

Summer Concert Series Edition

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“Hot SUMMER Nights, Cool SUMMER Sounds”



Des Peres is proud to present the “Hot Summer Nights, Cool Summer Sounds” free concert series again this year, with concerts scheduled the second Friday of June, July and August at 7:00 P.M. in Des Peres Park. These events are well attended, so feel free to come early with your blankets and lawn chairs to pick your spot. We hope to see you there!

2012 Concert Schedule:

- Friday, June 8: *The Fabulous Motown Revue*
- Friday, July 13: *Fatpockets*
- Friday, August 10: *Mirage*

Where:

- Des Peres Park
12325 Manchester Road

When:

- 7:00 P.M.

Parking:

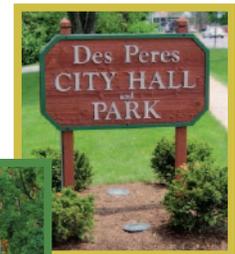
Limited parking is available inside the park, overflow parking is available at the Edward Jones Building Garage (12555 Manchester Road). Des Peres Public Safety will be on hand to assist with crossing Ballas Road.

Food/Beverages:

You may carry in outside food and drinks. Alcohol is permitted in the Park, but NO GLASS bottles are allowed. Concessions are also sold by Boy Scout Troop 313.

Inclement weather:

In the event of rain or inclement weather, please call the hot-line number at 314-835-6102. Cancellations will be posted by 4:00 P.M. on the day of the event.



The Fabulous Motown Revue June 8



Fat Pockets July 13



Mirage August 10

LETTER FROM MAYOR RICK LAHR

At this time, I want to publicly thank former Alderman Paul Fingerhut for his 11+ years of service on the Board of Aldermen and his many contributions toward the community. At the same time, we want to welcome the newly elected Alderman from Ward 3 – Mark Becker. I look forward to working with Mark, the Board of Aldermen and our staff in continuing to make Des Peres a great place to live, work and raise a family.

What has happened since our last newsletter? The Missouri General Assembly is wrapping up their session (ending May 18th) and at this late date, it appears that sales tax distributions changes are dead. While Des Peres contributes roughly 31.0% of its general sales tax revenues to St. Louis County and to the County POOL cities (and certainly believe we should be sharing less), historically, this debate in Jefferson City ends up with Des Peres and similar point-of-sale cities sharing more, not less. We have been playing defense on this issue and want to thank Representatives Diehl and Stream and Senator Schmitt for their support of no negative changes.

In April, the City was able to buy down additional TIF bonds and pass thru funds to the local school districts thanks to the strong performance of West

County Center (see related article on page 8). We are looking at closing out the TIF in 2013 - ten years earlier than originally projected at which time, over \$2.8 million per year will begin to flow to the taxing jurisdictions – primarily the Kirkwood and Special School Districts.

Des Peres' revenue base, like all cities with a strong retail shopping center, is sales tax driven. Sales tax revenues allow the city to provide very high levels of services to the community with no property tax (the bill you pay goes primarily to the schools and \$0.00 to Des Peres), a very low utility tax, and no fee or charge for basic trash and recycling services. By our estimate, this saves the average homeowner roughly \$400.00 per year in lower taxes!

As you read this newsletter, summer is upon us. Schools are letting out and children are everywhere. Please pay careful attention as you drive in your neighborhoods – while you are observant, many children are not and our #1 concern is always their safety.

Summer also brings the start of a number of community events including the **May 25th resident swim party** (details on this free event on page 4). We also have our ever popular Summer Concert Series on the

2nd Fridays in June, July and August at Des Peres Park. Our first concert is **Friday, June 8th at 7:00 P.M. with *The Fabulous Motown Revue***. Join your neighbors in this great kick-off event. The music is entertaining, the Boy Scouts will be offering basic concessions, and your neighbors will be looking for you. I hope to see you there!

I would encourage all residents to join The Lodge – it is a great place to exercise, improve your health and meet and mingle with your neighbors. Don't want a year round membership? Summer memberships are available to residents (details are located on the bottom of page 5).

