

Denver Beautification Committee 2024 Annual Report



Lake Norman

Photo Credit Betty Hickey

Denver Beautification Committee

Background Information

- Organized in August 2021 and **supported by the East Lincoln Betterment Association**, a 501(c)(3) non profit
- Purpose: Improve the appearance of Denver, NC and eastern Lincoln County (Catawba Springs and Ironton townships) including NC-16 Business from the Gaston County line to the Catawba County line
- Keep Lincoln County Beautiful's (KLCB) focus is county-wide. There is much to do in eastern Lincoln County.
- KLCB is given the 1st opportunity to fund DBC projects. If KLCB declines, DBC proceeds as a DBC project.
- Funds raised for DBC stay in eastern Lincoln County.

2024 Accomplishments

Overview

- Denver Christian Academy beautification project
- Catawba Springs Elem School beautification project
- Numerous improper signs removed
- 5 more abandoned structures demolished
- Company's request for more billboards withdrawn
- NCDOT removed No Right on Red sign
- RSES flashing light turned off during summer
- Large business truck removed from front yard

2024 Accomplishments

Overview (continued)

- Accomplishments included in KLCB Annual Report:
 - Roadside, Curb, Median, and Storm Drain Cleanups*
 - Traffic Sign Cleaning*
 - Traffic Sign Weed Trimming*
 - Illegal Dumping Cleaned Up*
 - NCDOT Traffic Sign Repair and Roadside Bulk Item Removal
 - NCDOT Roadside Problems Needing Attention
 - County Street Sign Repair and Public Utilities Problems

* Some examples from Denver, NC included in this report

Denver Christian Academy

Beautification Project

- Joint project with Denver Lake Norman Rotary Club (Project Leader), Denver Beautification Committee (ELBA), and Keep Lincoln County Beautiful (KLCB)
- Installed two green Vego Garden raised bed planters (8'x2'x11") at entrance to flagpole. Best option due to poor soil quality, sloping ground, and buried utilities in the area made digging undesirable.
- Replaced gray gravel around the cross with white gravel
- Replaced miscellaneous small rock around three drains with 1 yard of medium size river rock
- Created a "river bed" of river rock to alleviate storm water runoff
- Installed landscape fabric/weed barrier under gravel and river rock
- Installed two 6" green plastic drains in white pipes to prevent undesirable items from going into pipe, yet letting water flow out
- Installed 1 yard of mulch around brown border of flagpole area, entranceway bushes/sign, and other places
- Plant selections are perennials, requiring minimal maintenance, drought tolerant
- Master Gardener and Rotarian Jim Minor provided on-site expertise

Denver Christian Academy - Before



Denver Christian Academy - After



Denver Christian Academy - After

Planter 1



Planter 2



Catawba Springs Elementary School

Beautification Project

- Joint project with Denver Lake Norman Rotary Club (Project Leader), Denver Beautification Committee (ELBA), and Keep Lincoln County Beautiful. KLCB financed this project.
- Phase 1: pulled all the weeds in the circle by the flagpole, transplanted the daylilies, and planted some red creeping thyme, Rudbeckia/coneflowers/black-eyed Susans, and some salvia.
- Phases 2 and 3: planted more plants and spread 7 yards of mulch
- Donated 7 new orange traffic cones to replace the six faded cones near the flagpole circle and one elsewhere
- Donated soaker hose to make it easier to water the plants in the circle
- Plant selections are perennials, requiring minimal maintenance, drought tolerant
- Master Gardener Candace Crowell provided on-site expertise

Catawba Springs Elementary School Beautification Project

Before



After



Numerous Improper Signs Removed

- The signs shown in this Annual Report are a small sample of the signs that have been removed. The complete sign list is summarized in a separate document.
- This list doesn't include signs on telephone poles and floppy signs in the right-of-way which are also reported to Lincoln County Code Enforcement.
- Community event signs are not reported for removal (i.e., Music in the Park, rodeo, etc.)

