



City of Westwood Hills May 2019 Newsletter

Street Repair Progress Update

The City of Westwood Hills continues the street repair project for the City's interior streets (every street except State Line Road and Rainbow Blvd.). There will be temporary unavoidable street closures during the repair process. Please know that the city is working to minimize the brief inconvenience. Residents will receive 24 hours notice of street via a door hanger. The City will be sending a more detailed email this weekend. Please read it carefully. It is very important that NO vehicles are on the street during the mill and UBAS processes.

Elections

Five City Council positions and the Mayor position will be elected on November 5, 2019 for the City of Westwood Hills. If you are interested in serving our city, you must file in person at the Johnson County Election Office (2101 E. Kansas City Road, Olathe, KS), by noon on Monday, June 3, 2019.



Budget Workshop

The City of Westwood Hills will hold the 2020 budget workshop on Saturday, May 18, 2019, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. The workshop will be held at the Higdon and Hale offices, 6310 Lamar Avenue, #110.

Please note that a formal budget hearing will occur later this summer. All citizens are welcome to attend both the workshop and the budget hearing.

Egg Hunt and Arbor Day Celebration!









K-State Research and Extension

K-State Research and Extension offers a gardening calendar and helpful gardening information. Find out more at: <u>https://www.johnson.k-state.edu/lawn-garden/gardening-calendar/index.html</u>

Johnson County Residents get one FREE soil test and a personal recommendation for your lawn or garden from a local university expert. Find out more at: <u>https://www.johnson.k-state.edu/lawn-garden/soil-testing/index.html</u>

Be Kind to Water

Excerpt from article written by Dennis Patton, Kansas State University Research & Extension, originally published in The Kansas City Star.

How you mow your lawn is under your control. Proper mowing is the first step to a lawn that is the envy of the neighborhood.

Please don't blow clippings into the street. Grass clippings on hard surfaces wash into storm sewers and drain to the closest body of water. There they release phosphorus and nitrogen as they decompose. The result is algae growth that looks unsightly and is costly to treat. Blow or sweep all clippings back into the lawn for a healthy water supply.

Systematic Code Inspections

The City will be doing city-wide systematic code inspections on **June 24, 2019**. All inspections will be done from the City ROW. Items the City will be looking at: gutters, roofs, trees, peeling paint, wood rot, etc. Please contact the City if you have any work in progress or work set to be done after the 24th. In addition, please reach out to the City if you are in need of help. There are volunteers who are willing to lend a helping hand.

Non-Discrimination Ordinance

After several months of effort and deliberation, the Westwood Hills City Council, on May 13, 2019, adopted a non-discrimination ordinance, Ordinance No. 276. The ordinance makes it a violation of our city ordinances to discriminate against individuals in employment, housing, and public accommodations based on race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity, age, disability, marital status, familial status or military status. The goal of the council is to contribute to the creation of a diverse, welcoming community that promotes harmony and mutual respect. While the ordinance provides for civil penalties, it also allows the city to suspend or revoke city-issued business licenses, including rental property licenses, if a violation of employment or public accommodations or housing provisions of the ordinance is found.

There will not be a May Planning Commission Meeting.

2019 Home Occupation Licenses

If you operate a business from your home, please complete the <u>Home Occupation</u> <u>License</u> form and mail the completed application with a \$25.00 check payable to the City of Westwood Hills. Home occupation licenses must be renewed annually.

Construction

If you are considering any work around your property, you may need a permit. Because the entire City is an historic district, all permits must go through the State for review and receive approval of the Kansas State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in order for the permit to be approved and issued by the City. Permit requests for work which impacts



the exterior of your home, especially window and door repair and replacement projects, often receive more stringent SHPO review with a goal of maintaining the historic quality and characteristics of Westwood Hills properties. Although this additional approval by SHPO adds some time to the permit process, projects with costs in excess of \$5,000 may be eligible for the Kansas State Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit, which is equal to 25 percent of the qualifying expenses on a qualifying project.

Check with the City Clerk at whclerk@gmail.com before starting any work.



Pet Registration

Please register your animals living in Westwood Hills. Please ensure that all your animals are always current on their proper vaccinations. If you need to register a pet now, please fill out the <u>Pet Registration Form</u> and return to Beth O'Bryan. Westwood Hills allows two cats and two dogs per residence.

Stormwater Management Plan and Annual Report

Click <u>here</u> to read the City's Stormwater Management Plan, and <u>here</u> to read the 2018 annual report. Citizens may send comments regarding the Stormwater Plan and Annual Report to whclerk@gmail.com.

June Meetings

The June regular City Council meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 10, 2019. Please contact Beth O'Bryan if you have an item to place on the agenda.

The June Planning Commission meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 20, 2019. Please contact Beth O'Bryan if you have an item to place on the agenda.

Both meetings are held at the Westwood City Hall - 4700 Rainbow Boulevard.

STAY CONNECTED



City Information

City Clerk/Administrator: Beth O'Bryan <u>whclerk@gmail.com</u> - 913-262-6622 Mayor: Paula Schwach - <u>schwach3p@gmail.com</u> City website: <u>www.westwoodhills.org</u>

City Council

Mary Becker - Landscaping - MXB37@psu.edu Rosemary Podrebarac - Ordinances and Building - <u>rpodrebarac1@kc.rr.com</u> Karen Shelor Sexton - Public Safety - <u>kls@sextonandshelor.com</u> Ludwig Villasi - Public Works - <u>lvillasi@kc.rr.com</u> John Weedman - Budget and Finance- <u>john@midwestbinding.com</u>

Meetings are held at Westwood City Hall - 4700 Rainbow Blvd.