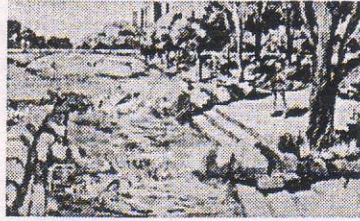


# Harrison West Riverfront Plan Revealed

Harrison West  
Riverfront Vision Plan  
Show & Tell  
Your Input Is Needed



Society meets Thursday, April 9, 7:30 PM at  
GODMAN GUILD 321 Second Avenue  
Riverfront Vision Plan for Harrison West  
Door Prizes  
Olentangy Water Quality Hearing Plans & 404 Permit Hearing  
Short Business Meeting at 7:30

## Harrison West News

April 1998

"A Neighborhood on the National Register of Historic Places"

VOL. 9 NO. 4

### River Plan for Harrison West Looks Good, But...

Imagine a park stretching from OSU to Route 104 along the Olentangy and Scioto, studded with natural areas for quiet reflection; downtown night spots, museums and entertainment; boating access; picnic areas; soccer fields and public art. That's the Riverfront Commons Corp. (RCC) Riverfront Vision Plan.

The Harrison West Reach Plan calls for the natural bank along the riverfront to be maintained and enhanced for wildlife habitat. Trails will meander along the upper bank with occasional stairs, ramps and landings at the water's edge. Perry Street will extend south from Second Avenue to Michigan near Goodale as a parkway providing public access to new riverfront parklands and redefining the edge of the built environment. A new mixed use development area along Perry will encompass about 15 acres and will face the riverfront parks. New development on the river at Goodale will include easements for public open space along the river to achieve connection between Pen West and Harrison West. This is the good news.

Unfortunately, the timetable for this stretches 20 years! That's way too long for Harrison West to wait for its parkland.

Cleve Ricksecker, Executive Director of the RCC, will bring the Plan to the Harrison West Meeting Thursday, April 9 at the Godman Guild, 321 West Second Avenue, 7:30 PM. Come look at the plan and tell Cleve what you think, and urge him to begin on the Harrison West Reach immediately.

**The Plan has yet to be adopted and funded by City Council, so your input is important.**

Door prizes were donated by Manhattan Bagel, Mama Mia's Pizza, Buckeye Hall of Fame Cafe, Tom & Jerry's Auto Service and the Kitchen Sorcerer.

### Battelle Reveals Neighborhood Plans

Several months ago, Battelle invited activists from Harrison West in for breakfast and a candid discussion of what Harrison West envisioned for Battelle.

Did they get an earful! Harrison West-ers thought Battelle should spruce up its grounds. Several people suggested that Battelle is full of smart, talented people, and the schools that serve Harrison West kids could use some of that brainpower and ability. Of course, several people thought it would be really neighborly if Battelle would donate the green space at Third and Perry to the City or the neighborhood for a park.

Perhaps the Harrison Westers were saying what Battelle was already thinking, or perhaps they gave Battelle some ideas. Whatever the reason, Battelle came back with some positive plans.

First is to freshen up the Battelle landscaping design. They've hired the architectural firm of Kinzelman Kline, who did the parking lot design for them, for that.

*(Continued on Page 7)*

### Green Thumbs Wanted Harrison West Garden Tour June 21

Sandy Woolard and Gene Roe want your garden! Actually, they want it for the Harrison West Home Garden Tour Sunday, June 21 (Father's Day).

According to Sandy, they are looking for all kinds of gardens this year, including a starter garden, a big garden, a whimsical garden and an herb garden.

"And gardens south of Fourth!" she stresses. "We want to spread our tour all over Harrison West."

The Tour will be held with Columbus Recreation and Parks, which promotes the event through mailings and the Columbus Dispatch.

A Tour Program with descriptions of the gardens and a map will be available on tour day, plus will be distributed throughout the Short North area. In addition, Sandy arranged for a complimentary ad in 300,000 Columbus Visitors Guides.

Call Sandy at 291-0440 or Gene at 299-1073 to sign up your beautiful garden or just to help out.

Public Hearing April 23, 7 PM, OEPA 1800 Watermark Drive, Grandview

### Last Chance to Save Quality of Olentangy

The future water quality of the Olentangy will be the issue at a public hearing at the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency April 23. Citizens will be asking for the best practical treatment of the river by the Ohio Dept. of Transportation when building SR-315 and I-670. This will be an opportunity to voice concerns and demand that negative impacts to the river be minimized.

