

March 2018

6th District News

Councilmember Angela Evans

Evans EDITORIAL

Greetings residents of the 6th District!

It is easy to get disheartened and discouraged with the recent news of kids with guns in our schools, both in our own neighborhoods and across the country. Our frustration is heightened by the inability of federal and state governments to fix what *needs* to be fixed.

I want this edition to highlight some of the positive events I've had the pleasure to participate in recently which have been hosted by organizations ranging from multi-million dollar companies, to public schools and community churches. I experience firsthand the wonderful people and resources in our community and I believe it is important to hold them up during these anxious times. I also believe we can each give back and make a positive impact in our community- we just have to come together.

On March 28th, neighbors will be joining one another at tables across Lexington for the second annual On The Table event. Last year, many residents of the 6th District joined me at D's Café to discuss our hopes for Lexington. On The Table's theme for 2018 is civic engagement. Let's learn from each other how we can all be involved. I want to hear what you are doing in your community, and discuss our district's most pressing needs- and solutions. You can find more information about this year's On The Table on page 2.

I hope you will join me at the table and, as always,

Thanks for your support!

Angela



Angela Evans
6th District Council Member
Lexington-Fayette
Urban County Council
200 E. Main Street
Lexington, KY 40507
(859) 258-3210

6th District-Wide Meeting- April 24th 6:30 p.m., Eastside Library

On the Table in the 6th District – March 28th 6:30 p.m., D's Café at Bryan Station





On the Table

In 2017, Blue Grass Community Foundation, the City and several community partners brought On the Table to Lexington. Over 11,000 participants from every residential zip code in Lexington came together around 1,100 tables to discuss what's great about our community, and ways to make it better. Those conversations helped inform Lexington's Comprehensive Plan.

Once again, the conversation continues on Wednesday, March 28, and YOU are invited to participate! This year's conversations will explore topics such as volunteering, voting, charitable giving, helping a neighbor, improving the environment and more.

I invite you to join me on the 28th to discuss the 6th District and ways we can all work together to strengthen our community. Please see the flyer below for details.

An RSVP is not required to attend, but is appreciated to ensure we have enough sweets from D's Café for everyone who attends. Please RSVP by email at dslone@lexingtonky.gov or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/events/268167423721276/>.

To see the results from last year's event, see the 2017 On the Table impact report ([click here](#)) and see Imagine Lexington 2018 Comprehensive Plan Public Input Report ([click here](#)).



on the table in the 6th District!

your voice matters.

Wednesday, March 28th 2018

6:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

D's Café at Bryan Station

1818 Bryan Station Rd

Complimentary desserts from D's Café will be served.

More information about D's Café can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/dscafeatbryanstation/>.





6th District-Wide Meeting with Councilmember Angela Evans

Tuesday, April 24th 2018

6:30—7:30 p.m.

Eastside Branch of the Lexington Public Library
3000 Blake James Drive

Light Refreshments Will Be Served

Meeting Agenda

Lex Call 311

Traffic Engineering

Chief Weathers—Meet the New Police Chief

Commander Lyons—Neighborhood Safety

Representatives from Metro Net



Metro Net Construction Begins in the 6th District

Portions of the 6th District are among the first to receive fiber cable line from Metro Net. Many constituent have called with questions about what to expect which Metro Net begins work on their street.

Please review the list of frequently asked questions, which begins on page 5. In addition to these general questions, you can also reach Metro Net directly by calling 1-877-386-3876. You can view this interactive map (link below) to see where construction is currently taking place, and to see when construction will be coming to your neighborhood. <https://construction.metronetinc.com/cct?rm=constructionArea&location=Lexington>

Please take the time to call or visit Metro Net's website to register any information you would like to communicate before digging will take place on your property. Items such as underground sprinklers and information about pets in enclosed yards are important to share early in this process.

Homes that are in the first phase of the construction process will also be the first to receive fiber internet service, which may be available as early as this summer.



Left: The underground cable being placed into a yard in the 6th District. Middle: Machinery used for laying the cable line on some streets. Right: Construction notice sign





Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I've gotten some information from MetroNet. Who are they?

A: MetroNet has an agreement with the city of Lexington to install a citywide fiber-optic network. That network will provide ultrafast internet service at gigabit speeds, television stations, and phone service. To do that, fiber-optic cables are being installed in telephone poles and underground throughout the city.

