



March
2010

Bates Hendricks Neighborhood Association

Bates Hendricks Newsletter

Indy Connect Reveals Plans for Public Comment

Over the past month a coalition of groups including the Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), Central Indiana Regional Transportation Authority (CIRTA), and IndyGo have released a plan for a regional public transportation system for the Indianapolis metro area.

Throughout 2010, residents of Central Indiana are being asked to review and comment on this draft plan, which is summed up in a draft regional map that shows potential modes of transportation and routes for rail, road and bus. This map is the result of decades of research by transportation experts and is supported by a study by a private sector task force.



As everyone has a stake in the region's transportation future, the draft plan will be shared and discussed in Central Indiana communities throughout the next year. Public meetings, informational displays, and community speaking engagements will be held throughout the region, and educational materials will be distributed to encourage further feedback.

While the public is giving its input on routes, types of transportation, and other components of the initial draft plan, a public-private steering committee will be studying alternatives for how to best fund and operate a future system. This group's recommendations will be merged with public input for a revised draft plan later this fall, on which the public will again be asked to provide feedback.

In the meantime, you are encouraged to sign-up for their periodic e-mail updates on what is happening and how your comments are shaping the future plan. With the public's support, the legislature in 2011 may be asked to pass legislation allowing an election on the plan. If legislation is passed, voters could approve a final plan as early as 2011.

Indy Connect wants to hear from everyone. This is your plan, and the time is now to agree on our transportation future. With Indy Connect, it all starts with you. For more information visit <http://www.indyconnect.org> or call 317-327-8601.

March Meeting

On Monday, March 1st, at 6:30 p.m. the Bates Hendricks Neighborhood Association will meet at the Immanuel United Church of Christ at the corner of East and Prospect. As always, we will also be short reports from IMPD, the Abandoned Housing Task Force as well as information about other activities in our neighborhood. Come and be informed and empowered to make a difference.

This newsletter is sponsored by:

Sister's Restaurant Campbell Ventilation Screenmobile

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Dr. Philip Heller, DDS

From the President:

Dear Neighbors,

As I am attempting to come up with articles to write, I keep coming back to one thing . . . engagement. You'll probably hear me come back to this term time and time again. I want to challenge each and every one of you. My challenge is simply this . . . get involved. We may be classified as a "low income" neighborhood, but we don't have to be a low involvement or low engaged neighborhood. We are rich in the people that we have, the friendships that we have, the passion that we have, and the potential that we have. Each and every person in our neighborhood has something to offer. Our most valuable asset is without a doubt the people that call our neighborhood home.

Your involvement does not have to be large scale. It can simply be picking up the trash that surrounds your property or as you walk, or sharing ideas with others. We need people to monitor and be proactive with illegal activities that go on in our neighborhood. Report instances of illegal dumping in front of abandoned houses or in alleys by calling the Mayor's Action Center (MAC) at 327-4622. This is one of the largest problems in our neighborhood.

There are also plenty of opportunities to volunteer. We have numerous existing committees and groups that are working hard to improve our neighborhood. There are many projects coming up in the near future, such as the Alabama Street project. We have also performed vigilante cleanups that have been successful. If you missed last month's neighborhood meeting, there is exciting potential along the East Street corridor. There is an existing committee that meets regularly that is working hard to revitalize this significant corridor into and through our neighborhood.

You can form a Block Club and Crime Watch, become involved in the Adopt-A-Block program, or start a Study Circle. Adopt-A-Block groups receive flowers and materials from KIB. Several groups within the neighborhood have received and successfully implemented IMAGINE grants. At a minimum, get out and meet your neighbors. This often turns into something more than new friendships. The more engagement we have amongst ourselves, the more ideas and resources we can share.

One thing we have been discussing is establishing an "identity event". . . something for which our neighborhood can be recognized. At this time it appears we have decided on an iris festival. The iris has historical significance in the Bate Hendricks Neighborhood. So, we need many people to participate in obtaining and planting irises as well as planning this event. The potential in our neighborhood is unlimited. We are also fortunate to have the best community development corporation in the city with Southeast Neighborhood Development (SEND). SEND has volunteer opportunities available from time to time. If you are interested in being involved, please do not hesitate to contact me (317-752-3664).

Sincerely,

Rob Uppencamp

SPRING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Though there is snow on the ground, spring is right around the corner. And spring brings a lot of opportunities to volunteer in our neighborhood. Here are several upcoming events to put on your calendar with a contact person if you'd like to volunteer.

Saturday, April 10th – PLEASANT RUN CLEAN UP, 9 a.m. – noon

Neighborhood residents are invited to join the staff and board of SEND in removing trash and invasive species from the Pleasant Run creek bed and bank. To volunteer, contact Jonathan Mirgeaux at jsmirgeaux@gmail.com.