Finally, congratulations to all of our new graduates....8th graders moving onto high school; high school seniors onto college, and a special congratulations to our new college graduates and their parents.

Have a great summer....

Rick

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**Des Peres Board of Aldermen**

First row (L-R): Alderman Kleinschmidt,
Mayor Lahr, Alderman Raczkiewicz
Back row (L-R): Alderman Pound,
Alderman Gmelich, Alderman Becker,
Alderman Doering

Des Peres Finance Department Receives Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) established the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting (CAFR) Program to encourage and assist state and local governments to go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles to prepare comprehensive annual financial reports that showcase transparency and full disclosure. This is the 16th straight year the City of Des Peres has received the CAFR award.



Photo: Des Peres Finance Department (L-R) Mary Jo Layton (Admin. Assistant), Tracy Hansen (Director of Finance), Libby Eckhout (Senior Accountant).

Lt. Eric Hall completes National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officer Program

Lt. Eric Hall, Public Safety Officer for the Des Peres Department of Public Safety has recently completed the Executive Fire Officer Program (EFOP) offered by the U.S. Fire Administration's National Fire Academy, a Federal Emergency Management Agency.



The four year program is an initiative of the United States Fire Administration and National Fire Academy, designed to provide fire officers with a broad perspective on various facets of fire and emergency services administration. In the EFOP program's 25 years of existence, Hall is one just of 63 graduates from Missouri, and one of 3,000 to complete it nationally. Hall has worked for the city since 1997.

Des Peres Celebrates 29 Years as a Tree City with the Arbor Day Foundation



Mayor Lahr, Alderman Gmelich, Members of the Park and Recreation Commission, Park Superintendent Steve Braddock and Director of Parks and Recreation, Brian Schaffer, proudly display the Arbor Day Foundation "Tree City USA" Flag at Des Peres Annual Arbor Day Celebration on April 7 at Sugar Creek Park.

Tree City USA is supported by the Arbor Day Foundation and the USDA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program. To learn more about the distinction and standards for recognition, please visit: www.arborday.org.

MUNICIPAL CALENDAR

June:

4th Municipal Court, 6:30 P.M. @ City Hall
 4th Public Safety Commission, 7:00 P.M. @ Public Safety Building
 7th Parks and Recreation Commission, 7:00 P.M. @ The Lodge
 11th Board of Aldermen, 7:00 P.M. @ City Hall
 13th Planning and Zoning Commission, 7:00 P.M. @ City Hall
 18th Audit and Finance Committee, 4:30 P.M. @ City Hall
 27th Board of Adjustment, 6:30 P.M. @ City Hall

July:

2nd Municipal Court, 6:30 P.M. @ City Hall
 2nd Public Safety Commission, 7:00 P.M., @ Public Safety Building
 4th *Independence Day Holiday, City Hall Closed*
 11th Planning and Zoning Commission, 7:00 P.M. @ City Hall
 16th Audit and Finance Committee, 4:30 P.M. @ City Hall
 23rd Board of Aldermen, 7:00 P.M. @ City Hall
 25th Board of Adjustment, 6:30 P.M. @ City Hall

August:

2nd Parks and Recreation Commission, 7:00 P.M. @ The Lodge
 6th Municipal Court, 6:30 P.M. @ City Hall
 6th Public Safety Commission, 7:00 P.M. @ Public Safety Building
 8th Planning and Zoning Commission, 7:00 P.M. @ City Hall
 13th Board of Aldermen, 7:00 P.M. @ City Hall
 20th Audit and Finance Committee, 4:30 P.M. @ City Hall
 22nd Board of Adjustment, 6:30 P.M. @ City Hall
 27th Board of Aldermen, 7:00 P.M. @ City Hall

RESIDENT POOL PARTY AT THE LODGE: FRIDAY, MAY 25!

