



NOVEMBER 2009

November 19 Meeting in Manchester

Upcoming League Meetings

- Thursday, November 19, Membership Meeting, 7:30 pm, New Manchester Police Headquarters
Thursday, January 28, Membership Meeting 7:30 pm, Site TBD

The next League meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on Thursday, November 19 at the new Manchester Police Headquarters, 200 Highlands Blvd. (Directions: from I-270, exit at Manchester Rd westbound. Go west approximately 3 miles to a traffic light at Highlands Blvd. There is an Eagle Bank on the corner. It is the last stoplight before Highway

141. Turn right on Highlands and the building will be up on the right. From 141, exit east on Manchester and go one block and turn left on Highlands.) Program: Energy Independence & Environmental Stewardship. Public opinion is swinging towards more environmentally friendly practices. Whether it is recycling or reducing dependence on

foreign energy, cities have a role to play. Focus - St. Louis recently released a report that cities can use to create a more sustainable, environmentally sensitive community. This "roadmap" will be outlined in order to make it easier for cities to provide leadership in this arena. (See additional information on Page 3.)

Prop E-911 Overwhelming Supported by Voters

WOW! What a resounding vote of confidence from County citizens. While the recession makes times tough, voters came through by a 2 to 1 margin in approving a small sales tax for a new emergency radio system, improving the 911 system for locating cell phone calls, and to replace many old emergency sirens and add sirens to newer parts of the county where they are lacking Mayor Gerry Welch led our education effort and Skip Mange led the privately funded "vote yes" campaign. Ray Wagner, as treasurer of the campaign, contributed significant time and talent to raise funds and insure a high caliber campaign. These were not figureheads with titles - they actively worked day in and day out. Dan Vogel provided pro bono

legal advice on all the materials produced by our educational committee. We owe them and their committees and consultants a debt of gratitude as we are sure they had no idea how much time would be involved. Civic Progress, the Regional Business Council, and individual corporations made contributions. Ameren picked up the cost of the videos produced for the websites. Several local cable stations hosted shows that helped citizens understand the issues. In most cases, even the press coverage was factual and there was good editorial support. County Prosecutor Bob McCulloch helped legitimize the effort with his active support. Many police and fire chiefs met

for over a year to make it possible. Police, firemen, and paramedics distributed literature door-to-door, paid for signs at the polls, and worked the polls along with others. County Executive Dooley and County Council members Hazel Erby, Kathleen Burkett, Colleen Wasinger, Mike O'Mara and Barbara Fraser understood the need and were willing to take the political risk of placing a tax increase on the ballot. And many of you made sure that your citizens, employees, chambers, civic groups, school and church groups, political clubs, and even personal friends and family members were informed. We cannot begin to count all the actions (Continued on page 2)

Inside this issue:

October Meeting Synopsis 2
Recycling Grants Offered 2
Prop E-911 Election (continued) 2
Federal LWCF Grants Available for Parks 3
Focus Study Can Help Cities with Energy Grants 3
Congrats to EW Gateway Award Winners 3
Phase II Stormwater Update 4

October Meeting Synopsis

At the October meeting the membership approved the Report of the Legislative Affairs Committee. This document will guide League lobbying efforts during the 2010 session. The report is available on the League website, www.stlmuni.org under the *Current Events* link.

Also, **Mayor Gerry Welch** of Webster Groves who chaired the education committee on Prop E-911, urged the membership to be active in the efforts to educate the public by sending personal emails to friends, providing educational materials to city staff, continuing to distribute educational flyers provided by the League, urging voters

to view the websites and talking to senior citizen groups.

Dr. Mike Williams of the County Health Department provided an update on preparation to fight the H1N1 flu. School age children are most likely to become ill as 75% of cases in the County are under 18 years of age. The County currently has 32,000 doses of vaccine and the priority will be for pregnant women, child care providers, and health care personnel and school children. He noted that several events will be announced in November where residents will be able to get the vaccine.

The meeting host, **Frank Kartmann**, President of Missouri American Water Company, said that in

Missouri, the company serves over 1.2 million people providing 84 billion gallons of water per year for about 1 cent per gallon. In St. Louis County there are 4 plants currently delivering 180 million gallons per day from the Missouri River. He indicated that the company has made over \$100 million in upgrades locally in the last two years and more will be needed as many of the facilities are very old.

We thank Missouri American Water for hosting the meeting. If any city would like a tour of one of the company's facilities, please contact Brad Brown, Governmental Affairs Director, at 314-991-3404.

Recycling Grants Available

The St. Louis-Jefferson Solid Waste Management District has notified local governments of the availability of approximately \$2 million in 2010 grant funds to assist cities and other entities with recycling efforts. The District is strongly encouraging cooperative efforts between groups of municipalities and others.

Projects designed to increase diversion and participation in residential recycling programs are also

encouraged. This could include single-stream recycling and pay-as-you-throw projects.

The District's grant program has no dollar maximum. In previous grant rounds, the average amount awarded has been approximately \$40,000, with a range of less than \$5,000 to well over \$100,000. The District requires a minimum 10% match, which may be either a cash or in-kind contribution.

Eligible costs include equipment,

consulting, salaries, education, and direct costs associated with a project. District applications are currently available online at www.swmd.net and must be submitted by December 21, 2009.

For more information contact the District office at 314-645-6753. The League office also has copies of the application forms available. Contact Clare Gates at 314-726-4747.

Prop E-911 Election (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

taken by municipalities and fire districts.

