



December 30, 2002

Pat Evans
Mayor

Phil Dyer
Mayor Pro tem

Steve Stovall
Deputy Mayor Pro tem

Shep Stahel
Place 1

Scott Johnson
Place 2

Sally Magnuson
Place 4

Jim McGee
Place 7

Ken Lambert
Place 8

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Thomas H. Muehlenbeck
City Manager

Re: **District 2 Neighborhood Roundtable Meeting (November 14, 2002)
Response to Issues and Comments**

Greetings:

I would like to thank you for your attendance at the District 2 Neighborhood Roundtable meeting held on November 14, 2002 at the Plano Sports Authority StarCenter. On behalf of City Council, we applaud your interest and involvement in our community. Much was learned from your comments and we look forward to working with you in maintaining a strong City and excellent quality of life. The following is a synopsis of the issues discussed, as well as some additional information on each topic.

City Council Representation

All City Council Members are elected and serve the City of Plano at large. As such, a citizen of Plano may feel free to contact any Council Member regarding an issue or concern.

On the ballot, Places 1 – 4 correspond with Council Geographic Districts 1 – 4 and require residency in that particular district. (See the attached 2003 Roundtable Meetings map for a depiction of Council Districts.) Council Members serving even numbered Places are elected in even years and those serving the odd number Places are elected in odd years. The Mayor always serves at Place 6.

Traffic Mobility and Safety

As voiced at the meeting, some of the most important issues facing Plano today relate to traffic.

Traffic Congestion - Rapid population growth in Plano, although slowing, and surrounding communities has increased traffic congestion. Transportation improvements are being made to balance land development and mobility needs. Additionally, data received from the North Central Texas Council of Governments relative to the growth of boundary cities and their potential impact on Plano traffic volumes is factored into the City model. Traffic flow is being enhanced through new road construction, intersection improvements, and signalization throughout the City. At this time, the City has a program to install separate right turn lanes at the approaches to all major intersections.

The Transportation Division also has an ongoing program that retimes traffic signals in response to changing traffic volumes/patterns. Staff works with adjacent cities to foster uninterrupted traffic flow across City limit boundaries. Using state-of-the-art technology, 180 traffic signals are monitored throughout the City and timing plans are changed when needed to minimize vehicle stops and delay. Through use of traffic monitoring cameras and coordination with police patrols, quick and effective response to incidents involving disabled vehicles or traffic collisions is possible. By effectively responding to these variable traffic conditions, significant travel time savings and improved air quality are attained.

The City uses criteria based on the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) to determine when a traffic signal is needed at a particular location. The criterion considers the amount of delay experienced by side street traffic, proximity of other signals, the speed of traffic on the road, and past reported traffic collisions. Intersections are routinely monitored and signals are installed when the criteria are met. These criterions were recently revised to allow more intersections to qualify for signalization.

Of particular interest at our meeting was the rush hour congestion at the intersection of Coit and 190. City of Plano engineers are aware of the amount of congestion at this location; however the intersection is governed by the City of Dallas. Dallas reports they are also aware of the congestion and have timed the traffic signals to provide minimal delay while serving the traffic on all road approaches. The City of Plano will continue to monitor this intersection and relate our citizens' concerns to the City of Dallas on a regular basis with the objective of improving traffic flow even further.

Neighborhood Traffic Safety - A Traffic Engineer is specifically assigned to oversee the City's Safe Streets Program (SSP). This program works with citizens and homeowner associations on specific neighborhood traffic safety problems, such as speeding vehicles or school zone safety. If you would like more information regarding the Neighborhood Traffic Safety program, please call the Engineering Department at (972) 941-7151.

A request for street lights at Preston Meadow and Denham Way was brought forth during our meeting. Customarily, streetlights are only installed on arterial roads and at the time of adjacent land development. Traffic Engineering reviewed this intersection and noted there is a streetlight at the northeast corner that was installed when the Fairfax Hill subdivision was constructed. Further review of the Preston Meadow/Denham Way intersection revealed there has been one reported traffic collision at the location within the past five years. However, citizens may explore the possibilities of installing streetlights at their own expense by contacting the Engineering Department at the above listed number.

