LADUE STATE OF LADUE

As your Mayor, it is my pleasure to hear from many of you from time to time. An important part of my role in serving you is to stand as an advocate for residents and the City of Ladue. It is my vision to deliver on that promise through my own actions, and those of your City Council members and the City Staff who so ably carries this out on a day to day basis.

I receive many emails from different "list" companies. Emails that proclaim our City is top ten in any number of areas-best place to live, work, retire based on city services, low crime, beautiful surroundings, and whatever other criteria they see fit to include. While I recognize that this is a marketing strategy for the "list" company, not the City, it is nice to see these positive recognitions and know that the data supports our reputation as a first-class municipality in the region.

We constantly challenge ourselves to examine and improve in areas where we may lack and to continue the many high-quality services we provide. So, what are we doing to insure that we remain a town that others look to as a gold standard and that we take pride in being residents?

The annual budget process is an opportunity for staff

SPRING 2020

and Council to evaluate current programs, to prioritize projects and set goals.

Your Ladue Police Department is focusing on crime prevention and the accreditation process. City Council approved an additional Patrol Officer position and Chief Andreski is working along with his officers to insure that we are visible in our neighborhoods and on continuous patrols. Please watch for public meetings in early spring to address crime prevention. Our officers are highly trained, and our detectives are effective in getting those who commit crimes in Ladue off our streets.

The Department of Public Works responded to citizen feedback and will now pick up brush in October in addition to one leaf collection that month. Our Comprehensive Plan Review is well under way. This plan is the vision for our City and it will provide the basis for maintaining our strict zoning codes while responding to modern day resident needs and desires.

Please watch for an email blast with a link to the citywide survey soliciting your opinions on all things Ladue. My hope is that each of you will fill out a survey. We have copies at City Hall if you prefer paper. Please help us shape the future of Ladue!

The Finance Department is currently training on new, state of the art, financial software that will allow us to better serve you in many ways. They are working towards the spring audit and will report those findings in June to the City Council.

Your Ladue Fire Department is continuously training on the latest equipment and methods to provide you with the highest level of EMT and Fire Service. Our crews are highly professional, trained to the highest levels and, kind to those in distress. I hope you don't need them, but if you do, you are in good hands.

The City Council voted to place Prop A Use Tax on the April ballot. Please take a moment to understand what this sales-based tax on internet purchases entails. There is information inside this newsletter.

As always, call or stop by to see me and SHOP LADUE!

Mayor Nancy Spewak

Honeysuckle Hacks and Facts



The City of Ladue is working with the BOSTA Committee to organize educational forums regarding invasive species like honeysuckle. In addition, annual Honeysuckle Hacks began last year, with one at Rodes park and one at our proposed new trail at Edie's mulch site. These community events are being organized all over St.

Louis – 80 honeysuckle sweeps were held last year - as citizens recognize the huge threat to our woodlands, birds and insects posed by invasive Bush Honeysuckle.

Did you know that Bush Honeysuckle:

- Chokes out habitat for butterflies and birds, which depend upon berries and leaves of native plants for survival.
- Destroys our forests: Honeysuckle crowds out seedlings and understory trees. As mature trees die, they have no replacements.
- Increases tick populations and illness due to higher deer concentrations.
- Increases survival of mosquito larvae due to changes in water chemistry.
- Prevents us from enjoying our woodlands and stream banks.

As you begin planning for your yard's spring clean-up and planting, please put honeysuckle removal on your list! There are many beautiful, native alternatives such as redbuds, dogwoods, and beauty berry.

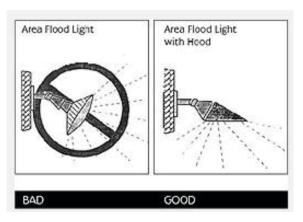
For more information about educational and community events in Ladue, email the Public Works Department at: publicworks@cityofladuemo.gov or check out the City's website at www. cityofladue-mo.gov.

For more information about how to remove honeysuckle, what to replace it with, and St. Louis wide events, go to: BiodiverseCity St. Louis, or contact Allison Brown – abrown@mobot.org (314) 577-9473 x 76312.

Outdoor lighting (and being a good neighbor)

Outdoor residential lighting can accentuate the beauty of your home and landscaping during the nighttime hours. Illumination of driveways, walkways, and patios allows for extended safe use of these areas into the evening. In addition, although statistics show that most residential burglaries happen during the day, security lighting at night is generally thought to deter crime. But what happens when your desire to illuminate your property at night conflicts with your neighbor's wish to sleep in a dark bedroom? Ladue's night lighting ordinance can help navigate these types of issues to avoid disputes between neighbors.

One of the basic rules of the City's Lighting Ordinance is that light fixtures should not be directed onto neighboring properties. It is generally best for lights to be shielded or directed downward. Shields can be purchased for existing floodlights to direct the light downward instead of out



toward
adjacent
properties.
Fixtures that
are directed
outward
can cause
unwanted
light on a
neighbor's
property,
known as

light trespass, and may also result in glare. Rather than improving safety and security, glare can actually reduce visibility as well as cause visual discomfort. Since visual discomfort is, literally, in the eye of the beholder, the City has established a specific measurable limit on the amount of light that may spill over onto a residential property – 0.1 footcandle. Even if you do not have a light meter handy, there is, indeed, an app for that. Though your smart phone app may not be as accurate as the measurement from a professional light meter, taking a light measurement with your smart phone will likely give you a pretty good idea of whether your lights are in compliance with the City's Ordinance.

As long as your light fixtures do not create more than 0.1 footcandle of light trespass and are not directed onto neighboring property, other lighting details are up to each property owner, except that freestanding residential light poles should not exceed 12 feet, and lighting of sport courts on residential properties is prohibited. Please contact the Ladue Building Department at 314-997-6308 if you have additional questions regarding outdoor lighting.

What is a local use tax and how will it be used? Vote April 7

What is Proposition A?

Ladue residents will have an opportunity to vote on Proposition A on the April 7, 2020 ballot. If passed, Prop A would approve a "use tax" on the purchase of goods from out-of-state vendors.

What is a local use tax?

A local use tax is a tax placed on goods purchased out of state for delivery to Ladue. A purchase will never be subject to both a use tax and a sales tax. To keep things simple, the State of Missouri mandates the local use tax be applied at the same rate as the City of Ladue's sales tax, currently 1.25%. The use tax would go up or down with the sales tax rate.

How is a use tax different from a sales tax?

Local sales tax is collected from brick and mortar retail stores. If passed, the use tax will be applied to purchases made from out-of-state vendors that ship to Ladue customers. Currently, out-of-state and online businesses do not collect local sales tax. Many Missouri cities already have a use tax including Clayton, Des Peres, Frontenac, Glendale, Kirkwood, Olivette, Richmond Heights and University City.

Will my taxes be going up?

The use tax is not a "double tax." The local use tax applies only on transactions where no sales tax has already been applied. If you paid tax when you made the purchase, you don't pay it a second time.

Will I have to self-report my online purchases?

The State of Missouri already imposes a statewide use tax. This means consumers and businesses, including those in Ladue, must currently self-report more than \$2,000 worth of purchases from out-of-state vendors (that don't collect the use tax). The passage of the local use tax does not change the self-report requirement. In other words, residents who don't currently self-report will not suddenly need to self-report if Prop A passes.

How much revenue will the use tax generate?

The State of Missouri estimates the City of Ladue would collect an additional \$55,000 per year if the use tax is approved by voters.

What is the purpose of a use tax and how would it be used?

The use tax provides a source of local funding and is designed to level the playing field for local businesses, which may otherwise be at an unfair competitive disadvantage to out-of-state businesses when local taxes are avoided.

Funding for basic services provided by the City of Ladue including street maintenance as well as police and fire protection rely heavily on revenues from property taxes, sales taxes, and franchise fees from cable and utilities. The City of Ladue has not raised property taxes since 2003 and the City's revenue from local sales tax has declined by approximately 10.5% since 2015. The use tax will help fund City services including street maintenance, police, and fire protection.

The question, in substantially the form of Proposition A, will appear on the April 7th ballot.

PROPOSITION A

Shall the municipality be authorized to impose a local use tax at the same rate as the local sales tax by a vote of the governing body, provided that if any local sales tax is repealed, reduced or raised by voter approval, the respective local use tax shall also be repealed, reduced or raised by the same action? A use tax return shall not be required to be filed by persons whose purchases from out-of-state vendors do not in total exceed two thousand dollars in any calendar year.

- The use tax will not increase the sales tax
- Purchasers will not pay a double tax
- Purchasers pay either sales tax or use tax never both on the same purchase

REMEMBER TO VOTE AT THE APRIL 7TH ELECTION

A brief informational meeting will be held on Monday, March 30th at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

PAID FOR BY: City of Ladue Laura Rider, Assistant to the Mayor/City Clerk 9345 Clayton Road, Ladue, MO 63124

Municipal Election Day - April 7, 2020

Ballots will include candidates for the office of Council Member and a question regarding a local use tax in the form of Proposition A. Please see the use tax article in this newsletter for more information.

The incumbents for re-election are:

Stacev Kamps – Ward 1

Patrick W. Hensley – Ward 2

Harold R. Burroughs - Ward 3

Important Dates:

• February 25 Absentee opens

March 11 Last day to register to vote

• March 25 Last day (5:00 p.m.) absentee applications will be accepted by mail or in person

from a guardian or relative of the applicant $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left$

• March 27 Last day to file as a write-in candidate, write-in candidates must file at the St.

County Election Board at 725 Northwest Plaza, St. Ann, by 5:00 p.m.

 April 4 Election Board office open (times vary, check with the Election Board) for absentee voting

• April 6 Last day (5:00 p.m.) for voting an absentee ballot in person at the Election Board

office

• April 7 Election Day - Polls open from 6:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

St. Louis County Election Board

314-615-1800

https://www.stlouisco.com/yourgovernment/ElectionBoard

Police Department News

Over the past three years, the Ladue Police Department has been working toward State Accreditation through the Missouri Police Chief's Association. This is an important step for our department and City as it helps enhance our well-established practices and procedures, while continuing to strengthen our great relationship with the community we serve.

Our department routinely exceeds the minimum policing standards as set forth by the St. Louis Area Police Chief's Association (SLAPCA) and the Missouri Municipal League (MML) in St. Louis County.

However, this process has created greater accountability within our agency and has helped launch the next generation of policing in Ladue.

The Missouri Police Chief's Association accreditation program was created to establish a cost-effective way to improve and enhance law enforcement as a profession in our state. The standards of the program were developed to reflect both current law enforcement trends as well as modern policing methods and are considered some of the most demanding of any accreditation program. At this time, the program is voluntary and open to all agencies in the State, but there is discussion of making accreditation mandatory as a way of establishing standards for police departments of any size.

The Missouri Police Chief's Association accreditation program contains over two-hundred standards that require an agency to develop a comprehensive set of written directives. These directives are established to help departments reach their administrative and operational goals, while providing outstanding service to the community. It also allows agencies to demonstrate their commitment to excellence in law enforcement by conducting systematic reviews and assessments of not only their agency's policies and procedures, but also the actions taken by law enforcement professionals.

Accreditation will benefit the Ladue Police Department, its employees, the citizens of Ladue, and the St. Louis area by improving operations in the department and integrating the department into a community organization where professionalism and accountability create a partnership with the community. Our goal is to complete our agency's first state accreditation audit later this year.

Comprehensive Plan Update:

Community Survey Available Now!

An update to Ladue's Comprehensive Plan is well underway. Through the fall and winter, the project team conducted many conversations with community leaders and held initial meetings with a mayor-appointed Community Advisory Committee. The purpose of these meetings has been to understand current issues and opportunities in Ladue from various perspectives.

Continuing this effort, broad public input began in February with a community survey available online and on paper, and a public workshop held on March 2. All are encouraged to take the community survey which will remain open through the end of March. Visit https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ LadueCompPlan to complete the survey online. Paper copies are available at City Hall, 9345 Clayton Road.

The next phase of the comprehensive planning process will consider strategies for future success and includes a second public workshop to be held later this year. Following completion of the Comprehensive Plan, city staff and elected officials will prepare a 5-year strategic plan to guide city operations during the first five years of Plan implementation.

