

VOICE



You're invited: Fourth Annual Prairie Village Juneteenth Freedom Celebration

The Juneteenth Freedom Celebration will begin at 4 p.m. June 15 in Harmon Park with a short program at 6 p.m. This annual, free event offers the opportunity to enjoy a late afternoon of family fun, food and drinks, black-owned vendors, and a concert from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. From its Galveston, Texas origin in 1865, the observance of June 19 as the African American Emancipation Day has spread across the United States and beyond.

The family fun will include a wide variety of activities for the whole family; face painting, balloon artists, arts and crafts, games, inflatables as well as an exciting water feature.

During the short program organizers will announce the winners of the Juneteenth poster contest. The goal of the contest is to provide

an opportunity for children, youth and families to learn more about Juneteenth, create a poster about it, and join together for this celebration. The theme for the contest is "What Juneteenth Freedom Means to Me." Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place in each age bracket: 5-6 year-olds, 7-9 year-olds, & 10-12 year-olds. Submission deadline is June 7. More information at standupblacklives.com.

The event will then transition into an early evening concert featuring the band: Brass and Boujee, a hip-hop, jazz, and big band collaboration between trombonist and arranger Marcus Lewis and emcees Kemet the Phantom and Kadesh Flow.

This event is sponsored by: Stand-Up for Black Lives+ PV, the Prairie Village Diversity Committee, Johnson County NAACP and Village Church.

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Elected Officials

MAYOR

Eric Mikkelson
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WARD I

Cole Robinson
785-979-6094 • crobinson@pvkansas.com

Terry O'Toole
816-564-3161 • totoole@pvkansas.com

WARD II

Ron Nelson
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WARD III

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WARD IV

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913-219-3091 • drobenson@pvkansas.com

Tyler Agniel
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WARD V

Greg Shelton
913-624-3416 • gshelton@pvkansas.com

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913-707-0124 • nreddell@pvkansas.com

WARD VI

Terrence Gallagher
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Ian Graves
913-336-2615 • igraves@pvkansas.com

A Message from the Mayor



Dear friends and neighbors,

With a population of 2,500, our city offices began in the basement of the Prairie Village Shops. Wise founders soon invested in parks, a pool and a city hall. Those were not contention-free decisions. A resident sued over \$8.41 in taxes. Another dumped an owed \$50 in pennies on a clerk's desk to vent displeasure.

Much has changed since 1951 (although the original \$1 salary for Council and Mayor has not!). At 23,000, our population is growing again for the first time in half a century. Parts of city hall are over fifty years old, with systems at the end of life. Security concerns and fire safety issues persist for police, court, and administrative staff. For example, one bathroom is shared by judges, criminal defendants, victims and staff. Police parking is unsecured. Work areas are cramped, with as many as four cops sharing an office, and some staff in re-purposed closet space.

We have a generational opportunity to meet these needs. Also to, if we choose, create new recreation, aquatics, library, health and social spaces. Due to an adjacent land acquisition window, all could be co-located on our civic center campus around Harmon Park. Respected institutional partners are eager to share costs, investing tens of millions of their dollars alongside ours. Such a confluence is unlikely to emerge again.

Neither of these two separate projects would be cheap. The estimate for the city hall/police project is just under \$30 million. Public input is guiding us on amenities and location of a library/community center, from which that project's costs will be developed and shared. We expect the library, which prefers such co-location, to pay for its own building. We also expect a significant capital contribution from the Y for the city-owned community center.

Our strong fiscal condition allows us to do both projects if we choose. Deferral would likely result in higher costs and forfeit the unique land and partnership opportunities. In any event, such large investments are not to be considered lightly.

Thousands have submitted feedback for these projects, with more resident engagement coming. Council recently affirmed its intent to place the library/community center project on a ballot; it could require a fraction-of-a-cent sales tax. In contrast, funds for the city hall/police project could largely come from old infrastructure bond repayment streams as those bonds are fully retired.

As we compile the robust resident feedback, refined details on amenities, design, financing and dates come into focus and are updated frequently through city communication channels: Public meetings, forums, website, emails, and social media.

