

# **SUPER NEIGHBORHOOD 22 COUNCIL MINUTES**

## **June 13, 2011 MEETING**

- I. Call to Order and Introductions 6:30pm
- II. Approval of minutes from May 9<sup>th</sup> meeting (5 minutes)
- III. Presentations (60 minutes)
  - a. TxDOT 290/Hempstead Corridor Project, Larry Blackburn – TxDOT Representative : Mr. Blackburn, accompanied by representatives from the 290 Program Management consultant, presented information on the upcoming construction project which will rebuild the IH 610/290 Interchange (Projects J-1 and K). Detailed information for this project along with pictures and animations can be accessed via the web at [www.my290.com](http://www.my290.com) . Voters approved these projects as part of Proposition 12 in November 2007 which authorized the issuance of up to \$5 billion in general obligation bonds for transportation projects. Approximately \$314.6 million of these funds have been released for the US 290/Hempstead Corridor Program. Construction will start in mid July.
    - i. Project K build the inbound side of the interchange between IH 610 and US 290.
    - ii. Project J-1 will provide motorist traveling inbound and outbound from IH 10 with direct access to US 290 and the eastbound IH 610 North loop.
  - b. Proposed Amendments to the Houston Noise Ordinance, Kathryn Bruning, CoH Deputy Assistant Director. Commercial Permitting and Christopher Newport, CoH Administrative and Regulatory Affairs Department: Provided information regarding changes to the CoH current Noise Ordinance (Ch 30) revisions. This issue was identified approx. 1-1/2 years ago as a city-wide issue that needed to be addressed. In the past 3 years, 58,000 calls have been received by HPD regarding noise complaints. The next stakeholders meeting will be held at the Southwest Multi-Service Center, 6400 Highstar at 6:30pm. The key points to be discussed are:
    - i. Definition of “clearly audible”
    - ii. Defined “low frequency” noise levels
    - iii. Clarification of the property line and curb line designation
    - iv. Creation of a tiered permit system
    - v. Procedures for denial or revocation of a permit after 3 or more convictions in a 36 month period.

The current ordinance allows for permit holders to increase the level of sound coming from their property up to 75Db on a daily basis. The new ordinance will provide HPD with increased administrative tools to enforce the revised ordinance and a means to regulate habitual offenders. Upon approval of the revised ordinance, it will be sent to City Council for approval.
  - c. Livable Center Study, Diana Ponce DeLeon, Houston Planning and Development Department: The CoH will be releasing an RFP for consultant services for a study create walkable, mixed-use places that provide multimodal transportation options, improve environmental quality and promote economic development along Washington Avenue. A Federal Grant of \$350,000, including 20% local matching funds, has been awarded to the CoH, through the Houston-Galveston Area Council, for this study. The study area will begin at the Washington Ave/Franklin split, on the east, and continue to the WOW round-a-bout on the west and include areas approx. ¼ mile north and south of Washington Ave. The study should take approx. 9 months and will be awarded around November/December of this year.
    - i. Items for consideration

1. Previous studies
2. Implementation studies
3. Transportation Options
4. What happens if nothing is done
5. Implementation opportunities for the City, Developers and Community

ii. Stakeholder Advisory Committee will be formed and consist of:

1. City of Houston Representatives
2. Neighborhood Representatives
3. Business Owners
4. Better Houston representative

#### IV. Old Business (30 minutes)

- a. HISD proposal to close Memorial and Stevenson Elementary schools: HISD has voted to close Stevenson Elementary. The students will be redistributed to Memorial and Love elementary schools.
- b. City Sells Recycle Center: The recycling center at Harvard and Center street has been sold to Admiral Linen for \$2.1 million. The City will lease the Center back from Admiral for 18 months, at no cost, while a search for a new site is underway. There is an option for an additional 6 month extension on the lease.
- c. Washington Ave Entertainment District: No Update.
- d. Municipal Setting District (MSD) Sought in Magnolia Grove, Jane West: No Update.
- e. Wal-Mart Operating Agreement: Eileen Reed of RUDH: No update.
- f. Committee Reports
  - i. Transportation Committee, Scott Johnson: SN22 presented the plan to the Sierra Club.
  - ii. MKT Detention Pond, Hike & Bike Trail and 380 Agreement, M-J Buschlen & Scott Johnson: The Parks Dept. is working on finalizing funding for the bridge replacement to connect to the MKT Trail west of Shepherd .
- g. 2011 SNAP/CIP Request Update: [http://pdinet.pd.ci.houston.tx.us/snap\\_public/index.asp](http://pdinet.pd.ci.houston.tx.us/snap_public/index.asp) The overlay of Shepherd Ave will begin in late September and the overlay of Yale between i-10 and 610 will begin in August .

#### V. New Business (20 minutes)

- a. Candidate Forums: A committee lead by Kathy Vossler and Jane West is working on organizing a series of candidate forums for this November's elections. The committee will develop a series of questions which will focus on how the candidates for council districts C, H and the At-Large council members will support our neighborhoods as well as general city related issues. Questions can be sent to Kathy Vossler at [katherinevossler@yahoo.com](mailto:katherinevossler@yahoo.com) . Dates are being confirmed for 3 forums.
  - i. Districts C and H
  - ii. At-Large Position 2
  - iii. Other contested At-Large Races (Positions 3,4,5)

#### VI. Announcements: (5 minutes)

- a. None

#### VII. Adjournment: 8:30pm