



# MAHNCKE PARK

Neighborhood  
Association

Established 1979

P.O. BOX 6544

**NOVEMBER 2021**

## THIS MONTH'S MEETING

This month's meeting will be Monday, November 22, beginning at 7 pm, Lion's Field Adult Center, located at 2809 Broadway.

## **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 7 PM**

### NEW TRAIN IN BRACKENRIDGE PARK

Many of you have noticed the bright green San Antonio Zoo Train carrying passengers on the tracks around Brackenridge Park. The CWT Express, named after the initials of the grandchildren of the designer, debuted Sept. 27 and has been very busy with long lines on weekends (it only operates weekends).

The tracks for the original Brackenridge Eagle, "Old 99," were built in 1956, and the first train ran in 1957. This new, more powerful train with a diesel-styled engine is the first new train to run on these tracks since the early 2000's. It has a smoother ride and a better sound system. And some say it has a LOUDER whistle! It was funded entirely by donations and runs on fuel donated by Valero. Funding efforts for a second train are underway, with a third one in the planning stages. Each of the trains will have its own character. The old trains will be retired as the new ones come into use. Here's a chance to enjoy your neighborhood in a new, old way. What a great neighborhood!

### LAMAR ELEMENTARY IMPROVEMENTS PROPOSED

Lamar Elementary School is a Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade school located at 201 Parland Place, which serves 303 students. At a community meeting on October 14, architect Josh Sawyers of Pfluger Architects and San Antonio ISD staff outlined preliminary plans for a \$21.5 million renovation to Lamar, funded by the SAISD 2020 bond issue. Major changes include:

- A three-story addition on the east side of the campus which would enclose the open area now visible from Bellview Street.
- Relocating the main entry to the east side of the main building and making it more secure.
- Construction of a new student drop-off and pick-up area on Bellview Street to reduce congestion on Parland Place.
- Demolishing the existing kitchen and dining area and replacing them with a new gym on the southwest corner of the property. The kitchen/dining area would be relocated to the new building, close to the drop-off area.
- Adding a community meeting space close to the new entry.

The proposed renovation will add about 41,000 square feet of space and provide capacity for 472 students. The architects will attempt to maintain the number of on-site parking spaces. Construction is anticipated to begin in May 2022 and be completed in Fall 2023.

## FRIENDSGIVING AT MAHNCKE PARK

What is Friendsgiving?

Why it's an opportunity to share time with neighbors in our beautiful Mahncke Park. This low key, relaxed gathering is a wonderful opportunity to picnic in the park, share a favorite dish, and enjoy one of the best views across San Antonio. Well-behaved adults, dogs, & children are welcome! More details below.

Gather at the east end of the park – near the flagpole and the enigmatic, bronze sculptures.



## TREES, LEAF LITTER, AND OUR FIREFLY FRIENDS

Autumn is the best time to plant trees, shrubs, and perennials in San Antonio. Doing so allows root systems to become established before the arrival of summer's punishing heat & dry weather. Landscapes in our neighborhood and across the city are becoming increasingly populated with a variety of native plants that offer food and shelter to butterflies, bees, birds, spiders, and caterpillars. And although many of us have worked years to remove ball moss from trees and shrubs, we have since learned that ball moss can serve as home for small insects and spiders – and hummingbird nests have even been spotted locally within ball moss!

Falling leaves offer challenges and opportunities. Most of us have spent much energy raking and gathering leaves to place in our green organic recycling bins. However, we are learning "leaf litter" provides cover for helpful insect larva, as well as adding useful organic matter to our landscape. And if you look closely, you may find butterfly eggs – or a praying mantis egg sac - on the leaves you are working hard to remove from your property. Several neighbors report enjoying fireflies in their landscapes this summer - leaf litter and cut branches left in flowerbeds to soften and deteriorate create excellent habitat for firefly beetles.

**NEWS FROM LION'S FIELD - 210-207-5380**

Evening hours have resumed at Lions Field Adult Center, 2809 Broadway. Hours are Monday-Thursday 8am to 9pm, Friday 8am to 5pm.

