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Upcoming Public Engagement Meetings on Comprehensive Plan and Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan

The city has been engaged in two large scale planning projects this past year year, both of which are nearing the final public engagement stages. Residents are encouraged to use the links provided below to visit our website to check out the drafts of the updated Des Peres Comprehensive Land Use Plan and the Trailnet Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.

Comprehensive Land Use Plan

A comprehensive plan is intended to serve as the guide for the development of the City and a foundation for land use and zoning decisions made by the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Board of Aldermen. Because the land use and development direction set by the Comprehensive Plan can impact certain areas of the City, or the entire City, the residents of Des Peres should have input, and the plan should reflect their vision. PGAV Planners was selected to assist the city with the effort and two public engagement workshops have been held, as well as, an online site for public comment on the project: www.engagedesperes.com

- View the draft for final review at: www.desperesmo.org/compplan
- This draft was presented to the Planning and Zoning Commission on July 8th; the plan will be up on the city website for 60 days to allow for public comment. On September 9th, the Plan Commission will hold a public hearing on the document before formally accepting it.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan

In 2014, Des Peres was selected for a Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Planning grant by Trailnet. Over the past year, the City with guidance from Trailnet has been engaged in the planning process, appointing a Planning Advisory Committee and hosting public events to solicit input on the plan.

- View the draft plan at: www.desperesmo.org/bikepedplan
- This draft will be presented to the Board of Aldermen on August 10th for review at which time it will be discussed and held for a public hearing which will be scheduled for the Board of Aldermen meeting on September 14.

Letter From Mayor Rick Lahr

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The city has been engaged in two large scale planning projects this past year, both of which are nearing the final public engagement stages. I would encourage each of you to visit our website (www.desperesmo.org) and check out the drafts of the new Des Peres Comprehensive Land Use Plan and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. These planning processes are a follow up to our Community Survey (administered by the ETC Institute last year) in which the results of, offered a scorecard on Des Peres' performance and asked for direction on what the community wants to see in the future.

I want to stress that both of these processes are in early stages. They are drafts developed by citizen volunteers with the assistance of professional consultants. In the case of the Comprehensive Plan, a committee of the Planning & Zoning Commission has worked with PGAV, a nationally known but St Louis based planning firm, for nearly a year reviewing our 2003 Comprehensive Plan upon which our zoning and development regulations are based. PGAV has hosted a series of work shops with the Planning & Zoning Commission and solicited public ideas using both public and on-line workshops and an on-line survey (www.engagedesperes.com). The Commission is now nearing completion of their review and we will be moving into the more formal public engagement process in the form of public hearing (s) BEFORE any document is finalized.

Our second planning effort involves creation of a Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan which maps out ways that we can better connect our community and encourage more healthy lifestyles. This effort started with a call for volunteers to form a Planning Advisory Committee and 18 citizens and 4 business owners volunteered to donate time in this effort. Working with TRAILNET, a St Louis based planning firm, they have developed a draft plan reflecting their thoughts and ideas on how we might interconnect Des Peres neighborhoods and parks using sidewalks, trails and bike paths. Similar studies are being completed in Webster and Kirkwood giving us an opportunity to see if Des Peres can interconnect with more regional trail and bike networks in St Louis. The Planning Advisory Committee has solicited public input using both in person and on-line work shops and on-line surveys. They recently completed some neighborhood walking tours to solicit feedback on their initial thoughts. Their work will soon be reported to the Board of Aldermen and formal public engagement in the form of public hearing(s) before any plan is finalized or adopted.

At this stage of the planning process, we certainly cannot predict the form or contents of the final plans. Final public engagement is an essential part of the process. As in many projects, implementation of a final plan will require both time and money. Nonetheless, I want to thank these citizen volunteers for the time, effort and dedication in considering these issues and offering their best thoughts and ideas. Our citizens are what make this a great community in which to live, work, play and raise family.



Des Peres Department of Finance Produces Popular Annual Financial Report for year ended 2014

The Des Peres Department of Finance produced its second Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for the year ended 2014 and has submitted it once again this year for consideration for the Award of Outstanding Achievement in Popular Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). The City's first PAFR was created last year and was awarded the Outstanding Achievement award.

The PAFR program was established in 1991 to encourage and assist state and local governments to extract information from their comprehensive annual financial report to produce financial reports specifically designed to be easily accessible and understandable to the general public and other interested parties without a background in public finance. To view the city's first PAFR, please visit www.desperesmo.org/pafr.

DID YOU KNOW...

The City has published a comprehensive Resident Guide with a lot of useful information in it.

View it online at: www.desperesmo.org under the header "HOW DO I...?", subheader "VIEW".

