

**PARKS COMMISSION
Heman Park Community Center
975 Pennsylvania Ave.**

**Tuesday, September 16, 2025
6:30 p.m.**

Agenda

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. March 18, 2025
2. April 8, 2025 Special Meeting
3. May 20, 2025
4. July 15, 2025

E. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

F. DEPARTMENT REPORT

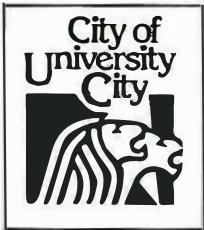
G. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Annual Report
2. Rules & Regulations
3. Budget

I. PARKS REPORTS

1. Flynn Park – Josh Winstral
2. Janet Majerus Park – Josh Winstral
3. Metcalfe Park – Josh Winstral
4. U City Dog Park – Josh Winstral
5. Fogerty Park – John Solodar
6. Greensfelder Park – John Solodar
7. Joseph Adams Park – John Solodar
8. Ruth Park Golf Course – John Solodar
9. Millar Park – Lisa Hummel
10. Rabe Park – Lisa Hummel
11. Ruth Park Woods – Lisa Hummel
12. Lewis Park – Amy Gascon
13. Shelly Welsch Park – Amy Gascon
14. Mooney Park – Amy Gascon
15. Ackert Park/ Greenway South – James Wilke



PARKS COMMISSION
Heman Park Community Center
975 Pennsylvania Ave.

Tuesday, September 16, 2025
6:30 p.m.

16. Heman Park – James Wilke
17. Mona Trail – James Wilke
18. Centennial Commons
19. Heman Park Pool
20. Community Center
21. Eastgate Park
22. Kaufman Park

J. OLD BUSINESS

1. Golf Course Driving Range – five (5) year revenue review and discussion
2. Golf Course Driving Range Renovation – staff update

K. NEW BUSINESS

1. Jack Buck Field in Heman Park - recommendation to utilize open space
2. Heman Park – recommendation to remove and replace parking lot barriers in FY 26/27

L. COMMISSION COMMENTS

M. ADJOURNMENT

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PARK COMMISSION
CITY OF UNIVERSITY CITY, ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI
TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025**

Agenda Item A: Call Meeting to Order

Park Commission President James Wilke called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Agenda Item B: Roll Call

Those in attendance included Commission Members James Wilke, John Solodar, Lisa Hummel, and Josh Winstral. Also in attendance were Director of Parks and Recreation Darin Girdler, Deputy Director of Recreation Services Lynda Euell-Taylor, Deputy Director of Park Maintenance Todd Strubhart, and City Council Liaison Steve McMahon. Those not in attendance included Commission member Amy Gascon.

Agenda Item C: Approval of the Agenda

Commission Member Solodar motioned, and Commission Member Winstral seconded to approve the agenda. The motion was approved with a 4-0 vote.

Agenda Item D: Approval of the Minutes

Approval of the minutes from the January regular meeting as amended, January Special Meeting, and February Regular Meeting as amended. Commission Member Solodar motioned, and Commission Member Hummel seconded to approve the Minutes as presented for the three meetings. All motions were approved with a 4-0 vote.

Agenda Item E: Citizen Comments

Commission President Wilke, a resident, wanted a few answers on the driving range at Ruth Park and would like to know where the city is on the entire project. A discussion was held on the 2023 driving range, and drainage was added. The question was brought up about who was responsible for finishing off the driving range and the practice green. The citizen asked who would be hiring a golf course architect for a design and build. The question was also raised about the revenue lost because the driving range was closed for several years. The discussion was on how useful the driving range was to bring in golfers to University City. A discussion was held on the state of the Driving range, past, present, and who is currently responsible for the driving range.

Comment from Kevin Taylor regarding the Farmers Market and the concept behind Heman Park. Mr. Taylor raised concerns about having the Farmers Market at Heman Park. Mr. Taylor presented an idea of utilizing the old parking lot off Midland and Purdue. He informed the parks commission that they would have 36 parking spaces to use for the Farmers Market. Mr. Taylor recommended that they would have to furnish the electricity, water, and porta-potties. Mr. Taylor raised concern about using the south side of Heman Park do to usage by the citizens. A discussion was held on whether the farmers' market was for-profit or non-profit.

Agenda Item F: Department Report

1. QR Code – one has been made for each park currently, and we can order more as needed. We will order more when we get a final inventory. We will have to make sure each one matches the park as denoted.

