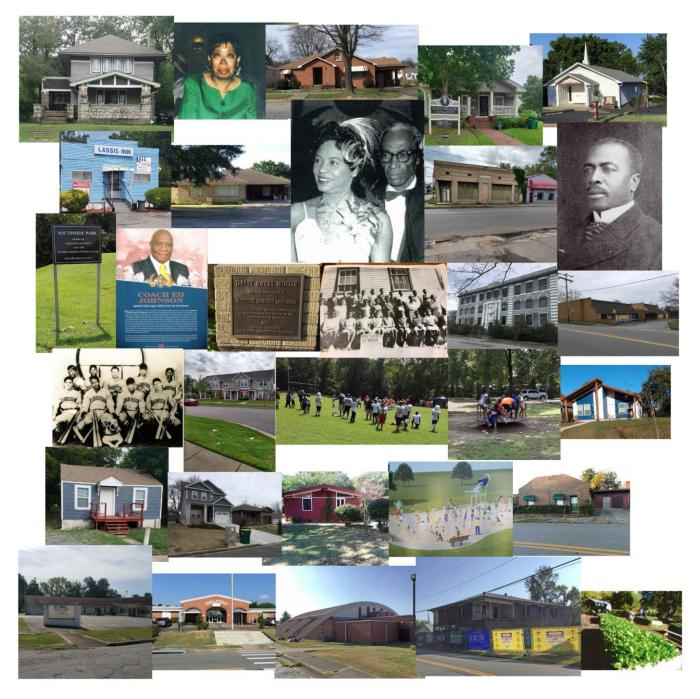
## South End Area Improvement Plan Revision "A Neighborhood Action Plan" 2021



Department of Planning and Development City of Little Rock, Arkansas

i

#### **STEERING COMMITTEE:**

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#### **WARD 1 DIRECTOR:**

Erma Hendrix

CITY OF LITTLE ROCK: Planning and Development Brian Minyard, AICP

A Chris McDaniel

Housing and Neighborhood Programs

Arnuard Crump, Neighborhood Resource Specialist

1	RESOLUTION NO. 15,684		
2			
3	A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF		
4	LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, IN SUPPORT OF THE GOALS AND		
5	OBJECTIVES OF THE SOUTH END IMPROVEMENT PLAN REVISION;		
6	AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.		
7			
8	WHEREAS, the South End Steering Committee reviewed the South End Improvement Plan Revision;		
9	and,		
10	WHEREAS, after months of work by the Steering Committee, the Improvement Plan was reviewed		
11	with changes and updates; and,		
12	WHEREAS, this Plan (Goals and Objectives) provides a way for both the neighborhood-based groups		
13	and others working in and around the neighborhood to advance the desires and meet the needs of the		
14	residents; and,		
15	WHEREAS, the Little Rock Planning Commission reviewed the Plan and approved a resolution of		
16	support of the South End Improvement Plan Revision.		
17	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY		
18	OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:		
19	Section 1. The Board of Directors of the City of Little Rock does support the vision and goals as		
20	expressed in the South End Improvement Plan Revision.		
21	Section 2. Severability. In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or		
22	word of this resolution is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or		
23	adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the resolution which shall remain in full force and		
24	effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional was not originally a part of the		
25	resolution.		
26	Section 3. Repealer. All laws, ordinances, resolutions, or parts of the same, that are inconsistent with		
27	the provisions of this resolution, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.		
28	ADOPTED: May 17, 2022		
29	ATTEST: APPROVED:		
30			
31 32	Susan Langley, City Clerk Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor)		
33	APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:		
34			
35	and of		
36 37	Alexander J. Betton, Chief Deputy City Attorney		

#### **RESOLUTION 151**

A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKNSAS IN SUPPORT OF THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE SOUTH END IMPROVEMENT PLAN REVISION.

WHEREAS, South End Steering Committee reviewed the South End Neighborhood Plan, and;

WHEREAS, after months of work by the Steering Committee, the Neighborhood Plan was reviewed with changes and updates, and;

WHEREAS, this Plan (Goals and Objectives) provides a way for both the neighborhood based groups and others working in and around the neighborhood to advance the desires and meet the needs of the residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK. ARKANSAS.

**SECTION 1.** The Planning Commission of the City of Little Rock does support the vision and goals as expressed in the South End Improvement Plan Revision.

ADOPTED: 12/8/2021

ECRETARY

CHAIDMAN

## Cover Page

#### First Row - Left to Right

Retan House 2510 Broadway, Listed on National Register of Historical places pg.61 Thelma Mothershed-Wair, oldest of the Little Rock Nine

1302 West 28th Street current home of Thelma Mothershed-Wair pg.63 Dr. Martin

Luther King, Jr. Heritage Center pg.26

New Light Baptist Church at 3110 S Battery Street pg.37

#### Second Row - Left to Right Lassis Inn 518

East 27<sup>th</sup> pg. 63

Home of L.C. and Daisy Bates 1207 West 28th (L.C.

and Daisy Bates Museum) pg. 61

Daisy & L.C. Bates

Former Kroger Store and Wilds Bakery at 2718 and 2722 S Arch Street pg.63

J.G. Ish, Educator pg. 38

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South Side Park dedication sign at entrance of park pg. 52 Ed

Johnson, Coach Sunset Tigers, 50 years pg. 54

Plaque denoting National Register Landmark status at Bates House pg. 61 South

End School at 33rd and State Street-October 1915 photo pg. 38 Joshua Building at

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Thrasher Boys and Girls Club 3301 S State Street pg.26

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Sunset Tigers game against the Texas Raiders pg. 57

Children playing at South Side Park pg.22

DePaul, USA, Owner 2619 State Street

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This home was built in 1945 as Housing for Veterans pg.19

3022 on right and 3020 S. Main are new homes in the neighborhood pg.19 Home

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Original Sims BBQ location at 716 West 33rd Street pg. 62

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Vision Center 2701 S. Main

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### **EXISTING CONDITIONS**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The South End Community has sustained the test of time. as the second oldest neighborhood in the City of Little Rock, it has a rich history of community involvement and historic preservation. It has gone from a once thriving business community to one of mainly homes, churches, and schools. It is now bouncing back as businesses are being revitalized, churches rebuilt, homes renovated, and new homes being built. South End is somewhat of a secluded community. The boundaries of the study area have not changed since the original South End Area Improvement Plan "A Neighborhood Action Plan" in May of 1999. It is anchored by the Arkansas State Fairgrounds to the west, Interstate 30 to the east, Roosevelt Road to the north and Interstate Park to the south. The neighborhood offers three city parks, a community garden, a boys and girls club, schools, churches, restaurants, a cultural center, and numerous small businesses.

The neighborhood is centrally located from downtown, allowing easy access to numerous services and amenities that the City of Little Rock has to offer. South End is within 10 to 15 minutes of Clinton Airport and the Little Rock Port Authority, Arkansas Children's Hospital, Central High School, colleges, museums, art and cultural centers, as well as downtown shopping, business offices, restaurants, and the River Market.

On January 21, 1999, a tornado altered the existing conditions of the neighborhood. The tornado resulted in the loss of housing stock and damaged long-standing businesses throughout the community. Before the tornado, the neighborhood had a housing stock of 2,242 units, and because of the tornado, some of the historic value of the South End Neighborhood was damaged or lost.

This tore into the fabric of the South End community. Families relocated, housing stock declined, and the neighborhood became blighted with boarded up houses, vacant lots and increased criminal activity. As a result, over the past 5 to 10 years, the South End Neighborhood has worked with the City of Little Rock in efforts to revitalize the community and continue to work vigorously with the Little Rock Police Department to deter crime. Statistically the criminal activities have drastically leveled off over the past 5 to 10 years.

With everything that has occurred, the South End Neighborhood continues to stand strong. It maintains its historic value with properties listed on the National and State Historic Registers. Success stories have been great, with the area producing many educators, professional athletes, entertainers, doctors, lawyers, public speakers, and a history of family business owners.

Although many residents of the recent past have reached retirement age, the community has been active in not only providing services for seniors but is recruiting younger families. Today's young professionals are choosing to stay in the neighborhood rather than move away to more exclusive areas because of the current high cost of living. Many are choosing to move back to stay in touch with their patients, clientele, and family members. The community continues to thrive and is attracting investors and residents with new construction, renovated homes and continued growth throughout the neighborhood.

The Census data referenced in this study is from the 1990, 2000, and 2010 decennial census. The data to compare for the 2020 census will not be available until after this study is finished. It was explored to compare numbers from the American Factfinder information provided by the Census Bureau. However, the smallest area that could be sampled included a portion of the Wright Avenue Neighborhood from Roosevelt to Wright Avenue and from Martin Luther King to the railroad tracks. To include this information would skew the results.

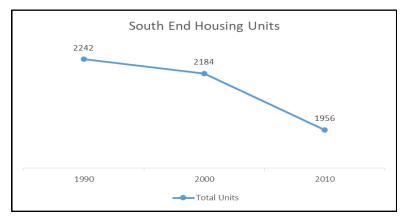
• This information will be added as an addendum when it is available. The census information from the 2004 Action plan does not reflect the progress and current environment of the South End Neighborhood. A better representation of the area will be available when the 2020 Census Demographics information is made complete.

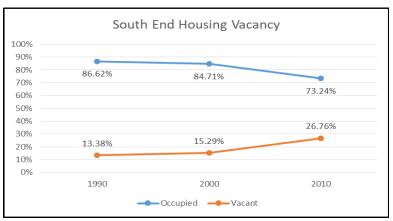
#### HOUSING TENURE

As the chart to the right shows, the South End area continues to lose housing stock over time. From a high of 2242 in 1990, the number of units have decreased to 1956 in the 2010 census. Since that time. additional structures have been demolished. According to building permit data, 142 additional structures have a demolition permit since January 2010 which a majority of them were housing These have been scattered units. throughout the study area. These 142 demolitions include do not reconstruction of the formerly named Tuxedo Courts and Ives Park.

At the same time, vacant housing units, (houses and apartments), have increased in the neighborhood as shown in the chart to the right. In 1990, vacancy was at 13.38% or roughly one in seven housing units. In 2010, the rate was at 26.76% or roughly one in four housing units that are vacant.

Citywide, vacancy rates have also increased, but not at the same rate as shown in the chart to the right. In 1990, they were at 10.4% and in 2010 at 12.46%, a rise in 1.98%. South End vacancy rate increased 13.38% or doubled in the same amount of time. However, with the decreased number of units available, the actual number was not doubled. The numbers went from 300 to 518 vacant units from 1990 to 2010.

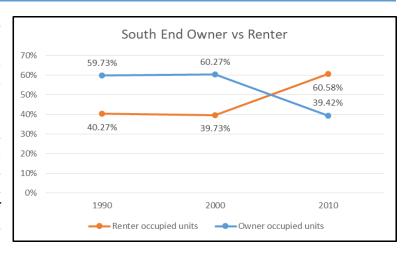


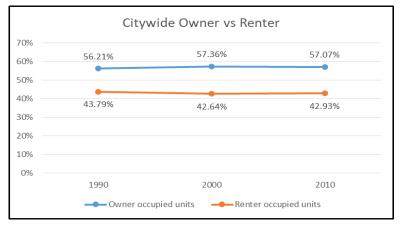




Most strikingly of all of the data is the change in occupancy, homeowner versus renter as shown in the chart to the right. In 1990, the mix was about 60-40 with homeowners being in the majority. In 2000, the numbers were roughly the same. However, in 2010, the numbers flipped with more renters than homeowners. The census does not give us a reason why this occurred. Probable causes could be the heirs renting out the houses instead of selling them or residents are leaving the neighborhood and keeping the house as rental property.

Citywide, the percentage of renters to owners occupying structures has remained virtually the same as shown in the chart to the right. Renter occupancy has decreased less than one percent 90.89%). The number of housing units in the City has increased over time and is still increasing, so the actual number of rental units has expanded.





The available census data for the housing tenure is from 1990, 2000, and 2010 decennial census. The data for comparison to the 2020 census will not be available until after this action plan is completed. To include the housing tenure census comparison for the above years would skew the results of this study. Therefore, the 2020 census for housing and demographics information will be added as an addendum when it becomes available.

#### **BUILDING PERMITS**

The following section concerning building permits since the last revision of the neighborhood action plan will contain building permits from January 2004 through June 30, 2021.

55 single family houses were permitted, an average of 2.73 per year from 2004-2 June 30, 2021. This is a decrease from the 13 permits for the previous 4 years (January 2000 – December 2003), an average of 4.33 the time frame immediately after the tornado of 1999. There was a building boom after the tornado of 1999.

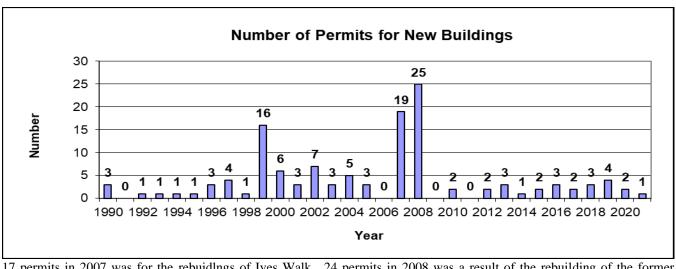
During the study period, there were 36 additions to single family homes versus the 16 in the previous four years. Also, during the study period, there were 546 permits for renovations to existing homes. Of those renovation permits, 166 were "bring to code" permits, 74 were CDBG projects, 23 were exterior remodels, 24 were due to fire damage, 85 were classified as general remodel and 64 were interior remodel.

31 permits were issued for accessory buildings (sheds, detached garages, etc) at residential and non-residential sites.

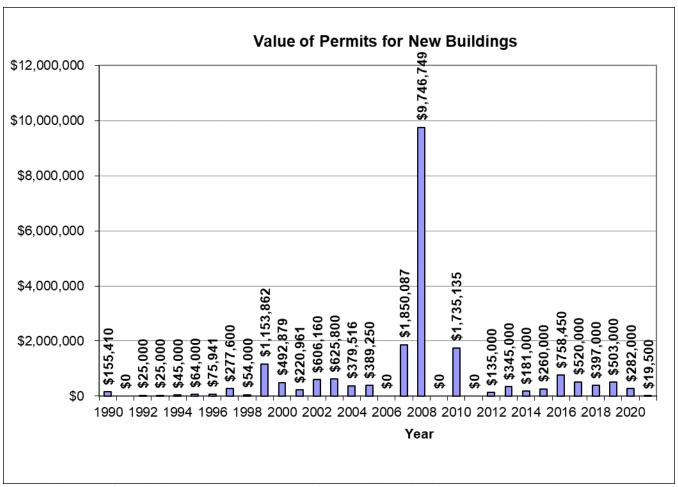
On multi-family permits, the construction of Metropolitan Village and Cumberland Manor accounted for 120 units. There was one permit for the construction of a duplex and three permits for demolition of two duplexes. 14 permits were issued for renovation of duplexes and multi-family buildings.

On non-residential permits, there were 3 permits issued for construction of office buildings and 2 permits for commercial buildings. There were four permits issued for renovation of existing offices while there were five permits for additions to commercial structures, three demolitions and 15 renovations of commercial structures.

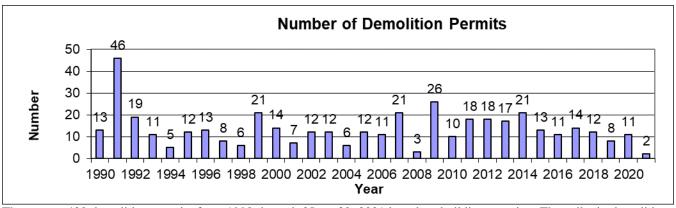
There are noticeable spikes in the charts below in certain years. See text under the charts for notations.



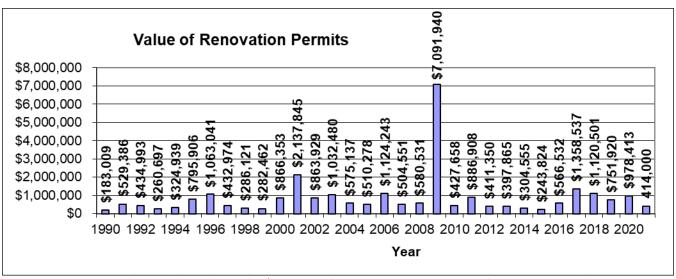
17 permits in 2007 was for the rebuildings of Ives Walk. 24 permits in 2008 was a result of the rebuilding of the former Tuxedo Courts into the Metropolitian Village and Cumberland Manor.



