



NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

REPRESENTING CLIFTON HEIGHTS • UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS • FAIRVIEW

October, 2023

Next monthly meeting: October 17, 2023, hybrid format, 7 p.m. Google Meet and In-Person at Hebrew Union College, 1st floor, Herrman Learning Center

Dear Neighbors:

The Neighborhood Support Program (NSP) was created as a three-year experiment in 1981, supported by federal Community Development Block Grant funds. The success of the program led to continual refunding. Beginning in 1988, the City's general revenue funds were used to support NSP. Since 1990, the City's partnership with Community Councils has been reaffirmed through its annual funding commitment to NSP. In recent years, the program was administered by City staff; however, as of 2022, the City chose to contract with a third-party organization, Invest in Neighborhoods (IIN) to administer the program. Program guidelines are defined by City ORD 220-1989.

Goal: to enhance the quality of life in each Cincinnati community.

Purpose: to fund resident-controlled projects; improve the leadership capacity of Community Councils; recruit, train, and increase the productivity of volunteers.

Eligibility: funds are available for projects that are planned, implemented, and evaluated by eligible Community Councils.

CUF has participated in NSP since its inception. In past years, communities developed their own categories and projects, without much coordination by the City. However, beginning in 2022 IIN developed a standard list of categories and activities which will be used to evaluate the program city-wide.

The amount of NSP funding for 2024 has not been determined yet, so, as in past years, we will vote on percentages to assign to categories rather than dollar amounts. We have received positive feedback from IIN on this procedure.

In past years, our activities have concentrated in three categories: Beautification, Communication Projects, and Quality of Life Partnerships. Examples include community flower pots and tree planting, newsletter

communications, collaboration with Keep Cincinnati Beautiful, our schools and park board.

As always, CUF members are encouraged to bring ideas for new projects or volunteer their time. NSP seeks to facilitate resident involvement, recognizing that self-determination in neighborhood improvement is key to successful outcomes.

We will be voting on 2024 NSP projects at the November general meeting.

CUF Neighborhood Association General Meeting

Sept 19, 2023 at Hebrew Union College

Meeting Commenced at: 7:00pm by Rob Neel

Trustees: Chip & Mary absent. All others present.

- Craig Lloyd will continue creating our newsletter.
- Mark Bambach will continue posting to CUFNA's Facebook page.

Safety Update:

Cincinnati Fire Department: CFD Engine Co 19

- Capt. Dew announced Fire Prevention week is Oct 08-14.
- Advise the Fire Department if you are aware of hoarding conditions.
- Outdoor burning is legal if dried wood is in a container & 15ft away from any structure. There must be a hose nearby.
- Pumping out fire hydrants occurs in October to prepare for winter.
- Ts are painted on the streets to locate fire hydrants.
- Of the 40 Fire Departments, 19, 34 & 5 service our area. Each company has a

paramedic. Capt. Dew will send a service map & talking points for the CUFNA website.

- The Fire Department will inspect University Court this year.

District 5 Police:

- The City of Cincinnati website has stats & mapping for each area. The website is updated every 8 days & is available for 28 days.
- CPD is working with UC on the security issue at The Deacon.
- The Quality-Of-Life team works with various departments about nuisance properties & parties.
- Email Officer Shawn Dent if you are aware of any upcoming events.
- As part of CPD's redistricting, Officer Dent will transfer to District 4 on Nov 12. Officer Johnson will be CUF's new liaison. Officer Dent will send an updated coverage map for CUFNA's website.
- CPD always relays any incidents involving UC to UCPD. UCPD backs up CPD.

UC Police:

- Officer Brinker is filling in for Officer Sparks who is on medical leave.
- UC Dates: 09/23 Fox will be at the noon game. 10/01 is Bearcat Dash & Bash along Clifton Ave. 10/14 is Homecoming. Calhoun St will close.
- UCPD went door to door with flyers from Flora to Stratford Streets talking to students & drivers & residents about pedestrian safety. They will scan their flyers to be posted on the CUFNA website.
- Shop With A Cop will take place again this year. Advise UCPD if you want to donate money &/or nominate someone.

