



Southgate News

February 2022

Southgate Civic Club Meeting Sunday, March 6, 2022 at 4:30 PM Roberts International Garden (off School Street)

****Bring a lawn chair**** Please come and hear updates on several important neighborhood topics:

- Approval of the minutes of the December meeting
- University Blvd Reconstruction Update
- Speaker – Steven Curry on Opportunities for Historic District Designation
- RACS Update

We will also hold an open forum to discuss any other issues of concern to Southgate residents.

Executive Committee Notes

The Civic Club resumed in person meetings last June after a brief hiatus caused by the pandemic. In addition, the executive committee has been working throughout the pandemic to review construction plans and to ensure that the Southgate deed restrictions are being followed.

Renew your Civic Club Membership

Please make sure your Civic Club membership is up to date. The Civic Club uses your dues primarily to pay legal fees in connection with enforcing and strengthening deed restrictions.

Dues are \$50 annually and may be paid online by credit card at <http://www.houstonsouthgate.org/SouthgateCivicClub.htm> or by check made payable to Southgate Civic Club and mailed to the address below. Please see the back page of this newsletter for the payment form. You may also opt to automatically pay your dues every year so that you do not have to remember to do it.

If you are unsure when you last paid your dues, you may email treasurer@houstonsouthgate.org.

University Blvd Reconstruction

The City of Houston has approved reconstruction of University Boulevard – the current design is complete from Kirby to Morningside but Transportation Drainage Operations (TDO) has asked that the project be extended to Greenbriar. Public Works will do a review on this extended reach, causing target project start dates to slip. The anticipated award target date is now summer 2023. Reconstruction of University Blvd

from Greenbriar to Main is not currently in the plan but will be studied for future inclusion.

The reconstruction / design will address storm drainage, pedestrian safety and accessibility, pavement conditions and mobility, water and wastewater as needed, and parking solutions. REIS Associates, the real estate company that has been managing the Village Arcade since 2019, plans to use this opportunity to incorporate more greenery, increase seating and to continue upgrading University Boulevard's shopping area. For more, you can visit rebuildhouston.org.

Historic District Designation Speaker

Architect Steven F. Curry, FAIA, NCARB, principal of Curry Boudreaux Architects, will speak at the Southgate Civic Club meeting on Sunday, March 6 2022, to discuss the opportunities available to Southgate in applying for designation as a historic district by the City of Houston. Mr. Curry is president of Houston Mod and serves on the Houston Archaeological and Historical Commission (HAHC) of the City of Houston.

Brockman Hall for Opera - Open House

Rice's Brockman Hall for Opera will be having a Community Open House on Saturday, April 9, from 11am - 2pm. Register beginning Feb 22 at music.rice.edu.

This event will be free of charge and is open to all ages and fun for the entire family. Explore behind the scenes of the new building, participate in a musical scavenger hunt, visit delicious food trucks and enjoy music in nearby Alice Pratt Brown Hall.

Upcoming Voting Dates & Locations

Important Dates:

Feb 14: First day of early voting
Feb 18: Last day to apply for ballot by mail (received, not postmarked)
Feb 25: Last day of early voting
March 1: Primary Election Day
March 1: Last day to receive ballot by mail (or March 3 if carrier envelope is postmarked by 7pm at location of election)

Voting Locations:

Our closest locations for early voting:

Holiday Inn Houston NRG Med Center Area – Royal Oak Ballroom
8111 Kirby Drive
Houston, TX 77054

Sheltering Arms Community Center – Community Room
3838 Aberdeen Way
Houston, TX 77025

Our Nearest Election Day Location:

Michael E DeBakey High School for Health Professions
2545 Pressler Street
Houston, TX 77030

Please note that locations are subject to change and are not finalized until 2/14 for early voting, 3/1 for Election Day.

For more please visit HarrisVotes.com

RACS

Deputy Goodson is our Constable for the Rice Area Constable Service (“RACS”). He has over 10 years of experience in law enforcement and is pleased to be working in the Southgate area.

To become a member of RACS, please sign up online at <http://racspatrol.com/signup-for-racs/> or send a check to: RACS, 2523 McClendon Street, Houston, Texas 77030. Current dues are \$300 for single family homes, \$200 for 65+ and \$160 for duplexes and apartments. As of March 1, dues will be \$330 for single family homes, \$250 for seniors (65+), \$175 for duplex or apartment. This reflects a modest increase due to increased patrol fees. New memberships or renewals



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before March 1 are at current rates.

If you would like a RACS yard sign, contact Meryl Cohen at merylscohen@gmail.com. For questions or to request a vacation watch, email racspatrol@gmail.com.

