



September 2025

Alta Vista Neighborhood Association Newsletter

General Assembly Returns!

Join us September 24 for Important Neighborhood Updates and Delicious Finger Foods from Scratch Kitchen!

INFO

General Assemblies-
Mark Twain Library 6:30PM

September 24
November 19 - Board Election

Board Meetings held via Zoom
October 1 • November 5 •
December 12

2025 AVNA BOARD PRESIDENT
James Grover

VICE-PRESIDENT
Ann Winer

SECRETARY
Jack Turek

TREASURER
Anita Vela-Johnson

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE
Paul Arocha
Jennifer Khoshbin
VACANT

PAST PRESIDENT
Erin Zayko

CONTACT US: avna@altavistana.org

**IMPORTANT SAPD & CIVIC
NUMBERS ON BACK**



[@AltaVistaNA.org](https://www.facebook.com/AltaVistaNA.org)



[@AltaVistaNA](https://www.instagram.com/AltaVistaNA)

After a busy summer break, the Alta Vista Neighborhood Association is thrilled to invite all neighbors to our first General Assembly meeting of the season on **Wednesday, September 24**. While our gatherings may have paused for the summer, your board and committees have been anything but idle—busy behind the scenes with projects, advocacy, and planning for an exciting fall.

This is the perfect opportunity to reconnect, hear what's new, and share your voice on issues shaping our community. We'll be updating everyone on recent developments, including the arrival of new businesses, the latest on neighborhood projects, and much-anticipated enhancements.

A few topics on the agenda:

- The results are in! Neighbors made our priorities clear: Discourage vehicle cut-through traffic from the Green Line and increase walking and cycling connections to new bus infrastructure, as well as to the area's parks, schools, and retail. We'll delve into some of the details from AAMPO's comprehensive compilation of complementary studies and activities and explore what they could mean for our priorities.
- San Pedro Springs Park Improvements: Updates from District 1 Councilwoman Sukh Kuar or staff.
- Ashby Place development moves forward after clearing administrative variances and new businesses in the neighborhood.
- Porch Fest Returns: Mark your calendars—our beloved neighborhood music and arts festival is back this fall!
- And much more!

Whether you're a long-time resident or new to Alta Vista, your participation is vital to staying informed about everything that could, if we're not paying attention, affect any one of us before it's too late to have a meaningful say. Bring your questions, your ideas, and your community spirit. We strive to be non-partisan and hyper-focused on the neighborhood.

We look forward to seeing you at the General Assembly Meeting.

Gratitude for Cheryl Dozier's Dedication

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Cheryl Dozier for her many years of devoted service to the Alta Vista Neighborhood Association. Cheryl's commitment and passion have left a lasting, positive impact on our community.

Although Cheryl has stepped down from the board to focus on her family, her dedication to Alta Vista remains unwavering—she continues to support the association and our neighborhood in numerous ways. If you see Cheryl around, please take a moment to thank her in person for all she has done and continues to do for Alta Vista.

Don't Sit This One Out - Change Is Coming!

Join the 2026 Board of Directors

Alta Vista is a neighborhood defined by its historic roots, community spirit, and the people who step forward to shape its future. As we anticipate rapid upcoming change from the Green Line and new development, we invite you to consider volunteering for the Alta Vista Board of Directors. Elections are on **November 19**.

The Backbone of Neighborhood Governance

The all-volunteer Board of Directors guides decisions that can affect every resident and business in Alta Vista. When issues arise—whether related to city projects, residential and commercial development, or changes in our shared spaces—the Board is entrusted to review, deliberate, and render thoughtful decisions, especially when a broader vote of the entire membership isn't possible.

This responsibility is not taken lightly. Our board's work is fundamental to this neighborhood's balance of growth and preservation through our Neighborhood Conservation District design standards. We strive for fair interpretations that ensure all voices are heard in the process, preserving what makes Alta Vista special as changes occur.

Development Requests and Infrastructure: Shaping Our Neighborhood's Future

One of the Board's most significant and official duties is to consider requests related to development and infrastructure. Each request brings its own set of challenges and opportunities, making the role of a board member dynamic and intellectually stimulating. These cases are often complex, involving multiple parties with different perspectives and interests. Decisions can ripple through the entire community and drastically alter homeowners' quality of life within a matter of months — this is why we need thoughtful, dedicated neighbors to serve on our board.