Guests:

- Ryan Gourley, Assistant Principal of Culture & Community at Hughes High School works with students, the staff & business owners to create relationships. Contact him if you are interested in being a tutor or mentor.
- Nolan Monigold, Monigold Studios, announced Jazz in Bellevue Park Potluck on Sept 30 from 1:00-3:00pm. The Oct 06 Friday concert will be a fundraiser to support the Pavilion structures.
- Madison Wesley represents UC student government. Emily Dalton is Student Director of City Relations & an off-campus ambassador. They will attend our meetings & exchange updates.
- Christian Huelsman, Spring In Our Steps, announced the steps & signage are compete at the Ohio Ave steps. To celebrate on Sept 23 at 3:00pm at 2116 Van Lear Alley, come to the Big Fig Gig for a cookout & games. Beverages will

be available for purchase.

Reports:

- LSDMC=Local School Decision Making Committee is comprised of 3 students, parents, teachers & community members. They approve budgets, interview presidents, provide input on uniforms etc.
- CANS: Oct 24 is Give Back night at Dewey's Pizza. A portion of every purchase goes to CANS. CANS is at capacity & looking into accommodating all of their students.
- Town and Gown: Daniel Cummins, Dean of Student Life at UC, engages with the city & community. His contact is thedeanofstudents@uc.edu. Student Life has hired 10 UC students as off campus ambassadors. They will organize street cleanups, address trash cans covering fire hydrants, etc. A representative will attend CUFNA meetings.
- Megan, Sr. Director of Real Estate & Community Investment at UC, also serves on the CHCURC Board. UC is working on a financial structure for Block 1. When the time comes, the community will have input on the structure. A suggestion was made to have an Uptown Services Unit from UPD or other public uses on the 1st floor of the building.
- CHCURC: would like to use the 25% of CUF's Affordable Housing TIF money for the Vine St corridor project. If the TIF money isn't used, it reverts back to the city in a couple of years. Please provide any feedback to the Board who will discuss this at their next meeting in October.
- Invest In Neighborhoods: the annual meeting is September 27. Linda will cover in Rob's absence.
- Community Budget Request (CBR): The city unfortunately has not completed the approved CBR for the sidewalk on McMillan St by Fairview Park, but CUFNA reaffirmed its support for a curbed sidewalk. The city will proceed during the next "dry" season. A question from a CUFNA member asked the Board to consider an abandoned stairway near the Vine St project from Conklin for a future CBR.
- Parks: Jenn Martin will order & distribute Mutt Mitts.
- Pedestrian Safety: The Warner St steps will be removed after an inspection of the hillside this Fall. New steps must be built into bedrock. The lights at the bus stops are being replaced. The police need to address the cars parked at the bus stops. It's a safety issue.
- NSP: the survey asking for suggestions to use NSP funds for community projects is available online & on the agenda. Please fill out the survey. Results will be revealed at

October's meeting with a vote at November's meeting. Examples of NSP projects are the Community Garden steps (which are completed), the planters & newsletters. Linda will attend the Sept 27 NSP meeting in Rob's absence.

Announcements:

- The Board is asking everyone to ask a friend to attend the next meeting either in person or online in order to increase membership.
- The Board is asking for contributions to the newsletter from the community.
- UCPD was thanked for staying until the end of the meeting.
- Abdul Charif, a UC student, is working on a Pedestrian Safety & Health project which he would like to become a mandatory class at UC. Martin will ask him to present at our next General Meeting.
- Trinitas says the construction is up to the sixth floor on the Hotel Celare. The Hub, the student housing building, is scheduled to open in August 2024. It has 1100 beds. The leasing office is at 224 W McMillan. Tours may start in July. They started working on the street scape in front of The Deacon.
- Stratford will be closed until March; Clifton Ave will remain as is until August 2024; & Straight will remain as is for a while.
- Trinitas has major amendments going through the Planning Commission in order to get signage permits. Neighbors within 400 ft will receive notices on public hearings. Katie Peale works with the City on signage. Trinitas will send CUFNA a power point on their signage requests. They asked the Board for a letter of approval, but are not insisting.
- UC Officer Brinker asked Trinitas for secure locking measures, such as a self-locking mechanism in future housing developments. The Deacon's locking mechanisms have been problematic.

