



WRITING SAMPLE

Client: Maxavenue

Why I love Allandale

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Allandale is one of Austin's most treasured central neighborhoods, and I'm so lucky to call it home. Developed in the late 1950s and early 1960s, the area exudes the mid-century vibe that is so in demand right now — low-slug, ranch-style brick homes that offer special charm.

Large lots, soaring, mature trees and central city conveniences characterize this area of Austin, which is bounded by Anderson lane to the north, MoPac to the west, Burnet Road to the east, and roughly 45th Street to the south. It's close to downtown Austin, and not far from the airport.

My husband and I moved here in 2005 when we decided we needed a bigger home for our growing family. We really wanted Central Austin convenience and we loved the big lots in Allandale. We were attracted to the tree-lined streets and we appreciated being close to everything. We had an idea that this area might blossom into something special, and we were right.

We're so glad we made that decision all those years ago. We've grown to love Allandale even more. The sense of community is amazing. All the neighbors are really friendly. They're always out walking or biking but they never fail to make time to stop and chat! It's a beautiful blend of people, with some who have lived in the area for decades, and others who are young families just starting out. The mix of demographics makes it such an interesting and vibrant place to live.

Adding to the fun and vibrancy are the neighborhood events that take place year 'round. I especially love the Fourth of July parade that everyone comes out to — it's one of the oldest in Austin. There are beautiful floats and free ice cream, and my kids just love it. Believe it or not, I also love the neighborhood garage sale. It's a great opportunity to walk around and catch up with everyone. I never know what my daughters are going to come home with... blue velour stilettos, anyone?

There's lots of personality in this neighborhood. Some neighbors even keep chickens! Everyone takes pride in their homes and yards, keeping them attractive. Some neighbors are updating their homes, keeping the mid-century aesthetic but modernizing a bit. It's really fun to watch.

Everything we need is close by. We can go to the doctor or dentist, get groceries or eat a wide selection of restaurants...without stepping foot outside of our neighborhood. With Shoal Creek running through the neighborhood, we love the easy access to hiking and biking opportunities there.

And the park! Northwest Park (officially Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park) is right in the middle of the neighborhood, and it's truly a gathering place for the community. Any time you visit, kids are playing on the playscape or squawking at the ducks in the pond. Tennis and basketball courts are always ready to host a challenging game, and come summer, the Olympic-sized pool is full of lap swimmers, while kids frolic in a pool that's just for them.

Speaking of kids, Allandale is lucky to have award-winning elementary, middle and high schools — all right in the neighborhood. It's comforting to know our kids are always close to home.

As a Realtor, I drive all over town, helping families build new lives. But I'm grateful to know that at end of the day, when it's time to come home, I get to return to Allandale, and I know I'll find everything I need — a gallon of milk, craft supplies for a last-minute school project, an easy-fix dinner, the company of like-minded neighbors, or a relaxing stroll to enjoy mother nature — it's all right there, right at home in Allandale.