

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

SPECIAL SESSION, THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2017

The Unified Government Commission of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, met in Special Session, Thursday, July 20, 2017, with eleven members present: Bynum, Commissioner At-Large First District; Walker, Commissioner At-Large Second District; Townsend, Commissioner First District; McKiernan, Commissioner Second District; Murguia, Commissioner Third District; Johnson, Commissioner Fourth District; Kane, Commissioner Fifth District; Markley, Commissioner Sixth District; Walters, Commissioner Seventh District; Philbrook, Commissioner Eighth District; and Holland, Mayor/CEO, presiding. The following officials were also in attendance: Doug Bach, County Administrator; Angie Lawson, Deputy Chief Counsel; Casey Meyer, Attorney; Gordon Criswell and Melissa Sieben; Assistant County Administrators; Ken Moore, Chief Legal Counsel; Bridgette Cobbins, Unified Government Clerk; Kathleen VonAchen, Chief Financial Officer; Debbie Jonscher, Deputy Finance Director; Reginald Lindsey, Budget Manager; Budget Staff; Mark Dupree, District Attorney; Damon Mitchell, Chief Deputy District Attorney; Jonathan Carter, Public Information Officer in the District Attorney's Office; Brandy Wells, Manager of Office & Community Affairs in the DA Office; Jon Stephens, Director of Economic Development; Emerick Cross, Commission Liaison; Rocki Mayes, Executive Assistant to County Administrator; Maureen Mahoney, Assistant to Mayor/Chief of Staff; and Officer Doug Bailey, Sergeant-at-Arms.

MAYOR HOLLAND called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL: Murguia, Johnson, Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Holland.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, to be held Thursday, July 20, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. in the 5th floor conference room of the Municipal Office Building for a Budget Workshop.

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.

AGENDA

- ELECTED OFFICIALS
 - DA BUDGET (WALKER)
- LIBRARY MILL RATE
- DEVELOPMENT PROJECT REPORT



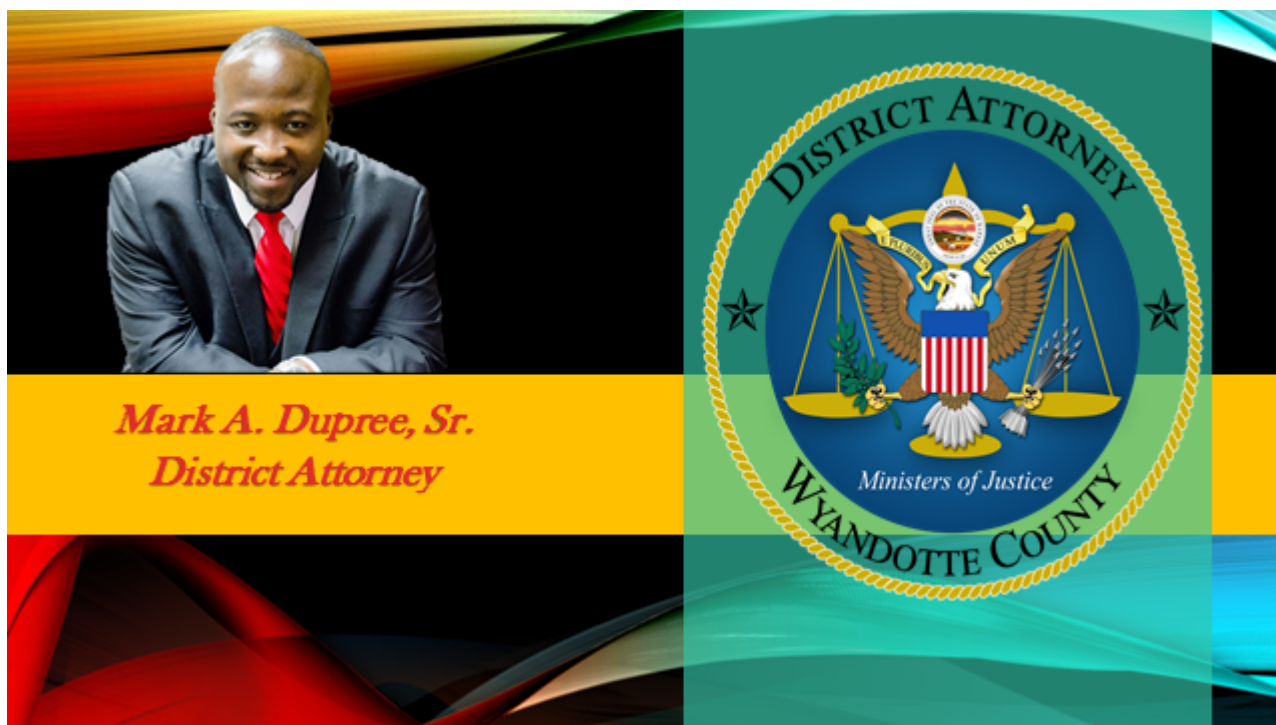
Mayor Holland said we have three items on the list tonight. The first is elected officials looking at the District Attorney's Budget that Commissioner Walker had asked for. I'm going to ask Mr. Bach to lead us into this presentation.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY BUDGET



Mr. Bach, County Administrator, said this is in response to the comments made by the Commissioner at our budget kickoff session and with that I asked the DA if he would be kind enough to come over tonight which he accepted. He has put together some remarks and so with that I will turn it over to Mr. Dupree.

Mark Dupree, District Attorney, said it is indeed a pleasure and honor to present to you all tonight. I want to appreciate Commissioner Walker for bringing up some concerns that he had concerning the amount of funds that the District Attorney Office was making and the lack thereof. With that the request was that there were comparisons made to other counties so I got with the Administration, Mr. Bach, and those folks and I was able to get with the Kansas Counties & District Attorney's Association to pull some numbers. In this presentation we will go through those numbers, likewise, I was able to get with our Chief Legal Counsel to get some of the same comparisons for across the street. This presentation we will go through those numbers as well as a quick rundown of our office and what we stand for.

