

Louisburg Speaks ^{KS}



Inside:

- Election news & notes
 - City brush dump
- Fox Hall improvements
 - Mayor's Minute
- Getting to know....

Your Community Magazine • Volume 4, Issue 4 • www.louisburgkansas.gov

Your input needed to help guide park improvements

What do you imagine the parks of Louisburg to be like in the future?

Your input is needed to assist the Louisburg Parks & Tree Board in developing a Master Parks Plan. A survey is included in this newsletter asking residents for their thoughts on future parks plans.

The Park & Tree Board, with guidance from City staff, has worked for several months in developing the plan. It

includes an overview of the four parks — City Park, Ron Weers Park, Lewis-Young Park and the Louisburg Aquatic Center — the amenities located in each of the parks and a wish list of improvements in those parks. The improvement list for the Aquatic Center was based on the pool survey that occurred last summer while the list of improvements for the other three parks were developed by the Park Board and City staff.

The board would like community input on the list of improvements and help prioritize those based on amenity without cost being an influencing factor.

Once the plan is adopted, the City Council and staff will use the document to guide budget considerations for future improvements.

Since those living outside Louisburg also use the City's Parks, those persons are welcome to fill out the survey in addition to city residents. The survey is included with this month's city utility bill and is also available on the City's website. Persons are asked to only fill out the survey once. If you participated in one of the public input sessions at either the Health Fair in May or at Freedom Fest, you are asked not to participate in this survey.

The draft Master Parks Plan is available for review on the City's website: www.louisburgkansas.gov.



LOUISBURG MASTER PARKS PLAN

—2018—

CALENDAR & REMINDERS

- Free smoke detectors are available for Louisburg's senior citizens. Call City Hall at 837-2324 to sign up. The detectors will be installed this fall.
- Louisburg citywide garage sales are the weekend of Sept. 28. The garage sale sign moratorium, which allows for the placement of garage sale signs, will be from Wednesday, Sept. 18 through Wednesday, Oct. 2.
- The Cider Run will hit Louisburg streets Oct. 5. While the event brings hundreds of runners to town there will be lots for local non-runners to enjoy including music, games for kids, food trucks and booths set up by area businesses and organizations. The event is sponsored by the Louisburg Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor

Marty Southard

msouthard@louisburgkansas.gov

Ward 1

Kalee Smith

ksmith@louisburgkansas.gov

Ward 2

Lee Baer

lbaer@louisburgkansas.gov

Ward 3

Sandy Harris

sharris@louisburgkansas.gov

Ward 4

Thorvald McKiernan

tmckiernan@louisburgkansas.gov

At-Large

Steve Town

stown@louisburgkansas.gov

City Hall

Nathan Law,

City Administrator

215 S. Broadway

Louisburg, KS 66053

913-837-5371

www.louisburgkansas.gov

Hours: 7 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Monday-Friday

Police Department

Chief Tim Bauer

209 S. Metcalf Rd.

Louisburg, KS 66053

913-837-3191

Fire Department

Chief Gerald Rittinghouse

205 S. Metcalf Rd.

Louisburg, KS 66053

913-837-4700

The City of Louisburg requires building permits. Please call the Building & Zoning Department at 913-837-5811 before beginning any construction project.

Louisburg Speaks is published six times a year by the City of Louisburg for its residents. Please direct questions or comments to: jcarder@louisburgkansas.gov

Election news & notes

Although Nov. 5 and the next election seems far away, area residents will begin to see election signs dotting the landscape in late September.

Under state legislation enacted in 2016 "no city and county shall regulate or prohibit the placement of or the number of political signs on private property or the unpaved right-of-way for city streets or county roads on private property during the 45-day period prior to any election and the two-day period following any such election. Cities and counties may regulate the size and a set-back distance for placement of signs so as not to impede sight lines or sight distance for safety reasons."

Candidate signs may go up starting Sept. 21 and must be removed by Nov. 7.

Voters in Miami County will be using new voting machines in the upcoming election. The County recently purchased the new machines that provides a paper ballot or verified paper audit trail (VPAT) that allows voters to review a paper before returning the ballot to the voting machine.

Residents can stop by the

Miami County Clerk's office at the County administration building and practice on the new machine by voting in a "my favorite things" election. The ballot includes fun questions asking you to vote on your favorite dog breed, favorite U.S. beach and a multiple choice question on how you like you to spend your spare time.

The last day to register to vote for the Nov. 5 general election is Oct. 15. Advance voting by mail and in person begins Oct. 16 and closes at noon Nov. 4.



