

ISSUE 5
JULY-SEPT 2024

JEFFERSON

COUNTY, MISSOURI



NEWSLETTER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- August 6 Primary Election
- Seckman Road Closure
- Bike/Ped Master Plan
- Land Sale
- AMM/CivicClerk Launch
- and MORE...

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OFFICES CLOSED

July 4, 2024

Independence Day

September 9, 2024

Labor Day

October 14, 2024

Columbus Day

November 11, 2024

Veterans Day

Seckman Road Closure



When is Seckman Road Closing?

- Seckman Road will be closed starting Tuesday May 28th, 2024, and reopened to traffic by August 19th, 2024.

What part of Seckman Road is Closing?

- Seckman Road will be closed from Mastodon State Park Entrance to West Outer Road, while the Mastodon State Park Picnic Area will remain open and accessible during construction.

Why choose May 28th – August 19th?

- Fox C-6 School Calendar: May 24th, 2024, closure due to Memorial Day, first day on August 20th, contractor agrees to open Seckman Road to 2-way traffic by August 19th.

Why is Seckman Road Closing?

#1 – Traffic Safety

Seckman Road faces one-lane traffic with temporary signals, with motorists running red stop lights and not obeying traffic lights despite additional signage and message boards.

#2 – Flooding Concerns

Spring rains have caused multiple floodings on Seckman Road, making it impassable for traffic due to extended periods of watering and temporary shoring.

#3 – Fill Area Concerns

Heavy rainfall on May 4th and 8th had Seckman Road underwater and a contractor's fill area, raising concerns about stability. Jefferson County Public Works is working with Geotechnical Engineers to test the fill's acceptability for the roadway after drying.

#4 – Schedule

The Seckman Project has a 160-day schedule, with 96 remaining. With a full road closure, the contractor should finish ahead of schedule. An accelerated schedule aims to have Seckman Rd. open by August 19th.

Learn more about road projects on the [Public Works Projects page](#).



I-55 Corridor Improvements Update

The cities of Pevely, Herculaneum, Festus, and Crystal City are all a part of the I-55 Corridor Improvements project region. This project aims to reduce traffic and safety issues along the I-55 Corridor while taking the area's future growth and development trends into consideration.

Both Segment 1 and Segment 2 have temporary concrete barriers along I-55. The storm sewers being installed in the I-55 median close to Route A, as well as the base rock and grading that have been placed between US 67 and Route A, is visible to the community. We predict that Segment 1 will see significant paving work start in the next months, and Segment 2 should follow shortly after.

Construction has been ongoing with MoDOT's I-55 Corridor Improvements Design-Build Project. A temporary concrete barrier has been placed along I-55 from US 67 to north of McNutt Street in Herculaneum.

Folks should be able to see storm sewers being placed in the I-55 median near Route A and the grading and base rock that has been placed between US 67 and Route A. MoDOT anticipates major paving operations will begin on the southern part of the project in the next couple months. Design work for new or updated bridges continues for the northern part of the project, as well as for the proposed US 67/Route CC interchange.

For more information, visit [MoDOT's website](#).



Safe Streets and Roads for All Program (SS4A)

Over the last several months, Jefferson County has been working with East-West Gateway (EWG) and their consultant, CBB, on the development of a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan for the St. Louis region. This plan is part of the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program within the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).

The SS4A program awards both planning and implementation grants to eligible agencies toward projects that will improve all aspects of roadway safety in the region. People from multiple county departments – Administration, Public Works, and the Sheriff's Office – have participated in stakeholder meetings to provide feedback to the consultant and help create the final overall plan.

The Action Plan will cover the entire eight-county St. Louis region and will include:

- An eventual goal of zero roadway deaths and serious injuries
- Regional High Injury Networks
- Top high crash segments for each county in the St. Louis region
- Near and long-term strategies focused on USDOT's Safe System approach, including proven safety countermeasures
- Creation of a Regional Safety Task Force
- Unified branding to ensure consistent communication across the region
- Responsible parties for each strategy
- A method to measure progress



Once the plan is completed, agencies such as Jefferson County will be able to apply for both planning and implementation grants. The planning grants will help agencies develop and adopt policies to improve safety in their jurisdictions or perform studies, while the implementation grants will be used for projects to improve infrastructure and operations.

Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan

The Walk Bike Jefferson County Master Plan effort is in full swing! This important planning process will chart a course for a healthier, safer, and more connected Jefferson County. We are excited to announce that the [project website](#) is now live! On our [project website](#), the public can access all the resources available for this planning effort. These include project information and documents, as well as details on all our upcoming in-person input opportunities. There are also ways to give feedback online, like the survey questionnaire and an interactive mapping tool.



The first Walk Bike Jefferson County Advisory Committee meeting was held in late April. Key members of Jefferson County and city governments, local nonprofit organizations, and transportation officials from East-West Gateway and MoDOT all convened to discuss the planning effort and identify walking and biking trends and needs in Jefferson County. The group identified three key outcomes to explore and refine as the project moves into a phase of broad public engagement: safety benefits, enhanced local connectivity, and improved quality of life.

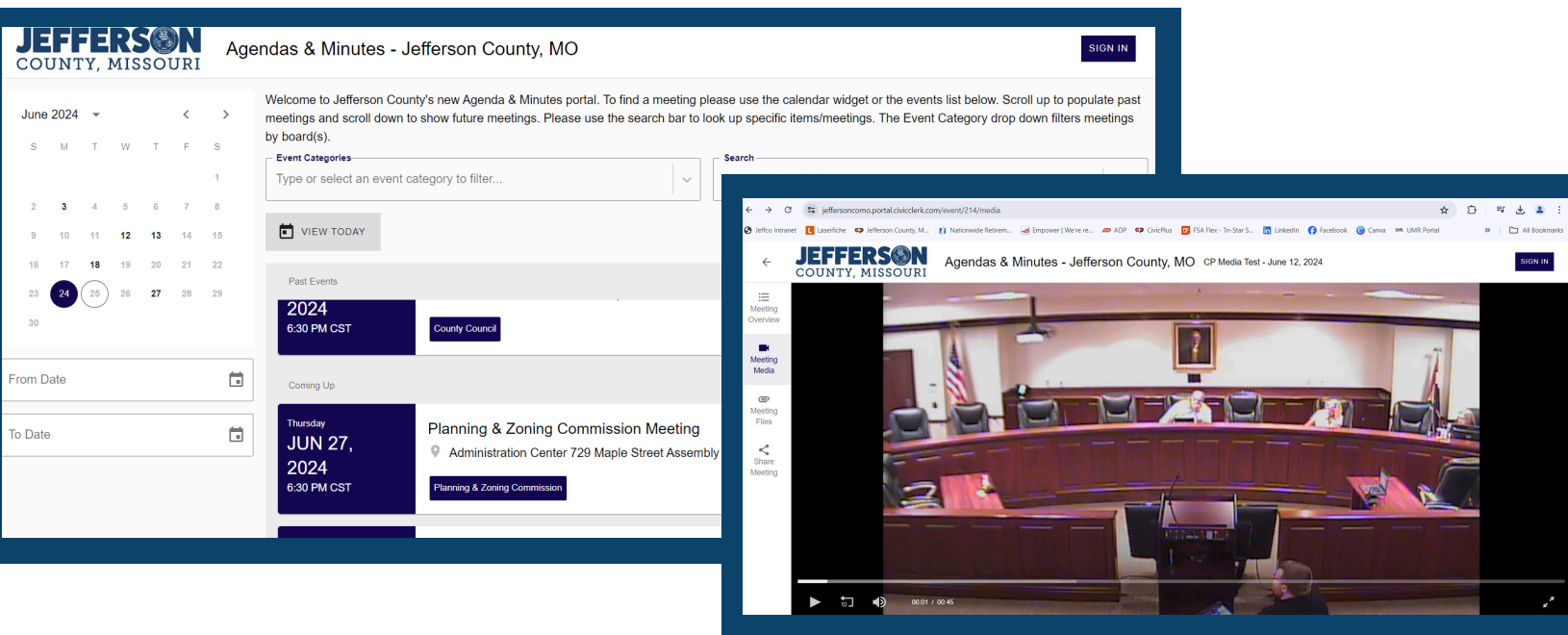
Community engagement is at the heart of this planning process, and the public will have many opportunities to have their voices heard this Summer and Fall. If you missed the first public open house in June, there will be a second opportunity in early Fall 2024. We will also have a presence at several community events, like festivals and farmer's markets. Stay connected on the website to learn more and get involved today.

