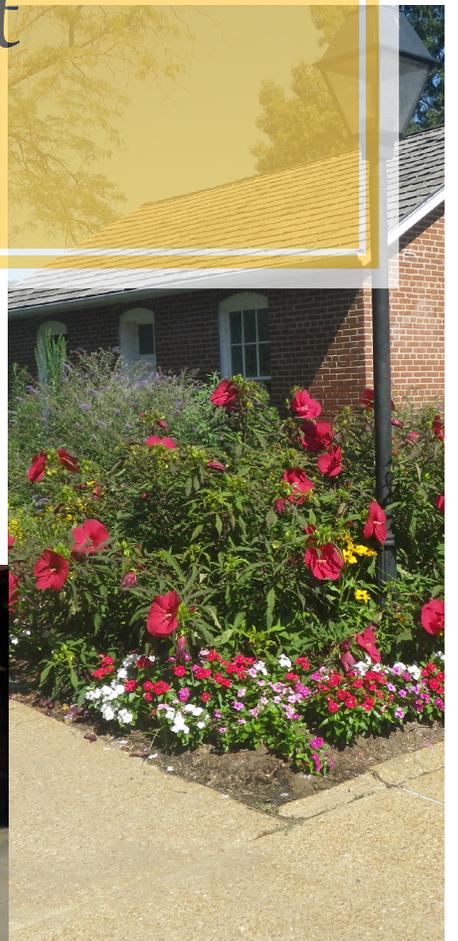
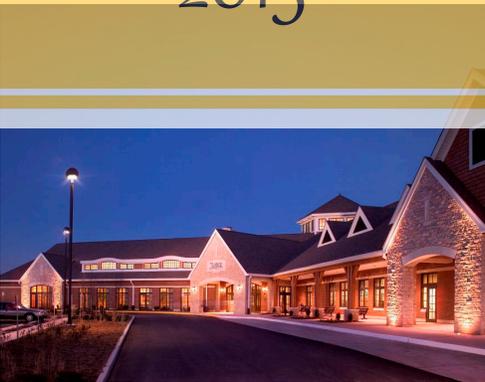
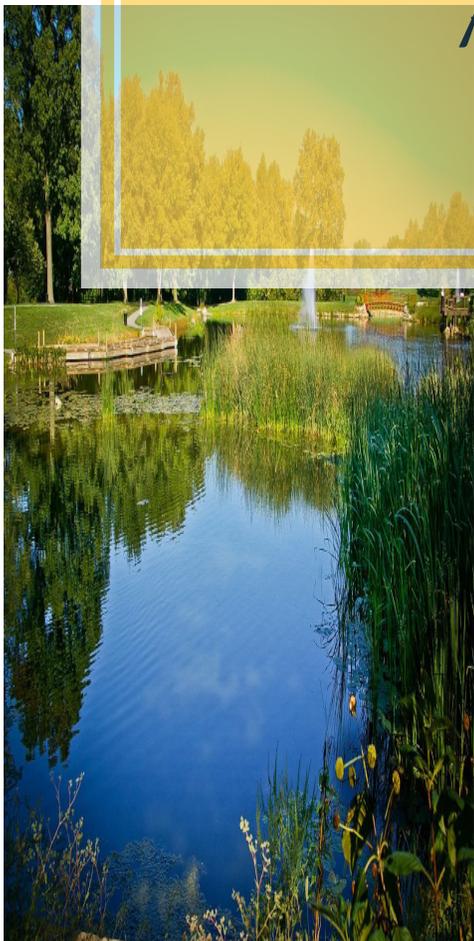


City of Des Peres  
Annual Report  
2015





# Letter from Mayor Lahr

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I am pleased to submit this annual report for the City of Des Peres. The Annual Report gives us an opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments we have achieved in the past twelve months to recognize the residents, staff and business owners who continue to make Des Peres a great place to live, work, play and shop. I am proud to share the city's achievements of the past year and look forward to the future. As I reflect on 2015, highlights include:

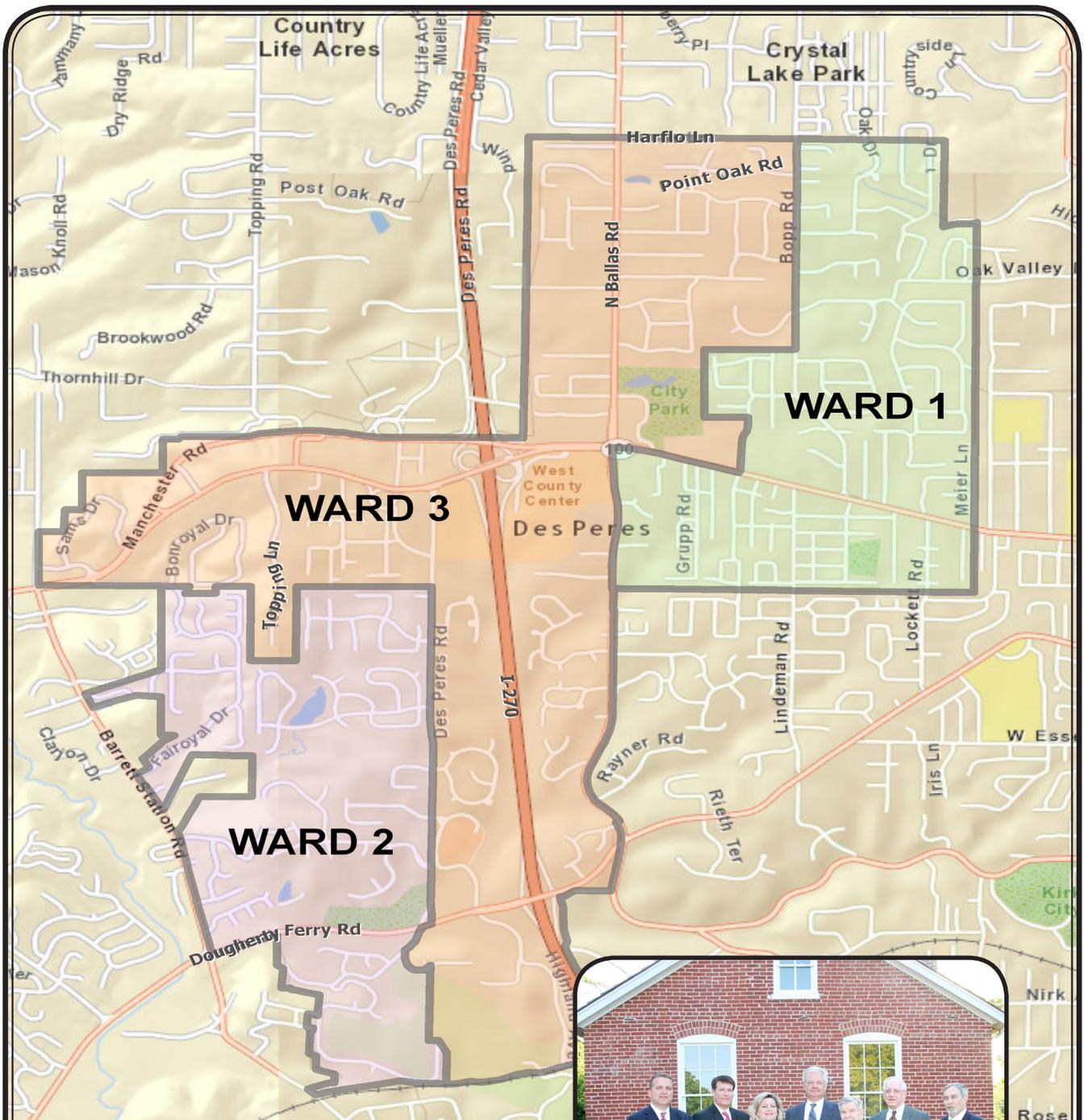
- The City retained a AAA bond rating - the highest rating given by Standard and Poor's. The AAA bond rating reflects the City's commitment to strong budgetary policies.
- In 2015, the City received three budget awards from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). The awards included the Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement in Excellence in Financial Reporting (CAFR); the Popular Annual Financial Award (PAFR) and the Government Finance Officers Association Distinguished Budget Award.
- Recognition for the 32nd consecutive year as Tree City, USA; meeting the requirements set forth by The Arbor Day Foundation and The National Association of State Foresters.
- In 2015, phase II renovations of Pioneer Park were underway. Improvements included replacement of the tennis courts, construction of a 1/2 court basketball and parking enhancements.
- The City contracted with TRANE for an energy savings project. The energy project brings each of the City's municipal buildings up to current energy standards.
- The thriving business community and the continued success of West County Center. The City of Des Peres welcomed 23 new businesses in 2015.

I am very proud of our achievements and look forward to the future.

