Residents and Commuters Attend Open House

The entire room was aligned with 15 displays showcasing photographs, renderings and designs of what the city’s new and improved transit corridor will be like in the near future.

Approximately 70 people attended the Open House held at the Neighborhood Resource Center. After more than two years of planning, residents, businesses and commuters finally got a glimpse of the conceptual improvements planned for the 47th and State Avenue Metro Center and the portion of the corridor that extends west of the center.

“The Open House was a great way to get feedback from not only our transit riders, but the community as well. This is a community transit corridor project and the public input we have received will be instrumental in its success,” Director of UG Transit, Emerick Cross said. “The final product will be something that our entire community will be proud of.”

The Unified Government (UG) was awarded $10.3 million in Federal TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) Grant funds for transit-related improvements in March of last year.

The State Avenue Connex will include two new transit centers at 7th and Minnesota Avenue and at 47th and State Avenue. Both transit centers will be custom-built with improved passenger waiting areas and amenities such as real-time passenger information.

Other State Avenue Connex stop improvements include bus passenger shelters and benches, bus stop platforms, landscaping, environmentally friendly features, and improved pedestrian connections.

The new enhancements will also allow for the implementation of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) in the future.

Source: UG ENews

Unified Government Neighborhood Group Assistance Grants

Since 1995, the Mayor and Unified Government Commissioners have provided funding for the neighborhood groups to receive grants. The grants have been used for mowing equipment, assistance for elderly and disabled with minor home repair, clean ups, neighborhood signage, beautification, community gardens and supplies to provide necessary resources for groups to accomplish their goals.

Last year 50 neighborhood groups received grants totaling $26,920.00. The average grant awarded is approximately $450.00 depending on the project. Liveable Neighborhoods and the Community Police Unit coordinate the grant awards process.

Grant applications will be mailed out to all of the neighborhood groups the last week of August. If you need further information about the grants contact Liveable Neighborhoods at 913-573-8737.

Parade Schedule

**Central Avenue Parade** - Saturday September 10, 2011 11:00am along Central Ave. For more information call (913) 281-9222.

**Leavenworth Road Parade** - Sunday September 25, 2011 2:00pm along Leavenworth Road. For more information call (913) 788-3988 or go to www.leavenworthroadassociation.org.

**Silver City Day Parade** - Saturday October 1, 2011 10:00am along Strong Ave. For more information call (913) 549-4950 or go to www.silvercitydays.org.
September Calendar of Events

9/10/2011
Summerfest
Bethany Park (12th and Central)
9:00am to 5:00pm
(913) 342–1484 Juanita or (913) 281-4351 Paul
Please join us for Wyandot County Against Crimes annual Summerfest. There will be crafts, games, food and informational booths. Free booth set-up. Call for more information.

9/16/2011
Adventures In Learning (Shepherd’s Center)
First Baptist Church 29th and Minnesota
913-281-8908 or www.shepherdscenterckc.org
8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Call for a lunch reservation. Join us for adventures in learning. Meet a friend or make a friend.

9/22/2011
Liveable Neighborhoods Monthly Meeting
Neighborhood Resource Center (4601 State Ave)
913-573-8737 or www.wycokck.org
8:30am - 10:00am
Come and get great community information and share your ideas on how we can continue to improve quality of life in Wyandotte County.

9/24/2011
Family Day Carnival
Kansas City, Kansas Community College (7250 State Ave.)
(913)551-3280 or www.kckpl.org
1:00pm – 4:00pm Courtyard behind the Jewell Building
The Family Day Carnival is a FREE family fun event for everyone to enjoy! Family Day - A Day to Eat Dinner with Your Children™ is a national movement established in 2001 by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University for the purpose of encouraging more parent to child communication as a means of substance abuse prevention. More than a decade of research by CASA has consistently shown that the more often children eat dinner with their families; the less likely they are to smoke, drink or use illegal drugs.

10/01/2011
Silver City Days
Emerson Park (1429 South 29th)
(913)549-4950 or www.silvercitydays.org
9:00am to 4:00pm
You are invited to join the Silver City Day on October 1st. It will be a full day of fun for the entire family. The day will begin with a parade and continue at Emerson Park. There will be a variety of local entertainment throughout the day.

