WESTBURY IS A DEED RESTRICTED COMMUNITY. DEED RESTRICTIONS ARE ACTIVELY ENFORCED.



**VOLUME 68, ISSUE 6** 

SEPTEMBER 2023

#### Westbury Annual Meeting wednesday, September 20

The Westbury Civic Club welcomes ALL Westbury residents to come to the 2023 Westbury Annual Meeting. We will have speakers, food and of course, everyone's favorite, door prizes!

Come hear exciting updates about the Willow Waterhole and the new City library in Westbury. The Annual Meeting is traditionally a time for Westbury residents to meet each other and the WCC board, hold board elections, vote on by-law changes (none this year), listen to guest speakers, and ask questions.

More information about the Annual Meeting including the slate of candidates for the 2023-2024 WCC board are on page 7. We hope to see you at the Annual Meeting!



#### Wednesday, September 20

6PM—Meet & Greet / 7PM—Meeting Westbury Baptist Church, Game Room 10425 Hillcroft, 77096



#### National Night Out Tuesday, October 3

National Night Out is a national event designed to celebrate neighbors and to learn more about safe neighborhoods. We encourage residents to organize block parties and spend time getting to know your direct neighbors.

Register your National Out party with the Westbury Civic Club by September 22 for a chance to win a pizza party and more! Learn more about National Night Out on page 12.

## Online Owner Portal

The WCC finally has an ONLINE owner portal for each resident!

Use the handy QR code below and it will take you straight to our Westbury PayHOA portal sign-up page.

The new owner portal will allow owners to view invoices, pay directly online, send requests and more. Sign up TODAY!





## Mandatory Water Restrictions

The City of Houston has entered Stage 2 MANDATORY water restrictions due to the lack of rain and ongoing drought conditions. These restrictions limit outdoor watering to specific times and days by address. You can only water your yard between the hours of 7PM and 5AM. Homes with even addresses can water on Sundays and Thursdays. Homes with odd addresses can water on Saturdays and Wednesdays. You can hand water flower beds and plants any time or day of the week. More information can be found on page 9.



#### WEATHER RESOURCES NOW ONLINE!

In the last 2 Westbury Crier editions, we had multiple pages of weather resources including information about the Westbury flood gage, hurricane prep lists, and more. We are excited to announce that we have moved these resources online to our new website, www.westburyhouston.com. Look for the Weather Resources Tab under FAQ. September is still considered peak hurricane season in Texas. It is important to not let your guard down, make sure you have a plan and have your hurricane supplies stocked and ready.

WWW.WESTBURYHOUSTON.COM

#### **HEAVY TRASH**

#### September 2023

Thursday, Sept. 14
TREE WASTE ONLY

October 2023

Thursday, October 12
JUNK WASTE

## RECYCLING September 2023

Thursday, Sept.7 Thursday, Sept.21

#### October 2023

Thursday, October 5 Thursday, October 19

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### **IMPORTANT CONTACTS**

#### **WCC OFFICE**

5322 W. Bellfort #100, Houston, TX 77035
Jennifer Edmondson......WCC Office Manager

Westbury Civic Club Office Monday—Thursday—Appointment needed WCC Office Closed Friday—Sunday

**NOTARY SERVICES**— available to paid WCC members

#### **CONTACT US**

WCC Office Telephone	713-723-5437
WCC Office Email	westburycc@sbcglobal.net
Deed Restrictions	westburycc@sbcglobal.net
WCC Presidentwccpi	resident@westburycrier.com

Visit our website at www.westburycrier.com "Like" us on Facebook at Westbury Houston

#### **SECURITY**

Pct. 5 Constables (WAP)	281-463-6666
Report property crimes, suspicious	s activity, and vacation watch
Emergency	911
Houston Police Dept. Non-Eme	ergency 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, Abbie Kamin	832-393-3004
Deed Restriction Enforcement (City Legal)	832-393-6333
Platou Community Center	713-726-7107
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**

lectric outage	713-207-2222
uspected natural gas leak	713-659-2111
treet light repairs	713-207-2222

Make sure to give pole number

#### OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

County Commissioner Rodney Ellis713-755-6111
County Commissioner Lesley Briones832-927-4444
Graffitiwww.braysoaksmd.org
Shopping Cart Removalwww.braysoaksmd.org
Brays Oaks Mgmt. District - Use "report a problem" link
Poison Control1-800-764-7661
Harris County Tax office713-368-2000
Harris County Appraisal District713-957-7800

#### **2023 WCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Contact the Westbury Civic Club at 713-723-5437 or westburycc@sbcglobal.net.

#### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

President	Cindy Chapman
wccpresident@westbu	
Vice President	Marcia Hartman
Secretary	Susan Brock
Treasurer	Becky Edmondson

#### **DIRECTORS AT LARGE**

Deed Restrictions	Maggie Donovan
Flood Control & Infrastructure	Jennifer Edmondson
Greenspace Beautification	Mat Funk
Security	VACANT
At-Large 1	Martha Kinn
At-Large 2	VACANT
At-Large 3	VACANT
At-Large 4	VACANT

#### **SECTION DIRECTORS**

	<b>-</b>
Westbury 1	Santiago Caraballo
Westbury 2	Lindsey Pollock
Westbury 3	Jeff Benavides
Westbury 3	Jonathan Hansen
Westbury 4	Eugene Sirls
Westbury 4	Becky Pate
Westbury 5	Andrew Jefferson
Westbury 5	VACANT
Westbury South	VACANT
Parkwest 1	VACANT
Parkwest 2	Bob Droubi
Parkwest 3	Alan Hirshman

POSTED WCC BOARD VACANCIES CAN BE FILLED AT ANY REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING.

#### NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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**Ad Disclaimer:** The WCC neither represents nor endorses an advertisement in the newsletter. Perform your own due diligence before contacting any advertiser.



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## A MESSAGE FROM THE WESTBURY CIVIC CLUB PRESIDENT

I am so happy when September rolls around. The hot days of summer are ending and we can look forward to the many events and activities held during the fall. There are several events happening in September and October related to our community that you should be aware of.

First, I want to mention Neighborhood Night Out (NNO). For those of you who are new to Westbury, NNO is an event to encourage neighbors to get to know neighbors. Traditionally, this activity has been an opportunity for block parties across our neighborhood. During COVID, the WCC opted to host a drop-in event in our parking lot each year. But, this year, we are switching back to our tradition and are encouraging you to organize block parties to celebrate NNO on the evening of Tuesday, October 3. Some block parties do potlucks, while others hire a food truck. Register your party with the WCC office for a chance to win a pizza party and we will try to send someone from the Houston Police Dept, the Constables Precinct 5, or from the WCC to visit during your party. See page 12 for more information.

This year marks the 68th anniversary of the Westbury Civic Club. Join us at our Annual Meeting and Board Elections on Wednesday, September 20. This year, our presentations will focus on the Westbury area and public safety. I have signed up to serve another year as President of the WCC. I want to thank our board members who have volunteered to serve again and those who are new to our board for this year. Some of our board members are not running for the board again this year, so I especially want to thank them for their

dedication, volunteer work, and efforts on behalf of Westbury: Susan Brock, Martha Kinn, Santiago Caraballo, Jeff Benavides, and Eugene Sirls. Thank you!

Westbury is noted for civic engagement and for voting during elections. I encourage you to look carefully at the upcoming events in our neighborhood, mark them on your calendar, and to show up. Learn about the politicians who are running for office in the upcoming city elections, and make sure to vote. There is a public meeting on September 28 where an industry located in the Westbury area will be talking about its operations and its environmental permit; I encourage you to attend and to learn. See page 15 for more details about this public meeting.

Another aspect of civic engagement is paying attention to what is going on in our own community. The WCC publishes this newsletter to convey local information to you on a regular basis. It is also posted on our website www.westburyhouston.com, posted on our Facebook page, and is emailed directly to residents who have signed up for the owner portal in our new PayHOA property management system.

Sometimes people ask me what is the best way to contact the WCC. I recommend that it is best to either send an email to the WCC Office email address at westburycc@sbcglobal.net or to send a message to us via the PayHOA system. If you are submitting a house plan to the WCC for review, please send the information to us via the PayHOA system. A quick way to get ahold of us is via our Westbury Houston Facebook page. While

it is not the most official channel for questions, it is key communication tool when issues arise such as the major water main break on W. Bellfort. You can read about the huge water main break and what the WCC did to help expedite getting the City on site to start addressing the issue. The WCC was alerted to the problem via social media. It is immediate and can be used at all times of the day. But please only use it for emergencies or for timely matters. It is NOT the place to request a statement of account or resale certificate.

Many of you have not yet signed up for the PayHAO system. I strongly encourage you to do so, so that the WCC will be able to contact you via email and so that you can securely contact us. If you live in a part of Westbury which has voluntary dues and if you have not yet paid dues, then you will be receiving a letter soon from us with an invitation to pay your voluntary dues, or a contribution toward your voluntary dues. This letter will also have a link for you to sign up for the PayHOA system. We greatly appreciate everyone who has already sent in their payments. Your payments allow us to continue our paid security patrol (the Westbury Area Patrol) and to have an office worker to assist you with your concerns or questions.

The school year has started for so many children in Westbury. May they all have great scholastic success.

Westbury drivers, please remember to follow the school zone speed limits at drop-off and pick-up times.

-Cindy Chapman

#### **WCC Board Notes — August 2023**

- → A City of Houston public meeting on Willowbend connectivity and safety issues was held prior to the August 2023 board meeting. Read more about this meeting and possible big changes coming to Willowbend on page 10.
- → District K CM Martha Castex-Tatum encouraged residents to sign up for the District K newsletter.
- → Jennifer Edmondson and Susan Shafer made their final presentation on the Disaster Findings and Recommendations from the UH/TSU study that Westbury participated in along with 4 other communities after the Harvey disaster. Read more on page 8.
- → TX Senator (and Houston Mayor candidate) John Whitmire spoke about his history and issues he works on in the Senate. Senator Whitmire announced that he obtained a 1 million dollar grant for the Willow Waterhole.
- → Westbury Constable Patrol Sergeant Derkowski spoke about the Pct. 5 contract.
- → The WCC needs to collect another \$200,000 to cover expenses for the year.
- → The WCC Annual meeting is September 20. Meet & Greet at 6PM, Speakers 7PM.

