

STATE OF KANSAS)
WYANDOTTE COUNTY)) SS
CITY OF KANSAS CITY, KS)

SPECIAL MEETING, THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2025

The Unified Government Commission of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, met in Special Meeting, Thursday, June 26, 2025, with eleven members present: Bynum, Commissioner At-Large First District; Burroughs, Commissioner At-Large Second District; Townsend, Commissioner First District; Burns, Commissioner Second District; Ramirez, Commissioner Third District; Hill, Commissioner Fourth District; Kane, Commissioner Fifth District; Lopez, Commissioner Sixth District; Stites, Commissioner Seventh District; Davis, Commissioner Eighth District; and Garner, Mayor/CEO presiding. The following officials were also in attendance: David Johnston, County Administrator; Angela Lawson, Interim Chief Counsel; Reginald Lindsey, Budget Director; Alan Howze, Assistant County Administrator; Matt May, Emergency Management Director; Chief Rubin, Fire Department; Deputy Chief Anderson, Police Department; Major Joe Grasela, KCKPD; Daniel Soptic, Sheriff; Deasiray Bush, Director of Public Transportation; Troy Shaw, Director of Public Works; Angel Ferrara, Director of Parks & Recreation; Rocki Mayes, Buildings & Logistics; and Monica L. Sparks, Unified Government Clerk.

Mayor Garner said before I call the meeting to order I want to announce that we have individuals attending remotely as well as on-site. All participants joining by phone should mute their phones when not speaking to avoid background noise. During the meeting, please make sure you announce yourself by name and title every time you speak so the public that is participating knows who is speaking. This is critical given the number of remote participants and is current guidance from the Kansas Attorney General Office. Please be sure to speak directly into the microphone to ensure your comments are heard and an accurate record can be made of this meeting.

Mayor Garner called the meeting to order.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, is scheduled to be conducted on Thursday, June 26, 2025, at 5:15 p.m. in the fifth floor conference of the Municipal Office Building for an Executive Session relating to personnel

matters of non-elected personnel. The Executive Session portion of the meeting is closed to the public under the Kansas Open Meetings Act. Upon conclusion of the Executive Session, the governing body will reconvene into open session in the Commission Chambers for a presentation related to the UG World Cup Budget. Roll call was taken and there were eleven “Ayes,” Davis, Bynum, Burroughs, Townsend, Burns, Ramirez, Hill, Kane, Lopez, Stites, Garner.

CONSENT TO MEETING of the governing body of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, accepting service of the foregoing notice, waiving all and any irregularities in such service and in such notice, and consent and agree that we, the governing body, shall meet at the time and place therein specified and for the purpose therein stated.

Mayor Garner said at this time we’re going to go into Executive Session. Is there a motion?

Commissioner Burroughs made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bynum, to go into Executive Session in the 5th floor conference room to allow the Commission to further discuss the retention of an employee, which is a private personnel matter related to a specific non-elected employee, as permitted under the Kansas Open Meetings Act; and that Angela Lawson, Acting Chief Counsel, and other staff members that are necessary for the conversation and are requested by the Commission be present, and that we reconvene in open session at 5:30 p.m. here in the 5th floor conference room. Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Davis, Bynum, Burroughs, Townsend, Burns, Ramirez, Hill, Kane, Lopez, Stites.

Present for the Executive Session: Bynum, Commissioner At-Large First District; Burroughs, Commissioner At-Large Second District; Townsend, Commissioner First District; Burns, Commissioner Second District; Ramirez, Commissioner Third District; Hill, Commissioner Fourth District; Kane, Commissioner Fifth District; Lopez, Commissioner Sixth District; Stites, Commissioner Seventh District; Davis, Commissioner Eighth District; and Garner, Mayor/CEO; presiding. **Staff Present:** Angela Lawson, Acting Chief Counsel.

Mayor Garner reconvened into Special Meeting at 5:30 p.m. There is no further business in regards to this item and matter. We're going to adjourn to go to the Chambers. I need a motion for that.

Action: Commissioner Kane made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez, to reconvene into Special Meeting in the Chambers. Roll call was taken and there were ten "Ayes," Davis, Bynum, Burroughs, Townsend, Burns, Ramirez, Hill, Kane, Lopez, Stites.

Mayor Garner said we'll give ten minutes to reconvene.

Special Meeting reconvened in the Chambers at 5:51 p.m.

Mayor Garner said we are back in Special Session. Clerk, just to verify attendance of this governing body, please do a roll call. Roll call was taken and there were eleven "Ayes," Davis, Bynum, Burroughs, Townsend, Burns, Ramirez, Hill, Kane, Lopez, Stites, Garner.

Mayor Garner said this portion of our Special Session we will be speaking about the Unified Government's 2026 World Cup Budget. I'll turn it over to our County Administrator, David Johnston, to make the opening remarks.

David Johnston, County Administrator, said one of the roles that I assumed right when I got hired was being told that I am the representative of Wyandotte County on the KC26 Regional World Cup Committee. Coming from northern Indiana and being a baby boomer, my primary experience in World Cup is playing soccer for two weeks in high school Phys Ed and then being told now that I am on a regional committee that's going to be guiding the activities of Kansas City's host metro area of World Cup committees, I said, yes, I gladly accept this responsibility. After being told by the organizer of the Chair of the committee, I hung up the phone and I said, oh my goodness, I now have to understand what soccer is all about. Being a baby boomer and an older American, I'll say that only in this context, it's been an interesting two years serving in this capacity. What's unique about this time period is just in the last two or three weeks there have

been reminders that in one year the World Cup activities in North America start. The clock is ticking.



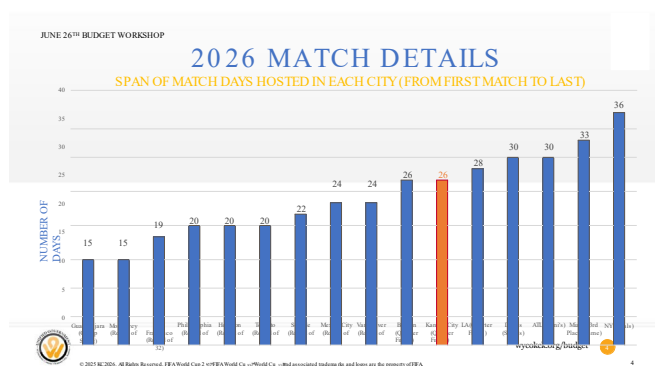
What's unique about this World cup is the World Cup itself will attract 3.5B fans worldwide, will involve 250M soccer players, and will involve 200 countries to get to 45 teams and that activity is happening now.



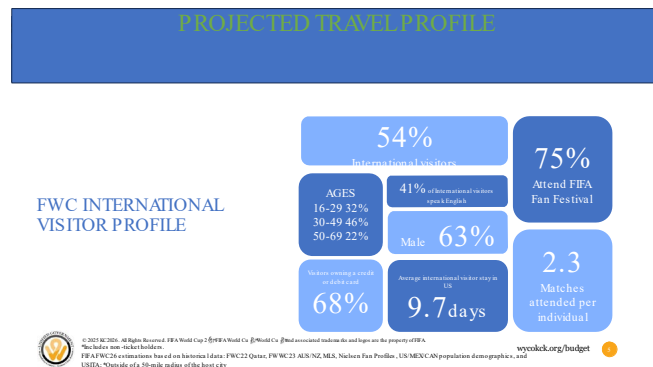
It's going to be the first ever jointly hosted tournament involving three nations, involving 13 metropolitan areas of which Kansas City metro area is one of those. It's a brand new tournament format, 12 groups spanning 38 days, involving 48 national teams, over 104 matches.