Traffic Speeding/Red Light Running - The Police Department places the highest priority on traffic safety. The Department's traffic mission is to save lives. The best way to accomplish this mission is to reduce and prevent traffic crashes. The City of Plano uses a three-pronged approach to accomplish these objectives:

- Strict enforcement
- Education and awareness
- Community partnership

Speeding and red light running are causative factors in the majority of the traffic crashes resulting in serious injuries and fatalities. The Police Department has aggressively addressed both of these violations. In 2001, the Department issued 28,154 speeding citations, a 17% increase compared to

2000. The Police Department also issued 7,280 red light citations, a 21% increase compared to 2000. From January through July of this year, the Department issued 54,937 total traffic citations. This is an 8% increase over total traffic citations issued during the same period last year. Red light citations were also up 8%, and speeding citations were up 4% compared to the same period last year.

Education and awareness are critical to addressing traffic safety issues. The Police Department has implemented a traffic safety hotline (972-941-LITE) that you may call at any time to report flagrant traffic violations. Please provide the license plate number, vehicle make, and date/time of occurrence when you call. The Police Department will forward a letter to the registered owner of the vehicle informing them of the observed violation and requesting they comply with the law in the future. Also, red light citation information signs have been placed at ten high accident intersections and the major thoroughfares leading into our City. A traffic safety pledge program has been implemented to increase awareness of this problem.

The Police Department Traffic Unit is available to give traffic safety presentations to homeowners associations, PTO's and other community groups. Additionally, residents may use the Police Department's Special Enforcement Request (SER) procedure to address speeding and other traffic violations occurring in their neighborhood. Officers are assigned to address SER's as their call load permits. You may call the Police Department Traffic Unit at (972) 208-8055 to request a traffic safety presentation or to initiate an SER.

Red Light Cameras - The City Council and staff support the use of red light enforcement cameras as tools to combat flagrant intersection violations. The Texas Attorney General has issued an opinion that permits Home Rule cities to use cameras to identify red light violators. At first glance, this may seem like a success, but it is not. Red light violations are criminal offenses that require identification of the actual driver. We would need the violator's Texas driver's license photo to compare against the photo taken by the red light enforcement camera to make the required identification. Currently, the Texas Department of Public Safety may only release driver's license photos to other law enforcement agencies for felony offenses.

Attempts have failed in the last two legislative sessions to allow cities to implement use of cameras as an enforcement tool and adopt red light violations as civil offenses. Please be assured, however, the City of Plano has declared red light enforcement a priority topic for the upcoming legislative session.

Mass Transportation Update -

- ◆ **DART Rail** – December 9, 2002 was the first day of light-rail service in Plano, ending an accelerated period of construction. Preliminary indications are that the ridership exceeded the projections on the first day of service. This marks the first passenger train through Plano since the Interurban rail line ceased operations in 1948.
- ◆ **190T Station** – The City of Plano has worked with DART to develop a station design that achieves a shared facility between the two cities of Plano and Richardson. Construction is still being finalized at the station, but the station is open to the public. An expansion of the parking is possible at this station.
- ◆ **Plano Transit Village** – Or EastSide Village, had its first tenants occupy units in September, 2001 and is fully leased today. The same developer began leasing space at Eastside Village II complex in September, 2002. Together, these two projects offer 500 dwelling units and 45,000 square feet of additional commercial space. Other similar projects are possible in the downtown area in the future.

For more information regarding the DART system plan, please contact Marcos Fernandez in the City's Engineering Department at (972) 941-7151.

Zoning and Development Activity

Please be assured the City of Plano is committed to protecting the rights of neighborhoods, as well as developers, to pursue their interests within the established legal framework of procedures and standards. Historically, the City of Plano has been development-friendly. Non-residential development helps fund City streets, water and sewer facilities, parks, police and fire stations, schools and other public improvements that citizens value as important to a good quality of life. However, development-friendly does not equal lower standards or the waiving of requirements. City Council and the Planning and Zoning Commission have adopted very stringent development policies. All projects are subject to the same high standards.

The City strives to inform neighborhoods of proposed development and provide the opportunity for neighborhoods to express their desires and concerns to public decision-making bodies. The City of Plano continues to encourage developers and neighborhoods to openly communicate and seek ways to ensure beneficial and compatible development.

Although not required by state law, applicants for zoning cases in Plano must place a zoning sign on the property notifying the public of the pending zoning action. The City gives a small sign to the applicant for specific use permit requests. For larger tracts of land, the applicant must contract with a sign company to have a large wooden sign erected on the property. All of the signs give the Planning Department's phone number, (972) 941-7151, so that citizens may call to get more information about the proposed zoning action.