To learn more and share your ideas, visit the Plan's website, www.laduecompplan.com.

What is a comprehensive plan?

A comprehensive planning process determines community goals and aspirations—and develops strategies to achieve those goals—over a 15 to 20-year timeframe. The outcome of this process is a Comprehensive Plan (an official term recognized in state statute) which will guide public policy in terms of transportation, utilities, land use, recreation and housing.

Public Works Update

The Public Works Department is busy getting ready for this year's construction projects. Currently, there are two projects out for bid with construction scheduled for late spring:

- ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Sidewalk replacement on Clayton Road west of Warson Road
- Asphalt pavement overlays on Kortwright, Gilbert, Clayton Road Business District Alleys, and the shoulder of McKnight Road between Lindworth and Litzsinger

Later this year, the City plans to Microsurface Clayton Road. Microsurfacing is a latex modified slurry seal and this year will be the fifth year that the City has been microsurfacing City streets. In order to prepare the pavement for the microsurfacing application, the Public Works crews are busy sealing the cracks in the pavement and will perform some asphalt patching as well.

The City applied for Federal Funds in February 2020 for two projects and will learn in the Summer of 2020 as to whether or not the projects will be funded. Those two projects are:

- Intersection improvements to Conway & Warson to include signalization of the intersection and the addition of left turn lanes on both northbound and southbound Warson at the intersection. This project developed after the traffic study that was conducted in 2019. The study was conducted in response to the congestion at this intersection which functions at a Level of Service F (the lowest service level) during the morning and afternoon peak hour, as well as during school dismissal time.
- Concrete sidewalk installation on Clayton Road between Price Road and McKnight Road. Currently in this location there is a deteriorated asphalt pathway that does not meet ADA standards. This project will include removal of that asphalt path and replacement with wider concrete sidewalks with ADA compliant ramps.

This Spring, the City will also hire an engineering consultant to begin the design of the Dielman Road improvements which will include sidewalk installation on the west side of the road, minor drainage improvements, and pavement rehabilitation.

The Public Works Department continues to coordinate with MSD and their contractors who are working on the Deer Creek Sanitary Sewer replacement project that traverses the City. One of the properties that is impacted is 9810 S. 40 Drive, Edie's 'Mulch' Site, which has been slated for a trail to connect neighbors to our business district. In order to construct the trail, the City will seek funding opportunities through the Municipal League who funded the majority of the 2019 study and Master Plan for the property.

Public Works crews have been busy working on pothole patching, crack sealing, leaf collection, and snow removal. The monthly citywide brush collection program resumed March 2, 2020 and postcards were mailed with your schedule.

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/ or call us at (314) 993-5665.

~ 2020 ~



Spring Leaf Collection Schedule - No bagged leaves will be collected.

Week of April 20	5B	3C	2B
Week of April 20	5A	3B	5C
Week of April 27	4B	1A	3A
Week of April 27	1B	4A	2A

- No grass, hedge, lawn clippings or sweet gum balls will be collected.
- Leaves should not be placed out for collection more than 10 days in advance.

Brush Collection Schedule

Section 1 & 3:	Section 2 & 4:	
2B, 4A, 4B and 1A, 2A, 3A	1B, 3B, 3C and 5A, 5B, 5C	
week of	week of	
March 2	March 9	
April 6	April 13	
May 4	May 11	
June 1	June 8	
July 6	July 13	
Aug. 3	Aug. 10	
Sept. 7	Sept. 14	
Oct. 5	Oct.12	

- -To guarantee pick-up, have brush or leaves out no later than 7:00 am on Monday of your scheduled week.
- -Not all sections will be picked up on Monday, collection will happen throughout your scheduled week.
- -Brush may be up to 10" in diameter and 10' in length. Larger diameter wood must be a minimum of 6' in length (no firewood lengths).
- Hedge trimmings, stumps, roots and dirt balls are not accepted.
- Brush should be stacked parallel to the road and back edge of pile should be no further than 3' from road.
- Please do not mix leaves and brush together. Items mixed together will not be picked up until they are separated.

You can always find the schedule and collection details on our website www.cityofladue-mo.gov Also available in alternative format (e.g. large print, Braille) by request.

