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CITY HALL | 10555 Clayton Rd. | Frontenac, MO 63131 | 314.994.3200

## Message from Mayor Hatfield



Dear Neighbors,

I am so happy to see people out and about again, and my heart is warmed by hugs from family and friends.

As challenging as these past 15 months have been since the pandemic emerged,

I am grateful for the newfound appreciation I and so many people have for the simple things in life such as family, friends and a great Frontenac community.

A special thanks to so many residents for your support of the City and local businesses as we worked to continue operating during an unprecedented time. I'm so proud of the way we all worked together to overcome challenges the City is facing to establish a better normal Frontenac.

In this newsletter, we work to summarize the fiscal year and plans for our collective future. Despite obstacles, we achieved steps that increased the desirability of Frontenac while maintaining and improving efficiency, transparency, integrity, our constituent-focus and superior service delivery.

In 2020, the City established the Strategic Plan with priorities focused on identifying and addressing opportunities to improve efficiencies and enhancing service delivery. Defined actions resulted in a positive impact on the bottom line, such as recovering missing tax revenue and improving processes in reviewing and issuing permits. The Ways and Means Committee and Board of Aldermen have continued to study the City's financial health and create opportunities to reduce expenses and adapt to the lower sales tax revenue and the increasing expenses necessary to sustain high-quality services.

While no one likes the idea of higher taxes, the City has experienced a serious reduction in revenue and

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## City Property Tax on August 3 Ballot

### INCREASE PROPOSED TO MAINTAIN POLICE, FIRE, EMS, AND OTHER ESSENTIAL SERVICES

Quality police, fire and emergency medical services (EMS) are the most critical services cities provide, as these services mean life or death for families and loved ones. Certainly, a first-class city like Frontenac provides a lot more than that, but when it comes down to what residents value most – it's public safety.

The cost of goods and services has risen exponentially since 1992, which is the last time the residents of Frontenac approved a property tax increase. After 29 years of cost-effective city management, the Board of Aldermen are proposing an increase in the property tax rate to pay for municipal services for the health, safety, and welfare of Frontenac citizens.

Like other municipalities, the City of Frontenac is a service provider to its residents. Personnel expenditures make up the majority (86%) of Frontenac's operating expenditures, and police, fire, and EMS specifically make up the overwhelming majority of the personnel budget.

Despite high efficiency in operations and a number of budget controls in recent years, including freezing salaries, reducing benefits and delaying needed capital expenditures, current revenues are not sustaining the costs for public safety and street maintenance. While the City reserves have been able to cover expenses to date, the rate of decline in the City reserve revenues through COVID and with increasing personnel expenses is not sustainable.

On August 3, 2021, Frontenac residents will vote on Proposition A, which includes increased costs associated with operating a local police department, operating a local fire department, building department, public works department and other services for the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Frontenac.

### WHY IS PROPOSITION A NECESSARY RIGHT NOW?

#### Frontenac needs a diversified revenue base.

Unlike most neighboring cities, Frontenac is fortunate to have a strong commercial revenue base that produces 60% of the City's income. In a typical year, most of the City's revenues are generated from sales tax with over 70% of total sales tax coming from Plaza Frontenac alone. In the age of online shopping, traditional brick and mortar retail is not nearly as robust as it once was. Sales tax revenue is also prone to wide fluctuations depending on the state of the economy. During the COVID pandemic health department ordered shutdown, Plaza Frontenac and other retail businesses in Frontenac were completely shut down. Unlike other surrounding municipalities, Frontenac has no essential businesses, such as grocery stores, that were able to continue generating sales tax revenue. Some of the largest retailers in Frontenac, such as the

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three decades of increasing expenses, primarily in the cost of personnel. You may be surprised to know that the last City tax increase in Frontenac was 29 years ago. Over the years, we've done everything in our power to reduce expenses and retain high service levels. We have reached the end of the line. The City no longer has the necessary resources to sustain the quantity and high-quality public services without additional funds to pay for the services.

