

THE COLUMNS

A Publication for the Residents of Mission Hills

Spring/Summer
2019

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the Date



You're invited to the 1st Annual Le Diner en Blanc on May 18th, 2019 at Verona Columns and the 20th Annual Keim Street Fair on June 1, 2019 at Belinder Circle.
(More details inside)

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A Letter from Mayor Dickey



What a winter! I am so happy to see the signs of spring in Mission Hills, despite the recent hard freeze. Bulbs are rising from their beds, buds are emerging on trees, and grass is finally starting to go from brown to green.

The winter saw more than a half dozen significant snow and ice events and impacted our built and natural infrastructure a great deal. Our City had more street and curb damage than in recent memory, and we have been actively working to repair, or plan the repairs as quickly as possible.

Perhaps less seen is the long-term damage many of the City's wonderful trees suffered. As our arborist has noted, the limbs that fell are just a part of the mess wrought by January's intense storm. Many more limbs likely have cracks and damage that can go unseen, but subject the trees to further negative impact from pests or wind. As the buds come in, many of you will no doubt see some limbs that did not survive.

If you need help or want a consultation, our arborist Jesse, is at the ready. He is a critical resource for our street trees and parks, but also for residents. Whether it is damage or pests, or needing to know the best way to trim a particular type of tree, please feel free to call City Hall and schedule time for him to come see your trees. Our canopy is such a critical part of what makes Mission Hills special and Jesse loves to help.

I would be remiss to not note the tragic fire in Mission Hills in March. Our public safety teams performed exceptionally, and I would encourage you to check your smoke detectors. Additionally, the team at Consolidated Fire District #2 (CFD2) is happy to come to your home and help you assess any potential issues. You may contact CFD2 at 913-262-4600 to schedule an appointment.

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On a happier note, the Council and I are thrilled and thankful for the fabulous work our ad hoc committee on Community Engagement did to create a plan for 2019! They have identified several new events that utilize our wonderful green spaces and the schedule is below:

May 18 – Le Diner en Blanc at Verona Columns 7pm-10pm

June 1 – Keim Street Fair at Belinder Circle 4:30pm-9:30pm

June 13 – Pop-Up at the City Hall Park with Taco Republic 5pm-8pm

June 27 – Pop-Up at the Sunken Garden Park with Betty Rae's Ice Cream 5pm-8pm

September 21 – Party in the Park time TBD

November 24 – Annual Holiday Tree Lighting at City Hall 5:30pm

I want to personally thank the entire committee, and particularly the chairs – Megan Winters and Caroline Moran – for their work and energy. This sets a great foundation for not just this year, but also years to come!

Finally, as some of you know, Tomahawk Road is one of only two streets that run the full east-west length of Mission Hills. Tomahawk is our only interior street that has a 30 mph speed limit. As it winds its way from KCMO to Prairie Village, Tomahawk connects or touches 13 of our islands and parklets, as well as passes 3 of the 5 non-residential structures in the City. Interestingly, Tomahawk has three crosswalks, yet none to our City playground.

I point this out because we have formed a second ad hoc committee, chaired by former councilperson Lisa Creighton Hendricks, to evaluate Tomahawk in advance of its full refurbishment in our 2022 capital plan. The Tomahawk Safety, Beauty and Connectivity committee will make recommendations to the Council for any updates or changes that should be incorporated into the engineering for this project.

For example, does the Park Board want water and power at all of the islands and parklets? If so, this is the time to do it. Can we improve safety with a crosswalk to our playground? Is there a way to prevent or reduce the 5-6 cars that run over the island at the Belinder Circle each year? This committee will help assess these and other questions – and the answer may very well be “no changes,” but we would be remiss not to evaluate.

The committee is comprised of residents who live on Tomahawk, representatives from each Homes Association, a member of the Park Board, a member of the Crime and Safety committee and several at-large residents. I thank Lisa and these residents in advance for taking on this 18-month assignment.

Thank you all for your feedback, engagement, and communication. As always, if we can do better, please let City Hall or me know directly (mayor@missionhillsks.gov). I hope to see many of you at our upcoming community events. Happy spring!

2019 Capital Improvement Projects

Each of the Capital Improvement Projects below include an upgraded stormwater system, as well as new curbs, drive approaches, and asphalt roadways.

The City will also conduct its annual assessment of the curbs, gutters, drive approaches, sidewalks, and pavement to determine a list of areas for priority replacement in 2019.

- 65th Street - Indian Lane to Mission Road
- 65th Terrace - Indian Lane to Mission Road
- Wenonga Terrace
- Wenonga Terrace cul de sac (street rehab only)
- Ensley Lane - Mission Drive to 63rd Street

Summer Safety Tips

Neighborhood Safety

Mission Hills continues to be a great place to live which in part is due to our amazing residents making the city a safe and enjoyable place to live. This being said, it should be mentioned that we all need to continue to do our parts by stopping crime before it happens. This can be done simply by making sure our house doors, garage doors and windows are locked, especially overnight and when away from your home. It's important to do the same in regard to any vehicles you own, whether in the driveway or the garage. Keeping valuables out of sight and locking your car doors can help with crimes of opportunity. We are asking our residents to help reduce crime in the community by taking these simple steps.

Going on Vacation this Summer?

