

The Future of Roe Boulevard—Roe 2020

2. Spring 2018-Preliminary Design

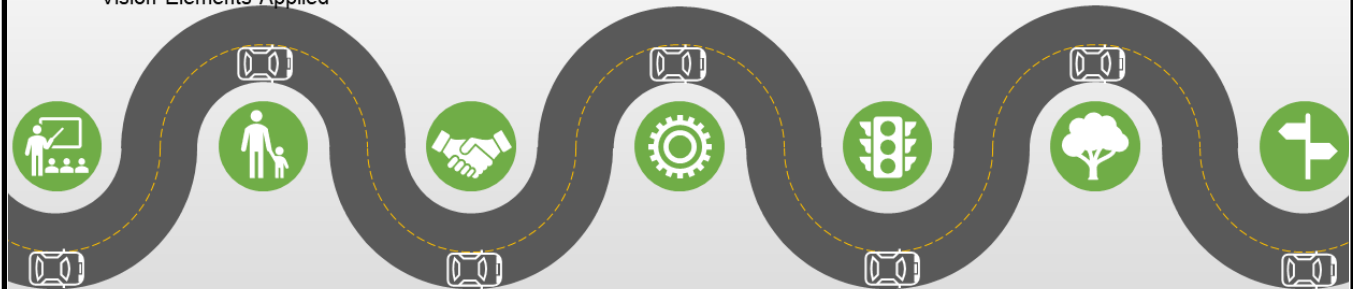
- Utility coordination
- Field Check plans submitted to KDOT
- Vision Elements Applied

4. Summer 2019 – Utility Relocation

- Water, wastewater, telecom, gas and electric utilities are completing work and relocating to prepare for construction.

6. Winter 2019-Project Bidding

- Project will go to bid to select contractor for project construction



1. Spring 2017-Visioning

- Advisory Committee of citizens, business owners, and elected officials met to work out the vision of the new Roe Blvd.

3. Spring 2019-Construction Easement Acquisition

- Environmental Review & Approval
- Hire Donoho Appraisals to acquire easements

5. Fall 2019 – Final Design

- Council approves final design elements and features.

7. Spring 2020 – Project Construction

- Construction begins for Roe Boulevard

Since 2017, City staff and officials have been preparing for a major overhaul of Roe Boulevard from Johnson Drive north to the City limits. Improvements include a new 8 foot sidewalk on the west side of Roe through the City, resurfacing the roadway, new ADA accessibility and pedestrian safety features, gateway art, and landscape features. The Roe 2020 project aims to help unify the east and west sides of the city with a safer, more accessible Roe Blvd for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles alike. When complete, the Roe 2020 project will be the largest capital improvement project in Roeland Park history with a total investment of \$9.56 million, of which 66% is grant-funded.

Roe Boulevard will remain open to traffic throughout the project. Construction will occur in phases starting with storm sewer reconstruction. Final project phasing plans are being developed and we will provide more information closer to construction. For more project details, visit www.roelandpark.net.



Proposed gateway element for the Roe Boulevard Redesign project.

Also In This Issue...

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- Interview with Jorge Blanco
- Bee Careful of Pesticides
- City Planning Efforts—Planning Sustainable Places & Comprehensive Plan Update
- Citywide Leaf Collection Recap
- Off-Leash Options for Dog Owners

Introducing...



The Coleman Family

Joe and Shelby Coleman with their dogs Milo (left) and Rumble (right)

Resident Spotlight

Shelby and Joe Coleman moved to Roeland Park the Summer of 2018, shortly after getting married. Originally from Oklahoma they moved to the area for Joe's medical residency at Children's Mercy. They chose Roeland Park for their first home because of the safe neighborhoods, proximity to the highway, multiple nearby grocery stores, dog friendliness and overall quiet nature of the area.

"Everyone has been so friendly," said Shelby. "It is extremely peaceful and quiet. We love that we can walk to our vet, Lowe's and are in close proximity to just about anything we need."

