



CITY VIEWS

A NEWSLETTER FOR CLAYTON BUSINESS AND RESIDENTIAL CITIZENS

AUGUST 2006

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 4



**MetroLink's
Cross County
Extension Will
Open Soon**

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JSC Priority is Public Input

As mentioned in prior issues of CityViews, the Joint Study Committee (JSC), the 40-member group made up of 20 citizens from the City of Clayton and 20 from the City of Richmond Heights, is studying the possible merger of the two municipal governments or the consolidation of one or more of their essential services. To thoroughly cover each aspect of the research, the JSC has been divided into ten subcommittees: the Finance, Information Technology, Infrastructure, Library, Organizational Structure, Parks and Recreation, Personnel, Planning and Zoning, Public Awareness, and Public Safety subcommittees.

Monthly meetings of the JSC are held on the fourth Wednesday each month. Chairmen from each of the subcommittees present progress reports at these meetings. At the May 31st meeting, reports were given by chairmen of several subcommittees. The Public Awareness Subcommittee reported that after three meetings, it had concluded one of the most important issues at hand is public input, and that obtaining a read on the general consensus about the merger or services consolidation early in the process would be helpful. The Public Awareness Subcommittee recommended a survey to obtain a thorough study of public opinion. The JSC instructed the subcommittee to look into the process of conducting a survey and provide a report back to the full committee.

With public input a priority, the JSC decided to hold public forums. The first will be held from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on October 23 at The Heights in Richmond Heights. On November 15, a forum will be held from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Wydown Middle School in Clayton.

The next meeting of the JSC is scheduled for Wednesday, August 30, at The Center of Clayton, 50 Gay Avenue. The JSC meetings are open to the public.

August 8th Ballot

Among the primary goals of Clayton's elected officials are maintaining an open line of communication with the citizenry and fulfilling the expectations of the majority. To this end, obtaining residents' opinion on the topic of eminent domain is very important.

The City planned a special ballot initiative on June 6 to ask voters if the City should limit the use of eminent domain. To help provide a basis for a consensus, the Board of Aldermen felt that the newly adopted State legislation on eminent domain could serve as a guide. However, when it appeared that the State would not adopt the new legislation until May or later, the Board of Alderman ratified Ordinance #5923 which changed the date of the referendum to August 8 to provide additional time to review State legislation.

On August 8, Clayton voters will be asked:

Should it be the future policy of the City of Clayton that eminent domain should be significantly limited in conjunction with any economic development or redevelopment project?

A letter has been mailed to Clayton residents which provides the background of the eminent domain issue. It expresses the value the Mayor and Board of Aldermen place on obtaining public input.

Mayor Uchitelle and the Board of Aldermen hope that Clayton citizens will take this opportunity to express their opinions.



Bev Wagner
Ward I Alderman

WARD I NEWS

Clayton Ward I, east of Big Bend to the City boundary, is thriving with activity. We are honored to represent this area of Clayton, home to world-class institutions of higher education, renowned religious institutions, Wilson School and two Clayton School District schools.

■ On June 6, 2006, a neighborhood meeting was hosted at Concordia Seminary to introduce Dan Wagner, of R.V. Wagner, Inc., the new owner of four Clayton Road properties near Seminary Lane, and his project architect, Tyler Stephens. Mr. Wagner expressed his desire to develop a



Judy Goodman
Ward I Alderman

mixed-use project that will be consistent with Urban Design District guidelines and compatible with the historic neighborhood. Mr. Stephens, of Schwetye Architects, led a dialogue with nearly 80 attendees to address their priorities and questions. At a second neighborhood meeting on June 26, 2006, concepts for the project were presented and attendees provided feedback. Both meetings resulted in productive discussion. The next step will be presentations to the Plan Commission with opportunity for public comment.

■ On the north end of the Ward, we continue to facilitate conversations between Washington University and Skinker-Heights residents. In June 2006, Ward I Aldermen and neighborhood representatives met with University representatives to discuss ongoing issues. Residents are forming an official neighborhood association to assist with the collection of dues for social functions and special projects, as well as to serve as first contacts for the University and the City when communicating about important topics, like landscaping, construction and housing. As a result of ongoing meetings over the last few years, the University is more cognizant of and sensitive to a number of resident concerns. The University has also hosted several informative sessions for the neighborhood about ongoing construction on the Hilltop campus.

