



# Westbury Crier

VOLUME 64, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2019

## ReBuild Houston is Coming to Westbury

The Westbury area was chosen for a Storm Drain Reconstruction project through ReBuild Houston and the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) in 2015. The Westbury Area Drainage project is broken into SIX sub-projects. This project is estimated to be roughly a 100 million dollar investment into Westbury's infrastructure. Sub-project 1 is Westbury 4 East. This area is roughly bordered by Ludington on the north, Atwell on the east, Ettrick on the south, and Landsdowne on the west. **Check out pages 8-9 for the full story and maps.**



## NEW Harvey Recovery Assistance

The City of Houston has launched a new program to help Houstonians who flooded during Harvey. The new Homeowner Assistance Program (HOAP) is funded by federal aid money the City is receiving for Harvey. If your home flooded during Harvey, you may be eligible for assistance. Anyone who may be eligible must first complete a survey. There is approximately \$400 million allocated to this program.

**Check out page 7 for more information about the HOAP program.** The Westbury Civic Club thinks the HOAP program could be really beneficial to Westbury residents.

## Support the WCC Today!

**Why Should You Pay Your WCC Dues?  
What are the Benefits?**

- Protects your investment in your home by keeping Westbury a strong and vibrant neighborhood.
- Keeps the doors of the WCC office open and staffed.
- Protects your home and family with the Westbury Area Patrol through Constable Precinct 5.
- Improvements to our esplanades, parks, & greenspaces.
- Advocates for City services and infrastructure improvements

**See pages 15-17 for more information on the Constable program and the dues form.**

## Recycling and Heavy Trash Delays

The City of Houston is having major trash pick-up delays throughout the entire city. The City was late picking up Westbury's recycling on December 20 due to a sick driver. This caused a 3-day delay. Then Solid Waste had 3 holidays at the end of year, add this to too many broken trucks and not enough drivers, and you have a major problem. Westbury's next normal scheduled day for recycling on January 3 was actually picked up on January 12, 8 days late. The delays were not just in Westbury, this was happening all over the City in every neighborhood.

As City Council members and the mayor received more and more trash complaints, on January 16, City Council passed an emergency spending item to outsource some of the City's recycling routes and to rent extra trucks. The plan calls for spending \$4.56 million to outsource 10 daily recycling routes to Texas Pride Disposal Solutions, LLC, starting February 1. The other portion of money, \$450,000, is to rent five heavy trucks from Big Truck Rentals, LLC, to help with recycling and yard waste pick-up. Both of these contracts are for a year. The \$5 million is coming from the city's fund reserve.

By August, the City expects to have received 69 new trucks, 25 of which will be ready by mid-February. The city also held a job fair in January for new truck drivers, so hopefully they will hire more employees. As for the current pick-up status, please check the Westbury Houston Facebook page for updates or call 311. The operators can tell you the most recent update from Solid Waste. As of print time, the City is saying that the January 31 Recycling pick-up will be on Saturday, February 2. No other updates have been provided.

The Westbury Civic Club advises that if the City is late picking up your trash or recycling cans, leave them on the street as the City is coming. It is just delayed. Heavy trash has also been delayed. As of January 23, the Westbury Tree Waste pick-up from January 10 is still sitting out on people's curbs. Unfortunately, the City has not updated the heavy trash schedule. The City is also saying that Yard Waste pick-up will be intermittent until they get caught up. Please remain patient and remember to wave and smile at the drivers, as they really are working hard to get everyone's trash picked up.

### RECYCLING DATES

**January 2019**  
Thursday, January 31\*  
Pickup on Sat., February 2

**February 2019**  
Thursday, February 14\*  
Thursday, February 28\*

### HEAVY TRASH

**February 2019**  
Thursday, February 14\*  
**JUNK WASTE**

**March 2019**  
Thursday, March 14\*  
**TREE WASTE ONLY**

*\*This is the regular schedule. The City is delayed but trying to catch up. Call 311 or Check Westbury Houston Facebook page for updated information on pick-up dates.*

# IMPORTANT CONTACTS

## WCC OFFICE \*NEW ADDRESS

5322 W. Bellfort #100, Houston, TX 77035

Jennifer Edmondson.....WCC Office Manager

NOTARY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE TO DUES PAYING

WESTBURY RESIDENTS during office hours or by appt.

## CONTACT US

**WCC Office Hours:** Monday- Thursday, 9:30AM-2PM

Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and holidays

WCC Office Telephone.....713-723-5437

WCC Office Email.....westburycc@sbcglobal.net

Deed Restrictions.....westburycc@sbcglobal.net

WCC President.....wccpresident@westburycrier.com

Visit our website at [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com)

“Like” us on Facebook at Westbury Houston

## SECURITY

**Pct. 5 Constables (WAP).....281-463-6666**

Report property crimes, suspicious activity, and vacation watch

Emergency.....911

Houston Police Dept. Non-Emergency..... 713-884-3131

Southwest HPD Station .....832-394-0400

## CITY OF HOUSTON

District K CM, Martha Castex-Tatum..... 832-393-3016

District C Council Member, Ellen Cohen.....832-393-3004

Deed Restriction Enforcement (City Legal).....832-393-6333

Platou Community Center.....713-726-7107

Meyer Library.....832-393-1840

Mayor’s Citizen Assistance Office.....832-393-0955

**Houston Help & Information.....311**

For missed garbage pickup, water line breaks, potholes sewer repairs, dead animals, traffic signals, heavy trash violations, neighborhood nuisances, and other city services

## CENTERPOINT ENERGY

Electric outage.....713-207-2222

Suspected natural gas leak.....713-659-2111

Street light repairs.....713-207-2222

Make sure to give pole number

## OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

County Commissioner Rodney Ellis.....713-755-6111

Graffiti.....www.braysoaksmd.org

Shopping Cart Removal.....www.braysoaksmd.org

Brays Oaks Mgmt. District - Use “report a problem” link

Poison Control.....1-800-764-7661

Harris County Tax office.....713-368-2000

Harris County Appraisal District.....713-957-7800

# 2019 WCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Contact the Westbury Civic Club at 713-723-5437 or [westburycc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:westburycc@sbcglobal.net).

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

President.....Cindy Chapman

[wccpresident@westburycrier.com](mailto:wccpresident@westburycrier.com)

Vice President.....Marcia Hartman

Secretary.....Dan Vega

Treasurer.....Becky Edmondson

## DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Communications.....Katherine Wingfield

**Community Relations.....VACANT**

**Deed Restrictions..... VACANT**

Flood Control & Infrastructure.....Jennifer Edmondson

Greenspace Beautification.....Mat Funk

Membership.....Jeff Benavides

**Security.....VACANT**

Volunteer Coordinator.....Robert Ellis-Montgomery

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Westbury 2.....Susan Brock

Westbury 3.....Tony Robert

**Westbury 3.....VACANT**

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Westbury 4.....Gail Reaben

Westbury 5.....Virginia Livingston

Westbury 5.....Donna Strom

Westbury South.....Brandon Richard

Parkwest 1..... Angie Furnari

Parkwest 2.....Jeffrey Weiss

Parkwest 3.....Lisa Placke

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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Westbury Civic Club , Inc.

## *A Message from the Westbury Civic Club President*

February is one of my favorite months in Houston due to its mild, yet brisk, weather. It is easy to feel optimistic and happy when the sun is shining, flowers are blooming, and chocolates are on sale for Valentine's Day!

I am very pleased to say that we have TWO announcements in this newsletter edition which are fantastic news for our Westbury neighborhood and homes. First, there is a NEW pot of funds which has been announced for houses which flooded during Hurricane Harvey, and we think that more of our residents could qualify for these new funds than for the previous Harvey Recovery programs. I urge all affected residents to apply to the program, which is discussed in more detail on page 7.

Our streets and storm drainage piping are about 60 years old and badly need to be updated, which brings me to the next announcement of fantastic news – Westbury is getting its first project to make our streets and drainage better, with the lovely name of WESTBURY DRAINAGE & PAVING IMPROVEMENTS, SUB-PROJECT 1. This is the first of several drainage and road projects which will be

implemented in Westbury in the future. More info is on page 8-9.

This streets and drainage project is a perfect example about why our Westbury Civic Club is an important and vital partner to keeping Westbury the great neighborhood that it is. The Westbury Civic Club submitted the capital improvement requests to the city for streets and drainage projects and continued to advocate for the project each year in discussions with the city. Our Director of Infrastructure & Flood Control, Jennifer Edmondson, has developed expertise and collected data which have been key in these discussions with the City and Public Works.

These two announcements of good news are a great start for 2019. The city and the federal government are investing in Houston and in Westbury. But, Westbury also needs love and care and investment of \$\$\$\$ from our residents.

