



**City Manager's Office
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TO: City Council
FROM: Sam Anselm, City Manager
DATE: April 6, 2018
RE: Weekly Update

- On Thursday several representatives from the planning department as well as PwC attended the ribbon cutting for the new Early Childhood Education center, paid for through state and local CDBG-DR funds. As we move towards the deadline of March, 2019 for completion of our disaster recovery projects, the opening of the center represents another milestone in our community's recovery, to be followed soon by the opening of our senior citizen's center. As always, I'd like to commend our staff and our community partners for their diligence in not just completing the projects on time according to our recovery schedule, but for doing it with excellence.
- Earlier today I attended the annual Chamber of Commerce board retreat, where the discussion focused on goal setting for the next 12 months as the organization works through the transition to new leadership.
- This afternoon I attended the retirement celebration for our longtime parks maintenance superintendent, Steve Curry, who served the city admirably for over 32 years. Fortunately, much of the knowledge and wisdom of Steve has been passed down to Jake Cowen, a 19-year employee of the city, who has been promoted to fill his position. I know you join me in congratulating both of these men and wishing them well.

A couple of other items for you:

- The rededication and re-lighting of the historic Wilder's sign will take place on April 14th after the quarterly Route 66 Association of Missouri meeting scheduled to take place earlier in the day. Estimated time for the re-lighting of the sign is 8:15, possibly sooner or later depending on the weather forecast.
- Our Transit Coordinator, Robert Lolley, shared some good news this week as well. Trolley ridership for the month of March set a record for our system, with a 13% increase in ridership over the same period last year, representing a total of 13,385 riders for the month of March.
- Staff has prepared a draft ordinance and policy to address odors in the city. Director Pekarek sent it to me this afternoon, and we'll work to set up a meeting next week to discuss it internally before we bring it to the council for discussion, most likely at a work session.
- Speaking of, we are planning a work session for April 23rd to discuss the recommendations of the citizen's committee who reviewed the Use Tax. We may be able

to discuss the odor issue as well, but my plan is to sit down with the new mayor after Monday to develop the agenda.

- And finally, staff in our building division will be visiting the community of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, next week to review the ins-and-outs of our future online building permit and inspection system, currently in use by Broken Arrow. We've hit a slight bump in our training schedule from the company that provides the system, but my hope is that by mid-late summer we will have the new system in place.

Please let me know if you have questions about any of these items. Otherwise, I look forward to seeing you Monday night.