



Rustic Park Meeting Notes (03/13/08)

City Staff in attendance

Environmental Waste Mark Padley markpa@plano.gov Environmental Waste Supervisor	Your neighborhood contact is: Torrance McDonald, Environmental Waste Supervisor torrancem@plano.gov (972) 941-4157
Property Standards Sherry Burton Property Standards Specialist sherryb@plano.gov (972) 941-8152	Neighborhood Planning Program Monique Coleman Neighborhood Planner moniquec@plano.gov (972) 941-5397

Environmental Waste

Mr. Padley discussed collection schedules, general information. Also provided calendar produced by Sustainability and Environmental Services Department.

Click [here](#) to see how your neighborhood (#157) is doing in the Plano Recycling Challenge!

Issue or Question	Response or Answer
Q: What does the City of Plano recycle?	A: Click here to view recyclables and non-recyclables.
Q: How do we recycle electronics?	A: Click here to view important information regarding electronics recycling.
Do you have something you need to get rid of? Use the Plano Material Exchange!	A: Use link for information
I need to recycle batteries, Styrofoam peanuts, cell phones, telephone books, textile, wire hangers, and ink jet cartridges. Click here for information!	A: Use link for information
Do you need a new trash or recycling cart? Click here for details!	A: Use link for information

Issue or Question	Response or Answer
Collection Schedules Bulky Waste Collection Household Chemical Collection Yard Trimmings Collection HOLIDAY SCHEDULE	A: Use links for information

Property Standards

Sherry Burton, Property Standards Specialist for the Rustic Park Neighborhood informed residents that there were 63 open and closed property standards cases for the neighborhood. Most of the cases included pool, tree, open storage, fence, and inappropriate surface parking violations.

At the meeting, Sherry discussed specific locations and homes in the neighborhood to follow-up on questions received at the Feb. 28 meeting. To respect all residents in the neighborhood, I will not post specific information discussed at the meetings, which might include specific situations, special circumstances, addresses, etc.

Issue or Question	Response or Answer
Property Standards home page Top Code Violations	
Q: What are the requirements for shrub/tree over growth in alleys?	A: Trees along streets and alleys must be trimmed to above 14 feet over these surfaces. In addition, branches of trees and bushes planted along alleys must be trimmed one foot back from the concrete surface, into the easement. It is important that trees and bushes planted at intersections, alley entrances and in public right of ways, be trimmed so that foliage does not block the view between 2 1/2 feet and 9 feet above street grade. Click the following link to register a complaint .
Q: Do sex offenders live in the Rustic Park neighborhood?	A: Convicted sex offenders are required to register with local law enforcement in the jurisdiction where they live. The names and addresses of Sex Offenders who register with the Plano Police Department are provided to the Texas Department of Public Safety, which maintains a public database of names, crimes and addresses. Follow this link for more information https://records.txdps.state.tx.us/
Q: Are all homes required to have a fenced backyard.	A: No. Only if they have a pool, hot tub, etc. in the backyard.

Issue or Question	Response or Answer
<p>Q: Is there anything we can do about rental properties? We can seem to get them to take better care of their properties.</p>	<p>A: Yes. If you see a violation, contact Property Standards. Also, the City of Plano has a new rental inspection program. This program is currently only inspecting multi-family units. In the future, the program will start to inspect single-family properties, which will help with property standards and maintenance of single family homes in Plano neighborhoods.</p>

OTHER TOPICS AND FOLLOW-UP TOPICS

Parks and Recreation

Issue or Question	Response or Answer
<p>Q: Can we relocate the picnic tables and trash receptacles? Click here to view sketch by resident.</p>	<p>A: Picnic tables have been relocated.</p>
<p>Q: What improvements will be made to the turf (grass)?</p>	<p>A: Park maintenance is currently seeking the best option to improve the turf in Rustic Park. Specifics will be given at the upcoming meeting.</p>
<p>Q: Can we remove the picnic tables and trashcans and just add benches? This might create a problem with litter.</p>	<p>A: The picnic tables allow for greater use of the area by more people doing a variety of activities. Benches are often placed along recreational trail systems, like Chisholm Trail. Also, benches require a concrete footing and once installed, they cannot be moved. However, picnic tables can be moved allowing an area to rest after activities.</p>

Public Works

Issue or Question	Response or Answer
<p>Q: Residents asked if the screening wall section between Stratford and Cloister Way can be included in the current Cloisters Screening Wall Replacement Project. The current project includes the screening wall along 15th between Stratford and Mill Valley Dr.</p>	<p>A: The section of the screening wall (Stratford to Cloister Way along 15th) will not be replaced at this time because it does not meet the replacement criteria, its vertical alignment is good, and overall, the wall is in very good condition.</p>

