



## **WEEKLY CAPITOL UPDATE**

Monday, January 23rd, 2023

### **GOVERNOR PROPOSES \$50.53 BILLION BUDGET**

Gov. Mike Parson on Jan. 18 proposed a \$50.53 billion state operating budget for the 2024 fiscal year that relies significantly on Missouri's current \$6 billion surplus. Parson unveiled his budget plan as part of his annual State of the State address before a joint session of the Missouri General Assembly.

**An \$859 million proposal to rebuild and widen certain high-volume stretches of Interstate 70 provided the centerpiece for the governor’s speech. The plan calls for expanding three key sections of I-70 – east from Kansas City to Odessa, west from St. Louis to Warrenton and several miles both east and west of Columbia – from four lanes to six.**

Further details of the I-70 plan were unclear. Since the Missouri Constitution restricts lawmakers to appropriating funding for no more than two fiscal years and the project is anticipated to take much longer than that, Parson’s ability to fulfill his commitment to it is somewhat questionable as he will leave office in January 2025, and the next governor could have different funding priorities.

**The governor’s budget calls for significantly increasing overall spending from the \$47.12 billion originally appropriated for FY 2023, which runs through June 30. Relying on the surplus, Parson’s plan calls for a 16.3% increase in general revenue spending over current levels – from \$12.08 billion in FY 2023 to \$14.06 billion in FY 2024 – even though budget officials now expect general revenue collections for the upcoming fiscal year to increase just 0.7%.**

General revenue is the state’s most flexible funding source as it doesn’t come with limitations on how it can be spent, unlike federal funds or constitutionally earmarked taxes. The new tax cuts are expected to cumulatively reduce general revenue

collections by about \$2 billion a year once fully implemented.

Parson's budget priorities include "fully funding" both the formula for distributing basic state aid to local public schools and the state's share of local student transportation costs, although the state has "moved the goalposts" on what is considered "fully funding" the formula for distributing basic state aid to public schools.

**His budget proposal also includes \$56 million to expand pre-kindergarten programs for 4-year-olds and \$78 million for additional child care subsidies. He also proposed a 7% core funding increase for public colleges and universities, which he said would be the largest in 25 years.**

Many Democrats, who for years championed many of the initiatives the governor now backs, offered praise for Parson's plan.

**One particular proposal with strong Democrat support is an additional \$22 million to improve staffing and resources for the troubled Children's Division of the Missouri Department of Social Services, which for years has suffered from excessive caseloads and high staff turnover.**

Although the annual budget process begins with the governor presenting his plan, the legislature is free to accept, modify or ignore his various funding requests in the coming months as it crafts the appropriations bills that make up the state operating budget. Lawmakers face a May 5 constitutional deadline for final passage of those bills.

The 2024 fiscal year starts July 1.

## **VIVEK MALEK SWORN IN AS TREASURER**

Republican Vivek Malek was sworn-in as the state's 48<sup>th</sup> state treasurer on Jan. 17, becoming the first person of color in state history to hold one of Missouri's six elected statewide executive branch offices. Gov. Mike Parson appointed Malek to the post to fill a vacancy.

**Malek, 45, was born and grew up in India but moved to Cape Girardeau in 2001 to attend graduate school at Southeast Missouri State University. He currently resides in Wildwood and owns a law practice specializing in immigration issues. He will step away from the firm while serving as treasurer.**

Malek replaces fellow Republican Scott Fitzpatrick, who resigned Jan. 9 after winning election in November as state auditor. Malek waited eight days to take over as treasurer in order to avoid triggering a quirk of the calendar that would have caused the partial term left by Fitzpatrick's departure to count for Malek as a full term under term limits.

Malek will serve the remainder of Fitzpatrick's term, which runs until early January 2025. Malek plans to seek election to a full term as treasurer in 2024, and if reelected will be eligible to seek another term.

**His swearing-in marked the third straight week a new statewide official took the oath of office in Missouri, following Fitzpatrick the prior week and Attorney General Andrew Bailey the week before that. Parson appointed Bailey to replace Eric Schmitt, who resigned early this month after being elected to the U.S. Senate.**

# Jackson County

## BUDGET PUBLIC HEARINGS



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The Jackson County Budget Committee is hosting two separate public input sessions regarding the Jackson County 2023 proposed budget. This is an opportunity for the public to engage with the budget committee and make your voices heard. Details regarding the public input sessions are below:

***Tuesday, January 24th***  
***Mid-Continent Public Library***  
***150 NW Oldham Parkway,***  
***Lee's Summit, MO 64081***  
***6:00 PM***

*and*

***Thursday, January 26th***  
***Mid-Continent Public Library***  
***453E Red Bridge Road,***  
***Kansas City, MO 64131***  
***6:00 PM***

We encourage all Jackson County residents to attend!

