



9TH DISTRICT NEWS & NOTES NEWSLETTER

VOLUME II, ISSUE 5

MAY 2014 EDITION



IN THE NEWS AND IN THE DISTRICT...

Dear 9th District Neighbors,

The Council recently voted to hold a public hearing at 6 p.m. on Monday, June 23 on the proposed renovation and redesign of Rupp Arena and the Lexington Convention Center. The meeting will occur in the Council Chambers at the Government Center at 200 East Main St.

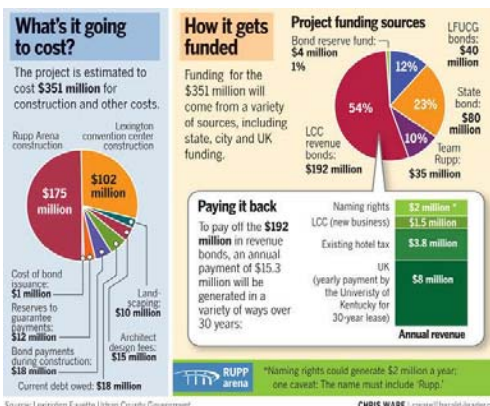
The total cost of the proposed project is now estimated to exceed \$350 million according to the latest financial plan released for the project.

In a nutshell, as was noted in the *Lexington Herald-Leader*, the financial plan depends mainly on a combination of state, city and University of Kentucky money, and fan support—including \$80 million in state bonds, \$40 million in city bonds, and \$35 million in fan support.

This combination of state, city and fan support would reportedly pay \$159 million of the \$351 million cost. As the newspaper reported, to make up the difference, the Lexington Center Corporation will need a \$192 million loan. Debt payments on the loan would be approximately \$15.3 million per year for 30 years, according to the financial plan.

The university would pay just over half of the \$15.3 million in annual debt payments. In addition, the financing plan includes \$1.5 million in additional revenue generated by more conventions and other events held in Rupp Arena and another \$2 million generated annually for naming rights for Rupp Arena. The Rupp Arena name would remain a part of the remodeled facility.

Governor Beshear issued a line-item veto late last month on a bill approved during the 2014 General Assembly dealing with the proposed renovation. House Bill 301 would have required the city to repay the \$2.5 million by April 1, 2015 that the city received last year from coal severance tax proceeds for planning and design work



on the proposed Rupp Arena project.

In vetoing the provision, the Governor said it imposed "an unnecessary deadline... and could cause some of the future bonds sold by the commonwealth for the Rupp Arena renovation projects to be taxable instead of tax-exempt." He noted that Mayor Gray has publicly committed to repaying the \$2.5 million.

What are your thoughts on the proposed project and its financing plan? I welcome your feedback. I also encourage you to attend the hearing or watch the meeting on GTV-3, channel 3 on Lexington's Time-Warner Cable system—or watch online at www.LexingtonKY.gov.

My sincere appreciation. A huge *thank you* to everyone who expressed concern and best wishes after my recent spill while I was horse back riding. I was truly touched and it meant a great deal to me! I continue to recuperate from my injuries and look forward to being "back in the saddle" (figuratively speaking) in a few days.

Please forward this newsletter to anyone who may have an interest in receiving it. Thank you. My best always,

CALENDAR:

May 10-11: Mayfest, Gratz Park.

May 14-18: Bluegrass Classic Stockdog Trials and Kentucky Sheep & Fiber Festival at Masterson Station.

May 17: Founders Day at McConnell Springs.

May 18: Lexington Women's Garden Work Day; Wellington Park, 2-4 pm.

May 25: Walk the Wellington Park, 2-4 pm.

June 13: Golf Scramble for Firefighter Joe Vissing; Connemara Golf Course.

June 23: Rupp Arena Project Financing Public Meeting, Council Chambers, City Hall, 6 p.m.

View the [City Calendar](#)



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

STORMWATER GRANT PROGRAM	2
SHILLITO PARK ACTIVITY	2
POLICE ISSUE SCAM ALERT	3
SENIOR CENTER RENDERINGS	4
CITY POOL PASSES UPDATE	7
HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY INFO	8
SHILLITO PARK POOL CANOPY	8



STORMWATER INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM INFORMATION

The grant application period is now open for the FY 2015 Stormwater Incentive Grant Program. All neighborhood associations, businesses, schools, non-profits and other organizations are encouraged to apply.

Class A Neighborhood Grants and Class B Education Grants are due on May 30, 2014, and Class B Infrastructure Grants are due on August 1, 2014.

