



Newsletter of the
Zilker Neighborhood
Association

OCTOBER 2018

Austin, Texas
Established 1981

A Message from ZNA President David Piper:

Zilker Is Ready to Vote

RECORD NUMBERS OF ZILKER NEIGHBORS have registered to vote in the November election. As this special edition of *ZNews* goes to press, the number of registered voters in precinct 340 (between Kinney and the railroad tracks and along Barton Springs Road) is approaching 4000 (up from 1500 in 2010), and precinct 332 is nearing 3000.

Now that so many new residents are moved in, and everyone seems to be registered, it's time to reinforce Zilker's long tradition of high voter turnout. Page 6 of this special issue of *ZNews* presents the local items that neighbors will see on the ballot for precincts 332 and 340, with tips on resources that will help voters make informed choices. The City of Austin propositions and school board races can directly affect our daily lives in the neighborhood, but usually only a fraction of Austinites cast votes on these bottom-of-the-ballot issues. Your neighbors in ZNA urge you to make an informed decision on all the items on page 6 and to vote the entire ballot.

(Continued on page 9)

Celebrate Your Vote

Join your neighbors at an

Early Voting

Kick Off Party

**Monday, October 22,
4-7 PM, at the Highball**

(Alamo Drafthouse in Lamar
Union, 1100 South Lamar)

Meet your neighbors,
check out what's on the
local ballot, and celebrate
record voter registration
on South Lamar

Election Day is Nov 6

Vote early

Oct 22-Nov 2

ZNA Meeting October 29

Monday 6:30-8:30 PM

at Zilker Elementary School
1900 Bluebonnet



ZNA Officer Election (p. 11)

Holiday Families Program (p. 10)

Ann Kitchen on City bonds (p. 4)

CNC on Proposition J (p. 8)

**Updates: Zilker Park Working
Group, ACL Fest, Dougherty Arts
Center, South Lamar Corridor**

Newcomers, homeowners, renters,
business neighbors

❖ ❖ **All Welcome** ❖ ❖

WHERE TO VOTE EARLY: *On Oct 22-Nov 2,
Travis County will open 29 locations from
7 AM to 7 PM (except Sunday, noon-6 PM).
Of those, the closest to Zilker are*

Gardner Betts Annex at 2501 S. Congress
and Randalls at Ben White and Manchaca.

Dates and hours for mobile locations near Zilker:

Town Lake Center, 721 Barton Springs (Oct 23, 7-7)
Mary Lee Foundation, 1327 Lamar Square (Oct 25, 9-1)
Wheatville Food Coop, 4001 S. Lamar (Oct 26-27, 10-6)
Austin City Hall, 301 West Second (Oct 29-Nov 2, 7-7)
Austin New Church, 2701 S. Lamar (Oct 29-Nov 2, 9-5)
South Austin Rec Center, 1100 Cumberland (Nov 2, 7-7)

On Election Day, Tuesday, November 6,

vote at any Travis County polling place, including

Zilker School (1900 Bluebonnet) and
Barton Hills School (2108 Barton Hills Dr.)

Find other locations and more election info
at votetravis.com or call 512-238-VOTE.



Zilker School News from Kalynn Tupa, Zilker PTA President

Zilker Elementary School has launched a NEW Spanish immersion program in our Kinder and first grades. The program consists of a class in each grade, and students will split their time 50/50 between Spanish and English.

HACA Donation to Zilker Library

On Wednesday, September 19, we had the pleasure of attending the groundbreaking ceremony for Pathways at Goodrich Place, a project of the Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA), at Bluebonnet and Rabb Glen. The project will expand the affordable housing at this site from 40 units to 120 units, while preserving two- to four-bedroom apartments for families with children. HACA has estimated that 21 students will be added to Zilker Elementary after Pathways opens, sometime in 2020.

Learn more about the Pathways project at the ZNA web site, www.zilkerneighborhood.org.

