



2010 Annual Report





Annual Report | 2010

City of Lawrence

Dear Community Members,

On behalf of the staff of the City of Lawrence, I am pleased to present the 2010 Annual Report. Each year, our departments are challenged to look for innovative ways to provide excellent city services that enhance the quality of life for the Lawrence community. Our departments continue to provide these services while remaining cognizant of the need to be cost effective and efficient. In 2010, the city continued our steadfast commitment to closely monitoring our resources and reducing expenditures when possible.

For the past several years, the city has faced unprecedented economic uncertainty which is related to the same challenges we see on a national level. As an organization, we have taken a proactive approach to managing spending to ensure that we are meeting City Commission priorities.

As City Manager, I am proud to serve the City Commission and the Lawrence community. We will complete a citizen's survey in 2011 that will give us feedback on how we are doing as an organization. I look forward to the survey results to gain perspective on our overall satisfaction levels and to use the data to provide additional avenues where we can improve.

Sincerely,

David L. Corliss, City Manager



In 2010, the City of Lawrence was able to accomplish several significant achievements despite a challenging economic picture. Perhaps the biggest accomplishment was the acquisition of the former Farmland fertilizer property on the eastern edge of Lawrence. This acquisition will fuel economic growth and provide an accessible, readily available location for business and industry to locate and expand the job market in Lawrence.

In downtown Lawrence, the naming of Massachusetts Street as a "Great Place in America" was recognition of what locals already knew: Lawrence has a vibrant, exciting downtown that is a center for arts, entertainment and dining. Additionally in downtown, the city successfully completed the renovation of the Carnegie Building at 9th and Vermont Streets. This facility will be a multi-purpose facility that houses the Lawrence Convention and Visitor's Bureau, future exhibit for the Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area, and public meeting space.

Thanks to the support of voters in 2010, the Lawrence Public Library will receive a much-needed facelift and expansion at its existing location. The \$18 million bond issue is an investment in our community and the downtown landscape that will pay dividends to our residents in the form of increased space for current and future programs, increased parking availability, and environmentally conscious building practices that will decrease energy costs well into the future.

I thank the citizens of Lawrence for allowing me to serve our community as Mayor and am proud to call Lawrence my hometown.

- Mayor Mike Amyx

2010 CITY COMMISSION

Mike Amyx, Mayor

Aron E. Cromwell, Vice-Mayor

Robert Chestnut, Commissioner

Michael Dever, Commissioner

Lance M. Johnson, Commissioner

Developing Economy

Goal: Promoting the economic development of Lawrence to provide varied work and business opportunities.



City Acquires Farmland to Develop Acreage for Future Economic Growth

In September, the City of Lawrence acquired the now-defunct Farmland Industries property on K-10 Highway just east of the City of Lawrence. The city quickly began working on the necessary environmental clean-up of the 467-acre property and has begun to demolish many of the dilapidated structures on the property.

The City Commission authorized the acquisition of Farmland to expand industrial and business park locations in Lawrence. The former Farmland facility is adjacent to K-10, the existing East Hills Business Park and BNSF rail service, has contiguous acreage for larger businesses and sites, and has relative close proximity to utilities and infrastructure. City land use plans call for the use of this property as an industrial/business park. The city received \$8.5 million from the Farmland Trust for remediation efforts, which focus on the removal of excess nitrogen and ammonia associated with the plant's former use as a fertilizer plant. As the city continues to look for ways to build our economic base, areas such as Farmland will play a key role in providing businesses the space and amenities needed to attract businesses to Lawrence.



BTBC and BTBC Expansion Facility

The Bioscience and Technology Business Center (BTBC) opened for business in August. Located on The University of Kansas' West Campus, the BTBC is a partnership between the City of Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas Bioscience Authority, Lawrence Douglas County Bioscience Authority (LDCBA), Lawrence Regional Technology Center, KU Endowment and The University of Kansas.

The BTBC represents a unique partnership between local and state entities created to expand the local economy by promoting bioscience and technology industries. Additionally, the BTBC is an example of cooperation among the University of Kansas and local economic development agencies. The BTBC's close proximity to the University allows information and resource sharing to expand academic research into commercially viable products and services.