The couple chose a four bedroom, two bath home with a basement; a new concept for the Oklahoma natives. They are looking forward to finishing the basement, putting up a new fence for their active pups, adding a deck and landscaping the yard. They enjoy walking their two dogs Rumble and Milo where they encounter many friendly pet owners. They love the Roeland Park Aquatic Center and plan to remain in the City for at least five years. If you see the Colemans about, say hi and welcome them to Roeland Park!

Police Department Summer Safety Tips - By Officer Trevor Harrison

Summer is a great time for family vacations. While most people want to get out of the house and go have fun, burglars are looking for ways to get in. They know that many residents will be traveling and may use the opportunity to their advantage.

Here is a list of 12 important tips to keep your family and property safe this summer.

1. **Don't open the door for strangers:** If you don't know the person, don't open your door. Simply tell them you're not interested through the door and ask them to leave. This tells them that someone is home. Avoid simply ignoring them, as they may knock on the door just to see if anyone is there.
2. **Tell the police you're going out of town:** RPPD offers a *house watch program*, where we keep an extra eye on your house if we know you're out of town. You can fill out a form on our website, www.roelandpark.net.
3. **But don't tell social media:** Avoid announcing your upcoming vacation and don't share travel photos while you're out. It's tempting, but this broadcasts that you're not home.
4. **Use outdoor lighting:** Good exterior lighting at your doors and windows can illuminate burglars and encourage them to move on. Or, they'll help neighbors spot them at your door. Consider motion sensors and timer lights outdoors, especially at your front door.
5. **Ask neighbors for help:** Ask a neighbor to check in on your home while you're traveling. They can turn lights on and off, check your mail, open or close blinds, turn on your TV and even park in your driveway so it looks like someone is home. Ask them to pull your trash and recycling out and put it back along with the rest of the neighborhood.
6. **Don't change anything major for a trip:** If you normally keep your curtains and blinds open, don't shut them up just before you leave, as it's a clear message to burglars that you're not home. It's a good idea, however, to hide any valuables that might be spotted from a window.
7. **Keep up with your lawn:** Mow just before you go or hire a lawn service to take care of your grass while you're gone. Tall grass is a sure sign that no one is home to take care of it.
8. **Turn lights on and off:** Use a light switch timer or home automation to have lights turn on and off automatically on a schedule. Burglars watching your home will notice that lights are flipped on and off and likely assume that someone is home.
9. **Put a hold on your mail and newspaper:** Burglars look for mail and newspapers piled up to tell them the family isn't home. Put a stop order or vacation hold on them and have them delivered when you return.
10. **Keep your doors and windows locked:** When the weather heats up, many home owners open windows. That may be fine when you're home, but it's important that you still remember to close them when you go to bed or leave.
11. **Keep your valuables hidden:** If a burglar is able to gain access to your home, they'll quickly look for easy to pocket valuables. Hide jewelry, firearms, and other valuables in inconspicuous spots. Keep in mind that burglars are likely to hit your master bedroom and living room first rather than secondary bedrooms, bathrooms, or even your garage.
12. **Invest in home automation features:** Even if you don't have a home security system, home automation can keep your house safer. You can control lights, TVs, radios, and more to make it look like you're home. You may even be able to, view live videos, get alerts, and answer your doorbell with a video chat.



A City on the Move! Planning for the Future of Roeland Park

Planning Sustainable Places Project

Thanks to the Planning Sustainable Places (PSP) Initiative grant from the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), the City of Roeland Park is working with a consultant to reimagine the future of the Roe Boulevard and Johnson Drive commercial corridors. The goal of the PSP project is to help the City explore transportation network improvements and enhance the quality of life and support long-term community growth. The City's consultant, Confluence, has led the process and created a task force that consists of members of the Governing Body, City and MARC staff, Planning Commissioners, residents and property owners/managers in the study area. Corridor plan goals include:

Roe Blvd & 48th St/Skyline Dr:

- Improve community center access
- Enhance transit & multi-modal opportunities
- Envision future development potential

Johnson Drive:

- Envision future redevelopment potential
- Enhance transit & multi-modal opportunities
- Explore Johnson Dr Streetscape integration

The Council is scheduled to adopt a plan in August. For more information on the plan, please visit www.roelandpark.net.