■ We are thrilled to see recent efforts by the City of St. Louis to improve landscaping in the median of Wydown Boulevard. This stretch has been enhanced with plentiful plantings of rose bushes and trees. In the HiPointe/DeMun neighborhood, improved lighting and a new monument sign are budgeted enhancements for 2007.

■ A Housing Task Force has been initiated to examine a number of residential challenges, from maintenance of older housing stock and historic district guidelines to property values and affordable options for young families. The Task Force is comprised of residents from all three Wards, and Ward I representatives are: Joanne Boulton, Andrea Maddox-Dallas, Nicki Herrington and George Hettich.

As always, our message is about involvement. We encourage residents to inquire about the many opportunities to learn about current challenges and contribute to Clayton's future. Please feel free to contact us at any time.

Alderman Beverly A. Wagner
bwagner@ci.clayton.mo.us

Alderman Judy R. Goodman
jgoodman@ci.clayton.mo.us

August Meeting Schedule

The following list of public meetings contains all regularly scheduled meetings of the City of Clayton. Meetings may be added, canceled or rescheduled, in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, as the need arises.

- Aug. 3 Board of Adjustment
City Hall - 5:00 p.m.
- Aug. 7 Plan Commission/ARB
City Hall - 5:30 p.m.
- Aug. 8 Board of Aldermen
City Hall - 8:00 p.m.
- Aug. 14 Art Commission
City Hall - 6:00 p.m.
- Aug. 17 Landscape Committee
City Hall - 5:00 p.m.
- Aug. 21 Plan Commission/ARB
City Hall - 5:30 p.m.
- Aug. 22 Board of Aldermen
City Hall - 8:00 p.m.
- Aug. 25 C.R.S.W.C.
The Center - 8:00 a.m.
- Aug. 28 Hanley House Council
The Center - 5:00 p.m.
- Aug. 28 Parks & Recreation
The Center - 7:00 p.m.

I-64 Connection Committee

City staff and elected officials are keeping a watchful eye on The New I-64 project. In July, the City and the Clayton Chamber of Commerce hosted two brown-bag luncheons at The Center of Clayton where representatives from the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) and St. Louis County provided the latest information on The New I-64 reconstruction project.

Additionally, Clayton's City Manager Mike Schoedel has been asked to serve on the I-64 Connection Committee. This committee will provide advice and project support to the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) regarding ongoing traffic management and other project communications related to the reconstruction of I-64. The Connection Committee will serve as high-level issue coordinators helping MoDOT identify concerns and develop community outreach activities. Committee members will serve as representative liaisons and advocates to the groups and communities they represent.

MoDOT's I-64 Project Director Lesley Hoffarth heads the group. The other members are: Garry Earls, St. Louis County; Kathy Hale, City of St. Louis; Chris Seemayer, Brentwood; Bob Shelton, Frontenac; Mike Wooldridge, Ladue; Amy Hamilton, Richmond Heights; Tom Irwin, Regional Chamber and Growth Association; Dee Joyner, Commerce Bank; Jim Murphy, Regional Business Council; Jim Cloar, Downtown St. Louis Partnership; June Fowler, BJC; Ron Watermon, St. Louis Cardinals; MoDOT I-64 Deputy Project Director Ron Morris and Community Relations Manager Linda Wilson.

Between now and the start of construction in 2007, this Committee will help MoDOT with outreach to major employers and commuters on alternate commute options. The group will work on education about the project and access to jobs and businesses within the project area. They will also make recommendations on the best methods for communicating alternate routes and way-finding, regional traffic and traffic flow, incident response, updates on construction progress and status of changes in the maintenance of traffic.

The group is currently working with MoDOT. It will also be responsible for advising the winning contractor team, who will be selected by the end of 2006. Construction on the \$535 million project is expected to begin in early 2007 and be completed by October 2010.

For more information, contact The New I-64 Community Relations Manager Linda Wilson at 314.340.4117 or Linda.Wilson@modot.mo.gov.

