

Conference Registration, Energy, Cities Designed for Decline, More

St. Louis Association of Community Organizations (SLACO) NEWS AND EVENTS



Sept. 16, 2014, #12

[SLACO Regional Neighborhood Conference Registration Open](#)

**JOIN US FOR THE PREMIER NEIGHBORHOOD
LEARNING AND NETWORKING EVENT, NOV. 1**

Desirable neighborhoods with robust neighborhood associations lift all parts of the region. We'll be exploring the extent of that relationship as we gather for the 19th time for the SLACO Regional Neighborhood Conference.

Attendees choose three workshops and the honored guest they would like to have lunch with in an informal classroom setting. Learning from peers and meeting new people provide lasting value for most participants.

Last year 80 percent of participants signed up after the deadline. Politely and with a touch of humor, we ask you: can't we do better than this? There's a catering deadline, you know, and it's October 28.

You can sign up right now! Register or follow the conference program as it develops through our [website](#), which will be continuously updated as presenters are confirmed and exact titles and descriptions of sessions are finalized by our hard-working conference committee.

Block Grant Recommendations Announced Tomorrow

Tomorrow at 5 p.m. the City's Community Development Administration will reveal their recommendations for 2015 Community Development

Block Grant funding. The meeting will be at the 2nd floor conference room, 1520 Market St. Information also will be posted soon thereafter on the [CDA website](#).

Recommendations then head to the Board of Aldermen, where hearings and deliberations will result in the final proposal sent to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for funding.

Free Upcoming Presentations on Energy, Strong Cities

Two outstanding programs will be occurring in the next few weeks. You may have noticed that we are selective in what we publicize, so here are the current picks.

First, an Energy Conservation Workshop on Tues. Sept. 30 will include information on saving money on utilities, energy audits, white roofs, reducing your carbon footprint, and all sorts of other ideas for both renters and homeowners.

The event will be at Grand Oak Hill, 4168 Juniata, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. You need to RSVP by calling 865-5530, since refreshments are involved.

Speakers will include highly experienced energy experts from the Urban League, Missouri Botanical Garden, U.S. Green Building Council, and more. See the [Tower Grove CDC website](#) for more information.

Further out, plan to attend one of the events featuring Charles Marohn of [Strong Towns](#). Charles believes that current development patterns are making us poor, and that our cities are designed to decline. It's hard to imagine a conversation more important to the long-term welfare of urban neighborhoods.

Charles will be giving free "curbside chats" at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 7 in Room 202 J.C. Penney Conference Center at University of Missouri St. Louis, and again at 7 p.m. Oct. 8 at the May Auditorium in Simon Hall, Washington University. He also will lead a transportation breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Oct. 9 at Missouri Athletic Club, hosted by [Citizens for Modern Transit](#).



Above: Cookie decorating was one of the highlights of the open house promoting Neighborhood Houses@SLACO, our new after-school program about to begin in the West End.

First "250 Ways" Contest Entries Received

Already there are 11 interesting ideas received for the 250 Ways to Improve Your Neighborhood contest. The name pretty much explains it all. Input your entry directly on the [website page](#). Finalists will be chosen from among entries received by noon, Oct. 24, and neighborhood conference attendees will vote on the grand prize winner, who will leave with \$250 in cash and St. Louis-themed goodies.

Welcome Fairground Neighborhood to SLACO

We're especially proud to welcome the new Fairground Neighborhood Revitalization Organization to SLACO. It's great to feel that we can contribute our experience to a fledgling neighborhood association.

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