Comprehensive Plan Update

The comprehensive plan is the City's primary planning document and is designed to guide future actions of the community on land-use and reflects long-range goals for all activities in the City. In essence, it defines how we want our City to look in the future. Roeland Park is set to update its Comprehensive Plan starting in the fall of 2019. The process will include several public meetings. This is your opportunity as residents to help guide the direction of our community. Help us determine the future of Roeland Park and join us at a public meeting. If you would like to be on a list to be notified about our Comp Plan update, please email jjoneslacy@roelandpark.org.



City sells property at northeast Johnson and Roe

The Council approved the sale of 2.7 acres of city-owned real estate referred to as Northeast RJ at a special council meeting on July 1st. The developer SMG Investments LLC purchased the property for just over \$1.2 million and plans to construct a 30,000 square foot, two-story medical office facility. No incentives were included in the sale agreement.

The developer will need to go through the development process with both the Cities of Roeland Park and Mission, as a small portion of the property is inside Mission's corporate limits. Citizens will be notified of future public hearings and meetings on the development.



2020 Budget

The process of developing the 2020 Budget is well underway and the public hearing for the budget is set for August 5th. 2020 is a big year for the City, key components of the proposed budget currently include

- \$8.2 million for Roe Blvd Construction and permanent restrooms in R Park
- Anticipated issuance of \$2 million in bonds for Parks & Recreation projects
- \$800k to start construction for Aquatic Center enhancements
- \$935k to complete pavilion
- Flat city mill levy of 28.531 mills
- A new Parks & Recreation Superintendent position with anticipation of City taking over management of the Aquatic Center in 2021

Full details of the City's proposed budget can be found on the City website. Email questions to jjoneslacy@roelandpark.org.



**Roeland Park, Westwood
and the Unified Government
Join Forces with the Business
Community to Host Inaugu-
ral Foodie Fest**

Residents and visitors alike are invited to the inaugural Neighborhood Foodie Fest at the southwest corner of 47th Street and Mission Road (across from Taco Republic). The event will kick off branding of The 47, the business district along 47th Street and Rainbow. The Foodie Fest will feature food, drink, live music, kids activities and more! This is a free event with food and drink available for purchase.

Make your Sunday a Funday and join us as we celebrate The 47 and all the delicious-ness it has to offer! More details to come at facebook.com/CityofRoelandParkKS.



Neighborhood Foodie Fest

Food
Drink
Music
Kids' Activities

**Sunday, September 8
Noon-4:00 p.m.
47th Ave. & Mission Rd.**

Upcoming Events

- 2020 Budget Hearing: Aug 5, 6 p.m., Roeland Park City Hall
- City-Wide Garage Sale: Sept 5-8
- Community Shred & Electronic Recycling Event: Sept 21, 9 a.m. —noon; 4350 Shawnee Mission Parkway

Take the Mystery out of Curbside Recycling

We understand that knowing what to recycle curbside can be confusing. To help, use this cheat sheet approved by representatives at WCA. Remember to always rinse away food particles from recyclables and if it cannot be cleaned, toss it. **When in doubt, throw it out!**

Yes, Recycle!

- **Paper:** opened mail, file folders, magazines, brochures, catalogs, blue prints, newspaper & inserts, office paper, phone books, paperback books
- **Cardboard & Paper Bags:** flatten
- **Paperboard:** paper egg cartons, paperboard food boxes, paper milk/juice containers (do not flatten)
- **#1-7 Plastic tubs, screw top jars, bottles and jugs:** No lids, no #7 PLA compostables, do not flatten.
- **Cans:** do not crush or flatten
- **Clean, balled aluminum foil and pie pans**
- **Loose metal jar lids & steel bottle caps**
- **Empty aerosol cans:** no caps
- **Clamshells:** Be sure to clean, clean, clean!

