

October 2005
Volume 4, Issue 5

SLNA Newsletter

South Lamar Neighborhood Association www.southlamar.org

CALENDAR

- Oct 20 SLNA Meeting**
Oct 22 Harvest Festival at South Austin Recreation Center (444-6601)
Oct 31 Trick or Treat Village Against Violence & Drugs
Alamo Recreation Center (474-2806)
Nov 2 Neighborhood Planning Meeting
Location TBA
Nov 6 Austin Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure
Nov 24 Thanksgiving



Next Meeting:
THURSDAY, October 20
7:00 to 9:00 P.M.
UNITY CHURCH
MAIN BUILDING
2806 Del Curto Road

NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING BEGINS for the South Lamar Corridor

by Bill Stoughton, SLNA Neighborhood Planning Committee Chair

The South Lamar **Combined** Neighborhood Planning Area (SLCNPA) officially launched its planning process with the initial stakeholder workshop on Saturday, October 1st at the Unity Church on Del Curto Road. Facilitated by the City's Neighborhood Planning and Zoning Department (NPZD) it was well attended by residents, non-resident property owners, and business owners from the four planning areas comprising the "SLCNPA": **Barton Hills, Galindo, South Lamar and Zilker**. The "South Lamar Planning Area" is comprised of the SLNA area plus **Barton Oaks NA** and the "triangle" to our west (bounded by Lamar, Ben White and Manchaca).

The workshop began with a presentation by Senior Planner Mark Walters explaining the purpose and goals of neighborhood planning and how the planning process will work. After a Q&A session, we broke into groups by geography to discuss our areas.

Our area: Generally speaking, our group sees the single-family housing opportunities in our area as our biggest **asset** to preserve. **Opportunities** expressed included obtaining public parkland and revitalizing South Lamar Boulevard. The biggest **challenges** we foresee include:

- determining the future of existing residential properties along our southern boundary
- improving non-vehicular accessibility along our streets, with suggestions including more sidewalks and bike lanes.

After our break-out session, everyone reconvened and communicated our results to the group at large, where we learned that our desires are indeed compatible with those of the surrounding planning areas, especially in wanting South Lamar Blvd. to remain navigable for its residents rather than become a thru-way for commuter traffic.

This was the first of several workshops to be held over the course of the **9 - 12 month planning process**. The next workshop is **Wednesday evening, November 2nd**, at a place and time to be determined. You will be notified of this upcoming meeting **ONLY** if you give your contact information to the City's Neighborhood Planners. Whatever your method, you **MUST** submit your contact information (email or street address) in order to be invited to subsequent meetings.

Meeting invitations and more in-depth surveys will be sent only to those who have taken the time to respond with their contact information. The sooner you join the process, the more you will understand it as we progress.

- If you have internet access, you can complete the survey online, as well as read all about Neighborhood Planning in Austin: <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/zoning/slcnpa.htm>. Scroll down to the Survey link.
- If you do not have internet access — or if you complete a survey, but do not receive an invitation to the next meeting by **October 23rd** — call the Planner assigned to SLNA's area: **Alex Koenig at 974-3515** to add your mailing address to their contact list.

"Your participation in the planning process is important. A future vision of the neighborhood will be developed and properties will be rezoned as a result of this process." - City of Austin.

REMEMBER: If you complete a survey, but do not receive an invitation to the next meeting by October 23rd, call the Planner assigned to SLNA's area: **Alex Koenig at 974-3515**.

Twin Oaks Library

Also at the October meeting, John Gillum, Planner for Austin Public Libraries, is slated to speak about the proposed designs for the Twin Oaks Branch Library. It will occupy the former Post Office site at West Mary and South Fifth. Come give him your ideas & opinions about what you would like to see included at our new library, and hear about the City's timeline for its construction.

Development In & Around SLNA

SLNA projects to discuss at the October 20 meeting:

- 2525 S. Lamar, Private Restrictive Covenant
- Walgreens/Taco Xpress timeline, now that Bluebonnet construction has finally begun
- 1804 Fortview at Valley View
- Several Thornton Road projects

A few projects outside SLNA we can also discuss:

- Pfluger Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge extension
- Bouldin Meadows & Greenbelt along Bouldin Creek
- Spring Condominium Tower at 3rd & Bowie

October Meeting: Election for 2006

Nominations:

President - Carol Gibbs
Vice President - Nancy MacLaine
Secretary - John Bissell
Treasurer - Don Ewalt
ANC/SCC Rep. - Kevin Lewis



Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

NOTE: Nominees must either be present at, or have accepted their nomination prior to, the meeting.

