



City of Lawrence

The Flame | February 2017

**"We Have
Tomorrow —
Bright Before
Us, Like A
Flame."**

Langston Hughes

Budget 101

The 2017 budget was adopted in August 2016 and was guided by the City Commission's identified goals of public safety, mental health, infrastructure, non-motorized transportation/transit, affordable housing and economic development. The budget reflects shifts to these goal areas from other areas of the city budget with a small 0.533 mill levy increase. Throughout the process, a significant amount was cut from departmental and outside agency requests, as well as capital improvements program requests, while additional resources have been added in the goal areas. This has been accomplished, while preserving core services, through a structurally balanced and sustainable budget.

The city's 2017 revenues are projected to be \$178 million with expenditures projected at \$191 million. A five-year Capital Improvement Plan was adopted with \$328 million in projects. For a complete review of the budget, visit lawrenceks.org/budget.



Capital Improvement Plan

A CIP is a planning document for all the capital projects the City anticipates completing in the next 5 years.

What is a capital project?

A capital project has a minimum cost of \$75,000 and results in 1) the creation of a new fixed asset or 2) enhances an existing fixed asset with a life expectancy of at least 2 years.

What are some examples?

Constructing or Expanding Public Buildings
New Storm and Sanitary Sewers
Street Construction
Water Line Upgrades and Expansion

Where do my property taxes go?

State of
Kansas
1%

USD #497
44%

Douglas County
31%

City of Lawrence
24%



What are Funds?

Each fund is self-balancing and used for a specific purpose. Each fund can be thought of as a separate checking account (or pot of money).

Why use fund accounting?

- 1) It helps improve transparency
- 2) It's required under Kansas State Law



NOW HIRING

Police Officers



We are seeking men and women with character and competence who are interested in serving the Lawrence community in the time-honored profession of Law Enforcement.

If you want to make a difference in the community, we challenge you to consider a career with the Police Department.

POLICE DUTIES:

- Patrolling designated areas of the city to preserve law and order and to prevent crime;
- Responding to general public service calls;
- Investigating misdemeanor and felony complaints, and
- Enforcing state and municipal laws as well as traffic ordinances.

An officer must be able to maintain good working relationships with citizens and actively promote police and community relations.

An officer must do a variety of technical and administrative functions. An element of danger is associated with the position and an officer will be subjected to extreme, adverse, and stressful conditions. Officers must be able to function independently for most of the workday.

COMPENSATION:

- \$21.17 per hour at the beginning of the Police Academy
- \$1,500 sign-on bonus for fluent Spanish speakers

Apply online at www.lawrenceks.org/jobs.

Parks & Recreation Offers Many Youth Programs

This spring holds many opportunities for children to stay active in Lawrence. Youth camps, sports and special interest programs are a few ways we try to assist in the development of skills, coordination, teamwork and communication. Find more information for youth programs online at: lawrenceks.org/lprd/.



Spring Break Camps provide opportunities for kids with interests in aquatics, golf, nature, recreation, special events and youth sports. Find more information at: lawrenceks.org/lprd/camps.

Youth Sports begin spring seasons for baseball/softball and volleyball. Find more information at: lawrenceks.org/lprd/youthsports.

Planning Your Garden?

New Urban Agriculture Regulations Expand Opportunities

In 2016, the city approved a new set of regulations that will expand residents' ability to produce agricultural products within the city limits in residential property. The changes affect residents' ability to keep bees and some small agricultural animals such as sheep, goats and ducks. However, the property regulations are very specific and anyone interested in the new Urban Ag code revisions should visit www.lawrenceks.org/urban-ag for the guidelines.

The regulations allow residents to grow crops on residential property. Hoop houses, greenhouses, composting, waste bins and rain barrel systems are allowed. Urban farms are permitted within the regulations. Visit the website for details.



Compost and Woodchip Sale Event

This spring the Solid Waste Division will hold a sale event for compost and woodchips at the City's Compost Facility, which is east of 11th and Haskell Avenue, over the railroad tracks, Thursday through Saturday, March 23, 24, 25 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (the city will load trucks and trailers; \$10 per bucket load/two cubic yards). The sale event will be held rain or shine. Cash only. Compost and woodchips are not intended for commercial applications but rather for the citizens of Lawrence. For more information, visit LawrenceRecycles.org.

