

CITY CONNECTIONS

The Official E-Newsletter of the City of Raytown

Raytown Board of Aldermen Unanimously Approve Budget

BY DIANE EGGER, CITY ADMINISTRATOR

November 1st started the City of Raytown's new fiscal year. The \$43.7 million budget reflects the City's priorities, a prudent fiscal strategy and a commitment to delivering exceptional City services to the community.

The FY25-26 budget includes revenues and expenditures for the general and other basic funds: Capital Project Fund, Capital Sales Tax Fund, Parks, Public Safety Sales Tax Fund, Risk Management Fund, Sewer Fund, Stormwater Tax Fund, TIF Fund, and Transportation Sales Tax Fund. The proposed General Fund budget represents a projected revenue decrease of 11.9%, due to the decrease in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) projects and funding.

City staff began preparing department budgets this past spring. Each department presented its budget to the Board of Aldermen during several Committee of the Whole sessions prior to presenting the resolution to the Aldermen for approval.

Budget highlights include:

- \$3.7 million – Park Fund
- \$2.3 million – Public Safety Sales Tax Fund
- \$9 million – Sanitary Sewer Fund
- \$4.9 million – Stormwater Sales Tax Fund
- \$1.6 million – Transportation Sales Tax Fund

A returning line item will help the City prepare to welcome international visitors and fans to Raytown during the 2026 FIFA World Cup. The complete FY25-26 budget will be available online mid-to-late December. To view past years' budgets, click on this [link](#). To watch the Oct. 7th meeting, click [here](#).

This issue:

2025-2026 BUDGET

PAGE 1

PARKS & REC

PAGES 2-3

COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT

PAGES 4-5

PUBLIC WORKS

PAGES 6-7

FINANCE/COURT

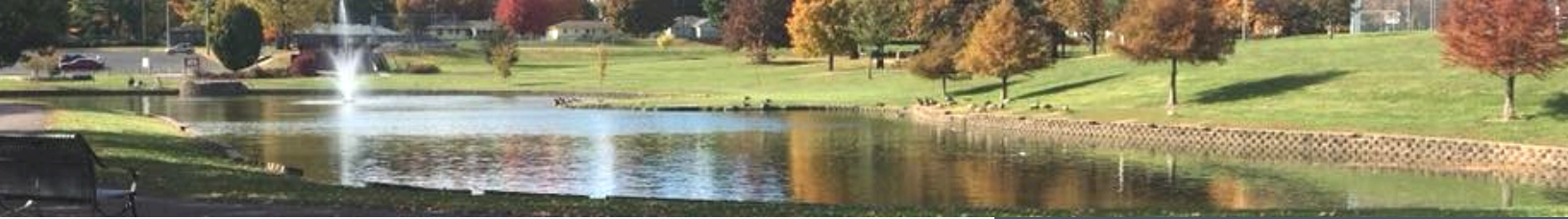
PAGE 8

POLICE

PAGE 9

CALENDAR

PAGE 10



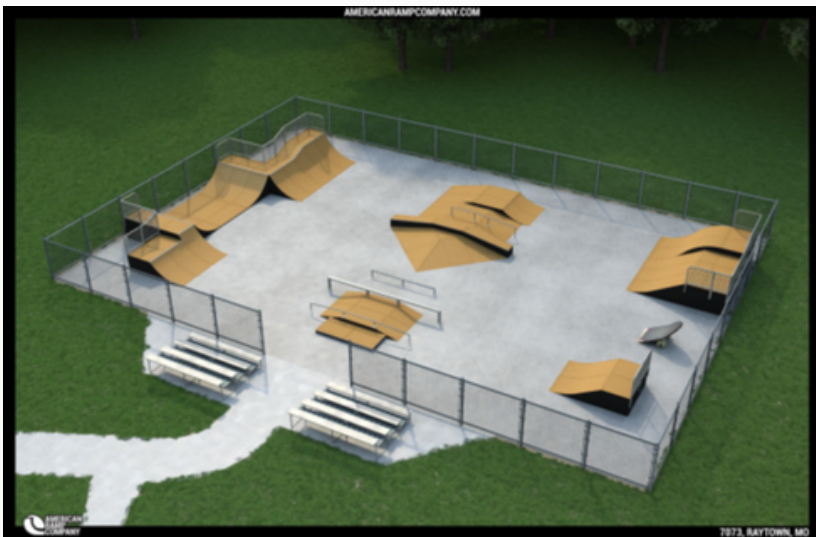
PARKS & RECREATION

BY DAVE TURNER, PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR

KENAGY PARK UPDATES FUNDED BY FEDERAL GRANT

Raytown Parks has entered a contract to replace the existing skate park equipment at Kenagy Park. This project is funded by a federal grant through the OMNIBUS CPF program. The American Ramp Company (ARC) has submitted a proposal to redesign and replace the equipment, giving our skateboarders a new look and opportunity at Kenagy Park. The overall project at Kenagy Park will be \$1M to update the brick restrooms, redesign the Skate Park and complete ADA trail work. This is a 100% fully funded federal grant, with no match needed from the Raytown Parks Department.

Construction and installation will begin in February by ARC staff. The old skate equipment has been purchased by the City of Richmond's Park Department, who will be using it to expand their skate park. We are glad to see that the equipment will be put to good use for skateboarders in another community!



Proposed redesign of the Skate Park at Kenagy.

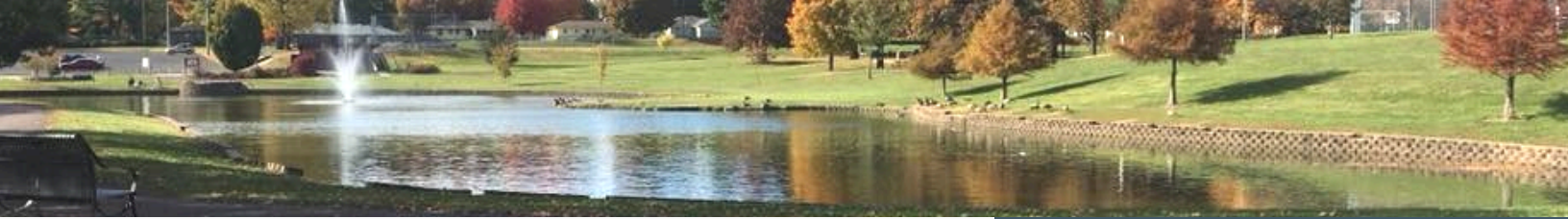
SHELTER HOUSE RENTALS OPEN JANUARY

The Raytown Parks Department will open the 2026 shelter house rentals on January 2, 2026. Reservations can be made in person or by phone. Fees are due on at time of reservation.

Shelter houses can be reserved for the following parks: Colman, Kenagy, and Kritser Parks. Fees are based on occupancy capacity. The Raytown Park office is located across the street from Colman Park, 5912 Lane Avenue, and is open 8AM-5PM Monday through Friday.

Questions? Call us
816-358-4100

Note: The following are NOT allowed: bounce houses, DJs, or amplified music on park grounds.



PARKS & RECREATION, CON'T

BY DAVE TURNER, PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR

TRIM GRANT PROJECT STARTS NOVEMBER

Last month, thanks to a Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) TRIM grant, our staff trimmed and removed trees. The TRIM grant is a tree related grant through the Missouri Dept of Conservation where communities can do tree trimming, or tree removal maintenance, and be reimbursed through the MDC at a rate of 90-10. This project helps upkeep the Raytown Parks tree inventory, keeps park properties safer during storm incidents, and replaces two trees for every tree that is completely removed.

Parks staff work with MDC foresters to identify the trees needing removal or trim/pruning maintenance, and then we work together to find native trees to replace the trees that are removed. Extra points go toward trees in dangerous positions that are overhanging trails, parking lots, shelter houses, or playgrounds. By trimming these trees of dead or damaged branches before they fall, keeps trees stronger and more resilient and hold together better during storms and high winds.