Points of Pride:

- Heidi Yokam, a teacher at Hughes announced that for the first time in 11 years, Hughes is a 3-star school instead of a 1-star school.

Next General Meeting: Oct 17 at 7:00pm at Hebrew Union College

Meeting adjourned at: 8:51pm by Linda

Minutes taken by: Kelly Ambrosius

CUF Neighborhood Association Financial Report: August, 2023

Financial Report: September, 2023

Balance on: 8-31-20223 \$12,056.14

Income:
Square, Bellevue party 6.52
Square, Bellevue party 4.35
Dues on-line 10.00
Dues on-line 10.00
Dues on-line 10.00
KCB reimbursement, garden 186.66
Dues 10.00
Dues on-line 30.00

Total Income: + 267.53

Expenses:
Genesis Events, Bellevue party 350.00
Wild Apricot fees .76
Druffel, St. Monica landscape 196.00
Pitts Construction, garden 1797.50
CUF Community Fund reimburse. 186.66
Pitts Construction, garden 1797.50
GCWW 32.28
Decal Impressions, brochure 235.00

Total Expenses: - 4,595.70

Balance: \$7,727.97

Remaining amount to be spent from KCB grant:
- 1,901.94

Unencumbered balance on 9-30-20223:
\$5,826.03

Free tree

Join the waitlist for a FREE tree!

Did you try to sign up for a Cincinnati Parks ReLeaf Tree and didn't get one? Click the link below to join our waitlist! Every year ReLeaf trees are claimed fast online, but we always end up with some leftover trees because not everyone shows up to pickup day. We would love you to join our waitlist and help with our ultimate goal of increasing the tree canopy for the benefit of all.

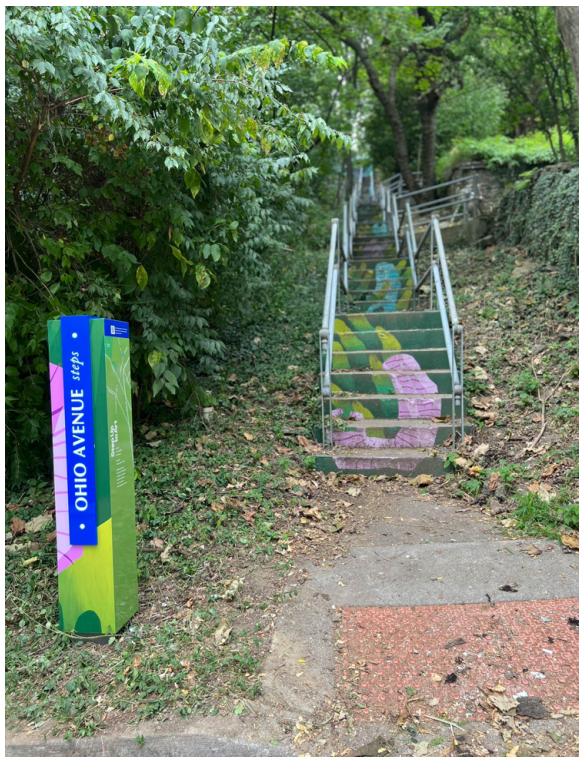
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ReLeafWaitlist2023>

Step enhancements completed

After more than two years, enhancements to the upper Ohio Avenue Steps and Fig Alley Steps have been completed! The Step Up to Art team – comprised of University of Cincinnati College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning faculty/researchers and Spring in Our Steps as community partner – worked since its inception in December 2020 to elevate public stairways through public art and signage.

Supported by a University of Cincinnati Office of Research grant, along with gap funding from the City of Cincinnati Department of Transportation and Engineering, four vivid signs at both stairways now stand in place. Also supported by the grant is “Ghost Garden”, an extensive mural on the Ohio Avenue Steps by artist team Dai Williams and Lizzy Duquette.

In order to get signage for an unnamed public stairway from Vine Street to Van Lear Alley, Spring in Our Steps navigated the regulatory process and engaged the CUF neighborhood to name the corridor for the first time in over 130 years. The Fig Alley Steps name was adopted by City Council in April 2023!



