

FALL GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY OCTOBER 28th, 1999 7:30 PM
St. Andrew United Methodist Church
3975 North Highway 67

TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS FOR NORTH COUNTY

A long-range planning study of transportation solutions for the Metro area is being sponsored by the East-West Gateway Coordinating Council and its partner agencies Bi-State Development Agency and the Missouri Department of Transportation. Six alternatives involving North County, which include new light-rail extensions, bus routes, and roadway improvements will be presented by Gary Smith of Bi-State and Larna Godwin of Vector Communications.

Refreshments

BRING YOUR NEIGHBORS/EVERYONE WELCOME

NEW BOUNDARY COMMISSION ESTABLISHED

The St. Louis County Boundary Commission was re-formed in June when a state law was adopted that would establish a new commission. Representatives from both the St. Louis County Municipal League and St. Louis County Government jointly developed all of the language of the bill which redefined the procedure for appointing members and the criteria by which the commission would operate.

The new commission will consist of eleven members. Four appointed by the County Executive, four selected by a caucus of mayors from municipalities, and three selected by a committee of municipal and county officials. There will be a two year moratorium on any new annexations, mergers or incorporations. Until July 1, 2000, cities, citizens groups and the County would have opportunity to prepare a map plan indicating their proposed intentions for the next five years. Public hearings to obtain public input will be conducted between July and December, 2000. Map plans on file by April, 2001 will become the basis for any boundary changes for the subsequent five year period. The entire planning cycle will begin again in 2006.

The concept of 'Unincorporated Zones' adopted last year is no longer effective. The exception, until last week, would have been the Paddock Area east of Florissant where residents would have had the opportunity to vote on November 2nd on whether to remain unincorporated for five years. Since the election had been scheduled prior to the new legislation being enacted, the vote was to proceed as scheduled. Last week however, a St. Louis County circuit judge stopped the vote for Nov. 2 by granting a preliminary

injunction to the City of Florissant, who opposes the election. The judge will review the constitutionality of the issue and may reschedule the vote for the April 2000 election depending upon the outcome of his review.

Association member Don Wojtkowski has been appointed to the new commission by County Executive Buzz Westfall. He is one of two commissioners reappointed from the previous boundary commission.

NEW PROJECT PLANNED ON VAILLE ROAD

The thirty four acre Frisella property on the north side of Vaille, east of Old Halls Ferry Road is being planned for residential development by McBride and Son Homes, Inc. McBride began construction of the Manors at Portland Lake Estates Addition last year. The proposed Frisella development will adjoin the Manors project and provide access to Vaille Road from the Manors. Two previous developers have withdrawn proposals for this property during the past several years when they chose not to accept the County's development criteria.

INTEREST SHOWN IN LARGE SITE ON NEW HALLS FERRY ROAD

The eighty acre site at the southeast corner of New Halls Ferry Road and Vaille was being considered during the summer for a major commercial development including a Walmart, a Kohl's, and an unnamed home improvement store (apparently Lowe's). Several factors, including the approval by the City of Florissant of a Lowe's store at the southeast corner of the Lindbergh/New Halls Ferry intersection have resulted in the apparent loss of interest by the developer, THF Realty. This large site will obviously be developed in the future. The Association has emphasized the inappropriateness of commercial development at this location. This position is reinforced by the long-standing concept of St. Louis County that New Halls Ferry Road north of Lindbergh remain a residential thoroughfare.

BELLEFONTAINE QUARRY EXPANSION RESUBMITTED

A proposal to expand Bellefontaine Quarry operations on an additional eighty acres southward along New Jamestown Road extending to Robbins Mill Road was withdrawn last year before being voted upon by the Planning Commission.

The same proposal was resubmitted to the Planning Commission this spring and was scheduled for a public hearing on July 12th. Several days prior to the hearing, the owner requested it be removed from the agenda pending their obtaining "more information". It was rescheduled for the October 18th public hearing, but again, at the owner's request was removed from the agenda. The proposal has been scheduled a third time for a public hearing on November 15th.

There continues to be opposition from area residents and the safety issue of major Laclede Gas pipelines adjacent to the quarry remains a serious concern of the Association.

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPROVED FOR JAMESTOWN NEW HORIZONS

A Conditional Use Permit (CUP) has been granted Jamestown New Horizons to construct a riding arena on their property on Old Jamestown Road, 1/2 mile north of Lindbergh. New Horizons provides therapeutic horsemanship experiences for special needs children and youth. Additional information on the services provided and the current building campaign may be obtained by calling Bonnie Grueninger at 741-5816.

CITIZENS COMMITTEE TO REVIEW SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING COLLECTION

Donna Smith, Association vice-president, has been appointed to a St. Louis County Citizens Advisory Committee to review proposed procedures for solid waste/recycling in unincorporated areas. The proposed plan would establish waste collection districts in the unincorporated county. Collection services would be contracted by the county to minimize the cost and the amount of trash collection traffic on local streets.

COUNTY CONSIDERING BILL TO PAY FOR SEWER REPAIRS

St. Louis County would pay the total cost of repairing broken sewer laterals between houses and mains (or septic tanks) in the unincorporated area beginning Jan. 1, if the County Council agrees.

In April, county voters approved a sewer lateral insurance program with a \$28 a year fee. On Thursday, a bill to establish details of the program was introduced in the County Council.

The county would pay for work on laterals. Property owners would have to submit and pay for evidence to show their laterals qualify for the work. The county would seek bids for the work from a list of qualified plumbing companies and pay the firms.

SMITH APPOINTED TO COUNTY STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Ken Smith, Association president, has been serving on the Steering Committee for the St. Louis County 1999 Strategic Plan since his appointment by County Executive Buzz Westfall in April. The County's last Strategic Plan, *Shaping the Future Together*, was completed in 1992. The purpose of the plan, which is mandated by the County Charter, is to help the County improve decision making, enhance organizational performance, increase responsiveness to the citizens, identify critical issues, and establish future priorities. Committee members represent a broad spectrum of business, governmental, municipal, and professional organizations. Smith is one of two members representing residents or resident associations. There are no members from specific municipalities. The project is coordinated by the St. Louis County Planning Department, FOCUS St. Louis and Development Strategies, Inc. The project which began in April 1998 proceeded to Public Hearings the following April, and was then followed by the appointment of the Steering Committee. Input from all sources resulted in a focus on four critical issues:

- *Reinvestment in Older Areas*
- *Services to Unincorporated Areas*
- *Traffic Congestion*
- *County's Role in the Area*

Task Forces for each of these critical areas were appointed (from within and outside of the Steering Committee) to further study each of the issues. Smith was appointed to the *Services to Unincorporated Areas* task force. The reports of the Task Forces were reported back to the Steering Committee at a meeting on September 8th. The preliminary draft of the final plan is currently being developed for public review prior to adoption by the County Council in 2000.

NORTH COUNTY SHOPPING FORUM PLANNED BY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

On Wednesday November 11th, the Florissant Valley Chamber of Commerce will host a Womens' Forum to address the issue of having to shop outside of North County for the type of clothing needed for business and well dressed men and women.

The Forum will be held at Hazelwood Central High School, 15875 New Halls Ferry Road at 7:00 P.M. The moderator will be Diana Weidinger, Executive Vice President of the Chamber.

Laurie Donovan Receives Association Outstanding Citizen Award

Laurie B. Donovan received the second annual Old Jamestown Association outstanding Citizen Award at the spring general meeting. The award is made each year to a citizen who has contributed to the quality of life in North St. Louis County. Laurie served 14 years in the Missouri House of Representatives for the 72nd district. A native of Syracuse, New York, she is married to William P. Donovan, and the mother of four sons. She has served as a former faculty member of Syracuse University and University of Missouri-St. Louis. She has been an active proponent of her district and has a special interest in the advocacy of the physically and mentally ill. Recently retired, Laurie continues her advocacy work and promotion of North County.

Last year's recipient was Dr. Elmer Belsha who spent his 37 year career with the Jennings School District and later as Executive Director of North County Inc.

Association on Panel of St. Norbert Town Hall Forum

Ken Smith represented the Association as a panel member at the St. Norbert Town Hall Forum held on August 9th. The meeting was sponsored by the Social Concerns Commission at St. Norbert to discuss topics of concern in the community related to safety, school districts, community organizations, the housing market, diversity, and retail business. The panel of six represented St. Louis County Police, Coldwell Banker, Hazelwood School District, North County Inc., the Old Jamestown Association and a community resident. The meeting was open to the public and attended by approximately 150 persons.

Fort Belle Fontaine Historical Society Seeks Members

The Fort Belle Fontaine Historical Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the improvement, recognition, and rediscovery of the 190 year old historic Fort site and the Bissell House Museum. Built in 1805 on a low plain near the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers, Fort Belle Fontaine was the first U.S. military post located in the newly acquired Louisiana Territory. It soon became a command and supply center for subsequent forts built during the westward expansion of the United States. Many of those forts have been restored. Fort Belle Fontaine is owned and operated by the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation. With the support and assistance of the Society, exploration has recently begun at Fort Belle Fontaine. Over 100 members contribute their time, energy and money to bring the objectives of improvement, recognition, and rediscovery of the Fort to a reality. Additional information is available by calling the Bissell House Museum at (314)-888-0973.

Directors Elected for Three Year Term

Three Directors were elected at the April meeting to serve a three year term until May 2002. John Flanders and Lorraine Rickelman, both current Directors, were elected to a third term. Jackie Coates was elected to a first term.

Jackie has lived at 17250 Old Jamestown Road for 28 years with her husband Charles where as a homemaker has raised three children and now has three grandchildren and one great grandchild. She volunteers in the emergency room at Christian Hospital Northeast. As an advocate of North County, she appreciates the present and feels strongly about the future of the area but is concerned with the negative image projected by the media. She and William have been members since the Association reorganized in 1987.

Association Officers Elected for 1999/2000

The following officers were elected at the Directors Meeting on May 18th and will serve until May 2000.

Ken Smith - President

John Flanders - Treasurer