



COUNCIL BRIEFS

July 26, 2013 • University City Department Updates

This Council Brief provides information regarding City activities. This document is produced bi-weekly. For more detail please contact the City Manager at (314) 505-8534.

Community Events:

- **2013 Starlight Concert.** All concerts will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 PM on the south side of Heman Park (Midland Blvd/Shafsbury Ave entrance). They are free and open to the public and are sponsored by the University City Municipal Commission on Arts and Letters and the City of University City. Food trucks will also be available. Grab your lawn chair, bottle of wine or other refreshments and come up to enjoy! For more information about the series, visit the Arts and Letters website, www.ucityartsandletters.org, call Concert Chairperson, Melcine Henderson at (314) 863-6333 or contact Centennial Commons at (314) 505-8625. Questions may also be sent by email to ucityartsandletters@gmail.com.
 - July 29, 6:30 – 8:30 PM, *Grand Elite*
 - August 5, 6:30 – 8:30 PM, *Heather Dawn Band*
- **National Night Out/Back to School Rally.** An evening of crime awareness and activities for school-aged children. There will be entertainment, health and wellness information, food and much more!
 - August 6, 5:30 – 8:00 PM @ Brittany Woods Middle School (8126 Groby Rd)

Meetings:

- **Green Practices Commission Meeting**
 - August 8, 6:00 - 7:30 PM @ Heman Park Community Center
- **City Council Meeting Regular Session**
 - August 12, starts at 6:30 @ City Hall (5th Floor)

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Dave Crimson has been promoted to the rank of Assistant Fire Chief. He has provided 25+ years of dedicated service.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Solid Waste Division will be pulling trash carts from Route 1 on Monday, August 5, which represents 141 carts, and Route 5 on Friday, August 9, which represents 43 carts. The Finance Department appreciates all the assistance and help from the Solid Waste Management Team in their efforts to pull the trash carts from the residents.

Finance staff has completed the first round of Shut-Off notices for each route. Staff continues to audit accounts with outstanding balances, tracking collection on delinquent amounts. As of the



middle of July, the approximate amount collected from issuing Shut-Off notices per route, are as follows:

Route	Amount Collected
1	\$27,348
2	\$14,311
3	\$62,012
4	\$58,318
5	\$15,245
Total	\$177,234

PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS

PROJECTS:

- Ferguson Bridge Replacement – Gansner Excavating mobilized to construction in June 2013. Ferguson Ave at the bridge was completely closed as of July 15 and a detour route is in place for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic. AT&T relocation has been completed and existing bridge removal is in progress.
- Jackson Pedestrian Signal Replacement – Bid documents have been advertised for construction with a bid opening scheduled for August 19.
- Heman Park Irrigation Project – Professional Irrigation Systems – completing maintenance and grow in program through July 31.
- Sidewalk and Curb Ramp Upgrades on Etzel Ave, Kingsland Ave, 82nd Blvd and Old Bonhomme Rd (STP-5402 (607)) – contract documents sent to the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) for concurrence with issuance of notice to proceed – preconstruction meeting occurred on July 16. Change Order No. 1 prepared to extend the project time due to delays in the approval process. No monetary changes will be made on this change order. Project work scheduled to start in August 2013.
- Transfer Station Structural Repair – construction substantially completed on July 19, when the topping course was applied to the ramp and deck.
- Fiscal Year 2013 Spring Sidewalk and Curb Replacement Project – Construction by SBC Contracting is in progress. Currently working on Hazelwood Ln.
- Fiscal Year 2013 Concrete Sidewalk and Curb Replacement Project – Construction by R.V. Wagner is in progress on Eastmont Ave and Westmont Ave. The contractor is scheduled to begin work on the 7300 block of Liberty Ave the week of July 29.
- Wellesley Tunnel Paint removal, post-testing, paint and anti-graffiti have been completed and the tunnel is re-opened.
- Bicycle Striping on Canton Ave, Old Bonhomme Rd & Jackson Ave (STP-5402(609)) – Preliminary Design approved by MoDOT and St. Louis County comments are currently being addressed. Final Design scheduled to be submitted to MoDOT for review in early August 2013.
- Olive Blvd/Westgate Ave intersection improvements project (STP- 5402 (611)) - draft of preliminary design presented to the City week of June 10 and changes were proposed to accommodate truck traffic and pedestrians in the area.
- Chamberlain Bridge Replacement (STP-5402(610)) – preliminary design in progress, preliminary plans scheduled to be submitted for review in August 2013.
- Fiscal Year 2013 Spring Asphalt Overlay Project –contract awarded to Gershenson Construction, contract documents executed, preconstruction meeting is scheduled the fourth week of July 29 for a work start pending in August 2013 following sidewalk-curb work



- completion on the programmed streets.
- Wilson Avenue Flood Buyout – Final closeout meeting and site visit occurred on July 17. Final reimbursement should be received by mid-August 2013.
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Street Repaving Project (Hazelwood Ln and Willow Tree Ln), Bids were opened on July 8 and low bid presented by Spencer Contracting, we will proceed with contractor qualifications and award, this project will have to be complete by end of August 2013
- Transportation Engineering Assistance Program (TEAP) – Old Bonhomme Rd, Lafon Pl intersection - MoDOT grant received for traffic study at this intersection to determine effective countermeasures for concerns such as safety and efficient flow of traffic and the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists, program agreement executed. Final design presented to staff and after requested revisions, the intersection traffic control options was submitted for consideration of traffic commission at their July 10 meeting.
- Kaufmann Park Tennis Courts Surface Repair – project awarded. Work began on Wednesday, July 24 and is scheduled to be complete by August 2.
- Municipal Parks Grant Project for Millar Park Improvements – final plans are in development and have been sent to the Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) for review. Plans have also been submitted to Community Development for review.
- Municipal Parks Planning Grant for Lewis Park Master Plan – design in progress. First public meeting occurred at the July 23 Park Commission meeting.
- Sewer Lateral Repair Program – Bids were opened on June 11, the low bidder was Labibco Plumbing and Excavation. City Council approved annual award to Labibco at its June 24 meeting. Contract has been awarded and City and Contractor are working on executing contract documents.
- Parking lot lighting recommendations for Greensfelder Park have been determined and will soon be scheduled for installation through Ameren.
- Fiscal Year 2014 Concrete Curb and Sidewalk Replacement Project – staff currently creating bid documents to be advertised for bids in late July 2013.
- Appleton Bridge Access Sidewalk Replacement Project – Research and preparation currently underway for survey and design bid advertisement.
- Received proposals for evaluating and designing greater electrical capabilities in Heman Park.
- Kingsbury Ave Sidewalk Replacement – awarded to SBC Contracting Co – work to begin in August or September.
- Fiscal Year 2013 Sidewalk Replacement Project – awarded to SBC Contracting Co – work to begin in late July or August.

ENGINEERING/ADMINISTRATION

- Working with MSD in regards to being a co-permittee on the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) as now required by Missouri Department of Natural Resources – co-permittee application submitted on May 10.
- Updating the Right-of-Way Rules and Regulations – city restoration draft standard drawings/specifications are under review, permit issuance process/fee schedule in process of review for integration with MyGov.
- Washington University Loop Student Living Initiative project in Delmar Loop, construction in progress.
- Delmar Loop Area Parking Study - Parking analysis to be performed by CBB-Traffic Engineer. Final draft presented to staff for review.
- Mock roundabout at Trinity Ave-Delmar Blvd for traffic impact observations - County reviewed the proposed implementation. Memo on redesign of the roundabout submitted for comments. Installation of mock roundabout began on July 23 with a planned



completion on July 25 until then the Delmar Blvd/Trinity Ave intersection is planned to be kept closed.

- Sewer Lateral Repair Program has 44 repairs in progress.
- Ongoing reporting, monitoring, and inventorying of street light outages.
- Ongoing review and approval of private development projects on MyGov for building permit issuance.
- Staff is working to streamline the plan review methodology to incorporate MyGov review steps to assure timely permit issuance.
- Staff is working on updates-rewrites of Municipal Code, submitted comments on proposed right-of-way usage code
- Design in progress for improvements to Ackert Walkway/Melville Plaza, for both safety and aesthetics from Kuhlmann Design Group. Requesting funding of Great Rivers Greenway (GRG) only for the safety elements. Staff obtained final design submittal from Kuhlmann Design Group and forwarded information to GRG. The design was also presented to U. City in Bloom at its meeting on July 16 and is subject to further approval from Park Commission and Arts and Letters Commission.
- Staff working on the Delmar Blvd streetscape design guidelines to standardize streetscape design.
- Staff is working on the Street Cleaning Policy to clarify criteria of streets selected for special cleaning.
- Sign policy developed and sign replacement plan underway to meet the Manual Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) retro-reflectivity requirements.
- Staff is working on a detailed five-year plan for Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects.
- Olive Blvd streetscape standards are being updated for approval.
- Army Corps of Engineers Study Flood buy-out – River Des Peres, waiting for response.
- City Staff has begun city wide traffic counts on city-owned streets. Currently working on obtaining up-to-date traffic data processing software from vendor.
- Two engineering interns are working for the department as of July 1.

