
Dawson Neighborhood News

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

May/June 2026

Next Meeting

June 9, 6:30 pm
Twin Oaks Branch
Austin Public Library
1800 S. 5th Street

Neighborhood Association

1. Approve meeting minutes
2. S. 1st Street and Cumberland Road project
3. District 3 Candidates Forum
4. Lightsey and S. 1st Street rezoning case

Plan Contact Team

Approval of both February and April meeting notes

Old Business:

La Reyna starts building again

New Business:

This Gym to open in old Crux Climbing Gym space. All inclusive modern facility with Sports Medicine.
<https://thisgym.com/about/>

City to work on EAS style messaging after last two messages.

Dawson School Meeting report and survey extension

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.

Dawson Neighborhood List Serve: Groups.io

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

Find Us on Facebook

<https://facebook.com/DawsonNeighborhoodAssociation>

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

Minutes of Dawson Neighborhood Association, April 13, 2026 6:30 at Cosmic Coffee

Julie Woods, President called the meeting to order.

1. Minutes from February were unavailable.
2. Dawson Elementary is closing at the end of the 2026 school year because AISD has a large budget deficit. The future of the Dawson Elementary school buildings and grounds is unclear. One public meeting has occurred. Maybe DNA could write a letter to Foundation Communities to see if they would be interested in renting the school buildings from AISD for housing. This might allow the neighborhood to enjoy the green space and keep the school buildings from being sold and replaced by dense housing. The school buildings and grounds might be needed by AISD in the future.
3. Amy provided an overview of the Gillis Park survey results and described possibilities for partnering with Austin Park Foundation (APF) for funding picnic tables, landscaping, fencing, etc. DNA could apply to APF to open a Gillis Park account for public donations.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes of Dawson Neighborhood Plan Contact Team, April 13, 2026

1. Need to elect officers, city emails to clean up neighborhood contacts and new city website
2. IMPD Gillis Park mulch/clean up success again with 12 cubic yards of mulch and trash cleanup by about 18 people
3. Gillis Park Survey final response overview: Amy provided updates about survey and progress forward. Survey results were sent out through email before meeting.
4. AISD school closing/repurpose meetings – concerning Dawson <https://www.austinisd.org/repurposing/dawson>
5. APF/APD meeting on Austin Park Score from Trust for public land.
6. 7. On 2/26 City Council pushed to set up smaller lot needs to push smaller property unit needs for apts and condo/townhouses as city pushes to fill the Missing Middle needs

<https://www.kut.org/housing/2026-03-27/austin-tx-housing-affordability-missing-middle-resolution>

7. Council wants builders to move forward on density of the HOME rule on the edges and interior and neighborhood home grown retail, also possible new signage rules

<https://communityimpact.com/austin/north-central-austin/government/2026/03/24/austin-considers-major-zoning-shifts-to-support-smaller-scale-housing-neighborhood-retail/>

8. Imagine Austin is still alive: new survey seeking input for project updates
<https://speakupaustin.org/imagineaustin#tab-76688> - takes about ten minutes and closes May 10th.
9. Marty noticed that some City Council districts have a yearly meeting, does ours? Elections are this fall.
10. Alpine Pond encampments cleaned by city after rain; people are starting to visit again.
11. Cherry Hill property has transients in house and trailer. House scheduled for demolition.