MATCH SCHEDULE	
6/16/26 GROUP STAGE Tuesday	6/27/26 GROUP STAGE Saturday
6/20/26 GROUP STAGE Saturday	7/03/26 ROUND OF 32 Friday
6/25/26 GROUP STAGE Thursday	7/11/26 QUARTERFINAL Saturday

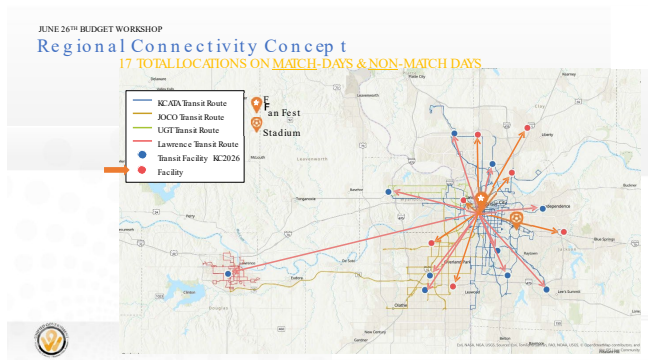
The match schedule start on June 16th of 2026. Well, that's our first game here in Kansas City, Kansas. These are the six games that are going to be hosted here in Kansas City at Arrowhead and we were so pleased to—we were expected to get four games. The first ground stages when we were told that we were getting a round of 32, we were elated and then I think we were pleasantly shocked when we were told we were getting a quarterfinal game in July.



We are going to have soccer activity here in the metropolitan area for 26 days from when our first game starts until the quarterfinal game. So, there's going to be a lot of soccer activity.



A lot of international visitors coming here in the Kansas City metropolitan area. In working with FIFA, we are told from KC26, what is shared from FIFA with us, the projected travel profile of the visitors here to expect 54% of the visitors, sports visitors are going to be international, 75% are expected to be at the FIFA Fan Festival at the World War 1 Memorial. Each fan who visits here for that are expected to take in 2.3 matches, 41% are expected, international visitor, will speak English, so the majority of those won't be speaking English so we're going to have to deal with multi-language issues and we're going to have to be prepared for that. 63% of the visitors are expected to be male, but each international visitor is expected to have a visit of around just under 10 days. The age range from what FIFA shares are going to be primarily under 50 years old and most of the visitors will be using plastic to pay for everything, 68%, so we're going to have to be prepared to be cashless for the transactions.



One of the responsibilities that KC26 is working on macro issues, transportation, security, and all that. They're not going to be dealing with the local issues. They're going to be looking at macro issues and so they're working on—this slide is the Transportation Regional Connectivity. They're more focused like on transportation getting people from far west and Lawrence because that's one of the host communities and far west, the blue dot, is the Legends. That's where one of the teams is going to be headquartered on in our community and getting people to and from the middle dot, which is the Fan Fest at the World War 1 Memorial and just further east of that is Arrowhead Stadium, so getting people to the big party and getting people to the game. All the rest of the transportation responsibility is going to be the responsibilities of the local governments, not KC26, so they're working on the macro issues.

Now, we have a neighbor to the south, Johnson County, that's wanting to make sure that they have an airport shuttle that comes from the airport to their convention center in Overland Park and they will be wanting to work with us to make sure that there's a stop in the Legends, so the 435 corridor goes from the airport to possibly stop at the Legends that then goes to Overland Park, which is right on 435. So, we'll be working with our neighbor to the south to see if that can really be a reality. You have to understand that the focus of the KC26, the group that I've been appointed on, is they're focusing on just supporting FIFA, game day, and the big party spot at the World War 1 Memorial.



Now, the next one, if everybody wants to, after the meeting, to get on to this to get more information, we'll allow you, we'll bring this back up and you can take a picture of that. That's where all the information is that KC26 has to date from FIFA. That's one thing that we've learned about working with FIFA, they're very controlling on the information that they give us. It's not the US way of planning. We're used to getting all the information upfront and then we make it work. How FIFA does it, they give us piecemeal. They don't give us everything on the frontend. We wish they would give us more information, but we still don't have information about licensing, viewing of games yet. We don't even have that, so when we get it, we then act on it, but we wish we had more information from FIFA, but we don't have it. We'll get this icon and you can take a picture of it with your phone and then you can follow the journey as we get more information and have it be released.



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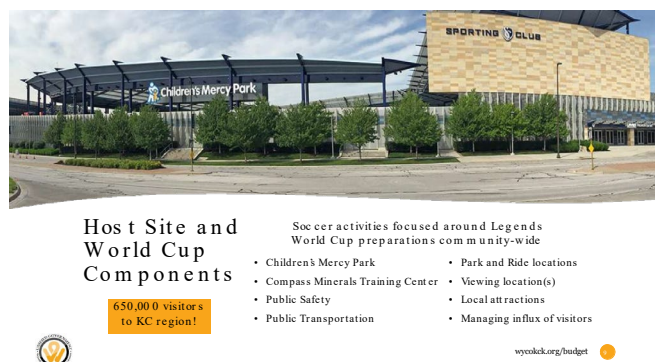
What we've done at the UG is not to sit and wait, but we've gathered the departments within the UG to say how would we as departments prepare knowing that we're going to have to create a visitor experience, we're going to have to take a hard look at Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas and know how can we create that visitor experience, how can we be a good host, what can we expect to bring into our budget process eventually and organize ourselves.

Alan and Reggie have kind of guided that process with our departments and that's what you're going to hear tonight and you'll have an overview from the work that they led, but you'll also hear from the departments that we brought to the table. You know, we're not expected to fund everything and we have been working with the Mayor's World Cup Readiness Task Force and we'll be incorporating some of this work with their presentation that you'll hear from them in a month at the end of July.

We wanted to show you particularly as we're in the budget process, there's going to be an expectation for Capital that there is to be a local contribution to be a good host and to get us ready for that visitor experience. We have to clean ourself up. We have to do what we can to make that visitor experience the possible investor experience a good one because as they go home, they may want to say that was a good place to come back to visit, a good place for me to consider to create an economic development opportunity. We had a good process that Reggie and Alan led and we wanted to take the opportunity today to give you that overview. So, sit back, listen to our staff and then please ask questions at the end.

Alan Howze, Assistant County Administrator, said as you heard from the Administrator, you'll hear from departments directly tonight, several of whom have been involved with the KC2026 working groups, so working directly with the regional partners and the World Cup organizing committee and those efforts and translating those back into local needs and anticipated needs. As we go through this tonight, we'll note and we'll reinforce this is kind of a complex matrix of funding needs and funding sources and there's a fair amount of ambiguity that exists today between where funds could come from. So, there's the possibility of some funds coming from the federal government, there's \$28M that the Kansas Legislature has appropriated for the World Cup preparations that remains uncertain as to how that will be spent and allocated, and there's local dollars. So, again, there's kind of this mix of funding sources, so as you see this, don't get sticker

shock, it may be a little sticker shock, but not too much because there is still a lot of unknowns in terms of how and where this funding would come from as we go through this.



As you all know, we are a host site where one of the teams will be hosted out of and those activities will primarily be focused, the soccer activities, around the Legends. That's obviously where we have the soccer stadium with Children's Mercy Park. We have the Compass Minerals Training Center, which is a world-class soccer training facility. There's a number of those kind of other components of hosting around public safety, public transportation, viewing locations, local attractions, how do we get people to spend their dollars and money locally, and the expectation that there's going to be about 650K visitors coming to the Kansas City region, and a number of which will be in our community. So again, how do we have that be a great visitor experience, how do we have those dollars that they're going to be spending on their trip come through our community as well.

JUNE 26TH BUDGET WORKSHOP

- Alan Carr, Executive Director of Visit KCK
- Mayor's Taskforce on World Cup
- Effort underway to raise funds and manage activities
- Coordinating with UG
- July 31 presentation on Taskforce Force recommendations



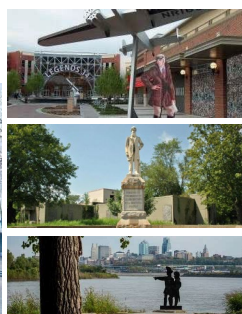
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We are working closely with Visit KCK. Alan Carr is here in the audience as the Executive Director of Visit KCK. He has been a Co-Chair along with the Administrator on the Mayor's Task Force on the World Cup and they recently came out with their recommendations and you'll be hearing from them in more detail on July 31st. We've been coordinating with Alan Carr in our efforts and their efforts to support the businesses that are here and what opportunities we have to maximize the benefits of those 650K visitors that are coming through.

