

VOICE



Tree lighting to be December 5

You're invited to the 39th annual Mayor's Holiday Tree Lighting on December 5. Festivities will kick off at 6 p.m. and include Dancerz Unlimited, Briarwood choir, KC Wolf and the SME Drum Line. Mayor Mikkelson and Santa will flip the switch to light the tree.

The Tree Lighting is the major fundraiser for the Prairie Village Foundation. The Prairie Village Foundation is a non-profit, charitable 501(c)(3) organization. Since 1983 the Foundation has been assisting residents in need and supporting essential organizations throughout our community.

The Foundation helps residents in many ways, including utility and rental

assistance, food programs, personal well-being and other vital needs. We proudly support Prairie Village parks, local arts, youth recreational scholarships, and local events like Shop with a Cop and Back to School with a Firefighter.

Your gift to the Prairie Village Foundation is more than a donation; it makes a difference to Prairie Village residents who find themselves in need of assistance and keeps Prairie Village a special place to live and work.

Donations to the Prairie Village Foundation can be made on our website at www.prairievillagefoundation.com, by scanning the QR code on the back page of this newsletter, at the tree lighting or at City Hall.

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Elected Officials

MAYOR

Eric Mikkelson
913-385-4600 • mayor@pvkansas.com

WARD I

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

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

WARD II

Ron Nelson
913-602-9003 • rnelson@pvkansas.com

Inga Selders
913-648-5804 • iselders@pvkansas.com

WARD III

Lori Sharp
913-221-4061 • lsharp@pvkansas.com

Chi Nguyen
703-731-5849 • cnguyen@pvkansas.com

WARD IV

Dave Robinson
913-219-3091 • drobenson@pvkansas.com

Tyler Agniel
913-209-5001 • tagniel@pvkansas.com

WARD V

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

Nick Reddell
913-707-0124 • nreddell@pvkansas.com

WARD VI

Terrence Gallagher
913-642-4163 • tgallagher@pvkansas.com

Ian Graves
913-303-0751 • igraves@pvkansas.com

A Message from the Mayor



Dear friends and neighbors,

As sure as the changing of colors and falling of leaves from our beloved tree canopy with winter approaching, our community is undergoing change.

Some of these changes we can influence. And in the midst of change, some things remain constant, including being among the best and safest places to live in the world. Preserving that character we cherish is not mutually exclusive to change; it depends on it. Our residents, amenities, neighborhoods, staff and services in Prairie Village are second-to-none precisely because together we manage change so well.

It's not easy. To stay on top requires embracing and shaping change. Some impact Prairie Village from larger economic market forces. These include, for example, changes coming to the Prairie Village and Corinth Shops including a re-imagining of the iconic Macy's building. Plans to remove the top level of that, add landscaping and walkability features, and modernize the look for exciting new tenants were recently approved following resident-friendly, forward-looking adjustments from our expert Planning Commission.

Another example of market-based change here is our dramatically increasing property values. This appreciation flows from a confluence of factors including supply and demand, excellent schools, great government, outstanding businesses, world-class parks, and more. By significantly expanding (again) our property tax rebate program, efficiently providing high-quality public services, refining our codes, keeping our property tax rates below most of our peer cities, and investing in climate-change resilient infrastructure and operations, we mitigate adverse collateral impacts from these otherwise favorable economic trends, enhancing our collective economic wealth in the process.

Speaking of our prosperity, the giving season of the holidays provides opportunities for our Prairie Village Foundation, a local 501(c)(3), to expand its good work. The Foundation is dedicated to positively changing the lives of our vulnerable neighbors in and around Prairie Village by raising tax-deductible contributions at cherished family events like the Mayor's Holiday Tree Lighting and Gingerbread House Decorating parties. You can create local positive change in your neighborhood by making your contribution this year to ensure more children can Shop With a Cop, go Back to School With a Firefighter, and have food, heat and shelter this winter.

We are also wrapping up election season, which of course can bring its own tumult. One key to successfully navigating that change for the greater good is by coming together to forgive campaign slights and support the victorious public servants in their roles, especially if it's not your candidate who won. Many changes to the national and local political culture and discourse have not been positive lately. Each one of us has the power, and perhaps duty, to reverse that trend to a positive, graceful direction with our individual words and actions.

Amidst sometimes unsettling change, one constant is that Prairie Village remains an outstanding place to live, raise a family, learn, shop, play, and do business. Managing change courageously, effectively, and civilly is how we got here. That blueprint will guide us to thrive together in the future.

Best regards,

-Eric

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

Dates to Note

Date	Event	Time	Location
11/4	City Council Meeting	6 p.m.	City Hall
11/5	Election Day	7 a.m. - 7 p.m.	Polling Places
11/6	Arts Reception	7 p.m.	City Hall
11/11	Veteran's Day Observed - City offices closed	All Day	City Offices
11/12	BZA & Planning Commission Meeting	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
11/18	Council Meeting	6 p.m.	City Hall
11/28 - 11/29	Thanksgiving Observed - City offices closed	All Day	City Offices
12/2	City Council Meeting	6 p.m.	City Hall
12/3	Planning Commission	7 p.m.	City Hall
12/5	Holiday Tree Lighting	6 p.m.	Corinth Square
12/16	Council Meeting	6 p.m.	City Hall
12/24	Christmas Eve - City offices closed	Noon	City offices
12/25	Christmas - City offices closed	All Day	City Offices
1/1	New Year's Day - City offices closed	All Day	City Offices



November

Small bulky item week: 11/4 – 11/8
Holiday delay starting Thursday, 11/28

December

Small bulky item week: 12/2 – 12/6
Holiday delay starting Wednesday, 12/25

January







Small bulky item week: 1/6 – 1/10
Holiday delay starting Wednesday 1/1

For information on items allowed for pickup during bulky item week, visit www.pvkansas.com/trash.

