyde Park or within 300 feet of its boundaries.
- University students are free.
- All memberships expire on September 30th of each year.
- New members and members who lapse in dues for over six months are eligible to vote at HPNA meetings 30 days after receipt of dues.
- Membership dues can be paid in several ways: By signing up at an HPNA meeting or event, by mailing in the membership form, or by joining online using PayPal. To pay online, go to www.austinyhydepark.org and click on the **Join Now** button. Dues paid online are \$6.

Submission Information

- Send your articles, letters, and photos by the 10th of each month to Lorre Weidlich at lweidlich@mail2sevens.com.
Opinion articles & letters to the editor must not exceed 500 words.
- Send your poems to Charlotte Herzele at herzele@gmail.com.
All poems, even if written under a pen name, must include a name and contact information for identification and verification purposes.

Hyde Park Neighborhood Association Membership Form

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Notify me by email of HPNA meetings & events _____

Dues per Person

| | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Standard - \$5/yr. | <input type="checkbox"/> Check |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior - \$1/yr. | <input type="checkbox"/> Cash |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student - Free | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Member | Date _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renewing Member | Amount _____ |

Mailing Address:
 HPNA Membership
 P.O. Box 49427
 Austin, Texas 78765
Make checks payable to HPNA.



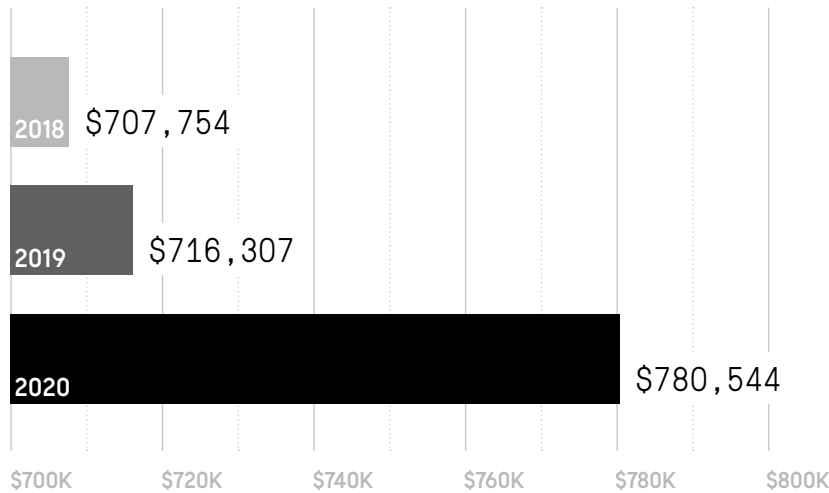
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4211 Ave D Seller Representation



3904 Ave C Buyer Representation

For more detailed market information about your home contact Sam Archer, Broker Associate.
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hydeparkismyhome.com

All YTD data is pulled from Austin MLS for single family residences.



HPNA General Meeting Minutes: February 1, 2021

Michele Grieshaber facilitated the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Vicky Pridgen, Neighborhood Liaison for the City of Austin's Code Department, and Erica Thompson, Code Enforcement Investigator, gave a presentation about Code Enforcement.

