



**Office of the City Manager**

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May 21, 2021

Community Report: 0521-21

Honorable Terry Crow,  
Members of the City Council,  
and University City Residents:

**Police Department UCPD**

UCPD and many statewide law enforcement agencies have had to be inventive on recruiting and retention methods for quality law enforcement personnel. This includes hiring support staff and positions like police dispatchers as well. The COVID-19 pandemic and the low morale within this profession has created a struggling market for good police personnel.

**Local Police Departments Having Trouble Attracting Applicants**

[Axios](#) (5/19/21, Local) reports that US police departments are “struggling to attract applicants after a year of racial justice protests against police use of excessive force and calls for police reform dampened morale within the profession.” Axios adds, “It’s not just an issue of getting new talent in the door, but of keeping existing forces intact.” In Minneapolis, “105 officers left the department, twice as many as normal, per MPR News.”

## **Police departments struggling with shortage of recruits, surge in retirements**

Mensah M. Dean, Julie [Shaw](#) and Vinny Vella The Philadelphia Inquirer (TNS)

04.24.21

PHILADELPHIA — Amid growing calls for police reform and national debate over the deadly use of force, police departments are struggling to retain and attract officers, law enforcement officials say. Across the nation, police officials and union leaders described the state of recruiting as in “crisis” mode. We are anticipating that the department is going to be understaffed by several hundred members, because hundreds of guys are either retiring or taking other jobs and leaving the department,” said Mike [Neilon](#), spokesperson for the Philadelphia Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #5, the union that represents city police officers. The pandemic has also hampered recruiting efforts, as has the relatively new requirement that police applicants live in the city, [Neilon](#) said.

### **Parks, Recreation and Forestry**

Centennial Commons is scheduled to reopen on Friday, May 28, and the [Heman Park Pool](#) will reopen on Saturday, May 29. (see Attachments 1 and 2)

### **Public Works**

Residential Street Sweeping begins in the [Private Subdivisions](#) on Monday, May 24, 2021 and will be performed in that work week. This service is intended to reduce the materials entering the sewer system and improve the appearance and cleanliness of City streets.

Please do use residential driveways as available for parking during the week in the service area [in order](#) for the department to conduct an effective street sweeping.

### **Fire Department (UCFD)**

Calls for the week:

Fire Calls: 60

EMS Calls: 58

Total Runs: 118

### **Finance Department**

New businesses that started in the City the week of 5/13/21 to 5/19/21:

- ISLAY, LLC – 612 N. McKnight Rd, Suite J – 314-665-4061 – Ward 1
- LOLLY’S PLACE – 6940 Olive Blvd. – 314-800-4260 – Ward 2

### **Activities and Events**

**05/14/2021, 5pm-8pm** is the opening reception for Poetic Justice Arts, located at 6267 Delmar Blvd. Consensus STL is a new arts program that explores the Human in Humanities. Created by Artist/Educator Sally Taylor, Consensus offers a multimedia experience through a game of artistic “**Telephone**.” Come play and add your voice to the Poetic Justice Arts exhibit. For more information, visit <https://universitycityloop.com/events/poetic-justice-arts-presented-by-consensus-stl/>.

**6/19/2021, noon – 6pm** – In the heart of University City’s Delmar Loop, THE LOOP ROADSHOW is an open-air FREE market featuring local vintage businesses and artisans. Vendors will set up on Leland Avenue, next to Vintage Vinyl. The street will be closed for the event. This event will occur every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, May through September. Visit <https://universitycityloop.com/events/loop-roadshow/var/ri-1.l-L1/> to learn more.

**05-22 – 6/13/2021** Come and walk the Delmar Loop to see the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Mannequins on the Loop art competition! View the amazing art installation and support our local businesses. The Mannequins on The Loop is an annual competition about bringing awareness to going green and providing scholarships to our local youths. For more information, visit [mannequinsontheloop.com](http://mannequinsontheloop.com).

**06/19/2021** – Save the date for a celebration hosted by the Loop Special Business District and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®. Activities will include a sample of poetry/spoken word, essays and a songstress on the Harlem Renaissance & Black Arts movement period, presentation from Mathew Foggy to speak on Hype the Stripe movement and more. If you are interested in getting involved in the planning of the Juneteenth Celebration, please contact Jessica Bueler at [jessica@exploreucity.com](mailto:jessica@exploreucity.com).

**6/19/21 – 6/21/21 is Make Music Weekend!** The Loop Special Business District will host a 3-day outdoor event featuring musicians from all over St. Louis. More than 50 musicians will be playing throughout the weekend. This nationally recognized event was launched in 1982 in France as the Fête de la Musique, it is now held annually in more than 1,000 cities in 120 countries. If you know a musician that would like to get involved in the festivities, please contact Jessica Bueler at [jessica@exploreucity.com](mailto:jessica@exploreucity.com).

Visit the [University City Loop](https://universitycityloop.com) website launched by the Loop Special Business District (LSBD) to offer a one-stop online resource for information about all special events and shows, restaurants and retailers, businesses and more. The website can be found at <https://universitycityloop.com>.

Respectfully submitted,



Gregory Rose, ICMA-CM, MPA  
City Manager

Attachments (2)



**“Operation Play Safely”  
Facility Reopening Information Sheet**

**Centennial Commons**

**Centennial Commons will be open Monday, May 24<sup>th</sup> – Thursday May 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am – 4:00pm for the purchasing of Centennial Commons Memberships and Heman Park Swimming Pool Season Passes.**

**Centennial Commons will hold its grand reopening on Friday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00am.**

**Facility hours are as follows:**

**Monday-Thursday 7:00am-7:00pm, Friday 7:00am-4:30pm,**

**Saturday 8:00am-12:00pm, Sunday CLOSED.**

**Admission to Centennial Commons will be limited to current Centennial Commons members ONLY.**

**Those who had paid in full memberships on or before March 14, 2020 - memberships have been extended.**

**Those with monthly auto-drafted monthly memberships (EFT program) – memberships have expired and we have suspended the EFT program until further notice. To access Centennial Commons, you would need to purchase one of our membership plans.**

**Those who still qualify for free memberships through SilverSneakers and RenewActive - memberships have been extended.**

**PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO DAILY ADMISSION SALES and NO GUEST ALLOWED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

**Facility areas available: Cardio Floor, Circuit, Weight Rooms, Indoor Walking Track and Restrooms. Areas NOT available are: Gymnasium, Indoor Soccer Facility, Locker Rooms/Showers, CubCare, Boardroom, and Century Room (no rentals/classes).**

**Masks must be worn correctly at all times while inside of Centennial Commons.**

**6ft of social distancing MUST be maintained while inside, including while working out. Please make sure there is space between you and the closest member/staff member.**

**For the safety of all, you MUST wipe down equipment after each use.**





**“Operation Play Safely”  
Facility Reopening Information Sheet**

**Heman Park Swimming Pool**

**Heman Park Swimming Pool will open on Saturday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 am for lap swim and at 11:00 am for open swim.**

**Summer 2021 hours are as follows:**

**Monday-Friday: Lap Swim: 6:00am -9:00 am; Open Swim Noon-7:00pm**

**Sat., Sun and Holidays: Lap Swim: 6:00am -9:00 am;**

**Open Swim 11:00 am-7:00pm**

**Admission to Heman Park Swimming Pool will be limited to Centennial Commons members and Heman Pool Season Pass holders ONLY**

**PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO DAILY ADMISSION SALES and NO GUEST ALLOWED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

**Those who purchased a season pass after May 1, 2019 have had their pass extended through the 2021 season.**

**PLEASE NOTE: Current members of Centennial Commons are also members of Heman Park Swimming Pool.**

**The lockers/showers are not available for use at this time. There are outdoor showers located on the East side of the pool, near the path to the volleyball court.**

**Masks must be worn correctly while in the pool lobby, going to/from concessions, and going to/from restrooms. Masks are not required when moving to enter, or after exiting the pool.**

**There will be no seating provided by Heman Park Pool at this time. We encourage our members to bring their own seating.**

**6ft of social distancing MUST be maintained between parties on the pool deck.**