Westbury Civic Club Annual Meeting Wednesday, September 20 6PM—Meet & Greet 7PM—Election and Speakers



Westbury Baptist Church 10425 Hillcroft, Game Room

# Platou Community Center at Chimney Rock Park

11655 Chimney Rock Rd 713-726-7107 \* platou@houstontx.gov

Supervisor— Dajai Tennard
Email—Dajai.Tennard@houstontx.gov

Platou Center is open from 11AM—7PM, Monday—Friday

Exercise—M/W/F, 9:30-10:30AM
Quilting— Tuesday, 10AM –1PM
Games—Wednesday, 10AM—12PM
New Members are Needed—Other
times can be added if interested.

TOPS—Take Off Pounds Sensibly Weight loss group meets Tuesdays 5-6PM

There are currently plenty of open times on the Platou Center Calendar. If you are interested in something particular, like line dancing, genealogy, crafts and other great get together ideas, call Platou Center supervisor, Dajai Tennard, at 713-726-7107.



Platou Center open house and a Trunk or Treat for kids!

Family fun days at the Platou Center are held on the 4th Saturday of each month from 10AM to 2PM



## Map of Westbury by Section

Willowbend Blvd
Willowbend Blvd
Willowbend Blvd
Creathand Dr
Sall Sa D
Ballstand Dr
Sall Sa D
Ballstand Dr
Sall Sa D
Claridge Dr
Claridge

Westbury is the 2nd largest neighborhood in the City of Houston with 5,000 homes. One reason Westbury has remained such a viable and desirable neighborhood is because of the very active Westbury Civic Club. The WCC has been advocating and working hard for the neighborhood for over 60 years. We often refer to different sections when talking about current or upcoming city projects, crime, or events.

Parkwest 1	198 homes
Parkwest 2	445 homes
Parkwest 3	311 homes
Westbury 1	543 homes
Westbury 2	530 homes
Westbury 3	853 homes
Westbury 4	834 homes
Westbury 5	501 homes
Westbury 5	150 homes
Westbury South	563 homes

## What's Happening in Westbury

#### **September 2023 Events & Meetings**

Mon	Labor Day—WCC Office Closed
4	
Thurs	Heavy Trash TREE WASTE ONLY
14	
Sat	Audubon Society Bird Survey 7AM
16	5310 South Willow Monthly bird survey
Wed	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting 9:30AM
20	Zoom Meeting
Wed	Westbury Civic Club Annual Meeting 6PM
20	Westburý Baptist, 10425 Hillcroft, Game Room See page 1 and 7 for more information
Thurs	Environmental Permit Public Meeting 7PM
28	Houston Collective, 12401 S Post Oak See page 15 for more info
Sat	Westbury Community Garden Open House 9:30AM-1PM
30	12581 Dunlap   See page 15 for more information

#### **October 2023 Events & Meetings**

		_
Tues 3	National Night Out - Save the Date See page 12 for details	
Thurs 12	Heavy Trash - JUNK WASTE	
Thurs 12	Southwest Mayoral Forum Congregation Beth Israel	7PM
Wed 18	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting Zoom Meeting	9:30AM
Wed 18	Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting Westbury Baptist, 10425 Hillcroft, Game Room	7PM
Sat 21	Audubon Society Bird Survey 5310 South Willow Monthly bird survey	7AM
Sat 28	MusicFest at Willow Waterhole 5300 Dryad	11AM -7PM
Sat 28	Family Fun Day at Platou Center 11655 Chimney Rock See page 4 for more information	10AM-2PM

#### **November 2023 Events & Meetings**

Tues 7	Election Day	
Thurs 9	Heavy Trash - TREE WASTE ONLY	
Wed 15	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting Zoom Meeting	9:30AM
Wed 15	Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting Westbury Baptist, 10425 Hillcroft, Game Room	7PM

Trash, yard waste, recycling, and heavy trash are picked up by the City of Houston.

#### **Requiar Household Trash**

Pick-up is EVERY Thursday. Regular household trash goes into the black trash can.

Pick-up is EVERY week either on Thursday or Saturday or any day the City decides to come by. Yard Waste MUST be placed in the correct City bio-degradable bags.



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

September 2023

Thursday, September 7 Thursday, September 21

October 2023 Thursday, October 5

Thursday, October 19

#### 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.

September 2023 TREE WASTE ONLY

October 2023 JUNK WASTE Thursday, September 14 Thursday, October 12

# Important Trash & Recycling Info

- Regular trash pickup is every Thursday.
- Recycling is every other Thursday.
- Heavy Trash is once a month, 2nd Thursday.
- Yard waste is picked up on Saturdays.
- Westbury is on Recycle Schedule A
- MO 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.
- Tard waste MUST be in correct biodegradable bags with City logo
- Call 311 for all trash guestions 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.
- Refer to www.houstontx.gov for more trash and recycling information

#### Support the Westbury Civic Club Pay your 2023 Voluntary Dues TODAY!

Westbury is a unique neighborhood with the majority of the 5,000 homes having voluntary dues. Only about 450 homes in Parkwest 1 and Parkwest 2 have Mandatory Assessments. The active participation of volunteers and yearly dues contributions help the Westbury Civic Club achieve our goal and remain active in the City of Houston. The total voluntary dues requested for 2023 is \$375. This includes the WCC Dues and Westbury Area Patrol.

PLEASE NOTE: All homes are subject to the deed restrictions whether the dues are paid or not. All sections of Westbury and Parkwest have ACTIVE deed restrictions.