- They discussed the mission of the code enforcement office: to help educate the community.
- Code department keeps buildings safe and up to code.
- Last fiscal year, more than 75,000 code inspections were performed; roughly 3 out of 4 cases were handled voluntarily (that is, the owner fixed the issue without further involvement by the city) while about 25% were not properly addressed after contact was made with the owner.
- Code violation complaints are prioritized, but on average it takes about 2 days for an inspector to visit the site and inspect the complaint.
- COVID-related work – business employees not wearing masks – has also been assigned to code enforcement officers.
- The department has 70 inspectors for the whole city, plus support staff, and the inspection teams are broken into commercial and residential teams.
- A short video that outlined the code process was shown. The process is as follows: If you see an issue, call and report the issue to 311; code enforcement receives the report; a case is created; a code inspector visits; the inspector collaborates with the property owner; the inspector provides information to the owner regarding what fixes are needed and the timeframe in which repairs must be completed.
- When code enforcement is called and fixes are done on time, the issue is considered to have been resolved voluntarily; if not, code enforcement could include a citation plus possible additional actions including quasi-judicial proceedings (hearings in municipal or district court).
- The top five residential violations in Austin are as follows: tall grass and weeds, performing work without a permit, trash and debris on a property, unsanitary conditions, and substandard or dangerous structures.
- The top five commercial violations in Austin are as follows: unsafe building conditions, prohibited signs, zoning issues, broken windows, and plumbing issues.
- There is a code webpage that describes to users how to inspect a property, and there is a Code Connect Hotline you can call to ask questions related to potential code violations.
- On the webpage, you can search code complaints that are currently under investigation in your neighborhood. The direct link for the Citizen Connect code case tracker, to check on case status, is <https://citizenconnect-acd.austintexas.gov/>.
- Austin Code's website is <https://austintexas.gov/code>.

Monthly Calendar March

- 1 — HPNA Meeting
- 4 — DRC Meeting
- 4 — Ney's Artist Exchange, Ney Museum Zoom
- 4 & 5 — Amplify Austin
- 8 — Steering Committee Meeting
- 11 — Ney's Artist Exchange, Ney Museum Zoom
- 12 — Recycling Pickup
- 13 — Drawing Salon with Atelier Dojo, Ney Museum Zoom
- 14 — Daylight Saving Time starts
- 17 — Happy St. Patrick's Day!
- 18 — Ney's Artist Exchange, Ney Museum Zoom
- 25 — Ney's Artist Exchange, Ney Museum Zoom
- 26 — Recycling Pickup
- 28 — Short Short Fiction Festival, Ney Museum Online

Bianca Bentzin, Chief Prosecutor for the City of Austin, and Chase Gomillion, Lead Prosecutor for the City of Austin, gave a presentation on the legal ramifications of code violations, including the criminal process.

- In addition to Bianca and Chase, there are two other prosecutors with the City of Austin.
- Bianca has been a prosecutor for 25 years in two different cities.
- The purpose of the court process is to try to gain compliance on a property.
- When violations are discovered and owners do not voluntarily become compliant with code requirements, the code department gathers evidence, finds out who the owner is, and sends the matter to the legal department to pursue legal action.
- Once a code violation reaches the legal department, there are four possible routes for the case:
 - First - Administrative Citation (non-criminal). These are handed out for issues such as fire safety violations, utility or water violations, or short-term rental violations. When this happens, the owner receives a ticket and attends a hearing where an officer hears evidence and decides whether or not the violator is liable. If the person is found liable, he or she receives a fine. First violation is \$250, second is \$500, and third is the maximum fine of \$1000. If a citation is appealed, it ends up in court.
 - Second - Criminal enforcement. All cities in Texas have the power to enforce codes; it's a class C misdemeanor. This is handled just like any other court case. Punishment is a fine; however, if the owner fails to pay the fine or to show up to court, he or she can be jailed. A case can be pled out or otherwise worked out, or the violator can fight the case. Everyone has rights, and the city has to be careful in how it resolves this type of legal case.

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- Third – Building and Standards Commission (BSC). The BSC hears cases on building safety issues. This route can result in heavier fines, and penalties can build quickly and become substantial – sometimes \$250 to 500 per week until the issue is resolved. Chase reported seeing one case that resulted in \$750,000 in penalties. Penalties can be turned into a judgment and can include property liens.
- Fourth – Civil Litigation. This is a full-blown lawsuit that can result in an injunction. Violators can be held in contempt, and the city can even request demolition orders. Monetary penalties are severe. Penalties can be up to \$1,000 per day. There is no statute of limitations. This is the city's last resort, as it is a very costly and time-consuming process that can take years to resolve.

