**Louisville Metro Council**

District 9 eNews

December 22, 2022

**Farewell – and Thank You!**

This is the last of over 320 newsletters I have published as the Metro Councilmember for District 9. I chose not to run for reelection and my successor, Andrew Owen, will take office on January 2.

Serving you for the last eight years has been the honor of my professional life. You have let us know when we missed picking up your garbage, yard waste or recycling, or when there is a pothole that isn’t getting filled, and we’ve tried to be responsive. Together, we’ve cleaned up litter regularly and supplied more trash receptacles to keep it off our streets. Local government services are not the most exciting, but no one thinks much of any government if it does not deliver the basics.

Seeing things that need improvement and trying to make them happen has been very rewarding. Sidewalks have been a major focus – and investment. Using District 9 funds, we have built and repaired sidewalks all over the district, including on Frankfort Avenue. There is much more to do, and I look forward to more improvements. The long-awaited sidewalk on Cannons Lane between Winchester Road and Rock Creek Drive, which is federally funded and requires state participation, continues to move along. It’s been much slower than I would like but I hope a construction date can be announced in the first half of 2023. Pedestrian and road improvements on North Hubbards Lane (first discussed even before I was in office) are also advancing, with construction expected to start in 2023. Radar speed signs are coming to slow down traffic on Payne Street in Clifton and Irish Hill. The improved Beargrass Creek Greenway will open soon.

Park improvements we have worked on will see action in the future. The tennis courts at Crescent Hill Park need a complete rebuild. They are going to get it in the coming months, and two of the courts are being converted to four pickleball courts. The heavily used basketball courts at Seneca Park have cracks that can become tripping hazards. A soon as the weather cooperates, the current surface will be milled down and a new asphalt surface with color coatings, four new goalposts and polycarbonate backboards will be installed.

While representing District 9, I have also tried to move the entire community forward in critical areas. Housing has been a priority. When I was elected, zero local dollars had been forwarded to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund for housing. In the last eight years, we have appropriated over $97 Million for the trust fund and an additional $19 Million to a similar program called Louisville CARES. That is a total of $116 Million and it is making a difference in safe, decent, and affordable housing for thousands of Louisville residents.

I’ve also been the primary sponsor of legislation:

* Changing Metro’s budget process by allowing the Council and the public an additional month to review and amend the Mayor’s proposed budget.
* Providing a robust, independent civilian oversight system for the Louisville Metro Police Department, including an Office of Inspector General and Civilian Review and Accountability Board. (Mayor Craig Greenberg’s administration needs to make sure LMPD is fully cooperative with this new system.)
* Increasing Louisville’s tree canopy, helping to reduce its urban heat island, through two ordinances, a Public Tree Ordinance, and a revision to the Land Development Code.
* Amending Louisville’s Fair Housing Law to ban discrimination based on source of income, and adding various additional protected classes, including individuals who have experienced homelessness, veterans and those with arrest and some conviction history.
* Protecting Louisvillians without housing by banning camp clearings without notice and an opportunity to receive services.
* Strengthening Louisville’s ethics ordinances through registration, regulation and transparency of lobbying and by increasing financial disclosures required of Metro Officers.
* Banning the discredited and dangerous practice of “conversion therapy”.
* Providing a safety zone at health care facilities, including EMW Women’s Surgical Center, to allow safe access for patients.

When I announced my upcoming retirement eighteen months ago, I said it was time for someone new to take over and that I was ready to pass the baton to them. Now is the time. I have been so impressed by Andrew Owen. Please join me in giving him your full support – and thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

**Congress Authorizes Beargrass Creek Restoration**

As the United States Congress wraps up its work for the year, there is some very good news for Beargrass Creek.  The Water Resources Development Act of 2022 authorizes much-needed investments in projects and programs of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers across the country, including a major ecosystem restoration of the three forks of Beargrass Creek.

The plan includes $77,352,671 in federal funds, to be matched with $52,539,940 in non-federal participation.  It includes the restoration of 620 acres and 8.8 miles of stream, wetland creation, barrier removals and floodplain access.

More information is in [this video](https://youtu.be/4NbUjtOCyIk) and [here](https://go.usa.gov/xuD64).

Expect to hear much more about this in the next few weeks and months.  It is a remarkable opportunity for Louisville!

**Happy Holidays!**

Happy Holidays to you and your family! Metro Council offices will be closed on Monday, December 26 and Monday, January 2. More information on Metro closures – and some changes in Metro services - are listed below.

**Holiday Closings**

Solid waste collection services in the Urban Services District will NOT be affected by Christmas and New Year's Day holidays this year. People with Monday collections will have regular service and there will be no one-day delay for others. Residents normally serviced by private waste haulers should check with those companies for holiday collection schedules.

**Staffed Drop-off Locations** The staffed recycling locations, Waste Reduction Center, and Haz Bin will be closed Saturday, December 24 and Saturday, December 31.

