



“State of Midtown”

Address from the Midtown SN #62

January 2023



“Why does the
Midtown SN
#62 exist?”



MIDTOWN SN #62
Building Together

“Why does the Midtown SN #62 exist?”



The Midtown Super Neighborhood (MSN #62) brings together residents, civic organizations, homeowner associations, institutions, and businesses working to identify, plan, and set priorities to address the needs and concerns of Midtown.



Our vision is to create a vibrant, walkable and livable community that is safe and clean for residents, businesses and visitors.



The mission of MSN #62 is to identify and advocate for issues that reflect the will of the people. The MSN is not a small group of individuals who seek to serve their personal agendas. We represent the voice of the community at large: residents, business owners, organizational leaders, etc. We need a body of committed residents who serve to hold our city and local officials accountable for the decisions that impact our daily lives.



This is our forum for Midtowners to be objectively informed, to speak up and to connect with issues of concern.



AREAS OF CONCERN: Public safety, Homelessness, Economic development, Public infrastructure



“What’s
going on?”



“The Good”

- Market-based Parking (2019)
 - Resulted in accountability from developers when building projects requiring off-street parking in residential areas
- Parking Benefit District Advisory Committee (2022)
 - First appointment of MSN leadership to a committee with fiscal oversight and decision-making affecting Midtown
- Midtown Management District Board Chair & several Committee Chairs are Midtown residents
 - People with a vested interest and cooperative spirit
- The ION project in south Midtown
 - Projected long-term benefits for Midtown

“The Bad”

- Democratic deficit: no Midtown residents serving on the Midtown Redevelopment Authority/TIRZ Board
- Lack of a comprehensive & integrated master plan for Midtown
- Capital improvement projects that cause pain points for residents and businesses due to inadequate public input
- Abandonment of Caydon real estate project in central Midtown

“The Ugly”

- Blight still exists; largely within the central core of Midtown (from Travis to Caroline)
- Loss of local and national businesses (all since 2020)
 - Bank of America
 - Common Bond
 - CVS
 - Fiesta
 - McDonald’s
 - Verizon
- Bad commercial neighbors
 - Noise pollution, litter
- Population of “street people” attracted to the area

“The Unknown”

- Status of the TXDoT North Houston Highway Improvement Project (NHHIP) project affecting Pierce Elevated & SW Frwy Elevated
- The outcome of Houston City Council redistricting/LULAC lawsuit, resulting in Midtown residing in one city council district (District D)
- Transitions both politically (new TX State Rep) and economically (*business closures*), that will influence Midtown’s progress either positively or negatively; Is Midtown entering a dip in activity/progress or is it poised to come out of a dip?
- New mayoral administration in 2024: what will be their stance on the control & influence of TIRZs?



“Where are
we going?”



“Where are we going?” → from crawl to run



CRAWL

2018 – Fall 2021

- Internal governance
 - Officer commitments
 - Delegate commitments
- Connecting w/ city & Midtown govt
- Communications presence (web, social media, meeting signs)



WALK

Spring 2022 – Summer 2022

- Internal governance
 - Officer commitments
 - Delegate commitments
 - Financials
 - 501(c)3 status
- Business outreach (income stream)
- Expanding the volunteer base (MMD/MRA mtgs, social events, etc.)



RUN

Fall 2022 -

- Full officer slate
- Committed group of delegates
- Established seat at decision-making tables
- Consistent income from local business spotlights
- MSN service project

“Where are we going?”

→ from
walk to run

- Defining MSN’s 2023 key initiatives
- Finalize MSN governance items
 - Website administration
 - Officer responsibilities (RACI)
 - Bylaws
 - 501(c)3 status application
- Election of new MSN Officers (new term starts June 2023)
 - Former Presidents available to serve in advisory capacities for smooth transition
- Kickstart service project day (Spring or Fall 2023)
 - To demonstrate care for our community, establish goodwill w/ Midtown citizens & organizations, increase MSN awareness



“We want to
hear from
you”