The BTBC signed four tenants in its first four months of operation and is now 40% occupied. The companies within the BTBC employ 35 people in their combined workforce; each company has plans to expand their workforce in the next few years as their various products and services expand in the marketplace.

The BTBC Expansion Facility, located near the intersection of Bob Billings Parkway and Wakarusa, was acquired by the City of Lawrence and Douglas County on behalf of the LDCBA in early 2010. The first tenant, Crititech, is a KU spin-off company that is an emerging small particle pharmaceutical company developing cancer drugs.





Developing Economy

City Commission Creates Retail Task Force

Each year, retail sales tax accounts for approximately \$30 million dollars of the city's overall revenues. In 2010, the City Commission appointed a citizens' task force to focus on what Lawrence can do to grow the local retail economy. The City Commission recognizes that enhancing the retail economy in Lawrence will serve several important community goals, including providing employment, revenue for city services, enhancing the attractiveness of Lawrence and the community's quality of life, and enhancing the vitality of various parts of the Lawrence community.

The final report of the Retail Task Force recommended the following action items as crucial to the success of growing the retail economy:

- Review the building and development code in order to make it easier for existing retailers to expand and new retailers to locate in the community;
- Acquire a database of market and spending information to help local retailers identify ways to grow their businesses;
- Ensure that the city and Lawrence Chamber of Commerce have identified personnel to accomplish these tasks;
- Enhance Downtown retail by helping bring new residents and primary businesses there;
- Encourage private partners to establish a retail incubator; and
- Investigate a collaborative marketing program to draw additional visitors to Lawrence.

Ultimately, by taking a more proactive approach to retail, the city will be able to increase retail sales, reduce sales leakage from the community, assist local retailers in growing their businesses, and facilitate the planning process for retailers who wish to locate in Lawrence.



Bowersock Expansion

In 2010, the owners of the locally owned hydroelectric facility, The Bowersock Mills and Power Company, worked to secure investors for their planned \$25 million expansion. The new facility, North Powerhouse, will be located north of the existing facility on the Kansas River and will house four new turbines with a combined capacity of approximately 4.65 MW (megawatts). The North Powerhouse will work in tandem with the existing South Powerhouse. Its construction will bring the total capacity of the project to just under 7MW - approximately tripling the capacity for production of hydroelectric power in Lawrence. The city issued \$23.8 million in Industrial Revenue Bonds to finance a portion of the Bowersock project. However, there is no financial risk to the city by issuing Industrial Revenue Bonds and all principal and interest payments are the responsibility of The Bowersock Mills and Power Company.

Industrial Growth and Expansion

Berry Plastics announced in 2010 it will continue its investment in Douglas County by building a new 600,000 square-foot warehouse located on Farmer's Turnpike adjacent to I-70. This multi-million dollar construction project will provide immediate benefits to the Lawrence/Douglas County business community. Plastikon, a manufacturer of products for the medical, health and electronics industries, announced in 2010 it will expand its operations to the East Hills Business Park, creating 50 new jobs in the near-term, growing to about 125 in the next three years.

Planning for Growth

Goal: Encouraging growth that protects our environment, neighborhoods, and cultural features while benefiting all our citizens.



City Completes Retail Market Study

The city/county planning staff developed a Retail Market Study for the City of Lawrence in accordance with Horizon 2020 and the Land Development Code. This report analyzes both the supply and demand sides of the commercial market in the city for 2010 in order to get a picture of the overall health of the retail market. On the supply side, data is collected on the type, size and location of businesses located in commercial zoning districts. On the demand side, population, income and retail sales figures are analyzed. The overall vacancy rate has remained relatively steady, only increasing slightly from 6.7% in 2006 to 7% in 2010.



Master Planning Process for Utilities

The City of Lawrence Utilities Department is currently developing master plans for both the wastewater and water systems. The previous master plan was completed in 2003 and based on 2001 data. The planning process will use up-to-date growth projections and population data to develop a plan for future expansion of the water and wastewater systems to meet the city's needs, including a review of the scope and timing of the new wastewater treatment plant.

Major Utilities Projects in 2010

Airport Water and Sewer Line - The Utilities Department completed the installation of a water line to the Lawrence Municipal Airport and anticipates completion of a sewer line to that location in 2011. This project will provide service to the airport as well as adequate water and wastewater services for the economic development of the city-owned property in that area. The funding for this project came from general obligation bonds. The Utility Department managed all of the project's engineering and construction.



Iowa Street main replacement

Indiana Street Water Line – A 14-inch water main was replaced from 3rd Street to 8th Street along Indiana Street. The project included 3,500 feet of main replacement as well as replacement of 85 services, which was completed by Utility Department crews. The previous line was installed in 1886. This new main will improve service to the residents in this area.

Iowa Street – The Iowa Street project included water main replacement on Iowa Street from 9th Street to University Drive, as well as 9th Street to Engel Road, 9th Street to Centennial Drive, and portions along Yale Road and Westdale Road. This line was replaced due to previous breaks in several areas; and coincided with a Public Works re-surfacing project on Iowa.



Airport water and sewer line installation



Planning for Growth

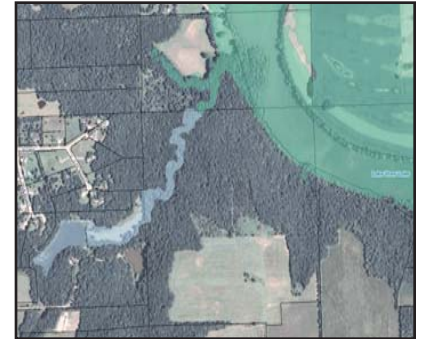
“ We had the opportunity of converting an old and vacant grocery store building into a state-of-the-art furniture show room. Due to the age and status of the building, we encountered numerous unexpected issues. The Planning & Development staff worked directly with us to resolve issues and keep our schedule on track. Thanks for the teamwork! ”

*- Jamie Winter
Owner,
Discovery Furniture*

Text Amendment: Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Regulations requiring the protection of environmentally sensitive lands in residentially zoned properties went into effect in 2006 with the adoption of the Development Code. Through the implementation of these regulations, it was determined that more precise definitions and clearer protection measures were needed. In 2010, the Planning Commission initiated a text amendment to address these issues. The text amendment was considered by the Planning Commission and, after several revisions, forwarded to the City Commission who adopted it with an Ordinance.

The revised language outlines the processes required, defines environmentally sensitive areas more precisely, and includes provisions for density bonuses.



City Adopts Energy Conservation Codes

Building codes regulate how buildings are constructed and provide regulations that safeguard public health and safety. Newly adopted energy conservation building codes address the design of energy efficient building and envelopes installation of energy efficient mechanical, lighting and power systems. The code is designed to provide regulations that result in optimal utilization of fossil fuel and renewable resources.

Lawrence Named a Preserve America Community

Preserve America is a national program involving several departments of the U.S. government including Interior, Commerce and Housing and Urban Development, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and others. The Preserve America Community designation recognizes communities that protect and celebrate their heritage and use historic assets for economic development and community revitalization. These communities encourage people to experience and appreciate local historic resources through education and heritage tourism programs. The goals of the program include a greater shared knowledge about our past, local pride, increased local participation in preserving the country's cultural and natural heritage assets, and support for the economic vitality of our communities. Lawrence is one of 843 communities in America with this designation.



Celebrating Community

Goal: Creating social capital and celebrating our heritage.



City and the University of Kansas Create Strong Community Partnerships

The City of Lawrence and the University of Kansas have a long history of cooperation focused on their shared mutual interests in a strong and vibrant community. Nearly every department collaborates with the University on topics ranging from transit coordination, promotion of entrepreneurship and economic development, public safety, land use planning, and research or educational opportunities. This symbiotic relationship strengthens our community and helps address the distinct challenges that can arise from living in a college town, as well as promote the shared goals of our community.

Since 2008, the City of Lawrence and the University of Kansas have agreed to increase cooperation and coordination between the University and city transit systems. A shared transit facility improves coordination of operations and provides the opportunity to reduce costs in many areas including coordination of paratransit services, safety and training, shared use of facilities and equipment, and allows KU and the city to provide a facility designed to best protect long-term capital investment in vehicles.



KU took the lead in the construction and ownership of the facility. This reduced the amount of time needed for construction and provided flexibility in the use of their vehicles. KU and the city worked together through the entire development and construction of the facility to ensure that the needs of both entities were addressed. The city assisted in funding of the facility by using federal grant funds to purchase KU vehicles thus allowing them to redirect their funds to the construction of the facility.



