

SUMMER 2007

GRANDVIEW

A Newsletter about the City of Grandview, Missouri

REPORT



SUMMER IN THE CITY

Clockwise from top left: Meadowmere Park Pool, feeding the fish at Longview Lake, Grandview Baseball League, and Farmers Market at 8th and Main.



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Capital Improvements Sales Tax Renewal Considered

The Capital Improvements Sales Tax, first approved by voters in 1998, has been very valuable to the City of Grandview, particularly for the Police, Fire, and Public Works Departments. Over the past nearly nine years, the City has used this special tax to pay for a number of essential vehicles and equipment to assist public safety operations and street maintenance. In addition, the tax revenues have paid for new storm sewers, storm channel repairs, new sidewalks, sidewalk and curb replacement, the new public safety radio communications system, the police/fire computer-aided-dispatch system, mobile data terminals for public safety vehicles, city-wide computer system upgrades, and some major bridge, street widening, signalization, and Highway 71 right-of-way upgrades.

More specifically, this 1/2-cent sales tax has allowed the City to spend these funds for the following significant items since 1998:

Merrywood Bridge	\$1,126,800*
140th Street Bridge	376,300
Storm drainage improvements	1,317,450
Blue Ridge traffic signals	299,400
West Frontage Rd. improvements	232,000
New sidewalks	448,400
Sidewalk repairs	236,600
Curb repairs	482,100
Storm channel repairs	606,700
Storm water management	250,300
Public Works vehicles/equipment	1,116,550
Police vehicle replacement	1,367,400
Police video/electronic equipment	709,000
Police/Fire radio system upgrade	1,415,650
Computer-aided dispatch replacement	509,600
Fire trucks, ambulances, vehicles	1,405,300
Fire equipment/station improvements	295,350
Computerization/communication system improvements	872,400
Computer/technology improvements	189,500
City facility repairs/improvements	737,600
Total	\$13,994,400

* Includes projected expenditures through the 2008 expiration

These expenditures have been made in accordance with the commitments made by the Board of Aldermen in 1998. In fact, the City has spent nearly \$600,000 from other funding sources to make sure that all commitments would be addressed.

Approval of the 1/2-cent Capital Improvements Sales Tax was for a period of ten years, and it is set to expire in 2008. The Board of Aldermen have indicated that the need is just as great now as it was in 1998, yet the cost for everything has increased, and in some cases dramatically — i.e., fire trucks, ambulances, police cars, asphalt, concrete, and construction labor costs. In order to plan properly for the next 10 years, the Board of

Aldermen has decided to place this question before the voters of Grandview in the November election this fall. If approved, there would be no lapse in funding, and the 1/2-cent sales tax would remain in effect through 2018.

The Next Ten Years

The plan for the next ten years would be similar to that of the first ten-year authorization. It would include the following:

Police vehicle replacement	\$1,750,000
Fire truck, ambulance replacement	1,400,000
Public Works vehicle replacement	1,200,000
Police/Fire computer-aided dispatch replacement	500,000
Police mobile video recorder/mobile data terminal replacement	330,000
Fire Dept. breathing apparatus, defibrillation and bunker gear replacement, and station improvements	440,000
New sidewalks	500,000
Sidewalk repairs	250,000
Curb repairs	500,000
Storm channel renovation	750,000
Storm drainage improvements	1,500,000
City facility repairs, replacements	780,000
City computer, technology upgrades	400,000
Total	\$10,300,000

In addition, the Board has decided to do three major projects with these revenues over the next 10 years:

Phase I (Grandview Road to 5th Street) of the Main Street Corridor Project	\$1,200,000
West Frontage Road Improvements (Highgrove Road to 135th Street)	1,500,000
Botts Road Reconstruction/Widening (135th Street to 139th Street)	1,000,000

Back in the late 1970's and 1980's, the City was able to use federal revenue sharing funds, along with general revenues, to pay for capital equipment, facility improvements, and infrastructure. In 1992, voters approved a bond package that funded two new fire stations, expansion of the Police Department, Highway 71 access improvements, and police and fire equipment, but those funds were depleted in 1998. Hence, the first Capital Improvements Sales Tax was then proposed to finance all the needed capital items envisioned for the next 10 years. While the City could have asked for a permanent sales tax at that time, the Board agreed to submit a 10-year plan for capital needs, honor that commitment, and then resubmit the issue to voters to continue the 1/2-cent sales tax based on the needs for the subsequent 10 years.

The renewal of the 1/2-cent Sales Tax for Capital Improvements will come before voters in Grandview as a November 6th ballot issue this fall. ■

Projects Point to Progress



Grandview Road reconstruction

Road Construction

Grandview Road from Main Street to Blue Ridge Boulevard is one of our oldest streets and was in place when the Village of Grandview was incorporated in 1912.

