

The Ward 17 Dispatch

Councilman Charles J. Slife | Summer 2024



A Message from Councilman Charles Slife

Summer is here in Ward 17 and like you, I'm excited to have fun in the sun in West Park! Whether it's the farmers market, The Hooley, Garden Walk, the July 4th parade, or a block party with residents, there are so many reasons to get outside and spend time with neighbors.

In addition to reminders about neighborhood events, this newsletter includes details on some of the great things happening in our neighborhood. It also

highlights people making a difference in our community.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter and find it useful. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have questions and I'll see you around!

Charles J. Slife
Councilman, Ward 17



Engage with Councilman Charles J. Slife:

CITY HALL
216-664-4239

EMAIL
cslife@clevelandcitycouncil.org

WEB
www.clevelandcitycouncil.org/ward-17

Senior of the Year 2024

MR. HERB HAMPSON



At this year's City of Cleveland Senior Day event held on May 15th, Councilman Slife recognized Herb Hampson as Ward 17's Outstanding Senior of the Year. **Thank you Herb for your awesome work in the West Park community!**

Impett Playground Update

Months of collaboration and community engagement are paying off in a big way at Impett Park. In the coming months, the playground at Impett will be demolished. In its place will rise a new, inclusive, state of the art playset the scale of which is unprecedented among City of Cleveland parks. The new Impett playground will be a testament to the power of community engagement and public participation.

Friends of Impett Park, a grassroots neighborhood group, and I have been working together to host community engagement sessions to let residents give their input on the various ways the City should improve one of Ward 17's parks. The need for a new playground at Impett, which is heavily used yet very dated, has been a recurring theme of input from residents and stakeholders.

From engagement sessions focused on the playset, City of Cleveland planners designed a new playground for Impett with features based directly off the feedback they received from Ward 17 residents. These include:

- Play structures for older and younger children
- Spinning equipment, including spinners that can be used with a wheelchair
- Plastic slides, since metal slides get too hot in the summer
- Various types of swings to accommodate all ages and ranges of mobility
- A zip line, a very frequent request from kids

A guiding principle throughout the engagement process was the desire for a fun and inclusive playground that has something for children of all ages and physical abilities. Sadly, too few parks in Cleveland meet the needs of differently abled children, and parents express their frustration at having to leave Ward 17 to find playgrounds that are suitable for their kids.

Of course, all good stories need a conflict to resolve and this story is



CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

AED Working Group

Shortly before Christmas, Ward 17 resident Chuck Conrad was at the West Park Family YMCA when he experienced a sudden cardiac arrest. Chuck survived thanks to a combination of immediate attention, use of an Automated External Defibrillator ("AED"), a swift response by Cleveland EMS, and quality medical care nearby at Fairview. However, and sadly, his story is uncommon.



Survival rates jump dramatically when bystanders perform CPR and increase beyond that when an AED is used...

Paul Ward, whose son Denzel plays for the Browns, was at an east side spin class when he had a sudden cardiac arrest in 2016. Although there was an AED on the premises, it was not used, and Mr. Ward died. Afterwards, his family founded the Make Them Know Your Name Foundation, which works to positively impact the heart disease epidemic by providing CPR training as well as AED equipment and resources.

Cardiac arrests like Chuck's and Paul's have a very low survival rate, as low as six percent. Survival rates jump dramatically when bystanders perform CPR and increase beyond that when an AED is used prior to EMS arriving. But far too often, bystanders can be hesitant to intervene and an AED is not available.

In partnership with the Make Them Know Your Name Foundation and City departments, Councilman Slife has convened the Cleveland AED Working Group with the goal of increasing the prevalence of AEDs across Cleveland as well as educating people how to use an AED and perform bystander CPR. The working group's first focus is to identify locations where large numbers of people congregate, that currently lack an AED (e.g. churches, restaurants, libraries, schools), and match these locations with a new AED. This is particularly critical in lower income and majority-minority neighborhoods, where residents on average experience more cardiac events and there are few AEDs.

Cleveland residents can join in this effort too! Visit pulsepoint.org and download the PulsePoint AED map, which shows locations of AED equipment and allows users to identify and add AEDs to the map. The app, which is also downloadable from the website, can alert you if you are in proximity to a medical emergency that requires CPR.