JUNE 26TH BUDGET WORKSHOP

Destination: Wyandotte County

- Legends
- Hollywood Casino
- Wyco Park
- Wyco Lake Park
- Taco Trail
- Local restaurants and bars
- Food trucks
- Monuments: Quindaro, Rosedale Arch
- Business Corridors
 - Downtown KCK,
 - Central Ave,
 - Kansas Ave,
 - Bommer Springs
- Kaw Point & Kansas River

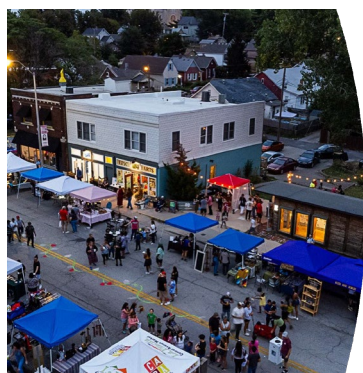


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What does this look like, and the answer is, we don't quite know yet, but that's part of what we're trying to figure out in working with Visit KCK. You know, obviously, a number of attractions that people could come and visit whether those are local landmarks, those are activities around the Legends, Hollywood Casino, the Rock Island Bridge will be open by that point. We've got a number of those kind of attractions, the Taco Trail, how do we position our community so that

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people are coming here, staying here, and spending their dollars here. So again, working with Alan Carr, working with Greg Kindle, and thinking about the physical condition of our community where people are likely to be and how do we put the best face forward, the best foot forward in presenting our community to the world because we will in fact be on the world stage.



On the World Stage: Maximizing Economic Opportunities

- Top tourism destination in the State and growing (Sporting, Margaritaville, Homefields, American Royal, etc)
- Showcase Wyandotte County as an investment location
- Support local businesses
- Support temporary / pop-up businesses
- Façade improvement program
- Community-wide beautification

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With that comes both short-term and long-term economic opportunities. We are the top tourism destination in the state both for existing attractions as well as ones like Margaritaville that just came online, American Royal that's coming online, so how do we take advantage of those, how do we maximize those, how do we showcase Wyandotte County as an investment location. If you look at some of the history of other cities that have hosted large events like this, some have been able to successfully sort of capture that lightning in a bottle, if you will, and then use that for long-term economic growth knowing that there are thousands of people coming through.

There are corporate sponsors and people that are visiting who could be making long-term investment decisions about Wyandotte County who are exposed to our community for the first time and could recognize the very many benefits that exist here as a central transportation hub, all the assets that we have as a community that allow us to be attractive to businesses.

How do we support local businesses, how do we allow for those economic activities and that economic vibrancy, whether those are businesses that already exist or people that are thinking about setting up a business even if it's a temporary business for the duration of the World Cup so people have that opportunity to engage in the event and the opportunities there.

We are doing things like a Façade Improvement Program through Community Development under Director Kay Sharp looking at putting CDBG money towards that would support improving the look and feel of the facades in some of our commercial corridors and kind of sprucing things up and putting our best foot forward and trying to support getting additional businesses into those spaces. And we have a community-wide beautification effort. John Kelly is leading that in a cross-functional, cross-departmental effort with other UG departments to say okay, how do we make sure that our community looks the best that it possibly can.

JUNE 26TH BUDGET WORKSHOP

Preparing to Host World Cup

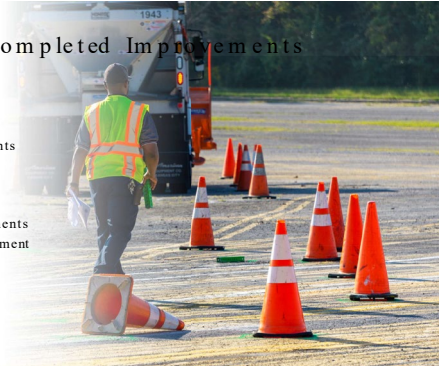


wyalack.org/budget

Now I'm going to transition this over to Reginald Lindsey and we'll kind of go through some of the budget aspect of it. As we go through this, just note there are no new FTEs in these budget numbers that you'll see here. These are a mix of operational costs, sort of hard infrastructure costs and of potential legacy investments. That's one of the things we think about is in an event of this magnitude, how can we have there be lasting benefits that people in our community can point to in five years and ten years and say, you know, this is really something that's tangible and beneficial that came out of the World Cup event in our community that is a truly once in a lifetime event. So, with that, I'll hand it over to Reggie.

World Cup Completed Improvements

- Bus shelter replacements and two new buses
- Memorial Hall improvements
- 99th and Parallel Intersection Improvements
- State Ave curb Replacement
- 118th and State Ave Replacement
- State Ave Pavement Preservation



Reginald Lindsey, Budget Director, said some of the things that we've already started to do within the last few budget seasons we had bus shelter replacements and two new buses and then also we've started Memorial Hall improvements in 2023. Also, we have 99th & Parallel Intersection design and then at State Avenue we've had curb replacement and at 118th & State Ave. we have replacements there and then we have State Avenue Pavement Preservation that went on last summer.

JUNE 26TH BUDGET WORKSHOP



Potential Funding Sources for World Cup Activities

- State funding set aside for World Cup
- Federal: safety and security; transportation
- KC2026
- FIFA
- Local Transient Guest (Tourism) tax
- Private fund raising
- Local funding – general funds, CDBG funds, street and highway funds, debt



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Potential funding sources for World Cup activities, the state is setting aside funding for World Cup and then federally, we have safety and security transportation that will be funded. We have KC2026, which will bring some funding to table also and then also FIFA. We also have our local Transient Tourism Tax that we can use, we also have private fundraising and we have local funding

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available through our General Funds, CDBG Funds, Special Street & Highway, and our Debt Funds.



One of the options that we have within our toolbox is the Transient Guest Tax and it's a source of funding that we've already started to use since back in 2023 for World Cup initiatives for Memorial Hall. Transient Guest Tax, they have a table here that kind of shows what other cities are charging for tourism, Transient Guest Tax. Unified Government portion of Kansas City, Kansas, we're in the middle of that table, we're not the highest or the lowest, we're at 8%. Some of the ways that this Transient Guest Tax has been utilized currently is we have revenues going to the Convention and Visitors Bureau as far as in expenditures. Then we are also fund Sister City Initiatives and we fund Tourism Initiatives from here and Destination Park and Recreation projects.



One of the things that we are proposing is that we do a 1% to 2% increase to assist with funding World Cup related expense projects for 2026. A 1% increase would bring in an additional \$600K and 2% would bring in an additional \$1.2M and the total budget there is \$4.8M. So, if we would bring in an additional 1% increase, we'd have \$5.6M coming in. If we had a 2% increase, we'd have \$6.2M coming in. We wouldn't have to go out for a vote for this. This would be a Charter Ordinance that you as a Commission could pass and this additional revenue would help generate funds for World Cup to assist with World Cup expenses that we have.

Also, one of the things, there are cities within the area that are also looking at doing the same thing, so we wouldn't be the only ones. We're wanting to recommend maybe doing this just for the calendar year of 2026. This would be one of the taxes that Mayor Garner spoke about that wouldn't impact our citizens within the community, but people that are visiting here would pay taxes to help benefit our community. Next, we're going to jump into different department groups and their requests for World Cup.



First, we're going to talk about the Public Safety Department group, which includes the Police Department, Fire Department, Sheriff's Department, and Emergency Management. I want to invite Deputy Chief Anderson up to speak about the Police Department's requests.

Deputy Chief Anderson, KCKPD, said this is Major Joe Grasela that's with me today. He's just here to help answer any questions because we have both been on a lot of teams meetings related

to FIFA and the World Cup and things that are going on. We submitted a memo basically and a lot of our, I guess, financial requests is probably overtime involved.



Currently, we have 310 officers on our department. We're supposed to be at 369 and I believe we have 12 federally grant funded positions that would take us up to 381. So 310 is off of that 381. We currently do, which I don't count, we currently have 13 recruits in the academy if they all make it. I hope they do, but usually we lose one or two. We're hoping to have a class of 20 on August 7th, so things are starting to turnaround in the recruiting, so hopefully, that helps us out and it's coming at the perfect time because by the time they go through the academy and by the time they go through the field training officer requirements, it'll be about March when they get released. Then, obviously, we're expecting around June 1st probably our home team will come to Kansas City, Kansas. So, one of our big ask was overtime related and that's for Compass Mineral. Some of our meetings that we've been to, I anticipate us getting a tier one team and I think we're going to get a big team. I just don't know exactly who it's going to be yet, but I believe it's going to be a very popular team worldwide and that's going to bring a lot of fans.

