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Recycling Carts

The City of Des Peres has received a \$100,000 grant to purchase and distribute new wheeled recycling containers replacing the existing cans for all homes. This is part of a county-wide program to institute single stream recycling with a goal of diverting 25% of all trash from landfills into recycling.

We anticipate the containers will be available and distributed to every home in Des Peres in late January. Instructions and an updated list of recyclable materials will be included with the new container.

In order to minimize confusion, the old containers will be collected by IESI, the trash provider, and recycled. They cannot be used as a trash can or be used

to continue to recycle. Upon receipt of your new container, simply place the old container at the curb on your normal trash and recycling day and it will be collected. For additional questions, please contact the Department of Public Works at (314) 835-6130.



Snow Removal Tips

The Department of Public Works would like to educate residents about removing snow and have prepared the following tips for you to follow:

- **Keep your car off the street.** Park in your garage or driveway to allow more efficient salting and plowing of the street
- **Do not shovel snow from your driveway into the street.** Such unnatural accumulations can be a hazard to motorists
- **Do not pile snow too high in front of your mailbox.** Mail cannot be delivered if the pile is too high or extends too far into the road
- **Try to stay off streets during the periods of heaviest snowfall.** Accidents are more likely when visibility is reduced, pavements are slippery, or salting operations are underway

For more information on snow removal, please contact the Department of Public Works at (314) 835-6130.

LETTER FROM MAYOR RICK LAHR

It is only natural at year end to both look back and reflect on what has happened in the prior year as well as to look forward with enthusiasm as we face the challenges that a new year will provide.

Our first challenge for 2011 is caused by the recent death of our City Clerk, Linda Schulte, who passed away on December 1st after a short but courageous battle with cancer. Linda was a consummate professional responsible for among other things all support services relating to my office and the Board of Aldermen. She was always willing to lend a helping hand to any resident, fellow employee or elected official. Quick to smile and offer a kind word, Linda will be missed.

New development was relatively slow in 2010 by Des Peres standards. New housing starts were near zero. New commercial development was limited to the redevelopment of the old Schnucks site and approval of Dierbergs now under construction and expected to open mid 2012. However, 2010 also saw a lot of activity in backfilling commercial space. New tenants at West County Center, the Schnucks Center and Tallbrooke. The year 2011 will see a new and expanded Michaels as well as Mosaic's Restaurant, Chick-fil-A and a Golfsmith retail store in the old Schnucks center. Just announced Jos. A. Bank clothing will be joining our corporate community.

Government is not immune to the economic downturn as increasing unemployment, lower consumer confidence and changes in the stock market all contribute to a deepening fiscal crisis. Fortunately, Des Peres has weathered that storm better than most cities. We project to end our 2010 fiscal year with a modest surplus despite economic conditions. While revenues declined, the Board of Aldermen retrenched and tightened its' belt resulting in a positive bottom line. Our sales tax revenues were relatively flat despite a 10.0% downturn in sales taxes measured county-wide. Our conservative fiscal approach has allowed the city to retain its AAA bond rating-Des Peres is one of only a few cities in the state of Missouri to enjoy that rating.

It appears that the economy is starting to improve and is expected to continue to improve during 2011. This newsletter includes two graphic illustrations of our 2011 budget. One reflects our revenues by source and clearly shows how dependant Des Peres is on retail sales taxes which represent 54% of total revenues expected in 2011. A strong sales tax is what has allowed Des Peres to go 15 years with no local property tax payable to the city, to continue free trash and recycling and to provide a high level of services to the community. That is reason enough to *Shop Des Peres First* and to encourage our friends and neighbors to do likewise.

The attractiveness of Des Peres as a place to live, work and raise a

family is attributable to a number of factors including location, options for quality education and a diverse inventory of housing. However, the quality of life in Des Peres is also dependent upon city services which include a safe community with good emergency response capabilities, well maintained infrastructure and the availability of leisure services- each of which is a focus in the 2011 budget. If you or your family are not Lodge members, please give Lodge membership consideration. It's an exceptional community amenity.

