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HIGHLAND PARK WEST BALCONES AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

THE HPWBANA NEWS

VOLUME 16, NUMBER 11 • NOVEMBER 2020 • WWW.HPWBANA.ORG





We had a wonderful experience as both buyers and sellers when working with Rebecca.

Buying and selling a home is stressful, but Rebecca's calm, professional demeanor and her organizational skills made the entire process so much easier. There was no point where we felt that any detail had escaped her attention. This allowed us to focus on the specifics of our move, rather than being concerned about details of the transactions.

Our expectations for a Realtor were high and Rebecca <u>exceeded our expectations</u> in every way.

Stephanie and Michael McCollum

Call me for a pricing opinion of Your Home!

Rebecca Wolfe Spratlin Broker/MBA Cell: 512-694-2191 Rebecca@RebeccaRealtyLLC.com www.RebeccaRealtyLLC.com



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Austin Citywide Information Center 974-2000 or 311
Emergency Police, Fire and EMS
Non-emergency Police (coyote sighting, etc.) 311
Social Services (during work hours) 211
APD REP Officer Darrell Grayson 512-974-5242

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The HPWBANA Board meets on the fourth Monday of each month except December. Please go to HPWBANA. org for our current meeting location or contact president@ hpwbana.org.

HWPBANA is bordered on the north by 2222, on the south by 35th Street, on the west by Mt. Bonnell Road, and on the east by MoPac and by Bull Creek Road between Hancock Drive and 45th Street. Mail your membership dues to HPWBANA, P.O. Box 26101, Austin, Texas 78755.





Highland Park West Balcones Area

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Constable Patrol

HPWBANA Neighbors:

Following are the reports from the constable for his patrol activities through October 9, 2020. The constable has begun reporting the range of speeding over the speed limit in his reports: 1-9 mph over the posted speed, 10-15 mph over the posted speed, and 16 mph or more over the posted speed. For the cumulative reporting of the information in the summary reports since late April, 12 moving violations were for speeds between 1 and 9 miles per hour over the posted speed limit and 110 moving violations were for speeds between 10 and 15 miles per hour over the posted speed limit. The constable is reporting that he is seeing more neighbors walking while he is on patrol.

Please note that 79% (178 out of 226) of the traffic stops for 2020 continue to be of drivers who do not live in the Highland Park West Balcones Area compared with 73% (404 out of 556) of the traffic stops for 2019 and 74% (495 out of 672) of the traffic stops for 2018. The trend continues that roughly 75% of traffic stops are not residents of the neighborhood. Traffic enforcement is a key element for safety in the neighborhood.

The cost of the constable patrol is \$65/hour.



AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, Impact Speed and the Pedestrian's Risk of Severe Injury or Death, September 2011.

Neighbor donations provided funding for 122 hours (74%) of the 164 paid patrol hours in 2019. For 2020, a donor is pledging to donate \$4,000 to match \$4,000 in neighbor donations. Please ask your neighbors for their support of this effort. To contribute to this effort, you may donate through http://hpwbana.org/get-involved/join-hpwbana, include a donation with your annual dues payment, or contact me at president@hpwbana.org.

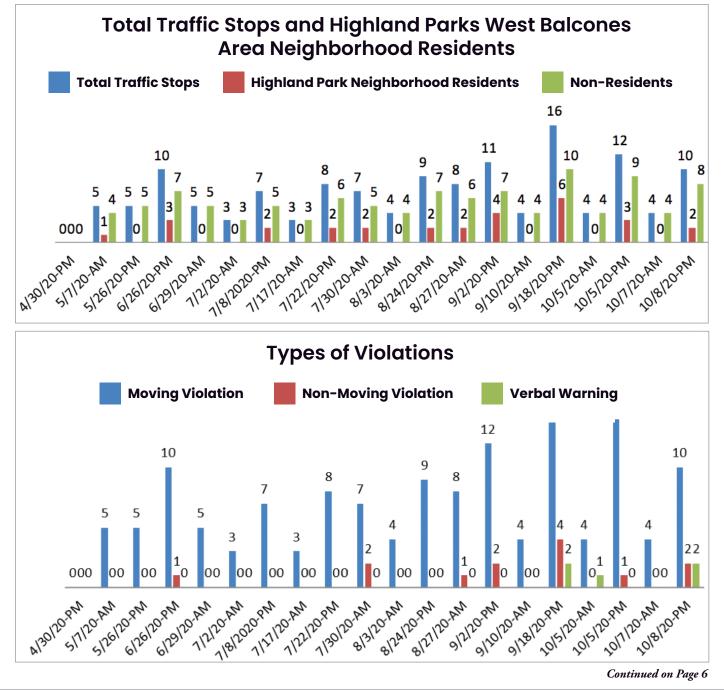
Thanks for your continued support. Be Safe! Pieter Sybesma, President Board of Directors Highland Park West Balcones Neighborhood Association president@hpwbana.org

