



nwaca

NORTHWEST AUSTIN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

2025 Annual Neighborhood Meeting  
March 26, 2025

# Agenda

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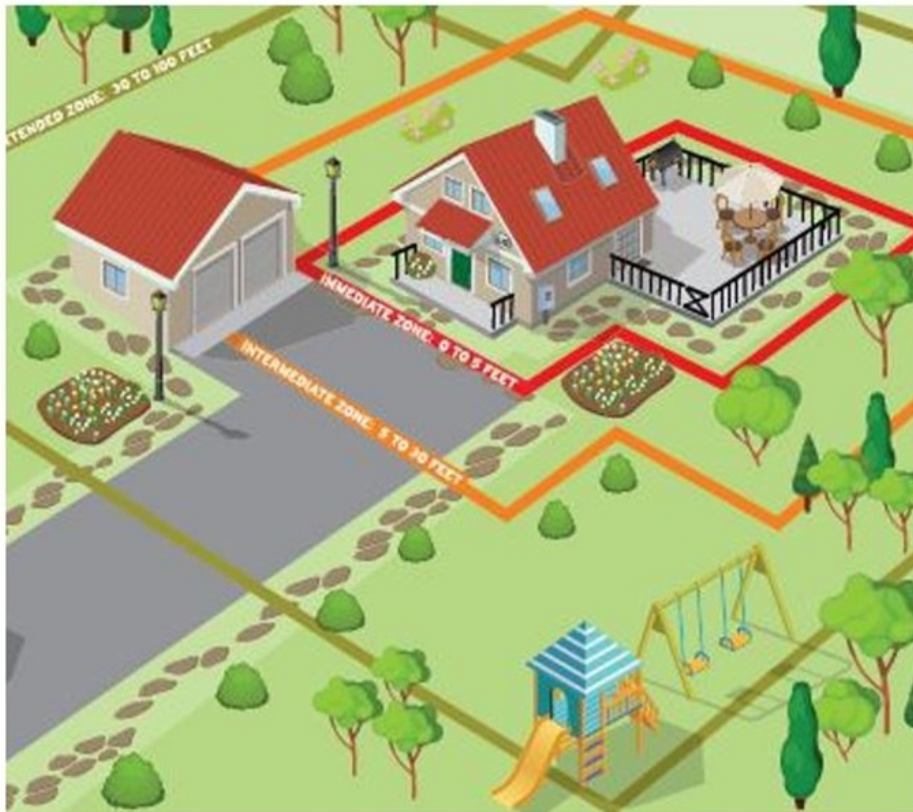


- 6:30 Joyce Statz – NWACA President
  - Meeting Format and Focus, NWACA items
- 6:40 Marc Duchon, D10 Councilmember
- 6:55 Carrie Stewart, AFD Wildfire Division Chief
- 7:05 Craig Brooks, Austin Energy
- 7:15 Justin Bates, Austin Water
- 7:25 Matt McCaw, Austin Parks and Recreation
- 7:35 Joyce Statz
  - Highlights at the tables

# Our Focus: Wildfire Mitigation



Home Ignition Zone - home and surrounding 100-foot area



**Zone 1 - Immediate Zone:  
0 to 5 feet from home**

**Zone 2 - Intermediate Zone:  
5 to 30 feet from home**

**Zone 3 - Extended Zone:  
30 to 100 feet from home**

*For Central Texas, though, this graphic needs oak trees in the yard and near the house for shade! And, they're good!*

# NWACA Board 2024-2026

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- Bart Arnold
- Christopher Bove
- Vicki DeWeese
- Carol Dochen
- Mike Harreld
- Megan Helmbrecht
- Kevin Kott
- Naresh Kumar
- Mae Levitan
- Ben Luckens
- Teri Schock
- Joyce Statz
- Lori Steinberg
- Julie Waidelich
- Dana Winer

# NWACA Events in 2025



- Property Tax Protest Forum – April 9 6:30 p.m.
- Recycling (for NWACA members)
  - Batteries, Oil, Paint, Antifreeze, Styrofoam® - May 10, noon – 2 p.m.
  - Paper and Computer Disk Shredding – August 16, 2-4 p.m.
  - Batteries, Electronics, Styrofoam® – October 18, noon to 2 p.m. (tentative)
- Mick Koffend Earth Day Festival – April 27, 2-4 p.m. (Hill Elementary)
  - Includes free paper shredding for all
- Murchison Pool Opening – Kona Ice – date TBD
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July – Parade and Freedom Fest (back to Far West/ Doss)
- Neighborhood National Night Out – block parties in the fall
- Neighborhood-wide Garage Sales – September 27, 8 a.m. to noon
- Halloween Yard Decorating Contest – judging late October
- Holiday Yard Decorating Contest – judging late December
- Park and Trail cleanups throughout the year on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays

# Special Project Funding

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- Funds available for projects benefitting NWACA
  - Applications due March 15, September 15
  - Board reviews/decides in subsequent Board meeting
- Two funded in the March cycle
  - Styrofoam recycling container at Anderson HS
  - Dog poop stations at trailheads – Steck Valley Greenbelt
- Consider applying in September
- Examples from past years
  - Recycling bins at local parks; bike repair stations at local elementary schools; portions of Anderson High band trailer, Murchison Community Gardens, ...