I know there's been changes to hotels related to the World Cup. You know, the Compass Mineral was attached to the Sheridan Overland Park, and that since has been changed to a hotel in Missouri. It wouldn't surprise me if Margaritaville became the hotel for Compass Mineral for our home team. We don't know that. There's a lot of unknowns like David Johnston was talking about, so we're kind of flying by the seat of our pants right now and we're just trying to plan for every circumstance that we don't know what's going to happen.

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I can tell you currently what we've done so far for the World Cup is we've added a K9, which is a bomb sniffing EOD K9 and a truck. Last year we added an armored truck that we can use for dignitary protection, which we believe there's going to be dignitaries coming through KCK as part of the World Cup events. So, that's some of the things we've already done trying to do with our existing budgets.

Some of the things I talked about Compass Mineral, that will probably be overtime. If Margaritaville, I don't know if it becomes something, that's something we're going to have to provide security for and it's probably 24/7. Obviously, Sporting Park will be the field for teams that are coming in to play at Arrowhead. So, they're going to be practicing a day or two ahead at Sporting Park, so we're going to have to provide security for that as well.

Not to mention on the six game days, so we're going to have park and ride locations. I'm sorry if a lot of you already heard this, so what I've been told is there's about 15,000 parking spots at Arrowhead. There's so many events that FIFA is putting on and other things, they're going to narrow that down between 3,000 and 4,000 parking spots so that means these park and ride locations are going to be the primary way people are getting to Arrowhead. So, what does that entail? I can tell you me and Joe work out at Sporting Kansas City and we have an evolve metal detecting system that we use at the stadium that everybody goes through, so I would assume there's going to be some kind of metal detection, some kind of detection before people get on the bus to make sure they don't have pyro, firecrackers, taking anything they shouldn't take into Arrowhead they're not going to let them take on the bus. So, that's going to be officers and security as well as people there taking tickets because there's probably going to be people that come to these events that don't have tickets and are just trying to get in and do what they did in Miami, Florida last year. I don't know if any of you are were aware of that. A lot of people just came, jumped the fence, and got into the stadium. So that's the other thing that's going to be a big ask probably of us once we get going in this. I'm not sure how many park and ride locations we're going to have in KCK. Is it one, is it two, three, I truly don't know at this point. Maybe you guys have some better knowledge of that than me.

The other big thing we're going to have, so we have a Motorcycle Unit. We do escorts, we do escorts all the time for teams, for dignitaries. This is going to be a lot because FIFA is going to require escorts for referees, for FIFA dignitaries. We may get asked to do escorts for dignitaries from countries that are coming into the soccer game, flying into Kemper, coming to the practice

facility, going to Arrowhead. Currently, we only have—we've whittled our wheel unit down to six officers and a Sergeant. This fall I will be adding two more officers to that to handle what we probably will have to do next year. We're also training our Community Policing Unit to learn how to do escorts. They will just do them in vehicles and not on patrol bikes, so that's things we're trying to prepare for that we know is going to happen and that we're going to have to provide some sort of service for.

The other thing we were asking, I was also in the ask, was two new motorcycles related. Once I bid those two spots this fall, we're going to need motorcycles for them to be driving.

The other things we asked for, we currently have a field force trailer that we use if we were to have any type of large protest disturbance. A lot of our equipment---I think we got a grant for this in about 2005. A lot of it is getting outdated. We have shields and helmets, but I don't know if you've watched any of the protests in LA. The officers now have coverage on their arms, on their legs in case they have bottles or rocks thrown at them. Currently, we do not have that. We have vests, we have helmets, and we have shields, but we don't have probably the full protection that they would need if something were to happen. I'm not saying there's going to be anything like that happen, but you truly never know until something does happen.

We also made a request for money for a language line. We don't know what country will be coming here. We currently use a language line now. We have a very diverse community. We use it for very---there's a lot of different languages we use it for. We anticipate, if a lot of people come to KCK from another country and we don't speak the language, say Germany for instance, we don't have any officers that speak German. We have a lot that speak Spanish, none German, so the language line would probably be a big ask in that regards.

Last year we had a CMIP set for an EOD robot and obviously it was pushed till 2026. We put it on the budget. It was still there. We're going through partnering with the Mid-America Regional Council to purchase that, so they're going to purchase some of it. I already got a Letter of Agreement to pay them in January. I just want to make all of you aware. It's a very expensive thing when you're talking about explosive type robots and so they're working with us hopefully to get it ordered and then we would pay our portion in January of next year.

I think that's the main things we were asking for. There are some other trainings. We were asking for like dignitary protection, just things like that that we're probably going to use that our Special Operations Unit, basically our SWAT team, they're the only ones that have any

training in dignitary protection and we would like to get some others spun up. It's a little different type of police work and some of that training would be good for them just in case we do get somebody that's larger than life that visits our community. I'd be happy to take any questions. That was kind of a lot of our asks. I know you guys have the numbers I believe up there.

Commissioner Stites said so on involvement, any outside agencies, like has the state stepped up with the Highway Patrol for any of these locations Bonner Springs, Edwardsville, any of the other surrounding agencies. That was my first question and then the second question, when you were speaking about the riot gear, that riot gear I imagine is outdated and pretty worn-out by now. Would that be for the entire 310 officers? **Deputy Chief Anderson** said it wouldn't be. I think currently we have a set up for 300 officers, or excuse me, 150 officers that we could outfit just on the equipment on the trailer. So yes, if we had something big, we wouldn't have enough to obviously do 310 officers, but I don't think that—hopefully that need would never arise. **Commissioner Stites** said so when you're asking for updated new riot gear, were you saying an amount for the 310 or would everybody be getting new riot gear? **Deputy Chief Anderson** said no. I was just requesting some for the 150. It's just something that we could get up-to-date. I actually didn't pull prices on any of the gear yet. I just knew that was something that we needed to think about moving forward for the World Cup.

Commissioner Stites said and the outside agencies. **Deputy Chief Anderson** said so, the outside agencies, yes. KHP has been stepping up, but I will tell you Lawrence is getting a team as well, so they've asked for a lot of help. I don't think they have the same experience that Kansas City, Kansas and Kansas City, Missouri have so I think their ask is going to be a lot more than what we would normally do. We haven't reached out. We've reached out, I think, to Overland Park in preliminary talks regarding a backup for our SWAT team. We had Leavenworth as our backup, but they said—I guess Leavenworth, I believe, is going budget neutral next year and they said they wouldn't be able to help us out next year. We're starting initial talks with Overland Park and hopefully they can be our backup if we have big things that occur.

Mr. Howze said I don't want to cut you off, but I just want—we're keeping an eye on the clock so we've got a number of departments to hear yet. I don't want to cutoff questions but—**Deputy Chief Anderson** said okay.

Commissioner Hill said thank you for the presentation. Just one quick question. You mentioned Mid-America Regional Council might be helping with the robot, the explosive robot, is that correct? **Deputy Chief Anderson** said yes. **Commissioner Hill** said do you have a ballpark figure—**Deputy Chief Anderson** said of how much that would be? **Commissioner Hill** said yeah, what MARC would possibly donate versus what the actual cost might be. Just a ballpark. **Deputy Chief Anderson** said I believe the robot's going to be somewhere in the neighborhood of \$450,000. We're hoping they pay half, but we haven't picked out the robot yet, so it's hard to say at this point, but when you buy something through Mid-America Regional Council, it's used metro wide so if anyone needs our assistance, we have to go help them as well.



