



MAHNCKE PARK

Neighborhood
Association

Established 1979

P.O. BOX 6544

FEBRUARY 2022

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

This month's meeting on Monday, Feb. 28 at 7pm will feature a presentation from the City Council District 2 office regarding designation of public funds via a process known as Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones. We will also elect new members to the MPNA Board of Directors; the Nominating Committee has nominated the following persons to serve:

Ruth Rodriguez, Thorman Place; Isabel Garcia, Queen Anne Ct.; Valerie Jeannin, Eleanor Ave.; Liz Kish, Natalen St.; Kahlyne Fletcher, Pershing Ave.

FEB. 28, 7 PM, LION'S FIELD CTR, 2809 BROADWAY

PLAN TO NARROW BROADWAY HALTED

The Texas Transportation Commission voted 3-1 last month to reverse its 2014 and 2015 plan to pass management of Broadway Street from the State to the City. The Commission based its action on the City's plan to narrow Broadway from 6 to 4 lanes, which commissioners stated was inconsistent with Governor Abbott's directive to reduce congestion on Texas roadways. The portion of Broadway in question extends from Burr Road to Houston Street.

PRIMARY ELECTIONS SET FOR MARCH 1

Joint primary elections for Democratic and Republican candidates will be held Tuesday, March 1. Early voting begins February 14 and ends February 25. Questions regarding election details and polling sites may be answered by the Bexar County Elections Department website or by calling 210-335-8683.

The non-partisan League of Women's Voters has produced a Voter's Guide to help voters make informed choices in the primary elections. The guide features candidates' responses to specific questions. The guide is free and available at all San Antonio public libraries.

MAHNCKE PARK COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWS

Interest in raised beds at the community garden remains high – at present, assignments for spring's raised beds is underway & those on the wait list for newly available beds have been contacted. Community members may add their names to the wait list but new beds most likely won't be available until the fall due to high demand. Community workdays are scheduled for Friday, Feb. 11 at 5pm and Saturday, Feb. 12 at 10am. All are welcome to help.

Garden Party is scheduled for Saturday, April 2 from 10:30am-1:30pm. Plant sales & much more.

ORDER UP TO 4 FREE COVID TEST KITS ONLINE

Visit www.covidtests.gov To order takes less than one minute & deliveries are arriving within a week.

CPS ENERGY RATE INCREASE APPROVED

By a vote of 8-3 in January, S.A. City Council approved a CPS Energy utility rate increase of 3.85%. The rate increase will take effect in March. The following City Council members voted NO to the utility rate increase: Councilman Jalen McKee-Rodriguez, District 2 Councilwoman Teri Castillo, District 5 Councilman Clayton Perry, District 10

TREE PROTECTION ORDINANCE LOSES AGAIN

By a vote of 8-3 in January, S.A. City Council approved a variance to waive requirements of the City's Tree Protection Ordinance. The variance paves the way for removal of 2,087 "protected significant trees" with up to 24" trunk diameter, 18 of 19 "protected heritage trees" with trunk diameter greater than 24", and 485 nonprotected trees. The 60 acre property in NW San Antonio on Wiseman Rd. near Westover Hills Blvd. will be developed as a Microsoft Service Center. The following City Council members voted NO to the variance:

Councilman Jalen McKee-Rodriguez, District 2
Councilwoman Teri Castillo, District 5
Councilwoman Ana Sandoval, District 7

YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK, PART 2,108,285,318

The City's Street Preservation Program is continuing to improve roadways in Mahncke Park. The next project is a "microsurface application" on New Braunfels Ave. from Eleanor Ave. to Burr Rd. where portions of the street's base have failed or are at high risk of failure. Message boards will be placed a minimum of 7 days prior to roadwork commencing. Public Works' goal is not to completely close N. New Braunfels and instead have restricted two way traffic during their typical work hours M – F from 8am – 6pm. The project budget is \$207,000.

YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK, PART 2,102,077,107

If you need an additional or replacement recycle, organic, or trash bin, call the City's Solid Waste Dept. at 210-207-6428, where a real person promptly answers phone calls and will help you. If any of your bins need to be replaced, simply call to let them know, and they will place a work order for your replacement bin to be delivered - at no charge to you.

If you'd like additional bins, you can get blue and green ones free with a phone call. If you'd like an additional brown bin, there is a 1-time charge: \$14.76 for the small 48-gallon size, \$18.76 for the medium 64-gallon size, and \$26.76 for the large 96 gallon size.

