



Lone Elm Park

OLATHE LEADS NATION IN KEY CITIZEN SATISFACTION CATEGORIES

In 2020, Olathe residents gave the City of Olathe the nation’s highest rating for the overall quality of city services and the quality of customer services among cities 100,000 plus population in the annual resident survey.

“Olathe continues to be one of the absolute best performing cities in America,” said Chris Tatham of the ETC Institute, who administered the survey. “Satisfaction levels in nearly all key categories tower above regional and national averages.”

The City of Olathe is also among the nation’s best in value received for City tax dollars, says Tatham. Olathe satisfaction is rated 73 percent, 20 percent above the Kansas City metropolitan average, and double the U.S. average of 37 percent.

Top in KC Metro

Olathe rates significantly above other KC Metro cities in all major city service categories, and ranks first in the overall quality of: police, fire, and emergency medical services; solid waste system (trash, recycling, yard waste); parks and recreation programs and facilities; city water and sewer utilities; stormwater runoff/stormwater management system; and enforcement of city codes and ordinances.

According to residents surveyed, maintenance of City streets/buildings/facilities is the highest priority (62 percent) followed closely by traffic flow (61 percent).

Olathe is one of approximately 900 city and county governments from 49 states using the resident satisfaction survey. Approximately 2,000 households covering all areas of the city were surveyed during 2020. The survey has a margin of error of +/-4.3 percent at the 95 percent confidence level.

The 2020 DirectionFinder resident survey is available at [OlatheKS.org/Government/Performance-Management](https://www.olatheks.org/Government/Performance-Management)

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



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

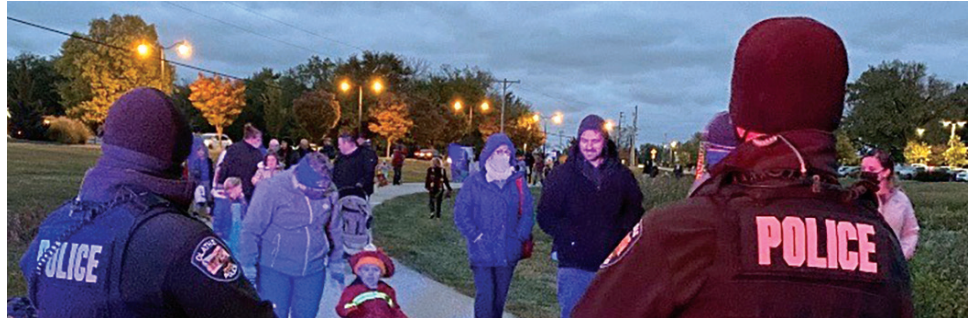
The safety our community offers is one of the most significant reasons why people continue to move to and establish roots in Olathe. Ninety-five percent of residents say they are satisfied with the quality of Olathe's public safety services, according to the 2020 resident survey.

In partnership with the community, both the Olathe Fire and Police Departments serve us at incredibly high levels, protecting and preserving our personal safety and property.

When an Olathe resident has an out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrest, the survival rate is 45 percent – one of the nation's top rates – compared to the 33 percent national rate. We know this because we participate in CARES (Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival), one of the world's largest EMS monitoring organizations. We require the best of emergency medical services. Our EMS credentialing measures Olathe Fire Department EMS skills and knowledge through hands-on and written assessment. Our Fire Department has a strong commitment to excellence.

We are matching our community's needs with the most efficient resources. Because

KEEPING OLATHE A SAFE CITY



the Fire Department has nearly three times the call volume during the daytime, we use our Fire Squads. These emergency response vehicles are smaller than a traditional fire truck, which helps the Fire Department better manage community risk with more appropriate resources.

Our fire suppression rates are excellent. We want to keep it that way. New Fire Station 8, expected to open in late summer 2021, will help cover the growing southwest area of Olathe. The new Olathe Fire Academy, which opens this year, will offer advanced training opportunities.

The Olathe Police Department's dedication to a safe city continues to set public safety standards among other law enforcement agencies throughout the region and the nation. Successful initiatives like the Strategic Risk Reduction and Enforcement Re-entry Program are helping curb the potential for recently released inmates to commit additional crimes. Advanced criminal analysis, using multiple software platforms, is helping locate suspects, predicting criminal activity, and providing information about the current activities of certain repeat offenders. These tools have a positive impact on our safe community.