High-quality, walkable public spaces can unite us, becoming a source of civic pride and identity for generations. Approaching our 75th anniversary, we acknowledge the vision of those who made major infrastructure investments early in our city's life. They invested in us, knowing there would be Prairie Villagers benefiting in 2024 long after they were gone.

We now contemplate efficiently re-investing in the heart of Prairie Village. Residents of 2075 will look back gratefully on good decisions we make together.

Best regards,

-Eric

Unsure which ward you live in?
Visit www.pvkansas.com/wardmap.





Pool passes now available

Pool passes for the 2024 season are on sale now. To purchase your membership or to see pool rules and hours, visit www.pvkansas.com/pool or stop by City Hall. The pool complex is scheduled to open May 25.

Please note, season memberships and swim cards cannot be purchased at the pool. Daily admission fees cannot be refunded or applied to the purchase of a membership. Memberships are non-refundable and non-transferable. Prairie Village does not sell family pool memberships. All members of the family who are three and older must purchase an individual membership or pay the gate fee.

Dates to Note

Date	Event	Time	Location
5/6	City Council Meeting	6 p.m.	City Hall
5/7	BZA & Planning Commission	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
5/8	Arts Council Reception	7 p.m.	City Hall
5/15	Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony	7:30 a.m.	Municipal Complex Courtyard
5/20	City Council Meeting	6 p.m.	City Hall
5/22	Touch-a-Truck	4:30 - 6:30 p.m.	Public Works
5/25	Pool Complex Opens	Noon	PV Pool
5/27	Memorial Day offices closed	All day	All City Offices
6/3	City Council Meeting	6 p.m.	City Hall
6/7	Meadowbrook Park Festival	4-9 p.m.	Meadowbrook Park
6/15	Juneteenth Freedom Festival	4-8:30 p.m.	Harmon Park
6/17	City Council Meeting	6 p.m.	City Hall
6/19	Juneteenth offices closed	All day	All City Offices
6/20	Community Center Campus Study Public Meeting 3	4-7 p.m.	Meadowbrook Park Clubhouse

For a full list of upcoming council and committee meetings, visit pvkansas.com.

• Local artists & vendors • Food trucks • Live music

Friday, June 7
4 - 9 pm

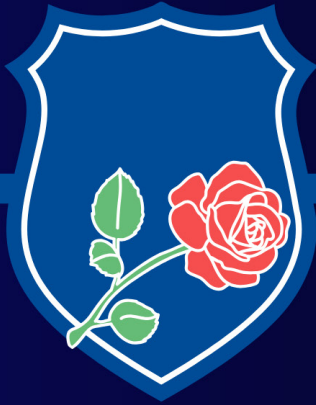
Meadowbrook Park Festival

Join us for this free, family-friendly community celebration of art and our parks!

PRAIRIE VILLAGE

JAZZ FESTIVAL

September 7
3 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Harmon Park



National Police Week

Respect. Honor. Remember.
May 12-18



Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony

May 15
7:30 a.m.

Municipal Complex
7700 Mission Road

Planning Commission, City Council to consider zoning code updates

The City is taking next steps to discuss updates to the zoning code in non-single-family zoning districts.

The Planning Commission held work sessions in August 2023, October 2023, December 2023, February 2024 and March 2024 to discuss potential updates to the zoning code in non-single-family zoning districts. The work sessions were a direct follow-up to the public forums held in June and July 2023. Based on the direction from the work sessions, a discussion draft of potential zoning amendments has been prepared and will be proceeding to the Public Hearing stage.

The Planning Commission arrived at five strategies based on discussions at their work sessions:

1. Hold status quo in Multi-family districts (R-2, R-3 and R-4). Suggested changes would allow existing projects to be built back “as is” or allow new projects of a similar scale and format to be built in these areas.

2. Allow residential uses in Commercial districts (C-). Currently, residential uses are only allowed in the C-O district. Recommended changes would allow residential uses, but with no changes to the physical form and development standards that would otherwise apply to non-

residential projects.

3. Improve the Mixed-Use district (MXD). This MXD district is a planned zoning district that promotes mixed use development, but it currently relies on very large-scale master plans and complex procedures. The district has very few standards or guiding development principles, so is open to interpretation under any specific plan that may be proposed. The Planning Commission direction was to make the district more applicable to smaller-scale development plans, and to establish planning and development parameters for a basis of any proposed plan and rezoning to the MXD district.

4. Revise the current planned rezoning and development standards and process to establish better planning parameters, review criteria, and expectations in the planned zoning process.

5. Consider MXD Development in specific scenarios.

A detailed summary of proposed zoning changes can be found on the City’s website.

It is anticipated that the Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing in May followed by City Council adoption in June, but the dates are subject to change. Sign up for e-News for the most up-to-date information.

25%

Match for exterior home improvements

Grant awards between \$500-\$2,500

Project examples:

- painting/siding
- new roof
- concrete work
- foundation repairs
- gutters
- shutters

For more information, visit www.pvkansas.com/grants



Exterior Grant

Maximum 2023 appraised value - \$400,000





Final public meeting for Community Center Campus Study will be June 20

The City of Prairie Village, YMCA of Greater Kansas City, and Johnson County Library will host the final public meeting in the current phase of a multi-year study of a new Community Center Campus in Harmon Park on Thursday, June 20, 2024.

Input from the first meeting helped shape site configurations that were shared at the second public meeting held on April 4, 2024. In addition, the project team presented opportunities and challenges for each option.

More about the final site configuration and design, as well as the funding mechanism and costs, will be provided at the third public meeting in June. The third public meeting concludes the study phase.

After that, the City of Prairie Village, YMCA of Greater Kansas City, and Johnson County Library will consider public feedback about the preferred option – both positive and negative – before deciding whether or how to negotiate a path forward to a public vote in Prairie Village.

If PV residents approve the measure, the City and YMCA will allocate funds to advance the project, the YMCA will finalize private fundraising, and the entities would each work according to their own processes, collaborating when appropriate, to design and construct their separate buildings. If PV residents reject the measure, the YMCA would need to consider the future of the

Paul Henson Family YMCA.

Anticipated costs for construction and operating of a community center are expected to be shared between the City and YMCA. The funding mechanism (sales tax, and/or property tax, etc.) and the percentage of cost sharing are yet to be determined.

Since funds have already been allocated for a new Corinth Library Branch, it is unaffected by the outcome of the public vote for the new Community Center. The Library Board of Directors has prioritized building a new Corinth Library regardless of the study's outcome. The Library is also concurrently assessing the existing Corinth site, and the final location of a new Library facility will be determined by the Library Board.

If the Library Board votes to relocate to Harmon Park and PV residents approve the measure, the Library will work to construct the Corinth Library Branch Replacement in Harmon Park on a timeline informed by their Comprehensive Library Master Plan. If PV residents reject the measure, the Library will consider different locations for the planned Corinth Library Branch replacement to serve this community.

If you missed it, view the public meeting boards, and offer your input on the project webpage at <http://pvkansas.com/communitycenter>.

Staff Spotlight

Name: **Daniel Jackson**
Position: **Pool Manager**
Years with the City: **12**



Responsibilities: **I manage the lifeguard staff as well as the managerial staff, and I train and certify the guards and managers in Red Cross Lifeguard Training. I'm tasked with keeping the pool and staff up to Red Cross standards as well as running and setting up inservices for the guard staff**

Favorite thing about working for Prairie Village: **My favorite thing about working at Prairie Village has been the staff and the patrons. I take pride in protecting my community and furthering the education of future guards for the city.**

Name: **Rose Campbell**
Position: **Assistant Pool Manager**
Years with the City: **11**



Responsibilities: **My responsibilities for the PV pool range far and wide from simple first aid to life saving training, daily pool maintenance to emergency clean-ups, training employees to problem solving for our patrons! It's always exciting!**