During the ceremony, HACA donated \$4000 to Zilker Elementary for reading and literacy. The donation will be used by Librarian Rebecca Sharp for books in the library, with a portion used for bilingual books. The check will be placed in the front entrance for our school community to see. The donation will be appreciated and enjoyed by all the students at Zilker for years to come!

Fall Fun Season

Zilker Zamboree, the school carnival, will be Saturday, Oct 27, noon-3pm, on the Zilker Campus. All families are welcome.



**ZAMBOREE
2018**

SATURDAY OCT 27TH 12-3PM

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DONT FORGET TO PRE-ORDER THIS YEAR
ZILKER ZAMBOREE T-SHIRTS!

At the Zilker Monster Mash, October 31, our students will sing Halloween tunes and show off their costumes.

Join us in supporting Zilker Elementary at the annual Book People Night, November 7, and by shopping at Book People the week of Nov 5-11. A portion of sales will go to Zilker Elementary. Visit www.zilkerelem.org for more details.

Zilker Elementary is one of South Austin's favorite polling places. Don't forget to vote, Tuesday, Nov. 6.

Other Ways To Help Zilker!

Amazon Smile: If you use the web site smile.amazon.com when you shop online, Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charity of your choice. Contribute to the school by choosing "PTA Texas

Did you get our postcard? No? That's because 100% of our ad budget goes to non-profits (like this one). See you around the neighborhood.



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Congress 896 Zilker Elementary PTA” as your charity.

Box tops: Our school will be participating in the Box Tops for Education program. Box Tops are each worth \$0.10. To help our school, just look for pink Box Tops on products, clip them, and send them to school. For more information on the Box Tops for Education Program, visit www.BTFE.com.

ZNA Holiday Families Program: See page 10 of this newsletter to learn how to volunteer and donate to the Zilker Neighborhood Association Holiday Families Program, which benefits families with children at Zilker Elementary.

**Support the
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LITTLE ZILKER PARK**

Contact FLZP@yahoo.com
or littlezilker@gmail.com
to keep up with park projects.
Or donate through the
Austin Parks Foundation.
Visit austinparks.org.



A new direction for Austin

Pol. adv. Laura Morrison Campaign, Steve Bercu, Treasurer. This campaign has not agreed to comply with the contribution and expenditure limits of the Austin Fair Campaign Chapter.



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The 2018 Bond Propositions

*A Message from Ann Kitchen,
District 5 City Council Member*

WITH THIS BOND PACKAGE in 2018, we have the opportunity to fund much needed infrastructure improvements and top goals for the city such as affordable housing. I hope that you will vote for all of these bonds.

I also want to assure everyone that the location of the Dougherty Arts Center *is not finally decided and is not part of the bond package*. That decision will come only after public input and Council vote. The bond funding is needed to replace this invaluable asset for our artists and the community, which includes space to show, create, and experience art. I don't have to tell you what wonderful talent we have close to home—just experience the West Austin Studio Tour to appreciate the many fine artists living in Zilker and Barton Hills!

Here's a summary of the bonds. Specific projects will be identified based on need and approved by Council. Highlights for the Zilker area include:

- Improvements for **Little Zilker, Butler Shore trail**, and the **South Austin Senior Center**, in Proposition C.
- **Del Curto storm drain improvements** in Proposition D. The map at austintexas.gov/department/del-curto-storm-drain-improvements-0 shows where storm drain pipes will be installed or upgraded, east of South Lamar at Bluebonnet.
- Design and construction of **Redbud Trail/**

Emmett Shelton bridge over Lady Bird Lake, in Proposition G. Depending on matching CAMPO funding, the bond could be used to leverage design and construction for Barton Springs Road bridge and other D5 bridges.

For more info, see
2018 Bond: Our Community, Our Future
at austintexas.gov/2018bond,
or attend the bond open house on
Oct. 22, 6:30-8:30 pm, at
Manchaca Road Library, 5500 Manchaca.

