

# NEWS LETTER

CITY OF PADUCAH, KENTUCKY

MAY 2026



Southside Community Garden

## FEATURES

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## A Note to Our Neighbors

Greetings neighbors! Many of you may know me from the various Southside community meetings, grant workshops, and projects connected to the Southside Neighborhood Revitalization Program. First, I want to thank each and every one who has taken part in this process. Your participation and support have helped make this program what it is today.

The Planning Department is hosting some upcoming events to stay connected with residents and share information about the opportunities currently available.

In the next few weeks, our department will participate in a door-to-door campaign. During this event, City staff, elected officials, and volunteers will walk through the Phase One program area to speak with residents, answer questions, and hand-out printed materials about the programs available.

In the summer, we will host another financial education workshop with CFSB Bank. We are also working on a Southside celebration event that will be happening later this year.

Lastly, if anyone has any questions about the Southside program, please reach out to me at (270) 444-8690 or by email at [pstroup@paducahky.gov](mailto:pstroup@paducahky.gov).



**Palmer Stroup**  
 Planner II

### URBAN RENEWAL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (URCDA)

The Urban Renewal and Community Development Agency (URCDA) Board plays a key role in implementing the City’s Southside Revitalization Plan. The board helps guide investment and redevelopment efforts focused on strengthening neighborhoods, improving housing, and encouraging reinvestment.

At its core, the URCDA Board focuses on addressing areas of need—often neighborhoods facing disinvestment, vacancy, or aging infrastructure. Through the Southside program, the board works to stimulate redevelopment, support housing improvements, and encourage private investment.

The URCDA board is responsible for managing funds tied to the incentive grants. With this responsibility comes a commitment to transparency, accountability, and ensuring that investments align with adopted plans and community priorities.

The board also plays an important planning and advisory role. Members review development pro-

posals, help shape redevelopment strategies, and ensure that projects are consistent with the community’s vision. By working closely with city staff, elected officials, and stakeholders, the URCDA Board helps bridge policy and implementation—turning plans into tangible results.

Our Board members have diverse backgrounds in areas such as business, real estate, finance, planning, and community leadership. Their collective expertise allows the board to evaluate opportunities, manage risk, and make informed decisions that balance economic development with community benefit.

Ultimately, the purpose of the URCDA Board is to act as a catalyst for positive change. By guiding strategic investment, fostering partnerships, and maintaining a long-term vision, the board helps create stronger neighborhoods, expanded economic opportunity, and a more resilient community for generations to come.

### URCDA BOARD MEMBERS



Valerie Pollard  
Board Chair



Bob Wade  
Vice Chair



Jewell Jones



Douglas McClure



Brian Wyatt



The URCDCA Board toured the Southside by trolley to observe recent progress and identify areas of opportunity.



Paducah Alliance of Neighbors constructed a new home at 1000 South 12th Street. The new owner will be moving in soon.



## COMMUNITY UPDATES

### SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY GARDEN

At 734 South 13th Street, the Southside Community Garden is more than a place to grow food—it's a shared space rooted in cooperation, care, and community pride. Maintained collectively by churches across the Southside, the garden reflects a partnership where faith-based organizations come together to serve the neighborhood in a hands-on way.

Each participating church takes turns caring for the garden. From watering and weeding to general upkeep, this shared commitment ensures the space remains healthy and productive.

This season is already underway. On March 21, volunteers planted a new round of crops with more being planted as the weather continues to warm, adding to the variety and abundance the garden provides.

Beyond the crops themselves, the Southside Community Garden represents something deeper: a spirit of collaboration and investment in the



neighborhood's well-being. It offers fresh food, encourages outdoor activity, and creates a space where people can gather, contribute, and take pride in a shared effort.

As the garden grows, so does the sense of connection it fosters—one week, one harvest, and one helping hand at a time.



## LOOKING AHEAD



### **SOUTHSIDE PHASE ONE DOOR-TO-DOOR CAMPAIGN**

**Tuesday, June 16, 2026  
4:00 to 7:00 p.m.**



City Commissioner Dujan Thomas along with city staff members participated in the first Phase One Door-to-Door Campaign on May 7.

## **SOUTHSIDE BANNERS UPDATE**

By now, you've likely noticed that the Southside banners have been removed. The City of Paducah took this step following high winds that caused damage to banner brackets and light poles. The removal was necessary to prevent further damage and ensure public safety.

City staff are currently evaluating the issue and working to identify a long-term solution that will better withstand weather conditions while preserving the visual character of the Southside corridor.

The City plans to reinstall the banners once improvements have been made and the issue has been fully resolved.

Updates will be shared as progress continues, and the City will provide notice when banner nominations reopen.