



ROARS

THE **VOICE** OF UNIVERSITY CITY

WINTER 2022-2023



Greetings U City Neighbors

Four months ago our community again suffered another devastating flood. The number of homes and apartments impacted by the floods on July 26 and 28 numbered in the hundreds and memories will be etched in the minds of residents for years to come.

Events like the July floods bring out the best in our community. So many of you gave of your time, talents and resources to help your friends and neighbors. While there are too many residents and

first responders to thank individually, I do want to call out one of our residents, Brian Beard, for his heroism in rescuing and getting to safety two of our residents who were trapped in their submerged car on Waldron.

Unfortunately, University City has experienced repeated flooding from the River des Peres, with incidents in 2008, 2011, 2013, 2019, 2020 and now, 2022. While we appreciate the help and assistance we have received from FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) and SEMA (State Emergency Management Agency), we all know that more must be done.

The City has applied for FEMA assistance in buying out 24 residences along Wilson and Burch, as well as the apartments on Hafner Court. Understandably, people ask, "Why not more homes?" The simple answer is that both FEMA and SEMA have stated that a larger request would not be funded at either the state or federal level.

In addition, this is not an issue for University City alone. The July flooding also impacted the City of St. Louis, Ferguson, Overland, Ladue and Webster Groves, to name a few. Multiple flooding incidents underscore that this is a regional issue that needs to be addressed by regional leaders across both St. Louis County and the City of St. Louis.

The fact that we still are talking about the River des Peres and how to prevent flooding after years and years of floods tells all of us that the approaches that have been previously tried have failed. We are currently working with municipal leaders in the County and City, as well as with County officials to engage the Metropolitan Sewer District in an effort to take action to stop flooding from the River des Peres.

We will continue to need your help and support to prevent or mitigate future flooding in our community. University City took the brunt of the flooding last July, but who is next?

Mayor Terry Crow

314.505.8606, mayor@ucitymo.org



COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

DECEMBER 12, 2022

JANUARY 9, 2023

JANUARY 23, 2023

FEBRUARY 13, 2023

FEBRUARY 27, 2023

**All meetings begin at 6:30 p.m.
In-person meetings are subject to change.**

Information about in-person or virtual meetings is available through the City's calendar at www.ucitymo.org/Calendar. All City Council meetings are streamed live through the City's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/c/UniversityCityGovernment. To be notified when meetings go live, click the subscribe button.

WATCH FOR THE NEW 2023 UNIVERSITY CITY CALENDAR



Celebrating 100 years of University City's Park System and the 90th anniversary of Heman Park Swimming Pool

Delivery expected early December 2022



Work for University City!

Check out current job openings at ucitymo.applicantpro.com/jobs/

GREAT BENEFITS, CLOSE TO HOME



Mary Kennedy



Ebony Pollard



Rajaye Smith

Key Staff Join City

Mary Kennedy joined the City in October 2022 as a senior planner in the Department of Planning and Development. Her background includes serving as a planner with the City of O’Fallon, Ill. and as an intern and graduate assistant with the Community Planning Lab at Saint Louis University. She has served since last January on the St. Louis Metro Section Board of the American Planning Association as co-chair of the communications committee and chair of the marketing committee for the 2022 Missouri Planning Conference. Earlier in her career, she was a commercial interior designer. Ms. Kennedy earned a Bachelor of Science in interior design from the University of Minnesota and Master of Science in urban planning and development from Saint Louis University.

Ebony Pollard joined the City as a budget financial analyst in November 2022. With more than 15 years of accounting and finance experience, she earned a Bachelor of Arts in accounting from Robert Morris College in Chicago, as well as a Master of Science in accounting and finance and a Master of Science in human resources from Keller Graduate School of Management at DeVry University. As budget financial analyst for University City, Ms. Pollard will be responsible for maintaining complex accounting systems records, analyzing transactions and preparing the annual operating and capital budget.

Rajaye Smith joined the City as an economic development specialist in October 2022. His responsibilities include assisting in creating and implementing a business retention and expansion program, promoting and marketing the City as a place to do business, and assisting in strategies to attract and retain businesses. Prior to joining the City, he served as operations manager for Urban Strategies, Inc., where he was responsible for internal administrative operational oversight. Mr. Smith earned his Bachelor of Arts in history with a minor in political science from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Flash Flood Warning on CodeRED



Over the past two years, Stormwater Commission members have been developing a prototype flash flood warning system. The system has completed testing and is being connected to the City’s CodeRED emergency notification system. The U City warnings are calibrated specifically to the U City River des Peres channel and the rainfall over its watershed and indicate a high probability that flash flooding is imminent within the hour. See www.ucitymo.org for information on CodeRED.