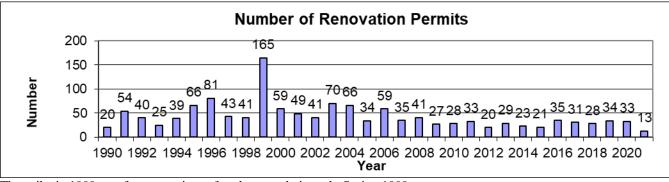
The spike in value of permits issued in 2008 was a result of the rebuilding of the former Tuxedo Courts into the Metropolitian Village and Cumberland Manor.



There were 420 demolition permits from 1990 through 2June 30, 2021 based on building permits. The spike in demolitions in 2007 was for the rebuilding of the former Tuxedo Courts into the Metropolitian Village and Cumberland Manor.



In May 2009, a renovation permit was issued for \$6,774,390 for work at 4000 Arch Street for Interstate Park improvements.



The spike in 1999 was for renovations after the tornado in early Spring 1999.

#### ZONING AND FUTURE LAND USE

#### **Board of Adjustment items:**

Since the last revision in 2004, three Board of adjustment issues for residential additions or new houses with reduced setbacks were approved.

#### **Zoning Items:**

Eight Conditional Use Permits (CUP) were granted for church related expansions and new construction. One CUP was approved for each of the following uses: a multisectional manufactured home, a museum, a food store under 5000 sf with sales of beer and wine, a day care, and one adult day care.

One CUP for a correctional facility and one CUP for a daycare was denied by the Planning Commission. Three CUPs were withdrawn, two concerning construction of residential duplexes and one for a daycare.

Two Special Use Permits were issued to run a daycare in a single-family house and five tower use permits were issued concerning mobile phone towers and expansions.

Nine planned commercial districts and two planned office districts were approved since 2004 along the Roosevelt, Arch and Broadway corridors. Four planned residential districts were approved: three for the redevelopment of Tuxedo Court and Ives Walk and one for elderly housing associated with a church.

#### **Future Land Use Plan items:**

The first three items (Ordinances 21,708, 21,011, and 20,469) were products of area wide reviews initiated by Planning Staff where most of the changes made are to recognize existing uses or existing zoning.

Ordinance 21,708 of March 19, 2019, changed the following area:

• An area south of Roosevelt Road at Pulaski Street was changed from Residential Low Density to Commercial.

Ordinance 21,011 of March 17, 2015, changed the following areas:

- An area northwest of 26th and Schiller was changed from Residential Low Density to Public Institutional.
- An area west of Ringo at 30<sup>th</sup> Street was changed from Park Open Space to Residential Low Density.
- An area south of 33<sup>rd</sup> from Fulton to Izard Street is changed from Residential Low Density to Park Open Space.
- An area either side of Riffel Street south of 32<sup>nd</sup> Street was changed from Residential Low Density to Public Institutional.
- An area north of 34<sup>th</sup> from Gaines to Arch Street was changed from Mixed Use to Public Institutional.
- An area south of Roosevelt from Louisiana to Main Street was changed from Mixed Use to Public Institutional.

Ordinance 20,469 of September 20. 2011 changed the following areas:

• An area at the southwest corner of 29<sup>th</sup> and Interstate 30 was changed from Commercial to Residential Low Density.

The following two changes were initiated by the redevelopment of Ives Walk and Tuxedo Court. Ordinance 19,616 of October 17, 2006, changed the following area:

• An area along Ives Walk was changed from Multi-family to Single Family.

Ordinance 19,494 of February 21, 2006, changed the following area:

• An area south of 29<sup>th</sup> between Main and Martell was changed from Single Family to Multifamily.

See maps of the approved ordinances starting on page 70. Only the graphics for the changes within the study area were included.

#### SELECTED DEFINITIONS OF FUTURE LAND USE CATEGORIES

#### Residential Low Density- RL (formerly Single Family SF)

This category provides for single family homes at densities not to exceed 6 dwelling units per acre. Such residential development is typically characterized by conventional single family homes but may also include patio or garden homes and cluster homes, provided that the density remain less than 6 units per acre.

#### Residential High Density – RH (formerly Multi Family MF)

This category accommodates residential development of more than twelve (12) dwelling units per acre.

#### Mixed Use - MX

This category provides for a mixture of residential, office and commercial uses to occur. A Planned Zoning District is required if the use is entirely office or commercial or if the use is a mixture of the three.

#### Commercial - C

The commercial category includes a broad range of retail and wholesale sales of products, personal and professional services, and general business activities. Commercial activities vary in type and scale, depending on the trade area that they serve.

#### Park/Open Space - PK/OS

This category includes all public parks, recreation facilities, greenbelts, flood plains, and other designated open space and recreational land.

#### Public/Institutional - PI

This category includes public and quasi-public facilities that provide a variety of services to the community such as schools, libraries, fire stations, churches, utility substations, and hospitals.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

In November 2011, the citizens of Little Rock voted for a temporary 3/8 cent sales tax increase for 10 years and also to extend a 3 mil property tax for street and drainage improvements. The sales tax went to fund the sale of bonds to complete projects city-wide.

Below is a list of projects that have been completed or are scheduled to be completed.

The Sales tax and Bond projects 2013-2015 provided resurfacing portions of the following streets: 28<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>, 33<sup>rd</sup>, 35<sup>th</sup>, Main, Marshall, Spring, Summit, and Wolfe Streets.

Another project in that cycle was along Martin Luther King to capture water from running spring on west side of MLK from 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> Streets.

The Sales tax and Bond projects 2016-2018 provided resurfacing portions of the following street: South Main Street. Cross and Ringo Streets were also resurfaced out of a different project.

Another project in that cycle was to reconstruct Whitmore Circle beginning at 34<sup>th</sup> Street and around the loop which was completed in 2019.

The Sales tax and Bond projects 2019-2021 provided resurfacing portions of the following streets: Scheduled to be completed are Gaines, Cross, and Ringo Streets.

Other projects scheduled to be completed is a sidewalk along Marshall Street from Roosevelt to the southern terminus and to repair or replace old culverts along the Swaggerty Creek drainage from Roosevelt to 31st Street.



Arch Street Bridge was replaced with a different alignment.



Looking south from under bridge at City Parks storage area.



Arch street bridge pylon in 2011 with original date of construction of 1940.

#### PARK SYSTEM

In November 2011, the citizens of Little Rock voted for a temporary 3/8 cent sales tax increase for 10 years and also to extend a 3 mil property tax for street and drainage improvements. The sales tax went to fund the sale of bonds to complete projects city-wide. A portion of this money is devoted to improvements in Crump Park including the addition of a splash pad.



Plans for Crump Park Splash pad.



Benches and shade structures are provided.



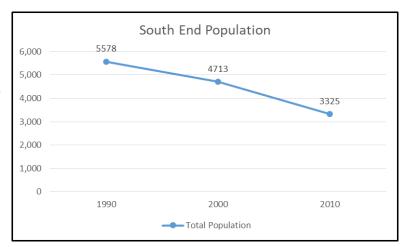
A giant bucket of water spills onto the play area on Opening Day – August 28, 2021.



A child enjoys the splash pad while an adult watches.

#### SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

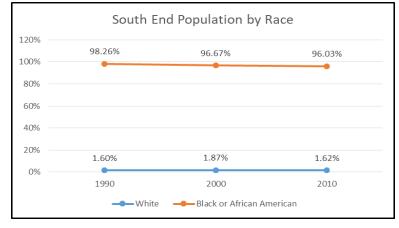
The population of the South End area has steadily decreased in the study period as shown in the chart on the right. In 1990, the population was at 5,578 while in 2010, it was at 3,325, a loss of 40%. The mix of males and females has stayed constant, with females making the majority at 56% in 1990 and falling at a steady rate to 54% in 2010. The neighborhood has seen that there has been an increase with the new houses being built and vacant houses being occupied. The 2020 census data was not available at the time of this printing.



South End population distribution has also remained consistent with 98.26% Black or African American in 1990 to 96.03% in 2010. The city as a whole has 51.4% white, 42.4% Black or African American,

and 2.5% Asian. The city as a whole also has 6.4% Hispanic while the South End has one-tenth of one percent in 2010.

For the most part the population of the South End has declined and experienced a net loss of housing stock which typically go hand in hand. However, the number of permits issued to repair or renovate housing since the last update provides evidence of the commitment by area residents to the preservation of the neighborhood.



The 2020 Census Demographics were not available at the time of this study. An addendum will be added showing the updated 2020 census information when it becomes available.

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:**

#### **#1 INFRASTRUCTURE GOAL:**

Coordinate with Public Works to improve condition of infrastructure.

#### Objective: Work with city to implement the following drainage improvements.

- Clean and improve drainage in Swaggerty Creek basin south of Roosevelt boundaries.
- Schedule regular maintenance of Swaggerty Creek.
- Repair and clean all ditches, ravines and drainage systems that flood throughout the South End Community.

#### Objective: Work with city to implement the following street and alley improvements.

- Build a retaining wall between alley and creek between Bishop, Marshall, 34<sup>th</sup>, and 35<sup>th</sup> Streets.
- Create, build and repair all curbs and gutters throughout the South End Community.
- Repair and pave and provide lighting in all alley ways throughout the South End Community.
- Make sidewalks safe for pedestrians by repairing and/or replacing sidewalks in disrepair and install sidewalks where there are none.

#### Objective: Work with city and Entergy to implement the following street light improvements.

- A complete analysis needs to be done by the City of Little Rock and Entergy to correct and improve our lighting system throughout the South End.
- Provide LED street lighting and additional fixtures for better efficiency.
- Need assessment and accountability by Urban Forestry to develop a Maintenance Plan for overgrown tree limbs and tree removal.

## Objective: Elevate the standards of the infrastructure in our neighborhood to acceptable standards

- Schedule regular number of days for street sweeper to remove debris throughout the South End.
- City of Little Rock needs to invest in more street sweepers in order to enhance the appearance of the South End and/or the Greater Little Rock Communities.
- Implement an ordinance for brush, bulk items, and curbside debris pickup on a regular scheduled basis without having to call "311". (IF IT'S OUT THERE PICK IT UP)



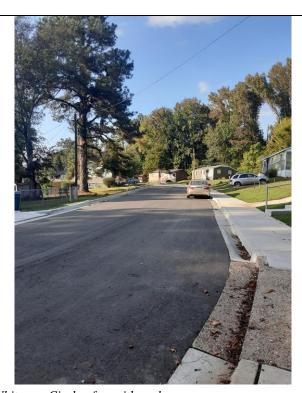
New sidewalks at 28th and Marshall Streets.



New sidewalks at 27th and Marshall Streets.



Whitmore Circle before with no curbs.



Whitmore Circle after with curbs.

In the Plan and Completed.



New storm drain facilities.



Whitmore Circle after with curbs.



Cross Street from Roosevelt south in process of being repayed.

#### **#2 HOUSING GOAL:**

Improve the housing stock of the neighborhood, both Rental and Owner occupied.

#### Objective: Repair, renovate and increase maintenance on housing stock that can be occupied

- The city of Little Rock should work with state and local government to adopt and pass legislation for Landlord-Tenant Laws for Arkansas
- Rehabilitate vacant housing to filter unwanted activities (**drugs**, **etc.**) to help eliminate blight throughout the South End.
- Need an Ecological Study done in the overgrown hillside area between 28<sup>th</sup> MLK and 30<sup>th</sup> MLK that has saturated soil ground caused by water problems that is dangerous. This section desperately needs attention so that homes can be built on this scenic hillside.
- Repair houses before they qualify for demolition.
- Codes and ordinance must be enforced to protect and save our community.
- Renovate housing as opposed to demolition. This will increase the housing stock and will save some of the historic value of the South End.
- Make single family houses affordable for potential homeowners
- Enforce all codes and ordinance violations, such as, no cars on lawns or abandoned or non-working cars on the street.
- Enforce maximum number of cars parked on side of house lawn and not in a paved or gravel driveway.
- Vacant houses and rental property upkeep according to code.

#### Objective: Utilize existing programs for home repair and home ownership

- We need a comprehensive housing program to provide repairs and renovation for homeowners that are disabled, senior citizens and low income families.
- Reconstruct those homes that have historic values throughout the South End Community.
- All dilapidated and abandoned houses near interstate 30 (I-30) need to be fixed and homeowners educated that there are grant funds available.
- 26<sup>th</sup> and Rock Street I-30 and Frontage Road to the railroad need to renovated. (THIS IS A BAD REFLECTION FOR THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK AND FOR THE TRAVELERS ON I-30)

#### Objective: Work to introduce new housing stock into the South End Neighborhood Community

- Need a Senior Citizen Retirement Complex for those who would love to stay in the South End community. Not disabled or families but Senior Citizens **ONLY**.
- All Landlords, renters, and resident owners need to be held responsible for upkeep and maintenance of their properties.

## Objective: Improve the overall appearance of the South End Community through proper building and ground maintenance.

• The existing ordinances should be enforced to its full potential for all residents to keep their properties clean and clear of trash, household furniture on porches and in yards.

Review to change any ordinance so that right of ways and alleys beyond the property line of
a residence that the city owns and is responsible for should be maintained by the city on a
regularly scheduled basis.

#### Objective: Beautify the neighborhood through the South End Community and individual efforts

- Hold landlords accountable for the actions of renters when there is excessive loud noise, drugs, gangs and violence associated with the property. Need stricter fines through the code enforcement on the upkeep of property.
- Hold landlords accountable to keep up their property. Establish Landlord and Rental Laws to be followed by landowners and renters.



2904 Gaines on left has been recently renovated.



Historic home with potential at 2905 S Gaines.



3104 Gaines Street is an older house.



3104 Gaines Street shows new construction.



3022 on right and 3020 S Main are new homes in the neighborhood.



3023 S Main was under construction.



Tuxedo Court renovations.



New homes on Horizon Lane.



This was built in 1945 as housing for Veterans. The patio and front porch were added in 2020.



Tract Veteran's homes built in 1945 for returning Black Veterans returning from World War II. These were in the 3100 and 3200 blocks of Spring and Center Streets and the 300 and 400 block of West  $33^{rd}$  Street.

#### #3 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOAL:

Encourage economic development in the area.

#### **Objective: Attract New Businesses to the South End Community.**

- To establish businesses on south of Roosevelt Road that includes a Center for the elders, a Pharmacy, Hardware Store, Restaurants, and Health Care Clinic.
- Established businesses in the South End will improve job opportunities.
- There is a need for an Educational Facility to promote job training, Health wellness, Budget Preparedness, and everyday life skills.

#### Objective: Initiate or explore job-training programs to train local residents

- Utilization of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Heritage Center at 3102 Dr. Martin Luther King Boulevard, as originally designed to offer programs that will enhance the neighborhood. There should be programs at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Heritage Center to prepare citizens for the work force (Computer Classes, Health Classes and etc.).
- Neighborhood programs to teach job skills. Provide literacy training for children, teens and young adults. Work with recently closed Boys and Girls Club and United Way to provide programs for seniors, children, and all area residents.

## Objective: Improve the overall appearance of the neighborhood through proper building and grounds maintenance.

 Based on municipal code, enforce upon existing businesses to take ownership and make needed repairs to both the inside and outside of their properties.

Objective: Beautify the neighborhood through community and individual efforts.



A new business in the neighborhood.



New Business at 1423 W Roosevelt.



The First Class Car wash on Roosevelt at Rock Street renovated an existing use.



Newer construction of retail at 415 E Roosevelt Road.



Willard Procter, Jr. P.A. Law Offices at 2500 S State Street.



The Murphy Jeffries building, currently being renovated, is a potential location for new business.



The Humphrey Store at 2901 S Wolfe Street.



2510 S Arch Street (left) has been renovated by owner Deryan Coleman and a new parking lot installed. 2008 Arch (right) has been recently renovated.

