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The City of University City
would like to wish you and
your family a happy and safe
Labor Day holiday!

*Contact Information:***Main Phone: 314.862.6767****ROARS: 314.505.8631**www.ucitymo.org*Follow us:*

@UniversityCity

City of University City

“The Loop is Open”... Don’t Miss Out!

By now, most residents have noticed that trolley construction is well underway. By the time this article reaches your mailbox, the roundabout in front of City Hall and several blocks of tracks on the south side of Delmar Boulevard will be completed. The city recognizes that trolley construction has impacted traffic and, unfortunately, has also impacted businesses in the Delmar Loop. To help encourage foot traffic and patrons to the Delmar Loop, the City, the Loop Special Business District and the Loop Transportation Development District have partnered on a campaign called “The Loop Is Open.”

Throughout trolley construction, residents and visitors to the Loop will be able to enter to win two \$50 gift cards each week, enjoy additional free family-friendly events and receive promotional items. There is ample free



parking in the Loop behind Cicero’s, Starbucks and Fitz’s, easily accessible to residents and accessed

from Kingsland and Leland avenues. Information on weekly gift cards, block parties and more can be found at: visittheloop.com/the-loop-is-open or on the “The Loop is Open!” Facebook event page.

Upcoming Loop events include Style in the Loop (Sept. 25-26), Chalk the Loop (Oct. 3) and Halloween (Oct. 31). More information on holiday events will be featured in the next edition of ROARS. Now is the time to patronize your favorite Loop establishment and support our local business community!

Don’t Miss the Community Resource Fair and Yard Sale

The Community Resource Fair and Yard Sale is back for another great year! Hosted by the City of University City, the fair and yard sale will be held on **Saturday, Sept. 12, from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.** in the Heman Park Pool parking lot. The event is free and open to the public, and includes booths hosted by community organizations and civic groups providing public

information about activities and involvement. Individuals and groups will host their own yard sales.

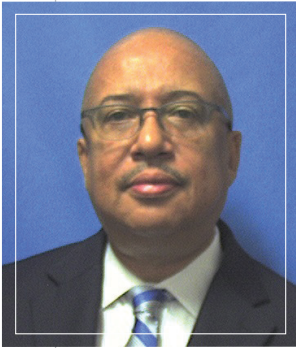
We also have a new addition to the program this year! There will be a free document shredding event provided by The Shred Truck and City of University City. Shredding will be available from **9 a.m. - noon**. For more information, call Centennial Commons at **314.505.8625**.

We Want to Hear from You!

If you have story ideas or would like to share your opinion on this issue of ROARS, let us know by calling **314.505.8631** or emailing ucityroars@ucitymo.org.

City Manager Budget Overview

From City Manager Lehman Walker



City Manager
Lehman Walker
314.505.8534

On June 8, 2015, City Council approved the annual city budget for fiscal year (FY) 2016 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016).

Budget Highlights

- No increase in real estate taxes for either residential or commercial property.
- Partnering with the University City School District and local businesses to fund the Youth Employment Program.
- Hiring a part-time senior

coordinator to provide assistance to the seniors in our community and to develop programs for our senior population with the assistance and input of the Commission on Senior Issues.

- Continuing to fund U City in Bloom for the maintenance of gardens and other beautification projects throughout the city.
- Funding for the Chamber of Commerce to assist with economic development.
- Funding for the annual Fair U City.
- Increasing funds to upgrade aging, city-owned buildings.
- Providing a 2 percent cost of living increase for all full-time city employees.

Budget Influences

The objectives of this budget are to maintain a high level of services with a moderate increase in revenues, and continue to implement the strategies and policies articulated in the city's long-range plans and initiatives. Several factors impact these objectives, including:

- Realistic projection of revenues and expenditures help to ensure that adequate resources will be available to meet budgeted obligations.
- The decline in assessed value of city properties in 2013 and 2014, with no increase in tax rates, has resulted in a decrease in property tax revenues for FY 2015 and 2016.
- The FY 2016 surplus budget will maintain the same level of fund reserves at approximately 55 percent.
- The cost of living increase for all employees is budgeted at 2 percent, which will help retain high-quality employees.
- The costs of employee benefits continue to increase, specifically for medical insurance, workers compensation and pension contributions.
- Major fees, penalties and interest on delinquent bills remain the same as previous years.

Budget Overview

This budget includes projected revenues and expenditures. The total revenues in all funds are estimated at \$33,630,000 and the total expenditures are estimated at \$33,175,000. The FY 2016 budget is anticipated to have a surplus of \$455,000 for all funds.

Economic Outlook

There has been a long period of unprecedented financial instability both regionally and globally. City revenue estimates for sales tax and other economic-related activity continue to be either flat or less than in previous years, which has a significant impact on the budget.

The city still has significant financial challenges ahead in continuing to provide the current quality of city services and significant improvements to the city's infrastructure, which includes streets, curbs and sidewalks.

For more information about our 2016 budget, visit ucitymo.org.

Make a Difference in Your Community!

University City is participating in its fifth Make A Difference Day on **Saturday, Oct. 24**. Make a Difference Day is a national day of service to help improve communities and to promote unity through volunteerism. The City of University City is proud to have been recognized nationally for our Make A Difference Day efforts last year and want this year's event to be even bigger!

Volunteer activities will include invasive species removal along the River Des Peres, community cleanups and alley cleaning, and light maintenance and home improvement projects for senior residents. Volunteers meet at a common location for a morning rally, and then groups disperse to their work sites. Signing up takes less than a minute! Sign up to make a difference by visiting the VolunteerSpot website: vols.pt/6hPpgi.

A Look Back at University City

E.G. Lewis, founder of University City, was a successful magazine publisher. On Sept. 18, 1908, he welcomed America's most famous and controversial newspaper publisher, William Randolph Hearst. Today, Hearst is best known as the (unacknowledged) subject of *Citizen Kane*. It was politics that brought him to University City. After losing a race for mayor of New York, he founded the Independence Party, and in 1908 he was campaigning with its candidate for president, Thomas Higsden.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch said that Lewis took Hearst and his party on a motor tour of western St. Louis and University City. That

evening, Hearst and Higsden spoke at a rally at the Odeon Theatre. Here, they pose on the steps of City Hall, then the headquarters of Lewis's publishing company.

Story provided by the Historical Society of University City



Left to right: Higsden, Mabel Lewis, Millicent Hearst and Lewis.

News From the Commission on Senior Issues

The Commission on Senior Issues is pleased to share that the proposed part-time senior services coordinator position was approved by the City Council. The commission is optimistic that a dedicated city staff person will help to more clearly identify existing resources in the community and help develop other services needed for older adult residents. In addition, the commission is confident that this individual can help develop an age-friendly webpage on the city's website.

In regards to membership, the commission would like to share that a major advocate of the Commission on Senior Issues, Abbe Carter, has moved to Texas to be near her children and grandchildren. Abbe was a long-time U City resident and was very

involved in the planning and execution of the senior survey, which led to the formation of the commission. However, the commission is excited to announce that Elaine Henton, also long-time U City resident, has been appointed to replace Abbe on the commission.

The Commission on Senior Issues meets on the **third Monday of every other month at 6 p.m.** at the Heman Park Community Center and welcomes area residents to the meetings. The commission's goal is to continue to develop ways of communicating with our older adults about services that are available or needed, so we encourage you to get involved and contact the commission at **seniorscommission@ucity.org** or **314.505.8777**.

Holiday Trash and Recycling Schedule

There will be no trash or recycling collection on **Monday, September 7**, in observance of Labor Day. City Hall will also be closed. Trash and recycling will resume on **Tuesday, September 8**.

Monday routes will be collected on Tuesday, 9/8.

Tuesday routes will be collected on Wednesday, 9/9.

Wednesday routes will be collected on Thursday, 9/10.

Thursday routes will be collected on Friday, 9/11.

Friday routes will be collected on Saturday, 9/12.



Visit the Olive Link and Get in the Mix!

