



City of Austin

**Neighborhood Planning and Zoning Department**

Greg Guernsey, Director

P.O. Box 1088, Austin, Texas 78767

512-974-7668

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September 18, 2008

Dear Property Owner:

This letter is to inform you that the public hearings have been set for the annexation of the Springwoods Non-MUD Annexation Area. In December 2007, the City of Austin amended its Municipal Annexation Plan (MAP) to include portions of the Springwoods area outside of the Springwoods Municipal Utility District (see map on back). In March 2008, property owners in the area were sent letters notifying them that their properties had been included in the MAP and describing the three-year MAP process.

The next phase of the annexation process is the public hearings. The City Council will be coming to your area for one hearing, and another hearing will follow at City Hall. If you cannot attend the hearings, you may watch them on Cable Channel 6 or via live streaming on the internet (<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/channel6/#>). Here is the hearing schedule:

**Monday, October 20, 2008 at 6:30 PM** at Northwest Fellowship  
13427 Pond Springs Road, Austin, Texas

**Thursday, October 23, 2008 at 6:00 PM** in the Council Chambers of City Hall  
301 West Second Street, Austin, Texas

After the hearings, City staff will negotiate the annexation service plan with representatives of the property owners appointed by the Williamson County Commissioners' Court. If you are interested in representing the annexation area as a negotiator, please contact the office of Commissioner Lisa Birkman at (512) 733-5380 to request appointment. If approved by the City Council, annexation would take effect in December 2010. Annexation of the Springwoods Municipal Utility District is scheduled for the same time.

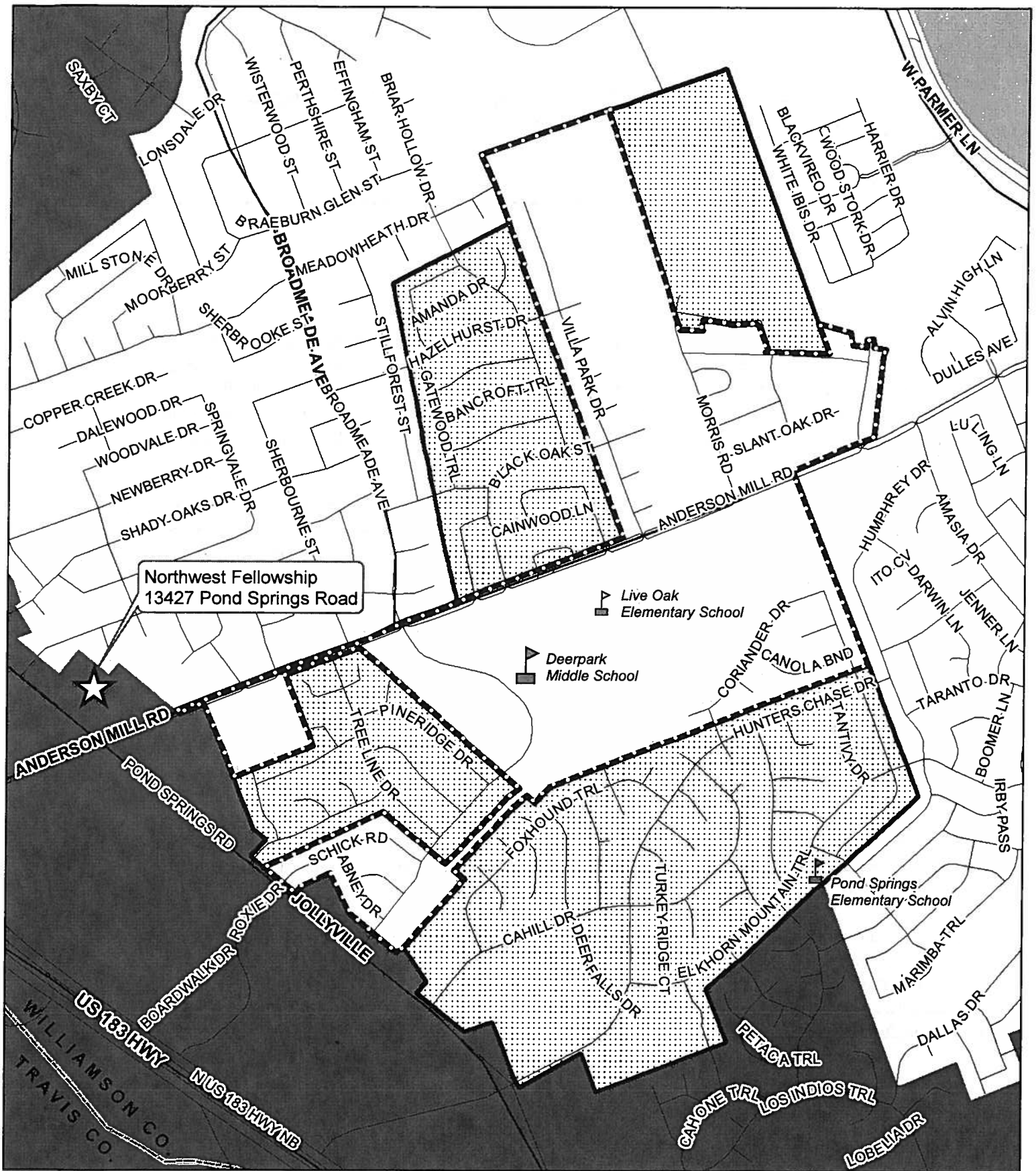
I hope that the enclosed information about city services will answer many of your questions. For information regarding the annexation process, including the amended three-year Municipal Annexation Plan and the inventory of services, please refer to the City's Web site at <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/annexation/springwoodsmap.htm>. This Web page will be updated throughout the annexation process. You may also contact me at (512) 974-2022 or [virginia.collier@ci.austin.tx.us](mailto:virginia.collier@ci.austin.tx.us) or Jackie Chuter at (512) 974-2613 or [jackie.chuter@ci.austin.tx.us](mailto:jackie.chuter@ci.austin.tx.us).