2. FY Budget – Budget numbers are in the packets presented to the park commission members. The next meeting will be within a week with the City Manager and the Deputy City Manager. Mr. Girdler stated that we have over 6 million in CIP, which will be shaved back to a list that is a priority list for the next five years. A discussion was held on the budget process and the role of the parks commission for each year. A discussion was held on the updates to outline items and the overall CIP from Previous years, which was slated at 2.0 million for the current FY year.
3. Farmers Market – The city sent information to Ms. Henderson, and her response was as we proposed and recommended to have the Farmers Market at Heman Park (Olive) side. Discussion was held on the move of the Farmers Market to Heman Park and why it was moved from the Delmar Loop Area. Discussion was also held on how much the Farmers Market would be paying for the rent on the city facility. Discussion was held on water, electric, green space, and storage unit. A discussion was held on how much they pay for indoor usage currently. A discussion was held regarding the setup of the farmers' market at the proposed site. A discussion was held on the Midland side and how busy it was during the year on the Midland side. A discussion was held on special usage permits and overall location. Discussion was held on dates and hours for the Farmers' Market
4. Band Pavilion – The city has investigated the possibility of building a band pavilion at Heman Park near the Memorial Fountain, on the Olive Side. The issue is that this is a floodplain, and we would have to have MSD, DNR, and County permitting issues. Parking concerns were discussed. Discussion on pavers was held, and just staying with the portable band shelter.
5. Ready Readers Program – Majeures Park – The post will be an aluminum post versus a wooden post with an angled plaque.

Agenda Item G: Council Report

Council Liaison McMahon reported the following:

- 1) Lawn Bag Stickers will no longer be available to the public; the program is being dissolved. There will be a rate increase in the sanitation throughout the city tied to the price index. Lawn Sticker Buy Back Program
- 2) Federal Funding - FEMA - Flood potential issues, with the current issues in the federal government, we are keeping a close watch on how this may or may not affect the FEMA buyout, and other programs attached to Federal, State, and local dollars. Army Corps of Engineers for the basin to prevent flooding, and recharging stations.
- 3) Seven Brew – Ribbon cutting and grand opening on Olive Blvd in April

Agenda Item H: Commission Members Park Inspection Report

- 1) A discussion was held on the officers' appointments and which commissioner would be assigned which parks for inspections. The full park assignment report will be sent out.
- 2) Millar Park (Lisa Hummel) – Discussion was held on Millar Park East Baseball Field – Construction is currently being done on the renovation. Rabe Park – A New playground will be installed in the fall by a certified playground installer. Ruth Park Woods – clean-up is being done weekly. Trail needs maintenance – hopefully the trail will be taken care of during the summer/fall.

Agenda Item I: Committee Reports –

- 1) Appoint members to different committees – new business for next meeting**

Agenda Item J: Unfinished Business

None

Agenda Item K: New Business

- 1) Election of Officers – James Wilke as Chairman, and Vice Chair- Tabled**
- 2) Grant Request - Heman Park Ideas**

Mr. Strubhart informed the parks commissions of the status of the two current St. Louis County Municipal Parks Grants, and the new grant for Round 25 will be open in June and close in late August. Mr. Strubhart presented two options for the round 25 grant. **Option 1** was to build three new basketball courts west of the current basketball courts, overlay the existing basketball courts with two inches of asphalt, and then construct three pickleball courts and a mini pitch on the old basketball court area. The mini pitch would be funded by the US Soccer Foundation and will be an in-kind donation close to \$40,000, as we would not want the Musco Light system because we would have to run three-phase electricity at the cost of a \$60-70k install price. The ability to offer three new courts would give us the ability to change the overall culture and environment in the park. Heman Park is a Regional Park, and the three proposed options will change the landscape of the park overall for years to come, with the transformation for the betterment of the community. This option with the donation of the mini pitch will only be available this year, as the World Cup play starts in June and the US Soccer Foundation wants the mini pitch built by June 1, 2026. Mr. Strubhart stated this is very doable, and he has been working with Bryne and Jones on conceptual and site plans, along with pricing, to make this project doable and come in on budget if chosen for the round 25 Municipal grant.

Option 2 is to build a new 1.2-million-dollar destination ADA accessible playground, which will be a large stable in the community, driving new users to the park daily. This St. Louis Parks Commission Construction grant, along with a Gametime matching grant, will allow the City of University City to construct a playground for children of all abilities. Mr. Strubhart stated he feels it is in the best interest to build the playground with the Round 26 St. Louis Grants Commission Construction Grant funds, along with Gametime. This will allow the city to get input on the playground and make this playground a true destination playground for the city.

Discussion was held on both projects, and the parks commission decision was to proceed, recommending applying for the St. Louis County Commission Construction Grant Round 25, supporting the idea of three basketballs, three pickleball courts, and one donated mini pitch from the US Soccer Foundation.

Present the support for the project idea to the city council for a vote to apply for the round 25 St. Louis County Parks Commission Construction Grant, with Parks Commission support for the grant idea for the following three basketball courts, three pickleball courts, and one mini pitch at Heman Park for the Municipal Parks Construction Grant round 25.

