

August 1, 2002

Volume 1, Issue 4

SLNA Newsletter

South Lamar Neighborhood Association www.southlamar.org

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Next Meeting August 15th - 7pm at Unity Church

August SLNA Program

For our August 15th meeting we have two presenters. First, several months back I was contacted by the Austin Monorail Project and they asked if they could come speak. Michael DiBrino writes: *Currently, the entire light rail issue is not yet on the radar screens of the public, but it is very much live at the Cap Metro planning level. As described on our (preliminary) route map on our website, we would be nearby and so would very much like your input and viewpoint of any rapid transit system proposed for Austin.*

Second, since there has been a good bit of talk on the email list about the various forms of wildlife in the hood, we have arranged for Ellie Fleegal, who is a member of Bill Hicks Foundation for Wildlife, to come visit with us. Should be very interesting! Ever wonder: How likely is it that raccoons are rabid? How can you tell? What do you do? What should one do if injured animal is found? How to live in harmony? Chicken, mules, fox, raccoons, opossums all live in SLNA. Come and learn.

From the desk of Kenny Nash, APD District Rep for SLNA

I just wanted to take this time and tell everyone hello, and I hope that everyone is having a safe and fun summer so far. I want to remind everyone to keep their valuables out of their vehicles and the doors and windows secured. This would help decline the amount of burglary of vehicles that we are having in this area. This is still the leading crime in this area, but you also have to take into account the number of apartment complexes and duplexes in this area. We always seem to see a increase in residential burglaries during the summertime as well. Be sure if you see anyone or anything suspicious, to call 911 so that the police can respond and determine what is going on. This proactive approach can and will help deter theft, burglary and other crimes. This is a great neighborhood and with a combined effort from everyone, this area will continue being a safe and wonderful place to live. I hope to see everyone at the national night out. Until then, stay safe and enjoy the summer.

Kenny Nash, Southwest District Representative, Austin Police Department

National Night Out

Thanks to everyone who participated in NNO 2002, those that came out on your own block to visit and those that joined together at Unity Church. APD and EMS both visited with us at Unity. APD District Rep. Kenny Nash was on hand to answer questions. Eric J., with EMS, arrived in the bright yellow Rescue truck and gave us a very good run down on EMS rescue procedure and showed off all of the EMS equipment. In light of all the flooding lately, it was very interesting to learn how they go about saving folks! Good conversations and refreshment were had by all!

Passbook Fundraiser Zilker School

It's almost time for Zilker Elementary's Passbook Fundraiser. It will begin the last week of August. Zilker does not condone children going door to door to sell the Passbook. It is best to purchase the coupon book from a child you know and we have plenty of Zilker kids in the hood. Payments should be made by check, when possible.

These are really great books !

Parking Parking Parking Parking *Lawn Parking Ordinance*

The Lawn Parking has passed on second reading only at council. It is scheduled for third reading in late August. There may be revisions but I have not seen any yet. I doubt revisions will be in time for the newsletter. I am told they are minor changes. If it is revised, we will need to vote again. I think the next vote should be on the "spirit" of the agreement. We voted on a substitute motion at the February meeting to take "no action" until the language of the ordinance firmed up. We then voted in June to be included in the ordinance, but limited our acceptance to the revision (#8) that was in place at that time. Since the language looks like it will have some minor changes we'll need to vote again. I mentioned this might be necessary at the June meeting. Council could have passed it on second and third reading this last time and that is why we needed to decide in June. To make a motion or vote, you must be a member of the association at least 10 days prior to any vote. Current bylaws do not allow proxy voting. Remember, that our bylaws were revised in June to allow membership even if you cannot pay dues. With or without paying dues, you must still fill out a membership form and join the association to vote (just like Travis county, although they require you to register 30 days before an election). More information on this ordinance can be obtained from the sponsor of this ordinance, Council member Thomas' office.

