



North Coronado Heights Neighborhood Association

JANUARY 2023

Next Meeting

Our next bi-monthly meeting is on Tuesday, **January 31, at 6:30 p.m.** at Messiah Lutheran Church, on the southeast corner of Portland and N.W. Expressway.

We are starting our 17th year of operation as the North Coronado Heights Neighborhood Association! You may be one of our regular participants or you may not have gotten into the habit of attending meetings and events. Either way, we hope you value the work we do and will make a commitment in 2023 to promoting the safety, beauty, and unity of our neighborhood. Let's keep North Coronado Heights a great place to live!

Residents' Input Sought on Park Improvements

The Oklahoma City Parks Department held an open house on December 3 to gather input from our area's residents on what improvements we desire in our neighborhood parks. The open house was the first of eight planned across the city. This one focused on 15 parks in the northwest portion of the city, including N. Rotary Park and Stars and Stripes Park on the south shore of Lake Hefner.

Participants were able to view extensive photos and aerial maps of the parks, and were invited to identify critically needed repair or replacement needs. They were also encouraged to pinpoint areas that could benefit from upgrades, modernization, or better accessibility. Representatives from Kimley-Horn, a consulting firm contracted to develop a park improvement master plan, asked participants to "dream big" and note any new



NCHNA Secretary Jason Warfe discusses potential improvements to N. Rotary Park with Andrea Powell, a member of the Kimley-Horn consulting firm tasked with evaluating local parks and developing an improvement plan based in part on Oklahoma City residents' input.

features they'd like to see incorporated into our parks. This could include anything from splash pads to water fountains, pavilions for large group meetings, restrooms, shade structures, new landscaping and seating, and other amenities.

The city has earmarked \$69.6 million of the MAPS 4 sales tax revenue to make improvements to Oklahoma City's neigh-

borhood parks. All the 105 parks to be upgraded are outside the central business district.

If you missed the open house on December 3, it's not too late to share your ideas. You can go to www.MAPS4Parks.com to offer your input about the park improvements you'd like to see, via a survey form. Surveys will be accepted through May 2023.

Visit our web site: www.northcoronadoheights.org

NCHNA News in Brief

◆ **Council Election Is February 14.** Plan to vote on February 14, when city council representatives will be chosen for Wards 2, 5, 6, and 8. We live in Ward 2 and will be selecting a person from that slate of candidates to represent our neighborhood on the City Council for the next four years. Please inform yourself and vote!

◆ **Got New Neighbors?** NCHNA's officers like to reach out to newcomers to our neighborhood and invite them to participate in the association. But with more than 550 households within our boundaries, we don't always know when new folks have moved in. We count on YOU to tell us.

If you know of new neighbors in your vicinity, please let us know and we will deliver a welcome letter and let them know about NCHNA. Send the newcomers' address to northcoronado@gmail.com. We would like very much to extend awareness of our group to all who live in North Coronado Heights and get everyone on our mailing list!

◆ **Snow Routes Are Posted on City's Site.** Many of us are hoping this winter will not bring ice or snow to Oklahoma City, but we may be hoping in vain. If we do have weather that affects local transportation, it's good to know the city's snow routes. These are the streets that will be salted and plowed to help us conduct essential travel. You can view the local snow route map on the city's website. Go to



Lt. David Dale, left, and Sgt. George Anderson of the OKC Police Department's Homeless Outreach Team spoke at our November NCHNA meeting about the department's efforts to serve the needs of persons who are homeless while addressing the concerns of owners of residential and business property about trespassing and other unlawful activity that sometimes comes with homelessness.

www.okc.gov and click on the link beside "Snow Routes & Winter Weather Tips." Zoom in on the map to get greater detail on the streets that will be cleared or treated after a snow or ice event.

◆ **Patrol Training Coming Soon.** If you are interested in getting the one-hour training needed to become part of our crime patrol, sign up for the seminar to be held on February 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hefner Division police station, 3924 N.W. 122nd Street. A light supper will be provided. Call the Neighborhood Alliance at 405-528-6322 to register.

◆ **WHEN is Big Trash Day, Again???** If you have trouble remembering the next scheduled date for bulky waste pickup, you can look it up on the web. Go to www.okc.gov/mytrashday and view the map provided. Enter your street address in the search bar at the top of the map. When the screen with red house icons appears, find the one with your address and click on it. A separate box will pop up with upcoming dates on it for bulky waste, regular trash, and recycling collection.

NCHNA Treasurer Connie Scharbor, right, and Crime Watch Patroller Jim Franklin, center, are shown with MSgt. Dean Wyatt at the OKC Police Department's Jingle and Mingle



Christmas Open House on December 8 at the department's Hefner Division. The event was co-sponsored by the OKCPD and the Neighborhood Alliance of Central Oklahoma.

How Does NCHNA Help Our Neighborhood?

As we start a new year, it's helpful to reflect on how we spend our time and what we are accomplishing; then we can look ahead to new goals and challenges.

Our neighborhood association is involved in many ongoing activities, all with the goal of enhancing the quality of life for residents of the North Coronado Heights area. For example:

WE COMMUNICATE

- ◆ We meet bi-monthly—in January, March, May, July, September, and November—to share information and build relationships among neighbors.
- ◆ We arrange for speakers several times a year to make presentations at our meetings, covering topics of interest to residents.
- ◆ When needed, we serve as a liaison between the neighborhood and our Ward 2 City Council member and entities such as the Oklahoma City Parks Department.

- ◆ We keep members informed through a bi-monthly newsletter, e-mails, a website, postings on NextDoor.com, welcome letters, and occasional door-to-door delivery of information on NCHNA events.

WE WORK TO PREVENT CRIME

- ◆ We operate a neighborhood crime patrol conducted by volunteers who have been trained by the OKC Police Department.



- ◆ We distribute monthly neighborhood crime statistics (compiled by the OKC Police Department) to area residents.
- ◆ We work closely with the OKC Police Department's Community Relations Division on issues related to crime in our area.
- ◆ We have erected Crime Watch signage in locations throughout the neighborhood to show our commitment to crime prevention.

WE CARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

- ◆ We conduct a litter removal project every April, in which neighborhood volunteers clean up trash from our area's major streets.



- ◆ We sponsor an annual household hazardous waste special

collection event in N. Rotary Park to make it easy for residents to safely dispose of unwanted toxic materials right here in the neighborhood.

WE FOSTER NEIGHBORHOOD IDENTITY AND FELLOWSHIP

- ◆ We have placed sign-toppers at major intersections in the neighborhood to identify this area as North Coronado Heights and show our pride in our homes.
- ◆ We host an ice cream social each year in September on National Neighbors Night Out, where we play games, award door prizes, and

celebrate our neighborhood. It's a great way to encourage our area's residents to get acquainted with their neighbors, a part of building a stronger and safer community.

YOU CAN HELP!

Some of us make resolutions at this time of year,

and we urge you to resolve to become more involved in your community by becoming active in NCHNA.

If you have neighbors who don't know about NCHNA, please take a few minutes to talk to them about it, and ask them to provide us their e-mail address so that we can keep them up-to-date on our activities and events.

We'd also like to hear your ideas for future projects, and get your thoughts about improving or expanding the things we already do. E-mail your comments to us at northcoronado@gmail.com or start a conversation about your ideas at our next meeting. We love hearing from you!