

AT YOUR SERVICE

GREENSBORO CITY GOVERNMENT NEWS & INFORMATION

FEBRUARY 2009

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Available Lots



Houses/lots available

Looking to purchase a home or vacant lot? The City's Housing and Community Development Department has you covered with several properties for sale. The department assists the Redevelopment Commission of Greensboro and the Greensboro Housing and Development Partnership in marketing houses and vacant lots for sale.



Browse HCD's collection online at greensboro-nc.gov/departments/hcd/propertiesforsale.htm or call 373-2349. Also, check out the featured House of the Month at greensboro-nc.gov/departments/hcd/HouseoftheMonth.htm or on Greensboro's government cable channel, Channel 13.

We're Twittering!

You can be among the first to know what's happening in the City of Greensboro by following us on Twitter. Join us at www.twitter.com/greensborocity or text "follow greensborocity" to 40404.

March City Council meetings

The Greensboro City Council meets on Tuesdays, March 3 and 17, beginning at 5:30 pm at the Melvin Municipal Office Building, 300 W. Washington St.

Council meetings are open to the public. Free parking is available in the Greene Street parking deck after 5 pm.

Council meetings are also aired live on Channel 13 and through videostreaming online at greensboro-nc.gov.

People in the news

Assistant City Manager of Economic Development Services is selected

Jim Westmoreland has been selected Assistant City Manager of Economic Development Services. Westmoreland, who has served in an acting capacity since March, will oversee the City's economic development activities, provide support services to Greensboro businesses and serve as a liaison between City government and the business community.



Westmoreland

Westmoreland served as the City's Director of Transportation from 1999 to early 2008. He also served as Engineering and Planning Manager of Transportation from 1996-1999.

"I am truly honored and humbled to be asked by the City Manager to serve our organization and community in this important capacity," said Westmoreland. "Going forward, I plan to continue to focus on the economic development priorities of our City Council and the many needs of our community."

Parks & Recreation Director announces her retirement

Parks & Recreation Director Bonnie Kuester retired on January 31, after more than 40 years with the City. She joined the City in 1968, working with special-needs children, and rose through the ranks to become department director in 1992.



Kuester

During her tenure, the Parks & Recreation Department earned national accreditation, earned its third National Gold Medal, implemented three successful bond referendums, and completed a 20-year comprehensive master planning process.

"It has been an honor to serve in the City of Greensboro organization and our community for the past 40 years. I am especially thankful to the dedicated and highly professional staff of the Greensboro Parks & Recreation Department and consider it a privilege to have served as their director," Kuester said.

Honors & Awards

Library receives environmental award

The Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Branch Library has been awarded the Outstanding Environmental Organization Award for 2008. The honor was presented to the library recently by the Environmental Educators of North Carolina.

The library is located in the 98-acre Price Park, which also includes a bird and butterfly meadow, reading garden, walking trails, ponds and wetlands.

The library routinely sponsors environmental programs such as its March 16 workshop called Project Learning Tree. Held from 2-8 pm, the workshop focuses on the importance of trees and forestry to people and the environment. Register to attend this free workshop by calling 373-2923.

GTA recognized for Rosa Parks Tour

The Greensboro Transit Authority was recognized recently in the Transit Intelligence e-newsletter published by TransitTalent.com for its Rosa Parks bus tour.

GTA conducted the tour for elementary and pre-school students on December 1 to celebrate the 53rd anniversary of Rosa Parks' act of defiance on a Montgomery, Alabama bus.

The article in the e-newsletter features a photo of GTA Manager Libby James and a video with highlights of the event.

City honored for NNO participation

The National Association of Town Watch has once again selected Greensboro as a National Award Winner for the City's participation in the 25th Annual National Night Out (NNO) in August 2008.

The Police Department has served as the area's organizer of NNO activities since the inception of the program in 1984. The City was also honored by the association as a National Award Winner in 2007.

City now accepting water bill payments online

The City is now accepting online payments for customers' monthly water bills. The link to access a secure server for this service is greensboro-nc.gov/payonline. Payment may be made with your Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover cards.

A flat rate convenience fee of \$1.95 will be charged per online transaction to cover additional costs incurred by the City. The total amount charged to your credit/debt card will show as one transaction total, including the convenience fee.

The City also accepts payment of outstanding parking tickets online. This service can also be accessed at greensboro-nc.gov/payonline.

Call the City's Contact Center at 373-CITY (2489) for help using the service.

Parking amnesty program a success

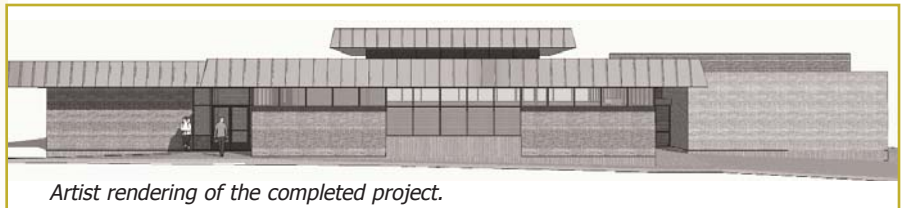
The City's Parking Amnesty Program, which allowed drivers to pay outstanding parking tickets minus the burden of late fees, collected \$70,175 in unpaid tickets from December 1-31.

In total, 8,120 tickets were paid and the City saved parking violators \$203,000 in penalties because of this initiative.

Benjamin Library renovations continue

The Benjamin Branch Library, 1530 Benjamin Parkway, is undergoing renovations and will be closed until summer 2009.

The library's new addition is approximately 1,600 square feet and will accommodate an expanded children's collection and reading area, as well as a new 600-square-foot public meeting room. Also, the original clearstory windows above the main reading room will be uncovered and restored to allow additional natural light into the interior. New, large, south-facing windows will provide views of the nearby woods.



Artist rendering of the completed project.

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NC High School Athletic Association and Greensboro announce partnership

Forty-five years ago, the North Carolina High School Athletic Association played its first championship in the Greensboro Coliseum.

Now, the North Carolina High School Athletic Association, Greensboro Sports Commission, Greensboro Coliseum Complex, and Greensboro Area Convention and Visitors Bureau have entered into a new partnership that will bring the Western Regional Basketball Championships and State Wrestling Championships to Greensboro and continue the State Track Championships in the City through 2011.

Beginning in March, the Western Regional Basketball Championships will be held in the Greensboro Coliseum Complex's Special Events Center and the University of North Carolina-Greensboro's Fleming Gymnasium. State Individual Wrestling Championships will be held in the Greensboro Coliseum in 2010 and 2011.