

VOICE

The Star of Kansas



BEST WISHES TO MAYOR LAURA WASSMER

After more than two decades of public service, the City of Prairie Village is saying “goodbye” to Mayor Laura Wassmer, who chose not to seek another term of office. Prior to being elected as Mayor in 2015, Wassmer volunteered her time as a member of the City Council for 17 years. In Prairie Village, members of the governing body are not compensated, which emphasizes the true volunteer spirit of the elected officials.

In her tenure as an elected official, Mayor Wassmer has influenced many areas of the city. As the chair of the Park and Recreation Committee, and as a vocal advocate for the parks and trail systems, Mayor Wassmer led the implementation of the Parks Master Plan, and was instrumental in the acquisition of eighty-three acres of land for Meadowbrook Park and three acres for North Park. Her goal of a trail stretching from the Village Shops to the southern end of our city was realized with the most recent trail connecting Franklin Park to the new Meadowbrook trails.

In addition, she was heavily involved in the Village Vision, our citywide comprehensive plan, and worked with city staff, employees, and other council members to implement those concepts. She worked diligently with colleagues to improve the code enforcement process by tightening ordinances and hiring additional staff and proactive prosecutors and judges.

Mayor Wassmer was committed to maintaining Prairie Village as a unique and desirable place to call home. Her efforts to set new residential building design standards allow for continued reinvestment in the city while preserving the character of the neighborhoods. She prioritized exemplary city services, a balanced budget, and the maintenance of roads and infrastructure, while influencing the beauty of the city through statuary maintenance, stone entrance markers, decorative light poles and banners, and the redevelopment of the Corinth and Village shopping centers.

Over the past 21 years, Mayor Wassmer has been devoted to shaping the future of Prairie Village. With her support, Prairie Village was routinely recognized as an exemplary community, both locally and nationally. Our gratitude and thanks to Mayor Wassmer for her service to Prairie Village.

We also extend a warm welcome to Mayor elect, Eric Mikkelsen, who will be sworn into office on January 14, 2019.

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Greetings Prairie Village residents,

I was recently having a philosophical discussion about the difference between thinking something versus really knowing something. I believe that knowing comes from personal experience—seeing, experiencing, and learning about something first hand. For instance, when I moved to Prairie Village 26 years ago, I'd heard about the good schools, that the streets were plowed following snow storms, and that the police were quick to respond to an emergency call—things I THOUGHT were good reasons to raise my family here. But I don't just think that anymore. After living in Prairie Village and being involved in city government for 21 years, now I KNOW – a fact that brings me so much pride.

Prairie Village is a community which is the sum of all its parts—from our talented customer focused staff, responsive police department, public works crews who go above and beyond every day, our committed and engaged council members, to our volunteers who spend hours on our planning and zoning, art gallery, parks, trees, recycling, insurance, civil service, and all of our wonderful community events. It's the people of Prairie Village that make our community something we all know is special.

Over the course of more than two decades, I have come to know many in the community as colleagues and friends. Your kindness and support over the years have been appreciated more than you know, and I will miss our day-to-day interactions. It's been my honor to work side-by-side with you and to represent you as your Mayor. Many have asked, and yes, I will continue to live in Prairie Village and look forward to staying involved in our community.

I wish you all a prosperous and healthy 2019! Please join me in wishing Mayor Elect Eric Mikkelson and the entire City Council well in all their future endeavors to keep Prairie Village the premier community we have all come to KNOW and to LOVE.

Wishing you and your loved ones blessings this holiday season!

Sincerely,



Laura Wassmer, Mayor

ELECTED OFFICIALS

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Upcoming events

DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
Jan. 14	Council Meeting	6:00 p.m.	Council Chambers
Jan. 21	Offices Closed	All Day	
Jan. 22	Council Meeting	6:00 p.m.	Council Chambers
Feb. 4	Council Meeting	6:00 p.m.	Council Chambers
Feb. 18	Offices Closed	All Day	
Feb. 19	Council Meeting	6:00 p.m.	Council Chambers
Mar. 4	Council Meeting	6:00 p.m.	Council Chambers

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COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT



VOLUNTEER FOR VILLAGEFEST 2019

The VillageFest Planning Committee will have its first meeting of the year on Thursday, January 24 at 5:30 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room at City Hall, 7700 Mission Road. The committee will continue to meet on the fourth Thursday of each month through July. If you would like to participate on the committee or would like additional information, please contact Meghan Buum at 913-385-4662 or mbuum@pvkansas.com.

