Looking Ahead:

Mayor Haslam announced in his May 2008 budget address 4 key focus points for Knoxville in the coming year: staying the course for the redevelopment areas, including South Knoxville, making a commitment to “green-building” and energy efficiency, making investments in infrastructure, and being good stewards of tax payer dollars by insuring positive returns on investment. This is good news for the South Waterfront Project: we have the support of our Mayor, who is interested in pursuing green development opportunities in the South Waterfront. We hope to implement innovative stormwater management techniques as well, and there has always been a clear expectation of accountability in the use of public funds. Proposed South Waterfront Capital Improvement funding for FY08-09 is $5,000,000, with an additional $300,000 in city funding to provide the local match for a $1,185,000 federal grant (this is the 3rd year of the grant – it will total $7,425,000 by the 5th and final year in 2011). City Council will hold budget hearings on May 29th and 30th, with the South Waterfront Council will hold budget hearings on May 29th at 11:00 AM in the Main Assembly Room.

Project Update:

Lincoln Street / River Road final design & construction documentation is underway. Vaughn & Melton (project lead), has completed the topographic surveying for the project area, as well as the field work for the property surveys. CRJA has completed the tree survey. The Concept plan for the roads has been submitted to MPC and is on their June meeting agenda for approval.

River Plain Park contract for final design and construction documentation by Hargreaves Associates is going before City Council May 20th. Upon approval, design teams will be coordinating their work.

Cityview’s final plat is in MPC review, and details such as tree type for Blount Ave. are being finalized.

Blount Avenue Improvements request for qualifications for final design will be issued soon either by the City or KCDC.

Newsletter Mailing Options

Anyone who has e-mail is encouraged to send a request to be added to sbass@cityofknoxville.org for receipt of an e-mail version. It is also posted on the website, or you may receive it via post.

May Staff Activities

Staff is planning to submit the 26A permit for public water use facilities for COE & TVA approval by the end of May. Staff is working with appropriate parties to agree on a street section and utility placement so as to have a conceptual design Vaughn & Melton can work towards finalizing. Staff also is working with City Legal and TDEC to enter into a Brownfield Agreement that will drive any environmental remediation TDEC may require during the course of Park development. This month staff attended the EPA Brownfields Conference, and will also be attending a Summit Conference of the American Waterfront Revitalization Coalition in Washington, D.C. to discuss regulatory barriers, potential new waterfront funding programs, and meet with elected officials to gain support for waterfront revitalization.

Neighborhood Beat

This section of the newsletter provides information concerning ongoing construction work relating to the South Waterfront. Some of these items will be listed here for several consecutive editions.

- Surveying of the areas around Lincoln Street and north of Langford Avenue continues. You will see survey stakes and Vaughn & Melton trucks active in this area from now until the end of the year.
- CRJA has completed their tree survey, and are working on the tree inventory. Any ribbons you see are not color-coded – they were simply placed to avoid a duplicate count.
- Property appraisers will be on the ground the 3rd week of May, appraising the Lincoln Landing / River Road Right of Way area & Park area. Appraisals will eventually be followed by property negotiations with individual owners.
- Dredging for the Cityview marina continues.