



# July 2011

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF UNIVERSITY CITY

UNIVERSITY CITY NEWS

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## University City News-July Edition

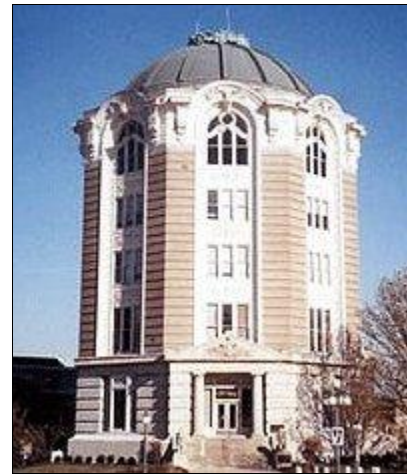
Welcome to another edition of *University City News*. Included in this edition is an overview of the plan and procedures regarding the City's street maintenance program.

There are quite a few events taking place in the City over the next few weeks. On August 2, 2011, a National Night Out Against Crime event will be held at Heman Park, at 7210 Olive. Food, entertainment, and safety information will be available. For more information contact the University City Police Department

On August 3, 2011, a "Youth in the Loop" forum will be held. This forum will address youth issues specific to University City. Additional information is available in this newsletter. The goal is to have a conversation about the issues

and perceptions regarding youth in University City. Please take some time out of your schedule to attend the meeting.

For comments, suggestions, etc regarding the newsletter, city website, or meeting recordings please contact [bdrake@ucitymo.org](mailto:bdrake@ucitymo.org).



## Domestic Partnership Registry

The registry is open to all unmarried couples that wish to declare a Domestic Partnership. The registry is open to homosexual **and** heterosexual couples. You **do not** need to be a University City resident to declare a Domestic Partnership in University City.

If you are interested in declaring a Domestic Partnership, please visit the City's homepage. Then click on the link for "Domestic Partnership". For additional information, please contact the City Clerk at: 314-505-8605 or via email at [jpumm@ucitymo.org](mailto:jpumm@ucitymo.org).

### Highlights of this issue:

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Main Phone Number	314-862-6767
Community Center Reservations	314-505-8617
City Clerk	314-505-8605

City Website: [ucitymo.org](http://ucitymo.org)



## The Mayor's Communiqué

Summertime....and the living is easy, and fun in the great City of University City. I hope you are taking advantage of all the great stuff that's happening in our hometown.

### Cool off in a cool pool

Have you been to the pool? University City has one of the largest, and certainly the most beautiful, pools in the St. Louis region. If you are not already a member, or if you have not yet gone to the pool, check it out at <http://www.ucitymo.org/index.aspx?NID=101>. A great way to stay cool, while visiting with your neighbors.

### Outdoor FREE movies are coming!

Plan to visit Heman Park on Wednesday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at about 8:30 p.m. for the first Movies in the Park film. We will be showing *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. The Jackson Park Elementary School PTO will be selling concessions. We have received great support from some members of the local business community who are helping to underwrite the effort.

The second film, that has not yet been selected, will be shown on Wednesday, August 31<sup>st</sup> at Fogerty Park. The Barbara Jordan Elementary School PTO will be selling concessions at that film. If you would like to submit suggestions for the August 31<sup>st</sup> movie let me know at [mayor@ucitymo.org](mailto:mayor@ucitymo.org) or 314-505-8606.

A very big thank-you to U City resident Wilmetta Tolliver-Diallo who came to me early in June and asked if I would be willing to work with her to organize these films. Ms. Tolliver-Diallo linked me up with Frontyard Features, which is providing their services at cost for the benefit of the people of University City, especially our younger residents. I thank Ms. Tolliver-Diallo and Frontyard Features for their support.

### 2011 U City Jazz Festival, Saturday, September 24, Heman Park (Midland/Shaftesbury)

The City of University City presents the first U-City Jazz Festival in Heman Park on Saturday, September 24, 2011 from 11 am - 7 pm. Local and national renowned artists perform free concerts featuring Jeanne Trevor & Friends (Christopher Braig), Michael Silverman's Classical Jazz Quartet, a John Coltrane Tribute with Maurice Carnes' Hip Jazz Quintet (Ptah Williams), Clave Sol Latin Jazz, U City's Young Lion All-Stars (Jazz Education Initiative winners), and an educational clinic by Washington University. The event is the brain child of UCHS graduates Mike and Rob Silverman. Visit [www.ucityjazzfestival.com](http://www.ucityjazzfestival.com) for information.

### Regional Initiative on Youth

On Tuesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, I hosted the first meeting of a Regional Initiative on Youth. I invited people from throughout the St. Louis region to attend this meeting – the first in what I hope will be a months-long effort to develop a regional approach to providing additional recreational and other opportunities for young people from throughout the St. Louis region. About 100 people attended the forum, including other mayors, representatives from Saint Louis and Saint Louis County, churches and non-profit organizations, as well as some young people. If you would like to be involved in this effort please let me know at [mayor@ucitymo.org](mailto:mayor@ucitymo.org) or 314-505-8686.

### Fair UCity 2012!

Volunteers are already starting to work on Fair UCity 2012 which will be held on Memorial Day weekend. We are looking for volunteers to help in all aspects of the Fair. This year we had an estimated 8-10,000 visitors over the two days of the Fair, and next year will be even better! Be a part



## The Mayor's Communiqué Continued...

of building a great community event and tradition.

The Executive Director of this Fair UCity2012 will be U City High School graduate Gary Boyd, a professional meeting and event planner, who is volunteering his time because of his great love for U City! Want to help? Let me know at [mayor@ucitymo.org](mailto:mayor@ucitymo.org) or 314-505-8606.

### We want your input!

The Mayor's Task Force on Seniors & Youth is working hard to get their youth and senior surveys out to people throughout University City. The youth survey is designed to be completed by people up to age 25. The senior survey is designed for seniors and for their caretakers – at whatever level. Please complete the surveys at the following links or pick up hard copies at the library or Centennial Commons.

Senior survey:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JG9YQMG>

Teen survey:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YKMWG9W>

### Boards and Commissions

There are almost a dozen openings on our boards and commissions as I write this note. If you would like to be considered for these or future openings, contact City Clerk Joyce Pumm at [jpumm@ucitymo.org](mailto:jpumm@ucitymo.org) or 314-505-8605 and request an application form. The boards and commissions serve in an advisory capacity to the City Council and staff. It's a great way to become more familiar with how your government works. And if you have ever thought about running for public office, it's a good first step. It's important, I believe, for people running for public office to have been involved in the community they wish to serve before they try to govern that community. And this is a great way to get involved right here in University City.

Any questions, comments or concerns? Let me know at [mayor@ucitymo.org](mailto:mayor@ucitymo.org) or 314-505-8606.

Mayor Shelley Welsch

## Youth in the Loop Forum

University City will host a "Youth in the Loop" forum on Wednesday, August 3, 2011, 6pm at the Heman Park Community Center. The center is located at 975 Pennsylvania, in University City. This forum will address youth issues in University City only. An agenda is included with this newsletter. Refreshments will be provided.

For more information please contact Brandon Drake at: 314-505-8535 or via email at: [bdrake@ucitymo.org](mailto:bdrake@ucitymo.org).

*Please be advised that this is not a follow up to Mayor Welsch's "Regional Initiative on Youth" meeting held on July 12, 2011. This is a conversation specifically focused on University City youth issues.*



## Public Works Street Maintenance

The Public Works Department is responsible for the maintenance of public street pavement, curbs, gutters, and sidewalks in University City. Some streets in University City are private. Private streets are collectively maintained and owned by the adjacent private property owners. Some streets in the City are owned and maintained by St. Louis County (i.e., Delmar, Hanley, and Midland). St. Louis County also owns and maintains Olive east of Ferguson, the remaining portion of Olive is owned and maintained by the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT). Public Works forwards questions and concerns regarding streets not owned and maintained by the City, to the appropriate agency or private owners. The City also has a Traffic Commission, which is charged with hearing issues that relate to traffic and transportation issues and making recommendations to the City Council.

The City's pavement inventory is rated every two years to ensure up-to-date condition information. Like many other municipalities, a Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating (PASER) method which was developed by the University of Wisconsin-Madison, is used to perform the ratings. This method relies on visual inspections of the street inventory by trained staff members with a background in project management and construction. A pavement surface tells a lot about its structure, underlying problems, drainage issues and other factors that can affect its performance and life span.

Pavements are rated from one to 10, with 10 being a newly constructed or resurfaced street or pavement condition. A rating of "one" reflects a pavement in poor condition. The below criteria are generally used for the City's PASER rating determination:

Rating# 1 (Unimproved) – Needs total reconstruction. The City will repair street potholes.

Rating# 2 (Poor) – Pavement overlay or removal and replacement required.