The City of Des Peres invites all Des Peres Residents to The Lodge Outdoor Pool for a summer kickoff party! Bring your family and neighbors for swimming, games, great tunes and fun giveaways! We will be giving away free ice cream and one FREE Resident Summer Membership to The Lodge, for one lucky non-member! Don't miss the second annual community photo scheduled for 6:30 p.m. **All Des Peres Residents** (Lodge members or non-members) **are welcome to kickoff the summer on Friday, May 25 from 5 - 8 p.m.!** Please bring your Lodge Resident ID card or driver's license for entry to this free event!

7TH ANNUAL DIVE-IN MOVIE: SATURDAY, JULY 14



Bring your family, friends and neighbors to the Outdoor Leisure Pool after hours and enjoy Kung Fu Panda 2 (Rated PG) while you float in one of our tubes from 8:30-10:30 P.M.! Please check in at the outdoor pool. This is a FREE event if you are a Lodge Member or \$5 if you are a Resident or Non-Resident member.

Blood Drive at The Lodge: Wednesday, June 27



The American Red Cross invites individuals to participate in an upcoming blood drive at The Lodge (Oak Room) on Wednesday, June 27 from 2:00-6:00 P.M. Your blood donation can help up to three other individuals receive the lifesaving blood they need. The need is constant. Snacks and beverages will be provided by the American Red Cross to all donors. To make an appointment or to get a parental consent form (for donors, ages 16 only), please visit www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code DLodge. Walk-ins are also welcome!

GREAT AMERICAN BACKYARD CAMP-OUT: 7 P.M. SATURDAY JUNE 23 – 7 A.M. SUNDAY JUNE 24



Join the National Wildlife Federation's Great American Backyard Camp-out at the Des Peres Ball-field #3! Create lasting memories by connecting with friends and families in the great outdoors. Bonfire, star gazing, family programming and s'mores provided! Sunday morning breakfast sponsored by Alpine Shop! Rest rooms are available. Participants must provide their own camping gear. **Registration deadline is June 20** (please contact the Lodge 314-835-6150). **Event is FREE, but registration is REQUIRED.**



Introducing....
the new Sugar Creek Park
Playground!



Sugar Creek Park
435 Des Peres Rd.
Des Peres, MO 63131



Resident Summer Membership Information

Summer Memberships are valid Saturday, May 26, 2012 - Monday, September 3, 2012.

Requirements

As a resident of Des Peres, you are eligible for special Summer Memberships at The Lodge! Summer Memberships, only available to Des Peres Residents, are valid Saturday, May 26, 2012, through Monday, September 3, 2012. Proof of Des Peres residency (an unpaid utility bill and driver's license) must be displayed to purchase a Resident Summer Membership.

Benefits

Summer Memberships give you all the same benefits of a regular Lodge Membership! As a member, you will receive access to the entire facility and the lowest prices on classes and room rentals. Call (314) 835-6150 or visit www.TheLodgeDesPeres.com for more info!

Resident Summer Membership Fees

(Des Peres Residents only)

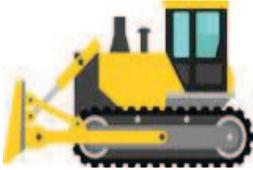
- Youth (ages 3-17) \$100
- Adult (ages 18-59) \$210
- Senior (ages 60+) \$210
- Family \$350

