



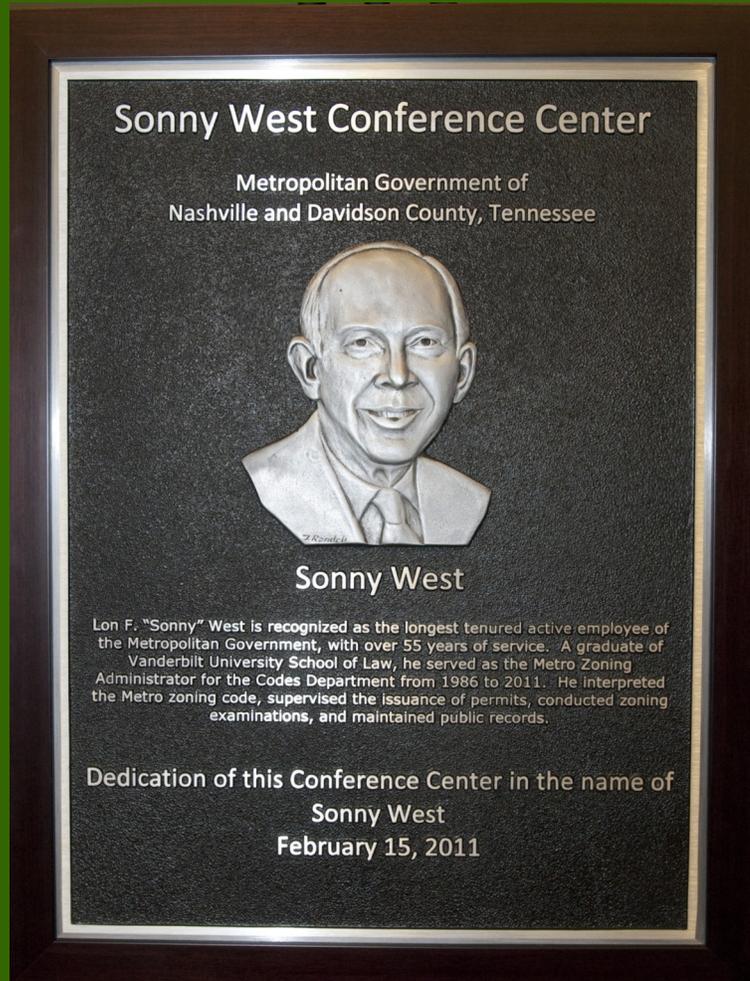
Metro Codes

E—News For Neighborhoods

Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County

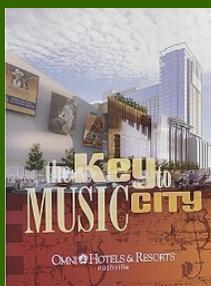
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15th Annual Metro Codes Charity Golf Tournament



Traveling Flood Exhibit Announced at Flood Anniversary Celebration

Photo: Teresa Montgomery



For information regarding accessibility, please contact Manley Biggers at (615) 862-6521 or fax (615) 862-6499. He can also be reached at: manley.biggers@nashville.gov

Mayor Dedicates Sonny West Conference Center

Beloved zoning administrator honored for 55 years of service



Mayor Dean dedicates the Sonny West Conference Center at the newly renovated Howard Office Building.

Mayor Karl Dean dedicated the Sonny West Conference Center and unveiled a plaque honoring Lon F. "Sonny" West at the Howard Office Building.

West was the longest tenured employee of the Metropolitan

Government of Nashville and served local government for 55 years, most memorably as the zoning administrator in the Metro Codes Department. He passed away on March 5, 2011 after a battle with cancer.

"Sonny West's career and work ethic serves as an example of what it means to be a public servant," Mayor Dean said. "Having spent his entire 55-year career in local government, he will be remembered as hard-working and committed to serving the people of Davidson County. I am pleased to see Sonny's legacy honored in this way."

Terry Cobb, Director of the Department of Codes and Building Safety, said, "Sonny West well embodied the role of the public servant, having served the people of Nashville and Davidson County with devotion and integrity. Although his service to this city spanned many decades, he was taken from us too soon."

