

Super Neighborhood Alliance

Annual Report
May 2016

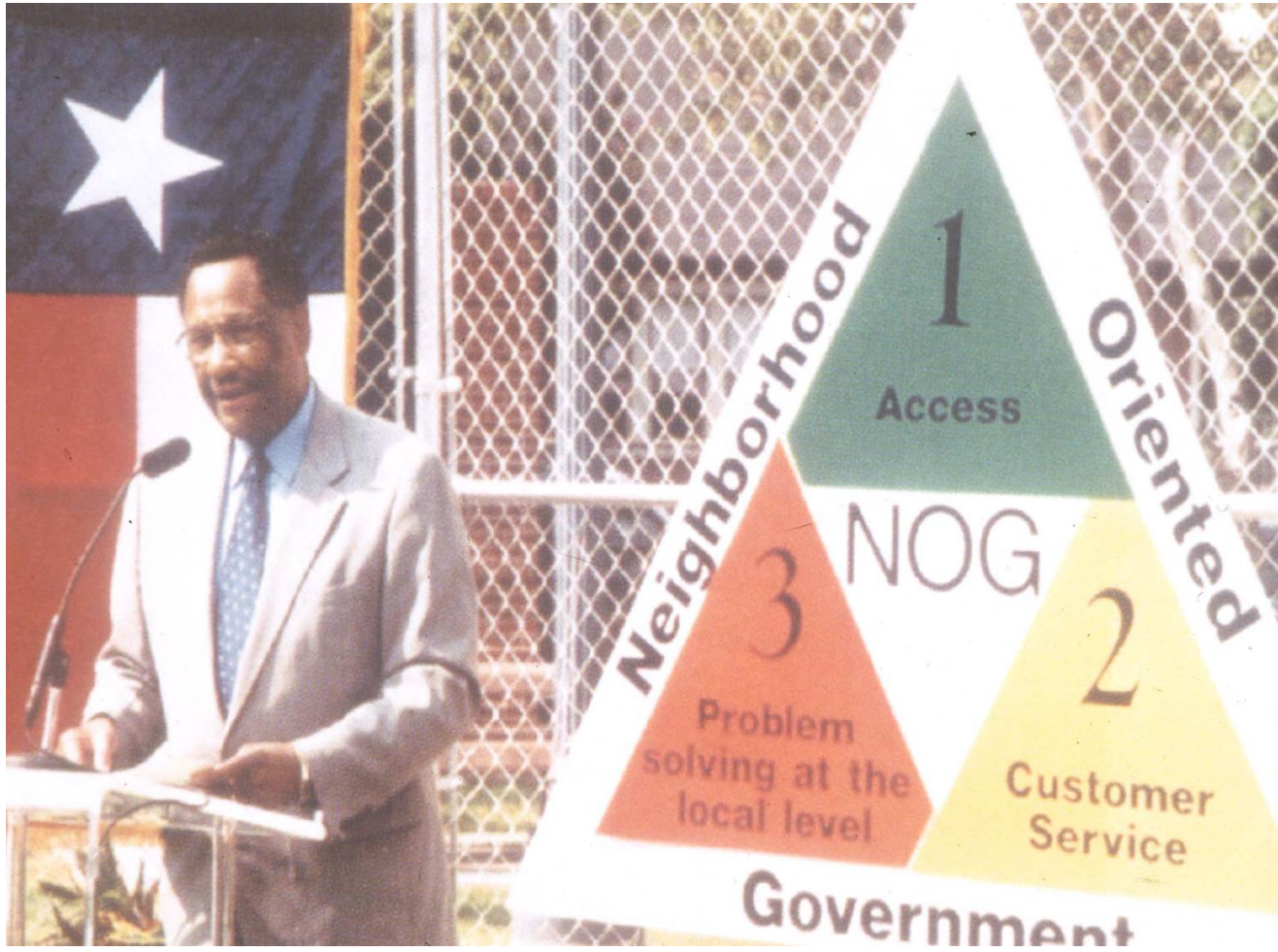
Officers

- **Chair**: Jane Cahill West
Washington Avenue Coalition (SN 22)
- **Vice-Chair**: Reverend Ray Washington
Central Southwest (SN 40)
- **Secretary**: Steve Ashy
Eldridge/West Oaks (SN 17)

