

**Greater Oak Hills Civic Association**  
**A letter from our President**

**February 7, 2023**

Hello GOHCA Neighbors,

As it is time to renew your yearly neighborhood association dues for 2023, the officers and I want to provide an update on the neighborhood and how your dues are used to continue helping make Oak Hills safe and beautiful.

- Security continues to be top of mind for most in the neighborhood and has been a focus of your neighborhood association over the past year. We currently have 4 cameras that monitor the 3 main entrances to our neighborhood (Highland Road, Siegen Lane & Perkins Road). These cameras operate 24/7 and can only be accessed by the East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office, when needed. In the last quarter of 2022, we added the fourth camera at the Highland Road entrance to provide for additional monitoring after having the brick wall at that entrance recently damaged twice, with the latest perpetrator driving away and costing GOHCA \$5,600 to repair the wall.
- We continue to have an off-duty law enforcement officer patrol the neighborhood on a regular basis, as well as helping make sure that the security cameras remain operational.
- We worked with Entergy and our Public Service Commissioner Dr. Craig Greene for many months to make sure that ALL streetlights in the neighborhood were on and working. This again plays a role in helping prevent crime by having our streets and your properties properly lit. If you notice a streetlight out, please call 311 and put in a report!
- We also had our Parish Councilman Rowdy Gaudet visit the neighborhood in October and speak at that month's general meeting to speak about crime in the surrounding area, as well as to provide an update on upcoming City-Parish projects in the area. As part of that meeting, we had a presentation on ways to reinforce your house and help protect it from being a target for criminals. Board meetings are held every month on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm at Hilltop Arboretum. The meetings are always open for anyone to attend, as well as our two general meetings each March and October.
- Maintaining the beauty of our neighborhood continues to be a large financial commitment. We contract with a local service that maintains the flowerbeds, weeding and grass cutting at each of the neighborhood's entrances. The contract was recently up for renewal. All 3 bids from companies contacted had increased compared to past years, and all three bids were nearly identical, with Green Up Lawn and Landscaping retaining the contract.
- We hope you have also noticed the Oak trees beginning to grow at our main entrance off Siegen Lane. We continue to maintain and fertilize these young trees to help them grow and mature in the coming years.

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- We hope you were able to join us for our yearly Summer Social last year. It was a huge success, with a great number of our neighborhood families coming out to enjoy each other's company. Be looking for information in the coming months for similar events this year.

GOHCA has been impacted with the rise in cost of everything, just as you have. As a result, the board voted to increase the yearly dues for homeowners in the neighborhood to \$125. This is a \$25 increase and the first increase in eight years. Please renew your membership today or join if you are currently not a member. Your annual dues are the only source of funding for the association.

Your support and involvement are essential in order to continue neighborhood security, maintain and beautify our neighborhood common areas and entrances, and host neighborhood social events. Payment is easy. You can pay online by visiting [www.oakhillsbr.com](http://www.oakhillsbr.com) - > Go to 'About Us' to update your information and online payment for your annual dues of \$125. Checks are also gladly accepted. We encourage you to complete the attached form, and mail or email your updated information to ensure the directory, which is printed every other year, contains accurate information. We do not share any of your information. It is strictly for communicating to you from the GOHCA.

If you would like to get more involved in serving your neighborhood, please consider volunteering to serve on the board or one of the many committees. Refer to the website [www.oakhillsbr.com](http://www.oakhillsbr.com) to see the areas of volunteer opportunities. The website also has information about GOHCA meetings, social events, local election information, the stormwater master plan information and so much more. And make sure to join our neighborhood Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/oakhillsbr](http://www.facebook.com/oakhillsbr).

I want to thank you in advance for joining your neighbors and paying your 2023 dues. Oak Hills is truly the best neighborhood in EBR and we look forward to seeing you around the neighborhood and also at an upcoming meeting. If you ever have any questions, please reach out to your board members below at any time.

Most sincerely,

Ellen Elias  
Outgoing President

Brian Apple  
VP; President on 4/1

Lindsey Litchfield  
Secretary

Kathryn Gremillion  
Treasurer

Current Board Members: Conrad Green, Ray Kothe, Mike Paul, Trey Williams, Kevin Young, Craig Zumbrecher