In addition, information on new zoning and development requests is placed on the City's Internet home page at www.planotx.org, Plano cable channels A-30 and B-58, and is available in the public libraries. The City also sends written notices 20 days in advance of the public hearing for a zoning case, although state law only requires 10 days advance notice. The City elected to extend this time so that homeowner groups would have more time to learn the details of the case and meet with the property owners to discuss their concerns. The notices are sent to property owners within 200 feet of the affected property, as required by current state law. Notices are also sent to the presidents of homeowner associations that are within 1500 feet of any request for rezoning. The president of the Plano Homeowners Council receives notice of all zoning cases that have been requested.

The following properties have land studies, preliminary site plans, and/or final site plans approved in the District 2 area. Projects that have been approved generally mean development is imminent.

- ◆ **Shops at Willow Bend** – Out parcels on the west side of Chapel Hill, north of Plano Parkway – General and medical professional offices.
- ◆ **Shops at Willow Bend** – Out parcels on the west side of Dallas North Tollway at Park and along the north side of Park – Maggiano's, Corner Bakery and a bank.
- ◆ **Southwest Legal Foundation** – Southwest corner of Tennyson and Democracy – Office development.
- ◆ **Carrington Park** – West of Dallas North Tollway, north of Park – Three medical professional offices.

- ◆ **Ferarri** – South side of International Parkway, west of Plano Parkway – Automobile dealership.
- ◆ **Pasquinelli Portrait Homes** – South side of Parker, west of Marsh – Town home development.

The following zoning request has been submitted for review:

- ◆ **Sewell Saab** – West side of Dallas North Tollway between Costco and U-Haul – Specific Use Permit request for a new car dealership.

Redevelopment & Revitalization – The City is addressing redevelopment and upkeep of older areas in several ways. For many years, federal Community Development Block Grant funds have been used to assist qualifying families with housing rehabilitation and emergency repairs in the older neighborhoods. Grant funds are also used to help first-time homebuyers, further strengthening the owner-occupancy rates in these areas. The City has a neighborhood planning program which works with individual neighborhoods to address specific issues that are of concern to the residents, such as code enforcement, inadequate street lighting, crime and traffic. As the City ages, the continued viability of all neighborhoods is of paramount importance keeping Plano attractive to new residents and businesses.

Business retention is important to the continued economic growth and tax base of the City. The Plano Economic Development Board has staff dedicated solely to this function. In addition, the City recently partnered with the cities of Richardson and Carrollton and produced a document entitled Retail Study of Underperforming and Vacant Retail Areas. This document addresses existing centers as well as retail-zoned properties that are undeveloped or partially developed. The three cities joined together on this study to share experiences and ideas, as well as to save costs. The study covers a variety of approaches for improving the productivity of retail properties such as revitalization, redevelopment, rezoning, and incentives. This report was presented to City Council in August. The Planning and Zoning Commission is currently reviewing the various approaches studied in the report and will develop an implementation plan tailored to Plano's needs and capabilities.

Public Information

Below is a list of various media and access information you may find useful in contacting staff and keeping abreast of activities in our City.

- ◆ **Internet**
As stated previously, the City of Plano's web site address is www.planotx.org. To reach a particular staff member by phone, you may go directly to www.planotx.org/topic.asp. For City staff email addresses, go directly to www.planotx.org/ctystaff.html. The City's web site provides valuable information about the services of each department. Functions of the City's site include viewing City Council and Planning and Zoning Commission agendas, submitting code enforcement concerns and making online water bill payments.

- ◆ **Publications**
Municipal information is published in the Wednesday editions of the Dallas Morning News, Plano Section and the Plano Star Courier.
- ◆ **Cable TV**
Information regarding upcoming City activities and events is broadcasted on Plano's cable channels - A30 and B58.
- ◆ **Public Library**
Information on upcoming City Council Meetings as well as Planning and Zoning cases is available at all Plano public libraries.
- ◆ **Water Bill Inserts**
Another method the City uses to inform citizens of community events, activities and resources is through water bill inserts.

The City's web site was advertised via water bill inserts in November 2001 and January 2002. Additionally, the City has reserved an insert in 2003 specifically for re-advertising our web site services.
- ◆ **Current Studies**
It was suggested during the August District 4 Roundtable Meeting that the City provide information concerning the current studies in which we are involved on our web site. This excellent suggestion has been implemented. You may find the link entitled *Current On-Going Studies* on the front page of our web site.
- ◆ **Auto Email Newsletter (Future)**
The City of Plano is currently testing a monthly/quarterly auto newsletter to which interested citizens can subscribe via email. This pilot program is expected to be fine-tuned and in effect by Spring 2003.