Those in attendance will have five minutes to testify to ensure we successfully obtain testimony from as many people as possible. Questions can be directed to Rebeca Amezcua-Hogan.

*If you wish to provide testimony, please  
RSVP by contacting Rebeca Amezcua-Hogan at  
ramezcua-hogan@jacksongov.org or 816-881-3466.*





APPLY  
TODAY!

# COHORT 12

## Neighborhood Leadership Training

UMKC - Center for Neighborhoods

Spring 2023

If you are active in your neighborhood organization the Center for Neighborhood's Cohort Neighborhood Leadership Training can help you develop crucial community-building skills.

Cohort 12 will be a **FREE**, 12-week series of classes, workshops, and fellowship **occurring between February 25th and May 20th**.

Tuesday night regular sessions will focus on our Four Pillars of Neighborhood Vitality; Leadership + Governance, Health + Safety, Planning + Development, and Communications + Technology. Three Saturday workshops will include hands-on lessons in a UMKC computer lab and asset-walk training in a nearby neighborhood.

**Tuesday evening classes are held weekly with dinner served at 5:00 PM and classwork beginning at 5:30 PM.**

**Saturday workshops are usually scheduled 10 AM – 12 PM.**

**The deadline to apply is midnight on January 31st.**

We hope you'll join us this spring!

[Click Here to apply today!](#)

**Formula Distribution!!**

CHC and Cradle KC are a formula distribution site! We have a variety of infant formula available. If we do not have the type of formula you need, we can request it.

Scan the QR code to submit your request

contact us at 913-371-9298 if you have questions

Cradle **kc** CHC Community Health Council of Wyandotte County



# KIDS EAT FREE



## MEAL DISTRIBUTION

- CHILDREN DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT -

**UNITED BELIEVERS COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
**5600 E. 112 TERRACE, KCMO 64134**  
**FRIDAY'S 3PM - 6PM**

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT 314.701.7245 OR EMAIL US  
AT [KIDSEATFREE@INFLUENCECHURCH.COM](mailto:KIDSEATFREE@INFLUENCECHURCH.COM)

*\*THIS SITE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER*



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## South KC Food Pantries

South Kansas City is fortunate to have several food pantries to help less-fortunate residents have enough healthy food to eat. These include:

**Community Assistance Council**, 10901 Blue Ridge Blvd. on the north end of the Ruskin High School campus, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Persons should call 816-763-3277, ext. 100, or email [info@cackc.org](mailto:info@cackc.org) for appointments or questions.

**Red Bridge Area Food Pantry**, 100 W. Red Bridge Rd. in the First Baptist Church of Kansas City, from 10 a.m. to noon on the third Saturday each month. Persons must call 816-908-7800 for appointments by the prior Wednesday.

Harvesters (the community food network) brings the semi-truck that serves as its mobile food pantry to seven sites in south Kansas City monthly to distribute fresh produce and other healthy food to families in need. The sites are:

**Center School District**, 8701 Holmes Rd., from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. as long as food is left on the first Saturday of the month. Persons should drive through the bus parking lot to the district warehouse. The event is sponsored by Three Trails Community church in partnership with the Center School District.

**Center District Warehouse**, 8701 Holmes Rd., from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. the second Friday of each month. Persons should go to the entrance to the Center Administrative Office and drive through the bus parking lot to the warehouse where volunteers will load the food. Persons should take the Troost Ave exit. The event is sponsored by the Center Education Foundation in partnership with the Center School District.

**Evangel Church**, 1414 E. 103<sup>rd</sup> St., from 7 to 8:30 a.m. the second Saturday of the month. Persons may remain in their vehicles, and food will be brought to them.

**United Believers Community Church**, 5600 E. 112th Terr., with vehicles lining up at 8:30 a.m. and contactless food distribution running from 9 to 11 a.m. the third Wednesday of the month.

**Ruskin High School**, 7000 E. 111<sup>th</sup> St., from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month. Vehicles should line up on Ruskin Way on the east side of the school, and staff and students will load the food when vehicles reach the school.

**Colonial Presbyterian Church**, 9500 Wornall Rd., with registration beginning at 8 a.m. and food distribution running from about 8:30 to 10 a.m. on the third Saturday of the month. Families are asked to bring two cardboard boxes for volunteers to put the food in.

**Red Bridge United Methodist Church**, 636 E. 117<sup>th</sup> St., from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. on the fourth Friday of the month in the church parking lot.



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**TIPS HOTLINE**

**816-474-8477**



**WEB TIPS**

**KcCrimestoppers.com**



**FREE MOBILE APP**

**P3Tips.com**



*State Representative Mark A. Sharp*

**Missouri House of Representatives**

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**Phone**

**573-751-9469**

**Email**

**[mark.sharp@house.mo.gov](mailto:mark.sharp@house.mo.gov)**

**Please don't hesitate to contact me  
with any feedback, questions or ideas!**