



CPCA Position Statement

On Closing of Park Drive During Evening Hours

The Chastain Park Civic Association (CPCA) has been monitoring the recent criminal activity in and near Chastain Park. The recent January 3, 2008 shooting and car-jacking on Park Drive renewed the CPCA's discussion about concerns of on-going criminal activity on Park Drive in the evening hours.

The CPCA strongly recommends the closing of Park Drive to vehicular traffic at one hour after sunset on evenings with no Amphitheater concert. The reasons for CPCA's positions include:

- ✓ Neighborhood complaints about drug activity on or adjacent to Park Drive;
- ✓ Park Drive does not play a vital functional role in curtailing traffic after hours (and there are readily available alternative routes);
- ✓ The closing of Park Drive during these evening hours can be accomplished with minimal expense and resources (*e.g.*, locked gates or re-use of bollards); and
- ✓ Concerns of escalating criminal activity (*e.g.*, the shooting and car-jacking) that require attention to deter and prevent future harmful behavior to residents, the neighborhood, the Park and the Park's patrons.

The CPCA's Board voted unanimously to adopt this Position Statement on February 25, 2008. The CPCA strongly urges the closing of Park Drive to vehicular traffic about one hour after sunset (re-opening about one hour before sunrise) to enhance neighborhood security and protect residents and Park patrons.