Favorite thing about working for Prairie Village: **While getting to swim on break is great, my favorite part of my job is the privilege to manage and coach our next workforce generation while also learning from them and getting to see them grow and do amazing things for our communities.**

Name: **Jillian Gaunt**
Position: **Assistant Pool Manager**
Years with the City: **10**



Responsibilities: **I help oversee daily operations of the pool complex. This usually involves supervising pool employees and helping pool patrons, but anything that may come up during the day is my responsibility to handle. I have to do a lot of problem solving in my position, which requires me to think quickly on my feet. There are a lot of small behind-the-scenes aspects to my job that include paperwork, cleaning, and handling money. I also help to certify our lifeguards in the months leading up to pool season and train them throughout the summer.**

Favorite thing about working for Prairie Village: **The Prairie Village Pool is such a fun work environment. Every day is exciting and different, and I become more passionate about my job each year. I am constantly learning and I am very thankful to work somewhere that encourages growth. I am especially excited to be teaching swim lessons this year.**

The Prairie Village Diversity Committee invites you to

Meet your neighbor



Abby Magariel

My husband David and I have two children at Prairie Elementary. I work in Overland Park as the educator and curator of the Klein Collection, a museum-style collection of Jewish art and ritual objects. I enjoy seeing live theater and visiting museums, trying out restaurants around KC, the Libby app on my Kindle (thank you, Johnson County Library!), and podcasts (currently listening to *Wiser Than Me* by Julia Louis-Dreyfus, highly recommend).

How long have you lived in Prairie Village?

I've lived in Prairie Village for almost ten years, since the summer of 2014.

What made you move to Prairie Village?

The walkability! This was my must-have for a home.

What do you like about living in Prairie Village?

We have a terrific neighborhood with great neighbors all around. I love that I can walk to the Village Shops, and to multiple parks. If our family gets moving early enough in the morning, we can walk to school at Prairie. Some of the most important people in our lives are here, and I'm so glad they are nearby.

What are your favorite restaurants and things to do in Prairie Village?

My favorite restaurant in Prairie Village is French Market, and we're also fans of BRGR and Summer Salt.

Do you feel that PV is a diverse place to live?

It's a fact that Prairie Village is not very diverse when it comes to race. I am concerned that the city is becoming less economically diverse as it grows more and more expensive to live here.

How would you describe Prairie Village?

Prairie Village is a quiet part of the Kansas City metro with beautiful parks and public spaces. We chose to live here for the walkable neighborhoods and have found so much to love about it, mostly the people we've met!

Recycle Right program returning to Prairie Village

Johnson County Department of Health and Environment's "Recycle Right" program is returning to Prairie Village in May.

The Recycle Right campaign provides direct feedback to residents about the materials that shouldn't be in their recycle bins - for example, glass that can be recycled elsewhere, or styrofoam that belongs in the trash. By recycling the right way and keeping trash and non-recyclables out of our recycle bins, everyone can play a part in conserving resources and protecting our environment.

This program was first in Prairie Village during the winter of 2022-2023.

"Thank you to all of the households that participated in the first round of our Recycle Right program," said program manager Brandon Hearn. "In 2023 we were able to complete the houses that had Monday and Tuesday recycling collection. We also saw a decrease in contamination (items that shouldn't go in your recycling) and the amount of houses that were bagging their recycling (bagged recycling ends up in

the landfill). We are excited to begin round two of the Recycle Right program for the rest of Prairie Village."

DHE staff will now focus on observing Wednesday-Friday recycle routes. Staff will work with Republic Services (the City's trash and recycling hauler) to go from house to house to do a quick visual inspection of recycle bins that are placed out at the curb (only recycling, not trash). They will then leave a checklist of the items that shouldn't be in your recycle bin, along with info on how you can get your recycling questions answered.

Note: Republic will still be picking up your recycling on your normal day. There is no fine or punishment; this is for educational purposes only.

If you have questions, or if you do not want to participate in this program and want your house to be skipped, you can reach out directly to Brandon Hearn, Environmental Health Specialist with Johnson County Department of Health and Environment, at [brandon.hearn@jocogov.org](mailto:hearn@jocogov.org) or 913-238-6876.









**Prairie Village
Public Works**

**TOUCH
-A-
TRUCK**

3535 SOMERSET

Free Family Fun!

Public Works staff will display and demonstrate a wheel loader, skid steer, dump truck and more! All ages are invited to attend.

MAY
22

4:30-6:30





For more information visit www.pvkansas.com

Yard waste reminders

In Prairie Village, yard waste is picked up weekly on trash day. Yard waste can be in bio-degradable yard waste bags, tied in bundles or in trash cans/rigid container of 33-gallon capacity or less. Residents are allowed 12 yard waste items per week, year round.

Cans must be marked “yard waste,” have holes drilled in the bottom to allow water to drain, and must have a lid. All items must be inside the container, not sticking out the top.

Do not put sticks and branches in rigid containers. They should be tied in bundles no larger than four feet in length, less than 18 inches in circumference, and less than 50 pounds. Bundles must be tied together with twine. Individual branches within the bundle cannot be more than three inches in diameter. Logs are not accepted.

Items picked up include only natural yard waste, i.e. grass, leaves, tree limbs, flower or garden plants (without their pots), walnuts, crabapples, Christmas trees, etc. All materials collected are taken to a licensed compost facility. This recycling facility does not allow for ANY trash, landscape, or construction materials. Animal waste is not collected.



2024 Art of Photography showing soon

The Prairie Village Arts Council will present Art of Photography 2024 from May 6 through July 5 at the R.G. Endres Gallery at Prairie Village City Hall. The opening reception with artists will be on Wednesday, May 8 at 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., where we will present eleven award-winning photographs with over \$3,500 in cash prizes, including a \$250 Peoples’ Choice Award. The artists for this regional exhibition hail from as far away as Wichita, Kansas and Pleasant Hill, Missouri, but the majority are from right here in Johnson County! We hope you can join us for the reception or visit the exhibit. It’s open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., except for federal holidays.

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

Reader Feedback
Please send your comments to:
info@pvkansas.com
913-385-4674



Calling all bakers!

It's time to break out the rolling pin and brush up on your baking skills. The annual pie baking contest will return to VillageFest on July 4!

- No entry fee required
 - Cash prizes awarded
 - From-scratch pies (crust & filling) only
- Registration is limited, with walk-ups accepted only if space is available. Advance registration is available at www.pvkansas.com/VillageFest.



You're invited: VillageFest 2024

Mark your calendars for the annual VillageFest celebration on July 4. Kick off the holiday with a pancake breakfast beginning at 7:30 a.m. and enjoy free, family-friendly activities from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Crowd favorites returning this year include the giant slip n' slide, pie baking contest, bounce houses, children's bike parade, Mr. Bones, children's crafts, musical entertainment, face & hair painting, food vendors, and much more. All events take place on the municipal campus located at 77th Street and Mission Road. Event details can be found at www.pvkansas.com/VillageFest. And of course, remember to nominate your favorite Prairie Village resident or business for a Community Spirit Award. Nominations are due by May 15.

City Contact Information

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

CITY HALL AND MUNICIPAL COURT

7700 Mission Road

Wes Jordan, City Administrator
Nickie Lee, Deputy City Administrator
Meghan Buum, Assistant City Administrator
Tim Schwartzkopf, Assistant City Administrator
Adam Geffert, City Clerk
Jason Hannaman, Finance Director

POLICE DEPARTMENT

7710 Mission Road

Byron Roberson, Chief of Police

PUBLIC WORKS & BUILDING CODES

3535 Somerset Drive

Keith Bredhoeft, Public Works Director
Mitch Dringman, Chief Building Official

SOCIAL MEDIA

Are you on social media? Follow the City of Prairie Village and the Police Department for the most up-to-date information on City happenings.



DONATE

If you would like to make a donation to the Prairie Village Foundation, open your smartphone's camera and hover over this QR Code. A page will pop up directing you to the Foundation's website.



EVERYONE MAY PARTICIPATE

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