Part of requirements for being awarded the TRIM grant, and being designated as a Tree City USA community, Parks hosts a tree planting in April to celebrate Arbor Day. The effort and commitment to improve the natural assets of our public green spaces and Park properties, and to leave a beneficial aesthetic to the citizens of Raytown, is why we are so proud of working with the MDC under the TRIM grant program.

FALL & WINTER COLORS ALONG OUR TRAILS

Enjoy the fall & winter
season colors in our
Raytown Parks.
Walking trails are open
7AM -11PM.

LIST OF RAYTOWN TRAILS

Colman Park - .68 miles
Kenagy Park - .48 miles
Minor Smith Park - .47 miles
Southwood Park - .46 miles
Kritser Park - .82 miles



ANIMAL SERVICES

BY JENNIFER MCWHIRT,
ANIMAL SERVICES DIRECTOR

ANIMAL SERVICES EXPANDS

Stray animals in Raytown will soon have new space to reside while waiting for their owner or new family, thanks to the City’s expansion of its Animal Services Department. The expansion includes relocating the City’s entire Animal Services Department into a free standing 2,240 square-foot facility at 10312 E. 63rd Street.

The Board of Aldermen approved this expense allowing the City to purchase the former Midwest Animal ResQ building.

For nearly two years, the City of Raytown utilized Laurel Pet Resort to house strays.

We’re still getting settled into our new building, but the support has been amazing. Animal Services has started a Pet food pantry for Raytown residents and have been able to help multiple households already. Our goal for the upcoming year is to establish this department not only as a place for stray animals to come to, or enforcing the animal ordinances of the city, but also to be a place for residents for education on pet care, pet training and other needed resources for spay/neuter programs and more. An amazon wish list will soon be posted so donations can be sent directly to Animal Services. We have established a partnership with The Pet Connection for staff training on enrichment and keeping our shelter animals happy and healthy, both mentally and physically. Our main goals are to continue a high rate of returning lost pets with their owners, continue to enforce city ordinances regarding pets, and to adopt unclaimed pets into new loving homes.

If you have additional questions, call us - 816-737-7025.

ANIMAL SERVICES FAQs

1. Is Raytown’s Animal Services, the City’s Animal Shelter?
 - o Raytown Animal Services is the City’s Animal Control Department.
2. What services are provided?
 - o Impounding animals due to cruelty, neglect, abandonment, bite holds or running at large.
 - o Removal of deceased wildlife in public areas.
 - o Assistance to Police/Fire Departments
 - o Pet license (All cats, dogs, ferrets and pot-bellied pigs are required to have a pet license)
 - o Foster or adoptions of animals
 - o Enforce City of Raytown animal-related ordinances.
3. What are the hours?
 - o 8-5 Mon – Fri
 - o Weekends as needed for owners to reclaim their pet. Call 816-737-7025.
4. Do I have to be a resident to adopt a dog?
 - o No. Follow us on Facebook to view all dogs available for adoption.
5. Can I adopt a dog (or cat) that has been impounded?
 - o Yes, after a 5-day hold, you can fill out an application to adopt. Fees: males - \$85, females - \$100
6. Can I donate items?
 - o Animal Services can accept non-monetary donations such as pet food, pet toys, leashes, blankets and more. Call 816-737-7025.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

BY RON KNISLEY,
INTERIM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ADOPTED

The Planning & Zoning Department is working to update the City’s Municipal Zoning Code to reflect the newly adopted Comprehensive Plan, “Raytown on the Rise 2040.” This will include modifications to the Municipal Land Use Table as well as modifications to the zoning district designations.

The proposed changes should allow for more zoning flexibility, greater economic growth, more accessible connections to the Rock Island Trail, and increased activity within the downtown area.

What's the future of
Raytown?

ON THE RISE
RAYTOWN
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN | 2040

RaytownOnTheRise.com

CODE ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

Code Enforcement will become 100% mobile.

