

NORTH AUSTIN COALITION OF NEIGHBORHOODS



September 20, 2007

Ms. Toby Futrell, City Manager
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, Texas 78767

Dear Ms. Futrell,

As residents of North Austin, we are concerned with the crime in the Rundberg and I-35 area. This area has become a magnet for crime in the entire North Austin community. The Night Without Crime on Rundberg Lane on August 3 demonstrated that many people share our concern. The North Creek/Georgian Acres Neighborhood Association and Austin Police Department's North Central Command have been working together to clean up this area. However, it is apparent that more resources are needed. We are asking the City of Austin to provide these resources to the area. Specifically:

1. Work with the District Attorney to foster prosecution of the criminals with stiffer penalties based on public outcry. Criminals arrested in the Rundberg and I-35 area should be receiving maximum penalties to discourage these activities.
2. Ask the District Attorney to investigate and pursue abatement options of five specific businesses in the Rundberg area. These five businesses have a documented history of engaging in business practices that support the area's criminals and their activities.
 - Chevron, 9318 N IH-35 (southbound service road), Austin, TX 78753
 - Economy Inn, 700 Middle Lane, Austin, TX 78753
 - Budget Inn, 9106 N IH 35, Austin, TX 78753
 - Austin Village Motor Inn, 601 Middle Lane, Austin, TX 78753
 - Budget Lodge, 9220 N IH 35, Austin, TX 78753
3. Ask Chief of Police, Art Acevedo, to step up the efforts of the new Street Response unit on the high crime areas in the Rundberg and I-35 area. Also ask APD to provide information at the next five Commander's Forums for the North Central Command (through the end of 2008), detailing 1) the hot spots that crime analysis is showing in this area, and 2) how Street Response is being used to address these hot spots.
4. Prosecute property owners/managers whose buildings do not meet city codes. Residents deserve safe living conditions. Well kept buildings will encourage families to move in, and criminals to move out.
5. Work with the District Attorney to support the North Creek/Georgian Acres Neighborhood Association's request to issue a "stay away" location order for the Rundberg area. Allow the Municipal Court, County Attorney, and District Attorney to support the "stay away" by imposing stiffer fines and/or jail sentences and expediting cases for those who commit violations.
6. Have at least one City Council member, the City Manager, and at least one person from the District Attorney's office present at the January 16, 2008 meeting of the North Austin Coalition of Neighborhoods (6:30 pm at the Lamplight Police Station) to go over items 1-5 and explain to the seven neighborhoods in this area where the District Attorney and the City are on supporting these requests.

We look forward to working with the City of Austin to provide these resources and embrace our community and police efforts. Contact Larry Hardison, President of the North Creek/Georgian Acres Neighborhood Association, 339-4164, or Mary Rudig, 836-4989, for more information.

Sincerely,

North Austin Coalition of Neighborhoods

Gracywoods Neighborhood Association ★ Mockingbird Hill Neighborhood Association ★ North Austin Civic Association
North Creek/Georgian Acres Neighborhood Association ★ North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association
Walnut Creek Neighborhood Association ★ Wooten Neighborhood Association

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