This nearly 30-year gap in a tax increase leaves Frontenac with lower taxes than many other area municipalities. Some municipalities have higher taxes, such as Creve Coeur and Westwood. Many also have essential services, such as grocery stores and hardware stores that guarantee sales tax revenue regardless of the economy or environmental changes. Some cities such as Ballwin and Chesterfield have a separate tax to provide Fire and EMS services through a Fire District or residents pay directly to a for-profit venture, such as Abbott Ambulance. While these may seem like a good ideas, we have yet to see how these options save money and provide the kind of service you have come to expect in Frontenac. Without the ability to maintain competitive pay and benefits for Frontenac fire, EMS, and police services, public safety is put at risk.

I want to assure you that I, along with City Staff, the Board of Alderman, and the many other residents who volunteer their time and talents on our Boards, Committees, and Commissions have great respect for the challenges COVID has created for each of us. We have great respect for the hard work it takes to afford taxes of any kind. We respect every tax dollar invested in our community. We are asking the community to have an open mind and learn how the City spends its money. I am confident that once you understand the City's budget status, you will appreciate the value of the tax increase request and the dramatic implications of a tax increase delay to the quality of life we value in Frontenac.

As always, I very much appreciate your ongoing support, trust and help to continue to increase the desirability of Frontenac for residents, businesses, employees and visitors. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me, the Board of Aldermen or City Staff if we can answer any questions or be of service to you.

Sincerely,

Kate

## Geyer Road Improvements

Work continues moving forward on the Geyer Road improvement project. The project will be completed in three phases. Breaking the project into these smaller projects in different years substantially improves the City's chances of obtaining federal funding for the entire project. Here is the latest information about each phase as of June 2021.



### PHASE 1 (Clayton to Hermitage Hill).

The City has secured federal grant funding to pay for 70% of Phase 1. Designs are being completed, which include a new sidewalk on the west side of the road from Clayton to Hermitage Hill.

MoDOT administers federally funded projects in Missouri, and the City expects MoDOT approval in June to begin meeting directly with property owners along Geyer to secure easements. The large majority of these will be temporary construction easements to grant permission to the City to perform work on private property where yards and driveway sections need to be regraded or rebuilt to meet flush with the elevation of the new sidewalk and street. This regrading work typically only extends a few feet into the yard. The City and its contracted engineering firm, Lochmueller Group, will work individually with each resident to ensure that impacted grass and landscaping is replaced to the satisfaction of the resident. It is estimated that easement negotiations will be completed by early 2022 to allow construction to begin by May 2022. Construction of Phase 1 is anticipated to be complete by November 2022.

### PHASE 2 (Hermitage Hill to Huntleigh Manor).

The City has secured federal grant funding to pay for 70% of Phase 2 and is in the process of approving a contract with Lochmueller to engineer and design Phase 2. MoDOT is expected to grant approval in the coming weeks to proceed with the design. Topographic survey work is currently scheduled for July 2021. A sidewalk will be placed on one side of the road; however, the location will not be known until survey and design work are further along. Easement acquisition is scheduled to take place in 2022. Construction is currently scheduled to begin by summer 2023 and be complete in the early part of 2024.

### PHASE 3 (Huntleigh Manor to the Frontenac-Kirkwood line).

Construction of Phase 3 is likewise planned to begin by summer 2023 and be complete in 2024. Constructing Phase 2 and 3 together will avoid a third season of construction on Geyer and reduce the overall impact and inconvenience on residents. Constructing both phases together is also expected to reduce the construction costs. To do this, the City will begin designing Phase 3 in 2021 without grant funding. By funding 100% of the Phase 3 design, the City was able to apply for a higher percentage of federal funding for construction. The City's grant application scored well this past spring, and a grant to fund 80% of construction has been placed on the recommended list for approval later this summer. Easement acquisition is currently projected to take place in the later half of 2022.

The final project in 2024 will result in a continuous sidewalk between Clayton Road and Manchester Road, concrete curb and gutter on both sides of Geyer, stormwater improvements, and a new asphalt street. Thank you for your patience as these improvements take place over the next three years.

