

# 2012

## Year in Review



## Mission

To improve the quality of life by providing recreational, leisure, and aesthetic opportunities for all citizens, and by conserving and enhancing the environment.

We will accomplish this mission by providing quality programming, making the best use of existing resources, developing a supportive and influential constituency, developing effective collaborations and partnerships, and acquiring and preserving natural features.



## Dear Friends of Parks and Recreation,

When I think about this past year, the first words that come to mind are THANK YOU. Thank you for your confidence and commitment to KC Parks and Kansas City as evidenced by the 63% approval of Question #1 last August. The funds that Parks and Recreation receive from this sales tax enable our department to proactively plan for the future and enhance our services and amenities to better serve our residents.

Thank you to our Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners, both past and present, who united for the campaign to successfully promote the passage of Question #1. I am also thankful for quality employees who deliver on promises. Their top-notch service, strong work ethic and past performance, enabled our citizens to confidently vote “yes”.

Although the sales tax initiative was clearly our greatest accomplishment, we had other notable achievements in 2012 which are highlighted in this Year in Review including the opening of The Bay Water Park and the 9th & Van Brunt Athletic Complex, MLB All-Star Week activities, Club KC, and improvements to Spring Valley Park. But there is more.

In 2012, we began a much needed multi-million dollar facelift to one of our oldest and most highly visible parks, Penn Valley Park. In our largest park,

Swope Park, we opened our second dog park, added just over one-mile of exercise trails, and initiated installation of an improved signage system. A new event, Brush Creek ArtWalk, took place on four-miles of lush tree-lined walks along the creek banks. Over the creek, the new Troost Bridge was opened with a grand celebration in May.

In an effort to promote clean air and good health, we launched a pilot program in 13 parks instituting smoke-free zones focusing on areas where children play. These zones will be expanded in 2013. Recycling programs began for visitors to our community centers and select parks. Since the program’s launch last summer, more than three tons of materials have been diverted from the landfill.

Kansas City’s historic Boulevard and Parkway system expanded in the Northland with the opening of the new Highway 169 Interchange at Tiffany Springs Parkway (formerly NW 96th Street). A similar interchange at 108th Street is undergoing construction and will open in 2013 as an extension of Shoal Creek Parkway. And in recognition of our world-class system, the American Planning Association announced the designation of Ward Parkway as one of 10 Great Streets for 2012 under their Great Places in America program.

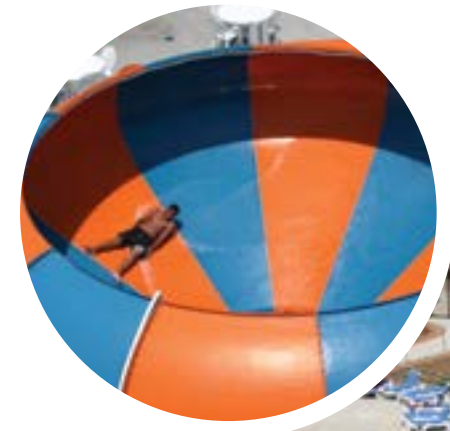
It seems that our work is not going unnoticed. Major improvements for KC Parks were seen in four areas of the Citizen Satisfaction survey including park maintenance, quality of park facilities, maintenance of boulevards/parkways, and community centers. Significant areas of improvement were reflected in the quality of outdoor athletic fields, walking and biking trails, and ease of registering for programs.

The end of an era in leadership came to a conclusion in 2012 with the retirement of our Deputy Director Steve Lampone. Steve was a force with KC Parks for 35 years and served as deputy director for the past nine years. His energetic, entrepreneurial “can do” spirit, unassuming leadership style and historical knowledge will be missed.

KC Parks continues to listen to our residents in order to provide the programs, services and amenities to best serve our public. We look forward to new opportunities in 2013 and appreciate your continued support.

Sincerely,  
**Mark L. McHenry**  
Director





## First Class Recreation Amenities Open up South

When The Bay Water Park opened in south Kansas City's Longview Park on May 25, it was a triumphant moment for a part of the city that had been void of public water facilities for more than a decade.

The \$8 million state-of-the-art facility features 350,000 gallons of water loaded with amenities including a six-lane lap pool, zero depth entry leisure pool, water playground, family slide, 900-foot lazy river with waves, two tube slides, and a swirl bowl slide.

There are 23 sun shades, reasonably priced concessions, and a bath house constructed from Ipe wood--an extremely durable and sustainable

hardwood from Brazilian rainforests--that includes two family changing rooms. One hundred and thirty seasonal employees helped operate the facility which was open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. Capacity is 1,000 patrons.