#### **How To Pay Your Dues/Assessments**

There are several pays to pay your dues or assessments.

- 1. Activate your NEW online portal and pay directly online either via credit card or bank account.
  \*Once your account is activated (the WCC office must approve), you can view invoices, make payments, setup payment plans, make requests, view calendar and much more. Use the this handy QR to start your online account today!
- Hand deliver\* or mail a check to the WCC Office.
   5322 W. Bellfort, Suite 100, Houston, TX, 77035
   Make checks payable to the Westbury Civic Club
   \*There is a drop slot located at the bottom of the WCC office door.
- 3. Pay via PayPal. You may choose a specific amount or use the custom payment option to enter any amount or additional donation. You can find the link to our paypal page on our new website, www.westburyhouston.com.

#### **Westbury Civic Club Voluntary Dues Form**

Name
Address
Email
Phone
Included payment is for the following:
☐ WCC Voluntary Dues - \$60
☐ WAP Westbury Area Constable Patrol - \$315
☐ Mandatory Assessments - \$267.35
☐ Extra Donation (please specify WCC or WAP)

#### Westbury Civic Club Dues - \$60

The WCC has been vital in keeping Westbury a desirable neighborhood over the past 60 years. The WCC helps maintain 7 miles of esplanades, issues the Westbury Crier newsletter, enforces deed restrictions, provides community events and acts as a very important liaison with the City of Houston while advocating for Westbury. In a City the size of Houston, it is important to make sure you have someone representing you and your neighborhood. The WCC has done a good job of maintaining Westbury for over 60 years. Your contribution helps covers everything needed to operate and maintain the services we provide, this includes office rent, utilities, insurance, postage, printing, legal and professional fees, salary, etc. The WCC has one employee and all other work is done by Westbury board member volunteers, this allows us to keep our costs lower.

#### Westbury Area Constable Patrol - \$315

The WCC has a contract with Harris County, Precinct 5, Contract Deputy Program to patrol Westbury and provide 24-hour response. This program is referred to as the Westbury Area Patrol (WAP). The WAP currently consists of three Constables (2 Deputies and 1 Sergeant) that are assigned patrol Westbury daily. The Contract Deputy Program is designed so that even when a Westbury deputy is unavailable, the next closest Pct. 5 Constable will be dispatched. Several of our bordering neighborhoods (Meyerland, Maplewood, and Marilyn Estates) also participate in the Pct. 5 Contract Deputy Program, so deputies are typically nearby at all times.

The Harris County Pct. 5 Constables are certified peace officers, licensed by the State of Texas to enforce the laws of the State of Texas. The deputies are uniformed, armed and drive distinctively marked, emergency equipped, law enforcement vehicles. The Constables provide high visibility, rapid response to emergency and non-emergency calls, vacation watches, alarm monitoring, and home security checks. The WCC gets regular crime reports from our Sergeant to ensure that the WCC is kept up to date with crimes in our area.

#### 2023 MANDATORY ASSESSMENTS

#### 2023 Mandatory Assessments - \$267.35

Owners in Parkwest 1 and Parkwest 2 revised their deed restrictions in 1993 & 1994 to include Mandatory Assessments.

- → Properties in Parkwest 1 that have a new owner of record after the January 1, 1993, are subject to the Mandatory Assessment clause.
- → Properties in Parkwest 2 that have a new owner of record after the January 1, 1994, are subject to the Mandatory Assessment clause.

The Mandatory Assessments are due annually on February 1. The 2023 Mandatory Assessments are \$267.35. The WCC has launched our NEW online owner portal. This now makes it easy to view, track, and make payments online. The invoices for Mandatory homes have been mailed to the address on record. If you did not receive your invoice, please sign up for your new online owner portal (use the handy QR code to the left) to view a copy or email westburycc@sbcglobal.net. If you have past due assessments and would like to set up a payment plan, please email the WCC office at westburycc@sbcglobal.net.

WESTBURY IS A DEED RESTRICTED COMMUNITY.
DEED RESTRICTIONS ARE ACTIVELY ENFORCED.

#### **2023 Westbury Civic Club Annual Meeting**

The Westbury Civic Club Annual Meeting will be on Wednesday, September 20, at Westbury Baptist Church (10425 Hillcroft) in the Game Room. We will have a Meet and Greet at 6PM and the Speakers and WCC Elections will start at 7PM.

Come to the annual meeting and learn all the great things that the Westbury Civic Club has achieved or worked on in 2023. Plus hear from Bill Burhans with exciting announcements from the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy. Two reps for the Houston Library Department will be on hand with updates and renderings of the brand new library in Westbury.

The ballot of owners for the 2023-2024 WCC Board is listed to the right. These owners met the nomination deadline in August to be on the ballot. In accordance with the bylaws, all positions that are uncontested will take effect on the date of the annual meeting. No positions are contested.

If you know someone, including yourself, who would like to volunteer and be a WCC board member, it's not too late! Just attend one of our regular monthly board meetings, which are always open to the public, to learn more about the Westbury Civic Club and decide if becoming a board member is a good fit.

Wednesday, September 20 6PM—Meet & Greet 7PM—Speakers & Election





#### Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting

# WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 7PM Westbury Baptist Church

The Westbury Civic Club board meets every 3rd Wednesday of each month\* at 7PM

\*The WCC board holds an Annual meeting in September in lieu of a regular board meeting.

