



September 11, 2019 Museum Park Super Neighborhood Council Minutes

Council Member Attendees: Kathleen O'Reilly, Paul Wilson, Ruth Ann Skaff, Pam Campbell, Barbara McGuffey, Jose Ferrero, Kyle Wolfe, Julie Farr, Susan Young.

Other Attendees: Capt. Salam Zia; HPD; Collin Rapp, HPD; Brad Levy, HMNS; Cindy Woods, MPNA; Emily Chambers, Hermann Park Conservancy; Jarrett Shorten, Asia Society Texas Chapter; Mike Webb, Commissioner Rodney Ellis' office; Larry Estes, Calumet Jackson HOA; Bill and Lisa Rankin, MPNA; Luci Correa, HPARD; Bill Baldwin, Candidate for City Council; Mano Castillo, Bill Baldwin for City Council; Matt Barnes, HISD board candidate; Tyrasia Starghill; Felix Starghill II

Location: Farish Media Center, Museum of Fine Arts Houston **Time:** 5:30PM

President's Report:

Caroline Promenade

- Met with SWA on design.
- Public meetings scheduled October 10 at Covenant Church and November 7 at Clayton Library with concept renderings on display.
- Ongoing public comment onsite and via online link which Nikki Knight will set up on HouSE website.
- SWA will write the design deliverables to conform with potential fundraising proposal opportunities; we will use this language this with local, state, federal government sources as well as with private philanthropic sources and possibly private investment.
- PJ Jemea requested an esplanade template for block facing the Mondrian and offered to potentially launch the project, once he reviews the design.
- Utilities will be reviewed.
- A full tree survey and inventory will be conducted by Bartlett, identify conditions and species. Survey relevant to maintain canopy and helpful for risk assessment.

La Branch Bike Lane project delayed due to contractual issue, but in progress. Ramps, sidewalks, streets are being improved as part of the project.

Introduced and welcomed Interim Park Administrator, Luci Correa.

VP Report:

Secretary's Report: August minutes circulated for approval.

Committee Reports:

Infrastructure/Quality of Life:

MP Business Alliance:

Safety & Security: HPD

HPD Report:

Same trend.

Bicycle theft. He urged people to register their bikes.

We requested that he post registration notice on Next Door

Cleanup around the spur.

The Southmore declined to meet re: Aug 18 early morning shooting with HPD, even though HPD offered to do site assessment, etc. Responsibility is with their management. There are cameras. We have sent letter. We will proceed with FOIA. Sgt. Gans of HouSE visited. Serious issues with short term rentals.

Fourth floor garage is not publicly accessible; it is a secured entrance.

Announced street closures for September 12 debates at TSU, starting at 10AM

Ongoing Business:

Community Parking Plan Draft Ordinance – Most recent comments are below. Not yet submitted. Discussion about ratio. Example: El Palazzo has 58 units, no guest parking. Kathleen stated that Transit Oriented Development will significantly impact parking by reducing parking spots.

Bill Baldwin, Chair of Walkable Places Committee, stated that on the Transit Corridor, performance standards are mandatory, no parking requirements on the Corridor. On ½ mile adjacent streets, allows for 50% reduction opt-in parking reduction if all standards are met. If criteria not met, no parking reduction. Bill noted that over ¾ of Transit Corridor communities will not be obligated. Historic designations, such as Clayton Library, will trump performance standards.

Vote taken to submit our comments to Community Parking; plan has been in progress for two years.

District D Candidate Forum – September 25 at The Asia Society Questions for candidates; all 14 candidates accepted; Miya Shay will moderate, CM Dwight Boykins will introduce them. See below Please announce widely.

Walkable Places/Transit Corridor Comments – Oct./Nov. Public Meeting

https://www.houstontx.gov/planning/Commissions/docs_pdfs/Walkable_Places_Summary_Report.pdf
https://www.houstontx.gov/planning/Commissions/docs_pdfs/TOD_Ordinance_Summary_Report.pdf

Bill Baldwin said that efforts are to submit Walkable Places plan to City Council this year. WPP not designed for Museum Park neighborhood, although MP not explicitly excluded. Spoke extensively about purpose of WPP and relevance for Montrose neighborhoods. He stressed that Walkable Places designed for commercial places. Annual opportunity to evaluate, comment and change.

