

**HOUSTON  
CITY  
COUNCIL  
DISTRICT  
G**



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# News From District G

June-July 2011

## To The Residents of District G:



L to R: Joe Turner, Director, Houston Parks & Recreation Department; Clarence P. Cazalot, Jr., Chairman of the Board, President and CEO, Marathon Oil Corporation; Oliver Pennington, Houston City Council Member, District G

Marathon Oil Corporation employees across the globe gathered on June 30, 2011, to celebrate the spin-off of Marathon Oil's refining, marketing and transportation operations into a separate company, which will continue to be a Houston-based independent exploration and production company with operations around the world. In District G's Grady Park, the day was celebrated with a flash mob dance, music, food, and fun, and a significant outpouring of generosity by Marathon Oil Corporation.

In another showing of outstanding support of the local community, Marathon Oil Corporation committed \$450,000 to the Houston Parks & Recreation Department to assist with plans to renovate Grady Park at 1700 Yorktown St. And this came right on the heels of a \$350,000 contribution from Marathon Oil and Conoco-Phillips which allowed 8 closed City of Houston swimming pools and 7 closed City of Houston community centers to be reopened and kept open at least through the summer.

Thanks to Marathon for its generous contributions to the City of Houston and its residents!!

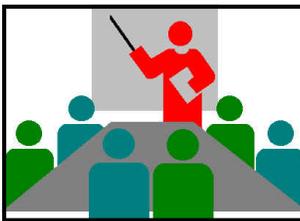
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## Out and About in District G



During the last couple of months, Council Member Pennington was extremely busy attending City Council Meetings and Committee Meetings held by the 9 City Council Committees on which he serves. In addition, Council Member Pennington and/or District G staff attended the following meetings/events outside the office:



- Broad Oaks Area Civic Association Annual Meeting
- Meeting with His Royal Highness Raja Nazrin Shah, the Crown Prince of the State of Perak, Malaysia
- Port of Houston Authority Terminal Tour
- MD Anderson 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event
- Houston Arts Foundation Adopt a Monument Celebration
- Ashford Hills POA Annual Meeting
- Eldridge/West Oaks Super Neighborhood Meeting
- Mid-West Super Neighborhood #20 Meeting
- METRO Long Range Planning Public Workshop
- Houston West Chamber of Commerce Teacher of the Year Award Ceremony
- Saving the Green Park Clean-up at Walter J. Rasmus, Sr. Park
- North Houston Association Annual Award Luncheon
- Briar Forest Super Neighborhood Meeting
- Houston Apartment Association Annual Education Expo
- Nottingham Forest HOA Annual Meeting
- Annual Police Week Memorial Service
- Memorial Super Neighborhood Meeting
- Westchase Super Neighborhood Meeting
- Tour of the New Houston Permitting Center at 1002 Washington Ave.
- Budget Workshops for each Department
- Meeting with the Consul General of Mexico
- ReBuild Houston Oversight Committee Meeting
- Crime Stoppers 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon
- Tour of the TIRR (The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual East End Golf Tournament
- HPD 18 District (Midwest) Civic PIP Meeting
- Greater Houston Builders Association Mid-Year Forecast Luncheon
- Building Owners and Managers Association Luncheon
- Neighborhood Services 3 Administrative Hearings on 1801 S. Dairy Ashford
- Memorial Park Outer Trail Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- Grady Park Event with Marathon Oil Corporation
- TIRZ 17 Regional Drainage Study Public Meeting

## High Density Ordinance Proposed

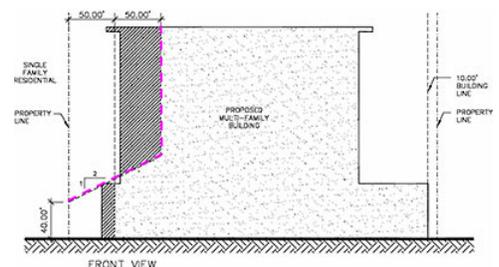


Mayor Parker has proposed a High Density Ordinance which seeks to provide buffer areas and height-buffering requirements when a development is proposed that (i) will be over 75 feet high, (ii) will be located on a local or collector street, and (iii) abuts single family residential property.

The stated purpose of the proposed ordinance is to encourage development in locations where neighbors would expect development to occur (such as along Major Thoroughfares, transit corridors and in Major Activity Centers) and to discourage development in locations adjacent to single family residential property where neighbors would not expect major development to occur (such as along local or collector streets).

The Draft Ordinance can be found here: [http://www.houstontx.gov/planning/DevelopRegs/hidensity/hidensity\\_draft\\_20110623.pdf](http://www.houstontx.gov/planning/DevelopRegs/hidensity/hidensity_draft_20110623.pdf)

A Power Point Presentation describing the new ordinance can be found here: [http://www.houstontx.gov/planning/DevelopRegs/hidensity/hidensity\\_presen.pdf](http://www.houstontx.gov/planning/DevelopRegs/hidensity/hidensity_presen.pdf)



## \$4.2 Billion FY2012 Budget Adopted

City Council approved the \$4.2 Billion FY2012 budget on June 22, which includes a \$1.8 Billion General Fund budget.

