



9TH DISTRICT NEWS & NOTES NEWSLETTER

VOLUME II, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2014 EDITION



IN THE NEWS AND IN THE DISTRICT...

Dear 9th District Neighbors,

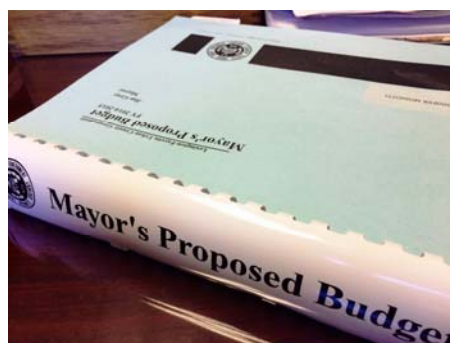
On April 8, Mayor Gray presented his annual *proposed* budget to the Council. According to the Mayor, the FY15 budget is based upon an improving economy and on a government that is more efficient. Each spring, the Mayor proposes the City's next fiscal year budget and the Council then reviews the various proposals and ultimately ratifies a final budget in late June.

The administration is now estimating that the City's General Fund revenue for the next budget year will be \$313.2 million—a 5% increase over last year's General Fund budget.

Highlights of the address included that since January 2011, jobs in Lexington have increased by almost 9,000 and last year 149,249 people were employed in Lexington—more than at any time since the government started keeping records in 1990. Average annual wages are rising locally—up from \$42,000 in 2011 to \$43,600 in 2013. But as the Mayor stated in his address, "There is still work to do." I could not agree more. That is why I recently voted yes along with my Council colleagues to create the new **Jobs Fund**—an investment that will help to attract new employers and new jobs.

Public Safety. In addition to the \$6.5 million in surplus funds recently approved by the Council for a one-time equipment purchase of police cruisers, fire engines and emergency medical ambulances, additional proposed expenditures for FY15 include the hiring of 15 new police officers and 15 new corrections officers; hiring more E-911 call takers and additional new positions at the Fire Department—and the funding for two recruit classes in both Fire and Police to fill the vacancies of those who are retiring.

Other much needed improvements include \$800,000 for a new Fire training tower; \$2.5



million to relocate and build a new Fire Station #2; \$250,000 for the land acquisition for a new fire station in the Masterson Station area; and \$45,000 to upgrade outdoor severe weather public warning sirens.

Also, \$8 million is earmarked for the planned new **Senior Center** to be built at Idle Hour Park to replace the woefully outdated and inadequate 31-year-old facility on Nicholasville Road. \$150,000 is also proposed for benches, scoreboards and parking at the new **Shillito Park** multi-purpose fields, and if approved, City employees would also receive a 2% raise in the new budget.

The Mayor is also proposing a city bond package of up to \$40 million for renovations at **Rupp Arena**. This, along with all proposed expenditures in the FY15 Budget will now be thoroughly reviewed and discussed by the full Council before a final vote occurs. I welcome your feedback. The City's new budget must be approved by July 1. You can read the Mayor's budget address [here](#).

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

CALENDAR:

April 26: Arbor Day; UK Campus at The Arboretum, 10 am-2 pm.

April 27: I Know Expo, Lexington Center, noon-5 pm.

May 14-18: Bluegrass Classic Stockdog Trials at Masterson Station Park.

May 14-18: Kentucky Sheep & Fiber Festival at Masterson Station Park.

May 17: Founders Day at McConnell Springs.

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

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

View the [City Calendar](#)



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YOUR INSIDER'S GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING GOVERNMENT

April Topic: Property Owner's Maintenance Responsibilities

People are often confused about what the City is responsible for and what they, as a property owner, are responsible for. Here are some specific examples of maintenance responsibilities that belong to the property owner:

- The sidewalks and curbs that adjoin your property. This includes making all repairs, plus snow and ice removal.
- Street trees. These are the trees located in the public right-of-way easement typically in the "utility strip" between the sidewalk and street. Street trees are the responsibility of the abutting property owner to maintain. Property owners are required to obtain a permit from the City's Urban Forester at 258-3451 before removing or planting a street tree.
- Creeks and other waterways on private property, plus drainage easements. However, the City has ordinances that control the use of waterways and drainage easements.
- And of course, all property must be maintained to ensure that it is safe and habitable and not a detriment to neighbors or to the property values in the neighborhood.

