

Greater Bustleton Civic League

January 28, 2025 Monthly Meeting

Next Membership Meeting:

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

***Our Bustleton / 19115 community improves
from your interest in our neighborhood
and your involvement with the GBCL.***

Remember to pick up your 50/50 tickets at Sign-In table.

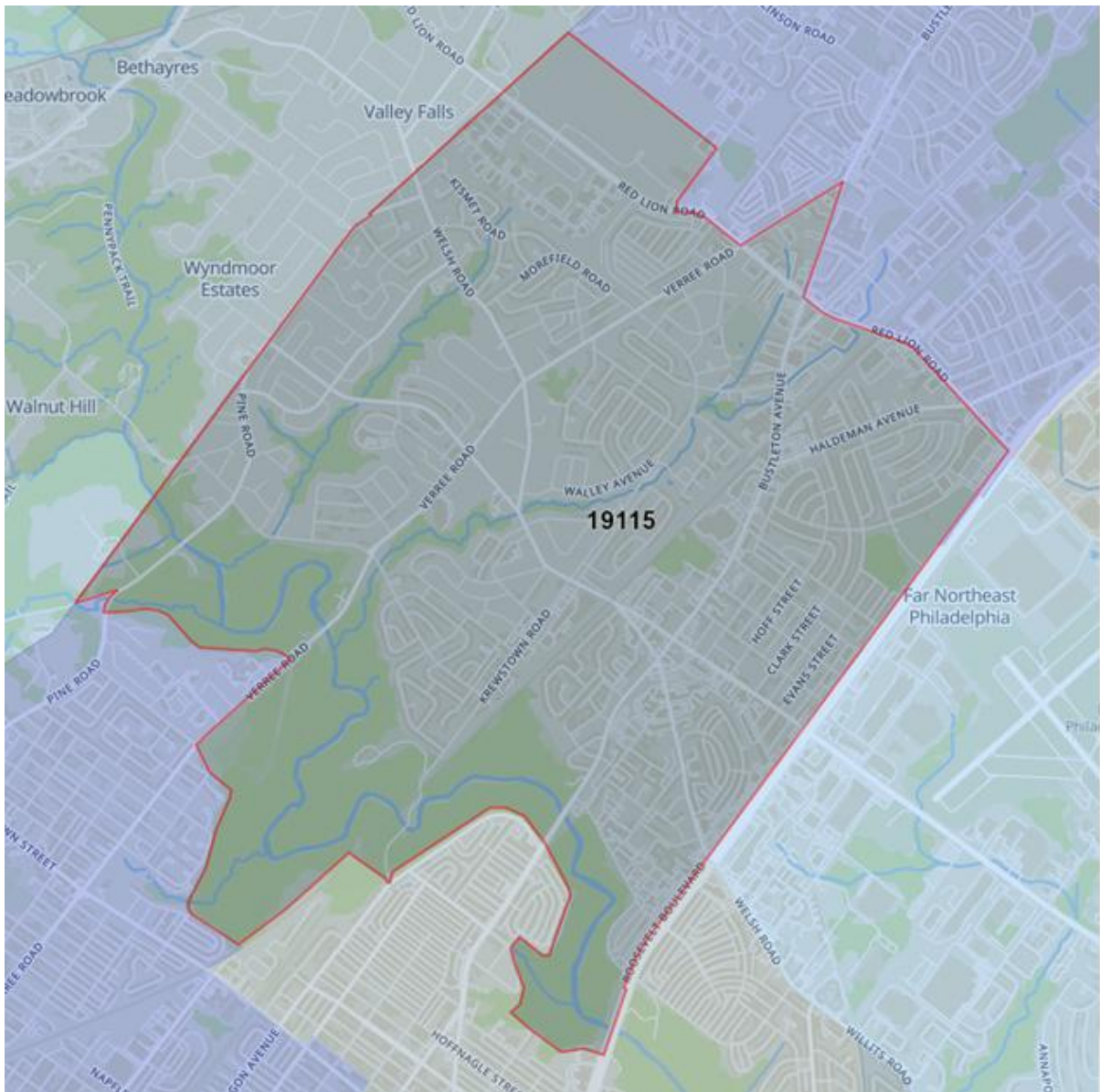


Tonight's Agenda:

- Housekeeping: Welcome our elected officials - Treasurers Report - Time to renew your membership for 2025.
- 7th District Police Reporting
- Community Updates & Public Service Announcement's
- Three (3) presentations. No Zoning.
 1. Pennypack Environmental Center
 2. OTIS, Office Transportation and Infrastructure Systems
 3. Philadelphia Department of Revenue

What is the Greater Bustleton Civic League, GBCL?

- GBCL is an **all-volunteer**, neighborhood organization that works to help keep residents and businesses of **Bustleton / 19115** informed and **involved** in issues affecting our neighborhood.



- The Greater Bustleton Civic League is proud of our 70-year track record of community involvement and will continue to advocate for quality-of-life improvements.
- The GBCL is a non-political, non-religious group. No offices, no salaries, no benefits.
- The GBCL acts as a voice for the Bustleton community and advocates for policies that better the community and protect our quality of life.

