



**INDEPENDENCE**  
★ MISSOURI ★

A GREAT AMERICAN STORY

# MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT

## SEPTEMBER 2019

### **Dear City Council and Citizens,**

On August 6, Citizens of Independence passed Proposition P, a local use tax, with 56 percent of the votes. Beginning immediately on August 7, City staff and I began working on the next steps. On August 19, the City Council certified the election results and approved updates to the Public Safety Sales Tax Committee as they will be overseeing the Police portion of the funds collected. Changes are forthcoming for the Animal Welfare Committee, which will oversee the funds designated for the Animal Shelter. The City will begin collecting the online use tax in January and anticipate the first revenue checks from the State in March.

These funds are an important step forward for our community as municipalities across the country adapt to changing consumer purchase habits. We estimate approximately \$1.5 million in revenues over one year but will know more next spring as we see how our regional habits compare to estimates. Look for regular updates not only from the Committees tasked with overseeing these funds but also the City, Animal Shelter and Police Department as these funds are put to use.

Thank you all for helping move this community forward.

Sincerely,

Zach Walker  
City Manager  
City of Independence

# IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER

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## SEPTEMBER 2 - NO MEETING

City Offices will be closed for the Labor Day Holiday.

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## SEPTEMBER 3 - CITY COUNCIL MEETING

- The Council will meet for a Council Meeting at 6 PM in the Chamber of City Hall, 111 E. Maple Ave.
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## SEPT. 9 - COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

- The Council will meet for a regularly scheduled study session at 6 PM in the Chamber of City Hall, 111 E. Maple Ave.
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## SEPT. 16 - CITY COUNCIL MEETING

- The Council will meet for a regularly scheduled Council Meeting at 6 PM in the Chamber of City Hall, 111 E. Maple Ave.

## SEPT. 23 - COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

- The Council will meet for a regularly scheduled study session at 6 PM in the Chamber of City Hall, 111 E. Maple Ave.
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## SEPTEMBER 30 - NO MEETING

There are no meetings on the 5th Monday of a month.

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## LOOKING FOR MORE EVENTS?

You can find a variety of events, programs and classes on the City's website at [indep.us/events](https://www.independenceia.com/events) or on Facebook at [facebook.com/CityOfIndependence](https://www.facebook.com/CityOfIndependence).

# JULY BY THE NUMBERS



## SALES TAX RECEIPTS THRU JULY 2019

FUND	2020 FY YTD
General	\$1,206,735
Streets	\$539,232
Parks	\$269,601
Storm	\$269,601
Police	\$152,372
Fire	\$134,770
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,572,313</b>

BUILDING PERMITS	Month	Year-to-date	July 2019 Valuation	Year-to-date
<b>Residential</b>	<b>Permits   Units</b>	<b>Permits   Units</b>		
Single Family	9	54	\$1,885,749	\$10,856,578
Duplex Units	0	4	\$0	\$644,000
3&4 Family	0	0	\$0	\$0
Apartments	0   0	5   280	\$0	\$36,596,000
Additions, Alterations, Misc. *	103	500	\$944,720	\$5,466,085
<b>Subtotal Residential</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>563</b>	<b>\$2,830,469</b>	<b>\$53,562,663</b>
<b>Commercial</b>				
New Commercial Building	0	10	0	\$11,054,078
Additions, alterations, tenant finish	9	51	\$5,073,659	\$15,661,789
Signs, Misc. **	42	226	\$583,756	\$2,502,433
<b>Subtotal Commercial</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>\$5,657,415</b>	<b>\$29,218,300</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>\$8,487,884</b>	<b>\$82,780,963</b>

\* Includes re-roofs, pools, detached accessory buildings, demolitions and structural modifications such as decks, remodels and room or garage additions.

\*\* Includes fuel storage, fire alarm, fire sprinkler, hood suppression, tent, cell tower and fences.