Our Police Department also continues to find new ways to better serve our residents. In January, we launched the Advanced Crisis

Intervention Team Unit, which provides earlier mental health resources on mental health 911 calls. The ACT Unit also offers more thorough follow-up in an effort to connect individuals to the resources they need. This leads to fewer repeat incidents, allowing officers more time to respond to other calls.

Thanks to such innovative and community-focused policing, our city continues to have low crime rates and the Police Department has exceptional case clearance rates. During the past year, we've seen declines in crime and more cases solved, including:

- 44.4 percent decrease in robberies
- 40 percent decrease in homicides
- 29.1 percent decrease in rapes
- 8.6 percent decrease in batteries
- 6.3 percent decrease in assaults
- 21 percent increase in robbery cases solved
- 9 percent increase in burglary cases solved
- 3 percent increase in battery cases solved

This community's support of public safety services is sustaining Olathe as one of the safest cities in the nation. Our partnership with Olathe Public Schools' Public Safety Academy is ensuring quality people will continue to serve us in the future. This spring, we look forward to seeing the first group of students graduate from the Academy.

We will continue investing in the people, strategies, and technology to keep Olathe safe.

Sincerely,

John Bacon
Mayor



OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTIVE FAMILIES



Find your Olathe Active this summer. Browse the online Parks & Recreation Activity Guide and select what interests you — sports, camps, crafts, adult and childhood enrichment programs, and much more. Visit [OlatheKS.org/ActivityGuide](https://www.OlatheKS.org/ActivityGuide)

SHOP THE FRESH OFFERINGS AT THE OLATHE FARMERS MARKETS

- Stagecoach Park, 1205 E. Kansas City Rd.
 - Black Bob Park, 14500 E. 151st St., Field One
- Saturday market opens April 24**
Wednesday market opens May 12
 Open 7:30 a.m. until items are sold

Tails & Tales

JOIN SUMMER READING FOR ALL AGES AT THE OLATHE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Read books, attend cool programs, and win prizes during “Tails & Tales,” the Olathe Public Library’s Summer Reading Program. From May 17 – August 7, kids can earn a free book and teens can win great prizes by

reading titles of their choice. Adults can also join the fun by modeling good reading habits and winning prizes of their own. Participate virtually or in-person. To learn more visit [OlatheLibrary.org/SummerReading](https://www.OlatheLibrary.org/SummerReading)

WELCOME BACK, FRIENDS!

The Friends Bookstore at the Indian Creek Library reopened on April 1, 2021, and a full schedule of book sales is planned for the remainder of the year. The popular Novel Tea fundraiser will return in 2022. You can help support the Friends by donating books, DVDs, books on CD, music CDs, video games, and puzzles. Items must be in good condition and can be deposited in donation bins located at both Olathe Library locations. For donation guidelines, book sale dates, and current bookstore hours please visit [OlatheLibrary.org/Friends](https://www.OlatheLibrary.org/Friends)



IMPORTANT CITY PHONE NUMBERS

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

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WHAT'S BEING BUILT IN OLATHE



The Crestone Senior Living Community

A new senior living community will be constructed at the northeast corner of 119th Street and Sunnybrook Boulevard. The 100,000 square foot facility includes 91 apartment units, 44 assisted living units, and 16 memory care units. Planned amenities include on-site libraries, theatres, a salon, dog park, swimming pool, and fitness center.



Lineage Logistics

A 430,000 square foot building is under construction for Lineage Logistics in the Lone Elm Commerce Center near 167th Street and Lone Elm Road. This is the first new facility for the company in the Kansas City Metro area. The building has many automated features which allow for the temperatures to remain subzero in the refrigerated warehouse.



INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND OPENS AT INDIAN CREEK LIBRARY PARK

People of differing physical abilities and ages are using the new equipment at Olathe's first inclusive playground. Located on the north side of the Indian Creek Library, the playground is fully accessible and features a cushioned fall surface throughout. Play equipment platforms are designed for easy transfer from mobility devices. The swing set offers two multi-generational swings, and an adaptive seat swing. Plus, another adaptive swing is designed for kids and young adults who may lack the upper arm or body strength to keep them steady on a swing.



The other amenities at the Indian Creek Library Park are expected to be completed by the end of May.

Children and adults with motor limitations can use the adaptive switch technology to play the electronic piano at the playground.



The City of Olathe is a regional leader in providing innovative and excellent employee wellness services and promoting a culture of health in the workplace. The City was recently named Platinum Level certified from Healthy KC.