I am asking all of our residents, who have voluntary payments, to support the Westbury Civic Club and the Westbury Area Patrol (constables) with your payments EARLY in 2019 and to be

generous. I have paid my money to the WCC and WAP for 2019, and I invite you to join me. The WCC Board of Directors voted to drop one of our 4 constable deputies to be prudent, since we no longer have a reserve fund to draw on for WAP this year, but I strongly believe that our community needs to have more than 3 constables. We deserve to have 4 constables, and we can HAVE 4 constables if we all contribute toward the goal of 4 constables and then to rebuild our security reserve fund! Letters were mailed out in January to our mandatory and voluntary residents. All voluntary contributions are greatly appreciated. Track our fundraising progress on Facebook. Email me or send a message to the Westbury Houston page with the reasons why you LOVE living in Westbury and why you LOVE our constables!

As February unfolds, with Valentine's mid-month, know your WCC Board appreciates all of its residents and will continue working to maintain and improve Westbury.

-Cindy Chapman

I  Westbury

### WCC Board Meeting Notes January 2019

- Speaker Shannon Martin, Community Engagement Coordinator with Precinct One Commissioner Rodney Ellis
- Richard Nguyen, with City Solid Waste Department, spoke about the City's trash delays and gave updates on new trucks coming soon.
- Brief comments made by political candidate, Raj Salhotra, Candidate for Houston City Council At Large Position 1
- Sgt. Derkowski, the Westbury Sergeant from our paid Westbury Area Patrol (WAP) provided a crime update and discussed improvements that Constable Ted Heap has brought to Precinct 5.
- New Committee to Seek Ideas to Increase Participation in Payment of Dues and WAP fees
- Discussed ReBuild Houston - Westbury Drainage and Paving Sub-Project 1
- Discussed New Federal funding for Harvey Recovery – Homeowners Assistance Program (HOAP), see page 7.
- Discussed and approved 2019 Budget as printed in the January 2019 Crier
- WCC Office Report: Income YTD is \$106,000. Discussed Solid Waste concerns from residents who called the office. Motion to purchase a Ring Doorbell for WCC office was approved - the WCC office door is sometimes locked during working hours (for safety or private meetings), and it is hard to hear if someone is knocking at the WCC office door from the back office areas.

### UPCOMING WCC Board Meeting

Wed., February 20, 7PM  
Westbury Baptist, 10425 Hillcroft



Are you looking to get more involved in your neighborhood? Come join the WCC board! There are several vacant WCC board positions: Community Relations, Deed Restrictions, Security, and Westbury 3 Director. If you are interested, just come to the next board meeting in February.

# Platou Community Center at Chimney Rock Park

11655 Chimney Rock Rd ♦ 713-726-7107 ♦ [platou@houstontx.gov](mailto:platou@houstontx.gov)



## Evening Aerobics Exercise Class Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6-7PM

Free Evening Aerobics Class held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 6–7PM. Remember to bring a bottle of water and to wear comfortable clothing. The class has 9 members so far, and it is fun. Call the Platou Center at 713-726-7107 to register.



## Weekly Classes/Groups

### Stretching Exercise Class

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 9-9:45AM**

Improve flexibility in a non-strenuous exercise class.

### Ms. BeeHaven Quilters

**Tuesday, 10AM - 2PM**

Contact Janie at 713-721-5526

### Table Games

**Wednesday, 10AM - 12:30PM**

Take a chance at Dominoes, Card Games, and more!

### Table Tennis

**Wednesday, 4-8PM**

Open Adult and Teen Ping Pong/Table Tennis will be available with Mr. Nelson

### Interested in new classes/groups?

Call the Platou Center at 713-726-7107 or email [platou@houstontx.gov](mailto:platou@houstontx.gov) if you want to form a craft class, play bridge, hold a meeting, etc. New classes are always welcome and needed. All classes are free and led by volunteers. The center will be open until 8PM Monday through Thursday.

## Thank You!!!

Thank you to Westbury residents, Janie and Jackie, who donated two portable sewing machines to the Platou Community Center for the quilting class.

Thanks to the Houston Parks Department for repairing a wall, painting inside the center, and for fixing the lights outside.

## LEARN 2 LINEDANCE with RACHEL THE SOUTHERNGIRL

# music monday

**\*Every Monday 1-2pm\***

**Platou Community Center**  
11655 Chimney Rock  
Houston Tx, 77035  
**713.726.7107**



[WWW.SOUTHERNKONNECTION.COM](http://WWW.SOUTHERNKONNECTION.COM)

## Meyer Library News

### ➔ Meyer Library CLOSED Indefinitely

The Meyer Library has long been on the City's replacement list and after minor flooding in Harvey, the decision was made to not re-open Meyer Library. The City recently approved \$1.2 Million to purchase land in Westbury for a new Meyer Library. The new location would be at the site of the old Post Office in Westbury on Belrose.



## "Mini" Meyer Library at Godwin Community Center

A "mini" Meyer Library is now open in Meyerland at the Godwin Community Center at 5101 Rutherglenn next to Kolter Elementary. Limited Services. Staff can be reached at 832-393-1840.

### Hours of operation:

Mon-Wed: 1:00PM-6:00PM

Thurs: 1:00PM-8:00PM

Fri: 1:00PM-5:00PM



# What's Happening in Westbury

## February 2019 Calendar Events/Meetings

<b>Mon 4</b>	<b>Annual Meeting of Westbury Community Garden</b> 6:30PM Westbury Baptist Church, 10425 Hillcroft For more information, see page 23
<b>Thurs 7</b>	<b>METRO Community Input Meeting</b> 6:30PM Southwest Multi-service Center, 6400 High Star More information, see page 12
<b>Sat 9</b>	<b>Back the Blue 5K Race</b> 8AM - Noon Willow Waterhole—5300 Dryad For more information, see page 15
<b>Sat 9</b>	<b>Urban Harvest Fruit Tree Sale</b> 9AM– 1PM 2101 Winter St. For more information, see page 23
<b>Sat 16</b>	<b>Audubon Society Bird Survey</b> 8AM Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow
<b>Mon 18</b>	<b>Brays Bayou Association Meeting</b> 7:30PM Willow Meadows Baptist Church, 4300 W Bellfort
<b>Wed 20</b>	<b>WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting</b> 9:30AM St John's Presbyterian - 5020 W Bellfort For more information, see page 12-13
<b>Wed 20</b>	<b>WCC Board Meeting</b> 7PM Westbury Baptist - 10425 Hillcroft
<b>Tues 26</b>	<b>SW PIP Meeting</b> 7PM <b>SW HPD Station - 13097 Nitida</b>
<b>Thurs 28</b>	<b>Parker Elementary Grand Opening</b> 5PM Parker Auditorium, 10626 Atwell More information, see page 11

## Planning Calendar

- ★ Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo  
Feb. 25—March 17
- ★ HISD Spring Break— March 11-15
- ★ District K CIP Meeting- March 20
- ★ MusicFest at Willow Waterhole—April 13-14

♥ **HAPPY**  
*Valentine's*  
**DAY** ♥

**ATTENTION: Recycling and Heavy Trash are Delayed. See page 1 article for explanation.**



## Recycling in Westbury

All of Westbury recycles on Schedule A. Recycling is every other week. Recycling goes into the green trash can.

**February 2019**      **March 2019**  
**Thursday, February 14**      **Thursday, March 14**  
**Thursday, February 28**      **Thursday, March 28**

## Heavy Trash Schedule

All of Westbury is on the same schedule for Heavy Trash. Pick-up is on the 2nd Thursday of every month. Odd months are TREE WASTE ONLY and even months are JUNK WASTE months.

**February 2019**      **March 2019**  
**JUNK WASTE**      **TREE WASTE ONLY**  
**Thursday, February 14**      **Thursday, March 14**

## Important Trash & Recycling Info



- ♻️ Regular trash pickup is every Thursday. Recycling is every other Thursday. Heavy Trash is once a month, 2nd Thursday.
- ♻️ Westbury is on Recycle Schedule A
- ♻️ NO Glass in the green recycling bins
- ♻️ NO Plastic Bags in green recycling bins
- ♻️ Trash cans need to be on curb by 7AM each Thursday
- ♻️ Trash cans must be removed by 10PM each Thursday
- ♻️ Trash cans must be placed at least 3 feet apart
- ♻️ Trash cans must be stored out of sight.
- ♻️ Yard waste MUST be in correct biodegradable bags
- ♻️ Call 311 for all trash questions and complaints
- ♻️ Nearby Trash Depositories and Recycling Centers: **SW Trash Depository/Recycling Ctr 10785 SW Frwy** / Hours: Wed.—Sun. 9AM to 6PM; Accepts Junk Waste, Tree Waste & Recyclables.
- ♻️ **Environmental Service Center - 11500 S. Post Oak** Hours: Tues/Wed 9AM-3PM; 2nd Sat 9AM-1PM. Accepts Hazardous Household & Electronic Waste.
- ♻️ GLASS: May be recycled at Westbury United Methodist, 5200 Willowbend, in the orange container near W. Bellfort.
- ♻️ Refer to [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com) or [www.houstontx.gov](http://www.houstontx.gov) for more trash and recycling information

## Call 311 - Be The "Squeaky Wheel" – Complaining has its Benefits!

There is an old adage that "the squeaky wheel gets the grease", meaning that those who complain are more likely to get a response than those who do not. When working with the city to advocate for projects, it is exceedingly helpful to have many voices who have expressed concerns about a problem to the city via 311. The city Public Works Department needs DATA (proof of problems) to demonstrate that it is working on the appropriate projects. Please report problems to 311 to build the documentation to get your problems worked on!

