ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, October 15, 2025 – 8:15 A.M.

Training Room - 210
Blue Springs City Hall
903 W Main St.
Blue Springs, Missouri

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Confirmation of Quorum
3. Approval of August 20, 2025 Minutes
4. City Council Strategic Plan Presentation – George Schmitz
5. Updates on Economic Development position
6. Downtown streetscape updates
7. Board Strategic Planning and Discussion
8. Adjournment

Posted Monday, October 13, 2025 at City Hall, 903 W Main Street, Blue Springs, MO and on the City's website. A quorum of the City Council may be in attendance; however, no City Council votes will be taken.

BLUE SPRINGS

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STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-2030

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Strategic Plan 2025

The City of Blue Springs' Strategic Plan is the culmination of a ten-month process, working collaboratively with the Mayor and City Council, City staff, community leaders, and residents to create a framework to help guide the City's decisions, investments, and priorities for the next five years.

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What is a Strategic Plan

- At its core, a Strategic Plan is a living document that guides decision making.
- But it is more than just a document – a Strategic Plan is a roadmap for how City leadership can work together, stay aligned, and deliver results that matter to the people of Blue Springs.

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Why a Strategic Plan

- The City of Blue Springs is growing and evolving and with that growth comes the need for a clear and intentional strategy to guide the future.
- The **strategic priorities, goals, and objectives** provide a framework for focused effort and meaningful progress.

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Mission and Vision Statements

- Mission: Why do we exist?
- Vision: Where are we headed?
- A clear mission keeps everyone focused on what matters most, while a compelling vision provides a shared picture of our future.

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Mission Statement

The City provides services that promote a safe and welcoming environment, support sustainable growth, and strengthen community for today and tomorrow.

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Vision Statement

Blue Springs is a growing community with the heart of a small-town, driven by big opportunities and a commitment to a high quality of life for all.

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Strategic Priorities

- What are the focus areas to move toward the City's vision?
- These strategic priorities are being given focus because they were identified as being the most important areas for opportunity and improvement via the community and employee engagement

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Strategic Priorities

- Downtown Revitalization
- Balanced Growth
- Community Identity
- Infrastructure
- Community Safety and Wellbeing
- Organizational Health

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Downtown Revitalization

Continue to develop Downtown to be a destination for the entire Blue Springs community with a variety of residential housing opportunities and diverse dining, entertainment, and retail.

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Downtown Revitalization

Objectives:

- Improve streetscapes to create a pedestrian-friendly environment.
- Develop Central Park to offer recreational gathering areas Downtown.
- Encourage and support higher density residential units to attract new residents Downtown.
- Foster a business-friendly environment where a mix of commercial uses is incorporated throughout Downtown.
- Promote redevelopment of underutilized and incompatible properties to implement the City's Downtown Master Plan.
- Utilize grants, the Main Center Redevelopment Corporation Policy, and other funding opportunities to further incentivize different types of development.

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Balanced Growth

Expand and grow the City strategically and thoughtfully for residents and businesses to adequately prepare to accommodate growth.

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Balanced Growth

Objectives:

- Complete the Comprehensive Plan Update to guide the City's development, infrastructure investment, housing, public services and land use to help ensure coordinated and efficient growth.
- Strategically annex properties to accommodate future residential and commercial amenities and employment opportunities.
- Complete a housing needs assessment to identify gaps or needed housing options to help ensure all residents (future and current) can move to or remain in the City throughout their lives.

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Balanced Growth

- Enhance and individualize the redevelopment process to make it easier to reuse and redevelop vacant and underutilized properties.
- Proactively identify areas that are appropriate for various types of land uses to help ensure adequate services and infrastructure are in place.
- Develop and update design guidelines and regulations for industrial, commercial and all types of residential development to achieve high-quality and long-lasting attractiveness of corridors and neighborhoods.
- Update Building Codes and Property Maintenance Codes so that safety and property values are maintained.

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Balanced Growth

- Create an Economic Development Work Plan to attract, promote, support and retain businesses and strengthen relationships with the business community.
- Complete the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan Update to guide future park improvements across the City.

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Community Identity

Enhance community engagement and identity by developing a comprehensive brand that reflects the unique culture and assets of Blue Springs.

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Community Identity

Objectives:

- Develop and implement a comprehensive brand identity that clearly articulates and celebrates the unique culture of Blue Springs and highlights the assets of the community to help ensure consistency across all City operations.
- Regularly update the Resident Guide for visitors and all residents by providing helpful information on community offerings, City services, and neighborhood connections.
- Provide residents meaningful volunteer opportunities that encourage civic pride.
- Update the City's website as an effective means to communicate with and inform the community about accomplishments, roles and responsibilities and progress toward strategic initiatives.

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Infrastructure

Build and maintain infrastructure to provide safe and reliable services.

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Infrastructure

Objectives:

- Prepare a 20-year preventive street maintenance plan to establish a proactive approach to pavement repair, pothole prevention, and maintenance.
- Create a Street Capital Improvement Plan to prepare for future growth and funding opportunities.
- Prepare a water system study of the City's water system to address aging infrastructure and future capacity needs.
- Prepare a sewer system study to assess current conditions, evaluate system capacity, identify needs, and support regulatory compliance.
- Design and construct Sni-A-Bar Plan improvements to meet the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements.
- Partner with Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDoT) on traffic mitigation projects to reduce congestion on 7 Highway.

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Infrastructure

- Monitor and stay current with evolving technologies to effectively provide services.
- Encourage approaches to sustainability and green energy when updating City facilities and buildings.
- Development of Southwest Park to address service gaps in Southern Blue Springs.
- Prepare a stormwater maintenance plan to improve drainage capacity, reduce flood risk and enhance water quality.
- Develop a comprehensive plan to maintain buildings to help ensure long term functionality, safety and relevance.

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Community Safety and Wellbeing

Maintain a safe environment where people feel and are secure.

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Community Safety and Wellbeing

Objectives:

- Use developing technologies, equipment, systems and facilities to address safety and reduce incidents of crime.
- Expand outreach programs to increase community engagement and help residents take proactive steps to protect themselves, their property, and their neighborhood.
- Create a plan for an Animal Control shelter to support the safety of people and animals.
- Increase police staffing levels and retention efforts to meet population growth and call load.
- Identify, coordinate, and create resources to provide easy access and support for vulnerable populations.

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Organizational Health

Create an environment that encourages collaboration, teamwork, integrity and accountability to empower staff to deliver exceptional service for the Community.



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Organizational Health

Objectives:

- Leverage modern technology and system capabilities to improve operations.
- Invest in personnel, training, equipment, technology and professional education to enhance the delivery of public services and support professional growth.
- Create opportunities for cross-department collaboration to reduce silos and enhance communication.
- Strengthen continuity of operations by documenting key processes and implementing knowledge transfer practices.
- Prioritize a safe working environment by supporting a proactive Safety Committee that identifies risks, promotes safe work practices and helps to ensure all employees have the tools and training needed to help prevent injuries.
- Elevate a culture that celebrates wins, recognizes significant achievements, and promotes employee engagement and wellness.

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What's Next

- A dedicated implementation team comprised of City leadership, department directors, staff, and external partners will oversee the translation of strategic goals into action steps.
- This team will track progress, manage timelines, and adapt as needed to ensure that every initiative remains aligned with community priorities.
- The City will also host annual review sessions with the Mayor and City Council to assess the outcomes, identify emerging issues, and adjust the Plan as necessary.

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Blue Springs residents can expect to see meaningful progress this year in areas such as infrastructure improvements, downtown revitalization, economic development, public safety initiatives, and enhancements to quality of life.

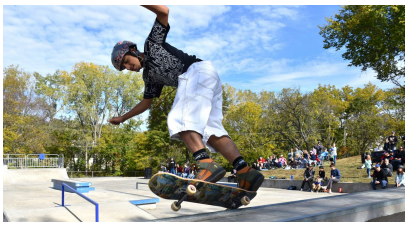
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The shared vision we've built together will serve not only as a guide but as a commitment: we will grow intentionally, act collaboratively, and strive to deliver results that make residents proud to call **Blue Springs home.**

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