
ANNUAL REPORT 2014 | PROGRESS





13

**EMPLOYEES
JOINED THE
RAYMORE
TEAM**



96

**ORDINANCES
RECORDED
INTO
LEGISLATION**



62

**RECORD
REQUESTS
FILED UNDER
SUSHINE LAW**



2

**UPDATES
COMPLETED
TO THE CITY
CODE**



23

**COMPUTERS
REPLACED
FOR CITY
STAFF**



9

**OATHS
OF
OFFICE
ADMINISTERED**

City Manager's Message

Welcome to the City of Raymore's Annual Progress Report!

As you look through this report, I think you will agree that 2014 was another great year to live, work and play in Raymore. Living up to this mission is at the core of what our elected officials, volunteers, and City staff do everyday. We strive to make Raymore not only a great city, but a community that is recognized as a leader in the Kansas City metropolitan area. The progress we made towards that goal is seen in the stories and the results shared throughout this report.

In 2014, our efforts were recognized nationally, regionally, and locally. We received awards for budgeting and financial accountability, a Tree City designation, excellence in snow removal, and individual efforts of staff in the Police Department and in our 911 Call Center. We also had a number of wonderful new people join our team, and I became the City Manager.

So while 2014 was a great year, we see it as a new beginning and a launching point for incredible things to come. We will begin to reimagine Raymore by providing the best services to you, delivering excellent and expanded programs in parks and recreation and the arts, assuring that Raymore remains a safe community, and continuing to attract quality business.

We are committed to this beginning, and to this great City.



Jim Feuerborn
City Manager



New Leadership.

Former City Manager Eric Berlin accepted a new position with the City of North Kansas City, Missouri after 11 years of service with the City of Raymore. Assistant City Manager Jim Feuerborn was promoted to the City Manager position, and Meredith Hauck joined the team as Assistant City Manager.

live



156
SINGLE
FAMILY HOME
PERMITS
ISSUED



3,119
WATER
LINE
LOCATES
CONDUCTED



38
DAYS SPENT
RESPONDING
TO SNOW
AND ICE



825
TONS OF
SALT USED
TO TREAT
ROADWAYS



98%
OF ANIMALS
TAKEN IN
RETURNED TO
OWNER OR
ADOPTED



23,163
REQUESTS
FOR POLICE
AND FIRE
SERVICE

Improvements Underway.

The City continued to implement its multi-year plans to make improvements to streets, sidewalks and curbs throughout town. These plans provide a systematic approach to improving the City's infrastructure, and ensure that the improvements are spread throughout the community. This year, 14 streets received an asphalt overlay and micro-surface and 3,000 feet of mill and overlay was applied to Southwind Road through the Street Preservation Program; the Curb Replacement Program repaired 13,990 feet of curb; and 11,000 feet of sidewalk was installed as part of the Sidewalk Program.

Raymore is Ready.

The City welcomed new Emergency Management Coordinator Ryan Murdock. During his first year, Murdock revitalized and significantly expanded the Raymore Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program. He also established a new Facebook Page for Raymore Emergency Management to help inform and educate the community about how they can be better prepared when disaster strikes. Murdock also began a comprehensive review of the City's Emergency Operations Plan and applied for a number of grants, which is the primary way the City funds its emergency management programs.

A Community Against Crime.

Raymore is one of the top ten safest places in Missouri, according to a study conducted by Movoto Real Estate in 2014. The Raymore Police Department continued its commitment to creating a safe community through the addition of a new School Youth Community Outreach Officer position. Officer John Bergman focuses on establishing positive relationships with kids and community groups throughout the City. The Department also hosted its annual Community Against Crime event, which aims to educate about the services the Police Department provides, as well as teach residents and business owners what they can do to create a safe community.

CAN Program Fights Hunger.

The City recognized Allison Bruflat as its 2014 Civic Leadership Award Recipient. Bruflat helped create Caring About Nutrition (CAN), a program designed to provide weekend and holiday meals for Raymore-Peculiar School District students who may not have access to food when school isn't in session.



work



9

**RIBBON
CUTTINGS
HELD FOR
BUSINESSES**



17

**COMMERCIAL
BUILDING
PERMITS
ISSUED**



4,988

**BUILDING
INSPECTIONS
COMPLETED**



1,011

**BUSINESS
LICENSES
ISSUED**



8

**FIREWORKS
PERMITS
ISSUED**



22

**LIQUOR
LICENSES
ISSUED**

Open for Business.