Celebrate the season!



Prairie Village Foundation's Annual Gingerbread House Decorating Party

-  December 8, 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.
-  Briarwood Elementary School
-  \$50 on-site, maximum 4 people per house
-  \$40 to-go, including candy
-  Sign up before November 29
-  Proceeds support our community



Sign up now at prairievillagefoundation.com

Community Center Campus study concludes, project will not move forward

A multi-year study of a potential Community Center Campus in Harmon Park has ended. The study was a joint venture between the City of Prairie Village, YMCA of Greater Kansas City, and Johnson County Library to explore the feasibility of a community center campus in Harmon Park to replace the aging Paul Henson Family YMCA and the Library's Corinth Branch. The study was brought about by two market sustainability studies conducted in 2019 and 2023 that showed community support for building a new community center.

A phase of the project included three community engagement meetings and multiple community questionnaires intended to gather input on project interest, potential amenities, site location and design, and analyze project costs. Anticipated costs for the potential community center, including 10 acres of site development, new outdoor aquatic pool house, and the relocation of the tennis courts was estimated at \$55 million.

The study's final public meeting was held October 15, 2024. After the conclusion of the study, the Prairie Village City Council considered



A conceptual rendering of a Prairie Village community center. Image credit BNIM.

public feedback and overall study outcomes. During a City Council meeting October 21, 2024, the Council voted to cease pursuit of the project.

As a result of this action, the YMCA and the Library will independently explore next steps for their respective facilities.

www.pvkansas.com/OpenGov

COMMUNITY GARDENS

Interested residents can now apply for a community garden plot for the 2025 growing season. Spots are limited. Apply online before December 15.



Short-term rentals banned in Prairie Village beginning in one year

During its meeting October 21, 2024, the Prairie Village City Council amended the City's rental licensing program to require a minimum rental duration of 30 days. The move bans short-term rentals in Prairie Village.

Current short-term rentals, including those listed on sites like VRBO and Airbnb have always been required to obtain a rental license to operate in Prairie Village. The rental license process is the same for both long-term and short-term rentals. The license must be renewed annually and requires an annual exterior inspection to ensure compliance with the property maintenance code. Any property owned by someone outside of Johnson County, Kansas must identify a local resident agent/manager. This current process will stay in effect for one year.

The new requirement, for a 30-day minimum stay, will go into effect November 1, 2025. Short-term rentals will continue to be permitted until that time, while still subject to all other City codes, including nuisance codes. Timing of the enforcement is to allow City staff to notify property owners, to allow property owners to change the use of their property, to allow those with existing bookings to have those bookings honored through that period, and to minimize difficulties for staff and affected property owners during the phase out of short-term rentals.

Residents who need to report a municipal code violation at a short-term rental can contact the Prairie Village Police Department's non-emergency line at 913-642-6868.



New playground, renovated shelter open at Harmon Park

A new inclusive playground at Harmon Park opened earlier this year after several months of construction in the park. Other new amenities include a new restroom and parking lot. The shelter at Harmon Park also received a facelift, and the location of the previous playground was restored to greenspace, all in accordance with the City's Parks Master Plan.

Scam Prevention: Protecting Yourself

With the increasing usage of computers and cell phones in our everyday lives, our lives are intertwined with technology. As convenient and beneficial as technology is, it also means that we're all constant targets of scammers. From phishing emails to fake investment schemes, scammers are continually finding new ways to deceive individuals and organizations. Here are some tips to protect yourself from scams:

Recognize the Red Flags

Unsolicited Contact: Be cautious of unexpected emails, phone calls, or messages from unknown sources. Scammers often pose as legitimate organizations or even friends and family.

Too Good to Be True: If an offer seems too good to be true, it probably is. Be cautious of promises of easy money or unbelievable investment returns.

Urgency and Pressure: Scammers frequently create a sense of urgency, pressuring you to act quickly without thinking. Take your time to evaluate any offers or requests.

Verify Before You Engage

Research the Source: Verify the sender's identity if you receive a suspicious email or call. Look up official contact information and reach out directly to the organization to confirm the legitimacy of the communication. Don't just call them back on the number they called you from.

Protect Your Personal Information

Password Protection: Use strong, unique passwords for different accounts. Consider a password manager to keep track of them.

Two-Factor Authentication: Enable two-factor authentication (2FA) whenever possible. This adds an extra layer of security by requiring a second form of verification, such as a code sent to your phone.

Regular Updates: Keep your software, apps, and devices updated to protect against security threats.

Limit Sharing: Be cautious about sharing personal information online, especially on social media. Scammers can

use details like your birth date or address to target you.

Secure Your Data: Use encryption and secure connections (like VPNs) when transmitting sensitive information online.

Trust Your Instincts

Listen to Your Gut: If something doesn't feel right, it probably isn't. Trust your instincts and take a step back to evaluate the situation.

Consult Those You Trust: If you're unsure about an offer or a request for money, consult a trusted friend or family member before going further. You can also call the Prairie Village Police Department anytime at 913-642-5151 to speak with an officer who may be able to help you identify a scam.

The Prairie Village Diversity Committee invites you to

Meet your neighbor

Etienne Clatanoff

Etienne Clatanoff is a licensed counselor who has worked for many years with clients from various backgrounds, most with high social and emotional needs. She has managed psychiatric crisis teams in the ER and provided individual therapy for high risk populations for over 13 years. She has found her career balance with therapy private practice serving the residents of Prairie Village and the extending metro. She is able to create a work/life balance that allows her to fulfill her career passion and also be involved and volunteer in her children's school community and the Prairie Village community and community at large.



How long have you lived in Prairie Village?

I have lived in Prairie Village since 2014.

What made you move to Prairie Village?