Officer Darrell Grayson, from the Austin Police Department, introduced himself as Hyde Park's new liaison. Officer Grayson has been with APD for 20+ years and was newly appointed to Hyde Park. He is currently covering an area that used to be covered by two officers. Being new, he is working on getting up to speed on all the issues in our area. Officer Grayson's email contact is <http://www.austintexas.gov/email/darrellgrayson> and his phone number is (512) 974-5242.

Members had the following questions:

- Has the pandemic slowed down court cases? (Bianca) Yes, the municipal court has been shut down since the end of February 2020. The courthouse will open back up in April at the earliest due to the city being in Stage 5 of the pandemic. However, cases are being handled virtually if violators wish to participate virtually. There are no jury trials right now.
- My understanding was that the Healthy Streets Initiative included an opportunity for neighbors to create artwork on the street, but I was recently told by code enforcement that I did not have permission to do artwork. (Erica) No, you do not need permission or a permit to put artwork on the street as part of Healthy Streets. Also, if there is a code officer who is rude or seems uninformed, please ask that officer for identification and get his or her business card. Call the code enforcement office and speak to his or her supervisor. Healthy Streets includes permission granted by the city to paint these street murals. We want to build and/or repair relationships with the community! There is no permit required.

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Pecan Press is online at
www.austinhydepark.org

Around & About the Avenues

Hancock Golf Course Trail Maintenance. Texas Conservation Corp (TXCC) is working on the repair and maintenance of the trail around Hancock Golf Course. They began on February 22 and have an expected completion date of March 12. The work is taking place along the 38th Street and the Peck Avenue (south and west) sides of the trail. Expect trail closures along these sides of the trail during the work. Please respect flags and cones placed to protect sprinkler heads and allow dump trucks access to the site. Staging will take place at the corner of 38th and Peck. The Hancock trail installation and maintenance is funded by the Hancock Neighborhood Association (HNA) in collaboration with PARD and GolfATX on design and scoping of work. For questions, please contact the HNA Parks Committee: Carolyn Palaima, Chair; Linda Guerrero; and Bart Whatley.



Hyde Park Resident Recognized for Work with Homeless.

On January 18, Hyde Parker Michelle Joseph was featured on KVUE for her work with the homeless. "An Austin woman is doing what she can to help the homeless. Michelle Joseph moved to Austin a few months ago and said when she saw so many people experiencing homelessness, she wanted to do something to help them. She started out by cooking a few hot meals and donating supplies. Then, after posting about her efforts on Nextdoor, she started receiving more help. Now, volunteers are helping with food distributions twice a week." View the video at <https://www.kvue.com/article/news/community/austin-homeless-meal-delivery-nextdoor/269-c9b8e911-ff02-4d8a-8335-ae9f7cb8e541>. Hyde Parkers who want to help with her efforts can check her regular posts on Nextdoor for lists of things she needs for her work with the homeless, and they can drop off contributions on her front porch at 4008 Avenue D.



KUT Feature on Austin State Hospital Cemetery. On February 5, Matt Largey answered the question of a KUT listener: Who is buried in this cemetery on 51st Street in Austin? His answer describes the early history of the Austin State Hospital, including the 1882 exhumation of patients originally interred on the grounds outside the main ASH building. They were reburied in the new ASH cemetery on 51st Street in poorly marked graves, some with only a number. Many of those graves remain anonymous even today. Those buried in the cemetery include John Neely Bryan, founder of the City of Dallas, whose grave has not been identified. Largey's answer can be read at <https://www.kut.org/austin/2021-02-05/who-is-buried-in-this-cemetery-on-51st-street-in-austin>.



