Neighborhood Association Monthly Report

February 2022

City of South Bend

CITY OF SOUTH BEND
COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

Engagement and Economic Empowerment Team

EXCELLENCE ACCOUNTABILITY INNOVATION INCLUSION EMPOWERMENT

Neighborhood Overview

"Keep your face always toward the sunshine, and shadows will fall behind you." - Walt Whitman

11 Neighborhoods held meetings in February

	Future	Past
Kennedy Park	• Work continues on renovations and grant applications for Kennedy Park neighborhood center.	• Meeting at Lasalle Park Library until further notice
River Park	• T-shirts Finalized and Printed • Finalize neighborhood cleanup plan	• Planning for spring cleanup.
Miami Village	• Planning for Spring & Fall cleanup.	• Discussion about neighborhood plan
Far Northwest Neighborhood	• Meeting with Containart to discuss duplex development	• Discussed and continued development on duplex. ○ Floorplans complete
Near Westside	• Planning for Spring & Fall Neighborhood Cleanups; making t-shirts	• Update from Councilwomen Morgan • Presentation on City of South Bend Open Wifi program
Monroe Park	• Barnaby's buyback night in March.	• Discussed Elections for new officers

Lincoln Bendix	• SBPD will speak about safety at upcoming meeting
	  ○ February 10th
		• MLK Center Input Session on
		  ○ March 10th
		  ○ April 10th

NENC	• Wifi/internet being installed at NENC Firehouse	• Neighbors brought up concerns about group housing at the former Madison center
Rum Village	• Discussion about T shirt Design • Presentation by city planners on neighborhood plan	• Updates from Councilwomen Niezgodski & Code Enforcement
NNN	• Public Safety Meeting "How Can We Prevent Gun Violence" Moved to March 8th	• Neighborhood Cleanup Scheduled for April 23rd • NNN Chili Supper - March 9th
SOAR	• Spring Cleanup April 30th • Elections to be held in April ○ Nominations in March	• SBPD spoke about neighborhood safety. • SOAR Facebook group created.

More Resources

For You and Your Neighborhood

Neighborhood Consortium

The January Neighborhood's Consortium meeting was attended by 10 neighborhood associations. Elections were held with the following officers elected.

- Leslinda Wilson - President
- Carrie Marks - Vice President
- Debra Applegate - Secretary

If your NA is interested in a neighborhood plan, or representation at the Consortium send a brief email with your NA's priorities to planning@southbendin.gov.

Contact eee@southbendin.gov for more information.

Digital Neighborhood

Digital Communication Grants

Because of COVID-19 social distancing policies, neighborhood associations are finding it difficult to engage with residents. To help them connect, the City of South Bend's Love Your Block program is offering a **free annual subscription to an online video conferencing service** for 12 months. NA's can receive **free technical assistance**

To apply, visit:
https://forms.office.com/r/BsvdvktkEG

Citywide Classroom

Students who are enrolled in the SBCSC, live in the SBCSC district, and are on free or reduced lunch may be eligible for one year of free internet. To apply, all you need to do is call the school the child is enrolled in and fill out the application over the phone.

To learn more visit: CitywideClassroomSB.org, call or text 574-703-188, or email info@citywideclassroomsb.org

Contact The Chief of Police

The South Bend Police Department has offered to send an officer to neighborhood association meetings (or attend virtually), per request. If interested, or if you have questions or concerns, please contact:

Chief of Police, Scott Ruszkowski, at sruszkow@southbendin.gov
OR
Patrol Division Chief, Eric Crittendon, at ecritten@southbendin.gov

Indiana Rental/ Utility Assistance

The Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA) has its Indiana Emergency Rental Assistance (IERA) Program available. You can access the application and more information at IHCDA: Emergency Rental Assistance (in.gov). If you still need assistance, the City has information about rent and utility assistance at https://southbendin.gov/covid-19-resources-support/covid-19-utility-support, where you can find local assistance programs and contact information. If you have any questions, please email eee@southbendin.gov for more information.

