



CITY OF WESTWOOD, KANSAS NEWSLETTER

July through September 2020 4700 Rainbow Blvd, Westwood www.westwoodks.org

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Friends and Neighbors,

Welcome to Summer/Fall 2020 in Westwood! As I write this, many of us are now preparing for our children to return to school, whether in-person, virtual, or otherwise, as part of a delayed start. These past few months have no doubt been difficult, but I continue to be impressed by how our City continues to focus—as best we can—on community. From sidewalk chalk art, to Westwood History Tours (thank you so much to Karen Johnson!), to the plantings by the Westwood Women's Club, we have still managed to find ways to engage with each other and our City. Thank you all for that.

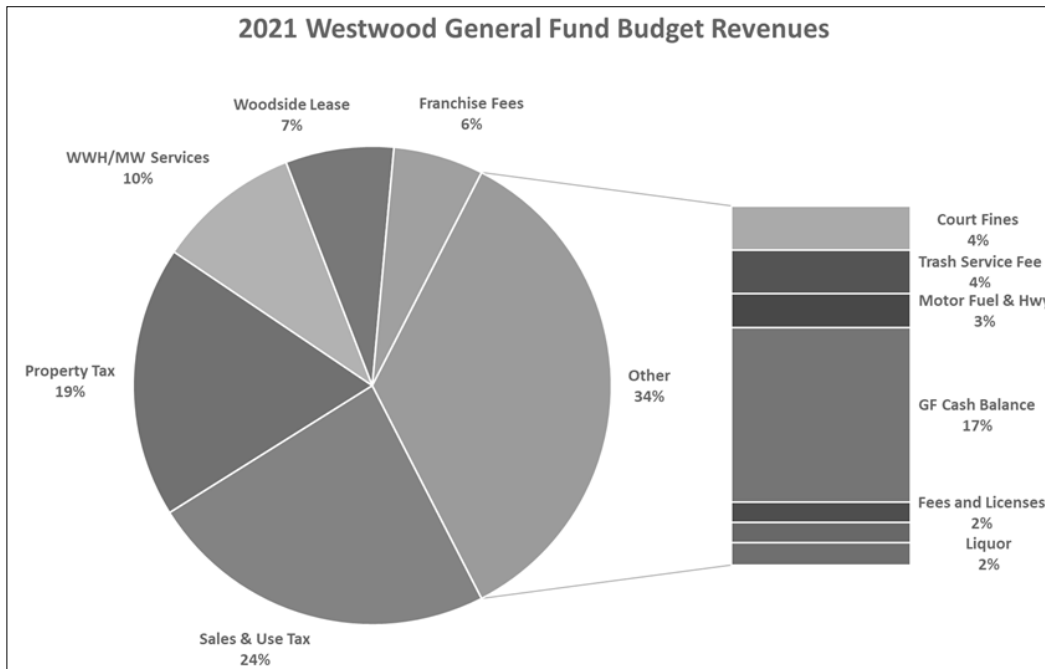
This month, I would like to especially recognize our local businesses, and our partners in the business community. Westwood is fortunate to have several wonderful and important businesses in our community, both large and small. A list of those businesses licensed with the City follow within this newsletter.

These businesses, their success, and the continued attraction of businesses to Westwood are all vital to our City. For example, in recent years, sales tax, use tax, and liquor tax from these businesses can make up approximately 25% of the City's general fund budget revenues (of course, most of these businesses also contribute property tax revenue). To maintain the level of services Westwood expects—from our parks, to our roads, to our police, to our infrastructure, to our

community programming—we need to support our local businesses, and help them succeed. Especially in these trying times of COVID-19. So, please consider shopping, dining, and obtaining your necessary services in Westwood whenever possible!

Westwood is also a proud member of the Northeast Johnson Chamber of Commerce, and I have been pleased to serve on the Chamber's Board of Directors and as Chairman in 2019. The Chamber itself has a page dedicated to business resources for COVID-19 (<https://nejcchamber.com/covid19/>), and I would encourage our businesses to make use of the Chamber's assistance.

Our Business and Community Affairs Committee continues to work on programming for our business and community partners, and finding new ways for our residents and our businesses to learn about each other, interact with each other, and continue to build Westwood as one of the best places in which to do business as well. Please follow the City on Facebook, or make sure you are signed up for the weekly



"Buzz", for updates on future community events!

Thank you for all you do for our City, and please continue to take care of each other.