No, Not Available for Curbside Recycling!

- **Plastic bags**
- **Plastic lids & caps**
- **Windows**
- **Glass**
- **Scrap metal**
- **Tyvek envelopes**
- **Plastic 6-pack holders**
- **Needles or syringes**
- **Paper ream wrappers**
- **Plastic microwave trays**
- **Frozen food, ice cream or frozen juice**
- **containers**
- **Mirrors, ceramics or Pyrex**
- **Light bulbs, plates or vases**
- **Drinking glasses**
- **Plastics not listed**
- **Tissues, paper towels, napkins**
- **Waxed paper or cardboard**
- **Styrofoam**
- **Paper to-go containers**

The Roeland Park Recreation Campus



Roeland Park Community Center

(913) 826-3160

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 8 am-8 pm

Friday: 8 am-5 pm

Saturday: 8 am-2 pm

Fitness Room

Monday-Thursday: 7 am-8 pm

Friday: 7 am-6 pm

Saturday: 8 am-2 pm

Sunday: Closed

Roeland Park Aquatic Center

(913) 826-3120

Roeland Park Sports Dome

(913) 362-8700

Please call for open gym and court rental availability.

www.jcprd.com

Family

Family Fun Bingo Night! (All Ages), Friday, August 2, 6pm-8pm, \$10 per person, \$30 per family up to 4 or \$40 per family up to 7 people

End summer on a high note playing everyone's favorite B-I-N-G-O! We've added twists to make the game more active and silly. Dinner (pizza, veggies and dessert) included. *

50 Plus

Ice Cream Sundae Bingo, Thursday, July 25, 1:30pm-3:30pm, \$5

BINGO! Delight in food, prizes, fun and 12 games of bingo. Variety of prizes awarded including gift certificates. *

Insta-What?, Saturday, August 10, 9am-10:30am, \$36

Find out what an instant pot is, how it works, and make a hearty meal. All supplies included.

Hawaiian Luau Bingo, Thursday, August 15, 5pm-7:30pm, \$15

Can't get away this summer? Don't sweat it! Come to our tropical oasis and relax with new friends over a BBQ and bingo. *

Cooking for 1 or 2, Thursday, August 22, 6pm-8pm, \$36

Program covers the transition from cooking for a crowd to cooking for one or two. Topics: meal planning, shopping, storing, and cooking meals. Samples included, come hungry!

Youth

Tennis Lessons: Red Ball (Ages 5-8), Orange Ball (Ages 9-10), Green Ball (Ages 9-12)

Your little tennis pro will receive instruction in an approachable and supportive environment. Students play with age appropriate rackets, tennis balls ranging from low bounce to regulation. With these modifications and junior rackets youth find continued success on the court and progress at their own pace and establish continued success.

**For expanded descriptions and more information regarding start dates and times, please call (913)826-3160 or visit us online at jcprd.com.*

The Knight School Chess Class for Homeschool, (Ages 6-12), \$90 + a one-time \$35 supply fee

5-75 minute classes starting August 27, October 1 or November 5. Join The Knight School chess party and give your child the gift of amazing chess friends, undeniable academic confidence, a self-identity as a smart kids, and a weekly dose of childhood joy that is the highlight of their week! Team shirt, chess set with carrying case and free replacement pieces included.

**Cost of admission covers food and staff time to administer the bingo program. No additional charge for bingo.*



Don't forget to
register for
summer swim
lessons.



Register for summer aquatic programs now at www.JCPRD.com



“See Red Run!” Installed in R Park

The internationally-acclaimed artist, Jorge Blanco, was in Roeland Park on Wednesday, May 22, to supervise the installation of his long-awaited sculpture in R Park! Crews from Synergy Construction and the City’s Public Works Department worked carefully for 6 hours installing the 15-foot sculpture. “See Red Run!” is oriented toward the northwest quadrant of R Park where the former Roeland Park Elementary School once stood. The 3Rs in the sculpture represent the “3Rs of Education,” reading, ‘riting and ‘rithmetic, to honor students, teachers and staff from schools everywhere. The sculpture symbolizes the progress of the City of Roeland Park since its incorporation in 1951, the same year the school was built. In cooperation with the City’s Arts and Parks Committees, this energetic and welcoming sculpture was privately fundraised by the Citizens Sculpture Initiative for R Park and was given as a gift to the City Roeland Park.