This past March, the city partnered with the University City Chamber of Commerce to launch **theolivelink.com**, a new website that promotes Olive Boulevard as the location to “Get in the Mix” – the place to be, now and in the future.

While the website was originally planned as a property database, it has morphed into a great community resource that features many of the unique, locally owned businesses that are already “In the Mix.”

The Featured Business blog currently includes more than 15 profiles on businesses such as Tesla Motors, Lu Lu Seafood, U City Foot Massage and Posh Limousine Service. The website also

features blogs like Art in the Link, and includes an extensive write-up on the new temporary sculpture park near the intersection of Olive and Midland boulevards.

Visit the website to learn about all of the eclectic businesses and exciting activities you can find on Olive Boulevard. Then, venture to Olive Boulevard in person and be a part of this up-and-coming commercial and cultural district!



Developing a Shared Community Vision for Our City

Update on the City's Comprehensive Planning Process

Since the last edition of ROARS, the city's planning consultant, Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee (CPAC) and staff have been working on a draft of the Comprehensive Plan. As a reminder, the Comprehensive Plan Update is a policy document, not an ordinance or law, that helps guide future growth and decisions about land use, infrastructure, parks, community services and economic development.

A draft of the Olive Boulevard Subarea Plan, intended to be one of the sections in the overall plan document, will be reviewed by the CPAC in September. The complete plan draft will follow, for review by the CPAC, as well. After CPAC feedback is incorporated into the draft plan, public meetings and input opportunities will be scheduled.

Data collection and analysis for this project have uncovered several interesting insights about our city. For example, did you know...

- The median age in U City is 38 years old? Our population is younger than the St. Louis County median age. However, it is aging at a slightly quicker pace than the rest of the county (4 percent increase versus 3.5 percent increase between 2010 and 2019). By 2019, the city's population is expected to be roughly the same size as it is today. It is also predicted to be slightly older, wealthier and even more diverse.
- Each day, roughly 13,000 residents commute from U City to a variety of destinations for work? Conversely, nearly 6,800 non-residents commute into U City for work from other areas in the region.

Visit the city's website at ucitymo.org (left column) for the Existing Conditions Report and more information about this project.



University City Public Library Events

All events for adults are free and open to the public. Adult events will take place in the library's auditorium, unless otherwise noted. Reserve copies of discussion books through the online catalog, by calling or in person. Many youth events require advanced registration.

Events and Programs for Adults:

September

- 4 Artist Reception:**
FABRICreations by Annie Scheumbauer; 6-8 p.m.
- 15 Readings in History Book Group:**
Thirteen Days in September by Lawrence Wright; 7 p.m.
- 16 Author Event:** Elizabeth Crouch Zelman, author of *Our Beleaguered Species: Beyond Tribalism*; 7 p.m.
- 19 Health Screening:**
Registration; 9-10:30 a.m.
- 23 UCPL Star Party:** 7:30 p.m.
- 26 Lecture and Trunk Show:**
By Kasey Cowderly
- 27 Artist Reception:**
The Quintessential Quilt 2015, guest speaker Bonnie Hunter
- 30 U City Book Group:** *Citizen: An American Lyric*; 7 p.m.

October

- 17 Health Screening:**
Registration; 9-10:30 a.m.
- 21 Meet Ann Leckie:**
Author meet and greet; 7 p.m.
- 26 Meet Ridley Pearson:**
Author meet and greet; 7 p.m.

Please visit the library's website, ucitylibrary.org, or call **314.727.3150** for the most up-to-date information, weekly story times and additional programs and events.

The library will be closed on **Monday, September 7** in observance of Labor Day.

Events and Programs for Youth:

September

- 3 Celebrate National Working Dog Month:** with CHAMP assistance dogs; 6:30 p.m.
- 10 Teen Spot Gaming:**
Grades 7+; 7-8:30 p.m.
- 17 Movie Matinee:** *Big Hero 6*: Lil's Treehouse; 4 p.m.
- 24 Teen Spot Gaming:**
Grades 7+; 7-8:30 p.m.