**Structural flooding?** Call 311.

**Obstructed, slow-draining stormwater drains?** Call 311.

**Toilets don't drain well during rainy weather?** Call 311.

**Toilet paper bubbling out of manholes?** Call 311.

**Sand in your water?** Call 311.

**Funny taste to your water?** Call 311.

For example, HOW did the WCC advocate to the city and county to do flooding and drainage projects in Westbury? When told that there had been few complaints to 311 about structural flooding and drainage issues, the WCC encouraged our residents to contact 311 about these problems. Also, the WCC did driving surveys to document approximately which blocks flooded during Hurricane Harvey and other high rainfall events.

In January, Jennifer Edmondson and Cindy Chapman met with a room full of engineers and departmental representatives discussing the upcoming Westbury Drainage and Streets Sub-Project 1. The use of 311 data was discussed during this meeting for 3 different topics.

**\* Extent of drainage problems in the target area?** The engineers showed a map with every 311 complaint about structural flooding in that general area in Westbury. A discussion ensued that there had not been very many 311 complaints (despite this being a known problem area to residents for drainage problems), so we also discussed the data collected by the WCC.

**\* Should the water lines be replaced?** The engineers discussed that the old cast-iron water piping on these streets was replaced in the 1980s and 1990s with PVC, some segments may have newer PVC, and that the old cast-iron piping has been left in place. Only 4 complaints have been made to 311 about water quality, and there was discussion whether this is sufficient justification to replace the water lines now or to defer later to do the water lines.

**\* Should the sewer lines be moved?** The old sewer lines from the 1950s have been rehabbed and there have been few 311 complaints about sewer service. The newer design is to put sewer lines in the public right of way, in front of the house.

## Thank You Letter from Westbury Resident to COH Public Works

*See photo of rebuilt sidewalk, curb, and grass replacement on Cartagena in Westbury. After months of messy construction, the water pipe replacement team is wrapping up their work doing their best to leave the sidewalks and yards in better shape than when they started.*

*We are often quick to complain but slow to appreciate a good job. So thanks to the city and the crew on the water pipe replacement project in Westbury. Keep up the good work!*

*Regards,  
Glenn Robichau*



*Thank you so much for reaching out with a positive story. Thanks for being a champion for us in the community.*

*Carol*

*Carol Ellinger Haddock, P.E.  
Director*

## Broken Trash & Recycling Cans

If the City trash truck takes or damages your trash cans, please report it to 311. After you get your service number, call the WCC office to let us know the SR number so we can help expedite your trash can issue. This has proven to be very successful method for most residents.

Many residents have called the office in the past 2 months with their SR numbers for missing trash cans. Some have been calling the City since July! If you have reported a damaged or missing trash can to the City in the past several months but have not received a replacement can, please call 311 and re-report.

Make sure to write down your Service Request (SR) number. Then call the WCC office with your SR number

If you have called the WCC office in the past 2-3 months with your SR number but you still do not have a trash can, please call the WCC office and let Jennifer know. There was a short time frame that the City did not have cans in stock.



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# Homeowner Assistance Program - Harvey Recovery

The City of Houston has announced a new program, Homeowner Assistance Program (HOAP) to help Houstonians whose homes were damaged by Hurricane Harvey. Tom McCasland, Director of the City Housing and Community Development Dept., emphasized that the City has moved quickly to ensure recovery was launched as soon as federal funds became available. McCasland said, "The contract for the money was signed on the 4th, today is the 14th – it's ten days later and we're rolling out programs." The City will receive the \$1.17 billion for housing recovery through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the State of Texas General Land Office. The City has taken a critical step forward with the opening of four Housing Resource Centers, one in each quadrant of the city, to help assist homeowners.

If your home flooded during Harvey, you may be eligible for assistance. **Anyone who may be eligible must first complete a survey.** The City has several ways to complete the survey.

→ Online at [www.recovery.houstontx.gov](http://www.recovery.houstontx.gov)

→ By phone at 832-393-0550 (Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm)

→ In person at any of the new centers, the closest one to Westbury is the Southwest location at 6464 Savoy Drive, Suite 110, Houston 77036. Free parking.

→ Mobile outreach teams are also available to serve home-bound residents and others.

After you fill out the survey, you will be notified if you qualify and then start the application process. This money is from the federal government, so it has stipulations. The majority of the funds will be prioritized to seniors, disabled, and families whose income is less than 80% of the AMI (average median income). If there is money remaining, there are funds available even for those at 120% of AMI and higher. If you suffered a loss for which you were not reimbursed, fill out the survey. If you still have needs, fill out the survey. Whether your needs are physical or mental, there are resources.

Mayor Turner stated, "Our goal is to reach and serve as many of the affected homeowners as possible, especially those who are hardest to reach – our disadvantaged, senior citizens, those with limited English proficiency and those with special needs. We will not leave anyone behind."

To give you an idea of 80% income limits by family size according to one source:

Family Size	Income
1	\$41,950
2	\$47,950
3	53,950
4	59,900
5	\$64,700

HOAP has five program options that you may be eligible to participate in if you qualify after taking the survey. There is roughly \$400 million available for HOAP.

**Reimbursement:** You may be eligible for reimbursement of some expenses if you've completed repairs.

**Acquisition:** If your home was substantially damaged, you may be eligible to have your property purchased by the City. You may also be eligible to apply for additional assistance to purchase a new home.

**City Managed Rehabilitation and Reconstruction:** The City will use a pool of contractors to rehabilitate or reconstruct storm-damaged homes. The City will manage and complete the construction process on your behalf.

**Homeowner Managed Rehabilitation:** This option is only available if you have already started construction on your home and are under contract at the time of application but need financial assistance and technical expertise to complete repairs.

**Interim mortgage assistance:** If you are making both a mortgage payment on your storm-damaged home and making a rental payment for a temporary home, you may be eligible to receive up to 20 months of mortgage assistance.

**Want more information?** Call 832-393-0550. Or visit: [Recovery.houstontx.gov](http://Recovery.houstontx.gov)



## GREAT WESTBURY HOMES

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# ReBuild Westbury

The City of Houston’s infamous ReBuild Houston projects are finally coming to Westbury. The WCC often hears comments like “We pay all this money into the drainage fee but nothing ever happens here in Westbury.” Well, this is IT! Our ReBuild Houston projects are finally starting! In 2015 and early 2016, Westbury was selected to receive a multi-phase, \$100 million, storm drain reconstruction project. This project was delayed due to Harvey but is finally coming back onto the books. The first sub-project of six in Westbury is located in Westbury 4 East. This section is roughly bordered by Landsdowne to the West, Ludington to the North, Atwell to the East, and Ettrick to the South. There is a map located to the right.

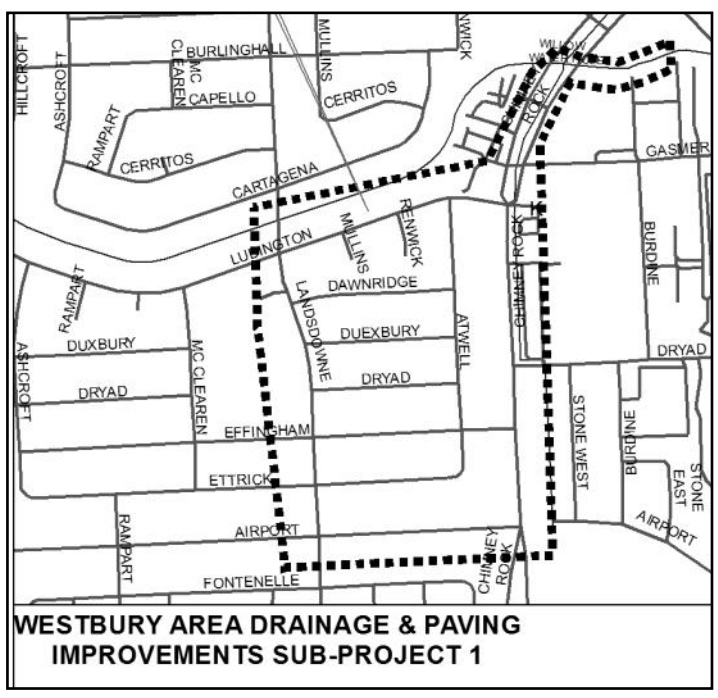
The WCC was notified in early January 2019 that the City was once again actively working on the Westbury Drainage Reconstruction plan. On January 17, WCC President Cindy Chapman and Director of Infrastructure and Flooding, Jennifer Edmondson, attended the Technical Review Committee meeting hosted by the City of Houston Public Works. This meeting was for the City departments to discuss different alternatives to the plan before it is submitted for final design. There will be an opportunity very soon, likely in March, for public comment and a public meeting.