Cross County MetroLink Extension Will Open Soon

Clayton is the hub of the Metro area. It is accessible from several major thoroughfares and the St. Louis County seat. To add to its appeal as a business center and the area's second downtown, the new Cross County MetroLink Extension will run through downtown Clayton.

Over a decade ago, City officials, who understood the countless benefits it would provide to their community, had the foresight to work with MetroLink designers early in the planning of the westward expansion of the light rail system. The process was complicated and arduous, but the route was confirmed and design finalized.

Included in the design of the MetroLink extension through Clayton are two passenger stations, one at Forsyth Boulevard and Forest Park Parkway and one at Central Avenue. These stations will facilitate travel to and from Clayton. The stations, especially the Central Avenue station which connects to the Shaw Park Garage & Transit Center/Clayton MetroBus Transfer Center, represent an added convenience for Clayton citizens and visitors to Clayton, and encourage commerce for its business community.



Fire Station Mural Project

The project started with a group of Clayton citizens who were interested in recognizing the Clayton Fire Department's outstanding service to the community. The group met with Clayton Fire Department staff and members of the Clayton Art Commission to discuss their options, and investigated the possibility of having a mural painted. The mural would not only recognize the Department's service, it would also become part of the City's outstanding collection of public art.

Award-winning artist Heather Shore was selected to paint a mural in the Fire Station. The mural will be painted on the back wall of the station. The work will be visible as public art through the fire engine bay doors on Forsyth Boulevard. It will showcase fire service, heroic deeds and historical influence of fire fighters and their department.

On April 11, the Board of Aldermen agreed to proceed with the project after the funds to cover the \$12,000 artist contract were raised.

On June 7, a fundraiser was held. Friends and neighbors joined planners of the "Red Hot" evening of food and wine event at Bar Napoli. The group announced that the fundraising goal for the Clayton Fire Station mural project was achieved, and that the City would use the funds to commission Ms. Shore to design and paint the mural. From July 24 through August 3, Ms. Shore will be in Clayton to paint the mural. She will return in September for special activities highlighting the mural during the Saint Louis Art Fair.

Clayton firefighters have expressed their appreciation for the recognition of their service to the community, and are excited about the Fire Station being the site of one of Clayton's many works of public art.

Mural to be painted on the back wall of the new Clayton Fire Station



Fire Department Pumper Replacement

The Clayton Fire Department works to maintain a high level of service to the community. To this end, the Department evaluates its equipment on a regular basis. Fire equipment, like all equipment in the City, is on a revolving replacement schedule that accounts for use and typical life expectancy. The Department's 1991 Pierce Engine #3210 has come to the end of its useful service life to our community, and a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a replacement was issued. In June of 2005, four proposals were received. A review committee consisting of the Fire Chief, Public Works Director, Fleet Manager, Clayton firefighters and fleet mechanics evaluated the proposals using a standardized rating tool. The proposal from KME Fire Apparatus by Jon's Mid-America was selected. Based on the extensive evaluation process by the Fire and Public Works Departments, the committee was confident that the purchase of the new fire truck was in the best interest of the City and its citizens.



Funds for the purchase included a \$360,000 City budget allocation plus the value of the 1991 Pierce pumper. On June 28, the Board of Aldermen authorized the agreement to purchase the KME Predator Rescue Pumper for \$366,941.

The 1991 Pierce pumper was sold to the Keys, Oklahoma Fire Department for \$95,000. The Keys Fire Department was delighted. Not only was the Pierce in good condition, it replaced a 1952 Dodge pumper that had been acquired by the Department in 1965.

Clayton's new Rescue Pumper #3214 was put into service on June 28, 2006, and is expected to provide emergency response to the community for the next ten years.



Clayton City Clerk
June Waters

New City Clerk Is Appointed

The City hired June Waters in November of 2004 to serve as the Executive Secretary to the City Manager. When City Clerk Catherine Moore retired in September of

2005, Ms. Waters was appointed Acting City Clerk.

Ms. Waters has managed responsibilities related to both positions. Recognizing her competence and conscientiousness, the City promoted her to City Clerk. She was officially appointed City Clerk at the June 27 Board of Aldermen meeting.

June will work with the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen to ensure the continuation of communication and assistance to the citizens of Clayton.

