

News Release



For Immediate Release

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City recognizes Sharpstown Super Neighborhood Council

HOUSTON, February 22, 2011 – Mayor Parker and the Houston City Council officially recognized the Sharpstown Super Neighborhood Council. They successfully completed all the preliminary steps, which include gathering diverse stakeholder representation, creating an organizational structure and drafting by-laws. There are 52 recognized super neighborhood councils.

Sharpstown was Houston's largest development when it was undertaken in the mid-1950s. A prototype for the master planned communities of today, its pattern of middle class homes on curving streets and cul-de-sacs surrounding a shopping mall and country club was widely imitated. In recent years, Asian merchants have moved into empty shopping centers along Bellaire Boulevard and their groceries, restaurants and small shops now thrive. Demand in these areas is strong, resulting in the conversion of warehouses and apartments to meet the demand for retail space. A growing Hispanic population in the area has led to the repurposing of Sharpstown Mall to the PlazAmericas Shopping Center.

At the recognition ceremony, the council was introduced to their city liaison. The liaison helps the council with their super neighborhood action plans, which identify and prioritize improvement projects and helps the council shepherd priority projects through the appropriate city processes. Sharpstown's liaison is Veronica Hernandez in the Mayor's Citizens Assistance Office.

We believe that super neighborhoods offer communities a way to communicate more effectively with the City and for residents and stakeholders a way to communicate more effectively with each other," said Marlene L. Gafrick, director of the Planning and Development Department. "It's an exciting dynamic for these neighborhoods and a great way for neighborhoods to implement projects." For more information about the Super Neighborhood Initiative, call the Planning and Development Department at (713) 837-7701 or go to www.houstonplanning.com.

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