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February Meeting Minutes... ...cont'd from page 7

- Are code enforcement officers informed of NCCDs or other zoning overlays? They do not seem to understand them. (Erica) Officers know about NCCDs and how to find the NCCDs online. There are over 40 NCCDs and zoning overlays in the city. There is a Property Profile Viewer Map (PPVM) that officers can use. There is a code academy at which we teach about zoning and show officers where to find details. We have a new code academy starting this month, and we will ensure this is covered in training so they know where to find the overlays. Officers might need to research before they can answer questions. Erica committed to reminding all levels to make sure everyone knows where to find the correct info (PPVM): <https://www.austintexas.gov/GIS/PropertyProfile/>.
- NCCDs exist in our neighborhood in part to keep historic structures contributing to our Local Historic District. If there is a complaint that someone is not following the NCCD, and the officer is not handling that complaint properly, what would you suggest we do? (Erica) It depends on what you mean by "not handling properly." I suggest contacting their supervisor. As an example, if an incorrect fence was reported but is still there, it doesn't mean we're not doing anything: the situation could be in litigation.
- How can I report without feeling like I'm harassing my neighbors? (Erica) Feel free to make a report on a possible issue; you are not harassing your neighbors! Also, reports can be called in anonymously. If a code officer ever tells you that you are harassing a neighbor, call the officer's supervisor.
- There are non-compliant fences in North Hyde Park. When someone calls one in, it doesn't seem to get much action. Where are fences in the priority list? (Erica) Ralph Johnson is the code officer for Hyde Park. I will have a conversation with Ralph about fences. Plus, if you guys can provide specifics, I can look into them. We want to be fair across the board. I want to handle things the same way Ralph does. We strive for consistency.
- Is there any department in the city looking for violations, or is it based on complaints? (Erica) Our system is primarily based on complaints.
- If a building is in near proximity to a school, does that increase priority? (Erica) Yes. If a school is within 1000 feet of the property, the issue will escalate faster.
- Regarding violations involving excessive occupancy on a property or an excessive number of vehicles, how is this handled and how much are the fines? (Erica) Fines could be \$250 or more for excessive occupancy, and it's possible an excessive occupancy issue could go to municipal court. An excessive number of vehicles would be handled by APD.
- What are the enforceable codes to prevent cars from staying parked day and night on the streets? (Grayson) It all depends on the signage that is posted on that street. APD enforces parking based on posted signage.

Continued on page 12

Word Find: Born in March

by der Brat

F O L K S B O R N I N M A R C H
E M A N F R E D R O G E R S N L
L E I B A N N I S T E R H I E X
O L D C A N D L E S N I L S C H
C L E M H O C E R I C K I E V M
G I M B L E L Y R U N E S T A R
N U D E P E L A P A G A R R Z I
I Q U N K M G A R E R R I R A V
K A M I I A A F N C L A M G N O
T H P S G E A C H G H O A P R J
A S K I H H T A L C E G S R A N
N E R D T A V S A R Y L E I I O
Y U L E S E T R N D A Z O D S B
Y U R T Z Z E N A I L E D E E N
P A N T R Y A L E V E R Y I D O
T H R O B E R T F R O S T D R J

[Numbers in parentheses = number of letters in answers]

1. Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta. (4,4)
2. UT's "Tyler Rose." (4,8)
3. Farm worker organizer. (5,6)
4. She of the 5 octave range. (6,5)
5. "Mending Walls" poet. (6,5)
6. Mr. O'Neal of the NBA. (9)
7. Dr. Roger - 1st sub 4 minute miler. (9)
8. Theodor Seuss. (6)
9. Famous line: "You've got some 'splainin' to do." (4,5)
10. Rocker from New Jersey. (3,3,4)
11. Famous ceiling painter. (12)
12. First due in space. (4,7)
13. Albert of relativity. (8)
14. "Unforgettable" singer. (3,4,4)
15. Country singer Charley. (5)
16. Kid's favorite Mister on TV? (4,6)
17. "BlacKkKlansman" director. (5,3)
18. William from the "Enterprise." (7)
19. Give her some R.E.S.P.E.C.T. (6,8)
20. Madame Speaker. (5,6)

Answers on page 15

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by Dena Houston



The Materials Recovery Facility (Recycling Facility)

The Materials Recovery Facility (also called the MRF) is the place where our recyclable materials go after the City of Austin recycling truck picks them up curbside.

Problem of Contamination at the MRF

When incorrect items are placed in our blue curbside bins, it is called “contamination.” Putting the wrong items in your blue cart is costly to the City’s ratepayers, disrupts the recycling process, and causes serious safety hazards.

