



SPRING BRANCH CIVIC ASSOCIATION (SBCA) NEWS & EVENTS

August 24, 2022

SBCA NEWSLETTER: We have decided to discontinue printing and distributing a newsletter door to door. First of all, it was relatively expensive to print, so we were limiting the newsletter to black & white rather than full color and one two-sided page. Second, it was a challenge to find volunteers to distribute door to door. So, rather than a bunch of people distributing a few blocks each, there were a few people distributing 100 or so each. Third, despite our efforts to communicate and inform with our newsletter, we found that many people who received the newsletter didn't actually read it. Disappointing. We have over 800 homes within the boundaries of our civic association, but only a very small percentage of homeowners actually pay their \$20/year dues. The board is judicious about how to deploy our funds and we must live within our means. With that in mind, we will distribute information electronically only, via email, NextDoor, Facebook and our website (www.springbranchcivic.com), rather than by a printed newsletter. If you have neighbors who are not already on our email list, please encourage them to send me an email and ask to be added.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT: National Night Out is a nation-wide annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods a safer, better place to live. The City of Houston will celebrate National Night Out on Tuesday, October 4th, 6-8 PM. SBCA will host a gathering for all residents at our Oak Tree Park (1441 Oak Tree). We will furnish ice, cold water, cups & some chairs. You are welcome to bring a snack to share and you might want to bring a chair or a picnic blanket. Although SBCA adopted the park and we maintain it, it is still a City of Houston park and therefore City ordinances apply, **so glass is NOT allowed.** Please join us to see our nice little green space and also to mix and mingle with the neighbors. We will be inviting HPD and CM Amy Peck and hope to have representatives from both in attendance. We are also working on a food truck or a sponsorship from area businesses, so if you have any suggestions, please contact us at sbcivicassn@gmail.com.

SBCA YARDS OF THE MONTH FOR AUGUST: Congratulations to homeowners at 1359 Bullock and 9771 Larston!



OAK TREE PARK VOLUNTEER DAY: Volunteers are now meeting once a month at 8 AM on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at Oak Tree Park (1441 Oak Tree) to clean up and mow. The next work day will be Tuesday, September 13th. Board Member Charmaine Bixler is furnishing two lawn mowers on those days. You can help mow or you can sweep the street gutters or pick up trash. All help is appreciated! In between our monthly clean ups by volunteers, we will be paying someone to mow so that it is mowed twice a month during the growing season.

RANDOM GUNSHOTS: Over the last few months, many parts of the City have been plagued by higher crime; and, even here in the heart of our neighborhood, we have had a rash of seemingly random gunfire, particularly along Westview, although no injuries were reported. Bev Chambers, SBCA President, contacted HPD to request an incident report pertaining to gun/gunshot issues for the SBCA area. According to the report, compared to other Spring Branch areas, we have a low number of reported incidents. HPD recommends that, if you hear distant gunshots, call 311 to report it as that is one way data is gathered and how HPD can determine where more patrols are needed. Another meeting with HPD will be scheduled to discuss these and other crime issues.


TIRZ 17 PLANS: Per the City's website, a Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) is a special zone created by City Council to attract new investment in an area. These zones help finance costs of redevelopment and promote growth in areas that would otherwise not attract sufficient market development in a timely manner. Taxes attributable to new improvements (tax increments) of commercial properties within the TIRZ are set-aside in a fund to finance public improvements within the boundaries of the zone. There is a TIRZ in our area -- the Memorial City Redevelopment Authority or TIRZ 17 -- established in January 2003. TIRZ 17 projects have included mobility, beautification and drainage. TIRZ 17 has plans to ask City Council to approve the annexation of additional commercial properties and to also extend the life of the TIRZ which is currently set to expire in 2029. According to the City Council Member for District A, CM Amy Peck, a Town Hall Meeting will be scheduled to present the TIRZ 17 plan and to receive public comments in advance of a vote on the proposal by City Council.

WELCOME COMMITTEE: We have a lot of homes within the boundaries of SBCA -- over 800. We could use some help with delivery of a welcome letter to new residents. The welcome letter has information about deed restrictions and trash pick-up and helpful telephone numbers, etc. If you would be willing to help with this effort, please contact us at sbcivicassn@gmail.com.


