

Candidate Question Responses:

1. How would you address the parking issues? Fine policy, towing, method of enforcement.
 - a. I think before we can look at additional enforcement, we need to evaluate the current policies and restrictions and set residents up for success. Currently we have a rule that states two vehicles must be occupying the garage before parking in the driveway. In my opinion, this is not enforceable and overreach, what people do in their garage, is their business so long as it doesn't negatively impact neighbors or the community. Our current parking restrictions prevent people from parking on the street or blocking the sidewalk. Blocking a sidewalk is a class b misdemeanor in Texas, parking on the street is not illegal. Unfortunately, the neighborhood was designed with streets too narrow to support street parking without causing bottlenecks. Of course, all options need to be evaluated fully. I think we can investigate other enforcement options like fines, etc. I do think the current system of an \$8 fee is insufficient to curb behaviors. I think perhaps a progressive fine policy may be a good solution, something starting low and growing with each repeat violation, with the first step in the process being a warning letter. I don't agree with towing resident's vehicles from the homes they paid for in the community we all pay to live in, unless it is blocking another resident's access to their property or creating a significant safety issue. I think we should also have an online form or method for residents to easily submit a message when they will have guests who will be parked on the street to avoid unnecessary fees, fines, or frustration, this should also extend to regular visitors such as pool companies, cleaning companies, etc. who are on site, often weekly. Clear guidelines would have to be followed for guest parking to ensure the system isn't abused, a guideline limiting the number of times and the duration in which a vehicle can be a guest to avoid penalties. If a fine structure is implemented there should be an appeal process to ensure people aren't impacted by others parking in front of their home, etc.

2. How would you address Harpers Trace gate and entry in general? Manned or Unmanned.

- a. I think we have had several issues with the security company in charge of controlling the one gate that we close currently. They have a habit of simply waving cars through, or going through the motion of stopping them, asking for an address and then letting them pass without checking the validity of the information they were provided, or worse, just leaving the gate open entirely. The cost to staff the guard station to monitor access at the gates is expensive with one, it will double with two. I would like to explore unmanned options, where residents have clickers and or EZ Tag access with a callbox at the gate that visitors can use to call the resident to get buzzed in. Other neighborhoods use this type of entry successfully, it is much cheaper and more effective than a person simply going through the motions and waving people in. Money that we save on staffing the gate(s) can be used to address other public safety issues or community needs. I think before we decide on either option we need to see the results of the traffic study that was recently completed in the neighborhood, the last thing we want to do is institute a change that will create long bottlenecks for people to get in the community or spill over into the 242 access road or roundabout near HEB. Regardless of the option that is chosen, we need to close that gates and keep them closed. We all paid to live in a gated community, not a partially gated, or sometimes gated community.

3. Speeding along Harpers Way, Preserve Way, Harpers Trace? Speed Bumps, Stop Signs, allow traffic enforcement.
 - a. I am in favor of more stop signs and speed bumps on those specific streets, we have families that walk through the neighborhoods and children that walk to bus stops before sunrise. This needs to be a safe community for everyone to walk in. I don't think we need speed bumps riddled throughout the neighborhood, or speed bumps every 10 feet, but speed bumps on Harpers Way, Harpers Trace, and Preserve Way spaced in such a way that cars can't get up to excessive speeds would certainly make things safer. I think we could also look at the effectiveness of illuminated speed limit signs, if we can find information that indicates they are effective, we could also look at the cost to install those. I would like to see the results of the traffic study that was recently conducted in the community. I think this may provide some data around how much traffic is passing through to avoid 242 traffic, peak times of the day, and overall volume. With all things, I think data and information should drive our decisions not feelings or opinions, and all decisions should be weighed against benefit for the community versus impact. I have spoken to many residents who live on those streets who must do things like walk in the road and stop traffic so family members can simply get out of their driveway safely or aren't comfortable letting their older children cross the street from bus stops because the rate of speed some cars are driving through the neighborhood. I personally have nearly been hit when I had to walk around a car blocking a sidewalk and a car was speeding on the wrong side of the road, so this is absolutely a problem that needs to be address in my opinion. Additionally, we need to provide options for safer pedestrian crossing at intersections. Intersections have no designated crosswalks or indicators for drivers making it unsafe. We should research available options and find a cost-effective solution to address that as well. I know speed bumps are annoying, especially if you have a low car, which I do, but I am willing to be mildly inconvenienced to ensure we have a safe community for families to walk and drive in.

4. Pool issues? Swim at Your Own Risk, enhancements.

- a. I think the pool should be swim at your own risk and open much longer than it is now. Residents moved here at least in part for the amenities it offers that we all pay for, why should families have to stare at a pool they can't use when it's hot outside. Not to mention the cost savings of not having lifeguards. I think each resident should have to sign a release of liability waiver whether they use the pool or not, that way should they decide to accompany a neighbor the HOA and community is released from liability. That release should include language to extend to all guests of the resident. Additionally, an established minimum age should be set for minors to use the pool alone. I think If this is pursued, first all pool fobs should be disabled until release of liability waivers are received and any new request for a fob would include the release of liability. In addition to the pool, we should extend the use of the pool facility to residents, we already paid for it with our HOA dues, why should we pay an exorbitant amount of money to use it. I think we should make the resident pay a cleaning deposit and reserve the facility via a calendar. If they clean up when they're done, they can get their deposit back. Beyond just reserving the facility, we should look for summer activities we can utilize that space for during the days kids are on summer break. That space sits unused, there isn't any reason we can't find low cost or free activities for kids and families during the summer months in that space.

5. Front Yard Maintenance? Landscaper, keep, eliminate, alter.
 - a. I think we should keep the front yard maintenance, but we should explore alternate vendors. While Westco is in place, we need to hold them accountable for the service they should be providing and when they cause damage. I would like to see service level agreements, including financial penalties for missing those agreements for Westco or whomever the vendor is. For too long Westco has gotten away with sub-par work and damage. I believe the current contract has a clause to get out if they are failing to meet expectations, if that language is in the new contract, the vehicle to begin that process is online complaints / submissions, that provides usable data to execute the clause. I think we should look to the community to see what services most of the residents want. For example, if most want to keep mowing, edging, and blowing, but eliminate mulch and make that the resident's responsibility, then the contract and yard maintenance fees should be adjusted. I think part of the contract should be the chosen vendors own company doing routine audits of the work and not solely rely on residents to submit issues. They need to demonstrate a commitment to service if they want to win the contract.

With all the topics discussed here and all items that will impact the community, decisions should be data driven and with a focus on what can be done to make the community better. I welcome differing opinions and debate; I am always open to my point of view being changed. In my experience, some of the best outcomes come from debate when there is a genuine interest in focusing on a solution.