

NEWSLETTER

S U M M E R 2 0 1 8

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

Hope you are enjoying a few lazy, hazy summer days. As you will see from the content of this newsletter, we don't take a summer break at Ladue City Hall.

I am pleased to reaffirm that our second firehouse came in under budget. Our Finance Director, Sam Zes, arranged to apply the remaining escrow funds to our lease which adjusted our amortization schedule. This results in a savings of over \$67,000 during the life of the loan. I wish to thank Chief Steven Lynn, Assistant to the Mayor/City Clerk, Laura Rider, Fire and Police Commission Chair, Bill Francis, the entire oversight committee, along with Sam for working so diligently to bring this project in on time and under budget.

Our Architectural Guidelines have undergone a review by a committee of architects, residents and staff. Ably chaired by Robbye Toft, architects Matt Wolfe, Chris Cedergreen, Fred Goebel, Kathy Williams and Diane Lochner set about to strengthen and clarify the architectural standards

in Ladue. City Planner, Andrea Sukanek, Building Clerk, Ashley Quinn, Building Commissioner, Roger Stewart and Public Works Director, Anne Lamitola provided guidance and insight. Now that the updated guidelines have been presented in a public open house, they will move to Zoning and Planning for further review and then, with Z and P's recommendation, will move on to Council for adoption.

I encourage any resident contemplating a building project to take the time to review the guidelines and the zoning ordinances with their architect and builder. The City wishes to be of help to anyone who has questions regarding the interpretation of our laws and guidelines. Please contact the Building Department with questions.

Another area of attention with regard to strengthened ordinances is the City's nuisance codes. At the June meeting, the Ladue City Council adopted stronger enforcement options for properties that are in violation of our nuisance laws. It does not happen often, but

for the sake of public safety, our property values and quality of life for neighbors, we now have greater abilities to enforce compliance. One of our greatest strengths is the beauty of our town and we must all be committed to maintaining our properties and adding to that beauty over time.

I am especially proud to announce the first printing of our New Resident Guide. It is an informative and attractive packet of information for new residents who will receive the packet from their real estate agents at their closing. We have extras at City Hall and the entire guide may be viewed online for anyone who would like to see it. Here is the link: <https://www.cityofladue-mo.gov/mm/files/20170929085552.pdf>

As always, I am around town and in my office at City Hall. Resident input is the catalyst for our maintaining high standards and I appreciate hearing from you.

Best,

Mayor Nancy Spewak

Nancy Spewak



Notification Service

The City contracts with **CodeRED** for emergency notification service.

Participants have the choice of registering for one or all categories which include emergency alerts, general alerts and weather warnings.

To learn more about the service and register use the following link

<https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/BF69D855F643>

The City's website offers "Email Notification" service. This service allows you to receive an email for the following categories:

1. City Council and Committee/Commission Meeting Agendas
2. Crime Alerts
3. Ladue Current Events

The sign up bar is located at the bottom right side of the homepage at www.cityofladue-mo.gov.



Police Department News

All the great benefits of summer are upon us. Fun events such as barbeques, pool gatherings, baseball games, and of course family vacations will occupy much of our time for the next couple months. Unfortunately, while most of us like to take a break of some sort over the summer, criminals do not. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, household property crimes tend to occur at higher rates over the summer than during other seasons. A primary reason for this is that it is common knowledge more people are away from their homes or even simply spend more time outside of their homes during the summer months. While it's difficult to prevent all crimes from occurring, we can all take preventative measures to help safeguard our homes and property.

The following are examples of safety tips that may help to keep our summer full of fun:

- Stay informed of what's happening in the neighborhood. Talk with your neighbors and share information about suspicious activity, vacations, or anything else that may be safety related.
- Contact your local post office to halt your mail service while you are away from your home or have a close friend, neighbor, or relative retrieve it for you so it does not pile up. Do the same with any newspaper delivery you subscribe to.
- Lock the doors to your home, vehicles, and keep your garage door closed. Unlocked doors and open windows contribute to most of the thefts that are reported. Even if you are simply spending time in the backyard, close and lock your front doors so that criminals do not have easy access to your home.
- Leave your lights on or place your lights on a timer to give the impression that someone is always home. Leaving porch lights or flood lights on at night also help illuminate the area and can prevent people from approaching your home.
- Do not announce on social media that you are leaving town or how long you will be away from your home. Wait until after you return to share all your vacation pictures and stories.
- Be vigilant by being aware of your surroundings. Contact the Police Department if you observe any suspicious activity.
- Sign up for our Vacation Watch list. Whether you will be away from home for a weekend or an extended period of time PLEASE notify the Police Department at 314-993-1214. While you are away, an Officer will physically check your home.