Neighborhood Development updates:

The Shamrock gas station property on Lamar at Kinney sold. The spokesperson for Shamrock told me that it had not closed yet and he could not reveal the buyer yet. He did tell me that it would not be a gas station anymore and deed restrictions would be put on the property to insure that. As you have probably already noticed, the tanks have been pulled and they are doing a “closure” of that as an underground storage area. He said that Lamar Storage was not the buyer.

As far as Lamar storage goes, I have not heard anything from the developer or his agent in many months.

Russell’s Bakery continues to try to open the café/bakery on Lamar where Anna’s Toy Depot once was. I spoke with Russell a few days ago and he was about to throw in the towel on the whole thing. The city has been giving him a very difficult time. It seems that the lot is zoned CS on half and SF-3 on the other, although it has always been used as commercial property. He is going to try a bit more to make it work. He told me he wanted to do something a little upscale. Sounds like a pleasant change from another used car lot?

Nothing new to report about the two projects on Thornton. Many rumors and overtures but I have not heard anything official yet and have not had contact with the owners of either property.

South Lamar Neighborhood Association

Member Information: Current Member _____ New Member _____

Please complete the following information. Couples, please use both first names.

NAME(S): _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

AREA CODE AND PHONE NUMBER: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

If you do not live in the SLNA, please let us know the address of the property you own in the SLNA:

Dues \$10 per year per household or,
“Big Bubba” \$20 (or more)

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Request hardship waiver of membership Fee

Make checks payable to South Lamar Neighborhood Association

Mail to Bobby Hubertus, 2707 Del Curto, Austin, TX 78704

Check out the SLNA Website at www.southlamar.org

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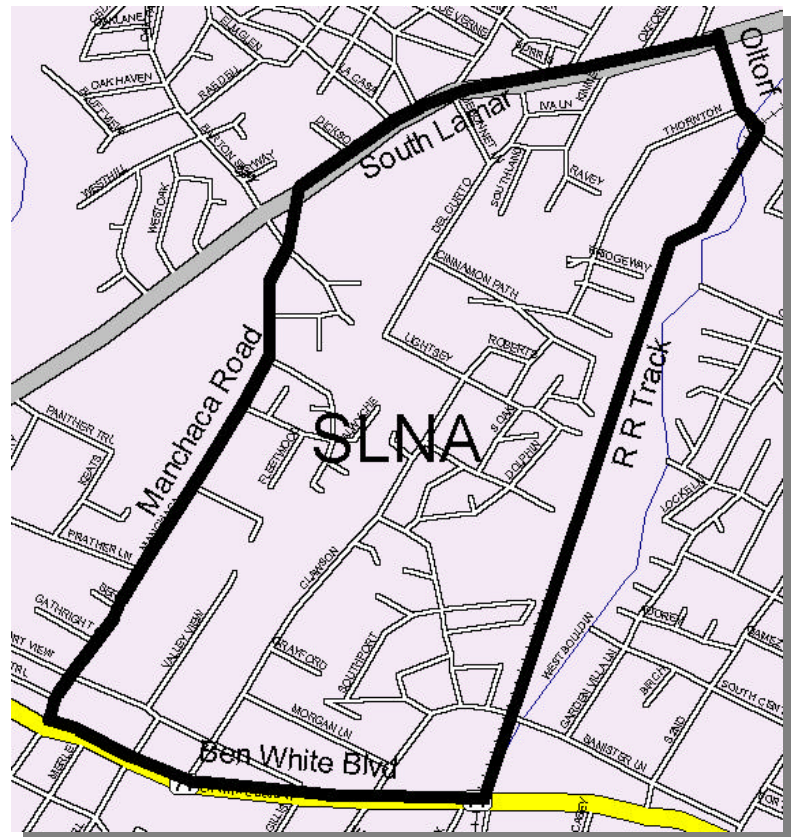
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Membership in the Association shall be open to all residents or residential property owners between these boundaries; North: Oltorf, South: Ben White, west: south Lamar/ Manchaca and east: Union Pacific Railroad. Membership in the Association shall be issued on the basis of residency and payment of annual dues. 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 by paying dues at least ten days prior to any regularly scheduled or special called meeting. Complete bylaws are available at www.southlamar.org and will be available at regular meetings.