Current College Students, ages 18-24, with valid college ID

- Des Peres Resident \$100
- Non-Resident \$130



City of Des Peres Summer Construction Work



PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	TIME SCHEDULED
Highland Ave. Bridge Replacement	Entire Roadway north of Shari Dr. extending to Dougherty Ferry Rd. will be closed & residents will use Glennwood Dr. in Kirkwood for access.	Project will start in July with expected completion by end of November
Sidewalk Repairs	Approx. 2400 ft. sidewalks will be replaced in Four Winds Farm, Westledge & Dougherty Ridge Subdivisions. Sections to be replaced have been marked with white dots.	Project will start in April with expected completion by the end of May
Trench Drain Repairs	3 trench drains on Sunny Terrace & Kirk Place to be reconstructed. Areas for removal have been marked.	April & May
Street Slab Removal	Major sections of concrete pavement on Centeroyal Dr., Firethorn Dr. & Point Oak Dr. to be removed & replaced. Isolated slabs on Bentbrook, Ridgetree, Grupp, Orpington, Plymouth Rock, Westledge, Greenbriar Estates & Wood Valley will also be replaced. Sections to be replaced have been marked.	May & June
Fence Replacement	255 ft. of old chain link fencing along Centeroyal Dr. will be replaced with new black vinyl fencing.	Project will start in May and will take approximately 2 weeks to complete
Concrete Curb Repairs	800 ft. of deteriorated curbs along Des Peres Rd. near Goodson Rd. will be replaced.	Project will start late May and will take approximately 3 weeks to complete
Concrete Curb Installation	1800 ft. of new concrete curb & gutters will be installed along a portion of Blasé Ave. followed by milling & asphalt resurfacing of the old pavement between the curbs.	Project will start in May and take approximately 4 weeks to complete
Asphalt Street Resurfacing	Huntercreek Rd. will be milled & resurfaced between Des Peres Rd. & Winding Trail Ln., as well as, a portion of Blasé Ave. Streets in Bellerosa will also be resurfaced.	Late June
Other Work	Removal of identified tripping hazards along public sidewalks in Des Peres.	Summer/Fall

MOSQUITO SPRAYING

Weekly Mosquito Spraying will begin in May on a request only basis. Residents are encouraged to eliminate breeding sources wherever possible. To request fogging in your neighborhood call St. Louis County Health Dept. at 314-615-0680 or Des Peres Public Works Dept. at 314-835-6130.



2012 HOLIDAY SANITATION SCHEDULE

MEMORIAL DAY: May 28

All trash, recycling & yard waste routes will be delayed by one day all week

INDEPENDENCE DAY: July 4

Only Wed., Thurs., & Friday trash & recycling routes are delayed by one day

LABOR DAY: September 3

All trash, recycling & yard waste routes will be delayed by one day all week

THANKSGIVING DAY: November 22

Only Thurs. & Friday trash & recycling routes are delayed by one day

CHRISTMAS DAY: December 25

Tues. through Friday routes are delayed by one day



Public Safety News, Services and Community Programs

Vacation House Watch



The Des Peres Dept. of Public Safety offers residents a free Vacation House Watch Program. Residents may contact the department prior to a vacation or business trip and request that a patrol car make periodic checks of their home while they are away. Officers will then patrol your house on the dates specified.

If you would like your home checked while you're away, visit the city website: www.desperesmo.org (under Public Safety) and fill out the *Residential Out of Town Notification* form or contact the Des Peres Department of Public Safety at 314-835-6200 for a copy, and return it to the Department of Public Safety at 1000 N. Ballas, Des Peres, MO 63131 or by fax to 314-835-6205.

Project ChildSafe Free Gun Lock Program

The Des Peres Dept. of Public Safety is proud to participate in Project ChildSafe: a firearms safety program. Free cable gun locks are available to residents to help secure their firearms. You may obtain your free Project ChildSafe safety kit by visiting the Des Peres Department of Public Safety or by contacting Community Service Officer Brandon Elzinga at 314-835-6286 or relzinga@desperesmo.org.

Project ChildSafe reminds gun owners to:

- Properly store firearms in the home
- Practice safe firearm storage options in the home
- Make certain that firearms in the home are not casually accessible to anyone -especially a child

Project ChildSafe provides safety kits that include:

- A cable-style gun locking device
- Lock installment instructions
- A safety booklet

LETTER FROM

CHIEF KEITH KRUMM

As we approach the sweltering summer heat, the Des Peres Department of Public Safety would like to remind everyone to take precautions against heat related incidents. So many simple measures can be taken to significantly reduce the chance of getting heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

The Red Cross encourages drinking plenty of water and taking frequent breaks while working outside. Staying inside and avoiding strenuous activity is also recommended. Everyone is at risk when temperatures rise above 90 degrees, however, the elderly and the very young are most susceptible to heat and heat-related illnesses. Heat-related illnesses can cause serious injury and even death if unattended. Signs of heat-related illnesses include nausea, dizziness, flushed or pale skin, heavy sweating or no sweating and headaches. Victims of heat-related illness should be moved to a cool place, given cool water to drink and ice packs or cool wet cloths should be applied to the skin. If a victim refuses water, vomits or loses consciousness, call 9-1-1 immediately.

