



Happenings in Belleville 2023 - Updated

1. City of Belleville Economic Development Strategic Plan nears completion.
2. Belleville District #201 announces expansion of the Center for Academic & Vocational Excellence (CAVE).
3. City of Belleville issues 97 Commercial Occupancy Permits (as of 12/12/23).
4. City of Belleville is awarded \$1,303,160.33 in grant funding:
 - a. \$424,850 in DCEO Tourism funds for the City Market.
 - b. \$76,500 in Dept. of Energy funds for energy efficiency improvements for the City Market.
 - c. \$100,000 in MEPRD funds for improvements at Citizens Park.
 - d. \$29,000 in MEPRD funds for a Bike/Pedestrian Master Plan.
 - e. \$749,310.33 in police grants.
5. Shoehorn Brewing opens new microbrewery at 225 East Main St.
6. Freddy's Frozen Custard opens at Belleville Crossing.
7. LongStory Coffee opens at 732 South Illinois St.
8. Clara B's Kitchen Table relocates and expands inside LongStory Coffee at 732 South Illinois St.
9. Knipp Roofing & Exteriors completes expansion on South 10th St.
10. Club Car Wash begins construction at Belleville Crossing.
11. Club Car Wash begins construction at 2nd location at Green Mount Crossing.
12. Bicentennial Park splash pad opens.
13. The Bungalow opens at 316 East Main St.
14. Chelar Tool & Die continues 15,000 square foot expansion at 1300 East 'A' St.
15. New cannabis dispensary/craft grow facility announced at Rt. 15 & South 74th St.
16. Tygracon Properties completes luxury apartments at 300 East Main St.
17. LaCross Dental opens at 3601 North Belt West.
18. Southwestern Illinois Justice & Workforce Development Campus activities:
 - a. SWIC Police Academy relocates and expands to the SIJWD Campus.
 - b. U.S. Senator Alan J. Dixon Justice Center opens.
 - c. Matt's Café opens.

- d. Completion of new football field turf at the SIJWD Campus.
 - e. SIU Edwardsville began remodeling of labs at The Justice Center. These labs will be used for the new forensic science program.
19. Trolley Circle independent senior living announced on South 74th St.
 20. Villas of Holly Brook assisted living/memory care center expands on Frank Scott Parkway.
 21. LongStory Coffee and Abe's Gourmet Popcorn are inducted into the Illinois Made Program.
 22. Cardinal Buick/GMC is named the #1 Buick dealer in the U.S.
 23. ASP2 STEAM Academy, Inc. opens at 424 Lebanon Ave.
 24. Lochmueller Group relocates and expands to 200 East Main St.
 25. Bellevue Park Fitness Court opens as the first phase of \$900,000 dollars in major improvements at Bellevue Park.
 26. Aldi begins construction on Carlyle Ave.
 27. Lofts on the Square independent senior living center wins the Most Enhanced Award from Landmarks Association of St. Louis.
 28. George Renner & Sons Funeral Home begins expansion on North High St.
 29. The Harp Pub announced at 1110 West Main St.
 30. Sawdust & Glitter relocates and expands to 16 South Illinois St.
 31. 208 The Annex Air BnB opens at 208 East Washington St.
 32. Local Lucy's relocates and expands to 122 East Main St.
 33. Lexi's bar and grill opens at 126 East Main St.
 34. Imo's Pizza completes renovations at 201 South Belt East.
 35. Gruv Bistro & Wine Bar opens at 223 East Main St.
 36. Velocity Metal Works relocation from O'Fallon to Belleville creating 25-30 skilled labor jobs. The location is 9480 Rt. 15.
 37. Immuno Tek is under construction at 5700 North Belt West. When completed, it will provide 40 new medical jobs including doctors and technicians.
 38. Millions of dollars spent on public infrastructure projects in the city in 2023. (7.2 million in streets and 4.6 million in sewer improvements – a total of 11.8 million)
 39. In April of 2023, the City of Belleville was awarded an Economic Development award by the Leadership Council of Southwestern Illinois. This award celebrated resiliency through retention and expansion.
 40. Economic Development Strategy plan for the City of Belleville completed in 2023.
 41. SWIC begins a \$2 million renovation on the former Lynx Lodge at the SIJWD Campus.
 42. St. Clair County purchases Belle-Clair Fairgrounds for a 15-million-dollar renovation and expansion.
 43. 23 homes demolished in 2023.