Programs and events offered at The Bay included Splash and Play, group and private swim lessons, Jr. Lifeguard program, Water Safety Awareness Clinics, River Walking, Aqua Camp and family and teen parties. Private pool rentals and Birthday Party packages were also available.

Thousands of patrons visited the new facility during its inaugural season plus 50 dogs who attended The

Bay's first Dippin' Dogs swim party after the pool closed for the season.

The Bay Water Park is adjacent to a large spray ground and play ground. The rest of the 19-acre Longview Park features two football fields, a walking trail, basketball courts and a shelter house.

# ✓ Completed Projects

## Construction Projects

Broadway Streetscape Repairs, 39th to Armour Blvd.  
 Broadway /Westport Streetscape  
 Central Region Fueling System Facility  
 Kansas City Zoo New Tiger Exhibit  
 Kansas City Zoo Sea Lion Exhibit Shade Structure  
 Longview Tract Outdoor Aquatics, The Bay Water Park  
 Observation Park Phase I  
 Penn Valley Park Road and Lake Improvements

## Playgrounds

Budd Park  
 Platte Purchase Park  
 San Rafael Park  
 Sheila Kemper Dietrich Park

## Trails

Blue River Trail  
 Daniel Morgan Boone Trail  
 Briarcliff Greenway Trail  
 Brush Creek Trail  
 Dunn Park Trail  
 Margaret Kemp Park Trail  
 Roanoke Park Mountain Bike Trail  
 Swope Park Trails

## Athletic Fields

9th & Van Brunt Athletic Complex /Soccer Fields  
 Clark Ketterman Park Baseball Field Improvements  
 Cleveland Park Baseball Field Improvements  
 Mulkey Square Park Baseball Field Improvements  
 Oak Park Baseball Field Improvements  
 Police Athletic League (PAL) Center Football Fields  
 Spring Valley Park Baseball and Football Fields  
 Waterwell Park Baseball Field Improvements

## Master Plans

Byram's Ford Big Blue Battlefield  
 Anne Garney Park  
 Garrison Community Center  
 Grand Boulevard Streetscape  
 Hodge Park  
 Little Blue Valley Park  
 Pleasant Valley Park

## Monuments & Fountains Conservation

Ilus Davis Memorial Statue  
 Marlborough Fountain  
 Meyer Circle Seahorse Fountain  
 Bernard Powell Fountain

## Parking Lot Improvements

Liberty Park  
 Kansas City Zoo  
 Gregg Klice Community Center  
 Loose Park Garden Center  
 Minor Park Tennis Court Complex  
 Tiffany Hills Park

## Stone Wall Repairs

Mulkey Square Park  
 Observation Park  
 Southmoreland Park

## Tennis Court Resurfacing

Gillham Park  
 Loose Park

## Facility Maintenance & Repairs

Ashland Park Shelter  
 Cleveland Park Landscaping  
 Grove Park Restrooms  
 Montgall Park Shelter Improvements

## Land Acquisition

Longview Tract addition, 1.96 acres  
 Marlborough Community Center, .31 acres

## Other Projects

Noble Park Lighting, Trail & Bridge repairs  
 Red Bridge Art Panel Installation  
 Swope Park Off-Leash Dog Park  
 Swope Park Signage Phase I  
 Troost Lake Lighting  
 Vineyard Gardens Drainage Improvements  
 Westwood Park Lighting



KC Wide Open  
 Professional Disc  
 Golf Championships



Camp Fire Heartland at  
 Camp Lake of the Woods



Swope Park  
 Off-Leash Dog Park



Sheila Kemper  
 Dietrich Park



## . . . And in the Northeast

For more than a year, KC Parks worked to transform the intersection of 9th & Van Brunt into a community gathering place and soccer complex. A ribbon cutting ceremony and community picnic was held June 29 to celebrate the completion and officially kick-off the Mayor's Night Kicks youth soccer league.

Sitting on a 12.4 acre site, the athletic fields include a new artificial turf soccer field, two natural turf practice fields, decorative and stadium lighting, an amphitheater/event plaza that seats 360, concession building with restrooms, paved parking lot, a 1/2-mile walking trail surrounding the fields and landscaping. Other improvements include a brick wall sound barrier and new sidewalks and curbs along 9th Street.

Prior to the transformation, the site once housed the headquarters of the Area Transportation Authority as well as its street cars. When ATA ceased using the land, the intersection became an eyesore with broken asphalt and growing weeds. It became a place to dump and an area that attracted negative activity.

A number of community, city and federal partners made the athletic complex possible. A portion of the project funding was made possible through a \$2.5 million HUD Economic Development Initiative-Special Project Grant. The remaining funding came from City PIAC funds, and a \$200,000 grant from the United States Soccer Foundation and Sporting Kansas City allowed for the installation of high

quality artificial turf. The soccer fields are operated, maintained and programmed in partnership with the Mattie Rhodes Center.

