

A young girl with dark hair, wearing an orange t-shirt, is smiling broadly while ziplining. She is positioned in the lower-left foreground, with her arms extended forward. The background is a vast, blurred green forest canopy, suggesting a high-altitude ziplining experience. The overall scene is bright and conveys a sense of joy and adventure.

MY FAVORITESIDE

RIVERSIDE, MO. 2013 PROGRESS REPORT

On a recent flight, I struck up a conversation with the woman sitting next to me. As we exchanged stories, I mentioned that I'm the mayor of Riverside. This prompted all sorts of questions – I guess it's not every day that someone meets a mayor! When she asked what drew me to the position, it gave me a chance to reflect on all the things I love about our community.

I boasted about our rich history, educational opportunities, economic development achievements, our Healthy Citizens Initiative, the trail network, our sustainability efforts, and tourist destinations like the Red X, Corner Cafe and Argosy Casino.

Our signature programs like Trunk or Treat, the Easter Egg Hunt, free swimming lessons at the pool, our Fire and Police Athletic League, and the wide variety of events we put on for the seniors each year are also things I love about Riverside, and told her as much.

I couldn't help but mention the partnerships we've established with groups and organizations that allow us to create a better quality of life. I spoke of the volunteers and boards who strive to make a difference, and the city staff's commitment and ability to deliver services that continually score high levels of satisfaction.

But when I stopped to take a breath, I realized that my favorite thing about Riverside is the people in our community. Riverside has a long history of people who have shaped our values and culture. Those of you who live and work here help make us a community that is truly "Upstream from Ordinary."

I look forward to building upon the success we've had over the past year and establishing a whole new list of "favorites" in the future.

All the best,
Kathy Rose
Mayor

MY FAVORITE CITY



PLAY ALL DAY

Riverside residents continued to utilize the Healthy Citizens Initiative, where the city pays for 75 percent of the membership fees to the Platte County Community Centers (YMCA), North Kansas City Community Center, or Gladstone Community Center. To date, more than one-third of Riverside residents participate in this program.

SUMMER FUN

The YMCA began offering additional senior programming at the Riverside Community Center in the summer. The new classes included Silver Sneakers, tai chi and balance work. The Riverside Community Center was also home to the YMCA day camp this summer. More than 45 kids spent their days learning about their favorite subjects like space, robots, nutrition and more.

ACTIVE ALL YEAR

The Recreation Division continued to provide a variety of free fitness classes, adult league play and open gym opportunities at the Community Center, as well as community events, like Trunk or Treat and the Easter Egg Hunt.

MY FAVORITE START



Nancy Hammond can be found at the Riverside Community Center on most mornings, taking her favorite fitness classes. Hammond, who moved to Riverside in 1986, especially loves the Cardio, Weights and Yoga class.

“I’ve been coming to this class since day one,” Hammond said. “It’s the class that does it all and helps me stay strong and well-rounded.” Over the years, Hammond has seen the class grow and she enjoys having this class available right down the street. “It’s a great class with a great instructor. My advice to others is to come try it out – if you do it and stick with it, you really will feel better,” Hammond said.



MY FAVORITE SITE

Deryk Powell, president of Velociti, was on the hunt for a new location. In his initial search, Riverside didn't even make the list. Powell said the company was primarily looking in Wyandotte County and Johnson County, Kan. "A friend suggested we take a look at Riverside. Once we toured Horizons with the development team, the absolute ease of doing business with Riverside made it our favorite choice," Powell said.

The central location also made Horizons a perfect fit for Velociti. "Our company attracts employees from across the nation, and Riverside is a great asset to help with that," Powell said. "It's an easy pitch – 10 minutes from the airport and downtown, great schools, access to highways, ample housing at every level, and you get to work in a brand new building in a premier development."

AWARD-WINNING DEVELOPMENT

Horizons Industrial Spec I Building and the Premium Waters Facility received Capstone Awards from the *Kansas City Business Journal*, recognizing outstanding real estate and development projects. NorthPoint Development's Horizons Industrial Spec I Building is now 100 percent leased. This success jump-started an additional 500,000 square feet of construction in the Riverside Horizons area. Premium Waters is a \$40 million, 165,000-square-foot facility that was built with an environmentally conscious design, allowing the 100+ employees of the company to work in a light-filled, clean work environment.

BUILDING FOR BETTER

The elimination of blight was identified as a priority in the 2006 Master Plan and 2010 Master Plan Update, and consistently appears as a way both residents and business owners think Riverside could be improved on the ETC Satisfaction Survey. This year, four buildings were demolished on the corner of Gateway and Vivion as part of the site preparation work for the new next-generation QuikTrip. The Beverly Lumber building was also demolished to create a development-ready site.

