

A New Tyler Park Master Plan



photo by Ricky Irvine of Dressed in Value, A Design Workshop in Louisville, Kentucky; www.dressedinvalue.com/

In addition to this edition of *The Neighborhood Bridge*, you will also find a link to a draft architectural rendering of the new Tyler Park Master Plan on our website. The TP Master Plan is the product of a full year of work and research by the TPNA Board's Park Planning Committee together with Metro Parks project manager Martha Berner, our consultant hired for this project, Environs, and the generous support of The Olmsted Conservancy and Councilman Tom Owen's office. Check it out online.

It is important for all to remember that this is a conceptual strategic plan rather than an operational one. Funding for future projects is not addressed by this process. The Plan's purpose is to guide future restoration and renovation of the park to meet a number of critical criteria in two major areas. The first area of concern is remaining faithful to the historic Olmsted design. We are fortunate in that there have been no significant alterations of the park over the years away from the original plan. The park as we see it today is substantially as it was originally designed by the Olmsted firm.

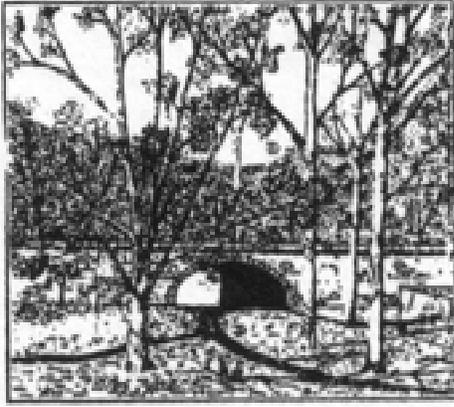
The second area of concern is to balance the historic integrity of the park with the contemporary needs of the community. Much research went into determining how the park is currently being used and what neighbors would like to see in the future. Among the needs of those who use the park are accessibility both for the handicapped as well as for pedestrians and motorists. A major concern is with the physical condition of the park. Renovation and stabilization of the physical infrastructure of the park ranked high in the surveys. Improvements to the safety of pedestrians and a balancing of a variety of recreational needs and interests of the neighbors who utilize the park also figured

centrally in the planning process.

Highlights of the plan for the west (lower) side of the park include a new pavilion centered on the north side of the oval walkway, a sidewalk on the park side of Tyler Park Drive incorporating a retaining wall to stabilize erosion and stairways down to the oval walkway, a sidewalk along the south side of Castlewood to connect with the one that stops at Cross Road, and the basketball half-court moved to where the volleyball court is now. A stairway will also be added (as in the original Olmsted plan) from the crosswalk at Castlewood and Baxter at the south end of the bridge to the area behind the current restrooms.

On the east (upper) side of the park, the playground and the 'sprayground' will be relocated from the west side to the east side to allow parents to supervise toddlers and older children at the same time. Also new to the east side are new restrooms, completion of a perimeter walkway within the park, and improvements to lay-by parking and curbs to control erosion along most of the length of Tyler Park Drive. Finally, with regard to the bridge, the walkway under the bridge will be re-graded to a gentle slope without steps to join both sides of the park to eliminate an accessibility barrier (also as per the original Olmsted design.)

The final architectural drawings for the new Master Plan will be presented at the January TPNA Wine Tasting Event to be held on Sunday, January 31 from 5PM to 7PM at Mid City Mall, along with a model of the park prepared by students at IVY Tech. Please check out Joan Dubai's article regarding the particulars about tickets for this signature event. ••• Mike Gramig



View from the Bridge

Fall has come and gone in Tyler Park. Although we had no hurricanes this year, we did have to ride out a monsoon of biblical proportions. Hopefully winter will pass without natural catastrophe. Meanwhile, much work has been done by the TPNA Board in preparation for and completion of several projects.

2010 TPNA Officers and Board members were elected and approved at our annual meeting in October. Rebecca Watson and I have been re-elected as Vice President and President, and Manny Carralero as Treasurer. Our new Secretary is Janet Dakan. I once again remind members that after my 4th term as President, just as we have discovered that there is no “Metro Mayor for Life,” there also is no “TPNA President for Life” (and no fair changing the articles of incorporation!!)

In this issue of “The Neighborhood Bridge,” you will find a centerfold draft illustration of the **new Master Plan for Tyler Park**. The TPNA Board has approved the plan prepared by the TPNA Park Planning Committee, Metro Parks project manager Martha Berner, and our planning consultants, Environs, with the generous financial support of the Olmsted Conservancy and Councilman Owen’s office. A public meeting will be scheduled after the first of the year to formally present the Master Plan.