National Weather Service (NWS) flash flood warnings are also available via CodeRED but these are not specific to a particular stream. They are based on rainfall intensity over a fairly large area, such as the entire St. Louis metropolitan area, and indicate that flooding is likely on typical streams within that area. Further information about the system and data from its rain gauges can be viewed at the system’s public portal at <https://www.wqdatalive.com/public/1473>.

September Recognition for “Above and Beyond” Workers

An end-of-summer BBQ for employees hosted by the City on September 23, 2022, was special for more than 90 employees who were recognized for serving the community “above and beyond” their regular duties during last summer’s historic flooding. In addition to recognizing first responders from the police and fire departments, individuals also were recognized from facilities, planning and development, office clerical staff, streets and sanitation divisions, public works, and parks, recreation and forestry. In each case, individuals were applauded for serving the community during the flood, as well as during the massive cleanup, helping the City to recover as quickly as possible over a six-week period, sometimes against seemingly insurmountable odds. Throughout the program, workers were commended by department heads for exemplifying the ICARE values of University City and demonstrating an unwavering commitment to keeping people safe. Employees were also formally honored at the City Council meeting on October 12, 2022. While clean up work remains to be done, the crisis brought out the best of University City.

MORE THAN 90 EMPLOYEES WERE RECOGNIZED FOR SERVING THE COMMUNITY



Police Training Focuses on Effectively Handling Mental Crisis Incidents

We are fortunate that our community-oriented University City Police Department (UCPD) is experienced and proficient in dealing with mental health crises using a strategic approach that focuses on numerous components. While many law enforcement organizations shy away from handling mental health crises, UCPD embraces every aspect of modern-day policing.

In addition to training in crisis intervention, de-escalation, verbal judo and proper physical restraint tactics, UCPD also is committed to informing the individual and their family of resources for mental health counseling and treatment.

All negotiation tactics are components of UCPD’s strategic approach when dealing with persons having a mental health problem. UCPD’s Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) focuses on a specialized police curriculum that aims to reduce the risk of serious injury or death during an emergency interaction between persons with mental illness and police officers. Safety is our main goal.

Various other law enforcement agencies use a different technique on calls when individuals with mental health problems are threatening suicide, murder, or even suicide by police. Law enforcement responds, assesses and depending on the situation, sometimes they leave. UCPD does not utilize this method of policing.

Across the nation in cities like Fresno, Calif., Birmingham, Ala., Los Angeles, Calif., Seattle, Wash., and Portland, Ore., police departments grapple with how to best assist someone who is suicidal, armed and doesn’t want police

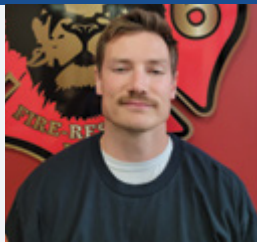
to intervene. Although family members may call for law enforcement to aid in dealing with their loved ones, many times they don’t understand the ramifications.

UCPD is like many other proactive and innovative agencies that train officers to be wholistic problem solvers, not incident reporters. Our personnel are always actively pursuing a long-term solution to any mental health crisis scenario.

Studies like Mental Illness Policy Org. estimate that 10 percent (10%) of homicides were associated with individuals with severe, psychotic, psychiatric disorders, based on a conservative estimate for 2018 calculations. (*Mental Illness Policy Org., Jan 23, 2019*).

Law enforcement personnel are always trained to think through worst-case scenarios and pray for best practice solutions. CIT certifications aid law enforcement personnel in bringing those best practices to life. UCPD strives for every member to rely on their training and experience when dealing with individuals with mental health problems, especially in episodes involving guns, knives or other weapons.

In closing, UCPD is a community-oriented police agency that strives to save everyone’s life through practical and valid life saving techniques. Building the trust needed to assist families, neighbors and law enforcement officers in combating mental illness and saving lives requires communication, identification, and empathetic community engagement with community partners and stakeholders.



Daniel Ruggeri



Alexis (Lex) Shady



Kara Richardson



Fire Department Adds Firefighters and Paramedics

University City Fire Department (UCFD) is proud to hire top quality employees who continue to make our department one of the very best in the St. Louis region. With a stringent testing policy that ensures we get the best of the best, the fire department has hired eight new firefighters/paramedics this year. The three most recent hires include the following:

Daniel Ruggeri joined as a firefighter/paramedic last August with two years of experience with an ambulance service company. In his free time he enjoys working out, playing his guitar and working around his house on various construction projects.

