

Passing the Baton

Neighbors,

In spring 2017, I was approached about joining the Foster Park Neighborhood board of directors. Having been a neighborhood resident for a few years at that point, it seemed like a great way to give back and get to know more of my neighbors. After a few conversations, I agreed to join as the new president.

Since that time, we've accomplished a lot as a neighborhood. We made investments to beautify our neighborhood, including 60+ new street trees, decorative light pole banners, hydrant painting, landscaping, and home improvements. Much of the funds for those investments (over \$3,000) came as matching grants from outside sources.

We focused on more effectively and regularly communicating with residents by launching a website, expanding our use of social media and email, publishing three printed newsletters each year, and creating a regular quarterly schedule for board meetings.

We were proactive in advocating for the best interests of our neighborhood on a range of issues including public safety, traffic, zoning, construction, and redevelopment. And we did so in collaboration with groups like the Packard Area Planning Alliance (PAPA) and the Southwest Area Partnership (SWAP).

The list goes on. I share these successes not to brag, but to highlight the value that can be generated when residents come together and organize around common goals and desires. This work matters, and it has been a pleasure serving my neighbors for the last four and a half years.

All that said, the time is right for me to pass the baton to another resident following the end of my current term in June of 2022. I have enjoyed my time as FPNA president, but I am confident there is someone else who can put their spin on the role and bring a fresh perspective.

I stand ready to fully equip the next president and to serve as an on-call advisor when odd situations or new challenges arise. Rest assured, our neighborhood's next leader will be set up for success. The role is incredibly rewarding and offers many chances to get to know neighbors and other community leaders. It is a wonderful way to be in-the-know with what's happening in our community. And it is an opportunity to give back to your community at the most local level.

Want to learn more? Let's grab coffee to chat, my treat. Please reach out!

Thanks for having faith in me to serve as FPNA president over the last five terms. It has been an honor and a truly great experience. And thanks to the board members I've served alongside during this time.

Kody Tinnel | FPNA President
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Now Collecting Annual Dues



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HAVE YOU HEARD

■ Our beloved Hall's Original Drive-In will be closing for good. Last day open is December 23rd.

■ The Foster Park pedestrian bridge mural is complete! Take a stroll around the loop to see it!

in the neighborhood

First Ever Cider & Donuts Event a Success



This past October, the association hosted its first ever Cider & Donuts fall block party. Based on attendance and feedback, we were very pleased with the outcome!

The goal was simple: to give us all a reason to come out and get to

know our neighbors a bit better. The recently launched FPNA Social Committee explored a variety of different ideas (stay tuned) and ultimately decided to keep it simple for this first attempt by offering a light afternoon treat on a mild fall day. We think it worked out well enough to repeat that same concept again next year.

As part of the event we also managed to collect dozens of pounds of non-perishable food and toiletry items to donate to area free food pantries!



Thanks to the Social Committee Members: Cory Allen, Linda Handlin, Eric Lerew, Kay Schwartz, Deborah Sullivan, and Kody Tinnel! Thanks also to our number one volunteer Clarissa Eubank for her help setting up and cleaning up the event!

We have no maximum number of Social Committee members. If you want in on the fun, don't hesitate reach out. We'd love to have you and we welcome new perspectives!

Annual Dues Payments

The board is now collecting annual dues payments for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. For several years, the annual dues have remained very low at **only \$30 per household**. By supporting the association, we have the finances to keep residents informed, beautify our streets, conduct business, host social events, and bring an array of other benefits to the neighborhood.

Dues payments can be submitted by check made payable to FPNA and sent via the postage paid envelope provided with this newsletter. You can also pay with a credit or debit card at www.fosterpark.org/dues.
Thanks for your support!

SNOW REMOVAL

As in previous winters, public sidewalks within our neighborhood will be cleared whenever snowfall exceeds 3 inches. This service is made possible through annual dues payments.

All residents are encouraged to keep their private sidewalks clear of ice and snow as a courtesy to delivery and postal workers.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS July 2021 – June 2022

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FEEDBACK

Have an idea? A question? A concern? Feel free to contact the board to share your thoughts and feedback. We are eager to hear from residents and provide support and help when we can!

around the community

Shop Local this Holiday Season

Part of what makes our city so special is the vibrant small business community. The holiday season presents the perfect opportunity to support local businesses while giving gifts that are often more meaningful to friends and loved ones.



For unique or specialty gifts, check out Antonuccio's, Health Hut Wellness Center, 2 Crazy Crystal Guys, or Fancy & Staple, among many others. Or give the gift of experiences with gift cards to

the Friendly Fox, 07 Pub, Trubble Brewing, or the Club Room. Local businesses give so much to our community. This holiday season, let's give them our support and keep our dollars local!

