



WWW.OHNA.US

OHNA
P.O. Box 472685
Garland, TX 75047



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Web

OHNA Website:
<http://www.ohna.us>

City of Garland:
<http://www.GarlandTX.gov>

City Maps;
<http://www.garlandgis.com/>

Jan / Feb / Mar 2014

Annual Meeting Apr 10th

It's that time of year again!

OHNA's constitution calls for an annual meeting of the members to elect officers and report on the "State of the Association". Our program this year is based on the desire to take a 50+ year old neighborhood and upgrade, upscale, and update the curb appeal, without changing the "flavor" and style of our homes. There will be a slide show of homes similar to ours that have benefitted from the ideas presented in the City of Garland "Residential Idea Book" (download at <http://www.ohna.us> click on Documents).



Eula Axe

Longtime neighborhood leader, Betty Roberts, will provide some fun and informative activities around the history of the neighborhood. Local experts in the renovation and remodeling industry will provide advice and information on getting started on your projects.

At the "meet and greet" (6:30-7:00), local political candidates and officials will be invited to discuss issues of importance to our neighborhood. This is also a great time to meet new neighbors, renew old friendships, and learn about local businesses.

At our business session, we will elect two at-large positions on the association board (we welcome self-nomination). We need volunteers to assist in our many activities and projects. The meeting will be held at Orchard Hills Church of Christ (located at Saturn and Kingsley) on Thursday, April 10th from 6:30 to 9:00 pm. Snacks and door prizes will be provided.

January 30, 2014 New World Crime Watch / 635 East Meeting Summary

About 60 people attended the January 30, 2014 New World Crime Watch meeting. In my six years on the council, this is a record number of people attending one of these monthly neighborhood crime watch meetings. Many of the attendees were from the New World neighborhood, but some were from other neighborhoods in Garland (including Orchard Hills), as well as from Dallas and Mesquite.

Northwest Highway Project Update:

Garland Engineering and Transportation staff gave an overview of the Northwest Highway project, between Centerville and La Prada. They explained the scope of the project, which includes new water and wastewater lines, storm sewer lines, and continuous 6 foot wide sidewalks on both sides of the roadway. When completed, this part of Northwest Highway (currently two lanes in each direction) will have three lanes in each direction. The project is funded by a 50/50 cost sharing agreement between Garland and Dallas County.

Residents had several concerns, including lane closures, directional signs at La Prada, increasing neighborhood cut through traffic, improving project signage and lane markings, and what will happen to existing shrubbery adjacent to Northwest Highway. City staff promised to examine all of these concerns throughout the duration of construction, and take appropriate steps to improve any problems found.

Construction should take between sixteen and eighteen months and residents are encouraged to contact city staff with any concerns.

635 East Project Update:

State Representative Kenneth Sheets, Russell Schaffner, from transportation consulting firm Dean International (retained by the City to help secure the 635 project), and myself were all on hand to present information and answer questions about the project.

Over a year ago I made a commitment on behalf of my constituents in District 5 that I would do everything I could to get Garland's part of 635 reconstructed. This is a continuation of the 635 Express project underway right now between US75 and I35E. The project includes all dozen or so miles between Central Expressway and I30. The estimated cost of the project is just under \$3.0 billion. If all deadlines are met the project could begin as early as 2017.

Tuesday

9

Calendar

2014

Feb

13,27 Recycle
22 Work Day

Mar

13,27 Recycle
10 Board Meeting

Apr

10,24 Recycle
10 Annual Meeting
14 Board Meeting
26 Plant Sale

May

08,22 Recycle
12 Board Meeting
24 Work Day

Jun

05,19 Recycle
09 Board Meeting
14 Picnic

Jul

10,24 Recycle
14 Board Meeting



Phone

Police Non-Emergency
(972) 485-4840

Animal Services
(972) 205-3570

Code Enforcement
(972) 485-6400

Narcotics
(972) 205-2098

Graffiti
(972) 205-3999

Streets
(972) 205-3555

Neighborhood Patrol Officer
Jeff Summers
summersj@ci.garland.tx.us
(972) 485-4814

As chair of the Garland City Council's Transportation Committee, I recently held a committee meeting and invited representatives from the various stakeholders along the route. The folks at that meeting include:

- o The IH-635 East Stakeholders Group
- o City of Garland council members and staff
- o Staff from Congressman Pete Sessions
- o Staff from State Senator John Carona
- o State Representatives Kenneth Sheets and Cindy Burkett and their staff, and staff from Stefani Carter
- o Staff from Dallas County Commissioners Mike Cantrell and Theresa Daniels
- o City of Dallas council members Sheffie Kadane and Jerry Allen
- o City of Mesquite City Manager's office

We discussed various components of the project and what we all need to do, at the local, state, and Federal levels to get this project funded and constructed. The list is extensive, involved, and complicated, and includes complete reconstruction of 635 East, relocating entrance and exit ramps, continuous frontage roads, continuous managed lanes from US75 to I30, noise walls, project financing, and most importantly, approval in 2015 at the 84th Texas Legislative session.

Managed toll lanes in the center of the highway are required because there is no state or Federal funding to pay for the project outright. These lanes are a continuation of those being built right now west of Central Expressway.

Revenue from the toll lanes pays the construction and maintenance costs of the entire facility and provides a rate of return to the private sector companies and investors who built the highway. After 52 years the facility reverts to TxDOT and it must then be in "as new" condition.

