



## Newsletter, October, 2022

### Homeowner Sidewalk Responsibilities



For those who were not able to attend our meeting on October 17, you missed a great presentation by Rod Scales. Rod explained that the sidewalks at your property are your responsibility. Consequently, if someone trips and is injured on that sidewalk, you are liable for those injuries. The city has a 50/50 sidewalk repair program where you ask the city to put your property on the list of candidates for repair and you agree to pay 50% of the repair cost. The process can take up to 12 months as the city works through all the requests. You can repair the sidewalk on your own, but must use a city approved contractor. There is a grinding process where you and other neighbors in your immediate area can work together and get a reduced cost for the grinding if the “trip factor” does not exceed a certain number of inches. To find out more, contact you Council Member’s office if you need help.

### DPD Active Shooter Training

Sgt. Lujan reported that crime is down in this area. He provided additional information regarding the department’s Active Shooter Training. The program is geared for adults who want to learn more about actions they should take in an Active Shooter Situation. DPD is posting the class schedule on NextDoor. Classes are at the Dallas Bible Church.

### Short Term Rentals (STR)

Guest Speaker Cindy Hellstern from District 13 shared her experience when large party buses arrived a couple of doors from her home and she attempted to document what occurred at a house recently purchased and being utilized as an STR. This is similar to events we have seen here in Far North Dallas.

The city is currently working to insert appropriate language in its code to deal with STRs. Neighbors throughout Dallas are asking the city to adopt a Simple Solution (KISS) to address the fact that current code has nothing in place to regulate STRs. The KISS solution would support the state’s current definition identifying STRs as lodging uses and consequently subject to hotel taxes. If the City Planning and Zoning Commission adopts that stance and sends it on to Council for adoption, it would be a major step forward in regulating how and where STRs are allowed to operate.

If you want to support the KISS solution, which would restrict STRs in your neighborhoods, we urge you to send a message to the following email address and stating:

[Yolanda.pesina@dallas.gov](mailto:Yolanda.pesina@dallas.gov) and ask her to provide copies to all CPC members

*Commissioner:*

*Please support the KISS (Keep It Simple Solution) proposal. As Homeowners we want to live in areas with other neighbors who respect our rights and share our values, not with constantly changing groups of strangers who have no vested interest in our neighborhood or our city.*

*Respectively,*

*Your Name*

Some homeowners have expressed concern for

- people who are Dallas residents and rent out an inherited family home that has sentimental value for them.
- people with limited resources who rent part of their property to supplement fixed income.

Those properties could be converted to long term rentals (periods longer than 30 days) in contrast to STRs which rent for 1 to 30 days.

## **Council Member Updates**

Jaynie Schultz updated everyone on progress in the International District (DISD is putting in a multi-storied STEM school there), and International Envoys are interested in putting in offices. Her office is also having a coat drive. For more information, please see her district newsletter.

Cara Mendelsohn added information about sidewalk repairs and complimented the thorough work Rod has done. For other events occurring, please see her district newsletter.

## **Other Events:**

### **Silver Line**

DART is conducting a series of meetings at the Texas A&M AgriLife Water and Land Resource building on Coit at McCallum. DART updated area residents regarding Hillcrest and Coit road construction on October 25. A follow up meeting is scheduled for:

November 15, 2022

7:00 – 9:00 PM

Texas A&M AgriLife, Water/Land Resource Bldg.  
17360 Coit Rd.

Dallas, Texas 75252