



M A Y 2 0 2 2

# Pensacola Park Post

A Monthly Pensacola Park Neighborhood Association Distribution  
Find us also on the web @ [www.PensacolaPark.org](http://www.PensacolaPark.org)

## PENSACOLA PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL PLANT SALE IS HAPPENING THIS MONTH!

PENSACOLA PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION IS HAVING OUR ANNUAL PLANT SALE TO RAISE MONEY FOR PENSACOLA PARK. 100% OF ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS FUTURE MATCHING GRANTS AND NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD, AND FUTURE PUBLICATIONS OF PENSACOLA PARK POSTS. THIS IS OUR NEIGHBORHOOD'S LARGEST FUNDRAISER, SO PLEASE COME SUPPORT AND PURCHASE SOME PLANTS!

**WHEN IS IT?** MAY 14<sup>TH</sup> 9 AM - 2 PM

**WHERE IS IT?** BEHIND HUNTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT THE COMMUNITY GARDEN CENTER @ 109 ROSEMONT GARDEN LEXINGTON KY 40503

**WHO/WHAT WILL BE THERE?**

- PPNA WILL BE SELLING PERENNIAL PLANTS (AND SOME HOUSE PLANTS) TO RAISE MONEY.
- TREES LEXINGTON!, LOCAL LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, ARBORISTS, AND OTHER NATURE ENTHUSIASTS WILL BE THERE TO TALK TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD.
- THERE SHOULD BE INFORMATIONAL PAMPHLETS FROM THE BACKYARD INITIATIVE, ETC.
- STARBUCKS COFFEE WILL BE PROVIDED FOR THE EARLY BIRDS.

### Little Caesars

As some of you already know the cat hospital located at 269 Southland has been sold and a Little Caesar franchise is moving in. They have asked for a conditional use to reestablish an existing drive-through on site that needs modifications. As with most conditional uses they are required to bring this in front of the Board of Adjustment. During this time, the neighborhood can ask for additional items from the planning staff to go along with the conditional use. Its not guaranteed that it will be a requirement, but now is the time to ask. We are listing below some of the desires the neighborhood would like to see with the new franchise moving in. If you would like to see these amendments, please write to [planningmailbox@lexingtonky.gov](mailto:planningmailbox@lexingtonky.gov). Be sure to indicate the case #PLN-BOA-22-00015. I would also recommend writing your council members CM Bledsoe at [abledsoe@lexingtonky.gov](mailto:abledsoe@lexingtonky.gov) and CM Ellinger (who lives in the neighborhood) at [cellinger@lexingtonky.gov](mailto:cellinger@lexingtonky.gov). Here are some things (but not limited to) one can reasonably request from the Board of Adjustment:

- Down-lighting: All exterior lighting (incl. street lamps) be faced downward to reduce light pollution into the neighborhood.
- Neon signs: No neon signs or lit signs to face towards the neighborhood.
- Dumpsters: All dumpsters to have a locking lid and be in a fully enclosed enclosure for smell and to deter wildlife.
- Franchise to fix dilapidated fence so that car lights from the drive through do not penetrate into the neighborhood.
- Plantings: Plant evergreen trees along the fence to cover commercial building from view into neighborhood.

### NO MOW MAY

There is a new sustainable movement called No Mow May. "The goal of No Mow May is to allow grass to grow unmown for the month of May, creating habitat and forage for early season pollinators. This is particularly important in urban areas where floral resources are often limited. In 2020, residents of Appletown, Wisconsin, became energized about No Mow May and the City Council agreed to suspend their weed ordinance for the month of May. Over 435 registered property owners participated in the campaign. Researches collected data on the abundance and species richness of flowers and bees found in unmown yards. They then compared those numbers to the abundance and richness of flowers and bees found in nearby urban parks that are regularly mowed. The results showed that participating unmown yards had three times higher bee species richness and five times higher bee abundance than nearby parks that had been mowed" ([beecityusa.org/no-mow-may](http://beecityusa.org/no-mow-may)). Currently, you cannot leave your lawn unmown for an entire month because of code enforcement. With that said, if you see the benefit of this movement, write your council members and see if this can be implemented next year, and for the time being, try to create smaller wilder oases in your backyard for the pollinators.



## CANDIDATE Q&A:

Every election Pensacola Park Neighborhood Association reaches out to the candidates to ask them a series of questions generated from the neighborhood. This year is no different. We will post in the upcoming newsletters responses from the candidates who sought to engage with our neighborhood efforts. Please note if you do not see a candidate below, they have not responded to our request to meet our neighborhood nor answer our questionnaire. If you see a "no response" followed by a date, they did not respond to the questionnaire but have scheduled a time to meet with our neighborhood. The full Q&A can be found on our website [www.pensacolapark.org](http://www.pensacolapark.org) under the 2022 LFUCG Candidate Q&A tab along with the scheduled date and time for the candidates who are coming to meet the neighborhood in person.

