

CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2023



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

As we approach fall, I'd like to update you on West Columbia's Blight Removal Program, aimed at eradicating blighted properties and enhancing residents' quality of life.

Blight, often caused by neglect, crime, or economic challenges, involves abandoned properties, overgrown lots, and more. It negatively impacts our community by diminishing property values, attracting crime, and reducing neighborhood appeal.

Our comprehensive Blight Removal Program comprises these key elements:

- **Code Enforcement:** Our dedicated Code Enforcement Division identifies and addresses blight violations. This includes issuing citations or legal actions against property owners for cleanup.
- **Demolition:** When property owners can't or won't address blight, our program works to bring the property into compliance. We are able to demolish structures and clear overgrowth from vacant lots, enhancing public safety.

In 2023, the program has successfully removed two blighted structures, with a third in the process. This initiative noticeably improves neighborhood aesthetics, property values, and overall security.

As a resident, you can also assist in reducing blight by reporting blighted properties to Code Enforcement, maintaining your property, and encouraging your neighbors to do the same.

Let's work together to make West Columbia an even more appealing and secure community for all.

Sincerely,

Mayor Temus C. "Tem" Miles, Jr.

HAPPENINGS IN WECO

7TH ANNUAL FALL BACK FEST

100-200 STATE STREET

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2023

5:30-9:30 PM

FREE MUSIC, LIVE ART

CWC CHAMBER RHYTHM ON THE RIVER

FREE CONCERT SERIES

WEST COLUMBIA RIVERWALK

AMPHITHEATER

109 ALEXANDER ROAD

OCTOBER 13, 20, & 27

19TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

200 N. 12TH STREET, WEST COLUMBIA

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2023

6:30 PM - CITY HALL LAWN

DISCOVER MORE AT
WESTCOLUMBIASC.GOV

COUNCIL MESSAGES



MIKE GREEN

COUNCIL DISTRICT #1

The joint safety project by SCDOT and the City along the US-1 Corridor will feature mast arm installations at key intersections and brick crosswalks, enhancing safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers. In

addition, we welcomed Precision Auto Tune with a ribbon-cutting and Planet Fitness is beginning construction, breathing new life into the Danwood Shopping Center. These businesses will offer valuable services to our residents. Stay tuned for further updates, including a public meeting to discuss the US-1 safety project's design in the upcoming months. Together, we'll make our community even better.



TREVOR BEVELL

COUNCIL DISTRICT #2

I'm excited about the outstanding success of the Meeting Street Music Festival. It shows the dedication of our city's staff whose commitment and hard work were instrumental in creating this remarkable

FREE event. Please take a moment to express your gratitude to a city staff member, as their efforts often go unnoticed. They play an essential role in making our city the wonderful place it is. I look forward to continuing to work together to make West Columbia an even better place to call home.



GEORGE CROWE

COUNCIL DISTRICT #3

We're excited about the upcoming Fall CWC Chamber Rhythm on the River concerts! Mark your calendars for the last three Fridays in October with the following entertainment: Van Morrison Tribute Band, Sensational Epics, and an

Elvis Variety show. We hope to see you there! West Columbia is buzzing with fantastic events, so don't miss out on being part of the excitement. Join us whenever you can!



JOSEPH DICKEY

COUNCIL DISTRICT #4

I am proud to see the progress made on the recommendations given in the 2018 Redevelopment & Revitalization plans, demonstrating our commitment to their implementations. Local businesses are

thriving such as Brickhouse Gourmet Coffee & Tea, creating its own space at its new address on Meeting Street. The inaugural Meeting Street Music Fest was a huge success in part due to the support of our residents and businesses in District 4. These events bring people together from all over the region. The CWC Chamber's Fall Rhythm on the River Series begins Friday, October 13. The City's Fall Back Fest is November 3. These are free events for the whole family with live music. I look forward to continuing to work together to make our city even better.



MICKEY PRINGLE

COUNCIL DISTRICT #5

We are working with the Lexington County Recreation and Aging Commission (LCRAC) to improve Butler Park with fencing upgrades, restriping of the basketball courts,

replacing the old canteen/restroom building, and adding two new picnic shelters helping to enhance West Columbia's recreational spaces.



JIMMY BROOKS

COUNCIL DISTRICT #6

I am thrilled with the many events that make West Columbia a vibrant and exciting place to live, work, and raise a family. The CWC Chamber Rhythm on the River Concerts and the City's

Fall Back Fest, are the upcoming events for everyone to enjoy. Thank you to our city staff for their hard work in making these events such a success.

