

# HANCOCK HERALD

Hancock Neighborhood Association



August 2016



## The Newsletter Needs You

### The current editor is retiring!

Due to other obligations, the current editor is stepping down from the job.

Currently, the newsletter is published quarterly. The next issue will be November. If you would like to try your hand at it, please send an email to [editor@hancockna.org](mailto:editor@hancockna.org).

I can give you all the historic files and can help you get oriented.

## INSIDE



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## Recycling and ReUse Center Resources

Forwarded email from Scott Johnson

I work for Austin Resource Recovery at the city Recycling and ReUse Drop-Off Center. I have been tasked with organizing a program that collects and distributes lawn and gardening materials to local citizens.

I am sending out this email to let everyone know that I have been working very hard on the Gardening ReUse program. This program collects lawn and garden supplies and makes them available to community/ home gardeners, schools, churches, and basically anyone who is involved in gardening in their community.

Please send out this email and/or my contact information to anyone that you might know that could benefit from this program. I am trying and get as many people involved in the program as I can.

Here is a list of some of the items that I am setting aside for people who want to take advantage of the program. It is by no means complete. Please note that not all materials will be available on all days. I am dependent on what comes into my facility.

**Continued on page 3 - Resources**

# HOT TOPICS

## Guadalupe-North Lamar: A Winning Light Rail Choice on the November Ballot

By Scott Morris, Central Austin CDC

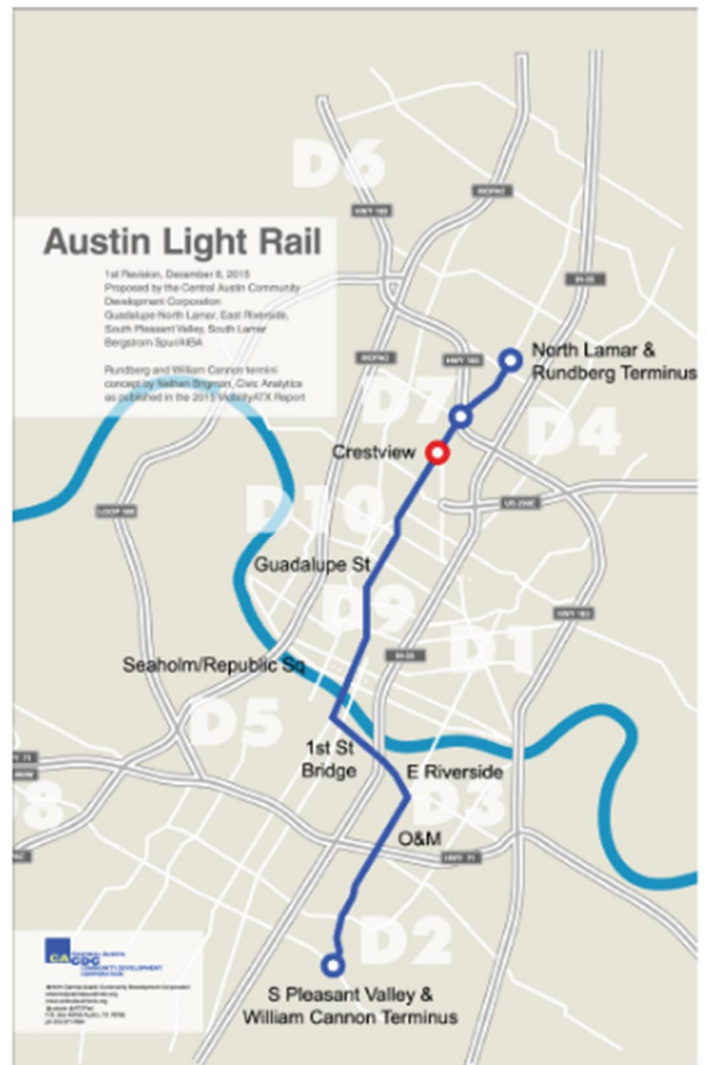
Cars don't fill jobs. Cars don't use our parks; cars don't attend school, or conduct business transactions. People do these things. Transportation success is measured in moving people, not in moving their cars. Light rail offers the greatest capacity for moving people, surpassing any other mode for its cost effectiveness, capacity and throughput, against any other method proven or unproven.

