



The Official Newsletter of the City of Park Hills

Springtime Development Report

Mayor Kathy Zembrodt

Spring is here and construction projects are coming to life all around Park Hills. Here are some details about some of the key projects that are in progress.

Amsterdam Valley Road Closure

While Park Hills and our neighbors can expect some inconveniences due to the Park Pointe development and Amsterdam valley reconstruction projects, the results are expected to be great. All in all, the vision includes significant infrastructure improvements and a



more park-like entrance to Park Hills coming from Covington—all without cost to Park Hills.

Bird's eye view of Amsterdam Valley

The southbound lane of Amsterdam Road will be reconstructed and widened to a two-way road, as it originally was, from Montague Road to Trolley Park. The northbound lane of Amsterdam Road will be permanently closed and regraded, which should resolve ongoing landslide issues. The reconstruction will be done following the specifications of our city engineer and will have a minimum useful life of 20 years. The new stretch of Amsterdam Road will also have curbs and gutters to help with stormwater management.

Please note, during the reconstruction of Amsterdam Road, both directions of Amsterdam Road will be closed for a few months, leaving only access to the residents who live on that stretch of Amsterdam Road.

Detour signs will be placed throughout the city for those coming into Park Hills from neighboring communities. Drivers going north on Amsterdam Road will follow a detour to Sleepy Hollow Road and Dixie Highway. Park Hills residents can still follow Park Drive to Montague Road if they choose. Closure and detour notifications, dates, and details will be shared prior to construction.

Stormwater and Sanitation Routing Improvements

Park Hills will receive \$100,000 for the conveyance of the property in the middle of Amsterdam Road to Park Pointe developer Condoview, LLC. This is where the compost area currently exists. This property has a huge sewer main under it, and many other sewer lines converge at this point.

After construction, the developer plans to sell the detention area to Sanitation District 1 (SD1) who will manage the water from the converging sanitation lines and hillsides. The goal is to reduce flooding and better separate stormwater and sanitation. The detention pond will be maintained by SD1 and should not be visible from the road. This property transfer is expected to relieve Park Hills of future maintenance expenses.

Additional Details of the Amsterdam Valley Reconstruction

Per the development agreement with Park Pointe developer Condoview, LLC, Park Hills can expect to see a number of improvements in Amsterdam valley, including:

- A new welcome sign at the southbound entrance to Park Hills from Montague Road.
- A new 5–6-ft. wide, concrete pathway that will follow the new Amsterdam Road and extend along the future Park Pointe Drive (currently Patton Drive) and all the way to Trolley Park—this pathway will be separated from the roadway by a strip of green space.
- Attractive street lighting along the new Amsterdam Road pathway—\$25,000 of the cost of these lights will be paid for by Condoview, LLC.

Audubon Forest Update

All of the lots in the new Audubon Forest development have sold and home construction has begun. The properties and houses sold for prices ranging from \$560,000 to \$800,000. Landscaping at the new Wald Court will begin soon.



Wald Court in Audubon Forest

Lower Jackson Road

Geological technology work is complete. City Engineer Jay Bayer and SD1 are working together to determine the most efficient and cost-effective ways to layout and construct stormwater management.

Parks and Public Spaces

Council Members Pam Spoor and Kevin Theissen

Spring is here! Finally!

It's been a long, dreary winter and Trolley Park's grassy interior is looking worn and muddy. The same is true of the streetcar tracks, which are currently a river of muddy ruts. The good news is that Duke Energy will repair this damage, which was caused by the installation of the new utility poles, upon completion of the work. Cincinnati Bell and Spectrum still have to shift their lines to the new poles. When that is accomplished, Duke has agreed to regrade and seed the areas.

Audubon Forest Settlement Details

As part of the settlement agreement with Berling Construction, the city will receive approximately six acres of land situated near the future houses on Wald Court in Audubon Forest. When the donation of land is made and the area boundaries are identified, the city will maintain the area as natural woodland.

Many of the trees in this area are dead due to the emerald ash borer and the understory is overwhelmed with honeysuckle. The Parks, Beautification, and Recreation Committee plans to work with the Tree Board to reforest the area with native trees. The goals are to eradicate the invasive honeysuckle and repopulate the forest floor with native ephemerals like trillium, celandine poppy, cowslip, and mayapples.



The ultimate goal is to make the forest area a peaceful woodland preserve for all Park Hills residents to experience and enjoy.

Historic Markers

Another part of the development settlement agreement pertains to two historic markers. One of the markers will address the history of the former trolley line. This marker will be located either in Trolley Park or nearby. Dr. Jim Claypool and Dr. Paul Tenkotte will write the content for the sign.

