



KNOXVILLE SOUTH WATERFRONT Monthly Newsletter

Website Information:

No. 02-10 (February 2010)

www.cityofknoxville.org/southwaterfront

WEST WATERFRONT PROJECT UPDATES

Blount Avenue Reconstruction

Southern Constructors, Inc. is the company awarded the bid to install a brand new streetscape along Blount Avenue between the Norfolk South RR Underpass and Hawthorne Avenue.

A change order was approved by City Council approval on January 28th. Additional expenses amounted to \$116,276.79 due to the discovery of contaminated soil that requires proper disposal, and to respond to KUB electrical lighting requirements. The change order increased the total project cost to \$1,661,091.79.

Once construction begins, if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions for improvements, please give Dave Hill a call at 215-3764.

Cityview

Bids to complete the side streets and riverwalk construction at Cityview were opened on January 21st. Merit Construction was determined by KCDC staff to be the lowest bidder, at a price of \$679,000 and a completion date within 125 days of Notice to Proceed. Contract documents are being prepared for review and approval by the KCDC Board on February 25th. Merit Construction will be given the Notice to Proceed soon after KCDC Board approval of the contract.

SW-UT Bridge

The draft RFQ for preliminary design and engineering of the pedestrian / bicycle bridge connecting the South Waterfront to the University of TN is completed. The consultant selection process will hopefully start in March. A \$666,900 federal grant will be used to fund the project design (which includes a 20% local match).

Announcements

South Waterfront Website

Some changes have been made to the South Waterfront website. The primary change is the reorganization of documents available for public review, hopefully to make information easier to find. Also, some recently available documents have been added to the list. If you have any suggestions for improvement or can't find information that would be helpful, please contact Dave Hill through the South Waterfront Department contact information provided below.

Brownfield Agreement Completed

A Brownfield Agreement has been completed in cooperation with the TN Dept. of Environment and Conservation, setting terms and conditions for the construction and use of the future Suttree Landing Park and portions of Waterfront Drive. A draft of the proposed agreement and related reports are available on the South Waterfront website. The Knoxville City Council will be asked to approve the agreement at its regular meeting on February 23rd.

EPA BROWNFIELDS GRANT UPDATE

The environmental engineering firm, S&ME, was selected to perform petroleum and hazardous substances assessments using the South Waterfront's \$400,000 EPA grant. The resolution requesting authorization to enter into a contract with S&ME was approved by City Council on January 26th.

The project will start in the near future, including an initial public meeting to explain the project and process that will be followed.

The purpose of the EPA grant is to conduct an area-wide analysis of sites that may have environmental hazards that could impede reuse and redevelopment. Once this first phase is completed, a limited number of property owners will be approached to allow in-depth site specific studies to develop remediation plans, and to determine if additional grant funding may be available for site clean-up. Participation on the part of any property owner is entirely voluntary.

EAST WATERFRONT PROJECT UPDATES

River Park & Roads Design

Park and Street Design construction documentation is 100% complete and has been delivered to the City. Final right-of-way purchases will continue, with more property needed near the proposed Roundabout.

An archaeological study and historic structures inventory has been delayed, but will be started once final review of a Programmatic Agreement (PA) is completed by TVA and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). City Council approval is required to approve the PA before the inventory can be started, hopefully sometime this spring. The inventory will take 6 months for completion. Once the City approves the PA, we expect the federal permits to be issued for this project.

We also remain hopeful that the Southshore Properties project will reemerge as the economy continues to recover. Until the private development project is confirmed, we will not bid the streets or park construction work.

River Park & Roads Demolition

KCDC staff has advertised a Request for Proposals (RFP) to demolish recently acquired structures on the park site, and to remove several metal obstructions in the water near the shoreline. We will also address a limited level of property clean-up and ensure that unauthorized access into the properties is prevented.

The bid opening for the project will be on March 1st, with contract approval by the KCDC Board expected on March 25th. A copy of the RFP can be viewed on the South Waterfront website.