Addressing Traffic Issues From Sembler... And Beyond

Council members Fauver, Archibong, and Starnes have organized a working group to address local traffic issues called the Eastside Transportation Task Force (ETTF). Although the task force was initially brought together to discuss the impact of the Atlanta Gas Light (AGL) development by Sembler Corporation on traffic flow in the immediate vicinity of AGL, the council members have expressed a desire for the group to address traffic flow beyond the AGL property. The council members hope that by bringing together representatives from several adjacent neighborhoods, the task force can identify larger scale traffic flow issues in the area and develop a unified plan to address these issues.

In addition to the three council members and city planning officials, the ETTF has representatives from Candler Park, Little Five Points, Inman Park, Poncey Highlands, Reynoldstown, Edgewood, Eastlake, Cabbagetown, and Kirkwood neighborhoods. Representatives of the North Moreland Corridor Task Force, the Atlanta Bicycle Campaign, the Sembler Corporation, and URS have also participated in the meetings. Candler Park neighbors attending the meetings have included Don Bender, George Dusenbury, Mary Alice Bray, and Lori Newman.

At the May 14, 2003, meeting, the ETTF discussed the progress of the North Moreland Corridor Task Force in addressing traffic flow along the stretch of Moreland Avenue in front of the AGL site and potential ways in which the study could be expanded to include the entire corridor from North Avenue to I-20 and major cross streets such as Dekalb Industrial Way.

The ETTF also discussed how to make the area around the AGL property more bicycle friendly. A Sembler Company representative said that although Sembler has met several times with MARTA, MARTA has not agreed to any changes in bus routes or structural improvements to the Inman Park and Edgewood/Candler Park MARTA stations to facilitate use of public transport by future users of the proposed development. In addition to funds already set aside for traffic calming efforts in Edgewood, Sembler restated their commitment to providing $100,000 in traffic calming funds to be shared by Candler Park and Inman Park, to be available once Sembler has a building permit. Sembler hopes to begin construction in September 2003 and open the retail areas in March 2005.

The ETTF will continue to meet every few weeks to address traffic-related issues. You can read the Messenger for more updates on these issues, or get updates at the CPNO regular meetings.

—Lori Newman
Neighborhood News And Notes

Pizza At The Pool... And More

Keep your cool... it’s a great time to join the pool! Pool members not only get to enjoy subscribers-only hours in the evenings, they also get to enjoy special events like the Dive-In Movie and the Shrimp Boil. If you are not a member, you are missing out on one of summer’s greatest pleasures in Candler Park.

Pizza at the Pool Sundays are back by popular demand! Sunday nights beginning at 6:30 we will be selling pizza by the slice. The cost is only $2 per slice (cheese, mushroom, and pepperoni).

Also back by popular demand is our all-you-can-eat Shrimp Boil! This year’s feast will take place the evening of Saturday, June 21. We will throw out the first basket of shrimp at 6 pm. There will also be food for the kids who don’t like the shrimp, corn on the cob, potatoes, and other tasty treats.

Ready to join now? It’s easy. Just stop by the pool and pick up an application, or download one from the web at www.candlerpark.org. See you poolside!

Recycle The Juice For Candler Park!

Batteries are something we don’t really think about (unless they are “not included” when we need them). But the BatteriesPlus store in Midtown is running a recycling program through August 15 for rechargeable batteries only. Participants in the program include most of our intown neighborhood groups — and the one that brings in the most batteries will receive $250. Protect a landfill... help CPNO... recycle your juice!

Free To Be, You And Me Returns

From June 14 through July 6, Synchronicity brings its production of Marlo Thomas’ Free to Be, You and Me to 7 Stages Back Stage Theatre in L5P.

The AJC says, “You only have to be young, or young at heart, to feel the magic in this 28-year-old — and timeless — tale of life’s little triumphs.” Last summer’s original cast will once more delight children of all ages with stories filled with puppets, songs and theater magic. For info, call the box office: 404-325-5168.

Laughter in the Park by Deb Milbraith

THE MESSENGER/CANDLER PARK
PO Box 5418 * Atlanta, GA 31107
www.candlerpark.org
Identity Theft In Candler Park: How To Protect Yourself

Identity theft is a crime that has increased dramatically since the 1990s. Also known as identity fraud, it goes far beyond forging checks and stealing credit card numbers. The thief uses personal information about the victim to perform activities in the victim's name. With a person's name, social security number, and date of birth, the crook can obtain credit and use it to purchase items worth thousands of dollars. By the time the crime is discovered in 30 to 40 days, the thief is on to the next mark.

If the thief gets hold of a person's checking account number, he can potentially order checks with that person's name, but with a different address and phone number. With a phony ID card he is able to write several checks until the money is missed from the account. This actually happened to a neighbor of mine. They discovered the crime early because an alert store clerk called my neighbor because the crook forgot to take his receipt.

Of course credit card fraud is a common scheme. With your name, credit card number, and card expiration date the thief can ring up many charges before being exposed. The same goes for debit cards.