The following year, the understanding is to construct the 1.2-million-dollar playground right across the street at Heman Park, utilizing the Gametime and Municipal Construction grant round 26.

Agenda Item L: Commission Comments

None

Agenda Item L: Adjournment

Commission Member Hummel made a motion at 8:15 pm, seconded by Commission Member Winstral, to adjourn. The motion was approved with a 4-0 vote.

MINUTES SUBJECT TO PARKS COMMISSION APPROVAL.

DRAFT

Park Commission - Special Meeting
Special Minutes of the Meeting (Farmers Market)
April 8, 2025

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by James Wilke at 6:33

B. ROLL CALL

In attendance: Commission President James Wilke, Commission Members Amy Gascon, Josh Winstral, John Solodar, Lisa Hummel. Also, in attendance were Councilman Steve McMahon, Deputy City Manager - Development Brooke Sharp, Deputy Director of Recreation Lynda Euell-Taylor, and Deputy Director of Parks Maintenance Todd Strubhart.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Lisa motioned to approve the agenda, Amy seconded, and all were in approval.

D. NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Farmer's Market – Heman Park Location – two locations are being assessed; one is near the entrance to Heman Park off Midland, and the other is by the fountain near Centennial Commons. Deb Henderson from the U City Farmers Market presented it to the commission. Per Deb, the Farmers Market can no longer be held at its current location in Delmar Loop. The U City market has been operating in University City for 11 years. U City Farmers Market is a non-profit organization, and they want to help improve the community. Deb Henderson helped develop the ordinances. She also helped develop a Market Crew Handbook to guide high school students in volunteering at the market. The farmers' market serves as a way of building community. Walkability is important, and it has customers who will drive to the market. When first set up in the U City, it had a lot of people from outside the U City, as recently as two years ago, the representation was approximately. 60% of visitors are from U City. Deb wants the location of the market to be as close to Delmar as possible. The site in Heman Park is surrounded by paved paths or gravel pathways, by basketball courts and a playground. The visibility of the market is great in this location, you can see the market from the baseball field, playground, street, etc. The farmers market would get a facility use certificate, which would include a 30-day termination clause. The farmers must be able to back up their vehicles to their space to be able to unload their produce. Deb indicated they are willing to do the market on Wednesday instead of Thursday if Wednesday works better for the park. I would like the market to be able to potentially stay in the new location for years to come.

Brooke indicated funding from the city through EDRST. The city wants to work with the farmers' market as they are a valuable part of the community. Entry and exit into the park are a concern of the city, as traffic will bottleneck at that one point. Heman Park is used for ball games, a pavilion, and a basketball court, where people tend to be stationary for a few hours. The concern is that the market will bring too much traffic in and out. Centennial Commons as two points of entry into and out of the parking lot to help prevent congestion. In Heman Park, there is a concern about potential accidents. In the Centennial Commons parking lot, the city would reserve parking spots for the market. The parking lot at Centennial Commons is a paved lot versus the gravel pathway. Both locations have activities scheduled. At Centennial Commons, the events are inside and away from the market. At Heman Park, there

are other outside activities, a kickball could come into the market. Bookings at Heman Park can start as early as 8 am, so there could be an overlap. There could be increased visibility of the market as seen off Olive and people utilizing Centennial Commons. The city staff cannot recommend the use of Heman Park for the farmers market and would recommend the use of the parking lot at Centennial Commons.

Todd Strubhart expressed concern about using Heman Park due to future construction in 2026 and 2027.

Lisa Hummel asked Deb Henderson what her concern is with the Centennial Commons location. Deb explained that it's slightly uphill from the parking lot to the fountain, and it is not paved. The Heman Park site has more power outlets, and there is a water spicket.

The pool is open for lap swims each morning, 7-9 am, then opens again for the day at noon.

Brooke indicated the funding of EDRST is more likely to be able to be kept if the market is on Olive, but likely not in Heman Park.

Todd Strubhart asked how many vendors are at the market: 30 vendors for the market, but typically only have 20 vendors at a market.

John recommended approving the use of the Centennial Commons site for the farmers market, Lisa seconded, all in favor. James asked the city to accommodate the farmers' market team to make this space work for them.

Deb asked about leaving a storage pod at the market location.

Lisa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:33, and John seconded, all in favor.



**PARKS COMMISSION
Heman Park Community Center
975 Pennsylvania Ave.**

**Tuesday, July 15, 2025
6:30 p.m.**

Meeting Minutes (Draft)

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by James Wilke at 6:30.

