



# THORNTON PARK ASSOCIATION

# NEIGHBORHOOD WELCOME

Welcome to Thornton Park!

Thornton Park is a historic neighborhood in Orlando, Florida, immediately east of Downtown Orlando and Lake Eola Park. We are a small neighborhood of about 600 residents, but we're big on neighborhood pride and offer a great deal to both visitors and new residents. Here is some information about your new neighborhood, which we hope you find useful!

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## THORNTON PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

The Thornton Park Neighborhood Association (TPNA) is a free, voluntary organization composed of the residents of Orlando's historic Thornton Park Neighborhood, in downtown Orlando, Florida.

### When and where does the TPNA meet?

- ❖ Thornton Park Neighborhood Association Meetings are held quarterly on the second Tuesday of the second month of each quarter (got that!)
- ❖ We meet at the Mayor Carl T. Langford Neighborhood Center (1808 E Central Boulevard) from 7-8pm, and also have a virtual Zoom option
- ❖ Free pizza is served from Anthony's Pizza of Thornton Park!
- ❖ Updates are given by the TPNA officers, our City Commissioner Patty Sheehan, and her Orlando Police Department Liaison Officer, Eddie Rosado

- ❖ Items discussed: upcoming events, City news, safety tips & crime statistics, neighborhood improvements, neighbor's concerns, activities of the Thornton Park Main Street business district (TPD), etc.

## Association Officers

President - Leo Hunt, 407-316-8640 [thorntonparkorl@aol.com](mailto:thorntonparkorl@aol.com)

Vice President – David Desforges

Secretary – Wayne Johnson

Treasurer – John Moore

Newsletter Editor – Logan Lamphere; Please email news, kudos, events, or article ideas to [llampher@hotmail.com](mailto:llampher@hotmail.com) or call 605-490-0732

Neighborhood Watch & Safety Committee –Raleigh Whitehurst

Gardening & Beautification Committee – Logan Lamphere

Welcome Wagon Committee – Wayne Johnson

Social Committee – KC Cali

Taste of Thornton Park Committee – Leo Hunt

## What Annual Events Does the TPNA put on?

- ❖ A Taste of Thornton Park (our primary neighborhood fundraiser, started in 2002)
- ❖ Thornton Park Annual Easter Egg Hunt
- ❖ Yard of the Season
- ❖ Holiday Luminaries
- ❖ Socials
- ❖ National Night Out Block Party

Past projects of our group include the installation of the Thornton Park fountain on Washington St, and the entrance sign at Robison Street and Mills Ave.



## Where is Thornton Park?

The definition of Thornton Park has always been a bit fuzzy. There are actually three different, overlapping jurisdictions. The first is the “Thornton Park Neighborhood”, a City of Orlando designated neighborhood shown below. It is bordered on the north by Robinson Street, the west by Summerlin Ave, the south by the 408 and the east by Brown Ave, but not including the area around Lake Lawsona (refer to the map—it’s easier as a picture!).



Most of Thornton Park is part of the larger Lake Lawsona Historic District, which includes part of the Lawsona/Ferncreek Neighborhood.

There is also the Thornton Park District (TPD), set up by the National Historic Trust’s Main Street program. This is a business district with paid membership, and includes the Washington Street and Summerlin Ave establishments, but also the businesses stretching west towards downtown along Central Ave and Eola Drive. We all work together for the benefit of the community, and are open to all!

## LAKE LAWSONA HISTORIC DISTRICT

Depending on your address, you may be living in the Lake Lawsona Historic District, which carries special protections and rules, as provided by the City of Orlando ([www.cityoforlando.net/city-planning/historic-preservation/districts/](http://www.cityoforlando.net/city-planning/historic-preservation/districts/)):

### Background

“Encompassing the neighborhoods of Lawsona/Fern Creek and Thornton Park, the Lake Lawsona Historic District was established in 1994 as a local historic district. Platted and developed between 1911 and the 1950s, the district contains approximately 500 buildings and is illustrative of the growth patterns of the city in the first half of this century with its mix of residential, educational and commercial structures.

A variety of architectural styles and forms can be found in the district including bungalows, Craftsman, Minimal Traditional and Colonial, Mediterranean, Mission, Neoclassical, and Tudor revivals. Bungalows are the predominant contributing structures in the district.

Three sites within the Lake Lawsona Historic District have been recognized as local historic landmarks. They are H.H. Dickson Azalea Park (1935), the Washington Street Bridge (1926) and Orlando High School, now Howard Middle School (1927).

