



NEIGHBORHOOD PRIDE.
CITY PROGRESS.

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Neighborhood Notes

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Look Around! Construction Is Everywhere.

Walking or driving around Lancaster these days is an adventure! Apparently the word is out that it's a good time for construction. In the past two years, the City has issued building permits for 14 different major projects (\$1 million or more) totalling nearly \$250 million in construction activity in the area now covered by the James Street Improvement District (see map on back page). While each individual crane, site trailer or large dumpster signifies its own success and has its personal story, it's the combination of all of them — including the more than 700 building permits for residential renovations — that begins to tell the tale of strengthened confidence and a city that is on the move.



Photo Credit: Cox Evans Architects

It's hard to even pick a spot to begin and this list certainly isn't all-inclusive:

- Renovations to Zimmerman's, Queen at Orange.
- Demolition and site work at the Armstrong World Industries site just south of the Amtrak lines.
- Expansion of the Quilt & Textile Museum run by the Heritage Center just north of Central Market.
- Installation of pedestrian lights on Prince, W. James and Queen Streets, a component of the North-Central Elm Street program.
- Demolition and site work at Northgate, the City's hot new condominium project at Queen and Lemon.
- Construction of the Academy of Music at Prince and Grant Streets, which celebrated its topping-off ceremony in June.
- Finishing touches to the Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority's new Harrisburg Pike transfer station.
- Renovations to one of the City's premier open spaces, Musser Park, led by the Musser Park Civic Association and the City of Lancaster.
- Renovations to the Brunswick Hotel at Lancaster Square and the County-owned 150 North Queen Street.
- Construction of a new medical office building and expanded parking garage by Lancaster General on North Queen and North Duke Streets.
- Interior renovation work for the pending relocation of Auntie Anne's headquarters into the property at Prince and Chestnut Streets.

And, of course, the list isn't complete without the Marriott Hotel at Penn Square and the Lancaster County Convention Center, now scheduled for a spring 2009 opening.

While construction is one benchmark gauging the health of a community, another important index is the pipeline of projects in the planning and concept

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Special Events

AUG 31, FRI—SEP 3, MON - LONG'S PARK ART & CRAFT FESTIVAL
10am-6pm // Monday 10am-5pm
Location: Longs Park, Lancaster
Details: www.longspark.org

SEP 9, SUN—WHEELS...WHEELS...WHEELS
11am - 4pm // Downtown Lancaster Classic Car and Cycle Show.
Location: Downtown Lancaster
Details: www.cityoflanasterpa.com

SEP 21, FRI - SEP 23, SUN—LATINOFEST
Celebrating the city's Latino culture, featuring the 23rd Annual Puerto Rican Parade.
Location: Binn's Park, Downtown Lancaster

SEP 28, FRI—LEADS GALA
5pm // Help support the flowering and Christmas lighting of Downtown Lancaster.
Location: Elk's Club, 219 N. Duke Street
Tickets: \$30 per person (in advance or at the door)

OCT 6, SAT—HARVEST BREAKFAST
8am - 1pm // A celebration of Lancaster County's harvest with music, children's activities, cooking demonstrations and food tasting.
Location: Central Market

OCT 6 & 7, SAT & SUN—FALL ART WALK
Explore the ins and outs of the City's arts scene with special openings on "Art Sunday".
Location: Downtown Lancaster
Details: www.lmipa.org

For more information or to view the full list of events, including **First Fridays, Dinner & A Movie** and **Barnstormers Games**, please visit www.jsidlancaster.org





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stage. Here too, Lancaster City is doing quite well and is the source for lots of water cooler discussions, particularly for those paying attention to Zoning Hearing Board agendas. Two parking garages, a new YMCA, renovations to the Amtrak Train Station, several new restaurants, and new proposed housing are all on the horizon.

Get On The List!

The JSID's quarterly newsletter is FREE and full of exciting and important news about Lancaster City! Starting with our October issue, *Neighborhood News* will be available electronically by e-mail and by posting it on our website. However, if you would like to receive a hard copy by mail, send a note to:

Toby Vargas
JSID
206 West James Street
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or please call: 717-394-0783

or email: tobyvargas@comcast.net

Please let Toby know if you prefer a copy by mail or by e-mail. You can also register for the newsletter at www.jsidlancaster.org.



Hats Off To...

