

Coomer Creek News



www.neighborhoodlink.com/garland/coomercreek

Spring 09

Coomer Creek Association and Crime Watch

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A voluntary association of neighbors
CC is bounded by Beltline Rd,
Glen Canyon north to Brand to
NRS and on the east by Crist Rd.

All are welcome ~

We are **BRANDED!**

If you google Coomer Creek , you will find that we have established a successful brand – real estate to pizza – this is a good technique for housing values!

Hello Neighbors!!

What do you know of CPTED?? Curious? CPTED stands for Crime Prevention through Environmental Design. Lt McCully of our GPD is one of the few nation wide experts and lends his expertise to the city and community groups generously.

My version is a CPTED for dummies, like me; so to speak, I have learned that we can control our environment creatively. We all think of lighting, but do we think of the shadows from over bright lights? Landscaping? What is the role of sidewalks but to invite the visitor to a place? What really is security? Which is the most secure building? Does this apply to homes, public places or the design of a city or community as a whole?

All of these questions were asked at his presentation at our crime watch meeting and the answers were amazing. We hope to invite this speaker to our next meeting if schedules allow.

Obvious security answers we gave related to the police. This is called organized surveillance as they travel our city to keep us safe. This would also include our Citizen on Patrol group and I would encourage more neighbors to attend the 4-hour class and take part.

Certain behaviors contribute to security. This would include using our park and not letting others take over. This use would fall under the category of activity. Being out and about helps us establish our territoriality. Other territory markers are well-maintained yards. It defines our space and lets by passers know that we care and are watching. Fences at times can protect the criminal. How about a tree line? How does landscaping around your homes help? Bushes can be uninviting but also need to allow a site line for you. Keep them trimmed.

Security can be natural, mechanical such as an alarm system or organizational. Remember that mechanical devices need maintenance. Lighting should allow you to see your wristwatch or 40 feet. If there is a streetlight that needs improving we may want to contact GPL with the pole number and address to guide them. Good lighting is ambient lighting such as walkway ground lights and landscape lighting that does not impose on your neighbors.

How do we see us using these concepts to keep our community safer and crime free?

One starter is National Night Out in Oct. This was an initiative to "Take Back the Night". Can we find ways to do this year round?

With spring and then summer, lets get out, walk, meet people and know who belongs and who is creating trouble. As we saw from crime reports, these 'bad guys' come from outside but also live in our area. Be observant and connected to your block and to the volunteers of Coomer Creek.



City Council Meeting Tuesday April 7 at 7PM-Zoning for Century Park – improved uses were stopped!

New zoning was postponed and all uses will be allowed if sold now. Ask for office one zoning with a detail plan – speak for quality – owner wants to keep most old uses strip mall auto ect- this includes allowing traffic from Century Park.