

# *Castlegate Owners' Association Inc.*

P.O. Box 9748

College Station, Texas 77842

Phone: (979) 690-2330 Fax: (979) 690-0330

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December 8, 2015

Dear Castlegate Neighbors,

As 2015 draws to a close and we look back on the year, I want to give thanks to all of the residents and volunteers that have committed to making our community such a great place to live. A special thanks to the countless volunteers involved in our community events: the Fishing Tournament, our Spring and Fall Festivals, as well as our Spring Cleanup day. The HOA could not coordinate these events without your help!

We introduced a neighborhood survey this year and your feedback has been invaluable. We enjoyed reading all of the positive comments about our community and we appreciated the constructive feedback regarding your concerns within the neighborhood.

I know how difficult it can be to keep up with all of the news within the community, so let's take a moment to review a few of the challenges and accomplishments we had this year.

- The Ravenstone Loop School drop-off safety issues continued; the city installed "No Parking" signs during school hours around the entire loop.
- Construction traffic along Victoria Avenue caused significant road deterioration; the city has been working to repair the damages over the past couple of months.
- There were several concerns regarding the walking trail such as motorized vehicles interfering with walkers and joggers, as well as an excess of dog waste and overgrown trees and brush along the trail.
  - The HOA has recently installed signs prohibiting the use of motorized vehicles along the trail. A service has been hired to conduct regular waste removal along the trail. Tree trimming will be conducted in both the spring and the fall.
  - We also added signs on the walking trail including the crosswalk at the four-way stop and at the Gardens entrance/exit for the safety of residents using these walking trails.
- The condition and appearance of the fences along Victoria Avenue continue to cause concern about the perceived value of our community. The board is looking at several options on how to resolve this concern, however cost is a challenge. As always, the board will strive to make decisions that benefit the entire community by keeping our home values high and our HOA dues low.
- We accomplished several landscaping projects throughout the community to help improve the appearance of the neighborhood.

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- As per the annual assessment, we removed more than 48 dead trees in common areas, green belts and along the walking trail. We also replanted the esplanades on Ravenstone and Kendal Green.
- We also removed dying crepe myrtles and installed planters along the berm on Castlegate Drive across from the park.
- Removed vegetation growth on the front lake fountain walls and repaired loose and missing stones
- Mowed gas easement between Newark and Amberley
- Finally, we also addressed general maintenance concerns throughout the neighborhood. We repainted the lettering on all the Realm Signs, installed new lights on the flag poles, and the repaired entrance lights at the Castle Entrance.

Don't forget to visit our website [www.castlegatehoa.com](http://www.castlegatehoa.com), this is the primary source of information for the Castlegate community. If you have not already done so, please make sure we have current contact information on file for you, especially your email address. By providing your email address, we can keep you updated faster than regular mail and also saves on the cost of postage so we can put that money to use for other projects.

As a reminder from the annual meeting: concerns regarding city streets, the park, land around the front fountain, and safety concerns regarding neighborhood activities must be addressed through the city. Remember, the HOA management company only has one voice when calling the city to voice a concern. Let's ALL make our voices heard when we can!

Again, the Board of Directors would like to thank all of you who have worked to make Castlegate a great place to live. Our community is made better by the residents who put forth the effort to maintain their properties, volunteer their time, and offer suggestions and solutions for making our community a better place to live.

I hope to see you at a board meeting, the annual meeting, or out and about in the community!

Best Wishes,

*Michelle Pannell*

President - Board of Directors

Castlegate Owners Association, Inc.