



Kessler Plaza News

November 21, 2003
Volume 5, Issue 11

The Newsletter of the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association

Next Neighborhood Meeting:
Tuesday, December 2, 7 p.m.
Jefferson Blvd. Church of Christ



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Trinity River Project Briefing Council indicates support for expanded plan

Dallas City Council members were briefed earlier this month regarding project costs for the Trinity River Corridor project, and most indicated they wanted to move forward with all the projects planned for the first 10 years rather than proceed with only limited, more basic projects.

A basic project plan would create a lake in the Trinity River Corridor but would not include water features, a boardwalk,

trails, wetlands, park access roads, or roads atop the levees on either the downtown or Oak Cliff sides of the river. These projects, however, were considered essential to the project's success according to many Council members.

The lakes to be created in the basic plan would be filled by drilling ground water wells, but in the expanded version, the lakes would be filled with treated water from the

central wastewater plant. When water is not needed for the lakes, it could be used to irrigate park land or sold to private entities for landscape irrigation.

District 1 Councilmember Dr. Elba Garcia agreed with the importance of water features for the lakes, saying that the inclusion of the items in the expanded version would make it easier to sell the city.

See **Trinity River Corridor**, Page 3

Holiday Lighting Contest Scheduled

The Holiday Season is here! Time for all Kessler Plaza neighbors to get out and add those special decorations and lights to make our neighborhood the brightest ever! And, it's time for the Kessler Plaza Holiday Lighting Contest!

This event has been a huge success in prior

years and neighbors are sure to be busy outdoing themselves in order to make this year's contest the best ever!

The contest will feature the following categories:

- Most Festive
- Most Elegant
- Most Holiday Spirit (Best All-Around)

Judging and presentation of awards for this year's contest will be held on the evening of Sunday, December 14.

So start working on getting those lights lit and be a part of the fun that goes with this annual contest.

New Officers to be Elected at December Meeting

Plan to attend the next Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting and participate in the election of new officers for 2004. This is the last regularly scheduled meeting for 2003.

Elections will be held for the positions of President,

Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Each position is for a one-year term unless re-elected. In addition, various committee chair positions are available.

This important meeting will be held Tuesday, December 2, 2003 at 7:00

p.m. at the Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ.

Remember to bring your Campbell's Soup labels and/or donations to the meeting. These are given to the church in appreciation for use of their facility.



President's Corner

By JOHN CRAMER

As this year comes to an end, I wanted to take this opportunity to let you all know that it has been an honor to serve as your President for the last 2 ½ years. While I may not be an Officer of the neighborhood association anymore, I will remain a loyal, dedicated resident of Kessler Plaza.

I want to thank all the many block captains for their monthly runs in delivering the newsletters to our neighbors. Without their continued dedication our neighbors would not be

kept informed. Thank you.

And a special thanks to Emily, Ron, Nola Rae, and James for all their support throughout the year. It couldn't be done without team work and the willingness to make Kessler Plaza a great place to live.

Also, I would like to extend an extra special thank you to Ron Carter who has devoted countless hours and resources in developing and printing our monthly newsletter. Without Ron, Kessler Plaza would not have been able to communicate with each of you

throughout the last couple of years. Ron, my sincere heartfelt appreciation to you. Thank you so very much.

I close by wishing each of you a very safe and happy holiday season. I know that as you elect the new Officers of Kessler Plaza for 2004 that they will continue to lead this neighborhood in a positive direction.

Affectionately,

John

"It has been an honor to serve as your President for the last 2 ½ years."

"...aimed at expanding access and opportunity to higher education to those citizens who will help reflect the diverse society in which we live."

Scholarships Available via Gates Program

The Gates Millennium Scholars program is pleased to announce its 2004 - 2005 awards.

The Gates Millennium Scholars (GMS) initiative, funded by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, is aimed at expanding access and opportunity to higher education to those citizens who will help reflect the diverse society in which we live.

The goal of GMS is to promote academic excellence and to provide an opportunity for thousands of outstanding students with significant financial need, particularly those intending to study mathematics, science, engineering, education or

library science, to reach their fullest potential. Additionally, GMS provides opportunities for Scholars to prepare for leadership roles in their profession and communities through a leadership development program.

For the 2004-2005 academic year, individuals are eligible to be considered for a Gates Millennium Scholarship when they:

- are Asian Pacific Islander American, African American, Hispanic American or American Indian/Alaska Native;
- are a citizen, legal permanent resident or national of the United States;
- have a minimum GPA of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale;

- will be entering a U.S. accredited college or university as full-time, degree-seeking freshmen in the academic year 2003-2004;
- have demonstrated leadership commitment through participation in community service, extracurricular, or other activities that reflect leadership abilities; and
- meet the Federal Pell Grant eligibility criteria.