Sincerely,

Rick

# Ward Map and Elected Officials

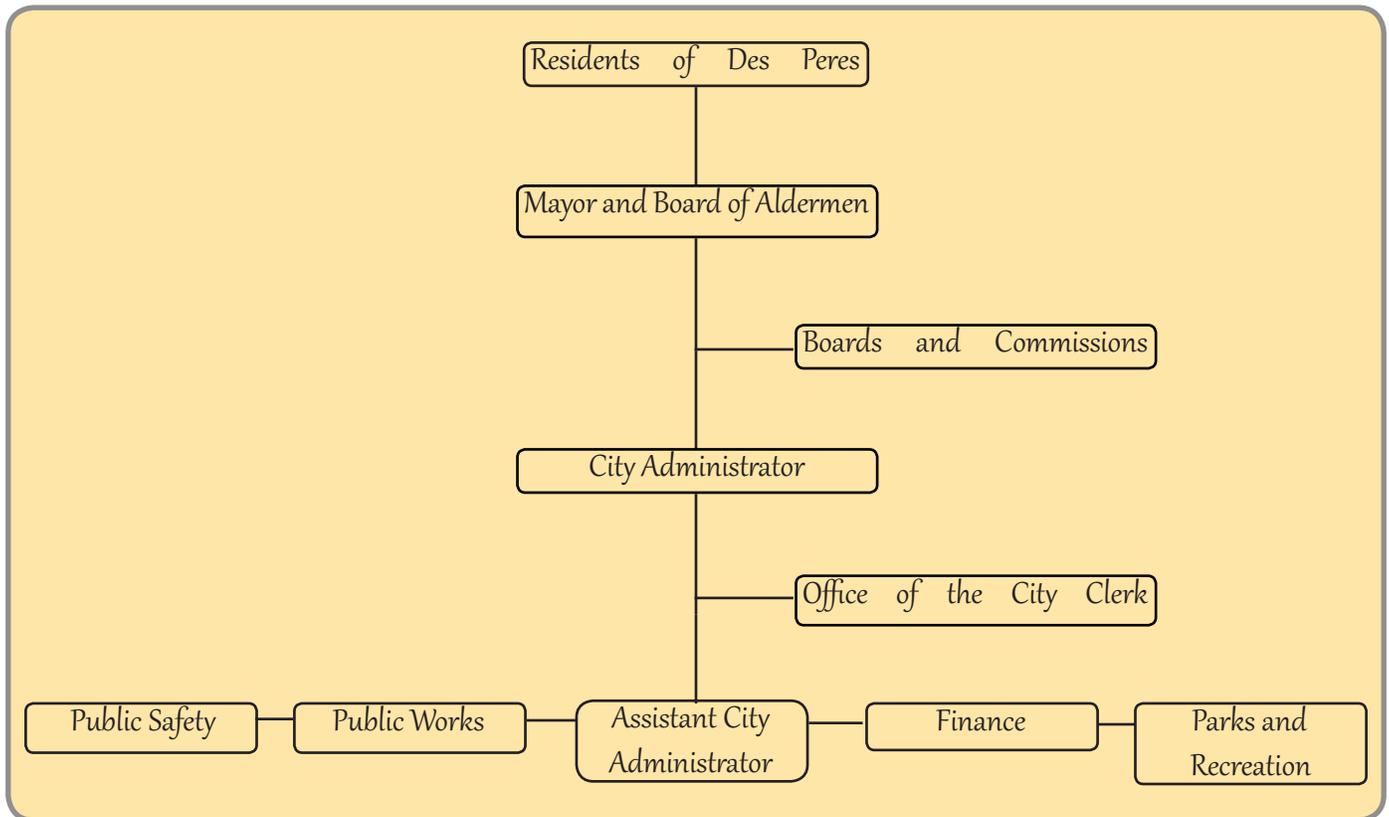


## 2015 Elected Officials

(L-R) Alderman Becker, Alderman Concagh, Alderman Gmelich, Mayor Lahr, Alderman Raczkiewicz, Alderman Pound and Alderman Kleinschmidt



# City Organization and Departments



The City Administrator is responsible for the daily operations of the city, works directly with the Mayor and Board of Aldermen and supervises all city departments and personnel.

Doug Harms, City Administrator



The Public Safety Department is responsible for all police, fire, EMS, dispatch and emergency preparedness for the city. Public Safety is committed to protecting the life, health, and property of the community.

Keith Krumm, Director of Public Safety



The Assistant City Administrator assists with daily operations of the city, supervises Court and IT staff, authors the city's newsletter, serves as key budget analyst and is responsible for all public communication.

Scott Schaefer, Assistant City Administrator



The Finance Department is responsible for all accounting functions of the city including: payroll, accounts payable, financial reporting, investment management and personnel benefits.

Tracy Hansen, Director of Finance



The City Clerk is the custodian of city records; administers all business licenses & liquor licenses; prepares all Board of Aldermen meeting agendas, summaries and minutes; and is a Notary Public.

Amanda Foster, City Clerk



The Public Works Department is responsible for planning & zoning, building code enforcement, solid waste management contracts and street operations.

Steve Meyer, Director of Public Works



The Parks and Recreation coordinates all recreation programs, special programs and events, room reservations, field and pavillion rentals and maintains The Lodge and all municipal parks.

Brian Schaffer, Director of Parks and Recreation



# Boards, Committees and Commissions

## *Parks and Recreation Commission*

The Commission provides the resident perspective to the professional staff in all matters relating to the operation and maintenance of the City Park system and The Lodge Des Peres. In addition to their advisory role, the Parks and Recreation Commission is empowered to set program and facility use fees within guidelines established by the Board of Aldermen and provide a recommendation on membership fees for The Lodge.

**Members:** Margaret Amend, Mary Duggan, Marie Ganninger, Duff Hufford, Robert O'Blennis, Bill Reeves, Andrew Theising, Katie Weinberg

**Aldermanic Rep:** John Pound

## *Planning and Zoning Commission*

The Commission reviews and makes recommendations to the Board of Aldermen on all zoning requests, major development proposals, conditional use permits, subdivisions, any and all proposed amendments to the Zoning Code, Subdivision Code, Sign Code, and Landscaping Standards. If the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends against a specific petition, approval by the Board of Aldermen will require a two-thirds vote instead of a simple majority vote.

**Members:** Anna Ahrens, Mark Ahrens, Jordan Egertson, John Gnagi, Teresa Gwin, James Kennedy, Jane Langa, Will Mura, John Oeltjen, Anthony Pawloski, Mitchell Stevens

**Aldermanic Rep:** Sean Concagh

## *Public Safety Commission*

The Commission is charged with the responsibility to advise and assist the Director of Public Safety in evaluating departmental operations and budgets, consider employee grievances and citizen complaints, setting goals, and generally providing input on departmental programs. The Commission serves as the Traffic Commission of the City making recommendations on speed limits, parking restrictions, and other traffic related regulations.

