



# ROARS

THE VOICE OF UNIVERSITY CITY

WINTER 2024 - 2025



## Restoration Nearing Completion from 2022 Flood Damage

University City is pleased to announce progress on FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) restoration projects following the devastating flood of July 2022. To date, several key facilities have been functionally restored, including the Central Garage and offices, Sign Shop, Municipal Recycling Facility (MURF) building and offices, and Parks Department maintenance building and offices.

Significant restoration work also is continuing at Centennial Commons Recreation Facility and Heman Park Community Center. Work includes restoring the concession area, indoor soccer facility and gymnasium floor. The lower weight room and Community Center kitchen area are slated for completion by late December or early 2025. Additionally, Jack Buck Field in Heman Park has been reconfigured, restored and revitalized, and the Dog Park now features new fencing.

The restoration process has been and remains a City priority. Immediately after the flood, the City was able to perform emergency restoration efforts with selective demolition to mitigate the occurrence of mold and to restore electricity to the facilities until the rest of the work could be identified and contracts procured.

Over the past year, City staff and the City's Owner Representative firm, Navigate Building Solutions, have worked together to document and identify the work necessary to restore these facilities back to their pre-flood conditions. Beginning in the Fall of 2023, the team inspected each facility, identified the work needed, prepared bid documents, and coordinated both with FEMA and Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA). In March 2024, the team procured bids and a selected a contractor, Vanstar Construction Company, to perform the bulk of the work.

2025 CALENDAR  
COMING SOON



2025 CALENDAR  
Centennial Grid by Nekita, The Author of University City

COUNCIL MEETING  
DATES:



MONDAY, DEC. 9, 2024

MONDAY, JAN. 13, 2025

MONDAY, JAN. 27, 2025

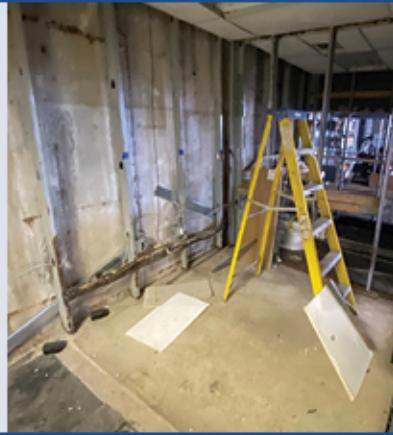
MONDAY, FEB. 10, 2025

MONDAY, FEB. 24, 2025

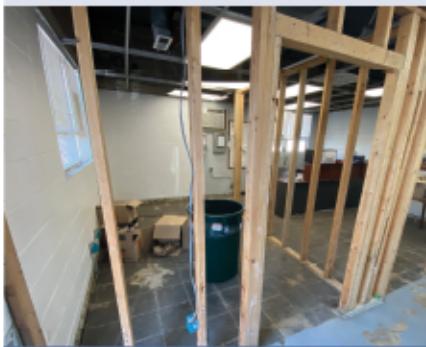
All meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. In-person meetings are subject to change. Information about meetings is at [ucitymo.org/Calendar](http://ucitymo.org/Calendar). All meetings are streamed

live at [youtube.com/UniversityCityGovernment](https://youtube.com/UniversityCityGovernment).

To be notified when meetings go live, click the subscribe button.



For updates, "like" us on Facebook at University City Recreation Division or Centennial Commons, or visit the Parks, Recreation and Forestry page of the City's website at [www.icitymo.org](http://www.icitymo.org).



Restoration began last April and was substantially completed at the end of September. It included drywall repair, flooring replacement and minor electrical and mechanical repairs, as well as new paint and new doors and plumbing fixture installations. Other contracts were awarded for water intrusion issues and replacement of the gymnasium floor at Centennial Commons.

Work is continuing on several small projects remaining, such as fencing repairs at the Central Garage and replacement appliances for Centennial Commons and Heman Park Community Center, as well as several more.

