

# YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

by NACA

## November 17, 2016 NACA Meeting

Please join us at the last meeting for the year on November 17, 2016 at 7:00 PM at the North Austin Community Center/YMCA, 1000 W. Rundberg.

At our November meeting, Capitol Metro will lead a discussion on Project Connect, a plan designed to create new high-capacity transit options for Austin. Project Connect has goals of identifying and evaluating potential high-capacity transit solutions that will help improve travel into, out of and around Central Austin. Members will have the opportunity to give input on the kinds of improvements that you would like to see.

Elections for the 2017 NACA board will be held in January, so we will discuss any nominations or take any nominations from the floor at the November meeting. We look forward to seeing you at the last meeting of the year!

## 17 de Noviembre 2016, Reunión de NACA

Por favor, acompáñenos a la próxima reunión el 17 de Noviembre a las 7:00 PM en North Austin Community Center/YMCA, 1000 W. Rundberg.

En nuestra reunión de Noviembre Capital Metro conducirá una discusión sobre "Project Connect" un plan diseñado para crear nuevas opciones de transporte de alta capacidad en Austin. Project Connect tiene objetivos de identificar y evaluar posibles soluciones de tránsito de alta capacidad que ayudarán a mejorar los viajes hacia, desde y alrededor del centro de Austin. Los miembros tendrán la oportunidad de dar su opinión sobre los tipos de mejoramientos que les gustaría ver.

Las elecciones para comité de NACA para el año 2017 se llevarán a cabo en Enero, por lo que vamos a tratar el tema de nominaciones en la reunión de Noviembre. ¡Esperamos verlos en la última reunión del año!

## Community Thanksgiving Celebration

By Ann Cartwright

The Grant AME Worship Center at 1701 Kramer Lane is hosting a community meal on **Sunday, November 20, 2016** beginning at approximately 1:30 p.m. Residents of the community are invited to join with members of the congregation to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday. For more information call 512-339-4726.

### NORTH AUSTIN CIVIC ASSOCIATION (NACA)

#### President

Randy Teich ..... 512-426-7769

#### Vice President

Melinda Schiera ..... 512-573-6620

Roberto Perez ..... 512-888-2386

#### Secretary

Matt Myers ..... 512-748-2425

#### Treasurer

Brian La Cour ..... 512-837-2324

#### APD District Representative

Adam Soliz ..... 512-974-8143

#### ANC Representative

Domenic Schiera ..... 512-573-6620

PO Box 180803  
Austin, TX 78718  
[www.naca-austin.org](http://www.naca-austin.org)

### NEXT MEETING

Date ..... 11/17

Time ..... 7:00 pm

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

### IN THIS ISSUE

November 17, 2016 NACA Meeting ..... 1

Community Thanksgiving Celebration .... 1

President's Letter ..... 2

NACA Contact Team Callout ..... 2

District 4 Updates ..... 2

Beautification Projects Update ..... 3

Community Mural Coming Soon ..... 3

Oscar, The Trash Dog ..... 4

## President's Letter

By Randy Teich - NACA President

It is hard to believe that we are approaching our last meeting of 2016. I hope you have had an opportunity to attend a few of our meetings. Your officers along with several active members work diligently to find topics of interest to the membership. I'm sure some of you have ideas for meeting topics that you believe the neighbors would find interesting. Please contact one of the VPs or myself and we'll be happy to try and get it on the agenda. Members are welcome to attend these meetings; just let one of the VPs or myself know of your interest and we'll make sure you are invited.

Speaking of officers, NACA officers serve one year terms and elections are held each January. Please contact Eleanor Langsdorf ([elangsdo@yahoo.com](mailto:elangsdo@yahoo.com)) if you have questions about the duties of officers or are interested in running for one of our offices.

Have you checked out our website lately (<http://www.naca-austin.org/>)? NACA co-VP Melinda Schiera and husband Dominic have spent lots of time over the last year reworking our website to be far more attractive and functional. Please take a tour of the new site and let Melinda and Dominic know how much you appreciate all of their work.

Our other co-VP, Roberto Perez is also the co-chair of the Restore Rundberg Revitalization Team along with Monica Guzmán. Restore Rundberg is committed to making the Rundberg area one of the safest parts of town while retaining its multi-cultural and affordable nature. The Department of Justice grant that funded Restore Rundberg's first three years has now run its course and the effort moving forward will be completely volunteer driven. Please check out the Restore Rundberg website for details and volunteer opportunities. We anticipate fewer community meetings and more committee work starting in January, 2017. Feel free to contact Roberto ([robertoperez\\_jr@yahoo.com](mailto:robertoperez_jr@yahoo.com)) or Monica ([maguzmanma@gmail.com](mailto:maguzmanma@gmail.com)) if you would like to participate on one of Restore Rundberg workgroups.

I hope your 2016 has been as fruitful as ours and encourage you to increase your involvement in our community as best you can. Our efforts can make 2017 an even better year.

## North Austin Civic Association Contact Team Callout

By Melinda Schiera

Do you want to help determine where new infrastructure improvement projects are, and review zoning changes in our neighborhood? We need you on the contact team! A neighborhood plan contact team (NPCT) is a group of individuals designated to be the stewards or advocates of their adopted neighborhood plan (<ftp://ftp.ci.austin.tx.us/npzd/Austingo/naca-np.pdf>). Members serve as points of contact for community stakeholders, review and initiate plan amendments, and work with city staff towards the implementation of plan recommendations. All stakeholders in the planning area are encouraged to participate on the contact team, including those who rent or own a home, property owners, and business owners.