Now, code officers post notices on the door the day the violation is observed, instead of mailing the notice, which typically takes 3-5 days for the resident to receive.



PUBLIC WORKS

BY JOEY CARLEY, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

WINTER WEATHER PREPARATION

Once winter weather hits, time is of the essence for the City of Raytown Public Works to clear roadways toward ensuring they are as safe as possible for road users. During the snow removal process, residual amounts of snow will be left behind by the snowplows. This is referred to as a windrow.

What is a windrow?

A windrow is the row of snow left on the side of the street or at the bottom of a driveway after the snowplow has cleared the road. It is an unintended consequence of roadway snowplows. Roadway snowplows are designed to move snow from the travelled portion of the road towards the right side of the road. As the snow is moved from left to right, it creates an unavoidable long narrow pile of snow deposited alongside the right edge of the road or bottom of a driveway.

Who is responsible for clearing residential windrows?

Homeowners are responsible for clearing the windrows formed at the bottom of their driveway.

Why can't the snowplow operator just lift their plow to avoid putting snow in my driveway?

Driveway windrows cannot be avoided by raising or lowering the plow, doing so would leave snow on the travelled portion of the road.

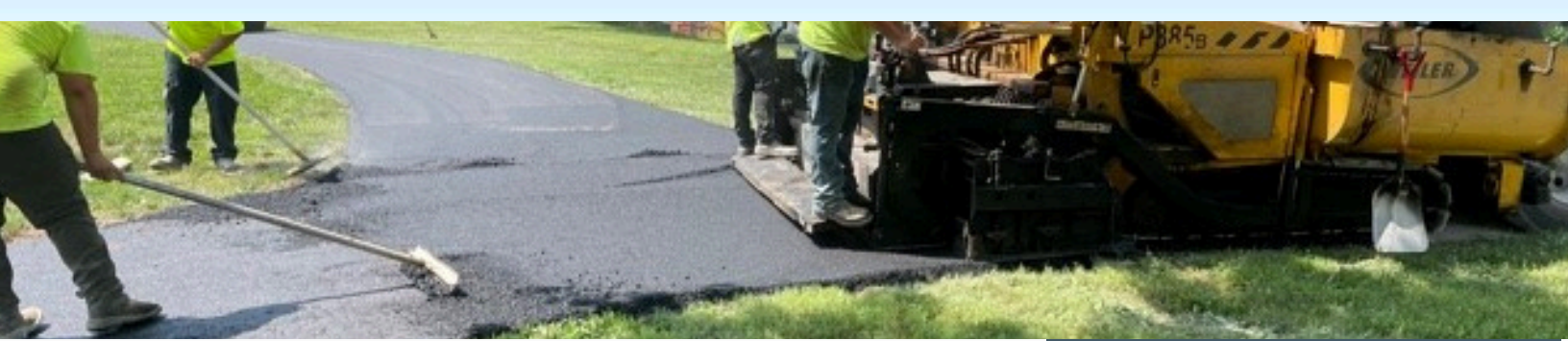
Tips for helping Raytown Public Works winter operations run smoothly.

1. Don't park on the street or over the sidewalk during or after a snowfall.
2. Keep the roads clear for plows and emergency vehicles.
3. Clear snow and ice from sidewalks bordering your property as soon as snow has ended.
4. Remove anything from the front of your property that may interfere with or be hazardous to plow crews, like basketball goals or vehicles.
5. On trash collection days, set waste bins back from the curb and not in the traveled roadway.
6. Clean snow off all surfaces of your vehicle before driving and keep a safe distance away from snowplows and salting equipment.
7. Always keep fire hydrants clear and accessible to emergency responders.

For questions about winter operations, call [\(816\) 737-6146](tel:8167376146).