ODOT plans to channelize a significant stretch of the riverbank with rock boulders downstream of Harrison West. Acres of mature trees along the river's edge will be cut and won't be replanted. Attend the hearing and let your state government know you want better treatment for your river and the Riverfront Commons Vision Plan for the Harrison West Reach.

*(Continued on Page 4)*

## Street Sweeping this May

Street sweeping is on its way to Harrison West, beginning this May. Sweeping will be the second Tuesday and Wednesday of May, August and November.

In April, the Traffic Division will post signs that will restrict parking on the streets from 8 AM to 4 PM on street sweeping days. North and East sides of streets will be swept on Tuesday; South and West sides will be swept on Wednesdays.

Cars will be towed and tickets written, so remind yourself and your neighbors.

## Third Ave. Bridge Opens April 17

It's official. The Pave the Way Engineers have set April 17 as the day the Third Avenue Bridge finally will open, unless construction problems force yet another delay. As you all know, the bridge was to open last November, after being closed for more than a year.

The people on Third Avenue will have to give up their quiet lives on a dead end street and accustom themselves again to the roar of the traffic.

And roar it will, as all those commuters shift down from King Avenue to Fifth and Third with the April 20 closing of King Avenue Bridge.

## River Clean Up

Once again, the Harrison West Society and Battelle will be working together to clean up our River. The Day is June 6. The contact person is Maddy Weisz at 291-2285. Mark your calendar and come out to the river.

**The March 12 Harrison West meeting was cancelled.**

## Traffic Committee Briefs O'Shaughnessy

by Lisabeth Brown

On March 25, residents and members of the Joint Neighborhood Traffic Committee, representing Dennison Place, Harrison West, and Victorian Village, met with Council member Maryellen O'Shaughnessy, her aide Lelia Cady, and Brian Martin, manager of transportation modeling at MORPC. Our intent was to persuade O'Shaughnessy to encourage city officials to alleviate heavy commuter and truck traffic threatening the stability of our neighborhoods.

**To be successful, she needs our help. We must apply pressure on the Mayor and other elected officials. Your letters and phone calls of support are critical to the process.** Please write and call the following elected officials to voice your support for action. All letters should be sent to: City of Columbus, 90 W. Broad St., 43215  
Gregory S. Lashutka, Mayor, 645-7671  
Matt Habash/aide Chris Snyder 645-8564  
John Kennedy/aide John Skunza 645-8558  
Richard Sensenbrenner/aide Steve Sobel 645-8571  
Jeanette Bradley/aide Karen Pettiford 645-8559  
Les Wright/aide Carlton Weddington 645-8580  
Mike Coleman/aide Christie Angel 645-6610  
Maryellen O'Shaughnessy/aide Lelia Cady 645-8509

## Harrison West Elections May 14

Elections Nominating Chair Ken Wightman reports that nominations still are open and that the following people have expressed their intention to run for office of the Harrison West Society:

- Craig Copeland for President
- Maddy Weisz for Vice President
- Keith Dimoff for Secretary
- John Cowin for Treasurer.

Wightman also will take nominations from the floor at the April meeting.

## Midtown Parents & Kids

Butterflies are happening at the April 18 FunDate at the Franklin Park Conservatory, 1 PM in Classroom One. Kids learn all about butterflies and get a crysallis to take home to be born! Advance reservations a must -- call Sabrina before April 9 at 297-1152. cost is \$4 for kids, \$2 for adults.

### Harrison West News

is the monthly publication of the Harrison West Society, Inc.

#### Officers

##### PRESIDENT

Craig Copeland 299-3737

##### VICE PRESIDENT

Maddy Weisz 291-2285

##### SECRETARY

Joe Spinelli 294-3637

##### TREASURER

John Cowin 291-7063

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##### Information:

Editor Veda Gilp 299-6877

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Terms Payment for ALL ads is due by the 15th of the month the ad runs. Ads not paid within 30 days will be dropped until payment is made. Prepayment for 12 months earns the gratitude of the Harrison West Society. Make checks payable to Harrison West Society and send to Veda Gilp, 937 S. Third Street, Columbus 43206. Ads which are created by the Harrison West News are the property of the Harrison West News and cannot be used in other publications.

The Harrison West News reserves the right to decline any advertising which does not meet editorial and advertising guidelines.

The Harrison West News is produced by an all-volunteer staff, and while accuracy is paramount, the reader is advised the Harrison West News or the Harrison West Society, Inc., is not responsible for errors.