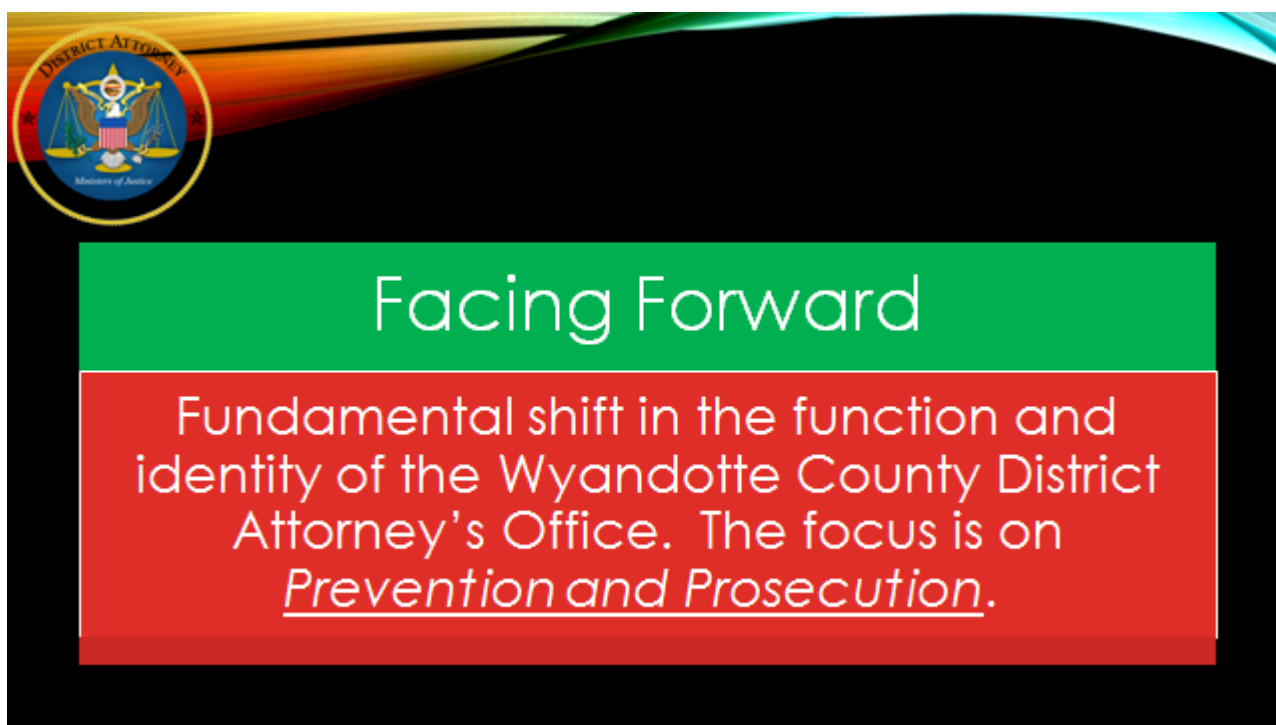


That's the best picture I could find of me so I put it on this presentation. We have our new seal. This is the seal that my administration worked together to put together and you see our motto which is Ministers of Justice. The focus of our office is to administer justice in any way we can.

SMART ON PROSECUTION (SMART ON CRIME)

- **Berger v. U.S., 295 U.S. 78, 88 (1935).**
- **U.S. Prosecutors: "are in a peculiar and very definite sense the servant of the law." "But, while he may strike hard blows, he is not at liberty to strike foul ones. It is as much his duty to refrain from improper methods calculated to produce a wrongful conviction as it is to use every legitimate means to bring about a just one."**

Our theme is really to focus on being Smart On Crime. It's lead by a 1935 quote from the Supreme Court of Case Berger vs. U.S. where they say that the U.S. Prosecutors are in a peculiar and very definite sense the servants of the law. But, while he may strike hard blows, he is not at liberty to strike foul ones. It is as much his duty to refrain from improper methods calculated to produce a wrongful conviction as it is to use every legitimate means to bring about a just one which is why we focus on being smart on crime.



Hence, being preventative and facing forward which is a fundamental shift in our office to go from simply being prosecutorial to focus on being preventional and prosecutorial which means that we have to do everything that we can to prevent crime which is as much a part of my office's job as is prosecuting the cases.

Efficient and Effective Prosecution

Exciting Changes in 2017:

- Paperless Discovery
- Open Diversion to All: 2016 - \$81,855.53; 2017 - \$99,989.47
- By-Weekly ADA Training
- Reengaged in Drug Court
- Asst. Dist. Atty. Discretion & All on Major Pager
- Case Time: 60 day reduction
- Victim Advocate: Meet Victims
- Civil: Truancy Program, CINC & Consumer Protection
- Behavioral Health Court: Collaboration with District Court
- Numerous school and neighborhood watch presentations from the Wyandotte D.A.'s Office

With that in mind the things that we have done since January in my office to really fulfill that vision is to bring about paperless discovery. My office was sending everything to Kinko's and it was costing .28 cents per page to copy for the defense lawyers. We got rid of that and we were able within the budget that we had there already to go completely paperless concerning all of our police reports and discovery once we receive them from the Police Department to give to the courts as well as to the defense.

Our Diversion Program; we opened that up to more people. We have seen an increase from year-to-date in 2016 we at this point had raised \$81K. Because of the different modifications that we've changed year-to-date we're now at \$99K so there is about a \$20K increase in the income that we're bringing in with our Diversion Program.

Our bi-weekly training for our Assistant District Attorney's I believe that the best way to make sure that they do not fall on their faces is to make sure they know what they're doing and so we train them bi-weekly in the courtroom and on presentations. At the end of the day after the Police Department and the Fire Department do all this hard work and brings the case to us if we do not know how to carry the case to the finish line to get a conviction, then all of that work is in vain. We train hard.

We have reengaged with the Drug Court which is a preventative process concerning addiction. We are very aware that the drug epidemic is continuously on the rise and here in Wyandotte County we have a fantastic Drug Court Program which is an alternative to prison. I reengaged our office with that and so we are now connected with the courts, with court services, with the judges, and the probation to make sure that folks who come to my office before we send them to prison we have the opportunity to try to see if they need services and go through that program.

My Assistant District Attorney's; there are 26 of us in that office and we have modified the discretionary authority. Before I came in only three attorneys in that office had discretionary authority to ultimately determine whether or not a case was going to go to trial or if it was going to plea out. We have 26 attorney's, now every attorney in there has discretionary authority which has given us the ability to move the caseload tremendously faster because the person who is working on the case now knows that they have the ability based off of the education that they have, the law decree they have and the training that they have to make a decision on whether or not we need to go to trial or if we should be able to work this out. Likewise, 24 of my attorneys are now on the Major Pager. What is a Major Pager? The pager is when the Police Department needs warrants, when they need subpoenas; they page one of my Assistant District Attorneys. We go and meet them where they are or we meet them at our office. Again, going electronic we have a laptop and we then write up the affidavits and reach out to the judges and send this out. Likewise, concerning any shootings, murders, higher level crimes; we go to the scene so one of my Assistant District Attorneys oftentimes 1:00 in the morning, 2:00 in the morning, sometimes 11:00 at night; we're out on the scene and we're with the Police Department because we have to make sure that we are careful with the evidence that we find and how it's processed making sure it will be able to withstand any legal argument in court and so we're on the scene as well. It used to be just four folks. That is now opened up to 24 of my attorneys after training them with giving the Police Department assistance. I would say on average we get two to three major calls a week, multiple warrant calls steadily flowing in.

Our case time because of this training and the influx of having the attorneys do more we have reduced the amount of time that a case takes from preliminary hearing, which is the probable cause hearing, to trial by 60 days. Why is that important? It's important because it costs \$92 a day last time I checked to keep somebody in custody. You times that by let's say

100 people; of course we know we have over 300-400 folks in there and so a lot of times these cases are being held up because the DA Office or the court is taking their time on things. Since we've been in it's been a 60-day increase in moving things faster, hence ultimately saving funds there.