## Deer Creek Flood Mitigation Study

Properties along German Boulevard off of Lindbergh and in neighboring areas have experienced repeated flooding from Deer Creek and the Monsanto-Sunswept Creek over the years, not unlike many areas in Ladue and Brentwood to the east. Some residents and businesses in these areas suffered property damage in August 2020, when flash flooding caused creek banks to crest.

Many of the same property owners have dealt with flooding in past years, including the September 2008 flooding caused by heavy rains from Hurricane Ike, damaged homes and buildings and temporarily closed Lindbergh Boulevard.

The floods have prompted the City to investigate potential solutions. The City engaged retired Washington University hydrologist, Dr. Bob Criss, who has spent many years studying Deer Creek, to conduct a preliminary investigation of the August 2020 flooding. Although there appear to be multiple contributing factors to the repeated flooding, one of the most significant factors appears to be a bottleneck in Deer Creek where it passes under Lindbergh Boulevard.

The City recently applied for and expects to receive funding from MSD to support an engineering study, modeling of the flooding, a review of possible flood proofing and mitigation solutions,



FLOODING FROM HURRICANE IKE IN 2008 CLOSES LINDBERGH BLVD.

and smart detention options. The City's stormwater engineering consultant, EDM, will conduct the study, which is expected to take approximately seven months to complete.

The City also held a stakeholders meeting in May to present preliminary findings and plans for additional study with key property owners along Deer Creek as well as representatives from MSD, the Deer Creek Watershed Alliance, and stormwater engineers and officials from the downstream cities of Ladue and Brentwood.

Once the engineering study is complete and the most promising solutions are better understood, the City will share information and next steps with residents and other stakeholders.

## No Cost Home Improvement for Frontenac Homeowners

St. Louis County Government's Home Improvement Program is offering up to \$5,000 of home repairs for eligible Frontenac homeowners, at no cost. Examples of eligible items include roofing, electrical, plumbing, heating, air-conditioning, hot water heater, tuck-pointing, foundation work, handrail installation, concrete, asphalt, masonry, tree trimming or removal, and insulation, etc.

To qualify, you must own and live in the home. Your real estate taxes need to be current. You cannot have participated in the program previously. Your household's total **Adjusted Gross Income** on your 2020 Federal U.S. Individual Income Tax Return must be within the following Income Limits:

Family of 1: <i>less than \$47,550</i>	Family of 5: <i>less than \$73,350</i>
Family of 2: <i>less than \$54,350</i>	Family of 6: <i>less than \$78,800</i>
Family of 3: <i>less than \$61,150</i>	Family of 7: <i>less than \$84,200</i>
Family of 4: <i>less than \$67,900</i>	Family of 8: <i>less than \$88,650</i>

Senior citizens, please note that many times some of your Social Security income is not included in the Adjusted Gross Income figures listed on your Federal U.S. Income Tax Return and therefore, might not be counted in the figures listed above.

The Home Improvement Program is federally funded and operates through St. Louis County Government's Dept. of Human Services, Office of Community Development in conjunction with the City of Frontenac.

To apply, please call Debby in St. Louis County at (314) 615-4025 (TTY 1-800-735-2966).

### Public Forum on Deer Concerns

A public forum will be held on Tuesday, August 10 at 6:00 p.m. to hear residents' concerns about the excess number of deer in our neighborhoods and consider solutions.

You may participate in the forum by video virtually at <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/641833325>. Or you may participate by audio only by dialing 1 (408) 650-3123 and entering access code 641-833-325.

It has yet to be determined if this public forum will also be held in person. Public comment may be provided before, during, or after the meeting by emailing Jaysen Christensen at [jchristensen@cityoffrontenac.org](mailto:jchristensen@cityoffrontenac.org) or by using the chat feature during the virtual meeting. Please stay tuned to the City's e-news and website for additional information.

Frontenac Hilton Hotel banquet services, remained essentially shut down until May of 2021. Retail outlets have struggled over the past 10 years. The pandemic prevented some planned new retail businesses in Frontenac from opening and has pushed a growing number of traditional retailers into bankruptcy. Frontenac's dependency on sales tax is one of the primary reasons the City revenues have not kept pace with the cost of providing services. The proposed property tax increase would stabilize, diversify and bolster Frontenac's revenue base enough to continue supporting the public safety and other city services that residents rely on day to day.