The funding amounts in this summary are from austintexas.gov/2018bond. Each bond proposition may include, but is not limited to, these types of projects:

Prop A, Affordable Housing. \$250 million for creation, rehabilitation, and retention of affordable rental (\$94 million) and ownership (\$29 million) housing and land acquisition (\$100 million). Also, \$28 million for home repair programs. CM Kitchen notes that Prop A includes “much needed Permanent Supportive Housing to help our homeless people move into stable housing.”

Prop B, Libraries, Museums, and Cultural Arts. \$128 million for renovations of branch libraries, museums, cultural centers, acquisition of creative spaces, and replacement of the Dougherty Arts Center (see page 9). Includes \$56.5 million for MACC, AARC, Carver, and Mexic-Arte museums; \$34.5 million for branch libraries and conversion of the Faulk Library for use by the Austin History



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Center; \$25 million to replace the Dougherty Arts Center; and \$12 million for creative spaces.

Prop C, Parks and Recreation. \$149 million for land acquisition and for improvements, renovations, and upgrades to various Parks and Recreation assets. There is \$45 million for new parks including a destination park in the Oak Hill area and Lions Municipal Golf Course, \$40 million for a new Colony Park Pool and major work on existing City pools, \$25 million for existing parklands including Roy G. Guerrero Park and John Trevino Jr. Park, \$21.5 million for building renovations, and \$17.5 million for infrastructure improvements (playscapes, trails, cemeteries, etc.).

Prop D, Flood Mitigation, Open Space, Water Quality Protection. \$184 million for drainage improvement, flood mitigation, and water quality protection land. This bond will provide \$112 million for projects to reduce flood and erosion risks, such as storm drain improvements and buyouts in flood-prone areas, along with \$72 million to purchase land and conservation easements in watersheds that feed the Edwards Aquifer, Barton Springs, and the Colorado River.

Prop E, Health and Human Services. \$16 million for a new neighborhood public health and human services facility in the Dove Springs area.

Prop F, Public Safety. \$38 million to renovate existing public safety facilities in the City, including fire (\$13 million) and EMS stations (\$25 million).

Prop G, Transportation Infrastructure. \$160 million divided among street reconstruction (\$66.5 million), bridges (\$50 million), sidewalks (\$20 million), intersection and pedestrian safety (\$15 million), traffic signals (\$4.5 million), urban trails (\$3 million), and Neighborhood Partnering Program (\$1 million).

Remember, this is not an all-or-nothing vote. Each proposition is a separate item on the ballot. You do not have to vote the same way on all seven propositions.

Editor's note: A complete list of transportation projects was not available before ZNews went to press, but a link will be posted on the ZNA web site as soon as possible. Look for South Lamar Corridor Plan updates, too.



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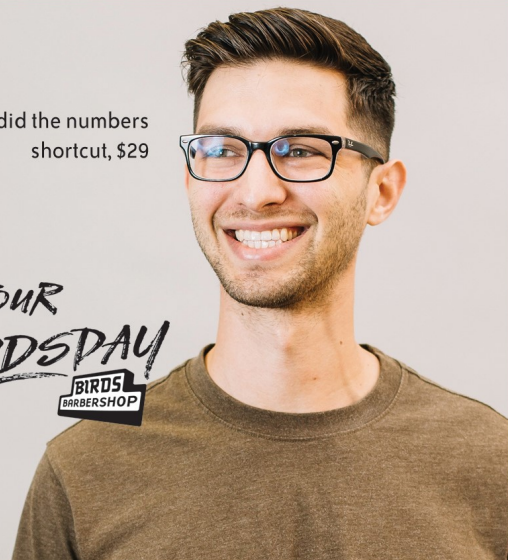
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Weekday Schedule

Sundays	Wednesdays
Bible Study - 9:30am	Family Supper - 5:15pm
Worship - 11:00am	Bible Study - 6:00pm

Precincts 332, 340, and 342 local ballot: Don't skip these important votes

Mayor, Austin City Council,

- 7 candidates
- Steve Adler
- Gustavo "Gus" Peña
- Todd Phelps
- Alexander Strenger
- Alan Pease
- Laura Morrison
- Travis Duncan