On March 16, 2006 the Board of Alderman authorized a contract to design the reconstruction of Grandview Road. The consulting engineers designed a 28-foot wide street from Goode Avenue to 370 feet south of Blue Ridge Boulevard plus 5-foot wide sidewalks on both sides of the street. Between Main Street and Goode Avenue the street would include parking lanes on each side of the street.

A construction contract was approved on May 8th this year, will be completed this summer, and is being funded by the City's Transportation Sales Tax.

Bridge Repair

The River Oaks South area developer built the existing Merrywood Drive Bridge over the Little Blue River south of East 140th Street in the early 1970's.

In 1997, the City contracted TranSystems Corporation to study the structure. Their

bridge repair report advised the City that all thirty of the pre-cast concrete beams exhibited some level of concrete deterioration.

On August 12, 1997, the Board enacted an ordinance that restricted loads on the Merrywood Lane Bridge to 12 tons for two axles, 16 tons for three axles, and 22 tons for four axle vehicles. On June 27, 2006, the Board authorized the design of a new Merrywood Lane Bridge. The replacement bridge is being funded by the City's Capital Improvement Sales Tax. The City estimates the construction contract will be awarded in early September and construction will take 240 days to complete.

Hotel Construction

Construction is almost complete on the new hotel along the east side of 71 Highway and Main Street. Financed through the Balaji Development Corporation, the Holiday Inn Express will hold 70 guest rooms and employ about



Holiday Inn Express

35 people. Features include a pool, spa, limited meeting rooms, and various guest amenities. The new hotel is scheduled for completion by late summer.



Sunrise Farms Subdivision

Mixed-Use Development

Grandview will soon have a new mixed-use development located on the north side of Missouri Highway 150 on 267 acres between Byars Road and Kelley Road. On May 1, 2007, the Board of Aldermen approved a revised Conceptual Development Plan for the development, which includes approximately 205 residential acres and 60 acres devoted to commercial use at the south end of the development that abuts Missouri Highway 150. Infrastructure and public improvement construction is currently under way, with construction of new homes scheduled to begin this fall. ■



Merrywood Lane Bridge

CITY HALL SERVICES

Many Grandview residents, as well as people from all over the region, come to Grandview's City Hall to get their vehicle registered or license renewed, renew their driver's license or apply for a new one, and pay their Jackson County taxes at the customer service windows. The following are some useful tips from the customer service staff at City Hall that may help with these types of transactions.

To pay for vehicle or driver's licenses at the License Bureau:

■ For new/renewal of vehicle registration

- ◆ Title and Bill of Sale (for new) or registration from prior year (for renewal)
 - ◆ Property tax receipt for prior year(s) (if you received a courtesy renewal notice in the mail, it will say if your vehicle is eligible for a two-year renewal)
 - ◆ Inspection (courtesy notice will also say if your vehicle needs inspection)
 - ◆ Proof of valid insurance
- For more information, call 316-4800.

■ For new/renewal of driver's license

- ◆ Birth certificate (can't be a copy) or passport (may be expired passport)
- ◆ Proof of residence (anything showing your current name and address, e.g., utility bill, paycheck, bank statement)
- ◆ Social Security card (can't be laminated)

Those who need a Missouri birth certificate may contact the Health Department, 2400 Troost, Kansas City, at 513-6309 or go to www.vitalchek.com. Those needing an out-of-state birth certificate may contact that state's Bureau of Vital Statistics or State Health Department or go to www.vitalchek.com. If you need to apply for or need to replace a Social Security card, there are two locations in the Kansas City metro area: 4240 S. Lee's Summit Road in Independence and 6320 Euclid in Kansas City. Both locations are open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, you may call 1-800-772-1213 (TTY is 1-800-325-0778). You may also go to www.ssa.gov. You

may also stop by City Hall for a map and directions for both Social Security Administration locations.

For a link to the State Department of Revenue's Motor Vehicle Bureau, go to www.grandview.org.

To pay Jackson County personal property taxes:

Jackson County personal property taxes are due each year by December 31st. To provide faster customer service for this transaction, staffing is increased during the month of December. You may pay, obtain a waiver for, or have your individual

personal property tax bill adjusted or originated at the customer service window at City Hall, Monday through Friday

from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. First-time auto buyers need to bring a copy of the title or title application with them.

If you need to know how much you owe on your personal property taxes, the only phone number authorized to give out that information is the Jackson County Personal Property Tax Division at 881-3232. The staff at City Hall provides only customer service windows (no phone service) for inquiries on taxes owed, so customers must call the County for any phone inquiries.

Occupational Licenses

Occupational licenses are required to operate a business within the City of Grandview. To obtain an occupational license, you may either come by City Hall or download an occupational license application at www.grandview.org. Downloaded applications may be sent to the attention of the Finance Department by mail at Grandview City Hall, 1200 Main Street, Grandview, MO 64030 or by FAX at (816) 763-3907.