Our First Responders

Rank/Name:
Animal Control Officer
Anna Merriman

Year you joined Cleveland Animal Care and Control:
2022.

Why did you become an Animal Control officer?: *I have been in the Animal Care field since I was 18 years old. For me it was a natural progression in the Animal Care field to become an Animal Control Officer. It allows me the opportunity to assist residents with their pets and assist in finding new homes for the dogs we pick up.*

Favorite part of the job: *One of the most satisfying aspects of my job is locating and picking up lost dogs and reuniting them with their families.*

Favorite place in Ward 17 West Park: *Not only do I work in Ward 17 I am a resident as well so that is a tough question. I would have to say Si Señor Mexican restaurant is one of my favorites.*



Anna Merriman

Fun fact about you: *I have 4 dogs and 6 cats that I enjoy hanging out with and I run a non-profit dog rescue called "Mutts in a rut".*



Help is 3 Numbers Away

2-1-1

Get Connected • Get Help™

211 maintains a comprehensive database of community resources and provides information and referrals for essential needs like:

- Food
- Housing and Shelter
- Utility Assistance
- Healthcare Services
- Government Services

Call for Information and Community Resources

211

211 also can connect people with information and referrals for:

- Transportation
- Legal Services
- Counseling and Support Groups
- Disaster Aftercare
- Everything Else

988 provides crisis support for:

- Thoughts of Suicide
- Mental Health Crisis
- Substance Use Crisis
- Emotional Distress

Call for Suicide Intervention and Crisis Support

988

Call for Emergencies

911

911 provides first responder dispatch for:

- Medical Emergency
- Fire
- Reporting a Crime
- Disaster Response
- Life Threatening Situation

Whole Person Care

Is Your Toilet Running?



Small leaks and running toilets can lead to big water bills. Save yourself some money and make sure water isn't running!





WARD 16 & WARD 17...
 WHATCHA YOU GONNA DO WITH ALL THAT JUNK?

DUMPSTER DAY

WARD 16 **WARD 17**

COUNCILMAN BRIAN KAZY **COUNCILMAN CHARLES SLIFE**

ONE DAY. TWO LOCATIONS.

SATURDAY
JULY 6, 2024
8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

DUMPSTERS WILL BE PLACED AT THESE LOCATIONS:

MOHICAN PARK
 13405 TRISKETT RD., CLEVELAND, OH 44111

GUNNING PARK RECREATION CENTER
 16700 PURITAS AVE, CLEVELAND, OH 44135

Council Members Kazy and Slife are talkin' trash!
 Residents of Wards 16 and 17 are invited to discard rubbish and junk from their yards, garages, and street to see which community collects the most trash.

DO NOT DUMP THE FOLLOWING ITEMS >>> Batteries or Auto Parts • Tires • Drums, Liquids or Chemicals
 Appliances or Electronics • Hazardous Waste • Asbestos • Concrete

IMPETT PARK CONTINUED

no exception.

Through federal COVID relief dollars, the City of Cleveland has allocated \$0.75 million for a new playground at Impett. But, when the cost of the preferred playground design was added up, it significantly exceeded available dollars. Suddenly, conversation shifted to how to scale back the playground and, in doing so, determine which features to sacrifice. Options included:

- Reducing the entire playground plan by half
- Foregoing a larger play structure meant for older children
- Building fewer swings
- Removing spinning equipment
- Cancelling the zip line entirely

In short, the path forward risked a significant loss in scale and a deviation from the spirit of building an impressive and inclusive playground in our highly engaged ward.



Councilman Slife with residents at a Fall 2022 Impett Park Meeting.

Fortunately, City Council successfully identified an additional \$660,000 to close the funding gap and build the playground, as conceived through collaboration with residents. As a result, Impett Park will see a new, \$1.4 million playground. Construction is slated to begin late spring/early summer and, if weather cooperates may be completed by the end of fall 2024.

I believe that Ward 17's strength is its engaged residents and family friendly atmosphere and that investing in parks and recreation amenities retains residents, attracts new neighbors, bolsters property values, and strengthens our entire community. The new Impett Park playground will come on the heels of the new Richard Petras Playground at Drakefield Park, which opened in 2022. It also coincides with the complete reconstruction of the Gunning Park pool, currently underway, as well as the Old Lorain Connector path into the Rocky River Valley, slated to begin construction as soon as fall 2024.



