

Go! Austin/¡Vamos! Austin (GAVA) 4544 S. Lamar Bldg. 300, STE 350 Austin, TX 78745

February 12, 2018

RE: Renaming of Franklin Park in Memory of Pastor Edward Craig

Dear Honorable Mayor Adler, Mayor Pro Tem Tovo, Council Member Garza, Council Member Houston, Council Member Renteria, Council Member Casar, Council Member Kitchen, Council Member Flannigan, Council Member Pool, Council Member Troxclair & Council Member Alter,

Thank you for your service and for taking the time to consider our request for your support of Council Member Garza's proposed recommendation to change the name of Franklin Park to "Pastor Edward Craig Park."

For the last six years, Pastor Craig worked tirelessly as one of the highly dedicated park adopters of Franklin Park in Dove Springs, along with his wife, Mrs. Brenda Craig, and the congregation of the Great Commission Baptist Church. Pastor Craig was not only dedicated to the beautification and preservation of Franklin Park, but he also cared deeply for Dove Springs, South Austin, and the community at large. He worked with GAVA and Austin Parks Foundation to leverage funding, add new amenities, improve trails and signage, plant trees and native flowering plants, and advocate for better lighting and park safety for Franklin Park. When he was not working in Franklin park, he and his fellow church members knocked on doors in Dove Springs to call upon community for leadership for the parks and other healthy initiatives in the area.

Pastor Craig passed away on October 2, 2017. We were incredibly saddened by his passing, but we celebrate his life and legacy. Because of his leadership, Franklin Park continues to thrive as a community green space with neighbors and families stewarding its continued improvement.

We respectfully urge the Council to vote in favor of this name change in order to honor Pastor Craig and continue to commemorate and celebrate his life and contributions to Dove Springs and the greater Austin area.

Sincerely,

Carmen Llanes Pulido

Executive Director