

*News for the Citizens of Southgate*

# Citylines



January 2021

*Southgate, Kentucky – City of Friendly Homes*

## City Administration

Mayor:	Jim Hamberg
Recreation & Community Events:	Tyler Owen
Finance:	Pat Hayley
Public Safety:	Joe Anderson
Code Enforcement:	Mark Messmer
Public Buildings:	Chris Robisch
Public Works & Waste:	Paul Melville
City Attorney:	Mary Ann Stewart
City Treasurer:	Terri Hudson
Police Chief: Police Dept	John Christmann 441-7473
Fire Chief: Fire Dept	John Beatsch 441-1422
Public Works:	Arvil Bowman
City Clerk: Clerk's Office	Brandi Barton 441-0075
Community Center:	Chelsie Shay 781-8878

## **Snow Emergencies**

Winter is here! Just a reminder: No parking on designated streets when snow exceeds 3 inches or during a declared snow emergency. Any vehicle parked on pavement or right of way on any designated street during a snow emergency shall be removed from the street within 3 hours of the declared emergency between 6am and 8pm. If emergency is declared between 8pm and 6am, then the vehicle shall be removed prior to 9am that morning. Vehicles may be removed at the owner's expense. Snow emergencies may be broadcasted on local TV and radio stations.



## CITY OF SOUTHGATE

122 Electric Avenue

Southgate, KY 41071

Phone: 859-441-0075 Fax: 859-441-0244

[www.southgateky.org](http://www.southgateky.org)

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I hope you and yours had a safe and pleasant Christmas and Holiday Season!

Let me start off by saying a sincere "Thank You" to all frontline nurses and doctors as well as our volunteers with the Southgate Volunteer Fire Department, Southgate-Wilder EMS and our Police Officers. They are the frontline and many do not know what to expect with each new call or case.

With 2020 now past us, it is time to look forward into 2021. As we move into 2021, one word certainly has forced us into a new era. That word is "transition." We've learned in nearly a year to transition from what we would call "normal" to a world which requires us to wear a mask and heard new terms of social distancing, new normal, virtual meetings and limited gathering ability to name a few. Transition has become a new way of life. We've heard of and experienced COVID Fatigue. Now we come to 2021 which holds hope as we look to find our turn in line to be able to receive the vaccine against COVID19. First off, Joyce and I intend to take the vaccine and hope you will also consider the same. Why are we committed to taking the vaccine? Over our years, we've taken the smallpox vaccine, the polio vaccine, measles vaccine, mumps vaccine, shingles vaccine, pneumonia vaccine, etc. In the Army I was inoculated against things such as cholera, diphtheria, dysentery and others. I am sure those who served remember the shot lines. We don't want to add to the number of current cases within our hospital system as well as the possibility of infecting others or being infected by others by not taking the vaccine. Same was true with the other vaccine's taken that I mentioned above. So, I hope you are considering taking the vaccine when it becomes available to you and your family. Keep in mind that the science industry has been working on a COVID related vaccine for years prior to the COVID19 outbreak. This gave our drug manufacturers a jump start to discovering a vaccine for COVID19. During my weekly call with the Governor, he mentioned that Ohio, Tennessee and Indiana are deep in the RED Zone across their states. California hospitals are using Gift Shops for clinics and triage units and Tennessee is also now on fire with COVID19 cases. We recently had a friend in a local hospital who was placed overnight in a 10 x 10 room that at one time was a closet. Please stay safe and remain vigilant!

Let me change subject and provide a few updates for you within the City. The City Building and Community Center remain closed until further notice based on the Governor's Orders which remain in effect. The outdoor restrooms are also closed at the Community Center. For questions relating to the City, attention to your property, etc. please contact the City Office by calling 859-441-0075 or [clerk@southgateky.org](mailto:clerk@southgateky.org). The fishing lake, playground equipment, trails and park at the Community Center and all parks within the City, remain open for use. All we ask is that that you maintain social distancing and wear a mask if within 6 feet of someone and be sure to wash your hands before and after leaving any of these areas. For more and local information, you can go onto the KY.GOV website or onto the NKYhealth.org website for the same for local health department information. The Positivity Rate in the Commonwealth continues upward after the Christmas and New Years' Seasons. Our County as well as all but 4 in the entire Commonwealth remains in the RED Zone as of early January. My thanks to all of



you who have taken the necessary steps to insure the safety of your family and all those around you by adhering to the requests from science as well as our Governor and wearing masks and continuing social distancing and frequently washing your hands.

