

# Dawson Neighborhood News

*The Newsletter of the Dawson Neighborhood Association*

July/Aug  
2014

## City Council District 3 Candidate Forum

The citizens of Austin approved the new 10-1 system under which voters elect a council member from their geographic district. Dawson is in District 3. If you would like to get to know the many candidates vying to represent you in District 3, the City of Austin is partnering with the city's Ethics Review Commission and the Austin League of Women Voters (ALWV) to host forums for all districts as well as for the mayor, who is still elected at large. The District 3 forum is:

**September 30<sup>th</sup>, 6-9 p.m. at the Monopolis Recreation Center, 2913 Montopolis Drive**

Candidates' video statements will also be available at [www.austintexas.gov](http://www.austintexas.gov) along with their responses to the ALWV's questionnaire. If you would like more information about the forums or 10-1 in general, go to <http://austintexas.gov/department/10-1>

## CodeNEXT Update

CodeNEXT is the City initiative to rewrite the 30 year old Land Development Code. Over this time many new rules have been overlaid and attached in response to new thinking of issues found and raised. The intent then is to reorganize it into a simpler code, one easier to use as well as one incorporating and applying the goals of "Imagine Austin" <http://austintexas.gov/department/imagine-austin>

To date, Dawson neighbors have participated through the "Community Character in a Box" exercise and we have completed two of these. The "box" created by groups of neighbors is an analysis of the features of the neighborhood highlighting things we like, things we don't like and things that are opportunities for improvement. Also included is a catalog of photos of the neighborhood intended to reflect Dawson's character from commercial to residential. Go to the City of Austin website to learn more: <http://austintexas.gov/department/community-character>

Board members Donna Knapp, Marty Harris and Peter Davis have attended city presentations on "Compatibility", the second issue raised by CodeNEXT as a community conversation. Compatibility, in the current code, is only used to describe setback requirements for single family and other zones. The scope of what compatibility means is being studied, so this is an opportunity to expand on what requirements should be considered for compatibility between properties. Learn more here: <http://austintexas.gov/department/codetalks>

One item that is seen as a priority for the property mix across Austin is the "Missing Middle". We have many single family houses in SF3 zones and at the other end large commercial buildings in CS zones. To enable the city goals for density and to diversify the building stock, the new code needs to allow a variety of buildings and uses that fill this missing middle between. These are identified as duplex, townhouses, cottages courts, small multiplex, live/work, stacked flats, mid-rise and mixed use. Obviously the single family zoning category is being looked at to add more flexibility of housing types.

You will be able to learn more in the coming weeks at: <http://austintexas.gov/department/get-involved-0>

You are invited to the next Dawson Neighborhood Association and Planning Contact Team Meetings:

**Monday, August 11, 2014  
6:30 pm  
South Austin Multipurpose  
Center at 2508 Durwood**

### DNA Meeting Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes
2. New Business
3. Old Business
  - a. NPP
4. Issues in the neighborhood

### DNA Planning Contact Team

1. Approval of Minutes
2. Membership Report
3. New Business
  - a. Neighborhood Assistance Center Presentation
4. Old Business

**DNA meets** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Oct & Dec

**DNPCT Membership Report:** There are no members who will be moved from Active or Pending to Suspended status. The following members will be removed if they do not attend the August 2014 meeting: Lowell Greene, Emory Jones and Miguel Stoupignan.

**APD District Representative:** The Austin Police Department District Representative serves as a liaison between the community and the police department to assist the community in solving neighborhood problems. Dawson is in District 4; our District Representative is **Officer Robert Barboza (512)-974 8246 or [Robert.Barboza@austintexas.gov](mailto:Robert.Barboza@austintexas.gov)**

For more information, go to <https://austintexas.gov/department/apd-district-representatives>

Many thanks to our newsletter sponsor:



*Grand Opening  
Backyard Sanctuary*

**Yoga ☯ Meditation ♥ Chanting**

Mimi Curry, aka Wolfie's Mom, is the founder and teacher at Be Radiant Bliss, a space exploring a deeper level of community in the heart of the Dawson area. With over 15 years of practice and 3 years of teaching, this native Texan is opening her backyard sanctuary to all. The sanctuary is small, and the schedule is flexible creating a perfect environment for co-creating at its best! Contact me today for more info.

**MimiCurry@me.com**

**(512)298-7214**

**Like on Facebook/BeRadiantBliss**

### **Neighbors - Stay in touch**

Join the DNA Yahoo! site and receive neighborhood news by email. To subscribe, go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DawsonNeighborhood> or send an email message to: **[DawsonNeighborhood-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:DawsonNeighborhood-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)**

If you would like to sponsor the newsletter or write an article, contact [mfushille@gmail.com](mailto:mfushille@gmail.com)