#### **#4 PARKS AND RECREATION GOAL:**

Promote better and safer park facilities for the community.

#### Objective: Work to implement improvements in area parks.

- Continue to implement the Crump Park Master Plan that was allocated by the ½ cent Tax Bill.
- Continue with the original Splash Pad Plan and the other amenities in its current location.
- Need walking trails connecting the South Side, Crump and Interstate Parks with sufficient lighting.
- Provide a new facility for neighborhood programs to teach job skills, computer classes, health Classes, Programs for senior citizens, young adults, and children.
- In all South End Neighborhood Parks Bike Trails, walking areas, conversation areas, playgrounds and picnic areas. Seek property in area that can be developed, water parks/splash pad. Upgrade the existing parks first
- Police patrol is needed in all South End Parks.
- Name the Southside football field after Couch Ed Johnson.
- Upgrade the "Entrance" and "Exit" of Southside Park.
- Need a developed walking trail.
- Provide for accessible parking in South Side Park.
- Add bleachers where needed.
- Park need to be elevated to prevent flooding
- Install drainage system to run off water.
- Upgrade Lighting System in South Side Park.
- Buildings owned or bought by the taxpayer's money should be publicly announced before donating and/or sold to a private person or organization.
- Add Wi-Fi capabilities.
- Install security camera in all parks.

Objective: Maintain existing parks at a higher level than the present

**Objective: Reduce crime in park areas.** 

#### Objective: Explore funding opportunities to start programs to assist youths.

• There should be more parks and programs funded by the city to provide physical, educational activities for all children at no cost.

Objective: Acquire more parkland for residents in the Northeast Section of the study area.







Southside Park.



Kids playing in the park.



The Dubisson Tigers, September 11, 1936. Courtesy of the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center.

Stars in 1947.



Crump Park aerial photo from 1943. Arch street bridge on far right. This was the home of the Negro League.

Daniel Joy Dubisson, born September 28th, 1872, in Franklin, TN, was a Negro baseball executive. He was the part owner of the Little Rock Grays and the sponsor of the Dubisson Tigers.

Dubisson was the son of John Dubisson and Elizabeth (nee Johnson) Dubisson. John was a former slave, a carpenter, and a soldier in the Union Army during the Civil War. Daniel Dubisson grew up in Franklin, TN, but later moved to Little Rock, AR, where he became a mortician and the proprietor of a funeral home in 1915.



In 1932, Dubisson became a part owner of the Little Rock Grays, a baseball team in the Negro Southern League. In 1933, he began his own semi-pro Negro team known as the Dubisson Tigers. The team was sponsored by Dubisson's Funeral Home and played regional competition, including Claybrook Tigers, St. Louis Stars, New Orleans Black Pelicans, and Shreveport Tigers. The Tigers operated until 1941

Dubisson died July 10th, 1952, in Little Rock, AR and was buried in Haven of Rest Cemetery. Copied from arkbaseball.com

His house at 1500 S Ringo Street is on the National Register of Historic Places and is currently known as the Alpha House for the fraternity that owns it.

before being broken up by World War I. After the war, the team essentially became the C and C Hotel

#### **#5 CRIME REDUCTION GOAL:**

Improve Public Safety and decrease crime.

Objective: Neighborhood residents should actively work to prevent crime in their areas.

#### Objective: Work with the Little Rock Police Department to enforce laws and reduce crime.

- More police patrol of parks activities during afternoon and evening hours.
- Need police to patrol the South End Community late at night to enforce the ordinances against illegal activities such as, drugs and prostitution.
- Enforce stricter rules on pet owners, such as, the maximum number of dogs, cats per household.
- Animal Control need to be more visible in the South End Community.
- Police Officers need additional training in the areas of Psychological and Disability Training.
- Racial Profiling need to be prohibited in all Communities.
- Police Communication Relationship Programs should be implemented throughout the South End Community.
- Added security cameras and lighting will help combat some crimes that take place in poorly lit places.
- Sponsor crime prevention workshops with youth and educate the neighbors on laws, ordinances, and city codes (Abandonment of property, parking of cars, etc.)
- Encourage neighbors to call 311 or 911 if they see concerning issues or vioations.

#### Objective: Control stray animals and eliminate packs of wild dogs.

• More animal control for stray cats and dogs.

## Objective: Work to revise or create ordinances that protect people who rent housing or live by housing that has been recently a site of gunfire or firearm attacks.

- Adopt a city ordinance to govern the rental of houses that have had incidents of gunfire or firearm attacks.
- Establish the responsibilities that the landlord of these properties has to new renters. Is the landlord required to tell the new renters of previous activity at the house? Do new tenants face more stringent work history or credit requirements? Are background checks required? Is there scrutiny regarding occupancy by known criminal offenders?
- Update the Public Nuisance Ordinance to include best practices from other cities.
- Establish a City of Little Rock Communication system policy (written or oral) to inform citizens living close to houses that have been recently targeted by firearms or drive by shootings.





Crime Watch sign.

#### #6 SOCIAL SERVICES GOAL:

Provide needed social services within the neighborhood for area residents.

Objective: Medical Facilities to provide services for all citizens in the South End which includes Senior Citizens, Youth, Adults and the Disabled Adults.

- Develop a Health and Wellness Clinic that will serve as a location for "Developing Life Skills
  - a. Work Values
  - **b.** Time Management
  - c. Personal Value
  - d. Decision Making / Conflict Resolution
- Building Character
  - **a.** Good Citizenship and Integrity
  - **b.** Building Self-Esteem
- Financial Literacy
  - a. Wills and Living Trust Management
  - **b**. Budget Management
  - c. Taking risks
- Assistance with Utility Services.
- Counseling for Social needs
- Programs for Youth and Family Counseling
- Develop Safety Education for the home
- The Family roles and responsibilities
- A Police Substation within the facility
- The facility needs to be able to house a Senior Citizen Social Day Care.

#### Objective: Achieve the total utilization of the Resource Center.

- A Senior Citizen Retirement Complex for those who would love to stay in the South End Community and not have to leave the community. For Senior Citizens **ONLY** (55+ years)
- Network with churches regarding food banks and clothing distributions.



Thrasher Boys and Girls Club.



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Heritage Center.



Volunteers at the Crump Community Garden promoting community gardens.



A bountiful crop.



Neighbors are given one dozen fresh eggs as they area collect ed. Dorothy Brown manages the Chickens.



The community garden gives away fresh produce to the entire community focusing on seniors, disable and single families. This is part of the 2021 harvest.



Harmony Health Clinic on Roosevelt Road.



The Arkansas Enterprise for the Developmentally Disabled at 201 E Roosevelt Road.

#### **#7 EXISTING LAND USE AND RENTAL PROPERTY GOAL:**

Improve our neighborhood through zoning controls.

#### Objective: Work with planning staff to improve existing neighborhood

- Ordinances should be enforced to its full potential for all residents to keep their properties clean and clear of trash, household furniture on porches and in yards.
- Attempts can be made to use vacant properties by attracting new developments
- Landlords must be made accountable by enacting stricter laws regarding property upkeep.
- Establish Landlord and rental Laws to be followed by landowners and renters.
- Little Rock Arkansas Code Ordinances for renter Inspection should be enforced.
- Total revitalization of MLK and the South End Community with home and businesses.
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Heritage Center and the artesian spring are part of the Historical Museum for the pioneers of the South End.

# Objective: Work to revise or create ordinances that protect people who rent housing or live by housing that has been recently a site of gunfire or firearm attacks.

- Adopt a city ordinance to govern the rental of houses that have had incidents of gunfire or firearm attacks.
- Establish what responsibility that the landlord of these properties has to new renters. Is the landlord required to tell the new renters of previous activity at the house? Do new tenants face more stringent work history or credit requirements? Are background checks required? Is there scrutiny regarding occupancy by known criminal offenders?
- Update the Public Nuisance Ordinance to include best practices from other cities.
- Establish a City of Little Rock Communication system policy (written or oral) to inform citizens living close to houses that have been recently targeted by firearms or drive by shootings.

The SENAC, Inc (South End Neighborhood Association Coalition, Inc.) received an Award of Excellence for Litter Prevention/Control "Great American Cleanup – Let's Paint Up" presented by Keep Arkansas Beautiful in 2006. The project was located and completed at 2906 S Scott Street.

Services were completed and donated by Volunteers: They built steps, handrails, replaced rotten wood and rebuilt window screens, scraped paint and painted the home.

- Donald Rowe, local business person, donated and installed the plate glass for the broken picture window.
- Isaac Ross, a local electrician (who returned to his childhood neighborhood), installed the outside light fixtures.
- Little Rock Job Corp Maintenance and Rehab Program partnered with SENAC to do woodwork and masonry work.

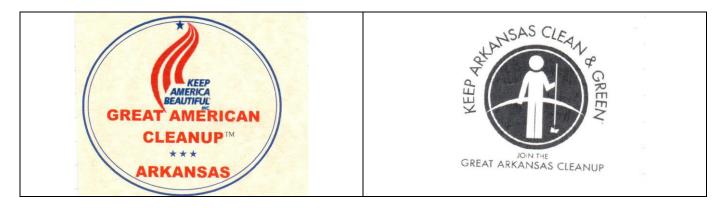
SENAC members were involved in securing support staff of Keep Arkansas Beautiful, City official, local churches, and businesses.

The Litter Project provided litter awareness prevention for the citizens in the area. As a result, street captains are now addressing certain target areas. This project provided positive image for an 86 year old lady to remain in her home and enhanced the community outlook for the future.

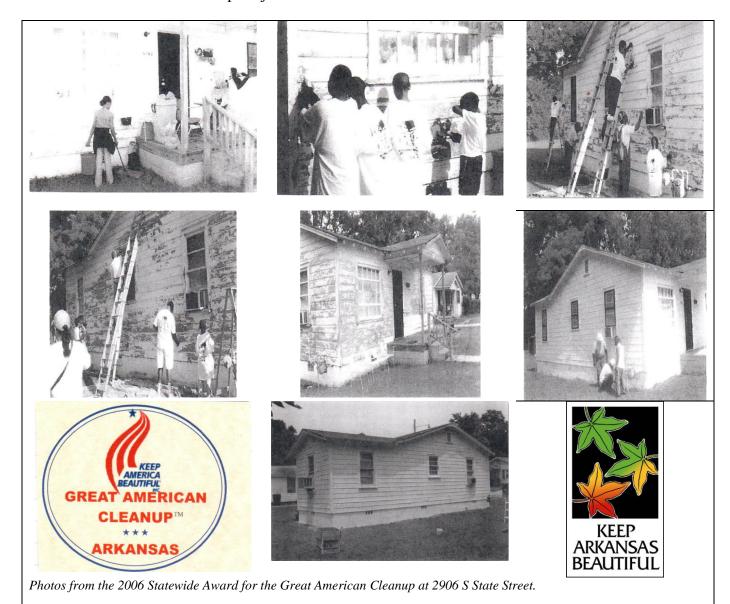
There is an on-going Litter Prevention Committee that meets once a month to address beautification issues.

The Coalition was saluted for their pride, spirit, and effort demonstrated in producing such an outstanding achievement. This was also a commitment SENAC made in the South End Area Improvement Plans of May 1999 and July 2004. In the May 1999 plan, the neighborhood involvement goal was to revitalize our neighborhood through increased maintenance of existing structures, through beautification projects and building neighborhood pride. In the July 2004 plan, the objective was to beautify the neighborhood through community and individual efforts by sponsoring area wide cleanup days of problem spots. Also, work with volunteer groups for area wide cleanups of the neighborhood.

In the spring of each year, SENAC has successfully completed 18 Great American cleanups. SENAC has also successfully completed 18 Great Arkansas cleanups in the fall of each year. Emergency cleanups have been completed in certain areas as needed.



Photos from the "Let's Paint Up Project" of 2006.





#### #8 HISTORY GOAL:

Establish and document the full history of the South End.

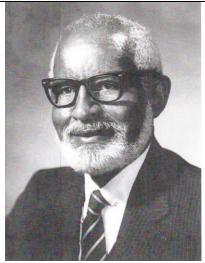
# Objective: To work with The Butler Center for Arkansas Studies to research when the South End was developed and established

- When was the South End developed and established?
- Who were the people who first settled in the South End?
- History of the Historical Sites
- Historical people that came out of the South End
- History of the first South End Association.
- To have all the historical sites listed under the State and National Historical Registrar regardless of the condition and to be restored when funds are available.
- Contact people who came from the South End to give a narrative for the history of the South End
- Create a "Wall of Fame" along MLK at the house and the area next to the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Heritage Center and the artesian spring
- Research for churches that are 100+ years that are still active.
- Explore "Veteran's Houses" in the area of Center, Spring,  $29^{th} 31^{st}$  Streets as a historic district. Research builders, occupants, and if there was a specific program to build them.
- Explore mid-century modern houses in the 3700 block of High Street as a historic district. Research builders, occupants, and if there was a specific program to build them.

# Objective: Acknowledge and research the work of Coach Ed Johnson for his coaching and mentoring of athletes from the South End.

- Research and inventory the players that he has coached that went on to play in the National Football League.
- Research and inventory the players that he has coached that have made contributions to society.
- Consolidate the existing documentaries and articles that have been written about him in one location for ease of study later, possibly at the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center or the Butler Center at CALS.
- Encourage all papers and memorabilia of Coach Johnsons to be donated to the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center or the Butler Center at CALS.
- Explore listing of Coach Johnson's house on the National Register of Historic Places. Coach Johnson, on a telephone call agreed to have exploratory research performed for inclusion to the National Register of Historic Places.

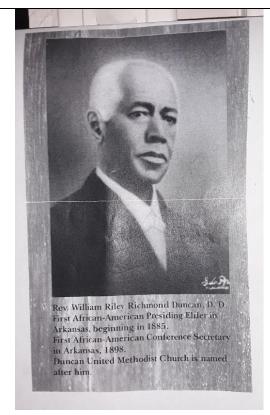
**Churches:** Churches have always played an important part in the life of the neighborhood. Some are featured here.



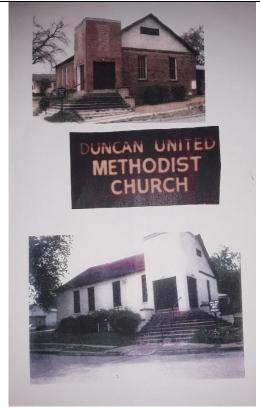
Dr. Harold Flowers was one of the first pastors of Duncan UMC. The Harold Flowers Law Society was founded and established in 1938 in honor of Dr. Flowers to bring together a like-minded community of African American lawyers of Arkansas.



Sign of Duncan United Methodist Church 1930-2020 90 years.



Duncan United Methodist Church is named for Rev. William Riley Richmond Duncan, D. D.



Photos of Duncan United Methodist Church – 90 years old.



First Liberty Hill Baptist Church at 2801 S Spring Street.



Cornerstone of original church at 2801 S Spring.



New Reed Memorial C. M. E. Church at 3101 S Izard Street.



New Reed Memorial Cornerstones.



White Memorial United Methodist Church.





White Memorial M. E Church – three cornerstones.

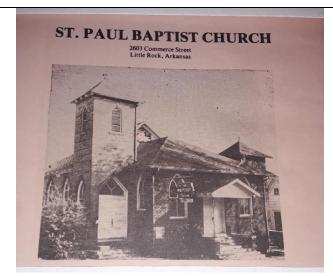
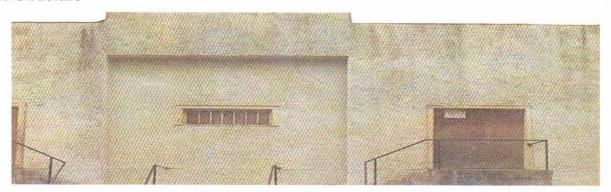


Photo of St. Paul Baptist Church – 1909.



The new St. Paul Baptist Church – 111 years old.

