

Neartown Association Minutes

Neartown

Tuesday, March 25, 2008

7:08pm

18 people in attendance

- Sue Lovell, City Council, Chair of TIA
- METRO is waiting on funding for the University Rail Line
- she told us the proposed route
- waiting for environmental impact study
- other lines are moving forward
- In November, with new administration, "the whole thing could rewind"
- TIA - METR & COH ... long discussions, nearing consent agreement, about who pays for utilities
- METRO pays a loarge amount for utilities
- once METR opens a hole, the COH can get in and do upgrades
- first part of April should be ready with decisions re responsibility
- construction will be open to civic leaders for questions
- they will be concerned re businesses which may be negatively impacted during construction
- they will have regular communications re upcoming construction, and impact on schools, businesses, traffic, etc.
- the main goal during construction is to keep traffic moving, esp. Montrose Blvd.
- Montrose will continue to get more hi-rises and more traffic
- to get building permits, one needn't present a whole or final plan; it's possible to get permits piecemeal, which is a way to hide from the City what a developer is up to. Sue is trying to get that changed.
- W. Alabama will become a "major thoroughfare"
- parking garages may come to be
- cabs may become more common
- removing parking from some parts of Westheimer would hurt businesses there
- might use public school parking lots on weekends

- Kay and others from Richmond Rail.org will get to Sue Lovell copies of compilations of what was done at the workshop.

- Kris Banks, Community Liason for City Council Distric D, Wanda Adams's office, announced a Town Hall meeting for April 26, for everyone who lives or works in Montrose.
- Get your questions in in advance to David Robinson

- Donald Perkins, City Planning & Development brought a lot of handouts, and explained them, and encouraged us to take them, take them.
- SNAP - Super Neighborhood Action Plan
- this year, the city and the mayor are trying to streamline and simplify process

- \$350,000 and under = non CIP = SNAP
- \$ 25,000 and under = non CIP = SNAP for the Parks Dept.
- deadline is April 14
- David & Allen are working with Donald. So, if you have any qu's or changes, funnel them through David (not directly to Donald)
- by April 15, all requests should be tallied and disseminated to various city departments for review
- call 311 for "no parking" signs. But it MAY help to put them in your SNAP requests

Adjourn 8:11pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Young
Secretary