



Taking Our Pulse: Survey Results

June 2022

Cindy Chapman, Chair

Roy Lira, Vice-Chair

Stacie Fairchild, Secretary

Scott Cubbler, Communications

City of Houston
Super Neighborhood Alliance (SNA)

Background: In 2019, a Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Threat (SWOT) analysis to develop short and midterm Super Neighborhood Alliance (SNA) objectives was conducted. In 2020-2021, the SNA pivoted to focus on community health and basic needs due to the COVID-19 pandemic, catastrophic flooding, heavy freeze events and the adverse economic impact of these events in underserved communities, and Houston at large.

The 2022 pulse survey leverages the 2019 SWOT analysis and current Super Neighborhood Council (SNC) leaders' feedback to create and implement near and midterm objectives.

Objectives:

- Create near and midterm SNA action plans.
- Increase SNA engagement.
- Revamp SNA committees and leadership to reflect SNA and SNC needs.
- Identify development opportunities for SNC leadership.
- Develop an onboarding program for new SNCs and SNC leaders.



5 Greater Inwood Philip Salerno	14 Lazybrook / Timbergrove George Frey	15 Greater Heights Pedro Ayarzagoitia	17 Eldridge / West Oaks Jeff Baker Diane Guillerman	22 Washington Avenue Coalition / Memorial Park Mike VanDusen
24 Neartown / Montrose Kay Warhol	25 Alief Alan Steinberg Doug Smith	28 University Place Kathie Easterly	32 Braeswood Cheryl Palmer O'Brien	36 Brays Oak Sylvia Rios
37 Westbury Becky Edmondson	45 Northside / Northline Pastor Deb Bonario- Martin	48 Trinity / Houston Gardens Huey German-Wilson	49 / 50 East Houston – Settegast Linda Greer Vicky Martin	52 Kashmere Gardens Keith Downey
62 Midtown Michael Lewis	63 Second Ward Roy Lira Ricky Cardenas	64 / 88 Greater Eastwood / Lawndale – Wayside Amy Dinn	83 MacGregor Sammye Hughes	

**Super Neighborhood
Councils and
Representatives who
Submitted Responses**

Participant Response: Years of SNA Participation

<1:	3 (13%)	1 – 3:	1 (4%)	3 – 5:	7 (29 %)
5-10:	5 (21%)	10+:	8 (33%)		



Survey Responses

- **Would you attend SNA training sessions?**

Yes – 20 (83%)

- **Would you be willing to serve on a Special Interest Group?**

Yes – 11 (46%)

I'll think about it – 8 (33%)

- **Would you be willing to serve on an SNA committee that aligned with a City of Houston (COH) committee?**

Yes – 14 (58%)

I'll think about it – 6 (25%)

N = 24





How to Increase Attendance & Participation

- Limit general meeting to one primary guest speaker.
- Schedule speaker invitation based on SNA and SNC needs, i.e., Planning Dept. to align with the annual planning cycle.
- Devote time to local SNC issues / topics.
- Incorporate training topics into SNA meetings.
- Increase SNC participation with action items from more SNC leadership.
- Highlight different SNCs.
- Encourage meeting attendance of all SNC members.
- Create topic breakouts to increase meeting value.
- A website that summarizes meetings, action items, and key information.

Super Neighborhood Alliance (SNA) Themes

Aspirational Change

Potential to impact city near and long term

Ability to raise community concerns

Collectively, has a City-wide reach

Connect SNC leaders to share information and expertise

Strong collaboration skills to present solutions

Quality of speakers and content

Systemic Collaboration

Lack of a policy to increase advocacy power

SNC issues not fully addressed

Focus on increasing attendance / participation

Update Executive Committee to reflect SNA

Revisit SNC boundaries

A few voices dominate the conversation

“Aspirational goals lead to transformative change.”



Super Neighborhood Councils (SNC) Themes

Developmental and Administrative

Lack of resident attendance / participation

Increase number of active neighborhoods

Board Development

SNA / SNC bootcamp

New SNC officers

Revisit SNC boundaries

Community Impact

Help get SNC projects on Houston CIP roster

Multimodal transportation: bike / ped/ METRO input

Strengthen COH ordinance: noise, light and sign pollution

Railroad regulation and safety

Safer neighborhoods; Reduce criminal activity

Collaborate on 311 enhancements



SNA Support You Would Like?

- **Best practices:** Promote SNC leadership development – the how to's - facilitate meetings, communicate effectively, create community engagement, provide effective comments to COH, have difficult conversations, escalate service issues and who to contact.
- **SNA and SNC Bootcamp for new SNC leaders:** Topics include COH departments and committee overview, what is and does the SNA do and SNA committees.
- Focus on **advocacy and policy impact.**
- **Create SNA committees** that facilitate uniting SNCs with common interests.
- **Leverage social media:** How to utilize social media to highlight the community, promote the SNC, attract and retain residents and distribute information.
- **Process overview** of CIP and budget.
- Urge **enforcement of city ordinances.**
- **Create calendar** that is easily accessible with listing of key civic events and meetings.
- Sidewalk (Chapter 42) **ordinance understanding and support.**



SNA / SNC Recommendations and Next Steps

Near Term (3 – 12 months)

1. Engage new SNC leaders and SNCs.
2. Revamp current committees, primary and alternate leadership, and create a talent pipeline for continuity.
3. Identify a working group to determine 2-3 citywide priorities.
4. Design and pilot SNA Bootcamp.
5. Focus on reactivating SNCs.
6. Redesign general meetings to promote local SNC topics.

Mid Term (12 – 24 months)

1. Determine advocacy policy.
2. Increase SNA presence on COH, Harris County and HGAC committees / advisory groups.
3. Transition newer SNA members into committee leadership roles.
4. Revamp social media.
5. Implement a mentor program for new leaders and SNCs.
6. Create templates for SNC bylaws and communications.

