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## For Immediate Release

## **City of Kirkwood Awarded Grants for Multiple Projects**

December 27, 2021

**Kirkwood, Missouri:** The City of Kirkwood proactively applies for grants to support initiatives and projects that benefit our residents, and we have recently received notice that our Public Services and Fire Departments have been awarded multiple grants totaling over \$3 million. These grants support our ongoing operations and upcoming projects that improve the level of services we provide and enhance the quality of life for our residents. The details of the grant awards are listed below.

The Fire Department was awarded a grant in the amount of \$1,039.00 from Missouri American Water Company to purchase forcible entry tools. "These new tools will greatly enhance the overall operation of the department and further assist us in meeting our mission of Saving Life and Property," said Kirkwood Assistant Fire Chief Brian Zaitz.

The Public Services Forestry Division was awarded a Tree Resource Improvement and Maintenance grant (T.R.I.M.) in the amount of \$25,000 from the Missouri Department of Conservation to develop an Urban Forest Master Plan for the City. Completing an Urban Forest Master Plan was identified as a project that would promote environmental conservation and sustainability in the City's most recent Strategic Plan, and this grant makes it possible for that project to be achieved. This grant supports the work the Forestry Division is doing to complete a full and up-to-date street tree inventory, a citywide tree canopy assessment, an overview of all current policies and ordinances regarding tree management, and the associated master plan. The Tree Inventory for this project will begin January 5, 2022.

The Public Services Engineering Division was awarded two grants for the South Clay Ave. street improvements project and the South Kirkwood Rd. street improvements project. Both grant awards and the project details are listed below.

- South Clay Avenue Improvement Project The Surface Transportation Program (STP) Grant awarded by East West Gateway will provide new sidewalks, new ADA compliant curb ramps, drainage improvements and street resurfacing between Woodbine Avenue and Adams Avenue. The project includes intersection improvements at both Jefferson Avenue and Argonne Boulevard to enhance pedestrian safety. Total project cost is estimated at \$1,923,161 with \$1,538,528 eligible for reimbursement through the grant. The construction is scheduled to begin in 2025.
- South Kirkwood Road Improvement Project The Surface Transportation Program (STP) Grant awarded by East West Gateway will provide new sidewalks, new ADA compliant curb ramps, drainage improvements and street resurfacing between Monroe Avenue and the South Railroad Tracks owned by BNSF. Total project cost is estimated at \$1,973,749 with \$1,578,999 eligible for reimbursement through the grant. The construction is scheduled to begin in 2025.