



City Administrator's Report

October 27, 2022

Personnel Updates

Assistant City Administrator

Following an interview process that included three internal candidates, Gina Pate has accepted the position of Assistant City Administrator. Gina's transition from the Public Works Department to this role has begun, with an effective date of this change of November 6.

Assistant to the Public Works Director

Mayra Ore Toothman has been appointed to fill the vacancy created by Gina's appointment to Assistant City Administrator. Mayra will shadow Gina in the next several days and transition to the position, also effective November 6.

In the coming days and weeks, I will be working with staff to refine and define roles and responsibilities and developing a process to fill the vacancy created by Mayra's move to public works.

Recreation Manager

As the Board is aware, Alex Threlkeld began duties as Recreation Manager on October 4, 2022. Alex comes from Warrensburg Parks and Recreation where she served as Recreation Superintendent. Alex oversaw operations of the recreation division, including sports, fitness, special events, programs and aquatics. Alex brings her creativity and organizational experience to our department.

Recreation Coordinator

A process is currently underway to fill this newly created position.

Streets Maintenance Worker I

Brandon Fischer began duties as a Streets Maintenance Worker I on October 20, 2022. Brandon comes to us from Holt, MO. He brings with him labor and snow removal experience. We are excited to announce that we have a full staff in the Streets Maintenance division.

Police Officer – one new and one resignation

Kurt Johnson will begin as Police Officer next week. Kurt comes to us from the Johnson County, Kansas Sheriff's Office. He will begin his field training upon hire.

Officer Kammrie Redwood has submitted her resignation.

Recruitment for vacant Police Officer positions is ongoing.

MARC Grant Update

As the Board is aware, the City has applied for a number of grants through Mid America Regional Council (MARC). The funding requests are making their way through various committees through the MARC process. Below is an update on the requests – we stand to be awarded funds for three of the projects submitted. Recommendations of these subcommittees will go to the full MARC Board of Directors for final approval. City match of these funds (which would also include design costs) are generally included in the Capital Improvement Plan, but prioritization of projects in out years may be required to provide sufficient match in city funds to the grant amounts.

Active Transportation Project Committee (ATPC) Notes

The city applied for two projects in this category: the Riverwalk and Second Creek Sidewalk. This program is funded primarily through Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding. Funding was originally at \$750,000 for each request. After review of the grant funding requests, there was a surplus of TAP funds available for projects. The committee approved a scenario to provide additional funding to projects that were in the top ten scores. Riverwalk was a top scoring project and is currently recommended for grant funding totaling \$900,000. Second Creek Sidewalk is currently recommended at \$600,000 grant funding, with a city match of \$345,000 plus design.

Surface Transportation Program (STP) Committee Notes

The city applied for three projects in this category: Bridge Street Roundabout, Pope Lane and Second Creek Sidewalk. Because of the level of funds available through the ATPC Committee, consideration of the Second Creek Sidewalk was moved out of requests in this committee.

The committee is leaning towards a scenario that considers both scores, priorities, and alignment for funding considerations. This scenario allows for more projects to receive the funding but reduces the funding for each project.

Under the scenario currently under consideration by the committee, the City would receive \$784,000 for the Bridge Street Roundabout project. The City would have a 50/50 construction match for the project. The committee directed applicants to send in the funding amount that the applicant could accept for the project. We would like feedback from the Board of Aldermen regarding feasibility of funding amount is feasible for Bridge St Roundabout. The next STP Committee meeting is on November 8 to discuss the funding scenarios and make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

Below is a summary of the current allocation of funds under consideration.

Project Title	Total project cost	MARC grant	City Cost (including both design and city match)
Second Creek Sidewalks	\$970,000	\$600,000	\$470,000
Bridge St Roundabout	\$1,730,000	\$784,000	\$946,000
Riverwalk Park	\$1,900,000	\$900,000	\$1,000,000

Tree Removal

Parks Maintenance staff worked this week to remove dead trees on city land behind the Senior Center. This work removes a safety hazard of these aging trees.



Thanks to crews for their efforts in taking down and removing the trees!