



WOODLANDS PARK DEDICATION and BOARD CHANGES

The Board of Directors approved the recognition of former Board President Jim Casey's contributions over the past 18 years by dedicating the Woodlands Park in his memory. To commemorate this, a plaque will be displayed in the pavilion of Woodlands Park. The plaque will be installed in January.

The Board of Directors approved Lee Wretlind to fulfill Jim Casey's term on the Board. Additionally, the Board selected Pat Reilly as the President and Lee Wretlind as the Treasure.



RIVER PLACE YOUTH LEAD THE WAY: ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN SERVICE PROJECTS

BOY SCOUT IMPROVES NATURE TRAIL

River Place resident, Wesley Busch recently completed several outdoor projects for the River Place Municipal Utility District, and earned points toward his Eagle Scout Award. On his own initiative, Wesley addressed the Board on several occasions, presenting his proposed improvement projects on the 3.5 miles of nature trails. With Board approval and funding, he planned and organized each project and bought the necessary equipment. He completed the projects in a timely manner and under budget.

Wesley's work is visible all along the nature trails. He is responsible for designing and installing the new informative trail markers, as well as leading scout troops in the refinishing of over ten benches along the nature trail.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Art Jistel at jistels@aol.com.



GIRL SCOUT NEEDS NATURE TRAIL PROJECT VOLUNTEERS

River Place resident and Troop 2004 Girl Scout, Bailey Ohlson, is improving her community and earning points towards her Gold Award by leading an erosion control project on the River Place Hiking Trails. Bailey identified and marked areas along the trails that are effected during heavy rain events, and planned several solutions. The Board approved her proposed improvements, and work is planned as follows, weather permitting:

January 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, and 31
February 6, 13, and 20
(see website below for specific times)

If you are interested in volunteering for this project, and helping Bailey earn her Gold Award, please sign up to help at www.friendsofriverplacetrails.com.

Direct inquiries to baileyohlson@me.com.
Bailey and the MUD appreciate your willingness to help with this worthy project!

Board Meetings

4th Tuesday of the Month ▪ 2:00pm ▪ River Place Country Club ▪ 4207 River Place Boulevard

All homeowners, residents and interested parties are cordially invited to attend. Meeting dates and agendas are posted on the bulletin board in the pavilion at Sun Tree Park and the Travis County Courthouse.

City of Austin Annexation of River Place MUD

The second in a three part series of articles intended to keep residents informed.

In the last newsletter update we concluded with, on December 15, 2017 the City of Austin will complete the annexation process of River Place MUD (the District). At that time the District will automatically convert from a Municipal Utility District (MUD) to a Limited District. The final approval of the Limited District is subject to a vote by the residents of the Limited District (the same people as the MUD residents). This vote will take place during the General Election in May 2018. A simple majority of the votes cast by the District residents is all that is needed to approve the Limited District.

Some residents have inquired as to the differences with creating the Limited District versus allowing the City to assume the functions of the Limited District. There are four major differences that the residents of the District will experience if the Limited District is approved. First, the Limited District would be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the District's parks (Sun Tree Park and the Woodlands Park) rather than the City. If the City assumed maintenance responsibilities for the parks, the City has said it would maintain our parks at the same level as other parks within the City's park system. If the Limited District assumes responsibility of the parks, they will continue to be maintained at the current level. Second, the Limited District will own and maintain the Nature Trail. If the City takes over this responsibility, City staff has informed the District that it would probably shut down the Nature Trail system because it could not afford to maintain them. Should the Limited District maintain the trail system it will be at a level similar to the trails' current maintenance. Third, the District determined that the Limited District would continue to provide contracted solid waste services (trash hauling and recycling services) for the residents of the Limited District. If the Limited District is not approved this service will be provided by the City. At present, this would mean an increase in cost to the residents over what the District's contractor currently charges the District. Finally, in order to provide the services mentioned above, the Limited District would be authorized to levy an ad valorem tax to all residents of the Limited District. It is anticipated that this tax would be similar to the current M&O tax that each resident pays to the District. Approval of the Limited District would mean that the Limited District would levy a tax in order to maintain the parks and trails at the same level as they are now, which many residents have stated is a benefit to living in River Place.

Should the residents not approve the Limited District in May 2018, the Limited District will automatically be dissolved within sixty days and the services that were provided by the Limited District will be assumed by the City. Any unused Limited District funds at the time of dissolution will be transferred to the City of Austin.

Board of Directors

- Pat Reilly President
- Ken Bartlett Vice President
- Lee Wretlind Treasurer
- Art Jistel Secretary
- Claudia Tobias Asst. Secretary/Treasurer

