

VOICE

The Star of Kansas



Holiday Tree Lighting

Celebrate the start of the holiday season with friends, family, and neighbors at the 31st Annual Prairie Village Mayor's Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony! The tree lighting is sponsored by the Prairie Village Foundation, the City of Prairie Village, and Corinth Square Shops.

This year's ceremony will be held on Thursday, December 1st from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Corinth Square. Mayor Laura Wassmer will kick off the start of the season along with Santa, Dancerz Unlimited, the Shawnee Mission East Drum Line, and special guest KC Wolf. Hot chocolate and treats will be provided. Corinth Square and Village Shopping Center will hold their Holiday Open Houses throughout the day and evening. Look for more information on participating local restaurants also joining forces with the Mayor's Holiday Tree Ceremony on our website: www.prairievillagefoundation.com.

The Mayor's Holiday Tree is lit each year to serve as a reminder of our Prairie Village community members in need. Money raised for the Mayor's Holiday Tree Fund helps deserving and qualified Prairie Village residents with utility assistance, home maintenance needs, food assistance, and other vital needs. The City works with Johnson County Human Services and Heartland Habitat for Humanity to pinpoint specific necessities. This may mean paying an electric, gas, or water bill when a resident simply cannot. Or, it could be receiving assistance with a nagging plumbing problem or adding a fresh coat of exterior paint to the home.

Donations for this worthwhile cause can be made to the Prairie Village Foundation, Attn: Mayor's Holiday Tree, 7700 Mission Rd, Prairie Village, KS 66208. Or, bring your donation to the Mayor's Holiday Tree Lighting. Your donation to the Mayor's Tree Fund will help our neighbors spread the spirit every day of the year.

Photo credit: ShawneeMissionPost.com



CORINTH SQUARE

THE PRAIRIE VILLAGE Foundation

Helping Our Neighbors. Enhancing Our Community.

FEATURES:

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Greetings Prairie Village Residents

As we approach Thanksgiving, I like to take pause and reflect on all we have to be grateful for in Prairie Village.

This fall, I enjoyed seeing many of our residents at the annual Prairie Village Jazz Festival and State of the Arts events. They were the culmination of many hours of volunteer work. These events, as well as VillageFest, the Earth Fair, and our monthly arts receptions, are highly visible and enjoyed by many in our community. Beyond our special events, we have numerous committees and volunteers who conduct their work “behind the scenes” to advise and shape our Prairie Village community. While less visible in the public eye, their work is no less important!

I would be remiss to not mention City staff, our employees, and our City Council. Prairie Village is continually recognized for being a safe, fiscally sound and beautiful place to call home and it is due in no small part to the dedicated and talented individuals who work to serve the residents of our City. We are truly fortunate!

And, of course, I am grateful for our Prairie Village residents. The giving, generous spirit of our residents makes up the unique fabric of our City. The willingness to help a neighbor in need sets Prairie Village apart from many communities. In that spirit, I would like to invite residents to join me on Thursday, December 1 at Corinth Square for the Mayor's Holiday Tree Lighting. This event raises money to help deserving and qualified Prairie Village residents in need through the Prairie Village Foundation.

Holiday Blessings to You and Your Loved Ones!

Sincerely,


Laura Wassmer, Mayor

ELECTED OFFICIALS

MAYOR

Laura Wassmer 913-385-4600
mayor@pvkansas.com

WARD I

Ashley Weaver 913-403-9154
aweaver@pvkansas.com

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WARD III

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WARD IV

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Sheila Myers 913-645-8093
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WARD V

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cmcfadden@pvkansas.com

Dan Runion 913-648-8861
drunion@pvkansas.com

WARD VI

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

Ted Odell 913-575-9068
todell@pvkansas.com

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COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT

Shop With a Cop

The sixth annual “Shop-With-A-Cop” event will be held in 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. Last year, the Police Department hosted ten children identified by school counselors and the Police Department 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 will be treated to dinner and have their packages wrapped free of charge. If you are a Prairie Village business or resident who would like to make a contribution to this special program (monetary or specific gifts for children), please contact Jennifer Wright at 913-385-4607 or jwright@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-Cop” program. A cell phone collection box is located in the Police Station lobby. Used phones may be dropped off at any time for recycling. Your old cell phone is our treasure!