B. ROLL CALL

In attendance: Commission President James Wilke, Commission Members Amy Gascon, Josh Winstral, John Solodar, Lisa Hummel. Also, in attendance was Councilman Steve McMahon, Deputy Director of Parks Maintenance Todd Strubhart, Deputy Director of Recreation Lynda Euell-Taylor, Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry Darin Girdler.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – motion to move Disc Golf to after citizen participation, Lisa motioned, Amy approved with the change to the agenda, all in favor

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1) June 17, 2025 – John motioned, Lisa seconded, all in favor

E. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Kevin Taylor stated that the parks commissions need to allow citizens to speak on all topics on the agenda. Kevin stated that the commission is comprised of all white people and the commission should have representation from the black community. Greensfelder Park is a neighborhood park and located in a black community. As a citizen, Kevin, never saw the disc golf materials in the packet. If the park is used for disc golf then it can't be rented out for football practice or other sports.

Millar Park – are there any documents online that show what Millar Park West park should look like, has the commission seen any pictures of what it is supposed to look like. Are the dugouts going to be covered? Is there a fence between baseball field and park? The commission should be the stop gate to review things before they go to council.

F. DEPARTMENT REPORT

- 1) Recommendations to Council – August 11th, 2025 – New Grants – Heman Park Basketball Court, Mini Pitch, Pickleball and then the Dog Park in Heman Park/Old Jack Buck field
- 2) Grant Close Outs – Millar Park & Splash Pad – Splash Pad will be completed soon, the punch list was completed recently, there is one item left. Millar Park everything is done, except the dugouts, and grass needs to be put down. There are some items left to be done but they are outside of the fence that will be completed by the current contractors. Grass has started to root properly. Final renderings of the project were signed off by the 4th floor of City Hall. The dugouts didn't have roofs on them in the original renderings. The stands are out by the field now. There is space set up for batting cages but they are not being installed now, will wait to see the usage of the park before adding the batting cages.
- 3) Driving Range Update – City Manager and Deputy City Manager and Developer of the Target project are scheduled to meet to discuss project management, suggesting hiring a project manager to get the driving range project completed
- 4) Heman Park Improvements – the fence was repaired on old Jack Buck field
- 5) Budget – FY2027 – will start in January 2026

- 6) Urban Forestry Commission is looking to present to the Parks Commission about a Communication subcommittee with regards to communicating to the public and coordinating content. James and John volunteered to attend the subcommittee meeting.

G. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

City Manager is working with surrounding communities about consolidating services, currently looking at fire services. Circle K at Hanley and Olive is in discussions of moving across the street, that had gone silent for a little while but is now back in discussion Steve reported that a summer camp participant was very happy and loving camp. Only had 18 participants this year in summer camp.

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- I. Annual Report– None
- J. Rules & Regulations – None
- K. Budget – None

L. PARKS REPORTS

1. Ruth Park Woods – Looking good, the last log that was causing issues has been cut. There is some art work in Ruth Park Woods that is starting to fall down and some of the nature walk signs are falling over; either need to clean up or take out.
2. Rabe Park – there is a small tree that is falling over, will likely need to be replaced
3. Millar Park – lots of progress on the baseball field, there is a fence between the baseball field on the west and the playground, water fountain was fixed. Didn't see any issues or problems
4. Fogerty Park – Water fountain may be leaking
5. Greensfelder – Dead tree and stump that needs to be removed
6. Dog Park – Looks great
7. Flynn Park – Looks great
8. Heman Park – RBI tournament at Field 6 and Jack Buck this weekend. The biggest complaint that James receives is the wooden posts/marks of ending parking/starting park, they are rotten and dangerous. They need to be removed, and a new solution needs to be installed.
9. Adams Park – Good shape
10. Lewis Park – 2 fountains are broken, and stone surrounding pond needs repairs

M. OLD BUSINESS

- 1) Golf – Financial Information from Annual Audits – Amy reviewed the financials and shared with the commission that the cash and investment balances for the golf course have been steadily increasing since 2020, with the balance growing from \$500k to \$1.5 million at the end of June 2024. She proceeded to ask questions about why the Parks Department is being told there aren't sufficient funds to repair the driving range and has the city considered using some of the accumulating cash balance to pay for a portion of the repairs. No answer was provided.

N. NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Presentation by Forestry Commission – Communication Committee (pending receipt of info)
- 2) Disc Golf Presentation – David McCormack from Gateway Disc Sports presented about a disc course golf course. There are currently 70-to-90-disc golf courses in St Louis area. A good park for disc golf is a park with not a lot of other stuff going on. Greensfelder Park is a great park for disc golf. The course would utilize some of the trees to improve the course experience, to add some challenge to the course. This would be a smaller course would appeal to families. There are options to keep the cost down, used baskets, or less elaborate kiosk signs, explaining how disc golf works. Or you could raise funds through tee box sponsorships. There is a U Disc app that shows where all the disc golf courses and the Greensfelder Park would be listed in the app. Concerns were raised about the amount of parking needed and David explained that about 1.5 cars for foursome. David offered to set up a temporary course for a

weekend to see if there is traction/desire for disc golf in the community. It would take David a few days to get the course up and running. Need to talk to the church and neighbors about the idea of a disc golf course. There was a discussion of how many people would play and how this might impact the parking lot. The estimated total of 15,000 round per year comes to about 40 per day which would not impact the parking lot very much. However, if weekend tournaments were to be held, then things might get congested in the parking lot. In addition, we might need to close play on Sunday mornings if it would cause parking problems for the church.