Southgate, I want to personally thank you and your family for decorating your home for Christmas! The City looked absolutely beautiful and more so this year, than many years in the past. Thank you so very much for your efforts in sharing your Christmas Spirit. You made our City shine brightly! I received many compliments from residents of other cities surrounding us. Also, I hope you enjoyed the Christmas Crib and Christmas Tree as well as the pole decorations our Public Works staff placed for this Season. Thanks to them too for their work in making our season bright.

I hope you all saw or waited for Santa on December 20. The Southgate Volunteer Fire Department had Santa tour our fine City with greetings from the North Pole. The Southgate Police Department and Joyce and I also accompanied Santa on his tour. It was nice to see so many of you out on the street or waving from your yards as we passed. It was evident to me that you too are not going to let this virus destroy what we knew in the past and want to relive again in the future. Thanks for your faith and for providing hope to your family and friends.

As to the current Beverly Hills property and Memorial Point proposed development, Ashley continues their due diligence to purchase the property from its current owners. Discussions continue with the hope of a purchase agreement to be finalized between the two parties soon. More to follow.

We are in the process of mobilizing to fix the drainage issue on (little) Joyce and Linden Avenues. SD1 is partnering to find solutions to the spring and water that is popping up in the middle of the street. We hope to be able to bid this project in early February and be able to mobilize the chosen contractor to begin work in later winter or early spring 2021. Part of our delay on this project is due to funding and delays due to COVID19. Cost estimates on this project are low to medium six figures.

Barring any emergencies, we are hoping the proposed 2021-2022 budget and future budgets will have funding for the continuation of repairing in large patches within the areas identified on various streets. As well as providing funding for repairing curbs on the same.

Also, Newport Central Catholic High School provided a proposal for using the ballfield at the Community Center. In doing so, they are also promising many improvements such as permanent dugouts, batting cages, bullpen areas, home run fence and moving re-aligning the current backstop. There was much discussion during and when we could still have open meetings at the Community Center prior to the Governor's Orders which do not allow us to meet publicly with larger groups for public meetings at the present time. There is a delay on the discussion and decision for or against this project until we can meet in a live meeting again. The current action was considered since not all who wish to speak have a computer, phone or tablet to share their agreement with or concerns for this proposal which currently would be voiced during Council Meetings held virtually and online to comply with the Governor's and Attorney General's Order. Please see the Proposal regarding the presentation given to Council by Newport Central Catholic in late October. No decision has been reached and Council would be the determining factor whether to move forward and ask us to work with NCC to develop a draft agreement for their approval. Personally, I have concerns about this project. Some of which are due to the additional traffic on Walnut and Fort Beech as well as others.

Finally, we said goodbye to LeAnna Homandberg and Dan Speier from City Council. As you know, LeAnna ran unsuccessfully for the 67<sup>th</sup> Kentucky House of Representatives seat in November. Although she did not win this seat, she certainly shined as a viable candidate and as a resident of Southgate. Dan chose not to run due to family and work commitments. We will miss Dan who was on Council for 14 years and represented our City well. Thanks to both of these fine individuals whom I am proud to know and call friends. Thanks to you both for your dedication and commitment to Southgate during your tenure. Congratulations to Mark Messmer and Tyler Owen who were elected in November to replace LeAnna and Dan. We all are looking forward to working with you both. Thanks for your commitment to help improving our fine City.

Well, there you have it. As always I stand ready to assist you or answer any questions you may have regarding this or anything going on within our fine city. Feel free to call me at the City Building at 859-441-0075 or at my home phone number at 859-781-1658 with questions, comments or concerns. I am always happy to hear from you.

Our City Council and staff as well as Joyce and I personally want to wish you and yours a Happy New Year! Let's look forward to the best year ever in 2021! Remember to care about those who care about you and who care about others. I'll see you soon.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim". The script is cursive and fluid.