Respectfully,
Ken Andreski, Jr.
Chief of Police

IN THE BEGINNING ...

On December 1, 1936 the three villages of McKnight, Deer Creek and Ladue joined together to form the current City of Ladue. Trustees from each of the three villages were elected as the first members of the Ladue City Council. Two of their first priorities were to develop a city wide Zoning Ordinance and to develop a Comprehensive City Plan.

To develop a Comprehensive City Plan, the City Council engaged Harland Bartholomew, a city and municipal planner who had gained the reputation of being “The Dean of Comprehensive City Planning in The United States”. Bartholomew was the nations first full time city planner, and an expert in both city planning and zoning ordinances. A civil engineer by training (Rutgers University), Bartholomew was credited with creating new city planning methodologies and design concepts in conjunction with the invention of the automobile. His approach to city planning became known as “Comprehensive Planning”.

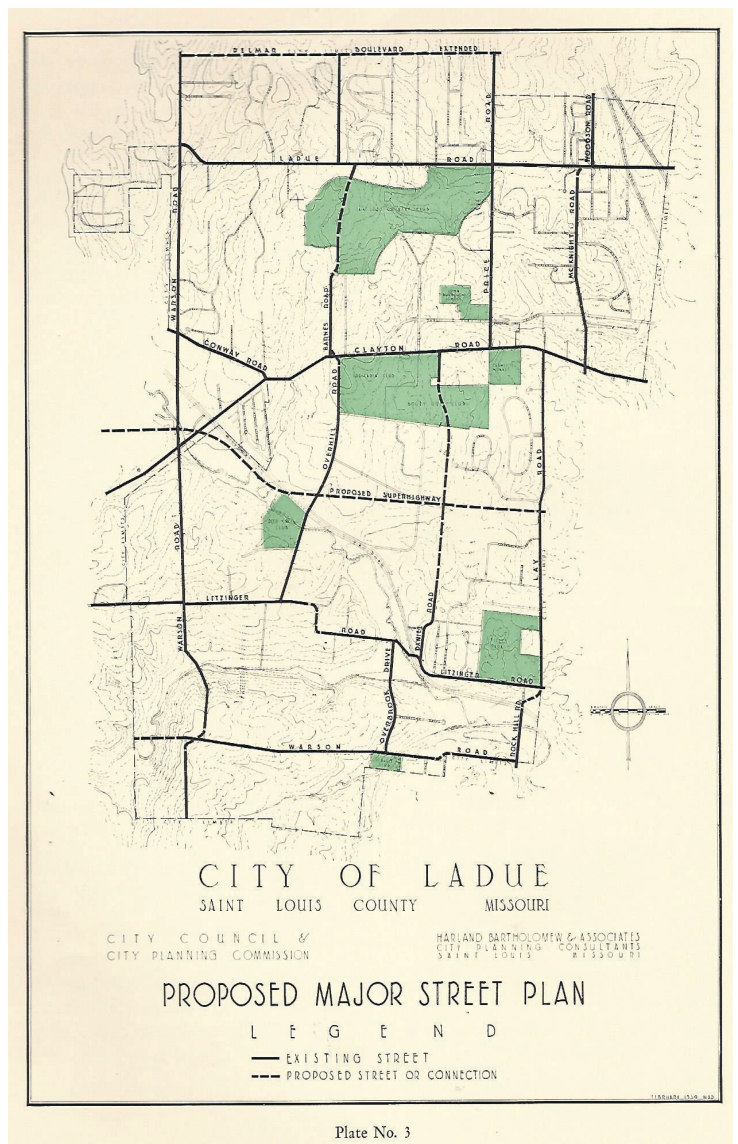


Bartholomew had developed a number of comprehensive plans prior to developing the City of Ladue Comprehensive Plan. Other cities included Newark, New Jersey (1911 – 1915), St. Louis, Missouri (1916-1920), Memphis, Tennessee (1920), Rochester, New York (1929) and San Antonio, Texas (1930).

