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# CRESTVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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June 2017

## Joint Crestview and Brentwood Neighborhood Association Meeting

### MAYOR STEVE ADLER AND CODENEXT

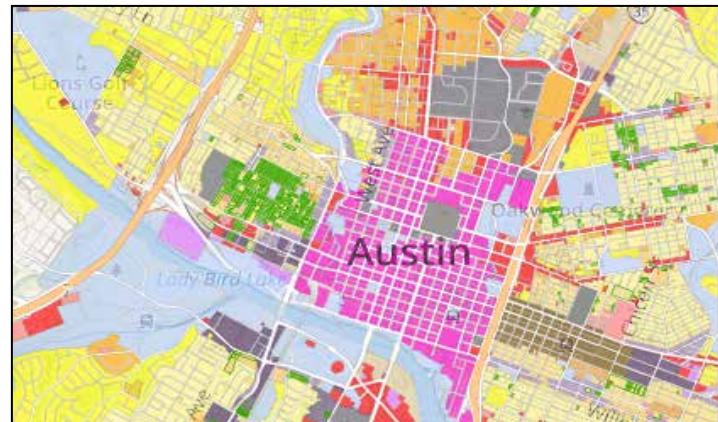
The June CNA meeting will be a rare opportunity to interact with Austin's Mayor Steve Adler as he comes to our neighborhood to talk about the proposed land development code (LDC) called CodeNEXT, the city's 1,100 page document that governs everything that is built in Austin and, as a result, impacts every citizen and their quality of life in a myriad of ways.

In a recent editorial written by the Mayor and published by the Austin American Statesman, the Mayor wrote: "For starters, let's agree we will not force density in the middle of neighborhoods. There's no sense in shoving density where it would ruin the character of the city we're trying to save in the first place—where it's not wanted by its neighbors and where we would never get enough of the additional housing supply we need anyway."

However, a review of the current CodeNEXT draft reveals the following: That the new code allows a 50% minimum increase in density for most lots in Crestview with corner lots allowed much more. Lots that now have one single-family home will be allowed three housing units while corner lots may have six units.

So there's a disconnect between what the Mayor is saying and what the new code allows. In addition to dramatic density increases, another impact the code will have on our neighborhood involves parking. Residential parking requirements, now two off-street spaces for every house, will be cut in half with only one required space. So with three houses per lot potentially having 6 or more cars with only 3 spaces, there will be more cars parked along the street, making the streets more difficult to drive and less safe for our children. Commercial parking requirements for retail stores and medical offices have been reduced even more. For example, under the new code, any retail outlet or medical office with less than 2,500 square feet will not be required to have any parking. For neighborhoods like Crestview that are nearly surrounded by commercial corridors with small retail outlets, this means that residential streets will serve as parking facilities.

At a recent neighborhood meeting in Hyde Park, the Mayor told the crowd that we shouldn't pass anything if it's not right, that he was working to get people involved and that he wouldn't endorse the current draft code or the new zoning maps. He said that Transect 3 (proposed zoning for most of Crestview) should be the same as the current SF-3. And if that were not the case, then Transect 3 (T3) is a mistake. According to most people who have reviewed the code, T3 is



Crestview/Brentwood Neighborhood Association Meeting

Wednesday, June 21, 7:00 PM  
Faith Lutheran Church Activity Center  
6600 Woodrow Ave.

very different from the current SF-3, both in density and uses expanded beyond residential.

This meeting on June 21st is our opportunity to convey to the Mayor that adopting CodeNEXT as it is will have irreversible repercussions in our neighborhood: increased taxes, more flooding, additional traffic, gentrification and displacement of many of the current residents and increased demolitions to name just a few. In addition, many other changes will result from the new code including loss of compatibility standards, reduced public notice and enhanced staff discretion on land use decisions.