I'll move on through here; the Victim Advocate we have really pushed hard. We've have two of them. We have a Coordinator who has reached out to the community and is majorly involved with not just waiting until a person is a victim, but seeing how our office can step out in front and be a resource to those folks beforehand if they feel like something is happening.

The Civil side of the things that we do in our office is the truancy cases. We know that there is a truancy to prison pipeline for our young people and we have revamped our Truancy Program. I have met with all of our school districts. The rule is by statute three, five and seven. If you have missed those many days, then you ought to be reported to my office. I will tell you that schools stopped reporting it to my office because nothing was being done. We have changed that, revamped it and those school district superintendents as well as principals are eager to try it a new way. I must give kudos to Judge Cahill who is absolutely ecstatic about potentially going out and having court at the schools to assist in dealing with some of our truancy students. Hopefully it won't come to that, but he's excited about it.

Our Child In Need of Care, also same area which is involving the DCF, KBC whenever a child is abused and/or neglected. It is my attorneys who file those petitions, it's my attorneys who have to determine whether or not we're going to take the parental rights of someone away; these cases go on for years sometimes.

We've also revamped our Consumer Protection. Maybe you all have just seen within the last month we filed a Consumer Protection Complaint against a business owner who was allegedly owning houses and then sending out false paperwork evicting them and ultimately he did not own the houses and the documents were falsified. This too falls on the Civil side.

Behavioral Health Court; we have worked with the District Court in creating this program to deal with and assist with the mental health issues and concerns. Many of the folks that we deal with in our cases have mental health issues. Hopefully, this Behavioral Court will assist with really nipping that in the bud and give other alternatives than simply putting felonies on them.

All 25 of the attorneys as well as myself, I believe in order to be preventative you have to be a part of and we know that to work in the District Attorney's Office you have to live in Wyandotte County which I must say is a huge pool on some of the folks coming into my office having to move from wherever they are moving from. I believe that hence being a true Dotte and loving Wyandotte County just living here is not good enough. With that in mind every last attorney that's in my office have to go out to schools, they have to do mock trials, they have to go to Neighborhood Watch Organizations. We have gone out well over 50 times. All of my 25 attorneys have been a part of the community in the organizations doing programs as well as fighting in the courtroom. Again, prevention and prosecution, so we're working in the courtroom and out of the courtroom and I've learned to work out every day because I have received numerous Neighborhood Watches and numerous schools and all of them like to give with cookies.

SALARY DISPARITY BETWEEN KANSAS D.A. OFFICES VS. WYCO									
SALARY INFORMATION: 2015-2016 AS REPORTED ON KANSASOPENGOV.ORG, OR TO KCDAA									
Year	Population	DASalary	#of ADA's	Low-High Range:	#of Asst: Full/PT	Low-High Range:	#of V/W:	Low-High Range:	
Johnson:									
2016	580,000	172,741	32	61,942 - 160,547	18/1	19,113-54,377	8	33,188 - 48,373	
2015	574,272	167,825	32	61,942 - 155,871	18/1	18,038-51,738	8	32,222 - 46,512	
Sedgwick:									
2016	505,415	150,785	?	51,500 - 121,531	32	25,251-45,596	8	35,775 - 56,480	
2015	505,415	147,108	53	50,500 - 120,963	36	25,378-44,937	7	36,434 - 54,330	
Shawnee:									
2016	178,725	139,050	?	48,668 - 129,027	18/1	23,840-72,440	3	27,560 - 37,989	
2015	178,146	144,399	?	53,000 - 129,418	?	23,760-64,000	2	26,124 - 32,573	
Douglas:									
2016	119,400	149,661	?	52,432 - 98,182	?	30,324-62,317	?	38,130 - 46,132	
2015	116,585	143,208	13	57,833 - 97,664	10	31,722-55,120	3	37,765 - 44,696	
Wyandotte:									
2015	166,254	133,966	24	51,676 - 102,772	24	26,312-47,195	2	48,110	

Jumping into the nitty-gritty; I wanted to give all that wonderful stuff about what we do. You should have in front of you, hopefully, you do because those are pretty small but I will tell you what you have in front of you are the salary disparities between the Kansas District Attorney Offices vs. Wyandotte County. You have Johnson County at the top and on the left-hand side

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2016 the DA salary there is \$172K, Sedgwick County is \$150K, Shawnee County is \$139K, and I will tell you that Shawnee County I have spoken to him, these numbers are not accurate. It has gone up in the last year because they did a recent study to increase these numbers. Douglas County is \$149K, and Wyandotte County \$133K. Now, that's for my position alone.

Let's move over, if you will, to your right and you will have the numbers of the Assistant District Attorneys that are in each of these counties with the amount of money they are getting paid. I wanted to get actual numbers for you and what the Kansas County & District Attorneys Association had for me was the range. They said if you would take 10 from the bottom and push it up is usually where the start is and there are only two people in most of these offices that have the highest number that's on the grid. When I talk about Johnson County starting out they're usually starting anywhere from \$60-\$71K. Sedgwick County \$51-\$61K, more so around that \$61K area, likewise again, with Shawnee I made phone calls and in fact I'm happy to say I recruited one of those attorneys and they were being recruited for \$61K though I was not able to pay them that much, I did tell them they will get more courtroom time, the only thing that I had to negotiate with sadly, but it was true. Douglas County, the same situation, they are at \$52-\$62K starting out and it goes all the way up to that \$98K. With us we are at \$52,300 I believe, it says \$51K here, we are at \$52,400 that we're hiring and starting with. They are correct; it goes up to that \$102K last year. That's what it is there and you can kind of peruse through that if you want some more there, but ultimately you have their top deputies making anywhere from \$100-\$129K and I say that because I don't like to compare us to Johnson County. I know their top deputies are making \$150-\$160K but I like to compare us more so to Sedgwick, Shawnee because they are more around our size especially with Shawnee and they are making anywhere from \$100-\$121K. Then you see Douglas County who is of course about 60-70K people average less than us and they are in fact at around \$98K with their top deputies.

I will continue to move on and if you look through you also see the staff on the right-hand side. I'll talk a little bit more about that later.

SALARY DISPARITY BETWEEN U.G. LEGAL DEPT VS. WYCO D.A. OFFICE				
9	Range 13	Attorneys	Average Salary \$69,553 (5 @ \$60's; 3 @ \$70's; 1@ \$81k)	
1	Range 14	Attorney II	Average Salary \$81,078	
2	Range 15	Senior Attorney's	Average Salary \$97,520	
2	Range 18	Deputy Chief Counsel	Average Salary \$109,646	
		Chief Legal Counsel	Average Salary \$144,000	
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY I	Total	9	11	53,401
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY II	Total	8	12	57,158
ASST DA - SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT	Total	2	14	75,910
ASST DISTRICT ATTORNEY III	Total	3	13	61,693
CHIEF DEPUTY DIST. ATTY	Total	1	18	100,235
DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY	Total	2	16	86,861
DISTRICT ATTORNEY	Total	1		133,972

The disparities between the Legal Department here in Wyandotte County and the Wyandotte County District Attorney Office; why did I do this? I did this because the statewide counties there are difference in numbers in the amount of people that are in these different counties, but when we're dealing with the same pot of tax money we're dealing with the UG Legal Department as well as the District Attorney's Office. I wanted to make sure that this wonderful group of folks knew where we were and where we stood within our county. I appreciate Ken Moore for assisting me in getting these numbers.

