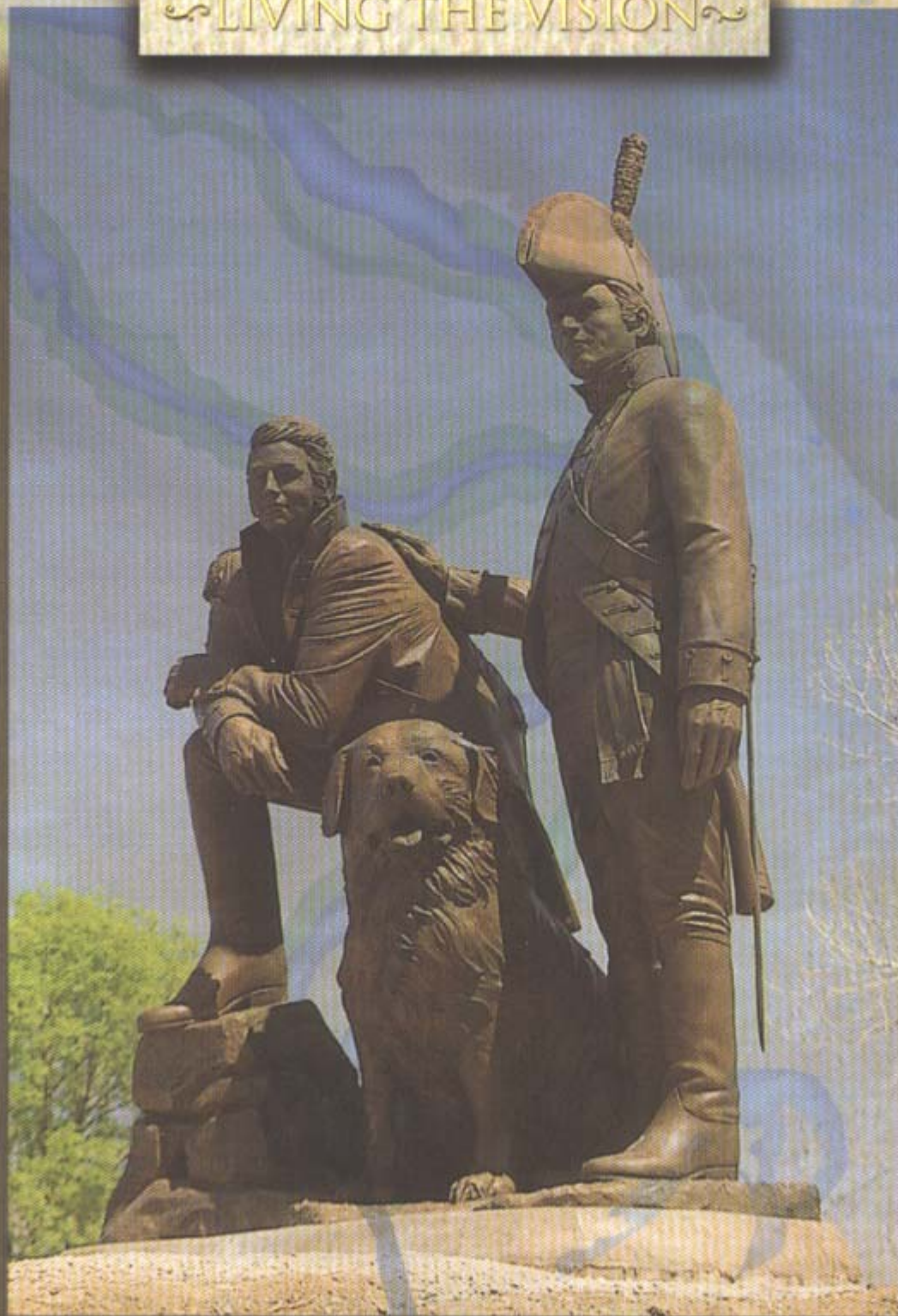


The City of Saint Charles

~ LIVING THE VISION ~



Annual Report

DEAR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS,

We are pleased to present this Annual Citizens Report for the City of Saint Charles. In it, we recognize the success of our programs along with the hard work of City employees who make it all possible.

As you know, the City of Saint Charles was founded in 1796, just three years after Saint Louis. From the beginning as the first major settlement west of the Missouri River, our forefathers had the vision to make our community thrive



and prosper ... the first free school, Academy of the Sacred Heart; the first hospital, Saint Joseph; the first Catholic church, Saint Charles Borromeo; the first women's college, Lindenwood; even the first interstate highway was started from here.

We are pleased to report we continue to live the vision begun over 200 years ago.

As we look back over the recent past, we should all be enthusiastic about the progress made in our community. As you will see in this report, the City is growing with a strong economy and vibrant neighborhoods. Thanks to this, we are adding residents and businesses at a rapid pace.

We are spending gaming dollars responsibly to improve our infrastructure from roads to sewers. We are enhancing our quality of life with art projects, cultural activities and recreational programs.

As elected officials, your government knows its primary job is to ensure the long-term viability of the City and to serve you, the citizens. We are doing this successfully through the implementation of strong financial policies, delivery of core City services and continuing economic and community development.

Our spirit is strong, multi-dimensional and compassionate with a tremendous sense of community. City officials, our business partners and citizens all have a stake in moving our community forward. Together, we can face any challenges before us as we continue the vision for Saint Charles begun over 200 years ago. As your Mayor, I value this vision.

Mayor Patti York

Mayor Patti York

DEAR SAINT CHARLES RESIDENTS,

As members of the Saint Charles City Council, we are proud to have initiated or supported the positive programs described in this report.

The Council, in conjunction with the Mayor, has responsibilities which cover all facets of City government including: Maintenance of Streets & Roads; Economic Development/ Redevelopment; Arts & Culture; Fiscal Responsibility; Public Safety; Parks, Recreation & Beautification; and Community Services. Here are some highlights.

We have spent over \$37 million on construction improvements for our streets and roads and have worked together to see that money is spent where it is most needed.

The Council ensured the continuing economic development/redevelopment of the City with several projects. One such accomplishment was the addition of a major liquor distributing company with 125 jobs in the Elm Point area as well as numerous commercial developments at Elm and 370.



We launched an annual Art in Public Spaces sculpture contest in cooperation with the Foundry Arts Center to place public art in ten locations throughout the City. These sculptures will be on display for one year and then replaced with new award winning pieces.

In addition, we also began a multi-year program to honor several of our most historic figures with life-like bronze sculptures. A contest was held to produce the first of these: that of Daniel Boone.

The Council supported the future connection of the Katy Trail through Frenchtown to New Town. We also found a site and worked to acquire land for a Community Center as well as identified additional projects to complete this worthwhile project.

We honored our military personnel and veterans with designated fireworks over the July 4 celebration and provided additional funding for improvements to our Senior Center.

The Council has undertaken numerous programs across city services that ensure our community remains a great place to work, live and raise families. We pledge our continuing commitment to the citizens of Saint Charles.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rory Riddler". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Council President Rory Riddler

2005

LIVING RESPONSIBLY FINANCE

Gaming Revenue Allocation

Station Casino and now Ameristar's St. Charles' Casino has been a fixture on the Missouri River for over ten years. We received more than \$116 million in revenue over the past ten years. Here's a breakdown of how the funds have been allocated.

Gaming Funds (thousands)

5/1994-12/2005

SPENT	PLANNED	TOTAL
Streets		
\$ 26,910	\$ 3,163	\$ 30,073
Facilities		
\$ 18,697	\$ 2,172	\$ 20,869
Stormwater		
\$ 11,927	\$ 2,866	\$ 14,794
Economic Development		
\$ 15,515	\$ 999,933	\$ 16,515
General Fund		
\$ 33,738	\$ - 0 -	\$ 33,738

PROJECT COST TO GAMING

Street/Traffic:

Hawks Nest Overpass	2,014,000
Fifth Street Extension	2,812,000
Pralle Reconstruction	2,103,000
Hackman Road	
Reconstruction	3,880,000
Annual Street Overlay	1,122,000
Randolph Street	679,000
I-70/94 Auxiliary Lane	486,500
Boone's Lick Improvements	396,000

Stormwater/Creek:

1997 Bond Issue	6,966,000
Cole Creek Projects	1,314,805
Creek Bank, Crystal Springs/	
Southern Oaks	254,143
GIS Mapping of Infrastructure	578,628

Economic Development:

Arena Funding	1,524,000
Water Tower south of 70	
(debt service)	900,000
E-Commerce Incubator	190,000
Art Around Town	100,000

Facilities:

Veteran's Memorial	300,000
Wapelhorst Aquatic Center	1,200,000
Park Webster Park	
Acquisition	1,614,000
DuSable/Eco Park	541,000

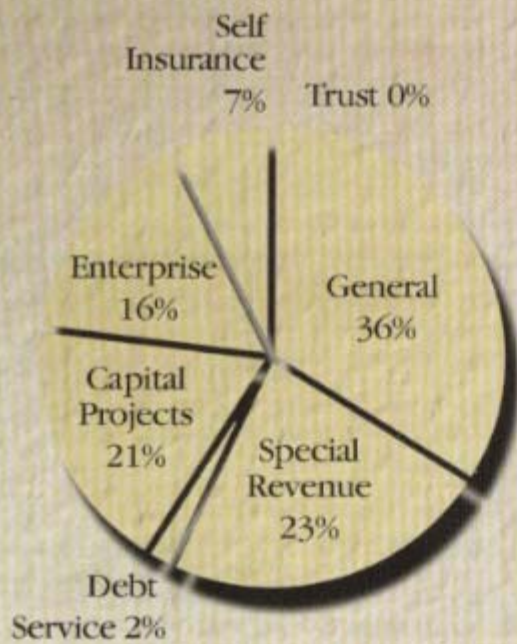
General Fund:

Eliminated Auto License fees	163,000
Trash Subsidy-free yard waste	363,450
Trash Subsidy-seniors in need	160,495
Gaming Reserve	1,080,000
20% General Fund Reserves	1,246,000

REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

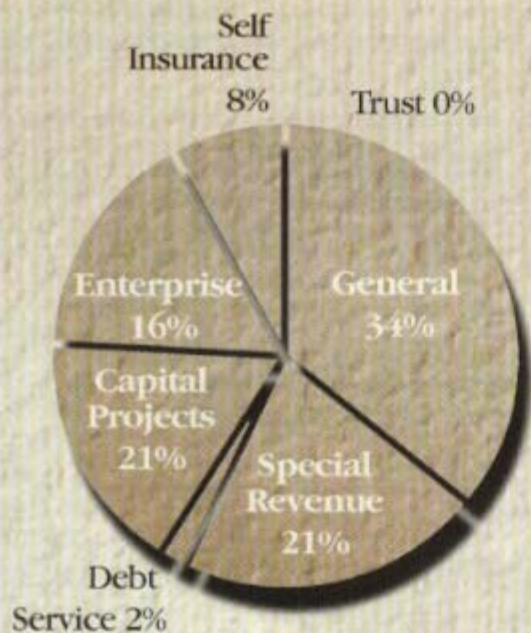
Charts of Budgeted Revenues & Budgeted Expenditures

Here's a breakdown of budgeted revenues as well as budgeted expenditures for 2005.



EXPENDITURES

General	\$ 32,975,260
Special Revenue	21,526,828
Debt Service	1,460,000
Capital Projects	16,700,800
Enterprise	15,242,687
Self Insurance	6,668,000
Trust	4,300
TOTAL	\$94,577,875



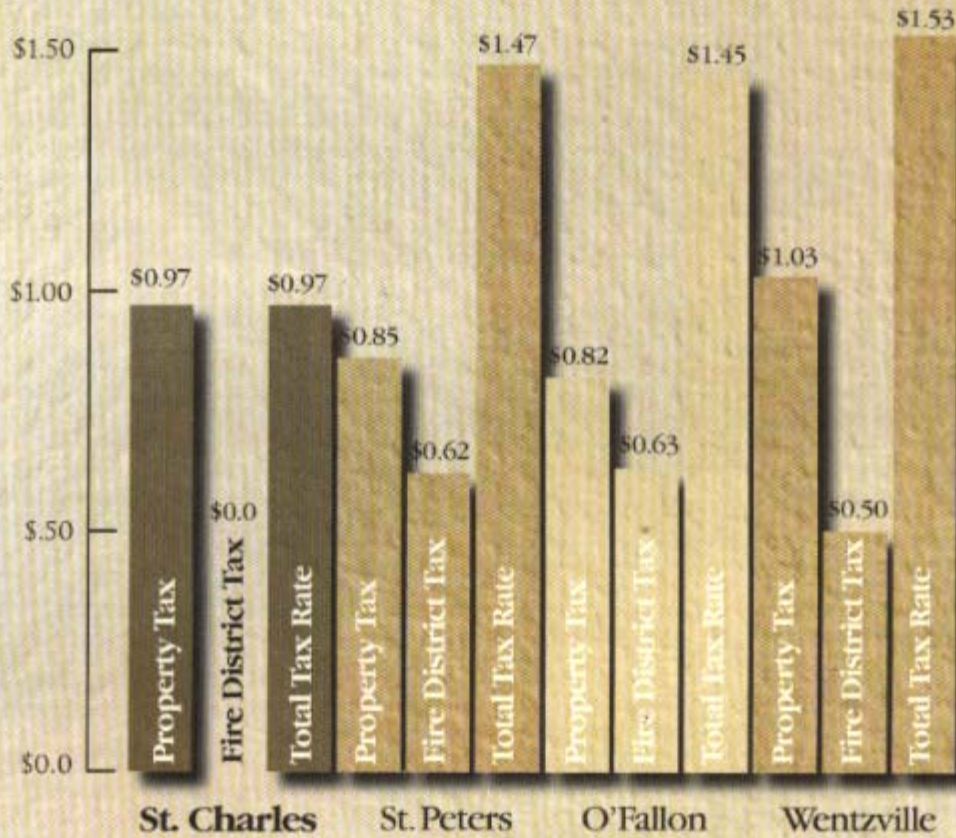
REVENUES

General	\$ 32,690,202
Special Revenue	19,456,758
Debt Service	1,482,600
Capital Projects	15,987,500
Enterprise	14,917,930
Self Insurance	7,069,940
Trust	26,100
TOTAL	\$91,631,030

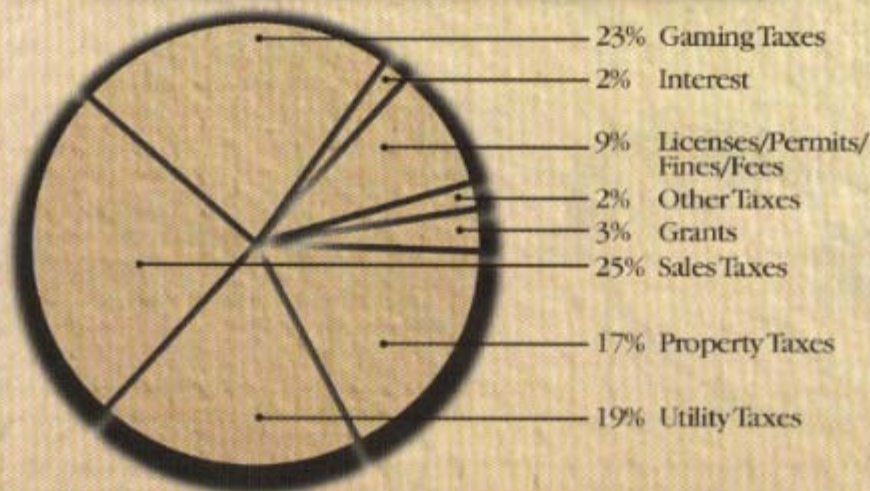
COMPARATIVE PROPERTY TAX RATES

Chart of Property Tax Comparison

Our citizens pay the lowest property taxes in St. Charles County. The City remains committed to offering our community the best in citywide services at the lowest possible tax rates.



GENERAL FUNDS REVENUES



MAJOR FUNDING SOURCES

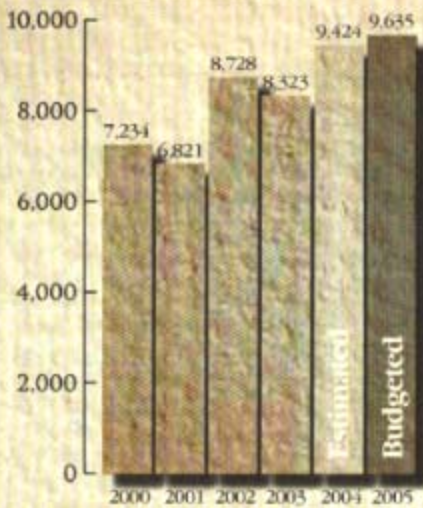
(amounts in thousands)

Chart of Major Funding Sources

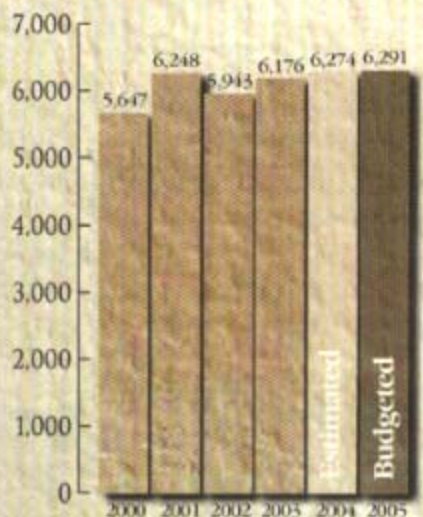
(Gaming through Utility)

The largest source of revenue for the city are those funds received from the taxes we collect ... gaming, property, sales, and utility.

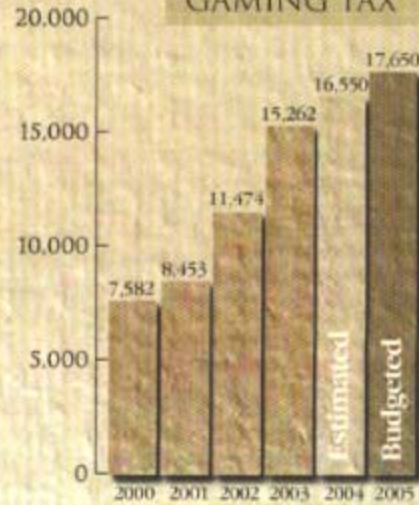
PROPERTY TAX



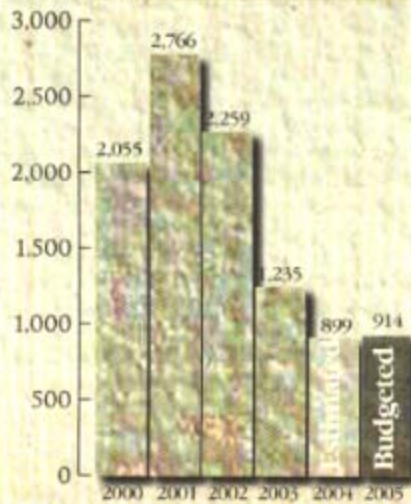
UTILITY TAX



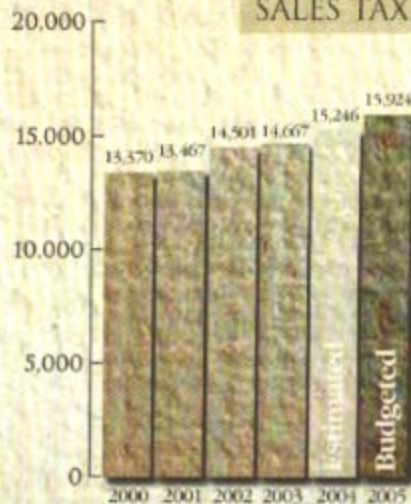
GAMING TAX



INTEREST INCOME



SALES TAX



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

St. Charles continues improving the lives of our citizens, corporate neighbors and visitors through economic development activities. We have created a business friendly environment that attracts, retains and expands investment and our business base while it enhances our City's overall quality of life. Projects recently approved, completed or currently underway include:



Ameristar Casino: The City approved plans for the casino's expansion ... a 24 floor, 400-guest room hotel and a six level parking garage for 2,000 vehicles. Ameristar operates in a highly competitive market with neighboring casinos yet consistently ranks as a top destination for gaming enthusiasts.

Lindenwood University: With on-going expansions and major improvements to its campus and sports facilities, the university is committed to its growing enrollment currently at 15,000 students. Look for a \$33 million high-tech fine and performing arts center on campus that will benefit the entire St. Charles community. The Lou Brock Sports Complex will also be expanded to include baseball and softball fields with spectator bleachers and pitching practice fields. Plans were approved by the City in 2005.



FACT:
Approximately 4,000 jobs can be found on our Main Street and riverfront, including at ACF and Ameristar Casino over 6,300 jobs are now in the Highway 370 corridor with major employers including Coca Cola, Sysco Foods, Cardinal Health, Boeing Company, Western Union, Federal Express, Crane Corp., Vi-Jon Laboratories, Millstone-Bangert, Gateway Medical, Growing Family and Craftsmen Industries.

Country Inn & Suites: The hotel opened in time to host our German Sister City of Ludwigsburg. The new facility has 80 rooms and is located on South Main at Waterworks Place in the heart of Historic St. Charles.

Major Commercial Developments: Highlights include: completion of **NEWCO's** 130,000 sq. ft. headquarters in the Fountain Lakes Commerce Center; expansion of **Craftsman Industries** on Elm Point Industrial Drive with a 73,500 sq. ft. building and 613 truck parking spaces; a 54,000 sq. ft. expansion at **Gateway Medical Research**; opening of a 190,000 sq. ft. parts distribution center by **General Motors**; ground-breaking by **MiTek Industries** a 177,000 sq. ft. manufacturing facility; **a new 16,000 sq. ft. building** for retail and office use near Bluestone and Portwest Drive; a new 12,000 sq. ft. retail building in the Cave Springs area; **a new 9,000 sq. ft. retail strip mall** and a **4,000 sq. ft. bank** at the corner of Elm Street and Fountain Lakes Boulevard; **the redevelopment of adjoining properties** in the 100 block of North Main Street for condominiums and retail space; and a **7,700 sq. ft. building** for retail and office use on Highway 94 North, south of Highway 370.

We are targeting *three major sites* for increased retail. As you know, sales tax is a huge part of the city's General Fund and, we always need additional opportunities for residents to "shop at home." For example, the Noah's Ark site was purchased this past year. You can expect an amazing development here, also making it a premiere destination for our City.

TOURISM

St. Charles Convention

Center: The City has taken our tourism efforts to the next level with our Convention Center. The new \$72.5 million, 154,000 sq. ft. facility at One Convention Center Plaza near I-70 and 5th Street held a ribbon cutting ceremony and public Open House in April. The Center, which was completed ahead of schedule and close to \$2 million under budget, is booked with conferences as far out as 2011. And, just after 6 months after opening, the Center is operating in the black.

It features spacious exhibit halls, ballrooms and meeting rooms with state of the art acoustics, communication and wireless technologies. Adjoining the Center is the *John Q. Hammons Embassy Suites Hotel* with nearly 300 guest rooms, restaurant, day spa and an additional 5,200 sq. ft. of meeting rooms.



FACT:

Approximately 1.5 million visitors came to St. Charles in 2005 with an economic impact of over \$300 million for the area; most popular events included the Festival of the Little Hills, Lewis & Clark Bicentennial, Riverfest and Christmas Traditions.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

New Town: Unveiled with great success in 2004, plans were greenlighted for the "Crescent Buildings", six buildings to surround the amphitheater in Phase One of the 700-acre development. In addition, the 121-acre Boschertown Tract was approved for 500 town homes, villas and single-family homes adjacent to New Town, adding two more phases. Our innovative New Town hosted interested visitors from as far away as China.

Several major development tracts were approved including *Parkdale Heights* for more than 700 detached and attached villas, single family residential and condominiums in a 188-acre mixed use development located on the site of the St. Charles Golf Course and *Alexandria Place*, a 64-acre mixed use development for single family homes, apartments and commercial businesses under construction near Muegge and Mexico Roads.

Riverfront Concept Plan: The plan provides the vision and guidance for future development of our historic Missouri Riverfront. It ensures City officials will seek out projects that complement and enhance this magnificent natural resource for citizens, visitors and tourists. The openings of the Foundry Art Centre and the Lewis & Clark Boathouse and Museum serve as examples of and catalysts for ongoing cultural and economic development along the riverfront. Plans also call for overlooks and a plaza in Frontier Park. Our Riverfront Development Task Force will continue to work on additional projects for this community jewel.

FACT:

We offer residents housing choices from city apartments to subdivision homes, from historic bungalows to modern lofts. With New Town and our revitalized riverfront, we are on the forefront of the "new urbanism", a national trend to re-energize city centers.



PARKS DEPARTMENT



The City of St. Charles is fortunate to have parks and recreational programs to meet the needs of our citizens. Whether a resident wants a quiet, peaceful walking trail, a sports complex field with concessions or a location for a company picnic, we offer it to them. More than 112,000 residents of all ages use our parks and/or participate in our recreational programs. From adult softball leagues to children's swimming lessons to special events like Breakfast with Santa or the Bowling Jamboree, our staff at the Parks Department is committed to making the quality of life here the best it can be.

We continually work to make our park system user friendly with improvements and new programs for the community. For instance, the playground at Blanchette Park is being replaced with play equipment featuring a climbing rock, 14-foot mega tower and a fitness court. Our innovative Eco Park will feature trails, wetlands, eco education areas and river overlooks. And, all of our aquatic centers will be receiving face-lifts.

FACT:

Our Parks and Recreation Department hosted nine major soccer tournaments and 21 softball/baseball tournaments drawing participants and spectators from around the Midwest.

FACT:

We have approximately 4,500 rentals of our park facilities during a normal year. Memorial Hall alone, was rented nearly 1,400 times for events that attracted almost 92,000 people.

FACT:

Missouri's 2004 Bicentennial Commission has recognized with its highest award the Lewis and Clark Monument in Frontier Park for its tribute to the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial.



VETERAN'S MEMORIAL



Mayor York was extremely gratified to dedicate the City's tribute to our brave and honorable military veterans. Constructed of the same black granite found in the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C., this impressive visually striking monument is surrounded by flagpoles, a reflecting pool and professional landscaping. Due to unexpected transportation delays, the monument was late in getting to its location on the Missouri Riverfront at Bishop's Landing. But, thanks to a great effort by City employees, the architect and the Integra Company who worked literally around the clock, the monument was ready for its dedication ceremony on Veteran's Day, 2005.

PUBLIC WORKS



The Public Works Department impacts the daily lives of everyone living, doing business in or visiting St. Charles. Its essential functions range from maintaining and improving the City's infrastructure to providing basic services such as drinking water and sewer systems. The department is responsible for the excellent quality of life we have come to expect. Projects recently approved, completed or currently underway include:

Road Projects: Nearly \$10 million worth of new roads have been constructed in the past year and a half. Major projects are the Zumbahl Road, Old Highway 94 and Ehlmann Road reconstructions, North Main Street Sidewalk Replacement and improvements to Convention Center intersections and the Hackman Road turn lane. Work on the 5th Street Extension was started, while future projects will focus on Elm Street and Runnymede Bridge reconstructions and Cave Springs & Mexico Road improvements.

Other major annual projects were the Street Overlay, Street Resurfacing, Alley Maintenance/Reconstruction, Crack Seal and Concrete Maintenance programs.

In-House Projects: Several in-house projects were completed. They were the 3rd and Tecumseh Streets Roundabout, First Capitol Drive Sidewalks, First Capitol Drive and West Clay Street Traffic Islands and I-70 and 5th Street Beautification.

Sanitary Sewer Projects: Approximately \$13.5 million of new improvements were made to the Mississippi Plant Trunk Line Replacement and Sanitary Sewer Aerial Crossing - Cole Creek projects. In addition, a comprehensive Sanitary Facility Plan was undertaken to ensure the quality of sewer service for the City. The study found the volume of sewage at the two existing treatment plants could increase by 97 percent over the next decade due to anticipated growth. To meet this need, five major projects have been identified at a cost of \$49 million.

FACT:

Right-of-Way and Easement Acquisitions are the most time consuming part of road and public works projects. Acquisitions were needed for the completion of ten capital projects including 12 parcels for the Ehlmann Road realignment, four parcels for the Street Alley at 2nd Street, three parcels for the Eagle Spur Storm Water and three parcels for the Bedford Hutchin Lift Station Consolidation. The land acquired was valued at \$1 million and consisted of more than 18.5 acres.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Members of the Police Department ensure the public safety of City residents and their property. Our officers are dedicated to making St. Charles a great place to live and work through multi-faceted programs of enforcement, prevention, response, preparedness, recovery and education. From participation in Major Case Squad investigations to Homeland Security training to drug education programs for elementary schools, our officers work everyday for the citizens of St. Charles. Our Mobile Reserve Team is involved in drug interdictions and specialty details while it targets high crime areas as well as particular crimes. In a year's time, our St. Charles Police Department typically handles:

- More than 200,000 phone calls
- Over 22,000 emergency 911 calls
- Approximately 36,000 police calls for service
- Nearly 900 traffic stops
- Issues over 1,000 traffic citations and warnings (DWI, DUI, speed and hazardous moving violations)



FACT:

The City totally funds the St. Charles School District's DARE Education program and School Resource Officers. A little under \$1 million a year is spent to cover program costs, es, uniforms, cars, etc.

FACT:

Our Mounted Patrol officers train police horses and their riders from departments all across Missouri.

FIRE DEPARTMENT



Responsibilities for St. Charles firefighters go well beyond their duties to fight fires. In addition our firefighters are committed to the citizens of St. Charles through fire inspection and prevention, training and emergency medical services. Whether it is a house fire, building collapse, hazardous material emergency or emergency medical call, firefighters stand ready to serve our community. As with the Police Department, the Fire Department works closely with

regional fire and law enforcement jurisdictions as well as agencies such as the American Red Cross and Homeland Security Department. St. Charles firefighters and paramedics respond annually to:

- Approximately 6,500 calls for service
- 300 fire calls
- 4,700 emergency medical assistance calls
- 1,200 emergency calls involving rescue calls, hazardous material responses, suspicious packages or substances
- Average, overall response time for a call is approximately 4 minutes, 30 seconds

FACT:

Seven of our firefighters spent nearly three weeks in New Orleans participating in urban search and rescue efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. The team, led by Fire Chief Ernie Rhodes, searched over 5,000 residences during air time in storm ravaged New Orleans.