The Importance of Fairness and Thoughtfulness

Every party involved in a case—homeowners, developers, city staff—deserves respect and a fair, thoughtful response. As board members, our job is not to rubber-stamp requests or to obstruct progress, but to weigh each issue on its own merits.

This means listening carefully to all sides, understanding the broader impact of a proposal, and striving to find solutions that work for everyone. It means asking questions, seeking out facts, and engaging in open dialogue.

Why Volunteer?

When you join the board, you bring your unique experiences, insights, and values to the table. You help ensure that decisions reflect the diversity and needs of Alta Vista in fair, transparent, and respectful ways.

Moreover, this presents an opportunity for learning and growth. Board members gain a deeper understanding of local governance, zoning laws, urban planning, and community engagement. You'll connect with neighbors, collaborate with city officials, and contribute to projects that shape our streets, parks, and public spaces. This is a chance to expand your knowledge and make a tangible difference in your community.

And, perhaps most importantly, you'll be part of a tradition of service to the neighborhood!

Who Can Serve?

The Board, over the years, has been made up of volunteers from every corner of the neighborhood—homeowners, renters, business owners, and retirees. Typically, Board members lead various projects of their choosing, but no special expertise is required. If you care about Alta Vista and live or own a business in the neighborhood and want to make a positive impact, you are qualified.

How to Get Involved

If you're interested in volunteering, we encourage you to reach out! Attend a General Assembly meeting or an Arts Committee event, introduce yourself to current members, or contact the neighborhood association for more information at avna@altavistana.org. Board terms are one year, and nomination forms, as well as details about upcoming elections, are available on the website at altavistana.org and in the digital version of this newsletter.

Other Ways To Help

The Association works best when many committed people each take a manageable piece of the work. Why not give your time where you live? Current opportunities:

- Neighbors Together (Tentative) and Holiday Party planners and **AV Arts Committee** volunteers for other music and social events.
- Have skills in architecture, engineering, construction, or planning? Join the **Technical Committee** to review development cases and make recommendations to the AVNA Board, members, and residents. Those interested in learning the process and contributing to the governance of the committee are also welcome.
- **Promote AVNA membership** digitally through email and social media, and at meetings and events, and maintain the membership list.
- Use your IT or related background to help us **optimize our web and email hosting services**.
- **Newsletter editing** & layout, **social media admin**, and more!

Please write to us with your interest: avna@altavistana.org.

New Alta Vista Sustainability Group

A blooming Alta Vista Community Sustainability Group is beginning in your neighborhood! To get involved: altavistasustainabilitygroup@gmail.com

The group is working on creating and promoting activities to enhance community resiliency through eco-sustainability. We have a bi-weekly email newsletter, a Food Sharing Network, and plans for pollinator and vegetable micro-gardens. If you are interested in your home being a micro-garden candidate, now is the time to get involved. We look forward to sharing more!

Civic Contacts:

City of San Antonio District 1

Councilwoman: Sukh Kaur,
d1constituentservices@sanantonio.gov,
Office: (210) 207-0900
D1 Liaison, La Juana Chambers Lawson:
(210) 207-0793,
lajuana.chamberslawson@sanantonio.gov

Alta Vista SAPD SAFFE Officer

Officer Jesus "Jessie" Hinojosa:
(210) 207-7413
Jesus.Hinojosa@sanantonio.gov

Police Non-Emergency:

(210) 207-SAPD (7273)

Code Enforcement:

Officer Ruby Luna, (210) 618-5867
Ruby.Luna2@sanantonio.gov

Denise Hasting, D1 supervisor,
(210) 416-5851

Denise.Hastings@sanantonio.gov

Kristy Garza, Dangerous Premises
Officer:

kristy.garza@sanantonio.gov

Saturday Code Enforcement hotline:
(210) 207-2633

Vacant Buildings Officer:

Crystal.Grafft@sanantonio.gov

Homeless Outreach Coordinator, District 1:

Ramon Gonzales, (210) 371-9998,
ramon.gonzales@sanantonio.gov

Homeless Connections Hotline:

(210) 207-1799

Animal Care Services District 1 Officer:

Officer Adan Perez,

adan.perez@sanantonio.gov

US House of Representatives, District TX-35

Congressman Greg Casar (TX-35)

Irene Chavez Galvan, District Director
210.307.0357,
irene.chavezgalvan@mail.house.gov

Texas State Representative, District 123:

Diego Bernal, (210) 308-9700
Bethany Gutierrez, District Director
bethany.gutierrez@house.texas.gov

Texas State Senator, District 26:

José Menéndez,
(210) 733-6604 (district office)

Bexar County Commissioner:

Tommy Calvert, (210) 335-2614

Bexar County Sheriff's Office:

(210) 335-6010

SAISD D6 Trustee:

Christina Martinez
Martinez.Christina1@gmail.com



Around Alta Vista

Have a delicious coffee break and a **15% discount** (see coupon on back) at **Silhouette Coffee**, which is now open inside the **Art of Cellaring at 2810 N. Flores**. While you're there, don't miss a chance to try a **Flourpress** chocolate chip cookie or other pastry and browse for the perfect bottle of wine to go with dinner later.

Kristina Lumbreras, an AVNA member and enthusiast of old house history, is offering to **research the original owner and history of your Alta Vista home at no charge**. Send an email to kristinalumbreras@gmail.com, along with your address and, if known, the year built. She will email you back within a month or two, depending on the response to this fantastic offer. What a great neighbor!

W. Kings/Breeden Traffic Island Eagle Scout Project in Permitting Phase

David Van Delist, an Eagle Scout candidate from Troop 307, is currently in the final permitting process for his traffic island improvement project. Once approved, the traffic island at Breeden and W. Kings Highway will be renovated to include mulch, drought-resistant plants, and decorative pavers donated by AVNA members. Additionally, the area will be made ADA accessible.

This project represents a wonderful gift to the Alta Vista community and reflects David's dedication and leadership skills as he works to see it through to completion. Many individuals have contributed to this effort—thank you to everyone involved! However, **donations are still needed** to cover material and supply costs. Please help David complete this meaningful project by scanning the QR code to make a donation.



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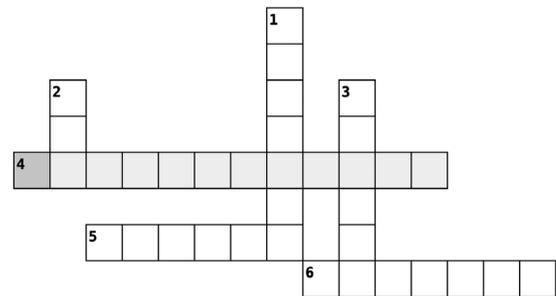
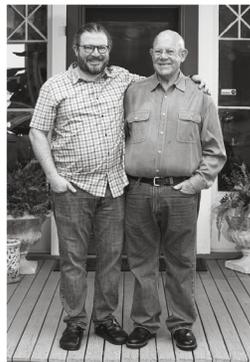
Cappy's
RESTAURANT

Cappycino's



Jingu House
at the Japanese Tea Garden

Mama's Cafe



ACROSS

4. 8000+ bottlecaps comprise a mural of _____ at Mama's
5. Enjoy a smoky _____ flight at La Fonda on Main
6. Enjoy over 60 varieties of rare and allocated _____ at Cappycino's

DOWN

1. Cappy is short for _____
2. Fish not found on the Jingu menu, but in the Japanese Tea Garden
3. Mama's famous appetizer: Fried _____

I BELIEVE THAT IF WORLD PEACE IS EVER POSSIBLE, IT WILL BE ACHIEVED AT A DINING TABLE NOT A CONFERENCE TABLE.

CAPPY



Sat, Nov 8, 2025
1:00pm-7:00pm

Map to come!

SAVE THE DATE

for our seventh annual *PorchFest!*

Six local musical acts
performing on *six beautiful porches*
on a *walkable route* through
Alta Vista and Beacon Hill

FEATURING: Combo C3smico (psychadelic cumbia),
John Charlie's Heavy Love Band (indie rock),
Brandon Padier & Cooper Greenberg (rootsy acoustic),
Fea (Chicana punk), Agarita (classical),
Dirty River Jazz Trio (vintage jazz)



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