The Neoclassical Revival Orlando High School is located at 800 East Robinson Street. The last class graduated in 1952 when Boone and Edgewater high schools opened. Distinguished alumni include astronaut John Young, former Orlando mayor Carl T. Langford, actor Buddy Ebsen, and Nobel Prize winner for medicine, Dr. Marshall W. Nirenberg.

### Permitting Requirements

Before you make certain exterior changes to your property, a Certificate of Appropriateness must first be issued by the Historic Preservation Board. Exterior changes that will minimally impact the appearance of a structure such as re-roofing, fences, paving, and repair with matching materials can be expedited by the Minor Review Committee of the Board in 2 to 10 days. Major modifications that would significantly impact a property in the district, such as alterations, additions, new construction, relocation, and demolition, require a hearing of the Board for approval. Expect approximately seven weeks from the closing date until the Certificate of Appropriateness is issued. The City charges a \$50 fee for a Certificate of Appropriateness

There are exceptions to these requirements. Approval does not have to be obtained for landscaping; any change to the exterior that is not subject to view from one or more public streets, parks or lakes; color; and emergency repair that will not change the exterior design. In addition, chain link fences may not be installed where they are visible from the street, parks or lakes.

### Incentives

The City takes an active role in preserving the architectural heritage of the Lake Lawsona Historic District and offers a property tax exemption for contributing buildings in the district. The property tax exemption is to encourage property owners to substantially rehabilitate contributing structures in the district. This 10-year exemption applies to 100% of the City's portion of the property taxes attributed to the increase in property value due to rehabilitation. The exemption period remains intact with the sale of the property.

### Information

For further information regarding the Lake Lawsona Historic District or questions concerning modifications to structures or property within the district, contact the Historic Preservation



### Historic Plaques

When the Lake Lawsona Historic District was first formed in 1994, Thornton Park plaques were purchased with help from the City of Orlando. As you may have noticed, not all houses have this plaque. We encourage you to help preserve and highlight the historic character of our Thornton Park neighborhood by ordering a plaque. The Thornton Park Neighborhood Association paid for the one-time pattern charge. Plaques cost about \$80.

Plaque Size: 12' x 6"

Background color: Black

Raised Text and Border: Satin Silver

Plaques can be ordered through Custom DeSigns, 840 North Mills Ave, Orlando, FL 32803, (407) 898-0373.



## THORNTON PARK MAIN STREET DISTRICT (TPD)

The Thornton Park Neighborhood is also home to one of Orlando's favorite Main Street Districts, the Thornton Park District, which is shared with the South Eola Neighborhood: The Thornton Park Neighborhood Association works closely with the Thornton Park District to coordinate events, neighborhood projects, communications, etc.