West also worked in the Codes Department as legal counsel, and he previously worked in the Finance Department for the Davidson County government before the formation of Metro Nashville. He served all six of Metro Nashville's mayors.

He was born in Nashville on March 12, 1938, graduated from Montgomery Bell Academy and obtained bachelor's and law degrees from Vanderbilt University.

Note: All photographs courtesy of Teresa Montgomery.



Mayor Dean unveiled a bronze plaque that will be placed outside the center in honor of Sonny's 55 years of service to Metro. He is assisted by Sonny's wife, Barbra West.



Terry Cobb, Director of Codes & Building Safety shares a light moment with the audience about one of Sonny's many exploits as Zoning Administrator as his wife Barbra (left), Mayor Dean and Councilman Tygard look on.



Barbra West and Sonny's children, and grand children gather in front of the commemorative plaque that will be displayed at the entrance of the conference center.

Codes Adds New Feature To Online Complaint Reporting

New feature allows citizens to upload photos and other attachments

The Codes Department has long had the ability to accept requests for service (RFS) from citizens via the web. Residents simply go to Metro's website and from the "Directory" link, select the Codes Administration page. There is a link there to register the request.

The new feature now allows citizens to submit attachments to their request. The most common attachment will be a photograph that shows the violation. This can be very helpful in identifying exactly what the problem is. It can also help us locate the problem when there might be a question about where the actual violation is located on the property.

As a reminder, we do not require citizens to give us any contact information. All requests can be submitted anonymously. Once you have submitted your request, you can easily check on the status of that request by going to the E-RFS Public Site (See the link below).

All documents, photographs and other information provided with the request become part of the public record. If you going to submit a photograph, please try to keep the file size small. Digital photo's that are 3—4 megapixels are more than sufficient. If your camera or device cannot produce files that small, go ahead and submit your photograph as we can resize if necessary. Any supporting documents you submit are uploaded to our KIVA database as part of the RFS case.

The new attachment feature will allow for the attachment of a variety of document types, they include:

- JPEG format photographs and scans
- TIFF format photographs and scans
- PDF format documents

It should be noted that we can only use documents submitted in our court cases if the person who took the photograph or supplied the document is willing to appear and testify to the documents authenticity. We have had photographs submitted to document activity that occurs after our normal work hours. This evidence can only be used if presented by the person creating it—if that individual does not wish to come to court, we will still need to obtain our own evidence.

The highlighted box on the right shows the new feature on our web page RFS submission form. Several photographs have already been submitted and they have proved to be very helpful in the development of our case.

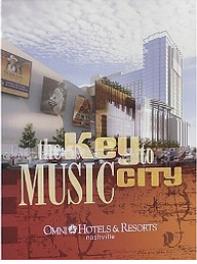
The screenshot shows the Nashville.gov website interface for reporting a code violation. The page title is "Nashville.gov - Codes - Codes Online Customer Service Desk". The main heading is "Codes Online Customer Service Desk". Below the heading, there is a "Please Note" section and a "Report a Code Violation" section. The "Report a Code Violation" section includes a "Required Fields" section with the following fields:

- Your Information:
 - First Name
 - Last Name
- Address
- City, State, Zip
- Phone Number
- Email

Below these fields is the "About the Request" section, which includes:

- Type of Request* (Please Choose)
- Location of Violation* (A street address is preferred and will assist us in serving you better and quicker. Please see the note above for assistance in locating the property address(es). If you are not able to locate the address using the GIS system, please describe the location in detail.)
- Description of Violation* (Please describe your request and the violation in detail. Please add any relevant information that will help us serve you better and quicker.)
- Attach an image (jpg or pdf format only please) (This section is highlighted with a yellow box in the image)
- Other Comments

At the bottom of the form are "Submit" and "Reset" buttons. The footer of the page includes "ADA Compliance", "help center · non-discrimination · accessibility · privacy policy · multilingual", and "© 1999-2011, Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee".