I had lived in the KC metro area since 2004 but eventually met my husband and got married. My daughter (age 3 at the time) and I moved to Blue Springs with him after we were married and when his job transferred to Shawnee we decided a move was warranted to shorten his commute. I was working at a downtown hospital at the time so I was open to anywhere in the metro. Prairie Village had great rated public schools, and it was halfway between both of our jobs.

What do you like about living in Prairie Village?

I enjoy the close knit community feel even though its pretty centrally located within the metro. I now have 2 children, my youngest son, age 9, was born a year after we moved to PV. As my children have progressed in school, I have gotten to know teachers, neighbors, the parents of my children's friends and created new friendships of my own. Most people are open to get to know me and my family and want to make a connection.

What are your favorite restaurants and things to do in PV?

Some of my favorite restaurants are Tavern and French Market. I love seeing people I may know out and about eating or drinking coffee outside the French Market. I enjoy sharing a meal with a friend or going out to ride bikes or frequent various parks with my family.

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

Prairie Village has become a more diverse place to live over the years I have resided here. I enjoy meeting people who move here from different states and usually want to hear more about their worldview or their cultural differences or customs if their cultural background differs from my own. My family is multiracial/multicultural, and we have made efforts to expose our children to various cultures or have discussions about people who are different than us to create a compassionate view of others. In the past, I have been a part of the City of Prairie Village Diversity Committee and have been happy to see the continued efforts of bringing different events to the community, which increases cultural awareness for all Prairie Village citizens.

How would you describe Prairie Village?

I would describe Prairie Village as a very established safe community that is evolving into a place which welcomes all types of people from diverse backgrounds to call this their permanent home.



Tree Board holds seminar on tree resiliency

Kevin Dunn, member of the Prairie Village Tree Board (standing right in the picture above) moderated a panel of four local tree experts to discuss the topic of how to make your trees more resilient in the face of our Midwest weather that includes drought, wind, storm damage, temperature extremes, clay soil, and insect pests, at the Prairie Village Tree Board's Fall Seminar held on September 2 at the Meadowbrook Clubhouse.

Pictured seated from left to right are Jonah Nelson, owner/manager of Family Tree Nursery; Cathy Justice, ISA Certified Arborist with Heartland Tree Alliance; Rick Spurgeon, "Professor PlantRight" and ISA Certified Master Arborist; and Jesse Kirk, ISA Board Certified Master Arborist with Wellnitz Tree Care. At left is Urban Forestry Specialist with the City of Prairie Village, Bridget Tolle, who also participated and showed examples of how to mulch ("donut" Yes!; "volcano" No!).

More than 70 people attended and heard the importance of soil health for trees, cold weather watering needs, importance of tree pruning especially during winter months, and what some of the best resilient trees to plant in KC area are. A question and answer session with the audience followed. As one resident attendee commented afterwards, "It's always enjoyable to listen to speakers who are so knowledgeable and so passionate about their subject."

Two Redbud Tree saplings with an information packet were given away to two attendees. For more information and to find a list of recommended trees to plant in our area, as well as a recommended reading list, go to the Prairie Village Tree Board website at www.pvkansas.com/treeboard.

Leaf removal requires team approach

The arrival of fall means millions of leaves are falling from trees in the city. For Public Works, this kicks off an intense effort to remove leaves from the streets, drain inlets, channels, parks, and islands.

Streets - The City has one street sweeper, and it operates daily throughout the fall. The street sweeper's primary purpose is not to remove leaves from the street, and it is important that residents attempt to keep as many leaves out of the street as possible. While we do pick up leaves in locations where there are drainage concerns, we will bypass areas if residents have piled significant amounts of leaves along the curb line. Please note, Public Works does not take sweeping requests.

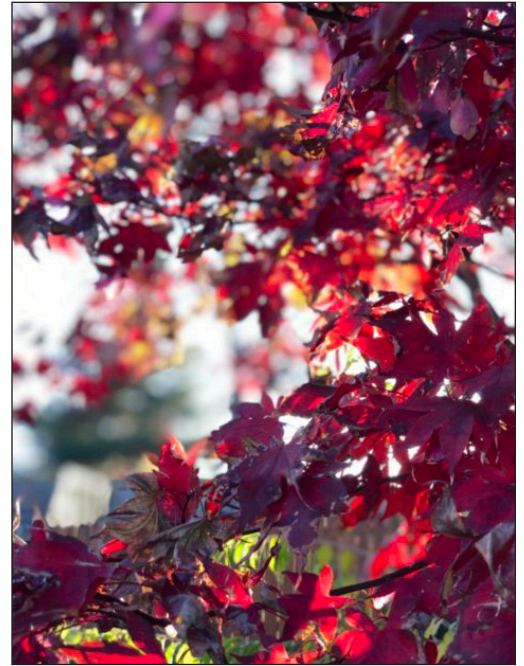
Drain Inlets - Public Works crews make special efforts to clear the opening of street drain inlets when heavy rain is projected. City Code prohibits placing leaves into the

drain inlet or into the curb or street.

Channels - Public Works crews patrol the channels to remove blockages. Again, please note City Code prohibits placing leaves or any debris into the channel.

Parks and Islands - The Public Works mowing crews remove leaves from parks and islands on a rotating schedule until weather prohibits these activities. This activity continues in the winter months if there is no snow. With more than 60 acres of parks and more than 200 islands, it can take significant time to complete all these areas.

Leaf removal in Prairie Village is a significant effort for everyone. We appreciate all that residents do to remove leaves from their individual properties. If we each do our part, the sheer magnitude of this effort is minimized while keeping the drainage system functional and enhancing the water quality in our streams.



Officers to team up with local students to make holiday season brighter

The fourteenth annual Shop With A PV Cop event will be held in December. Sponsored by the Prairie Village Foundation, Shop With A PV Cop is a chance for the Prairie Village Police Department to team up with deserving elementary school children in our community.

