

# Be Part of the Solution

Neighborhood Summit – February 22, 2020

**Who are you?**

**Why are you here?**

**What is wrong with your neighborhood?**

**What is right with your neighborhood?**

**What is one thing you would change in your neighborhood that doesn't cost any money?**

**If you had \$1,000, what would you do to impact your neighborhood?**

**Cliff Keheley – 23 year resident of Mesquite – 622 Via Corona**

**Engaging residents is my job!**

**Property maintenance needs to be improved.**

**We need to have a neighborhood picnic.**

**Remove all of the large trees in the parkways that make the middle of the street look dark all of the time.**

Who is responsible?

Who is going  
to fix all of  
these  
problems?

- What can the City do?
  - Issue notices
  - Write tickets
  - Arrest people
  - Fix streets
- What can neighbors do?
  - Mow their grass
  - Paint their house
  - Park close to the curb
  - Park in their driveways
  - Park in the garage
  - Pick up trash
  - Limit stuff they store in yard

# EASY WAY

- Neighbor parks his truck in front of your mailbox
- Call the City
- Turn on Netflix
- Police place sticker on car with 24 hour notice to move
- Neighbor moves truck & looks for issues on your property

## BETTER WAY

- Neighbor parks his truck in front of your mailbox
- Turn off Netflix
- Knock on neighbor's door
- Explain that mail is important to you and ask if he can move car when mail comes
- Neighbor moves truck
- Turn on Netflix

# SOLUTIONS

- City is an enforcement agency
- No one likes to get notices from the City
- If roles were reversed, how would you like your neighbor to handle the issue?

Engaged Citizens Make Better Neighborhoods

# Engage Your Neighbors



- Set the example
- Know their names
- Know their cars
- Know when something isn't right

# Know the Community

- Learn common code issues
- Understand public safety responses
- How do you report issues?
- What is going on?

**1 Grass**  
Grass must be mowed and no higher than 8 inches tall.

**2 Clean Yard**  
Yards will be well-kept, clean and free of loose trash and debris.

**3 Trimmed Trees**  
Trees and vegetation will be well-maintained. All trees must be trimmed at least 10 feet above the sidewalk, and 14 feet above the street and alley.

**4 Sidewalks**  
Sidewalks must be free of trip hazards. It is the homeowner's responsibility to maintain the sidewalk in front of their property.

**5 Vehicles**  
Junk and inoperable vehicles are not permitted. Vehicles must be in working condition, fully assembled and have current license and registration information.

**6 Parking**  
All vehicles must be parked on an improved surface. No vehicles are allowed to be parked on the grass or side yard.

**7 Fences**  
All fences must be well-maintained and in vertical position. Incomplete fencing is not permitted.

**8 Address Numbers**  
All homes must have address numbers posted at the front and rear entry of the property. Numbers must be visible from the street.

**9 Paint and Siding**  
Paint must be well-maintained without chipping, and siding must be intact.

**10 Outdoor Storage**  
Outdoor items must be stored in a neat and orderly fashion. Indoor furniture, appliances and trash may not be stored outside.

**11 Landscaping**  
Landscaping must be well-maintained and may not cover more than 75 percent of the structure when viewed from the street.

**12 Trash**  
Trash cans may not be set out at the curb before 5:30 p.m. the day before collection, and must be removed from the curb by 8 p.m. on collection day.

**A Quality Neighborhood Starts With You.**  
*A Residential Guide For Property Maintenance*

**Un vecindario de calidad empieza con usted.**  
*Guía residencial para el mantenimiento de la propiedad*

**MESQUITE TEXAS**  
Real. Texas. Service.

# Become a Neighborhood Leader



- Talk about your neighborhood with neighbors
- Organize a picnic or crime watch meeting
- Find a problem and solve it

# Serve beyond your neighborhood



- Volunteer for a community event
- Serve on a board or commission
- Join Citizens Police or Fire Academies

Anyone can be involved in the neighborhood at any level of engagement.

Neighborhoods that thrive have engaged citizens

Issues will persist when no one takes action

Make time for the things that are important



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# **Servant Leadership**

**It's not about you.**

**It's not about now.**