HISTORIC RESTORATION PLANNED FOR OLATHE MEMORIAL CEMETERY CHAPEL

The Olathe Memorial Cemetery's historic stone chapel will soon be restored to its original condition. The Kansas State Historical Society awarded the City of Olathe a \$90,000 Heritage Trust Fund Grant to make much needed repairs on the structure. Planned work includes re-tucking the stone mortar and installing a new roof, gutters, doors, and windows. The City will supplement the grant to complete the \$130,000 project. The chapel was built in 1937 as a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project. Currently, the chapel serves as office space, however, upon restoration there is potential for it to host services.

The Olathe Memorial Cemetery, 738 N. Chestnut St., is on the national, state, and local historic registries because of its rich history with prominent burial sites, award-winning trees, and historical buildings and structures. The cemetery was integrated in its early years and remains integrated. It is the resting place of more than 300 Civil War veterans and veterans from each war since involving the United



States. Olathe pioneers, governors, and others with significant roles in the formation of the State of Kansas are buried there.

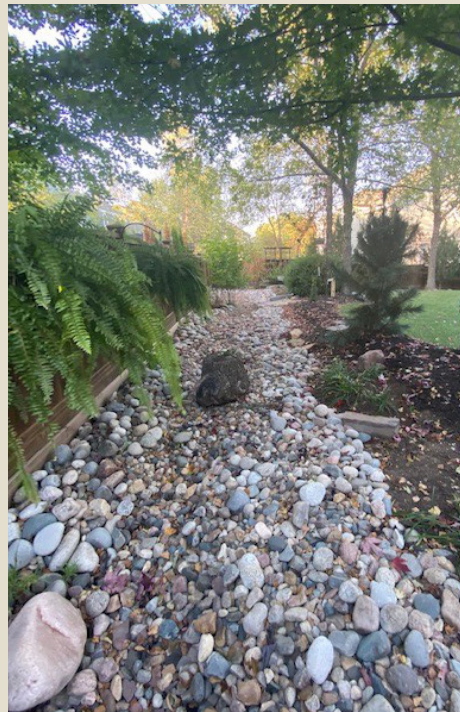
Visit Cemetery.OlatheKS.org or call 913-971-5226 for more information about the Olathe Memorial Cemetery

WINNING WAYS TO MANAGE STORMWATER RUNOFF

You can save money, add beauty to your property, and help manage stormwater by using cost share incentives available through the City of Olathe's stormwater cost share program.

A 50 percent match for qualified expenses is available for:

- Bioswales and swales revitalization, stream buffers, or native plantings, up to \$1,000
- Rain barrels, up to \$75 each (limit two barrels per household)



Over time, many of the original depressions known as swales, which help move stormwater runoff through backyards, have become filled in or altered. Homeowners can use stormwater cost share funds to install rain gardens or river rock in the flow path and native plantings along the edges to create an attractive landscape design.

PRACTICE SMART OUTDOOR WATERING

During the summer, more than 70 percent of the water delivered to Olathe households and businesses is used for outdoor watering. Take a few simple steps to use less water and use it more efficiently to water your outside spaces.

Make every drop count. Water early in the day to reduce excess evaporation. Avoid watering on windy days.

Reduce demand. Use native plants in your landscape—they require less water than ornamental varieties.

Mulch. Apply mulch around shrubs and garden plants to support moisture retention, inhibit weed growth, moderate soil temperature, and prevent erosion.

Program your irrigation controller. If you have a lawn irrigation system, make regular adjustments to ensure proper watering for current conditions.

Know your soil's condition. Healthy soils are the basis for a water-smart landscape. Testing the soil gives you accurate information about what type and amount of amendment may be needed to maintain good plant health. Contact K-State Research and Extension, Olathe, to learn about getting a free soil test (one annual test per Johnson County household address). Visit Johnson.K-State.edu. See Soil Testing in the Lawn and Garden section.

