www.eastenglishvillage.org Harper Volume 47, No 1

Cadieux



## **EAST ENGLISH VILLAGE** A COMMUNITY OF CHOICE

Mack

# **SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT EDITION**

#### Why Now?

For years our residents have expressed interest in establishing East English Village as a Special Assessment District ('SAD'). Establishing EEV as a SAD would allow residents to collectively fund private 24/7 security patrol and snow maintenance services for the neighborhood. Snow plowing would include the residential roads, all residential sidewalks and commercial sidewalks on Mack, East Warren, and Harper.

The costs are shared by every property owner within EEV's boundaries through a special assessment that would appear on each parcel's summer tax bill.

We conducted an online poll in September 2022 floating the idea of 24 hour security and snow plowing within our designated budget. 95% of respondents (182 votes) were interested in paying \$10-\$15/month for this service.

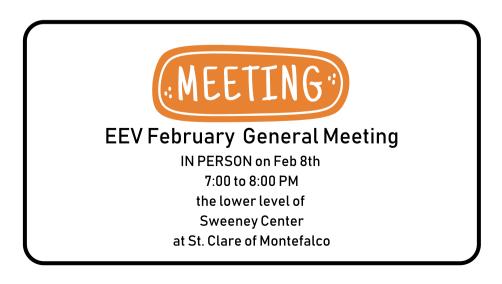
#### How much will it cost?

Each parcel's property tax bill will increase \$150/year (\$12.50/month) to fund the EEV Special Assessment District.

Roughly 80% of EEV's SAD budget will be allocated to fund 24/7 security patrol and 20% will be allocated to fund snow maintenance. Untapped SAD funds – in the event of a mild winter, for example – will be rolled-over and applied to owner tax bills for the following year.

## Who will provide the services?

The FEV board has solicited quotes from City of Detroit licensed contractors, per the ordinance. The EEV board will evaluate the contractors' proposals and make the final selection on which contractors Please see the to hire. enclosed pamphlet from C.S.D.P. Security Services who provides SAD security for several other Detroit neighborhoods. We are currently evaluating their proposal.



#### What is the role of the City?

Detroit City Council passed an ordinance in 2014 allowing for the creation of Special Assessment Districts (Detroit City Code: Chapter 18, Article XII, Division 7). City Council ultimately votes whether to approve a SAD and exercises ongoing oversight authority of our SAD vendor contracts. Public meetings will be held during the approval process where residents can voice their concerns or support of the special assessment district.

If a majority of EEV homeowners (50%+) sign the petition in support, and if ultimately approved by City Council, the Treasurer's Office will include the special assessment fee on your summer property tax bill.

Collected SAD funds will be deposited into an account managed by the East English Village Association. This account will solely be used to pay SAD vendors and will be separate from existing EEV Association bank accounts. The City Treasurer's office provides City Council with an annual audit report summarizing EEV's SAD bank account activity and vendor contracts.

The SAD remains in place for a 7-year term before needing recertification. If at any point during the special assessment period our total special assessment costs (security + snow maintenance + city administrative fees) increase 15%+ beyond the initial budgeted amount (as of 2023), public notice and a hearing must be held.

SADs currently exist in other Detroit neighborhoods including University District, Sherwood Forest, and Palmer Woods.



## What happens if I own two adjacent parcels or a 'side lot'? Will I have to pay 2x the fee?

The Special Assessment District tax is levied on individual parcels. If you own two adjacent parcels and want to avoid paying 2x the Special Assessment District fee, you must have the parcels legally combined. An application to combine parcels must be completed and submitted to the City Assessor's office. Please reach out to Alex Manwell if this applies to you.

Do we get any type of refund from the City since we will now be paying for these services ourselves?

Per the ordinance, services provided under a Special Assessment District are considered 'an expansion or addition to Services already provided by the City and are not a replacement for existing City-provided Services.' Thus, no refunds will be granted.