If you think a property is maintained in such a way that it is an eyesore in the neighborhood, you can report it to the Division of Code Enforcement by calling LexCall at 3-1-1 or 425-2255.

Building permits are required for all new construction, remodeling and additions and other activities such as adding a fence, swimming pool, or driveway. A grading permit may be required for any reshaping of a yard. These permits are obtained from the City's Division of Building Inspection at 258-3770.

The City does not enforce private deed restrictions as they are private agreements. Consult your homeowner's association agreement (if applicable) to learn more about specific deed restrictions.



LOAN-A-BOX PROGRAM AVAILABLE

Have you started your spring cleaning only to realize that your Herbie isn't large enough to handle all of your discarded items? The Division of Waste Management's Loan-A-Box program can help.

The Loan-A-Box program is a service for residents and non-profit organizations to dispose of a large amount of debris using a 10-cubic-yard container that can be filled with most types of debris.

The program is available to all citizens or non-profits in Fayette County. (This program is not available for businesses or private contractors.)

The program runs year-round and is scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis by calling LexCall at 3-1-1 or 425-2255. Safe usage of the box is very important and you can review the recommended guidelines for acceptable items by clicking this link: <http://www.lexingtonky.gov/index.aspx?page=700>.

The box is delivered to your home between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. on the scheduled day and is collected the next morning. Boxes are also available over the

weekend, with the container delivered on Friday and collected on Monday morning.

Residents of Fayette County who live within the full Urban Services Area are charged a fee of \$75, which is required in advance to cover the landfill-disposal cost.

If you do not live inside the Urban Services Area can still obtain the container at a rate of \$180, which covers dropping off and picking up the box, plus the disposal cost.

For more information on the Loan-A-Box program, call LexCall at 3-1-1 or 425-2255 or e-mail: lmonahan@lexingtonky.gov.



LEXINGTON STREETS LESS BUMPY, THANKS TO MR. MANHOLE

When Lexington residents experience a smoother ride over manholes in city streets, they have “Mr. Manhole” and his crew to thank. Mr. Manhole works tirelessly and doesn’t need food or water.

Mr. Manhole is actually a piece of equipment used by the City’s Division of Streets and Roads to cut out a circular piece of concrete and pavement around a manhole so it can be recast and repaved and brought up level with the surface of the street around it. This keeps city streets a little less bumpy.

A crew of seven men works with Mr. Manhole from start to finish. They can prepare five to six manholes a day, readying them for a new layer of concrete. They mostly work on sanitary sewer manholes, but they also do storm water manholes.

Mr. Manhole attaches to a Bobcat – also known as “Bob” – and cuts out a perfect circle around the

manhole. The Bobcat operator controls the speed of the cutter.

It takes about five minutes for Mr. Manhole to do his work. The resulting hole is then cleaned out, fitted with a plastic form, and covered with one-inch thick plates until the crew is ready to pour concrete around it.

After the concrete is poured, the crew uses a black dye to color it so it will look like the surrounding pavement.

The whole process – except for pouring the concrete – takes about 25 minutes. All of the work is done while traffic weaves around the work site, so workers have to be cautious and alert at all times.

Streets and Roads has been using Mr. Manhole for approximately six years.

Source: LFUCG Public Information Office



ABOUT THE URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL: DID YOU KNOW?

Lexington’s Urban County Council is the legislative branch of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government and has the authority to establish budgets, set policy and levy taxes subject to limits set by the City’s Charter and state laws. Fayette County is divided into 12 Council districts of approximately equal population.