Architectural Review Committee

All new construction and remodeling projects must be permitted by the City of Houston. To obtain a permit, the applicant must include a signed declaration, under penalty of perjury, that the project does not violate the deed restrictions that apply to that land. To be in a position to do that, please submit your plans to the Southgate Architectural Review Committee before applying for a permit from the City of Houston in order to ensure compliance with the Southgate Deed Restrictions. By performing an architectural review, the ARC helps protect the interests of all parties by keeping deed restrictions active and enforceable. Submission requirements can be found at <http://houstonsouthgate.org/southgate-architectural-review/>.

The review committee will review your plans/plat *within two weeks of receipt* and get back to you with a formal letter noting compliance with the deed restrictions or identifying concerns, if any. For questions email us at architecturalreview@houstonsouthgate.org

Civic Club Contacts

2022 Civic Club Officers:

President	Jenny Beech	president@houstonsouthgate.org
Vice President	Curt Wimberly	curt.wimberly@gmail.com
Vice President	Camille Jenman	cjenman@gmail.com
Vice President	Bill Sanderford	sbswss@ymail.com
Treasurer	Caroline Freeman	treasurer@houstonsouthgate.org
Sec’y & News.	Heather Wright	secretary@houstonsouthgate.org

Neighborhood Outreach Liaisons:

RACS Rep.	Meryl Cohen	merylscohen@gmail.com
UPA Rep.	Jenny Beech	president@houstonsouthgate.org

Task Force and Committee Leaders:

Traffic	Bill Sanderford	sbswss@ymail.com
Architec. Review	Patrick Peters	architecturalreview@houstonsouthgate.org
Website	Caroline Freeman	treasurer@houstonsouthgate.org

Southgate Civic Club Payment Form

Dear Southgate Neighbor:

Please support the neighborhood and the Southgate Civic Club by paying dues via one of the methods listed below.

I. Methods of Payment – Dues are \$50

A. **Online (preferred)** -- Go to <http://www.houstonsouthgate.org/SouthgateCivicClub.htm> and click on “Pay Now” button. A Paypal account is not required for credit card payments.

NOTE: If your Southgate address does not match your credit card billing address, please add your Southgate Address in the box entitled “Southgate Address To Be Credited” on the final payment page.

B. **Web Bill Pay**-- If your financial institution allows you to pay your bills online, enter Southgate Civic Club as your payee and use the address below.

C. **Check**-- Complete the attached form and mail to the address below. Make check payable to Southgate Civic Club.

Southgate Civic Club, Attn. Treasurer
2617C W Holcombe Blvd, Box 104
Houston, Texas 77025-4715

II. What does the Southgate Civic Club Do for You?

- Coordinates neighborhood and community events, such as the annual ice cream social.
- Protects your interests by keeping deed restrictions active and enforceable.
- Represents the neighborhood through dialogues with the city, county, and state governments.
- Interfaces with Rice University, the Medical Center, and the Rice Area Constable Service (RACS).
- Hosts neighborhood meetings.
- Keeps you informed through Nextdoor and the Southgate website/newsletter.
- Coordinates maintenance of various common areas in the neighborhood.

III. How are your membership dues used?

- Maintenance of common areas and beautification projects.
- Civic Club meetings and other social activities.
- Legal fees as necessary to enforce and protect deed restrictions.
- Membership in University Place Association and other relevant groups that protect and promote our neighborhood.
- Publishing of the Newsletter and other civic club material.