East-West Gateway had the foresight to hire consultants who could craft an interoperable communication plan for each county and the entire region, secure powerful new frequencies from the FCC, and establish working groups in each county. We now join St. Charles County and Jefferson County in passing taxes this year

for new radio systems. The City of St. Louis passed a bond issue some years ago and is upgrading their system. Several Illinois counties have been able to join the advanced system in their state. Soon, all first responders will be able to communicate with each other not only in each county, but throughout the region. This could be a national model of regional cooperation combined with local action.

The members of the County Emergency Communications Com-

missions, led by **Florissant Police Chief Bill Karabas**, spent the last several years working to create a joint, interoperable system and the necessary election. This included **Frontenac Fire Chief Jack Trout, Eureka Fire Chief Greg Brown, Valley Park Fire Chief Rick Wilken, County Police Chief Tim Fitch, Doug Harms, and Garry Earls**. They were able to rally support among their peers and encourage contributions to the efforts. Thanks to all!

Federal LWCF Park Grants Available

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources has announced that applications are now available for the federally funded Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grants to assist in financing outdoor recreation projects. All local governments and public school districts are eligible for the federal funds, which are made available

through the U.S. Department of the Interior's National Park Service. Projects can be for the development or renovation of outdoor recreational facilities, or for acquisition of park land.

A 55 percent match is required. Applications are due by November 23, 2009; an estimated \$500,000 is expected to be awarded in the fiscal

year 2010 cycle. In Missouri, the Department of Natural Resources administers the grant program. Electronic versions of the applications are available on the Department's Web page at www.mostateparks.com/grantinfo.htm.

Focus Report Can Guide Cities Applying for Energy Grants

As the old adage goes, timing is everything. This November, the timing could not be better to pursue energy efficiency projects that will make our municipalities more energy independent and sustainable. Focus St. Louis, an organization that develops leadership, policy, and community connections, recently published an Environmental Sustainability Roadmap. The Roadmap is a toolkit for local governments, as Focus St. Louis hopes that cultivating efforts at the local level can lead to greater regional initiatives.

Organized into five different topic areas, the Roadmap covers transportation and land use, open space, stormwater, energy and water, and materials procurement. Within these topic areas, each has a short summary about the issue, recommendations for next steps, implementation strategies, best

practices, and funding opportunities. Further, the recommendations have been grouped into "Getting Started," "On the Way," and "Sustaining," so that local governments can learn where to begin as well as make goals for the long-term future.

The timing of this Roadmap is perfect. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources was just awarded \$12.4 million in stimulus money for Energy Efficiency projects just for cities and counties. The application process will most likely begin later this month, and we know the state is looking for cooperation with other partners as well as leveraging other funding opportunities. See dnr.mo.gov/transform/energizemissouricommunities for more information. Keeping the Focus St. Louis Roadmap in mind is an ideal St. Louis-specific way to begin thinking about what projects to pursue for these grant applications.

At our November 19 membership meeting in Manchester, we will have a presentation on the Focus Roadmap and on the different funding opportunities available. We will also provide a list featuring different consultants and contractors that could be of use to you as you design projects and write applications.

According to the Environmental Resource Handbook (2005), the St. Louis Metropolitan area ranks 3rd worst (88th out of 90) on the Green Metro Index, which compares the nation's largest metropolitan areas on measures of environmental quality and performance. With opportunities such as the EECBG and with the Focus Roadmap as our guide, we think the timing is perfect to get St. Louis on the road to sustainability.

East-West Gateway Local Government Awards

The following cities and individuals from St. Louis County have been named winners of the East-West Gateway Outstanding Local Government Achievement Awards for 2009:

- The City of Glendale for its Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force;
- The City of University City for Green Housing Development; and

- Kirkwood Chief Administrative Officer Mike Brown, who will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award.

The awards will be presented at Gateway's Annual Meeting on November 13.

Congratulations to all for this well-deserved recognition!

St. Louis County Municipal League
121 S. Meramec Ave.
Clayton, MO 63105

The November 19 League Meeting will be held at the new Manchester Police Headquarters, 200 Highlands Blvd. 63011

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ST. LOUIS, MO
PERMIT # 3754

*Linking Local Communities,
Strengthening Local Government
Since 1918*

*See our website at
www.stlmuni.org*

Phase II Stormwater Update

This article was prepared by Bruce Litzsinger with the Department of Environmental Compliance at MSD.

Part 1

A lot can happen in six years, and this is the case with the implementation of the Phase II Storm Water Program by MSD, St. Louis County and the 59 municipalities which have partnered to hold the permit to operate the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) in the County. The Phase II Storm Water Program is a required regulatory program mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency under the Clean Water Act to protect water quality. In Missouri, the Department of Natural Resources administers this program and has issued 61 joint permits to cities in

St. Louis County, along with County government and MSD, which represents the largest group of co-permittees in the state. After six years of implementing this program, the following list contains the significant accomplishments of the 61 co-permittees:

- City and County land disturbance programs regulate construction sites to reduce runoff;
- Planning and zoning ordinances protect water quality, 53 through the use of a stream buffer ordinance that restricts building near creeks;
- Co-permittees have implemented storm water best practices into municipal operations to reduce pollution;
- MSD implemented water quality design criteria into its rules for drainage facilities;
- MSD has walked all 1,500 miles of open channel drainage looking for illegal discharges;
- A public education program has reached the community through a variety of media reaching 35% of the population;
- Public participation programs engage tens of thousands of people to help prevent or remove pollution through stream clean ups, storm drain marking, rain barrels, rain gardens and household hazardous waste collection.