Comment by Luci Correa, who clarified that Public Works is responsible for esplanades, Parks is responsible for green areas and trees in median. PW is responsible for curbs, etc. She urged people to call 311 to report, so complaints will be tracked.

New Business: Candidates introduced themselves. Matt Barnes for HISD; Bill Baldwin, Seat 4, At-Large.

Stakeholder Updates: see announcements

Public Comments:

Announcements:

- Dist. D Candidate Forum, Sept. 25, 6-8 pm, Asia Society Texas Center, 1370 Southmore Blvd., Houston TX 77004
- MPNA hosts Planning meeting regarding TOD on November 6
- Caroline Promenade Public Meeting No. 1 - October 10 at Covenant Church
- Caroline Promenade Public Meeting No. 2 – November 7 at Carriage House, Clayton Library

Museum Park Community Parking Plan (CPP) – Comments

We commend Parking Management, and particularly Maria, for the extensive community outreach in this complicated destination –rich area, so different than the west side of Main Street. The change from no on-street parking permits for high density development to a .6 ratio for high density multi-family properties met with significant resistance. Resistance is simply because there is a limited supply of on-street parking spaces and Museum Park contains a high number of institutions, museums, and destination venues, serving visitors and employees; as well as serving Hermann Park visitors. There are several preschools with no off-street parking that need drop-off space and employee parking. These cumulatively place a significant strain on the on-street parking space availability.

In this destination-rich, geographically small neighborhood, Museum Park would appreciate the following incorporated into the Museum Park CPP. We understand that MAMA is a different type of neighborhood; while proximal to

destinations, there are few regional destinations actually within the MAMA area. We appreciate this acknowledgement by City of Houston for different parking strategies in these two distinctly different neighborhoods.

- Excluding high density developments that benefit from transit corridor reduced parking requirements.
- Excluding high density developments that benefit from reduced parking requirements as currently allowed by City ordinance, i.e. building bike parking spaces to reduce the number of vehicular parking spaces.
- Excluding high density developments going forward in this destination-rich, geographically small neighborhood.
- Allowing on-street parking permits for existing high-density developments, excluding those described above, of less than or = to 125 units at a ratio of .5
- Please consider adding meters or time limited parking on Southmore between Main and San Jacinto
 - Commercial meters will remain as currently located with fees associated with commercial meters, correct?
 - Museum Park is experiencing a significant increase in night time activity and would greatly appreciate meter operation hours until midnight.

Extending the public comment period and/or holding another public meeting isn't necessary in the opinion of MPSN. With the above changes, MPSN is pleased to send a letter of support as well as appear at QOL Committee/City Council to support this effort. We prefer that the MAMA ordinance/MPSN ordinance move forward at the same time, rather than separating into two different initiatives.

District D Candidate Forum Draft Questions – Museum Park Super Neighborhood/Midtown Super Neighborhood, Sept. 25, 6-8 pm, Asia Society Texas Center.

Tentative format:

2 minutes each for candidate intros (30 mins);
45 min moderated Q/A; 1 minute responses, 3 questions.
15 mins audience Q/A via written questions on collected notecards;
2 minutes each for candidate concluding remarks (30 mins).

- How do you intend to move the agendas of Museum Park Super Neighborhood and Midtown Super Neighborhood forward, including form based code, mobility, and green infrastructure defined in the Museum Park Livable Center Study and Midtown goals?
- How do you intend to move forward distinguishing the very different characters of Museum Park and Midtown in the Walkable Places and Transit Corridor initiatives, respecting the destination rich parking requirements of Museum Park and residential needs of Midtown? Museum Park defined a parks/cultural district character with abundant green space, respect for historical properties, and walkable/bikeable connections from HCC to Hermann Park, will you actively support these goals?
- What will you do to increase walkability without compromising green space to accommodate 5 ft sidewalks? What will you do to increase support of Parks to maintain esplanades and public right of way?
- What is your strategy to improve quality of life in District D?
- If time allows – what is your position on the IH45 project and its impact on District D

Meeting adjourned at 7:10PM