

MAHNCKE PARK

NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION
ESTABLISHED 1979



SEPTEMBER 2024

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Brackenridge Park will be the focus of this month's meeting, including updates about what is happening in the park, strategic directions, and possibly some ideas regarding collaboration on projects with Mahncke Park. Brackenridge Park Conservancy's new Chief Executive Officer Chris Maitre will present. Join us to learn the latest regarding Brackenridge Park, our city's most historic park.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 7pm
LION'S FIELD CENTER
2809 BROADWAY**

MAHNCKE PARK PALETA SOCIAL

Bring a neighbor and a blanket/chair for a delightful evening in the park. Delicious paletas will be provided as we gather to enjoy our wonderful neighborhood park and look forward to autumn days.

SEPTEMBER 7, SATURDAY, 6pm

BROADWAY STREET CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES

Construction work on Broadway from Burr Road to Roy Smith Street (near Jones Street) is ongoing and projected to finish in Spring 2025, reported Texas Dept. of Transportation representatives at last month's Mahncke Park Neighborhood Association (MPNA) meeting. New concrete bus pads have been installed. Improvements pending completion include curb and sidewalk upgrades, resurfacing and roadway repairs, ADA accessibility improvements, and traffic and pedestrian signal improvements. Approximate cost of work is \$10.5 million.

For questions, comments, and/or additional information, TXDOT invites a visit to www.txdot.gov and search for keywords "SL 368 Broadway." Or you may call 210-615-5802.

ZONING CHANGE REQUEST: 201 IRA AVENUE

A zoning change request has been submitted for the property at 201 Ira Avenue to change the designation from Multi-Family to Residential Single Family with Conditional Use Permit for Professional Office. Tentatively this request is to be considered by the Zoning Commission on September 3, 2024.

YOUR TAX \$\$\$ AT WORK, PART 3,614,430,281

SA City Council has approved a five year lease for the Animal Care Services Dept. to open a new spay/neuter clinic at 1604 S. New Braunfels Avenue. The clinic will provide affordable spay and neuter services for cats and dogs. This is a significant investment toward reducing local strays and the roaming animal population in San Antonio.

AWFUL TRUTH RE: NEIGHBORHOOD BIKE LANES

Bike lane striping on N. New Braunfels from Burr Road to Eleanor Avenue was removed in April 2023 when the street was resurfaced. Beautifully resurfaced. In June 2023 center lane striping and crosswalk stripes at each intersection were applied, however, stripes for bike lanes were not reapplied. Regardless, cyclists, runners, walkers, and baby stroller pushers continue to use the space on N. New Braunfels that once was separated from vehicle traffic via bike lane stripes. Portions of the sidewalk along N. New Braunfels are uneven and present trip hazards, which draws pedestrians to use the street.

In August 2023 Public Works Dept. stated, "We are still in design as there will be minor modifications to what was there before. As of today (8/23/2023) there is no installation date (for bike lane striping)."

In October 2023 Public Works Dept. stated, "Designs are under review by Transportation Dept. and we can have final approval at any time."

In November 2023 Public Works Dept. stated, "Designs are under Transportation Dept. review. As there are some modifications to intersections they have to say if signal modifications are needed or if we can just use what was in place. At this point we are in the middle of the process and we can have final approval at any time."

In December 2023, Public Works Dept. stated, "It is still under review (by Transportation Dept.) . . . new expectation is to get an answer before mid-January at best."

In January 2024 Public Works Dept. stated what they hoped was their final design revision had been submitted to the Transportation Dept. and "if everything goes well" reinstallation of bike lane striping could "get started in early March if not before."

In April 2024 Public Works Dept. stated, "Bike lanes will be installed no later than July 30, 2024."

In August 2024 Public Works Dept. stated "there was material in backlog order" and "we should see installation begin by week of August 26."

VANISHING BOOKSTORES

American writer John Updike said, "Bookstores are lonely forts, spilling light onto the sidewalk. They civilize their neighborhoods." Two bookstores in our neighborhood closed this year – the Antiquarian and Half Price Books. Both on Broadway. San Antonio has lost quite a few bookstores in recent years. Perhaps you remember Rosengren's, Brock's, and Bookstop. How about Bookworm, Donaldson's, or Borders? The Twig Book Shop continues to operate in the Pearl and Cheever Books & Nowhere Books are on Broadway.

