**We had ~30 attendees at the July NHNA General meeting. Donna Baringer, State Rep for the 82nd district reviewed the outcomes of the 2024 legislative session and Officer Karagiannis from the 2nd Patrol District 2 provided a safety/crime update. Our new Neighborhood Improvement Specialist, Shanieka Jackson, gave a detailed report on issues that have been resolved by the NSD. We also had brief updates on upcoming Buder library activities in July and a Tilles Park update from Tina Wong. We began taking donations at the July meeting in support of the Gethsemane Little Free Food Pantry. We will continue to collect items at regular meetings and at future social events. The next NHNA General meeting will be held on August 26th at Gethsemane Lutheran Church.**

**Please email the NHNA admin at** **admin@northamptonneighbors.com** **with any questions.**

**7/22/24 Northampton Neighbors Network meeting:**

* Jane Rain opens the meeting at 6pm with the first agenda speaker.
* Officer Gus Karagiannis, SLMPD South Patrol Station, 2nd District Community Outreach Officer. (Contact phone 314-444-0161, gkaragiannis@slmpd.org) presented crime trends and arrests for last 30 days.

-Trends:

Two person patrols are being dispatched to high crime activity areas. These patrols have interrupted numerous car break-ins and apprehended the individuals involved. Several high-profile arrests were made in connection with recent burglaries. The arrests resulted in the identification of additional suspects (warrants issued).

Targeting of cars at gas station has been a priority for SLMPD and the businesses. Stations have posted warnings and instructions to protect customers. Customers are advised not to leave the keys in the car or to leave the car running.

-Crime details past 30 days:

3 larcenies (package theft), 2 car tag/plates and 1 catalytic converter, burglary at Dominoes, 1 car theft, 1 domestic assault, 10 car break-ins, 1 eat and dash

-Q/A Policy dictates that high-speed pursuit is conducted only in response to a violent felony (rape, shooting, robbery with firearm), red light camera footage can be accessed for accidents

- To request the weekly crime alerts, email your contact information to Gus Karagiannis, community outreach officer/2nd District at gkaragiannis@slmpd.org.

* Shanieka Jackson, Neighborhood Improvement Specialist for Northampton, Southampton, Old North St. Louis, Hyde Park. Contact: (314) 901-3065, jacksonshan@stlouis-mo.gov

-Issue details for last 4 weeks:

351 requests filed for the month from Northampton:

25 potholes, 25 trash pickup, 22 abandoned vehicles, 22 tree inspection, 3 graffiti, 29 refuse containers replaced or repaired.

-Q/A One resident alerted Shanieka to several missing/damaged street signs. Property owners must submit a compensation request for property damage resulting from city operations. Specific issues can be submitted to CSB using the online portal (https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/public-safety/neighborhood-stabilization-office/citizens-service-bureau/) or communicated directly to your NIS.

* Donna Baringer, State Representative for the 82nd District.

- The 2024 session had the fewest bills passed (17 bills) in the history of the MO General Assembly.

-Her term ends when the next elected representative for 82nd District takes office so she can be contacted with requests until end of year.

-July 23rd is the beginning of early voting. She has sent out summaries on Amendments 1 and 4. Her candidate endorsements have been posted and sent to those on mailing list to receive the newsletter.

-They will hold a veto session on Sept. 11, 2024.

* Marissa Owen, Community Engagement Librarian, St. Louis Public Library, Buder Branch

-Buder remodeling continues with carpet replacement on the 1st floor. Book requests will be fulfilled by staff.

-Buder is an early voting site (Tues-Sat 10-4)-voting times do not overlap with library hours.

-Kids Summer reading program (3rd floor Buder)

-Urban Homesteading Summer Series (June-August): Native gardening

-Check out services (passport, notary, etc) and 2024 Tech classes available at Buder and nearby SLPL branches @ <https://www.slpl.org/>.

* Tina Wong, NHNA Treasurer and Beautification Committee.

-Tilles Park garden maintenance has been led by Carol Bauman who has planned several events to weed, water and mulch the planted areas. Thanks to all the volunteers. For those who want to get involved see Tina Wong to be added to email list.

-New playground equipment has been purchased and pickleball court resurfacing schedule is being determined.

Jane Rain introduced our guest speakers from the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD).

* Bess McCoy, Manager of Public Affairs, MSD

-She highlighted that MSD serves 1.3 million customers across St. Louis City and 90% of St. Louis County. They are an essential environmental and public health utility by collecting and cleaning storm and wastewater for the region.

-Main areas of concentration for MSD:

* + Preventative maintenance to prevent sewer overflow and backup into structures (inlets and sewer segments are on 3-5yr cycles)
	+ Regular inspections using CCTV and robotic units to enter sewers and look for defects. They have begun using acoustic technology to inspect span between manholes for blockages. These approaches have reduced basement backups (-40%). Areas are inspected on a 2-5 year cycle.
	+ The ProjectClear Initiative approved in April provides 35M/yr in funding to update existing and initiate new measures to mitigate flooding and erosion in the region. So far 700M in improvements have been identified. measure nd mulch the planted areas. Thanks to all the volunteers. For those who want to get involved see Tina Wong to be added to email list.
	+ Education/outreach to inform homeowners on what they can do. She noted a few dos/don’ts for handling grease and oils, yard waste, pet waste, de-icing salt and emphasized that nothing besides waste and toilet paper should be flushed down the toilet. See details at https://msdprojectclear.org/.
* Jenna Jarvis, Civil Engineer, MSD

-She presented program for improving water retention on residential and business-owned properties.

-Green infrastructure grants:

* + Application program is open for fall submissions.
	+ Residential property can apply for $4K and non-profit organizations can apply for $10K to pay for green projects.
	+ Proposals to be considered include turf replacement with native plantings, rainwater collection systems (gutter and rain barrels). Large businesses can apply for green infrastructure projects or may apply for funding to develop new green technology.
	+ Information on grants program can be found at <https://msdprojectclear.org/>.
* Sophia Garcia, Neighborhood Transformation Officer, St. Louis Development Corp (SLDC). Contact info: 314-379-4070, garcias@stlouis-mo.gov

-SLDC is an independent neighborhood transformation organization (not city employees) that is involved in promoting economic development and equitable justice in the city of St. Louis.

-The SLDC neighborhood managers are holding Town Hall meetings to hear from residents about their needs and vision for business development in their neighborhood over the next 10-20 years. They will also speak about tax incentives and LRA in these neighborhoods.

-The next Town Hall is Aug 8th from 5:30-7:30 at Buder Library. For more Information on SLDC visit https://developstlouis.org/.

* Jane Rain, announced the next social will be held in December if anyone is interested in planning the event. National Night Out is on October 1st. If you would like to host an event sign up for your planning package through the city website. (https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/public-safety/neighborhood-stabilization-office/national-night-out/nno.cfm)

- Adjourned meeting at 7:15.

**To be added to the general meeting agenda, please submit a request though the NHNA website: https://northamptonneighbors.com/**