Rating# 5 (Fair) – Pavement repairs or removal and replacement needed.

Rating# 7 (Good) – Pavement needs routine maintenance and/or defects corrected.

Rating# 9-10 (Excellent) – Pavement has been repaired or replaced within the last two years from the date of the biennial inspection. On-going maintenance should be performed according to established schedule.

The rating information is then stored in a database and is used to determine the order of pavement repairs city-wide. Each year, the City generally selects the pavements in the worst condition for repair. Many streets, sidewalks and curbs are repaired annually as budgetary constraints allow.

Most of University City's streets and sidewalks fall within a rating of five to six which is good to fair condition. Based on the ratings information, the City's annual capital pavement improvement project locations and quantities are planned at least five years ahead. The visual inspections every other year are used to update the database information based on existing conditions. This is because actual weather, heavy truck use or hidden underlying



## Public Works Street Maintenance Continued...

conditions can accelerate or delay deterioration.

The above criteria also determines where the capital concrete curb improvement work is done because it is the City's practice to repair curbs in advance of the pavement maintenance in order not to later disturb the newly-resurfaced pavement with curb work on its edges.

In addition to rating the sidewalks from one to 10 using the PASER system, the City's sidewalks are also rated using a percentage system, which counts the number of sidewalk slabs that meet the criteria for replacement in a block and compares that to the total number of sidewalk slabs in the block to compute a percentage of slabs in need of repair. Each block within the City is prioritized from both the lowest PASER rating and the highest percentage of repairs needed per block. The annual capital concrete sidewalk improvements are programmed accordingly, and completed based on funding.

The City will also transition into Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance in terms of meeting requirements for slopes and surfaces as they are defined for use by the disabled. This brings an additional scope of work on curb ramps at the intersections and more stringent regulations for sidewalk slopes and alignment. It is the City's intention to bring the capital improvement project locations into full compliance with the ADA requirements. The City is working on completing a city-wide transition plan, as well.

The City's capital improvement projects consist of the following:

**Asphalt Overlays:** These projects improve the street pavement surface by cold milling the surface wearing course for an approximate depth of 2 inch, repairing any asphalt or concrete pavement bases and overlaying the repaired bases with a 2 inch thick asphalt surface course.



Image- Contractor resurfacing a street in University City.



## Public Works Street Maintenance Continued...

**Microsurfacing:** These projects use the already existing street surface as a base and improve the street pavement by overlaying with a polymer-modified cold-mix paving system. The advantage of this method is its ability to fix most of the surface defects without the need for milling or removal. For some microsurfacing projects, where some removal and replacement of the pavement material is done prior to the application of microsurfacing, local repairs are required.

**Concrete Sidewalks and Curbs:** These projects remove and replace misaligned and/or severely broken sidewalks and curbs. The City preserves the consistent appearance of the existing sidewalks by specifying an exposed aggregate finish on the surface, when needed.

In addition to the above capital improvement projects, Public Works performs the below types of street maintenance:

**Temporary patches:** Generally after the winter season, the street surfaces are surveyed and temporary pothole patches are installed at locations where freeze-thaw conditions or general wear from deicing materials have impacted the streets.

**Permanent base repairs:** Temporarily-patched areas are evaluated to determine the need for permanent repairs, which include removal and replacement of the pavement material to fix any base issues.

**Crack-sealing:** Generally, for the recently resurfaced or reconstructed streets, construction joints that form between the subsequent passes of the paver machines or any other cracks that may form on the pavement surface are sealed. This is preventive maintenance that eliminates or reduces water seepage into the pavement base and preserves recently improved pavement life. Crack-sealing is also applied as preparation for the streets that are selected for microsurfacing.

**Sidewalk-curb repairs:** These repairs are done on sidewalks and curbs that meet the City's criteria (misalignment or severe deterioration).

Unimproved streets generally do not have gutters, curbs or sidewalks, and the street surface is not up to City standards. Unimproved streets are in use for vehicles and/or pedestrians, but have not been fully improved to University City standards, and are generally in poor condition and lack adequate drainage control. Currently, for unimproved streets, City maintenance is limited to pothole patching and making the street surface passable. To install new gutters, curbs, sidewalks and resurface the street to meet current City standards, property owners pay their share for the improvements. To encourage such improvements, the City pays a share and will provide project management for street resurfacing and installation of gutters and curbs. Property owners pay the total cost for installing sidewalks. Once the street is brought up to City standards with curbing and sidewalks, if desired, the City will maintain the street and sidewalk forever. A listing of unimproved streets is on the next page.