West Park Greenway

On any given day while traveling around Ward 17, you are likely to see people cruising the neighborhood on their bicycle. Whether they are running an errand, heading to grab a bite to eat, or just out for some exercise, Ward 17's flat terrain and abundance of quiet side streets makes it easy to navigate by bike.

In recent years, the City of Cleveland has promoted the incorporation of bike infrastructure (i.e. bike lanes, bike markings, off-road paths) along major thoroughfares. Bicycles are legal vehicles that are allowed on streets and, while these are great amenities for many bike riders, many more are understandably uncomfortable riding alongside heavy volumes of cars traveling at (and above, slow down!) 35 MPH. In comparison, side streets feel safer. Yet, not everyone knows how to travel across

Ward 17 while sticking to side streets.

In partnership with Bike Cleveland and Safe Streets West Park, a resident coalition formed to improve safety for cyclists on the far west side, work is underway to designate a West Park Greenway. With signage guiding bike riders, cyclists will be able to easily get across the neighborhood from south to north and back along a safe and low traffic route. Project designers are hopeful that a known, safe route will encourage more to bike for fun, will draw people to parks and other amenities, and can even make parents more comfortable with kids riding bikes to school.

If you're interested in learning more about the proposed West Park Greenway, contact Councilman Slife or Jenna Thomas with Bike Cleveland (jenna@bikecleveland.org).

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The Ward 17 Dispatch



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REMINDER: Parking vehicles on front lawns is against the law. Violators are subject to ticketing from CPD.



2024

CITY OF CLEVELAND
Mayor Justin M. Bibb

Department of Public Works
Division of Waste Collection

B Bulk Week

H One Day Delayed Collection

H Holiday with Regular Pickup

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	H	2	3	4	5	6
B	7	8	9	10	11	12
						13
14	H	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Jan. 1st - New Year's Day
Jan. 19th - MLK Day
Waste Collection: 1 day delay all week

FEBRUARY

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Feb. 19th - President's Day
No delay in collection

MARCH

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31						

Mar. 29th - Good Friday
No delay in collection

APRIL

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26	H	28	29	30	31	

May 27th - Memorial Day
1 day delay all week

JUNE

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Jun 19th - Juneteenth Nat'l
Independence Day
No delay in collection

JULY

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July 4th - Independence Day
Thursday collection on Friday
Friday collection on Saturday

AUGUST

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31						

SEPTEMBER

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Sept. 2nd - Labor Day
1 day delay all week

OCTOBER

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

NOVEMBER

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24	25	26	27	H	29	30

Nov. 29th - Thanksgiving Day
Thursday collection on Friday
Friday collection on Saturday

DECEMBER

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	H	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Dec. 25th - Christmas Holiday
Weds. collection on Thurs. Thurs. collection on Fri., Fri. collection on Sat.

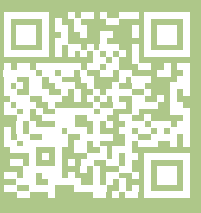
CELEBRATE 15 YEARS OF FUN!

the hooley

KAMMI'S CORNERS

LORAIN AVE FROM ROCKY RIVER DR TO W165TH ST
SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2024
NOON TO 8 P.M.

Live Music - Theatre Performances - Fun Games and Activities for the Whole Family
- Good Food - Cool Vendors
+ a chance to dunk Councilman Slife in the Dunk Tank!



Scan QR Code for more details!

westparkkamms.org/hooley

B = BULK WEEK (3 items only)

City of Cleveland Department of Public Works Division of Waste Collection
5600 Carnegie Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103
216-664-3711
www.clevelandohio.gov

Division of Waste Collection services for your convenience:

(Only at Carr Center)

YEAR ROUND COMPUTER/ CELL PHONE DROP OFF

(Only at Carr Center)

YEAR ROUND SHREDDING at 5600 Carnegie WASTE

(Carr Center and Ridge Road)

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE
First Friday of each month
No Latex Paint

5600 Carnegie (Carr Center) or 3727 Ridge Road, Mon. - Fri., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

DO NOT leave computers, tires, trees, hazardous waste, or other debris in the drop off boxes.