Raymore welcomed these new, expanded or relocated businesses in 2014:

- Aflac Insurance
- Balance Point Heating & Cooling
- Brookdale Signature Suites
- Cheap Smokes & Liquor
- CJA, Inc.
- Creative Hands Quilt Shop & Decorative Painting
- Fearless Dance Center
- Golden Corral
- HomeBridge Financial Services
- Leti's Accessories
- Minsky's Pizza
- NutriCare In-Home Services

Linking Business to Resources.

The City continued its partnership with the University of Central Missouri's Small Business and Technology Development Center. This program assists small businesses in all stages - from start-ups to existing businesses in need of specialized assistance. A counselor is available on-site at City Hall on the second Tuesday of each month.

Improved Layout, Better Service.

The Building Inspections Office was remodeled to improve staff functionality and the overall customer experience. A new service window with an eight-foot customer service counter was installed to create a better area for both the public and building contractors to interact with City Staff when reviewing plan sets or applying for permits. Key staff share this front office space to provide quick acknowledgment and assistance for all customers. The project was completed ahead of schedule and for less than half of its approved budget.

New How-To Guide Helps.

The City updated its Development Guide to help educate people interested in developing in Raymore understand the City's development process. The guide contains information such as how to start a new business, how to obtain a business permit, and how to navigate the plan review process.





128

**NEW TREES
PLANTED IN
CITY PARKS**



100

**HAZARDOUS
TREES
REMOVED**



541

**PARK HOUSE
AND
SHELTER
RENTALS**



159

**RECREATION
PROGRAMS
OFFERED**



4,387

**PEOPLE
PARTICIPATED
IN REC
PROGRAMS**



12

**SPECIAL
EVENTS
PRESENTED**

New Course a Hole-In-One.

The first nine holes of Raymore's first disc golf course were installed in Recreation Park. The course will eventually have 18 holes and is designed to be accessible to people of all ages and playing abilities. The first tee is located near the Skate Park and the course contains a practice basket for new players to test out.

Raymore Named Tree City USA.

Raymore was named a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation for the City's commitment to urban forestry. It is the first time Raymore has earned this national honor. The City achieved this status by meeting four core standards of sound urban forestry management: maintaining a tree board or department, having a community tree ordinance, spending at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry, and celebrating Arbor Day. To commemorate Raymore's annual observation of Arbor Day, the City conducted a presentation and tree planting at Timber Creek Elementary School.

In addition, the City of Raymore also received more than 100 trees from Bridging the Gap and the Heartland Tree Alliance community groups. The trees were planted by 25 volunteers over two days in October.

First-Time Festival Celebrates the Arts.

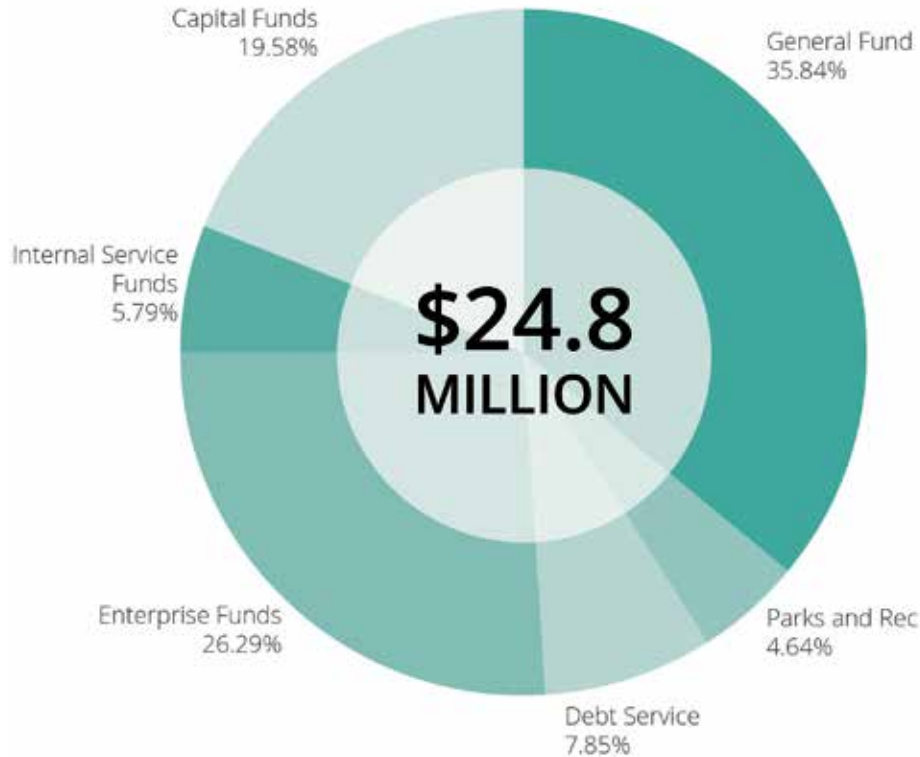
The Raymore Parks and Recreation Department partnered with the Tri-County Arts League to host the inaugural Arts in the Park event in June at the Original Town Farmers Market. The event featured an eclectic variety of art vendors, live music, performing artists, art demonstrations, activities for kids, food vendors, and more. Arts in the Park was the first art-related community event held in Raymore, and based on its success, is already scheduled to continue in 2015.

