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“Good planning will protect and preserve the values that continue to attract people and growth.”

-- Bruce Babbitt

Planning for Livability Workshop

Friday, November 13, 2009

9:00 AM to 12:30 PM

H-GAC Conference Room A



Agenda

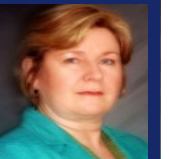
- 9:00 – 9:10** **Welcoming Remarks**
Mayor Gretchen Fagan, City of Tomball
- 9:10 – 9:20** **Establishing the Framework:
Why Plan for Livability?**
Jeff Taebel, FAICP, H-GAC
- 9:20 – 10:00** **Livability Planning: What Does it Mean?**
*Panelists: Bob Eury, Central Houston;
Robert Heineman, The Woodlands; and
Carolyn Bilski, Austin County Judge*
Moderator: Stella Gustavson, AICP, HDR
- 10:00 – 10:40** **Livability Planning Overview**
Craig Farmer, FAICP, Freese and Nichols
- 10:40 – 10:50** **Break**
- 10:50 – 11:30** **How Does Livability Affect the Bottom Line?
A Case Study of Economic Development -
Aspects of Livability Planning**
*Mickey Deison, President, Conroe Industrial
Development Corporation, with Roger Galatas,
President & C.E.O, Roger Galatas Interests*
- 11:30 – 12:10** **How Will We Implement This? Solutions for
Getting it Done**
Scott Polikov, AICP, Gateway Planning
- 12:10 – 12:30** **H-GAC Tools and Concluding Remarks**
Jeff Taebel, FAICP, H-GAC

Robert Heineman



Robert Heineman has been involved in the planning of The Woodlands from its inception for over 37 years with The Woodlands Development Company. He has served as Vice President of Planning for the last 25 years. Robert is a Past Director and Vice President of the South Montgomery County/Woodlands Chamber of Commerce (SMCWCC) in addition to being honored as Chamber of Commerce Volunteer of the Year. He received Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Architecture degrees, magna cum laude, from Rice University in 1969 and a Master's of Architecture degree in Urban Design from Harvard University in 1972. He is a registered Professional Architect, Texas, and is a Fellow with the American Institute of Architects (FAIA), Urban Land Institute (ULI), and International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC).

Stella Gustavson



Stella Gustavson has a degree in urban and regional planning and over 25 years of experience in land use and transportation planning. She works with the Transit Planning group at HDR Engineering. Ms. Gustavson grew up in Toronto Canada where she lived and breathed the urban experience. The first half of her career was focused on planning for the rapidly growing suburban and rural communities around Toronto. Since coming to Houston 11 years ago she has continued to work across urban, suburban and rural community lines. She has contributed to the planning efforts for Houston's planned light rail lines, as well as Houston's Urban Corridor Planning Initiative. She has also lent her expertise to planning and mobility projects for other Texas cities including: Nassau Bay, League City, Lake Jackson, Mont Belvieu, Galveston, Beaumont, Port Arthur, Fort Worth, and Midland. Recently she provided transportation planning input for the Livable Centers project for the Waller, Texas.

Panelists

Judge Carolyn Bilski



The Honorable Carolyn Bilski is the first female and First Republican County Judge in Austin County and is serving her fourth term as County Judge. Born in Austin County, she served on the Sealy City Council (her hometown) for 8 1/2 years. She has served as President of Houston Galveston Area Council and President of Texas Association of Regional Councils. She was recently elected to the Board of Directors for the National Association of Regional Councils. In May 2006, Judge Bilski received the Texas Road Hand Award. She joined 203 recipients over the past 33 years. Mike Behrens, Executive Director of the Texas Department of Transportation, quoted “the award is the highest tribute TxDOT can bestow on a citizen who has been instrumental in assisting with TxDOT projects and local transportation needs.”

Robert M. Eury



Robert M. Eury has served as President of Central Houston, Inc., a private, non-profit corporation formed to lead the planning and implementation of the redevelopment of Houston’s central city area. Mr. Eury is also the Executive Director of the Houston Downtown Management District, a special assessment district within downtown Houston. Mr. Eury was Vice President and Director of Research Development for Rice Center prior to starting Central Houston in 1983. During his nine years with Rice Center, his research focused on: land use/transportation joint development, urban services delivery, development regulation and environmental design. Mr. Eury holds a Master of Architecture in Urban Design from Rice University and a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the University of Cincinnati.

