



# MEMORANDUM

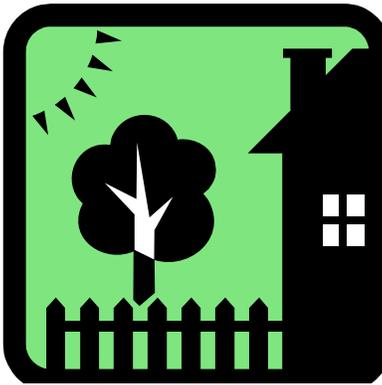
To: Nederland Board of Trustees  
From: Alisha Reis  
Date: July 10, 2014  
Re: Administrator's Report

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## Housing Needs Assessment Gets Underway

The Housing Needs Assessment has begun with interviews of 70-plus stakeholders around the community, as well as an overall community survey. The survey link is posted to the Town Web site, [www.nederlandco.org](http://www.nederlandco.org) (front page), and is being advertised around the community. The direct link is:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NederlandResident>. Paper surveys are available at the Community Center and Town Hall, with drop boxes for collection. Surveys will be conducted through the end of July and are anonymous.



Bowen National Research, the consultants assisting us with this study, will also send researchers out to spot survey folks at public areas such as the grocery store or the library in order to ensure scientifically valid survey sampling. The project steering committee reviewed and assisted with the creation of the survey questions.

Preliminary results are anticipated in August, with the full report to follow in September. Subject-specific information will also be provided related to senior housing and proposed housing at the Evans Annexation property west of town.

## 4th of July Attracts Many, but Others Seeking Something New (or Old)

As we have for many years, the Town kicked off the 4th of July festivities with the annual downtown parade -- "so good we go around twice!" This year, Mayor Pro Tem Peter Fiori led the Town contingent. After the parade was the second annual Old-Fashioned Picnic, with local musicians, aerialists, kids' games, Fire Department barrel wars, and a pie-eating contest. As a young event, the picnic drew a smattering of folks though it admittedly was not a rousing success (and was later rained out). Much of the action was away from the events at Guercio Field, in the businesses downtown -- still a great thing.

However, there is still a lot of conversation in the community surrounding the second year without fireworks and whether it puts a damper on the great American celebration in Ned. A meeting of community members was held July 9, looking to bring back the pyrotechnics. The Board should expect to hear from folks soon.

*This from Alexander Armani-Munn, who coordinated this year's events for the Town:*

### **Recommendations for future 4<sup>th</sup> of July events**

After coordinating this year's Town-sponsored Fourth of July event, I would like to present the following recommendations for the Board of Trustees' consideration. It is my opinion that in the future the Town should not host the picnic event at Guercio Field. I do recommend that the Town continue to focus planning efforts on the annual parade, which, with minimal effort in years past, has consistently drawn large crowds and could easily be improved and expanded with renewed efforts. It is NOT my recommendation that there be no 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. Rather, I recommend that the Town partner with local businesses to sponsor and promote a Town-wide event. Instead of attempting to draw people to Guercio Field for a special event that competes with businesses, this alternative Town-wide event would feature various activities and attractions at local Nederland businesses. This may include live music at our many local bars and restaurants, family and kid activities at Wild Bear Ecology Center and the Carousel of Happiness, and specials at other businesses. An event of this nature would help to promote the whole community and support local businesses that rely on summer revenue.

### **Busy Season**

We are hearing from everyone in town -- residents, business owners and Town staff alike -- that this year is shaping up to be a busy one. That's good for businesses, some of whom have weathered tough times during the last recession and during last year's floods. We continue to see high volumes of building projects and land use applications rolling in, as well as new EcoPasses and business licenses going out. We hear of near zero percent vacancy in rental housing (something we're currently studying as part of the housing study) and quick sales of homes around the community. Check out the Treasurer's financial reports this month and you'll see the proof is in the data, with sales tax up and expenses holding steady.

Town staff has been working hard to keep up with the activity and provide good service to everyone. Stop by Town Hall or any of our other facilities to check out the action. Or check out the new performance space off East Street, newly graded streets, new street signs, increased foot patrols by police officers, a newly more welcoming Community Center, and more. We're proud to serve our community.

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### **Coming Up\***

Tuesday, July 29

6 to 8 p.m. Joint Session with Planning Commission

Wednesday, July 30	6:30 p.m.	Community Resilience Meeting
Tuesday, Aug. 5	7 p.m.	Regular Meeting
Tuesday, Aug. 19		Regular Meeting
Thursday, Aug. 21		Schools Back in Session
Weekend, Aug. 22-24		NedFest, Guercio Field

*\*All events at the Community Center, unless otherwise noted.*