

BETTY BROWN

1930-2016

Zilker Park Posse, President 1980s

WeCare Austin (Women's Environmental Coalition), President

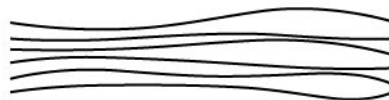


“

I had never gotten involved with anything civic or environmental...but there was a civic person under layers and layers of housewife just lurking to come out.”

Elizabeth Anne Brown, affectionately known as Betty, first became involved in community affairs when she became active in opposition to a proposed bridge through her neighborhood of Barton Hills. The Skyway Bridge, which would have directed traffic from Mopac through her quiet neighborhood and over Barton Creek, was never constructed, but an even more significant victory was the activism that particular issue sparked in Brown, leading her to take on broader environmental concerns in the early 1980s. Brown organized a city-wide coalition of neighborhood and environmental groups to form the Zilker Park Posse, well-known for opposing zoning changes by the city in the Barton Creek area. In 1980 The ZPP persuaded Austin City Council to impose a 6-month moratorium on zoning changes until an ordinance could be adopted to regulate development and maintain water quality, & eventually leading to the passage of the Barton Creek Ordinance. Brown also opposed sewer line extensions up Barton Creek, and promoted the purchase of additional parkland for the Barton Creek Wilderness Park.

BARTON CREEK



TIME STREAM