



# Less Than An Hour With ZERO HOUR ARKANSAS

September 23rd - September 30th edition

## DEVELOPMENT IN FAYETTEVILLE

In recent years, Fayetteville has experienced significant changes and population growth, largely due to increased student enrollment at UARK. This growth has led to challenges like gentrification, reduced natural areas, and a housing shortage. The city has held several meetings to address these issues.

The **Mayor's Housing Task Force** was established to explore affordable housing options. Their first meeting, last Wednesday, focused on identifying areas for rezoning to allow for apartments and multi-family complexes, as 54% of Fayetteville is currently zoned for single-family housing.

The **Cultural Arts Corridor**, also known as the Ramble, has had major development in the last few weeks, including adding local species of oak trees to the Civic Plaza off of Dickson St. The Cultural Arts Corridor will consist of 50 acres of outdoor space, linking UARK's Art Building to Dickson Street in hopes of connecting local art together. The addition to the Arkansas Greenway and the West Ave Parking Deck are already done. The Civic Plaza should be done in 6 weeks, providing a large green space for community gatherings.

The **Urban Corridor**, a project to rezone College Ave, was approved last Tuesday. The goal of this project is to allow mixed-use development to occur off of College Avenue, in hopes of increasing affordable housing. Mixed-use zoning reduces our carbon footprint by encouraging pedestrian/bike transportation and preserving natural resources.

**Spout Springs** is Fayetteville's historically black neighborhood, located between LaFayette St to 15th Ave. In the mid-1800s, many people of color were brought to Fayetteville through slavery, making up about 30% of Fayetteville. Around the same time, many former slaves came to Fayetteville to start a new life. Through gentrification and red-lining, the majority of these former slaves lived within a 10-acre radius, creating Spout Springs. Throughout the years, the neighborhood has changed significantly, but some things have stayed the same. The city will start writing a historical context statement about Spout Springs to recognize its importance and educate citizens soon. On Tuesday, many citizens are gathering at St. James United Methodist church to share stories, pictures, etc. to include in the statement.

## SCREENPRINTING PARTY

**OCTOBER 6th**



Stop by between 12pm-5pm at the Library Vintage, off of Township, to screenprint your own ZHA merch. You can bring your own t-shirts, tote bags, etc. or use one provided by us. This event is a collaboration between local screenprinters Colleen Hill and Kayla Smith and the Sustainable Fashion Club.

## A DIFFERENT OUTLOOK

While all of these new developments are working to make Fayetteville a more sustainable city, some issues are still prevalent. Our executive team has been hosting listening sessions at tabling events this semester to determine which issues that affect students. We ask students to share "the most pressing issue in NWA" on paper. Right now, many students include housing to the list. Majority of the developments on the left will not help students in the near future.

Additionally, with these developments, prices in the area have raised dramatically, causing gentrification. Gentrification occurs when wealthy individuals move into a historically low-income neighborhood, changing the characteristics of it, eventually causing others to move out. There is not recent data on demographic changes in Downtown Fayetteville. However, it is important to note that black citizens only make up 6% of Fayetteville compared to the 30% in the mid-1900s who worked, went to school, and lived in Spout Springs.

## SIGN UP FOR THE BUDDY SYSTEM

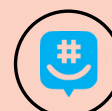
<https://forms.gle/Xs4ZaHuPaX6pj2Xp8>

We are pairing members with similar passions/interests to foster a better sense of community.

## CONNECT WITH US



@zerohourarkansas



bmcandle@uark.edu