Municipal Calendar

August

- 3rd Municipal Court, 6:30 P.M. @ City Hall
- 3rd Public Safety Commission, 7:00 P.M. @ Public Safety
- 6th Parks and Rec Commission, 6:00 P.M. @ The Lodge
- 10th Board of Aldermen, 7:00 P.M. @ City Hall
- 12th Planning and Zoning Commission, 7:00 P.M. @ City Hall
- 14th "Hot Summer Night, Cool Summer Sounds" Concert Series: Dr. Zhivegas, 7:00 P.M. @ Des Peres Park
- 24th Board of Aldermen, 7:00 P.M. @ City Hall
- 24th Audit and Finance Committee, 4:30 P.M. @ City Hall
- 26th Board of Adjustment, 6:30 P.M. @ City Hall

September

- 3rd Parks and Recreation Commission, 6:00 P.M. @ The Lodge
- 7th Labor Day Holiday - City Hall Closed
- 7th Public Safety Commission - Cancelled
- 8th Dog Days of Summer, 5:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. @ The Lodge Outdoor Pool
- 8th Municipal Court, 6:30 P.M. @ City Hall
- 9th Planning and Zoning Commission, 7:00 P.M. @ City Hall
- 14th Board of Aldermen, 7:00 P.M. @ City Hall
- 23rd Board of Adjustment, 6:30 P.M. @ City Hall
- 28th Board of Aldermen, 7:00 P.M. @ City Hall

October

- 1st Parks and Recreation Commission, 6:00 P.M. @ The Lodge
- 3rd Electronic Recycling Event, 10:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. @ Des Peres Hospital
- 5th Municipal Court, 6:30 P.M. @ City Hall
- 5th Public Safety Commission, 7:00 P.M. @ Public Safety
- 12th Board of Aldermen, 7:00 P.M. @ City Hall
- 12th Columbus Day Holiday - City Hall Closed
- 14th Planning and Zoning Commission, 7:00 P.M. @ City Hall



DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

Tuesday, September 8
5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.
The Lodge Outdoor Pool



Bring your doggie for a dip at The Lodge Outdoor Pool as we end our season! Watch your pooch paddle and play in the water, receive some tasty treats and make some frisky new friends! For the safety of everyone, owners must show current proof of the following vaccinations in order for their pups to participate: Distemper, Parvo, Rabies. Dogs will not be allowed entry without written documentation of the above vaccines. Owners may not swim with their pooches; this swim is for DOGS ONLY! Call 314-835-6150 for more information. Cost \$10 per dog. Thank you to our sponsor, Three Dog Bakery!



USTA JUNIOR TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Saturday, August 22
Des Peres Park
Tennis Courts 1-6



Join us for our 10th Annual Satellite Tournament at Des Peres Park! This is a USTA Tournament, ID#404905415. This is an entry level tournament. No ranking points will be awarded for participation in this tournament. This is an opportunity for players just starting out in tournament play. Players may only register for one event. All players must have a USTA membership. Call 314-835-6150 for more information. Cost: \$33 Registration can only be done online at www.usta.com. Registration deadline is Monday, August 17. Participants are taken on a first come first serve basis.

Tournament will consist of the following junior divisions:

- Boy's Singles – 12 & under, 14 & under, 16 & under and 18 & under. (MFIC Draw)
- Girl's Singles – 12 & under, 14 & under, 16 & under and 18 & under. (MFIC Draw)
- Time: Schedule will be posted by August 20 at www.usta.com

SUNDAY FUNDAY

August 16 & October 4
11:00 A.M. – 1:45 P.M.



The Lodge Group Ex Studio Sunday Funday is a special day when The Lodge Fitness Team showcases group exercise classes that we offer...for FREE! Classes are 30 minutes in length; come for one or all four! Four classes will be showcased for each date below. Please visit our website for a detailed schedule at www.desperesmo.org/fitnessandwellness. First come, first served, ages 16 and older only. No tot care available. Call 314-835-6150 for more information.

DES PERES SUMMER CONCERT SERIES "HOT SUMMER NIGHTS, COOL SUMMER SOUNDS"

DRZHIVEGAS

Friday, August 14
7:00 - 9:30 P.M.



All concerts are held in Des Peres Park, 12325 Manchester Road, 63131. Bring your lawn chairs and coolers with your favorite snacks and beverages. Glass bottles are not permitted. Concessions will be available courtesy of Boy Scout Troop 313. In case of inclement weather, please visit www.TheLodgeDesPeres.com or call 314.835.6138.

Ameren's Act on Energy Program Provides Cash Rebates to Residents

Summer in St. Louis has arrived with a roller coaster of weather and temperatures. Stay comfortable in the summer heat without wasting energy when you take advantage of cash rebates from Ameren Missouri.

