

**COMMISSIONERS:** Gray O. Thornburg, *Mayor* • James V. Hunt, Sr., *Vice Mayor* • Cathy Altenbern, Stephen Rick, Ed Freeman, Beth Reardon, City Manager/Treasurer • Tim Eads, Chief of Police • Linda Berner, City Recorder

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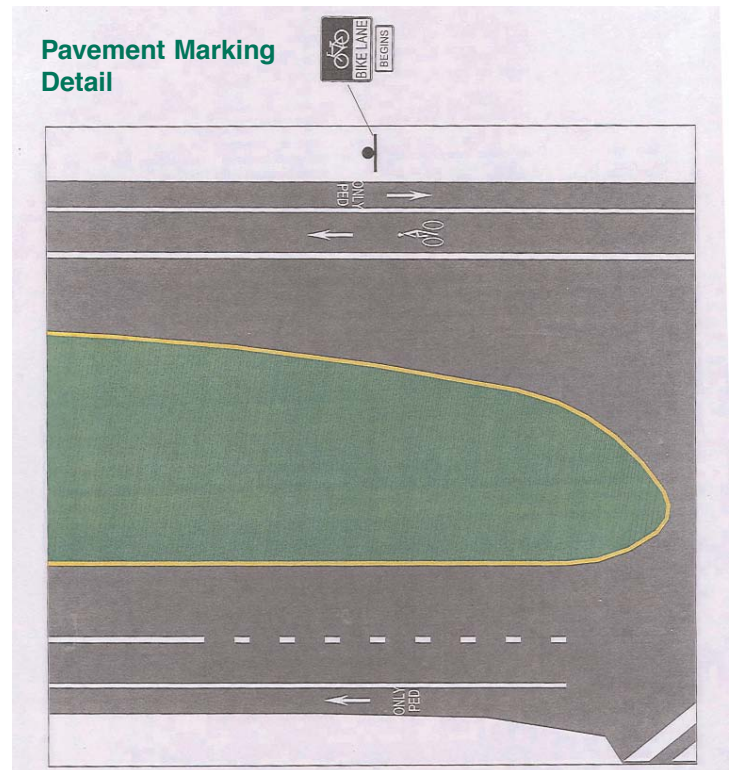
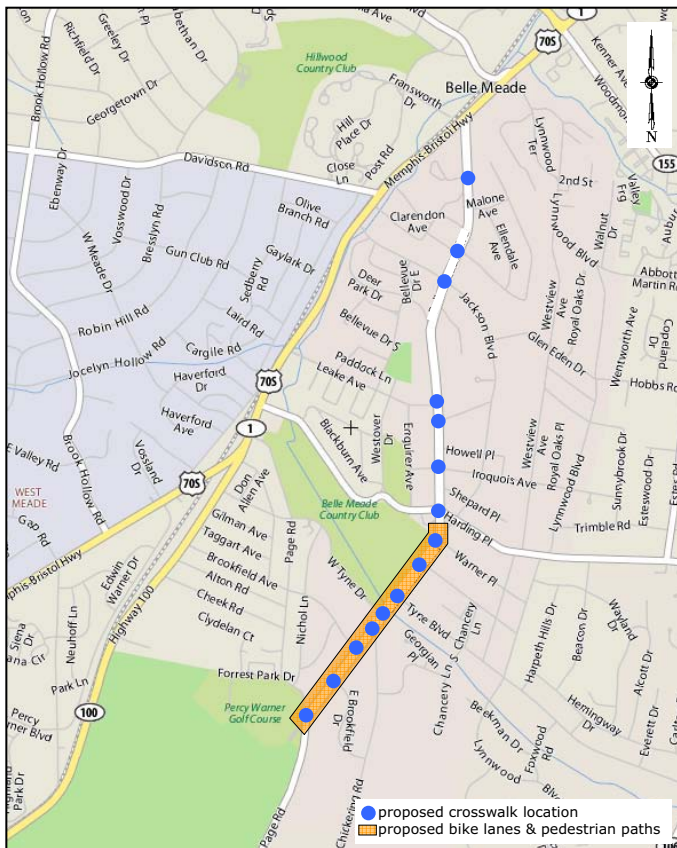
NEWSLETTER TO RESIDENTS OF BELLE MEADE