### Some of the Highlights:

- Will not require any classified employees (Police Officers or Fire Fighters) to lose their jobs
- The original budget had 8 community pools and 7 community centers closing, but thanks to a generous \$350,000 donation by Marathon Oil Corporation and Conoco-Phillips, all pools and community centers will remain open at least through the summer
- 747 city employees have been laid off
- For the second year in a row, the budget does not include the use of Pension Obligation Bonds or the issuance of any other long-term debt to meet current expenses
- includes savings realized from the new employee health benefits contract
- continues departmental and operational consolidations of fleet, fuel, human resources, payroll and information technology
- The FY2012 budget is the lowest budget in

three years, thus continuing the City's commitment to a more efficient, effective and fiscally responsible City government

- All Houston Public Library neighborhood libraries will remain open and adequately staffed. Saturday hours are being restored at 16 neighborhood libraries. There will be small changes in hours of operation at all libraries. However, after school locations will remain open until 6 p.m. Monday-Thursday and until 5 p.m. on Friday
- All City-funded youth sports leagues are being eliminated
- Youth baseball will continue due to funding provided by the Houston Astros
- All Houston Department of Health and Human Services (HDHHS) multi-service centers will remain open. However, the department will consolidate the majority of its clinical public health services into four health centers. The centers are La Nueva Casa de Amigos Health Center, Northside Health Center, Sharpstown Health Services and Sunnyside Health Center, all of which service areas of the city with high need, high morbidity for communicable diseases, and high risk for poor health outcomes



## A LOOK at the BUDGET

## 18<sup>th</sup> Annual FREE Theater District Open House

The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Capital One Bank Theater District Open House will be held Sunday, August 28 from noon to 4:00 p.m. This is a FREE event. There will be events and performances held at:

- Alley Theatre (615 Texas Ave.)
- Hobby Center for the Performing Arts (800 Bagby St.)
- Jones Hall (615 Louisiana St.)
- Wortham Theater Center (501 Texas Ave.)

No tickets or reservations are required for any of the events.

Experience dance, music and theater! Grab an event program when you arrive and check out what's happening throughout the day. Performances will be offered on stage at all four of the Theater District's venues. Tour backstage, dive

into the costume trunk, get up close with musical instruments at the instrument petting zoo and ride the Capital One Bank Trolleys from venue to venue all day long. End your day with the raffle drawing at the Hobby Center for the All-New CT 200H by Lexus, benefitting the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts.

There will also be an opportunity to purchase the best season package deals of the year to member performing arts organizations. Those organizations include: Alley Theatre, Da Camera of Houston, Houston Ballet, Gexa Energy Broadway at the Hobby Center, Houston Grand Opera, Houston Symphony, Society for the Performing Arts, Theatre Under The Stars and *Uniquely Houston*.

With your Capital One Bank Special Ticket Offer, you will walk away with the deal of the year!



## ReBuild Houston/Drainage Utility Charge Updates

### 1,000 Square Feet Credit to Amount of Impervious Surface:

All residents will receive a 1,000 square foot credit towards the amount of impervious surface used to calculate their drainage fee. This will reportedly reduce the median monthly residential drainage utility charge from approximately \$8.25 to between \$5 and \$6. The 1,000 square foot adjustment in impervious cover will be displayed on the bills property owners begin receiving in July. All residential, multi-family, and commercial properties will see this reduction on their bills. As you may be aware, the Charter Amendment approved by voters last November requires a minimum of \$125 Million to be collected in FY2012. In order to both offer this 1,000 square foot credit and to comply with the Charter Amendment, the combined utility system (sewer and water) and the airport system will both pre-pay next year's entire drainage fee in one lump sum payment. Since both are enterprise funds, this will have no effect on the general fund or on the proposed FY2012 budget. This credit will reportedly have the effect of reducing the amount collected for ReBuild Houston in all other years from \$125 million to approximately \$110 million.

