

Cherrywood Neighborhood Association Meeting Agenda
Maplewood Elem. Library
August 22, 2007

A. Welcome

B. First Speaker: in regards to a Pandemic

a. What is pandemic bird flu?

- i. Seasonal flu is a reparatory flu caused by a virus. It can be contagious five days before symptoms show. Serious for some people (the old, young, and weak). 36,000 people in America die from complications from the flu per year.
- ii. The Bird Flu is labeled H5 N1. It infects birds only unless you come into contact with the bird. 124 people have died. It is hugely fatal disease. "Pandemic" means there is world wide illness. Global disease outbreaks happen because there is no immunity and so they spread very quickly. 30 percent of all people will become sick and there will be no vaccine.
- iii. Presently there is no pandemic but it would change every part of our lives if it does come. If 30% of us get sick for a week then that percentage of people will be absent from work. Those who aren't sick won't leave the house either. This means up to 50 percent of people will not go to work. Hospitals and healthcare workers will loose staff, there will be a shortage of hospital beds, grocery shelves won't be stocked, funeral and mortuary services will be overwhelmed. There will be more people dieing than they can handle. Schools may close as children are more infectious than adults. This will effect kids from low income families as many kids receive food from the school. Many parents rely on school for care. Other industries will be effected as well: restaurants, venues, entertainment, public trans, travel restricted (gov't won't close border).
- iv. In the absence of any control measures (vaccination or drugs), it has been estimated that in the United States a "medium-level" pandemic could cause 89,000 to 207,000 deaths, 314,000 and 734,000 hospitalizations, 18 to 42 million outpatient visits, and another 20 to 47 million people being sick. Between 15% and 35% of the U.S. population could be affected by an influenza pandemic, and the economic impact could range between \$71.3 and \$166.5 billion.
- v. Effects on Austin: under worse case senario: According to percentages, 606,000 will die in a year (100 people in a week).
- vi. Why are we worried? Pandemics occur throughout history. More people died worldwide in 1918 from the Spanish flu in a single year than people died from the bubonic plague in 4 years. Young and healthy got sick. 675,000 died (US). 50 mil died world-wide. In 1957 there was the Asian flu: this caused 1-2 million world wide

to die and 75,000 in America to die. There are three pandemics per century. We are going to have a pandemic in the near future according to this cycle.

- vii. How much illness it will cause, who will get sick, why it will spread, we don't know. This plus bird flu has concerned gov't and world health. Bird flu (in birds) is in asia, some in Europe. Until it mutates into something we can contract we're fine. Birds in your back yard aren't likely to get bird flu. It usually kills entire flocks of birds at one time.
 - viii. Fed gov't is providing funding to the local gov't. Every community will be effected. Local, community, and neighborhood level. The state passes it through to the city and local gov't for support.
- b. How do you prepare for the impending pandemic?
- i. Daily surveillance
 - ii. Crisis and emergency communication: hear about flu through the media.
- c. How do you slow the pandemic:
- i. Isolate it: sick people stay at home
 - ii. Quarantine: if you're exposed stay at home. You want to stay home for five days if you've been exposed.
 - iii. Limit social contact: hugging, shaking hands, elevators, stay away.
 - iv. Follow instructions to the local health department. Voluntarily comply: unlikely
 - v. Vaccination in short supply: health workers and public safety workers first
 - vi. Deal with it: hygiene. Wash your hands. Travels through the air. Viruses that live on surfaces. Travel three feet. Spread on surfaces (live for two hours on smooth surface). Scrub vigorously: alcohol based cleaners are just as effective. Avoid touching your face (mouth nose and eyes). Cover coughs and sneezes. "use your hand" but then you have the virus on your hand, cough etiquette is to cough into your arm. Use a tissue, throw it away and wash hands.
 - vii. Stay home if you're sick.
 - viii. Avoid other people. 95% effectiveness. Health department offers free shots. Watch the media. Be prepared to stay at home. Up to two weeks of food supply and water. Non perishable food. Have a basic supply of prescriptions (tough to do sometimes) Have cough and cold medicines. Have a list of emergency contact. Battery operated radio, flashlight. Go to the website:
www.cityofaustin.org/pandemicflu
 - ix. If you're in a business you will want to think about the impact it will have on your business/non-profit.