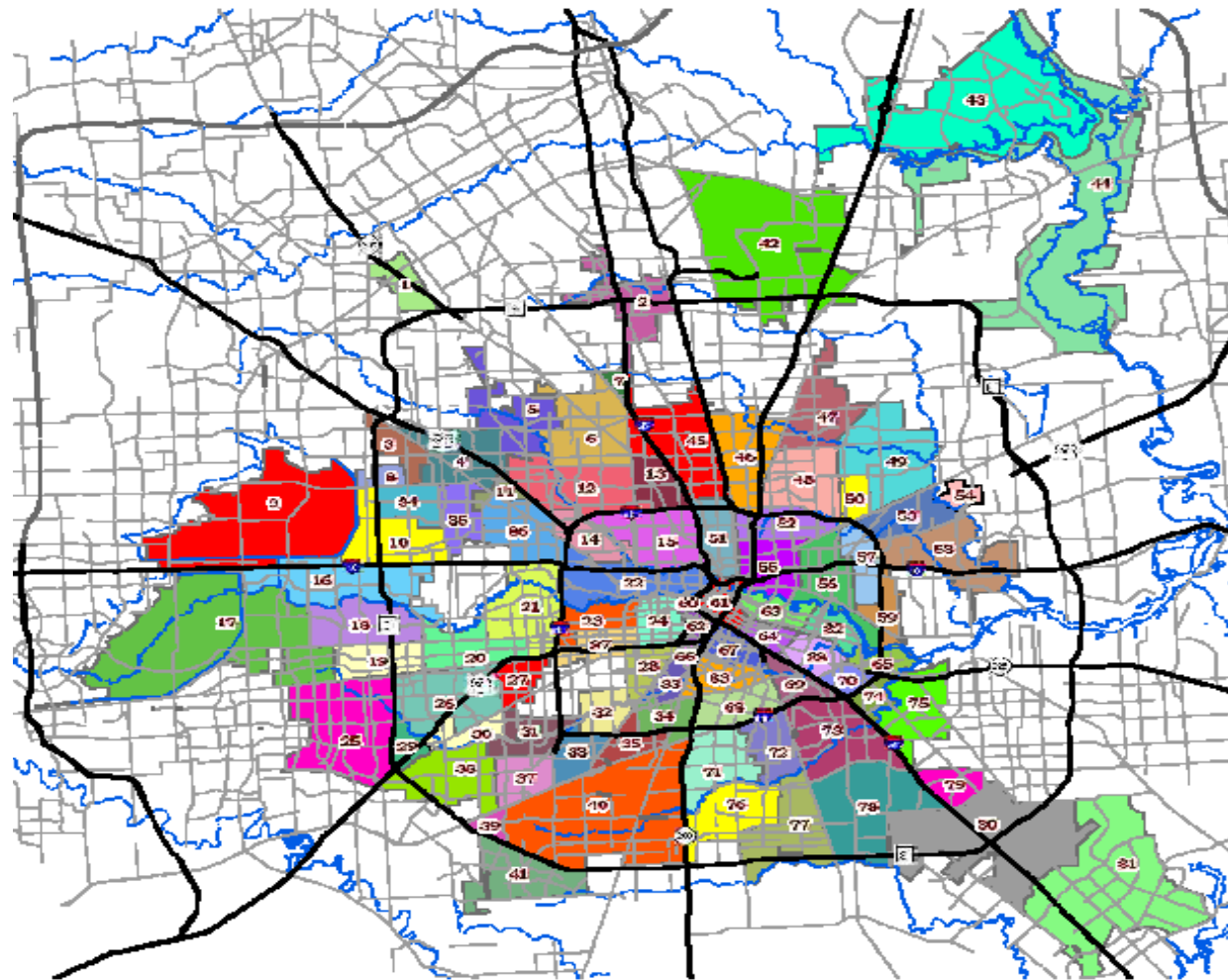
Committees and Committee Chairs

- **Liveability (Quality of Life)**
 - **Parks and Transportation:**
Steve Ashy, Eldridge/West Oaks (SN 17)
 - **Housing the Homeless:**
Doug Parrish and Johnny Lozano, Eldridge/West Oaks (SN 17)
- **Infrastructure (Flooding, Drainage, Street Construction)**
Michael Huffmaster, Briar Forest (SN 18)
- **Growth and Economic Development**
Ivory Mayhorn, E. Little York/Homestead (SN 47)
- **Health and Public Safety**
Tomaro Bell, McGregor (SN 83)
- **Transitions (Regulatory Affairs)**
Jane Cahill West, Washington Ave. Coalition (SN 22)

Origin of Super Neighborhoods Codified in Chapter 33, Article VIII



Map of Super Neighborhoods



Why Are Super Neighborhoods Needed?

- **Challenge:** Residents typically focus on issues impacting narrowly defined neighborhoods; not the city at large.
- **Response:** Super Neighborhoods
 - Encourage residents of neighboring communities to identify, prioritize, and address issues together.
 - Create a manageable, efficient, and economical framework for community engagement & action.

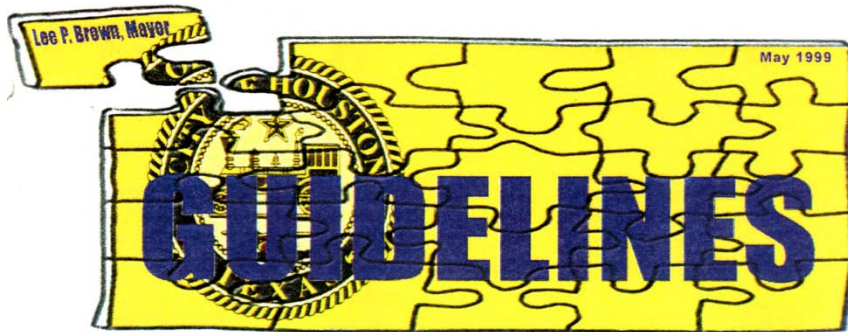
What is a Super Neighborhood Council?



Priority Issues

- Mobility
 - Safe Streets
 - Sidewalks
 - Parking
- Flooding and drainage
- Infrastructure
- Crime
- Homelessness
- Beautification