BUSINESS LICENSING	July 2019	Year-to-date
New applications received	122	923
Renewals	474	3,042
<b>Total applications</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>3,965</b>
<b>Payments received</b>	<b>\$199,494.50</b>	<b>\$1,204,748.34</b>

# JULY BY THE NUMBERS

## WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

- 283 million gallons of wastewater treated
- 11,883 feet of pipe inspected
- 179 manholes inspected
- 271 storm structures inspected
- 23 pipe repairs
- 387 water samples tested (1,694 tests performed)
- 40 environmental regulatory inspections

## POWER AND LIGHT

- 31 distribution poles changed out
- 19 transformers replaced
- 7 customers installed underground conversions
- 150 various services calls completed
- 184 electrical inspections performed
- Completed 29 environmental compliance sampling & reporting efforts related to protection of stormwater and groundwater resources
- 123,314,000 kWhs of electricity provided to customers
- Peak demand 289 MW
- Generated 4,785,000 kWh from units in Independence
- Solar farms produced 2,342,000 kWh
- 49 safety events including equipment testing, audits, training and drills
- 583 trees trimmed, 532 trees over 4" in diameter removed.

## PUBLIC WORKS

- 883 potholes filled
- 230 building repair work orders addressed
- 149 sidewalk and right-of-way work orders addressed
- 298 traffic sign work orders addressed
- 303 mowing/debris/misc. work orders addressed.
- 4,846 crew labor hours
- 3,572 engineering staff labor hours

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

8,384 calls for service. The call types with the highest numbers included:

- 1,409 traffic stops
- 641 suspicious persons/activity
- 542 disturbance
- 231 domestic disturbance - physical
- 230 domestic disturbance - verbal

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

- 2,019 total service calls with an average response time 4:37 minutes.
- 11 structure fires, average response time 4:40 minutes
- 1,201 EMS calls, average response time 5:10 minutes
- 176 commercial fire inspections
- 8 public education demos, reaching 257 people

## WATER DEPARTMENT

- 940 million gallons of water pumped
- 18 water main leaks/ breaks and repairs
- 27 minute average response time from when a water main break was reported
- 366 fire hydrants inspected and flushed
- 451 valves located and inspected

## PARKS | RECREATION | TOURISM

- Prepped fields for 213 games, 96 practices
- Removed 11 graffiti incidents
- 21,219 patrons visited Adventure Oasis Water Park
- 8,920 patrons visited George Owens Nature Park
- 8,788 patrons visited Sermon Center
- 6,334 patrons visited the Silverstein Eye Centers Arena and Centerpoint Community Ice
- An estimated 4,269 patrons visited City-owned historic sites, 1,951 of them visiting the National Frontier Trails Museum.

# DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### Notable Projects Submitted during July

Carmax submitted construction plans to renovate their 20,878 square foot building at 19010 E. Valley View Parkway.

HyVee submitted construction plans to renovate the Market Grille Express and kitchen at 4545 S. Noland Road.

### Notable Projects Issued during July

The Truman Library has been issued a building permit to renovate the 101,951 square foot Harry S Truman Presidential Library & Museum, including a 3,580 square foot expansion of the entry lobby.



Black Bear Diner has been issued a building permit to construct a new 5,500 square-foot sit down restaurant in the Menards development at 4053 S. Little Blue Parkway.

Planet Fitness has been issued a building permit to renovate the 16,683 square-foot former True Value building at 2337 S. M-291 Highway.



### Notable Projects finished during July

Dollar General completed the new 7,500 square-foot building at 909 S. Chrysler Ave.

AMC Theaters completed the renovation of the 50,000 square-foot location at 19200 E. 39th Street.

## ANIMAL SERVICES

The City of Independence officially took over operations of the Regional Animal Shelter on July 15. The shelter is open for adoptions from noon to 7 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

As the transition continues, the City is looking for new opportunities to share available pets and encourage visitors to stop by the Shelter. On July 20, the Shelter held its first open house. Visitors were able to tour the buildings, enjoy local food trucks and snack on ice cream.

Below is an overview of activity for Animal Services, which oversees Shelter activities, for the month of July.

<b>Intake Total</b>	<b>173</b>
Intake – Cats	91
Intake – Dogs	81
Intake – Other	1
Adoptions	22
Return-to-Owner	38
<b>Average Length of Stay</b>	
Dogs	14.3 days
Cats	21.1 days
<b>Volunteering</b>	
Active Volunteers	103
Hours Volunteered	534
Fostered Animals	12

Follow the shelter on Facebook at [facebook.com/IndependenceAnimalServices](https://facebook.com/IndependenceAnimalServices).

## POWER & LIGHT

On the morning of July 10 we had a severe thunderstorm that caused 5,538 customers to be without power for a total of 84,274 minutes. Power was fully restored to all customers on the night of July 11, thanks to the mutual aid crews from Columbia and Higginsville.

