



Figure 1 - Downtown Smithville

City of Smithville, Missouri
Board of Aldermen - Work Session Agenda
6:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 24, 2026
City Hall Council Chambers

Meetings are live streamed on the [City's YouTube](#) page and will be posted to the City's website and Facebook following the meeting.

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Discussion of MARC Grant Application Process**
- 3. Discussion of Downtown Parking**
- 4. Discussion of Temporary Alcohol Sales Provisions During 2026 FIFA World Cup**
- 5. Adjourn**



	STAFF REPORT
Date:	March 24, 2026
Prepared By:	Public Works and Parks and Recreation
Subject:	MARC Grant Application Process

At the January 20 work session, staff presented to the Board a list of potential projects for submission to the upcoming MARC Call for Projects grant application. Following discussion, the Board directed staff to move forward with applications for Streetscape Phase IV and the Eagle Parkway Trail.

The Streetscape Phase IV project would continue the established downtown streetscape aesthetic by implementing a simplified version of the current design—focused on upgraded sidewalks and pedestrian-scale lighting, without the use of brick pavers. Streetscape Phase IV is planned for Commercial Avenue, extending from East Meadows to Church Street.

Phase I of the Eagle Parkway Trail will construct the first one-mile segment of a new multi-use trail in Smithville’s Eagle Parkway area. This phase will extend from 180th Street to 188th Street, forming the initial portion of what will eventually be a 2-mile trail network. The project includes building a 10-foot-wide concrete path designed for both pedestrians and cyclists, improving safety and accessibility. Phase II will continue this route north from 188th Street to Little Platte North Park.

MARC’s Call for Projects opens on February 28, 2026, and applications are due March 24, 2026. Due to timing of Board meetings in March, staff will prepare and submit applications for these two projects and will bring an action acknowledging that application to the Board at the March 24 meeting.

The City has created a dedicated page on our website where residents can review the proposed submissions and provide feedback. Staff will continue developing the applications over the next few weeks and will update the website with additional information as materials are completed. The public can visit the City’s website for project details and to submit comments: [Project Feedback](#)

	STAFF REPORT
Date:	March 24, 2026
Prepared By:	Gina Pate, Assistant City Administrator
Subject:	Downtown Parking

Introduction

During New Business at a previous Board of Aldermen meeting, the Board directed staff to bring Downtown Parking as a discussion item in response to concerns from downtown business owners. Staff conducted research on past practices to help inform the current parking practices and has also discussed this item with the Smithville Main Street District (SMSD) and Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce.

History

Parking restrictions in the downtown area date back to 1977, which included a two-hour parking limit. The Board of Aldermen repealed this limit in July of 1999 due to the Smithville Police Department’s limited capacity to enforce timed restrictions.

Downtown Parking Update

Currently, the downtown area contains 994 total parking spaces, including 736 public and 258 private spaces. Staff has not observed a shortage of parking spaces. For context, a typical Costco store has approximately 750 parking spaces. Comparatively, Smithville downtown has a higher number of parking spaces available.

Based on concerns expressed, staff interprets that concerns relate more to the proximity of available spaces near specific businesses than the number of parking spaces in the area.

Supporting this interpretation, staff has learned that some downtown employees and contractors are using street parking spots closest to businesses and construction sites. This reduces availability of parking for visitors and contributes to the perception that parking is limited.

To address this, SMSD is encouraging downtown employees to park in public lots to free up street parking for visitors. Staff will also communicate with contractors who have building permits or are performing work for the City to request that the workers park in other areas than street spaces whenever feasible. Together, these efforts should help improve the availability and visibility of parking options. SMSD also plans to promote the total amount of parking downtown to educate business owners and the public regarding parking availability.

Special events with road closures will have an impact on downtown parking. The City works with special events to communicate any parking limitations for the public and affected businesses to plan accordingly.

There are also noted public concerns regarding parking due to the Mill & Main Street Apartment Complex (110 Smithville TIF Development). Parking lots for this development are located at the Northside of Church Street and the Southside of Church Street, parking will be enforced by the apartment management from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. and will be public parking during the hours of 6 a.m.– 6 p.m. for core business hours. As part of the development, on-street parking along Mil Street and Church Street will include 35 spaces, doubling the previous number of spaces. This construction is anticipated to begin in April.

Wayfinding Update

Using ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funding, the City contracted with KMA Design to develop Wayfinding and Signage Guidelines. These guidelines provide a roadmap for identifying potential signage for public places in Smithville and include a master list of signage options, with an emphasis on downtown placemaking elements such as public parking lot designations, directional signs, an LED sign in front of City Hall, and a pedestrian kiosk.

Originally, construction was planned to begin in FY2025, supported by \$100,000 budgeted for downtown signage. However, staff recommended delaying the project due to the timing of the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) grant application and MoDOT's approval process for signage along HWY-169. The City secured \$600,000 in grant funding from MARC to support implementation of the Wayfinding Signage Project, and the FY2025 funds were rolled into FY2026.