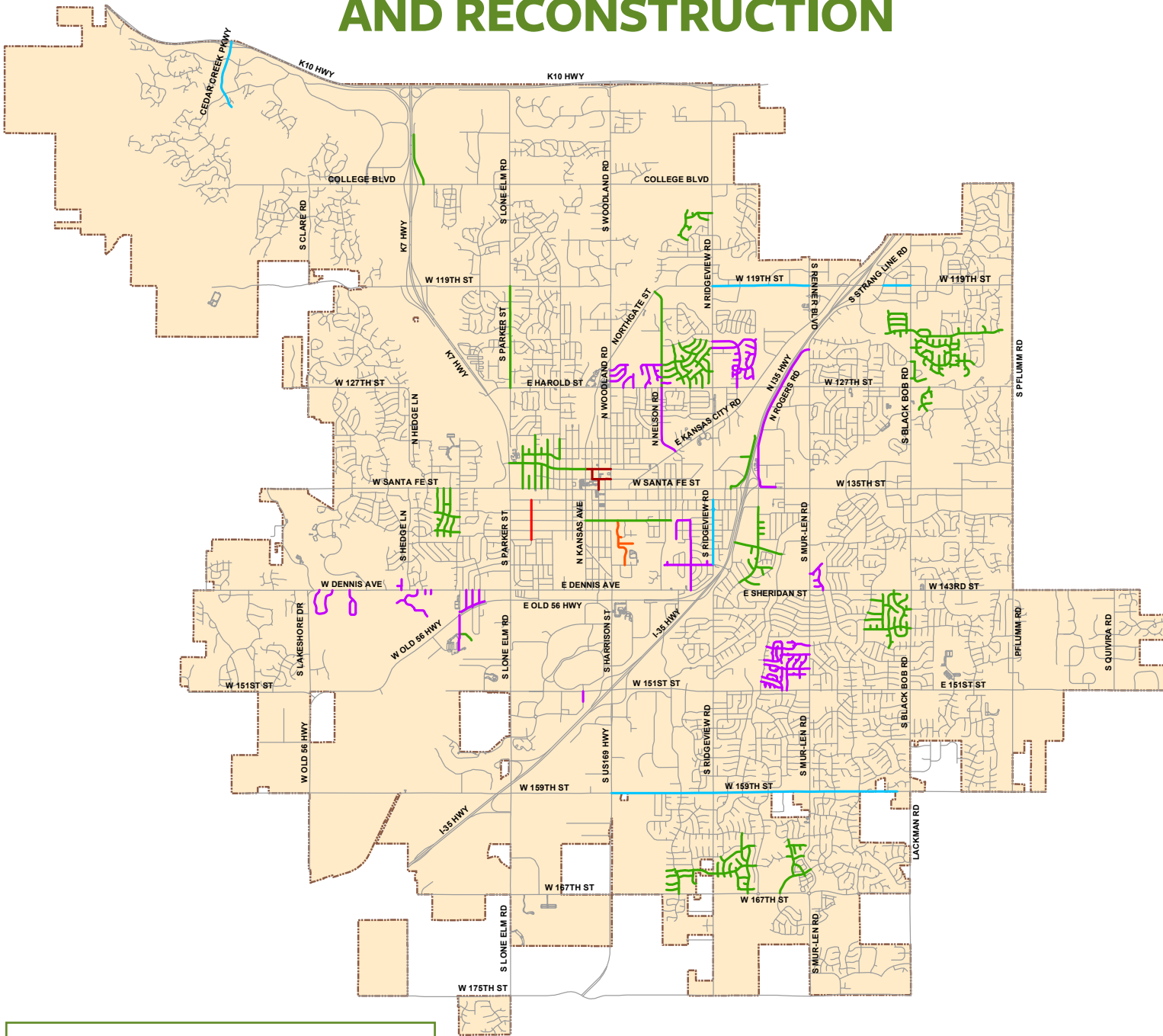
CUT IT HIGH, LET IT LIE

Summer will be here soon, along with the potential for hot and dry periods that can stress the lawn. Help your lawn by setting your mower blade high and remove no more than one-third of the height of the blades at one mowing. The longer leaf blades help shade the soil, decreasing its temperature and moisture loss. Instead of bagging cuttings, allow them to lie on your lawn to

return up to 25 percent needed nitrogen to your lawn.

If you must collect grass clippings, they should be placed in compostable paper yard waste bags or in an Olathe 95-gallon YardCart. YardCarts can be purchased for \$75, plus tax. Request a YardCart by signing into your City of Olathe utility account and click "manage services," or call Customer Service at 913-971-9311.