Resources/Events in South Bend

Digital Engagment Toolkit

EnFocus, the City of South Bend, and the Southeast Organized Area Residents Neighborhood Association (SOAR) piloted a digital neighborhood engagement. This was done in order to find out and to show what works and what doesn't. From this pilot, the Neighborhood Digital Engagement Toolkit was born. The Toolkit is a guide for neighborhood associations interested in expanding their civic reach through digital platforms. The Toolkit is a reference of tested methods, drawn from SOAR's pilot experience, that will help you to digitally engage neighbors in your community.
You can view the Document Below

https://southbendin.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Digital-Engagement-Toolkit-2021.pdf

Contact eee@southbendin.gov for more information.

Lead Programs

South Bend Lead Protection Program

Do you live in an older home? Do you have young kids that live with you or visit often?
Yes?! Then you could be on your way to free support that will protect your family and friends from lead risks.

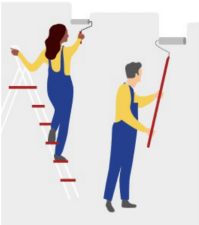
Here are the steps:

1. **Reach out to Kristen** with the City (contact information below). She can help determine your eligibility and send an application.
2. **Complete the application** and attach all supporting documentation. We'll use this information to make sure you're eligible
3. Make an **application review appointment** with Kristen and receive additional, personalized support, if you would like.
4. We'll check for lead in your home and make a plan to remove any lead hazards at **no cost to you.** Once you get through steps 1, 2, & 3, we'll take it from there!
5. We'll hire contractors to make sure your home is safe at **no cost to you.**
6. Your friends &family will be **safe** from lead when they are in your home!

Are these statements true for you?

- You live in a home within the South Bend City limits that was built before 1978
- Your household income qualifies (see table) and,
- A child under 6 lives in or frequently visits the house, or a pregnant woman lives in the house.

If so, reach out to Kristen Titus by emailing ktitus@southbendin.gov, or by calling 574-235-5826.



	1-Person Household	2-Person Household	3-Person Household	4-Person Household	5-Person Household
80% AMI	$41,200	$47,050	$52,950	$58,800	$63,550

*Income limits are set by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and are subject to change at any time.

If you are interested in learning more about lead, you can visit www.southbendin.gov/leadsafesouthbend or simply scan the QR code!

Know a Farmer or Local Entrepreneur?

The City of South Bend has announced its schedule for the 2nd year of the Linden Avenue Pop-Up Markets.
Interested vendors can fill out the application at the following links:

- Food Vendor
- Information Vendor

Questions?

To contact a specific Neighborhood Association, or for more information about this report, please email the Engagement and Economic Empowerment Team at eee@southbendin.gov.

Resources/Events in South Bend

SMALL DEVELOPER EDUCATION SERIES

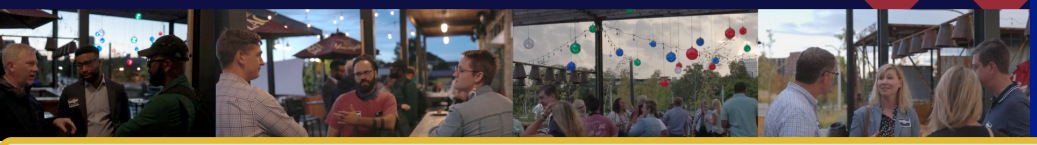
All Free and All Virtual:
Monthly on 3rd Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00

FOR DETAILED INFO & ZOOM INVITATIONS, RSVP EEE@SOUTHBENDIN.GOV, OR ONLINE @ WWW.SOUTHBENDIN.GOV/BSB

Winter 2021/2022
Nov 17 - Business & Team Setup
Dec 15 - Properties & Pathways
Jan 19 - Architecture & Design
Feb 16 - Investment Evaluation

Spring 2022
March 16 - Real Estate Law
April 20 - Building & Zoning Codes
May: Networking Event - TBD
May 18 - Rehabbing Basics

Summer 2022
June 15 - Site Work & Concerns
July 20 - Finding and Managing Investors
Aug 17 - Working with Contractors
Sept 21 - Leases, Tenants, and Property Management



Snow Removal
(not much longer...)

- Property owners and residents are urged to try and keep their sidewalks shoveled.
- Snow and ice must be removed from the public sidewalk within 24 hours after the end of snow or ice.
- Snow Removal Disability Exemption and Waiver of Liability Forms are available through 311 or 311.southbendin.gov

Paying a lot of $$$ on Energy Bills?