What's Been Done:

- In fall of 2022, the Detroit Department of Neighborhoods certified the East English Village Association as a Designated Neighborhood Improvement Organization ('DNIO').
- As a newly formed DNIO, we then requested the City Finance Department generate a circulation petition regarding a SAD for EEV. We received the petitions in January 2023.
- From January until April 2023 we are collecting signatures of homeowners who support the creation of a SAD. Per the ordinance, 50%+ of homeowners (1,076+ homes) within EEV's boundaries must sign the petition in support.
- We have begun soliciting quotes from security and snow removal vendors who have a track record of working with other Detroit SADs.

#### Special Assessment: What's Coming Up:

#### <u>January - March</u>

The SAD volunteers are actively collecting signatures from residents. Petitions will be available for signing at monthly EEV neighborhood meetings and events, and volunteers will be door-knocking to inform residents and to collect signatures.

#### <u>April</u>

Once we submit the required number signatures to the City Finance Department, the City Council will schedule a public hearing to discuss formation of the SAD and hear public comment. Residents will be notified of this meeting via our Facebook page and monthly newsletter. Our goal is to have enough signatures by April so that we can be on the City Council's agenda in April 2023.

Following the initial meeting, City Council will hold a second public hearing before certifying the creation of the SAD.

#### <u>Summer 2023</u>

We expect the initial Special Assessment District fee to be included in Summer 2023 tax bills.

### Pledge your support of the EEV Special Assessment District so we can send a volunteer to your home to collect your signature.

Questions? Want to help? Let us know!

Alex Manwell EEV Special Assessment Coordinator SAD@EASTENGLISHVILLAGE.ORG 312.662.0728 Please scan the QR code below



Or visit <u>www.EEVSpecialAssessment.co</u>m



V	Penelope M. Johnson Founder/CEO Call 313.434.4603
ss	CIPENIA DOORS TO SUCCESS
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E	• Tutoring



Supporting formation of the East English Village Special Assessment District (S.A.D.)



Saturday February 4, 2023

Cadieux Stage 4925 Cadieux Road

9am - 12pm noon

FREE for EEV Residents



S.A.D. petitions will be available to sign!



## **C.S.D.P. SECURITY SERVICES**

#### ALL LISTED SERVICES ARE INCLUDED IN SAD 24/7 COMMUNITY PROTECTIOM COVERAGE. NO ADDITIONAL FEES APPLY.



24/7 RAPID RESPONSE FOR HOME ALARMS.



24/7 EMERGENCY RESPONSES TO ALL SECURITY ISSUES AND CONCERNS!



24/7 PROTECTIVE ESCORT IN AND OUT OF HOME

#### ADDITIONAL VALUE ADDED FEATURES:

- Suspicious persons and vehicle database.
- Emergency notification system for threats in community.
- Pet registration photographic database to assist in returning lost pets to residents.
- Alarm system recommendations and vulnerability threat assessments.
- Home health and welfare verification checks.
- Warding off trespassers.
- Coordinating with Police for crime suppression and investigations.
- Incident reports are sent in real time.
- We offer personal defense equipment, check-ins on seniors or loved ones.
- Night vision and thermal imaging to enable us with better capability to deter, detect and defend at night.
- All personnel are equipped with first aid kit.
- All vehicles are equipped with gps tracking and real time satellite video cameras.
- All vehicles are equipped with first aid kit, fire extinguisher, tire changing equipment, jumper cables and extra fuel for stranded motorists or residents.
- Community Threat Management training for all residents. (Psychology, law and skill to deescalate, diffuse and deflect adversarial interactions and conflict)

## **CONTACT US**

📞 877.218.1394 🛛 Info@csdpsecurity.com 🛛 💿 www.csdpsecurity.com

February



## **Block Captain Meeting**

IN PERSON and Feb 8th

6:15 to 7:00 PM the lower level of

Sweeney Center at St. Clare of Montefalco

contact: vicepresident2@eastenglishvillage.org if you would like to volunteer



Neighborhood Police Contacts



Eric Ewing Assistant Chief of Police EWINGE182@detroitmi.gov

#### <u>5th Precinct</u>

Main 313-596-5500 Front Desk 313-596-5501

Commander Brian Harris harrisb314@detroitmi.gov 313-498-2741

Captain FirsdonNPO Karen MaxeyFirsdonR256@detroitmi.govmaxeyk248@detroitmi.gov313-544-3327313-319-299



Thank You, East English Village for making me your number 1 agent in EEV for two years in a row!