Issue or Question	Response or Answer
<p>Q: Railing off Park Blvd. in need of repair</p>	<p>A: Public works went out to survey the area. Public Works staff stated drainage replaced this railing on the box culvert last year after a vehicle hit it.</p>

Zoning

Issue or Question	Response or Answer
<p>Q: Is there something we can do about group homes, etc?</p>	<p>A: After further research, group homes are regulated by the State. State law prohibits cities from regulating group homes if they have six or fewer residents and no more than two live-in caretakers. There is no notice to surrounding residents since there is no zoning action.</p>
<p>Q: Is there something we can do about undesirable business (retail strip centers) such as banks, gas stations, and check cashing stores from entering our neighborhood?</p>	<p>A: If the business occupying the space is permitted according to the zoning ordinance, the City cannot prevent the business from occupying the space. The owner of the property has the right to choose the businesses that occupies the space. Senior Planner might attend future meetings to further address these questions.</p>

Transportation Engineering

Issue or Question	Response or Answer
<p>Q: What can we do about speeding on Stratford, Greenway, and Dorchester?</p>	<p>A: See previous response. Traffic Studies must be conducted through the Safe Streets Program. Tracy Nyholm will provide specifics at the March 27 meeting. Please review the Safe Streets Program procedure manual before the meeting.</p>
<p>Q: Can we close certain streets: Dorchester and Mills Valley; Independence and Prairie Creek.</p>	<p>A: The city will, in most cases, not close streets that connect to a major thoroughfare/arterial, primarily due to necessary access to the neighborhood for public and safety service vehicles. It is possible to divert traffic on residential streets. Traffic has to collect the data and show patterns to determine feasibility.</p>

Community Issues / Defeating Apathy

Issue or Question	Response or Answer
<p>Q: What is the purpose of these meetings and this "neighborhood planning process?"</p>	<p>A: To instill pride in your neighborhood, to reinvigorate a sense of community and cohesiveness, and to enhance your overall quality of life.</p>
<p>Q: Can Council District 4 Representative Sally Magnuson attend one of the neighborhood meetings?</p>	<p>A: City Council Secretary has been contacted. She will check Councilwoman Magnuson's availability. Waiting for further information.</p>
<p>Q: What does "neighborhood revitalization" mean exactly?</p>	<p>A: Most neighborhood issues are a result of low-no communication between neighbors and city government. The City of Plano feels it is very important to establish and maintain a relationship that encourages open communication, support, and empowerment. Plano's efforts to revitalize neighborhoods focus heavily on citizen participation in the planning process.</p>
<p>Q: How can we communicate better in our neighborhood and create a greater sense of community?</p>	<p>A: Your neighbor Michael McDowell created an online forum for the sharing and exchanging of information and ideas. Please click here to sign up for the Rustic Park Yahoo Group!</p>
<p>Q: Do we have an HOA or have we ever in this neighborhood?</p>	<p>A: My current research has proven no. The Neighborhood Planner will continue to research this information throughout the neighborhood planning process.</p>
<p>Q: Can we retrofit or retroactively establish an HOA in our neighborhood?</p>	<p>A: No. You can establish a voluntary Neighborhood Association, but an HOA has to be established at the time of subdivision development. Mandatory HOAs have legally binding "private" agreements.</p>
<p>Q: If we have a problem with rats, who do we call?</p>	<p>A: Contact Animal Control for traps for isolated occurrences or problems. Contact Environmental Health for assistance if you see several rodents.</p>

Community Investment Program (CIP) Projects

Issue or Question	Response or Answer
Q: Alley behind Cloisters Way – in need of repair from damage due to construction vehicles	A: I will go out, take pictures, and talk to CIP Engineers before the March 27 meeting.
Q: Erosion problem in Pitman Creek. Collin Greene Condominiums that abut the creek are experiencing erosion problems. What corrective action will the City take?	A: Answer pending CIP Engineers response.
Q: Can we replace the living screening wall along the south side of Park Blvd. with a brick screening wall?	A: Answer pending CIP Engineers response.

Closing Remarks

Please visit the [Rustic Park Neighborhood](#) Web site for more details.

Greeting Rustic Park,

We had a great meeting last Thursday and I look forward to many more. I have spoken with many of you throughout the week and I really appreciate you all keeping me up-to-date with the various activity and concerns in your neighborhood. I apologize for the notes arriving to you later than expected. I have been awaiting responses to provide the latest information. I will continue to follow-up on various questions and will provide updates at the March 27 meeting. Please do not hesitate to contact me if needed.

Regards,

Monique Coleman
Neighborhood Planner

Meeting Reminder

Thursday – March 27 – Haggard Library Program Room – 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.