Spring 2013



# THE GROVE NEWS

#### **Grove Fest Impresses Again**

Grove Fest, the annual street festival on Manchester Avenue, surpassed all six previous years in 2012. The seventh installment of the event suffered from chilly weather, but still boasted an unprecedented 18,000 attendees. Food, drinks, three stages of live music, and the ever popular paint-by-number mural were prominent features.

Attendees could also expect to encounter live art projects, mimes and street performers, backyard games, a skateboard and BMX show, a Fall fashion show, the Bubble Truck, and a mechanical bull. Grove Fest truly has something for everyone. In addition to all these attractions, 2012's event was headlined by nationallyknown band Clap Your Hands Say Yeah.

Grove Fest has become established as one of the premier yearly events in St. Louis.

Grove Fest 2013 will be held on Saturday, October 5th. Contact the Grove CID at 314-535-5311 if you are interested in being involved.







#### **About The Grove Community Improvement District (CID)**

The Grove Community Improvement District (CID) was established in 2007 as a political subdivision of the State of Missouri and incorporated by the City of St. Louis Board of Aldermen at the request of a majority of the property owners in the proposed district. The Grove CID is located in the Forest Park Southeast neighborhood in the City of St. Louis. The CID boundaries generally run along both sides of Manchester between Kingshighway on the west and slightly past Vandeventer on the east. The Grove CID is governed by an 11-member Board of Directors. All directors must be property owners and/or business operators within the district.

# **Message from the Board Chairman**



The excitement along Manchester continues! The Grove Entertainment District continues to be one of the region's hottest destinations. During the last twelve months, the district hosted the annual Grove Fest street festival, Tour de Grove professional cycling competition, and the first annual IndiHop, Holy Daze and Wig Stomp events. Well over 22,000 people visited the district during these events. The fun is just beginning because we are about to do it all over again. On May 11, Tour de Grove will once again bring professional cycling to the strip. On June 1, IndiHop will showcase the neighborhood businesses. Pre-sales for the event are already exceeding expecta-

tions. In the fall, Grove Fest is returning as one of the city's biggest street festivals. The fall will also see the introduction of a new event:

Shakespeare in the Streets. Neighborhood residents and stakeholders will exercise their acting chops as they perform live for friends and neighbors.

As we enter our fifth year, the Grove CID Board of Directors is preparing to take on some important projects and challenges. As the district continues to improve, the challenge of parking patrons and staff has become harder to meet. The board is currently experimenting with a district wide valet concept to assist all businesses along the strip. As revenue from sales taxes collected in the district continues to fluctuate, the board will be carefully examining the priorities for district including the extension of the CID Special Assessment.

Most importantly, the Grove CID exists to improve the conditions along the district. I would encourage all the stakeholders to participate on one of our many committees focused on various initiatives. In this edition of "The Grove News" you will find brief updates on various events, initiatives and activities. I hope that you enjoy the information contained in this newsletter and encourage you to become involved in the district.

Sincerely,

Brian K. Phillips

**The Grove CID Board of Directors** 

#### Chair

Brian Phillips, Washington University Medical Center

**Vice Chair** 

Tom Boldt, Boldt Brothers Building Maintenance

**Treasurer** 

Kelly Kenter, Sitelines, Inc

Secretary

Pete Rothschild, Red Brick Management

#### **Directors**

Don Bellon, Bellon Wrecking & Salvage Carlos Carter, Commerce Bank Amrit Gill, Restoration St. Louis Chip Schloss, Atomic Cowboy Guy Slay, Mangrove Restorations Jack Baumstark, Archway Sales Austin Barzantny, Grove Properties

Chairman

# **Special Events**

### **Holly Daze**

On December 7th, the new event Holly Daze premiered in the Grove, providing visitors with a festive atmosphere during the holiday season. This was the first ever all-Grove holiday party.

The event featured food and drinks specials at the venues along Manchester Avenue, as well as live outdoor music. The Sugar Plum Fairy even made an appearance along Manchester (performed by Mimi Le Yu). Music performers included: Mario Pascal, Charles and Cecilia's Yuletide Express, and Stan Chisholm.

Many businesses offered special deals on merchandise for those who attended the festivities.

## WigStomp





The Grove entertainment district got even more colorful on July 14th, as WigStomp prompted many people to don brightly colored and wacky wigs on Manchester Avenue.

The LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) festival was complete with drag queens, Go-Go dancers, DJs, and a dance party. There were cash prizes for best wig and best 60's costume.

This St. Louis event was inspired by WigStock, a festival that began in New York in the 1980s.

WigStomp will return in 2013! Be sure to listen for more information as the event approaches. It will be held Saturday, July 20th.

## **Future Events**

## **Tour de Grove**

Tour de Grove will return to the Grove Community Improvement District in 2013. Once again, it is the center-



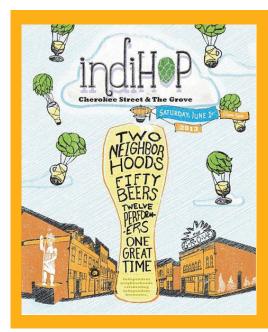
piece of the MO PRO professional cycling series, which will be held May 10th-12th. Spectators can watch the action of the Men's and Women's races on May 11th.

#### **IndiHop**

IndiHop, which made its debut in the Grove last year, has grown even bigger for 2013. This event pairs the Grove entertainment district with the eclectic Cherokee Street district. Attendees can sample up to 50 craft beers by several local brewers just by walking from one business to the next. There will also be street performers to entertain participants as they circulate amongst the sampling stations.

Four shuttles will transfer patrons to and from the different districts.

IndiHop will occur on Saturday, June 1st. Visit www.indihop. com for more information or to purchase tickets.



#### **Shakespeare**

On March 1st, the location of this year's Shakespeare in the Streets event was dramatically revealed...It's the Grove! The production team will choose a play based on their experiences in the

district. Some individual stories will even get incorporated into the play itself.
Last year's performance, which was held on Cherokee Street, was awarded the 2012 Exemplary Community Achievement Award from the Missouri Humanities Council.

The production will be held September 20-22. The performances are free.

# **Development Opportunities**

## **Opportunities**

Check out these properties currently listed for sale or lease in the Grove! All four are located in important areas of the district.



4301 Manchester Ave.
For Lease
Contact Information:
Redbrick, 314-361-7067 x123



4019 Manchester Ave. For Sale Contact Information: NAI Desco, 314-994-4081

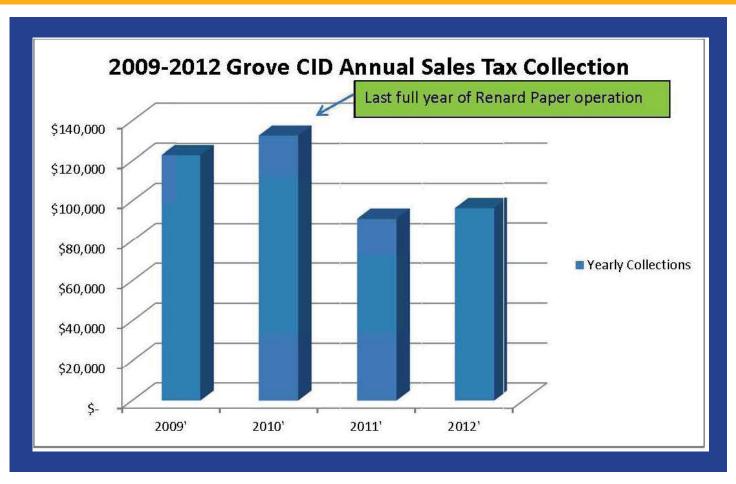


4420 Manchester Ave. For Sale Contact Information: Owner, 314-546-2889



4191 Manchester Ave. For Lease Contact Information: Duffe-Nuerenberger Realty, 314-771-5335

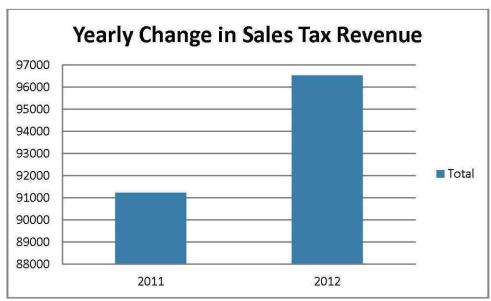
### **Growth in Sales Tax**



The sales tax collection in the Grove CID is looking up. After taking an initial hit when the district lost Renard Paper, 2012 was an improved year. The total revenue from sales tax rose from \$91,218 in 2011 to \$96,521 last year.