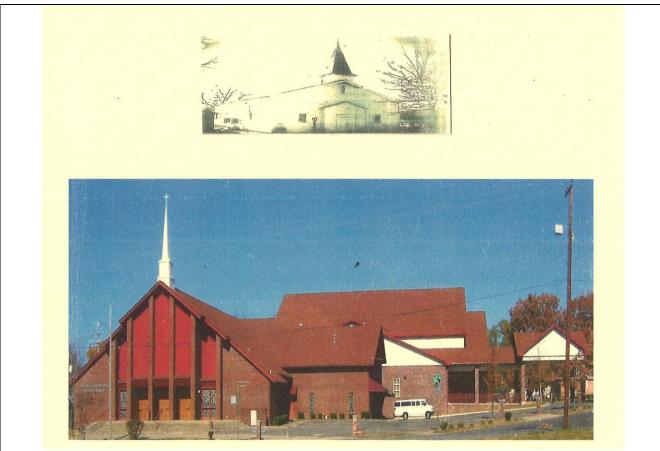
#### Old Structure



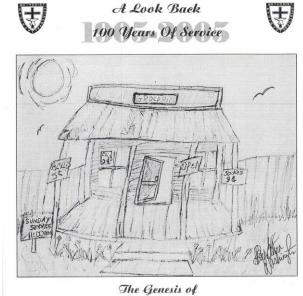
#### Current Structure



St John Missionary Baptist Church at 2600 S Main was originally named Town Baptist Church and was organized in 1890.

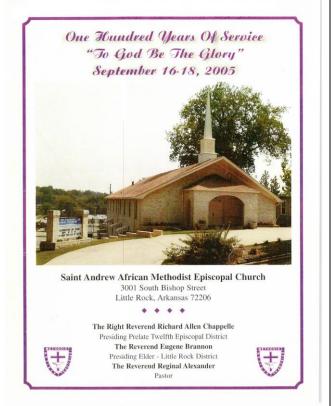


Greater Center Star Missionary Baptist Church at 800 W 33<sup>rd</sup> Street was organized around 1923. A new sanctuary was built in the 1980's and the Family Life Center was added to the north in 2002.



The Genesis of St. Andrew A.M.E. Church June, 1905 Mr. Sam Hargrove's Store 32nd and Fulton Sts., Little Rock, Arkansas Organizer - Miss Pearl Crawford

2005 publication for 100 Year Anniversary of St Andrew A.M. E Church.



St. Andrew African Episcopal Church is located at 3001 S. Bishop Street 115 years old.



New Light Baptist Church at 3110 S Battery Street. The congregation is 104 years old.



Location of the Old St. Mark Church on South Ringo Street.

#### **Schools:** Schools in the area:



Booker T Washington Elementary School, the oldest school in the neighborhood located on South Main Street.



South End School at 33<sup>rd</sup> and State Street – October 1915 photo.



Ish School at 3001 Pulaski Street opened in 1965 as an elementary school and was named for Jefferson Gatherford Ish, believed to be a former slave who was educated with his master's sons. It now serves as the LRSD Instructional Resource Center.



"J.G. Ish was a graduate of the Maryville Normal College in Tennessee. He came to Arkansas about 1881 and became an educator. Ish served as principal of three Little Rock schools from 1887 to 1906 and principal of the Negro High School at 9th and Hickory streets in Argenta (North Little Rock) in 1913.

"His son, G.W. Ish, became a prominent local physician, J.G. Ish Jr. was the principal at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff from 1915 to 1921, and members both their families were noted for their civic service."

-from the LRSD website.

#### Southside Park, Home of Coach Ed Johnson and the Sunset Tigers

The South End Neighborhood Association Coalition is asking that Southside Park be added on the Register of Historical places in Little Rock, Arkansas. Southside Park is on the land donated by Mr. Louis Whitmore, 51 years ago and he was a resident of the community. The address is #1 Whitmore Circle, at the intersection West 34<sup>th</sup> Street & Whitmore Circle, South of Roosevelt Road and West of Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. The park is east of Barton Coliseum at gate 12, next to the Rock Island railroad tracks and is in the midst of residential family homes that were built in 1945.

South End community activist, wife and mother, Velma Jean Gray was concerned about the youth in the area and wanted to create a sports program for them. But first, she needed a park to house the fields. The efforts yielded Southside Park, just off the intersection of 34th Street and Whitmore Circle, developed in 1970. The land was donated by Louis Whitmore, a former resident of Whitmore Circle. Beginning with a basketball court, ball field, playground equipment, picnic tables and bathrooms, the City of Little Rock constructed Southside Park and continues to maintain it.

In 1971, Velma Jean Gray spearheaded efforts to create a youth sports program in the neighborhood bound by High Street (now, Martin Luther King Jr. Drive), Roosevelt Road, and the State Fair Grounds. Joining her in that organizing effort were youth sports boosters and neighborhood parents Evelyn Fuller; McKinley Johnson Sr., Robert Nelson, Vernon Shackleford and other members of the Sunset community, which lies within those boundaries.

Otto Williams, then director of Pulaski County's Economic Opportunity Agency, better known as EOA, arranged for his agency to buy uniforms for the inaugural members of the Sunset Tigers, a youth football team that formed in the Spring of 1971. Since the team's inception, decorated Vietnam War Veteran Edward "Coach Ed" Johnson-who has two Purple Hearts, the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Award, a Bronze Star and several presidential citations, including one from then Gov. Bill Clinton-has been the team's athletic supervisor, chief fundraiser, mentor, surrogate father and support. (Coach Ed has received awards from youth sports organizations in Arkansas, Mississippi and Texas, among others.) His host of assistant coaches have included his younger brother, McKinley "Big June" Johnson Jr., Larry Gilmore, Leroy Brownlee and others from the neighborhood and, in many cases, alumni of the Sunset Tigers football team.

Southside Park has been the home of the Sunset Tigers Little League Football Team, for 50 years. Mr. Edward (ED) Johnson is the Head Coach and Organizer of the Legendary Sunset Tigers Little League Football Team. He is a youth mentor and surrogate father to those who had no father in the home. He received the Arkansas Community Service Award in 1983 from then Governor Bill Clinton. Since then, he has been an honoree and recipient of countless other service awards. For his Military Service to this country in the United States Army, he has 2 Purple Hearts, a Silver Star, a Bronze Star, a Vietnam Bronze Star and several President Citations. In 2019 he was inducted into the Arkansas Black Hall of Fame. According to his Hall of Fame Bio Coach Ed is believed to be the longest-serving active Community Youth Football Coach in the State of Arkansas. These accomplishments and community involvement have set the stage for his long term dedication to youth sports with the Sunset Tigers at Southside Park.

Since 1971, Head Coach Ed Johnson and his coaching staff has coached 4,900 plus youth football players in the last 50 years at Southside Park. He along with his staff, Parent Boosters, community supporters have seen players and cheerleaders go from Southside Park Little League Football Team members; to attending college and becoming leaders in their community. Many have become business owners, teachers, coaches, ministers and NFL players. The Sunset Tigers are a generational team of fathers, sons, grandfathers, mothers, and daughters wanted to be a part of the Sunset Tigers. Southside Park and the Little League Football Team has played a part in the lives of 47 players trying out for the National Football League (NFL); 24 players actually played for the NFL. Through Coach Ed Johnson's mentoring and dedication to the teams at Southside Park, all of the players graduated from college. There are others who may have played; however Ed says he stop tracking his former players in 2000. His focus now is no child left behind, tracking that one child who has no place to go or direction. This is his way of offering an alternative to youth who are at risk and could potentially drop out of school. He wants to continue to give hope to the hopeless and give them something to look forward too.

In its 50 years, the Sunset Tigers have hosted 658 games, 282 of them at their Southside Park home base. The team has won more than 40 bowl or league championships.

During each of the 50 years, as many as 95 youth have signed up to play, with 35 of them playing at any given time for a Sunset Tigers varsity, junior varsity or pee wee team. Also, during each of those 50 years, there were up to 25 cheerleaders supporting the team from the sidelines.

To be in the game, these youth athletes and cheerleaders have had to be in good academic standing at their respective schools. Yearly, at least 95 percent of players catapulted by the Sunset Tigers and slated to graduate from high school did, in fact, graduate. Twenty-four Tiger alum also have played for the NFL, including long-term NFL players John Bilal, , Charles Jackson, Keith Jackson Sr., Leslie O'Neal, John Simmons and Ricky Williams, just to name a few.

At Southside Park, there is a fence that separates the football field and the railroad tracks. On that fence hangs the history of the park (Our Lady) the team Legacy, our game records; 1977 Tigers -The Greatest Team Ever 13-0. Coach Johnson says these boards are what drives and inspires the young players today. They want to see their names on those boards at Southside Park. He lets them know it takes dedication, commitment, and giving your all on and off the field, in school and in whatever you want to achieve in life.

Coach Ed Johnson's recruiting boundaries for player began south of Roosevelt Road, west to Woodrow and east to Arch Street. This was agreed upon with other Little League Coaches. Players who played on the team that lived outside of the boundaries were at the request of their parents. His primary focus was to reach the youth who lived in the South End. In 2000 he saw there was a greater need to reach youth beyond the boundaries he had set. A young player, Nicholas (Nick) Jones #19 played quarterback and lead the team to championships during his season as a Tiger. He was memorialized June 10, 2020, in Southside Park on the field where he loved to play according to his mother.

In 1979, The Sunset Tigers were the first all-black team to play the first all-white program in the State of Arkansas. The team was called the Indianapolis Rangers from Indiana. In 1980, Coach Johnson was instrumental in helping Coach Mark Chilton organize the Benton Baby Panthers program and also

assisted Coach Bill Wilkerson in the development of the Sherwood Eagles program. Coach Johnson helped these white coaches to develop their programs in the 1980's.

The Sunset Tigers' key supporters have included the Sunset Tigers Parents Booster Club, Soldier's Wish Foundation, and the American Legion of Arkansas.

The Southside Park Sunset Tigers is proud to be a part of the community of players that played for the National Football League:

Below is a partial list of Sunset Tigers who excelled.

Eric Cray   Cray   Cray   Darrell Dokes   Cray   Darrell Dokes   Cray   Darrell Dokes   Cray   Darrell Dokes   Cray   Darrell Mason   Cray   Cray   Darrell Mason   Cray   Cray   Cray   Darrell Mason   Cray   Cr	Player name	Year	Address	College	Professional Team
Wayne Fuller         (1972)         312 Battery         U of A Oakland Raiders           John Simmons         (1972)         1207 High Dr. (MLK)         U of A Cincinnati Bengal           George Stewart         (1972)         918 West 32nd St.         U of A Atlanta Falcons, NFL Los Angeles Chargers           Ray Patton         (74-76)         UAPB UAPB Pro-tryout         St Louis Cardinals           Leslie O'Neal         (75-76)         603 West 33nd UAPB St Louis Cardinals         St Louis Cardinals           Leslie O'Neal         (75-77)         1303 West 27th St.         OSU San Diego Chargers           Keith Jackson Sr.         (75-77)         2800 High St. (MLK)         OU Miami Dolphin           Green Bay Packers Philadelphia Eagles         Philadelphia Eagles           Rickey Williams         (75-77)         3600 High Dr. (MLK)         U of A Houston Oilers           Anthony Chambers         (76-77)         3600 High Dr. (MLK)         U of A Pro-tryout           Eerry Stokes         (76-77)         3600 High Dr. (MLK)         U of A Pro-tryout           Derrick Bolden         (77-79)         UT Kansas City Chiefs           Billy Ingram         (77-79)         HEN Pro-tryout /dir. AR AAU           John Humphrey         (79-80)         2810 Arch         UAPB Pro-tryout /Dr. Pro-tryout /Dr. Pro-tryout /Dr. Pro-tryout	Eric Cray	(1972)			Pro-tryout
Darrell Mason	Darrell Dokes	(1972)		U of A	Kansas City Chiefs
John Simmons   (1972)   1207 High Dr. (MLK)   U of A   Atlanta Falcons, NFL   Los Angeles Chargers	Wayne Fuller	(1972)			First QB of Sunset Tigers
George Stewart	Darrell Mason	(1972)	312 Battery	U of A	Oakland Raiders
Ray Patton	John Simmons	(1972)	1207 High Dr. (MLK)	U of A	Cincinnati Bengal
Ray Patton         (74-76)         603 West 33rd         UAPB         Pro-tryout           Charles Jackson         (75-76)         603 West 33rd         UAPB         St Louis Cardinals           Leslie O'Neal         (75-77)         1303 West 27th St.         OSU         San Diego Chargers           Keith Jackson Sr.         (75-77)         2800 High St. (MLK)         OU         Miami Dolphin Green Bay Packers Philadelphia Eagles           Rickey Williams         (75-77)         3306 Wolfe St.         U of A         Houston Oilers           Anthony Chambers         (76-77)         3600 High Dr. (MLK)         U of A         (Pro tryout)           Anthony Chambers         (76-77)         3600 High Dr. (MLK)         U of A         (Pro tryout)           Anthony Chambers         (76-77)         3600 High Dr. (MLK)         U of A         (Pro tryout)           Ferry Stokes         (76-77)         3600 High Dr. (MLK)         U of A         (Pro tryout)           Derrick Bolden         (77-79)         UT         Kansas City Chiefs           Billy Ingram         (77-79)         UAPB         New Orleans Saints           Tony Garman         (1980)         UAPB         New Orleans Saints           Tony Garman         (1980)         UT         Pro-tryout With NE Patriots	George Stewart	(1972)	918 West 32 <sup>nd</sup> St.	U of A	Atlanta Falcons, NFL
Charles Jackson         (75-76)         603 West 33 <sup>rd</sup> UAPB         St Louis Cardinals           Leslie O'Neal         (75-77)         1303 West 27 <sup>th</sup> St.         OSU         San Diego Chargers           Keith Jackson Sr.         (75-77)         2800 High St. (MLK)         OU         Miami Dolphin           Green Bay Packers         Philadelphia Eagles           Rickey Williams         (75-77)         3306 Wolfe St.         U of A         Houston Oilers           Anthony Chambers         (76-77)         3600 High Dr. (MLK)         U of A         (Pro tryout)           Anthony Chambers         (76-77)         3600 High Dr. (MLK)         U of A         (Pro tryout)           Anthony Chambers         (76-77)         3600 High Dr. (MLK)         U of A         (Pro tryout)           McClellan High Coach         Assistant coach at Hall High         Pro-tryout         Derick Bolden         (77-79)         UT         Kansas City Chiefs           Billy Ingram         (77-79)         UT         Kansas City Chiefs         Brow Orleans Saints           Tony Garman         (1980)         UAPB         New Orleans Saints           Tony Garman         (1980)         UAPB         Pro-tryout/VP Regions Bank, Arvest Bank           Otis Campbell         (81-82)         UT					Los Angeles Chargers
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` '	Brian Jackson	(87-88)		u of A	Cincinnati Bengals
The construction $C_{\text{max}}$	Bilal Johns	(88-90)		UAPB	Pro-tryout Oakland Raiders
I nomas Green Jr. (89-91) UAPB Pro-tryout Dallas Cowboys	Thomas Green Jr.	(89-91)		UAPB	Pro-tryout Dallas Cowboys

Marcus Yarbrough	(91-92)		HEN	Pro-tryout Dallas Cowboys
Terrell Hammonds	(93-94)		UAPB	Pro-tryout
Keith Jackson Jr.	(96-97)	2801 Gaines	U of A	San Diego Chargers
Will McClinton	(96-97)		UAPB	Pro-tryout Chicago Bears
Marquis Lee	(97-98)		UAPB	Pro-tryout Saints
Kevin Hubbard	(97-99)		MEM ST	Pro-tryout
Shawn Heard	(98-99)		UAPB	Pro-tryout
Genesis Cole	(98-00)		Tulsa	Pro-tryout Philadelphia Eagles
SeJames Humphrey	(98-00)		UAPB	Pro-tryout with Cardinals
Otis Campbell	(81-82)	3202 South Summit		Atlanta Falcons
Derrick Bolden	(77-79)	3016 Summit		Atlanta Falcons

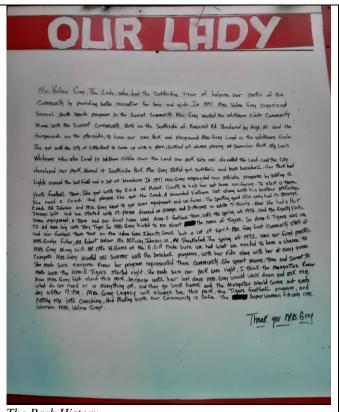
These are Sunset Tigers that did not live within the recruiting boundaries. These players had a desire to become members of the team and play alongside their friends. With their parents' consent they were allowed to play with the South End team.

