

Yes

Oral on Neighborhood Recognition Program

Our City has a significant number of voluntary homeowners associations that serve to keep their members informed of events occurring in the community. Representatives of these associations frequently appear before this Council or submit letters to the *Daily Breeze*, referencing their concerns about matters before the Council or elsewhere in the community. Unfortunately it is often difficult for the Council to assess the scope or intensity of interest of an association's members on a particular issue.

Therefore, with the concurrence of my colleagues, I would like staff to investigate establishing a neighborhood or homeowner association recognition program that would promote improved communications between these associations and city government and to assist in early identification and resolution of potential conflicts involving neighborhoods and the private sector, particularly including real estate developers and the local business community.

Staff should also investigate the criteria the City might apply in the process of recognizing neighborhood associations. These might include establishing distinct geographical and non-overlapping boundaries for each association, reporting association bylaws, annual meetings, election of officers, actions taken with respect to particular issues, and so forth.

In return the City would note the City's officially recognized neighborhood associations on the City's web pages and in other materials. The City might also provide public documents to recognized associations at no cost, permit recognized associations to reserve at no cost public facilities on a space-available basis, provide special mailings and notice to designated representatives of recognized associations.