

TENTATIVE AGENDA
RAYTOWN BOARD OF ALDERMEN
MARCH 16, 2021
REGULAR SESSION NO. 47
ONLINE ZOOM WEBINAR
7:00 P.M.

In response to the Coronavirus pandemic and pursuant to the Jackson County and State of Missouri orders, this meeting will be held by online video conference. The meeting will be streamed live and can be accessed on the City's website at www.raytown.mo.us. In addition, a video recording of the meeting will be available within 48 hours on the City's website. For questions, contact City Clerk, Teresa Henry at (816) 737-6004 or thenry@raytown.mo.us.

To provide Public Comments during the on-line meeting, please use the Zoom Webinar ID and Passcode below and notify the Clerk, using the contact information above, of your intent to give a Public Comment during the live online meeting, or send your Public Comments to the City Clerk at the email address above by 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Monday, March 15, so that your comments can be presented in writing to the Board of Aldermen during the Public Comments section of the March 16, 2021 meeting agenda. All Public Comments received will be kept on file in the City Clerk's office.

zoom.us/join
Webinar ID: 845 0636 7331
Passcode: 627712

OPENING SESSION

Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call
Public Comments

Comments from the Mayor
Comments from the City Administrator
Committee Reports

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

1. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Board of Aldermen and will be enacted by one motion without separate discussion or debate. The Mayor or a member of the Board of Aldermen may request that any item be removed from the consent agenda.

Approval of the Regular March 2, 2021 Board of Aldermen meeting minutes.

R-3365-21: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF JEREMY BLEDSOE AS AN AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SPECIAL SALES TAX REVIEW COMMITTEE. Point of Contact: Teresa Henry, City Clerk.

R-3366-21: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF JASON HULL AS AN AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SPECIAL SALES TAX REVIEW COMMITTEE. Point of Contact: Teresa Henry, City Clerk.

REGULAR AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS

2. R-3367-21: A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET RELATING TO THE TIF FUND. Point of Contact: Russ Petry, Finance Director.

3. R-3368-21: A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A STATEMENT OF COMMON PURPOSE TO RENEW AND EXPAND THE EASTERN JACKSON COUNTY SHARED SERVICE COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP. Point of Contact: Russ Petry Finance Director.

ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES
RAYTOWN BOARD OF ALDERMEN
MARCH 2, 2021
REGULAR SESSION NO. 46
ONLINE ZOOM WEBINAR
7:00 P.M.

OPENING SESSION

Mayor Michael McDonough called the March 2, 2021 Board of Aldermen meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Timmy Hensel of River Church provided the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

Roll was called by Teresa Henry, City Clerk, and the attendance was as follows:

Present: Alderman Derek Ward, Alderman Greg Walters, Alderman Frank Hunt, Alderman Bill Van Buskirk, Alderman Mary Jane Van Buskirk, Alderman Janet Emerson, Alderman Ryan Myers, Alderman Bonnaye Mims, Alderman Jim Aziere, Alderman Jason Greene

Absent: None

Public Comments

None

Communication from the Mayor

None

Communication from the City Administrator

Damon Hodges, City Administrator, provided an update on the City's current projects and plans.

Committee Reports

Reports and comments were provided by Aldermen Emerson and Bill Van Buskirk.

STUDY SESSION

Eastern Jackson County Annual Report
Lauren Palmer, MARC

Lauren Palmer of MARC presented the item and remained for any discussion.

Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Preliminary Financial Report
Russ Petry, Finance Director

Russ Petry, Finance Director, presented the item and remained for any discussion.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

1. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Board of Aldermen and will be enacted by one motion without separate discussion or debate. The Mayor or a member of the Board of Aldermen may request that any item be removed from the consent agenda.

Approval of the Regular February 16, 2021 Board of Aldermen meeting minutes.

R-3362-21: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF JAMES COOK TO THE BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT. Point of Contact: Teresa Henry, City Clerk.

Alderman Mims, seconded by Alderman Myers, made a motion to adopt. The motion was approved by a vote of 10-0.