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# Harrison West Society

## Reasons to Join

- Want To Make Things Happen
- Want Results
- Want Better Neighborhood
- Want To Do Things My Way
- Meet Neighbors
- Increase Property Value
- Make a Difference
- Other

## Reasons Not to Join

- Not Interested
- Don't Care About Neighborhood
- Rent Home
- Own My Home
- Too Busy
- Can't Make Thursday Meetings
- Don't Agree With Society
- Other

Check the boxes that apply to you. If the Reasons to Join outnumber the Reasons Not to Join, complete the form and send your check.

Even if you can't come to meetings, we want you. If you don't want to serve on committees, we still want you. If you love this neighborhood and want to see it thrive, we really want you.

If you checked more Reasons Not to Join, we understand.

### I Want to Influence What Happens in My Neighborhood

#### Sign me up with the Harrison West Society

Please complete this form and mail it, along with your appropriate contribution to Harrison West Society, Membership Committee, 1219 Harrison Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43201. Membership dues are paid annually.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

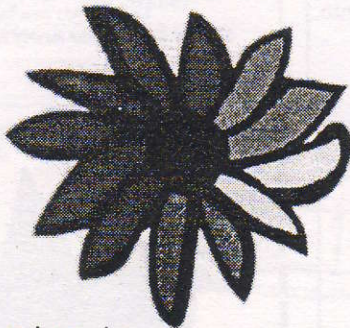
Select one:  Individual \$10  Senior (60 and over) \$5  Sustaining \$25  Patron (Business) \$30  
1998 Membership Year

#### Neighborhood Interest Inventory Please check those that apply to you

- Community Service Connections
- Gardening
- Public Art
- Home Maintenance
- Home Restoration
- Policing
- Traffic
- Planning & Development
- Neighborhood Image
- Neighborhood Historical Commission
- Other

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# Demand Better Quality for Our Olentangy River

(Continued from Page 1)

## What happens to stormwater runoff from new highway?

The Spring-Sandusky Interchange will more than double new pavement surfaces, creating 78 acres of hard surfaces, many of which will generate extremely high concentrations and annual loads of heavy metals, oils, grease, fecal coliform bacteria and oxygen-demanding substances. None of the stormwater generated by the new road surface will receive treatment before running into the Olentangy.

Heavy use of road salt is expected to generate concentrations of salt water approaching seawater, according to Federal Highway Administration data. In summer, the heated stormwater runoff from hot pavement will adversely affect aquatic life.

## There's a fix, and it's simple.

Measures to minimize the oily sheen and these other nasty effects of stormwater runoff are easy to accomplish using grass swales coupled with detention ponds as part of the overall project. These attractive bioengineering techniques are in place along the SR-161 Expressway to New Albany, but they aren't planned for our neighborhood.

## What happens to shoreline habitat?

Shade and woody plants on the riverbank are important contributors to water quality. The fish, birds, and other critters associated with shady tree-lined streams are

vastly different from those which can tolerate baking in the summer sun. ODOT proposes to replace about 1/3 of the natural, shaded shoreline in the project with artificial riverbanks composed of rock, concrete and other hard surfaces. The river will be more like a culvert in these areas than a river.

## What about contaminated sediment?

The Olentangy River was a center of industrial activity after the Civil War and into the 1960s. Heavy industry produced so many contaminants that in 1904 the Water Plant at the mouth of the Olentangy was moved to its present location upstream on the Scioto.

Many of those contaminants remain in river sediment. A 1996 OEPA report documents "highly elevated" cadmium levels and "extremely elevated" copper, lead and zinc levels. ODOT has no plans to deal with this contaminated sediment, though solutions would be to clean up the toxic metals or build the project around them without disturbing them.

## What About the Vision Plan for the River?

This is your opportunity to tell ODOT and the OEPA that you support the Columbus Vision Plan for Riverfront development and parks along the Olentangy. **If you plan to use the recreational trails and parks along the Olentangy, attend the public hearing, tell the state bureaucracy that it's not 1984 anymore, and demand that the highway project incorporate the best mitigation package available today, as ODOT already has done for the New Albany Expressway.**

The meeting is Thursday, April 23, 7 PM at the OEPA, 1800 Watermark Drive (from Grandview Avenue at the I-670 entrance ramp, turn right at the traffic light onto Watermark Drive).