As the new home for the revamped Mayor's Night Kicks program, the 9th & Van Brunt complex proved to be extremely successful in uniting and celebrating the international flavor of the historic Northeast. Twenty teams, comprised of 200 athletes, participated in the 7-week long Mayor's Night Kicks tournament to the enjoyment of more than 2,800 spectators.

# 2012 Events Calendar

## Weekends

Car Free Weekends on Cliff Drive

## Through February 29

Green Exposures Photography Exhibit at the Central Library

## February 4

Breakfast with the Beasts at Lakeside Nature Center

## March 10

Brookside St. Pat's Warm-Up Parade

## March 12

Groundbreaking for Route 169 Parkway Interchanges

## March 17

St. Patrick's Day Parade on Broadway

## March 23-25

Flower, Lawn & Garden and Home Show

## March 26

Red Bridge Decorative Panels News Conference

## March 31

Project Blue River Rescue in Swope Park

Zoological District Free Day at the Kansas City Zoo

Ethnic Enrichment Commission Diplomatic Ball

## April 2

Ribbon Cutting for Shoal Creek Trail extension

## April 7

Arbor Day Tree Planting at Loose Park

## April 10

Fountain Day at Marlborough Fountain

## April 14

Earth Day at Lakeside Nature Center

## April 14

Rock the Parkway Half Marathon and 5K on Ward Parkway

## April 16

Groundbreaking for Chouteau Parkway improvements

## April 21

Earthwalk: Celebration of the Planet Festival

## April 28

Fit & Fiscal Family Sports Festival at Minor Park

Arbor Day Tree Planting at Union Cemetery

## April 28-29

Chalk Walk in the Historic Northeast

## May-October

KC Organics and Natural Market in Minor Park (Saturdays)

Downtown Farmers Market in Ilus Davis Park (Thursdays)

## May 5

Dedication of Spring Valley Park Improvements &

Frank White 5K Fun Run/Walk

Troost Bridge Celebration

## May 12

Celebrate Urban Birds at Lakeside Nature Center

Family Fun Bike Ride/Walk at the Spirit of Freedom Fountain

Mother's Day for Mother Earth in Theis Park

## May 13

Mother's Day for Mother Earth in Theis Park

## May 13-19

Kansas City Bike Week Events



## May 15

Ribbon Cutting for Skate Park Expansion in Penn Valley Park

## May 17, 24 & 31 and June 7, 14 & 21

Thimble Thursday Concerts in Garment Park

## May 23

KC Parks Employee Departmental Service Awards Breakfast



## May 25

Grand Opening of the Bay Water Park in Longview Tract

## May 26-27

Jiggle Jam Festival at Crown Center and Grand Boulevard

## May 26-September 3

Major Pools & Spraygrounds Open for Season

## May 28

Memorial Day Observances at National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial and Union Cemetery

## May 31

Clips of Faith Film Tour in Theis Park

[Sporting KC Soccer Ability Sports Camp in Swope Park](#)

## June 1

Jazzoo at the Kansas City Zoo

## June 1-3

KC Wide Open Professional Disc Golf Championships

## June 2

National Trails Day on the Blue River Trail

## June 3

Rose Show & Rose Day at Laura Conyers Smith Rose Garden in Loose Park

Cancer Survivors Rally in Bloch Cancer Survivors Park

## June 9

Dragon Boat Festival & Races on Brush Creek

BUGS! at Lakeside Nature Center

Mayor's Night Hoops Tip Off at Southeast Community Center

## June 9

The Picnic Project Workshop at Mill Creek Park

## June 9-September 8

Legacy Father & Son Photo Exhibit at Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center

## June 10

Heartland Heat Triathlon at Tiffany Hills Park

## June 12-August 7

Junior Pools Open for the Season

## June 15-August 11

Mayor's Nights/Club KC Events

## June 16

Urban American Outdoors Fishing Derby at Spring Valley

## June 17

Ride the Fountains: City of Fountains Bike Tour beginning and ending at Washington Square Park

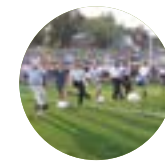
The Picnic Project Workshop at Washington Square Park

## June 19-July 15

Heart of America Shakespeare Festival in Southmoreland Park

## June 27

Concert in Roanoke Park



## June 29

Dedication of Athletic Fields at 9th & Van Brunt

## June 29

Mayor's Night Kicks Tournament Kick-Off

## June 30

The Picnic Project Workshop at Swope Park

Zoological District Free Day at the Kansas City Zoo

## July 1-31

National Parks and Recreation Month

## July 6

Dedication for Baseball Field Renovations at 43rd & Cleveland and Satchel Paige Stadium

