

## Task Force on Neighborhoods in Transition

### Meet the Task Force



#### **Councilmember James Brown, 1st District – Task Force Chair**

James Brown is in his second term as 1st District Councilmember. A native of Lexington, KY, James is a graduate of Paul Laurence Dunbar High School. James' previous employment include stints at Lexmark and GTE, before beginning a career in the automotive industry, working for 13 years at the Toyota Motor Manufacturing plant in Georgetown, KY. After that, James made a career change becoming a full-time real estate professional, selling both residential and commercial property for United Real Estate.

James is extremely passionate about service to neighborhoods and the local school system. He has served as the President of the Radcliffe–Marlboro Neighborhood Association and helped initiate several neighborhood programs. In the past he served as the President of the 16<sup>th</sup> District PTA and chaired the Douglass Park Centennial. Currently, he serves as the Vice Chair of the Planning & Public Safety Committee and is on the city's Affordable Housing Governing Board.



#### **Vice Mayor Steve Kay, At-Large**

Steve Kay is in his second term on Council and his first term as Lexington's Vice Mayor. He chaired the Mayor's Commission on Homelessness, whose recommendations informed the creation of the Office of Homelessness Prevention and Intervention, the complementary Office of Affordable Housing and the Affordable Housing Fund. He has served on the boards of the Lexington Transit Authority (LexTran), LFUCG Planning Commission, the Martin Luther King Neighborhood Association and Good Foods Co-op.

While on Council, Steve continues his work as a partner of Roberts & Kay, a research and organization development firm Steve co-founded in 1983. He earned a B.A. from Bowdoin College, an M.A. from Yale University and an Ed.D from the University of Kentucky.



#### **Councilmember Bill Famer, Jr., 5th District**

Bill served on the Urban County Council from 1997 until 2006, and again from 2010 until present. During his years on the Council, he has served as Chair of the Planning Committee, guiding the approval of two complete updates of the Comprehensive Plan; as Chair of the Services Committee, which enacted Lexington's Smoking Ban Ordinance; and as Chair of the Fire and EMS Task Force.

He is currently Chair of the Environmental Quality and Public Works Committee and of the Budget Link for the same department, serving in both capacities since 2010. Bill also is Chair of the Corridors Commission and the Lexington Sister Cities Commission. He is a member of the Budget, Finance and Economic Development Committee and the Planning and Public Safety Committee.



### **Councilmember Preston Worley, 7th District**

Preston Worley is a life-long Kentuckian and a graduate of the University of Kentucky, College of Law. He is an associate attorney at the law firm of McBrayer, McGinnis, Leslie and Kirkland in Lexington, where he has a diverse practice including affordable housing, commercial and business litigation, non-profit, real estate and transactional law. Preston is currently serving as Council Member for the 7<sup>th</sup> district on the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council. He is a member of the Kentucky Children's Hospital Executive Development Council, the Golden Matrix Fund Advisory Council, the Ellerslie at Delong Homeowners Association Board of Directors,



### **Andrea C. Brown, LFUCG Division of Law**

Andrea C. Brown is an attorney for the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government. She currently serves as a legal advisor to a number of boards and commissions, including the Planning Commission, Board of Adjustment, and the Infrastructure Hearing Board. She advises project leaders and the divisions of Engineering and Traffic Engineering regarding utility coordination in the public right-of-way, road projects, permitting, and the construction and maintenance of public infrastructure in Lexington-Fayette County. She also provides legal guidance to elected and appointed officials and organizational clients on a range of complex legal and policy matters, including land use, real property, municipal expenditures, public procurement, public works projects, data security and privacy, open records law, and labor and employment.

Andrea is also active in a number of community organizations. She is currently in her second term as the Professional Development Chair for the Lexington Urban League Young Professionals. She is the Secretary for the John Rowe Chapter of the National Bar Association, a member of the Fayette County and Kentucky Bar Associations, a member of the Central Kentucky American Inn of Court, and a member of the Urban Land Institute. In 2018, she graduated from the Fayette Alliance Citizens' Planning Academy and completed a New Leaders Council fellowship in Kentucky. In her spare time, Andrea volunteers with the YMCA Black Achievers Program and Step by Step Lexington.