### **The City is already operating in the most cost-effective manner possible, despite rising costs.**

City officials have combed through Frontenac's budget over the years and have taken great pains to reduce costs and ensure every tax dollar is accounted for and spent wisely. Additionally, the City approved a Strategic Plan and action items to provide a transparent, systematic process for ongoing assessment and reporting. Here are a few examples to illustrate these efforts:

#### **Partnering with other cities for services.**

- Along with Creve Coeur and Town & Country, Frontenac formed the West Central Dispatch Consortium in 2010, which has saved money and improved 911 dispatching services. Ladue joined the consortium in 2021.
- Frontenac partnered with Chesterfield for IT services in 2020 and regularly takes advantage of government purchasing consortiums and group pricing discounts to reduce costs on everything from road salt to traffic signal maintenance.

#### **Mutual aid for first responders.**

- Frontenac provides and receives mutual-aid on police, fire, and EMS calls with neighboring cities to ensure manpower and equipment is deployed wherever needed. This keeps costs down and enhances the efficiency and effectiveness of services. For example, if Frontenac's ambulance is on call and another medical emergency is called in, dispatchers deploy Ladue or another adjacent agency to Frontenac and vice versa. Mutual-aid collaboration also includes shared training and education.

#### **Employee salary freezes.**

- To reduce expenses in response to the COVID pandemic, the City's pay for all positions has been frozen for the last two budget years. While slowing or freezing pay increases has reduced expenditures in the short term, it has also made it more difficult to attract and retain talent. High turnover costs the City time and money in recruiting, hiring, and training new employees and threatens quality of services as more experienced staff leave for higher paying positions in Ladue and surrounding municipalities.

#### **Grant funds supporting City projects.**

- The City has been successful in obtaining a number of grants of greater dollar value. The upcoming Geyer Road rehabilitation and Spoede Road bridge replacement projects are being paid for with more than 70% federal grant money.

- The Police Department has secured grant funding to pay part of the cost of expired bullet proof vests, body cameras and other needed hardware for the system, which is expected to be implemented within the coming year.

### **Capital expenses have been delayed, and further delay could be detrimental to police, fire and EMS vehicles and services.**

#### **Capital expenditures have been delayed.**

- The City has postponed needed capital expenditures including police vehicles, public works equipment, and fire/EMS equipment. This results in a short-term savings but could cost more in the long run as equipment maintenance and replacement costs pile up, repair expenses increase over useful life replacement costs and services are impacted with less reliable equipment and risks equipment being unavailable or out of service.
- The delay of investing in critical infrastructure and technology reduces the ability to turn around permits which generate revenue for the City and could also create delays in EMS and police response times in addition to other safety issues.

#### **City Hall bonds refinanced.**

- The City refinanced its bonds for City Hall in 2020, reducing the interest rate and then using the savings to finance the purchase of a new ambulance to replace an antiquated 10-year old version. The City has been forced to borrow an ambulance from Des Peres while Frontenac's aging ambulance spends more time out of service for repairs.

### **Pay freezes and benefit reductions have resulted in hiring and retention issues for Fire/EMS, Police and other City employees.**

#### **Low pay makes it difficult to attract and retain Fire/EMS Staff**

- Police and fire make up the largest part of the City's budget. These are life-saving services that are too important to jeopardize through unwanted turnover and the loss of experienced professionals.
- Frontenac firefighters and paramedics are the lowest paid among our neighboring communities of Creve Coeur, Des Peres, Kirkwood, Ladue, and Town & Country (West County Fire District).
- Since 2016, Frontenac's 20-man fire/EMS department has lost 13 firefighter/paramedics to higher-paying jobs in neighboring communities, and more are expected to leave Frontenac.
- Nearly 30% of Frontenac's Fire and EMS Department is expected to retire within the next two to three years. Attracting and retaining talent now and in the coming years is especially critical to be able to replace the loss of veteran talent and experience and maintain high service levels into the future.
- The August tax proposal would help increase police and firefighter pay to at least the 60th percentile of the pay of neighboring municipalities to help the City attract and retain talent.