**Members:** Robert Ashcraft, Larry Beermann, Jerry Lund, Joanne Sullivan

**Aldermanic Rep:** Kathleen Gmelich

## *Board of Adjustment*

The Board of Adjustment considers appeals of decisions by the Director of Public Works on building and zoning enforcement and requests for variances from the enforcement of the City's zoning, sign, and subdivision ordinances. Petitioners must prove that either an error has been made by a City Official in interpreting the City's requirements, or that an unusual circumstance exists for granting an exception to the rules. Each matter is uniquely considered as based on the evidence presented at the formal Board Hearing. This is a quasi-judicial forum requiring that all evidence be provided under oath, that a transcript of the proceeding is made and preserved, and that the members consider only the evidence presented at the hearing to arrive at their decision. Decisions of the Board of Adjustment are final and may be appealed only to the Circuit Court by any party with standing.

**Members:** Ron Arcese, Marilyn Chapman, Ray Griesedieck, Joe Mueller, Larry Quick (Alternate), Pat Walsh, Jim Wilder (Alternate)

**Aldermanic Rep:** Jim Kleinschmidt

## *Audit and Finance Committee*

The Audit and Finance Committee reviews the annual budget; examines the monthly financial statements for budgetary control and sound management practices; reviews the results of the annual audit with the auditing firm; and makes recommendations to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen on the need for implementation of studies to improve results in broad areas of management, organization, and operating functions.

**Members:** Randy Atkisson, Richard Carver, Marc Hamilton, Michael Hauser

**Aldermanic Rep:** Mark Becker

# Recognitions and Awards

## Boards and Commissions Awards

- Susan Andrews, Parks and Recreation
- Julie Killeen, Parks and Recreation
- Judy Mundle, Audit and Finance
- Kenneth McKamely, Planning and Zoning

## Employee of the Year

- Cory Buermann, Mechanic

## Officer of the Year

- Gregory Van Mierlo

## Government Finance Officers Association (CAFR Award)

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) established the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting (CAFR) program to encourage and assist state and local governments to go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles to prepare comprehensive annual financial reports that showcase transparency and full disclosure. 2015 is the 19th consecutive year the City of Des Peres has received the CAFR Award.

## Government Finance Officers Association (PAFR Award)

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) established the Popular Annual Financial Reporting Awards Program to encourage and assist state and local governments to extract information from their comprehensive annual financial report to produce high quality popular annual financial reports specifically designed to be readily accessible and easily understandable to the general public and others interested without a background in public finance.

## GFOA Distinguished Budget Award

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) established the Distinguished Budget Awards Program in 1984 to encourage and assist state and local governments to prepare budget documents of the very highest quality that reflect both the guidelines established by the National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting and the GFOA's best practices on budgeting and then to recognize individual governments that succeed in achieving that goal. 2015 was the second year the City of Des Peres received the Distinguished Budget Award.

## AAA Bond Rating

Standard and Poor's has awarded the city its highest rating, AAA, in recognition of our strong financial position and budgetary policies. Des Peres is only one of a handful of cities in Missouri to reach this designation.

## Tree City USA

The National Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters awarded the city the designation of Tree City USA for the 32nd consecutive year. Recipients of the Tree City USA distinction meet the requirements of viable tree management plans and programs.

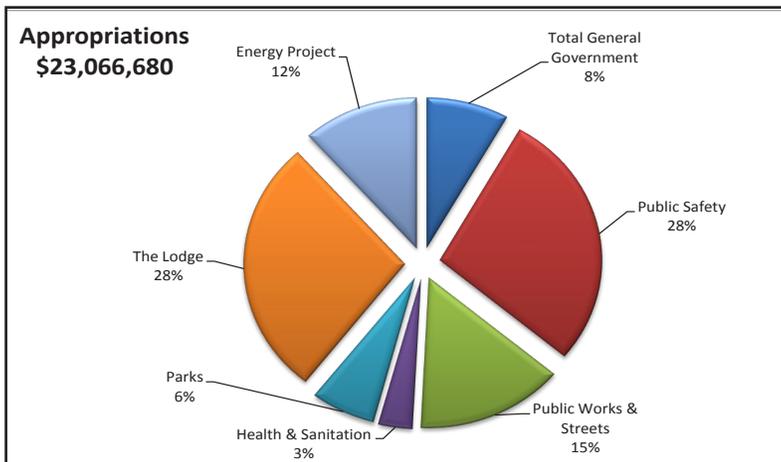
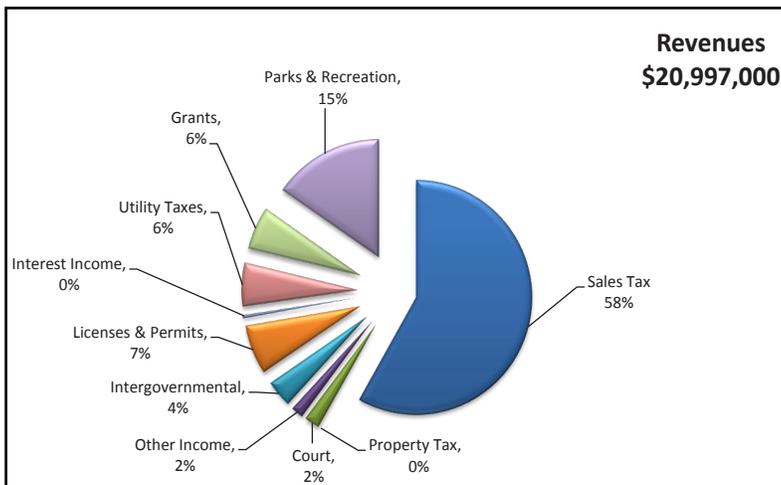
## Vince Tallo Award

Frank Clark, Former Street Superintendent, received the Vince Tallo Service Award from the Missouri Chapter American Public Works Association (APWA). The Vince Tallo Award is given to employees of member organizations who have completed thirty (30) or more years of service to the public with a single organization or municipality. Mr. Clark retired from the City in July after forty-one (41) years of service.