- Get up to \$500 back when you replace your central air conditioner. Installing a new air conditioner with a SEER (energy efficiency) rating of 14 or higher will help you conserve energy even in the hottest weather. You qualify for a bigger rebate if your current system is still working.
Follow these three simple steps:
Step 1: Choose your project. Visit our website for a complete list of current rebates and choose those that fit your projects.
Step 2: Select a contractor. Visit our website to choose from our list of participating contractors. Be sure to request the Ameren Missouri rebate when you schedule your project with a participating contractor.
Step 3: Complete your project. Your participating contractor will install your energy-efficient equipment and submit all of the rebate paperwork to Ameren Missouri on your behalf. You'll receive a rebate check in the mail in 6-8 weeks.
- Get \$75 back for a Tune-up Plus Ameren Missouri Efficiency Analysis. Ask for your Ameren Missouri efficiency analysis when you schedule your system tune-up. The Ameren Missouri efficiency analysis determines how efficiently your system is operating and can help you make an informed decision on whether repairing or replacing your equipment can help you save energy and money.
- Additional federal tax credits. By upgrading to energy efficient cooling/heating equipment, you may be eligible for a federal tax credit, in addition to the Ameren Missouri rebates. Visit our www.ActOnEnergy.com website to explore additional programs.
- Get \$20 back when you purchase an ENERGY STAR certified room air conditioner. An ENERGY STAR certified room air conditioner is designed with technologies that can save you 10% or more in energy costs over less efficient models. Choose one at a participating store near you, then visit our www.ActOnEnergy.com website to apply online, or print your rebate form to mail in.
- Get \$50 for your old working fridge or freezer. Let us come pick up (for free) that old working fridge or freezer (2001 or earlier models) you've stashed in the garage. If it's 20 years old, it's probably costing you at least \$100 per year in electricity. We want to get these energy hogs off the grid – that's why we'll pay you \$50 and recycle it for you! Visit www.ActOnEnergy.com for details and to schedule a pick up.

Ameren Missouri Presents Rebate Check to City for Energy Improvements

Gina Hakenewerth (center) of Ameren Missouri presents Mayor Rick Lahr with a rebate check for \$45,120 for comprehensive energy efficiency improvements made to City Buildings under their Bizsavers program. Also present are Scott Hardwick (far right) and Tiffany Duncan (far left) of Trane. In 2014, the City hired Trane as an Energy Services Partner to conduct an Investment Grade Audit of all city facilities to assess and develop a comprehensive plan for city-wide energy efficiency and infrastructure upgrades. With a proposal developed from that audit, the Board of Aldermen approved a \$3.5 million contract for energy efficient upgrades to all four municipal buildings: City Hall, Public Safety Building, The Lodge Des Peres and the Street Garage. Improvements included: new building insulation, pressurization and envelopes; implementation of web-based computerized energy control systems; installation of programmable thermostats; installation of new HVAC units, a new Chiller and two new PoolPak dehumidification units as well as comprehensive city-wide interior and exterior energy efficient lighting and lighting sensor technology. This project not only replaced aging equipment that has outlived its useful life, but it will have a long term impact significantly reducing utility costs.



Frank Clark, Street Superintendent Retires, Recognized for 42 Years of Service to Des Peres Community

After 42 years of service to the City of Des Peres, Frank Clark, longtime Street Superintendent has retired. The Des Peres Board of Aldermen formally recognized Frank at their June 8th meeting at City Hall and thanked him for his dedication and service to the community. Frank joined the Des Peres Department of Public Works in 1973 as a Street Maintenance worker and was promoted to the position of Street Superintendent in 1977.



Frank lived his career in dedication to his customers – the citizens of the community who deserved good roads, a quick response to problems and fair treatment for all. Over the course of his career with the City, Frank earned the respect and admiration of his peers, including six (6) Mayors, five (5) City Administrators and four (4) Directors of Public Works each of whom is indebted to Frank for his dedication and outstanding service that made streets, especially emergency snow removal, one less item to worry about. All knew that Frank was in charge and that the job would get done quickly, efficiently and effectively regardless of the challenges.

Over the course of his employment as Street Superintendent, Frank earned many awards including most recently, the Vince Tallo Award from the Missouri American Public Works Association for exemplary leadership and contributions to the public sector. We thank Frank for his service and dedication to our community and wish him a long and enjoyable retirement.

David Hahn Promoted to Street Superintendent



Dave Hahn, formerly one of two Foreman within the Street Division of Des Peres Department of Public Works, has been promoted to the position of Street Superintendent. Hahn has been employed with the City in the Street Department since 2006. "I am dedicated and enthusiastic for the opportunity to continue to help maintain the high level of standards and workmanship that the Street Division provides for the City's infrastructure and residents," said Hahn. Hahn's promotion took effect July 1. Dave can be reached at dhahn@desperesmo.org.