## Risking essential city safety services could result in poorer outcomes for residents.

### Current success

- Up to this point, the Fire Department has been an outstanding performer, earning an ISO rating of 2, which is within the top 4% in the country as a fire department.
- Additionally, 68% of sudden-cardiac-arrest patients of Frontenac Fire and EMS have been successfully revived over the past five years compared to just a 10% survival rate nationally.
- The Fire Department's average response time is four minutes and 28 seconds compared to an average of 15 minutes and 19 seconds nationwide.
- The Police Department maintains accreditation and has a high clearance rate on violent crimes as compared to agencies across the country, with a 91% clearance rate (i.e., a suspect is arrested and/or is identified and evidence has been gathered for prosecution) compared to a 46% nationwide rate.

## How do Frontenac taxes compare to neighboring cities?

Property and utility taxes are the two primary taxes that cities in St. Louis County assess directly to their residents and businesses. As shown in the tables below, Frontenac's residential property and utility taxes are lower than most neighboring cities with the

exception of Des Peres and Town and Country, which have higher sales taxes, heavy retail bases and essential retail businesses, such as grocery stores and hardware stores, that generate substantial sales tax revenues and weather economic downturns and the pandemic quite well.

CURRENT CITY RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX RATES	
Olivette	1.2790
Creve Coeur*	1.1850
Westwood*	1.0790
Maplewood	0.9510
Glendale	0.8590
Webster Groves	0.7160
Clayton**	0.6990
Ladue	0.6170
Brentwood	0.5550
Richmond Heights	0.5210
Kirkwood	0.4930
<b>Frontenac</b>	<b>0.4350</b>
Des Peres***	0.0000
Town & Country***	0.0000

CURRENT CITY RESIDENTIAL UTILITY TAX RATES	
Olivette	10.0
Maplewood	9.0
Glendale	9.0
Clayton	8.0
Kirkwood	7.5
Creve Coeur	7.0
Webster Groves	7.0
Ladue	6.9-7.0
Richmond Heights	5.6-6.0
Des Peres	3.5-5.0
<b>Frontenac</b>	<b>0.5</b>
Brentwood	0.0
Town & Country	0.0

\* Westwood & Creve Coeur are in a fire district. Fire district and city rates both included.

\*\* Clayton voting August 3 to increase property tax to 0.879.

\*\*\*Des Peres and Town & Country have heavy retail bases.

## What will the proposed tax increase cost?

If approved on August 3, the total rate for Frontenac for taxes collected in December 2021 will be no more than \$1.00 per \$100 assessed valuation. Based on the current effective rate in Frontenac of \$0.435, the rate increase requested is \$0.565 (\$1.00 minus \$0.435). Of course, the additional amount a resident pays depends on the assessed value of his or her property. The table at right provides the projected annual dollar amount increase of the August tax proposal for homes of various assessed amounts.

## If approved, 100% of this tax will go to the City of Frontenac.

APPRAISED VALUE OF HOME	ASSESSED VALUE OF HOME*	PROJECTED NET RATE INCREASE	PROJECTED DOLLAR INCREASE ON ANNUAL RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX
\$ 200,000	\$ 38,000	\$ 0.565	\$ 215
\$ 300,000	\$ 57,000	\$ 0.565	\$ 322
\$ 400,000	\$ 76,000	\$ 0.565	\$ 429
\$ 500,000	\$ 95,000	\$ 0.565	\$ 537
\$ 750,000	\$ 142,500	\$ 0.565	\$ 805
\$ 1,000,000	\$ 190,000	\$ 0.565	\$ 1,074
\$ 1,250,000	\$ 237,500	\$ 0.565	\$ 1,342
\$ 1,500,000	\$ 285,000	\$ 0.565	\$ 1,610
\$ 1,750,000	\$ 332,500	\$ 0.565	\$ 1,879
\$ 2,000,000	\$ 380,000	\$ 0.565	\$ 2,147
\$ 2,500,000	\$ 475,000	\$ 0.565	\$ 2,684
\$ 3,000,000	\$ 570,000	\$ 0.565	\$ 3,221