Did You Know...

A group of representatives consisting of local government, non-profit, educational and spiritual leaders in Lawrence worked to increase the overall 2010 Census participation rate. The City of Lawrence participation rate was 77% compared to the statewide average of 76%.

United States
**Census
2010**



Lawrence Lists Three Properties on National Register of Historic Places

Lawrence is a community that believes in preserving our heritage for future generations. The Planning Department coordinated the placement of three properties on the National Register of Historic Places in 2010. The properties, the Fernand-Strong House, 1515 University Drive (ca. 1872); United Presbyterian Ecumenical Christian Ministries, 1204 Oread; and John Robert Greenlees House, 714 Mississippi Street (ca. 1863), were nominated due to their historical associations with the community or their architectural significance.

Fifty-eight properties in Lawrence are listed in the National and Kansas Register.



1515 University Drive



Celebrating Community



Did You Know...

In 2010, the Parks and Recreation

Department received a grant from the Sunflower Foundation to extend a trail in DeVictor Park with multi-recreational paths that connects Langston Hughes Elementary with surrounding neighborhoods. The school's P.T.A. applied for a LiveWell Lawrence grant to expand utilization of the new trail as part of their Mile-at-a-Time Marathon Club, where students get daily physical activity. This partnership helped expand the trail and help create safe, accessible walking paths that increase safety and interest in using the trails system.



Lawrence Police Department Conducts Citizens' Academy

The 19th Citizens' Academy was held in 2010 through the Lawrence Police Department. Twenty-one area residents participated in a five-week course that introduced them to the various responsibilities of a police officer. From car stops to forensics, these individuals were placed in role playing scenarios where they experienced what it is like to make a split second decision, and in some instances, a life-or-death decision.



City Completes Carnegie Renovation; Freedom's Frontier Has Home

The City of Lawrence completed the renovation of the Carnegie Building at 9th and Vermont Streets in downtown Lawrence. The historic building will now permanently house the Lawrence Convention and Visitor's Bureau and offers a location for citizens to rent space for meetings and other events. The renovation was partially paid through an increase in the Transient Guest Tax, a tax collected when a hotel room is booked in Lawrence. Additionally, the city secured a grant from the National Park Service to assist in renovations. Other property-tax supported funds were also used for the renovation costs.

For several years, the Lawrence community and local city and county governments have supported the creation of the Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area (FFNHA). The FFNHA was recognized by Congress in 2009. The FFNHA's first exhibit will be housed in the Carnegie Building and will bring national prominence to Lawrence as the central home of the FFNHA. By promoting our local and regional heritage, the City of Lawrence hopes to increase the number of visitors who come to Lawrence looking to expand their knowledge of "bleeding Kansas" and America's enduring struggle for freedom, and, the role Lawrence played during this important period in America's history.



Creating a Sustainable Environment

Goal: Integrating the environment into our decisions as we work toward a sustainable city.



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funding

The Lawrence Public Library recently received a major upgrade to the heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) system. Funded by an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant, this project replaced old HVAC units, installed in 1973, with energy-efficient equipment projected to cut energy usage and cost by 20-30%. The project also included upgrades to the building's control systems. Now, temperatures can be monitored across multiple zones of the library – allowing the new HVAC system to use only the energy needed to heat or cool individual areas, rather than wasting energy on the whole building. These upgrades will be incorporated into the new design of the library, allowing the new library to have a great start toward energy efficiency.

What Does Sustainability Mean to the City?

Sustainability means making decisions that balance the needs of the environment, economy, and society – for both present and future generations. In the City of Lawrence, that means finding more efficient, smarter ways of serving our community. A few examples from this past year highlight the diversity of sustainability initiatives we're working on:

- Monitored and reduced energy consumption in our buildings, replacing old equipment with energy-efficient versions. For example, we replaced lighting fixtures on the lower level of the Riverfront Parking Garage with high-output fluorescent fixtures. The power consumption savings is estimated to be 94,871 kWh per year, resulting in a two-year project payback. The old fixtures were recycled or salvaged.
- Served locally-grown food at the employee picnic, supporting our local agricultural economy while celebrating our hard-working city employees.
- Expanded the DeVactor Park Trail through a Sunflower Foundation Trails Grant. This multi-use trail connects nearby Langston Hughes Elementary students with safe walking routes to school and serves as a recreational path for residents in surrounding neighborhoods.
- Hosted a forum on historic preservation and sustainability to discuss energy efficiency improvements that will both save energy and preserve historic structures.



