

Dear Friends:

This is an exciting time for all of us in District 7, with tremendous opportunities on the horizon. These opportunities will transform and revitalize our community.

On Nov. 15, we were pleased to announce the location for a new branch library and a new recreation center that will serve the White Rock community. The White Rock Hills Branch Library and the recreation center will provide educational opportunities for youth and adults and will also be a catalyst for economic development that will benefit the entire City.

We're also on track to leverage the tremendous traffic and activity generated by Fair Park. With more than 7 million visitors annually, Fair Park is a District 7 gem. Redevelopment of this area is key to achieving our vision: making Fair Park a major destination in Dallas and the region. The Bexar Street Redevelopment Corridor will provide retail shops, urban townhomes, pedestrian improvements and plazas, DART linkages, public infrastructure improvements, employment and job-training facilities, as well as links to the Trinity River.

The Trinity River Corridor Project will improve the quality of life for all residents. In District 7, we will soon see increased flood protection from newly built levees. Conversion of the S.M. Wright Freeway will reduce traffic and lower speeds, thus improving safety and allowing more pedestrian amenities. The Trinity Corridor will also create greater access to public parks and other recreational areas, plus economic development opportunities that will benefit all members of the Dallas community.

A partnership with the City and the Dallas Housing Authority has helped us substantially redevelop the Frazier Neighborhood. A \$228,000 Community Block Grant from the City provided 310 new townhomes, and future projects include a senior housing facility and a planned mixed-use entertainment district.

Community Housing Development Organizations have been building homes and fulfilling dreams for local families for decades. As a Council member, I've seen the tremendous difference a house can make to one family, and what a neighborhood of new homes can mean to an entire community. Many of these organizations work in partnership with the City and their basic missions are to offer quality affordable homes and focus on the revitalization of neighborhoods. I salute their efforts in District 7.

More changes and opportunities are in our future. I'm proud to represent your interests, and I ask for your help in keeping the momentum going. Please let me know your concerns, observations and ideas about how we can continue to improve the quality of life in our District.

Together, we will make a difference.

**Best regards,
Carolyn R. Davis
District 7**

Community champions

The Lone Ranger had Tonto. Batman had Robin. But who can help you fight chronic crime and complex code cases?

Contact a Community Prosecutor. They work in partnership with residents, law enforcement and Code Compliance staff to develop long-term, community-based solutions to quality-of-life issues such as code and noise violations, prostitution, alcohol offenses and transient crimes. In addition to three national awards from the Department of Justice, the Community Prosecution program continues to be recognized for its ability to use creative and applicable

strategies to gain voluntary compliance with code violators, and its use of neighborhood partnerships to enact positive change in the community. Last year, the Community Prosecution team worked approximately 660 active egregious code cases, to gain compliance.

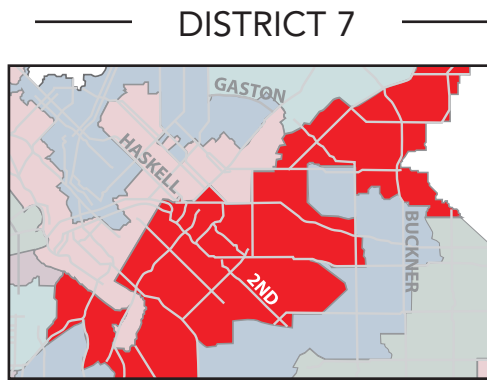
Community Prosecutors:

- Listen to community members' public safety concerns and take those concerns to the courthouse;
- Participate in neighborhood meetings that address crime and quality of life issues;
- Serve as a prosecutorial resource to law enforcement, City departments and community members; and
- Develop and implement innovative strategies to educate the public about the criminal justice system and to prevent crimes.

How can community members get involved with problem-solving efforts? Each targeted neighborhood has an A.C.T.I.O.N. team (for "All Coming Together In Our Neighborhood") that meets once a month. Contact a Community Prosecutor to learn about A.C.T.I.O.N. meeting times and locations.

District 7 Community Prosecutors

	South Dallas/ Fair Park area Keena Miller 214-671-0199		White Rock Hills area Daniel Ryan 214-724-8892	Not pictured: Jubilee Park area Maureen Milligan 214-828-1821
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- Library:**
Martin Luther King Jr.,
2922 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
214-670-0344
- Recreation Centers:**
Exline, 2525 Pine St. • 214-670-6781
J.C. Phelps, 3030 Tips Blvd.
214-670-7525
Juanita J. Craft, 4500 Spring Ave.
214-670-8391
Larry Johnson, 3700 Dixon Ave.
214-670-8495
Martin Luther King Jr.,
2922 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
214-670-8363
Mildred Dunn, 3322 Reed Lane
214-670-8028
Rhoads Terrace, 5712 Pilgrim Drive
214-670-8527
- Police Divisions:**
Central: Sgt. Dennis Craig
214-670-4420
Northeast: Sgt. Steve Armon
214-670-7768
South Central: Sgt. Melissa Gregg
214-671-4532
Southeast: Sgt. Sheila Zimmerman
214-671-0147

Are you helping to build a Greener Dallas?