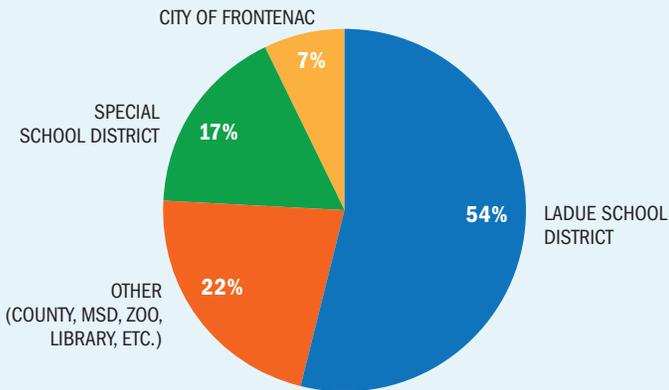
\* Per Missouri statute, the assessed value for residential property is 19% of the appraised market value.

## How much of my property tax bill goes to Frontenac?

Only about seven percent of your total property tax bill is paid to the City of Frontenac. This revenue pays for fire, police, street maintenance, and other essential city services. The largest percent of the property tax is paid to the School District with 54% going to Ladue School District and 56% to Kirkwood School District. The County, MSD, Zoo, Library, etc. receives the next highest amount. The City of Frontenac receives the smallest portion of the property tax.

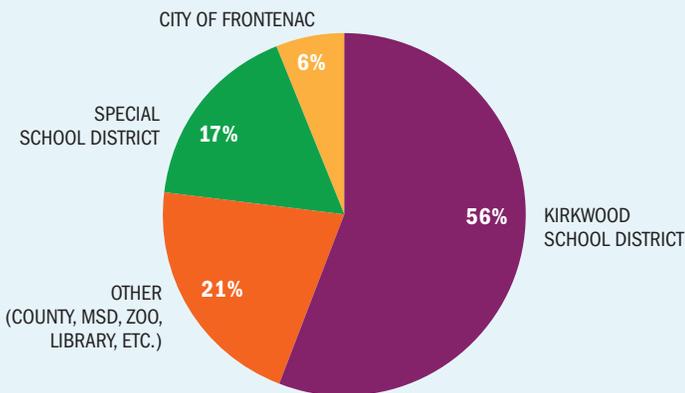
### PROPERTY TAX BILL

Frontenac Resident in Ladue School District



### PROPERTY TAX BILL

Frontenac Resident in Kirkwood School District



## Where can I get more information?

To stay updated please go to the City's website at [www.cityoffrontenac.org/PropositionA](http://www.cityoffrontenac.org/PropositionA) and watch for updates in the City's weekly e-news email to learn more and receive notification of events and locations where the proposal will be discussed. You can also attend the Ways and Means or Aldermen meetings each month or reach out to the Mayor or your Alderman to attend a subdivision meeting or address questions you may have one-on-one at any time.

## Strategic Plan Updates

Strategic planning is an essential part of any organization as it provides important direction and outlines measurable goals. As Yogi once put it, if you don't know where you're going you'll end up somewhere else. The Board of Aldermen unanimously approved a Strategic Plan in March 2020. Reporting on the progress, which includes the vision, mission statement and values above, is an important way that the City continues to improve transparency and accountability as well as highlight notable achievements. Visit [www.cityoffrontenac.org/strategicplan](http://www.cityoffrontenac.org/strategicplan) to view the full Strategic Plan. Following are some of the milestones and achievements.

City Departments provide regular updates to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, and the City will share important milestones with residents on a regular basis.