### Guidelines for Stormwater Management Techniques:

At the July 19, 2011, Flooding & Drainage Committee meeting, Dan Krueger, the Director of Public Works & Engineering, presented a Draft set of Guidelines for Adjustment of Calculated Impervious Surface Based on Approved Stormwater Management Techniques ("Guidelines"). Also known as "green" building or "low impact development" techniques, these will provide credits towards your drainage fee for the installation of certain approved improvements such as Bioretention, Infiltration Trenches, Green Roofs, Rain Barrels or Cisterns, Porous Pavement, Excess Detention, and Maintenance Dredging and Channel Clean-Out. A copy of the Guidelines and other pertinent information can be found here: <http://www.houstontx.gov/council/gfdcommittee.html>

On July 25, the Guidelines will be posted on the ReBuild Houston website and will be available for public comment until August 15: <http://www.rebuildhouston.org/rebuild-houston/guidelines-for-adjustment.html>

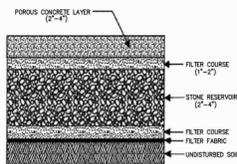
### Appeals Process Rules:

At the June 28 Flooding & Drainage Committee

Meeting Public Works & Engineering Director Dan Krueger presented an overview of the ReBuild Houston appeals process. As you are aware, if you disagree with the City's determination of your impervious surface as reflected in the Initial Notification Letter, you must first file a Verification and Correction. An Affidavit to request a Verification and Correction is contained on page 2 of your Initial Notification Letter. If you still disagree with the City's decision once you receive written notice from the City of its decision relating to your Verification & Correction request, you must file a notice of appeal within 15 days of the date of such notice.

Some of the appeals rules are as follows:

- You may reschedule your appeal hearing up to 3 times with 24 hour advance notice, including one (1) time within 24 hours of the hearing time
- You must notify the City 5 calendar days prior to the hearing if you are bringing a representative. If you are bringing more than one representative, you must advise the City of such so that additional space can be coordinated
- The one hour appeal hearing for all residential and small commercial properties (less than 3 acres) will be divided as follows:
  - Hearing Examiner's preparation time (15 minutes)
  - Session with Appellant: 30 Minutes divided as follows:
    - Hearing Examiner opens meeting and explains timeline (3 minutes)
    - Drainage Utility Representative from the City makes its presentation (8 minutes)
    - Appellant makes his/her presentation (10 minutes)
    - Q&A (8 minutes)
    - Hearing Examiner closes hearing (1 minute)
    - Hearing Examiner's conclusion (15 minutes)
- The two hour appeal hearing for large commercial properties (3 acres or more) will be divided as follows:
  - Hearing Examiner's preparation time (20 minutes)



- Session with Appellant: 75 Minutes divided as follows:
  - Hearing Examiner opens meeting and explains timeline (3 minutes)
  - Drainage Utility Representative from the City makes its presentation (20 minutes)
  - Appellant makes his/her presentation (25 minutes)
  - Q&A (26 minutes)
  - Hearing Examiner closes hearing (1 minute)
  - Hearing Examiner's conclusion (25 minutes)
- All appeals will be heard at the Houston Permitting Center, 1002 Washington Ave., Houston, TX 77002; a valid photo ID is required to enter the building

Thanks to Council Member Pennington, the City Council on July 20 adopted two revisions to the appeals process rules which should add additional transparency, reliability and integrity to the process:

1. Property owners will be given an unlim-

ited period of time to appeal their initial drainage fee calculation. Any rate adjustment will be applied commencing in the billing year in which the adjustment is made but will not be retroactive to prior years. Property owners will also be given an unlimited period of time to appeal a drainage fee calculation when there is a change in ownership of a property. After the initial appeal, property owners will not be allowed to appeal the drainage fee calculation unless there is a change in the amount of impervious surface.

2. After the Verification & Correction Process, a property owner has a right to appeal the decision to a hearing examiner. The property owner will now also have the right to appeal that decision, within 30 days, to a panel consisting of three hearing examiners to be chosen randomly by the Director of the Public Works & Engineering Department, and will not include the hearing examiner who previously ruled on that particular case. These second level appeals will be decided solely on the basis of the record kept in the first level appeal (i.e., no additional information, documents or testimony will be received).

If you have any questions or concerns, need additional information, or want to schedule an appeal, please call the Drainage Utility Customer Service at 713-371-1111 or visit [www.rebuildhouston.org](http://www.rebuildhouston.org)



## W-129 Drainage Ditch and San Felipe and Westheimer Bridges

The Harris County Flood Control District project that will reconstruct the W129-00-00 drainage ditch, located along the Union Pacific Railroad Tracks between San Felipe and Richmond, is moving toward the beginning of construction. As reported in our last newsletter, a contract has been awarded and construction on the project is scheduled to begin shortly. It has not yet been determined when construction will affect the bridges at San Felipe and Westheimer or when road closures will occur. As soon as that information is available, the information will be posted on the District's website ([www.hcfc.org/w129](http://www.hcfc.org/w129)) and will be emailed to those who have signed up for HCFC's email notification on the project.

During bridge construction, all lanes on the San Felipe bridge will be closed for up to two weeks, and traffic flow on the Westheimer bridge will be limited to one lane in each direction for up to one month. The two projects will not occur at the same time.