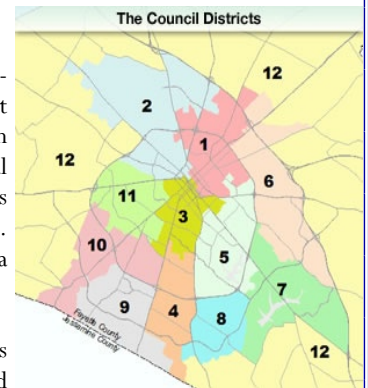
One Council Member is elected from each district for a two-year term. Council Members may serve up to six consecutive terms. The 15-member Urban County Council also includes three At-Large Council Members, elected by voters countywide.

The At-Large Council Member who receives the most votes in the general election becomes the Vice

Mayor.

The Council holds work sessions on two Tuesdays per month wherein the Council reviews what actions will be taken at the formal meetings on Thursday nights. Council meetings are formal meetings in which previously discussed ordinances and resolutions are legally enacted by the Council. The formal meetings are held at least twice a month at City Hall on Thursday nights at 6 pm.

Council Work Sessions and the official meetings are held in the Council Chambers on the second floor of the Government Center and are open to the public. There is public comment time at both of these meetings for those wishing to speak.



CITY POOL PASSES AND SWIMMING LESSONS

Pool passes are available online from the City’s Division of Parks and Recreation beginning at 9 am on April 29, and will be available through May 16.

Passes can also be purchased at aquatic centers during operating hours beginning May 24. The cost is \$35 for an individual pool pass if purchased online, \$40 for an individual pool pass when purchased at the pools. Family passes are no longer available.

Registration for swim lessons and swim team will be offered online beginning at noon on April 29, and will remain open through May 16.

Beginning May 24, registration for swim lessons and swim team is available at City pools during normal operating hours until the day before each session.

In-person registration will be held at the Parks & Recreation Administration Office at 469 Parkway Drive from noon–7 pm on April 29. The cost for swim lessons is \$25 per child and all fees must be paid at the time of registration. All programs are filled on a first-come, first-served basis and are non-refundable.

For more information, visit the Parks and Rec page: <http://www.lexingtonky.gov/index.aspx?page=200>





Join us!
Lexington Women's
Garden
Work Day

At Wellington Park
(565 Wellington Way)

Sunday May 18, 2014

2 – 4 pm

In collaboration with:



For more information:
Call Victoria Meyer 806-4665

To have your group or organization's event featured in the 9th District News & Notes monthly newsletter, e-mail your event information for consideration to jmossotti@lexingtonky.gov.



April 27, 2014

12:00 – 5:00 pm

Lexington Center

Free event. Experts on aging well and coping with disabilities share what they know.

View exhibits, chat one-on-one and attend informative presentations on everything from housing, healthcare and insurance, to legal and financial planning, to living well and staying active.

For more information, click here:

<http://www.IKnowExpo.org>

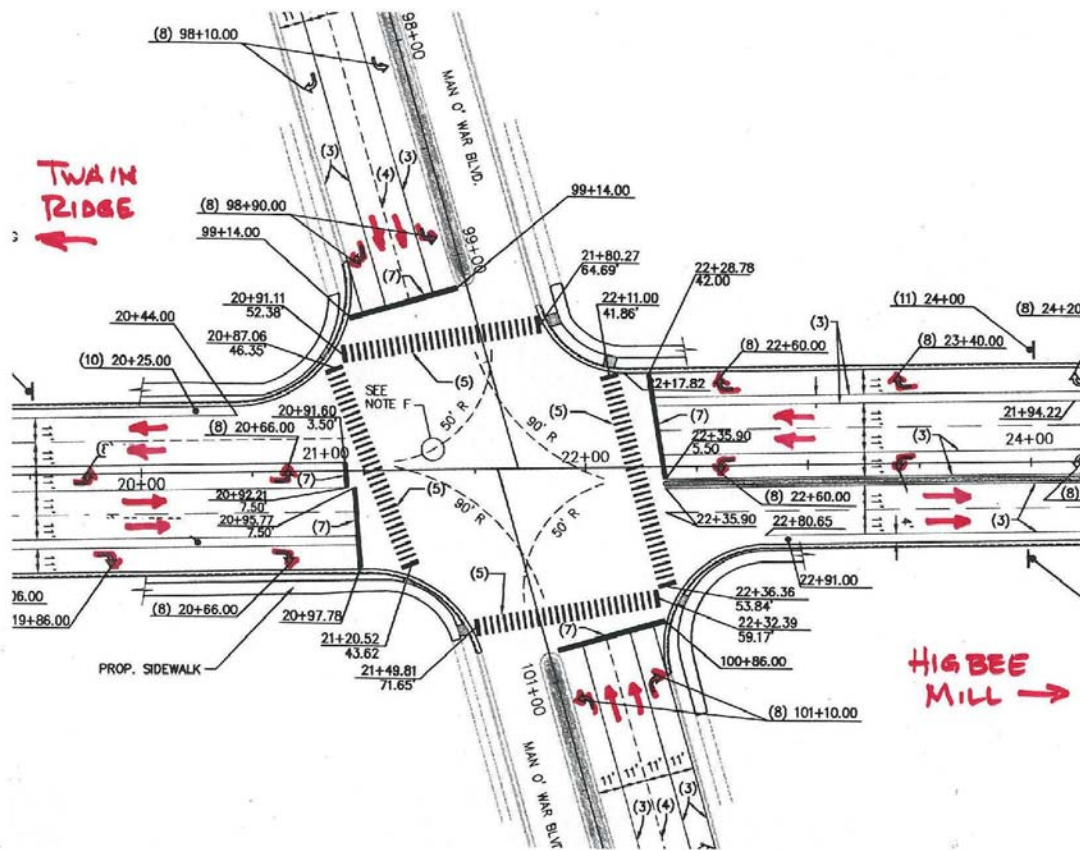
PICK IT UP LEXINGTON.



**Cigarette butts are litter; flicking one on the ground
could get you a \$500 fine!**

Help report litterbugs at Lexingtonky.gov/litterreport.

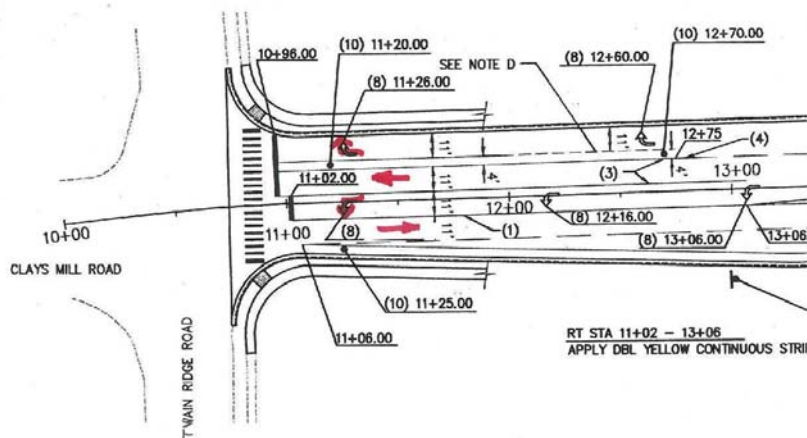
CLAYS MILL ROAD WIDENING PROJECT ILLUSTRATIONS



This pictorialization of the intersection of Clays Mill Road and Man o' War Blvd. illustrates the new lane configuration being created as part of the overall Clays Mill Road Widening Project. The anticipated completion date for Phase 2B is August 1.

