



INDEPENDENCE
★ MISSOURI ★

A GREAT AMERICAN STORY

MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT

AUGUST 2019

Dear City Council and Citizens,

July marks the beginning of a new Fiscal Year for the City of Independence. We are required by the Missouri State Constitution to submit a balanced budget each year. As we outlined in the May presentation to Council, critical decisions were made in the 2019-20 Budget in order to continue providing the basic services you depend on the City for at the level you expect. We take our responsibility for sound financial management seriously. From closely monitoring the use of overtime by City staff to analyzing the value of our programs and services, each decision we make is intended to maximize your tax dollars. We encourage citizens to participate in public meetings and provide feedback on what is important to them.

Though our budget has been adopted, the Special Health Insurance Review Committee continues to meet weekly to discuss options as they prepare to make recommendations to Council on or before October 1 regarding the long-term financial implications of our retiree health insurance program.

This month we will welcome our students back to school, kickoff SantaCaliGon and enter the fall season. There are a variety of activities and events planned across the City. I encourage you to regularly follow the City's Facebook, Twitter and Nextdoor accounts for updates on these events. Further, if you have not already, please consider subscribing to the City's YouTube channel. We continue to expand not only meeting coverage but also insights into the departments of the City and our citizens.

Sincerely,

Zach Walker
City Manager
City of Independence

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS IN AUGUST

AUGUST 5 - 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.
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AUGUST 6 - ELECTION DAY

- Citizens will have the opportunity to vote on Proposition P.
-

AUGUST 12 - 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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AUGUST 19 - 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.
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AUGUST 26 - 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 2 - NO MEETING

City Offices will be closed for the Labor Day Holiday

SEPTEMBER 3 - 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.
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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 or on Facebook at facebook.com/CityOfIndependence.

JUNE BY THE NUMBERS



SALES TAX RECEIPTS THRU JUNE 2019	
FUND	2019 YTD
General	\$17,539,465
Streets	\$8,261,777
Parks	\$4,130,880
Storm	\$4,130,884
Police	\$2,210,858
Fire	\$2,065,424
Total	\$38,339,287

BUILDING PERMITS	Month	Year-to-date	June 2019 Valuation	Year-to-date
Residential	Permits Units	Permits Units		
Single Family	7	45	\$1,479,418	\$8,970,829
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. *	91	397	\$808,840	\$4,521,365
Subtotal Residential	98	451	\$2,288,258	\$50,732,194
Commercial				
New Commercial Building	2	10	\$4,964,000	\$11,054,078
Additions, alterations, tenant finish	4	42	\$491,568	\$10,588,130
Signs, Misc. **	24	184	\$625,400	\$1,918,677
Subtotal Commercial	30	236	\$6,080,968	\$23,560,885
Totals	128	687	\$8,369,226	\$74,293,079

* 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	June 2019	Year-to-date
New applications received	136	801
Renewals	726	2,568
Total applications	862	3,369
Payments received	\$223,601.80	\$1,005,253.84

JUNE BY THE NUMBERS

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

- 360 million gallons of wastewater treated
- 19,935 feet of pipe inspected
- 336 manholes inspected
- 256 storm structures inspected
- 21 pipe repairs
- 365 water samples tested (1673 tests performed)
- 54 environmental regulatory inspections

POWER AND LIGHT

- 14 distribution poles changed out
- Restored power to 6,199 customers due to 147 storm related outages.
- 48 diversions inspected
- 150 various services calls completed
- 170 electrical inspections performed
- Completed 31 environmental compliance sampling & reporting efforts related to protection of stormwater and groundwater resources
- 98,522,000 kWhs of electricity provided to customers
- Peak demand 252 MW
- Generated 3,520,000 kWh from units in Independence
- Solar farms produced 2,216,000 kWh
- 31 safety events including equipment testing, audits, training and drills
- 550 trees trimmed, 500 trees over 4" in diameter removed.