Red Cross Heat Safety Tips:

- **Dress for the heat.** Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing. Light colors will reflect away some of the sun's energy. It is also a good idea to wear hats or to use an umbrella.

- **Drink water.** Carry water or juice with you and drink continuously even if you do not feel thirsty. Avoid alcohol and caffeine, which dehydrate the body. Avoid using salt tablets unless directed to do so by a physician.
- **Eat small meals and eat more often.** Avoid high-protein foods, which increase metabolic heat.
- **Slow down.** Avoid strenuous activity. If you must do strenuous activity, do it during the coolest part of the day, which is usually in the morning between 4 and 7 a.m.
- **Stay indoors when possible.** If air-conditioning is not available, stay on the lowest floor out of the sunshine. Remember that electric fans do not cool, they simply circulate the air.
- **Be a good neighbor.** During heat waves, check in on elderly residents in your neighborhood and those who do not have air conditioning.

Enjoy the summer season!

Sincerely,

Chief Keith Krumm



DES PERES DISTRIBUTES EXCESS TIF FUNDS FOR 2011



MAYOR RICK LAHR, THE DES PERES BOARD OF ALDERMEN AND ANDY GOLDACHER (MANAGER OF WEST COUNTY CENTER) PRESENT KIRKWOOD SUPERINTENDANT DR. THOMAS WILLIAMS AND PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION SCOTT STREAM, WITH A CHECK FOR EXCESS TIF FUNDS FOR 2011 AT THE MARCH 26, 2012 DES PERES BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING.

The City of Des Peres has authorized early retirement of \$3,430,000 in TIF Bonds, due to be paid in 2018 with distribution of \$1,175,495 in TIF Funds from 2011 to the various taxing jurisdictions. This represents the 10th consecutive year in which the performance of the shopping center has allowed the city to make an accelerated debt service payment and to distribute excess revenues to taxing jurisdictions from the West County Center project.

“The overall performance of West County Center has been strong, and allows the city to honor its commitment to the taxpayers (to pay down the bonds as quickly as possible) and its promise to the school children to pass-thru funding to the school districts, annually. To date, we have retired \$15,125,000 in bonds early, putting the city in the position to fully pay down the TIF in 2013. We have passed thru nearly \$6.0 million to other taxing jurisdictions, with the primary beneficiary being the Kirkwood School District-which received \$4.8 million with an additional \$1.0 million going to the Special School District since redevelopment of the center. This project remains a win-win for the region, for Des Peres and the Kirkwood schools,” said Mayor Rick Lahr.

In addition to the city pass through of excess TIF funds, taxing jurisdictions receive real estate taxes in an amount equal to those being received before redevelopment, plus 100% of all personal property taxes generated from the new development. Since Des Peres does not levy a local real estate tax, the city does not participate in receipt of any revenues from the pass through.