City Communications Coordinator Jean Carder asks a Miami County election office staff member a question about the new voting machine that will be used in upcoming county elections.

Brush dump revamped, clean-up scheduled

The City's brush dump, available for City residents only and located south of the public works building on S. Rogers Road, is undergoing renovations to allow for the dumping of leaves. Currently leaves are not allowed to be dumped at the site.

An area on the south side of the entrance drive is being designated as the leaf drop-off area and will be contained with concrete bin blocks.

The brush drop-off area will remain to the back of the dump. Residents are asked to pull as far back as possible when dropping off brush and tree limbs.

The new upgrades come with new security light and cameras. The security cameras will be monitored for illegal dumping. The only items that will be allowed to be dumped after the improvements are brush, limbs and leaves. No plastic bags or construction or building material is allowed.

The City will offer a limb pick-up for residents the first two weeks of September. Residents should call City Hall at 837-2324 to get on the pick-up list.

Fox Hall to get major makeover

The look of Downtown Louisburg will be changing over the next few months as Fox Hall gets a facelift.

The City, on behalf of the Fox Hall Board, has been awarded grant funds by the First Option Bank Trusteed Foundation to make significant improvements to the community building. The funds come from the Roman Foundation and Velma Kelly Charitable Trust.

The city had previously received a grant of \$35,000 from the First Option Foundation to make some updates to the building. The new award brings the total grant funding to \$225,000. The entire project is expected to cost about \$290,000. The City will provide the additional funding.

The vision is to remove the metal siding and expose the original glazed brick, add windows if possible, reconstruct the front door/vestibule area, remove the interior paneling, rehabilitate the Terrazzo flooring, remove the ceiling tiles and expose the bow trusses, remove all the kitchen cabinetry and replace with stainless steel work surfaces, relocate the bathrooms and make them ADA compliant and install new HVAC.

The City Council was set to pick a contractor at its meeting in early August for the work based on the project's Request for Qualifications submittals.

City staff is hopeful work begins on the building in September. Persons that have rented the building will be contacted by the building manager if their rental



Louisburg's Fox Hall community building will be rehabbed with grant money from the First Option Bank Trusteed Foundation.

date will need to be canceled due to construction. Other rental options located within the City will be provided to those persons at that time.

Working together to accent the positive

Once a year I get the opportunity to address all of the city employees at an annual gathering. I always like to point out that one of the things that makes Louisburg a special place is the people who live here. One of the reasons this works is we often have the same goal of trying to improve the community and make it a better place to live. This was never more true than recently when the First Option Trusteed Foundation chose to support the Fox Hall renovation project. This is a wonderful gift, and when completed, will enable Fox Hall to become a source of pride for the community for many years to come. It shows that First Option Bank is making a significant investment in the future of our community. It is a great way to accent the positives of the city.

Social media enables patrons to instantly express their opinions about actions that city government is

taking. The comments about the Fox Hall renovation that were posted to the City's Facebook page were for the most part positive and the post generated lots of thumbs up.

Social media can be a fantastic tool to highlight the positive of our community, but unfortunately it can also be used to spread information that is not true or only partially true.

It is my hope that we can always remember that we are all in this together and as long as our goal is to make the community a better place, we can accomplish something positive.



Marty Southard

Getting to know.....

Public Works

Repairing a broken water line, pushing snow, maintaining the City's parks and soon operating the new wastewater treatment plant are just a few of the responsibilities of the City's Public Works Department.

No day is ever the same for the five-man crew, the seasonal employees or Craig Hufferd, the public works supervisor.

Summer work has focused on the usual items like replacing signs, trimming trees, working in the parks and maintaining the swimming pool.

As fall approaches the crew will be working on a leaf drop-off location at the city burn pile and readying equipment for the first snowfall.

This fall the crew will oversee the start of a multi-year sewer maintenance program. For this project there will be a camera inspection of all sewer main lines and clean those mains that

need it. The old part of town will be the focus of the first year.

There are about 15,000 feet of sewer main that will be inspected with the focus on clay tile in the original part of town, says Hufferd.

And there are always radio-read water meters to install. Crews are installing automated reading equipment in water meters across town. Almost 800 meters have been retrofitted and installed since the program began about two years ago.

