

Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 11, No. 32 – Tuesday, September 25, 2018

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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. OLPNA Hosts Historic Preservation Discussion

On Tuesday, Sept. 18, **Oakwood-Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association (OLPNA)** hosted the second of four neighborhood discussions on historic preservation at the OLPNA Clubhouse.

The neighborhood association is interested in assessing residents' interest in either a Neighborhood Conservation Overlay (NC-1) or Historic Overlay (H-1) for the Oakwood part of the neighborhood, which is home to approximately 800 residences. Both overlays are intended to protect neighborhood character through design review of new construction and demolition. However, the H-1 overlay is more comprehensive by providing additional guidelines for reviewing changes to existing structures, especially focusing on maintaining the historic character of existing structures. Neither type of overlay would change the permitted uses for a property.

Oakwood-Lincoln Park currently has an Infill Overlay established. However, Recode Knoxville updates currently recommend getting rid of the Infill Overlay.

Knoxville-Knox Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) was directed by City Council resolution to conduct a study of the Oakwood Neighborhood and present a recommendation on zoning overlay for the area. To help facilitate a recommendation, MPC staff members Gerald Green and Kaye Graybeal presented information on both overlay options for residents to discuss.

While no decision was made by the residents, there are two more public input meetings for residents to learn more about each overlay and provide their feedback. Stay tuned for information on the details for upcoming meetings. For more information about NC-1 or H-1, contact Kaye Graybeal, MPC Historic Preservation Planner, at 865-215-3795 or Kaye.Graybeal@knoxmpc.org.

2. Burlington Enhancement Plan to Revitalize Community

The **Burlington Residents Association** has worked with East Tennessee Community Design Center (ETCDC) to develop a Burlington Enhancement Plan to revitalize the Burlington Commercial District.

You might have heard about this Enhancement Plan throughout this past year, when ETCDC and Burlington held public input meetings and implemented a survey to capture the community's design preferences.

Surrounded by community support, the City recently held a ribbon cutting for in the Burlington area to unveil an updated intersection of Fern St. and MLK Jr. Ave. The intersections' improvements included ADA curb cuts, stamped asphalt crosswalks, and a resurfaced intersection. Funding for this project, \$187,000, was secured by State Representative Rick Staples, 15th House District, from the state. Plans for the intersection improvement were formed with the help of ETCDC's Enhancement Plan, which emphasized the need for sidewalk improvements in the area.

In addition to the completion of improvements to the intersection, the City has signaled interest in continuing work on the Burlington Commercial District by holding a September workshop presentation on the Burlington Enhancement Plan for City Council. The presentation, which the Office of Neighborhoods had the opportunity to sit in on, highlighted the need for and community interest in continuing infrastructure improvements guided by the Burlington Enhancement Plan.

The Burlington Residents Association generally meets every second Thursday of the month at the Burlington Library Branch from 6 – 7 p.m. To view the Burlington Enhancement Plan, visit [ETCDC's website](#). For more detailed information about the City's redevelopment plans, visit [the Redevelopment website](#).

Stay tuned for more information about Burlington Enhancement projects.

3. Westwood Park Celebrates 25th Anniversary

On Saturday, Sept. 15, Westwood Homeowners Association celebrated the 25th anniversary of the "heart of the community," Westwood Park.

The park was established in 1993 after residents championed a community led campaign to raise support to complete the project. A lively place, Westwood Park brings in local neighbors and outside residents alike to enjoy the gazebo, walking track, and open space.

"It is truly the heart of our neighborhood," said former Westwood HOA president, Julia Whipple, "We are a neighborhood made up of 250 older homes. The park is juxtaposed with the school so neighborhood kids are able to walk to school. We host many neighborhood events here in the park, too."

"I remember in the 60's when Westwood was still in the county," said Vice Mayor Finbarr Saunders, a Westwood resident, "that area (where the park is) used to back up to the high school football field. Today, a lot of what we do in the community is centered in the park," he continued.

When the Westwood neighbors realized the park would be turning 25, they decided to celebrate the rich history of the area by rededicating it. The community banded together, once again to raise funds for tiny libraries and a very special memorial for Joanne Terry.

“We have dedicated a water fountain with a dog to memorialize Ms. Terry,” Whipple explained. Joanne Terry, who passed away from a stroke in Westwood Park, was known as a vibrant woman who regularly walked her small, visor wearing, albino dog around the park. The fountain and a plaque, installed by her husband, help the community remember a loved and missed community member.

On Sept. 15, Mayor Rogero attended the 25th Anniversary picnic, posting on Facebook, “Great things happen when community residents and partners come together for a good cause!” She thanked Beth Phillips and the Westwood neighbors who worked so hard in 1993 to make a community dream a reality, and East Tennessee Community Design Center, who helped create the plans for the park.

It is amazing what a community can accomplish when we come together, and Westwood Park, in 1993 and today is a perfect example. “If you are ever in the area, stop by and enjoy,” states Saunders.

