

2373 SOUTH CHURCH AVENUE P.O. DRAWER 510 LOUISVILLE, MS 39339

William A. (Will) Hill MAYOR

Telephone: (662) 773-9201 Fax: (662) 773-4045

TO:

Concerned Citizens

FROM:

Mayor's Office

DATE:

March 14, 2022

SUBJECT: Response to inquiries of the Community Conversation on March 10, 2022

Questions or comments submitted:

1, Please give an update on the project moving the road on Eiland Avenue and can you give a time frame on that?

Response: This project is known as South Industrial Road Project. The project has been bid and contract given to Phillips Contracting. The weather in the Fall and Winter months have not been favorable to begin, however we are anticipating the project to be in construction in the weeks ahead when ground conditions permit.

This phase of the project will take all summer and potentially into the Fall. We (the city) continue to work with Winston Plywood for the future of this project. We will also work diligently with WPV to reduce the dust in the Eiland Avenue area with possible road coverage, water trucks, and slower speeds.

To report WPV issues for dust or other, contact: (662) 446-1929

2. Will we ever have a boys and girls club again?

Response: The Boys & Girls Club was a collaborative effort of the private sector and volunteers to get it started while supported by the school system and the local governing authorities. Although it was successful in many regards, it was not financially sustainable as it was operating.

Just prior to the pandemic, there was a local home-grown effort to establish a youth program titled MPAC (Making Progress Across Communities). The pandemic circumstances halted the launch and summer program. The following year there was a collaborative effort through an after school grant program to establish a hybrid of MPAC

and the HEROES program. There continues to be interest and continued dialogue of the schools and the educational opportunities for the students in our community.

Additionally, the City has taken over recreational activities for Parks & Recreation which is intended to create more activities for all ages.

The City welcomes and embraces any opportunities to come along side the school system, non-profits, or any volunteer organizations that take an interest in the development of our young people.

3. When will we get some type of security for the West Side Apartments?

Response: The good news is that progress is being made at West Side Apartments. Although it is privately owned and operated, we have had numerous conversations with management about the growing concerns and public safety issues at West Side. The response has been favorable and the action plan is taking place now. A new security manager has been hired and is working closely with the Louisville Police Department. The company committed to begin implementing a fence, more lighting, a controlled gated entrance, and a limited use camera system to monitor traffic in and out of this facility. This project is in process now.

We are hopeful to see continued progress and ultimately make West Side Apartments a safer place with the help of the company in ownership.

4. When you talk about community policing, are you concerned about the kind of problems the nation watched unfold in the Ahmad Aubrey case? Are we moving toward a stand your ground policy?

Response: I am always concerned about the safety of all citizens in all neighborhoods and would never want our community or any friend to be in a situation remotely close to the Aubrey case.

The goal is to build the lines of communication between citizenry and law enforcement. The goal is to rebuild trust in law enforcement; see something, say something. The goal is to build the lines of communication between neighbors in neighborhoods. The goal is to rebuild the trust in neighborhoods; modern day neighborhood watch.

We are not intending to empower or encourage the active policing of citizens, rather have the citizenry partnering with law enforcement to create safer streets, quieter neighborhood, and ultimately assist in solving crime.

More information and adequate training will be made available to willing participants.

5. What are we doing about drainage system? Areas mentioned: Metts/Thompson, South Church/Gage

For the mentioned drainage areas, I have opened a work order for these to be researched and addressed. Please provide more detail for the reported issues. What and where are the primary concerns? If a hazardous condition is identified, the city will address immediately.

We are always responding to reported or known issues and plan to mitigate future issues with flood prone areas. Drainage is an ongoing and costly aspect of the city's infrastructure.

6. Can something be done about people picking up their kids from Fair Elementary parking from stop sign up to Church Street?

Improvements have been made to the drop-off and pick-up areas, however this concern is being reported to the Transportation Superintendent of the Louisville Municipal School District.

The City of Louisville Police Department is working closely with LMSD to increase security efforts. In a cooperative agreement the City is providing a certified law enforcement officer to provide safety and security services to both Fair Elementary and Louisville Elementary. The LPD will work with the schools to address traffic concerns and make recommendations to better serve our citizens.

Respectfully Submitted,

Will Hill, Mayor