## Check out our NEW website Today! **WWW.WESTBURYHOUSTON.COM**

Our new updated website, www.westburyhouston.com is full of great information. All the deed restrictions for each section are posted online as well as the WCC policies and by-laws. There is a tab for disaster preparedness and a whole new updated section on each of our parks in Westbury. Check it out today and learn more about your neighborhood.

Below are some quick links for the most often asked questions in the WCC office.

<u>House Plan Review</u> - New Homes, Solar Panels, additions, etc. Form is online at www.westburyhouston.com. Submit plans and completed form to the WCC office at westburycc@sbcglobal.net

<u>Statement of Account</u> - Email the WCC office at westburycc@sbcglobal.net

<u>Resale Certificates</u> - Form is online at www.westburyhouston.com Return payment and completed form to the WCC office

<u>Deed Restrictions, Policies, By-laws</u> - Available online at www.westburyhouston.com

<u>Account Balance</u> - Set up your PayHOA account today. Use QR code on previous page.

#### 2023-2024 WCC Board Ballot

President	Cindy Chapman
Vice President	Marcia Hartman
Secretary	Lindsey Pollock
Treasurer	Becky Edmondson
Deed Restrictions	Maggie Donovan
Flood & Infrastructure	Jennifer Edmondson
Greenspace	Mat Funk
Security	VACANT
At-Large 1	Reagan Dunkin
At-Large 2	VACANT
At-Large 3	VACANT
At-Large 4	VACANT
Westbury 1	Vacant
Westbury 2	Vacant
Westbury 3	Jonathan Hansen
Westbury 3	Sylvia Rosales
Westbury 4	Becky Pate
Westbury 4	VACANT
Westbury 5	Andrew Jefferson
Westbury 5	Donna Strom
Westbury South	Vacant
Parkwest 1	Vacant
Parkwest 2	Bob Droubi
Parkwest 3	Alan Hirshman

## HOW TO CONTACT THE WESTBURY CIVIC CLUB

WCC Office-

westburycc@sbcglobal.net 713-723-5437

WCC President-

wccpresident@westburycrier.com

Social Media-

Facebook—Message Westbury Houston

#### **Disaster Findings and Recommendations**

Study by the University of Houston and Texas Southern University

In 2019, Westbury was chosen to participate in a research project by faculty at TSU and UH, along with 3 other neighborhoods that had experienced flooding during Hurricane Harvey. The project centered around community engagement and how experiences with Hurricane Harvey may have impacted community involvement.

Jennifer Edmondson, the WCC Office Manager, and Susan Shafer, former Parker Elementary librarian and Secretary of the WAIC (our non-profit community partner, Westbury Area Improvement Corporation) were the co-researchers for the Westbury area. They worked alongside the university team to develop a plan. They then recruited participants and facilitated the interviews and focus groups.

They led five focus group meetings with Westbury residents, as well as interviewing key Westbury residents individually. The university staff transcribed every answer and all discussions. Then all of the information was correlated, analyzed, and developed into recommendations.





Jennifer and Susan presented the final Westbury Disaster Findings & Recommendations at the August meetings of both the WAIC and the WCC. Due to the time lag with COVID, the WCC has already been implementing many of these great recommendations!

The focus groups were so successful and it was so enjoyable meeting residents and answering questions and showing them around the WCC office with all of Westbury's almost 70 years of history, that the WCC began to host open houses at the office. Sadly, COVID brought this to an end, but we hope to reinstate this practice soon.

When the new library site in Westbury was chosen, the WCC formed a library action committee and this hard working group of residents came up with a list of recommendations and wants for our new library. All of them were incorporated into the new design!

Our new website and new owners portal both came about as a result of this research project. There were recommendations to have disaster information and flood zone information on the website. Those are being added to the website. Being able to disseminate information by email or text was also needed and the new owner's portal allows for two-way communication.









We are working on some other recommendations regarding detailed plans on what to do for the next disaster.

It was recommended that residents know their neighbors and be ready to help each other. To that end, we have always encouraged National Night Out (NNO) participation.

See more information about NNO on page 12. Our most neighborly streets seem to be the ones where disasters have brought them together. We are better together! Westbury Strong!

Special thanks to Jennifer and Susan for the many, many hours they devoted to this project and to the Westbury residents who participated in the focus groups. Your input was invaluable. This was community-based, participatory action research at its best!

#### "NEIGHBORHOOD SPECIALISTS"

#### JACKIE AND KENDYL TEAM



JACKIE MURRAY (713) 825-9179



KENDYL MAURER (281) 904-8199

Westbury/Parkwest Realtors over 40 years! Selling? SOLD when you list with us!

JackieKendylTeam@WayneMurray.net









10722 Kirkside - 3/2/2•\$310's





11022 Braewick - 3/2/2•\$340's



HOUSTON . KATY . SUGAR LAND . THE WOODLANDS

## Major Broken Water Main Caused Many Westbury Residents to Lose Water

Due to the extreme heat, water main breaks are happening all over the city. Westbury had a major water main break at the intersection of West Bellfort and Chimney Rock that sent rocks and water spewing 50 feet away. The WCC office was notified by several residents in different sections of low to no water pressure. Realizing this was a major break, WCC office manager Jennifer Edmondson escalated her 311 call to the District K office at 11AM. She



spoke to Constituent Rep. Barbara Hite to let her know that this was a major break affecting hundreds of homes in Westbury 1, 2,3 and Parkwest 3. The City had a crew onsite by noon. However, with more than a dozen lines feeding this one water line, crews had to work to clear all of the other lines and bleed off pressure by opening the fire hydrants along Chimney Rock. They pumped water out of the large hole that

had formed in the esplanade for hours.