Ayes: Aldermen Mims, Myers, Hunt, Ward, Emerson, Greene, Bill Van Buskirk, Walters, Aziere, Mary Jane Van Buskirk
Nays: None

REGULAR AGENDA

OLD BUSINESS

2. Public Hearing: A public hearing to consider a Conditional Use Permit for property located at 6217-6219 Blue Ridge Blvd.

2a. **SECOND READING: Bill No. 6571-21, Section XIII. AN ORDINANCE AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR MIESHA ROSS AND AMIA WALKER, AUTHORIZING AN ASSEMBLY USE TO BE LOCATED AT 6217-6219 BLUE RIDGE BLVD. IN A NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL, (NC) DISTRICT IN THE CITY OF RAYTOWN, JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI.** Point of Contact: Chris Gilbert, Planning & Zoning Coordinator.

The item was read by title only by Teresa Henry, City Clerk.

Chris Gilbert, Planning & Zoning Coordinator, and the applicants, Miesha Ross and Amia Walker, presented on the item and remained for any discussion.

Alderman Myers, seconded by Alderman Mims, made a motion to adopt. The motion as approved by a vote of 10-0.

Mayor McDonough closed the public hearing.

Ayes: Aldermen Myers, Mims, Hunt, Ward, Emerson, Greene, Bill Van Buskirk, Walters, Aziere, Mary Jane Van Buskirk
Nays: None

Become ordinance 5665-21.

NEW BUSINESS

3. **R-3363-21. A RESOLUTION** AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A PRELIMINARY CID FUNDING AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF RAYTOWN, MISSOURI AND EIEIO REAL ESTATE LLC. Point of Contact: Missy Wilson, Assistant City Administrator/Economic Development Administrator.

The item was read by title only by Teresa Henry, City Clerk.

Missy Wilson, Assistant City Administrator, presented the item and remained for any discussion along with Andrew Osman, a representative of EIEIO Real Estate LLC.

Alderman Mims, seconded by Alderman Aziere, made a motion to adopt. The motion was approved by a vote of 10-0.

Ayes: Aldermen Mims, Aziere, Emerson, Ward, Hunt, Bill Van Buskirk, Walters, Mary Jane Van Buskirk, Greene, Myers
Nays: None

4. **R-3364-21. A RESOLUTION** AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF FUEL FROM JOHN MOORE OIL COMPANY OFF THE CITY OF LEE'S SUMMIT, MISSOURI COOPERATIVE PURCHASE CONTRACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$130,000.00. Point of Contact: Jose Leon, Public Works Director

The item was read by title only by Teresa Henry, City Clerk.

Jason Hanson, City Engineer, presented the item and remained for any discussion.

Alderman Bill Van Buskirk, seconded by Alderman Mary Jane Van Buskirk, made a motion to adopt. The motion was approved by a vote of 10-0.

Ayes: Aldermen Bill Van Buskirk, Mary Jane Van Buskirk, Mims, Hunt, Ward, Emerson, Greene, Walters, Aziere, Myers

Nays: None

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Ward, seconded by Alderman Mary Jane Van Buskirk, made a motion to adjourn. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned 8:25 p.m.

Teresa M. Henry, City Clerk, MRCC

CITY OF RAYTOWN
Request for Board Action

Date: March 12, 2021

Resolution No. R-3365-21

To: Mayor and Board of Aldermen

From: Teresa Henry, City Clerk

Department Head Approval: _____

City Administrator Approval: _____

Action Requested: Reappointment of Special Sales Tax Review Committee At-Large member.

Recommendation: None.

Analysis: The Special Sales Tax Review Committee was originally established in 2002 to provide guidance and oversight on how money from the Transportation Sales Tax, Capital Improvement Sales Tax and Public Safety Sales Taxes approved by the voters is spent. In doing so, the Committee is required to meet at least once each quarter to monitor the plan.

The Committee is comprised of one citizen member from each of the five Wards selected by mutual agreement of the Aldermen elected to represent the Ward and the appointment of two additional citizen members by the Mayor. If the two Aldermen representing that Ward cannot agree on a citizen member, then each of the two Aldermen nominate a citizen member and the Board of Aldermen select the committee member by majority vote.

The Mayor has recommended that Jeremy Bledsoe be reappointed to the at-large position.