HVAC replacement at the Lawrence Public Library



Did You Know...

The city, just like any energy-user, gets a bill from our utilities. In the past, each department has tracked bills independently. Often, this kept departments from sharing energy-saving best practices and made it difficult to plan an organization-wide strategy for saving energy. To remedy this, the city purchased software that generates easy-to-use reports for comprehensive tracking of utility bills. The city can now track electricity, natural gas, water, and fuel usage for the city as a whole and for each department and building. This will provide instant feedback on building efficiency. By identifying which buildings need energy efficiency improvements, the staff can begin to make strategic investments in city facilities. This software also allows reporting and tracking of greenhouse gas emissions, and can "benchmark" facilities against other communities to qualify for ENERGYSTAR recognition.



Creating a Sustainable Environment

In 2010, the Waste Reduction and Recycling Division diverted more than 2,000 tons of fiber waste from potentially going to landfills. This diversion of waste is both good for the environment and reduces tipping fees the city would pay to dispose of solid waste. The city saved \$39,992.29 in tipping fees in 2010 by recycling this material.

2010 Fiber Recycling

Material	Tons	Revenue
Corrugated Cardboard	1,367.81	\$181,922.25
Newspaper	422.41	\$41,941.08
Office Paper	40.09	\$8,169.40
Mixed Paper	258.06	\$15,771.08
TOTAL	2,088.37	\$247,803.10

Materials listed above are collected by the Waste Reduction and Recycling Division from participating businesses and from eleven municipal recycling drop-off locations. In 2010, 450 businesses participated in the city's corrugated cardboard recycling collection program and 140 businesses participated in the office paper recycling collection program.

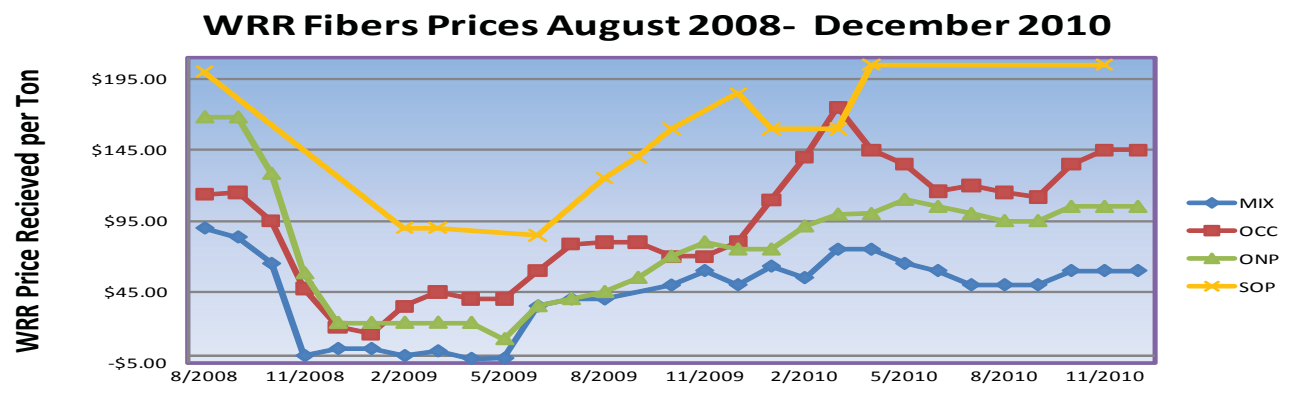
Prices Increase Steadily for Fiber Recycling in 2010

The City of Lawrence Waste Reduction and Recycling Division is part of the Solid Waste Division. Programs and operations are funded through solid waste fees for residential and commercial services. The division's objective is to facilitate and promote the reduction of materials from the waste stream. The Waste Reduction and Recycling Division serves as a central point for information regarding community recycling including curbside recycling providers, recycling centers in Lawrence, used oil drop off sites, and more.



