

Councilmember Leo V. Chaney, Jr. hosts community meeting to help Ash Creek residents find new housing options

City caseworkers to begin assessments for soon-to-be displaced residents

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, December 12, 2006

DALLAS, TX – Councilmember Leo V. Chaney, Jr. (District 7) has organized a community meeting to share important housing and other resource information with residents of the Ash Creek Mobile Home Park who will soon be displaced due to the property owner closing the property. The meeting will take place Saturday, December 16, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. at Dallas Central Church of the Nazarene located at 7979 E. R.L. Thornton. The City of Dallas Senior Services and Crisis Intervention Services Team and Vikki Martin and Carolyn Bilnoski from the Ferguson Road Initiative will be joining Mr. Chaney. “Several area housing agencies, representatives from area faith communities and the City of Dallas Environmental and Health Services department are working together to help ensure that Ash Creek residents experience a smooth transition into alternate housing”, says Councilmember Leo V. Chaney, Jr..

Starting Wednesday, the City of Dallas Environmental and Health Services department will deploy six caseworkers to the community to visit with residents and conduct initial social service assessments.

“These assessments are to help the residents’ transition into alternate living situations and to address any other social service needs they may have,” says Karen D. Rayzer, Director of Environmental and Health Services for the City of Dallas. “Our primary focus will be those residents who are elderly, disabled or handicapped, but we will attempt to assist all that we can.”

Background and Timeline:

- The Ash Creek Mobile Home Park located at 1802 Highland Road has been the subject of several legal proceedings in the past year regarding non-compliance issues.
- In May 2006, the City filed a lawsuit in state district court against Steve Crossett, the owner of the property, alleging 44 code violations. This lawsuit is pending in the 193rd District Court, Dallas County.
- On October 29, 2006 the City of Dallas entered into an agreed temporary injunction with Mr. Crossett. It was signed by Mr. Crossett’s attorney and contained language reflecting that the owner had entered into negotiations to sell

the property to a buyer who wants to redevelop the property for town homes and that the sale would close in several months.

- Also in the agreed temporary injunction, Mr. Crossett agreed to repair the alleged code violations in staggered dates of November 8, 2006; February 1, 2007; and March 1, 2007.
- Mr. Crossett also agreed to provide fire hydrants and an access road for fire apparatus on or before February 1, 2007.
- The agreed temporary injunction was entered by the court on November 7, 2006
- The City has been informed that Mr. Crossett has delivered letters to residents of the mobile home park informing them that he voluntarily has chosen to close down the Ash Creek Mobile Home Park, effective February 9, 2007.