Take the first step and make a commitment to recycle by joining the City's "Too Good To Throw Away" program. In District 7, each household participating in the program is recycling an average of 9 pounds per household per month! That's a really good start — but the City's goal is to increase that amount to 30 pounds for each household each month. Want to help? Call 311 to get a Big Blue recycling cart delivered to your home.



District 7 Northeast Division

	Division Manager Bob Curry 214-876-8258		Neighborhood Code Representatives Sherry Benham • 972-978-2067 Barry Boyd • 214-405-3372
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District 7 South Central Division

	Division Manager Steven Williams 469-441-5900		Neighborhood Code Representatives Opal White • 214-994-0566 Sherri Steele • 214-693-0888
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District 7 Southeast Division

	Division Manager Phyllis Sparks-Goode 972-693-3438		Neighborhood Code Representatives Paul Johnson Jr. • 469-233-7196 Norris Booth • 214-694-4470 Eddie Jackson • 214-659-3985
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“Anytime we educate our citizens so that they can comply with an ordinance, we consider it a success.”
— Paul Johnson Jr., Southeast Division NCR



Most residents want the same thing: a clean, safe neighborhood. But some lack the resources or the know-how to solve neighborhood problems.

That's why the City recently introduced the Pride in Your Neighborhood program in seven communities — Arcadia Park, Arlington Park, Beverly Hills, Cedar Oaks, Dixon Circle, Fordham Road and Singing Hills. A joint venture of Sanitation Services and the non-profit Keep Dallas Beautiful, the program is intended to provide residents tools to combat crime and blight. Those tools could be as simple as shovels and rakes for collecting trash and debris, paint and brushes for covering graffiti, or training and education to form crime-watch programs, neighborhood advisory boards and community action plans.

Since the program began, pilot neighborhoods have sponsored clean-up events, beautification projects, leadership workshops and environmental programs for youths (as many as 50 high school students can earn up to \$200 for community service). To give the program a little more financial muscle, the City is even offering \$1,000 home-improvement incentives to approximately 34 to 40 homeowners per neighborhood (when matching funds are secured). Ultimately, everyone wins. Safe, clean neighborhoods increase property values and improve the quality of life for every resident.

With a newly reorganized department and the addition of 20 neighborhood representatives, Dallas Code Compliance is starting to get tougher on code violations.

But that doesn't mean it's getting tough on citizens. Rather, the new neighborhood representatives are putting a face on the department by acting as liaisons between citizens and Code.

The City recently decentralized and reorganized its Code Compliance districts so that neighborhood representatives can respond more quickly to resident requests. The goal of these changes is to allow Code employees to get to know a specific area: the people and businesses, the compliant properties and the troubled areas.

Phyllis Sparks-Goode is manager of the Southeast Division, which covers the central part of District 7. She sees substandard housing as a chief concern in her area. Steven Williams is interim manager for the South Central Division, which includes part of District 7. Both consider substandard housing a primary concern.

“The City Manager's office has asked the City Attorney's office to bring that issue to the forefront,” Mr. Williams says. “What they're doing is to have a municipal court that is in place to do just that. They're asking for 30 substandard cases per month from each district to put on the docket.”

The department is taking a holistic approach, working together with other City departments including the police, streets, sanitation and building inspection departments. This is crucial, as noncompliant properties frequently have other problems outside the scope of the department, such as crime, structural failure or street damage. Managers and neighborhood representatives are making a habit of attending meetings of crime-watch groups and homeowners associations.

“At crime-watch and homeowners association meetings, we try and provide information as to the types of violations that do occur in the area and how to resolve or

remedy them,” Ms. Sparks-Goode says.

Bob Curry manages the Northeast Division, which includes the northern tip of District 7. He sees cooperation with police and neighborhood groups as crucial to Code Compliance's success.

“We're developing a good relationship with police, attending neighborhood watch meetings and inviting them to Code meetings,” he says. “Also, the Building Inspection and Streets departments. Sometimes historically there has been pushing the puck back and forth, which is not always helpful, and we hope to alter that.”

The Code Compliance department sees a need for a more citizen-friendly approach, with an emphasis on education and the occasional helping hand. Because homeowners and business owners often do not know every ordinance that applies to their properties, a neighborhood representative will inform a noncompliant citizen of a violation, offer solutions and, if necessary, suggest resources he or she can call for help.

Mr. Williams believes interaction with citizens can be more helpful than writing citations.

“Our mandate is to take a friendlier approach as it relates to Code,” he says. “We're asking the officers to just knock on

The new neighborhood representatives are putting a face on the department by acting as liaisons between citizens and Code.

the door of a home where they see that the grass is a little tall. When they do that, they may discover that the homeowner's been ill, or something of that nature. Now, as opposed to writing a citation, we're going to use other resources.”