

The Shamrock

East Pittsburgh's Quarterly Newsletter



Recycling Comes to East Pittsburgh

Members of Council recently requested that we look at options to begin recycling in our community. Because of the small size of East Pittsburgh, we are not required to have a recycling program, but we believe it is the right thing to do.

With some help from our rubbish hauler, Big's Sanitation, we now have a dumpster in the Community Center parking lot that is a single stream recycling bin.

Residents are encouraged to bring their recyclable paper, plastics (#1-#7), and metal. Due to the costs associated with glass, it is no longer being accepted for recycling in single stream pickups.

Glass may be brought to Construction Junction in Pittsburgh.

We hope that you will take the time to separate your recyclables and bring them to the Community Center. Programs like this will help keep our borough cleaner and sustainable.

The Borough will continue to maintain its regular dumpster for Borough use in front of the Community Center. The recycling unit is to the right of the garage. We appreciate your efforts to keep trash out of the recycling unit.

For more information on household rubbish please see page 5 of this newsletter.



Important Contacts

State Police Emergency—911

Non Emergency/Dispatch—
(412) 299-1607

Borough Offices—(412) 823-7124

Code Enforcement -
(412) 823-5473

Tax Collector— (412) 823-3155

Garbage Pickup—
(724) 379-4331

Water— (412) 243-6200

Electricity— (412) 393-7100
Report Power Outages—
(412) 393-7000

Gas— (800) 764-0111

Borough of East Pittsburgh

813 Linden Ave
East Pittsburgh, PA 15112
(412) 823-7124

Mayor: Louis Payne

Council:

Mary Carol Kennedy—President

Stacey Simon—Vice President

Paul Borkowski

Earnest Frazier

Jonathan Reyes

Borough Manager:

Seth Abrams

Newsletter Writer: Debra Clark

From the Manager:

Welcome to 2020! I don't know about you, but I'm excited for a new decade. January has been a long, but mild month to get us going. With a new Borough Council and continuing the work from 2019 we will have a lot of borough activity in store for you this year, and I will update everyone as they occur, but here is a glimpse:

Communications, in addition to this newsletter we have:

- Revamped Web page www.eastpittsburghboro.com
- Facebook page @eastpittsburghboro – be sure to follow us
- Joined Nextdoor: www.nextdoor.com

Sights and streets:

- Paving of 3 alley's and streets
- Demolition of 3 abandoned properties
- New rubber mulch in the current playground at Ridge/Grandview
- A recycling program

As always, I welcome your comments, so please don't hesitate to reach out and speak with any of the Borough staff.

Regards,
Seth Abrams
Borough Manager

From the Mayor's Desk:

Two of our long time, hard working and dedicated Councilmembers, Dennis Simon (30 years of service) and Joe Esposto (8 years of service), did not run for reelection. Although they will be greatly missed, our borough manager, Seth Abrams has been working hard, making needed office changes and implementing new procedures that will make everyone's job a lot easier. With the leadership of our newly elected Council President, Mary Carol Kennedy, our Vice President, Stacey Simon, the experience of Paul Bokowski and the addition & energy of new Councilmembers Earnest Frazier and Jonathan Reyes, I feel the borough is in good hands for a bright future.

Please, as always, I welcome your comments and concerns. You can contact me anytime at 412-824-4471. I hope you share this bright future with me.

Mayor Louis J. Payne.

Renovated Dickson Preparatory STEAM Academy to Open for 2020-2021 School Year

by Maria Miller

Woodland Hills School District students in grades 6, 7 and 8 will be greeted at the newly renovated Dickson Preparatory STEAM Academy for the 2020-2021 school year. (The acronym STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math).

The building, located at 7301 Schoyer Avenue in Swissvale, was built in 1928. The full-building renovation includes: a new secure vestibule at the main lobby (complete with a security office, ballistic glass and bullet-proof walls), new classrooms and learning labs, a new music suite, a gym/auditorium hybrid facility, a STEAM center, rehabilitated and reinstalled lockers, a full health suite, a welcoming cafeteria that is overlooked by an enclosed mezzanine (and outdoor seating), a new full-service kitchen, a media center that includes studio space, gathering areas, technology features, and more.

In addition to dedicated space for special education and a resource room, there are also now rooms available for small group meetings, social workers and other needs. Classrooms are located on the second and third floors, and all have been updated.

With a, nearly, 100-year-old building, other needs were also addressed, including updates to HVAC and asbestos remediation, LED-lighting throughout and many other functional updates. Improvements were made outside as well. A parking lot was added that will ensure that there is adequate access, asphalt paving, a cafeteria patio for outdoor seating, a front plaza for outdoor educational use, and new sidewalks.

