



## **City Administrator's Report**

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August 27, 2026

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### **Strategic Plan Update Progress**

Multiple in-person community forum meetings are scheduled for this week to obtain public input on the strategic plan. Community members are invited to choose the meeting that works best for their schedules. Food will be provided.

- 8/31 @ 06:00 pm – Smithville Library
- 9/02 @ 10:30 am – Smithville Activity Center during Senior Services Programming
- 9/02 @ 06:00 pm – Smithville High School
- 9/03 @ 08:30 am – Smithville Activity Center

### **Community Conversations: Your City, Up Close**

As previously discussed, staff is developing a series of community informational sessions in response to citizen survey feedback expressing a desire for additional communication and engagement opportunities. These sessions will provide residents with the opportunity to learn about City services, tour City facilities, and gain a better understanding of municipal operations. Staff is currently developing the schedule and topics for the series. The first session will provide a high-level overview of City operations and finances, with a primary focus on the Water Plant and Wastewater Plant. Watch the City's website and social media channels for upcoming dates and additional information.

### **Additional Federal Earmark Funding**

As the Board will recall, approximately four years ago, staff submitted several projects for consideration through the federal earmark process with Congressman Graves. The funding was limited to sanitary sewer and storm sewer projects and required a 75/25 federal-to-local funding match.

As part of that effort, the City was awarded approximately \$1.8 million in 2024 for the 144th Street Lift Station and Force Main project. The City received those funds in FY2025.

Staff was recently notified that the City will receive additional federal earmark funding for a Federal FY2026 project submitted through Congressman Graves' office. At this

time, staff anticipates the award will be just under \$1.5 million and will support the Owens Branch Phase I, Line 1 project.

Over the past several weeks, Public Works Director Matt Bond and Assistant Director Mayra Toothman have been in communication with a representative from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which will administer the funding and project. Staff is working with the Corps to finalize the requirements and anticipate the funds will be available to support the project in FY2027.

### **Development Updates**

As previously reported, *Smithville Plaza Apartments* – Rezoning and Conceptual Plan is on the September 8 Planning and Zoning Commission agenda.

The October agenda will include return of the *Whispering Creek Farms* after the P & Z continued the hearing and requested a full Traffic Impact Study (TIS) for review instead of the safety review conducted at the request of the Clay County Highway Engineer. Whispering Creek Farms – rezoning to A-R already recommended for approval by the Commission. The only outstanding item is the Final Plat discussed above.

The second item on the October agenda is a new submission. The owner of *Davenport Farms* development located at the northeast corner of 188<sup>th</sup> and Eagle Parkway around Eagle Heights Elementary school is requesting a Single-Phase Final Plat to create two additional lots north of the elementary school and adjust some property lines with the school district from the original preliminary plat layout to allow the creation of one lot to be sold for the proposed new Northland Regional Ambulance District facility. The zoning does not need to change, but the original Preliminary Plat has long since expired and this new process incorporates the preliminary platting questions within the City's truncated process of Single-Phase Final Plats. Any future residential lot development will come at a later stage and submission.



**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 has been rescheduled to September 29.