VOLUNTEER FOR A CITY COMMITTEE

The City of Prairie Village is accepting volunteer applications for City Committees. Interested residents should submit their application at pvkansas.com/volunteer before February 1.

ARTS COUNCIL PRESENTS

Mark your calendar now to view these upcoming exhibits at the R.G. Endres Gallery and attend opening receptions honoring these talented artists. Gallery hours are Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. The Gallery is located in City Hall at 7700 Mission Road.

JANUARY—The Arts Council is pleased to present Future of the Arts competition, where young artists will display works of various mediums. A reception will be held on January 11 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY—Regional artists Kathleen Kirch of Gardner, Shelby Prindaville of Leavenworth, and Jason Wagner of Golden, CO will display their works in oils, acrylics, and watercolors. A reception will be held on February 8 from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.



**Do you know someone who has made an outstanding contribution to Prairie Village?
Nominations are being accepted for Arbor Day Honoree**

ARBOR DAY HONOREE

The Prairie Village Tree Board is accepting nominations for this year's Arbor Day Honoree. This is an opportunity for the community to recognize the efforts and contributions of outstanding citizens who have made a difference in Prairie Village. Nominees must be current or former Prairie Village residents. Their efforts should have had a positive and lasting impact on the community, they may be living or deceased individuals or couples, and may have served the community in any capacity. Nominations will be accepted until February 28, 2019. You may obtain nomination forms online at <http://www.pvkansas.com/arbordayhonoree> or at the Municipal Offices. Nominations received after the due date will be considered for the following year. Nominations will be considered for three years before being removed from consideration.



SAVE THE DATE
Prairie Village Arbor Day
April 27, 2019

As it gets closer, check out the city's website for more information.

PV HAPPENINGS

HOW TO DISPOSE OF YOUR HOLIDAY TREE

The holidays have come and gone, and the time to un-deck the halls has arrived. Prairie Village residents have several options for live tree disposal.

Republic Services will pick up live trees at the curbside for the first two weeks in January 2019. Trees taller than six feet must be cut in half prior to removal. The trees will be picked up with other compost/yard waste items on each resident's typical trash pickup date.

Additionally, the City sponsors a tree recycling program which runs through January 21. Trees can be placed in designated areas of Porter, Franklin, and Taliaferro Parks. Trees must be free of all lights, ornaments, stands, metal nails, etc. as these items will damage the chipping machine. Residents may take the chips for their own use.



RESERVE A BALL FIELD FOR YOUR TEAM



Ball fields in Prairie Village are always in demand. The City of Prairie Village allows reservations of ball fields for soccer, baseball, and softball practices. Teams with majority of players who are Prairie Village residents or students will be given priority for field reservations, but any team may apply to reserve a field. Teams can reserve two practice times per week for up to 1½ hours. Fields are available in Porter, Franklin, Windsor, and Taliaferro Parks. If your team reserved a field during 2018, your coach should have received a 2019 application form via email. You may also obtain an application at the Municipal Offices or online at www.pvkansas.com under Leisure & Lifestyle, Recreation Programs, then choose your sport. Applications for the spring season are due January 18.

2019 EXTERIOR GRANT PROGRAM

The 2019 Exterior Grant program will begin accepting applications on Friday, March 1 at 8:00 a.m. Applications will be received on a first come, first served basis due to limited funding. There is a \$25 associated fee, which can be paid by cash or check. This program is funded through the Economic Development Fund and \$50,000 has been allocated to improve the quality of Prairie Village neighborhoods. Eligible improvements include but are not limited to: complete exterior house painting or siding, door/window repair and replacement, new roof, gutters, shutters, front-facing concrete work (driveways, sidewalks & stoop), and foundation repairs. In order to qualify, the property must be owner-occupied or have a current rental property license in place for the previous 365 days prior to approval. The City Council has adopted the following changes in order to increase the number of eligible homes and to promote an emphasis on addressing code violations.