It has been suggested, given the magnitude of changes involved with CodeNEXT, that we take the time to get it right, to have a code with broad citizen support. This meeting is our chance to ask the Mayor to honor the statement he made above in his editorial, to not shove density where it would ruin the character of the city. And it's the Mayor's opportunity to explain how he intends to keep his word and to describe a path forward with real citizen engagement.

After brief opening remarks, the Mayor will be answering questions prepared by the steering committees of the CNA and the BNA. There will also be time for audience comments and questions.

For more information or questions about the meeting—or if you would like to become more involved in this issue, please contact me at [austinchip@hotmail.com](mailto:austinchip@hotmail.com). Additional CodeNEXT information is available at [www.communitynotcommodity.com](http://www.communitynotcommodity.com).

Thank you, Chip Harris

# CRESTVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

is published monthly on 100% recycled paper by the Crestview Neighborhood Association (CNA).

For information and to submit articles contact:

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## CNA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

|                |                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| PRESIDENT      | Mike Lavigne             |
| VICE PRESIDENT | Anne-Charlotte Patterson |
| SECRETARY      | Nancy Mohn Barnard       |
| TREASURER      | Nancy Harris             |
| NEWS EDITOR    | Chip Harris              |
| Place 1        | Elaine Stegant           |
| Place 2        | Clark Cornwell           |
| Place 3        | Chris Lippincott         |
| Place 4        | Roland Rodriguez         |

## CNA Contact Information

P. O. Box 9505, Austin, TX 78766  
[www.crestviewna.com](http://www.crestviewna.com)

CNA General Meetings are held the second Monday of every month at 7:00 PM.  
Location to be announced.

Twitter: @CNAneighbors  
Facebook: CrestviewNeighborhoodAssociation

Neighborhood Email Groups  
[crestview-neighbors@yahooogroups.com](mailto:crestview-neighbors@yahooogroups.com)  
[crestview\\_forsale@yahooogroups.com](mailto:crestview_forsale@yahooogroups.com)  
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## CNA Committees

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# May CNA Election Results

With a good turnout for the annual May election, the Crestview Neighborhood Association filled seven officer positions up for election. Terms for the remaining two positions, secretary and newsletter editor, don't end until May of 2018. Here are the current officers of the association:

Mike Lavigne was elected President after serving as Vice-President this past year.

Mike's other volunteer endeavors include serving as an Executive Board Member on the Austin Neighborhoods Council, the Austin Creative Alliance, Save Our City Austin and the Contact Team. Mike is a government and public relations consultant with experience in both houses of the state legislature and numerous political campaigns. He's been a freelance consultant for over ten years now. He and his wife have lived in their Crestview home since 2002 and they have a daughter at Brentwood Elementary. He says he volunteered for the CNA because he "wants to help his neighbors have their voices heard at city hall".

Anne-Charlotte Patterson, after serving as an officer in Place 2 the past two years, was elected to be Vice-President. She has lived in Crestview with her family since 2003 and is a design and marketing professional who works primarily with clients in the education and healthcare spaces. In addition to handling digital communications for CNA, Anne-Charlotte serves as communications director for the local non-profit CLAWstin.

Nancy Mohn Barnard, who was reelected last year, will begin her third year as Secretary. Barnard has been an active Crestview resident for over nine years. In addition to founding the Violet Crown Community theatre, she has helped organize neighborhood events like the Violet Crown Spring Festival, CNA ice cream social and the IGA Farewell party. Recently she has become involved in the Crestview Safety Coalition.

Nancy Harris was elected Treasurer. She is a long time Crestview resident who has been actively involved in CNA activities for many years. However, she recently donned the mantle of an officer for the first time when she stepped in to fill the vacant Place 3 position a few months ago. Her new position as Treasurer is a two-year term.

Chip Harris will begin the second year of his two-year term as Newsletter Editor.

Elaine Stegant was reelected for a third term in Place 1. She has been a Crestview resident since 1999 and says she "absolutely loves the neighborhood." Elaine has two children who both attend Brentwood Elementary and in her spare time plays golf.

