

Public Works Projects Around The State

CITY OF NIXA

SIDEWALK COMPLETION



Where the sidewalk ends is not just a poetry book, it is what many Nixa residents have grown accustomed to.

Like most smaller cities, Nixa has several sidewalks that just end. In 2016, Nixa's public works crew will work to continue the sidewalks.

"Over the years, development of subdivision phases left Nixa with gaps between the sidewalk runs," said Nixa Public Works Director Doug Colvin. "In addition, our old development codes required the home builder to install the sidewalks when building the house and not the developer so gaps were created."

Nixa Streets employees have already starting pouring concrete and filling in missing pieces of sidewalk all the way through the city. Twenty-three missing sidewalk pieces are budgeted to be completed in 2016, all by Nixa Streets workers. A majority of the pieces include wheel chair ramps making it easier for Nixa citizens to get around.

"The project is, for lack of a better term, a cleanup project for connectivity," said Colvin. "Our main focus with this project is simply connectivity for the residents."

Look for Nixa's connectivity project to be completed before winter. The entire project will cost the city \$23,065 for 171 yards of concrete and 200 tons of bedrock. □

CITY OF INDEPENDENCE

UTILITY CENTER BUILDING

The City of Independence broke ground in February for their new Utility Center Building. The project will re-purpose the existing professional building which has been vacant for several years. The new Utility Center has been designed to meet LEED Platinum certification and will be the first LEED Platinum building in western Missouri.

The building will house the Power and Light, Water, and Water Pollution Control Departments. The new Utility Center Building is located close to the geographic center of the City and is easily accessed from all directions. Construction is scheduled to be completed this fall. Progress photos are posted weekly on the Independence Power and Light Facebook page. □



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CITY OF LIBERTY

HISTORIC DOWNTOWN RENAISSANCE



The Franklin Street, Liberty Drive and historic downtown public improvements are clear signs of a public construction renaissance in Liberty.

Liberty's historic downtown is the heart of the community and has recently begun to experience a renaissance, with new restaurants and boutique and specialty shops filling once-vacant storefronts. Beginning in 2014, the City of Liberty began a series of projects that have helped build on this momentum.

In 2014 and 2015, the city of Liberty invested nearly \$4 million in two large-scale roadway projects, that include complete rebuilds of not only the above-ground infrastructure but also the aging utility services below ground.

The first of these projects was on Franklin Street, located within one of Liberty's five local historic districts. It has homes that represent a variety of architectural styles, with some dating back to the mid- to late- 1800s. The Dougherty Historic District is the gateway into historic downtown Liberty. This historic neighborhood is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Franklin Street from Prairie to Fairview is a one-way, predominantly residential, street. The roadway, paved in 1910, was one of the first paved streets in Liberty. The street was constructed of brick and had aging water and sewer infrastructure below the layer of pavement. The project included the following major elements;

- Existing pavement removal and a total street pavement reconstruction;
- Installation of concrete curbing and sidewalks;
- Storm water, water infrastructure and sanitary sewer improvements;
- Traffic-calming bump outs.

In 2015, the City embarked on a \$2 million facelift on Liberty Drive from Ridge to Mill Street. This street, which bisects the Prospect Heights historic district, serves as a primary gateway to the historic downtown from M-291.

This street transitions from retail near the M-291 intersection to residential as drivers head east toward the heart of the community. This project included:

- Reconstruction and widening of the existing roadway;
- Construction of curbing and a new enclosed drainage system replacing open ditches;
- Construction of a retaining wall and the addition of a pedestrian/bike path along the south side;
- New street lighting and landscaping.

Continuing to build on this renaissance in the heart of Liberty and with voter approval of a 3/8-cent Economic Development Sales Tax, the city of Liberty is now moving forward with a \$5 million reconstruction in downtown Liberty.

Highlights of the project include the total reconstruction of the streets, sidewalks, and utility infrastructure around the Liberty "Square" area. Sidewalks will be widened to 14 feet, new landscaping; crosswalks will highlight intersections; and parking areas will be upgraded. The project will not only provide significant aesthetic improvements to an aging downtown business area but will also upgrade aging underground infrastructure, enhance vehicle and pedestrian safety, and allow for less complex future maintenance of the downtown publically owned area. Construction will begin in May 2016 and be completed in phases by the end of the year.

While smaller in scope when compared to the City's \$75 million Utilities Operations Center (currently under construction) or the \$23 million extension of an east-west parkway in southern Liberty (beginning in May), the Franklin Street, Liberty Drive and historic downtown public improvements are clear signs of a public construction renaissance in Liberty. □

CITY OF CHESTERFIELD

VETERANS HONOR PARK

The City of Chesterfield has announced plans to move forward on the construction of the Veterans Honor Park, a monument site to honor past, present and future veterans of the United States Armed Forces. The park will be located on the west side of Veterans Place Drive in Chesterfield's Central Park, and will occupy a 16,500-square-foot area next to the south entrance of the Chesterfield Amphitheater.