October

- 1 Read to a Shelter Dog:**
with CHAMP assistance dogs; 6:30 p.m.
- 7 Treehouse Book Club*:** *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio; Grades 4-6; 7 p.m.
- 8 Teen Spot Gaming:** Grades 7+; 7-8:30 p.m.
- 14 Show Me Reader Book Club*:**
Grades 2-3; 7 p.m.
- 15 Movie Matinee:** *Cinderella*: Lil's Treehouse; 4 p.m.
- 22 Teen Spot Gaming:**
Grades 7+; 7-8:30 p.m.
- 27 Spooktacular Stories & Songs:**
Robert Bernstein and Mrs. W: All ages; 6:30 p.m.

*Registration & \$4 fee required.

Toastmasters International Youth Leadership Program

Toastmasters International, a public speaking organization will host this interactive 8-week course in the arts of communication and leadership. The course is for teenagers in the seventh-twelfth grades. Refreshments will be served. The class will meet on **Wednesdays** from **7-8:30 p.m.** starting **Sept. 9** until **Oct. 28**. Advance registration is required; registration fee for manual and materials is \$4. Visit toastmasters.org to learn more about the organization. Don't miss out on this great opportunity!



Preschool Storytime with Mrs. W

Storytime with Mrs. W reconvenes on Sept. 8! Storytime is free to U City residents and non-residents, but parents and/or caregivers should be U City Library cardholders. Advanced registration is required for each 6-week session.

Rhymes and Movement takes place on Mondays, for babies

ages 12-17 months at 9:45 a.m. and for toddlers ages 18-23 months at 10:30 a.m. Storytime sessions for kids 24-36 months are on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 9:30 a.m., followed by storytime for kids 3-5 years old at 10:30 a.m. Every Tuesday night, Mrs. W hosts a storytime for kids 3-6 years old at 6:30 p.m.

Visit the New and Improved Lewis Park!

In the fall of 2013, the city completed and approved an updated master plan for Lewis Park using planning grants funded by the St. Louis Municipal Parks Grant Commission (MPGC). In early 2014, the city received a construction grant from the MPGC to supplement general revenue funds in order to implement improvements to Lewis Park. We are pleased to say that the following improvements have been made to Lewis Park:



- Dredging the pond and improving water quality
- Installing new rain gardens
- Making improvements to entrances and trails
- Removing existing stairs and installing new stairs from Delmar Boulevard and new park amenities
- Landscaping, including planting trees and creating the colorful, woodland gardens
- Removing dying trees from the hill from Delmar, allowing the hill to be regraded

The newly sloped hill should make for fantastic sledding this winter. Head over to Lewis Park (on the corner of Delmar Boulevard and Yale Avenue) to experience the improvements yourself!

New Businesses



1 At a Time

612 N. McKnight Rd., Unit E
314.236.7914

Answers Corporation

6940 Olive Blvd.
314.721.3782

Barron Family Medicine

8220 Delmar Blvd.
314.933.0446

Bellamie Studio

Luke Andrew Rutan
Stop By

Courage 2 Organize

6253 Delmar Blvd.
314.699.9592

Dollar 99 World Superstore

Clothing Store
314.699.9592

Natural Healing

7010 Pershing Ave.
314.993.4031

Friends of Agape

8146 Olive Blvd.
314.249.0103

Law Office of Linda Brown

900 McKnight Rd., Unit 1D
Stop By

Loop Luxe

8106 Olive Blvd.
314.445.4605

Medivici

8106 Olive Blvd.
314.445.4605

Ruth Heyman

8106 Olive Blvd.
314.445.4605

Jackson Hewitt Tax Services

8106 Olive Blvd.
314.445.4605

News from the Recreation Division

Centennial Commons' "Fitness & Fun" Buffet

The Annual Fall Fitness and Fun Buffet gives you the chance to "sample" our new and popular fitness and leisure education classes for **free** before signing up. The fall buffet will take place the week of **Sept. 14-19**, and will allow you to try the following classes: 6 A.M. Boot Camp, Total Body Conditioning, Slide and Line Dancing, Core Fusion Fitness, Senior Stretcherize, Cardio Kickboxing, Evening Yoga, Intermediate Pilates, Zumba and more. Sign up for the buffet at Centennial Commons.