Planning efforts are focused on reviewing current walking and biking conditions, incorporating previous plans, engaging the community to further understand their challenges and needs, and incorporating national best practices for biking and walking transportation networks. The plan will combine all this information into recommendations for a future walking and biking transportation network in Jefferson County. Planning efforts will span Spring and Summer, with draft recommendations shared in Fall 2024 and the plan submitted for review and approval by February 2025.



Visit the [Walk Bike Jefferson County website](#) to learn more.

New AMM System Launch on August 5



CivicPlus's Agenda and Meeting Management solution, formerly known as CivicClerk, is scheduled to launch the Jefferson County Citizen Portal on August 5. The first live meeting using the system will take place during the August 12 County Council Meeting.

The solution will provide more information to our citizens, all in one location. Our [current agenda center](#) will receive a facelift and added features. Agendas will have the ability to have attachments, recorded meetings will be timestamped per agenda item, and our council and board members will have a live voting feature that will be displayed for those attending in person.

Be sure to sign up to receive meeting notifications at our [Subscription Page](#).

Jefferson County Local Emergency Planning Committee

The LEPC is a state-appointed committee that oversees local hazardous materials planning and training. It holds bi-monthly meetings at the Jefferson County Office of Emergency Management. The [Jefferson County Local Emergency Planning Committee](#) (LEPC) hosted a tabletop exercise on March 26 with the City of Arnold and the Superior Solvents & Chemicals company testing the community's ability to respond to incidents involving hazardous materials.

Representatives of public safety, government, and private entities discussed elements of response, including incident notification, unit dispatch, and public information.

Warren Robinson, Secretary of the LEPC, "We had some good discussions and takeaways from the exercise. For example, how an incident is described in the initial 911 call has a big impact on how quickly hazardous materials units can reach the scene. Helping our partners make sure detailed information is provided as quickly as possible is a takeaway we'll encourage in future joint trainings."

New Madrid Seismic Zone Meeting

On May 15, 2024, the Office of Emergency Management and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office spent time with regional public safety partners, the State Emergency Management Agency, and the Missouri National Guard to discuss how the region would work together during response and recovery to an earthquake on the New Madrid Fault System.

Between 1811 and 1812, Missouri was shaken by numerous strong earthquakes on the New Madrid Fault System, with the strongest measuring 7.5 on the Richter scale. They were by far the biggest earthquakes to happen east of the Rocky Mountains and among the strongest in US history.

While many of the emergency management issues Jefferson County experiences are weather-related, the county is also in an area where the possibility of a damaging earthquake cannot be ruled out. Attending these meetings is essential in order to strategize and establish a plan prior to happening. You can learn more about the New Madrid Seismic Zone and earthquake preparedness measures SEMA's website.



STARRS

As the sixth largest county in the state by population, Jefferson County has ready access to many resources that smaller jurisdictions do not. This is especially beneficial during times of disaster, when the availability of additional first responders and resources can mean the difference between life and death. No jurisdiction is big enough to deal with every potential disaster alone, though, and that is why the counties that comprise the St. Louis Metro Area (Jefferson, Franklin, St. Charles, St. Louis, St. Louis City, Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair) have spent years working together to acquire and strategically position emergency response equipment across the region.



Utilizing funds derived from the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Program and dispersed through the St. Louis Area Regional Response System (STARRS), the region has funded initiatives including support of the St. Louis Area Fusion Center, purchase of hazardous materials response equipment for regional response teams (including Jefferson County's) and automated sandbagging machines, just to name a few.

Decisions about fund distribution are made by the STARR's Board of Directors, which meets monthly and includes two representatives from Jefferson County. Visit the STARRS website to learn more.



August 6, 2024 Primary Election

- Absentee Voting: June 25th – August 5th
- Voter Registration Deadline: July 10th.

To locate your polling place and learn more about the August 6 Primary Election, visit the County Clerk/Election Authority [website](#).

Jefferson County Land Sale



Per State Statute, the Collector's office will hold the annual tax sale on August 26, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the Administration Center located at 729 Maple Street, Hillsboro, MO 63050. Properties that are at least 3 years delinquent will be offered at the sale.

