



Council Member Patrick Dowd

Councilman Patrick Dowd represents over 30,000 residents in District 7 who reside in the neighborhoods of Highland Park, Lawrenceville, Morningside, Stanton Heights, and parts of Bloomfield, East Liberty, Friendship, Garfield, North Oakland, Upper Hill, and the Strip District.

Councilman Dowd chairs the Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and serves on the board of the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority.

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Dear Neighbor,

I am honored to serve as your representative to Pittsburgh's City Council and pleased to provide you with this annual report on our service to you.

This year, we served 25% more constituent requests than last year and Council-to-Go has seen a steady increase in participants. As the chart on the last page illustrates, your concerns focused largely on things like streets and property maintenance. In 2010 we will look forward to doing even more.

The Council has also been busy working on important legislation. I authored legislation that provided more tax relief to low income seniors. We passed stop-gap funding bills to keep the library branches open. As a Water and Sewer Authority board member I helped guarantee coverage for every PWSA customer from costly sewer line replacements. This will save homeowners thousands of dollars.

The year 2009 will always be remembered for Officers Kelly, Mayhle, and Sciallo who gave their lives in the line of duty protecting the residents of Stanton Heights and the City of Pittsburgh. Their service and dedication is an inspiration for us all. We also remember the community of Stanton Heights as it heals from this experience.

The coming year will bring renewed focus on improving city services to residents as well as working on the large long-term legacy issues of under-funded pensions, costly debt and infrastructure repairs.

I look forward to serving you this year in the district and at the Council table.

Sincerely,

One-Stop Shopping for City Services: 311

**Need to report a pothole or broken street light?
Looking for information on farmers markets?**

Simply dial 3-1-1 and a response line representative will assist you. 311 calls are answered by a live operator between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm. You can leave a message after hours or use the web form by going to the City's website and clicking "311 Response Line."

311 is only for non-emergency concerns, complaints, or questions. For emergencies, please continue to use 911.

NEWS FROM AROUND DISTRICT 7

CITY COUNCIL FUNDS LAWRENCEVILLE LIBRARY

City Council averted the closing of several Carnegie Library branches with a \$600,000 grant. Lawrenceville's historic branch will be open for 2010 while the library seeks a sustainable source of long-term funding.



Historic view of Iron City Brewing buildings

DOWD FIGHTS TO PRESERVE HISTORIC PROPERTY

Iron City Brewing closed its doors in Lawrenceville after 150 years, leaving behind millions of dollars in debt and dozens of lost jobs. Councilman Dowd, a PWSA Board member, demanded that Iron City pay its \$1 million water bill. Then in October 2009, Iron City applied for a demolition permit to take down some of the historic buildings on the

site. Dowd successfully halted the demolition permit while Lawrenceville residents put together an application for historic landmark status.

DOWD VOTES YES ON PREVAILING WAGE

Councilman Dowd voted to support a prevailing wage ordinance in the City of Pittsburgh. The ordinance requires developments that receive public subsidies to pay prevailing wages to all employees.

DOWD PROVIDES TAX RELIEF FOR SENIORS

Seniors in the City of Pittsburgh who earn less than \$30,000 and who have lived in their homes for at least 10 years can enroll in the Property Tax Relief Program. Before this year, seniors had to file for the program every year, regardless of whether or not their income had changed. In September, Councilman Dowd led legislation that changed this program so that seniors only have to apply once. "We should make it as easy as possible for seniors to get the tax relief they are entitled to," Councilman Dowd said. For more information on these changes, contact the City of Pittsburgh at 412.255.2525.



Accordion Pool Party at Leslie Park Pool

POOL PARTY IN LAWRENCEVILLE

On September 12, 2009, Lawrenceville residents Deb Knox and Susan Englert, along with countless volunteers, supporters, and friends, staged Pittsburgh's first ever accordion dance party inside a pool. Leslie Park Pool, unused since 2004, was brought back to life with dozens of accordion players and hundreds of guests and dancers. Next step: we will convene a series of pool planning workshops to think creatively about how to use this space in the future.



PWSA TO SAVE CUSTOMERS THOUSANDS IN SEWER REPAIRS

Many of you have replaced sewer lines yourself or know neighbors that have. This is an extremely expensive repair that can create tremendous hardship for homeowners. There is great news from Councilman Dowd, a Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority Board member. In January 2010, PWSA will begin offering an opt-out program for complete coverage of water and sewer line repairs for only about \$5 a month. "This insurance program is one of the most important things I have done as a Councilman and PWSA Board member," Councilman Dowd said. "It will save

Legislative WRAP-UP

IN 2009, COUNCILMAN DOWD INTRODUCED LEGISLATION TO:

- Provide tax relief to seniors.
- Improve neighborhood business streetscapes with higher standards for fences and landscaping.
- Provide more notification to residents of development in their neighborhoods.
- Create a committee to look at G20 decisions and expenses.
- Get Council involved in any lease or sale of parking garages or meters.

NEWS, CONTINUED.

struggling families thousands of dollars in high-cost maintenance." With this program, you'll be completely insured in the event of a water or sewer lateral line failure or collapse. More details available from PWSA.

