

ELDRIDGE/WEST OAKS SUPER NEIGHBORHOOD

Super Neighborhood 17 (SN17)

Draft Monthly Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, March 12, 2025 @ 7:00 PM

<https://sn17.org/>

President, Jeff Baker; Vice-President, Nick Kornuta; Secretary, Joy Cocchiara; Treasurer, Diane Guillerman

President, Jeff Baker called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with a quorum.

Leon

I. Public Safety – HPD Crime Stats, Westside, Sgt DeLeon/HPD (DRT)

Month-to-month the trend is down 19% for violent crimes, and up by 13 % for non-violent crimes. On a year-to-year basis, violent crime is up 30% (robbery up 95%) and non-violent crime is down by 10%. There were 32 arrests in SN-17 in February - 13 for assault/aggravated assault. See data on page 3.

The first week in April has been set for the massive clean-up effort behind the church on Barker Oaks Dr. This is a multi-agency project, expected to take three weeks to clean up.

II. Guest Speaker – Houston Fire Department Chief Thomas Munoz <https://www.houstontx.gov/fire/>

Muñoz was appointed as Chief after having retired from the department as Assistant Chief. During his 24 years with the HFD, Muñoz oversaw Homeland Security, Public Affairs, and HAZMAT. Munoz emphasized the importance of leadership, community and the firefighters' commitment to their mission.

Staffing: Muñoz gave much credit to the Mayor and City Council for the improved state of HFD, particularly in addressing shortages in staffing. Since 2019, graduates increased from 16 to 35 per class. Most recently, by getting certified firefighters and breaking up the 10-month curriculum into 8-week segments, the department is graduating classes every other month and saving the city \$2M.

Budget: Over the last few years, HFD spending has focused on the purchase of equipment and construction of a firefighters training facility, which has been operational since May 2024. Delivery of fire trucks have been extended to two and a half years due to consolidation in the industry.

Mobile Stroke Unit (MSU): The MSU has established itself as the standard of care for stroke treatment in Houston since 2014. When someone is suspected of having a stroke HFD dispatches the MSU to the patient's location. Once on scene, the team, assesses the patient and can begin treatment onsite before transporting the patient to the nearest hospital.

III. Community Leaders

US Congresswoman TX-07, Representative Lizzie Fletcher/Grace Kuperman (Field Representative)

Fletcher's office wants to hear your concerns and priorities, and address your needs related to federal services (Medicare, Social Security, FEMA, Veterans Benefits, etc.).

Houston Office 3700 Buffalo Speedway, Ste. 619 77098 (713) 353-8680 ; D.C. Office (202) 225-2571.

Passports: Fletcher's office has been holding passport fairs, prompted by constituent complaints that they cannot get an appointment with the Houston passport office. Look for flyers announcing upcoming passport fairs at <https://fletcher.house.gov/services/passport-fair.htm> or <https://fletcher.house.gov/events/>

Harris County Precinct 4 – Lesley Briones/Victoria Calvillo

Town Hall meeting on March 29 at Burnett Bayland Community Center 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

Harris County Judge's Office – Lina Hidalgo/Robert Nnake, Director of Community Relations

Judge Hidalgo has issued a call to action to get the measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine (if you have not already been vaccinated) amid the West Texas outbreak. Children over a year old should begin their first dose. The county is partnering with Legacy Community Health to offer the vaccines.

[Dist. G - Mary Nan Huffman/Brad Mushinski](https://www.houstontx.gov/council/g) <https://www.houstontx.gov/council/g>

While no executive orders have been issued to date, the Mayor wants to implement a hiring freeze in the city government to address the more than \$330 million budget facing the city. The hiring freeze would exclude the city's fire and police departments and public works. Consistent with Councilwoman Huffman's public safety priority, her office has spent \$318,00 toward HPD overtime and Flock cameras, which is 65% of her operations budget.

The public comment period for the Energy Corridor's Memorial Drive Pedestrian and Bike Study is now open, giving residents an opportunity to share their input on this project. <https://engage.h-gac.com/memorial-drive-bike-ped-study> Huffman submitted a letter opposing the inclusion of on-street bike paths in the final plan, to highlight the need to prioritize safety for cyclists and drivers on busy, high-volume roadways like Memorial Drive and Grisby Road.