## **Spencer Ray**

Senior Associate

C: (313) 600-2963 E: SRay@SarosRes.com

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ROUD U.S. MARINE VETERAN

17108 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe MI 48230

# Ascension

February 2023

#### Matters of the Heart

February is designated as Heart Health Month. It is a good reminder that heart disease is the leading cause of death for adult men and women in the United States.

A wise king once said, "Guard your heart, for out of it flows the wellsprings of life."

How do we guard our hearts, you may ask? First, we need to obtain certain critical information from our primary care doctor. We cannot assume that we have no risk of heart disease just because we do not feel ill. It's important to know your blood pressure, cholesterol levels and BMI. These numbers indicate risk for heart disease and should be monitored regularly. Further, your doctor can listen to your heartbeat, and if needed, may do an EKG test to get more information. If your numbers remain high, over time your risk increases.

Next, you need to adjust your lifestyle — in consultation with your doctor — to lower any risk factors that have been identified. Your lifestyle adjustment plan should assist and support you in making needed changes in the following areas: eating habits/diet; regular physical activity; sleep habits; smoking cessation (active and passive); stress reduction; and regular primary care visits. Achieving results takes time, but do not give up. One often overlooked aspect of well-being that may affect your heart is how you handle stress. Stress affects us physically as well as emotionally. Chronic and prolonged stress affects our risk of heart disease. Make sure to include this aspect in any plans to make lifestyle changes. If your doctor prescribes medication as part of your plan, take it as prescribed. Many people say, "I don't like taking pills." Be clear, no one likes taking medications. However, these medications are designed to save lives. It's not about what we like; it's about our responsibility to our family and ourselves to stay as healthy as possible.

Finally, we need to educate ourselves on heart disease, and the factors behind the numbers mentioned above, and why they are risk factors. One important piece of education should be the signs and symptoms of a heart attack. These may be very different in women than for men. Knowing the signs for both will help you know when to seek care right away and may save your life, or someone else's life. Remember, good health and well-being is granted to those who make it a priority, and

choose to keep informed, educated and make adjustments as needed throughout life. It's never too late to take care of your heart. Your heart health matters.

Ascension Community Wellness offers a variety of online classes, lectures and programs at no charge to the community. To learn more about our classes, please visit healthcare.ascension.org/events or call 248-849-5752.

## **Neighbor of the Month**



#### **Bernita Bradley of Kensington**

Years ago, Bernita was living not far from EEV with her mother, her own two children, and two nieces she was raising. Deciding all of those people in a three bedroom was too full of a house, she embarked on what would be a year long endeavor to find a new place to call home. When she came upon her current house in EEV, it instantly reminded her of her childhood and she was inspired to make it just as warm and loving as her mom had done to their old rented house in Highland Park growing up.

It's been 11 years since purchasing her EEV house – a fixer upper, and she has no regrets. "Every improvement is a step closer to leaving her family a beautiful place to always call home. Every family should have such a space." Her heart is refreshed watching her 4 yr old grandson take his daily stroll from Warren to Mack with his dad. He knows his neighbors and waves to them, yelling "good morning!" from across the street.

Bernita is all about community, and shows it in her tireless work and as a family advocate with The National Parents Union. She is the founder of the Engaged Detroit Homeschool Co-op, and The Village organization and recruitment agency. She has helped design, plan, and implement city-wide initiatives and managed engagement with Excellent Schools Detroit, the My Brother's Keeper initiative, Skillman Foundation's "Good Neighborhoods," Hope Starts Here Detroit, Brilliant Detroit, Goal Line and Detroit Champions for Hope. She has served as former chair of DPTV CAP and Detroit Parent Network Secretary, and a two term Americorps member.