Important Phone Numbers
City questions and complaints .................. 311
Police Non-Emergency ......................... (913) 596-3000
Liveable Neighborhoods ................. (913) 573-8737
Community Policing ...................... (913) 573-8720
Code Enforcement ......................... (913) 573-8600
Animal Control ......................... (913) 321-1445
BPLI ................................................. (913) 573-9000
Deffenbaugh ................................. (913) 631-3300
Potholes ................................................. (913) 573-8307
Dispute Resolution ....................... (913) 573-5225
Fire Department ......................... (913) 573-5550

Local Farmers Markets
Buy fresh, buy local!

Rosedale Farmers Market
May 1 to September 25, Sundays 12-3 p.m.
340 Southwest Boulevard (corner of Rainbow Blvd and Southwest Blvd)
For more information contact:
www.roosedalefarmersmarket.com
info@roosedalefarmersmarket.com or
913-645-7826

Grinter House Market
June 4 to October 22, Saturdays
Grinter House Barn 1400 South 78th Street
For more information contact:
grinter@kshs.org
(913) 299-0373 or

KCK Green Farmers Market
June 1st - September 28th
Strawberry Hill (6th and Taurome)
Wednesdays 8:00am to sell out
Juniper Gardens (3rd and Richmond)
Monday's 9:30am to 1:00pm
The market doubles the Senior Vouchers and the SNAP/Vision program.
For more information contact:
Rachel at (913) 909-1027
2011 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days Set

The schedule for the Household Hazardous Waste Collection days for Wyandotte County residents has been set for 2011. The site will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the following Saturdays: September 17, and October 15. The site is located at 2443 South 88th Street in Kansas City, Kansas. (South on 88th Street from K-32) or (East of I-435 using Woodend exit near Kaw River)

When bringing items to the collection site please label or identify all items. Items accepted include tires (limit of 10 tires and rims need to be removed), motor oil, batteries, antifreeze, degreasers, paints, varnishes, solvents, lawn & garden insecticides/pesticides, and household cleaning products. For additional information call 573-5400.

2011 Fall Burn Permit Process

Residents are allowed to apply for a burn permit at any of the Fire Stations currently staffed by the Kansas City, Kansas Fire Department. The burn permit does not include commercial or business sites. If you operate a business out of your home you are classified as a business and cannot participate. The burn permit is valid for up to 3 days from October 16 through November 15, 2011. Applications must be received and approved at least 24 hours prior to the commencement of burning. Open burning with a permit is allowed between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The resident doing the burning must be at the burning site at all times. Residents shall maintain a copy of the burn permit on site, an adequate water supply and/or fire extinguisher while conducting open burning. In no circumstance shall open burning occur within 15 feet of any building or within 15 feet from any one’s property line. Piling of brush, tree limbs, grass and other organic materials are limited in size to 100 square feet at the base.

At any time, the Fire Chief may revoke burn permits or ban open burning. Weather conditions (high winds, low humidity) may make open burning too dangerous. Open burning may also be suspended when air pollution “Red Alert” days are declared by the Mid America Regional Council, MARC, and the Unified Government.

Each Burn Permit allows for one organic pile per permit, one permit per property. All organic materials burned within the city limits of Kansas City, Kansas are limited to organic materials and/or burning without a permit shall be subject to Section I-7 (General Penalty, Continuing Violations) of the general provisions code of the Unified Government.

Reusing and Not Disposing

You often hear that we are living in a throwaway society. There are many items which could be reused that are thrown away into the trash every day. A study conducted in Berkley California and Leverett, Massachusetts has estimated that between 2% to 5% of trash is potentially reusable. For example, things you can do include:

Consider Reusing Products:
- Use a washable coffee cup and drinking glass.
- Use washable plates and utensils.
- Use cloth napkins, sponges, and dish cloths.

Maintain and Repair Durable Products:
- Purchase durable appliances, electronic equipment and other products.
- When possible repair products.

Reuse Bags and other items:
- Reuse a canvas or tote bag when shopping for groceries.
- Reuse colored paper, egg cartons and other items for arts & crafts.
- Reuse newspaper, boxes, and bubble wrap to ship packages.
- Reuse used lumber for birdhouses, compost bins, and other projects.

Borrow, Rent, or Share Items used infrequently.
- Borrow or rent seldom used power tools.
- Borrow or rent ladders, rug cleaners and floor buffers.
- Borrow or rent seldom used party supplies and decorations.
- Consider setting up a neighborhood tool lending library.

