

Olathe Rocks the Block



The City of Olathe recently partnered with Habitat for Humanity KC and Kansas City Regional Association of Realtors for the 2018 Rock the Block event. During the day-long service project, more than 300 realtors, industry partners and over 30 City volunteers participated to revitalize 12 homes in the 600 block of N. Willie Street in Olathe's Fairview neighborhood.

Volunteers painted exteriors and made improvements to windows, doors, porches, railings, stairs, and landscaping.

The City of Olathe is committed to the preservation, sustainability, and enhancement of our neighborhoods, ensuring every citizen has the opportunity to be a part of a vibrant, healthy neighborhood. Olathe's Planning Division is excited to connect with this local program, and is looking forward to future neighborhood initiatives through the Olathe Healthy Neighborhoods Program.

Find Out What's Being Built in Olathe with New Interactive Map

The City of Olathe's new interactive planning and development map can tell you what's being built on that corner you often drive past.

Find the interactive map at OlatheKS.org/WhatsBeingBuilt.

How does it work?

Simply locate on the map the area you want to learn about.

Click on the colored dot to see the:

- Project description
- Type of building
- Project status

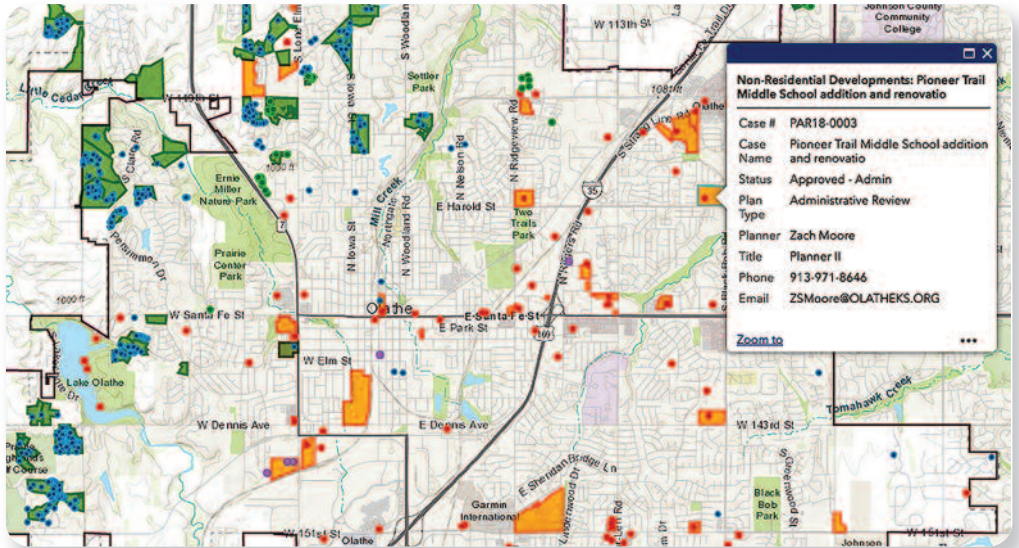
The map legend identifies the types of projects represented by different colors. The layer list allows selection of current or future development projects. Better yet, the map is mobile friendly to let you find out what's being built on the go.

See a tutorial video about the interactive development map at

OlatheKS.org/DevMapVideo

Want to view other informative videos?

Subscribe to the City's YouTube channel. When a new video is posted, you'll be notified. Search City of Olathe KS – Official and click subscribe.



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Find additional Olathe news at OlatheKS.org. Click on NEWS.



Mayor's Message

Building Upon Olathe's Strong Foundation

Forward thinkers have helped build Olathe's foundation throughout its 161 years of rich history. Dedicated and visionary leaders continue strengthening our foundation, which supports Olathe's growing neighborhoods, schools, businesses, and places of worship. Olathe recently reached a population of 140,000 and leads Johnson County as the home destination of choice. A rapidly-growing city is not the goal, but the outcome of a consistent focus on quality and excellence.

Beyond residential growth, our economic base grew significantly during the past year and a half, with 2.2 million square feet in new commercial space and more than 1,200 new jobs. That's an investment of more than \$440 million. Among our new developments is the new Olathe Soccer Complex near Ridgeview Road and K-10 Highway. It's expected to bring nearly 1.5 million visitors annually to our city. The project will be accompanied by two new hotels and retail stores.

We are listening to what you say about improving east-west traffic flow. Through partnerships with Garmin and the State of Kansas, we will make major traffic improvements around 151st Street and Ridgeview Road and on 151st Street, just east of I-35. We will also make another east-west crossing for I-35 with a new road adjacent to Garmin. Next year, this project begins with bridge widening on I-35 to allow construction of a road under the interstate.

Our foundation depends upon a safe community. A new Fire Station 8 is being built in southwest Olathe, and station design and staff training are now underway. School safety is one of our community's top priorities. Our Police Department's partnership with Olathe Public Schools is adding six more school resource officers to provide an officer for every high school and middle school in the school district.

Significant park projects are enhancing access to some of Olathe's most beautiful sites. Improvements at Lake Olathe will soon transform this spectacular lake and surrounding area into a premier destination. Following the Lake Olathe enhancements, Cedar Lake will undergo renovations, including a 2.5 mile trail connecting both lakes.

Cathedral Builder Awards

While we're sustaining our quality of life with excellent services and continued improvements, I always contend it's the people of Olathe who make the most difference for our great city. We recently recognized three extraordinary individuals whose service, vision, and lasting contributions have helped build Olathe's foundation. They were honored with Cathedral Builder Awards at the September 28 State of the City event.



2018 Cathedral Builder Award recipients from left: Dyce Bonham, Ruth Ann Hackler, (Mayor Copeland), and Bill Garton

Dyce Bonham, a Navy veteran, served in both state and local law enforcement, including the Johnson County Sheriff's Office. He and his wife, Wanda, have supported the Olathe Health Cancer Center and Hospice House. Our city has also benefitted from Dyce's service on the Olathe Citizens Police Advisory Council and Strategic Planning Steering Committee.

Ruth Ann Hackler's commitment to Olathe encompasses her dedicated service as a Kansas State representative, Board of Education member, and leader on the Olathe Library Board and the Good Samaritan Society — Communities of Olathe Leadership Board. Together with her late husband, Eugene, she has made many positive, lasting contributions to our city.

Bill Garton and his late wife, Mary Lou, came to Olathe in 1957 because they wanted their daughter to attend the Kansas School for the Deaf. The Gartons' love for Olathe and our deaf community is evident in their generous support for the Kansas School for the Deaf and the Museum of Deaf History, Arts & Culture. Bill has also championed numerous Olathe business and transportation causes.

We congratulate and thank Dyce, Ruth Ann, and Bill for helping to build our great community. We know they will continue giving back, mentoring new generations of leaders and showing us the way forward.

Sincerely,

Michael Copeland
Mayor



Citizens Honored with 2018 Community Awards

Front Row (L-R): Christina Eidt, Tiffany Rhoades, Colton Volanty; **Second Row:** Alexis Woodall, Sunayana Dumala, Debbie Clay, Shaylyn Ross, Katie Peres, Abby Clinton, Chelsea Grammer; **Third Row:** Sharon Rodriguez, Cassandra Peters, Erin Williams, Carol McCoy, Debbie Horn, Matthew Horn, Noelle Sliva; **Back Row:** Jim Linker, Deputy Dylan Hurt, Anthony Williams

Community Awards celebrate those who make a significant contribution to enhance human rights, equality, cultural diversity, and the pursuit of disability inclusiveness. The Olathe Human Relations Commission and the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Board present the annual awards.

Accessible Community Award—AKKA Olathe Martial Arts, Abby Clinton, Chelsea Grammer, Noelle Sliva, Dylan Hurt
Business Person Award—**Jim Linker**; *Educator Award*—Nancy Keel (not pictured); *Organization Award*—**Inclusion Connections**;
Humanitarian Award—**Sharon Rodriguez, Cassandra Peters, Sunayana Dumala**; *Chairperson’s Award*—**Alexis Woodall**
 See all Community Awards winner photos and bios at OlatheKS.org/CommunityAwards.

Important City Phone Numbers

Regular Business Hours:

Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Except for **Emergency 911**, and unless otherwise noted

EMERGENCY 911

Emergency TDD/TTY Calls 911

GENERAL INFORMATION (TDD/Voice) 971-8600

CUSTOMER SERVICE

1385 S. Robinson 971-9311

Billing, Trash, Water & Sewer

FIRE ADMINISTRATION

1225 S. Hamilton Circle (Non-Emergency) 971-7900

Printed on recyclable paper. 



OlatheKS.org/ServicesDirectory

OLATHE PUBLIC LIBRARY

201 E. Park St. 971-6850

13511 S. Mur-Len Rd. 971-6835

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

OLATHE COMMUNITY CENTER

1205 E. Kansas City Rd. (TDD/Voice) ... 971-8563

POLICE DEPARTMENT

501 E. 56 Highway 971-7500

HUMAN RESOURCES

100 E. Santa Fe 971-8735

Olathe City Council

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mvogt@olatheks.org

CONNECT WITH US



Apps available on the App Store and Google Play

OLATHE CONNECT **OLATHE TrashDay**

New Indian Creek Library to Open in 2019



Olathe Library Advisory Board Members celebrated at the Indian Creek Library's groundbreaking on Aug. 25, 2018. From left: Colette McGee, Cate Neeley, Danny Buxie, Library Director Emily Baker, Tom Glinstra, Eirene Knott, and Ann Horner.

The new Indian Creek Library, 16100 W. 135th St., will offer innovative elements and unique community gathering places to better serve the community. A makerspace will have equipment for creating and experimenting, such as a 3-D printer, laser cutters, and computers. The library also plans for a recording studio/AV room, and a gaming space. You'll find a café in the Collaborative Commons, and a dedicated meeting/event space. Children and teens will each have their own library spaces. The new Indian Creek Library is expected to open in fall 2019.

Follow the Indian Creek Library's construction progress at OlatheLibrary.org/About-Us/Construction-Updates



New Warning for Low Clearance Bridge on Spruce Street

Drivers of vehicles taller than 11 feet-4 inches now get a different type of warning should their vehicles exceed the clearance for the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) bridge on Spruce Street. Newly-installed transmitters create infrared beams over Spruce Street on both the east and west sides of the BNSF bridge. When an over height vehicle breaks the infrared beam, a flashing warning sign activates via a wireless signal, notifying the driver that their vehicle won't clear the structure ahead. The railroad bridge over Spruce Street has a history of vehicles colliding with the structure.



The Spruce Street and BNSF bridge low clearance warning system is operational for both westbound and eastbound Spruce Street. Low bridge warning signs will only flash when the infrared beam is broken by a vehicle taller than 11 feet 4 inches.



Olathe is Getting Future Ready

During the past several months, the Olathe community has provided valuable input for Olathe 2040: Future Ready, the City of Olathe's 20-year strategic plan. Whether at popular Olathe public events, or at diverse gatherings of people, participants have offered many ideas for the city's next generation. Visionary input has revolved around the areas of:

- Quality of life
- Infrastructure
- Economy
- Exceptional services
- Future ready – resilient and innovative

In addition, an online engagement platform has seen more than 1,600 people offer their suggestions for Olathe's future, available at OlatheKS.org/Olathe2040. Offer your own ideas and see what your neighbors are saying they imagine for Olathe's future.

The citizen Strategic Planning Advisory Committee is considering community input to help shape an Olathe vision framework. Following the City Council's approval of this vision, draft strategic plan goals, measures, and targets will be developed. The plan will be unveiled to the public in summer 2019.



Earth News

from the City of Olathe, Kansas



Free Your Recycling from the Bags

Ensure that your recycling efforts don't go to waste by following these simple steps.

Ditch the bag – plastic bags and wraps don't belong in your curbside recycling cart.

Free your recycling – keep your items loose in the cart, bagged recycling could end up in the landfill.

Recycle plastic bags at other locations – take your clean bags and wraps to area grocery stores that accept them.

City of Olathe Holiday Trash and Recycling Schedule

There is no trash or recycling collection on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, or New Year's Day.

Service is delayed one day the rest of the week.

Want a reminder of the holiday schedule? Download the Trash Day app to check the service schedule and receive reminders for your address.



Accepting the award on behalf of the 25 full-time and part-time employees within the Wastewater Collection Program was Ira Speer, assistant utility maintenance superintendent and Chris Dankenbring, team supervisor.

Olathe Wins Top Spots at APWA National Equipment Roadeo

Part of the American Public Works Association (APWA) Conference includes the National Equipment "Roadeo." This competition tests backhoe, excavator, skid-steer, and mechanic skills of participants from all over the United States.

Field Operations claimed two national, first place spots at the 2018 APWA National Equipment "Roadeo."

1st Place Mechanic's Competition

Jeff Brotherton, mechanic IV, Vehicle Maintenance

1st Place Skid-Steer

Rick Roberts, team supervisor, Street Maintenance

Olathe Honored with Outstanding Contribution in the Area of Wastewater Collection

The Utility Maintenance Wastewater Collection Program was recognized as a municipality making an "outstanding and significant contribution in the area of wastewater collection." The award is presented annually at the Kansas Water Environment Association/Kansas Section American Water Works Association joint conference. The City of Olathe last won this award in 2011 and 2013.

Criteria for the award requires documentation and supporting information detailing operations, maintenance, safety, training, improvements, innovative ideas, planning, design, and service.



Collector wells along the Kansas River provide the City of Olathe's source for drinking water.

Investing in Water and Sewer Services

The aging water and sewer infrastructure, comprised of treatment plants and underground pipes, is at a critical point across the nation. Drinking water is delivered by one million miles of pipes in the U.S., many of which have exceeded their lifespan. Similarly, the nation's 800,000 miles of public sewers and 500,000 miles of private lateral sewers connecting properties to public sewers are vulnerable to age-related structural failures, blockages, and overflows. In 2017, the nation's drinking water infrastructure received a "D" grade card, and wastewater infrastructure's grade was "D+," according to the American Society of Civil Engineers.

"While the City of Olathe is challenged to maintain, replace, and expand infrastructure, we're doing our part to stay at a higher level," says Joe Foster, Environmental Services division manager.

"We work to satisfy customers' expected utility services and maintain and improve existing utility assets with an approach of minimizing one-time rate spikes in customer fees," says Foster.

Well Maintenance Prevents Water Restrictions During Drought

During 2018, the Kansas City area experienced drought conditions March through September. Prior to that, the City of Olathe implemented an aggressive maintenance program for collector wells along the Kansas River. In 2017, the well lateral lines and well pumps were cleaned. This proactive maintenance work allowed the City of Olathe to meet water demands while surrounding communities issued water restrictions.

Water and Sewer Capital Projects

During the next five years, Olathe will invest in significant water and sewer improvements, including:

Water

- Water Treatment Plant 2 Improvements
- Vertical Well Field Improvements
- Sunset Drive Waterline Replacement
- 2018 Waterline Rehabilitation

Sewer

- 103rd Street Lift Station and Force Main Improvements
- Cedar Lake Lift Station Replacement
- Lakeview Avenue Sanitary Sewer Improvements
- 2018 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation

Covering Water and Sewer Costs

The City of Olathe's approved 2019/2020 Water and Sewer Fund Budget includes a residential customer fee increase to meet the target coverage ratio for financial obligations. This satisfies all other financial goals that were established with input from the City's financial advisor.

Customers Fees to Increase in 2019/2020

\$3.22/month increase over 2018*

\$3.32/month increase over 2019*

*Based on an average monthly bill, residential household consumes 854 CCF (6,388 gallons) of water per month and uses 542 CCF per month (4,054 gallons) of sewer per month.

Reader Feedback
Please send your comments to:
Olathe Link
P.O. Box 768
Olathe, KS 66051-0768
linkcomments@OlatheKS.org
913-971-8700

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If you require this material in a black and white format, please contact the Olathe Human Relations manager, 913-971-8827.



OlatheConnect

Look for information or submit a service request 24/7.

OlatheKS.org/OlatheConnect



Receive Olathe news and updates by email or text message. Click on e-notification or the envelope icon at OlatheKS.org.

Hometown Holidays

CHRISTMAS
at
MAHAFFIE

November 24,
December 1 & 8

Mahaffie Stagecoach
Stop and Farm
1200 E. Kansas City Road

CELEBRATE
OLATHE

November 30
6 to 8:30 p.m.

Olathe
Community Center
1205 E. Kansas City Road

Olathe
Live!
Christmas

December 8
7 p.m.

Olathe
Community Center
1205 E. Kansas City Road