TRAFFIC IMPACT ALERT:

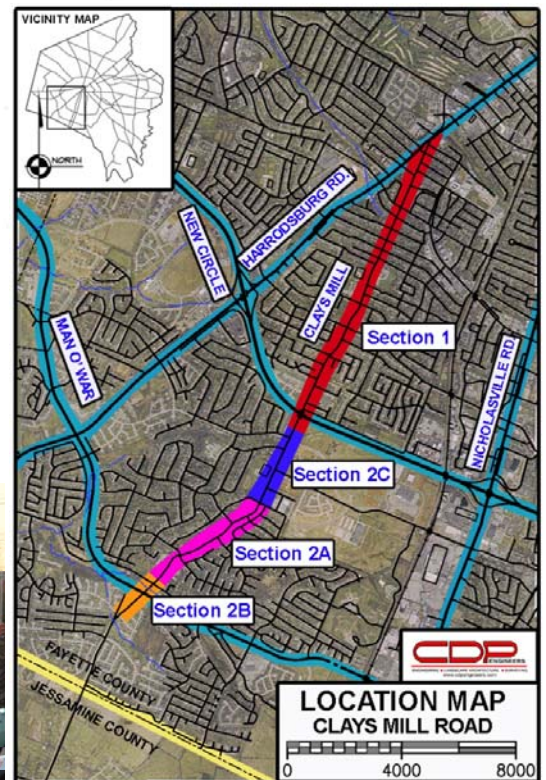
Contractors will begin replacing the approach lanes of Man o' War (inner and outer lanes) at Clays Mill Road on 4/13. Left Turn and Left Thru lanes will be closed for construction for 6 days during this phase of construction. You should allow for additional travel time during this period of time.



The widening of Clays Mill Road for Section 2B will end at Twain Ridge Road.



Illustrations courtesy of LFUCG Engineering Department.



Phase 2A is complete. Phase 2B work is due to be complete by August 1. Work on Phase 2C begins in 2015.



STONEWALL COMMUNITY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING

Stonewall Community Neighborhood Association held its annual meeting on March 31 at Southern Heights Baptist Church on Clays Mill Road. With more than one-thousand homes, Stonewall is one of the largest neighborhoods in Lexington. For more information on the association, visit: <http://www.stonewallinfor.com>.

NEW HANDICAPPED PARKING FINE NOW \$250

Effective April 21, anyone parking illegally in a handicapped parking spot in Fayette County will face a hefty fine of \$250.

In February, the Urban County Council raised the fine for parking illegally in a handicapped spot in Lexington from \$15 to \$250. Raising the fee was recommended by the Mayor's Commission for Citizens with Disabilities who found that Lexington's fine was one of the lowest in Kentucky.

The Council passed the new ordinance on February 20, but delayed its effective date until a public education campaign could be completed to inform the public of the change.

In addition, the Council also approved an ordinance to require additional signage in private parking lots for the striped spaces next to many handicapped parking spots.

Motorists who use wheelchair ramps or need extra space to transfer into and out of vehicles cannot get out of their vehicles if someone parks in the striped spaces.



LEXSERV PAPERLESS BILLING NOW AVAILABLE

The city of Lexington is now offering LEXServ customers the option of receiving electronic bills – eliminating the paper bills sent through the mail. Customers who sign up for the paperless billing will receive an email when their invoice is ready to review online. Customers who also sign up for auto-pay will receive a second email notifying them of the funds transfer as payment confirmation. Customers do not have to have auto-pay to get the electronic billing and still have the option of paying by mail or in person. The LEXServ bill covers the fees for City services for sanitary sewers, the landfill and water quality.

To sign up for electronic billing, go to the LEX-

Serv website – www.lexingtonky.gov/lexserv. Scroll down to find on the right the “View Your Bill Online” section and log onto your account. If you currently do not have an account you should sign up for access to view your bill online. Next, log in to your account and click on “My Profile.” Then go to the section “Delivery Method” and remove the check mark next to “mail” and add a check mark by “E-mail.”

You will need your LEXServ account number to access your account or sign up. If you have questions about paperless billing, please email info.lexserv@lexingtonky.gov between 8 am-5 pm for assistance.