Year	Address	College	Professional Team
(1977)	Granite Mountain	U of A	Chicago Bears
(78-79)	2410 West14 <sup>th</sup> St.	U of A	New England Patriots
(78-79)	2812 Patton St.	HEN	Minnesota Vikings
(80-81)	2316 West 15 <sup>th</sup> St.	U of A	Dallas Cowboys
			Houston Oilers
(84-87)	207 East 21 <sup>s</sup> St.	UAPB	Oakland Raiders
(85-86)	1825 Schiller	ASU	San Diego Chargers
(87-88)	2411 West12th Street	U of A	Cincinnati Bengal
(92-93)	2316 West 17 <sup>th</sup> St.	U of A	Denver Broncos
(92-93)	5217 Gum Springs	U of A	Denver Broncos
(1996)	5909 Valley Drive	UCA	New Orleans Saints
(98-99)	3124 West 11 <sup>th</sup> St.	Tulsa	Miami Dolphin
			Buffalo Bills
	(1977) (78-79) (78-79) (80-81) (84-87) (85-86) (87-88) (92-93) (92-93) (1996)	(1977) Granite Mountain (78-79) 2410 West14 <sup>th</sup> St. (78-79) 2812 Patton St. (80-81) 2316 West 15 <sup>th</sup> St. (84-87) 207 East 21 <sup>s</sup> St. (85-86) 1825 Schiller (87-88) 2411 West12th Street (92-93) 2316 West 17 <sup>th</sup> St. (92-93) 5217 Gum Springs (1996) 5909 Valley Drive	(1977) Granite Mountain U of A (78-79) 2410 West14 <sup>th</sup> St. U of A (78-79) 2812 Patton St. HEN (80-81) 2316 West 15 <sup>th</sup> St. U of A (84-87) 207 East 21 <sup>s</sup> St. UAPB (85-86) 1825 Schiller ASU (87-88) 2411 West12th Street U of A (92-93) 2316 West 17 <sup>th</sup> St. U of A (92-93) 5217 Gum Springs U of A (1996) 5909 Valley Drive UCA

Southside Park, Sunset Tigers players, attended college and graduated with a degree that prepared them for their future. Just to list a few Derrick Bolden, Minister; Anthony Chambers, Head Coach McClellan and assistant Coach at Hall High; Tim Scarbrough, Coach at Hall High; and Rodney Peel, Vice President at Regions Bank until 1998 and at Arvest Bank currently. Wayne Fuller the first quarterback of the Tigers now owns Chicken Wang for 19 years.

It will be 50 years in 2021, since Mrs. Velma Gray, asked Coach Ed Johnson to help organize a football program for the youth at Southside Park. His hope is that the Legacy created at Southside Park continues long after he retires and that Southside Park receives consideration and recognition on The Little Rock Register of Historic Places as it continues to be an asset to the community and its youth.

Below are photos of signs that have been placed around the ball field.





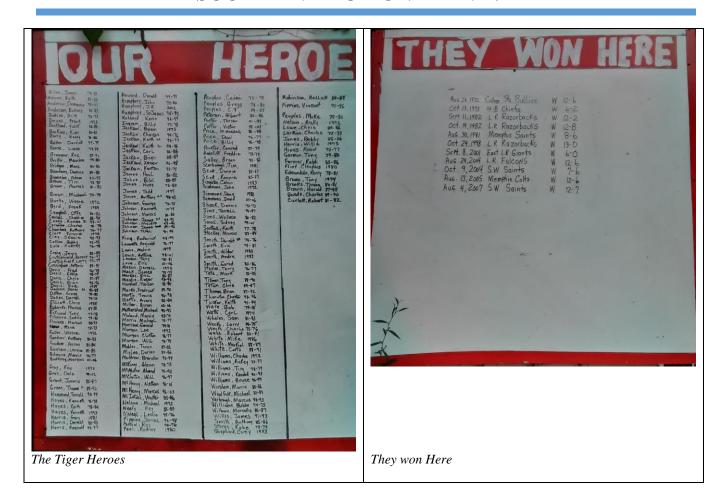
The Park History.

1977 13-0 Tigers



OUR		OR	
THE MOST IN	Single Game	Single Season	ALL-TIME Tota
I. TACKLES MADE IN II. ASSISTS MADE IN III. SACKS MADE IN IV. INTERCEPTIONS IN IV. FOMBLES RECOVERED IN IV. DEFENSIVE SAVES IN IVII. SAFETYS MADE IN IVIII. FUMBLES LOST IN IV. TOUCHDOWNS IN IX. PAT' (stra-finith) IN III. RUNNING ATTEMPTS IN IVII. RUNNING TARDS IN IVII. PASSES CAUGHT IN IVII. PASS RECIEVING YARDS IN IVII. ATTEMPTED PASSES IN IVII. COMPLETED PASSES IN IVIII. COMPLETED PASSES IN IVIII. PASSING TOUCHDOWNS IN IXII. PASSING TOUCHDOWNS IN IXIII. PASSING TOUCHDOWNS IN IXIII. PASSING TOUCHDOWNS IN IXIII. PASSING TOUCHDOW	7- Wage Burts 1972 155 # - Glan MK. 109 - 1972 155 # - Glan MK. 109 - 1973 19 - Walter MS. John 1984 14 - Walter MS. John 1984 14 - Walter M. Mark M. 1984 15 - Fris Markh 1984 15 - Fris Markh 1984 15 - Fris Markh 1984	115 Merber Culter Jack R. J. Harptery 2002 10 Firence Cleat 1972 10 Firence Cleat 1972 10 Firence Cleat 1972 10 Firence Merber Mills Fred Theore Mills Fred	3M. Moores Colling 18. Maries General 18. Maries General 28. Riche Williams 16. Arithme (10) Junes 5. Eric Smith 19. Rather Beller 34. Marc Bridges 31. Ray Nealy 242. Nathon Milliams 255. Chris Tathum 256. Chri

The Team Record



This is a transcription of the "OUR LADY" sign on the previous page. (Some grammatical errors have been corrected.)

Mrs. Velma Gray, the lady who had the outstanding vision of helping our youths of this community by providing better recreation for boys and girls. In 1971 Mrs. Velma Gray organized several youth sports programs in the Sunset Community. Mrs. Gray wanted the Whitmore Circle Community along with Sunset Community, both on the south side of Roosevelt Rd., bordered by High St. and the fairgrounds on the other side, to have our own park and playground. Mrs. Gray lived in the Whitmore Circle. She got with the City of Little Rock to come up with a plan, instead of always playing at Dennison Park, Mr. Louis Whitmore who also lived in Whitmore Circle owned the land our park sits on, and donated the land. The City developed our park and named it Southside Park. Mrs. Gray started girls' softball and boys' baseball. Our park had lights around the ballfield and a set of bleachers. In 1971 Mrs. Gray expanded our athletic programs by adding a youth football team. She got with the E.O.A of Pulaski County to help her get some uniforms, to start a team. She needed a coach and players, she got the coach, a wounded Vietnam vet. Along with his brother McKinley. Coach Ed Johnson and Mrs. Gray went to get some equipment and uniforms. The sporting goods store only had 17 – orange jerseys left, and we started with 17 – players dressed in orange and 3 – players in white t-shirts. "Now she had a park some equipment". A team and our first name was Area-5 football team, until the spring of 1972, and the Frosty Flake T.V. ad was big with Tony Tiger. So, Mrs. Gray hinted to me about the name of Tigers, so Area-5 Tigers was on, and our football team took on the Velar Gray identity, small but a lot of spirit.

Mrs. Gray's first community staff was Mrs. Evelyn Fuller, Mr. Robert Nelson, Mr. McKinley Johnson, Sr., Mr. Vernon Shackleford. The spring of 1972 was our first practice Mrs. Gray along with Mr. Otto Williams of the E.O.A. made sure we had what we needed to have a chance to compete. Mrs. Gray worked all summer with the baseball programs. With her kids alongside her at every game, she made sure everyone knew her program represented their community. She spent money, time and sweat to make sure the Area-5 Tigers started right. She made sure our park was right, I think the mosquitos knew how Mrs. Gray felt about this park, because until her last days Mrs. Gray would walk down and ask me what do we need or is everything ok, and then go back home and the mosquitos would come out each day after 7 p.m. Mrs. Gray legacy will always be this park, the Tigers football program, and putting me (Ed Johnson) into coaching, and making sure our community was safe. The superwoman fits only one woman, Mrs. Velma Gray.

Thank you, Mrs. Gray,

An undated article from the Arkansas Democrat Gazette.

### Coach's playbook includes life lessons

Claudia Laurer

#### ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT GAZETTE

A dozen boys come gather around an assistant football coach as he unleashes a haze of mosquito spray.

'Bow your heads like you're praying, and it won't get in your eyes," yells Dylan Lowery, the 12-year old team captain of the Sunset Tigers. A rainy September weekend left standing water in the former creek bed that is now known as Southside Park. The tiny tree lined property is better known as Sunset Park by the residents of Little Rock's South End neighborhood, a small community east of the State Fairgrounds and south of Roosevelt Road.

More than 90 boys standing on in line for bug spray play for the three tiers of Tigers. They range in age from 5-13. The coaches go through five cans of mosquito spray a week when it rains, said coach Ed .Johnson, the founder of the Tigers better known in the community as Coach Ed. The field, a few yards from a back gate of the fairgrounds, has been the Tigers' home since 1971.

The park is near the bottom of the city's park maintenance schedule. The grass is often high, the bathrooms are leaky and snakes slither in the drainage ditches.

During home games, trains rattle and screech about 15 feet away from the edge of the field, drowning out the sounds of players, parents and the coaches' whistles.

But the kids keep playing, and the parents-keep cheering.

"There's nowhere I would rather be on a Saturday," says Coach Ed, sitting in a battered folding chair stationed beyond the end zone. "It might not be the Taj Mahal of fields, but this is our heaven."

For 41 years, boys have flocked there - boys who didn't have the money for more expensive programs; boys whose mothers decided they needed positive male role models; boys who, followed their friends to practice because they wanted to be part of-a winning team.

The football program, which targets at-risk youths and has spawned 18 National Football League players - including Keith Jackson - goes mostly unnoticed by people outside of South End.

"If you were a boy who grew up south of 630, you played for Coach Ed," said community activist Robert Webb, whose lanky teenage frame appears in several Tigers team photos from the 1980s.

"You may have only played in one game or come to a few practices, but you played for Ed. The program has had a role in so many lives. "There aren't enough programs that address the needs of kids in this community, and there are even fewer aimed at teens once they age out." Various plans being considered for expanding the State Fairgrounds have some residents in South End worried for the Tigers' home field. Two of those plans focus west and avoid South End. A third looks at 58 acres of houses along Battery Street and stops just short of the park. A fourth option affects the Tigers. Under it, the

Arkansas Livestock Show Association, which sponsors the State Fair, would petition to build an off ramp from Interstate 30 to the back gate of the fairgrounds. The association could look at acquiring the park, depending on the arc of the off-ramp and whether the train tracks need to be moved.

Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department spokesman Randy Ort said recently that the department has not begun studying the proposal, doing engineering on the possible location or having discussions with federal transportation authorities about the possibility. Meanwhile, Coach Ed - now 63 - announced in November that he plans to quit coaching next season and hand the reins to his assistant coaches.

He will continue to sit in his tattered chair beyond the end zone, help arrange away games, and handle administrative matters or field repairs, however.

Letting go of something he's spent so much care cultivating won't be easy, and he jokes that he's only 98 percent sure this will be his last season "unless some extenuating circumstance happens."

#### TEACHING LIFE LESSONS

Coach Ed says the Tigers program started as a way to help himself as much as a way to reach boys who needed something positive in their lives.

Before he became Coach Ed, the Little Rock native was a 20-year-old Army Ranger who spent 15 months in combat in Vietnam.

Two injuries brought him home early and ended his military career. He was injured after stepping on an explosive hidden in a peanut butter can. Then a few months later, he was shot in both legs during an ambush.

Doctors told him that he would never regain full use of his legs. Lying in bed at the Little Rock Veterans Administration hospital, he said, he had a conversation with God.

When he got home, he said, he knew he would walk again and that he was supposed to start a football team.

"I hear all the time from my past players how much the program meant to them," he said. "But without this program, I don't know if I would have made it through all of that. I think we all needed something positive in our lives."

During the first few seasons, the team gained fame for its winning record.

The program switched leagues several times, leaving a city league and eventually heading out on its own as an independent a few years ago.

Because of the team's reputation, it was easy for it to attract opponents from as far away as Texas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Missouri and other places.

The team wins, and it wins with grace.

While most youth leagues in Little Rock charge upward of \$75 per child, Coach Ed makes do with \$3 per boy. The players spend part of spring training sanding and repainting chipped helmets, and all the boys are issued used pants, pads and jerseys. They usually all get a crisp new pair socks. He negotiates with sports stores and bus companies for team equipment and travel deals. He relies on parents and community volunteers to provide concessions, take tickets and do occasional maintenance jobs.

"He's like a surrogate father to me," says Michelle Smith, a player's mother, who runs the concession stand.

"We argue and fuss, but the parents know when these boys enter those gates, they belong to the coaches, and they're in good hands. He's a role model, and he teaches them things that stick with them."

Coach Ed guides his team members with life lessons peppered with football strategies and sportsmanship requirements.

"You can't play if you aren't in school," says Jahmar Miller, 12. "And don't assume they [their opponents] can't play better than you," he added.

"And you have to be respectful of your parents, and we have to be good winners and good losers .... show sportsmanship," says Dylan, the team captain.

"I've learned to ... step up and to have confidence in myself since I started playing," he adds with a grin. "I used to be shy."

Almost every week, Coach Ed invites guests.

Prison guards, police officers, pastors, former felons, business owners and even state representatives visit, all to help the boys think about and plan how they want their futures to turn out. He practices positive reinforcement off the field, too. Boys who go to church, for example, get invited out for burgers, or to play video games and talk about football at his house.

"You don't go to church, you don't go to McDonald's," a former player joked.

Coach Ed also hangs yellow paper signs on trees around the park to catch boys' attention on their way to see their player statistics or to the concession stand.

Encouragement is everywhere.

One of his favorite signs reads, "An error doesn't become a mistake until you refuse to correct it."

#### SOME BOYS LOST

Despite his focus on positivity, Coach Ed knows his boys are not saints.

Once the team made the local news in a southeast Arkansas town for having a food fight at a McDonald's that was so messy that the restaurant had to be shut down for cleaning.

Another time, coaches noticed on an overnight trip that the older players were flocking to one boy's motel room. The boy had figured out how to order more than \$50 worth of adult films on the motel television, leading to a ban on overnight trips for more than a year.

The coaches now recount those incidents with roars of laughter, but other stories are not at all funny. Ed assesses every boy and every circumstance independently, but boys who have run-ins with the police are not allowed to play.

This year, one player was arrested after his father used him to help sell "fake drugs" to an undercover police officer. The coaches think the 11-year-old was subsequently sent to a youthful offender lockup in Louisiana, closer to where his mother lives.

Coach Ed reaches more boys than he loses, but inevitably some are lost.

The pastor at Coach Ed's church runs a prison ministry and recalled a recent sermon in which he told prisoners that people can always doubt words but cannot doubt a person's actions. The phrase sounded familiar to the prisoners, who started talking and realized that they had all heard it from Coach Ed during football practice.

"There must have been 20 of them, and I let him talk me into going up there and seeing them," Coach Ed says.

"I had tears in my eyes. They were all saying, 'Coach do you remember me?' And they were all apologizing to me for the things they had done and for not listening to me. I told them they didn't have to apologize to me because they were living with their mistakes."

Some mistakes are harder to live with, he says.

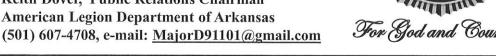
At Coach Ed's house in a room painted Sunset Tiger orange, his military medals and community service awards hang near trophies, plaques and team photos from almost every Tiger season. There are homemade certificates for every player who has made it to a college team or to the NFL. A plaque on one wall lists names in small, simple black letters. Coach Ed says those are the boys he lost to street violence.