2016 Prairie Village Jazz Festival

With a fabulous line-up featuring Marilyn Maye, music once again filled the air at Harmon Park on September 10th for the 7th annual Prairie Village Jazz Festival. More than 4,000 people enjoyed the beautiful weather and music.

We were pleased to be able to offer both corporate tables and tents for purchase in addition to our VIP tent for the sponsors who made this event possible. Make plans now to attend the 8th annual Prairie Village Jazz Festival on Saturday, September 9th, 2017. If you are interested in serving on the committee, being a sponsor, or purchasing a tent or table, contact Joyce Hagen Mundy at jhmundy@pvkansas.com.



Gingerbread House Party Sign-Up

The Prairie Village Foundation is sponsoring a Gingerbread House party for the eighth year. Join in the fun while you help others this holiday season. Proceeds from the parties finance summer recreation scholarships (like pool memberships and swim lessons) for qualified and deserving Prairie Village families.



This year, the party will be in a new location: the Corinth Elementary School cafeteria. The fun begins when you first walk in and smell freshly baked gingerbread. You will then see tables filled with pre-assembled gingerbread houses and a large variety of colorful, delicious candies and food items to decorate your house. Let your imagination run free as you design a beautiful, edible decoration for your holiday enjoyment.

- Sunday, December 4, 2016
- 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Corinth Elementary School, 8301 Mission Rd, Prairie Village KS 66208
- \$42 per house prior to November 28th
- \$48 per house November 28th and after
- Last day for reservations are December 2nd, or until sold out

Make your reservation early as this popular, annual event sells out quickly! To register, visit www.prairievillagefoundation.com or stop by City Hall, 7700 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS. When you register, you will be asked the total number of attendees in your party. Please note that only four participants will be allowed per house. Unfortunately, after registration is complete, we cannot accommodate additional participants.

Now is your chance to create a wonderful holiday memory for your family and create exciting summer memories for Prairie Village families

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
November 21	Council Meeting	7:30 pm	Council Chambers
Nov. 24-25	Thanksgiving	All Day	City Offices Closed
December 1	Holiday Tree Lighting	6:00 pm	Corinth Square
December 5	Council Meeting	7:30 pm	Council Chamber
December 19	Council Meeting	7:30 pm	Council Chambers
December 26	Christmas Day	Observed	City Offices Closed
January 2	New Year's Day	Observed	City Offices Closed

PV HAPPENINGS

Congratulations to the Prairie Village Teen Council

Prairie Village Teen Council is an opportunity for Prairie Village youth to learn and actively participate in municipal government, positively impact the community, and gain leadership experience.

Our congratulations to the following students who were selected:

- Zoe Renee Nason - Homeschool
- Ainsley "Scout" Rice - Shawnee Mission East High School
- Tyler Ruzich - Shawnee Mission North
- Haoyang "Helen" Sun - Kansas City Christian School
- Luke Hafner - St. James Academy

The Teen Council members will attend City Council and committee meetings, become familiar with the operations of City Hall, Public Works, and the Police Department, and complete a public service project. The students will be mentored by City Council members as they become more involved in our local democratic process.



Kansas State House Bill 2502

Kansas State House Bill 2502 became effective on July 1, 2016, which authorizes legally qualified Municipal civilian employees to conceal carry while engaged in their duties. Employees who enter onto "private property" during the course of their duties are required to comply with any restrictions imposed by that property owner. Employees must also abide by the posted signage and security measures with regard to the prohibition of concealed handguns in certain public buildings. While the City does not anticipate many, if any, civilian employees to conceal carry - we wanted residents to be aware of the law that was enacted. Please contact Wes Jordan, Assistant City Administrator, at 913-385-4621 if you have any further questions.

Prairie Village Statuary Maintenance

Prairie Village is home to hundreds of public sculptures, monuments, and fountains, which add beauty and civic pride to our neighborhoods. Recognizing that it is essential to maintain the community's statuary, the City formed a Statuary Committee with the purpose of preserving existing items and to encourage others to enjoy the art pieces. Recently, Paul Benson was hired to assist in the cleaning and maintenance of City owned statues. Benson is a Prairie Village resident and is currently a Conservator of Objects at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art. He also has a private conservation business. Benson spoke to the importance of maintaining the statuary. "When they look good it implies that the neighborhood looks good. Many people like the appearance of moss or lichen covered sculptures, but these growths are damaging to the stone on which they grow. The same is true of mottled colored bronze sculptures." Benson's work ensures the statuary's continued existence for future generations to enjoy.