Hughes STEM High School

You may have read the first page article in the Cincinnati Enquirer in mid-September with the title “Unfavorable Report Card,” referring to the most recent Cincinnati Public School (CPS) results in meeting State Standards. The CPS District as a whole scored a two-star rating overall which means it did not meet state standards.

But there’s good news coming from our local high school. Hughes STEM High School received a three-star overall rating which means it is meeting state standards in most areas. This is the first time since 2011 that Hughes has received better than a one-star or failing rating! Hughes’s three-star rating is the result of big improvements in three areas: Progress, Gap Closing and Graduation rates. The Progress category compares students’ last year’s state test scores with scores from previous years. Gap closing indicates how students of different races, abilities and economic status are meeting state standards. And Graduation rates are the percentage of seniors who are eligible to graduate each year. Hughes’s gains in these areas are to be celebrated!

Other good news from the home of the Big Red:

- Enrollment is up for the second year in a row. Hughes is currently serving over 1,130 students
- Almost half of Hughes’s enrolled students are participating in at least one extracurricular activity offered by the school.
- Loss of instructional time due to disciplinary issues is down by 35% this year.

Hughes has a new Assistant Principal of Community & Engagement. Ryan Gourley was introduced at our last CUFNA meeting and we look forward to working more closely with him.

There’s more progress to be made at Hughes, but the dedicated staff and students are making good things happen now. We can be proud of this iconic landmark in our neighborhood and the important work that is being done inside its historic walls.

Go Big Red!



Voting rules



New Ohio ID Requirements for In-Person Voting:

There are several types of valid photo identification.

- Ohio driver's license;
- State of Ohio ID card;
- Interim ID form issued by the Ohio BMV;
- A US passport;
- A US passport card;
- US military ID card;
- Ohio National Guard ID card; or
- US Department of Veterans Affairs ID card

All photo IDs must have the following:

- An expiration date that has not passed;
- A photograph of the voter;
- The voter's name, which must substantially conform to the voter's name as it appears in the Poll List or in the Poll Book

• Must be an original document, not a copy.

NOTICE: An unexpired Ohio Driver License, State ID Card, or Interim Documentation with your former address IS an ACCEPTABLE form of ID when your current address is in the pollbook.

Vote-by-Mail ID Requirement

To vote by mail, you may use the last four digits of your Social Security Number (SSN) as identification.

Clifton Branch celebration

Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library
Join us for Customer Appreciation Day!
You're invited to stop by the Clifton Branch on
Saturday, Oct. 14 from 2-5 p.m.!

We're hosting this celebration to show our appreciation for our community and give the opportunity to get to know your branch better! Drop in any time for fun and activities! All are welcome!

[Learn more about the event](#)

Can't join this event? Check out more of our Customer Appreciation Days across our 41 locations!

Find an event near you!



Pedestrian safety in CUF

The most recent Cincinnati budget included significant funding for pedestrian safety: about \$7 million total, mostly from federal stimulus. Some of the funding is being used to pilot new ideas (described below) to calm traffic and make it safer to walk or roll (via bike, wheelchair, or other mobility assistance) throughout the city.

CUFNA is gathering ideas and suggestions for locations in our neighborhood. Please send your suggestions/ideas to: thecufna@gmail.com with the subject line "Pedestrian Safety".

- Centerline Hardening, also called hardened centerlines, are rubber bumps and sometimes vertical rubber paddles placed on the double yellow line in an intersection, forcing drivers turning left to dramatically slow down and preventing drivers from crossing the line.
- Speed Cushions are similar to the more-familiar speed humps or speed bumps: a raised surface that forces drivers to slow down. But while speed humps span an entire lane or even the entire width of the street, speed cushions have cutouts that allow emergency vehicles to continue without having to slow down.
- Leading Pedestrian Interval (or LPI) is a fancy term for change to traffic lights to give pedestrians a three to five second head start to cross the street at an intersection.
- Plastic Curb Extension does exactly what it sounds like: extends the curb out into the street, shortening the distance a pedestrian has to walk through a traffic lane.
- Rightsizing could mean turning a travel lane into a 24-hour parking zone, or a bike lane. Typically, this results in a street that has one travel lane in each direction, and sometimes maybe a center turn lane.

