

North Lamar Combined Neighborhood Planning Area

Code Enforcement Meeting, April 23, 2008

Meeting Notes

The Code Enforcement Meeting was held in continuation of the April 2nd Crime and Code Enforcement Meeting. The April 23rd meeting began with a brief review by Mark Walters of the planning process, with a focus on the formulation of a goal's objectives and recommendations.

Jacob Browning then presented a change to the Quality of Life draft goal that included the aspect of North Lamar being a "healthy" community. More specifically, health-related issues (e.g., mortality rates of the area, access to health clinics) are to be addressed under this goal. It was agreed upon by those in attendance to update this draft goal to read: "The North Lamar Neighborhood Planning Area shall be a safe, *healthy*, and well-maintained neighborhood that promotes and preserves the quality of life for both residents and business owners." (Emphasis was added here to show the changes to this draft goal.) The updated draft goals can be found on the North Lamar website (http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/zoning/north_lamar.htm) under "Documents" for this meeting.

A group exercise followed where North Lamar stakeholders were given the opportunity to map out any code violations present within the planning area. Stakeholders were split into four groups--2 each for the North Lamar (north of Rundberg) and Georgian Acres (south of Rundberg) areas. Planning staff presented each group's violations/concerns to the entire audience once the exercise was completed.

These maps will be digitized by planning staff and given to Solid Waste Services for inspection and possible enforcement of the violations listed.

During and after the presentation, stakeholders had questions and concerns that were to be addressed, and both these questions and their answers can be found below:

Q. Will TxDOT be involved in the transportation meetings?

A. We can't say for sure whether or not TxDOT will participate in the meetings, but we will definitely contact them regarding those issues in North Lamar relating to transportation and roadways.

Q. Can we have the City of Austin's Health and Human Services Department come and address the health issues of our area?

A. Yes, we will be in contact with HHSD for future involvement in the planning process. HHSD will be able to address the closure of the Thurmond Heights

community health center and of the rising mortality rates of the North Lamar area. (One stakeholder did mention the current location of a community health center on Payton Gin Road.)

Q. Is there a certain timeline that we are following? Are we going to follow the order of the Draft Goals?

A. We are going to try to follow the order of the Draft Goals from the next meeting forward, beginning with transportation. We (NPZD) wanted to address crime and code enforcement issues (as included in the Quality of Life goal) first because these were of the greatest concern to the North Lamar community.