Jim Hamberg,  
Mayor



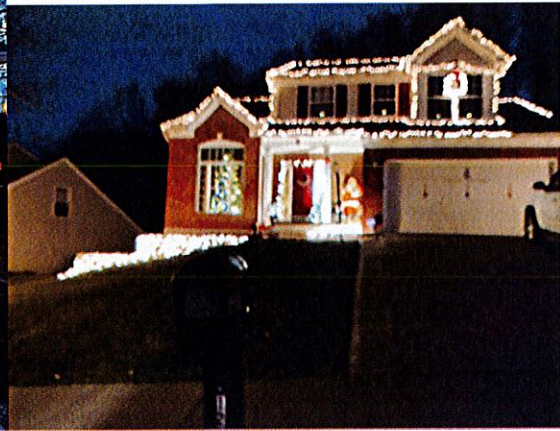
### **Park & Tree Board News**

Members of the Southgate Park and Tree Board wish to thank the citizens of Southgate for the outstanding job everyone did to light up Southgate during the Christmas season, 2020. It was beautiful, indeed, though it made it really hard to select the Home Award winners this year. First place winners receive a \$50 gift certificate and a City of Southgate tree ornament. Honorable Mentions receive a lovely Christmas ornament.

### **Congratulations Southgate**

The Southgate Park & Tree Board recently found that Southgate was again selected as a Tree City USA city. Congratulations to our Park & Tree Board for their diligent work in achieving this status consistently over the last 16 years.

They should find out soon if we were selected again as a Growth Award City from their Application which was submitted in early January 2021.



First Place winners - Holiday Decorating Contest

First Place Award Winners:

- Classic Christmas - Justin and Julie Bramel - 123 Ft. Beech
- Toy Land Christmas - Jeff Strickley - 134 W. Walnut
- Fantasy Land Christmas - Leonard and Bonnie Bauer - 160 Bonnie Lynn Terrace
- Multi-Family - Bill Werener and Scott Thompson – 56-11 Woodland Hills





Honorable Mentions:

- John and Donna Beatsch - 214 Vail Ct.
- Larry and Kimberly Turner - 137 Harvard
- Alan and Deborah Abramis - 212 Electric
- Linda Frazier - 150 Tracy Lane

## **Newport Central Catholic Proposal for Using the Ballfield at the Southgate Community Center**

In 1993, The City of Southgate made a commitment to the youth of our City by creating the ballfield at the Community Center. The ballfield was built over the drained lake and was renovated in 1998 with the backstop being moved back 15 feet and 12-15 feet of dirt was added to prevent rocks from resurfacing after each winter. Since 1993, the ballfield has been used by local Southgate teams as well as by parents and kids who wish to play toss, enjoy a game or even families who enjoy playing a hardball, softball or even a game with a rubberball. This was and continues to be the types of uses for the only true remaining ballfield in our City today.

Towards the end of 2020, Newport Central Catholic (NCC) asked if they could attend a Council Meeting and request permission to display how, with Council's approval, they would improve the ballfield in order for the High School Teams to practice and host games at the Community Center Ballfield. Newport Central Catholic would like to establish a partnership with the City of Southgate for the use of the Community Center Ballfield. They propose that boys and girls teams would use the field. This means: Freshman, JV and Varsity games would be played on our field if Council approves.

Here is the background of what NCC proposes and what they are offering the residents of Southgate:

- Weekday games begin at 5:00 pm with players arriving to practice around 4pm with NO games on Friday
- Weekday practices begin at 4:00 pm with players arriving as early as 3:30 pm. NO practice beyond 6pm with NO practice on Friday
- Saturday games and/or practices begin no earlier than 10am and end by 4:00 pm to avoid any Community Center events
- NO games on Sundays with limited practices beginning on May 15 after 1:00pm.
- Proposed use from February 15 – June 15 annually
- All baseball activities end at dusk during the week
- Improve field conditions and add baseball amenities
- No impact on the Volleyball Court, Walking Trails, Playground Equipment, Picnic Shelter and Exercise Equipment and Outdoor Exercise Equipment
- NO utilities required for water or sewer
- NO lights for night or evening games
- Grass and dirt surface with no artificial surface
- Funding through alumni funding and stewardship



- Student work program would allow students to perform general maintenance of the field before and after games
- NCC to maintain the field of play year round
- NCC to provide all funding for improvements
- NO screening on any perimeter fencing
- Replacement of the current backstop with a black chainlink fence
- Move the backstop back and turn it towards the lake at least 15 feet
- Inform all team buses and traffic to utilize Fort Beech Road as much as possible to alleviate traffic concerns on West Walnut
- Bus parking within the area of the Public Works drive only
- Average of 55 coaches, parents and players drive on game day as well as at least one school bus. This could be 3 or more if Freshman, JV and Varsity play on the same day. More than adequate parking in the Community Center lots
- An average of 15 coaches and players drive on practice days, plus 20 parents dropping off or picking up of younger kids
- Post sponsor recognition on a plaque along the fence line between home and first and home and third.
- Construct a six foot black chain link home run fence with a warning track in the outfield.
- NO sponsor ads depicted or posted on the outfield fence. Exclusive use of the field by residents of Southgate and NCC
- Continue a Community Field for all ages
- Attract kids by NCC holding up to 5 annual clinics for Baseball and Softball players for the youth of Southgate, free of charge between June and the start of the new school year.
- Exposure by visitors to the Community Center and grounds
- Baseball and Softball schedules announced within 4 months in advance to avoid conflicts with the Community Center – Coordinate home games with the City and Community Center Coordinator
- NO games after 4pm on Saturday

