

MAHNCKE PARK

NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION

ESTABLISHED 1979



SEPTEMBER 2026

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Attend this month's meeting for updates regarding neighborhood issues. SAPD Officer Hernandez and State Senator Menendez' staff will also join us.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 6pm
LION'S FIELD CENTER
2809 BROADWAY**

LAMAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RE-USE PROPOSED

A proposal to repurpose the Lamar Elementary School property at 201 Parland Place as a new home for the Mexican Cultural Instituto and UNAM (National Autonomous University of Mexico) was presented at last month's Mahncke Park Neighborhood Association (MPNA) August 18 meeting.

The Mexican Cultural Instituto and UNAM are being displaced from the two buildings they occupy in Hemisfair Park as a result of planned development related to a sports/entertainment arena. The Instituto occupies the original Mexico Pavilion building from the Hemisfair '68 world's fair. UNAM opened its San Antonio campus in 1986 and occupies an adjacent building.

Residents attending the meeting were largely supportive of the proposal while concerns were expressed regarding parking, traffic, operating hours, and onsite special events. Due to the preliminary nature of the proposal, issues such as property lease term, needs and building assessments, and funding source for improvements are unsettled. A handout distributed to attendees at the meeting stated:

"Consul General of Mexico in San Antonio will expedite, review and authorization (sic) of lease process. The process on the outside timeline is 24 months."

The SA Independent School District (SAISD) closed the Lamar School campus in 2024 and rejected a proposal in 2025 to redevelop the site for residential use. The property is vacant, and SAISD staff continue to maintain the grounds and provide security.

SA NEIGHBORS TOGETHER EVENT, OCTOBER 6

The MPNA is co-hosting SAPD's SA Neighbors Together event on Tuesday, 10/6 from 5:00-7:00pm at the Lion's Club Adult Center, 2809 Broadway. Formerly called Night Out Against Crime, this annual event will include Police & Fire Dept. staff with activities for kiddos & some giveaways. Meet your public safety team and catch up with your neighbors. We look forward to seeing you there.

MAHNCKE PARK COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Mahncke Park Community Garden at 330 Funston Place celebrates its 10th birthday this month. The fall gardening season began September 1. Several raised beds may still be available. Cost for each raised bed is \$12 per six-month period, plus one hour volunteer service monthly (six hours total). For questions or to get involved email mpcgarden78209@gmail.com

August rainfall total was 1.79" which was received August 28. A trace of rain the following day was too minimal to measure.

SA BOTANICAL GARDEN

A free Open House for all Mahncke Park residents is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 29 at 5:30pm. A recent flyer stated, "Learn about the Garden! Meet Garden leaders, ask questions, share ideas, and stay connected with everything happening in our community."

The Botanical Garden will host their sixth holiday light and recorded music event. The "magical after-dark experience featuring thousands of lights, seasonal sights and sounds, and memories that sparkle" will operate November 20 through January 10. Botanical Garden representatives have stated multiple off-duty peace officers will be posted nightly to direct traffic, accommodate pedestrian crossings, and enforce one-way and resident only traffic. Free on-street parking will be available on Old Austin Road and Pinckney Street; therefore, neither street will be closed to vehicle traffic this year.

STREET CLOSURE REQUEST

The Doseum aka Children's Museum at 2800 Broadway has submitted a street closure request to the City's Capital Delivery Department to permanently close Humphrey Avenue and to permanently close Margaret Street between E. Mulberry Street and Humphrey Avenue. The Doseum recently purchased the property formerly occupied by Taco Cabana and the adjacent property that formerly served as the parking lot for Good Time Charlie's Bar & Café.

CIRCLE SCHOOL, FREE TREE ADOPTION

The Circle School will be a City of San Antonio free native tree pick up location on November 7 between 4:00-7:00pm or until all trees have been adopted. No pre-registration is required for tree pick up, which will be distributed on a first come, first serve basis.

This tree pick up coincides with the school's annual Fall Family Festival, CircleFest. All neighbors are welcome and encouraged to attend. Admission is free. The Circle School is located at 217 Pershing Avenue.