# NWACA Communications

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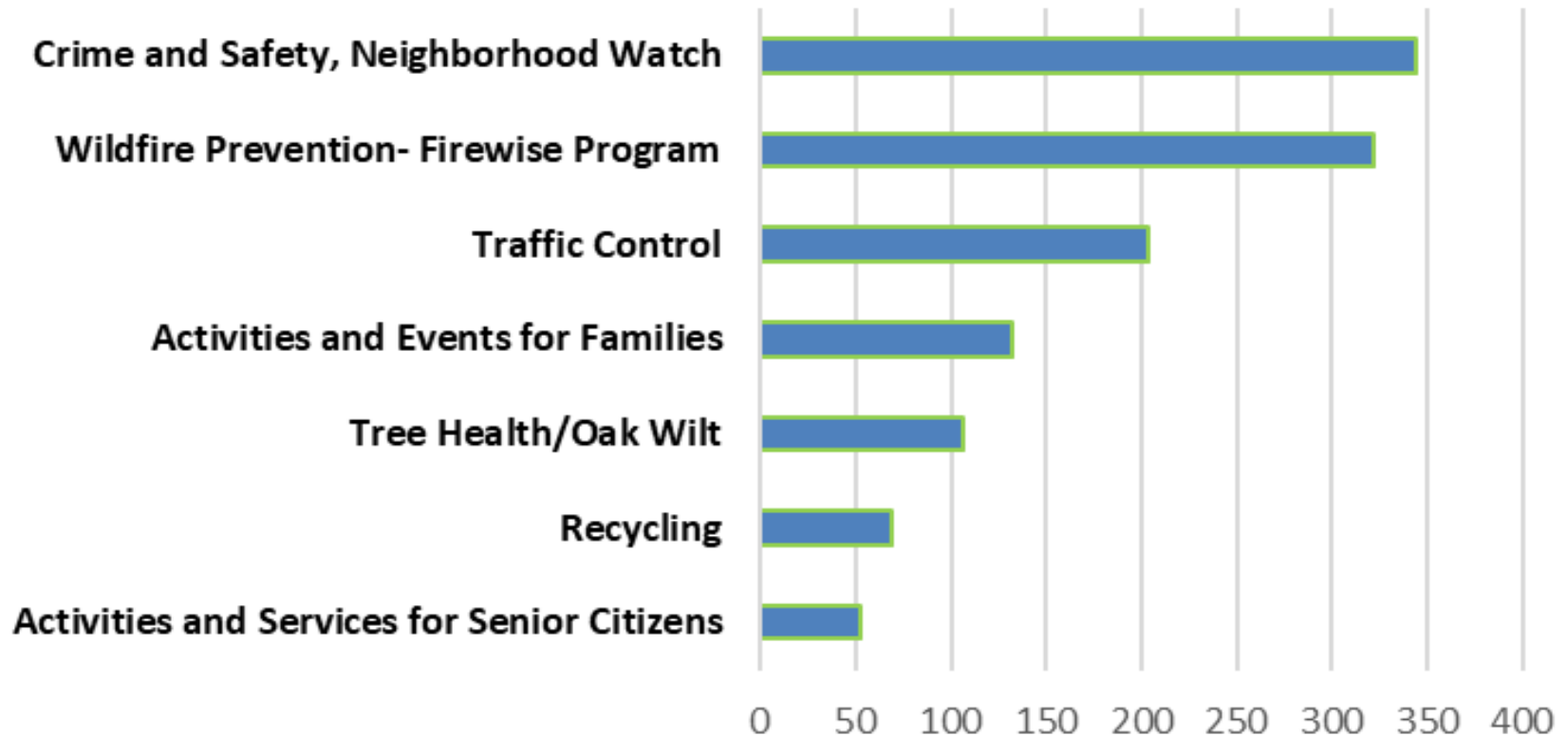
- Continuing to inform you via our media
  - Monthly print newspaper via US mail
  - Weekly NWACA Notes email for members of NWACA
  - Facebook group for members of NWACA
  - [www.nwaca.org](http://www.nwaca.org) web site for current notices and an archive of information
- Annual survey of neighborhood interest
  - Full report on web site and in April monthly newspaper
  - Highlights follow