"A lot of these boys died because of gangs. Some of them were just kids when all of that was happening," he says.

# **AMERICAN LEGION** DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS NEWS RELEASE

**CONTACT:** Keith Dover, Public Relations Chairman

(501) 607-4708, e-mail: MajorD91101@gmail.com





#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Surprise Event to Honor Local Veteran and Coach

The American Legion Department of Arkansas, in Cooperation with the Soldier's Wish Organization and the City of Little Rock, will be honoring Coach Ed Johnson, a decorated, and dedicated Little League Football Coach of the Sunset Tigers, a Little League Football Team from South Little Rock which has produced notable professional athletes such as Keith Jackson, Anthony Lucas, and Eric Smith just to name a few.

The ceremony is being kept secret from Coach Johnson to help honor him properly, and Mayor Mark Stodola, as well as several other VIPs will be in attendance to help honor this decorated Veteran and long-time coach who has coached several thousand youth for over 48 years in the City of Little Rock. The ceremony will be held at 11:00 a.m. this Saturday, July 28, 2018, at Southside Park in Little Rock and media representatives as well as the general public are invited to attend.

The American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization, and is currently celebrating 100 years of service to veterans, servicemembers and communities across the nation, and today, Legion membership stands at over 2 million in more than 13,000 posts worldwide. Over the years, the Legion has influenced considerable social change in America, won hundreds of benefits for veterans and produced many important programs for children and youth.

The mission of Soldier's Wish is to identify unmet needs of veterans of military service regardless of branch or rank and identify or provide resources to meet those needs by providing needed support directly to the veteran service members and/or their families in order that such service members can lead normal and productive lives. "Veterans" may be those who have served only a short time and are still on active duty, those who served a single enlistment, those who were discharged due to their wounds, and those who retired from active duty. In addition, Soldier's Wish helps to educate the public about the needs of the veteran's and active duty communities and encourage the public to participate in meeting those needs by volunteering and other means.

"Coach Johnson has given so much to these youth with his time, his money, and even of himself in mentoring and molding these young people into productive and successful young men," says Mary Gaines, one of the organizers of the event. "We want to recognize Coach Johnson for all he has done to help these youngsters, including making sure they have things they wouldn't have received otherwise, such as making sure they have meals, clothing, and many other basic needs so they don't fall through the cracks."

Again, the ceremony is being kept secret from Coach Johnson to help honor him properly, and Mayor Mark Stodola, as well as several other VIPs will be in attendance. The ceremony will be held at 11:00 a.m. this Saturday, July 28, 2018, at Southside Park in Little Rock and media representatives as well as the general public are invited to attend.

For more information, please contact the American Legion Department at (501) 375-1104, or visit the American Legion Department of Arkansas Web site at: www.arlegion.org.

# # #

#### Coach Ed Johnson Soldier's Wish Presentation Program

Welcome Comments from City of Little Rock......Mayor Mark Stodola Mayor, City of Little Rock

Soldier's Wish Overview......Mark Ochsenbein Soldier's Wish Organization

Special Letter Reading......Erin Smith
Son of Eric Smith, Former NFL Player and Sunset Tiger

#### **Special Thanks**

Special thanks to all involved to make this event possible, including: Ms. Mary Gaines, Ms. Barbara Price, Sunset Tigers Booster Club, Soldier's Wish Organization, The American Legion and The American Legion Department of Arkansas, and the City of Little Rock.









# Coach Ed Johnson







Soldier's Wish Presentation July 28, 2018

Southside Park, 1 Whitmore Circle Little Rock, Arkansas



Coach Johnson's military service is marked by two Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star Award, A Silver Star Award, a Vietnam Bronze Start Award, and several Presidential citations.

#### Declaration of Southside Park the Home of Coach Ed Johnson and the Sunset Tigers.

In June 2018, Whitmore Circle Association petitioned the Parks and Recreation Department to declare Southside Park as the home of Coach Ed Johnson and the Sunset Tigers.

On August 3, 2019, a sign was erected and unveiled. City Director Erma Hendrix was in attendance.



Coach Ed Johnson and Hall High School Coach Anthony Chambers.



From left Wayne Burt, Ricky Williams (former player) and Coach Tim.



 $Group\ shot\ of\ team.$ 



Coach Ed Johnson (far left,) Ruby Jeffries, and Director of Parks and Recreation John Eckart (far right).



Director John Eckart and City Director Erma Hendrix.





Dedication sign at the entrance to the park.

Below is the text of the proclamation dated August 3, 2019.

# CITY OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS PROCLAMATION

Know Ye All People By These Presents Greetings

Whereas, Edward Johnson was born in Pickens, Arkansas, raised in Little Rock and graduated from Horace Mann High School; and

Whereas, Edward Johnson served his country in the United States Army; and

Whereas, inspired by community activist Mrs. Gray and brother McKinley Johnson in 1971, Johnson began serving his community as a volunteer Little League Football Coach and affectionally earned the name, Coach Ed; and

Whereas, Coach Ed has encountered over 5000 kids from the greater Little Rock area, whom some have gone on to play football in high school, college and even on the professional level; and

Whereas, Coach Ed received a Silver and Bronze star as a Vietnam Veteran for his heroic achievements and meritorious service in a combat zone, earned two Presidential Unit Citations for extraordinary heroism during the attack on Pearl Harbor, along with two purple hearts, was honored by the American Legion in cooperation with the Soldier's wish organization, selected to be inducted in the 2019 Class of the Arkansas Black Hall of Fame; and

Whereas, Coach Ed has faithfully served in his community the last 48 years as a coach, mentor and positive role model.

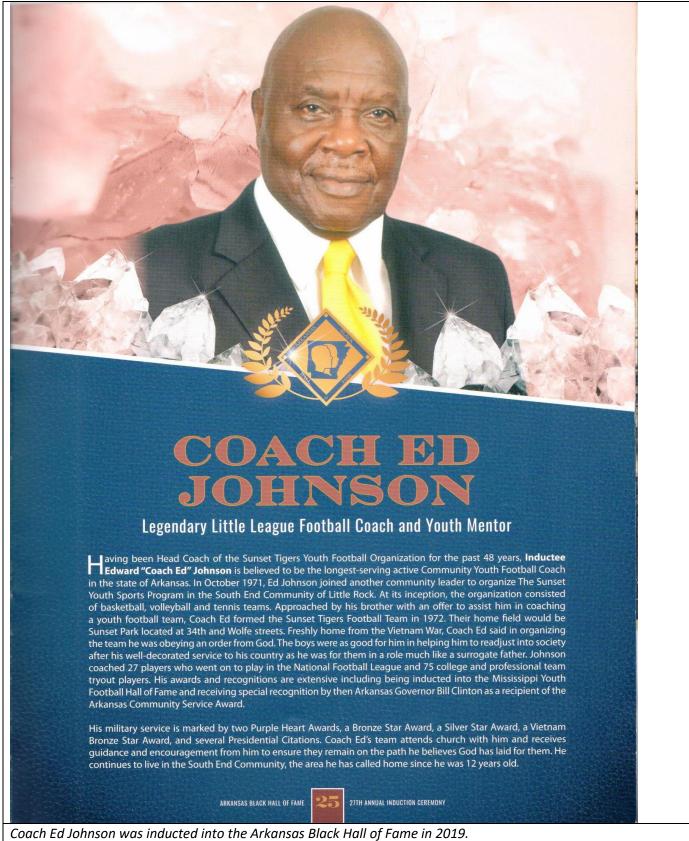
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, do hereby proclaim Saturday, August 3rd, 2019, as

#### **Coach Ed Johnson Day**

in the city of Little Rock and call upon all citizens to join in expressing appreciation for Coach Ed's indelible impact in our community.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Little Rock to be affixed on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August, in the year of our Lord, 2019.





Coden La Johnson was madeled into the Arkansas black rian of rame in 2015



Ed Johnson, Coach of the Sunset Tigers, has been coaching since 1972.



First game day of 2020.



Visitors arrive at the first game day of 2020.



Coach Johnson on the sidelines first game day 2020.



Guest team supporters first game day of 2020.



From left to right, Coach Kobi Knight - Junior Varsity Coach - 2020-present. Coach Keith Jackson Jr. - Junior Varsity Coach-2019-2020. Coach Roger King. All were former players on the Sunset Tigers.



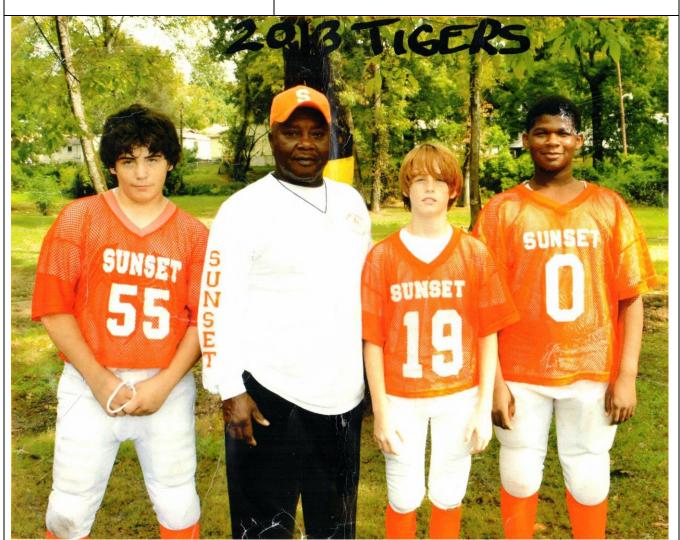
Sunset Tigers players.



Coach Johnson seated in center with team members.



Tigers game against the Texas Raiders.



#55 Daniel Johnson, Coach Johnson, Nick Jones # 19, and #0 Douglas Walker. Nick Jones was the first white quarterback ever during the 2010 season. Coach Johnson said, "No child left behind."



Photos of Nick Jones #19 2010 Season Quarterback for his memorial service.



More photos.



Memorial service preparations.



Attendees at memorial service.

Photos of homes of professional ball players and Coach Johnson.



Home of Coach Johnson at 3014 S Battery Street.



Home of John Simmons, 37 High Drive.



Home of Leslie O'Neal 1303 W 27th Street



Home of Keith Jackson Sr. at 2716 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Drive



Home of Keith Jackson Jr at 2801 Gaines Street



Home of Derrick Bolden at 3016 S Summit Street



Home of Otis Campbell at 3202 Summit Street



Home of Rickey Williams at 3306 Wolfe Street



Home of Anthony Chambers at 3600 High Drive



Home of George Stewart at 918 W 32nd Street



Home of Darrell Mason, 3015 Battery Street.

#### **History Collage**



Home of Mrs. Eliza Jane Ashley at 2615 Battery Street. She was a cook at the Governor's Mansion for 30 years.



Retan House at 2510 Broadway listed on the National Register of historic Places.



Home of L.C. and Daisy Bates at 1207 W 28th Street.



The plaque denoting National Register Landmark status at Bates House.



The Bates House is on a mobile audio tour as shown on the plaque in the sidewalk.



Joshua Building at 2501 State Street. This building was the Little Rock College 1908-1916, St John's Seminary 1911-1916 and 1920-1930, St Joseph's Orphanage 1916-1920, the Catholic Boys School in 1930-1961. EOA was here in the late 1990s.



Coleman's Automotive at 2801 S Arch Street.



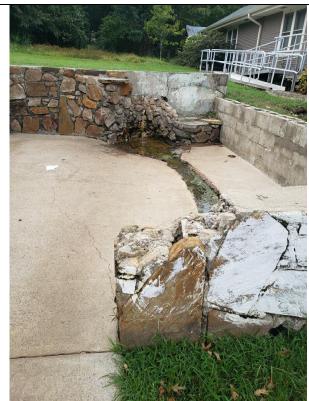
Original Sim's BBQ location at 716 W 33<sup>rd</sup> Street. It opened in 1937.



The new Sim's BBQ location is at 2415 S Broadway.



Artesian spring at 2800 Dr. Martin Luther King Dr.



Artesian spring at 2800 Dr. Martin Luther King Dr.



Former Kroger Store and Wilds Bakery at 2718 and 2722 S Arch Street.



Lassis Inn 518 East 27<sup>th</sup> was founded in 1905 by Joe and Molassis Watson. Mr. Watson named the catfish restaurant after his wife. Present owners are Elihue Jr. and Marie Washington. The Lassis Inn has won national awards for its food.

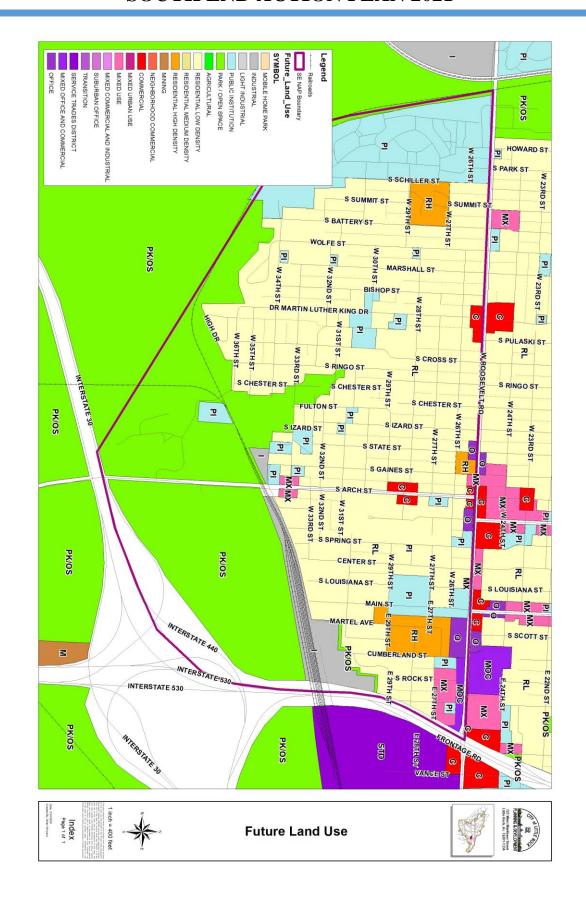


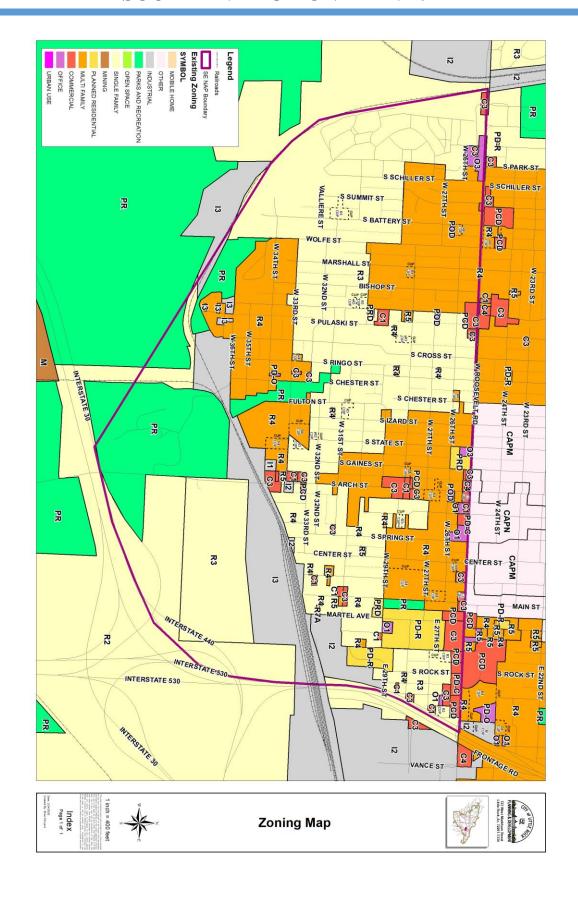
The Boy Scouts of America Troop 467 was chartered in 1963 at St Mark Missionary Baptist Church at 3023 S Ringo Street.

