

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL
NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE
DISTRICT TWO
November 1, 2007**

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pat Evans, Mayor
Sally Magnuson, Mayor Pro Tem
Jean Callison, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
Shep Stahel
Scott Johnson
Loretta Ellerbe
Harry LaRosiliere
Lee Dunlap

STAFF

Thomas H. Muehlenbeck, City Manager
Frank Turner, Executive Director
Bruce Glasscock, Executive Director
Rod Hogan, Executive Director
Diane C. Wetherbee, City Attorney
Diane Zucco, City Secretary

The Plano City Council met informally at 7:11 p.m., Thursday, November 1, 2007, at the PISD Sockwell Center, 6301 Chapel Hill Boulevard, Plano, Texas. All Council Members were present with the exception of Council Member Ellerbe. Mayor Evans welcomed those in attendance and identified the Council districts. Mayor Evans spoke regarding Council Members being elected and serving the City at large and the benefits provided. Staff in attendance introduced themselves.

North Texas Tollway Association Update

GBT Ramps; NTTA North Extension - 121 Update

Daniel Chapman, Senior Project Manager of HNTB Corporation, spoke to the need for improved mobility and approval by the North Texas Tollway Authority for a transition to Electronic Toll Collection (ETC). He reviewed the existing condition where the ramp from the President George Bush Turnpike (PGBT) to the northbound Dallas North Tollway (DNT) is one lane and the bottleneck where it merges with DNT traffic exiting to Park Boulevard. Mr. Chapman spoke to recommendations for an additional lane of the existing direct connect ramp from the PGBT to northbound DNT and the elimination of weaving between traffic between those entering and exiting. He spoke regarding proposed ramp modifications and reversal, relocation of the Park Boulevard exit, a new exit ramp for Parker Road and implementation of ETC at Plano Parkway. Mr. Chapman spoke to the next steps including receipt of public input, completion of the schematic design with formal approval and commitment by the City of Plano with anticipated construction completion by the end of 2010. He spoke to the sequence of construction which would minimize the impact on traffic.

Rick Herrington, Deputy Executive Director of NTTA spoke to the implementation of tolls providing more equity in the per mile rates, safety issues, other locations that have electronic tolling and anticipated savings since toll collectors make up half the NTTA employees.

City Engineer Upchurch responded to citizens regarding traffic concerns along Parkwood Boulevard, advising that it has always been planned as a six-lane thoroughfare, evaluation of side street issues and the implementation of traffic signals as warranted. Citizens spoke regarding the addition of noise and traffic to the neighborhood and impacts on Chapel Hill Road. Mr. Chapman spoke to there being 900 vehicles per hour utilizing the Park Boulevard exit with 300 coming from the PGBT and to the Chapel Hill exit being under capacity. He spoke to movement of the Parker Road exit to the south. Transportation Engineering Manager Neal spoke to review of traffic signal timing and neighborhood entrances.

Mr. Upchurch responded to a citizen that the recommendations are not the result of an economic development study and Mr. Chapman spoke to the proposed widening of the frontage road up to Chapel Hill and the availability of a Texas U-Turn at that location. He advised that the NTTA does not have a vested interest in any property along the DNT, meetings held with retailers and to the ramp for Park Boulevard from the northbound DNT going beneath the ramp off the PGBT. Mr. Herrington advised that TxDOT and federal standards are followed and since the area is zoned commercially, there will be no sound walls. Mr. Upchurch spoke to continuing evaluation of recommendations and the item coming back before the Council for consideration. Mayor Evans spoke to the need to address concerns in the area and advised that a vote will be taken. Mr. Upchurch spoke to the study of intersections and consideration of signals as warranted. He spoke to construction on Parkwood Boulevard beginning in December with completion in a year, traffic modeling along the DNT considering build-out of currently vacant land and to notifications provided in the area.

Mayor Evans spoke to taking the time to meet with businesses and citizens to gather input and requested those in attendance submit comment cards if there are further questions.

Recreation Center Report Update

Muehlenbeck Center

Director of Parks and Recreation Wendell spoke to the opening of the Tom Muehlenbeck Recreation Center on November 2, 2007, reviewed the cost of memberships and provided a description of the amenities.

Carpenter Park Expansion

Mr. Wendell spoke to plans to expand the Carpenter Park Recreation Center with construction in 2009.

Community Investment Projects – District 2

Street Repairs/Improvements/Resurfacing

Public Works Director Foster and Chief Engineer Upchurch spoke to the progress on projects in the area. Parks and Recreation Director Wendell spoke to plans in 2008 to reduce on-street parking adjacent to Parkwood Green Park.

Mayor Evans opened the floor for questions. Police Chief Rushin spoke regarding the reduction in accidents at intersections where red-light cameras have been implemented and to the City continuing to monitor traffic for consideration of additional units. He advised that the City shares revenue with the state after deduction of operating costs. Mr. Upchurch responded to a question regarding house damage due to construction of a sewer line by the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) and advised that he would get the homeowner in contact with the district. Chief Building Official Selso responded regarding times when construction noise is not permitted.

Chief Rushin advised regarding contact information for the Police Department during non-emergencies and spoke to the City's stance against drag racing. Mr. Foster spoke regarding two projects of the NTMWD which will bring water to the area, projects requiring state approval, to the amount of water the City can take being regulated by permit and the need to show conservation improvement. He spoke to the conservation efforts of citizens and advised that the City will not look to groundwater as a source of supply. Chief Rushin spoke to the low crime rate in District 2, Plano being one of the safest communities in Texas, the department's staffing formula and the process of recruitment and hiring. Officer Mark Dawson spoke to the City offering a home security assessment.

A citizen expressed appreciation for the services of the Police and Fire Departments.

City Attorney Wetherbee spoke to enforcement of solicitation laws and the need for citizens to become actively involved in the process. She directed citizens to information on the City's web site.

Mayor Evans requested citizens contact the City if they have concerns regarding their neighborhoods, thanked those in attendance and adjourned the meeting at 9:14 p.m.

Pat Evans, Mayor

ATTEST:

Diane Zucco, City Secretary