



CITY VIEWS

A NEWSLETTER FOR CLAYTON BUSINESS AND RESIDENTIAL CITIZENS

OCTOBER 2007

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Clayton Launches Its 2007-2008 Budget

In August, the Board of Aldermen approved the 2007-2008 Fiscal Year Budget for the City of Clayton. This budget, which goes into effect on Oct. 1, 2007, provides the necessary funding to maintain a high level of services and infrastructure projects for the community. While the total budget of \$36,921,909 represents a \$8,302,006 increase over last year's total budget, of which \$8,135,000 is due to a planned refunding of a 2002 bond issue, increased assessed value of \$127 million (16.6% higher) for Clayton allows for a reduction in the property tax rates for the 2007 tax year. The City's total residential property tax rate will be \$0.691 per \$100 assessed valuation and the total commercial property tax rate will be \$0.761 per \$100 assessed valuation. These rates represent a decrease of \$0.088 and \$0.078 respectively for each classification. Further, the personal property tax rate will be \$0.832 per \$100 assessed valuation, a decrease of \$0.020 from last year.

City of Clayton Property Tax Rates

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>Change</u>
Residential	\$0.779	\$0.691	(\$0.088)
Commercial	\$0.839	\$0.761	(\$0.078)
Personal	\$0.852	\$0.832	(\$0.020)

IN THIS ISSUE:

Ward I News 2

COMMUNITY NEWS

- Merger Study..... 3
- Meeting Schedule..... 3
- Waste Collection..... 3
- Leaf Collection 4
- Art Installation 5
- Carondelet Village..... 5
- Shaw Park Ice Rink 6
- Trail Study..... 6
- Farmers' Market 6
- Events..... 7
- Q & A 8

The City's tax rate represents approximately 11% of a property owner's total property tax bill; the rest goes to other taxing districts such as the School District of Clayton, St. Louis County, the Special School District and St. Louis Community College. Property taxes paid to the City represent approximately 22% of its total revenue.

The City works hard to balance revenues with expenditures for operating and capital improvements. In a budget that includes reduction of property taxes, the City continues to implement important public improvement projects. Every year the City repairs streets and sidewalks, replaces alleyways and streetscape lighting. This year the City will also complete its new signage project, and continue the work on street resurfacing and pedestrian safety projects. While the City recognizes the need to operate in a fiscally responsible manner, it is also dedicated to improving its infrastructure and providing exceptional services to its residents.

For a Budget Brief, visit the City's website, www.ci.clayton.mo.us, go to Finance Department under City Hall and click Budget Brief, or contact City Clerk June Waters at 314.290.8469.



Alderman
Judy Goodman

News from Ward I Aldermen

Fall is a busy time for everyone, with school in session and holidays just around the corner. In city government, we finalized the 2007-2008 budget and prioritized issues for the year. We, along with all of your elected officials and city staff, continue to study challenges and trends to effectively plan for a healthy future.

In Clayton, we are fortunate to be presented with a number of development proposals. The large mixed-use proposals are complex, and as in other municipalities, these involve the prospect

of partnerships. Most recently, Mehlman Realty presented details for Carondelet Village on East Forsyth. The Mayor and the Board of Aldermen are committed to a comprehensive community engagement plan that emphasizes multiple opportunities for communication about development that is so critical to our vitality.

Town Hall Ward meetings were held to discuss development details and ramifications for our community. A productive Ward 1 meeting took place on September 19. Meeting dates were communicated through neighborhood trustees, the City Website, Channel 10 and E-Connection to encourage maximum attendance.

In Ward 1, we are also hosting AMs with Your Aldermen...morning coffees on the first Friday every month to chat with each neighborhood about specific concerns. We have a rotating schedule and spread the word through neighborhood trustees.

Thanks to the cooperation of the Clayton School District, Fontbonne University and Washington University, Wydown Boulevard will be irrigated from Big Bend to University Lane, including the west side of Wydown Middle School on Dartford. We appreciate assistance from our institutions with beautification of Wydown at this prominent location.

It was recently announced that Concordia Seminary sold the former CBC campus property to Washington University. We will continue to be involved with the new property owner as plans evolve.

HiPointe/DeMun residents and business owners met to select new historic lighting for DeMun Avenue, as part of their neighborhood enhancement plan. A new entry monument for DeMun and Clayton Road is in design, and the DeMun Park fence is being replaced. Henry Wright Park became the official name of the former Alamo Park and a dedication is planned for Saturday, October 6 at 10 AM.

DeMun Pointe on Clayton Road, the city's first residential LEED-certified project, is well underway, with planned completion of April 2008. Retail spaces are 100% leased with tentative agreements and residential condo sales continuing.

We invite your comments, so please contact us directly. We encourage you to sign up for Clayton E-Connection, by registering at jakekich@ci.clayton.mo.us.



