









# **ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

This information provided herein is a compilation of those activities and projects completed by the management and staff of the City of Sikeston during 2022

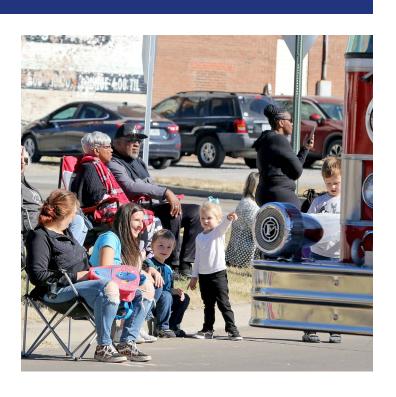
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# SIKESTON BY THE NUMBERS

Population	16, 135
Persons under 18 years	24.4%
Persons 65 years and older	22.2%
Male	47.4%
Female	52.6%
Population per square mile	950.5
Households	6,846
Persons per household	2.30
High school graduate or higher	87.9%
Bachelor's degree or higher	25.3%
Median household income	\$46,029
Persons in poverty	20.7%

All information provided by the U.S. Census Bureau using the latest estimates from July 1, 2021.



# **SIKESTON CITY COUNCIL**



GREG TURNBOW Mayor

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TABATHA GRAHAM
City Counselor

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### **MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER**

Dear Sikeston Residents,

Your city government provides traditional municipal services including police and fire protection, street and park maintenance, 911 dispatching, stormwater management, airport maintenance and operation, economic development, planning and development services, animal control, municipal court and other associated services. City employees dedicate time to these fundamental services every day.

Additionally, the City Council has established four broad goal areas for the city to work towards: 1) Economic Development and Marketing, 2) Quality of Life, 3) Revenue Enhancement and Financial Stewardship, and 4) Housing. Below are some highlights from 2022 grouped under each of these goal areas. The remainder of this Annual Report contains information from each department of the city regarding their work and accomplishments during the past year.

### **Economic Development and Marketing**

City Council goals related to economic development and marketing include job creation, bolstering community pride, workforce development, bringing more visitors to Sikeston, and increasing retail and entertainment options for residents and visitors. 2022 accomplishments related to these goals include:

- Supported construction of Carlisle Construction Materials
- Began construction on Highway 61 widening and Armor Dr related to the Carlisle project
- Began construction on a south outer road from Highway 61 to the future Ingram Overpass
- Issued 264 total building permits with a construction value of \$105,160,541
- Executed option for Unilever to purchase additional land in the north industrial park

### **Quality of Life**

City Council goals related to quality of life include improving city services, improving public safety, and improving infrastructure in order to increase property values and grow our population. 2022 accomplishments related to these goals include:

- Selected architect for Fire Station 2 replacement
- Adopted Legion Park Master Plan
- Bought leaf machine and reintroduced curbside leaf program
- Simplified Food Truck licensing requirements
- First annual stocking of winter trout at the Complex lake
- DPS participated in Active Bystander Training
- DPS developed the Bootheel Area Peer Support Team program with Bootheel Counseling
- DPS partnered with Sikeston R-6 to implement Handle With Care trauma informed care program
- Completed comprehensive improvements to Dancler Field
- Installed splash pad at Lincoln Park
- · Converted 2 tennis courts to 6 pickleball courts
- Replaced Clayton Park Playground equipment
- Rebuilt large Rotary Park south shelter

### **Revenue Enhancement and Financial Stewardship**

City Council goals related to revenue enhancement and financial stewardship include establishing dedicated funding streams for city services, clearly communicating the city's finances to the public, and building trust through transparency. 2022 accomplishments related to these goals include:

- Clean FY22 audit (no material deficiencies)
- Awarded \$315,000 Transportation Alternatives Program grant for rail trail
- Awarded \$155,000 Transportation Alternatives Program grant for NW St sidewalk
- Awarded \$500,000 CDBG grant for additional street repairs

### Housing

City Council goals related to housing include increasing owner-occupied housing, improving property maintenance, eliminating vacant condemned structures, and increasing the stock of quality affordable housing. 2022 accomplishments related to these goals include:

- Annexed Highway 60 and farmland south of Highway 60 for future development
- Issued 21 building permits for new single family residential houses at a value of \$3,857,088 (up from 14 permits and \$2,170,800 the previous year).
  - Issued 6 building permits for new duplex dwellings at a value of \$1,195,000 (up from 2 permits and \$259,000 the previous year)
  - 1,393 residents participated in spring and fall cleanups and removed 98 tons of debris and trash from the community
- Code Enforcement initiated 777 property maintenance cases (junk, trash, tall grass, weeds, derelict vehicles, etc.) and 456 completed abatement
- LCRA Sold 40 vacant lots to private owners and gifted a group of 14 vacant lots to DAEOC for new homeless shelter The accomplishments listed above are only a brief overview of the actions and projects completed over the past year. You will find more information in the pages that follow. My staff and I welcome your questions and comments regarding 2022 city operations.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan M. Douglass City Manager

# SIKESTON AREA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION



Marcie Lawson, President/ CEO of Sikeston Regional Chamber and Area Economic Development

### **CHANGES SINCE 2016**

Since the last Annual Report, the City of Sikeston has changed the way economic development efforts are performed. It now contracts with the Sikeston Regional Chamber and Area Economic Development, Corp. which serves as the community's Chamber of Commerce, Department of Economic Development and Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

Under the 5-year leadership of Mike Marshall (2017-2022) the Sikeston Area Economic Development, Corp. (SAEDC) was created and the community experienced tremendous growth. More than \$97M in commercial building and renovations was invested in Sikeston. Additionally, 21 new single family homes were constructed and along with renovations, \$5.7M of residential construction was invested in our community.



Wing Elementary, August 2019



Lee Hunter, July 2022

### **New Schools:**

A large part of this investment was made by the community itself by passing two separate bonds allowing Sikeston Public Schools to build two new elementary schools.

### **Carlisle Construction Materials:**

Another exciting success during this time was the addition of Carlisle Construction Materials to our industrial community! Located in the newly created South Industrial Park, this nation-wide industry manufactures insulation for commercial roofs.

Their Sikeston facility is the 50th for the company, therefore will be their showcase manufacturing plant. When completed later this year, Carlisle will have more than 490,000 square feet under roof, employ more than 100 residents and will have invested over \$120,000 into our community.



Carlisle Construction Materials, 2023

As part of its industrial recruitment efforts, the SAEDC submitted the South Industrial Park to become a Missouri Certified Site through Missouri Partnership.

This year long process, led by Kathy Medley, was successful and proved to be a valuable selling point for Carlisle Construction Materials.

Therefore, it was decided to submit 68 acres in the North Industrial Park for certification as well. In 2022, the submission was approved and became Sikeston's second Missouri Certified Site.



Upon Marshall's retirement, Marcie Lawson was named the President/CEO of the Sikeston Regional Chamber and Area Economic Development and now leads the SAEDC. Lawson served the organization as the Executive Director of the Sikeston Regional Chamber from 2017-2022. Her most notable accomplishment during that time as it relates to economic development was the creation and implementation of the S.O.A.R. (Students Observing Area Resources) Program.

#### S.O.A.R.:

S.O.A.R. was piloted in collaboration with Sikeston Public Schools and the Leadership Sikeston Class of 2018 as a way to strengthen the community's workforce by exposing high school students to the wide variety of careers available in Sikeston. Now under the leadership of Katie Merideth, the program has been expanded to include more than 200 juniors and seniors at Sikeston High School, New Horizons and in the Sikeston Career and Technology block classes, Construction, Childcare, Auto Mechanics/Auto Body, Culinary Arts, Graphic Arts and Healthcare.