KCKFD	2 new ambulances	\$1,000,000
	Overtime for 4 ambulances	\$392,000
	Overtime for Hazardous Materials Unit 2	\$196,000
	Hazardous Material Detection/Analysis Equip	\$230,000
	Overtime for 2 additional pumpers	\$294,000
	TOTAL	\$2,112,000



weyrick.org/budget

Chief Dennis Rubin, KCKFD, said thank you for allowing us the opportunity to present our needs. I would ask if it's possible for the Clerk to provide the handouts that we've prepared for the Commission. Essentially what we're going to be asking for as we take a look at what our upfront standard everyday needs are to expand the ambulance service. We service 155,000 people a day and potentially it could expand to 400,000 or more, therefore, we'd asked to have two ambulance purchased. If in fact we have a Achilles heel, that would be the number of vehicles that we have to provide transportation to the hospital for a number of patients. I know from this podium I mentioned it a few times, what causes us medical calls, fire calls, hazardous materials calls, and rescue calls are men, women, and children. So when we more than double the number, we're expecting perhaps 250 calls per day every day as the worst case scenario.

We would also ask for some staffing, same issue as was brought up by the Chief of Police or Acting Chief in that we would ask for overtime monies to hire permanent people for the seven weeks that they're in town probably wouldn't be in anyone's best interest. We would ask to be able to staff the two cross-staffed ambulances and the two new ambulances that we're requesting today. We would ask to staff the Hazardous Materials Unit, one of the two of them, around the clock and we also feel like two additional pumpers would be needed. As you'll take a look at the handout, our total request would be \$2,112,000.

When I look over the ambulance current status, we operate 13 ambulances. Nine are in service, two are crossed-staff, meaning that they're in service when they're needed to be and two are in reserve for a total of 13. There's hardly a day when we don't have a need for additional ambulances currently, much less with this additional impact and that simply our fleet is old and we don't have enough ambulances to begin with. So with that, that would be our request and I'll certainly take any questions.

Mr. Lindsey said next I would like to invite Sheriff Soptic up to discuss the Sheriff's Office request.



Farmouts	\$243,000
Responder Operations Bundle	\$30,000
Field Force Equipment	\$62,000
Inmate Transport	\$173,000
Patrol/Detention Overtime	\$75,000
TOTAL	\$583,000

wyandotte.org/budget

Sheriff Daniel Soptic said I'll make this really quick for you. Ours mostly centers around the Detention Center. What we don't know is what we don't know, how many we might need to bring in at any given time to house. That's our biggest concern. I've told this group before, we house at a certain level now to give us a little bit of a buffer, but when we're talking that many inflexed

into our community, you know, that buffer would get eaten up pretty quick. We can't just farmout 20, 30, 40, 50 at the drop of a hat. So, what you're going to see is the farmout cost. That is, I believe a 60-day, and I have to doublecheck that, 60-day farmout of x amount of our current inmates or our current population to keep a bigger block open.

The other stuff you're going to see, drop to the inmate transport. That's a vehicle specifically for mass transports in mass arrests. We currently do not have that. Luckily, we've never needed it, but the one that we're looking at, at the moment, would transport 14 and could also be used as an on-site booking and release vehicle in the future. So, it's something that could be used for years to come at events like Country Stampede and stuff like that.

The other two things really center around the security of the facility. Again what we don't know is should we have a huge influx from some particular country and they want to come and cause problems at the Detention Center, it is then our responsibility to protect the Detention Center in the Courthouse. So, having the equipment, as the Deputy Chief spoke about, outdated field force equipment, we're even in worse shape when it comes to that type of stuff, so that's what those are going to be.

The patrol detention overtime is exactly what it looks like. We foresee there will be some overtime in Detention and then anything for patrol is going to be used to augment or supplement what the Police Department needs or is currently doing. I'll take any questions.

Commissioner Stites said right now on your staffing, how are you guys. Are you pretty—**Sheriff Soptic** said about 33 short. **Commissioner Stites** said okay, thank you.

Commissioner Bynum said a question for kind of you and the group, maybe David. Is there any discussion at the committee level about shared safety among all of the cities that are engaged? **Sheriff Soptic** said I don't know exactly what you mean. Give an example. **Commissioner Bynum** said from what you're describing, something happens here, it's our Police Department and our jail, so I'm just curious if there's been any discussion among the larger metro committee about these kinds of security issues or is it just up to each city to take care of their own law enforcement?

Deputy Chief Anderson said no, there has been many discussions. We have the Fusion Center in Kansas City, Missouri. They will have a command post in Kansas City, Missouri. We will have an emergency command post here in KCK. I don't know where it's going to be exactly.

It might be in our real-time crime center, but yes, everybody has been talking. I will tell you the one thing on the Missouri side, Missouri has not requested any assistance from any of the Kansas agencies because they know we have two teams. Their requests went just out to Missouri and then that way if we need help, we can make requests that way if that answers your question.

Sheriff Soptic said as far as the Detention Center, it's going to be ours. Other jurisdictions would probably take them, but there's a cost, which is the farmout.

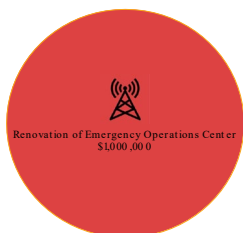
Commissioner Lopez said at what point, God forbid it came down to it, but at what point would the National Guard step in and they would start hauling boys away too or do they store them in your jail? **Sheriff Soptic** said no, they're our responsibility. It's our baby.

Commissioner Townsend said Deputy Anderson talked about the use of the language translator, what about that for you. Will you be sharing? **Sheriff Soptic** said we have language services in the Detention Center and then we also have a kiosk that allows for some translation services too.

Mr. Lindsey said to round out Public Safety, I'd like to bring up Matt May, our Emergency Management Director.

JUNE 26TH BUDGET WORKSHOP

Emergency Management



wycolick.org/budget

Matt May, Emergency Management Director, said as you've heard, there's a lot of cooperation going on between the different services and one of our roles is to support and facilitate that. The biggest challenge I have at the moment is the space that we do that in is not adequate. It hasn't

June 26, 2025

changed physically since this building was built and it was never purpose-built to be an Emergency Operations Center. It was built to be a Dispatch Center and although I've been trying to do this for a while, it just hasn't gotten done and I understand the why's for that. But what I would like to ask is if there was a possibility to at least get that main EOC space expanded. We have the space. We just need to rearrange the structure in there and the pricing right now looks like about a million dollars just to phase in that piece of it.

I'd like to continue doing the other half, but that would be the most important part so that the Sheriff, law enforcement, the three-letter acronym groups, which will inevitably show up, will have the space to work in one area and a space that brings them at least as good or better resources than they have at their desk. That's the challenge of getting everybody in the room, but ultimately, if everybody is in the room, they're going to work together better, more efficiently, more effectively and we'll do what I call our three C's, which is the cooperation, communication, and collaboration that we do to have an effective response, not only for the people who are coming in from out of town because they're ours while they're here. Like the Sheriff said, if it happens here, they're ours, but also for our own citizens who will continue to have the needs that they're going to have. If we can do it together as a collective, that's our role is to provide them the opportunity to do that and the space to do it in effectively and bring them tools that they don't maybe have right this moment. I know we're short on time, so I'll let it go with that. By the way, just so you'll know, about 3,800 people without power in BPU land, so I'm watching that too.

JUNE 26TH BUDGET WORKSHOP

Moving People



wyonck.org/budget



Mr. Lindsey said the next department group, we'll bring up the departments that have to do with moving people during the World Cup. Those include Transit and Public Works, so first I'll invite Deasiray Bush, Director of Transit.



Deasiray Bush, Director of Transportation, said I'll try to make it quick because I know we're on a tight time schedule. I am a part of the FIFA 2026 transportation work group. I have been a part of that work group for almost two years now. I've had the pleasure of working with the Transportation Director, Jason Sims. Certainly, it has been instrumental in the planning of the World Cup, so real quick, what we've done so far with IRIS, we have multiple languages, we have English, Spanish, Portuguese, and French, so when you download that IRIS app, folks can choose their language. We purchased 34 bus shelters. They'll start being installed in the month of August, probably like the third week of August. We purchased 25 benches and I want to thank Kay in Community Development helping us out and purchase additional infrastructure for our bus stations and we have also purchased digital kiosk that's coming soon. So, if you are on LinkedIn, I always post our highlights in Transportation. You can certainly take a look at that.