Sell or Donate Goods instead of throwing them away.
- Sell your used items at fairs, swap meets, garage sales, or on the internet.
- Give hand-me-down clothes and items to the needy.
- Donate clothes and items to nonprofit thrift stores.

Consider acquiring used clothing and products at thrift or consignment stores. The condition of used clothing in these stores is screened. In addition, many nonprofit organizations use these stores to help them raise needed funds.
**UG Tackles Weeds**

Unified Government crews have mowed more than one thousand overgrown lots in the past week. The increased war on weeds and high grass on vacant lots, along boulevards and in parks is due to increased funding approved recently by the Unified Government Board of Commissioners.

UG Public Works and the Parks and Recreation Departments, along with private contractors, have tackled more than 267 lots a day. The frequency of mowing was reduced last year as part of budget reductions in the 2011 budget. Many residents complained about the reduced amount of mowing and Commissioners responded by adding money to the budget to address the unsightly and obnoxious weeds.

“We heard the thoughts of the commissioners and the citizens and it is our plan to continue to mow as many lots as possible,” said Tim Nick, Public Works manager. “All the crews have been working hard and have done a great job to date, especially considering the extreme heat that they had to deal with last week. The recent “cooling” is much welcomed by all of those working outside.”

As of August 5th, the crews have mowed a combined total of 1,182 lots. Some areas with extremely high grass will be hit after the easier parcels are completed. Margie Witt, Director of Parks of Recreation, stated some citizens applauded crews as they finished mowing the Jersey Creek area last week.

Mowing vacant lots and parcels which the owners refuse to take care of is a major cost to all Wyandotte County taxpayers.

**Source:** UG ENews

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**Neighborhood Crime Prevention Patrol Holds Night Out Against Crime Event**

The Night Out Against Crime Event was held on August 2, 2011. More than 200 people attended the event which was held at Indian Springs Marketplace.

“We had a great turn out over 35 neighborhood groups attended together to promote neighborhood spirit and Police community partnerships with a goal to become a safer city,” Mary Jane Johnson, Director of Liveable Neighborhoods said.

Paul Soptick, President of the Neighborhood Crime Prevention Patrol and Liveable Neighborhoods, kicked off the event by introducing Rachelle Smith with Target. Target provided grilled hot dogs, chips and beverages for everyone in attendance. Commissioner Angela Markley presented a proclamation from Mayor Joe Reardon. Police Chief Rick Armstrong and Sheriff Don Ash offered positive comments about the ongoing partnership between law enforcement and neighborhood groups.

**Source:** Mary Jane Johnson

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**We are looking for youth**

16 - 21 years olds.

**In school junior and seniors and out of school youth.**

**Ways We Can Help You:**

- Prepare for the work environment (i.e. interview and resume workshops)
- Help with tools to obtain and hold employment
- Assist with knowledge of what employers look for
- Assesses personal career interest and goals
- Assist with paying for post secondary education/ training
- Assist in preparation for the ASVAB (for those interested in the military).
WCAC
WYANDOTTE COUNTYANS AGAINST CRIME
16TH ANNUAL
SUMMERFEST
SEPTEMBER 10th, 2011
BETHANY PARK: 12TH & CENTRAL
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

PEOPLE MAKING A DIFFERENCE
STRENGTH IN NUMBERS
AND MUCH MUCH MORE!!!
FREE BOOTH SETUP
CONTACT: JUANITA DOMINGUEZ 342-1484
PAUL SOPTICK 281-4351

CABA PARADE 11:00 AM
Starting at 18th St, Going to 7th St
EVERYONE WELCOME
""""""""WE CARE ABOUT COMMUNITY""""""""
Parents please accompany your children.

will take place.

"1-Deal-A-Kid Program"
Following the Workshop the

How to find someone you can trust.

How to protect yourself.

Who to report incidents that happen to.

Strangers.

Interests from people they know and
To be able to identify negative physical
and report the following:
children how to identify, protect themselves

Goals of the Workshop are to teach our

Date: September 17, 2011
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Grades K-5

Protecting Myself Workshop

Kansans City, Kansas
9th & Washington Boulevard
Metropolitan Baptist Church

Economic Opportunity Foundation, Inc.

Bridging Hill Neighborhood Association &

Sponsored by: Metropolitan Baptist Church.