Each year for the last 13 years, the Police Department has hosted ten children identified by school principals, counselors and the Police Department's D.A.R.E. Officer. Once again this year, police officers will take children holiday shopping and pay



for their purchases. Children may buy gifts for both themselves and family members. After shopping, each child is treated to dinner and has all their packages wrapped free of charge. If you are a Prairie Village area business or resident who would like to make a contribution to this special program, either monetary or specific gifts for children, please contact Erica Wilson at 913-385-4607 or ewilson@pvkansas.com.

Also, don't forget to drop off your old cell phone at the Police Station, 7710 Mission Road. The Police Department is collecting

phones to help support the Shop With A PV Cop program. Phones may be dropped off at any time for recycling at the Records or Communications desks in our lobby. Your old cell phone is our treasure!





Volunteer today for a Prairie Village Committee

The City of Prairie Village has more than a dozen volunteer committees that serve as working groups for various topics and activities. If you are interested in serving on a committee, please fill out the online application at www.pvkansas.com/volunteer. The application is only available November 1 through December 31 or when there are specific mid-year vacancies. Dates and times for each meeting are available on the Prairie Village calendar of events online. All meetings are open to the public. City committees are:

75th Anniversary

Prairie Village will celebrate its 75th anniversary in 2026. This committee will plan branding, events, and community engagement associated with the anniversary celebration.

Arts Council

The Prairie Village Arts Council counsels and implements policies and activities to the Governing Body and as directed by the Governing Body, including, but not limited to, fostering cultural appreciation, inclusion, and economic development by celebrating local art, connecting artists with enthusiasts, and creating lasting community partnerships.

Civil Service Commission

The Prairie Village Civil Service Commission assists in determining qualifications of applicants for the position of commissioned police officer, and for promotion of officers. The Civil Service Commission also serves as an appeals board for commissioned officers.

Diversity

The Diversity Committee's mission is to develop a set of advisory recommendations for the governing body to attract and retain diverse residents in Prairie Village. The committee hosts a variety of programs and events.

Environmental

The Environmental Committee's primary objective is to increase awareness among Prairie Village residents of the importance of preserving the environment and natural resources. The committee sponsors a variety of programs and initiatives.

Insurance

The Insurance Committee monitors and discusses insurance issues relating to the City, and recommends insurance bid awards, when applicable.

JazzFest

The JazzFest Committee sponsors and coordinates the City's annual jazz festival.

Park & Recreation

The Park & Recreation Committee recommends policies and guidelines to the City Council on issues related to the Prairie Village park system and the Prairie Village Swimming Pool Complex. This committee was instrumental in the pool complex renovations which occurred in 2000 and the adoption of the Parks Master Plan in 2009. The Park and Recreation Committee also prepares an annual park improvement and maintenance program. Members must be Prairie Village residents.

Planning Commission/ Board of Zoning Appeals

The Planning Commission reviews issues related to land use in the City, including requests for re-zoning, development proposals for new or expanded commercial construction, Conditional Use Permits, and Special Use permits. The Planning Commission also reviews the City's Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

The Board of Zoning Appeals hears requests for variances to the City's zoning regulations and appeals of zoning interpretations made by City staff.

Prairie Village Foundation

Mission: To provide assistance to persons in need, foster and promote acquisition and/or development of parks and recreation facilities make available cultural arts opportunities and engage in activities incidental to accomplishing such purposes within the City of Prairie Village.

Tree Board

The Tree Board studies and provides recommendations regarding trees, shrubs and other plantings on City-owned property. The Tree Board also works to promote and preserve trees, shrubs, and plantings throughout the City.

VillageFest Committee

The VillageFest Committee sponsors and coordinates the City's annual VillageFest 4th of July celebration.

Winter weather reminders

As we enter winter, here are a few weather-related reminders:

- Winter weather often impacts trash service. When this happens, City staff sends text alerts and email notifications through NotifyJoCo. To ensure you receive the alerts, be sure you are signed up at notifyjoco.org.

- When winter weather is in the forecast, please park your vehicle(s) off of the street - in your garage or driveway, if possible. If you must park on the street, please park on the even-numbered side of the street. This allows public works crews to create a wider travel lane during plowing operations.

- Stay back at least 50 feet from the rear of a plow truck so the driver can see you.

- If you have a basketball goal set up on a traffic island or in the roadway, please move it so our snowplows don't run into it.

- The City's Public Works Department follows a priority system for removing snow and ice from streets. Crews work 12-hour shifts throughout a winter storm to provide 24-hour coverage. The City has 8 trucks working to clear 258 miles of streets. You can view the priority system on our website.

- Public Works crews will prioritize snow removal from streets before they are able to begin any removal efforts on sidewalks on City property.

- It's each property owner's responsibility to clear snow and ice from sidewalks on their property within 24 hours of the time a storm ends. (Not when it begins.) Please be kind to your neighbors and allow them time to safely remove snow. Avoid placing snow from your driveway onto sidewalks or into the street.

- As temperatures fall, freezing pipes may become a problem in some areas. WaterOne has prepared some tips: waterone.org/frozenpipes.

Reserve a spring ball field

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 a 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 in 2024, your coach should receive a 2025 application form via email on December 2. You may also obtain one at the City Clerk's Office inside City Hall, 7700 Mission Road, or online at www.pvkansas.com. Staff will begin accepting applications for the spring season December 2.



Holiday tree disposal options

When the holidays have come and gone and it's time to un-deck the halls, Prairie Village residents have multiple options for live tree disposal. Trees must be free of all lights, ornaments, stands, metal nails, etc.

