

# YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

by NACA

## May 18, 2017 NACA Meeting

Please join us at our meeting on May 18, 2017 at 7:00PM at the North Austin Community Center/YMCA, 1000 W. Rundberg.

Do you understand how CodeNEXT will control the future development of your residential or commercial property, affordability and mobility in the neighborhood? CodeNEXT, the new land development code for building standards and regulations, is almost finalized. Dave Sullivan, Jim Duncan, and additional members of the Land Development Code Revision Advisory Group will help us understand the newly released zoning maps and code text.

The Greater Austin Crime Commission has also been invited to the May meeting. The Greater Austin Crime Commission was established in 1997 to support Central Texas first responders and promote regional homeland security and public safety planning. We'll learn how we can work together with the commission to promote safety in our neighborhood.

We are looking forward to these exceptional learning opportunities. See you there!

## Landscaping of the Rutland and Quail Valley Traffic Island

By Linda Davis

The grant to landscape this weedy, unsightly traffic island, the western entrance into our NACA neighborhood, was approved late last summer. Finally, bids are in and the work will begin soon. The City of Austin will remove 12 inches of weeds and dirt and then volunteers (can you help?) lay down newspaper before the delivery of mulch, rocks and plants (newspapers will hopefully help prevent some of the deeply rooted Johnson grass from coming back). We will need newspapers and volunteers. If you can help with either (or both!) please contact Linda at [lindad@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:lindad@mail.utexas.edu).

This project is funded by NACA and the City of Austin Neighborhood Partnering Program (NPP). This program accepts grant applications June 1 and October 1, and helps neighborhoods work on improving their communities throughout Austin. Our beautiful Painted Bridges project was funded through this program! If you have noticed a City-owned area that you would like to see improved, check them out on facebook at [www.facebook.com/neighborhoodpartneringaustintexas.gov/neighborhoodpartnering](http://www.facebook.com/neighborhoodpartneringaustintexas.gov/neighborhoodpartnering).

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### NEXT MEETING

Date ..... 05/18

Time ..... 7:00 pm

Place....N. Austin Community Center  
(YMCA) on 1000 W. Rundberg

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# NACA President's Letter

By Randy Teich - NACA President

It is springtime in NACA. The unusually warm first few months of the year combined with a decent amount of rain has been a blessing for most of our yards and the parks in the area. I recently got a plot in the North Austin Y Community Garden and have enjoyed watching the results the more seasoned gardeners have shown (my results might remind you of the old Green Acres series). One by-product of the plant friendly weather is grass is growing faster than normal this year and the city of Austin has less funds available this year to cut medians. Of note: properties on Payton Gin Rd. with property behind their fences are being held responsible for mowing this area. The city has done this in previous years.

Springtime in NACA also features our annual membership drive. Kudos to Jack Morrissey for chairing this year's drive. Thanks also to those who served on Jack's committee and to those who delivered flyers to all of our neighbors. NACA treasurer Brian La Cour reported at our April meeting that more than 25 households have sent in membership enrollments and he had picked up another handful of envelopes just prior to the meeting.

Another of our members is deserving of our thanks. Caro Dubois has spent countless hours managing NACA's Painted Bridges project which has spilled over into 2017. Students and teachers from several area schools participated as did UT students. Members of the community took on other bridges. Some groups backed out on their commitments, so Caro had to find replacement teams. Her efforts have greatly enhanced the appearance of our neighborhood and the pride we all have in our neighborhood. Thank you, Caro!

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## Report on the March 2017 Meeting of the Austin Neighborhoods Council

By Ellen Martin

Public safety was the focus of the March 22nd meeting of the Austin Neighborhoods Council (ANC).

Police Chief Brian Manley. Depending on which report you read crime data varies, but the one the police trust reports that Austin is the 3rd safest city of our size in the US. There have been challenging incidents around the US that affect police-community relations. Sixty-three police officers were killed by guns in 2016. Of these, 21 were ambushed. Chief Manley is strongly against Senate Bill 4 (SB4). APD has always cooperated with other law enforcement agencies when a crime is involved. They are opposed to spending city resources on federal government enforcement of a civil issue, immigration.

To improve safety, they are working with local high schools to teach students how to stay safe if they are stopped by a police officer. The Restore Rundberg project has been a successful collaborative project and the police will continue to focus on

this area to hold the gains. Chief Manley addressed several ANC member questions:

- Now that cruisers have laptops police are seen "wasting time" in parking lots. Chief Manley said without the laptops the police would be in the office doing reports.
- Does Austin have more bank robberies than other cities? No, Austin is not an outlier on any type of crime, but robbers do often hit several banks in succession.
- Why is there so little police presence in Northwest Austin? There are 9 regions which are rebalanced every year based on call volume and response times. Presence will be increased in the future because voters approved a bond for a NW Substation that will open in a few years.

