



Third Quarter Newsletter

July, August, September

www.OHNA.US
OHNA
P.O. Box 472685
Garland, TX 75047

The Continuing Tale of Interstate Highway 635 in Garland

Progress, of a sort, continues on the LBJ East project. LBJ East is the almost twelve mile stretch of IH 635 between US 75, Central Expressway, and IH 30 in Mesquite. Cost estimates for the redesign and reconstruction of the highway run between approximately \$1.5 and \$2.5 billion. LBJ East is one of several highway mega projects across the state vying for very hard to come by funding.

Despite uncounted man hours of work and the unflagging support from the city for bills crafted to get this project done, the Texas legislative session that just ended failed to provide any dedicated approval, funding, or new financing tools to help pay for these sorts hugely expensive urban highway projects. TxDOT's funding did grow, but only by ending diversions from the state motor fuels tax. No new revenues or tools were provided. In November voters will be asked to weigh in on a Texas Constitutional Amendment, Prop 7, which will read:

"The constitutional amendment dedicating certain sales and use tax revenue and motor vehicle sales, use, and rental tax revenue to the state highway fund to provide funding for nontolled roads and the reduction of certain transportation-related debt."

This amendment will help, but it won't provide sufficient funding to build all the needed highway projects across the state within a reasonable time. LBJ East is just one on a long list of projects in the DFW region, and those join many more similarly much needed projects across the state.

Lacking additional tools to leverage this limited highway funding, what are our next steps? First, please vote for Prop 7 in November. Even though it won't provide anywhere near enough funding, as my father always says, every little bit helps. Second, rest assured your local state representatives are all working hard to figure out how to pay for this project given the existing financing constraints. Third, call and write your State Representative and Senator to let them know your concerns and opinions about the LBJ East project. Google Maps illustrates the traffic on 635 East, at 8:40am on July 28, 2015. North/West Bound traffic is red, from IH30 to Forest Lane. This is a typical morning.

It is important to get this, and many other highway projects in the DFW region, and across the state, done. The population of Texas grows by about 1,200 people every day. Many of those folks come to this region, and many of them will be driving on LBJ East. For many years LBJ East has been on the list of the most congested highways in Texas. This impacts commuters, and area businesses, and manufacturers. Traffic delays on LBJ East cost all of us in longer commute times, lost productivity, and increased costs. Let all of your elected representatives know how important it is that we get this project underway. LBJ East was built fifty years ago. It is time now to rebuild it so it will help Garland, and the region, continue to grow and prosper. Call or write your city council representative, mayor, your county commissioner, state representative, state senator, congressman, and senators so all of them can better understand the importance of this project.

John Willis
Garland Resident



<http://www.nextdoor.com>



<http://www.facebook.com/groups/ohna.us/>



<http://www.ohna.us>



Calendar

September

10, 24 *Recycle*
14 Board Meeting

October

8, 22 *Recycle*
2,3 Garage Sale
6 National Night Out
12 Board Meeting
17 Workday

November

5, 19 *Recycle*
9 Board Meeting

December

3, 17 *Recycle*
14 Board Meeting

January

14, 28 *Recycle*
11 Board Meeting

In the Good Ole Summertime

As I write this article, triple digit temperatures are upon us! My flowers in my flowerbed are very bright and colorful! Our next scheduled workday is October 17th. The beds have grown due to all the rain we have received this spring. There are many wonderful things to enjoy about our neighborhood in summertime! I don't particularly care for the heat, but our neighborhood is beautiful! My favorite season, fall, is just around the corner. The next OHNA event is our Annual Garage Sale. (October 2nd and 3rd). (See Margi's article about the garage sale.) We're also planning an event in conjunction with National Night Out. (Tuesday, October 6th) This will take place on Old Orchard Island, the same location as our Plant Sale. This will be a time to get out and visit with your neighbors, and enjoy some drinks and snacks. So bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and a favorite snack or dessert. OHNA will provide the drinks. We are also planning to invite our Neighborhood Patrol Officer, Jeffrey Summers, to share with us ways to watch out for each other and continue to make our neighborhood a great place to live. Save the date, Tuesday, October 6th.

OHNA Flower Gardens

One of the many benefits of living in the Orchard Hills neighborhood is our collection of OHNA gardens. Seven gardens were created through a Neighborhood Vitality Grant from the City of Garland in (year). They are located at many of the entrances to our neighborhood. Three are located at the intersection of Glenbrook and Briarwood. One each is at the entrance to Rick Oden Park, at Carney and Saturn, Kingsley and Glenbrook, and Treasure Island. Homeowners provided the land for the construction of the gardens and have agreed to help with watering. The Grant requires sweat equity in the form of upkeep on the gardens. Weeding, pruning, raking, etc. are the responsibility of the association.