April 2011

## Commissioners Vote to Implement Belle Meade Blvd. Re-Striping Plan

When the Water Main Replacement Project began in early 2010, Metro Water Services indicated that it would be necessary at the conclusion of the work to repave Belle Meade Boulevard. Based on requests from citizens for safety enhancements and the timing of Metro's project, the Commissioners engaged RPM Transportation Consultants, LLC to study ways that pedestrian safety could be improved on Belle Meade Boulevard. Relying on RPM's counsel and their concern with safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists on the Boulevard, the Commissioners voted unanimously at the April meeting to install painted crosswalks,

### BELLE MEADE BOULEVARD PROPOSED CROSSWALK LOCATIONS



bike and pedestrian lanes for a trial period of 6-9 months. The crosswalks will be located at 14 intersections between Percy Warner Park and Bonaventure Place as shown on the map at left. The outside lane of the Boulevard will be painted for a bike lane and pedestrian walkway between Harding Place and the Park entrance because this section of the Boulevard has the least amount of vehicular traffic and more bike and pedestrian use. Bikes will continue to travel in the same direction as traffic, while pedestrians will walk in the opposite direction of traffic. Baby strollers will be allowed on this section of the Boulevard. The Commissioners believe these traffic calming enhancements will naturally slow motorist traffic, increase safety, and add to the enjoyment of the Boulevard.

The Boulevard is being completely repaved, rather than patched, under an inter-local agreement with Metro Nashville, with the majority of the cost coming from the original

## RECAP OF REGULAR & SPECIAL BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

The Commissioners took action on the following items at the March 23rd meeting:

- Approved the proposal from CEC, to assist the city in evaluating the feasibility of instituting a storm water funding mechanism for the City's storm water related activities. CEC will perform the scope of services for a not to exceed cost of \$19,000.
- Approved the proposal from CEC for assisting the City in completing Cycle 2, Year 1 MS4 Permit requirements, for an estimated cost of \$24,900.
- Approved the request to declare five police service weapons as surplus property. Craig's Firearms of Knoxville has quoted a trade-in value of \$300 toward the \$473 cost of a new Glock pistol.
- Approved the request to purchase three patrol car radar units, totaling \$3,309.00, which will be 100% reimbursed by the Governor's Highway Safety Grant.
- Deferred action on the appointment of a new member to the Municipal Planning Commission.
- Approved the request by the Belle Meade Plantation for horses to remain full time on the property from April 15th thru October 15th.
- The second reading of Ordinance 2010-8, which amends the zoning code to expand the Board of Zoning Appeals ability to grant "conditional uses" within the City of Belle Meade, was defeated due to a lack of a second on a motion to approve.
- Deferred on second reading, Ordinance 2011-1, amending Title 12-202(c) of the Belle Meade Municipal Code to adopt the 2006 Edition of the International Property Maintenance Code.
- Deferred on second reading, Ordinance 2011-2, amending Title 12, Chapter 1 of the Belle Meade Municipal Code to adopt the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code

The Commissioners took action on the following items at the special meeting on April 14:

- Approved Resolution 2011-01, authorizing the renegotiation of the Lojac Enterprises contract, originally between Metro Nashville and Lojac, regarding the paving of Belle Meade Boulevard following the water main construction work last year. The Resolution allows the City of Belle Meade to negotiate and bear the cost for additional work over and above Metro's original contract price. (additional work consists of asphalt overlay of all 4 lanes rather than just patching disturbed areas).
- The Commissioners took action on the following items at the April 20 meeting:

- Approved the \$12,548 estimate from Gibbs Brothers Construction to repair potholes on Belle Meade streets, exclud-

ing streets being repaved as part of the Phase II, Water Main Replacement Project.

