

# St. Louis



**CHESAPEAKE  
CONNECT2024**  
A PROGRAM OF THE BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI | OCTOBER 15-17, 2024

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## **SCHEDULE**

<b>Tuesday   October 15th</b>	<b>18</b>
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<b>Wednesday   October 16th</b>	<b>22</b>
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<b>Thursday   October 17th</b>	<b>28</b>
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<b>BMC BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b>	<b>38</b>
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<b>BMC STAFF</b>	<b>38</b>
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# WHY SAINT LOUIS

By now, we hope you've read that Baltimore City and St. Louis are the two largest independent cities in the United States. This means that these cities are outside the territory of any county and act as their own local governments. Outside of Virginia, there are only three independent cities in the United States. The easy answer to the question "Why St. Louis?" is that we want to explore what this dynamic has meant to our Midwestern peer since the peak of the city's population in the 1950's. What role do anchor institutions play in the economy and daily life? What plans does the City have to grow their population? Most importantly, we want to learn about their regional landscape and the relationship between St. Louis City and County.

One shared success for St. Louis City and County is Forest Park. Forest Park, which sits just inside the county line, hosted the 1904 World's Fair and is now home to the Missouri History Museum, the St. Louis Zoo, and the St. Louis Art Museum. These cultural institutions are free and open to the public due in part to innovative funding from the City and County and the work of a well-funded non-profit charged with caring for the park. Outside of the park, we will learn about the Great Rivers Greenway, a philanthropically-funded entity that is building a network of trails that will connect employment centers, highlight the region's

history, and reconnect communities that were divided by the highway boom of the 1960's and 70's.

Like Baltimore, St. Louis is home to world class anchor institutions. The region is leveraging the power of those entities to drive economic development. Our group will visit two innovation districts – Cortex and 39 North – to see firsthand how the area is using the investments of universities and the federal government to support small businesses and drive growth. On a smaller scale, we will visit residential districts where non-profit partners are working with communities to develop their local economies and create places people are proud to call home.

In many ways, planning this trip to St. Louis was like looking into a mirror. At BMC we spend a lot of time looking at data, and the similarities between our regions is uncanny. What the numbers can't capture is the pride that St. Louisans have in their hometown and how happy they have been to share it with us. You're going to feel at home in the web of distinct neighborhoods; you're going to understand how closely they hold their history; you're going to get it when they ask you where you went to high school; and you're going to love toasted ravioli and gooey butter cake.

# TIMELINE

Pre-  
1764

By the mid-18th century, five Native American tribes occupied the area that would become St. Louis: the Cahokia, Kaskaskia, Michigamea, Peoria, and Tamaroa.

1764

Pierre Laclede Liguist, Auguste Choteau, and a group of fur traders found the city of St. Louis.

1803

Missouri becomes part of the United States in the Louisiana Purchase, which doubled the size of the country.

1804

William Clark, Meriwether Lewis, and the Corps of Discovery begin their westward expedition from St. Charles, then known as Les Petites Côtes.

1965

Designed by a Finnish-American architect in 1947, the 630-foot Gateway Arch is completed. The monument to westward expansion opens to the public two years later.

1964

Ed and Margie Imo open their first Imo's Pizza Parlor, creating a square St. Louis-style pizza. The provol-smothered pizza joins toasted raviolis, gooey butter cake, and frozen custard as the city's iconic dishes.

1953

After the 1953 baseball season, the St. Louis Browns relocate to Baltimore and become the Orioles, seven years before the birth of Cal Ripkin Jr.

1944

Judy Garland stars in *Meet Me in St. Louis*, a musical film about four sisters in the lead-up to the 1904 World's Fair.

1971

Voters approve the creation of the Metropolitan Zoological Park and Museum District, a cultural tax district that publically funds the St. Louis Zoo and St. Louis Art Museum. The Science Center, Missouri History Museum, and Missouri Botanical Garden are later added to the district.

1993

The Great Flood of 1993 has an unprecedented impact on communities along the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers. In August, the Mississippi River at St. Louis crests at 49.58 feet, the highest stage ever recorded.

2006

After two years of construction, Busch Stadium opens in April. The St. Louis Cardinals beat the Milwaukee Brewers 6-4 in their first home game in the new stadium.

2016

The St. Louis Rams relocate to Los Angeles, leading to a \$790m legal settlement with the city in 2021.

1820

The Missouri Compromise admits Missouri to the Union as a slave state. Maine and the remaining Louisiana Purchase territory north of 36° 30' enter as free states.

1826

Originally based in St. Charles, the state's government moves to Jefferson City, located halfway between St. Louis and Kansas City.

1846

Dred and Harriet Scott sue for their freedom in the St. Louis Circuit Court. The case ultimately escalates to the US Supreme Court, and the Dred Scott decision brought the nation closer to civil war.

1854

Following the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act, the violent Missouri-Kansas Border War elevates the frontier fight over slavery to a national issue.

1916

St. Louis passes an ordinance preventing anyone from buying a home in a neighborhood more than 75% occupied by another race. The ordinance was struck down by the US Supreme Court the following year.

1904

The World's Fair is hosted in St. Louis' Forest Park and introduces visitors to the ice cream cone.

1879

Adolphus Busch and Eberhard Anheuser's partnership transforms an area brewery into Anheuser-Busch Brewing Association, one of the nation's leading lager companies.

1876

Residents vote to separate St. Louis City and St. Louis County.

2018

The Muny – the nation's first municipally-owned outdoor theater – celebrates its 100th anniversary season. Fittingly, *Meet Me in St. Louis* is in the season's lineup.

2020

The St. Louis County prosecutor announces that no charges will be filed against the former Ferguson police officer who shot and killed 18-year-old Michael Brown six years prior. Protests arise across the city and country.

2023

A crowd of more than 22,000 fans goes wild as St. Louis City Soccer Club wins its first-ever home match at the newly-opened CITYPARK.

2024

Brickline Greenway receives nearly \$10 million from the US Department of Transportation to fund a new portion of the planned route in Midtown. The project will create a pedestrian pathway above the interstate, improving the area's connectivity and accessibility.



# GETTING AROUND



## Live! By Loews

799 Clark Ave, St. Louis, MO 63102  
(314) 597-9700

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15

- 1 Forest Park Visitor Center
- 2 Missouri History Museum

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16

- 3 Cortex Innovation Community

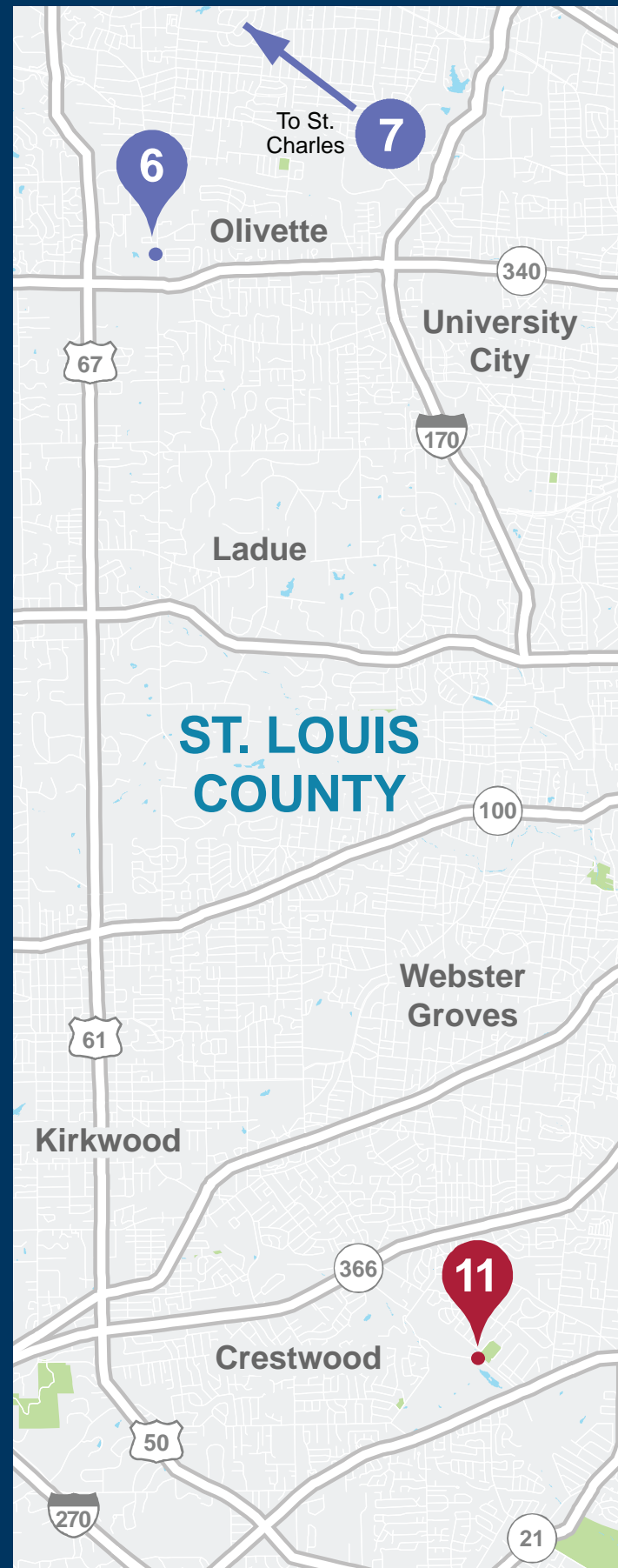
*Smaller groups will attend one of five breakout sessions within and around the Greater St. Louis region.*

- 4 Beyond Housing
- 5 Cherokee Street
- 6 39 North
- 7 St. Charles
- 8 Great Rivers Greenway

