



**WNNA General Meeting
Thursday, July 21, 2005
Top O' The Cliff Club**

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m.
- II. Guest Speaker from Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) – Tim Nesbitt Presented information on the redesign and construction of the IH-35 corridor near Wynnewood North. The project is known as the “Southern Gateway,” and details are available at www.thesoutherngateway.org. The presentation included video about the project.

TxDOT examined a 20-mile area from Eighth Street south to FM 1382 and along Hwy 67. These efforts coordinate with other projects in Dallas area, including Project Pegasus, Trinity Parkway, East Corridor, Loop 12/IH-35E, Loop 9 and Gateway Horizon.

A public hearing about the project will be in August in Duncanville and North Dallas

Public involvement efforts have included work group meetings, public meetings, newsletters, etc.

I-35 North is currently four lanes each way plus one reversible HOV lane. The Southern Gateway project proposes five lanes each way plus two managed HOV lanes. Managed HOV lanes could become toll lane as could the fifth lane on each side. In the Southern region (Hwy 67 to Danieldale), I-35 would be three lanes each way, plus one HOV lane.

An environmental analysis has been submitted to the State and the Federal Highway Works Authority where it was approved for public comment. Included in the analysis is a noise study. As a result, the Southern Gateway project includes proposals for 31 walls for neighborhoods along corridor, or 6.3 miles of walls at cost of \$7.4 million.

Project goals include finding a balance between transportation needs versus other requirements. Design addresses environment, economic development and aesthetic design.



Following the presentation, Mr. Nesbitt addressed questions from residents.

Q: What can Wynnewood North expect to see as we exit/enter our neighborhood? We are concerned about elevated bridges that are close to our neighborhood—less than 1,000 feet. How do we protect our neighborhood?

A: Studies took elevations and noise into account. Plans have been submitted to Historic Commission, which determined project doesn't impact neighborhood.

Q: What will we see?

A: Designs are available on the website. You can compare existing and planned designs. The plans shows elevated bridges, but this is just a proposal.

Q: Will Zang Boulevard still exist as a separate road or will it become frontage road for IH-35?

A: Zang will still exist. Flattening of curve affects the east side of IH-35, not the west. No property is being taken on west side along Zang curve. Property will be taken on the west side further north, around zoo.

Q: Please describe the walls around Zang. Describe exit/entrance ramps

A: (Detailed schematics presented.)

Q: How can we influence the process?

A: Residents can present their comments at public hearings.

III. Additional Speaker: Officer from Dallas Police Department

The new officer assigned to lead the Southwest Patrol asked introduced himself and asked residents for about any issues Wynnewood North is experiencing.

Mary Scherer described a recent carjacking/aggravated robbery. Officer reminded everyone to lock your car doors and made other suggestions.

Mary also advised the officer of concern over increased traffic and some random fire in neighborhood.

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Another neighbor mentioned their house was tagged by a paintball gun. Officer said they have seen an increase in that type of activity; tends to be juveniles.

Neighbor mentioned increase in graffiti, especially along Davis Street. Officer said juveniles also to blame. Occurrences move as they move from home to home. Also gangs responsible for graffiti. The officer advised that with school starting soon, occurrences of graffiti should go down. Please contact the police if you see new graffiti so that they can match to others and try to build a case.

The officer also reminded neighbors to clear out your car at night, even taking out your spare change. The criminals are so quick that it is nearly impossible to catch them breaking into cars.

Mary asked the officer to encourage his fellow officers to do more patrols during the day, when the majority of crimes occur in Wynnewood North

- IV. Reading/Approval of previous minutes:
President Dean Rose asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the August 21 general meeting, which were posted online and available during this meeting. Don Dureau made the motion, which was seconded by Stuart Rogers. The motion carried by unanimous vote.
- V. Departmental Reports
- A. Lisa Tully, Communications Director: Lisa asked any neighbors new to WNNA or who have had any changes to their phone numbers or e-mail address to let her know so she can update the neighborhood directory, which will be published and distributed soon.
- B. John Ridgley, Social Director: John talked about the success of the Spring Wynnewood Wander. He said he is already planning the Fall Wynnewood Wander for Oct. 22, but he still is looking for additional hosts. He also is organizing smaller, casual wine parties and is looking for additional hosts
- C. Mary Scherer, Crime Watch Director: Mary explained that we have a "mixed bag" regarding crime in the last few months. We've seen fewer property issues, but we've seen more significant issues, such as the car



jacking mentioned earlier. Traffic through neighborhood is also a concern. Increased patrols will help, but we can't count on them. We must be vigilant. If you see something write it down, call. Let the criminals know that you see them—let them see you writing info. Mary has access/connections to track license plates, records etc. Don't be afraid to call in information. Be observant! You may have the details the police need to solve a crime. The more we become an "irritant" to the police, the more they'll come.

The good news is that our problems aren't nearly as bad as other nearby neighborhoods. We don't want to get to their levels so stay vigilant.

Mary was asked about the possibility of forming a Volunteers on Patrol group. She explained that 85 percent of our incidents occur during the day, and we need more than just one or two people who are interested in the project.

Neighbor asked about creating "WNNA Resident" stickers for cars. Mary explained that we out of stickers long ago, but she will check into getting more if people are interested.

Mary thanked everyone who participated in H.E.A.T. registration. The police were positively surprised! She will coordinate another registration event in the Fall if people are still interested.

- C. Tom Reeves, Treasurer: Tom submitted the treasurer's report, which states a balance of \$7,494.53 as of June 30.
- D. Beautification: Dean Rose presented on behalf of Jeremy Ratliff. A \$2,500 grant was received from the Old Oak Cliff Conservation league. Details about the grant request were described in the July newsletter. Lighting will be added on both triangles. Re-landscaping areas to reduce maintenance costs. Plans will be implemented in the fall and next spring. Yards of Month are listed in July newsletter.
- E. Joseph Hernandez, Publications Director: Joseph reported that we are pursuing closing entry to our neighborhood via Llewellyn Drive. Overwhelming support was expressed by residents at the meeting. The



Fire Department has approved the idea. Joseph explained that we have cleared several hurdles, but there is still much work to be done.

- F. Cindy Kirk, Special Projects Director: Cindy has started anew column in the newsletter, Wynnewood Memories. Please share your stories with her to save the history of Wynnewood North.
- VI. New Neighbors: Welcome to Sergio Mercado on Bizerte!
- VII. Volunteer opportunity: Christine Connelly is organizing a volunteer opportunity for WNNA residents. She is looking for volunteers to cook and serve brunch at the Dallas Ronald McDonald House on Aug. 28 or Sept. 4, depending on the number of volunteers and scheduling. Volunteers can sign up after the meeting.
- VIII: Meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.