



City Administrator's Report

July 16, 2026

Strategic Plan Update Progress

As of July 9, the strategic planning process has included the following outreach and engagement activities:

- [Launch of the Strategic Plan Social Point website](#) (click to visit)
- BerryDunn has completed individual interviews with members of the Board of Aldermen and senior staff leadership.
- The employee survey has been created and sent to all employees, with 25 responses received so far.
- Social Point engagement totals to date include:
 - Views = 888
 - Visitors = 620
 - Contributions = 139
 - Survey: 126
 - Idea wall: 12
 - Forum: contributions 1
- External stakeholder focus group invitations were emailed on July 13.
- In-person community meetings have also been scheduled. Community members are invited to choose the time that works best for their schedules. Food will be provided.
 - 08/31 @ 06:00 pm – Smithville Library
 - 09/02 @ 10:30 am – Smithville Activity Center during Senior Services Programming
 - 09/02 @ 06:00 pm – Smithville High School
 - 09/03 @ 08:30 am – Smithville Activity Center
- Employee focus groups will be held on September 1 for supervisory and frontline staff.

Please help spread the word about these opportunities to be involved in the strategic planning process. Online responses through [the Strategic Plan Social Point](#), focus group

discussions, interviews, and community forums will all help inform the development of the Strategic Plan.

The City sent a mailer regarding the community meetings in the July utility bill, and more information will be included in the August Citizen Newsletter. Information regarding participation is located at City Hall and distributed at the Chamber Luncheon.

The Board of Aldermen goal planning session is scheduled for September 24 at 1:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Personnel Update

Police Department

Second-round interviews for the two Police Captain positions will be held this week. These positions are being filled as part of the department's leadership restructuring following Captain Roetman's retirement. Recruitment of the Animal Control Officer will occur following appointment of a Captain to supervise this division.

Public Works Department

Grant Clessen, who has been with the City since 2005, has transferred to the Streets Division as a Streets Maintenance Worker II.

Thomas Wall will join the Wastewater/Operations Division on July 27 as a Plant Operator I.

Interviews for the Streets Superintendent position are scheduled for later this month.

Recruitment for two Plant Operator positions within the Wastewater/Operations Division continues.

Scrivener's Error

In May 2024, the Board of Aldermen adopted Ordinance No. 3231-24, which increased the limit on liquor-by-the-drink licenses from one to two per 1,000 residents. When the Board later adopted Ordinance No. 3267-25 in July 2025 to align the City's license names with State classifications, that ordinance repealed and replaced Chapter 600 in full, inadvertently carrying forward the old one-per-1,000 figure, though no change to the license cap was intended or discussed. Because this was a scrivener's error, the City Clerk, as custodian of the City's ordinances and Code, has administratively corrected § 600.030(D)(1) to restore the two-per-1,000 limit the Board actually adopted.

Third Quarter Budget Review - August 18

Review of year-to-date budget activity will be presented on August 18. During that review, staff will be bringing forward a recommendation to amend the budget to fund additional work. Earlier this year, a bid was awarded to compete overlay work in the Forest Oaks subdivision. As that work has commenced, staff has identified additional curb and gutter work that should be completed as part of the project. Staff also requested quotes from the contractor, Asphaltic Surfaces, for overlay of the Heritage

Park parking lot. Favorable quotes were received and staff will recommend we pursue both changes.

The widespread power outage on the morning of July 9 reinforced the need for a backup generator at City Hall for emergency use. Staff is also reviewing prices to recommend purchase of additional traffic signage to be used during emergency situations or other power outages. Following direction at the Budget Retreat, staff has also been reviewing the 180th Street and Old Jefferson Highway area for improvements in signage. Purchase of signage for that intersection will also be recommended.

Data Center Discussion

The Planning Calendar had previously included a work session in August to discuss permitted use for data centers. After significant internal conversation, staff does not recommend conducting a work session on data centers at this time. Current ordinances do not allow data centers in any existing district within the city. Given this information as well as the heated nature of public discussion on this topic and the lack of actual suitable land that new data centers are currently looking for, the need for discussion is not there. If the Board wishes to engage in this discussion, staff recommend a request for a work session discussion.

Senior Services Second Quarter Report

The Senior Services Program continued to provide nutritional services and engagement opportunities for older adults during the second quarter of 2026. Compared to the same period in 2025, meal participation and client outreach remained strong, with notable growth in the number of individuals served.

During the reporting period, 1,323 meals were served, an increase from 1,162 meals in first quarter 2026. The program averaged 21 meals per day, compared to 22 meals per day in quarter one. The total number of unduplicated clients served increased to 237, up from 188 in the previous quarter, demonstrating continued expansion of services and community reach. Additionally, 44 new clients enrolled in the program during the second quarter, compared to 36 new clients in the first quarter.

The Smithville Activity Center was open for 56 senior service days during the quarter. Beyond meal services, staff provided a wide variety of recreational, educational, wellness, and social engagement opportunities. A total of 110 special activities and programs were conducted during the quarter, including:

- April: 40 activities/programs
- May: 37 activities/programs
- June: 33 activities/programs

June activity totals were lower due to the Activity Center being closed June 15–22 to accommodate Smithville Lake Fest activities and Smithville Founders Day events.

Overall, the second quarter demonstrated continued success in serving older adults through nutrition services, social engagement opportunities, and community programming while increasing the number of seniors reached and maintaining strong participation levels.

State Petition Audit

We have been notified that the field work portion of the audit was officially completed Friday, May 8. Auditors are now in the review process and will still be contacting staff for follow-up and clarification on information. Staff continue to provide information as requested. It is anticipated that work on the audit will continue throughout the fiscal year.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

The September 15, 2026, meeting falls during the MML annual conference and has also been cancelled by the Mayor. This meeting will likely be rescheduled later in the month pending receipt of property tax assessed valuation information from Clay and Platte Counties in order to set the tax rate for the coming year.