



# ROARS

THE **VOICE** OF UNIVERSITY CITY



SPRING 2024

## University City Memorial Day Run Celebrates 50 Years of “Running Between the Lions” to Benefit University City Public Library, U City in Bloom and The Green Center



Left photo: The Mayor of University City traditionally starts the Run. In 1977 Mayor Nathan B. Kaufman holds the starting gun with Jack Frohlichstein, one of the Run founders, in the Run t-shirt, and author David Carkeet behind the Mayor.

On Memorial Day, May 27, the University City Memorial Day Run (Run) will celebrate its Golden Anniversary! In addition to many volunteers and runners who have participated in the event for most of those 50 years, there also are families with three generations of runners including parents, children and now grandchildren.

To ensure this Golden Anniversary is an extraordinary affair, the University City Memorial Day Run Committee (MDR) invites all past and present participants to share their stories, experiences and photos. Your insights into the Run's history, personal anecdotes and suggestions for making this anniversary truly memorable are eagerly awaited.

Email your stories and photos to [ucitymemorialdayrun@gmail.com](mailto:ucitymemorialdayrun@gmail.com) and become part of the living history. Selected stories and photos will be showcased on the Memorial Day Run Facebook page, allowing everyone to relive the moments that make this event so special.

The history of the race started in 1974 when it was begun by the Special Events Commission, a City board whose charge was creating community-wide events. Some members of the Commission were avid runners and it was decided to organize a road race on Memorial Day with any profits from entry fees being distributed to various community groups. Over the years, it evolved into one of the most successful and enduring events, with profits supporting various community groups.

*Continued on page 2*



### 50TH ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY RUN

**MON., MAY 27**  
**DELMAR AND KINGSLAND**

**5K, 10K AND FUN RUN FOR PARENTS AND KIDS**

A family event that benefits The Green Center, U City in Bloom and The University City Public Library.

Complete information including start times and registration can be found at [ucitymemorialdayrun.org](http://ucitymemorialdayrun.org)

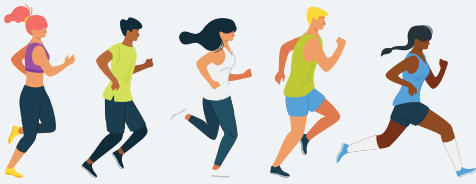


### COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

**MONDAY, MARCH 11**  
**MONDAY, MARCH 25**  
**MONDAY, APRIL 8**  
**MONDAY, MAY 13**  
**TUESDAY, MAY 28**

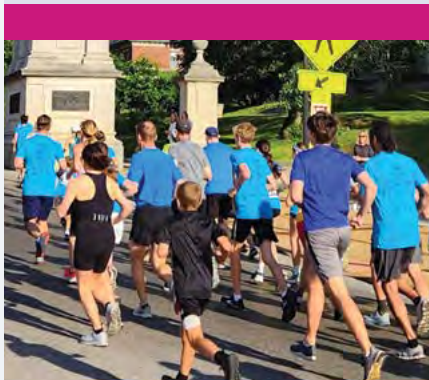
**All meetings begin at 6:30 p.m.**  
**In-person meetings are subject to change.**

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



## PUT ON YOUR JOGGING SHOES AND START TRAINING!

Not a runner? Volunteers are always welcome, and you can make a difference. For information about the Run, to volunteer or enter, visit [ucitymemorialdayrun.org](http://ucitymemorialdayrun.org). Follow the University City Memorial Day Run on Facebook to learn more about its history.



*Continued from page 1*

When the Commission disbanded in 1984, a group of the original organizers approached the University City Public Library to ask if it would host the Run as a library fundraiser. Despite a slow start and a bit of a learning curve, the annual Run continued to grow and become even more successful.

In fall of 1999, the University City Children's Center (UCCC) organized a small race to raise money for its preschool. Encouraged by its success, UCCC asked to join the library in co-hosting the Memorial Day Run in 2000. The library and UCCC joined forces, incorporated and adopted official by-laws. Together, the two organizations found new sponsors and volunteers to keep the Run going.

Soon after, U City in Bloom joined the MDR board, further enriching the collaboration. When UCCC left the MDR board a few years later, The Green Center became the third member organization. Today these three nonprofits, University City Public Library, U City in Bloom and The Green Center, organize the Run and use the proceeds to continue their valuable work throughout our community. The group hopes to make this special anniversary year the best Memorial Day Run.