As I look forward toward 2011, I am optimistic about the future of our city. Aside from our location and strong tax base, our best asset remains our citizens and their commitment to this community. This was recently illustrated at our Annual Boards and Commissions Appreciation Dinner where we honored nearly 70 community volunteers for their service this past year and recognized a number of volunteers who are retiring with a combined 76 years of volunteer service to this community. On behalf of the Des Peres Community, we say thanks to those citizens for all they and thier families have done for our community.

On behalf of the Des Peres Staff and the Board of Aldermen, I want to wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season,
Rick



“Thanks” to all of the staff, elected officials, citizens of the community and citizen volunteers who serve or have served on the Boards and Commissions.

Audit and Finance

Michael Hauser, Dan Bauman, Judy Mundle, Randy Atkisson, Marc Hamilton, Jim Kleinschmidt (Aldermanic Representative)

Board of Adjustment

Patrick Walsh, Joseph Mueller, Thomas Greenman, Mark Bahn, Ray Griesedieck, Marilyn Chapman, Larry Quick, Paul Raczkiewicz (Aldermanic Representative)

Parks and Recreation

Craig Ragland, Sharon Godwin, Tim Frailey, Julie Killeen, Margaret Amend, Kaye Huch, John Gnagi, Paul Fingerhut (Aldermanic Representative)

Planning and Zoning

Anna Ahrens, Paul Ruzicka, Mark Ahrens, James Kennedy, John Oeltjen, Teresa Gwin, Barbara Pohle, Kenneth McKamely, Dan Body, Cynthia Kardesch, Anthony Pawloski, John Pound (Aldermanic Representative)

Public Safety

Jerry Bommarito, Joanne Sullivan, Larry Beermann, Robert Ashcraft, Kathleen Gmelich (Aldermanic Representative)