BEFORE



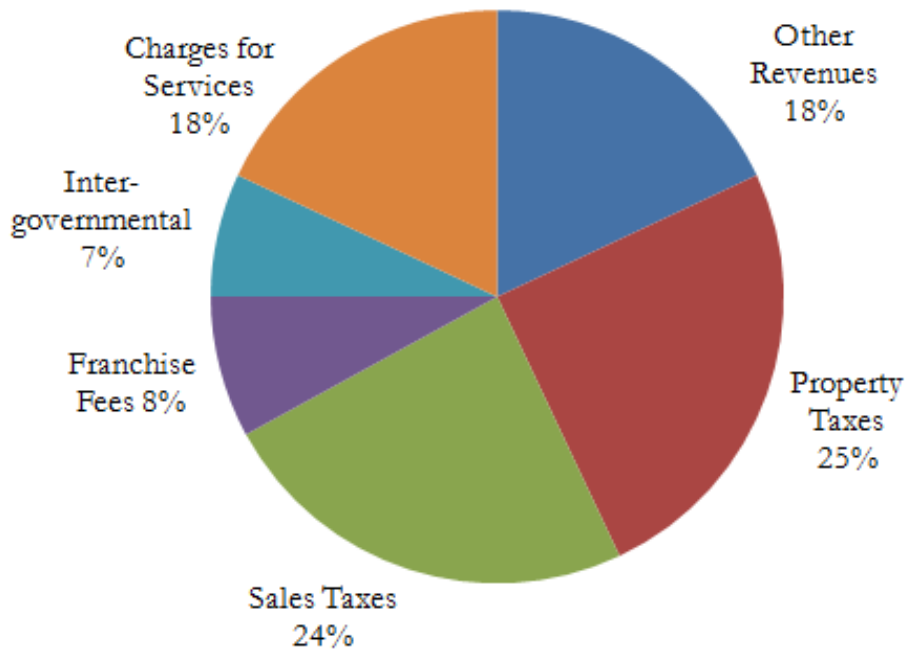
AFTER

2017 Prairie Village 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 will be spent in order to achieve policy objectives.

The next few pages provide an overview of the City's 2017 Budget and covers the items most relevant to the residents. A full version of the budget can be found at www.pvkansas.com. Questions regarding the budget can be directed to Lisa Santa Maria, Finance Director at 913-385-4661 or lsantamaria@pvkansas.com.

2017 Revenue Sources - All Funds



Goals & Objectives for the 2017 Budget

- Maintain high quality services and programs
- Maintain quality streets, parks and infrastructure
- Continue strong financial condition
- Maintain AAA Bond rating
- Increase financial transparency
- Increase citizen participation in budget issues
- Be mindful of the tax burden

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.

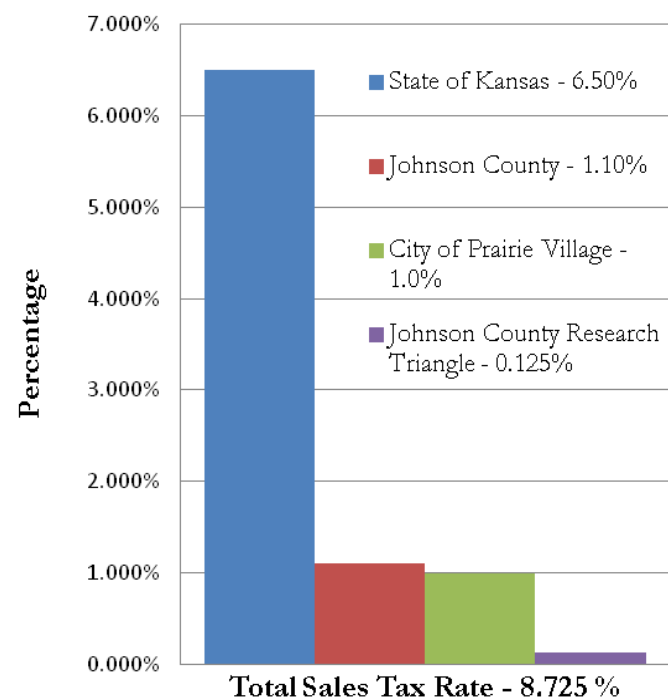
Franchise Fees: Franchise fees are charged on major utilities within the City. The fee is 5% of gross receipts as defined and permitted by state statutes.