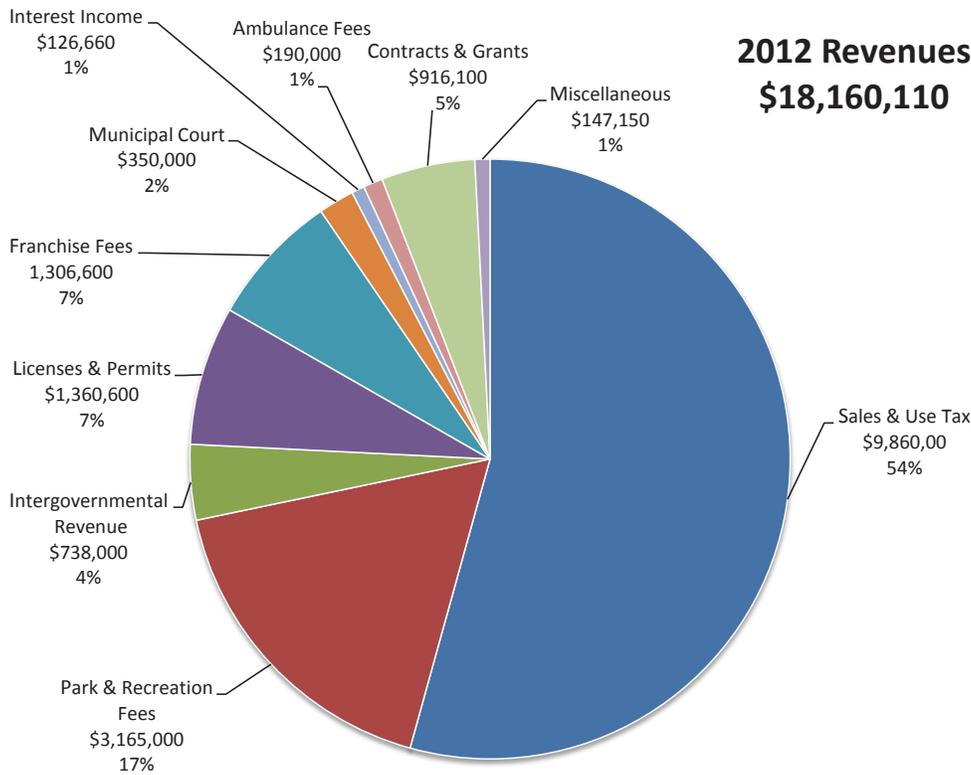
The Kirkwood School District congratulates the city of Des Peres on the success of the West County TIF and the early retirement of the bonds associated with this project,” said Dr. Tom Williams, superintendent of schools. “Our students and community will continue to benefit from the steady stream of revenue generated by West County Center, which has become the leading economic force for our area.”

The West County TIF was approved in 1997 and included financial assistance in the amount of \$27 million as part of the financing for demolition and reconstruction of West County Center. Those bonds are being repaid using tax dollars paid by the development. Those bonds were scheduled to be paid off in 2023.

“We are confident but for the TIF, the redevelopment of West County Center would not have occurred and the old mall would have continued to decline as has happened in other area malls in the last decade. This project has strengthened the city’s tax base and is in large part responsible for the City’s AAA Bond Rating – one of only a handful in the state,” said Mayor Rick Lahr.

A financial analysis of the TIF done by a local planning firm in early 2008, projects that the TIF bonds will be fully retired in 2013 – a full 10 years ahead of the initial debt service schedule. Following dissolution of the TIF, \$2.5 million in new property taxes will flow to other taxing jurisdictions (including the schools) with an additional \$2.5 million in sales taxes (after sharing with the County Pool) to the City of Des Peres.

Spotlight on: City Budget



Budget Process Time line:

June: Administration performs mid-year budget review on current fiscal year budget and advises board on budget standings and/or need for adjustment.

July: Department Heads begin budget prep for next fiscal year and submit proposals to Office of City Administrator.

August: City Administrator and management staff review and revise proposed department budgets and compile for board presentation.

September-October: Individual Funds presented to Mayor and Board of Aldermen at biweekly work sessions, followed by Department presentations.

November: First Public Hearing held on proposed Budgets/Introduction of all Budget related legislation.