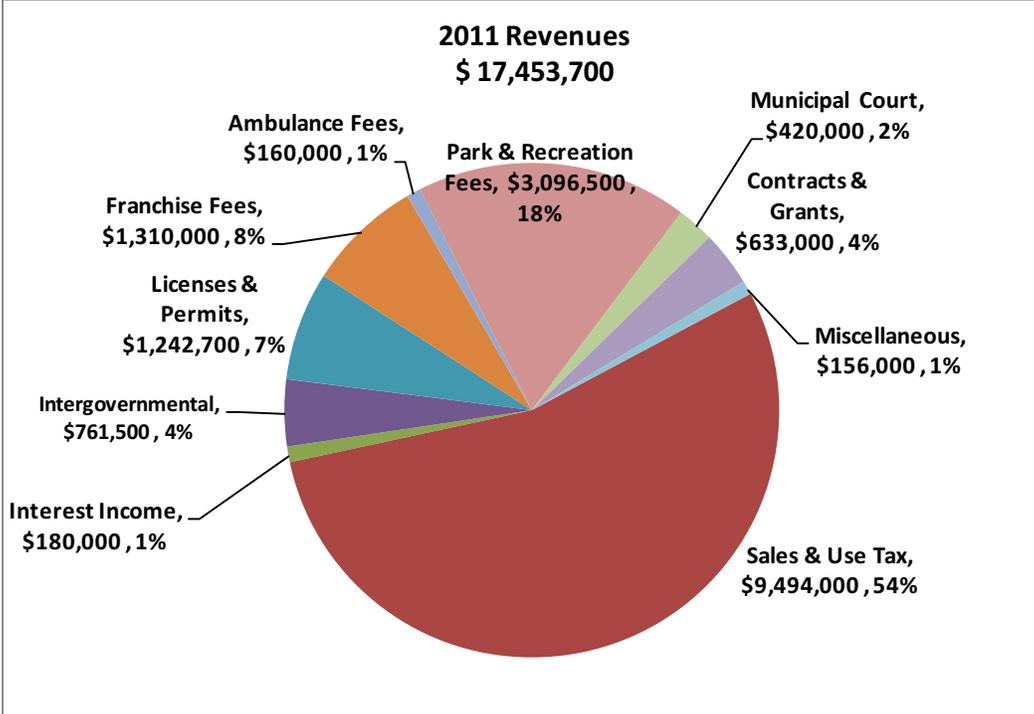


Linda Schulte

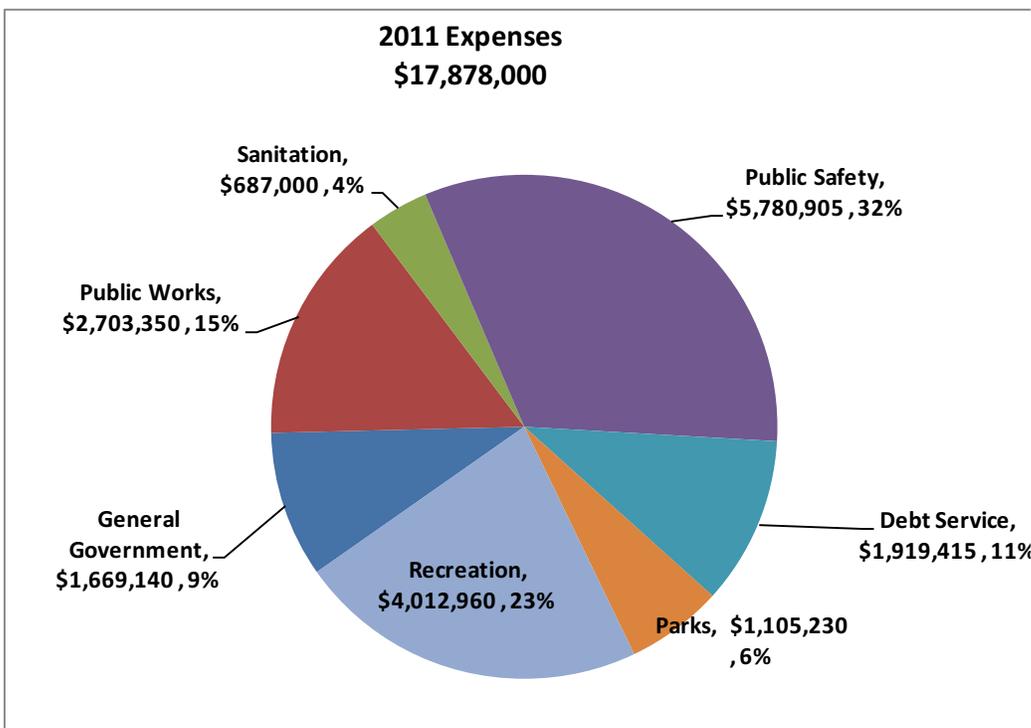
Linda Schulte, City Clerk, passed away December 1st, 2010 after a short and courageous battle with cancer.

Doug Harms, City Administrator, received the Outstanding Local Government Achievement Award for 2010 that was awarded by the East-West Gateway Council of Governments. Harms received the award at the Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon of East-West Gateway on November 12, 2010. He has been the City Administrator of Des Peres for the past 25 years. “This award recognizes leadership efforts, a commitment to excellence in work in assisting the citizens of Des Peres and the region as a whole. Mr. Harms has been a huge asset to our community for many, many years and the entire region, and certainly this award is well deserved,” said Mayor Rick Lahr.

2011 BUDGET



The economic downturn has impacted all of us individually, at work, and where we live. The 2011 budget reflects the impact of that economic downturn. Fortunately, Des Peres is positioned better than most cities to weather the recession due to a strong business community, the new Schnucks and redevelopment of the old Schnucks site and prudent fiscal planning.



The 2011 budget is 1.5% higher than last year due to capital improvements of bridge projects and expansion of the street garage. The budget also reflects maintenance of 98 full-time employees and a maintenance of current city services. Summaries of the budget are available on-line at www.desperesmo.org or are available at City Hall, 12325 Manchester Road, Des Peres, Missouri 63131.

NOTICE OF MUNICIPAL ELECTION

APRIL 5, 2011

A Municipal election will be held on April 5, 2011. The following offices will appear on the ballot for a two year term:

- Municipal Judge
- Alderman Ward 1
- Alderman Ward 2
- Alderman Ward 3

Candidates for the April 5, 2011 Municipal Election must file, in person, a Certificate of Candidacy with the City Clerk of the City of Des Peres at 12325 Manchester Road, Des Peres, Missouri 63131.