City Manager Elected President of the Missouri City Management Association

The Missouri City Management Association (MCMA) promotes the best principles of administrative organization, a devotion to a high ethical code of conduct, a deep sense of social responsibility to the community, and helps its members hone their management skills. These principles are the foundation for the daily activities at City Hall. City Manager Mike Schoedel's values serve as a model to City staff and to fellow MCMA members.

He joined MCMA in 1995, served as its vice president in 2005 and was elected president in May of this year.

MCMA is affiliated with the International City/County Management Association and the Missouri Municipal League.



City Manager Mike Schoedel

For the latest about Clayton, sign up for the City's e-mail updates. Go to the HOME page on the City's website and click the e-communications icon.

Sign up for Clayton  Communications [click here for more information](#)

Emergency Drill

Metro's Fire Life Safety Committee was organized to train first responders who potentially would be responding to emergency situations along the Cross County MetroLink Extension. In June, the Committee conducted the second in a series of safety drills, which tested the emergency response procedures required if a train is stopped on an elevated structure. The test was conducted on the new MetroLink tracks over the City of Clayton maintenance yard. Equipment from Clayton's public safety departments was used during this drill, which simulated service disruptions caused by an emergency on one of the MetroLink light rail vehicles. A total of four emergency drills will be staged before the Cross County alignment opens. "This is a great opportunity for our public safety officials to be prepared in the event of an emergency with MetroLink," stated City Manager Mike Schoedel.

For more information, contact the Cross County Extension of MetroLink Project Team at 314.923.3050 or by e-mail: crosscountyconstruction@metrostlouis.org.





Taste of Clayton Update

It was estimated that over 35,000 attended this year's Taste of Clayton. "The Taste provides a great opportunity for the City to show off its wonderful assets -- Shaw Park, our restaurants and the wonderful activities that we have become known for," said City Manager Mike Schoedel. In addition to being the kickoff of the region's special events season, the Taste also provides for the less fortunate. With contribution checks that will total more than \$60,000 to its beneficiaries this year, the Taste of Clayton donations to charitable organizations will exceed ¾ of a million dollars since its inception in 1993.

Planners of the 2007 Taste of Clayton are already working on new and exciting activities for the 2007 event, which is set for June 3.

Restaurants are Recognized for Environmental Sensitivity

Clayton's Ecology & Environmental Awareness Committee (EEAC) promotes ecologically sound practices within the Clayton community. Each year the committee coordinates with the Taste of Clayton, Saint Louis Jazz Festival and Saint Louis Art Fair event officials to encourage environmentally friendly activities.

Restaurateurs recognize the need to reduce, reuse and recycle during their participation at special events; they serve as examples of environmental stewardship. The EEAC recently awarded checks for \$500 and \$200 respectively to owners of Tejas Grill Cantina and Barcelona Tapas Bar. Tejas received top honors for their ecologically sound practices at the Taste of Clayton, and Barcelona at the Jazz Festival. The Board of Aldermen issued a proclamation recognizing June 27, 2006 as Tejas Day and July 11, 2006 as Barcelona Day in Clayton.

Clayton . . . always exciting!

Forest Park Parkway is open. MetroLink will open at the end of this month. Clayton businesses are capitalizing on the City's central location and ever increasing accessibility. To enhance the Clayton experience, restaurateurs offer entertainment to throngs of evening patrons. Providing entertainment on a regular basis are: Barcelona Tapas Bar, Barrister's, Cafe Napoli, Finale Music & Dining, J Buck's Restaurant, Jimmy's on the Park, J. McGraugh's Bar & Grill, Miso on Meramec, Remy's Kitchen & Wine Bar, The Ritz-Carlton, St. Louis and Sasha's Wine Bar & Market. For the latest on after-hours happenings in Clayton, visit www.ci.clayton.mo.us, select "Night Life" from the left menu bar for a listing of each of these exciting entertainment venues and their websites.