Omni Hotels & Resorts Breaks Ground for New Omni Nashville Hotel

Mayor Karl Dean and executives from Omni Hotels & Resorts break ground on new hotel

Mayor Karl Dean along with executives from **Omni Hotels & Resorts** as well as the Metro Council and other leaders broke ground on the latest addition to the portfolio of the luxury hotel brand. The **Omni Nashville Hotel**, a 21-story high-rise, is set to capture the distinct culture of Nashville - known as Music City - and embody the authentic character of the city.

Set to open in the back half of 2013, the hotel will serve as a key element within the developing Music City convention center area with 800 guest rooms and more than 80,000 square feet of meeting and event space. Located directly across from the new, state-of-the-art 1.2 million square-foot Music City Center, the property will boast retail and entertainment venues unique to a convention center hotel. Incorporating natural materials, exposed steel and regional limestone, the hotel will also be seamlessly integrated with the Country Music Hall of

Mayor Dean addresses the audience gathered to celebrate the ground breaking for the new Omni Nashville Hotel.

Fame and Museum. The combined facilities will share meeting and event space as well as bring additional retail, restaurants and entertainment venues along 5th Avenue. The hotel will also feature an urban pool deck, fitness center and a Mokara signature spa.



Omni Nashville Hotel connected to the Country Music Hall of Fame. The project is expected to achieve LEED Silver certification when completed in 2013.

"Omni Hotels & Resorts believes the unique character of each destination should be reflected in our properties," said Mike Deitemeyer, president of Omni Hotels & Resorts. "As we approach the design of the Omni Nashville Hotel, we want to ensure that Music City's distinct culture is incorporated to create a compelling and memorable experience for conventioners, leisure guests and locals."

The Metropolitan Government and Omni Hotels & Resorts reached a pre-development agreement to build the hotel in August 2010, and formalized the agreement two months later. In

December that same year, the Convention Center Authority of Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County approved a plan giving Omni Hotels & Resorts the authority to integrate into the expansion of the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum. A preliminary view of the integration plan was showcased in March of 2011.

"Due to the overwhelming support from the Metro Council and our citizens, we are ready now more than ever, for conventions and groups to experience our great city," said Mayor Karl Dean. "We



Artists rendering of pool-top deck with sweeping views of downtown Nashville.

also look forward to extending our southern hospitality to the thousands of business and leisure travelers who will be here for work and play."

The \$250 million Omni Nashville Hotel represents a public-private partnership that will create 300 new, full-time jobs with 200 of those positions guaranteed to be filled by Davidson County residents. During construction, Omni has committed to 20 percent diversity business participation and to spend at least 20 percent of the project's construction costs with local businesses. The project is being privately financed by Omni Hotels & Resorts. Like the Music City Center, the hotel and expansion project is expected to achieve LEED Silver certification.

Hotel Highlights

- 800 luxurious [guest rooms and suites](#)
- Over 80,000 square feet of [meeting and event space](#)
- Conveniently located in downtown Nashville, across from the Music City Center and seamlessly integrated with an expanded Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum
- Five culinary and entertainment venues, including a steak & chop house, live music space and outdoor dining
- A signature [Mokara Spa](#) and state-of-the-art fitness center
- Rooftop urban pool deck with spectacular views
- Full service Business Center
- Expected to be designated LEED Silver Certified NC (New Construction)

Metro Codes Property Standards Division Adds Five Inspectors

Five inspectors from Metro Health Sanitation Section move to Codes



The newest addition to the Codes Department, from left, Jawan Lauderdale, Monica Reyes, Wayne Denton, Willie Dews, and Rodney Carter. These former Members of the Sanitation section with Metro Health joined the Property Standards Division on July 1st.

division is responsible for all existing property maintenance requirements and for Zoning code enforcement. Before the move, several of our inspections were duplicated by both departments, specifically cases involving high grass and weeds.

Combining the two divisions provides a number of benefits:

- Eliminates overlaps and duplication of effort.
- Has allowed Property Standards to create two new territo-

On July 1, 2011, five members of the Health Department's Sanitation section moved to the Codes Department to become part of the property Standards Division.

The Property Standards

- ries, increasing the number from 10 to 12 that allowed us to reduce the size of the existing territories
- We now have a fully staffed "Flex" inspection team that can respond to requests over the entire county

The new inspectors are being trained on how to enforce the Property Standards and Zoning Codes and members of the Property Standards division are being trained on Health functions.