When the projects do get underway, you can **EXPECT MAJOR TRAFFIC CONGESTION AND DELAYS.**

For more information about the project, please contact the Project Hotline, which is monitored daily, at 713-684-4040, or visit the Flood Control District's website:

[www.hcfc.org/w129](http://www.hcfc.org/w129)



## New Houston Permitting Center Located at 1002 Washington Ave.



HOUSTON  
PERMITTING  
center

Starting June 20, 2011, the Code Enforcement office along with other City Departments that issue permits began relocating to 1002 Washington.

The Houston Permitting Center (HPC) will serve as a centralized location to apply for and purchase various permits offered by the City of Houston, which include Health, Fire, Building, and Commercial Permits, among others.

The following permitting functions have been transferred to the HPC:

- Fire Marshal
- Manufactured Homes
- Multi-Family Habitability
- New Water Accounts
- Occupancy Inspections
- Open Records
- Sign Administration
- Street Cut Permits
- Structural Inspections
- Taps & Meters
- City Engineer Plan Review
- Commercial Plan Review
- Electrical Inspections
- Floodplain Management
- Green Building Resource Center
- Mechanical Inspections
- Permits Section
- Pipeline Permits
- Planning & Development
- Plumbing Inspections
- One-Stop Plan Review
- Swimming Pools
- Utility Releases

You can also continue to apply for permits online:

**Burglar Alarm Permits:** [https://www.houstonburglaralarmpermits.org/Citizen/City/Houston/ATB\\_Login.aspx](https://www.houstonburglaralarmpermits.org/Citizen/City/Houston/ATB_Login.aspx) (this site is only compatible with Internet Explorer):

- One-stop shop for burglar alarm permits

- Apply for and renew residential and commercial burglar alarm permits
- Check account status, make on-line payments
- For more information call 713-581-7410

**Code Enforcement Permits:** <http://www.houstonpermittingcenter.org/city-of-houston-permits/online-permits.html>:

- Enforces the City of Houston Construction Code for both residential and commercial construction
- Includes demolition, re-roofs, plumbing, electrical, mechanical, boiler, and sidewalks/driveway permits
- Schedule inspections, view inspection history, check the status of submitted plans, search for permits sold within the last three years
- For more information call 832-394-9000

**Commercial Permits:** <http://www.houstontx.gov/ara/regaffairs/commercial.html>

- Issues over 50 types of commercial permits
- Examples: Alcohol and Alcohol-Related Businesses; Antique Dealers; Second Hand Dealers; Gold/Silver Dealers; Mini-Warehouses; Flea Markets; Dance Halls; Metal and Scrap Dealers; Game Rooms; and Coin Operated Amusement Machines. In addition, Charitable Solicitation registration, Noise, Sound and Noise Related Equipment permits; and Itinerant Vendor
- For more information call 713-837-9838

**Mobility Permitting Section:** <http://www.publicworks.houstontx.gov/traffic/team.html>

- Oversees lane and street closures, sidewalk closures, sidewalk cafes, and curb painting
- For more information call 832-395-3020 or email [MobilityPermits@houstontx.gov](mailto:MobilityPermits@houstontx.gov)

**Street Cut Permits:** [http://www.gims.houstontx.gov/scps2/form\\_login.asp](http://www.gims.houstontx.gov/scps2/form_login.asp)

- Reviews and approves street cut/excavation permits to enforce the Street Cut Ordinance that regulates the manner in which excavations are made and construction is performed within the City's right of way



- Also oversees enforcement of the permits for private construction of utilities within the City's right of way
- For more information call 832-394-9106 or email [StreetCutOps@houstontx.gov](mailto:StreetCutOps@houstontx.gov)

### **CODE ENFORCEMENT CONTACT INFORMATION:**

#### **PLAN REVIEW**

Commercial - 832-394-8810  
One-Stop - 832-394-8820

#### **INSPECTIONS**

Structural -832-394-8840  
Mechanical - 832-394-8850  
Electrical- 832-394-8860  
Plumbing - 832-394-8870  
Occupancy/Life Safety - 832-394-8847  
Sign Administration - 832-394-8890

#### **PERMIT OFFICES**

General - 832-394-8852  
Dacoma Office - 713-686-6224  
Kingwood Office - 281-361-9586  
Utility Releases - 832-394-8847

#### **OTHER INFORMATION:**

Customer Assistance & Code Development Office: 832-394-9000

Automated Inspection Request Line: 713-222-9999

Other City Departments: Dial 311 or 713-837-0311 (cell or VoIP)

#### **For Additional Permit Information:**

You may obtain information about permits by visiting the City's website at: [www.houstonpermits.org](http://www.houstonpermits.org)

If you have questions about any of these permits, please contact the *Code Enforcement Group* at 832-394-9000.

For more information, please dial 311 or email [houston.permittingcenter@houstontx.gov](mailto:houston.permittingcenter@houstontx.gov)

## **Welcome to HPD Midwest Division Captain Jennifer L. Evans**

Council Member Pennington extends his congratulations to new HPD Captain Jennifer L. Evans. Ms. Evans was just promoted to Captain, and is now the Commander of 18 District (Midwest Patrol Division).