- 9 CITYPARK

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17

- 10 Ballpark Village
- 11 Grant's Farm



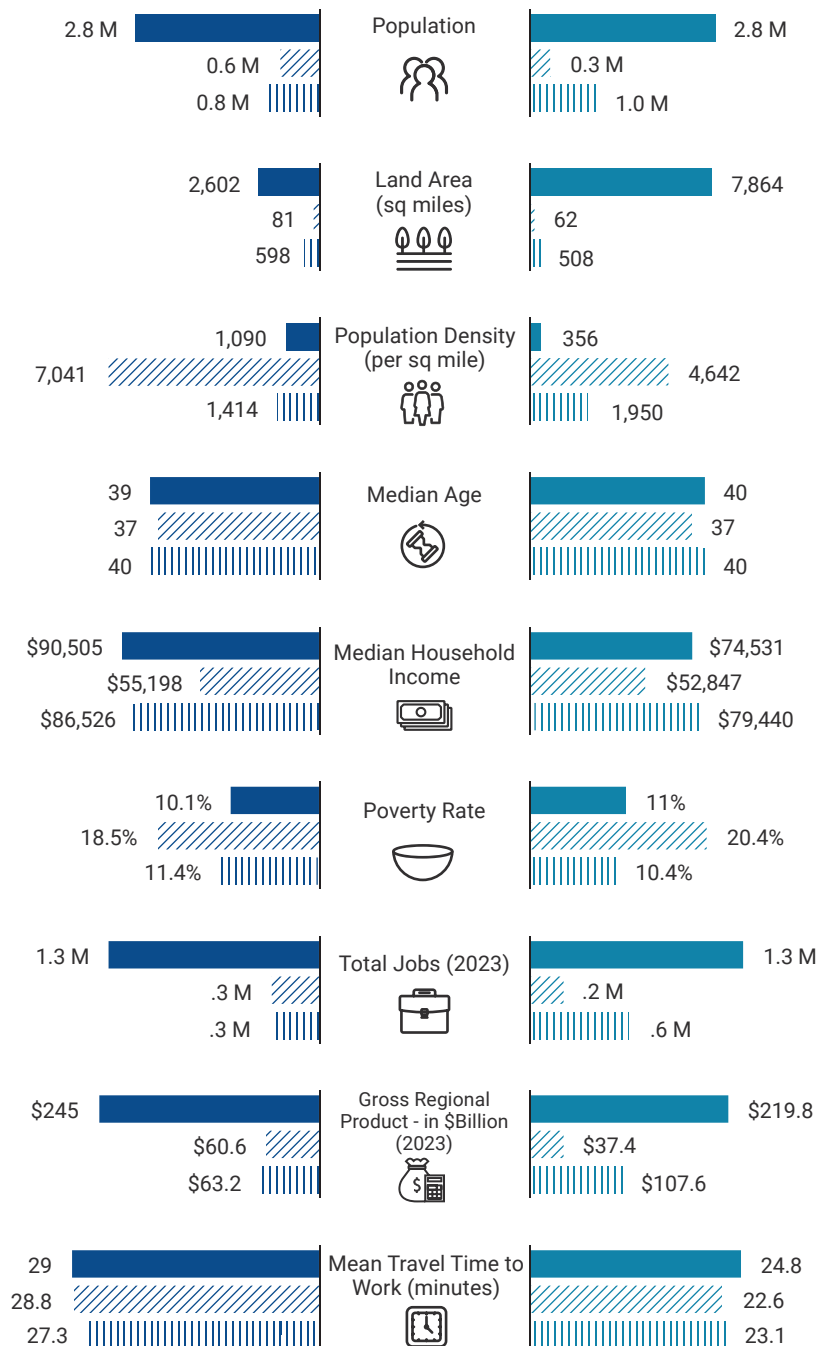


# PEER COMPARISON

## General Demographics

■ Baltimore (MSA)  
 ▨ Baltimore (City)  
 ▮ Baltimore (County)

■ St. Louis (MSA)  
 ▨ St. Louis (City)  
 ▮ St. Louis (County)

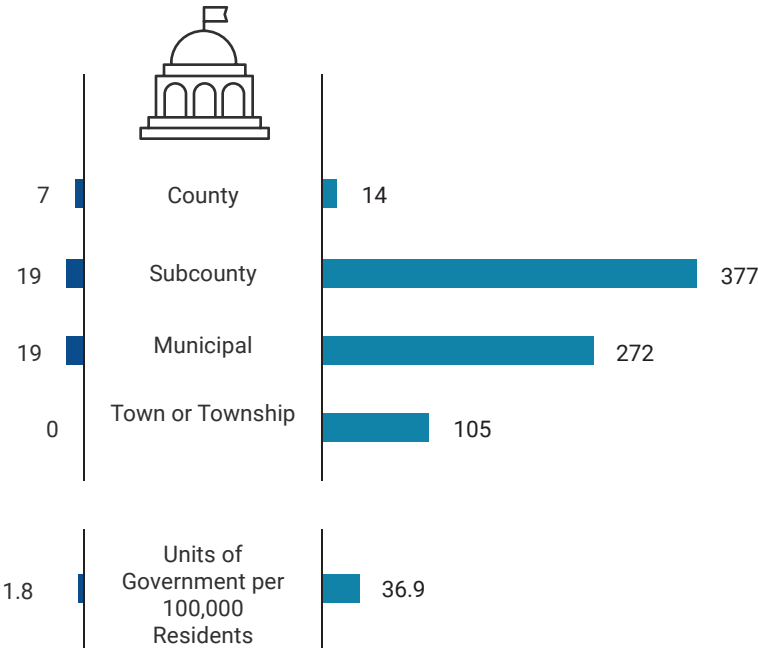




# Total Units of Government

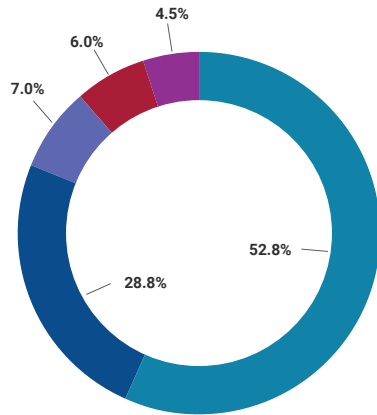
Baltimore (MSA)

St. Louis (MSA)

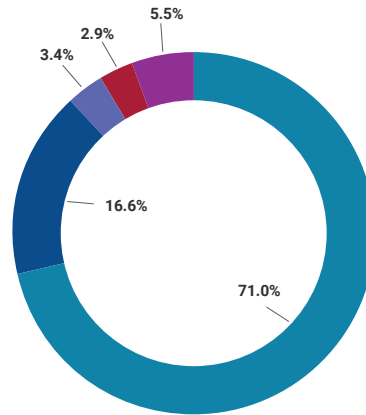


# Race/Ethnicity Demographics

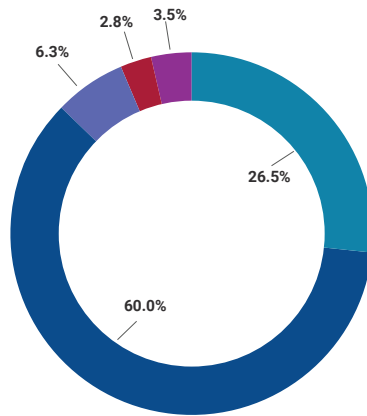
Baltimore (MSA)



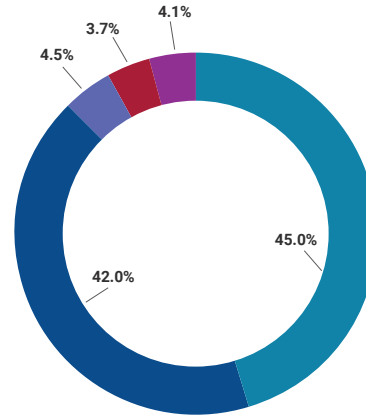
St. Louis (MSA)



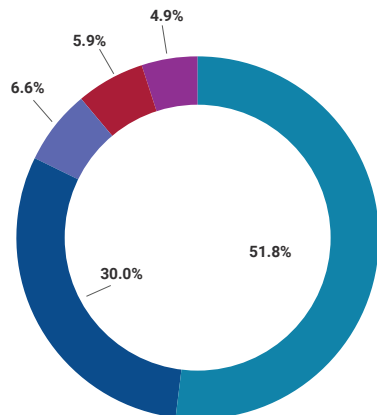
Baltimore (City)



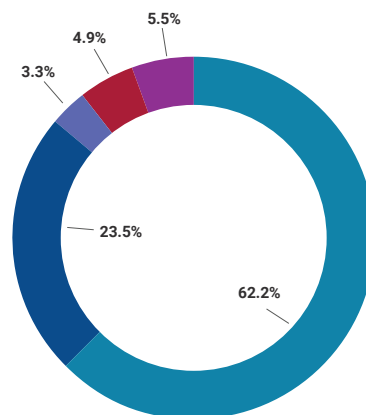
St. Louis (City)



Baltimore (County)