As we approach the Golden Anniversary, please join us in commemorating five decades of community, camaraderie and the joy of running on this special day.



## Work for University City!

Check out current job openings at [ucitymo.org/jobs](http://ucitymo.org/jobs)

**GREAT  
BENEFITS,  
CLOSE  
TO HOME**

## Open Positions at University City

**WANT TO TAKE ON A NEW CHALLENGE?**

**DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE PERFECT FOR THESE POSITIONS?**

**SOME OF THE POSITIONS AVAILABLE INCLUDE**

- Compliance Officers - Police Department
- Dispatcher and Police Officers - Police Department
- Mechanic I and II - Public Works
- Purchasing Manager - Finance Department
- Street Supervisor - Parks, Recreation & Public Areas Maintenance Department

**#TeamUCity**



## Invitation to The State of the City 2024, Thurs. Mar. 7

University City Mayor Terry Crow and University City City Manager Gregory Rose will provide a comprehensive overview of the past year and unveil plans for 2024 during the 13th annual State of the City program, hosted by the Historical Society of University City. The event is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. on Thurs., Mar. 7, in the Council Chambers on the fifth floor of City Hall, 6801 Delmar Blvd. This engaging program is free and open to the public.

Eleanor Mullin, president of the Historical Society of University City, explained that the event is an annual March tradition, coinciding with the birthday of the City's founder and inaugural Mayor, Edward Gardner Lewis, born on Mar. 4, 1869.

Crow expressed gratitude for the platform provided by the Historical Society, "The Market at Olive Development has changed the economic landscape in our community. I appreciate the Historical Society giving us the opportunity to report on the Council's accomplishments in 2023 and what's being planned for 2024," said Crow.

Rose reflected on the challenges and accomplishments of 2023. "Although 2023 had its unique challenges, we also experienced significant accomplishments. I am proud of how our City personnel and resources responded to the needs of our residents and businesses. I look forward to sharing some of the highlights of the past year at this program," said Rose.

For additional information, inquiries can be directed to [ucityhistory@hotmail.com](mailto:ucityhistory@hotmail.com) or by contacting Eleanor Mullin, President of the Historical Society of University City, at 314.862.2972. Join us for an informative evening as we delve into the City's progress and future endeavors.



## Dear Neighbor,

Happy New Year to you, your family, and the world around you. A new year, even a new day provides new opportunities to build what is needed for our community. Dr. Carter G Woodson stated: "No people can go forward when the majority of those who should know better have chosen to go backwards." We must remember and celebrate history, but we will not move forward by holding on to history. Progress can't be made by standing still or taking backward steps. Let's talk.

In the meantime, let's clear up a few misunderstandings.

Residents are responsible for the cleanup AND removal of the following:

- Easements in the backyards and along the alleys of your homes, foliage growing on your fence, including cutting trees, bushes and overgrown grass;
- Derelict and unlicensed vehicles sitting on the street, in your driveway, and/or in your yard;
- Trash cans must be removed off the street after pick-up;
- Dog poop in our parks and sidewalks, and
- Speeding down our residential streets is absolutely prohibited.

Addressing these concerns will enable us to move beyond today and focus on issues that build better communities and stronger relationships. After all that's what we all want.

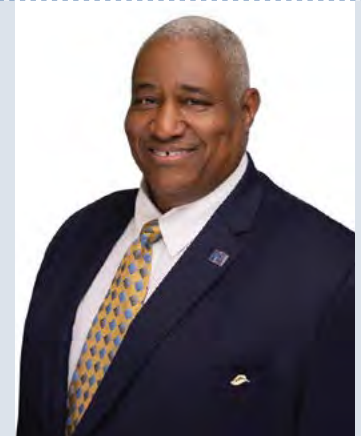
So, this year I'm hoping your grass will be green, trees get trimmed and your streets get paved. I'm hoping to see you at the pool, concerts in the park, at the gym and at the neighbors, with families and with friends riding bikes. Let's also fill our tennis, basketball and pickleball courts. That sounds like a beautiful place to live and play.

Remember, "We make University City."

