

Below is the weekly report for the week ending today, February 2, 2024.

Items for Newsletters:

1. **Affordable housing and Inclusionary Zoning Public Meetings:** The Planning and Development Department has scheduled three “Coffee Break” virtual public meetings to discuss affordable housing and Inclusionary Zoning with residents. The dates and times are Tuesday, February 13 at 10 AM; Thursday, February 15 at 2 PM; and Friday, February 23 at 11 AM. Additional events – both virtual and in-person – will also be scheduled in the coming weeks. The flyer for this event with hyperlinks is attached.
2. **Free Water for a Year initiative:** We have selected our second winner! There are 2 more chances to win \$1000 worth of free water for anyone who completes a survey before June 2024. Newark Water customers are encouraged to complete the online survey at this link: <https://newarkde.gov/lead> to enter a sweepstakes for free water for a year, up to \$1000 value! The data we collect will help complete a required inventory of service lines and reduce operating costs for the water utility.
3. **Yard Waste Collection – Winter Schedule:** City-wide Yard Waste Collection will be available by appointment only until March 2024. Residents may call Public Works to schedule a yard waste collection during this period. Pickups will be scheduled for Wednesdays during weeks without a City Holiday.
4. **City newsletter:** To sign up for the City’s email newsletter, [click here](#).

Purchasing and Facilities

1. The primary focus for the Purchasing/Facilities team this week was executing the contract with BSS Contractors for the Council Chamber renovation project. Staff met with the contractor on Thursday, 2/1 to go over the schedule and project requirements. Tentatively, the contractor will now begin the first week of March completing tasks with minimal disruption until the March/April election break for Council meetings, at which time the room will be completely shut down for meetings so work can proceed in earnest. The entire project is slated to be complete by the end of May.

Planning and Development

5. Land Use
 - a. The [February 6 Planning Commission agenda](#) and packet were finalized and posted. Items on the next agenda include considerations of the five-year construction deadlines for The Grove, an amendment to the BB zoning code to allow hospitals and medical clinics as an allowable use with a special use permit, an amendment to Chapter 27

updating provisions around cost sharing for utility improvements for developers, and an update on the inclusionary zoning effort.

- b. The Planning and Development Department has scheduled three “Coffee Break” virtual public meetings to discuss affordable housing and Inclusionary Zoning with residents. The dates and times are Tuesday, February 13 at 10 AM; Thursday, February 15 at 2 PM; and Friday, February 23 at 11 AM. Additional events – both virtual and in-person – will also be scheduled in the coming weeks. Staff have worked with the Chief Communications Officer to help publicize this effort. The flyer for this event with hyperlinks is attached.
 - c. On Monday, January 29, Senior Planner Mike Fortner attended the Kirkwood Highway Land Use And Transportation Plan Steering Committee meeting to represent the City of Newark. The study is being conducted by WILMAPCO, DelDOT, DART and New Castle County’s Department of Land Use. The plan will include both short and long-term improvements and initiatives for the Kirkwood Highway corridor between Newark and Wilmington. There will be a “Scenario Planning Workshop’ open to the general public on Wednesday, February 21 from 4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. at the Cranston Heights Fire Co. on 3306 Kirkwood Highway, Wilmington, DE 19808. For more information on the workshop and study, please go to:
<http://www.wilmapco.org/kirkwood/#:~:text=The%20purpose%20of%20the%20Kirkwood,position%20existing%20businesses%20to%20be>
 - d. The second submission for the proposed rezoning, minor subdivision and special use permits for the retail food store, automobile/vehicle refueling station and automatic car wash located at [1110 South College Avenue](#) was circulated to staff for review on January 29.
 - e. Staff issued the Subdivision Advisory Committee comment letter for the proposed rezoning and major subdivision for a new five-story mixed use building and mixed use building addition located at [136-160 South Main Street](#) on February 1.
 - f. Tyler Enterprise Permitting and Licensing (EPL) configuration training was held January 29-February 1. Staff now enters the configuration phase of the software development, working with the Tyler project manager to configure each permit and plan review process in the new system.
6. Code Enforcement
- a. Staff posted a stop work order at 420 New London Road for work being performed without permits.
 - b. Newark Arts Alliance was issued their Certificate of Occupancy for their new location at 207 Louviers Drive.
 - c. Interviews for the new part-time Administrative Professional I position took place on January 29. Reference checks are being performed and staff anticipates extending an offer to the selected candidate next week.
7. Parking
- a. Due to customer concerns raised, staff worked with Public Works and Planning regarding current on-street handicap rules and when it is prudent to make handicap changes.
 - b. Staff worked on preparations for the upcoming move-in weekend with an increase in both permit sales and citations issued.
 - c. Congratulations to Angel Rodriguez, who has been promoted from full-time Parking Ambassador to the first Parking Coordinator position effective February 19.