Republic Services will pick up live trees at the curbside for the first two weeks in January 2025. Trees taller than 6 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 from December 20, 2024 to January 19, 2025. Trees can be placed in designated areas of Porter, Franklin, and Taliaferro Parks where they will be turned into wood chips. Residents may take the chips for their own use.



MISSING SUMMER ALREADY?

WINTER BREAK IS A
GREAT TIME TO LINE UP
YOUR SUMMER JOB.

WE'RE HIRING LIFEGUARDS.
STARTING PAY IS \$15.25/HOUR.
APPLY LATER THIS WINTER AT
PVKANSAS.COM/JOBS.

*DUMMIES USED FOR TRAINING PURPOSES ONLY.
LIFEGUARDS MUST BE A BIT MORE LIVELY.

State of the Arts winners announced

A crowd gathered around one particular painting all evening during the exhibition opening of “State of the Arts” on September 11 at the Prairie Village municipal building. Every show has paintings that are crowd pleasers, but rarely does one piece attract this level of attention, and everybody had questions.

The piece was “Return to Classicism--Portrait of a Lady,” by Yeqiang (Ye) Wang, of Topeka, pictured at right. Finished in 2022, the oil painting measures 48” x 32” and depicts a woman in 15th Century garb

in the window of a modern storefront. People were delighted, fascinated, and curious. To read more about this Best in Show winner, visit www.artspv.org.

Other winners included Merit Awards for Shannon Brouk’s “Inked” and Michele Sherlock’s “Joy.” Honorable Mention went to Gloria Gale (“Beautiful Morning”), Tara Karaim (“Becca’s Birthday”), Robert Klausling (“Glitch Day”), Peter Morgan (“From Above”), and Michael Schupp (“Birch Forest”). Madison Renn Watson’s “Homesickend” won People’s Choice.



PRAIRIE VILLAGE
ARTS
COUNCIL



Now showing at the R.G. Endres Gallery

The Prairie Village Arts Council is hosting a gallery exhibition and free opening reception for three local artists on Wednesday, November 6, 7-8 p.m. at the R. G. Endres Gallery in City Hall. Featured artists will be Amy Fresia, Lisa Healy, and Jean McGuire. Light appetizers and wine will be available at the reception. The artists' work will be on display at the R.G. Endres Gallery from November 6 – January 3, 2025. Their work will also be featured at the Meadowbrook Park Clubhouse Gallery until March 1, 2025.



Prairie Village celebrates a night of jazz music

Thank you to everyone who came out to JazzFest on September 7 to enjoy music on a beautiful evening in Harmon Park. We'd like to extend a special shout out to the fabulous artists, volunteers, food vendors, and sponsors who made the event possible. The festival lineup included: Shawnee Mission East Blue Knights, Sons of Brasil, Back Alley Brass Band, Pete Fucinaro Quartet, and Adam Larson Band. Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 6, 2025 for the next Prairie Village JazzFest.



House Watch Program provides peace of mind while you're away

As the holiday season approaches and travel plans are finalized, the Prairie Village Police Department offers residents an invaluable service to ensure their homes remain secure during their absence. The Prairie Village House Watch Program is a proactive initiative that allows homeowners to request the assistance of local law enforcement in safeguarding their properties when they are away on vacation or business trips.

What is the Prairie Village House Watch Program?

The Prairie Village House Watch Program is a community-oriented service provided by the Prairie Village Police Department. It is designed to offer residents peace of mind when they leave their homes unattended for extended periods. By filling out a simple online form, homeowners can request police officers to periodically inspect and monitor their properties during their absence.

How Does the Program Work?

When you enroll in the House Watch Program, Prairie Village police officers will conduct exterior checks of your home on a regular basis. Their duties include:

- **Exterior Inspection:** Officers will inspect the complete exterior of your home. They will check for any signs of suspicious activity, open doors, smashed windows, or other potential security breaches.
- **Emergency Contact:** Homeowners are encouraged to provide emergency contact information. If any issues or concerns arise during the officers' visits, they can promptly contact the provided individuals, ensuring quick response and resolution.

• **Daytime Patrols:** Officers will perform these checks during daytime hours to ensure visibility and effectiveness.

• **Narrowing Down Timeframes:** The program also assists in solving crimes. If officers discover any security breaches or signs of criminal activity during their inspections, it helps narrow down the timeframe of the incident, aiding in investigations.

• **Urgent Calls:** Officers will prioritize the House Watch Program but will respond to more urgent calls as needed. However, the safety and security of your home remain a top priority.

How to Register for the House Watch Program:

Getting your home enrolled in the Prairie Village House Watch Program is a straightforward process:

Visit the Website: Go to the Prairie Village Police Department's website at <https://www.pvkansas.com/departments/police-department/crime-prevention/house-watch-program>.

Fill Out the Request Form: Navigate to the House Watch Program section on the website and fill out the provided request form. You will need to provide essential details about your home, your contact information, and any emergency contacts or individuals with access to your property.

Submit Your Request: Once you've completed the form, submit it electronically through the website.

Confirmation: You will receive confirmation that your request has been received, and the Prairie Village Police Department will schedule regular patrols of your property based on your departure and return dates.