"The school is beautiful inside and out. I believe the greatest excitement will be in the area of STEAM," says James Harris, Superintendent.

Jamie Glasser, School Board President, adds "We want students to feel like school is their second home, and a place that is where their curiosity is fed and nurtured. The newly renovated building will afford them all of those opportunities and more."

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Welcome to Jonathan Reyes and Earnest Frazier who were sworn in by Judge Susan Evashavik-Dilucente on January 6, 2020

Schedule of Council Meetings

All Borough Council Meetings are held at 7:00 pm at the Senior Center, 700 Grandview Ave., East Pittsburgh, PA 15112.

January 6, 2020 –	June 16, 2020
Organization Meeting	July 21, 2020
January 21, 2020	August 18, 2020
February 18, 2020	September 15, 2020
March 17, 2020	October 20, 2020
April 21, 2020	November 17, 2020
May 19, 2020	December 15, 2020



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Braddock, East Pittsburgh, and North Braddock

Project Schedule

This project is a 2-year long effort that includes multiple avenues for input by the public at critical points in the plan's development.

PHASE 01 **GOALS!**
MAR 2019 TO OCT 2019

PHASE 02 **ACTION!**
OCT 2019 TO MAR 2020

PHASE 03 **PLAN!**
MAR 2020 TO SEP 2020

PHASE 04 **LAUNCH!**
SEP 2020 TO JAN 2021

JOIN US AT ONE OF OUR PUBLIC MEETINGS TO TALK ABOUT

- Housing
- Workforce Development
- Economic Opportunity
- Social Equity
- Environment And Conservation
- Community Development
- Transportation
- Land Use
- Historic Preservation
- Open Space

and a range of other concerns that affect the quality of life and vibrancy of the community

What is a Comprehensive Plan?

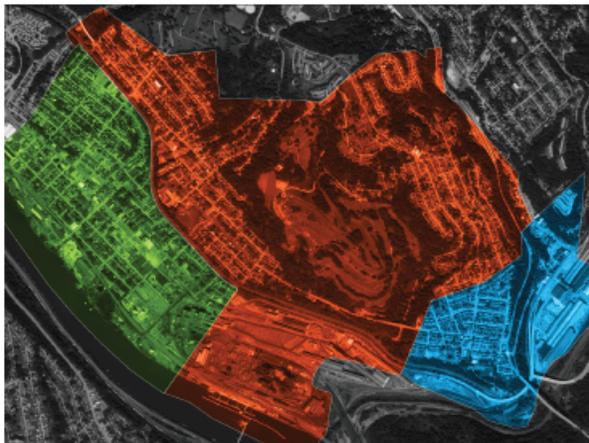
The result of **A COMMUNITY PROCESS** that determines goals and aspirations. Sets **A VISION** for future growth and development. Expresses and regulates **PUBLIC POLICY** on land use, transportation, recreation, utilities and housing. It is **AN OFFICIAL DOCUMENT** that should be adopted into law

Why is a Comprehensive Plan Important?

It is based on the vision, expectations and **VALUES OF THE COMMUNITY**. It is through a very thorough **PUBLIC PROCESS** the plan is developed. It **CREATES THE FRAMEWORK** for making important decisions that guide growth and development for many years to come

What is a [Joint] Comprehensive Plan?

The boroughs have committed to act collectively and make decisions on shared values. We will identify our inter-dependent emerging economic drivers and assets across our communities to compete regionally.



Join us on Tuesday, March 3rd at 6:00 pm to participate in the Phase 2 **ACTION!** Public meeting for the BEN joint comprehensive plan.

American Legion
Post 527, 401
Draper St, East
Pittsburgh, PA
15112

Utility Assistance

Sewage:

ALCOSAN has committed nearly a million dollars in order to provide this vital customer assistance program for low-income individuals and families. It has contracted with Dollar Energy Fund Inc. to administer the program. Dollar Energy is a leader in this field, and it already handles similar assistance programs for other utilities.

Dozens of social service agencies that work with Dollar Energy throughout the region are now accepting applications.

The fund will provide a \$32 credit every three months to qualifying low-income homeowners. To be eligible, applicants must be served by ALCOSAN and meet the family income limits set by the federal government.

General Assistance

Dollar Energy also administers utility assistance programs on behalf of Duquesne Light and People's Gas.