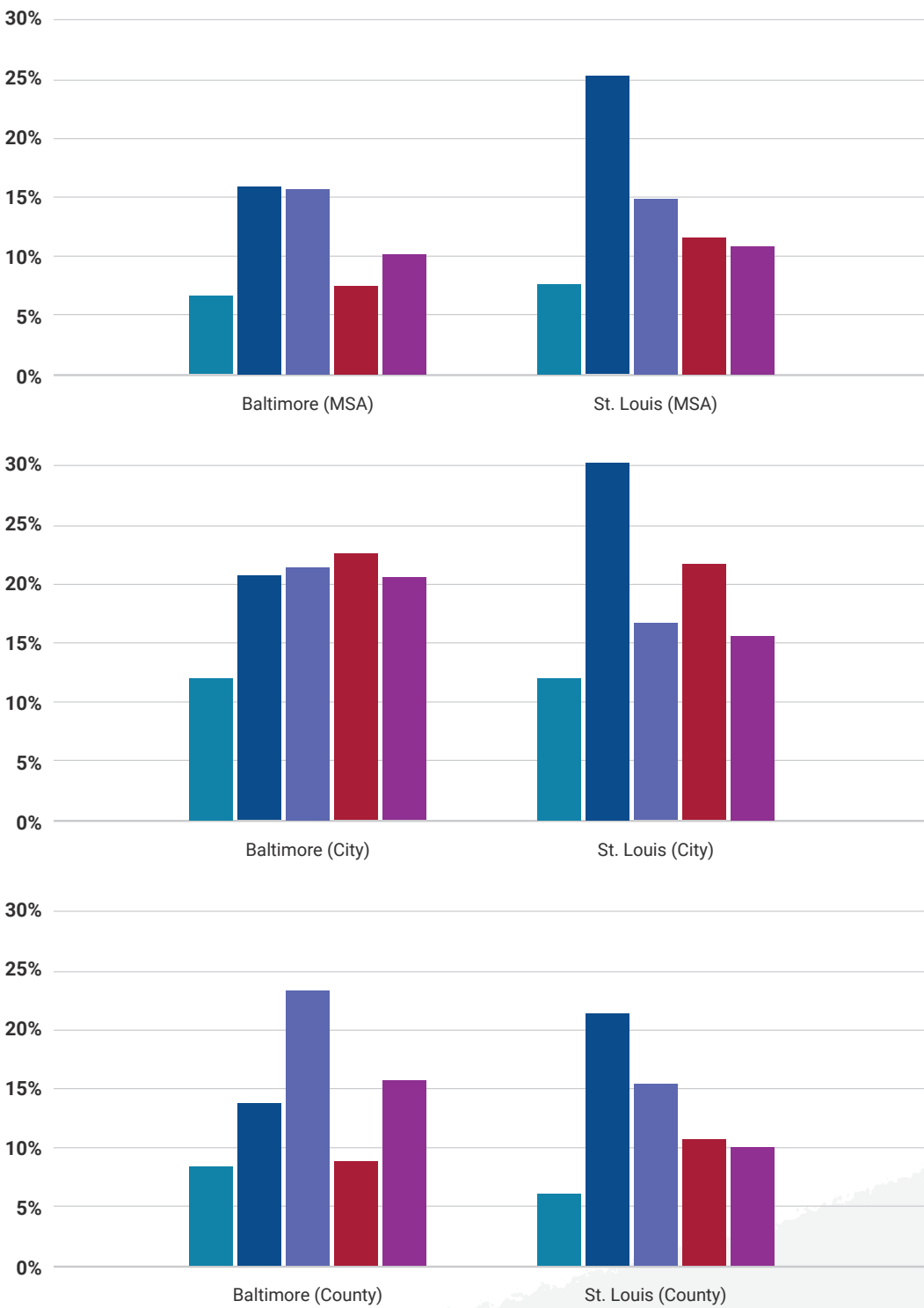
St. Louis (County)



■ White
 ■ Black
 ■ Hispanic
 ■ Asian
 ■ Two or more races

# Population in Poverty by Race

White Black Hispanic Asian Two or more races

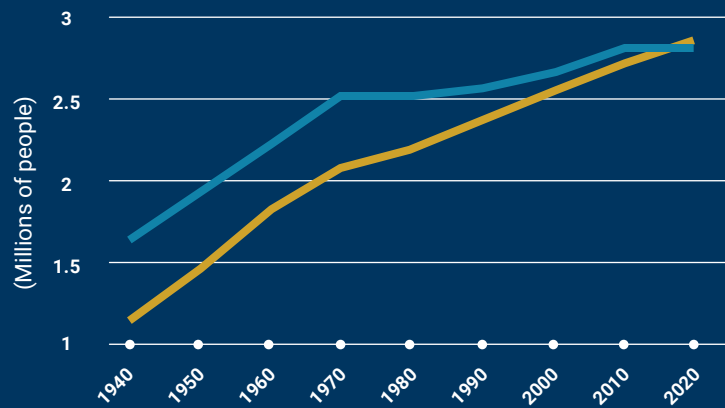
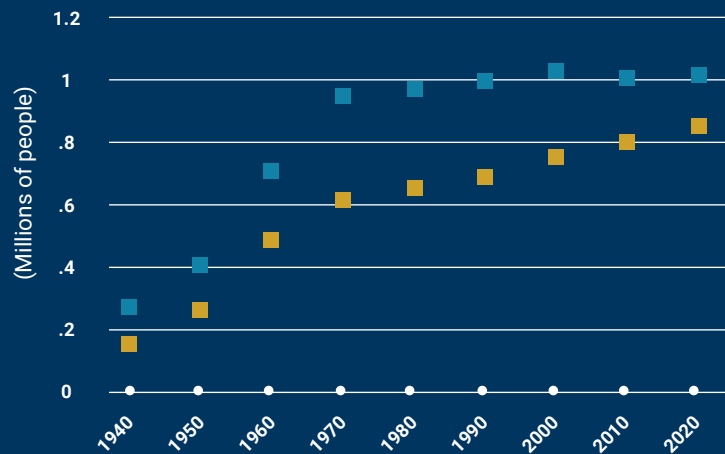
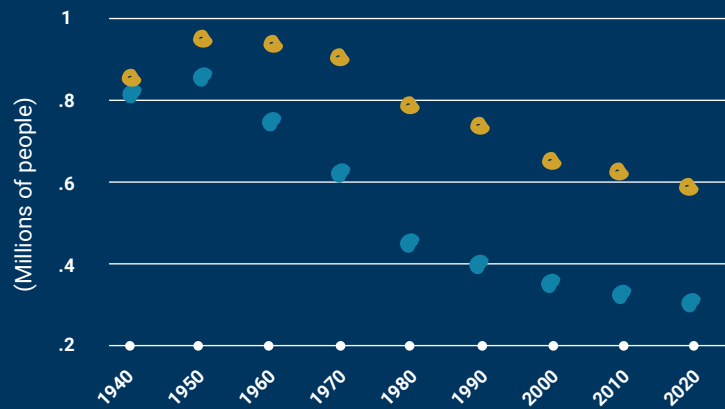






## Population Over Time

● Baltimore (City)    ■ Baltimore (County)    — Baltimore (MSA)  
● St. Louis (City)    ■ St. Louis (County)    — St. Louis (MSA)



St. Louis County  
**88**  
municipalities

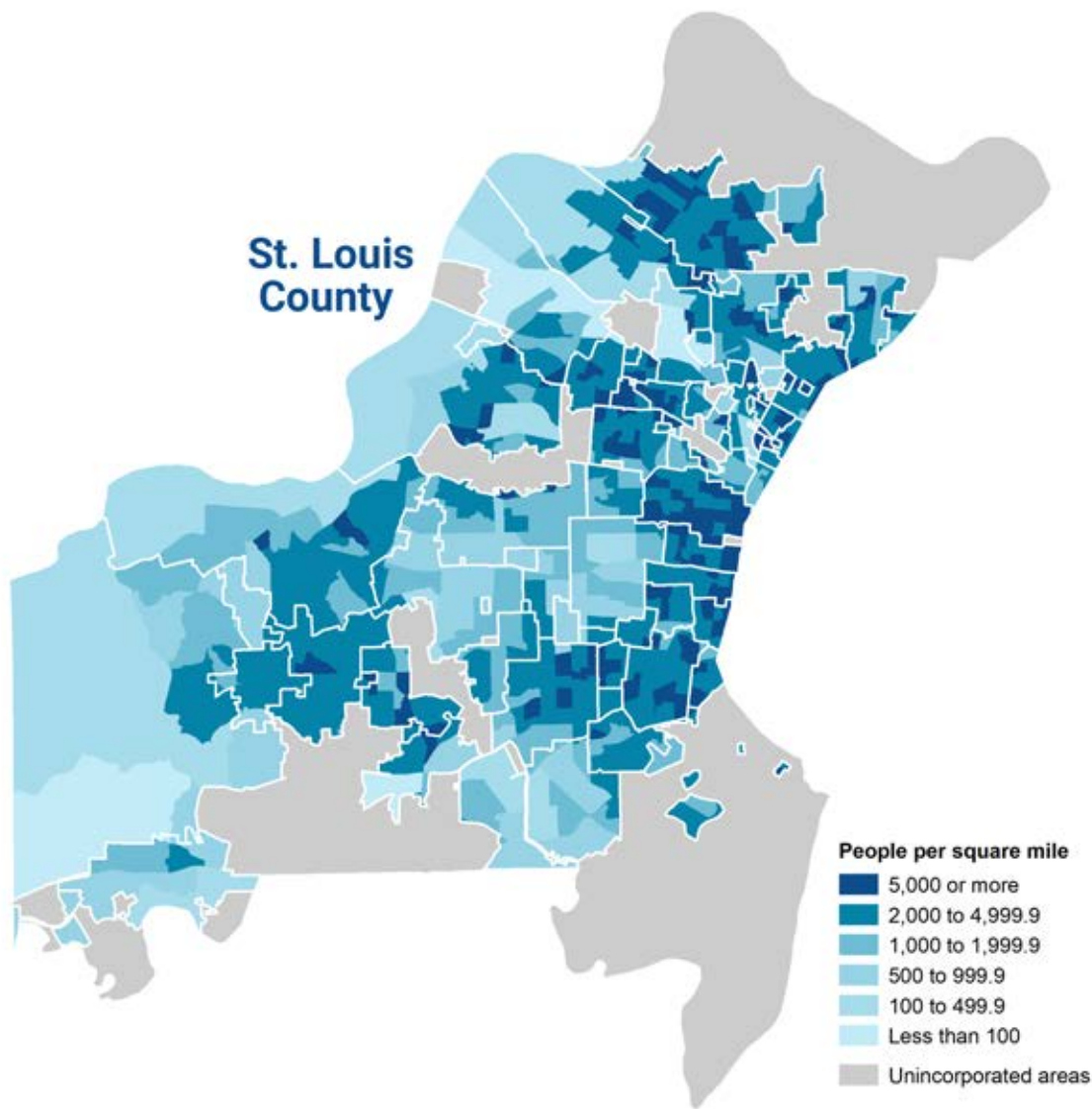
Baltimore County  
**0**  
municipalities

Largest  
municipality  
Florissant  
population  
**51,812**

Smallest  
municipality  
Champ  
population  
**10**

**53**  
municipalities  
have less than  
**5,000**  
residents

**22**  
municipalities  
have less than  
**1,000**  
residents

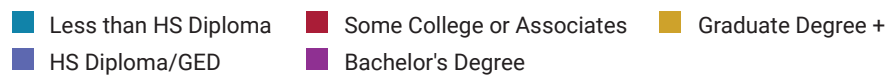


**10**  
largest municipalities =  
**48.3%**  
municipal population

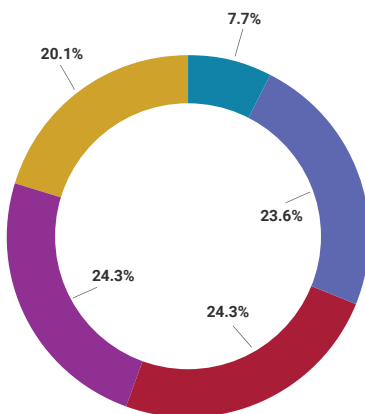
Over **50%**  
have a total land area of  
**< one mile**

**69%**  
of St. Louis County  
residents live in  
municipalities

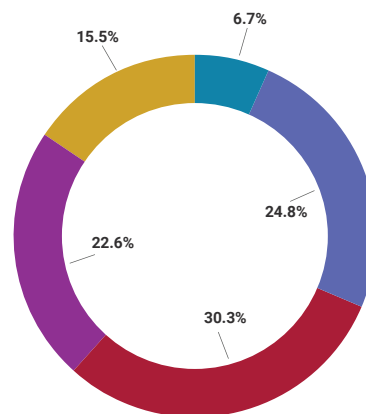
## Educational Attainment



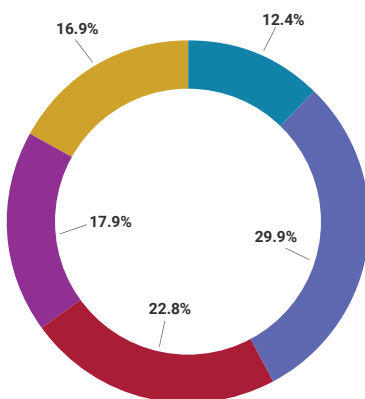
**Baltimore (MSA)**



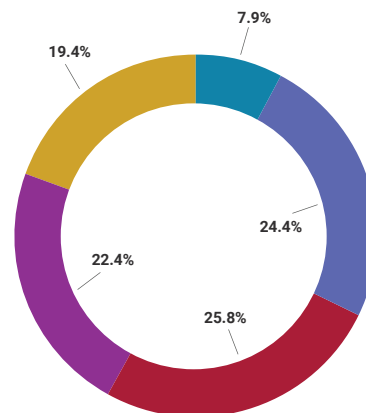
**St. Louis (MSA)**



**Baltimore (City)**



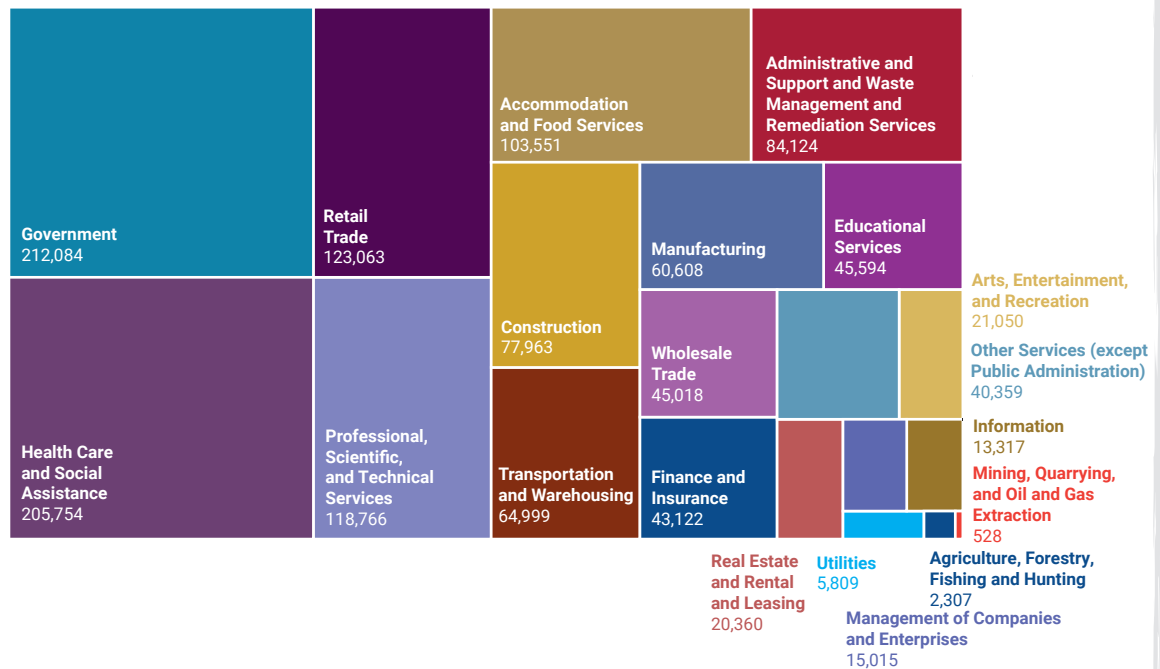
**St. Louis (City)**



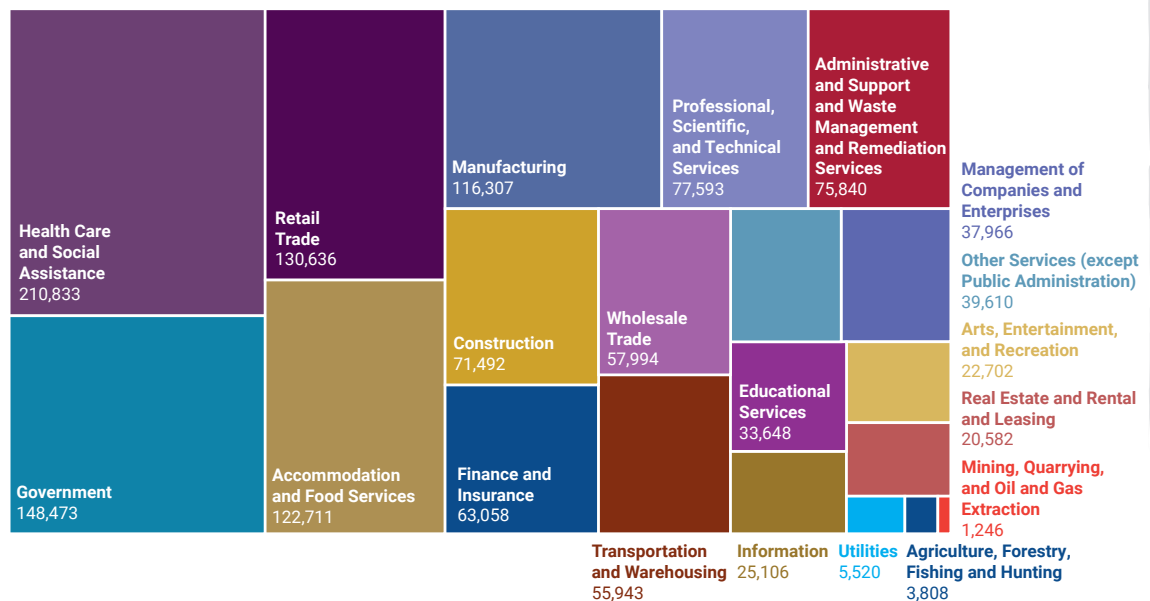


# Employment by Industry

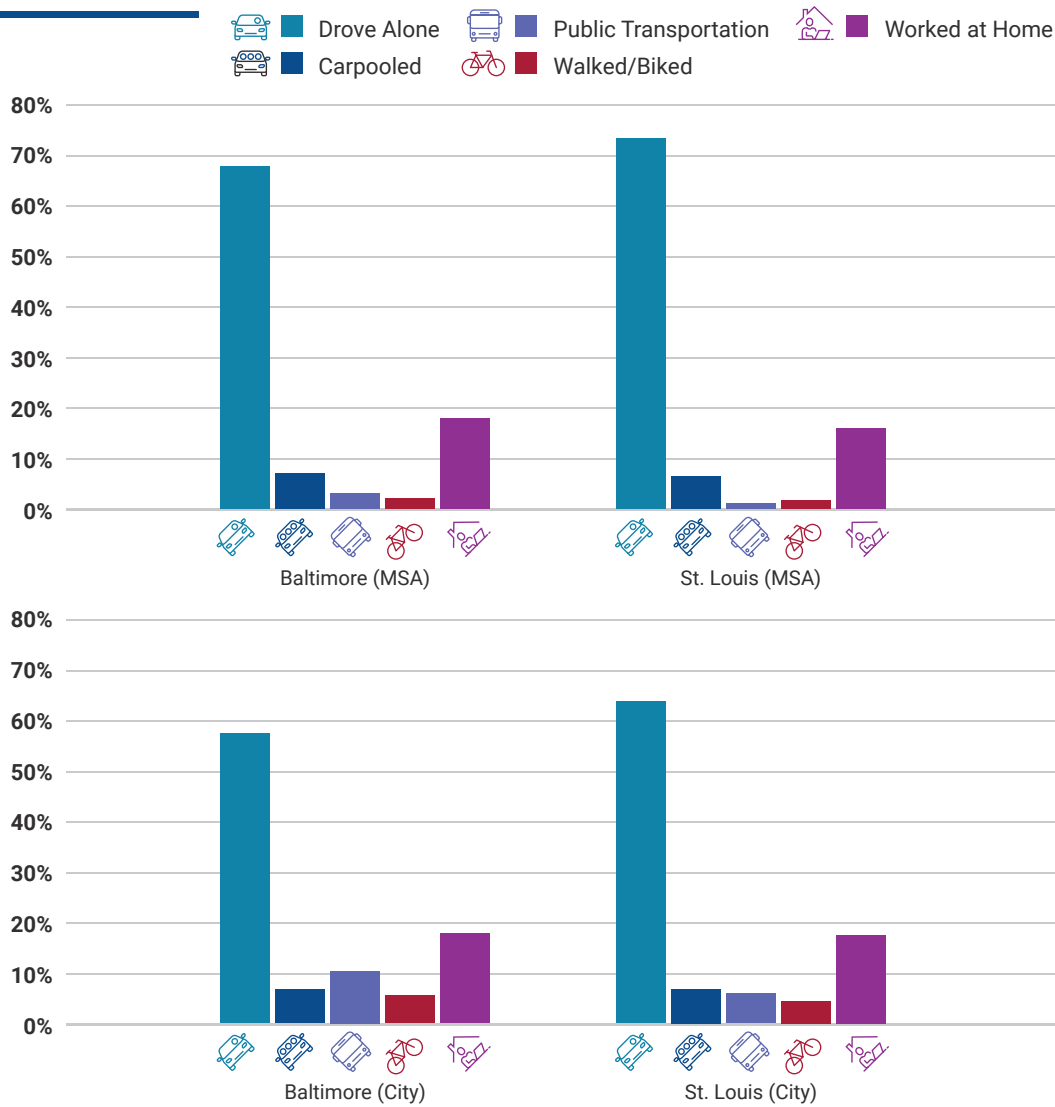
## BALTIMORE (MSA)



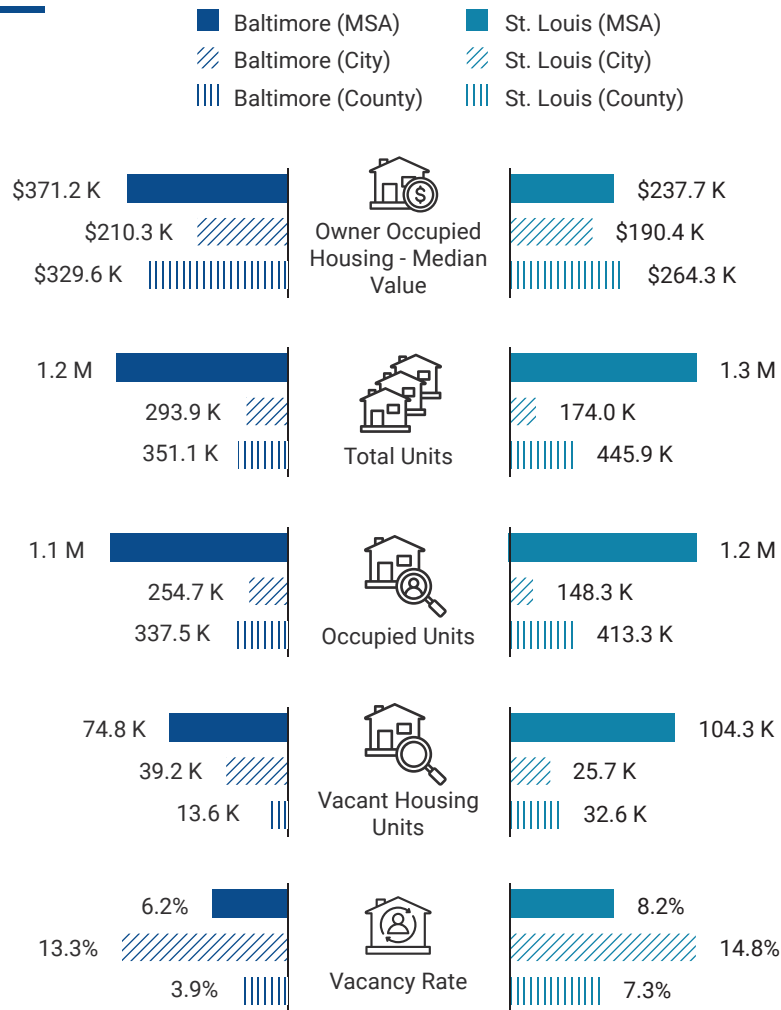
## ST. LOUIS (MSA)



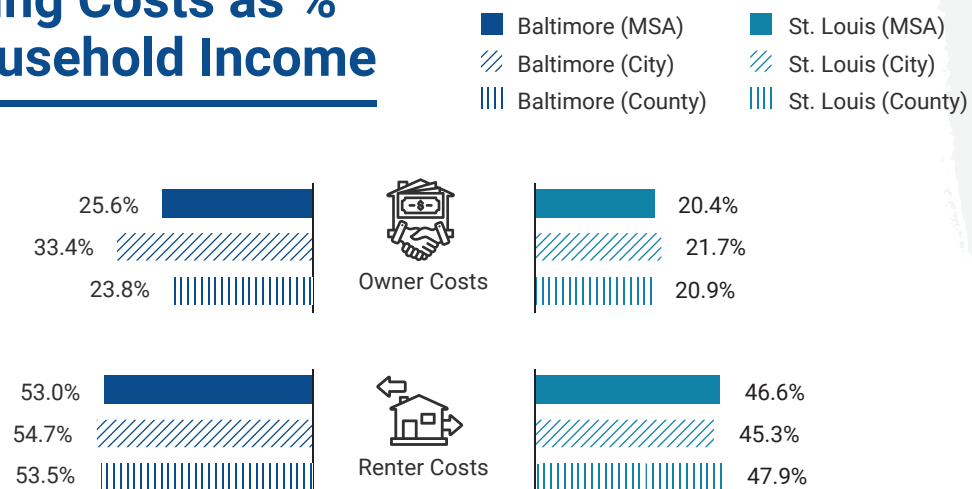
# Commute



# Housing



## Housing Costs as % of Household Income



# THANK YOU

To Our Sponsors



With philanthropic support from



THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION

# AGENDA AT A GLANCE

## TUESDAY | OCTOBER 15<sup>th</sup>

### WELCOME TO ST. LOUIS: PARKS AND CULTURE

10:45 am	Flight to STL	BWI
12:00 pm	Arrive in St. Louis	STL
12:30 pm	Buses Depart for Lunch	STL
1:00 pm	Welcome to St. Louis	Forest Park Visitor Center
3:30 pm	Hotel Check-In	Live! By Loews
3:45 pm	Afternoon Break	On Your Own
5:00 pm	Reception	The Lawn at Live! By Loews
6:00 pm	Buses Depart for Dinner	Live! By Loews Lobby
6:30 pm	Dinner	Missouri History Museum

## WEDNESDAY | OCTOBER 16<sup>th</sup>

### REGIONALISM AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

8:00 am	Breakfast	Live! By Loews Cardinals BC
8:30 am	The City/County Divide	Live! By Loews Cardinals BC
9:45 am	Buses Depart for Morning Visit	Live! By Loews Lobby
10:00 am	Innovating St. Louis	Cortex Innovation Community
11:45 am	Groups Depart for Community Visits	Cortex Innovation Community
12:00 pm	Community Visits and Lunch	Beyond Housing & the 24:1 Community
		Cherokee Street Community Improvement District
		39 North Innovation District
		Historic St. Charles
		Great Rivers Greenway
3:00 pm	Afternoon Break	On Your Own
5:00 pm	Buses Depart for Dinner	Live! By Loews Lobby
5:30 pm	Chesapeake Connect 2024 Group Photo	CITYPARK Field
5:45 pm	Reception and Dinner	CITYPARK Moneda Pitch Club

## THURSDAY | OCTOBER 17<sup>th</sup>

### WHAT'S NEXT FOR ST. LOUIS?

8:00 am	Breakfast	Live! By Loews Cardinals BC
9:00 am	For the Sake of All	Live! By Loews Cardinals BC
10:00 am	Stadium Entertainment District	Live! By Loews Cardinals BC/Ballpark Village
11:00 am	Buses Depart for Lunch	Live! By Loews Lobby
11:30 am	Closing Lunch	Grant's Farm
1:45 pm	Buses Depart for Airport	Grant's Farm
4:00 pm	Flight to Baltimore	STL
7:00 pm	Arrive in Baltimore	BWI



# TUESDAY

## WELCOME TO ST. LOUIS: PARKS AND CULTURE

10:45

### FLIGHT TO ST. LOUIS

✈ *Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI)*

12:00

### ARRIVE IN ST. LOUIS

✈ *Minneapolis–Saint Paul International Airport*

Guests will arrive at STL and board buses headed for our welcome lunch.

1:00

### WELCOME TO ST. LOUIS

🏛 *Forest Park Visitor Center*

#### Sponsored by Comcast

Our trip will begin with lunch in Forest Park – a gem of St. Louis. Opened in 1876, Forest Park is a public space covering more than 1,300 acres. Home to the St. Louis Zoo, Missouri History Museum, the Muny, St. Louis Art Museum, and St. Louis Science Center, Forest Park has long been a beacon of excellence for cultural institutions, nature reserves, and community gatherings. Lesley Hoffarth and Matthew Pollock will present to the group on the community support and unique structures that make Forest Park a civic treasure.



#### Lesley Hoffarth

President & Executive Director, *Forest Park Forever*

Lesley Hoffarth has been the President & Executive Director of the nonprofit conservancy Forest Park Forever since January 2010. She is a 20-year veteran of the Missouri Department of Transportation and has negotiated a first-in-the-nation innovative agreement with the City of St. Louis that forms a true partnership in caring for the Park, secures city funding for ongoing park maintenance, and builds the next phase of capital projects. In 2014, Hoffarth received the Woman of Influence Award from Webster University and the Trailblazer Award from the St. Louis Forum, and in 2016 she was named one of the St. Louis Business Journal's Most Influential Business Women. During her leadership of Forest Park Forever and partnership with the city, Forest Park has been voted "Best City Park" multiple times by *USA TODAY*.



#### Matthew Pollock

Executive Director, *Metropolitan Zoological Park and Museum District*


Matthew Pollock serves as Executive Director of the Metropolitan Zoological Park and Museum District, which oversees the administration of more than \$95 million in tax revenue for the benefit of five institutions within the Zoo Museum District since 2021. Prior to joining the District, he practiced with a national public accounting firm specializing in community development. He provided consulting, assurance, and tax services for a variety of for-profit and not-for-profit organizations. Mr. Pollock is a Certified Public Accountant who earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration at Youngstown State University.



3:00

**BUSES DEPART FOR HOTEL** *Forest Park Visitor Center*

3:30

**HOTEL CHECK-IN** *Live! By Loews*


Guests will arrive at the hotel for check-in.

3:45

**AFTERNOON BREAK**

An opportunity to settle into your room and unwind before dinner.

5:00

**RECEPTION** *Live! By Loews***Sponsored by BGE**

Guests are invited to join a cocktail hour at The Lawn before departing for dinner.

6:00

**BUSES DEPART FOR DINNER** *Live! By Loews Entrance*

6:30

**DINNER** *Missouri History Museum***Dinner sponsored by Mercy**

We return to Forest Park for our opening dinner at the Missouri History Museum. The group will be welcomed with remarks from Dr. Sam Page, St. Louis County Executive, and Dr. Jody Sowell, Executive Director of the Missouri Historical Society. Following dinner, guests are invited to partake in a self-guided tour of the museum's *1904 World's Fair* exhibit, which reintroduces visitors to the Fair and its legacy through a new lens.

**Dr. Sam Page**County Executive, *St. Louis County*

Dr. Sam Page has served as Saint Louis County Executive since 2019. He is a husband, father, doctor, and fierce believer that most people in St. Louis share his pride in living and working in an inclusive community. His political career began on the Creve Coeur City Council in 1999. He was subsequently elected to the Missouri House of Representatives, where he represented St. Louis County from 2003-2008. Prior to being elected County Executive, Dr. Page was a full-time practicing physician. In 2022, Dr. Page received the national Outstanding Government Service for Local Government award from the American Medical Association - considered one of the most prestigious awards honoring elected officials and career government employees.



**Dr. Jody Sowell**

Executive Director, *Missouri Historical Society*

Dr. Jody Sowell was appointed Missouri Historical Society (MHS) Executive Director in 2022. He has served in various roles at MHS since 2006, most recently as Managing Director of Public History. A native of Memphis, Sowell holds a Doctorate of Philosophy in American Studies from Saint Louis University. He also holds a Master of Arts in Journalism from the University of Missouri and a Bachelor of Arts from Southern Methodist University. While serving as Director of Exhibitions and Research, Sowell was instrumental in developing more in-house exhibits that innovatively shared local history rather than relying on traveling shows. This approach led to some of the highest attendance years in MHS history.

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# WEDNESDAY

## REGIONALISM AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

8:00

### BREAKFAST

 *Live! By Loews Cardinals BC*

**Sponsored by Wexford Science and Technology**

8:30

### THE CITY/COUNTY DIVIDE

 *Live! By Loews Cardinals BC*

After breakfast is served, we will hear from Dr. Will Ross about the city/county divide in St. Louis, which became the nation's first home rule city when voters approved separation from the county in 1876. Since this division, some community groups have advocated for reunification, arguing that the split creates barriers to the region's growth and prosperity. In addition to his work at Washington University, Dr. Ross is a Board Member of Better Together - an organization working toward the creation of one new Metro St. Louis City.



#### Dr. Will Ross

Associate Dean for Diversity, *Washington University School of Medicine*

Will Ross, MD, MPH, is Associate Dean for Diversity, Principal Officer for Community Partnerships, and Alumnus-Endowed Professor of Medicine in the Nephrology Division at Washington University School of Medicine. For over 25 years, he has promoted health equity locally, nationally, and globally through collaborations with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Within the St. Louis community, he has been instrumental in redesigning local access to health care for the underserved as the founder of the former Saturday Free Health Clinic and co-founder of Casa de Salud Latino Health Center. Dr. Ross also received several distinguished honors and awards, including the 2005 State of Missouri Dr. Martin Luther King Distinguished Service in Medicine Award.

9:45

### BUSES DEPART HOTEL

 *Live! By Loews Entrance*

10:00

### INNOVATING ST. LOUIS

 *Cortex Innovation Community*

The morning site visit will take us to the Cortex Innovation Community, a 200-acre urban hub of innovation and entrepreneurship in St. Louis. We will hear directly from Cortex leadership about how St. Louis invests in innovation, business growth, and technological advancement.



#### Sam Fiorello

Executive Director, *Cortex*

As President and CEO of the Cortex Innovation Community, Sam's focus on Cortex is on accelerating equitable economic impacts in the region. Before joining Cortex, Sam spent over two decades at the Donald Danforth Plant and Science Center, where he served as Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance. His success in creating public-private partnerships helped develop and hone skills that would be invaluable for his later work at the Danforth Center, BRDG Park, and now at Cortex. He earned a Bachelor's in Business from the University of Wisconsin and a Master's in Public Administration from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas.





**Natalie Self**

Senior Vice President of Equitable Economic Impact, *Cortex*

Natalie Self, MSW, SHRM-CP, is the Senior Vice President of Equitable Economic Impact for Cortex Innovation District in St. Louis. In this role, Natalie ensures that Cortex delivers on its vision of the 200-acre innovation district as an engine of equitable economic growth for the St. Louis region. Through the strategies, capacity, and partnerships Natalie and her team build, Cortex leverages its assets and networks to narrow the racial wealth gap in the St. Louis region. Natalie brings an extensive background in building more equitable economies through cross-sector collective leadership, national grant-making and entrepreneurship support.



**Gabriela Ramírez-Arellano**

Vice President of Entrepreneurship, *Cortex*

Gabriela is originally from Mexico and inspired by her own experience growing up in the US, Gabriela is committed to helping others. Since returning to St. Louis in 2016, she has centered her volunteering efforts around small business support, economic development, and language access. Gabriela helps small business owners achieve their dreams through her work at CORTEX and the Balsa Foundation, promoting social equity and prosperity. Through her podcast Auténtico and We Live Here Auténtico, in collaboration with St. Louis Public Radio, she supports business owners and professionals in her community. Gabriela is most proud of raising amazing children who inspire her to help make the world a better place.

11:45

**BUSES DEPART FOR COMMUNITY VISITS**

 *Cortex Innovation Community*

12:00

**COMMUNITY VISITS AND LUNCH**

The team will split into five smaller groups to visit communities, projects, and programs throughout the Greater St. Louis region.

**Breakout lunches sponsored by Baltimore Community Foundation, Loyola University, Margrave Strategies, MRA City Studio, and University of Maryland Medical System**

**BEYOND HOUSING & THE 24:1 COMMUNITY**

This breakout session will be hosted at 24:1 Cinema, where the group will meet Chris Krehmeyer and learn more about Beyond Housing's community development efforts in North St. Louis County. After the presentation, the team will have lunch at Carter Commons Food Hall, a \$6.5 million, 20,000-square-foot development home to minority-owned businesses including restaurants and a food hall, retail and offices, and a culinary training center.



**Chris Krehmeyer**

President and CEO, *Beyond Housing*

Chris Krehmeyer is the President and CEO of Beyond Housing, a nationally recognized organization in St. Louis that works to strengthen families and transform communities to create a stronger, more equitable and prosperous St. Louis. Chris and his team have raised and invested more than \$175 million in the community. He has been an adjunct faculty member at Washington University, taught at Webster University, and recognized by the Ethical Society of St. Louis, the NAACP, and the St. Louis Business Journal. Mr. Krehmeyer also serves as the board chair of the National Home Matters movement and is a former chair of the National NeighborWorks Association Board.

**CHEROKEE STREET COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

This session will begin at the must-see STL-Style gift shop on Cherokee Street - a culturally-significant area in South St. Louis. The group will hear from the Cherokee Street Community Improvement District, which works to make the street more dynamic for neighbors and visitors. The tour will highlight recent recognition of the street as a center of commerce, culture, and creative space projects. We will end with lunch at a local Latino business that showcases the flavor of the district.

**Emily Thenhaus**

Executive Director, *Cherokee Street Improvement District*

Emily Thenhaus is the Executive Director of the Cherokee Street Community Improvement District and the Cherokee Street Foundation. In this capacity, she leads the district's work to support independent, small businesses, create beautiful, safe and active public spaces and engage the broader community to shape the district's future. A native of South St. Louis, Emily has spent the past 15 years working to plan and build creative, inclusive urban communities in Chicago, New York City, and St. Louis. Prior to her role on Cherokee Street, Emily served in the City of St. Louis Mayor's Office under Mayor Lyda Krewson. She holds a Bachelor's in Political Science from DePaul University and Master's in Public and Nonprofit Administration and Policy from New York University.

**39 NORTH INNOVATION DISTRICT**

This session will begin with a driving tour and presentation on a variety of regional economic development sites and projects. After the bus tour, the group will be taken to 39 North, an agri-food tech innovation center. For the duration of the session, the group will receive a site tour, eat lunch, and learn more about regional economic development projects from leadership at the St. Louis Development Corporation (SLDC) and St. Louis Economic Development Partnership (STL Partnership).

**Rodney Crim**

CEO & President, *St. Louis Economic Development Partnership*

Rodney Crim is the CEO and President of the St. Louis Economic Development Partnership, a regional economic development organization for St. Louis City and St. Louis County. Rodney has a passion for economic development and is involved on local and national boards that focus on improving quality of life and economic development. Rodney has enjoyed a career in the public and private sectors in Minneapolis, Chicago and St. Louis, including Pillsbury, The Musicland Group, Ameriprise, Microtron, Shorebank and the St. Louis Development Corporation before joining the St. Louis Economic Development Partnership.


**Karla Roeber**

Vice President, *Public & Government Affairs Donald Danforth Plant Science Center*

Karla has more than 25 years of experience in communications, government and community relations and has served as Vice President of Government & Public Affairs since 2008. She is a member of the Danforth Center's Leadership Team. Karla works with elected and appointed officials to increase funding to support research, innovation, technology development and commercialization of new products to improve sustainable agriculture worldwide. She also served as District Director to U.S. Senator John C. Danforth and Staff Assistant to Congressman Joseph M. McDade in Washington, DC. She serves on the board of the Missouri Biotechnology Association and the Communications Advisory Board of STL Made.


**Neal Richardson**

Chairman, President & CEO, *St. Louis Development Corporation (SLDC)*

Neal Richardson is the Chairman, President & CEO of St. Louis Development Corporation (SLDC), the independent economic development agency serving the City of St. Louis, Mo. Since taking SLDC's lead role in June 2021, Neal's focus has been on intentionally implementing city-wide economic development activities aimed at creating equitable economic opportunity for all St. Louis residents, businesses and neighborhoods to thrive. Neal earned his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Master of Business Administration from Webster University. Before joining SLDC, his professional experience included over 15 years in real estate finance and community development.

**HISTORIC ST. CHARLES**

This breakout session will take the group farther afield to St. Charles - a suburb about 30 miles outside of St. Louis. We will first visit the St. Charles County office to meet the flooding resiliency team and learn about the county's Local Voluntary Buyout Program. The group will then transit to Frontier Park, where policy officials will further discuss lessons learned from past flooding and their federal program funding. The session will conclude with lunch and continued discussion on St. Charles' historic Main Street.


**Pinar Turker**

Community Services Grants Administrator, *St. Charles County*

Dr. Pinar Turker is an urban planner with over 20 years of expertise in research, spatial data analysis, and grant management for community development. She holds a Bachelor of City Planning, a Ph.D. in City and Regional Planning, and a Graduate Degree in Urban Policy Planning. Her current responsibilities encompass planning community services, floodplain management, disaster recovery, and contract oversight with various organizations serving vulnerable populations. She is actively involved in the Continuum of Care (CoC) for St. Charles, Lincoln, and Warren Counties, where she serves on the Executive Committee and chairs the CoC Data and Performance Committee. Her work focuses on ending homelessness and supporting fragile families through effective data management and performance evaluation.

**GREAT RIVERS GREENWAY**

This 5-mile bike tour through St. Louis will be led by Great Rivers Greenway (GRG) representatives. We will hear about how GRG collaborates with communities to build, care for, and bring a network of greenways to life. The group will ride on the existing Brickline Greenway, learn about the future 200 miles in planning, and learn how the greenways will invest in and strengthen communities. This tour will be followed by lunch at St. Louis' beloved Katie's Pasta and Pizza in Ballpark Village.

**Todd Antoine**

Chief Planning & Projects, *Great Rivers Greenway*

Todd Antoine, AICP, is the Chief of Planning and Projects at the Great Rivers Greenway District in St. Louis. The primary focus of his work is to develop and implement The River Ring, a regional interconnected system of greenways, parks, and trails. He coordinates efforts to establish partnerships with local, state, and regional entities in the implementation of The River Ring with projects in St. Louis City, St. Louis County, and St. Charles County. Todd is a member of the American Planning Association and the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP).

**3:00****AFTERNOON BREAK**

An opportunity to relax, work independently, or explore before we depart for this evening's dinner.

**5:00****BUSES DEPART FOR DINNER**

*Live! By Loews Entrance*

**5:30****CHESAPEAKE CONNECT 2024 GROUP PHOTO**

*CITYPARK Field*

**5:45****RECEPTION AND DINNER**

*CITYPARK Moneda Pitch Club*

**Dinner sponsored by Carefirst**

**Reception sponsored by Exelon**

Opening for its inaugural season in 2023, CITYPARK is home to St. Louis City Soccer Club – the most recent Major League Soccer (MLS) expansion team. The 32-acre stadium district is the country's largest urban professional sports campus. The city's sports fans have eagerly welcomed their new soccer team, and more than 22,000 fans pour into the stadium weekly to watch their games. After taking a 2024 group photo, we will be welcomed to the Pitch Club for a reception, dinner, and remarks from Jason Thein.

**Jason Thein**

Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel, *St. Louis City Soccer Club*

After spending over 25 years in private practice, including over 20 years at Thompson Coburn LLP, Jason now works for the St. Louis-based Taylor family. While at Thompson Coburn LLP, Jason began working on a project for the family to bring an MLS team to St. Louis. Major League Soccer awarded its 29th team to St. Louis in August 2019. Jason left Thompson Coburn LLP at the end of that year to work full-time for the family, and he spends much of his time as St. Louis CITY SC's Chief Legal Officer and as a member of the Club's Board. Jason worked with the City of St. Louis to design and implement a modest incentive program to facilitate the development of the \$670 million soccer district that provides significant community benefit.





# THURSDAY

## WHAT'S NEXT FOR ST. LOUIS?

8:00

### BREAKFAST

 *Live! By Loews Cardinals BC*

Sponsored by MCB Real Estate, LLC

9:00

### FOR THE SAKE OF ALL: NEXT STEPS IN RACIAL EQUITY FOR ST. LOUIS

 *Live! By Loews Cardinals BC*

After breakfast is served, our team will meet Dr. Jason Purnell, the lead author of “For the Sake of All” – a monumental report commissioned after the 2014 killing of Michael Brown by a Ferguson police officer. The report highlights St. Louis racial inequities in health, education, and economic opportunity, and Dr. Purnell continues to dedicate his work to addressing these issues as President of the James S. McDonnell Foundation. Learning about the next steps in St. Louis’ racial equity journey will be particularly poignant as Baltimore faces the 10-year anniversary of Freddie Gray’s death in 2025.



#### Dr. Jason Purnell

President, *James S. McDonnell Foundation*

Dr. Jason Purnell joined the James S. McDonnell Foundation as President in 2023 after leading the community health improvement strategy at BJC HealthCare. He created health equity programs with colleagues and partners and introduced an anchor institution agenda focused on investments in high-poverty communities of color. This work built on his scholarship at Washington University’s Brown School, where in 2014, he and his collaborators released the seminal “For the Sake of All” report on African American health in St. Louis, inspiring policy changes and programmatic innovations. Dr. Purnell’s BA is from Harvard, and his Ph.D. is from Ohio State University.

10:00

### STADIUM ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT

 *Live! By Loews Cardinals BC/Ballpark Village*

For our final engagement downtown, we welcome Mike LaMartina to talk about Ballpark Village, a dining and entertainment district attached to the St. Louis Cardinals Busch Stadium. The development was led by the Baltimore-based Cordish Companies, and its success is a prime example of sports-adjacent economic/community development. Mike LaMartina will lead a brief walking tour of Ballpark Village, highlighting the story of its massive success.



#### Mike LaMartina

Chief Operating Officer, *Ballpark Village*

Mike LaMartina is the Chief Operating Officer at Ballpark Village in St. Louis, a dynamic \$500M+ mixed-use downtown neighborhood resulting from a partnership between the St. Louis Cardinals and The Cordish Companies. Mike oversees the development’s revenue strategy, development leasing, marketing, sponsorships, facility operations, and community and corporate partnerships. A native of St. Louis with over 20 years of experience in marketing, entertainment, brand strategy, and hospitality, Mike has been instrumental in positioning Ballpark Village as a premier sports-anchored entertainment destination. In addition to his role at Ballpark Village, Mike oversees National Partnerships and Sponsorship Fulfillment for Live! Hospitality and Entertainment.



11:00

**BUSES DEPART FOR AIRPORT** *Live! By Loews Entrance*

11:30

**CLOSING LUNCH** *Grant's Farm***Sponsored by Southway Builders**

Our final stop takes us to Grant's Farm, just south of St. Louis. Grant's Farm was built by President Ulysses S. Grant in the mid-19th century and is currently owned by the Busch family. Upon arrival to Grant's Farm, the group will ride the trams through Deer Park and lunch will be served in the Carriage House. Mayor Tishaura Jones will join the group to provide closing remarks and highlight what is next for St. Louis. Following Mayor Jones' remarks, our group will have an opportunity to explore the farm.

**Tishaura O. Jones**

Mayor, St. Louis City

Tishaura Jones was sworn in as the 47th mayor and the first Black female mayor in the City's history in 2021. With a deep personal commitment, a wealth of experience, and a proven record of leadership, Jones started her career as a public servant in 2002 when she was appointed as Democratic Committeewoman of the 8th Ward in the City of St. Louis. She also is the first African American woman to serve as Treasurer of St. Louis, launching the Office of Financial Empowerment (OFE) to help St. Louisans make better financial choices, as OFE's College Kids Program has helped over 18,000 public school students start saving through educational savings accounts.

1:45

**BUSES DEPART FOR AIRPORT** *Grant's Farm*

4:00

**FLIGHT TO BALTIMORE** STL

7:00

**ARRIVE IN BALTIMORE** BWI



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Executive Director  
*Baltimore Metropolitan Council*



**LAURA HALTER**

Policy Director  
*Baltimore Metropolitan Council*



**LOUISA GLAZUNOVA**

Senior Communications & Community  
Engagement Associate  
*Baltimore Metropolitan Council*



**RENATA COMEAUX**

Co-Founder  
*R2CW*



# TRIP ATTENDEES



**CHRISTINE ANDERSON**  
Chief Administrative Officer  
*Anne Arundel County*



**JOE BRYCE**  
Director  
*Maryland Stadium Authority*



**KORY BAILEY**  
CEO  
*UpSurge Baltimore*



**KRISTIN BRYCE**  
Senior Vice President and Chief External  
Affairs Officer  
*University of Maryland Medical System*



**JEREMY BAKER**  
Chief of Staff  
*Speaker Adrienne Jones*



**ANGELA CABELLON**  
Chief of Staff  
*Howard County Government*



**ANDY BAUER**  
Regional Executive  
*Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond*



**BILL COLE**  
President  
*Cole Roofing Company/Gordian Energy  
Systems*



**CECILY BEDWELL**  
Principal  
*Design Collective*



**BILL COLE**  
Partner  
*Margrave Strategies*



**TONY BRIDGES**  
Assistant Secretary  
*Maryland Department of Transportation*



**DIANE CROGHAN**  
Vice President of Community  
Engagement and Chief of Staff  
*University of Maryland Baltimore  
Washington Medical Center*

## TRIP ATTENDEES (CONTINUED)



### ANDREW CUSHNIR

President & CEO  
*The Associated Jewish Community  
Federation of Baltimore*



### ADAM GENN

Vice President  
*MCB Real Estate*



### LESTER DAVIS

Vice President & Chief of Staff  
*CareFirst*



### DANIELLE GOODEN

Senior Manager, External Affairs  
*Baltimore Gas & Electric*



### JENNIFER DRIBAN

SVP, Chief Mission Officer  
*National Aquarium*



### AMY GOWAN

President/CEO  
*Anne Arundel Economic Development  
Corporation*



### DEBORAH EFFINGHAM

Deputy County Administrator  
*Carroll County Government*



### MARIA HARRIS TILDON

VP, Government, Community & Economic  
Partnerships  
*Johns Hopkins University & Medicine*



### MATT FLEMING

Executive Director  
*Resilience Authority of Annapolis and  
Anne Arundel County*



