

EYE ON

Kirkwood *newsletter*

JUNE 28, 2024 | WWW.KIRKWOODMO.ORG



Thank You to our 2024 Route 66: Cars & Guitars Festival Sponsors

The Route 66 Cars & Guitars Festival and Car Show in Downtown Kirkwood was a success, drawing a large crowd of visitors despite the hot weather. The event kicked off with a pancake breakfast fundraiser with the Kirkwood Fire Department and evolved into a delightful evening of classic cars being showcased and exciting live music. A heartfelt thank you goes out to the dedicated all-volunteer Cars & Guitars Planning Committee and our generous sponsors, whose efforts made this event possible. The festival's allure has always been heightened by the participation of our classic car owners—whose contributions helped establish the car show as one of the region's premier events—and this year was no exception. We look forward to welcoming everyone back next June for another memorable celebration.

Update on Street and Sidewalk Projects in Kirkwood

Grant's Trail Extension, Phase 1 Project – The project is currently under design. The proposed Grant's Trail Extension, Phase 1 project is a two-way side path trail from East Argonne Dr/South Taylor Avenue intersection to the East Monroe Avenue/South Fillmore Avenue intersection to Leffingwell Avenue/south of Union Pacific Railroad to Grant's trailhead at South Holmes Avenue, south of the BNSF Railroad. An estimated right-of-way acquisition is for the Fall of 2026 with construction start estimated for Winter 2027.

Clay Avenue Resurfacing Project – The project is under design with a Public meeting scheduled from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m., July 11, 2024 at KPAC. The proposed pavement preservation project is on Clay Ave. from Adams Avenue at the northern limits to Woodbine Avenue at the south project limit, roughly 0.630 miles. This project excludes improvements to the concrete pavement between Argonne Drive and Madison Avenue. The bridge over the UP railroad is located within this exclusion.

The Clay Ave. project will consist of the following improvements:

- Asphalt Milling and Overlay - (Approximately 3,325 Linear Feet)
- Concrete Curb Repair - Approximately 80% of curbs are anticipated to be replaced
- Non-ADA Compliant Concrete Curb Ramp Replacements
- Non-ADA Compliant Sidewalk Replacement
- Raised intersections at Jefferson and Argonne
- ADA Compliant Crosswalks / Realign Skewed Crosswalks
- Minimal Enclosed Storm Sewer System Modifications
- Pavement Marking & Signage Updates

Right-of-Way acquisition is scheduled for Winter 2024-25 with an estimated construction start of Winter 2025-26.

Lindeman Road Resurfacing Project – Lindeman Road resurfacing, sidewalk upgrade, bikes and pedestrian signaled crossings project has completed Right-of-Way acquisition and is estimated to begin construction this year.

West Essex Infrastructure Upgrades – Between Kirkwood and Geyer Roads, a new water main was installed in the Summer of 2023. New overhead electric lines were installed in the Fall of 2023. Starting in Spring/Summer of 2024, a street and sidewalk reconstruction project will begin. Property owners are being contacted currently for easement acquisition for the project.

South Geyer Road Surfacing Project – This project from Adams to Big Bend is nearing completion. This project will include new ADA-compliant curb ramps, milling of the road surface for a new overlay, improved pavement markings, pedestrian improvements at crosswalks and the railroad crossing, and new traffic signals at Argonne Avenue. Milling and paving is anticipated to begin late June and will be completed, weather permitting by early August of 2024.

MODOT Federal Projects

Manchester Road – Phase 1 (East of Kirkwood Road) is completed in Kirkwood. Buffered and wider sidewalks, decorative pedestrian lighting, and City entrance monuments have been installed. These improvements could be considered once-in-a-lifetime upgrades to the Manchester Road Corridor in Kirkwood.

Manchester Road – Phase 2 (West of Kirkwood Road) is under construction and is scheduled for completion in 2024.

Lindbergh Boulevard Resurfacing Project - (North of Swan Avenue). Work is going on at the intersection of Manchester Road and Lindbergh.

Lindbergh Boulevard Resurfacing Project - (South of BNSF RR). Sidewalk and median replacement is going on south of the BNSF RR tracks.