- Central Market Trust celebrating its first year, announcing its first \$100,000 grant and installing a wonderful piece of public art in honor of Rose K. Smith, who chaired the master planning effort that led to the creation of the Trust.
- Novelty Manufacturing for its donation to the JSID of 900 flower window boxes which were distributed to residents and neighborhood groups throughout the City in April.
- LEADS for its spring installation of 226 huge flower baskets and 13 planters that instantly brightened up the City's core.
- The DeMuth Museum for its wildly successful garden tour which gives thousands of area residents a sneak peak at great City homes and gardens.
- East King Improvement District for its leadership in hosting a Saturday market at Eastern Market for a second year and for its current renovations to the Eastern Market building with Tabor Community Services.
- Mayor's Office Of Special Events (MOOSE) for coordinating the local logistics for the Tom Bamford Classic, an international showcase of professional cycling, for hosting Dinner And A Movie in Binn's Park all summer and for coordinating the Celebrate Lancaster! festivities.
- The 300 Block of North Queen Street for yet another fantastic block party in mid-June.
- Lancaster Investment in a Vibrant Economy (LIVE) for funding the installation of 24 new trees in Downtown and the removal of old tree stumps.
- PA DOT, J.D. Eckman Inc., and good ole Mother Nature for keeping the Dillerville Bridge road construction on schedule for an August completion.

What's The JSID Up To?

Effective May 1st, the JSID assumed the management responsibilities for the Downtown Investment District (DID). Over the few months since the JSID's boundaries and responsibilities expanded, early actions have already been taken that demonstrate our priority focus areas of "clean and safe," strengthening neighborhoods, leveraging economic development and marketing/communications:

- Expansion of the bike squad operations to cover the new territory, hiring additional members, bringing the total now to 16.
- Ordered 50 additional trash receptacles to replace the existing brown ones in the core of Downtown while adding more throughout the area, with installation anticipated in early Fall (existing receptacles will be restored and re-used in other locations if possible).
- Oversaw the mulching of tree wells in the Downtown.
- Consolidating, re-designing and initiating several communications pieces and developing a broader information distribution network that includes residents, merchants, property owners and major employers.
- Inventorying the occupied and vacant storefront base in the District for analysis and beginning to develop a comprehensive retail attraction program.

- Assisting in the development of an ordinance for a Design Review Committee that will help guide signage and façade alterations, particularly in the Central Business District area.



- Partnering with the Lancaster County Planning Commission and the Lancaster County Chamber of Commerce & Industry to launch a land use and transportation analysis focused on Harrisburg Avenue and Pike.
- Coordinating with the City's Department of Public Works to support the installation of an LED (lit) crosswalk on North Prince at Frederick Street.
- Funding the installation of 13 surveillance cameras (scheduled for August) on North Prince, Market and Queen Streets as part of the North-Central Elm Street program, in conjunction with the Lancaster Community Safety Coalition.

Check out our website www.jsidlancaster.org for updates on other initiatives and activities. Also, look for the JSID's 2006-2007 Annual Report, due out by mid-September, for a comprehensive review of the organization's efforts over the past year.

JSID Adds New Expertise To Its Team



At the end of May, the JSID hired Marshall W. Snively as its Deputy Director. Marshall joins the JSID team from Baltimore, where he most recently served as Special Projects Director for the well-known urban real estate development firm Struever Bros. Eccles & Rouse for two years. Prior to that, Marshall worked in a wide range of roles at the Downtown Partnership of Baltimore over the course of ten years, including leading its economic development efforts and spearheading some of the organization's largest projects. Marshall, who now resides on North Queen Street, brings to Lancaster a strong track record and considerable experience in retail retention and recruitment, streetscape design and implementation and marketing and communications.

Bike Squad Update

As of May 21st, the JSID's highly visible bike squad expanded its patrol area to include both the Northwest and Downtown. Now with 16 members, the squad is able to provide sixteen hours of coverage Monday – Saturday and eight hours on Sunday. Special thanks goes to the Lancaster Bicycle Club for a recent grant award to the JSID to fund new bikes and equipment. A primary function of the squad is to serve as a friendly, recognizable face, whether it's to provide directions to visitors (which they do on average 150 times per month) or to check in on businesses just to say hello. Additionally, the squad functions as extra "eyes and ears" patrolling the community, which means that they are alert to issues such as malfunctioning traffic lights (59 times in the past two months) and they can provide a limited role in supporting emergency personnel.



Ambassador Tony Wright was promoted in April to serve as the JSID's site supervisor after joining the squad in April 2006. Tony, who lives in Lancaster City, is a 2001 graduate of McCaskey High School and has received certification in AED, O-CAT, IPMBA, and Youth Gangs. He relaxes by playing keyboard and aspires to join the Lancaster City Bureau of Police.

For more information on the squad's roles and responsibilities, ask any of the ambassadors in the field or contact JSID Operations Manager David Aichele at 717-394-0783 or dtaichele@comcast.net.