OVERHEARD BUT NOT CONFIRMED

Unconfirmed reports suggest Chick-Fil-A may be moving to the former site of Tomatillo's Restaurant at NE corner of Broadway and Eleanor. Also, Dirty Nelly's Irish Pub on the River Walk may soon establish a second location – perhaps at NE corner of Broadway and Pershing, the former site of Picante Grill.

MIDTOWN TIRZ GAINS NEIGHBORHOOD REP

Mahncke Park neighborhood resident George Grimes of Parland Place was appointed this month to the Midtown Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) Board by District 2 City Councilman Jalen McKee-Rodriguez. A TIRZ is a geographic area (the "Zone") in which property taxes in the increase in property value after the Zone is established (the "Increment") is used for improvements ("Reinvestment") within the Zone.

The Midtown TIRZ zone is the area north of downtown bounded generally by East Martin on the south, IH 35 and St. Mary's Street on the west, IH 37 and Broadway on the east, and Ashby Place on the north plus the commercial property adjacent to St. Mary's north to Mulberry and Broadway north to Burr Road; a total of 750 acres. The Midtown TIRZ goal was to "leverage the public investment . . . to transform the commercial corridors into mixed-use, mixed-income, transit oriented urban streets." The TIRZ helped fund residential and commercial development on Broadway, mostly south of Josephine near the Pearl, and public amenities including the Witte Museum parking garage enhancements and the Maverick Park dog park.

As of February, TIRZ expenditures and commitments for future projects totaled about \$126.3M (not including debt service). Projects in progress include Broadway improvements - underground utilities, drainage, streets, sidewalks, bike lanes and lighting. As most goals of the original TIRZ were completed or funded, the TIRZ was "repurposed" to focus on supporting four institutions along the Broadway Corridor: Witte Museum, SA Zoo, SA Botanical Garden, and Brackenridge Park. Each of the institutions submitted Phase One short term needs and the TIRZ Board approved as follows:

	TIRZ Amount	Total Project Cost
SA Zoo: New Entry & New Gorilla Habitat	\$10.0M	\$67.0M
Botanical Garden: Repair Conservatories & Replace Greenhouses	\$5.0M	\$8.3M
Witte, Renovate & Expand Auditorium	\$3.0M	\$6.0M

The above projects were approved for funding by the TIRZ Board on February 2, 2022 and will go to City Council for consideration on February 10, 2022.

Due to community concerns, the TIRZ Board took no action toward funding two other Phase One projects: Sunken Gardens Theater Enhancements, and Brackenridge Park Historic Walls Repair & Pump House Restoration.

For more information, go to ["www.sanantonio.gov/NHSD/TIF/TIRZProjects"](http://www.sanantonio.gov/NHSD/TIF/TIRZProjects) and scroll down to Midtown TIRZ #31.

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Carlynn Ricks
Bruce Martin

PUBLICATION NOTE

The printing of this newsletter is supported by the Circle School, 217 Pershing Ave. thecircleschool.org

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

Feb. 11, 5 pm. VALENTINE'S DAY THE LIONS FIELD WAY! It's an evening to die for! Join us for a thrilling whodunnit. Our mystery this year has us traveling onboard the Istanbul Express during 1914, just after the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand. It is midnight, a few hours from Paris, and Selda Zaim is discovered dead in the kitchen car! Join us as we solve the mystery. Dinner served during the event. Costumes encouraged by not required. RSVP via phone, 210-207-5380. Become part of the mystery by playing a character! Call us for which characters are still available.

For more Lion's Field activities, search "Lion's Field San Antonio" and find a complete calendar of activities, including arts and crafts, exercise classes, musical activities, dance classes, board games, & much more.

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 while out of town. Juan.hernandez3@sanantonio.gov
210-218-6939, cell
210-207-7413, Central Substation, SAFFE Office

S.A. CODE COMPLIANCE

Anna M. Rodriguez is the Code Compliance Officer assigned to our part of town. Contact her at 210-416-5891 or anna.rodriguez@sanantonio.gov

MPNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President, Taylor Watson, Eleanor Avenue
Vice President, Crissy Reid, Claremont Street
Treasurer, Chris Aufdenberg, Thorman Place
Mike Bandor, Thorman Place
Colleen Ferruzzi, Thorman Place
Valerie Jeannin, Eleanor Avenue
Email info@mahnckepark.org

2022 MAHNCKE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

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.

Name	
Address	
City, State,	
Zip Code	
Email address	
Phone	
Type membership	Regular____, Retired____, Nonresident____

Mail completed form & payment to:
MPNA, PO BOX 6752, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78209

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