When it comes to our neighborhood, Bernita says "We've had our challenges in this community, and I never expected it to be perfect when I moved here. But now I have neighbors who look out for one another. We inform one another of any issues and speak up to make sure that all voices are heard. This is so important, but can get lost so easily – and has often been lost as the city of Detroit becomes more focused on 'the comeback'. I'd like our community to be sure to consider the voices of everyone, as we move toward the future EEV that everyone needs. How do our young people see themselves included in new development? How are we engaging with all residents? We are all neighbors to be valued, and we are all deserving of a great EEV. Our community found the meaning of neighbors during this pandemic. It is important we keep being mindful of all of us."

If you have a recommendation for a great neighbor to feature in the newsletter, send your suggestion to carole.hoste@gmail.com

## **Business of the Month**

The Lobster Pot is one of the longest standing retail businesses in Detroit, providing fresh and reasonably priced seafood to the residents and restaurants of Detroit for the last 71 years. Everything is sustainably, ethically, and organically sourced. Stop in for their wild caught shrimp cocktail - they sold over 1200 pounds of it between Thanksgiving and New Years alone!

"Thank you to the East English Village community for supporting us so greatly through the pandemic, to allow us to still be here serving you today. We look forward to continuing to bring you the best quality seafood for many more years to come!". Follow them on Facebook for the most up to date specials.

The Lobster Pot 16901 Harper www.thelobsterpotdetroit.com (313) 882-7400

## Take the first step on the road to a bright future

Buying a house is exciting! We'll make sure it's a positive experience from start to finish.

Whether you're buying your first home, investing in real estate, or upgrading to a luxury property, we have the perfect financing solution that'll help you achieve your financial and homeownership goals.

- Choose a fixed or adjustable interest rate with a conventional mortgage
- Buy that high-priced home with a jumbo loan
- Pay only 3.5% down with an FHA home loan
- Turn that fixer-upper into your dream home with an FHA 203(k) loan
- Build a real estate portfolio with our investment property financing programs
- Buy a rural country home with no down payment required
- Get 100% financing for Military Veterans with a VA loan

Cash strapped? Unique situation? No problem! We also offer down payment assistance, state bond programs, and specialty programs for self-employed and foreign borrowers.

Ready to get started? Let's connect today!

#### Ama Loan O NML5 8 0: 248.7 M: 248.7 M: 248.7

Amanda Hatfield

Dani Onice NMLS 873066 Cr. 248,770.3956 Fr. 248,770.3956 Fr. 248,365.4591 amanda.hatfield@ccm.com ccm.com/hamanda-Hatfield 43252 Woodward Ave, Suite 202 Bloomfield Hils, MI 48302







## Trash, Recycling, Yard Waste, and **Bulk Pick Up**

Text your street address to sign up for trash & recycling reminders 313-800-7905



Trash ONL

ste, and Bulk Pick Up



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#### EEV OFFICERS. STREET REPS AND COMMITTEE CONTACTS 2022 **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

President: Ron Otto 989-370-1245 president@eastenglishvillage.org Vice President: Maureen Dritsan. 586-864-5055

vicepresident1@eastenglishvillage.org



2nd Vice President: Pat Blount, vicepresident2@eastenglishvillage.org

**Treasurer: Zelda Colbert** treasurer@eastenglishvillage.org

Secretary: Elizabeth Greenhow secretary@eastenglishvillage.org

#### STREET REPRESENTATIVES

Cadieux cadieux@eastenglishvillage.org Chandler Park: Barbara Hamilton-Pitts, 313-926-1838 chandlerpark@eastenglishvillage.org

**Bishop: Greg Stolarski** 773-396-2569

bishop@eastenglishvillage.org

Harvard: Judy Roth, 313-690-0613 harvard@eastenglishvillage.org Kensington: Justin Hewitt 248-631-7414