Since 2001, the people of Hancock have participated in an extraordinary exercise in citizen planning: the creation, adoption, and implementation of the Central Austin Combined Neighborhood Plan. In that plan, the city asked a seven-neighborhood coalition around the UT Campus to determine the future land use of our area and where density and transportation infrastructure should go. Area residents came up with the solutions, negotiated with landowners and city staff, and created subdistricts of residential density like the University Neighborhood Overlay.

The planning did not stop with land use. The Central Austin Combined Neighborhood Plan also provided route and station-location design of the Guadalupe-North Lamar light rail alignment. In 2004, council adopted your neighborhood plan, and it was made a part of Imagine Austin in 2012.

The people delivered residential density solutions, but the city has not delivered the transportation infrastructure they agreed was needed to support the 1st and 3rd densest planning areas in our city. We insist that covenant be kept.

Our proposal for a light rail minimum operable segment is based on several decades' worth of planning and discussion, neighborhood planning ordinances, and over \$20 million in federally funded transit studies. They have arrived at a singular conclusion: Guadalupe-North Lamar would be a great place for a light rail investment. It would be the next step in Austin's utilization of rail, and would cost-effectively serve a corridor with the highest transit ridership, the highest population density, and the highest employment density of any other corridor



### Proposed route

For detailed information, go to:

[http://centralaustincdc.org/transportation/austin\\_light\\_rail.htm](http://centralaustincdc.org/transportation/austin_light_rail.htm)

**Continued on page 8 – Light Rail**

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Dr. LaBombard

Continued from Page 1 - Resources

## List of Available Supplies at the ReCycling and ReUse Dropoff Center

**Blood Meal**  
**Diatomaceous Earth**  
**Insecticidal Soap**  
**Medina**  
**Spray Attachments**

**Bone Meal**  
**Fish Fertilizer**  
**Ironite**  
**Perlite**  
**Superthrive**

**Castile Soap**  
**Hasta Grow**  
**Ladybug Fertilizer**  
**Rooting Hormone**  
**Uncle Johns Fertilizer**

**Compost starter**  
**Deer/Rabbit Repellant**  
**Horticultural Molasses**  
**Liquid Seaweed**  
**Organic Insecticide**

Additionally, the city has Wood Mulch available every day that we are open. It is completely self-serve, so make sure to bring a truck, bags, containers, pitchforks, shovels, etc. If you have access to a commercial vehicle I can make arrangements to use our front-end loader to load your vehicle. (Personal vehicles of any kind are not eligible for loading assistance)

Contact me to make an appointment to come shop at 512-974-4308 and at [scott.johnson2@austintexas.gov](mailto:scott.johnson2@austintexas.gov)  
I am available Tuesday-Friday 9:30-4:30 and Saturdays 7:30-11:30.

Thank you



### HNA regular meeting

September 21st  
7pm . 8:30pm  
Hancock Rec Center

PUT YOUR  
HANDS UP  
MAKE EM  
TOUCH

Rosemary Vaughn

Tony Beckwith

Elzy Cogswell

Scott Morris

Mary Sanger

## Report Environmental Violations

Phone numbers and website to report suspected environmental violation on development projects:

Environmental Inspection Dispatch- 512 974-2278

[Environmental.inspection@austintexas.gov](mailto:Environmental.inspection@austintexas.gov)

Watershed 24-hour Hotline- 512 9742550



## HNA Meeting Minutes

July 20, 2016 Meeting Minutes

<https://www.hancockna.org/www/content/hna-meeting-minutes-july-20-2016>

### Agenda

The Hancock Neighborhood Association met on Wednesday, July 20. Mobility was the topic.

Jim Rankin, HNA's transportation chair and roadway tracker, explained that this fall TXDOT will begin construction on major changes to parts of IH 35 which stretch through central Austin. The work is expected to take two years, but we could place bets on this! (Jim Rankin will start the countdown). Jim listed these major projects: a roundabout at 51st street, a "diverging diamond" at airport and 45th street, an additional lane on the upper deck going each way, one additional inside lane each way on the lower deck from Round Rock to Buda will be variable toll lanes.