**Bwayne Smotherson**

Ward 3 Councilmember

[bsmotherson@gmail.com](mailto:bsmotherson@gmail.com), 314.726.9572



**Bwayne Smotherson**  
Third Ward  
Councilmember

“We make  
University  
City.”





## Spring Leaf Collection

University City will be collecting leaves from the front curb of residential properties beginning in March. Leaves must be raked to the curb by the Sunday before collection in your area. Trucks will make only one pass on each street during the collection week.

### UPDATED 2024 SPRING LEAF COLLECTION DATES

**Central: March 11-15**

**West: March 18-22**

**East: March 25-29**

## Spring Bulk Item Collection

Need to get rid of old furniture, mattresses, carpet or broken appliances? All acceptable items must be placed at the front curb by the Sunday night before collection in your area. Trucks will make one pass on each street. Collection does not include: computers or related technology products, televisions or hazardous materials. For a complete list of what is and what is not acceptable or to confirm your area, please visit [ucitymo.org](http://ucitymo.org) or call 314.505.8560.

### BULK COLLECTION ALTERNATIVES

Residents who want to dispose of household junk separate from curbside bulk item collection dates can schedule a special bulk item (waste) pick up, rent extra roll-out carts or a 30 cubic yard roll-off. Fees apply for these services. Please visit [ucitymo.org](http://ucitymo.org) or call 314.505.8560 to find out more.

### SPRING BULK COLLECTION DATES

**East: April 8-12**

**Central: April 15-19**

**West: April 22-26**



## U City in Bloom Spring Plant Sale: April 26-28

The 33rd Annual Spring Plant Sale presented by U City in Bloom is set to return to its traditional indoor location at the Heman Park Community Center, 975 Pennsylvania Ave, during the last weekend in April. The plant sale, free and open to the public, will take place on Sat., Apr. 27, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Sun., Apr. 28, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

An exclusive opportunity, the Preview Party event on Apr 26, from 5 to 7 p.m., allows guests the first pick of hardy perennials, vibrant annual flowers, trees, shrubs, herbs and vegetables. Wine, cheese and appetizers will be served. Tickets for this event are \$25 per person and can be reserved at [ucityinbloom.org](http://ucityinbloom.org) or purchased at the door.

During the plant sale, knowledgeable gardeners will be on hand to provide advice on selecting plants that best suit your landscape, whether it is sunny, shady, wet or dry. Volunteers, starting one month prior to the sale, will be dividing perennials from U City in Bloom gardens and potting them, along with contributions from local gardeners.

If you would like to contribute plants or volunteer for the sale, please contact Linda Fried at [lindafriedster@gmail.com](mailto:lindafriedster@gmail.com). The proceeds from the sale play a crucial role in planning, planting and maintaining the numerous gardens and large planters throughout our community that are managed by U City in Bloom. Join us in supporting this initiative and bringing more greenery to our neighborhoods.



## Spring Electronics Recycling Event

**Sun., Apr. 14, Noon – 3 p.m.**

**Heman Park Community Center Parking Lot,  
975 Pennsylvania Ave.**

Do you have old TVs, computers, routers, cell phones, cords, battery-operated electronics, or any other miscellaneous electronics laying around the house that you need to dispose of? University City will be hosting an electronics recycling drop-off event. For this event, we will only be offering the electronics recycling, but stay tuned for a future shredding event in the fall.

- The event is free for residents of St. Louis County only. The event is not open to businesses.
- Recycle up to two monitors/TVs per vehicle at no charge\*. For other electronics, there are no limits on how many items you may recycle and most items are free of charge.
- Visit [ucitymo.org/recycling](http://ucitymo.org/recycling) to see a full list of recyclable materials for this event.
- Questions? Call 314.505.8516.

*\*While funding allows, for more than two monitors or TVs, you will be charged \$30 each for tube TVs or monitors; \$10 each for flatscreen TVs or monitors.*



The event is funded by a grant from St. Louis County's Department of Public Health utilizing County landfill surcharge funds.





# Annual Billing for Solid Waste Services Begins March 1

March 1 is the first billing date for solid waste (refuse) services, including trash, recycling, yard waste and bulk item collection. All services are billed in advance and statements are issued by the Finance Department in six month cycles. (See table.)

Solid waste fees not paid 30 days after the beginning of the service period for which the bill is issued shall be considered delinquent or past due. See table.

## Senior citizens living in single or two-family houses may be eligible for a discount on solid waste services if they meet the following conditions:

- At least one resident of the property must be at least 65 years of age
- No more than two people living in the housing unit (*number of occupants listed on application will be checked against occupancy permit*)
- Resident must agree to accept a smaller trash receptacle if you have a roll-out cart (60 gallon).

## BILLING CYCLES

Route	Pick Up Day	1st Billing Date	2nd Billing Date
1	Monday	March 1	September 1
2	Wednesday	April 1	October 1
3	Thursday	May 1	November 1
4	Tuesday	June 1	December 1
5	Friday	July 1	January 1

## DELINQUENT DATES

Notice	Delinquency	Penalty Charge	2nd Billing Date
1st Delinquent Notice	30 Days Late	5.0%	September 1
2nd Delinquent Notice	60 Days Late	2.5%	October 1
3rd Delinquent Notice	90 Days Late	2.5%	November 1
4th Delinquent Notice	120 Days Late	2.5%	December 1

## SEMI-ANNUAL RATES

Category	Billing Rate (every Six Months)
Single Family – Cart	\$110.10
Single Family (Senior) – Cart	\$93.30
Two Family, Building w/ 3+ Units – Cart	\$126.30 (per unit)
Two Family (Senior) – Cart	\$106.92 (per unit)
Single Family – Alley Mechanical	\$118.44
Single Family (Senior) – Alley Mechanical	\$102.54
Two Family – Alley Mechanical	\$135.84 (per unit)
Two-Family (Senior) – Alley Mechanical	\$117.54 (per unit)
3+ Units with Alley Mechanical	\$90.00
3+ Units with Waste Reduction	\$54.72

For general billing questions, please call the Finance Department 314.505.8544.

For information on COMMERCIAL solid waste services, please call 314.505.8560.



The City encourages and appreciates timely payment of fees assessed for each property. Various payment options are available including:

**Online Payments:** eUtilities is a free online service that allows residents to view their solid waste account activity, make payments and receive an email to view billing statements. To sign up, go to [ucitymo.org](https://ucitymo.org) and choose the **Online Bill Pay** icon, which will redirect you to the Online Bill Pay (eUtilities) screen. Follow the steps to setup a new or existing account. If you have difficulty logging into your account or have questions about how to navigate the system, please contact the Finance Department at 314.505.8544. The system only allows for payments using a debit or credit card with a Visa or MasterCard logo.

## Electronic Funds Transfer

**(Bank Drafting):** The Electronic Funds Transfer program for solid waste billing allows solid payments to be automatically debited from your account five business days before the due date and applied directly to your solid waste bill. To choose the Electronic Funds Transfer, please contact the Finance Department at 314.505.8544 for further assistance.

## Cash, Check and Charge:

Solid waste bills can be paid by cash, check and debit or credit card. Cash must be paid in person at the Finance Department, checks can be paid either in person or regular mail and credit card payments are accepted either in person or via phone by contacting the Finance Department mainline at 314.505.8544. The City only accepts Visa and MasterCard. There is no convenience fee charge for debit or credit card payment processing.



**WeMake**  
**UCITY**  
Resilient. Livable. Prosperous.



LEARN MORE  
SCAN THE  
QR CODE

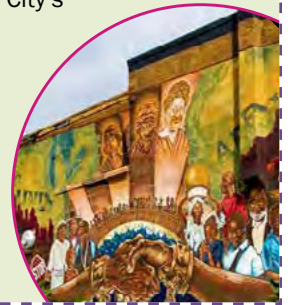
## City Approves Comprehensive Plan We Make U City

Thank you to all who participated in the formation of the Comprehensive Plan for University City, also known as “We Make U City.” Over the course of 18 months, from summer 2022 through the end of 2023, residents, local business owners and other stakeholders shared their feedback at open houses and workshops, on paper and in online surveys, and at pop-up events around U City.

The Plan Commission, elected officials, City staff and professional consultants considered the community’s feedback to create a plan that reflects U City’s needs, desires and priorities. “We Make U City” is a plan that will move U City forward to achieve its vision as, “a community that moves forward together to advance prosperity, opportunities, and resilience while preserving and enhancing the City’s unique character.”