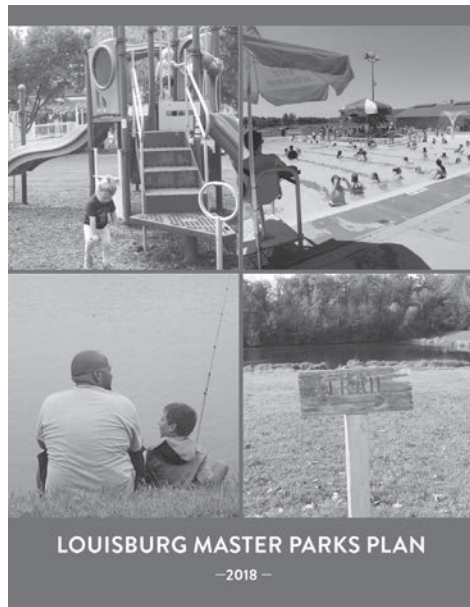
A project that started this summer and will continue through the fall has been culvert clean-out. This is occurring in parts of town where there is not curb and gutter and is part of the larger City stormwater project.

This work won't totally eliminate ditch flooding but will help keep the water moving, Hufferd said.



Left: The new Public Works truck was recently delivered. The truck, with a dump bed, will have multiple uses in the City including as a snow plow and salt spreader in the winter.

Above: Workers clean the culverts at the intersection of S. Elm and S. Seventh streets.



Help determine future improvements for City of Louisburg Parks

City Park — located in the block between S. Olive & S. Vine streets and S. Fourth & S. Fifth streets. The amenities at this traditional neighborhood park include a bandstand, play equipment, swings, tennis court, basketball goal, grill, picnic tables and a porta-potty (seasonal).

Ron Weers Park — located at the City Lake, Metcalf & S. 16th streets. This park has play equipment, shelter with restrooms (seasonal), picnic tables, grill, walking trail, fishing lake and the historic Little Round House.

Lewis-Young Park — located on Jingo Road north of N. 16th Street. This park has baseball & softball fields, soccer fields, flag football fields, concession stand & restroom (seasonal), picnic shelters, playground, fishing lake, grill and trails.

Louisburg Aquatic Center — located at Aquatic & Wildcat Drives. This outdoor pool features a zero-depth entry, spray towers, 3 slides, diving board, concession stand with tables, bathhouse and sand volleyball court.

Rank the improvements!

Please rank the top three improvements you would like to see at *each* of the four parks by putting a No. 1 next to the highest priority project, a No. 2 next to the middle priority project and a No. 3 next to the third most important project for each park.

City Park

- Picnic shelter _____
- Concrete walkways/path _____
- Park entrance/porta-potty screening/
landscaping _____

Ron Weers Park

- Trail lighting _____
- Expanded parking areas _____
- Additional play/fitness equipment _____
- Sledding area _____
- Fishing dock _____

Lewis-Young Park

- Build new baseball 4-plex _____
- Pave gravel parking/area near concession
stand _____
- Add walking/jogging trail _____
- Add play equipment/
replace old equipment _____
- Outdoor stage _____

Louisburg Aquatic Center

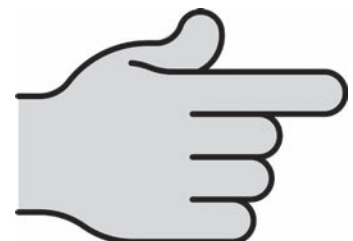
- Lazy river _____
- Expanded swim area _____
- Different slides _____
- Splash area for 6 & U _____
- Toddler pool _____

Please tell us where you live

I live _____ inside the city limits

I live _____ outside the city limits

Turn the page for more



Spend the money!

How would you spend your money on park improvements? You have five park \$\$\$\$\$. Please put a \$ on each of the top 5 improvements you would like to see among all Louisburg parks. You may split your \$\$\$\$ up however you like — all \$\$\$\$ could go on one improvement or split them among several different improvements or just put a single \$ on five different improvements.

	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
City Park					
Picnic shelter					
Concrete walkways/path					
Park entrance/porta-potty screening/landscaping					
Lewis-Young Park					
Build new baseball 4-plex					
Pave gravel parking/area near concession stand					
Add walking/jogging trail					
Add play equipment/replace old equipment					
Outdoor stage					
Ron Weers Park					
Trail lighting					
Expanded parking areas					
Additional play/fitness equipment					
Sledding area					
Fishing dock					
Louisburg Aquatic Center					
Lazy river					
Expanded swim area					
Different slides					
Splash area for 6 & U					
Toddler pool					

What's missing?

Please list any improvements you would like to see at the Parks that aren't included in this survey. Indicate how many \$ you would allocate to these project(s).

Thank you for your time!

Please return this survey with your utility bill, drop in the drop-box located next to the City Hall front doors or email to Jean at jcarder@louisburgkansas.gov.