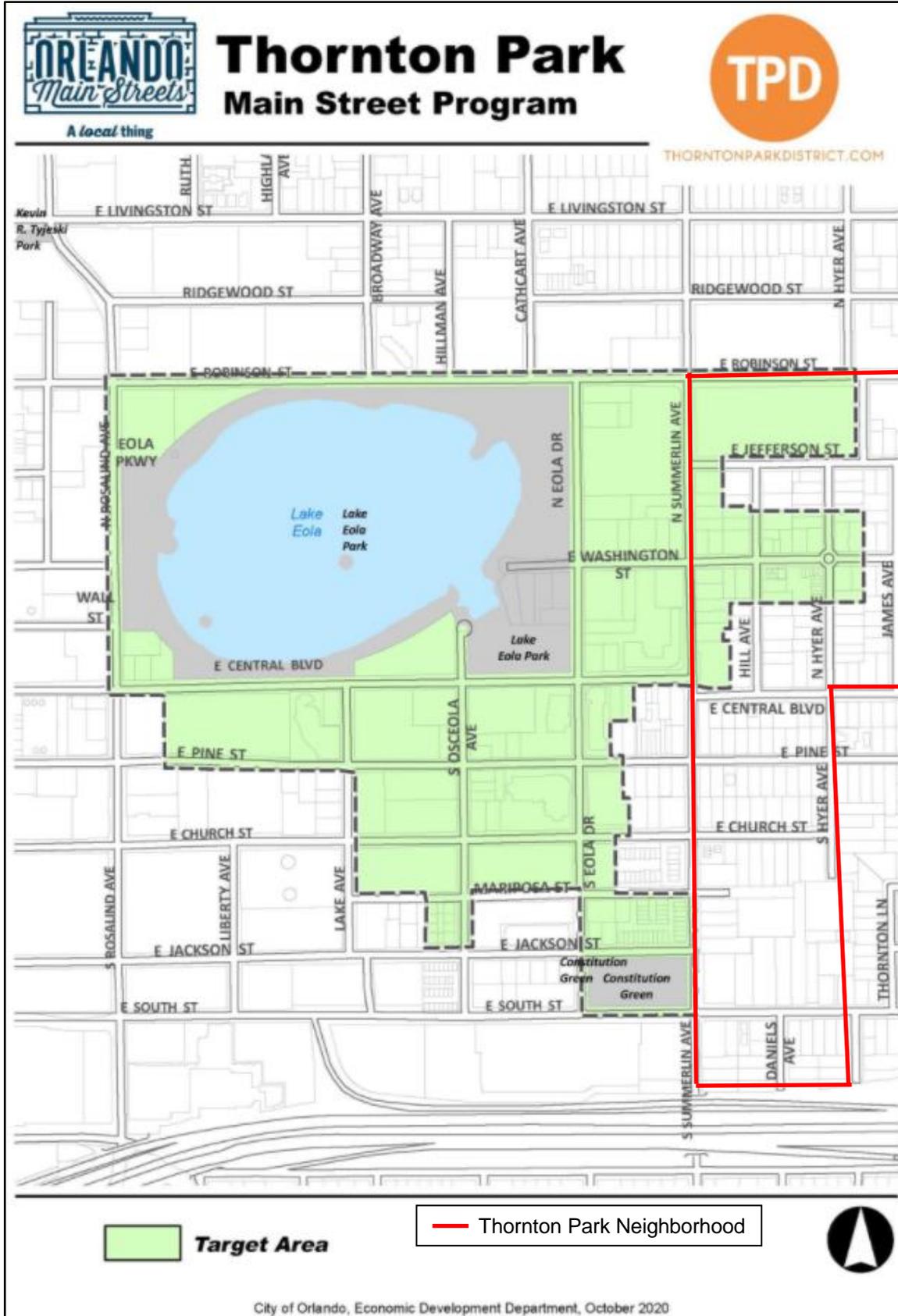


## DOWNTOWN FOR GROWNUPS

According to their website ([www.thorntonparkdistrict.com](http://www.thorntonparkdistrict.com)), "Thornton Park has a very cosmopolitan feel, as it is the location of exclusive restaurants, high-end fashion boutiques, and The Sanctuary, which has some of the most expensive condo units in Orlando. Other luxury condominium buildings in that area include The Waverly and 101 Eola. It has also become one of the most desirable and expensive places to live in downtown, attracting young professionals and urban dwellers. As a result, the area has become a lively 24/7 neighborhood, with a diverse mix of people. Greenwood Cemetery, Orlando's oldest cemetery, is located just south of Thornton Park in the Lake Davis/Greenwood neighborhood. Designed and plotted in 1880, it is the final resting place for many of the city's founders.

The overall look of the neighborhood and creative reuse of existing structures serve as a reminder that this emerging community within walking distance of downtown is a reassured enclave. Styles of homes range from 1920s bungalows to Craftsman-style structures to Tudor Revivals, all of them lining renovated brick streets with pristine landscaping. Adaptive reuse is also a calling card of the community.

Foodies, fear not! Thornton Park offers numerous pet-friendly dining options. The Stubborn Mule has freshly prepared food and a selection of Mule Cocktails and craft beer. The outdoor patio is open and spacious and offers shaded seating if you're looking to stay out of the sun. Dexter's is another restaurant that has dog-friendly outdoor patio seating. The quiet location makes it the perfect place to relax with an adult beverage or two. The drink menu includes wines, champagne, ports, and sherry. Are you hungry, too? The menu features seasonal options including brunch, lunch, and dinner plates. Burton's Bar and Grill is a laid-back bar with an old jukebox and a wide selection of beer. This dive bar is a favorite with locals. Play darts, jam out to your favorite song, or chow down on some popcorn."



## THORNTON PARK DISTRICT MERCHANT LISTING

### TOP TIER MEMBERS

The Abbey  
Anthony's Pizza & Italian Restaurant  
Cavos Bar and Kitchen  
Century 21  
Community Paper  
Eola General  
GiGi Stream  
Graffiti Junktion  
Jinya Ramen Bar  
McMillen Law Firm  
The Mezz  
Novelty at 101  
Soco Thornton Park  
Downtown Orlando Partnership  
Downtown Arts District  
The 808

