

Greater Round Rock West News

Greater Round Rock West Neighborhood Association Newsletter March – 2006 page 1



Next Meeting

Dr. Jesus Chavez, Our New RRISD Superintendent - will be here to talk about his plans for the district and to discuss the upcoming bond issue. Please attend and let your voice be heard!

**Tuesday, March 21, 7:00 pm - Grace Lutheran Church
Corner of Round Rock West and Bluff Dr.**

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Recap of IH-35 ramp closure information

Refer to the letter from the president on pages 2-3



Also learn what else is going on in GRRW

Please register with the association so that you will receive important information as quickly as possible via e-mail

www.grrwna.org



Good News from TXU
see page 6

Regularly scheduled meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month from January to October at Grace Lutheran Church, located at the corner of Round Rock West and Bluff Dr.

Tues, April 18, 7pm --

Jim Nuse, Tom Word, and other officials will be present to update us on the ramp closings and other road issues affecting our neighborhood.

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Letter from the President

Greetings Neighbors,

Wow. That is all I can say after the events of the past few weeks regarding the IH 35 ramp issue. Emotions have run high and it has been a completely new experience for me. I have done my best to try and get the information out to everyone as quickly as possible and as accurately as possible. At times, I realize that I did not do as good of a job as I could have and for that I apologize. I do know one thing. This is a very hot issue and that whatever the end result, not everyone is going to be happy and we are going to have to accept the fact that progress has it's price.

I am going to try and briefly summarize what is going on for those that do not receive the neighborhood e-mail updates. On Tuesday, February 21st, a meeting was held at City Council Chambers regarding the upcoming closure of certain ramps on IH 35. After this meeting, I sent out an e-mail report about the meeting. I subsequently received several e-mail regarding the meeting. I then sent out another e-mail addressing those concerns. I have posted a copy of the text of those e-mails at the following addresses:

www.grrwna.org/rampemail1.pdf and www.grrwna.org/rampemail2.pdf

Over the next few weeks, we are going to be communicating closely with TXDoT and the City of Round Rock Officials regarding these issues. In summary, it looks like the ramps are closing, period. Worrying about when the meetings were held regarding these ramp closures, who held them, why didn't we hear about them, why didn't they do a better job, and so forth, is not going to make any difference in the problem at hand. The meetings were held. These ramps were slated to be closed as early as 1997-1998. There were more meetings in 2002 and an article was in the Statesman about the ramps, more public meetings were held and spending time debating this is not going to change the fact that the SH 45 interchange is there and we are going to have to deal with it. We need to focus on what changes can be made to minimize the impact.

I can tell you that the City of Round Rock has been working very hard on ways to minimize the impact on the area and our neighborhood in particular. Not everyone agrees but since I have been involved, that has been my experience.

I encourage you to e-mail me your concerns so that we will have those concerns available when we start meeting with the TXDoT and City officials. Please send them to ramps@grrwna.org

Some of the projects that have been discussed are as follows:

1. Add a turnaround to the north side of Hesters Crossing. This will make it much easier to get to the southeast side of Round Rock for shopping. (Academy, Big Lots, Whataburger, Outback, etc.) This could also be an alternate route for those going southbound on IH 35 to get to South Mays and do not want to take the 620 Exit.
2. Add a turnaround to the south side of 620 and re-configure the 620 / IH 35 exit / intersection. This will enable those trying to get to our neighborhood to do so without going through a traffic light and hopefully move traffic through that intersection more efficiently.

THE FOLLOWING PROJECT IS ALREADY PLANNED, DESIGNED, AND FUNDED.

1. Expansion / rebuilding of the Hester's Crossing bridge. South Mays will be aligned and connected to Dell Way. Hester's Crossing will be extended over to meet this re-alignment. The Hester's Crossing bridge will be expanded to 7 lanes (I believe it is seven but I will try and confirm this)

2. Southbound, for those traveling south on the access road from 620 or exiting Hester's crossing to get to the SH 45 / IH 35 intersection (to go right to La Frontera, left to go to the Target shopping area, east on the SH 45 access road, or take a turnaround to go to the Home Depot shopping area) there will be a connector that will take you UNDER the new Hester's Crossing bridge and back up onto the access road to the intersection.

