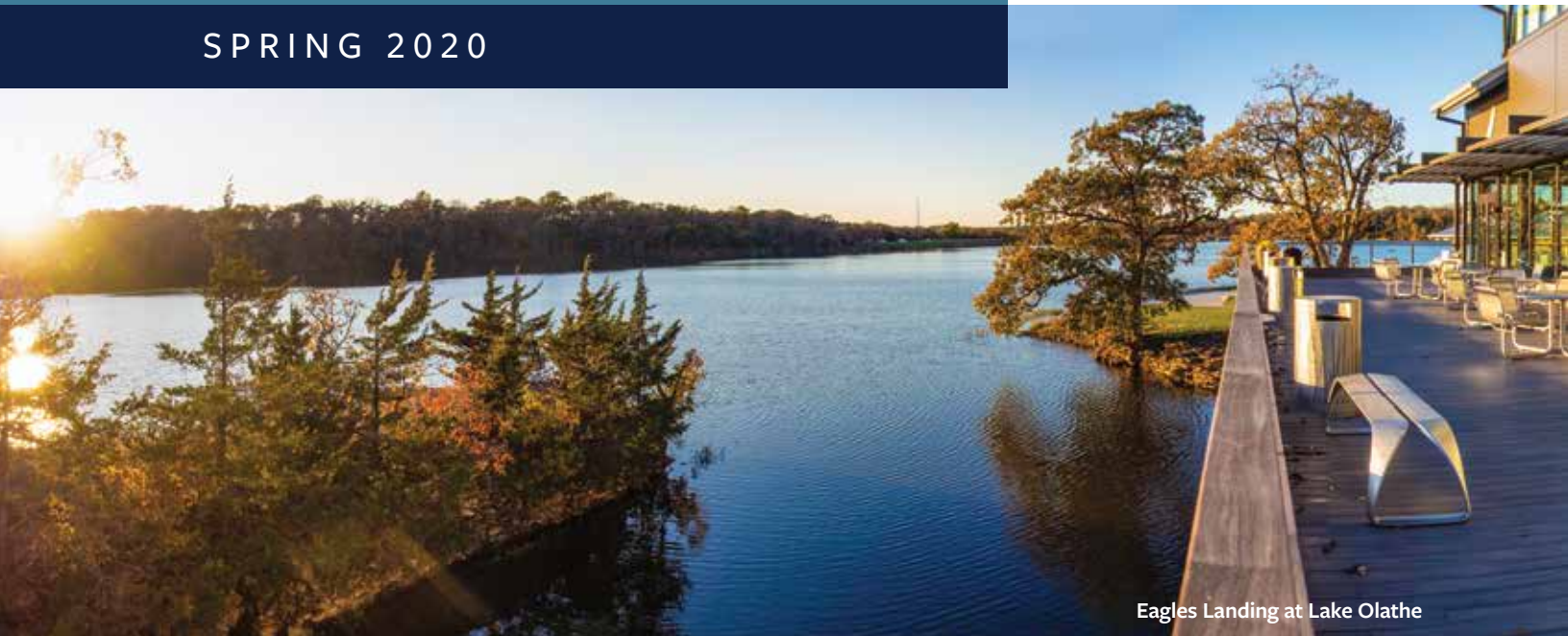


SPRING 2020



Eagles Landing at Lake Olathe

## TEMPORARY INCONVENIENCE LEADS TO MAJOR TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS

Olathe is listening to residents' desire for smoother traffic flow. This construction season the City of Olathe continues to tackle the city's biggest traffic snarls.

You'll see traffic improvements underway throughout Olathe, selected for improvements based on residents' input and traffic data. The City of Olathe asks you to remember that the temporary inconvenience leads to long-term travel improvements.

Please drive carefully for yourself and workers, especially in construction areas. Make them "no phone" zones.

### Major Traffic Improvements Locator Map - Page 6

## COVID-19

The City of Olathe is working with the Johnson County Department of Health and Environment, the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to closely monitor the recent outbreak of the COVID-19.