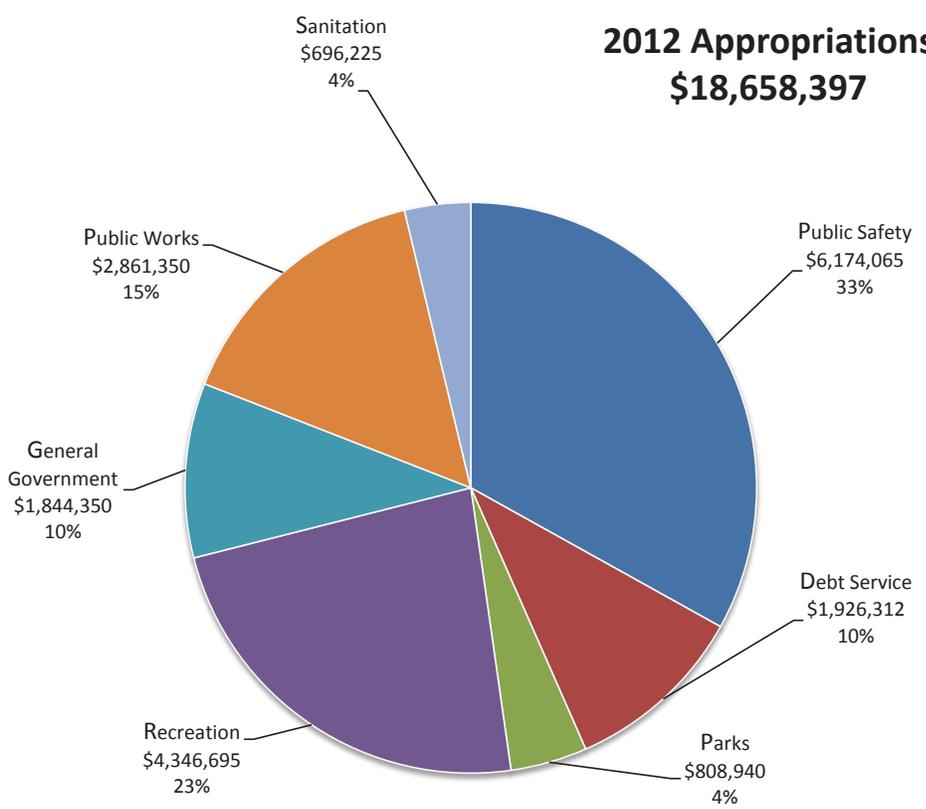
December: Second Public Hearing and Adoption of Budget.

2012 City of Des Peres Budget Book

The Book, published on the city website (www.desperesmo.org), details each City fund:

- General Fund
- Park Fund
- Fire Fund
- Capital Improvement Fund
- Debt Service Fund
- Sewer Lateral Fund
- Special Allocation Fund

The book also includes a synopsis of 2012 revenues and expenses. Check it out today!

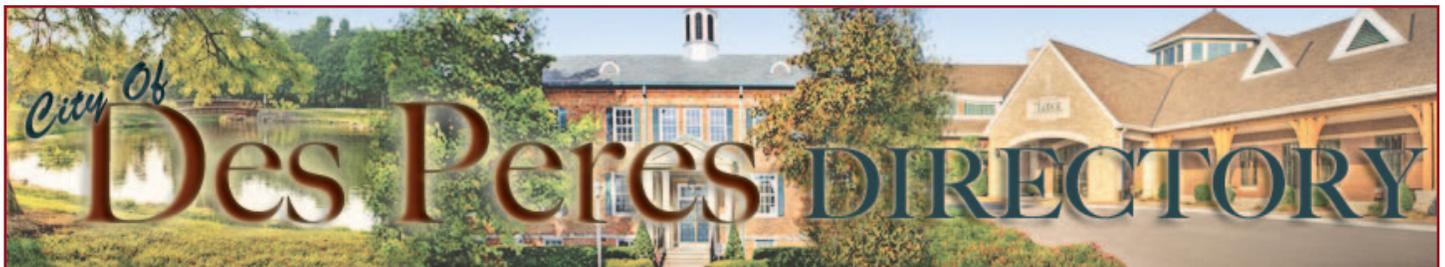


City Of
Des Peres

12325 Manchester Rd.
Des Peres, MO 63131

www.desperesmo.org

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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) 835-6111	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