### FIRE DEPARTMENT.

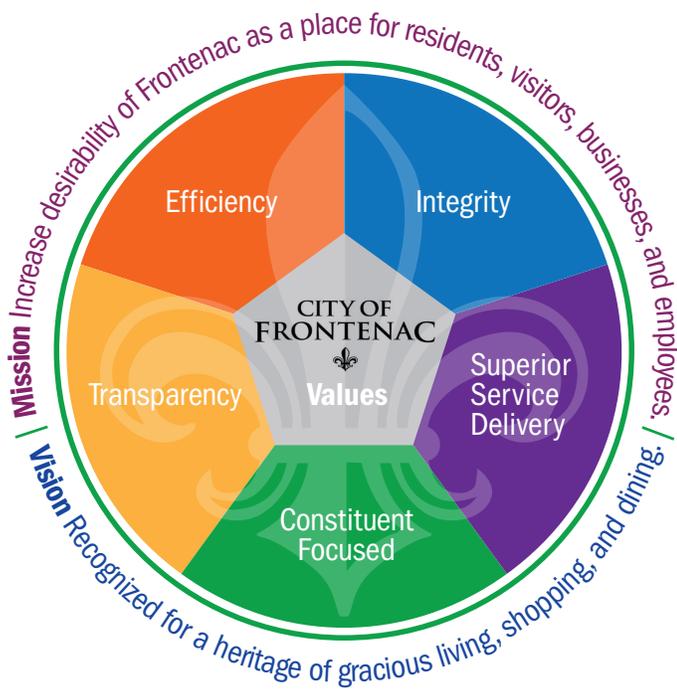
*The Fire Department's Success Results in Lower Homeowner Insurance Rates and Faster Emergency Response Times*

- The Fire Department has established an action plan to maintain an Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating of two (2) or better on a scale of one to 10 (10 being the worst). In 2019, the Fire Department improved its ISO rating from a four to a two, which is among the top four percent of fire departments nationwide. This superior rating directly contributes to maintaining lower homeowner insurance rates in Frontenac.
- The Fire Department's average response time is four minutes and 28 seconds compared to an average of 15 minutes and 19 seconds nationwide. Also, over the past five years, Frontenac paramedics have successfully resuscitated 68% of patients who have been in cardiac arrest compared to a national average of 10%.
- Even within a deficit budget in FY2021, the City was able to refinance City Hall construction bonds and use those savings to finance a new ambulance to replace the 10-year-old model, which is past its useful life.
- Since 2016, the City has lost 13 firefighters in its 20-member Fire Department to higher paying firefighter positions in neighboring communities. Six more positions are expected to turnover in the coming two to three years due to pending retirements. The City has worked on a succession plan to help address this turnover; however, much of it will also depend on the City's ability to develop new revenue sources to make pay more competitive. The majority (86%) of the City's operating budget is allocated to personnel costs for firefighters, police officers, and other city employees. The City's goal is to increase all employee pay, including firefighters, with similar positions among neighboring municipalities.

### POLICE DEPARTMENT.

*Frontenac Police Exhibit Excellent Accreditation and Clearance Rate*

- In 2019, Frontenac became fully accredited through the Missouri Police Chiefs Association. This puts the Frontenac Police Department in an elite group, with approximately five percent of law enforcement agencies across the country earning accreditation.



- The Police Department has a high clearance rate on violent crimes compared to agencies across the country, with a 91% clearance rate (i.e., a suspect is arrested and/or is identified and evidence has been gathered for prosecution) compared to a 46% nationwide rate.
- The Department maintains a high level of annual training. In 2020, officers completed the emergency vehicles operations course, de-escalation for law enforcement, cultural competency, racial profiling, and implicit bias, and bloodborne pathogens training, among others.
- In January 2021, the Department was successful in obtaining a grant to help pay for body cameras to further transparency, accountability, and community relations. The Department is working toward providing body cameras within the coming year to accompany police car dashboard cameras already in place.

#### Police Bike Patrolling

In 2017, the Frontenac Police expanded community policing efforts to include officers occasionally riding our streets on bicycle patrol. The bike officers are deployed at strategic times for both regular patrol duty as well as special events. The department has found that the bike patrol unit has become a way to increase officer visibility, mobility, and approachability; all of which we believe enhance our patrol efforts in the community.

The department currently has five officers certified as police cyclists, which required them to complete a 40-hour course sanctioned by the International Police Mountain Bike Association that included classroom study, written exam, practical maneuvering and skills test, and a 20-mile road ride while maintaining an average of a 10-mph pace.