## July 6-10

Major League Baseball All-Star Events

Blue Fountains for MLB All-Star Game

## July 6, 13, 20 & 27

Children's Film Festival in Hyde Park

## July 10

Dedication for Baseball Field Renovations at Mulkey Square Park



## July 18

Cherry Tree Planting Ceremony in Loose Park

## July 19

Recreation Express in Van Brunt Park

## July 21

Party in the Park at Swope Park

Hot to Trot 5K in Hodge Park

"In the Pink of the Evening" Concert at the Collonade in Kessler Park

## July 24

Recreation Express in Penguin Park

## July 24-27

KC Parks Employee Appreciation Ice Cream Socials

## July 26

Recreation Express in Jarboe Park

## July 27

Dedication of Interpretive Panels on Red Bridge



## July 27-29

Brush Creek ArtWalk

## July 28

Spirit Ride at National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial

## August 1-4

UniverSoul Circus in Swope Park

## August 2

Recreation Express in Noble Park

## August 7

Question #1 Ballot Initiative Approved

## August 10

Mayor's Night Kicks Championship Games at 9th & Van Brunt Athletic Fields

## August 17-19

Ethnic Enrichment Festival in Swope Park

## August 23-September 14

Brush Creek ArtWalk Exhibit at UMKC Gallery of Art



## August 25

Grand Opening of Off-Leash Area in Swope Park

## August 25

Zoological District Free Day at the Kansas City Zoo

## August 28

Ribbon Cutting for new access to Daniel Morgan Boone Gravesite

## August 31-September 6

Purple Fountains for Alzheimer's Awareness

## September 1-3

KC Irish Fest in Washington Square Park

## September 6

Dippin' Dogs Swim Party at The Bay Water Park

## September

Kansas City Chiefs Red Friday

## September 8

Dippin' Dogs Swim Party at The Springs Aquatics Center

Dance in the Park in Roanoke Park

## September 9

Jazz in the Garden at Loose Park Rose Garden

# 2012 Events Calendar (continued)

**September 10**  
Enshriners Golf Tournament at Swope Memorial



**September 14-23**  
Teal Fountains for Ovarian Cancer Awareness

**September 15**  
KC Zoo Run/Walk: Run for the Tigers

**September 21-22**  
Minor Park Open Tennis Tournament  
Wonders of Outdoor Wildlife at Camp Lake of the Woods

**September 28**  
First Anniversary Celebration for the Missouri Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington Square Park

**September 29**  
Zoological District Free Day at the Kansas City Zoo

**September 29-October 10**  
Pink Fountains for Breast Cancer Awareness

**October 2**  
Ward Parkway designated 2012 Great Places in America: Great Street by American Planning Association

**October 4**  
Wine & Roses Garden Party in Loose Park Rose Garden

**October 6**  
Community Center Fall Open Houses

**October 6-7**  
KC Indian Art Market in Frank Vaydik Park

**October 12-13**  
Magic Woods at Lakeside Nature Center

**October 13**  
Harvest Festival at Shoal Creek Living History Museum  
Rhythm & Ribs at 18th & Vine

**October 20**  
Ability Day at Southeast Community Center  
Kansas City Marathon in Washington Square Park

**October 25**  
Ribbon Cutting for Sheila Kemper Dietrich Park Renovations

**October 27**  
WaterFire Kansas City on Brush Creek

**October 30**  
Scary Skate at Line Creek Ice Arena

**November 2**  
Ribbon Cutting for Route 169 Interchange Opening at Tiffany Springs Parkway

**November 3**  
The Wilderness Run at Shoal Creek Living History Museum

**November 4**  
The Cliffhanger Run on Cliff Drive in Kessler Park

**November 11**  
Veterans Day Observances at National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial & Vietnam Veterans Memorial

**November 17**  
Turkey Bowl at Line Creek Ice Arena



**November 28**  
Controlled Prairie Burn at Jerry Smith Park

**November 16, 30 & December 7, 14, 21 & 28**  
Healthy Hour Fridays at KC Parks Fitness Centers

**December 1**  
A Visit from St. Nicholas at Shoal Creek Living History Museum

**December 6**  
Tree Lighting in Brookside Court Park

**December 7**  
Senior Holiday Luncheon at Brush Creek Community Center  
Santa's Wonderland in Gillham Park

Motown Christmas at Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center

**December 7, 8, 12, 13 & 15**  
Mayor's Holiday Parties at Community Centers

**December 8**  
Santa's Wonderland in Penguin Park

**December 9**  
Santa's Wonderland at Longview Tract

**December 12**  
KC Parks Employee Breakfast & City Service Awards

**December 15**  
Kris Kringle 5K Run in Swope Park  
Holidazzle at Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center

**December 22**  
Skate with Santa at Line Creek Ice Arena



## Sales Tax Dollars Provide Stable Funding and Enhanced Programs

On August 7, Kansas City voters overwhelmingly said "yes" to Question #1 which removed several property taxes and the motor vehicle licensing fee and approved a half-cent sales tax increase to bolster parks, community centers and streets. Additionally, the sales tax reduced the City's General Fund support dedicated to the Parks Department and redirected those funds for street maintenance.