The plan was officially approved by the Plan Commission and City Council in January 2024. Now the challenging work of implementing the plan begins! To view the plan online, visit [WeMakeUCity.com](https://www.wemakeucity.com)

Questions? Contact the University City Department of Planning & Development at 314.505.8516 or [mkenedy@ucitymo.org](mailto:mkenedy@ucitymo.org).



## U City Library Announces New Programs and Online Resources

**UNIVERSITY CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY (UCPL) IS ROLLING OUT EXCITING NEW PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR RESIDENTS THIS SPRING!**

UCPL cardholders now can enjoy complimentary access to the online editions of the *New York Times* and the *Wall Street Journal*. Simply use your library card to log into the online catalog and unlock a wealth of information. Additionally, library cardholders can broaden their horizons by learning new languages with Mango Languages, exploring crafty hobbies with Creativebug, and acquiring various technology skills through LinkedIn Learning—all at no cost with a UCPL card. Dive into these resources by visiting [ucitylibrary.org/research-learning](https://ucitylibrary.org/research-learning)

In March, the Library is hosting representatives from the Small Business Administration. They will conduct a seminar on the myriad of services available for entrepreneurs, covering everything from mentoring and technical assistance to securing government contracts and funding. This free program is open to all and will take place on Mar. 26, 2 p.m. in the UCPL auditorium.

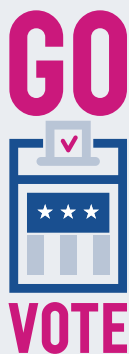
The Library is teaming up with the U City Senior Commission to present a series of monthly lunch-and-learn programs. Taking place at 11 a.m. on the second Friday of each month in the UCPL auditorium, these sessions will feature local experts discussing programs and services available to seniors in the St. Louis area. The series kicks off on Fri., Apr. 12, with a presentation about the Library’s offerings for older adults, followed by a May 10 presentation from Aging Ahead. Lunch is provided free-of-charge to attendees over 60 years of age who pre-register for the event by calling 636.207.0847.

And that's not all! Get ready for our summer reading program launching in May for both adults and kids. Stay tuned for updates on the Library website and social media channels, and check out [ucitylibrary.org/calendar](https://ucitylibrary.org/calendar) for a glimpse of more upcoming events.





## Vote in the Municipal Election on Tues., Apr. 2



The General Municipal Election in University City will be Tues., Apr. 2. Voters will choose one City Councilmember from all three wards for a four-year term. In addition, Ward Two will have a candidate running to fill an unexpired term that ends in April 2026.

### CANDIDATES RUNNING FOR OFFICE:

WARD 1 – Jeff Hales

WARD 2 – Dennis Fuller (unexpired term ending in April 2026)

WARD 2 – John Samuel Tieman

WARD 3 – Bwayne Smotherson

To run for office, candidates must be a qualified voter in University City, be a resident of University City for at least three consecutive years leading up to the election, currently live in the Ward they want to represent and current on all state and City taxes. Candidates may not currently hold any other elected public office or compensatory position in City government.

### ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS GUIDELINES

Voters in St. Louis County may vote at any polling place in the County on Election Day. Polling places are open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. If you are in line at the closing time of 7 p.m., you have the right to cast your vote. More information is available at [stlouiscountymo.gov/st-louis-county-government/board-of-elections](https://stlouiscountymo.gov/st-louis-county-government/board-of-elections) or by calling 314.615.1800.

Please direct any questions to LaRette Reese, City Clerk, at 314.505.8605.



## Annual Business License Requirements and Renewals

A business license from University City is required for any persons engaged in any business, occupation, pursuit, profession or trade or in keeping or maintaining any institution, establishment, articles, utility or commodity as specified in the Municipal Code Section 605, Business Regulations.

Business licenses are issued by the University City Finance Department to businesses authorized by City officials to operate within the City of University City. Business license fees apply and must be paid to receive a business license. All occupational, business, and other licenses are valid from May 1 of the current year to Apr. 30 of the following year and must be renewed annually. All such licenses are due and payable on or before Apr. 30 each year.

More information is available at [ucitymo.org](https://ucitymo.org), under Departments-Finance-Licenses. Additional questions about business licenses may be answered by calling the Finance Department at 314.505.8544.

