

WLCA NEWSLETTER



Woodlawn Lake Community Association

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San Antonio, Texas

CITY BUDGET PROCESS DISCUSSED ON JUL 28th

Our WLCA meeting on July 28th will focus on the City budget. The Annual Operating and Capital Budget serves as a policy document, spending plan, and communication device for the City. It is the foundation for the City's allocation of resources toward City services such as public safety, streets, parks, and all other services provided by the City. The City is currently in the process of developing the FY 2016 proposed budget.

To gather public input for the budget, the City held Community Budget Meetings in each of the council districts. The District 7 meeting took place on June 9th at the Doris Griffin One Stop Senior Center. This meeting was poorly attended, with only about 30 members of the district showing up to participate. One problem may have been an inconvenient location, while another may have been the failure of getting notices to the residents and the neighborhood associations of the district. Nonetheless, we are hoping that this presentation gives our members more information on the budget process as well as the opportunity to say what we would like to see and not see as funding priorities.

On August 6th, the City Manager will present the proposed budget to City Council which will then hold work sessions to discuss its details. Residents will have two more opportunities for input, on August 19th and September 2nd, both at 6 pm in City Council Chambers. Residents can also provide input through the website SAspeakup.com. Adoption of the Budget is set for September 10th at the City Council "A" Session.

DISABILITY PLACARDS

The state issues vehicle placards for people with qualifying disabilities. Persons with a disabled parking placard may park in any spot designated for persons with disabilities and may be exempt from local and state government parking meters. State law does not allow the use of the placard for a disabled parking spot without the person with disability in the vehicle. Also, the placards in their listed instructions state, "DO NOT DRIVE vehicle with placard hanging from mirror." Violation of either of these rules could result in a citation and fine.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PRESENTED ON AUG 25th

The San Antonio Office of Emergency Management (SAOEM) will be our August 25th presenter. SAOEM coordinates activities of the City departments responsible for continued operations during disasters, coordinates agreements for the use of resources, communicates with state and federal agencies, and provides education and training to citizens and municipal employees.

Emergency management is a comprehensive system to respond to emergencies in disasters impacting on our community. It encompasses:

- Prevention - Actions taken to avoid an incident, or intervening to stop an incident from occurring, in the effort to protect lives and property.
- Preparedness - Activities such as planning, training, public education, and outreach to create awareness of potential dangers and increased readiness in our community.
- Response - Use of available resources to meet the needs of the community when disaster strikes. Depending on the severity of the disaster, this can include local, county, state, and federal resources, to include also fire and EMS services, public works, and law enforcement.
- Recovery - The long range support of restoring the community to pre-disaster conditions. This phase includes damage assessments to public and private property, as well as social services to assist citizens. The length of this phase depends on the magnitude of the disaster.

SAOEM last came to one of our meetings five years ago. The focus was then on flooding. Since then, we have seen nearby disasters involving explosions and chemical spills. We hope to get a better understanding of that office's function and how we can best keep ourselves safe.

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Street Improvements – page 3
Construction Updates – page 4

WALMART OPENS AUGUST 26th, 7:30 am

WLCA EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Alejandro Soto.....485-6168
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STATE MONEY FOR PARK

District 116 State Representative Trey Martinez Fischer announced that he and District 125 Representative Justin Rodriguez were able to provide \$3 million for San Antonio parks in the state budget. The allotment is described as “matching grants.” One-half of total amount is directed for Woodlawn Lake Park. Trey says that the grant to our Park “will be made in coordination with the City of San Antonio and its development of a library or activity center in or adjacent to the park.”

We have made some comments and posed some questions. WLCA policy has been that we do not want to lose any more green space at the Park. Nothing should be built that would take over any open park land. One exception could be an expansion of the Almaguer Dance Studio. At public meetings to discuss the 2012 City bond, there was strong support for a larger studio. We have asked if the funds could be used to acquire adjacent land for park building purposes. We have also asked about the effect of “matching” in the funding proviso. Will the City have to come up with an equal amount to receive the State money?

WLCA is working together with the Monticello Park and Jefferson Neighborhood Associations to insure neighborhood participation in any development plans in and near our historic Park.

WLCA Birthdays

July: flower - larkspur; birthstone - ruby

Victor Almaraz, Sally Avila, Mark Banasau, Bodil Beanland, Allison Boerger, Bruce Bronstad, Mary Gomez, Martha M. Kwan, Zach Hernandez, Cathleen McClure, Esther Ortiz, Diana Prado, Lesley Ramsey, Manuel Sandoval, Rebecca Tadea

August: flower - gladiolus; birthstone - peridot

Thomas Black, Gloria Bolick, Antonio De Leon, Tiffany Dale, Efraim Diaz, Fr Virgilio Elizondo, Esther Diaz Flores, Agustin Gonzalez, Elizabeth Provencio, Alejandro Soto, Kyle Snedden, Loretta Valdez

HOLIDAY, HELLO, HANDOUTS

Alejandro Soto, WLCA President

Another Fourth at the Park has come and gone. It seemed a bit more sane this year. SAPD has traffic control down to a science. Some people did try to park their vehicles on park grounds. They entered area set aside for the contractor working on the park trail. They soon learned that this is not public parking. Park Police were also more vigilant with illegal drinking. Dressed more like picnickers, they were able to spot many drinkers and empty the liquid contents of their contraband. Even so, a person interviewed at the Park by a television news reporter mentioned seeing many empty blue cans of a popular brew.