Here you have with the UG Legal Department they have a range from ultimately \$60K-\$81K, that average salary being about \$69K and you can see here that those numbers are starting out at about \$60K ending up about \$81K, but that average is at \$69K there. Their Attorney II, the average salary is \$81K. The Senior Attorney's which is comparable to my Attorney III and Deputies make \$97K and then their Deputy Chief is at \$109K which would be equivalent to my Chief Deputy. Right below that you have my numbers and so starting out where we are is because of that—I believe it was a 1% increase in January, we're at \$53,400 so when I hire someone starting out at Attorney 1 that's what they're making as an Attorney 1. Attorney II in my office, after you've shown you're good and you can handle yourself in a courtroom and you can handle a couple murder trials, you're going to get \$57K. That oftentimes comes with four

years of experience and being able to do murder trials and go out to the scene and investigate. The Special Assignment; we're at \$75K for those. We have two of those and those Special Assignments are folks that are handling some of the mentally ill cases, the care and treatment cases, the charging of juvenile as well as mental cases. Then you have my Attorney IIIs who are the ones who are handling my rapes, my murders, the worse of the worse and they are making a whopping \$61K and that comes with usually anywhere from five to ten years of experience. My Chief Deputy who is the one who ultimately not only tries cases but has to deal with the entire caseload of all 26 of the attorneys that are in there including me; he is making \$100K. My Deputy District Attorneys, I have two Deputy District Attorneys which are the ones you have, myself, the Chief Deputy and then two, if you will, Deputies who really control and help lead when the Chief Deputy is not there. They are making \$86K and they have the highest caseloads and the highest cases. Then you have me, where I'm at \$133K and hopefully you know what I do.

Those are the real numbers that we are at in comparison to the UG Legal Department as well as the District Attorneys across the State of Kansas.

UG Legal Support Staff:

4 Adm Supt/Prog Specialist	Range 5	Aver salary \$37,470
2 Adm Supt Supervisor/Prof Asst	Range 7	Aver salary \$48,848
1 Adm Support Coordinator	Range 9	Aver salary \$64,001

WYCO D.A. Support Staff

ADMIN SUPPORT ASSISTANT <u>(Reclass)</u>	Total	2	2	28,350
ADMIN SUPPORT SPECIALIST	Total	19	5	36,225
ADMIN SUPPORT SUPERVISOR	Total	4	7	47,913
ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	Total	1	9	65,291

I would be remiss if I did not mention the difference in the support staff. I will say that I have worked with the administration and there are two reclass that are happening right now. We see that my Administrative Support on the low end is making \$28K, the remainder of them are making \$36K on up which is pretty comparable to the UG support and so you won't have to go back to those countywide numbers they are pretty comparable to those as well. The only disparity that really was there was those two. We have already went through the reclass process and worked with HR and I believe those are in Doug's office waiting for the completion of those things so hopefully that will be remedied.

I will say also to my understanding that there were some reclassifications that was occurring before the election occurred for all of the support staff that was there. Once I got in office, of course I was not a part of that, and that is not on the table at this point. I am speaking with HR in concern of where that is and how I can get that going. My staff over there works extremely hard I'm sure like everybody else's staff and a vast majority of them have second jobs and so whatever we can do to further support that I think that would be greatly appreciated.

RESOLUTION

2017 Amended Budget / Resolution

- Restructure Range and/or Steps for Assistant District Attorney's I, II, III and Special Assignment Attorney's. The salary information provided is based on the 2017 UG Non-Union Classification Compensation Plan.
 - ADA I
 - Starting range for all current and future ADA I positions will begin at a minimum of Range 13 Step 4 (\$62,358.40)
 - ADA II
 - Starting range for all current and future ADA II positions will begin at a minimum of Range 14 Step 8 (\$70,740.80)
 - ADA III and Special Assignment Attorney's
 - Starting range for all current and future ADA III and Special Assignment Attorney positions will begin at a minimum of Range 15 Step 12 (\$79,955.20)

I don't like to just say here's a big problem. I like to give resolutions and so in my resolutions I would like to say this is what I think would really assist my office and why do we need assistance. We need assistance because I think it's extremely difficult to keep a staff of tenure attorneys to fight crime in Wyandotte County when they can go right up the street to another county and make about \$10K less and I'm not talking about Johnson County. I'm talking about Topeka okay or to come across the street within our own county and make about \$10K more than what we're paying them over there.

I think one of the ways that we can do this is we can starting out we can start them at a Range 13 at a Level 4 which puts them at about a \$62K range what gives them the ability quite honestly a livable wage and to be competitive with other county offices around the state. Moving to Attorney II, move them up to \$70K and our Attorney III and Special Assignment Attorney's move them to about the same to where they are as well concerning the Special Attorneys who are at \$75K, just put them in that bracket of \$79K and those ranges of course are coming from the Non-union Classification Compensation Plan.

This is what I say could happen in an Amended Budget of 2017. I don't think that all of this should be looked at for 2017. I think if we could do half in 2017 and do the top half in 2018 I think it would be appropriate. Well, Dupree what do you mean? Why is this appropriate? Let me tell you why this is important and then I will continue. I look at what we do in our office, I look at the amount of bodies that my attorneys see, and I look at the impairable or irreparable things that cannot be washed out of the minds of my Assistant District Attorneys when they're called out to the victims of crime in Wyandotte County. They are called out to be utilized, to assist, so that the Police Department can do their job, so that Police Department can arrest the right people, get the warrants, have the support, have the subpoenas, so they can do what they need to do. It is my sincere belief which is why I made the motto "Ministers of Justice" that it is our job to be the pedicle and to help Public Safety though I know in our budget we are in the Judicial. Without my office and without what we do I don't care how many people are arrested and I don't care how many people are brought to the courthouse, if my office does not have the equipment, the people, the wherewithal to take what the Police Department, the Fire Department when they find these arsonists, if we don't have the training and the staff to lock these folks up, then everything they do, every day they put their lives on the line is in vain because we are not equipped to get the folks off the street and keep them off the street. Why do I say that? I say

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that because in the justice budget field that we're in my budget is \$4.8M. I have 61 employees. If you look at the Public Safety, the Police Department; they have \$53M, the Fire Department \$54M, and Sheriff's Department \$25M. Let's stick with attorneys. I have 61 employees. You go across the street to the Chief Legal Counsel Office they have a \$4.2M budget and I think they have 21-25, Ken, correct me if I'm wrong.