SBCA BOARD MEMBERS: At our Spring Social, Board Members were elected for one-year terms & then the Board voted on Officers. SBCA Board Officers & Members are:
Bev Chambers, President
Caroline Horsley, Vice President
Charmaine Bixler, Secretary
Cyd Dillahunty, Treasurer
Craig Adams
Jonathan St. Romain
Helga Nagy
Tom Jackson
Shah Sarvi

HPD NORTHWEST PIP MEETING: The Regional PIP (Positive Interaction Program) meetings are in person only and are held at the Faith Center Chapel at 8009 Long Point. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 20th, 7:00 PM. The program will be "Forensic Artists." Sounds interesting!

HPD CHIEF CITY-WIDE MEETING: This meeting can be attended in person and it will also be streamed on youtube. See flyer for more information.




Chief's Citywide "Positive Interaction Program"



For the month of September our program presentation topic will be:
“HPD SHOTSPOTTER PROGRAM”

This important presentation will educate members about how gunshot detection technology is helping the Houston Police Department combat violent criminal activity in the City of Houston.




The meeting will also be streamed live with sign language interpretation on HPD's YouTube channel:
youtube.com/houstonpolice
Closed captioning can be enabled on the YouTube video, or found at:
streamtext.net/player?event=CitywidePIP

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH 2022 7:00 P.M.
1602 STATE ST. HOUSTON, TX 77007

From: Officer James Sobota
Hope you can attend or log on and watch.

Voice # 713-308-9079

E-mail: james.sobota@houstonpolice.org
ASL Interpreter and captioning provided



TIRZ BOARD MEETING: The next TIRZ 17 Memorial City Redevelopment Authority Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 27th, 8:00 a.m., 9600 Long Point Rd., Suite 250. The public is welcome to attend in person or via zoom. The agenda and zoom link will be posted on the TIRZ 17 website (houstontirz17.org) closer to the date of the meeting. Public comments can be made in-person at the meeting or submitted in writing by 5:00 p.m. Monday, September 26, 2022, to lclayton@haweshill.com and it will be read aloud during the public comment section.

TRASH & RECYCLING: August is JUNK WASTE heavy trash curbside pick-up! Our regular heavy trash pick-up days are the 4th Wednesday of the month which this month will be Wednesday, August 24th. September will be a TREE WASTE ONLY month which will fall on Wednesday, September 28th. Please be aware of City ordinances concerning when to put out your heavy trash for pick up as well as when and where to put out your bins for regular trash and recycle. Click on this link - <http://houstontx.gov/solidwaste/trashfacts.pdf> -- to be directed to "Trash Facts" on the Solid Waste page of the City website The Trash Facts services guide has all the basic information you need to know about trash and recycling services. Please note the heavy trash pick up restrictions on page 2.

"Tree Waste": The City will pick up ONLY "clean" wood waste such as tree limbs, branches & stumps. The City will NOT pick up treated wood or furniture or any other type of heavy trash.

"Junk Waste": City will pick up furniture, appliances & other bulky material. City will NOT pick up roofing materials, brick, plaster, concrete.



Solid Waste Management Department

TREE WASTE SCHEDULE	
January	Tree Waste ONLY
February	Junk Waste
March	Tree Waste ONLY
April	Junk Waste
May	Tree Waste ONLY
June	Junk Waste
July	Tree Waste ONLY
August	Junk Waste
September	Tree Waste ONLY
October	Junk Waste
November	Tree Waste ONLY
December	Junk Waste

IMPORTANT CONTACTS:

HPD Northwest Substation

6000 Teague
832-394-5500

District A Office - CM Amy Peck

districta@houstontx.gov
[832-393-3010](tel:832-393-3010)

State Senator - John Whitmire

[713-864-8701](tel:713-864-8701)
<http://www.whitmire.senate.state.tx.us/>

State Representative – Lacey Hull

512-463-0727
<http://www.house.state.tx.us/members/member-page/?district=138>

ISSUES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD: Everyone can help preserve our neighborhood just by following deed restrictions and City ordinances and respecting your neighbors. If you see a violation, please report it. If you are not sure whether it is a violation or not sure how to report it, send an email to this address and we'll help.

Annual Dues are only \$20. Thank you to everyone who has paid their dues by mail or PayPal or at our Annual Meeting!

Please join SBCA to help support our efforts to provide venues for neighbors to meet and to keep residents informed of issues relevant to our neighborhood. There is a PayPal page on our website -- www.springbranchcivic.com -- and you can pay online using your PayPal account or a credit card. Or, you can mail your \$20 check payable to SBCA to P. O. Box 430574, Houston TX 77243-0574.

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, send an email back to this address asking to be removed from the mailing list.

***Regards,
Cyd Dillahunty
SBCA Board Member***