To be qualified for appointment a citizen must meet the following criteria:

1. current resident
2. at least 21 years of age
3. citizen of US
4. resident of the City for at least one year prior to appointment.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF JEREMY BLEDSOE AS AN AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SPECIAL SALES TAX REVIEW COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, Resolution 1312-02 provides for appointment of a Special Sales Tax Review Committee; and

WHEREAS, such Special Sales Tax Review Committee is comprised of one citizen from each of the five Wards appointed by the Aldermen who represent that Ward and two citizens appointed At-Large by the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor recommends the reappointment of Jeremy Bledsoe as an At-Large representative to the Special Sales Tax Review Committee.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF RAYTOWN, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

THAT Jeremy Bledsoe, 6500 Elm, Raytown, MO is hereby reappointed as an At-Large member of the Special Sales Tax Review Committee, with a term expiring September 1, 2025 or until a successor is duly appointed;

FURTHER THAT this resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage and approval.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Aldermen and **APPROVED** by the Mayor of the City of Raytown, Missouri, the 16th day of March, 2021.

Michael McDonough, Mayor

ATTEST:

Teresa M. Henry, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

Jennifer M. Baird, City Attorney

From: [Please Do Not Click Reply](#)
To: [Teresa Henry](#)
Subject: Apply to Serve of Boards, Commissions, and Committees (form) has been filled out on your site.
Date: Friday, March 12, 2021 11:22:09 AM

Your Site has received new information through a form.
Form: Application for Boards, Committees and Commissions
Site URL: www.raytown.mo.us

Date: 3/12/2021

Last Name: Bledsoe

First Name: Jeremy

Middle Name: L

Street Address: 6500 Elm Avenue Raytown MO 64133

Phone: 8163131159

Phone: Evening:

Cell Phone Number:

Fax No.:

Email: jbledsoe@apexkc.com

Which board would you like to serve on?: Sales Tax Oversight Committees

I would like to serve on this Board or Commission because: I would like to continue serving on the Sales Tax Oversight Committees (STOC). I enjoy serving my community and interacting with my neighbors.

My strength(s) on this Board/Commission will be: My strengths would be that I can listen and communicate helpful information. I understand the role of my position on the STOC, understand the requests, can objectively make a decision and provide useful feedback to my peers. I have a good understanding of Information Technology (IT) and would continue to offer my experience.

Trade/College/University/Degree/Date: U.S. Army Communication Specialist

Various certifications related to Information Technologies

Current Employer/Address/Position: Optimus Technologies (Sole Proprietor, 2002-Current) - 6500 Elm Avenue, Raytown MO 64133

Past Employer/Address/Position/Dates: Sprint - Overland Park, KS (Supervisor, 1997 to 2002)

U.S. Army (until 1997)

Organization/Leadership Position(s)/Membership Date(s): Sales Tax Oversight Committees - Member at large (Current)

East Gate Building Company - President (2012 - Current)

Raytown Amateur Radio Club Volunteer - Webmaster, membership (Current)

Raytown Connection Point Church - Volunteer

Graceway Church (Kansas City) - Volunteer in athletics programs (Head Coach) - not currently active, due to Covid-19

Do you have business or property interests that might place you in a conflict of interest situation should you be appointed to this Board/Commission? If so, please explain: N/A

Are your personal and real estate taxes current? If not, you can provide an explanation if you choose: Yes they are current

Do you anticipate that there will be times when you will not be able to attend the Board/Commission meeting? If yes, how often to do you anticipate this would occur?: The few times that I was not able to attend a meeting, I was able to communicate the reason. I do not foresee any problems with attending meetings, at this time.

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CITY OF RAYTOWN
Request for Board Action

Date: March 12, 2021

Resolution No. R-3366-21

To: Mayor and Board of Aldermen

From: Teresa Henry, City Clerk

Department Head Approval: _____

City Administrator Approval: _____

Action Requested: Reappointment of Special Sales Tax Review Committee At-Large member.

Recommendation: None.

Analysis: The Special Sales Tax Review Committee was originally established in 2002 to provide guidance and oversight on how money from the Transportation Sales Tax, Capital Improvement Sales Tax and Public Safety Sales Taxes approved by the voters is spent. In doing so, the Committee is required to meet at least once each quarter to monitor the plan.