We have requested to expand the 101 State Avenue route and that will cost \$1.3M. Currently the route runs every 30 minutes, so the frequency is every 30 minutes; however, we are recommending to expand the service for a 90-day time period from the month of May, May 1st through the end of July. It will actually give us the ability to add additional Capital, more fleet, and then we'll also have more staff available for that route. The \$1.3M is an estimate. I am actively working with the KCATA team to finalize that plan.

Number two, the Circulator Route. That's the hotel circulator route. That would be a 7-day service. Johnson County, they're launching, as Mr. Johnston mentioned earlier, they're launching an airport shuttle. So on our end as Johnson County is dropping off our visitors in Wyandotte County, the designated place right now, as we speak, would be Cabela's, so therefore, it's on us, the Unified Government, to provide service for those visitors from Cabela's to their designated hotel. Some examples of those hotels include Great Wolf Lodge, Chateau Avalon, Best Western Plus, Candlewood Suites, Homewood Suites, Holiday Inn Express, Margaritaville and some others.

Next, the Stadium Route, Goal Express Line. I hope you like that title as I do. We'll be able to transport our visitors to stadiums such as Children's Mercy Park, Pinnacle National Development Center, Compass Minerals Sporting Fields, and other community sporting fields. If we have any community events, we can do so as well. So, both the Hotel Circulator Route and the Stadium, that's overtime and I'm asking for two vehicles for each, two fifth routes, because we are running our normal operations. On top of running our normal Monday through Friday operations, I would need additional vehicles to provide that shuttle service.

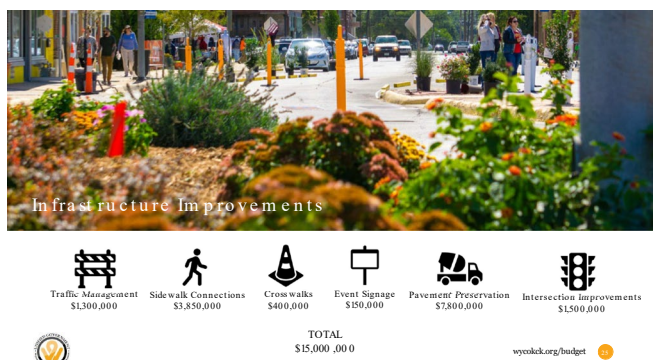
ADA Accessibility for IRIS, that's \$670,000. I want to highlight the title, it's ADA accessible. I've talked to you all several times about IRIS, so currently we do not have ADA vehicles for IRIS. We do subcontract through zTrip, and again, it's not ADA, so if you're wheelchair bound, you're not able to utilize the service. We want to convert it to ADA accessibility because when we talk about visitors coming in, a lot of them may have—we don't know what percentage of limited mobility they may have, so keeping that in mind, we'll be able to add eight vehicles to our service. It is a 7-day service.

Lastly, I don't see it on here, is just general overtime. It's \$306,000. We'll be able to run overtime for our entire department including the weekend. We have general laborers that pick up trash at the bus shelter sites. We will have a high usage. We do partner with Parks & Rec to pick up trash as well; however, they do it during the week. We will need to do so on the weekend and I will have drivers on the weekend including my lead operators. Any questions? I summed it up for you and tried to speak quickly.

Commissioner Townsend said Stadium Route, you said you're requesting two more vehicles and with these two more vehicles, you'll be able to maintain your current service as well. **Ms. Bush**

said if adding the two additional vehicles, yes, because we need vehicles. When you create a circulator route, you need to go northbound, southbound and more than likely our visitors with the current frequency, our current frequency is hourly to an hour and a half and with visitors coming in of this amount, we need to run that vehicle every 15 minutes. **Commissioner Townsend** said with the airport shuttle, you're saying the expected setup now is to go from KC Airport to Cabela's. **Ms. Bush** said correct, that's from Johnson County. **Commissioner Townsend** said that's what? **Ms. Bush** said from Johnson County. So, Johnson County received the grant and they will provide shuttle service. We will require our drivers to pick up from Cabela's to transport them to the hotel so that's overtime. **Commissioner Townsend** said and these would be hotels anywhere in the metro or just within KCK? **Ms. Bush** said no, just the Legends. Legends only because the drop-off site is the Legends. Anything outside of that, they'll need to take a share-ride service. They could use private companies, Uber, Lyft, or use IRIS. **Commissioner Townsend** said you also said overtime would be needed. Is that already included in this \$3,385,000 figure? **Ms. Bush** said yes, that's already in there.

Mr. Lindsey said next I would like to invite Public Works Director, Troy Shaw up to talk about Infrastructure Improvement projects.



Troy Shaw, Director of Public Works, said from Public Works standpoint, we don't really have requests like other departments do. Our infrastructure is there. It's just a matter of what the city is going to want at the time of the World Cup. I've got items up there for traffic management,

crosswalk signage and if we want improvements to all those, if we want Public Works to be providing any sort of barricades, traffic control, anything like that, we need money for it. We're probably going to hire contractors out to do that just given our staffing and what we have right now. Event signage, if we want wayfinding signs or other language signs, and Public Works is being asked to put them up, we're going to need money to do that, so it's on there.

There's a little bit up there for sidewalks. Crosswalks, we have the same thing. That's kind of gets us about 40 intersections, for example, \$40,000 to redo striping of those. On top of that, you see the intersection improvement. You can cross that off the list because at this point, there's no way we have time to actually do it, so I think that's one of the things you're going to run into with Public Works is if it's January 1 when we get told we have money, we've got to bid projects, design projects. We basically have three months to build it, March, April, May and we've got to be done, so we can only do what we can do, but at this point I think we're—if there's roads you want to look better, be better for the public, that number was put in there for pavement preservation. Those are roads around the Legends area, Village West, roads downtown and that includes chunks of State and Parallel, major arterials. That's where that number came from.

The more we add, we obviously, you know our roads are where they are. We could do all our roads, we need to do all our roads. We can do as much as we have money for, but understand, if something happened and we got \$20M to do roads, we have three months to do those roads, so we're going to have 12 contractors out there and a lot of work going on at the same time. That's really all I have. Any questions?

Commissioner Townsend said the 7.8, I heard you say a magic word Parallel. What would be the extent of making Parallel better? Are we talking more than just pothole patching? **Mr. Shaw** said that and the 7.8 is a mill and overlay, so that's our—we mill off two inches asphalt and put it on two inches. That's usually what we do and that's what you see when it looks like we got new roads. **Commissioner Townsend** said how much—I guess what I'm trying to say is how many miles would that cover because it gets horrible starting around 9th & Parallel and going out, so how far out say if you start at 9th, would you consider this—**Mr. Shaw** said it depends. Like I said, this was a—that number was generated—we just took a bunch of roads around the Legends area and then some roads downtown and then we took chunks of State and Parallel that were the worst. It just depends on what all we want to do. **Commissioner Townsend** said well, we need to go at

least from 9th to about 50th. Okay, just get that out there. **Mr. Shaw** said yep and I agree. We've talked about this before. The intent was to do State and Parallel fully this year and funding wasn't available to do it.

JUNE 26TH BUDGET WORKSHOP

Beautiful City



weymouth.org/budget

Mr. Lindsey said next department group, we're going to talk about the departments that's going to help make the city beautiful and that will include Public Works, Building & Logistics and then also Parks & Rec. I'd like to invite Parks & Rec Director, Angel Ferrara, up. I'm sorry, Rocki Mayes with Memorial Hall, with Buildings & Logistics.



World Cup Improvements
\$500,000

Special Events Overtime
\$250,000

TOTAL
\$750,000

weymouth.org/budget

Rocki Mayes, Building & Logistics, said I'll be very quick even though I could talk about Memorial Hall all day and all night because I love that place. What we're asking for is \$750,000. The \$250,000 is going to be for the overtime that's going to have to be put into our facility.

Possible also the security, extra security that might be needed for this. The World Cup Improvement part is in addition to continue the renovations and to not lose momentum of what we're already doing with Memorial Hall. I'd encourage you guys to go over there and see it. If you have not, I redid the ballroom floors and they look amazing, totally new place. I'm getting ready to do the Veterans room, which I can't wait to display all the stuff during the Centennial coming up in September.

