

# CITY OF CLAYTON CITY VIEWS

## Better Together Proposal

In January, Better Together STL released their plan to merge the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County. The plan states that a new class of city, known as the Metropolitan City, will be created and all existing municipalities within St. Louis County, including Clayton, will be dissolved into municipal districts.

The proposal, which will likely appear on the November 2020 ballot, is an amendment to the Missouri Constitution and will require a state-wide vote.

If passed in November 2020, the plan will become effective on January 1, 2021. The transition period will take approximately two years with full implementation beginning in January 2023. During the transition, existing St. Louis County Officials will become the Interim Mayor, Prosecutor, and Assessor. The Mayor of St. Louis will become the Transitional Mayor and will work jointly with the Interim Mayor. The first elections for Metro Mayor, Prosecutor, and Assessor will be held in November 2024 and the first elections for the Metropolitan City Council will be held in November 2022.

### What will the Metropolitan City look like under this plan?

**Population:** 1.3 million

**Form of Government:** Strong Mayor

#### What does this mean?

- The Mayor appoints all department heads and all members of boards and commissions.
- The Mayor will appoint at least four deputy mayors:
  - Deputy Mayor for Public Health and Safety
  - Deputy Mayor for Economic Development and Innovation
  - Deputy Mayor for Community Development and Housing
  - Deputy Mayor for Community Engagement and Equity
- Mayor will have line-item veto authority over the budget.
- 33 Council Members will be elected by sub-district.
- Subdistricts will consist of approximately 40,000 residents.
- Each Council Member will have at least two full-time staff members.

#### Authority/Responsibilities:

- Police, law enforcement, and municipal courts
- Transportation, infrastructure, and Public Works
- Economic Development
- Zoning and Subdivision regulations
- Public health, safety, and general welfare
- Licensing, taxation and regulation of businesses, occupations, professions and activities
- All traditional county functions
- Ability to eliminate municipal districts by ordinance

**Funding:** Sales Tax, Property Tax, Utility Tax

### What will Clayton look like under this plan?

**Form of Government:** Municipal District of Metropolitan City

#### What does this mean?

- Mayor and Board of Aldermen will serve in the capacity of the Plan Commission and Board of Adjustment for the Metropolitan City and will make recommendations to the Metropolitan City Council. Final zoning decisions will be made by the Metropolitan City.

#### Authority/Responsibilities:

- Fire, EMS, and related services
- Parks and Recreation
- Trash and Recycling
- Outstanding debt obligations

**Funding:** Property Tax, Utility Tax

#### Additional Information:

- Clayton's budget will be approved by the Metropolitan City Council.
- The Metropolitan City Council has the authority to adjust funding sources of municipal districts, including utility and property taxes.
- The Metropolitan City has authority to eliminate the municipal districts.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:**  
[www.claytonmo.gov/BetterTogetherProposal](http://www.claytonmo.gov/BetterTogetherProposal)

## Our Commitment

Clayton's elected officials and employees are committed to working hard to provide residents and businesses with exceptional services. Resident and business satisfaction play a large role in how we determine the overall quality of the services we provide. Over the next year, we will share stories and information with you about our strategies, performance, overall operations, and the ways we strive to collaborate with our municipalities to ensure we are delivering exceptional services to our residents and businesses.



## Clayton Police Begin Testing Body Cameras

Since 2017, the Clayton Police Department has been partnering with eight other municipal police departments in St. Louis County to receive a Department of Justice grant to subsidize the purchase of body worn cameras. As of recent, the Clayton Police Department is in the test and evaluation phase of their body worn camera initiative. During this phase, units from two body camera manufacturers will be compared for quality, durability, and ease of use. The testing phase should be completed in April and the full implementation of body worn cameras for every officer is scheduled to occur later this year.



## MAYOR'S MESSAGE Mayor Harold J. Sanger

On April 2, the 23rd mayor of Clayton will be elected and in accordance with Clayton's term limits I will be stepping down. The past 6 years have in all regards been an exciting time for Clayton. New commercial developments, an influx of new businesses, infill of new homes in residential neighborhoods, upgrades to our parks and playgrounds, a multitude of festivals and events, and strong

budget results are just a few of the highlights. My State of the City address is available at [www.claytonmo.gov/sotc](http://www.claytonmo.gov/sotc). Thank you for allowing me to be at the helm during these great times for our city.