Other local contractors restoring these buildings include Universal Abatement, Butler Supply Inc., ABB, Missouri Floor Company, Chowning Heating & Cooling, Garland Company, and Staat Waterproofing. Costs for the work were substantially covered by FEMA and SEMA.

The City commends community members for their patience and support throughout this extensive restoration process and encourages everyone to visit and enjoy the newly revitalized facilities and amenities that University City has to offer.



- X [@UniversityCity](#)
- Facebook [@UniversityCityMo](#)
- Instagram [@UniversityCityMo](#)
- LinkedIn [@CityofUniversityCity](#)
- YouTube [@UniversityCityGovernment](#)

## JOB OPENINGS – WORK FOR UCITY

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

**GREAT  
BENEFITS  
CLOSE  
TO HOME**

ARE YOU AWESOME? COME WORK WITH US. CURRENTLY RECRUITING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

- Facilities Manager
- Executive Secretary to the Director – Planning and Development
- Equipment Operators – Streets, Parks, and Sanitation (three openings)
- Heavy Equipment Operator – Sanitation
- Senior Services Coordinator (Part-Time)
- Recreation Supervisor – Fitness, Health, and Sports

#TeamUCity





## Dear Neighbors,

Sometimes being Mayor of University City has truly fun moments. A couple of months ago, I had the pleasure of presenting Bob Gale with a proclamation from our City Council. Many of you may know Bob as the creator and producer of the *Back to the Future* movies, and now, the *Back to the Future* musical. What you might not know is how proud Bob is of his University City roots.

**For example, the neighborhood where Marty McFly lives in *Back to the Future*, Lyon Estates, was inspired by our very own U City lions on Delmar. In addition, the mascot for Marty's high school, the Bulldogs, was a nod to Bob's time at Brittany Woods back in the 1950s, where the Bulldog was the mascot.**

What you also may not know is that Bob is the son of Mark and Maxine Gale. Mark served on both the University City Council and University City School Board. Bob is very proud of his father's dedication to public service and his connection to



our community. This reminder of our history highlights the deep connection between our City and our schools. In fact, one of the driving forces behind the Market at Olive Development was the desire to provide University City and our schools with a more diverse and stronger tax base.

While our own community has faced many challenges over the past few years, Bob reminded me that the original *Back to the Future* script was rejected 42 times, which is a testament to resilience and ultimate success.

As we approach the new year, let's take a moment to reflect on the strength of our University City community and how special it is. Our history is rich with remarkable individuals like Bob Gale and many others. Let's share our pride in our past and work together toward an even brighter future.

**Mayor Terry Crow**  
[mayor@ucitymo.org](mailto:mayor@ucitymo.org), 314.505.8606

## Construction Underway for New Target Store

A lot has been happening since last August when University City Mayor Terry Crow joined members of the City Council and the Market at Olive retail development team for a ceremonial groundbreaking of the area's largest Target store. Located within the Costco-anchored development at Olive and Interstate 170, the Target property will feature a two-level parking structure with 476 parking spaces.

In addition, unlike other local Target locations, this new store will feature an updated design to better accommodate modern retail needs. It will include dedicated space for pick-up orders and distribution of "last mile" online orders, streamlining the process for customers who shop on Target's website and opt for in-store pickup.

"It's incredible to see the first phase of this development underway with the construction of the parking structure," said Mayor Crow. "This marks a major step in bringing Target, one of the largest and most respected brands, to our community. We eagerly anticipate its completion."

Earlier this fall, Concrete Strategies laid the foundation for the parking structure, a significant milestone in the project's progress. The structure is expected to be finished by the second quarter of 2025, after which work will begin on the Target store, which anticipates an April 2026 opening.

The development team includes Bob Clark (Clayco), Larry Chapman (Seneca Commercial Real Estate), Caroline Saunders (general counsel), and David Hutkin (Hutkin Properties Group, LLC).