### **Denise Brown, Downtown/East End Resident**

Originally from Evarts, KY, Denise Brown is a graduate of Transylvania University. Her professional background includes substitute teaching and customer service for Xerox.

Currently, Denise is a self-employed artist who paints and writes fiction and poetry. Her art often relates to social issues. She has a self-published novel, *The Golden Angle*, about a young girl, Belize, growing up in a rural community called Virtue.



### **Rachel Childress, Lexington Habitat for Humanity**

Rachel Smith Childress grew up a “preacher’s kid,” primarily in Louisville, KY. She earned her undergraduate degree at the University of Kentucky and continues to live in Lexington. Her graduate work was done at Lexington Theological Seminary where she earned an MA and did some post degree work.

Rachel’s career began with the Commonwealth of Kentucky, working in various roles with human resources and emergency management, in Lexington and Frankfort. She transitioned to the private sector and spent several years with a technology firm, moving from there to Lexington Theological Seminary. In 2006, Rachel began her ministry at Lexington Habitat for Humanity where she is the CEO.



### **Art Crosby, Lexington Fair Housing Council**

Arthur Crosby is the Executive Director of the Lexington Fair Housing Council. His primary responsibilities include initiating community outreach programs and overseeing legal staff in filing complaints. Prior to this, he focused his practice on housing issues and landlord/tenant law. Mr. Crosby has taught for the National Business Institute and lectures to both landlords and tenants on a regular basis. He is a member of the Kentucky Bar Association, State Bar of Georgia and the Florida Bar. Mr. Crosby received his B.S. degree in journalism with honors from the University of Florida. He earned his J.D. degree (magna cum laude) from the University of Georgia School of Law, where he was a member of the Georgia Chapter of the Order of the Coif.



### **Jimmy Emmons, LFUCG Division of Planning**

With over 20 years of experience in the Division of Planning for the City of Lexington, Jimmy brings a wealth of knowledge and skills regarding creative problem solving, project and development review, plan presentation and public speaking, analysis and research skills.

As Lexington’s first I/R Planner, Jimmy has had direct experience in some of Lexington’s most innovative zoning ordinance changes in the past 30 years, including our Adaptive Reuse Project ordinances, parking initiatives, affordable housing, design review for projects in the Oliver Lewis Way Corridor, mixed uses, brownfield redevelopment and numerous other initiatives. Currently, Jimmy is working as a Senior Transportation Planner, bringing together aspects of land use and transportation initiatives; and he now focuses on innovative technologies that will help bring Lexington into the new era of sustainable development.



### **Chris Ford, LFUCG Commissioner of Dept. of Social Services**

Chris Ford serves as Commissioner of Social Services for Lexington Fayette Urban County Government. Since March 2015, he leads a department comprised of social work and human services professionals in four client-based divisions: *Adult & Tenant Services; Aging & Disability Services; Family Services; and Youth Services*. The Department also focuses on community-based program areas of *Multicultural Affairs; Domestic Violence Prevention; Substance Abuse Intervention; and Partners for Youth*.

Prior to being appointed at Social Services, Ford was elected to Urban County Council, representing the 1<sup>st</sup> District. He is a graduate of the University of Kentucky, where he was a member of the UK football team. He later earned a Master of Public Administration degree from Western Kentucky University. Ford is also certified as a Housing Development Finance Professional (HDFP) from National Development Council.

Chris is the recipient of several local honors, including the NAACP – Lexington Chapter’s *Community Engagement Award for Civic Leadership (2013)*, and the Bluegrass Trust for Historic Preservation’s *Public Service to Preservation Award (2015)*.



### **Rufus M. Friday, Lexington Herald-Leader**

Rufus M. Friday has been the president and publisher of H-L Media (the Lexington Herald-Leader & Kentucky.com) since 2011. Prior to 2011, he was the president and publisher of the Tri-City Herald in Washington State.