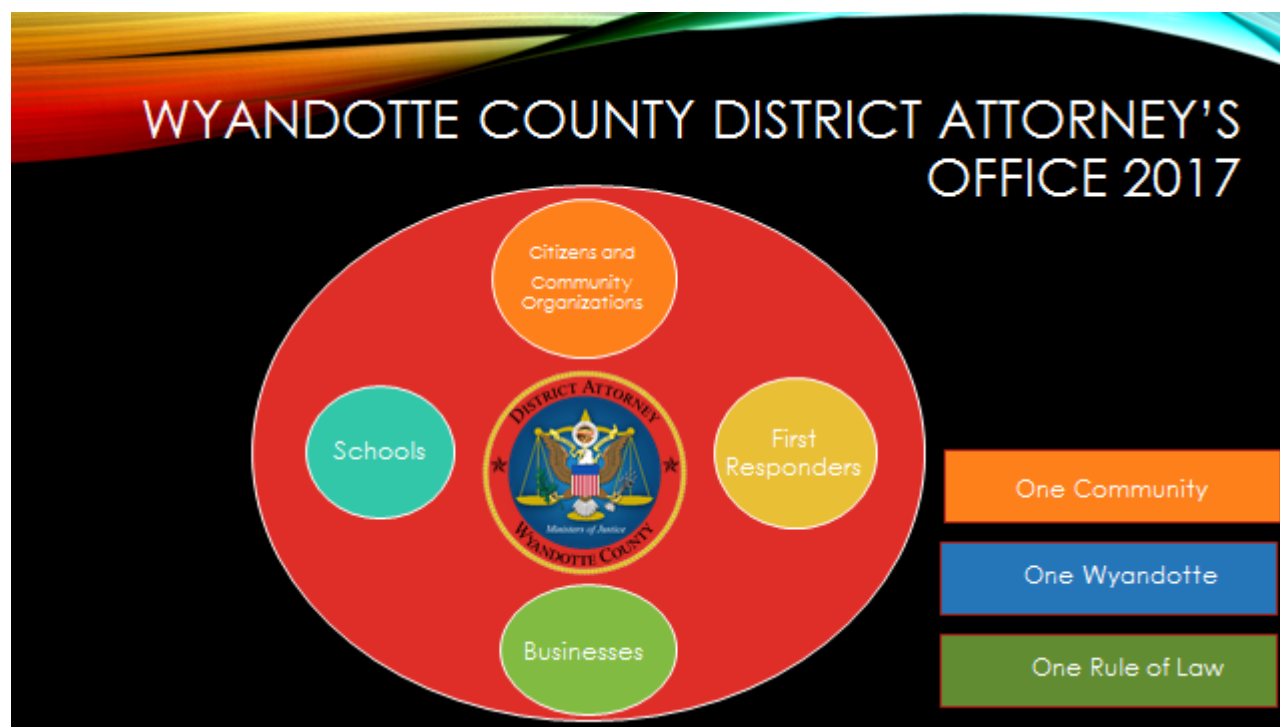
RESOLUTION CONT.

2018 Proposed Budget/ Resolution

- Restructure Range and/or Steps for Deputy District Attorney's, Chief Deputy District Attorney and District Attorney. The salary information provided is based on the 2017 UG Non-Union Classification Compensation Plan.
 - Deputy District Attorney's
 - Starting range for all current and future Deputy District Attorney positions will begin at a minimum of Range 17 Step 15 (\$92,684.80)
 - Chief Deputy District Attorney
 - Starting range for all current and future Chief Deputy District Attorney positions will begin at a minimum of Range 18 Step 21 (\$110,656.00)
 - District Attorney
 - The District Attorney's salary will begin at a minimum of \$150,000

Here's the reality, the reality is one year before I got into office the District Attorney's Office lost 10 people within 24 months and the huge part of losing 10 individuals was because ultimately someday you've got to raise a family. You can't keep deferring those loans and so I would say changing this in the Amended in 2017, changing to the Deputy District Attorney to \$92K, Chief Deputy to \$110K as well as mine in 2018 would be I believe a resolution that would quite honestly bring us comparable to the rest of the state. I love Wyandotte County and I don't like being called the bottom and I don't like being called the worse and I don't like being called Crime Dotte; but here is something that we can fix. You have clearly been shown the numbers seeing that we're the bottom and we're the last and within the same pot we have some money. I will leave where those funds can come from and all of that stuff to the folks who are number people, I'm not. What I am is a realist and what I do know is that when I hire people at \$52K

they come in looking to see when they can leave and when they leave I have to start all over training folks, I have to start all over.



The best way we can become one community, one Wyandotte, one Rule of Law is making sure we have a group of attorneys that are in there that are not just dedicated to this community, but this community is dedicated to them.

I will now yield the floor for any questions that anyone has at this point.

Commissioner Walker said I brought this subject up a number of years ago when I was first on the Commission with District Attorney Gorman. We had a meeting on that. There was a decision made at that time and there was some additional money put into the budget and a plan I thought that was a result of meetings between I believe Dennis, maybe you, and Mr. Gorman. The concept that I brought this up for was the belief—it's kind of like I'll use the comparison Mr. Kane makes, well maybe that would be a bad comparison. I was going to say it's like union vs. non-union and the quality of build you get. Not everybody that I hired and not everybody that he's going to hire are people we want to keep and I had some of those. They showed up every day, they did what they had to do and they didn't do anything more. Then I had some that

you want to keep, you want to hold onto, and these people are just like anybody else they need to sustain themselves and their family. I would like to see the District Attorney with the plan being we ultimately have a set of, and I don't know what the right number is, 10, 15, 20 career prosecutors; people that don't really want to do defense work or don't want to go somewhere else simply because of the money. They really like it. I've known a number of the prosecutors over 40 years, they never really wanted to leave the DA's Office but they left primarily and went on into private practice. Frankly, he is correct, I've hired a number of people over the years out of the District Attorney's Office and many of those have now gone on now to be judges and I was always able to give people at least \$10K more than they were making at the DA's Office. There was historically, in my opinion, a belief in the District Attorney's Office before Mr. Gorman; and I'm not being critical of him. He ran it for 28 years and was highly admired but he would hire people out of law school or with a limited amount of experience. I think he hired you, didn't he Mr. Moore? **Ken Moore, Chief Legal Counsel**, said yes. **Commissioner Walker** said he would keep you for a year or two and train you and then you were expected to leave because he wasn't going to give you any more money. Some hung on and eventually got more money but he believed that was how you ran the office. I believe—you know we want more Police, we want all these people to be arrested that are doing wrong and we've got to process them through—we have this big funnel and it's coming in and the pipeline is pretty small to get them through. People wonder why it takes so long to get somebody to trial. There are a lot of reasons and I'm not going to say it's all because we have a limited number of District Attorney's or they're experienced because Defense Attorneys are pretty good at dragging it out as well.