Residential Sanitary Sewer Lateral Program

The Department of Public Works oversees the City's Sanitary Sewer Lateral Repair/Insurance Program. This program is funded by a \$28 fee per home/per year assessment that was approved by the voters of the City of Des Peres in 1999. View the program's steps and procedures on the City Website at: www.desperesmo.org/sewerlateral

- The contractor provides the City with a certificate of insurance and performance bond for this work. The company is licensed and has significant experience in doing this type of sewer repairs.
- Substantially solid sewer lines that merely have a few roots in them will not be replaced. Cabling of such lines is the homeowner's responsibility.
- Should the scope of the project involve more than \$7,500 in total charges, the owner will be given the choice of either directly paying the contractor for more work, or having the project stopped.



As a pet owner, you have a responsibility to manage your pets and ensure good behavior in public. Cultivating appropriate behavior in our dogs paves the way for pleasant relations and peaceful coexistence among dog owners and non-owners alike. For specific ordinances related to animals in the City of Des Peres, please refer to Chapter 5 in the Municipal Code, available online at www.desperesmo.org.

- **TEACH APPROPRIATE DOG-TO-DOG INTRODUCTIONS.** It is not appropriate for dogs to “play” with other dogs while on leash. It may be cute when two 10-pound puppies do this; it’s not so cute at 60 pounds! Dogs must learn that there is a time for play, and a time to pay attention to you. If both dogs are well-behaved and focused on their owners, you can allow a walk-by so that they can greet appropriately, sniffing each other for five seconds. Allowing your dog to jump all over other dogs can result in injury (to either dog) and a bad reputation in your neighborhood!
- **ALWAYS LEASH YOUR DOG.** It doesn’t matter how friendly Fido is: leash laws exist for a reason. Not everyone is comfortable around dogs, and dog owners must anticipate this and be respectful. Only let your dog approach a stranger if that person asks. The same rule applies to strangers walking their own dogs. If you see another dog and owner approaching, ask first (“Can they say hi?”) and honor the other’s response. Don’t shrug off their objection because “he’s such a nice dog”: if he or she doesn’t want your dog to approach, no more explanation is necessary.
- **PREVENT BARKING.** Practice attention exercises so as to easily redirect Fido if he barks at people or other dogs. If you know your dog behaves this way, allow her in the yard only when supervised. If she barks at passers-by and other dogs from the car, close your side windows and cover them. Consider using a Calming Cap to reduce her field of vision, and – if there is room – crate her with a chew toy. Allowing her to bark through an open window appears inconsiderate and careless, and can frighten both people and dogs within earshot.
- **BE AWARE OF OTHER PEOPLES’ SPACE.** Keep your leashed dog close to you and stay alert to others using the path/park/sidewalk, etc. Your leash should be slack but short enough to prevent Fido from contacting or jumping on passers-by. Even if people say, “It’s okay,” your dog needs to learn to behave appropriately in public. Some people dislike dogs, others are frightened of them, still others may simply prefer well-mannered dogs!
- **BE AWARE OF OTHER PEOPLES’ FEELINGS.** If your dog does something that upsets someone else (jumping up, running after them, barking at them, etc.), apologize to that person and take measures to prevent the situation from re-occurring. Do this even if your dog’s behavior appeared benign in nature. Shrugging it off as an overreaction or a personal slight will not improve your dog’s behavior and may negatively impact your reputation in the community.
- **SCOOP YOUR POOP!** No excuses: few things sour dog-to-human relations more than poop left where others can step in it. Bring an excess of bags on each walk to be sure you have enough. If you run out of bags, either come back and clean it up or ask another walker if they have a bag to spare. Cleaning up every time will set a good example for others and promote an image of dog owners as caring, responsible citizens...a good thing around!

These guidelines will protect your pup and your neighborhood reputation.



City of
Des Peres
Missouri

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www.desperesmo.org

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Amanda J. Foster, MPA
835-6111

Director of Finance
Tracy Hansen, CPA
835-6113

Director of Public Works
Steve Meyer, P.E.
835-6130

Municipal Court
Administrator
Lucy Vatterott
835-6117

Director of Public Safety
Chief Keith Krumm
835-6200

Public Safety
1000 N. Ballas Road
835-6200
*Emergency: dial 911

Director of Parks &
Recreation
Brian Schaffer, C.P.R.P.
835-6161

The Lodge Des Peres
Recreation Facility
1050 Des Peres Road
835-6150

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