(see ANC endorsement, page 9)

District 5 City Council Member

Incumbent Ann Kitchen is unopposed

**Austin ISD School Trustee,
At-large position 9, 3 candidates**

- Sam Russo
- Arati Singh
- Carmen Tilton

Austin Bond Election, 7 propositions

- Prop A, Affordable Housing \$250 million
- Prop B, Libraries, Museums, Cultural Arts \$128 million
- Prop C, Parks and Recreation \$149 million
- Prop D, Flood Mitigation, Open Space, Water Quality \$184 million
- Prop E, Health and Human Services \$16 million
- Prop F, Public Safety \$38 million
- Prop G, Transportation Infrastructure \$160 million

Amendments, Austin City Charter

- Prop H, Planning Commission
 - Prop I, Non-substantive corrections
- (see page 7)

Special Election, citizen-initiated ordinances

- Prop J, Public vote on comprehensive revision of Land Development Code (see page 8)
- Prop K, Efficiency study and third-party audit of City of Austin

See the entire ballot at www.traviscountyelections.org.

Look for the **League of Women Voters Guide**, with information on City of Austin, AISD, Travis County, and state elections, at lwvaustin.org/voter-guide.

U.S. Representative, District 21. Austin has five Congressional districts that have been gerrymandered to favor Republicans. Zilker's is one of the two districts where the Democrat has any chance of success, so a big turnout in Zilker could make a big difference. The three candidates are:

- Chip Roy, Republican**
- Joseph Kopser, Democrat**
- Lee Santos, Libertarian**

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Travis County Precinct No. 3, Justice of the Peace, 2 candidates

- Martin Harry, Republican
- Sylvia Holmes, Democrat

Texas State Representative, District 49, 2 candidates

- Kyle Austin, Republican
- Gina Hinojosa, Democrat

Texas State Senator, District 14, 3 candidates

- George W. Hindman, Republican
- Kirk Watson, Democrat
- Micah M. Verlander, Libertarian

Charter Changes

and what you don't see on the ballot

Prop H changes the City Charter to allow the City Council to set the timing of Planning Commission appointments by ordinance. Currently the Charter requires that this commission's terms be staggered.

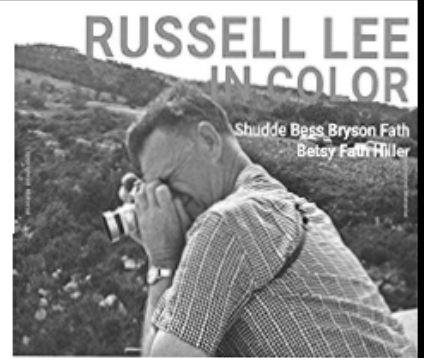
Current language: "a term of two years, five members to be appointed in every odd-numbered year and four members in every even-numbered year."

Proposed: "a term of *up to two years, with the timing of appointment determined by ordinance.*"

Prop I is mostly changes in capitalization (e.g., "City" is changed to "city"), with a few other changes in number style and punctuation.

The two Charter amendments, however, and Props J and K should be considered together in the context of seven other charter changes that are *not* on the ballot. In a May 7, 2018, report, Austin's Charter Review Commission recommended public financing for City Council campaigns, an independent ethics review commission (which could affect issues surrounding Planning Commission appointments in **Prop H**), a city budget and efficiency officer (which could overlap the independent audit in **Prop K**), changes to the process for referendum and recall petitions, City Council appointment of the City Attorney, and a public process for approving revenue bonds (which could affect the bonds on this ballot). The City Council chose to place only H and I on the ballot. Under state law, the city charter cannot be amended more often than every two years. If the voters approve H or I, we will have to wait two years to vote on any of the other, more important charter amendments. *Lorraine Atherton*

In 1963, photographer Russell Lee with best friend, the late Conrad Fath, chronicled his 31-day nautical journey from above New York City to Port Aransas, Texas. Co-authored by Shudde Fath and her daughter Betsy Fath Hiller, Lee's 162 previously unpublished, enlarged photos have been gathered in this beautiful book, **RUSSELL LEE IN COLOR**.