Clip this section and Return with your Dues Payment of \$50.00

Name of Resident(s): _____

Southgate Address (Number & Street): _____

Mailing Address (if different): _____

Phone #(s): _____ Email(s): _____



Southgate News

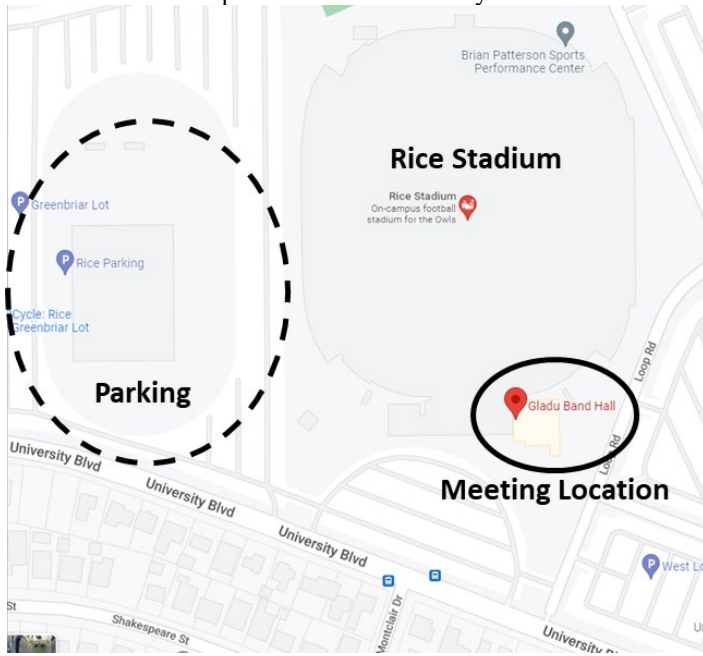
June 2022

Southgate Civic Club Meeting Thursday, June 16, 2022 at 6:30 PM Rice Band Hall (connected to Rice Stadium) – See map below

Please come and hear updates on several important neighborhood topics:

- Approval of the minutes of the March meeting
- Upcoming Construction Projects
- McClendon Traffic Management

We will also hold an open forum to discuss any other issues of concern to Southgate residents.



Parking and Directions:

For those driving to the meeting location, parking is available at the Greenbriar lot (entrance on Greenbriar between Rice and University). Parking is \$3 and can be paid with a credit or debit card upon entrance into the parking lot.

Executive Committee Notes

The Civic Club resumed in person meetings last June after a brief hiatus caused by the pandemic. In addition, the executive committee has been working throughout the pandemic to review construction plans and to ensure that the Southgate deed restrictions are being followed.

that drive discovery of area businesses and other local points of interest, promote diverse mobility solutions, and improve equity with 24/7 access to resources. IKE is multilingual and includes detailed content listings of local area restaurants, shops, businesses, cultural institutions, events, jobs, and civic resources. Additionally, the kiosks provide access to social services information such as homeless shelters, addiction recovery programs, and food support.”

Upcoming Construction

August 2022 -

The City of Houston will install several interactive digital kiosks in the Medical Center. They are referred to as IKE's (Interactive Kiosk Experience). Per the City's press release:

"Each kiosk serves as a free Wi-Fi hotspot up to 75' and is geo-located, displaying informational listings based on what's in the immediate proximity to the kiosk. The kiosks have dual-sided digital touchscreens and are fully ADA-compliant, complete with an engaging suite of interactive applications

TBD Summer

Texas Children's Hospital purchased the former BCM building at Southgate and Main and has been working to update it as Pavilion for Women's administrative offices. This summer, the TCH construction team plans to connect a sky bridge from the Pavilion to the renovated building and will require closing several lanes on Main for a few days. Updates to come.

October 2022

Travis near Dryden will be shut down for a few days so the Rice BRC may install new air handlers on top of the building.

McClendon St Traffic Management

Please see below for a message from concerned neighbors regarding traffic issues on McClendon:

The traffic situation on McClendon has continued to worsen. The new hotel and high-rise have contributed more traffic, and dangerous traffic given alcohol-related traffic associated with the hotel bar. Google Maps and other driving apps now list McClendon as a route to the Med Center and hotel and a work-around for heavy traffic at Greenbriar and Holcombe.

On more than one occasion, drivers have driven onto residents' lawns. Constables have recorded the incidents and observed that traffic has gotten materially worse, given the proximity and frequency of the events. Reckless traffic is a threat to the children going to and from Roberts, students coming and going from Rice, retirees walking, residents walking dogs and potentially even to residents inside their own homes. Dialogue is underway with the hotel, City and Neighborhood Traffic Management Program.

If you would like to learn more or assist, please email ec@houstonsouthgate.org.

Southgate Esplanade Fund

The Southgate Esplanade Fund arranges and pays for mowing and edging the esplanades, work that is currently performed every 2 weeks all year long. Residents of Southgate Blvd are asked to contribute \$120 each year to cover the costs of the landscape crew. Many thanks to everyone that has already sent in contributions. If you have not yet had the opportunity to make your contribution, please mail/deliver your payment payable to Southgate Esplanade Fund to: 2127 Southgate Blvd or through payment via Zelle to cleachman@comcast.net.

If you don't live on Southgate Blvd but enjoy the esplanades and would like to help, any contributions are appreciated.

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Redistricting

Houston is currently undergoing a process to adopt new City Council district boundaries using 2020 US Census data. The aim in redrawing districts is to maintain relatively equal population numbers, have easily identifiable boundaries and retain the integrity of neighborhoods and communities of interest. Public input is appreciated and encouraged.

Upcoming Events / Opportunities for Engagement:

July 13, 2022	Public City Council hearings: 9 am & 7 pm
July 20, 2022	Public City Council hearings: 9 am Deadline for public submission of plans

For more information visit letstalkhouston.org/redistricting

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