I will tell you that if you want the end result of our Public Safety program to be comparable to Johnson County, Sedgwick County, Douglas County; those are the ones that I'm familiar with, I don't really know much about what they do in Shawnee County; then you're going to have to create a plan. I was never intending to get down in the weeds and say the District Attorney should make this much and this much and all these different grades. The concept that he has put forward is based in line with what I think it's going to take and a plan and probably over a few years to develop a core of people that are going to stay there and prosecute murders, rapes and violent assaults; the kinds of crimes if it happens to you, you don't want some kid out of law school prosecuting that case. You just don't because Defense Attorneys are

sharp and they're experienced and you need somebody—you need a core over there just like you do in your Police Department and Fire Department of people that have seen it all and done it and will not fall for the usual faints and moves.

I was hoping what we would come out of here tonight with was what Mr. Dupree has presented. Clearly, to me, very persuasive facts and that we would direct him and Mr. Bach to work on a plan. I don't mean one coming up two years from now. I mean a plan that we can put our teeth into on how we start obtaining the goals he has set forward. I'm not going to be here next year. You guys are going to be here but you ought to standup for crime, you better standup for the District Attorney's Office. You need good people, long-term people, and the District Attorney is the guy you've got to trust. People elected him just like they did us. His style I'll admit is different than the previous District Attorney, but that doesn't make it wrong. **Mr. Dupree** said I will take that as a compliment. **Commissioner Walker** said it was meant to be a compliment. I've said my peace. I don't know if I agree with all these numbers, but I certainly agree that the trend has to go upward if we're going to have the kind of people we want prosecuting cases.

Commissioner Johnson said, Mr. DA, do you have any sense or any data relative to the caseload of your attorneys as opposed to those that may be in some of these districts that you have referred to in terms of caseload per attorney? **Mr. Dupree** said yes I do have that and I can get that to you all. I will tell you that we are higher in caseload than most of these other counties. We are somewhat comparable to Sedgwick County. I will tell you that Sedgwick which is Wichita has an office of about 50 attorneys as well as about 50 non-attorneys so they have about 100 people in there. We have 61 with the 26 attorneys, but our caseload is real comparable to them. As far as Johnson County, Douglas County and Shawnee; we beat them out. We tend to have some crime here, I'll say it like that and my attorneys has to deal with it and it's important that I note here I am different again with that prevention and prosecution so I'm forcing my attorneys to do more than traditional prosecutors are doing because I believe that's how you can help Wyandotte County. We need attorneys in there who are not just taking a caseload and they have 100 cases or 125 cases which is kind of about where they are and they're running back and forth to court and because they don't have enough time and are not being paid enough thus not willing to put more time in it, they are just kind of throwing cases and moving

on, throwing cases and moving on which does not make it safer for us. **Commissioner Johnson** said I think that the local District Attorney's Office is really the ground level for any community as it relates to administering justice. A lot of the things we see on television are played out at the local level so I do believe that we need to make sure that we have adequate resources to make sure that we're providing a community that is as safe as possible. I agree with Commissioner Walker's comments.

Commissioner Bynum said forgive me if you introduced the two gentlemen that came with you I missed it. If you didn't make sure you do that. I just wanted to make a couple of comments and questions. On your slide where you talk about your changes in 2017, could you just tell me open diversion to all, diversion in what kind of cases are you talking about? **Mr. Dupree** said thank you. I always receive wisdom at all times. I did not introduce my Chief Deputy Damon Mitchell who is immediately to my right and likewise the first ever Public Information Officer in the District Attorney's Office in Wyandotte County Jonathan Carter whom I stole from Channel 5. I likewise have my Manager of Office & Community Affairs Brandy Wells who is in the back. She is my budget person so just in case you ask a question I don't know she will pass me a little yellow note with the answer.

Concerning the diversion; so diversion being if you are out of trouble for six months to a year and most criminal cases it is a year and traffic cases it is six months and so with that it used to be that you could get a diversion for traffic cases that does not include speeding beyond a certain number. I think it was 15 or something as well as you could only get it one time period. Likewise in the Criminal Division it was if it was a level 8, 9 & 10 and it was a non-person. So in Kansas we have person, crimes as well as non-person crimes. Non-person crime being theft of your purse, theft of a car, things that does not involve a person; a person crime is I hit you in your face, I rob you with a gun, it involves a person and likewise you could not get a diversion if you were not a US citizen. What I did was I opened that up to all folks because hence meaning US citizens, non-citizens because we have them all in Wyandotte County. You can get a diversion in that regard. Secondly, I opened it up to levels 8, 9 & 10 person and non-person felonies. If it involves a person, why would you do that? Let's talk about what a person level 8 involves and I think I may have even went up to a 7. That includes say a battery. Someone hits you with their fist. If they hit you with their fist and there is no bruise, we consider that a

misdemeanor battery. If they hit you with their fist and they hit you a little hard and there is a bruise, it's a felony and it's a level 9. If they hit you and there is a bruise but it's black & blue rather than just black, now it's a level 7. The only difference is the amount of force that he hit you so for me a hit is a hit. He deserves the opportunity to see if he is going to get his act together or she because we've got some fighten women in our community as well so with that in mind I opened this up. The thought process, Commissioner, was the number one crime starter not just in our county but in our country is the lack of job opportunity and what we find is that there are very few jobs given to those who have felonies on their record in any place let alone here in Wyandotte County. I believe being prevention and prosecutorial is giving them the opportunity and preventing them from getting a felony on their record if they can show that they are going to take the classes that we tell them, that they are going to stay out of trouble, they are going to pay the fines and so on and so forth. That's what I mean we I say we opened it up.

Commissioner Bynum said can you go to your next slide too on the comparisons. On Johnson County when it says 18 is that attorneys, fulltime 18? **Mr. Dupree** said no, 18 are for the assistants but if you go over to the left they have 32 attorneys. **Commissioner Bynum** said then for Wyandotte it's 24. **Mr. Dupree** said its 26 now. Last year we were approved for one other attorney and I think that was a part of what you all afforded the previous administration and so that person started with my administration. We now have 25 and then including me 26. **Commissioner Bynum** said 61 employees, 25 which are attorneys, do I have that right? **Mr. Dupree** said yes, that is correct.