Alexis (Lex) Shady, a firefighter/paramedic joined last August with five and half years of experience, including three years in a rural/suburban setting and two years in urban environments. She is also the co-owner of a fire training company, “Legacy Firefighting,” co-host of a podcast, “Mainstreet Firefighting,” and publisher of a monthly article entitled “Main Street Memo” that appears in the national *Fire Engineering* magazine.

Kara Richardson, a University City resident and graduate of University City High School (2015), joined UCFD in August with four years of EMS experience. An avid runner and hiker, she participates in many recreational sports including soccer and Irish Hurling.

Annual Dog Park Membership Renewals and New Applications

It’s time to renew memberships or apply for new membership to take advantage of the University City Dog Park located at the corner of Vernon and Pennsylvania. Memberships are available for residents and non-residents and each dog must be registered in advance and wear its own dog tag. With separate areas for large and small dogs, there’s lots of space for pets to frolic and explore the great outdoors, running and playing with other four-footed friends.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AND NEW APPLICATION DATES:

- Renewals for 2022 resident and non-resident members begins December 5, 2022
- New residents may join as of December 12, 2022
- New non-resident members may join as of January 3, 2023

All renewals and new memberships are approved on an annual basis, valid from January 1 through December 31, 2023. In addition to requiring an annual completion of a membership registration form with a signed Release of Liability form, dog owners also are required to provide a copy of valid vaccination documents that the dog(s) has been spayed or neutered and a paper copy of all valid vaccination records (Rabies, Bordetella, Canine Hepatitis, Distemper, and Parvovirus). A maximum of two (2) dog park memberships per household are available.

REGISTER AT CITY HALL

Annual memberships may be purchased at the Finance Department located on the first floor of the University City - City Hall, 6801 Delmar Blvd., during normal business hours. Membership fees may be paid by cash, check, MasterCard or Visa.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE SCHEDULE

- Resident \$40.00 for one (1) dog; \$60.00 for two (2) dogs
- Non-Resident \$60.00 for one (1) dog; \$90.00 for two (2) dogs

PLEASE BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING WHEN REGISTERING:

- Payment in accordance with the fee schedule. U City residents must provide proof of residency (valid occupancy permit or valid driver’s license with current address)
- Paper copy of current/valid vaccination records and proof of spay/neuter for each dog
- Registration application and signed Release of Liability form



Snow and Ice Removal

Snow and ice control is a difficult and time-consuming operation. Crews can better clear the streets promptly and completely when residents cooperate by making sure cars are parked in driveways or garages until plowing has been completed.

ROADWAYS

When encountering snow removal or ice control equipment, please yield the right-of-way if it can be done safely. Please keep back at least 50 feet from snow or ice control equipment and do not attempt to pass this equipment or drive through the plowed windrows of snow, which can cause drivers to lose vehicle control. The snow and ice control crews are working to make it easier for those on the road to safely reach their destinations.

DRIVEWAYS AND PRIVATE PROPERTY

City snowplows will not clear private driveways or other private property such as parking lots or school driveways, except in a verified emergency.

The equipment used to clear snow from the street may leave a ridge of snow across driveways or where the sidewalk meets the street. It is the responsibility of property owners to remove the ridge of snow or ice left by snow plowing equipment. The snow should be removed to the sides of the driveway and not back into the street. Residents or private contractors are prohibited from blowing or pushing snow into or across the street or leaving windrows of snow in the street after cleaning sidewalks or driveways.

JOINT JURISDICTION WITH ST. LOUIS COUNTY & STATE OF MISSOURI

Snow and ice removal for streets below are the responsibility of St. Louis County and State of Missouri

STREET JURISDICTION

Olive Blvd.	I-170 to Ferguson Ave.	State of Missouri
Olive Blvd.	Ferguson Ave. to Skinker Blvd.	St. Louis County
Vernon Ave.	Midland Blvd. to Skinker Blvd.	St. Louis County
Delmar Blvd.	Upper Price Rd. to Big Bend Blvd.	St. Louis County
Forest Park Pkwy.	West City Limits to St. Louis City Limits	St. Louis County
McKnight Rd.	Delmar Blvd. to Olive Blvd.	St. Louis County
Woodson Rd.	Olive Blvd. to North City Limits	St. Louis County
North & South Rd.	Delmar Blvd. to North City Limits	St. Louis County
Hanley Rd.	Westmoreland Dr. to North City Limits	St. Louis County
Midland Blvd.	Delmar Blvd. to North City Limits	St. Louis County
Kingsland Ave.	Delmar Blvd. to Olive Blvd.	St. Louis County



