



NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

REPRESENTING CLIFTON HEIGHTS • UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS • FAIRVIEW

October, 2022

Next monthly meeting: October 18, 2022, hybrid format, 7 p.m.
Google Meet and In-Person at Hughes High School, 1st floor

CUF Neighborhood Association General Meeting

Hybrid In-Person / Virtual meeting at Hughes High School and on Google Meet

Meeting Commenced on: Tuesday, September 20, 2022 7:01pm

Safety Updates:

UC Police: Carra Sparks reported that:

- There are two upcoming home football games: 09/24/2022 at 3:00pm vs. Indiana, and 10/08/2022 vs. South Florida (game time TBA).
- UCPD is currently hiring security staff, entry level police officers and a police captain
- There will be a concert at Fifth Third Arena on 10/28

CPD District 5:

- Officer Dent shared the crime statistics. He reported that the nation-wide issue with Hyundai thefts is impacting Cincinnati, and recommended taking precautions, such as investing in a steering lock.
- Officer Dent and Chief Isaacs discussed Flora Fest. They shared the collaborative action plan, which outlined the process followed before, during, and after the event.
 - o Jack Martin reported that several CUFNA Trustee members met with the mayor, city manager, CPD, and UCPD to discuss the issues with large weekend gatherings in the streets of CUF.

Guests:

Isaac Smitherman, UC Student Body President: Isaac introduced himself and reported that the University of Cincinnati student government wants to work collaboratively to engage and build community relations.

Pat Kowalski, CFO: Pat introduced himself as the new Senior Vice President Admin and Finance at the University of Cincinnati.

Jason Barron, Director of Cincinnati Parks:

• Jason introduced himself as the new director of the Park Board. He mentioned two projects in CUF that Parks is working to add to the city budget:

1. The hillside restabilization in Bellevue Park
2. Repairs to the retaining wall in Fairview Park

• Jason also mentioned that Parks is working on adding a Dog Park to Burnet Woods. The proposed site is on Brookline Ave. Features include a water fountain and a special synthetic surface treated to mitigate pet waste issues.

• Cynthia Duvall, as a representative of Preserve Burnet Woods, requested that the Park Board reconsider their decision to add a dog park in Burnet Woods because the proposed site would allow chemical runoff to collect in an adjacent grassy field and would contribute to the flooding in the valley.

• Carol Cohn, of the Miami Group Sierra Club, reiterated Cynthia's concerns

• Jack Martin mentioned that Parks Staff had already conducted a focus group and investigated potential sites for a Clifton area dog park. They concluded that the former location of the swimming pool in Fairview Park was a preferred site because it met most of the criteria in terms of size and existing features. Also, in May, CUFNA submitted a letter to the Board of Park Commissioners in opposition of a dog park in Burnet Woods, citing concerns with the expense of the project and the environmental impact.

• Daniel Lewis expressed that Burnet Woods is a small park, and any time a new amenity is added, an area for wildlife is lost.

• Carol noted that some of the steps in the Burnet Woods nature trails are treacherous and asked if there were any plans to install railings.

• Jason reported that parks is starting to look into ways to add accessibility into the park, and are currently evaluating ways to make it easier to get around the east side of the lake.

• Kelly Ambrosius asked if there was a way to determine whether it was correct to reach out

to Cincinnati Parks, or the Cincinnati Recreation Commission for maintenance requests.

- Jason mentioned it depended on the park and the amenities in the park. The city is working on a new 311 app, where once an issue is reported, the request will route to the appropriate staff members.

Justin Becker, Miami University student: Justin reported that he is still looking for additional residents living in off-campus housing, including permanent residents, to complete a survey for an Urban Planning research project. Those interested in participating can reach out to him at becker13@miamioh.edu.

District at Clifton Heights update:

Aaron Bartels reported that:

- The financing is in place for the hotel, they have closed on the TIF for the parking garage and the streetscape

- They will be working on constructing the public parking garage on block A1

Tim Westley reported that they:

- Have closed on the loan for the hotel
- Will have the permit to start work on the hotel by the end of the month
- Are done with the majority of the underground utilities

Philip Rowe reported that they will soon be beginning work on the hotel construction at Clifton Ave. and Straight St. In the next 12 months, they plan to:

- Install barricades for the first row of parking.
- Perform a small amount of demolition to remove existing shrubbery, trees, and asphalt
- Move forward with the deep foundation operation.
- Start vertical construction with concrete then steel.