### MERCHANT LISTING

<u>Acupuncture Fit</u>	<u>KIVA MedSpa &amp; IV Lounge</u>
<u>Aku Aku Tiki Bar</u>	<u>Lauren Nicole</u>
<u>Alan Frenkel Auction &amp; Realty</u>	<u>Lloyd Commercial Advisors, LLC</u>
<u>Almut Belote Jewelry</u>	<u>Maxine's on Shine</u>
<u>Artifact Candle Foundry</u>	<u>Metro City Reality</u>
<u>Burton's Bar</u>	<u>Olde Town Brokers</u>
<u>CKO Kickboxing</u>	<u>Orlando Content Marketing</u>
<u>CoCo Cocina Mexicana</u>	<u>Orlando</u>
<u>DDS Thornton Park Dental Arts</u>	<u>Pizza at Lake Eola</u>
<u>Eola Pets</u>	<u>Post Parkside</u>
<u>Eola General</u>	<u>Raw Juicing &amp; Detox</u>
<u>EO Inn &amp; Spa</u>	<u>Russian Ballet of Orlando</u>
<u>Falcon Bar</u>	<u>Shine Dental Studios</u>
<u>Great Harvest Bread Co Orlando</u>	<u>South Street Marketing</u>
<u>Greenery Creamery</u>	<u>Stardust Lounge</u>
<u>Hunter Vision</u>	<u>The Stubborn Mule</u>
<u>iMassage</u>	<u>Vamp Hair Studio</u>
<u>Island Time</u>	<u>The Veranda at Thornton Park</u>
<u>Lambs Eat Ivy</u>	<u>Wilson Law Firm</u>
<u>Jax Thornton Park</u>	<u>World of Beer</u>
<u>Jay Johnson Hair Salon</u>	<u>YogaMix Orlando</u>

## TRANSPORTATION LINKS

### Lymmo

LYMMO is a free Downtown bus service that allows you to conveniently see, feel, and hear the heartbeat of the vibrant city of Orlando. In Thornton Park, the bus picks up on Central Blvd, across from Soco. And best of all, LYMMO is FREE! For the Orange Line, service runs every 7 minutes during peak, and 15 minutes off peak. The Grapefruit Line runs every 10 minutes during peak and 15 minutes off peak. Additionally, the buses kneel and have special boarding ramps, to make riding much easier for wheelchairs and passengers with disabilities. Hours of Operation are as follows: Monday – Thursday: 6:00 am to 10:00 pm, Friday: 6:00 am – Midnight, Saturday: 10:00 am to Midnight, Sunday: 10:00 am to 10:00 pm.



## Bike Paths

Orlando continues to expand its bicycling options, building more bike paths, trails, sidewalks, bike lanes, and sharrows on surface streets. This website will give you an idea of the bike paths going through and near Thornton park: <https://www.orlando.gov/Parking-Transportation/Bike-Trails-and-Paths>

## LEGEND

-  BIKE CORRAL
-  BIKE SHOP
-  FIRE STATION
-  HOSPITAL
-  RESTROOMS
-  BIKE SELF-REPAIR STATION
-  SUNRAIL STATION
-  TRAIL HEAD
-  PARK SPACE