Commissioner Bynum said if you could just share with me and people that are watching the interface, if you will, of the DA's Office and the Unified Government and by that I mean do the folks that want to work in the DA's Office use the Unified Government HR system to apply and then how are those salaries determined? Are they determined by a classification scale that's across the board within the Unified Government or just help me understand that piece of how the DA works with the Unified Government? The reason I ask is because I think that your office is one of the unique pieces within our Unified Government that people need to understand. You're not a State employee, is that correct? **Mr. Dupree** said my employees are not but I am. **Commissioner Bynum** said you are but your employees are not. They are employees of the County and they participate in our benefit programs that are offered through our Unified Government. **Mr. Dupree** said yes. Mr. Mayor, I saw you give me the hand. Do

you want me to wait? **Mayor Holland** said no, I was going to ask Mr. Bach if he wanted to answer that because he has worked on this for a long time. **Commissioner Bynum** said that's fine. It's interesting because we have entities within our Unified Government that are doing the work of someone else. For example, motor vehicle. **Mr. Dupree** said I will tell you, and Mr. Bach please chime in here, we are considered as some would say statute order positions, statute order offices. We are not a moneymaking office. Our job is not to go out and find you some money. Our job is ordered by law to assist in making sure that our county stays safe and with that by those statutes then this Commission is ordered to make sure that we have the financial ability and capacity to do the job that is given to us which once unification came about which made that little complication of my statement even more complex going into—now there is no city and county, now we're all one. I will tell you that by statute we do not have to use the HR, we do not have to use any of your compensation standards, we don't have to use anything that you have there; however, what has been seen throughout the previous District Attorneys as well as myself having met with Mr. Bach and the HR Director Ms. Ramirez and their persuasive ability to let me know that it is in everyone's best interest to at least align ourselves and to do exactly what their HR does and says. So, with that, that is what we do and so our folks go through the HR, they fill out their applications through HR; they have to abide by all the same rules and regulations though they are, if you will, employees at will in my office. Because they are in my office they are still considered employees of the UG. Doug, please fill in where I missed. **Mr. Bach** said that accurately reflected it and I think it's one that not only from the HR perspective, he also uses our procurement system and that's really where we've worked on it. That way we're there for payroll as well as that. We've always operated if you're going to use it, you use it all the way and not partially and that's what the DA has elected to do. He has worked very well with us as we've come into it and just working through different steps in the procedures. His employees we advertise for them, handle the paperwork, put it and they come in and apply; we do the initial vetting and then pass them over to his office to go through and work from that standpoint.

Mayor Holland said we have a number of offices that are independently elected but we handle a lot of the personnel. The Sheriff is independently elected; we handle the personnel for the Sheriff's Office including the negotiations for the union. We have the Register of Deeds Office

and then the Courthouse which the salaries—many of at the Courthouse are set by the State, but their support staff are Unified Government employees. **Mr. Bach** said when you're thinking about District Court, they are State employees and they are set by that process and they are hired through that process so there is a difference with that group.

Commissioner Bynum said I'm just trying to point out there are functions by County government that are mandated by State law that County government funds but they are actually operating under a set of State Statutes like the Election Commissioner. That was really the only point I was trying to make. The slide before the very last slide where you talked about the potential of how to get the job done on what you need. Is there a dollar figure in mind total in terms of Amended 2017 and 2018? **Mr. Dupree** said I will tell you I couldn't get an exact number. As I was trying to really figure out the classification/compensation steps and ranges, but I will tell you ultimately it would move our budget from about a \$4.8M to somewhere about a \$6M with those increases, give or take a few. That is including doing it one-half in 2017 and the other half in 2018 and a continuation of those salaries and so I think that's where it would be and of course Doug is the numbers guy and I'm sure he can crunch those and tell me later on how far off I was with that, but ultimately that's what we're looking at.

Commissioner Townsend said first of all I wanted to thank Commissioner Walker for putting this on the agenda continuing to bring this issue up and it takes a while sometimes for you to hear something a second or third time. There is so much we all deal with throughout these budgets that everything doesn't sink in or it's not the priority for you in budget year last year or before it may be so this continues to be a very important issue. To DA Dupree I would say this presentation has been so cogent and direct in what our situation is in Wyandotte County compared to like counties. Maybe it's just now sinking in but the presentation certainly has gone a long way to help me better understand what it is you need and what it is you're looking for. I think it's very reasonable. I'm also appreciative of the approach that you're taking because aside from just what we would expect attorneys in your office to do, prosecute cases, after the crime has been committed or the allocation a crime has been committed but the point is you are unleashing an additional 61 well-gifted individuals into the community to be role models to help stem the tide of what may end up at your office. That alone I think is worthy of the additional value in the dollars you're seeking here. I appreciate that. I recall your presence on the scene

last year at one of the saddest weeks I've had as a commissioner, late August early September, last year when we had about four homicides within the space of about five or six days. What we are asking your staff to do and I couldn't do it, I knew coming out of law school this wasn't going to be calling in the legal field. You touched on it before, you can't unsee some of these scenes that your staff is asked to go out and assist our police in. This comparison shows that they don't have to do that. They could come across the street and do something certainly with a less heinous middle imprint so I think if there is any way that our Administrator and hopefully the rest of the commissioners will appreciate that it is time to do something to increase the money that we are paying the DA's and yourself in this department because it is bettering our situation. Hopefully your approach is going to stem the tide of what your office has to deal with, but in the meantime you're unleashing tremendous assets upfront.

Commissioner Walters said thank you Mr. Dupree; a very good presentation. I agree we have some work to do. My question I think really is more for Mr. Bach to understand what is in the budget that you proposed. I see that the 2017 Amended Budget has \$4.4M for personnel which is a \$344K increase over 2016 which is 8% so I hope some of the issues that District Attorney Dupree has raised might be able to be solved within your 2017 Amended Budget or if not, maybe you could explain what is in there. Similarly a smaller increase for the 2018 Budget of \$132K which I guess is the raise that you have said is in the budget for all employees perhaps, but maybe you could just explain a little bit about what is in the personnel costs that you're proposing for the DA's Office.

Mr. Dupree said if I may Commissioner as he prepares his answer for that; I will say that there was a request from my office to get some equipment. When I got into the office—many of you have seen the different pictures, we have a lot of files and files that goes 60 years back and we keep them right now in the old jail of the Courthouse on the fourth and fifth floors. I will just say it is not an appropriate place. If you want to know more, come visit my office. I got with the Administration and I got with the tech folks over here and after consulting with them the Administration did find some funds and put into our budget for next to begin to move those files and begin the process of putting them digital form so that we will not have to have our staff reaching above their head for 50 pd. boxes. The second thing was concerning going digital, they did find funds to assist our attorneys in potentially purchasing computers so that we can get

rid of paper altogether not just with our discovery. I will say that those things the Administration has been so ever kind to put into our budget so I wanted to acknowledge that.

Mr. Bach said there are a couple different things that go into the changes and the numbers and I will have our Budget Director go into those in a little more detail but there were some changes I believe when Mr. Dupree came in so we had to modify some of the personnel salaries to match where we were going with that. As you noted for 2018 that does account for the 2% increase that we're looking at across the organization as well as the 14% that we're looking at in additional healthcare cost for every employee in the organization. When it comes to 2017, Mr. Lindsey, our Budget Director; are you able to break that down a little bit more? **Reginald Lindsey, Budget Director**, said some of the changes that we have in the 2017 we did move some Operating costs up into Personnel and then also some of our cost didn't come in as we had planned in the Personnel budget, but we did as far as when Mr. Dupree came in as Doug said, we did move some funds from the Operating budget into the Personnel budget. The cost didn't end up being what we did so we were able to drill the cost down.

Commissioner Walters well okay, I don't understand that but I don't know where the Operating costs were in the 2016 Budget that are now in Personnel in 2017. I don't want to undermine what Mr. Dupree has presented. I do agree with the general presentation that we need to be competitive with salaries and I just could maybe follow-up after this meeting to understand a little bit more about the 8% increase in Personnel cost for 2017 Amended if it doesn't begin to address some of the things that were presented tonight.