On June 30, 1937 a formal agreement was signed between the City of Ladue and Harland Bartholomew and Associates to develop a comprehensive plan for the City of Ladue. The comprehensive plan was formally presented to the Ladue City Council in March, 1939 (A zoning ordinance for the City of Ladue had already been developed and then approved by the Ladue City Council in October, 1938). The comprehensive plan developed by Bartholomew for the City of Ladue emphasized preserving the spacious character, rolling topography and wooded country like character of Ladue. Bartholomew noted that the City of Ladue was unique to the St. Louis region in combining country like living with essential urban facilities such as schools, paved roads and public utilities. Bartholomew noted that the greatest single future challenge that would face the City of Ladue was preserving this unique heritage to insure that the City would remain one of the finest suburban residential sections in the St. Louis region.

With minor tweaks and amendments, the City of Ladue still today adheres to the original comprehensive plan developed by Harland Bartholomew in 1937. This comprehensive plan, coupled with the City of Ladue zoning code, continues to preserve the rural country like character of Ladue neighborhoods as well as the overall Ladue community. Open rolling topography, single family residential home sites and a respect for nature have made the City of Ladue one of the premier residential communities in the nation. Eighty one years after Harland Bartholomew presented his comprehensive plan to the Ladue City Council, the Ladue community continues to enjoy his vision of a residential community that combines country like living with essential urban amenities.

If you have a fun/interesting bit of Ladue history or trivia to share, or any vintage Ladue memorabilia that you would like to donate to the City of Ladue archives collection, please contact Ladue Archives Committee Chairman Charlie Hiemenz at 314-991-9176 or achiemenz@aol.com



So Many Fire Trucks...

Many residents have approached the Ladue Fire Department, asking why are there so many fire trucks on this call. The short answer is this, if you have more than one fire truck on scene, it was relayed to the dispatcher that there is a high probability of a fire. Does this mean you see the fire blowing out the roof, no! Most fires are controlled extremely quickly as most residents have excellent fire detection systems.

When there is a high probability of a fire, five fire engines, one ladder truck, two ambulances, and chief officers are notified to respond. You may be thinking this is a lot of equipment, however it is not. If a working fire presents you have two primary operations taking place simultaneously; search and fire suppression. Each of these roles require 2-3 personnel with a minimum of two teams per task. You need at least three individuals managing water supply, two teams of three on standby (by law), three chief officers, an accountability officer, and safety officer. The previously stated personnel are needed to begin an operation, if a rescue is necessary or the fire cannot be controlled quickly, it is likely that this number of personnel will double. The City of Ladue enjoys the luxury of large homes however they create unique problems for the fire department. The larger the home the harder it can be to control a fire or search for a victim.

The Ladue Fire Department administration recognizes the inconvenience the large trucks present on the streets of Ladue. However, keep in mind, that at that given time, someone is in need and we are trying to help. The Ladue Fire Department Administration releases equipment as soon as it is safe to.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Chief Steven Lynn, MPA



Fire Department

Did you know?

The City of Ladue Fire Department has been using the Knox Box system for over 30 years. Currently, there are over 400 Knox Boxes located within the City of Ladue. Each Knox Box in the City of Ladue is keyed specifically so that only the Ladue Fire Department has access. Knox Boxes are high security key safes that are trusted and supported by your local fire department. They provide first responders access to your home in emergencies when people inside are unable to open the door or are not in the house. Some great examples of when the fire department might utilize the box would be for an EMS call in which the patient is unable to get to the door or a fire alarm that sounds when nobody is home. If the fire department responds for a fire alarm that is sounding it is policy to gain entry into the structure to verify that there is no emergency. Many times, this can be through an unsecured door or window but sometimes we must force entry which results in damage. Typically, this damage ends up costing more than the cost of a Knox Box. By having a Knox Box installed it will:

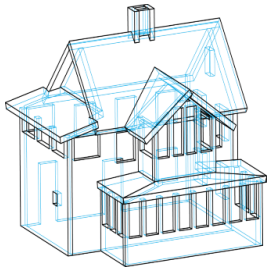
- Allow first responders to enter the home quickly
- Reduces forced entry property damage
- Make re-securing property easier and faster