**"It's incredible to see the first phase of this development underway with the construction of the parking structure,"**

**- Mayor Terry Crow**



## Annual Dog Park Membership Renewals and New Applications



It's time to renew memberships or apply for a new membership to use the University City Dog Park located at the corner of Vernon and Pennsylvania Avenues. Memberships are available for residents and non-residents. 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 while running and playing with other four-footed friends.

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AND NEW APPLICATION DATES:

- Renewals for resident and non-resident members begins Dec. 4, 2024
- New residents may join beginning Dec. 11, 2024
- New non-resident members may join beginning Jan. 3, 2025

All renewals and new memberships are approved on an annual basis and are valid from January 1 through December 31, 2025. In addition to requiring the 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 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



HOUSING &  
REVITALIZATION  
PLAN

Latest updates at  
ucity3rdward.com

## Get Ready to Laugh, Lunch and Shout "Bingo!" for Seniors

Win some prizes at this "come and have fun" event at Heman Park Community Center, 975 Pennsylvania Ave.

Lunch served at 11 a.m.; Bingo begins at noon

Thurs., Dec. 12 | Thurs., Jan. 23 | Thurs., Feb. 27

Sponsored by the University City Recreation Division

For registration and more details, contact Centennial Commons at 314.505.8625





## 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

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

### 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



**“Don’t Hibernate – Participate”**

### WINTER FITNESS CLASSES

Our variety of fitness classes include:

Belly Dancing, Extreme Hip Hop Step Class, Slide & Line Dancing, Slow Flow Yoga, Stretch & Strengthen with Essentrics, Tai Chi, Total Body & Tone and Zumba

For details, contact Centennial Commons at 314.505.8625



## Watch for details on Upcoming Events

**Fri., Dec. 13,** Time and Registration Details to be announced



**Fri., Feb. 7,** Time and Registration Details to be announced



For facility and program updates, announcements and more, “like” us on the Recreation Division or Centennial Commons Facebook pages @universitycityrecreationdivision or @centennialcommons

## Recycling Right! Stricter Rules Apply to Paper

From Thanksgiving to New Year's Day, household waste increases by more than 25%. Recycle your used cardboard, gift paper and other approved recyclables from the holidays in your curbside recycling cart.

Remember new guidelines. Your paper will still be recycled but stricter rules apply for curbside recycling. Newspapers, magazines and envelopes are now subject to more stringent overseas standards. Recycling centers in China no longer accept paper that is even slightly soiled by food, liquids or other products.

A great way to recycle right is to find new uses for items instead of throwing them away. Also avoid "wish cycling" by putting an item you know is not recyclable into your recycling bin. Most important, consider pre-cycling by purchasing items that come in recyclable packaging.

### FOLLOW THIS GUIDE TO RECYCLE RIGHT

Recycle Only Dry Paper Not Contaminated By Food, Liquid or Other Products



## Special Holiday Schedule for Trash and Recycling Collection

### CHRISTMAS DAY AND NEW YEAR'S DAY – DEC. 25 AND JAN. 1

City Hall will be closed and there will be no trash or recycling collection on Christmas Day, Wed., Dec. 25 and New Year's Day, Wed., Jan. 1. Wednesday routes collected Thursday, Thursday routes collected Friday, Friday routes collected Saturday. Regular trash and recycling collection will resume the following Monday.

### HOLIDAY LIGHT RECYCLING DRIVE - 2024/2025

University City is proud to again participate in the annual holiday light recycling drive. A collection container located in the basement level of City Hall will be available until Fri., Jan. 31, 2025.

### HOLIDAY TREE COLLECTION

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

### MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY AND PRESIDENTS DAY – JAN. 20 AND FEB. 17

City Hall will be closed and there will be no trash or recycling collection on Martin Luther King Day, Mon., Jan. 20 and Presidents Day, Mon., Feb. 17. Monday routes will be collected Tuesday, Tuesday routes will be collected Wednesday, Wednesday routes will be Thursday, Thursday routes will be collected Friday, and Friday routes will be collected Saturday. Regular trash and recycling collection will resume the following Monday.



