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SUMMER 2017

2018/2019 City Budget Supports "What is Olathe"

This summer, the Olathe City Council considers the 2018/2019 Operating Budget and 2018-2022 Capital Improvement Plan, developed to meet residents' community expectations. City Manager Michael Wilkes presented the proposed budget on June 20, 2017. Wilkes defined the budget within a "What is Olathe" framework to illustrate how the City's allocation of resources supports community priorities. As a result of City Council direction during the budget process, the budget includes a quarter mill property tax reduction reflecting Olathe's strong economic position.

Olathe is Safe

The proposed budget backs Olathe's position as one of the 10 safest mid-size cities in the nation. Based on crime data and continued analysis, it includes adding five detectives and a detective sergeant during the next two years to improve crime prevention and clearance. A partnership with Olathe Public Schools includes adding a School Resource Officer and a School Resource Sergeant to continue supporting a safe and secure learning environment.

Olathe is Innovative

"We are finding ways to do things more efficiently without additional funding," says Wilkes. During the next two years, the budget includes adding two squads in the Fire Department, to cost-effectively provide emergency response in areas needing the most service based on data trends.

Olathe is Moving

The proposed budget addresses traffic flow, consistently identified by residents as their priority for City services investment. Proposed funding includes optimized traffic signal timing improvements and capital projects for greater travel capacity and efficiency. The street maintenance fund is supported with an increased cash contribution.



Improvements at Lake Olathe are included in the 2018/2019 City of Olathe Budget.

Olathe is Active

The proposed budget enhances the parks and trail system in accordance with Olathe residents' priorities. Currently, improvements for Lake Olathe and Cedar Lake are planned. In preparation for the park improvements, the 2018/2019 Budget funds a horticulturist and park maintenance staff. In addition, the budget includes funding for a safety maintenance technician per a state requirement for playground safety inspectors.

Olathe is Community

Focusing on what makes Olathe a community is an important component of the proposed budget. "It is imperative to the long-term health of our community that we take care of neighborhoods," says Wilkes. Funding is proposed for a Healthy Neighborhood Initiative to support community revitalization efforts.

To view the proposed budget, visit OlatheKS.org/Budget.



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

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Mayor's Message

We're Becoming a Smarter City Connecting Digitally for Beauty, Health, and Prosperity

Olathe is a beautiful city — even our city's name means beautiful. Olathe is so much more than beautiful, we're also a "Smart City."

Cities often define for themselves what it means to be a Smart City. These cities typically integrate technology throughout the community to make lives better.

The City of Olathe has worked on a number of Smart City initiatives over the past decade. We're using technology for improved services, increased efficiency, management, and public engagement. We've worked hard to install the infrastructure to connect our community. Now, we're developing a citywide smarter city program to enhance connections across the community. What are these initiatives?

Providing clean transportation and environmental considerations

We've placed "green" (electric) vehicle stations at public locations. We're also using greener vehicles in our fleet, such as those running off electricity and compressed natural gas. Currently, we're converting traditional streetlights to LED fixtures throughout the city to save money with reduced energy usage and increased reliability. In the future, smart streetlights may automatically dim during periods of slower traffic. Our advanced meter infrastructure uses a remote network to read water meters, greatly increasing efficiency. Future smart tools will provide increased leak detection and pressure monitoring within our water distribution system.

Supporting a safe community and healthy lifestyles

The City is implementing smarter public safety tools, including new technology for improved timing of traffic safety beacons at our public schools. We're also working on providing wireless connections in public safety vehicles to allow a greater public

safety presence in the community. Later this year, we plan to launch an Olathe Active mobile application to help everyone keep fit minds and bodies. The app will feature challenges, including incentives for meeting activity goals. Healthy eating videos, with cooking programs and recipes, are planned in cooperation with Olathe Health and the Johnson County Health Department. You will be able to map "My Walk" or "My Run" with a personal navigation tool, and much more.

More digital community connections

We're working to provide more Wi-Fi in public places such as City pools, family parks, and athletic facilities. We recently updated the City website, OlatheKS.org, offering more interactive features and easier navigation across all platforms. The Automatic Vehicle Location technology offers greater management of vehicle and equipment efficiency. This includes the real-time view of snow removal and street sweeper vehicles at work. It's all available at OlatheKS.org.

