

# LED lights are ready for 'Steppin' Out'

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Have you stepped out on Baltimore Street recently? You may have noticed upgrades to the lighting on the west side of the street, between Steinwehr Avenue and South Street. The new light posts might look ordinary from the outside, but they are a result of an extraordinary amount of hard work and continued momentum from the Baltimore Street Community and its supporters.

In early April, six new energy-saving LED decorative street lamps were installed on the west side of the 400 block of Baltimore Street as a result of a partnership between the Borough of Gettysburg and Columbia Gas, and Main Street Gettysburg's (MSG) fundraising efforts. In addition to the street lamps, brick sidewalks were included in the completion of the demonstration block for the Baltimore Street Revitalization Project.

The fundraising efforts, headed by retired MSG board member Ron Hankey, raised \$21,100. The following donors made this project possible: Adams County Community Foundation, Destination Gettysburg, Gettysburg Foundation, Gettysburg Rotary Club, and the National Trust for Historic Gettysburg. In addition to the cash donations, the Gettysburg Area Retail Merchants Association purchased wreaths for the lamp posts during the holiday season. A special thanks goes out to everyone, including the Borough's Public Works crew who worked on the installation.

It was this lighting project that sparked the neighbors along Baltimore Street to work with MSG and plan a revitalization effort along the full length of Baltimore Street. Community meetings, events, mural projects and community collaboration have all been an outgrowth of what this first demonstration project has achieved.

Once a small neighborhood volunteer committee, this group has grown to more than 30 members supporting various projects pertaining to improving the attractiveness, safety, lighting and quality of life for both residents and businesses on the street. It would be impossible to place a value on the hours that this committee invests, and MSG thanks this group for their valuable time and skills.

As the administrator for the Baltimore Street Project, MSG invites you to a free and fun-filled day in town on Saturday, May 14, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. for "Steppin' Out in Lincoln's Footsteps." Free parking will be available at Lincoln Elementary and Gettysburg Middle School parking lots and the event will take place on Baltimore Street, from Lincoln Square to the Cemetery. This community event will showcase the history of Baltimore Street through well-known historians and offer a family experience with free carriage rides, kid's activities at Unity Park, discounts, entertainment, and food and drink specials. Find the Facebook event page - Steppin' Out in Lincoln's Footsteps for updates and more information. On behalf of the Baltimore Street Historic Pathway Revitalization Committee and Main Street Gettysburg, please come and spend a Saturday in May enjoying your home town and

supporting our local businesses.

Lastly, we would like to thank the Baltimore Street Community and their supporters for steppin' up and leading the charge on this revitalization project.

Deb Adamik is the executive director of Main Street Gettysburg. She can be reached at 717-337-3491, ext. 2 or [adamik@mainstreetgettysburg.org](mailto:adamik@mainstreetgettysburg.org).