HONORING EXCELLENCE

The Platte County Economic Development Council honored six Riverside businesses this year with its Business Excellence Award. This award honors companies that have made a significant new investment in Platte County, including job creation, increased visibility and increased tax base. The winners were: Gallagher North America, Inc., M&M Quality Solutions, Marlen International, Velociti Inc., Vistar, and W.W. Grainger, Inc.

KEEPING BUSINESSES HAPPY

While most cities devote time and energy to recruiting new businesses, few work hard at retaining the businesses they already have. Riverside added a new staff position this year to focus on business retention and development. Jackie Carlson will help move the city forward by implementing ideas outlined in the Master Plan. Her work will include everything from jump-starting the downtown-area projects to working with existing business owners.

A NEW LOOK

Riverside created the Blight Removal and Reinvestment Program, which provides funds to assist private property owners with the removal of blighted structures (both residential and commercial) and encourages reinvestment in the property. Each property is eligible for up to \$8,000 in matching funds to assist with related demolition and new construction projects.

HONORING HOPE

The Platte County Economic Development Council honored the business Lauren's Hope with the Community Development Award on behalf of the City of Riverside. Owner and CEO LeAnn Carlson was a recipient of the 2013 Women Who Mean Business award. In 2001, Lauren's Hope introduced the first interchangeable medical ID bracelet on the market. More than 350,000 people wear Lauren's Hope medical ID bracelets today.

MY FAVORITE PARTNER



Tina Krstulic, manager of Vintage Tech Recyclers, had only been in Riverside for a year and half when the need for a new and larger facility arose. “We opened our first Kansas City-area location in Riverside in April 2012, and by September 2013, our business had tripled,” Krstulic said. With the help of the City of Riverside’s Community Development team, Vintage Tech found a place that would fit their needs for the next five years.

“Even though there are lots of options in the Kansas City Metro, we knew that we wanted to stay in Riverside. Not only is the city a great location for our business, but we also found a true partner here. Riverside made it very clear they wanted us in the community, and our focus on recycling complements Riverside’s focus on promoting sustainability very well,” Krstulic said.

ROLE MODELS

Kids in Riverside had the opportunity to connect with police officers, firefighters and emergency dispatchers through the Riverside Fire/Police Athletic League (FPAL). FPAL is a youth crime prevention program that creates positive relationships through community activities and recreation opportunities. This year, FPAL hosted skate parties, pool parties and National Night Out, and held a coat drive with Argosy's Hearts and Hands Foundation. FPAL also sponsored Shop with a Cop/Firefighter, where members helped Riverside kids in need Christmas shop for free.

FAST ... AND FRIENDLY

Riverside upgraded its police car fleet by changing from the Ford Crown Victoria to the Dodge Police Charger. Two Chargers entered the fleet in 2013, with plans to continue the transition as other cars in the fleet come up for replacement. The new Chargers offer a roomier interior to allow officers to work on the go and feature the latest police technology.

A SAFE HAVEN

The Riverside Police Department and Park Hill South Broadcast Journalism Class created a video to educate high school students on the Safe Haven Laws for Newborns. This effort, led by Sgt. Dean Noll, received attention from legislators in Jefferson City, who recommended that the video be shared in high school health classes across the state.

MY FAVORITE HEROES

Gordon Fowlston, fire division chief, along with eight other members of the Missouri Fire Service Funeral Team, made the trip to Arizona in June to assist with the funerals for the 19 firefighters who were killed while battling the Yarnell Hill wildfire. Over the course of four days, the Missouri team organized seven funerals, handling all the details for both the church ceremonies and services at the burial sites.

"I am so thankful for the support of the city and their willingness to send me to Arizona to help provide this service to another department in need," Fowlston said. For his work, Fowlston was honored with a proclamation from Missouri Governor Jay Nixon and a commemorative tool known as a "Pulaski," which is a special hand tool used in wildland firefighting.



MY FAVORITE RIDE

Jim, Terri, Clara and Maddie Dwyer

are a family that's always on the go. "We're a very active family that likes to be outside," Terri said. The Dwyers use the trails in Riverside as a safe place for their kids to run and ride bikes while staying off the main streets. "The trails let us go beyond the playgrounds. It's so cool that we're able to get to all our favorite parks, and even other cities nearby, on the trail system," Terri said.