The City of Lawrence markets recyclable materials received through the community collection points to companies that broker and process the materials. A sharp economic downturn at the end of 2008 affected the paper recycling market well into 2009 and the price reported per ton of recyclables collected by the city was at a historical low. In 2010, the pricing for recyclables improved significantly. For example, the division received \$115 per ton in September 2008 for corrugated cardboard and by January of 2009 the price for cardboard had dropped to \$20 per ton. By the end of the year in 2010, corrugated cardboard was selling for \$145 per ton.

The graph below shows the price that the Waste Reduction and Recycling Division received per ton of Mixed Paper (MIX), Corrugated Cardboard (OCC), Newspaper (ONP) and Sorted Office Paper (SOP) from September 2008 through December 2010.



Enhancing Neighborhoods

Goal: Improving the livability of all Lawrence neighborhoods.



City Receives BlueCHIP Healthy Community Award

Lawrence received the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas/ Kansas Recreation and Park Association's BlueCHIP Award. Lawrence received the Large Community category, which is for those communities with a population of more than 50,000 people. This is the first year the BlueCHIP Awards have been awarded.

The application for the award was submitted on behalf of Parks and Recreation and the Douglas County Community Health Improvement Partnership, as well as the community coalitions

through USD 497's Coordinated School Health Council and LiveWell Lawrence. With the award, the community will receive \$2,500, which will go toward the Lawrence Public School's *On the Move* program to fund mini-grants at several schools for programming to educate and facilitate healthy lifestyles in youth. The photos at left show West Junior High ninth-grade students harvesting and selling produce from the school garden for their Farmers' Market which is a partnership with The Merc Co-op.



Complete Streets Forum Held

Complete Streets are planned, designed and operated to enable efficient and safe access for all users - pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities. Effective Complete Streets policies direct planners and engineers to consistently design with all users in mind. Complete Street policies improve safety, encourage walking and bicycling, address climate change and oil dependence, and foster strong communities. Through a partnership with LiveWell Lawrence, the City of Lawrence hosted a workshop to educate and inform stakeholders on how the Complete Streets approach can help achieve multiple transportation, health and community goals. The Metropolitan Planning Office will continue to educate policy boards and the City Commission in order to determine if Complete Streets guidelines should be implemented in Lawrence.



Burroughs Creek Trail

Burroughs Creek Trail and Linear Park was dedicated in

October. The 1.7-mile-long trail, which runs along the rail corridor from 11th to 23rd Streets west of Haskell Avenue, was developed on existing city property and the abandoned rail corridor. The department worked with the neighborhood associations along the corridor through public meetings since 2007 in development of the master plan for the park. The park and trail development was funded through the sales tax passed by the citizens of Lawrence in November 2008 and a grant from the Kansas Department of Transportation.





Enhancing Neighborhoods

Parks and Recreation - Touching Lives Every Day through Fun and Fitness

Whether you know it or not, almost every day the citizens of Lawrence interact with a service provided by the Lawrence Parks and Recreation Department. Parks and Recreation makes life a little brighter, more enjoyable and a whole lot of fun!

How do they touch our lives? In downtown, when taking a stroll on Massachusetts Street, consider that **34** trash receptacles are emptied every day. **73** planters, with an abundance of brightly colored flowers and shrubs, along with the **232** trees lining downtown streets – help create the vibrant ambience of our great downtown. A crowd over of **1,200** people regularly attend the city-sponsored band concerts in South Park each Wednesday evening in the summer.

132 youth baseball and softball games are played on average every week in the summer with over **3,218** players suiting up for some fun and fitness. More than **4,000** adults play in **177** summer league games each week.

Citizens with disabilities take part in activities through Lawrence Parks and Recreation by utilizing camps, programs and events tailored to suit their individual needs.

Nearly **1,700** swim lessons are taught to individuals of all skill levels each week by certified aquatics instructors. In the summer, the South Park Wading Pool is free and open to kids ages **6** and under. In an average summer week, the indoor and outdoor aquatic centers, and the wading pool, pull in over **8,775** swimmers.



285 reservations are made each week through our recreational facilities. Lawrence Parks and Recreation also offers a public golf course, Eagle Bend, and a nature center, Prairie Park – both of which provide education and instruction to the citizens of Lawrence.

For more than **65** years – every day, every week – Lawrence Parks and Recreation has been doing what it does best – providing excellent city services that enhance the quality of life for the Lawrence community.