The company already provides this kind of service in 30 communities in Indiana and Illinois. They are spending at least \$70 million to install a fiber-optic network here in Lexington so that consumers have a new choice for internet, television and phone service.

Q: Who are these people in my yard? Are they allowed to be there?

A: Yes. MetroNet has a franchise agreement with the city of Lexington and is getting the required permits. That means that their technicians are allowed to install fiber-optic cable in the two places you generally see telephone poles – in the city's right of way, which extends across streets from sidewalk to sidewalk, and in utility easements, which are often in back yards.

Utilities like MetroNet have the right to put their facilities in utility easements that are likely in your back yard. They also have the right to access the easement, which can mean placing equipment in your back yard.

If you have questions about how they are accessing your back yard, call MetroNet's help desk at (877) 386-3876.

Q: What if my lawn, fence, etc. is damaged during construction?

A: The construction phase of this project is temporary, but technicians do need to put fiber-optic cables on telephone poles and underground so that Lexingtonians have a new option for a provider of ultrafast internet, television stations and phone service. MetroNet has pledged to answer all inquiries with 24 hours (one business day) and to repair any damage that occurs during their work. Anyone can ask questions and receive an immediate response at metronetinc.com/construction or (877) 386-3876.





METRONET

Frequently Asked Questions Continued

Q: Should I notify MetroNet if I have a sprinkler system, dog fence, sump pump line or other underground facilities?

A: Yes. You can mark your sprinkler system, dog fence, sump pump line or other underground facilities with a white flag or spray paint. If you choose to mark these items with spray paint, look for a landscaping paint that won't harm your grass.

You can also notify MetroNet of your underground facilities through metronetinc.com/construction.

Q: Why is MetroNet going through my yard – I never said I wanted the service!

A: MetroNet is creating a fiber network throughout the city, so that people who want to subscribe to the service can do that. It's like Spectrum's cable network, or Kentucky Utilities' electricity network in that it is a utility that can be placed in the utility easements that exist in the front or back of most homes' yards in Lexington. Like other utilities, the goal is to make it as widely accessible as possible, although there is obviously not requirement that any home subscribe to the service.

Q: How long will MetroNet be in my yard doing work?

A: MetroNet workers may be in your yard between 30 minutes and a day. They will be putting fiber-optic network where your current utilities exist. If your cable and phone lines and electricity lines are up on poles, they will put the fiber up on poles. If your utilities are buried, then they will bury their fiber-optic cable. Before doing underground work, MetroNet may need to locate the other utilities and temporarily move any obstacle that exists in the utility easement.

Q: What's a utility easement?

A: A utility easement is a part of most people's property that is designated by ordinance to be accessible to utilities, like electrical providers, gas providers and cable providers. MetroNet is considered a utility and has a franchise agreement with the city of Lexington to locate its fiber-optic network in utility easements.





Temporary Sign Placement

With warmer months quickly approaching, please note this friendly reminder from Code Enforcement on where “temporary signs” or “yard signs” are allowed. To report non-compliant signs, please call 3-1-1. Together, let’s keep the district beautiful, clean, and code compliant!

The pictures to the right illustrate where temporary signs are and are not allowed. Please ensure that if you place a temporary sign in your yard, you do not place it in the Right-Of-Way (commonly referred to as the “utility strip”).

In addition, please do not place signs in the median or right-of-way of any city, county, or state controlled roadway. (For example; Harrodsburg Rd., South Broadway, Nicholasville Rd., Bates Creek Rd., Citation Blvd., Man-O-War Blvd, Richmond Rd., New Circle Road, etc.) Failure to follow the above requirements may result in the sign being removed and possible fines.



Kentucky Revised Statute 512.080

The unlawfully posting of advertisements when, having no right to do so or any reasonable ground to believe he/she has such a right, he/she posts, paints or otherwise affixes to the property of another person or to public property any advertisement, poster, notice or other item is a violation of state statute.

Article 17, Section 4, of the LFUCG’s Zoning Ordinance.

(g) No sign, (except for government signs), shall be attached to or painted on the surface of any tree, utility pole, street light standard, or dilapidated structure.

