

Guests:

	Hannah Cobb, At Large 5 CM Sallie Alcorn's Office
Ali Schoon, LINK Houston	Deputy Angie Diaz, Constable Precinct 1
Lt. Christopher Davis, HPD Central Command	Deputy Chase Langston, Constable Precinct 1
Mark Williamson, SN15 - Greater Heights	Lt. Cheryl Southwell, HPD Citywide DRT
Penny Morales Shaw, HD148 Candidate	<u>Civic Club Representatives:</u>
Margaret Lynch, Commissioner Rodney Ellis Precinct 1	Steve Vealey, Camp Logan/SN22 Vice President
Monica Campos, Commissioner Adrian Garcia Precinct 2	Mike VanDusen, Crestwood/SN22 President
Morgan Yates, Commissioner Jack Cagle Precinct 4	Kim Jessop, Cottage Grove
Council Member Sallie Alcorn, At Large 5	Dori Boone, First Ward
Junelle Berry, TABC Audit Division	Kim Kressenberg, First Ward
Lt. Geoffery Weise, TABC Enforcement Division	Paul Benz, First Ward
Jack Valinski, Mayor's Assistance Office	Raul Salas, Magnolia Grove
Kay Walton, SN62 - Midtown	Nicolas Rouckout, Memorial Heights
Linda Trevino, METRO	George Hinkal, Old Sixth Ward
Julia Retta, Council Member Abbie Kamin's Office District C	Stacie Fairchild, Rice Military/SN22 Secretary
Austin Halvorson, Representative Sarah Davis HD134	Mark Fairchild, Rice Military
Janice Lakey, City of Houston Public Works	Dexter Handy, Rice Military
Ryan Jones, Federal Railroad Administration	Brian Roberson, Rice Military
Buck Russel, Union Pacific Railroad	Bea Roberson, Rice Military
Sgt. James Roque, HPD Central Command	Ross Mattern, West End
Officer Lucia Viera, HPD Central Command	Karen Mattern, West End
Assistant Chief Henry Gaw, HPD Patrol Region 1	Keith Edgar, Rice Military
Lt. Julie Zogg, HPD Central Command	Margaret Poissant, Westwood Grove
Sgt. Chad Wall, HPD Central Command	

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

I. Introductions

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

III. Presentation:

A. Crime Update - HPD Assistant Chief Henry Gaw, Patrol Region 1 Command: Chief Gaw shared he's been with HPD for 26 years and started his career with Central Command in 1994. He is new to Patrol Region 1 as of July 2020 (making a lateral move from Patrol Support Command) and is responsible for the Central, Kingwood, North, North Belt, Northeast, and Gang divisions. The SN22 crime update is for August 2020. Most of the crime occurred in apartment complexes between 6:00 - 9:00 PM daily except Tuesdays and Fridays where the numbers were a little bit lower. Two robberies occurred in August 2020; one at Memorial Park and the other at Taylor Street Bridge. HPD made 27 arrests, 11 were DWIs. Thefts decreased but still remain relatively high at 17 incidents with the majority occurring at businesses. Burglary of a Motor Vehicle (BMVs) decreased but still remain high at 37 incidents with most occurring in parking lots. Washington Avenue had four DWIs. There were five aggravated assaults with two involved known suspects and the others involving strangers. The data is trending down for non-violent and violent crimes. HPD is conducting random checks of the bars to make sure they are complying with city rules and regulations. Chief Gaw encouraged residents to continue to call incidents in to the HPD non-emergency #713-884-3131. Lieutenant Christopher Davis asked Mark Fairchild for more Parking Benefit District funds to provide additional units to patrol Washington Avenue during problem hours. Lieutenant Davis reported random sound checks of the bars on along Washington Avenue and all were found to be compliant. HPD is referring over occupancy and COVID calls to the Fire Marshal.