How is this Costly to Ratepayers?

The City pays money (based on weight) to the MRF for all material brought into the recycling facility. The MRF then sorts and processes recyclable materials and sells them. The City receives a portion of the revenue from those sales. For all non-recyclable (contaminated) items, the City doesn’t receive any revenue and, in addition, pays a processing fee for the MRF to haul them to the landfill. If the City pays out more in processing fees than it receives in revenue, ratepayer collection fees must go up to cover the difference.

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Types of Contamination

Items that wrap around the equipment – Garden hoses, wire clothes hangers, film wrap, and plastic bags wrap around the sorting drums. When this happens, the sorting process has to stop while the workers climb up onto the conveyor belt and physically unwrap these items from the drums. Garden hoses are the worst because it is very labor intensive and dangerous to have to pull on these hoses to release them from the machinery.

Large bulky items – Items such as tires, golf clubs, PVC pipe, and long-handled tools cannot be recycled at the MRF. These are some of the items the City has to pay to have hauled to the landfill.

Hazardous or medical waste – Hypodermic needles, sheets of glass, and partially full aerosol cans are very dangerous. Needles are obvious hazards, but it was a surprise to learn that partially full aerosol cans can explode and become a fire hazard. Sheets of glass (like window panes) break easily and are dangerous to the workers at the MRF.

Non-conforming recyclables – These are items that can be recycled, but not in the blue curbside bins that the City collects. Styrofoam and plastic bags are examples of items that can be recycled elsewhere (see below).

What to Do with Items that the MRF Cannot Handle

- Garden hoses and sheet glass must go into your trash can.
- Wire clothes hangers can be taken to a dry cleaner for reuse.
- Plastic bags and film wrap can go to the plastic collection boxes at your local grocery stores.
- Tires can be taken to the Recycle and Reuse Drop-Off Center providing it is open. There might be a fee.
- Golf clubs can be donated to your favorite charity.
- Aerosol cans that are full or partially full can be taken to the Recycle and Reuse Drop-Off Center. (Aerosol cans that are completely empty can go into your blue curbside bin.)
- Needles should be placed in a sturdy plastic container with a tight fitting lid (like a laundry detergent bottle). The bottle then needs to be taped

shut and labeled “NEEDLES” or “SHARPS.” This bottle can then be placed in the trash can.

- Styrofoam and large pieces of metal can be taken to the Recycle and Reuse Drop-Off Center.
- PVC pipe must be placed in your trashcan or given away through websites like NextDoor. Habitat for Humanity will also take PVC pipe.
- Long-handled tools can be donated to Habitat for Humanity or placed in your trash can.

Information from the Balcones Resources MRF

Brent Perdue is the general manager of Balcones Resources, the MRF in northeast Austin. I asked him

to share some stories of interesting items that have come through the facility and what is the greatest source of contamination.

- Plastic bags continue to be the greatest source of recycling contamination. They have to be removed manually or they get caught up in the machinery.
- Face masks and gloves are being thrown into the blue recycling bins during the pandemic at a dramatically increased rate. These items must go into the trash can.
- Wood, rocks, metal automotive parts, and electronics have also appeared on the conveyor belts.

- Shopping carts and an electric scooter have been discovered on the commercial side of the recycling facility.



PLEASE REMEMBER – WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT!

Remember the City of Austin recycling website:
<http://www.austintexas.gov/what-do-i-do>.

Stay tuned for future tips for creative ways to recycle or reuse. If you have any questions or recycling ideas, please send them to recycling@hpwbana.org.



