



City Administrator's Report

May 28, 2026

Senior Services Grant Information

The City intends to apply for the 2027 Grant Funding Renewal and Exercise Fund through Clay County Senior Services (CCSS) for Smithville Senior Services hosted at the Smithville Activity Center. Grant applications are due July 7, 2026.

The City is applying for two grants to assist with funding meals, supplies, paper goods, program costs, and personnel. The City has received funding from CCSS since 2013 and was awarded \$74,000 in FY26.

2026 Grant Funding

Senior Center Equipment/Supplies: \$27,920
Senior Services Personnel: \$38,080

2026 Exercise Fund

Fitness Instructors/Equipment: \$ 8,000

Total \$74,000

Staff will be requesting an increase in 2027 funding to assist with the growing costs of meals, supplies, paper goods, program expenses, and personnel. Staff is exploring the expansion of hot meal service from three days per week to five days per week. A trial run during Thursday programming resulted in increased attendance and positive participation trends.

Staff will provide an update to the Board after the grant application has been submitted, including the finalized financial figures. Staff anticipates receiving an update from CCSS around October regarding whether the request will be fully funded.

Public Safety Sales Tax Committee Meeting

The Public Safety Sales Tax Committee met for the first time May 20. The committee was appointed last year to meet twice annually to review use of the proceeds of the Public Safety Sales Tax in accordance with the fiscal year budget. The committee is appointed based on a desire to include a resident at large (Doug Cirricione), a resident

with police background (Richard Easley) and a resident with finance background (Holly Sullivan).

Staff reviewed public information provided prior to the election, the budget development process and the adopted FY2026 budget for this fund. Staff also updated the committee on progress in implementing the budget. To date, the City has partnered with the Fraternal Order of Police to increase the starting salary for Police Officers by 25% and for Police Sergeants by 17.7%. In addition, beginning in July 2026, the LAGERS retirement benefit will increase to the highest multiplier of 2.00%. The Board has also approved the addition of a Support Services Captain, a role that will enhance organizational structure and staff accountability.

Development of the Animal Control Program is ongoing. Hiring for the Animal Control position will occur following the onboarding of the new Captain to ensure proper program oversight and implementation.

The committee will meet again in November to review year end information and the FY2027 budget.

OK Trail Project Update

The trail is open! As of Friday, May 21, all concrete has been poured, and the trail is now accessible to the public. The next phase of the project includes installing benches, the water fountain, fencing, plaque, and butterfly garden, followed by final grading and seeding. The project is anticipated to be fully completed by June 3, weather permitting.



Commercial Street Mill and Overlay Project Update

Update directly from Public Works Director Chuck Soules:

WATCH OUT FOR THAT BUMP!!!.

What Bump?

The Contractor is currently completing the overlay of Commercial from Meadow to Highway 92!!! They will need to come back to finish from Meadow to Main and complete striping after all is completed.

Due to other projects the final area will be in next couple weeks.

The sidewalk project is substantially complete. There are some minor items, some cleanup and seeding that will need to be completed.

It's been a long process but we're getting there!!!



Meetings with Partner Entities

On Thursday, May 14 Assistant City Administrator Gina Pate and I met with Chamber Executive Director Erika Winston for our monthly meeting to discuss projects and support the Chamber provides the city as part of the services agreement. We also discussed the recent announcement that Erika will be leaving her role as Executive Director in June and the transition plan as well as recruitment. In a subsequent meeting, Gina and I met with representatives of the Chamber Board regarding the recruitment process.

Last Thursday, I attended the Smithville Community In Action community advisory council meeting and provided an update on city projects, expenditures related to the Public Safety Sales Tax and the strategic planning process.

On Wednesday, May 27, I met with Superintendent Mark Maus for our monthly meeting. We discussed a variety of issues including current development in the city, the strategic planning process, the SRO program and other items of joint interest.

Strategic Plan Update

The City published the Strategic Plan website on May 20 through the City website, social media channels, and an announcement at the Monthly Chamber meeting. The project team met on May 26 and reviewed early engagement metrics, which included 385 views, 306 visitors, and 65 contributions. The team is encouraged by the level of participation in less than one week of the online forum being available. Responses will be collected through September 4, 2026, and the Board is encouraged to help promote the effort and increase community participation.

This summer, staff will distribute an employee survey to gather internal feedback. In addition, multiple virtual external stakeholder focus groups will be held with HOAs, government partners, community organizations, business and economic development representatives, Citizen Academy graduates, and City board and commission members. Four public community forums and several employee focus groups will also be conducted during the week of August 31 through September 4.

Input gathered from the website, one-on-one meetings, external focus groups, the employee survey, and community forums will inform the Board Planning Session, where mission, goals, and values will be developed. The Board Planning Session is scheduled for September 24 at 1:00 p.m., and staff will meet the following day to develop action items to support operational goals.

The draft plan will be presented to the Board this fall. At that time, the City will conduct an additional community survey and host three community forums to gather feedback and ensure alignment with community priorities before final adoption by the Board of Aldermen.

Smithville Lake Festival and Parade

This year's Lakefest event will be much larger in scale than previous years, and we want to help residents plan ahead for temporary closures and access changes. City staff will be parking offsite during the duration of Jun 15-19. They will not be parking on the street to allow spaces for visitors. The front and back of City Hall will remain accessible for business operations.

Please note:

- The senior activities will not be held June 15–19
- The parking lots behind City Hall will be closed beginning June 13 at 10:00 p.m. through June 21
- The community recycling bins behind City Hall will not be accessible June 13–21

Detour routes and road closure information will be shared on the City's social media pages and website as the event approaches.

The City will again participate in the parade for Smithville Lake Festival on Saturday, June 20. Please let Linda know if you plan to participate!

MML 2026 Elected Officials Training Conference

As noted at the April 7 Board meeting, MML is hosting their annual elected officials training June 11 and 12 in Columbia. The training provides a nuts and bolts review of issues municipal officials face on a regular basis, including Sunshine Law, planning and zoning, revenue sources and budget development. Please let Linda know if you plan to attend this training. The last day to register is May 28.

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

Due to the fact that the June 16, 2026, meeting falls during set-up for LakeFest affecting access to the City Hall parking lot, Mayor Boley has cancelled that meeting. In lieu of a Board of Aldermen meeting that evening, the Board of Aldermen Budget Retreat will be held that day to discuss budget priorities.

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.