These grants, funded by the Water Quality Management Fee, provide financial assistance for projects that reduce stormwater runoff, improve water quality and educate citizens about water issues in Lexington.

Class A Neighborhood Grants are available for Fayette County neighborhood, community and homeowner associations that represent single family homeowners or farms. The neighborhood grants can be used to fund rain gardens, rain barrels, aeration systems for retention ponds, stream bank restoration, neighborhood workshops and other projects that help improve or manage stormwater through education and/or physical improvements. Projects may be funded up to \$100,000 and require a 20% cost share of the total cost, through cash or in-kind donations.

Class B Education Grants are open to schools,

churches, nonprofits, and owners and tenants of businesses that do not fall under the Class A Neighborhood Grants. In the past, the education grants have been used to fund the development of stormwater-related curriculum for schools, publicity campaigns about water quality, workshops for the public and educational rain gardens. The maximum award for the education grants is \$35,000, with a cost share of 50% above the first \$2,500.

Class B Infrastructure Grants, for businesses, schools, churches, apartment complexes and other institutions, are also open. In the past, these grants have funded a variety of stormwater projects, including stream restoration, constructed wetlands, bio-retention, rain gardens, rainwater harvesting and pervious pavement installation.

Construction only projects, along with design and construction projects, have a maximum grant award of \$350,000 with a 10% cost share for design phase costs. Feasibility only projects have a maximum grant award of \$50,000 with a 10% cost share.

Grant application packets, contact information, sample scoring sheets and other information are available at www.lexingtonky.gov/incentives.



Class A Neighborhood Grants and Class B Education Grants applications are due on May 30. Class B Infrastructure Grants applications are due on August 1.

SOUTHPOINT PARK ACTIVITY

Recently, criminal mischief has been reported at Southpoint Park and nearby on Atwood Drive, including vandals damaging equipment at the park and personal property on Atwood Drive.

My office has been working the Division of Police and the City's Division of Parks and Recreation to determine what steps can be taken to address the activity.

Police will be providing "extra patrol" in the area and residents can assist the Police by reporting any suspicious activity to Police at 258-3600 (non-emergency) or 9-1-1 (emergency).

When criminals damage public property we all must foot the bill through the tax dollars it takes to repair and replace the property.

These acts are senseless and the City will do everything within its power to respond swiftly and fully.

I appreciate your input and feedback and the information on what has occurred and I pledge to work to send a clear message to the perpetrators, these acts will not be tolerated.

MAYOR NAMES DIRECTOR OF HOMELESSNESS

Mayor Gray has named Charlie Lanter the city's first director of the newly created Office of Homelessness Prevention and Intervention. Lanter will focus on helping Lexington improve efforts to effectively address homelessness through increased coordination, innovation and data-driven decision making. The creation of the Office was a recommendation made by the Mayor's Commission on Homelessness in 2013.

Recently, the Council endorsed the Mayor's plan to set aside \$500,000 of surplus dollars for a homelessness fund plus \$3 million for affordable housing. In addition to being responsible for the community coordination of recommendations included in the Commission's report, Lanter will administer the \$500,000 fund and will also be involved in efforts to create affordable housing—a critical component of preventing homelessness.

A top priority for the Office will be working with community partners to develop a Housing First Program, which will specifically target chronically

homeless individuals with mental or physical health challenges. Other priorities include improving the Homelessness Information Management System, which is a federal Department of Housing and Urban Development database utilized by area service providers, and to develop public-private partnerships to diversify funding sources and program effectiveness.

Lanter has served as the Director of Planning, Communications and Advancement for the Community Action Council since 2007.



LIVABLE COMMUNITIES SUMMIT SET FOR MAY 8

Lexington Senior Services Commission is working to make Lexington even more livable—for everyone. The Commission is preparing to seek official designation for Lexington as one of the World Health Organization's (WHO) and AARP's Age Friendly and Livable Communities.

The Senior Services Commission and AARP Kentucky are hosting a Livable Communities Summit from 1-3:30 p.m. Thursday, May 8. The event is open to groups, agencies or individuals from Lexington interested in joining the discussion.

"We know that our aging population is growing and will continue to increase in numbers in the years to come," said Kristy Stambaugh, the city's administrator for Aging Services and Disability support. "We also know that Lexington is a Great American City and it is our desire for it to be an age-friendly community." Cities applying for the

Age Friendly City and Communities designation are evaluated for certain amenities and characteristics: outdoor space and building, transportation, housing, social participation, respect and social inclusion, civic participation and employment, communication and information, community support and health services.

"As we look at this process, we know it's a community effort and we're inviting local boards and commissions who may already be working on similar initiatives and those who would simply like to learn more about it," Stambaugh said.

