

Braeburn Super Neighborhood

Community Center

General Meeting

Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 18:30

Bayland Park
6400 Bissonnet Street
Houston, Texas 77074
and virtual via Zoom

Minutes

ATTENDEES

Gena Sylvester, President; Jeanie Spriggs, Vice President; Reese Ermis, Recording Secretary and Committee Chairperson; Brian Barragy, Committee Chairperson; Bert Ruiz, Communications Secretary and Committee Chairperson; Andrew Mikkelsen, Braes Timbers Delegate; Doug Phillips, Braeburn Terrace Section 1 Delegate; Tim Hatton, Bonham Acres Delegate; Kim Hatton, Bonham Acres; Stephen Polnaszek, Neighborhoods to Trails SW; Don Hickle, Brays Bayou Association; Janice Walden, Don Greene Nature Park; Taylor Mercantel, METRO Senior Planning Program Manager; Scott Barker, METRO; Gwin Young, Braeburn Terrace; Tim Reininger, Braeburn Terrace; Judy Spriggs, Braes Timbers; James Spriggs, Braes Timbers; Skip Reeder, Houston One Voice; Lesley Briones, Harris County Commissioner Precinct 4; Alice Lee, Harris County Commissioner Precinct 4 Chief of Staff; Seth Cohen, Harris County Commissioner Precinct 4 Director of Community Engagement; Jesus Zamora, Harris County Commissioner Precinct 4 Staff; Sakina Lanig, Harris County Commissioner Precinct 4 Staff; Aimee Turney, Texas Congressional District 137 Staff; Veronica Hernandez, City of Houston Department of Neighborhoods Community Liason; Danielle Keys Bess, candidate for City of Houston Council At Large #2; Ivan Sanchez, candidate for City of Houston Council District J; Holly Flynn Vilaseic, candidate for City of Houston Council At Large #2; Amanda Edwards, candidate for City of Houston Mayor; Cindy Viveros, Amanda Edwards campaign for City of Houston Mayor. (See **Attachment #1: Sign-In Sheet.**)

WELCOME

Gena Sylvester, President, called the General Meeting of the Braeburn Super Neighborhood Council #30 to order at 18:32 on Thursday, March 9, 2023. As a simple majority of the duly designated Braeburn Super Neighborhood Council members (6) shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a general meeting, this meeting is with a quorum.

RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

Taylor Mercantel, METRO Senior Planning Program Manager states voters approved a plan in 2019, which includes a METRO Rapid bus line in the Gulfton neighborhood and region. Feedback on a route is being solicited, and service would begin in 2027. METRO's proposed extension of the silver line is Westpark Dr to Chimney Rock to Gulfton to Hillcroft to Beechnut at Hillcroft intersection. Route feedback may be included as a local preferred alternative. The survey is at ridemetro.org/gulfton. The floor is opened for questions.

Stephen Polnaszek, Neighborhoods to Trails SW asks about right of way usage. Mercantel replies METRO will convert existing lanes into bus only lanes.

Andrew Mikkelsen, Braes Timbers Delegate asks about traffic analysis and why the route does not go straight down South Rice Ave if the goal is to connect east-west routes. Mercantel replies the goal is to connect the Gulfton area, and only high level analysis has been done.

Reese Ermis, Secretary asks about taking the route to Houston Christian University and Memorial Hermann Southwest Hospital to meet METRO goals of connecting projected growth areas and employment opportunities. Mercantel replies they are currently taking feedback on the route.

Tim Hatton, Bonham Acres Delegate asks about METRO's funds, usage in the area, and the impact. Mercantel replies water, flooding, cultural, traffic, archaeological, and community impacts are examined.

Kim Hatton, Bonham Acres asks about ridership studies after implementation of previous projects. Mercantel replies there may be statistics.

Tim Hatton, Bonham Acres states shutting down lanes for buses effects residents and METRO is currently not able to tell us about ridership numbers after a project.

Janice Walden, Friends of Don Greene Nature Park states if going down Gulfton St, then modify Rampart and Renwick to provide bus service.

Gena Sylvester, President states there are concerns about cut through traffic and ending the line in Maplewood.

Reese Ermis, Secretary encourages all to complete the online METRO survey.

Danielle Keys Bess introduces self as candidate for City of Houston Council At Large #2.

Aimee Turney introduces self as Texas Congressional District 137 staff.

Stephen Polnaszek, Neighborhoods to Trails SW introduces a proposed Renwick trail between Beechnut and Brays Bayou, which would run along a green space on the west side of Renwick Dr. Polnaszek also mentions demand for a trail off the road from the Gulfton neighborhood to Brays Bayou along Hillcroft Ave using a green space corridor off the west side of Hillcroft Ave.

Reese Ermis, Secretary states a bicycle lane only off the street would have usage for children, rather than on a major roadway.

Andrew Mikkelsen, Braes Timbers Delegate states there is low area demand for bicycle usage.

Lesley Briones, Harris County Commissioner Precinct 4 introduces self and Alice Lee as Chief of Staff. Briones states tax dollars from her office will now include expenditures for incorporated areas within the precinct. Briones comments on a focus for public safety and infrastructure for economic mobility. Lee states the goal is rapid deployment of resources.

Gwin Young, Braeburn Terrace asks for additional green nature space, educational opportunities, and a holistic approach for the area.