Code Compliance

Currently, ten Property Standards Specialists are assigned to monitor the City of Plano. Specialists proactively inspect their assigned areas, as well as respond to citizen concerns relating to Zoning Ordinance and City Code. These codes and ordinances include, but are not limited to:

- ◆ Parking on unimproved surfaces,
- ◆ Junked motor vehicles on private property,
- ◆ Low tree limbs and branches,
- ◆ Trash and debris,
- ◆ Numerous residents/overcrowding,
- ◆ High grass and weeds,
- ◆ Open storage of goods or materials,
- ◆ Home occupations,
- ◆ Non-permitted garage sales,
- ◆ Substandard structures, and
- ◆ Fence maintenance.

When a concern is received by the Property Standards Department, the call is assigned to the appropriate specialist who then inspects the property within two business days. After the initial inspection is completed, the complainant will receive a follow-up status report from the specialist if a contact number is provided. Callers may remain anonymous if they wish.

I would also like to explain the process. When most violations are observed, the property owner and/or occupant are notified by mail. A notice of violation letter is issued, noting the violation and the timeframe in which the property owner should come into compliance. For high grass/weeds and trash/debris, only one annual notice is required. In these instances, the property owner may not receive additional notifications prior to immediate abatement of subsequent violations. If a property owner chooses not to comply with the request, the City may contract to have the work completed at the owner's expense and/or a notice to appear before municipal court may be issued.

To provide increased service levels, Property Standards Specialists are assigned to work one Saturday per month. Doing so provides the opportunity to witness activity that may not occur during regular business hours, such as non-permitted garage sales, parking on unimproved surfaces and illegal home occupation activity. As necessary, staff will also rearrange work schedules to monitor activity occurring outside regular business hours.

From October 1, 2001 to September 30, 2002, the Property Standards Department issued 621 notices for junk vehicles on private property and 3,168 notices for high grass/weeds. If you have a concern to report, please contact the Property Standards Department at (972) 941-7124, or you may submit your concern on the internet at www.buildinginspections.org/property.html.

Customer and Utility Services

To further serve the citizens of Plano more efficiently, the Customer and Utility Services Department has initiated a new online Internet application where customers can request service, inquire on account information such as payment and consumption history, access general information, and pay their utility bill 24/7. This application can be reached by selecting the Customer & Utility Services Department through the City's main web site at www.planotx.org.

Water/Sewer Costs

At our meeting, the topic of rising costs of water and sewer was mentioned. I would like to explain that the City of Plano is one member of the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD). NTMWD is comprised of several North Texas cities which all share in the costs to support the district. Being a member of NTMWD allows the City of Plano to share costs associated with purchasing water and treating wastewater. Having several cities share these costs allows the City to receive a more economical rate for service. Costs for NTMWD are divided proportionally based upon the demand each city places on the overall water system. In order to meet the needs of all the member cities (which have experienced tremendous growth) NTMWD has had to add a significant amount of infrastructure including the purchasing of additional water resources. The addition of water resources and water treatment facilities has impacted the costs that are charged to the City and passed through to its customers. As growth in the member cities continues to increase, additional infrastructure and water resources will be needed by the district.

The question of whether it would be cost effective to install a second water meter for sprinkler systems was also posed at our meeting. The costs associated with installing a second meter differs depending if the second meter requested can be of the same size as the meter already providing service and if a new water connection to the water main would be needed. Impact fees for a separate sized meter would most likely exceed \$1,000. There is no impact fee if the second meter is of the same size or smaller than the first meter. The costs associated with the installation of a same sized second meter would be:

- Cost of Meter \$ 83.00
- Electronic Read Device \$120.00
- Installation Costs (To be determined depending on material, time and equipment.)

In considering a second meter, a citizen must take into consideration that each meter is assessed a minimum charge. A $\frac{3}{4}$ inch meter has a minimum charge of \$11.00. Since residential sewer charges are now capped at 12,000 gallons of consumption, a savings with a second meter could only be realized if domestic consumption is consistently below 8,900 gallons. In addition, the payback on the least expensive option to install a second meter would be several years.

Water Conservation

Water conservation is important to our community. I am pleased to state the City has implemented a new comprehensive Water Conservation Education Program that will expand over a five-year period. The education plan will start with two prongs:

- ◆ General education outreach to citizens and schools, including teacher training and a web site, and
- ◆ Irrigation efficiency surveys for City properties and other properties.