Rufus currently serves in the community on the board of directors for the University of Kentucky College of Communication and Information’s National Advisory Board, the United Way of the Bluegrass, the Hope Center of Kentucky, the Kentucky Historical Society Foundation, Lexington Industrial Foundation and Corporate Council Member of the Shriners Hospitals for Children Medical Center – Lexington, Kentucky.



### **Artie Greene, Downtown Resident**

Mr. Greene is government services specialist and strategist. He has over 30 years of experience in the public and private sector. Mr. Greene served as Senior Aide to Lexington Mayor Jim Newberry from December 2006 to January 2011, where he directed and served as Adjunct Professor in Criminal Justice studies at Kentucky State University.

Mr. Greene's area of expertise has been developed over the course of his career in government service delivery and private security consulting. he has worked with neighborhood community organizations in organizing and development.

Mr. Greene holds a bachelor of science degree in Police Administration from Eastern Kentucky University and a masters degree in Public Administration from Kentucky State University.



### **Stan Harvey, Lord Aech Sargent / Infill & Redevelopment**

Stan Harvey is a Lord, Aeck & Sargent (LAS) principal in the firm's Urban Design & Planning practice area and director of the Lexington office. With a background in both architecture and city planning, his specialties are conceptualizing planning processes, campus planning, directing facilities and infrastructure programs, facilitating community participation, and developing implementation strategies.

In 1997, following three years of heavy involvement with pre-Olympic urban redevelopment for the Corporation for Olympic Development in Atlanta (CODA), Harvey co-founded Urban Collage, which in 2013 became a practice area of LAS through a joining of the two firms. His professional highlights include the Atlanta Public Schools BuildSmart Facilities Plan, Blueprint Midtown, Perimeter Focus CNI, Imagine Downtown, the Peachtree Corridor Plan, the BeltLine TAD Redevelopment Plan, numerous community development plans, and his current assignments with downtown Lexington's Rupp Arena, Arts & Entertainment District, billed as "the future of downtown Lexington," and a plan for a new 65-acre campus for Bluegrass Community and Technical College in Lexington. Before CODA, Harvey worked for Central Atlanta Progress, a private nonprofit community development organization providing leadership, programs and services to preserve and strengthen the economic vitality of downtown Atlanta.



### **Robert Hodge, Jr., Hodge Properties**

Robert Hodge is the Owner and CEO of Hodge Properties, with properties located in Lexington, Winchester, Mt. Sterling Paris, and Detroit, Michigan. Hodge Properties has been in business for 19 years with Mr. Hodge investing primarily in the East End neighborhood where he grew up in the housing projects.

Mr. Hodge is currently the President of the William Wells Brown Neighborhood Association and has served in the capacity of Treasurer for William Wells Brown Neighborhood Association, Treasurer of East End Community Development Corporation, Board member for YMCA Black Achievers and a Board member of Lexington Landlord Association, as well as a coach for Parks & Recreation. Mr. Hodge is a native of Lexington and attended the University of Kentucky.



### **Ed Holmes, EHI Consultants**

Edward J. Holmes is a certified planner with over 40 years of experience focusing on incorporating sustainable planning strategies into redevelopment, master planning, environmental justice, and land use plans. As an urban planner and Principal with EHI Consultants since 1995, Ed has successfully created sustainable development planning frameworks that have created benchmark plans for environmentally responsible and sustainable neighborhoods. EHI and Ed have direct experience with numerous public and private-sector projects throughout Kentucky and the Southeastern United States. EHI and Ed have been recognized by the KAPA and ASLA planning professions for their planning efforts in neighborhood planning, environmental justice and farmland preservation. EHI was recognized in 2011 by the Kentucky Small Business Development Agency as one of its Pacesetter Business award winners and in 2017 EHI was selected by Goldman Sachs to participate as one of its 10,000 businesses recipients. Mr. Holmes received his Bachelor of Arts in Urban Planning and Design from the University of Cincinnati.

