



KIRK WATSON

TEXAS STATE SENATOR

Senate President Pro Tempore, 86th Session

SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY & HELP SAVE MUNY

Lions Municipal Golf Course, or “Muny,” has been an Austin fixture for more than 80 years. Countless Austinites from all backgrounds have played Muny, one of the first desegregated golf courses in the South, while others have simply enjoyed the benefits of nearby green space and undeveloped land.

There’s no shortage of opinions about the future of Muny, and many constituents have shared their perspective with me. I feel strongly that this property should be preserved in its current or similar form to acknowledge its place in history and continue enhancing the quality of life for Austinites. It’s a special situation to have so much green space (and fairway space, too ☺) in the middle of an urban setting.

But the land is subject to a lease that will expire next May and an agreement needs to be made in order to preserve it as a public golf course, parkland or a combination of the two. I didn’t want to let the legislative session end without trying to help. So, to facilitate the negotiations, I passed legislation this session to give the community a voluntary tool that hopefully can be helpful moving things forward.

The legislation creates the **Save Historic Muny District** and gives the neighborhood a mechanism for participating in the long-term solution for Muny. It can serve as a conduit for philanthropy. It can also raise money through a dedicated fee on a utility bill. To protect rate payers in the district, no fee can be charged without voter approval. It’s all voluntary, and it can be used along with other efforts to preserve the land, if it’s helpful, or not at all.

The district, bounded by 35th Street on the north, Lamar Boulevard on the east and Lady Bird Lake on the south and west, will be overseen by a board of residents. The Save Historic Muny District is an opportunity for neighbors to amplify their voice in the ongoing efforts to preserve Muny. I hope you’ll consider applying to serve on the board – the deadline is fast approaching – and please share this information with your neighbors.

More information and the application can be found at
<http://www.austintexas.gov/departments/save-historic-muny-district>.

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FIGHTING FOR YOUR VOICE

With the 86th Legislative Session behind us, I wanted to let you know how honored I am to represent you in the Texas Senate. Right now, among other things, I'll be preparing for the next session, focused on policies that reflect the input of all Texans — protecting children, supporting public education, improving access to healthcare and ensuring equal rights for everyone. And, I'm very proud to be a member of the Senate Select Committee on Redistricting. I'll be fighting for fair maps that empower every voter.

Please feel free to contact me if you'd like to share your thoughts about policy or if you ever need assistance working with a state agency.

Kirk Watson
State Senator, District 14

MAILING
LABEL