

Fields Addresses Membership at Annual Awards Luncheon

The North Houston Association presented its annual awards to outstanding community leaders at the Annual Awards Luncheon in February at the Wyndham Hotel - Greenspoint.

Former District 8 Congressman Jack Fields addressed the association's membership at the event, and was the recipient of NHA's 1996 North Star Award.

Fields told anecdotes of his numerous memorable experiences in the legislature and reflected on lessons learned.

"For 16 years it was the greatest honor to serve all of you in the United States government," he said. "I would not give anything for the experience."

The North Houston Association awarded its 1996 Compass Award to Jack Drake, president and general manager of the Greater Greenspoint Management District, for his positive impact in the Greenspoint area.

Along with other Greenspoint community leaders, Drake created the management district and continues to oversee its direction and mission.



NHA Chairman James Royer (far left) and Vice Chairman Robert Moore (far right) presented The Honorable Jack Fields, pictured with his wife Lynn, the association's North Star Award.

The association presented a new award this year - the Environmental Impact Award. This award is given to a company that has made a significant contribution to the improvement of the area's environment.

Compaq Computer Corporation was the recipient of this new award for its numerous environmental improvement efforts.

Compaq has testified before Congress regarding the Clean Air Act and its amendments, implemented an aggressive telecommuting program and has been an instigator of the creation of scenic districts in north Houston.



Steve Garner (left), of Compaq, receives the 1996 Environmental Impact Award from NHA Vice Chair Robert Moore. Jack Drake, with the Greater Greenspoint Management District, (right) accepts NHA's 1996 Compass Award.



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From the President...

Dear NHA Members:

As you know, I am in the midst of the 75th Texas Legislative Session, and what a session it has been so far. I have sponsored several pieces of legislation, many which are transportation-related, including a bill to increase the speed limit to 70 m.p.h. on limited-access roads in Harris County. This bill (SB 161) has been passed through the Senate and is almost assured to become law. I have also sponsored a bill that assures citizens in an annexed area the right to vote in all elections held by the annexing municipality. This bill (SB 236) has passed in the Senate and also should become law in this session.

I have been assigned to the following committees this session: Committee of the Whole on Legislative & Congressional Redistricting; Intergovernmental Relations; International Relations, Trade and Technology; Natural Resources; Water (subcommittee); and State Affairs. As you can imagine, status on bills change daily. The association staff will keep you up to date via your weekly faxes. As always, feel free to contact me directly on any legislative issues.

Jon Lindsay

Committees Set Goals for 1997

The North Houston Association's Board of Directors held its annual retreat in February and put its final stamp of approval on the association's goals for 1997.

Even though the goals are now officially approved, the committees have been working on many of their objectives since January.

The Economic Development Committee plans to update and reprint the association's Aerial Land Use Map, oversee the completion of a regional labor market study, lead and support the creation of a regional economic development plan and identify labor market concerns in north Houston.

As reflected in the above goals, the North Houston Association's role in economic development in north Houston is one of research and support.

The Economic Development Committee is led by Ray Laughter, executive director of the North Harris Montgomery Community College District's Center for Business and Economic Development.

Laughter is the north Houston contact for economic development pros-

pects and oversees the North Houston Economic Development Alliance, a group with representatives from the North Houston Association and north Houston chambers of commerce.

NHA's Environment Committee has several infrastructure issues it will follow, including water supply, flooding of the San Jacinto River, flood plain remapping, wetlands and landfills.

In addition to infrastructure issues, it will work with the city of Houston regarding beautifying JFK Boulevard following its widening and will lend support to north Houston beautification efforts. Michael Murr is chairman of the beautification subcommittee.

The association's Transportation Committee has identified the following goals for 1997: continue to work with area agencies to host a panel discussion regarding airport mobility, update the North Houston Association's Mobility Update and assist north Houston companies and employees with congestion-mitigation efforts.

Mark Froehlich, of Pate Engineers, will serve his second year as Transportation Committee chairman. ■

NHA 1997 Committee Structure

Economic Development Committee

Chairman: Ray Laughter, NHMCCD

Vice Chairman: Position Open
Board Liaison: James Curry, Hines Interests

Environment Committee

Chairman: Alan Potok, Turner, Collie & Braden, Inc.
Vice Chairman: Position Open
Board Liaison: Sharon Mattox, Vinson & Elkins, L.L.P.

Beautification Subcommittee

Chairman: Michael Murr, Compaq Computer Corporation

Infrastructure Subcommittee

Chairman: Alex Sutton, The Woodlands Corporation

Transportation Committee

Chairman: Mark Froehlich, Pate Engineers
Vice Chairman: Glenn Graham, Espey, Huston & Associates
Board Liaison: James Royer, Turner, Collie & Braden, Inc.

Airport Connectors Subcommittee

Chairman: Roy Hearnberger, Carter & Burgess, Inc.