- As a result of the Traffic Calming & Safety Study by RPM Transportation, the Commissioners approved safety striping on Belle Meade Blvd. from Harding Place to the park entrance and improvements to the intersection of Page Rd. and Belle Meade Blvd. for an estimated cost of \$144,000. (See related article)
- Approved the request by the police department to purchase two new shotguns and car mounts for a total cost of \$1,470.
- Deferred action on the appointment of a new member to the Municipal Planning Commission.
- Re-appointed Brian Smallwood to a three year term on the Board of Zoning Appeals as the Chairman.
- Appointed the following residents to the Board of Building Code Appeals: Clay Bright-Chairman, Steve Rick-Commissioner representative, Eric Stengel, and Johnny Phipps.
- Denied the request to amend the zoning code regarding "recreational accessory use".
- Awarded the Trash & Recycling Contract to PDQ Disposal at a monthly cost of \$20,850. This new contract, effective July 1, will save the city over \$160,000 annually. (See related article)
- Deferred the consideration of a donation to the Friends of Warner Park until the June meeting.

### REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS FOR MAY & JUNE 2011

**ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT  
BELLE MEADE CITY HALL,  
4705 HARDING ROAD**

Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, May 17th at 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 21st at 5:00 p.m.

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, May 17th at 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 21st at 7:30 p.m.

Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, May 18th at 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, June 22nd at 4:00 p.m.

Agendas are available online at [www.citybellemeade.org](http://www.citybellemeade.org)

## Commissioners Vote from p.1

Metro contract and the remainder from Belle Meade. The timing of this project will allow the City to make some alterations to the paving contract for striping without incurring the cost to remove or paint over pre-existing striping. The paving contractor estimates that the paving and restriping on the Boulevard will be completed by the middle to latter part of May.

The Commissioners want everyone to understand this is a test. There are no plans at this time for further extension on the Boulevard or additional streets. Details of the test plan can be viewed at City Hall during business hours. RPM has prepared colored maps that will be on display in City Hall! Over the next 6-9 months, the Commissioners will evaluate the effectiveness of the restriping through surveys and comments from the residents and RPM consultants. At the conclusion of the trial period, adjustments can be made, including restriping the Boulevard back to its original four lanes.

In addition to the installation of striping and crosswalks, the Commissioners also approved modifications to the intersec-



**Belle Meade Blvd./Page Rd. Intersection**

tion of Page Road and Belle Meade Boulevard at the entrance to the Park. As shown in the accompanying photo, these design improvements will decrease the size of the intersection by tightening the corners, extending the median noses, and moving the stop lines closer to the center of the intersection.

## Spring Reminders:

Planning on having a yard sale? You must obtain a permit from City Hall or download it from the website, [www.city-bellemeade.org](http://www.city-bellemeade.org). There is no charge. Remember, only ONE sign is allowed on your property for advertising.

Please remind your landscaper or lawn care crew to park their vehicles and equipment off of the roadway when working. If they block the street, they are subject to ticketing by our police.

## May is Building Safety Month.

Building codes safety can be traced through recorded history for more than 4,000 years. Today, most of the United States is covered by a network of modern building regulations ranging in coverage from fire and structural safety to health, security, and conservation of energy. The International Code Council's 50,000 members include local inspectors, plan reviewers, and others who work to ensure the safety of the structures in which all of us live, work, attend school, worship and play.

Public safety is our number one concern. During May and all year long, Belle Meade's Building Inspectors are here to help protect you, your family, and the community.

## Stormwater Corner:

Belle Meade provides many ways for homeowners to dispose of trash and yard waste. The City provides back-door pickup of trash and recyclable materials and once a week curbside pickup of leaves and yard waste. In addition, there are 3 dumpsters behind City Hall for residents to use for additional household debris. It is distressing to find dumped items such as bamboo cuttings, toys, bricks, bagged leaves, and Halloween pumpkins in our creeks and blocking drainage culverts. Please do not pile debris near the creek that can easily be washed downstream in a strong rainstorm, and be sure to dispose of trash and yard waste properly.