Certificates of Candidacy will be available through the Office of the City Clerk as early as 8:00 A.M. on Tuesday, December 14, 2010. Candidates' names will appear on the ballot in the order they are received and certified. The closing date is 5:00 P.M. on Tuesday, January 18, 2011. For more information please contact Sandra Haynes at shaynes@desperesmo.org or at (314) 835-6111.

MAILBOX INSPECTION

This time of the year is a very good time to inspect your mailbox to see if it is sturdy enough to make it through the winter season. During the snow plowing season heavy wet snow sliding off the ends of the snow plows can cause some extra stress on the poles. Wood posts can rot and metal posts rust; shaking the post you can determine it's stability. If you are installing a new mailbox, you should follow the recommended placement guidelines established by the United States Postal Service. These recommendations are:

- Height above the street to the bottom of the box: 41-45 inches
- Distance behind the edge of the street or curb to front of the box: 6-8 inches

MAYOR:

Rick Lahr
rlahr@desperesmo.org
(314) 835-6120 (VM)

ALDERMEN:

WARD I:

John Pound
jpound@desperesmo.org
(314) 835-6121 (VM)

Kathleen Gmelich
kgmelich@desperesmo.org
(314) 835-6122 (VM)

WARD II:

Paul Raczkiwicz
praczkiewicz@desperesmo.org
(314) 835-6123 (VM)

Jim Kleinschmidt
jkleinschmidt@desperesmo.org
(314) 835-6124 (VM)

WARD III:

James Doering
jdoering@desperesmo.org
(314) 835-6125 (VM)

Paul Fingerhut
pfingerhut@desperesmo.org
(314) 835-6126 (VM)

CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

Douglas Harms
dharms@desperesmo.org
(314) 835-6110

Information for candidates on filing for the April 5, 2011 election can be found on the City Clerk's webpage at www.desperesmo.org.

DES PERES GENERAL INFORMATION

Christmas tree recycling will be available again free this year to RESIDENTS ONLY. All trees and roping must have all ornaments, lights and other decorations removed. No cutting or bundling is required. Please do not place trees in plastic bags. Trees collected by the city will be run through a chipper to create mulch which will be used in local parks this spring. Pick up dates for residents who live east of I-270 will be January 10-11. Pick up dates for residents who live west of I-270 will be January 3-4. Dates may be extended due to inclement weather. IESI will also collect trees on Mondays during January for recycling.

Are you interested in working at The Lodge Des Peres? Beginning in January 2011, The Lodge will be hosting "Recruitment Sessions" for potential new Lodge employees. Most positions available will be for the summer season; however, year round positions will be posted as they become available. Anyone wishing to submit an application will be required to attend a recruitment session before completing an application. Some open positions include: concession attendants, camp counselors, lifeguards, pool cashiers, program instructors and sports officials. For more information, please call (314) 835-6150 or visit www.desperesmo.org.

MUNICIPAL CALENDAR

January:

- 3th Municipal Court, 6:30 P.M.
- 3th Public Safety Commission, 7:00 P.M.
- 6th Parks and Recreation Commission, 7:00 P.M.
- 10th Board of Aldermen, 7:00 P.M.
- 12th Planning and Zoning Commission, 7:00 P.M.
- 17th City Hall Closed-Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 20th Audit and Finance Committee, 4:30 P.M.
- 24th Board of Aldermen, 7:00 P.M.
- 26th Board of Adjustment, 6:30 P.M.

February:

- 3th Parks and Recreation Commission, 7:00 P.M.
- 7th Municipal Court, 6:30 P.M.
- 7th Board of Aldermen, 7:00 P.M.
- 7th Public Safety Commission, 7:00 P.M.
- 9th Planning and Zoning Commission, 7:00 P.M.
- 17th Audit and Finance Committee, 4:30 P.M.
- 21nd Board of Aldermen, 7:00 P.M.
- 23th Board of Adjustment, 6:30 P.M.