Staff Spotlight

Name: **Brian Wolf**
Position: **Police Officer**
Years with the City: **15**



Responsibilities: **To protect and serve the Prairie Village and Mission Hills Communities**

Favorite thing about working for Prairie Village: **The officers I work with and the citizens I serve. It's great to work in two cities where the residents in both really appreciate everything you do.**

Name: **Ben Overesch**
Position: **K9 Handler**
Years with the City: **7**



Responsibilities: **My primary responsibility is caring for, training, and deploying the department's police service dog, Blitz. Blitz and I patrol Prairie Village and Mission Hills overnight. Our focus is on proactive and self-initiated activity to detect and deter criminal activity while supplementing patrol. I am also a member of the Critical Incident Response Team.**

Favorite thing about working for Prairie Village: **Other than handling Blitz, our Police Department is supported to the extent we have adequate resources to devote a significant amount of our time to proactive police work while also being thorough in our investigations, response to calls for service and other matters our citizens need our assistance with.**

Name: **Marandah Scott**
Position: **D.A.R.E. Officer**
Years with the City: **3**



Responsibilities: **I teach D.A.R.E. to 6 schools in our area K-6. I'm also involved in peer support and as an armorer. Peer support is a group of people in law enforcement who help the people they work with or around in times of crisis, difficulty, or stress. We can perform personal or large group sessions for those who have experienced a traumatic event, a stressful or emotional situation, or a hardship in life. All meetings are confidential and focus on how to help others when they are in need of guidance and support. An armorer is someone who maintains the quality of weapons such as our rifles, shotguns, and handguns. We do inspections to replace broken or worn parts in the weapons and to conduct deeper cleanings.**

Favorite thing about working for Prairie Village: **My favorite things are communicating with people everyday and being in a work environment that feels like family.**

2025 PRAIRIE VILLAGE BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

TOTAL EXPENDITURES
\$45,613,999

MILL LEVY RATE
18.326

GENERAL FUND
\$24,024,533

CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUND
\$8,744,000

These numbers do not include transfers from one fund to another.

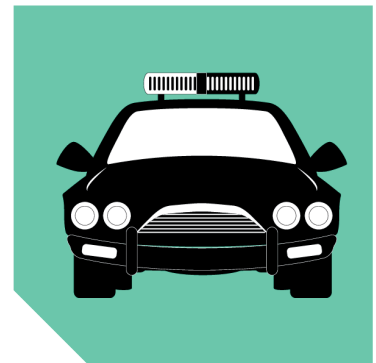
THE BUDGET INCLUDES FUNDING FOR:



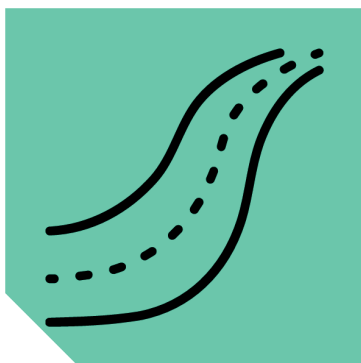
**FRANKLIN PARK
IMPROVEMENTS**



**CITY HALL/PD
IMPROVEMENTS**



POLICE VEHICLES



**MAJOR STREET
MAINTENANCE**



**HOME REPAIR & TAX
REBATES**



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PVKANSAS.COM**

2025 BUDGET

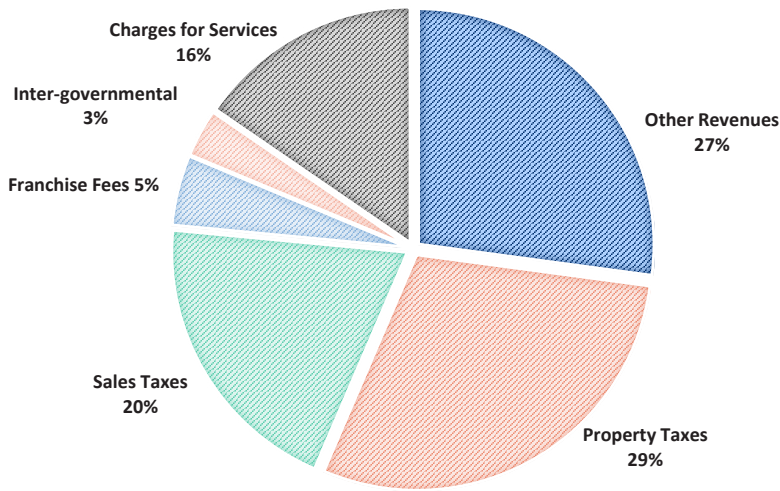
The annual budget serves as a financial plan, provides guidance to City staff, and communicates the City’s financial condition. Most importantly, it presents the Governing Body’s vision for the community by describing how public funds are spent in order to achieve policy objectives.

These pages provide an overview of the City’s 2025 budget and cover some of the items most relevant to residents. A full version of the budget is located on the City’s website, www.pvkansas.com. Questions regarding the budget can be directed to Finance Director Jason Hannaman at 913-385-4661 or jhannaman@pvkansas.com.

BUDGET GOALS & OBJECTIVES

- Maintain high quality services and programs
- Maintain quality streets, parks and infrastructure
- Continue strong financial condition
- Maintain financial transparency and citizen participation in budget issues

2025 Revenue Sources - All Funds



Property Tax- Tax on real estate and personal property. It is computed by applying the City’s mill rate to the County’s assessed valuation

Sales Tax- Tax comes from two sources: Local Sales Tax and County Sales Tax

Franchise Fees- Franchise fees are charged on major utilities within the City. The fee is 5% of gross receipts as defined and permitted by state statutes

Charges for Services- Includes revenue that is a charge for contract services and special assessments to recipients of certain services

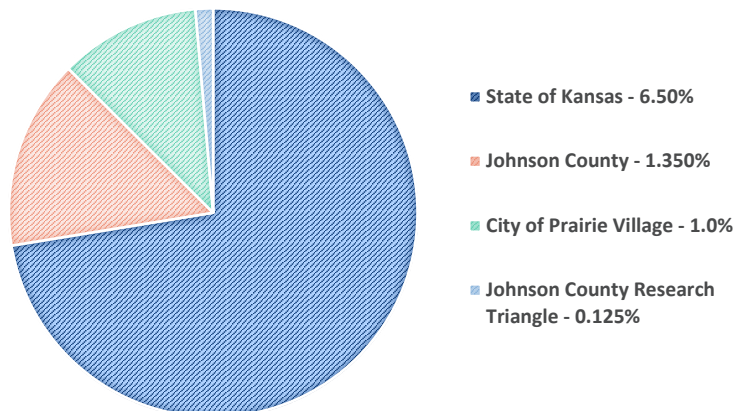
Inter-governmental- Includes revenues provided by other jurisdictions, primarily the State and Federal governments

