

UPDATE

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

July 12, 2010

Announcements

City Council Refers Appeal of **Buffet Mill Estates** Development Plan back to MPC. At its June 29th, 2010 meeting City Council referred back to MPC a development plan for Buffet Mill Estates, the approval of which had been appealed by nearby neighborhood organizations. In taking this action City Council directed the developer to work with the neighborhood organizations to craft a list of development standards for project and to reexamine the offered recreational facilities. The development plan is scheduled to be reconsidered by MPC at its August 12 meeting.

Hold the Date. Legacy Parks Foundation's annual **Mayor's Luncheon for the Parks** is scheduled for October 8th. For more information check out the Legacy Parks Foundation website at www.legacy parks.org.

Meetings

Knox Heritage and Solar Knoxville will host a **free workshop** on Historic Preservation and Solar Technology Monday, July 19. Attendees will learn about how they worked together to integrate solar energy technology into the restoration of a historic home. Using the Knox Heritage rehabilitation of 1011 Victorian Way as a case study, the workshop will discuss the guidelines and best practices for installing solar technology on historic properties. The workshop will begin with a one-hour presentation starting at 10 am at the UT Conference Center, 600 Henley Street, Room 322. It also will include a one-hour site visit of 1011 Victorian Way at 11:00 am. Please RSVP no later than Friday, July 16 to Hollie Cook (865)523-8008 or hcook@knoxheritage.org

The Tennessee Department of Transportation has announced the availability of the **Draft Environmental Impact Statement** for the proposed Pellissippi Parkway Extension in Blount County. A Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, July 20, at the Heritage High School, 3741 E. Lamar Alexander Parkway, Maryville, from 5-7 p.m.

Bicycle Program

The Bicycle Program is looking for **Bicycling Ambassadors**. Ambassadors will encourage bicyclists to ride more often and more safely, and educate motorists on the rules of the road by attending community events and Bicycle Program events to teach bike safety, sharing the road, greenway etiquette and how to bike to work and school. Training for the first round of volunteers is starting in July and, after meeting a certain number of volunteer hours, they will receive a thank you gift.

Greenway/Wayfinding Signs

TPO staff are working with the City of Knoxville on Phase II and III of greenway directional/wayfinding signs as well as warning/traffic signs (most of Phase II has been installed already). Signs for three bike routes have been ordered. The routes connect Cedar Bluff & West Hills, Knoxville Zoo & Caswell Park, and Harvest Park/Knoxville Center Mall & North Knoxville to downtown & UT. Installation will occur in the fall. Along with signs, there will be shared use lane markings (sharrows) on 6 streets and bike stencil markings at several intersections with sensors to show bicyclists where to position themselves to be detected when there is no other traffic.

Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities

MPC staff members are working on a **report for the Knox County Health Department** that identifies regulations, policies and practices of local government that serve as barriers to active living and healthy eating and provides a plan on how to remove those barriers to ensure that living actively and eating healthy are as easy to accomplish as possible.

TAPA/TSITE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

TAPA and TSITE are hosting the annual statewide **fall conference** in Knoxville September 29 - October 1. The conference's theme is Greenways and Highways...Paths Leading to Connected Communities. It will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Knoxville with keynote speaker Chuck Flink, the founder and owner of Greenways Inc. The conference will focus on public corridors and how thoughtful construction and design can link people, fostering the development of common interests and goals. For more information, go to www.tapatsite2010.org.