- Eligible homes can be located anywhere within City boundaries and must have a Johnson County appraised value to be determined by city council in January
- Grants reimburse 20% of the total projects costs – the amount for 2019 is expected to be between \$2,500-\$12,500 dollars in qualifying expenses.

For more specific information on the program visit www.pvkansas.com/exteriorgrant or call the Codes Department at 913-385-4604 after February 1, 2019.

PV HAPPENINGS

YOUR GIFT CAN CHANGE A LIFE

With each thoughtful donation the Prairie Village Foundation receives from the community, lives change. It is that simple. The Prairie Village Foundation is proud of this fact. Your community based foundation is “in your backyard” working diligently, allocating your generous donations to people who need them the most: people who might live next door, who have fallen on hard times, or who don’t have the resources to get assistance they need. Rest assured, the Foundation digs deep to try to pinpoint deserving community members to change their lives for the better.

One organization that changes lives in a matter of days using Foundation funding is the Johnson County Housing Services Department. Recently, Johnson County Housing Services used the Foundation’s funding for two success stories. First, a 91-year-old World War II Veteran was unable to repair a broken furnace. The county stepped in, identified the problem, and was able to replace the furnace. The second success story comes from an 86-year-old widow who needed assistance with a few major plumbing issues. The county again stepped in with their experts and replaced supply lines, drain lines, a toilet and water heater in the home. These repairs are expensive, but necessary to keep Prairie Village residents safe and secure.

THE PRAIRIE VILLAGE
Foundation

Helping Our Neighbors. Enhancing Our Community.

The Prairie Village Foundation takes pride in how they reach deep into Prairie Village and the Johnson County area to assist where there is a need. If you agree, please consider a donation of your own. Find out more at www.prairievillagefoundation.com or by calling Meghan Buum at 913-385-4662.

GREEN PRAIRIE VILLAGE

HOW CAN YOU IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS?

Prairie Village is a forward-thinking local government making great strides toward improving the quality of life for our residents. To that end, the Environmental Committee offers some suggestions for ways residents can reduce pollution and your carbon footprint through a series of articles in this and subsequent issues of the Village Voice. The first article provides exciting news for Electric Vehicle (EV) drivers. In March, we’ll offer information on an interesting trend in life planning.



CHARGING STATIONS IN PRAIRIE VILLAGE

One of the best ways you can reduce your carbon footprint and limit air pollution is to drive an electric vehicle (EV).

EV technology has come a long way and is quickly catching on. Last August, the Tesla Model 3 became the number one best-selling passenger car in the U.S. by revenue, selling 17,800 units with revenue of \$992.5 million. And it’s not the only EV seeing exponential sales growth. It took five years to sell the first million EVs, but only six months to sell another million globally at the start of 2018.

The biggest factor in EV adoption appears to be availability of public chargers. There is a void locally. Prairie Village may lack charging stations but does not lack EV drivers. Fortunately, the shortage of charging stations in Prairie Village is about to change.

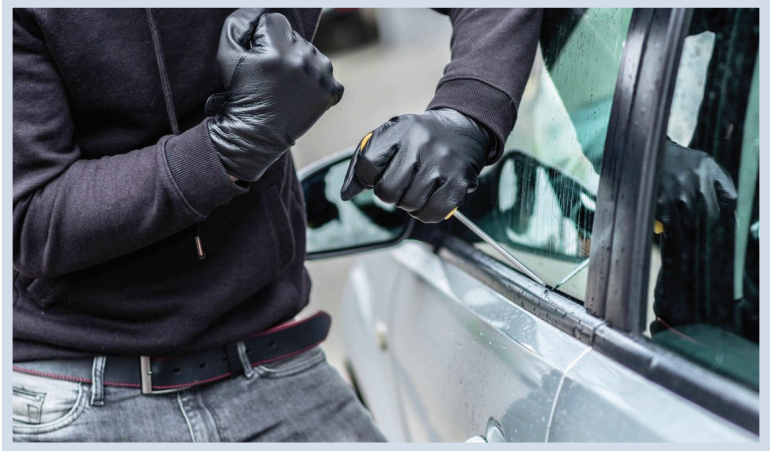
During the Nov. 19 City Council meeting, First Washington announced the location for electric charging stations provided by KCP&L at the Village Shops and they will soon identify a location in Corinth Square. This will come as welcome news to electric vehicle owners who frequent both shopping centers.

