

North Avondale Historic District Timeline and Community engagement

2023

March 2023 Historic Preservation highlighted as a goal of neighborhood Master Plan.

We reached out to Beth Johnson at Cincinnati Preservation in the fall of 2023 to ask for some guidance.

2024

January 9 – Abby Couch from Planning with others presented information about defining contributing and non-contributing buildings within our established Urban Design Overlay District. NANA Members asked if the UDOD could be converted to Historic District as the community considered all of the pre-WW2 structures to be contributing to character.

February 28 – Connected Communities engagement session – Recommendation by then Councilman Harris to pursue Historic Designation as a way to alleviate concerns that rezoning would threaten historic character of the neighborhood.

Beth Johnson at Cincinnati Preservation (CP) did a presentation on options for historic designation for the Executive Committee (Feb 2024) and then later for the General body (June 2024). This presentation identified areas already noted by Cincinnati Preservation as being well documented and likely candidates for Local Historic District Designation.

May 5 - Councilwoman Meeka Owens recommended historic designation at NANA annual meeting as a path to preserving historic character of the neighborhood.

We started seeking feedback from neighbors via the NANA newsletter, website posts and at monthly meetings to gauge interest and fine tune the boundaries of those wishing to pursue the designation.

March-June - We requested proposals from (2) vendors with capabilities and experience in applying to the city for historic designation.

July 19 - North Avondale Block Party with Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. NANA table with information and Q&A on historic district.

Once we received dozens of affirmative responses, we plotted a general boundary map using responses as data points and CP recommended areas with documentation. Matt Cornell met with the Urban Conservator's office (Aug 04, 2024). Douglas Owen was both helpful and supportive of the process.

August 13 - At the next NANA monthly meeting Vice- Mayor Kearney offered to be our co-applicant as the final phase of the application is to be eventually voted on by city council.

September 3- Executive Board approved Beth Sullebarger as vendor for Historic District application, followed by approval of the general body. Also approved NANA matching funds for donors wishing to contribute to this effort.

Sept 29 – Information table at North Avondale Annual Block Party – 3953 Rose Hill Ave.

Oct 4 – South of Mitchell block party. Matt Cornel spoke and answered questions about expansion or second historic district.

November Press Blitz–

- Enquirer [Link](#)
- Enquirer Photos [LINK](#)
- Fox 19 [Link](#)
- WCPO [Link](#)
- WVXU, Nov 20th Radio interview with Vice-Mayor Kearney and NANA President Dawn Johnson

Dec - Beth Sullebarger introduced herself at our NANA Holiday party, and we announced there would be (3) public meetings to discuss guidelines and what the process would take.

2025

Jan. 25- Kick-off meeting with consultant Beth Sullebarger discussing process for creating district guidelines. Approximately 40 attendees.

February 1- Email sent to signup respondents giving updates on status of initiative.

February 19 - 2nd Meeting with consultant Beth Sullebarger discussing proposed boundaries and proposed guidelines for rehabilitation of existing buildings

March 19 – 3rd Meeting with consultant Beth Sullebarger discussing the guidelines for new construction.

June 10 - Douglas Owen- Urban Conservator and Abby Couch -Planning presented Historic Designation process and certificates of appropriateness to a NANA General Meeting.

June 30 – Posted proposed guidelines, boundary, designation report and draft letter of support.

July 18 - North Avondale Block Party with Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra NANA table with information and Q&A on historic district.

Oct 5 – Information table at North Avondale Annual Block Party – 3953 Rose Hill Ave.

Additionally Bob Brockman presented to Belvedere Condo board July '24 and Matt Cornell again April '25.

From September 2024 through May 2025 Beth Sullebarger documented homes, drafted and edited guidelines, wrote the designation report, and worked towards our finalized application to the City.

Throughout this process, we have had dozens of volunteers emailing, calling and chatting in person with their neighbors to answer questions, address concerns and build consensus on this issue. We thank them all!