Residents and owners of commercial buildings may purchase a Knox Box that is mounted at the front door or entrance to the residence or building. Keys to the building are stored inside this Knox Box. Knox Boxes are purchased online through the www.knoxbox.com website. Once the order is submitted, the fire department receives a notification from the Knox Company requesting that we approve the purchase. Once the order is approved the box is shipped directly to the homeowner. The homeowner is then responsible for the installation of the box. Once the installation is complete, the homeowner would schedule the fire department to come out to secure the keys that are provided by the homeowner in the box. There are several requirements for the installation of the boxes that MUST be adhered to:

- The Knox Box shall be located on either the right or left side of the recognized front door on the exterior of the structure and shall be immediately visible to fire personnel.
- The location shall be approved by the fire code official.
- The Knox Box shall be located at a height not less than one (1) foot or no more than six (6) feet above ground level.
- The Knox Box shall be located not more than eight (8) feet to either side of the door.

Please remember to contact the fire department any time you have a Knox Box and the locks have changed to update the keys. It doesn't happen often however, we occasionally encounter an old set of keys in the Knox Box. If you have owned a Knox Box for a few years and would like us to meet you on-site to verify that the keys are current please feel free to reach out to us. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact the fire department for answers at 314-993-0181.

Assistant Chief/Fire Marshall Jeff Johnson



In the spring of 2017 the Mayor appointed an Architectural Review Board Guidelines Committee. This group of resident professionals began working on drafting a new set of guidelines to

use during their review of construction projects in the City. Ladue's current Architectural Design Guidelines have been in place since 2007. The intent of this revision is to more clearly communicate the City's architectural goals to residents, business owners, architects and builders. The document provides background information about the City of Ladue, as well as outlining four main design concepts that are desired for the projects reviewed by the Board. In addition, the document contains details regarding preferred materials and design elements.

Pages of the document were displayed at an Open House on May 30, 2018. The document will also go through the City's formal review process to obtain input and approval from the Zoning and Planning Commission and City Council starting in June 2018. Resident input is also welcome during this process. The ARB application requirements were revised and implemented in January 2018 to further streamline the review and approval process. It is our hope that the revised documents along with a more clearly defined review process will help guide residents, business owners and design professionals when preparing a project for review. For questions or comments about the guidelines, please contact the Building Department at (314) 997-6308.

Attention Trustees

Are you a Trustee for your neighborhood association? Does the City have your current contact information? Please contact Lori Wrobel at City Hall with updated information at 314-993-3439 or lwrobel@cityofladue-mo.gov.



Summer is upon us once again, when there are more outside activities, and with these activities I would like to share some safety thoughts for an enjoyable summer. If you have a pool? Then pool safety is surely on your radar, here are some safety suggestions. For everyone controlling and diminishing your exposure to mosquitoes with the transmission of Dengue Fever, Yellow fever, West Nile virus, Chikungunya, Zika virus and encephalitis we should all be aware when walking your yard to inspect and remove any of the conditions listed. And finally, be safe with your Bar-b-que.

Sincerely,
Roger Stewart, CBO
Building Commissioner



10 Tips for kids swimming pool safety

- Never leave children unattended, not even if they can swim, not even for a few moments.
- Use a buddy system and maintain eye contact.
- Keep pool area locked and secure when not in use.
- Swim only in supervised and approved areas.
- Keep rescue equipment near the pool.
- Enroll children in swim lessons.
- Enforce water safety rules. Especially no running, pushing or dunking.
- Take all toys out of the pool when not in use so that children will not be tempted to go in after them.
- Learn CPR and other water rescue techniques.
- Never falsely claim to need help in the water.



Stop Raising Mosquitoes!!!

- Get rid of standing water, empty, remove, cover or turn upside down any receptacle that would hold water.
- Change water and scrub vases holding flowers or cuttings twice each week.
- Discard old tires or store them inside.
- Screen rain barrels and openings to water tanks or cisterns.
- Repair leaky plumbing and outside faucets.
- Clean clogged roof gutters and drain flat roofs.
- Fill holes in trees with sand or mortar, or drain or spray them, as required.
- Stock ornamental ponds with mosquito fish.
- MOSQUITOES develop in standing water in a few days it can produce a crop of mosquitoes.



