

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL
NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE**

April 18, 2002

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Jeran Akers, Mayor
Rick Neudorff, Mayor Pro tem
Phil Dyer, Deputy Mayor Pro tem
Shep Stahel
Scott Johnson
Steve Stovall
Jim McGee
Ken Lambert

STAFF:

Thomas H. Muehlenbeck, City Manager
Frank Turner, Executive Director
Bruce D. Glasscock, Executive Director
Rod Hogan, Executive Director
Diane C. Wetherbee, City Attorney
Elaine Bealke, City Secretary

The Plano City Council met informally at 7:10 p.m., Thursday, April 18, 2002, at Maribelle Davis Library, 7501 N. Independence Parkway, Plano, Texas. All Council Members were present with the exception of Mayor Akers. Council Member Stahel arrived at approximately 7:30 p.m. and Deputy Mayor Pro tem Dyer left the meeting at approximately 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro tem Neudorff welcomed those in attendance and introduced members of the Council. Deputy Mayor Pro tem Dyer spoke to real estate development issues in the City where land studies and site plans are under consideration. Council Member Stovall spoke to an upcoming homeowner training class entitled "Planning and Zoning 101" offered by Planning Department Staff. Council Member Lambert spoke to crime statistics in the City and to a proposed emergency siren site at the Davis Library. Council Member McGee spoke to new park sites in the City and to the Emergency Preparedness program. Council Member Johnson spoke to the Capital Improvement Plan drainage system, water transmission lines, and road widening projects in the City. Mayor Pro tem Neudorff spoke to rebate tax checks previously issued to the citizens and to the low tax rate in the City.

At the request of Mayor Pro tem Neudorff, those in attendance broke into groups to discuss questions given them after which time they reconvened to report the following findings:

Important Issues Facing Plano: Citizens spoke to public safety issues (traffic/speeding/red light runners and enforcement problems), adolescent vandalism, theft, crime related safety, drug use in the schools and safety related issues, increases in property taxes and high taxes in general, street maintenance, redevelopment and code enforcement, the need for better signage, and continually striving to look "good."

Better Service from the City Council/Staff: Citizens spoke to providing City Web information in the utility bill, providing auto-email components for current status of the City, continuing work on issues facing the City as stated, more Roundtable meetings with increased advertising, better traffic awareness, faster decision making, continuing with good services, adding a 3-11 line for non-emergency situations, maintaining good communication, keeping Plano strong, better code enforcement, and the need to provide lower taxes.

Important Things Making Plano a Good Place to Live: Citizens spoke to schools, public safety (fire and police), libraries, park facilities, recreation facilities, services in general, tax dollar value, house values, family oriented with parental involvement, refuse collection and recycling, and all the amenities offered by the City.

Mayor Pro tem Neudorff responded to a citizen regarding the availability of landscaping and entryway neighborhood matching grants with Keep Plano Beautiful programs and to the Plano Parks Foundation program. He further responded to a citizen regarding sales tax volume trending down in the City and to the current challenges regarding the telecom and hi-tech industries.

Chief of Police Rushin responded to a citizen regarding the 21-person unit assigned to address issues of road rage, the traffic hot-line, and spoke to the importance of education and enforcement. Mayor Pro tem Neudorff spoke to camera enforcement possibilities. Chief Rushin advised a citizen that the Police Department is looking at the Metroplex for strategies to address traffic enforcement issues in general as well as at individual intersections. A citizen spoke to providing traffic education classes.

Mayor Pro tem Neudorff advised a citizen regarding mandates for sewage and water rates. He further advised a citizen that DART station parking at the Parker Road site will be ample and that the Downtown Plano site is not intended to provide station parking.

Director of Public Safety Timmons advised a citizen that design of siren towers is standardized and spoke to the tight circle of effectiveness in placement of the towers with a one-mile radius per site.

Mr. Timmons advised that the proposed Davis Library site remains undecided and further advised a citizen that a resolution was previously adopted regarding projected uses.

Council Member Lambert advised a citizen that Staff is looking into problems associated with water sprinklers operating during freezing weather conditions. He stated that Staff will be meeting with homeowner associations and advised that sprinklers involved are mostly private systems not connected to City operations. Mayor Pro tem Neudorff spoke to the North Texas Municipal Water District providing positive service to the City.

Mayor Pro tem Neudorff advised that feedback will be provided. Nothing further was discussed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Rick Neudorff, **Mayor Pro tem (Outgoing)**

Pat Evans, **Mayor (Incoming)**

ATTEST:

Elaine Bealke, CITY SECRETARY