## Outstanding New Professional Award

Tracy Baer, Aquatics Supervisor, received the Outstanding New Professional Award for Aquatics from the the Missouri Park and Recreation Association. The Outstanding New Professional Award is given to members of the Missouri Park and Recreation Association who have at least three (3) years of experience in the Aquatic industry and who have demonstrated exceptional service, outstanding leadership skills, commitment to innovative programs and ideas and to those who have contributed to significant advancements in the field through research and continuing education. Ms. Baer has been employed with the city since 20XX.

# 2015 Financial Report



## Grants

In 2015, the City of Des Peres received \$627,670 in grant money. Grant money included:

### Public Safety Grants

*Dollar Amount: \$4,982.00*

Funds received from the United States Department for bullet proof vests; DWI grant; hazardous motor vehicles; child passenger safety training grant and click it or ticket

### Public Works Grants

*Dollar Amount: \$622,688.00*

Funds received from the U.S. Government in conjunction with East West Gateway Council of Governments for engineering and construction of the Fawnvalley and Claychester Drive Bridges.

## General Fund

The General Fund is the primary operating fund of the city. As its title would suggest, the fund receives all revenues that are not otherwise legally obligated for a specific purpose (Fire, Park or Capital Sales Taxes).

## Park Fund

The Park Fund was created at the time of voter approval of the 0.5% park sales tax. Revenues from the Park Sales Tax and Lodge Facility Use Fees are intended to cover 100% of the cost of operation and debt service for the Lodge.

## Fire Fund

The Fire Fund was created in 2009 at the time of voter approval of a quarter cent sales tax for fire purposes. By State law, the funds may only be used for fire and EMS related purposes (including operations and purchase of fire equipment).

## Capital Improvement Fund

The Capital Improvement Fund provides an accounting structure for equipment purchases and capital construction projects. The Capital Fund is largely funded from: the proceeds of the 0.5% Capital Improvement Sales Tax, federal, state and local grants obtained for specific capital projects, and transfers from other funds of the city.

## Sewer Lateral Fund

The Sewer Lateral Fund was created in 1999 at the time of voter approval of a \$28.00 per home assessment to create an insurance fund to protect residential property owners from the risk of major expenses due to sewer lateral failure. The program provides 100% of the cost of repair up to \$7,500 for the residential lateral from a home foundation to the MSD owned sewer main.

## Debt Service Fund

The purpose of the Debt Service Fund is to provide an accounting mechanism to track the amount of debt owed by the city and to document the sources of revenue used to retire that debt. While General Obligation Bonds include voter authority to levy a property tax sufficient to pay all principal and interest due per year, the City has opted not to levy a debt service tax and rather to fund all debt obligations from Park Sales Taxes.

# 2015 Financial Report

The annual budget serves as the foundation for the City of Des Peres' financial planning and control. The budget is prepared by fund and department, for all governmental funds of the City. After a proposed budget is prepared, it is submitted to the Board of Aldermen for review. The Board of Aldermen may revise, alter, increase or decrease the items contained in the proposed budget, provided that total authorized expenditures from any fund do not exceed the estimated revenues to be received plus any unencumbered fund balance or less any deficit estimated from the beginning of the budget year. Following public hearings on the proposed budget, the annual operating budgets are approved through the adoption of the budget resolution by a majority vote of the members of the Board of Aldermen and approval by the Mayor.

2015 Operating Budgets	General Fund	Park Fund	Fire Fund	Operating Budgets
Revenues	9,586,000	6,187,800	1,478,000	17,251,800
Appropriations	-10,877,415	-4,143,225	0	-15,020,640
Transfers In (Out)	1,354,800	-1,824,750	-1,324,800	-1,794,750
Change in Fund Balance	63,385	219,825	153,200	436,410
Beginning Fund Balance	5,205,232	2,535,750	983,981	8,724,963
Ending Fund Balance	5,268,617	2,755,575	1,137,181	9,161,373
	Capital		Debt Service	
2015 Capital Budgets	Improvement Fund	Sewer Fund	Fund	Capital Budgets
Revenues	3,643,000	93,200	9,000	3,745,200
Appropriations	-6,141,590	-78,200	-1,826,250	-8,046,040
Transfers In (Out)	-7,500	-15,000	1,817,250	1,794,750
Change in Fund Balance	-2,506,090	0	0	-2,506,090
Beginning Fund Balance	5,597,388	203,433	1,168,069	6,968,900

## Financial Highlights

- 2015 Revenues were budgeted at \$20,997,000 or 9.8% higher than 2014 Revenues.
- For the 21st consecutive year, the City of Des Peres did not levy a property tax due to strong retail sales tax revenue.
- The City of Des Peres received the Government Finance Officer's Association (GFOA) Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 19th consecutive year.
- The City of Des Peres received the Government Finance Officer's Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Award for the second consecutive year.
- The city retained Standard and Poor's AAA bond rating.

