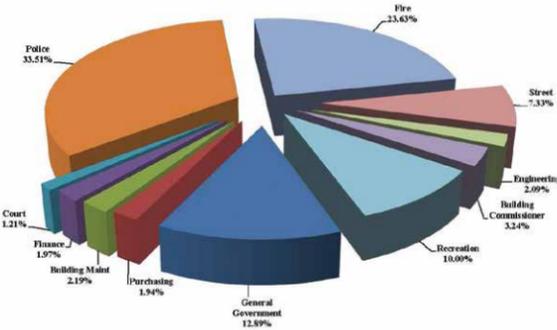




CITY COUNCIL APPROVES AND ADOPTS BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR THAT STARTS APRIL 1

The Kirkwood City Council voted to adopt the proposed budget for the City's next fiscal year (2015-2016) that starts April 1, 2015. The budget process in Kirkwood starts in early Fall of the previous year when the Citizens' Finance Committee begins meeting to analyze current budgets, future needs, and anticipated revenue and make recommendations to Council. At the same time, the Chief Administrative Officer and department heads review budgets and plans and submit expected expenditures to Council. This evaluation process continues for four to five months before a final budget is reviewed and adopted in March of each year.

GENERAL FUND BUDGETED EXPENDITURES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016



COMMUNITY-WIDE SURVEY YIELDS HELPFUL INFORMATION

Thank you to all Kirkwood residents who completed and returned the Community-wide survey last Fall. During November and December, ETC Institute administered a community survey for the City. The purpose was to assess satisfaction with the delivery of major City services to help set community priorities so that tax dollars are spent wisely. The six-page survey was mailed to a random sample of 2,500 households throughout the City. It included a postage-paid return envelope and a cover letter that explained the purpose and encouraged residents to return their surveys via mail or online. Approximately a week after it was mailed, ETC contacted residents by phone to make sure it had been received and to encourage their participation.

A total of 999 completed surveys were received. ETC reports that the results for the random sample have a 95 percent level of confidence with a precision of at least +/- 3.1 percent. To better understand how well services are being delivered, ETC geocoded the home address of respondents to the survey. A map with the distribution of home locations can be viewed, along with the full results of the survey, on the home page of the City's Website at KirkwoodMO.org.

The major categories of City services that received the highest levels of satisfaction (based on the combined percentage of "very satisfied" and "satisfied" responses) were: Public safety services (96 percent); water services (88 percent); electric service (86 percent); and parks and recreation programs and facilities (86 percent). The areas that residents feel should receive the most emphasis from City leaders over the next two years are: The condition of City Streets; the flow of traffic and congestion management; and parks and recreation programs and facilities. For the full report and a copy of the original survey questions, please visit the Website.

CITY AGAIN EARNS ACHIEVEMENT IN FINANCIAL REPORTING

The City of Kirkwood was again awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. The award is given by the Government Finance Officers Association for a city's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). It is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting. The City of Kirkwood's CAFR was judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the CAFR.

50 TREES GROUP RECEIVES AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Kirkwood's 50 Trees organization received the Missouri Arbor Award of Excellence for 2014 from the Missouri Department of Conservation. The Award recognizes a city-wide program for its forestry efforts. Each year, the 50 Trees organization solicits tree donations and holds a tree planting in the fall to help maintain the urban forest in Kirkwood. Congratulations!

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION ANNOUNCES ESSAY WINNERS

The following high school juniors will be recognized by the Kirkwood Human Rights Commission for their winning essays at the April 16 City Council meeting:

- Elia Taffa, First Place
- Daniel Stobbe, Second Place
- Annabel Dolan, Third Place
- Kendrick Loving, Honorable Mention

WATERING PUBLIC SIDEWALKS CAN POSE HAZARDS

Spring is here, and in an effort to help lawns and flower beds, many residents may begin watering their yards. Please make sure that all water sprinklers are aimed in a way that does not result in water hitting the public sidewalks. Water falling onto sidewalks from sprinklers is a City ordinance violation, and it can pose a hazard to walkers who may walk into the street to avoid getting wet. Please be careful. Thank you.

Kirkwood Meetings Calendar

- 4/1 Planning/Zoning Commission, 7pm
- 4/2 City Council 7pm, WS 6pm
- 4/6 Architectural Review Board, 7pm
- 4/8 Landmarks, 6:30pm
- 4/9 Council Work Session, 7am
- 4/13 Aquatic Advisory, 6:45pm
- 4/13 Board of Adjustment, 7pm
- 4/14 Human Rights Commission, 6:30pm
- 4/15 Library Board, 5:30pm, at Library
- 4/15 Planning/Zoning Commission, 7pm
- 4/16 City Council 7pm, WS 6pm
- 4/20 Park Board, 7pm, at Community Center
- 4/20 Architectural Review Board, 7pm
- 4/21 Greentree Festival, 7pm, at Community Center
- 4/28 Urban Forestry Commission, 7pm

Except where noted, meetings are typically held at Kirkwood City Hall, 139 South Kirkwood Road. Please check the Meetings Calendar on the City's Website for agendas, room locations, or any last-minute changes. Meeting agendas are also posted at City Hall.