The Veterans Honor Park will be built in two phases; Phase 1 will include the heart of the park design, including a granite monument fountain, military seals and threshold pavers, paved sidewalks, inner ring precast benches and flagpoles. Phase 2 of the construction will enhance the street approach by creating a sanctuary occupied by arcing benches orbiting around the central monument fountain, as well as a grove of trees, granite paths, and additional landscaping to provide a calm yet engaging space for the community to honor and recognize veterans. The park will accommodate visitors day and night during regular park hours, providing opportunities for individuals, families, or groups to gather for both educational discovery and contemplative retrospection.

The design vision of the park was created by architectural firm, Powers Bowersox Associates, as a calm and peaceful gathering monument that is inviting, uplifting, engaging and inspirational. The Veterans Honor Park Committee will continue to raise funds for the park through a variety of donation opportunities including title sponsors, benches, and donor strips, as well as engraved pressed-concrete pavers. For details on the construction timeline and all of the donation opportunities, visit <https://vhp.chesterfield.mo.us/donate.html>. □



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CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS

PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS FACILITY



(Top) City of Richmond Heights' old public works and parks facility. The new facility (above) was completed in 2016.

Early 2016 brought many new and exciting things to the City of Richmond Heights including the Weber Grill Restaurant and Cooking School at the Saint Louis Galleria, the 255,000-square-foot Menards store, two 7,000-square-foot homes, a 5,000-square-foot office for the Boys Hope Girls Hope-St. Louis Organization, and more! One of the most exciting changes in Richmond Heights is the completion of the City's new public works and parks garage and storage yard.

The previous facility was demolished to make way for the new Menards store as well as about 13 more new retailers and restaurants along Hanley Road. The new public works/parks facility is about 8,000 square feet, plus a 71,000-square-foot equipment yard that includes a 1,000-ton salt dome.

Built by Raineri Construction & BBI Constructors, the facility and yard were completed in about 8 months, as both departments worked out of a temporary trailer with their laptops and cell phones for day-to-day operations. No doubt, the public works and parks departments are happy to have permanent, modern facilities to call home.

The City plans to host a public open house on May 16th, perfectly timed during National Public Works Week! □

CITY OF PERRYVILLE

FIELD IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

As with most communities, the cost of repairs, upgrades and new construction far outweigh the budgeted dollars in parks and recreation. Faced with this reality, a group of parents with a passion for softball and baseball formed a group known as the Field Improvement Committee. The group was founded in January of 2015 to raise money through field sponsorships in order to expedite the process of improving field conditions.

Last year, the committee approached the Board of Aldermen and asked permission to sell naming rights to the baseball fields in City Park. Any funds raised would be deposited into a specific line item in the Parks budget. This line item is allowed to roll over so that any monies raised are allowed to stay in the budget over the years. The City and the committee work together to determine projects that would be most beneficial to the City and the leagues.

The first project that was worked on was Robinson Construction Field (formerly known simply as Field #8). The committee thought this would be a good project as it is used as a game field for the local high school and also serves recreational leagues during the summer. The committee hoped that, by working together with the City, this field would become one of the best in the region.

This year, the City budgeted money to replace the backstops, fencing, improve a drainage ditch beyond the field and replace the antiquated and dilapidated playground equipment nearby. The committee, in turn, agreed to install a concrete apron behind the backstop, concrete the dugouts, and install the dugout roofs. The largest investment was for the installation of a Duraedge® infield. Duraedge® is specialized dirt that allows fields to drain quickly, thereby reducing the amount of rainouts. After countless hours of volunteer work and donations the project is almost complete. With continued help from volunteers and businesses in the area the committee was able to donate upwards of \$25,000-\$30,000 towards the project. Their donations included; stone, concrete, rebar, lumber and a great deal of skilled labor.

Going forward the committee will again work with the City on a project that will include new backstops on two more fields. The committee's contribution to this new project will include leveling the field, adding concrete aprons and improved drainage. These next two fields will be renovated in fall of 2016.

The city of Perryville is very blessed to have citizens willing to work with and help the City to become better. The City would like to thank the committee and all of the volunteers who are helping us achieve our goals of becoming the best parks and recreation system in the region. □



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The Perryville Field Improvement Committee was founded in January 2015 to raise money through field sponsorships in order to expedite the process of improving field conditions.

CITY OF LEE'S SUMMIT

BAILEY ROAD BRIDGE

The newly constructed Bailey Road bridge in Lee's Summit, Mo., was opened to traffic in late March 2016.

The Bailey Road project included the extension of Bailey Road from Missouri Route 291 (M-291) Highway east to the intersection of SE Hamblen and SE Bailey roads. The most significant portion of the project was the design and construction of a 300 foot-long bridge rising nearly forty feet in the air for clearance over the Union Pacific Railroad tracks. The removal and replacement of the SE Hamblen and SE Bailey roads intersection was the final step before the new Bailey Road bridge could be opened to traffic.

The project is anticipated to improve access to the east side of M-291, relieve congestion near US 50 and M-291 Highways, and open the area for further development. Funding came from the extension of the 1/2 cent sales tax for capital improvement projects passed by Lee's Summit voters in the spring of 2007.

For more information about projects in the City of Lee's Summit, visit LSpw.net. □



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