This is important, as it shows that the district has continued to succeed despite losing a large contributor.

Grove CID Chairman, Brian
Phillips stresses the importance of providing the resources that existing businesses
need to grow and expand,
improving infrastructure, and
establishing a business friendly
environment to make all feel
welcome and supported. It is
also important to proactively
pursue additional businesses
for the district.



# **Valet Parking**

The Grove Community Improvement District is now offering valet parking for patrons on Friday and Saturday nights, from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m.

The cost of the service is only \$3, and vehicles are kept in private lots and monitored by valet staff. The valet drop-off stand is located in front of the post office (4120 Manchester Avenue).

Grove CID chairman, and chair of the Grove Parking Committee, Brian Phillips stresses the importance of this new feature.

"As the Grove continues to get more and more visitors, the valet parking will provide a safe and secure parking option for patrons of the businesses. Offering district wide valet is more efficient than having competing valet stands. It enables us to use available private parking more efficiently as well."

By eliminating any potential parking headaches, the hope is that patrons will visit the district even more often.

The U.S. Post
Office branch
located on Manchester Avenue
in the Grove.
The Valet stand
is set up in front
of this building (across the
street from
HandleBar and
Novak's) every
Friday and Saturday night.



# **2012-2013 Budget**

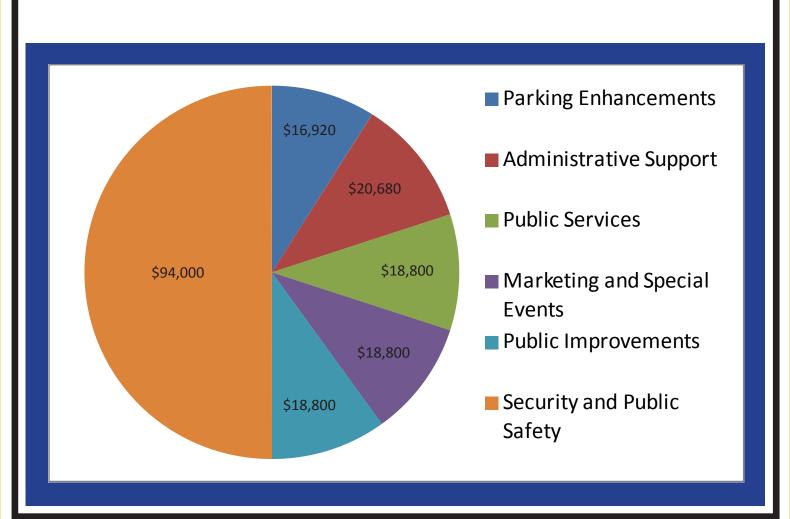
## **Grove CID Budget for July 2012 - June 2013**

#### **Income**

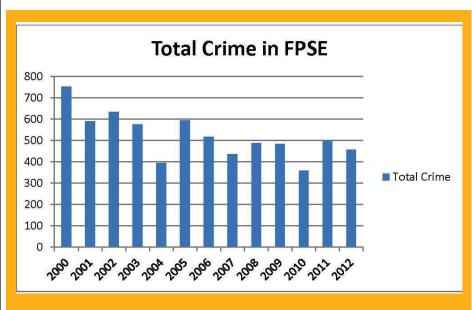
2012 Special Assessments	\$80,000
2011 Special Assessments	3,000
2010 Special Assessments	4,000
CID 1% Sales and Use Tax	101,000

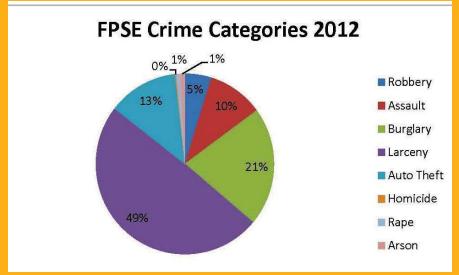
Total \$188,000

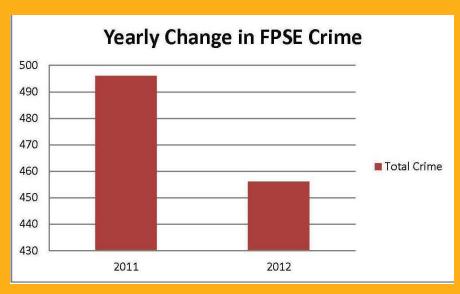
#### **Budget Break Down**



## **Crime Statistics**







The Grove Community Improvement District is located in the middle of the Forest Park Southeast neighborhood. Much like the Grove itself, the neighborhood has changed over the past few years, as increased investment has made it safer. This investment has led to a gradual decline in crime activity since 2000.

