



# City Hall Update

Fall 2013

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For the City of Lawrence, our infrastructure has been a top priority for the past several years. Our citizens tell us that street maintenance and easy, convenient flow of traffic is a priority.

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) is working to complete the South Lawrence Trafficway, a long-anticipated project which will complete the final leg of K-10 Highway from east Lawrence to Iowa Street. KDOT awarded the project in September 2013 and looks to have the project complete in 2016. This project is estimated to have a \$3.7 billion economic impact for the State of Kansas. KDOT's contractor for the SLT will also build 31<sup>st</sup> Street, between Haskell and O'Connell, for the city.

In summer 2014, KDOT and the City of Lawrence will coordinate their activities to perform maintenance on the highway underpass structure at 6<sup>th</sup> and Iowa Street. The City of Lawrence will add a dedicated, westbound turn lane and eastbound right turn lane at the same time. The city will add a new sidewalk on the south side of 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

In 2014, the City of Lawrence has significant construction planned for the intersection of 23<sup>rd</sup> Street and Iowa. The intersection will be reconstructed with dual, left turn lanes added at all approaches. The project will start in early spring and be completed in the fall.

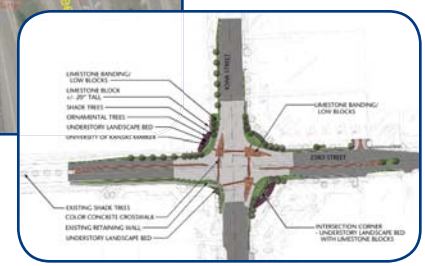
The Poehler Lofts & Warehouse Arts District is an award-winning example of reuse and repurposing of historic structures. A private developer redeveloped the 50,000 square-foot Poehler Mercantile building in east Lawrence into 49 lofts – all of which were fully leased within 11 hours of opening. This year, the redevelopment of the Cider Gallery into a high-end art gallery and business center for start-up and established companies was completed.

Lawrence is known for its vibrant downtown. At 9<sup>th</sup> and New Hampshire, there are two private-developer led projects under construction. On the southeast corner of the intersection, the developer is building a 92-room Marriott hotel, three condominium units, commercial space and an underground parking garage. There is an opportunity to create an arts commons area south of the Arts Center as part of this redevelopment. On the northeast corner of the intersection, a mixed-use apartment building with ground-level commercial space and underground parking garage is planned. This area is also a Transportation Development District which allows for a 1-cent sales tax on sales to help retire city debt on the existing city-owned parking garage in the 900 block of New Hampshire.

The city acquired the former fertilizer plant on K-10 Highway in 2009 and is now working to market 200-acres of developable land for industrial purposes. Recently, the site was re-named Lawrence VenturePark. This summer, the city completed installing a traffic signal at 23<sup>rd</sup> and O'Connell Road and is working to complete additional infrastructure.

The Bioscience and Business Technology Center reached full capacity in 2012 with nine tenants – and has added 60 new jobs to our community. This incubator project has been so successful that Phase II is under construction and will provide an additional 30,000 square-feet of space for tenants and more job creation. This is a successful partnership between the city, county, University of Kansas and other partners.

## Improving Our Infrastructure



## Community & Economic Development





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A new parking garage at 700 Vermont was added to serve the Lawrence Public Library, Outdoor Aquatic Center, Douglas County Senior Services and downtown businesses and merchants this summer. The garage cost \$6.1 million to construct and added 324 new parking spaces to downtown.

The Lawrence Public Library expansion is under construction. This 20,000 square-foot expansion will provide additional space for children's programming, technology upgrades and community meeting rooms. Construction is set to be complete in summer 2014.

The Recreation Center at Rock Chalk Park is under construction. The city is building a 181,000 square-foot Recreation Center with eight full-sized basketball courts, 16 full-size volleyball courts, indoor soccer/sports arena, 1/8 mile walking/jogging track, gymnastics area, aerobic fitness area, cardio/weights area, meeting rooms and on-site walking trails. The University of Kansas is building a new complex to house the university's track and field, softball, soccer and Kansas Relays activities. The city will install infrastructure at the site including a 1,500-space parking lot, water/sewer infrastructure, stormwater detention, streets and sidewalks. The city's debt cost for the Recreation Center and site improvements at Rock Chalk Park is \$22.5 million. The project is set to be complete by summer 2014.

The city was recently awarded three KDOT grants: \$1.2 million for restoration of the Santa Fe Station (the building will remain as an active rail station); construction of a trail between K-10 and 29<sup>th</sup> Street along the existing Haskell rail-trail; and a grant to restore the Breezedale Monument at 23<sup>rd</sup> and Massachusetts.

The City of Lawrence believes that public safety is a top priority. The following chart shows additional spending applied toward public safety resources since 2010.

#### Public Safety Additional Resources

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
\$1,183,923 for 100-foot Ladder Truck & \$669,535 for Pumper Truck	\$847,967 for PUC Engine	Added 5 LPD positions Radio Replacement - \$503,645 for Police & \$1,061,016 Fire Medical	Added 3 LPD positions Additional \$300,000 for equipment in Police Department budget	Financial support for 4 additional positions in emergency dispatch \$1.5 million for land acquisition and next steps related to a new police facility
Fingerprinting station installed to reduce jail costs		\$38,758 for facility needs study for Police Department \$972,525 for new PUC Quint	\$3 million in radio infrastructure improvements for Public Safety	Funding provided to purchase Quint for Fire Medical



Improving the Quality of Life

Your City Services



The 2014 capital budget includes funding for land acquisition and next steps for a new police facility. The city is currently evaluating possible locations.

Starting in mid-October 2014, the city will provide single-stream curbside recycling for all single-family and multi-family customers. Curbside recycling will be an every-other-week service.

Over the next five years, the city will complete \$160 million in water and wastewater improvements.