

MAP Reading

Muncie in Transition

Public Input to MAP2

An effective tool for MAP planning has long been the DOT analysis, where people place DOTS on those actions they think are most important. In the MAP2 Report the following were considered key actions by the participants.

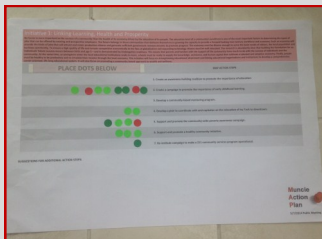
Task Force 1, Action 2: Create a campaign to promote the importance of early childhood learning and Action 5: Support and promote the community-wide poverty awareness campaign.

Task Force 2, Action 2 - Developing materials and expertise to help neighborhoods organize.

Task Force 3, Action 1 - Promoting a community identity that seeks to unify and advance pride in the community.

Task Force 4, Action 2 showed strong support for continuing and expanding Muncie's blight removal program.

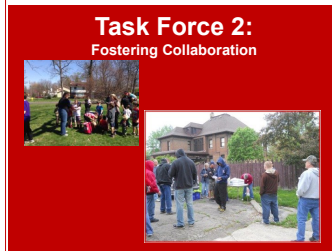
Task Force 5 actions for bike-friendly programs and a sidewalks and recreational paths plan had the most support.



Muncie residents gathered on May 7 at Minnetrista, appropriate as Minnetrista means "Gathering Place." MAP Co-chairs and Task Force leaders presented the results of MAP's activities from the past year. Highlights included the creation of a funded program to advance the Muncie B5 (Birth to Kindergarten) initiative under Task Force 1 Leader Tom Kinghorn. Muncie's children are our future. Children unprepared to learn in Kindergarten fall behind and don't catch up. This stark message is borne out by dozens of studies. MAP board member Linda Gregory noted that MAP has been working with Teamwork for Quality Living on a series of Poverty Awareness events and that 2014 marks the 50th anniversary of LBJ's "War on Poverty...so how are we doing?" Jim Wingate, Task Force Leader, said that there are 24 active neighborhood



associations meeting regularly, volunteer activities have helped to organize neighborhoods, and the Neighborhood Presidents Council has been active since 2011. The Council meets monthly and features a guest speaker and a neighborhood roundtable. Recent speakers have included Chris Allen from the Muncie Revelopment Com-



mission talking about the Hardest Hit Program and Heather Williams from Ball State's Building Better Communities. Traci Lutton from the Chamber of Commerce stood in for Roni Johnson, Task Force 3 Leader, and highlighted the My Muncie.org Campaign. It is truly a pride

campaign, with its emphasis on championing the volunteering spirit in the City to help others. My Muncie T-shirts like the one below (seen on the border between North and South Korea) can be obtained from the Chamber. If you get one, put it on and get somebody to take a picture and we'll include it in with a collage of similar photos for



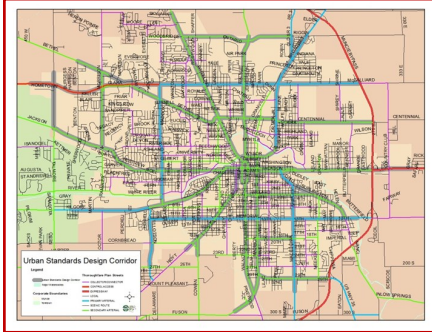
future MAP productions. One of many positive results from Task Force 4 is the adoption by the Muncie City Council of updated corridor standards. (continue to Page 2)...

MAP2 PUBLIC MEETING- MAY 7, 2014



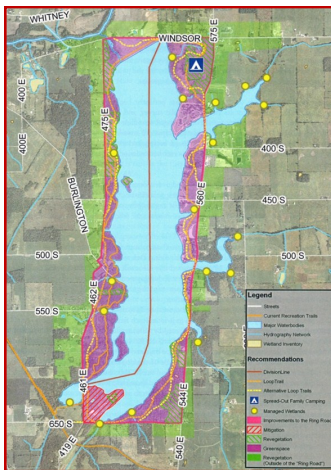
MAP2...continued...