The Lodge Membership Information

The Lodge Des Peres brings the community together through our facilities and parks to inspire healthy lifestyles through high quality programs, extraordinary customer service, and constant efforts of improvement. The Lodge serves the community through stewardship and protection of our natural, environmental, physical, and historical resources. Contact (314) 835-6150 for more information. Membership amenities and benefits include:

- Sauna and steam rooms
- Free wireless internet
- 49 cardio machines
- Indoor track
- Strength Area
- Gymnasium
- Lap pool, indoor wave pool and outdoor pool

Trash Schedule

There is no change in the Christmas and New Year's Holiday Trash Schedules

Meeting times, locations and agendas can be found on the website at www.desperesmo.org

LETTER FROM DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
CHIEF KEITH KRUMM

Des Peres, along with all of the other police departments in the area, enforces traffic laws throughout the year in an effort to keep everyone safe while sharing the roadways. During the holidays, with the increase in parties, we also see an increase in the number of arrests for impaired driving. For everyone's safety and to avoid all of the problems associated with being arrested for drunk driving, don't drink, and if you do, don't drive.

Operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs is extremely dangerous and often fatal. When alcohol is consumed, many of the skills that safe driving requires such as judgement, concentration, comprehension, coordination, visual acuity, and reaction time become impaired. Because of the dangers associated with driving while intoxicated, it is a criminal offense in the United States and in a number of countries around the world and is often punishable by high fines and/or a prison sentence.

In the past, drivers who were suspected of drunk driving were pulled over and evaluated by an officer strictly on their driving performance and other sobriety tests. These often included walking a straight line or standing on one leg for 30 seconds. In the end, it was up to the police officer to decide whether or not the suspect was intoxicated.

In 1936, Norway introduced legislation that assigned guilt to drivers based on the amount of alcohol in their bloodstream. The introduction of these new laws allowed for chemical sobriety tests which measure the blood alcohol content, or BAC, of the driver. Presently, it is illegal to drive with a BAC over .08% in all 50 states in the United States.

Drunk driving remains one of the major causes of death among persons under 25 years of age, and even among individuals who are under 21. Though increased regulations have shown some success, driving under the influence of alcohol is still a major problem.

A "Designated Driver" is a proactive way to deter drinking and driving. This idea simply aims to have people plan ahead by designating one person to provide safe rides by staying sober. As groups travel to special events and parties together during the holidays, each group should designate someone to provide a safe ride home. By planning ahead, there is no question as to who is driving or how the group will be getting home. The "Designated Driver" concept can be used throughout the year, not only during the holidays.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration lists the following statistics:

- On average, someone is killed by a drunk driver every 40 minutes in the United States
- Each day 36 people die and almost 700 more are injured in vehicle crashes that involve a drunk driver
- In 2006, out of 1,746 fatalities that included children, one out of six was killed by an alcohol impaired driver
- Half of all teenage fatalities is due to drunk driving
- About 30% of Americans are involved in an alcohol related crash sometime in their lifetime
- Top five states with the highest number of alcohol related fatalities are Texas, California, Florida, Pennsylvania and Illinois
- Of the drunk driving crashes where seat belt use was known, nearly 75% of all drunk drivers killed in accidents in 2008 weren't wearing seat belts
- Nighttime drivers were four times more likely to die in drunk driving crashes than those driving during the daytime
- About 81% of all drunk drivers are male drivers
- As you read this article, most probably the number of deaths caused by drunk driving has already changed

Respectfully,
Chief Keith Krumm

City Of
Des Peres

12325 Manchester Rd.
Des Peres, MO 63131

www.desperesmo.org

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Postmaster please deliver by
January 3, 2011



City Hall	(314) 835-6100	The Lodge	(314) 835-6150
City Hall Fax	(314) 835-6101	Des Peres License Bureau	(314) 909-1514
Public Safety	(314) 835-6200	Des Peres Post Office	(314) 966-3437
City Clerk	(314) 835-6112	Des Peres Hospital	(314) 821-5850
Public Works	(314) 835-6130	IESI (Trash Service)	(636) 321-2100
Municipal Court	(314) 835-6118	City Web Site	www.desperesmo.org