He has authored several planning related documents and articles and is a member of the American Planning Association, American Institute of Certified Planners, and the Kentucky Chapter of the American Planning Association. He serves on the Campbellsville University Board of Trustees, Fifth Third Bank Advisory Board and the Commerce Lexington Industrial Foundation.



### **Shayla Lynch, Lexington Fair Housing Council**

Shayla D. Lynch, J.D. is the Assistant Director of the Lexington Fair Housing Council in Lexington. Ms. Lynch has been employed at the Council since 2004. At the Lexington Fair Housing Council, it is Ms. Lynch's job to assist victims of housing discrimination, analyze the Fair Housing related issues, and initiate complaints with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development or litigation when appropriate. Ms. Lynch also reviews testing conducted by the Council to detect discrimination in housing rental and sales, is in charge of all bookkeeping functions at the agency, and handles all design and construction cases at the Council.

Ms. Lynch is a proud native of Hopkinsville, Kentucky and is a 1997 graduate of Hopkinsville High School. She is a 2001 graduate of Centre College where she earned Bachelor of Arts degrees in English and Government, and she is also a 2004 graduate of the Louis D. Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville where she earned a Juris Doctorate degree.

Ms. Lynch has been involved in several professional and community organizations throughout Lexington, including the North Limestone Community Development Corporation (Board Secretary); the Kentucky Foundation for Women (Leadership Team); the Lexington Urban League Young Professionals (Membership Chair 2004 – 2006) and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated (Social Action Co-Chair 2011 – 2015).



### **Sam Matheny, Northside Neighborhood Association**

Dr. Sam Matheny is a graduate of Emory University (BA), the University of Kentucky (MD) and the University of California, Los Angeles (MPH). He received his post-graduate training at Medical University of South Carolina and Los Angeles County, University of Southern California Medical Center. He is Board Certified in General Preventive Medicine and Family Medicine and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians and the American College of Preventive Medicine.

Dr. Matheny is a former President of the Kentucky Academy of Family Physicians. He is a Professor of Family Medicine and Public Health, and was the Chair of the Department of Family and Community Medicine at UK from 1993 to 2010. He is currently the Assistant Provost for Global Health Initiatives.

He is the President of the Northside Neighborhood Association and has been a resident of the Northside for over 25 years.



### **Jeff Moore, Mt Melrose and M & M Investments**

Jeff Moore is the Founder and President of Mt Melrose, Chairman of Enterprise Diversified, Inc. (formerly Sitestar), and the Founder and Presiding Partner of M & M Investments, a partnership focused on investing in undervalued securities. While attending BCTC in 2005, Jeff began investing in and improving distressed properties in Lexington, personally performing all renovation, leasing, screening and advertising for his homes. Jeff formalized his portfolio under the Mt Melrose in 2011, and has since continued to growing the business. He has also been a member and board member of several neighborhood associations Lexington. Jeff earned a Bachelor of Arts in General Studies from Eastern Kentucky University in 2008.



### **Barbara Navin, Lexington Community Land Trust**

Barbara Navin initiated Lexington Community Land Trust's operations in 2011, and currently directs the redevelopment of Davis Park, its inaugural neighborhood, where a quarter of its 100-plus affordable rental and homeownership homes are complete. She directed Thistle Community Housing's 230-home Community Land Trust program in Boulder, Colorado. She led Thistle's part in the Urban Institute's 2010 U.S. Shared Equity Homeownership Evaluation, a study illustrating the success of permanently affordable homeownership programs over time. Barbara is a National Development Council-certified Housing Development Finance Professional, with a background in Real Estate and residential appraisals, and holds a Bachelor of Science from Cornell University.

As market pressures in Fayette County increase home costs, her interest is in developing housing policies and strategies that 1.) encourage more inclusive communities and 2.) create a growing stock of permanently affordable rental and ownership homes.