Charges for Services: Includes revenue which is a charge for contract services and special assessments to recipients of certain services.

Intergovernmental: Includes revenues provided by other jurisdictions, primarily the State and Federal governments.

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

Sales Tax Rate by Entity



*Additional 1% Sales Tax at PV Shops & Corinth Shops

How are your property taxes used?



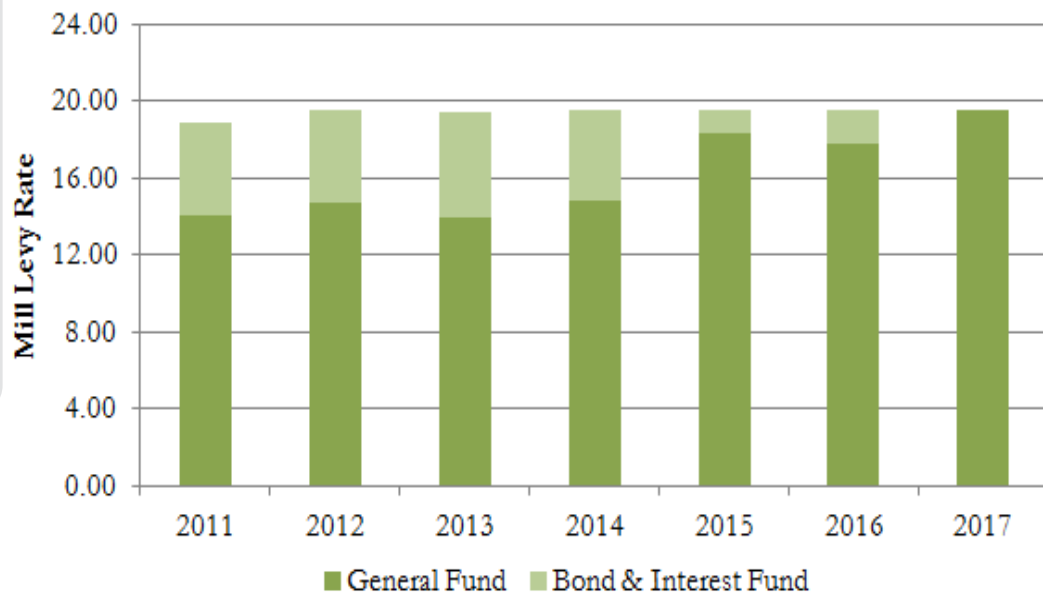
Your property tax bill is divided between several entities of which the City is only 16%

How is the Mill Levy used?

The mill levy rate is applied to the assessed valuation for your property.

The 2017 budget does not include a mill levy rate increase. The mill levy rate was last increased in 2012 by 0.6 mills.

Mill Levy Rate 2011-2017



How much of your property taxes are spent on City services?

Residents Receive City Services

In 2016, the average market value of a Prairie Village Home is \$245,098. In 2017, on average, a homeowner will pay \$46.00 each month for City services. The checkbook below illustrates how this amount is divided among various City programs.

Program	Monthly Cost
Public Safety	\$16.56
Public Works	\$15.18
Community Development	\$ 6.44
Administration	\$ 5.06
Parks & Recreation	\$ 1.38
Municipal Court	\$ 1.38

Average Homeowner	7555
City of Prairie Village	DATE: <u>May 15, 2017</u>
PAY TO: <u>City of Prairie Village</u>	\$ 46.00
<u>Forty six and 00/100***** DOLLARS</u>	
MEMO <u>Monthly property tax for City services</u>	<u>TAXPAYER</u>

What services are provided by City Programs?