Unneeded Sign Removed

DBC asked NCDOT if the Triangle sign at the intersection of Optimist Club Road and Triangle Circle could be removed. The Triangle sign is a NCDOT sign, and the Triangle Circle street sign is a Lincoln County sign. NCDOT removed their Triangle sign, which was not needed because the street sign is a few feet away. NCDOT Traffic Services in Shelby, NC, will no longer have to respond to requests to repair and/or replace this sign, which has happened multiple times in the last several years. Removing this sign has no disadvantages and will save taxpayers money.



Obsolete Signs Removed

Obsolete “Lincoln County Offices”
sign at Webbs Rd and Tree Farm Ln



Obsolete real estate sign



Obsolete Signs Removed

Two developer off-premises signs removed after build out completed



Signs Moved Out of Right of Way



Signs Moved Out of Right of Way



Signs Moved Out of Right of Way

Before

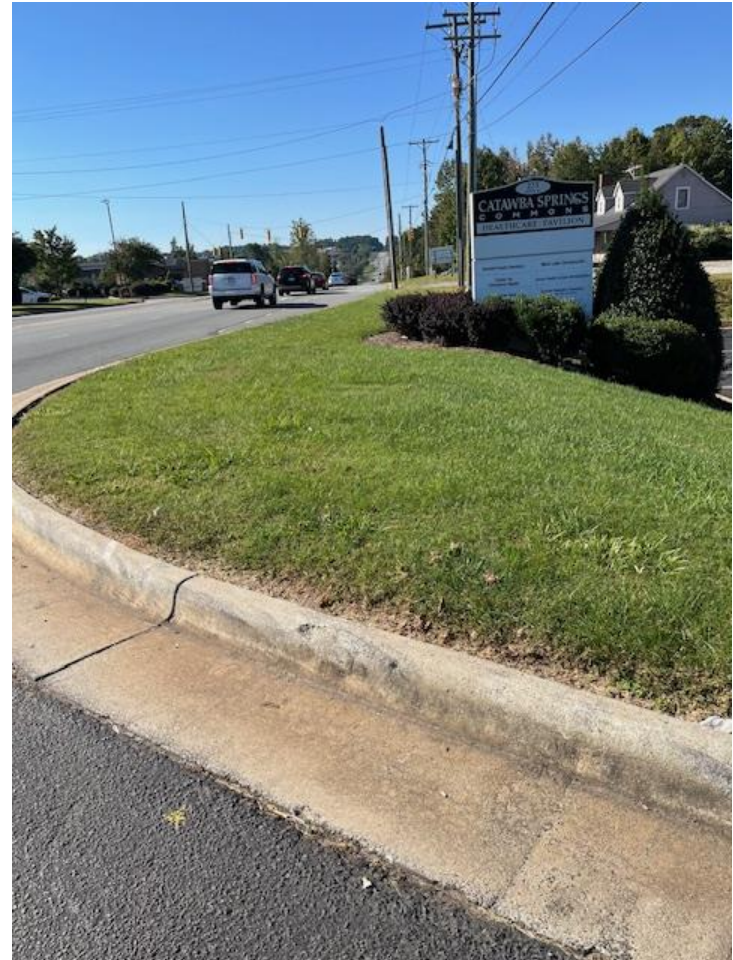


Signs Moved Out of Right of Way

Before



After



Worked with Duke Energy to Remove Improper Political Sign on Flagpole

Duke Energy responded THE SAME DAY of the request to remove an improper political sign/flag from one of their telephone/utility poles along NC-16 Business at Old Post Road.

Lincoln County Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) 3.9.5.C.1. states that no sign shall be attached to a pole or structure owned by a public utility company.