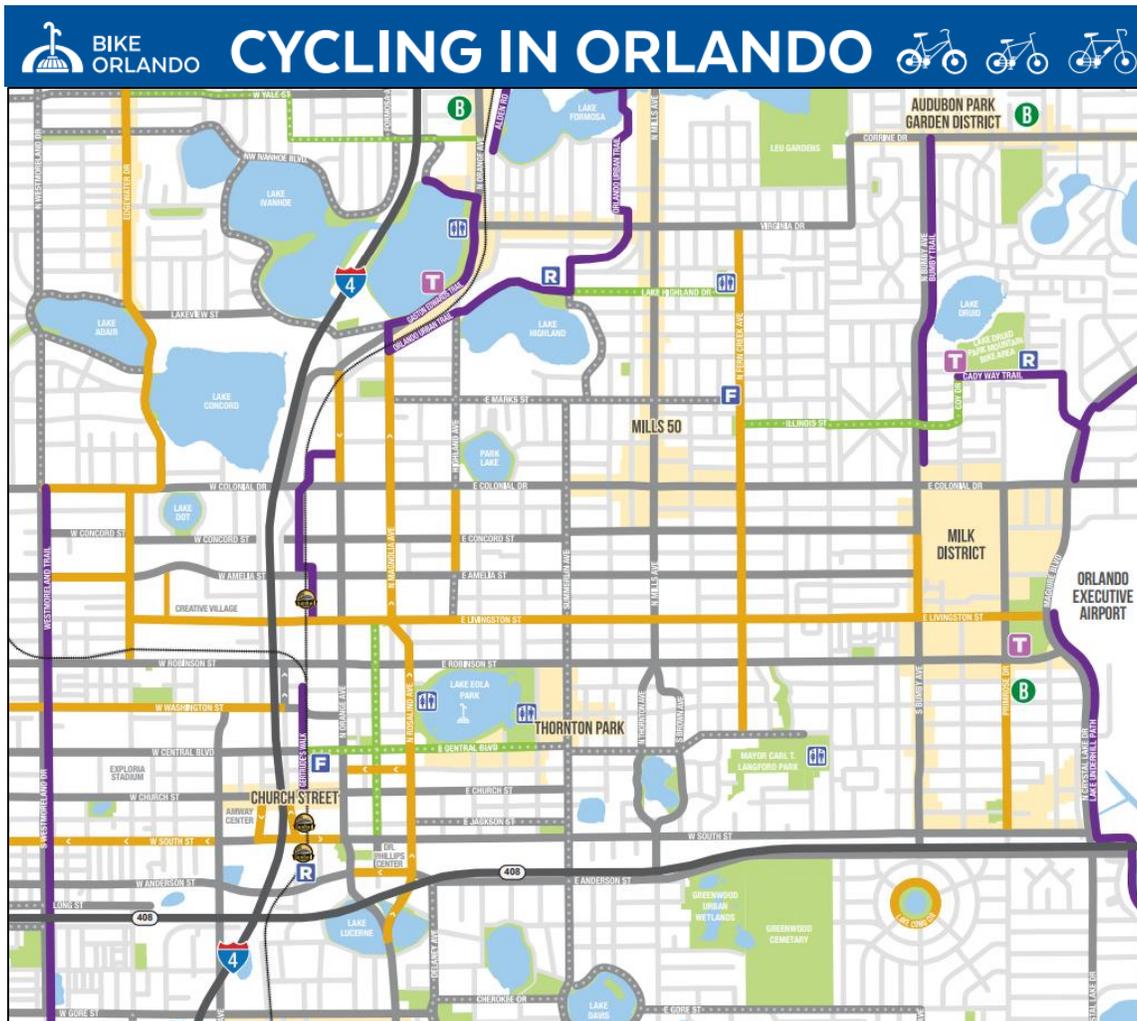
**TRAIL**  
  
 Most comfortable for cyclists of all ages and abilities.

**BIKE LANE**  
  
 A painted bike lane typically located between a parking lane and a moving vehicle lane, or between a sidewalk and a moving vehicle lane.

**ON STREET ROUTE**  
  
 People who are cycling share the roadway with motor vehicles on relatively quiet neighborhood streets.

**SHARROW ROUTE**  
  
 Roadway corridor marked with shared lane symbols to make motorists aware of cyclists in the travel lane.

