

June 2025 Meeting Summary

Meeting Date

June 25, 2025

Meeting Title

Super Neighborhood 22 (SN22) Meeting

Attendees and Civic Club Representatives

- Mike McCauley (Woodcrest)
- Neil Bremner (Crestwood)
- Mike Van Dusen (Crestwood)
- Jack Valinski (SN24 Neartown/Montrose President)
- Michelle & Scott Wolpert (Camp Logan)
- James Ronje (DON/Mayor's Assistance Office)
- Mark Fairchild (Rice Military)
- Matt Smith (City of Houston Controller's Office, Rice Military)
- Anna Smith (District C Office)
- Victoria Calvillo (Precinct 4 Commissioner Lesley Briones' Office)
- Colin Gary (METRO)
- Tim Engel (Pastor, Messiah Lutheran Church)
- Beau Moreno (HFD Captain – Flooding/Marine)
- Officer Aaron Day (HPD Central Division)
- Mario Castillo (District H Council Member)
- Russell Etherton (Council Member Castillo's Office)
- Meg Poissant (Westwood Grove)
- Stacie Fairchild (SN22 President)
- Cecilia & Matt Tetlow (West End)
- Howard Watson (West End)
- Ross & Karen Mattern (West End)
- Chris Parma (Memorial Heights)
- Dexter Handy (SN22 Vice President/Rice Military)
- Joe & Kate Hood (Rice Military)
- Brian Bottorff (Magnolia Grove)
- Jim von Suskil (SN22 Secretary/Arlington Court)
- Tim & Karen Goddard (Rice Military)

A quorum was established for the purpose of taking actions during this meeting.

Main Topics Discussed

1. FY2026 City Budget Overview – District H Council Member Mario Castillo:

Council Member Castillo briefed the group on the ongoing development of the city budget. He is vice-chair of the Budget & Fiscal Affairs Committee, and stressed the committee's focus on the capital improvement plan along with transparency in the development process. He has proposed evening public sessions once per month to accommodate residents who are unable to attend midday meetings due to work, school or caregiving responsibilities.

- Trash services funded at \$101M (down 5.5%)
- Library budget down 7.2%, Police budget \$1.1B (+3.4%)
- State appropriations added \$17M for parks citywide
- STR enforcement begins Jan 2026; \$150K funded for enforcement officer
- Consolidation and AI discussed to manage staff retirements and improve service

2. Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Transparency – Council Member Mario Castillo:

- Proposed ordinance for monthly council updates and early project notifications
- Three CIP amendments referred to Committee of the Whole

3. Evening Public Session Proposal – District H Council Member Mario Castillo:

- Proposal to move one monthly City Council public session to 6:00 PM
- Scheduled for July 8–9 for public comment and council vote

4. Transportation Committee Relaunch – SN22 President Dexter Handy:

Dexter Handy briefed attendees on the plans and progress.

- Matt Tetlow and Mark Kosiara were cited as principal contributors; volunteers were solicited.
- Reestablished vision and mission for the SN22 Transportation Committee
- Civic survey conducted via Mentimeter to solicit input in real time regarding problems and projects on the committee's horizon.
- Topics: Washington Ave Corridor, pedestrian safety, speed limits, METRO Boost 85

5. TIRZ 5 Project Prioritization – Dexter Handy:

- Survey identified top priorities: Washington Ave improvements, pedestrian bridges, sidewalks
- Committee will circulate broader survey and advocate based on resident input

Actions Voted On

Approved: Letter of support to METRO via Council Members Abbie Kamin & Mario Castillo requesting improvements along Boost 85 corridor with a copy to Mayor Whitmire:

- Mid-block crossings and pedestrian refuge islands
- High-visibility crosswalks
- Transit Signal Prioritization (TSP) reinstatement

Approved: April 2025 Meeting Minutes

- These minutes were singled out for specific approval in order to provide documentation of the Rice Military Civic Club's financial support of SN22 admin expenses of \$214.92 for

reimbursement. The minutes were approved and the motion passed in advance of the July 1, 2025 deadline.

Committee Updates

Transportation Committee:

- Relaunch with new members from several neighborhoods
- Biweekly meetings to monitor projects and provide recommendations

Technology Committee:

- Potential role in future survey tools and digital engagement

Event Announcements

July 8 – City Council Public Session (speak on evening meeting proposal)

August/September – Next Super Neighborhood Alliance meeting to discuss CIP transparency

Key Takeaways

The June SN22 meeting featured robust dialogue around the City's budget, prioritization of public safety and basic services, and the need for transparency in capital planning. The Transportation Committee has re-energized with fresh leadership, and community feedback is shaping priorities across both METRO and city-funded projects. Resident participation in upcoming council sessions and surveys is strongly encouraged.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 PM. The next meeting will be held on July 17, 2025.