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Have Your Say on Prop J

by Fred Lewis, *Community Not Commodity*

We've heard a lot of misinformation over the last few weeks about Proposition J, the November ballot proposition that gives Austinites a choice when it comes to comprehensive revisions of our land-development laws. Here are a few of the most common myths being spread about Proposition J, along with the facts that Austin voters need to know:

MYTH: *CodeNext is dead, so Proposition J is irrelevant.*

FACT: The brand-name "CodeNext" may be gone, but Austin's mayor and city council have expressed a desire to "reboot" or "restart" the controversial land-redevelopment plan after this November's election. If Austin residents pass Proposition J, they will be given the right to decide whether or not that reboot becomes law. The same will hold true for any comprehensive revision of our land-development laws, regardless of how the City of Austin chooses to package it.

MYTH: *Proposition J is anti-growth.*

FACT: Proposition J is neither pro-growth nor anti-growth. Proposition J is pro-democracy. Proposition J simply calls for voter approval of comprehensive, once-in-a-generation revisions of Austin's land-development laws.

MYTH: *Proposition J calls for a three-year waiting period before changes can be made to our land code, delaying new developments.*

FACT: Proposition J does call for a waiting period before any comprehensive revision of our land-

development laws can be implemented, but we expect that waiting period to last one year or less. Proposition J applies only to once-in-a-generation revisions of Austin's land-development laws like CodeNext, not specific development projects, incremental changes to the law, or individual programs like flooding mitigation and affordable-housing initiatives.

MYTH: *Land-development laws are too complicated for voters to weigh in on.*

FACT: Austin residents are capable of voting on complicated things, and they do so every time they are asked to weigh in on bond packages, charter amendments, and other big issues. Our land-development laws have just as much impact on their homes and neighborhoods, if not more. Proposition J simply calls for a public vote on any comprehensive revision of those laws—it doesn't call for residents to rewrite those laws or shape them in any way.

MYTH: *Proposition J is supported only by affluent homeowners.*

FACT: Proposition J is supported by a wide variety of grassroots groups throughout our community, including the Austin NAACP, PODER, and the Save Our Springs Alliance (SOS), just to name a few.

Want to learn more? Follow us on Facebook and then visit LetUsVoteAustin.org to get more info. Prevent the next CodeNext. Have a say and vote YES on PROP J!

Your friend,
Fred Lewis, President,
Community Not Commodity

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ANC Endorses Laura Morrison for Mayor

At a meeting on Sept. 26, the Austin Neighborhoods Council (ANC) endorsed **Laura Morrison** for Mayor. ANC sets a high bar for its City Council endorsements, requiring that a candidate fill out a questionnaire based on the ANC platform, participate in the ANC candidate forum, and earn at least two-thirds of the vote of member organizations represented at the forum.

Five mayoral candidates filled out the ANC questionnaire on affordability, neighborhood preservation, infrastructure investment, water conservation, environment, and special interests.

Candidate responses are posted at www.ancweb.org, along with the latest **ANC City Council Scorecard** for the current mayor and council members, and the **ANC platform**.

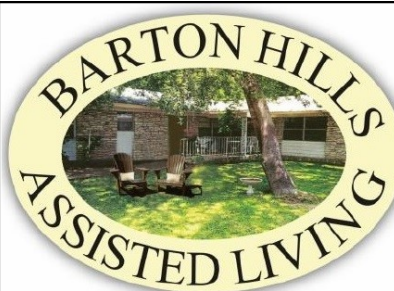
ANC Question 7-g, on the two citizen-backed ballot initiatives, highlights an important difference between Morrison and incumbent Steve Adler. Morrison supports Prop J, which would allow Austinites to vote on sweeping changes, like CodeNext, to the Land Development Code, but she does not support Prop K requiring an independent audit of the City. Adler opposes both propositions.

