

We're home to Sutherland Airfield (Knoxville's first airport), Knoxville Drive-In Theater, Ringling Bros. Circus (big top), Golf Range Field of Harmony, the paper mill on Papermill Road., and a bunch of great folks.

Concerning Mann St. closure request (file # 5-A-11-sc):

The Pond Gap Area Neighborhood Association opposes the closure based on historic, cultural, safety, and environmental reasons.

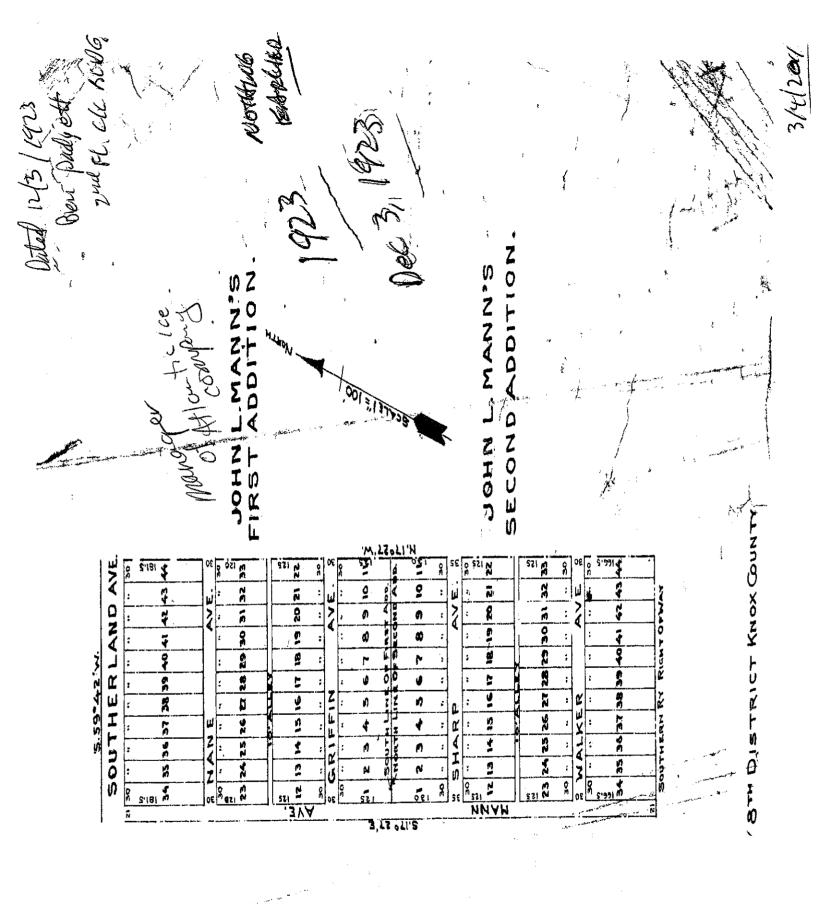
Attached documents include maps of the area and Mayor Burchett's letter of support with historic references.

A representative from the Association plans on attending

the June 9 MPC meeting. Thank you.

David Williams, president

ph. # 256-1828



itr. No. 19231203000000

G. Beal (MPC Map) 6 6 6 C 24870



OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR TIM BURCHETT

400 Main Street, Suite 615, Knoxville, TN 37902

May 10, 2011

Dear Members of the Metropolitan Planning Commission,

As you consider proposals dealing with the University of Tennessee's Married Student Housing apartment complex on Sutherland Avenue, I hope you will carefully consider the historical and cultural significance of what happened along Mann Street in the Pond Gap neighborhood.

During the 1940s and 1950s, local residents took part in some of the earliest documented integrated sporting events I have heard of. The area's working class residents along Mann Street—both black and white—played countless baseball games together, fostering a sense of community that transcended race.

I would appreciate it very much if you would give careful consideration to the Pond Gap Area Neighborhood Association's wishes to maintain at least a portion of Mann Street as a reminder of its past. Unfortunately, that community was forever changed when the University of Tennessee built the apartment complex they now plan to tear down.

Despite the drastic changes UT's presence made on the area, now is an excellent time to commemorate and recognize the good faith efforts of the former residents of Mann Street.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincexely,

Tim Burchett

Knox County Mayor

jcg:TB