Sincerely,

Virginia Collier, Principal Planner

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request.

For assistance please call (512) 974-3256 OR (512) 974-2445 TDD.






# Springwoods Annexation Areas 2010

## Legend

### Annexation Area 2010

-  Springwoods Municipal Annexation Plan Area
-  Springwoods Municipal Utility District

### Current Jurisdiction

-  Austin Full Purpose
-  Austin Limited Purpose
-  Austin ETJ



County Line



Street



0 250 500 1,000 1,500  
Feet



City of Austin NPZD  
J. Chuter  
September 17, 2008



## City of Austin, Texas

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The City of Austin incorporated in 1891 and is comprised of over 298 square miles with an estimated population of 750,525 people

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### City Government

Austin has a council-manager form of government. The Council is composed of six members and a mayor, all of whom are elected at-large at the City's general election in May and serve staggered three-year terms. The Council hires the City Manager, who is responsible for the operation of the city. Residents may run for office or seek an appointment to a board or commission. Citizens are encouraged to be active in the community by voting, participating in public hearings, and sharing ideas and concerns.

### City budget

The city budget is adopted in September of each year, and is effective from October 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup> of the following year. The primary sources of revenue for the city include property taxes, sales taxes, and revenue from the two city-owned utilities, Austin Water Utility and Austin Energy.

### City property taxes

Properties included in the City's taxing jurisdiction as of December 31, 2010 will receive a tax bill including City property taxes in late 2011. Over the last several years, the City's tax rate has remained at approximately \$0.40 per \$100 of assessed value. At this rate, the tax bill for the median home valued at \$189,562 would be \$764 per year. This rate is lower than other large cities in Texas and many other central Texas cities. In addition, the City offers exemptions for property owners who are over 65 years of age or disabled.

### Overview of City Services

The service plan includes a program under which the city will provide services that are available city-wide. Services include public safety, solid waste collection, operation and maintenance of water and wastewater facilities, roads, parks, and capital improvements necessary to provide these city services.

