



Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 10, No. 3 – Tuesday, January 17, 2017

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Published by the City of Knoxville's Office of Neighborhoods to report news important to Knoxville's residential neighborhoods. Include your neighborhood-related event or meeting in this space. Call 215-4382. News deadline: 5 p.m. Mondays.

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1. Conference to Offer Wide Range of Workshop Topics

The March 11 Neighborhood Conference has something for everyone --- neighborhood leaders, anyone interested in improving the quality of Knoxville's residential neighborhoods, and average citizens who just want to learn more about city government.

Among many other features, the conference will include two morning break-out sessions of 10 workshops each --- 20 in all. Here are just a few examples:

*** Janice Tocher of **South Woodlawn Neighborhood Association** and Calvin Chappelle of **Parkridge Community Organization** will discuss flyers, newsletters, social media, and other ways that neighborhood groups can reach out to their neighbors.

*** Get your creative juices flowing with a placemaking workshop led by Liza Zenni, [Arts & Culture Alliance](#); Jennifer Reynolds, **Timbercrest Neighborhood Association**; and Moderator Ben Epperson, [Great Schools Partnership](#).

*** Blight and how to fight it will be the topic of a session led by Cheri Hollifield of the City Neighborhood Codes Office; Emma Ellis-Cosigua, **Oakwood Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association**; Jay Price, **Marble City Neighborhood Organization**; and Moderator Danny Gray, **South Woodlawn Neighborhood Association**.

*** Knoxville Police Chief David Rausch will speak at a session on fighting crime, and City Finance Director Jim York will provide an overview of the city budget, including a break-down of both revenues and expenditures.

The free event will also include a continental breakfast, lunch, over 80 information booths, a photo booth, a slideshow of neighborhood photographs, door prizes, and presentation of the Good Neighbor of the Year Award.

Registration will begin in a couple of weeks. Stay tuned!

2. Parkridge Historic Overlay Meeting is Thursday

Staff of the Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) will conduct a public information meeting this Thursday on the proposed expansion of the Edgewood-Park City Historic Overlay District, which is located in the Parkridge neighborhood.

The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, at O'Connor Senior Center, 611 Winona Street.

In April 2016, Knoxville City Council approved a resolution requesting that MPC study the potential expansion of this H-1 historic overlay district. An historic inventory survey has now been completed. A map of potential expanded boundaries, including 529 properties, can be found on [this MPC web page](#).

MPC staff will talk about the survey and the rezoning process, answer questions, and gather public input.. A summary of the presentation and discussion will be posted on the [MPC website](#) during the week of Jan. 23.

3. TDOT to Speak about Broadway Viaduct, Other Projects

Representatives of the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) will speak at the January meeting of the Broadway Corridor Task Force on the upcoming replacement of the Broadway viaduct. The public is invited to attend.

The meeting will be held starting at 5 p.m. Monday, Jan. 23, at Central United Methodist Church, 201 E. Third Avenue. Parking is available behind the church and on Morgan Street. Enter through the glass doors in the back of the church. Located on the southern edge of the Fourth and Gill neighborhood, the church is one block north of the intersection of Broadway and North Central.

The viaduct --- located between W. Jackson and W. Depot Avenues --- spans the Norfolk Southern rail yard just north of downtown. For logistical reason, the entire bridge will be demolished sometime later this year and then replaced, a project expected to last approximately 30 months. [See previous coverage on this topic](#).

The TDOT representatives coming to the meeting are Eric Wilson, a multi-county project development manager; Kristin Qualls, the chief engineer for TDOT District 18; and John Barrett, assistant to TDOT Regional Manager Steve Borden.

These officials will also provide an update on the reconstruction of the Broadway intersection with I-640, a project that is already underway. In addition, there will be a brief discussion about the Broadway intersections with Cecil Avenue and Hall of Fame Drive.

The Cecil Avenue interchange was one feature of the Broadway Corridor Enhancement Plan that was presented to the public last fall in a meeting arranged by the Task Force. Developed by the East Tennessee Community Design Center, the plan proposed realigning Cecil so that it intersects Broadway at a right angle opposite the southern entrance of the Broadway Shopping Center. The project has not been funded and presents special challenges due to the steepness of the grade on Cecil.

The Enhancement Plan also addressed the difficulties of pedestrian access through the Broadway intersection with Hall of Fame Drive. TDOT performed a study exploring other configurations for the intersection, some of which allowed both left and right hand turns on Broadway from Hall of Fame and made the intersection friendlier to pedestrians.

As funding becomes available, the City's Engineering Department will look for opportunities to improve these intersections along with the pedestrian facilities in this section of the corridor.

The Broadway Corridor Task Force is composed of representatives of the North Knoxville Business and Professional Association and six neighborhoods on the Broadway corridor south of I-640: Belle Morris, Edgewood Park, Fairmont-Emoriland, Fourth & Gill, Oakwood Lincoln Park, and Old North Knoxville. It meets at 5 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month.

4. City Hires New Greenways Coordinator

Former Norris City Manager Tim Hester has been hired as the City of Knoxville's Parks and Greenways Coordinator.

Starting today (Jan. 17), Hester will manage Knoxville's existing 100-mile greenways network and oversee the most comprehensive build-out of new connective greenways in the City's history.

Hester served almost eight years as City Manager in Norris and had previously served nine years on the Norris Planning Commission, including four years as chairman. As City Manager, Hester oversaw a number of important projects, including administration of more than \$2 million in grants for improvements to parks, pedestrian amenities (including the Dairy Pond Loop path), local housing, municipal sewers, and energy efficiency.

He also worked collaboratively with the Norris Watershed Board on more than 30 miles of multi-use trails adjacent to Norris.

"I'm looking forward to the opportunity to work with all of the people involved in the greenways community of Knoxville," said Hester. "As a former City Manager and an

avid user of the Norris watershed trail system, I understand and have a passion for the benefits of parks and greenways.”

“We are continuing to strategically add new greenways, and I’m excited to have Tim as the City’s point person,” Mayor Madeline Rogero said. “His experience and his appreciation of what makes a greenways network truly comprehensive will serve him well as we continue with plans to add 24 more miles of connective greenways in 13 different corridors.”

Last summer, City officials unveiled the Greenway Corridor Feasibility Study, the blueprint that will guide new greenway construction over the next two decades. The study prioritizes improving the connections between existing greenways. To date, Mayor Rogero and City Council have budgeted more than \$3 million in capital funding for new greenway construction. For more, visit www.knoxvilletn.gov/greenways.

5. City Council to Hold Annual Retreat

The Knoxville City Council will hold its annual retreat on Saturday, Jan. 28, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Regas Building, 318 N Gay St. Mayor Madeline Rogero and Deputies to the Mayor Christi Branscom and Dr. Bill Lyons will also participate in the retreat, and they are expected to arrive at 10:00 a.m. The event is open to the public.

6. Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar (clickable to online calendar)

Call 215-4382 to include your neighborhood event or meeting in [this Google calendar](#).

If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to attend a City of Knoxville public meeting, please contact Stephanie Brewer Cook at scook@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-2034 no less than 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend. For an English interpreter, contact the City Law Department at 865-215-2050.

Other Calendars

Here are several other online calendars that cover events outside of the neighborhood realm:

- [Arts & Culture Alliance](#) (There’s More to Knoxville)
- [Arts & Fine Crafts Center Classes](#) (City of Knoxville)
- [Birdhouse Community Center](#)
- [City of Knoxville General Calendar](#)
- [Knoxville Mercury](#) (weekly community paper)

About This Newsletter

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