Public Safety: Animal Control, Crime Prevention, Patrol, Investigations, DARE and Emergency Services

Public Works: Operate and maintain the City's 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, Information Technology, Human Resources, Business Licensing and Animal Licensing

Parks & Recreation: Arts Council programs, VillageFest, JazzFest, Swimming Pool, Aquatic Teams and Tennis program

Court: Municipal Judges, Prosecutor Services and Court Services

Special Assessments:

Your property taxes also include special assessments or fees for trash and recycling services and storm water system maintenance.

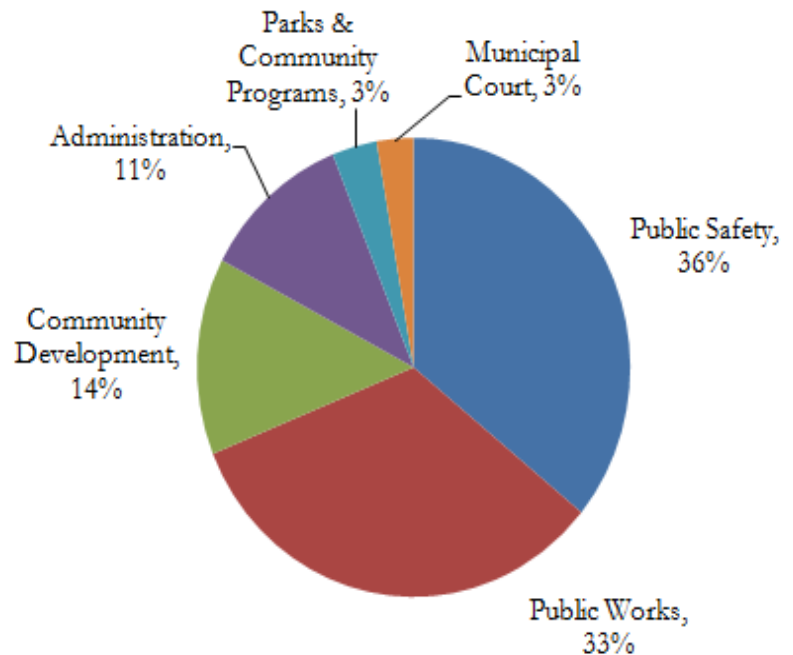
Trash Fee:

\$192.00 per year or \$16.00 per month

Stormwater Fee:

\$0.04/sq ft of impervious area

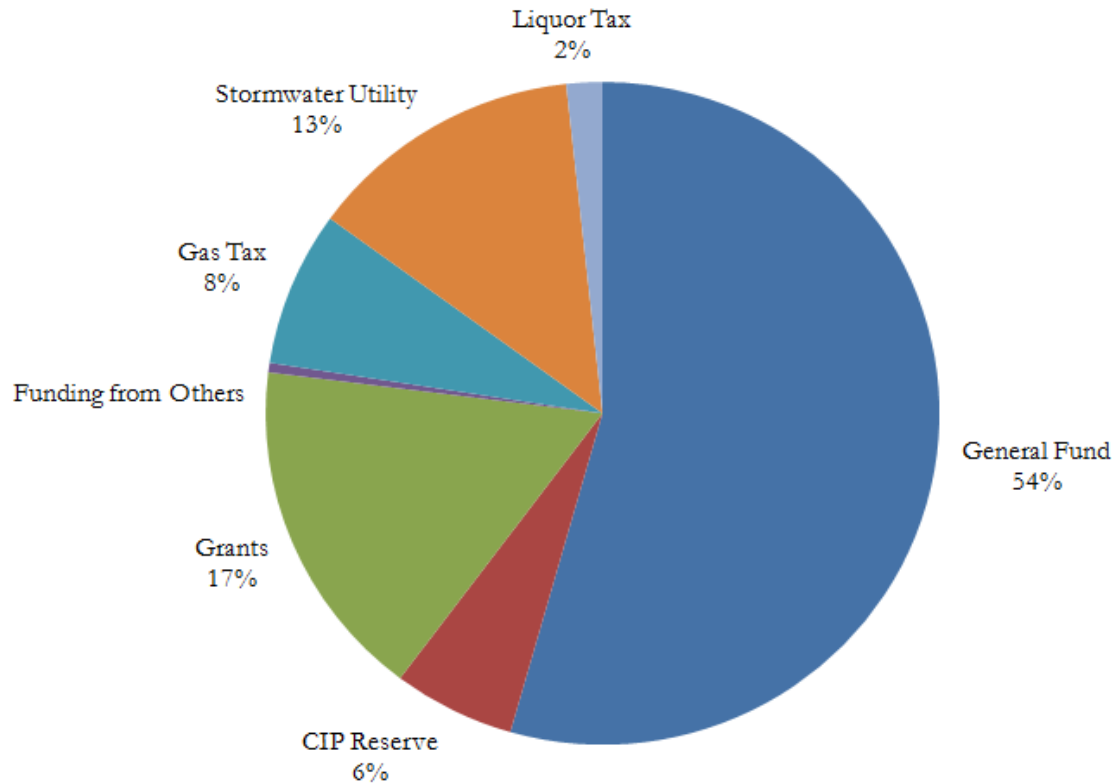
2017 Budget by Department



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.

2017 Capital Improvement Program Funding Sources



The CIP is divided into five sections:

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

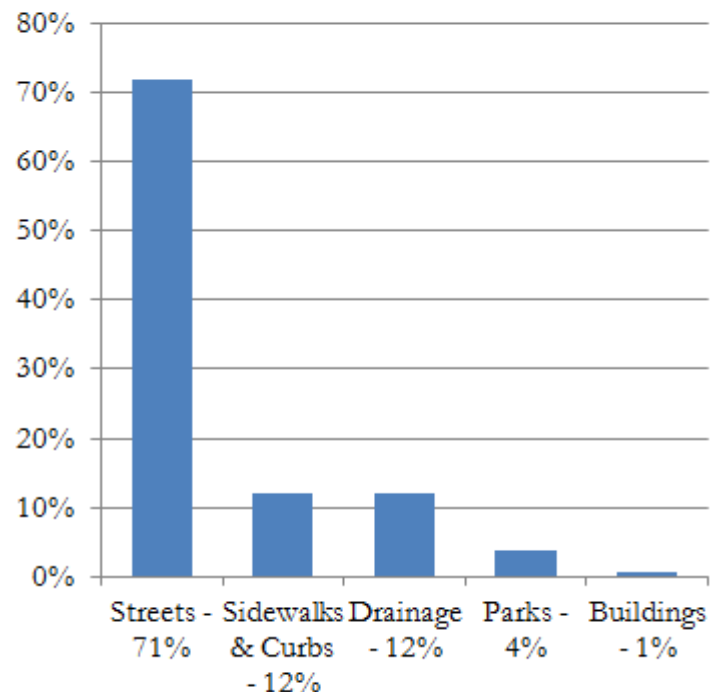
Drainage: Includes plans for replacement of components of the City's storm drainage system.

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.

2017 CIP Expenditures



PV HAPPENINGS

State of the Arts Winners

The 2016 State of the Arts Reception was held on October 14, 2016 at the R.G. Endres Gallery. The exhibition is a juried event featuring two-dimensional or three-dimensional artwork. William Rose, a nationally recognized figurative/portrait artist, served as the juror and selected the following winners:



- R.G. Endres Best in Show: "Untitled #4" by David Han
- Merit Award: "Reading Between the Lines" by Rachelle Gardner-Roe
- Merit Award: "Study in Light and White" by Jack Nixon
- Peoples' Choice Award: "Jumecort Haitii 2011" by Lisa Cowan
- Honorable Mention: "Clarity" by Jackie Warren
- Honorable Mention: "College Mascot" by Eileen McCoy
- Honorable Mention: "Devil\$ in the Detail\$" by Jason Benton
- Honorable Mention: "Clips" by David Cooper
- Honorable Mention: "Orchids" by Michelle Muri-Sloane



The Prairie Village Arts Council thanks all the volunteers, sponsors and artists for participating in this year's event. The 11th Annual State of the Arts Show will be held on October 13, 2017.