## From the Police Department:

Please continue to call in any suspicious activity that you notice. While we have had a low occurrence of vehicle burglaries compared to the surrounding areas we still consider the number we have had as too many. The prime time for vehicle burglars to strike is between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. Please remember to Park Smart and lock your doors and don't leave valuables in plain sight.

Over the last month, we have seen a rise in the number of door to door solicitors in the area. These folks need a permit to solicit in Davidson County and Belle Meade so please continue to give us a call if they show up at your house and let us check them out.

The Belle Meade Police have joined with Mothers Against Drunk Drivers this year to help raise funds to support MADD's mission of eliminating drunk driving, supporting victims and their families, and preventing underage drinking. MADD has excellent counseling services for families who experience the tragedy of losing a loved one to this preventable crime. All proceeds stay in the Tennessee Chapter of MADD located here in Nashville. We have formed a team "The Belle Meade Thoroughbreds" to participate in this year's "Walk like MADD" campaign, a 5K non-competitive walk to be held on June 4th at Bi-Centennial Mall in Downtown Nashville. The event starts at 10:00 a.m. If you would like to join our team or make a donation on behalf of the police department you can go to this link to do so. [http://support.madd.org/site/TR?fr\\_id=2782&pg=teamlist](http://support.madd.org/site/TR?fr_id=2782&pg=teamlist)

We will be having our 3rd Annual Child Safety Fair and Bike Rodeo on Saturday, May 14th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on the parking lot between City Hall and St. George's, so bring the kids and the bikes for some safety tips, biking safety and child restraint checks.

## **GREENER & LEANER - Upcoming Changes to City Trash & Recycle Collection & Disposal Services**

### **Greener – expanding our recycle program so less waste goes to our landfills!**

### **Leaner – tightening our belts & trimming the budget**

The Commissioners voted unanimously to award the new contract (effective July 1, 2011) for backdoor trash and recycle collection to PDQ Disposal, Inc. The City issued a request for proposals in March identifying several collection options for pricing, including: backdoor twice a week, backdoor once a week, and curbside. After careful study and debate, it was decided that the City would continue to provide trash and recycle collection at no cost to the residents, but collection of trash will be reduced to once a week, and the recycle program will be expanded to include more materials, including glass. Waste Collection has long been one of the single biggest expense items in the City's budget. By recycling more, residents should reduce the amount of trash that goes to the landfill, therefore reducing the need for trash pickup twice a week. PDQ has committed to reimburse the City 25% of the proceeds from each ton of recycled materials collected in Belle Meade. By recycling more, you are benefitting the community AND providing income to the City.

Much more detailed information about the changes will be provided via email, newsletters, and website prior to the effective date of July 1, 2011. Here are some highlights of the new program:

- Proposed trash and recycle collection days will be Thursday and Friday – half of the city will be serviced each day. We will communicate more on your specific collection day soon.

- The contract limits the number of trash (not recycle) containers per household to three.

- For homeowners that feel a second pickup day each week is necessary, PDQ will contract directly for that service for a minimum charge. Please let the City know immediately if you wish to obtain this service.

- One 32-gallon plastic recycle container with lid will be available to every household that desires to participate in the recycle program. This container is City property and should be left behind if you move. If you are an ardent recycler, you may purchase additional containers at cost, (less than \$20) which will be yours to use and keep. **IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN RECYCLING, PLEASE LET US KNOW IMMEDIATELY, AS WE MUST PLACE OUR INITIAL ORDER FOR THE CONTAINERS.**

- To reduce litter from loose trash and simplify the collection process, PDQ will require that only white bags be used for trash and only black bags be used for recyclables. All recycled glass must be placed in a bag by itself, since it is a contaminating agent to paper, plastic and cardboard. Any type of bag will suffice as long as it is tied, since it can then be placed inside of a black bag for recycle collection. Large pieces of cardboard should be flattened and placed next to the recycle container. More details on the recycling program will follow.

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CITY OF BELLE MEADE  
4705 Harding Road  
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED