



CARL E. OFFICER, Mayor

FACT SHEET: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: MARCH 1, 1988
CONTACT: JAMES INGRAM

3/2/88
xc: Vince Mottacai
Jim Ryan
Diane Bartolozzo
Mayor Officer praised
in his State of the City last
night Max and I were there.
Bill
File Krummrich

STATE OF THE CITY

RIVERFRONT:

RESOURCE RECOVERY PLANT: As scheduled, City Administrator, Benjamin D. Brown, recommends major international construction and waste energy firm, Bechtel, to be Turnkey Contractor for the Resource Recovery Plant.

PORT: A. In negotiation with potential Turnkey Developers involving two major firms located in East St. Louis, Continental Grain and Bulk Services.

B. In process of purchasing land for Port.

NATIONAL PARK: Latest update of Department of Interior action - final meeting proposed April 4. See Attachment

GOLF COURSE: Proposed 18 hole golf course named for Lee Elder, first major Black competitor on tour..

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT:

CITY HALL PLAZA: Proposed enclosed mall at the intersection of Broadway and Collinsville which includes Municipal Building Project.

DOWNTOWN MALL: Includes renovation of Majestic Theatre and variety of retail stores.

HOUSING: Illini Consulting and Development Corporation will be establishing (2) housing factories in East St. Louis in cooperation and support of St. Luke Rehabilitation Corporation. They are:

A. Hexagon Panel Factory - 12 employees

B. Redman Homes - Modular Factory - 20-25 employees

Training will be provided to people in the factory and during construction of the homes.

C. The Joyner residence at 14th & Russell and six models will start construction next week..

DSW 136383

FACT SHEET (CONTINUED)

DATE: MARCH 1, 1988

ARTS AND CULTURE:

ARTS COMMISSION: Recommend action to Council for an 18 member commission to include representatives from the local business and arts community.

MAJESTIC THEATRE: Rehabilitation as part of the downtown mall development and will be included in the Performing Arts Center.

RIVERFRONT MUSIC FESTIVAL: Proposed annual major event on the waterfront.

DOWNTOWN ARTS FESTIVAL: A joint effort of artists and businesses to stimulate the new spirit of downtown.

NEW BUSINESS:

PROPOSED:

Madame C. J. Walker Manufacturing Company - (150 jobs)
Rally's Hamburger Franchise - (47 jobs)
Tenses Steak House - (40 jobs)
Speed Lube - (15 jobs)
Illini Consulting & Development Corporation - (35 jobs)

AND

over 25 pending business applications resulting in over 200 jobs.

FIRM:

National Supermarket - (150-175 jobs)
Family Dollar Variety Store (17 jobs)
Virgil L. Calvert, Sr. Eastwood Forest
Nursing Care Center (120 jobs)
Lewis and Sons, Inc. - (expanding 10 new jobs)

AND

over 50 firms committed to opening businesses resulting in 150 new jobs.

DSW 136384

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

ST. LOUIS/TUESDAY

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1966

DSW 136385

Plan To Expand Arch Park Grounds To Illinois Gets Twin Boost

By H.J. Jackson
Of the Post-Dispatch Staff

A proposal to expand the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial — the federal park around the Gateway Arch — to the east side of the Mississippi River got a twin boost Monday.

East St. Louis officials promised to give \$300,000 to develop the park, while a St. Louis group supporting the proposal promised to turn over 50 acres of land to the project.

The commitments were seen as the last obstacles needed to secure approval of the park by Secretary of Interior Donald P. Hodel.

"Interior sees this as great progress in realizing the park to the East Side," said Michael J. O'Bannon, assistant to the assistant secretary and controller of the department. "We can see no reason at this point why the plan can't be approved."

Hodel's approval could come as early as Wednesday, officials said.

Late last year, a 10-member commission appointed by Hodel completed a plan for a 100-acre park extension. The plan calls for a park stretching along the riverfront from the Eads to the Poplar Street bridges.

Before approval is granted, O'Ban-

non said, the department needs "binding commitments" from East St. Louis, Illinois Gov. James R. Thompson and the Gateway Center for Metropolitan St. Louis, group of park proponents headed by Malcolm W. Martin, a lawyer from St. Louis.

Thompson gave a written commitment to the park months ago.

On Monday, East St. Louis Mayor Carl St. Officer gave O'Bannon a commitment to support the park by using money from the city's federal Community Development Block Grant fund.

"This is not an East St. Louis park,"

Officer said. "It's an expansion of the Jefferson Memorial."

"We're a part of America, and we're pleased that Interior is working along with us."

Martin was elated at the developments.

"As soon as the secretary designates the area, we'll get the show on the road — splendid, fine," Martin said. "This was not difficult. It was our intention to do this in the first place."

"It will take some time to transfer the title. But if they want to cut the grass and clean up the land, they can

treat it like it's theirs."

Officer said the city planned to sign over the streets and other city-owned facilities in the park area. Along with the commitment for \$300,000, Officer also gave O'Bannon a resolution supporting the park. The resolution was adopted Nov. 24 by the East St. Louis Aldermanic Council.

Officer, Martin, O'Bannon and representatives from Missouri and Illinois will meet Wednesday in the Interior Department's offices in Washington.

Hodel could give his approval then, officials said.

O'Bannon said that several points of the plan that have been objects of debate can be worked out after Hodel approves it.

One of those points was what to do with the Continental Grain Co. elevators on the northern edge of the park site.

Officer and O'Bannon would say only that some "delicate" negotiations have been under way concerning the future of the grain elevators.

In the past, Officer has said that he would not allow the company to be pushed out of East St. Louis. It is a good citizen and a consistent taxpayer, he said.