**MAIN STREET DISTRICTS**  

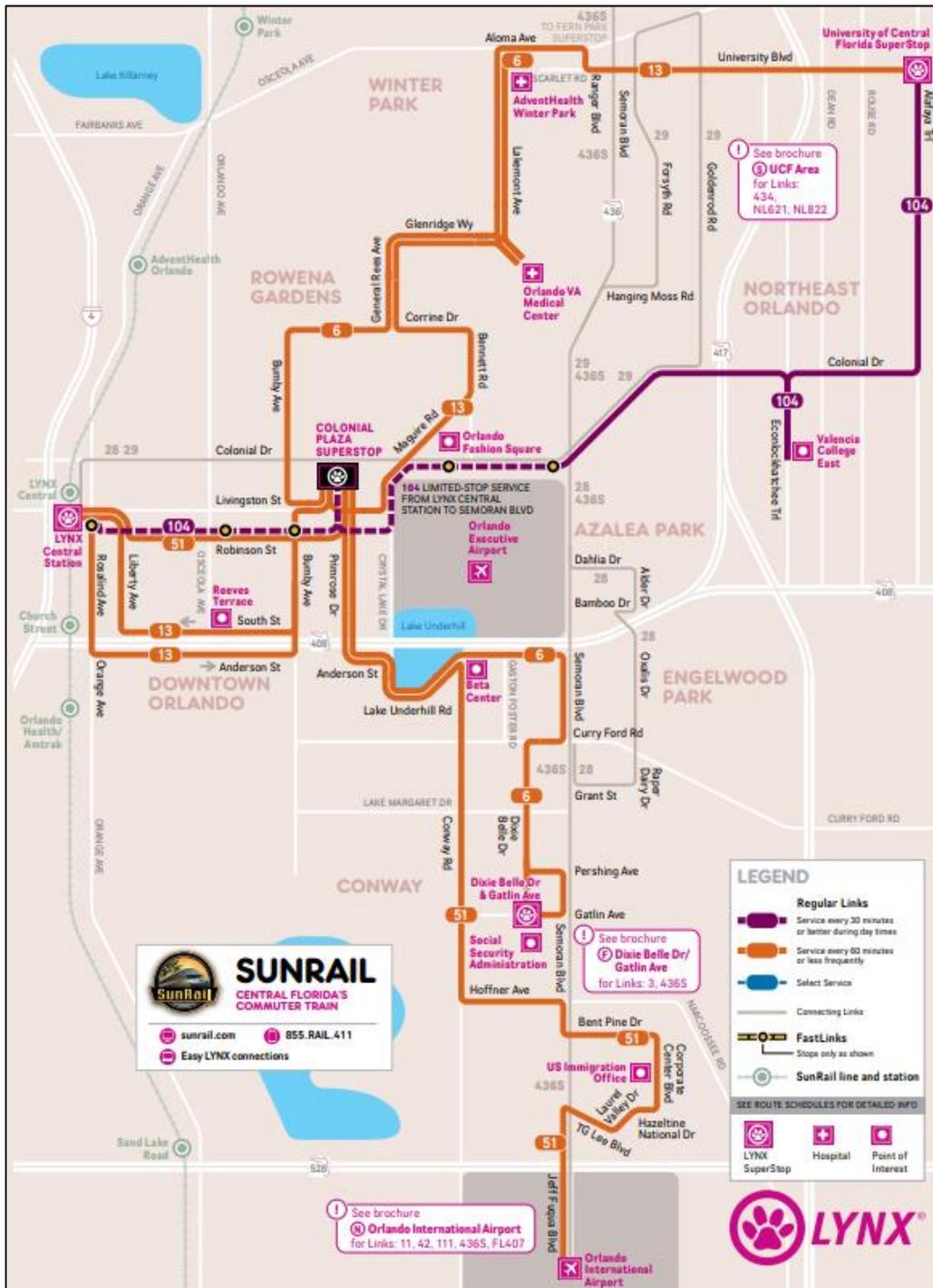



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## Buses

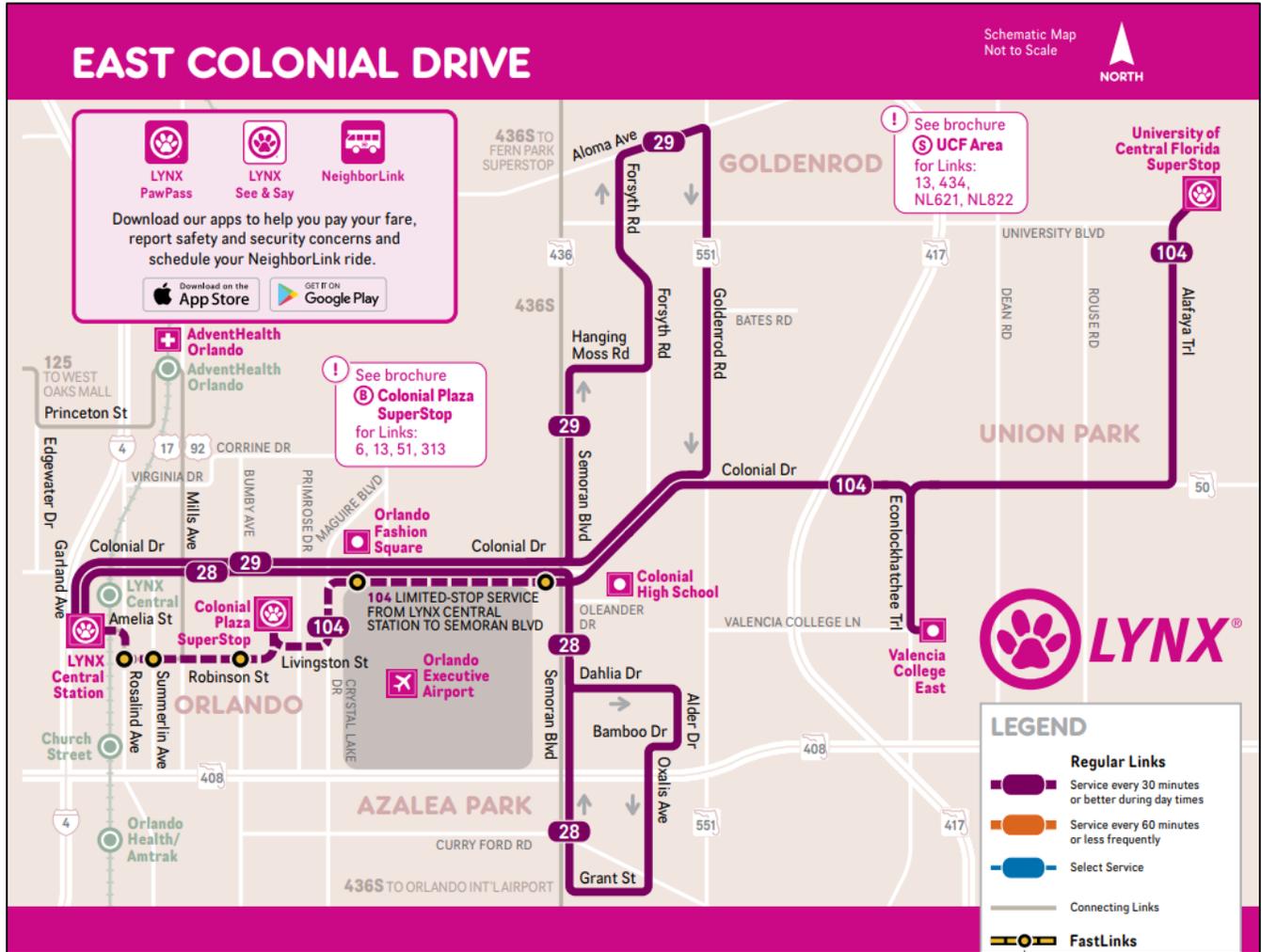
Two Lynx bus routes go through Thornton Park, and several others are close by.