Mayor David E. Waters

2020 Westwood Business Listing

Shops & Restaurants

Ambience Furs
Asiatica
Blue Sushi Sake Grill
Conroy's
The Farmer's House
Lulu's Thai Noodle Shop
Parkway Café
The Roasterie
Steve Nuss, Ltd.
Ulah
Velvet Creme Popcorn
Walmart Neighborhood Market

Health, Fitness & Aesthetic Services

Balanced Body Massage
The Bar Method
The Boulevard Barber Shop
Celsius Tannery
The Crosstraining Club
Fitness Unlimited
Missy's Boutique
Renee's Salon
Session Salon
SlinkFit
Strands Salon
Westwood Skin Care & Wax Clinic
Westwood Spa
Woodside

Specialized Services

Architectural Products
Expert Tailoring and Alterations
FMA Animal Hospital
Food Industry Services
Heartland Food Products
K-Jo Media
Retail Grocers Association
Shawnee Mission Wee Care
Spiritual Reader & Life Coaching
Westwood Animal Hospital
Westwood Village Laundry

Healthcare Services

Blue Valley Physical Therapy
Daniel D. Zimmerman, MD
Health Studio KC
Imaging Center West Plaza
KU Cancer Center
KU Dental Associates
KU Dialysis
KU Sleep Disorders Center
Midwest Transplant Network
OHM Interest, LLC
Rainbow Dialysis
Sullivan Family Dental
Westwood Chiropractic

Professional Services

Legal

The Law Offices of Anderson & Associates
Carlson & Associates
Law Offices of Dale E. Bennett
The Law Offices of James H. Cooper
Kyner Law
Michael S. Martin
Timothy V. Pickell Law Offices
Whitsitt & Whitsitt

Other Professional

Jeff Jones Realty
PGAV Architects

Financial

Assured Management Company
Blitztrade
Edward Jones
IRR Corporate & Public Finance
Miller Haviland Ketter CPAs
Modern Horizons Group

BELINDER AVENUE STRIPING PROJECT EXPLAINED

Recently, an ultra-thin bonded asphalt surface (UBAS) street treatment project was completed on Belinder Ave. Following that, white stripes were painted the length of the corridor and city staff have been fielding numerous inquiries as to what the lines denote. The stripes are a relatively low cost traffic calming measure that intend to slow traffic as well as put more space between pedestrians on the sidewalk and moving vehicles. With the previous configuration of the road, a vehicle driver would perceive that they had roughly 23 feet of road between the edge of the gutters. Several spots on Belinder have

long sight lines and combined with the perception of so much space, the tendency is to drive fast. Before the addition of the stripes, a speed trailer monitored over 29,500 vehicles traveling both directions on Belinder Ave., a 25mph zone. Out of those vehicles, 17.5% were traveling at 30mph or greater and 2.3% traveling at 35mph or greater. The stripes give the perception of less space per lane and when there is less space, the tendency of vehicle drivers is to slow down. This effort supports community multimodal goals and objectives as outlined in the Westwood Comprehensive Plan and is supported by several policies in the Framework Plan.

ELECTION DAY IS NOVEMBER 3RD

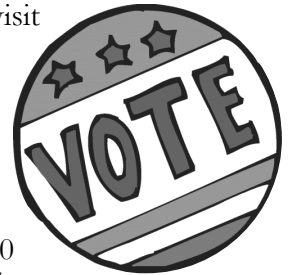
Polls will be open at City Hall on Tuesday, November 3rd from 6 am to 7 pm. City Hall is a polling place for voters that have registered with the Johnson County Election Office with a Westwood address.

Voter Registration: The last day to register to vote for the 2020 General Election is Tuesday, October 13th. To make sure you are registered visit <https://voter.jocoelection.org/> or call (913)715-6800.

Advance Voting: Voting options are available by mail and in person at seven locations in Johnson County. The nearest advance in person voting location to West-

wood is the Johnson County Northeast Offices at 6000 Lamar in Mission. If you are unable to make it to your polling place, or wish to stay home to avoid the spread of COVID-19 on November 3rd visit www.jocoelection.org/advance-voting-0 or call (913)715-6800 to get more information about voting in advance by mail or in person.

For full information about the 2020 Fall General Election visit <https://www.jocoelection.org/>



5050 RAINBOW DEMOLITION WORK

At its July 9, 2020 regular meeting, the City Council voted to accept the bid of Midwest Wrecking for the demolition of the former Westwood Christian Church building and parking lot at 5050 Rainbow Blvd, which the City has owned since 2014, and for which work the City Council budgeted in 2020. This action supports the City's commitment to the goals and objectives laid out in the 2017 Westwood Comprehensive Plan for the site as a key factor in the construction of a new Westwood View facility and/or expanded public spaces for community use and benefit. The City's Comprehensive Plan

is available here, on the City website at <https://www.westwoodks.org/masterplan>.

The demolition contractor is in the midst of the demolition work, with the majority of heavy demolition having occurred Tuesday, August 11th.