Mayor Steve Adler. Austin has ½ the violent crime of Chicago and ¼ the violent crime of Baltimore. Many other mayors report police problems as one of the top challenges and Austin is lucky that we have a good relationship with APD. Tremendous growth impacts public safety. There has been a 90% increase in 911 calls in the last 5 years. Austin has been visible with the police in opposing Senate Bill 4 on immigration enforcement. Transportation, homelessness and affordable housing are also top issues facing the city.

DNA Lab. Representatives from the Sexual Assault Response and Resource Team spoke about concerns with the DNA Crime Lab. In 2016 there were over 1,000 sexual assaults reported to the police or the Travis County Sheriff's Department. Last year 12 sexual assault cases were prosecuted and 8 perpetrators received a sentence of jail time. Issues with the lab were a "perfect storm" of a lack of trained technicians in Austin and mishandling of evidence. An additional \$1.4M has been added to the budget. Of this \$800K will be paid to the Department of Public Safety to process samples. In addition, City Council will hire a consultant to provide a report of the problems and recommendations.

Resolutions. Two resolutions were introduced: removal of logo signs on Austin's scenic roadways and a resolution on the Austin Police Department DNA lab. Information on these resolutions was posted on the NACA website and on Next-Door. ANC representatives will vote next month.

CodeNEXT. Two brief presentations on CodeNEXT included: The Honorable Laura Morrison, former City Council member, spoke on future land development code regarding administra-

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*If you have News or Event Information contact Eleanor Langsdorf*

tive procedures. Originally the land development code update was supposed to be tested in a limited number of interested neighborhoods. The new code covers the whole city. Development office staff stated that "city council changed it" but no one can find records of which council changed the code rewrite plan and when it was changed.

Ms. Morrison outlined several administrative changes citizens should be aware of: deadlines for all public hearings will be shorter, if there is an error in a hearing notice the staff do not have to issue a renote, staff can change the location of a meeting at the last minutes and only have to give people time to arrive to the new location. City staff can sign off on more situations such as inadvertent errors in construction such as a 10% increase in height. Staff will also be able to sign off on changes to non-conforming uses of property.

Attorney Fred Lewis spoke on Community not Commodity. This is a grassroots effort affiliated with Save Our City Austin. The information on their website is geared toward community interests and the character of neighborhoods over "land grab" development. It also has documents and links about CodeNext and other land development topics. Check out: <http://www.communitynotcommodity.com/>

If you have a question, suggestion, or concern you would like me to address with this group, please drop me a line at [ellenemartin@gmail.com](mailto:ellenemartin@gmail.com)

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## Neighborhood Walk

*By Jack Morrissey*

You know getting over 4200 flyers placed on the front door of every residence in the NACA area as part of the annual Neighborhood Walk and Flyer Delivery takes a lot of effort from a lot of people. These folks work together on teams of volunteers and are led by the all important Sector Leaders. This season's theme was "Fresh Blood" as we reached out to a whole host of new participants sprinkled with some veteran faces. Let's recap how this season worked out by visiting each team.

Sector 1, (Jamestown) was a very young squad full of rookie deliverers. Elaine Kieffer, Ashley Harris, Elizabeth Ngyugen and Clarissa Cochran all stepped up but it was the venerable leadership of Caro Dubois, their sector leader, who molded this group into a solid unit. Well done, Sector 1.

Sector 2 (Next Door NACA Quail Creek West) happens to be the largest squad with nine different areas to be delivered to. This group was led by Joan DeLuca, a returning champion and Sector Leader from previous seasons. She was assisted by newcomers Nicole Fowler, Ellen Martin, Stephanie Frogge, Wendy Murphy, Amanda Sheppard along with the returning veterans, Melinda Schiera, Ann Teich and every fan's favorite, Susie Milam. This was a formidable squad for certain.

Sector 3 was led again by NACA's most prolific power couple, Dave and Linda Davis. This is also one of NACA's most experienced teams with many returnees from last year's squad. Some of these key vets are Woody and Margie Arp, John Green, and Claire Milam. But every great team has to include some rookie talent which came in the likes of Martha Dyess,

and Bethany Martinez. This too made for a good squad.

Sector 4, (this writer's personal favorite sector) was again led by Jack Morrissey. This area of NACA Northwest was the smallest squad, but showed the largest amount of heart. No new faces on this squad but that didn't deter the seniors from representing. Carolyn Hunt and Betty Simmons are perennials favorites. Katy Morrissey, a close relative, also returned to past form and travels from out of the 78758 zip code to help out. I will include both Sherry Pyle, a true returning veteran and newcomer Rachell Sedenick as part of this team who were assigned a couple of the condo units located within NACA. This undersized squad really performed well this year.