"There's also so much to see along the trails," she added. "We enjoy learning about the history of Riverside from the signs on the Linear Trail, seeing the river, hearing the trains, and getting to experience the landscape of the city in a different way."



HISTORY YOU CAN SEE

Historical Trail Signs were installed along the Riverside Linear Trail, which runs from St. Joe Court to Briarcliff Office Park. The six signs, which were funded in part from a Platte County Parks & Recreation grant, help visually connect the city's history with the surroundings. Each sign features a different historical subject and shows trail users where to look to see pieces of the city's history along the trails.

CONNECTION

Two critical sections of the trail system were completed this year – the Lower Line Creek Trail, which runs from Cliffview Drive to Argosy Casino Parkway, and the Upper Line Creek Trail, which connects I-29 to Homestead Park. These trail sections help create a loop around the city to allow trail users to travel between all three city parks and also connect with trails in Kansas City and Parkville.

CLEAN STREETS

Street maintenance remained a priority in the Capital Improvement Plan in 2013. Mill and overlay was completed on the unimproved section of Northwood Road and a variety of small improvements were made on neighborhood streets throughout town. The annual street maintenance program provides funding to ensure the quality of city streets is maintained year after year.



“A Day to Believe.” The City of Riverside rallied around the Park Hill South High School Marching Band when they were invited to perform in the 2014 London New Year’s Day Parade. The Parade’s theme was “1964” and the band chose a medley of tunes from the last five decades that included the word “Believe” for their performance. The band gave a preview of their performance at the Holiday Lighting Ceremony in December, where Mayor Rose also declared January 1, 2014, as “A Day to Believe” in honor of the Park Hill South Marching Band.

MY FAVORITE MARCH

Gaming Revenue During the 2012-2013 fiscal year, the City of Riverside utilized more than \$9 million in gaming revenues to make a positive impact in the community and provide assistance to other cities and organizations.

Assistance to Other Entities

Northland Health Care	\$35,000
Park Hill School District	\$23,500
Platte Senior Services	\$20,000
Miles of Smiles	\$15,000
Platte County Health Department	\$15,000
Synergy	\$7,500
MOCSA	\$5,000
Mo. Public Safety Funeral Assistance Team.	\$5,000
American Red Cross	\$3,000
Girls on the Run	\$3,000
YMCA Scholarships	\$3,000

Major Thoroughfare/Infrastructure

Northwood Rd.	\$1,077,000
Street Maintenance Program	\$351,000
Facility Improvements	\$30,000

Equipment Purchases

Public Works Equipment/Vehicles	\$293,000
Public Safety Equipment/Vehicles	\$158,000
Computer Equipment	\$34,000

Horizons Development Commitment

900-Acre Commercial Park.	\$6,106,000
Economic Development Consultant	\$200,000

Community Services

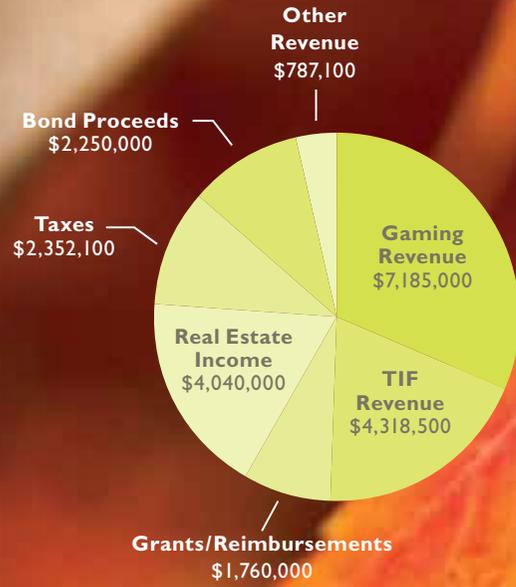
Healthy Citizens Initiative	\$195,000
Citywide Trash Collection	\$73,700
Transit Services for Residents	\$42,500
Ambulance Services for Residents	\$36,700
Fire & Police Athletic League	\$10,000

Other Improvements

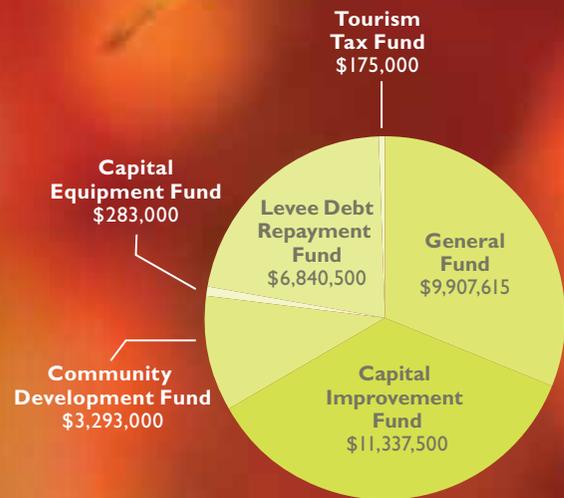
Park/Trail Improvements	\$404,000
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Total for FY 2012-13 \$9,145,900

REVENUE



EXPENDITURES



Revenue Total budgeted revenues of \$22,692,700 are 2 percent lower than the FY12 amended budgeted revenues of \$23,269,354. The success of recent years of the Horizons Development is reflected in the 43 percent increase in TIF (Tax Increment Financing) revenues budgeted. Both PILOTS (Payments in Lieu of Taxes) and TIF payments from the state of Missouri contribute to the increase.

Expenditures Total budgeted expenditures of \$31,836,615 represent a significant decrease compared to the amended 2012-2013 budget of \$44,709,137. This decrease is substantially attributed to limiting the growth of General Fund expenditures to 1.1 percent over the previous fiscal year, and reducing the Capital Improvement Fund expenditures by \$11.2 million from the previous fiscal year.

Board of Aldermen Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Operating Budget Policy and Goals

In January 2013, the Board of Aldermen adopted an Operating Budget Policy, which specified the budget calendar and process. The budget process will begin each year in January with a review of the financial position, and the board will set goals to guide the budget process for the upcoming fiscal year. For the fiscal year 2013-2014 budget, the board set the following goals:

- Limit General Fund growth for FY14 to 2 percent. This goal was achieved when the adopted FY14 budget increased 1.1 percent over the previous year.
- End Fund Balance for FY14 includes a six- to eight-month reserve. This goal was achieved when the adopted FY14 budget included a six-month reserve.
- Recommend a merit increase that is fair to both the city and the employees. This goal was achieved when the adopted FY14 budget included a 2 percent merit increase for employees.
- Support the adopted compensation philosophy that recognizes employees should be paid at market value. This goal was achieved when the adopted FY14 budget included an additional adjustment for employees whose current salaries were significantly below market value.
- The Capital Improvement Plan must be realistic. This goal was achieved when only projects that would be feasible to complete, based on both budget and available staff time, were included in the adopted budget.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN



Kathy Rose
Mayor



Mike Fuller
Ward 1



Ron Super
Ward 1



Aaron Thatcher
Ward 2



Brad Cope
Ward 3



Art Homer
Ward 3



CITY ADMINISTRATOR

“Riverside is a place like nowhere else. The people, the work they do, and their choice to make this city their home are all a huge source of pride for me.”

Greg Mills
City Administrator

One of the things we hear from residents and members of our business community alike is that one of their favorite things about Riverside is how easy it is to work with the city. Here at City Hall, we strive to be available to help you, give accurate and timely answers, and provide service that is “Upstream from Ordinary” every time. Need something? Give us a call, drop us an email, message us on Facebook, or stop by and see us.

Planning and Zoning Commission

- Al Bowman
- Jim Frakes
- Ray Uhl
- Harold Snoderley
- Mike Soler
- Steven Kaspar
- Stephen King
- Mike Lombardo
- Art Homer, BOA Liaison
- Kathy Rose, Mayor

Industrial Development Authority

- Cy Houston
- Pamela Darata
- Leland Finley

- Harold Snoderley
- Bernie Bruns

Board of Zoning Adjustment

- Dave Thatcher
- Rick Euwer
- Dean Lefstad
- Chris Craig

Parks Board

- Ken Smith
- Terri Dwyer
- Elaine Warren
- Deborah Leader
- Suzanne Johnson
- Timothy Miller
- Mike Fuller, BOA Liaison

Tax Increment Financing Commission

- Ron Super, City of Riverside
- Kathy Rose, City of Riverside
- Cy Houston, City of Riverside
- Kip Crawford, City of Riverside
- Leland Finley, City of Riverside
- Scott Springston,
Park Hill School District
- Paul Kelly, Park Hill School District

Tourism Commission

- Jennifer Goering
- Jerry Pietsch
- Jason Rule
- Aaron Thatcher, BOA Liaison

City Contact Information

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Mayor and Board of Aldermen	816-741-3993
Police/Fire Emergency	9-1-1
Police/Fire Nonemergency	816-741-1191
Community Center	816-741-4172
Public Works	816-741-3908

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CITY OF
RIVERSIDE
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