



**What Do Third Ward
Business Owners Think About
Economic Development in
Their Community?**

The Impact of Urban Revitalization on
Small Businesses in Third Ward Study

Focus group conducted by Principal Researcher,
Alisha Small and Community Research Assistant, TaCorra Brooks



Findings from research focus groups conducted in May 2022 show that business owners in Houston's Third Ward feel excluded from economic development processes happening in their community. Plans to revitalize the neighborhood are ongoing, but current business owners agree that the revitalization process has done little to benefit existing businesses.



What Third Ward Business Owners are Seeing

- Increases in residential and commercial rent.
- A loss of their usual customers.
- The displacement of community businesses, including mom-and-pop shops.
- A loss of trust in city leadership.
- New business owners and customers who change the community's makeup.

What Third Ward Business Owners Want to See

- A Third Ward chamber of commerce that advocates for local businesses and promotes a unified business community.
- Partnerships with financial institutions that have the business community's best interests in mind and promote genuine and sustainable financing resources for local business owners.
- Stronger partnerships between businesses and investors who can bring money into the community.
- Preservation of the community's historical culture.

Other Challenges for Third Ward Business Owners



Source: Community Artists' Collective



Hiring workers.



Publicizing up-and-coming businesses in the community.



Securing occupancy permits from the city.



Securing low-interest business loans with low interest.

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