



HORIZONS

A Quarterly Publication of the Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency
Transportation Division

Mayor Abramson to host Sixth Annual Neighborhood Summit

By Rebecca Brenzel, Louisville Metro Department of Neighborhoods

Louisville Metro Mayor Jerry Abramson is inviting community leaders, neighborhood associations and individuals interested in improving their communities to the sixth annual "Mayor's Neighborhood Summit" held on Saturday, November 15 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Kentucky International Convention Center, 221 Fourth Street, in Louisville.

The Neighborhood Summit is a day of workshops and networking opportunities. Highlights of the workshops include a variety of community-building topics such as how to adopt a green lifestyle, vacant properties – turning a neighborhood liability into an asset, crime prevention, and understanding the zoning and planning process.

Considering today's fuel and energy costs, today's families are finding that their recreation budgets are the first to feel the effects. A KIPDA spokesperson is moderating a workshop that addresses transportation issues called "transportation alternatives." Speakers on this panel will discuss transportation and energy alternatives – new and creative ways of conservation and travel and the future of transportation alternatives in Louisville. Speakers are Barry Barker, the Executive Director of Transit Authority of River City (TARC); Jackie Green, a local bicycling activist

Continued on page 2



I-264 interchange work underway, completion in 2010

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet began road improvements in September on Interstate 264 and Westport Road.

The project, which is expected to be completed by May 2010, is the final piece in a 20-year plan to construct an interchange at I-264 and to widen Westport Road to five lanes between Hubbards Lane and Hurstbourne Parkway. The widening between the interstate and Hurstbourne has already been completed.

"In addition to providing motorists with access to Interstate 264, this

project will relieve congestion to Shelbyville Road and Brownsboro Road," said Kentucky Transportation Secretary Joe Prather. "Our long-range goal is to improve the overall transportation network for the greater Louisville area and this project is a big step towards achieving that goal."

Two lanes of traffic in each direction will be maintained on I-264 during most of the construction. Sidewalks will also be built on both sides of Westport Road and sound barriers will be installed along I-264 at the interchange with Westport Road.

Transportation Policy Committee Member Profile

Cedric Merlin Powell
TARC Board Chairman
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Cedric Merlin Powell, the newest member of the Transportation Policy Committee, was appointed Chairman of TARC's Board of Directors during their

June 2008 meeting.

Powell, a University of Louisville law professor, has served on TARC's Board since 2003. As Chairman, he presides over board meetings and confers with the board and TARC staff in reaching consensus on implementation of policy and setting the long-range direction of TARC.

Powell has some ideas of needs with regard to transportation in the Louisville area. He said we need to provide "an integrated, efficient, and adequately financed system that addresses the needs of different populations: those who rely primarily on public transportation; customers who are transitioning to public transportation because of high gas prices; the elderly who need targeted transportation; and an expanding and vibrant downtown which must be served by public transportation. There are a variety of challenges exacerbated by high demand because of high fuel costs. All of this is occurring in an environment where funding resources are flat."

He is also looking ahead and said in the next 25 years he'd like to see "a state of the art transportation system that integrates a variety of innovative approaches to public transportation. We must continue to discuss and commit to new ways of dealing with the public transportation challenges that we face."

Powell graduated with honors in Politics from Oberlin College and received his Juris Doctorate from New York University School of Law. Powell, who has been at the University of Louisville for 15 years, is married to Annette Harris Powell, Ph.D., an assistant professor of English at Bellarmine University. They have two children, ages ten and four.

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Mayor Abramson to host Sixth Annual Neighborhood Summit

Continued from page 1

and Stephen Sizemore, a Louisville Metro planner, who works on pedestrian plans.

In addition, the Mayor's Good Neighbor Award recipients will be honored. The fee to attend the Summit is \$25 if registering by November 7 and \$35 afterwards and on site. Group discount of \$100 for group of five (must submit registration together).

Scholarships or fee waivers are available.

For more information, please contact Kyle Sawyer-Dailey at 502-574-2315 or by email neighborhoods@louisvilleky.gov. Registration can also be done online at register online, www.louisvilleky.gov/neighborhoods.

Sixth Annual Mayor's Neighborhood Summit

Saturday, November 15, 2008

8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Kentucky International Convention Center
221 South Fourth Street, Louisville

The Mayor's Neighborhood Summit is a full day neighborhood leadership training conference consisting of workshops led by neighborhood leaders for peer-to-peer learning. There is also an information fair, keynote speakers and networking opportunities.

More than 500 leaders from over 100 Neighborhood Associations will come together to share ideas, build connections and strengthen their communities, thereby improving the quality of life in Louisville Metro.

The Sixth Annual Mayor's Neighborhood Summit will again give these community leaders the opportunity to learn from experts and share their success and struggles with one another.

"Building stronger neighborhoods is a top priority and our Neighborhood Summit gives residents the tools to make our neighborhoods safe, strong and vital. By working together, we can make Louisville the best place to call home," said Mayor Abramson.

Neighborhood Summit Workshops

Session 1:

- Successful Meeting Strategies
- Grassroots Initiatives: Working from the Ground Up
- Community Building and Organizing
- Planning/Public Hearing Process
- Louisville 2035 – A Look Forward
- Transportation Alternatives
- How to Amend/Enforce Your Deeds of Restrictions
- Shaking the Money Tree
- Foreclosures: Prevention and Resources

Session 2:

- Let's Party! Planning a Successful Neighborhood Event
- Don't be a Victim: Personal Safety Tips
- Youth Engagement: Partnerships and Programs
- Transitioning Board Members and Officers
- Financial Planning for Non-Profits
- Condo/Patio Home Association Management
- Suburban Cities Best Practices
- Going Green – Adopt a "Green" Lifestyle
- Vacant Properties: Turning a Neighborhood Liability into an Asset

Local elementary school, neighborhood benefit from federal program

Kim Holsclaw, the Mayor of Barbourmeade, was serving as a city commissioner when she first heard about the Safe Routes to Schools Program.

