

**West End Home Assurance Value
Neighborhood Improvement District
2003**

**ACCOUNT
PAST DUE****

ACCOUNT NUMBER:

PROPERTY LOCATION:

ENTER AMOUNT PAID

RETURN THIS PORTION WITH YOUR PAYMENT.

Detach along perforated line above

Keep this portion for your records - A receipt WILL NOT be issued.

WEST END HOME ASSURANCE VALUE
P.O. BOX 8515,
Pittsburgh, PA 15220
Telephone: (412) 937 - 9378
www.wehav.org

PLEASE EXAMINE OWNER'S NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS FOR ACCURACY.

****ORIGINAL INVOICES WERE SENT OUT WITH A DUE DATE OF AUGUST 11TH, 2003. FAILURE TO RECEIVE A STATEMENT WILL NOT RELIEVE THE PROPERTY OWNER OR AGENT FROM PAYING THE FEE DUE. ACCOUNTS UNPAID AFTER NOVEMBER 10TH, 2003 WILL ACCRUE AN ADDITIONAL \$2.00 LATE FEE PER UNIT PER ANNUM + FACE A POSSIBLE LIEN ON THE PROPERTY.**

TO INSURE PROPER CREDIT, WRITE ACCOUNT NUMBER ON CHECK AND REMIT WITH POSTMARK AT LEAST 5 DAYS BEFORE THE DUE DATE. PLEASE **DO NOT** MAIL CASH.

PLEASE DIRECT ANY INQUIRIES TO:

WEHAV
P. O. BOX 8515
PITTSBURGH, PA 15220
(412) 937-9378
www.info@wehav.org

Account Number

ACCOUNT NUMBER	
PROPERTY LOCATION	
ANNUAL FEE* DUE PER UNIT	\$20.00
NUMBER OF UNITS	
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE UPON RECEIPT <small>Multiply Number of Units X \$20</small>	\$20.00

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE AND MAIL TO:

**WE-HAV
P.O. BOX 200243
PITTSBURGH, PA 15251-0243**

A \$30.00 FEE WILL BE ASSESSED FOR CHECKS RETURNED FROM THE BANK FOR ANY REASON.

**PLEASE NOTE: THIS INVOICE FOR \$20. PER UNIT IS AN ASSESSMENT FEE. SUCH ASSESSMENTS ARE AUTHORIZED UNDER THE NEIGHBORHOOD DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT ACT, CODIFIED AT 73 P.S. SECTION 831 ET SEQ. THE FEE WAS MISLABELED AS A TAX IN THE PLAN DESCRIPTION THAT WAS PREVIOUSLY FORWARDED TO YOUR ATTENTION.*



Board of Commissioners

Michael Roos, *Chair*; David Roth, *Vice Chair*; Randi Fowler-Black, *Treasurer*; Joyce Ruediger, *Secretary*; Adrienne Carter; Peter Czuczman; Shirley Beck Johnson; Gregory Ross; KenUnice

October 2003

Dear West Pittsburgh Neighborhood Property Owner,

I am writing to give you a brief update on the WEHAV (West End Home Assurance Value) Program and to send you another invoice. According to our records, you have not yet paid the annual \$20 assessment due from all homeowners in the WEHAV District. Given that our program is new this year, we find there are still some people who either aren't aware of the program or are confused and possibly misinformed about the program's existence and its importance to our neighborhoods. Perhaps you fall into one of those categories.

You may be aware that there has been some controversy about the WEHAV Program. However, our experience has been that most residents understand and agree with the need for the program. It is true that there is a lawsuit against the WEHAV Program brought by a few individuals. Dwight Ferguson, attorney for the opposition, told a Post Gazette reporter last July that he thought it would be better for homeowners in the WEHAV District to pay the assessment fee and, if the program is eventually terminated, request their payments be refunded. The court has not yet ruled on this case. However, the Board feels confident that the WEHAV Program was instituted properly and that the court will rule in our favor. Therefore, I am urging you to be practical and avoid the addition of late fees and/or liens against your property. I am recommending that you send in your payment promptly using the enclosed billing statement and return envelope.

I am also happy to report that the West End Home Assurance Value Program is underway and making great progress.

- The nine-member volunteer Board of Commissioners meets regularly to oversee Program activities with separate oversight committees for the areas of Finance, Appraisal, and Public Relations.
- This past July invoices were mailed to WEHAV District homeowners. Of those who received an invoice more than 50% have paid their \$20 fee.
- WEHAV has contracted with two established appraisal firms to handle requests for home appraisals, the first step in establishing membership in the home value guarantee program. We have processed over 175 requests for appraisal information.
- Other district homeowners have taken advantage of the FREE ENROLLMENT option in the guarantee program by submitting a copy of a certified appraisal completed since January of 2002.
- WEHAV recently hosted a meeting of local community leaders and most of the 12 WEHAV neighborhoods were represented. The group agreed that our district includes a diverse community and that, to some extent, each neighborhood has its own unique issues. But, they further agreed that there are other issues that are common to all and that is where we need to focus our efforts. To this end, they agreed to meet again and to broaden the coalition base. They also agreed that a community newsletter to serve all of the neighborhoods

.....(Over)

(update continued)

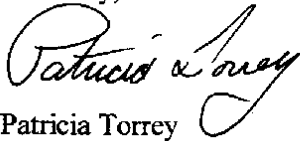
would be beneficial. Future meetings of the group will be advertised in various public places in the hope that more neighborhood residents will join in the discussions regarding the community problems that concern us all.

- WEHAV has taken a pro-active stance on behalf of the WEHAV District residents. WEHAV and West Pittsburgh Partnership (WPP), along with the Fraternal Order of Police, brought suit against the City of Pittsburgh to stop the closing of the Zone 4 Police Station. According to the legal document that created WEHAV, which was signed by the Mayor, the City agreed to maintain the same level of services in the WEHAV District as prior to the enabling legislation. We feel that the closing of the Zone 4 Station was a reduction of services and therefore, a violation of our contract. We feel that the WEHAV contract should be treated with the same respect as any other contract signed by the Mayor. This written agreement sets the WEHAV neighborhoods apart from other City neighborhoods—they have only an *implied* agreement that a certain level of City-services will be maintained while we have an *explicit* agreement on this matter.

Unfortunately, Judge Coleville ruled in favor of the City. But, WE HAV and WPP's Boards, with support from various community members, are appealing Judge Coleville's decision. Councilman Alan Hertzberg has filed the suit and will be handling the appeal on a *pro bono* basis. The court costs are being paid through separate contributions from residents and concerned citizens and NOT FROM monies appropriated to run the WEHAV program or from collected assessment or appraisal fees.

Meanwhile, if you want more information about the WEHAV Program, want to request a home appraisal, or want to find out how you might become more involved, please fill out the form at the bottom of this page and return it with your assessment payment. You may also call me at (412) 937-9378.

Sincerely,



Patricia Torrey
Executive Director

It Just Makes Good Sense To Join The Program!

It's Easy... Fill out the form and return with your billing statement or visit us on the web...

www.wehav.org

Name _____

Address _____ City _____, PA Zip _____

Day Phone _____ Eve. Phone _____ Email _____

- Yes, I want my home value guaranteed. Please sign me up for an appraisal for an additional fee of \$125. My check is enclosed.
- Yes, I want my home value guaranteed. I have an appraisal already completed since January of 2002. I will mail you a copy to P.O. Box 8515, Pittsburgh, PA 15220
- I like the idea, but I need more information sent to me.

Best to reach me by:

- Phone
- Email