The Highland Park West Balcones Area Neighborhood Association News - November 2020

HIGHLAND PARK WEST BALCONES AREA NEIGHBORHOOD 2020 SUPPLEMENTAL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS APRIL 1 – OCTOBER 9, 2020

Constable Random Patrol Times: 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. or 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. (Generally) Traffic Enforcement Areas: Balcones, Perry, and Hancock and smaller side streets or School Zone and both crosswalks, and Patrol throughout the neighborhood. Moving Violations—running a stop sign, speeding, failing to yield right of way, or unsafe lane change.

79% OF TRAFFIC STOPS DO NOT LIVE IN THE HPWBANA AREA



The Highland Park West Balcones Area Neighborhood Association News - November 2020 5

Continued from Page 5

[Number of citations issued per street area are noted as X0 = no citation, X1 = one citation, X2 = two citations, etc.]

• THU 4/30 Highland Park Patrol 3pm to 7pm (Covid.19) Ridge Oak parkchecked ok/4000 blk Mt. Bonnell Rd. closed/Homeless has set up camp under Hancock Bridge at the end of Westfield Dr./Male waving large yellow flag with HAPPY FACE on Hancock bridge to the south bound vehicles on Mopac/worked roving patrol in all parts of Highland Park/lots of people out walking or in their yards

• THU 5/7 Highland Park Patrol 6:35am to 9am (Covid.19)/3200 blk Hancock-speeding X3/3300 blk Perry-speeding X2/3900 blk Balconesspeeding X0

• TUE 5/26 Highland Park Patrol 2pm to 6pm/3900 blk Balcones-speeding X1/3300 blk Perry-speeding X1/3200 Hancock-speeding X2/Balcones at Mt. Bonnell-ran stop sign X1/Mt. Bonnell park/talked with APD unit-no problems around parking area/checked house under const on Big Bend-owner is having problems with Juv's-talked with Neighbor/I talked with a home owner about a car running the stop sign on Balcones at Madrona and then ran over a cat. This occurred a few days ago/didn't see the homeless camp under the Hancock bridge.

• FRI 6/26 Highland Park Patrol 2pm to 6pm/3300 blk Perry-speeding X2/3200 blk Hancock-speeding X3/Edgemont-speeding X0/3900 blk Balcones-speeding X2/Balcones at Madrona-ran stop sign X3

• MON 6/29 Highland Park Patrol 7am to 9am/3200 blk Hancock-speeding X3/3300 blk Perry-speeding X2/3900 blk Balcones-speeding X0/Ridge Oak Park-checked ok

• THU 7/2 Highland Park Patrol 7am to 9am/3200 blk Hancock-speeding X2/3300 blk Perry-speeding X0/Balcones at Madrona-Stop Sign X0/3900 blk Balcones-speeding X1/Mt. Bonnell Park-checked ok/Mt. Bonnell-speeding X0/Ridge Oak park-few people out walking thru the park

• WED 7/8 Highland Park neighborhood patrol 2pm to 6pm/3200 blk Hancock-speeding X3/3300 blk Perry-speeding X2/Balcones at Madrona-Stop sign X0/3900 blk Balcones-speeding X2/Ridge Oak Park-Checked ok/ Mt. Bonnell rd-Roving radar X0/Mt. Bonnell Park-checked ok/Roving thru streets east of Mopac

• FRI 7/17 Highland Park neighborhood patrol 7am to 9am/Roving radar patrol on Balcones Dr. between Mt. Bonnell and Perry-speeding X0/3900 blk Balcones-speeding X2/Ridge Oak Park-ck ok/3300 blk Perry-speeding X1/ Roving radar on Hancock-speeding X0/Lots of people out walking, running, riding bikes or walking their dogs

• WED 7/22 Highland Park neighborhood patrol 1:45pm to 6:00pm/W. Frances and Perry Ln area-road const with flaggers directing traffic/3900 blk Balcones-speeding X2/3200 blk Hancock-speeding X4/Roving radar on Balcones 4500 blk-speeding X0/3300 blk Perry LN-speeding X2/Balcones at Madrona-Stop Sign X0/Ridge Oak Park-Ck Ok/Mt. Bonnell-Roving radar patrol and in front of the park area-speeding X0

• THU 7/30 Highland Park neighborhood patrol 6:45am to 9am/3200 blk Hancock-speeding X3/3300 blk Perry-speeding X3/4900 blk Fairview-Drove wrong way on one way X1/Roving radar patrol on Balcones-speeding X0/ Ridge Oak Park-checked ok/Mt. Bonnell-Roving radar patrol-speeding X0/ Park checked ok/roving patrol thru area east of Mopac/lots of people out walking, jogging and riding bikes

• MON 8/3 Highland Park neighborhood patrol 6:45am to 9:00am/roving radar on Balcones, Edgemont, Mt. Bonnell and Crestway-speeding X0/3900 blk Balcones-speeding X0/3300 blk Perry-speeding X2/3200 blk Hancock-

speeding X2/Balcones at Madrona-ran stop sign X0

• MON 8/24 Highland Park neighborhood patrol 2pm to 6pm/3200 blk Hancock-speeding X5/3300 Perry Ln-speeding X2/3900 blk Balconesspeeding X2/Balcones at Madrona-ran stop sign X0/Valley Oak at W. Highland Terr-ran stop sign X0/Roving radar on Balcones between Madrona and Mt. Bonnell-speeding X0/Mt. Bonnell Park-checked ok/roving radar on Mt. Bonnell-speeding X0/Ridge Oak Park-checked ok/no issues in area east of Mopac/Lots of people out walking and riding bikes

• THU 8/27 Highland Park neighborhood patrol from 7am to 9am/3300 blk Perry-speeding X2/3900 blk Balcones-speeding X1/3200 blk Hancock-speeding X5/Mt. Bonnell at Balcones-Stop Sign X0/Mt. Bonnell park-checked ok/Ridge Oak Park-checked ok/roving patrol thru streets east of Mopac/roving patrol thru area

• WED 9/2 Highland Park Neighborhood patrol 2pm to 6pm/3900 blk Balcones-speeding X1/4500 blk Mt. Bonnell-speeding X2/Mt. Bonnell Parkchecked ok/3300 blk Perry-speeding X3/Ridge Oak Park-Checked ok/3200 blk Hancock-speeding X3/5000 blk Fairview-drove wrong way on a one way X2/Balcones at Madrona-ran stop sign X1/roving radar and patrol thru area east of Mopac. Lots of people out walking but no issues.

• THU 9/10 Neighborhood Patrol from 7am to 9am/Roving patrol, checked Ridge Oak park, Mt. Bonnell Park area, drove thru streets just east of Mopac. No issues or traffic stops/3200 blk Hancock-speeding X2/Balcones at Madrona-Stop Sign X0/3300 blk Perry-speeding X2

• FRI 9/18 Neighborhood Patrol from 2pm to 6pm/3900 blk Balconesspeeding X2/3300 blk Perry-speeding X2/Balcones at Madrona-Ran Stop Sign X3 /3200 Hancock-speeding X5/Valley Oak at W. Highland Terr-Ran Stop Sign X1/3000 blk W. Highland Terr-speeding X1/5000 Valley Oak-Juv on scooter all over the road/4600 blk Edgemont-speeding X0/3300 blk Perry-Stopped golf cart on roadway-Not Master Plan neighborhood-prohibited on road

• MON 10/5 HP neighborhood patrol 7am to 9am/First day of school/3300 blk Perry-speeding X1/3200 blk Hancock-speeding X3/School Zone 7:25am to 8:10am-1 warning given for no parking in driveway

• MON 10/5 HP Neighborhood patrol 2pm to 6pm/First day of school/2:30pm to 3:20pm-4900 blk Fireview-driving wrong way on a one way, in a school zone X2/3200 blk Hancock-speeding X5/3300 blk Perryspeeding X1/3900 blk Balcones-speeding X2/Balcones at Madrona-Ran stop sign X2/one home owner contact-new resident to HP/traffic stop from school zone didn't stop until Hancock at Valley Oak, and pulled into the oncoming westbound lane of traffic to stop. Vehicle with several 16yoa kids that drove wrong way in school zone, speeding and wrong way on 2 way road./several roving patrol thru area east of mopac and Mount Bonnell area.

• WED 10/7 HP Neighborhood patrol from 7am to 9am (and school zone)/3200 blk Hancock-speeding X2/school zone from 7:30am to 8am -no issues /3300 blk Perry-speeding X1/Balcones at Madrona-Ran stop sign X2/3900 blk Balcones-speeding X0/I checked Ridge oak park and Mount Bonnell Park area- no issues/Roving patrol thru area east of Mopac-no issues-checked ok

• THU 10/8 HP Neighborhood Patrol from 2pm to 6pm (and school zone)/3200 blk Hancock-speeding X3 /School Zone from 2:30pm to 3:15pm-2 parking violations warning/no issues/3300 blk Perry-speeding X1/Balcones at Madrona-Ran Stop Sign X5/3900 blk Balcones-speeding X1/Edgemont-speeding X0/Roving radar-traffic patrol/Valley Oak at W. Highland Terr-Ran Stop Sign X0/Ridge Oak Park-checked ok

HIGHLAND PARK WEST and BALCONES PARK Area Neighborhoods **Real Estate Statistics**

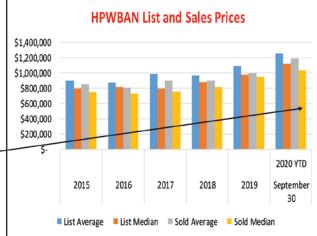
Analyses and Graphs by Rebecca Wolfe Spratlin

Positive Trends Continue!

The most recent statistics show the clear recovery from the reduced number of listings experienced in early spring due to the pandemic. During May, June and July the number of listings rebounded and June and July exceeded the previous two years.

The Days on Market before going under contract have continued to trend down, with a median low in August of only 8 days and average of 18 days. That is a new record in recent years.

The best news is that the Sold price (gold bar on graph to the right)continues to out-perform the previous five years, with continued upward growth since 2017. This month I thought it would be interesting to also look at the List and Sold prices of homes in our neighborhood compared to the entire 78731 area and all of Austin. As you can see, our homes generally sell for more than other homes in our zip code and significantly more than the rest of Austin. Note that there were no sales in HPWBAN during May, therefore, the gap in the graphic on the middle left.



Sales Prices of Homes in Austin

of 78731 as Sub-set of Austin, and





All data was derived from Austin Board of Realtors[®] MLS. Data reflects listings and sales by member Realtors[®]. Note that off-market/private homes listed and sold by owners are not included in his data. © by Rebecca Wolfe Spratlin of Rebecca Realty, LLC.

2020 Membership Survey Results

HPWBANA members who returned the 2020 Membership Survey continue to feel that Neighborhood Preservation is the most important issue facing the neighborhood, with 23% of respondents listing it as the number one priority followed by Crime at 20%, Traffic at 16%, Pedestrian/Bike Access/Sidewalks at 14%, Wildfire Concerns at 11%, and Parks/Landscape at 7%.

Seventy-six surveys were returned as of October 8, 2020. Seventy respondents indicated their length of residence within HPWBANA. The average length of residence of the respondents is 22.5 years and ranges from a few months to 64 years. Thirty-four respondents support the Constable Patrol with no respondents being opposed.

The results in this year's survey changed from the 2019 Membership Survey where Neighborhood Preservation and Traffic were the number one priority with each receiving 25% of the votes followed by Pedestrian/ Bike Access/Sidewalks at 16%, Crime at 10%, Wildfire Concerns at 9%,

City Services at 8%, and Parks/Landscape at 7%.

Thank You!

Perry & Highland Terrace Triangle Neighbors want to say thank you to Maggie Longley for revitalizing the island that sits at the corner of Perry Lane and Highland Terrace. The island, which had become an eyesore at the entry to our neighborhood, has never looked better. We know Maggie spent a considerable amount of time and energy clearing out the overgrown sage and dead vegetation, as well as planting new lantana and yucca.

The island had become overgrown, and it was becoming difficult to see oncoming traffic while turning onto Perry Lane. With some TLC, the island is now a safer and a more welcoming feature as you enter our wonderful neighborhood. The additions are all drought resistant, and the sage should be maintenance free for the next few years. Thank you Maggie!

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	Traffic		Peds/Bike Access/ Sidewalks		Wildlife Concerns		Parks/ Landscape		Neighborhood Preservation		City Services		Crime	
	11	1 (0)	10	1 (0)	0	110/	-	70/		220/	-	70/		2004
Number of Times Selected as 1	11	16%	10	14%	8	11%)	7%	16	23%)	7%	14	20%
Number of Times Selected as 2	6	11%	8	15%	6	11%	8	15%	12	22%	7	13%	7	13%
Number of Times Selected as 3	7	13%	7	13%	5	9%	10	19%	6	11%	9	17%	9	17%
Number of Times Selected as 4	11	20%	3	6%	6	11%	14	26%	3	6%	12	22%	5	9%
Number of Times Selected as 5	8	16%	6	12%	10	20%	5	10%	7	14%	9	18%	4	8%
Number of Times Selected as 6	8	17%	8	17%	8	17%	5	11%	3	7%	8	17%	5	11%
Number of Times Selected as 7	3	6%	9	19%	11	23%	7	15%	5	10%	6	13%	6	13%
Number of Times X is selected	3	38%	0	0%	1	13%	0	0%	1	13%	1	13%	2	25%

2020 Responses

Instruction: Please rate the following categories from 1-7, 1=greatest interest



Annual Neighborhood Meeting and Election of Directors Scheduled for November 16

Mark your calendars for November 16 for a HPWBANA Annual Meeting using Zoom. HPWBANA will be trying a new approach to the Annual Meeting and Board Election this year. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting emergency declarations, social distancing, and limits on sizes of groups, the Annual Meeting called for in the Association's Bylaws will be held using the Zoom app. Specific meeting information will be shared closer to the date of the meeting.

Four HPWBANA two-year Director positions and another one-year Director position will be up for election to the Board at this annual neighborhood meeting. The Director positions are open to any dues-paying member (\$20 for an individual or \$25 for a household) of HPWBANA. A nominating committee will deliver a report at the Annual Meeting, and any member in good standing may also nominate from the Zoom floor at the meeting.

If you are interested in serving on the HPWBANA Board of Directors, please contact a Board Officer (president@hpwbana. org, secretary@hpwbana.org, vp@hpwbana.org, or treasurer@ hpwbana.org).

For more information about HPWBANA and the Bylaws of the Association:

http://hpwbana.org/resources/hpwbana-bylaws





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Lettuce Recycle! IS THIS MY RECYCLING WEEK? by Dena Houston

In these crazy times of "working at home" and "interesting school schedules", it is often challenging to remember if a particular week is your RECYCLING WEEK, let alone what day it is. Because I am a recycling block leader, my neighbors often look at the cans at my curb to see if it is a recycling week. Therefore, there is a great deal of pressure on me to "get it right". My secret is that every week at 11 AM, the day before trash pick-up day, I get a friendly reminder from the City notifying me of what will be picked up the next day. Here is the website to use so you too can get this helpful reminder: https://www.austintexas.gov/page/my-collection-schedule. Just enter your address, click "Search", and then click "Get a reminder!". The website will then prompt you what to do. HARD PLASTICS

Austin Resource Recovery recycles hard plastics. Some hard plastics do not have a recycling symbol but are recyclable. All metal must be removed from any hard plastic. Hard plastics can go into the blue recycling bin provided the lid can close. Below are examples of hard plastics that can be recycled:

- Cat carriers all metal removed
- Laundry baskets
- Dish pans

• Buckets (including cat litter buckets) – metal handle removed

Hard plastic items that cannot fit into the blue bin can go to the Recycle & Reuse Drop-Off Center. These items include the following:

- Plastic lawn chairs
- Plastic kiddie swimming pools

• Large toys like plastic playground equipment

Special note: PVC pipe cannot be placed in the blue recycling bin. It is however, accepted at the Habitat for Humanity Restore.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

HOW DO I RECYCLE POST-IT NOTES? These can go into your blue curbside recycling bin (as long as they are at least the size of a credit card).

I HAVE A BUNCH OF 3-RING BINDERS. WHAT DO I DO WITH THEM?

The Austin Creative Reuse Center will usually take them. Please call ahead to make sure they have room for them. Here is their website: https://www.austincreativereuse.org/. These would also be great to donate to a local charity.

WHAT DO I DO WITH MY SHREDDED PAPER? Shredded paper cannot not go into your blue recycling bin, even if it is in a paper bag. These bags tend to come apart and leave a mess of shredded paper in their wake. Please put shredded paper into your green compost cart. Be sure it is in a paper bag or compostable bag. Please do not include shredded plastic credit cards in your compost.

Here is a very informative City of Austin recycling website that offers help in finding out how to recycle specific items: http://www.austintexas. gov/what-do-i-do.

Stay tuned for future tips that will include creative ways to recycle or reuse. If you have any questions or recycling ideas, please send them to me at this address: recycling@hpwbana.org.

And all at once, summer collapsed into fall.

- Oscar Wilde

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