While the additional funds are not a windfall, the sales tax does provide the department with a stable funding source and ensures that Kansas City can continue to have one of the best parks and recreation systems in the country.

Improvements came about quickly as KC Parks was able to fast track several programs and services based

on anticipated funding. In early October, both Tony Aguirre and Gregg/Klice Community Centers began seven-day-a-week operations raising the number of community centers open every day of the week to four. The S.H.A.P.E. inspection (Safe Healthy Attractive Parks Environments) program that evaluates the conditions of parks and facilities was reinstated in late October with the hiring of a new staff person. Additionally, twelve new annual flower beds, two in each Council district, were planted with fall mums. Playground safety inspections increased from once per month to once per week and picnic shelter renovations, including painting and electrical work commenced.

More improvements are planned for the funds from Question #1 when they become available during the

City's new fiscal year beginning in May 2013. These include adding operating hours and programming in community centers where the need is found to exist; enhanced marketing efforts featuring a new website; increasing plantings from 46 to 90 flower beds situated geographically throughout the City; expanding summer enrichment camps and athletic programs; additional fountain cleanings, mowings, and more timely removal of graffiti and litter.

# FACTS AND FIGURES

## TOTAL PARTICIPATION

4,962,183

## YOUTH PARTICIPATION

519,423

ALL FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS

## CUSTOMER PARTICIPATION

COMMUNITY CENTERS

470,604

POOLS/SPRAYGROUNDS

200,178

ATHLETIC FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS

2,190,917



## ATTENDANCE

GOLF COURSES	156,207
LAKESIDE NATURE CENTER	29,701
LOOSE PARK GARDEN CENTER	17,438
KANSAS CITY ZOO	824,217
NATIONAL WWI MUSEUM	136,230
SHOAL CREEK LIVING HISTORY MUSEUM	30,949
STARLIGHT THEATRE	230,488
BRUCE R. WATKINS CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTER	15,565

## SHELTER HOUSES

RESERVATIONS	780
ATTENDANCE	57,128



## VOLUNTEERS

NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS	10,689
VOLUNTEER HOURS	1,193,635
ESTIMATED VALUE OF VOLUNTEERS	\$24,171,101

## NATURAL RESOURCES

TREES TRIMMED	4,211
TREES REMOVED	1,970
STUMPS REMOVED	1,216
TOTAL ACREAGE MOWED	50,584
CUBIC FEET OF SNOW REMOVED	1,032,532
GRAFFITI INCIDENTS REMOVED	891
CITIZEN 311 ACTION CENTER (REQUESTS RESOLVED)	3,957
LAND ACQUISITION IN ACRES	2.58



## MARKETING AND EVENTS

FACEBOOK FANS	1,746
ENEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION LIST	8,479
NUMBER OF PARK EVENTS	234
SPECIAL EVENT ATTENDANCE	591,872



## MAINTENANCE HOURS WORKED

ATHLETIC FIELD	4,035
LANDSCAPE	28,732
PARK FACILITY REPAIRS	24,903
SPECIAL EVENT PREPARATION	3,499
LITTER/TRASH REMOVAL	40,674







## MLB All-Star Week

The 83rd MLB All-Star Game and Major League Baseball made a major impact on Kansas City when the mid-summer classic came to town in early July.

Together with the Kansas City Royals, MLB unveiled the most extensive lasting legacy endeavor in history through projects that benefit the KC community and beyond. MLB and the Royals donated nearly \$4 million from a portion of the proceeds from Gatorade All-Star Workout Day to a variety of local and national organizations and projects. KC Parks, specifically, was the beneficiary of several baseball field renovations and upgrades.

The opening ceremony for the fourth annual Jr. RBI Classic was held at Satchel Paige Stadium, which had its field completely renovated thanks to MLB All-Star Legacy funding and product donations by The Scotts Company, LLC, the Official Lawn Care Company of Major League Baseball. Renovations included the installation of a new irrigation system and scoreboard, infield and outfield maintenance, fencing construction and installation, backstops, dugouts and other improvements to the general facility surrounding the field.