Solid Waste Services

The City collects trash, recyclables and yard waste weekly, as well as bulk items on special days in spring (April) and fall (September). Leaves are collected once in spring (March) and twice in fall (November and December). For leaf collection, leaves must be raked to the curb. To find collection dates for your area, please refer to the University City calendar or call (314) 505-8560. All services are included in your solid waste (trash or refuse) bill.

ROLL-OUT CARTS

The City provides roll-out carts for trash (black carts) and recyclable items (blue carts). Acceptable recyclable items include paper, cardboard, plastic containers, glass, aluminum, tin cans, etc. NO yard waste, construction or hazardous type materials qualify as recyclable and will NOT be collected.

ALLEY DUMPSTERS

The City provides large metal dumpsters along alley lines or at multi-family properties. Residents must place household trash in bags for alley collection service. Please do NOT place yard waste, furniture, rocks, wood or appliances in the dumpster or in the alley for collection. Dumpsters are emptied twice a week and recycling is collected at the front curb every Monday from blue recycling roll-carts for homes with alley dumpster trash service.

Trivers Completes Design for Renovation of Annex, Trinity Buildings

Design work has been completed for the renovation of University City’s Annex into a police station and the Trinity Building for municipal court operations and council chambers. The buildings, originally constructed in 1903 and 1934 respectively, had been vacant for many years and were determined to be great candidates for rehabilitation and re-use.

Building renovations will enable police and courts to move to permanent facilities and out of temporary mobile trailers. To improve public access to City Hall departments, the project also includes a new, fully accessible main entry point for the campus that includes security screening and a lobby with transaction windows staffed for services.

Restoration work will enhance the City’s historic features of each structure while also making updates that meet the City’s current needs. For instance, new mechanical systems and lighting for both buildings are designed to meet sustainability goals for increased energy efficiency.

The design for the surrounding site includes landscape improvements, walking paths, public and accessible parking, secure parking for police, water reduction strategies and lighting upgrades. To reduce traffic along nearby residential streets, vehicular and pedestrian access to City Hall Plaza will be reoriented via Sgt Mike King Drive.

The design process, which began with a building assessment of the Annex and a space needs study, was completed by Trivers, a local architecture, planning, urban design and interiors firm. The City is soliciting qualifications from local general contractors. Building renovations are expected to be completed in 2024.

“It was important for us to determine what the public needed to better engage with City government and what City staff required to improve service to the community,” said Amy Gilbertson, FAIA, Trivers principal.

“We’re excited to continue working with the community as we move forward with plans to thoughtfully reuse these historic, underutilized buildings,” said Amanda Truemper, AIA, Trivers senior project manager and associate.

“It was important for us to determine what the public needed to better engage with city government and what city staff required to improve service to the community.”

- Amy Gilbertson, FAIA, Trivers principal

Library Renovations Near Completion

After more than a year in our temporary location at 6900 Delmar Blvd, we’re excited to report that renovations to the permanent University City Public Library location are nearing an end. Construction is on track to finish in March 2023, and we look forward to welcoming the community back to 6701 Delmar soon after! Renovation photos and detailed updates are available at www.ucitylibrary.org/renovation-news.

In the meantime, we’ve been working hard to share the Library in the community. This past fall, the cleverly-designed bookmobile tricycle visited the Farmers Market in the Loop offering weekly Storytime for kids and new library patrons sign up. This partnership will be continued next spring when the Market reopens for the season.

In other news, thanks to a digital literacy grant from the Public Library Association, a series of basic computer classes have been held at some senior living facilities in U City and hopes are to continue to expand the program to reach more community locations in 2023.

The library has lots of great programs scheduled for kids and adults coming soon. Please visit www.ucitylibrary.org for more information on what’s new at UCPL!



Trash and Recycling Holiday Schedule



Trash and recycling collection dates will shift one day later during weeks when there is no trash/recycling collection on

Monday, December 26, 2022

Monday, January 2, 2023

Monday, January 16, 2023

Monday, February 20, 2023

Monday routes will be collected Tuesday, Tuesday routes will be collected Wednesday, Wednesday routes will be collected Thursday, Thursday routes will be collected Friday, Friday routes will be collected Saturday

HOLIDAY LIGHTS RECYCLING AT CITY HALL

Holiday lights do not belong in your regular recycling container. Please bring working or non-working holiday lights to City Hall to be recycled by placing them in the Green Cart in the basement of City Hall, 6801 Delmar Blvd.

