



CITY OF HOUSTON

NEWS RELEASE
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAYOR'S YOUTH COUNCIL WANTS TO HEAR FROM HOUSTON'S YOUTH

Houston, TX (April 3, 2007) – The 2006-2007 Mayor's Youth Council (MYC) is launching its 2nd Annual *Youth Survey* to identify the most important issues to Houston's youth. Youth, who reside or attend school in the City of Houston, may complete the survey to have their opinions heard by completing the survey on-line at www.houstontx.gov/houstonyouth.

The survey includes a total of thirty-seven (37) issues categorized under six (6) major areas: Community Out-of-School Opportunities, Crime/Safety, Prejudice/Discrimination, Health Education & Outreach, Traffic/Transportation and Environment. These issues were identified through the group's monthly Youth Council meetings, Town Hall meetings and address areas in which the City of Houston can effect change.

The *Youth Survey* accomplishes three (3) objectives for the MYC:

- Provides a "voice for Houston's youth"
- Reports formally to the Mayor and City Council on what Houston's youth think are important issues
- Participates in National Youth Service Day observed on April 20-22

Each MYC member is responsible for obtaining thirty (30) completed surveys for which he/she will analyze the results and report the findings. Additionally, each member will publicize through their school, church, clubs and neighborhood how other youth can express their opinions by completing the survey on-line through the City of Houston website. The goal is to get at least 1,000 surveys. **The deadline for completing the survey is April 7. All Houston youth are urged to participate.**

The MYC will produce a report of the results of all surveys submitted and present to the Mayor and City Council on Tuesday, April 17 during their weekly Council meeting.

The survey will be an annual part of the MYC's action plan to ensure that Houston's youth have a voice in city government. The information will be presented to the Mayor and City Council with the recommendation that they utilize it in their policies development and decision-making.

For information contact Mayor's Office for Volunteer Initiatives Program at 713-437-6165.

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