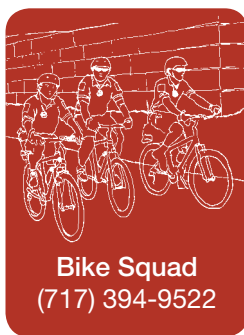




NEIGHBORHOOD PRIDE.  
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Neighborhood Notes

JSIDLancaster.org // DowntownLancaster.com

Vol 4 // Issue 3 // Fall 2007

## Focusing on Harrisburg Pike's Long-term Future



All Images Courtesy of Russell Frost/www.frostimaging.com

Recognizing the importance of the corridor and the need for a long-term comprehensive view, the Lancaster County Planning Commission (LCPC), in conjunction with the James Street Improvement District and the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce & Industry, has embarked on a 9-12 month evaluation and planning process, which began in August. The area of focus is Harrisburg Avenue/Pike extending from Prince Street out to State Road/PA 722, all of which lies within the Central Lancaster Urban Growth area. The study will address traffic capacity, safety and access issues along with evaluating transportation alternatives including bicycle accommodations, transit and pedestrian accessibility. Three municipalities – City of Lancaster, Manheim Township and East Hempfield Township – all are participating on a public-private steering committee which is helping to guide KCI Technologies, the study's primary consultant.

The first of two public meetings occurred at the end of October. A second public meeting is planned for Spring 2008. For more information on the study, contact Danny Whittle or Dave Royer at LCPC at 717-299-8333.

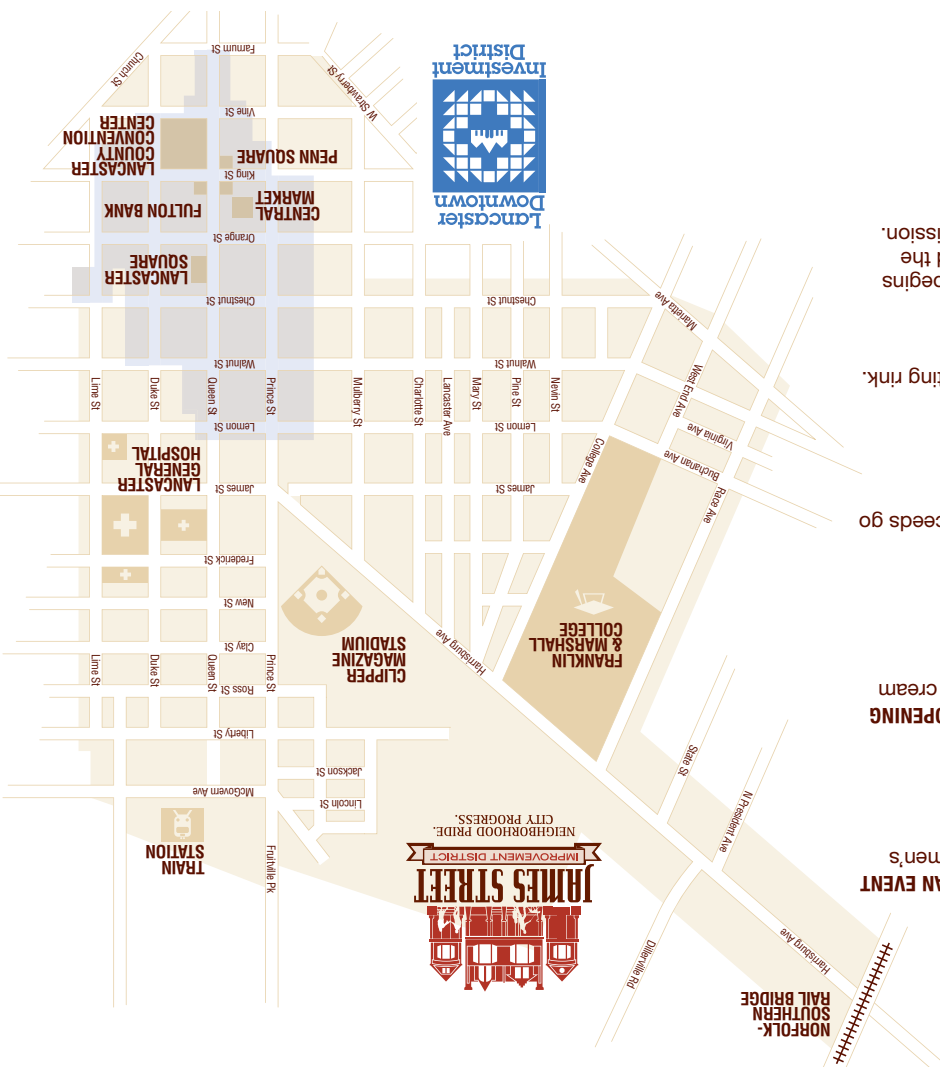
Harrisburg Pike is often referred to as one of the primary gateways into and out of Lancaster City, and a corridor that connects some of the County's most heavily used assets. From Clipper Magazine Stadium, the Solid Waste Management Authority's newly expanded transfer station and the U.S. Postal Service's main facility, to Long's Park, Park City Mall and the Lancaster General Health Campus, the corridor is home to an incredible array of activity and interests. Several businesses and

property owners along the corridor are making enormous investments into their sites, including Franklin & Marshall College, General Growth Properties, R. R. Donnelley, Woodcrest Villa and Lancaster General. More investment in undeveloped or underdeveloped parcels is also proposed, including Charter Home's Independence at Harrisburg Pike and State Road and High Real Estate's proposed The Crossings at Conestoga Creek.

## Buy Local for the Holidays!

Searching for that special gift? Considering a year-end token of appreciation for your employees? The James Street Improvement District and Downtown Investment District want to make your holiday shopping a bit easier. Purchase Downtown Dollars, gift certificates available in \$5 and \$10 increments, which are accepted at more than 100 merchants in Downtown, including Central Market, galleries, restaurants and shops on North Queen

Street and Harrisburg Avenue. The complete list of merchants accepting the certificates is available online at [www.downtownlancaster.com](http://www.downtownlancaster.com). To purchase the certificates, call Cheryl Keiffer at 399-7977 or visit her at the DID offices at 44 N. Queen Street during normal business hours. Merchants interested in participating in the program should contact Marshall Snively at [mwsnively@comcast.net](mailto:mwsnively@comcast.net) or 394-0783.



## Special Events

- NOV 11, SUN—AWAKENINGS, THE 5TH ANNUAL WOMAN TO WOMAN EVENT**  
9am-4:30pm // Holistic workshops and services to raise women's awareness of options for healthier and more balanced lives.  
Location: YWCA, 110 N. Lime Street  
Tickets: \$12 - \$15  
Details: [www.w2wlanaster.org](http://www.w2wlanaster.org)
- NOV 17, SAT—LANCASTER QUILT AND TEXTILE MUSEUM GRAND OPENING**  
Come see the beautiful and expansive exhibition gallery, ice cream parlor and much more.  
Location: 37 N. Market Street  
Details: [www.quiltandtextilemuseum.com](http://www.quiltandtextilemuseum.com)
- NOV 30, FRI—MUSIC FRIDAY**  
5pm-9pm // Shop for a great cause during extended hours. Experience free music performances. A portion of sales proceeds go to Music For Everyone, in support of music in schools.  
Location: Downtown Lancaster  
Details: [www.downtownlancaster.com](http://www.downtownlancaster.com)
- NOV 30, FRI—THE ICE PARK AT CLIPPER STADIUM**  
Now in its second year! Come visit this popular outdoor skating rink.  
Details: [www.lancasterbarstomers.com](http://www.lancasterbarstomers.com)
- DEC 7, FRI—MAYOR'S TREE LIGHTING**  
6:30pm-8:30pm // The official kickoff of the holiday season begins with the Mayor's Tree Lighting in Penn Square. Carolers and the infamous "Tuba Christmas" lend to the festivities. Free admission.  
Details: Mayor's Office of Special Events, (717) 291-4758.  
For more information or to view the full list of events, please visit [www.jsidlancaster.org](http://www.jsidlancaster.org)

## Give Local!

As the holidays approach, many residents and area businesses focus on volunteering or making end-of-year contributions to deserving human services organizations. From buying diapers for Milagro House to serving meals at Thanksgiving, the needs are significant now and throughout the year. This year, to make giving easier – whether it's your time, donated goods and services or a financial contribution – the JSID, working with the United Way, has posted a list of City-based organizations on its webpage at [www.jsidlanaster.org/GiveLocal](http://www.jsidlanaster.org/GiveLocal).

## Key Partners Spotlight



**Lancaster City Living (LCL)** is a young organization focused on increasing homeownership by promoting city living and encouraging home improvement. Recently, it released the first of its signature semi-annual

publication, a full-sized resource guide to make buying a home in Lancaster easier. Also, in conjunction with the Lancaster County Association of Realtors, LCL just completed its first seven-hour course to inform area realtors of the benefits of owning a City home. Visit its fully renovated store-front center at 308 East King Street or check it out on the web at [www.lancastercityliving.org](http://www.lancastercityliving.org).



Did you know that Lancaster's non-profit arts organizations and their audiences generate \$28 million in annual economic activity and support the equivalent of 800 full-time jobs? Through **LancasterARTS**, a cooperative initiative of organizations and representatives of the arts community, there is an increased focus on creating and ensuring the sustainability of the arts in the City of Lancaster. This summer, the young grassroots effort hired its first employee, CEO Elizabeth Todd Lambert, who has focused on getting to know the arts community, coordinating the popular First Fridays and Fall ArtWalk, enhancing the First Friday newsletter and updating the website, [www.lancasterarts.com](http://www.lancasterarts.com).