Clark Cornwell was elected to place 2. Clark and his wife Michelle moved into Crestview in 2007 having lived in other parts of Austin, including Brentwood, for over 20 years. Clark is committed to keeping Crestview the best neighborhood in Austin, the one we all know and love.

Chris Lippincott, who has lived in Crestview since 2005, was elected to Place 3. He is a public affairs consultant with experience in transportation, financial services, and higher education. Chris has worked in the public and private sector and on behalf of nonprofit organizations. He is a graduate of the University of Texas and has lived in Austin for most of the last 25 years. Chris looks forward to bringing his experience with mobility and public safety issues to the table while he serves on the board of the neighborhood association. He and his wife are raising their two children on a steady diet of Little Deli pizza and Top Notch burgers and chicken.

Roland Rodriguez will begin his third year in Place 4. He and his wife Mary bought their first home in Crestview in 1993. Roland is Director of Strategic Sourcing at Wincor Nixdorf Inc, Co-Chair for the Rodeo Austin, chairperson for the Anderson High School Landscape Committee and has coached baseball at NAO Little League.

Thanks to the retiring officers, Dave Considine as President and Ali Thompson as Treasurer, for all of their time and energy devoted to the Association!



# From the President

## Howdy Neighbor!

The CNA recently held elections and I'm excited to begin my term as President. We've got a great executive committee comprised of some new faces and some experienced hands. We've inherited a healthy and strong organization thanks to the steady hand of past president Dave Conidine and the Executive Committee he led for the last two years.

### By way of introduction, here's a little about myself

I've lived in Crestview for about 15 years. My wife and I moved here because we dug the funky vibe of what was still kind of a sleepy neighborhood. The Violet Crown Festival was in its first year; we were in our mid 20's and had more fun than cents. We knew we'd grow our family one day and being near a good public school would be a plus. We grew to love our neighbors, young and old. We met some of our closest friends as neighbors, and many still live in and around Brentwood and Crestview. I was raised to believe in the importance of civic involvement, and my kid already assumes it is just part of life in a community. The folks who have chosen to get involved with the CNA and the Austin Neighborhoods Council are some of the nicest, most diligent and smartest people, and I never would have met them had I not dove in.

### CodeNEXT

When we first took out a 30-year loan there was a concept called "smart growth" that the city was enacting in an effort to channel the unbridled growth. This idea (as outlined in the "Imagine Austin" master plan) was to boost residential living Downtown and create "activity centers" around town to create liveable, walkable, self contained live/work environments. Examples of these sorts of areas would be The Triangle, The

Domain, and Mueller. By carefully master planning greenfield development we would take the strain off of the single family neighborhoods while still offering a diverse housing stock.

We devised a neighborhood plan around that time as well. This plan (after much negotiation and some hard feelings) ceded the exteriors of our neighborhoods along corridors to higher density and taller structures, again in an effort to reduce the strain on our single family zoned areas.

Now, the Real Estate Council of Austin and its ancillary groups have decided to ditch that vision. And that brings us to CodeNEXT. CodeNEXT was originally meant to simplify the existing code. Instead it leaves us with THREE sets of code and an upzoning of just about every neighborhood within 15 minutes of downtown.

While we don't yet know exactly what all this will mean for our neighborhood because the proposed maps keep changing, there are some things we do know already:

1) Our entire neighborhood will be upzoned to encourage demolitions and new construction.

2) Parking minimums will be reduced by as much as half, encouraging more on street parking.

3) It will raise the taxable value of all of our dirt.

If any of these things are of concern to you, NOW is the time to get involved. Go to [codenext.engagingplans.org](http://codenext.engagingplans.org) and look at the maps for yourself. Leave comments if something strikes you as wrong.

Also, [www.communitynotcommodity.com](http://www.communitynotcommodity.com) has many useful whitepapers on the many aspects of CodeNEXT.