The **51** goes from Lynx Central Station to Colonial Plaza, and on to the VA Clinic and UCF (UCF students ride free!).



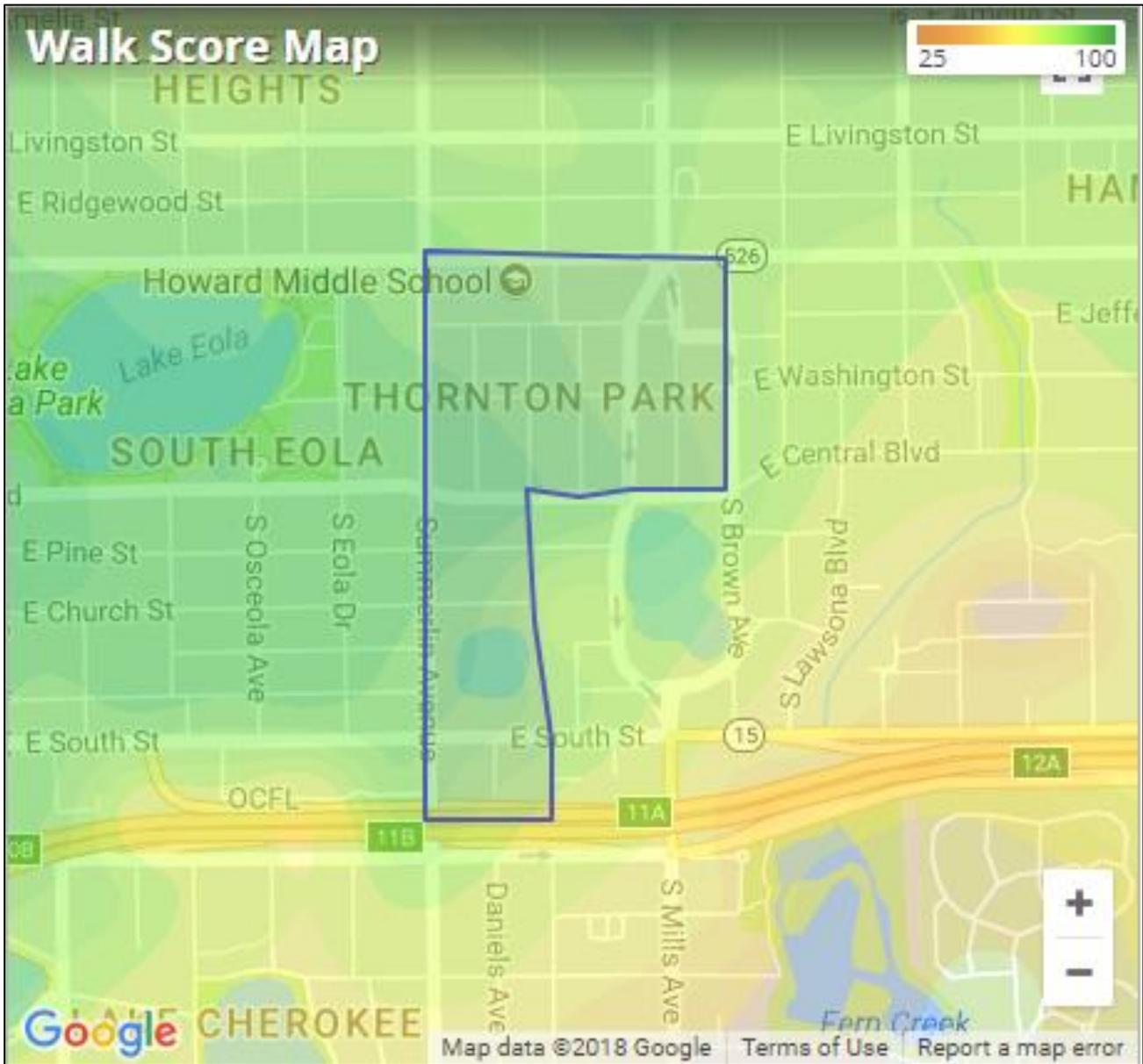
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The **104** is an express line, picking up at the corner of Summerlin and Robinson, stopping at Fashion Square Mall and Valencia College East, and UCF.