Coming up on Sunday, January 31st is our signature neighborhood event, the **annual Tyler Park Wine Tasting Event**, held at Mid City Mall from 5PM to 7PM. Please see Board member Joan Dubay’s article with the particulars about getting tickets for this fabulous event. Be sure to get your tickets early because this event sells out. Also at the event will be a preview look at the completed new Tyler Park Master Plan’s architectural renderings as well as a model of the park prepared by Leonard Kik’s (of Leonard Kik + Associates) design class at Ivy Tech.

Also in this edition of “The Neighborhood Bridge,” look for Manny Carralero’s article on **sidewalk repair**. Some streets in Tyler Park will be getting sidewalk work in the spring due to the federal stimulus funds the city is receiving. The city’s request for locations needing sidewalk repairs was issued on very short notice. Most of the neighborhoods missed the boat. We were fortunate to get some of the sidewalk project money but we could have gotten a lot more if we had had more help on the TPNA Board. With more volunteers we could have documented more of the neighborhood’s sidewalks to list for repair, but we just didn’t have the bodies to physically cover the territory. **We invite anyone with an interest in making Tyler Park Neighborhood a better place to join the TPNA and volunteer for the Board.**

A few reminders: **when removing trees** in the public easements on the street scapes, it is necessary to get a permit and approval by the Metro Forester. If approved, you are also required to grind the stump out. It has been a difficult and expensive year for the neighbors of Tyler Park with regard to our trees, but unless it is necessary, trees should not be removed. They are one of the key components of Tyler Park’s historic character and charm.

Here’s hoping we don’t have to break out the generators this winter. See you at the Wine Tasting!

Mike Gramig, President
Tyler Park Neighborhood Association

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Vice President - Rebecca Watson - 456-4320
Treasurer - Manny Carralero - 451-5198
Secretary - Janet Dakan
Newsletter Editor - Florence Saltzman
florenceky@gmail.com

TPNA meetings are the fourth Thursday of each month (except November and December) from 7 to 9 pm at the Highlands/Shelby Park branch of the Louisville Free Public Library inside the MidCity Mall. All neighborhood residents and business neighbors are welcome to attend.



Wine Tasting, 2010

Please join the Tyler Park Neighborhood Association's 4th Annual Wine

Tasting Sunday, January 31, 2010 5-7 at the Mid City Mall. Tickets are \$20.00 and available at The Wine Market or contact us at info@tylerpark.org and we will arrange to get tickets to you.

Only 200 tickets are being sold and we anticipate yet another sell out crowd. All proceeds will benefit the Tyler Park Master Plan.

Thanks to Sandy Metts for providing the space. Thanks to The Wine Market for providing the wine at cost and continued volunteer expertise to run our event. Thanks to ValuMarket for donating all of the appetizers, cheeses, desserts, and flowers. Melissa (deli manager) always adds new deli menu items to this substantial spread of food. Tyler Park business sponsors include Terry Redden (Semonin Realty), The Highlands Shelby Park Library, City Café, Café Beignet, Clay & Cotton, Highland Family Dentistry, Kaleidoscope Hair Salon, Farleigh Pet Center, Drinks at the Plaza, Hopkins Interior Construction Company Inc., Arts & Crafts Dental, Jazzercise, and The Zeppelin Café.

Music will be provided by neighborhood residents. Charlie Muriell, jazz guitarist, will play from 5-6. Charlie plays classic jazz and is sure to help set the ambiance for our gala soiree. A Windsor trio are set for a repeat performance from 6-7. Jack Ashworth (fiddle), Tucker Thomas (lap dulcimer), and John French (hammered dulcimer) have lived on Windsor Place for a

combined total of 70 years. You won't want to miss their spirited performance.

Raffle tickets will be sold at the tasting for \$1 each

ALL PROCEEDS OF THE EVENT WILL BENEFIT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TYLER PARK MASTER PLAN.

or 6 for \$5. Win a gift certificate from an area business. To date we have donations from Edenside Galery, Carmichaels, American Nails, Impellizzeris Pizza, the University of Louisville, and Boom Bozz Pizza.

Please join your Tyler Park Neighbors for an evening of good wine, good food, good music, and good conversation, all to benefit The Tyler Park Master Plan.

Thanks to committee members Rebecca Watson (Rosewood), Ann Finney (Goddard), Ken Baker (Tyler Park Drive), Kathey Schickli (Tyler Parkway), Julie French (Windsor Place) and Florence Saltzman (Rosewood). For additional information on how to volunteer, donate raffle items, become an event sponsor or ticket availability contact Joan Dubay, 458-8783 or jdubay@gmail.com.