Lawson collaborated with Sikeston Public Schools again

to submit an application for funding to the Missouri Department of Economic Development's Workforce Training Grant Program. In January 2023, Sikeston Public Schools was awarded \$3,000,000 to expand the Sikeston Career and Technology Center. The only public school in the state, and one of only three communities to receive the maximum award, funding will allow SCTC to expand into the building previous occupied by Orscheln, double the size of the Welding



S.O.A.R. at Missouri Delta

Technician Program and add a Firefighter/EMT block class.

### **Looking to the Future:**

Lawson, along team members Kathy Medley, Executive Vice President/Tourism Director, Taylor Deere, Chamber Membership and Program Director and Katie Merideth, Administrator/Workforce Development Director and the SAEDC Board of Directors embarked on a strategic planning process to help map out the future of economic development for Sikeston. As a result, we now have a new Mission, Vision, and Values that will guide economic development for the next three years.

### **Our Mission:**

To promote, enhance, and support economic growth, prosperity, and quality of life in the Sikeston area.

#### **Our Vision:**

A thriving, resilient community that is diverse in population and business, where people desire to live and work.

### **Core Values:**

As a results-oriented corporation, we value collaboration, communication, growth, innovation, leadership, and quality.

# **Sikeston Convention** and **Visitors Bureau**

#### **Tourism:**

The City of Sikeston contracts with the Sikeston Regional Chamber to oversee all tourism related activity for the city. The Sikeston Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) is the tourism division of the Chamber. The CVB is also the Designated Marketing Organization (DMO) for Scott County and charged with promoting tourism and

attracting visitors thereby increasing tax dollars for the city and county.

### **Function:**

The CVB promotes and markets tourism in the Sikeston area thereby enhancing the community's economic wellbeing. Funding for CVB operations is generated by the City's 4% lodging tax. These monies are restricted in use to tourism promotion and marketing. The CVB works with the city appointed 7-member Tourism Advisory Board to oversee tourism operations.

#### Goal:

The CVB's goal is to attract visitors, increase overnight lodging in Sikeston hotels and stimulate local hospitality and retail sales. The CVB's marketing efforts, tourism supported events and projects are undertaken to support this goal. Sikeston hotels reported a 74.30% occupancy rate in 2022.

#### **Activities:**

The CVB markets and promotes the area through print and digital advertising, social media, videos, billboards, and travel publications. The marketing budget was increased by 50% in 2022 by utilizing the Missouri Division of Tourism Marketing Matching Grant Programs. Community events like the Rodeo, Cotton Ramble Bike Ride, St. Patrick's Day Festival and others are included in many promotions.

The CVB director, Kathy Medley is the admin for the tourism website on Sikeston.net that features helpful information for planning a trip and the attractions and amenities we offer. Group tours featured on the website and distributed to tour operators includes the Historic Homes Driving Tour, Veterans Memorial, Wineries, Ag Tours and outdoor activities like fishing, hunting and nature trails. The Sikeston.net website has a 64.2% engagement rate, 1.9K users, and average engagement time of 1m 02s. Four new videos were added to the website last year. The CVB completed a Missouri Division of Tourism grant funded project "Sikeston in any

Season" that features 4 seasonal videos promoting events and attractions for the spring, summer, fall and winter. These videos promote Sikeston as a great place to visit any time of the year.

The CVB maintains social media pages on Facebook and Instagram at visitsikestonmo. These sites perform very well with a reach of 8.5K from the last 90 days. The social media sites are used to promote area events and attractions.

### **Community Promotion Efforts:**

For the past several years the CVB has hosted meetings with local event organizers and civic organizations to coordinate the scheduling and promotion of community events. It is out of these outreach efforts the community events calendar (found on the CVB's websites) is created. These meetings also foster collaboration

between organizations.

The CVB is working with the Rotary Club, Sikeston Jaycees and Sikeston Parks & Recreation to host a Hot Air Balloon Festival (June 16-18), and partners with Historic Downtown Sikeston to promote the annual Wine Festival and St. Pat-



Sikeston Honors Banner and Light Project

rick's Day Festival and other downtown events. The annual Christmas Church Tour of Scott County is a community collaborated project. The CVB works with area churches to organize this event. These community events bring visitors to Sikeston, fills the area hotels, and increases tourism tax dollars.

### **Fulfillment Pieces:**

The CVB prints its annual calendar of events postcard, Sikeston Visitors Guides, Historic Homes Tour and Road Trip Brochures. These pieces along with material from local attractions are mailed to individuals seeking travel/tourism information about our area. They are also distributed to local hotels.

restaurants and Missouri Division of Tourism Visitor Centers throughout the State.

The CVB hosts the annual Tourism & Hospitality Luncheon every March at Lambert's Café. The annual event recognizes the importance and economic benefits of the tourism industry. The CVB and Tourism Advisory Board present the Sikeston Tourism & Hospitality Award to a business, organization or individual who has

made a significant contribution to the tourism and hospitality industry. Past award winners include Lambert's Café (2020), Sikeston Parks & Recreation (2021), and in 2022 the Sikeston Javcees.

### **Community Projects:**

The CVB partners with community organizations on tourism related projects. They are currently partnering with Sikeston Parks & Recreation and Veterans Park Committee to create the Sikeston Honors Veterans Project. This project will create an interpretative display in Veterans Park. Area veterans will be recognized on banners hung on period light posts. A QR Code on each pole will direct the user to a website featuring the military history of each veteran and Veterans Park. This project highlights the history of Veterans Park and the former Harvey Parks Air Base. It enhances an already important tourism asset for the city and will bring more youth groups and visitors to the park.

#### **Future:**

The CVB is working toward creating more tourism assets for the City including a Visitors Center and Rodeo Museum. By taking advantage of grant opportunities and working with local businesses and organizations the CVB continues to explore ways to attract more visitors and tourism dollars to Sikeston.





2023 <b>EVEN</b> 1	SIKESTON Convention & Visitors Bureau   Tourism
LOZO LVLIA	sikeston.net/tourism 888-309-6591
ack History Month at the Depot	Feb 2-23, Sikeston Depot & Cultural Center
ve Local Extravaganza	Feb 11, Downtown Sikeston
otheel Quilters Guild Quilt Show	March 2-30, Sikeston Depot & Cultural Center
ceston St. Patrick's Day Festival, Cornhole Tournament & 1K Donut Dash	March 11 (rain date March 18), Legion Park
nny Rogers Children's Center Telethon	March 25. Miner Convention Center

Kid's Easter Egg Hunt & Adult Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt March 30 - 31 (adults), Sikeston Sports Complex **April 1, Sikeston Field House Bootheel Regional Women's Show** American Legion BBQ Contest & Poker Run April 28-29, American Legion Post 114

Monster Machines + Kids Race Day April 15, Sikeston Sports Complex Sikeston Jaycee Crawfish Boil & Music Festival May 20, Sikeston Rodeo Grounds

**Summer Concert Series** June/Fridays. Free at Legion Park Sikeston Hot Air Balloon Festival June 16-18, Sikeston Rodeo Grounds Sikeston Fireworks Display July 4, Sikeston Recreation Complex

Sikeston Jaycee Rodeo Parade and Cowboy Up! Festival Aug 5, Downtown and Legion Park 71st Annual Sikeston Jaycee Bootheel Rodeo Aug 9-12, Sikeston Jaycee Rodeo Grounds **Bootheel Quilt Show** Aug 12-13, Miner Convention Center

**Return to Sunset** Sept 1-3, Lincoln Memorial Park Downtown Sikeston Wine Festival Sept 9, (rain date Sept 16) Downtown Sikeston Cotton Ramble Bike Ride Sept 9, starts at the Depot Museum Downtown 79th American Legion Cotton Carnival Sept 26-30, Sikeston Jaycee Rodeo Grounds

Oktoberfest Oct 7, Downtown Sikeston Downtown Sikeston Holiday Open House

Christmas Parade, Tree Lighting, & Santa's Village Dec 1, Downtown Sikeston Dec 2, Sikeston Depot & Cultural Center Santa at the Depot Christmas Church Tour of Sikeston & Scott County

For details and more events go to www.sikeston.net/events, email: tourism@sikeston.net or stop by the Sikeston Convention &



# **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**



New leaf truck in use.