## WALKABILITY

According to Walkscore.com, Thornton Park has an average walkability score of 85, which is very walkable, and is the third most walkable neighborhood in Orlando. Within a ten-minute walk, we have access to numerous restaurants, bars, salons, shops, public transit stops, entertainment, and a grocery store. Orlando's overall Walk Score is only 42. Walkscore.com says that they "believe that walkable neighborhoods with access to public transit, better commutes, and proximity to the people and places you love are the key to a happier, healthier and more sustainable lifestyle".



**GOVERNMENT INFORMATION**

(The following information is provided by the Orange County Property Appraiser.)

**Schools**

Edgewater (High School) | [View Zone Map](#)

Principal: Heather Kreider  
Office Phone: 407-835-4900  
Grade: 2016: C | 2015: B | 2014: B

Howard (Middle School, a Fine Arts Magnet School located in Thornton Park!) | [View Zone Map](#)

Principal: Kimberly Beckler  
Office Phone: 407-245-1780  
Grade: 2016: B | 2015: A | 2014: A

Hillcrest (Elementary School, a Foreign Language Magnet School, in a new building a few blocks from Thornton Park!) | [View Zone Map](#)

Principal: Ms. Ruth N Ortega  
Office Phone: 407-245-1770  
Grade: 2016: A | 2015: A | 2014: A

**Utilities/Services**

Electric: [Orlando Utilities Commission](#)  
Water: [Orlando Utilities Commission](#)  
Recycling: [Orlando](#), every Thursday  
Trash: [Orlando](#), every Monday  
Yard Waste: [Orlando](#), every Thursday

**Elected Officials**

US Representative, Florida’s Tenth District:	<a href="#">Maxwell Alejandro Frost</a>
State Senate, District 13:	<a href="#">Linda Stewart</a>
State Representative, District 47:	<a href="#">Anna Eskamani (of Thornton Park!)</a>
Orange County Commissioner, District 5:	<a href="#">Emily Bonilla</a>
School Board Representative, District 6:	<a href="#">Dr. Karen Castor Dental</a>
Orlando City Commissioner, District 4:	<a href="#">Patty Sheehan</a>

**Library District**

Orange County Library System: [Orlando Public Library, main branch](#)

**Nearby Amenities (1 mile radius)**

ATMS	20
Banks & Financial Institutions	37
Barber Shops	9
Beauty Salons	31
Child Daycare	7
Dentists Offices	25
Dry Cleaners	6
Gas Stations	5
Grocery Store	6
Gyms & Fitness	5
Nail Salons	1
Optometrist Offices	2
Pharmacy	6
Restaurants	147

**Census Demographics**

Population	768
Population Density	5217.4
Diversity Index	40.5
Total Households	431 households
Total Single Family Homes	201 homes
Total Residential Condos	29 condos
Median Single Family Home Living Area	1324 sqft.
Median Residential Condo Living Area	720 sqft.
Median Single Family Home Market Value	\$273,488
Median Condo Market Value	\$133,200

## HELPFUL LINKS

TPNA website: [www.ThorntonPark.org](http://www.ThorntonPark.org)

TPNA Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ThorntonParkNeighborhoodAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/ThorntonParkNeighborhoodAssociation)

TPD website: [ThorntonParkDistrict.com](http://ThorntonParkDistrict.com)

TPD Facebook: [facebook.com/ThorntonParkDistrict](http://facebook.com/ThorntonParkDistrict)

The Community Paper (local news):

[www.yourcommunitypaper.com](http://www.yourcommunitypaper.com)

Bungalower (local news):

[Bungalower.com/category/neighborhoods/thornton-park/](http://Bungalower.com/category/neighborhoods/thornton-park/)

Neighborhood Postings:

[www.Nextdoor.com](http://www.Nextdoor.com)

City Historic Preservation:

[www.cityoforlando.net/planning/cityplanning/hp\\_lawsona.htm](http://www.cityoforlando.net/planning/cityplanning/hp_lawsona.htm)

City Services:

<http://www.cityoforlando.net/services/>