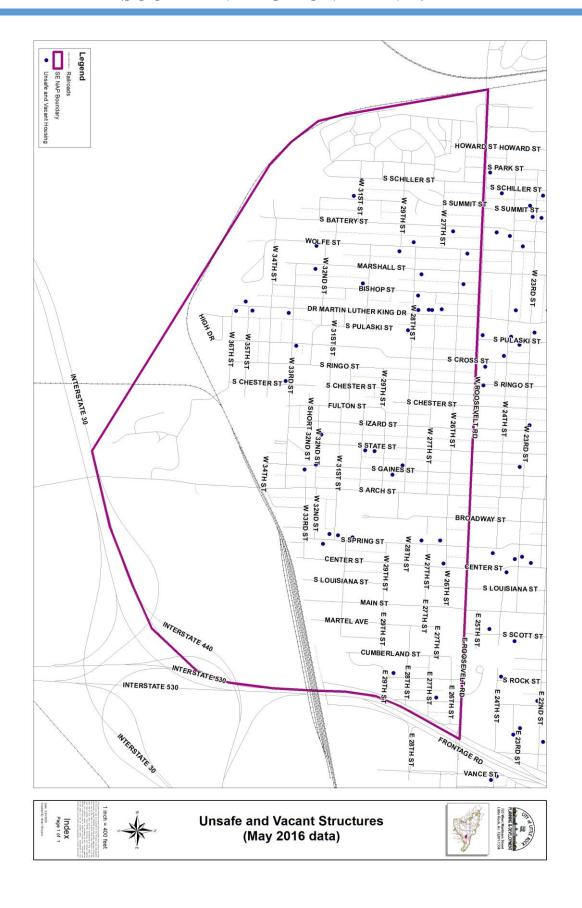


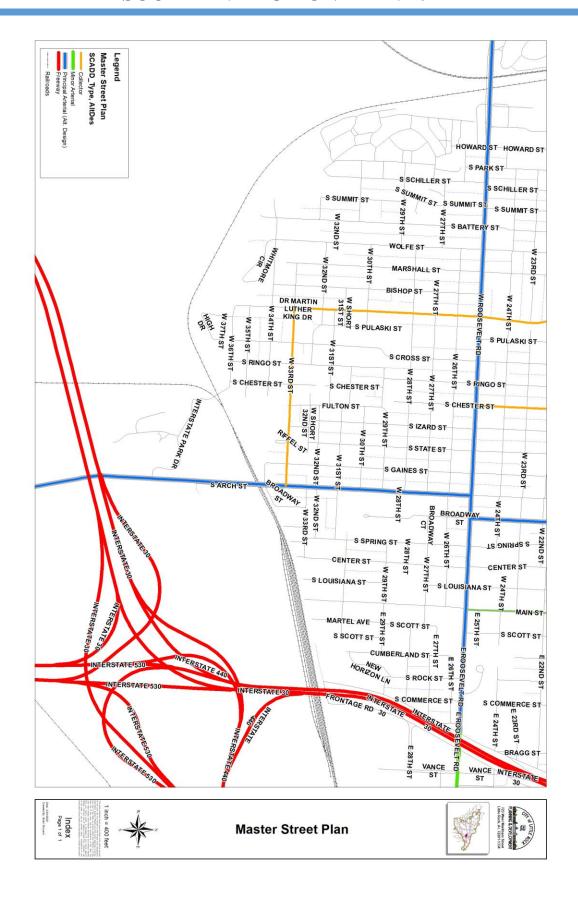
1302 West 28<sup>th</sup> Street, home of the late Arlevis L. and Hosanna Mothershed, parents of Thelma Mothershed Wair and current home of Thelma Mothershed Wair, the oldest of the Little Rock Nine.

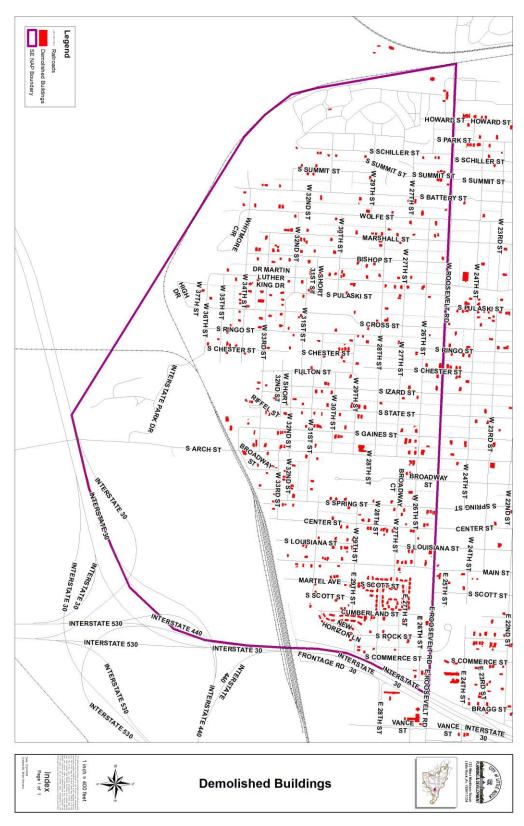












Demolished buildings through 2020.

ORDINANCE NO \_\_\_\_\_19,494

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE LAND USE PLAN (16,222) IN THE CENTRAL CITY PLANNING DISTRICT FROM SINGLE FAMILY TO MULTIFAMILY; AND FOR OTHER MATTERS.

WHEREAS, the Little Rock Planning Commission after conducting a public hearing on the issue recommends the Plan be changed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS.

SECTION 1. That a Single Family area south of 29<sup>th</sup> Street between Main and Martel is changed to Multifamily.

SECTION 2. That the ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED: FEBRUARY 21, 2006

ancy Wwd

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

#### ORDINANCE NO. 19,616

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE LAND USE PLAN (16,222) IN THE CENTRAL CITY PLANNING DISTRICT FROM MULTI FAMILY TO SINGLE FAMILY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, as the Little Rock Planning Commission believes it appropriate to amend the plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS.

SECTION 1. That Multifamily at Ives Walk Street between Cumberland and Rock Street be amended to Single Family.

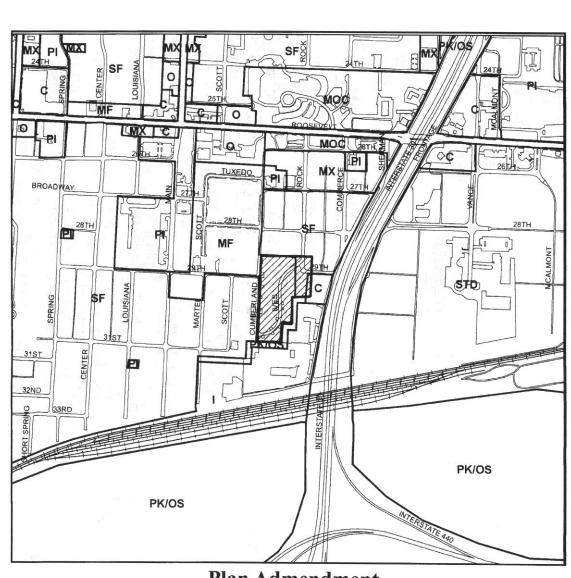
SECTION 2. That the ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED: October 17, 2006

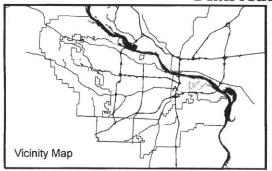
For Nancy Wood, City Clerk

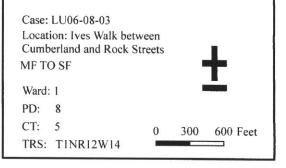
ATTEST:

APPROVED:



### Plan Admendment

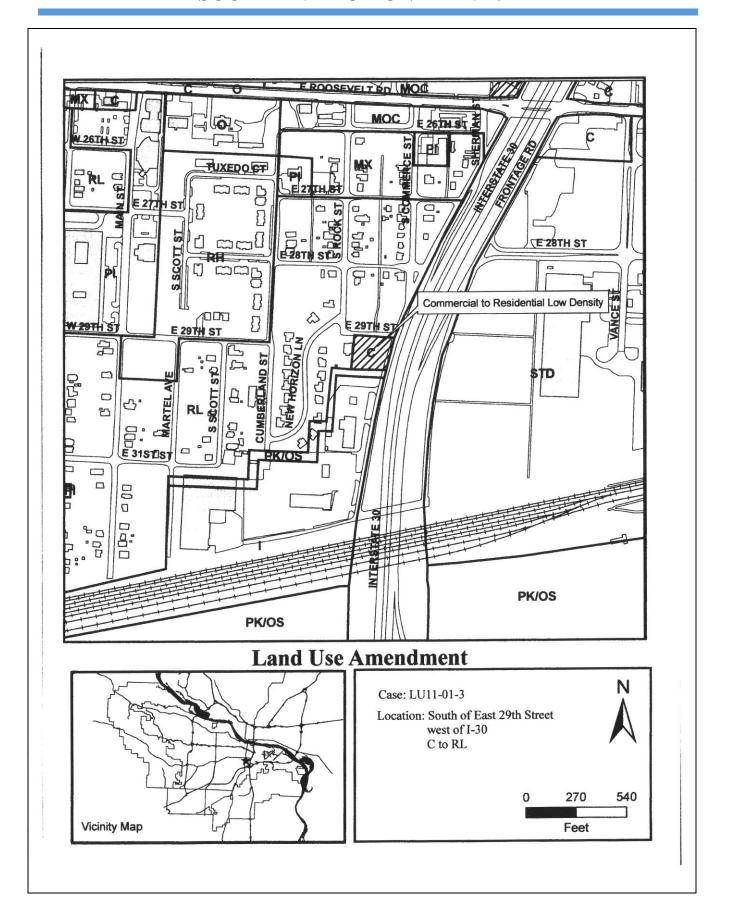




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1	2011056883 Received: 9/27/2011 8:56:49 AM Recorded: 09/27/2011 09:05:41 AM Filed & Recorded in Official Records of Larry Crane. PULASKI COUNTY CIRCUIT/COUNTY CLERK Fees \$20.00 ORDINANCE NO. 20,469
2	ORDINANCE NO. 20,407
3	AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE LAND USE PLAN (16,222) IN THE
4	WARD 1 AREA (LU11-01) FOR VARIOUS CHANGES (SEE BELOW);
5	AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
6	
7	WHEREAS, the Little Rock Planning Commission believes it appropriate to amend the
8	plan;
9	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
10	THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:
11	Section 1. The northeast corner at the intersection of Bragg Street and East 21st Street. A
12	change from Commercial and Residential Low Density to Mixed Use. Mixed Use provides for a
13	mixture of residential, office and commercial uses to occur. A Planned Zoning District is
14	required if the use is entirely office or commercial or if the use is a mixture of the three.
15	Section 2. The area fronting Interstate 30 between East 24th Street and East Roosevelt Road.
16	A change from Mixed Office Commercial to Commercial. Commercial includes a broad range of
17	retail and wholesale products, personal and professional services and general business activities.
18	Section 3. The southwest corner at the intersection of East 29 <sup>th</sup> Street and the Interstate 30
19	Frontage Road. A change from Commercial to Residential Low Density. Residential Low
20	Density provides for single-family homes at densities not to exceed six (6) dwelling units per
21	acre.
22	Section 4. An area generally located along West 32 <sup>nd</sup> Street at Brown Street from Light
23	Industrial and Industrial to Public Institutional to represent the Pulaski County government
24	owned property. Public Institutional includes public and quasi-public facilities that provide a
25	variety of services to the community such as schools, libraries, fire stations, churches, utility
26	substations and hospitals.
27	Section 5. Properties owned by Arkansas Baptist College generally located south of West
28	17th Street between Wolfe Street and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Drive from Residential Low
29	Density to Public Institutional. Public Institutional includes public and quasi-public facilities that
30	provide a variety of services to the community such as schools, libraries, fire stations, observes,
31	utility substations and hospitals.

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1	ORDINANCE NO. 21,011 \$30.00
2	
3	AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE LAND USE PLAN (16,222) IN THE
4	AREA EAST OF INTERSTATE 530 – UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD TO
	THE ARKANSAS RIVER AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
5	THE ARRANGAS RIVER AND FOR OTHER FURIOSES.
6	WHEREAS, the future Land Use Plan should be reviewed periodically to maintain its accuracy and
7 8	usefulness, and;
9	WHEREAS, City Staff has reviewed the area in question provided, considering the existing use and
10	zoning patterns as well as trends in development in the area, and;
11	WHEREAS, the Little Rock Planning Commission has reviewed the package of suggested changes
12	and now recommends them for adoption.
13	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY
14	OF LITTLE ROCK.
15	SECTION 1. An area between 12th Street and 13th Street, east of Battery Street is changed from
16	Mixed Office Commercial to Public Institutional. (LU14-02-01)
17	SECTION 2. An area southeast of 13th Street and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Drive is changed from
18	Public Institutional to Mixed Office Commercial. (LU14-02-02)
19	SECTION 3. Three (3) areas generally along Ringo Street from 12th Street to 15th Street. First area,
20	southeast of the 12th Street - Ringo Street intersection is changed from Residential Low Density to Mixed
21	Use. Second Area, northwest of Daisy L. Gatson Bates Drive-Ringo Street is changed from Public
22	Institutional to Commercial. Third area, between Chester Street and Ringo Street, 15th Street to Daisy L.
23	Gatson Bates Drive is changed from Residential Low Density, Commercial and Mixed Use to Public
24	Institutional. (LU14-02-03)
25	SECTION 4. Two (2) areas either side of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Drive from 15th Street to 17th
26	Street. First area, either side of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Drive between 15th Street and 16th Street, is
27	changed from Residential Low Density to Public Institutional. Second area, east of Dr. Martin Luther
28	King Jr., Drive, between 16th Street and 17th Street, is changed from Mixed Use and Residential Low
29	Density to Public Institutional. (LU14-02-04)
30	SECTION 5. An area between 17th Street and Wright Avenue, west of Izard Street is changed from
31	Residential Low Density to Public Institutional. (LU14-02-05)
32	SECTION 6. An area northwest of 26th Street and Schiller Street is changed from Residential Low
33	Density to Public Institutional. (LU14-02-06)

