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## Update

September 11, 2017 2:23 PM | [Anonymous member](#) (Administrator)

### ***at work on your behalf***

Museum Park Board Members have been working to address neighborhood concerns including the US 59 encampment health and safety issues, transmission line relocations, and Holocaust Museum's construction and repayment arrangements for 1300 Calumet. In other news, Houston Southeast has approved funding for SWA (original design team for the Livable Centers Study) to provide a conceptual design for a pedestrian corridor as part of *Our Museum Park LCS*. Details of all these efforts and upcoming events are below.

*Please note:* MPNA members, including Sandy Stevens, Kim Mickelson, Kathleen O'Reilly, Greg Quintero, and Ruth Ann Skaff, hold seats on the Museum Park Super Neighborhood Council to represent residents while working cooperatively with all stakeholders including the Museum District, Hermann Park Conservancy, Miller Outdoor Theatre, businesses, and health and faith institutions. In this way we give residents a stronger voice with which to speak to the city.

**July 13, 2017:** Museum Park Super Neighborhood met with representatives of Houston Southeast, Midtown Management District, HPD, Precinct 7 Constables, and others to discuss health and safety concerns stemming from US 59 encampment. The focus of the meeting was to explore ways to coordinate efforts among the various law enforcement organizations to provide 24/7 patrols around the encampment. Please see notes from that meeting for additional details, [HouSE.MPSN Meeting Notes](#). MPNA has worked closely with MPSN to achieve around-the-clock patrols near US 59, [MPNA Request](#).

**July 21, 2017:** MPSN notified by the Planning Department of variance request being made by Holocaust Museum Houston. MPSN requested that Planning Commission hearing be postponed as required signage had not been posted, and requested meeting with HMH, Clayton Library, and CoH leadership to understand variance and other issues (see August 1). The variance hearing was deferred to August 24.

**July 24, 2017:** Health and Safety Ad Hoc Committee met to discuss ways to address encampment issues under US 59. Several action items emerged from the meeting: making independent petition available for signatures at the August MPNA meeting; setting dates to call council members and later appear before city council as a block of concerned citizens. Specific requests to the city including additional patrols, enforcement of drug laws, fencing of area beneath US 59, and additional lighting were proposed. *Committee will reconvene to finalize plans and set timeline post Harvey.*

**July 25, 2017:** MPNA was contacted by a concerned resident regarding relocation of Center Point high voltage transmission lines from current location behind homes to visible street location along Blodgett. MPNA negotiated a different, and less expensive option with CP, so lines will be raised, but remain in their currently less intrusive locations.

*Please contact us if you see a sign, an activity, a development, or receive a notice that you are concerned about....neighborhoods have a say in how they develop. Together we can make a difference!*

**August 1, 2017:** MPSN met with Holocaust Museum Houston design team to discuss construction and expansion of the Holocaust Museum and its interaction with the neighborhood. Please see notes, [MPSN.HMH Meeting Notes](#), for details.

Of particular concern is the HMH agreement with the City of Houston regarding the abandonment of Calumet in 2009 and the payment terms approved by city council in 2016. MPSN/MPNA are asking the city to reconsider this agreement in order to align with *Your Museum Park Livable Centers Study*. Please see documents regarding these changes including MPNA [letter of support](#).

[HMH Campus6.21.17.jpg](#),

[HPL Holocaust Museum - Clayton Museum RCA.pdf](#).

**August 16, 2017:** MPSN representatives met with HouSE Management District Transportation committee to request funding for a conceptual design to be implemented by SWA for pedestrian corridor along Caroline and adjacent to Holocaust Museum Houston. HouSE and MPSN are

working to propose alternatives to the current compensation effort approved by the City of Houston for the purchase of the 1300 block of Calumet. Transportation Committee and subsequently HouSE Board approved the request.

**August 22, 2017:** US District Court issued a temporary restraining order prohibiting the enforcement of City of Houston 'no camping' ordinance, in response to complaint filed by ACLU in May. Courts were closed by Harvey; we will continue to monitor and post updates. [TRO](#)

**August 24:** Planning Commission approved Holocaust Museum variance request with several changes to accommodate most of Museum Park concerns. The HMMH repayment for Calumet, a different issue, is still under discussion.