Since the Grove CID was incorporated in 2007, the crime numbers have fluctuated, as would-be perpetrators have adapted to the new security measures. In 2012, the Grove CID adopted a new security patrol strategy as one way to combat this issue.

Crime in Forest Park Southeast returned to its decreasing trend in 2012. This neighborhood is still in the midst of its transition to stability. However, the total number of crimes fell to 456 in 2012, with nearly half of those being larcenies. (A larceny is the unlawful taking of property, not by force, i.e. a bicycle, something from a vehicle, etc.)

In 2012, Forest Park Southeast saw significant decreases in the areas of robbery, burglary and larcenies from the previous year. With a drop in over 40 crimes from 2011 to 2012, the most encouraging sign is that crime totals are more common in the 300's and 400's, where they used to be in the 700's and 800's.

## **New Murals**



**Title:** Eye See You (ICU)

Artist: Grace McCammond

Location: 4216 Manchester

This mural features a cougar stalking its prey. Its reflective eyes can be seen by drivers on Manchester Avenue. Children from the Boys and Girls Club Adams Park Unit assisted with

making the claw marks that went on

the adjacent fence.

**Inspiration:** The rise of FPSE

**Artist:** Grace McCammond

Location: 4301 Manchester

This mural depicts a rising phoenix in a tribute to the rise of the Forest Park Southeast neighborhood. It is on the opposite side of the building as McCammond's 'Evolution of the Bike' mural.



Painted For: Grove Fest 2012

**Artist:** Grace McCammond

Location: 4191 Manchester

This mural of a factory producing an American flag was the paint-by-number mural for Grove Fest 2012.

#### **FUTURE MURAL**

**Artist:** Grace McCammond

Location: 4267 Manchester

This is a rendering of an upcoming mural in the Grove. This interactive chess board was designed by Grace McCammond and the children of Boys and Girls Club Adams Park Unit.



# **New Sculpture**

#### **Exclamation Markee**

The Grove entertainment district already features two large, neon entry signs, but now it boasts a sculpture with the added benefit of sending a message. The Exclamation Markee sculpture features a stylized version of the word 'Grove' with a large exclamation point. This oversized punctuation doubles as a bulletin board for Grove events to be posted.

This new addition is displayed at the prominent intersection of Chouteau and Vandeventer Avenues, presenting the Grove and its upcoming event to thousands of daily drivers.

The project was a collaboration between the Washington University Medical Center and two artists that are well-known to the neighborhood. Andrew Woodard, who has built several cor-ten steel structures in Forest Park Southeast, constructed the sculpture and Grace Mc-Cammond, who has painted numerous murals, painted the sculpture.











4512 Manchester Ave. St. Louis, MO 63110

PH: (314) 535-5311

Please visit **thegrovestl.com** for more information on The Grove Community Improvement District.

#### **Grove CID Committee Members**

# Executive Committee and Gift Acceptance Committee

Brian Phillips-Chair Tom Boldt-Vice Chair Kelly Kenter-Treasurer Pete Rothschild-Secretary

#### Finance Committee

Kelly Kenter-Chair Brian Phillips Tom Boldt Pete Rothschild Jack Baumstark

#### **Marketing Committee**

Chip Schloss-Chair Guy Slay Eric Outlaw Brooks Goedeker Sam Neal Leon Braxton Tatyana Telnikova

#### **Nominations Committee**

Tom Boldt-Chair Brian Phillips Pete Rothschild

#### **Public Services Committee**

Kelly Kenter-Chair Don Bellon Brooks Goedeker Guy Slay Lana Coleman Tom Neimeier

#### Safety & Security Committee

Carlos Carter-Chair Nathan Bishop Lana Coleman Amy Gill Don Bellon Bob Puricilli Dan Stoner