



*Mission: To make the Village of Spring Hill a neighborhood center by improving the pedestrian, aesthetic and commercial amenities of the area*

## A Facelift for North McGregor Avenue



**BEFORE**

After seven years, The Village of Spring Hill's 1.5-million-dollar infrastructure project on N. McGregor Ave. has finally begun! The project includes curb, gutter and sidewalk infrastructure on both sides of N. McGregor Ave. from Old Shell Rd. to the roundabout at Museum Dr. The VSH streetscapes, including wide sidewalks with Village lights and street trees will be installed from PNC Bank to The Cedars Ave. as part of the project.

A signaled crosswalk from Princess Ann Rd. to Spring Hill Village Shopping Center will have two planted medians on each side keeping pedestrians safe while crossing N. McGregor Ave. The Village of Spring Hill worked with the City of Mobile and shopping center owner Philip Burton to provide irrigation to the medians to allow for planted areas instead of stamped concrete as proposed in the design. These upgrades to traditional roadway design require tremendous effort and coordination but are essential to preserving the charm of our Village. When this project is complete, it will be an amazing transformation for our community.



**AFTER**

*This newsletter was made possible by the generous contributions of*



# South McGregor Avenue Project Impacts Our Village

The City of Mobile's S. McGregor Ave. project has the Village uneasy about the impact it will have on our community. Although there are positive aspects to the project, the VSH met with city officials about our concerns, and we suggested changes that would make the project compliment the VSH Master Plan.

**Safety #1 Concern:** The new design for S. McGregor Ave. between Dauphin St. and Airport Blvd. reflects the City's desire to move traffic through Spring Hill more effectively. This objective resulted in a design that will possibly increase the speed on the road. An unobstructed turn lane from Dauphin St. to Airport Blvd. will allow high-speed passing on the left. At the recommendation of our Planners, the VSH identified 4 areas for planted medians to provide green space for beauty but most importantly to prevent passing on the left. It would also control speed and prevent possible collisions.

**Aesthetic Impact:** The project was designed using concrete for all approach islands to the roundabout and on the rollover edge of the roundabout. This is more in keeping with a highway design than a neighborhood design. We proposed that all approach islands be grassed to transition from the planted medians on Dauphin St. and using VSH pavers on the roundabout for consistency in the Village. The VSH will landscape the area when the project is complete.

**Lighting Impact:** We feel the proposed lighting design in the project will be intrusive to the Spring Hill community. We have asked the administration to take a second look and lower the fixtures, reduce the number of poles, and decrease the wattage to be consistent with what is already in the Village.

*All these suggested changes are being considered by the administration.*



*Rendering of City of Mobile plan for the roundabout and crosswalks at the intersection of Dauphin St. and S. McGregor Ave. This is a portion of the entire project that extends down to Airport Blvd.*



## Lost—Treasured Giant

It was probably 200 years old according to a local arborist. Who knows how it got to the site where the Spring Hill Library was built in 1968. Did someone plant it, or was it just a volunteer like other heritage oak trees in Spring Hill? It was an anchor for our library, a climbing tree for children, and it became a treasured giant. As it grew, it became a symbol of our heritage oak tree legacy in Spring Hill. Sadly, last summer during a windstorm it split in half. Remarkably, it split exactly on either side of our sculpture "The Flame of Knowledge" with not a scratch on it! Perhaps one last salute to our community. A much smaller oak tree was planted by The Village of Spring Hill this winter, and it WILL grow, but no doubt it has some mighty big roots to fill!

# Village Neighborhood Walking the Walk

The folks living in the Country Club neighborhood are raising hundreds of thousands of dollars through private donations and grants to construct sidewalks! After requests from neighborhoods in the Village for sidewalks, the VSH decided to create a path forward for this initiative in the Village. We worked with the City and Council Member Joel Daves to create the “Neighborhood Sidewalk Protocol”. It provides a road map for private citizens to construct sidewalks in their neighborhoods. The first sidewalks to be constructed under this program were completed last year on Wimbledon Dr. The second project will be on Hillwood Rd., expected to begin this summer and another initiative has already begun for Country Club Rd.