Citizens can now submit requests that had formerly been sent to the Sanitation section with Metro Health to the Codes Department. Example of these include:

- High Grass and Weeds on vacant lots
- Illegal dumping on vacant lots
- Requests for "No Dumping" signs
- Well water sampling
- Unsanitary living conditions
- Abandoned vehicles on vacant lots
- Investigation of reported cases of material or animal hoarding

Metro Codes Hires New Property Standards Inspector



Kristie Worrell has recently been hired by the Codes Department and assigned as a Property Standards Inspector I. She is assigned to the "Blue" inspection team which is under the supervision of Jeff Castleberry.

Kristie joined the Codes department in May of this year and was assigned her territory in July. She joins us from Rutherford County where she was a Residential Property Assessor. As a field representative, she was responsible for reviewing properties for proper assessment values.

She also previously worked for Rutherford County Planning and Building Codes as a Zoning Officer where she enforced Property Standards and Zoning.

Prior to working for Rutherford County, Kristi was employed in the Building Codes Department of Murfreesboro City, where she was involved with property standards and plans review.

Kristi also worked for the State of Tennessee for 19 years. She is married to Mark, and has two children, Victoria and Amanda.

Property Standards Inspection Chief Ronnie Mitchell, Honored

Mitchell, Pastor of New Livingstone Baptist Church was honored during Pastoral Revival Series



A three day revival series was hosted by the New Livingstone Baptist church. Nashville Gospel media personalities Connie Dennell of 92Q, Marcus Washington, WTVF Newschannel 5 and Damon King, 102.1 The Light Gospel station, emceed the event.

The revival was held as part of the 30th anniversary of Pastor Ronnie T. Mitchell's leadership of New Livingstone Baptist Church. An anniversary dinner was held in his honor at Belmont University.

Pastor Mitchell is a member of the Department of Codes & Building Safety's Property Standards division where he has served as an Inspection Team Chief for the last five years. Serving as a pastor in the local community has afforded Mitchell with a wealth of experience and knowledge that he has used time and time again to the benefit of the Codes Department and Metro Government in general.

While the ceremony focused on Ronnie's contributions to the community and his ministry, the Codes department used the occasion to highlight the contributions he has made to the community through his work with the Codes department. Mattie Jones represented the department and presented him with a commemorative plaque that expressed the departments heartfelt thanks for his efforts as an inspector and as a Team Chief.

Mayor, MDHA, Rotary Partner for Extreme “Farm in the City” Makeover \$10,000 Nashville Rotary Grant Helps Fund Expansion of Popular Community Garden



Mayor Karl Dean addresses the volunteers and community members at the dedication ceremony for the Farm in the City makeover. Behind him is council Lady Erica Gilmore and MDHA Director Phil Ryan.

Mayor Karl Dean joined MDHA Executive Director Phil Ryan and dozens of Rotary Club of Nashville members today to celebrate a significant expansion of the Farm in the City community garden in the J. Henry Hale Homes development.

Volunteers pound-

ed nails, moved dirt, and constructed a shelter during the “Extreme Farm Makeover” event at the community garden located just off Interstate 40 in the Watkins Park area within sight of the State Capitol.

Mayor Dean joined Rotary Club of Nashville Committee Chairman Michael Baron and J. Henry Hale residents as they lifted the green tin roof into place on the new sun shelter.

“Limited access to healthy foods has been linked to increased rates of obesity and diabetes, so gardens like Farm in the City are an important part of encouraging a healthier Nashville,” Mayor Dean said. “This garden is not just a source of fresh produce for the community, it’s a source of knowledge for our children, who will learn to grow and harvest these healthy food options.”

During today’s Extreme Farm Makeover, volunteers constructed a 16’ x 24’ outdoor shaded area/education center, six 4’x4’ compost bins and approximately 20 additional 4’x16’ raised planting beds. Additionally, crews used dump trucks full of top soil to level approximately a half-acre area for future planting. Rotary members plan to be back out on site next weekend to continue their work.