The 32nd Street street on ramp north bound lower deck will change to 38th street off-ramp. IH-35 will be under MLK, 15th Street, 12th Street, 11th street. On September 20, TXDOT will have a IH-35 open house at Memorial United Methodist Church. For more information contact Kelli Reyna (512) 832-7060. Check out my35.org

Scott Morris of the Central Austin Community Development Corporation and a NUNA resident spoke about a proposed 5.3 mile Lamar-Guadalupe light rail project which rail advocates want the City Council to place on the November, 2016 ballot alongside the Corridor bond proposal. As explained, the Northern terminus will be Crestview Station, North Lamar and Airport Blvd. The Southern terminus is Republic Square, Guadalupe and 4th Streets. The cost is estimated to be \$397.5 million. The weekday ridership is estimated at 34,000. This would be the first phase of a multi phase light rail system. Contact: centralaustincdc@gmail.com





## LIN TEAM, OLD AUSTIN REALTOR®



Spring in Austin was warm and wonderful this year. The real estate market in Central Austin has seemed more tight than I remember spring activity in years, making it hard to find properties for my buyer clients. Some transactions never see the light of day because they are under contract without even appearing in the multiple listing service.

Even in the best of markets for buyers, searching for a home in Old Austin can be difficult and frustrating—especially without the help of a **REALTOR®** who knows and appreciates central neighborhoods and old houses. Likewise, selling your older home in Central Austin is best done by someone who understands and believes in the value of these houses and the way of

life that is possible in our older neighborhoods.

I remember the first time I sold the Oliphant house at 3900 Avenue C a couple came to the first open house and fell in love with the 1894 Victorian. They returned the next day with their agent, who stood in the front yard of that wonderful house with his arms folded across his chest and said "I can't for the life of me understand why anyone would want to live in Hyde Park!" Needless to say, the couple didn't buy the house. (Someone else did.)

Other agents have frightened their buyers about the "handicap" of living in a Local Historic District, not understanding that the designation is an important part of the value of properties in the neighborhood because it is a protection against the neighborhood disappearing around them and being replaced with tacky modern boxes.

I call myself the "Old Austin **REALTOR®**." Other agents who live and work here may not be "old," but we have a proven commitment and knowledge that can be extremely helpful to people wanting to save "old Austin."

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photo by alison narro

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Webmaster: George Wilson  
[webmaster@hancockna.org](mailto:webmaster@hancockna.org)

Newsletter Editor: Carleen Edgar  
[editor@hancockna.org](mailto:editor@hancockna.org)

Newsletter Ads: Kathleen Strong &  
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# THE TALENT

All submissions from neighbors welcome!  
Please send to [editor@hancockna.org](mailto:editor@hancockna.org)

## Freight Train Overhead

Sometimes the boy stood  
between converging steel lines.  
He would look both ways, full of hope.  
Once in a while, he could see  
a train far away, approaching.  
Then he hurried to his personal passageway  
under the tracks, built by the freight company  
to rob the rainy season of its anger.

Squatting under the tracks, he waited,  
impatient for the sound of the train.  
When it engulfed him, the roar  
was always so massive  
that it would squeeze him into himself.

Elzy Cogswell, June 6, 2016

## My Wildest Dreams

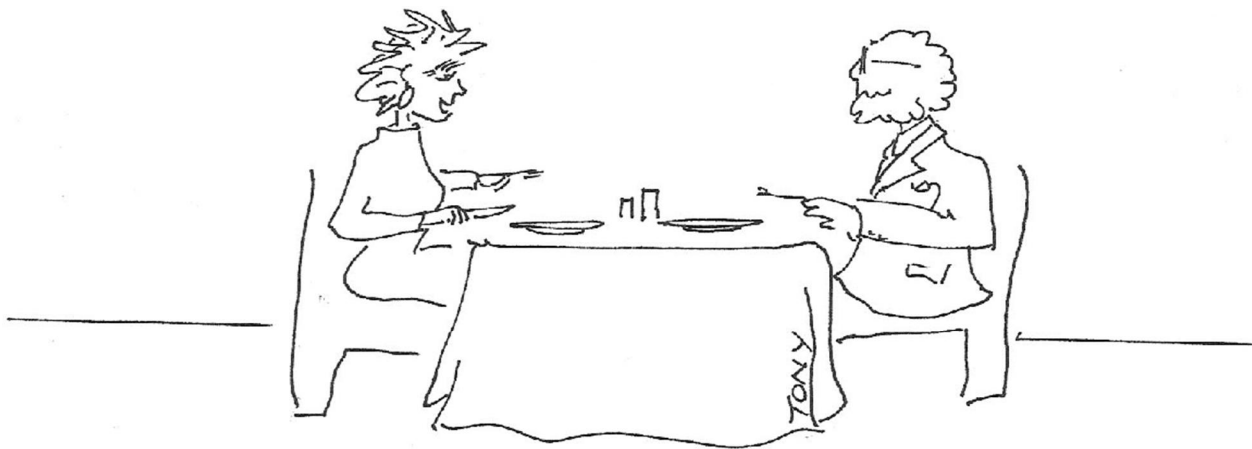
What does it mean when I dream that I'm flying  
over the rooftops and over the trees?  
Look Ma no hands! and I'm not even trying  
flying along with the greatest of ease