- 3) Parks Mater Plan – Other departments hire consultants to do this work. There is a Park Master plan but it is old, from 2014, so it should be reviewed and potentially updated. If a consultant was hired, it won't be in FY26 because funds are allotted in that budget.
- 4) Moving the city yard sale to Heman Park (by concert venue), second Saturday in September, as it was located in the parking lot where the farmers market is located.
- 5) Shakespeare in the park reached out to the city about hosting an event in the park. It will be August 31st if the city approves the event.
- 6) Back to school event will be held in Centennial Commons parking lot on August 5th

O. COMMISSION COMMENTS

P. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 by Amy, seconded by John, all in favor



**PARKS COMMISSION
Heman Park Community Center
975 Pennsylvania Ave.**

**Tuesday, May 20, 2025
6:30 p.m.**

Minutes of the Meeting

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by James Wilke at 6:34

B. ROLL CALL

In attendance: Commission President James Wilke, Commission Member Amy Gascon, Josh Winstral, John Solodar, Lisa Hummel. Also, in attendance was Councilman Steve McManon, Deputy Director of Parks Maintenance Todd Strubhart, Deputy Director of Recreation Lynda Feller Taylor, Deputy City Manager – Development, Brooke Sharp.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Lisa motioned to add Park Reports and move the Farmers Market up in the agenda to once Brooke arrived and Amy seconded, all in favor. Lisa motioned to approve the amended agenda, John seconded, all in favor.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1) April 15, 2025 Meeting – Amy motioned to approve, Josh seconded, all in favor
- 2) April 8, 2025 Special Meeting – Amy motioned to add the date and location of the meeting to the minutes, Josh seconded, all in favor

E. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - none

F. DEPARTMENT REPORT

- 1) Splash Pad – 3200 sq ft splash pad, it's up and running. It's a recirculation tank, which is more environmentally friendly.
- 2) Golf Course Revenue & Licenses for five (5) years – tabling this topic until the next meeting
- 3) Millar Park Baseball Field improvement progress – still at 50% completion due to all the rain that has been happening. Once we get dry weather, they will put the fence posts in and get the backstop up, then irrigation and rock, then turf. Infield turf is in and the drainage system is in. The dirt used in the in field is used by the MLB so it should drain very well as compared to the Jack Buck field.

G. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Last week Steve got a tour of the new police facilities, it looks nice. The ceiling still needs to go in but the windows and the things they've found look nice, restoring the property. It should be wrapped up in the near future. Dierbergs is ground breaking May 29th. Steve thanked the staff for getting the pool pump fixed so the pool can open for Memorial Day weekend.

H. COMMISSION MEMBERS PARK INSPECTIONS REPORT

Ruth Park Woods – lots of tornado damage to trees, due to down trees right now park is essentially unusable because the entry is blocked, two of art installations (wooden) are down on the ground due from storm Kaufmann Park – Red sculpture the sign for it is on the ground, large drop off from walkway to ground for the walkway around park

Millar Park – large drop off from walkway to ground for the walkway around park, Lisa was happy to report there was soap in the bathroom, no waste basket in the women's bathroom.

Rabe Park – Vehicle tracks in the park about a week ago, might have been from a city vehicle driving in park when it was too wet

Fogerty Park – One of the lights (northeast corner) is on all the time, the eastern side of path has a down tree, two low spots of path is accumulating water

Greensfelder – The big tree that John reported as an issue last month has been addressed. The parking lot is a mess and per Booke, the city is fixing their portion of the parking lot.

Heman Park – James sent a note about baseball fields that needed addressing before the seasons and it seems they have been addressed

Adams Park – No big trees down there, it looks good. One tree at far end of park has some dead limbs towards the bottom that John requested to be trimmed

Dog Park – where the plastic pools are there is a ditch that water pools in, could it be flattened

Flynn Park – looks great, there was a couch in the middle of the field a week or so ago, but it has been removed

Lewis Park – 2 fountains are broken, need mulch, slide has a crack on it, limbs down from storm last Friday, water issues/flooding of neighbor's house

Mooney Park – looks great

Shelly Welsch Park – looks great

I. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1) Annual Report– None
- 2) Rules & Regulations – None
- 3) Budget – None