5 More Abandoned Structures Demolished

- 5 More Abandoned Structures Demolished
 - Parcel 71124 near Westport ReStore
 - Near 7512 Optimist Club Road
 - Near intersection of Unity Church Road and Willow Cove Lane
 - 4470 NC-16 Business
 - Across from 5615 Old Plank Road

Abandoned Structure Demolished

NC-16 Business near Westport ReStore



Abandoned Structure Demolished

Near 7512 Optimist Club Road



Abandoned Structure Demolished

Near intersection of Unity Church Road
and Willow Cove Lane



Abandoned Structure Demolished

4470 NC-16 Business



Abandoned Structure Demolished

Across from 5615 Old Plank Road



Company's Request for More Billboards Withdrawn

- DBC asked ELBA and KLCB to recommend disapproval of UDO amendment 2024-2 that would have allowed LKN Media Partners, LLC, applicant, to amend Section 3.9.5.B.1 to permit billboards meeting prescribed criteria along the US 321 and NC 16 corridors
- ELBA Past President and Current Board Member George Barr spoke at the Board of Commissioners Meeting
- KLCB Executive Director Jenna Harmon delivered a letter from the KLCB Board to the BOC

NCDOT Removed the No Right on Red Sign

Two East Lincoln Betterment Association (ELBA) and Denver Beautification Committee (DBC) volunteers talked with NCDOT's Bryan Sowell at a public meeting about removing the No Right on Red turn sign at NC-16 Business and Pilot Knob Road because there is a clear view of oncoming traffic. This was the only NROR sign in Denver. After further analysis, NCDOT removed the sign.

Picture: Clear view of oncoming traffic.



RSES Flashing Light Turned Off during Summer

The last day of school was Thursday, May 23, but the flashing light was still on.

Contacted NCDOT (not their responsibility), Rock Springs Elementary School (RSES), and Eric Eaker (Lincoln County Schools (LCS) Chief Operations Officer and KLCB Board Member) who referred volunteer to the LCS Maintenance Department. It was an oversight; the employee responsible was on extended leave due to a medical emergency.

Light was turned off around June 6.



Hoke Building Supply Large Truck

A DBC volunteer called Hoke Building Supply in Mooresville, 704-892-4841, and spoke with Mike in Shipping and then a day later with Tammy and requested that the large Hoke Building Supply truck that had been parked in the grass in the front yard in front of the home at 2349 N. NC-16 Business next to Hagers Hollow Road and Denver Wesleyan Church for several days without being moved or unloaded be moved to a proper parking place. The truck was being used to advertise that this location may be a new showroom for windows and doors. The truck was removed within one day of DBC's request.



NC-16 Business Roundabout Cleaning

17.5 volunteer hours

48 heavy black bags
of gravel, dirt, nails

3 bags of litter



NC-16 Business Roundabout Cleaning



NC-16 Business Roundabout Cleaning



NC-16 Bypass Medians and Turnarounds Cleaned at Optimist Club Rd and St James Church Rd

36 volunteer hours

60 heavy black bags
of gravel, dirt, nails



NC-16 Bypass Medians and Turnarounds Cleaned at Optimist Club Rd and St James Church Rd



Traffic Sign Cleaning



Traffic Sign Cleaning



Traffic Sign Cleaning



Traffic Sign Cleaning



Traffic Sign Weed Trimming



Traffic Sign Weed Trimming



Traffic Sign Weed Trimming



Traffic Sign Weed Trimming



Weed Trimming



Weed Trimming



Airlie Business Park Sign

Illegally Dumped Cement Removed

DBC worked with the Lincoln County Planning and Inspections Department (which issued the sign permit and is responsible for responding to illegal dumping) and the Lincoln Economic Development Association (LEDA) to remove the illegally dumped cement behind the newly-installed Airlie Business Park at Ingleside sign at the intersection of Optimist Club Road and Airlie Parkway.

Thank you to John Dancoff at LEDA for being so responsive.



Airlie Business Park Sign

Illegally Dumped Cement Removed



Removed Cement Blocks Illegally Dumped Over Guardrail



Removed Toilets Illegally Dumped Over Guardrail



For More Information Please Contact

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