[COH Dept of Neighborhoods \(DON\)/Claudia Guerra](https://www.houstontx.gov/neighborhoods) <https://www.houstontx.gov/neighborhoods>

The Water Bill Improvement Plan was launched on April 1, 2024, with the goal of eliminating inaccurate water billing and addressing system-wide issues. Since then, the City of Houston has identified and replaced approximately 125,000 nonfunctioning devices (RRDs) that transmit water usage back to the city. If you still are experiencing water bill issues you can visit <https://www.houstonpublicworks.org/improvewaterbills> to schedule an in-person or virtual customer service appointment or check on the status of your remote read device attached to your meter.

A new Water Repair Dashboard is now live on <https://www.houstonpublicworks.org> It can be found under the Houston Water tab in Drinking Water Operations - Active Work Orders. It provides a drop-down option to sort by council district. Public Works is committed to repairing every water leak. For FY25, HPW increased water leak repair funding to pay for additional contractors.

[City of Houston Metro-Margaret Dunlap](https://www.ridemetro.org/about/news-media) <https://www.ridemetro.org/about/news-media>

METRONow (Safe Clean Reliable Accessible) has shifted its focus to 1. **Safety** as the number one priority, with an investment of \$7M for security resources. Metro is also dedicating \$2.4M to 2. **Cleanliness** with daily cleaning of buses and trains 3. **Reliability**, with frequency of service and on-time performance and 4. **Accessibility** with 700 additional bus stops to be fully accessible by the end of 2025.

IV. Old Business

The February Meeting Minutes were approved and are now posted on the SN17.org website.

V. New Business

Nick Kornuta: The Texas Legislature is again working on a house bill, HB294, that would allow all owners of single family residences in the state to have up to 6 chickens or 6 rabbits in their backyard, negating any city ordinance or HOA Deed Restriction to the contrary. It also includes language that would allow the growing of fruits and vegetables in yards, front, side and back. The language is in the link <https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/HB002941.pdf#navpanes=0>

Many of our neighborhoods have small yards with houses in close proximity, which would expose neighbors to smell, mess and potentially disease (bird flu). The Agriculture Committee is currently considering whether or not to move this bill to the floor for a vote. If you agree that this bill would not serve the interests our neighborhoods, you are encouraged to contact your TX State Representative and Senator to voice your concerns.

Bryan Dotson: BikeHouston is holding a Bike Lane Cleanup on Saturday, March 29 at 9:00 – 10:30 AM. Meet at 11555 Westpark Dr.

NEXT MEETING: April 9, 2025

**SUPER NEIGHBORHOOD 17
HPD WESTSIDE DIVISION CRIME STATS**

Month-to-Month Trends (Jan/Feb)

SN17	Jan	Feb	TREND
MURDER	1	0	100.00%
SEXUAL ASSAULT	1	1	0.00%
ROBBERY	29	12	-58.62%
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	28	35	25.00%
Violent Crimes	59	48	-18.64%
BURGLARY HABITATION	21	29	38.10%
BURGLARY BUILDING	11	13	18.18%
BURGLARY MOTOR VEHICLE	44	53	20.45%
THEFT	47	38	-19.15%
AUTO THEFT	20	29	45.00%
Non-Violent Crimes	143	162	13.29%
CRIMES TOTAL	202	210	3.96%

Error

Murder is *down* by
-100%

Year-to-Date Trends (2024/2025)

SN17	2024	2025	TREND
MURDER	1	1	0.00%
SEXUAL ASSAULT	5	2	-60.00%
ROBBERY	21	41	95.24%
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	55	63	14.55%
Violent Crimes	82	107	30.49%
BURGLARY HABITATION	26	50	92.31%
BURGLARY BUILDING	34	24	-29.41%
BURGLARY MOTOR VEHICLE	120	97	-19.17%
THEFT	94	85	-9.57%
AUTO THEFT	66	49	-25.76%
Non-Violent Crimes	340	305	-10.29%
CRIMES TOTAL	422	412	-2.37%

Arrests*

Current Month Arrests			
Aggravated Assault	4	Murder	0
Assault	9	Narcotics	1
Burglary Habitation	1	Prostitution	1
Burglary Building	0	Robbery	0
Criminal Mischief	2	Theft	0
Disorderly Conduct	1	Offense Against Family	1
Drunkenness	0	Weapons Violation	1
DWI	3	Sex Offenses	1
BMV	0	All Other Crimes	7
Total People Arrested	32		

* Arrests made during the course of the offense on the original offense date and location