(j) Nor shall any sign be located within the required sight triangle neither of any intersection, nor within or projecting into the public or private street right-of-way.

These restrictions apply to all signs not related to official governmental operations regardless of content.



Deep Springs Elementary Chili Cook-off

Back at my alma mater for the 3rd annual Chili Cook-off. Congratulations to all of winners and a special thank you to my co-“celebrity judges”, including the firefighters of Fire House #2. PTA powerhouse couple Rick and Amber Rickerson are to be commended for all they have done for Deep Springs. I know their presence will be deeply missed as they move on to middle school with their daughter.



Read Across America

Reading is fundamental! I love this event and have some new favorite children’s books! This wonderful event was hosted by the Fayette County Education Association.



Stash Tank—Crawford Elementary Students

Sponsored by the Lexington Legends, students had the opportunity to create their own ballpark menu item, conduct market research and pitch it to “the board”. A fun way to spend the afternoon and I left full!



Living Word Christian Center's Women's Conference

Pastor Derrick Thomas and wife Denia. Pastor Derrick is a product of the 6th District and welcomes all of us to worship with them. Please visit the church's website at www.livingwordchristiancenter.biz for church service details.



Dress for Success End of Winter Sale

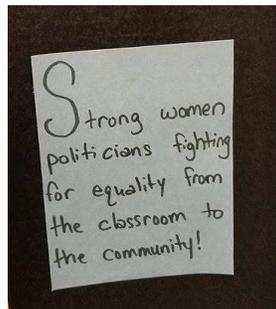
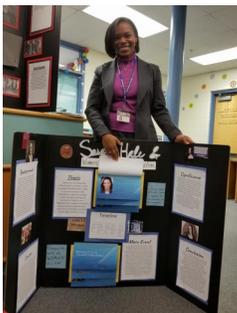
I always find some great deals and spend much more than I plan to at the annual sale!

To learn more about how Dress for Success is helping women in Lexington, visit their website, www.lexington.dressforsuccess.org. (Below: Board Members from left to right, Rob Parmely and Lindsay Hughes, CM Angela Evans and Executive Director, Analisa Wagoner)



National History Day—Winburn Middle School

Not your average politician, indeed! When I learned I was a part of a group of girl’s history project, I had to stop by and see it myself! I am honored to be a part of their history



Kentucky American Water Science Fair

I was happy to represent the 6th District at Bryan Station High School and present our city’s young scientists with their much deserved awards, with Kevin Rogers, Vice President of Operations) and FCPS Superintendent Manny Caulk.





Neighborhood Stormwater Grants Now Open

Are you interested in going beyond picking up pet waste and buying phosphorous-free fertilizer? Apply for a Neighborhood Stormwater Grant! The city provides funding for neighborhoods to undertake projects that improve water quality and reduce stormwater runoff through infrastructure improvements, volunteer work and public education. Dozens of neighborhoods have completed rain gardens, streamside plantings, rain barrel installations, litter clean-ups, pond improvements and other projects that improve water quality in their communities.

Neighborhood grants are due May 11, 2018. Applications and other information can be found at www.lexingtonky.gov/IncentiveGrants.

Mulch Giveaway—Saturday, March 24th

Yard waste collected by Lexington's Division of Waste Management during the past several months is now available as mulch. A portion of that material will be given away to Lexington residents on Saturday, March 24, at 1631 Old Frankfort Pike.

The mulch will be available for pick up from 8 a.m. until noon, or until the supply runs out. Please don't arrive before 8 a.m. The mulch will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis and is limited to one pickup truck load per person. There will be a self-load area for those picking up smaller amounts of mulch. It is recommended that self-loading vehicles pack buckets, bags and a shovel to ensure a quick and easy loading process. Please note: this event is for Fayette County residents only; no businesses.

Enter via Jimmie Campbell Drive, and look for posted signage that will direct you through the event site. For more information, call LexCall 311 at (859) 425-2255.





Homelessness Reaches Lowest Level Since 2005

The number of people experiencing homelessness in Lexington has reached its lowest level since at least 2005. In 2005, 882 individuals and family members were found to be homeless in Lexington during the annual complete count exercise. This number continued to trend upward, reaching its peak in both 2011 and 2014, with over 1,500 individuals and family members homeless on any given night in Lexington.