## 90 Years of Community Joy to Kick Off 2024 Pool Season

### EVENT KICKS OFF 2024 HEMAN PARK POOL SEASON FOR MEMBERS AND PASS HOLDERS

The 2024 swim season begins Sat., May 25, and you can avoid long lines by purchasing a season pass early. Passes purchased March 1 through May 1, offer a 10 percent discount, unlimited access to the Heman Park Pool, and an invitation to a private pre-opening event for pass holders and members, "Celebrating 90 Years of Community Joy" on Fri., May 24, from 5 to 8 p.m.

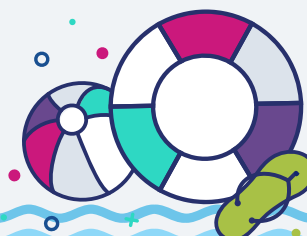
Pool memberships, passes and ID cards are available at Centennial Commons Control Desk, 7210 Olive Blvd., and are available for both residents and non-residents. Age guidelines for the pool require youth aged 12 and under to be accompanied by a parent or authorized caregiver who is 18 years of age or older and must remain with the youth the entire time at the pool.

General admission is limited to those age 3 and above with a Centennial Commons membership, Heman Park Pool season pass and resident or non-resident ID. Non-resident recreation cards may be purchased for \$7 each. To access the pool, non-residents must show their ID card and pay the daily admission fee.

In addition to general season passes, registration is also available for swim activities including swim lessons for youth and adults, Deep Water Fitness, Aqua Fitness and Shallow Water Splash.

Beginning July 15, season passes will be available at a 50 percent discount for the remainder of the 2024 season, which ends Mon., Sept. 2.

For more information, contact Centennial Commons at 314.505.8625 or Relay Missouri at 800.735.2966 (TDD), or visit [ucitymo.org/pool](https://ucitymo.org/pool) for more information about facility use charges, programs, updates, announcement and much more. Please remember to "like us" on the Recreation Division Facebook page @universitycityrecreationdivision.





**"BUILDING STABLE  
FOUNDATIONS FOR ACCESSIBLE  
AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES"**



## SHED Announces Days of Service for 2024

SHED (Sustainable Housing and Equitable Development) will be coordinating volunteer home maintenance for seniors (65 and older), people with disabilities and veterans. Focused on neighborhoods in University City, SHED will once again partner with the City to assist homeowners who need help with minor exterior home maintenance issues with priority given to those who have received citations. Typical jobs include gutter cleaning, pruning bushes and small exterior paint jobs.

The Days of Service will be Apr. 12-14 and Oct. 12-13. Over the last 14 years SHED has served more than 550 residents with support from local faith-based organizations, businesses, schools and universities.

In addition, SHED will continue its Home Ownership/Home Buyer Education Series covering a variety of topics surrounding purchasing a home for the first time, financing, home maintenance and more. For a schedule of topics, events, speakers and to register for events visit [shedstl.org](https://shedstl.org).

For more information, to request an application for service or to volunteer, please call 314.782.SHED (7433) or email [info@shedstl.org](mailto:info@shedstl.org). To learn more about SHED or make a donation visit [shedstl.org](https://shedstl.org).



## Serve Your Community as a St. Louis County Election Judge



Play a big part in the upcoming April 2 St. Louis County General Municipal Election by becoming a St. Louis County Election Judge! The St. Louis County Election Board needs to staff more than 200 polling places throughout the County, and you can help.

Bi-partisan teams of Election Judges at each poll are vital to citizens exercising their right to vote. They are responsible for essential tasks such as setting up and operating voting equipment, managing the voting process by checking in voters and securing ballots for collection at the Election Board.

High school students are also needed to assist official Election Judges at the polls. Students shadow experienced judges through an innovative Student Election Judge program. Students will learn how the electoral process works and the importance of public service beginning at a young age.

Election Judges can earn at least \$250 for their service. Students can earn \$170 or 16 community service hours that many schools require for graduation.

Contact Jim McHugh of the St. Louis County Election Board to learn more about these programs and the opportunity to serve your community and nation. Call Jim at 314.615.1858 or email him at [jmchugh@stlouiscountymmo.gov](mailto:jmchugh@stlouiscountymmo.gov).



# STAY ALERT!

GET EARLY  
WARNING  
WEATHER  
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RIGHT TO  
YOUR PHONE!