* East District Public Works Yard, 595 N. Hubbards Lane
* Southwest Government Center, 7219 Dixie Highway
* Central Government Center, 7201 Outer Loop
* Waste Reduction Center, 636 Meriwether Avenue
* Haz Bin, Household Hazardous Waste Facility, 7501 Grade Lane

# kNOw Waste: Broken String Lights

If your string lights aren't working (and you can't repair them), recycle them at the [Waste Reduction Center, 636 Meriwether Ave](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/v3dmCPNKg4cGlXQqtL1j1l?domain=lnks.gd) along with other electronic devices! Never put them in recycling - they'll get tangled in the sorting machinery!

Scrap metal recycling facilities and some hardware stores also accept string lights for recycling.

**Free Leaf Drop Off EXTENDED**

Three of the Metro Public Works free leaf drop-off sites will remain open **through tomorrow, December 23.**

**Waste Reduction Center,**636 Meriwether Avenue

Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Public Works Yard,**10500 Lower River Road (enter from Bethany Lane)

Tuesday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Public Works East District Operations Center,**595 North Hubbards Lane

Tuesday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Only leaves will be accepted, and they must be loose or in paper/compostable bags or reusable containers. Containers used to bring leaves to the drop-off sites must be taken back by residents.

**Holiday Lights Spectacular**

Visit Metro Hall, 527 W. Jefferson St., this holiday season for the Holiday Lights Spectacular brought to us by Louisville Third Century.

The lights outside Metro Hall will remain on through the remainder of the year, spreading holiday cheer! From sundown to sunup, enjoy the colors of the holidays and the beautiful city Christmas tree!

While downtown, visit some of the wonderful museums, distilleries, shops, or restaurants. The holiday lights are close to many local attractions including Nulu, 4th Street Live!, Waterfront Park and Whiskey Row.

**Gardens Aglimmer through December 30th**

Enjoy a sparkling winter wonderland of swans, snowflakes, deer, Moravian stars, oversized flowers, light bursts, candles, and a multicolor tunnel of lights. Wander the Waterfront Botanical Gardens, at 1435 Frankfort Avenue, under icicle arches and over a waterfall stream aglow. Visit Santa and his sleigh in the Graeser Family Education Center and Mrs. Claus' Cottage in the Ellen T. Leslie Botanical Classrooms.

Holiday beverages will be available for purchase in the Jingle All the Way Cafe.

No outside food or drink, pets, smoking, or vaping is allowed inside the gardens.

Admission is $7.50 for WBG members, $10 for non-members, $5 for ages 7 – 12 and free for ages 6 and under.

On peak nights: $11.25 for WBG members, $15 for non-members, $7.50 for ages 7 – 12 and free for ages 6 and under.

Purchase tickets in advance [**here**](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/rTKUC5ywVYfjowv2hymgE1H?domain=lnks.gd).

**Give Louisville Water Your Thoughts**

Louisville Water recently completed a major project on Frankfort Avenue and would like to hear from you. Please share your feedback in a short 7-question survey so Louisville Water can continue to serve our community in the best way possible.

Take the survey now: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FrankfortAve](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/TaWtCOYXL4iR62EMhvFxOF?domain=nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com).

**Application for Alcoholic Beverage License**

Below please find an Alcoholic Beverage License memo and Courier Journal Legal announcement for a NQ2 Restaurant Retail Drink, Sunday Drink, and ABC Caterer license(s) being applied for, located at 2350 Frankfort Avenue, Louisville, KY.  40206.  The ad ran in The Courier Journal Friday, December 16, 2022.

* [Courier Journal ABC Ad.pdf](https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/KYLOUISVILLE/2022/12/16/file_attachments/2357920/Courier%20Journal%20ABC%20Ad.pdf)
* [New location or ownership change.pdf](https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/KYLOUISVILLE/2022/12/16/file_attachments/2357909/new%20location%20or%20ownership%20change.pdf)

**Ninth District Events**

**Friday, December 23:** Visit the St. Matthews Library, 3940 Grandview Avenue, to see the third annual collection of amazing alternative film art. This year’s selection will highlight science fiction, classic horror films, Batman movies and more. There will also be 'Marvel'ous raffles for everyone. The exhibit will run through the end of December.

**Monday, December 26:** Christmas Holiday observed - Metro offices are closed.

**Monday, January 2**: Author Rebecca Bernard will be in conversation with Melissa Cundieff at Carmichael’s Bookstore on Monday, January 2 at 7:00 P.M. to discuss her book “Sisters Who Will Not Die”. More information about the event and how to get a book can be found [here](https://www.carmichaelsbookstore.com/event/rebecca-bernard-conversation-melissa-cundieff).

**Monday, January 2:** New Year’s Holiday observed - Metro offices are closed.

**Monday, January 2:** New Metro Officers, including Mayor Craig Greenberg and D9 Councilmember Andrew Owen, take office. Mayor Greenberg is welcoming new constituents to come meet him during an open house at Louisville Metro Hall. The open house will run from 1 to 4 p.m. People also can tour Metro Hall, 527 West Jefferson St., and meet Mayor Greenberg's family and members of his administration.

**Monday, January 16:** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - Metro offices closed.

**District 9 LINKS**Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/councilmanbillhollander>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BillHollander>
District 9 Blog: [www.district9news.wordpress.com](http://www.district9news.wordpress.com)
District 9 Website: <http://www.louisvilleky.gov/district9>