The technical meeting was a very high level meeting, but the WCC was glad to be included at this early stage. It is exciting to see this new project in Westbury that could alleviate some of our flooding issues.



Technical Review Committee Meeting with (Left to Right) District K Constituent Rep. Melvin Hopkins, City Dept. Rep., engineers Roopa Metla and Michael Lacy with KIT Professionals, and WCC’s Jennifer Edmondson

The storm drainage reconstruction project includes new streets, new curbs, new storm drains, new street lights, and possibly new water and sewer lines. Westbury has an old, antiquated storm drain system that is no longer up to standards. Some storm drains are only 18 inches wide, the current minimum is 24 inches and even that is not adequate for Westbury’s needs. The new proposed storm drain plan would increase the amount of



underground storage immensely by adding much larger storm drains and possibly additional lines where there are currently none. One important factor is that the City cannot increase the amount of water or rate of flow into the Willow Waterhole Bayou to more than currently enters the channel now. This means the outfall pipe into the bayou will remain the current size. Until Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) adds more detention or does channel improvements, nothing can change about the amount of water entering the bayou. The WCC is still advocating to HCFCD for channel improvements on the Willow Waterhole Bayou in Westbury. This includes many options such as de-silting the bayou, widening the bayou, adding detention upstream of Westbury, and possible buy-outs.

Please stay tuned to future *Criers* and to our Westbury Houston Facebook page for updates on public meetings and plans for the Westbury 4 East Drainage Reconstruction project. A rough estimate for this sub-project has construction starting in December 2020 and ending in late 2022.



**ReBuild Houston Committee**  
Cindy Chapman, WCC President and newly elected Chair of the Houston Super Neighborhood Alliance, is participating on a small committee to improve the information provided on the ReBuild Houston website. The committee includes: Carol Haddock, Director of Houston Public Works; Steve Costello, Chief Recovery Officer; and six representatives from neighborhoods and organizations in Houston. The team looked at the current website information. The initial comments were that the map is not working, there are too many numbers and details on the initial pages, and that it would be better to initially provide overview information graphically and then let users select more details deeper and deeper.

**Why is Westbury 4 East the FIRST project?**  
Westbury 4 East has historically experienced the most repetitive flooding. This is due to many issues, but a big issue is inadequate storm drains. The drains are too small, too old, and too few. Some homes in this section of Westbury have flooded over 12 times since 1968. ReBuild Houston’s original tag line was “Worst First.” In Westbury, Section 4 East is the worst. When the WCC first started advocating heavily for a Storm Drain reconstruction project, our main area of concern was the East side of Hillcroft. This Sub-project 1 was awarded before the Memorial Day Flood that affected Parkwest 3 and the subsequent Tax Day Flood and Harvey Flood.  
Everyone wants their section fixed, but the City has to start somewhere. Westbury has SIX sub-projects. We have included a rough map of the sections and the current order of planned projects. (See page to the right) At this time, the only project funded and scheduled is Sub-Project 1. Since 2015, the project order and scope has changed several times. It is likely that some changes will happen in the future as the projects start and get mapped out.



# History of the Westbury Storm Drainage Reconstruction Project

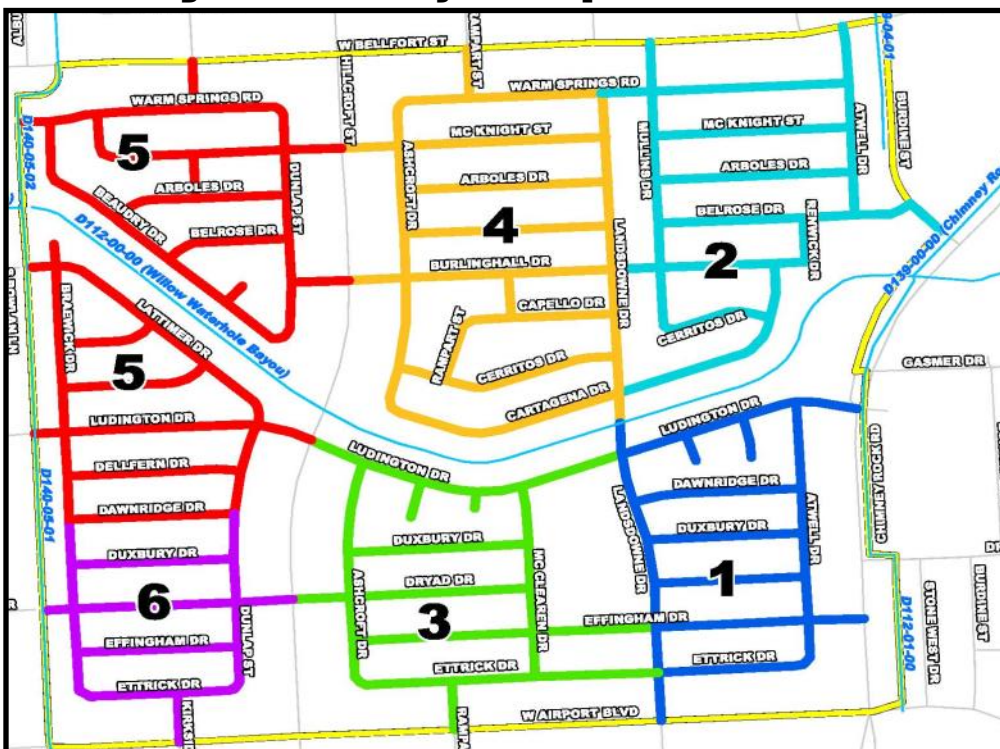
The Westbury Civic Club has been advocating for new storm drains in Westbury for over 10 years. In April 2013, Westbury experienced a flood event in which over 150 homes flooded. In 2014, the City of Houston asked for public input for the “Draft 5+5 Year” ReBuild Houston Plan, FY 2015 – FY 2024. The Westbury Civic Club printed the form in the Crier and requested for residents who flooded anytime in the past to please fill it out. At the 2014 District K Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) meeting, the WCC presented the “Public Input” forms to Public Works from residents to substantiate flooding issues. From the data gathered, we were able to put together a map to show where the floodwaters have entered houses in Westbury. The WCC requested that the City initiate an engineering study of this problem area – specifically the area West of Chimney Rock along the Willow Waterhole Bayou. Some sections of Westbury had flooded 7 or more times by this time in 2014. This does not include the Memorial Day Flood (2015), Halloween Flood (2015), Tax Day Flood (2016), or Harvey Flood (2017).

At the 2015 District K Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) meeting, it was announced that Westbury had been chosen for a pre-engineering study and that in the 2020 CIP year, we were scheduled to have a street drainage and reconstruction project. This was decided before the Memorial Day Flood and subsequent floods. Almost the entire Westbury neighborhood was pre-engineered in December of 2015. In April 2016, the City held a public meeting at Westbury High School for the upcoming ReBuild Houston projects. This meeting was well attended as it occurred only 3 days after the “Tax Day” flood and residents were frustrated. At the time of the public meeting, the phases of the drainage project had not been finalized.

The Westbury area drainage project was put on hold after Harvey. By this point, work had already begun on the plans for sub-project 1 by the engineering company selected by the City. In late 2018, work started again on the plans. In January 2019, the Westbury Civic Club was contacted by the engineering firm that is working on the Westbury drainage project. We were invited to attend a Technical Review Meeting about the project. This is the first of many meetings regarding this exciting big project.