Visit [JoCoGov.org/Coronavirus](https://www.jocogov.org/coronavirus), [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov), and [govstatus.egov.com/coronavirus](https://www.govstatus.egov.com/coronavirus) websites for the latest and best information.

Call the Johnson County COVID-19 hotline at 913-715-2819, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., for health related information or questions.

See [OlatheKS.org/Coronavirus](https://www.olatheks.org/coronavirus) to find the latest information about COVID-19's impact to City of Olathe services and schedules.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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Visit [OlatheKS.org](https://www.olatheks.org) and Click on **NEWS** for additional Olathe news.



## MAYOR'S MESSAGE



### THANK YOU OLATHE

As we've journeyed together through the COVID-19 pandemic, Olathe residents have proven again that we are an extraordinary community, full of grit, heart, and resiliency.

The past couple months have impacted us all in one way or other — by how we interact, our routines at home, our work, how we learn, how we play — and even how we worship. Many are experiencing financial hardship. Tragically, some have even suffered losses. No words can mend the pain of losing a loved one, and our prayers go out to those who have. As mayor of Olathe, I'm incredibly proud of our community's actions to protect one another from this dangerous virus.

To our workers who are able, thank you for staying home.

To our neighbors who bring food to those who would otherwise go hungry, thank you for your thoughtfulness.

To our teachers and parents navigating uncharted waters together, thank you for continuing to teach our children.

To our medical workers and other caregivers, thank you for selflessly serving others.

To our first responders: police, fire, and EMS, thank you for always being there for us in our time of need.

To our solid waste employees, water and wastewater plant operators, thank you for providing the basic services we all depend on.

medicines we need, and the other necessities.

And thank you to all our residents for doing what is right to protect our community and each other.

This is difficult for all of us. But, we are getting through it. Our community has pulled together and I have never been prouder to call myself an Olathean.



To our staff, thank you for your compassion and attentiveness to our residents.

There is still a friendly and helpful voice on the other end of the phone line when our residents call online.

Thank you all for your dedication and hard work to keep our City running during these unprecedented times.

Thank you to all those who are making sure we have food on our tables, the

Take care,  
*Michael Copeland*  
Michael Copeland  
Mayor

Visit [OlatheKS.org/Coronavirus](https://OlatheKS.org/Coronavirus) for Covid-19 information, resources, and for updated video messages from the Office of Mayor Michael Copeland.

# COMMUNITY HEALTH EMERGENCIES IN JOHNSON COUNTY

Public health emergencies like the COVID-19 pandemic disregard city, county, and state borders. Coordination at higher levels of government strengthen the response to the emergency. Public health is within the jurisdiction of the Johnson County Department of Health and Environment and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE).

The Johnson County Department of Health and Environment’s mission is to protect the health and environment, prevent disease and promote wellness for all who live, work, and play in Johnson County. KDHE’s mission is to protect and improve the health and environment of all Kansans.

# OLATHE MAKES SAFE CITY LIST

Olathe is among the safest cities in Kansas, according to Safewise’s report released in April 2020. Olathe is also the only large Kansas city to make the list.

Safewise uses FBI crime statistics, U.S. Census population data, and violent and property crime numbers to rank cities in each state.



# LAKE OLATHE PARK RECOGNIZED

Newly-renovated Lake Olathe Park is getting noticed. The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), Prairie Gateway Chapter, selected Lake Olathe Park for a “Design-Built” Merit Award. This is the only Merit Award out of all Kansas City area landscape project submittals to ASLA.



## IMPORTANT CITY PHONE NUMBERS

Regular Business Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
[OlatheKS.org/ServicesDirectory](http://OlatheKS.org/ServicesDirectory)

- EMERGENCY** ..... 911
- Emergency TDD/TTY Calls** ..... 911
- GENERAL INFORMATION**  
*(TDD/Voice)* ..... 971-8600
- CUSTOMER SERVICE**  
*(Billing, Trash, Water & Sewer)*  
 1385 S. Robinson..... 971-9311
- FIRE ADMINISTRATION**  
*(Non-Emergency)*  
 1225 S. Hamilton Circle ..... 971-7900

