



**Office of the City Manager**

6801 Delmar Boulevard, University City, Missouri 63130, Phone: (314) 505-8534, Fax: (314) 863-9146

March 5, 2021

Community Report: 0321-09

Honorable Terry Crow,  
Members of the City Council,  
and University City Residents:

**Mayor and Council Actions**

The Mayor and Council are scheduled to meet on Monday, March 8, 2021 starting with a study session at 5:30 p.m. followed by the Council meeting at 6:30 p.m. To see the study session and Council meeting, please visit our website at [www.ucitymo.org](http://www.ucitymo.org).

You may observe and/or listen to the meeting by one of the following:

1. **Audio Only Call** - Residents can call in and listen to the audio portion of the scheduled meeting
2. **Webinar** - Residents can view the Webinar using a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android Device
3. **YouTube** - Residents can view the live stream of the Webinar on the City's YouTube page [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyN1EJ\\_-Q22918E9EZimWoQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyN1EJ_-Q22918E9EZimWoQ)

Additional details may be found on the City's website at:  
<https://www.ucitymo.org/879/Virtual-Meetings>

You may sign up to receive email and/or text notification for upcoming City Council meetings via the Notify Me bottom on the homepage of the City's website at: <https://www.ucitymo.org/>

**Police Department (UCPD)**

**Did Record Gun Sales Cause A Spike in Gun Crime? Researchers Say It's Complicated.**

The year of the pandemic was also the year of the gun. Shootings took off in almost every city, large and small. [New York saw shootings double](#), and nationally, non-suicide gun deaths jumped about 25%, according to the independent [Gun Violence](#)

[Archive](#). At the same time, gun sales were up, too. In fact, 2020 marked the best year for gun sales — ever. The rush for firearms began in the spring, with the first Coronavirus lockdowns, and continued into the summer as TV screens were filled with images of Black Lives Matter protests, pro-police counter-protests, anti-mask rallies, and even looting.

By the end of the year, [at least 20 million guns were sold legally](#), up from about 12.4 million in 2019. (Martin Kaste – Twitter)

## Parks, Recreation and Forestry

### Parks Commission

At the March 2, 2021 Parks Commission Meeting the Commission made the following recommendations:

- 1) The Parks Commission recommends doing away with the requirement of insurance to rent/use athletic fields (However, it was stated that if City Council disagrees with doing away with insurance, they should consider lowering the limits down to a reasonable amount of either \$1 million or \$2 million).
- 2) The Parks Commission recommends that the University City School District be allowed to not have waiver requirements for visiting opponents this season, and to perform an immediate review with other organizations as to their waiver process to lessen the burden.
- 3) The Parks Commission recommends that the waiver form be simplified and to remove the waiver for defects on city property.

### Urban Forestry Commission

The Urban Forestry Commission is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

## Public Works

Spring Curbside Leaf Collection continues! This service is scheduled for the Central area in the work week starting on Monday, March 8, 2021. We ask that our residents rake their leaves to the curb line between the Friday before collection begins in your area and Monday 7 AM of your collection week. The truck will make only one pass per household. Please do not mix other yard waste (gumballs, trash, small tree branches/limbs, brush, grass clippings, etc.) in with leaves and continue using the yard waste collection service for the disposal of other yard waste and contact the department office at (314) 505-8560 with any questions.

No stickers are required for collection of yard waste until further notice.

A Commission on Storm Water Issues regular monthly meeting was held on Tuesday, March 2. The discussion included a technical update from the US Army Corps on the River des Peres Flood Risk Management study and questions and answers on that topic. Old business items of flood early warning system, trash trap project, Request for Qualifications for Storm Water Master Plan and MSD Operations, Maintenance and Construction Improvements Tax potential projects were also discussed. The subcommittees on flood early warning and communications reported updates on the status of their work.

Traffic Commission regular monthly meeting originally scheduled for Wednesday, March 10 is cancelled due to the lack of agenda items.

A Green Practices Commission regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 11 at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be conducted on Zoom.

### Planning & Development

The City of University City is pleased to announce Round 4 of the Forgivable Loan Small Business Assistance Program. The City has earmarked \$700,000.00 for the Program that is intended to help eligible local retail, service and creative for-profit businesses address immediate cash for short-term financial operational needs such as payroll, payment to suppliers, payment to service providers or payment of utilities. The available funding is intended to serve all qualified University City businesses with a goal that at least 25% of the allocated funding will fund minority and women-owned businesses. The loan funds may not be used for capital expenditures or rent. The intent of this Program is to provide local businesses relief due to their economic loss during the current COVID-19 Pandemic.

**CLICK HERE** for guidelines for Round 4 Forgivable Loan Small Business Assistance Program.

**CLICK HERE** for the Application for Round 4 Forgivable Loan Small Business Assistance Program.

#### **Calling all University City businesses!**

With so much changing in the past year of how businesses operate in the era of COVID-19, we wanted to reach out to let you know if you have any specials, sales, promotions, or events, you can post them directly to the ExploreUCity.com website.

The goal is to take all of the events in University City and have them all in one place to share with a wider audience in St. Louis and to attract new customers to your business.

To Add and Event to the Calendar, Please Fill Out This Form:

<https://exploreucity.com/university-city-event-form-submission/>

To Update Your Business Listing Info, Please Fill Out This Form:

## Fire Department (UCFD)

EMS calls for the week: 48    Fire calls for the week: 41    Total runs for the week: 89

## Activities and Events

**Save the Date! March 13<sup>th</sup> from 9-noon Electronics Recycling Event:** University City will hold an electronics recycling event in the Community Center parking lot, 975 Pennsylvania Ave.

### **University City Gives Back to Frontline Workers:**

When you order online from one of our locally-owned, participating restaurants, you will have the opportunity to PAY IT FORWARD. By choosing to donate a meal when you place your order, not only are you saying THANK YOU to frontline essential workers, but you are also supporting a small business in the community at a time when they need it most. Visit

<https://exploreucity.com/loop-giveback/> to find out more! (see Attachment 1)

### **Support Our Local Businesses!**

You can now buy gift cards from your favorite University City businesses online on the Explore U City website. Support your favorite University City businesses at: <https://exploreucity.com/gift-cards/>

Visit the [University City Loop](https://universitycityloop.com) website has been launched by the Loop Special Business District (LSBD) to offer a one-stop online resource for information about all special events and shows, restaurants and retailers, businesses and more. The website can be found at <https://universitycityloop.com>.

Find out what's happening in University City by visiting University City's website at [ucitymo.org](http://ucitymo.org) or visiting [ExploreUCity.com](https://exploreucity.com) to connect local businesses with customers and residents.

Respectfully submitted,



Gregory Rose, ICMA-CM, MPA  
City Manager