# Survey Results – Areas for NWACA Board to Work on



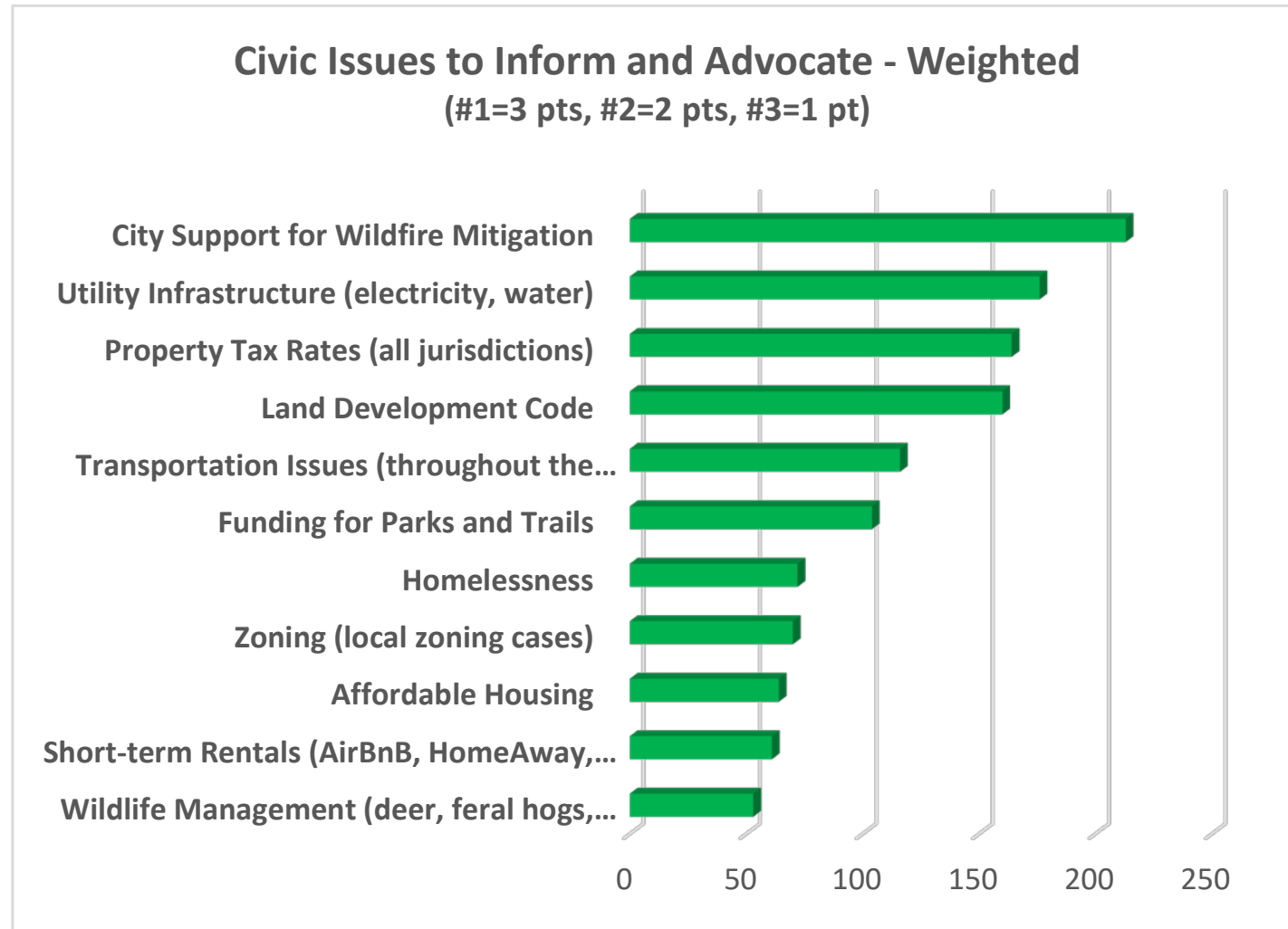
## Most Important Areas to Address Weighted

(#1=3 pts, #2= 2 pts, #3=1 pt)





# Civic Issues for NWACA Board to Inform and Advocate



# More Details on NWACA Coming

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- But first, we will hear from
  - Councilmember Marc Duchen
  - Carrie Stewart, AFD Wildfire Chief
  - Craig Brooks, Austin Energy
  - Justin Bates, Austin Water
  - Matt McCaw, Austin Parks and Recreation
- They will also be at the relevant table after the presentations – I'll give you specifics later.