Eligible applicants can online or download nomination materials by visiting www.gmsp.org. All applications must be postmarked or submitted online no later than January 16, 2004.



Block Captains

Following are the block captains for the neighborhood.

Alco Ave. (2400 and 2500/2600 blocks): Gene and Chance

Alco Ave. (2700 block): John, 214.339.5679

Alden Ave. (2500 block): Daniel, 214.339.5733

Alden Ave. (2600 block): Irene, 214.337.1919

Alden Ave. (2700 block): Don and Janie, 214.337.1064

Cavender St.: Brian and Miller, 214.330.7571

Duval Dr.: Don and Janie, 214.337.1064

Hampton Rd.: Jennifer, 214.333.8333

Jefferson Blvd. (2700/2800 blocks): Laura and Rhonda, 214.330.3676

Marvin Ave. (North side): Nola Rae, 214.330.0557

Marvin Ave. (South side): Wade, 214.467.3400

Plymouth Rd.: John and Roman, 214.339.5679

Sunset Ave. (2400 block): Jennifer, 214.333.8333

Sunset Ave. (2500/2600 block): Dolores, 214.337.8252

Sunset Ave. (2700 block): James, 214.339.3160

Wentworth St.: John, 214.331.5449

West Tenth St. (2400 block): Sally and Dori, 214.333.9520

West Tenth St. (2500/2600 blocks): Emily, 214.339.3433

West Tenth St. (2700 block): Brian and Miller, 214.330.7571

West Twelfth St.: Ron and Lupe, 214.331.1056

If you are interested in volunteering as a Block Captain for the neighborhood, contact John Cramer.

Input Sought Regarding New Police Chief

The City of Dallas has begun the search process for a new police chief. As part of that process, the public is invited to share their thoughts and ideas. Residents can share their comments with City Manager Ted Benavides by accessing the City of Dallas

Web site at http://www.ci.dallas.tx.us/forms/police_public_survey.html.

Input is being sought to the following questions:

- What are your major concerns regarding public safety?

- What qualities, characteristics, and experiences would you look for in a police chief?

Take this opportunity to share your opinions!

"...the public is invited to share thoughts and ideas."

Trinity River Corridor Project Briefing

Continued from Page 1

New cost estimates for the Trinity River Corridor Project show a \$110 million shortfall in what funds are expected to be available in the next 10 years. Mayor Laura Miller said it was amazing that they were only \$110 million away from being able to fund all components for plan. She also indicated that the

Trinity Commons group was ready to talk about helping raise significant private funds.

Determining the alignment of any levee roads is expected in late 2004, and the comprehensive land use plan is expected to be completed by mid-2005.

Construction on the Woodall Rodgers Extension

Bridge is expected to begin in 2005, while construction on the Trinity Interpretive Center and the Equestrian Center could get underway in 2006, along with the Elm Fork Soccer complex.

Construction of the main components of the lakes and parkway are expected to begin in mid-2007.

"New cost estimates for the Trinity River Corridor Project show a \$110 million shortfall..."

Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association

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Newsorthy Notables

District 1 City Councilmember, Dr. Elba Garcia provided the following newsworthy notables...**Cliff Towers** has new owners who are planning an upscale mixed use development for the property. The new owners are finalizing a financial package...The Dallas City Council authorized an extension of the **moratorium** on the acceptance of applications for building permits or certificates of occupancy for “non-residential” properties within 1,000 feet of the north or south right-of-way line of Ft. Worth Avenue, from the centerline of West Davis Street to the centerline of Beckley Avenue until March 24, 2004...The Dallas City Council passed an ordinance making it an offense to possess a **shopping cart** at a location other than at the establishment that owns the shopping cart. In addition, stores are required to place identification on their carts and a notice that possession of the shopping cart off the premises of the retail establishment is an offense.

Calendar of Events

November 27 (Thursday) – Thanksgiving holiday

December 2 (Tuesday) – Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting
7:00 p.m. Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ
Election of association officers for 2004

December 4 (Thursday) – First day brush and bulky trash to be placed curbside

December 8-12 – Brush and bulky trash pickup for Kessler Plaza

December 14 (Sunday) – Kessler Plaza Holiday Lighting Contest judging

January 8 (Thursday) – First day brush and bulky trash to be placed curbside

January 12-16 – Brush and bulky trash pickup for Kessler Plaza

January 27 (Tuesday) – Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting
7:00 p.m. Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ

About Kessler Plaza

Kessler Plaza is bounded on the North by W. Jefferson Blvd., the South by 12th St., the East by Hampton Rd., and the West by Cavender St. The neighborhood association meets the last Tuesday of each month at the Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. For additional information visit www.kesslerplaza.com