

SUMMER 2010

# GRANDVIEW

REPORT

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## VOTE ON TRANSPORTATION SALES

The Grandview Board of Aldermen has called a special election to renew the Transportation Sales Tax on **Tuesday, August 3rd** for the next 10 years.

An Ad Hoc Citizens Advisory Committee was appointed by the Board to examine the need for extending the tax. After several meetings, much discussion, and review of past projects, the Committee was unanimous in recommending the extension of the Transportation Sales Tax. The Transportation Sales Tax is a one-half of one-percent (1/2%) levy on all taxable items sold within the city limits, and it is the main source of revenue for the construction of new roads and ongoing maintenance of existing streets.

The tax was initially adopted by Grandview voters in 1986 for a five-year period and renewed in 1991 and 2000 by voter approval for 10 years each time. Money from the Transportation Sales Tax has funded many new street projects and repairs to existing streets and curbs.

### No Tax Increase

Extending the Transportation Sales Tax would not increase taxes because this proposition is not a new tax – it is an extension of an existing sales tax at exactly the same rate as before. The proposed extension has a ten-year sunset clause. If approved on Tuesday, August 3, the tax would expire in 2021 and could only be extended again by voter approval. This allows the public to once again review and evaluate the City's transportation system, as well as the use of sales tax revenues to fund the designated projects.

Past Transportation Sales Tax revenues have provided for numerous improvements to Grandview's streets, bridges and curbs. There are still many projects to be constructed, as well as existing roads, bridges and curbs that are in need of maintenance and repair. The Ad Hoc Citizens Advisory Committee concluded that this tax is essential to the continued improvement of our City's roadways.

### Transportation Sales Tax Projects Completed

Receipts from the Transportation Sales Tax have funded many new street projects as well as significant preventive maintenance activities. These projects cost over \$20 million and meant the development of ten miles of improvements for Grandview's street system. Without Transportation Sales Tax funds, most of these important projects would not have been done. Below are the projects that have been constructed just since 2001.

- Blue Ridge Blvd widening from Truman Corners entrance to the West Frontage Rd
- Blue Ridge Blvd @ KC Southern low clearance overpass
- Grandview Rd reconstruction from Blue Ridge Blvd to Main St
- Harry Truman Dr from Crystal Ave to 125th St
- 5th St Reconstruction from Main St to 135th St
- 139th St Reconstruction
- 2nd/3rd St Connector - Main St to Blue Ridge Blvd (in progress)



# TAX RENEWAL SET FOR AUGUST 3

## Future Projects

\$1.06 million a year is the estimate of how much the Transportation Sales Tax will generate a year for road projects. A renewed Transportation Sales Tax can generate enough funds to maintain the City's transportation system.

**Priority 1:** Those projects which would be funded and constructed with Transportation Sales Tax renewal dollars:

- Main Street Corridor improvements – 10th Street to 13th Street
- Main Street Corridor improvements – 13th Street to the West Frontage Road
- KC Southern Railroad Overpass over Blue Ridge Blvd (subject to federal funding assistance)

**Priority 2:** Those projects which would be given first consideration for funding after Priority 1 projects have been funded and constructed:

- Harry Truman Drive – East Frontage Road (71 Highway to 125th Street)
- Harry Truman Drive – Byars Road to Richmond Avenue
- Blue Ridge Blvd widening from Truman Corners entrance to the Farm Shopping Center
- Grandview Road and Blue Ridge Blvd signal and pedestrian improvements
- Improvements to Blue Ridge under the KC Southern RR (contingent upon the new KC Southern overpass being constructed)

**Priority 3:** Those projects which would be given consideration after Priority 1 and Priority 2 projects have been funded if additional funds become available:

- Design of the 140th Street Extension (west of Botts Road)
- Curbs and reconstruction of streets for streets without curbs (with a minimum of \$750,000 in construction being done)

Without the Transportation Sales Tax, street maintenance funding would be restricted to only around \$75,000 annually for contract maintenance, barely enough for basic maintenance needs, such as slurry sealing, crack, filling, and lane striping. There would be no money available to resurface streets or to construct new roads.

**Be sure to participate and cast your vote on Tuesday, August 3rd.**



# HIT THE TRAILS OF GRANDVIEW AND THE SURROUNDING AREA

If you haven't already used the surrounding trail system, now is the time to get out and enjoy the benefits of having trails right here in our community. Grandview currently has several loop walks and maintains the Little Blue River Bike Trail, located within Meadowmere Park and connecting to the Longview Lake Trail, which is 6.8 miles long and creates a continuous stretch of trail of 7.7 miles, representing an important first step in the creation of a trail network.

## GRANDVIEW TRAILS PLAN IN THE WORKS

In fact, the Parks & Recreation Department has held several focus group sessions with citizens in the past few months to find out what their preferences and priorities are when it comes to trails systems. Now the department is working on the final draft of a citywide trails plan. In the 2008 Parks & Recreation Master Plan, trails ranked as one of the most important amenities to add to the parks system. Furthermore, in our last citizen satisfaction survey, residents expressed their desire to have more places to walk and bike in our community. The purpose of this plan is to provide both a vision for long-term trail development and a plan for pursuing immediate trail opportunities as the City works toward a recreational trail system in the community.

## LONGVIEW TRAIL RECONSTRUCTION

To top all that, Jackson County has begun to reconstruct the 6.8 mile long bicycle trail at Longview Lake Park. This is an existing 8-foot wide asphalt trail originally constructed in the mid-1980's and is in need of replacement. The reconstruction will adhere to current trail standards with a 10-foot wide trail and 2-foot shoulders on either side. The reconstructed trail will follow the existing trail alignment. The new trail surface material will predominately be compacted aggregate, similar to the Katy Trail, although steep slopes will

have a concrete surface. Construction began the first week of June and is expected to be completed this fall. The work is being accomplished in segments and each segment will be closed to the public during that time. The work is being contracted at a total cost of \$444,607. Jackson County has received partial funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) through the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT). The funding level from ARRA is \$250,000, with the remaining funds provided by Jackson County.

Meadowmere Park Little Blue River Trail connects with the west side of Longview Trail, which leads all the way to the Longview Lake Beach and continues on to the Marina.



# GRANDVIEW YOUTH COURT NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!



*Volunteers (from left) John Wallace , Chris Estrada and Evelyn Crosby*

Are you a student who would like to learn more about the judicial system? Would you like to make a difference in your community? The Grandview Youth Court can provide you an opportunity for a real juvenile justice experience where you can positively impact other area youths and the community.

The Grandview Youth Court is currently looking for volunteers to serve as staff members. Youth Court personnel must be between the ages of 12 (in the 7th grade) and 19. In addition, they must be either residents of Grandview or attend Grandview C-4 schools. Students hold all of the positions within the Court, including judge, attorneys, bailiff and clerk. Some volunteers can serve twice a month every month. Others work only once a month and only certain months during the school year. Each docket runs between two and three hours. The schedule is flexible. Volunteers receive training from local attorneys. Training is in three modules of about two hours each.

Youth Court is a sponsored by the City and offers juvenile offenders the opportunity to appear before a court of their peers. Youth Court handles minor types of offenses, such as shoplifting, trespassing, and disorderly conduct, etc. The Youth Court can assign community service work, an essay, an apology or a combination of these to young offenders who are found guilty.

Evelyn Crosby has been a Youth Court member for the last four years. "I like interacting with defendants and having a positive impact on their lives," she states. Erin Farste, another Youth Court member, says she enjoys it because it is a real experience, working with real people and real charges, not a fake, mock trial situation.

If you would like to find out more about participating in this program, please contact the Youth Court office by calling (816) 767-1030 or by email at **director@grandviewyouthcourt.com**. More information may also be found on the Youth Court website at **www.grandviewyouthcourt.com**.

## **As a Youth Court volunteer you will:**

- Participate in decisions that help your community
- Learn about the court system
- Gain valuable experience that can be used on college scholarship applications
- Serve as a positive role model
  - Meet new friends

# ENTER GRANDVIEW'S PICTURE PERFECT CONTEST

The City of Grandview is looking for striking photos from or around our community. This is your chance to showcase your creativity. Photos can be of any place in Grandview or surroundings (Longview Lake area), as long as it is taken outside. We want you to photograph something you consider to be unique, exciting, picturesque, unusual or thought provoking within our community. The idea is to capture a place, situation, event, or emotion that you may not want to forget. We are looking for photos showing moments of discovery, architectural significance, natural wonder or beauty, competition, or interaction between people, but not portraits. The winning photos will be selected by a panel of community members based on some or all the factors mentioned above.

## Picture Guidelines

- High-resolution digital images are strongly preferred. When taking photos, set your camera to its highest/largest-size setting, which will make the image high resolution (3MB/300 DPI digital color

photography). Small images cannot be reproduced in print, no matter how nice the subject.

- Email your photos to **suggestions@ci.grandview.mo.us** or mail it (1200, Main St.) on a non-returnable CD. (Sorry, floppies cannot be accepted.)
- Attach a brief description of the photo and the place where the picture was taken.
- Be sure to include your name, address, and telephone number.
- Please limit your entry to no more than 10 images and send us only your best. CDs with more than 10 images will not be reviewed.
- Do not digitally manipulate your photos in any way – we can tell.
- If you do send prints, they must be professionally printed (no home digital photo printers). Write your name, address, and information about the photo on the back with a felt tip pen.
- Entries must be submitted by **Friday, August 27, 2010**

The City reserves the right to publish any or all photos.

## Prizes

- First place wins a **\$250 cash prize.**
- Second place wins a **\$150 cash prize.**
- Third place will receive a **\$100 cash prize.**

The three winning photos will be displayed on the City's website main page. All photos will be printed and displayed on 5"x 7" postcards around City Hall.

Good Luck!



# JAZZ BLAST IS NOW MUSIC ON MAIN



On Saturday, September 11, from 3:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., on Main Street, in front of City Hall (1200, Main), the Grandview Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with primary sponsors North American Savings Bank and the City of Grandview, will present a **free** music festival in Grandview. "Music on Main" marks the sixth year that the Grandview Chamber has worked with business sponsors to bring the best in area musicians together for this family-friendly event.

Admission is free and people of all ages are encouraged to attend. This year's festival will feature a Children's Activity Tent sponsored by U.S. Toy Company, and several different food and beverages will be available for sale at the event. No coolers, outside beverages or pets will be allowed within the perimeter of the concert area. Those attending are encouraged to bring their lawn chairs and enjoy a fantastic evening of great music. Don't forget that U.S. Toy sponsored VIP Tent tickets are also for sale prior to the event through the Chamber and include a catered buffet dinner, covered seating and drink tickets for \$25 each.

A 9/11 tribute to military and civil service personnel will start the festivities. Gates will open at 3:00 p.m. and the musical line-up for the evening will include some of the best talent in the Kansas City area, including 2008 International Blues Challenge Winner Trampled Under Foot (TUF) and the dance grooves of Platinum Express, local and well known jazz group The James Ward Band, and two student music ensembles.

For more information on Music on Main, contact the Grandview Area Chamber of Commerce at (816)761-6505 or go to [www.grandview.org/chamber](http://www.grandview.org/chamber).

- 3:30 – 4:00p.m. Grandview High School Jazz Band Combo
- 4:15 – 4:45p.m. 3rd Heaven (Forerunner Music Academy)
- 5:00 – 6:15p.m. The James Ward Band
- 6:30 – 8:00p.m. Trampled Under Foot (TUF)
- 8:00 – 10:00p.m. Platinum Express

# FANTASTIC FINISH FOR THE GRANDVIEW SHARKS' FIRST SEASON



Coaches Marcus & Joy

No more idle flippers in Grandview! The Sharks Summer Recreational Swim League made great use of Grandview's pools this season.

The season championship took place on Saturday, July 17, and the swimmers performed really well; several took first, second and third places.

The season begins in late May/early June and ends in late July. If you'd like to enroll children or get more information about it, please contact Lynn at [lhoward@ci.grandview.mo.us](mailto:lhoward@ci.grandview.mo.us) or at (816) 316-4891.

Summer 2010 was the first for the Sharks, and head coaches Joy Beseth and Marcus Simmons were impressed with the team's performance. "Our swimmers have already gone above and beyond all expectations. We are very proud of each one and their accomplishments so far," says Joy.

The Sharks accommodates swimmers age five through eighteen. The league offers swimmers the opportunity to swim and compete with other recreational swim groups, including those in Lee's Summit, Liberty and Gladstone. The overflow of swimmers in the area allowed the Sharks program to start in Grandview.

Currently, the Sharks league has 50 swimmers. Lynn Howard, Aquatics Coordinator for the Grandview Parks & Recreation Department, is the one responsible for the league. According to Howard, "Our goal is to provide a safe, fun, competitive experience for swimmers and parents to learn and enhance their skills in the sport of swimming. Our coaches want to give all kids an opportunity to succeed on whichever recreational or competitive platform they choose," she concludes.



Sharks Summer 2010 league

## DID YOU KNOW...

The City will reimburse, up to \$50.00 a year, residents who dispose of hazardous materials at one of the disposal sites in Kansas City (816-784-2080) or Lee's Summit (816-969-1805). You must call to schedule an appointment, and the City will require a paid receipt from the approved dump site. The materials accepted are: lawn & garden products, batteries (all types), automotive fluids, paint & related products, household cleaners and fuels. Call 816-316-4856 for more information.



### Green Tip

Limit the length of your showers. Even better, take a "combat shower," shutting off the water while soaping up and shampooing.

### 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](mailto:suggestions@ci.grandview.mo.us)

# Upcoming Events

## ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, August 3, 2010  
Cast your vote on the Transportation  
Sales Tax renewal

## 3RD THURSDAYS ART ON MAIN

August 19 and September 16  
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
Main Street between 5th and 13th Streets  
**Free, fun evening of art entertainment for  
the whole family**

## MUSIC ON MAIN

Saturday, September 11  
3:00 to 10:30p.m.  
Main Street (In front of City Hall)  
**Free Admission**  
Call 761-6505 for more information and VIP  
dinner tickets

## SIDEWALK CHALK ART FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 25  
Starts at 9:00 a.m.  
Main Street Academy (1001 Main Street)  
More info at [www.grandview.org](http://www.grandview.org)

## COMMUNITY FLU SHOTS

Tuesday, September 21  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00p.m.  
The View Community Center  
Call 316-4888 for more information

## ABILITY DAY

Sunday, October 17  
1:00 to 4:00 p.m. - **Free Admission**  
The View Community Center  
More info at [www.grandview.org](http://www.grandview.org)

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Grandview, MO

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# CITY OF GRANDVIEW Directory of City Officials

Robert M.Beckers, Mayor  
Leonard D. Jones, Ward I Alderman  
Steve Dennis, Ward I Alderman  
Annette Turnbaugh, Ward II Alderman  
Joseph E. Runions, Jr., Ward II Alderman  
James N. Crain, Ward III Alderman  
Tony Preyer, Ward III Alderman  
Donald Crow, Municipal Judge

## CITY STAFF

Cory Smith, City Administrator  
Kirk Decker, Assistant City Administrator  
Becky Schimmel, City Clerk  
Ana Nixon, Communications Coordinator  
Alan Kenyon, Director of Economic  
Development  
Deb Angell, Manager of Human Resources  
Larry Dickey, Police Chief  
Chuck Thacker, Fire Chief  
Dennis Randolph, 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 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](http://www.grandview.org)