# Marc Duchen— D10 Councilmember



- Elected November 2024
- We suggested he address
  - Wildfire concerns
  - City Council response
- Land Development Code
  - Latest changes
  - Council plans, upcoming items
- Other items he considers key

# Chief Carrie Stewart, AFD Wildfire Division

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- AFD Wildfire Division
  - 23 years at AFD
  - Chief of the Wildfire Division
  - Has worked in active wildfires and has trained many fire fighters to do their work
- We asked her to focus on lessons learned about hardening our homes

# Craig Brooks, Austin Energy



- Electric System Field Operations  
Director of Support Services
- 26 years experience in electric utility business at all levels
- Deep experience responding to disasters, including hurricanes Katrina, Ike, and Harvey
- We asked him to address:
  - What is being done in support of wildfire mitigation?
  - How is Austin Energy property being managed for wildfire?

# Justin Bates, Austin Water



- Division Manager, Wildland Conservation (30 people)
- Oversees lands from Cedar Park to Hays County
- Previously with National Park Service, Supt. for LBJ National Historical Park and Waco Mammoth National Monument
- We asked him talk about wildfire mitigation by Austin Water

# Matt McCaw, Austin Parks and Recreation

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- We asked him to address:
  - Handling wildfire fuel on PARD property (more than 12,500 acres of land)
  - General land management plans
  - Recent contracts for fuels mitigation – what those will do
  - How can residents collaborate when their property is next to PARD property? Can we help remove fuel from PARD property?



# Next: Visit the Tables

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- Civic Entities Tables
  - Austin Energy – see Craig Brooks
  - Austin Resource Recovery
  - Austin Water, Water Conservation, Wildland Management – see Justin Bates
  - 183 North Mobility Project
  - Spicewood Springs Road Improvement Project
- Snacks and Water Table
- NWACA Committee Tables



# Wildfire Prevention Committee

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- See Steve Kline to sign up for a free wildfire risk evaluation for your home
  - Make your home insurable – so you can keep it insured, be able to sell it someday
  - Find the simplest things you can do to get started, to harden your home
- Pick up brochures on being Firewise
- Visit with Chief Stewart and other AFD Wildfire Division representatives

# Parks Committee

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- Learn about all the parks and trails in this area
  - See a map of where they are
  - Pick up a description
- Regular trail work in Steck Valley Greenbelt
  - Join the crew – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday mornings
- Regular Bull Creek District Park cleanups
  - Join the crew – 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday mornings
- Visit with Matt McCaw

# Civic Engagement Committee

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- Talk with Councilmember Marc Duchen and his staff
- Talk with Louisa Brinsmade from the Mayor's office
- Meet Jocelyn Tau, District Director, Office of Congressman Lloyd Doggett

# Transportation Committee Table

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- Yard signs for Vision Zero
- Vision Zero handout
- Visit with Austin Transportation and Public Works Department representatives
  - Want more 25 mph signs on our streets?
  - Recent sidewalk work
  - Hart Lane/Spicewood Springs Road intersection



# Crime and Safety Committee

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- Get information about Neighborhood Watch
- Learn about National Night Out Block Parties
- Parking in Bike Lanes now subject to fines
  - Parking in bike lanes after June 1 can result in a fine: early payment fine of \$50 or a \$75 standard fine
  - Commercial vehicle loading or unloading in a bike lane could result in a \$150 early payment fine and a \$300 standard fine
- Visit with Travis County Pct 2 Officer DeLeon

- Ask Zoning and Land Development Questions
  - Projects under discussion and planning
    - 7201 Hart Lane – Apartment Complex
    - 7304 Knox Lane – historic building on site; new homes planned
  - Projects approved and awaiting next steps
    - 3525 Far West (old Frost Bank property) – mixed use development
    - 8200-8300 North Mopac – Oak Point development
    - 4920 Spicewood Springs Road – multi-family (aka Overlook)
    - 8176 Mopac (old Luby's site) – apartment complex

# And More Committees to Visit

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- Check out these, too!
  - Events Committee
    - 4<sup>th</sup> of July – register a float or sign up to help
    - Earth Day – sign up to help
  - Communications Committee
    - Interested in writing articles?
  - Tree, Wildlife, and Environment Committee – info on oak wilt, recycling events

# Thank you for coming!

- See you again soon!
  - Mick Koffend Earth Day Festival – April 27
  - Spring BOPA Recycling – May 10
  - Murchison Pool – summer opening date TBD
  - 4<sup>th</sup> of July
  - Shred event August 16
  - Neighborhood garage sales September 27
  - Electronics recycling October 18 (tentative)