CITY EMPLOYEES RECOGNIZED AT ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON

The following City of Kirkwood employees will be recognized for their years of service at the annual employee awards luncheon on April 9. The employees being recognized have a combined total of 818 years of service. (Please note: City Hall will be closed from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., on April 9, so that employees may attend the awards luncheon.)

49 YEARS

Price Fields, Street

40 YEARS

Cliff Kierstead, Police

Terry McDonald, Water

35 YEARS

Joe Mason, Recreation

Jimmy Bantel, Electric

Greg Hunt, Sanitation

30 YEARS

Dan Andert, Police

25 YEARS

Greg Thompson,

Recreation

Charlie Dahm, Fire

Dave Richardson, Parks

Frank Tallis, Fire

Larry Covington, Fire

20 YEARS

Kevin Campe, MIS

Bob Sheridan, Fleet

15 YEARS

David L. Smith, Fire

David M. Smith, Police

David Lavelly, Parks

Ken Davies, Recreation

Steve Knapp, Fire

Scott Peterson, Police

Chad Walton, Police

Sandy Stephens, Finance

Jack Plummer, Police

Susan Smith, Recreation

James Wolff, Recreation

Debbra Stratman, Fire

Larry Fillo, Recreation

10 YEARS

Ken Akins, Sanitation

Alex Galindo, Water

Judy Bryant, Fire

Yvonne Bonner, Police

Gary Baldrige, Police

Tony Bonastia, Street

Larry Campbell, Fire

Tara DeGreeff, Police

Jeanne Sielfleisch, Finance

Jimmie Patterson, Police

5 YEARS

Beth von Behren,

Administration

Tom Fischer, Fire

Tim Whelan, Fire

Pete Laufersweiler, Parks

Erin Lohbeck, Finance

Renee Kennedy, Parks

Charles Baldeck, Electric

Jennifer Burton, Police

Matt Waggoner, Police

Hassan Ward, Street

Robert Bayes, Police

Michael Schroeder, Police

RETIREES

Larry Kuenker, Parks,

March 1980 - April 2014

Price Fields, Street,

Sept. 1965 -Sept. 2014

COMMUNITY CENTER PLANNING MOVES FORWARD

Discussions about the Community Center redevelopment site plan options have evolved to include the idea of moving the Reim Theatre to a location on land the City owns on Monroe, between South Taylor and Fillmore. This proposed site would support a theater of about the same size as proposed in Kirkwood Park (20,000 square feet) and would seat approximately 500 patrons. The site would also accommodate 100 parking spots, with extra parking being available on the street and at the Station Plaza parking garage one block north. To view all three site plans plus a graphic of the proposed theater site, please visit the home page of the City Website at KirkwoodMo.org.

HISTORIC TRAIN STATION RECOGNIZED AS A CULTURAL CENTER

The Kirkwood Train Station will be recognized as an exemplary model for what communities can do with their stations or depots during the "I Love New York" Empire State Tourism Conference in Albany in April. The conference, for tourism professionals, will focus on how communities have reimagined their depots to serve as cultural centers, commercial spaces, and tourist centers.

DIGITAL RECORD RETENTION PROJECT NEARS COMPLETION

The City Clerk's Office will soon complete the project of providing all City departments with the software and training to retain and manage records in digital format. This has been a three-year project and is nearing completion. Using this process as a permanent record management solution was recommended by the City Clerk and allows for all City records to be retained in the same format. The City Council supports this process as it will result in higher record management efficiencies. This project was also a crucial step in ensuring easy search processes and security of records for future generations.

COMING UP IN KIRKWOOD

Kirkwood Farmers' Market Opens for the Season. Kirkwood Farmers' Market will open for its 39th season Saturday, April 4. The market is located in the heart of Downtown Kirkwood just east of the historic Kirkwood Train Station at 150 East Argonne Drive.

Art at the Station: In April, Art at the Station will feature the work of the Kirkwood High School Advanced Placement art students. Exhibit runs March 30 through May 4. Opening reception will be held Thursday, April 2, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., at the Kirkwood Train Station, 110 W. Argonne Drive, corner of Kirkwood Road. Exhibits and receptions are free and open to the public. Art may be viewed when the station is open for passengers.