“We are now in the middle of the second planting season at Farm in the City, and it’s once again proving to be a success,” MDHA’s Ryan said. “Our gardeners represent a diverse group of Nashvillians – J. Henry Hale residents, downtown dwellers and others from throughout the city. We’re excited that the partnership with the Nashville Rotary Club will create opportunities for even more people to garden right here in the heart of the city.”

In addition to providing the volunteer manpower for the build, the Rotary Club of Nashville and Nashville Rotary Service Trust awarded MDHA a \$10,000 grant for the expansion of the site. “The Nashville Rotary Club has actively participated in this community in recent years, including extensive building work at Watkins Park,” said Lewis Lavine, President of the Rotary Club of Nashville. “Providing these enhancements to the Farm in the City is a natural complement to the area’s overall revitalization.” Farm in the City was MDHA’s first community garden located at a community housing development. Additional gardens have been constructed by residents and are now in place at Vine Hill Homes and Madison Towers.

The Farm in the City site provides urban residents with the opportunity to plant and grow their own food at little cost. The site’s 37 individual garden plots have all been occupied since it opened in 2010.

Today’s expansion means more people will now be able to participate in the popular program. During the garden’s inaugural season, farmers grew several hundred pounds of produce that were shared with the community.



Volunteers put the finishing touches on one of the new raised bed for the garden.

Metro Historic Zoning Commission at Codes

MHZC establishes a remote office in the Codes Department to assist permit application process for Historic properties



The Metropolitan Historic Zoning Commission will be participating with the Department of Building Codes & Safety’s One Stop Shop on a trial basis. MHZC staff will have an “outpost” of their department at the offices of the Codes Department during **August, September and October on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm**. Other departments, such as Public Works, Water Services, Fire Marshal, Health Department and Planning Commission also provide an outpost at the Codes Department.

Those interested in submitting applications or receiving feedback on preliminary plans are encouraged to meet with staff at the Codes Department during those months so that they may obtain feedback from other Metro Departments at the same time. In addition, the MHZC hopes to soon join other Metro departments

and agencies, with an interest in the permit process, in being linked electronically through a common computer program and database to facilitate processing of permit applications. This process is commonly referred to as “permit tracking.” It is through this common tracking system that Metro departments and agencies freely share access to the permit process, administered at the Department of Codes & Building Safety.

The Codes Department is located at the Metro Office Building at 800 Second Avenue South on the 3rd floor. MHZC’s direct telephone number during the trial period will be 615-862-6540; however, we can always be reached at 615-862-7970. Our general email is histlap1@nashville.gov.

Nashville Neighborhoods Celebrates National Night Out Against Crime

Nashville celebrated its 17th year of participating in the National Night Out Against Crime on August 2 as thousands of Nashvillians banded together to make sure criminals knew who was really in charge.

Nashville Mayor Karl Dean toured groups throughout the county finding excited neighbors networking and celebrating this very special night.

NNOAC has been extraordinarily successful in promoting involvement in crime and drug prevention activities, strengthening police-community relations, and encouraging neighborhood camaraderie as part of the fight for safer streets.

“This has become a Nashville tradition embraced by neighborhood associations, business groups as well as churches,” Billy Fields of the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhoods said. “As usual, it was brutally hot, but the weather did not deter the neighbors. We were very pleased with the level of involvement and the excitement this year’s NNOAC created.”

Since 1984, "National Night Out - America's Night Out Against Crime" has grown to involve over 30 million people from more than 9,000 communities.

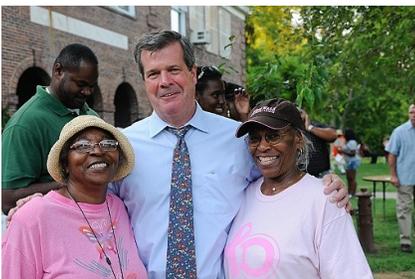
All Neighborhood Watches, Neighborhood Associations and Com-

munity Organizations are invited to host and/or participate in Night Out events.

These neighborhood organizations plan events to celebrate National Night Out Against Crime.



Always the good sport, Mayor Dean enjoys a game of bean toss at one of the many neighborhood sponsored events across Nashville.