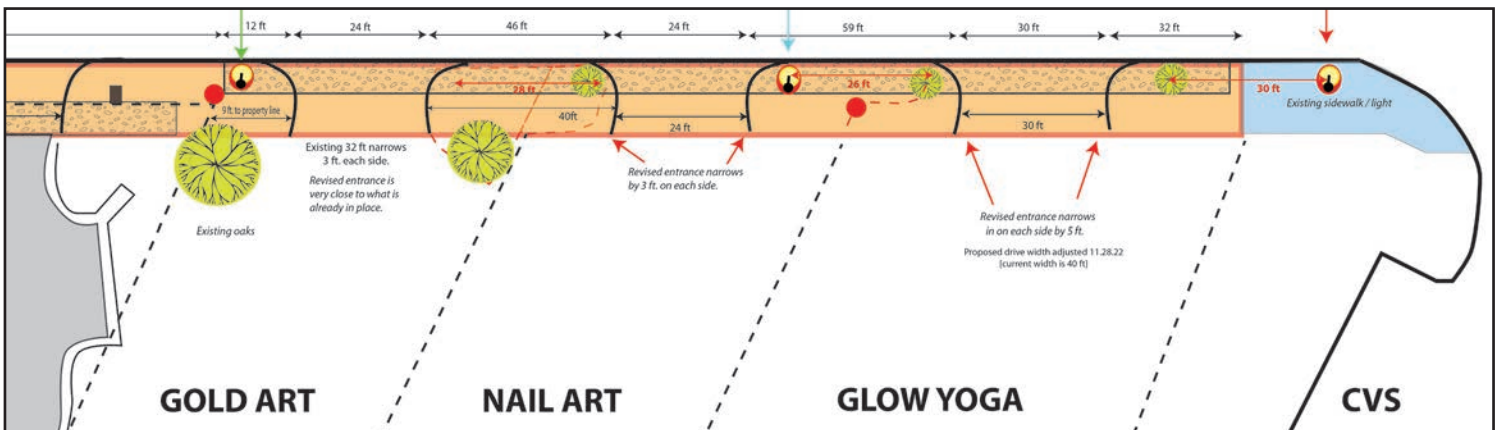
For over 16 years The Village of Spring Hill has initiated and installed millions of dollars of sidewalks in the Village. This extension of our efforts in the neighborhoods is a win-win for our community! Visit our website for more information about the protocol [www.TheVillageofSpringHill.com](http://www.TheVillageofSpringHill.com)



Ellie Edwards, Emily White, Sherry Pierce, and Buff Teague —sidewalk warriors!

## Good Business Partners Make a Great Village

The owners of Gold Art, Old Shell Nail & Spa and the former Glow Yoga properties on Old Shell Rd. are supporting a plan by The Village of Spring Hill to install Village streetscapes in front of their businesses. The project includes wide sidewalks, Village lights and street trees and is being completely funded with District 5 Capital Improvement Funds. This project will complete an entire block of VSH Streetscapes from the Baptist Church Activities Center on S. McGregor Ave. to the AT&T building on Old Shell Rd. The engineering plans for this project have been finalized and we are waiting for a start date!



## Donate Today!

*The Village of Spring Hill, Inc. is a grassroots, all volunteer organization.  
Every contribution received goes DIRECTLY into our community!*

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**Mail checks payable to:**

The Village of Spring Hill  
4358-B Old Shell Rd. #145  
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*The Village of Spring Hill, Inc. is a  
501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.*





The Village Cleanup held March 25th was a success thanks to all our volunteers!

THE VILLAGE OF  
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 4358-B Old Shell Rd. #145  
 Mobile, AL 36608

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## LOVING MEMORY Judy Marston: February 22, 1943 – March 5, 2022



It is with profound sadness that the Board of directors of The Village of Spring Hill mourns the death of Judy Marston. Judy was a leader in the work and mission of The Village of Spring Hill Inc. from its beginning in 2006. She was a member of the small group of individuals who established the organization with the intent of improving the Spring Hill community, not simply with beautification efforts alone but with a fundamental plan to create a vision for the proper development and redevelopment of a truly walkable community. She used her skill as a motivational speaker, not only to motivate the efforts of the group but also, as the spokesperson for the organization. She published a book that collectively showed the graceful architecture and gardens of Spring Hill which she dedicated to The Village of Spring Hill. The Spring Hill community to this day continues to benefit from her commitment and dedication to the organization. *The Board of Directors is most grateful for the life and contributions of Judy Marston*

## Village Celebration at the Fire Station: April 23 – Save the Date!

Come celebrate with us and meet your neighborhood heroes at the second Annual Village Celebration at the Fire Station Event April 23rd 3 – 5 pm! Last year's event was wildly successful with the community and gave our little ones an opportunity to meet our firefighters and police up close. *There will be fire trucks, police cars, princesses, and superheroes!* Bring your family and friends for an action-packed day at the Spring Hill Fire Station on N. McGregor Avenue and Museum Dr. Purchase tickets for \$15.00 or the day of the event for \$20.00—use the QR code at left. *All proceeds go to the Village of Spring Hill to continue building great projects in the Village.*