### **Kris Nonn, NoLi Community Development Corporation**

Kris Nonn, Interim Executive Director, has been with the NoLi CDC since June 2014, where his role is to oversee all aspects of NoLi CDC's programs and operations. Kris and his family relocated from Madison Wisconsin, where he had worked at KEE Architecture for the previous six years. After earning his Bachelor of Trumpet Performance at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, he went on to get his Masters of Architecture from the University of Tennessee in 2006. This, along with subsequent experiences designing and building his own house in Madison, as well as more experimental design and construction work done in Santa Elena Venezuela, combine to inform how he thinks of the built environment as a framework for and representation of the community's aspirations, history, individuality, beauty and challenges. Through his time doing this work, he has come to know through all of his experiences and relationships that all work, no matter how big or small, needs to be intentionally and consciously rooted in and moving toward an ever higher degree of equity.



### **David O'Neill, Fayette County Property Valuation Administrator**

David O'Neill was appointed Fayette County Property Valuation Administrator by Governor Steve Beshear on February 11, 2009, overwhelmingly elected to a full four-year term in 2010, and ran unopposed for re-election to his third term in November 2014. Prior to his appointment, David's entire career was in the Thoroughbred horse racing industry, most of which was spent managing data for The Jockey Club and Equibase Company – racing's official database for racing information.

David serves on LFUCG's Vacant Property Review Commission and the Infill and Redevelopment Committee and is actively engaged in pressing issues facing the community including growth, economic development and gentrification and other housing related topics.



### **Derek Paulsen, LFUCG Commissioner of Planning**

Derek J. Paulsen, PhD is the first Commissioner of Planning, Preservation and Development for the City of Lexington where he oversees the divisions of Planning, Engineering, Building Inspection, Code Enforcement, Historic Preservation, Purchase of Development Rights and the Office of Affordable Housing.

Prior to becoming Commissioner, Paulsen spent the previous decade as a Full Professor of Criminal Justice at Eastern Kentucky University where he was also the Director of the Center for Crime and the Built Environment (CABE). Paulsen still teaches graduate classes and is active in research on secure design and crime prevention issues, urban analytics and neighborhood change. Paulsen is the author of numerous articles and three books, including the recently published *Crime and Planning: Building Socially Sustainable Communities* jointly published by the American Planning Association and CRC Press.



### **P.G. Peeples, Urban League**

Peeples became CEO of the Urban League of Lexington – Fayette County in 1972. Under his leadership, the Urban League has made its mark with job training, housing, computer, technology and education programs. The Urban League has also gained a reputation for its intervention and advocacy on behalf of its constituent base.

Housing has become the signature activity of the Urban League through the work of its development corporation that was established in 1981. Since its inception, 260 units have been added to the Lexington community. Of those, 159 are single-family homes (\$11,670,035), 50 are single-family rental units (\$6,340,660), and an additional 51 are apartments for senior citizens (\$8,286,362). The total financial contribution and community impact over the years through these developments is \$26,297,057. The most recent multi-family development, the Russell School Apartments, has received two national and three local awards.



### **Miranda Scully, Fayette County Public Schools**

Miranda Scully is the District Family and Community Engagement Coordinator with Fayette County Public Schools. She joined FCPS after serving with the Indiana Commission for Higher Education as the School & Community Engagement Manager and Regional Outreach Coordinator. During her time with the commission she ensured the effective delivery of outreach services in partnership with K-12 schools and community organizations to support low-income, first-generation and other at-risk youth in preparing for and accessing postsecondary education. Her additional work experience includes working for the University of Kentucky's Center for Academic Resources & Enrichment Services (CARES) as an Academic Counselor and Bluegrass Community & Technical College's Upward Bound Program as Student Development Specialist.

In addition to her work with FCPS, Miranda serves on the city's ONE Lexington Neighborhood Engagement Team, the YMCA Black Achievers Board, United Way Women United and Town Branch Park Partners Advisory Board. She is certified as a Bridges Out of Poverty trainer and Gurian Institute trainer. Miranda is a graduate of the University of Kentucky where she received her bachelor's degree in social work and sociology as well as her master's degree in social work.



