

THE ROELANDER

March, 2009

PARKER

Construction News



SIDEWALK PROJECT

The City Council approved the sidewalk installation project at the February 16th Council meeting. The bid was awarded to Miller Paving and Construction for \$374,228.61. Miller Paving will start construction mid-March, 2009. Sidewalks will be added to the following streets:

- Roeland Drive (55th Street to 57th Street);
- Rosewood Drive (51st Street to Roe Blvd);
- Sycamore Drive (Nall Avenue to Cedar Street); and
- 52nd Ter (Buena Vista to Clark Drive)

RC12-012 STORMWATER AND STREET PROJECT

Construction started in January on the RC12-012 Stormwater and Street Project. The construction of this project will take approximately 465 days. The contractor, Rose-Lan Contractors, Inc., and the utility companies are working hard to make sure all homeowners are not overly inconvenienced during the construction. Construction detours have been put in place to help with traffic issues and routing. As part of the detouring, the City has opened up 51st Street at Bishop Miega to Mission Road temporarily for two-way traffic. More information on construction is available at www.roelandpark.net.

RC12-014 STORMWATER BENEFIT DISTRICT

A Stormwater Benefit District is a funding mechanism that allows for the building of a stormwater system. The city will collect funding based on a square foot fee that would be assessed to all properties within the district at the completion of the stormwater construction.

In February, the Council adopted Resolution 581 which creates the benefit district for the design, engineering, and construction of storm sewers, channels, retention basins or drains for the purpose of managing storm drainage within the area known as RC12-014. The costs of the improvements will be paid between the Benefit District and the City-at-large. The City-at-large will pay at a minimum \$850,000 toward the cost of the improvements as well as additional funding from Johnson County (SMAC). Any remaining costs for the improvements will be assessed against the benefit district. At this time construction is projected to start late 2009 or early 2010.

Spring Election Activities

The Northeast Johnson County Chamber and/or the League of Women Voters will be hosting a general election forum for all Roeland Park candidates on March 24th at 7:00 PM at the Roeland Park Community Center.

A primary election will be held on March 3rd for Mayoral candidates and the general election is April 7th.

The official candidate listing for the spring elections is as follows:

Mayor: Adrienne Foster, Scott Gregory, Toni J. Hull*, Steve Petrehn

Ward 1: Kori L. Belton, Michelle Cotton and Elizabeth Mellor

Ward 2: Jennifer Gunby and Robert A. Meyers, Jr.

Ward 3: William Scott Foy and Mark Kohles

Ward 4: Bill Art and Debbi Schraeder

**Ms. Hull has released a statement withdrawing from the mayoral contest.*

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Council Actions

Payday and Title Loan

Business Restrictions. The Council approved an ordinance restricting the locations of Payday and Title Loan businesses operating within the city limits.

51st Street Resurfacing

Funding. The Council approved a motion to not accept partial county funding (CARS program) for the resurfacing of 51st Street, (Cedar Street to Nall Avenue) since the street is in very good condition.

New Police Vehicles.

The Council approved the purchase of two new police cars to replace two aging vehicles.

Traffic Safety Audit.

The Council approved a contract with Wilbur Smith to conduct a traffic safety audit at the intersection of Roe Blvd and 48th Street in order to determine if striping and signalization needs to be changed.

Shawnee Indian Mission

Foundation. The Council authorized a payment of \$5,000 to the Shawnee Indian Mission Foundation.

Building Permit Flat Rates.

The Council approved new flat permit rates for five different types of home improvement projects.

Sculpture "Bomber"

Relocation. The Council authorized the placement of the City owned sculpture entitled "Bomber" at Sweany Park.

Housekeeping Reminders

If you are a new resident in Roeland Park, please call City Hall and ask for a new resident packet.

The City has contracted with a trash company to do residential household waste removal and recycling. Recycle bins can be picked up at City Hall or Town & Country Disposal will drop one at your home upon request.

Top 2 Code Violations:

- Poorly maintained yards. Grass must be kept under 6 inches, including the fence lines and edging.
- Storage of trash containers. Trash containers should not be visible from any street or roadway except when placed in position for pickup.

Just as a reminder, you will receive a warning for the first citing of a violation; second notice will be in the form a Notice to Appear in Court.

Reminders:

- No burning is allowed within the city. (Outside cooking of food in proper grills or ovens, or outside use of chimeneas is allowed.
- Building permits must be obtained before the work has begun or the cost of the permit doubles.
- Dogs and Cats must be licensed.
- Animals must be on a leash or contained in a fenced yard or the owner can be cited.

CVS/CAREMARK offers Prescription Program

CVS/Caremark and the National League of Cities have partnered to offer a prescription program for those who do not have prescription insurance. This program is to help residents cope with the high cost of prescription drugs. This discount card will offer you a savings of 20% and will cover all family members. There is no limit to how many times the card may be used. No income requirements, no enrollment fees and no membership fees. For more information, contact Johnson County at 715-8999.

Citizen's Academy Class



With the spring comes interest in our Citizen's Academy. This is your chance to learn more about what makes the City tick! Each department head will give you an overview of their department and you can ask questions.

This year, new members of the City Council will be invited to join the class to help them understand the responsibility of each department. If interested, contact Jeannie Gochenour at City Hall to sign up for the five week course.

Urban Tree Care-Best Practices

Problems with Ivy/Euonymus on trees

By Brad Hatfield

We are fortunate to live in an area with large, mature trees. However, these magnificent shade trees can have multiple issues as they grow and age. It is important to provide continued care and maintenance, as well as inspections for stability/soundness of wood.