HOLIDAY TREE COLLECTION

City staff will collect holiday trees that have been placed at the front curb during the first two weeks of January on your regular collection day. Trees must have NO decorations or lights. Please do not place holiday trees in trash or recycle carts or in City alleys.



NEWS OUR COMMUNITY CAN USE WINTER 2022-23



Congratulations to the 2021 University City High School Hall of Fame Inductees

On Oct. 14, 2022, University City High School inducted eleven outstanding alumni into its Hall of Fame. Join us in congratulating Kathryn (Pierce) Banks, '93; Jennifer (Roman) Boykin, '82; MSG Donovan "Donny" Nelson Butler, US Army, Retired, '89; Reena Goldthree, '99; Linda "Cookie" (Dickson) Jones, '83; the late Daniel Kaufer, '77; Earl Kessler, '59; David Levi, '77; Helene (Wagman) Sherman, '62; Richard Stack, '70; and Stephanie Williams-Nelson, '77.

The induction ceremony was rescheduled to fall 2022 from fall 2021 due to COVID-19. Learn about our inductees and how to nominate candidates at www.ucityschools.org/HOF.

School Board Election Filing Opens Dec. 6

Interested in serving on the University City Board of Education? Filing for the April 7, 2023 election begins at 8 a.m. on Dec. 6, 2022 and ends at 5 p.m. on Dec. 27, 2022. To file, visit 7700 Olive Blvd. (63130) during weekday office hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Offices are closed for winter break beginning Dec. 21, but will be open 3 to 5 p.m. on Dec. 27. For more details, visit www.ucityschools.org/BOE or call 314-290-4002. Three seats will be up for election.

Nominations Accepted for District Awards

The School District of University City is accepting nominations for our annual Teacher of the Year, Educational Support Person of the Year and PACesetter awards. Details, including deadlines, forms and past recipients, are available at www.ucityschools.org/Nominations. Selection committees welcome community members. For details, email communications@ucityschools.org or call (314) 290-4001.

2023 Spring Leaf Collection

AREA	DATE
East Area	March 5
Central Area	March 12
West Area	March 19

NO yard waste (gumballs, trash, small tree branches/limbs, brush and grass clippings); leaves only will be collected.



Stay informed on what is happening @UCitySchools
Facebook • Twitter • Instagram • Linked In • YouTube
Visit the District website at www.ucityschools.org
Download the mobile app "University City Schools"





ROARS

THE VOICE OF UNIVERSITY CITY

6801 Delmar Blvd.
University City, MO 63130

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ST LOUIS MO
PERMIT NO. 1091



MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor	Terry Crow	314.505.8606
1 ST Ward	Steve McMahon	314.422.6576
	Jeff Hales	314.283.5402
2 ND Ward	Aleta Klein	801.512.3912
	Tim Cusick	314.230.3337
3 RD Ward	Bwayne Smotherson	314.726.9572
	Stacy Clay	314.323.4025

UNIVERSITY CITY ADMINISTRATION

Main Phone	314.862.6767
City Manager: Gregory Rose	314.505.8534
Deputy City Manager: Brooke Smith	314.505.8536
Assistant City Manager: Dawn Beasley	314.505.8533
City Clerk: LaRette Reese	314.505.8605
Director of Finance: Keith Cole	314.505.8542
Director of Planning and Development: John Wagner	314.505.8501
Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry and Interim Director of Public Works: Darren Dunkle	314.505.8552
Director Human Resources: Amy Williams	314.505.8532
Police Chief: Larry Hampton	314.505.8652
Fire Chief: William Hinson	314.505.8593

FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS

Emergency	911
Fire Department	314.505.8591
Police Department	314.725.2211

SELECTED CITY SERVICES

Emergency Hotline (<i>Severe Weather, Natural Disaster</i>)	314.505.8550
Finance/Refuse Billing	314.505.8544
Forestry	314.505.8619
Library	314.727.3150
Recreation	314.505.8625
Parks Maintenance	314.505.8624
Permits/Inspections	314.505.8500
Public Works	314.505.8560
Ruth Park Golf Course	314.727.4800
Court Clerk	314.505.8541
Municipal Court	314.505.8578