Safe Routes to Schools is a federal program that addresses traffic issues around schools and makes it easier for children to become more active in their day-to-day routines and improving the overall health of a community. It also empowers communities to make walking and bicycling to school a safe and routine activity.

Holsclaw and a Barbourmeade commissioner began the process because “we both thought it sounded like a great program,” she said. Holsclaw attended a public seminar on the program at Myzeek Middle School and Norton Elementary became the first Jefferson County school to apply. “By the time we heard about it, we had six weeks to get everything together and put in the application.”

The federal money they received helped with striping within the city of Barbourmeade, bicycle and pedestrian paths that lead to the school, widening the crosswalk and new signage. It also added a new bike rack at the school that held 50 bikes instead of 12 and now the rack is usually full every day. “More kids are



Norton Elementary School benefited from the Safe Routes to Schools grant the City of Barbourmeade received. Photo courtesy of Jefferson County Public Schools.

walking and biking to school and it’s made a difference,” she said.

“We also had installed on Barbour Lane some flashing school zone lights,” she said. The new flashing light was needed because the school’s old entrance was off KY 22 but that later changed to Barbour Lane and cars and buses enter off there with no signage. “People had no idea they were in a school zone,” Holsclaw said.

“It’s a great program and I am excited to see other schools catching on. Our community is perfect for the program. Barbourmeade surrounds Norton Elementary and this was the perfect opportunity for this,” she added.

For more information on the Safe Routes to Schools program, call Stacey Burton at 502-266-6084.

Getting your child to school safely

According to the 2005 Traveler Opinion and Perception Survey, conducted by the Federal Highway Administration, about 107.4 million Americans used walking as a regular mode of transportation. Walking is also often used (as well as bicycles) by area students traveling to school. Since not every school or neighborhood has received a Safe Routes to School grant, below are tips to help your child get to school safely.

When walking to or from school:

- Use established sidewalks or paths.
- Watch for motor vehicles turning or pulling out of driveways.
- Chose routes with the fewest streets to cross and avoid crossing at busy or high-speed streets.
- Wear brightly-colored clothing.
- Look for motor vehicles. Drivers are supposed to obey the rules and watch for pedestrians but don't always do so.
- Do not cross behind or within 10 feet in front of a bus or large motor vehicle.
- Stop at the edges of driveways and streets and look for vehicles before crossing. Make sure to look left, right and then left again before crossing to make sure there is no traffic coming.
- Walk, don't run across the street.
- Obey traffic signs and signals.

When bicycling to or from school:

- Watch for roadway hazards and dodge them.
- Be careful when bicycling on wet sidewalks, roads and trails.
- Make sure to know good routes to take to school.
- Cycle with the traffic. Ride on the right side of the road.
- When crossing the street, use a crosswalk and walk the bicycle across the street.
- Use hand signals and make eye contact with the driver of cars before moving in front of a vehicle.
- Wear a helmet.
- Look behind you before shifting lanes.
- Obey traffic laws.
- Wear brightly-colored clothing.

Valuable Web Resources

Federal Highway Administration Bicycle Information Center

www.bicyclinginfo.org

This site provides you the opportunity to learn about the benefits to bicycling, bicycling safety tips and education programs.

Federal Highway Administration Pedestrian Information Center

www.walkinginfo.org

This site provides statistics on pedestrian injuries and fatalities caused by vehicles as well as safety tips and ways to address your community's problems.

National Center for Safe Routes to School

www.saferoutesinfo.org

Learn how your community can enable and encourage children to safely walk and bike to school.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- *Louisville Metro Neighborhood Summit - Page 1*
- *I-264 interchange work is underway - Page 1*
- *Profile of Cedric Merlin Powell, new TARC Board Chairman - Page 2*
- *Norton Elementary benefits from Safe Routes to Schools grant - Page 3*

KIPDA Transportation Meeting Calendar

Transportation Technical Coordinating Committee

November 12, 2008, 10:00 a.m. (tentative)

Location to be announced

January 14, 2009, 10:00 a.m.

Location to be announced

Regional Transportation Council

November 25, 2008, 10:00 a.m.

Louisville Marriott East

A map of KIPDA's location can be found at http://kipda.org/About_KIPDA.aspx.

For TARC routes and schedules, please visit www.ridetarc.org.

Transportation Policy Committee

November 25, 2008, 10:00 a.m.

Louisville Marriott East

January 22, 2009, 1:00 p.m.

KIPDA Burke Room

February 26, 2009, 1:00 p.m.

KIPDA Burke Room

If you would like to be added or removed from the Horizons mailing list, or receive Horizons electronically, please e-mail us at kipda.trans@ky.gov or call us at 502-266-6084.

**Meeting dates, times and locations are subject to change.
Please call KIPDA at 502-266-6084 to confirm, or visit the calendar on our website at <http://kipda.org/news.aspx>.**

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The KIPDA Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Transportation Division of KIPDA and is prepared with financial assistance from the Federal Transit Administration, the Federal Highway Administration, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, the Transit Authority of River City, and the local governments in the KIPDA region, in cooperation with the Indiana Department of Transportation. This financial assistance notwithstanding, the contents of this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the official views and policies of the funding agencies.