

October 19, 2009

Meetings

- The Sustainable Development Working Group will meet at 2 p.m. on October 19 in the MPC Large Conference Room to finalize draft **sustainable development incentives program** details prior to MPC consideration.
- The **City BZA meeting** for this month has been moved to October 22.

Agenda Information

Our online meeting information page on the MPC website has been expanded to include even more details about upcoming MPC meetings:

- A "**Plan Amendment and Rezoning Requests Announcement**," which is a listing of requests for plan amendments and rezonings, will be posted approximately 30 days before the meeting. The announcement for the November 12 meeting is already available.
- Under "**Agenda Review Meeting Information**," the agenda for each agenda review meeting will be available the morning of the meeting and the minutes will be posted when they are available.
- The agendas and minutes will be available for "**MPC Executive Committee Meetings**." These meetings are called on an as-needed basis.

Comprehensive Planning

Staff are currently working along with the city's department of Community Development on a Special Operations Program with a focus on Ogle Avenue and Martin Mill Pike as part of the **Vestal Redevelopment Area Plan**. It will be based on a report that was prepared by consultants from Elizabeth Eason Architecture and will include implementation suggestions.

TPO

TPO staff was recently informed about a **congressionally mandated rescission**. The Knoxville area expects to see a loss of approximately \$8.277 million of Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds, \$769,000 Metropolitan Planning funds and \$5.67 Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funds. The loss of STP and CMAQ funds will dramatically reduce the number of completed transportation projects and the loss of planning funds will reduce future planning efforts.

Blount County Greenway Plan

Blount County received a state grant for a **regional greenway plan** to find the best way to create greenway links north to Knox County and east toward Heritage High School and eventually Townsend and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The plan will look in detail at how to link the Maryville & Alcoa greenway system to the planned Knox/Blount Greenway. More information including the presentation from the October 8 public meeting is available at <http://www.blounttn.org/planning/plans.asp>.

Bicycle Program

- The **Bicycle Advisory Committee** will meet October 29 at noon in the large conference room.
- Three upcoming **webinars** are being offered in MPC's large conference room, anyone may attend, but please RSVP Kelley Segars since space is limited:
 - October 21, 3 p.m., MUTCD: Bicycle and Pedestrian Signs, Markings and Experiments
 - November 12, 2 p.m., The Power of 25: Advocacy Strategies for Creating Livable Communities
 - November 18, 3 p.m., Building Political Will for Strong Bike/Walk Programs: Effective Use of the "Three-Legged Stool" model in Columbia, Mo.
- Mark Your Calendar! The third annual **Tour de Lights Bike Ride** has been scheduled for Wednesday, December 16 at 7 p.m.

Update email

Due to a technical error, some people who signed up to receive the Update through our new email list have been receiving outdated information. This problem has now been corrected.