PUBLIC WORKS

- 1,268 potholes filled
- 130 building repair work orders addressed
- 142 sidewalk and right-of-way work orders addressed
- 83 traffic sign work orders addressed
- 90 mowing/debris/misc. work orders addressed.
- 4,230 crew labor hours
- 3,110 engineering staff labor hours

POLICE DEPARTMENT

8,495 calls for service. The call types with the highest numbers included:

- 1,897 traffic stops
- 610 suspicious persons/activity
- 494 disturbance
- 234 domestic disturbance - physical
- 224 domestic disturbance - verbal

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- 1,913 total service calls with an average response time 4:39 minutes.
- 12 structure fires, average response time 3:40 minutes
- 1,154 EMS calls, average response time 5:17 minutes
- 254 commercial fire Inspections
- 9 public education demos, reaching 800 people

WATER DEPARTMENT

- 894.5 million gallons of water pumped
- 11 water main leaks/ breaks and repairs
- 22 minute average response time from when a water main break was reported
- 186 fire hydrants inspected and flushed
- 3 fire hydrants replaced
- 300 valves located and inspected

PARKS|RECREATION|TOURISM

- Prepped fields for 180 games, 96 practices
- Mowed 77 parks
- Removed 8 graffiti incidents
- 18,971 patrons visited Adventure Oasis Water Park
- 11,038 patrons visited Sermon Center
- 18,310 patrons visited the Silverstein Eye Centers Arena and Centerpoint Community Ice
- An estimated 4,200 patrons visited City-owned historic sites, 1,535 of them visiting the National Frontier Trails Museum.

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Notable Projects Submitted during June

Public Storage submitted construction plans to build a 104,406 square-foot climate controlled self-storage building with rental office at 13620 E. 42nd Terrace.

Farmhouse KC Event Center submitted construction plans to build a 6,000 square-foot event space at 17221 E. 32nd Street.

Planet Fitness submitted construction plans to renovate the 16,683 square-foot former True Value building at 2337 S. M-291 Highway.



Notable Projects Issued during June

Lady Janes Haircuts for Men has been issued a building permit to renovate the 1,442 square-foot tenant space at 3901 S. Bolger Drive, Suite B.

Notable Projects finished during June

Panda Express completed their new 2,200 square-foot restaurant with drive-thru at 14050 E. 42nd Street.

Mid-Continent Public Library completed the renovation of the 4,800 square-foot facility at 18109 E. 12th Street.

POWER & LIGHT

On June 18 through June 20, first-year apprentice linemen from Carrollton, El Dorado Springs, and Rich Hill learned how to safely climb poles to perform electric line operations. Although bucket trucks are now commonly used, they can't always be used in certain conditions like rough terrain in remote areas. These students were taught by experienced linemen trainers from MPUA and Chillicothe. Independence built the training yard to train their own line workers participating in the program and to help their neighboring municipally owned utilities. The training facility is located at 21500 East Truman Road in Independence.



FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Independence Fire Department began the month of June participating in the Chamber of Commerce Public Safety Appreciation BBQ at the Uptown Market on June 6.

On June 7, command staff attended the Local 781 Golf Tournament which raises funds for local scholarship and charity efforts.

On June 22, the department participated in FireFest 2019 at the Silverstein Arena. This annual event is organized by the Independence 76ers, a nonprofit dedicated to preserving the history of the department.



PARKS|RECREATION|TOURISM

Parks | Recreation | Tourism continues to complete projects across the City to improve the parks and venues provided to citizens and visitors of Independence. Here are some of the projects completed in July.

In the month of July, the City completed work on the Glendale Park Playground Replacement, which cost \$120,000 and was paid for by the Parks Sales Tax.



Crews also completed updates to the Santa Fe Tennis Court Repairs. The 12 courts received crack filling and color coating. The project cost \$180,482 and was paid for out of the Parks Sales Tax.



Finally, the City worked with the Vaile Society to have exterior lighting installed on the historic Vaile Mansion. The project cost \$17,547 and was paid for by the Vaile Society through special events and fundraising efforts.

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Here are some of the most significant events that occurred in the first two weeks of June 2019.

On June 1, officers were called to the 2400 block of S. Vermont on a disturbance involving a person who was trying to fight with “anyone who was outside.” When the officers arrived, the subject became combative and was believed to be under the influence of PCP. The subject bit one of the officers on his arm, puncturing the skin and causing injury. This incident was the second call on this same person in the previous 48 hours. He was arrested for disorderly conduct and assault on a law enforcement officer.