REDUCE SNOW PACK AT THE END OF YOUR DRIVEWAY



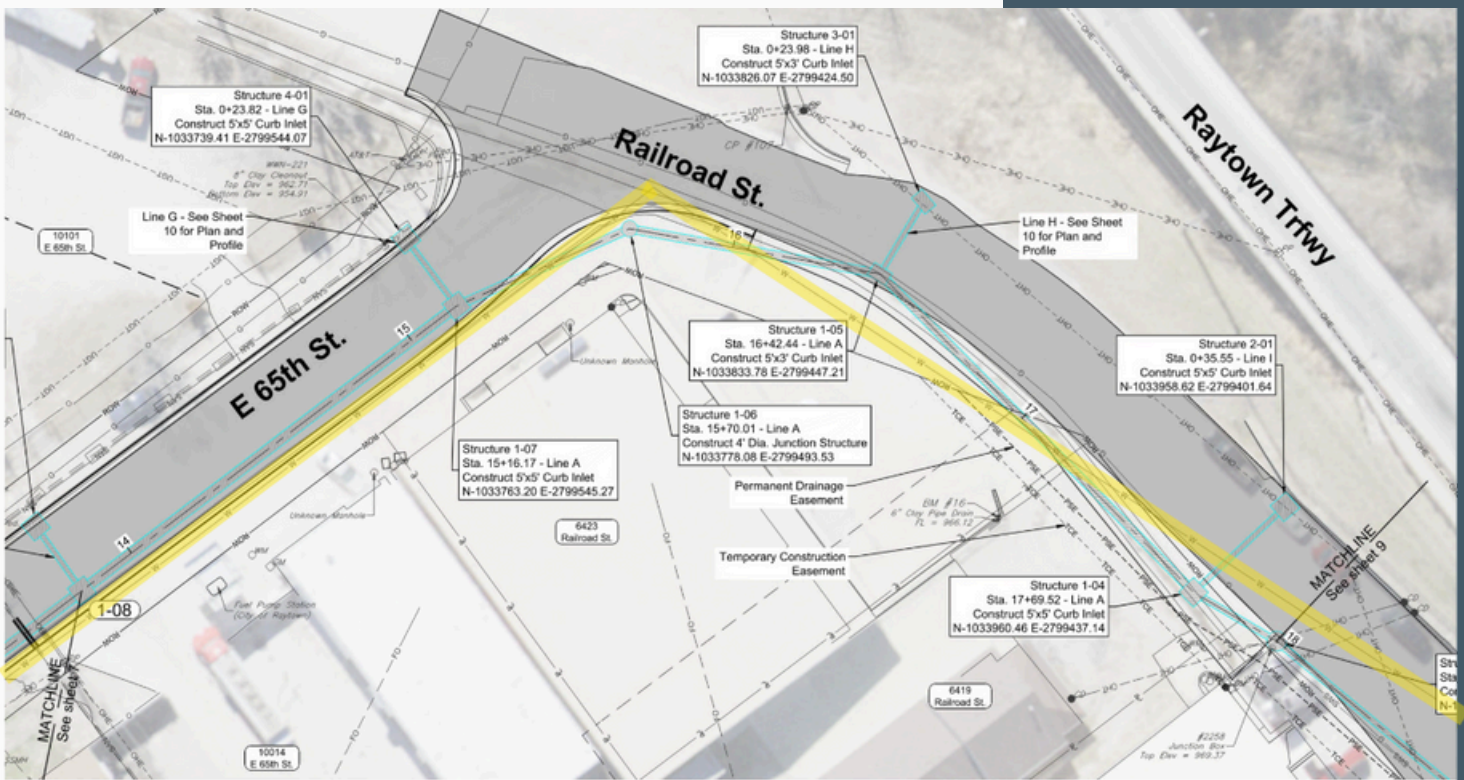


PUBLIC WORKS, CON'T

BY JOEY CARLEY, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

STORMWATER GO BOND UPDATE

The design is complete for the first projects of the Stormwater GO Bond project! The City is requesting bids for a contractor to complete the work, making improvements to our storm sewers, curbs, gutters, and roadways. All this important work will reduce flooding to make our streets safer in instances of heavy rain. City staff and the engineer George Butler Associates met with local utility companies to ensure the project goes smoothly and that no services get disrupted during the project. Major construction work will begin in late winter or early spring when the weather warms up. Your votes and tax dollars have made this project and other GO Bond projects a reality, we're excited to see this come to life!