The second sign is being discussed and our committee is currently seeking ideas for content. Some suggestions include the White Horse Tavern and the Pure Prairie League. If you have ideas, please send us an email with your thoughts on content and location: Email Pam Spoor at pspoor@parkhillsky.net or Kevin Theissen at ktheissen@parkhillsky.net.

Good News for the Playground

Be on the lookout for some toddler-friendly creatures joining the playground mix in Trolley Park. This new recreation attraction will replace the broken teeter-totter.

Third Annual Clean Up Park Hills Day

Sophie Bayer and Council Member Sarah Froelich

Thank you to everyone who made the third annual Park Hills cleanup effort a huge success on April 6th. Your work helps make Park Hills even more beautiful!

Organized by Sophie Bayer, with the help of Julie Alig, the day went off without a hitch. Mayor Kathy Zembrodt, Council Member Joe Shields, Council Member Kevin Theissen, Council Member Steve Elkins, Lieutenant Richard Webster, and 22 residents donned their dayglo *Park Hills Crew* t-shirts and worked side-by-side to find and bag trash along Amsterdam Road, Old State Road, and Dixie Highway.

The award for finding the most unusual garbage goes to Karl Oberjohn and Jay Bayer, who found a shopping cart!



The Mayor's Corner

Dear Neighbors,

With the fiscal year coming to an end in June, I want to share a short update with you as we prepare next year's budget.

First and foremost, I am happy to report that our property values increased last year which means our city income grew a bit for this fiscal year. Note that we continue to pay the same tax rate of 2.09 /1000. Business and payroll income have also increased because of construction work happening within the city, both for roads and new developments.

As we've been calculating the revenue, the city clerk and I have been very conservative in the income estimates as we prepare for the 2019-2020 budget.

Development Updates

The Audubon Forest development is moving along nicely. All of the lots have been sold and a few homes are already starting to go up on the new street, Wald Court. The average home sales are between \$560,000 and \$800,000. With better weather on the horizon, landscaping for the new development will begin soon.

The Park Pointe development is also underway. Engineering and site preparation are expected to begin very soon. We will update the city website as the project progresses.



Mayor Kathy
Zembrodt

Please note that during construction, Amsterdam Road will be completely closed to residents for a period of four to six months. Notice will be given to residents and surrounding cities.

Aside from these major projects, we're also working on maintaining some city streets that are in desperate need of attention.

Overall, we hope that the improving weather will give us time to complete all of these ongoing city projects.

Notes About Our Landscape

Grass Clippings... Please clean grass clippings from streets and sidewalks when mowing your lawn. If you have a lawn service, please request that your service do the same. Removing lawn waste from our streets helps to keep our drains and storm sewers clear of debris, allowing for better flow of stormwater. If we all do our part, it will make a noticeable difference as you drive through our beautiful city.

Trees... Please check your yards for dead or dying trees to remove. Dying or dead trees can be dangerous to your home, your family members, and your neighbors. In the past, there have been cars damaged, downed electric lines, and power outages caused by the neglect of trees. I appreciate you paying attention to this.

As always, there is plenty to be excited about in our great city! I look forward to a fantastic Spring and Summer, and I'm honored to be your mayor.

Kathy

Park Hills Awarded \$202,189 Grant to Build Saint Joseph Lane Sidewalk

Karl Oberjohn

With the completion of the North Arlington Road sidewalk last December, Saint Joseph Lane is now the last Park Hills street connected to Dixie Highway that does not yet have a sidewalk.

Plans for building a sidewalk along Saint Joseph Lane have been in the works since June 2017. These plans may have received a significant boost, thanks to a \$202,189 grant which was recently awarded to Park Hills for this specific project.

This grant is the result of an application for a federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant that was first submitted in October 2017, and then re-submitted in October of last year.

Special thanks to our State Senator Chris McDaniel, and to Andrew Aiello, General Manager of the Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky (TANK), for contributing letters of recommendation for our successful grant application.

Although the grant would ultimately result in net cost savings to the City, there is a tradeoff: The City would be required to pay the entire project cost upfront before receiving an 80% reimbursement. This upfront cost is significantly higher than the cost of executing the project without the grant, due to the additional grant-related administrative expenses involved. The Mayor, City Council, and the Infrastructure Committee plan to review the costs of the project with and without the grant requirements. They will share their findings during the review process.



TANK Updates

The bus stop at Saint Joseph Lane is one of the most well-utilized bus stops in Northern Kentucky. In addition to enjoying safer and more comfortable pedestrian access to the bus stop via the new sidewalk, riders will be happy to know that TANK has been working to modernize their service. Last year, TANK teamed up with Google to make real-time bus location and route data available to popular mobile phone apps such as Transit and Google Maps.