The following programs and services were provided by personnel of the Public Works Street Division:

### 2022 Spring Community Clean-Up Program:

This year 798 residents participated in this 10-day program. Approximately 58 tons of trash and debris were removed from the community via this program.

### Yard Waste Disposal Program (Compost Site):

Activity at the Yard Waste Disposal Site in 2022 consisted of 1,119 residents depositing 1073 truckloads and 489 trailer loads of residential yard debris at the Compress Road site. We also collected 64 tires from residents. More than 483 man-hours were committed to this program.

### 2022 Fall Community Clean-Up Program:

This year we had a fall community clean up. We had 595 residents participate in this ten-day program. Approximately 40 tons of trash and debris were removed from the community via this program.

### **Leaf Collection Program:**

The city reimplemented collecting leaves curbside this year, where residents were encouraged to place their leaves on the backside of the curb in front of their residents or take them to the Yard Waste Disposal Site (Compost Site). To accommodate the residents with this program we opened the site Monday through Friday for a period of six weeks. During this six-week event, we had 130 residents and local lawn contractors utilize the compost site with the disposal of 147 truckloads, and 59 trailer loads of leaves. We also collected 76 loads of leaves with our leaf truck. To host this service, city staff worked a total of 511 regular man-hours.

### **Community Service Program:**

A cooperative effort between Sikeston Municipal Court and the Department of Public Works (Street Department) resulted in eight hours of community service being utilized for Street Division maintenance operations. One individual participated in this year's program.

### STREET DEPARTMENT

Function: Maintains more than 100 miles of City streets and alleys with their associated stormwater drainage and rights-of-way; provides upkeep and maintenance to City-owned buildings; and maintains the City's fleet of cars, trucks, and motorized equipment.



New dump truck.

### 2022 Street & Drainage Improvements:

As a part of the contracted street maintenance plan, they City had the following projects:

- Milling and Resurfacing N. Scott St. (W. Malone to W. North Street)
- Milling and Resurfacing W. North St. (Luther Street to N. West Street)
- Milling and Resurfacing Shady Ln. (Ables Road to Oklahoma Street)
- Milling and Resurfacing Comstock (Crowe Street to Cul-desac)
- Milling and Resurfacing Collins Dr. (S. Prairie Street to Culde-sac)
- Milling and Resurfacing Benton St. (Warner Avenue to Virginia Street)
- Milling and Resurfacing Campanella Dr. (N. Ingram to Gehrig Drive)
- S. New Madrid/Trotter St. Intersection Reconstruction (with new drainage pipe)
- Various, concrete repairs in locations throughout the city.
   During 2022, City Public Works staff repaired several damaged street, curbs, and gutters in various locations of the community. In addition, Public Works staff continued to identify and improve stormwater drainage issues in a variety of areas throughout the city.

Our crews also were able to crack seal Greer Street, S. New Madrid Street (from W. Malone to Trotter Street) and Larcel Drive (from truck stop west).

### **Mosquito Abatement Program:**

This program operated three days a week from the end of May through September 2022. Approximately 600 gallons of chemicals were applied by the City's one fogging machine during this five-month program.

### Missouri One Call:

For 2022, we responded to 850 routine locates, 73 emergency locates, 42 renewal locates, 33 Dig up locates, nine Extended Start time locates, two Incorrect locates, and one Non-Compliance Locate for a total of 1,016 locates.



New fountain at Lincoln Park.

Projects completed by the Park Division in 2022 include:

### **New online reservations:**

In February of 2022, the Sikeston Parks and Recreation implemented online reservations for the Clinton Building and park shelters. The website is www.bookeo.com/sikestonparkandrec. We now offer updated information on pricing and amenities for our park facilities. The website has assisted the Parks and Recreation Department with improved customer service and accessibility for those that cannot make reservations during regular business hours.

### **Complex Lake Improvement:**

In the Fall of 2020, the Parks and Recreation Department entered an agreement with the Missouri Department of Conservation to improve the conditions of the lake at the Complex and provide a better fishing experience for those in our community. Part of this was to have the Complex lake stocked with rainbow trout beginning in 2022. The MDC stocked the lake with 2,240 trout in November and it has been well received! Currently you must catch and release any trout until Feb. 1, 2023.

### **Pickleball Court:**

In September, work was completed on converting two tennis courts at the Recreation Complex to six pickleball courts. The conversion consisted of re-surfacing and painting the playing area, new nets, posts, and a divider fence separating the north and south courts. New lights will be installed in 2023.



Dancler Field reconstruction.

### PARKS AND RECREATION

Function: Maintains more than 275 acres of parkland including all playground equipment, baseball and soccer fields, tennis and basketball courts, picnic shelters, concession stands and restroom facilities. Parks Division also operates the Clinton Community Building, and assists the Streets Division with Compost Site operations and snow removal.



Ribbon cutting for new pickleball courts.

### **Dancler Field:**

The Dancler Baseball Field at Roberta Rowe Park was re-constructed in the Spring of 2022. The improvements consisted of:

- New fencing
- New installation of 60 tons of infield material on new field layout.
- New LED lighting

### **Rotary Shelter:**

The south shelter at Rotary Park was demolished and rebuilt this past year. The newly constructed shelter will seat up to 100 people and has a new "cookout area." Work will be completed by the Spring of 2023.

### **Lincoln Park Splashpad:**

A newly constructed splashpad was built during the summer of 2022. The 1,500 sq ft splashpad has several above ground features along with ground sprayers. There is a 15-foot tall bucket, water rings, and watercannons to provide a real fun experience.

### Other Highlights from the year:

- Clayton Park Playground (Cleaned up/new playground unit installed)
- Re-graded three infields
- Re- sodded JBR Field
- Alan Wire Tree Donation (Legion Park)
- Legion Park Conceptual Design
- Hosted four youth baseball tournaments
- Hosted two softball tournaments

### **Recreation Programming numbers:**

- Kid Egg Hunt: 200 participants
- Adult Egg Hunt; 300 participants
- Fishing Derby: 125 entries
- Smaller Ballers: 10 per class
- Skelebration: 2,500 people (New Event)
- 1k Donut Dash: 40 entries
- Cornhole Tournament: eight teams
- Cinnamon Rolls with Santa: 73 participants
- Santa's Village/Tree Lighting: 2,000 spectators

Logistical support was also provided to Historic Downtown Sikeston for the St. Patrick's Day Celebration, Spread Hope Now Bulldog Baseball Camp at Roberta Rowe Park, Return to Sunset event, the Youth Empowerment 573 Youth Flag Football League at Lincoln Park, and Downtown Wine Fest; and the American Legion Cotton Carnival.

### **Clinton Community Building:**

In 2022, the Clinton Community Building was the site of more than 129 meetings, parties and other events.

### Conservation Efforts:

The Park Division collected Christmas trees for the Complex Lake. This has been an annual conservation/recycling effort by the Park Division for many years.

### **Social Media:**

Sikeston Parks and Recreation has a strong social media presence utilizing Facebook. We currently have 3.5k likes and 3.9k followers.



Front of Sikeston Memorial Airport.

# **AIRPORT**

Function: Manages day to day operations of the Sikeston Memorial including but not limited to: welcoming guests, fueling aircraft, storing aircraft, managing land leases, conducting necessary safety inspections, promoting tourism, and promoting economic development through serving as the front door to the community for new companies.



Fueling station at the airport.

### Staff:

Christopher Hart serves as Airport Manager, with Tony Hurt and Karen Guevara serving as line crew.

#### Fuel Sales:

In 2022, Sikeston is branded by Shell and uses Titan Aviation as their fuel supplier. During 2022, the Sikeston airport sold 29,794 gallons of AvGas and 81,594 gallons of Jet-A fuel.