There is no question that we are becoming a smarter city as we digitally interconnect important aspects of our community. Our Smart City initiatives will keep Olathe beautiful, healthy, and prosperous by enhancing connections between people, improving access to services and information, and allowing us to maintain exceptional, yet affordable amenities and service levels to ensure our high quality of life. This is an exciting time, and we are fortunate to have engaged residents like you who can benefit from greater digital opportunities. Be sure to connect with us as we offer more ways to do so!

Sincerely,

Michael Copeland
Mayor

Beautiful City



Healthy City



Prosperous City





New Features for Viewing City Meetings

Finding specific agenda items in archived Olathe City Council and Planning Commission meeting videos is now easier. An on-screen index provides quick access for locating topics within the video recordings. A copy of the meeting agenda accompanies the index, and sharing video links is easier than ever. The archived videos of these City meetings can be found by visiting OlatheKS.org/OGN and clicking on the Council or Planning Commission tabs above the live video player.

Make Nominations for Community Awards

Each year, the Olathe Human Relations Commission and the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Board honor individuals, civic organizations, and businesses who make significant contributions to human rights, equality, cultural diversity, and the pursuit of disability inclusiveness. City of Olathe Community and Accessible Community Awards nominations will be accepted until Sept. 1 for the Oct. 12, 2017 Community Awards Banquet, where award winners will be recognized.

Please visit OlatheKS.org/CommunityAwards for details about the award categories, eligibility, and the online nomination process.

Questions about the Community Awards may be directed to Vanessa Vaughn West, VLVaughn@olatheks.org.



Olathe Community Receives Pioneering Spirit Award

MidAmerica Nazarene University (MNU) presented the first Pioneering Spirit Award to the Olathe community this spring at MNU's annual gala. University leaders recognized the vision, hard work, and sacrifice of the many individuals, businesses, and civic leaders who made MNU's first 50 years a reality. Pictured left: MNU presidents, the late Dr. Ed Robinson, Dr. Donald Owens, Dr. Richard Spindle, 1984 MNU Alumnus Mayor Michael Copeland, and current President Dr. David Spittal.

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

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Stay Connected With Us



Keeping You Moving

The City of Olathe is among only four cities in the Kansas City area actively managing traffic signals with an Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS). Ninety-eight percent of Olathe's traffic signals are connected in the system via optical fiber, allowing the Olathe Traffic Operations Center to assist in moving traffic. The Center also manages traffic congestion during construction projects that impact travel, during accidents, or for special events, such as marathons.

During peak travel times Monday through Friday, eight to 10 different traffic signal timing plans support traffic flow on key corridors, with the priority placed on moving arterial street traffic. In addition, four to five traffic signal timing plans are in place on Saturday and Sunday for these key corridors. Travel time assessments are conducted regularly throughout the city to determine needed signal timing adjustments.

When possible, the City conducts road construction in phases, and avoids scheduling projects in close proximity or when schools are in session. Contractors must submit traffic control requirements prior to work. No lane closures are permitted during peak travel times, except in an emergency. Should a project require a detour, traffic will be directed to a major roadway in order to keep additional traffic on high volume roads.

Olathe works in partnership with emergency services, neighboring cities, schools, bus companies, the Kansas Department of Transportation, and the BNSF Railway to share information and reduce traffic congestion during road construction.

Travel Efficiency and Safety Projects



143rd and Mur-Len intersection | Addition of eastbound and westbound right turn lanes

143rd Street, Pflumm to Quivira | Widening of 143rd Street to three lanes and the addition of a traffic signal at 143rd and Pflumm Road

159th Street, Old 56 to I-35 | Construction of a two-lane concrete bridge over the railroad tracks and the installation of a traffic signal at Old 56 Highway and 159th Street

College and Woodland intersection | Addition of eastbound, westbound, and northbound right turn lanes

K-10 and Woodland | Addition of a traffic signal and an eastbound right turn lane will be added on the eastbound K-10 off ramp

Olathe Pointe Shopping Center | Addition of a left turn lane for traffic exiting the center at Black Bob Road. (Part of a public-private partnership)

More information about these projects and the project managers' contact information is available on the City Construction Map at OlatheKS.org.