These standards are intended to begin to ameliorate the negative aesthetic impacts of unplanned and uncontrolled urban sprawl seen on many of our major corridors. These include restrictions on large pole signs, excessive parking and pavement, and minimal pedestrian access. The adopted standards mirror those developed for Madison Street several years ago.



Adopted Corridor Development Standards

Task Force 5 Leader Marta Moody reported on some of the major infrastructure developments: Prairie Creek Reservoir Trail System, Safe Routes to School Plan, and the revitalized Muncie Energy Center. She also discussed the Mayor's emphasis on adding bike lanes to Muncie and the City's sustainability programs, which include rain gardens, and conversion of City vehicles to alternative fuels.



Prairie Creek Reservoir Trail System

MAP continues to build resources for volunteer opportunities in the community. For more information about MAP or how to volunteer, please see the MAP website at www.muncieactionplan.org. A recent opportunity was the Wonder Readers Program sponsored by the Muncie Public Library. This program had more than 30 volunteers trained to read to pre-school children and discuss healthy reading habits with their parents.

NEIGHBORHOODS

The May Neighborhood Presidents Council meeting was packed with good information. To deal with deteriorating/blighted houses in an area, start by calling the Building Commissioner's office at 747-4862. Heather Williams said that Sanitary District applications for Fall Cleanup are due July 1. She also mentioned the United Way Day of Action, a day of volunteering for the community. For more information, contact Jim Flatford at the United Way of Delaware County (288-5586). A new neighborhood website is being linked to the Muncie Action Plan site (www.muncieactionplan.org) and is being designed by Ball State's Building Better Communities neighborhood program. Muncie-Delaware Clean and Beautiful has partnered with Bonnie Plants to provide free plants to those working in community and personal gardens. Forest Park is building a new neighborhood community garden and will host an Ice Cream Social on June 26th from 1-4 p.m. at the Senior Center. Aimee Fant was announced as the new MAP neighborhood organizer, replacing Jessie Slavin. Aimee is a teacher at the Youth Opportunity Center and has a background in psychology and journalism. The May 29th edition of *The Star Press* stated that the City had found "100 allies" to help battle blight as part of the City's application for the Hardest Hit fund. If funds are received, it will greatly help our neighborhoods to remove deteriorated residential structures.

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

- Anthony-Northside** - Wednesday, June 18 at 6:30 p.m. at Kennedy Library.
- Blaine/Southeast** - Tuesday, June 10 at 6:00 p.m. at the Serenity Club, 1218 S. Brotherton.
- East Central** - Sunday, June 1, 6 p.m. at Blood and Fire, 300 N. Madison
- Grove Park/Meadowbrook** - Thursday, June 19 at 7:00 p.m. at Munsee Lanes, 601 E. 26th.
- Forest Park** - Thursday, July 17 at 6:30 p.m. at the Delaware County Senior Citizens Center, 2517 W. 8th.
- Gatewood Neighborhood Picnic** - Sunday, June 22, 4 p.m. at the Kitselman Center, 3401 W. University.
- Halteman Village Neighborhood Meeting** - Tuesday, June 3 at 6:00 p.m. at the Lutheran Church of the Cross, 4401 N. Wheeling.
- Indian Village** - Thursday, June 5 at 6 p.m. at Pilgrim Holiness Academy, 2720 Apache Pass.
- Industry** - Thursday, June 26 at 6:00 p.m., Price Hall, 704 S. Madison St.
- Mayfield/Eastside** - Saturday, June 7 at 4:00 p.m. at Head Start, 3900 E. Wysor.
- Minnetrista Central Neighborhood Association** - Tuesday, June 3 at 7 p.m. at Minnetrista.
- Old West End** - Tuesday, June 24 at 6:30 p.m. at the Dining Room, Friends Memorial Church, 418 W. Adams.
- Riverside/Normal City** - Wednesday, June 25 at 7:00 p.m. at Hazelwood Christian Church Fellowship House (Mansion), 1400 University.
- Thomas Park/Avondale** - Thursday, June 26 at 6:00 p.m. at Forest Park Church of the Nazarene, 2105 W. 12th.
- Western Woods**, Wednesday June 4 at 6 p.m. at West View Elementary, 3401 W. Gilbert.
- Whitely** - Monday, June 9, 5:30 p.m., Muncie Area Career Center, 2500 N. Elgin.