If you haven't ridden a TANK bus in a while (or ever), try planning a trip using one of these apps. It's so much easier than using the paper route schedules!

Spring Cleaning and Fire Protection

Fire Chief John Rigney

As we begin our annual spring cleaning projects, the Park Hills Fire Department and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) offer some helpful tips to incorporate fire safety into your routine. These are a few areas to keep an eye on.

Smoke Alarms

According to the NFPA, a functioning smoke alarm in your home cuts your risk of dying in a house fire by 50 percent, so check your smoke alarms. This is a task that can easily be forgotten for months, but it is vital that you test them at least once per year. Put it on your list of spring cleaning chores to ensure that you test your alarms every 12 months.

Electrical Cords

The NFPA reports that an annual average of nearly 48,000 electrical fires occurred in U.S. homes between 2007 and 2011. So while you're rooting around your living room or home office making piles of things to pitch and donate, go ahead and organize those unwieldy cords and power strips. Make sure to replace any electrical cords that are damaged or loose, and try to avoid running any cords under carpets or across doorways where they're more likely to get damaged.

Dryers

The leading cause of fires caused by home clothes dryers is a failure to clean them. So as tempting as it may be to think, "It's fine until next time," as you're throwing in a load of towels, go ahead and scrape that lint out. And make sure to check the drum for extra lint or any items that may have fallen out of pockets, and keep the area around the dryer free from anything flammable like cardboard boxes and cleaning products.



Visit parkhillsky.net and sign up for safety and weather alerts through REACH Alert.

City Meetings: All Are Welcome

Council Member Sarah Froelich

Did you know that **all city council and committee meetings are open to the public?**

City Council Business Meetings are held on the second Monday of every month. **City Council Caucus Meetings** take place on the fourth Monday of each month. All Business and Caucus Meetings are held at St. Joseph Heights, 1601 Dixie Highway.

Business Meetings are reserved for city council to share official readings and vote on ordinances and resolutions. Caucus Meetings are where residents, business owners, and friends of Park Hills can share recommendations and raise concerns. Committees and boards are encouraged to make reports at both meetings.

Several committees meet monthly to review key city functions. Here's a list of the current committees as well as the days, times, and locations where they meet:

Grills

Nothing says spring and summer quite like grilling out. We couldn't agree more, but let's not forget that grilling inherently involves fire, so there are a few things to keep in mind. Before you even turn the grill on, check the propane tank, hose, and all connection points to make sure it's not prone to any leaks. Once the grill is on, turn off the tank and burners immediately if you smell gas. If you're using a charcoal grill, make sure you're using a charcoal starter fluid, not any other flammable liquids. Once you're finished, let all the coals cool completely before dumping them in a metal container.

Open Burning

Limited open burning is permissible in the City of Park Hills only between the months of October and April and is subject to the guidelines listed here: <http://parkhillsfire.com/open-burn/>.

The Kentucky Division of Air Quality restricts ALL open burning between the months of May and September in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. For additional information please see www.air.ky.gov.

Recreational fires in commercially made outdoor metal fireplaces and chimneys are permitted within the city throughout the year. However, please remember they are subject to the above guidelines. ANY fire will be subject to extinguishment if found to be causing an unnecessary disturbance to the neighborhood. PLEASE be courteous to your neighbors.

If you have any questions concerning open burning regulations, smoke detectors, or fire safety, please contact the Park Hills Fire Department at (859) 431-4333. For additional information please visit www.parkhillsfire.com.



- **Economic Development**—6:30 PM, Thursdays after City Caucus Meetings, 2nd floor at 1106 Amsterdam Road
- **Financial Oversight**—7 PM through June, 1st Monday of the month, 2nd floor at 1106 Amsterdam Road (After June, meetings will be held on an as-needed basis.)
- **Historic Preservation**—7 PM, Thursdays after City Business Meetings, 2nd floor at 1106 Amsterdam Road
- **Infrastructure and Public Works**—5:30 PM, 1st Monday of the month, at the Bayer Becker offices (209 Grandview Drive in Ft. Mitchell)
- **Parks, Beautification, and Recreation**—7 PM. Thursdays after City Business Meetings, 2nd floor at 1106 Amsterdam Road
- **Communications**—7 PM, Wednesdays after City Business Meetings, 2nd floor at 1106 Amsterdam Road

Please check the City & Events Calendar at parkhillsky.net for additional details and updates. All meeting dates, times, and locations are subject to change.