#### Essential Items to be fully funded by Newport Central Catholic

- Relocate and reposition the backstop
- Install a pitching mound
- Reconfigure the infield – tilting it more towards the lake by 15 or more feet
- Install pegged base pads
- Install foul poles
- Install perimeter fencing (10 foot chain link fence) down left and right field lines
- Install an outfield chain link fence to accommodate 300 feet left and right field foul poles and 325 feet left and right center field with 350 feet dead center field.

- Install bullpens and mounds – home and visitor, one on the first base side and the other on the third base side
- Grade and level the field
- Temporary chain link dugouts with the hope to construct permanent dugouts in the future

Non-Essential items to be fully funded by Newport Central Catholic

- Install two batting cages – which can be used by the general public after games and practices
- Install a Scoreboard in the outfield behind the home run fence
- Install bleachers on concrete pads
- Install permanent masonry dugouts
- Install a warning track in front of the homerun fence
- Additional non-essential amenity requests will be presented to City Council by NCC as warranted (at NCC's expense)

In addition, NCC proposes

- The entire field would be fully fenced in with no lock for use before or after NCC has control of the field.
- NCC proposes and is asking to lease the field for \$1 per year for 50 consecutive years
- Priority use of the field from February through June for games and practices
- Exclusive and direct use by NCC and residents of the City of Southgate
- NCC to maintain the baseball field and all baseball amenities
- All baseball field improvements and amenities to be fully funded by NCC and approved by Southgate City Council prior to commencement of work
- NCC and the City of Southgate will coordinate all improvements with the Southgate Park and Tree Board
- NCC would mandate all baseball traffic to approach and exit the area using Fort Beech Road and not West Walnut Street. NCC recognizes and understands the traffic concerns on both streets and agrees to allow any police action to thwart any safety concerns on either street or by any vehicle traversing streets within the City of Southgate.

Primary Concerns

- Increased traffic on West Walnut
- Increased traffic on Fort Beech
- Possible reduced use by Southgate residents and teams
- What happens to the field with promises of their assistance with all of the maintenance of the field if NCC enrollment decreases?
- At a \$1 per year for 50 years, will NCC help resurface our parking lots when needed?
- Is there a potential loss of revenue to the Community Center for NCC taking our field?



- What view will a bride have from the windows, currently looking over the ballfield and surrounding grounds? Will they see the back of the homerun fence and scoreboard instead of the ballfield?
- Will their activity affect any of the other amenities of the park, i.e. walking trails, volleyball court, playground equipment, exercise stations and picnic shelter?
- How much noise will be created for the local residents by the ballpark with this much activity?
- Priority would be given for Newport Central Catholic teams during the months of February through June

What other amenities has Southgate and the Park & Tree Board planned for the park, using possible grants and City resources?

- Install a dog park
- Build another picnic shelter
- Add to or reconstruct new playground equipment
- Continue trail improvements

Many residents have voiced approval as well as concerns for this proposal. Due to the upcoming Holidays development of an agreement before year end would more than likely not be possible, especially due to COVID19 numbers increasing. Also, following the Guidelines for RED Counties (of which Campbell is one), on November 4, Mayor Hamberg asked NCC and Council to delay discussions on this topic until we can once again meet in public so all can be heard versus those who can do so virtually. It is hopeful we will be able to return to a public meeting sometime in early 2021 and continue this discussion.

So what are the next steps?

- Continue discussion at a future Council Meeting
- Council will be asked to vote on whether to ask the Mayor and City Attorney to work with NCC and their staff on developing a draft agreement
- The draft agreement would come back to Council for consideration and final consideration
- If approved, Newport Central Catholic would have the rights for use of the field as described above.