The closest Centers to register and apply are:

Holy Family Institute

Edgewood Towne Center
1789 South Braddock Avenue
Suite 585
Pittsburgh, PA 15218
Phone: 412-244-8010

Salvation Army - McKeesport

821 Walnut Street
McKeesport, PA 15134
Phone: 412-673-6627

Salvation Army - Steel Valley

104 East Ninth Street
PO Box 395
Homestead, PA 15120
Phone: 412-461-2460

When going to your appointment, please make sure to bring the following items:

- Names of everyone in your household
- Birthdates of everyone in your household
- Proof of income of everyone in your household
- A copy of your most recent utility bill
- Your utility account number
- Proof of all payments made in the last 90 days

Other Resources for Assistance:

Human Services Center Corporation

413 Penn Ave, Turtle Creek, PA 15145
Phone: 412- 829-7112

Office of Representative Brandon Markosek

Commerce Building
4232 Northern Pike
Suite 303
Monroeville, PA15146
Phone: 412-856-8284

Office of Senator James Brewster

One Monroeville Center
3824 Northern Pike, Suite 1015
Monroeville, PA 15146
Phone: 412-380-2242



Code Enforcement and Public Safety

We are already half way through the winter. For those who believe in Phil, he reported an early spring, so let’s make it through the next couple of weeks safely. Please shovel and salt your sidewalks and driveways as the weather dictates. If it does snow, please keep as many cars off the street as possible to make plowing safer for everyone.

As we all prepare for spring, weather please remember to keep up on property maintenance. Grass and other plant growth must be kept at a height of less than 10 inches. Trees and shrubs must also be kept trimmed so as not to interfere with sidewalks, streets, and alleyways.

Trash Reminders

Section 58.2 of the Borough Code (Ord. 735, amended Ord. 826) states that all garbage and rubbish is required to be stored in an approved garbage container with a properly fitted lid. Lids are required to keep out rodents and other foraging pests away from our homes – an open trash can is an invitation for food.

No garbage or rubbish is permitted to be stored outside unless it is in the garbage containers (this will help keep down the rodent population). (Section 58.66.4.1)

No garbage containers are permitted to be placed along the roadway or alley until the night before garbage pick up, which is Wednesday evening after 6:00pm. (Section 58.1) The only time this changes is during a Holiday, which will back garbage pick up one day.



March 8th is Daylight Saving Time. While you are changing your clocks **ahead** an hour, please also change your smoke detector batteries and check the age of your smoke detector. Units that are 10 years old or older should be replaced with a new smoke or smoke/carbon monoxide detector. It has been shown that the effectiveness of smoke detectors decreases over time, and may not alert you in the event of an emergency.

Advertising Opportunities—reach the residents of East Pittsburgh

Beginning with the February 2020 edition of The Shamrock, we will be offering advertising space for purchase.

The pricing is per issue, and as follows:

- 1/2 page: \$100 1/8 page: \$40
- 1/4 page: \$70 1/16 page : \$25

Advertisements must be submitted in one of the following formats for publication:

MS Word, pdf or JPEG/TIFF/PNG

Please Contact Seth Abrams for more information at epabrams@eastpittsburghboro.com or 412-823-7124



813 Linden Ave
East Pittsburgh, PA 15112

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“Students will be very excited. The building has great spaces that will allow them to explore new interests and facilities that will allow them to learn. This project is part of our ongoing efforts to make sure that our students have the best possible resources to create educational opportunities. Dickson will be a welcoming place for students and their families, and parents should feel welcome to visit the school as we host events so that they can see what resources their children will have,” adds Glasser.

Woodland Hills worked with Reynolds Construction and Core Architects on the project. Mike Arnold, Vice President of Reynolds Construction, says that Dickson is a beautiful building, a “classic piece,” and adds that the renovations work very well with it. Reynolds has worked with the district for six years, and conducted education sessions for students that were interested in architecture and construction.

“The District recognized the need for a state-of-the-art Intermediate School and evaluated options at Dickson, and at the current Intermediate Building (on Evans Street in Swissvale). Dickson was last renovated in the mid-1990s, while the current Intermediate had not been renovated at any point. The costs to renovate Dickson and position it to serve students for the next 30 or 40 years was less than to renovate the current building. In addition, Dickson’s location in the heart of Swissvale was a determining factor,” says Glasser.

She adds, “We’re committed to improving our facilities so that they are more sustainable, more efficient and up-to-date so that they can serve our children for decades to come. The effort and funds invested here will serve all of us well for many, many years to come.”

“This is a fantastic addition to the community with a beautiful building surrounded by athletic fields. It will make a great investment in the community,” says Harris.

He wants students to know that, “This building is theirs and everything in it is for them to learn and become great future leaders.”