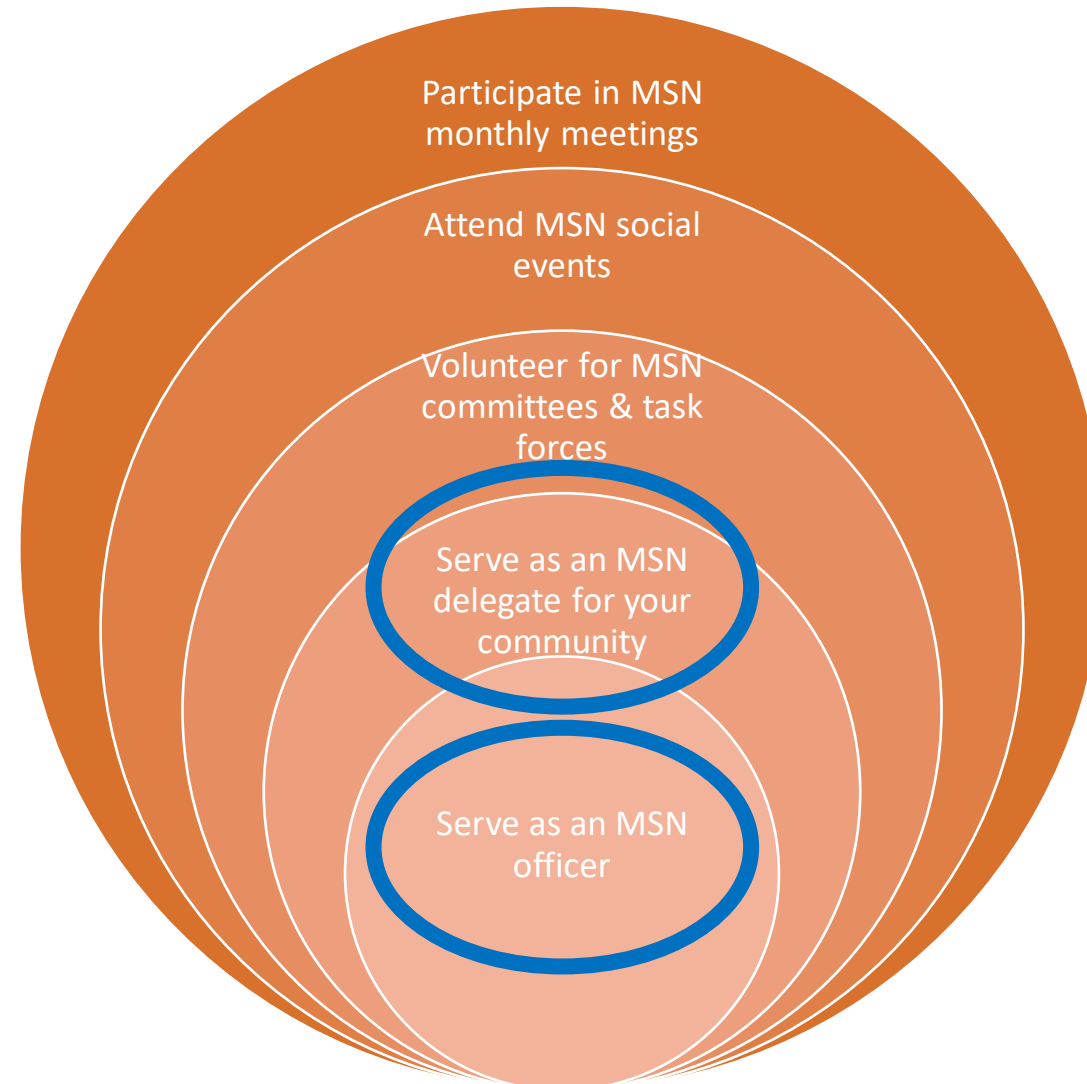
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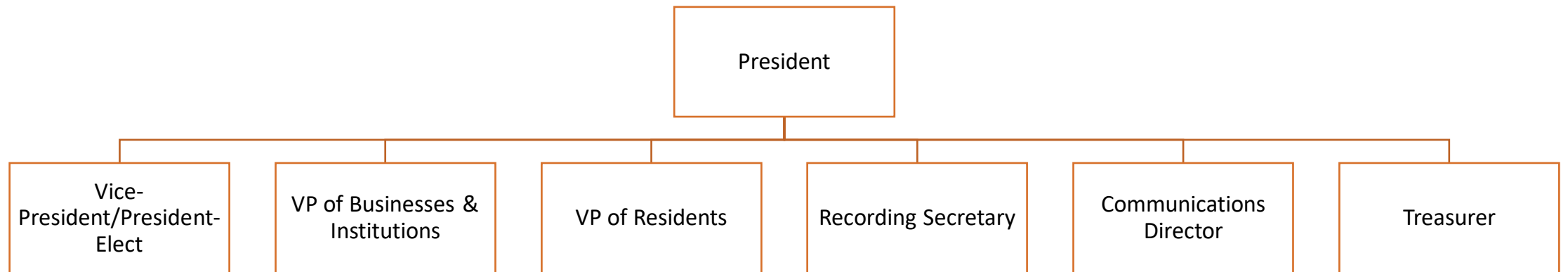
“What does
this mean for
me?”



“What does this mean for me?”



MSN Officer Structure



“What does this mean for me?”

GET INFORMED	GET INVOLVED	SPEAK UP
Attend monthly MSN meetings	Attend monthly MSN meetings	Attend monthly MSN meetings (to elevate neighborhood needs to MSN officers)
Read & forward monthly newsletter to neighbors	Serve as a delegate or officer	Vote/support on issues & initiatives
Attend monthly MMD meetings	Volunteer	

The MSN needs you, as citizens empowered with immense privilege to use your time, voice and vote to serve as officers, delegates and volunteers for the benefit of Midtown. We cannot expect (or rely on) elected and appointed officials who don't live in our community to advocate for our quality of life.

In short, if there is no MSN #62, Midtowners are at the mercy of people who, for the most part, serve agendas other than ours.