Captain Evans received a B.A. in Criminal Justice from Sam Houston State University in 2001, and an M.S. in Criminal Justice Management from Sam Houston State University in 2004. She is a 2010 FBI National Academy Graduate and served as a Research fellow with the Police Executive Research Forum in Washington, D.C from 2010-2011.

Captain Evans has served with HPD for 15 years. Prior to taking over the Midwest Patrol Division, Captain Evans worked with the Central Patrol Division, the Airport Division, the Fondren Division, the Juvenile Division, the Alternative Dispute Resolution Unit, the Burglary and Theft Division, the Southeast Patrol Division, the Office of Inspector General, and the Support Operations Command.

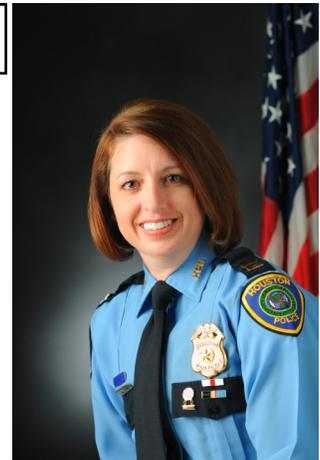
Captain Evans has been a member of the HPD Bike Relay Team for the last two years, which

raises funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. An avid trail runner, Captain Evans has participated in numerous 31 and 50 mile trail races. In February 2009, she completed a 100 mile trail race, and just competed in another one during June of this year.

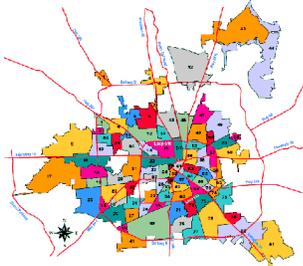
Captain Evans has been married for 17 years to HPD Lieutenant Bruce P. Evans, who is assigned to the Northeast Patrol Division.

Captain Evans stated that she is "very happy to be assigned to the Midwest Division. Patrol assignments have always been my favorite type of assignments because they involve directly serving the community in a variety of ways. The Midwest area has a diverse population and has traditionally had a lot of citizen involvement. I look forward to getting to know the residents, business owners and citizens in this community. I know that working together we will ensure that the Midwest area is a safe environment for people to live, work and play."

Council Member Pennington welcomes Captain Evans to her new assignment.



## District G Honors Donald Perkins



As the Planning Leader of the Neighborhood Planning Services Division of the Planning & Development Department of the City of Houston, Donald R. Perkins has provided exemplary service to the Super Neighborhoods, Homeowner and Property Owner Associations, Civic Clubs, businesses, institutions, and residents of District G, and of the City of Houston as a whole.

Donald Perkins was the Planning Leader for and has continued acting as the City's liaison with many District G Super Neighborhood, including the Mid-West Super Neighborhood #20, the Briar Forest Super Neighborhood #18, the Memorial Super Neighborhood #16, the Eldridge/West Oaks Super Neighborhood #17, and the Westchase Super Neighborhood #19.

As the Planning Leader, Donald Perkins has assisted interested stakeholders throughout District G and the City of Houston as a whole in forming their Super Neighborhood Councils and completing all preliminary steps necessary in getting those Super Neighborhoods officially recognized by the City of Houston (including gathering diverse stakeholders at informational meetings, assisting them in creating organizational structures unique to each Super Neighborhood, assisting them in drafting By-laws and electing Super Neighborhood Council officers, and educating them about holistic approaches to solving community-wide issues). By assisting these Super Neighborhood Councils to develop greater organizational self-sufficiency, Donald Perkins has had a profound effect on the lives and well being of residents across the District and the City of Houston as a whole.

## TIRZ 17 Regional Drainage Study Update



Numerous areas in and around TIRZ 17 have been documented as susceptible to flooding. An extreme rainfall event on the evening and morning of April 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009, emphasized the regional flood risk and the need for a regional drainage study. Shortly after this, the TIRZ 17 board agreed to sponsor a study to better understand the regional drainage problems and to target the TIRZ 17 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) on alleviating drainage issues identified in the study.

The preliminary report of the Regional Drainage Study can be viewed at the TIRZ 17 website ([www.houstontirz17.org](http://www.houstontirz17.org)). The results of this study have identified several projects which have been added to the TIRZ 17 2012–2016 CIP. Ten of the 14 projects in the proposed 2012–2016 CIP for TIRZ 17 will focus on improving drainage, equating to approximately 62% of the \$56 million to be spent during that period on drainage pro-

jects. Projects are currently under construction today to address drainage, and various projects will be under design and construction for most of the next five years.