Lion's Field offers a variety of activities - crafts, jewelry, painting, music classes, 42 dominoes, bridge and more. The Fitness Room is now available to work out on your own.

Details regarding particular programs listed below:  
Mon. and Wed., 6 pm. **STRENGTH TRAINING**. This outdoor class focuses on use of handheld weights for an all over work-out. Inside during inclement weather. Membership not required for this Fitness in the Park activity.

Wed., 9 am. **FABRIC FUN**. Sew and no sew projects for all experience levels.

Wed., 11/10, 9:30 am. **VETERAN'S BRUNCH**. Join us as we celebrate Veteran's Day and those who served. Brunch and activities. RSVP requested at 210-207-5380. Membership not required for this community event. All those 18+ welcome.

Fri., 11/12, noon. **HEALTHY COOKING** class sponsored by Aetna.

Sat., 12/11, 10 am – 4 pm. **ART ON BROADWAY**. Plan ahead for unique holiday gifts. Shop from local artists for unique gifts of art from painting, fiber art, ceramics and more!

**THIS MONTH'S SPONSOR**

This month's newsletter sponsor is Jessica McCain. Jessica has lived in Mahncke Park since 2012 - first on Pershing Avenue and now on Thorman Place. Regarding Mahncke Park, she enjoys most its walkability, friendly & compassionate neighbors, and charming architectural variety. She would not want to live in any other San Antonio neighborhood. We appreciate Jessica McCain's generous support of the MPNA newsletter. Thank you, Jessica!

**CITY BOND ISSUE PLANNED**

The City of San Antonio is planning to conduct a bond election May 7, 2022. The anticipated value of the bond is \$1.2 billion, which is expected to be divided into the broad categories below:

Streets, Sidewalks, & Bridges	\$480 million
Drainage & Flood Control	\$162 million
Parks & Open Space Improvements	\$274 million
Facilities Improvements	\$134 million
Housing	\$150 million

Visit [www.sanantonio.gov/2022Bond](http://www.sanantonio.gov/2022Bond) for a schedule of public meetings & presentations. City Council is planning to finalize the list of specific projects within each of the above categories in January.

**NOISE ORDINANCE: NEW PILOT PROGRAM**

The City of San Antonio's FY2022 Budget includes a 3 month pilot program for the enforcement of the city's noise ordinance. The 3 month period began October 7. The Code Enforcement Division will have an additional responder available Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 8pm – 4am. All calls regarding noise violations will continue to be received through the SA Police Department's non-emergency number 210-207-7273 (SAPD).

**DISTRICT 2 CITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE**

Jalen McKee-Rodriguez is the City Council representative serving District 2, which includes our neighborhood.

Mr. Frankie Trynoski serves as his Chief of Staff and can be contacted at 210-207-8258 or [frankie.trynoski@sanantonio.gov](mailto:frankie.trynoski@sanantonio.gov)

Ms. Denise Hernandez serves as his Constituent Service Director and can be contacted at 210-207-0950 or [denise.hernandez@sanantonio.gov](mailto:denise.hernandez@sanantonio.gov)

**District 2 City Council contact information:**

Downtown Office, 210-207-7278  
Claude Black Community Center Office, 210-207-0950  
Rittiman Road Office, 210-207-0970

**S.A. POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Officer Juan Hernandez is our neighborhood's patrol officer. His duty hours are M-F, 7am-3pm. Contact him regarding concerns of illegal activity or to request a "patrol by" of your property when you are out of town.

[Juan.hernandez3@sanantonio.gov](mailto:Juan.hernandez3@sanantonio.gov)  
210-218-6939, cell  
210-207-7413, Central Substation, SAFFE Office

**MPNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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**PUBLICATION NOTE**

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<b>2021 MAHNCKE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION</b>	
Membership is open to homeowners, renters, property owners, businesses or anyone having an interest in our area. Dues are \$10 per household & \$5 for retired neighbors per year. Non-resident dues are \$20 to help cover postage costs.	
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