A NEIGHBORHOOD WALK INTERRUPTED

One recent morning two friends and a dog set out for a walk around the neighborhood. It was mid-morning, not yet too hot. They enjoyed the attractiveness of well-maintained homes, plus the variety of colors and materials. Just as they were looking down at some flowers, one of them was hit in the face with a tree branch. Still, they enjoyed the shade of the large tree as the temperature warmed. They admired the array of blooming flowers, including birds of paradise, crepe myrtles, and salvias, as well as the interesting designs of cactus and rocks in xeriscapes. After admiring a hedge of native beautyberry bushes, they were forced into the street by a parked car blocking the sidewalk. This was a problem, as one of them had had surgery recently so extra careful walking was required.

Continuing their walkabout, they noted some houses with minimal landscaping, but the traditional lawns were impressively neat and tidy, a kind of beauty in itself. This was certainly preferable to front yards that were mostly concrete. Rounding a corner, they had to walk sideways and single file to avoid a huge prickly pear cactus. The walk continued like this – pleasant stretches followed by challenges. For example, there was the sidewalk with bushes on both sides and so close together that only the dog could squeeze through. And they encountered several consecutive properties with sidewalks so overgrown that the passable space was less than a foot wide.

As they were cleaning up after their dog, they agreed they had seen more dog poop than usual during their stroll, despite multiple yard signs reminding neighbors to clean up after their hounds. They wondered at the return of a neighborhood problem that seemed to have been solved years ago. Maybe we should submit an item for the newsletter reminding neighbors to clean up after their dog, they mused. The piece was written, submitted and read by you.

CITY COUNCIL INFORMATION

Mr. Jalen McKee-Rodriguez is the District 2 City Councilman. His district includes Mahncke Park.
Main Office, City Hall, Military Plaza, 210-207-7278
District Office A, 2805 E. Commerce, 210-207-0950
District Office B, 4351 Rittiman Road, 210-207-0970
Mahncke Park residents may contact Maria Castro directly with concerns. Maria.castro@sanantonio.gov

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICER

Mr. Ivory Lampkin is the Code Compliance Officer responsible for our area of San Antonio. Contact him at 210-416-5883, RDIvory.Lampkin@sanantonio.gov

S.A. POLICE DEPARTMENT

SAPD Officer Juan Hernandez patrols our neighborhood; his duty hours are M-F, 7am-3pm.
Juan.hernandez3@sanantonio.gov
210-218-6939, cell
210-207-1039, St. Mary’s Street Substation,
2020 N. St. Mary’s Street

During last month’s MPNA meeting, Officer Hernandez reported multiple area incidents have occurred in which property was stolen from vehicles. He strongly encouraged all neighbors to always lock their vehicles, particularly overnight.

LION’S FIELD ADULT CENTER, 2809 BROADWAY

Lion’s Field is operated by the Parks Dept. and is open Monday-Friday. A variety of classes are offered with a focus on encouraging healthy lifestyles. A weight room with cardio and strength equipment is available. For info, call Lion’s Field Center at 210-207-5380.

2026 MPNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jimmy LeFlore, Parland Place, President
Isabel Garcia, Queen Anne Court, Secretary
Erin Kelly, Elmhurst Avenue, Treasurer
Allison Chambers, Claremont Avenue
CJ Van Green, Lucas Street
Bruce Martin, Pershing Avenue
Ruth Rodriguez, Thorman Place
Email info@mahnckepark.org

MAHNCKE PARK ON FACEBOOK

There are two Facebook pages neighbors may wish to visit that relate to our Mahncke Park Neighborhood.

This is the link to MPNA official page
www.facebook.com/MahnckeParkNeighborhoodAssociation

Unofficial neighborhood page with online community socializing
www.facebook.com/groups/66362695532

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Carlynn Ricks
Bruce Martin

PUBLICATION NOTE

The printing of this newsletter is supported by the Circle School, 217 Pershing Ave.
Their web address is **thecircleschool.org**.

We appreciate their generous support and encourage all neighbors to add to their calendars the Circle School’s annual Fall Family Festival, CircleFest, on November 7, 4-7pm. Admission is free.

2026 MPNA MEMBERSHIP

Use the QR code below or the membership form to pay your incredibly affordable annual dues.



2026 MAHNCKE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM	
Household Membership	\$10 annually.
Retired Membership	\$5 annually.
Business Membership	\$20 annually.
Supporter Membership	\$20 annually.
Non-Resident Membership	\$20 annually.
Name	
Address	
Email	
Phone	
Type membership	
Mail completed form & payment to: MPNA, PO BOX 6752, SA, TX 78209	