All of the TIRZ's projects will require approval by the City of Houston Public Works and Engineering Department and many will be coordinated with the Harris County Flood Control District as well. Additionally, the Regional Drainage Study identified projects either outside of the TIRZ's boundaries or involving channels and drainage units under the jurisdiction of others, e.g. City of Houston and HCFCD. TIRZ 17 officials regularly meet with representatives of the City of Houston, HCFCD and other local governments to work to facilitate and coordinate implementation of these projects.

A Spreadsheet showing the CIP projects for the next five years (2012-2016) follows:

CITY OF HOUSTON - TIRZ PROGRAM  
Economic Development Division

2012 - 2016 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN  
TIRZ No. 17 - Memorial City Redevelopment Authority  
CIP by Project

Council District	CIP No.	Project	Fiscal Year Planned Appropriations										Cumulative Total (To Date)			
			Through 2010	Projected 2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	FY12 - FY16 Total						
G	T-1701	Gessner Widening	\$ 11,029,427	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	11,029,427
A	T-1702	Bunker Hill Widening	\$ 6,099,259	\$ 145,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	6,244,259
A	T-1709	Improvement to Lumpkin from I-10 to Westview	\$ 59,703	\$ 202,156	\$ 2,936,206	\$ 2,010,154	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	5,210,219
G	T-1712	Bunker Hill South of IH 10 Mobility Improvements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 253,000	\$ 156,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	409,000
G	T-1714	Frostwood Drive and Kingside Drainage Improvements	\$ -	\$ 16,428	\$ -	\$ 306,000	\$ 5,008,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	5,330,428
G	T-1715	Barryknoll East Drainage Improvements	\$ 99,973	\$ 64,000	\$ 3,808,000	\$ 6,450,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	10,421,973
G	T-1716	Queensbury Drainage Improvements	\$ 545,086	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	545,086
G	T-1717	Town and Country West Drainage and Mobility Improvements	\$ 175,691	\$ 293,000	\$ 2,153,000	\$ 2,503,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	4,661,000
G	T-1718	Kimberly near Beltway 8 Drainage Improvements	\$ 331,685	\$ 2,157,323	\$ 1,100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	3,589,008
G	T-1719	Kingside East Bound at Gessner	\$ 669,167	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	669,167
G	T-1722	Town and Country Blvd at Queensbury Signalization	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 68,000	\$ 206,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	274,000
A,G	T-1725	Park and Green Space Improvements	\$ 60,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	60,000
G	T-1726	West Bough Roadway Improvements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 406,000	\$ 3,208,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	3,614,000
A,G	T-1731A	Drainage Remediation Project - Detention	\$ -	\$ 7,025,000	\$ 306,000	\$ 1,008,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	8,339,000
G	T-1731B	Memorial Dr. Drainage and Mobility Improvement Project	\$ 288,065	\$ -	\$ 356,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 7,005,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	8,152,065
A	T-1732A	N. Gessner Drainage and Mobility Improvement - Phase 1	\$ 69,204	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 437,500	\$ 4,028,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	4,534,704
A	T-1732B	N. Gessner Drainage and Mobility Improvement - Phase 2	\$ 69,204	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 191,000	\$ -	\$ 352,000	\$ 4,708,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	5,320,204
A	T-1733A	N. Witte Drainage and Mobility Improvement - Phase 1	\$ 69,204	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 388,000	\$ 3,625,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	4,085,204
A	T-1733B	N. Witte Drainage and Mobility Improvement - Phase 2	\$ 69,204	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 66,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000	\$ 2,598,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	2,933,204
<b>Totals</b>			19,634,871	9,902,907	11,067,206	16,883,654	20,388,000	708,000	7,306,000	56,352,860	85,990,638					

To Turn This Spreadsheet 90° Clockwise:

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Plus

## Houston 3-1-1 System Launches New Website



The City of Houston's 3-1-1 System is undergoing a comprehensive organizational redesign, leveraging technology to increase Houston residents' engagement with their City. A new technological infrastructure is currently being designed and tested that will allow Houston 311 to connect with a wide variety of communication channels. The first public result of this effort is a redesigned [www.houston311.org](http://www.houston311.org) website, which will greatly simplify navigation, fact finding and problem solving.

Visitors to the site will find City services organized by functional area, rather than by cryptic City department acronyms. The previous website required citizens to know mundane details of the way Houston local government is organized, and what each department's abbreviations were. The new [www.houston311.org](http://www.houston311.org) also features an index of City services, where service information can be located under several logical headings. For example, a site visitor that would like to learn more about dog parks could search the index entries under "A" for animals, "D" for dogs, or "P" for parks.

The new Houston 3-1-1 website was "soft launched" on May 31, 2011, and is built on top of a new technology platform known as a Customer Relationship Manager (CRM) system. The CRM platform continues to be developed and will be fully functional in October 2011. Website visitors are currently able to submit more than 100 service requests via the website, and that number will increase to 400 when the CRM system is finalized this fall. Citizens may also expect to be

able to utilize many different tools to find information and request City services when the CRM system is fully functional, such as Smartphone apps, social media, and improved call center functionality.

