



NEWS RELEASE

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Community Meeting Scheduled to discuss Oakwood Neighborhood Overlay

Knoxville, Tennessee – September 13, 2018 – A meeting to discuss a potential design overlay district for a portion of the Oakwood Neighborhood has been scheduled for September 18, 2018. The meeting will be held from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Oakwood-Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association Clubhouse at 916 Shamrock Ave. The study area is defined by the boundaries of North Avenue, Woodland Avenue, Harvey Street and Central Street.

The Oakwood-Lincoln Park Neighborhood added an Infill Housing Design Guideline Overlay in 2007 in an attempt to help preserve the area, but it does not protect historic housing from being altered or demolished. Because of this, the neighborhood would like to explore additional overlay options of either a Neighborhood Conservation Overlay or a Historic Overlay. In the fall of 2017, Knoxville City Council requested that MPC make a recommendation for an overlay for the neighborhood in an effort to help preserve and protect it. This meeting will compare the two overlays so that the community can determine which option would be most beneficial to them.

Though the purpose of the two options are similar, there are some distinct differences. Neighborhood Conservation districts apply only to new construction, while Historic District Overlays apply to both new construction and the repair, alteration and rehabilitation of existing structures. Additional nuances will be discussed at the meeting.

“This is an opportunity for anyone interested to come and learn more about these overlays. MPC staff will be on hand to answer general questions and provide insight on how each would impact the neighborhood and property owners,” said Historic Preservation Planner Kaye Graybeal. “Regardless of which option is chosen, we need input from the neighborhood to develop the guidelines to ensure they are best suited for this particular area.”

For more information, contact Kaye Graybeal at kaye.graybeal@knoxmpc.org or visit the project page on MPC’s website at <https://knoxmpc.org/historic/areas/oakwood/>.

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Knoxville-Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission

The Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) was established in 1956 by Knoxville and Knox County as the agency responsible for comprehensive county-wide planning and administration of zoning and land subdivision regulations and remains so today (except for the town of Farragut). Funding for MPC activities comes primarily from city and county appropriations and from federal grants for specific studies. The Commission prepares and adopts a general

plan, reviews subdivision regulations and site plans, prepares and recommends zoning ordinances and maps to the Knox County Commission and Knoxville City Council, reviews proposed zoning amendments, and prepares a capital improvements plan for the City of Knoxville. For more information, visit our website: www.knoxmpc.org