Decisions on the future of Clayton however, may soon be in the hands of others. The privately created and funded "Better Together" organization has proposed a change to the Missouri Constitution that would impact the City of St. Louis and every city in St. Louis County. Their proposal, which would be put to the voters of the entire State of Missouri on November 3, 2020, would change the St. Louis region in many ways. Here are just a few:

- All municipalities would be eliminated and replaced by "municipal districts" with authority limited to parks, trash collection and fire/ambulance services. All budgets and zoning decisions would be approved by a new 33-member Metro Council, which would have the authority to eliminate districts without the vote of the residents.
- A new "Metro City", ranging from the Mississippi River on the east to the Missouri River to the west, and from South County to North County would be established.
- All local police departments would be disbanded, and one police force would be created to cover the entire new Metro City.
- The new Metro City would take title to all municipal property — city hall, police and fire stations, parking lots, streets, streetlights, community centers, etc. that were built and paid for by local residents.
- The new Metro City would be headquartered in downtown St. Louis with the "County Executive in office on January 1, 2019" (Steve Stenger) as the new mayor who would be in office 3 years longer than the term, he was elected to hold from 2018 to 2022. The Metro mayor and the current mayor of the City of St. Louis (Lyda Krewson) would be solely responsible to write a new charter for the new Metro City, which would be approved by the new council without a vote of the people.

As we go to press, the Municipal League of St. Louis, which represents all St. Louis County municipalities, is collecting signatures on a petition to invoke the Council of Freeholders/Electors as authorized in the Missouri Constitution. This council would generate a proposal through public hearings to allow St. Louis and St. Louis County voters alone to decide on a proposal that would determine the fate of any city/county reorganization. Your alderman has more details, see page 6 for their contact information.

Hey, teens! Mayor Sanger wants you to...

**Witness. Shape. Serve.**

The Mayor's Youth Advisory Council is accepting applications  
(If you will be a junior or senior next fall)

**Apply online at [www.claytonmyac.com](http://www.claytonmyac.com) • Deadline May 31**



## Meetings

### Parks and Recreation Commission

April 1 & May 6 at 7 pm  
Center of Clayton

### Planning Commission/ARB

April 1, 15 & May 6, 20 at 5:30 pm  
City Hall

### Sunday at Starbucks (Ward II Coffee)

April 7 & May 5 at 4 pm  
Starbucks (7645 Wydown)

### Board of Aldermen

April 9, 23 & May 14, 28 at 7 pm  
City Hall

### Ward III Coffee

April 13 & May 11 at 10 am  
Starbucks (2 N. Central)

### Java n' Jive (Ward I Coffee)

April 13 at 10:30 am & May 18\*  
Starbucks at Fontbonne (6800 Wydown)

\*Location TBA.

Please visit [www.claytonmo.gov/calendar](http://www.claytonmo.gov/calendar) for parking instructions.

### ELECTION DAY – APRIL 2

Polling places open at 6 AM and close at 7 PM. Visit [www.govotemissouri.com](http://www.govotemissouri.com) or call the St. Louis County Election Authority at (314) 615-1800 to confirm your polling location.

### CITY OFFICES CLOSED

City offices will be closed Monday, May 27 in observance of the Memorial Day holiday. Offices will reopen at 8 AM on Tuesday, May 28.

### CENTER OF CLAYTON HOURS

The Center of Clayton will be open from 9 AM to 5 PM on Monday, May 27 in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.

### HOLIDAY REFUSE SCHEDULE

**Monday routes** will be picked up on **Tuesday, May 28.**

**Tuesday routes** will be picked up on **Wednesday, May 29.**

**Thursday routes** will be picked up on **Friday, May 31.**

**Friday routes** will be picked up on **Saturday, June 1.**

There will be no changes to waste collection or the Center of Clayton's hours.

## Street Sweeping and Spring Leaf Collection Reminder

The Public Works Department sweeps residential streets on the first week of each month. On-street parking restriction signs posted for the street sweeping program are intended to provide the street sweeper access to the gutter to collect typical road dirt and debris. It is not intended for the collection of yard waste placed at the curb.

Residents are discouraged from placing yard waste and debris into the streets as this blocks the storm water drains and causes flooding. For more information, please visit [www.claytonmo.gov/streetsweeping](http://www.claytonmo.gov/streetsweeping).

Spring leaf collection will take place the first two full weeks of April and follow the normal street sweeping schedule. For more information, please visit [www.claytonmo.gov/leaf](http://www.claytonmo.gov/leaf).



