Mayor’s Charge to the Task Force on Seniors & Youth
October 4, 2010

In an effort to ensure that the City of University City is focusing enough energy, attention and funding on two important constituent groups in our community—elders and youth—a Mayor’s Task Force on Seniors & Youth is being established.

This task force is being charged with doing the education and community outreach needed to determine:

- the assets that exist within the University City and the larger regional community (aka “asset inventory”) for the benefit of accessible to University City seniors and youth; and
- the needs and desires of each group (aka “needs survey”) that are currently not being met or fulfilled by existing assets available to them.

The work detailed above will be done in collaboration with the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University and the Department of Gerontology in the School of Social Work at the University of Missouri—St. Louis.

Following the completion of the asset inventory and the needs survey, the Task Force on Seniors & Youth is charged with developing a formal report for the City Council of University City, including a “gap analysis” that details which needs/desires are unmet within the community. This report should clarify what existing assets are underutilized, and suggest a plan to the Council on how to make these assets more well-known to the community. Finally, this Task Force should develop a list of recommendations for the City Council to consider as it moves forward, including recommendations on possible funding options for future work on issues raised by the task force.

The Task Force on Seniors & Youth will establish guidelines for its work schedule and routines. However, the final report to the Council should be received by the Council no later than February 1, 2012 so the recommendations contained therein can be considered by the Council as it prepares the budget for Fiscal Year 2013.

The Mayor has requested that each member of the City Council appoint two constituents to this Task Force, preferably from the ward which they represent in an effort to maintain the geographic diversity of the group. The Mayor will appoint one resident from each ward; a Mayoral liaison to the task force; a task force coordinator; and an additional expert in the field of social work who has professional experience in this area who has also expressed interest in working on this unique project.

The Mayoral liaison to the Task Force on Seniors & Youth will preside at the meetings of the group until such time as the task force members determine how to organize their work in a productive manner, at which time the members will decide on its leadership structure and could consider all Task Force members for the leadership positions established.