

Galindo Neighborhood Association News



About GENA

The Galindo Elementary Neighborhood Association (“GENA”) seeks to improve the quality of life in the neighborhood through active participation in civic and community initiatives.

GENA represents a diverse community of residents and property owners within the boundaries of Oltorf St (N), Ben White (S), the Union Pacific Railway (W) and S 1st St (E).

We are an entirely volunteer based organization, made up of individuals who love Galindo and want to see it continue to thrive.

To find out more or get involved, visit us online and come by the next neighborhood meetings on Monday May 20th and Monday July 22nd. Neighbors gather at 6:45pm, the meeting begins at 7:00pm.

www.gena.org

Welcome!

Hi Neighbors -

Welcome to GENA’s first entirely digital newsletter! We are so grateful to our new communication chair Heather Nelson for her expertise and patience in bringing our website and newsletter up to date. Many thanks to the rest of GENA’s executive committee and to the many other neighbors who volunteer their time to improve our park and neighborhood.

Many of you may have seen my letter regarding the city’s push to approve an Equitable Transit Oriented Development overlay for transit corridors like South 1st St. If you haven’t called the Mayor and CM Velasquez yet regarding the HOME and ETOD amendments that will be at City Council on May 16th, 2024 at 10:00 am, **PLEASE DO SO NOW!** Each new version gets progressively worse as it winds its way through the city commissions on its way to city council.

- Mayor Kirk Watson – 512.978.2100 / kirk.watson@austintexas.gov
- José Velásquez – 512.978.2103 / jose.velasquez@austintexas.gov

Ask the Mayor to uphold his campaign promise to include neighborhoods in the discussion and planning of this major revamp of Austin’s development code. Request the council postpone these amendments until the neighborhoods and public have a chance to fully examine how increased height entitlements, lowered compatibility standards, increased impervious cover and no required parking will impact our neighborhoods and city.

We also need everyone who can to show up on May 16th, 2024 at City Hall for this important hearing. Registration for the hearing will begin on Monday May 13th, 2024 at 10:00 am. If you’d like to speak you can do so remotely or in person. You’ll have 3 minutes to address the council. Or, just register your opinion as for/against or neutral. One can register online until noon the day before the meeting at austintexas.gov on the [Council Meeting Information Center page](#). In person registration is allowed the day of the hearing on May 16th, 2024.

Please join us at our May 20th, 2024 general membership meeting at South Austin Recreation Center at 7:00pm. We’ll have a presentation from WAYMO about what to expect as they deploy their fleet of self-driving cars in the neighborhood. We’ll also have an update on the May 16th meeting at City Hall. If you’ve never attended a GENA meeting it is a great place to meet your neighbors and find out what’s happening in the hood. Hope to see you all then!

Patty Sprinkle, GENA President



Meetings

General Member Meetings are open to the public and held every other month at **South Austin Recreation Center**, 1100 Cumberland Rd.

Dues are \$20 per residence per calendar year to be a voting member.

Upcoming Meetings:
May 20, 2024
July 22, 2024

GENA Officers (2024)

Board

President: Patty Sprinkle
Vice-President: Marshall Davis
Secretary: Cindy Trucksis
Treasurer: Lori Perry
Communications: Heather Nelson
South Central Coalition:
Lisa McGiffert

Committee Leads

Parks: Sev Coursen

Contact

Let's get in touch! To share input, ideas, or feedback:

W: www.gena.org

E: newsletter@gena.org

A: PO Box 41232 Austin TX 78704

Facebook:

[facebook.com/groups/
GalindoNeighborhoodAssociation](https://facebook.com/groups/GalindoNeighborhoodAssociation)

www.gena.org

Winter News Roundup

Here's what has happened in the 'hood since the January newsletter:

- HOME Phase 1 went into effect on February 5th. The final vote for HOME Phase 2 will occur on May 16th at City Hall. More information is available in Patty's letter (page 1) and on gena.org.
- South Austin Recreation Center held an Open House on February 24th to highlight its facilities and programs. GENA was also in attendance along with other community and recreational groups.
- On Saturday March 2nd, the Adopters of West Bouldin Creek sponsored a clean up of the creek on the west border of Galindo for *It's My Park Day*.
- The *Healthy Streets* initiative approved closing off a portion of Galindo to non-local car traffic in the Southwood subdivision, north of the park. The pilot, which was approved on February 7th, will run for 6 months. At the end of the pilot there will be an evaluation of its success and next steps.
- We had 2 elections!
 - The Primary election was held on March 5th; our precinct (416) had a **9%** turnout rate.
 - A Local election was held on May 4th; our precinct (416) had a **5%** turnout rate. Jett Hanna, Shenghao "Daniel" Wang, and Dick Lavine were elected to the Travis Central Appraisal District's board of directors.

Spotlight On: Galindo

Right: Rolando Piña, the first GENA president, poses with the "OUT INS NOW" sign—one of GENA's first initiatives.

While it may be hard to believe, our beloved neighborhood was not fully annexed into Austin until 1951! It was around that time that new subdivisions were developed on these former "outskirts" of Austin, and explains many of the 1950's style homes that characterize the neighborhood to this day.

In 1996, the Galindo Elementary Neighborhood Association (GENA) was formed. It was started by a group of concerned neighbors who realized the need to organize in order to address challenges the neighborhood was facing.

Read more in "Part 1" of Galindo's history at gena.org/history.

What do you remember about Galindo's history? We want to hear your stories! Contact us at communications@gena.org.

Let's Stay in Touch

Did you know that we post regular updates on our website at gena.org and on our Facebook group at [facebook.com/groups/
GalindoNeighborhoodAssociation](https://facebook.com/groups/GalindoNeighborhoodAssociation)? Join or subscribe to stay in the loop on important updates that affect you.



See You in the Neighborhood!