Please send comments, questions or concerns in an **email to [clerk@southgateky.org](mailto:clerk@southgateky.org)** or **call the City Building at 859-441-0075**. You can also send your comments to us via mail to: **The City of Southgate, Attention: City Clerk, 122 Electric Avenue, Southgate, KY 41071**. Be sure to include your name and address. Any comments or questions received without this information may not be accepted. We very much want to hear from you and will share your message with Southgate City Council and Newport Central Catholic.





**City of Southgate**

**&**

**Newport Central Catholic**

November 4, 2020

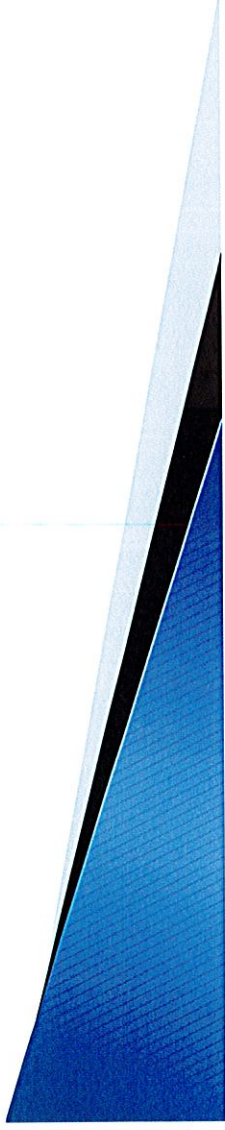




# Timeline



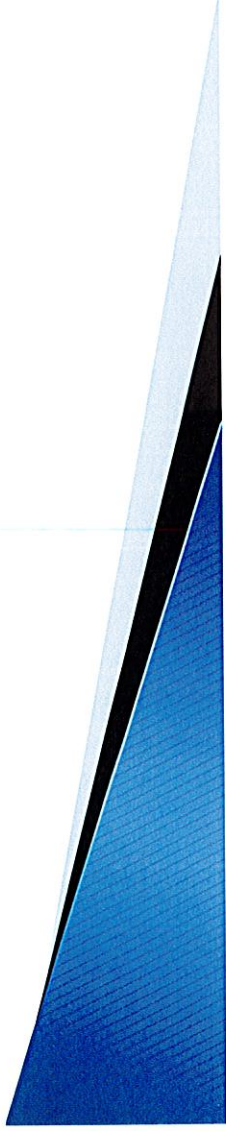
- ▶ Phase 1 Baseball Essentials - pending funding  
(estimated completion Fall of 2021)
  1. Relocate backstop
  2. Install pitching mound
  3. Reconfigure infield
  4. Install pegged bases
  5. Install foul poles





## Timeline Phase 1 (cont.)

6. Install perimeter fence (10' infield chain link fence & 6' or 10' outfield chain link fence to accommodate 300' L & R, 325' LC & RC, 350' C)
7. Install bullpen mounds
8. Grade & level field
9. Temporary chain link dugouts







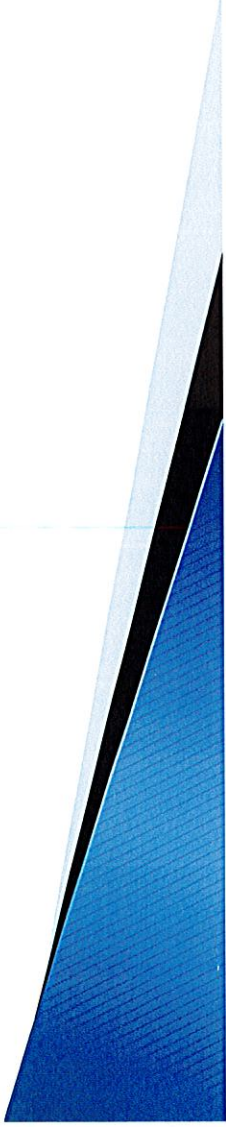
## Timeline Phase 1 (cont.)



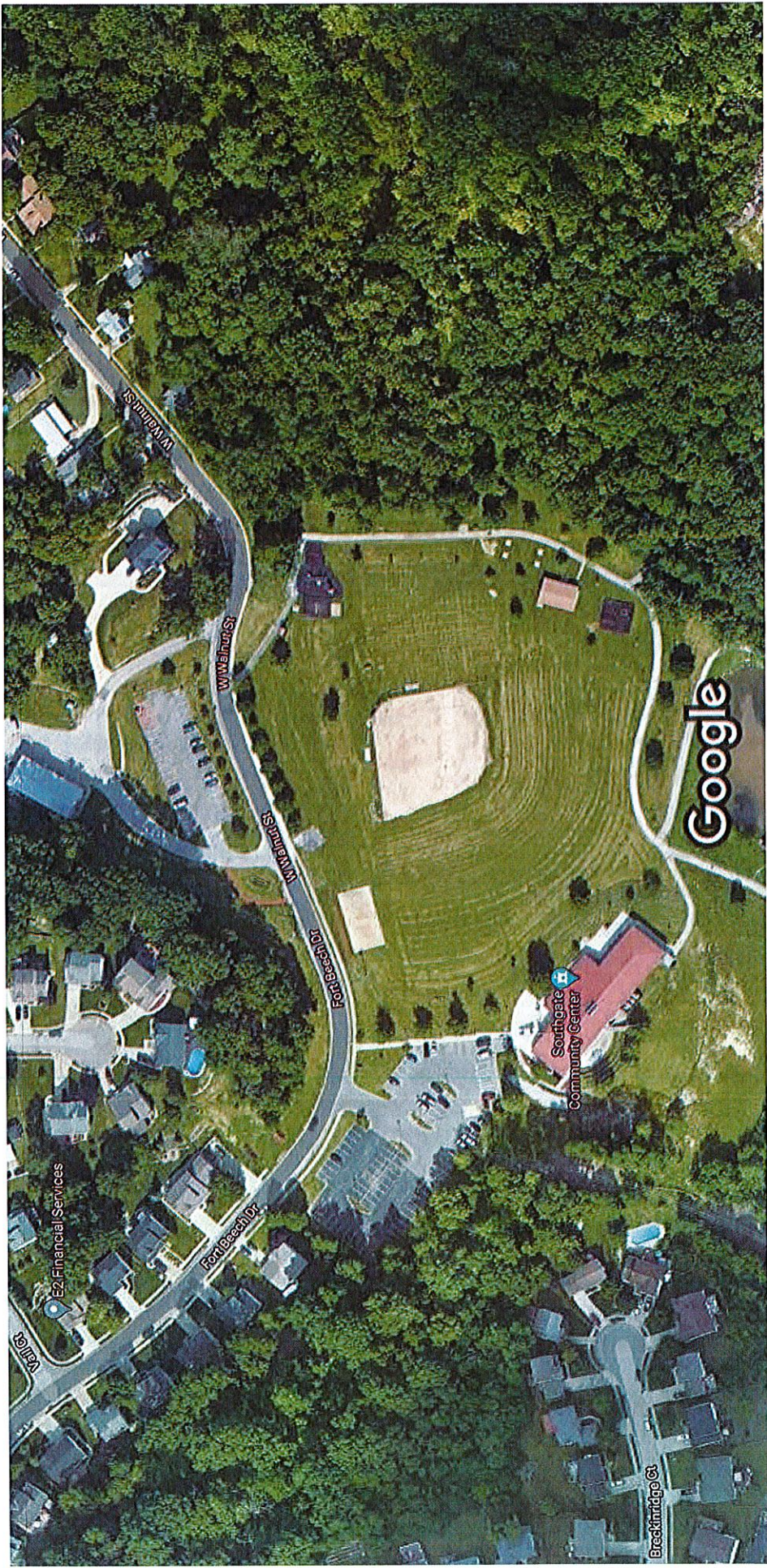
- ▶ Phase 1 Baseball **Non-Essentials** - pending funding (estimated completion Fall of 2021)

1. Install batting cages
2. Scoreboard
3. Bleachers on concrete pads
4. Permanent masonry dugouts
5. Warning track

\* Additional non-essential baseball amenities will be presented to City Council as warranted