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Merger Study

Final Report

In July 2005, the elected bodies of the cities of Clayton and Richmond Heights jointly approved a process for establishing a committee to examine the possibility of merging the two cities. Twenty residents from each city were appointed to the Joint Study Committee (JSC). The group was asked to carefully analyze the advantages and disadvantages of merging or combining one or more essential services. During the study, the JSC also considered continued resource sharing, service consolidation and new partnerships. The committee was given 18-24 months in which to complete the study.

October Meeting Schedule

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

- Oct. 4 Board of Adjustment
City Hall - 5 p.m.
- Oct. 8 Art Commission
City Hall - 6 p.m.
- Oct. 9 Board of Aldermen
City Hall - 8 p.m.
- Oct. 15 Plan Commission/ARB
City Hall - 5:30 p.m.
- Oct. 15 Hanley House Council
The Center - 6 p.m.
- Oct. 18 Landscape Committee
City Hall - 5 p.m.
- Oct. 19 C.R.S.W.C.
The Center - 8 a.m.
- Oct. 22 Parks & Recreation
City Hall - 5:30 p.m.
- Oct. 23 Board of Aldermen
City Hall - 8:00 p.m.
- Oct. 25 Ecology & Environ.
City Hall - 5:30 p.m.

The Committee was broken down into 10 subcommittees. It was the subcommittees' responsibility to examine, consider, and make recommendations to the JSC regarding specific service areas within the two governments. Each subcommittee consisted of JSC members, municipal staff as well as volunteer residents. These groups met regularly during the study period and formulated recommendations to the JSC regarding their particular service area.

By August 2007, all ten subcommittees had completed their studies and submitted reports to the full committee. After a thorough review of each subcommittee report, the JSC wrote its final report and published a draft on August 29. In the report, the committee did not recommend that the two cities merge, however, it found that there were numerous opportunities for advantageous partnerships. This was reinforced by the Finance Subcommittee's findings that encouraged discussions about certain activities that would generate cost savings for both cities. The Finance Subcommittee's report also suggested that the cities, individually and jointly, should engage an independent, external consultant to assess these matters. The JSC recommended that this financial consultant be jointly employed by the two cities to validate the financial conclusions of the subcommittees.

In the final report, the co-chairmen of the JSC acknowledged the support provided by the professional staff of the two cities which was essential to the completion of that study and final report. The chairmen also expressed appreciation to all the dedicated citizen volunteers and elected officials of the JSC and subcommittees for contributing time and knowledge to the process.

To view a draft of the JSC's final report, visit www.mergerstudy.org.

Holiday Waste Collection

This is a reminder about the holiday trash pickup schedule. If a collection day falls on a holiday, trash pickup will be made the next day, and for each week day following, pickup will roll a day. For example, if Wednesday is a holiday and Wednesday is the normal collection day, the trash will be picked up Thursday instead; Thursday's normal routes will be picked up Friday; and Friday's normal routes will be picked up Saturday. Upcoming holidays include Thanksgiving, Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

To see the complete holiday trash schedule, go to www.ci.clayton.mo.us and click on "Trash Schedule" in the right menu bar or call Public Works with questions at 290.8540.

2007 LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE

The following is the 2007 Leaf Collection Program schedule. Listed are the weeks and days of collection for each street and subdivision in Clayton. NO LEAF COLLECTION THANKSGIVING WEEK – 11/19-23.

WEEK OF:

October 8 - 12
 October 22 – 26
 November 5 - 9

November 26 – 30
 December 10 - 14
 December 24, 26 - 28

Monday

8100 Blk Stratford*
 Clayton Gardens Subdivision
 Polo Subdivision
 Country Club Court
 7700 Blk Walinca Terrace
 7700 Blk Shirley Drive

Tuesday

8100 Blk Stratford*
 Hillcrest Subdivision
 Ellenwood Subdivision
 Tuscany Park Subdivision

Wednesday

Carrswold Subdivision
 Southmoor Subdivision
 Forest Ridge Subdivision

Thursday

E. Brentmoor Subdivision
 W. Brentmoor Subdivision

WEEK OF:

October 15 - 19
 October 29 – November 2
 November 12 – 16

December 3 - 7
 December 17 - 21
 December 31, January 2 - 4

Monday

Bemiston Subdivision(Old Town)*
 Maryland Terrace Subdivision(7400 Blk Maryland)*
 Hanley Place Subdivision(7500/7600 Blks Westmoreland)*
 Parkside Subdivision(10 Blks Brighton & Topton Way)*
 Northmoor Subdivision(Bland Ave.)
 7400 Blks Moorlands Subdivision
 7500 Blks Moorlands Subdivision*
 Forest Court*