(Continued from page 1)

To bring us up to speed on the City bond election, we asked Ann Kitchen, our District 5 City Council Member, how it may affect funding for projects in District 5. Her response is on page 4, and she will be at the ZNA general meeting on October 29. (By the way, Ann is running unopposed for a second term.)

At that meeting, we will have an update on one of those bond projects, the new Dougherty Arts Center. Links to the City's latest proposals will be posted on the ZNA web site, zilkerneighborhood.org, as we receive them. We also hope to have a report on the City's recent open house on the South Lamar Corridor Plan and Mobility bond projects. Look for links on the ZNA web site under Traffic and Mobility.

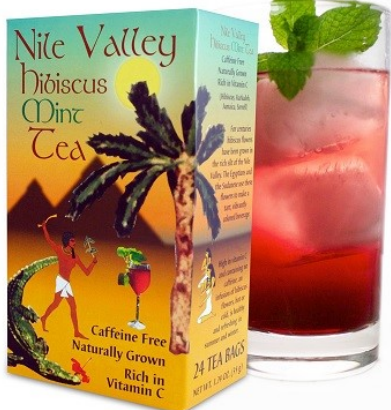
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It is the 20th Anniversary of
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Give Your Neighbors the Gift of a Happier Holiday

by Harmony Grogan, ZNA Holiday Families Program Coordinator

THE HOLIDAY SEASON is truly the time for sharing, and the Zilker Neighborhood Association will again provide a special holiday for families who need assistance within our community. All families are selected from Zilker Elementary School, and each family will complete a wish list with the help of the school counselor. From these lists, volunteers, known as ZNA Elves, shop, wrap, and deliver gifts to families for Christmas.

We need your help and holiday spirit! Please consider contributing to the ZNA Holiday Families Program through monetary donations, gift cards, or purchasing a gift directly from the wish lists. Local businesses can give a helping hand too!

If you would like to make a contribution, please complete and mail the form below or e-mail ZNAHoliday@gmail.com for more information. Or come to the ZNA meeting on Oct. 29. You may also donate online at www.zilkerneighborhood.org, the ZNA web site. Any money received for the program will be used to purchase gifts for the families. Gift cards (in any amount) will be given directly to a sponsored family.



ZNA Holiday Families Gift Sign Up 2018

Yes, I want to help make the holidays happier for Zilker families.

Name: _____

E-mail: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____

- I would like to purchase a gift from a family's gift list. Please contact me when the lists arrive.
- I have enclosed a check for \$_____ (Write "Holiday Families" in the memo line.)

Please make checks payable to Zilker Neighborhood Association and mail with this form to:
ZNA Holiday Families Program, 1510 Oxford, Austin, TX 78704

To donate online, visit zilkerneighborhood.org

BECOME A ZNA MEMBER TODAY

Membership is open to Zilker residents (renters or homeowners) 18 years old or older. (See map p. 11.)
Nonresident property owners are not eligible for membership.

Annual dues are \$7 per person. Please list each member's name and e-mail address below.