Speakers

Mayor Gretchen Fagan



The Honorable Gretchen Fagan grew up in Austin Texas and graduated from Texas State University. She began working for Farmers Insurance in 1986 and held numerous management positions before becoming an agent in 2002. With no political goals or aspirations, she ran for City Council in 2004 at the request of fellow citizens. She was Mayor Pro-Tem for two years and was then elected Mayor of Tomball in May 2005. Tomball has a population of 9,089, passed its first zoning ordinance in December of 2008 and is currently working on their first comprehensive plan. Mayor Fagan still runs a successful insurance agency on Main Street in Tomball with her husband, Mike.

Jeff Taebel



Jeff Taebel is Director of Community and Environmental Planning at the Houston-Galveston Area Council, where he oversees the agency’s community and environmental planning, socioeconomic modeling, economic development, community enhancement and disaster recovery initiatives. He has 27 years of experience in urban and regional planning, including 22 in his current position. Actively involved in community service, professional development and planning education, Mr. Taebel is a former President of the Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association and in 2008 was inducted as a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Craig N. Farmer



Craig N. Farmer, FAICP, is Manager of Urban Planning in the Sefko Planning Group of Freese and Nichols, Inc. Mr. Farmer has over 30 years of public sector experience managing Planning, Public Works, Engineering, Storm Water, Building Inspection and Transportation Departments as a Deputy City Manager or Department Head in the cities of Lubbock, Carrollton, Grand Prairie and McAllen. He is a Fellow in the College of the American Institute of Certified Planners and has served on the National Board of Directors of the American Planning Association (APA), the Board of Directors of the Texas Municipal League and has served as president of the Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association and the City Planner's Association of Texas.

R.A. "Mickey" Deison



R.A. "Mickey" Deison, a former Mayor of Conroe and Montgomery County Judge, serves as president of the Conroe Industrial Development Corporation and has served in varying capacities in numerous organizations, including the Governor's County Officials Advisory Council and the Governor's Water Task Force. He is a life member of both the Greater Conroe/Lake Area Chamber of Commerce and the Conroe Noon Kiwanis Club. He's been honored as the Lifetime Vice President of the Montgomery County Fair Association and with recognition on the Chamber of Commerce Wall of Honor. A U.S. Navy veteran, he has been professionally affiliated with the State Bar of Texas, Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity, the City of Shenandoah as City Attorney, the Montgomery County Bar Association and the American Bar Association. Deison holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and Doctor of Juris Prudence.

Roger L. Galatas



Roger L. Galatas is President and C.E.O. of Roger Galatas Interests and provides advisory and development services to owners, investors and executive management of real estate ventures with a focus on master planned communities. Previously, Mr. Galatas served as President and C.E.O. of The Woodlands Operating Company, L.P. and directed all the company's real estate activities related to the internationally recognized 27,000-acre community of The Woodlands located just north of Houston, Texas. He was responsible for the full range of business activities and strategic planning for the development, marketing, management and financial performance of all the company's assets. He has also been involved in resort development on Galveston Island and at Aspen and Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

Scott Polikov



Scott Polikov, AICP, is a civic entrepreneur and principal of the Gateway Planning Group, Inc. of Fort Worth, Texas. Mr. Polikov started his professional life in law, focusing on litigation and legislative initiatives. He decided to leave a law practice in Washington, D.C and return to Texas in the early 1990s to be more involved in local affairs, which is when he was recruited to serve on the board of his local transit authority, Capital Metro, and the Austin Region's metropolitan planning organization (CAMPO). Today, as a town planner, Mr. Polikov works principally with fast-growing communities, developers and transit systems to harness growth into walkable, mixed-use neighborhoods. Scott's versatility pulls together the economics of infrastructure and place making, serving in project management capacities from toll road design to transit village creation. Mr. Polikov serves as an associate member of the Citistates Group, founded by Neal Peirce, and he also serves on the board of directors of the National Civic League.