Please help children understand that no part of the sculpture should be touched, including the powder-coated posts. We want Red to run for years to come.

We need plants. Plants need bees.

BEE Careful with Pesticides

With the arrival of summer, many Roeland Park residents have sought the services of companies who spray/fog for mosquitoes and other insects. One commonly used pesticide is Cyzmic which also kills bees. The bees have to land in the area that is treated and ingest it for it to kill them. Although companies attempt to avoid spraying flowering bushes, bees sometimes must land where there are no flowers due to their short flight time.

Cyzmic is not listed as one of the insecticides that aids in colony collapse disorder, but the fact that it has to be ingested for the bee to die is a clue that it may indeed be a contributor. Cyzmic is also used to kill carpenter bees which burrow under houses over the winter. Carpenter bees are an important native pollinator that should be protected.

If the company you are using offers the option of a plant based or garlic solution, although not a perfect insecticide, this would be preferable and would help protect our essential pollinators.

THANK YOU TO \$68 DONORS TO THE R PARK PAVILION!

BUSINESSES:

Houlihan’s in Fairway
 Jeff Driver, Farmers Insurance Agent
 The Bar
 Lucky Brew Grille
 Nail Perfection & Spa
 Italian Delight
 Hy-Vee
 Imagine Wholeness
 Thai Orchid
 Pride Cleaners
 Walmart Neighborhood Market
 Complete Care Dental
 RJ’s Bob-Be-Que Shack
 Target

INDIVIDUALS:

Linda Fell
 Jan & Jim Grebe
 Mary Brunner
 Kevin White
 Kathleen & Jim Whitworth
 Ardie & Gretchen Davis
 Jan Faidley & Jim Upton
 John & Jean Anderson
 Kate McLaury
 Scott & Kim Enyart
 Tate & Drew Coe
 Richard & Kathryn Carter-Brown
 Kristi Meyer & Michael Rebne
 Crystal Haney
 Tony D. Baldassarre
 Kelley & Tim Nielsen
 Susan Uppman
 Annabelle Eason

An Interview with Jorge Blanco “See Red Run” Artist

The City of Roeland Park installed its latest sculpture, “See Red Run!” on Wednesday, May 22 in R Park. The installation marks the culmination of the citizen-led project in which Roeland Park citizens raised nearly \$63,000 to fund the sculpture. The Citizens Sculpture Initiative for R Park led the project with support from the Arts Advisory Committee and Parks Committee of Roeland Park. One hundred percent of the costs were privately fundraised through the donations of more than 300 individuals and businesses, five family foundations, one major arts trust and in-kind donations from an engineer and construction contractor.

When Blanco was in town installing the sculpture, we had a chance to sit down with him to learn a little bit more about his work, life and why he holds Roeland Park so near and dear to his heart!

Roeland Park (RP): Can you talk about your inspiration for the sculpture?

Jorge Blanco (JB): The beauty of life was my biggest inspiration for “See Red Run.” It’s all about movement of the pieces, sport, nature and the happy things about life. In addition, the three Rs located on the sculpture’s yellow rings refer to the conventional three Rs of education (reading, ‘riting and ‘rithmetic) as a tribute to all teachers and students in recognition of the site’s history of the former Roeland Park Elementary School. The runner symbolizes the progress of the City of Roeland Park since its incorporation in 1951. I hope people see the sculpture and enjoy it!

RP: What was your process in creating the sculpture from start to finish?