In addition, the City and the Homeowner's Council recently joined in an agreement that addresses, among other things, the installation of freeze protection devices and rain gauge devices for HOA sprinkler systems. For more information on this agreement, please contact the Customer and Utility Services Department at (972) 941-7352.

Taxes

In the past 10 years, the City property tax rate has declined from \$0.5102 to \$0.4535. The property tax is an ad valorem tax, which means it is based on the value of property. As property value increases, the amount of the tax levied may increase as well, even if the rate remains the same or declines. Since for most homeowners their home is one of their most valuable financial assets, increase in property value is desirable even though it may mean a higher tax levy.

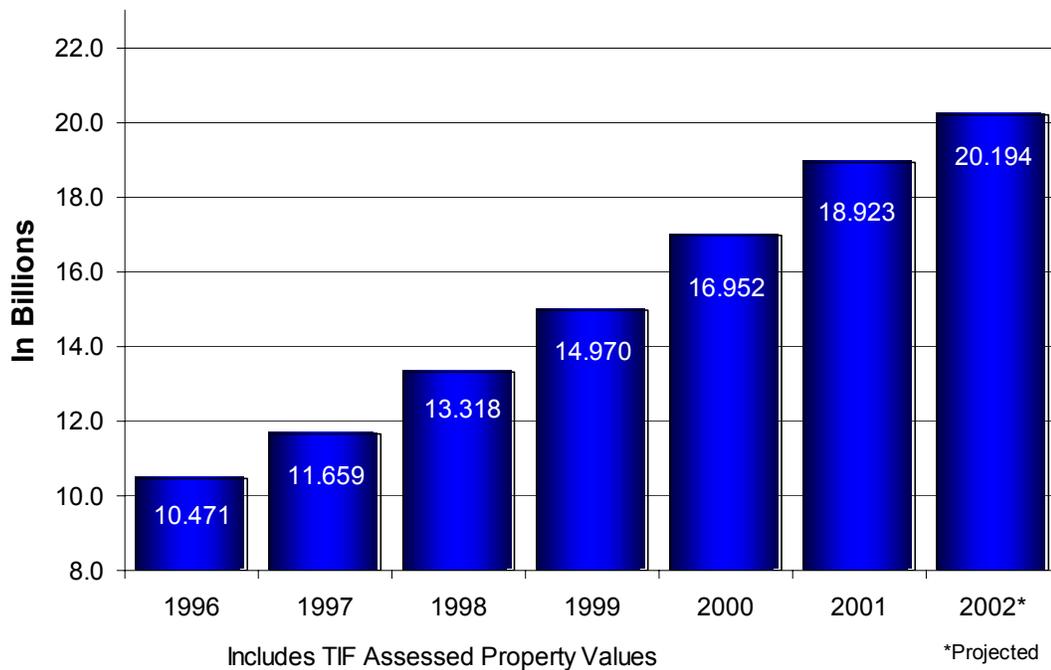
The following diagrams relate to taxes and property valuations in the City of Plano.

Taxes and the Average Home

Average Home Value **\$211,900**

	Amount	% of Total
City of Plano Taxes	\$ 769	15.9%
PISD	\$ 3,354	69.2%
Collin County	\$ 530	10.9%
CCCCD	\$ 195	4.0%
Total Taxes Per Year	\$ 4,848	100.0%

Assessed Property Valuations



Infrastructure Construction, Repair and Maintenance

The City has an aggressive road construction/rehabilitation/maintenance program to keep roads and drainage systems operating at their optimum. Staff makes great effort to coordinate these projects (City crews, utilities, and private contractors) to prevent undue delay and congestion to motorists. Many projects are performed during non-commute traffic periods or during the night to minimize their impact on traffic. Problems involving street/alley construction may be reported to the Public Works Department at 972-769-4140 (after hours call 972-727-1623).

The following are current or upcoming improvements slated in or around District 2:

Sidewalk Repairs

- ◆ West of Ohio to Glen Eagles Country Club, between Plano Parkway and Park
- ◆ Area bounded by Hedgcoxe-N, Parker-S, Coit-E and Preston-W.

Windhaven @ Communications Parkway – The City has upgraded yellow pavement markings (westbound traffic) to improve safety when approaching the lane drop.

Major Thoroughfare Construction - Along Plano Parkway from Dallas North Tollway to Alma.