Two of the other major power outages for July were not caused by severe weather. The first one was on July 8 and it was due to a pole on 40 Hwy being hit impacting 900 customers for 545 minutes. The second non-weather outage occurred on July 18 when a tree problem caused customers to be without power for 475 minutes.



# DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

Here are some of the most significant events that occurred in the first week of July 2019.

On the night of July 1, a man working at a fireworks stand on the corner of 23rd Street and MO 291 Highway was robbed at gunpoint by three to five black male suspects. The victim said he was bound and had his phone, his vehicle and two handguns stolen from him. There were approximately \$2,000 in fireworks stolen.

On July 2, officers attempted to stop a vehicle for a traffic violation around 35th street and Noland. The vehicle failed to stop, which led to a pursuit. The driver drove to an apartment complex in the 1900 block of S. Brookstone Village Dr., where she drove several laps around the complex before stopping. The suspect had twelve warrants from a previous vehicle pursuit.

Later that day, Clay County pursued a vehicle to the area of 291 and Courtney, where the vehicle began traveling south in the northbound lanes and the pursuit was terminated. Officers located the vehicle at MO 291 and Salisbury, still in the northbound lanes, where the vehicle struck stop sticks that were deployed by the officer. The suspect fled throughout the city before intentionally striking a police car occupied by an officer at 24 Hwy and Noland and then attempting to strike another police car. The suspect later struck a motorist at 24 Hwy and Liberty, disabling the suspect vehicle and causing no injury to the occupants of the other vehicle. The suspect was apprehended at that point. Officers located 56 grams of methamphetamine in the vehicle and numerous items of paraphernalia. The suspect also had a Missouri probation and parole warrant and two felony warrants out of Oklahoma for rape and "bail jumping".

On July 3, officers responded to a fast food restaurant in the 14000 block of E. 42nd Street on an armed robbery. Upon arrival, officers were advised three armed black males, wearing all black with bandanas on their face were attempting to rob the business. An uninvolved customer told the suspects that he was armed and the suspects all fled the store on foot.

On July 4, officers responded to the 3300 block of S. Blue Ridge Cutoff on someone passed out in a vehicle. The suspect was detained and transported to detention and booked for tampering 1st Degree, Possession of a Controlled Substance, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, and Receiving Stolen Property as well as his 15 outstanding arrest warrants.

On July 5, officers were dispatched to a residence in the 2200 block of S. Ralston on prowlers. They located two suspects and an open back door. It was evident that the house was being rehabbed and various tools had been stacked on the back porch. Next to the fence line was a stolen Dodge Truck that had eluded an officer earlier in the morning. One of the suspects was identified as the driver of that vehicle. One of the suspects was in possession of meth. Both were taken into custody. Later that evening,

officers responded to a call from a store in the 2200 block of MO 291 Highway. The caller advised that the suspects had taken a mower from the business and were eastbound on 23rd Street. The caller followed the suspect vehicle and gave updates as the officers arrived in the area. The vehicle crashed in the area of Truman Rd and Holke Rd, where officers chased after and took one of the suspects into. A drone was deployed and the officers located the second suspect sitting on the porch of a residence in the 1200 block of S. Mayview. The second suspect was then also taken into custody.

On July 6, officers were sent on an armed suicidal call in the 3800 block of S. Union St. Officers contacted the wife of the subject who found a note indicating that he had left the residence on foot and was armed with a handgun. Officers were able to ping the subject's cell phone and located him outside of a church armed with the handgun. He complied when contacted by officers and was transported an area hospital for treatment.

On July 7, officers were called to an area hospital after a person arrived there with a non-life threatening gunshot wound. The victim told the hospital he did not want the police involved. When officers arrived he was not cooperative and refused to assist in the investigation and did not want to prosecute. Officers had information of where the shooting took place along with suspect information. They learned that the suspect in this shooting may be connected to another shooting in Independence that occurred sometime last year.

Learn more about the Independence Police Department including activities, programs and events on Facebook at [Facebook.com/ipdinfo](https://www.facebook.com/ipdinfo).

Looking for more information from the City? Follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/cityofindependence](https://www.facebook.com/cityofindependence), Twitter @ [CityOfIndepMo](https://twitter.com/CityOfIndepMo), [Nextdoor](https://www.instagram.com/Nextdoor) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/Nextdoor).