David Simon reported that, for the senior living facility, they are taking a step back to incorporate modifications based on neighborhood feedback.

Old Business / Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Attached to meeting agenda

CRC-Clifton Recreation Center: Not Present

LSDMC/CPS:

- CANS: No updates at this time
- Hughes: Lyn Martin reported that Hughes has 400 more students enrolled this school year than the school has staff to accommodate. CPS will be redistributing staff in Mid-October accordingly.

Heidi Yocum reported that:

- The school is participating in a fundraiser called, "GotSneakers?" It is a program where students can collect used athletic shoes for recycling and people in need.
- Dr. Williams has notified businesses in the area not to service students during the school day.

- Hughes is fully accredited.

CHCURC (Clifton Heights Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation): Jack Martin reported that Matt Bourgeois is reviewing RFPs for architects in Block 1.

Chip Kusssmaul reported that:

- They discussed the area between Calhoun Street and McMillan Ave to the west of Block 1, and are looking into the possibility of purchasing some or all of that area.

- The Uptown Waste Diversion event received 3400 lbs. of recyclables.

- The housing initiative is concentrating on areas of McMicken Ave, as well as the property across from Inwood Park.

CHBA (Clifton Heights Business Association): No updates at this time.

NOU (Neighborhoods of Uptown): Not present

IIN (Invest in Neighborhoods): Jack Martin reported that the 2022 Night of the Neighborhoods is taking place on October 11th, at 5:30 pm at the 20th Century theatre in Oakley.

UC Community Development: No updates at this time. Cynthia Duvall asked Megan Smith if it was possible to make improvements to the landscaping near the DAAP sculpture studio.

Gateway Lofts (at McMillan and Morlein Street): Jack Martin reported that the planning commission approved the new student-housing complex on 09/16/2022. The latest plans include townhouses on Lyon Street, similar to the Verge. The building does not have retail, but CUFNA asked if they could put the ground floor at grade with the street, so that it could potentially accommodate a storefront or business in the future.

Hallmar Fountain Development (at Central Parkway and Marshall): Jack Martin reported that CUFNA objected to aspects of the project, including a large surface lot, and the placement of a 25' retaining wall. However, they will be starting construction at the end of this year.

IT Update: Mary Singler reported that CUFNA has changed the website platform in order to have a fully integrated membership system.

They are also working to consolidate email addresses, so that CUFNA only has one.

CBRs (Community Budget Requests):

Jack Martin reported that the three projects submitted for the Community Budget Request are: the reconstruction of the Warner St.

Steps, the Bike lane / safety improvements on McMillan, and new neighborhood signage.

- Keith and Kiley DeGreen, Beth and Glenn Hamant, and Susan Heinrich are residents on Fairview. They expressed safety concerns about the reconstruction of the Warner Street steps. When the steps were in place, they mentioned

that there were a lot of issues with crime in the vicinity. Police had told residents that law enforcement would not chase suspects down the steps and law enforcement had also told residents that the location of the stairs were a problem. They asked if there were any plans to incorporate cameras, additional lighting, or something by the city to enhance safety and reduce criminal activity.

- Jack Martin reported that the restoration of the steps is not a new request: the CBRs occur every two years, and the restoration of the Warner Street steps has been on CUF's list previously.
- Tony Walsh helped to reopen the lower portion of the stairs that connect to Fairview Park from McMicken Ave. He expressed that there were benefits of being able to easily access the park from McMicken. Tony specified that a lot of people use the steps including: police, the fire department for training, and exercise groups—and that the influx of positive activity helps to deter the negative activity.
- Nathan Hess mentioned that the steps are a part of a community budget request. In the past ten years, only two requests from CUF have been approved. At this stage, the steps are very far away from becoming a reality. If the steps do become a reality, then there would be additional community engagement.

