



Neighborhood Association Monthly Report

November 2021

City of South Bend



CITY OF SOUTH BEND
COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

Engagement and Economic Empowerment Team

Neighborhood Overview

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



11 neighborhoods held meetings in November

	Future	Past
Kennedy Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update on applications for neighborhood center renovations.• Meeting at Lasalle Park Library until further notice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Filled out applications for multiple grants to assist with neighborhood center renovation
River Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Holiday yard decoration contest to be held	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Drive held November 13th• T-Shirt design finalized
Miami Village	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working on neighborhood plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussions about developing a neighborhood plan
Near Westside	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning a Neighborhood T-shirt Contest• Feedback on neighborhood plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning Department presented on neighborhood plan updates
Monroe Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hoping for strategic plan to be incorporated in city's 2022 plans• Exploring potential of purchasing properties• Caroling on December 16th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Held holiday potluck at president's house
NENC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Waiting on neighborhood plan to be finalized• Work continues on firehouse	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Robinson Center opening and dedication
Rum Village	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meetings with Councilwomen Niezgodski about proposed commercial development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation on October traffic calming study and results.
SOAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning for a potluck holiday social in December• Planning for spring cleanup	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enfocus presentation on SOAR Digital Engagement Project/toolkit• Update from United Way on Neighborhood Center

More Resources

For You and Your Neighborhood

Neighborhoods Consortium

The October Neighborhood's Consortium meeting was attended by 15 neighborhood associations and area organizations. Based upon feedback, separate lines of communication will now be formed for business associations and CDCs within the city. Neighborhood plans continue to be worked on, with 1-2 neighborhood plans to be completed in the year going forward. If your NA is interested in a neighborhood plan, send a brief email with your NA's priorities to planning@southbendin.gov.



Contact eee@southbendin.gov for more information.

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

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. NAs can receive **free technical assistance** from CoSB to set up this software. NAs can also apply to receive a **free phone/tablet stand** to record and live stream in-person meetings.

To apply, visit:

<https://forms.office.com/r/BsvdvkktEG>

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 Ruskowski, 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 closed its application portal. All applications are under review. 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.

What's Happening in South Bend?

Digital Engagement Toolkit



EnFocus, the City of South Bend, and the Southeast Organized Area Residents neighborhood association (SOAR) piloted a digital neighborhood engagement. 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

LEAD SAFE SOUTH BEND



Lead Hazard Reduction Grant

The City of South Bend has grants available to assist making your home lead safe. Eligible households can apply to have lead safe repairs completed by qualified contractors at no cost! If you meet the following requirements, you might be eligible:

- Your owner-occupied or rental housing unit was built before 1978 and is located within South Bend city limits,
- Annual household income, for all adults 18 and older, is below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) as determined by the Department of Housing and Urban Development - see the table below, and
- A child under 6 lives in or frequently visits the house, or a pregnant woman lives in the house.*

* Addressing lead in houses where a child under 6 can be exposed is a priority, however units without a child under 6 may still be eligible (including vacant rentals). These units are considered low-priority and will only be assisted if funding is available.

	1-Person Household	2-Person Household	3-Person Household	4-Person Household	5-Person Household	6-Person Household	7-Person Household	8-Person Household
80% AMI	\$41,200	\$47,050	\$52,950	\$58,800	\$63,650	\$68,250	\$72,950	\$77,650

* 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 the Lead Protection Program you can reach out to the City by visiting www.southbendin.gov/leadsafesouthbend, by emailing kttus@southbendin.gov, or by calling 574-235-5826.



Emergency Rental Assistance Program

St. Joseph County's Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) is designed to decrease evictions, increase housing stability, and prevent homelessness by helping tenants whose income has been negatively impacted by COVID-19 with rent and utility payments.

ERA can provide eligible tenants with up to twelve (12) months of rental assistance. Utility assistance may also be provided to qualifying applicants for past due utilities (electric, gas, water, sewer, and trash) and home energy (fuel oil, wood, coal, pellets, and propane) expenses.

Link to ERA application:

<https://sjcindiana.communityos.org/initial-tenant-spanish>

Link to ERA application for landlords:

<https://sjcindiana.communityos.org/initial-landlord-entry>

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.

What's Happening 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

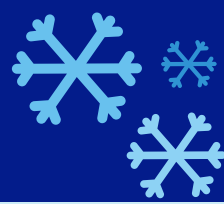
- March 16 - Real Estate Law
- April 20 - Building & Zoning Codes
- May: Networking Event - TBD
- May 18 - Rehabbing Basics

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

- 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



"It's a great time to go solar!"

Now is the best time to consider putting solar on your home or business, while net metering is still available and the federal tax credit has been extended.

Interested in learning more? Go visit the site below:

solarunitedneighbors.org/NorthernIndiana

- 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!



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What's Happening in South Bend?

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.

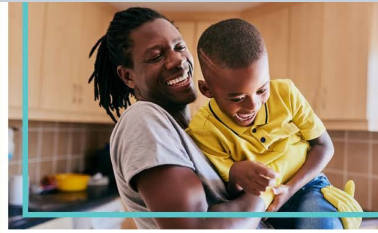
Who qualifies?

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!



Help us improve 311!

Interested in providing your feedback on the City of South Bend's 311 service? Join one of the city's one-hour focus group sessions. To thank you for your participation, you'll be provided with **dinner and a \$25 gift certificate**.

When:

- 12/14 at 7PM and
- 12/16 at 7PM

Where: Charles Martin Youth Center, 802 Lincoln Way W, South Bend

RSVP here:

<https://bit.ly/311SouthBend>

MLK Day Celebration



Contact Gladys Muhammad at 574.280.7092 or Jessica Kitchens at 574-229-4302 (jessicakitchens@gmail.com) for more information

The 36th annual **MLK Breakfast & Day of Celebration** will be held **7:30-5pm January 17th 2022** at the **Century Center**. Please join us to help celebrate the life and dreams of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

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 6:00-8:00pm on

- January 10th
- February 10th
- March 10th
- April 7th



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