Tim Hatton, Bonham Acres Delegate states he is willing to work with Commissioner Briones and encourages park space for the 8 acres of the City of Houston purchase located at Fondren Rd and Brays Bayou.

Andrew Mikkelsen, Braes Timbers Delegate asks about any plans for jail expansion. Briones replies there is a women's facility with a multidimensional approach. There is also a challenge with recruitment and retention of law enforcement personnel.

Holly Flynn Vilaseic introduces self as candidate for City of Houston Council At Large #2.

Amanda Edwards introduces self as candidate for City of Houston Mayor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Consideration of and possible action on the adoption of the minutes of the General Meeting of the Braeburn Super Neighborhood Council #30 previously held on January 12, 2023 and the Special Meeting of the Braeburn Super Neighborhood Council #30 previously held on February 22, 2023.

MOTION: to approve minutes as presented

MOVER: Andrew Mikkelsen, Braes Timbers Delegate

SECONDER: Stephen Polnaszek, Neighborhoods to Trails SW

RESULT: Adopted without objection

OLD BUSINESS

Gena Sylvester, President states the Cypress Crossing project is not proceeding and that is historic. Janice Walden, Don Greene Nature Park states there are deed restrictions in Braeburn Terrace Section 1.

Gena Sylvester, President states there is a possible development of the Ruffino Hills landfill at Southwest Freeway near Belfort. Skip Reeder, Houston One Voice states this is a possible 800 million gallon detention pond basin and economic development. Bert Ruiz, Communications Secretary and Committee Chair recommends tabling the issue for future discussion. Sylvester states the City of Houston is not planning to move forward with commercial development around a detention pond. Reeder states a support letter would be used in applying for a grant to convert the landfill to reduce flooding. Ruiz mentions this was previously presented as a package deal for detention and development, and desire to have a draft letter presented in the future for a vote. Sylvester polls those present about this idea, to which there was no objection.

ADJOURN

Gena Sylvester, President announced the General Session of the Braeburn Super Neighborhood Council #30 was adjourned without objection on Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 20:20.

ATTACHMENT #1: SIGN-IN SHEET

SIGN-IN SHEET

BRAEBURN SUPER NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Neighborhood or</u>
Gena Sylvester	Robindell
Reese Ermis	Robindell
Scott Barker	METRO/HDR
Jesus Zamora	pat 4 Lesley
Skip REEDER	Houston ONE VOICE
Taylor Marcantel	METRO
Gwin Young* <u>Vote for Ann</u>	Braeburn Terrace
Tim Reinger	Braeburn Terrace
JANICE WALDEN	DON GREENE N PARK JANICE 123 @GMAIL
ANDREW MIKKELSEN	
Kim HATTON	
Tim Hatton	timhatton202@
Kim Hatton	kimyhatton@
DON HICKLE	BRAY'S PLYOU
STEPHEN POLNASZEK	spolnasze
Holly Flynn Viksere	Houston City Council
JAMES ENRIQUE	Braeburn

Veronica Hernandez City of LA

ATTACHMENT #2: METRORAPID HANDOUT







METRO Rapid

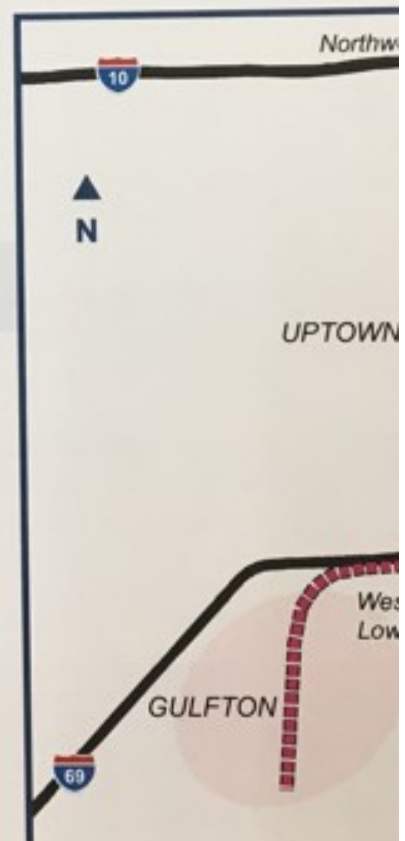
Gulfton Corridor Project



METRO Rapid is our top-of-the-line service that combines the elements of light rail and bus to deliver faster connections and a more convenient ride.

KEY FEATURES

-  Directly serves the Gulfton community with benefits for the entire region
-  Extension of the existing METRO Rapid Silver Line
-  Connects to many current METRO services as well as future enhancements under the METRO Next Moving Forward Plan
-  Fast, frequent service with bus-only lanes, transit signal priority, and rail-style stations



PROPOSED PROJECT TIMELINE



REGIONAL BENEFITS

IMPROVES
mobility and
connectivity

- Provides fast, frequent **one-seat ride** between Gulfton, Uptown and Northwest Transit Center
- Expands access to **transfer opportunities** at the Westpark / Loop West and Uptown Transit Center and the Northwest Transit Center

SUPPORTS
vibrant
communities

- Serves areas with **high transit demand and projected growth**
- Improves **access** to major **activity centers** and **employment** opportunities in the region

ENSURES
return on
investment

- Leverages **existing investment** in the METRORapid Silver Line
- Leverages **planned investments** in METRORapid University City Project and METRORapid Inner Katy Corridor Project

ATTACHMENT #3: PROPOSAL MAP ROUTES