Photos Needed for Historic Park Hills Book

Council Member Pam Spoor



Miller Pond, c. 1935

We have the writers—Dr. Jim Claypool, Dr. Paul Tenkotte, and Dr. Iris Spoor—and the resources, but we need your help to complete a book about the history of Park Hills. We seek photos—preferably black and white, pre-1970—of Park Hills people, places, homes, and events. We are especially in need of images of Miller Pond, trolley buildings, and the trolley itself.



Please look through your albums, reach out to friends and relatives, and submit any photos

you have for inclusion in the book. Feel free to take them to our city clerk, Julie Alig, as she can scan photos and return the originals to you promptly. You may also scan them yourself and email them to Julie at jalog@parkhillsky.net.

Park Hills merits a history book—we hope you want to help us make it happen!



Acceptable Items for Recycling

Julie Alig, City Clerk

We are all trying to do our part for the environment, but when it comes to recycling, a few common mistakes can result in a completely wasted effort. Rumpke Recycling offers residential customers a convenient, comprehensive recycling program to enhance the recycling effort and reduce the amount of material we send to the landfill.

So, what can be recycled? Here's a quick list:

- **Glass:** bottles and jars of all colors
- **Metal cans:** aluminum cans, steel cans and lids, and empty aerosol cans with the lids and tips removed
- **Plastic:** bottles and jugs of all sizes, including milk jugs, soda bottles, laundry detergent bottles, water bottles, shampoo bottles, and contact solution bottles
- **Paper:** newspaper, magazines, cardboard, mixed office paper and envelopes, paperboard (for example, cereal boxes), pizza boxes free of food debris and grease, telephone books, and catalogs
- **Cartons:** food and beverage cartons such as milk, juice, soup, wine, and broth

What else do you want to think about as you're recycling? Here are some tips:

Do	Don't
✓ Mix all items together—no separation required	X Include medical sharps or needles
✓ Empty all bottles, jugs, and cans—no need to remove labels	X Use plastic bags
✓ Empty and crush plastic bottles, reattach lids	
✓ Remove plastic caps and straws on cartons	

While we're on the subject of what not to do, also note that **these items are not recyclable:**

Plastic bags, cassette tapes, bed sheets, hangers, metal chains, garden hoses, batteries, needles, syringes, electronics, polystyrene foam, buckets, butter tubs, car parts, food, yard waste, light bulbs, drinking glasses, ceramics, pots, pans, and scrap metal*

Ready to recycle? Rumpke can supply one large garbage and one large recycling tote to each household at no cost. Call Rumpke at (859) 472-7339 for more details.

*The full list of acceptable materials may vary slightly in some locations.

Did you know?

If you have larger items to dispose, call Rumpke at (859) 472-7339 to schedule a large-item pickup. Rumpke reserves the first trash pickup of each month for larger items, but it's still a good idea to call and confirm your large-item pickup.

Upcoming Events

Memorial Day Parade & Flag Raising Ceremonies

Sunday, May 27th, 11:30 AM | Begins at Notre Dame Academy

Yoga In The Park

Saturdays in June & July, 10-11 AM | Trolley Park

Park Hills MKT & Garden Tour

June 22nd-23rd, Noon-6 PM | Private gardens and Trolley Park

Sisters of Notre Dame Fourth of July Festival

July 4, 1-6 PM | 1601 Dixie Highway

Park Hills Yard Sale

July 13th

City Picnic

September 22nd, 4-7 PM | Trolley Park

Night Walk on the Trolley Line

October 26th, 9 PM

Pumpkin Parade & Hayride

October 27th, 4 PM | Park Drive at the Devou Park entrance

Christmas in the Park & Luminary Night

December 22nd, 5 PM | Trolley Park

Park Hills Dinner Dance

February 2020

City Business Meetings

2nd Monday of every month. 7 PM | 1601 Dixie Highway

City Caucus Meetings

as announced - See parkhillsky.net for schedule

Congratulations!

Park Hills resident and Beechwood High School junior Zaki Desai has been accepted into the 2019 Kentucky Center Governor's School for the Arts summer program at the University of Kentucky.



Advertise Here!

To offset some of the costs of printing and mailing the city newsletter, we're now offering the opportunity for you to share news and advertise here.

For more details, contact Julie Alig at (859) 431-6252, or jalig@parkhillsky.net.



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Park Hills Civic Association Upcoming Events

2019 Park Hills Memorial Day Parade and Flag Raising Ceremonies

Rachel Dammel, Vice President of the Park Hills Civic Association

The annual Park Hills Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, May 27th, at 11:30 AM. The Park Hills Civic Association and the City of Park Hills cosponsor the annual parade and flag raising ceremonies. The parade theme this year is *Women in the Armed Forces*.