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

K. NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Tire Grant for pour in place playground at Metcalfe Park - Please let me know your thoughts on the opportunity for the city to obtain a possible \$15,000 no-match grant. The deadline is June 15, 2025. – planning to do crushed rock and then put the crushed tire over. John made a motion to approve applying for the grant and John, seconded and 3 in favor.
- 2) Block Party Packages – Looking to implement a fee for block party packages. The staff looked at the fees for renting a pavilion as the block party is essentially a portable pavilion. Staff is proposing a fee of \$50/block party and a deposit of \$50. The staff is wanting to no longer provide benches at block parties. Lisa expressed a concern that the city didn't and hasn't asked individuals to take the benches and put them into a yard/out of sight. The staff suggested tabling the topic so they can do some more research on the topic.
- 3) Farmers Market
 - a. Establish Rental Fee - The first item to be considered is establishing a rental fee for use of the parking lot and green space at Centennial Commons. Staff is recommending the fee be set to mirror the rental fees for use of the picnic pavilions at our parks. John made a motion to approve the follow the recommendation from staff, Amy seconded and James in favor. The recommendation was approved, with 3 in favor and 2 opposed.
 - b. Farmers Market Request for Fee Waiver – The second item is the Farmers Market's request to waive rental fees for their organization. Staff is recommending that the request to waive the fees be denied. John commented that while this is a non-profit, the farmers are for profit so it would be appropriate to charge a fee. Lisa expressed concern that this seems like a bait and switch, the city suggested the move and now are suddenly trying to charge the market for the use of space. Amy inquired about repeat usage of space and if a discount is ever applied and Lynda indicated that discounts for multiple usage doesn't exist. Steve McMahon expressed a concern that the Parks Department probably needs to establish a policy for fee waivers. Deborah Henderson spoke to the Commission about how it would impact the non-profit if they had to pay the rental fee. Deb indicated that they could afford to pay the city \$200/month. The Midwest Association of Farmers Markets has already used their reserve to pay for the space they used over the winter and they have already established contracts with the

farmers/vendors so they couldn't charge the farmers to attend the market. Amy made a motion to have the farmers market pay \$200/month, when the funding from EDRST becomes available on July 1st the fee can be raised to \$100/use under the assumption the funder will cover the increased cost, if the funder won't increase the funding then the fee will stay at \$200/month until the end of this market season.

- 4) Newest proposed City Budget – Todd doesn't have the budget with him tonight for the meeting. The proposed budget is on the website for viewing. The budget will be approved by City Council on June 23rd, if there are comments on the budget, they should be communicated to the Council as the staff is done making changes to the budget.

L. COMMISSION COMMENTS

M. ADJOURNMENT

Motioned to adjourned was Lisa and John seconded at 8:04.

DRAFT



Department of Parks, Recreation and Public Area Maintenance
6801 Delmar Boulevard, University City, Missouri 63130, Phone: (314) 862-6767

INTERIM DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR
MONTHLY PARKS COMMISSION REPORT

INTRODUCTION:

Hello Park Commissioners. My name is Jim Krischke, and I have been appointed as Interim Director overseeing the Department of Parks, Recreation and Public Area Maintenance. My first day was Tuesday September 9th.

A little about me, I have over 30 years of municipal management experience in Missouri and Illinois. My primary background is in city/village administration and in those roles, I have developed solid experience in all facets of municipal operations, including parks, recreation and maintenance. I look forward to meeting everyone in person and working with everyone on all matters related to our parks, recreation and maintenance systems.

OPENING COMMENTS:

As a matter of practice, I try to provide as much information as possible to board commission members prior to a regularly scheduled commission meeting. My purpose is two-fold; First, to provide timely updates to matters that are on an agenda and/or to items that will be on an upcoming agenda. Second, to help streamline the agenda, and the discussion, of matters that require timely attention by the board. Additionally, I believe in creating a cohesive working environment where the commission works with staff and city leadership to approve and implement the plans of the city. I look forward to working with everyone!

GOLF DRIVING RANGE:

Revenue - This item is on your agenda for discussion. The requested driving range revenue report has been attached to the agenda packet for your review. It shows revenue dating back to the 2020/21 fiscal year. Todd and/or Lynda can provide more information as it relates to the sources of revenue and the year-over-year variations that occurred.

Renovation - Additionally, I attended a kick-off (pre-design) meeting on Friday September 12th between Navigate and the City to discuss the overall scope of the driving range renovation project. In that meeting we discussed a proposed overall timeline for the project but most importantly, we discussed the initial step of issuing an RFQ for site design and engineering of the project area. This is an important first step for the city. The RFQ will need to be approved by the city manager's office and then be placed on an upcoming city council agenda for approval. Additional information, as it becomes available, will be shared with the commission. This project will require significant review by the city managers prior to this project moving forward.

HEMAN PARK – JACK BUCK FIELD:

This item is on your agenda for discussion and recommendation. For context, the outfield and the old outfield fencing of the Jack Buck field are in a floodway/land conservation area (see attached map). The 'newly revised' Jack Buck field has been redesigned for use as a youth baseball/softball field. The discussion as to what to do with the existing 'open space' (the prior fenced outfield), is up for consideration.

