



Spring, 2022

A publication of the Crestwood Civic Club

Dear Neighbors,

**BLOCK PARTY IS MAY 7, 11:30-2:00 PM,
AT 418 W. COWAN!!!**

Come and go...fajitas cooked onsite...fire truck and face painter for the kids. It's our first block party in 3 years, so don't miss it. We could still use a few volunteers to help with set up and take down, or to bring a pitcher of margaritas. The party is for Civic Club members; you can become a member at the party with a credit card or check. It's time to [renew](#) your membership now!

We had our first in-person Civic Club meeting since October, 2019, earlier this month. Per our by-laws, we have 2 meetings per year on the first Tuesday of April and the third Tuesday of October. We approved the annual budget and slate of board members (names on the website). We had a representative from the Memorial Park Conservancy update us on their plans. Exciting changes still to come with completion of land bridge next month, a new restaurant near the MPC offices, and routing of the rest of the running trail away from Memorial Drive. You can find more information [here](#). I noticed there is now Tai Chi and Zumba on the lawn at Eastern Glades.

Tami Hamilton
President

NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

More than 60 of you answered my email about concerns of vehicle, bikes and pedestrian traffic on Blossom. Besides continuing to enforce our deed restrictions, this is the issue I hear most about from residents. As you can imagine, there were many solutions suggested with varying levels of likelihood of successful implementation.

The majority of respondents were **not** in favor of making Blossom a **one-way** street, because of the inconvenience for Blossom residents and diverting traffic to other streets. There were some suggestions to leave the street two-way but add a **bike/pedestrian lane** which would necessitate the elimination of street parking. Not surprisingly, people living on Blossom want to retain their ability to park. Having **resident parking only** is difficult to implement. We would need the majority of residents on Blossom to agree, and there has to be non-residents using the parking more than 60% of the time during the hours for residents only, unless we can get the City to break their own rules.

There was almost no objection to the addition of **sidewalks**, although many feel they will not be used enough to help. Several folks suggested adding another **stop sign**, or **signs** reminding drivers to slow down and pedestrians to take care. Lowering the **speed limit** was suggested. **Speed bumps** were mentioned by several. Adding more **lighting** was suggested to help illuminate the pedestrians in the evening.

I have shared your thoughts with the City and am awaiting feedback regarding what we can and can't do, and if any City help would be available.

In the meantime, drivers please do slow down! Obviously, pedestrians have the right-of-way, including at all intersections. And pedestrians/bikers, don't hog the road! I often see people walking 2-3 abreast with dogs on both sides of the road. Be alert for cars. Bikers, please respect the stop signs.

Our councilmember, Abbie Kamin, has committed some of her funds to fixing the **Washington/Westcott traffic circle**. The Heights TIRZ will be contributing as well, I understand. Expect to see some action there later this year or in 2023. Likewise, we have been promised something to slow traffic at **Blossom and Westcott**, most likely a raised crosswalk. These 2 projects are being worked together.

We have been promised some feedback about these plans before construction so we can comment. I will forward as soon as I receive them. I am excited that it seems something will be done fairly soon.



Consider Planting a Tree

Do you have space in your yard for another tree? Trees capture carbon and supply shade which may reduce watering needs, as well as add to your property value. You can find a list of recommended trees for Houston [here](#). Did you know the City of Houston has a goal to plant 4.6 million trees by 2030 as part of the [Climate Action Plan](#)? In 2020, over 700,000 trees were planted and nearly 400,000 planted in 2021 (the new trees on Westcott near Glenwood were counted in this total). If you plant a tree, you can fill out this [form](#) to have your tree counted toward the goal. It's not too late to plant this spring or wait until the fall.



Volunteer Opportunities at Memorial Park

Following the very positive update at our April meeting for the community this is to remind / let residents know that the Memorial Park Conservancy have a very well-organized volunteering set up run by Latasha Alsbrooks. More information can be found

Volunteer help desk - volunteer@memorialparkconservancy.org

Tasha Alsbrooks - Lalsbrooks@memorialparkconservancy.org

Most weekdays between 8-11 (Mondays excluded) there are opportunities to volunteer in the park. In addition, if you wish to organize a company team event or another group event, please contact the Conservancy. They are flexible to help you achieve your goals, while helping the park.

More information for all things in the park can be found at [Memorial Park Conservancy](#). Enjoy volunteering opportunities and helping to keep this beautiful amenity we have on our doorstep as such a positive for the Crestwood / Glencove community. Thank you!