FINANCE DEPARTMENT

BY MICHAEL GRAHAM, FINANCE DIRECTOR

SIGN UP FOR AUTO PAY

Scan the QR code below to setup Sewer Autopay and avoid processing and late fees.



Customers Having
Difficulty Paying their
Sewer Bill May Contact:

- **Raytown Emergency Assistance Program (REAP)** - 816-737-6088
- **Hope Network**
816-778-1105
- **State Assistance for Housing Relief (for Renters)**
1-855-908-6120
- **United Way**
Call 2-1-1

Before



RAYTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

BY CAPT. DYON HARPER

CERT RECEIVES PROCLAMATION

The Raytown CERT Team (Community Emergency Response Team) received a proclamation from Mayor Mike McDonough at the Board of Aldermen meeting on November 11th, 2025, recognizing the Team's service to the community at special events as well as emergencies. The Police Department and City couldn't be prouder of this group of dedicated volunteers! They directly invest their time and talents into our community and help make Raytown great! Well done, and well deserved!

Interested in joining our CERT Team or getting trained? Be on the lookout for an announcement of our annual CERT training to be held at the beginning of 2026; dates to be announced. To add your name to the list to be contacted once the dates are determined, please email your name, address, and phone number to webmaster@raytownpolice.org!



Members of Raytown CERT standing with Mayor McDonough and Capt. Dyon Harper, Raytown PD.

**Join
2026 Raytown CERT**
webmaster@raytownpolice.org



IMPORTANT DATES

DECEMBER

- 2 - BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING
- 4 - PLANNING & ZONING MEETING
- 15 - PARK BOARD MEETING
- 16 - BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

JANUARY

- 6 - BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING
- 8 - PLANNING & ZONING MEETING
- 20- BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING
- 26- PARK BOARD MEETING

THE CITY'S FULL CALENDER IS AVAILABLE ONLINE
WWW.RAYTOWN.MO.US/CALENDAR

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAVE THE DATE

Join us for the **Mayor's Annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony**
 Saturday, Dec. 6, 2025
 4 - 9 pm (Santa flips the switch around 6:30 pm)
 63rd and Raytown Road

City of Raytown Animal Services has its own Facebook Page. To find impounded animals or to foster or adopt, visit [facebook.com - City of Raytown Animal Services](https://www.facebook.com/cityofraytownanimalservices)

CITY CONNECTIONS IS PUBLISHED TWICE A YEAR BY THE CITY OF RAYTOWN. THIS NEWSLETTER IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND PAID FOR BY THE CITY OF RAYTOWN.

SEND QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION TO:
tonia@raytown.mo.us

STAY UP TO DATE ON WHAT'S GOING ON IN RAYTOWN; FOLLOW US ONLINE
[Linktree - https://linktr.ee/cityofraytown](https://linktr.ee/cityofraytown)

Contact Us

10000 E 59TH ST
 MONDAY - FRIDAY
 8 AM - 5 PM

CITY HALL: 816-737-6000

ADMINISTRATION:
 (CITY ADMINISTRATOR,
 CITY CLERK, HR):
 816-737-6000

ANIMAL SERVICES:
 816-737-7025

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:
 (BUSINESS LICENSES, CODE VIOLATIONS, PLANNING & ZONING): 816-737-6014

COURT: 816-737-6008

PARKS: 816-358-4100

POLICE: NON-EMERGENCY
 816-737-6020

PUBLIC WORKS:
 (ROAD CONCERNS, STREET LIGHTS, STORM WATER, RIGHT-OF-WAY):
 816-737-6146
 816-737-6064 (after hours)

SEWER BILLING:
 816-737-6088