



Dear Residents,

With the Court Street renovation project well underway, our fellow residents and neighbors have recognized our efforts. As the original purpose of the Court Street Committee has now been fulfilled, this committee has been dissolved in order to become more formalized under the Olde Towne Civic League (OTPCL), as outlined below. We hope these changes will enable us to obtain as many mutually beneficial outcomes from the project as possible and will facilitate streamlined communications. We want to say thank you to everyone for contributing your valuable time and energy in all of the conversations that have started us on the path of exploring the numerous facets of this project, including those who had been part of the Court Street Committee.

Structure

The City is interested in having OTPCL work with residents on the Court Street renovation and having OTPCL serve as its point of contact on the project. Court Street resident views remain of paramount importance to the City. Likewise, we also wanted to simplify the different committees and points of contact that had formed on the project, make things easier for residents to communicate concerns and take part in discussions they most care about. The following changes have been implemented:

1. A "Court Street Construction Committee", (CSCC) has been formed as a formally recognized committee of OTPCL, which fills the large shoes formerly filled by the Court Street Committee, which has disbanded. In addition, CSCC's scope now includes the prior work led by Katherine Schuhr and Jennifer Deason as appointed Construction Liaisons. They are joined by Garry Hartlieb as co-chairs. Katherine and Jennifer will continue to serve as Construction Liaisons appointed by OTPCL and will continue to handle day-to-day construction issues impacting individual homeowners (as they have all along).
2. Three focus teams will be formed to discuss specific topic areas and make recommendations. From time to time the teams may take resident polls and hold meetings. Everyone on Court Street, regardless of OTPCL membership, can take part in the focus teams and you are encouraged to do so. The new teams are:
 - i. Plantings (headed by Katherine Schuhr) will focus on the removal and additions of trees and plantings that will go in the median and bioretention areas.
 - ii. Railings and Sidewalks (headed by Jennifer Deason) will focus on the railings for bioretention areas, crosswalks, sidewalks, Cox cable box placement, and the like.
 - iii. Court Street Parking (headed by Garry Hartlieb) to focus on parking options during and after construction affecting Court Street. This team will collaborate with the OTPCL Parking Committee, chaired by Clifford King Harbin, to ensure transparency and coordination with parking issues affecting the wider Olde Towne neighborhood.

Please reply to this e-mail or separately e-mail courtstconstruction@gmail.com to join a focus team.



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Communications:

- Please send any comments/questions/concerns to courtstconstruction@gmail.com.
- All three co-chairs have access to that e-mail account and will coordinate to make sure all resident concerns are addressed. We will review incoming resident communications and raise them with the City or route them to a focus team for further discussion.
- For individual-specific matters, continue to e-mail your OTPCL Construction Liaison (Jennifer Deason or Katherine Schuhr) at courtstconstruction@gmail.com with any specific issue impacting you or your property (such as plumbing/draining, damage, inappropriate behavior by workers, etc.). Your matter will be handled and responded to by your respective Liaison. Katherine will cover issues from North to Crawford and Jennifer from North to London.
- We aim to provide succinct updates in one e-mail, no more than once per week, containing information about the project as a whole that impacts everyone on Court Street, along with specific issues raised by residents (anonymously) and the City's response. Construction Liaisons will continue to alert residents via email of any planned or unplanned utilities outages or parking restrictions as they become aware.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT DECISIONMAKING

Where all resident views are sought (such as where project plans can be modified by selecting different plantings, bioretention area railings, or the type of parking on Court Street), CSCC (or an appropriate focus team) may poll residents with recommendations to be presented and voted on at an OTPCL meeting.

Please take note of the following:

- Focus teams may consist of OTPCL members (located anywhere in Olde Towne) in addition to residents of Court Street who are not members of the OTPCL.
- Polls - These are for the purpose of informally identifying residents' preferences and are open to any focus team or Court Street residents. Anyone can participate in a poll regardless of membership in the OTPCL.
- Votes – These are for the purpose of formally identifying consensus of OTPCL Members. Thus, if there is a decision that the City requires a vote by the OTPCL, only registered Members of the OTPCL may vote. Membership is \$10 annually and you may join on the OTPCL website <https://otpcl.org>. You must attend two OTPCL meetings to activate your voting rights (i.e., you may vote at your second League meeting). If you do not join OTPCL, you may attend an OTPCL meeting in non-voting capacity, and you are still able to voice your opinion through a focus team and through informal polls.
- The CSCC co-chairs will present a Committee update at the monthly OTPCL Meetings, held every third Thursday of each month for the duration of the project.
- Please contact CourtStConstruction@gmail.com if you have concerns or questions about the above.



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General Requests:

- We know emotions have run high on this project, but humbly ask for your patience and trust. All co-chairs and focus team leads are volunteers who have outside responsibilities, like everyone else.
- The established positive lines of communication have already obtained significant accommodations from the City in many aspects of the project, no doubt a product of effective communication with the City to date. To that end, please communicate respectfully with us, your fellow residents, and if you choose, the City.
- Now that we are more familiar with the project and know many decisions are less time-sensitive than initially thought, we still have time to work out specific details. Please use this process and allow it to work, keeping in mind that we have time to work on these aspects (but we will do our best to respond to emergency individual matters ASAP in the meantime).
- **Please be considerate of other residents by avoiding large group e-mail chains. All communication should relay through the three co-chairs of the CSCC.**

Forthcoming Updates:

In our next communication, we will begin addressing: (1) current project changes the City is exploring to address concerns expressed to date and (2) making publicly available as much as we can about the plans and project, along with its current status.

Thank you again for your attention and participation in this important project that impacts us all.

Sincerely,

Court Street Construction

-Jennifer Deason

-Garry Hartlieb

-Katherine Schuhr