- x. Neighborhood advisory council. Works will all the na presidents. Food distribution. Elederly, disabled, homeless. Identify vulnerable people.
- C. French Place Sewage: about a year off from now.
 - a. Debra Dibble: project manager for city of Austin: Austin clean water program.
 - b. Under the UT west 40th area.
 - c. Why: The sold lines are very old. This is the oldest piping system in Austin. The collection system takes all the water from our homes to the treatment center. Comes from sinks bathtubs, toilets. A lot of the pipes in the system have deteriorated. We have wall flows. The pipes collapse or corrode. Concrete pipes are corroded easily. Get eaten up and no concrete is left. We are replacing the pipes. They are concrete now, they will be PVC. We are under a mandate: we need to fix the water collection system. This general vicinity has 15 hundred feet of pipe length being replaced. The construction will be replacing the old line with pvc pipeline. Resistant to corrosion: longer lifetime. This is a small project comparatively. Austin clean water program: 250 mil. Deadline 2009 June. On track to complete program. Small segment. Most of the work will be done on the other side of 35
 - d. South of Cesar Chavez we'll have a significant project. Komal. They will start before the end of this year. If you take those streets to work find a detour. Look up the places effected on the website. The whole street won't be closed at one time. Won't be shutting up traffic. Some of the streets will be narrow. Only doing construction on 300 feet at a time. Will give at least two day notice. Two week notice when the construction will start.
 - e. If a home owner is preparing to replace the lateral should they wait? This construction won't effect property line. If you do it now the contractor will tie into the new line if you do it later, same thing. City inspector will be glad to talk to the contractor. For more info, go to http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/faq/sewerline_faq.htm
 - f. Garbage and mail will still have access.
 - g. Which side of French place will it be? In the middle. Will there always be north and south traffic. Can only block 300 feet and there will be people flagging traffic to keep everyone moving. They might also put heavy plates over the voids. There will only be one side allowed. Everyone getting into their driveways will be effected. –you may not be able to park in your driveway. Park on a side street. How long would a 300 block take? 2-3 months.
 - h. Will start Sept 2008: still advertising the project: we will start once we award the project to a contractor. As soon as we know in November, we'll have the contractor answer these questions.
 - i. Only one little stretch has bad piping. So we'll connect the pvc to the concrete? When the piping is not too steep, then the pipe will not be

easily corroded. Some areas are more corrodible than others so not all areas need to be replaced.

- j. There will be a website up: there will always be notifications to the president. <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/water/>
- k. mid October we will start. We do flyer deliveries when we're starting the project. Construction inspector on site.
- l. Debra Dibble will email road closure website to David Greene.
- m. If you have questions email Debra Dibble at debra.dibble@ci.austin.tx.us