The Livable Communities Summit is planned at the Fayette County Extension Office at 1140 Red Mile Place on May 8, 2014.

Contact Kristy Stambaugh by May 1 if you or someone you know is interested in joining the discussion with AARP Kentucky at kstambau@lexingtonky.gov



The Senior Services Commission and AARP Kentucky are hosting a Livable Communities Summit from 1-3:30 p.m. Thursday, May 8. More information on AARP Livable Communities is available online at www.aarp.org/livable-communities

Source: LFUCG Public Information Office

NEW SHILLITO PARK MULTIPURPOSE FIELDS UPDATE

Spring has sprung and the new multipurpose athletics fields at Shillito Park now have grass growing—albeit it is tender and sparse in some areas. A Parks and Recreation crew seeded and fertilized the fields a few weeks ago.

The fields should be ready for use in late spring or early summer.

Field fencing has been completed which will help keep balls off of Reynolds Road and prevent cars from driving into the new fields.

The next step, which should start any day, is the installation of a new irrigation system. That phase will likely take 2 to 4 weeks. The system will greatly help with turf development.

Parks and Recreation anticipates fertilizing the field soon and over seeding bare areas as well.

They are currently in the process of obtaining quotes and ordering the materials to install two new scoreboards for use beginning later this fall. As you may recall, the football team from Idle Hour will be playing at Shillito temporarily, at least for this fall.

The new multipurpose fields are a welcome addition at Shillito Park which is one of the city's most popular parks.

In addition, a new shade canopy has been installed at Shillito Park's pool. See page 8 for further information.



Work began this past fall on new multipurpose athletics fields at Shillito Park. The fields should be ready for use in late spring or early summer. Photo courtesy of Robert Allen.

LEXINGTON POLICE ISSUE SCAM ALERT

Lexington's Division of Police Financial Crimes Unit is warning citizens about a scammer pretending to represent Kentucky Utilities.

Recently, Lexington residents and business owners have received phone calls from a person pretending to be a Kentucky Utilities employee. The suspect tells the customer that their billing account is overdue and warns that their electrical service will be cut off immediately.

The suspect then claims that in order to avoid termination of service, the customer must purchase a "Green Dot Money Pak Card" and load it

with various monetary amounts. Once purchased by the victim, the suspect requests the card number and the funds are immediately transferred to an overseas account.

Police encourage citizens to disregard this call to avoid falling prey to this scam. They also remind everyone to **never give personal information or bank account information to anyone over the phone or through text message.**

If you have been a victim of this scam or want more information, contact the Division of Police at (859) 258-3600.



NEW SENIOR CENTER DESIGN UNVEILED

At the April 15 Council Work Session, architects with EOP Architecture and Catlin + Petrovek Architects presented the Council with design plans for the new Senior Center to be built at Idle Hour Park. The center will focus on group activities, education, art, wellness and fitness. The project's estimated cost is \$13 million. The new center will take approx. 18 months to build. You can follow the progress here: <http://www.lexingtonky.gov/index.aspx?page=3428>



LEXINGTON SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER



Catlin + Petrovek Architects



LEXINGTON SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER



LEVEL 1

LEXINGTON SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER



Catlin + Petrovich Architects



LEVEL 2

LEXINGTON SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER



Catlin + Petrovich Architects



Attending the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) Winners' Circle Awards Luncheon in Lexington with Councilmember Jenni Scutchfield.

Congratulations to Megan Smith, founder, publisher, and editor of *Cake & Whiskey* magazine, the National Association of Women Business Owners Lexington Chapter's (NAWBO) 2014 Winners' Circle Award recipient.

NAWBO's Winners' Circle Award recognizes a Kentucky woman who has shown outstanding leadership, financial stamina and control, contributed to her community through time and resources, understands and resolves complex issues, and is dedicated to furthering women in business through personal support and mentoring.

Cake & Whiskey magazine is devoted to women in all stages of their business journey and strives to motivate and spark women to dream bigger, reach higher, and achieve greater things.