Be sure to take advantage of the City's great House Watch program when travelling this summer or anytime year round! The House Watch program can be completed through the city's website and is for residents who would like an officer to periodically check on your home while you are away. During your time away, an officer will come to your home and make sure the doors and windows are all secure and insure criminal activity has not taken place in your absence. A short questionnaire is required to complete a house watch application, but is well worth your time. You can complete your house watch request at the following link:

<https://www.pvkansas.com/resident-resources/public-safety/house-watch>

Spring & Summer Reminders

Noise

- Construction noise is allowed from 8:00am to 8:00pm Monday-Thursday and from 8:00am-6:00pm on Friday & Saturday. Heavy construction equipment is allowed 8:00am-6:00pm Monday-Saturday. Construction noise is prohibited on Sunday and on all legal holidays.
- Sound Equipment or musical instruments are permitted from 9:00am to 11:00pm Sunday-Thursday, and until 12:30am Friday, Saturday and on legal holidays. This noise must not annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort or repose of persons inside any dwelling.
- For residential maintenance, gas-powered lawn care equipment is allowed from 8:00am-8:00pm any day of the week. Country clubs are allowed to run gas-powered lawn care equipment from sunrise to sundown any day of the week.
- If you experience noise outside of these established times, call the Police Department Dispatch at 913-642-5151

Pets

- Dogs are considered “running at large” when on public or private property other than that of their owner, without being on a leash, and under the effective control of a person. If you witness a dog running at large, please call Animal Control at 913-642-6868
- The City provides 14 locations for pet waste disposal throughout the City. Please note the locations found on the Doggie Pot map in the Document Center on the City website for your convenience when walking your dog.

Safety

- Be sure to wear reflective clothing when running, walking or cycling in the early morning or after sunset. The City provides reflective vests at no cost to residents, these are available at City Hall or from a police officer.
- In the event that you observe a streetlight out, or damage to a streetlight, please note the location and call City Hall at 913-362-9620.
- Regularly check your smoke detectors. The team at Consolidated Fire District #2 (CFD2) offers a free service to come to your home and assess the needs for your residence. Please call CFD2 at 913-262-4600 to schedule an appointment.

Dont forget, June 1st is the 20th Anniversary Street Fair at Belinder Circle Join us for inflatables, food and fun! This year we're excited to have offerings from three food trucks; Taco Republic, Happy Belly, and a grill that offers burgers, brats and hot dogs. We will also be serving free ice cream for the first 500 attendees!

Five Ways to get the Most from Your Recycling

From Mid-America
Regional Council

1. Shipping Materials

Cardboard boxes can be broken down and recycled in your weekly curbside pickup. Smaller items like bubble wrap, air pillows, and padded shipping envelopes can be dropped off for recycling at big box stores such as Target and Walmart. Be sure to deflate air pillows and bubble wrap first.

2. Electronics

Any electronic that runs on a power cord or battery is able to be recycled at the proper location. Everything from TVs to flashlights can be taken to Best Buy, Office Depot, Office Max, Staples and the Midwest Recycling Center for processing. Don't forget to remove any batteries! Batteries can be recycled at the Household Hazardous Waste Center at 5901 Jim Bills Road Mission, KS 66203, just off Foxridge Drive & Lamar. Call 913-715-6907 to schedule a drop-off.

3. Food Waste

Food waste, or paper and cardboard products soiled by food is one of the greatest missed opportunities in recycling. While it is not to be put in your weekly curbside pickup, there are great alternatives to food waste recycling, such as composting. You can compost your food waste such as egg shells, banana skins, stems and peels by layering in a contained bin with your small yard waste like leaves and grass clippings. An alternative to composting at home is a subscription service that will come pick up your compost, just like you would put out regular curbside recycling. While the City doesn't offer specific recommendations, services like Compost Collective KC is an organization that is used frequently in the City. More information on which items can be composted in a curbside pickup service can be found on their website at www.compostcollectivekc.com

4. Hazardous Waste

Items such as gas, oil, solvents, propane cylinders, paint, lawn & garden chemicals and more can be disposed of at the Household Hazardous Waste Center at 5901 Jim Bill Road, Mission, KS 66203. Call 913-715-6907 to schedule a drop-off.

5. Plastics

With the exception of Styrofoam, most plastics labeled with the No. 1-7 on the bottom are able to be recycled. Any plastic containers that were originally used to hold hazardous materials like automotive fluid should be taken to the Household Hazardous Waste Center. And finally, our most commonly asked question: Where to recycle plastic grocery bags? Plastic grocery bags should be taken to a grocery store or big box store such as Target or Walmart - they have collection bins at their entrances.



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The Columns is published three times a year for the residents of Mission Hills.

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Le Diner en Blanc

We are thrilled to be hosting our first ever Le Diner en Blanc on Saturday, May 18 at 7pm at Verona Columns. The first Diner en Blanc was hosted in 1988 as a way to bring a group of friends together for a new concept in dining. Francois Pasquier invited his friends to an outdoor dinner, asking them to bring their own food, drinks, tables, chairs and all white linens. This event took off and has since been hosted in more than 70 cities around the world!

The Community Engagement Committee has worked hard to bring this global concept to Mission Hills and host our very own Le Diner en Blanc. For this adult only event, residents and their guests have been encouraged to keep with the tradition of the original dinner and wear white to this event. Attendees may also bring their own white table decor along with their food, drink, and tableware. The City Council has recently passed an ordinance allowing alcohol to be brought to the event by attendees of legal drinking age.

Last minute reservations, or changes to an existing reservation, may be made through May 3rd. The City will provide white tables, chairs and tablecloths for a fee of \$20 per person. Please call City Hall at 913-362-9620 or email jlee@missionhillks.gov to place your reservation. An invoice will be sent along with additional information regarding the time of the event and setup, a suggested list of items to bring, and frequently asked questions.