If you are interested in participating, you will need to obtain a bid number the week of August 19, 2024. No bid numbers will be issued on the morning of the sale. To bid at the sale, you must have all Real Estate and Personal Property taxes in your name paid in full. Bid packets are available on our [website](#) or in person at the office located at 729 Maple Street, Hillsboro, MO 63050.

All properties are sold to the highest bidder at the auction, and payment must be made that day by cash, check or credit card (credit card convenience fees will apply).

Additional information, including a list of properties and FAQ can be found on the [Collector of Revenue website](#).

IS YOUR PROPERTY PROTECTED FROM FRAUD?



PROPERTY FRAUD ALERT

Be informed...Be Alert...Be Notified

www.PropertyFraudAlert.com

1-800-728-3858

PROPERTY FRAUD

What is it?

When someone illegally uses your property for financial gain.

PROPERTY FRAUD

How does it happen?

Someone records a fraudulent document in the county land records office, making it look like they own your home or property.

PROPERTY FRAUD

Should I be concerned?

Yes, according to the FBI, Property and Mortgage fraud is the fastest growing white-collar crime.

PROPERTY FRAUD

What Can I do about it?

Your county land records office has teamed up to create a notification service called

PROPERTY FRAUD ALERT

Subscribe free of charge at
www.propertyfraudalert.com
or call the Property Fraud Alert
Hotline at 1-800-728-3858



Debbie Dunnegan-Waters
Jefferson County Recorder of Deeds

For further details
contact the Jefferson County
Recorder of Deeds Office
at (636)797-5414



Parks & Recreation

JEFFERSON COUNTY

REGISTER FOR EVENTS
JEFFCOMO.ORG/PARKS

PARKS PHONE NUMBER
636-797-5334

CANCELLATION/INFORMATION
HOTLINE: 636-797-6101

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK
[FACEBOOK.COM/JEFFCOPARKS](https://www.facebook.com/JEFFCOPARKS)

The Jefferson County Department of Parks & Recreation is proud to host

The Big River Run

10th Anniversary

5k and 10 mile



Sunday September 15, 2024

Northwest Sports Complex

4900 Byrnesville Rd., House Springs, MO 63051

Event Time

Day of Registration:

6:30am-7:30am

Race: 8:00am

Price

5k - \$20 thru 8/31

\$25 9/1 thru 9/11

10 Mile - \$30 thru 8/31

\$35 9/1 thru 9/11

REGISTER NOW



Phone: 636-797-5334 Email: parks@jeffcomo.org



We are looking for
Certified
Instructors!

Possible Class Options:

- ✓ Martial Arts Instructor
- ✓ Group Cycling
- ✓ Group Fitness Class

Jefferson County Parks
and Recreation

www.jeffcomo.org/parks
2800 Community Lane,
High Ridge, Mo 63049

Send your resume to
Parks@jeffcomo.org
or call 636-797-5334 for more
information

JEFFERSON COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION

YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE

\$65

SATURDAY'S
3 PRACTICES
5 GAMES
2 LOCATIONS TO CHOOSE FROM:
FESTUS ELKS OR
NORTHWEST SPORTS COMPLEX
GRADES PRE K - 6

REGISTRATION DEADLINE
AUGUST 25TH 2024

Register @ www.jeffcomo.org/parks
or

WORDS FROM THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Summer months are always an incredibly busy time for us in the county, and that has proven to be true this summer as well.

One thing that seems to always take place in the summer is road construction. This year, that construction includes the I-55 Corridor Improvements which are well underway. While road construction is always a pain, these improvements are much needed to reduce traffic and accidents.

Summer is also a great time to get outdoors by walking and biking. To improve our walking and biking systems in the county, The Walk Bike Jefferson County Master Plan kicked off in April. This important planning process will set the direction for Jefferson County to become safer, healthier, and more interconnected. This will be wonderful for the community. The public can view all of the resources provided for this planning endeavor and upcoming community outreach events on the [Walk Bike Jefferson County Master Plan website](#).

I am also excited to announce that we broke ground on Jefferson County's first ever Crime Lab on May 6. The new facility will allow the Sheriff's Office to be self-reliant when it comes to processing evidence. That means quicker turnaround times and quicker justice for crime victims in Jefferson County. The lab will process DNA evidence, vehicles, fingerprints, and firearms, perform drug testing, and have an area devoted to computer crime investigations. Construction will start later this year and should be completed sometime in 2025.