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

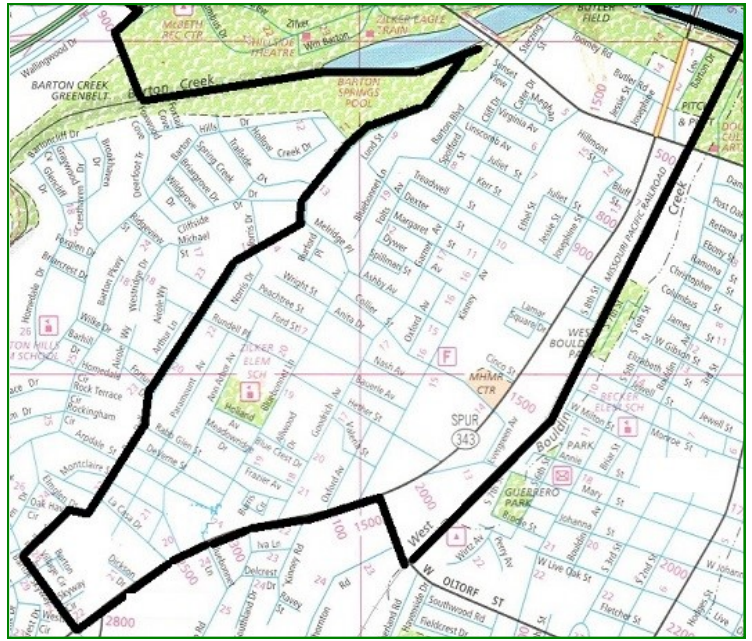
Phone: _____

Dues amount: _____ Additional contribution: _____ Total Enclosed: _____

Please make checks payable to Zilker Neighborhood Association and mail with this form to:
ZNA Memberships, 1510 Oxford St, Austin, TX 78704
or bring this form with you to the next ZNA meeting

For ZNA bylaws and other information, visit zilkerneighborhood.org.

ZNA boundaries include Zilker Park and Rabb Road on the west and extend to the railroad on the east, Barton Skyway on the south, and Lady Bird Lake on the north. Residents on both sides of boundary streets are eligible to join ZNA.



ZNA Officer Nominations, 2019

THE OCTOBER 29 MEETING will begin with the election of ZNA officers under the new bylaws approved in July. The Executive Committee has nominated these persons to serve in 2019:

- President:* Dave Piper
- Executive VP:* Gary Hamilton
- Secretary:* James Russell
- Treasurer:* Bruce Wiland
- VP Communications:* Sono Osato
- VP Parks and Environment:* Gail Rothe
- VP Social:* Pat Cramer
- VP Zoning:* Bill Neale
- ANC Delegate:* Bobby Rigney

Under ZNA’s bylaws, members have till Oct. 22 to volunteer or to nominate someone else to serve as an officer. Contact ZNA through the ZNA Web site or a current officer.

Membership and Voting

All ZNA memberships run from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. To be eligible to vote at a ZNA meeting, you must be a member of ZNA for at least 30 days before the vote. If you were a ZNA member in 2017, you may pay your 2018 dues at the Oct. 29 meeting and still be eligible to vote at that meeting. Your membership, however, will expire at the end of the year, and you will have to renew your dues to retain voting privileges in 2019. For first-time members, dues paid after Sept. 29 will be credited to the 2019 membership year.

ZNA is in District 5, represented by Council Member ANN KITCHEN, at district5@austintexas.gov or 512-978-2105. Email the City Council at <http://www.austintexas.gov/email/all-council-members>

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- 1700 Dywer
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**Newsletter of the
Zilker Neighborhood
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Advertisers: ZNA reserves this newsletter's limited advertising space for businesses based within the boundaries of the association. (See map on page 11.)

**2018 Executive Committee of
the Zilker Neighborhood
Association**

President: Dave Piper

Executive Vice President:
Gary Hamilton

Secretary: James Russell

Treasurer: Bruce Wiland

Vice President, Communications:
Lorraine Atherton

*Vice President, Parks and
Environment:* Gail Rothe

Vice President, Social:
Pat Cramer

Vice President, Zoning:
Bill Neale

*Austin Neighborhoods Council
Delegate:* Bobby Rigney

The Executive Committee may be contacted by e-mail through zilkerneighborhood@gmail.com

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About the Zilker Neighborhood Association

ZNA holds quarterly meetings on the last Monday of January, April, July, and October, at Zilker Elementary School, 1900 Bluebonnet Lane. The Executive Committee meets at the Umlauf Museum, 605 Azie Morton Road, 6:30 PM the first Monday of most months. Watch the Web site for updates.

Our Purpose: To improve the quality of life in the neighborhood in matters of land use, environmental protection, public services, consumer protection, preservation of the historic and unique character of the community; to provide support in other matters of neighborhood concern; and to promote and participate in the civic life of the city.

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