### **Based Aircraft:**

We currently have 22 based aircraft.

### **Aircraft Operations:**

Operations, which consists of individual take-offs and landings, were last estimated by FAA at 6,300 operations (2020).

### **Capital Improvements:**

On the large multi-hanger, projects included:

- Installed new heaters
- Installed new metal siding on interior
- Installed new LED lighting
- Painted outside walls

### **Fuel Site:**

 A project to install new fuel tanks for AvGas and Jet Fuel began in 2022. The project is scheduled to be completed in early 2023.

### Courtesy Car:

The airport provides a courtesy car to some users of the airport. In 2022, it was used 66 times.

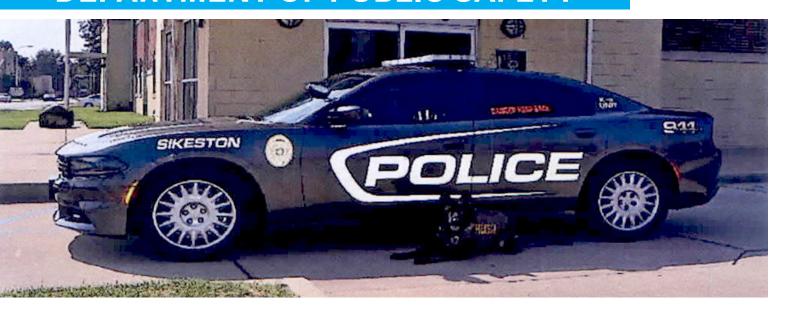
### **Social Media:**

Please feel free to go and like our Sikeston Memorial Municipal Airport Facebook page.



Fuel truck at the airport.

# **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**



### DPS numbers in 2022

26,548 Calls for Service

3630 Written Reports

1231 Arrest

31 Animal Related/Dog Bite

1625 Written Warnings (Vehicle Stops)

1810 Summons (Vehicle Stops/Misc)

3 Homicide

168 Assault

102 Domestic Assault/Arguments

7 Discharge Firearm Within the City

7 Arson

31 DWI

155 Drug/Controlled Substance

33 Runaway Juvenile

8 Juvenile Curfew

52 Weapon Violation/Unlawful Use

12 Death Investigation

5 Peace Disturbance

27 Harassment

63 Burglary

19 Fraud

11 Identity Theft

11 Child Abuse

374 Warrant Arrest

13 Missing Person

7 Rape

23 Sexual Abuse/Misconduct

28 Tampering/Stolen Auto

9 Robbery

During 2022 Sikeston DPS partnered with Bootheel Counseling to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness. This partnership includes the development of the Bootheel Area Peer Support Team. There are two primary functions of this team. One is promoting officer/first responder wellness and the other is critical incident debriefing for those responders. This partnership also maintains the Bootheel

Area Crisis Team which meets monthly to discuss and a dress the mental health needs of our community. This team also trains and educates officers, first responders, juvenile officers and probation officers on identifying mental health disorders as well as de-escalation techniques for people in crisis.

### **CALLS RELATED TO MENTAL HEALTH:**

30 Mental Transport

26 Suicide Attempt

3 Suicide

100 CIT Mental Health Referrals

42 Protective Custody

### **ABLE:**

Another project added to Sikeston DPS during 2022 is referred to ABLE project. ABLE is the acronym for ACTIVE BYSTANDERSHIP FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT. This program was developed through Georgetown University in Washington D.C. Two Sikeston DPS officers were trained in the ABLE principles and then provided training to our officers in officer wellness, preventing mistakes, officer misconduct and methods to address those issues.

### HANDLE WITH CARE:

Sikeston DPS also began to partner Sikeston Public Schools and implemented a program referred to as HANDLE WITH CARE. The objective of this program operates off the trauma informed care principle. The purpose of this program is to notify the schools when a student may have been exposed to a critical or stressful incident away the school setting so that any needs while the student is at school can be addressed. Sikeston DPS has participated with several other community groups like SPREAD HOPE NOW and WALK BESIDE ME. We feel that participation with such community groups aid our department in identifying the needs within our community to help find resolutions to our community problems.



Officers learn how to properly extinguish a vehicle fire.

Each year and every day, DPS Fire Division is responsible for handling all fire and rescue related emergencies in the city of Sikeston and the Sikeston Fire Protection District. During 2022, we had several calls for service in the city. These calls for service include structure fires at businesses, residences, and unoccupied buildings. During the 2022 year we saw a significate amount of grass fire due to the lack on rain for months.

DPS Fire Division has a specialized group of employees that form the Technical Rescue Team. This team is tasked with specialized rescue situations such as water rescue, grain bin rescue, trench collapse, and building collapse situations. They train regularly and are a cooperative member of the Southeast Missouri Homeland Security Response Team. This team is comprised of members from Sikeston DPS, Cape Girardeau Fire Department, and Jackson Fire Department. For the year of 2022 the Southeast Missouri Homeland Security Team was awarded a grant through RHSOC that allowed for over \$39,000 of heavy rescue tools that will give us the capability of completing rescues with victims trapped in building that are collapsed or in the process of collapsing. Fire Division personnel train regularly to ensure they are up



Region E HSRT members train on a large scale search and rescue, utilizing the Mobile Command Truck for a command post.

### Fire Division

Function: Responsible for the development and implementation offire prevention programs and activities, fire suppression, rescue operations, and hazardous materials response and planning.



Officers extinguish a working house fire.

### Fire Division Calls for Service

Incident	2021	2022
Calls for Service	897	923
Structure Fires	72	75
Vehicle Fires	25	17
Grass/Brush Fires	34	42
Gas Leaks	21	19
Rubbish/Dumpster Fires	29	25
Motor Vehicle Accidents	132	176
Alarms Activated, No Fire	139	122
Smoke Investigation	22	37
Aircraft Standby	37	87
Coal Train Standby	146	107
Calls Canceled in Route	45	42
Other Calls	122	50
Fire Inspections	97	124

to date on effective and efficient operations. This training includes hazardous material response, high/low pressure airbags, vehicle extrication, building collapse rescue, fire investigation, technical rescue and several other fire and rescue related topics. New officers receive state certified Fire Fighter 1 and 2 training through an in-house fire training academy as well. This picture shows Officers learning how to properly extinguish a vehicle fire.

Fire Division works each year to help the community by furthering their fire safety knowledge and various other public relations events. This year our division personnel assisted with training at the Do It Best, Unilever, and other businesses in town.

Fire Division personnel also remain very active in the community and enjoy the opportunity to give back. On September 11, 2022, DPS Fire Division took part in their annual memorial walk and ladder climb to honor those who lost their lives during the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Division staff was joined by crews from Scott County Rural Fire District, Charleston Department of Public Safety Morehouse FD, and South Scott County Ambulance Service. Fire Division also helped with Shop with a Hero this year. This event gave roughly 200 kids a chance to have a great Christmas.



Guns seized from a criminal investigation.

### **Criminal Investigations**

The Criminal Investigations is supervised by Detective Sergeant Flint Dees. Sergeant Dees currently oversees six detectives and one evidence technician. This unit is responsible for investigating serious crimes and conducting investigations generated from the numerous reports received daily by Sikeston DPS. It should be noted that DPS works in partnership with both the ATF and DEA. Monetary and drug seizures made for the year also reflect cases that were worked in conjunction with the federal agencies that we partner with. We currently have a detective that is assigned as a Task Force Officer (TFO) for each of the two federal agencies listed.

### **Criminal Investigations 2022**

Cases	502
State Search Warrant	123
Federal Search Warrant	3
Firearms	48
Money Seized	\$106,347
Marijuana	98+ pounds
Cocaine	7+ ounces
Crack Cocaine	8 grams
Methamphetamine	95+ pounds
Fentanyl	250+ capsules
Heroin	10+ ounces







Money, guns and drugs seized.

## **DPS Special Services**

In 2022, the Criminal Investigations Unit investigated three homicides. One was cleared by arrest, one was determined to be a justified homicide (self-defense) and one is still under investigation. There were also other cases the SEMO Major Case Squad was activated in which the victim did not die from their injuries.



Money, guns and drugs seized.

### **Power Squad**

The Power Squad, which consists of a supervisor and the K9 officer, are a proactive policing squad. This squad focuses on high crime areas. Their goal is to locate and seize illegal drugs, illegal weapons, and assist the Criminal Investigations Unit with locating and arresting wanted subjects for violent crimes committed. This squad ran short this year due to staffing and were used to supplement other functions in the department.







Money, guns and drugs seized in a criminal investigation.

#### K-9 Program

Vehicle Stops

Citations

The K-9 program was utilized on 35 incidents, which included 30 free air sniffs on vehicle stops, four search warrants and one track. Of those incidents, K9 Axel alerted on 14 of his 30 free air sniffs, leading to arrest and seizures on most of those incidents. During the four search warrant deployments, K9 Axel alerted to the odor of narcotics on all of the deployments that lead to arrests on all four incidents.

### **Vehicle Stops 2022**

756

128

Warnings	628
Arrests	133
Guns	9
Methamphetamine	2.3 ounces
Illegal Pills Seized	24 grams
Cocaine/Crack	1.32 grams
Paraphernalia	23 items
Marijuana	1.725 pounds
Money Seized	\$1,553



The Sikeston SRO program consists of SRO Brent Mullin (left) and Sgt. Tyler Rowe (right).

### **SRO** program

The SRO program, which consists of Sgt. Rowe and SRO Mullin, services all public and private schools in the city, as well as assisting with numerous other activities such as summer camps at the YMCA and Lincoln University.

This year the SRO program was supplemented by reassigning our Power Squad officers to assist. This allowed for more officer presence at multiple schools throughout the day. The SRO program is also assisted daily by Patrol Division officers to ensure the safety of all students.

### **SRO Calls for Service 2022**

High School	86
Junior High	66
Middle School	27
Wing Elementary	17
Lee Hunter Elementary	28
Southeast Elementary	15
Alternative School	19
Kindergarten	14
Arrests	36



The SRO program services all public and private schools in Sikeston. Here students are seen posing for a picture with the Sikeston DPS Mobile Command Unit.

### **Special Services Division**

The Special Services Division also encompasses the Special Operations Group and the Mobile Command/911 Communications Unit. The Special Operations Group assisted with serving seven search warrants in 2022.

In 2022, the Mobile Command/Communications Unit was deployed on five events/incidents. These incidents included a long-term deployment for the Jaycee Bootheel Rodeo as well as assisting with search and rescue calls in the region.

### 911 Communication Center

The City's 911 Communication Center, operated by Sikeston DPS, is comprised of eight telecommunicators which are supervised by Sgt. Christine Meredith. The men and women of this division are the first "First Responders" for most calls for service.

The daily calls they answer include those made to 911 to report emergency situations as well as calls to the administrative lines requesting services provided by DPS and other city departments.

The center is the primary dispatch for all Police, Fire, and EMS calls within the responding area for Sikeston DPS, South Scott EMS, and Morehouse Fire Department.

### 911 Communications Center 2022

Total of all Calls	67,688
911 Calls	10,897
Administration Calls	44,888
Outbound Calls	11,903
Incidents Created	26,548
Reports Generated	3,630 (Patrol Division)
	1,027 (Fire Division)
	4,745 (South Scott Amb.)
	195 (Morehouse FD)



# **Sikeston PAWS**

To protect Sikeston residents the City regulates ownership, care, and control of animals. Sikeston Pet and Animal Welfare Services (PAWS) personnel operate the City's animal control program and the City's animal shelter.



Sikeston PAWS Monthly Numbers in 2022														
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total	Pct.
INTAK	KES													
Dogs	11	20	18	12	17	18	22	8	18	9	8	24	185	
Cats	7	2	6	5	8	9	8	6	4	7	5	1	68	
ADOP	PTED													
Dogs	2	6	9	5	8	7	9	3	10	1	1	1	62	33.5%
Cats	6	1	5	4	7	7	7	5	2	3	5	1	53 <b>Avg.</b>	77.9% 55.7%
	SFERF													
Dogs		6	5	1	5	3	5	0	1	5	2	8	44	23.8%
Cats	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 <b>Avg.</b>	0 11.9%
		DEEME											-	
Dogs		7	2	6	2	8	3	3	2	2	2	5	47	25.4%
Cats	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	5 <b>Avg.</b>	7.4% 16.4%
EUTH	ENIZE	D											, J.	.0.170
Dogs	0	1	2	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	10	5.4%
Cats	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	4 <b>Avg.</b>	5.9% 5.6%
FOST	ERED	(anima	ıls curr	ently o	or that	were fo	ostered	d durin	g 2022	2)			Avy.	5,070
Dogs		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cats		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
													Avg.	0
				(at tir		_			_			_		44.007
Dogs		0	0	0	1	0	2	2	5	1	3	7	22	11.9%
Cats	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	3	0	0	6 <b>Avg.</b>	8.8% 10.4%
												Total Total	_	185 68

# FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Finance Department manages the city-wide financial accounting systems, reviews, evaluates, and authorizes payment of legitimate claims, monitors cash position, and invests idle funds. The city's ERP System allows information to flow from one department to another along with communication between financials, human capital management, general revenues, and property revenues. In 2022, the city underwent a significant upgraded of their ERP system, moving to a cloud-based SAAS platform.

We manage 31 funds, both restricted and unrestricted. In 2022, \$355,468 in interest was earned and the City of Sikeston received more than \$7 million in grant funds. This triggered single audit compliance. The city's audit revealed no significant findings or discrepancies.

### **TIF Districts**

The city has four active Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Districts in three TIF designated areas. The Finance Division oversees the collection of economic activity taxes (EATS) and payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT) to each of these TIF Districts. In 2022, obligations to Watami Sushi & Hibachi Steak House and Coltons Steak House & Grill were fulfilled.

### **Human Resources Division**

Our Human Resources Division is responsible for ensuring compliance with city policies and procedures, including compensation, benefits and leave, disciplinary matters, disputes and investigations, performance and talent management, and recognition.

#### Positions added

During 2022, the following positions were added to city staff: Communications Manager, code enforcement supervisor, and one secretary position at DPS was reclassified to a criminal analyst. We were approved to hire four full-time firefighter only positions. Six part-time employees and 29 seasonal concession stand workers were hired. We processed a total of 271 employment applications. Forty-eight applicants tested for public safety officer, and we conducted approximately 65 interviews for the following positions:

- communications manager
- community development director
- code enforcement supervisor

- account clerk-collector's office
- HR assistant
- criminal analyst
- skilled worker-Streets & Parks
- court clerk
- deputy court clerk

### **DPS** staffing

For a number of years, we have been unable to fully staff the Public Safety Department. This year we were able to hire 15 public safety officers, three communications officers, and two full-time firefighters. Ten of the officers are taking advantage of the tuition assistance program that was implemented in 2020, five officers were rehires, and one was a lateral from a different agency.

We are working on finalizing the contract with Great Oak Counseling for biannual officer mental health check-ins set to begin in March 2023.

Our turnover rate for full-time employees was 20%, however, 5% was for attrition and one full-time employee passed away.

We processed 237 evaluations and approximately 180 compensation records. We filed seven work comp claims.

### **Collector's Division**

The Collector's Division is responsible for the preparation and maintenance of all tax records. This can be particularly complex as Sikeston is in two different counties. They are also responsible for billing and collection of revenue from city taxes, licenses, permits and miscellaneous fees. We held a flu shot clinic with 29 participants and an employee health fair with 108 participants.

The Collector's Division is responsible for the preparation, maintenance, and billing of all tax records. This can be particularly complex as Sikeston is in two different counties. They are also responsible for the collection of all city monies, including licenses, permits and miscellaneous fees. In addition, the Finance Department administers all city benefits, processes payroll, accounts payable, and accounts receivable. The Finance Department is also responsible for liability and workers compensation insurance, the processing of all claims and monitoring litigation.



# **MUNICIPAL COURT**

Function: The municipal judge, prosecuting attorney and court staff are responsible for the adjucation of municipal ordinance and traffic violations, and the collection of all fines and costs assessed by the Court. The judge and prosecuting attorney are appointed by the City Manager in consultation with the City Council.

Monthl	T Casa	laad	Ind	formation
MIDITUIL	y Case	Ivau	1111	ormation

	Alcohol & Drug Related Traffic	Other Traffic	Non-Traffic Ordinance
Cases (citations/informations) pending at start of month	8	293	137
Cases (citations/informations) filed	15	626	152
Cases (citations/informations) disposed			
Jury trial	0	0	0
court/bench trial-GUILTY	0	0	0
court/bench trial-NOT GUILTY	0	0	0
plea of GUILTY in court	11	430	117
Violations Bureau Citations (i.e. written plea of guilty) and			
bond forfeiture by court order (as payment of fines/costs)	0	93	1
dismissed by court	0	46	18
nolle prosegui	0	31	21
certified for jury trial (not heard in Municipal Division)	0	0	0
TOTAL CASE DISPOSITIONS	11	600	157
Cases(citations/informations) pending at			
end of the month [pending caseload = (A+B)-C9]	12	319	132
Trial de Novo and/or appeal applications filed	0	0	0

# FY 2023 Budget

REVENUES		EXPENSES	
Inmate Security Fund Surcharge	\$2,600	Salaries and Wages	\$81,324
Traffic Fines and Forfeits	\$153,000	Overtime	\$2,100
Domestic Shelter Surcharge	\$5,500	FICA	\$5,898
Training Fees	\$4,100	Retirement-LAGERS	\$6,340
Court Costs	\$16,800	Health Insurance	\$19,162
Crime Victim Fees	\$10,300	Life Insurance	\$326
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$100	Workers Comp.	\$182
Interest Income	\$1,600	Professional Services-Legal	\$79,700
Total Revenues	\$194,000	Internet and Cable TV Service	\$1,400
		Other Contractural Services	\$2,500
		Office Supplies	\$1,000
		Computer Maintenance	\$1,200
		Building Maintenance	\$800
		Janitoral Supplies	\$80
		Uniforms	\$500
		Prisoner Retention Fees	\$800
		Professional Development	\$2,400
		Per Diem	\$2,000
		Postage	\$800
		Crime Victim Costs	\$10,300
		P.O.S.T. Expenses	\$1,400
		Domestic Shelter	\$4,100
		Total Expenses	\$224,312

### **Warrant Information**

Number issued during reporting period	385	Number outstanding at end of reporting period	221
Number served/withdrawn during reporting period	168		

# **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**



Community Development Director Barry Blevins helps clean an LCRA lot.

# Planning and Code Enforcement Division

Function: Issues building permits for the new construction and renovation of residential, multifamily and commercial structures; approves flood plain development permits, works with developers in planning and subdividing processes; conducts building and storm water inspections; identifies structures for condemnation in an effort to bring structures back to good order for the safety of the public; issues violations for public nuisances.

### **Building Permits Issued 2022**

Type of Permit	Number of	Cost of
	<b>Permits Issued</b>	Construction
Residential	21	\$3,857,088
Duplex Residential	6	\$1,195,000
Multi-Family Residential	0	\$0
Residential Alterations	31	\$681,596
Commercial	29	\$97,077,601
Total	86	\$102,811,285

### **Building Permits Issued**

The City of Sikeston Code Enforcement Division issues building permits for a variety of construction projects including shed, new construction, and additions and renovations of residential dwellings and commercial buildings. In 2022, a total of 27 residential dwelling permits were issued for new construction, consisting of single family and duplex structures. In addition to new construction, there were 31 permits issued for residential alterations and additions.

Additionally, 29 permits were issued for commercial structures. This includes new construction and substantial additions and renovations. During 2022 the City of Sikeston welcomed the following:

- Carlisle Construction facility with production starting in 2023
- Alan Wire with expansions on Malone Avenue and Southwest Street
- Semo Electric Co-op built a new addition for GoSemo Fiber
- Perfect Storage new facility on Helen Street
- Missouri Delta Outpatient Rehab & Clinic on Plaza to open in 2023
- Lee Hunter School Phase 1 and 2 were completed
- Sikeston Senior High School opened Bulldog Hall
- Sikeston Schools demolished C Building and Matthews Elementary
- Carson's will open after a year of construction on Stalcup Building

- Jersey Mike's completed and opened in January 2023
- Huddle House on Hospitality to open in 2023

### **Inspections**

The Community Development Department conducts inspections on residential and commercial construction and rental dwelling units to help insure the life, safety, and welfare of the occupants, as well as compliance with the adopted building code of the City.

Code Enforcement action resulted in the following in 2022:

- 723 inspections of residential and commercial construction projects
- 89 business license inspections
- 9 rental property inspections
- 830 violations of property maintenance (derelict vehicles, junk and trash, tall grass, etc.)
- 456 violations were abated
- 55% of all violations discovered were abated

### LCRA (Land Clearance Redevelopment Authority)

The Community Development Department along with the LCRA Commission is charged with identifying "blighted" areas within Sikeston, developing, and implementing a plan to provide well-organized residential neighborhoods of decent homes.

The LCRA occasionally purchases title to tax delinquent properties not sold at the Sheriff's sale. It may also receive title to properties through donations. The LCRA consists of a five-member board and support staff that oversees many aspects of public and private real estate development in the City of Sikeston.

One of the primary functions of LCRA is to review development proposals for the sale of LCRA owned property. LCRA action highlights for 2022:

- 40 vacant lots, closed and conveyed title by deed
- 14 lots for DAEOC to finalize items for grant purposes
- 130 lots available for sale
- \$15,000 to clean 50 lots from discarded junk, trash, and debris
- \$17,000 for mowing of owned or vacant lots

# DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES



Governmental Services takes part in Skelebration at the Sikeston Recreation Complex.

## **City Clerk**

Provides administrative support to the City Council, City Manager and all municipal departments of City Hall in addition to filing candidates for City municipal elections, registering citizens to vote, maintaining City cemetery records and processing Open Records Requests. Between 2020-2022, over 115 citizens registered to vote, responded to 15 grave openings and handled 36 open records requests.

## **Community Outreach**

### **Youth in Government Day**

The City acknowledges today's high school students are tomorrow's leaders. General Government in cooperation with the Sikeston Jaycees and Sikeston Public Schools, sponsors the annual event which enables Sikeston High School students to "shadow" the City's elected officials and managerial staff. During this day-long exercise, students are exposed to municipal functions and pertinent issues facing the community. Governmental Services coordinates this event, developing discussion topics and preparing briefing material for students, Council, and staff.

### Schoolfest/Back 2 School Giveaway

Sponsored by Spread Hope Now, City staff, including the mayor, handed out school supplies at Malone Park to students in Kindergarten through 12th grade.

### **Sikeston Skelebration & Trunk or Treat**

City of Sikeston staff handed out candy during the Sikeston Skelebration & Trunk-or-Treat held at the Complex.

### **Light Up Sikeston**

Sponsored by (Sikeston First Assembly of God), the City of Sikeston participated in Light Up Sikeston with a Christmas light display from Sikeston City Council and Staff.



Mayor Turnbow awards the Mayor's Holiday Spirit Award.

### **Mayor's Holiday Spirit Award**

The Mayor's Holiday Spirit Award started in 2021 and is given to the best decorated home and/or yard in Sikeston for the Christmas holiday. Citizens nominate a home, and the winner is selected by the mayor and Tourism Advisory Board and presented a glass award.

# **Internal Operations**

### **City Council Support**

General Government coordinates the preparation, posting and distribution of Council meeting agendas and information packets.

### **Bill Preparation, Codification**

With the passage of municipal laws (ordinances), this legislation must be incorporated into the City's Code of Ordinances (City Code). General Government manages the codification process. (Sikeston City Code is provided in an electronic format, accessible at www.sikeston.org.)

### **Budget Presentation**

General Government personnel assist the City Manager and Finance Director in compiling and publishing the City's annual financial budget.

### **Municipal Record Management and Archival**

General Government remains actively involved in the archival of municipal documents. If oversees the operation of two record storage areas at City Hall and is actively converting documents with permanent retention requirements to a digital, OCR searchable format.

### **Five-Year Capital Improvement Program Plan**

Each year staff prepares a 5-Year Capital Plan, as required by City Charter, for Council's consideration and acceptance. General Government compiles the submissions of all departments, City Manager commentary and project rankings to create this document. Upon Council acceptance, the formal document is posted to the City's website at www. sikeston.org.

# **Communications Manager**

David Jenkins was hired as Communications Manager in 2022. The Communications Manager performs complex administrative, professional, technical, and analytical duties in support of the City's communications and public engagement. This position manages printed, electronic, media relations and social media platforms to ensure alignment with the City's strategic communications plan.

### **Public Information**

General Government maintains the Council's presence on social media. Programming is designed and implemented to keep residents up to date on municipal operations and issues, local events, and weather emergencies.

### **Social Media**

Realizing Facebook is the public's preferred method of communication, General Government has developed campaigns to increase the City's following. At the time of this report, the City's Facebook page had 8,579 followers with a reach of 171,245 in 2022 with 38,003 visits. Both were significant increases from 2021 and continued to increase in January of 2023.

The City has 226 followers on Twitter and 94 followers on Instagram, an account that was created in December of 2022.

### Website activity

In the City's continuing effort to provide transparency in government, the City's website (www.sikeston.org) offers residents access to municipal budgets, audits as well as Council meeting agendas and minutes. The website, which was redesigned in late 2022, also offers city news, along with a full menu of applications and forms that can be completed and submitted electronically. The Sikeston City Code is accessible via the website, offering current, searchable information.

## **Information Technology**

Function: The I.T division, with a staffing level of two full-time employees, supports voice and data functions within all five of the City's departments. In addition, the division manages the City's local area networks, camera systems, Mobile Command unit, virtual networks, wireless access, and network security and troubleshoots personal computers and peripherals for all City employees.

### **Staff**

Sam Villagrana is the Information Technology Manager, becoming responsible for the security and operations of the City's voice and data operations. In this position, he also supports all 911 and DPS technology, including the Citywide camera system and mobile command center. Ben Sexton assists Sam Villagrana as the division's I.T Technician. Additionally, Ben provides employee help desk support, manages the internal SharePoint employee website, and supports network operations throughout the City. Ben also manages all inventory related to desktops and laptops.

### **KnowBe4 software**

The most satisfying project in 2022 consisted of Implementing the KnowBe4 software, which helps train our end-users to identify spam, spoofing, and phishing emails. Since Sep-

tember 2022, employees have reported 201 emails.

### Upgrade of mobile command truck

In 2022 the I.T department worked with DPS to upgrade the mobile command truck by upgrading all cellular devices with 4G devices as the carriers Verizon and AT&T were doing away with their 3G services.

### **Trouble tickets**

In 2022 the I.T. department logged 898 I.T related trouble tickets that employees submitted throughout the City's network infrastructure. 40% of these tickets we responded to in under 1 hour.

### **Municipal data contracts**

The I.T department also administers contracts for municipal data, ISDN, and local and long-distance services that serve all City facilities. It also coordinates wireless communications between Verizon, AT&T FirstNet, T-Mobile and staff, supporting wireless and hotspot service lines. In 2022 the I.T department partnered with T-mobile to offer all first responders a free cellular line through T-mobile's "Heroes Program."

### **Boards and Commissions**

Sikeston's Boards and Commissions provide its citizens with an opportunity to participate in the governing process. Interested residents are appointed by the City Council to collectively provide the Council with recommendations on a variety of issues.

### **Board of Adjustments**

Members: Rob Murphy, Jessie Redd, William Nace, Ron Galemore, Jodi Glide-

Alternate Members: Jim Beaird, James Miller, Inger Roberson

**Legal Advisor:** Tabatha Graham, City Attorney

Staff Representative: Barry Blevins, Community Development Director

### **Board of Appeals**

**Members:** Michael Limbaugh, Larry Hancock, James Beaird, Tim Mitchell, Reade Ferguson, Scott Ezell, Marty

Staff Representative: Barry Blevins. Community Development Director

### **Board of Municipal Utilities**

Members: Tim Merideth, Jon Gilmore, Steven Burch, Brian Menz

Council Representative: Brian Self,

Council Member

Staff Representative: Rick Landers, Director, Board of Municipal Utilities

### **Enhanced Enterprise Zone Board**

Members: Rick Adams, James Miller, Steve Matthews, Tim Mitchell, Britt McConnell

**Sikeston Public School Appointee:** School appointee

Scott County Appointee: County appointee

Staff Representative: Jonathan Douglass, City Manager

### Friends of the Animal Shelter Advisory **Board**

Members: Madeline Bell, Jessica Merideth, Carrie Anne Corso, Andy Caton, Holly Greene, Blake Bain, Sam Gleason

Council Representative: David

Teachout

Staff Representative: Jamie Williams

### **Housing Authority**

Commissioners: Brenda Robinson-Echols, Harry Howard, Ben Ross, Christina King, Viola Blow (Housing Authority Resident)

City Council Liaison: Onethia Williams,

Council Member

Staff Representative: Doug Friend, Director, Sikeston Housing Authority

### **Industrial Development Authority**

Members: Brenda Robinson-Echols, Anna Warf, Steve McPheeters, Terry Williams, Steve Millington

IDA Attorney: Fred H. Thornton, III Staff Representative: Jonathan Douglass, City Manager

### **Land Clearance for Redevelopment Advisory Committee**

Members: Carrie Lape, Brenda Robinson-Echols, Clayton Driskill, Michael

Harris, Dan Marshall Council Liaison: John Leible Staff Representatives: Barry Blevins,

Community Development Director; Marty Evans, Code Enforcement

### **Library Board of Trustees**

Trustees: Greg Colwick, Libby Caskey, Connie Thompson, Karen Evans, Laura Tongate, Trevor Miller, Melissa Kelley, Colleen Flaker, Carolyn Harris Council Liaison: David Teachout Staff Representative: Ron Eifert, Library Director

### **Park Board**

Members: Austin Curtis, Jeff Hay, Pershard Owens, Jared Straton, Tre Holley, Jason Davis, Wade Hamra, Mark Grimes, Charlotte York

Council Representative: Tom Robison Staff Representative: Dustin Care, Director of Parks & Recreation

### Planning and Zoning Commission

Members: Missy Marshall, Fred "Chip" Thornton, Gary Ozment, Rob Murphy, Larry Hancock, Gordon Jones, William Watson II, James Miller

Council Representatives: Vest Baker, Mayor Representative; Tom Robison,

Council Member

Staff Representatives: Barry Blevins, Community Development Director; Bruce Copeland, Code Enforcement Building Inspector; Tabatha Graham, City Attorney; Jeff Winders, Board of Municipal Utilities

### **Public Safety Advisory Board**

Members: Ned Matthews, Andy Caton, Harry Howard, Jeff Hay, David Terrell, Nathan Cox, Gordon Jones, Karen Evans Council Representative: David Teachout, Council Member