Current Executive Board:

- President – Jack O’Hara
 - Vice President – John McKeever - Retired
- Treasurer – Mike Herskovitz
- Chairperson Community Safety Committee - Ellen Dwyer
- Chairperson Zoning Committee – Carl Jadach

Please consider volunteering to help with:

- | | |
|--|--|
| ○ Membership Meetings | ○ Gift baskets for meetings |
| ○ Membership Drive | ○ Author articles / announcements |
| ○ <u>Insurance</u> Fund Drive | ○ Create merchant signs "I support the GBCL" |
| ○ Social Media and Website | ○ Grant writing |
| ○ Create marketing material to leave in stores | |

Housekeeping

- Many thanks to our host, **American Heritage Credit Union** who have been very gracious over the past years.
- **We welcome our elected officials** and their representatives.
- **Treasurers Report** – Mike Herskovitz, Treasurer
 - **Insurance Fund Drive** – Please donate and help in our effort to offset the insurance premium increase due to the **UPS Warehouse developer suing our all-volunteer GBCL**. Directors & Officers insurance went from \$490 per year to **\$6,017 per year**.
 - **PayPal option** is now available.
 - Please consider a **DONATION**.
 - Thank you, **Classic Body Worx**.
 - Friendly Reminder: **Membership renewals** are now due for 2025. GBCL Bylaws: ***“Individuals eligible to vote include residents and their families who live in zip 19115 and were paid members as of the previous meeting.”***
 - Feel free to invite friends & neighbors to attend.

7th Police District

- **Captain - Steven O'Brian**

- Police Officer of the Month: **William Hoppe**

- **Community Relations Officer - Al Fiorentino**

- **If you witness a crime or suspicious activity**, the entire community will benefit when you call 911.
- Consider purchasing a **Faraday pouch**. The pouches block electromagnetic signals help keep cars with keyless entry systems safe.
- Be sure your vehicle is locked before heading to bed.
- Make sure your home and garage doors are locked.
- Avoid **road-rage** exchanges at all costs.
- **PennDOT's [Yellow Dot Safety Program](#)** Placing a **Yellow Dot** decal in your rear window alerts first responders to check your glove compartment for vital information to ensure you receive the correct **medical attention**.

Truck Tractors parked at Residential Properties are increasing and is **illegal**.

Please REPORT violations to the Police, **911**.

- **[CODE 12-1135](#)**- Prohibited Parking or Maintaining of trailers and Truck Tractors at **Residential Properties**.
- **[Tractor Trailer Enforcement](#)**
- **[Tractor Trailer Enforcement Request Page](#)** - Picture is required. \$100 tickets. Multiple tickets boot eligible
- **[Report abandoned vehicle](#)** - 311 site.
- **[License Plate Not Displayed](#)**

Community Updates & Public Service Announcement's

Mayor Parker enjoying her visit to Bustleton.



- **Children's Scholarship Fund Philadelphia (CSFP)** – Great opportunity for Philadelphia families to apply for scholarships to attend private or tuition-based schools, K-8th grade. CSFP scholarships are awarded via **random lottery**, so all students have a fair and equitable chance of winning. Application is open until **March 1**. [APPLY](#)
- **Pine Road Bridge Over Pennypack Creek Reopened** – New pedestrian crossing has curb ramps that follow ADA rules, a sidewalk, bump-outs for slow cars, and flashing lights to make crossing safer and more convenient.
- **PennDOT Project at Philmont Ave., Tomlinson Rd. & Pine Rd. Intersection:** Project info: [LINK](#) How to Navigate PA's Roundabouts: [LINK](#)

- **PSA-2 (Police Service Area-2) Meeting.** – every third Tuesday of the month at AHCU, 7 PM.
- **American Legion Post 810** - 9151 Old Newtown Rd – a private, non-profit organization for veterans and their families. Offers affordable hall rental rates to the public.
- **RECYCLING** – For a guide to what items are recyclable and which are not, see the Streets Dept: [GUIDE](#)
- **Mini City Hall opens at Hayes Playground** – Wednesday, January 29th, 5:30 PM. NCAC (Neighborhood Community Action Centers or "Neighborhood City Halls") Each center will be staffed with a community manager and two organizers. Extra focus on **311 issues**.