Teen Egg Hunt (at night). Friday, April 3, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m., for ages 10 to 14. Teens: Here is your chance to remember the good old days with an egg hunt. But there a catch: It's in the dark! Event starts with dinner of pizza and drinks and wraps up with an egg hunt in Kirkwood Park. Don't forget a basket and a flashlight. Maximum of 50 teens, with 3 chaperones. Pre-registration required. Cost: \$5/residents, \$7/nonresidents. Meet at the Lions' Pavilion in Kirkwood Park.

Kirkwood Lions' Easter Egg Hunt. For ages 1 to 12, Saturday, April 4, at noon in Kirkwood Park. Ages will be divided into 1-3 years, 4-6 years, 7-9 years, and 10-12 years.

Earth Day in Kirkwood. Saturday, April 18, 10:00 to 3:00 p.m. Celebrating "The Miracle of the Monarch," one of nature's great phenomena. From caterpillar to butterfly is only part of its amazing story. Meet experts from more than 20 local organizations. Learn about attracting butterflies and birds to your garden, beekeeping, native plants and wildflowers, growing herbs, organic gardening, composting, urban tree care, sustainability, and more. Presented by Kirkwood Living Green and co-sponsored by Cornucopia and the Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Held in the Kirkwood Farmers' Market Greenway.

Arbor Day Tree Planting: At Kirkwood Public Library, Saturday, April 18, 9:00 a.m.

4th Annual Hook-In St. Louis Rug Show. April 25, 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Community Center. For more information, call 314-422-7771 or visit TheWoolyLoft.com.

Taste of Webster-Kirkwood. Chef Wars! Sunday, April 19, at the Kirkwood Community Center. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Chefs serve from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Silent auction. Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door. Purchase in advance at Shepherd's Center of Webster-Kirkwood, 1333 W. Lockwood Avenue, 63122, or call 314-395-0988.

SAVE THE DATE: POOL OPENS MAY 23

The Kirkwood Pool will open for the season at 10:00 a.m., on Saturday, May 23. Get your pool passes now. Don't wait for the long lines. We have both resident and nonresident passes and daily admissions, plus swimming and diving classes, water polo, the River Walk Club, Tot Time and water fitness classes. For full details, visit KirkwoodMO.org/Pool.

CLAY AVENUE RAILROAD OVERPASS WILL CLOSE FOR TWO WEEKS

The Clay Avenue railroad overpass bridge will close for two weeks for repairs and painting beginning the end of March. The bridge will be completely closed, day and night, and traffic will most likely be detoured to the Harrison Avenue overpass. The City is awaiting final documentation from the railroad before beginning the work. Please check the City Website for exact dates and updates. We apologize for the inconvenience.

MSD RATE PROPOSAL INFORMATION POSTED ON CITY WEBSITE

The Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD) will host several community briefings to communicate the components of and reasoning behind its rate proposal for fiscal years 2017-2020. Two meetings remain: April 1 at the Tesson Ferry Branch of the St. Louis County Library, 9920 Lin-Ferry Drive, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., and April 8 at The Pointe at Ballwin Commons, 1 Ballwin Commons Circle, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. For more information about their rate proposal, please visit the home page of the City's Website at KirkwoodMO.org.

WORK FOR THE CITY!

The City of Kirkwood currently has a variety of full-time, part-time, and seasonal job openings, including: G.I.S. Technician, Sanitation Worker (part-time), Park Maintenance Laborer (Full-Time), Water Distribution System Worker, and Park Ranger (part-time). Job descriptions can be found on the City Website at KirkwoodMO.org/employment. Additionally, summer lifeguard opportunities are available. Visit www.LifeguardsUnlimited.com to apply.

Eye on Kirkwood is published 12 times per year on the last Friday of every month by the City of Kirkwood, 139 S. Kirkwood Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122. For information or questions about content, contact the City's Public Information Officer, Beth von Behren, at 314-822-5894. To sign up for the electronic newsletter, send an email to Info@KirkwoodMo.org.

Kirkwood City Council: Mayor: Arthur J. McDonnell. Council Members: Gerry Biedenstien, Gina M. Jaksetic, Paul Ward, Bob Sears, Nancy Luetzow, Tim Griffin. **Kirkwood Administration:** Chief Administrative Officer: Russell B. Hawes. City Clerk: Betty Montano. To reach the City Clerk or Council, call 822-5802. To reach City offices, call 822-5800 for a list of extensions. The City Council meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. at Kirkwood City Hall, 139 S. Kirkwood Road. The public is invited to attend. For information about other meetings, City services, and events, visit the City's Website: www.kirkwoodmo.org.