Communities that have installed EV chargers continue to reap the rewards as EV drivers prioritize locations where they can charge and shop, work, or play at the same time. If 2018 is the year the electric vehicles went mainstream, 2019 will be the year stores across the country add chargers to draw more customers who drive these vehicles.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

HOW TO PREVENT AUTO THEFT AND BURGLARIES

The Prairie Village Police Department asks residents to help prevent auto thefts and auto burglaries. This can be as simple as making sure your valuables are out of sight and locking your car after you exit. Here are some ways to decrease your chances of being a victim of an auto burglary:



- Park your car in the garage whenever possible
- Check your car door lock by pulling up on the door handle to make sure it is secure, especially when using your door lock remote
- Do not leave items of value in your car. This will decrease the chances of a car burglar wanting to enter your car
- Leave a porch light on, or park your car under a street light to illuminate your car at night

By following these simple and easy-to-follow crime prevention steps, you may greatly reduce the chance of your car being stolen or burglarized. Remember, with the colder weather approaching soon, don't leave your car warming up in the driveway unlocked and unattended. It is against city ordinance and it can also be hard on your car's engine as well as your wallet if your car is stolen.

Please contact Capt. Ivan Washington at (913) 385-4603 with any questions or concerns.



SHOP WITH A COP

The eighth annual Shop With A Cop event was held in early December. Sponsored by the Prairie Village Foundation, Shop With A Cop is a chance for the Prairie Village Police Department to team up with deserving children in our community to purchase holiday gifts.

The Police Department hosted ten elementary school children identified by school counselors and the Police Department D.A.R.E. officer to be part of the program. The children were taken to Target Greatland in Mission to shop for themselves and family members. After shopping, each child was treated to a pizza and ice cream party, while volunteers wrapped their packages.

The Police Department would like to thank the following for their generous contributions to what has been the most successful year yet for the Shop with a Cop program:

- WireCo World Group
- Johnny's Tavern-Prairie Village
- Mely's Yogurt & Ice Cream
- The Learning Tree-Prairie Village
- Great Southern Bank-Prairie Village Branch
- Notes to Self, LLC
- SCHEELS All Sports
- TCBY-Prairie Village
- The Bank of Prairie Village
- Planet Sub-Prairie Village

- B-Bop Comics and Games
- The Big Biscuit-Prairie Village
- Bijin Salon & Day Spa
- Village Modern Dentistry-Nicholas Bell DDS
- Target Greatland-Mission, Kansas
- Salty Iguana-Prairie Village
- QuikTrip
- Hy-Vee-Prairie Village
- The Citizens' Police Academy
- Many anonymous contributors and volunteers

PUBLIC WORKS

CITY PREPARES FOR WINTER STORMS

The city’s Public Works Department follows a priority system for removing snow and ice from city streets. Crews work 12-hour shifts throughout a winter storm to provide 24-hour coverage. The city has eight trucks working to clear 258 miles of road. Contact the Public Works Department at 913-385-4647 or publicworks@pvkansas.com with questions regarding snow removal.