MEET PATRICK DOWD AT COUNCIL TO GO

In 2008, we launched Council to Go—a mobile district office—to better serve you in the neighborhoods where you live. With sites across the district from Polish Hill to Lawrenceville to Highland Park, we found that we can service 20% more requests than we could by phone or email from our downtown office.

What can we do at Council to Go? Just about everything we can from our downtown office:

- *Learn how to use 311, the Mayor's Service Center*
- *Talk with Councilman Dowd about legislation in Council*
- *Learn about ordinances in the city code*
- *Check on ongoing requests you have already made through our office.*

My staff and I are looking forward to meeting you at Council to Go this year.



In November TreeVitalize worked with 100 volunteers to organize and plant over 40 trees in Highland Park.



Council to Go Meeting in Polish Hill. Photo courtesy of Mark Knobil.

PROFILE: COUNCIL TO GO IN POLISH HILL

Council to Go is a unique experience in each neighborhood that we serve. In Polish Hill, Council to Go looks more like a town hall meeting. Staff from the Polish Hill Civic Association join residents, Councilman Dowd, and Council staff to answer questions and respond to issues of interest to the neighborhood.

In 2009, we talked about recreational facilities, property maintenance, the impact of the G20, opportunities for greening, and even uncovered a natural spring flowing right through a resident's property.

"Patrick Dowd's willingness to become a part of our community has brought residents of all backgrounds to our office. The Polish Hill Civic Association is proud to host Council to Go and give our residents a voice in improving our community."

--Terry Doloughty, President, Polish Hill Civic Association

Where to Find COUNCIL TO GO

BLOOMFIELD:
Farmers Market
May to November only

HIGHLAND PARK:
Enrico's Tazza D'Oro
1125 North Highland Avenue

LAWRENCEVILLE:
Perk Me Up
4407 Butler Street

MORNINGSIDE:
Morning Glory Café
1806 Chislett Street

POLISH HILL:
Polish Hill Civic Association
3060 Brereton Street

2010's Council to Go schedule is on our website:
www.city.pittsburgh.pa/district7/

District 7 BY THE NUMBERS

When I was elected to Council, I made a pledge to improve transparency in government. This pledge starts with my own Council office. In 2008, my staff and I developed a first-of-its-kind tracking system for all constituent service cases that came to our office. Since then, our system has served as a model for other council offices. Every year, I have provided

data on our constituent activities. In 2009, we answered over 1000 requests for service! Information on the kind of questions we receive and the neighborhoods that we serve is detailed in the graphs below.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you.

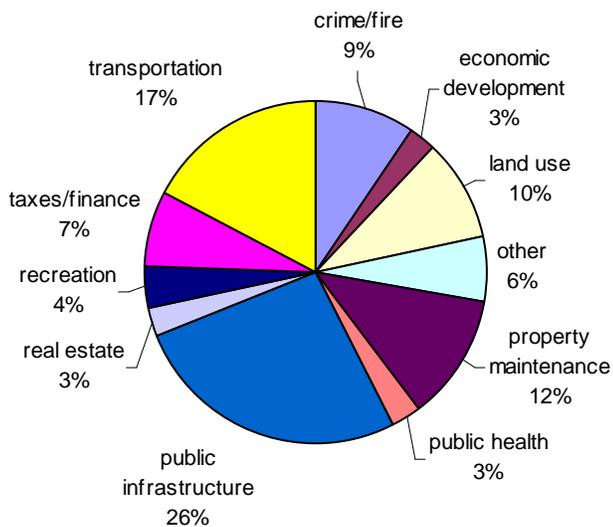
Meet Your Neighbors in Stanton Heights

The Stanton Heights Neighborhood Association is a new organization devoted to strengthening community ties and creating a community meeting place.

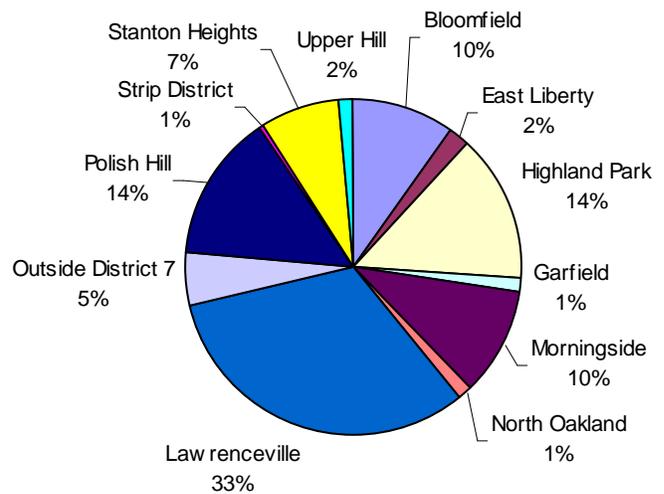
Become a member, get engaged and meet your neighbors. Please check the website for meeting dates and times:

www.stantonheights.wordpress.com

Calls by Type



Calls by Neighborhood



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