



# Historic Western Suburb Neighborhood Association

645 West Short Street  
Lexington, Kentucky 40508

March 17, 2008

Dear Historic Western Suburb Neighborhood Property Owner,

Our neighborhood association has been awarded a Neighborhood Matching Grant by the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government. This grant is for the planting of small trees in the tree line. These trees are in conformance with the city arborist's recommendations.

The grant is for the City to pay for 50% of the cost of purchasing and planting the trees. Each participating property owner will pay the remaining 50%. Once we have a commitment from the neighborhood property owners for their portion of the cost, we will get bids from local nurseries to supply and plant the trees. Once the bids are in, each participating neighbor will pay the Historic Western Suburb Neighborhood Association (HWSNA) his or her 50% portion of the total cost. HWSNA will coordinate the placement and planting of the tree with the property owners and the nursery.

All property owners have to do is decide on which and how many of the allowable trees they want to have planted, where they want them planted, pay their portion of the cost, and commit to water their tree(s) through the summer season. HWSNA will take care of the rest. The total planted cost of a 1-3/4" tree has been estimated at \$270 (or a cost of \$135 per tree to the property owner). If enough people sign up, the total cost would be more like \$210 (or a total cost of \$105 per tree to the property owner).

The chosen trees are not expected to reach the overhead wires, and are compatible with living in an urban environment. The trees recommended by the City's arborist are: (1) Winter King Hawthorn, (2) Japanese Tree Lilac, or (3) Snow Goose, Yoshino, or Kwanzan Flowering Cherry trees. (See the enclosed pictures and characteristics of these trees.) The trees are 1-3/4" in trunk diameter, and are in the 8 to 10 feet tall range.

The neighborhood association did this over 25 years ago. At that time, Bradford Pears were the recommendation for urban planting. When planted and grown they were striking, especially in the spring when the whole street would be awash in white blossoms. As we all know Bradford pears are brittle and split easily. Also, they get wrapped up in the utility wires and end up being "V"ed by the utilities. A street lined with healthy looking properly-sized trees is more attractive and welcoming. And it can benefit property values as well.

A good case can be made that I should have gotten the word out 6 weeks ago, but I didn't. Now, we need to get these trees ordered **quickly** before they are all gone. [So, call me at: 229-8265](tel:229-8265), or [email me at: Bill-Johnston@pobox.com](mailto:Bill-Johnston@pobox.com). Once I have all of the requests in, I will notify all of the participants about the cost. Then, once all of the money is collected, the trees will be ordered. Please notify me by March 24<sup>th</sup> (next Monday) if at all possible.

Yours truly,

Bill Johnston  
President