Trash remains a problem, in our Park and in our streets. Not as bad as before, but there was spent charcoal on the ground. I picked up a beer can and bottle and food wrappings that had been thrown in my yard. As my seventh grade homeroom teacher would say, “if their mamas didn’t teach ‘em....” Most of those who came out played by the rules and had a good time. I commend the Monticello Park Neighborhood Association for again putting on the traditional Children’s Parade. Also, I thank an efficient clean-up crew that was at the Park early Sunday morning, making the grounds pristine once more.

There is something about tents for the Fourth. The curfew (midnight to 5 am) remained in place, so there should have been no overnight camping. I can see pop-ups for shade, but see no need for tents, which can cover up prohibited activity as overnight camping, beer drinking, and physical stuff. Except for Easter, enclosed tents should not be allowed in City parks.

The improved park trail is coming along (page 4). This is one of my favorite parts of town. At my previous residences, I would do my running in the streets. The park trail is safer, quieter, cleaner, and more attractive. It could be friendlier. When I would run in Austin, people I would meet would greet me with “high-dee,” which is South Austin for “howdy.” In El Paso, it was “buenos,” which is short for “buenos dias.” Although a few people on the trail will say “mornen” (for “good morning”), many others will stare at the ground or off into the distance. We should greet each other. We have this great park and trail that we share. We should enjoy it together.

Each time I attend a meeting of a City board or commission. or of an area agency (as VIA), I return with a stack of printed paper. In this computer age, it would be cheaper, cleaner, and more environmentally sound to post items online and let participants find them on the devices most of us now carry. I also have a vast collection of pens, mugs, totes, and assorted do-dads from meetings and other gatherings. These items seem to have no other purpose than giving attendees something to take home and stash. As we talk City budget, it seems that we could identify and cut down on the amount of waste we produce.

STREET REPAIR SCHEDULE 2015-2019

The Infrastructure Management Program (IMP) of the City's Transportation and Capital Improvements (TCI) Department is a five-year rolling program. Service needs are identified city-wide and are scheduled for maintenance of streets, alleys, and drainage, as well as for sidewalks, traffic signals, pavement markings, and Advanced Transportation District (ATD) related projects. In the streets category, over 300 street maintenance projects are completed by in-house and contract forces on an annual basis. Each street project improves the integrity of city streets and rehabilitates the city's roadway network. Also, a comprehensive Pavement Preservation Program was established in 2011 to help minimize deterioration through the use of sealant applications. This is the maintenance schedule for streets in the WLCA area.

<u>2015 Rehabilitation</u>	Summit - Kampmann to Zarzamora	<u>2019 Rehabilitation</u>
Ashby - Emory to Wilson	Vollum - Mistletoe to N Jos Tobin	Alexander - Cincinnati to Texas, French to Cincinnati
Germania - Mistletoe to Cincinnati	<u>2016 Sealant</u>	Ashby - Bandera to Cincinnati
Hickory - Mistletoe to Woodlawn	Manor - Haverhill to Magnolia	Elmendorf - Woodlawn to Cincinnati
Magnolia - Manor/Mistletoe to Wilson,	<u>2017 Rehabilitation</u>	Emory - Magnolia to Mistletoe
San Antonio to Zarzamora	Adaes - S Jos Tobin to Culebra	French - Vollum to Zarzamora
Manor - Mistletoe to Huisache	French - Emory to S Jos Tobin	N Jos Tobin - Woodlawn to Vollum
Mulberry - Morning Glory to Manor/	Mistletoe - St Cloud to Wilson	S Jos Tobin - Woodlawn to Glenmore
Huisache, Kampmann to Zarzamora, Manor to Kampmann	S Jos Tobin - Glenmore to Alexander	<u>2019 Sealant</u>
San Antonio - Fredericksburg to French	<u>2017 Sealant</u>	Cincinnati - Bandera to Camino Santa Maria
Waverly - Tulane to Leo	Kentucky - Bandera to Glenmore	Gen McMullen - Culebra to Tulane
Woodlawn - Wilson to St Cloud	Peacock - Cincinnati to Culebra	NOTE:
<u>2015 Sealant</u>	St Cloud - Huisache to Babcock/Raleigh	During the budget process for each City fiscal year, the IMP is presented to City Council for approval. Amendments may occur throughout the year due to coordination with utilities or unforeseen conditions, such as inclement weather.
Huisache - Manor to Wilson	Waverly - Bandera to Glenmore	
W Kings Hwy - St Cloud to Wilson	<u>2018 Rehabilitation</u>	
Morning Glory - Mulberry to Woodlawn	Zarzamora - Cincinnati to Laurel	
Woodlawn - St Cloud to Bandera	Williams - Texas to Culebra	
<u>2016 Rehabilitation</u>	<u>2018 Sealant</u>	
Huisache - St Cloud to dead end	Kentucky - Zarzamora to dead end	
	Waverly - Bandera to Tulane	

WATER RESTRICTIONS END

San Antonio had been under water restrictions since 2011, advancing to Stage Two in 2012. That is now over, thanks to increased rainfall and a rising Edwards Aquifer level.