We're all very excited about these projects and the growth here in Jefferson County.

I hope you all have a safe and wonderful summer! Stay cool out there.

Regards,
Dennis J. Gannon
County Executive



We're Hiring!

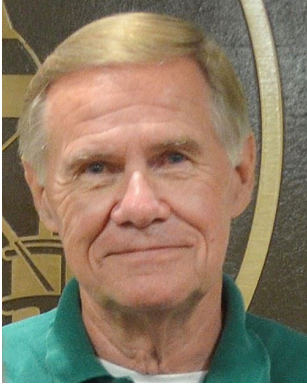
Veterinary Technician (**Animal Control**)
Residential Appraiser (**Assessor**)
Maintenance Worker (**Facilities**)
Deputy Juvenile Officer (**Juvenile**)
Highway Seasonal Laborer (**Public Works**)

Great benefits. Career growth. Close to home.

APPLY AT [JEFFCOMO.ORG/HUMANRESOURCES](https://jeffcomo.org/humanresources)



COUNTY COUNCIL CORNER



I am currently your Councilman for District 6 of Jefferson County. I retired from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office after 24 years as a road deputy and DARE officer. I also worked for the US government as a subcontractor for military projects. I have four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

I was first elected as the District 6 Council Member in 2016 and am serving my second term. As a Council Member, my focus is doing what is best for the County and its people. District 6 is full of natural greenery and history. It's a great place to visit and live with quite a bit to do.

During my terms, I've seen a lot of change and growth taking place in Jefferson County. One big and much needed change is the improvements being made to I-55. The improvements on I-55 will produce future growth and development for the County while lessening the traffic and safety concerns.

We have a few things going on in District 6 that I am very much looking forward to. The pickleball courts at Melkus Park, which is located off Rock Creek Road and South Thomas Street, in De Soto are generating a lot of excitement. The park will be open from sunrise to sunset. Pickleball is a great activity for all ages to enjoy.

Additionally, the Farmers Market on Main Street is in full swing right now, with lots of local farmers and vendors coming together to sell affordable products. The market is in season from May to October, every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. I encourage everyone to come out, shop locally, and support your neighbor.

It has been a pleasure serving as your District 6 Council Member.

Sincerely,

Dan Stallman, District 6
Phone: 636-797-5377
DStallman@jeffcomo.org



FIREWORKS PET SAFETY TIPS

KEEP YOUR PET INDOORS

Do not allow your pets outside during the fireworks.

PROVIDE A SECURE SPACE

Prepare a safe and comfortable place for your pet, such as a room in your house or a kennel, to help them feel secure.

MAKE SURE YOUR PETS HAVE PROPER ID TAGS

In case your pet gets scared and runs away, make sure they are wearing a collar with proper updated contact information.

MICROCHIP YOUR PETS

Microchipping is the best form of ID. Make sure your contact information is up-to-date with the microchip company.

Jefferson County Animal Control can microchip your pet for only \$10.

WALK YOUR PETS EARLIER IN THE DAY

Some pets are too frightened to go out once the fireworks start.

MICROCHIPS ARE
\$10 AT JEFFERSON
COUNTY ANIMAL
CONTROL

Jefferson County Animal Control

4848 State Rt 30, House Springs, MO 63051 / 636-797-5577



Heat Exhaustion

ACT FAST

- Move to a cooler area
- Loosen clothing
- Sip cool water
- Seek medical help if symptoms don't improve

Dizziness

Thirst

Heavy Sweating

Nausea

Weakness



Heat Stroke

ACT FAST

CALL 911

- Move person to a cooler area
- Loosen clothing and remove extra layers
- Cool with water or ice

Confusion

Dizziness

Becomes Unconscious

Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not given.

Summer is in full force and temperatures have been reaching record breaking levels. If you or someone you know needs relief from the heat, visit the [Department of Health and Senior Services website](#) for cooling centers in your area.

LEARN MORE:

www.noaa.gov

www.weather.gov/safety/

Heat exhaustion can lead to heat stroke.



Stay Cool, Stay Hydrated, Stay Informed!