2021 STREET PRESERVATION AND RECONSTRUCTION



Legend

- Arterial Streets Mill and Overlay
- Local and Collector Streets Mill and Overlay
- Micro Surface MAQS
(Modified Aggregate Quick Set)
- Downtown Streets Reconstruction
- Troost Street Reconstruction
- Stevenson Street Reconstruction

During 2021, Olathe street preservation includes 113 lane miles of various types of resurfacing shown on the map. This street work is funded with the Street Maintenance Sales Tax, General Fund Cash, and General Obligation Bond funding.

Street reconstruction projects shown are 100 percent General Obligation Bond funded and total 3.15 lane miles.

Olathe voters approved the Street Maintenance Sales Tax in the fall of 2013. Since 2014, the sales tax has funded critical maintenance on 788 lane miles of streets throughout the city.

- Lone Elm Road and Old 56 Highway
- Ridgeview Road, 143rd to 151st Street
- Downtown Neighborhood Streets
- Black Bob Road and 159th Street Intersection

CONSTRUCTION BRINGS TRAFFIC FLOW IMPROVEMENTS

Lone Elm Road and Old 56 Highway

Weather permitting, completed improvements are expected by June 1 for a widened Lone Elm Road, Old 56 Highway to 151st Street, and the new continuous flow intersection.

The new intersection configuration will reduce delays by allowing simultaneous eastbound and westbound through and left turn movements. During the construction, north and southbound Lone Elm traffic flow is available, but all turning lanes are closed at the intersection.

Visit OlatheKS.org/LoneElm to see the project detour and learn about driving a continuous flow intersection.

Ridgeview Road, 143rd to 151st Street

Widening of Ridgeview Road to three lanes, with the center lane a designated turn lane, will continue through the end of 2021. Waterline and storm sewer replacements are part of the improvement project, along with roundabout installations at Sheridan Bridge Lane and Frontier Lane. Drivers can expect phased closings on Ridgeview Road through 2021. Detours are

posted and local access to neighborhoods and churches will remain available. Visit OlatheKS.org/Ridgeview for project updates and detours. For timely traffic notifications about Ridgeview Road work, sign up for NotifyJoCo.com.

Downtown Neighborhood Streets

Improvements to downtown area streets north of Santa Fe Street, between Woodland Road and Kansas Avenue, are planned in coordination with the Mill Creek stormwater project. Beginning in early summer, expect periodic closings on Spruce, Chestnut, and Poplar Streets for street reconstruction and bridge construction. The expected completion for these improvements is mid-2022.

Black Bob Road and 159th Street Intersection

The completed Black Bob Road and 159th Street intersection improvements are expected in mid-summer 2021. The intersection will be fully reconstructed, including a traffic signal, left turn lanes in all directions, and right turn lanes for all directions except westbound.

OLATHE SOLAR POWERED CHARGING STATIONS FIRST IN KANSAS



Driving on sunshine in a solar-charged electric vehicle is a new reality in Olathe thanks to recently installed solar-powered charging systems. The City of Olathe received grant funds for the charging systems from the Department of Energy, with the Metropolitan Energy Center administering the funds.

Solar-powered electric vehicle charging systems locations:

- **Indian Creek Library**, 16100 W. 135th St.
- **Olathe Community Center**, 1205 E. Kansas City Rd.
- **Lake Olathe Park**, Marina, 445 S. Ward Cliff Dr. and Fishing Pavilion, 755 S. Ward Cliff Dr.

Electric vehicle owners will be able to use the charging systems at no cost. Each location will have two charging systems with each system capable of simultaneously charging two electric vehicles. Combined, the charging systems can generate 96,000 miles of driving capacity per year.

These solar-powered systems are the first of their kind in Kansas. The public also has free use of electric vehicle charging systems throughout Olathe at Olathe City Hall, Public Works/Customer Service Robinson Campus, and the Downtown Parking Garage.

OlatheConnect

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

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 CONNECT **TrashDay**

TRAFFIC ALERT — 119TH STREET BRIDGE CLOSING MOVED UP TO JUNE 1

The temporary closing of the 119th Street bridge over I-35 is rescheduled to begin June 1. Due to COVID-19's impact, securing construction materials for the bridgework over the railroad is delayed. Rather than delaying the entire project, construction crews will begin working earlier on the project's phase necessitating the bridge closing over the interstate highway. The closing is expected to last up to 90 days.

Right turn movements will remain available on both sides of the 119th Street bridge during that time. See the **red** arrows on the map below.

More about the project and detour information is available at **OlatheKS.org/119**.

Sign up to receive traffic impact alerts at **NotifyJoCo.org**