Fire Department News

Child Passenger Safety

Interested in getting your car seat checked by a Child Passenger Safety Technician? Individual car seat checks are conducted free of charge at Ladue Fire Department by appointment. If you would like assistance from a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician to ensure that your seat is installed properly, please call 314-993-0181 to schedule an appointment. Although we make every attempt to uphold the appointment, emergency calls will take precedence. If you arrive for your appointment and no one answers, please give us a call to reschedule.

Please read the vehicle and car seat instruction manuals to help you with the installation. If you are having even the slightest trouble, questions or concerns, don't worry about a thing. Certified child passenger safety technicians are waiting to help or even double check your work. Here are a few facts and safety tips to help.

CAR SEAT SAFETY TIPS

The best way to keep your child safe in the car is to use the right car seat in the right way. Here are some car seat safety tips to protect your most precious cargo.

Hard Facts about Safety in Cars

- Road injuries are the leading cause of preventable deaths and injuries to children in the United States.
- Correctly used child safety seats can reduce the risk of death by as much as 71 percent.
- More than half of car seats are not used or installed correctly.

Top Tips about Car Seat Safety

- 1. *Buying the right car seat.* Your baby needs to ride in a rearfacing car seat as long as possible until 2 or more years. When your child has outgrown that seat, you are ready for a forward-facing car seat.
- **Rear-facing car seat** This is your baby's first car seat, often used from 5 to 40 pounds.
- Forward-Facing car seat After age two and when a child outgrows a rear-facing car seat by weight or height, move them to a forward-facing car seat with a harness and use the top tether.
- Booster Seat Once your child has outgrown the forward-facing seat with a harness, move them to a booster seat. It raises the child so the car's adult lap and shoulder belt fits over your child correctly.
- 2. *Installing your car seat.* You'll need to decide on using either the seat belt or lower anchors to secure your car seat. Both are safe, but don't use them both at the same time. Once your child is forward facing, it is important to use the tether with the seat belt or lower anchors. More tips:

- Go to a Checkup Event By appointment Ladue Fire Department
- Find an Expert City of Ladue Fire Department 314-993-0181
- Proper installation Many individuals chose to self-install.
 Please read the owner's manual for proper installation and use.
- Proper Placement The back seat is the best; it is the safest place for a child under the age of 13.
- 3. *Getting the right fit.* A properly-fitted harness gives the best possible protection for your child. Here are more details about getting the right fit for your child.
- About the Harness A properly-fitted 5-point harness gives the best possible protection for your child. A 5-point harness has straps that go over both shoulders and both hips and then buckles at the crotch. Check the label, it will tell you the weight and height range of the harness. Check regularly to make sure your child hasn't outgrown it. The harness changes over time. Once your child outgrows the 5-point harness, the adult seat belt is used with the belt positioning booster seat.
- Use the Correct Harness Slots Rear-facing seats the shoulder straps should come through the car seat at or below your child's shoulders. Forward-facing seats The shoulder straps should be at or above your child's shoulders.
- Use the Correct Harness and Belt Placement Car seat Use a 5-point harness for your child for as long as your child meets the weight or height limits of the car seat. A 5-point harness provides more protection than a seat belt used with a booster seat or a seat belt alone. Belt Positioning Booster seat After your child has outgrown the car seat harness, move to a booster seat.
- Get a Snug Fit Do the Pinch Test. Make sure your harness is snug enough by doing the Pinch Test. After you buckle and tighten the harness, pinch the harness at the shoulder. If the harness is snug, your fingers will slide off the webbing. If the harness is loose, you will be able to pinch the webbing between your fingers. A loose harness is a common mistake and is not safe. Check out the link below for a video of the pinch test. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=44HT8pr djHg&feature=youtu.be Winter coat in the car Wearing bulky clothes or winter coats can prevent a snug fit of the harness. You might think your child is securely snug in the seat when in fact the harness is not tight because there is so much air in the jacket. Adjust the harness while your child's coat is off, then put the coat back on and rebuckle. The harness may be tight, but it will fit properly.
- 4. When to change your car seat. Look on the car seat label to make sure your child is still within the weight, height and age limits for that seat. Get details about when to change your car seat.
- **Don't be in a rush** Use your current car seat until your child reaches the maximum weight or height limit listed on the label. Don't be in a hurry, because every step

Fire Department News

continued from page 6

forward reduces safety just a bit. Why? If you are in a frontend crash (the most common type of crash) a rear-facing car seat allows your child's head, neck and spine to move evenly into the seat, not away from it. Each seat is designed for maximum safety at a specific weight, height and age.

