

March 2, 2009

Dear Neighbor,

I am a member of the Central West End Southeast Special Business District Renewal Committee, which was formed to make recommendations regarding the reauthorization of the district. I am writing to tell you about an important proposition on the ballot in the April general election that is crucial to the future of the district and neighborhood security.

The Renewal Committee has recommended reauthorizing the CWE Southeast SBD for 10 years, expanding the boundaries, maintaining the current assessment rate and allowing funds to be used for security and infrastructure improvements. **The proposition will appear on the ballot in the general election on Tuesday, April 7, 2009.**

The CWE Southeast SBD was created in 1996 to raise funds for neighborhood security. The funds collected by the SBD stay within our community and are controlled by a seven-member commission of property owners and renters from the district. Recently, the CWE Southeast SBD joined with several other SBDs and institutions to launch the CWE Neighborhood Security Initiative, a program designed to coordinate and improve security efforts throughout the Central West End. A pilot program of private bike police patrols is currently under way as part of this new security initiative.

The boundaries of the CWE Southeast SBD are being expanded to seek a comprehensive approach to neighborhood improvement and security (see map for proposed boundaries). The rate of assessment will remain at 43 cents per \$100 assessed property value, a rate far below the 85 cents per \$100 valuation allowed by law. Please see the spreadsheet in the enclosed Q&A flyer to see what your payment would be based upon the 2008 assessment. (The city is making new assessments in 2009.)

The CWE Southeast SBD provides important security services to the neighborhood – services that will cease at the end of the year if the district is not reauthorized. A safe, secure community is important for the residents, property owners, employees and visitors of our neighborhood and boosts our property values. We encourage you to vote Yes for the CWE Southeast Special Business District proposition.

A community meeting to explain the CWE Southeast SBD proposition and answer questions will be held at 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 18 at Central West End Midtown Development, 12 N. Sarah St.

We have enclosed a Q&A flyer as well as a map showing the existing and proposed boundaries. For more information, please contact Dan Krasnoff, executive director of CWE Midtown Development, at 535-5311 or d.krasnoff@cwemd.org. Information is also available on our website: www.cwemd.org.

Best Regards,

Harold Karabell
Commercial Property Owner, 4066 Lindell
Residential Property Owner & Resident, 4147 West Pine