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funding

The City of Lawrence and Tenants to Homeowners worked together to complete the Rhode Island Roost project. The city provided \$562,142 in funds from the Neighborhood Stabilization Program for the project. Vacant lots were donated by Douglas County to Tenants to Homeowners for this project. Now, five multifamily units stand on the once-vacant lots. The Rhode Island Roost project is comprised of two front-back duplexes and one single-family unit. All of the units are certified as Energy Star rated. The units will be used as transitional housing units for families wishing to purchase homes in the Lawrence Community Housing Trust (LCHT) program.



Enhancing Neighborhoods



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funding

The city utilized funding from the Kansas Department of Transportation and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to restore the brick streets on New York from 9th to 12th Streets.

Clinton Parkway Trail Replacement

The bike paths that run along both sides of Clinton Parkway, from Inverness Drive to East 900 Road just past K-10 were completed in November. The project included the replacement of 6-foot wide asphalt sidewalks with 10-foot wide concrete shared-use paths for walking and biking along nearly two miles of Clinton Parkway. The existing sidewalk was constructed in the 1970s and was in need of repair. The trail project was selected by the Kansas Department of Transportation as an enhancement project through the economic stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.



Oread Neighborhood Plan Completed

The Planning and Development Services Department completed an update of the Oread Neighborhood Plan, which was originally adopted in 1979. The plan includes the area generally located north and east of the University of Kansas main campus, south of W. 9th Street, north of W. 17th Street and west of Massachusetts Street. The plan outlines goals and policies that address identified topics and guides future development and redevelopment of the neighborhood.



Did You Know...

In 2010, the city's code enforcement division investigated 2,733 code violations in Lawrence and conducted approximately 4,500 inspections from complaints. Online code complaint submittals were up 175% in 2010.

Type	2009	2010
Snow Removal	310	479
Graffiti	156	146
Structural Blight	79	47
Environmental Blight	542	500
Tenant Housing Complaint	45	66
Weed/Grass	1,000	949
Rental Inspections	743	435
Site Plan Inspections	126	56
Historic Final Inspections	38	40
Zoning	27	15
TOTAL	3,006	2,733



Improving Transportation Systems

Goal: Improving access for all citizens.



2010 Sales Tax Projects

In 2010, the City of Lawrence utilized funds from the 2008 Infrastructure Sales Tax for multiple projects in Lawrence. This included addressing high priority road conditions including milling existing pavement, patching deteriorated areas, and placing a multi-inch overlay on roadways.



Street Maintenance Remains a Priority

In 2010, the City of Lawrence continued to place street maintenance and infrastructure at the top of the priority list. Over \$5 million in funding is dedicated to street maintenance projects each year and additional funds from the Infrastructure Sales Tax are leveraged to create a comprehensive street maintenance program that addresses various roadway issues as well as curbs, gutters and potholes. In 2010, the street maintenance program completed:



Pothole Repair	16,091 potholes
Crack Sealing	114.1 lane miles
Microsurfacing with Needed Patching	19.1 lane miles
Mill & Overlay	27.4 lane miles
Curb & Gutter	5.67 miles
Concrete Street Rehab (Patching)	4,185 square yards



Did You Know...

Lawrence has a tool to help you plan your bicycle routes. Transportation planners worked with the Bicycle Advisory Committee to develop a map to promote, encourage and educate bicyclists. The map assists riders in choosing routes most applicable to their skill level, alerts them to difficult intersections, shows major landmarks to help bicyclists navigate around town and identifies transit connections. Pick up a paper copy of the map at any recreation facility and plan your next route.

Transit Earns Statewide Awards

In 2010, the City of Lawrence's Transit system was honored with two awards for their service and ridership.

The Kansas Public Transit Association honored the T as the "Transit System of the Year."

The City of Lawrence, in cooperation with the University of Kansas, was awarded the FTA Ridership Award for the largest percentage increase in ridership among urban transit providers in Kansas. Since the introduction of coordinated services between the University and city, ridership on the T increased 19.9% in its first year alone.



Enhancing Downtown

Goal: Enhance the vitality of downtown while maintaining it as a unique community treasure.