- OLATHE PUBLIC LIBRARY - Indian Creek**  
 16100 W. 135th St. .... 971-6835
- OLATHE PUBLIC LIBRARY - Temporary Location**  
 1078A W. Santa Fe ..... 971-6850
- OLATHE PARKS & RECREATION /COMMUNITY CENTER** *(TDD/Voice)*  
 1205 E. Kansas City Rd ..... 971-8563
- POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
 501 E. 56 Highway ..... 971-7500
- HUMAN RESOURCES**  
 100 E. Santa Fe ..... 971-8735

## OLATHE CITY COUNCIL

- Michael Copeland**  
 Mayor  
 913-971-8500  
 (City office)  
[mcopeland@olatheks.org](mailto:mcopeland@olatheks.org)
- John Bacon**  
 At-Large  
 913-269-6305  
[jbacon@olatheks.org](mailto:jbacon@olatheks.org)
- Karin Brownlee**  
 At-Large  
 913-484-3255  
[kbrownlee@olatheks.org](mailto:kbrownlee@olatheks.org)

- Larry Campbell**  
 Ward 1  
 913-488-7278  
[lcampbell@olatheks.org](mailto:lcampbell@olatheks.org)
- Adam Mickelson**  
 Ward 2  
 913-538-1197  
[amickelson@olatheks.org](mailto:amickelson@olatheks.org)
- Wes McCoy**  
 Ward 3  
 913-269-1035  
[rwmccoy@olatheks.org](mailto:rwmccoy@olatheks.org)
- Marge Vogt**  
 Ward 4  
 913-269-0625  
[mvogt@olatheks.org](mailto:mvogt@olatheks.org)



## RESIDENTS ENCOURAGED TO HELP IMPROVE WATER QUALITY THROUGH STORMWATER BEST PRACTICES

Installing a rain garden and adding native plants in your yard are among several attractive ways to improve water quality in our streams and lakes. A rain barrel to catch rainwater from the roof also helps reduce runoff from properties to reduce pollution, erosion, and downstream flooding.

**Participating in the stormwater cost share program helps cover the cost of materials, equipment and labor with a 50 percent match for expenses on:**

- Rain gardens, bioswales, stream buffers, or native plantings, up to \$1,000.
- Rain barrels, up to \$75 each. Limit: two rain barrels per household

**For more information, contact Rain Barrels-Gardens at [OlatheKS.org/OlatheConnect](http://OlatheKS.org/OlatheConnect) or call 913-971-9045.**



## SMART LAWN CARE

### Cut It High, Let It Lie

While we have little control over some things, we can control proper lawn mowing practices. Mowing higher and not bagging grass clippings helps protect the grass roots from heat, making lawns more drought tolerant and feeds great nutrients back into the lawn. This saves money on your water bill and helps keep yard waste collection costs down.

#### Don't Mow Too Short

- Short blade heights place stress on turf by contributing to thinning and damage during summer's heat and drought.
- Remove only one-third of the leaf blade at any one mowing.
- Mow tall fescue and bluegrass at three inches for the average home lawn.
- Mowing at the recommended height also helps conserve water.
- How often you mow should be based on the turf growth rate, not a calendar.

#### Let Grass Clippings Lie

- Grass clippings don't need to be bagged when removing no more than one-third of the grass blade each mowing.
- Clippings return about a quarter of nutrients back to the lawn.
- Without bagging most people can spend a third less time mowing.

Learn more tips by visiting [OlatheKS.org](http://OlatheKS.org) and searching Yard Waste.



# BRING HOME THE FUN

When COVID-19 stay-at-home orders arrived, City staff worked to find new digital activities and programs to help keep the community fit and engaged. Visit [OlatheKS.org/BringHomeTheFun](https://OlatheKS.org/BringHomeTheFun) for:

- Virtual fitness and dance classes
- Olathe Public Library programs and resources
- Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop digital programs
- Puzzles of iconic Olathe places and more

## PUBLIC ART ENRICHES OLATHE COMMUNITY

Olathe recognizes public art as a valuable amenity that helps build the overall identity of the city, activates public spaces, and connects people to the community.

The City has already advanced several public art projects to help build an identity for Olathe as a place that appreciates art, culture, and creativity. Sculptures are purchased and displayed throughout the Olathe community as part of this initiative. In addition, since 2004 the Downtown Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit has annually

brought a rotating display of temporary sculptures to Olathe from regional and national artists.

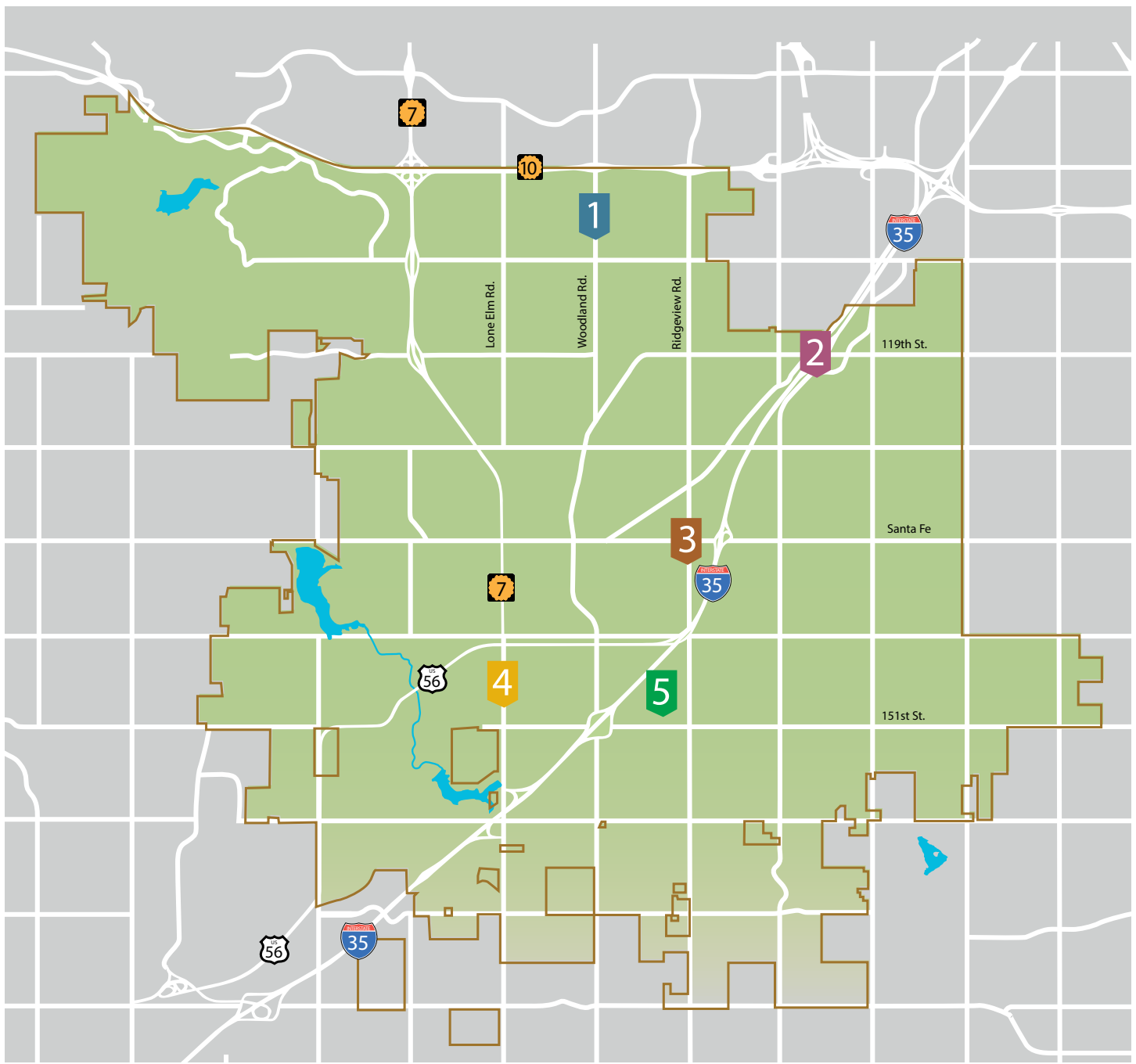
You may soon notice sculptures leaving as the 2019 Downtown Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit closes and new sculptures emerge for the 2020 exhibit beginning this summer.

Visit the sculpture exhibit sites to enjoy an interactive, self-guided tour or to plan your route to visit the sculptures in person! Find the map at [OlatheKS.org/PublicArt](https://OlatheKS.org/PublicArt).

*Slices of Heaven* by artist Craig Gray, located at Lone Elm Park, and *A Single Drop* by artist Po Shu Wang, at Lake Olathe, are part of Olathe's permanent art collection.



# MAJOR TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS LOCATOR MAP



**1** Improvements are in progress to widen **Woodland Road** to four lanes from College Boulevard to K-10 Highway. The project includes landscaped median, sidewalks, streetlighting, and bike lanes.

**2** Groundbreaking is expected before the end of the year on an expanded and improved **I-35 and 119th Street Interchange** project. The project will bring significant improvements for safety, congestion, and travel times by constructing a diverging diamond interchange. It will provide more travel lanes on 119th Street and added turn lanes on the I-35 exit ramps.

**3** Following utilities relocations, **Santa Fe and Ridgeview intersection** construction begins in 2020 on dual left turn lanes and right turn lanes for all directions.

**4** **Lone Elm Road** will be improved to a four-lane road from Old 56 Highway to 151st Street, including landscaped median, sidewalks, streetlighting, and bike lanes.

**5** Construction underway on **Mahaffie Circle's extension under I-35** will provide another route from the 151st Street area.

Note: Construction schedules are tentative and weather dependent.

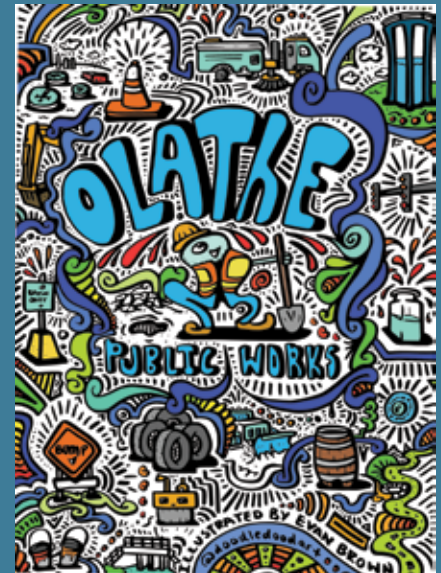




## MAHAFFIE CIRCLE EXTENSION UNDERWAY

The new Mahaffie Circle extension continues improvements to ease traffic congestion in the 151st corridor by providing an alternate route from the area to Old 56 Highway and Church Street. The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) is lengthening the I-35 bridges over the railroad to accommodate the new street.

As project partners, the KDOT Economic Development Program is providing \$7 million in funding, and Garmin is providing \$1.8 million for the project. The City of Olathe's contribution is \$6 million. The expected completion of the project is fall 2020.



### NEW PUBLIC WORKS COLORING BOOK

Grab a copy of the NEW Public Works Coloring book! It's a fun way to engage the kids and help everyone learn how the City comes together to make Olathe a great place to live.

Download your coloring book available at:

[OlatheKS.org/PublicWorks](https://OlatheKS.org/PublicWorks).





# Olathe LINK

P.O. Box 768  
Olathe, Kansas 66051-0768  
913-971-8700

### OlatheConnect

Look up information or submit a service request 24/7.  
[OlatheKS.org/OlatheConnect](http://OlatheKS.org/OlatheConnect)

### Stay Informed

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

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Olathe, KS

CONNECT WITH US






Apps available  
on the App Store  
and Google Play

**OLATHE**  
CONNECT **OLATHE** TrashDay

We're looking forward to being open to our friends! Follow us on Facebook and watch [Mahaffie.org](http://Mahaffie.org) for the latest news and updates.



1200 E. Kansas City Rd.  
Olathe, KS 66061  
phone: 913-971-5111  
web: [Mahaffie.org](http://Mahaffie.org)

   /mahaffiefarm