**1<sup>st</sup> Question Asked:** *Nicholasville road corridor is a major contributor to how Pensacola Park neighborhood interacts with the city, in fact only one of our routes from our neighborhood goes to a different location (Rosemont Garden); so most of our streets spill out onto Nicholasville road primarily. While the Imagine Nicholasville road comprehensive plan focuses on the bus and car, aka the driving experience, our neighborhood often uses other forms of transportation, like walking and biking; as we make up UK professors, medical professionals, students, families, and elderly people. If you were elected to council, how do you propose to be our advocate in working to improve upon the Nicholasville road experience? For instance, how would you help work with us and the state to get a median installed so that pedestrians have a refuge to cross over to the other side? How do you propose to help widen walkways to be more ADA compliant? How do you propose to safely transverse bikers up the Nicholasville road corridor?*



**Response by At-Large Candidate, Bill Farmer Jr.:** No Response. Meeting July 7<sup>th</sup> with NA

**Response by At-Large Candidate, Dr. Arnold Farr:** No Response. Meeting May 5<sup>th</sup> with NA

**Response by At-Large Candidate, Chuck Ellinger:** No Response Meeting June 2nd w/ NA

**Response by At-Large Candidate, James Brown:** In my current role on council, I have already been and will continue to be an advocate for your neighborhood. I know that improving traffic flow and public transportation opportunities are a focus on the Image Nicholasville Road plan but I continue to hear that pedestrian and bicycle facilities are top priority for families. In regards to working with the neighborhood to have a median installed, I would reach out to my contacts at the state transportation department to work collaboratively with the neighborhood to determine the most viable option to help pedestrians safely cross Nicholasville Rd. I would also continue to work with the state to identify funding sources, possibly with the new Federal Infrastructure funds to widen and make walkways ADA compliant, dedicate and protect bike lanes on the Nicholasville corridor.



**Response by At-Large Candidate, Richard Moloney:** I serve on the MPO and also on the Commission for People with Disabilities, so I am currently supporting programs and policies that make our city accessible to all. ADA compliant sidewalks on both sides of the road and highly visible crosswalks and raised medians are goals of the Nicholasville Road project that I will fully support.



**Response by At-Large Candidate, Dan Wu:** I would encourage everyone to continue to give input into our Comprehensive Plan as it's undergoing its 5-year assessment & pay special mind to its Imagine Nicholasville Road project. I agree with many of its proposals including protected bike lanes, added bus stops, & more pedestrian safety improvements like limiting certain turn lanes. Nicholasville Road aka Highway 27 is a Kentucky State road so I would lobby Frankfort for funding & cooperation in making these improvements.



**Response by District 10 Candidate, Dave Sevigny:** Lexington commuting has been car centric for a long time, although glimmers of hope for change are emerging. The "Imagine Nicholasville Rd" report from the summer of 2021, described what a city corridor could look like. The study includes areas from Brannon Rd. to downtown Lexington-part of which includes Pensacola Park. The ideas include-Complete Streets (much needed specific bicycle, walking, vehicle and transit lanes). Widening of sidewalks (or dedicated walkways) along Nicholasville Rd. would end up being part of the plan. The first transformation toward complete streets can be seen on Vine St. downtown. While it might be far reaching, the study provided insight to how a corridor could be more amenable to different transportation modalities in Lexington to meet the vision of the Comprehensive Plan. When you run a successful small business, you have a hand in all aspects of getting projects over the goal line-from creating vision, sales, financing and operations. Nicholasville Rd. is primarily managed and funded by our state. I recognize that a visionary project of this scale will take work with the Legislature, Governor and Transportation Cabinet (who will also change over the course of a project of this magnitude). It won't be easy. I'd work with the mayor, other councilpersons (3, 4, and 9 all touch the corridor), and Jessamine County officials to approach our legislature and governor about setting aside the funds to start the process.



**Response by Incumbent Mayor, Linda Gorton:** I am committed to addressing multi-modal transportation issues on Nicholasville Road. Lexington is a spoke-and-wheel designed city, which as significantly outgrown it's original design. Perhaps more than any other roadway in Lexington, Nicholasville Road exemplifies this issue. Nicholasville road also exemplifies the fact that, like many cities, Lexington has largely been designed around the car as the primary mode of transportation. Nicholasville road is actually a state road, which presents challenges. The Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act recently passed by Congress provides a transformational opportunity to invest in transportation and other infrastructure projects...One of my top priorities is improvements to enhance our roadways, mitigate congestion and create safe multi-modal transportation options, including pedestrian and bicycle. I will ensure we leverage these funds to provide the greatest impact for our community- and Nicholasville Road is one of our most important corridors. This is our opportunity to think big, and that is exactly what I am doing.



**Response by Mayoral Candidate, David Kloiber:** The Imagine Nicholasville proposal and study outlined a lot of the same issues, and while there were not a lot of solutions given I do not believe it was for lack of trying. Placing a median on Nicholasville road does not seem feasible given the amount of traffic the road sees on a daily basis, a problem which could have been prevented with appropriate long term planning for infrastructure. At this point it is my belief that we need to treat the Nicholasville corridor like the intercity roadway it is, and work to provide safe, accessible, and connected pedestrian pathways by way of the surrounding feeder and collector streets.



### ABOUT PENSACOLA PARK PRESERVATION SOCIETY AND PENSACOLA PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

*Pensacola Park Preservation Society is a non-profit 501(c)3 formed by Pensacola Park Neighborhood Association in order to bring together residents and businesses located in the Pensacola Park Nationally Registered Historic Boundary, for the common good of (1) preserving the historic integrity and resources of the area; (2) creating an environment that promotes sustainable and appropriate growth for the neighborhood; (3) providing historic education and assistance to those in the Pensacola Park Neighborhood for the preservation and rehabilitation of historic homes, structures, and landscapes; and (4) Unifying and being representative of all the original streets in the Pensacola Park Historic boundary. Also check us out online at [www.pensacolapark.org](http://www.pensacolapark.org), and follow us on Facebook @ Pensacola Park Neighborhood Association.*

*If you have any questions or would like to submit topics or op-eds to Pensacola Park Post, please feel free to write us at [pensacolapark@gmail.com](mailto:pensacolapark@gmail.com). If you would like to stop receiving the free monthly post, please write us and put "stop post" in the heading, along with your physical address. Thank you.*