



Cherryhurst Civic Club Newsletter

June 2003

Civic Club Meeting Thursday, June 19

The next meeting of the Cherryhurst Civic Club will be this Thursday, June 19, at 7 p.m. in the Cherryhurst Park Recreation Center.

Cherryhurst resident Frazier King will be available to speak about new Residential Parking Permit Areas for Cherryhurst.

Civic Club Meetings Set for Third Thursdays

Civic Club meetings have been set for the third Thursday of the month. July's meeting will be on the 17th. August's meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 5, as part of the "National Night Out" program.

Residential Parking Permit Areas Proposed for Cherryhurst Blocks

Since the opening of the popular Hugo's restaurant at 1600 Westheimer, vehicle congestion has been a major problem for the residents at the southern tip of Cherryhurst. Traffic has increased dramatically on Mandell St. and parking has become more difficult for residents.

The City of Houston has a new Residential Parking permit Program which allows residential areas to apply for restricted parking

designation on a block-by-block basis.

The blocks most affected by the additional traffic and parking from Hugo's restaurant have been the 1700 and 1800 blocks of Missouri, and the 2600 and 2700 blocks of Ridgewood.

Resident Frazier King initiated and coordinated applications for these blocks earlier this year. The applications requested that Residential Parking Permit Areas be established on the 1700 and 1800 blocks of Missouri street, and the 2600 and 2700 blocks of Ridgewood, between the hours of 6 p.m. and midnight, seven days a week.

On June 5, the City of Houston

Planning and Development Department held a hearing on these and other applicants for the Residential Parking Permit Program.

Four Cherryhurst residents attended the hearing to speak in favor of the applications. No opposition to the applications was expressed at the hearing.

The application process requires evidence of resident support for the proposed area, and a city-conducted survey of parking conditions.

In order to qualify for the program, the block(s) under consideration must have 60% or more of on-street parking spaces occupied, with 25% or more of on-street

Sewer Upgrade Work Continues

PM Construction of Houston has been contracted by the City of Houston to upgrade the Cherryhurst Sewers, with work scheduled to be completed June 19th.

Workers are shown here in the alley of the 1800 block of Missouri.



parking spaces used by non-resident vehicles.

The results of the city parking survey were as follows:

- 1800 Block of Missouri (between Mandell and Ridgewood): 94% of the available parking spaces were occupied, with 88% used by “non-resident” vehicles.
- 1700 Block of Missouri (between Ridgewood and Windsor, south side only): 66% of the available parking spaces were occupied, with 75% used by “non-resident” vehicles.
- 2600 Block of Ridgewood (between Cherryhurst and Missouri, west side only): 60% of the available parking spaces were occupied, with 100% used by “non-resident” vehicles.
- 2700 Block of Ridgewood (between Missouri and California, west side only): 100% of the available parking spaces were occupied, with 100% used by “non-resident” vehicles.

All of the blocks applied met the survey requirements. Three of the four blocks were recommended for approval; the 2700 block of Ridgewood was not recommended because only one parking space was available on that block.

The next step in the process will be a vote by City Council, which should happen before the end of June.

If the applications are approved by Council, then block residents are eligible to purchase annual residential parking permits from the City for \$20 each, limited to the number of vehicles registered to the applicant address.

Visitor permits (hang-tags) are

\$2 each, limited to two per address. Residents who do not plan to park along the street on their block are not required to purchase annual parking permits.

Vehicles not displaying parking permit during the restricted hours (6 p.m. to midnight 7 days a week, in our case) will be ticketed and/or towed.

More information about the program is available on the City of Houston’s Web site at: http://www.ci.houston.tx.us/department/planning/planning_dev_web/nbhd_svces/decal.htm.

Yahoo Group Established for Civic Club

A Yahoo Group has been set up for the Cherryhurst Civic Club.

Anyone who is a resident or has an interest in Cherryhurst is welcome to join!

To join, go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cherryhurst/> and click on the “Join This Group!” button. Group membership is free.

Neartown Association Proposes Spur Alternative

The Neartown Association is pursuing an engineering study that will recommend to the Texas Department of Transportation that it separate the reconstruction of the downtown “spur 527” from the US 59 freeway improvements currently underway.

As it currently stands, the freeway spur is to be rebuilt in substantially the same form as it currently exists, with higher overpasses. This reconstruction will result in complete closure for Spur 527 from April 2004 to February 2006, with 40,000 vehicles that normally use the Spur being

diverted to alternate routes through Montrose.

Neartown is participating in an engineering study to propose splitting the Spur 527 reconstruction from the US 59 freeway construction, and improving the design for the Spur 527. It is soliciting contributions for the study from neighborhood associations and individuals. The first stage of the study is estimated at \$15,000, with final estimates for the study to cost \$60,000.

A separate tax-exempt account has been established for this purpose. Contributions should be made to the “Neartown Spur Change Fund” and should be mailed to the Neartown Association, P.O. Box 130320, Houston, Texas 77219.

Newsletter Distribution Volunteers Sought

If you can assist with the distribution of the Cherryhurst Newsletter, please call Mark Johnson at 713-542-3868 or email at mtjtx@earthlink.net

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