<b>2012</b>	WCC advocated at CIP meeting for flood relief
<b>2013</b>	April 27 flood event (175-200 Westbury homes flooded)
<b>2014</b>	WCC advocated at CIP meeting, submitted Public input forms and flooding maps
<b>2015</b>	March – Westbury allocated for pre-engineering of storm drain project
	May 26 – Memorial Day Flood (420-450 Westbury homes flooded)
	October 31 – Halloween Flood (80-100 Westbury homes flooded)
	December- Westbury pre-engineered
<b>2016</b>	April 18– Tax Day Flood (25-35 Westbury homes flooded)
	April 21- Public Meeting to discuss ReBuild Houston sub-projects
<b>2017</b>	Preliminary project plans started on sub-project 1
	August 26-29 -Harvey (690-710 Westbury homes flooded)
<b>2018</b>	Project Delayed/put on hold due to Harvey
<b>2019</b>	January 17– WCC attended Technical Review Committee Meeting at PWE office
	Spring– Possible public meeting
	Fall - Final design plans, City Council Approval
<b>2020</b>	Bid out contract for project
	December 2020– Construction Starts
<b>2022</b>	Construction complete for Sub-project 1

## Westbury CIP Sub-Project Map



The map to the left is a preliminary map of the six sub-projects to the Westbury Area Drainage project, M-410028. The project areas are numbers and colored.

1. Westbury 4 East
2. Westbury 3 East
3. Westbury 4 Middle
4. Westbury 3 West
5. Parkwest 3
6. Westbury 4 West

There are no current CIP projects for any sections of Westbury North of W. Belfort or South of W. Airport. Some of these sections are “Candidate Areas” but are not chosen projects yet. The WCC continues to advocate for all of Westbury be added to the CIP list.

**The next District K CIP Meeting is March 20 at 6PM at the Fountain of Life Center, 14083 S. Main.**

# Approved 2019 Westbury Civic Club Budget

## General Income

Mandatory/Assessments	85,000
Voluntary Dues	50,000
Donations Civic Club	2,000
Westbury Area Patrol Voluntary (Restricted)	217,500
Refinancing Fees	3,000
Transfer Fees	30,000
Resale Certificates	1,000
Interest Income	500
<b>Total General Income</b>	<b>389,000</b>

## Program Expenses

Crier Printing & Expenses	46,650
Crier Advertising Fees	-37,500
Community Garage Sale Expense	2,000
Community Garage Sale income	-2,000
Programs & Hospitality	500
Greenspace Monthly Maintenance Contract	15,000
Water, Plants, Supplies & Equipment	10,000
Harris County Constable Fees (all 3 deputies)	246,600
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>	<b>281,250</b>

## General Expenses

Books, Subscriptions, Dues	500
Postage, Mailing Service	3,000
Printing & Copying	2,500
Supplies	750
Training & Education	100
Contributions to Ext Orgs	0
Bank & Pay Pal Fees	5,500
Computer Expense	2,500
Insurance	7,000
Payroll Expenses	60,000
Contract Services - Accounting/Legal	7,500
Facilities and Equipment	18,150
Conferences & Meetings	250
<b>Total General Expenses</b>	<b>107,750</b>
<b>Total: Program + General Expenses</b>	<b>389,000</b>

The Westbury Civic Club (WCC) Board has approved the 2019 Budget at the January WCC board meeting. This year's budget is similar to last year's budget, but with one large change related to public safety (constable patrol program). The WCC operates on a calendar year budget. We estimate our income for the coming year (based on prior history), and then we budget proposed expenditures based on the projected income. This year our projected income and expense is \$389,000.

Our biggest expense is the Westbury Area Patrol (WAP) security control contract with the Precinct 5 constable office. The WAP Patrol had consisted of three deputies for years. In 2014, Pct 5 asked us to increase to 4 deputies. Historically we have not collected sufficient funds to cover the cost of a 4th deputy, which is why we had 3 deputies for years. The civic club has had to dip into our security patrol reserves to pay the added costs of that 4th deputy. The WAP Patrol contract increased 3% in 2018. We did not reduce to 3 deputies in 2018 and were able to cover the cost by depleting the patrol reserve fund we had built up over the last few years. With so much construction and empty homes due to Hurricane Harvey we felt it was important to keep the status quo. The budget for 2019 is for three deputies. This still gives us coverage in the morning, afternoon and night shift. However, if we collect an additional \$81,000 we can add another deputy.

The \$389,000 income and expenses are projected as follows: **Westbury Area Patrol— \$246,660** 3 deputies

**Greenspace— \$25,000** This is taking care of the areas the WCC has adopted and other areas that are not mowed frequently.

**WCC Operating Expenses —\$96,840** The General Expense category includes all of the items that go into operating the Civic Club printing and distribution of the *Crier*, operating an office and staffing it, insurance, professional fees (financial reviews, legal expenses), doing projects and programs, and deed restriction enforcement. Advertising in the monthly news-letter offsets its printing costs.

Year after year our income is about the same. However, if you consider that Westbury has 5,000 homes raising 389,000 should not be a difficult thing to do. We are thankful for those civic minded folks who every year pay their dues and protect their neighborhood. If you've never paid, won't you consider sending in at least \$50.00.



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## Parker Elementary Grand Opening February 28, 5PM

The Parker Elementary Official Grand Opening will be February 28 at 5 PM in Parker Auditorium. To reserve your place contact Robin Gibson at [RGibson@houstonisd.org](mailto:RGibson@houstonisd.org).

There will be student performances, speakers, and school tours to follow. The SPARK Park Dedication will also take place on this day.

Stay tuned to Westbury Houston Facebook page for updates.

## Kindergarten Enrollment Day Parker Elementary February 12, 8AM

If you have a child ZONED to Parker Elementary who is starting kindergarten class in fall 2019, it is time to register / enroll at Parker to make sure that you get a guaranteed seat at the school. The child must be five years old on or before September 1, 2019, to be eligible.

When: February 12, 2019, 8AM

Bring: copy of child's Birth Certificate, Proof of Residency (utility bill or rent receipt, no phone bill), current health record, Parent Texas Drivers License, Child's Social Security Card.



## Meyerland Middle School Updates

Congratulations to the Advanced Orchestra students at Meyerland Performing and Visual Arts Middle School (PVAMS) for being invited to perform at Carnegie Hall. If you would like to make a donation to help the students make this trip, please contact the school at 713-726-3616, visit the school at 10410 Manhattan Dr. or visit the website at <https://www.houstonisd.org/meyerland>.

Principal Auden Sarabia visited the January meeting of the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation non-profit. He noted that Meyerland PVAMS is both a Fine Arts magnet school and a neighborhood school. Students do not have to be in the Fine Arts magnet program. The school has a strong dual language program and accelerated math and science classes are available.

## WHS Mentors of Hope

Mentoring! Mentors of Hope came to Westbury High School with their once a week lunch time mentoring program. It doesn't get much easier than that.

Here are some first hand experiences:

Becky Edmondson: *"I met my mentee today. Neither of us knew what to expect and we both agreed it was an awesome experience. We are looking forward to next week and continuing our conversation."*

Hannah Terry, associate pastor at Westbury United Methodist *"Today was my first day serving as a mentor with the Mentors of Hope program at Westbury High School! I love being part of a body of people, investing in our neighborhood youth and public high school, and learning to love hard. This is the good life, y'all."*

If you work in Houston and getting to 11911 Chimney Rock isn't too much of a trek, think about calling Sheila Howieson. Touch the future, mentor a student.

Contact: Sheila Howieson, [jemsofbray@yahoo.com](mailto:jemsofbray@yahoo.com), 281-690-6273

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## Westbury Area Improvement Corporation— January Meeting Notes

The January joint meeting of the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation & the Westbury Super Neighborhood Council started off with a big round of applause for the new SuperNeighborhood Alliance Chair, Cindy Chapman. New attendees included: Shannon Martin, the new Community Engagement Coordinator for Pct. 1 County Commissioner Rodney Ellis' office, and Principal Auden Sarabia from Meyerland Middle School.

**Westbury High School:** Four students are Rodeo Houston art finalists.

**Meyerland Middle:** Meyerland Middle School is first and foremost a Neighborhood school. They have specialties like dual language along with the visual and performing arts.

**District K Martha Castex Tatum's office:** Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Meeting is set for March 20 at 6 PM at the Fountain of Life Center

**METRO:** Community input meeting at the Southwest Multi service Center - February 7 at 6:30 PM

**City of Houston:** New Harvey Recovery program - Homeowners Assistance Program, see page 7 for more information.

The WAIC meetings are open to residents of Westbury. To learn more about the WAIC and SuperNeighborhoods, see the next page.

**The next meeting will be on February 20 at 9:30AM  
at St. John's Presbyterian.**



January 2019 WAIC/SN Meeting



Congratulations Cindy! New SNA Chair. Flowers from Veronica Hernandez, Mayor's Office

## Brays Bayou Association (BBA)

The Brays Bayou Association meets monthly on the 3rd Monday at 7:30 PM at Willow Meadows Baptist. The topic in January was Project Brays, by Gary Zika from the Harris County Flood Control District. Becky Edmondson and Cindy Chapman attended from the Westbury Civic Club.

Brays Bayou extends 31 miles and the total cost of Project Brays will be \$480 million.

