



CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

COUNCIL UPDATE

August 4, 2021

MEETINGS & REMINDERS

Monday, August 9	6:30 p.m.	Council Committee of the Whole Community Center
Tuesday, August 10	7:00 p.m.	Citizens Advisory Committee – Public Hearing Community Center
Wednesday, August 11	6:00 p.m.	Cedar-Lee-Meadowbrook Public Spaces and Connectivity Open House City Hall Atrium
Monday, August 16	6:30 p.m.	Council Committee of the Whole Executive Conference Room
Monday, August 16	7:30 p.m.	City Council Meeting Council Chambers

LEGISLATION

- **3424 Beechwood Avenue Transfer.** An Ordinance adopting procedures for the transfer of 3424 Beechwood Avenue, received through the City of Cleveland Heights Land Reutilization Program, to FutureHeights, Inc.; declaring the property no longer needed for a public purpose

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- There is one block party this weekend – Yorkshire between Cottage Grove and Washington, Sunday August 8th 2:00pm until dusk.
- Enclosed are some memos from staff that answer some of the questions raised Monday night.

- The Committee of the Whole meeting on Monday August 9th is a joint meeting with the Shaker Heights Council regarding additional information on the Horseshoe Lake/NE-ORSD project. The meeting begins at 6:30pm and will be held in the big meeting room. Masks will be mandatory and chairs will be social distanced. Both cities have had website pages on the project and staff from both cities (Thank you Mary Trupo) are organizing the questions so that all will be answered that night. Also, index cards will be available for the audience members if their concern was not addressed.
- The Safety night/Centennial event was a wonderful evening. Many thanks to the Chiefs and the police and fire personnel on site. Also, to Joe McCrae and his staff. The 100th Birthday card will be at the Center for a while and then be moved to the Schoolhouse where it will be safe and sound. People can drop off time capsule items at City Hall until the beginning of October.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT – August 3, 2021:

CEDAR-LEE-MEADOWBROOK:

- Staff negotiating the Development Agreement with our Development Partner Flaherty & Collins at this time;
- Traffic & Parking: WSP and Desman consulting have been contracted with to assist with the traffic and parking analysis associated with this project;
- Public engagement meetings will be held on August 5 & 11;

NEIGHBORHOOD REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (NRP) INFILL HOUSING CONSTRUCTION:

- Given the approval of the MOU Agreement for the Caledonia Neighborhood infill housing project, the staff is now engaged in negotiating the Development Agreement with Start Right CDC;
- The MOU Agreement with Amato Homes (Desota Avenue) is scheduled to come to City Council for consideration at the August 16 meeting;

TAYLOR TUDOR PLAZA:

- An RFQ/RFP for redevelopment/rehab of these three buildings is anticipated to be provided for consideration by Council at their August 16 meeting;

TOP OF THE HILL:

- Construction on the project continues, with the completion date anticipated to be July of 2022;



To: Susanna Niermann O'Neil, City Manager
From: Joseph P. McRae, Parks and Recreation Director
Subject: Parks and Recreation Department Reopening Plan Update
Date: August 3, 2021

Please find a brief summary of Parks and Recreation activities attached for your reference.

General Updates

- **The City's Centennial Celebration and Safety Services Night Out** took place on Tuesday, August 3 at the Cleveland Heights Community Center on the north lawn.
- **Cumberland Pool and Wading Pool:** The pool and wading pool are open to the public through Labor Day weekend. Season passes are now available at half price. Reduced pools hours will start later this month due to lifeguard staff leaving for school/college. The Cain Park splash pad remains closed this year due to lack of staffing.
- **Cain Park** is open with a modified summer season that started the second week of July and will end in mid-September. For more information on upcoming events, visit www.cainpark.com
- **Picnic Shelter** rentals are available at Boyd, Denison, Forest Hill and Cumberland parks.

Upcoming election related events at the Community Center:

- **League of Women Voters (LWV) City Primary Candidates Forum** - Thursday, August 12
- **City Primary Election Voting Precinct** – Tuesday, September 14
- **LWV Cleveland Hts. Mayor and Council Candidates Forum** – Thursday, September 23
- **LWV CH-UH School Board of Education Candidates Forum** – Thursday, October 7
- **General Election** – Tuesday, November 2



To: Susanna Niermann-O'Neil, City Manager

From: Annette M. Mecklenburg, Chief of Police

Date: August 3, 2021

Subject: Police Department Update

On July 30, 2021, around 7:30 pm Officers responded to Forest Hill Park for reports of a vehicle driving erratically and shots fired. Preliminary investigation indicates that a vehicle driving southbound on Lee Blvd. crashed through the fence and rolled over once, landing upright and back on its wheels. The vehicle then continued driving through the Park and into the parking lot where it struck two parked vehicles. The vehicle then drove back into the park, past the pavilion, and through one of the baseball fields. While the vehicle was driving through the park at least two people shot at the vehicle in an attempt to stop it. The driver of the vehicle then stopped and was subsequently taken into custody by CHPD Officers who arrived on the scene.