## Upcoming Public Works Projects

Public Works will be working on multiple construction projects this year including:

- Crack sealing of roadways west of Hanley beginning in April and will last approximately a month, weather dependent.
- Brentwood Boulevard Resurfacing Project will take place late spring/summer.
- Alley upgrades will take place in Hillcrest this spring/summer.
- Multiple sidewalk and ADA improvement projects at various locations throughout the City are expected to begin in early spring.



Further communication will follow for those impacted by these projects. For project information and updates throughout the projects, please visit [www.claytonmo.gov/projects](http://www.claytonmo.gov/projects).

## County Prepares for Clayton Road Resurfacing

Repaving for St. Louis County's Clayton Road Project is expected to begin late spring/early summer of 2019. For more information, please contact the St. Louis County Department of Transportation at (314) 615-2559.



## DID YOU KNOW?

According to the Environment Protection Agency, food scraps and other yard waste



currently make up about 30 percent of what we throw away and should be composted instead. Making compost keeps these materials out of landfills where they take up space and release methane, a potent greenhouse gas. You can make a difference by moving your compostable materials from your trash bin to your yard waste bin. To learn what types of materials can be composted, please visit [www.claytonmo.gov/compost](http://www.claytonmo.gov/compost).



# [ CITY UPDATE ]

## Center of Clayton Renovation

The first of several phases of renovation will begin at The Center of Clayton in May of this year. Planned renovations will address several key mechanical systems that are at the end of their useful life as well as bring enhancements and updates throughout the building.

Foremost, visitors will see an expansion near the main entrance of the building in the space currently used as the Youth Activity Center. This space will eventually house administrative offices on the first floor to free up space for a party room near the pool, and a new window-view cardio area on the second floor. The worn surfaces in the rubber floored gyms, track and both swimming pools will be replaced with fresh materials. Additionally, the building will get a facelift with fresh furnishings, paint, and fixtures. Each upgrade has been selected with energy conservation in mind.



These updates will happen as part of a comprehensive capital improvement plan that was created initially to address the need to replace mechanical systems at their end of life and was expanded to analyze the changing needs of the building's current and future users. Existing members and area residents, including those of nearby municipalities, were surveyed in 2016 to compile a list of priorities for alterations to the building. Hired in 2018, Bond Architects guided the project to a final design that was approved by the Architectural Review Board in February of 2019. The project is currently out to bid and a final timeline of the project will be available once a General Contractor has been selected.

Several closures and service alterations are expected throughout the one-year project. Every effort will be made to limit the impact to The Center's users as much as possible. For the latest project updates, visit [www.centerofclayton.com](http://www.centerofclayton.com).

## Clayton's Parks and Recreation Director Receives Highest Honor

Patty DeForrest, Director of the Clayton Parks and Recreation Department, was honored with the Missouri Park and Recreation Association's Fellow Award, the organization's highest honor, at the annual conference on February 28, 2019 in Branson, MO. Patty's Parks and Recreation career began in 1999 as the Aquatics Supervisor for the City of Clayton Parks and Recreation Department. In 2003, Patty was promoted to Clayton's Director of Parks and Recreation and currently holds this position. As director, Patty manages 11 parks, a 136,000 square foot community center, outdoor aquatics center, ice rink, and tennis center as well as a historic house museum while supervising 25 full-time and over 300 part-time employees. Congratulations, Patty!



## DeMun Park Closed

DeMun Park is now closed through June 2019 for park renovations including new playgrounds, play features and the addition of a comfort station. Many of these enhancements were made possible by generous donations to the Clayton Century Foundation from area residents and business owners. Stay tuned for more details about the park's grand-reopening!



# [ CITY UPDATE ]



## Introducing the Business Highlight Section!

To support our local businesses, the City will be featuring a different Clayton business in each newsletter. Businesses interested in being featured should visit [www.claytonmo.gov/businesshighlights](http://www.claytonmo.gov/businesshighlights) to submit an online application. We hope you find this new section of our newsletter useful as you explore all the great retailers, restaurants, and companies our community has to offer!

## ThriveCo: A New Coworking Space in Clayton

This past January, ThriveCo, the area's newest coworking space founded by Clayton residents, Katie and Alex Silversmith, opened its doors to offer local business owners, entrepreneurs and start-ups a place to help them market and grow their company and brand. Business owners can rent individual and team private office spaces, part-time spaces, desk spaces, and general coworking areas for meetings, events and more. Aside from office rentals, ThriveCo provides members with special resources to assist in their business needs. These resources include business coaching, brand development, human resources assistance and sources of capital.