Ohio elections

November 7, 2023 is the next general election in Ohio. The ballot is quite long with a number of important State, County and City issues.

For general information about the election, see below:

<https://votehamiltoncountyohio.gov/november-2023-general-election/>

For a sample ballot, see below:

<https://votehamiltoncountyohio.gov/files/ballots/N11030.pdf>

Issue 1 Proposed Ohio Constitutional Amendment: A Self-Executing Amendment Relating to Abortion and Other Reproductive Decisions.

Issue 2 Ohio Revised Code Proposed Law: To Commercialize, Regulate, Legalize, and Tax the

Adult Use of Cannabis.

Hamilton County Municipal Court Judge (District 1) Full Term Commencing 1-3-2024.

CITY OF CINCINNATI: for Member of Council at Large.

CINCINNATI CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT: Members of Board of Education.

Issue 19 PROPOSED TAX LEVY (RENEWAL) HAMILTON COUNTY: Cincinnati Zoo.

Issue 20 PROPOSED TAX LEVY (RENEWAL AND INCREASE) HAMILTON COUNTY: Cincinnati and Hamilton County Public Library.

Issue 22 PROPOSED ORDINANCE CITY OF CINCINNATI: Sale of the Southern Railway.

Issue 23 PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT (ORD # 291) CITY OF CINCINNATI: Clarify citizen-initiated charter amendments process.

Issue 24 PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT (ORD # 292) CITY OF CINCINNATI: Raise income and withholding taxes for affordable housing.

CITY OF CINCINNATI PROJECT



ENGAGE

WAYS TO JOIN THE CONVERSATION:

Pleasant Ridge Recreation Center: 6pm-7:30pm **10/17**

Hirsch Recreation Center: 6pm-7:30pm **10/24**

McKie Recreation Center: 6pm-7:30pm **11/02**

THE CITY OF CINCINNATI WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We have some exciting news to share regarding the City's plan to develop a **new, fresh, equitable approach** to **community engagement** and would love to hear your feedback! Refreshments will be provided!

If you have any questions, please contact:

Eunique Avery | eunique.avery@cincinnati.oh-gov
Jeremiah Hairston | jeremiah.hairston@cincinnati-oh.gov



Cincinnati City Planning & Engagement



@CincyPlanning



SCAN FOR SURVEY

Check out our community engagement survey if you missed a meeting!

MISSED A MEETING BUT STILL WANT YOUR VOICE HEARD?



SCAN FOR WEBSITE

Check out our website to review the current draft policy and leave us a comment!

www.cincinnati-oh.gov/engage



UC's *The News Record* on parking

The October 7 edition of *The News Record* reported on the growing parking problems in the area:

"Campus garages are overflowing, and on-street parking is more congested than ever, leaving students struggling to find safe parking options.

Numerous rental properties in Clifton lack sufficient resident parking. Cincinnati zoning codes allot only one street parking space per property, and many rentals lack driveways. This presents challenges, especially when multiple students share a single property. As a result, students often deal with frustratingly long searches for parking, even just to attend class or return home.

Despite 18 shuttles covering 14 routes around campus, the demand for shuttle space has reached a breaking point. To handle rider overflow during peak hours, the shuttle system has added "chaser shuttles," to the two busiest routes—the north and southwest routes."

To read the full article see the October 7 edition or click [here](#).

UC Undergraduate Research Project



School of Environment and
Sustainability - Environmental
Studies Capstone

CUF/Corryville Survey of Environmental Concerns



If you choose to participate, your answers will be used as part of an undergraduate student research project.

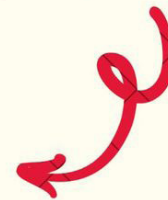


Questions related to
opinions on local
pollution and risk.

Contact Professor Bob Hyland
Hylandrt@ucmail.uc.edu with
questions.

Thank you for your participation!

Scan me





**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, Hebrew Union College (HUC), 3101 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, Hebrew Union College (HUC), 3101 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.

W W W . C U F N A . O R G