The WCC also reached out directly to our Councilwoman Martha Castex-Tatum that evening to ask her for an update from Public Works as residents really wanted answers; especially, as this was the first week back to school for HISD. At 9PM that evening, Becky Edmondson joined Vice Mayor Pro Tem Martha Castex Tatum who was out on the esplanade talking with the crew and on the phone with both PWE Director Carol Haddock and Mayor Turner. This allowed the WCC to post updates on our Facebook page to keep residents informed. Around 9:30PM, the water level finally began to drop and emptied enough so that crews could safely excavate the area and make repairs. Water service was restored around 2AM.

Many thanks to these hard-working city crews who endure the heat, the hard work and sometimes jeers from passersby. They put in long hours to make sure our water service was restored to an estimated 1,000 homes in Westbury. We also want to thank Martha Castex-Tatum for her incredible dedication and service.









## Mandatory Water Restrictions

It has been very hot and dry this summer, and the drought conditions in the Houston area continue to worsen. Starting in late August, the City implemented mandatory water conservation measures Stage Two. These mandatory water conservation measures will continue until further notice.

If you water your yard, you must now water on the correct day of the week and during the proper time of day. Although, you can hand water your plants and flowers with a hand held hose any day at any time. If the drought continues to worsen, then the City may forbid outdoor watering entirely. Let us hope for enough rain to replenish the moisture levels in our soils and in our water reservoirs, without causing flooding!

#### Mandatory Water Schedule — Stage 2

Limit outdoor watering to twice a week between the hours of 7PM and 5AM with the following schedule:

- → Sundays and Thursdays for single family residential customers with even numbered addresses.
- → Saturdays and Wednesdays for single family residential customers with odd numbered street addresses.
- → Tuesdays and Fridays for all other customers

Additionally, the city asks that you try to reduce water being wasted. You can do this by repairing water leaks, including dripping facets and running toilets, and checking sprinkler heads to make sure water is not spraying into the street or directly into a storm drain and or gutters.

#### **Report City Water Leaks**

The city is asking for our help to report water leaks and to conserve water during this drought. The intense heat and drop in annual rainfall have dried up the soil, causing a shift in water lines. When the pipes shift, the pipe joints can break, causing water leaks. The aging, brittle water lines are also more susceptible to failure.

Houston Public Works is monitoring the water system closely. The demand on the system continues to increase due to customers using more water and increased water leaks.

Please call 311 and report water leaks, so our crews can address them as soon as possible.

If a reported leak has worsened, please call 311 again to notify Houston Water that the leak has become more serious.

#### Willowbend "Connectivity Study"

On Wednesday, August 16, District K Councilmember Martha Castex-Tatum and David Fields (Chief Transportation Officer from Planning and Development) presented results of a study funded by District K to evaluate safety issues along Willowbend, between South Post Oak to Hillcroft. The meeting was held at 6 PM, immediately before the regular Westbury Civic Club meeting on August 16 at 7 PM.

The study began in May of 2023, because District K was receiving concerns about Willowbend, in particular, the stretch between South Post Oak and Chimney Rock, CM Martha Castex-Tatum used some of her council district funds to do a study to identify the problems and to propose solutions. A group of stakeholders described problems on Willowbend that they were aware of and had observed to the study team. The study team also examined the roadway in the field to observe for themselves what issues were happening on Willowbend. The study is called a "Connectivity Study" because some of the safety issues examined were how to make it safer for people who are crossing the street at an intersection.

The presentation on August 16 gave an overview of the problems identified at each of the intersections on Willowbend between Hillcroft and South Post Oak, plus issues on the roads near Meyerland Middle School. There were 11 locations in total in the study. After the presentation, attendees could look at detailed drawings of each segment of Willowbend roadway and ask questions or provide additional

Although it would be ideal to implement all the improvements at the same time, there is not enough funding to do so, so District K and the city will need to implement improvements in phases. Attendees were asked to prioritize the 11 intersections from highest to lowest priority.







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## Sneak Peak of the New Library in Westbury

Construction is moving along on the Dr. Shannon Walker Neighborhood Library right here in Westbury! The new library is expected to open this fall/winter! Recently our very own District K CM Martha Castex-Tatum did a site visit and shared all these wonderful photos.

The library is sending two representatives along with some of the vision boards to the WCC Annual Meeting on September 20 at Westbury Baptist (see page 7).

The Morris Frank Express location on Fondren closed on August 31, 2023. Materials from the Morris Frank library are being moved to the new library.



#### **FEATURES**

- CHILDREN'S, TEEN, AND ADULT AREAS
- TECHLINK (MAKERSPACE, VIDEO & MUSIC STUDIOS, MULTIMEDIA TECHNOLOGY)
- ENGAGING EVENTS FOR ALL AGES
- MEETING & CONFERENCE ROOMS
- COMPUTER, MATERIALS & DEVICES TO CHECK OUT AND MORE











#### **National Night Out** Tuesday, October 3

National Night Out (NNO) is the perfect time to get together and meet your neighbors. National Night Out is a national event designed to celebrate neighbors and to learn more about

safe neighborhoods. We encourage all residents to organize block parties or similar events and spend some time getting to know each other. The official NNO for Houston and Westbury will be conducted the evening of Tuesday, October 3.