Are you a...

- Nonprofit
- School
- Library
- Medical Facility
- Grocery Store

Apply to EASSI to save energy and money through a FREE energy assessment and subsidized energy efficiency upgrade!

The City will match your upgrade 50% with grants of $2,500 - $10,000!

Learn more and get involved at: https://southbendin.gov/eassi/

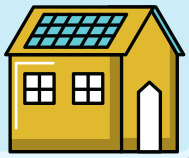
SOLARIZE Indiana

- Free, vendor-neutral guidance from nonprofit solar experts
- Access to a discounted group rate on your system installation
- A team that solicits and reviews proposals with you
- Cost savings, energy freedom, and cleaner air and water!

Contact: sustainability@southbendin.gov for more information.

Questions? Go visit the site below:

solarunitedneighbors.org/NorthernIndiana



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Resources/Events in South Bend

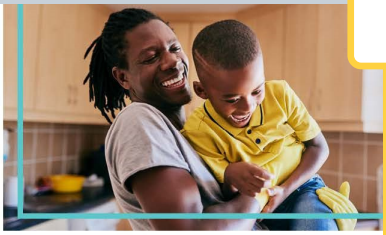
Child Tax Credit

Have you gotten your monthly checks for raising kids with the Child Tax Credit yet?

You could get up to $3,600 per child under 6 years old and up to $3,000 per child between 6 and 17 years old from the government.

Who qualifies?
Almost all families qualify for the Child Tax Credit. Even families that haven't filed a tax return or don't have recent income. Anyone with a child who has a Social Security number can get the Child Tax Credit, even if they don't have a Social Security number themselves.

How do I get the credit?
If you haven't gotten your credit yet, you will need to send your info to the IRS. Visit GetCTC.org, call 211 or use the QR code to learn more about how to get your money!



Know a space that needs WiFi?

The City of South Bend is seeking resident input as we expand the public South Bend Open Wi-Fi network.

Know a space in your neighborhood that needs free public internet?

Let us know by calling 311 or filling out our nomination form at southbendin.gov/2022wifi!

SOUTH BEND OPEN WI-FI — Our shared connection.

Know a Student Interested in Technology ?

SOUTH BEND TECH MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

TRC

Who:
Mentee applications are open to all South Bend young adults interested in pursuing a career in technology-- app development, data analysis, and more!

Mentor applications are open to tech professionals living in South Bend that have a passion for mentorship and serving as a resource for career development

Where:
Meet-ups, job shadowing sessions, etc. can take place at the TRC, Saint Joseph County Public Library, or other

When:
Applications rolling through February 18th, with a kickoff social event on February 25th, from 5:00-6:30pm at the TRC

Apply:
Mentee Application

Apply:
Mentor Application

Build the Dream

www.southbendin.gov/buildthedream
Public Workshop sessions on the future design of the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center on Linden Ave will be held at the Center from 6:00-7:30pm on

- **March 10th**
- **April 7th**

Questions?

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Resources/Events in South Bend

Acts of Kindness Update

AARP Age Friendly Survey

Are You...?

✓ **Over 50**

Help Make South Bend an Age-Friendly Community by Filling out the Survey Below
southbendin.gov/age-friendly

Contact the Mayor's Office at 574-235-5799 to request a paper copy.
Paper copies are also be available in community centers.

Need Tax Help?

VITA
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance
goodwill

DO YOU MAKE LESS THAN $64,000 A YEAR?

WOULD YOU LIKE VITA TO PREPARE AND E-FILE YOUR TAXES FOR FREE?

The VITA program offers FREE tax preparation to taxpayers who have a household income that is less than $64,000 a year, including seniors and taxpayers with disabilities.

Contact us at 574-800-1361 or https://book.appointment-plus.com/ct6mkn7g/ to schedule an appointment with one of our volunteers.
If your taxes contain any items that are out of scope for VITA, we will not be able to prepare your taxes. We apologize for the inconvenience.

COVID precautions: In order to keep our volunteers and taxpayers safe, masks must be worn at all sites. Proof of vaccination is required for all sites except IUSB and Goodwill.

VITA
VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE

LIHEAP/LIHWAP

Help Your Neighborhood Get Healthy

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