- Historic Preservation
- Quiet Zone
- Nuisance Abatement
 - Illegal dumping
 - Abandoned buildings
 - Stray animals
 - Odors
 - Noise
 - Broken curbs, leaning sign posts and utility poles

Are there Guidelines for Forming a SNC?



for
Organizing
Super Neighborhoods and
Forming
Super Neighborhood Councils

PROCESS FLOW CHART

The process begins when you submit your completed Super Neighborhood Council Application.



Identify and elicit participation from stakeholders.



Agree on organizational framework for the council.



Formulate and adopt by-laws.



Develop a Super Neighborhood Action Program (SNAP).

The Super Neighborhood Council submits the SNAP to City Council for endorsement of the SNAP and official recognition of the Super Neighborhood Council.

SNAP Statements Received

- Seven SNCs submitted SNAP statements:
 - Spring Branch West (SN 10)
 - Briar Forest (SN 18)
 - Washington Ave. Coalition/Memorial Park (SN 22)
 - Neartown/Montrose (SN 24)
 - Braeswood (SN 32)
 - Northside Village (SN 51)
 - Museum Park (SN 66)

What Is the Super Neighborhood Alliance?

City Code Sec. 33-322:

The alliance is an advisory board to the mayor and city government on community *matters and* its purpose is to provide a mechanism for bringing together the voices of the individual super neighborhood councils.



Livability (Quality of Life)

■ Transportation:

- Joined Houston Coalition for Complete Streets
(April 2015)
- Steve Parker, Greater Eastwood/Lawndale (SN 64 and SN 88) served on Houston Bike Plan Advisory Committee *(throughout 2015)*
- Joined Mobility Houston as a Community Partner
(January 2016)
- Approved and submitted comments to Draft Houston Bike Plan *(April 2016)*

Livability (Quality of Life)

■ Parks

- Meet leaders of active Super Neighborhood Councils
- Tour their communities
- Identify areas where park access is most needed
- Strategize to increase and improve park access

■ Housing the Homeless

- SN 17 leaders are preparing to share their experience
- Working with HPD Captain Bainbridge
- Distinguishing homeless individuals from criminals

Infrastructure

(flooding, drainage, street building)

- Approved call to revise Chapters 9 and 13 of the Infrastructure Design Manual and Chapter 19 of the City Code to *inter alia*:
 - End “grandfathering” for extant impervious cover
 - Address needs for regional detention
 - Amend criteria for use of structural fill
 - Designate certain areas as Flood Hazard Zones
 - Coordinate flood management efforts

Growth and Economic Development

- Served on Planning Commission Subcommittee that recommended amendments to Chapters 10, 33, and 42 (Feb.-June 2015).
- Worked to support and facilitate joint planning efforts and face-to-face dialogue for various Super Neighborhood Councils and developers aimed at achieving consensus for growth and economic development .

Health & Public Safety

- Recommended Approval of Idling Ordinance
(September 2015)
- Recommended Approval of Distracted Driving Ordinance *(February 2016)*
- Closely follows and facilitates community awareness and discussion of issues:
 - One-bin-for-all
 - Transition to LED street lights
 - Efforts to prevent spread of Zika and other mosquito-born tropical disease

Transitions or Regulatory Affairs

- Attended Neighborhoods USA Conference
- Co-hosted mayoral candidate forum and held candidate forum for City Controller candidates
- Served on steering committees for Arts + Cultural Plan and Plan Houston
- Recommended Approval of Plan Houston
- Approved Five Recommendations for inclusion in the Annual Report

Recommendation #1

Update City's Super Neighborhood Webpage to Include Current Information @ Each Active SN

- Boundaries
- Officers
- Contact Information
- Bylaws
- Dates, Time, and Place for Regular Meetings
- Plans, Projects, and Initiatives
- Attractions
- Brief History

Recommendation #2

Add a Super Neighborhood Field to City Data Bases

- Allow city data to be searched, sorted, and analyzed for each Super Neighborhood
- Pertinent Data Sets Include:
 - Population
 - Demography
 - Economics
 - Crime
 - Platting
 - Permitting

Recommendation #3

Adopt a Five Year Plan for Forming and Recognizing a Council for Each Super Neighborhoods

- City of Houston has 88 Super Neighborhoods
- 45 Super Neighborhoods have active Councils
- Recommendation is to create approximately 9 new councils per year for 5 years
- That is less than 1 new Super Neighborhood Council per year per city council district

Recommendation #4

Adopt a Ten Year Plan to Develop a Comprehensive Neighborhood Plan for EACH Super Neighborhood

- Plan for Complete Communities by Addressing
 - Livability (Quality of Life)
 - Infrastructure
 - Growth and Economic Development
 - Health and Public Safety
 - Transportation (Mobility and Accessibility)
- Submit Each Plan to City Council for Approval and Inclusion in Plan Houston

Recommendation #5

Task at Least One City Planner (Ideally One per Quadrant) to Work with Super Neighborhoods

- Active SNCs with SNAPs Create Value
 - Identify needed improvements
 - Educate, inform, and provide institutional memory
 - Articulate shared visions for future development
 - Prioritize public investment
 - Facilitate efficient completion of long term projects
 - Encourage consensus to ease public decision-making
 - Implement Plan Houston

QUESTIONS?



SUPERNEIGHBORHOOD

A ■ L ■ L ■ I ■ A ■ N ■ C ■ E

Communities Lending a Helping Hand