

**Guests:**

Austin Halvorson, State Rep. Sarah Davis HD134	Dori Boone, First Ward
Mark Lentini, HPD Central Division Commander	Jane West, Old Sixth Ward
Yadira Estrada, HPD Central Division Lieutenant	Lee Krause, Old Sixth Ward
Letha Allen, Citizens Transportation Coalition	Stacie Fairchild, Rice Military/SN22 Secretary
Kaylen Sennette, CM Abbie Kamin District C	Mark Fairchild, Rice Military
Julia Retta, CM Abbie Kamin District C	Joan Miller, Rice Military
Mark Williamson, SN15 - Greater Heights	Dexter Handy, Rice Military

**Civic Club Representatives:**

Steve Vealey, Camp Logan/SN22 Vice President	Michael Herman, Rice Military
Matt Glenn, Cottage Grove	Mauri Lucas, West End
Mike VanDusen, Crestwood/SN22 President	Howard Watson, West End
	Ross Mattern, West End

**Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.**

**I. Introductions**

**II. Acceptance of Minutes from Meeting Held on January 16, 2020**

**III. Presentation A: Washington Avenue Parking Benefit District—Mark Fairchild**

Mark Fairchild, an advisory committee member of the Washington Avenue Parking Benefit District (PBD), explained that the pilot program formed in 2014 splits revenue generated by parking meters on Washington Avenue with the city to use toward services and mobility improvements that enhance the quality of life, and promotes walking, cycling, and the use of public transportation. It generates around \$90K per year in which 60% is returned to the district to finance improvements. The remaining 40% goes back to the district to offset expenses. On February 14, the PBD approved a 25% rate hike for some of its meters during high-traffic weekend hours. Evening meter rates from 6:00 PM to 2:00 AM increased to \$2.50 per hour from \$2.00, and flat-rate parking to \$10.00 from \$7.00 on Thursday through Saturday nights. The rate hike only applies to meters in the 5000 to 5300 blocks of Washington. The advisory committee is charged with developing a project list based on feedback received from public meetings. It has also begun to contemplate working with ridesharing companies to establish predetermined drop-off and pickup areas to improve safety. The quarterly meetings are open to the public, and will be moving to meet every six weeks to make some

much-needed decisions. The PBD's boundaries are Houston Avenue, Center Boulevard, Lillian/Decatur Streets, and Westcott Street. [PDB Boundary Map](#)

#### **IV. New Business:**

**A. Super Neighborhood Leadership Meeting with CM Abbie Kamin:** Julia Retta (Chief of Staff to CM Kamin) introduced herself and said that CM Kamin and her team will hold bi-monthly meetings with District C Super Neighborhood leadership to stay engaged beginning February 6. The first meeting was introductions and discussing hot issues that need to be addressed as soon as possible. In SN22, parking, narrow streets, enforcement, bars, crime, the Roundabout, and some of the city parks in need of attention were discussed. CM Kamin and her team have already begun to work on some of these issues. Julia encouraged civic club leaders to ask residents to work with SN22 leaders to streamline efforts especially on projects that need capital dollars.

**B. AARP Walk Audit Recap:** Mike VanDusen (Crestwood/SN22 President) informed everyone that SN22 conducted the first walk audit with AARP at the Washington Roundabout on December 14, 2019. The objective was to gather information to give feedback to those who design and repair streets. The goal is to make the pedestrian realm better and safe. A team of 20 auditors, which included SN22 residents and other SN leaders, examined intersections, cross streets, conditions of sidewalks, driver behavior, public safety, and more for two hours, then rated the overall audit on paper. It was a learning experience; the group realized there was more surface area to cover than expected; multiple audits of the Roundabout are needed. The general observations were good but the tool kit and process needs some refinement. The forms need updating and a phone app needs to be developed (which will require funding) to simplify the ability to collect good data; this will be an iterative process. The compiled data will be given to elected officials and other local leaders when advocating for safe street features such as sidewalks, crosswalks, and properly timed traffic lights. Mike asked anyone interested in participating in future walk audits to send an email to [superneighborhood22@gmail.com](mailto:superneighborhood22@gmail.com). The next walk audit will be conducted at the Washington / Heights / Yale / Waugh intersection. The methodology is somewhat in flux. We learned it's best to split a section in two parts. Each section will include a pre-meeting to teach volunteers how to conduct a walk audit and fill out the form. It will also take multiple audits of a particular area to collect all of the data.

#### **V. Old Business:**

**A. Bicycle Advisory Committee:** Mike VanDusen (Crestwood/SN22 President) shared the City of Houston indicated recently they are considering extending the Patterson Street Bikeway south of Washington Avenue to Blossom Street (East) to Jackson Hill (South) to the Bicycle station at [302 Jackson Hill](#) and Scotland Street.

**B. Planning Commission Updates:** Mike VanDusen (Crestwood/SN22 President) mentioned there were no applications on the Planning Commission agenda affecting SN22.

**C. Quality of Life Updates:** Stacie Fairchild (Rice Military/SN22 Secretary) shared that eight new bars will open in 2020 on Washington Avenue, one of which (the Sugar Room) is opened this month. The same issues still exist as discussed each month.

**D. City Council and Department Updates:** No Update

**E. Super Neighborhood Alliance:** No Update

**VI. Announcements, and Open Comments:** No Comments

**VII. Upcoming Events of Community Interest:** No Announcements

**VIII. Motion to Adjourn:** 8:00 p.m.

Next meeting: June 18, 2020 @ 6:30 PM.