Small Project Storm Water Grant Program

Did you know that the City has a Small Project Storm Water Grant Program that is available to assist Property Owners located within the City of Ladue to complete small storm water projects on their property to alleviate storm and surface water problems?

Each fiscal year a maximum of up to \$50,000 is allocated to the Fund to be used for Projects approved under the Grant Program. Reimbursement of fifty percent (50%) of eligible costs, up to a maximum of \$25,000 per project, to design, review, install, and inspect a City-approved storm water project is possible under the Grant Program. The minimum Project cost is \$5000 with a City match of \$2500.

To date only one fully developed application has been submitted to the Program. It addresses frequent yard flooding, yard erosion, structure flooding and roadway flooding at one specific property. The improvements include the removal of invasive honeysuckle, the construction of an earthen berm to block and re-direct runoff to a piped subdrainage/infiltration system that collects and conveys discharge in a controlled manner to an existing cross-road culvert. Restoration includes “river rock” cobbles for erosion protection and to enhance infiltration, and indigenous water compatible plantings. An irrigation system to maintain water compatible plantings during drought periods is also included.

This project is a great example of localized improvements that can be made to alleviate a chronic problem. Any sustainable improvement ranging from a rain garden to the installation of conveyance piping may be eligible if it results in a material improvement to the impact of storm and surface water for the Property Owner.

Go to the Public Works website at <https://www.cityofladue-mo.gov/departments/public-works-department-214> for program eligibility information and an application form, or call Public Works at 314-993-5665.

Public Works Update

Lay Road Improvements

Improvements to Lay Road between Clayton & McKnight began in March and construction will soon be complete. The project includes the installation of sidewalk on the west side of the road, new vertical curb on the west side of the road, landscaping in areas impacted by the project, and milling and overlaying the asphalt pavement. Concrete vertical curb will be installed as well as block walls where warranted and tree and shrub installation. These improvements are scheduled to be completed by Fall 2018.

2018 Microsurfacing

Microsurfacing, a latex modified slurry seal, will be applied to Warson Road from Clayton Road to Old Warson Road, on Des Peres from Old Warson to Hudson, and in the Clayton Road Park subdivision. The bids for the project were due on June 19, 2018. The contractor will be given 60 days to complete the project. The work on Warson and Des Peres will take place overnight and the work in the Clayton Road Park subdivision will take place during the day. Pavement markings (striping) will be completed after completion of the micro-surfacing application.

Storm Water five-year implementation plan update

Over the last several years, the City has evaluated the storm water needs within the community and developed a Storm Water Master Plan that includes 55 projects that are estimated to exceed \$100 Million in costs. City Council approved a five-year implementation plan in July 2017 that funds the five highest ranked projects. 100% of the required Letters of Intent from all impacted property owners have been submitted from the five highest ranked projects. Then the City pre-qualified engineering consultants will prepare the plans, specifications, and cost estimates for the various top-ranking projects. Scoping meetings have taken place for the top five projects with Professional Service Agreements anticipated to be approved by the City Council in the Summer of 2018. The engineering design of the top five ranked projects is beginning this summer with construction on the smaller projects targeted to begin in early 2019.

The top five projects are:

- Willow Hill – Reroute Along Road (infrastructure)
- Robin Hill Lane/McKnight Lane Bank Stabilization (stream bank stabilization)
- Deerfield/Wakefield storm sewer improvements
- South Tealbrook Drive storm sewer improvements
- Babler Lane storm sewer improvements

For additional information about the City's Public Works Department, please visit the Public Works page of the website at: <http://www.cityofladue-mo.gov/>



One of the defining characteristics of Ladue, according to the City's Comprehensive Plan is "spacious residential character." To



preserve this valued characteristic, the City of Ladue has established minimum green space percentages for properties in the City to help preserve mature trees and encourage extensive vegetation. The minimum green percentage is based on zoning district and ranges from 40% for smaller lots to 80% for larger lots. In addition to contributing aesthetically toward the beautiful, green landscape that is desired by the community, these green spaces provide the additional benefit of ensuring that each property contains areas where rainwater can soak into the ground. Paved surfaces are generally impervious to rainwater and can contribute to flooding if rainwater is not managed carefully.

