



Red Cedar Community Association

<http://www.eastlansingneighborhoods.com/RedCedar>

RCCA Newsletter September, 2017

WELCOME to all our new neighbors! The Red Cedar Community Association is the oldest in East Lansing, and we take pride in our diversity and in MSU as our nearest neighbor.

Our **RCCA board** meets regularly at Arbor Forest Apartments clubhouse on Palmer Lane near Trowbridge. Learn more about our neighborhood and the board on the website listed above. Please feel free to contact any board member at any time with questions or concerns; we are here for you!

BOARD of DIRECTORS

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East Lansing Income Tax Information Meeting Wednesday, September 27, 7:00 PM University Lutheran Church

You are invited to a neighborhood social at 6:30 pm, followed by a presentation by the city manager beginning at 7:00 pm. The City of East Lansing intends to place an **income tax proposal** on the November ballot. The proposal includes an offset of property tax for EL residents. Many nearby communities have such a tax. Come learn why this is being proposed and how this impacts residents of EL.

The Community Relations Coalition is a partnership between MSU and nearby neighborhoods. The CRC works to build trusting relationships between the communities of East Lansing and Michigan State University by fostering cooperation and communication between neighbors. We welcome our new CRC intern-ambassador, Taylor Mackey who will work with us this academic year.

Want to **volunteer** some time and talent? You are invited to consider board membership or to apply your skills helping with a neighborhood social, a neighborhood newsletter, or online postings, or other such helpful responsibility. It can be a one time or longer commitment, whatever works for you.

(please turn over)

Red Cedar School Update

The school bond that passed in May determined the future use of the Red Cedar School building. The overarching plan in regards to the elementary school bond was to create small (mostly two sections per grade) "neighborhood" schools as part of a larger "walk-able" community. Because of the needs of each building, remodeling or rebuilding would require the students to be out of each building for at least one year. The Red Cedar building will be the first school to have work done. Because it was/is in the best shape, it will be significantly remodeled while the other five require complete tear down and rebuilds. Once the first phase of updates is completed at Red Cedar, the student body from Glencairn will be moved there for approximately one year (2018-19). When the Glencairn students are moved back to their new school, the current plan calls for the old Red Cedar catchment area students to remain behind at Red Cedar. At that point a second school will bring their student body to Red Cedar while that school is rebuilt. It has not yet been determined which school that will be. Once construction is completed at each of the other five schools, Red Cedar will house the district's preschool programming, which currently consists of Early Childhood Special Education (3-5 year olds with disabilities) and two Great Start readiness classrooms, and will be expanded to include other preschool programming (for example: Head Start, GSRP, tuition based). The rest of the building will house a small, innovative elementary program. What that program will be hasn't been determined but Reggio, Montessori, Waldorf and others have been discussed.

Red Cedar School Committee

As part of a larger committee structure, there is now a Red Cedar School committee. This committee will be working with the architects, GMB, as well as the district, to fine tune plans for the first phase of the Red Cedar building. Discussions to date have centered around placement of the front office as well as parking needs now and in the future. The district plans to hold a community meeting in the near future to take input regarding facility design features.

- **Notes from Kath Edsall, member of the District Bond Committee, and former EL School Board Member**