February Meeting Minutes... ...cont'd from page 9

- How high can fences be? (Erica) 4' tall in the front yard. Rear yard fencing I would need to research. There is some general information about fences at <https://www.austintexas.gov/department/fences>. The HPNA website includes a section with resources for building; <http://www.austinydepark.org/resources/building-remodeling/>. There, you can see any zoning rules specific to your area.
- I've noticed that businesses around the neighborhood have begun using LED lighting that is perhaps brighter than the city permits. How can we notify businesses rather than calling code enforcement? (Erica) There is not a campaign to notify businesses of how bright lights can be, but we can work on that. We use the Nextdoor app and other community outreach programs to try to make businesses and residents aware of situations like this. There are laws that address lights and they can be nuisances. (Bentzin) I want to mention that there is a dispute resolution center available to you. I hate that you have to go through so much effort to enjoy your property. Of course you can file a case, but we also send things to the dispute resolution center and you might get results quicker. Plus, if the business fails to work with you, the courts will take that into consideration. The Dispute Resolution Center is at <https://austindrc.org/>.

- On a road without sidewalks, who has the right of way, vehicles or walkers and bikers? (Grayson) The vehicle typically has the right of way when there is no sidewalk. However, please do your best to get out of the way as soon as you can. We also know that delivery vehicles are an issue in the city. They are not supposed to block a roadway when delivering packages, so please let us know about these situations so we can speak to drivers.
- I feel like our neighborhood is getting louder. How do I handle noise issues? (Erica) Austin Code only addresses property-related noises; if it's people, APD handles it. (Grayson) Yes, we will try to get compliance, and will arrest if necessary. However, we are not responding to most noise complaints currently due to COVID.

Michele thanked everyone for making themselves available!

Announcements:

- Hope Benko, Seminary of the Southwest at 32nd and Duval – We have more students than housing available. Please contact Hope (hope.benko@ssw.edu) if you have a 3- or 4-bedroom house available for rent.
- Lisa Harris – Bylaws revision committee is starting up so that the bylaws can be updated to include modern types of communication like Zoom. Contact Lisa (ljharris@yahoo.com) with your interest in serving.

– Submitted by Ben Reid,
HPNA Secretary

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News from the Ney

The Ney has two big announcements for March. First, the Friends of the Ney ask you to please consider supporting its mission during the city-wide, 24-hours-of-giving event, Amplify Austin, which takes place on March 4 and 5, 2021.

Austin will always be Austin and the Ney will always be the Ney. It's years like 2020 that make us proud of our genetic creativity, tolerance, and resilience, traits that Elisabet Ney lived by. And all events and programs, whether live or online, are and will remain free to attend. It's the old-school Austin way, and that will never change.

The Amplify Austin fundraising goal for the Friends of the Elisabet Ney Museum once again is a modest \$7500. Please help us reach that goal by visiting www.amplifyatx.org and searching for "Ney." Also remember that the giving portal is still functional after March 6, so you can still donate even if you've missed that date. For more info, please visit the Friends website at <https://theney.org>.

Second, this month the Museum will launch the Ney's Artist Exchange, via Zoom, on Thursdays, March 4, 11, 18, 25, and April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 6 pm to 7 pm! Through this program, artists and creatives and YOU will meet for weekly online sessions and participate in artist-led workshops, discuss art practices, exchange ideas, and have group critiques! All of the sessions will be free and interactive so artists can meet, exchange ideas, and discuss their own works. Established local artists will be invited occasionally to participate and lead discussions. Though this program will be Zoom-based for now, when things open up again, live gatherings are likely, so get in on the ground floor!

If you want to feel inspired, come visit *Mire + Mend*, Jade Walker's new installation among the trees in the Museum's North Green, part of the City of Austin's ArtsResponders program to help commemorate those lost to the pandemic. It's an interactive piece - everyone can add to it and help heal our community.

Still, be sure to mask up and maintain a healthy distance when you visit it. Stay healthy and warm, everyone!

There are two other upcoming events for March:

Drawing Salon with Atelier Dojo - Saturday, March 13 and April 10, 10 am to 12 pm

Learn about the art of portraiture painting through these Zoom-based drawing sessions with artists from Austin's Atelier Dojo Collective, a collective of Austin realist artists. Each instructor will lead a two hour pre-recorded drawing lesson that is modeled from one of Ney's works. There will also be live commentary and a Q&A with audience members. This is an all-ages event, but artists with some technical understanding are more likely to benefit from it. Event participation is free!