SH 121 at Preston – Construction of grade separated facility (TxDOT project). Construction of 6 main lanes and 6 frontage road lanes through the area of the northern City's limit.*

*As a result of ongoing right-of-way negotiations, TxDOT recently reduced the number of east/west frontage road lanes (between Paige/Plano Parkway and Spring Creek) from three lanes in each direction to two lanes westbound and one lane eastbound. TxDOT is considering redesigning the planned two off-ramps and one on-ramp in this area into one off-ramp just before Spring Creek.

Spring Creek Mobility Study – A study on road modifications is being done to accommodate 2025 traffic volume.

Dallas North Tollway Ramp Study – The City is working with the North Texas Tollway Authority to investigate ways to reduce road congestion and delays on Tollway main lanes and City service roads.

The McDermott and Ohio location was of particular concern at our meeting. Below is an update regarding future street construction in this area.

McDermott and Ohio – The City of Plano has just completed an alignment study for McDermott Road from Robinson to Ohio. Originally, a private developer was to complete the missing portions of McDermott from Robinson to Preston Meadow. It does not appear this section will be completed in time to meet our schedule for the remainder of the road. However, the City of Plano will construct temporary connections in this section to provide for a continuous road from Preston Meadow to Ohio. This construction should be completed in late 2003/early 2004.

For additional information on the City of Plano's Capital Improvement Program, a new web page has been dedicated and features a status interactive map. This web page offers citizens information on

street closures, status of CIP projects, and City contacts for each project. You can find this information directly at www.planogis.org.

Parks

The Plano parks system has over 3,600 acres of park land. Several large sites such as Oak Point Park and Nature Preserve and the Tennyson/Archgate athletic site have yet to be developed. Once these sites are fully developed, the community will have more usable open space.

The following is an update of Park activity for Council District 2:

- ◆ **Recreation Center/Pool**
Funding was approved in the last bond election for the purchase of land and construction of a recreation center and pool in west Plano similar to Oak Point Recreation Center. Staff is in the process of negotiating for the purchase of land at this time. The facility is planned to be located west of Preston Road.
- ◆ **Preston Meadow Park** (Located on Preston Meadow Drive at Lorimar Drive)
Plans are nearing completion for the 1st phase of improvements at Preston Meadow Park which include 3 unlighted ball fields, a playground, trail, trees, parking and associated improvements. Construction will begin in 2003 depending on budget contingency issues.
- ◆ **Archgate Park** (Located on Archgate Drive south of Jasper High School)
Plans will be complete early next year for the 1st phase of improvements at Archgate Park which will include 5 unlighted ball fields, continuation of Bluebonnet Trail to Ohio Drive, trees, parking and associated improvements. Construction will begin in 2003 depending on budget contingency issues.
- ◆ **Arbor Hills Nature Preserve**
Plans have begun for improvements to the undeveloped 75 acre addition to the park to include additional trails, hillside overlook, playground expansion for preschool children, additional parking and prairie restoration. Funding to construct the improvements is included in the 2003-04 budget year.
- ◆ **Parkwood Green Park**
Funding is included in the current budget for the addition of lights in the picnic shelter and around the playground. The existing multi-use court will be resurfaced this winter. Staff will review options this year for improved parking at the park. Funding for any parking improvements will have to be included in a future bond election.
- ◆ **Shady Brook Trail**
An underpass at Midway Road is being constructed at this time. The underpass will provide a safe crossing from the east side of Midway Road to the trail and neighborhood park west of Midway Road. The underpass will also allow the trail to continue east in the future. The trail is ultimately planned to connect to Bluebonnet Trail.

Of special interest at our meeting was the matching grant program sponsored by the Plano Parks Foundation:

- ◆ **Matching Grant Program** – The Plano Parks Foundation sponsors a program to provide assistance funds for worthwhile neighborhood projects, while assuring ongoing citizen involvement. Matching grants are available for neighborhoods, school organizations and others interested in additional development of their neighborhood parks and playgrounds. Eligible projects include tree plantings, neighborhood park improvements, and other special projects that match the mission of the Parks Foundation.
 - A minimum of 50% financial participation in the project by the group applying is required. The Foundation may match up to \$3000 per application. Applications are reviewed each year in January and June.
 - Eligible groups include Home Owner Associations, school groups and civic groups. Over \$60,000 in funds have been distributed by the Plano Parks Foundation since 1983.

Information about additional programs available from the Plano Parks Foundation can be found at the Plano Parks web site at www.planoparks.org under the “About Us” drop down tab.