As the project scope expanded in FY2026 from a downtown-focused initiative to a citywide signage program due to the grant funding, staff recommended using the FY2026 allocation to complete engineering for full implementation. This recommendation was approved at the March 3, 2026, Board of Aldermen Meeting. Construction costs are now anticipated in FY2027, which will delay signage installation until that time to allow for use of the grant funding.

Parking Improvement Considerations

At the FY2026 Board Retreat, the Board discussed potential improvements to city-owned parking lots. Items considered included re-striping, general lot maintenance, mill and overlay work, and converting gravel lots into paved surfaces.

This spring and summer, the Streets Division will complete re-striping of several parking lots, including those behind City Hall, across from Major Lumber, and at Heritage Park. Larger-scale improvements will require budget consideration, as construction costs are significant and heavily affected by market conditions.

If the Board identifies priority areas for improvement, staff will prepare cost estimates and bring forward recommendations for future Board discussion.

Next Steps

At this time, staff does not recommend implementing parking enforcement measures in the downtown area. Adding parking restrictions could discourage downtown visitors and would require enforcement capacity the City does not currently have. The City is moving forward with the citywide Wayfinding Signage Project, which will include downtown signage for public amenities and parking lots. Staff also continues to work with community partners to improve communication regarding public parking options. If the Board identifies priorities for parking lot improvements, staff will bring back cost considerations and recommended timing for future discussion.

Downtown Parking 2026



263
Off-Street City Owned

473
On-Street

149
Off-Street Private
Residential

109
Off-Street Private
Non-Residential

994
Total Parking Available
3 block walk from 



Date:	March 24, 2026
Prepared By:	Jason Lockridge, Chief of Police
Subject:	Temporary Alcohol Sales Provisions During the 2026 FIFA World Cup – RSMo. 311.2026

The Missouri General Assembly enacted RSMo. 311.2026 in anticipation of the 2026 FIFA World Cup Tournament, with Kansas City serving as a host site. The statute temporarily modifies allowable alcohol sales hours statewide from June 11, 2026, through July 19, 2026.

Under this law, licensed establishments may sell alcoholic beverages between 6:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. the following day, effectively allowing 23-hour alcohol sales. Establishments may remain open 24 hours per day during this period. The statute automatically sunsets on July 20, 2026.

Local cities and counties must proactively adopt an ordinance if they wish to opt out of these extended hours. If no action is taken, the state statute applies by default.

Under current City ordinance, alcohol sales are permitted from 6:00 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. the following day. No license holder or employee may sell, give away, or permit the consumption of intoxicating liquor between 1:30 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. on weekdays, and between 1:30 a.m. Sunday and 6:00 a.m. Monday, except as otherwise authorized for Sunday sales. Premises licensed for sale by the drink must remain closed during prohibited hours.

If the City takes no action, RSMo. 311.2026 will temporarily supersede these local time restrictions for the duration of the World Cup window.

Several surrounding municipalities have already taken positions:

- Independence has allowed establishments to remain open 24 hours but opted out of extended alcohol sales hours.
- Kansas City, Gladstone, Excelsior Springs, Kearney, Parkville and Riverside are following State Statute as written, to allow the law to take effect without opting out. (Allowing them to be open 24 hours and sell alcohol from 6:00 am to 5:00 am the next morning)
- North Kansas City and Liberty have opted out. They will be following their current municipal codes.

Staff has evaluated the anticipated impact of extended sales hours.

At this time:

- No staffing strain is anticipated.
- No additional personnel are expected to be required.
- No significant operational issues are projected.

Given Smithville's size and the limited number of licensed establishments, the department does not anticipate the extended hours creating measurable public safety concerns beyond normal enforcement activity.

Staff has identified 3 options.

Option 1: Take No Action

Allow RSMo. 311.2026 to take effect as written.

- Alcohol sales permitted from 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. the following day.
- Establishments may remain open 24 hours.
- Law sunsets automatically July 20, 2026.
- No additional ordinance required.

This option aligns with the current approach of several neighboring communities and supports regional consistency during the event.

Option 2: Opt Out

Adopt a local ordinance opting out of the extended hours provision.

- Alcohol sales remain restricted to current City hours of 6:00 a.m. to 1:30 a.m.
- No change to existing operational requirements.
- Provides full local control but limits participation in the temporary statewide expansion.

Option 3: Allow Extended Hours With Local Conditions

Adopt an ordinance permitting extended hours but with additional local requirements, such as:

- Written notification to the City of intent to operate past normal hours.
- Designation of an on-site manager during extended operations.
- Compliance review or temporary acknowledgment process.

This option allows participation while adding administrative oversight. However, it would require drafting and enforcement of a temporary local framework for a 39-day period.

After reviewing the statute, regional activity, and operational considerations, staff recommends Option 1: Take No Action and allow the state statute to take effect as written.

This approach:

- Requires no additional local legislation.
- Creates consistency with surrounding communities.
- Presents minimal operational impact.
- Automatically sunsets at the conclusion of the event.

Given the number and type of licenses issued in Smithville, staff does not believe the state changes would affect local businesses dramatically or impact police response needs. Should the Board desire any changes to local controls, staff can return with ordinance language for consideration based on Board direction.