

GENERAL INFORMATION

University Area Commission

The University Area Commission was established by Columbus City Council in 1972 in accordance with Chapter 3313 of the Columbus City Zoning Code, *Area Commissions: Procedure for Establishment*. The University Area Commission is bounded on the north by the centerline of Glen Echo Ravine, on the east by the centerline of the railroad right-of-way immediately east of Indianola Avenue, on south by the centerline of Fifth Avenue, and on the west by the Olentangy River, with each line extended as necessary so as to intersect with adjacent boundaries.

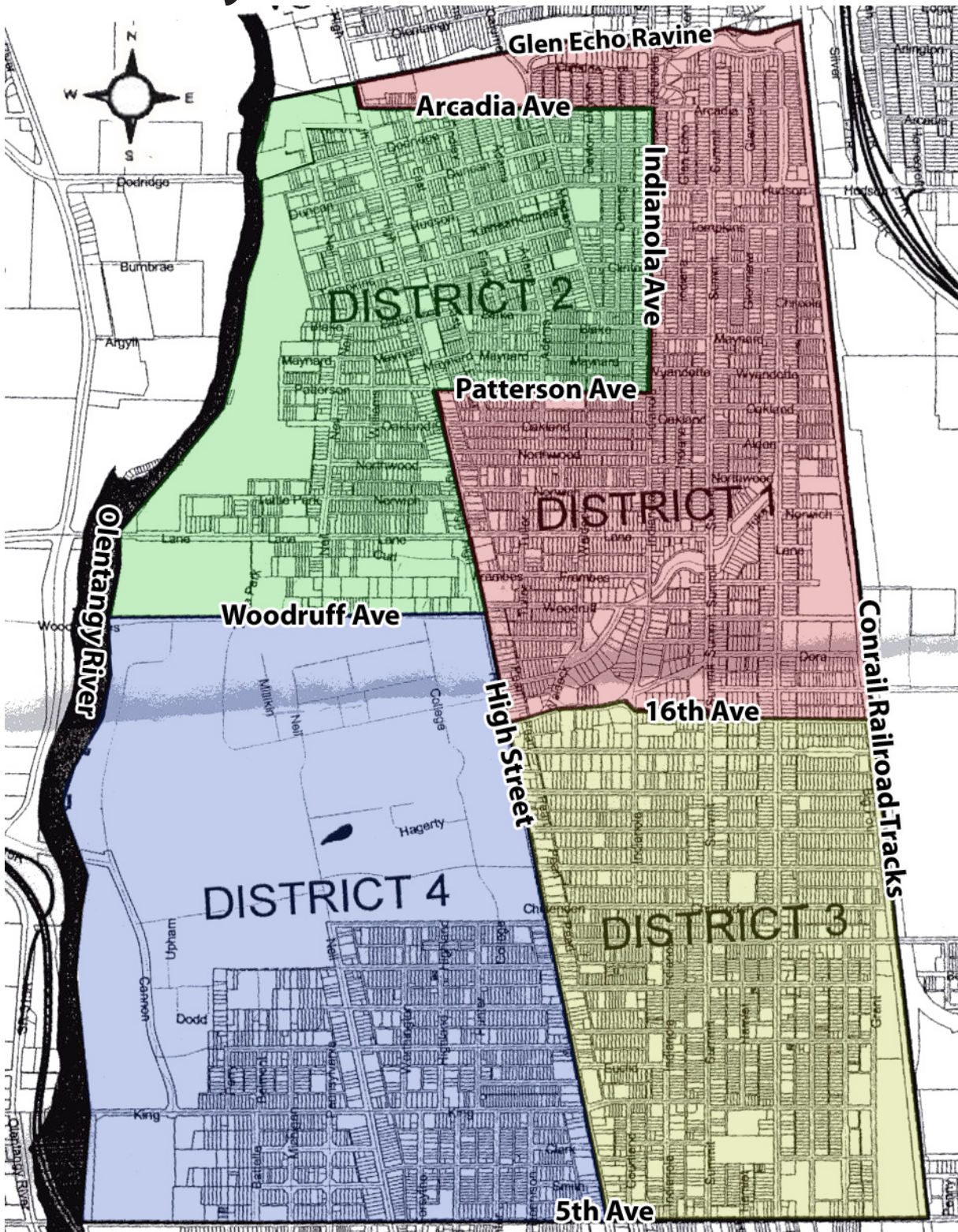
Chapter 3313 of the Columbus City Zoning Code states the purpose of the Area Commission as, "...*afford additional voluntary citizen participation in decision-making in an advisory capacity and to facilitate communication, understanding, and cooperation between neighborhood groups, city officials, and developers.*" It then goes on to outline the functions and duties of the Area Commission. In general, "*no duty or function of an Area Commission shall invalidate any action of Council*", but the University Area Commission may:

- A. In the interest of local planning for local needs, identify and study the problems and requirements of the Commission Area in order to:
 - 1. create plans and policies which will serve as guidelines for future development of the Area;
 - 2. bring the problems and needs of the Area to the attention of appropriate government agencies or residents; and
 - 3. recommend solutions or legislation
- B. Aid and promote communications within the Commission Area and between it and the rest of the City by means of:
 - 1. regular and special meetings of the Commission which are open to the public;
 - 2. public hearings on problems, issues, and proposals affecting the Area;
 - 3. public forums and surveys to provide an opportunity for Area residents, businesses and organizations to state their problems and concerns;
 - 4. soliciting active cooperation of all segments of the Area and City, including organizational institutions and government;
 - 5. initiating proposals and supporting those introduced by individual citizens or area organizations, which will enhance the quality of life enjoyed by area residents and preserve the unique residential and commercial mix of the area; and

6. promoting and encouraging businesses whose functions, methods of operation, architectural appearance, and locations are consistent with the character and requirements of the area.
- C. Initiate, review and recommend criteria and programs for the preservations, development and enhancement of the Commission Area, including, but not limited to parks, recreational areas, sidewalks, streets and traffic, by means of:
 1. reviewing the proposed Capital improvements Budget and proposing new items and changes relating to the Area;
 2. making recommendations for restoration and preservations of the historical elements within the Area; and
 3. receiving and reviewing for recommendations, prior to adoption by governmental bodies, and new or revised comprehensive plan affecting the Area.
 - D. Recommend priorities for and review services and operations of the various government departments in the commission Area by means of:
 1. requesting and receiving from departments or agencies periodic reports concerning governmental services or practices in Area;
 2. meeting with administrative heads of any department or agency, or any of their subordinates, to obtain additional information deemed necessary for the commission to fulfill its functions;
 3. requesting and receiving from departments or agencies prior to implementation, full reports on any proposed changes in service or practice in the Area, and recommending approval or disapproval of the proposed changes;
 4. reviewing and evaluating pending legislation substantially affecting the Area prior to its consideration by Council; and
 5. regularly receiving for review, comment and recommendation from the Division of Regulations copies of applications and notices of all public hearing related to rezonings, special permits, variances, demolitions and zoning appeals regarding property located wholly or partially within the Area.
 - E. Recommend persons from the Commission Area for nomination to membership on city boards and commissions that make decisions or recommendations affecting the Commission Area.

These are the general functions and duties of the University Area Commission, as outlined by the Columbus City Council. Following is the complete set of By Laws of the University Area Commission. These by laws were recently updated, and are presented in a clear, concise, yet comprehensive form. Every commissioner should have a copy of these by laws with him/her at every Commission meeting, and should refer to them regarding questions about the Commission.

University Area Commission Districts



The University Area Commission is bounded on the north by the centerline of Glen Echo Ravine, on the east by the centerline of the railroad right-of-way immediately east of Indianola Avenue, on south by the centerline of Fifth Avenue, and on the west by the Olentangy River, with each line extended as necessary so as to intersect with adjacent boundaries.

The four districts are delineated as follows:

1. Northeast District (NE): North of 16th Avenue and east of High Street, except that which is part of District 2.
2. Northwest District (NW): North of Woodruff Avenue and west of High Street, and a portion east of High Street, west of Indianola, south of Arcadia, and north of Patterson.
3. Southeast District (SE): South of 16th Avenue and east of High Street.
4. Southwest District (SW): South of Woodruff Avenue and west of High Street.