



Contact:
Sandra Johnson
(214) 871 – 7696
sandra@uptowndallas.net

UPTOWN DALLAS, INC. ANNOUNCES INSTALLATION OF SECURITY CAMERAS ON MCKINNEY AVENUE

Dallas, TX – As part of a goal to make Uptown even safer, Uptown Dallas, Inc. has installed 11 security cameras along McKinney Avenue. The cameras were installed by UDI but were then donated to the Dallas Police Department (DPD), who will monitor them 24/7 from DPD headquarters. The cameras are part of a larger safety initiative planned by the UDI Public Safety committee in partnership with DPD.

The committee, under the leadership of committee co-chairs Kathryn Koons and Ken Rothman, has identified several opportunities to work with DPD to make Uptown as safe as possible, including:

- Leading a safety summit with City Councilmember Angela Hunt, DPD and neighboring communities of Downtown, Victory Park and West End to share best practices and pool resources.
- Hiring off duty DPD officers or other security personnel to patrol Uptown, paying close attention to trouble spots identified by UDI.
- Working with DPD and Angela Hunt to increase the number of uniformed officers in Central Patrol Division (which includes Uptown) from 17 to 45.

The initial installation of cameras will cover McKinney Avenue. The wireless camera system gives the monitoring officers an instantaneous 360° viewing angle of any location and can zoom in for a closer look at a situation. The cameras can also record which DPD can use for investigative purposes. The installation will be complete and operational by the end of May.

“Public safety is our top priority in Uptown and we’re looking forward to working to provide DPD with this crime deterrent and investigative tool.” said Jim Reagan, CEO of Uptown Dallas, Inc. The camera system is modeled after the Downtown Dallas program and UDI is looking forward to the same success after the deployment.

“Downtown streets are safer as a result of using these cameras,” emphasizes committee co-chair Rothman, referring to the 1,200 arrests attributed by DPD to the downtown system in 2008.

“Fortunately, Uptown is already a pretty safe neighborhood, but with this program we look forward to an even lower crime rate.

ABOUT UPTOWN DALLAS, INC. - Uptown Dallas, Inc. is a non-profit corporation established to manage the Uptown Public Improvement District by providing improvements, maintenance and services as well as represent and promote business in the Uptown area. UDI also works to create a viable social network, host events and draw media attention to Uptown. UDI is committed to creative solutions for attracting visitors to support the community while enjoying shopping, dining and entertainment and seeks to keep business owners, residents and visitors informed and engaged in the Uptown life. For more information, please call Uptown Dallas, Inc. at (214) 871-7696 or visit www.UptownDallas.net.

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