Field renovations at Cleveland Park, which serves nearly 800 players in the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City RBI league, were also unveiled. The Baseball

Tomorrow Fund (BTF) awarded a grant to provide funding for the renovations, which included infield mix, laser grading and drainage surrounding the four fields at the park. The MO-KAN Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association recommended the renovations and provided volunteer labor to complete the project. City PIAC funds assisted with landscaping and repairs to the scoreboard.

Renovations to the baseball field in Mulkey Square Park included the installation of a new irrigation system and scoreboard, infield and outfield maintenance, new infield skin, fencing construction and installation, backstops, dugouts and other improvements to the facility surrounding the field. Product donations by the Scotts Company contributed to the completion of this project as well. G.O. Bonds and PIAC funds paid for additional enhancements to the fields and park.

Other exciting All-Star Week events that took place in partnership with KC Parks included the Red Carpet Parade on the Country Club Plaza, several fountains dyed "Major League Baseball Blue", "FANATIKCS" street graphics placed on high profile boulevards and parkways, and an All-Star Game watch party held at the Kansas City Zoo in Swope Park.

# 2012 Awards

## American Institute of Architects

Honor Award: Troost Bridge

## American Institute of Architects, Kansas City Chapter

Merit Award: Troost Bridge

## American Planning Association

2012 Great Street: Ward Parkway

## Central States American Society of Landscape Architects

Merit Award in the Planning & Analysis: Grand Boulevard Streetscape Project

## City of Kansas City, Missouri

Rich Noll Pacesetter Award: Carol Green, Gregg-Klice Community Center Director

311 Customer Service Award: Forestry Division

## City Parks Alliance

Frontline Park: Swope Park

## Concrete Promotional Group of Greater Kansas City

Excellence in Concrete Award-Swimming Pool: The Bay Water Park

## Economic Development Corporation

Cornerstone Award-Public Projects: Kansas City Zoo Polar Bear Passage

## Environmental Management Commission

Environmental Achievement Award: Brush Creek Feasibility Study E-Team

Environmental Achievement Award: Blue River Channel, 53rd to 63rd Street/Byram's Ford

## Federal Executive Board Public Employees Recognition Day

Excellence in Public Service Distinguished Team Award: KC Parks Marketing Division

## Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce

Ace Award: William Warren, Area Superintendent

## Ingram's Magazine Best of Business Awards

Best Charitable Event-Gold: Jazzoo at the Kansas City Zoo

Best Theater- Silver: Starlight Theatre

Best Family Outing/Venue-Gold: Kansas City Zoo

Best Family Outing/Venue-Silver: Starlight Theatre

Best Museum-Silver: World War I Museum

Best Performing Arts Venue-Silver: Starlight Theatre

## Kansas City Business Journal

Capstone Award, Infrastructure: Shoal Creek Parkway/96th Street Extension and Improvements

## Kansas City Convention and Visitors Association:

### Visitors Choice Awards

Nightlife & Entertainment-Concert/Live

Music Venue: Starlight Theatre

Attractions-Kids Attraction: KC Zoo

Attractions-Museum: National WWI Museum at Liberty

Attractions-Fountain: J.C. Nichols

Sports & Outdoors-Golf Course: Swope Memorial Golf Course

Liberty

Attractions-Fountain: J.C. Nichols

Sports & Outdoors-Golf Course: Swope Memorial Golf Course

## Kansas City Metropolitan Crime Commission

Metropolitan Community Services Program

Worksite Award

## Missouri Park and Recreation Association

Citation Award: Roanoke Park Conservancy

Citation Award: The Enshriners

## Pitch Magazine Best of KC Awards:

Best Park for Running/Walking: Loose Park

Best Outdoor Public Pool: The Bay Water Park

**SAVE International**

Value Engineering Award: Blue River Channel

Modification Project

## The Starfish Aquatics Institute

Four Star Award: The Bay Water Park and The Springs Aquatics Center

## Employee Service Awards

### 30 Years: City of Kansas City, MO

Robert Thompson, Natural Resources Division, Boulevard Maintenance

Gary Murray, Natural Resources Division, Tree Service

### Employee Service Awards

30 Years: Parks & Recreation

Keith Ross, Natural Resources Division, South Region

Teresa Brucks, Natural Resources Division, Tree Service

### Quality Circle: Supervisor of the Year

Clarence Brown, Central Region

### Employee Retirements

Cathy Blakely, 11 years and 3 months

Shari Brown, 29 years and 9 months

Edward Donegan, 34 years and 6 months

Steve Lampone, 34 years and 7 months

Joseph Matson, 20 years and 4 months

Jerry Roberson, 24 years and 12 days

John Taylor, 22 years and 8 months

Donald Waller, 20 years and 7 days



## Club KC: A Summer Success

The sounds of teenage laughter and pop music permeated Brush Creek, Gregg Klice and Tony Aguirre Community Centers late into the evening this past summer, as 7,500+ youth spent their weekend nights from mid-June through August hanging out at Club KC.