A Connected Community.

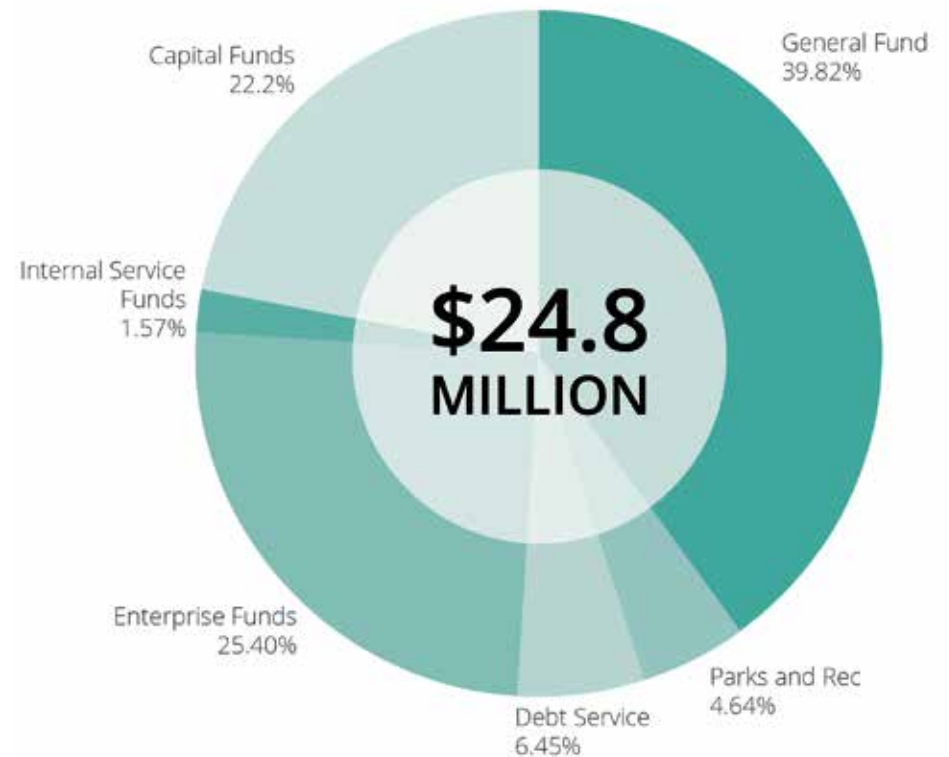
With more than 10 miles of paved trails already in the community, officials spent time planning where future pathways will go. Work started on a Trails Master Plan that evaluates existing trails, needed connections, future development, and how to tie in other forms of alternative transportation.



Where the Money Comes From



Where the Money Goes



Revenues

	Budget	% of Budget
General Fund	\$8,917,169	35.84%
Parks & Recreation	\$1,154,836	4.64%
Debt Service	\$1,953,658	7.85%
Enterprise	\$6,541,052	26.29%
Internal Service Funds	\$1,441,522	5.79%
Capital Funds	\$4,872,345	19.58%
Total Revenue	\$24,880,583	100.00%

Expenditures

	Budget	% of Budget
General Fund	\$9,901,933	39.82%
Parks & Recreation	\$1,154,836	4.64%
Debt Service	\$1,603,841	6.45%
Enterprise	\$6,316,246	25.40%
Internal Service Funds	\$390,623	1.57%
Capital Funds	\$5,501,378	22.12%
Total Expenditures	\$24,868,858	100.00%

Balanced Budget.