JB: I started working on the sculpture design more than two years ago and the entire process took more than 30 steps! I started with a simple sketch on pencil and paper. I refined the sketch several times and then modeled the sculpture with cardboard. From there, tweaks were made to ensure the best design. The technical designs were then incorporated and computer drawings created for cutting out the large pieces of aluminum. A factory makes the large pieces for the sculpture and then they are transported to my studio so I can do a set up before installation. Finally, the installation took 4 hours with help from volunteers and the public works team.

RP: What is the sculpture made from and why is it so tall?

JB: The sculpture is made from aluminum because it is a good material for outdoors use. It stays strong through heavy winds, is light and is rust resistant. In fact, “See Red Run” is designed to withstand 150 mph winds! The sculpture is tall because I wanted it to be visible from multiple vantage points for enjoyment.

RP: What was your color inspiration for “See Red Run”?

JB: I like to work with primary colors because they are bright, happy and normally evoke a smile! For “See Red Run, I chose red, yellow and silver so they would stand out against the colors that are naturally found in R Park.

RP : What surprised you the most through the design process?

JB: I was surprised and delighted the most by the Roeland Park community! They were involved every step of the way and the relationship was very tight knit. This was a very special experience because I was able to witness first-hand the generosity and kindness of the City!

RP: What do you like most about Roeland Park and Kansas City?



Jorge Blanco overseeing the installation of “See Red Run” at R Park



City Administrator
Keith Moody
kmoody@roelandpark.org

Finance Director/Asst. City
Administrator
Jennifer Jones-Lacy
jjoneslacy@roelandpark.org

City Clerk
Kelley Nielsen
knielsen@roelandpark.org

Police Department
Chief of Police, John Morris
emorris@roelandpark.org

Public Works Department
Donnie Scharff, Director
dscharff@roelandpark.org

Mayor—Mike Kelly
mkelly@roelandpark.org
(913) 722-2600

Ward 1—Jan Faidley
jfaidley@roelandpark.org
(913) 722-2600

Ward 1—Tom Madigan
tomrpks@gmail.com
(913) 526-6997

Ward 2—Jen Hill
jhill@roelandpark.org
(913) 722-2600

Ward 2— Tim Janssen
tjanssen@roelandpark.org
(913) 214-6785

Ward 3— Erin Thompson
erinthompsonforrp@gmail.com
(913) 667-9159

Ward 3—Claudia McCormack
cmccormack@roelandpark.org
(913) 722-2600

Ward 4—Jim Kelly
jkelly@roelandpark.org
(913) 722-2600

Ward 4— Michael Poppa
mpoppa@roelandpark.org
(913) 890-3809

2018-19 City-Wide Leaf Collection Recap








2018 Marked the first year using the new leaf vacuum machine for city-wide collection. The vacuum requires only a single-operator, which saves on staff time and cost associated with the program. In fact, collection with the vacuum resulted in a 41% cost savings from the prior year using the old equipment. The vacuum is also less prone to being taken out of service due to large objects obstructing the machine. In addition, total volume of leaves collected increased 56% from the prior year.

Please keep an eye on the City website for updates on the 2019 -2020 leaf collection schedule.



Keep Dogs Leashed in RP

We know you love your dogs. We love them too! Which is why it's important for the safety of all residents and furry friends alike that dogs are on-leash while in a park or on the street in Roeland Park. While RP does not have it's own dog park, there are several within a short drive.

-  Penn Valley Park: W. 29th & Broadway Blvd, KCMO, 5 miles from RP
-  West Terrace Dog Park: 750 Pennsylvania Ave, KCMO, (\$5/yr membership) 7 miles from RP
-  Bark: 419 Locust, KCMO, (requires annual membership or a day pass of \$10 for one dog), 8 miles from RP
-  Leawoof Dog Park: 106th & Lee Blvd, Leawood, 9 miles from RP
-  Waggin' Trail: 432 E. 32nd Ave, North Kansas City, 11 miles from RP
-  Shawnee Mission Off Leash Dog Park: 7900 Renner Rd, Lenexa, 11 miles from RP
-  Swope Off Leash Dog Park: 4701 E. Gregory Blvd, KCMO 9 miles from RP