

UPDATE

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

May 17, 2010

Meetings

On May 13, MPC and TPO staff attended a meeting for **Together! Healthy Knox**. Launched by Knox County Health Department, Together! Healthy Knox is a community approach to better health that incorporates a national strategic model developed by the National Organization of County and City Health Officials. For more information, visit www.healthyknox.org.

A **Complete Streets** webinar will be held on May 25 from 12-1:30 p.m. Call Ellen Zavisca at 215-3818 if you are interested in attending.

Another meeting of the **More Community Gardens!** group will be held on May 25 at 6:30 at the Tribe One building on Magnolia Avenue. MPC staff will be in attendance.

TPO Executive Committee is meeting on May 26 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room.

On June 9 at 4:30 p.m. in CAC/LT Ross Building, MPC staff will meet with the **City's Neighborhood Advisory Council** to discuss the proposed ordinance amendment to add nursing homes as a use permitted on review in the Planned Residential (RP1, RP-2, and RP-3) zone districts.

Mark Your Calendars!

All Planning Commissioners are invited to a **luncheon for the 2010 Excellence Awards** on June 10. Join us before the monthly MPC meeting at 11:30 in room 453 (just down the hall from the MPC offices) for a chance to view a presentation of the finalists and vote for the winners.

Smart Trips Month

It's not too late to participate in Smart Trips Month. Upcoming events include:

The second 30-minute **Lunchtime Greenway Walk** will be May 27, and a New Harvest Park Tour and Walk will be held on May 20.

Bike to Work Day is May 21. Stop by Krutch Park (corner of Market Street and Clinch Avenue) as you ride your bike to work to grab a biscuit from Pete's Coffe Shop and coffee from Trio Café. At 8 a.m. Mayor Haslam will be there to give prizes for the best dressed bike commuters. Also that day, Bike Convoys are planned from four outlying locations to downtown and UT.

A **Greenway Bike Ride** is scheduled for May 25 and Mast General Store is hosting bike rides on May 19, May 22 and May 26.

Smart Trips will be at the **Market Square Farmer's Market** every Wednesday in May to answer any transit and commuting questions.

Go to www.knoxsmarttrips.org For a complete list of events. Don't forget, the **Commuter Challenge** continues through September 30. Get all the details at www.knoxspat.com.

Comprehensive Planning

Staff is examining potential new supplemental regulations for the zoning ordinance regarding parking. These **urban parking standards** could require less number of parking spaces for retail shopping centers. An example is the Kroger in Fountain City. Their parking requirement was reduced from 4.5 space per thousand to 3.5 and has worked well.

Staff are reviewing two potential nominees for the **National Register of Historic Places**:

- o "Happy Holler"
- o A two-block area on Magnolia Avenue that includes the old Swans Bakery and the row of bungalows and 1920s apartment buildings to the west.

Notes

The MPC office will be closed May 31 for Memorial Day.