Because of our combined efforts so far, which are led by Garland, the TxDOT Dallas District Engineer moved the 635 East project to the top of his list of projects for the Dallas area for the upcoming session in Austin, and Congressman Pete Sessions has agreed to champion this project in Washington DC. Even with this early success, we still have a lot of hard work ahead of us. Many things can go wrong between now and 2015.

635 Noise Wall:

Nearly fifty years ago the New World neighborhood next to 635 was promised a noise wall. It has never been built because TxDOT suffers from a lack of funding. I brought in State Representatives Kenneth Sheets and Cindy Burkett to help me with this. Neighborhood support for the wall is tremendous, and after a year of us all working together, TxDOT has now agreed to build the long promised noise wall. The wall as proposed in the 2003 design is 9 feet tall and just over 4,800 feet long. The 2003 cost estimate was \$2.8 million. Inflation since then means the wall might now cost TxDOT more than \$3.5 million. TxDOT has identified funding for the noise wall, so construction could start in 2015.

Marketing Garland:

The New World 635 noise wall provides Garland with a once in fifty-year chance to brand our city along one of our most important gateway corridors. I30 in Arlington has some great examples of how highway murals help market a city. The Arlington murals commemorate everything from the Tom Landry, to Six Flags, to the GM assembly plant. The almost mile long noise wall along 635 in Garland creates a blank, 50,000 square foot opportunity to better market our city. This is our chance to decide how we, as a city, want 635 to look as it goes through Garland. The city council will soon make recommendations about how to best take advantage of this unique marketing opportunity, so your input is needed. Right now 635 in Garland carries over 210,000 cars daily. Those are 210,000 chances for us to make great impressions every day.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns about this, or any other issue. I am happy to help in every way I can

John Willis
Garland City Council
District 5
214-957-7979 Cell
council5@garlandtx.gov



Membership in the Orchard Hills Neighborhood Association is an unbelievable \$15 a year. With this fee you contribute towards making this neighborhood a better place to live. Elected representatives work on ideas and agendas that will make Orchard Hills safer and prettier. Neighborhood associations are a strong voice that gets heard by city government. We communicate through newsletters, monthly meetings and an active website. One of the most attractive things about a good neighborhood is getting to know each other. OHNA stimulates "knowing your neighbor" through a variety of social events during the year.

These are only a few of the benefits to a neighborhood association. Even though the fee is minimal, it can be mountainous as we put the funds to work. The majority of funds pay for the newsletters and flyers that are distributed to your doorstep throughout the year; funds are spent to put on events like the Annual Meeting, Plant Sale, Annual Picnic, Neighborhood Garage Sale, and Christmas Party. Additional money is spent for administrative costs and matching funds for grant funded improvements on such as sidewalks and landscaping.

The list can go on and on, but as you read, your dues are very important, valuable and necessary...so keep them coming...and Thank You for your support. We would not have an Orchard Hills Neighborhood Association without YOU!! If you are not a member sign up today! There is no better way to spend \$15



WWW.OHNA.US MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

The Orchard Hills Neighborhood Association newsletter and reminders of our meetings and events will be sent to you by email if you have a current e-mail address, otherwise we will deliver newsletters and notices to your door. The annual fee is \$15 per year for household, renewed annually at the annual meeting in April. Send completed form along with a check made payable to Orchard Hills Neighborhood Association (OHNA) to P.O. Box 472685 Garland, TX 75047-2685.



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Thanks to:
Saturn Road
Church of Christ
for hosting our monthly meetings!

3030 Saturn Road
Garland, Texas 75041

Services:
Sunday Morning
8:15 am & 10:45 am

Sunday Evening
6 pm

Hispanic Assembly
10:30 am & 6:00 pm

<http://www.saturnroad.org>

Neighborhood Work Day

Saturday Feb 22nd, 8 am - 12 noon
RICK ODEN PARK

We need your manpower! Come out and help beautify and clean up our landscape beds for summer. Bring your gloves, pruners, shovels and forks. We will be pulling weeds and weedy grass, and transplanting to fill in where any plants have died.

Meet at the south entrance to Rick Oden Park on Briarwood.

Contact Christi: (972) 822-4262 or
Christi@ohna.us



OHNA Plant Sale

Saturday April 26, 9 am - 2 pm
OLD ORCHARD ISLAND
900 BLOCK of Old Orchard Rd.

All you gardeners out there, while you are in the garden these beautiful days in Feb, March and April prepare plants for OHNA's Plant & Garden Sale Saturday April 26. Pot up perennials you wish to divide; start seeds in 4" pots; divide irises and lilies and pot starts of plants that come up from seed.

The funds from the sale help OHNA with landscape maintenance.

Contact Christi christi@ohna.us or 972-822-4262 if you are interested in donating plants or helping out in any way; we would be glad to have you.

"It's the most wonderful time of the Year!
There are parties for hosting..."

A great big "thank you" to Brent and Jane Anderson, who hosted this year's OHNA Christmas Party! Brent and Jane are newer to the neighborhood, having been here a little over a year. They were wanting to meet their neighbors, and the party gave them the opportunity to do just that. It was good to see so many of you and to sample the delicious food you brought. The Andersons are used to hosting meals in their home, as Brent is a minister and Jane enjoys social gatherings. Their home provided the perfect setting for the evening.

SAVE THE DATE!

Next year's party is scheduled for December 5th.

Annual Meeting - April 10th, at 7 pm
Saturn Road Church of Christ
3030 Saturn Road
Use Kingsley Entrance

Plant Sale - April 26th
9 am until 2 pm
Old Orchard Road Island
900 Block of Old Orchard Rd.

To join or submit membership changes (address, email address) send email to membership@ohna.us