Megan Smith

KEEP ACCESSIBILITY PARKING ACCESSIBLE

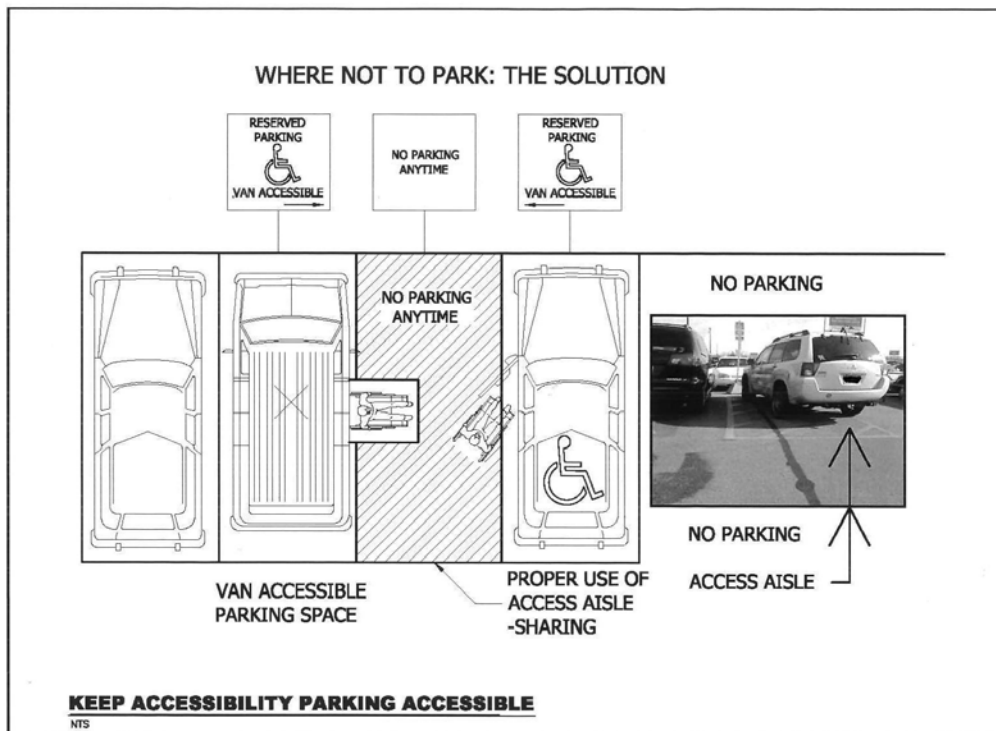
The Mayor's Commission for Citizens with Disabilities has been working to protect accessible parking spaces in Fayette County from improper and illegal use.

For those of you who need to use van accessible parking spots, signage and striping is being changed to inform the public that no parking will be allowed at any time in the striped access aisle. (See the illustration below as an example.)

To ensure that parking is available for persons with disabilities, the local fine has been increased from \$15 to \$250. Please let your

friends and family know about these changes as these laws will be strictly enforced. For more information, you are invited to attend one of the Mayor's Commission for Citizens with Disabilities meetings. Meetings are held on the last Wednesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. They are held at the Central Library (140 East Main Street) through June and at the Northside Library (1733 Russell Cave Road) from July through December.

For more information, contact LexCall at 3-1-1 or (859) 425-2255 or visit the Mayor's Commission for Citizens with Disabilities website at <http://www.lexingtonky.gov/commissionforcitizenswithdisabilities>.



The striped areas next to handicapped parking spaces are critical for people who use wheelchair ramps or need extra space to transfer into and out of vehicles.

Source: Mayor's Commission for Citizens with Disabilities

AFFORDABLE HOUSING STAKEHOLDERS GROUP MEETING

The city's Affordable Housing Stakeholders Group held its first meeting on April 30. The group set goals, created the organizational structure and developed a program for the implementation of the Affordable Housing Fund.

Members of the stakeholders group included representatives from Council, social service agencies, grants administration, real estate, residential development, construction and financial management.

The group will examine affordable housing programs and determine how those programs could be executed. In addition to setting an overall funding goal for affordable housing programs, the stakeholders group will also issue a recommendation to Council on long-term funding sources.

The city is moving forward with recommendations made by the Mayor's Commission on Homelessness

and a recent report by the affordable housing consulting firm CZB. This includes the creation of a new Office of Homelessness Prevention and Intervention.

The director of the homelessness office, Charlie Lanter, started his new position on May 5 and will work closely with the Affordable Housing Stakeholders Group.

In March, Mayor Gray and the Council committed \$3 million to affordable housing and \$500,000 for homelessness. Funding for the initiatives was available from a budget surplus.

Going forward, the Affordable Housing Fund will be administered by the Office of Affordable Housing.

With approval from Council, the Office will include a director and advisory board.



CITY'S POOL PASSES PRICES CHANGING

The City's Parks Advisory Board has voted to reduce the individual annual pool pass fee by \$10, from \$50 to \$40. In addition, families of up to six will now pay \$200 for an annual pool pass that allows unlimited access to Lexington's seven pools. Up to two additional family members can be added to the family pass at \$20 each. Approximately 80% of the City's pool passes sold are individual passes according to the Parks and Recreation Department.