To my understanding there have been two (2) options discussed. The first option would be to convert the open space to use as soccer fields, and the second option would be to convert the open space to a dog walk area. In either situation the existing "old" outfield fencing would be retained. What is also important to recognize, removing the "old" outfield fencing, if desired, would create safety/security issues along the frontage of the River Des Peres as well as violate certain FEMA/SEMA regulations.

With regards to the use of open space and the two (2) options that have been discussed, staff have thoroughly reviewed the matter and believe that the open space would be best utilized as youth soccer fields. In support of that option, the open space area will accommodate two (2) U14 soccer fields – maximizing the open space area. Furthermore, those type fields are in demand by many organizations, including the city sponsored programs.

The idea of a dog park/walk area was also evaluated and discussed. Staff believes that the open space would be underutilized, and any additional dog park areas would only further diminish the use of the existing dog park. Moreover, when comparing the needs for that area, soccer versus dog park, it was determined that youth soccer had more need and was the best use of open space.

Therefore, staff recommend the open space remain fully fenced and the area converted to soccer fields.

HEMAN PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS:

This item is on your agenda for discussion and recommendation. The parking lot barriers at Heman Park consist of old wooden telephone poles placed horizontally and held in place by wooden posts. These poles have been in place for many years, and they are well on their way to being fully deteriorated. Staff believes that they should all be removed and then replaced with a decorative boulder/stone (see attached visual) system. In addition to providing the necessary parking lot barriers, these new parking boulders are decorative and visually appealing. Additionally, they are sturdy and durable and will last many years with minimal need for repair or replacement. Estimates to remove the old wooden telephone poles, dispose of the poles and replacement using the decorative boulders will be around \$50,000.

Staff is seeking a Park Commission recommendation to seek proposals for the replacement project and to seek budgetary approval for fiscal year 2026/2027.

GRANT/PROJECT UPDATES:

A grant application has been submitted to the St Louis County Municipal League for improvements to Heman Park. The requested grant is in the amount of \$575,000. Grant applications to St Louis County Municipal League are many and total more than \$10.0 million dollars. All grant applications will be reviewed by their committee by September 22, and awards will be awarded in late October or early November. If awarded, these funds, along with city budgeted funds and a donation from the US Soccer Foundation will be used to create three (3) pickleball courts, three (3) basketball courts, and one (1) soccer mini pitch field.

NEW PLAYGROUNDS:

New playgrounds at Metcalfe and Rabe Park will be installed this fall. New playgrounds for each park have been purchased and delivered to the city. Contractors have been secured for installation. Completion of the project will be prior to December 31, 2025.

FISCAL YEAR REPORT
GOLF COURSE ATTENDANCE/REVENUE

Driving Range Revenue	20-21 Fiscal Year	21-22 Fiscal Year	22-23 Fiscal Year	23-24 Fiscal Year	24-25 Fiscal Year*
Shack-Range Sales	\$196,676.00	\$162,853.65	\$114,163.52	\$246,267.01	\$26,646.00
Small Range Bucket	\$4,798.00	\$4,787.00	\$5,051.00	\$8,880.00	\$918.00
Medium Range Bucket	\$6,577.00	\$5,439.00	\$5,370.00	\$10,014.00	\$850.00
Large Range Bucket	\$7,516.00	\$6,758.50	\$5,728.20	\$9,282.00	\$669.20
E-Range Key	\$46.00	\$35.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
E-Range Key Pack 1	\$6,706.00	\$7,768.00	\$4,463.00	\$7,587.00	\$349.00
E-Range Key Pack 2	\$9,225.00	\$8,675.00	\$4,950.00	\$9,915.00	\$825.00
E-Range Key Pack 3	\$22,724.30	\$22,294.00	\$11,786.00	\$32,088.00	\$2,900.00
Total Range	\$254,268.30	\$218,610.15	\$151,511.72	\$324,033.01	\$33,157.20

**total: 7.1.24 - 7.28.24*

RecTrac Range Descriptions

Shack Range Sales

-All sales entered into RecTrac under "shack range sales" are directly from the credit cards used at the range machine to buy buckets of balls.

Small, Medium, Large Bucket Sales

-These sales are from the pro shop. All sales are from pin codes sold in the pro shop to be redeemed at the range machine.

E-Range Key

-The Key sales are from the preloaded range cards that are sold in the pro shop. You can purchase them to preload them with \$50, \$75, or \$100 to receive a discount at the range machine when purchasing balls. Range cards cost \$9 each.