Club KC, a partnership between the Mayor's office and Kansas City Parks and Recreation, provided free, fun and safe summer weekend nightlife activities for youth ages 12-18, including DJs, dancing, video games, swim parties and basketball.

Club KC was a response to the growing need for safe and fun activities for the youth of Kansas City

during their summer vacation. In 2011, Kansas City, like many urban cities, saw an influx of youth gather in public places late into the evening. When violence occurred on the Plaza, the Mayor and City Council responded by implementing a curfew on City's entertainment districts.

While the curfew was an effective tool, City leaders wanted to understand why youth participated in flash mobs and what the City could do to prevent them. A study initiated by the Parks and Recreation Board of Commissioners and conducted by the Kansas City Area Research Education Consortium determined that if a curfew is initiated, there should be a safe place for youth to go and that

youth are looking for ways to express themselves, and activities should allow for that expression. Enter Club KC.

Club KC was just one component of the Mayor's Nights youth activity initiative which is comprised of other ongoing KC Parks programs including Mayor's Night Kicks, Mayor's Night Hoops and Mayor's Night Nets.

# Our Partners

KC Parks has formal partnerships established with neighborhood, community, business and nonprofit organizations. These partnerships allow our department to leverage resources and generate city-wide interest and support for our system facilities, programs and events.

Alzheimer’s Association – Heart of America Chapter	Economic Development Corporation	Kansas City Design Center
Bass Pro, Wonders of Wildlife	The Enshriners	Kansas City Flying Disc Club
Black Archives of Mid-America Inc.	Ethnic Enrichment Commission	Kansas City Metro Bicycle Club
Blue Hills Neighborhood Association	Federal Reserve Bank	Kansas City Metro Jr. Golf Club
Blue River Relief	First Tee of Greater KC	Kansas City, Missouri Police Department
Blue River Watershed Association	Friends of Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center	Kansas City, Missouri School District
R.A. Bloch Cancer Foundation	Friends of Lakeside Nature Center	Kansas City Museum at Corinthian Hall
Boys & Girls Clubs of Kansas City	Friends of the Zoo	Kansas City Northern Railroad
Boy Scout Troop 260/Cub Scout Pack 260	Friends of Riverfront Park	Kansas City Organics & Natural Market
Broadway/Westport Council	Full Employment Council	Kansas City Pop Warner Football
Brookside Business Association	Gardeners Connect	Kansas City Rose Society
Brookside Roller Hockey	Garrison Community Center Youth Advisory Board	Kansas City Royals
Brookside Soccer	City of Gladstone Parks and Recreation	Kansas City Rugby
Brush Creek Community Partners	Gracemor Randolph Neighborhood Association	Kansas City United Tennis
Center School District	GreenWorks of Kansas City	Kansas City WildLands
Center Planning	Guadalupe Center Inc.	KCWE Channel 29
Chaumiere Neighborhood Association	Heart of America Council/Boy Scouts	KPRS Hot 103 JAMZ
Children’s Mercy Family Health Partners	Heart of America Shakespeare Festival	William T. Kemper Foundation, Commerce Bank Trustee
Children’s Mercy Hospital	Hickman Mills School District	Kessler Society of Kansas City
City of Fountains Foundation	Historical Society of New Santa Fe Trailside Center	Liberty Memorial Association
Clay County Parks and Recreation	Home Builders Association of Greater Kansas City	Lykins Neighborhood Association
Clay-Platte Baseball League	Hyde Park Neighborhood Association	MainCor
Cliff Drive Scenic Byway Corridor Management Committee	Jackson County Parks + Recreation	Major League Baseball
Crown Center	Jazz District Redevelopment Corp.	Marlborough Neighborhood Association
Developmental Disability Services of Jackson County-EITAS	Johnson County Stormwater Management Program	Mattie Rhoades Center
Dogpark Improvement Group	Just Off-Broadway Theater	Paul Messner Puppets
Downtown Council	Kansas City Chiefs	Mid-America Regional Council
DST Realty/State Street Bank	Kansas City Art Institute	Mid-Continent Public Library
Earth Riders Trail Association	Kansas City Community Gardens	Mill Creek Park Association
	Kansas City Convention & Visitors Association	Missouri Department of Conservation
	Kansas City Cricket Club	Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Missouri Department of Transportation  
 Missouri Korean War Veterans Memorial Committee  
 Missouri Master Gardeners  
 Missouri Master Naturalists  
 Missouri Parks & Recreation Association  
 Monnett Battle of Westport Fund  
 National Center for Indigenous American Cultures at Line Creek Inc.  
 National Park Service  
 National Recreation & Parks Association  
 Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art  
 Noble Homes Association  
 North Bennington Neighborhood Association  
 North Kansas City Area Baseball Association  
 North Kansas City School District  
 North Suburban Youth Football League  
 Northeast Arts KC  
 Northern Knights  
 Northland Community Alliance  
 Northland Neighborhoods Inc.  
 Northland Regional Chamber of Commerce  
 Northland Rugby Football Club  
 Northland Sports Alliance dba SPCAA  
 On Goal/Sporting KC  
 One Park Place  
 Optimist Athletic Association  
 Park Hill School District  
 Pendleton Heights Neighborhood Association  
 Penn Valley Park Conservancy  
 Platte County Convention & Visitors Bureau  
 Platte County Parks and Recreation  
 Plaza Rotary Club  
 Port Authority of KCMO  
 Roanoke Park Conservancy  
 Rockhill Homes Association  
 Ronald McDonald House Charities