OUDLY CELEBRATING

Register your National Night Out party with the WCC Office by September 22 to be entered in a drawing to win a WCC Pizza Party during your event.

Please register your party with the WCC Office by emailing westburycc@sbcglobal.net or call 713-723-5437 (leave a message) to let us know the time and location of your NNO event. You may also register your party at the Westbury Annual Meeting on September 20. Why tell us? In addition to having a chance to win a pizza party, the WCC will try to arrange for HPD, WAP Constables, or WCC board members to drop by your event.

#### **Gun Safety**

Harris County District Attorney Kim Ogg was the featured speaker at the Houston Police Department's August PIP meeting (Positive Interaction Program) at our nearby Southwest station to highlight the topic of Gun Safety.

Gun safes were distributed, thanks to the Brays Oaks Management District, to everyone who attended. These gun safes are intended to temporarily lock up a gun in a car. Did you know that 4,400 guns have already been stolen this year from cars in Houston? These

guns end up in the hands of criminals and others who cannot legally purchase guns. Every year, young people

are killed by guns that are left unsecured.

A gun safe in your car is one way to help keep your gun out of the hands of criminals, if you aren't able to take your gun with you. If you routinely carry a gun in your car, please take it inside at night. Cars in Westbury are being broken into and guns are being stolen It is your right to carry a gun,

but please be responsible and keep it secured from theft and away from children.



Here is some great news from Chase Bank Westbury, located at the corner of West Bellfort & Chimney Rock. Their armed security guard is back on duty!

After several Westbury residents were followed from the bank, both the Westbury Civic Club and the WAIC sent written requests to Chase to bring back a security guard. Thank you, Chase for listening to our concerns.

Be sure to exercise caution wherever you shop or bank. Being followed home from a bank or shop is happening all over Houston. Be careful.

#### Value of Public Safety

Have you ever really thought about the value of the Westbury Area Constable Patrol and having trained, licensed, and armed police officers on OUR streets everyday? Our Westbury Sergeant, Sgt. Nick Derkowski, has driven the streets of Westbury 5 days a week, 8 hours a day for the last 5 years! He knows our neighborhood probably better than anyone. He knows when things don't look right. He knows many of you, if not by name, then by where you live, where you walk, or what you drive.

Westbury pays for 3 police officers for the Westbury Area Patrol (WAP) program. Sgt. Derkowski patrols and he also supervises the other 2 officers who are assigned to patrol our beat. Included in the service are the patrol officers, their patrol vehicles, and the dispatch center with dispatch operators. If our own deputies are not available, then other deputies from Precinct 5 will be dispatched to respond to calls for service.

Since 1980 the fine men and women of the Harris County Precinct 5 Constables have been patrolling our Westbury streets. They know our crime hot spots. They know and assist our elderly people. If you are out of town, they will watch your house, relocate packages on your front porch, and help keep your property safe in your absence. And better still, they act as a crime deterrent, since the bad guys know they are out and about.

\$266,000 We have only collected about half the amount needed for this year's contract. So please send in your dues. Even if you can't pay the full amount, please send in what you can. Isn't your safety and your family's safety valuable? Every dollar sent in for the Constable program goes to the Constable program. We have collected \$131,000 for the Constable program but need to collect a total of \$266,000. We need to raise another \$135,000 by the end of the year.

Goal

Support the Westbury Constable Program

#### City Elections-November 7

A total of 78 candidates, including 17 people running for Houston mayor, will be on the ballot for the municipal election on November 7. Houston will be getting a new Mayor and a new City Controller.

All positions on City Council are also on the ballot. Most of Westbury is in District K and Councilmember Martha Castex-Tatum is running unopposed. Part of Westbury is in District C and there are 3 candidates. We are also represented by all 5 At-Large council members and each of those seats have multiple candidates running. This is an important election for Westbury. We have many pending projects before the City and need to be represented by people who have commitment to public safety, infrastructure and flooding. Please take the time to research the candidates.

Early voting begins October 23. If you are a new voter, please note that Texas law requires that voters must register at least 30 days in advance of voting. The deadline to register to vote is October 10.

Go to HarrisVotes.com to obtain more details.

