

Dawson Neighborhood News

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

March/April 2025

Update On The Coyote Formerly Known As “Mangy Coyote”

— The Bouldin Creek Bulletin Team

Coyote sightings are not uncommon in the neighborhood, but one coyote in particular started drawing a lot of attention early last summer. This coyote was recognizable because it had an advanced case of mange and was clearly malnourished. Reports of the coyote sightings increased, as did calls to 311. (See photo below of the coyote after being rescued.)

In late September, a group of Bouldin Creek neighbors began collaborating to document sighting locations and compare photos in an effort to track the movements of the coyote and anticipate where it would appear next. This data was shared with Austin Animal Protection. The neighborhood group also enlisted the support of Prickly Pear, an animal rescue company, to help develop a strategy for monitoring and capturing the coyote and transporting it to Austin Wildlife Rescue for treatment. Through community networking, the project expanded to include Travis Heights and Galindo. The overall data showed that though the coyote was extremely debilitated, it covered a large roaming territory across West Bouldin Creek, East Bouldin Creek, and Blunn Creek.

The coyote was captured by Austin Animal Protection in late October in Travis Heights and was transported to Austin Wildlife Rescue for treatment and recovery. Jules Maron, Executive Director at Austin Wildlife Rescue shared the following update last week: “The coyote is very much on the mend. As you’ll see from the photo, his hair is growing back in nicely. Once we get out of the freezing temps, he’ll be moved to an outdoor cage where he can start acclimating to the outside temperatures while continuing to grow his coat of hair back (He’ll have plenty of shelter outside as well, but we didn’t want to put him out right into freezing weather!). He’s eating lots of good food and is a healthy weight.” Austin Wildlife Rescue will eventually transport him to private land and release him.

Though coyote sightings in Bouldin Creek are not uncommon, the fact that a group of neighbors across Bouldin Creek, Galindo, and Travis Heights banded together to rescue one particular coyote is in some ways quite remarkable and speaks well of our neighbors and our neighborhoods. If you’d like to contribute to the great work being done at Austin Wildlife Rescue, please visit their donation website at <https://www.austinwildliferescue.org/waystogive>.

For many years, there have been reports of a rare black/melanistic coyote roaming South Austin. This rare coyote has been sighted, photographed, and even featured on a local television news story in 2019. Could our coyote be this same rare melanistic coyote? Did we rescue this rare coyote and put it on a path to living out the rest of its days running free on private land, far from concrete and cars? Maybe. Maybe so. Sometimes maybe is good enough.

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.

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Dawson Neighborhood List Serve: Groups.io

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

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Next Meeting

Monday, April 14, 6:30
South Austin Rec Center, 1100
Cumberland Rd.

Agenda

Neighborhood Association

1. Approval of the last meeting minutes
2. Gillis Park news
3. Reminder: property tax valuation appeal deadline May 15

Plan Contact Team

1. Approval of DNPCT February 2024 meeting notes
2. City planners for the South Congress Transit Center Station Area Vision Plans presentation
3. APD David Sector Spring Meeting neighborhood report
4. New Council meeting
5. Update to Gillis Park survey
6. Wheel is open
7. HEB applied for an Outdoor Music Venue Permit
8. IH35 construction moving forward north of Ben White



Coyote after rescue

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

About the Coyote

— Diana Claitor

Residents on La Mesa Drive and in other parts of Dawson saw this coyote at his most hairless and weak last year, sometimes lying in the sun near Cumberland to rest and fleeing when approached. I called the city for help and received a note about mange being endemic in the coyote population, but no hint on a way to help him. So glad to find out our neighbors in Bouldin persisted and got him help. And now I know what to do next time!

Coyote Update from Austin Wildlife Rescue

— Mike Cruzcosa

Here are responses from Jules Maron (Executive Director, Austin Wildlife Rescue, www.austinwildliferescue.org) per our questions based on this Instagram post: https://www.instagram.com/p/DHj_HfpNveW

1. Is there an estimate on the release date?

It finally warmed up enough to put him outside- he was so happy to be outdoors! He’s still fairly bare on his hindquarters, so we gave him another dose of medication - hopefully that hair will grow back soon. The release date is really going to depend on his hair growth, although with it staying warmer, we will release probably within a few weeks even if he’s still sparse in the back as long as the skin is healthy since he can grow the rest while he’s wild (and not worry about being cold now). We’re so close!

2. Once released, does AWR check back to make sure the animals are okay?

We have a wonderful place to release him - coyotes usually run off pretty quickly ;-). We don’t have a way of tracking animals once they are released, but he is strong and healthy. We happened to get feedback from a landowner on a bob-tailed coyote we released that years later is spotted from time to time (easy to ID b/c no tail) and that one is doing wonderfully. I fully expect this one to do well too.

3. Can donors attend the release event? (I saw on the AWR website that this is allowed sometimes.)

Because we will be releasing on private property, unfortunately in this case, we will not be able to have people present for the release. I apologize about this, but we have to go with landowner wishes, as we utilize landowners for many of our releases.

4. Will photos of the release be taken and shared?

I will definitely send you pics and video of the release.

Jules extends her thanks to the neighborhoods for all the work we did to get him to this point. I guess the next update will include photos and video of the release.

Minutes of Dawson Neighborhood Association February 10, 2025

6:30 at South Austin Rec Center, 1100 Cumberland Rd.

Rebecca Sheller, Secretary called the meeting to order.

- 1. December minutes approved.
- 2. Update on Gillis Park collaboration with Austin Parks and Recreation – Amy brought copies of the survey advertisements with QR code and described the survey.
- 3. Community Development Commission. Ernest expressed interest.
- 4. 600 Cumberland Road project was on the agenda, but not discussed due to lack of group knowledge.

Meeting adjourned

Minutes of Dawson Neighborhood Plan Contact Team, February 10, 2025

- Approval of DNPCT December 2024 meeting notes
- Notice was made of IMPD March 1st at Gillis Park mulching.
- Status was made of Gillis Park survey that has been sent out and presenting of feedback.
- Austin Marathon will be on February 16 with a 7am start: this means that three of our neighborhood borders will be blocked for several hours
- TreeFolks Tree is planting trees on East Bouldin Creek at 614 W Gibson on 2.20 at 9am. <https://www.treefolks.org/events/>
- APD David Sector Spring Meeting is on 2.20 at 809 S Lamar from
- 6-8p. <https://www.austintexas.gov/event/community-connect-david-sector-southwest-austin> This did not happen due to weather.
- City Council is working on Short Term Rentals updates again. They are also looking at wildfire control as Austin is listed as number five on the national populated cities for possible wildfires, behind the other four, all in California.