LEXserv
city services

★ LEXINGTON PARKS & RECREATION PRESENTS

MOONDANCE AMPHITHEATER

summer nights in suburbia

“Step Outside The Circle”

CRICKET
PRESS



2014 SUMMER SCHEDULE

Free Friday Night Concerts 7 to 9pm

May 2 - Rebel Without A Cause
May 9 - Young Heirlooms
May 16 - **GIRLS' NIGHT:**
Julia Knight, Kitty Slickers, Bridge 19
May 23 - Appalatin
May 30 - C the Beat

June 6 - Stir Fry Musette
June 13 - Payback
June 20 - The Kelly Richey Band
June 27 - CoraLee & the Townies

July - **SUMMERFEST THEATER**
Twelfth Night / Little Shop of Horrors

August 8 - Kentucky Wild Horse
August 15 - The Stella Vees
August 22 - Zach Brock & Friends
August 29 - Ben Lacy

CRAFT BEER & FOOD TRUCKS WILL BE ON SITE
BIG BAND JAZZ on TUESDAY NIGHTS May 13-June 24

MOONDANCELEX.COM

1152 MONARCH STREET - BEAUMONT CENTRE



FROM THE OFFICE OF
COUNCILMEMBER JENNIFER MOSSOTTI

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

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

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

BE SURE TO "LIKE" ON FACEBOOK:

[COUNCILMEMBER JENNIFER MOSSOTTI](#)

FOLLOW ON TWITTER: [@MOSSOTTI9TH](#)



Create Your Safety Profile

www.smart911.com

OTHER INFORMATION OF NOTE...



- **Free Camps for Military Families:** The University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service is hosting two free military family camps this summer. The Deployment Support Camps are open to families from any state or branch of the military including active duty, Reserve, and National Guard. Children must be between 5 and 18 years old. The first camp is June 20-22 at Mammoth Cave National Park. The second camp will take place July 11-13 at UK's Robinson Forest. For more information, contact Jan Childers at nfsjan@uky.edu
- The Fayette County Detention Center inmate anti-litter crew program kicked-off for its second year on March 7. The crew is being supervised by employees of the City's Division of Streets and Roads as they focus on cleaning up trash and litter in the community. If you notice an area that needs litter removal, contact LexCall at 3-1-1 or 425-2255 to have that location added to the list.



ARTIST SHOWCASE

Do you paint? Photograph? Sculpt? Quilt? If you would like to have your creative work displayed at City Hall, here is your opportunity. Beginning in May, I will begin featuring the work of participating artists living in the 9th District on the Council floor here at City Hall. To have your work considered, e-mail me at jmossotti@lexingtonky.gov.



TELEPHONE NUMBERS:



LexCall (City Hall)	311
Police (Non-emergency)	258-3600
Fire (Non-emergency)	231-5600
Columbia Gas	800-432-9345
Fayette County Clerk	253-3344
Fayette County Sheriff	252-1771
Garbage Collection	425-2255 or 311
Health Dept.	252-2371
Humane Society	225-9033
Ky. Utilities	255-0394
Ky. American Water	800-678-6301
Lexington Public Library	231-5500
Senior Citizen Center	278-6072
Time-Warner Cable	514-1400
Traffic Hotline	258-3830
Voter Registration	255-8683
United Way	211

MONARCH WAYSTATION PROJECT



Stonewall Community Neighborhood Association will be planting a Monarch Waystation at Stonewall Park on Saturday, May 10. To participate or for more information, contact Janet Cabaniss by e-mail at jcabaniss@gmail.com.

CABLE FRANCHISE UPDATE

If the Time-Warner/Comcast merger is approved at the federal level, the franchise transfer presents Lexington with an opportunity to improve the quality of service, enhance cable system capabilities, and obtain other cable-related benefits. LFUCG is currently assessing Comcast's financial, technical, legal, and character qualifications and evaluating TWC's past and current performance in order to identify any noncompliance issues. The review should be complete within 120 days. I will update you as events warrant.



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>