B. Rail Safety - HPD Lieutenant Cheryl Southwell, Citywide Differential Response Team: Lieutenant Southwell shared the rail U.S. transportation system map to show all of the rail lines. It can take a locomotive engineer one mile or more to stop a train. On average, every three hours in the U.S. someone is either struck by a train due to trespassing or struck at a highway-rail grade crossing while operating a motor vehicle or as an "other" roadway user or pedestrian. Railroad property is private property. Crossing over rail tracks is a crime except at grade crossings. It is a misdemeanor charge and you can be ticketed. This a problem in the City of Houston and the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is working with HPD to lower the number of incidents. Railroad trespassing is the leading cause of all rail-related deaths in the U.S. The FRA gets reports daily which includes at least one death. 74% of trespassing casualties occur within 1,000 feet of a grade crossing. There will be a 2021 FRA Railroad Trespassing and Grade Crossing Technology Summit to be held in the Spring. Once the dates are set, Lieutenant Southwell will share the details. Harris County is in the top 10 in the nation for trespass, grade cross and fatality incidents. Because density is increasing around rail tracks nationwide, trespassing are on the rise and suicide-related incidents have decreased. Males between the ages 40-59 are the largest trespass casualties by walking and laying on the tracks. Taking pictures of trains on the railroad tracks is illegal and very dangerous. As of August 6, 2020, the majority of incidents in Harris County occurred inside Loop 610. In SN22 since 2014, there have been three trespass injuries not at grade crossings; one was standing on the tracks, one was sitting on the tracks and the third was walking on the tracks. Trains will blow their horn when they see someone crossing the tracks

to warn them even in a Quiet Zone. Each crossing has a blue and white sign with Union Pacific's Emergency Response and Communications Center contact information to report a problem or an emergency. The sign will have the crossing ID # and a hotline number. The location of the sign will be on the signal masks if the crossing them or the signal crossing box. If there are no signal masks, they are displayed on a wooden pole. They take complaints and gather data to try to operate cleaner in the area. Lieutenant Southwell offered to conduct a rail safety class for the group at a later date. If heavy trash is found on the rail Right of Way, residents are asked to call the Union Pacific hotline number and Union Pacific will pick it up.

C. TABC Mobile App Demo - TABC Lieutenant Geoffery Weise; TABC Auditor Junelle Berry: Austin Halvorson of State Representative Sarah Davis' officer introduced Ms. Berry and Lieutenant Weise. Lieutenant Weise gave an activity report from May 21 - September 7, 2020. In the Houston region, TABC has completed 3504 inspections, 156 of those were on Washington Avenue. Statewide TABC has completed 23,409 inspections. Undercover operations (including COVID) in Houston totaled 158, on Washington Avenue there were 7, and statewide TABC completed 809. Complaints in the Houston region totaled 1,080, on Washington Avenue there were 35, and statewide there were 3,749. Thirty-five emergency orders were issued in the Houston region where TABC suspended the permit of the location for 30 or 60 days depending on the violation related to the Governor's order. Two were issued on Washington Avenue bars and statewide 137 were issued. A typical TABC investigation takes about 60 days to complete. Ms. Berry walked residents through the TABC Mobile App. TABC's website was updated September 1, 2020. Complaints can be made several different ways by calling it, through the mobile app or on the website. All information is subject to a FOIA open records request. Bar owners will request regular open records requests on their location to see who is reporting them. TABC has 220 agents statewide.

IV. Old Business:

A. Bicycle Advisory Committee: No Update

B. Planning Commission Updates: No Update

C. Quality of Life Updates: Stacie Fairchild (Rice Military/SN22 Secretary) said as the city and state reopen, SN22 is beginning to experience some cut-through traffic and illegal parking in neighborhoods bars are reapplying as restaurants. The Standard Bar has been an issue as it relates to the state order and loud noise. It is considerably loud, over capacity impacting the Rice Military, Westwood Grove, and Woodcrest neighborhoods. The Quality of Life task force will continue to monitor the SN for any changes and inform city, county, and state authorities of violations where applicable.

D. City Council and Department Updates: Julia Retta (District C Chief of Staff) informed everyone that two METRO bus shelters were installed in Rice Military; one on Washington Avenue at Sandman and the other on Durham at Washington Avenue. Julia reminded residents to reach out to her with any issues in SN22 and CM Kamin's office would be glad to help.

E. Super Neighborhood Alliance: No update

VI. Announcements, and Open Comments: No Comments

VII. Upcoming Events of Community Interest: The City of Houston cancelled National Night Out citywide.

VIII. Motion to Adjourn: 8:00 PM

Next meeting: October 15, 2020 @ 6:30 PM.