Tuesday

Bemiston Subdivision(Old Town)*
 Maryland Terrace Subdivision(7400 Blk Maryland)*
 Hanley Place Subdivision(7500/7600 Blks Westmoreland)*
 Parkside Subdivision(10 Blks Brighton & Topton Way)*
 Skinker Heights Subdivision
 Wydown Terrace Subdivision
 Hi-Pointe Subdivision*

Wednesday

Claverach Park Subdivision
 Clayshire Subdivision
 Clayshire Ridge Subdivision
 Haddington Court
 Wenneker Drive

Thursday

Wydown Forest Subdivision*
 Hi-Pointe Subdivision*
 6300/6400 Blks Forsyth

Friday

Davis Place Subdivision*
 7500 Blks Moorlands Subdivision*
 Forest Court*

*Denotes restricted parking for street sweeping. Please keep this schedule for future reference.

DO's & DON'T's

- Rake leaves to curb. No plastic bags, limbs or brush - yard debris will be picked up during regular yard waste pickups.
- Obey the street sweeping signs on the scheduled leaf collection day.
- Leaves will be collected from all streets on the scheduled day or the following workday, rain or shine.
- When a collection day falls on a holiday, leaves will be collected the day before or the next non-holiday work day.
- In case of inclement weather (heavy rain, snow or ice), the leaf collection schedule will be modified or reduced. Please call Public Works at 290.8540 for a revised schedule.
- Leaves from islands, parkways and common areas will be picked up as time permits. These areas may be skipped in order to maintain the residential leaf pickup schedule.
- Do not rake the leaves onto islands, parkways or common areas.
- Alley pickup is not available.

Clayton Continues to Add to Its World Class Public Art Collection

City installs first commissioned work

In September internationally recognized artist Alice Aycock installed the sculpture she created for the circle in front of The Center of Clayton. The work, which stands approximately 19' tall and 20' square, is composed of aluminum, steel and thermoformed plastic. Compositional elements include a spun aluminum cone, a pinwheel suggesting motion and playfulness, and a series of aluminum mesh drapes or skirts that seem to flutter, reflecting the energy from within the building.

The Aycock sculpture is the first work of art commissioned by the City of Clayton. The Clayton Art Commission conducted a fundraising campaign to cover the \$110,000 contract with the artist. Contributions of \$35,000 from the City of Clayton and \$10,000 from the Clayton Chamber of Commerce were combined with the generous donations from Clayton residents, businesses and art patrons.



Computer rendering of
"The Uncertainty of Ground State Fluctuations"
 (for Clayton, Missouri)
 in the circle in front of The Center of Clayton

"The work by Alice Aycock joins Clayton's other world class art installations by Carl Milles, Howard Ben Tre, Fernando Botero and Ernest Trova," said Clayton's Mayor Linda Goldstein. "We are proud of this impressive work, and of the efforts by the Clayton Art Commission to bring it to our community."

Art, cont'd. Page 6

Carondelet Village Update



City Manager Mike Schoedel shares details about Carondelet Village with the gathering at the Sept. 11 meeting for subdivision trustees.

As reported in the August issue of CityViews, Mark S. Mehlman Realty is proposing to build another development just east of the 72-unit luxury condominium development, The Crescent. Plans for the proposed Carondelet Village include approximately 110,000 square feet of retail space, a theater facility, a boutique hotel and office space. The developer feels that the \$116 million project will provide the critical mass necessary to reestablish Clayton as a shopping destination.

An aggressive communications process has been implemented by the City to engage Clayton citizens during the review phase of the project. Public meetings with various City commissions have been held to discuss project details and the request for City assistance by the developer. The Board of Aldermen held informational sessions with subdivision trustees and citizens of each Ward to share the latest details and to give the public the opportunity to provide input.

For details about the Carondelet Village redevelopment project, visit the City's website at www.ci.clayton.mo.us and click the photo of the project rendering, or go to www.carondeletvillage.com.

Shaw Park Ice Rink Update

On August 24th, the Board of Aldermen approved a contract with Johnson Controls to complete the necessary repairs and enhancements to the existing ammonia system, which means the Shaw Park Ice Rink will reopen for the 2007-2008 winter skate season. Work is underway and should be completed in time for the traditional Friday after Thanksgiving opening day. For details about programs and rentals, visit the City's website at www.ci.clayton.mo.us or contact the Parks & Recreation Department at 290.8500 to request a brochure.

Task Force

In early 2007, the Board of Aldermen appointed 13 residents to serve on the Ice Rink Task Force and asked the group to study the future of the Shaw Park Ice Rink facility. Over the past eight months, several issues have been studied, including: the impact of global warming, increased capital costs, safety upgrades and low usage. Options for continuing the operation of the rink, which is seen by most in the community as a recreational treasure, were also identified. The task force is exploring ways to expand the usage and enhance the value of the ice rink to the community. At 7 p.m. on Oct. 9, the Task Force will present its recommendation to the Board of Aldermen.