## U City Ice Carnival Returns in January

The Delmar Loop will host its 18th annual Loop Ice Carnival. The free event is Sat., Jan. 25, from 11:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m., and will feature more than 50 original ice sculptures, including a live ice carving demonstration outside of Fitz's at 1:00 p.m. Throughout the carnival, guests can enjoy a temporary tattoo scavenger hunt, street performers, stilt walkers, live music, face painting, and a grand finale drone show! Learn more at [VisitTheLoop.com](http://VisitTheLoop.com).





## How to Report a Streetlight Issue in University City

University City is committed to maintaining a safe and well-lit community. With over 4,000 streetlights spread across the City, it's a collaborative effort. Approximately 750 streetlights are maintained directly by the University City Public Works Department. The remaining lights are owned and maintained by Ameren Missouri, including 98% of residential streetlights.

If you notice a streetlight that needs attention, here's what you need to do:

### IDENTIFY THE STREET LIGHT

- Ameren Missouri lights: Look for a tag on the pole. If the identification plate starts with a "U" followed by numbers, it's an Ameren Missouri-owned light
- Private property lights: Lights with tags starting with a "Z" are owned by the private property owner who requested the installation
- University City lights: If the light lacks these tags, it's likely a University City-owned light

### REPORT A LIGHT OUT

#### For Ameren Missouri lights:

Call 314.342.1000 with the following details:

- Address and location (side of the street)
- Street light identification number (e.g., U306) or a detailed location if the tag is missing
- Your name and contact number
- A description of the issue (e.g., light is out, flashing or damaged)
- Note if the light was damaged by an accident
- For emergencies, contact the Ameren Construction Hotline at 866.992.6619

#### For University City lights:

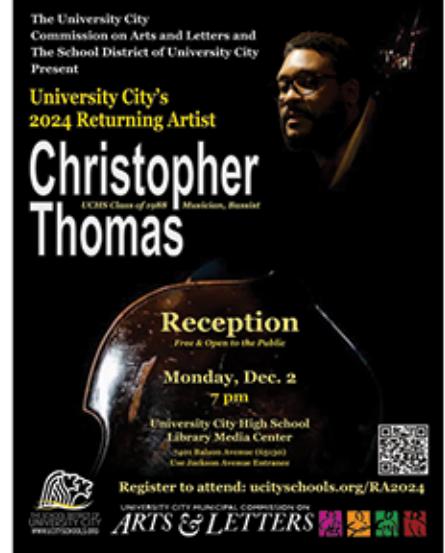
Contact the Public Works Department at 314.505.8560 with similar details, including the address, location, any available identification information and your contact details.

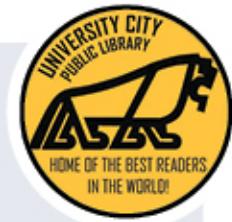
By providing accurate information, you can help ensure timely repairs and keep University City streets safe and well-lit for everyone. Thank you for being an engaged member of our community!



## Construction Update: Police Headquarters and Municipal Courts

We are pleased to report that renovation work on both historic structures is on schedule, with hazard abatement and nonstructural demolition completed. For the Municipal Court (Trinity) building, interior wall framing, elevator pit pouring, and plumbing installation are underway, while masonry restoration has begun on the exterior. At the Police Headquarters (Annex) building, the contractor is verifying interior wall placements, and the west parking lot is closed for emergency generator installation. A temporary ADA entrance is available on Sergeant Mike King Drive, while work continues on underground utilities and the east-side parking lot.





## U City Library Introduces New Catalog and Plans Elevator Updates



The University City Public Library is excited to announce its recent membership in Missouri Evergreen, a consortium of over 70 libraries across the state. This transition features a more user-friendly catalog, shorter wait times for items on hold and improved access to a combined collection of more than four million items from participating libraries. In addition, eight other libraries in the Municipal Library Consortium (MLC) have also joined Missouri Evergreen, so patrons will still have full access to all MLC-wide resources.

