

Renewal of PECA Security District in 2010

WHAT IS THE PECA SECURITY TAXING DISTRICT?

For those who are new to the neighborhood or have moved here after 2000, our property tax bills currently include a fixed \$280 annual assessment that is used to cover the cost of additional police protection, which is currently 77 cents per day.

WHAT DO WE RECEIVE FOR OUR SECURITY TAXING DISTRICT?

With these security funds, Plantation Estates:

- maintains security patrols using JPSO officers
- installed license plate cameras at our entrances in partnership with JPSO
- provides decals upon request for any PE homeowner vehicles
- maintains time cards for accountability measures and payroll records
- use door hangers to advise homeowners of safety/security related issues
- hosts a very successful Night Out Against Crime annually
- coordinates an annual homeowner's meeting for input and provide updates
- responds immediately to all inquiries by phone, email or in person
- remains one of the most active civic associations in all of Jefferson Parish

WHY IS THIS TAX DIFFERENT FROM MOST OTHER TAXES WE PAY?

The money PECA receives stays ONLY in Plantation Estates and spent on safety and security related expenses.

WHY ARE WE DISCUSSING AN INCREASE?

In 2001, the rate for JPSO police details started at \$18/hr. In 2006, after Hurricane Katrina the detail rate increased 39% to \$25/hr. Because of this increase, we were forced to reduce our "patrol" times drastically to an average of only 8-10 hours per day. We all agreed \$280 will certainly cover less hours over the next 10 years without an increase in our security tax.

JPSO vs. PRIVATE SECURITY

Someone asked us in the past if we considered using a private patrol company that might be cheaper and allow us to cover double the hours. We did get quotes from 3 security companies shown below last year and found very little or no cost savings to even consider this option.

JPSO – Hourly rate \$25/hour (This includes everything)

Wackenhut Security - Hourly rate \$21/hour (Does NOT include purchasing vehicle, insurance & gas)

Guardsmark – Hourly rate \$18/hour (Does NOT include purchasing vehicle, insurance & gas)

New Orleans Private Patrol – Hourly rate \$27/hour (This includes everything)

1. Our JPSO officers have the authority to pull over a vehicle, run a license plate, make an arrest, and more. Private security does not!
2. Employee training and background checks need to be considered as a factor. Our security detail officers are from the JPSO.
3. Would a criminal be more intimidated by a JPSO vehicle or a private security firm? Private security officers have no arrest authority!

WHAT DO OTHER WESTBANK CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS CHARGE?

\$3,600	The Residence – Harvey
\$2,340	English Turn - Algiers
\$1,300	Lakewood Estates - Algiers
\$600	Magnolia Trace – Harvey
\$500	Pleasant Ridge - Belle Chasse
\$500	The Villas of Aurora - Algiers
\$500	Aurora Riverside - Algiers
\$495	Barkley Estates – Harvey
\$480	The Commons - Gretna
\$375	Algiers Riverpoint - Algiers
\$360	Village Green - Harvey
\$320+	Stonebridge - Harvey/Gretna - Limited Access (increases 3%/year)
\$280	Plantation Estates - Marrero

VOTER REGISTRATION CARDS

If you recently moved into PE and are still registered to vote in another district, it is very important that you change your address with the JP Registrar of Voters office. We have some 50 Change of Address voter registration cards if you need them. If this is not done by the time we vote next year, you will NOT be able to vote on this issue.

WHEN WILL THIS SHOW UP ON THE BALLOT?

We are currently working with Bill Becknell who is an attorney that handles all ballot items for Jefferson Parish. We are hoping to place this on the ballot in May 2010. We will announce the exact date when it is confirmed.

TWO PROPOSALS WE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS

The proposals below will replace our existing \$280. If we don't vote to renew this next year, it will be set to expire soon thereafter. If we choose to do so, we can certainly keep the current \$280 to place back on the ballot. However, as the hourly rate & insurance increases, it would certainly drop our patrol coverage hours over time, which is why we are making this proposal for your consideration.

PROPOSAL 1	PROPOSAL 2
Increase of \$30 in years 1, 4 and 7	Increase of \$73 in years 1, 4 and 7
(Proposal to maintain current patrols hours)	(Proposal to increase patrols)
2010 - \$280 (Our current rate)	2010 - \$280 (Our current rate)
2011 - \$310 (Increase \$30)	2011 - \$353 (Increase \$73)
2012 - \$310	2012 - \$353
2013 - \$310	2013 - \$353
2014 - \$340 (Increase \$30)	2014 - \$426 (Increase \$73)
2015 - \$340	2015 - \$426
2016 - \$340	2016 - \$426
2017 - \$370 (Increase \$30)	2017 - \$500 (Increase \$73)
2018 - \$370	2018 - \$500
2019 - \$370	2019 - \$500
2020 - \$370	2020 - \$500

The following page shows the spreadsheet breakdown for each of the proposals.

Please give us your feedback and which option you would prefer.

Thanks for your support,

Plantation Estates Community Association

PE TAX RENEWAL 2010

Security Tax \$	Homes	Annual Security Income \$	Sheriff's 15 percent \$	Insurance \$	Annual Remaining for Patrols \$	Daily Remaining for Patrols \$	Patrol Rate \$/hr	Daily Hours	Remarks	
280	404	113,120	16,968	10,000	86,152	236	18	13	Rate and assumed homes in 2001	
280	417	116,760	17,514	10,000	89,246	245	25	10	Current rate and homes	
365	417	152,205	22,831	10,000	119,374	327	25	13		
Proposal 1:	370	429	158,730	23,810	15,000	119,921	329	35	9	Proposed rate, assumed homes and insurance 2000
Proposal 2:	500	429	214,500	32,175	15,000	167,325	458	35	13	

Proposal 1:

- Increase \$30 in years 1, 4 and 7

Proposal 2:

- Increase \$73 in years 1, 4 and 7

District	Leas	Double	Vacant	Current
1	52	3	3	46
2	68	0	1	67
3	60	0	3	57
4	62	1	2	59
5	71	3	1	67
6	64	1	2	61
7	60	0	0	60
Total	437	8	12	417