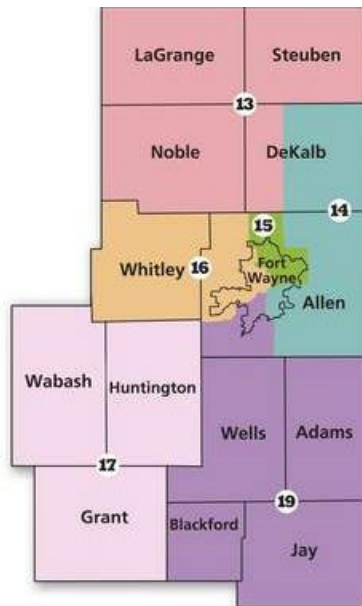
New Legislative Districts

The Indiana General Assembly recently completed its once-a-decade redistricting process by drawing new maps for congressional, state senate, and state house district boundaries. As a result of that process, Foster Park Neighborhood residents will be part of new state legislative districts for the 2022 election and beyond.

On the state house side, our neighborhood will shift from District 50 (represented currently by Dan Leonard of Huntington) to District 80 (currently represented by Phil GiaQuinta of Fort Wayne).

For the state senate (see map), our area will shift from District 16 (represented by Justin Busch of Fort Wayne) to District 19 (represented by Travis Holdman of Markle).

Indiana congressional districts were largely unchanged and thus most of northeast Indiana will continue to be served by U.S. Representative Jim Banks of Columbia City.



Shout Out to Yard of the Month Committee

Thanks to our Yard of the Month Committee for their work this year! Members include Lynn Fuston, Andrea Thomas, Greg Lass, Deborah Sullivan, Amy Kelly, Kody Tinnel, and Joe Strahm. We will be back at it in the spring - reach out if you want in on the fun!

NEWS & UPDATES

Keep up to date with what's happening in our neighborhood and the surrounding area.

We are committed to keeping neighbors informed through a variety of ways.

Website

www.fosterpark.org

Make sure to subscribe to our blog for updates directly to your inbox!

Facebook

@FosterParkNeighborhoodAssociation

Nextdoor

www.nextdoor.com

Email

Make sure we have your current email address on file!

RICKY'S GARDENING TIPS & TRICKS

Written and compiled by retired Allen County Purdue Extension Educator Ricky D. Kemery, Ricky's Gardening Tips and Tricks and Home Horticulture is an online newsletter designed to provide citizens of northeastern Indiana with up-to-date information about horticulture and home issues, written in a lighthearted style. To subscribe, send an email to kemery7@frontier.com.

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

FPNA Board President

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Fort Wayne Police Department

Non-Emergency Desk

260.427.1222

City Government Services

311

Essential Community Services

211

Graffiti Hotline

260.449.4747

good to know

Solid Waste FAQs

Many people are actively trying to minimize their environmental impact by reducing, reusing, and recycling the right ways, but these processes can sometimes be confusing.

For curbside recycling, be sure to start with the basics:

- 1 | All recyclables should be empty, clean, and dry.
- 2 | No plastic bags in the bin. Recyclables should be loose (not bagged).
- 3 | When in doubt, throw it out. It is better to throw out a questionable item than to ruin a large batch of otherwise recyclable plastic material.

Have other questions? Call 311 for all garbage and recycling questions and visit acwastewatcher.org to learn more about ways to minimize your solid waste impact and properly dispose of unwanted materials.

Holiday Safety Tips from FWFD

The Fort Wayne Fire Department would like to remind residents of some common electrical and fire hazards during the holiday season. For your safety, avoid the following:

- Using the wrong type of lights [indoor versus outdoor, etc.]
- Using damaged lights, extension cords, or other equipment
- Overloading outlets or connecting too many cords
- Leaving lights on all the time

Miscellaneous Updates

The **solar panels at The Summit** have not yet been installed. Per the most recent conversation with VIA Property Management, the solar panel array and required visual buffering are still in the design phase.

The City's Community Development Division and the Packard Area Planning Alliance (PAPA), will be hosting another round of **community engagement sessions** in early 2022 as part of the New Packard Area Plan process. Stay tuned for more details about these opportunities to share your feedback and ideas for the future of our area.

Between the tunnel project, upcoming associated projects, and the not-too-distant Bluffton Road Bridge project, **construction will continue to be a common presence near our neighborhood for the foreseeable future.** The inconveniences should be worth it in the long run. Updates to be shared as they are available.



BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Directors will meet on the following upcoming dates:
Tuesday, January 25, 2022
Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Meetings begin at 6:30pm and are typically held in the Green Lab at the Learning Center on the Summit campus (1025 W. Rudisill). All residents are welcome to attend.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

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RENTAL RESTRICTION

As a reminder, renting is not allowed within the Foster Park Neighborhood Association boundaries without board approval (per our Restrictive Covenants, as amended in 2005). If you are currently renting or have questions, please contact board president Kody Tinnel to learn more and initiate the formal approval process.

HAVE A STORY TO TELL?

If you would like to contribute content to our neighborhood newsletter, please reach out to the board! We are open to publishing stories, shout outs, photos, perspectives, or any other updates relevant to our neighborhood.

Please also reach out with any topics that warrant inclusion. Our goal is to make this newsletter as valuable as possible to our residents.