Maybe I'm off in a different dimension  
one that has none of the usual rules  
Something inspired by my power of invention  
fashioned and crafted with magical tools

Which one's imagined and which one is real?  
so many options to take or to leave  
Maybe reality's just how I feel?  
everything's possible when we believe

Seldom is anything quite as it seems  
And rarely at all in my wildest of dreams

tony beckwith 2012



*"My doctor is so high-tech. I told him I was having trouble  
staying awake after lunch and he said there's a nap for that."*



## Continued from Page 2 – Light Rail

in the city. Our system concept extends light rail to destinations like East Riverside, South Lamar, North Lamar, and to the Airport. It delivers social equity by providing areas of high transit dependency like Rundberg and Dove Springs with access to jobs. It builds and operates extensions in SE Austin toward the Airport with the hotel occupancy tax.

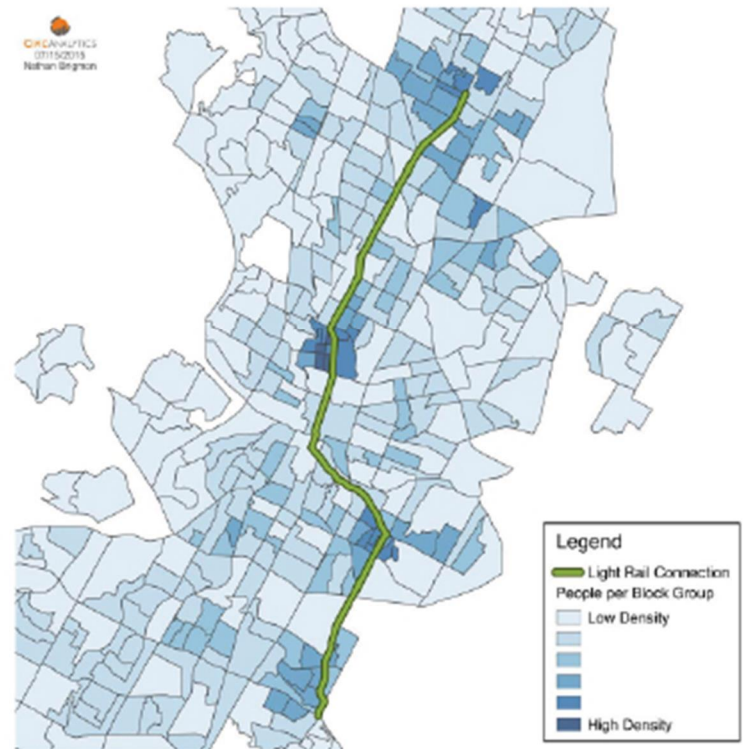
This proposal returns a very high return on investment and connects people to economic opportunity. A light rail starter line on Guadalupe and North Lamar Streets would be 5.3 miles long, is estimated to cost \$400 million, and carry 34,000 riders every weekday. This plan would provide direct service to the jobs and communities around Crestview Station, DPS Headquarters, State Health Department complex, University of Texas, State Capitol Complex, Travis County Courthouse and Central Campus, and downtown's Republic Square, the city's busiest bus stop and transfer station. It would also connect to East Austin, North Austin and Northwest Austin by a transfer from the existing 32-mile long Red Line commuter rail line at Crestview Station. With the increased ridership this would cause on the connecting Red Line, a new station at Hancock Center could provide a two-seat ride to anywhere in the Guadalupe-North Lamar corridor.

There is strong citywide support for moving forward with rail. Zandan polling in 2015 showed 66% support rail mass transit, as well as the taxes to pay for those projects. That is a 23-point swing from the defeat of Project Connect. We only need a 7-point change to pass a bond measure, and we have the plan to do it.

On August 4th, Austin City Council will reconvene to begin discussing the November bonds. We feel that the people of Austin are ready to take this step. We encourage all Hancock residents to ask your elected representatives to include a rail option on the ballot. Austin voters deserve that choice in November.



## The Alignment



### Density along the proposed route

For detailed information, go to:

[http://centralaustincdc.org/transportation/austin\\_light\\_rail.htm](http://centralaustincdc.org/transportation/austin_light_rail.htm)