The restructuring of the fees became necessary due to continuing issues that have arisen with

the ongoing abuse of the family passes and the fact that other area communities are charging more for family passes but offer access to fewer pools.

Lower-income families may qualify to get family passes at half price. Families who receive free and reduced lunch and are on other government programs can also qualify for a discounted rate.

Aquatic Centers (Woodland, Castlewood, Tates Creek and Southland) open for the season May 24. For additional information click here:

<http://www.lexingtonky.gov/index.aspx?page=200>



Pool passes are available online beginning at 9:00 a.m. on April 29, and will be available through May 16.



Sixteen employees of the Division of Community Corrections recently received service awards from Director Rodney Ballard.

25 years: Major Edye Dabney and Major James Kammer. 20 years: Capt. Jim Capillo. 15 years: Cpl. Rob Roark and Sgt. Ken Webb. 10 years: Cpl. Dennis Hayes, Capt. Shawn Campbell, Margie Keller, Shannon Taylor, Carol Wagner, Cpl. Eric King, Sgt. Yolanda Elko, Cpl. Tony Chism, Cpl. James Frasher, Cpl. Toryan Whiting and Cpl. Evon Hatton.

Thank you for your dedication and service to our city!



FROM THE OFFICE OF
COUNCILMEMBER JENNIFER MOSSOTTI

Government Center, 200 East Main St., 5th Floor
Lexington, KY 40507

<http://www.lexingtonky.gov/index.aspx?page=364>

Contact Councilmember Jennifer Mossotti:

Phone: 859-258-3215

E-mail: jmossotti@lexingtonky.gov



Legislative Aide:

Rob Bolson

Phone: 859-425-2564

E-mail: rbolson@lexingtonky.gov

Follow on Social Media:

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Twitter: [@Mossotti9th](https://twitter.com/Mossotti9th)

Instagram: [CouncilmemberMossotti](https://www.instagram.com/CouncilmemberMossotti)



OTHER INFORMATION OF NOTE...



Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day Update: An application has been submitted to the state Division of Waste Management for a grant that would help pay for the costs of LFUCG conducting a Household Hazardous Waste collection event in Lexington this year. The City will not receive a response on the application until June. The tentative plan now is to hold a 1-day collection event in the fall (October or November). The City is also in the process of developing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a company that can accept, process and dispose of the materials collected at the event. Traditionally, the training pad on Old Frankfort Pike has been used for such an event, however, that area will not be available to be used for this event, so an alternate location must be found.

Clays Mill Road Widening Project Update. Among the bills approved by state lawmakers during the recent General Assembly and sent to Gov. Beshear for his approval in the final hours of the session was a two-year state road plan that included more than \$5 billion in state projects. Fayette County will receive a total of \$154 million in road-related projects, including major improvements to New Circle Road, Leestown Road, Clays Mill Road and the Newtown Pike Extension. Phase "2C" of the Clays Mill Road project will begin in 2015. Additional information is found in the April newsletter edition.

\$3 PET VACCINATIONS

The Lexington-Fayette County Health Department's annual Rabies Vaccination Clinic will be 6-9 p.m. Thursday, May 8, at Douglass Park, 726 Georgetown St. (Subject to the weather conditions.) Vaccinations are only \$3. All cats must be in a carrier and all dogs must be on leashes. Updated information will be posted at www.lexingtonhealthdepartment.org.



SHOTGUN START 8:00 AM

REGISTER HERE:

<http://www.golfdigestplanner.com/25990-JoeVissingGolfBenefit>

FOR VOLUNTEER/SPONSOR OPPORTUNITIES

CONTACT:

RON KING

859-940-8845

Ron.kingjr@gmail.com

NEW STOPS SIGNS IN SOUTHPOINT



Lexington's Division of Traffic Engineering recently installed multi-way stop sign controls and pavement markings at Southpoint Drive and Grey Oak Lane.

Motorists should exercise caution while traffic adapts to the new traffic control measures.



Shillito Park pool will now offer visitors welcome relief from the summer sun with the addition of a new Shade Canopy recently installed by Parks and Recreation.

Share the news! Do you know someone who might also enjoy reading this monthly newsletter? Please forward a copy to them. If you are not currently a subscriber, please e-mail rbolson@lexingtonky.gov to be added to the e-mail list. Did you miss an edition? View previous editions of the 9th District Newsletter here: <http://www.lexingtonky.gov/index.aspx?page=364>