This other stuff that I'm looking for is possibly painting, electrical work that needs to be done at the hall that was not included in the last one. We are starting the big renovations next month with the kitchen and the audio visuals, so that's exciting news. This is just kind of to take us over the edge and not lose momentum with getting this building back to where it should be.



Angel Ferrera, Director of Parks & Recreation, said I'll also keep this short. Thanks for the opportunity. We've identified really about five parks that we feel like will be key parks for visitors while we have this international event coming to our city, so those parks would be and are really not inclusive to, but just the top five we've identified would be Wyandotte County Park, Wyandotte County Lake, Kaw Point Park, Rosedale, and Big 11. So, really focusing on targeted improvements in these parks to enhance their aesthetics, amenities and overall visitor experience.

So, for beautification and maintenance, Parks & Recreation maintains the grass medians, so talking about State Avenue, looking to possibly do some improvements there to beautification, irrigation, plantings and tree work. Not just State Avenue, but we do know that could be a largely traffic area. Also, looking at other parks, but then also looking at maintenance in other parks. A

big item in here would be if you recall, the Futsal courts, that we partnered with Sporting KC to do probably in 2017-2018, so when we're talking World Cup and soccer, Futsal, we anticipate will also be largely played and popular at that time. Soccer is also our biggest sport that we have in our Rec Division. Kaw Point Park, similar to that as well. Just looking to improve some lighting along the bridgeway there. I'm also looking to improve the restroom and then also the boat ramp. Big 11 similarly looking at some improvements. We do think that could be a place where either events are hosted or just drawing some smaller fanfest for community excitement.

Of course, in Recreation we're excited. Like I said, soccer is our biggest, most popular sport, so thinking of ways how we can engage our youth and provide opportunities to get them excited and be a part of that experience as well.

Wyandotte County Lake, also similarly looking at just making some repairs to a lot of the rock work that needs to be addressed around the lake, looking at the exterior of the marina and also just some other improvements as well. Similar for Wyandotte County Park and then also for Rosedale Arch looking at doing some improvements to the memorial similar to what we've recently done at Wyandotte County Lake Park with the Korean-Vietnam Conflict War Memorial and then also lighting and some more beautification work.

I'm happy to answer any questions, but also just keeping in mind that these improvements would not just be for the one-time event, but would be lasting long after and for our residents to enjoy for years to come.



Economic Vibrancy

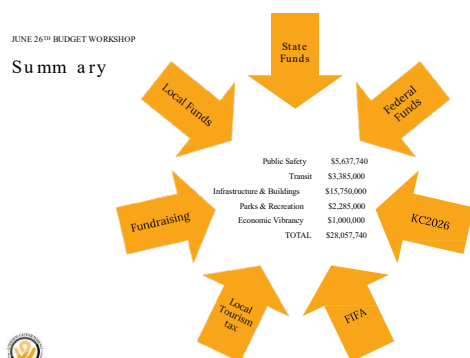


- Streetscape Beautification \$500,000
- Façade improvement initiative - \$500,000 CDBG funds
- Displays such as nation flags and banners
- Supporting existing businesses
- Reducing barriers to new businesses
- Policy changes to support economic activity during World Cup



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Mr. Howze said just the last couple here. This one on Economic Vibrancy really sort of pulls in a lot of what we heard around beautification and thinking of it not just how we look, but how that translates into economic activity while people are here visiting our city. What draws them, what keeps them here and how would we get them to be spending their dollars here and giving our residents an opportunity to engage in business, engage in commerce that will benefit during that period. So, things like the streetscape beautification, the façade improvement initiative, things like working with Visit KCK on displays of nation flags that are in the tournaments, those sorts of things that raise up the awareness and kind of the excitement around the events. Supporting existing businesses, reducing those barriers to new businesses through efforts like the Mayor's Task Force on Business Development has been looking at those sorts of things. Then, what are some of those potential policy changes to look at to support economic activity during the World Cup whether that's for a period of that two to three months or whether that is on an ongoing basis. Are there policy changes that the Commission would want to look at that would then support further economic activity during that period.



Lastly, just kind of a summary slide that pulls together the different pieces that you heard from this evening. Really the point here is that, again, there's this complex matrix of funding needs and funding sources a lot of which has yet to be sort of finalized and there's a lot of uncertainty around that. Where will the funding for the Public Safety and those efforts come from. Will that be coming from FIFA, could that be coming from federal legislation. We wanted the Commission to have kind of the full picture of what departments are seeing as of today as you all head into your

budget deliberations and see where the departments are with their engagement with KC2026 working groups and their own expectations of what could be some of the requirements and activities and actions needed during the World Cup as we host this major tournament.

JUNE 26TH BUDGET WORKSHOP

World Cup
349
days!



wyandotte.org/budget

So, 349 days to go, so down to less than a year and happy to take any final questions.

Mayor Garner said we're quickly approaching our full commission meeting, so I just ask the commissioners if they could make their remarks brief.

Commissioner Ramirez said question, I don't know, for ACA Howze or Administrator Johnston. I know one of the possible funding streams is the state and I know part of the budget process they included funding for the World Cup. Have they yet released any guidance of how that is going to be allocated? **Mr. Johnston** said they haven't released any guidance, but we are knocking on their door and we have meetings scheduled with them.

Commissioner Davis said I think we need to add this item to the top of our Legislative Agenda for the state so that they understand what our request is now that it's better defined because I do think a lion's share of those dollars should go to Wyandotte County given we are the tourism destination. I am all for maximizing TGT dollars. I think you are asking for not enough money. I would love a 3 to 4% increase for TGT if that is at all possible in part because we can use that for Memorial Hall beautification and parks. If that's not possible, we can talk about it later.

Lastly, anything that we can do to leverage our investments now so that it's for the long-term benefit of our residents, that would be of benefit so that this can be a legacy that we can be proud of.

Commissioner Burns said there's a distinguished gentleman in the audience tonight that's been here since 3:00 and he came up to my office and we discussed what he wanted to briefly speak about. I think it's only fair if we give Rich Sample who is a retired Kansas City Star sports reporter for many, many years, he has just something briefly to talk about the World Cup.

Rich Sample said I appreciate it. I retired from the Star in 2001 after 33 years in the sports department. I'm here representing St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 708 N. 4th, just a few blocks away from here. We have a rich soccer history. Croatia, we are, I should say we are a Croatian National Parish. We have a lot of Croatian people that still belong and come and been coming there for many years. As a matter of fact, this year we are celebrating our 125th anniversary of the church's existence, built in 1900. We have experience with soccer parties. Four years ago, at our World Cup, Croatia was in it, of course, all on television, but we have grounds, we have a club which actually has six bowling alleys in it and we have an auditorium, a basketball size auditorium. It can hold a lot of people and we would like to be a destination part of making downtown Kansas City, Kansas a part of it. You mentioned Memorial Hall, but almost everything else is out in the county or out by the Legends, so we would like to make ourselves or be part of being a destination point down here. We think we can do it. We've got the people, we have the will, they have the experience.

As a matter of fact, in December of last year, we sent out this application to the World Cup committee, Kansas City, Missouri, Pam Kramer, and then we followed up in March with recommendations from the Strawberry Hill Museum, which is directly next door to us and they have additional grounds there and they were willing to do anything and everything to make this work for us. Also, we had a recommendation from the Police Athletic League Executive Director Matt Tomasic, so we're willing to help. We want to make—it would be beneficial for us, but I think it would also be beneficial for downtown Kansas City, Kansas and that's our pitch and we want to do what we can do. Any questions?

Commissioner Burns said thanks Rich. I think it's very important, you know, we're talking about everything going west and there's fabulous things going on out there. We cannot forget the eastern part of the city, 635, and the downtown area to the northeast district. We can't be left out. The Croatian community in Wyandotte County is terrific. They will do whatever. I think what they're asking only is for our cooperation that if they had some minor needs that we can do that and I would encourage our full Commission to move on to the St. John's legacy application.