- Rear-facing car seats Ride rear-facing until your child is 2 or more years and has outgrown the harness by height or weight. As your child grows you might have to switch from using a smaller rear-facing-only car seat to using a bigger rear-facing convertible car seat that can hold a larger child.
- Forward-facing car seats After your child reaches the
 weight or height limit for
 rear-facing, you will then turn
 the convertible seat forwardfacing, or use a forward-facing
 only car seat with a 5-point
 harness and top tether. Your
 child may need a forwardfacing car seat with a harness
 that has a higher weight or
 height limit before moving to a
 booster seat.
- Booster Seats After your child gets too big for the weight or height limits of the forward-facing car seat, use a belt-positioning booster seat with the vehicle lap and shoulder seat belt.

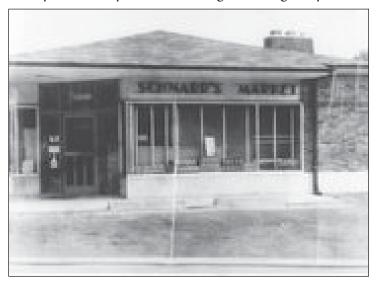
The Ladue Fire Department is here to help in any way we can. For more information regarding Child Passenger Safety – Car Seats Do's and Don'ts, please visit www. safekids.org. Also, please feel free to contact Ladue Fire Department with any need: slynn@cityofladuemo.gov or 314-993-0181

Archives

SCHNARR'S ... LADUE'S OLDEST BUSINESS

Schnarr's Hardware has been known for decades to many Ladue residents as THE place to go for hardware/household items, repairs, advice and as a welcoming place to bump into friends and neighbors. However, Schnarr's has only been a hardware company since the early 1960's. Its early roots in Ladue go back to the early 1900's when the Schnarr family owned and operated the Clayton Road Garage (located at 9889 Clayton Road where Janet McAfee stands today). The Clayton Road Garage was originally a

wagon repair shop that, with the introduction of the automobile, evolved into an automobile gas station and repair garage. The Schnarr family eventually closed the gas station and repair garage and then opened Schnarr's Market (located at 9645)



Clayton Road, where Central Bank of St. Louis stands today). The family later relocated the market to 9800 Clayton Road and, in the early 1960's, transitioned into a full-service hardware store. In 1974 current owner, Frank Blair, went to work at Schnarr's, purchasing the business from the Schnarr family in 1995. (LADUE TRIVIA: Frank Blair's father, Floyd Blair, served as a member of the City of Ladue Fire Department from 4/16/1954 to 1/9/1992 and was the Ladue Fire Chief from 5/1/1989 to 1/9/1992).

According to Blair, Schnarr's differentiates itself in a number of ways from the "Big Box" hardware companies. Schnarr's staff tries to simplify things that our customers find difficult to solve. They are trained to listen to our customers. They are encouraged to have a visible presence on the store floor to greet customers, answer questions and assist in product selection. Schnarr's also offers a number of services beyond their product offerings (which include 30,000 items stocked in the Ladue store and 65,000 items available to customers through the Do it Best website). Finally, Blair emphasized that community service has always been key to the culture at Schnarr's.

Blair believes that Schnarr's mirrors the Ladue community in many ways, saying that "We are a stable business in a stable community. One gets a real sense of that small-town community feel in a small hardware store". And the future for Schnarr's Hardware? Frank's daughters, Melissa and Stephanie, are now involved with the day to day running of Schnarr's and occasionally a grandchild will stop by to check the popcorn for freshness.

City of Ladue

9345 Clayton Road St. Louis County, MO 63124 PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID ST. LOUIS, MO PERMIT #2710

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.go