Outer Drive/Whittier: M.L. Elrick

grayton@eastenglishvillage.org Yorkshire: Nancy Brigham

yorkshire@eastenglishvillage.org

Grayton: Lil Cortes,

586-596-9270

kensington@eastenglishvillage.org COMMITTEES

odwhittier@eastenglishvillage.org

Commercial Chair: Joe Rashid 313-575-7014

**Residential Chair: Kathy Roddie** Garden Club: David Teeter 313-882-1646 313-640-7627 residential@eastenglishvillage.org gardenclub@eastenglishvillage.org

**Paid Security Renita Holliness** 313-516-3002 security@eastenglishvillage.org

commercial@eastenglishvillage.org

**Events Justin Hewitt** events@eastenglishvillage.org

**Recycling: Emma Mitchell** recycle@eastenglishvillage.org

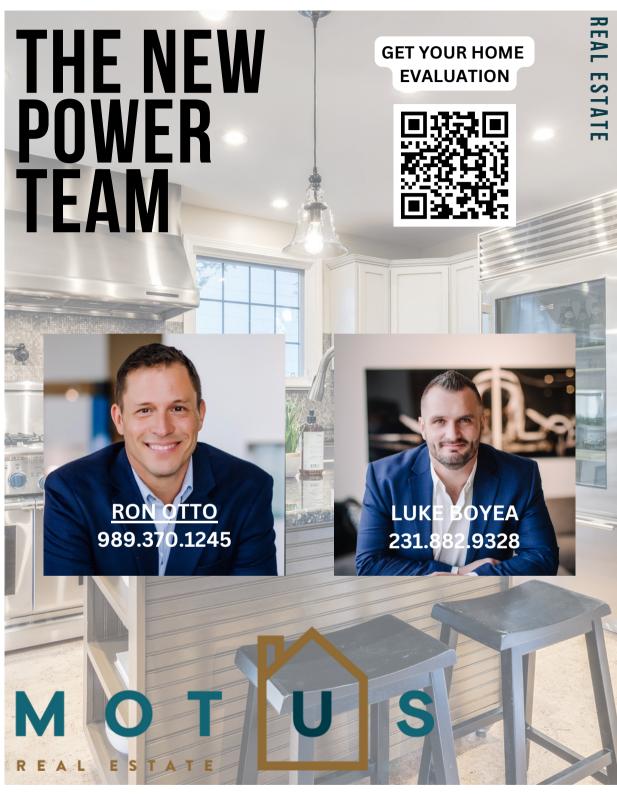
Code Enforcement: code@eastenglishvillage.org

Advertising: president@eastenglishvillage.org

Newsletter Editor: president@eastenglishvillage.org

2023

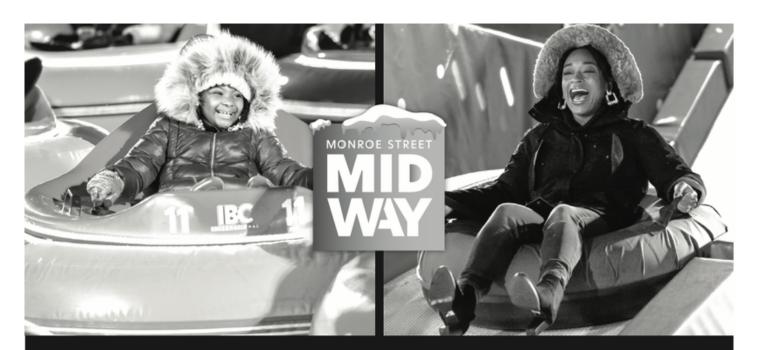
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February



## Your Downtown Family Playground!

The Monroe Street Midway is decked out for its first-ever winter season! There's outdoor fun for everyone, with an **arctic slide**, **winter bumper cars**, **puck-putt**, **an arcade**, **food favorites** – all located in downtown Detroit, across from Campus Martius Park from now through January 29th.

Entry is free, so bring your family and friends!

