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HIGHLAND PARK WEST BALCONES AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

THE HPWBANA NEWS

VOLUME 16, NUMBER 12 • DECEMBER 2020 • WWW.HPWBANA.ORG





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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 November 6, 2020. The constable has begun reporting the range of speeding over the speed limit in his reports: 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, 145 moving violations were for speeds between 10 and 15 miles per hour over the posted speed limit and two moving violations were for speeds 16 miles per hour or more. The constable is reporting that he continues to see more neighbors walking while he is on patrol and cautions walkers to be watching for and avoiding deer aggression/ territory during deer rutting season.

Please note that 77% (215 out of 280) 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.



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

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

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.

We have all been receiving e-mail information and recommendations on the COVID-19 Virus. Resources include:

https://austintexas.gov/COVID19 (City of Austin);

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention);

https://www.nih.gov/health-information/coronavirus (National Institutes of Health); and,

https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/coronavirus/ (Texas Health and Human Services)

And thanks for your continued support.

Be Safe!

Pieter Sybesma, President

Board of Directors

Highland Park West Balcones Neighborhood Association president@hpwbana.org

2605 Buell Ave

HIGHLAND PARK WEST BALCONES AREA NEIGHBORHOOD 2020 SUPPLEMENTAL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS APRIL 1 – NOVEMBER 6, 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.

77% OF TRAFFIC STOPS DO NOT LIVE IN THE HPWBANA AREA



Continued on Page 6

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 park-checked 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 Balcones-speeding 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 Balconesspeeding 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 Hancockspeeding 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 Madronaran 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 Balcones-speeding 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 Balconesspeeding X1/4500 blk Mt. Bonnell-speeding X2/Mt. Bonnell Park-checked 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 Balcones-speeding 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 Perryspeeding 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 Perry-speeding 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

• WED 10/14 HP Neighborhood Patrol from 7am to 9am/3200 blk Hancock-speeding X2/3300 blk Perry-speeding X2/school zone 7:30a to 8am-no issues/3900 blk Balcones-speeding X1/Balcones at Madrona-ran stop sign X1/roving radar/Traffic patrol

• THU 10/15 HP Neighborhood Patrol from 6:45am to 9am/3200 blk Hancock-speeding X2/school zone 7:30am to 8am-No issues/roving thru area east of Mopac/3300 blk Perty-speeding X1/Balcones at Madrona-ran stop sign X3/home owner contact-wanted info on emergency vehicles on call around Mount Bonnell last night

• MON 10/19 HP Neighborhood Patrol from 6:45am to 9am/roving patrol thru HP-Large Buck chasing doe in roadway on valley oak at Perry/3200 blk Hancock-speeding X4/school zone from 7:30am to 8am/3300 blk Perry-large buck has moved up to 3300 blk Perry chasing doe./watched for pedestrians walking down perry/safety concern. Buck had moved near roadway and next to bushes. I had several people out walking with kinds and dogs, move to the other side of the roadway. Safety concern: Large 8-point buck on Perry Ln./ assisted teacher with issue at front check point area/assisted crossing guard with parking issue

• MON 10/19 HP Patrol from 2pm to 6pm/school zone 2:35-3:25pm X2 warnings for blocking a driveway, car blocking Fairview at crosswalk, driver ran out of gas, I assisted driver with getting the vehicle going again./3200 blk Hancock-speeding X3/Balcones at Madrona/Perry-ran stop sign X4/Balcones at Mount Bonnell-ran Stop Sign X2/3900 blk Balcones-speeding X2/flagged down in the 3400 blk Mount Barker-how owner asking about hearing lots of gun fire coming from Covert Park at approx 1am

• TUE 10/27 Highland Park Neighborhood patrol 2pm to 6pm/roving radar patrol on Hancock-speeding X0/school zone 2:45p to 3:18pm/3300 blk Perry-speeding X1/3900 blk Balcones-speeding X2/4000 blk Mount Bonnell-speeding X2/Balcones at Mount Bonnell-ran stop sign X3/Balcones at Madrona-ran stop sign X3/Fairview Dr.-I met with homeowner that had damage to his vehicle he requested I take a look at. I looked over the damage and talked with owner.

• TUE 11/3 Highland Park Neighborhood patrol 6:45am to 9am/3200 blk Hancockspeeding X2/school zone X3 blocking disabled ramp and driveway/Ridge Oak Park-check ok/3900 blk Balcones-speeding X1/Mount Bonnell at Balcones-ran stop sign X2/3300 blk Perry-speeding X1/Balcones at Madrona-ran stop sign X1

• THU 11/5 Highland Park Neighborhood patrol 6:45a-9am/3300 blk Perry-speeding X1/school zone X2-blocking disabled ramp/driveway/3900 blk Hancock-speeding X2/ Balcones at Madrona-ran stop sign X3/3900 blk Balcones-speeding X1//Balcones at Mount Bonnell-ran stop sign X2/talked with const supv. On Fairview at Perry



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MINUTES Highland Park West Balcones Area Neighborhood Association Board Meeting September 28, 2020 Zoom, 6:30 p.m.

In attendance: Bill Hyland, Dawn Lewis, Mike Levy, Jason Lindenschmidt, Bill McMillin, George Zwicker

Not attending: Piet Sybesma, Rebecca Spratlin

4509 Balcones Addition: Neighbor Carla Temblay, who lives in a home built by renowned architect David Graeber, wanted to make an addition to her home. Her initial request was rejected by the Historic Landmark Commission, who said her addition needs to be in alignment with the work created by David Graeber, as her home has historic landmark designation. Ms. Temblay wants to add 800 square feet to the 1800 square feet and asked for support from the HPWBANA. After reviewing her plans, the board discussed it. Board member Lewis recommended the board write a letter in support, and the motion was seconded by Board Member Levy. It was unanimously approved.

Discuss and Approve November 16 as date for Annual Meeting: The board discussed possible topics for the annual meeting and agreed to the wildfire presentation and to host it on November 16th. That motion was recommended by Board Member McMillin and seconded by Board Member Zwicker. It passed unanimously.

Discuss and Approve co-sponsoring with West Austin Neighborhood Group, BrykerWoods Neighborhood Association and Northwest Austin Civic Association a District 10 City Council Candidate Forum on October 4 and a Project Connect Bond Election Forum on October 12 using Zoom. The board discussed the two Forums that they will be cosponsoring: HPWBANA will be co-hosting a District 10 Candidate forum on October 4th with other neighborhood associations and a forum on Project Connect with NWACA on October 12th. Questions for both forums will be solicited in advance and asked by the facilitator.

Consider Budget Amendments to the 2020 HPWBANA Budget: Treasurer Zwicker asked that the board amend the current budget to include reimbursement to Board Member McMillin for Zoom expenses. The motion was carried by Board Member Hyland and seconded by Board Member Levy. It passed unanimously.

New Board Members: Vice President Lindenschmidt noted that the HPWBANA board needs new members. The annual meeting is when new members are re-elected. Board members Lewis and Lindenschmidt are up for reelection.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer George Zwicker reported that we have \$15,948.54 currently in the Association account. This year there was no money used for special events as they were postponed due to COVID. Board members held a brief discussion about how those monies could be reallocated in ways that would support our neighborhood.

Presidents Report: Vice President Lindenschmidt noted that the The League of Women Voters is sponsoring a District 10 Council Candidate forum on September 26th at 6:00 p.m.

Membership Reports. Vice President Lindenschmidt reported that the membership letter has gone out. Currently there are 158 memberships, including family and individual, with a total of 290 people represented. There are no 2020 business memberships at this time, and there was discussion about how to boost members. The bylaws include membership structure for fees for residential and business membership. The board decided that reviewing those bylaws would be helpful and decided to create a committee to review the bylaws and report back to the board on recommendations. The committee will look into the bylaws to see if other changes outside of membership might be recommended.

Communication: Board Member Levy reported that the newsletter will promote forums. Pam Keller is working with Peel to ensure the constable report and other articles are included on a regular basis. There is always a need for articles.

Minutes were interrupted as Secretary had to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Lewis, Secretary

HPWBANA



Highland Park Water and Wastewater Improvements Project

Project Update—November 4, 2020

Installation of new water lines on Hart Lane has been temporary postponed because of conflicts with existing utilities. The crews will return to Hart Lane several times to finish the work.

Work has moved to the intersection of Balcones and 2222. Crews will bore under 2222 to install a new water line under the road. Lane closures are in place on Balcones Drive north and south of the intersection with 2222. This work is expected to take about one month to complete. Please use caution when driving in this area and observe all traffic control signs.

Project Information

Website: austintexas.gov/highlandpark

Project Overview

The Highland Park Water & Wastewater Improvement Project is being planned to construct a second water line to feed into the area. The project will run about three miles from Far West Blvd. to Crestway Drive with much of the work being done along Balcones Drive.

Water line breaks are well documented in this area, and the existing 12-inch line is a dead-end and not connected or looped with other water lines. The new 16-inch line will improve water service and fire protection in the area and allow for the decommissioning of an antiquated pump station and reservoir located on Ridge Oak Drive.

Project Phasing

The project will be constructed in two phases:

•Phase 1: From Far West Blvd. to Northland Drive (RM 2222) is scheduled for construction in 2020.

Approximate construction duration is three years.

•Phase 2: From Northland Drive (RM 2222) to Crestway/Mount Barker Drive will begin construction as Phase 1 nears completion. Approximate construction duration is three years.

Avoid a Deer-Car Collision How to steer clear of a common, large-and moving-hazard

As the deer populations grow and urban habitats continue to encroach upon rural environments, there has been an increase in deer-car collisions—over half a million a year, with a significant number of fatalities.

Deer-vehicle collisions are dangerous and costly so, though collision with an animal is covered under the comprehensive portion of your auto insurance policy, it's always preferable to avoid an accident in the first place.

To avoid hitting a deer, use these defensive driving tips

• Be especially attentive during peak deer hours. From sunset to midnight and during the hours shortly before and after sunrise are the highest risk times for deer-vehicle collisions

• Use extra caution when driving through deer-crossing zones. Also be especially careful in places known to have a large deer population and in areas where roads divide agricultural fields from forestland.

• Know that deer seldom run alone. If you see one deer, others may be nearby.

• Use high beam headlights if driving at night, when there is no oncoming traffic. The higher light will better illuminate the eyes of deer on or near the roadway.

• Slow down and blow your horn with one long blast to frighten the deer away.

• Brake firmly but stay in your lane when you notice a deer in or near your path. Many serious crashes occur when drivers swerve to avoid a deer and hit another vehicle or lose control of their cars.

• Always wear your seat belt. Most people injured in car-deer crashes were not wearing their seat belt.

• **Do not rely on deer-deterring devices.** Deer whistles, deer fences and reflectors have not been proven to reduce deer-vehicle collisions.

• If your vehicle strikes a deer, do not touch the animal. A frightened and wounded deer can hurt you or further injure itself. The best procedure is to get your car off the road, if possible, and call the police.

• In the event a deer damages your car contact your insurance agent or company representative to report the incident.

Insurance Information Institute December 5, 2018 https://www.iii.org/article/avoid-a-deer-car-collision



The pandemic has forever changed many of our shopping habits. Online shopping has become the "go to" for many of us for safety as well as convenience. Online shopping, however, creates all kinds of recycling challenges. My holiday gift to you is some guidelines to help with this recycling process.

• BROWN MAILING ENVELOPES LINED WITH BUBBLE WRAP OR ANY OTHER TYPE OF PADDING – Place in the trash can. They are mixed materials that cannot be separated for recycling.

• PLASTIC MAILING ENVELOPES LINED WITH BUBBLE WRAP – Take these to the plastic bag collection bins.

• BROWN PACKING PAPER - This goes into the recycling bin.

• BUBBLE WRAP AND AIR PILLOWS – These go into the plastic bag collection bins. Remove the air from the air pillows. Bubble wrap in good condition can go to mail packaging stores. Call ahead of time to be sure they have space for them.

• CARDBOARD BOXES – These go into the recycling bin. If there are more boxes than will fit in the bin with the lid closed, they can be folded and set next to your blue bin. They will be picked up at no extra charge.

• CELLOPHANE – This goes into the trash can.

• CRINKLE CUT PAPER - Like shredded paper, it cannot go into your recycling bin, but instead can go into your green compost can. Please put in a paper or compostable bag.

• STYROFOAM – Blocks, chunks, meat trays, takeout containers, sheets, and pouches are accepted at the Recycle & Reuse Drop-Off Center (RRDOC).

• STYROFOAM PEANUTS – Shipping peanuts are not accepted at the RRDOC. Mail packaging stores will take these. Call ahead of time to be sure they have space for them.

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SHOAL CREEK DENTAL CARE 8015 Shoal Creek Blvd., Suite 120 512.453.8181 www.shoalcreekdental.com • TISSUE PAPER AND WRAPPING PAPER – This can go into the recycling bin. Wrapping paper with glitter or foil is not recyclable; put it in the trash can.

• GIFT BAGS – Glossy gift bags or any with glitter or flocking goes into the trash can.

• HOLIDAY CARDS – Cards without glitter or foil can go into the recycling bin.

• RIBBON AND BOWS – These go into the trash can.

RESPONSE TO PLASTICS ARTICLE FROM NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO

Many of my Lettuce Recycle readers contacted me about a recent story on NPR about plastic recycling. Here is the link to that story: https://www.npr. org/2020/09/11/897692090/how-big-oil-misled-the-public-into-believing-plastic-would-be-recycled. Ken Snipes, the director of Austin Resource Recovery, responded to that article. Following is the link to his response:

http://www.austintexas.gov/blog/recycling-austin-remains-resilient-during-covid-19.

QUESTION FROM A READER

CAN I COMPOST OR RECYCLE DISPOSABLE MASKS? No. They are made with non-woven materials and elastic, neither of which will compost. These must go into the trash.

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.

If you have any questions or recycling ideas, please send them to: recycling@hpwbana.org.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL OF MY WONDERFUL READERS AND TO THE AWESOME NEWSLETTER EDITORS WHO PUBLISH LETTUCE RECYCLE!

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