Results from the 2018 count show that 685 people slept on the streets, in an emergency shelter or in transitional housing on the night of January 24. That is a decrease of 859 people, or 55.63%, below 2014, when there were 1,544 people sleeping on the streets, in an emergency shelter or in transitional housing. It's also a decrease of 366 people when compared to the 1,051 count in 2017.

“Today is a moment to pause and recognize our progress, celebrate what has worked, and assess the great challenges that still lie ahead,” said Polly Ruddick, Director of the Office of Homelessness Prevention and Intervention. The Office was established by Gray and the Urban-County Council in 2014, along with an affordable housing trust fund.

“Every night there are still about 700 people in our community with no place to call home, and many hundreds more on the margins, fighting to stay off the streets,” Ruddick said. “Our work continues until everyone in Lexington has access to opportunities, support services, and safe, decent, affordable housing.” In addition to the overall numbers, Lexington is also seeing improvements in:

- The number of veterans who are homeless. In 2014, 203 homeless veterans were reported on the night of the count; this year only 92 veterans were found to be homeless, a difference of 54.6%.
- The number of people who are chronically homeless. In 2014, 186 individuals were reported to have been living on the streets or in an emergency shelter for longer than a year, as compared to 92 people this year.
- Chronically homeless families. The counts show a decrease from 12 families (33 members) in 2014, to 2 families (6 members) in 2018.

Since 2014, Lexington has realigned over \$1.1 million in federal housing funds from transitional housing to permanent housing, providing an estimated additional 330 permanent housing beds. In addition, Lexington has invested \$2.8 million, supporting over 13 different homeless programs that assist in housing and provide supportive services to people experiencing homelessness. Also since 2014, Lexington has invested \$9 million in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund it established.

The annual homeless count is conducted each January, and is required for communities receiving federal homeless funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Teams of volunteers visit outdoor sites where people experiencing homelessness have been known to congregate, while shelters and housing programs report their occupancy. This year, 18 teams canvassed over 100 locations throughout





Changes Made to Waste Management Services

Changes to the city's Loan-A-Box program and the cost of an additional dumpster collection have been made and are now in effect.

LOAN- A-BOX PROGRAM

The Loan-a-Box program allows Fayette County residents who reside inside the urban service boundary to dispose of a large amount of debris using a city-supplied 10-cubic-yard container. This program is not for businesses or private contractors.

Fayette County residents who reside inside the urban service boundary will be charged \$90 per weekday, which covers delivery, removal, and the cost of landfilling the waste. If the box is delivered on Friday, users will owe the \$90 one-day fee but will have the box until Monday morning.

Boxes are delivered weekdays between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. The box will be removed the next morning unless the user rents the box for multiple days. Boxes delivered on Fridays will be removed the following Monday morning unless that day is a government holiday. In such cases, the box will be removed on Tuesday morning. Payment is required in advance and is accepted in the form of checks, cash, MasterCard, Visa, American Express and Discover card and money orders.

The Loan-a-Box program runs year-round and is scheduled on a first-come, first-serve basis. Call LexCall at 311 or (859) 425-2255 for more information or to reserve a box.

Learn more about the city's Loan-A-Box program at www.lexingtonky.gov/loan-a-box-program.

DUMPSTER SERVICE PROGRAM

The city provides two collections per week for eight-, six-, four-, and two-yard dumpsters. The cost for an additional collection is now \$50 for any of those containers. Customers needing to schedule an extra dump may call the Division of Waste Management at (859) 280-8556 from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Learn more about the city's dumpster services at lexingtonky.gov/dumpster-services.

Keep up with the Department of Environmental Quality and Public Works on Facebook at www.facebook.com/LiveGreenLex, on Twitter at www.twitter.com/LiveGreenLex, and on Instagram at www.instagram.com/LiveGreenLex



Lexington MPO Seeks Public Input

There are just a few days left to participate!

The Lexington Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is seeking public input on the Lexington Area Participation Plan, which outlines the MPO's community engagement process as part of the overall transportation planning process.

The Participation Plan is available for review and public comment beginning today, Feb. 1, through March 18. The Participation Plan is the official policy for how the MPO will disseminate information to the public and to stakeholders, to ensure there is adequate time for them to provide input, and to engage them in the transportation planning process. This plan also outlines the process for adopting and amending the major transportation planning documents produced by the MPO including the long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (20+ years) and short-range Transportation Improvement Program (four years).

