

The background features several large, overlapping, colorful swirls in shades of green, purple, and blue. Scattered throughout are numerous small, yellow, triangular shapes that resemble rays of light or confetti.

Building Communities NOW

**What is a Neighborhood
Association?**

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide features a green balloon at the top, a blue balloon in the middle, and a purple balloon at the bottom. Yellow streamers and triangular flags are scattered around the balloons.

Workshop Plan

- Introductions
- Neighborhood Definitions
- Neighborhood Formation Process
- Responsibilities of Neighborhoods and the City
- Benefits of Receiving Official Recognition



Definitions

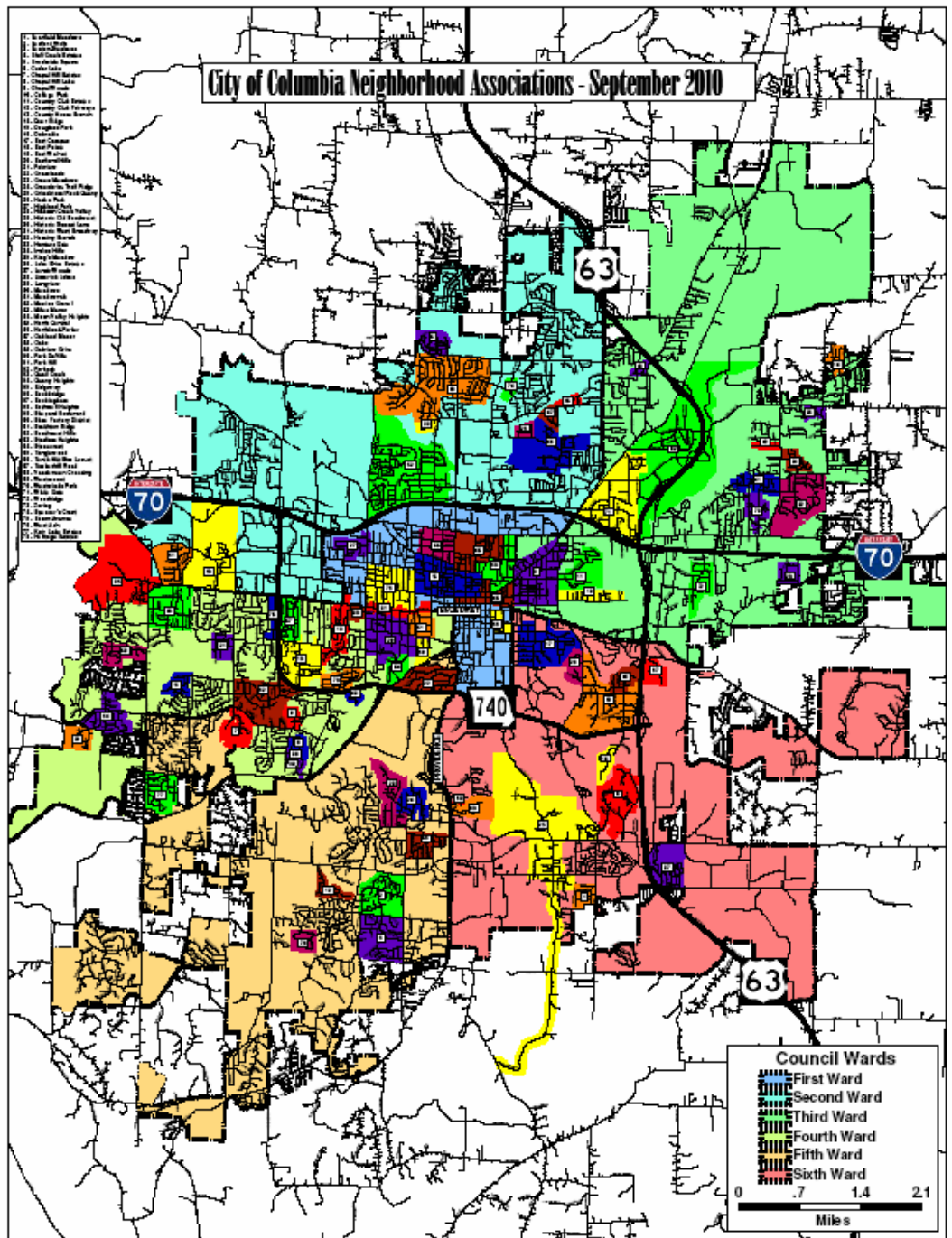
- Community: Interactions among people for mutual support
 - Communities of Interest
 - Communities of Place (Neighborhoods)
- Webster's Definition:
 - Neighborly relationships
 - The quality or state of being neighbors



Definitions

- A neighborhood as defined by the City of Columbia's Neighborhood Organization Policy is:
 - Defined by physical boundaries
 - Open to the total area and diversity of interests present
 - Open to homeowners, landowners and the owners and tenants of rental property

City of Columbia Neighborhood Associations - September 2010





Process

- Identify core leadership group
- Define boundaries
- Organize formational meeting
- Draft by-laws
- Notify neighbors of the meeting -
Critical



Process

- At the formational meeting:
 - Establish consensus that association should be formed
 - Discuss boundaries and by-laws
 - VOTE
 - Elect officers
 - Designate contact person



Process

- Turn in paperwork to ONS
 - Approved by-laws
 - List of attendees
 - Minutes
 - Cover letter explaining reasons for forming and summarizing process used to notify residents
- ONS will prepare Council paperwork and have item placed on agenda



Responsibilities of Neighborhood

- Advisory to City Council and City commissions
- Familiar with City plans and projects
- Maintain communication channel between residents and the City
- May develop neighborhood specific projects



Responsibilities of City

- Notify neighborhoods of all proposed zoning, subdivision, conditional use permit, planned unit development (PUD) and annexation applications
- Notify neighborhoods of all proposed changes effecting traffic, streets, parks and recreation and other city maintained infrastructure
- Review any neighborhood plans submitted

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Benefits of Recognition

- Formalized contact between your neighborhood and City Council
- Working through the process is a way to get to know your neighbors
- Communication with the City of Columbia familiarizes residents with local governing processes



Great Ideas for Neighborhood Activities

- Hold a neighborhood cleanup
- Start a Neighborhood Watch Group (<http://columbianeighborhoodwatch.org/>)
- Set up an Adopt-a-Spot
- Have social events (meet for coffee, hold a barbeque)
- Set up a neighborhood website or listserv
- Stay informed (http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/Web_Mail/)