Learn How You Can Preserve the Character of Your Neighborhood

New land development rules in the City of Houston mean more Houstonians can maintain their neighborhood's established character.

- **Preserve the existing lot sizes and prevent incompatible development.**
- **Ensure that future buildings conform to existing building lines.**

To get an application for your neighborhood or to ask for more information, contact:

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What is it?

A *Special Minimum Lot Size* area designation prevents lots from being divided below a certain size, which in most cases, prevents redevelopment into townhomes. For example, if 5,000 square feet was established as the *Special Minimum Lot Size* for an area, no lots within that area could be subdivided into lots smaller than 5,000 square feet.

A *Special Minimum Building Line* designation prevents new buildings from being built closer to the street than a portion of the buildings that are already there. For example, if a block of homes has been constructed where the typical distance from the front of the building to the sidewalk is 20 feet, new construction must be placed no closer than 20 feet from the sidewalk.

How can your neighborhood get these designations?

Up until recently, these tools applied only to neighborhoods located inside the 610 Loop. Now, they are available to neighborhoods throughout Houston, depending on certain criteria. The Planning and Development Department staff can help you determine if your neighborhood qualifies. They can also help you complete the application process.

Training meetings are being held all over Houston throughout the summer. Go to www.HoustonPlanning.com to see a schedule of meetings. Or, contact Kevin Calfee at 713-837-7768 or Kevin.Calfee@HoustonTX.gov to find a meeting near you.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT