

Citizens Academy Class #16 Schedule

Autumn 2014

As of July 28, 2014

All sessions begin promptly at 6:00 p.m.

Date/Time	Session Description	Presenters/Discussion	Location
Session 1 Thursday August 14	The Foundation of Our City Government & City Hall Introduction to class, city government, what to expect, getting to know one another, and downtown tour.	Mayor City Administrator Form of Government Downtown	Elm Grove Community Center – Oak Room Martin Luther King, Jr. Park 1901 North Greenwood Ave
Session 2 Thursday August 21	Parks & Recreation: Progress as Promised Following years of limited funding, reallocation of an existing sales tax is providing opportunities for aggressive capital improvements projects. We'll be briefed on progress, and take a spin on the Creekmore Express. Also, a briefing on how we hire public servants, keep costs manageable while also working to retain a trained, professional workforce.	Creekmore Express Fort Smith Public Library director Parks & Recreation staff Human Resources City administration	Meet at Creekmore Train Station – transition to: Fort Smith Public Library 3201 Rogers Avenue Genealogy – 2 nd floor
Session 3 Thursday August 28	Fort Smith Fire Department: No Fear Hands-on fire hoses, bunker gear a gorgeous view from Ladder 1, and Thursday night at FSPD Station 1 with the crew.	FSPD command staff FSPD firefighters	FSPD Station 1 200 North 5 th Street North 5 th & B Streets
Session 4 Thursday September 4	Utility I: P Street Wastewater Treatment Facility A walking tour of one of two wastewater treatment facilities and a discussion about plans underway to bring the city into compliance with the Clean Water Act.	Director of Utility Dept Treatment facility line staff & supervisors City administration	P Street Wastewater Treatment Facility 13 North P Street
Session 5 Thursday September 11	Aviation, Commerce, and Budget A windshield tour of the Fort Smith Regional Airport facility, a discussion of the airport's role in economic development, and the basics of budgeting for the City of Fort Smith.	Fort Smith Regional Airport staff Director of Finance City administration	Fort Smith Regional Airport 6700 McKennon Blvd
Session 6 Thursday September 18	Fort Smith Police Department: SWAT <i>Combined session with Citizens Police Academy</i> Hands-on many of the tools utilized by FSPD SWAT team members, driving patrol cars in felony traffic stop demonstrations. <i>(valid driver's license required)</i>	FSPD CPA coordinator SWAT commander SWAT team members	Fort Smith Police Department HQ 100 South 10 th Street
Session 7 Thursday September 25	The "You'll Never Call it a Dump Again" Tour A windshield tour of the Fort Smith Regional Landfill, Stone Park, the new scale house, and a briefing about solid waste collection.	Department of Sanitation director and staff City administration	Department of Sanitation 5900 Commerce Road

Session 8 Thursday October 2	Citizen Access to Information: Technology's Role in Shaping our Community This session focuses on putting information at the fingertips of our citizens, staffs, and prospective business prospects. Can we harness big data into actionable information that transforms lives and our community?	Fort Smith Public Library director IT/GIS director/staff	Fort Smith Public Library 3201 Rogers Avenue Community Room or Carnegie Room - 1 st floor
Session 9 TUESDAY October 7	Our Government in Action Attending a board of directors meeting, followed by a debrief with Mayor Sanders, members of the board, city administration, the city clerk and, perhaps, fellow citizens and citizens academy alumni who may be in attendance.	Mayor Board of Directors City administration City Clerk	Fort Smith School Service Center 3205 Jenny Lind Road
Session 10 Thursday October 9	The Role of Tourism in Economic Development Walking tour of the Fort Smith Convention Center, back of house operations, performance measurements, and an entertaining discussion of the economic impact of tourism in Fort Smith.	Advertising & Promotion Commission executive director Convention Center director of operations	Fort Smith Convention Center 55 South 7 th Street
Session 11 Thursday October 16	Utility II: Water Transmission and Environmental Quality Walking tour of labs & dispatch, plus line maintenance briefings, an overview of how keeping our water safe to drink and delivered on time is a 24/7/365 job.	Utility senior staff Line crews Environmental quality supervisors and staff	Utility / Street Departments 3900 Kelley Highway
Session 12 Thursday October 23	Planning & Development Services An overview of how we manage long-term commercial and residential growth. It's a discussion of aesthetics, protecting and enhancing neighborhoods, as envisioned by citizen input during the past year and a half. See if your vision matches that of the hundreds of citizens who have so far participated in the development of the plan. Also, we'll hear a briefing from the city clerk about her role as the custodian of public records and her commitment to transparency for all citizens.	Planning & Development Services director and staff City Clerk	River Park Events Building – East & West 121 Riverfront Drive
Session 13 Thursday October 30	Transportation Infrastructure Working demonstration of a traffic signal, what the cameras really see, and a discussion of building and maintaining streets, drainage issues, managing traffic flow and safety, and public transit.	Engineering Department Street and Traffic Control Department Transit Department	Utility / Street Departments 3900 Kelley Highway
Session 14 Thursday November 6	Commencement Celebrating citizen achievement, question and answer with city leadership, inspiration from alumni, and dinner's on us.	Citizens and their families Citizens Academy alumni Mayor & board City administration City staff	Fort Smith Convention Center 55 South 7th Street