It is not believed that anyone was struck by the vehicle nor was anyone shot. There were a couple of reports of people who suffered minor injuries while trying to run away, but no one was seriously injured. The driver of the vehicle sustained minor injuries and was treated at an area hospital and released.

The driver has been identified as 64-year old James. E. Blackmon. He has been charged with Felonious Assault and is being held on a \$100,000 cash or surety bond. Mr. Blackmon will have his Preliminary Hearing next week and until that time will remain in our jail. Additional charges are expected.

One of the persons who was shooting at Blackmon's vehicle has been identified. He has not been charged with a crime as Detectives continue to investigate. We have not been able to identify the second person who was reportedly shooting at the vehicle.

The incident remains under investigation. We will provide additional updates as they become available.

On Sunday, August 1, 2021, at 6:45 pm the Police Department received calls of a large group of people riding motorcycles and dirt bikes recklessly northbound on Noble Road from Warrensville. Officers arriving in the area estimated that over 200 bikes were riding north on Noble while weaving in and out of traffic, doing wheelies and stunts, and not stopping for red lights. Officers monitored the area and took the steps necessary to

ensure the safety of other motorists and pedestrians in the area. Officers were able to stop the riders whose four-wheel ATV became disabled in the area of 2511 Noble Road. The rider was identified as 23-year old Desean Cochran from Detroit, Michigan. The ATV did not have any visible license plate and when officers attempted to identify Cochran he ran. Officers quickly caught up to him and when they tried to arrest him, he struggled. Officers were able to then take him into custody without further incident. It was later discovered that the backpack Cochran had in his possession contained a large sum of money and illegal drugs. Cochran was charged with Obstructing Official Business, Resisting Arrest and several traffic offenses. Detectives are investigating the drug possession and charges will likely be filed at a later date. There were no reported injuries during this incident.

On the morning of Monday, August 2, 2021, several vehicles were damaged overnight on the west side of the City. It was discovered that at least ten vehicles parked in the municipal lots on Lancashire and Euclid Heights Blvd. had their vehicle tires punctured. We are continuing to investigate but there are no suspects at this time.

**CEDAR-LEE-MEADOWBROOK REDEVELOPMENT
FRAMEWORK OF ANTICIPATED MEETINGS***

Initial Community Meetings

1. **Kick-Off Parking & Traffic Community Workshop #1** on existing conditions (8/5, 6 PM at the Library)
2. **Public Spaces and Connectivity Open House** (~~8/12~~ **New Date 8/11**, 6 PM, Atrium at City Hall)
3. **Architectural Board of Review (ABR) Preliminary Design Review Special Meeting** (Date and Time TBD, Council Chambers)
4. **Planning & Development Committee of Council Meeting** including Committee workshop on redevelopment of Cedar-Lee-Meadowbrook (Date and Time TBD, Council Chambers)
5. **Parking & Traffic Community Workshop #2** on recommendations (Date, Time, Location TBD)

Formal Review Process with Opportunities for Public Comment

6. **Planning Commission Public Meeting #1** (Date and Time TBD based upon receipt of application, Council Chambers)
7. **Planning Commission Public Meeting #2** (Date and Time TBD, Council Chambers)
8. **Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) Public Meeting** (Date and Time TBD, Council Chambers)
9. **ABR Public Meeting** (Date and Time TBD, Council Chambers)

**Note: Meeting dates and locations subject to change, depending on CDC guidance regarding COVID-19, as well as other variables*



**Council Committee of the Whole
Joint Committee Meeting
Cleveland Heights and Shaker Heights**

**August 9, 2021
6:30 p.m.
Agenda**

1. NEORS D presentation on Horseshoe Lake and Lower Shaker Lake Dams



Memorandum

To: Susanna Niermann-O'Neil-City Manager
From: Allan Butler- Housing Programs Director
Date: August 4, 2021
Re: 3424 Beechwood transfer-with additional property condition and history.