### **Raymond Sexton, Lexington Human Rights Commission**

Raymond Sexton has been employed with the Lexington Human Rights Commission since December of 1997. Raymond began his employment as an investigator, being responsible for the initiation and investigation of complaints regarding discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations. Since then, he has served as Supervising Investigator and Compliance Director. Raymond has also received extensive training in the field of discrimination regarding fair housing enforcement and employment discrimination complaint investigations. He is also a 2007 graduate of the National Fair Housing Training Academy. Raymond currently serves as Executive Director for the Commission, a position he has held since December of 2009. As Executive Director, he is responsible of oversight of the Commission's operation, the supervision and training of staff, conducting workshops on discrimination issues, supervises the case management system and liaison with federal agencies regarding contract compliance. Raymond is a graduate of the University of Kentucky where he received a BA in English and minor in Communications.



### **Rev. Dr. Gerald Smith, University of Kentucky / Pilgrim Baptist Church**

Gerald L. Smith is a native of Lexington, Kentucky. He earned his B.A, M.A. and Ph. D degrees from the University of Kentucky in history. He taught at the University of Memphis from 1988-1993. He is a full professor of history and a former holder of both the Theodore A. Hallam Professorship and the Martin Luther King Center Scholar-in Residence at the University of Kentucky. From 1997 -2005, he served as the director of the African American Studies and Research Program at UK.

Dr. Smith is the author, editor or co-editor of four books. He has more than 40 articles, essays and book reviews published in historical journals and encyclopedias. Dr. Smith is co-editor of the award winning Kentucky African American Encyclopedia.

Over the years, he has served on a number of different boards and committees and now serves as chair of the Kentucky African American Heritage Commission.



### **Darryl Thompson, Fayette County Public Schools**

A native of Chattanooga, Tennessee, Darryl D. Thompson has over 27 years in education between the Kentucky Department of Education, Franklin County Public Schools and Fayette County Public Schools. Darryl received his B.A. in English and a minor in Criminal Justice from Kentucky State University. He currently serves as the Equity Officer for Fayette County Public Schools, Office of Equity, School Support and Community Engagement. In this capacity, he provides technical assistance and guidance in districtwide initiatives in support of educational equity: Novice Reduction and Closing the Achievement Gap; Minority Recruitment and Employee Retention; School Based Decision Making (SBDM); Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises (supplier diversity); Family and Community Engagement; Student Placement and Accommodations; and most recently authored a grant through the William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust that allowed FCPS to implement the R.E.A.L. Men Read comprehensive literacy and mentoring program to support historically underperforming students /boys of color.



### **Knox van Nagell Pfister, Fayette Alliance Board of Directors**

Knox van Nagell Pfister is General Counsel at Mt. Brilliant Farm in Lexington, Ky. Prior to Mt. Brilliant, Knox was the Senior Director of Philanthropy and Special Projects at UK Healthcare after leaving her position as the founding Executive Director of Fayette Alliance—where she advanced more than 100 smart growth policies in her 10 years of service.

Knox was born and raised in Lexington, Ky. She attended the University of the South at Sewanee where she received a degree in American History cum laude, and while there, studied at Oxford University completing its British Studies program. She then returned to Lexington to get her law degree at the University of Kentucky College of Law in 2004. In 2008, she was named a Lexington Young Professional Association Rising Star, and in 2013 she received the Vision Award from Bluegrass Tomorrow. She currently sits on the Sayre School Board of Trustees as well as the Fayette Alliance Board of Directors.



### **Bill Wilson, LFUCG Planning Commission**

William H. Wilson has an extensive background in education and communications. Before retirement, he was the Deputy Executive Director for Education and Outreach for Kentucky Educational Television, the nation's largest public television network; and later, he served five years as the Associate Vice President for Development and Major Gifts at Kentucky State University. Early in his career, Wilson served six years as Director of Instructional Television for the Cambridge Publishing Division of the New York Times. His background also includes a teaching position and experience as an assistant principal at Lexington's Lafayette High School. Currently, he serves on the boards for the The Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, United Way of the Bluegrass, Lexington Housing Authority, Lexington-Fayette Urban County Planning Commission, Commonwealth Policy Institute for Education, the State Advisory Council for Libraries and Archives and the National Communication Advisory Board for the University of Kentucky.