Other Revenues- Includes use tax, motor vehicle tax, liquor tax, license and permits, recreation fees, fines, interest income and miscellaneous revenue

SALES TAX

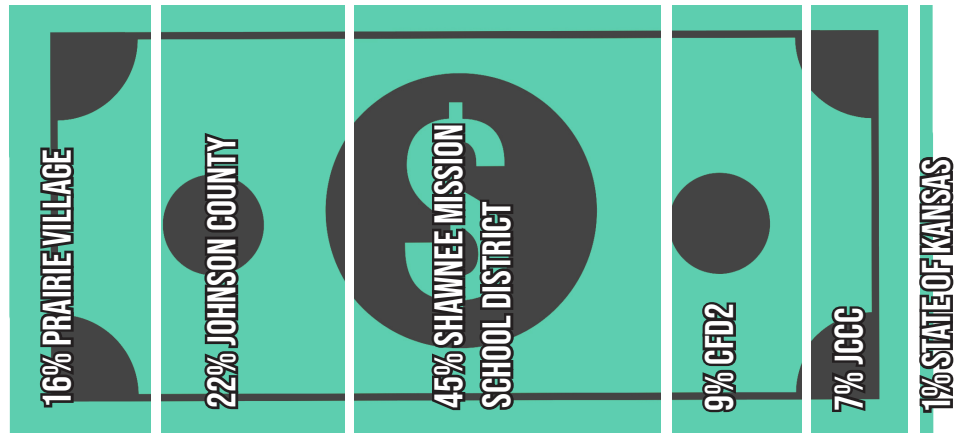
In Prairie Village, sales tax is collected by four entities - the State of Kansas, Johnson County, the City of Prairie Village, and the Johnson County Research Triangle. The total sales tax in Prairie Village is 8.975%. An additional 1% is applied to purchases made at Corinth Square and the Prairie Village Shops due to the Community Improvement Districts (CID) established at those locations. The total sales tax rate at those locations is 9.975%.

Sales Tax Rate by Entity

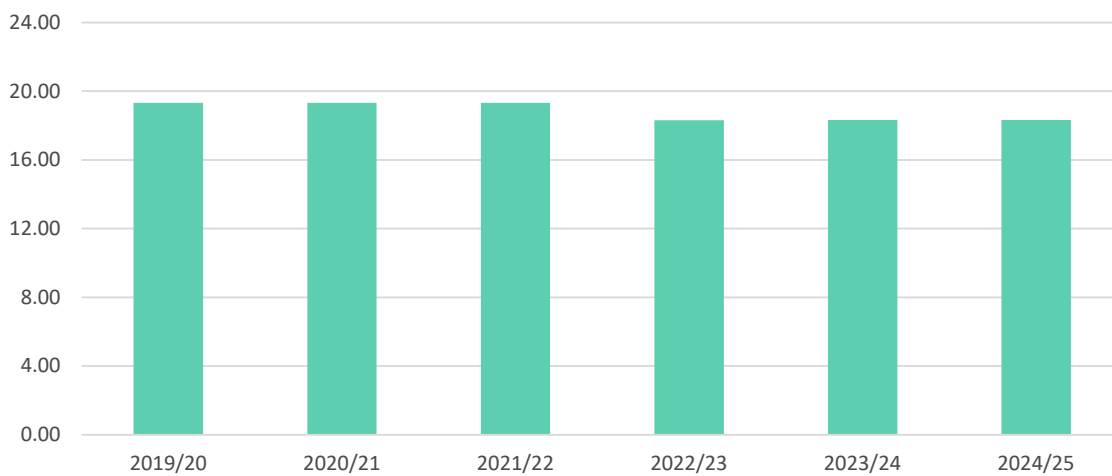


PROPERTY TAX

For Prairie Village residents, the property tax bill is divided among several entities. The City receives about 16% of the total property taxes collected. The other taxing entities are: Johnson County, Shawnee Mission School District, Consolidated Fire District #2 (CFD2), Johnson County Community College (JCCC), and the State of Kansas.



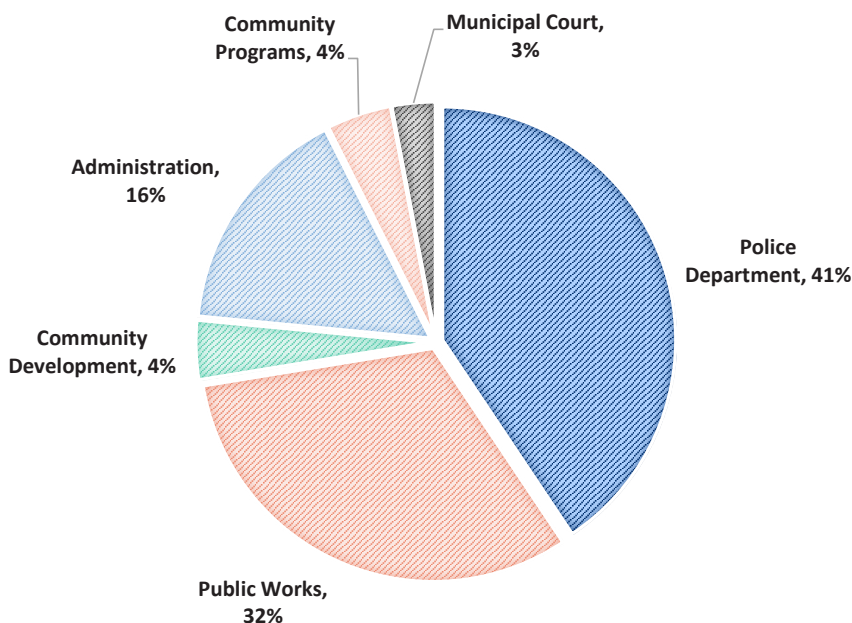
City Mill Levy Rate 2019-2025



MILL LEVY

The mill levy rate is applied to property's assessed valuation.