D. APD – Officer Salisbury: crime

- a. The burglary rate sky rocketed. 100 percent increase. Around Delwood, French place, breeze terrace. Laptops getting stolen.
- b. The police are going around on unmarked cars and pedaling bikes. Wanted to hit it hard in august. Report suspicious activities.
- c. Some suspects are homeless. 35 and 38th and half: severe alcoholics. The ones that knock on your door and give the “I ran out of gas story,” these and not the pan handlers are maybe are doing the burglary.
- d. One subject is 17. Roads at risk: robinson, dancy edgewood, breeze terrace. They knock on the door and go to the back if no one answers and knock out a window. If you're going out of town, get a stop gap on mail and paper. They look for papers in the drive way and for high weeds.
- e. Would it be of help to take pictures of the people that knock on the door? Yes, the police would do a field search: get name and date of birth. Would be helpful to look for specific faces. They did a field search for the ones on the corner, but not the ones coming door to door.
- f. If someone comes, what do you do? Should you call 311 or 911? 911 if there is a possibility of identifying suspects. If it's not 911 appropriate, they will transfer your call.
- g. What leads to thinking these people are involved? Mere suspicions. Sanford has been around for a while and this seems plausible to him.
- h. Lawn services that look legit: could they be doing it? If the offer to mow your lawn and you don't see a lawn mower near by, yeah. If they have a lawn mower, they're probably legit.
- i. Is there anything we can do? Can we etch the tech toys. Serial numbers is how we identify them. Four suspects were found pawning stolen tech gear in san Antonio: were caught because of serial numbers. Police can make connections. They could identify the suspect if you can provide serial number. Write it in a safe place so if your lap top gets stolen, you'll still be able to access it.
- j. iPods, Xbox, tech toys were the hot items stolen.
- k. With the new police chief is there more initiative? There has been no follow up in the past, will there be now? The police come right away but after that we never hear from them. We are always trying to improve this. You can report bad experiences to the policeman's supervisor if you feel your case has not been followed up on. Call 911: say “can you have a supervisor call me? The police didn't do their follow up. Please have them call me.”

- l. Noise disruption: First time a policeman visits, it's the first and last warning. Second time, it's a class c misdemeanor: fine. Third: police start towing cars and arresting folks. Is there a threshold? If there is outdoor amplified music then you need a permit: if the neighbors don't call then you can get away with it. I
 - m. There is a hesitance that their neighbor will find out that they got turned in by me, what should I do? Refuse to give your name. Ask to be anonymous. Common sense: get to know your neighbors and talk to them. Make sure you can talk about parties and noise. Maybe they'll invite you next time ☺
 - n. Princeton appts have been identified as problem areas. Made it alternative housing. Filled it up with folks we don't want in our neighborhood. A lot of suspects live there.
 - o. Copper theft: beware. Thieves are taking it right out of air conditioning units.
 - p. What are the consequences of public intoxication? The bums on the corner are low priority unless they are a threat to themselves or others. One police officer per drunk costs them 60 min. Do you want the officer fighting crime or escorting a drunk to the nurse? If you want to file a complaint on stores who are selling alcohol to the bums call TABC contact: 451-0235 Tim Humphreys. Find out when their license expires and then protest it so it isn't reissued.
- E. Need more steers for the steering committee. If you know someone, tell them about the openings.
 - F. Megan Bennet, Gordon's daughter is putting together a walkathon for Gordon. CNA will support the individuals. Amount of money will be determined.
 - G. Saturday at three at David's house: climate action program: show everyone about the Austin energy rebate program.
 - H. Transportation: orange dillo: starting on Monday: 27 (11-2pm). Goes to s. congress to ut... now goes to burnet rd and Stratford. Total of four stops. On hump Wednesday: discounts to eat at restaurants along this line. Manor Rd businesses are helping with advertising and promotion. September 19 there's a party for the Orange Dillo. Proposed name for Manor Rd area: M-row.
 - a. Tom: post a bus schedule at each of the bus stops. Any suggestions on how to do it?
 - I. Mueller: 40th street median closing. You can't turn north on airport. 40th, Shaffer or Wilshire, are roads you can't turn from.
 - J. Austin neighbor hood council: two resolutions: east side homestead preservation area. Black land and seabrook. 2 get council to take action on a city wide growth. A plurality feels there isn't enough weight given to neighborhood planning.
 - K. Planning and zoning: one application for zoning: majority of the committee: issues like this : bylaws allow CNA to take action to oppose or support zoning. There is a cell phone tower at 30th and I 35. They want it to go taller. Other buildings interfere with the coverage. If they'd like to make a donation to CHULA, we'd be more disposed to support it.

L. Next meeting is on the 28th of November.