

Neartown Association
April 22, 2014
Minutes

Greg LeGrande called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

- 1) Greg announced Neartown Committee Chairs for newly formed committees of:

Security—Janson Ginsburg

Infrastructure – Lloyd Matzner, that includes traffic and transportation

Discussion on committee objectives to deal with issues for the whole of Neartown (rather than those that concern individual CAs) and the need for additional solicitation by member associations for active participation in Neartown

- 2) Metro Transit Authority – Transit System Reimagining Project

José Pulido

Jose discussed:

Metro Transit Authority Board objective for Reimagining Project of: more reliable, frequent, safe service with more appropriate routes that are easier to use (don't require consulting a map or a schedule), including community cross town routes

Plan for public comment on draft route plan in coming weeks; timing of route changes

New train car delivery date update

Opening of North Line extension to Red Line last year and projected opening of East End and Southeast Lines end of this year (no news on University Line)

East End Line to Magnolia overpass vs. underpass and environmental issues

App for bus locations, predict arrival time: Metro TRIP App on their website; link to METRO's Rider Tools webpage: <http://www.ridemetro.org/RiderTools/Default.aspx>

Link to METRO's Transit System Reimagining website:

<http://www.transitsystemreimagining.com/>

- 3) Neighborhood Greenways – Safe biking, walking and much more

Jay Blazek Crossley

Jay discussed proposal and presented slide show with movie:

Complete Streets executive order signed by mayor that Rebuild Houston would include safe streets for walking, biking and with ample signs and ADA access, as of this date no meeting held to implement the order.

Neighborhood Greenways conceptual proposal of a 12 mile network for Neartown (as a pilot) of bike/ped-safe streets with a cost of \$250,000 per mile. Plan would be to select streets that don't currently have a lot of car traffic and add features to increase their safety for biking and walking, e.g., curb extensions, roundabouts, wayfinding signage, crossings, etc. Members agree that prior to Neartown endorsing the proposal, it should be reviewed by member associations.

Jay agreed to provide his presentation with voice-over so that civic associations can present to their membership.

- 4) Other

- Carolyn Garrard announced the Covenant House Sleep Out on May 2nd . Mothers will sleep out to send a message that they are not alone.
<http://www.covenanthousetx.org/Mothers%20Sleep%20Out%20Flyer.pdf>
- Jack Valinski announce that a stronger City of Houston ordinance had been enacted for barking dogs.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.