

Oak Meyer Gardens Homes Association
A member of Homes Association of
Kansas City
4200 Somerset Drive, Suite 216
Prairie Village, Kansas 66208

August 20, 2019

Honorable Quinton Lucas
City Hall, 29th Floor
Mayor of Kansas City, Missouri
414 East 23th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

Dear Mayor Lucas:

It is our understanding that our City leaders hope to provide greater focus on our Kansas City infrastructure over the next several years. With that in mind, the Infrastructure Committee of the Oak Meyer Gardens Homes' Association (OMG) would like to share with you a summary of their recent inventory project to document the many street, curb, and sidewalk problems that exist within our Association's boundaries (63rd Street to 69th Street, Holmes to Oak). The problems are multiple and many of them are severe. Some are due to weather or other damage, but others are due to lack of City attention.

We have read about the City's System Sidewalk Inspection Program, and though most of our neighborhood is listed as a Priority 2 - 4, we are surprised that the point system did not include a category for "condition." This would surely have moved up some of our worst streets on the priority list. We can only hope that many of the sidewalks will be repaired by 2022. That would still leave the problem of the streets and curbs.

OMG has reported many of the infrastructure problems to the 311 Service website with mixed results. Potholes have been filled fairly quickly. Unfortunately, a common response is the suggestion that we apply for Public Improvements Advisory Committee (PIAC) funds to fix some of the crumbling street and curb problems. This is extremely disappointing since it is our understanding that 1) PIAC money is very limited and for special projects, and 2) the majority of our infrastructure problems should reasonably be covered by general City funds. In addition, we are concerned that this frequent advice given by 311 will provide extraordinary competition for projects that aren't the best choice for PIAC funds.

The OMG neighborhood is not a ramshackle location. This is an older J.C. Nichols development with well-kept, quasi-historical homes in East Brookside. We live here because we love the uniqueness and beauty of these buildings and because of the village-like setting the area affords. Our members pay substantial taxes; we should receive better City services. Please review the attached summary and decide if you don't also agree.

Finally, we request that you support a City budget that will make our City's infrastructure one of its highest priorities. Please help us rebuild our neighborhood infrastructure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Valerie Schroer".

Valerie Schroer
President
Oak Meyer Gardens Homes' Association

Attachment: Oak Meyer Gardens
Infrastructure Summary

cc: Councilman Kevin McManus
Councilwoman Andrea Bough
City Manager Troy Schulte