To request services from the City of Houston, visit the new Houston 3-1-1 website ([www.houston311.org](http://www.houston311.org)), call 3-1-1 (713-837-0311 on your cell phone or VoIP), email [311@houstontx.org](mailto:311@houstontx.org) or fax: 713-837-0210. While there are over 100 services you may request, some of the most popular requests are as follows:

- Report a Pothole
- Building Permits
- Streetlight Out
- Traffic Signal Malfunction
- Missing Traffic Signs
- Graffiti Removal
- Business Permits
- Stray Animals
- Sidewalk Repair
- Pet Licensing
- Dead Animal Pickup
- Park, Esplanade, Right of Way and Median Maintenance
- Parking Violations
- Capital Improvement Project Requests
- Missed Garbage Pickup
- Recycling
- Neighborhood Protection
- Water & Sewer Maintenance and Repair

## Houston's Community Boot Camp: October 15, 2011

Houston's Community Boot Camp is a half-day conference geared toward community-based organizations and individuals interested in improving their neighborhoods. It will provide Houstonians with training, resources and solutions through a combination of workshops, presentations and networking opportunities.

This year's conference is shaping up to be one of the best ever. Come out to learn about positive changes taking place in neighborhoods throughout Houston. See how your area can benefit from what other communities have done and discover existing resources your neighborhood may not be taking advantage of right now. This

year, the conference will include a Neighborhood of the Year Award which will be judged by attendees at the conference.

Houston's Community Boot Camp is from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 15, at the United Way of Greater Houston, 50 Waugh Drive, Houston 77007, and is only \$5 per person to cover the cost of the event. Early registration will be required to attend the boot camp. Registration information will follow in a separate communication or for more information contact Donald Perkins at 713-837-7803 or [Donald.Perkins@houstontx.gov](mailto:Donald.Perkins@houstontx.gov)



## **Crime Prevention Tips from HPD--Robbery**

A robbery is one of the most serious and potentially dangerous crimes committed in the United States today. A robber commits a holdup because he or she believes that their profit will be worth the risk. By decreasing the possible profit and increasing the risk of apprehension, potential victims can reduce their chance of becoming a target. HPD offers the following tried and true tips and hints on robbery prevention:

### **Prevention At Home**

- All doors leading to the outside should have dead-bolt locks.
- Lock your doors and windows when you are at home. If you have one, turn on your alarm.
- Before opening an exterior door, make sure you know the identity of the person at your door. Do not open the door to an unexpected visitor. This includes company employees and other solicitors.
- Install a peephole with a 190-degree viewing angle so that you can verify who is on the other side of your door.
- Do not advertise that you live alone.
- Make sure exterior lighting is on at night.
- Inexpensive timers or photoelectric cells will automatically turn lights on and off at dusk and dawn.
- Write down the license plate number of any suspicious vehicles and call the police if concerned.

### **Reduce Your Chance of Being Carjacked**

- Always park in a well-lighted area so you can see your car and its surroundings from a distance.
- Have your car keys ready as you approach your vehicle and look under, around, and inside your car for persons who may be hiding. If safe, enter and immediately lock all doors.
- Stay alert. Don't drive on autopilot. Watch your mirrors for any car that might be following. If you think someone is following you, do not go home. Drive to the nearest police, fire, or gas station, or well-lighted area where there are people who can help.
- While stopped in traffic, leave enough room between your car and the one in front of you so you can maneuver and escape if necessary.
- Keep an alert eye out for any suspicious characters at intersections.

### **Walk Alertly and Confidently**

- Try not to walk alone. It's much safer if you walk with at least one other person.
- Be alert, walk with your head up and do not let your mind wander. Frequently scan your surroundings, including what's behind you.
- When walking at night, consider a taxi cab even for short trips.
- Trust your instincts, avoid uncomfortable situations. It's better to be safe than sorry.

- Do not take shortcuts through unlit, sparsely traveled paths such as trails, stairwells or alleys.

### **Be Smart About Cash**

- Carry only the amount of cash that you expect to use. If cash is needed use ATM or debit cards.
- Avoid outdoor ATM's, particularly at night and those in secluded areas.
- Be alert at banks or check cashing businesses.
- Carrying cash marks you as a target.
- Avoid showing your wallet. Keep needed cash, ID, and credit cards in an accessible pocket.
- Do not wear expensive or expensive looking jewelry.
- Leave valuable items at home if not needed.

### **What To Do During a Robbery**

- Remain calm. DO NOT resist. Try not to be a hero. Take no action that would jeopardize your safety.
- Follow the robber's directions, but do not volunteer more than asked for.
- If you have to move or reach, tell the robber what you are going to do and why. Assure the robber that you will cooperate.
- Make mental notes of:

The robber's race, age, height, sex, clothing, complexion, hair, eye color, etc.