STREETS

- Continue pot hole patching as needed, and sign replacement.
- Began full scale asphalt base repair operations.
- Crews will be assisting contractor with the mock round about installation at Delmar Blvd and Trinity Ave.
- Residential sweeping will continue throughout the week of July 22.

PARKS

- Continue full scale mowing operations.
- Repaired the Veteran's Memorial Fountain pumping system.
- Completed the painting of the Wellesley Tunnel.
- Continue to provide maintenance needs and equipment for concert series, block parties, and other special events.

FORESTRY

- Tree trimming and removal operations continue.
- Removed downed tree in the River Des Peres behind the Wilson buyout area.

GOLF

- Full scale mowing operations, and weed control continue.
- The fairways were aerated and fertilized.



- Scrub trees and woody plants are being removed in the no mow areas on the course.

SOLID WASTE

- University City received a grant from St. Louis-Jefferson Solid Waste Management District for \$10,000 to implement a recycling education program. Funds will be used to create and mail an informational brochure about solid waste programs to U City residents during fall/winter 2013.
- Solid waste staff continues to inspect and remove trash and recycling containers from shut-off properties in Routes 2, 3 and 4 throughout July.
- All the dumpsters set out in response to flooding in June have been removed.
- The transfer station is currently still under repair; however City trucks can now use the facility during the final phases of the repair work.
- Solid Waste staff will place recycling containers in the 6600, 6800 and 6900 blocks of the Waterman Ave/Pershing Ave and Waterman Ave/Kingsbury Blvd alleys from July 26 to August 5, during the Waterman Ave street construction work.
- Due to illegal dumping, requested a security camera to monitor the Recycling Drop-Off Center. The quote for the camera system has been received and staff is currently working on the installation schedule.

FLEET

- Continued routine maintenance and repair.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES AND FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

Major Development Projects

- New Fire House – Installing systems and exterior work.
- Residences at Delcrest – Interior work.
- Washington University Loop Student Living Initiatives – Installing plumbing, exterior construction on Building 1A
- The District –rehabilitation of residential is ongoing.
- 560 Trinity – Major mechanical upgrades are in process.
- Remodeling at Ginger Asian Bistro in the Loop – Remodel ongoing.
- New restaurant being built between Qdoba and Starbuck’s – in construction for planned Asian Noodle Restaurant.
- Habitat for Humanity Saint Louis Infill Project – Building permits were approved; construction has begun.
- New Walgreens on Delmar/Delcrest – Demolition and grading work ongoing.

Miscellaneous Projects

- 2012 Code Adoption – Ongoing review of property maintenance code items, working on adoption of the swimming pool code, and coordinating changes with the upcoming codification process.
- Housing Court was relocated to Heman Park Community Center. Court is now held at the community center in the evening.
- Staff has requested bids for the exterior painting of Heman Park Pool House. This project was included in the Department’s Fiscal Year 2014 budget request, and the planned project initiation is soon after the 2013 pool season ends.



- Staff has requested bids for interior upgrades to the Heman Park Community Center to accommodate the increased usage by the City Boards and Commissions.
- Waterproof “skid” pads/flooring were installed at Heman Park Pool House.

RECREATION DIVISION

- Heman Pool attendance as of June 22, 2013: 20,970.
- Heman Park Swimming Pool will maintain regular Public Swim hours Noon – 8:00 PM (Weekdays, Weekends and Holidays) until the conclusion of 2013 season (August 19-September 2)
- The next Heman Pool 80th Anniversary raffle is scheduled for Tuesday, July 30.
- Recreation Division staff will participate in the University City School District-University City Police Department ‘National Night Out/Back to School Rally’ event, Tuesday, August 6 from 5:30 - 8:00 PM. We will again distribute free bicycle helmets (provided by St. Louis County Department of Health) to youth ages 18 months to 17.
- The annual “Fitness and Fun” Buffet will kick off the week of August 19. The “Buffet” provides participants a chance to “sample” our new and popular fitness/leisure education classes for FREE before signing up.
- REACH Digital Signage has been activated at Ruth Park Golf Course. This signage provides up to date information about various City related activities.