#### Crime Statistics for Westbury SuperNeighborhood

July 15—August 15, 2023
Crime in Westbury Single Family Homes

#### **KEY**

Block	Street	Crime	Date	Time	Section of W	Theft from	
5900	Beaudry	Aggravated Assault	7/29	1pm	Parkwest 3	Motor Vehicle	
10600	Braewick	Theft from a Motor Vehicle	7/18	4pm	Westbury 5	Auto Theft	
5200	Briarbend	Theft from a Motor Vehicle	8/4	10am	Westbury 1		
5300	Briarbend	Theft—Other	7/18	7am	Westbury 1	Aggravated	
5500	Dryad	Simple Assault	8/6	3am	Westbury 4	Assault	
5500	Dryad	Aggravated Assault	7/30	11pm	Westbury 4	Robbery	
5800	Dryad	Theft—Other	8/12	1pm	Westbury 4		
5800	Dryad	Theft—Other	8/12	2pm	Westbury 4	Burglary	
5800	Firenza	Aggravated Assault	8/3	10pm	Westbury South		
12000	Hillcroft	Aggravated Assault	7/20	9pm	Westbury 4	Simple Assault	
5100	Kingfisher	Auto Theft	7/26	7am	Westbury 1	Theft—other	
5100	Kingfisher	Auto Theft	7/26	8pm	Westbury 1		
10700	Landsdowne	Burglary, Breaking & Entering	8/11	8am	Parkwest 2	The crimes listed took	
5600	Ludington	Disorderly Conduct	7/19	10pm	Westbury 4	place between July 15 and August 15. They are	
12300	Nesmith	Aggravated Assault	7/26	2am	Westbury South	in alphabetical order by street. The crimes are highlighted by type. Please see key to the right.	
12300	Renwick	Theft from a Motor Vehicle	8/8	10pm	Westbury South		
5700	W. Bellfort	Simple Assault	7/20	10pm	Parkwest 2		
5700	W. Bellfort	Robbery	8/6	10pm	Parkwest 2		

#### **Crime by the Numbers**

Crime Type	Homes	Apts./ TH	Comm./ Business	Park/ Public
Aggravated Assault	5	5	0	0
Theft from Motor Vehicle	3	0	1	0
Burglary	1	3	5	0
Robbery	1	0	0	0
Simple Assault	2	20	1	0
Shoplifting	0	0	5	0
Drugs, Narcotics	0	0	0	0
Vandalism, Damage	0	5	3	0
Auto Theft	2	1	1	0
Theft of Vehicle Parts	0	1	0	0
Theft—Other	3	3	5	1
Theft—From Building	0	0	0	0
DUI	0	0	0	4
Disorder Conduct	1	0	0	0
Trespass of Real Property	0	3	0	0
Sexual Assault	0	1	0	0
Murder/Homicide	0	0	1	0
TOTAL	18	42	22	5

Pct. 5 Constable Dispatch Westbury Area Patrol **281-463-666** 

Pct. 5 Constable Dispatch Westbury Area Patrol 281-463-6666 SW HPD Station 832-394-0400 HPD Non-Emergency 713-884-3131

#### **VACATION WATCH**

Are you going on vacation over the summer? If you pay your Westbury Area Patrol dues, make sure you request a vacation watch by the Constables. Vacation Watch is a

Constables. Vacation Watch is a great service that is included in our contract.

A deputy will check out your property at least once a day to make sure it is secured and no suspicious activity.

You can register for a vacation watch online at https://constablepct5.com or call 281-463-6666





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## WESTBURY COMMUNITY GARDEN 12581 DUNLAP



#### 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.

# Westbury Community Garden Open House Sat., September 30 9:30AM—1PM

Come out to Westbury Community Garden for a fun neighborhood Open House from 9:30AM - 1PM on Saturday, September 30.

- → Take a garden tour
- → Try the garden scavenger hunt
- → Informal Q&As about many garden topics like
  - home composting
  - native plants for your home landscape
  - fall vegetables to plant now
  - simple fermentation for gut health
  - honeybees
  - garden membership and orientation

You will also be able to sip herbal tea, taste unusual garden veggies, and see Bill Davenport's Big Cabbage sculpture.

There will be a limited number of curated fall seed collections, 8 oz. jars of honey from the WCG apiary, and native plants for sale.

**Like "Westbury Community Garden Houston" on Facebook** 

# Willow Waterhole More than Just Flood Control

## TRAILS \* BIRDS \* WILDFLOWERS

Visit the Willow Waterhole TODAY! The main Westbury Lake trails and gazebo are easily accessible via the new parking lot at the end of Dryad. Additional trails and parking are available on the street off Ricecrest.



Photo-Mark Mulligan, Houston Chronicle

#### **Environmental Permit Public Meeting**

We want to alert Westbury residents and friends of the Willow Waterhole Conservancy that a public meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 28, at 7 PM to get information about the existing concrete crushing facility in Westbury next to the Willow Waterhole complex. The facility has applied to renew its environmental permit.

We reached out to TX Senator Borris Miles to request a public meeting so that Westbury residents and users of the Willow Waterhole complex could learn more about the facility and the environmental permit renewal application. We thank Senator Miles and TX Rep. Shawn Thierry for their assistance in working with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on our behalf. We encourage people to attend this public hearing to show interest in the facility operations. Please note that this is not a contested hearing. It is a public meeting.

The Public Meeting is to be held: Thursday, September 28, 2023, at 7PM Community Collective for Houston 12401 S. Post Oak Road

Martin Marietta Materials Southwest, LLC (CN606114726) has submitted an application for renewal of permit number 50114. The portable concrete crushing plant (RN102530052) produces/manufactures base material at 5001 Gasmer Dr. This renewal will authorize the continued operation of portable concrete crushing plant Martin Marietta Materials Southwest, LLC has certified there will be no changes to the permit. The following permitted emission rates will remain the same. The facilities being renewed continue to be controlled by water spray bars.

#### Audubon Society Monthly Bird Survey @ the Willow Waterhole

Saturday, September 16, 7AM
Meet at the Gathering Place, 5310 S. Willow
For more information, visit the Houston Audubon
website, https://houstonaudubon.org/



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