Live entertainment



provided by:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Barcelona Tapas Bar
314.863.9909
www.barcelonatapas.com | Jimmy's on the Park
314.725.8585
www.jimmyscafe.com |
| Barrister's
314.726.5007
www.barristers-stl.com | J. McGraugh's Bar & Grill
314.863.8555
www.jmcgraughs.com |
| Cafe Napoli
314.863.5731
www.cafenapoli.com | Miso on Meramec
314.863.7888
www.misolounge.com |
| Finale Music & Dining
314.863.8631
www.finale-stl.com | Remy's Kitchen & Wine Bar
314.726.5757
www.remyskitchen.net |
| J. Buck's
314.725.4700
www.jbucks.com | The Ritz-Carlton, St. Louis
314.863.6300
www.ritzcarlton.com |
| Sasha's Wine Bar & Market
314.863.7274
(no website) | |

Voted #1 Fine Art Show in the Country by 2006 Harris List &
#2 Fine Art Show in the Country by 2006 ArtFair SourceBook



2006 event features:

- original works by 165 visual artists
- artists demonstrations
- glass blowing
- Creative Castle for kids
- Pleasures of the Palate
- Performing Arts Village
- live music on three stages
- unique performance art activities



Friday, September 8
5:00 - 10:00 p.m.
Saturday, September 9
10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Sunday, September 10
11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

For details call 863.0278 or visit www.saintlousartfair.com

Clayton Farmers' Market

*Saturdays, August 5, 12, 19, 26 and September 2, 16, 23, 30 (no market on September 9)
8:00 to 11:00 a.m.*

North Central Avenue

Activities at this chef-run farmers' market includes live music, chefs' demonstrations on how to prepare the ultimate in fresh produce, and booths serving coffee and omelets using eggs and produce from the market. For more information, call 314.645.5807.



Parties in the Park

Wednesday, August 9 and September 13

5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Shaw Park

Parties in the Park, the original outdoor after-work party, returns to Clayton in 2006 with a fresh, new perspective. Visit beautiful Shaw Park for the second Wednesday of each month events -- the unique opportunity to meet new people and relax with old friends. Best of all, every Party is free and open to the public. For details, call the Clayton Chamber of Commerce at 314.726.3033 or visit: www.partiesinthepark.org.

Musical Nights in Oak Knoll Park

Sunday, August 27 and September 24

5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Oak Knoll Park (NW corner of Big Bend Boulevard & Clayton Road)

In its second year, this exciting concert series in Oak Knoll Park features some of the best local talent. On August 27, Fanfare will perform; on September 24 - The Sawmill Band. The event is free to the public. Guests are encouraged to bring their lawn chairs and blankets. For more information, call 314.290.8544.

Q & A

Q. Where can I get more information about Bird Flu?

A. First, it might be worth stressing that there is no influenza pandemic in the world at this time. Although there have been reports of H5N1 avian influenza in humans, there have been no confirmations that it has spread from human to human, and there have been no confirmed cases of bird flu in the United States. One of the best sources for information about H5N1 avian influenza is www.pandemicflu.gov.

What would you like to know? Clayton citizens are invited to ask questions of their City officials. Forward your questions to: City of Clayton, ATTN: Judy Kekich, 10 North Bemiston, Clayton, MO 63105; Fax them to 314/863-0295; E-mail them to: jakekich@ci.clayton.mo.us

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

<i>In Case of Emergency</i>	911
City Manager	290.8400
Community Outreach	290.8473
Finance	290.8443
Fire (non-emergency)	290.8485
Planning and Development	290.8453
Mayor/Board of Aldermen/City Clerk	290.8469
Parks and Recreation	290.8500
Human Resources	290.8448
Police (non-emergency)	645.3000
Public Works	290.8540
TDD	290.8435

STATEMENT OF ACCESSIBILITY TO ALL CITIZENS

It is the City of Clayton's goal to make programs and facilities accessible to all individuals. If you or someone you know has a disabling condition and would like more information and support for accessibility of all programs and facilities, please contact us at 290.8501(V). Sign interpreters may be scheduled upon request. Suggestions for future programs are welcomed.

City of Clayton

10 North Bemiston Avenue
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The Mission of Clayton City Government is to foster a vital, balanced community composed of outstanding neighborhoods, quality businesses, commercial and government centers, premier educational institutions, and a healthy natural environment through an open, accessible and fiscally responsible government.



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COVER: Aerial photo by Srenco Photography