The damage caused to the Orchard Hills sign and the garden on Treasure has been documented to the motorist's insurance company and we are awaiting payment.

All of this information leads up to the fact that we need help in maintaining our gardens. Although the officers and board members are young (under 70) and energetic, the tasks associated with the upkeep of OUR gardens are beyond our ability to perform. **We need help!** Whenever you find a spare hour, grab a rake and raise some dust. Watch for information in the newsletter concerning scheduled work days. The next scheduled workday is October 17th.

Together we can add beauty and value to our neighborhood. For more information, please email flowers@OHNA.us.



eMail

OHNA Board Members:
board@ohna.us
OHNA Newsletter:
newsletter@ohna.us
OHNA Website:
webadmin@ohna.us



Web

OHNA Website:
<http://www.ohna.us>
City of Garland
<http://www.ci.garland.tx.us/>
City Maps:
<http://www.garlandgis.com>

Who are the People in Your Neighborhood?

"National Night Out" is Tuesday, October 6th. Put this date on your Calendar! OHNA will celebrate this special day by gathering on "Old Orchard Island". The association will provide drinks (soft). All you need to bring is a blanket or lawn chair and your favorite dessert or snack. Come and get to know your neighbors and our Neighborhood Patrol Officer, Jeffrey Summers. He will offer advice and tips on safety and security in Orchard Hills.

Thanks to **Saturn Road Church of Christ** for hosting our monthly and annual meetings!

3030 Saturn Road
Garland, Texas 75041

Services:

Sunday Morning 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Sunday Evening 6:00 PM

Hispanic Assembly 10:30 AM & 6:00 PM

<http://www.saturnroad.org>



OHNA Contacts

Co-Chairman

Ronnie ronnie@ohna.us

OPEN

Treasurer

Roger roger@ohna.us

Secretary

Jan jan@ohna.us

Members at Large

Margi margi@ohna.us

Eula eula@ohna.us

OPEN

OHNA GARAGE SALE 2015

FRIDAY, OCT. 2 and SATURDAY, OCT. 3

Attention all OHNA members! The Annual Garage Sale is back again this year and now is the time to start getting ready. During these hot summer days, clean out that closet you've been meaning to get to. Gather up the kid's toys and clothes they have out grown. Collect holiday decorations that you no longer use that others may enjoy. Someone will be happy to buy your treasures and trinkets at the garage sale!

You must be a current member of OHNA. See the membership form in this newsletter or go to our website www.OHNA.US to join for just \$15 a year. Sign up by Monday, September 28th to participate in the garage sale.

OHNA will take care of: garage sale permits, provide a yard sign to you, and advertising. We will also make arrangements with a local charity to send a truck on Saturday afternoon to pick up any unsold items that you would like to donate. Just let us know if you want to be on the list.

Contact Margi 972-840-2323 or Betty 972-278-3096 or garagesale@ohna.us for details. We need a few volunteers to make new signs. Please contact us if you can help.



GAIA
BODYWORK
PLLC

Barefoot & Traditional Massage Therapy

www.gaibodywork.com



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@garlandtx.gov
(972) 485-4814

District 5 Councilman
Billy Mack Williams
bmwilliams@garlandtx.gov
(214) 500-5460



Subject: District 5 City Council Update

Greetings from Billy Mack Williams

The flooding cleanup is still in motion.

Some people are farther along.

FEMA is no fun to work with.

The burned house at 2800 Glenbrook has been sold to be rebuilt..

Most of the roads that were being repaired are finished except NW hwy.

Some updates on new redevelopment I will reveal as soon as I can

There is a lot more to talk about and I will keep all informed.

Thanks,

Billy Mack Williams



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 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

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



Woody's Makeover, Inc.
1005 Saturn Springs Dr.
Garland, TX 75041

HELPING TO KEEP OUR NEIGHBORHOOD LOOKING ITS BEST

JUST SOME OF THE SERVICES WE OFFER...

- Interior/exterior painting
- Custom cabinetry and woodworking
- Cost saving resurfacing of sinks, tubs, counter tops, appliances, and ceramic tile
- Custom texture and faux finishing
- Ceramic tile installation and repair
- Crown moulding and custom built-in's
- Sheetrock repair and installation
- Room conversions and additions

21+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE BONDED & INSURED RESIDENTIAL REFFERALS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

CALL TODAY AND ASK FOR WOODY 214-202-3809 OR PATRICK 214-405-5798