Originally, the start date for this project was going to have to wait until the SH 45 interchange project was complete. TXDoT and the City of Round Rock have announced that the project will begin much sooner than expected and we should hear something on this in the next couple of weeks

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(continued from page 2)

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Indirect issues and other items discussed:

Access to loop 1 from our neighborhood
The O'Connor Extension to SH 45
Solution of the RR crossing problem on 620.

I am sure there are other items to add to the list and if you will e-mail them to me, I will do everything I can to forward those questions. I will be in regular contact with all officials involved.

GUESS WHAT? There are other things going on in our neighborhood besides the ramp issue. I want to extend my thanks to some of our neighbors. Becky Truitt has volunteered to maintain our website and has been doing a wonderful job. Relda Comer stepped up and offered to be our Newsletter Editor. Sandi Waeltz and Don Yenni have also been a huge help in other areas. If you know them, please go out of your way to thank them for their service to our neighborhood. On a personal note, Becky, Relda, Sandi, Don and many others not mentioned here, thank you very much for your commitment. Our neighborhood will be a better place because of your contributions. Another group that deserves our thanks is our Communications Organization, the Zone Captains and Block Captains. This is the committed group of people that makes sure you receive your newsletters and other notices. There are too many of you to mention in this letter but I thank you and your neighborhood thanks you.

I still need volunteers to work on the 4th of July Parade and National Night Out. Please consider these opportunities and let me know if you can help.

Remember, this is YOUR neighborhood and YOUR participation is VERY important.

Sincerely,



President
GRRWNA

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Neighborhood news



HELP WANTED

Fourth of July Parade Help Needed

We are in need of anyone who has helped with the 4th of July Parade in the past and has experience getting it put together and organized. Please contact me immediately so we can get this project started. We already have a few people that are willing to serve on the committee. We would also like to find anyone that has contacts with the Round Rock High School Band to see if we can get a group of kids from the band to march in the parade.

Please let us know.

I can be reached at 310-9229, 736-8075 or by e-mail at

mike_freeman@grrwna.org.



Help wanted National Night Out

National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, August 1st. Last years event was very successful and we have even bigger plans for this year's night out. We already have several committee members that are willing to serve but we need 2-3 more committee members and a chairperson. We will also need people to volunteer to help that night.

Please call me at 310-9229, 736-8075, or e-mail me at mike_freeman@grrwna.org.

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Neighborhood news

Do You have a Computer?

Do you receive e-mails from the
GRRWNA?

No? - Would You Like To?

A great FREE way to learn the most
up-to-date news possible about our
neighborhood is to register with us.

All names and e-mail addresses are
HIGHLY protected by your
association.

We respect your privacy.

Register online at www.GRRWNA.org

Or send in the form on the back of
this newsletter

GRRWNA OFFICERS

President

Mike Freeman – mike_freeman@grrwna.org

Vice President

Mike Price – mike_price@grrwna.org

Safety Officer

Weldon Klattenhoff
weldon_klattenhoff@grrwna.org

Information Officer

Position vacant

Secretaries

JoAnne Blando – joanneblando@sbcglobal.net

Pam Griggs – pgriggs2@austin.rr.com

Treasurer

Don Yenni – DYenniJr@aol.com

At Large Board Members

Chad Chadwell – chad_chadwell@grrwna.org

Michelle Fox – michelle_fox@grrwna.org

Richard King – richard_king@grrwna.org

Web Site Administrator

Becky Truitt
webmaster@grrwna.org

Newsletter Editor

Relda Comer
editor@grrwna.org

Have you seen our web site?

It is awesome! And with Becky on
board, it's getting even better. See
for yourself at:

.....
www.grrwna.org
.....

Committees are forming for:

The July 4th Parade

National Night out

see page 4



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Good News From TXU



TXU tree trimming almost complete, additional work planned...

Rick Chapman of TXU Electric Delivery advised us that the tree trimming is almost complete in our area. (It seems that the GRRWNA area is actually fed by more than one feeder circuit and only one of these circuits is being worked on at this time, so not all of our neighborhood has been affected.)