Mayor Gray and Jay Filling at the ribbon cutting ceremony for Filling's at College Row.

## Economic Investment Update

From construction to business expansions, the strong pace of activity in Lancaster City continues:

- The demolition work for the redevelopment of the Armstrong World Industries site is now complete. Statistics related to the site are mind-boggling: 4 million cubic feet of crushed aggregate remain on the site and will be re-used, 13,000 tons of steel have been recycled, and more than 200 buildings have been demolished. Project partners include Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster General Hospital and EDC Finance Corporation.
- Contractors for the Lancaster County Convention Center and Marriott Hotel at Penn Square are now building up after months of digging out. Key activity at the site currently is the pouring of the Exhibition Hall floor, now about 50% complete, the arrival and erection of seventeen 150 foot long steel bow string trusses that will frame the Exhibition Hall floor, and the installation of the Marriott Hotel concrete floor which begins the formation of the lobby, bar, restaurant and main ballrooms.
- Lancaster General Hospital celebrated the "topping and bottoming out" of its new Queen Street Parking Garage and Duke Street Medical Building.
- More than 20 retail businesses have opened or expanded since August 1st, including Fenz, Yorgo's Restaurant (formerly Zimmerman's), Filling's, The Dude Shop, and M&T Bank along with Bella Boo, Sonja Rose, Irish Gypsy, Festoon and Apron Strings. Next "on tap" is Iron Hill Brewing Company, slated to open in November. Confidence in the retail market is growing!
- Franklin & Marshall College celebrated the openings of the Ann & Richard Barshinger Life Sciences & Philosophy Building, College Row and the new turf playing fields while announcing a new project, a daycare/elder care center located in College-owned property at Lancaster Avenue and Frederick Street.
- The Lancaster Quilt & Textile Museum is set to re-open to the public on Saturday, November 17th after ten months of construction. The \$2.7 million expansion project, funded by community leaders and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, includes a 1,000 square foot museum store (four times the size of the original one), a 1,000 square foot exhibition space and an old-fashioned ice cream parlor.

## Hats Off To . . .

- The Lancaster Barnstormers and Keystone Baseball for hosting a family-friendly neighborhood night on October 4th for residents living close to the stadium. Nearly 100 neighbors enjoyed the playground, carousel and in-field.



- The United Way for its massive Day of Caring event, which organized hundreds of volunteers for activities in early September. Special thanks to JSID friends Andrew Garner, Heidi Shirk, Chris Horst, Stacey Marten, Pat Collier, the Lancaster Lion's Club, Lancaster General, Franklin & Marshall College and Millersville University for their efforts in organizing people and projects on that special day.
- Residents of the 400 block of Lancaster Avenue, 600 block of North Pine, 400 blocks of Pine and Spruce, 600 block of West Chestnut Street, the North-Central Neighbors Alliance and 5th Square for recent organizing efforts pulling neighbors together to strengthen their immediate blocks.
- Cornerstone Design Architects for its plans to join Auntie Anne's and hopefully many more businesses in relocating offices into Downtown Lancaster.

- PPL Electric Utilities and the City of Lancaster's Department of Public Works for their considerable time, energy and resources related to the installation of the acorn-style pedestrian lighting on N. Prince and Queen Streets, a component of the JSID's North-Central Elm Street initiative.
- Mayor's Office of Special Events (MOOSE), LancasterArts and the Central Market Trust for a hugely successful Fall Artwalk Weekend, made even more lively with the Season Premiere of the Lancaster Symphony Orchestra.



## JSID Project Updates

- The most recent expansion of JSID's popular trash receptacle program is now complete, with six additional receptacles located in Northwest neighborhoods and 44 receptacles in Downtown, replacing many outdated existing ones. Special thanks to the City of Lancaster's Department of Public Works for their time and energy in installing the Downtown receptacles.



Dr. Matthew Freedman is one of the JSID's trash receptacle sponsors.

- Installation of 13 surveillance cameras in the areas of North Prince, Market and Queen Streets is also complete. The project, done through the Lancaster Community Safety Coalition, is a component of the JSID's Elm Street initiative, a program of the PA Department of Community and Economic Development.
- The JSID's website, [www.jsidlanaster.org](http://www.jsidlanaster.org), offers a comprehensive calendar of events for activities occurring in Lancaster City. Over the past few months, JSID staff has added new tools to the calendar to make it more user-friendly. Check the site out for a complete listing of Holiday events.
- The bike squad now has sixteen members patrolling the Downtown and Northwest seven days a week. On a monthly basis, the squad averages about 20 reports to the City for excessive trash, 25 reports related to public works maintenance issues and assists emergency services about 10 times. Their primary role is as ambassadors, demonstrated by making direct contacts with residents and employees and providing directions to visitors.

## 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, Lancaster, PA 17603

or please call: 717-394-0783

or email: [tobyvargas@comcast.net](mailto: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.jsidlanaster.org](http://www.jsidlanaster.org).