



Office of Councilman Patrick Dowd — October 2011

NEWS AND UPDATES

Electronic Billboard Legislation Comes to Council

About 70 residents and business owners lined up in City Council on Tuesday, September 27, to take their turn at voicing an opinion during a council public hearing about bill number 2011-1916 which seeks to regulate and restrict electronic billboards in the City of Pittsburgh. The legislation would restrict the size and location of billboards and regulate special effects.

Council has not yet scheduled a vote on the bill but it should happen before the end of the calendar year. For many people who testified, restriction would not be enough. Many of the speakers described billboards as eyesores contributing to blight and loss of property value. Organizations speaking against the proposed legislation saying that it does not go far enough were Scenic Pittsburgh and their parent organization Scenic America, Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Association, Northside Leadership Conference and Urban Design Associates.

People in favor of the legislation claimed that billboards are not only good for business but the company Lamar itself is a good community partner by offering deep discounts to non-profits and public entities. Speaking for the proposed legislation were representatives from the Pittsburgh Film Office, the Allegheny County Sheriff's Office and Jim Roddey, former Allegheny County Executive.

More information on the proposed legislation can be found [here](#) and by clicking on the attachment 2011-1916.

Enforceable Parking Hours Reprieve

Council recently voted to suspend nighttime parking enforcement hours back to 6pm from 10pm through December 31, 2011. The action was in response to frustration voiced by motorists about antiquated quarter-eating meters. The meters are not designed to service the \$3 per hour parking rate and the Parking Authority was issuing many tickets to motorists that simply came up a quarter or two short.

Also in September the state ruled that the city had stabilized the pension fund enough through the commitment of parking tax revenue to the pension fund to avoid a state takeover. As a result Council felt comfortable rolling back the enforcement rules until the end of this year to give the Parking Authority the time to upgrade its meters in service to the motoring public. Now, stresses Council, the meter modernization program must begin in earnest and the Parking Authority must use the next few months to replace parking meters with the modern machines that accept credit cards.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Council to Go

Join **Councilman Patrick Dowd at Council to Go**, his mobile district office, to voice your concerns, ideas, and questions about local government and services.

Lawrenceville — Friday, October 21, 7:30am-9:00am – Perk Me Up, 4407 Butler Street

Morningside — Thursday, October 27, 7pm-8pm – Union Project, 801 N. Negley Avenue

Community Events

Saturdays through October 29, 2011, 9:30am-1pm – [Lawrenceville Farmers Market](#), Lawrenceville – 52nd Street & Berlin Way (Goodwill Parking Area)

Tuesday, October 4, 2011, 12:00am-11:59pm – [Pittsburgh Foundation Day of Giving](#)

Thursday, October 6- October 30, 2011 -- Quantum Theatre's production of [The End of the Affair](#), former Emma Kaufmann Clinic (aka the Polish Falcons Club) at 3028 Brereton Street, Polish Hill.
SPECIAL DISCOUNT for Polish Hill residents for October 6 performance.

Thursday, October 13, 2011, 4pm-6pm – Citiparks Seniors Morningside Mingle – 6944 President Way, Morningside

Saturday, October 15, 2pm-5pm – 3rd Annual Falloween Festival – Corner of Chislett and Greenwood, Morningside

Saturday, October 15, 2011, 1pm-10pm – Citiparks Lawrenceville Seniors Fall Spectacular, 4600 Butler Street, Lawrenceville

Thursday, October 27, 2011, 7:30pm start – Bloomfield Citizen's Council Halloween Parade, Bloomfield

Friday, October 28, 2011, 10am-4pm – Citiparks Lawrenceville Seniors Halloween Party, 4600 Butler Street, Lawrenceville

Sunday, October 30, 2011, 11am-4pm – Zoo Boo, Highland Park

If you know of any free community-oriented events in your District 7 neighborhood that we should publicize through our monthly newsletter and [District 7 website](#), please email Jennifer.thoma@city.pittsburgh.pa.us by the **1st of each month**.

DID YOU KNOW?

The communities in District 7 are very active and engaged when it comes to public safety, community news and helping neighbors. You can become involved easily by attending one of the many meetings that happen in your neighborhood. Below is a list of some of the prominent meetings and block watches.

B L O O M F I E L D

Bloomfield Citizens Council (BCC)

www.bloomfieldlive.com/bcc.html

Info: Please check website for details or email: bphs@bloomfieldlive.com

E A S T L I B E R T Y

Mellon's Orchard Neighborhood Association

No website available

Info: Please contact the District 7 office for contact information.

Negley Place Neighborhood Alliance

No website available

Info: Negley Place covers the 5400 & 5500 blocks of Black, Hays, Baywood & Stanton and the 600 & 700 blocks of Negley & Chislett. More info at negleyplace@verizon.net or 412-661-2782

HIGHLAND PARK

Highland Park Community Council

www.highlandparkpa.com/org/hpcc

Meetings: Held on the 3rd Thursday of every month (except July and December) at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. Check the Community Calendar for the exact date and time of the meeting.

Zone 5 Public Safety Meeting

Meetings: Held on the 2nd Tuesday of every month (except August and December) at the Union Project at 7:00pm

LAWRENCEVILLE

Lawrenceville Stakeholders

www.lawrencevillestakeholders.wordpress.com

Meetings: Quarterly. Check website for details.

Lawrenceville United (LU)

www.lunited.org

Meetings: 6th Ward: 'Lawrenceville Block Watch Network' | 28th to 40th Street | Every last Monday | St. Augustine's Auditorium, 37th Street, 7:00 pm

9th Ward: 'Peoples' | 41st to 49th Streets below Butler | Every 2nd Wednesday | 4825 Butler Street, 7:00 pm

'Happenings' | 44th to 46th Streets Above Butler | Every 3rd Tuesday | St. Mary's Lyceum, 46th Street, 7:00 pm

'40th, Main & Fisk Streets' | 40th, Main & Fisk Streets | Every last Tuesday | Stephen Foster Center, 2nd Fl., 7:00 pm

10th Ward: 'Nighthawks' | Stanton Ave to 62nd Street | Every 2nd Tuesday | St. Mathew's Church Hall (St. Kieran), 53rd and Carnegie Street at 6:30 pm

MORNINGSIDE

Morningside Area Community Council

www.morningside-pa.org

Meetings: Held the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Morningside VFW Hall at 1820 Morningside Avenue.

POLISH HILL

Polish Hill Civic Association (PHCA)

www.phcapgh.org

Meetings: Meetings are held the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm in the senior center on the lower level of the West Penn Recreation Center, on the corner of 30th and Paulowna Streets.

STANTON HEIGHTS

Stanton Heights Community Organization

www.stantonheightscommunityorganization.wikispaces.com

Info: Issue-oriented group. No regular meetings.

Stanton Heights Neighborhood Association

www.stantonheights.wordpress.com

Meetings: Bi-monthly on the 3rd Wednesday at 6:30pm. Please check the website for location.

To unsubscribe from Council District 7 updates, please notify Jennifer Thoma at jennifer.thoma@city.pittsburgh.pa.us and you or your organization will be removed from our contact list.

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[District 7 Schedule of Events Google Calendar](#) | [2010 Annual Report](#) [pdf]