Mayor Garner said thank you for your ask. Just to follow up, World Cup Readiness Task Force, Mr. Carr is here. You could reach out to him as well and I'm sure our Administrator has taken note, so I'm sure staff will get ahold of you. We want to make sure that no parts of our community are left behind with this probably once in a lifetime opportunity we have to be on the world stage here right in Kansas City, Kansas and Wyandotte County, so thank you.

Commissioner Stites said I'll make it really quick and Commissioner Davis hit on it just a little bit and I don't know if it's Alan or Reggie, but the TGT dollars that we're talking about, the increase of 1% or 2%, I just want to make sure that if we do take advantage of this event, that we are then whatever the number may be, 1%, 2%, 3%, 4%, wherever we go to, is that temporary? Will that go back because what we don't want to do is potentially leave that in existence and then price ourselves out of whenever things go back to, let's just say normal, that we've priced ourselves over and above other hotels in the metro area. **Mr. Lindsey** said we're recommending to do it for the calendar year of 2026 and then roll it back. That's our recommendation.

Mr. Howze said I was going to say the state has a 10% cap on the TGT, so to Commissioner Davis's question earlier, 2% is the max you could go up under state laws currently. Well, 10 is the cap. We're at 8, so you've got 2%. **Commissioner Stites** said but the other cities that aren't, Bonner Springs, I don't think Edwardsville, it may effect on VRBO's that they also pay TGT dollars and they're at 6, so maybe—**Mr. Howze** said Bonner just raised theirs up to 8. **Commissioner Stites** said so maybe we all get to 10.

Commissioner Lopez said, Administrator, I don't want to be, you know, officer fun hater or the party pooper, but how many—have you, any of us really dug deep and looked into FIFA and their whole track record? Do you know what kind of storm is coming? Have you seen what happened

up in Vancouver, have you seen where they've been, have you seen Vancouver took a \$92M loss, yeah, \$92M loss. They had to max out on their TGTs and still—I just want us to be prepared. Also, you said federal funding and how much—you don't know—we don't have an exact number.

Mr. Johnston said no, we don't know. There are two separate federal initiatives going through Congress been introduced by a strong legislative body made up of representatives and senators, actually interesting coalitions of all the US metropolitan areas, of the 11 metropolitan areas. One is a Transportation package and one is a Public Safety package, so they are winding their way through Congress as Congress is dealing with the other issues that they're dealing with. They are proceeding at their own pace, but I know our legislative delegation, our own Congressman Davids is leading in the House side a strong bipartisan group, which is really unique that it is both the Democrat and Republican that's pushing this legislation strongly in the House.

I know that our two Senators, Marshall and Moran, are strong supporters on the Senate side, on the Public Safety side, trying to get transportation funding for this. So, they are two different tracks, two different speeds and I know that when President Trump, shortly after he was inaugurated, he met with all the representatives of the 11 metropolitan areas and he showed strong support to get federal support for this event next year, that he will do what he can to get funding to make this a successful national event for the 11 metropolitan areas. I think one thing that all the metropolitan areas were worried about was the change in the administration going from the Biden administration to the Trump administration, but President Trump has voiced strong support for this and so we expect that he'll follow through on that.

Again, that one slide that Reggie had with all those arrows pointing to our dollar amounts, we wish we could give you more definite information at this point in time. I think what we were prepared to tell you is that we've identified funding sources, we're going after those funding sources, but we've identified internally what our departments—what we feel we need to be a successful host community and we're working with our Mayor's Readiness Task Force, with all the citizen groups that are part of that to do what we have to do to be a great host and we'll do what we can to make it a reality. That's our goal.

Commissioner Lopez said right, I understand that. I just was concerned that as soon as they get over to Vancouver, I mean, Vancouver's got to kick out 537 million for Public Safety and Transit right off the bat. That's some do-re-mi there right off the bat.

Mr. Johnston said I also want to throw out something about our organizing group, the KC2026. As much as we are frustrated, the KC2026, that we wish we had more information coming out of FIFA, that we—and we're frustrated at we're going with imperfect information, we are told we are rated the best metropolitan area in organizing with all this imperfect information that we have, of all the 16 metropolitan areas of the three countries and we're like wow. With this imperfect environment that we are working in, we are told by—when our Executive Director President goes to the Miami meetings where this group is headquartered, they're saying, wow, you guys are far ahead of Atlanta, you're far ahead of Los Angeles, you're far ahead of New York City, of every place, keep going and we're the smallest market. So, we're so proud of that, but we're also frustrated and we say that and we have the FIFA officials there saying that. Well, thank you, it's nice to be complimented, but can you give us more information please. We'd like to be further ahead because this is a daunting responsibility, but we're being told every—when our President Executive Director comes from these meetings I said yeah, we're being told we're still number one. So, we're doing something right, but we wish we could get more information. We're proud of ourselves, but there is a lot of work to do in this 349 days.

Mayor Garner said I would just like to say when the Greater KC Chamber came out and they really went around and they had listening tours about the World Cup coming to the Kansas City metropolitan area, I went to those with some of our staff members. The first thing we did is we went to work. We created the Mayor's World Cup Readiness Committee, chaired by Alan Carr. They've been working ever since. Staff has been working ever since. Myself, Commissioner Bynum and Commissioner Burroughs, along with our Administrator, we've been to Washington DC. We've really advocated for the need for funds to be able to address some of the financial concerns that you've heard tonight as well as our state delegations and some of our state officials, we've gone together to talk about all the needs to have a safe and successful hosting of the World Cup right here in Wyandotte County, Kansas City, Kansas as part of the greater Kansas City metropolitan area.

The biggest question mark is money. The state of Kansas has allocated some monies, but not directly to either Johnson or Wyandotte County to my understanding, so those types of asks are going to continue to be brought forward from this Mayor's Office, I know from your

Administrator to leadership at those state and federal levels because those funding streams have not been identified.

Great presentation, Administrator, from your staff. I would ask, just in case, because we're talking about money and we're talking \$28M plus, I don't know where we're going to get \$28M from and I know we talked about sales tax. I don't know what that looks like and how quick we can get initiative to the voters to be able to support this type of ask. I don't know when you talk about increasing the funds upwards of 10% how much that would bring in and would that cover the total amount.

The only thing I would ask as the Mayor so the Commission can make an informed decision is prioritize. I listened to all the asks and I seen the slides, I have them and anybody that's watching seen them, but what are the priorities, what are some of the things that we know are necessities, their mission, if you want to call that critical, life safety issues that we know we have to have to be able to host this event. Then, what are some of those things that maybe we'd like to have it, but maybe we could live without. If we're talking about just what this body may have to consider when you talk about trying to come up with the funding sources to be able to make sure that we create a safe and enjoyable hosting environment for all these individuals that we know will be converging into the Kansas City metropolitan area and particularly right here in Wyandotte County.

Safety is huge when you talk about what our Sheriff and what our Deputy Chief talked about and their needs, infrastructure, transportation, all those things are really going to play in as well as what we want our city to look like. When you talk about blight and beautification, all those things come with a cost. When you talk about personnel have to be able to fill these roles and a lot of that comes with overtime. It would be great to prioritize and then come up with some financials that really can give this Commission a picture on where we could draw if we're left out on this island alone to be able to fund this all by ourselves, what are those funding streams and what does that look like. I get the amount of the cost, but what I am missing and what I don't see is for this Commission to consider is responsibly how do we balance that sheet with matching the ask with an actual funding stream that this Commission can consider. So, I would just ask that be brought forth at some time as far as some reliable funding streams for consideration, maybe one or two with actual numbers to close the gap or to meet all the requests so this Commission at some point can make an informed decision moving forward.

We are going to transfer over into our full commission meeting. Thank you all. Thank you for the presentation. Thank you commissioners for your questions. Thank you all in the audience for your patience. We're going to need 10 minutes for our staff to get set up and so we can expect after we adjourn from our Special Meeting, we will readjourn at about 7:25. I need a motion.

Action: Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez, to adjourn. Roll call was taken and there were ten "Ayes," Davis, Bynum, Burroughs, Townsend, Burns, Ramirez, Hill, Kane, Lopez, Stites.

MAYOR GARNER ADJOURNED

THE MEETING AT 7:15 p.m.

Monica L. Sparks
Unified Government Clerk

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