

Dear District 14 Resident:

Earlier this year, I was honored to have been selected as an American Marshall Memorial Fellow. The Fellowship gives 50 young American leaders the opportunity to travel to Europe and meet with a range of policymakers and prominent members of the business, government, political and nonprofit communities. In October, I spent 3½ weeks in Europe (at no taxpayer expense), focusing on municipal issues and evaluating best practices in Belgium, Germany, Italy, Serbia and Denmark.

In Italy, I met with the former mayor of Turin who brought the 2006 Winter Olympics to his city. He ensured that the Olympic Games were not merely a two-week sporting event designed to generate short-term economic benefits, but rather a catalyst for long-term, transformational infrastructure improvements to Turin, especially in the area of transportation. Turin's most impressive infrastructure improvement was the relocation of a wide, commercial rail line that had divided Turin for decades. The rail line was relocated underground, replaced by a beautiful boulevard that knit the city back together. As part of a pedestrian makeover, inner-city plazas that had been given over to cars as through-streets and parking lots were reclaimed as "Areas Pedonale" — lively pedestrian-only zones with parking beneath. Turin's leaders also expanded the region's on-street light rail to re-connect the city and reduce automobile congestion.

Dallas can adopt many of Turin's transportation improvements, starting with a streetcar system that will connect downtown's burgeoning archipelago of activity: the Arts District, Victory, Farmers Market, the Convention Center, the West End and Deep Ellum. We can also continue to improve the pedestrian experience throughout the heart of our city by creating wide, unobstructed sidewalks.

In Copenhagen, Denmark, I witnessed the city's remarkable bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, with more bicycles than vehicles on the streets during rush hour. The bicycle lanes are much more than stripes on existing roadways: they are wide, grade-separated routes that provide cyclists access to the entire city, while protecting them from dangerous interactions with automobiles. This model will serve Dallas well as we expand the Katy Trail into downtown Dallas and beyond.

Germany also provided some inspired examples for our city. In Lübeck, I visited a state-of-the-art biomechanical waste disposal facility, where they use mechanical sorting and anaerobic digestion to generate electricity and divert about 75 percent of waste from their landfill. As Dallas continues to expand its recycling program, we must now look to create facilities such as this to further reduce our non-recycled waste, extend the life of our landfill and recapture energy.

I am proud to have represented Dallas abroad, but more importantly, excited to bring back some practical ideas to improve our city. As always, I welcome your input. If you need assistance with City issues, or want to share your comments or suggestions with me, please call me at 214-670-5415 or e-mail angela.hunt@dallascityhall.com.

Best regards,
Angela Hunt, District 14

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.

"I hope to proactively create and maintain effective lines of communication, and to coordinate efforts between citizens, our exceptional police force and diligent City officials."

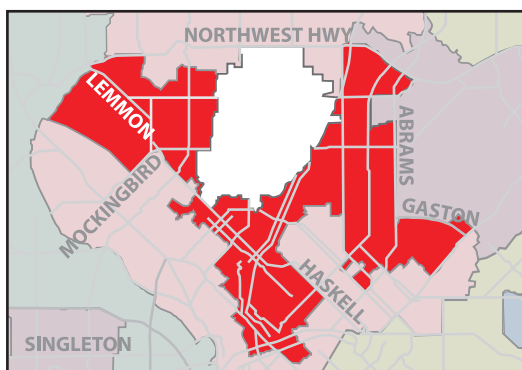
– Cody McCullar

District 14 Community Prosecutor



Old East Dallas Area
Cody McCullar
214-671-0470

DISTRICT 14



Libraries:

Lakewood, 6121 Worth St.
214-670-1376

Oak Lawn, 4100 Cedar Springs Road
214-670-1359

Skillman Southwestern, 5707 Skillman St.
214-670-6078

Recreation Centers:

Exall, 1355 Adair St.
214-670-7812

K.B. Polk, 6801 Roper St.
214-670-6308

Police Divisions:

Central: Sgt. Dennis Craig
214-670-4420

Northeast: Sgt. Keitric Jones
214-670-7768

Northwest: Sgt. Christopher Jaquez
214-670-6202

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 14, each household participating in the program is recycling an average of 25 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.