The contact team does important work! For example, the contact team applied for a Neighborhood Partnering Program grant last year to paint bridges in the planning area, and in return received a much needed sidewalk at Jamestown and Fairfield. Currently, the contact team is reviewing physical improvements needed in community and shared school parks in our neighborhood in order to apply for Austin Parks Foundation grants. Please contact Dawn Johnson [dljpublic@runbox.com](mailto:dljpublic@runbox.com) or [melinda.schiera@gmail.com](mailto:melinda.schiera@gmail.com) for more information.

---

## District 4 Updates

By Greg Casar

There's a couple of exciting improvements from the City's quarter-cent funds that my office introduced and Council approved that are coming to life! Sidewalks

### NACA NEWSLETTER STAFF

Eleanor Langsdorf/Editor ..... 512-873-0480

Nathalie Cappione/Layout ..... [cappione@msn.com](mailto:cappione@msn.com)

Triaz Digital.....[www.triazdigital.com](http://www.triazdigital.com)

Contributing Staff: Melinda Schiera, Roberto Perez,  
Randy Teich, Susie Milam, Greg Casar, Ann Cartwright, Caro  
Dubois, Sarah Dizinski

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

on Fairfield Drive are now being installed thanks to the advocacy of many of you who have been organizing for many years and through the neighborhood partnering program, as well as our Lanier High School students who came to City Council and advocated for this sidewalk to their school! NACA's volunteer work painting bridges served as an in-kind donation, which was matched by the City with dollars for the sidewalk.

In addition, a pedestrian hybrid beacon is being installed on Rutland to H-E-B, which will hopefully be activated by the time you read this! This hybrid beacon was also funded with quarter cent funds. Both of these projects are examples of the great things we can accomplish when we work together.

In other news, Council passed a resolution I sponsored condemning bigotry and hateful anti-Muslim words and actions. Our Council pledges to support Muslims and immigrants who have come under attack in our communities. This resolution was a part of a national week of action of more than 500 elected officials across the country who are spreading this message.

Unfortunately, it has become commonplace to hear anti-Muslim sentiments as part of our national discourse. As a non-Muslim, I cannot share what the experience is for our Muslim community members. But we know by watching the news and by listening to Muslim community members and learning about their experiences, that hateful sentiments and violent actions directed at Muslim people are all too common. We cannot ignore the hateful attitudes being spread by local and national leaders, and we cannot merely condemn them privately. By standing up together with elected officials across the United States, we are publicly recommitting ourselves to the values of Austin: inclusion and respect for all people of all faiths.

---

## Beautification Projects Update

*By Caro Dubois*

The Painted Bridges project is nearly finished. We chose 15 bridges and retaining walls to beautify and we have finished 13 of them - cutting weeds, cleaning graffiti, and painting murals. We've also gone back and cut weeds several times due to all the rain we have had this spring and summer. Some of the painting has been vandalized, and we had to clean more graffiti - but we are staying up with it.

Two of the bridge projects are still on track for completion. The bridge on Kramer has a new adopter

team, North Austin Creatives. They are working with the original design and making it their own. NAC intends to complete this bridge before the year is out. The last bridge project is the long pair on Rundberg near H-E-B and The Library. This is the biggest project and involves several ceramics classes of students at McCallum and Austin high schools. The ceramic tiles for "Birds on a Wire" have been started, however several steps are required for completion. We will be looking for volunteers for several days of installation, probably in Spring 2017. This will be a beautiful mural in our neighborhood, and I hope everyone will help make it happen.

One of the other results of the Quail Creek Painted Bridges project is the coordination with the Neighborhood Partnering Program to get a much-needed sidewalk installed on Fairfield near Lanier HS. Construction started in late September and should be finished in October. Councilman Greg Casar was responsible for securing a sizeable amount of funding to complete the sidewalk and came by to see its progress on October 16.



---

## Community Mural Coming Soon to Payton Gin Road!

*By Sarah Duzinski*

We are pleased to announce an upcoming collaborative mural project between members of the Lanier High School Art Department, The Go Collaborative, North Austin Civic Association, and Rundberg Rising. The owner of the commercial property at 948 Payton Gin Road has kindly agreed to allow the mural to

be executed on his building. The Lanier art students entered a contest to design a mural representative of our community on the west-facing wall of the future “Mi Cocina Mexican Kitchen”.

The mural planning committee selected three design finalists based on positive, non-violent, community-oriented theme, and artistic integrity. Akira Kobayashi won primary designer with a design we dubbed, “International Hello”. Elements of the other two designs by Nina Trujillo (secondary designer) and Oscar Davila (tertiary designer), respectively, will be incorporated into the final mural design. Contest finalists will each receive a gift card to Jerry’s Artarama for their exceptional design work.

We are hoping to begin work on the mural this November and wrap up in December if all goes well. Volunteers interested in helping with painting, providing snacks and beverages, or taking pictures can contact Sarah Duzinski at [rundbergrising@gmail.com](mailto:rundbergrising@gmail.com). Thank you for your support!

---

## Oscar, The Trash Dog

By Susie Milam

Shawn and Teresa, who live on my street, have a very civic-minded dog. “Oscar, the Trash Dog,” as they call him, likes to find a piece of trash while he’s on his daily walk. Instead of just nosing around the piece of trash, he will pick it up and hang onto it until they get back home where it can be disposed of properly.

Now if everyone in NACA – dogs and people – would be so conscientious about keeping the neighborhood clean! How about whenever you go out, you find one piece of trash to pick up and take home to dispose of properly.

Thanks, Oscar, for being a good role model!



### 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:

**NACA Treasurer**  
**PO BOX 180803**  
**Austin TX 78718-0803**