With this change the MLC app has also been updated. If you haven't already switched to the new app, please download it from your device's app store. For more details about the transition and the new app, visit [www.icitylibrary.org/evergreen](http://www.icitylibrary.org/evergreen).

In other news, since successfully completing our extensive library renovation we've unfortunately discovered that additional elevator repairs are needed, requiring the elevator to be out of service for four to six weeks in January and early February. Visit [www.icitylibrary.org](http://www.icitylibrary.org) for updates and follow us on social media as the date approaches.



## U City in Bloom: Celebrates 40 Years of Beautifying University City



U City in Bloom volunteers and staff: Christopher Gibbons, Liz Thomas, Helen Flores, Mike Kimzey, Genie Hillen, Jesse Gilbertson, Tracy Koehler, Aubrey Puyear, Sharon McClinton

As one of University City's most beloved organizations, U City in Bloom cultivates beauty and community pride by designing and maintaining approximately 125 public gardens, from grand civic landscapes to charming neighborhood pocket parks, along with over 75 vibrant street planters. The growth of U City in Bloom stems from humble beginnings 40 years ago, when three visionary citizens planted the first spring bulbs alongside a City road.

What began as a volunteer effort in 1985 has now fully blossomed into a thriving 501(c)3 nonprofit, overseen by a Board of Directors, Executive Director, and a dedicated horticulturist who leads a skilled team of gardening experts and passionate volunteers.

Annual events like the Spring Plant Sale, Memorial Day Run, and the Biennial Garden Tour and Plein Air Festival help raise vital funds to sustain U City in Bloom's mission. Volunteers and financial support are always welcome! Learn more at [www.icityinbloom.org](http://www.icityinbloom.org).





## University City Police Chief Graduates from Northwestern University Center for Public Safety.

The University City Police Department is pleased to announce Chief Larry Hampton, Jr.'s recent graduation from the School of Police Staff and Command (SPSC) at Northwestern University. Chief Hampton successfully completed the 22-week program held in Evanston, Illinois, from Oct. 9, 2023, to Mar. 24, 2024. Implemented by the Center for Public Safety in 1983, this program has graduated over 21,000 students nationally and internationally. Chief Hampton was a student in SPSC Class #562, which had 24 students.

The SPSC provided upper-level college instruction in 27 core blocks and additional optional blocks. Major topics included Leadership, Human Resources, Employee Relations, Organizational Behavior, Applied Statistics, Planning and Policy Development, and Budgeting and Resource Allocation. The curriculum challenged students through written examinations, projects, presentations, quizzes, and a staff study paper. Upon completion students were awarded six undergraduate credits from Northwestern University.

Established in 1936, the Center for Public Safety aims to expand university-based education and training for the law enforcement community. It offers various courses in Police Training, Management Training and Executive Development.

The City of University City is proud of Chief Hampton's many accomplishments and his ongoing commitment to advancing his knowledge and expertise for 21st-century policing to benefit our community.

## Police Adapt to Construction Challenges With Rigorous Training and Strategic Planning

The University City Police Department (UCPD) remains steadfast in its commitment to delivering exceptional public safety services to the University City community. In response to the ongoing construction and development projects across the City, UCPD is continuously enhancing its community policing strategies, leveraging cutting-edge technology, fostering trust and legitimacy, and prioritizing officer wellness and safety.

Recent months have brought a wave of new development projects across the City, including the ongoing transformation of two historic buildings, one for new headquarters for the Police Department and one for the Municipal Court. These extensive renovations have created temporary challenges for Police officers and others on everything from parking disruptions to navigating physical obstacles.

Other significant construction projects include the Tru Hotel by Hilton at the former Delmar-Harvard School site, a high-rise residential complex with an enclosed parking garage at the old Commerce Bank site in the Delmar Loop, and the Market at Olive retail development along Olive Boulevard near Interstate 170, including new locations for Target and Royal Bank.

While these projects signal positive growth for University City, they also present new public safety challenges. Strategic planning and contingency measures have become more complex due to the overlapping nature of commercial and private developments.