Short Short Fiction Festival- Sunday, March 28, 2 to 4 pm

Join fifteen or more authors as they read their best short short fiction piece (<1000 words). This year, we will present our annual writer's festival online so participants can discover new authors from around the country.



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Light Rail on Guadalupe... ...cont'd from page 1

project planned for Guadalupe and Avenue A. Fortunately, the engineering team's motto is "dig once" and they've agreed to coordinate with the city on that project or others that might be in process. Engineers are also looking at utilities that might need to be relocated along the length of the line.

Guadalupe business owners have expressed concerns about customer access during construction and whether they will lose on-street parking on Guadalupe, which is the sole parking for some businesses. Because historic structures are built directly on the sidewalk on the eastern side of Guadalupe, residents have urged planners to work with the state to acquire additional Right of Way from the Austin State Hospital to better accommodate light rail without losing traffic lanes, bike routes, and existing street parking. There is no word yet on how likely that might be.

Clearly, there are many decisions still to be made, nearly all of which will be painful to someone. Needless to say, the Drag area brings its own share of challenges, including the roughly 30,000 pedestrians that will need to cross the tracks each day from West Campus to UT - not to mention those two right-angle turns trains will have to negotiate at MLK and Guadalupe.

On the plus side, light rail is expected to cut the commute time in half from Republic Square to 183 during peak travel periods. The Orange Line will also share track with the Blue Line on that stretch, effectively doubling service. And with an estimated daily ridership of 54,000 to 74,000, that's a lot of cars off the road if enough folks can be convinced to use it.

The Guadalupe Corridor Working Group will meet again in April so stay tuned for an update. Want to learn more? Drop by the Cap Metro Virtual Open House any time at <https://www.capmetroengage.org/en/orangeline>.

– Susan Moffat



Restrictive Covenants... ...cont'd from page 1

deleted from the recorded document. No fee would be required for filing this petition. If the court finds that the provision is unambiguously discriminatory and unconstitutional, the court will order the provision to be removed from the recorded document.

– Lisa Harris

Zero-Waste Living in Austin

As a Hyde Park resident, you have probably been enjoying curbside compost pick-up for a while now. You have likely seen your trash output go down as you divert food scraps from the garbage to the compost bin. Well, if you're interested in reducing your trash even further, read on!

I have been living a zero-waste lifestyle in Austin for two years now. This means I produce (almost) no trash. The only items to enter my home are reusable, compostable, or recyclable. Instead of buying a bag of chips, I fill up my own containers with snacks from the bulk aisle at the grocery store. Instead of using disposable Swiffer pads, I clean my floors with a mop. Instead of brushing my teeth with a tube of toothpaste, I buy toothpaste tablets that come in a refillable glass jar. These are just a few examples of zero-waste alternatives to common products.

Reducing waste is a phenomenal way to lower your impact on the environment. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, landfills are the third largest source of human-related methane emissions in the U.S. There is also a big carbon footprint that comes with manufacturing, packaging, and shipping anything new – so reducing and reusing is a great way to bring your carbon emissions down.

In my efforts to reduce waste, I have also phased out almost all plastic consumption. Although most plastics can go in the recycling bin, they still typically end up in a landfill. Unlike glass and metal (which can be infinitely recycled), plastic degrades in quality each time it is recycled, typically becoming trash after just a couple of cycles. So, for that reason, I avoid it.

Here are some of my favorite nearby spots for zero-waste and plastic-free shopping:

Central Market: Central Market has a huge bulk section, full of spices, candy, oats, rice, flour – almost any non-perishable good you can think of. Using your own containers is temporarily prohibited due to COVID, but once this restriction is lifted, be sure to bring some jars and check it out! Wheatsville and Whole Foods also have impressive bulk sections.

Goodwill: Buying secondhand is the ultimate way to reuse (and save money too)! Goodwill is a great source of secondhand clothes, housewares, electronics, and more. Nextdoor and Facebook are also good places for secondhand finds (check out the Hyde Park "Buy Nothing" group on Facebook).