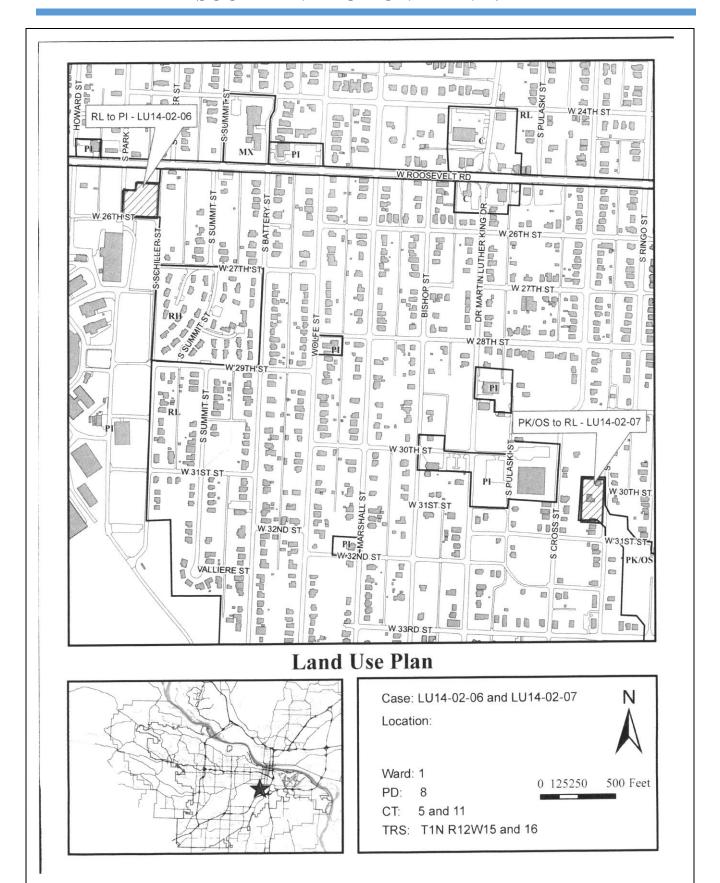
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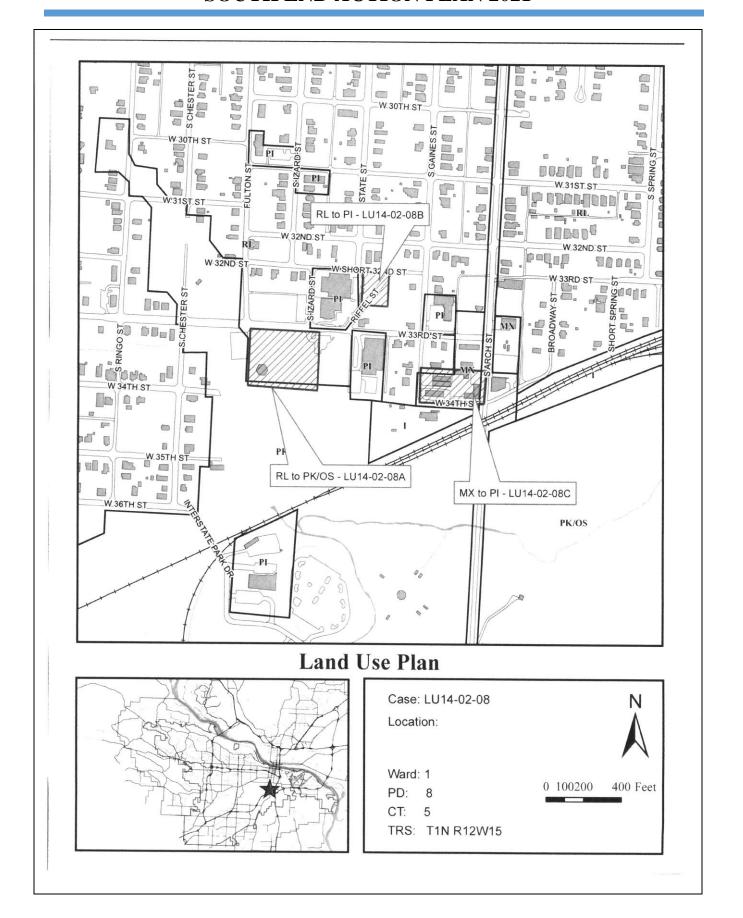
1	SECTION 7. An area west of Ringo Street at 30th Street is changed from Park Open Space to
2	Residential Low Density. (LU14-02-07)
3	SECTION 8. Three (3) areas generally along 33rd Street from Fulton Street to Arch Street. First
4	area, south of 33rd Street, Fulton Street to Izard Street is changed from Residential Low Density to Park
5	Open Space. Second area, either side of Riffel Street, south of Short 32nd Street is changed from
6	Residential Low Density to Public Institutional. Third area, north of 34th Street, Gaines Street to Arch
7	Street is changed from Mixed Use to Public Institutional. (LU14-02-08)
8	SECTION 9. An area south of Roosevelt Road from Louisiana Street to Main Street is changed
9	from Mixed Use and Commercial to Public Institutional. (LU14-01-09)
10	SECTION 10. Two (2) areas generally from Roosevelt Road to 23rd Street, Rock Street to Bragg
11	Street. First area, north of 24th Street, Commerce Street to Bragg Street is changed from Residential Low
12	Density to Public Institutional. Second area, 24th Street to Roosevelt Road, generally from Commerce to
13	Interstate 30 is changed from Mixed Office Commercial to Mixed Use. (LU14-02-10)
14	SECTION 11. Two (2) areas generally from 15th Street to 17th Street, Gaines Street to Spring Street.
15	First area, either side of Arch Street, 15th Street to 16th Street is changed from Public Institutional to
16	Residential Low Density. Second area, southwest of 16th Street and Spring Street intersection is changed
17	from Residential Low Density to Public Institutional. (LU14-02-11)
18	SECTION 12. Two (2) areas generally from Bender Street to Calhoun Street, 9th Street to Capitol
19	Avenue. First area, Capitol Avenue to 6th Street, Bender Street to Reichardt Street is changed from
20	Residential Medium Density to Public Institutional. Second area, south of 9th Street, west of Calhoun
21	Street is changed from Residential Medium Density to Light Industrial. (LU14-02-12)
22	SECTION 13. Four (4) areas generally from 9th Street to 13th Street and College Street to rail spur
23	line. First area, southwest of 9th Street and rail spur line is changed from Residential Medium Density to
24	Light Industrial. Second area, south of 10th Street to 13th Street, east of Hanger Street is changed from
25	Residential Medium Density to Residential High Density. Third area, either side of 12th Street, west of
26	Hanger Street is changed from Residential Medium Density to Public Institutional. Fourth area, southeast
27	of the 9th Street - Shall Avenue intersection is changed from Residential Medium Density to Mixed Use -
28	Urban. (LU14-02-13)
29	SECTION 14. An area west of Security Avenue, between 16th Street and 18th Street is changed from
30	Residential Low Density to Industrial. (LU14-02-14)
31	SECTION 15. Six (6) areas generally from Springer Boulevard to Crawford Street, west of State
32	Highway 365. First area, generally Edge Street to Carolina Street, south of Springer Boulevard is
33	changed from Park Open Space to Residential Low Density. Second area, generally Carolina Street to
34	3M Road, south of Springer Boulevard is changed from Industrial to Residential Low Density. Third area,

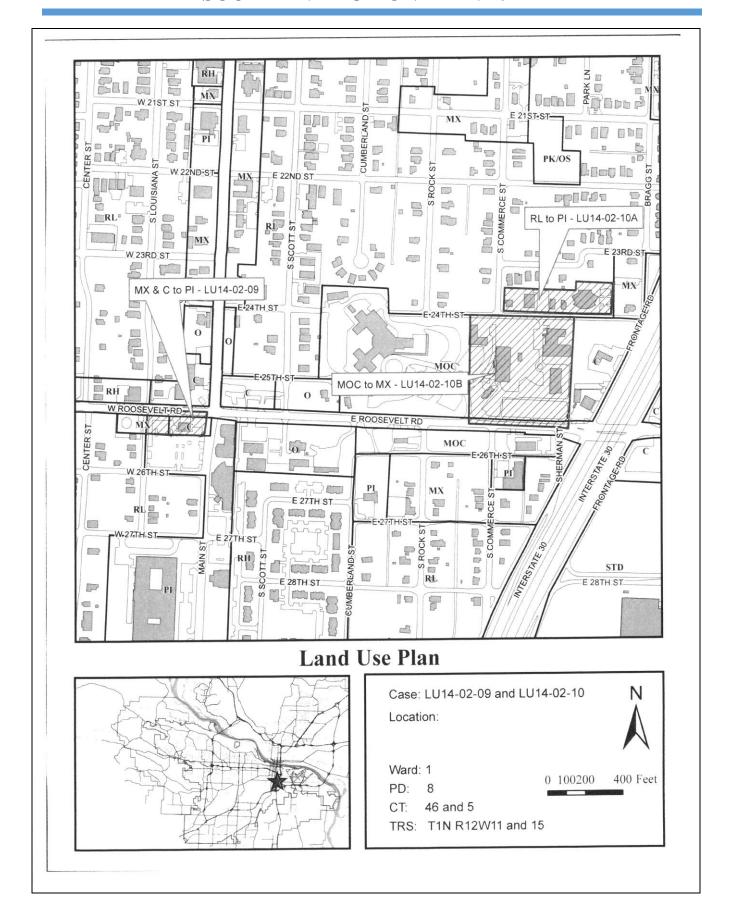
1	generally Willard Street to 3M Road, south of Springer Boulevard is changed from Industrial to Park
2	Open Space. Fourth area, generally between Willard Street and Carolina Street, south of Springer
3	Boulevard is changed from Park Open Space to Industrial. Fifth area, generally west of Carolina Street,
4	and north of King Road is changed from Industrial to Park Open Space. Sixth area generally from King
5	Road to Crawford Road, west of Rogers Street is changed from Industrial to Mining. (LU14-02-15)
6	SECTION 16. Two (2) areas generally west of State Highway 365, between Neely Road and Wilson
7	Street. First area, generally west of State Highway 365 north of Neely Road is changed from Residential
8	Low Density to Public Institutional. Second area, generally west of State Highway 365 south of Wilson
9	Street is changed from Residential Low Density to Service Trades District. (LU14-02-16)
10	SECTION 17. Two (2) areas generally north of Dixon Road, east of Interstate 530. First area,
11	generally either side of Shamburger Lane is changed from Industrial to Mining. Second area, northeast of
12	Dixon Road and Shamburger Lane is changed from Commercial to Industrial. (LU14-02-17)
13	SECTION 18. Ten (10) areas generally between Interstate 530 and Higgins Switch Road, south of
14	Dixon Road. First area, generally along Willie Thomas Road is changed from Residential Low Density,
15	Commercial and Mining to Mixed Use. Second area, generally south of Dixon Road from Wright Road
16	to Interstate 530 is changed from Mining to Residential Low Density. Third area, generally southeast of
17	Dixon Road and Wright Road is changed from Mining to Residential Medium Density. Fourth area,
18	generally southwest of southern terminus of Dan Thomas Road is changed from Commercial to
19	Residential Medium Density. Fifth area, generally between Dan Thomas Road and Daugherty Road is
20	changed from Residential High Density to Residential Medium Density. Sixth area, generally southwest
21	of
22	Dan Thomas Road and Wright Road is changed from Mining to Commercial. Seventh area, generally
23	south of western terminus of Daugherty Road is changed from Commercial to Residential Medium
24	Density. Eighth area, generally northwest of Williams Road is changed from Mining to Residential Low
25	Density. Ninth area, generally east of Interstate 530 and south of Dixon Road is changed from Mining and
26	Residential Low Density to Agriculture. Tenth area, generally between Interstate 530 and German Road,
27	south of Nancy Jean Road is changed from Residential Low Density to Agriculture. (LU14-02-18)
28	SECTION 19. An area north of East Port Drive, east of Fourche Dam Pike is changed from
29	Commercial and Park Open Space to Public Institutional. (LU14-02-19)
30	SECTION 20. An area generally south and east of Birdwood Drive is changed from Industrial and
31	Park Open Space to Public Institutional. (LU14-02-20)
32	SECTION 21. An area either side of 9th Street and east of Rock Street is changed from Residential
33	Medium Density to Mixed Use. (LU14-02-21)
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	1	SECTION 22. Severability. In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase,					
1	2	or word of this ordinance is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or					
	3	adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the ordinance which shall remain in full force and					
	4	effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional was not originally a part of the					
	5	ordinance.					
	6	SECTION 23. Repealer. All laws, ordinances, resolutions, or parts of the same that are inconsistent					
	7	with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.					
	8	PASSED: March 17, 2015					
	9	ATTEST: APPROVED:					
	10						
	11	Main Carlot					
	12 13	Susan Langley, City Clerk Mark Stodola, Mayor APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:					
	14	AFFROMED AS TO LEGAL FORM:					
	15	Shows W. Carety					
	16	Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney					
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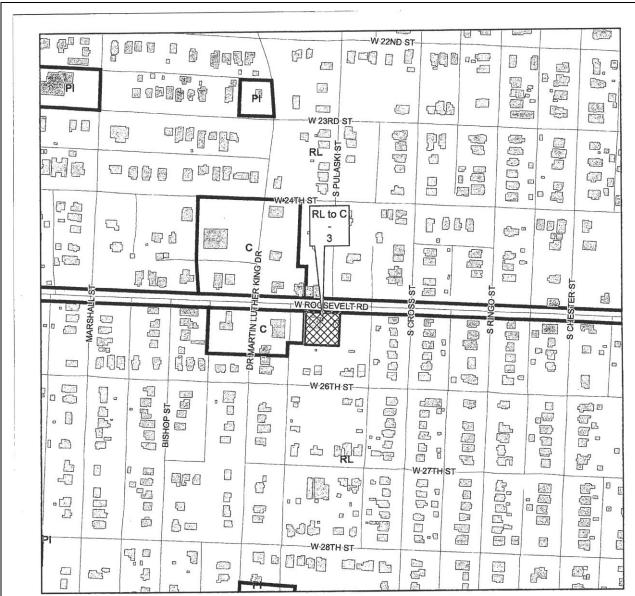
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(AG) to Industrial (I). (LU18-01-06A)

ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE LAND USE PLAN (16,222) IN THE  AREA EAST OF INTERSTATE 530/UNION PACIFIC RAIL LINE  WITHIN THE CITY'S PLANNING JURISDICTION (LU18-01); AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.
WHEREAS, the future Land Use Plan should be reviewed periodically to maintain its accuracy and usefulness; and,
WHEREAS, City Staff has reviewed the area in question provided, considering the existing use and
zoning patterns as well as trends in development in the area; and,
WHEREAS, the Little Rock Planning Commission has reviewed the package of suggested changes
and now recommends them for adoption.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY
OF LITTLE ROCK.
Section 1. The area generally southeast of the Marshall Street and 7th Street intersection is amended
from Commercial (C) to Public Institutional (PI). (LU18-01-01)
Section 2. The area either side of Arch Street, north of La Harpe Boulevard is amended from Mixed
Use – Urban (MXU) to Public Institutional (PI). (LU18-01-02A)
Section 3. An area along the south bank of the Arkansas River from Broadway Street to the Union
Pacific Rail Road Line is amended from Mixed Use - Urban (MXU) to Park/Open Space (PK/OS).
(LU18-01-02B)
Section 4. An area south of Roosevelt Road at South Pulaski Street is amended from Residential
Low Density (RL) to Commercial (C). (LU18-01-03)
Section 5. An area east of Broadway Street, between 22nd Street and 23rd Street is amended from
Public Institutional (PI) to Mixed Use (MX). (LU18-01-04A)
Section 6. An area east of Spring Street, between 23rd Street and 24th Street is amended from Mixed
Use (MX) to Residential Low Density (RL). (LU18-01-04B)
Section 7. An area generally north of Roosevelt Road, between Spring Street and Louisiana Street is
amended from Residential High Density (RH) to Mixed Use (MX). (LU18-01-04C)
Section 8. An area generally southeast of the Springer Boulevard and Carolina Street intersection is
amended from Commercial (C) to Public Institutional (PI). (LU18-01-05)
Section 9. An area south of Thibault Road and west of Frazier Pike is amended from Agricultural

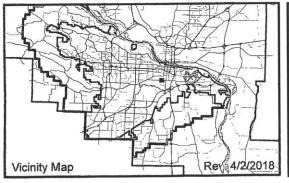
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1	Section 10. An area southwest of the Initial Road and Frazier Pike intersection is amended from
2	Agricultural (AG) to Public Institutional (PI). (LU18-01-06B)
3	Section 11. An area east of Frazier Pike along the Arkansas River is amended from Agricultural
4	(AG) and Park/Open Space (PK/OS) to Industrial (I). (LU18-01-06C)
5	Section 12. An area east of Springer Boulevard and south of Interstate 440 is amended from
6	Park/Open Space (PK/OS) to Public Institutional (PI). (LU18-01-07A)
7	Section 13. An area west of Springer Boulevard and south of Interstate 440 is amended from
8	Commercial (C) to Residential High Density (RH). (LU18-01-07B)
9	Section 14. An area is generally north and east of Dixson Road to Wilbern Road is amended from
10	Mining (M) to Park/Open Space (PK/OS). (LU18-01-08A)
11	Section 15. An area is generally east of Dixon Road between Shambruger Lane and Ahart Lane is
12	amended from Residential low Density (RL) to Public Institutional (PI). (LU18-01-08B)
13	Section 16. Severability. In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or
14	word of this ordinance is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or
15	adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the ordinance which shall remain in full force and
16	effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional was not originally a part of the
17	ordinance.
18	Section 17. Repealer. All laws, ordinances, resolutions, or parts of the same that are inconsistent
19	with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.
20	ADOPTED: March 19, 2019
21	ATTEST: APPROVED:
22	Allina X
23	Attusu
24	Allison Segars, Deputy City/Clerk Frank Scott Jr., Mayor
25	APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:
26	June III Contar
27 28	Thomas M. Carpeter, City Attorney
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### Land Use Plan Change

City of Little Rock Planning & Development



Case: LU18-01-03
Location: SE of W. Roosevelt & Dr. Marthin Luther King

Ward: 1
PD: 8
CT: 5
TRS: T1N R12W 15

Feet