A particular problem I often see is the uncontrolled growth and spread of English Ivy and creeping Euonymus on mature trees. I can



English Ivy

understand the aesthetic appeal of the color and texture but these types of growth can cause problems for trees. First and foremost, it is often difficult to inspect a tree for decay or structural problems

when it is covered in ivy. Potentially hazardous situations like cracks, splits and large hollows can be completely hidden from view.



Euonymus

Another potential problem is the lack of drying by direct sunlight and wind. These covered areas stay wet and become an attractive spot for decay and fungal growth. Ideally, we want to have natural drying occurring on the trunk and branches.

The worst problem is when unchecked growth begins wrapping tree limbs and eventually starts to smother foliage. This will eventually kill entire limbs. I have not seen this completely kill a tree, but I have seen trees so heavily covered they had become a virtual giant shrub, with no real value and most major limbs smothered and dying out.

I would advise anyone to carefully monitor the growth and spread of Ivy/Euonymus on their trees. I generally advise clients to remove the growth, but if they must have it, to keep the growth at a controllable height on the tree trunk. With the negative aspects to consider, the best practice is to not have it on the tree at all.

City Hall Calendar

March

- 2 * 7:00 pm City Council Meeting
- 3 * Primary Election
- 9 * 6:00 pm Public Works/Public Safety Committee
- 11 * 6:00 pm Parks Committee (Community Center)
- 12 * 7:00 pm Ward III Meeting
- 16 * 7:00 pm City Council meeting
- 17 * 7:00 pm Planning Commission
- 23 * 6:00 pm Finance/Admin Committee
- 24 * 7 pm Candidate's Forum (see website)
- 25 * 7:00 pm Sustainability Committee
- 26* 6:00 pm Art reception featuring art work from Roseland Elementary School

April

- 1 * 6:00 pm Design Guidelines Committee meeting
- 6 * 7:00 pm City Council meeting
- 7 * General Election
- 8 * 6:00 pm Parks Committee
- 13 * 6:00 pm Public Works/Public Safety Committee
- 20 * 7:00 pm City Council Meeting
- 21 * 7:00 pm Planning Commission
- 22 * 6:00 pm Sustainability Committee
- 27 * 6 pm Finance/Admin Committee

All meetings held at Roeland Park City Hall
4600 W 51st Street, unless otherwise noted.

Roeland Park's First Arbor Day Poster Contest

The National Arbor Day Society created the Arbor Day National Poster Contest to help educate fifth grade students about trees and environmental stewardship. The 2009 theme, "Trees are Terrific... in Cities and Towns!" is designed to increase student's understanding of the importance of trees in a community. This is the first year the City of Roeland Park has promoted the program and the winning poster was submitted by Tyler Wieneke of Roesland Elementary School. Tyler's poster was selected from nearly 30 submissions by



5th grade students at Roesland Elementary School. All of the submitted posters will be on display at City Hall during the month of April.



Roeland Park City Hall
4600 West 51st St
Roeland Park, Ks 66205

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Of special interest...

Would you like a little help starting your garden? Are you willing to volunteer your yard for an afternoon demonstration?

The Roeland Park Sustainability Committee would like to install two raised beds for you in a sunny location this spring. Please call Michelle Cotton for more details: (913) 403-0063.

Roeland Park City Hall Directory 4600 West 51st Street, Roeland Park, KS 66205 Phone (913) 722-2600 <i>City Hall Hours</i> • Monday-Thursday 7 am—6 pm • Friday 7 am—5 pm			
Animal E-Newsletter: Would you like to STOP the paper copy of this newsletter? Sign up online for the Roeland Parker emailed directly to you as soon as it is available or you can view it online at: www.roelandpark.net —Newsletter Important Phone Numbers: Animal Control782-0720 Aquatic Center.....432-1377 Community Center.....826-3130 Easy Ride.....397-7300 Fire Dept (non emergency)432-1105 Municipal Court677.3389 Town and Country (Trash) .816-380-5595 Hazardous Waste.....715-6900 Johnson Co Wastewater...913-432-3820 KCPL.....816-471-5275 KPL Gas/Electric.....800-794-4780 Time Warner913-451-6464 Town and Country816-380-5595 Water District #1 of JoCo.....895-5500	Mayor Steve Petrehn 384-2918 spetrehn@roelandpark.org	Ward 1 Councilmembers	
	City Administrator John Carter 722-2600 jcarter@roelandpark.org	Debbi Schraeder debbischraeder@reeceandnichols.com 722-4799	Toni Hull thull@roelandpark.org 362-2325
	Police Department Chief of Police, Rex Taylor 677-3363 rtaylor@roelandpark.org	Ward 2 Councilmembers	
	Public Works Department Director, Pat Mundis 722-5435 pmundis@roelandpark.org	Robert Meyers rmeyers@fusemail.com 384-1923	Scott Gregory sgregory@scottgregorycpa.com 384-6360
	City Clerk/Finance Director, Debra Mootz 722-2600 dlmootz@roelandpark.org	Ward 3 Councilmembers	
		Mark Kohles mkohles@burnsmcd.com 831-2773	Megan England mengland@roelandpark.org 236-7689
		Ward 4 Councilmembers	
		Bill Art bart@roelandpark.org 722-2600	Adrienne Foster afoster@roelandpark.org 908-1709