Mobility Update Subcommittee

Chairman: Jon Strange, JNS Consulting Engineers, Inc.

Golf Committee

Chairman: Bobby Adams, Turner, Collie & Braden, Inc.

Economic Development Committee

The North Houston Association is taking part in a compensation survey being conducted by Arthur Andersen L.L.P. for the Houston Compensation Association.

The survey monitors total compensation trends and addresses timely compensation issues among Houston area companies.

The association will contact companies in north Houston and encourage them to respond to the survey, and in return, NHA will receive a entire copy of the results as well as a break out of the north Houston region.

NHA is taking part in the survey along with the North Harris Montgomery Community College District, the Greater Houston Partnership and other regional organizations in the greater Houston area.

For more information on the study, or to join the Economic Development Committee, contact the NHA office.

Environment Committee

NHA's Environment Committee has given its final recommendations to Senator Elect and NHA President Jon Lindsay on draft water supply legislation.

Lindsay has indicated he is working to get the suggested changes incorporated into the legislation. After the legislation is out of legislative council, Lindsay plans to hold a public hearing on the subject. Watch your "Friday Facts" for more information.

The Environment Committee is requesting that the association be added to the Harris County Flood Control Task Force. The committee is nominating Bob Boozer, HNTB, to represent NHA on this task force.

The committee also commented on revisions to Harris County's proposed Flood Plain Management Regulations, and as a result, a majority of the requested changes to the regulations have been made.

Transportation Committee

The North Houston Association's Transportation Committee will host a panel discussion on April 18 regarding mobility improvements in the Houston-Intercontinental Airport area.

Panelists will include representatives from each of the agencies that have the ability to implement projects in the airport area, and Senator Jon Lindsay will serve as moderator.

The panelists are Judge Robert Eckels, Harris County; Commissioner Jerry Eversole, Harris County Precinct Four; Wesley Freise, Harris County Toll Road Authority; Paul Gaines, city of Houston/department of aviation; Jerry King, Metropolitan Transit Authority; Jimmie Schindewolf, city of Houston/department of public works and engineering; and Gary Trietsch, Texas Department of Transportation.

Prior to planning the panel discussion, NHA's Airport Connectors Subcommittee, chaired by Roy Hearsberger, met individually with six agencies to identify mobility improvement projects that would help alleviate congestion in the airport area. The subcommittee then asked the agencies, as well as NHA's membership, to prioritize the identified projects. The city of Houston's Department of Aviation will display these top projects graphically in a discussion document, which will be distributed at the event.

Following the discussion, NHA's Transportation Committee will identify several projects it considers critical to the area's mobility and follow their progress.

The panel discussion will take place from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Wyndham Hotel - Greenspoint. Sponsorships are available for \$250, which includes 10 tickets to the event, special recognition during the program and on the information document. Individual tickets are \$5, which includes a light breakfast. ■



(left to right) Senator Jon Lindsay, NHA president, Catherine Wray, director of projects, and Marlisa Stanley, executive director, meet Lieutenant Governor Bob Bullock during the Alliance of North Houston Chambers of Commerce (ANHOC) Day at the Capitol.

Upcoming Events

Welcome, New Members!

Welcome to **Columbia Northwest Medical Center**. Columbia is planning a new 119-bed hospital which will provide a full continuum of inpatient and outpatient medical and surgical services. The company owns 10.43 acres on 1960 near IH-45, and the 243,000 square foot hospital will replace the Columbia TOPS Surgical Specialty Hospital.

Ferro-Saylors, Inc. (FSI) joined the Association in January. FSI is a full service engineering and architectural firm dedicated to providing its clients with quality service in an efficient and timely manner. FSI has prepared design and construction documents for local projects involving transportation, drainage, municipal, land development, architecture, site development and construction management.

NHA's newest member is the **Hyatt Regency Houston Airport**, located at 15747 JFK Boulevard. The Hyatt is a

314-room hotel with more than 20,000 square feet of meeting space, located just two miles from Houston Intercontinental Airport. Three food and beverage outlets accent some of the amenities: Bo Peeps Texas-style sports bar; Oakley's Restaurant and Perks Specialty Coffee Bar.

TransTexas Corporation also recently joined the association. TransTexas is one of Texas' largest independent producers and marketers of natural gas. Headquartered in Houston, the Company's common stock is listed on the NASDAQ National Market System under the symbol "TTXG." Welcome to all our new members!

NHA Committee Meetings

Contact the NHA office 281/875-0660 for information on the association's transportation, environment, golf and economic development committee meetings. The meetings are also announced in the weekly "Friday Facts" communication to members.

Special Thanks...

to the **Greater Greenspoint Management District** and the **Hyatt Regency Houston Intercontinental Airport** for their generous underwriting of this issue of "NHA VISION."



NORTH HOUSTON ASSOCIATION

16825 Northchase Dr., Ste. 160
Houston, Texas 77060

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