What's Being Built in Olathe

Aldi Grocery Store

Aldi is adding another Olathe location at the former Old Navy site in the Northridge Plaza development, near 119th Street and Strang Line Road.

Frito Lay Warehouse Distribution Center

Dkota Investments, Inc. is building a new, 10,500 sq. ft. distribution center northeast of Ridgeview Road and Spruce Street. A final site development plan is pending submission by the developer, and is expected this summer.

Villas at Sunnybrook

The City approved a plat for four new, two-family residential units as an extension of the Villas at Sunnybrook development located near 119th Street and Lone Elm Road.

Olathe Pointe

Construction of a new multi-tenant building is underway in Olathe Pointe, 119th Street and Black Bob Road. The 7,875 sq. ft. building will house three tenants, one of which will be a Potbelly Sandwich Shop.



Bradford Hospital

Bradford Hospital, on the northeast corner of 135th Street and Black Bob Road, will be a new mini-hospital providing inpatient nursing and emergency services. It will have eight beds and include services like treatment of infections, mild poisoning, IV hydration, and end of life hospice care. The facility will be open 24 hours a day.

Valencia at Ridgeview Falls

Valencia at Ridgeview Falls, 119th Street and Ridgeview Road, is a new multi-family development with approximately 8.56 acres within the interior of the Ridgeview Falls shopping area. Valencia will have five, four-story apartment buildings totaling about 236 multi-family units. There will be a variety of amenities and parking options.

The Changing Face of the Olathe Fire Department



Olathe Fire Department

Olathe's continued growth and evolution are transforming fire service operations and community interaction.

The Olathe Fire Department is changing the way it responds to an increasing number of service calls. The squad units and the Mobile Integrated Health unit are key examples of using the most effective resources for better outcomes in emergencies. Based on continued analysis, Olathe's squads ensure that enough units can better cover all service calls at one time. These two-person, firefighter and firefighter/paramedic squads are improving response in areas with highest call demand. The proposed 2018/2019 City of Olathe budget includes placing two additional squads in service during the next two years.

The Mobile Integrated Health unit is directing more appropriate Fire Department resources to medical calls by responding with a two-person unit, staffed by a firefighter/paramedic and nurse practitioner, instead of a full-size fire apparatus. Statistics continue to show that Olathe's cardiac arrest survival rates are among the best in the country.

The Olathe Fire Department is committed to diversifying its workforce, adding bilingual personnel and female firefighters. Young women, ages 14-19, participated this summer in the Department's second HERO Day. The women learned about search and rescue, deploying the hose line, emergency medical services, drills, and more.

Preparing for Future Fire Services

As the Olathe community grows, the Fire Department is investing in future fire service talent within the community, essentially helping develop the next generation of firefighters.

"We have smart kids in Olathe, and we will need them in critical community roles," says Fire Chief Jeff DeGraffenreid. "We are 100 percent invested in Olathe."

One of the Fire Department's newest community outreach programs is a collaboration with MidAmerica Nazarene University nursing students, providing training through emergency simulations. Olathe Fire is also an integral part of the 21st Century Public Safety Academy, launching this fall at the new Olathe West High School. The Academy includes a fire resource coordinator for the program.

Other community investments include popular programs such as the Olathe Fire Explorer Post, the largest in the Kansas City area. Youth considering a fire service career meet three hours each week at Olathe Fire Station No. 3.



The "Velie," purchased in 1914, was the first motorized fire apparatus in Johnson County.

Leaders in Our History

- City of Olathe ordinance established the first official fire company in 1871
- First ambulance in Johnson County
- First to have paramedics on a fire truck in Johnson County



Leaders Today

- Always changing to better serve our community
- Pioneers in the dynamic squad concept
- Earns Class 1 designation from the Insurance Services Office
- First Mobile Integrated Health unit in our multi-state area



Earth News

from the City of Olathe, Kansas

Olathe Curbside Recycling Customers Ask ...

Why doesn't the City of Olathe offer weekly curbside recycling collection?

Olathe residents do an excellent job of recycling materials to avoid landfill disposal. Last year, residents diverted a record 44.60 percent of waste. Some residents have asked why there isn't weekly recycling collection. Should the City of Olathe provide curbside collection weekly, collection costs would double and those costs would be passed along to customers. Costs would include new trucks, additional employees, and more fuel. The City of Olathe strives to keep customer recycling fees as low as possible.