**Status Update:** Detention projects are 100% complete; ten of the 12 Channel improvement segments are complete at 83%; and six of the 12 bridges are completed at 50%. During Hurricane Harvey, the system was functioning, although not fully complete, and it is estimated that the work prevented about 10,000 structures from flooding.

**Q:** Project Completion? End of 2021

**Q:** Hillcroft Bridge at Braeswood? Existing bridge will be elevated and a retaining wall added to add channel capacity

**Q:** Chimney Rock Bridges at Braeswood: Will be replaced. There are discussions to change the traffic lights to be similar to the intersection of Beechnut at S. Rice.

**Q:** South Rice? Bridges will be replaced.

**Q: What is status of the Harris County Flood Reduction Bond work for the Fondren Diversion Channel and Willow Waterhole Bayou (the D140 and the D112 channels)?** Gary Zika said that they have completed a detailed study of water levels in that area and that Harris County Commissioner's Court has already approved doing a project, but that Project Brays needs to be completed before they can start work on these tributaries to Brays Bayou. The work is complicated in that projects by different organizations involving multiple engineering studies are planned for this middle section of Brays Bayou, Fondren Diversion Channel, and the Willow Waterhole Bayou which will need to be coordinated. The next steps are: Hire consultants to gather and review the various engineering reports from the different drainage projects planned in the affected areas, decide on a path forward, and then do outreach meetings to discuss the initial recommendations with the public.



January Brays Bayou Association Meeting was very well attended

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# SuperNeighborhood Alliance

The Super Neighborhood Alliance (SNA) is an organization comprised of the Presidents or Chairs of Super Neighborhood Councils and serves as a formal advisory board to the Mayor and city government on community matters. City departments often discuss pending ordinances or programs with the SNA to get feedback from the delegates, who tend to be knowledgeable and experienced community activists. We are pleased to announce that Westbury's own Cindy Chapman was voted in as Chair of this organization at the January 2019 meeting. She served on the SNA board as Secretary from 2013-2017.

**What is a SuperNeighborhood?** The City of Houston identified 88 geographic areas called SuperNeighborhoods where residents, civic organizations, institutions and businesses work together to address the needs and concerns of their community. The Westbury SuperNeighborhood (SN) is bounded by S. Post Oak,

South Main/US 90A, the utility easement located north of Willowbend, and the flood control easement west of Braewick. The Westbury SN meets monthly, hosted by our 501c3 non-profit partner, the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation.

Westbury became a recognized Super-Neighborhood (SN) in March of 2005. This is the mechanism by which the City of Houston disseminates information on many of their programs. Each SN has its own bylaws, but here is an overview of how the Westbury SN works. We have a two-part council, and official SN proclamations are approved by the boards of both organizations – the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation and the Westbury Civic Club, both of which meet on the 3rd Wednesday.

Our non-profit 501c3 partner, the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) hosts the morning Westbury SN meeting at 9:30 AM at St John's Presbyterian Church on the 3rd Wednesday each month. Since this meeting occurs during business hours, this is the meeting attended by representatives from the local businesses, apartments, schools, churches, and community organizations. Schools are an important part of our neighborhood and the Principal or Assistant Principals from Parker Elementary, Anderson Elementary, Meyerland Middle, and Westbury High bring updates about their schools. Most months we also have constituent representatives at the meeting on behalf



of local politicians: District K Council Member Martha Castex-Tatum (Barbara Hite), Texas Senator Borris Miles (Mary Seymore), and the Mayor's assistance office (Veronica Hernandez). The Department of Neighborhoods (DoN) often sends an inspector so that we can discuss long-standing nuisance problems. We have had METRO, Public Works, the Parks Department, Solid Waste and others visit in the past. Community people at the meeting represent different organizations in the neighborhood such as: Friends of Chimney Rock Park; Westbury Little League; the Westbury Community Garden; Willow Waterhole; Levitt Pavilion Houston; SWHouston 2000; nearby SNs; the Brays Oaks Management District; and the Brays Bayou Association. The second half of the SN meeting takes place on the 3rd Wednesday at 7PM at Westbury Baptist Church at the monthly WCC meeting. The members of the WCC board attend and all residents are invited to come.

Come to the Westbury SN Meeting!  
February 20, 9:30AM—WAIC / SN Meeting @ St Johns Presbyterian Church



Past Chair Michael Huffmaster; Vice Chair-Juan Sorto; Incoming Chair Cindy Chapman; Jane West, Secretary

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# Crime Statistics for Westbury SuperNeighborhood

**December 27, 2018 - January 23, 2019**

## Crime in Westbury Single Family Homes

Block	Street	Crime	Date	Time	Section of W
5200	Briarbend	Burglary of Habitation	1/7	9PM	Westbury 1
5900	Dawnridge	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	12/29	12PM	Westbury 4
5900	Dawnridge	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	12/29	1PM	Westbury 4
5900	Dellfern	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	12/29	9AM	Westbury 4
6000	Dellfern	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	12/29	8AM	Westbury 4
6000	Dellfern	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	1/19	7PM	Westbury 4
10700	Dunlap	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	1/8	10AM	Westbury 5
11900	Dunlap	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	12/29	12PM	Westbury 4
5800	Duxbury	Auto Theft (Truck/Van)	1/18	4PM	Westbury 4
6000	Duxbury	Auto Theft (Truck/Van)	12/29	10AM	Westbury 4
5500	Effingham	Burglary of Habitation	1/20	7PM	Westbury 4
6000	Effingham	Theft—Car parts	1/13	12PM	Westbury 4
5800	Farwell	Theft—Misc.	12/27	6PM	Wesbury South
10600	Hillcroft	Theft—License Platte	1/15	1AM	Westbury 5
11900	Hillcroft	Aggravated Robbery—Home Invasion	1/7	2AM	Westbury 4
12200	Hillcroft	Theft—Misc.	1/19	12PM	Westbury 4
5800	Hummingbird	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	1/8	1PM	Parkwest 2
5700	Ludington	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	12/29	11AM	Westbury 4
5800	McKnight	Aggravated Assault with weapon	1/4	7AM	Westbury 3
12300	Rampart	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	1/6	6AM	Westbury South
5700	Sanford	Auto Theft (Turck/Van)	1/9	9PM	Parkwest 2
5700	Stillbrooke	Burglary of Habitation	12/29	11PM	Parkwest 2
5800	W. Airrport	Theft—Misc.	1/16	10AM	Westbury 4
5800	W. Airport	Biurglary of Habitaiton	1/17	4PM	Westbury 4

### KEY

- Burglary from Motor Vehicle
- Auto Theft
- Theft
- Burglary
- Aggravated Assault with Weapon
- Aggravated robbery with weapon

The Westbury Civic Club strives to provide accurate information. Due to the printing date of the *Crier*, crime statistics are always delayed.

The crimes listed below took place between December 27 and January 23. They are in alphabetical order by street. The crimes are highlighted by type. Please see key above.

### Crime in Commercial, Public Spaces, and Apartments

The chart below breaks out the type of crimes and how many at each type of location. The apartments in 12500 and 12600 Dunlap continue to have high crime rates, 16 of the 29 crimes at apartments/townhomes occurred there. The WCC is working with HPD to help monitor this area more closely. The number of Auto thefts in the area is also concerning. The WCC tries to publicize an accurate update list of crime in the area. If you have an idea of format, please call the office.

Crime Type	Westbury Homes	Apts./Townhomes	Commercial/Business	Public Space
Aggravated Assault	1	5	1	0
Aggravated Robbery	1	7	0	1
Burglary from Motor Vehicle	10	1	2	0
Burglary of Building	0	0	2	0
Burglary of Habitation	4	3	0	0
Burglary to Commit Assault	0	1	0	0
Theft - Misc.	3	4	0	0
Theft - Shoplifting	0	0	3	0
Theft- Car Parts	1	0	0	0
Theft - US Mail	0	2	0	0
Theft - Bicycle	0	1	0	0
Theft—License Plate	1	1	0	0
Theft—Firearm	0	1	0	0
Auto Theft	3	3	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>

**Westbury Area Patrol**  
**281-463-6666**



\*Taking a vacation? Don't forget to call in your Vacation Watch with the Constables if you pay your dues.

**SW HPD Station**  
**832-394-0400**  
**HPD Non-Emergency**  
**713-884-3131**

## Support our Westbury Area Patrol TODAY

A large part of the funds paid to Precinct 5 for our WAP Security Patrol (Harris County Precinct 5 Constables) is paid VOLUNTARILY by our residents who do not have mandatory assessments. If you appreciate this vital service, please consider showing your appreciation by sending a contribution TODAY for the WAP security patrol. See page 17 with information about how to send an online payment by PayPal or where to send your checks to our bank deposit lockbox in Dallas. Thank you for supporting WAP security patrol and for supporting our Westbury neighborhood!

