

City of CREVE COEUR Newsletter

the heart of community & commerce



New Police Facility Would Improve Emergency Operations

Creve Coeur City Council is currently considering placing a bond issue on the November 2016 ballot to provide funding for a new police station. The new police station comes at the recommendation of the citizen's Needs Analysis Task Force, created to advise the City Council on the facilities' needs, and is one of the recommendations of the Government Center Needs Analysis Report, developed by Bond Architects in 2014.

Among other issues, the Needs Analysis highlighted concerns with the city's current Emergency Operations Center (EOC) which could be addressed by building a new police station.

"An EOC is a central location from which public safety and support agencies coordinate emergency response and recovery," said Chief of Police Glenn Eidman. "An EOC is a critical component to managing public safety and security during a major incident."

The Police Department's current facilities do not have space for a dedicated EOC. Instead, emergency operations are run through



the squad room, creating conflict for space during daily shift briefings. The squad room also does not contain adequate space or technology for an efficient EOC, and it is located in a building that is not seismically braced, meaning it may not be available in the event of a natural disaster.

A new police station would address the issues with the current EOC. The new facility would have a dedicated EOC with space for multiple public safety and support personnel to coordinate emergency response. It would also allow for several technology improvements including additional computers and screens for managing multiple tasks, sufficient telephone landlines to handle incoming and outgoing calls, and technology to connect with the St. Louis County EOC and State Fusion Center for real-time collaboration. The building would also be seismically braced ensuring the EOC is available despite most natural disasters.

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Comprehensive Plan Update

Over the past several months, the city has been working with the consulting firm H3 Studio to update the Comprehensive Plan, a long-range planning and policy document that guides the city and land-use decisions.

The Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) has hosted five public workshops to gather feedback from residents and community members. They have also conducted group work sessions with key stakeholders including city boards, commissions and committees, City Council, and commercial property owners and developers. H3 Studio is using the information

gathered in those work sessions to develop a draft Comprehensive Plan to present to P&Z. When the draft is complete, P&Z will conduct one or more public hearings to review the draft plan prior to formal adoption.

More information, including the complete draft Comprehensive Plan and dates for public hearings, will be posted to the Creve Coeur website as soon as it is available. Please visit www.creve-coeur.org/complan or look to future Creve Coeur Newsletters for updates. For more information, contact Jason Jaggi, Director of Community Development, at jjaggi@crevecoeurmo.gov or (314) 872-2504.

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Emergency Operations Center

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The EOC is one of many concerns included in the Facilities Needs Analysis. Other concerns include lack of adequate meeting, office, training and storage space, multiple safety and security concerns, extensive plumbing deficiencies, and unsafe parking configuration which creates hazards between patrol vehicles and pedestrians.

The estimated cost of the new police station, including all site work, is approximately \$10 million. If voters approve the bond issue, the tax levy would be approximately \$0.085 per \$100 assessed valuation based on current interest rates. The average home with a market value of \$400,000 would see an estimated increase of \$64.60 annually in property taxes.

More information on the police and Government Center facilities' needs, including the complete Government Center Needs Analysis, is available at www.creve-coeur.org/cityfacilities. Citizens can provide comments or ask questions through the city's web page as well. For more information, contact Mark Perkins, City Administrator, at mperkins@crevecoeurmo.gov or (314) 872-2511.

Document Shredding Event

Saturday, July 16, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Westgate Shopping Center, 12320 Olive Blvd.

The Creve Coeur Police Department, in collaboration with the Creve Coeur Joint Crime Prevention Partnership, will be offering an opportunity for residents to safely destroy recycle documents containing personal information on Saturday, July 16, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. This event will be held at the Creve Coeur Farmer's Market in the parking lot of the Westgate Shopping Center located at Olive Boulevard and Tempo Drive.

One of the methods identity thieves use to steal information is combing through recycling and garbage. For this reason, the Creve Coeur Police Department encourages citizens to use a shredder for sensitive documents such as credit card statements, financial statements, pre-approved credit card offers, old IRS tax forms, bank checks, household bills, and other documents that may contain sensitive information.

Service will be on a first come, first served basis and limited to the capacity of the commercial-sized shredding truck. Items no larger than staples and paper clips may be attached to the papers. Each vehicle will be allowed three banker style boxes of documents to be shredded. This event is only for personal documents and is not for business documents.

For more tips on how to protect your identity, visit www.creve-coeur.org/identitytheft. To find out more about the free document shredding event, contact Crime Prevention Officer Doug Manninger at dmanninger@crevecoeurmo.gov or (314) 442-2075.

Building Division Is Available to Assist Residents with Code Issues

As many residents are considering summer construction projects, the city would like to remind citizens of the many resources available through the city's Building Division. Building permits and the Building Division can help to ensure construction projects are safe and will perform as designed. Residents are encouraged to contact Building Division staff with code-related questions before and during any project.

Citizens who work with the city's Building Division will benefit from the extensive knowledge and experience that the department provides while also ensuring that contractors meet the minimum standards and requirements of the Building Code. First, a plans examiner reviews construction drawings to verify that the proposed work meets all zoning and building codes. After the permit has been issued, a certified building inspector comes to the site to inspect the work.

Obtaining proper permits is important not only for the safety of the occupants but also

because property insurers may not cover work that is completed without permits and inspections. A property owner who can show that building code requirements were met, as verified by the code official's records, has a strong ally if something happens to trigger litigation.

The Creve Coeur Building Division has a staff of nine members with a variety of expertise to help residents with their construction projects. The division is managed by a building code official with 35 years of construction and inspection experience. Building Division staff are certified by the International Code Council in various aspects of construction including mechanical, fire safety, structural, accessibility, and energy conservation. The International Code Council is a professional organization that writes the international building codes and sponsors training seminars. Certification is earned through education, testing and hands-on experience. Creve Coeur Building Division staff collectively hold 49 certificates of proficiency and have over 130 years of cumulative experience in the construction industry.

Residents who are planning a construction project are encouraged to contact the Creve Coeur Building Division to utilize the resources available to the entire community. For more information, visit www.creve-coeur.org/building or contact Steve Unser, Chief Building Official, at sunser@crevecoeurmo.gov or (314) 872-2513.