# Southgate Community Center Complex



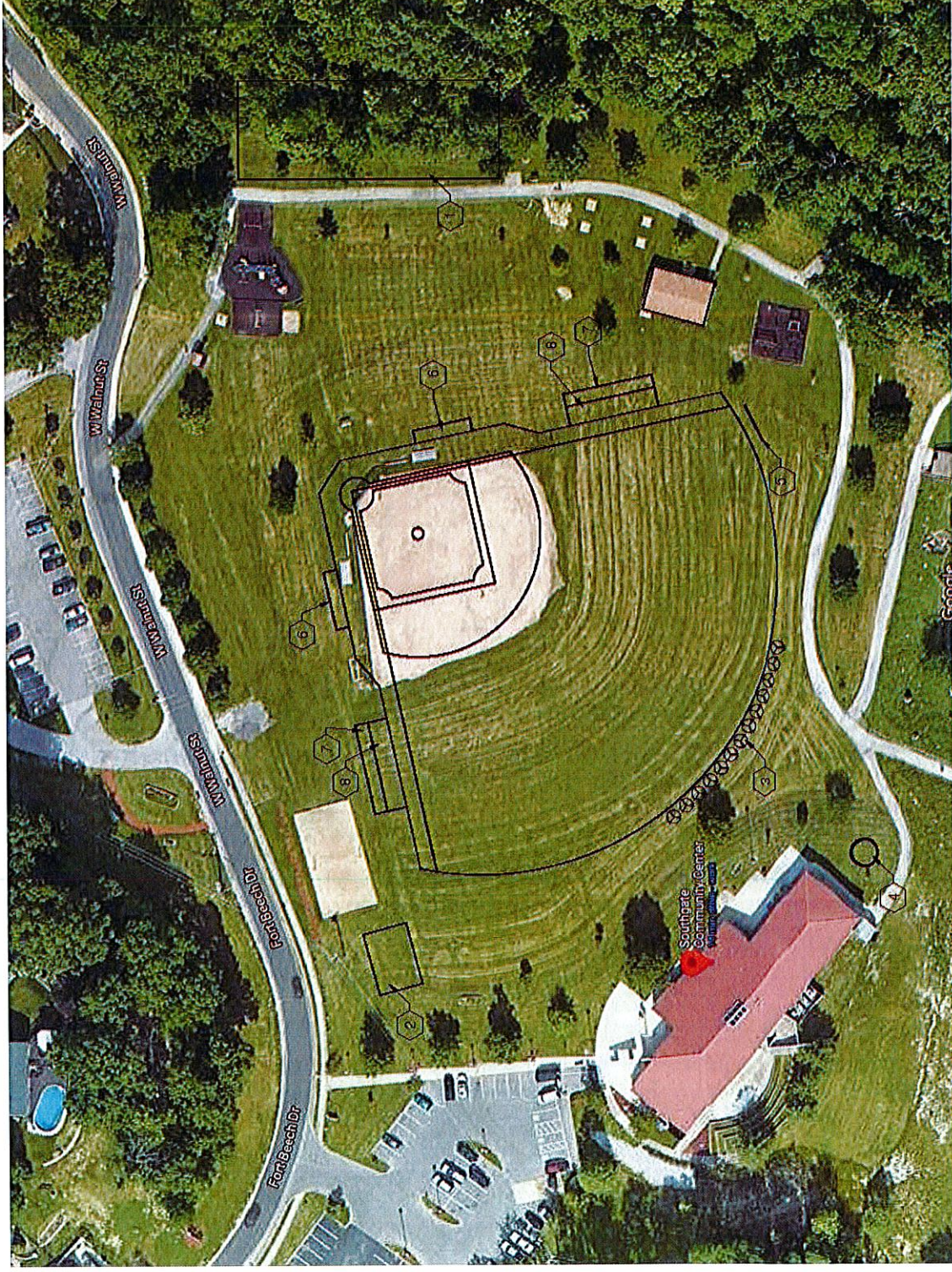


Current Field Location



## NOTES:

1. DOG PARK
2. SHELTER
3. EVERGREEN TREES
4. GAZEBO
5. SCOREBOARD
6. DUGOUT
7. BATTING CAGE
8. BULLPEN



## Proposed 12' North Relocated Field



NOTES:

1. DOG PARK
2. SHELTER
3. EVERGREEN TREES
4. GAZEBO
5. SCOREBOARD
6. DUGOUT
7. BATTING CAGE
8. BULLPEN



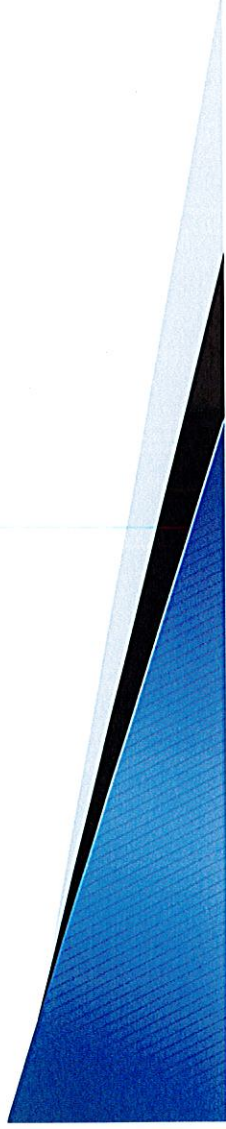
## Alternate 36' North Relocated Field

\*Pending Approval by SD1



# NCC Baseball Requests

1. NCC requests to lease field, use of public restroom facilities, and parking for \$1.00 per year for 50 consecutive years
2. Priority use of field from February through June for games and practices
3. Exclusive and direct use by NCC and residents of Southgate
4. NCC to maintain baseball field and all baseball amenities
5. All baseball field improvements and amenities to be fully funded by NCC and approved by the City of Southgate prior to commencement of work
6. NCC and City of Southgate will coordinate all improvements with the Southgate Park and Tree Board
7. NCC to mandate all baseball traffic to approach and exit the field via Fort Beech Drive



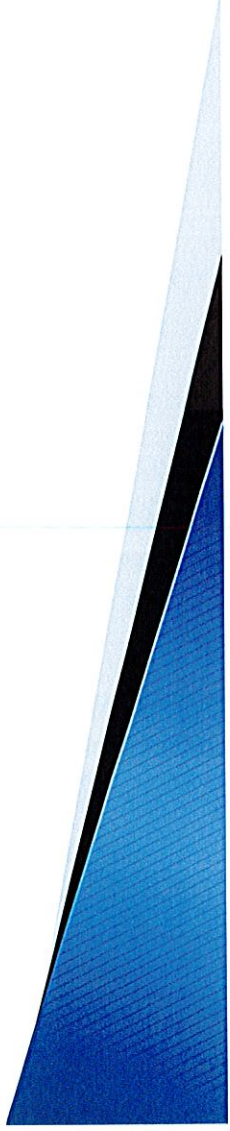




# Thank You!



Thank you Mayor Hamberg and the Southgate City Council for this opportunity to present our vision for a partnership between NCC Baseball and the City of Southgate. We appreciate your consideration in helping us provide the best opportunity for our student athletes and a first class ballpark facility for Southgate residents of all ages.



**On the morning of Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, TANK will implement the recommendations of the TANK System Redesign.** This will be the most significant change to Northern Kentucky's bus system our community has seen in a generation. With this change, TANK will increase the frequency of bus service in developed corridors, improve weekend and evening service for those working in the service sector, consolidate suburban services, and improve access to high job-growth areas such as CVG.

Three highlights of the service change include:

- The new [Route 2X](#) to CVG airport – a bus every 30 minutes from early morning to after midnight, 7 days a week.
- The new [Route 1](#) on Dixie Highway – a bus every 20 minutes from early morning to 8pm and then every 40 minutes to after midnight.
- The new [Route 25](#) on Alexandria Pike – a bus every 25 minutes from early morning to 8pm and then every 40 minutes to after midnight.

With this change, the number of people within walking distance to frequent transit will increase by 155%. The number of jobs within walking distance to frequent transit will increase by 58%. The number of Transportation Disadvantaged individuals within walking distance of frequent transit will increase by 157%. These changes will provide better access to better transit for those that need it and use it most.

**Along with the routing and service changes, TANK will also be implementing a simplified fare structure.** TANK's 23 different fare types will be reduced to 10, making the system easier to use and more approachable for first time riders.

As you know, this plan did not develop overnight. The process began 18 months ago and included engagement with dozens of stakeholder agencies, communication with elected officials, and multiple rounds of public involvement. **The final plan was shaped and refined by the input received from the community.** All of the detailed route information, maps, and timetables can be found [here](#).

**Lastly, it is also important to look at the plan's recommendations in light of the Coronavirus pandemic.** We know that it will take some time before full demand returns for public transit services – TANK's ridership is currently around 50% of pre-pandemic levels. However, the changes recommended in the TANK System Redesign are positive when viewed through the pandemic lens. The plan calls for improvements to local routes that provide access to essential services and essential jobs. The plan emphasizes all-day frequency, spreading travel opportunities across the day with greater opportunity to thin crowded trips. The plan emphasizes improvements to reverse-commute services that provide quality, all-day access to jobs centers that are growing even through the pandemic (CVG, Hebron, etc.).

**Thank you** for your attention and contribution this important community endeavor. We hope that you stay engaged with your transit system; you can follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), or [LinkedIn](#). As always, do not hesitate to reach out to me directly if you have any questions. Best wishes for a bright year ahead.

**FRANK BUSOFSKY**

Manager of Planning

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