Saturday, May 22nd – TRIANGLE TREE AND FLOWER PLANTING

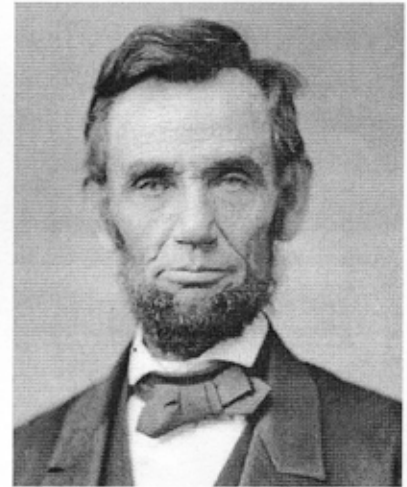
CSX employees and neighborhood volunteers will plant trees and flowers in the greenspace on either side of Morris street west of the Burger King. To volunteer, contact Jonathan Mirgeaux at jsmirgeaux@gmail.com.

Saturday, June 5th – ALABAMA STREET ESPLANADE PLANTING

Join your Alabama street neighbors in planting trees and flowers in the esplanade. In addition, we'll have a dumpster to clean up alleys. To volunteer, contact Jim Mulholland at jim@sendcdc.org or call 503-5852.

Abe Lincoln returns to Indiana

On February 12th, his 201st birthday, Abraham Lincoln returned to Indiana for a birthday celebration. Lincoln lived in southern Indiana from the age of seven to twenty-one. Two exhibits opened at the Indiana State Museum to celebrate this occasion. *With Malice Toward None: The Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Exhibition*, organized by the Library of Congress and making the fourth of six stops nationally as a part of the year-long commemoration of Lincoln's birth. This exhibit will be at the museum from February 12th to April 11th. You will find such artifacts as: A poem penned in Lincoln's hand, "My Childhood Home I See Again," The Bible upon which Abraham Lincoln took his first inaugural oath (and upon which Barack Obama also took his inaugural oath), items found in Lincoln's pocket the night of his assassination, and the final draft of the Emancipation Proclamation. This exhibit focuses on Abraham Lincoln the leader.



The second exhibit is *With Charity for All: The Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection*. The Indiana State Museum became the permanent home of the massive collection of Lincoln artifacts maintained for many years by the former Fort Wayne-based company Lincoln National Life Insurance Company. This exhibit will be on display from February 12th to July 25th. This exhibit focuses on Lincoln the man, Lincoln the father, the husband, the law partner, the friend and the incredibly indulgent father. Featured are photographs from the Lincoln family's personal collection; artifacts that belonged to Abraham, Mary, Tad and other family members; and signed documents such a copy of the Thirteenth Amendment.

Timed tickets are "must-haves." Call the museum to make reservations for timed tickets at 232-1637. The museum is closed on Mondays, but will have extended hours on Thursdays and Fridays through April. After seeing these wonderful exhibits at the Indiana State Museum, you might want to take a road trip to Springfield, Illinois, and visit the Abraham Lincoln Museum, his home and tomb. I usually think of Lincoln as the poor farm boy from Indiana, but his law practice afforded him and his family quite a comfortable life.

Bates Hendricks Neighborhood Association

The Bates Hendricks Neighborhood Association will work to improve the quality of life of those living in the neighborhood through efforts to assure safety, to maintain or improve the living environment and to enhance the spirit of cooperation and neighborliness among all residents.

We meet monthly on the first Monday of the month at the Immanuel United Church of Christ at the corner of East and Prospect at 6:30 p.m. Annual dues are \$3 for individuals, \$5 for families, and \$25 for businesses. Please mail dues to Emily Vanest, 720 Sanders, Indpls. 46203.

March Calendar

March 1 – Bates Hendricks Neighborhood Association Meeting, 6:30 p.m. Immanuel United Church of Christ.

March 5 - Escape to the Tropics - Garfield Park Conservatory 6 - 8pm. Bring the family to enjoy a tropical festival at the Conservatory. Grab your favorite floral shirt and come enjoy crafts, treats, games and more! Learn what life is like for people just like you who live in the tropical rainforests. All ages. FREE

March 11 – Book Discussion “When You Are Engulfed in Flames” by David Sedaris, 1:30 p.m. Fountain Square Library. Registration required, call 275- 4390 for more information.

March 13 - Celtic Sounds, Fountain Square Library, 2 pm. Adults and families are invited as the library echoes with the Irish sounds of the band Alair. Following the performance you can participate in making a Shamrock box craft. Call 275-4390 for more information.

March 13 - African Violet Show - Garfield Park Conservatory, 10am - 5pm, The Indy African Violet Society presents their annual show featuring a variety of these common house plants, including some for sale. Society members will also be available to answer questions. FREE

March 16 - Family Game Night - Fountain Square Library, 6pm—8pm. Call 275-4390 for more information.

March 20 - First day of Spring! Shake off that cabin fever by going outside and help the neighborhood by picking up trash or looking for locations to plant some iris.

