

Response to Questions posed by Mr. Kevin Roden on June 28, 2011 regarding
TWU's Land Acquisition Plan

Texas Woman's University appreciates and understands the neighborhood's interest in TWU's Land Acquisition Plan. We hope these answers to your questions will address your concerns.

- 1. When the TWU administration was deliberating this plan in 2008, what sort of neighborhood outreach took place? Can you give me a timeline of the communications that took place during this time.**

The TWU Board of Regents initially approved the purchase of properties within the boundaries of the land acquisition plan in 2005. Since then, TWU periodically has sent letters informing property owners in the area of the opportunity to sell their property to the university. Since that time, 37 properties have been sold to the university.

- 2. When the TWU administration was deliberating this plan in 2008, what sort of conversations/discussions took place with city officials and who were those city officials?**

The city was not involved.

- 3. Can you get more specific as to the timeline you are following on the east side of Bell – it seems the plan has become increasingly more aggressive in this last year. How long will you wait for “hold outs” in this area. If someone is determined to keep their house for the next 30 years, will TWU wait on them or is there a date when you begin to consider taking the property?**

There is no timeline. The university buys properties as they are offered by their owners for sale.

- 4. Can you get more specific as to the timeline you are following to the west of campus (Oakland and Austin Street)?**

There is no timeline. TWU has no plans to purchase additional property on the west side of Austin Street.

- 5. According to the map, TWU has acquired a vacant lot on the west side of Austin Street (outside of the expansion zone) – does TWU have plans to expand further in that direction. If not, what is the purpose of purchasing on that side of the street?**

TWU acquired this lot in 1945, before the land acquisition plan was created. The university previously offered it for sale, unsuccessfully, and would consider selling it now.

6. What is the long-term goal with this property (east and west)? If you have no plans, what is the rush to acquire property?

There is no rush to acquire property. We acquire properties as they are offered for sale. The long-term goal is planning for the growth and success of the university.

7. Many neighbors ask why TWU doesn't use the large plot of land now used as a golf course for their expansion area - why can't that land be sufficient to use for whatever purposes you have for these surrounding neighborhoods?

TWU intends to retain and maintain the golf course for use by students and the community.

8. Some of the properties you have recently demolished were viable rental properties - it seems TWU is working with other units to rent to students, why couldn't TWU allow these properties to remain and use them as rental property?

All of the properties purchased have been single family houses, with the exception of one apartment unit that is being used as university housing. Single family properties are unsuitable and inefficient for university housing.

9. Thus far, TWU has not pursued eminent domain – but if you purchase all the property surrounding someone’s house, tear it down, what options would you suggest are left for that property owner?

The property owner would have to make that decision.

10. The TWU website does not list contact information for the TWU Board of Regents – can you provide their emails and phone numbers for citizens interested in contacting them with concerns?

At the request of Regents, all communication with them is handled through the Office of the Chancellor and President, 940-898-3201 or astuart@twu.edu.