E-Range Key Pack 1, 2 and 3

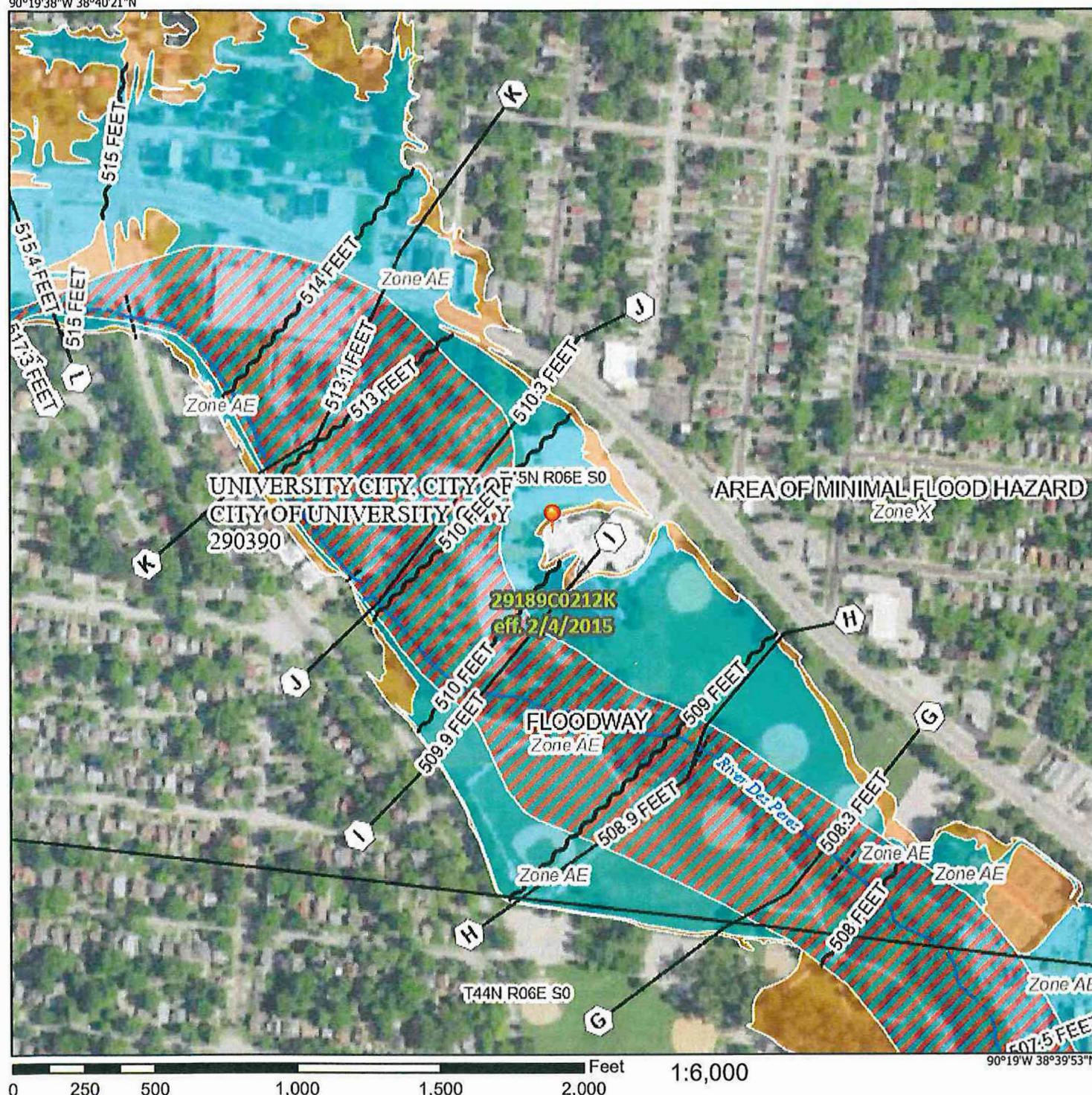
-These sales are loaded onto the range cards. They come in increments of 50, 75 or 100 dollars.

National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette



Legend

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT



**SPECIAL FLOOD
HAZARD AREAS**

**Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE)
Zone A, V, A99**
With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, A
Regulatory Floodway

10 of 10

0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Area of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage

OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD

Area with Flood Risk due to Levee zone

OTHER AREAS

Effective LOMRs

GENERAL STRUCTURES

- Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
- Levee, Dike, or Floodwall

THE BOSTONIAN

2 Gross Sections with 1% Annual Chance

10 of 10

- 2 Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance
- 1 Water Surface Elevation
- Coastal Transect
- ~ Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
- Limit of Study
- Jurisdiction Boundary
- Coastal Transect Baseline
- Profile Baseline
- Hydrographic Feature

MAP PANELS

Digital Data Available
No Digital Data Available
Unmapped

The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.

This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards.

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on 9/12/2025 at 3:53 PM and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map Image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: base map Imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map Images for unmapped and unmodernized areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.