Prairie Village Environment and Recycle Committee



Find resources for your school, home and workplace

AmericaRecyclesDay.org

Find local events at the

Prairie Village Environmental Committee Facebook page

[Facebook.com/JoCoEnvironmentalAdvocates](https://www.facebook.com/JoCoEnvironmentalAdvocates)



November

Jeff Foster—Jeff captures the emotional, mental, and spiritual condition of whatever piece he is working on. His work is a touch of photographed and manipulated scans, layers, fills, selections, and textures. He creates with and without form, boundary, and perception. He aims to harness and solidify and yet leave restless and critical.

Jonathan Crabtree—A local Kansas City artist who works in oil, drawings, and collage.

Louann Hein—"Painting en plein air has given me the freedom to not only paint outside, but feel the warmth of the light, the chill of winter, interpreting light, color, and atmosphere. The elements of nature are not always perfect but worth the experience with the palette, brush and canvas."

A reception will be held on November 11, 2016 from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

December

The Arts Council is pleased to exhibit Prairie Village's city owned art. On display will be the art usually kept in storage and located throughout the municipal complex in public and private offices. Join us in December with this exciting show. Several overstock pieces will be auctioned through the month at artspv.org with the winning bids announced just in time for holiday giving.

A reception will be held on December 9, 2016 from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

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. Gallery is located in City Hall at 7700 Mission Rd.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Holiday Safety Tips

The winter time presents some new challenges to protect yourself and your property. Unfortunately your home can become a target during the holiday season so please take a moment to review these simple but important safety measures.

Lock your doors and windows at all times - even if you are away for only a few minutes. Remember, if you can get into your home without using a key so can burglars. Outside security can be as important as inside security. Do not keep a spare key in a hiding spot around your house; burglars know these hiding spots. Keep all sheds, gates, and garages locked when not in use. Use security lights to help light the outside and warn away intruders - burglars will often bypass the well lit home for the residence with poor lighting. If you are expecting a package delivery, have someone home to accept it, leave it with a trusted neighbor, or have the delivery person hide it out of sight from the main roads. A package left outside for a few hours is not only a target to be stolen, but an indication to a burglar that no one is home.

When you go on holiday trips or to visit family and friends, do not forget to take a few easy steps to protect your property. Tell someone close to your home where you are going and when you will return. Call the Police Department for a house watch on your residence. Cancel paper, mail, and any other regular deliveries to the home. A pile of newspapers is a sure sign that someone has not been home for a while. Set timers on lights, radios, or TVs to give the appearance that someone is home and moving around the residence. Ask a trusted friend or neighbor to keep an eye on your home while you are away. Ask a neighbor to make tire tracks in the driveway when it snows to give the appearance someone is home. Do not post your travel plans on social networking sites like Facebook or Twitter. You want only people you trust to know when your home will not be occupied.

After the season is over don't let your guard down because all of the presents have been opened. When you take the trash out after the holidays, avoid taking large product boxes out to the curb. Cut the boxes up and turn the labels inside out so no one knows what was in the box. Leaving a large flat screen TV, computer, or laptop box on the curb tells everyone that drives by what there is to steal in your home. Please take a few minutes of your time now to help safeguard your home and your family. Please be safe and have a happy holiday season!



PUBLIC WORKS

Tree Plantings in Prairie Village

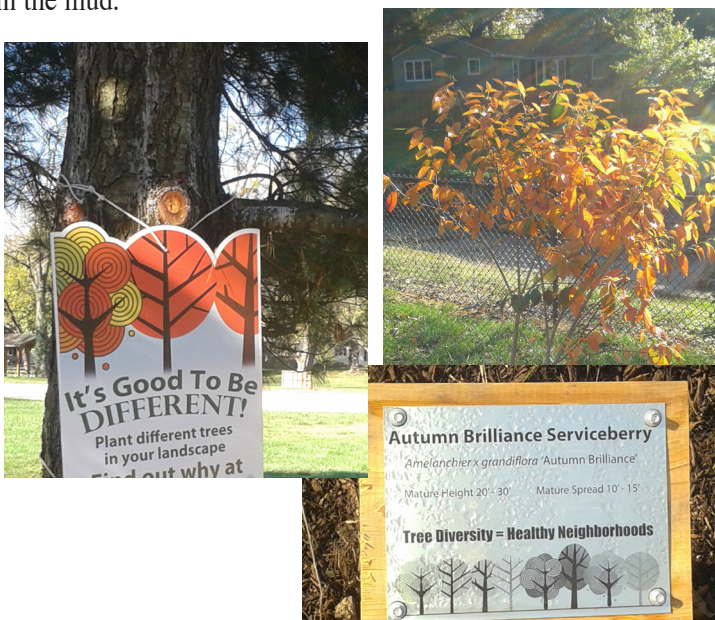
Area volunteers from Heartland Tree Alliance joined Prairie Village Public Works this fall to plant, mulch, and stake 13 trees in Porter Park. The tree plantings were made possible through the Kansas Forest Service and the Landscape Scale Restoration Competitive Grant Program (LSR) of the USDA Forest Service. This competitive grant program allows state forestry agencies to submit proposals to address resource concerns and issues in their states. With the Emerald Ash Borer present in Prairie Village, funding from the LSR allowed the Kansas Forest Service to partner with local communities to combat an infestation of the EAB in eastern Kansas. In 2015, Windsor Park received new plantings through this grant program.