## Public Works-Unimproved Streets

### PLATTED IN-USE UNIMPROVED STREETS\*\* AND ALLEYS

<u>STREETS</u>	<u>LENGTH (FEET)</u>
1.) ANNA AVENUE, Hanley Road to Mt. Vernon	250
2.) ANNA AVENUE, Hanley Road to north end of street	300
3.) BEMISTON AVENUE, Delmar Boulevard to Gannon Avenue*	270
4.) BOYNTON AVENUE, Quendo Avenue to East City Limits*	150
5.) BUCKNER AVENUE, Roberts Avenue to North City Limits*	130
6.) CENTER DRIVE, Teasdale Avenue to Delmar Boulevard*	270
7.) GAY AVENUE, South City Limits to Old Bonhomme Road	430
8.) GEORGE STREET, Olive Boulevard to north line of Olive Street Terrace Subdivision	1040
9.) HARRISON AVENUE, Liberty Avenue to North City Limits*	300
10.) KENNEDY STREET, Olive Boulevard to alley east of Olive Boulevard	320
11.) LAFON PLACE, Gay Avenue to Old Bonhomme Road	480
12.) LAMB AVENUE, Liberty Avenue to North City Limits*	300
13.) MILAN DRIVE, Midland Boulevard to Hanley Road	200
14.) MONA DRIVE, south roadway, Raisher Drive To Groby Road	225
15.) MONA DRIVE, north roadway, Groby Road to 225 feet east	225
16.) MORGAN AVENUE, Mt. Olive to Wilshire Avenue.	480
17.) MT. OLIVE AVENUE, Ahern Avenue to north line Mt. Olive Park Subdivision to Groby Road	550
18.) MT. OLIVE AVENUE, north line Mt. Olive Park Subdivision	300
19.) PURDUE AVENUE, River Des Peres Bridge to Olive Boulevard	770
20.) 78 <sup>TH</sup> STREET, Terminal Railroad to north line Belmont Hills Subdivision	390
21.) TEASDALE AVENUE, east line of Teasdale Lane Subdivision to Center Drive	480
22.) TEASDALE AVENUE, Westview Drive to Gay Avenue	480
23.) WILSHIRE AVENUE, Morgan Avenue to Elene Avenue	400
24.) VARNEY AVENUE, Woodson Road to Sheridan Drive	400
Total length of unimproved streets (feet)	9140

\* No lot frontage along this street

\*\* These rights-of-ways are in use for vehicles and/or pedestrians but have not been fully improved to U. City Standards. Streets and alleys are not maintained by the City until fully improved. Very limited service is provided, usually only when it becomes impassable.

For additional information on street maintenance, please contact the Public Works department at 314-505-8560.



## University City Library Youth Program Events

**Monday July 18**

**The Three Bears** performed by Piwacket Theater. 6:30pm for ages 4+.

**Tuesday July 19**

**One World, Many Storytellers** 6:30pm ages 4+. Hear stories from around the world told by teen storytellers and staff, Mrs. W and Mrs. P. Our teens are putting on a show for their final fund raising project to support **Heifer International** and **Invisible Children**.

**Wednesday, July 20**

**One World, Many Stories** Last storytime with Mrs. W until September. 10:30am Ages 3-5.

**Thursday, July 21**

Movie: **Tale of Despereaux**. Rated G 4:00

**Reporting Ends for 2011 Summer Reading Program at 7:30 !!!!!!!**

**Friday, July 22**

**Finisher's Party @ Community Center with Abra-Kid-Abra Magic 6:30**

**By invitation only, for all finishers of the summer reading program and their families.**

**For additional information please call the Library at: 314-727-3150**

## Meeting Recordings

Now you can listen to audio from City Council meetings and the meetings of various City Boards & Commissions. Various commissions have tested portable digital recorders over the past few months. With the test a success, the recordings of the Human Relations Commission have been online since May 2011. Other Boards and Commissions are obtaining digital recorders that are capable of recording in a MP3 format.

Audio from City Council meetings are also online. These files however are in a WAV format, which are large files. MP3 recordings may be available for the City Council in the near future. The audio can be found via the navigation below, starting from the City homepage.

### City Council Audio, Agendas, and Minutes:

Government > City Council and City Clerk

### Human Relations Commission Audio, Agendas, and Minutes:

Government > Boards and Commissions > Board and Commission Listing > Human Relations Commission