### Public Safety

The Austin Police Department keeps crime low compared to similarly-sized U.S. cities and will provide protection and law enforcement services. APD currently utilizes a Neighborhood Based Policing model, which includes self-initiated calls, in order to establish partnerships between residents and police officers to improve safety. The City's District Representative program is designed to allow officers to interact with individuals, neighbors and businesses to improve safety and address crime-related issues specific to a neighborhood. A centralized Communications center, CTECC, supports the operations of critical emergency communications and transportation management for the region.

The Austin Fire Department has the most extensive resources in the Central Texas region and will provide emergency and fire prevention services including fire suppression and rescue and first response on life threatening medical emergencies. The Office of Emergency Management has developed an Emergency Operations Master Plan for all areas within the city limits that establishes concepts, policies and procedures that apply to all types of emergencies and/or disasters. The City has implemented a Reverse 911 system "Code

RED” that is utilized to notify citizens in case of an emergency and/or disaster that may impact their neighborhood. The City also provides emergency and disaster notice and information via NOAA weather radios.

The City of Austin/Travis County Emergency Medical Services Department will provide emergency and safety services including First Aid, Advanced Life Support ambulance response, and medical rescue services.

### **Utilities**

The Austin Water Utility will make central water and wastewater service available to properties within the annexed area and will maintain and operate facilities and infrastructure needed to provide these services. Homeowners currently utilizing a well or on-site septic system may continue to use these systems, and will have the option to connect to central service when it is available.

Electric and gas service are not affected by annexation.

### **Road Maintenance**

The City’s Public Works Department will maintain and repair public streets over which the City has jurisdiction. The City will also install and maintain regulatory signs and signals as needed. Street sweeping service for streets with curb and gutter and removal of dead animals from roadways will be provided by the Solid Waste Services Department.

If individual property owners or their homeowners’ associations desire the installation of additional streetlights, Austin Energy will survey the area to see if it requires more lighting. On public streets lights will be maintained by Austin Energy, and the electricity will be paid for by the City. On private streets, the homeowners’ association would be responsible for the cost of installation, maintenance, and electricity.

### **Parks and Recreation**

The Austin Parks and Recreation Department oversees more than 16,682 acres of land containing parks, preserves, hike-and-bike trails, greenbelts, recreation centers, athletic fields, and pools in and around Austin. The City provides opportunities for a diversity of recreational, cultural and outdoor experiences for the Austin community.

### **Zoning and Development**

The City’s watershed protection, development review, and planning staff work to ensure that future development protects Austin’s quality of life.

Zoning promotes compatibility of adjacent land uses. The City also regulates the subdivision of land, commercial

site planning, and enforces building codes for your safety. The City’s code compliance officers ensure that buildings and lots meet adopted standards by notifying owners of improper conditions and working with them to correct the problems. Structures and fences in need of repair, overgrown grass and trees, improper storage of vehicles, unauthorized home businesses, and other nuisances may be reported to 3-1-1 for action.

The Watershed Protection and Development Review Department provides drainage planning and maintenance services for water quality protection.

### **Library**

Upon annexation, residents may utilize all Austin Public Library facilities. In addition to borrowing items from the library’s collections, residents may take advantage of computer training, internet access, online research databases, interlibrary loans, and youth programs.

### **Health and Human Services**

The Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department will inspect food establishments and child care facilities, provide animal services including leash law, pet licensing, and rabies control, and provide access to community health clinics and Medical Assistance Program benefits.

### **City Solid Waste Services**

The City will provide curbside pick-up of garbage, recycling, and yard trimmings to all single-family residential customers and commercial and multifamily property owners upon request. Residents may also utilize the Household Hazardous Waste Facility.

### **Additional information**

For further information regarding city services visit the City’s website at [www.cityofaustin.org](http://www.cityofaustin.org)

Or contact City Staff Virginia Collier at (512) 974-2022 or Jackie Chuter at (512) 974-2613.