**September 10:** Membership Committee will hold a meeting to make plans for member outreach. To join the committee email Barbara McGuffey at [membership@museumparkna.org](mailto:membership@museumparkna.org)

**October 3:** National Night Out will be held 6:00-800 p.m. at Southmore@Crawford. This annual event will give you the opportunity to not only get to know your neighbors better, but also to thank Houston's first responders who have worked so tirelessly since the catastrophic flooding of Hurricane Harvey. Volunteers are needed to make this event a success. Please contact Cindy Woods at [community@museumparkna.org](mailto:community@museumparkna.org)

**October 4:** Next General Meeting MPNA. Details to follow.

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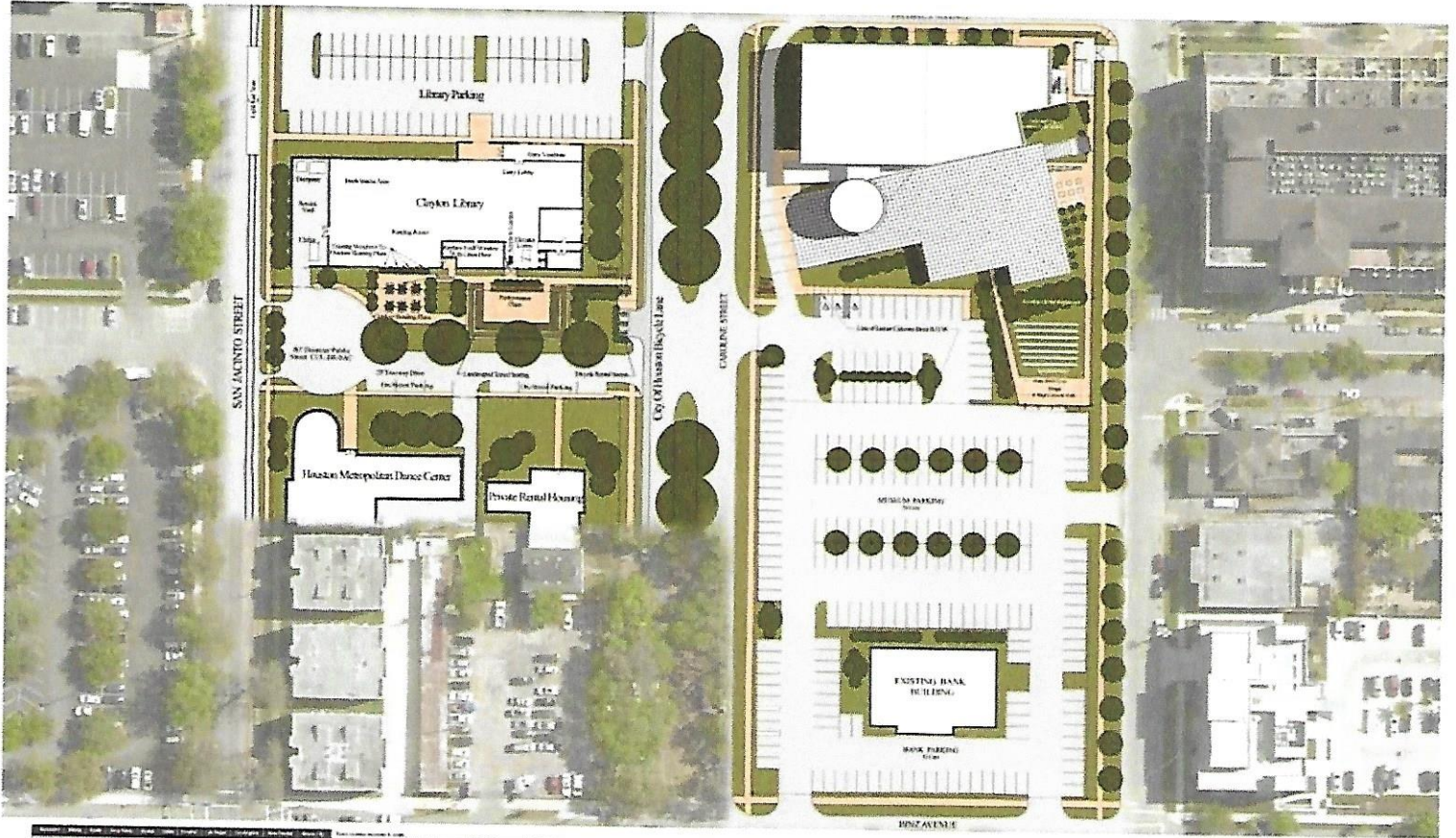
Museum Park Neighborhood Association joins with MP Super Neighborhood in opposing the current Holocaust Museum's agreement with the city of Houston to pay for the acquisition of public right of way through acquisition of additional public right of way (north lanes of 1200 Calumet) to create a pocket park.