Jack Martin also reported that the sidewalk on McMillan from the entrance of Fairview Park to the intersection of Fairview Ave. and Ravine St. and has been delayed due to hillside slippage, but is still planned and budgeted, and a survey should be going out pertaining to making the North-South streets from Flora St. to Ohio Ave. one way.

CUF PAC (Parks Advisory Council): Jack Martin reported that they are working with Parks to help get repairs made to Bellevue and Fairview Parks

KCB (Keep Cincinnati Beautiful) Safety and Beautification Grant: Maureen France reported that CUF received funding for an extension of the community garden and are currently working to get a surveyor to assess the property. They are also working with the city in install the solar-powered lighted stop signs at McMicken Ave. and Straight St.

Announcements:

Metro Car-Free Day: Jack Martin reported that Metro is hosting a car-free day on Thursday, September 22 from 11:00am to 1:30 pm on Fountain Square. There will be live music and free food. Greater Cincinnati employees and residents who take Metro's Car Free Cincinnati pledge will be registered to win prizes.

Hazardous Household Products Drop-Off Event: Jack Martin reported that Hamilton County is hosting a hazardous products drop-off event in Cleves on Friday, October 21st and Saturday, October 22nd. Registration is required. Anybody interested in participating can find out more information at <https://www.hamiltoncountyr3source.org/>

2023 Green Cincinnati Plan: Jack Martin reported that there are ongoing focus groups as a part of the 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan. Anybody who is interested can Google it to find out additional information.

GoVibrant Million Steps Challenge: Maureen France reported that the GoVibrant walking competition is running until October 15th. Participants can log their steps at <http://govibrant.org/>.

Ohio Ave. Steps: Jack Martin reported that the mural initiated by Spring in our Steps is now complete.

New Business:

Parking: Jack Martin reported that CUF has implemented street sweeping on seven streets in the neighborhood.

Meeting adjourned at: 9:30

Minutes taken by: Andrea Schwallie



CUF Neighborhood Association Financial Report: Sept., 2022

Balance on: 8-31-2022	\$10,713.95
	Amount
Income:	
Square Bellevue receipts	135.05
Square Bellevue receipts	366.32
Bellevue receipts	822.20
Dues	20.00
ACH Dues	10.00
ACH Dues	10.00
ACH Dues	10.00
Paypal Dues	86.82
Dues	60.00
Total Income:	+ \$1,520.39
Expenses:	
Invest in Neighborhoods	500.00
Northside Bank stop payment	35.00
Wild Apricot fee	.57
Genesis, Bellevue party	350.00
Genesis, Bellevue party	350.00
Genesis, Bellevue party	350.00
CPD Bellevue party	530.02
Northside Bank stop payment	35.00
GCWW	11.79
Evans Landscaping KCB	1,909.05
CPD Bellevue party	1,141.58
Ohio Secy of State	25.00
Total Expenses:	- \$ 5,238.01
Balance on: 9-30-2022	\$ 6,996.33

CROWN trail system

This proposed 34-mile urban trail loop will serve as the hub connecting Greater Cincinnati's regional trails to downtown, transforming the way people move in our communities. When complete, CROWN will form a network with the following trails in development: Wasson Way, Ohio River Trail East, Little Miami Scenic Trail, Ohio River Trail West, Mill Creek Greenway Trail, and Canal Bikeway. Building the CROWN will transform Cincinnati into a leading destination to live, work, and play by linking our regional trails and reconnecting our neighborhoods.

[More information](#) and maps.

Hollister Street Murals

New Murals have been painted on Hollister Street by artist Molly Cardosi. They were funded by the Clifton Heights Business Association (CHBA) and Clifton Heights Urban Redevelopment Corporation (CHCUTC) using the City's Neighborhood Activation Fund (NAF).



Photo: Christian Huelsman

Demolition slated in Uptown

The next phase of the vision for the four quadrants at Martin Luther King and Reading Road is scheduled to start soon. Demolition of the southwest quadrant will begin in October, making the area "pad ready" for future development by the end of 2022.