Sector 5 (NACA Quail Creek) was easily the most improved team from prior seasons. Sector Leader, (and Real Estate Agent Extraordinaire) Brennan Stravlo helped shape this area into a winning team. These team mates came from all over the NACA-hood to help out. Some were new faces such as Mark Craig, Mark Coats, Samantha Jansky, Adam Armentor, Mark Grayson and some were old faces, such as Randy Teich and Matt Myers. It was an incredible turnaround for a sector that had been under-represented in the past.

I hate the thought I might have left anyone out but thanks also to the members of the Membership Committee for developing the content and layout of the flyer. Thanks to Monica Guzman for offering the translation side. Thanks to my wife Linda who managed to assemble and staple all 4200 of the flyers. Thanks to everyone for supporting a really great League of Champions, the NACA's 2017 Neighborhood Walk and Flyer Delivery Teams.

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## Craft Breweries in 78758

*By Todd Henry, Head Brewer at NLand Brewing Company*

There are at least 6 breweries in the 78758 zip code. These are listed in no order of preference. I would suggest either walking or riding your bike while enjoying your favorite beer stop. Enjoy responsibly.

1. 4th Tap Brewing Coop. Located at 10615 Metric Blvd. Open weekdays 4pm-10pm. Saturdays 2pm-12am. Sundays 12pm-10pm. Ask about the wrestling show happening about once every month. The wrestling is guaranteed to make you laugh or make wish you had stayed home for the evening. Enjoy the Grapefruit IPA or the Brickhouse Porter. They also offer a Sorghum beer that is gluten free.

2. Adelbert's Brewery. Located at 2314 Rutland Dr #100. Closed on Monday and Tuesday. Open Wednesday – Friday 4pm – 10 pm. Open Saturdays & Sundays 1pm-7pm. This brewery specializes in Belgian style beers that have been barrel aged in various types of barrels. The barrels fill the tasting room providing a cozy and unique atmosphere for enjoying a Belgian style beer.

3. Austin Beer Works. Located 3001 Industrial Terrace. Open Monday – Thursday 4pm-10pm. Saturdays 12pm-8pm. Sundays 1pm-7pm. Offering an award winning diverse selection of beers, they just opened a spacious new tasting room that is easily accessible. My favorite beers here are the Super Awesome Lager and Pearl Snap Pilsner.

4. Circle Brewing Co. Located at 2340 West Braker Lane. Open Thursdays 5pm-9pm. Fridays 5pm-10pm. Saturdays 12-10pm. Sundays 1pm-6pm. Enjoy the Nightlight Irish Stout and Fanny Pack Kolsch.

5. Oskar Blues. Located at 10420 Metric Blvd. Closed on Monday. Open Tuesday – Saturday 12-10pm. Open Sundays 12pm -8pm. Born in Colorado, this brewery was on the forefront of putting craft beer in cans. Have a classic Dale's Pale Ale.

6. Celis Brewery. Under construction and soon to completed. Location:10001 Metric Blvd. For more details, <https://www.facebook.com/CelisBeers/>

Don't forget to visit C Hunt's Icehouse. This very affordable Austin classic beer bar is a must when doing a beer pub crawl. Open most days from 3pm-11pm located at 9611 McNeil Rd. Although not a brewery, order a Coors Banquet for \$2.50. Get some free popcorn while you are there. They also have a pretty good selection of local craft beer at an affordable price.

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## NACA Brewery Crawl

**Sunday, May 21st, 2pm-5pm**

Please join us for this fun event and arrive when you can—see schedule below.

Wear your GREY NACA SHIRT so people can identify our group. Invite your neighbors and enjoy responsibly! Feel free to bring folding chairs and snacks.

### **Schedule:**

2pm-4th Tap located at 10615 Metric Blvd.

3pm-Oskar Blues located at 10420 Metric Blvd.

4pm-Adelbert's located 2314 Rutland Dr. #100

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## Upcoming Events of Local Interest

*By Monica Guzman*

### **2nd Annual Austin Refugee Day Festival**

Saturday/Sunday, May 6-7 at 11am-4pm

Onion Creek Soccer Complex

5600 E William Cannon Dr., Austin, Texas 78744

[atxrefugeedayfestival.com](http://atxrefugeedayfestival.com)

### **4th Annual CelebrASIA Food & Heritage Festival**

Saturday, May 6 at 11am-3pm

Asian American Resource Center

8401 Cameron Rd., Austin, Texas 78753

### **Restore Rundberg Potluck Meeting**

Thursday, May 25 at 6:30pm-8:30pm

North Austin YMCA

1000 W. Rundberg Ln., Austin, Texas 78758

## NACA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Enclosed are my dues for calendar year 20\_\_

\_\_\_ Regular Membership (\$15)

\_\_\_ Silver Membership (\$25)

\_\_\_ Gold Membership (\$50 or more)

\_\_\_ I would like to volunteer for NACA.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Pay online at [naca-austin.org](http://naca-austin.org)  
or mail this form & check to:

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