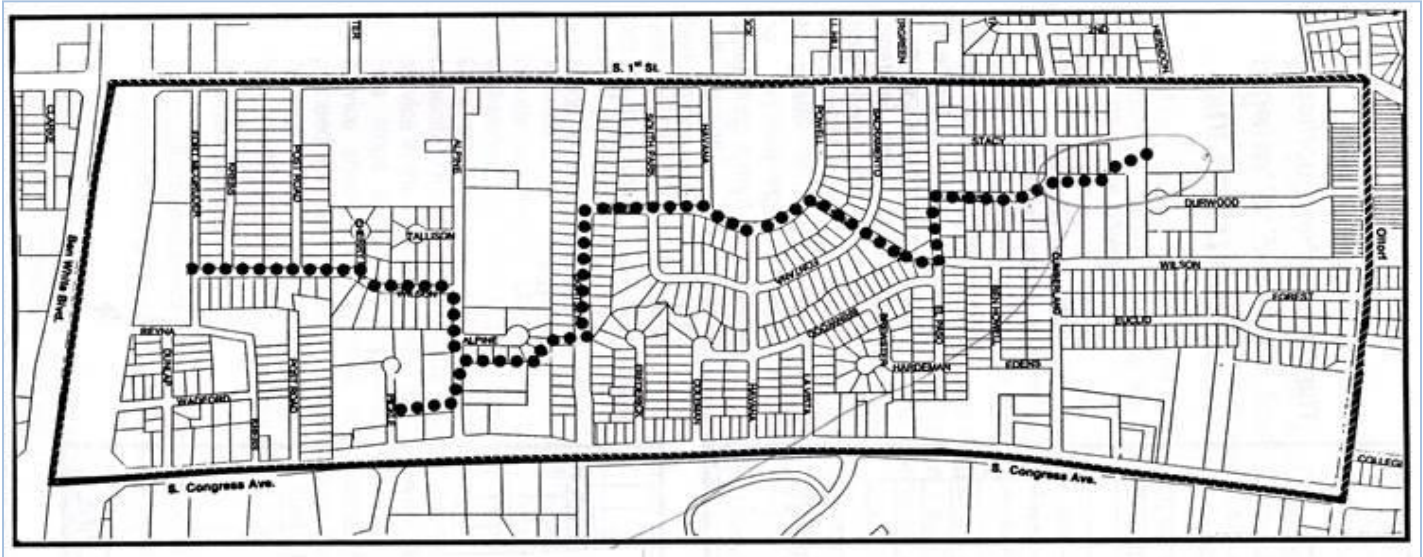


## City of Austin's Neighborhood Partnering Program

The City of Austin's Neighborhood Partnering Program (NPP) provides cost matching funds for community projects on public property, engaging City resources with groups of residents who have an idea for their neighborhood. Bring your ideas for projects to the August Dawson Neighborhood Association meeting! For more information, see [austintexas.gov/neighborhoodpartnering](http://austintexas.gov/neighborhoodpartnering).

One suggestion that garnered a good bit of discussion at the June meeting and a nod from Justin Golbabai, who is in charge of the program for the City of Austin, was to complete the North-South pedestrian corridor that is a component of the Dawson Neighborhood Plan:

*"Currently there is no way to get from the north to the south end of the neighborhood without venturing out onto either South First Street or South Congress Avenue, both very busy streets. A North-South pedestrian/bike corridor inside Dawson would allow better access to the neighborhood's parks, the elementary school, and to businesses for residents, especially children. Only a few improvements would be needed to connect the street network and establish a pedestrian route across the length of the neighborhood. These items should be accomplished with the cooperation of property owners. Their concerns should be considered carefully before any implementation."*



We will continue discussion of this and other ideas at the August meeting. For more information about the pedestrian corridor, go to <ftp://ftp.ci.austin.tx.us/npzd/Austingo/dawson-np.pdf>. Copies of neighborhood plans are also available at area libraries.

**2014 Habitat Challenge Update:** This year's challenge focuses on creating pollinator gardens. Even if you have certified your yard as a Wildlife Habitat in previous years, your participation in the pollinator challenge still counts toward Dawson's challenge. The pollinator checklist is simple to fill out and submit. For additional information, go to <http://austintexas.gov/departments/wildlife-austin> or call (512) 978-2606.

### Dawson Neighborhood Association (DNA) Draft Minutes, June 9, 2014

**Minutes:** Unanimously approved as printed in the newsletter.

**New Business:** a) Lauren Rowe and Luanne Tucker with the City of Austin's Neighborhood Habitat Challenge gave a presentation about the 2014 Challenge, which focuses on pollinator gardens to attract bees and butterflies. b) George Zapalac presented an update on Code Next, the diagnosis of problems and additional opportunities for citizen participation.

**Old Business:** a) Neighborhood Partnering Program – Peter D. suggested one doable project could be the interior pedestrian path that is part of our neighborhood plan. Sos P. said Trinity Abundant Life Church may allow pedestrian access along its section of the path.

**Issues in the Neighborhood:** a) Steve G. announced that there was a SWAT sting at the post office to address prostitution. b) Donna K. announced that city employee cleaning Gillis Park is having trouble keeping up with the task due to influx of homeless using the park to bathe, etc. Suggestions included bringing Officer Barboza in the loop. Also discussed that Gillis Pool's opening delayed due to lack of lifeguards. c) Discussion around large houses under construction in various locations with no recourse since built within current code. d) Candidates for City Council District 3, Mario Cantu and Eric Rangel, introduced themselves.

### Dawson Neighborhood Planning Contact Team (DNPCT) Draft Minutes, June 9, 2014

**Minutes:** Minutes approved as printed in the newsletter.

**Old Business:** Regarding the proposal for use at 103 La Vista: very few indications that the building could be rented for any purpose. More information needed from COA for La Vista and regarding the proposed development by Ruta Maya Coffee: the neighborhood is now listed as an interested party and has requested a review from city staff as to how the property will be developed.

**New Business:** Presentation from COA staff regarding the implementation of new zoning standards; will take years for full implementation. Development at 3114 S. Congress: parking seems inadequate for proposed mixed use and unlikely to be approved; neighborhood listed as an interested party with the city.

**Membership report:** Brandon Watts, Wency Martinez, Alicia Stein (did not stay for DNPCT meeting) and Mimi Curry introduced themselves as new members

**Motion to adjourn carried.** Meeting adjourned.