The annual budget guides the City's plan for providing the services, facilities and infrastructure that helps make Raymore a quality community to live, work and play. Citizens can rely on a stable municipal tax rate with a high level of service.

The 2014-2015 budget is the City of Raymore's fiscal plan for the next year. The budget identifies future needs, sets objectives for the coming year, and defines the purposes and resources to achieve those objectives.

The City Council approved the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014-2015 budget totaling \$24,868,858. The property tax rate of 1.3068 per \$100 of valuation remains the same and has been in place since 2004. The general fund revenues and expenditures are anticipated to be \$8,917,169 and \$9,901,935, respectively, for the fiscal year, which runs from November 1, 2014 through October 31, 2015.

Award-Winning.

The City of Raymore was once again presented the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada. This award is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting. In order to be awarded the Certificate of Achievement, a government must publish a readable and efficiently-organized comprehensive annual financial report, demonstrating a "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate the financial story of the City.

The City also received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the GFOA for its 2013-2014 budget. In order to receive this award, the City had to satisfy nationally-recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. It reflects the commitment of the City Council and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting.

Investment in Infrastructure.

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is a five-year roadmap that provides direction and guidance on planning and managing capital and infrastructure needs for the City of Raymore.

City Hall Tower Stabilization	\$75,000
Fiber Optic Cable	\$18,850
City Hall Sidewalk	\$25,000
City Hall Voicemail System	\$23,100
Park Facility AC Replacement	\$7,000
Annual Curb Program	\$500,000
Annual Street Program	\$1,143,131
Annual Sidewalk Program	\$117,000
Maintenance of Thoroughfares	\$217,000
Farmers Market Improvements	\$150,000
Olive Street Sidewalk	\$144,342
Recreation Park Basketball Court Restoration	\$45,000
Recreation Park Baseball Fields	\$75,000
Sanitary Sewer Inflow and Infiltration Reduction	\$124,455
Foxwood Water Tower Painting and Repair	\$400,000
Adams Street Water Main	\$150,000
Total	\$3,214,878



Thank You.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.” - Margaret Mead

Thank you to the members of the City's many boards and commissions who served our community in 2014. These individuals donated many hours of their time making important decisions to guide Raymore into the future. We appreciate their commitment to our community and their dedication to ensuring that Raymore continues to be a quality place to live, work and play.

City Council

Peter Kerckhoff, Mayor

Ward One

Kevin Kellogg
Jeffrey Stevens

Ward Two

Derek Moorhead
Ryan Wescoat

Ward Three

Jason Boehner
Jay Holman
Robert Piepho

Ward Four

Sonja Abdelgawad
Charlene Hubach

Board of Adjustment

Tom O'Connor
Gerald Jenkins
Stephen Grube
Tom Buechler
Michael Vinck
David Woste

Parks and Recreation Board

Sheldon Castleman
Jennifer Cipolla
Eric Eastwood
Jim Haddock
Bryan Harris
Michelle Hiles-Seimears
Jay Holman
Melinda Houdyshell
Monique Lewis
William Manson
Jaime Mays
Bob Rabinowitz
Mark Roller
Tim Stidham

Tree Board

Jenny Riggs
Bill Rust
Paula Diaz
Steve Rulo
John Kennedy

Board of Appeals

Lloyd Brown
Chad Buck
Mike Cox
Jim Feuerborn
Dick Maynard
Randy Reed

Planning and Zoning Commission

Peter Kerckhoff, Mayor
Kelly Fizer
Thomas Hanner
Donald Meuschke
Joseph Sarsfield
Leo Anderson
Jerry Faulkner
Charles Crain
Rachel Grodsky

TIF Commission

Nancy Baalman
Janelle Biernbaum
Stephanie Como
Mike Gnefkow
Todd Holsman
Bob Huston
Dale Jacobson
Ruth Johnson
Bryan Mallory
Dr. Kari Monsees
Tom Reagen
Pam Shipley
Ernie Van Hooser

License Tax Review Committee

Gib Good
Jack Hopkins
Jim Feuerborn
Kerrie O'Connor
Ryan Wescoat



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