Residents can now use an irrigation system or hose-end sprinkler any day of the week before 11 am and after 7 pm. They can hand water with a hand-held hose, drip irrigation, soaker hose, or bucket at any time. Washing of impervious cover (walks, driveway) is permitted if it does not result in runoff. Allowing water to run off into a gutter, ditch, or drain, or failing to repair a correctable leak is water waste, which is prohibited at all times.

Having lived through four years of restrictions, we found ways to conserve without sacrificing hydration, cleanliness, or a respectable landscape. Although water is now plentiful, we should try to continue with water conservation. Water may again become scarce; we should not be the cause. Also, SAWS is looking at a rate schedule that will charge extra for higher water use.

THE DOWN SIDE - MOSQUITOES

Rains this year, coupled with a mild winter, has produced many benefits. Our yards are greener, blooms are more plentiful, and fruit trees and vegetable gardens are more productive. Our water restrictions have ended (left column). But, we have these pests.

Mosquitoes may carry any number of deadly diseases harmful to humans, as well as heart worm, which could be lethal to dogs. Only female mosquitoes feast on blood, needing it to reproduce. A mosquito can detect carbon dioxide from 75 feet away. This is a gas that humans and other animals produce and it signals to mosquitoes that a meal is close by.

All mosquitoes require water to breed. Just a few inches of water is needed for a female to deposit her eggs and for mosquito larva to quickly develop into adults. The key to controlling mosquitoes is to eliminate standing water (pesticides can also kill desirable insects, as bees and butterflies). This means checking your property after a rain for anything that could hold water, as bird baths, pottery, garbage can lids, yard puddles, and pet dishes (clean often). Also, check that gutters are clean and unplugged and downspouts drain properly. Report standing water outside of your property, whether public area or a neighbor, to 311.

Next WLCA Meeting: Jul 28 at 6:30 pm
Woodlawn Lake Park Wi-Fi Room @ Gym Bldg
 Other meetings in 2015: Aug 25, Sept 29, Oct 27, Dec 1

**Woodlawn Lake
Community Association**
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CONSTRUCTION - PARK

Trail. The first two phases of the park trail improvements have been completed. The third and final phase, from the foot bridge over the Vollum swale to W. Woodlawn, is beginning. All improvements to the trail will be done by the end of September. The contractor will still be repairing damaged turf areas.

Vollum Area Drainage. This project began July 7th and is scheduled to be completed by the end of the month. In our last Newsletter (May-Jun 2015), we mentioned the rain water build up on N. Josephine Tobin and W. French at Vollum. Vegetation overgrowth along the edge of the pavement restricts the flow of storm water from effectively entering Woodlawn Lake. This project is installing concrete rip-rap along the edge of the street, thus will improve water flow. This work is coordinated with the park trail improvements. During trail construction, many park users have been using the roadway for their walks and runs. Barricades have been placed between the project area and the roadway to safeguard the public. For safety concerns, it is advisable that pedestrians refrain from walking along the narrow roadway next to the on-going drainage improvement work.

S Josephine Tobin Entry. Our last Newsletter also mentioned deep puddling at the southeast entry to the new S. Josephine Tobin bridge. The curb and ADA ramp has been reconstructed. We hope that this takes care of the water issue.

... & STREETS

Wilson Blvd. The new bridge over the Seeling Channel and the approaches to it should be completed by the end of August. Wilson Blvd will then be open to through traffic. Up the road, a median is being installed next to Thomas Jefferson High School, between Donaldson and Club Drive. That project was initiated by SAISD to control traffic flow around the campus. It is funded by the 2012 City bond and should be completed by the start of the school year. The accompanying project at Thespian Island, Donaldson and Kampmann, will continue into the fall.

Culebra Road. Z-crossings will be installed between Zarzamora and Wilson - 24th Street. This will provide signaled crosswalks with street medians for safer crossing of the wide street. Pedestrians will be able to cross the street to a midway point and wait until it is safe to continue. This project was initiated by the Prospect Hill Neighborhood Association following a pedestrian fatality. It involved council districts 1, 5, and 7. We will provide details as they become available. (Thanks to District 1 Councilman Roberto Treviño for the update.)

RIDE THE "E"

The "E" is VIA's free downtown shuttle. It runs Tuesday through Saturday every ten minutes, from 6 pm to midnight. You can board at any VIA bus stop with the E logo. The route follows E. Commerce, Navarro, St. Mary's, and E. Market.