VACANT

ELECTION
NOVEMBER 7
2023

VACANT

COUNCIL DISTRICT #7

A Special Election will be held during the general election on Tuesday, November 7, 2023. More info: westcolumbiasc.gov/election.



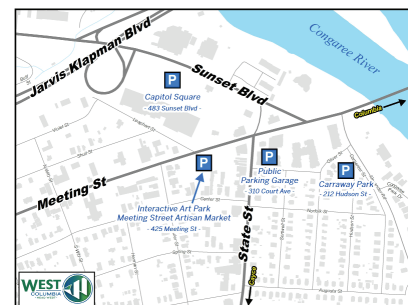
DAVID MOYE

COUNCIL DISTRICT #8

City crews have been working overtime to remove debris throughout the city with all the weather events we have had recently. You may contact your

council person if you have any questions about having public storm drains or street gutters cleared. Celebrate Halloween by visiting one of many spooky Trunk or Treat events in our community or Boo at the Zoo. The WeCo River District is hosting one on Sunday, October 29, from 4-6 PM.

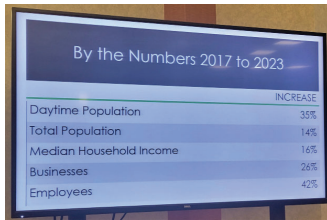
RIVER DISTRICT FREE PARKING



(803) 791-1880

200 N. 12TH STREET, WEST COLUMBIA, SC 29169

FIVE-YEAR REVITALIZATION PLAN A SUCCESS



Statistics shown by RMA during the meeting.

In the last five years, the City of West Columbia has seen remarkable development, according to Kim Briesemeister, principal at Redevelopment Management Associates (RMA).

"West Columbia has not only created a plan but that plan has been enacted," Briesemeister said in a recent address to the West Columbia City Council. Briesemeister said the city has accomplished so much by incorporating a strategy of inclusion after seeking input from every segment of the community. The result has been a 26% increase in the number of businesses in West Columbia.

Some of the new businesses include Savage Craft Ale Works; WECO Bottle and Biergarten; Always Original Bakery; Pedego Electric Bikes;

The Hideout in WECO; D's Wings; Brickhouse Gourmet Coffee & Tea, Co.; HOTWORX; and the Brookland Development. In addition to new businesses, the city has also added crosswalks, new building façades, events to attract customer traffic, streetscaping, public parking, Carraway Park, and the Meeting Street Artisan Market.

Other segments of the city that have been upgraded include the neighborhood surrounding the Brookland-Lakeview Empowerment Center, Triangle City, and the Sunset Boulevard and US-1 Corridors.

Briesemeister said the spirit of leadership and cooperation between the City of West Columbia staff and its elected officials is the reason so much has been accomplished. She also said other members of the community are motivated. "The private sector watches and is attracted to successful revitalization," Briesemeister said.

Sharon McCormick, a Senior Vice President at Redevelopment Management Associates, was also complimentary of West Columbia's revitalization plan execution.

"Everything about West Columbia is remarkable," she said. "The aesthetics, and all that you see, is impressive."

West Columbia is a model for revitalization and planners say the city is poised to continue its success into the future.

UPGRADES TO WEST COLUMBIA'S INFRASTRUCTURE RESULTS IN NEW DEVELOPMENT



Langley Point under construction off Sunset Blvd.

Big things are happening in West Columbia, and an expansion to the city's infrastructure is helping to spur that development.

Thirty-eight acres in West Columbia, bordered by Sunset Boulevard, Henbet Drive, and Ephrata Drive, will become the site of a \$60 million high-end apartment complex, that will also have retail and commercial spaces. The development is called "Langley Point." City Council planned for the funding of improvements and expansion of the West Columbia water and sewer lines in the Sunset Boulevard corridor making it possible for the new development.

The apartments coming to Langley Point are described as Class-A

housing. The units will have 9-foot ceilings, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, a resort-style pool, a fitness facility, and a dog park.

"Constructing upper-scale residential opportunities will increase the average income level of West Columbia," said Councilman Jimmy Brooks, the representative of the district. "Increasing the income level is part of the strategy to attract more grocery stores, restaurants, and other sought-after types of businesses."

Road widening and a monitored and controlled traffic light are also being added at Sunset Boulevard and Henbet Drive. In addition to Langley Point, a lot on Sunset Boulevard is being cleared as part of plans to build a hotel. Two hotels, TownePlace Suites, and a Residence Inn, have already opened in the Sunset Boulevard Corridor.

These are just a few examples of the many new developments happening in West Columbia. The city is investing in its infrastructure and creating a welcoming environment for new businesses and residents.