**WIN!!! WIN!!!
Raffle Tickets
\$1 each or
6 for \$5**

BARDSTOWN ROAD OVERLAY COMMITTEE MEETING

On Tuesday, November 24, several Tyler Park residents attended the BROCC meeting concerning proposed work at the former Café Mimosa site at 1216 Bardstown Road. The proposal calls for building a possible restaurant of about 4200 square feet, with a residence on the second floor totaling about 1200 square feet. The roof would be a butterfly configuration, with two planes meeting in the center to provide drainage. The exterior would be glass and brick on the first floor, with painted hardiplank panels on the second floor. Nine parking spaces would be set up in the rear, along with a trash area and a new rear entrance to the building. Drainage would flow under the parking lot for dispersal through perforated pipe; excess would flow down the alley. Construction would start in February or March. Brian Caudill and Katie McDonald, who live nearby, brought up concerns about trash storage, drainage, privacy, and possible glare from the proposed white roof coating. The committee requested that the applicant address specifics concerning the drainage system (appearance and impact on the alley), detailing (smooth flow between brick, glass framing, and panels), lighting, trash storage, privacy screening, and roof color.

If you have further concerns or are interested in attending meetings, please contact the TPNA at info@tylerpark.org. We have a Zoning and Enforcement Committee, but the BROCC meetings are open to the public and welcome citizen input.

On the print copy of the TPNL, pages four and five contain a centerfold (don't get too excited!) of a draft architectural rendering of the new Tyler Park Master Plan.

There is a link to the plan on our website. Be sure to check it out!

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Neighborhood Alleys and Sidewalks – Who’s Responsible?

Under city codified ordinances (Chapter 156), it’s the responsibility of the person or company owning or renting the property to remove all rubbish, weeds, trash, waste or litter from the center line of the alley, street, or easement that borders the property line. This includes keeping public areas such as sidewalks, steps, driveways, parking spaces and similar paved areas free of overhanging trees, shrubs and other debris. Violations are subject to civil and/or criminal penalties ranging from \$25 to \$1,000 and possibly the cost of cleaning.

Beyond the legal responsibility, keeping clean and tidy alleys and sidewalks evokes many other benefits, the most important being that it tends to increase real estate values.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend:

4th Annual TPNA Wine Tasting Event, \$20

Mid City Mall

Sunday, January 31st, 5-7:00 \$20

Limited tickets available now at The Wine Shop

TPNA Meeting, 4th Thursdays, 7-9 pm

at the library in the Mid City Mall

January 28th, February 25th, March 25th

Keep up-to-date with your neighborhood.

Check out www.tylerpark.org regularly!

Sidewalk Repair Update

As reported in prior newsletters, federal stimulus dollars have been allocated for the repair of sidewalks in our community. You can now monitor where the city of Louisville is spending its share of stimulus funds by visiting Louisville Metro Government Official Website and click on the “Louisville at Work Stimulus Funding” button and then click on the “Stimulus Map” button. On this map one can see the street addresses or locations of every stimulus project.

The sidewalk repairs can be found under the “Transportation and Infrastructure” subheading. The individual street addresses of each sidewalk repair are marked with a star on the map. We would like to point out that not all addresses slated for repairs are individually listed on the map. When several addresses on the same block have been designated there is only one star for the entire block. To the best of our knowledge the repairs are planned for the first half of 2010. We will continue monitoring progress and will keep the Tyler Park Community apprised of any updates.

House Tour Volunteers Needed

At the 2009 Tyler Park Garden Tour several neighbors were brainstorming the idea of hosting a Tyler Park Neighborhood Home Tour.

Several ideas included combining the home tour with the garden tour or having it as a separate event and perhaps combining it with a small art fair. The idea was presented earlier this year to the Tyler Park Board and I volunteered to head up a committee that would study the idea and present it to the Board for their consideration.



If you are interested in serving on this exploratory committee you can contact me directly or if you know of a home (perhaps your own) that would be a good candidate for the tour, contact me as well at my office at 585-1500.

• Kathey Schickli



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Check Your Mailing Label!

A reminder . . . TPNA board members have combined our mailing list with the membership list. Please look at the mailing label on this newsletter. Members who have paid within the past year will have their name listed on the label with a date showing when we received your membership payment. Businesses should look for the date beside their names to show that they have joined. If your name is not on the label, **please, please, please join your neighborhood organization!** Details for joining are on the back of the newsletter. Of course, there is always the chance that we missed your payment. If that is the case, let us know and we will gladly include your information on the mailing list!