Some types of paving allow water to soak into the ground and are encouraged in order to mitigate stormwater problems. There are three specific types of pavement that the City encourages by providing partial green space credit for these surfaces.

One of the options is grass pavers, which is given a credit of 50% green space. This generally involves the installation of a grid system, which is filled with soil and planted with grass or other groundcover. The framework allows the ground to support vehicle traffic and maintains the permeability of the surface. This could allow an entire driveway to look like grass!

Another option is gravel pavers, for a green space credit of 25%. Regular gravel gets compacted, develops ruts, and can migrate away from the desired location. Similar to grass pavers, gravel pavers provide a framework to support the gravel. The framework provides support to keep the gravel in place and prevents compaction.

A third option, which provides a 25% green space credit, is permeable pavers. There are a multitude of options for permeable pavers, but all such surfaces should be designed with openings between the pavers that contain a permeable material that allows for the drainage of stormwater. Drainage openings should comprise at least 10% of the surface area in order to qualify for a green space credit.

Please consult the Ladue Building Department if you are considering installing additional pavement on your property. We would be happy to work with you to help find a solution that will meet your needs and comply with the City's minimum green space percentages.

The Emerald Ash Borer is an invasive insect that has been found in the St. Louis area. The adult beetles feed on the tree's foliage only causing minor damage, but the larvae feed on the inner bark disrupting the trees ability to transport nutrients and water. The signs of infestation are D- shaped holes that the adults leave behind as they exit the inner bark, and heavy woodpecker activity, as woodpeckers like to eat the larvae.

Once an ash tree dies from an Emerald Ash Borer infestation it becomes extremely dry and brittle. Once this happens tree companies will either charge much more to remove a tree or will refuse to remove it because it is too dangerous. The consensus among arborists is to have a professional tree company treat large healthy ash trees with soil and trunk injections to target Emerald Ash Borer larvae or remove ash trees before they become infested.



The City has taken an inventory of ash trees located on City property and will be proactively removing them in years to come as budget allows. Ash trees located in highly visible or public areas shall be replaced with a different type of tree.

New Chicken Ordinance

The Ladue City Council recently approved an Ordinance that allows the keeping of chickens in Ladue with a permit. The Ladue community values green landscapes and open space and recognizes that the keeping of chickens is perfectly appropriate in our City. Residents with larger properties are able to keep up to 6 chickens, with the exception of crowing birds. Roosters and crowing hens are a bit too noisy in Ladue's quiet residential areas.

The City is also aware that chickens could potentially become a nuisance if not carefully managed, especially in higher density neighborhoods with smaller lot sizes. The appropriate number of chickens on a property will be determined during the permit process based on the amount of green space available. Setbacks and screening are required as part of the chicken permit and are designed to protect neighbors and prevent potential neighborhood discord.

Please contact the Ladue Building Department if you are considering keeping chickens on your property in Ladue. We will provide you with application materials and information regarding how to comply with the new Ordinance. Whether for fresh eggs, compost, or companionship, we understand that keeping chickens can be an enjoyable hobby. We look forward to helping you through our new chicken permit process!

City of Ladue
9345 Clayton Road
St. Louis County, MO 63124

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City Council Members

WARD 1 STACEY KAMPS AND JOHN HOWELL

WARD 2 JOHN FOX AND PATRICK HENSLEY

WARD 3 HAL BURROUGHS AND BILL BRENNAN

(CONTACT INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON THE CITY
WEBSITE, www.cityofladue-mo.gov)



City Directory

MAYOR	314-993-3439 ext. 245
ADMINISTRATION	314-993-3439
BUILDING	314-997-6308
MUNICIPAL COURT	314-993-3919
PUBLIC WORKS	314-993-5665
PUBLIC WORKS – FAX	314-994-3195
POLICE (non-emergency)	314-993-1214
FIRE (non-emergency)	314-993-0181
FIRE – FAX	314-993-0412
FAX (all other departments)	314-993-5652
Website	www.cityofladue-mo.gov
E-MAIL	lrider@cityofladue-mo.gov nspewak@cityofladue-mo.gov