Mission: possible



Code department focuses on relationships, solutions in District 14

District 14 Central Division



Division Manager
Jimmy McKissick
214-288-0334



Neighborhood Code Representative
Kelly Price • 214-664-6406

District 14 Northeast Division



Division Manager
Bob Curry
214-876-8258



Neighborhood Code Representatives
Sherry Benham • 972-978-2067
Barry Boyd • 214-405-3372

District 14 Northwest Division



Division Manager
Kathryn Hernandez
972-768-3453



Neighborhood Code Representatives
Rodney Patterson • 972-333-2725
Angela Nation • 469-261-0658

“Code Compliance will have more success through education rather than citation.”
– Kelly Price, Central Division NCR

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.

Kathryn Hernandez is manager for the Northwest Division, which includes the western part of District 14. One of the most prevalent issues in her area is the placement of illegal banners for businesses as well as "bandit signs" for garage sales and work-from-home schemes. Businesses that are in violation receive letters listing typical violations and giving a 30-day notice. Other typical concerns are bulk trash, vegetation in alleys, high weeds, litter and houses abandoned due to mortgage failures.

"There are houses in the area with pools, and people walk away from them," Ms. Hernandez says. "We have to keep those up because the neighbors are living in nice areas."

Another change is that Code is taking a holistic approach, working together with other City departments, including Police, Streets, Sanitation and Building Inspection. This coordinated approach is crucial, as non-compliant properties frequently have other problems outside the scope of the department, such as crime, structural failure or street damage. By working together, the departments have a much better chance to solve core community problems. Managers and neighborhood representatives are making a habit of attending meetings of crime-watch groups and homeowners associations.

Bob Curry manages the Northeast Division, which is in charge of the northernmost portion of District 14. He sees such cooperation as crucial to code compliance.

"We're developing a good relationship with police, attending neighborhood watch meetings and inviting them to Code meetings," Mr. Wright 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."

Jim McKissick, manager for the Central Division, agrees.

"I have a good relationship with Deputy Chief Vincent Goldbeck," he says. "Any time we need police assistance, we just call a neighborhood patrol officer, who's different than regular patrol and beat officers. They interact with the community and get to know everybody and the different code officers."

One of his favorite success stories is the clean-up of a graffiti-tagged building, an inspirational model of interdepartmental cooperation. The City's Police, Public Works and Transportation departments worked together to remove the eyesore.

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

Code 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.

District 14 looks



It's been a year since the City of Dallas launched www.GreenDallas.net as part of its commitment to environmental responsibility. This comprehensive site is dedicated solely to environmental issues.

Dallas is well on its way to becoming one of the greenest cities in the nation. But such an effort requires the involvement of government and residents alike in District 14.

Here are five simple ways to build a greener Dallas:

1. RECYCLE, RECYCLE, RECYCLE

Dallas offers single-stream recycling — that means no sorting. It all goes in the same Big Blue container. If you don't have yours already, then call 311 and order your recycle roll-cart today.

2. GREEN YOUR GROCERIES

Have you noticed the latest fashion accessory? It's the reusable bag. Next time you're asked "Paper or plastic?" just say "Neither." Many stores now offer their own cloth reusable bags.

3. SAVE A TREE

By paying your bills online, you'll not only save a tree, but also

time and postage. Of course, you can always make the world a little greener by planting a tree.

4. MAKE EVERY DROP COUNT

Although 70 percent of Earth's surface is covered in water, we need to conserve all that we can. Run your dishwasher and washing machine only when you've got a full load; water your lawn in the evening (less water will evaporate); take shorter showers; and turn off the faucet when brushing your teeth.

5. CLEAN THE AIR BY GREENING YOUR RIDE

Did you know you can help clean the air by doing routine maintenance on your vehicle? Inflate your tires — you'll get better gas mileage and spew fewer emissions from your tailpipe. Fuel up in the evening — the gas fumes won't bake in the Texas sun all day and cause smog/ozone. Consider carpooling, riding DART, biking to work or telecommuting.