Parks and Recreation

1. Recreation staff continue work to organize Summer Camps and activities, including hiring staff, organizing field trips, and ordering supplies.
2. 60 people stopped by the Volunteer and Employment Fair on Saturday to discuss opportunities with Newark Parks and Recreation.
3. The 2024 Vendor and Sponsorship packets were emailed out to mailing list of over 1,958 people.
4. Parks repaired a section of the Rittenhouse footbridge that was damaged in one of the December storms.
5. Staff conducted a public information meeting on the Dickey Park proposed improvements. The meeting was well attended, and good information was exchanged about the project. Please see the attached meeting displays which show the proposed plan for the Park.



LET'S TALK ABOUT HOUSING VIRTUAL COFFEE BREAK

PRESENTED BY THE NEWARK PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
**A DISCUSSION ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING, INCLUSIONARY ZONING
AND OTHER ZONING REFORMS**

CLICK ON THE DESIRED DATES TO ATTEND

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

• 10 A.M. •



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

• 2 P.M. •



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

• 11 A.M. •



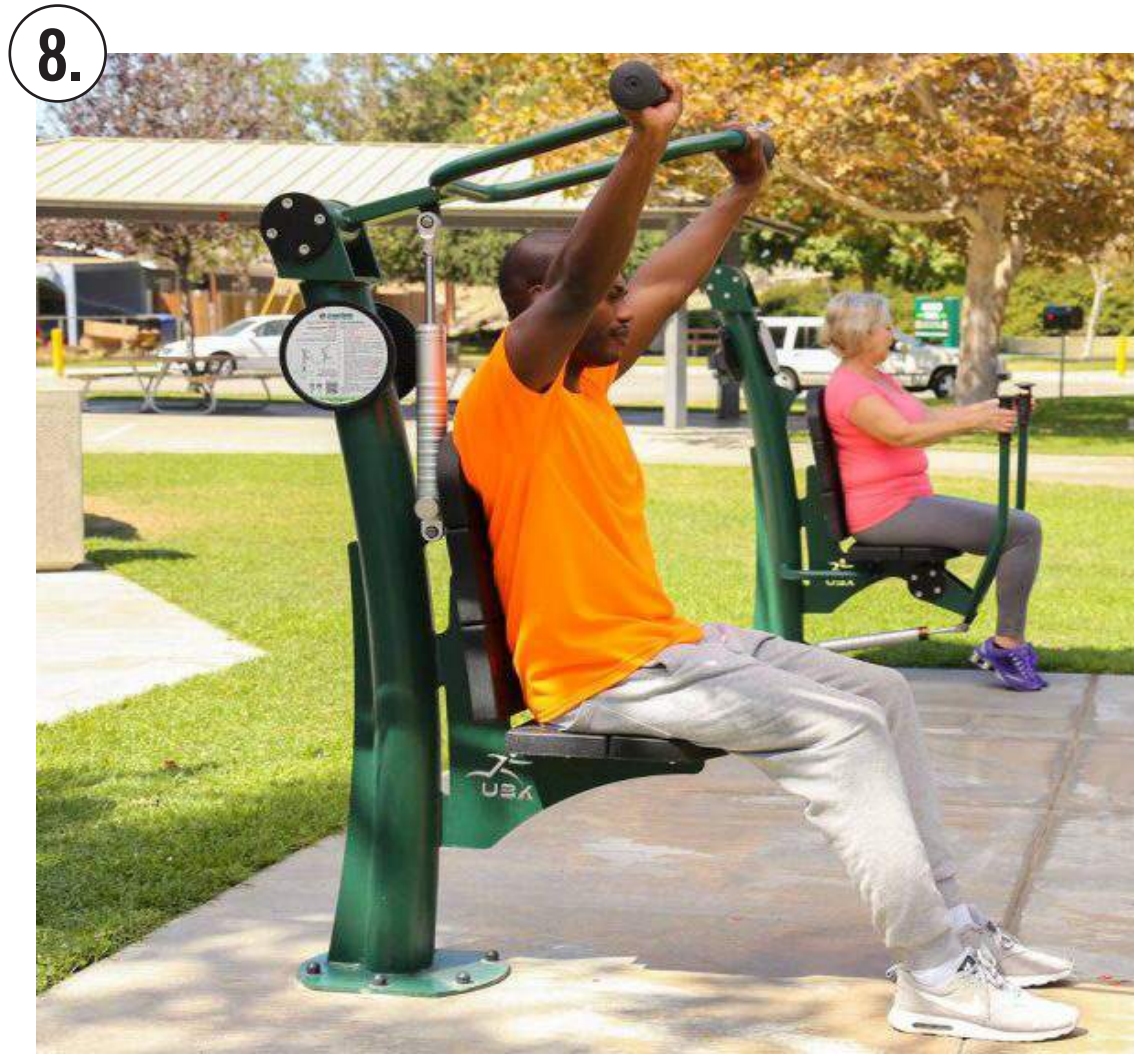
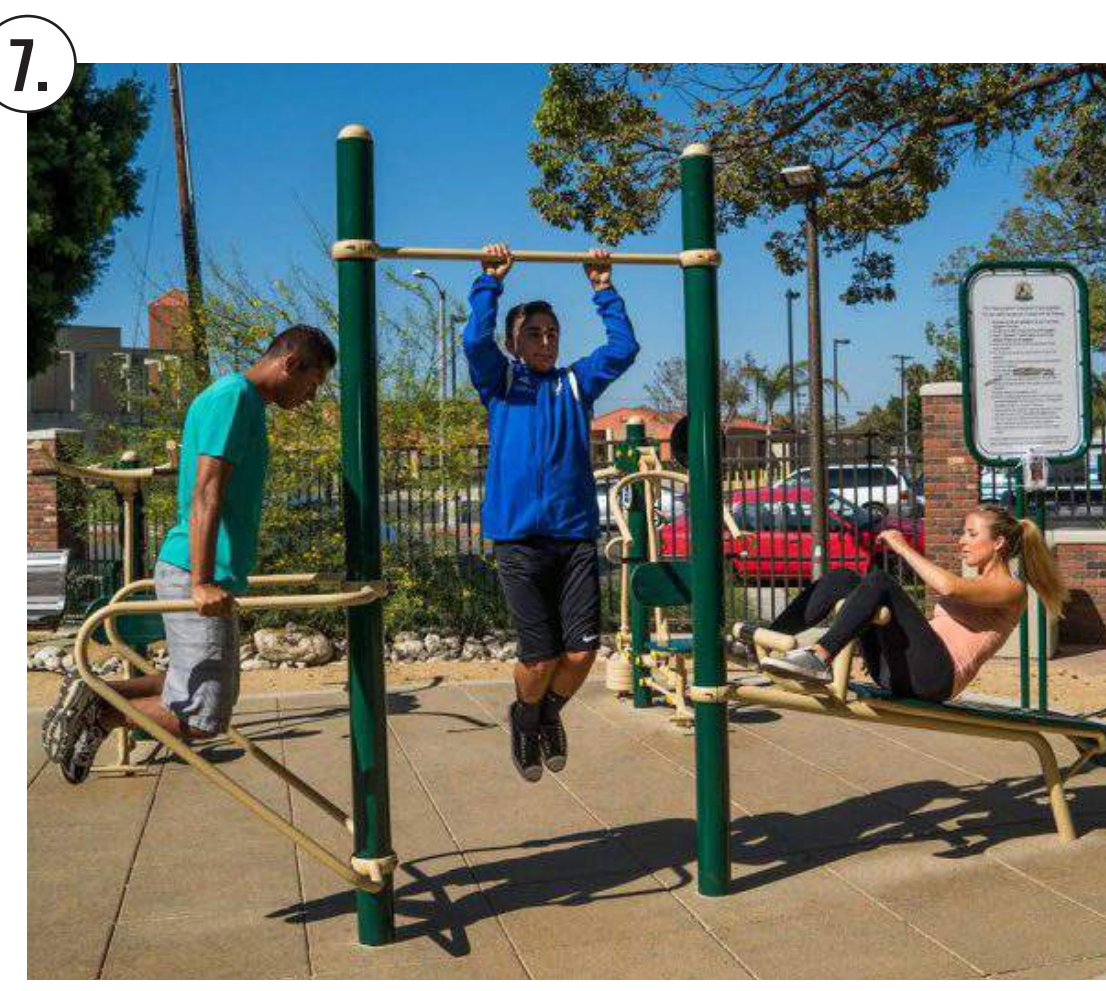
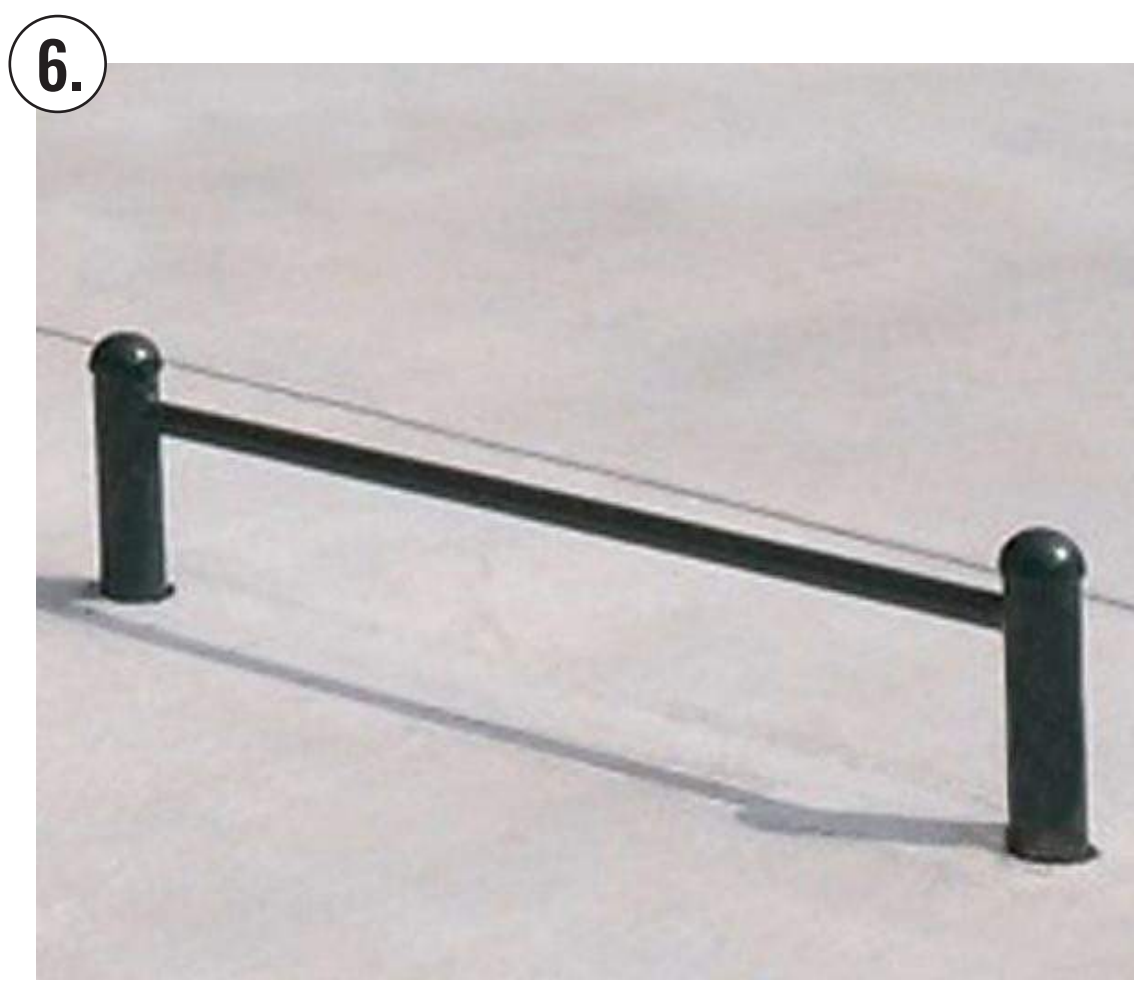
LINKS ARE AVAILABLE AT
NEWARKDE.GOV/CALENDAR

1. Rain Garden
2. 6' Wide Loop Trail Section
3. Habitat Gardens
4. 20' x 44' Metal Pavilion
5. Twin Swing Set
6. Existing 20' x 20' Pavilion to Remain
7. Courts and Gathering Area
8. Re-defined Trail
9. ADA Playground Access
10. Fitness Station
11. Loop Trail Sidewalk Connection
12. Existing Multi-purpose Field: 300'x180'
13. Existing Softball Field: 300' Outfield

0.4 Mile Loop Trail



Basketball Courts
and Gathering
Area



EDNA C. DICKEY PARK
PRELIMINARY DESIGN

- 1. Rubber Coated Benches
- 2. Gathering Area Lawn
- 3. Gathering Area Lawn
- 4. 20'x44' Metal Pavilion
- 5. 20'x44' Metal Pavilion
- 6. Military Push-up Bar
- 7. 3-Person Static Combo
- 8. Shoulder Press

