

SOUTHSIDE REVITALIZATION

# NEWSLETTER

CITY OF PADUCAH, KENTUCKY

JANUARY 2026



Southside Pastor Luncheon

## FEATURES

- Community Updates
- Progress At A Glance
- Neighborhood Voices
- Looking Ahead
- Neighbor Spotlight

## A Note to Our Neighbors

Welcome to the Southside Revitalization newsletter, mailed quarterly to share updates and information about what is happening in and around our Phase One area. In each edition, you'll find progress on incentives, neighborhood improvements, and highlights from recent and upcoming events. As part of keeping our Southside neighborhoods strong, we also want to share a friendly reminder about property maintenance. In Paducah, we all take pride in our neighborhoods and want the properties around us to be well cared for. The City's Code Enforcement team enforces applicable laws, rules, and regulations to help provide a healthy, clean, and pleasant environment for everyone. We understand that some situations—especially involving vacant properties—can be challenging, as owners may have moved away or an elderly resident may no longer be living there. In these cases, Code Enforcement officers work diligently to locate the property owner or a responsible family member, which can take time. If you notice a concern, please help by reporting Code Enforcement issues through the MyPaducah app or the City's online portal. By working together as neighbors, we can continue moving the Southside forward.



**Carol Gault**  
Director of Planning

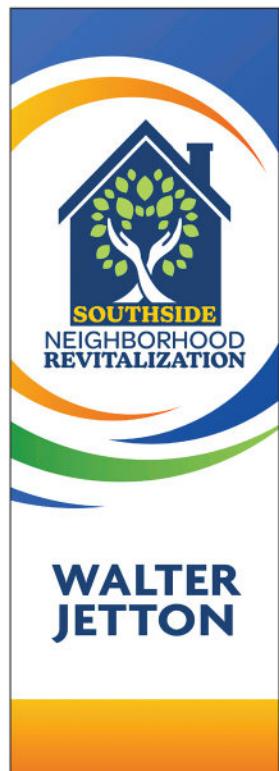
## COMMUNITY UPDATES

### SOUTHSIDE REVITALIZATION PLAN ADOPTED!

After months of discussion and preparation, the Southside Neighborhood Revitalization Plan was adopted by the Paducah Board of Commissioners on August 12, 2025. The plan addresses the housing needs on the Southside and a strategic approach to dealing with the challenges the City faces. The true measure of the plan's success will be measured by the real world tangible results we achieve.

### UPCOMING IMPROVEMENTS

Southside is not just a location in Paducah; it is the soul of generations who have called it home. It holds the memories of vibrant neighborhoods, beloved local businesses, places of worship, and deep-rooted history. The phrase "I am Southside" reflects the voices of those who have lived, worked, and grown up in this community. To celebrate the legacy and contributions of the neighborhood, banners will be installed along Walter Jetton Boulevard.



### PROGRESS AT A GLANCE



503 Walter Jetton before



503 Walter Jetton after participating in the Home Repair Micro Grant

### BY THE NUMBERS



#### TOTAL PARCELS

1,061

#### VACANT

405



Total Housing Units Needed

3,805

2029

(PROJECTED)

Total Housing Units Needed

4,655

## NEIGHBORHOOD VOICES

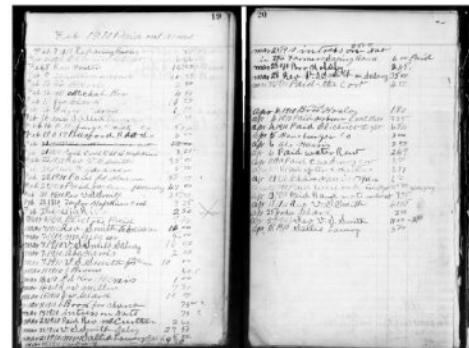
### DID YOU KNOW?

Andy W. Watkins was a pioneering African American entrepreneur and community leader whose legacy helped shape Paducah, Kentucky's Black history. Moving to Paducah during a time of deep racial segregation and limited economic opportunity for African Americans, Watkins distinguished himself through professionalism, compassion, and an unwavering commitment to dignity in service.

In August 1894, he established the A.W. Watkins Undertaking Parlor at the corner of Washington and 7th Street—one of the earliest funeral homes in the region specifically serving African Americans. At a time when Black families were denied access

to many basic services, Watkins offered a vital and respectful alternative. His meticulous attention to detail and dedication to high standards earned him a reputation as a trusted and compassionate funeral director. The business became more than a place of service; it was a pillar of strength and cultural continuity for Paducah's African American community.

Pages from  
Watkins Funeral Home  
records book.



Courtesy of McCracken County Library

### CELEBRATING THE 8TH OF AUGUST

Team members from the City joined the celebration in Coleman Park for the 8th of August. Members of the Planning Department discussed components of the Southside Revitalization Plan. Human Resources along with volunteers handed out information on Commission Priorities, Public Works programs, and more. Attendees received City merchandise and there was a photo op for supporters of the Southside.



### LOOKING AHEAD



#### FINANCIAL CREDIT WELLNESS PRESENTATION

Angie Wilke from Operation Hope

Thursday  
January 15, 2026  
6:00 p.m.

CFSB Community Room  
2550 Irvin Cobb Drive  
Paducah, Kentucky



#### COMMUNITY MEETING AND CHILI SUPPER

Thursday  
January 29, 2026  
5:30 p.m.

W.C. Young Center  
505 South 8th Street  
Paducah, Kentucky



## NEIGHBOR SPOTLIGHT



**SOUTHSIDE REVITALIZATION LOAN PROGRAM**

To Purchase a Home or New Construction  
Up to 100% financing available  
for your primary residence



**Rhonda Batts**  
NMLS# 989705  
Ph. 270.527.6047  
[rhondao@cfsvcs.com](mailto:rhondao@cfsvcs.com)

**Contact a lender today to learn more!**

\*Subject to credit approval. This Loan Program is designated to the Southside Revitalization homes located within Paducah, KY. Additional eligibility requirements may apply. For full program details contact a lender above.

Southside Revitalization Phase 1

NMLS# 477230 [YOURLIFEYOURBANK.COM](http://YOURLIFEYOURBANK.COM)



Community Financial Services Bank (CFSB) is proud to partner with the City of Paducah in support of the Southside Revitalization Plan. By joining this effort, CFSB is offering exclusive loan programs that provide up to 100% financing for primary residences, new construction, and select investor opportunities—helping make it easier for individuals and developers to invest in the future of these neighborhoods. This partnership builds on CFSB's longstanding support of the City, including previously serving as a host for community meetings as well as workshops focused on grants and financial wellness. CFSB's commitment reflects a shared belief that strong neighborhoods begin with accessible resources and informed residents. Through collaboration like this, the Southside Revitalization Plan continues to gain momentum and create lasting, positive change for Paducah.