Other City Projects

Historic Kirkwood Train Station Renovation – The City is underway in getting final approvals from Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT), as this significant renovation project has a majority of its funding from federal and state grants. The scope of the project includes both exterior and interior renovations. The exterior renovations include a reproduction of the extended canopy towards Kirkwood Road, similar to how it was in 1893, and a new slate and copper roof. The interior of the station will reflect the style of 1941 keeping many features enjoyed today, and updates will include a volunteer desk, bathrooms, and new flooring. Additional upgrades are a redesigned site plaza, construction of a new storage building, and reconstruction of the parking lot. The renovation work is expected to start in late Summer or Fall 2024, after the project bidding process is completed.

Please visit www.kirkwoodmo.org/projects for the most up-to-date information regarding the above street projects and other projects in Kirkwood.

4th of July Freedom Festival & Fireworks

Thursday, July 4 (Alternate Date, July 5)
Location: Kirkwood Park, 111 S. Geyer Rd.

Join us for food trucks starting at 5 p.m., live music at 7:00 p.m., followed by a dazzling fireworks display at dusk. Please note: West Adams will be closed between Geyer Road and Couch Avenue from approximately 7:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. to accommodate foot traffic. Be mindful of parking restrictions in nearby areas. Additionally, within Kirkwood Park, Rifle Range Drive and Amphitheater Drive will be closed to vehicular traffic.

FOURTH OF JULY FREEDOM FESTIVAL!

**LIVE MUSIC!
FOOD TRUCKS!
FIREWORKS!**

Food trucks start at 5 p.m.
Live musical entertainment at 7 p.m.

Fireworks begin at dark!

KIRKWOOD PARK
Thursday, July 4th
Rain Date: July 5th

TRAFFIC NOTE: Please note that West Adams will be closed to vehicular traffic from approximately 7:00 to 10:30 p.m., due to pedestrian traffic.

**FREE TO ATTEND
ALL AGES**

314-822-5855
www.kirkwoodparksandrec.org

Hosted by the City of Kirkwood at Kirkwood Park

KHRC Announced Winners of its Annual Essay Contest



The Kirkwood Human Rights Commission announced the winners of its Annual Essay Contest which was open to juniors residing within the Kirkwood School District boundaries. Eligible participants included students attending Kirkwood High School, Ursuline Academy, Vianney High School, and homeschooled students.

This year, an impressive 114 essays were submitted on the topic, "What is the most important human rights issue currently? Why?" After careful review, the following students were honored at the June 6th Council Meeting:

- 1st Place (\$100) – Jocelyn Taylor from Kirkwood High School
- 2nd Place (\$75) – Hector Warren from Kirkwood High School
- 3rd Place (\$50) – Brooke Tatum from Ursuline Academy
- 4th Place (\$25) – Miles Deck from Kirkwood High School

Each winners received a cash award and a certificate presented by Mayor Gibbons. Their thought-provoking essays are now featured on the Kirkwood Human Rights Commission's webpage on the City's website.

Upcoming Holiday Closure & Sanitation Notice

City offices – excluding the Community Center, which will be open on a holiday schedule from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. – will be closed on Thursday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day. There will be no sanitation collection on the holiday, and all routes will experience a one-day delay throughout the week. Please note: no special pickups will be scheduled for Friday, July 7th.

Upcoming Making Music Concerts in Kirkwood Park

The Making Music Concert Series offers four more summer performances, all hosted at the Lions Amphitheater in Kirkwood Park. These concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. and are complimentary, welcoming everyone. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own food and beverages to enjoy during the show.

July 13 - Jeremiah Johnson
Blues, Southern Rock, & Country

July 27 - Skeet Rodgers & the Inner-City Blues Band
Masterful Blues & Soul

August 10 - Northbound Train
A Special Tribute to the Grateful Dead

August 24 - Ticket to the Beatles
The Region's Best Beatles Tribute Band

Eye on Kirkwood is published 12 times per year on the last Friday of the month by the City of Kirkwood, 139 S. Kirkwood Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122. For information or questions about content, or to sign up for the City's electronic newsletters, please send an email to Newsletters@kirkwoodmo.org, or call 314-822-5894.

Kirkwood City Council: Mayor Timothy E. Griffin. Council Members Maggie Duwe, Mark Zimmer, Wallace Ward, Nancy Luetzow, Liz Gibbons and Bob Sears.

City Clerk: Laurie Asche. To reach the City Clerk or Council, call 314-822-5802. To reach a City department, call 314-822-5800 and choose from a list of extensions. For additional information, news items, and a full calendar of events, visit the City's Website: www.kirkwoodmo.org

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