"Our waste diversion rate is as good as those who collect weekly," says Solid Waste Manager Kent Seyfried. "There is no cost benefit for making additional expenditures for weekly curbside recycling collection."

Need a larger blue recycling cart? A 95-gallon cart can be provided, free of charge, upon request.

Download the mobile Olathe TrashDay app to remind you of your recycling collection day.



Why can't glass be placed in the cart for curbside collection?

The City of Olathe's curbside recycling collection is a single-stream recycling material recovery process. Glass should not be placed in curbside recycling containers. Glass combined with acceptable recycling items contaminates the collected materials and reduces its value. Customers can help avoid contamination and processing problems by ensuring that all materials placed in the recycling cart are acceptable.

Visit OlatheKS.org/CurbsideRecycling to learn what's acceptable in curbside recycling collection.

If you have glass to recycle, visit the Ripple Glass drop-off sites at the City of Olathe's downtown, east, and west recycling drop-off locations. Other Ripple glass sites are located in the community. Visit rippleglass.com for more locations.

Olathe Public Works Earns Re-accreditation

The Olathe Public Works Department has again been awarded full re-accreditation from the American Public Works Association (APWA). This is a significant honor recognizing the best management practices of the Olathe Public Works Department and the City departments supporting Public Works, including Customer Service, Finance, IT, Human Resources, and Emergency Management.

In 2004, Olathe was the first accredited Public Works department in the State of Kansas and the 18th in the nation. There are only 121 accredited agencies in North America. A team of Public Works employees spent



months preparing a self-assessment in more than 400 practice areas that apply to the department. The team then met with APWA evaluators for two days in early April. The department was deemed as fully compliant in 100 percent of the applicable areas.

What Are They Doing?



Each year, City workers replace 50 fire hydrants that are damaged, have failed, or otherwise need replacement. The hydrants are a small percentage of the total 5,760 fire hydrants in Olathe's system. Most hydrants can be repaired or rebuilt as part of planned maintenance activities.



Olathe Public Works crews worked more than 500 hours of overtime in neighborhoods in a span of eight days, following the strong winds the weekend of June 16. During this free debris collection for residents, 28 employees picked up nearly 4,000 cubic yards of storm debris from 981 customer requests for bulk pick-up.

Keeping Olathe Beautiful Maintaining Green Spaces

On private property

- The maximum allowed height of grass on an occupied property is eight inches.
- The adjacent right of ways (front and rear) are property owners' responsibility to maintain.
- The maximum height of grass on undeveloped lots is 12 inches.
- Undeveloped lots of more than 10 acres require mowing only a 50-foot swath around the perimeter.

On public property

- Public greenways are mowed, trimmed, and litter removed every two weeks, weather permitting.
- Wooded areas are not maintained unless there is a safety issue.
- Vegetation maintenance close to a stream is limited with a desired height of one to two feet to reduce erosion. The area closer to the residential property line is maintained at a shorter height.

Sign Up for Free Electronic Billing

City of Olathe water, wastewater, and solid waste customers are encouraged to sign up for free electronic billing.

Electronic billing customers receive an email link to their online account login page when the bill is generated each month. Customers have the option to pay their bill in

person, online, by telephone, or mail their payment through the postal service.

Sign up at [OlatheKS.org/ElectronicBilling](https://www.olatheks.org/ElectronicBilling). Once an online account is set up, customers can track water and sewer usage and account balances.

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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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**.



It’s Back to School Time – Watch for Children

Back to school time means being especially aware of children traveling to and from school. You can help ensure their safety.

- Stop immediately when a school bus has the stop sign extended, no matter the direction you are traveling.
- Drive slowly when approaching children who are riding bicycles and walking near the street.
- Watch for children entering the street from behind buses or running to catch the bus.
- Follow school drop off and pick up procedures to ensure safety for pedestrians and drivers.
- Avoid distracted driving. Make school zones a no phone zone.



Olathe Police Department Community Conversation

The Olathe Police Department and the Citizen’s Police Advisory Council are pleased to present an ongoing series of conversations among the Olathe community, the chief of police and command staff.

Sept. 12, 2017
7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Olathe Community Center
1205 E. Kansas City Rd.

Visit OlatheKS.org/Police for additional information.