These same lines will undergo an additional project in the near future. They are upgrading the line to be able to carry increased capacity. Construction crews will be changing out all the transformers on this same circuit. This will cause power to be turned off for a brief period of time to the houses that require the new transformers. In other words, if your transformer was planned to be changed out “next Tuesday” they would have to shut the power off to your house for approximately two hours on that day only.

The plan is to put a door hanger on each affected home about 2-3 days in advance of the planned outage. This notice will explain the work, the day and approximate times (AM or PM). Please note: Storms and other emergencies could affect this plan. To receive prompt response to any issues please call the phone number on the door notice. It is TXU's wish that everyone understand that work will be completed as quickly and painlessly as possible. Once this work is done this area should be in great shape several years to come.

In an effort to insure the correct information is given in a timely manner: Street addresses for the houses to be affected will be posted on our website (www.grrwna.org).

Again, this will only affect the lines that were recently trimmed.

2006 Daffodil Festival

Saturday, April 1, beginning at 9 am

Downtown Round Rock

For more information, check

<http://www.rrdaffodilcapitaltx.us/>

March 20 is the first day of Spring

Happy Spring!



1st Annual Brushy Creek Cleanup Day
We Need YOU!

Be a Part of Keeping Your Community Beautiful!

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2006

FUN! PRIZES! MAKE NEW FRIENDS!

REGISTER TODAY!

244-8366



The Round Rock Volunteer Center

Presented by the Leadership Round Rock Class of 2006 in conjunction with the Round Rock Volunteer Center.

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When you support the following businesses, please find a manager and let them know you appreciate their support of our association

Special Thanks
to



FM 620 & IH 35
Round Rock
255-6600

for their contributions
to our association

Special Thanks
To



La Frontera
600-0053

For
Discounted Printing
of our Newsletter

Thanks to the following businesses
for their support of our association

Hoody's Sub Shop

1206 Round Rock Ave - 244-7166

Gino's Pizzeria

1701 S. Mays - 218-9922

Pflugerville Dairy Queen

1701 F.M. 1825 - Pflugerville

Thanks To
Round Rock
Albertson's

For their contribution
of gift cards as prizes for
our Christmas
Decorating
Contest

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Registration Form for the **Greater Round Rock Neighborhood Association**

Name: _____ Spouse: _____
e-mail: _____ e-mail: _____
Address: _____ Round Rock, TX 78681
Home Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

I am available to contribute in the following areas:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> serving on the board | <input type="checkbox"/> assist in newsletter prep | <input type="checkbox"/> help distribute flyers / newsletters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> being a block captain | <input type="checkbox"/> assist w/ membership drive | <input type="checkbox"/> serving on planning team/committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nominating committee | <input type="checkbox"/> July 4 th Parade committee | <input type="checkbox"/> National Night Out committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> judging contests | <input type="checkbox"/> assist with the web site | <input type="checkbox"/> assist with one time projects |

I have experience that I feel would be valuable in the following areas:

The Greater Round Rock West Neighborhood Association has adopted a new membership policy. Everyone living in the boundaries of the association is automatically a member. No longer are dues REQUIRED.

That being said, the association still needs funds to operate and we are asking for a voluntary contribution from each household. These contributions fund the various activities of the neighborhood such as printing the news letter, the July 4th parade, National Night Out activities, and many other issues that come up during the year. The suggested contribution is \$25 per household. If you are unable to contribute that much or you feel the amount is too high, please at least contribute something. If you feel compelled to contribute more, please do. Keep in mind that most homeowner associations have mandatory dues of \$350 or more each year.

Due to our new membership restructuring, we ask that you send in your contribution for 2006 as soon as possible so that we may finalize our new budget for 2006. If you paid dues in October, November, or December of 2005 it is not necessary to contribute again now unless you wish to do so. We are very excited about the change and we look forward to serving all of Greater Round Rock West!

Contributions can be made by either mailing a check to GRRWNA, P.O. Box 1928, Round Rock, TX 78680 or you can contribute by credit or debit card at: <http://www.grrwna.org/id2.html> *Please include this form if you mail your contribution*

If you would like to make an additional contribution, you may do so on our website at www.grrwna.org . This contribution is NOT tax deductible.

For more information, e-mail: info@grrwna.org

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