Other modes of operation for the identity thief include:
* Steal wallets and purses which contain personal identification information
* Steal mail, including bank and credit card statements, pre-approved credit offers, telephone calling cards, and tax information.
* Fill out a change of address form to divert your mail to a different location.
* Rummage through your trash for personal information.
* Fraudulently obtain your credit report by posing as a landlord, employer, or some-

one else who may have legitimate need for the information.
* Find personal information in your home.
* Obtain personal information you share on the Internet. You may have heard of recent cases where web sites are hacked for the sole purpose of acquiring credit information.
* Buy information from "inside" sources. For example, an unscrupulous store clerk might offer to sell information for profit.
* Call your credit card company, pretending to be you, and ask to change the mailing address on your credit card account. If your bills are going to another address, it might be some time before you realize there's a problem.
* Open a bank account in your name and write bad checks on that account.
* Establish phone or wireless service in your name.
* Buy cars by taking out auto loans in your name.

Yikes! Obviously, the consequences of identity theft can be dreadful. In the case of checking account or debit card fraud, your checking account could be drained. False credit charges can be devastating to a person's credit report. Fixing the problem can be difficult.

In my next article, I'll provide you with information about how to minimize the risk of having your personal information used for illegal purposes.

-Gregg Reinhardt
LAND USE ISSUES

The following land use issues are scheduled to be heard and voted on at the June CPNO meeting. Deadline for land use issues to be voted on at the July CPNO meeting must be submitted prior to June 18.

330 OAKDALE ROAD/1389 IVERTON STREET – Watershed Development, agent for owners of properties, each currently zoned R-5, have requested multiple variances for each property to allow construction of a new 2-story wood-frame single-family residence on each lot. The variance at 330 Oakdale is to reduce the front yard along Iverson Street from 30 feet (required) to 25 feet (proposed), and the half-depth front-yard along Oakdale Road from 15 feet (required) to 11.25 feet (proposed). For 1389 Iverson Street, the variance is to reduce the front yard along Iverson Street from 30 feet (required) to 25 feet (proposed). Applicant also seeks as to both properties approval for use of a common driveway for access to both lots. This matter will be heard by Neighborhood Planning Unit “N” at 7PM Thursday June 26th at Epworth United Methodist Church, and by Atlanta Board of Zoning Adjustment on or after July 11, 2003 at City Hall, 2nd Floor, 55 Trinity Avenue, Atlanta.

340 JOSEPHINE STREET – Charley and Valerie Gressett, owners of property, zoned R-5, seek approval for reduction of the northern side yard setback from 7 feet (required) to approximately 2 feet to allow to remain a recently-constructed deck and carpport structure. This matter will be heard by NPU-N at 7PM Thursday June 26th at Epworth United Methodist Church on McLendon Avenue, and by Atlanta Board of Zoning Adjustment on July 11, 2003 at City Hall, 2nd Floor.

LIQUOR LICENSE – Dirk Botterbusch, applicant, seeks approval to apply for issuance of a new liquor license for property to be acquired at 1642 McLeod Avenue (Candler Park Supermarket). This matter will be heard by NPU-N at 7PM Thursday June 26th at Epworth United Methodist Church on McLendon Avenue, and by the Atlanta Liquor License Review Board, an agency of the Atlanta Police Department, following appropriate public notices, comment and recommendations.

411 STERLING STREET – Jonathan Ratner, owner of property, currently zoned R-4, seeks a variance to reduce the front yard setback from 35 feet (required) to 25 feet (existing), and to reduce the side yard setback from 7 feet (required) to 4.2’ (existing) to allow for a second-story addition to an existing single-family residence. The applicant has advised that the proposed addition will not expand the existing “footprint” of the structure. This matter will be heard by NPU-N at 7PM Thursday June 26th at Epworth United Methodist Church on McLendon Avenue, and by Atlanta Board of Zoning Adjustment on or after July 11, 2003 at City Hall, 2nd Floor.

600 BLOCK, PAGE AVENUE – Yvonne Head, applicant for a Type II Certificate of Appropriateness to allow a revision to plans at Parcel 192 A in the 600 block of Page Avenue, currently zoned SPI-7, whose request for variance to allow an increase in the front yard setback from between 50 and 55 feet (min./max. required) to 200 feet was previously considered and disapproved by CPNO in April and May, is invited to attend and provide CPNO members with additional information on efforts to work with adjacent property owners in resolving objections to proposed site plan and other issues. The applicant has not formally requested nor confirmed whether any presentation will be made. This matter is currently scheduled for hearing by the Atlanta Urban Design Commission on Wednesday June 11 at City Hall Council Chambers (unless deferred for hearing by NPU-N at 7PM on Thursday June 26th).

CRIME REPORT


500 block Candler St, 3/17, 6p, simple battery.

1200 block McLendon Ave, 4/19, anti-war signs damaged and stolen.

400 block Oakdale Rd, 4/19, broken residential window, no break-in.

600 block Clifton Rd, 4/21, identity fraud.

300 block Moreland Ave, 4/22, 10p. possession of a controlled substance.

1700 block McLendon Ave, 5/3, stolen wallet.

400 block Euclid Terr, 5/3, vehicle stolen and later recovered.

400 block Moreland Ave, 5/5, stolen vehicle.

1300 block Euclid Ave, 5/11, vehicle stolen.

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