Public Safety

Traffic Violations – I would like to re-emphasize City Council’s initiatives aimed at reducing red light and speeding violations in our City. City Council is dedicated to resolving these important safety concerns by supporting the Police Department with their three prong approach as discussed previously in this letter:

- Strict enforcement
- Education and awareness
- Community partnership

Drug Use in Plano - As with any urban community, Plano does have instances of drug use. Several years ago, Plano experienced an increase in the number of overdoses and deaths, many of which were attributed to the use of Heroin. Aggressive enforcement and prosecution strategies were initiated and many arrests were made. The aggressive approach undertaken not only resulted in the arrest of some of the “key” players in this arena, it also created a reputation for Plano as being tough on drugs. This reputation has continued and has, on more than one occasion, been the reason some narcotic dealers will not peddle their products in Plano/Collin County. This alone, however, is not enough.

The mission of the Plano Police Department Narcotics Unit is to make our community safer by reducing the availability of illegal drugs in our City. City Council supports the following three-prong approach used by the Police Department to combat drugs in our community:

- Aggressive enforcement
- Demand reduction through drug education
- Coordinated prosecution

The Narcotics Unit currently uses several methods to assist in accomplishing their mission. Through both undercover and street level investigations, they target those selling drugs within our City. By way of overdose investigations, they track back to the dealer any instances of illicit drug overdose, and file the appropriate charges when possible. By actively pursuing all leads, they gather intelligence and identify potentially illegal activity.

Coordinated prosecutions have resulted in long-term federal prison terms for major drug dealers. We believe these aggressive activities are paying off and the Police Department plans to continue these successful practices.

The Police Department believes drug education through the Drug Awareness Resistance Education (DARE) Program is also a key component to combating drug use in our community. The Police Department recently reassigned the 5th grade DARE officers back to regular patrol duties due to budgetary constraints. However, the Police Department and Plano Independent School District remain committed to the DARE Program and believe it is beneficial in reducing student drug use. As such, Plano Police Department School Liaison Officers (SLOs), currently assigned to each middle school, are receiving DARE training throughout this school year. Middle school SLOs will begin teaching DARE to 6th graders beginning with the 2003 -2004 school year. Police Officers assigned to the high schools and senior high schools will also continue to assist with drug education.

Emergency Preparedness – The City of Plano has a comprehensive Emergency Management Plan which is updated at least annually. As a result of the events of September 11, 2001 we have developed an additional document to specifically address contingency planning/activities in the event that Plano should experience an act of terrorism. The City of Plano's capabilities to deal with terrorism today are as good as any other city in America and better than most. At this time, we have no indication there is any threat to the City or our residents and will continue to monitor new information as it becomes available.

Your City Council places public safety as a high priority and continues to allocate resources to this area during budgetary considerations to ensure we maintain a safe, secure environment for our community.

OTHER TOPICS OF INTEREST

Power Lines – The City understands the Public Utility Commission has ruled in favor of Oncor regarding the construction of a new double circuit 138kV transmission line in the existing TXU right-of-way and the removal of the current single circuit 138kV line. Oncor will have to come before City Council for approval to amend the existing conditions of the easements. At the current time, Oncor has not indicated to the City what their time line might be for making this request. Once the request is made, City Council will place the item on its agenda for consideration.

Continued Community Outreach - City Council is continually seeking and implementing new ways to better connect with citizens. The Neighborhood Roundtable meetings serve as a means to focus on a portion of the City at a time, allowing residents and business owners in a targeted area to share their specific interests and concerns. The Neighborhood Roundtable meetings are advertised on the City's web site, in area newspapers, on cable TV, by letter to HOA's and Crime Watch areas, and by individual post card notices sent to each residence in the targeted area. For your information, a map and listing of the Neighborhood Roundtable meetings for 2003 is attached. While the meetings are designed to focus on issues involving the targeted district, all citizens are welcome to attend and participate.

December 30, 2002

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As a result of a suggestion made at our District 2 meeting, you may now view past City Council Neighborhood Roundtable response letters at <http://www.planotx.org/mainagendas/councilrtr.html>.