On June 2, officers were called to a restaurant in the 3500 block of S. Noland Road on a disturbance involving a customer. The suspect was making a scene about a pizza and at one point threw the cash register on the floor and repeatedly assaulted the manager. The suspect left prior to the officer’s arrival but due to extensive follow-up, the officer was able to identify her and submit warrant requests for her future arrest.

On June 3, a vehicle stop and subsequent search of a vehicle located methamphetamine and a firearm. The subject was arrested and placed on a 24-hour hold for the Street Crimes Unit. Also that day, officers were called to a restaurant in the 17800 block of E. US 24 Hwy on a trespass and contacted the suspect. The suspect lied about her identify and a search incident to arrest revealed methamphetamine and other controlled substances.

On June 5, a business in the 12500 block of E. US 40 Hwy was robbed by an armed suspect, who fled prior to the officers arrival. The Crime Scene Unit and the Criminal Investigations Unit responded and conducted an investigation. Later that day, a pedestrian check at a business in the 11300 block of E. Truman Road on a stolen auto suspect revealed that he was carrying a firearm and also had marijuana, cocaine and methamphetamine on his person. Officers determined that the suspect was not the original suspect from the motor vehicle theft.

On June 6, the police department held an awards ceremony for personnel who received high-level department awards in 2018 including lifesaving, distinguished service, exemplary performance, meritorious service and special unit citations.



On June 7, officer responded to an armed robbery outside of a convenience store in the 4000 block of S. Noland Road. A person entered the store and said that they were robbed at gunpoint by someone outside the business. Suspect information was obtained and the case was turned over to the Criminal Investigations Unit. Later that day, officers responded to an attempted armed robbery of a credit union in the 2500 block of MO 291 Hwy. The suspect fled without taking any money. This case was investigated by the FBI. Later that day, officers conducted a residence check at a residence in the 11300 block of E. Aaron Lane, looking for a subject who had numerous warrants, including a felony possession warrant on a previous IPD case. The suspect was found to be in possession of methamphetamine and a brown waxy substance that tested positive for the presence of THC. The suspect was placed on a 24-hour hold and case was left open to the Drug Enforcement Unit.

On June 8, officers were dispatched to a stabbing at a motel in the 9800 block of E. US 40 Hwy. When they arrived, they observed the suspect fleeing over a fence and he was taken into custody. The victim was located and had a severe stab wound to his neck. With the help of K9, the knife used in the assault was located in a field where the suspect threw it while trying to flee over the fence. Also that day, officers were called to a drive-by shooting in the 2500 block of S. Vermont. The suspect drove by the residence and fired 6 to 7 shots at the house. Nobody inside was struck, however, several vehicles were. Numerous shell casings were located. When the suspect vehicle sped off after the shooting it crashed into a light pole a few houses away. The suspect fled prior to the officers’ arrival.

On June 12, officers responded to a residence in the 500 block of N. Hocker Terrace on a report of prowlers. Upon arrival, officers observed damage to the door consistent with forced entry. The resident was contacted by phone, advising that she was upstairs hiding in a closet with her children and could hear someone on the 1st floor of the apartment. Officers forced entry and located suspect on the couch pretending to be asleep. The suspect was arrested and it was determined that the victim knew him, but had recently cut off contact with him due to his drug usage. The suspect was found in possession of methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia.

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

On June 14, patrol officers handled a jack-knifed semi-truck on the US 24 Hwy and MO 291 Hwy bridge. All lanes of traffic were blocked and the vehicle was spilling all its fuel onto 24 Hwy. The fire department's hazmat and numerous fire and police vehicles responded to divert traffic and clean up the scene. Later that day, officers were called to an aggravated assault behind a business at US 24 hwy and Sterling Avenue. A victim had been stabbed in the abdomen and rocks were thrown at his head and legs by two suspects. One suspect was taken into custody while the other remained at large.

During the week of June 11-14, the Street Crimes Unit arrested various subjects for six felony warrants and 29 city warrants. They also made 10 city-level arrests, recovered four guns, one stolen auto and a small amount of marijuana.

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/cityofindependence) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/cityofindependence).