I'll see you at the next meeting!

Yours,  
Lavigne

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# Look Up!

By Marilyn Querejazu

Have you ever been completely awestruck by clouds? Big, billowing clouds. When backlit by the setting sun, they form Austin's original "Violet Crown." Sometimes all you can do is look up and gawk at nature's big show. Wow! Look at that sky!

I like to imagine the same thoughts occurred to El Greco when he painted "View of Toledo."

Domenikos Teotokopoulos, El Greco, (1540–1614) painted several landscapes of Toledo, the Spanish city he lived and worked in most of his life.

View of Toledo, now in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City is certainly the most famous.



This painting is a radical departure from the style and subject matter considered relevant at the time. Toledo was a very catholic city within a very catholic realm.

Artists spent their energy on commissioned work, which meant working for the church or for royalty. The subjects were usually portraiture or religious images. View of Toledo is one of the first landscape paintings.

Needless to say, El Greco was before his time... some 300 years before the impressionists interpreted cloudy (and starry) skies for us.

So, the next time you are at a loss for words to describe an incredible sky remember El Greco.

Read more about El Greco and his

historic painting here: [www.metmuseum.org](http://www.metmuseum.org). Search for El Greco.

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Love God and love your neighbor as yourself"

Sunday Worship,  
11:00 a.m.

Crestview United Methodist Church  
1300 Morrow [www.crestviewmethodist.org](http://www.crestviewmethodist.org)

## Austin PD Crime Search Report for April 2017

| Crime                     | Street              | Date    | Time  |
|---------------------------|---------------------|---------|-------|
| Assault by Contact        | 73XX Burnet Rd      | 4/5/17  | 17:28 |
| Burglary of Vehicle       | 69XX Burnet Ln      | 4/20/17 | 1:40  |
| Burglary of Vehicle       | 12XX W St Johns Ave | 4/22/17 | 8:39  |
| Burglary of Vehicle       | 17XX Pasadena Dr    | 4/22/17 | 10:48 |
| Burglary of Vehicle       | 12XX Cullen Ave     | 4/24/17 | 12:31 |
| Crash / Leaving the Scene | 8XX W St Johns Ave  | 4/5/17  | 15:18 |
| Crash / Leaving the Scene | 8XX W St Johns Ave  | 4/7/17  | 13:11 |
| DWI .15 BAC or Above      | 69XX Lamar Blvd     | 4/15/17 | 0:57  |
| Graffiti                  | 75XX Burnet Rd      | 4/17/17 | 15:50 |
| Graffiti                  | 75XX Burnet Rd      | 4/21/17 | 10:55 |
| Public Intoxication       | 72XX Easy Wind Dr   | 4/2/17  | 1:56  |
| Public Intoxication       | 77XX Watson St      | 4/17/17 | 22:37 |
| Theft                     | 75XX Lamar Blvd     | 4/21/17 | 20:04 |
| Theft                     | 13XX Cullen Ave     | 4/24/17 | 15:21 |
| Theft                     | X Pasadena Dr       | 4/28/17 | 19:19 |
| Theft of Bicycle          | 21XX Anderson Ln    | 4/25/17 | 14:47 |

### June Crime Prevention Tip

As you are planning your summer vacation, remember to also make plans to keep your home safe while you are away. One of the best ways is to make your house look as occupied as possible. Make arrangements to have the paper and mail collected or delivery temporarily stopped. Have a

neighbor remove flyers left on the door, put your garbage cans out and bring them in, and even park in your driveway part of the time. Even leave keys with someone to move the car occasionally and open and close the window coverings in the manner you normally do. Set timers to have lights and radios go off and on at various times of the day.



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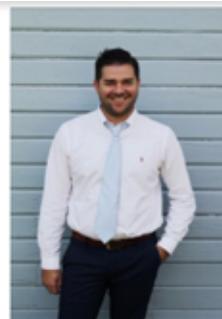
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