2025 General Fund Budget by Department



Police- Animal Control, Crime Prevention, Patrol, Investigations, DARE, and Emergency Services

Public Works- Operation and maintenance of drainage system, streets, buildings and grounds, swimming pool, tennis courts, parks, and vehicles

Community Development- Building Permits, Code Enforcement, and Solid Waste Management

Administration- Mayor and Council support, Management and Planning, Financial Management, Human Resources, Business Licensing, Animal Licensing, and Information Technology

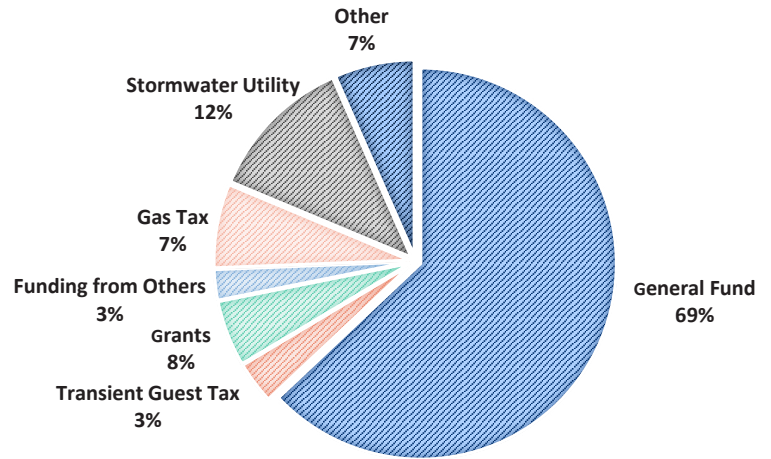
Community Programs- Arts Council, VillageFest, JazzFest, swimming pool, aquatic teams, and tennis program

Court- Municipal Judges, Prosecutor Services, and Court Services

CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

The City maintains a four-year Capital Infrastructure Program (CIP) to aid the City Council and staff in planning and budgeting for the City's infrastructure needs. The CIP is reviewed and updated each year during the budget process. The majority of the funding for the CIP comes from the General Fund. Other funding sources include bond proceeds, the gas tax, the stormwater utility fee, grants, participation by neighboring cities and 1/3 of the liquor tax which is required to be spent on parks and recreation programs.

2025 CIP Funding Sources



The CIP is divided into five sections:

Parks- Includes plans for redevelopment and replacement of existing park structures and materials.

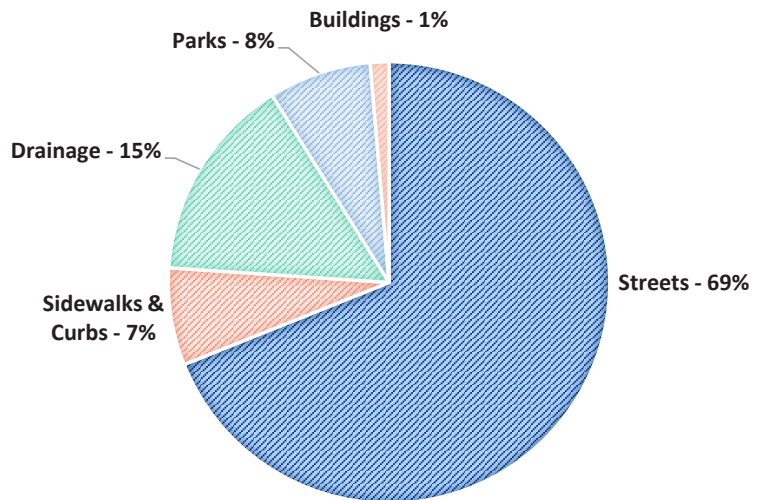
Drainage- Includes plans for replacement of components of the City's storm drainage system.

Streets- Includes plans for major improvements that extend the life of the City's street system.

Buildings- Includes plans for replacement or major improvements that extend the life of the City's buildings.

Sidewalks & Curbs- Includes plans for replacement or major improvements that extend the life of the City's sidewalk and curb system. Also includes plans for additions to the system to comply with the City's sidewalk policy or ADA regulations.

2025 CIP Expenditures



Daily Cost of City Services per Person

In 2025, the daily cost of City services per resident each day is \$2.80, broken down as illustrated below.



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

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

Prairie Village Police stress scooter safety

The Prairie Village Police Department has noticed an increase in calls about the safe use of electronic scooters in our community. It is common to see both children and adults riding e-scooters around Prairie Village on roads and sidewalks. E-scooters are popular, economical, and fun to ride, and they can be safe if riders follow some simple tips and precautions. First, always wear a helmet. Just like you wouldn't snowboard or ski down a mountain without a helmet, protecting your head when sharing the road with 4000-6000-pound vehicles is important. Here are some additional considerations for riding e-scooters:

- Inspect the scooter before you ride
- Ride solo; never ride tandem
- Don't use your phone while riding
- Slow down before looking back or turning
- Keep your eyes on the road



- Follow the rules of the road, including stop signs and red lights
- Avoid riding in bad weather conditions
- Regularly maintain your e-scooter

Just remember that e-scooters are legal to operate anywhere bicycles can be ridden. While this includes our roadways, we do not recommend operating them on our busy thoroughfares. Stay safe and enjoy your ride!

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 (Facility now home to Building Codes)

3535 Somerset Drive

Keith Bredehoeft, Public Works Director

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.