

October 2016

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Dear Merion Neighbors,

Please note that the mailed letter has enclosed a stamped return envelope for your convenience.

If you prefer to pay with PayPal, please click on the Merion Civic Association website, <http://www.merioncivic.org/>.

Our residential neighborhoods, and our way of life, are being changed by increased development by institutions and developers. Your Merion Civic Association is your first line of defense.

Recent examples include the increased development of the Palmer House, proposed sale and development of the entire Saint Charles Seminary property; doubling the size of the Kohelet school directly into a purely residential community.

Hence, it has never been more important than today to support the Association by increasing your donation, becoming an active member, or better yet, applying to become one of our new Directors. The Merion Civic Association needs more involvement of the Merion neighbors, who care about our unique community, to insure our voices are heard by the Township.

We meet at the Merion Tribute House on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM except July, August and December. We encourage you to come to our meetings and have your voice heard.

Visit our website for updates on our meetings as well as a wealth of other important information and be a part of the community by supporting your civic association!

Thank you very much.

Leslie Greenberg, President

www.merioncivic.org
merioncivic@yahoo.com

Please make checks payable to **MCA** and return with bottom portion of form to: **Merion Civic Association, Box 263, Merion, PA 19066**. Merion Civic Association is a 501(c)(3) organization. Your dues are tax-deductible. Please ask your company if they will match your donation.

<p>Enclosed are my/our dues for 2016-17.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> \$25.00 Individual <input type="radio"/> \$35.00 Couples <input type="radio"/> \$50.00 Family <input type="radio"/> \$75.00 Business <input type="radio"/> \$150.00 Patron <input type="radio"/> Other <p>MCA is a 501(c)(3) organization. Your dues are tax-deductible.</p>
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NAME	

ADDRESS	

CITY/STATE/ZIP	
_____	_____
PHONE	EMAIL
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Here are some of the things we are watching. Consult the website for newer issues.

1. Institutions

a. **Kohelet Yeshiva High School**

Kohelet received zoning approval to add K-8, and double the student population. This includes 13,000 sq. ft. more building on the original campus, and the demolishing of two residences on Melrose. We monitor plans and the pending appeal by the neighbors.

b. **St. Charles Borromeo Seminary**

St. Charles plans to sell or lease their entire property for development which will affect traffic and the character of the surrounding neighborhood.

c. **St. Joseph's University**

We continue to confer with St. Joseph's University to discuss how various issues of light, noise, traffic and parking affect our neighborhood.

d. **School District**

We monitor events and issues with the Lower Merion School District. School district taxes are much greater than township or county. We are following the court suit rolling back this year's increase from 4.4% to 2.4%.

2. Lower Merion Township Planning

a. **Lower Merion Comprehensive Plan**

The Comprehensive Plan was adopted in January 2016. We are actively involved in promoting its implementation.

b. **Bala Village Zoning on City Avenue**

We are advocating amendments to reduce the new height limits from Orchard Road to Bala Avenue in the Bala Village zoning ordinance.

c. **Wendy's on City Avenue**

A new franchise owner for Wendy's plans to refurbish, not rebuild, the facility.

d. **Jewish Family and Children's Services**

This group is building a new facility in Bala Cynwyd on the Tarnopol Furs property.

3. Neighborhood

a. **Merion Cynwyd Business District**

We are working with local businesses, the Neighborhood Club of Bala Cynwyd and LM Township improve the traffic lights and crosswalks, and enact design standards to make the business district a wonderful place to shop and dine.

b. **Merion Train Station**

We are actively involved in the plantings and maintenance around the Train Station on both sides of the tracks.

c. **Idris Road Garden.** We work with neighbors to maintain this garden.

d. **Empty Lot at Merion Road & City Avenue.** Monitor status of this lot.

e. **City Avenue proposed improvements**

We monitor plans for the Old Lancaster intersection, and median strips further south.

4. **Police Reports.** We encouraged the Main Line Times to resume the Police Blotter reports.

Merion and Lower Merion have burglary problems. We work with the police to monitor this. Police have more success catching burglars when neighbors report possible issues.

Please join to stay in touch, stay informed and to help protect and preserve the wonderful quality of life we enjoy in Merion. We are an association of neighbors and we need your involvement and support.