



A Community Service Organization

southlandassociation.com

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PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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SOUTHLAND ASSOCIATION ACCEPTS AWARD FROM MAYOR NEWBERRY & LFUCG ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Lexington, KY- Monday November 12, 2007 Phil Wyant proudly accepted an award from Mayor Newberry, on behalf of our Southland Association members, for their efforts regarding Beautification, Tree Planting and Community Activities on Southland Drive. The group's efforts have been officially recognized in this way by The LFUCG Environmental Commission.

In 2003 a group of property owners began meeting to address the need for planning for the future of the Southland business community. In October 2004 The Southland Association was formed as a non-profit Community Service Organization. The Association has since expanded to include residents and neighborhood associations, allowing it to represent nearly the entire community in increasing the visibility and viability of Southland area; making it a safe, attractive and welcoming place to shop, eat, do business and live.

At literally their first membership meeting, The Southland Association began a project to improve landscaping along Southland Drive. The Association raised money from its membership drive and from additional donations in an effort to attract a matching grant from the LFUCG Corridors Committee. In addition, the Association obtained donated design services for location and species of trees. A total of \$10,000 in private money was raised.

By the fall of 2005, approximately 110 new trees were installed along Southland Drive. The Association continued its stewardship by having its members water the trees until appropriate measures were installed by the city. This shows the "above and beyond" nature of the organization.

The Southland Association also assisted in the apprehension and cleanup of graffiti incidents in the spring of 2007. The efforts of the Association and its members resulted in the capture of three individuals and a termination of the problem. In addition, the Association helped enlist resources to clean up the damage.

The Southland Association continues to address the aesthetics of the corridor even now as they are near the fulfillment of a long, arduous project to repaint a railroad trestle that bisects Southland Drive. The Association garnered grants, donations, and other monies to collectively enable the project- no small feat in itself. In addition, the Association has served as project lead and successfully navigated the labyrinth of government and railroad requirements. At long last, painting of the metal sides of the bridge has been completed as of early November 2007 with a small amount needing to be recoated in order to meet specifications. The concrete abutments and wing walls will be painted as soon as weather permits.