- **Disposing of large trash items.** The Department of Sanitation will now handle the pickup of bulk collection items by appointment. Refrigerators, air conditioners, tires and more can be picked up for FREE. You can schedule a pick-up online or call **311**. [ONLINE FORM](#)

- [Bustleton Bengals](#) – Consider making a donation with the purchase of an **Engraved Brick** to memorialize a loved one. The red bricks look great and will be placed in the ground around the outside of the gym.
- [Northeast Philadelphia History Network](#). Local historical presentations on the 1st Wednesday of every month held at [Pennepack Baptist Church](#), 8732 Krewstown, & Zoom.
- **Classic Body Worx** - **10% DISCOUNT to GBCL members** - 9902 Bustleton Ave. DISCOUNT available for all out-of-pocket repairs. If you've used them, consider giving a review on **Google**. [LINK](#). Thank you, **Joe Pellegrini**. [LINK](#)
- **Home Projects**. Check the rules *before* you start your project. Helpful links to [Zoning Code Do's and Don'ts](#):
 1. [SHEDs](#) - [DECKs](#) - [FENCES](#)
- **Pennsylvania 2024 Property Tax/Rent Rebate** **Now OPEN**, 888-222-9190. [Applications](#) for 2024 **due by June 30, 2025**. Based on your income, this program provides a rebate ranging from **\$380 to \$1,000** to older adults and people with disabilities age 18 and older. [LINK](#) to apply. **Eligibility:**
 - 65 and older - Widows and widowers 50 and older
 - People with disabilities 18 and older
 - Household income must be \$45,000 or less annually.
 - [VIDEO](#) on how to apply.

ZONING

- **ZBA hearings are back to meeting in person.** These meetings will be **hybrid**, so appellants, participants, and the public will continue to have the option of attending virtually on Zoom. Zoom [INSTRUCTIONS](#).

February 25, 2025 Zoning Presentations to GBCL:

- 1. 9909 Northeast Blvd.** - ZBA Hearing Date April 23, 2025, 2:00 PM (Meineke Car Care) Personal Vehicle Sales and Rental, within an existing structure.
- 2. 9372 Clark Street** - Hearing date: 3/26/25, 3:30.
Working without permits to replace garage with existing living space; surface off-street parking space is proposed within the required rear yard is prohibited.

Proposed UPS Warehouse – 1 Red Lion Rd.



The proposed UPS warehouse is the most damaging development our community has ever faced and the worst disregard for its impact the GBCL has ever experienced.

The basis for the community's opposition has never been evaluated in court. Our zoning appeal has been dismissed by the ZBA, Philadelphia Common Pleas Court, PA Commonwealth Court, and now waits for a decision with the PA Supreme Court to allow us our "due process". The silence and lack of involvement by our elected officials is insulting to our community.

Our community **OPPOSESES the SIZE** of the massive project and the impact truck traffic will have on our community.

4,798 vehicles will be added to the road **each day**, of which **1,048 of those vehicles will be large tractor-trailers.**

UPS Warehouse Legal Status

GBCL is involved in two (2) ongoing proceedings.

1. Zoning Appeal in PA Court.

- Our Appeal working through the Courts is **not** a determination on the underlying **zoning issues**. Our Appeal is a **request to receive “due process”** and allow us to put on a full case to validate our position, with witnesses, which has yet to happen.

2. UPS developer is Suing the GBCL and its Officers.

- Relteva Complaint: “*GBCL and Sandmeyer have submitted frivolous appeals of both the zoning and building permits lawfully issued to Relteva that have absolutely no legal merit and which were submitted solely for the purpose of delay, harassment and thwarting the development of the Property.*”
- GBCL believes UPS developer lawsuit is without merit and is aggressively defending against it.

What can you do to support your community opposition?

- Share the story everywhere.
- Contact your **elected officials today:**

1st – 10th District City Councilman Brian O’Neill:

brian.oneill@phila.gov 215-686-3422,

215-685-6431 and 215-685-0432

- **NEW State Senator Joe Picozzi:** 215-281-2539
- **NEW State Rep. Sean Dougherty:** 215-331-2600
- **State Representative Martina White:** 215 330-3711
mwhite@pahousegop.com (717) 787-6740, (215)
330-3711, (215) 632-3237.
- **State Representative Nancy Guenst:** 215-259-5962
RepGuenst@pahouse.net
- **UPS Carol Tome,** CEO ctome@ups.com
- **UPS Mark Giuffre,** State Government Affairs,
mgiuffre@ups.com 502-727-7539

PRESENTATIONS this evening:

- **PRESENTATION 1:**

Pennypack Environmental Center - 8600 Verree Rd. [Upcoming Events](#). [Facebook](#). A true Bustleton jewel enjoyed by all ages. Lots of programs throughout the winter. **Stephanie Hoffer Robinson**, Environmental Education Program Specialist.

- **PRESENTATION 2:**

OTIS, Office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems - Andrew Simpson and Yihong Hu

- Blvd Route for Change & Verree Rd traffic upgrades.
- Boulevard Reimagined – [SURVEY](#)
- PENNDot - Verree Road Project [LINK](#)
- Vision Zero Action Plan 2025-2030

- **PRESENTATION 3:**

Philadelphia Department of Revenue - Ian Shumard: Real Estate Tax assistance programs, LOOP and more. Visit the [Philadelphia Tax Center](#) website to pay, file, apply, and more.

Next Membership Meeting:

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

Greater Bustleton Civic League - PO BOX 51523, Philadelphia, PA 19115

<https://gbcl.online/> (215) 676-6890 gbustletoncl@gmail.com