Hyde Park Bar & Grill: I was pleased to discover that our local neighborhood restaurant provides compostable take-out containers instead of plastic ones. Next time you eat out, consider paying them a visit! Or even better, bring your own container when you go out to a restaurant.

Woof Gang Bakery: Take your furry friend (and a reusable bag) over to Woof Gang and fill up on treats! They have bowls filled with all kinds of loose goodies for your pooch, with zero packaging. Woof Gang has nearby locations at Mueller and downtown.

Lush: Located downtown, Lush has a huge assortment of unpackaged soaps, shampoo bars, bath bombs, and the like. Bring a reusable bag and fill it up with plastic-free products for every corner of your bathroom.

In addition to these local recommendations, a website I put together called zerowastechecklist.com offers many more product suggestions and general information about reducing waste. If you have any questions (or sustainable tips to share), please reach out to me at hannahstahl14@gmail.com!

– Hannah Stahl

Fire Station Update... ...cont'd from page 3

building's health and safety issues like lead and asbestos as well as adding cancer-prevention solutions for the crew, for example, keeping diesel exhaust out of the station and ensuring that gear that has been exposed to carcinogens at a fire is not kept in interior areas of the station. When we are finished, your firefighters will also have a true weight room for working out for the first time in the station's history! You might not know that AFD firefighters are required to work out at least one hour per day as part of our wellness and fitness program; because they wear 50+ pounds of gear every time they suit up, being physically fit is a critical component for ensuring they can do their job safely.

With all of these improvements, we're hoping to create a station ready to serve the Hyde Park community for the next 50 years. When it's finished, you will see a station that maintains the historical look and feel but incorporates all of the modern accessories a fire station of the 21st century should have, ensuring our personnel and the equipment they use are in top condition to serve you even better!

With COVID-19, construction timelines have proven to be challenging, but our goal is to finish this project and have the station back up and running before the end of the year. Our crews cannot wait to be home in their Hyde Park station and we look forward to giving each of you a personal tour as soon as conditions allow us to do so!

– Tony Haden
Division Chief, Austin Fire Department

Word Find Answers from page 9

- 1) LADY GAGA; 2) EARL CAMPBELL;
- 3) CESAR CHAVEZ; 4) MARIAH CAREY;
- 5) ROBERT FROST; 6) SHAQUILLE;
- 7) BANNISTER; 8) GEISEL; 9) DESI ARNAZ;
- 10) JON BON JOVI; 11) MICHELANGELO;
- 12) YURI GAGARIN;
- 13) EINSTEIN; 14) NAT KING COLE;
- 15) PRIDE; 16) FRED ROGERS;
- 17) SPIKE LEE; 18) SHATNER; 19) ARTHUR FRANKLIN;
- 20) NANCY PELOSI



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901 WEST 22ND STREET

Available now for short term lease at discounted rate. Charming 2 BR, 2 BA condo at Preservation Square. Ground level unit with adjacent parking. Walking distance to U.T.

Listed at \$1,695/mo.



4214 SPEEDWAY

Exquisite renovation of 1939 Hyde Park bungalow. Many upgrades and custom finishes. 3 BR, 3 BA. Two screened in porches, greenhouse, hot tub, garage/workshop.

Listed at \$1,195,000



3512 RED RIVER STREET

White stone traditional style custom built home with 4 BR, 3.5 BA, 2 LIV. Open floor plan, updated kitchen, fabulous master suite on ground level. Two-car garage plus carports.

Listed at \$1,195,000



3306 HARRIS PARK AVE.

Upstairs unit of 1930s brick duplex with 2 BR, 1 BA. Updated with new appliances, refinished floors, screened porch. Looks out on tree-tops. Walking distance to U.T.

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3501 WOODROW ST.

Stately 1933 brick American Four Square home with 4BR, 2BA, 2LIV plus guest house. Park-like yard with pool on half-acre lot. Fun fact: Childhood home of QB Drew Brees!

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