For information on business or real estate taxes or waivers, go to Grandview's Web site at www.grandview.org or www.jacksongov.com, or call 881-3232. ■



TIPS & RESOURCES

During the summertime, sometimes the easiest way to beat the heat is a cool dip in the local swimming pool. Grandview residents can take advantage of the swimming pool at Meadowmere Park. The Aquatics team at Grandview's community center, The View, offers the following tips for adults and children to help make the summer a cool and safe one.



Swimming Safety Tips

- ◆ Children should always be attended by an adult.
- ◆ Always swim with a buddy.
- ◆ Read and obey all rules and posted signs.
- ◆ Children or inexperienced swimmers should take extra precautions, such as wearing a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket when in and around the water.
 - ◆ Watch out for the “dangerous too’s”: too tired, too cold, too far from safety, too much sun, and too much strenuous activity.
 - ◆ Only enter headfirst when the area is clearly marked for diving.
 - ◆ Stay within arm’s reach of your children while swimming.
 - ◆ Teach your children to swim by enrolling them in an American Red Cross Learn-to-Swim course.

Helping Your Pets Survive the Heat

It’s always hard to predict the weather in Missouri, but if it’s anything like last summer, we could be headed for some scorching heat.



Grandview’s Neighborhood Services Division would like to remind those who have pets outside that there are two crucial things to remember: shelter and water.

- ◆ Water should be available at all times, so fill a small wading pool or other large container with water so pets are not able to knock it over and be without water.
- ◆ Providing a dog with a dog house under a shade tree is also a necessity.

Fire Prevention in the Summer

Summer is a great time to cook outdoors, but it can be easy for a cooking fire to get out of control when there are drought conditions and hot temperatures. To help keep your outdoor cookouts safe, the Grandview Fire Department has provided these tips:

- ◆ Outdoor grills are allowed at private residences, but are not allowed on decks or balconies of apartments in Grandview unless those balconies or decks are protected by an automatic sprinkler system.
- ◆ Grills should always be at least 10 feet from any house, building or shelter.
- ◆ Be careful when using lighter fluid. Do not add fluid to an already lit fire because the flame can flare up into the container and explode.
- ◆ Never grill/barbecue in enclosed areas — carbon monoxide could be produced.

Need to Report a Property Code Violation?

If you notice tall weeds and grass or unsightly trash in the neighborhood, you may call Neighborhood



Services at 316-4817 to report it. For more information on code violations, come by City Hall to pick up informative brochures on topics such as Storage of Recreational

Vehicles, Campers, Boats and Trailers, or check the City’s Web site at www.grandview.org. ■



Upcoming Events

FARMERS MARKET

Saturdays and Tuesday evenings

June 16th through September 29th

Saturdays, 8 — Noon, Tuesdays, 4 — 8 p.m.

Vendors contact Johnna Welch at 405-5561 or 765-7104



JAZZ BLAST 2007

September 8th, 4 — 10 p.m.

Main Street in front of City Hall

Free to all ages. Bring a lawn chair. Food and beverages sold at event, outside beverages not allowed.

Sponsored by Grandview Chamber of Commerce and UMB Bank.

Featuring:

- **Grandview High School Jazz Band**, 4:30 — 5 p.m.
- **Sons of Brasil**, 5:15 — 6:15 p.m.
- **Barclay Martin Ensemble**, 6:30 — 7:30 p.m.
- **Joe Cartwright Quartet**, 7:45 — 8:45 p.m.
- **Wailea**, 9 — 10 p.m.

For more information, call 761-6505

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Grandview, Missouri

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Debra McKinstry, Ward II Alderman

Joseph E. Runions, Jr., Ward II Alderman

James N. Crain, Ward III Alderman

Anthony Preyer, Ward III Alderman

Donald Crow, Municipal Judge

CITY STAFF

Cory Smith, City Administrator

Kirk Decker, Assistant City Administrator

Phoebe Cameron, City Clerk

Becky Schimmel, Assistant City Clerk

Alan Kenyon, Director of

Economic Development

Richard Schurman, Police Chief

Chuck Thacker, Fire Chief

Larry Creek, Director of Public Works

Chris Chiodini, Director of

Community Development

Anthony Finlay, Director of

Parks and Recreation

Shirley Moses, Director of Finance

SCHEDULE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

All meetings are open to the public and take place at Grandview City hall,

1200 Main Street

(except Parks and Recreation Commission meetings).

Board of Aldermen regular meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7:30 PM.

Board of Aldermen work sessions are on the first and third Tuesdays of 7:00 PM.

Planning Commission meetings are the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM.

Parks and Recreation Commission meetings are the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM at the new community center.

CITY HALL INFORMATION

City of Grandview

1200 Main Street

Grandview, MO 64030

(816) 316-4800

FAX (816) 763-3902

www.grandview.org