

WESTBURY REVITALIZATION STRATEGIES (1998)

Authoring organization, time frame, geographic area, and primary issues:

This plan from the City of Houston Planning and Development Department principally concerned itself with dealing with the instances of neglect, blight, and crime in the Westbury area, coupled with improvements in local business conditions and opportunities for youth. It identified a “target area” generally populated with low and moderate-income apartment complexes.

Primary issues:

- Beautification
- Crime and public safety
- Business recruitment and retention Improvement of existing properties
- Recreation and education

Plan creation and public involvement:

The Westbury Area Improvement Corporation was the primary community group involved in plan preparation, made up of primarily home and business owners, apartment owners, and school and church representatives.

Plan vision statement:

Plan goals or objectives:

Beautification

- Develop master landscape plan
- Build a linear park along Chimney Rock and a jogging trail
- Start litter cleanup

Crime and Public Safety

- Monitor crime
- Remove graffiti
- Improve public area security

Business Recruitment and Retention

- Find assistance programs
- Market the area
- Identify and promote infrastructure improvements
- Improve relationships between business and community



Improvement of Existing Properties

- Develop programs to monitor code compliance
- Abate hazards and eyesores
- Improve Westbury High School
- Acquire or control vacant “triangle”

Recreation and education

- Improve and develop recreational facilities (focus on children and seniors)
- Promote awareness of recreation and education opportunities

Strategies:

Key projects:

Its recommendations were mostly on the “soft” side, increasing education and community awareness programs plus more interaction with the City of Houston to help solve problems. The primary “hard” improvements were development of a landscaping plan for public rights of way and graffiti removal.

Implementation and funding:

