



FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Keith Widaman
Dardenne Prairie, MO

Dear Residents,

As we close out the third quarter of 2025, I'm proud to share the many accomplishments our city achieved together. From technology upgrades and infrastructure improvements to community celebrations, these efforts reflect Dardenne Prairie's continued commitment to modernization, transparency, and community pride.

Modernizing City Operations

- *IT Leadership:* Dardenne Prairie welcomed its first Information Technology (IT) Manager, who now leads daily technology operations and long-term modernization planning.
- *Cybersecurity Enhancements:* We implemented multi-factor authentication (MFA) across all the city's user facing end points, significantly improving protection of municipal data and resident information.
- *Digital Transformation:* A new electronic timekeeping and leave-management system is being integrated and will replace outdated paper forms, streamlining approvals, accuracy, and recordkeeping for all City departments.
- *Website Redesign:* A six-month redesign project is underway to build a modern, mobile-friendly City website that makes it easier for residents to find information, submit requests, and stay connected.

Infrastructure and Public Works

- *Town Square Overlay Project:* The city completed a major street improvement project extending from the I-64 bridge to Bryan Road and the west side of Winghaven Boulevard, including new asphalt overlay, pavement markings, and sidewalk repairs to enhance safety and accessibility.
- *Winter Preparedness:* With St. Charles County discontinuing snow service within city limits, the city procured and selected a new snow-removal contractor to ensure reliable and timely service this winter.

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Community Engagement and Quality of Life

- *Prairie Day 2025:* This year's Prairie Day celebration was one of our best yet! Thousands of residents and families came together for a day of fun, live music, great food, and community spirit. We added several new attractions, including a mechanical bull, multiple bounce houses, and expanded vendor offerings. This created a full day of entertainment for all ages. Prairie Day continues to be a cornerstone event that showcases the heart of Dardenne Prairie and the people who make it special.
- *10-Acre Parcel Public Input:* The City hosted a public input session to gather ideas for the future of the City-owned 10-acre property at Post Road and Town Square Boulevard. The feedback received will guide future planning and ensure that any development aligns with community values and priorities.
- *Motorized Play Vehicles Ordinance:* In response to resident safety concerns, the Board adopted a new ordinance regulating minibikes and other motorized play vehicles, promoting safety while supporting responsible recreation in our neighborhoods

Good Governance and Fiscal Responsibility

- *Comprehensive Salary Study:* The city completed a salary study for both employees and elected officials to ensure fair, competitive, and transparent compensation that reflects our community's expectations and regional standards.

Looking Ahead

As we enter the final quarter of 2025, our focus turns to completing the 2026 City Budget, implementing the next phase of our technology modernization plan, and finalizing the city website redesign. We'll also continue to enhance our parks, trails, and community space by investing in the amenities that define Dardenne Prairie's quality of life.

Thank you to all residents, volunteers, and city staff who make our community stronger every day. Together, we continue to preserve what makes Dardenne Prairie unique while preparing for a bright future ahead.

Sincerely,

Keith Widaman

Mayor, City of Dardenne Prairie