**CodeRED**

**BE PREPARED  
SIGN UP NOW**



[UCITYMO.ORG/CODERED](https://ucitymo.org/codered)



# Navigating Through Recruitment and Retention Issues for Law Enforcement Organizations

The challenges faced by 21st-century policing are evident, particularly in the integration of four distinct generations within the profession: Baby Boomers, Gen X, Gen Y and now Gen Z. Navigating the delicate dynamics of multiple generations is essential for establishing strong "psychological contracts" with each employee during their tenure in our organization.

However, a larger and more pressing issue is that the law enforcement profession is no longer attractive to Gen Y and Gen Z applicants. Quality of life issues take center stage for these candidates, an aspect traditionally overlooked in law enforcement.

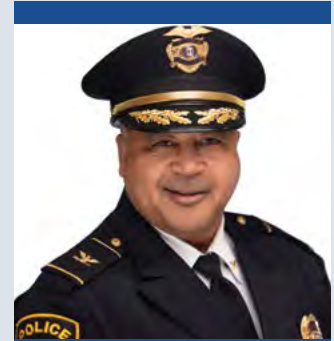
In December 2023, the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department (SLMPD) faced a significant challenge with 312 vacant law enforcement positions. Earlier that year, the Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP) announced its inability to assist SLMPD due to a shortage of approximately 130 state troopers. Additionally, the St. Louis County Police Department struggled with 135 vacancies, leaving just 826 of its allocated 961 budgeted positions filled.

**This staffing shortage is not just a regional or statewide issue. Nationwide criminal justice organizations spanning federal, state and local sectors face a diminishing pool of applicants. To address this issue, it is imperative to focus on recruiting younger individuals, providing mentorship early on and intensifying efforts in community engagement.**

The University City Police Department's (UCPD) commitment to addressing these concerns is evident in its proactive practices and policies ranging from quality-of-life concerns to compensation. Initiatives include the use of police chaplains for internal counseling services and the establishment of a Peer Support Team to assist employees during stressful times. In addition, UCPD compensation ranks in the top 30 percentile among St. Louis County area jurisdictions and the City's benefit package is one of the best in the region.

Recruiting and retention remain a top priority. The department hosts hiring events in both Spring and Fall, providing ample opportunities for all individuals to pursue their personal goals and ambitions in law enforcement. UCPD also actively engages in modern training courses to implement best practices for recruitment and retention.

Recognizing that there is no one-size-fits-all solution to the staffing shortage crisis in criminal justice, UCPD is a leader in adapting to contemporary challenges and demonstrating our commitment to building a resilient and effective law enforcement organization for the future.



**Col. Larry Hampton Jr.,  
Chief of Police,  
University City Police  
Department**



**UCPD COMPENSATION RANKS IN THE TOP 30 PERCENTILE  
AMONG ST. LOUIS COUNTY AREA JURISDICTIONS AND THE  
CITY'S BENEFIT PACKAGE IS ONE OF THE BEST IN THE REGION**

**ST. LOUIS COUNTY POLICE  
DEPARTMENT  
STRUGGLED WITH  
135 VACANCIES**



**SLMPD HAD  
VACANT LAW  
ENFORCEMENT  
POSITIONS**





## U City Fire and EMS Team Up with WeDriveU for “Stuff the Bus” Toy Drive

During last December’s holidays, the University City Fire Department (UCFD) teamed up with local employees of WeDriveU to assist in distributing gifts to families in need from their annual “Stuff the Bus” campaign. WeDriveU’s local branch, affiliated with Shuttle and Transit National Express North America, is responsible for the shuttle service at Washington University. This year, the campaign saw an impressive collection of over 5,000 gifts nationwide.

At the local level, the University City Fire and Police Departments joined forces to personally deliver donated toys to local churches, ensuring they reached families in need.

WeDriveU’s commitment to community involvement and volunteerism aligns seamlessly with their culture of giving back to the communities they serve through transportation solutions. With a workforce of over 4,000+ employees operating transportation systems and annually serving millions of passengers across campuses, workplaces, and communities nationwide, WeDriveU team members are known for their hard work and generosity.

UCFD takes pride in actively participating in initiatives like “Stuff the Bus” and St. Louis Earth Day, and UCFD looks forward to future collaborations that contribute positively to the community.