While our officers are on patrol, they observe more people during the summer months take to the streets on their own bikes for transportation, exercise, or just for fun and entertainment. Please remember

to ride safely, which includes checking your equipment, wearing a helmet and visible clothing, and following the rules of the road.

#### BUILDING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT.

*Frontenac is in the top four percent of the country for the effectiveness of its building code enforcement.*

- A work group including City Staff, Aldermen, and residents with professional expertise in architecture, engineering, real estate, landscape design, and arborists completed a review and revisions to the City's Architectural Review Board Ordinances and created a checklist guideline as part of this process. The revised ordinance and checklist were approved by the Board of Aldermen and implemented in March of 2021. The work group's efforts to update the landscape and tree preservation ordinances and create a guideline checklist for this is still in process.
- The City has initiated the postponed plan to review and update its comprehensive land-use plan and associated ordinances, which will update and clarify the City's long-range vision for land use based on input from residents and stakeholders. The process was temporarily paused due to the pandemic. H3 Studio has been contracted to assist Frontenac.

#### ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE.

- Even during the pandemic, with meetings being held virtually and challenges to completing work, the City continued to prioritize transparency and communication. Resident communications in the E-News and print newsletters continued and are available on the City's website. In the near future, additional updates will be available on the website with enhancements through ClearGov. The City also continues to hold virtual meetings with subdivision trustees and other interested residents. The next meeting virtual meeting is scheduled on June 17th at 6:00pm.
- A resident work group including Human Resource (HR) professionals, an attorney with HR and labor expertise and Frontenac's retired Police Chief, Tom Becker, worked in collaboration with Aldermen and City Staff to complete a review and update of the City HR policies. A new Personnel Handbook was approved by the Board of Aldermen at the May 26th Board of Aldermen meeting. Revisions include a new Code of Conduct and other guidelines to help assure compliance with state and federal laws and assure a collaborative and productive environment at City Hall.
- Ways and Means and our Finance Director worked hard to establish the new budget that was also approved at the May 26th Board of Aldermen meeting. In addition to work on the ballot initiative, steps to address suggestions in the last independent audit have been initiated and some completed. They also continue steps toward achievement of GFOA certificate of excellence again this year, with significant changes in the criteria to achieve the award.

#### PUBLIC WORKS.

*See Geyer Road Construction article and the Deer Creek Flood Mitigation article.*

# CITY OF FRONTENAC



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## Frontenac Fall Festival

As the COVID pandemic finally lifts, we are planning a fun Fall Festival with food, music, games and other activities for a weekend this fall. Please stay tuned to the City's e-news for a date and other details in the coming weeks.

## Elected Officials

### Mayor

Kate Hatfield  
mayor@cityoffrontenac.org

### Alderpersons Ward 1

Brian Warner  
aldermanwarner@cityoffrontenac.org

Dan Kemper  
aldermankemper@cityoffrontenac.org

### Alderpersons Ward 2

Nalini Mahadevan  
aldermanmahadevan@cityoffrontenac.org

Jamie Griesedieck  
aldermangriesedieck@cityoffrontenac.org

### Alderpersion Ward 3

Tom O'Brien  
aldermanobrien@cityoffrontenac.org

Dan Millman  
aldermanmillman@cityoffrontenac.org

**PLEASE CALL CITY HALL IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE MAYOR, AN ALDERPERSON, OR REPRESENTATIVES FROM POLICE, FIRE, PUBLIC WORKS, OR THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT ATTEND YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING.**

## DEPARTMENT HEADS

Jaysen Christensen  
City Administrator  
jchristensen@cityoffrontenac.org  
(314) 994-3200

Leesa Ross  
City Clerk  
lross@cityoffrontenac.org  
(314) 994-3200

Lea Ann Bennett  
Finance Officer  
lbennett@cityoffrontenac.org  
(314) 994-3200

Marc Ulses  
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## Sign Up for e-News

The City emails e-news updates a few times per month. E-news topics include updates on community events, construction, public meeting notices, and other pertinent community information. To subscribe to e-news, please email a request to Leesa Ross at [lross@cityoffrontenac.org](mailto:lross@cityoffrontenac.org).