Funding provided by JobsOhio will cover the cost of demolition, the removal of all paved areas and the grading of the site. According to Franz Stansbury, Director of Real Estate Development at Uptown Consortium, Inc. (UCI), the funds from JobsOhio are helping to prepare the site for future development and improve the overall appearance and marketability of an important location in the four quads within the Cincinnati Innovation District.

"JobsOhio is helping lay the foundation for real estate development opportunities, improving the competitive edge with respect to attracting new investment and job creation by filling gaps in funding and accelerating and enhancing development-ready sites," Stansbury said.

For more information about the four quadrants at MLK and Reading Road, please visit the Uptown Cincinnati [website](#).



Upper Mill Creek Cleanup

Join us OCTOBER 29th for the Upper Mill Creek Cleanup and help close out our 3rd annual TRASH-A-Thon! 10th Annual UMCCU confirms Mill Creek Alliance commitment to completed restoration project sites by engaging volunteers and the community in cleanup, maintenance, and education efforts.

[READ MORE DETAILS ABOUT THIS RESTORATION PROJECT](#)

This year's event will take place at the City of Springdale's Chamberlain Park, the site of a two phase restoration project that was completed in 2012. The project featured streambank stabilization with the use of terraced walls, stone lined channels, native plants, and plunge pool construction. Over the past 20 years, the site has held up well but needs some invasive species removed, and like all urban streams, a bit of TLC with trash removal.

Volunteers will clean up by land and water and participate in an impactful service projects. Tools and instructions will be provided at the event. Lunch will be provided by Smithfield Foods.

Registration for Cleanup by Canoe is REQUIRED (and seats are limited). Land crews of all sizes are welcome! If you are coming with a larger group, please call MCA so we can be sure to have appropriate tools on hand for your groups participation.

For more information, contact Linda Keller, lkeller@themillcreekalliance.org.
[REGISTER NOW](#)

Located in City of Springdale, the park is on Chamberlain Park road. There is no official address for the park but a google map search for Chamberlain Park, Springdale, OH returns an accurate map). Chamberlain Park road begins at the end of Marwood Lane. The address for the last house on the street, just before the entrance to the park, is 11968 Marwood Ln, 45246. (These details may be useful when trying to use a GPS to arrive at the location.)

Hughes High football

As of the first week in October, the Hughes High School varsity football team has a 6 - 1 record and is second in their conference.



Hazardous products disposal

Household Hazardous Products Drop Off. Register now to properly and safely dispose of your household hazardous products at our two-day drop-off event on October 21 and 22.

Pesticides, Herbicides, Fertilizers Solvents, Thinners, Lead Paint, Propane Tanks, Fire Extinguishers, Gasoline, Oil Mix, Brake Fluid, Motor Oil, Stain, Oil-Based Paint, Kerosene, Fluorescent Bulbs, Antifreeze, Cleaners, Pool Chemicals, Driveway Sealers, Mercury, Tar, Oxygen/Helium tanks, Thermostats, Thermometers, and Batteries

[LEARN MORE](#)



LISC webinar

Join us for this month's Housing Our Future webinar!

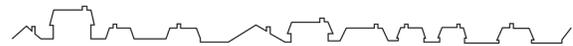
Thursday, October 20
10:00 am - 11:30 am

Learn about evictions in Cincinnati and the HomeStart Renew Collaborative eviction prevention model - publicly launching in Cincinnati on October 17, 2022 - with the goal to eliminate homelessness due to non-payment eviction for families with subsidies and the working poor.

[Register Now](#)

Local Initiatives Support Corporation ([LISC](#)) is the nation's leading community development organization, we have offices in 31 cities and work in hundreds of rural communities across the country. In collaboration with local groups, we help identify priorities and challenges for low-income communities, formulate comprehensive strategies to address them and deliver the most effective support to meet the needs on the ground.

HOUSING OUR FUTURE


Strategies for Cincinnati and Hamilton County

BRT public meetings in October



As part of Reinventing Metro, Metro is planning Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), which will provide faster-than-ever service and significantly reduced travel times to the region's primary travel corridors.

Metro has identified four potential BRT corridors and will start service on two of them as the first step toward building a regional BRT network. To kick off that process, Metro has launched a nine-month study to determine which two corridors will be the first, with multiple opportunities for the public to get involved in the process.