## Back the Blue 5k Race

February 9, 8 AM to Noon

Willow Waterhole, 5300 Dryad

→ Race Tickets available at [www.backtheblue5k.com](http://www.backtheblue5k.com)

The Houston Police Family Support Unit is hosting a 5K Race. This group was founded for the purpose of providing assistance when an officer is involved in a line-of-duty injury. When these incidents occur, an officer's income and that of the family, are greatly reduced while the officer is on medical leave from the department. Since the injured officer is unable to receive a regular paycheck or pursue any overtime pay, or additional income from working a second job, his or her family is at risk of not meeting its needs. This is where this organization, the Houston Police Family Support Unit, provides assistance. The Family Support Unit helps these officers by providing materials and support during such difficult times. Many of the officers and their family members need emotional as well as day-to-day support. The members of the Family Support Unit are prepared and willing to step up and assist the family with some of their basic needs.

Along with helping an officer and his family in a time of need, another goal is to bring together the families of the Houston Police Department and the members of the community in order to support the officers of The Houston Police Department. By hosting the inaugural Back the Blue 5K, we hope to do just that. We hope that the community will come together to show the Houston Police Department how important it is to our city. Consider participating on February 9, 2019, as either an event sponsor or runner/walker. Along with a 5K race, there will be a one-mile fun run and other community activities.



## Public Safety Information from Westbury Area Patrol

Here is a summary of the report made by our Westbury Area Patrol (WAP) lead constable, Sgt. Derkowski, during the January 2019 Westbury Civic Club meeting. His report is available in a video posted of the January meeting on the Westbury Houston Facebook page, starting near the 19:00 minute point and extending to about the 27:30 minute point of the video.

Sgt. Derkowski noted that crime in January had been slow, but that there had been a lot of property crime in December, much of it suspected to be linked to a team of 3 criminals doing car break-ins across Houston. These suspects are driving a light-colored or silver Impala, and fingerprints have been obtained. In January, the constables were called to do a welfare check on a resident and it was determined that the resident had passed away. The constables handled a family dispute and also an abandoned vehicle on a roadway. Sgt. Derkowski provides frequent written reports to the WCC office and the WCC President regarding issues and criminal activity.

He continues to develop a spreadsheet of residents who have video cameras and who are willing to share video for investigations.

In the period since Constable Ted Heap was elected, the Precinct 5 Constable program continues to improve. Precinct 5 now has a Criminal Investigations Division, Strategic Response Units, a Narcotics unit, and a Major Offenders Unit. The constables are being issued vests which will resist rifle shots and body cameras will be coming. Sgt. Derkowski is trained, and has the equipment, to take fingerprints. He also has had an AFIS unit (a portable fingerprint scanner) for 5 years. During the board meeting, it was discussed that having an AFIS unit available keeps our constables in Westbury longer since they can verify identification without having to leave the area.



**Vacation Watch** If you pay your Westbury Area Patrol dues, make sure you request a vacation watch by the Constables. This is a great service that is included in our contract. You can register for a vacation watch online at <https://constablepct5.com/index.php/vacation-watch/> or by calling 281-463-6666 and requesting a deputy come by your house.

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## WCC Mail Bag: Constable Program

We asked on the WCC Facebook page (Westbury Houston) for your questions about the Westbury Area Patrol (constables). Here are several excellent questions submitted by resident Annie Bradford.

→ **How do other neighborhoods finance/supplement their local area patrols? Can we learn from the examples of other communities?** Maplewood SN, Marilyn Estates, Barkley Square and Meyerland also hire Precinct 5 Constables. Unlike Westbury, these other 4 neighborhoods have Mandatory Assessments, ranging from \$240 to \$275 per home for the Constables.

→ **Consider modernizing the payment system with a monthly EFT draft option.** One recommendation from the 2019 Budget committee was to review payment options. Residents would like to pay with a credit card in the office or on the phone. EFT drafts are another option. A new committee just formed at the January WCC board meeting to look at this along with other ways to encourage payment of the WCC dues.

→ **What are some ways to gradually phase in mandatory dues for other sections?** Mandatory Assessments must be approved as a revision to the deed restrictions by a majority of the property owners. Even under the best of conditions, this can be a challenging endeavor. As a first step, it is important to encourage residents who have voluntary dues to understand the importance of these payments. For example, it would theoretically be easier to move to mandatory assessments in an area of Westbury that already has more than 50% of the property owners paying voluntary dues. As can be seen in the examples above, when EVERYONE is paying, then the shared cost is less per household.

**Conclusions:** Westbury should have more constables than we do, and is limited by majority of the homes having Voluntary dues instead of Mandatory Assessments. Ideally, Westbury would have between 6 to 8 constables, to provide better coverage 24/7/365. The WCC board approved a 2019 budget which reduces the number of constables from 4 to 3. The WCC has spent all its security reserves and the WCC must be prudent based on historical financial support of the constable program.

## District K Training Class “ENGAGE. LEARN. LEAD”

District K sponsored a training class for community leaders and volunteers on Saturday, January 19, as the first seminar in their “ENGAGE. LEARN. LEAD” series. WCC President Cindy Chapman attended for the Westbury Civic Club. The seminar was taught by attorney Jane Cahill West, a past President of the Super Neighborhood Alliance (SNA) and current Secretary of the SNA, on the topic of “Effective Civic Association Structure and Strategies”. The class discussed the purposes of civic organizations, bylaws, committees, finances, recruiting, running meetings, records, and emerging issues.

Civic associations are “integral to creating safe and healthy communities where residents can effectively address issues” and are useful to:

- \* Build community
- \* Build relationships with elected officials, administrators, and others
- \* Improve quality of life: abate crime, address traffic issues, promote beautification, attract and achieve public improvements



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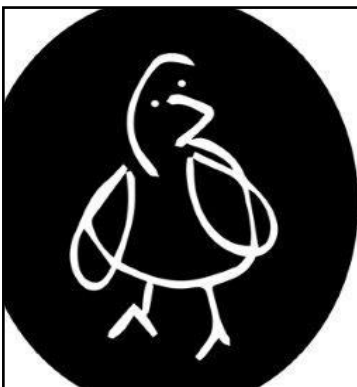
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# 2019 Dues/Assessments

## ATTENTION: PARKWEST 1&2

Homes purchased in Parkwest 1 after Jan. 1, 1993 and Parkwest 2 after Jan 1, 1994 have mandatory assessments.

**The amount of the 2019 Mandatory Assessments is \$240.75. The 2019 Assessments are due by February 1, 2019.**

If you have any questions or do not get your invoice by December 15, please contact the WCC office at 713-723-5437 or email westburycc@sbcglobal.net.

## Mission of the WCC

*The purposes of the Westbury Civic Club, Inc. (the "Club") are to improve the appearance of the Westbury area and promote the civic, cultural educational, health, and general welfare of the residents of the Westbury and Parkwest subdivisions in Harris County, Texas (collectively, the "Community").*

## Why do my dues go to Dallas? Is this correct?

Yes, this is correct! We have you mail your payments directly to our bank's processing center. This allows your payments to be processed immediately.

## Why Should I Pay My Dues? What are the Benefits?

- Protects your investment in your home by keeping Westbury a strong and vibrant neighborhood.
- Keeps the doors of the Civic Club office open and staffed.
- Protects your home and family with the Westbury Area Patrol through Constable Precinct 5.
- Improves the looks of our esplanades, parks, and green spaces.
- Advocates for City services and infrastructure improvements
- Hosts two White Elephant Community Garage Sale events each year
- Organizes community get togethers such as Coffee with Constables and National Night Out

Please send this form in with your payment

## 2019 Westbury Civic Club Dues

By filling out this form, you are giving the WCC permission to send you communications. We DO not sell your information or give it out to other entities.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to:  
Westbury Civic Club, Inc.**

**Mail to:  
P.O. Box 975182  
Dallas, TX 75397-5182**

**Online payment:  
paypal.com—Send Money to  
westburycc@sbcglobal.net  
Make sure to include your  
address or account number**

### Want to send your support in multiple payments? You may choose any

amount to pay in any increment throughout the year.  
 Here are a few examples:  
 2 payments of \$167.50 is \$335/yr  
 3 payments of \$111.67 is \$335/yr  
 4 payments of \$83.75 is \$335/yr  
 5 payments of \$67 is \$335/yr  
 12 payments of \$28 is \$336/yr

Westbury Civic Club Dues*	\$50	\$
Westbury Area Patrol	\$285	\$
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$335</b>	\$
<b>Additional Contributions:</b>		
Westbury Civic Club		\$
Westbury Area Patrol (WAP)		\$
<b>Total</b>		\$

\*The Westbury Civic Club Dues encompasses all operations, programs, and services including greenspace, of the Westbury Civic Club, except patrol services.