Art, cont'd. from Page 5

The public is invited to hear more about the artist, her body of work and The Center project at a lecture by Alice Aycok, which is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 4, at The Center of Clayton. Family activities are planned for 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 13, also at The Center.

For more details about the events, call 290.8473. For details about Clayton's public art, go to www.ci.clayton.mo.us, select the BUSINESS tab, under Arts & Culture, click Public Art.

Clayton Takes Part in Four-City Trail Study

The City of Clayton is participating in a trail study that will explore ways to enhance the pedestrian and bicycle compatibility with the cities of Brentwood, Maplewood and Richmond Heights. These four communities recognized the need for a connecting system, a concept that was endorsed by the City's recently completed Parks Master Plan. The Parks Master Plan identified trails as the number one recreational need for the community. As contiguous communities with a lot of commonalities, developing a master plan for an interconnected trail system seemed like a logical step.

With the support of the four cities, Trailnet, which promotes active living in St. Louis through bicycle and pedestrian activities, applied for and received grant funding to complete a trail system master plan. The total cost of the project will be \$66,000, with only \$1,600 being funded by the City of Clayton. The study will take up to 8 months to complete and will result in a plan that delineates a series of proposed routes throughout the four cities.

A critical component of any master plan study is public input. The consulting team for the trail system master plan will hold two public forums, the first of which is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Nov. 29 at The Heights located at 8001 Dale Avenue. A second public forum will be held in early spring. The public is encouraged to attend the forums to learn about how the master plan will benefit the Clayton community and to share opinions and concerns. For more information, contact Director of Parks & Recreation Patty DeForrest at pdeforrest@ci.clayton.mo.us or 290.8464.

CLAYTON FARMERS' MARKET

The market runs through the end of October this year.

Every Saturday

8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Straub's Market west parking lot at 8282 Forsyth Boulevard

The market features weekly specials and produce from local farmers. Details about the Clayton Farmers' Market can be found online at www.claytonfarmersmarket.com.



Clayton Triangle Event

Saturday, Oct. 6

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Maryland Avenue, Brentwood Boulevard and Forsyth Boulevard
The Clayton Triangle presents the Jaguar Clubs of North America's Concorde d'elegance, a nationally sanctioned show. Eighty Jaguars will be on display along Brentwood for the official judging for trophies and award points.

For more information, call: 314.727.2020



Wydown Fall Festival

Saturday, Oct. 6

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Hanley Road and Wydown Boulevard

The public is invited to this charming neighborhood festival. At the fourth annual Wydown Fall Festival, business owners look forward to greeting guests with gifts and giveaways. Festivities include art exhibits and fun for everyone in Wydown Park. For more information, call: 314.290.8508



The Big Read

Saturday, Oct. 6

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Central and Carondelet Avenues in downtown Clayton
Bookmark your calendar for an extraordinary event that will celebrate authors and promote literacy. Packed with events and performances for adults and children, the Big Read will feature authors, costumed characters, interactive projects, panel discussions, workshops and book signings. For a schedule of authors and activities, visit www.bigread.net or call 314.863.0278



Rock the Block

Wednesday, Oct. 10

5 to 8 p.m.

North Central Avenue

The public is invited to this "not your usual block party" with Y98 on-site and a live performance by the Ralph Butler Band from 5:30 to 8 p.m. For more information, call 314.290.8508



Clayton Canine Classic

Sunday, Oct. 14

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Shaw Park in Clayton

The third annual Clayton Canine Classic event features a "Dressed to the K-nines" fashion show, games for dogs and/or their humans, pup art, a pet psychic, a puppy kissing booth, unique face painting and pet photography. Various vendors and service providers will PAWticipate. The event is free and open to the public. Proceeds from games and other activities benefit Stray Rescue of St. Louis. All dogs MUST be on leashes and accompanied by an adult human guardian. For more information, call: 314.726.3033



Holiday Champagne Stroll

Saturday & Sunday, Nov. 17 & 18

Noon to 5 p.m.

On Clayton Road between Brentwood Boulevard and Hanley Road
Stroll along St. Louis's leading street of chic antique shops and boutiques filled to the brim with unique gifts and ideas for the holidays. A great way to start the holiday season. For more information, call: 314.725.2622



Q & A

Q. Why is the City creating a TIF Commission?

A. With every new development proposal, the City receives requests for assistance. The City has studied these requests for public-private financing, and feels it would be worthwhile to establish a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Commission. Creating a TIF Commission does not mean that the City is planning to implement a TIF. City officials want to ensure that they perform the necessary due diligence in considering each development request.

You will find a Summary of Tax Increment Financing by clicking "Proposed Retail Village" on the HOME page of the City's website, www.ci.clayton.mo.us.

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	290.8441
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

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CITY VIEWS EDITOR

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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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