Priority Level	Streets Treated	Details
1	Main Roadways	Typically high traffic volume multilane roads (e.g. 75th Street, Mission, Roe, Nall)
2	Collector streets	Typically two-lane streets within neighborhoods (e.g. 79th Street, 83rd Street)
3	Residential Streets & Cul-de-sacs	Plowed after a snowfall and after Priority 1 and Priority 2 streets are cleared. If plowing is not required, the city will spread materials only.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Stay at least 50 feet from the rear of a plow truck so the driver can see you.
- Park your vehicles in your driveway. If you must park on the street, park on the even-numbered side of the street.
- Avoid placing snow from your driveway back onto the street or the sidewalk.
- Clear sidewalks adjacent to your property. Property owners are responsible for removing ice and snow from the sidewalks abutting their property within 24 hours from the time that the snow or ice storm ends. The city does not plow sidewalks or driveways unless they are part of city-owned property.

TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES

Public Works recently installed traffic calming measures on 67th Street from Roe Avenue to Nall Avenue. One part of the traffic calming consists of a “neck down” located on 67th Street at Hodges. The neck down was constructed by installing five delineators on each side of 67th Street to narrow each lane to ten feet wide. This narrowing of the driving lanes is used to encourage lower speeds. The curb line can be altered to permanently narrow the street if this measure is effective in lowering traffic speeds.

The second part of the traffic calming includes two radar speed signs. These signs use a radar device to measure the speed of approaching traffic and then display this speed underneath the speed limit sign. The theory here is that if drivers are presented with information about their performance (their current speed), they will take notice and improve (slow down).

We hope these two traffic calming measures increase driver awareness and contribute to lower speeds in the neighborhood. No matter what street you choose to drive on in Prairie Village, please obey the speed limits and remain vigilant for pedestrians and bicyclists.



Prairie Village Municipal Office
7700 Mission Road
Prairie Village, KS 66208

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Reader Feedback

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 Follow us on Instagram: [CityofPrairieVillage](https://www.instagram.com/CityofPrairieVillage)

2019 TRASH CALENDAR

Republic Services, the city's solid waste service provider, will observe the following holidays in 2019:

Memorial Day – May 26

Independence Day – July 4

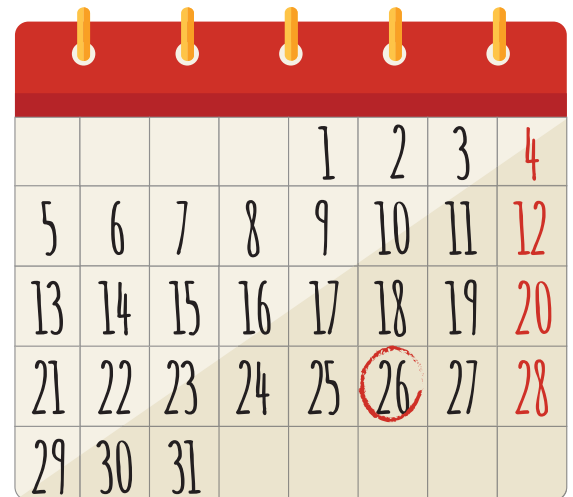
Labor Day – September 2

Thanksgiving Day – November 28

Christmas Day – December 25

New Year's Day – January 1

As a general rule, holidays push back residential pickup by one day. The 2019 trash calendar can be viewed at pvkansas.com/trashcalendar. A printed copy is available at City Hall or by contacting Jamie Robichaud: jrobichaud@pvkansas.com or 913-385-4601.



				1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31					

CITY CONTACT INFORMATION

CITY HALL & MUNICIPAL COURT

7700 Mission Road
Wes Jordan, City Administrator
Jamie Robichaud, Deputy City Administrator
Alley Porter, Assistant City Administrator
Adam Geffert, City Clerk
Lisa Santa Maria, Finance Director

POLICE DEPARTMENT

7710 Mission Rd
Tim Schwartzkopf, Chief of Police

PUBLIC WORKS

3535 Somerset Dr
Keith Bredehoeft, Public Works
Director

EVERYONE MAY PARTICIPATE

If any individual requires an accommodation to participate in public meetings, contact the City Clerk's office at 913-381-6464 (TDD 1-800-766-2777) at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time, if possible, to make arrangements.

913-381-6464 * info@pvkansas.com * www.pvkansas.com