One piece of the grant effort has been to educate the public about why it is necessary to diversify the community forest, especially on privately-managed lands. The plantings in Windsor and Porter Parks will allow residents to watch living exhibits of many kinds of trees grow that are suitable for planting in their yards and landscapes. A post with identifying information has been placed in front of each of the recently planted trees in both parks.

Heartland Tree Alliance, a program of Bridging The Gap, creates advocates in the Kansas City metropolitan for a healthy community forest. Their mission is met by educating and training volunteers to assist with tree plantings, tree pruning and other tree care needs. They partner with local municipalities to complete this work on public property throughout a nine county area. The planting in Porter Park was successful due to the 20 volunteers that joined Public Works out in the mud.

2016 Park Improvements

The 2016 park improvement projects are almost complete. Improvements in Porter Park include a new nature play area to enhance the play experience, soccer and baseball field improvements, and walking trail extension to enhance connectivity. Windsor Park improvements feature a new nature play area, new park benches and tables, and drainage improvements to the baseball field. New and improved play sets were installed at Taliaferro, Bennett, and Windsor Park. Thank you to the residents for their patience during construction. We hope you enjoy the new amenities!



VISIT US AT WWW.PVKANSAS.COM

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

Presorted Standard
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 549
Kansas City, MO

Reader Feedback

Please send your comments to:
Prairie Village Voice
7700 Mission Rd
Prairie Village, KS 66208
info@pvkansas.com
913-385-4662

Prairie Village e-News

Receive Prairie Village e-News in your inbox. Sign-up at www.pvkansas.com/enews and tailor your preferences to fit your interests.

 Follow us on Twitter: @PrairieVillage  Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/CityofPrairieVillage

New Solid Waste Services

The City Council has approved a 10 year contract with Republic Services to begin collecting trash, recycling, and yard waste on January 1, 2017. The process of changing services for approximately 8,400 homes will likely be challenging. We appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation in the process that will also include delivery of approximately 17,000 new carts. Deffenbaugh plans to recover their carts during the last collection week in December. There will be an additional mailer sent to each participating residence that will contain more detailed and specific information in the next few weeks.

The following items highlight some key points:

- The collection of trash, recycling, and yard waste will remain unchanged – with the improved exception of now being allowed 12 yard waste bags/containers/bundles each week throughout the year.
- Residents will be able to select from an expanded option of cart sizes (35-65-95 gallon). The most common cart size is 65 gallons. We anticipate new cart delivery occurring December 15-22, 2016.
- Maintaining the current weekly route schedule
- Special collection for residents with hardships
- Overflow stickers for extra bags will remain at \$1.25 each
- The first year rate adjustment will increase from \$14.50 to \$16.00 per month.
- Large item pick up will still be conducted on an annual basis



CITY CONTACT INFORMATION

CITY HALL & MUNICIPAL COURT

7700 Mission Rd
Quinn Bennion, City Administrator
Wes Jordan, Assistant City Administrator
Joyce Hagen Mundy, City Clerk
Lisa Santa Maria, Finance Director

PUBLIC SAFETY

7710 Mission Rd
Tim M. Schwartzkopf, Chief of Police

PUBLIC WORKS

3535 Somerset Dr
Keith Bredehoeft, Public Works Director



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