This agreement was negotiated in city of Houston offices and approved by city council without public input. The closure of an additional two lanes of public right of way to create the park assumes this block can never again be part of the traffic grid. And although 1200 Calumet is currently blocked by light rail, future traffic needs may well include the reopening of the crossing at San Jacinto.

Current infrastructure needs within Museum Park far outweigh the installation of a pocket park behind the Clayton. Sidewalks along Caroline are impassable between Calumet and Binz. Caroline @ Binz serves as a gateway into Museum Park where visitors to the institutions along Caroline, HMH, Clayton, Asia Society, Houston Museum of African American Culture, and Buffalo Soldiers can enjoy infrastructure improvement. Museum Park's Livable Centers Study, endorsed by the city of Houston, charts a plan that will give the institutions a fitting backdrop. We ask your support to ensure that the LCS is consulted in all planning for Museum Park.

We respectfully request that the planning department renegotiate the agreement after first taking public input on what options best serve the community at large. Museum Park with its twelve million visitors a year is home to world class institutions including HMH and Clayton Library. Our pedestrian visitors deserve infrastructure that enables them to negotiate their way between the various institutions.

Thank you for your continued support,  
Sandra Stevens, President  
*Museum Park Neighborhood Association*



**PGAL**  
 1001 WASHINGTON BLVD. SUITE 200  
 HOUSTON, TX 77002  
 TEL: 713.422.1444  
 FAX: 713.422.5311  
 WWW.PGAL.COM

**HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON**  
 MOODY CAMPUS IN HONOR OF BUDDY HERZ  
 EXPANSION AND RENOVATION  
 SITE PLAN

HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON  
**HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON**  
 1915 EAST 19TH ST. HOUSTON, TX 77004



**CITY OF HOUSTON - CITY COUNCIL**

Meeting Date: 10/18/2016

District C

Item Creation Date: 10/5/2016

HPL - Holocaust Museum Houston Improv - Clayton Library

Agenda Item#: 16.

**Summary:**

ORDINANCE approving and authorizing Development and Construction Agreement between the City of Houston, Texas and HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON for Improvements around the Clayton Library located at Caroline Street - **DISTRICT C - COHEN**

**Background:**

**SUBJECT:** An Ordinance approving and authorizing a development and construction agreement between the City of Houston, Texas and HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON for improvements around the Clayton Library located at Caroline Street

**RECOMMENDATION:** (Summary) Approve an ordinance authorizing a Development Construction Agreement with the Holocaust Museum Houston

**SPECIFIC EXPLANATION:**

The Holocaust Museum Houston (HMH) owns and operates the Holocaust Museum at 5401 Caroline Street and the City of Houston, Texas owns and operates the Clayton Library across Caroline Street from the Museum at 5300 - 5400 Caroline.

In connection with expansion of the museum, HMH requested the City abandoned one block of Calumet Street from Austin to Caroline subject to conveyance of a full width utility easement and certain other requirements including payment of the appraised value determined at the time to be \$572,115.00. The easement was conveyed by the Museum payment of the appraised value which was extended by mutual agreement by City Council Ordinance 2013-1127 on December 11, 2013. HMH expected to obtain the funds from federal sources but due to changes in that funding source their effort was not successful.

HMH has proposed that, rather than paying the appraised value and accrued interest, HMH will design and construct specific improvements around the Library, including reducing the width of the pavement in the 1200 block of Calumet Street, installing a plaza with reading area under the live oaks to serve library patrons, a pad for a bike sharing kiosk or bike rack and landscaping. The improvements will be maintained by the Library Department - The total value of the improvements available to the public is estimated to be over \$240,000 more than the appraised value of the abandoned block of Calumet.

**Prior Council Action:**

(M) 2008-0009

(O) 2008-1224

(O) 2013-1127

**Contact Information:**

Name	Telephone
Andy Icken	832.393.1064
John Middleton	832.393.1681

**ATTACHMENTS:**

**Description**

RCA

**Type**

Signed Cover sheet