ThriveCo



### ThriveCo

222 S Meramec Ave, Suite 202 • St. Louis, MO 63105  
Phone: (314) 810-6605 • [www.thrive-coworking.com](http://www.thrive-coworking.com)

## Take the Clayton Challenge!



Spring has sprung and it is the perfect time to get out and explore Clayton's amazing Parks, Public Art and Historic Sites.

CCF is excited to present our new challenge. You can win a free tote bag simply by touring our city using the CCF-sponsored Otocast app, available for both Apple and Android devices. Visit six, pre-selected locations to win: Folke Filbyter, One of Us on a Tricycle, Crispus Attucks School, Oak Knoll Home, Henry Wright Park, and Taylor Park.

**STEP 1:** Download the Otocast App (it's free!)

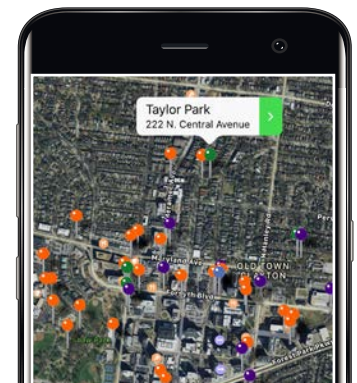
**STEP 2:** Open the Clayton Walking Tour

**STEP 3:** Click on the trophy symbol at the top left of the map to get started

**STEP 4:** Visit the six pre-selected sites while using the Otocast app and then follow the prompts to claim your tote bag

One entry is good for one prize after you visit all six locations. All checkpoints are indicated with a star in the top right corner of their thumbnail image.

Don't forget to use the Otocast app to explore the other great locations in Clayton!



## 50% OFF hourly parking for Clayton residents

(only valid when using the PassportParking Mobile Pay App)

Residents must apply and be approved through the City's permit website. Proof of residency is required.

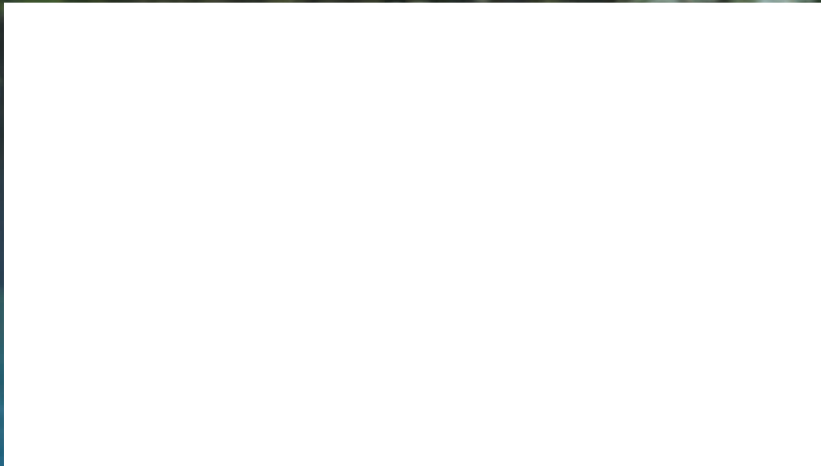
Visit [www.claytonmo.gov/residentparking](http://www.claytonmo.gov/residentparking) for more info!



**City of Clayton**  
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PRSRT STD  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 St. Louis, MO  
 Permit No. 937

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**Statement of Accessibility to All Citizens** The City of Clayton's goal is to make programs and facilities accessible to all individuals. If you would like more information and accessibility support for those with disabilities, please call 314.290.8501 (V). Sign language interpreters may be scheduled upon request. Suggestions for future programs are welcomed.

**BUNNY HOP**  
 Saturday, April 13 at 10 am  
 Shaw Park



**HEIRLOOM HERB SALE**  
 Saturday, April 27 at 9 am  
 Hanley Park



**CHAPMAN PLAZA CONCERT SERIES**  
 Enjoy live music, food trucks and cash bar in Shaw Park  
 at the beautiful new Chapman Plaza and waterfall.

[www.claytonmo.gov/PlazaConcerts](http://www.claytonmo.gov/PlazaConcerts)




**Clayton Cardinals HOME OPENER LUNCH**  
 Sponsored by Two Twelve Clayton

**Thursday, April 4th**  
 11:30am - 1:30pm  
 Clayton Fire House

Nacho Bar by Mayana  
 Special Guest Appearances  
 DJ Micro  
 Photobooth  
 Raffle and Giveaway




**FRIDAYS IN MAY**  
 4:30-6:30 pm

Enjoy live music  
 at happy hours  
 throughout Clayton.

[www.claytonmo.gov/musicinclayton](http://www.claytonmo.gov/musicinclayton)