



November 20, 2013

Dear Chatham Arch Neighbor:

As the holiday season approaches, it is a natural time to reflect on the many things for which we are thankful. If you are like me, you are thankful to live in a neighborhood such as Chatham Arch. *I'm writing to invite you to join me in expressing your thanks by making a financial contribution to our neighborhood foundation in 2013.*

Today, those of us living in Chatham Arch enjoy the benefits of many years of hard work and planning – not to mention generous monetary donations – by Chatham Arch residents, both past and present. *With your support, the Chatham Arch Neighborhood Foundation (CANF) had a significant impact on our neighborhood in 2013 through the following projects:*

**Alley Project from St. Clair Street to Massachusetts Avenue (behind Phoenix Theater):**

The total cost of this project exceeded \$70,000, and was funded through a collaboration between CANF, the City of Indianapolis, a \$20,000 contribution from the Indianapolis Firefighters and additional contributions from neighboring homeowners. CANF contributed \$22,160 to this project.

**Chatham Commons Lighting:**

CANF received a \$2,500 grant to install an additional historic street light in Chatham Commons at the corner of St. Clair and East Streets. CANF has also installed solar lighting to softly illuminate the Boy and Dog sculpture and the plaque honoring donors Tom Jones and Paul Atkinson on the center pergola. CANF committed \$2,000 to this project.

On top of these projects, CANF funds many of the amenities that make Chatham Arch special, including maintaining Chatham Commons, contributing to the Chatham Arch Urban Garden and providing funds to operate the historic street lights that keep us all safe. The annual expenses of these projects are not insignificant, including annual maintenance expenses of approximately \$10,000 for Chatham Commons and a *nearly \$13,000 annual electric bill for the historic street lights* found throughout our neighborhood.

*Many neighbors give CANF board members great ideas to improve Chatham Arch, and there is still a lot that the board of CANF would like to achieve, but we can't do it without your support.*

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In 2014, the CANF board is proposing to construct additional pergolas to complete the plan for Chatham Commons as well as work on a Master Construction and Funding Plan to restore additional historic brick alleys in Chatham Arch.

The amount that CANF can withdraw from our endowment is limited. The increasing annual operating/maintenance expenses of CANF will greatly limit the amount that can be expended for additional neighborhood capital improvements. After paying ongoing expenses, CANF expects to have less than \$30,000 of its annual draw from endowed funds at the Central Indiana Community Foundation to commit to additional projects. Unless additional donations are received from neighbors, future alley restoration will have to be deferred, with other capital needs also potentially unmet. At the same time, funds previously set aside to pay the annual electric bill for our historic streetlights are dwindling rapidly and will need to be replenished soon.

Chatham Arch neighbors have historically helped fund the annual operating expenses of CANF through annual tax-deductible donations, so that CANF's limited endowment income can be devoted to capital projects. Unfortunately, in recent years annual contributions to CANF have not kept pace with increasing annual operating expenses for neighborhood amenities.

*So how can you help? I am asking you to consider making a tax-deductible donation to the Chatham Arch Neighborhood Foundation in 2013 of \$100 or more so that CANF can continue to maintain and enhance our neighborhood. Working together, we can make Chatham Arch an even more outstanding place to call home. Thank you for considering this appeal.*

Checks should be made payable to Chatham Arch Neighborhood Foundation and mailed to:

**Chatham Arch Neighborhood Foundation  
P.O. Box 441125  
Indianapolis, IN 46202-1125**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brad Coomer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brad Coomer  
President, Chatham Arch Neighborhood Foundation