The WEDGE

hello neighbors
AND FRIENDS OF THE SOUTH WEDGE

Sassy in the South Wedge: A Celebration That Carries On

By Jennifer Posey, Executive Director, South Wedge Planning Committee

For more than a decade, *Sassy in the South Wedge* has been a vibrant and joyful celebration of queer identity, creativity, and community in our neighborhood and beyond. It's more than just an event—it's a tradition rooted in visibility, inclusion, and the belief that everyone deserves to feel seen, celebrated, and supported right where they live.

This year, the event took on new meaning and resilience. Following the devastating fire at Lux Lounge—longtime host and cultural anchor for Sassy—the celebration found a new temporary home at Swiftwater Brewing Company. While the location shifted, the spirit of Sassy remained as strong as ever. The move was a powerful reminder that while spaces may change, community endures.

For years, Sassy in the South Wedge has brought together neighbors, artists, performers, and allies to uplift queer voices and foster connection. It has created a space where expression is encouraged, differences are celebrated, and people from across Rochester come together in solidarity and joy. From performances to shared moments of laughter and pride, Sassy continues to reflect the heart of what makes the South Wedge so special.

We are proud to share that this year's event was made possible through the support of the Community Foundations Neighborhoods in Action (NIA) grant, as well as funding from Trillium Health—two partners who recognize the importance of inclusive, community-centered programming. Their support ensures that events like Sassy remain accessible, meaningful, and impactful for all who attend.

As we look ahead, Sassy in the South Wedge stands as a testament to the strength and resilience of our community. Even in the face of challenges, we come together, we adapt, and we continue to celebrate one another.

Because here in the South Wedge, everyone is a neighbor—and everyone deserves to be celebrated.

community engagement

Water Bureau Seeks Community Input

The City of Rochester Water Bureau is seeking feedback for how they should bring Highland and Cobbs Hill Reservoirs into compliance with the EPA's Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2).

The project managers have emphasized compliance with this rule requires major changes to both reservoirs and parks regardless of which solution is chosen.

A draft project scope detailing the possible alternatives for getting into compliance with the rule as well as the benefits and drawbacks of each solution has been released. ***The draft scope can be read here***. The current alternatives, in short, are adding UV treatment, constructing underground tanks in the location of the reservoirs or, in the case of Highland, decommissioning.

The draft is expected be released in Spring of 2027 and the final EIS completed in Fall 2027. Your input is sought for which alternative in the above project scope is your preferred for the water bureau to move forward with, comments or concerns with any of the alternatives, and any additional concerns not mentioned in the scope document you believe need to be addressed in the Environmental Impact Statement.

Your comments should be submitted to ***michael.bushart@cityofrochester.gov*** before **July 24th**.

To read more and find out when the next public meeting is, go to the ***project website***

Come Meet Commissioner of Neighborhood and Business Development Erik Frisch July 14

“Rochester is in the midst of a long-awaited resurgence, one defined by revitalization, opportunity, and lasting growth. For the first time in generations, our city is building forward with real momentum, and the Department of Neighborhood & Business Development is proud to help lead the way.”

That statement taken from the City website is about vision and opportunity. Who better to lead that vision than **Erik Frisch, the new Commissioner of Neighborhood and Business Development**. Erik is no stranger to our South East neighborhoods, having been a strong supporter of various neighborhood activities and developments. He has played a major role in shaping Rochester's infrastructure and development, including the Inner Loop East and North transformation projects, the "Roc the Riverway" waterfront revitalization, the Bicycle Master Plan, and the Complete Streets policy.

NBN6, the coalition of the six South East neighborhoods (Azaela, Lilac, Highland Park, South Wedge, Swillburg, and Upper Mt. Hope) will host an opportunity to hear firsthand from Commissioner Frisch. Learn more about the exciting developments in the City, and the plans for the Zoning Alignment Project and the Highland Park Reservoir.

The gathering will be on July 14 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at the Artisan Church 1235 South Clinton Avenue. The event will begin with a light meal compliments of Pelligrino’s owner Peter Psyllos and the Neighbors In Action (NIA) grant. Commission Frisch will present from 6:00-7:00 p.m. with a Q@A. You are invited to attend.

Please spread the word for this opportunity.

SWPC BOARD MEETING

All are welcome to attend
Tuesday, July 21st
at 9:00am

ZOOM LINK

SAVE THE DATE!

MORE INFORMATION HERE

South Wedge Festival

Save the Date:
Saturday, August 15
11am-5pm

We are currently planning the 2026 South Wedge Festival.

Are you a Busker interested in performing?
Apply Here

Are you interested in info about sponsoring the event?
Info Here

JOIN US!

for SOUTH WEDGE STEPS

FREE EVENT
Rain or shine!

TUESDAYS and THURSDAYS
MORNINGS at 8:30AM

MEET OUTSIDE OF ABUNDANCE FOOD CO-OP
571 SOUTH AVENUE, ROCHESTER

SWPC
INFO@SWPC.ORG

WALK AROUND the WEDGE WITH US
and GET YOUR STEPS IN
(APPROX. 30 MINS, ROUTES WILL VARY)

ABUNDANCE FOOD CO-OP

thank you

We all know that Lux recently experienced a devastating fire. While we're heartbroken by what happened, we know one thing for certain: Lux will rise again.

Although we won't be able to host Sassy in the South Wedge at Lux this year, the incredible support of our community has made it possible for us to find a new home right here in the South Wedge. Thank you ***Swiftwater Brewing*** for helping us make this happen so quickly. Pride is about showing up for one another, and that's exactly what our neighborhood is doing.

We'll have a collection bucket at the event to support the Lux staff affected by the fire, and we're proud that some of the Lux team will be joining us and working the event. It reminds us that the spirit of Lux has always been about the people.

The South Wedge has always come together in difficult times, and this is no different. This Pride, we'll celebrate, support one another, and stand with Lux. We can't wait to celebrate with all of you—and when the time comes, we'll be first in line to celebrate Lux's return home.

GO SOUTH WEDGE

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PLANNING COMMITTEE
PC

South Wedge Planning Committee | 224 Mt Hope Ave | Rochester, NY 14620 US

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