NEW LUXURY APARTMENTS AND RETAIL OPEN IN WECO



Another Broken Egg and 4West, State and Meeting.

4West, the latest phase of the Brookland Development, is now open for business at the corner of State and Meeting Streets in West Columbia.

4West includes luxury apartment homes and retail, restaurant, and office space located at the foot of the Gervais Street Bridge. Brookland retail tenants already include Black Rooster; Gentlemen's Quarters Barbershop; The WRKT; Select Physical Therapy; and Another Broken Egg Café opening soon.

Another Broken Egg Café is known for its southern-inspired culinary innovation and "craveably" delicious dishes. It will offer chef-inspired breakfast, brunch, and lunch dishes as well as

cocktails, spiked cold brews, mimosas, and a full bar.

The 4West apartments expand residential opportunities in West Columbia. The units include studio, one-bedroom, and two-bedroom options with spacious walk-in closets, sleek kitchens with dual-hued cabinetry, quartz countertops, best-in-home technology, and spa-inspired bathrooms. With a variety of home sizes and layouts, 4West will offer expansive balconies with stunning views, outfitted for an entertaining outdoor area.

The Estates and Company commissioned mural entitled "Brookland" was recently completed in the alleyway to the center of the complex. It depicts the old Brookland City Hall/Fire Station, a mill house, and the Gervais Street Bridge over the Congaree River.

4West is a welcome addition to the West Columbia community. It offers residents and visitors a luxurious place to live, work, and shop, and it helps to further revitalize the City of West Columbia.

DINE & SHOP IN WECO

#EATLOCAL

AL'S UPSTAIRS
ALWAYS ORIGINAL BAKERY
ARIANA'S RESTAURANT
BLACK ROOSTER
BLOSSOM BUFFET
BREADS & SUCH
BREAKFAST AT RUIZ
BRICKHOUSE GOURMET COFFEE & TEA
BUTTERCREAM DREAMS
THE CAKE HOUSE CASA DE PASTEL
CABANAS
CAFE STRUDEL WEST COLUMBIA
CALLOWAY'S SPORTS BAR & GRILL
CHAYZ LOUNGE
CHINA HUT III
CITY LIMITS Q
COMPTON'S KITCHEN
CUCINELLA'S PIZZERIA & ITALIAN ICE
D'S WINGS
DELUCCA'S ITALIAN GRILL
EGGROLL STATION
GOLDEN CHOPSTIX
GRECIAN GARDENS RESTAURANT
GROUCHO'S DELI
THE HIDEOUT IN WECO
JIMMY'S MINI MART/CITGO
JIN JIN CHINESE RESTAURANT
LA FOGATA
LA MORENITA
LIZARD'S THICKET
LOVE-A-CUP BAKERY
LOS PAISANOS
MAI THAI CUISINE
MANNY'S
MAURICE'S PIGGIE PARK
NEW BROOKLAND TAVERN
NICK'S HOUSE OF PIZZA
NO. 1 CHINA
ODALY'S BAKERY
OLDE COUNTRY BUFFET
THE ORIGINAL BRUNCHES
PERRY'S FLAMING CHICKEN
RUSH'S FABULOUS FOOD ... FAST!
SAN JOSE MEXICAN RESTAURANT
SAVAGE CRAFT ALE WORKS
TACOS LOCOS AND GRILL
TASTY WINGS & SEAFOOD
TERRA
TEX MEX WEST COLUMBIA
THE HIDEOUT IN WECO
TRUE BBQ
WHAT-A-BURGER
ZESTO OF WEST COLUMBIA

#SHOPLOCAL

763 ANTIQUE MALL
ATTIC FANATIC
BARBARA JANE'S BOUTIQUE
BILL'S MUSIC SHOP & PICKIN' PARLOR
CHERRY'S DELIGHT
COLUMBIA FLAG & SIGN COMPANY
ED'S EDITIONS BOOKSTORE
GOLD LINE FRAMING
GLASSIE LADIES
JAAS BOUTIQUE
JARRETT'S JUNGLE
MEETING STREET INTERIORS
NEW BROOKLAND RAILROAD & HOBBY
OLD MILL ANTIQUE MALL
ROB SHAW GALLERY AND FRAMING
SCRATCH & SPIN
SIGHTLER'S FLORIST & MARKETPLACE
SPA 131
STATE STREET TRADING COMPANY
STONE BOOT COMPANY
THE WAREHOUSE
THREE OAKS FLORIST AND INTERIORS
THREE RIVERS ANTIQUES
TROPIC AIRE PATIO GALLERY
WEST POINT COINS, LLC