Staff Representative: James McMillen, Sikeston DPS Director

### **Scott County Extension Council**

Council Appointee: Lori Caldwell

### **SEMO University-Sikeston Campus Advisory Council**

Members: Christina King, Jessica Merideth, Agnes Mason, Mary Below, Shirley Love, Austin Curtis, Jaxon Marie Wright, Scott Ezell, Wanda Harrington, Tiara Riggs-Butler, Libby Caskey, Susan Howle Werner, Toni Dee, Ron Payne, Lori

Staff Representative: Shantone Howard, Director

### **Tourism Advisory Board**

Contact Person: Kathy Medley, Sikeston **Regional Chamber** 

Council Appointees: Susanne Chitwood, Shelley McTigue, Derek Hale, Mandy Leible, Clayton Driskill (Jaycee representative)

Council Representatives: John Leible, Council Member; Onethia Williams, Council Member

Ex-Officio Member: Marcie Lawson. Sikeston Regional Chamber; Jason Davis, Historic Downtown

Staff Representative: Dustin Care, Parks Director

### Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Commission

Members: Nathan Cox, Missy Marshall, Matt Marshall, Rik LaPlant, Clayton Driskill, Matt Drake

**Appointees-Sikeston Public Schools:** TBD

**Appointees-Scott County Commis**sioners: TBD

**Appointee-Scott County At-Large:** 

Staff Representative: Karen Bailey, Finance Director

### **Traffic Committee**

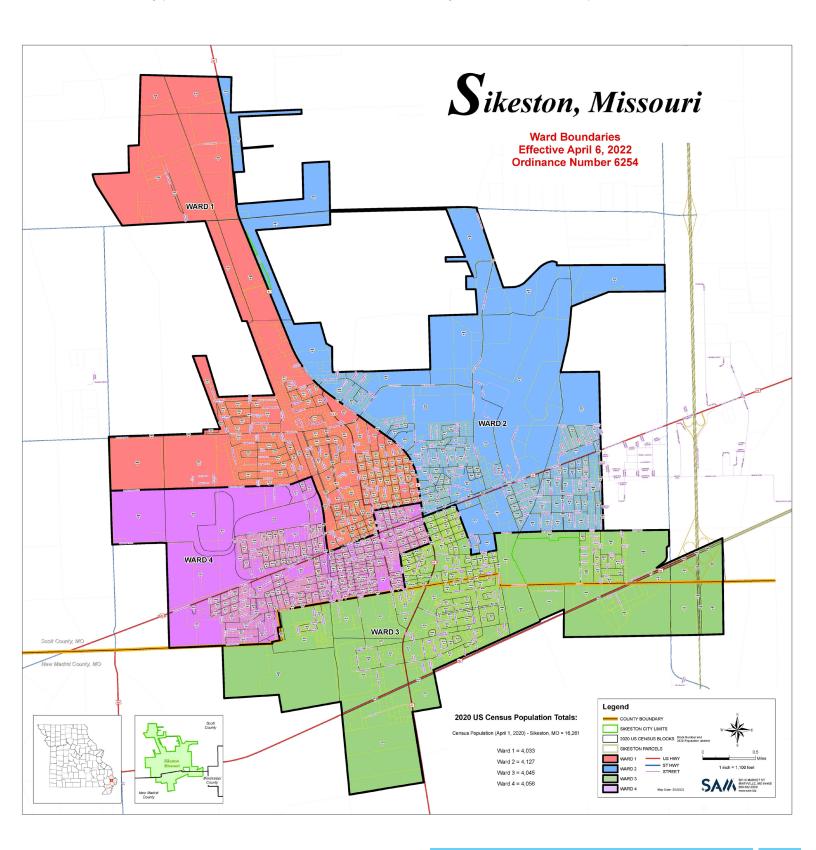
Members: Fred Thornton; Missy Marshall; Emory McCauley, Jr.; James Miller; Jim McClure

Alternate Members: William Watson II, Keira Baker, Wanda Harrington Staff Representatives: Brian Dial, Street Superintendent; James Donner, Depart-

ment of Public Safety

# Ward Changes

During its Dec. 6, 2021, regular meeting, the Sikeston City Council approved the new ward boundaries for the city. The new boundary lines included placing all of New Madrid County voters in Ward 3, which eliminated the need for one New Madrid County poll. The new boundaries took effect in 2022. They can be seen in the map below.



# **HISTORIC DOWNTOWN SIKESTON**





The annual Wine Festival draws people from all over the area.

### **Downtown Growth**

Downtown Sikeston continues to grow. In 2022 one couldn't miss the renovation and restoration of the old Stallcup Building that is now Carson's as well as the old US Bank Building that now houses DAEOC.

New businesses have also located Downtown such as Carson's, Stage and Play, and Stogies of Sikeston.

### **Organization Growth**

The Historic Downtown Sikeston group as continued to see growth as well:

- A Garden Club was created that is working to care for all of the flowers/shrubs around downtown.
- The HDS Design Committee started the Art in the Alley project to help add life to the alleys
- The HDS Organization Committee has been working diligently to increase the partnership between HDS and the public, including with people outside of the Downtown district.
- The HDS Economic Vitality Committee has been working to define the boundaries of Downtown so that they can be prepared for better communication about the Downtown district.
- The HDS Promotions Committee made sure the St. Patrick's Day Festival and the Wine Festival were great experiences that drove people to the Downtown district

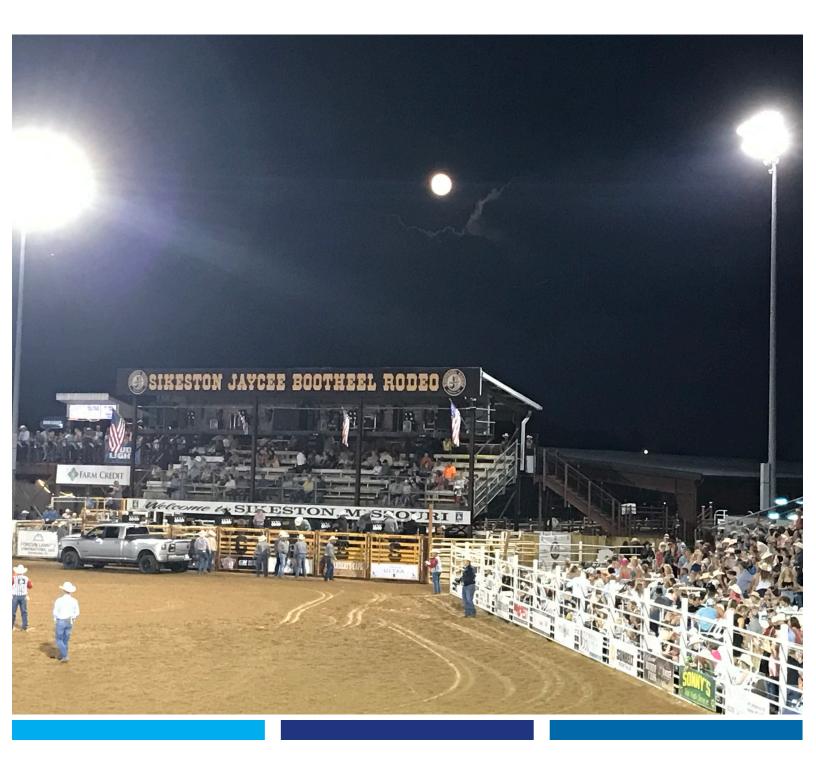
### **Other Events**

■ Music in the Park was a great success this summer, and for the first time in several years, there was not a rainout of any of the Friday night concerts.

- The Holiday Open House, Tree Lighting, and Parade of Lights provided a "Hallmark" atmosphere for our community to come and celebrate the season with an great experience.
- Farmer's Market continues to be a staple in the Spring, Summer, and Fall.



Children play in the fountain at Legion Park during Music in the Park.





# **City of Sikeston Annual Report 2022**

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