Anything unusual about the robber such as scars or tattoos.

The number of accomplices and how they left the scene, direction of travel, type and color of vehicle. Get the license number if you can safely do so.

Any conversations the suspects may have with one another.

What the suspect's weapon looked like so you can describe it later.

What the suspect touches so that fingerprints may be lifted.

### **What To Do After a Robbery**

- Go to a safe location close to the scene and call **9-1-1**
- Ask all witnesses to remain until the officers arrive. If a witness must leave, obtain his/her name, address, and telephone number.
- Witnesses should write or remember their account of the suspects and their actions.
- Do not discuss the robbery or compare notes about the robber's appearance with anyone other than the Police.
- Protect the crime scene. Try not to touch anything.

If you would like to receive periodic emails from Mayor Annise D. Parker and the City of Houston on topics of interest to you and your neighborhood, please go to <http://www.houstontx.gov> and register with CitizensNet



3-1-1

Cell phone or VoIP:  
713-837-0311

Fax: 713-837-0210

[311@houstontx.gov](mailto:311@houstontx.gov)

[www.houstontx.gov/311/311form.html](http://www.houstontx.gov/311/311form.html)

#### **District G Staff:**

John Moss  
Chief of Staff  
(832) 393-3271

Mark F. Kirschke  
Director of Communications  
(832) 393-3267

Mary Harmon  
Director of Constituent  
Services  
(832) 393-3272

## **Crime Prevention Tips from HPD--Sexual Assault**

### **Safety at Home:**

- Install good solid wood or metal doors on all exits.
- Install double cylinder deadbolt locks on all exit doors.
- Practice key control by limiting the number keys issued.
- Always lock doors.
- Secure windows with a secondary locking device.
- Acknowledge all callers through a locked door.
- Make sure the exterior is well lighted.
- Do not advertise your name on mailboxes.
- Get an unlisted phone number or when listing your name, use initials only and do not include your address.

### **Safety While Driving:**

- Keep your vehicle well maintained.
- Always check the front and back seats before entering your car.
- Keep doors locked and windows rolled up.
- If you think someone is following you, do not go home. Drive to the nearest police station, fire station, open gas station, or well-lighted place where there are people that can help.
- If you have car problems, raise the hood and tie a white cloth to the door handle to signal for help. Get back into the car and keep the doors and windows locked.
- If someone stops, ask them to call for help. Do not accept rides from anyone.
- If possible, always carry a fully charged cell phone for emergencies.

### **Safety While Shopping:**

- Avoid parking next to vehicles with persons still inside.
- Avoid parking next to panel vans.
- Park in well-lighted areas.
- At night, shop with others.
- When walking to and from your vehicle, have keys in your hand ready to unlock the door.
- Use customer pick-up when available.

### **Street Sense:**

- Walk with an "ATTITUDE."
- Avoid walking alone.
- If you live in an apartment, pick up your mail during daylight hours.
- Avoid taking shortcuts through alleys or fields.

### **If You Are Attacked:**

- Stay as calm as possible, think rationally and evaluate your resources and options.
- It may be more advisable to submit (this does not mean you consent) than resist and risk severe injury or death. Everyone has different strengths and abilities. You will have to make this decision based on the circumstances. Remember, do not resist if the attacker has a weapon.
- Keep assessing the situation as it is happening. If one strategy does not work, try another one.
- Other options to nonresistance are negotiating, stalling for more time, distracting the assailant and fleeing to a safe place, verbal assertiveness, screaming to attract attention and physical resistance.
- Fighting back or struggling may discourage the attack, but remember you have to hurt the rapist bad enough to create the time you need to escape (Scratching with your fingernails, Biting, Poking/jabbing the eyes and throat area, Kneeing/kicking the groin, Punching the nose).
- Weapons such as guns, knives, and chemical sprays can easily be turned against you unless you are trained and not afraid to use them. You must be prepared to possibly kill the attacker.
- If you are determined to carry some type of weapon, a chemical spray (e.g., Pepper Spray) is your best choice. It is non-lethal if used against you. Remember, you already have weapons with you such as your keys, pens, pencils, and the most important weapon: **your brain.**

### **What To Do If You Become a Victim Of A Sexual Assault:**

- Report it to the police immediately.
- Do not bathe.
- Do not disturb the scene of the rape.
- Do not wash your clothes.
- A medical procedure at a hospital should follow the police report consisting of a medical examination and a rape kit.
- Psychological assistance will be available to you.

### **Important Contacts:**

HPD Adult Sex Crimes: 713-308-1180

Houston Area Women's Center Sexual Assault  
Hotline: 713-528-7273

[www.hawc.org](http://www.hawc.org)