Timeline

7/27 - 8/10: Light, preliminary demolition; environmental remediation work; and salvage of the cornerstone, archway, and facade stone; minor, if any, noise and disruptions to neighbors

8/11 - 8/14: Heavy, major demolition work; loud equipment noise expected between the hours of 8 AM - 5 PM, only

8/17 - 9/25: Light to moderate demolition and removal work, minor, if any, noise and disruptions to neighbors

Late October: Space anticipated to be ready to accommodate open space play and use by neighbors (subject to status of grass growth following seeding by contractor)

Any questions or concerns regarding this project or the demolition work should be directed to Public Works Director John Sullivan at (913)942-2132.



BMP COST SHARE PROGRAM

The City of Westwood encourages individual homeowners and businesses to incorporate Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) on their property to aid in the improvement of local and regional water quality.

At the same time, the city encourages planting native plants and trees to support the natural ecosystem and provide food for pollinators like bees and butterflies. The BMP Cost Share program will reimburse applicants up to 50% of eligible expenses, not to exceed a project reimbursement cap for the proper installation of the following best management practices:



<u>Project</u>	<u>Reimbursement</u>
Rain Barrel	\$75/barrel, up to two (2)
Native Tree Planting	\$150/tree, up to two (2)
Rain Garden/Pollinator Garden	\$1,000

To apply visit www.containtherainjoco.com/application.html

COMPLETE STREETS STRIPING PROJECT

For the past 30+ years, Westwood has been working with Roeland Park, the Unified Government of Wyandotte County - Kansas City, Kansas, and other partners to plan improvements to 47th St between Rainbow Blvd. and Mission Rd. to make the corridor safer and more inviting, as well as to implement other strategies to support existing and future businesses.

This collaboration has resulted in the recommendation of reducing the current four-lane road to a three-lane road and adding bike lanes and pedestrian crosswalks to the corridor. In 2020, these improvements will be striped and minor signal and signage improvements will be made prior to full road reconstruction to make these improvements permanent in 2022.

The road work and lane conversion will take place from August 17 through September 15. At least one lane of traffic each way will be open for vehicles and buses throughout the roadwork and minimal pedestrian disruptions are anticipated. Businesses and residents along the corridor will maintain access to their properties and drives throughout the project and will be notified prior to work commencing adjacent to their properties.

More information relating to the project and planning is available online at www.westwoodks.org/47thcompletestreet

WESTWOOD HISTORICAL WALKING TOUR

The City of Westwood is full of history. There are interesting facts and finds around just about every corner of the city. To promote that history and to provide a fun, engaging way for residents and visitors to experience the depth of Westwood's past, the Westwood City Council Parks & Recreation Committee and former Westwood

Mayor Karen Johnson joined forces to create a historic walking tour.

To take the self-guided tour, visit www.westwoodks.org/historical to access the printable map and notes or go paperless and use the interactive Google map. City staff can provide printed materials at City Hall during regular business hours, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

SUSPICIOUS SEED WARNING

As you may be aware, there has been a large number of people across the country receiving packages of seeds shipped from outside the US that they have not been requested. There is concern of potential harm to the US agriculture if the seeds contain materials that are harmful to agriculture production. The Kansas Department of Agriculture asked Kansas law enforcement to make others aware of this situation.

The Kansas Department of Agriculture has posted a page on their website which will be maintained with up-to-date information at <https://agriculture.ks.gov/divisions-programs/plant-protect-weed-control/seed>

On that page will be warnings to not plant the seeds and information related to improper disposal, which could result in the seeds unintentionally germinating. It also has specific instructions on how to ship the seeds to the proper authorities for investigation and asks that KDA be notified if the seeds have already been planted.

If you have additional questions you can call:

- USDA-APHIS: (844)820-2234
- KDA Plant Protection and Weed Control program (785)564-6698



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JULY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2020**

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Holly Wimer.....holly.wimer@westwoodks.org

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PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS: Chris Bishop,
Timothy Filson, Ruth Peter, Kurtis Stone, Sharon Taylor

COURT CLERK: Shelley Floyd

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS: John Sullivan

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: Mitch Landis

PUBLIC WORKS STAFF: Richard Fatherley, Nick Finck

CITY CLERK: Leslie Herring

BUILDING/CODES OFFICIAL: Eddie McNeil

ASSISTANT CITY CLERK: Abby Schneweis

CONTACT INFORMATION

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City Hall..... (913)362-1550
Public Works..... (913)432-1550
Public Safety..... (913)362-3737
JOCo Sheriff 24 Hour Dispatch..... (913)782-0720
Municipal Court..... (913)362-3737
WCA Disposal (816)380-5595
Kansas Gas Service.....1(800)794-4780
KCPL (816)471-5275
WaterOne (913)895-5500
JOCo Wastewater..... (913)715-8590
Animal Control..... (913)782-0720
JOCo Information..... (913)715-5000
Driver's License Bureau (913)826-1800
JOCo Election Office..... (913)715-6800
JOCo Appraiser..... (913)715-9000
Shawnee Mission School Dist..... (913)993-6200