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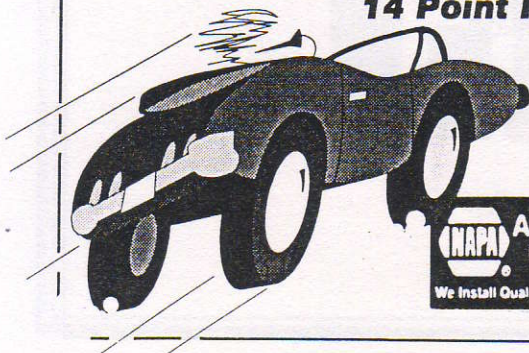
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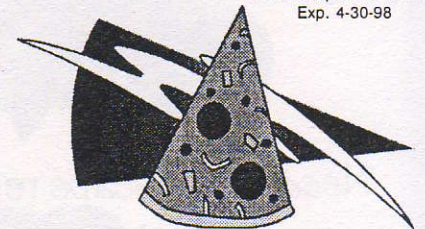
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## Harrison West, Urban Oasis Coalition & Riverfront Plan

The Riverfront Commons Corporation (RCC) Vision Plan owes much to public input generated at three 1996 RCC Forums. The consensus from those forums was that Columbus residents want parks and open spaces with easy river access, as well as really great downtown entertainment venues on the river.

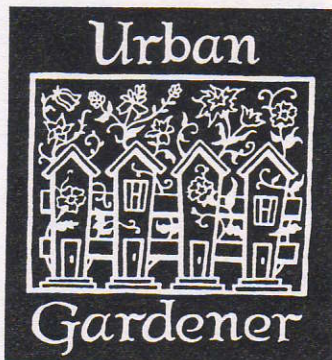
The Urban Oasis Coalition (UOC), an organization of neighborhood groups along the river, including Harrison West, Dennison Place, Victorian Village, Brewery District, Merion Village and German Village, has worked with the RCC for two years to guide them toward a Plan such as this.

According to UOC Spokesperson (and Harrison West resident) Steve Tway, "The Urban Oasis Coalition is generally pleased with the Plan. Now we must ensure that the parkland and natural areas get funded and built. Let's begin with the parks and Perry Street extension in Harrison West."

The Urban Oasis Coalition is particularly concerned that the proposed development will occur while the creation of public parkland is indefinitely postponed. City-owned land at Pen West and the Whittier Peninsula will be sold off and developed. The Coalition asks that City Copuncil also ensure the creation of public parkland.

It's an important issue for Harrison West. Come to the meeting April 9 to push for park funding.

**Riverfront Plan for  
Harrison West at  
April 9 Meeting, 7:30 PM  
Godman Guild, 321 Second Avenue**



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Wednesday	9:30 am	Homemakers
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Friday	6:30 pm	Women's Missionary Group

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Did Was  
Listen**

**On Neil At Goodale**

# Battelle's Neighborhood Plans

*(Continued from Page 1)*

Kinzelman Kline will be working along Third, Fifth, and the river, as well as the buildings and parking lots.

In addition, according to Battelle Community Relations liaison Margie Gilbert, Battelle is putting together an education program with the Godman Guild for an after-school science and

math program funded in part by the National Science Foundation. The program will serve the five schools in the Godman Guild area. They also will be sponsoring performing arts groups at the Godman Guild. On an individual staffer level, Battelle is encouraging its people to volunteer to mentor students at the neighborhood schools during the school day.

Don't get too excited about a Battelle park at Third and Perry ... it's not going to happen. Battelle confirmed that it will neither sell nor donate the

property to the city. Though they tell us they have no plans to develop the property at present, Battelle Senior people are keeping their options open for the long term. They have said, however, that they will give the neighborhood right of first refusal if and when they decide to sell. So, no park. However, no change in the space for the future.

Most of this is good news, and shows what you can accomplish when you work with your neighbors.

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Restaurant Review

# Basso Bean Coffee House

Reviewed by Maddy Weisz

This pleasant and homey coffee house at 691 N. High in the Short North is an eclectic delight for light meals, dessert and people watching, which is what we went for.

The atmosphere is very hip, partly because of the music, trendy interpretations of old standards such as Blue Moon, and the art hanging on the green and yellow walls.


Coffee is outstanding! One of our party had the Guatemalan coffee, which they declared to be wonderful. Our cappuccino drinker said Basso Bean's cappuccino is the best they've had in Columbus.

Desserts were worth abandoning any diet for. We shared a wonderful vanilla cake with whipped cream topping, a sinfully-rich turtle cheese cake, and the world's most perfect pound cake. Now if they would only add some more chocolate desserts.

The sandwiches looked good and they serve an interesting breakfast. This could be a great place to meet friends for the Sunday morning paper and breakfast.

*In This Issue*  
 Harrison West River Plan  
 Olentangy River Water Hearing  
 Battelle .. Park or not?  
 Garden Tour

*Andrew Klein*  
 Attorney-at-law  
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