Mayor Karl Dean along with his staff from the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhoods (MOON) made the rounds on Tuesday night to help Nashville’s communities celebrate the city’s 17th year of participation in the National Night Out Against Crime event.



Community Events

National Folk Festival Comes to America's "Music City"

Nashville hosts 73rd annual National Folk Festival

One of the most prestigious and longest-running celebrations of the arts, the National Folk Festival, is coming to Nashville for a three-year tenure beginning in September of 2011.

The [National Council for the Traditional Arts](#) (NCTA), the organization that created and has produced the National Folk Festival since 1934, recognized Nashville's unique cultural assets and strong community spirit in choosing Nashville as the National Folk Festival Host City for 2011, 2012 and 2013, the festival's 75th anniversary year.

A large-scale three-day outdoor event presented free to the public, the National Folk Festival celebrates the roots, richness and variety of American culture. It features a broad array of music and dance performances, participatory dancing, workshops, children's activities, regional and ethnic foods, storytelling, parades, craft exhibits and demonstrations, and more.

A "movable feast of the deeply traditional folk arts," the National Folk Festival brings a jubilant and dizzying array of offerings that appeal to audiences of all ages.

This year the Folk Festival has partnered with the Country Music Hall of Fame & Museum to present a unique themed program for the Tennessee Folklife Stage and Demonstration Area sponsored by SunTrust



"Each year, this special area of the festival will celebrate a different facet of Tennessee heritage and culture. through demonstrations, displays, exhibits, performances and narrative presentations," said Julia Olin, Executive Director of the National Council for the Traditional Arts. "What could be more perfect in the festival's launch year than to shine the spotlight on Nashville's own fascinating musical traditions — especially when a world-renowned cultural institution, the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, comes on board as our programming partner? We're also very fortunate to have folklorist Evan Hatch, current President of the Tennessee Folklore Society, as part of the team."



(Courthouse). The stage is set up on the steps of the Plaza and the crowd gathers in the grassy area of Public Square Park to watch performances from local, regional and national artists. Parking is only \$3 in the parking garage located directly under Public Square Park. Food and beverages will be available for purchase each night, as well as VIP Tickets - which include beverages, food and exclusive viewing areas.

Live On The Green is a "FREE" 6 week concert series that takes place at Public Square Park near City Hall

Each night will consist of 4 performances with the first starting around 5:30 pm and the Headliner wrapping up around 10:30 pm. We would love for you and your friends to be our guests on Thursday evenings for the six weeks starting Sept 8th, 2011.

Download the new [Live On The Green iPhone application](#) for the festival schedule, important announcements, ability to vote in the playlist poll on music during the show, and submit photos taken at the show!

A great way to keep up-to-date on Live on the Green is to join our VIP newsletter group. Click [here](#) to subscribe to our newsletter.



Save The Date October 1st
Codes Announces
15th Annual Metro Codes Charity Golf Tournament

The 15th Annual Metro Codes Charity Golf Tournament will be held on October 1, 2011 at the Ted Rhodes Golf Course.

Last year's tournament, was the most successful in the events 14 year history. Through the support of 140 sponsors and 128 golfers, \$29,000 was donated to local charities through the Metro Employees Consolidated Charities Campaign (MECCC).

This year, all proceeds will again go to the MECCC for the benefit of local charities, Easter Seals Camp Programs and the Harris-Hillman School.



Department of
Codes & Building Safety

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 Nashville, TN 37210
 615-862-6590 / Fax 862-6593

Mayor - Karl F. Dean

Director - Terrence Cobb
 Asst. Director - Bill Penn
 Office Hours: Mon-Fri / 7:30-4:00



PASS IT ON!

Pass the word about our newsletter! We would be honored if you would share our newsletter with your colleagues and co-workers. If anyone would like to sign up to receive it themselves, they just need to send us their email, and we will be happy to "Pass It On" to them.



Terry Cobb and **Bill Penn** welcome your feedback on our e-newsletter. Please send your comments to [Bill Penn](mailto:bill.penn@nashville.gov), at bill.penn@nashville.gov
 Assistant Director, Property Standards Div , 862-6590