### SHAINA HERNANDEZ

Deputy Chief of Staff  
*Office of Governor Wes Moore*



### JOAN FLYNN

Chief External Relations Officer  
*Loyola University Maryland*



### SAFA HIRA

Director of Communications  
*Howard County Government*





**TALIB HORNE**

Director of Baltimore Civic site  
*Annie E Casey Foundation*



**JORDAN KLUMPP**

Business Relationship Manager  
*Live Baltimore*



**RICARDO JOHNSON**

Executive Vice President, Strategy  
& Growth  
*CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield*



**LIZ KOONTZ**

Assistant Deputy Mayor for Community and  
Economic Development  
*City of Baltimore*



**SIMONE JOHNSON**

Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
*Office of the Mayor, City of Baltimore*



**FRANK LANCE**

President and CEO  
*Parks & People, Inc.*



**BRITTANY JONES**

Director, Governmental and  
External Affairs  
*BGE*



**JON LARIA**

Special Counsel  
*Ballard Spahr LLP*



**KEVIN KELLY**

Vice President  
*University of Maryland, Baltimore*



**HOWARD LIBIT**

Executive Director  
*Baltimore Jewish Council*



**DAWN KIRSTAETTER**

Director of Government  
& Community Affairs  
*Comcast*



**KEVIN LINDAMOOD**

President & CEO  
*Health Care for the Homeless*



**AMY KLEINE**

Senior Program Director  
*Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation*



**KEVIN LOEB**

Managing Director - Strategy, Learning  
and Evaluation  
*The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg  
Foundation*

## TRIP ATTENDEES (CONTINUED)



### CRISTINA LOPEZ

Chief Operating Officer  
*Greater Baltimore Committee*



### SAM O'NEIL

Senior Advisor  
*Baltimore County Government*



### EMILY METZLER

Chief Operating Officer  
*MuniCap, Inc.*



### MATT POWER

President  
*MD Independent College and University Association*



### ANNIE MILLI

Program Officer  
*The Goldseker Foundation*



### JENNY PROEBSTLE

Chief of Staff  
*Anne Arundel County Executive's Office*



### TODD MOHN

County Administrator  
*Queen Anne's County*



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Chief of Staff  
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### CAROLINE MOORE

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### DAVID SACHS

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*The Leadership*



### WILLY MOORE

President  
*Southway Builders*



### SHANAYSHA SAULS

President & CEO  
*Baltimore Community Foundation*



### RYAN O'DOHERTY

Senior Vice President, External Affairs  
*Mercy Health Services*



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President and CEO  
*Kennedy Krieger Institute*



**JOSH SHARON**

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President  
*Downtown Partnership of Baltimore*



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Deputy Administrative Officer  
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**D'ANDREA WALKER**

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*Baltimore County Government*



**SCOT SPENCER**

Associate Director, Local Policy  
*The Annie E. Casey Foundation*



**JUSTIN WILLIAMS**

Deputy Mayor for Community & Economic Development  
*City of Baltimore*



**TONI ST. JOHN**

Executive Director  
*Baltimore Collegetown Network*



**DARIA WILLIS**

President  
*Howard Community College*

# DIRECTORY

## 39 North

39 North is an innovation district in St. Louis that offers the infrastructure, talent, and access to capital to facilitate agri-food tech innovation. Through a robust network of scientists, startups, students, innovators, investors, and industry leaders, collaborations form and ideas are advanced from lab to market. 39 North recognizes that St. Louis has an opportunity to leverage its proximity to farms and food producers, its world-class research institutions, and its vibrant innovation sector to create, attract, and retain the most promising agri-food tech innovators to feed, fuel, and build the future.

## Ballpark Village

Ballpark Village is a dining and entertainment district in St. Louis, owned by the investment group that controls the St. Louis Cardinals. Following the plan's proposal in the 1990s, Baltimore-based Cordish Companies executed the development in two phases. The first phase opened in 2014, is a \$100 million facility that includes bars, restaurants, event venues, parking lots, and the Cardinals Hall of Fame and Museum. The second phase, opened in stages from 2020 onward, is a \$260 million expansion with highrise apartments, an office building, a hotel, a fitness club, and new restaurants and retail spaces.

## Beyond Housing

Beyond Housing is a nationally recognized, comprehensive community development organization dedicated to transforming the St. Louis region's under-resourced communities to create a stronger, more equitable, and prosperous St. Louis for all. Their work in North St. Louis County is one of the most comprehensive community development efforts in the United States and the largest in the St. Louis region. Beyond Housing's work spans several key impact areas essential for thriving families and communities, from housing to education, health, employment, economic development, municipal government, and more.

## Cherokee Street Improvement District

The Cherokee Street Community Improvement District (CID) was established in 2017 to advance the Cherokee Street community's economic, social, and cultural interests between Gravois and Indiana Avenues. They work to achieve this mission by supporting a diverse, independent business community, creating beautiful, safe and active public spaces, and fostering a culture of creativity, and empowerment in and around Cherokee Street. CID focuses on seven areas: beautification, business development, marketing, Love Bank Park, public safety, events, and the arts.

## CITYPARK

Opening for its inaugural season in 2023, CITYPARK is home to St. Louis City Soccer Club – the most recent Major League Soccer (MLS) expansion team. The club welcomes more than 22,000 fans to its weekly matches. The 32-acre stadium district is the nation's largest urban professional sports campus and the only one with a stadium, team headquarters, team store, and practice facility all within the same footprint.

## Cortex Innovation Community

Founded in 2002, Cortex is a nonprofit organization overseeing the development of the Cortex Innovation Community, an urban hub of innovation and entrepreneurship in St. Louis. Founded by Washington University in St. Louis, Saint Louis University, University of Missouri - St. Louis, BJC Healthcare, and the Missouri Botanical Garden, it is one of the region's largest innovation campuses, designed to accelerate high-growth startups and advance established innovative corporations.

## Forest Park Forever

Forest Park Forever is a private nonprofit conservancy that partners with the City of St. Louis to restore, maintain, and sustain Forest Park as one of America's great urban public parks for a diverse community of visitors to enjoy. Forest Park's 1,300 acres encompass woodlands and waterways, recreational areas, paths, prairies, and landscapes that combine with world-class institutions to attract 15.5 million annual visitors.



### **Grant's Farm**

Grant's Farm is the 281-acre ancestral home of the Busch family, located southwest of St. Louis. Grant's Farm, operated by Anheuser-Busch, Inc., has been a St. Louis tradition for over five decades. The Farm takes its name from President Ulysses S. Grant, who founded and farmed a portion of the land in the 1850s. Today, the land is maintained as a living symbol of wildlife conservation and preservation.

### **Great Rivers Greenway**

The Great Rivers Greenway is a public agency created by a vote in St. Louis City, St. Louis County, and St. Charles County to create a sales tax dedicated to parks and greenways. These funds enable the agency to collaborate with partners and communities to build, care for, and bring a network of greenways to life, creating healthy habitats and watersheds along the way. The greenways are planned and cared for in partnership with the 100+ municipalities and institutions they connect.

### **James S. McDonnell Foundation**

The James S. McDonnell Foundation envisions a thriving St. Louis region where inclusive growth elevates shared prosperity and quality of life. Their mission is to invest in organizations and initiatives to improve economic mobility for St. Louisans facing the starkest disparities. They focus on four areas: workforce, small and midsize businesses, wealth building and protection, and civil infrastructure.

### **Missouri History Museum**

The Missouri History Museum is a nationally accredited institution focusing on local and regional history. Located in Forest Park, the building is home to various exhibits, programs, and events for visitors of all ages and interests. More than 350,000 people visit the museum annually, and a portion of its funding stems from the Zoo Museum District tax sources. The Missouri History Museum is one of three facilities of the Missouri History Society - the other two are the Library & Research Center and the Soldiers Memorial Military Museum.

### **St. Louis Development Corporation**

The St. Louis Development Corporation (SLDC) is the independent economic development agency serving the City of St. Louis. It is an action-oriented organization that exists to empower, develop, and transform St. Louis through a vibrant and inclusive economy. As implementers of robust projects, programs, and policies, SLDC deploys many initiatives designed to reverse disproportionate disparities in disinvested areas, infuse capital into the community, and creatively collaborate with commercial and residential neighbors.

### **St. Louis Economic Development Partnership**

The St. Louis Economic Development Partnership (STL Partnership) is a comprehensive economic development organization serving St. Louis City and County, which attracts, retains, and facilitates the growth of businesses and works collaboratively with public and private partners on regional projects. The STL Partnership convenes and partners on strategic regional economic development initiatives.

### **Zoo Museum District**

The Zoo Museum District (ZMD) was created when St. Louis City and County residents voted to establish a new governmental entity in 1971. At that time, state law authorized an election for a City-County district to provide tax support to (then) three financially struggling cultural institutions: the Museum of Science and Natural History, the Saint Louis Zoo, and the St. Louis Art Museum. Voters allowed the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Missouri History Museum to enter the District in 1983 and 1987, respectively. ZMD issues have not appeared on election ballots since 1993.













## **ABOUT CHESAPEAKE CONNECT**

Chesapeake Connect is a Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) program, our region's council of governments. BMC's member jurisdictions include Baltimore City and Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, Howard, and Queen Anne's Counties. Now in its seventh year, Chesapeake Connect brings together leaders from Baltimore and elsewhere to explore and learn from a region outside our own.

Chesapeake Connect's objectives are two-fold. First, the trip provides an insider's perspective on the strengths and struggles of a peer metropolitan area. Second, the experience is a forum for civic-minded leaders from the Baltimore region to strengthen and expand their networks and relationships.

BMC's Board of Directors nominates all participants in the program. BMC staff has worked closely with the leaders from St. Louis to create an agenda that paints a realistic picture of our host region and highlights programs and innovations we can bring back to Baltimore.

## **ABOUT BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL**

The Baltimore Metropolitan Council works with the region's elected executives to identify mutual interests and develop collaborative strategies, plans and programs that help improve our quality of life and economic vitality. BMC supports local governments by coordinating efforts in various policy areas, including transportation, housing, workforce development and environmental planning.

BMC's Board of Directors includes the mayor of the City of Baltimore; the Executives of Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Harford, and Howard counties; a member of both the Carroll County and Queen Anne's County boards of commissioners; a member of the Maryland State Senate; a member of the Maryland House of Delegates; and a gubernatorial appointee from the private sector.



**BALTIMORE  
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