

## Minutes from the meeting of Mar 9, 2022 of Super Neighborhood 17 – Eldridge/West Oaks

- I. Call to order at 7:00 p.m. President Baker opened the meeting. The meeting was held online through Zoom.
- II. A quorum was established.
- III. Though not expressly acknowledged in the meeting, we thank the following officials for their presence and participation:  
Stephanie Leota – Office of Rep. Lizzie Fletcher, US Congress, TX District 7  
Kent Clingerman – Office of Commissioner Jack Cagle, Harris County, Pct. 4  
Rene Ruiz – City of Houston, Department of Neighborhoods  
Ramit Masti – Communications and Marketing Manager, Energy Corridor of Houston  
Cherrelle Duncan – Office of Councilwoman Tiffany Thomas, City of Houston, District F  
James Rains – Office of Councilwoman Mary Nan Huffman, City of Houston, District G  
Fredy Gomez – Harris County Tax Office  
Jada Kennard – Harris County Tax Office  
Ofc. T. Whittaker – HPD  
Lt. Lui – HPD
- IV. For Community Safety **Ofc. Whittaker of HPD** started with a discussion on crime. He noted that overall, crime is down, both non-violent and violent crimes. The one exception being murders. He spoke on various high profile cases near the area. Asked about initiatives to prevent catalytic converter theft he noted that none are currently planned, HPD is recommending etching, painting, and caging. He has noted that some victims are no longer reporting the theft.

Asked about following up on suspects after arrest, he noted that that information is through the court system and not HPD. Asked about maintaining records of suspects, he noted that while there are databases, they are limited with what actions they can take. Lt Lui noted that gun store purchases are subject to an “FBI check.”

- V. **Ramit Masti – Energy Corridor of Houston** – introduced herself, a former journalist and former communications director for the city crime lab. She then introduced the district. It is funded from commercial property taxes. It is managed by a board, appointed by the mayor and confirmed by city council. They are tasked with leveraging city services.

Next she discussed the current re-imaging. Their goal is to continue to make the district a destination through marketing (including streetscaping), community activity such as the farmer’s market or street fair, encouraging mixed use development, and improving transport and mobility options. The ultimate goal is to bring both businesses and people to the area.

She discussed the new logo, area brand, and unified streetscape. This includes decorations,

lighting, and seasonal displays. She discussed bus accessibility, including the Woodlands direct shuttle connection. Also included was a mobility study to improve walk-ability and bike-ability. Finally she discussed flooding concerns being monitored and addressed through the Energy Corridor District.

Asked about The Woodlands bus connection reverse commute use, it was noted that the bus provides only limited access to The Woodlands destinations, though it was a good point to consider. Asked about extending the district to Westheimer, that would require a vote of annexation into the special tax district. When asked which property uses were included, she noted that the general idea behind the special tax district is to collect from commercial property taxes, hence only commercial use properties are generally included.

VI. Community Leaders

- a. **Stephanie Leota – Office of Rep. Lizzie Fletcher** – noted Rep.. Fletcher’s support for Ukraine; call if there are any issues or assistance with Ukraine and Russia. She also noted a prioritization on American energy sources. They continue to advocate for changes and improvements at the local USPS offices.
- b. **Cherrelle Duncan – Office of Councilwoman Tiffany Thomas** – Was asked about the potential for bridge construction on Synott, but did not have any details on the project. Asked about commercial truck parking on Oxford Park, Overbrook and Eldridge, asked if the fine for parking was too low. A constituent noted the addition of a Kelsey-Seybold Clinic on Westheimer across from HCC at Hayes.
- c. **James Rains – Office of Councilwoman Mary Nan Huffman** – noted on commercial truck parking that drivers are good at avoiding fines or paying the lowest cost. He suggested complaints be directed at 3-1-1 and then to your city council office. Repeat offenders may get HPD to look into towing, thought there are limited resources for commercial truck towing.

Next he discussed Kendall Library and supply chain delays. The current completion date is June. Phase 1 of Kirkwood completion was suggested to be mid April. There is a plan for Dairy Ashford, with an application for funding through the Houston-Galveston Area Council. He noted that the Briar Forest Lofts project is currently tabled.

He concluded with crime and an initiative to install Flock cameras to read and track license plates.

Asked about voting issues in the primary, he noted that was a county issue. A constituent noted their appreciation for the vote against a specific law firm with a conflict of interest. In response to other questions, he noted with county redistricting complete, city redistricting is in progress.

- d. **Kent Clingerman – Office of Comm. Jack Cagle** – spoke again on adjustments due to redistricting of commissioner precincts. He noted the website for the county, which includes CIP information at hcp4.net . He discussed issues surrounding the March primary election.
- e. **Rene Ruiz – City of Houston, Department of Neighborhoods** – spoke on crime and the “One Safe Houston” initiative. He also reminded everyone that his office continues to update the list of neighborhood groups. He was also asked about lane striping on Memorial Dr. at State Highway 6.
- f. **Fredy Gomez – Harris County Tax Office** – noted that 50% of staff are in office. He also noted that the county was starting to process payment plans for delinquent filers.

VII. Committee Reports.

- a. Nick Kornuta – Chair of Flooding – noted the Energy Corridor briefing from the USACE and HCFCD, with the Energy Corridor District posting that information. He also noted the USACE is deeply revisiting the tunnel option and that Commissioner Ramsey has put additional funds aside to ensure a robust analysis.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Having a quorum, the February minutes were approved, noting a modification of the date to 2022.

IX. New Business

None

VIII. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

**NEXT MEETING – Apr. 13, 7:00 PM, location TBD**