

WINTER 2013

GRANDVIEW

A Newsletter about the City of Grandview, Missouri

REPORT



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Front Porch Conversations with the Mayor...

Marching Loud and Proud Into Our Next Century

Alright...who else is shivering right now? I walked from the parking lot into City Hall last night and nearly froze. I guess it's days like these that make us appreciate, all the more, the warmer days of spring and summer just around the corner.

Well, 2013 is underway, and there's plenty of work to do to make our 101st year as a city as exciting and eventful as our Centennial Birthday. With events and potential new business developments in the works, we are sure to have some more fun this year.

Mark your calendars right now (May 2nd through 4th) for our second annual "Truman Heritage Festival". Last year, I was told the estimated number of folks who came out to celebrate exceeded 12,000 people! This year we're expecting even more. We have already received tons of requests from vendors and music groups who heard about the fun we had last year, and they want to join us this May. And we're planning for this year's Parade to be even larger than last year's record-setting event, and we've got some special surprises planned for everyone this year.

On Friday, June 7th, our beloved Chamber of Commerce will host one of the best Golf Tournaments around at our Grand Summit Country Club. They put this on every year, and it's an absolute blast to be a part of. Maybe this year, you might decide to come out and have some fun with the rest of us. Give the ladies at the

Chamber a call (761-6505) if you'd like to come out and see how bad a golfer I am.

Grandview Day at "The K" last June was a huge success (for us...not the Royals) and was so much fun, with over 500 of Grandview's faithful taking part. We're working on a date for this year. We'll keep you informed. Maybe we can bring a little better luck to our "Boys in Blue".

Saturday, September 7th marks our 10th Annual "Music On Main", and it is shaping up to be the best event ever. The Chamber does such a great job with this event. We always seem to have great weather, and we never cease to have awesome music, tasty food, and great friends getting together to celebrate real "community".

And, yes, though the details of which are taking way too long for me (and I'm guessing for you as well), "Truman's MarketPlace Shopping & Dining District" is still going full speed ahead, whether or not it looks like it on the outside. We have all been waiting for the Old Owner and the New Owner (RED Legacy) to agree to and close on the purchase of the old Truman Corners. National Retailers and Restaurants have been waiting almost as anxiously as you and I for the closing to take place, since they can't sign any lease agreements until the new owner takes possession of the property. Though some of the stores up there now may or may not be a part of the "parade of shops" in

the new MarketPlace, I can assure you the new choices you'll have for spending your shopping and dining dollars will be like what you see in other cities around us....maybe better. So hang in there...things truly are moving forward...just at a slower pace than most of us anticipated.

The "new look" Main Street continues to transform, as we march our improvements eastward toward the Interstate. I've heard so many positive reviews from our citizens about the new look to our downtown, and I think you're really going to like the aesthetic improvements that we have planned for the rest of Main Street and...our new Main Street Bridge. Yep, in 2015 it looks like we will be replacing our old bridge with a monumental looking structure that will leave an impression on all those travelers going north and south on Interstate 49 every day. They will know they are in a community where people are extremely proud of who they are.

Last year's growing season brought out a number of local farmers to sell their produce at our Community Market on Saturdays. This year, our new Farmers Market/Civic Plaza at 8th & Main Street will give the Farmers and Shoppers a beautiful place to buy and sell...and a place to enjoy and congregate as well. I'm really excited to see the finished product.

And last year marked the beginning of our new Grandview Arts Council. We have so many talented artists,



Mayor Dennis

musicians, and dancers, and the city wants to do all we can to encourage culture to enhance our well-rounded community.

This year, there are many plans to move forward and build on our recent progress. And it seems like every week, there are new businesses looking into the possibility of moving or starting up right here, in what I like to call "The Center of the Known Universe". And judging by the number of "Ribbon Cuttings" and "Grand Openings" that I get to be a part of, many of those businesses are deciding to make the jump to build their "road to prosperity" here in Grandview.

Now I trust that you can clearly see that our city is transforming into a real "community"... one that we can all be proud to call "home". It's really exciting (and humbling) to be your Mayor during these great times. But there's still so much to do to see many of these "plans" through to "finished products", and I trust that you will be providing encouragement and comments along the way. Our city government needs and thrives on your feedback; keep it coming, and stay warm. May your new year be greatly blessed and prosperous!

Steve

MAIN STREET PHASE THREE UNDER WAY

Skinny orange cones and detour signs will soon stand between 13th and 15th street as construction for the third phase of Main Street's revitalization is about to begin.

