

EASTERN TRIANGLE COMMUNITY PLAN

CRIME AND PUBLIC SAFETY WORKSHOP

JUNE 17, 2008

CRIME AND PUBLIC SAFETY OVERALL GOAL

The Eastern Triangle will be a community that is a safe and clean place to live free of crime, loose animals, and trash.

POLICE

Goal: Crime free community

Objective: Eliminate all gang activity to create a gang free community with less drug trafficking and less gun fire.

Action Steps:

- Report crimes to the Police Department
- Report misconduct to San Antonio Crime Coalition
- Promote and educate community about Cellulars on Patrol program
- Start a public relations campaign to address the perception of a high rate of gang activity
- Contact SAFFE officers at police substation
- Request SAFFE officers address neighborhood association meetings and deal with perceptions
- Collaborate with the Police on “fast tracking” gang violence cases
- Communicate and report all gang activity to the specialized police gang units

Objective: Increase community policing presence and participation

Action Steps:

- Public safety stations within densely populated areas
- Greater community policing by neighborhood associations
- Participate and promote Cellulars on Patrol (COPs)
- Implement a neighborhood watch program
- Participate as needed
- Neighborhood associations promote and inform residents about COP classes and neighborhood watch program

- publish newsletters
- Coordinate with churches to distribute flyers/district flyers at churches/church bulletins
- Participate in Police academy classes
- Post information on Eastern Triangle website

Objective: Improve residents' sense of security

Action Steps:

- Address residents' hesitation to report a crime due to fear of retaliation
- Invite SAPD/SAFFE officers to Neighborhood Associations meetings to discuss perception concerns
- Work with the Crime Coalition?? to increase awareness about crime prevention options in the community

Goal: Improve the sense of security

Objective: Increase Police and vigilance of presence

Action Steps:

- Increase Police street patrols
- Police more interested in keeping our neighborhood crime free
- Police to take better interest in our calls and to address them more comprehensively
- Police patrol in neighborhood to get out of the car and walk around the home
- More police officers

ANIMAL CARE

Goal: Reduce the number of stray animals

Objective: Increase the dissemination of information to residents about laws and ordinances concerning animal care and encourage that they are enforced.

Action Steps:

- Promote appropriate treatment of animals through a community education program
- Inform the public of proper animal care through television, newspaper, and bill boards
- Educate and send notices monthly to check codes and try to follow up with code compliance

- Create a committee to be a liaison with neighborhood associations to write editorials to the newspapers
- Create a liaison for each neighborhood that can meet on a committee every once and a while as well as keeping a running list of violations
- Communication from neighborhood associations with Animal Care Services
- Take it to the City Council District 2 Councilperson
- Create a committee that can lobby political entities to make changes to animal care services
 - reduce the number of dogs a house or owner can have at any given time
 - mandatory spay and neuter program

CODE COMPLIANCE

Goal: Well maintained commercial and residential properties

Objective: Improve property maintenance

Action Steps:

- Provide assistance for elderly neighbors to keep up their property
- Contact landowner to clean up
- Utilize the City tool shed to borrow equipment
- Apply for neighborhood sweeps program

Objective: Wipe out graffiti

Action Steps:

- More lighting
- More community policing
- Change ordinance by contacting the District 2 Councilperson to allow code compliance to address graffiti of owner occupied residential and owner occupied business properties
- Apply for a Neighborhood Sweep

Objective: Eliminate dumping

Action Steps:

- Promote city services
- "Dial a Trailer" (311)
- Mitigation (Example of big white blocks on Pecan Valley to block access for dumping)
- Report dumping
- Increase solid waste (bulk item) pick up (special pick up)

Objective: Improved relationship with Code Compliance to address neighborhood concerns

Action Steps:

- Education of code compliance with existing ordinances
- Evaluate code compliance response
- Survey neighborhood about code compliance response
- Follow up to complaint to see what action was taken
- Report directly to Code Compliance Citizen Action Officer
- Provide a searchable database to document offenses and responses by Code Compliance
- Make an open records request

Objective: Less vacant homes

Action Steps:

- Promote more adaptive infill development

Objective: Improve zoning compliance

Action Steps:

- Document violation
- Report violation to Code Compliance and the Police Department

TRANSPORTATION/INFRASTRUCTURE

Goal: Safer streets during the day and night

Objective: Reduce speeding on residential streets.

Action Steps:

- Survey and compile results for streets that may be in need of traffic calming devices
- More approval of speed humps when they are legitimately requested

Objective: Maintain and improve current streets

Action Steps:

- Less time to get capital improvement projects from dream to reality
- Repave streets with sidewalks

Objective: Well-lighted streets

Action Steps:

- Contact Development Services about steps to take in order to install additional street lights

PARKS

Goal: Safe parks

Action Steps:

- Patrol hike/bike trails

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Goal: Family oriented businesses

Objective: More family oriented entertainment

Goal: Educational and Economic Opportunities

Objective: More educational opportunities to pursue different career paths

Objective: More economic opportunities

Action Steps:

- Pursue investment to put a new large shopping mall with movie theater within community

PUBLIC HEALTH

Goal: Stronger family units

Objective: Access to family services

Action Steps:

- Establish family oriented activity centers

Objective: Better parenting

Goal: Mentally healthy community

Goal: Greater self worth for youth

Objective: Increase number youth leaders and youth participation in community

Action Steps:

- More outreach to younger stakeholders

- More activities for youth
- More attention to public health issues related to crime (domestic violence, drug abuse, child abuse, etc.)

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Goal: Better schools

Action Steps:

- New school building for Sam Houston High School

HOUSING

Goal: Increase market rate housing in neighborhood

Neighborhoods

Goal: More neighborhood awareness, education, and cooperation

Objective: Less isolation of generations

Action Steps:

- More cooperation with churches and schools
- Know your neighbors
- Neighbors look out for each other

Goal: Improve neighborhood pride and attitude

Objective: More concern/consideration for each other in neighborhoods and property

Action Steps:

- More investment/interest in community
- More promotion of natural and historic resources