Scarritt Renaissance Neighborhood Association  
 Sheffield Neighborhood Association  
 Sherwood Estates Neighborhood Association  
 Shoal Creek Association  
 Sister City Association of KC  
 Skywalk Memorial Foundation  
 Society for Friendship with China  
 South Kansas City Chamber of Commerce  
 SE Community Center Advisory Board  
 Southern Communities Coalition  
 South Suburban Junior Football League  
 Southtown Council  
 Starlight Theatre Association  
 StoneLion Puppet Theatre  
 3 – Trails CID  
 3 & 2 Baseball  
 Tony Aguirre Community Center Advisory Committee  
 University of MO, Kansas City  
 Union Broadcasting

Union Cemetery Historical Society  
 Union Station Kansas City Inc.  
 University of Kansas Hospital Cancer Center  
 Frank and Ann Uryasz  
 USA Swimming  
 US Army Corp of Engineers  
 US Fish & Wildlife Service  
 Verona Hills Homes Association  
 Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 317  
 Vivion Road Gang  
 Waldo Area Business Association  
 Waldo Tower Historic Society  
 Ward Family Foundation  
 Ward Parkway Homes Association  
 Vicki Welsh Fund for Ovarian Cancer Awareness  
 West Plaza Neighborhood Association  
 Westside CAN Center  
 Winnwood-Sunnybrook Neighborhood Association  
 Wornall Homestead Homes Association

## Kansas City, Missouri



for your support of Question #1!



# City Of Kansas City, Missouri Officials

## Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners

Jean Paul Chaurand, President

McClain Bryant

Allen Dillingham

Aimee Gromowsky

David Mecklenburg

## Mayor

Sylvester "Sly" James

## City Council

### First District

Scott Wagner, Dick Davis

### Second District

Ed Ford, Russ Johnson

### Third District

Melba Curls, Jermaine Reed

### Fourth District

Jim Glover, Jan Marcason

### Fifth District

Cindy Circo, Michael Brooks

### Sixth District

Scott Taylor, John A. Sharp



*Groundbreaking for Chouteau Parkway Improvements*



# Spring Valley Park Improvements

In May of 2011, ground was broken for improvements to Spring Valley Park and the adjacent Crews Square in Kansas City's urban core. On May 5 of 2012, KC Parks and the Key Coalition neighborhood hosted a ribbon cutting to celebrate the enhancements and to kick-off the first Frank White Memorial Fun Run/Walk and Art Festival.

The \$1 million project provided for major renovation to the parks including construction of a 1-mile walking trail, new football field, repairs to the Bernard Powell Memorial Fountain, upgrades to two baseball fields, installation of a new playground and five park benches. In addition, the 2-acre Spring Valley Lake was completely restored through dredging, bank

stabilization and the addition of new walkways.

The updates retain the features that give Spring Valley Park and Crews Square their distinct ambience with natural springs, grassy knolls, glens, wooded slopes, a rock quarry, and stunning views of downtown.

Former KC Royals player and coach, Frank White, grew up in the area and played baseball every day in Spring Valley Park as a child. In recognition of all that Frank White has done for Kansas City, the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners and the Key Coalition officially named the newly renovated and upgraded baseball fields at Spring Valley Park the "Frank White Jr. Ball Fields" on June 19.



*Kansas City's Professional Skateboarder, Sean Malto, at the opening of Penn Valley Park Skate Plaza*



**Kansas City, Missouri**  
**Parks and Recreation**

4600 East 63rd Street  
Kansas City, Missouri 64130

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