Ruth Park Golf Course

One of the premier municipal courses in the region, Ruth Park Golf Course is convenient, affordable and well-maintained. Our driving range is open from 7 a.m. to sunset (weather permitting) and offers 25 hitting stations of both mats and grass.

Ruth Park offers individual/group lessons, professional

club fittings and more. Winter rates are available. For more information, call Ruth Park Golf Course at **314.727.4800**, email Doug Castellari at dcastellari@ucitymo.org, or visit ucitymo.org/ruthparkgolfcourse.

Scholarship Program for Residents

Everyone should have the opportunity to improve their quality of life through recreation facilities and programs. That's why the Department of Community Development – Recreation Division offers a recreation scholarship to income-qualified University City residents.

Scholarship applications are accepted year round. For more information on availability and requirements, call Leslie Eutz at **314.505.8617**.

With any questions regarding University City Recreation, contact Centennial Commons at **314.505.8625** or Relay Missouri **800.735.2966** (TDD).

Swimming Doesn't End With Summer

Don't forget that indoor lap swimming is available during the winter months at the University City Natatorium. The Natatorium is located on the University City High School campus, 7420 Shaftesbury Ave., and also offers swimming lessons throughout the year.

Morning Lap Swim Hours:

Monday, Wednesday,
Friday & Saturday:
6 a.m. to 8 a.m.

Tuesday & Thursday:
7 a.m. to 9 a.m.

For more information, contact Centennial Commons, **314.505.8625**, or Relay Missouri, **800.735.2966** (TDD).

U City in Bloom's Annual Bulb Sale in the Loop

Summer is coming to an end, which means it's time to start planning the next growing season and order bulbs from U City in Bloom. The Annual Bulb Sale offers excellent quality bulbs to local home gardeners.

Get the amount, color and unusual variety of bulbs you want and simply pick them up on the day of the bulb sale, Saturday, Oct. 10. All are welcome to browse and purchase on the day of the sale, but preordering ensures that you will get the bulbs you want, whether they are in stock or not. The cutoff date for online preorders is **October 3**.

The annual UCB Bulb Sale event will be on **Saturday, Oct. 10** from **9 a.m. - 2 p.m.** in the Loop. Our tent will be located on the sidewalk on the west side of the St. Louis Bread Co. parking lot, **6630 Delmar Blvd.**

Your purchase of bulbs at the UCB Bulb Sale supports our effort to plant hundreds of new bulbs annually throughout the community flowerbeds. Each spring, the colorful flowering bulbs throughout the city welcome and announce the new season.

To preorder bulbs or to volunteer at the sale, contact U City in Bloom through their website, ucityinbloom.org or call the events line, **314.973.6062**.





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University City Administration

Main Phone:	314.862.6767
City Manager: Lehman Walker	314.505.8534
City Clerk: Joyce Pumm	314.505.8605
Director of Finance: Tina Charumilind	314.505.8547
Director of Community Development: Andrea Riganti	314.505.8516
Director of Public Works/Parks: Richard Wilson	314.505.8566
Police Chief: Charles Adams	314.505.8650
Fire Chief: Adam Long	314.505.8593

University City Councilmembers

Mayor	
Shelley Welsch	314.505.8606
First Ward	
Terry Crow	314.918.0045
Stephen Kraft	314.863.1136
Second Ward	
Paulette Carr	314.727.0919
L. Michael Glickert	314.882.6432
Third Ward	
Rod Jennings	314.480.2221
Arthur Sharpe, Jr.	314.721.5954

City Services

Emergency Hotline	314.505.8550
(Severe Weather, Natural Disaster)	
Finance/Refuse Billing	314.505.8544
Library	314.727.3150
Recreation	314.505.8625
Permits/Inspections	314.505.8500
Public Works/Parks	314.505.8560

Fire and Police Departments

Emergency	911
Fire Department	314.505.8592
Police Department	314.725.2211