Dawson Neighborhood News

Newsletter of the Dawson Neighborhood Association and Dawson Neighborhood Plan Contact Team www.dawsonneighborhoodassociation.org

May/June 2019

H-E-B to Stay in Dawson

H-E-B has announced that it will redevelop the current H-E-B store at the south-west corner of Oltorf and South Congress rather than moving to the Twin Oaks location on the opposite corner. During construction, H-E-B plans to open a temporary store in the Twin Oaks center at the former CVS pharmacy location.

The new H-E-B store will have two levels of underground parking, an outdoor stage, a beer garden, food hall, and more than 100,000 square feet of space, a third again as large as the current store. The underground parking will include curbside delivery and a drive-through pharmacy.

The design is intended to make the store more pedestrian and bicycle friendly.

Construction is expected to start some time in late 2020 and take about two years to complete. The current store will remain open until construction starts.

The decision to remain in the current location appears to have been driven by concerns over the difficulty south-bound drivers heading out of Austin in the evening would have getting into and out of a Twin Oaks location.

The various news reports on the announcement include assurances from H-E-B that they will involve the neighborhoods in the planning and design process. The Dawson Neighborhood Plan Contact Team will be involved in any requests for zoning changes or code variances required by the project.

For more information: https://www.heb.com/static-page/south-congress-remodel



Rendering of proposed redesign of South Congress H-E-B store. Source H-E-B

Thanks to our newsletter sponsor!

I live and work in the Dawson Neighborhood

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Bouldin creek crossing at Gillis park

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Next Meeting

Monday, June 10 at 6:30pm, Mollie Dawson Elementary, 3001 S. 1st

Agenda

Neighborhood Association:

- 1. Approval of Minutes
- 2. Old/Continuing Business
 - a. Adoption of Gillis park
- 3. New business
 - a. Diana from Lloyd Dogget's office
 - b. Capital Metro presentation
 - c. Pool party plans

Plan Contact Team:

- 1. Approval of minutes
- 2. Old business
- 3. New business

Bridge decoration Bouldin creek and El Paso



Gillis Park Pool Schedule

The Gillis park pool will be open June 10 to August 11, open daily except Wednesdays for recreational swimming from 1 to 8 pm. swim lessons are 5:30 to 6:50 on weekdays

Gillis Park Pool Parties

The Dawson and Galindo neighborhood associations are jointly hosting two pool parties at Gillis park pool:

- Saturday, July 13 at 2:00 p.m.
- Saturday, August 10 at 2:00

Snacks will be provided.

We meet on the 2nd Monday of February, April, June, August, October, and December.

Keeping Sidewalks Clear of Obstructions

While the Dawson neighborhood doesn't have as many sidewalks as we'd like, where there are sidewalks it's important to keep them clear of obstructions, including trees and bushes, cars, scooters, rental bikes, and anything else that makes the sidewalk impassible.

As the Austin Public Works Department reminded us in a recent post to Next Door, property owners are responsible for their private trees and all other vegetation in the public right-of-way next to their property.

Overgrown vegetation is a safety hazard and limits the use of sidewalks, trails, streets and alleys. It further threatens public safety when vegetation blocks the view of traffic signs, signals, vehicles, or cyclists.

Trimming vegetation and caring for your trees are effective ways residents can enhance neighborhood safety.

Prune your trees and trim or remove any vegetation that obstructs or grows into sidewalks, streets or alleys.

Use the following quick guidelines to help keep the right-of-way clear:

- Sidewalks: Limbs and vegetation must be trimmed back from the edge of and at least 8 feet above sidewalk.
- Streets/Alleys: Limbs and vegetation must be trimmed back from the curbline (edge of street

- or alley) and at least 14 feet above street or alley.
- Multi-use Trails: Limbs and vegetation must be trimmed back from the edge of and at least 10 feet above multi-use trails.
- Grass and Weeds: Maintain grass and weeds at a maximum height of 12 inches throughout property to the edge of the street or alley.
- Corners: Maintain vegetation at a maximum of 2 feet above ground within a 10 foot setback from the curbline (edge of street) and 40 feet along the curbline from the street intersection.
- Fire Hydrants: Remove trees or plants within 5 feet of fire hydrants.

The City is responsible for clearing vegetation growing in public right of ways.

In addition to keeping vegetation from blocking sidewalks, it is also illegal to park a vehicle so that it blocks the sidewalk. Parking on sidewalks is prohibited by Texas state code Sec. 545.301. The City of Austin imposes a \$40.00 fine for parking on a sidewalk.

As always, contact 311 to report issues with blocked sidewalks or obstructions in the public right of way, such as downed tree limbs.

You can find more information about keeping rights of way clear at the Public Works Department web site: http://www.austintexas.gov/cleartherow

Dawson Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes April 8, 2018

Julie Woods, President, called the meeting to order. Attendees introduced themselves. Julie postponed approval of minutes to allow New Businesss/CDC election.

New Business:

A. CDC election for a new representative for South Austin District: Two CDC representatives checked eligibility of voters, distributed information packets, and gave paper ballots to eligible voters. CDC representatives presided over election of our singular nominee, Julie Woods. Julie gave a brief over view of CDC work she has witnessed as our interim representative. CDC representatives collected and counted the paper ballots. Julie Woods was elected by unanimous vote.

B. A representative for the Austin Mobility Plan provided handouts of the current plan and explanations. City Council was in the process of adopting the plan.

Minutes were approved with a friendly amendment to correct the date of the meeting.

Old Business:

A. Julie announced a Gillis Park cleanup with Galindo neighbors on April 20, 2019 at 9 am. Park cleanup is part of ongoing DNA strategy to adopt Gillis Park and therefore be eligible to apply for City funds to enhance the park by possibly adding an additional table to the swimming area.

- B. Julie and Kam reported attending a Galindo Neighborhood meeting. They were impressed that musicians regularly perform at their meetings. Galindo neighbors discussed the safety issues at the intersection of S. 5th and Oltorf. Council member representative for District 3, Pio Renteria, attended that meeting.
- C. John asked if the dog park at "The Tree" is open for use by neighbors. Meeting attendees referred him to neighbors living on Post Road who were involved in the negotiations during the planning/building stages of the development.

Meeting adjourned.

Dawson Neighborhood Plan Contact Team Meeting Minutes April 8, 2019

Meeting was called to order by Eliot Kimber at 7:58 p.m. by Eliot Kimber. Minutes from the previous meeting on February 14, 2019 were approved.

No zoning variances or other new business had come before the board.

Eliot Kimber, President reported that he was setting up a survey to update the neighborhood plan. Brief comments followed regarding how there were few individuals involved beyond the present core group to create an updated plan.

Marty Harris reported on residential parking updates and new businesses in the Lessin Lane area.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.