## Operating Budgets vs. Capital Budgets

The Operating Budgets have a general purpose to fund ongoing operational activities which provide for city services and include the following funds: General, Fire and Park. Operating Funds are maintained on a separate basis due to accounting requirements relating to dedicated Park and Fire sales taxes. Capital Budgets include the Capital, Sewer and Debt Funds and generally represent investments infrastructure and equipment, these funds are also maintained separately due to accounting requirements for the Capital Improvement Sales Tax and Sewer Lateral Fees.

# General Government



General Government encompasses the Departments of Administration, Finance, Municipal Court and Information Technology all of which are located at City Hall. The Administration Department is responsible for the daily operations of the city including providing assistance to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, Boards and Commissions and operating departments within the city. 2015 was a year of many highlights for the government operations, including: the issuance of 578 business licenses and 27 liquor licenses; the welcoming of 20 new businesses; and the publication of six (6) newsletters. The Administration Department continued to work with TRANE on guaranteed energy savings measures. As part of the energy project, TRANE installed a new HVAC system at City Hall and all windows at City Hall were replaced in winter 2015. With these new energy savings measures in place, the city qualified for and received energy savings rebates from Ameren Missouri. The Citizen Advisory Committee, appointed by Mayor Lahr, continued to meet throughout the year regarding the proposed Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan. Following a public hearing in September, city staff continued to work with TrailNet on revisions to the proposed Master Plan.

In spring 2015, the city implemented a new VOIP phone system at all city buildings. In fall 2015, the city approved a five (5) year contract renewal with Progressive Waste continuing to provide waste collection to city residents free of charge. The Finance Department published its annual CAFR and received the Distinguished Budget Award for the second consecutive year. Throughout 2015, the Municipal Court continued to work with REJIS on the implementation of a new court software, IMDS Plus. The court went live with IMDS Plus in December.

## General Government Capital Improvements

- TRANE Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract
- Capital Leases of Phone System and Copiers
- VOIP Phone System Purchase
- Computer Server Replacements



# Public Works and Streets

The Department of Public Works is responsible for 54 miles of streets, 31 miles of sidewalks, building and zoning code enforcement, managing solid waste and recycling contracts and administration of the sewer lateral program. The Department is staffed by a Director of Public Works, a Building Code Official, Code Enforcement Officer, Assistant to the Director and one part-time Administrative Assistant. The Street Department is staffed by one Superintendent, one Foreman and six Street Maintenance employees.

Major projects completed by the Public Works Department in 2015 include: New equipment purchased in 2015 included: 2015 also was a significant year for the number of building permits issued and a large number of construction projects were completed, this included issuance of: 155 residential permits (21 infill homes), 48 Commercial Permits, 17 Demolition Permits and 71 Street Excavation Permits. 35 Sanitary Sewer Later Applications were received and 27 lateral's repaired. During the Street Department's Winter Season (December 2014 thru March 2015), 7 snow storm events were handled with 391 tons of salt and 3,380 gallons of liquid calcium spread.



In July 2015, Frank Clark, Street Superintendent retired after 41 years of service with the City of Des Peres. Frank was formally recognized for his years of service to the community at a reception held in June 2015. In addition to being recognized by the community, Frank was awarded the Vince Tallo Service Award from the Missouri Chapter of the American Public Works Association. The Vince Tallo Award is given to employees of member organizations who have completed thirty (30) or more years of service to the public with a single organization or municipality. We thank Frank for his service and wish him a long and happy retirement.



Dave Hahn, formerly one of two Foremen in the Des Peres Street Division, was promoted to the position of Street Superintendent. Dave has been employed with the City of Des Peres since 2006.

## Public Works & and Streets Capital Improvements

- Roof Replacement at Street Garage Office
- Trench Drain Replacement at Street Garage Office
- Engineering Contract for Replacement of Oak Drive Bridge
- Fawnvalley Drive Bridge Replacement
- Vehicle and Equipment Replacement

# Public Works and Streets

## Recap of 2015 Public Works Projects

### Concrete Slab Replacements:

- Camberly Road
- Candlewick Drive
- Chaltenham Drive
- Fairoyal Drive
- Ironstone Road
- Point Oak Road
- Twin Pine Drive
- Woodbridge Park Road

### Street Resurfacing:

- Kinstern Drive
- Devonshire Avenue
- Movie Drive
- Sateen Drive
- Westmark Drive
- Oge Avenue
- Grant Place
- Whitehorse Lane
- Whitehorse Court
- Old Dougherty Ferry Road

