

UPDATE

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

August 24, 2009

Meetings

The public meeting to review MPC practices and procedures scheduled for Thursday, August 27 has been **postponed** at the request of several citizens who had a conflict with another meeting later in the evening. The meeting will be rescheduled later in September.

The **Hillside and Ridgetop Task Force** will meet on Wednesday, August 26 at Ijams Nature Center from 3-5 p.m. to debrief their series of public meetings and discuss their next steps.

The next meeting of the **Transfer of Development Rights Task Force** will be August 31 at 5:30 p.m. in the City County Building's Small Assembly Room to finalize their recommendations to the County Commission on whether or not to pursue the development of a TDR program.

MPC staff has been invited to a meeting Wednesday, August 26 at 5:00 p.m. in the 6th floor Commissioner's conference room (City County Building) of a **working group** of County Commissioners and BZA members to discuss reconsideration of MPC recommendations regarding standards for contractor storage yards in various zone districts and allowing contractors as a home occupation.

Mike Conger of the transportation planning staff will present the **Travel Demand Model** that TPO developed as part of the Mobility Plan at a transportation and air quality symposium in Florida next week.

TPO staff met with officials from Lenoir City and Loudon County on August 13 to discuss the **321 Corridor Study**.

Excellence Awards

For those who were not able to attend, this year's Excellence Awards on August 18 recognized the efforts of nine local projects. Information and pictures about the winners is now available on the MPC website and Facebook page.

Bike Events

The **UT Bike Day** is collaboration between the University of Tennessee Outdoor Program, Make Orange Green and TPO. This special event, held on September 2 aims to raise awareness of alternative transportation among the University community, focusing specifically on cycling. There will be pedal-powered smoothies, slow races, and bike rides showing people how to get around campus and to downtown or Bearden by bike. For more information go to

<http://recsports.utk.edu/Programs/Outdoor%20Rec/Bike%20Day/>

There will be **free valet bike parking at Boomsday** this year, Sunday, Sept 6 from 1 p.m. until after the fireworks. It will be located along Second Creek Greenway between Cumberland/World's Fair Park and Neyland Drive.

The Bicycle Program needs a **logo**. Anyone is welcome to send entries to kelly.segars@knoxtrans.org by August 31, and the best ones will be selected for a public vote.

On Saturday, September 19, the **9th annual Neighborhood Bike Ride** will tour Vestal, South Knoxville parks and the South Waterfront. This beginner, family-friendly ride is less than 11 miles long. Free bike safety checks start at 9 a.m. and the ride leaves at 10 a.m. Meet on Market Street between Clinch and Church. Helmets are required and free pizza will be provided after the ride. Call 215-3815 or visit the TPO website for more information.

New Halls Express Bus Service

After the recent cancellation of KAT's Halls Express route, **Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee** stepped in to fill the void. CAC is sponsoring this effort for a trial period of 10 weeks in the hopes of making it permanent, but it will require increasing the daily ridership. More information is available at www.smarttrips.knoxtrans.org.

Historic Market Square

At their August 20 meeting, the Historic Zoning Commission voted to approve the demolition of the rear and south elevations and some of the north elevation of the building at **37 Market Square**. Although there has been much public discussion regarding this project, staff felt that the proposed work attempts to save and restore the façade of the building, and complete a structurally sound reconstruction.

Notes

The MPC office will be closed Monday, September 7 for **Labor Day**.

MPC Calendar

The MPC website now features an extended calendar that lists all public meetings scheduled by MPC through the end of 2009 in addition to the existing rollover calendar feature on the website front page and a printable pdf calendar for the current month.