Membership Statement

- Membership in the Association shall be issued on the basis of residency (**renters** and **homeowners**) and timely payment of annual dues [January].
- SLNA boundaries: **North** - Oltorf; **South** - Ben White; **East** - Union Pacific Railroad; **West** - S. Lamar / Manchaca.
- Persons meeting the above criteria but who are unable to pay membership dues may **request a reduction in dues or a waiver**.
- The privilege of introducing **motions and voting** shall be limited to those who have joined the Association at least ten days prior to any regularly-scheduled or special-called meeting.
- **Complete bylaws** -- and **links** to lots of other useful information -- are available at www.southlamar.org.

For Sale by ‘Hood

For Sale as of Mon. Sept. 26, 2005 (incl. properties under contract)

Beds	Baths	List\$	Property	SQFT	Street Name
3	3	\$525,750	House	2,705	3111 Clawson
3	3.5	\$469,900	Condo	2,400	2608 Del Curto
3	2	\$210,000	House	1,292	2304 Del Curto
3	1	\$152,900	House	1,095	3202 Dolphin
4	2.5	\$359,900	House	2,398	2821 Kinney Oaks Ct
4	2.5	\$400,000	House	2,443	2610 Kinney Oaks Ct
3	2.5	\$514,000	Condo	2,084	2409 Kinney Rd
3	2	\$280,000	House	1,832	1603 Lightsey
2	1.5	\$111,500	Condo	923	3815 Manchaca
2	1	\$535,000	House	1,144	4101 Manchaca
2	1.5	\$89,500	Condo	1,008	3809 Manchaca
2	2.5	\$269,900	House	1,500	1606 Morgan Ln
3	1	\$224,900	House	943	2407 Southland
1	1	\$218,400	Condo	1,197	2216 Thornton
1	1	\$79,900	Condo	594	3724 Valley View Rd

Information Deemed Reliable But Not Guaranteed. Buyer Must Verify. Summary provided by Julia Feighner & Anne M. Haikola, Realtor®, Realty World, John Horton & Associates Phone: 512-293-5737, teamhaikola@austin.rr.com. Copyright: 2005 by Austin Board of REALTORS(R), All Rights Reserved. Mon, Sep 26, 2005 09:20 PM

SLNA Yahoo! Group

If you would like to join the SLNA Yahoo! email group, to keep up with the day-to-day happenings in the ‘hood, send an email with your full name and address to contact@southlamar.org and we will send you an invitation to join. NOTE: You must live or own residential property in SLNA’s boundaries to join the email group. You do not have to be a member of the South Lamar Neighborhood Association to join our email group, but it would certainly be appreciated!



Food Pantry Reminder

SLNA & Unity Church continue to host a Food Drive for **Caritas of Austin**. (See their website at www.caritasofaustin.org.) Bring **non-perishable foods and/or baby supplies** to the SLNA meetings. Thanks again to **Roberta Leahy** for coordinating this project!

Fire Ants

Bait for fire ants in the fall to reduce the number of mounds you have in the spring. Most baits take awhile, so be patient. A new bait formulation gets rid of fire ants within a week; the active ingredient is indoxacarb. If you need fire ants killed quickly, you may want to use an individual mound treatment. Tips on using baits:

- Make sure you have a bait, not a granular
- Broadcasting baits using a handheld spreader can save time
- Use the proper amount of bait for your yard size
 - Most baits are placed at a rate of 1-1 ½ pounds per acre
 - Most people put out more bait than is needed
- Check that ants are foraging before putting out bait
 - Place a hotdog slice or potato chip near a mound, leave for 10 minutes, then check for ant activity
- Do not use stale/ old bait
 - Smell bait to make sure it is not spoiled; spoiled bait smells rancid
 - Store bait sealed in the original container
- Try to get your neighbors to bait around the same time as you do; this will push the reinvasion boundaries further away from your property

SLNA Officers & Contacts

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Chad Hymel, SLNA-KAB Committee Chair
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Properties sold Aug 1- Sept 26	15
Av. \$ per sq ft	\$167
Av. sales price	\$248,415



Unity Church of Austin

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South Lamar Neighborhood Association Membership Form

Initial Application / Renewal

PRINT NAME (Couples, please use both first names): _____

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____ / _____

If you live outside SLNA’s borders, the address of SLNA property you own: _____

Annual Membership: \$10 per Household -OR- \$20 to be a “Big Bubba/Bubbette” - TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Make check payable to “SLNA”. Mail/Deliver with completed form to Don Ewalt, Treasurer, 1605 Lightsey, Austin, TX 78704
- OR - Check here if you are requesting a Waiver of this year’s Membership Fee: []