## Flood Gates Installed at UCFD Engine House 1

Like many homeowners in the aftermath of the July 2022 floods, the University City Fire Department faced the daunting task of addressing the impact on their own facilities. Upon returning to engine house #1 with evacuees from various parts of the City, firefighters found several feet of water inundating the space. The flood not only wreaked havoc on equipment in the engine bay, but it also affected office areas within the facility.

In response to this challenge, UCFD, in alignment with FEMA’s directives, embarked on a comprehensive plan to minimize the likelihood of a recurrence. A meticulous examination of the pathways water entered the engine house and the patterns of building flooding formed the basis for their strategy.

Given the block structure of the building, UCFD identified a viable solution—installing barriers at the exterior doorways of the office area and constructing block walls to fortify sections housing sensitive equipment against water damage. Acknowledging the inevitability of water entering the engine bay areas, UCFD proactively acquired and installed shelving, effectively elevating stored equipment above potential flood levels.

While recognizing the uncontrollable forces of Mother Nature, UCFD remains committed to implementing a range of precautions to mitigate the risk of another catastrophic loss.



## Schools to Seek Bond Issue on April 2

At the Jan. 18 meeting, the University City Board of Education voted unanimously to place a \$65 million zero tax rate increase bond issue on the April 2, 2024, ballot. If approved by voters, the bond issue will NOT increase the tax rate. For more details, visit [www.ucityschools.org/PropU24](http://www.ucityschools.org/PropU24).

## Spring 2024 School Board Election

The School District of University City Board of Education has two candidates for two seats in the April 2 elections: Monica Stewart and Tameka Staten (in order of filing). Candidate statements will be printed in the March 2024 PRIDE newspaper and archived to [www.ucityschools.org/PRIDE](http://www.ucityschools.org/PRIDE).

## Kindergarten Open Houses Set

Are you interested in your little one joining the pride of U. City Schools? Visit your neighborhood elementary school from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, for tours and talks with teachers.

Principals are also available for personal tours. Arrange a tour by calling the school in advance.

For more information, visit [www.ucityschools.org/ProspectiveFamily](http://www.ucityschools.org/ProspectiveFamily).



*UCHS PTO hosts first Mid-Year Prowl for Class of 2024, co-sponsored by St. Louis University.*

## District Makes Gains in MSIP 6

The 2023 Missouri School Improvement Process (MSIP 6) Annual Performance Report (APR) data shows that in the past two years, the District has made notable improvements in math and English language arts. The District also registered the second highest percent of increase in enrollment in St. Louis County since the 2019-20 school year. (See StLToday article at [www.ucityschools.org/Post112923](http://www.ucityschools.org/Post112923).)

## Good People Know Good People: Network-Hiring Event Feb. 27

Do you know a caring person who is passionate about children and innovative education? The District is hosting a network-hiring event for prospective teachers and administrators from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 27, 2024, at McNair Administration Building, 7700 Olive Blvd., 63130. Interview-ready candidates may meet one-on-one with District administrators and staff. Register at [www.ucityschools.org/Hire24](http://www.ucityschools.org/Hire24).

## Fall Enrollment Opens April 1

The District is transitioning from Tyler SISK12 Parent Portal to Infinite Campus beginning Fall 2024. Find out how this impacts annual enrollment, which will open on April 1 for Fall 2024. Visit [www.ucityschools.org/Enroll](http://www.ucityschools.org/Enroll) for details after April 1.

**2024 Spring Break: March 25-29**  
**Schools & Offices Closed March 29**

**Parent/Teacher Conferences:**  
**March 20-21 (evenings)**  
**No School for Teacher Comp Day March 22**

**No School:**  
**Feb. 16 & 19\*, March 22, April 2 & May 27\***  
**\*District Closed**

**Remaining Early Release Days:**  
**March 15 & May 29\***

**Last Day of School: May 29\***  
**\*Pending inclement weather make-up days, if needed.**

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





# ROARS

THE VOICE OF UNIVERSITY CITY

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## MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor	Terry Crow	314.505.8606
1 <sup>ST</sup> Ward	Steve McMahon	314.422.6576
	Jeff Hales	314.283.5402
2 <sup>ND</sup> Ward	Aleta Klein	801.512.3912
	Dennis Fuller	314.707.6167
3 <sup>RD</sup> 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
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
Acting Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry:	
Darin Girdler	314.505.8573
Director of Public Works: Darin Girdler	314.505.8537
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