To address these challenges, UCPD emphasizes resilience and emotional intelligence for its officers. The Department has also implemented comprehensive strategic plans to uphold its high standards of public safety for residents, stakeholders and visitors. Officers are continuously briefed on emerging issues, trends and goals to ensure they remain effective in their duties. These skills are crucial not only for reimagining policing strategies but also for adapting to the rapid changes within the community.

As University City transitions from a primarily residential area to a more commercially diverse landscape, UCPD remains focused on preparing for unforeseen challenges through rigorous training and adaptive strategic planning. The Department actively incorporates advanced technologies such as drones, Throw Bots, GPS software, surveillance cameras and gunshot detection systems. These tools act as force multipliers, helping UCPD reduce criminal activity and enhance public safety.

Despite the ongoing changes within the City, UCPD remains dedicated to innovation, adaptability and readiness, ensuring the safety and well-being of the community as it navigates its evolving landscape.



Chief Larry Hampton, Jr





## Winter Fire Safety Tips to Protect Your Home and Family

As winter approaches we all enjoy the warmth of heating systems, cozy fireplaces and festive holiday decorations. Unfortunately, December and January are peak months for home fires. To help keep you and your family safe and comfortable this season, the University City Fire Department offers simple, practical tips to reduce fire risks. By following these fire safety guidelines, you can enjoy a safer, warmer and more festive winter.

### MAINTAIN HEATING EQUIPMENT

- Heating devices like space heaters, fireplaces and wood stoves are leading causes of winter house fires and require regular care and attention
- Schedule yearly furnace inspections, clear away dust and debris and regularly change filters
- Test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors, ensuring they're in working order—especially if you use fuel-burning appliances

### USE EXTRA HEAT SOURCES SAFELY

- Keep space heaters at least three feet away from anything flammable. Always use them on flat, non-flammable surfaces and never leave them unattended
- For fireplaces and wood stoves, have chimneys inspected and cleaned annually. Use a metal or heat-resistant screen to prevent sparks and keep flammable materials away from the fire

### PREVENT DECORATIONS FROM BECOMING FIRE HAZARDS

- Candles are a common cause of home fires. Keep them at least a foot away from anything flammable. Consider using flameless candles or make sure real ones are extinguished when leaving a room or going to bed
- If you have a real tree, keep it well-watered and away from heat sources
- Before using holiday lights, inspect them for frayed wires or broken bulbs and avoid overloading outlets. Always turn off lights when leaving home or going to bed

With these simple precautions, you can ensure a warm, festive and safe winter season. Stay cozy, stay cautious and enjoy the holidays and the new year!



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



SCAN THE  
QR CODE TO  
REGISTER

## Fall Home Buyer Education

SHED, Inc (Sustainable Housing and Equitable Development) is hosting the last Home Buyers Education Series webinar of 2024 via ZOOM on Thurs., Dec. 12, 6 - 7:30 p.m. The program featuring Debbie Swain of Goosehead Insurance will cover "What You Need to Know About Homeowners Insurance."

SHED programs throughout the year provide home ownership and financing guidance to assist first-time home buyers, as well as property maintenance responsibilities, home remodeling ideas and estate planning for current homeowners.

SHED appreciates support from this year's sponsors including Guild Mortgage, Legal Services of Eastern Missouri, Carrollton Bank, Goosehead Insurance and Laura McCarthy Real Estate. For information about 2025 programs and recordings of past webinars, go to [www.shedstl.org](http://www.shedstl.org) or call 314.782.7433.

Add your voice to the conversation at SHED's Annual Community Meeting where accomplishments of 2024 will be reviewed and plans for 2025 will be presented. The meeting is Tues., Nov. 12, 6 - 7:30 p.m., in the main auditorium at University City Public Library, 6701 Delmar Blvd. Advance registration would be appreciated to anticipate number of attendees. Please use contact details above to contact SHED.