Faster Travel, Stronger Communities

BRT improves travel times through frequent service, limited bus stops, smart traffic signals and dedicated bus lanes where possible. Enhanced bus stops/stations offering same-level boarding improve accessibility for all riders, while pay-in-advance fare systems reduce wait times when boarding. As with all of Metro's services, BRT will help reduce local congestion and vehicle emissions, which improves local air quality and reduces noise levels.

Additionally, BRT systems support economic growth by encouraging equitable transit-oriented development around BRT stations and stops.

When developing the Reinventing Metro plan, the transit agency identified four of Metro's most heavily used transit corridors as possible alternatives for introducing BRT. Two will be selected for initial service, and other corridors would follow in the future to create a regional network of BRT lines. The corridors are identified by the primary roads they follow, each connecting to downtown Cincinnati: Glenway Avenue, Hamilton Avenue, Reading Road and Montgomery Road.

The BRT study will analyze each of these corridors in terms of its ability to attract riders, improve transit speed and reliability, enhance transportation network connectivity, provide equitable access, support the construction of BRT infrastructure, and their potential to support economic development opportunities.

Public input is a critical part of this process and many input opportunities will be held throughout the study. A series of in-person public meetings will be held over the next few weeks to introduce BRT to the public and gather input on the alternatives being considered. The meeting schedule is as follows:

Oct. 13, 4-7 p.m.: Price Hill Branch Library, 970 Purcell Ave.

Oct. 17, 4:30-7:30 p.m.: College Hill Recreation Center, 5545 Belmont Ave.

Oct. 19, 4:30-6:30 p.m.: Clifton United Methodist Church, 3146 Clifton Ave.

Meeting information as well as more details about Metro's BRT study can be found at www.metrobrtstudy.com. Anyone interested in requesting a meeting can contact Laura Whitman at Laura@gorasor.com or 513-600-2294.

Bridge presentation

Shelly Kish, with NTHB (engineering consultant), will be presenting the Brent Spence Bridge project at the November 15 CUF Neighborhood Association general meeting (7pm). While it will have minimal impact on CUF Neighborhoods, they are required to make a presentation by Federal Environmental Justice requirements.



concept designs

DISCUSS THE BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES OF OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING AT UC

\$10 AMAZON GIFT CARD INCLUDED FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS



Whether you are a student or non-student resident, for just 60-90 minutes, participate in a focus group discussion regarding the current state of housing near the University of Cincinnati. If you live in the CUF, Mt. Auburn, and Corryville neighborhoods, come discuss the social, cultural, physical, and economic benefits and challenges related to housing, as well as a two-part map exercise in which such discussions are visually brought to life.

All participants are provided with a \$10 Amazon Gift Card at the completion of the focus group discussion.

**If you are interested in participating, contact me at:
becker13@miamioh.edu
513-601-4923**



**CLIFTON HEIGHTS
UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS
FAIRVIEW
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

2364 West McMicken Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45214

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Cincinnati, Ohio
Permit No. 4834

Funded by the City of Cincinnati



CUF membership

Any person subscribing to the purpose of the CUF Neighborhood Association, Inc. and paying dues set by the Association may become a member. Election of Trustees is held at the annual meeting in July. Eligible voters are residents of the community who are at least 18 years of age and who are fully paid members of the

Association and who have attended three general meetings after payment of dues during the year prior to the annual meeting. Non-resident members have voice but no vote in Association meetings and may not hold elective office.

Annual CUF dues are \$10.00.

- CUF general meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month, except August and December, 7:00 p.m, Hughes High School, 1st floor, 2515 Clifton Ave.
- CUF Trustee meetings: 1st Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m, CHCURC office meeting room.
- CUF annual meeting and election: 3rd Tuesday in July, 7:00 pm, Hughes High School, 1st floor, 2515 Clifton Avenue.



CUF Neighborhood Association

2364 West McMicken Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45214

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: () _____

Email: _____

Membership Type:

CUF resident _____

Non-voting Membership: _____

Membership fee: \$10.00 per year.
Make checks payable to CUFNA.

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