The Committee is comprised of one citizen member from each of the five Wards selected by mutual agreement of the Aldermen elected to represent the Ward and the appointment of two additional citizen members by the Mayor. If the two Aldermen representing that Ward cannot agree on a citizen member, then each of the two Aldermen nominate a citizen member and the Board of Aldermen select the committee member by majority vote.

The Mayor has recommended that Jason Hull be reappointed to the at-large position.

To be qualified for appointment a citizen must meet the following criteria:

1. current resident
2. at least 21 years of age
3. citizen of US
4. resident of the City for at least one year prior to appointment.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF JASON HULL AS AN AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SPECIAL SALES TAX REVIEW COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, Resolution 1312-02 provides for appointment of a Special Sales Tax Review Committee; and

WHEREAS, such Special Sales Tax Review Committee is comprised of one citizen from each of the five Wards appointed by the Aldermen who represent that Ward and two citizens appointed At-Large by the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor recommends the reappointment of Jason Hull to be an At-Large representative to the Special Sales Tax Review Committee;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF RAYTOWN, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

THAT Jason Hull, 10705 E. 62nd Terrace, Raytown, MO is hereby reappointed as an At-Large member of the Special Sales Tax Review Committee, to a term expiring September 1, 2025, or until a successor is duly appointed;

FURTHER THAT this resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage and approval.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Aldermen and **APPROVED** by the Mayor of the City of Raytown, Missouri, the 16th day of March, 2021.

Michael McDonough, Mayor

ATTEST:

Teresa M. Henry, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

Jennifer M. Baird, City Attorney

From: [Please Do Not Click Reply](#)
To: [Teresa Henry](#)
Subject: Application for Boards, Committees and Commissions (form) has been filled out on your site.
Date: Thursday, March 11, 2021 1:57:50 PM

Your Site has received new information through a form.
Form: Application for Boards, Committees and Commissions
Site URL: www.raytown.mo.us

Date: 3/11/2021

Last Name: Hull

First Name: Jason

Middle Name: Linn

Address: 10705 E 62nd Terrace, Raytown, MO

Phone: Day: 8165173653

Phone: Evening:

Cell Phone Number: 8165173653

Fax No.:

Email Address: golfj7769@gmail.com

Which board would you like to serve on?: Sales Tax Oversight Committee

I would like to serve on this Board or Commission because: I have been a member of this Board since 2018, and feel that it contributes to city of Raytown in a positive way.

My strength(s) on this Board/Commission will be:: I have 3 years experience with this Board; I understand the goals of the Board and how those goals help the city of Raytown.

Trade/College/University/Degree/Date: NW Missouri State University 1987-1989

Longview/Metropolitan Community College

Current: Employer/Address/Position: US Generals Services Administration

System Analyst - Information Systems

Past Employer/Address/Position/Dates: US Dept of Defense 1996-2011

US GSA 1990-1993

US Dept of Commerce 1993-1996

Organization/Leadership Position(s)/Membership Dates(s): President, Shamrock Hills Golf Association 2008-Present

Do you have business or property interests that might place you in a conflict of interest situation should you be appointed to this Board/Commission? If so, please explain.: No

Are your personal and real estate taxes current? If not, you can provide an explanation if you choose: Yes

Do you anticipate that there will be times when you will not be able to attend the Board/Commission meeting? If yes, how often do you anticipate this would occur?: Only on a rare occasion

Do Not Click Reply - This e-mail has been generated from a super form.

**CITY OF RAYTOWN
Request for Board Action**

Date: March 11, 2021
To: Mayor and Board of Aldermen
From: Russell Petry, Director of Finance

Resolution No.: R-3367-21

Finance Director Approval: _____

City Administrator Approval: _____

Action Requested: Staff requests approval of the amendment to the 2020-21 fiscal budget to allow for the implementation of recommendation of item 1.2 from the state audit report.

Recommendation: Approve the budget amendment.

Analysis: The recently released state audit report had a recommendation to change the way TIF EATS receipts are transferred from individual funds to the TIF fund to be more transparent. The City made this change in procedure November 1, 2020; however, the budget amendment is needed to remain in compliance with having the budgeted amounts for the reflection of transfers in the system reporting. This is a net \$0 amendment, which only changes the way the City reflects transfer of these receipts between funds it has been receiving.