On January 8, 2013, the Board of Aldermen awarded the construction project to Amino Brothers Co. Inc. in the amount of \$395,340.15. The project is 75% grant-funded.

Construction will begin in late February/early March, 2013.

Phase 3 is a short 475-foot-long segment between the east side of 13th Street to 150 ft west of 15th Street.

While the street surface will receive an asphalt overlay, the major features of this phase involve building new curb, sidewalk, and storm drainage collection improvements. Phase 3 will also replace the streetlights with modern energy-efficient fixtures and new decorative poles, matching those used in Phase 1 and Phase 2.

During construction of this phase, at least one lane in each direction will be open to allow for through traffic to continue to use the street.

Check our website at www.grandview.org, to get weekly updates on Phase 3 of Main Street under the *What's New* tab.

City's Emergency Notification System To Be Upgraded

In an effort to keep improving services offered to citizens, the City is in the process of replacing its current Global Connect Emergency Notification System with a faster and more reliable one. This time, the City is contracting with Emergency Communications Network to license its CodeRED high-speed notification solution. The CodeRED system will provide the City the ability to quickly deliver critical, as well as general messages to all residents, mostly via phone, but also email. Here is some important information you should know:

CALLER ID

When you see the following displayed, you'll know the call is from the City. To hear the last message delivered to your phone, simply dial the number back.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS - 1-866-419-5000 or Emergency Comm

GENERAL NOTIFICATIONS - 1-855-969-4636 or ECN Community



JOIN OUR DATABASE

Most landlines will be automatically added to the database, but we highly encourage you to register all your telephone numbers, including mobile numbers. Online registration will be available in early February on our website, grandview.org; or contact P. I. O. Ana Nixon at (816) 316-4812 with your information.

PRIVACY

Your contact information remain private and will only be used for community notifications.

2012 in Review: Key Accomplishments

The following is a glimpse at some of the actions taken by the City of Grandview in 2012.

TRANSPORTION/INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

- Gained agreement from MoDOT to allow the creation of two-way frontage roads along the new I-49 after 30 years of one-way only roads imposed.

- Completed the Botts Road and 135th Street widening/improvement projects at a total cost of \$2.1 million, with a little more than \$817,000 coming from federal funding through a Surface Transportation Project grant.

- Coordinated the design of the Main Street Phase III project from 13th to 15th for early 2013 construction; and the design of a new bridge over I-49 at Main.

- Worked with the MARC Transportation Committee to obtain more grant funds for local projects totaling around \$4.8 million.

- Coordinated additional sanitary sewer inflow and infiltration studies and projects to reduce extraneous water entering the system and hold treatment costs down.

- Lobbied MoDOT to bring back "Grandview" directional signs along the highways adjacent to the new I-49.

- Completed the Main Street – Phase 2 construction project last fall.



PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES

- Upgraded the City's outdoor warning sirens.

- Reduced Part I Crimes 17.6% for the year, with significant decreases in domestic violence assaults, auto thefts and robberies. 2012 was the third straight year of overall reduction of serious crimes in Grandview. Also experienced a 7% reduction in calls for police service, a 3% reduction in traffic accidents and a 13% reduction in DUI arrests.

- Brought online new fire reporting software and computerized fire inspection records to improve data collection and reporting

- Initiated the Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) program that allowed a limited number of citizens to volunteer their services in the department. The volunteers provided over 1,000 man-hours in support of the department's operations.



- Utilized the Data Driven Approach to Crime and Traffic Safety, an intelligence-based policing model for deployment of resources in targeted areas. Preliminary results were excellent with a 42% decrease in crime in the target area.

- Purchased six new Toughbooks (mobile data terminals) for the patrol cars and re-purposed the old ones for station use. This was a significant cost savings in not having to purchase desktop computers.

- Purchased four new Ford Interceptors as the first step in the gradual phase-out of the discontinued Crown Victoria's. The new cars are rated 18/26 in miles per gallon (5 mpg better than the previous Fords), but with 38 more hp and a 5-year/ 100,000 mile warranty.



- Forged a partnership with the Department of Health and Senior Services and provided office space in the Police Department for one of their case workers to be onsite. This allows a more timely response and resources for our elderly and mentally disabled citizens.

- Installed a new frame and liner under the reserve Fire pumper, keeping it operational for another three years.

- Required the manufacturer to repair the all-steer system on the Fire aerial truck at no cost.

- Purchased power lift cots for the City's ambulances to reduce stress and strain on paramedics and reduce back injuries and medical costs.



in Our Centennial Anniversary Year

CIVIC PROJECTS/FACILITIES

- Coordinated the design and construction of the new combined Public Works/Park Maintenance Complex, providing facilities to house all of the City's maintenance personnel and equipment in both departments, along with locker rooms, training rooms, offices, and fleet maintenance facilities as part of a no-tax increase bond issue approved by voters in 2008.

- Completed the design for the Civic Plaza/Farmers Market area at 8th and Main, with 2/3 of the project paid for with federal funding.

- Completed the City's new signature park playground in Meadowmere Park called Brumble's Forest, instantly popular with the children.



- Brought back the Farmers Market to downtown by popular

demand, with up to 14 vendors last year and plans to expand the market even more in 2013.

COMMUNITY-WIDE PROJECTS

- Balanced the City's budget again without significant cuts or layoffs. Property tax rates have not increased in 27 years. Capital projects continue to move forward as promised.

- Added a mobile component to the City's website, allowing visitors to use mobile devices to view the latest news, events, and resources.

- Conducted the 2012 Citizens Survey, resulting in a good overall evaluation of most City services; and providing target areas for improvement.

- Coordinated City's Inaugural Truman Heritage Parade and Festival in May with attendance estimated at around 12,000 over a three-day period.

- Worked with Jackson County on a potential commuter rail/rapid bus transit project along the I-49 corridor.

- Worked with downtown businesses and artists to form the Grandview Arts Council to promote art and related activity downtown and around town.



DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

- Obtained MoDOT partnership (cost sharing) of \$1.5 million for two highway access road extensions along Highway 150 to promote development on both the north and south sides of that highway.

- Approved the TIF Plan (TIF No. 15) for redevelopment of Truman Corners Shopping Center with RED Legacy, and initiated the acquisition/condemnation process to allow RED Legacy to acquire the property by early 2013.

- Completed the Highway 150 Sustainable Development Corridor Plan.

- Assisted in the relocation of businesses into Grandview or to new facilities within Grandview along West Main and Duck Road; and welcomed 13 other businesses to town.



- Prompted the owners of 80 industrial zoned acres along Botts Road to seek state certification as a development-ready site and one of only 14 certified sites around the state.

- Planned additional infrastructure improvements projects in the downtown area or Main Street, along I-49, and Highway 150 to attract more retail and office development.





Register for the Citizens Academy - Space is Limited

Are you interested in learning how public safety resources are deployed, what the city does to promote and support the local economy, and other firsthand information about local government? If so, this is your chance.

The Grandview 2013 Citizens Academy is a FREE 8-session program designed to provide community members with a better understanding of the workings of their local government.

The Citizens Academy will cover a wide range of topics. A synopsis of the sessions is available on our website, www.grandview.org.

The goal of the Grandview Citizens Academy is to better equip the community to fully participate in the process of building Grandview's future!

The Academy sessions will be held every two weeks on Thursday evenings beginning at 7:00 p.m., February 28. Participants will attend dynamic sessions with department heads, tour city facilities and see some of the departments' equipment in operation first-hand.

Participants are encouraged to attend all eight sessions from then until June 6 in order to get the full benefit of all the information provided on the City of Grandview. To qualify for graduation from the Academy, however, attendees will need to attend seven of the eight sessions.

SCHEDULE	
Feb 28	City Government Overview/Policy Direction/ Management/Admin Services
March 14	Community Development – Planning/Building/ Code Enforcement
March 28	Budget and Finance – Managing Resources
April 11	Police Department
April 25	Public Works
May 9	Fire Department
May 23	Parks and Recreation
June 6	Economic Development/Placemaking

There is limited seating and pre-registration is required. Anyone interested in attending can pick up a registration form at City Hall or at The View, register online at www.grandview.org or call Ana Nixon at (816) 316-4812.

I-49/US-71 Sustainable Redevelopment Corridor Plan Kicks Off



The I-49/US-71 corridor tells the story of the Kansas City metro area's post World War II development. The corridor is anchored on the north by the Truman Corners Shopping Center, opened in the 1950s to great fanfare as one of Kansas City's original suburban shopping centers, and to the south includes the strip centers, power centers, and pad sites of development in the last half of the twentieth century.

Many of these strip centers and commercial buildings are now declining, experiencing escalating vacancies, and in need of reinvestment. The central and southern portions of the corridor have been fragmented into small lots, which presents challenges for large-scale redevelopment. In addition, the one-way frontage roads and lack of connections between individual commercial centers and to adjacent neighborhoods create traffic circulation difficulties.

To address these issues and better position the corridor for redevelopment and economic growth, the City of Grandview is beginning work on the I-49/US-71 Sustainable Redevelopment Corridor Plan. This plan will create a vision for the future of Grandview's "front door" to attract investment and development, and craft tools and strategies to achieve that vision.

To make this plan successful, we need the involvement of Grandview residents and businesses. Tell our planning team what issues need to be addressed, help prioritize options, and give us your feedback. You can learn more about this project on the City's website – www.grandview.org/I49Plan/ - or by attending the first **Community Workshop on Tuesday, April 16**. Mark your calendar and plan to join us to improve our community!

MISSOURI DRIVERS LICENSE RENEWAL PROCESS TO CHANGE - EFFECTIVE JANUARY 23

The Missouri Department of Revenue is introducing the latest improvements to driver licenses and nondriver identification cards. These changes protect individual's identity and decrease fraud.

Starting January 23, all drivers license applicants, including those renewing their licenses, will go through the following process:

- 1- Every applicant will be required to present proof of identity, including name change; proof of residency; and proof of lawful presence (go to www.grandview.org for details)
- 2- The fees remain the same;
- 3- Applicants will receive a temporary license and may keep the old license which will be punched "Void";
- 4- The permanent license will be produced at a secure U.S. facility;
- 5- License arrives in the mail at your home within 7 to 10 business days.

Current Licenses & Nondriver identification cards remain valid until they expire. New and Renewed Licenses and ID cards will be issued under the new process.



Green Tip

Ventilate the attic and crawl spaces to prevent moisture buildup. Keeping humidity levels in these areas below 50% can prevent water condensation on building materials, which can breed bacteria and mold.

WE WANT YOUR COMMENTS AND IDEAS.

If you have a concern, compliment or suggestion about how we can better inform you, please send an email for consideration to suggestions@ci.grandview.mo.us

Upcoming Events

FATHER/DAUGHTER VALENTINE DANCE

Friday, February 8 - 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The View - 13500 Byars Rd.

Members/residents in advance: \$12 per person

All tickets at the door: \$20 per person

Call (816) 316-4888 for more information

CITIZENS ACADEMY

February 28 - June 6 (8 sessions)

Held every other Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m.

Pre-registration required - Sign-up at

www.grandview.org or pick up a registration form at City Hall or The View (see page 6)

MUNICIPAL ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, April 2

Cast your vote for Mayor and Aldermen

I-49/US-71 SUSTAINABLE REDEVELOPMENT CORRIDOR PLAN COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Tuesday, April 16, 4:00 p.m.

City Hall - Read more on page 7

PETS HELPING PEOPLE

Saturday, April 20, 8:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Conn-West Elementary - 1100 High Grove Road

Provides low-cost rabies vaccination to cats & dogs and supports the Grandview Assistance Program

TRUMAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

May 2, 3 & 4

Main Street - Downtown Grandview

Concerts, parade, carnival, car & bike show, BBQ contest, food & craft vendors and more!
FREE

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Grandview, MO

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CITY OF GRANDVIEW Directory of City Officials

Steve Dennis, Mayor

Leonard D. Jones, Ward I Alderman

Brent Steeno, Ward I Alderman

Brian Hochstein, Ward II Alderman

Annette Turnbaugh, Ward II Alderman

James N. Crain, Ward III Alderman

John Maloney, Ward III Alderman

Donald Crow, Municipal Judge

CITY STAFF

Cory Smith, City Administrator

Kirk Decker, Assistant City Administrator

Becky Schimmel, City Clerk

Ana Nixon, Public Information Officer

Alan Kenyon, Director of Economic
Development

Deb Angell, Manager of Human Resources

Charles Iseman, Police Chief

Chuck Thacker, Fire Chief

Dennis Randolph, Director of Public Works

Chris Chiodini, Director of Community
Development

Eric Lucas, 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 p.m.

Board of Aldermen work sessions are on the first and third Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commission meetings are the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the community center.

CITY HALL INFORMATION

City of Grandview

1200 Main Street

Grandview, MO 64030

(816) - 316 - 4800

FAX (816) 763-3902

www.grandview.org