The attached legislation authorizes the title transfer of the real properties at 3424 Beechwood Ave. PPN(684-29-120) from the City of Cleveland Heights Land Reutilization Program (CHLRP) to Future Heights Inc. for the purpose of renovation by means of their Future Homes Program.

The City of Cleveland Heights, per Resolution No. 24-2021 has entered into First Extension of Development Services Agreement and Project Approval with Future Heights to perform services as a community development corporation for the City. City Council members have indicated that they desire to see Future Heights Inc. complete renovation projects in the Noble Rd. neighborhood and Taylor Rd/Desota Ave. areas. The current request for the transfer of 3424 Beechwood Ave. from the City's Land Bank to Future Heights supplies Future Heights with a property in this identified target area. The Cuyahoga County Land Bank through the Housing Dept. directive has also prepared Pass-Through Agreements to Future Heights for vacant State Forfeiture properties at 832 Woodview Rd., 3868 Monticello Blvd., 1040 Elbon Rd., and 3406 Cummings Rd. which will provide Future Heights additional properties within the target areas identified by Council.

The vacant property at 3424 Beechwood was deeded to the City Land Bank on 11/3/2020 through the tax foreclosure process which was initially filed on this parcel on 8/29/2018 and had a had a total unpaid tax balance of \$67,148.

- A City inspection of the two-family dwelling at 3424 Beechwood has indicated \$62,500 of escrow required and all but \$4,000 of the total was for violations on the interior of the dwelling. The Future Heights CDC has also performed a preliminary scope of work for the property and have indicated that repair costs submitted by contractors were in the range of \$170,000. The property was victim to a fire in 2000 and the property was not insured. The former owner, Marvin Moskowitz began fire renovation efforts on the property in 2008 which included a new roof, windows, vinyl siding, interior framing, rough plumbing and rough electric work however the interior work was never completed. Completion of the interior renovations remain the majority of the required repairs.

Proposed: 8/2/2021

ORDINANCE NO. 101-2021 (PD)

By Council Member

An Ordinance adopting procedures for the transfer of 3424 Beechwood Avenue, received through the City of Cleveland Heights Land Reutilization Program, to FutureHeights, Inc.; declaring the property no longer needed for a public purpose; and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance No. 33-2009, this Council adopted and implemented the procedures set forth in Chapter 5722 of the Ohio Revised Code for a Land Reutilization Program, known as the Cleveland Heights Land Reutilization Program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cleveland Heights (“City”) currently owns certain real property located at 3424 Beechwood Avenue, Permanent Parcel No. 684-29-120 (“Property”); and

WHEREAS, the City obtained the Property through its Land Reutilization Program; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that it has no need for the Property and therefore the Property does not serve a public purpose; and

WHEREAS, FutureHeights, Inc. (“FutureHeights”) is a non-profit corporation, which promotes a vibrant and sustainable future for Cleveland Heights through innovative ideas and civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 97-2018, the City and FutureHeights entered into a Development Services Agreement with FutureHeights to perform services as a community development corporation for the City; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 24-2021, the City and FutureHeights entered into a First Extension of Development Services Agreement and Project Approval to continue performing such services; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 24-2021 and the corresponding Agreement identified certain primary priority areas for project approvals, including the area in which the Property is located; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the City’s agreement with FutureHeights, transfer of the Property would be in the best interests of the City and its residents; and

WHEREAS, Section 110.04 of the Cleveland Heights Codified Ordinances authorizes Council to enact an ordinance to adopt procedures for the conveyance of real property not needed for public purpose.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. This Council hereby determines that the City-owned real property located at 3424 Beechwood Avenue, Permanent Parcel No. 684-29-120 ("Property"), is not needed for a public purpose.

SECTION 2. Pursuant to the authority of City Council set forth in Section 110.04 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cleveland Heights, this Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to transfer the Property to FutureHeights, Inc. upon receipt of necessary approvals, forms, terms, and conditions deemed appropriate by the City Manager.

SECTION 3. Documents implementing the above transaction shall be approved as to form by and subject to the final approval of the Director of Law.

SECTION 4. Notice of the passage of this Ordinance shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of its contents, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cleveland Heights.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, such emergency being the need to transfer the property to begin rehabilitation work at the earliest time permitted by law. Wherefore, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five or more of the members elected or appointed to this Council, this Ordinance shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.

JASON S. STEIN
President of the Council

AMY HIMMELEIN
Clerk of Council

PASSED: