



City Administrator's Report

September 24, 2026

Personnel Update

Police Department

Rachel Reifschneider began her police officer duties on September 21 and brings nearly five years of law enforcement experience to the department. Her previous service includes working as a Missouri conservation agent, an investigator with the Missouri Attorney General's Office, and a deputy with the Platte County Sheriff's Office.

Brandon Ray has been selected to fill the Police Department's second captain position. Brandon brings more than 14 years of law enforcement experience, including service with the Metropolitan Community College Police Department, the Ray County and Clay County sheriff's offices, and the Richmond Police Department.

His background includes patrol, investigations, tactical operations, narcotics enforcement, training, and supervision. Throughout his career, Brandon has served as a shift supervisor, SWAT team member, narcotics investigator, task force member, and law enforcement instructor. He has also supervised both sworn and civilian personnel.

Brandon's command-level experience includes responsibility for departmental training, evidence management, internal affairs, grant administration, special-event planning, and interagency training and operations. He is also an experienced firearms, TASER, active-shooter response, and de-escalation instructor who has worked closely with local, state, and federal partners.

This combination of operational, supervisory, instructional, and administrative experience has prepared Brandon well for his new role as police captain.

The recruitment process is underway for a full-time Animal Control Officer. The position was posted on the City's website and social media on September 9. Several applications have been received. Initial review of applicants is scheduled for October 1. This new position will allow the City to establish a dedicated animal control program focused on timely response, ordinance enforcement, responsible animal care, and improved service to the community.

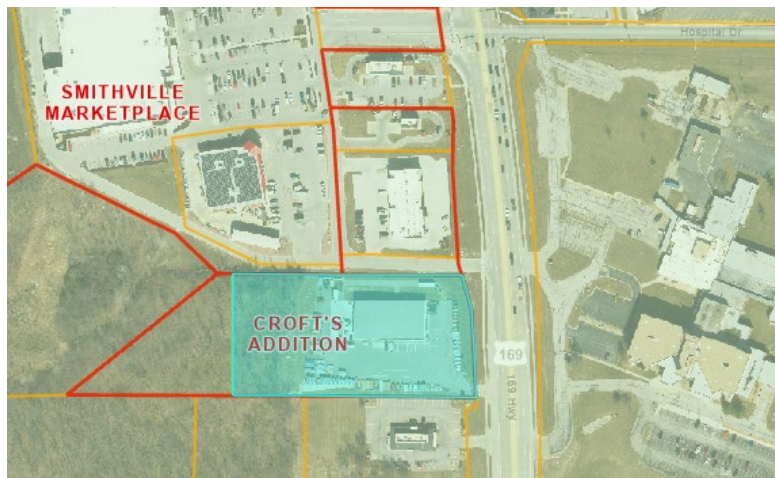
Public Works Department

Recruitment for Streets Division positions continue. A conditional offer has been made for a Streets Maintenance Worker II position. The candidate is currently undergoing the background screening process. Once completed, the Streets Division will be fully staffed.

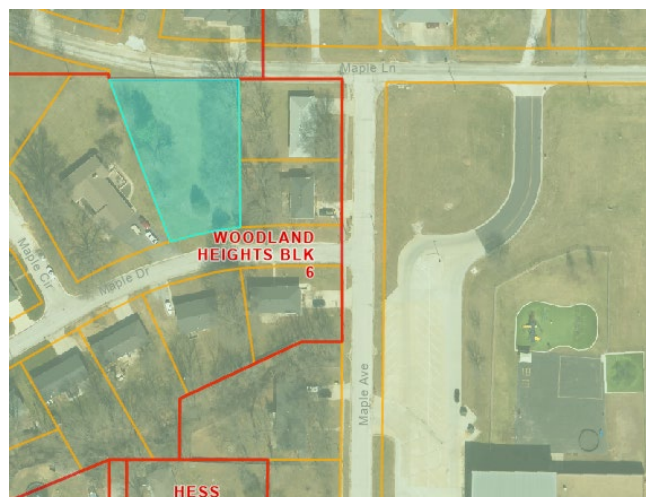
Recruitment efforts remain underway for two operator positions in the Wastewater/Operations Division.

Development Updates

There have been two applications submitted for the November agenda for the Planning and Zoning Commission. The first is a rezoning of the former Croft Trailer Supply property from B-2 to B-3. The rezoning brings this property to the same zoning as surrounding properties.



The second application is to divide a single, large lot located between Maple Lane and Maple Drive, just west of Maple Elementary into two lots. The applicant has indicated that there may be a buyer that will request the application be pulled, but staff is proceeding as if the project will come forward.



Strategic Plan Update Progress

The Board and staff will work late this week to identify the underpinning mission, vision and values for the strategic plan as well as the goals and begin work on an action plan to implement the strategic plan. A draft plan will be presented at the November 3 work session. An online survey for community feedback will be available November 9 through 30. In person community review sessions are scheduled for the following dates:

November 6: 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	Mid-Continent Public Library
November 10: 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.	City Hall – Board Meeting Room

The final plan will be presented at the December 15 Board of Aldermen meeting. Adoption of a new plan is anticipated by the end of the year.

Community Conversations: Your City, Up Close

As previously discussed, staff is developing a series of community informational sessions in response to citizen survey feedback expressing a desire for additional communication and engagement opportunities. The city will host a series of Community Conversations: Your City, Up Close sessions designed to give residents a behind-the-scenes look at City operations and facilities.

The first session, scheduled for Saturday, October 17 from 9 a.m. to noon, will feature a tour of the City's water and wastewater facilities. Participants will learn how these systems work, how they are funded, and have opportunities to ask questions along the way.

Transportation will be provided for the tours. Advance registration is required, and participation is limited on a first-come, first-served basis.

Interested citizens can learn more and register at: smithvillemo.org/cityupclose

Bridge Replacement Program

In April 2026, the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) assessed the condition of the seven bridges maintained by the City of Smithville. The assessment identified two bridges in poor condition and designated them as high priorities for replacement:

- Bridge 1560002 – 144th Street
- Bridge 4035002 – Hillcrest Street

MoDOT administers the Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation (BRO) Program, which provides funding assistance to communities replacing bridges in poor condition. Both high-priority Smithville bridges are eligible for funding through the program.

The City plans to apply for the BRO Program's 80/20 cost-share option to replace both bridges. BG Consultants is assisting the City with the applications and preparing preliminary construction cost estimates. Applications are due September 30. Projects selected during this program cycle will receive federal fiscal year 2027 funding.

Smith's Fork Park Update – Cultural Heritage Review

Attached is a memo from Scott Vilas, Senior Project Manager with NAVIGATE Building Solutions, regarding work at Smith's Fork Park. As noted in the memo, during discussions with the Corps regarding ball field location, the location has been flagged for further study for cultural heritage preservation. NAVIGATE is working with the Corps, the City and surveyor to facilitate the required study and evaluate next steps. We will keep the Board updated on this review and next steps.

Missouri Municipal League

Mayor Boley, Aldermen Hartman and Kobylski and City Administrator Cynthia Wagner attended the MML Annual Conference September 13 – 15. Sessions attended included effective and appropriate use of AI; technology security and response to threats, effective planning and zoning, and economic development. Mayor Boley completed his term as president of MML during the conference.

State Petition Audit

We have been notified that the field work portion of the audit was officially completed Friday, May 8. Auditors are now in the review process and will still be contacting staff for follow-up and clarification on information. Staff continue to provide information as requested. It is anticipated that work on the audit will continue throughout the fiscal year.



TO: CITY OF SMITHVILLE, MISSOURI BOARD OF ALDERMAN
FROM: SCOTT VILAS, SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER
SUBJECT: SMITH'S FORK PARK PROJECT UPDATE
DATE: SEPTEMBER 24, 2026
CC: CYNTHIA WAGNER, CITY ADMINISTRATOR
MATTHEW DENTON, PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR

This memo provides an update on the project status of the Smith's Fork Park project following initial coordination with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

Cultural Heritage Review Flag

During the project team's initial conversation with USACE regarding upcoming plans for the park, the area proposed for the new ball fields in the initial phase of the project was flagged for further study for cultural heritage preservation. Until that study is complete, the flagged area cannot be cleared for Phase 1 construction.

Anticipated Investigation Timeline

Based on early preliminary conversations with USACE, investigation activities for the flagged area are expected to take a minimum of six (6) months. Additional time may be required if any items of cultural significance are identified during the investigation.

SHPO and Tribal Consultation

The project team is working with USACE to begin initial consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and affected tribes. Our project team has provided USACE with preliminary planned improvements for the site. Based on this information, USACE is drafting:

- A scope of work for the cultural investigation of the flagged area.
- A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to be submitted to SHPO and the affected tribes for their participation.

Survey Services and Alternatives Evaluation

Concurrent with the cultural study, the project team has solicited project site surveying services through the City's on-call pre-approved vendor list. Upon approval and completion of the survey, the project team intends to:

1. Evaluate alternative locations for the ball fields within the park.
2. Weigh the cost and schedule impacts of relocating the ball fields versus mitigating the area flagged for cultural study.
3. Determine and recommend a path forward based on that analysis.

Next Steps

1. Continue coordination with USACE on the scope of work and MOA.
2. Support USACE in initiating consultation with SHPO and the tribes.
3. Secure approval of and complete survey services through the on-call vendor.
4. Complete the relocation vs. mitigation cost and schedule analysis and present a recommended path forward.
5. Provide updates as the consultation and investigation progress.