The Participation Plan can be reviewed at <http://lexareampo.org/>. Printed copies are also available at the below locations:

- Lexington Area MPO, 101 E Vine St, Room 735, Lexington, KY 40507; (9 a.m. – 4 p.m., M – F)
- Lexington Public Library, Main Branch, 140 E Main St, Lexington, KY 40507 (during regular library hours)
- Jessamine County Public Library, 600 S Main St, Nicholasville KY 40356 (during regular library hours)

Questions and comments on the Participation Plan may be directed to Kenzie Gleason at kgleason@lexingtonky.gov or (859) 258-3605. Written comments may be submitted to the MPO at the address listed above. A large print document, an audio recording of the document or copies translated into another language can be made available upon request.

The MPO is the transportation planning agency for Fayette and Jessamine County the MPO will disseminate information to the public and to stakeholders, to ensure there is adequate time for them to provide input, and to engage them in the transportation planning process. This plan also outlines the process for adopting and amending the major transportation planning documents produced by the MPO including the long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (20+ years) and short-range Transportation Improvement Program (four years). The Participation Plan can be reviewed at <http://lexareampo.org/>. Printed copies are also available at the below locations:

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#LEXGIVEBACK
APRIL 22-28
 LEXGIVEBACK.ORG

Putting compassion into action!

WHAT

#LEXGIVEBACK is a week-long community service project when individuals and organizations will transform Lexington by engaging in acts of compassion toward their fellow Lexingtonians. Mowing a lawn, serving at a soup kitchen, lending a hand . . . no act of compassion is too small!

WHO

#LEXGIVEBACK is part of the Compassionate Lexington Campaign. It's organized as a project of Commerce Lexington's Leadership Lexington program, and is affiliated with the International Charter for Compassion movement.

WHY

On Oct. 12 2017, the LFUCG Council voted unanimously to designate Lexington as a Compassionate City, joining us with other cities around the globe who are part of the Charter for Compassion movement. #LEXGIVEBACK is one of the ways we are living out this new identity and putting compassion into action.

HOW

Visit lexgiveback.org to learn more, sign up and follow our social media accounts. And don't forget to tag your acts of compassion with #LEXGIVEBACK during the week of April 22-28.

Facebook.com/compassionatelexington
 Instagram.com/compassionatelex





Armstrong named as new Public Safety Commissioner

Mayor Jim Gray has tapped Code Enforcement Director and former Assistant Police Chief Ken Armstrong to be the city's new Commissioner of Public Safety.

"Ken understands the importance of public safety and the priority we've made it in our city," Gray said. "His years of service and leadership with the Lexington Police Department and the Division of Code Enforcement have prepared him well for this new role."

Armstrong said, "To have the opportunity to serve the city I love in this capacity is truly an honor. I look forward to working closely with the Mayor, the City Council, the members of the departments, and most importantly, the citizens of Lexington to make our city the safest it can be."

Armstrong has been Director of Code Enforcement since 2015. He retired from the Lexington Police Department as an Assistant Chief in 2015, after almost 25 years with the department. Armstrong is a certified instructor with the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council, and is an Adjunct Professor with Eastern Kentucky University in the areas of Community Policing, Safe-By-Design, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, Problem Solving and Law Enforcement Leadership.

Armstrong holds a master's degree in Criminal Justice from Eastern Kentucky University, and was the recipient of the 2016-2017 ECU College of Justice and Safety's Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Armstrong and his wife, Donna, have two daughters, Becca and Ashley.

Armstrong's appointment is subject to Council approval. His confirmation hearing is set for March 8. He is scheduled to start as Commissioner later this month, replacing acting Commissioner Geoff Reed, who continues to serve as the Mayor's Chief of Staff.





Friends,

Thank you for your time with this resource– I look forward to making sure these updates meet your needs and interests! Be sure to “like” my Facebook page (link below) for timely updates and news.

If you have an event or meeting you would like to see included in the newsletter, please contact my Legislative Aide, Deborah Slone, by email at dslone@lexingtonky.gov or by phone at (859) 258-3210 and she will be happy to assist you.

Have a wonderful March!

Angela

[Councilmember Angela Evans](#)



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