4. National Night Out Coming Up on Oct. 2

Mark your calendars; the 35th Annual National Night Out is coming up, next Tuesday, Oct. 2!

Neighborhoods across Knoxville are hosting events in their area to strengthen community-police relations and encourage community participation in anti-crime efforts.

Currently, 21 Neighborhoods have confirmed participation for the event: **Adair Gardens Residents Association, Burlington Residents Association, Chilhowee Park Neighborhood Association, Cumberland Estates West Neighborhood Watch, Delrose Drive Neighborhood Watch, Harrill Hills Neighborhood Watch, Inskip Community Association/ACI, Kingston Pike - Sequoyah Hills Association, Mechanicsville Community Association, Michael Meadowview Neighborhood Watch, Montgomery Village Resident Association, Morningside Heights Homeowners Association, Murray Drive / Wilkerson Road Neighborhood Watch, Norwood Neighborhood Watch, Old Mechanicsville Neighborhood Interest, Old North Knoxville Inc., Parkridge Community Organization, South Woodlawn Neighborhood Association, Spring Hill Villas Homeowners Association, Vestal Community Organization, Wesley Neighbors Community Association, West Haven Village Neighborhood Community, Woodale Dr. @ Central Ave. Pike Neighborhood Watch.**

Groups are celebrating with ice cream socials, pot lucks, chili cook-offs, carnivals, cookouts, and even just by turning on their porch lights.

If your neighborhood is planning to participate in National Night Out and is not listed above, please contact Eden Slater at eslater@knoxvilletn.gov or (865) 215-2113 **AND**

Officer John Morgan at jmorgan@knoxvilletn.gov (865) 215-1519 with the following details:

- ✓ Neighborhood Name
- ✓ Contact person
- ✓ Contact person's email/phone number
- ✓ Date of the event (some neighborhoods celebrate other days)
- ✓ Location of the event including address
- ✓ Times of the event
- ✓ Type of event

Officer Morgan will inform KPD Officers to ensure your local officer is available to participate in your event. Eden Slater will list your celebration in the Neighborhood Advisory and in the events calendar. Officer Morgan and Eden are also available to answer questions about National Night Out.

5. BBB Cancelled – POH Still On

There will be no Better Building Board (BBB) this month, as no business has been brought before the board; however, the Public Officer Hearing (POH) is still scheduled for Friday, Sept. 28, at 9:30 at the Small Assembly Room, City County Building.

The following properties will be addressed: 3937 Alma Ave, including accessory structures; 1741 Beaumont Ave, including accessory structure – Confirmation of emergency repair/demolition order; 124 Childress St; 5400 Clinton Hwy, Unit #106; 2822 East Fifth Ave, including accessory structure; 605 Forest View Rd; 114 Richmond Ave; 210 South Seventeenth St, All units; 222 East Springdale Ave, including accessory structure; 312 East Springdale Ave; 1624 Vermont Ave, Confirmation of emergency repair/demolition order; 1514 Wilder Pl; and 2918 Wilson Ave.

The Public Officer - David Brace, Deputy Director to the Mayor and the City's Chief Operating Officer - will hear testimony on buildings that inspectors contend are in violation of the City's building codes.

Testimony can also be made by the property owners, neighbors, neighborhood groups, and other stakeholders, such as lien holders.

The Public Officer then decides whether to issue an order requiring that the violations be addressed in a certain period of time. Failure by the owner to address the problem may result in the boarding or demolition of a structure, or the cleanup of a dirty or overgrown lot, with costs billed to the owner.

A property owner may appeal the Public Officer's decision to the Better Building Board (BBB) and, ultimately, to Chancery Court.

If any of these properties are in your neighborhood, then you or a representative of your organization may want to consider attending the meeting to submit testimony about the impact of the property on the neighborhood.

For agendas and more information about these hearings, see the [City of Knoxville's website](#).

6. KAT Boasts Ride to Wellness Program

If you weren't aware, Knox Area Transit (KAT) has a program called Rides to Wellness that provides free transportation support to healthcare appointments for Knoxville residents.

The Ride to Wellness Program provides personalized transportation assistance and training to Knoxville residents for a wide range of medical services, from dental to surgery. Simply call 211 to get in touch with a Ride to Wellness travel trainer for help planning your route, tips and tricks on using public transportation, and even have a trainer ride with you the first time. You can call 211 anytime between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to get started!

7. Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar (click link for 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 Title VI Coordinator Tatia M. Harris at 215-2831.

Other Calendars

Here are 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)
- [City of Knoxville General Calendar](#)

About This Newsletter

*** This Advisory is produced on most Tuesdays of the year.*

*** Ideas and contributions are welcome. We reserve the right to edit submissions.*

*** Deadline for news & calendar items: 5 p.m. Mondays*

*** May be copied and forwarded via neighborhood e-mail lists and newsletters.*

*** See past issues at our Website: <http://www.knoxvilletn.gov/neighborhoods>*

*** Don't have Internet access? Call 215-4382 if you need a copy of a particular document.*