Thank you for supporting the Westbury Civic Club and our important programs. We can't do it without you!  
 To contact the WCC Office, email westburycc@sbcglobal.net or call 713-723-5437.



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## HCC Community Engagement

Houston Community College held a community engagement meeting “Embracing Houston’s Future” on January 17 at the HCC Brays Oaks campus. HCC Trustees Robert Glaser and Pretta Vandible-Stallworth were present, along with HCC Chancellor Cesar Maldonado. HCC is seeking input about its strategic planning process for the next ten years. To learn more info or to provide your comments, go to the website at [www.hccs.edu](http://www.hccs.edu), and then look at the section called Strategic Planning. HCC encourages people to take its survey.

HCC serves more than 100,000 students per year, 87% of whom go to a job or on to additional college studies. It is the number one institution in the USA providing associate degrees (2-year degrees) to minority students. HCC is working to meet a goal of the State of Texas for 60% of Texans to have a certificate or a degree by the year 2030.

There were several questions specifically about the Brays Oaks campus of HCC. The campus is starting a class for making window treatments. The site also offers some classes for senior citizens.

Houston Community College is offering a new lineup of continuing education classes at its Brays Oaks Campus that will help students of all ages upgrade their skills for a better career.



*HCC Community Engagement Meeting*

## HCC Brays Oaks—Spring 2019 Classes

The Spring 2019 classes cover everything from computer science to health sciences to business and more. The following information was found on the HCC Website.

### Computer Science classes

Comp TIA Network+ Certification Training  
Microsoft Office Suite for Professionals  
SAP FICO

### Health Sciences classes

Health Information Systems  
Medical Administrative Support  
Medical Billing  
Medical Terminology I

### Business classes

Apartment Leasing Internship  
Child Development Associate Training I and II  
Introduction to Law  
Landlord-Tenant Law  
Legal Research I and II

Senior citizens age 65 and older are eligible for free tuition for up to six credits per semester. Those who are age 55 to 64 are eligible for a 50 percent discount on tuition.

Register today by visiting [hccs.edu/ce](http://hccs.edu/ce). For computer classes, call 713-718-2728, for health classes call 713-718-7583, and for business courses call 713-718-2921.



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# Willow Waterhole 2019 MUSIC FEST

*Saturday & Sunday*

**April 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>**  
 noon-8<sup>pm</sup> & noon-6<sup>pm</sup>

TWO DAYS OF  
**FREE LIVE MUSIC**  
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**Willow Waterhole**  
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Hosted by:





### New Benches Installed

Eight new park benches have been installed at the Willow Waterhole. The benches spread out around the Westbury and Triangle Lakes.

Thanks to Conservancy member Bruce Krewinghaus and the Brays Oaks Management District for funding these eight benches.



### Willow Waterhole Monthly Bird Surveys

Nature-lovers of Westbury, did you know that the Houston Audubon Society conducts a monthly bird survey at Willow Waterhole and that the public is invited to participate? Since the study area is so large, the effort is divided into several teams, each headed by an experienced leader. The next bird survey will be held on February 16 at 8 AM. Meet in the parking lot of The Gathering Place at 5310 S. Willow.

During the January survey, 35 different species of birds were identified, including 2 Caracara, an Osprey, a Red-shouldered Hawk, 2 Red-tailed Hawks (both a Sharp-shinned Hawk and a Coopers Hawk), an American Kestrel, and both Black and Turkey vultures.

### Rotary Club Tree Planting

On January 12, eighty volunteers from Rotary Club and the community helped plant 50 trees at "Triangle Lake". Trees were donated by Trees for Houston. Photo the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy Facebook page.



### Back the Blue 5K Race February 9, 8 AM to Noon

Willow Waterhole, 5300 Dryad

→ Race Tickets available at [www.backtheblue5k.com](http://www.backtheblue5k.com)  
For more information about this event, see page 15 for the full article.

### 7th Annual MusicFest Two Days! April 13-14

Save the Date! The 7th Annual MusicFest is scheduled for April 13th-14th, two days of diverse performances, both school students and professionals. Parking map is available at [www.willowwaterhole.org/musicfest-parking](http://www.willowwaterhole.org/musicfest-parking). Stay tuned to future *Criers* for more information. This is always a great event for the whole family to attend.



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## Youth Summer Jobs – Apply Soon

Do you know a young person who lives in Westbury or in the City of Houston who is interested in getting a summer job? The application period opens February 11 and extends through March 23. Apply online at [www.hirehoustonyouth.org](http://www.hirehoustonyouth.org)

Help spread the word so that our young people are aware of this summer employment opportunity.

“An able and ready workforce is critical to ensure a strong economic future for Houston. I am committed to providing access to internships and job opportunities for our young people who live in the city. I call our corporate partners, other governmental entities, and community organizations to participate in the City of Houston’s Hire Houston’s Youth program. Join us to increase access to quality ‘earning and learning’ opportunities for Houston’s youth.” -Mayor Sylvester Turner



Application period February 11- March 23

Apply online at [hirehoustonyouth.org](http://hirehoustonyouth.org)

**WORK 8 WEEKS THIS SUMMER  
AND MAKE AT LEAST \$8 AN HOUR!**

Most opportunities begin June 10th and end August 1, 2019 (City of Houston, Corporate & Non-Profit Opportunities Available)



Questions? Email us at [hirehoustonyouth@houstontx.gov](mailto:hirehoustonyouth@houstontx.gov)

## Feeding Stray Cats

Westbury is known as an animal loving neighborhood. BUT for some residents too much love is not a good thing. The Civic Club has received numerous complaints about neighbors feeding stray cats. It is against City ordinance to feed stray cats unless you trap them and have them neutered.

## Links for Lost & Found Pets



Nextdoor Westbury - [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com)

Westbury Lost and Found Pets Facebook

Westbury CARE- Contact at [westburycare@gmail.com](mailto:westburycare@gmail.com) or at [www.westburycare.com](http://www.westburycare.com), Compassionate Animal Rescue Efforts is located in Westbury.

## Possible Changes to Fire Department

Houston Fire Department Chief Pena was the invited speaker for the January 8, 2019, breakfast hosted by community organization SWHouston2000 and the Brays Oaks Management District at Houston Baptist University.

Chief Pena noted that the Houston Fire Department is the 3rd largest in the USA. Resources are needed for equipment, training, and for firefighter pay. Proposition B, approved by voters in 2018, is estimated to require about 100 million in additional pay costs every year for fire department personnel.

A ladder truck costs about one million dollars and a fully stocked ambulance costs about \$200,000. It is very costly to respond to 911 emergency calls using large fire trucks. The department is evaluating how to re-allocate Emergency Medical Services by adding more ambulances, since 10% of calls are due to fire and the other 90% are EMS response. Currently there are 21 districts, so there might be some consolidation of districts.

The fire department is considering ways to provide similar level of service by changing the design of work shifts. Currently the fire department has 4 shifts of 24 hours, with about 850 positions per shift. Houston has more shifts than is typical at other cities because other cities follow federal law of 53 hours before overtime is paid. In Houston, firefighters receive overtime pay after 47.5 hours on the job. The department is considering an option to change to 3 shifts and to keep within overtime requirements by scheduling.



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## Westbury Community Garden News

[WWW.WESTBURYCOMMUNITYGARDEN.ORG](http://WWW.WESTBURYCOMMUNITYGARDEN.ORG)

### WCG Annual Meeting

**February 4, 6:30—8:30PM, Westbury Baptist**

Past WCG gardeners and new gardeners are urged to attend this meeting to renew or initiate their contracts as members of the Community Garden. We also invite future gardeners and home gardeners who would like to learn about the garden and gardening; whether it be vegetables, flowers, or fruit growing, the Westbury Community Garden is the place for information. Learn about community service opportunities. Election of the 2019-20 officers will be held.



### Fruit Tree Sale by Urban Harvest

**February 9, 9AM—1PM**

Are you interested in growing fruit or berries in your own yard? The Largest One Day Fruit Tree Sale in the USA is held right here in Houston and is organized by Urban Harvest. For more information about growing these trees and the types of plants which will be sold, go to the website for Urban Harvest.

19th Annual Fruit Tree Sale will be held on February 9, from 9AM to 1PM, at 2101 Winter St., 77007 (Sawyer Yards)



## WHERE IS THE GARDEN?

12581 Dunlap (77035) is off Hillcroft between W. Airport and South Main. Heading south on Hillcroft, turn right onto Greencraig, follow it around the bend where it turns into Dunlap. The large blue roof on the WCG Pavilion is readily visible. Street parking.

**JOIN the garden TODAY at [www.westburycommunitygarden.org](http://www.westburycommunitygarden.org)**

Contact us today at [membership@westburycommunitygarden.org](mailto:membership@westburycommunitygarden.org)



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