Massachusetts Street a “Great Place in America”

The American Planning Association announced the designation of Massachusetts Street in Lawrence as one of “10 Great Streets for 2010” under the organization’s Great Places in America program. APA Great Places exemplify exceptional character and highlight the role planners and planning play in creating communities of lasting value.

Through Great Places in America, APA recognizes unique and authentic characteristics found in three essential components of all communities – streets, neighborhoods, and public spaces. APA Great Places offer better choices for where and how people work and live every day and are defined by many things including planning efforts, architectural styles, accessibility, and community involvement. Since APA began Great Places in America in 2007, 40 Neighborhoods, 40 Streets and 30 Public Spaces have been designated in 47 states and the District of Columbia.



The American Planning Association celebrates excellence in planning

City Works with Organizations to Bring KU Athletics Events Downtown

The city, Kansas Athletics, Lawrence Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Lawrence, Inc., and the Lawrence Convention and Visitor’s Bureau, joined forces in the spring and fall to hold events that promote Kansas Athletics’ events. A complimentary shuttle service for the KU Relays was provided by the City of Lawrence Transit System, as



well as a complimentary shuttle service for the Spring Game in April; 658 riders took advantage of the free ride on the T to the Spring Game festivities. Two pep rallies were planned for the fall football season. With continued cooperation, the city, and its partners, believes that collaboration will not only help create interest in our community but also heightens the vibrancy and excitement that is already prevalent in downtown Lawrence and throughout the entire community.



Did You Know...

The Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission, an advisory board for the Lawrence City Commission, provided a grant to Downtown Lawrence, Inc., the Lawrence Arts Center, the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce and the Lawrence Convention and Visitors Bureau to create a Downtown Lawrence Arts District and launch the district’s premier program – Final Fridays. Final Fridays is a monthly, multi-disciplinary arts festival centered in Downtown Lawrence.

Final Fridays brings all ages of the entire Lawrence and regional community to Downtown Lawrence for an evening of arts presentations in non-traditional venues. The program began in August 2010 and runs on the final Friday of each month from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Downtown Lawrence generally bustles with activity but crowds from the Final Fridays events have added hundreds more people to the mix. Final Fridays brings together traditional gallery spaces, eating venues that regularly display visual art, and other retail businesses not known for presenting art. Businesses must be

willing to open their doors on Final Fridays event nights and offer either a performance, demonstration or special display to participate.





Providing Excellent City Services

Goal: Provide excellent city services consistent with resources available.

Utility Billing

The City of Lawrence's Finance and Utility Billing Department process all payments and billing for the city. In 2010, a new accounting software was implemented. The department processed 301,313 payments for 32,577 utility customers in 2010 and 89% of all invoices were paid within 30 days of receipt.

The department read 392,699 meters over the year and 98% of all billing cycles were sent as scheduled.

The department was awarded its 19th consecutive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the Comprehensive Annual Report.



Sales Tax Funds Provide for New Fire Medical Apparatus

The 2008 sales tax for infrastructure provided funding for new fire apparatus. One of the new vehicles, Truck 5, features a 100-foot platform and is also a pump truck that can dispense water and compressed air foam. An engine was also purchased with funding from the sales tax.



Fire Medical Department Responds to nearly 10,000 Calls for Service

In 2010, the Lawrence-Douglas County Fire Medical Department responded to 9,903 calls for service. This breaks down to 1,982 fire calls, 7,763 emergency medical service calls (EMS), and 158 crime scene investigation calls. The department's standard is to respond to calls within six minutes 80% of the time; however, the department nearly always exceeds this standard. In 2010, the department's response time was under six minutes 95% of the time for medical calls and 96% of the time for fire calls.



Did You Know...

The Utilities Department focused on optimizing facilities in 2010.

The results of these efforts resulted in a 17% decrease in chemical cost per million gallons of water treated from 2009 to 2010. In addition, these efforts also resulted in the complete elimination of the use of soda ash at the water facilities.

And the Winner is ...

Lawrence consistently ranks among America's best college towns - twice in 2010 by different publications - but the city was also recognized with these awards:

- Top web site by the National Association of Government Webmasters (population 35,000 to 100,000)
- Named a top place (#4) for military retirement by USAA and military.com (under 175,000 population category)
- The Utility Department was honored by KDHE and the Kansas Water Environment Association for water quality, safety and overall performance

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City of Lawrence



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