This year's Grand Marshall is Amy M. McGrath-Henderson. Amy is a Marine Fighter Pilot and she was the first female Marine to fly an FA-18 on a combat mission.

Parade Entries

All are welcome: Parade entries in the past have included elected state, county, and city officials; fire and police departments; floats; convertibles; military vehicles and personnel; local businesses; antique cars; marching bands; community groups; horses; local school youth and sport groups; local music groups; gymnastic clubs; neighborhood entries. Come join the fun!

Parade Entry and Registration Information

Email Adrienne Gallagher at adriennegallagher22@gmail.com for registration details.

Flag Raising Ceremony

At the conclusion of the parade, a flag raising ceremony will be conducted at Trolley Park at the intersection of Amsterdam Road and Park Drive. The Parade Grand Marshall will also be honored and presented with a medal commemorating participation in the services.



Annual Essay Contest

Every year fourth and fifth graders from Ft. Wright Elementary School and St. Agnes School compete in a Memorial Day essay contest. A \$50 first prize and a \$25 second prize will be awarded to the best essay writers.

Other Questions

Email event organizer David Schlothauer at calwyo@fuse.net or call (859) 491-6051 (home) or (513) 746-7826 (mobile).



JUNE 22 & 23, 12 noon–6 PM, rain or shine

Save the Date

This is a weekend you won't want to miss! Gorgeous gardens, inspiring workshops, exquisite artisans, and excellent eats. This is our time to shine, Park Hills! Come enjoy the weekend and share our beautiful city with your friends, family, and neighbors.

Join the Fun

Help us make this event an even greater success: Volunteer for a three-hour shift and receive free admission! Email parkhillsgardentour@gmail.com for more details.

Save When You Buy Tickets Early

Tickets are \$13 in advance at ParkHillsGardenTour.com. Same-day tickets are \$15. Children under 12 are free.

All proceeds benefit the Park Hills Civic Association.

Tickets, good for both days, gain you admittance to all of the featured gardens throughout Park Hills as well as gardening workshops.

Watch for more details to come on Facebook, Instagram, ParkHillsGardenTour.com, and Nextdoor.



Come join us for Yoga at Trolley Park. These are FREE one-hour yoga sessions hosted by Jessica Starr, owner of Rooted Yoga!

Visit
parkhillsky.org
to learn more about PHCA events.



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Park Hills, KY 41011

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Your City Info:

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Cody Stanley

Mayor (2019-2023)

Kathy Zembrodt

City Clerk/Treasurer

Julie Alig

Fire Chief

J. Scott Rigney

City Council (2019-2020)

Wesley Deters

Joe Shields

City Attorney

Kyle Winslow

Public Works Director

Dan VonHandorf

Steve Elkins

Pamela Spoor

City Engineer

Jay Bayer

Sarah Froelich

Kevin Theissen

City Business Meetings are held the 2nd Monday of every month. 7 PM - 1601 Dixie Highway.

City Caucus Meetings, when scheduled, are held the 4th Monday of every month. 7 PM - 1601 Dixie Highway.

Contact Information

City of Park Hills, Kentucky

1106 Amsterdam Road | Park Hills, KY 41011

Phone: (859) 431-6252 | Fax: (859) 431-6410

City Clerk: j.alig@parkhillssky.net

Office Hours: Mo 10-6, Tu-Fr 9-5, closed Sa-Su

For all emergencies, call 911

Park Hills Police Department

Dispatch (for non-emergencies): (859) 356-3191

Office: (859) 431-6172 | Fax: (859) 431-5433

Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 8-3

Park Hills Fire Department

Office: (859) 431-4333 | Fax: (859) 261-3344

Park Hills Public Works Department

Phone: (859) 486-9541

Email: dvonhandorf@parkhillssky.net

Get Connected: Park Hills Web Resources

City of Park Hills website: www.parkhillssky.net

This site is managed and maintained by the City, its staff, and the Communications Committee. Here you'll find details about our government, services, the City calendar of events, and all kinds of resident resources.

Reach Alert: Sign up on www.parkhillssky.net

The City's official mass communication system. When you sign up, you receive emergency and weather messages specific to Park Hills. You select whether you receive these messages via text, voice, or email.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/parkhillscitygovernment>

This is the official Facebook page for the City of Park Hills. Content here includes official City and social announcements.

Park Hills Fire & Police Departments

Park Hills Fire Department website: <http://parkhillssky.net>

Park Hills Fire Department Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/parkhillsskyfire>

Park Hills Police Department Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/parkhillsskyfire>