- Charlie Bingham, Board Member, Civic Club

Afternoon Mah Jongg



Evening Book Club



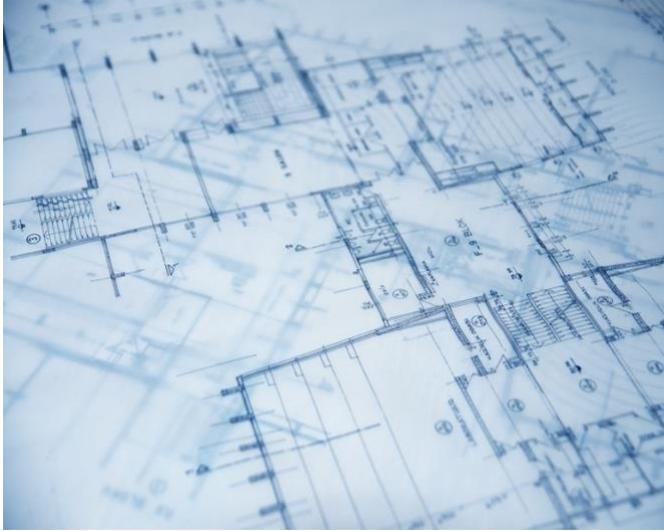
NEW!

It's not too late to sign up. Send me an email at president@crestwoodglencove.org.

We also have a new **playdate** group. If you are interested, send an email to Christine Laborde at christinecoyt@gmail.com.

***SPARK PARK UPDATE COMING SOON!
EQUIPMENT IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE AND BE
INSTALLED IN MAY!! NEW FENCING LATER THIS
SUMMER.***





DEED RESTRICTIONS

All properties in Crestwood/Glen Cove are subject to deed restrictions. This is true whether or not you belong to the Civic Club. All exterior renovations and new builds must get approval from the Architecture Committee **prior** to any building taking place! The City requires homeowners to comply with deed restrictions to obtain city permits.

If you live in Glen Cove 1, 2 or 3, your house plans for construction or renovation are reviewed by the Glen Cove Architecture Committee. Contact them at architecture@crestwoodglencove.org. If you live in the Crestwood subdivision, please contact crestwoodarchcom@crestwoodglencove.org. If you aren't sure which subdivision you are in, please see this [map](#). Deed restrictions are on the website [here](#).

CRESTWOOD SECURITY FUND ASSOCIATION

Crime rates have increased all over the US, and Houston is no exception. Please don't leave cars parked on the street if you can avoid it, and don't leave them unlocked or your valuables inside.

Unlike many other neighborhoods, the security program is managed separately from the Civic Club. You can reach the security team at security@crestwoodsecurity.org and on the website at crestwoodsecurity.org.

Participation in the program has many benefits: e.g., 1) on-property checks, 2) security officer assistance, such as responses to security concerns at your home, being escorted to your door when concerned about returning home alone, 3) officer response to security alarms (within minutes), 3) vacation watch monitoring of your home, and 4) monitoring your home for packages, newspapers, etc. that may build up, making the home appear un-occupied, while you are away. Conversely, for non-participants, the security officers are legally prohibited from accessing their property and therefore from responding to any issues or requests from non-participants.

Only about 50% of residents support the program. If we all chipped in, we could decrease what participants pay significantly! Also, program needs volunteers!! If you can help, please contact security@crestwoodsecurity.org.

Ways to Stay Connected

Website: crestwoodglencove.org

Here you can find important information about deed restrictions, membership, trash schedules, committees, and more.

Facebook: [Crestwood/Glencove](https://www.facebook.com/CrestwoodGlencove)

This is a private page for residents only. We have about 90 members now, so the coverage has improved. This is a good place to check on events, report lost dogs, coral snakes, or ask advice of your neighbors.

Would you like to be more involved in your community? Get to know some neighbors? Contribute to positive change? You would be very welcome. We have varied opportunities to match your time, skills, and interests. Just send a note to president@crestwoodglencove.org.

- The Civic Club Board is full as of now, but we need people to be ready to step up. We meet 10 times per year (now via Zoom) for about 1.5 hours. Help make decisions and deal with the bigger issues.
- We have open Block Ambassador positions.
- A new committee is being formed to work on alternatives for Blossom to make the street safer for drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists. Since Eastern Glades opened, the traffic has increased. It could be better!
- Participate with City of Houston to work on alternatives for a safer crossing of Westcott at Blossom. We have state representatives and city officials engaged.
- Help with new social activities we have started
- Help with technology such as texting and website updates
- Update our Facebook page
- Help with the newsletter
- Plan our Block Party

Board Members: Tami Hamilton, President
 Tom Tynan, Vice President
 George Li, Treasurer
 Pat Garrett, Secretary
 Liliya Bayer
 Charlie Bingham
 Matt Elbert
 Wally James
 Priscilla McLeroy