Budgetary Impact:

- Not Applicable
- Funds subject to approval of the Board of Aldermen
- Non-Budgeted item with available funds through prioritization
- Non-Budgeted item with additional funds requested

Additional Reports Attached: Journal Entry-Exhibit "A"

A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET RELATING TO THE TIF FUND

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution R-3332-20, the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget was approved; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget relating to the TIF Fund and receipting; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen find it is in the best interest of the City to amend the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget relating to the TIF Fund and receipting;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF RAYTOWN, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

THAT the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget approved by Resolution R-3332-20 is hereby amended as set forth in Exhibit "A" relating to the TIF Fund and receipting: and

FURTHER THAT the City Administrator is hereby authorized to execute all documents necessary to this transaction and the City Clerk is authorized to attest thereto.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Aldermen and **APPROVED** by the Mayor of the City of Raytown, Missouri, the 16th day of March, 2021.

Michael McDonough, Mayor

ATTEST:

Approved as to Form:

Teresa M. Henry, City Clerk

Jennifer M. Baird, City Attorney

Exhibit A
City of Raytown
Amendment to FY2020-21 Budget
For State Audit Recommendation 1.2

Budget Adjustment Journal Entry

101-00-00-100-59950	330,500.00
101-00-00-100-59951	330,500.00
101-00-00-001-41206	-661,000.00
201-00-00-100-59950	31,900.00
201-00-00-001-41206	-31,900.00
204-00-00-100-59950	180,000.00
204-00-00-100-59951	180,000.00
204-00-00-001-41206	-360,000.00
205-00-00-100-59950	140,000.00
205-00-00-100-59951	140,000.00
205-00-00-001-41206	-280,000.00
207-00-00-100-59950	187,000.00
207-00-00-001-41206	-187,000.00
401-00-00-100-59950	11,500.00
401-00-00-100-59951	11,500.00
401-00-00-001-41206	-23,000.00
Total	0.00

**CITY OF RAYTOWN
Request for Board Action**

Date: March 11, 2021
To: Mayor and Board of Aldermen
From: Russell Petry, Director of Finance

Resolution No.: R-3368-21

Finance Director Approval: _____

City Administrator Approval: _____



Action Requested: Staff requests approval of resolution to approve the revised resolution with MARC for Raytown to join the Eastern Jackson County Shared Services Group.

Recommendation: Approve the resolution.

Analysis: The resolution allows Raytown to participate with four other cities in Eastern Jackson County, which are Independence, Blue Springs, Lee's Summit and Grandview. The purpose of the group is to collaboratively share ideas, procedures, and at times resources, as well as participate in shared learning classes specific to the needs of the participating Cities.

Budgetary Impact:

Not Applicable

Additional Reports Attached: Statement of Purpose

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A STATEMENT OF COMMON PURPOSE TO RENEW AND EXPAND THE EASTERN JACKSON COUNTY SHARED SERVICE COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP

WHEREAS, communities today face increasing pressures to deliver quality services that meet and exceed citizen expectations with limited, finite resources; and

WHEREAS, communities place high importance on the public they serve and the staff they depend upon, striving to support both the public and their teams using "best in class" technology, principles and practices; and

WHEREAS, today's challenges often transcend municipal boundaries and include common pain points, including an increasing decline in the funding sources that have traditionally supported strong municipal services delivery; and

WHEREAS, collaborative initiatives in the greater metropolitan region, such as the Regional 911 System, have historically resulted in optimal solutions that have enhanced service delivery through innovation and technology and have provided cost efficiencies through shared resources; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, the governing bodies of the cities of Independence, Blue Springs and Lee's Summit, Missouri, adopted a Statement of Common Purpose emphasizing government innovation and collaborative problem solving for the purpose of exploring various cooperative initiatives among the cities with support by the Mid-America Regional Council; and

WHEREAS, the partners have completed successful collaborative programs including supervisory training, employee exit interviews, fraud reporting hotline, and a federal grant for police mental health co-responders; and

WHEREAS, the partners continue to meet regularly and continue to work on collaborative strategies to enhance municipal services delivery; and

WHEREAS, the initial partnership established in 2018 envisioned that other local jurisdictions may be interested in participating in the exploration and implementation of various collaborative solutions, which would broaden the positive impact of these programs and further promote strategic government innovation in the region; and

WHEREAS, the cities of Grandview and Raytown, Missouri, have begun to engage in the work and desire to formally join the collaborative partnership.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF RAYTOWN, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

THAT the Board of Aldermen does hereby resolve to adopt the revised Statement of Common Purpose, attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated by reference, emphasizing government innovation and collaborative problem solving for the purpose of exploring various cooperative initiatives among the cities of Blue Springs, Grandview, Independence, Lee's Summit, and Raytown, Missouri with support by the Mid-America Regional Council, and does commit to supporting staff in these activities; and

FURTHER THAT the City Administrator is hereby authorized to execute all documents necessary to this transaction and the City Clerk is authorized to attest thereto.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Aldermen and **APPROVED** by the Mayor of the City of Raytown, Missouri, the 16th day of March, 2021.

Michael McDonough, Mayor

ATTEST:

Approved as to Form:

Teresa M. Henry, City Clerk

Jennifer M. Baird, City Attorney

EXHIBIT A

Statement of Purpose Revised February 2021

The cities of Blue Springs, Grandview, Independence, Lee's Summit and Raytown, Missouri, are working with the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) to explore and advance collaborative strategies aimed to benefit all five communities and the region by expanding local government innovation that enhances public service, benefits employees, and optimizes customer service.

Background

Today, cities face increasing pressures to deliver quality services that meet growing citizen expectations with limited, finite resources. They value the public they serve and place great importance upon their staff, striving to support the public and their teams using "best in class" technology and principles. Funding mechanisms that have traditionally supported municipal services delivery continue to decline, yet cities' challenges often transcend municipal boundaries. Common pain points include workforce and recruitment issues, public safety, infrastructure maintenance, and modernization of legacy systems and policies. Now more than ever, city leaders are focused upon good government. Out of necessity, they must look to ingenuity for imaginative, yet feasible solutions and must pursue strategic partnerships to fulfill fundamental needs and deliver best practices that drive innovation, employee excellence, and fiscal sustainability.

By sharing ideas and common systems, collaborative initiatives in the region have historically resulted in efficient solutions with positive impacts. Examples include the Regional 911 System, which has harnessed innovation and technology to benefit local communities and public safety.

In 2018, the cities of Blue Springs, Independence and Lee's Summit (all located in eastern Jackson County, Missouri, sharing common borders) established a shared services collaborative partnership for Eastern Jackson County to explore strategies and solutions aimed to improve excellence and innovation, for the benefit of employees, residents and visitors. The cities requested assistance from the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) to facilitate discussion of potential initiatives and advancement steps. In the first two years, the partnership successfully completed several projects. The cities of Grandview and Raytown, Missouri, were invited to expand the partnership in late 2020.

Proposed Next Steps

With assistance from MARC, the five jurisdictions seek to continue to explore mutually beneficial shared services solutions, including but not limited to the following:

- Organize a second networking event to match employees with similar duties in peer organizations for a half-day to full-day job shadowing experience.
- Evaluate opportunities for joint purchasing or shared equipment for maintenance of city facilities and assets.
- Continue to work with the MARC Government Training Institute (GTI) to deliver joint supervisory trainings, and expand the program to include other common training needs such as governance trainings for volunteer boards and commissions.
- Provide leadership to advance the regional cybersecurity strategic framework, including completing the annual National Cyber Security Review self-assessment and exploring joint solutions to address deficiencies.
- Advance solutions, including cooperative agreements and shared services, that streamline business functions and help deliver robust, high-quality citizen services.

The governing bodies of the five cities will be briefed on this initiative at least annually and asked to offer their insights on opportunities for joint exploration.

Shared Services Success (2018 – 2020):

- Supervisory Training
- Employee exit interviews (Blue Springs and Independence)
- Staff job shadowing and networking
- Cooperative purchase of an ethics, safety & fraud hotline for employees
- Sharing best practices in response to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Secured \$748,000 federal grant for police mental health co-responders