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WORK SESSION MINUTES

A work session of the Kirkwood City Council was held on July 17, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. at Kirkwood City Hall, 139 S. Kirkwood Road, Kirkwood, Missouri. Present were: Mayor Gibbons, Council Members Jaksetic, Luetzow, McLean, Rheinnecker, Schaefer, and Zimmer. Also in attendance were Chief Administrative Officer Russell Hawes, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer David Weidler, City Clerk Laurie Asche, Director of Public Services Chris Krueger, City Engineer Richard Holesinger, Engineer Jennifer Brown, Communications Manager Jessica Winter, and City Attorney Jackie Graves.

APPROVAL OF JULY 10, 2025 WORK SESSION MINUTES

Motion was made by Council Member Zimmer and seconded by Council Member Schaefer to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2025 work session meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved.

WATER MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Chris Krueger introduced representatives from CMT, who provided a detailed update on the City's Water Master Plan. The presentation included a comprehensive review of the City's water distribution system, hydraulic modeling, infrastructure age and condition, and financial planning for future system improvements. A draft report and summary handouts were distributed to Council Members.

Overview of Kirkwood's system:

- It includes 135 miles of water main, serving a population of over 29,000.
- The system has six interconnects with Missouri American Water, and two each of elevated and ground storage tanks.
- Most of the system's infrastructure is cast iron, contributing to 92% of the 1,800 recorded main breaks in the past 12 years.

A breakdown of materials used were discussed and it was noted that PVC and HDPE are preferred due to corrosion resistance. Question was raised regarding which material is considered the best for longevity. PVC and HDPE perform well because they don't corrode like cast iron and ductile iron.

Question was raised regarding about the color-coded map showing pipe diameters and noted the lack of a legend. The smaller pipes (2"-4") are shown in black or yellow, while larger pipes (20"-24") are marked in purple and blue, especially near the Marshall Road Pump Station.

The hydraulic model and its ability to evaluate pressure, head loss, and fire flow availability were reviewed. Question was raised regarding whether bottleneck locations and available fire flow are included in the report. It was confirmed they are, though fire flow data was not included in the handouts. The final report will contain this data.

There was an inquiry about the impact of hydraulic pressure surges. The City's pump stations use variable speed pumps, which greatly reduce surge risk, and that no surge analysis was planned due to that design.



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Regarding water main breaks, a question was asked as to why the report only looks at the past 12 years. The City started using GIS to track in 2013. It was noted that paper records from earlier years exist, which will be provided to the full Council. Staff agreed to review those for historical context.

Question was raised regarding how Kirkwood compares to other systems. Break rates are typical for a system of this age and composition but cautioned against direct comparisons due to variations in pipe age and soil conditions.

On emergency breaks, the May 2025 rupture of the 20-inch main, which drained storage tanks and prompted a boil advisory was discussed. It was noted that similar event years ago under former CAO Mike Brown and question was raised regarding if the transmission line had prior issues. Staff confirmed a break had occurred but was not included in the GIS system.

Measures to mitigate future incidents, including checking for valve closures, evaluating even flow rates, and exploring redundant transmission lines were outlined.

Non-revenue water was addressed, with it being noted that 30% of the water supplied is unaccounted for due to leaks, metering, or billing issues. It was noted that all meters had been recently replaced, and a question was raised regarding if billing or detection issues might still exist. It was acknowledged meter age was unlikely the cause and suggested leakage or possible billing anomalies.

The consultants explained that Kirkwood's current replacement rate of 1.1% is better than many peer systems, but still leaves younger cast iron pipes in place for up to 135 years. An annual 2.5% replacement rate is recommended to maintain infrastructure integrity and to keep cast iron pipe life below 100 years, but would require a cost \$9 million per year for 33 years.

A risk-ranking model identified the highest-priority mains using break history, material, flow rate, and pressure data. Question was raised about unit cost estimates and requested a map overlay of the top 10% most at-risk segments. Discussion took place about high-risk segments. It was noted that the risk ranking model weighs factors such as break history, pressure, and pipe material. Question was raised regarding if detailed cost estimates for high-priority segments were available. It was noted that unit cost estimates based on recent bid history were around \$2.4 million per mile, and final prioritization and budgeting will follow.

Comparisons to national and regional benchmarks were reviewed, confirming Kirkwood's system is typical for its age and composition. Discussion took place regarding cost projections, the methodology behind the break history, potential for regional collaboration, and the feasibility of increasing funding.



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The session concluded with Council agreeing that this data supports stronger investment in water infrastructure, and staff were asked to return with implementation options and phased funding strategies.

MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING

Motion was made by Council Member Zimmer and seconded by Council Member Schaefer to close the meeting pursuant to RSMo Chapter 610.021 (1- Legal and 12 – Contract Negotiations).

Roll Call:

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Mayor Gibbons | “Yes” |
| Council Member Jaksetic | “Yes” |
| Council Member Luetzow | “Yes” |
| Council Member McLean | “Yes” |
| Council Member Rheinnecker | “Yes” |
| Council Member Schaefer | “Yes” |
| Council Member Zimmer | “Yes” |

The meeting was closed.

MOTION TO OPEN THE MEETING

Motion was made by Council Member Zimmer and seconded by Council Member Schaefer to open the meeting.

Roll Call:

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Mayor Gibbons | “Yes” |
| Council Member Jaksetic | “Yes” |
| Council Member Luetzow | “Yes” |
| Council Member McLean | “Yes” |
| Council Member Rheinnecker | “Yes” |
| Council Member Schaefer | “Yes” |
| Council Member Zimmer | “Yes” |

The meeting was opened. The work session was continued to following the formal Council meeting.

MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING

Motion was made by Council Member Schaefer and seconded by Council Member Zimmerto close the meeting pursuant to RSMo Chapter 610.021 (1- Legal and 12 – Contract Negotiations).

Roll Call:

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Mayor Gibbons | “Yes” |
| Council Member Jaksetic | “Yes” |



WHERE COMMUNITY AND SPIRIT MEET®

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| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Council Member Luetzow | "Yes" |
| Council Member McLean | "Yes" |
| Council Member Rheinnecker | "Yes" |
| Council Member Schaefer | "Yes" |
| Council Member Zimmer | "Yes" |

The meeting was closed.

MOTION TO OPEN THE MEETING

Motion was made by Council Member McLean and seconded by Council Member Schaefer to open the meeting.

Roll Call:

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Mayor Gibbons | "Yes" |
| Council Member Jaksetic | "Yes" |
| Council Member Luetzow | "Yes" |
| Council Member McLean | "Yes" |
| Council Member Rheinnecker | "Yes" |
| Council Member Schaefer | "Yes" |
| Council Member Zimmer | "Yes" |

The meeting was opened.

Since no further matters were to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned.

Laurie Asche
City Clerk