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF  
UNIVERSITY CITY  
WWW.UCITYSCHOOLS.ORG

# UCITY PRIDE

SCHOOL NEWS OUR COMMUNITY CAN USE

Winter 2024



Community members stopped by the U. City Farmers Market and grabbed a bag (or two!) of single origin coffee in sweet and mild fruits (Pirris River) and sugar and nutty (Tarrazu).

## Students Brew Up for Trip

University City High School students and teachers have been selling fair trade coffee at local farmers markets to fund a class trip to Costa Rica in 2025. Biology teacher Andrew Clark emphasizes the educational value of the "Show Me the World Project" trip combining business and marketing skills with hands-on learning about commerce, nature and ecosystems – to enrich students' understanding of the environment while supporting their academic goals.

To watch some behind the scenes footage, visit [www.ucityschools.org>ShowMeTheWorldVideo](http://www.ucityschools.org>ShowMeTheWorldVideo).

## Prop U in Progress

As Proposition U bond issue projects move from planning to execution, The School District of University City community are seeing significant benefits from their trust and investment. Several key projects began shortly after the April 2024 election, including Pershing and Jackson Park school playgrounds, a hydroponic container garden at UCHS and additional security cameras across the District. Other projects set for completion in 2025 include secured entry upgrades at multiple schools and air conditioning installation in the Flynn Park gym. As of October press time, renovations of the sports fields were still in the planning phase, pending additional input from the community. Watch for updates available online at [www.ucityschools.org/PropUinProgress](http://www.ucityschools.org/PropUinProgress).



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"



## New Agricultural Pathway Continues to Grow



Drawn to agriculture's global and community impact, University City High School (UCHS) students are strongly supporting the school's new agriculture program. Led by AP Biology instructor Pamela Lester, Ph.D., the program started with just four students, but

Now has 80 enrolled, with plans to hire additional staff.

"UCHS partners with Fresh Harvest 365 to introduce students to container gardening," Lester said. The District's new hydroponic farming system will grow food using minimal water and energy, producing the equivalent of three acres of crops. Funded partially by Proposition U bond issue funds, the system integrates smart technology, teaching students skills for careers in urban farming.

This past summer, UCHS became the first local chapter of Future Farmers of America (FFA), expanding agricultural opportunities for students. The curriculum covers livestock, soil health and sustainable food production.

Lester, a plant pathologist by training, emphasizes agriculture's broad impact, from resource management to producing essential products – and even discovering a new career pathway. She shared that with care, "You can grow almost anything in a pot—including a career."

To read more about this program and the impact on students, visit [www.ucityschools.org/AgStory](http://www.ucityschools.org/AgStory).

## Update on School Board Elections Filing Procedures

On October 17, The School District of University City (SDUC) Board of Education approved an agreement with the St. Louis Board of Election Commissioners (BEC) that takes effect in the 2025 election cycle (section 70.210 to 70.320 RSMo).

Qualified individuals may declare candidacy for the April 8 school board election in person only, during office hours at the BEC, located at 725 Northwest Plaza Drive (63074). Ballot placement will be determined by lottery.

Details regarding the new procedures are available at [www.ucityschools.org/BOE](http://www.ucityschools.org/BOE) or contact LaKesha Boyce at 314-290-4002 or [lboyce@ucityschools.org](mailto:lboyce@ucityschools.org).



# ROARS

THE VOICE OF UNIVERSITY CITY

6801 Delmar Blvd.  
University City, MO 63130

PRST STD  
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PERMIT NO. 1091



## 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	John S. Tieman	314.307.7270
	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 Sharp	314.505.8536
City Clerk: LaRette Reese	314.505.8605
Communications Manager: Jared Jones	314.505.8572
Director of Finance: Keith Cole	314.505.8542
Director of Planning and Development: John Wagner	314.505.8501
Director of Parks, Recreation and Public Areas	
Maintenance: Darin Girdler	314.505.8573
Interim Director of Public Works: Mirela Celaj	314.505.8548
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 (Severe Weather, Natural Disaster)	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