Tyler Park Invasives Clean-ups

On October 29 and again on November 21, crews of TPNA board members and area residents gathered in Tyler Park along Tyler Park Drive for invasive weed clean-ups, led by Olmsted Parks Conservancy staff members Matt and Robert. The events were coordinated through Sarah Wolff of the Olmsted Parks Conservancy. Following a short tutorial by Matt and Robert, we volunteers began cutting down the invasive plants (primarily bush honeysuckle but also privet, winter creeper, and burning bush) at ground level, preparing them for herbicide application. Then we cut the weeds into six-inch pieces to facilitate decomposition on the site. The October 29th crew included Drew Duncan, Doug Thrasher, Jo Shipley, Florence Saltzman, Beth Long, Jason Thomas, Mike Gramig, and Julie and John French.

We returned to the same area on November 21, this time armed with a chain saw and a chipper to speed the work along. Our crew included Jo Anne Fischer, who is a Tyler Park resident, Yew Dell Gardens employee, certified herbicide applicator, and very hard worker. Hers is the garden behind 1325 Bellwood, a past Tyler Park Garden Tour highlight and a continuing neighborhood delight. With the added expertise and

machinery, we were able to clean out a large area of infestation. Please plan a walk along Tyler Park Drive in the block leading to Castlewood for a dramatic “before and after” view of invasive plant clean-up in this on-going project. Volunteers on November 21 included Drew Duncan, Phyllis Costello, Doug Thrasher, Jason Thomas, Jo Anne Fischer, Mike Gramig, and Julie and John French. We’ll keep you posted on future efforts in this newsletter and online at www.tylerpark.org

Habitat for Humanity’s ReStore

Several Decembers ago, I resolved to take on a volunteer project during my retirement time. Shortly after that, I read about the then-new Habitat for Humanity ReStore, located at 2777 South Floyd. I had worked on several Habitat homes but figured I’d find a place to work indoors during the cold weather. I am approaching my fifth year of volunteering, and I hope it will go on for a long time to come. The ReStore features new and used building supplies, appliances, kitchen and other cabinets, doors and windows, bath fixtures, furniture, lighting, and fasteners. Donations come in daily in the ReStore truck, which does pick-ups for \$10 per load whether it’s one piece of furniture or a whole house or garage full of resale items. The crew will pick up items from any area of your home - no need to carry it to the front of your home yourself. In addition, folks pull in daily with donations in their vehicles. Be sure to call the store at 636-2419 to see if your donation will be accepted, though there isn’t much we will turn down. The ReStore is especially useful to us Highlanders because it stocks retro fixtures, fasteners, plumbing, lights, and furniture for our rehab needs. And the prices can be very low!

Habitat also has started a “Deconstruction Crew” that will deconstruct any room in your home as you prepare for renovation. This means that the crew will carefully take a kitchen apart, for example, in the order in which it was built, saving all usable parts for resale at the ReStore. There is a fee for the service, but the homeowner can deduct the value of the donated items for a tax write-off, which is true for all donations to the ReStore.

During 2008 and 2009, the ReStore kept over 1300 tons of usable material from being dumped in the landfill, so we’re a very “green” operation, too. Think about us the next time our neighborhood has a major junk pick-up - maybe what you’re getting rid of could be resold instead. The donations brought in about \$900,000 for Habitat for Humanity of Metro Louisville, so all the money stayed here in our area.

The Habitat for Humanity ReStore is located at 2777 S. Floyd, right across from the east side of Papa John’s Cardinal Stadium. It’s open Tuesday thru Friday from 10 to 6 and on Saturday from 9 to 4. Sometimes we’re closed on “game days” at the stadium, though, so if you’re in doubt call 636-2419 to check our hours and/or to schedule a donation.

• John French

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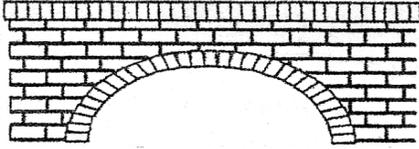


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Make your check payable to TPNA, Inc.
 Mail check and form to:
 TPNA, PO Box 4452, Louisville KY 40204

What is your major neighborhood concern?

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Beautification | Traffic |
| Crime | Zoning |
| Drainage | Litter |
| Future Development | Other _____ |

I would like to serve on a committee concerning _____.

I would like to work on the membership committee.

I would like to be on the Board of Directors.

E-mail your thoughts to info@tylerpark.org



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