### Sidewalk Replacements:

- Bentbrook
- Diamond Ridge Court
- Diamond Ridge Lane
- Fairoyal

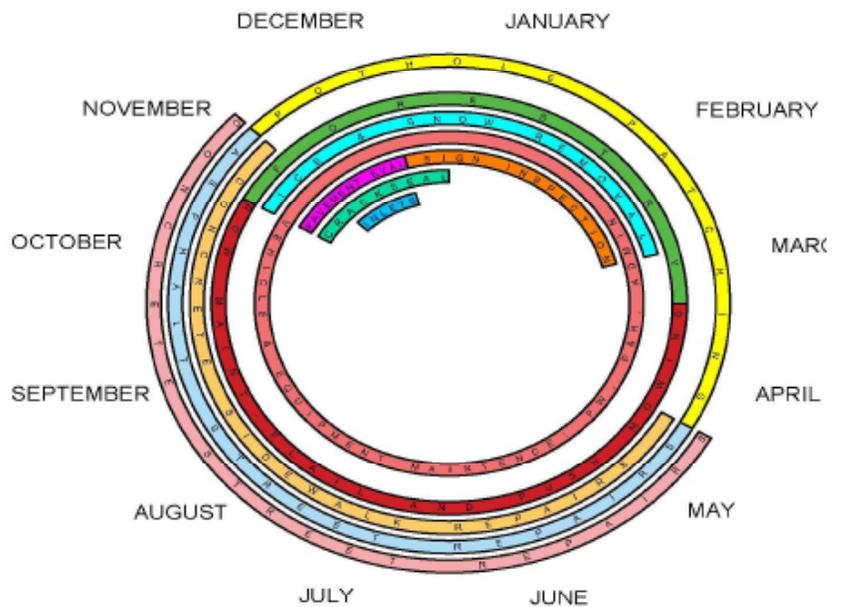
### New Concrete Curbs:

- Devonshire
- Grant Place
- Kinstern Drive
- Oge Avenue

### Special Projects

- Storm Sewer Improvements on Oge Avenue
- Inlet Adjustments on Claychester Avenue

## PUBLIC WORKS OPERATIONS CYCLE



# Public Safety



The Des Peres Department of Public Safety is committed to protecting the Life, Health, Property and Environment by providing the community with quality Police, Fire, and Emergency Medical Services.

2014 staffing levels for the Department of Public Safety consisted of 43 officers and 8 full-time civilian staff. Most department officers work a 24 hour shift similar to many fire departments in St. Louis County; however, during the 24-hour shift, eight (8) hours are assigned to performing the functions of a police officer. The department's telecommunications is staffed by 5 full-time dispatchers and 2 part-time dispatchers who handle all police calls and the initial calls for Fire and EMS. Since 2011, all fire and medical calls are transferred to and managed by Central County E-911 Dispatch Center.

Major highlights of 2015 include: the purchase of mobile toughbook computers; firefighter gear lockers; new firefighter turn out gear and purchase of new self-contained breathing apparatuses (SCBA). Construction projects of 2015 included: replacement of the roof, carpet and HVAC at the Public Safety building.

In 2015, the Public Safety Department continued to coordinate a variety of community events, including: the Neighborhood Watch, D.A.R.E. programs, Citizen's Police Academy, Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) and St. Louis Night Out Against Crime. During the annual National Night Out Against Crime, Public Safety Officers visited various neighborhood parties.

The Public Safety Department continued vital training and education in 2015. Training and continued education exercises included: hydrant inspections, mutual aid fire training, prisoner review training,

roof ventilation exercises, rapid intervention exercises, SCBA (self contained breathing apparatus) training, paramedic training, building walk thrus, training on new AED machines and Pulse CO Oximetry machines, ladder exercises, HAZMAT training, review of reciprocating saw use and maintenance and IV administration policies.



## Public Safety Capital Improvements

- Roof Replacement at Public Safety Building
- Interior Painting at Public Safety Building
- EMS, Police and Fire Equipment
- Replacement of three police vehicles
- Police Vehicle Equipment including in-car video cameras
- Purchase and installation of fire gear lockers

# Public Safety



In 2015, Captain Charles Milano retired after 31+ years with the Des Peres Department of Public Safety. Captain Milano served capably in the Department

of Public Safety having held the rank of Public Safety Officer, Detective, Detective Lieutenant, Captain of Fire Services and Captain of Police Services. Captain Milano also represented Des Peres as a member of the Major Case Squad for over 26 years and worked over 60 homicide investigations in the St. Louis region.

With the retirement of Captain Milano, several promotional opportunities were made within the Department of Public Safety.



- Captain Sean Quinn was assigned to the position of Captain of Fire Services
- Lt. Eric Hall was promoted to the rank of Captain and assigned to the position of Captain of Fire Services
- Sergeant Vicki Severs was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant
- Corporal Mark Franey was promoted to the rank of Sergeant
- PSO John Appelbaum was promoted to the rank of Sergeant
- PSO Brian Felgate was promoted to the rank of Corporal

## Part I & II Crime Statistics

Part I Crimes	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Homicide/Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter/Negligence	0	0	0	0	0
Rape/Sodomy	0	3	0	0	1
Robbery	1	5	3	5	4
Aggravated Assault	6	5	2	0	12
Other Assault	39	25	17	29	25
Burglary	34	26	21	10	18
All Larceny Reports (excluding motor vehicle theft)	439	430	485	354	367
Motor Vehicle Theft	4	1	5	5	5
Arson	0	0	0	0	0
Part II Crimes					
Worthless Document/Fraud	51	61	85	159	227
Vandalism	56	44	34	33	21
Offense Reports	369	359	319	274	239
Non-Criminal Reports	113	119	106	115	67
Supplementary Reports	1,410	1,520	1,613	1,357	1,270
Custodial/Summons Arrests	801	863	804	596	534
Juvenile F-11	127	129	122	82	53
Total CAD Incidents	10,850	10,893	10,451	13,479	13,011

# Parks and Recreation

Des Peres is fortunate to have several outstanding parks, a large recreation facility and the ability to host many community events. Des Peres is home to The Lodge Des Peres, a 76,000 square foot community center which opened in 2003. Des Peres Parks, known as the Crown Jewel of Des Peres, is the city's largest park located at Manchester Road and Ballas Road. In addition to Des Peres Park, the city has approximately ninety-six (96) acres of land and six (6) parks. Together with the Missouri Department of Conservation, the city controls two (2) park sites totalling twenty-three (23) acres under the Urban Wild Acres Program. These conservation sites, known as Bittersweet Woods and Phantom Forest, are accessible by Barrett Station Road.

