



City Council Study Session Minutes

March 24, 2025 6:00 PM

Council Chambers - 111 E. Maple Ave.

PRESENTATIONS

1. FIFA World Cup Advisory Committee Update

Samantha Morris, Chief of Emergency Operations and Eileen Weir, Chairperson of the FIFA Advisory Committee, gave a presentation on this item.

The FIFA World Cup will take place Thursday, June 11, 2026 through Sunday, July 19, 2026. This event occurs every 4 years and in 2026 the World Cup will return to the US for the second time since 1994.

In 1994, ticket sales were 3,587,538. There were 9 venues that hosted 52 events.

This is the first event ever to be jointly hosted by 16 cities and 3 countries, the United States, Mexico and Canada.

This is the first-ever tournament to feature 12 groups, 48 teams, 39+ days, and 104 matches.

The 2026 World Cup venues are:

Vancouver, BC, Canada

Lumen Field, Seattle

Levi's Stadium, San Francisco

Sofi Stadium, Los Angeles

At&T Stadium, Dallas

NRG Stadium, Houston

Estadio Akron, Guadalajara, Mexico

BMO Field, Toronto Canada

Arrowhead Stadium, Kansas City

Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta

Hard Rock Stadium, Miami

Lincoln Financial Stadium, Philadelphia

Met Life Stadium, New York
Gillette Stadium, Boston
Estadio BBVA Bancomer, Monterrey, Mexico
Estadio Azteca, Mexico City, Mexico

Kansas City will host events on June 16th, June 20th, June 25th, June 27th, July 3rd and July 11th

Who will be there?

650,000 VISITORS*
FIFA Officials
FIFA Contractual Guests
Sponsors
Media Rights Licensees
Member associations, committees
FIFA Invited Guests •
Heads of State/Government,
Otherstate/government officials
Dignitaries
Sports, Business, Entertainment Celebrities
Ticketed Fans
Non-ticketed Fans

Three main areas of focus for our FIFA Committee:

Policy
Communications
Events and Celebrations

2. Chapter 3 Code Changes: Reckless Owner and Commercial Breeding

This item is sponsored by Councilmember Fears and Councilmember Wiley and was presented by Christina Heinen, Director of Health and Animal Services.

Potential changes to Chapter 3 of the City Code.

9 violations of the chapter in 24-mo OR
3 violations of 3.02.009: Abuse/Neglect
Owned animals surrendered

Commercial Breeding
Makes it illegal to operate a commercial breeding kennel within City limits
Requires hobby/show breeders to obtain a license for breeding
Limits number of litters each year

Requires microchipping and immunizations

Change in age for number of pets

All dogs and cats over 3 months of age now count towards total number of pets

3. GO Bond Questions Summary Review

Zach Walker, City Manager for the City of Independence gave a presentation on this topic.

On April 8th, voters will vote on this General Obligation Bond.

What is a General Obligation (GO) Bond?

- Authorized by Missouri Constitution and State Statute to borrow money to pay for construction projects.
- Secured by the full faith, credit, and taxing power of the City.
- Repaid through property taxes.
- Must be repaid in 20 years.
- Fiscal impact phased in over time as bonds are issued.
- Commonly used by cities in Missouri.

Strategic Planning

- 2016 Deferred Maintenance Report
- Four Unique Strategic Plans 2017-2025 (Res. 6186, 6647, 6902,)
- DRCC Plan
- 2016, 2018, 2023 Citizen Surveys

Citizen's Advisory Committee

- 21 appointed members appointed 8/5/24 (Res. 7031)
- Met 5 times to evaluate and deliberate bond needs.
- Presented recommendation to City Council 11/12/24.

City Council Action

Met 11/19/24 to review committee recommendations.

- Adopted Ordinance 19638 on 12/16/24 calling for GO Bond election.
- Adopted Res. 7084 on 1/6/25 to provide additional detail on bond proceeds for each spending category as well as oversight provisions.

Total GO Bond Package - \$197M

Question 1 - Public Safety - \$130M

Justice Center - \$123M

IPD Demolition and Site Preparation - \$4M

Animal Shelter - \$3M

Question 2 - Roads, Bridges and Sidewalks - \$55M

Roads - \$30M

Bridges and Culverts - \$15M

Sidewalks - \$10M

Question 3 - Historic Sites and Parks - \$12M

Historic Sites - \$7M

Athletic Complex - \$5M

Jackson County Senior Property Tax Credit This information is intended to inform Independence residents and should not be considered as advocacy or campaigning.

Q. Will seniors be exempt from the property tax increase associated with passage of the GO Bond?

A. Seniors who apply and qualify for the Senior Property Tax Credit program will receive a tax credit in 2026 that will offset any increase in 2025, whatever the reason for the increase, including passage of any of the three GO Bond questions.

What if We Wait?

- Non-residential buildings inflation 30-year average: 4.7%
- 2022 non-residential buildings inflation: 12.8% (highest since 1980-81)
- Non-building infrastructure inflation 30-year average: 3.9%
- The need is not going away.
- The cost is increasing.

Accountability and Transparency

- Funds must be spent on the projects listed in the ballot questions according to state law.
- Quarterly reports to audit and finance committees.
- City will issue an annual report detailing how GO Bond funds have been spent.
- Regular report to various tax commissions.

Election Information

- Three questions on the ballot
- Must pass by a 57% - not a simple majority
- Election Day is April 8, 2025
- Only City of Independence residents

INFORMATION ONLY

1. ***Please Note:*** In accordance with RSMo. 610.021, the City Council may convene in an Executive Session during or after the meeting, in the Council Chambers and move to Conference Room D for the closed meeting, on matters of litigation, legal action, and/or attorney client communications, as permitted by Sec. 610.021(1), on matters of personnel, as permitted by Sec. 610.021(3) and personnel records, as permitted by 610.021(13), on matters of contracts, as permitted by 610.021(12), on matters of real

estate, as permitted by 610.021(2) and/or matters of labor negotiations, as permitted by 610.021(9).