

Roger Auger – Board Questions

1. How would you address the parking issues? Fine policy, towing, method of enforcement.

I believe it's important to limit the number of cars parking on our neighborhood streets. Our streets are not very wide, and when cars are parked on both sides, it creates tight driving conditions and reduces visibility, which can be a safety concern. Beyond safety, the neighborhood simply looks better when fewer cars are parked along the street.

I also believe we should allow vehicles in driveways to block sidewalks when necessary. Forcing walkers into the street to go around parked cars can be unsafe, especially for children and families.

As for enforcement, it's important that we focus on safety and community appearance—not on generating revenue. Too often, violation letters are sent to homeowners for vehicles that may not even belong to them. A better approach would be to provide a simple online portal where residents can report repeat offenders directly to the board for review. While hiring patrols to constantly monitor the neighborhood is one option, it can feel invasive and expensive—not the kind of atmosphere we want to create in Harper's Preserve.

2. How would you address Harpers Trace gate and entry in general? Manned or Unmanned.

This is one of the most discussed topics in our community, especially on social media. While the most secure option would be to verify every car entering the neighborhood with security staff at both gates, that approach comes with significant drawbacks. The costs of staffing and maintaining manned gates would be extremely high, and verifying every vehicle would likely create serious traffic congestion—especially since the main exit already backs up during peak times.

I believe we need to take a balanced approach. Before making any major changes, we should research and evaluate all options, including technology-based access systems or part-time staffing, to find a solution that enhances neighborhood security while keeping costs and traffic delays to a minimum.

3. Speeding along Harpers Way, Preserve Way, Harpers Trace? Speed Bumps, Stop Signs, allow traffic enforcement.

I agree that speeding along the long, straight stretches of our main roads can create dangerous situations. I love seeing families out walking, exercising, and kids playing—it's part of what makes our neighborhood feel like a true community. We need to ensure it stays safe for everyone.

Speed bumps and additional signage are possible solutions, but before making any decisions, I believe the board should partner with local law enforcement to assess the issue. They are the safety experts and can help us determine the most effective and practical measures. Building a strong relationship with them will help us make informed, community-focused decisions that balance safety, cost, and convenience.

4. Pool issues? Swim at Your Own Risk, enhancements.

I believe our pools are one of the best features of Harper's Preserve, but the amount of time they're open each year isn't sufficient. The season ends while the weather is still incredibly hot—and residents are left staring at two beautiful pools through locked gates, sweating.

I understand the HOA's current approach of having lifeguards on duty at all times, as it helps limit liability. However, I would like to explore options for extending pool hours or the open season by consulting with legal counsel on how we could safely implement a "Swim at Your Own Risk" policy while still protecting the community from potential lawsuits.

Additionally, we should find more ways to utilize the West Village Recreation Center. Most community events are currently held at the South Village location, leaving one facility underused. I would also like to review the community's original amenity plans to see which features were never added and evaluate if we can bring some of them to life. With new neighborhoods being developed around us offering more amenities, we need to stay competitive to retain and enhance our property values.

5. Front Yard Maintenance? Landscaper, keep, eliminate, alter.

Whatever direction we take, we need to ensure that front yards are consistently well-maintained. I don't want our community to look like some of the nearby neighborhoods where it seems like jungles are growing in the front yards. On the other hand, I'm always impressed by neighbors who manage to make their lawns look like putting greens—I have no idea how they do it!

For homeowners who want to maintain their own yards, I think we could consider a reduced-cost option. However, they should still be responsible for meeting the community's minimum standards and continue to pay a portion of the fee since our landscaper also maintains common areas.

As for our current landscaping company—could they do better? Absolutely. The board should hold them accountable to the terms of their contract and ensure performance expectations are met. We should also periodically review bids from other companies to make sure we're getting good value, but we shouldn't assume a new contractor will automatically be better. When I served as HOA President previously, we changed

landscapers four times—each one promised to be “the best,” yet they all required consistent follow-up to ensure results. The key is oversight, not just turnover.

In Conclusion

The next few years are going to be exciting for Harper’s Preserve as we take full ownership of our community’s direction. Important decisions will need to be made, and they won’t always be easy. Even well-intentioned choices can spark strong reactions—just take a look at how passionate our residents are on Facebook! That passion is a good thing, though—it shows how much people care about where we live.

That’s why it’s important to have someone on the board with real HOA experience. While all of the candidates bring impressive backgrounds, only a few have served on an HOA board before. I spent over eight years as President of mine, so I understand what it takes to make tough, sometimes unpopular decisions. I know I might get a few dirty looks walking around the neighborhood—but serving on the board is worth it if it means preserving and improving the community we all chose to call home.