On behalf of City Council, I would like to again thank you for taking part in the Neighborhood Roundtable session on November 14th. It is only through feedback such as yours that we can continue to be the All-America City that attracted so many of us here.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Evans". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pat Evans
Mayor

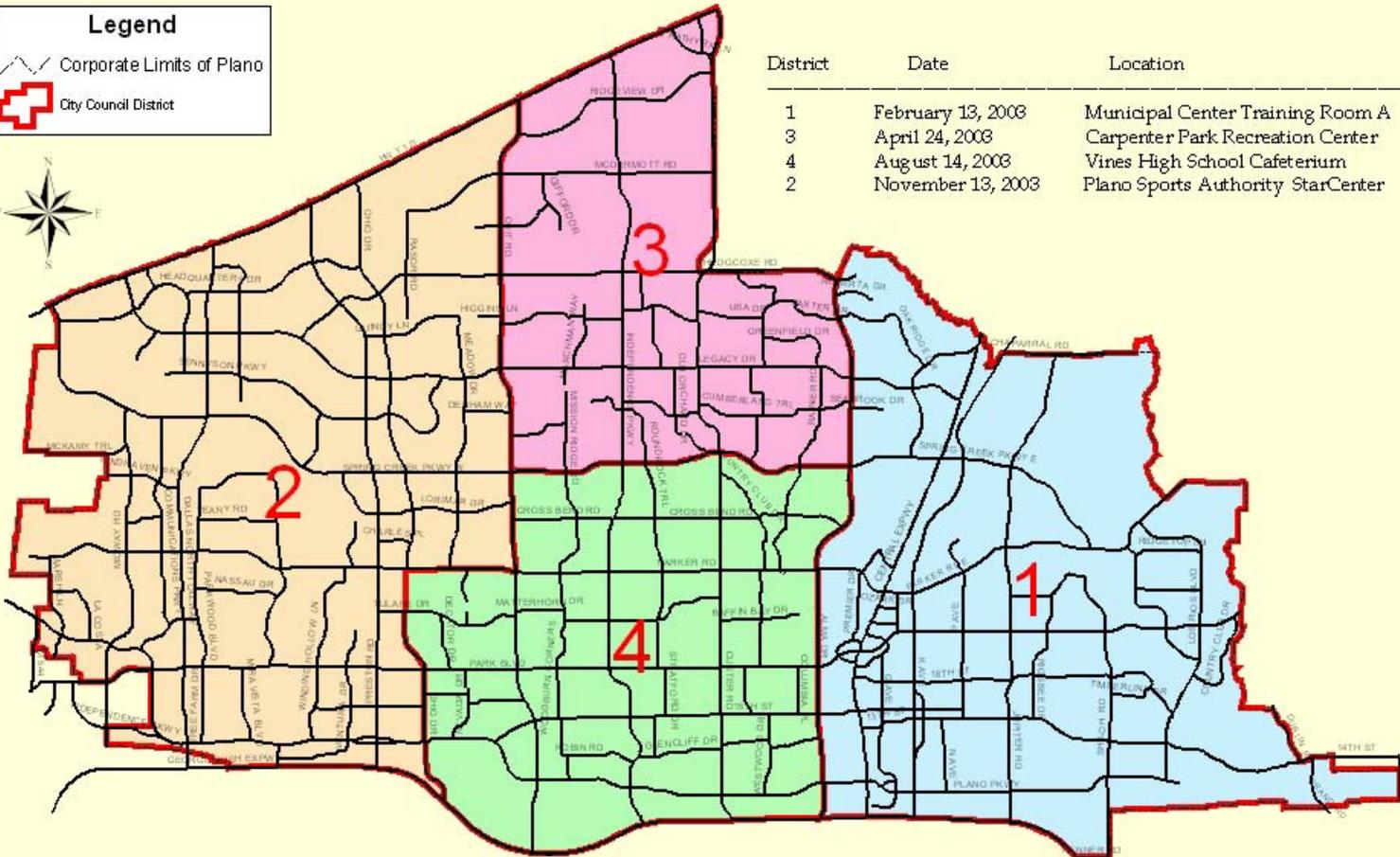
Attachment – Council District/Roundtable Map

2003 Plano City Council Neighborhood Roundtable Meetings

Legend

 Corporate Limits of Plano

 City Council District



District	Date	Location
1	February 13, 2003	Municipal Center Training Room A
3	April 24, 2003	Carpenter Park Recreation Center
4	August 14, 2003	Vines High School Cafeterium
2	November 13, 2003	Plano Sports Authority StarCenter

Disclaimer: "This map and information contained in it were developed exclusively for use by the City of Plano. Any use or reliance on this map by anyone else is at that party's own risk and without liability to the City of Plano, its officials or employees for any discrepancies, errors, or variations which may exist."
GARREG L/ Projects/roundtable@aol



October 2002