Now would be a good time to revisit one of these lonely, civilizing forts.

THINGS ARE GROWING STRONG AT FARMADILLO

You may have noticed Armadillo Gardens, the lush market garden growing at the corner of N. New Braunfels and Eleanor Avenue. This wonderful spot is the only urban Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program in San Antonio - we are fortunate to have this green treasure in our neighborhood! Season 1 began in March and ended in July. CSA members received heirloom tomatoes, lettuce mix, chard, kale, cabbage, spinach, onions, squash, cucumbers, peppers, nopales, melons, herbs, cut flowers, eggs, and honey - all produced and grown in our neighborhood. Armadillo Gardens says thanks to their inaugural season's customers for supporting local, seasonal, and sustainably produced food. Season 2 begins this month with the addition of more garden beds and a fence (thanks to a grant from the City's Office of Sustainability). Throughout the season their customers can expect produce that will include freshly picked treats such as lettuce, mizuna, arugula, cucumber, cabbage, tomatoes, radishes, onions, spinach, squash, leeks, fennel, cut flowers, herbs, and eggs.

When you see Valerie or Alec working at their farm, stop and say hello! They are delighted to chat with neighbors and share information. Please refrain from wandering onto the property when they are not there as the garden is private. For more information about Armadillo Gardens and the CSA program, please visit armadillogardens.com or Instagram Page@armadillo_gardens

HALLOWEEN AT THE BOTANICAL GARDEN

The Botanical Garden is offering two events during October and into Halloween weekend, Oct. 4 – Nov. 2. Happy Frights starts at 5pm is geared for the entire family. Highlights will include a 12' tall jack-o-lantern, a giant hay pyramid, live acrobatic shows, a dancing troll, 8 trick or treat stations, and a neon light maze.

For persons 13 years and older, the Botanical Garden recommends Haunting Nights, starting at 8pm. This event will include a 70' long pumpkin tunnel, witches and swamp creatures, giant scarecrows, pirate ship, a maze in a neon labyrinth, and trick or treat stations.

Tickets for both events are date and time specific with prices from \$27 - \$29. For more information, map and photos, go to www.halloweensanantonio.com On-site parking \$15 plus fees and taxes.

S.A. POLICE DEPARTMENT

SAPD Officer Juan Hernandez patrols our neighborhood. Officer Hernandez' duty hours are M-F, 7am-3pm. He regularly attends the MPNA's monthly meetings and provides information regarding illegal activity. Contact him regarding concerns or to request a "patrol by" of your property if out of town. Juan.hernandez3@sanantonio.gov 210-218-6939, cell 210-207-7413, Central Substation

SAN ANTONIO CODE COMPLIANCE

The Code Enforcement Officer for our area of San Antonio is Cynthia Santana. She regularly attends the MPNA's monthly meetings and is responsive to concerns from within our neighborhood. Cynthia.Santana@sanantonio.gov 210-394-2544

LION'S FIELD CENTER – 2809 BROADWAY

Lion's Field Center is operated by the SA Parks Dept. and hosts a variety of classes, including art, music, and exercise. Call 210-207-5380 to learn more or stop by for a visit.

CITY COUNCIL INFORMATION

Mr. Jalen McKee-Rodriguez is the District 2 City Councilman. His district includes Mahncke Park. Main Office, City Hall, Military Plaza, 210-207-7278
Constituent Office, 2805 E. Commerce, 210-207-0950.
Mahncke Park residents may contact Maria Castro directly with concerns. Maria.castro@sanantonio.gov

MPNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Scott Day, Eleanor Ave., President
Jimmy LeFlore, Parland Place, Vice President
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Gene (Chip) Turner, Pershing Avenue
Email info@mahnckepark.org

THE INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY BECKONS

There are two Facebook pages area residents may visit to share and gather information.

This is the link to MPNA official page www.facebook.com/MahnckeParkNeighborhoodAssociation

Unofficial neighborhood page with online community socializing www.facebook.com/groups/66362695532

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Carlynn Ricks
Bruce Martin

PUBLICATION NOTE

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The MPNA appreciates their longstanding support.



2024 MAHNCKE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP	
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, SA, TX 78209	