## Recreation Capital Improvements

- Refurbishment of Indoor Tot Pool
- Installation of Ceiling Mounted Volleyball Net System
- Purchase and Installation of Commercial Fitness Equipment
- Purchase and Installation of Shower Partitions in the Men's and Women's Locker Rooms at The Lodge
- Purchase of New Drinking Fountains for The Lodge
- Purchase of MaxGalaxy Recreation Software (implementation - 2016)

2015 was another great year for Des Peres Parks and Recreation. Community members of Des Perse and surrounding communities enjoyed the special events hosted by the Des Peres Parks and Recreation Department. In 2015, The Lodge served approximately 3,108 members per month and averaged 2,837 paid admission visits per month.

In 2015, several exciting changes occurred at The Lodge Des Peres and within the city's park system. Enhancements to The Lodge Des Peres include: building upgrades under the Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract with TRANE; refurbishment of the indoor tot pool at The Lodge; installation of a ceiling mounted volleyball net system; installation of new shower partitions in locker rooms; installation of new drinking fountains; and purchase of a new recreation and reservation software system. Enhancements within the city's park system include: a new playground at Harwood Park; renovation of Pioneer Park; and new park entrance monuments. In fall 2015, construction was completed on the urban pocket park located at Manchester Road and Ballas Road. The city partnered with CBL Associates of West County Center to design the park and the project was funded by TIF funds.



## Parks Capital Improvements

- New Playground at Harwood Park
- Pioneer Park Improvements
- New Park Monument Entrance Signs
- Completion of the Urban Pocket Park and Fountain at the Intersection of Manchester Road and Ballas Road
- Purchase of new 3/4 ton truck with snow plow

# Parks and Recreation



## Special Events Highlights

- Girls enjoyed a day with their favorite doll at The American Girl Doll Camp
- The annual Easter Egg Hunt was held at Des Peres Park
- Des Peres celebrated Arbor Day in April and its 32nd year as a Tree City USA
- Des Peres hosted the annual Hot Summer Nights, Cool Summer Sounds concert series in Des Peres Park featuring:
- The Lodge outdoor aquatic facility hosted its 10th annual Dive-In Movie (Frozen)
- Monster Machine Day was held in Des Peres Park
- The Lodge hosted Cookies with Claus and Paws with Claus. Many children and dogs were able to share their Christmas wishlists with Mr. and Mrs. Claus
- The Lodge also hosted several community events including: Babysitting 101, The Youth Bike Program, Camp Des Peres, Dance Camp, the Dog Days of Summer, and the Enchanted Ball



# Development Activity

In 2015, the city continued to enjoy a strong commercial tax base, anchored by West County Center, a 1.2 million square foot shopping center featuring Macy's Nordstrom, JC Penney and Dick's Sporting Goods. In addition to West County Center, the city is fortunate to enjoy other commercial centers which provide additional retail and services to the Des Peres community.

Commercial office space represents a large component of the local economy. Des Peres enjoys nearly 1.5 million square feet of office space within the city limits and an additional 1 million square feet immediately adjoining the city at Manchester Road and I-270. Des Peres is home to the Edward Jones Headquarters located at the intersection of Manchester Road and Ballas Road. Commercial centers in Des Peres include: Colonnade Center, Des Peres Commons, Des Peres Pointe, Des Peres Square, Olympic Oaks, Sam's Club, Schnuck's Markets and Dierberg's.

In late 2015, Regions Bank petitioned the City for approval to construct a 9,000 square foot commercial space to house a banking

center and mortgage lending offices. In early 2016, the Board of Aldermen approved the development to be located at 11801 Manchester Road.

The large concentration of retail space has allowed the city to provide high quality municipal services with no residential tax. For the past 22 consecutive years, Des Peres has not imposed a residential property tax. Des Peres is one of only two cities in St. Louis County with no local property tax for local services including fire protection.

Sales tax revenue comprised of 58% of Des Peres' total revenues in 2015, totaling \$11,128,410.00. Ensuring a diverse and prosperous economy is essential to maintaining the financial security of Des Peres.



In 2015, the top 10 employers in the City of Des Peres included:

<b>Company</b>	<b>No. of Employees</b>	<b>Rank</b>
Edward Jones	1,468	1
Scottrade	800	2
Des Peres Hospital	650	3
Macy's	351	4
Nordstrom	248	5
Schnuck's Market	204	6
JC Penney	190	7
Sam's Wholesale	185	8
Dierbergs	147	9
Scrubs & Beyond	108	10

# Development Activity

In 2015, the City of Des Peres welcomed the following businesses to the community:

Bachrach	Govero Salons	Kirkwood Outfitters	Scroggins Dental
Bella Ragazza Salon	Great Clips	Pilates and Custom Fitness	Stitches & Littles
Central Bank	Investor's Title Co.	Pure Barre	Two Blind Guys
Des Peres Smiles	Iviva USA	Rally House	West Co. Cardiovascular
Fusion Kitchen	Jersey Mike's Subs	Razorback Armory	Yoga Six

