

# Dawson Neighborhood News

Newsletter of the Dawson Neighborhood Association  
and Dawson Neighborhood Plan Contact Team  
[www.dawsonneighborhoodassociation.org](http://www.dawsonneighborhoodassociation.org)

Jan/Feb 2023

## Walk/Bike/Roll Plans Available for Review

Three draft plans now available for review as part of ATX Walk Bike Roll.

Austin Public Works and Austin Transportation have released three draft plans that will guide how the City of Austin builds sidewalks, crosswalks, urban trails, and bikeways for years to come.

Community members can review and comment on the Sidewalks, Crossings, and Shared Streets; Urban Trail; and/or Bicycle draft plans now through **March 20, 2023**. All three draft plans can be found online at <https://www.publicinput.com/ATXWBR>.

Residents can also hear presentations and share feedback on any of these draft plans by attending or speaking at any of these boards and commissions meetings:

- Tuesday, February 21, 6:00 pm - Zoning and Platting Commission
- Wednesday, February 22, 3:00 pm - Joint Inclusion Committee
- Wednesday, February 22, 6:00 pm - Joint Sustainability Committee

See <https://www.austintexas.gov/ATXWBR-GetInvolved> for details.

After public input is received, the three plans will be revised. Finally, a public hearing at City Council will be held, and Council will vote on whether to adopt the final plans. An official notice will be posted before the Council hearing date.

The plans were developed as part of ATX Walk Bike Roll, a coordinated initiative to update three separate but related active transportation plans through an equity centered planning process. Each new plan builds upon past planning efforts, with updated goals, strategies, and action items. Most notably, each plan factors equity into all aspects of the plan.

The plans also build upon the vision of the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan and the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan to move Austin toward the goal where 50 percent of trips to work are made by walking, biking, transit, or any other non-drive-alone mode by 2039.



Alpacas working on Wilson St.

## Thanks to Our Sponsor



Dawson Elementary serves children ages 3 to 12 years.

Please contact Dawson's office at 512-698-9151, to set up a time for a tour.

## Next Meeting

Monday, February 13, 6:30  
South Austin Neighborhood  
Center, 2508 Durwood

## Agenda

### Neighborhood Association

1. Approval of minutes
2. Storm debris removal and safety concerns
3. ANC news
4. Neighborhood projects update

### Plan Contact Team

1. Approval of December meeting notes
2. Austin City Planner reached out to DNA/DNPCT for informational update
3. Austin Marathon next week, February 19th

## Increasing Urban Housing Density does NOT Increase Affordability

Critics often accuse neighborhood associations of reflexively opposing developments that would serve to make housing more affordable in their area. In simple economic terms, increasing the supply of any economic resource theoretically decreases the price! Neighborhoods that oppose multistory, multifamily developments in their area are standing in the way of affordable housing.

But the Cato Institute has determined otherwise, noting the increased cost per square foot of buildings taller than three stories due to engineering issues:

<https://www.cato.org/commentary/density-makes-housing-less-affordable-not-more>

High housing costs in the city of Austin is a complicated problem that requires multifaceted solutions. We here in Dawson want to be part of the solution and look forward to continuing these conversations further.

## New Dawson Neighborhood List Serve: Groups.io

<https://groups.io/g/dawsonneighborhoodassociation>

## Find Us On Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/DawsonNeighborhoodAssociation>

## Editor:

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

## Recovering from the Ice Storm of 2021

For many of us, the recent ice storm was devastating, damaging homes, cars and landscaping.

While insurance often will pay for removal of a tree that's blocking a driveway or resting on your house, it is unlikely to pay for trimming damaged trees.

The city will trim trees that are endangering power lines, so call 311 if you're concerned about that. The city will remove fallen tree debris from the curb, so you'll want to put that out by our regularly scheduled branch pickup date, which is today, February 13.

If you're paying a tree trimming service to removed damaged limbs or trees, be sure to discuss who will be responsible for removing debris. Some folks have reported being approached by individuals who've offered to remove debris for a fee; don't let anyone persuade you that the city won't haul it away. The city does require that this debris not include any trash or treated wood, since they shred it and turn it into mulch.

Here are some useful links to storm recovery info:

Yard waste removal: <https://www.austintexas.gov/stormdebris>

Emergency permitting for home repairs: <https://www.austintexas.gov/emergency-permits>

The power outages left many people coping with refrigerators and freezers full of spoiled food. If you or anyone you know receives SNAP benefits, you can apply to for emergency funds to replace spoiled food. Call 211 or go here for more information:

<https://www.hhs.texas.gov/news/2023/02/hhsc-announces-federal-approval-replacement-snap-benefits-due-winter-storm>

More information will be available via our email list or on our website.



Ice storm

Feb 1st, 2023

### Minutes of Dawson Neighborhood Association December 12, 2022

Julie Woods, President, called the meeting to order.

1. Minutes approved.
2. The new director of the South Austin Neighborhood Center, Jane Prince MacLean, introduced herself and briefly described the services offered.
3. Officers for 2023 were elected: Julie Woods-President; Andrew McCann-Vice President; Eliot Kimber-Newsletter Editor; Rebecca Sheller-Secretary
4. DNA meeting signs were offered for sale at cost, \$9.30 each.

Meeting adjourned.

### Minutes of Dawson Neighborhood Plan Contact Team, December, 2022

The October Minutes approved.

Officers for the DNPCT Board was held and Martin Harris was re-elected for a staggered two year term.

Updates on neighborhood mentions:

- New traffic light at East Alpine and Pickle
- Music late on Fontana complaint
- Mention was made of person arrested in neighborhood trying to break into house.
- Voting for Mayor and Council Member Place 3 tomorrow.
- And Marty mention again of Rain to River, a city storm water project.

Meeting was brief to allow time for annual DNA Pot Luck Dinner.