PLANNING, ZONING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- As indicated in previous Council Briefs, staff has been working with the Loop Special Business District, the East Loop Special Business District and the Skinker/Debaliviere Community Council on the possible establishment of two identical Community Improvement Districts (CIDs) – one in the City of University City and one in the City of St. Louis – and the evaluation of existing special business districts. As requested by City Council on June 24, staff will provide additional information about a CID, possible uses of funds, and more prior to the August 12 City Council meeting.
- The Economic Development Retail Sales Tax Board (EDRST) met on June 13 to consider projects/use of tax funds. The EDRST approved projects and associated budgets, which will be forwarded to City Council in the near future.
- Staff is working with Habitat for Humanity Saint Louis (HFHSTL) for new infill development in the 6500 block of Plymouth Ave. HFHSTL intends to seek property tax abatement from the Land Clearance for Redevelopment Authority (LCRA) in accordance with Missouri State Statutes (RSMo. Sections 99.300 – 99.600 the “LCRA Law”) for the Phase II and Phase III projects for the infill construction. LCRA approved the blight analysis and redevelopment plan. The blight analysis requires a public hearing at the City Council level, which will be scheduled for August 12. Additional information will be forthcoming.
- A Robert’s Rules of Order and Ex-Parte Contacts Workshop has been scheduled for July 30, at 6:30 PM at Heman Park Community Center. All board and commission members, as well as City Council and staff liaisons, have been invited to hear a presentation from Kathryn Forster, City Attorney and Cindy Ormsby, of Crotzer&Ormsby, LLC. Staff is also planning a Board and Commission workshop on ethics, Board roles and responsibilities (including relationship to staff), and the Sunshine Law. Both of these workshops will be repeated on an annual basis so that new and old Board members have a chance to attend.
- The Comprehensive Plan Committee of the Plan Commission will meet on July 25 to discuss the plan update and the next steps for the Draft Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.



- Staff is working with Washington University in St. Louis and the proposed tenants at the new Loop Student Living Initiative on permitting, licensing and other processes. Since portions of retail space are located in two municipalities, staff is coordinating with the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County.
- See table below for upcoming Board and Commission meeting schedule.

Board/Commission Items – August 2013

Board/Commission	Meeting Date	Applicant/Petitioner	Request/Proposal	Location	Ward
City Council	8/12/2013	Forsyth Condo Association	Minor Subdivision - Final Plat for resubdivision of a condo unit into two units	7346 Forsyth Boulevard	1
Historic Preservation Commission	8/15/2013	School District of University City (c/o Karl Scheidt)	Review of proposal to remove clay tile roof on both gymnasiums of University City High School and replace with asphalt shingles	7401 Balson Avenue	2
Plan Commission	TBD	U-Haul (c/o Brad Pickering with Kimley Horn and Associates)	Conditional Use Permit to allow expansion of parking for existing U-Haul location	7290 Olive Boulevard & 1166 Midland Boulevard	2
Plan Commission	TBD	Matt Sturm with Impower K9	Conditional Use Permit to allow dog boarding and dog training facility	8380 Olive Boulevard	3

Upcoming Workshop

Workshop	Date	Location	Topics
Board and Commissioner's Workshop: "Robert's Rules of Order and Ex-Parte Contacts"	7/30/2013	Heman Park Community Center 975 Pennsylvania Avenue	Robert's Rules of Order and Ex-Parte Contacts

LIBRARY

EVENTS

**July 31
2:30 PM** **Computer Classes**
Introduction to Word

Learn Word 2007 basics including how to edit and format your work. Computer classes are free and do not require registration. All classes are designed for beginners and last one hour.

**August 7
2:30 PM** **Getting eBooks from the Library**

Learn how to borrow eBook and audio books from the Library. Bring your e-Reader. No registration required.



**August 8
6:30 PM**

CALOP Film Series

Join us for the inaugural showing in the CALOP Film Series. The Commission on Access and Local Original Programming (CALOP) will be showing *Brick by Change* and *Fortune: The Story of Brick in St. Louis* followed by a Q & A with filmmaker Bill Streeter. Refreshments will be served.

CHILDREN, TEEN, AND FAMILY EVENTS

**July 29
6:30 PM**

Parties

Popcorn & Movie for Summer Readers

Children will munch while watching the movie they vote for. 1st – 3rd grade.
(Invitation Only)

**August 7
4:00 PM**

Summer Events

Dig into Lego

Build and construct with our millions of blocks (Please don't bring your own).
Ages 4+.