Commissioner Kane said DA Dupree, what I really appreciate is the fact that you compared us to the other municipalities in the State of Kansas because that's where we all live and that's where people are going. You're right, they go to Topeka, they can go to Johnson County, and they can go anywhere they want. I agree with Hal that things need to be changed but to be honest what I thought was going to happen today was you and Doug were going to come in and say here's what we've got. I don't know why I thought that because when we were talking about that I thought you guys had something worked out where you would come in and say here's what we have. Now that we don't have that we need to do something, but I would like to see the two of you get together and come back and say here's what we've come up with and then Doug you can say it's going to take X amount of dollars and we can say yes or we can say no or we can say

half of that or a portion of this or whatever, but they need something. What that is, I don't know and I hope you two guys can tell us.

Commissioner McKiernan said Mr. Dupree thank you for the information and I do agree with what has been said here that I would like to see steps taken, but part of what I'm going to say stems back to Commissioner Markley advocated for and finally got in the fall of 2015 a Compensation & Classification Study of selected positions within our organization to other peer organizations. What I want, not to tonight but I want a follow-up on this, because at the time of that report in December of 2015 the report showed that we had 12 benchmark positions which were considered significantly misaligned with the market. Now ADA-I was one of those 12 positions that was significantly misaligned and it was behind the market. Ten of those 12 were behind the market, 2 of those 12 we were ahead of the market. What I would like to know is how we've used or how we've let this Comp & Classification Study shift and mold our decisions in—we've only had now this is our second succeeding budget since the time of that report but how this study and those misalignments are shaping our decision-making as it relates to changes not only within this department but within other departments where we are similarly misaligned with the market and potentially not recruiting the talent that we could otherwise recruit and not getting the benefits of that talent that we could otherwise get. **Mr. Bach** said the initial and I will say within the DA's Office with the changeover it's been a little mixed in how we handle it. Some of the initial things we did with the District Attorney was we created somewhat of a career ladder that could be in place because it was fairly flat before and so when someone got hired you didn't see the multiple steps that were easy to go through so we came with that. With Mr. Dupree coming on there was quite a turnover in the office staff so that resulted in some changes and I don't know that it was necessarily the people moved down, but we modified some people he brought in and hired some lower and worked with that. I do know that about that Compensation Plan that it noted we were low on that end and everything we look at. As we come back to those, we will go back and do additional research on specific classifications when we determine that's something we want to make an adjustment to. We spend a fair amount of time going through that because we try to address these in wholesale fashions and those are some of the steps we've taken. In a couple of the departments we've started to address and work through those. I think the opportunity with the DA Office is now

here with us. I think with him coming in with a relatively new staff in a lot of areas does warrant—you kind of want to get people onboard a year before you start bumping a lot of people up in wages so I appreciate the fact he comes in and ready to move everybody from that standpoint.

I just met earlier this week with one of my other departments about pay classification, differences between where we have employees in that group who are compressed, I will say, amongst about 20 different people in their group and looked at a lot of the different comparisons we have. Those are ones we will go through. We take that data, we compare what we had with the Compensation Program than I will go back and I have HR look at it, we factor where we're at and then we try to make decisions on how we can build that into our budget going forward. Last year with this we built in a little bit of money to handle some classification or compensation changes and then when that happens we just have—if somebody's salary went up 8% then we just have to build that in going forward in our future budget years. Over across all of employees a lot of times that just kind of mills in where it doesn't stick out so much. I think that's what we need to do with the attorney's office. He provided some good comparisons though I would say when we do comparisons we look beyond the State of Kansas. We look at comparable governments for where we have. Some don't naturally work with us as well. I mean because you can't look at the small rural counties in the State of Kansas to look where we're at. Johnson County and I appreciate the fact that he noted—every department always has Johnson County on the top of every list when I see the comparable, but they always recognize if I'm going to hit that mark it's always high and then of course he can only do the counties. I can have a department walk in with 23 different cities on that list and they are all in Johnson County and show how much more they are making. The reality is those are the folks we are competing with so I can't ignore those numbers because they are ones where we get to and we take that analysis and we try to figure out how many people we may be losing and that's kind of the turnover side of the equation but you also have to look over into Missouri and see what's going on in those areas as well.

To me I would like to take the opportunity to work this, go through it, this isn't something that I go back and crunch numbers, come back next Monday and say we've got to modify the budget. That's really not the way we should handle personnel and not the way we should raises or I'm going to have a request from 40 different departments to be sitting in that

chair next year as we go through the budget process and that would be a complete change from how this form of government works. I think that's where I would like to continue to do it. Take the time, it doesn't necessarily mean we will have an Amended 2017 to address his problem, but it is something we can work forward with in the coming years how to make those adjustments.

Commissioner McKiernan said I really appreciate that and I just want to say that I completely understand that there is a natural and a very strong tension between wanting to correct these misalignments. If we're behind the market that means ultimately we're going to spend more to align ourselves with the market and that is directly opposed to what we have all stated we want to do here which is to lower the mill rate and lower the tax dollars. We've got a natural tension between solving this problem and solving or attaining our goal in terms of our tax rate and I completely get that and so I appreciate the fact that you are not just going off and doing anything in some sort of a slapdash fashion.

Mr. Bach said as you know our largest cost center is Personnel so when we want to talk mill rate reduction and be sound about it and be year over year in where we are we have to talk where I am with Personnel.

Mr. Dupree said, Mayor, can I correct something I said earlier. **Mayor Holland** said yes. **Mr. Dupree** said I don't know your protocol so that's why I asked to speak. I said it would be an increase for about \$1M. The young lady back in the yellow has corrected me. It is in fact \$300K so significantly less than what I said, \$300K increase and within a year an entire budget year that is minus the benefits that would also have to be included on top of that. We're looking at \$300K in costs plus benefits whatever that range is what we're looking at. When we're all done I hope I have an opportunity to speak again. **Mayor Holland** said I will give you an opportunity for a summative comment.

Commissioner Walker said you know I'm probably going to overreact so if I do I will apologize to begin with. When we do these budgets thus far this year and I point back to other years, there is that old saying about a lot more gets said than done; well that's definitely what we do. We talk—everybody agrees and now we don't want to jump in to anything. I think it's been clear unless I've misunderstood the commissioners that spoke that we all agree that something needs to be done. When I was here I don't know how many Comp & Class Studies we had over the 32 years, but I will guarantee you that not one of those Comp & Class Studies was ever fully

implemented and I don't believe the last one was fully implemented either because we never intended from the very beginning, we being our predecessors, to take the money to fund it in the way that it needed to be funded. Our salaries have lagged behind comparable cities for the most part unless you're very good at selecting the correct cities that you know in advance and those are going to turnout lower so it doesn't look like you're so bad. We're not competing against some rural location. We're not really probably even competing against Sedgwick County to be honest with you. We're competing right here in the metropolitan area and we are arguing about what is obvious, that our District Attorneys are not staying historically. He said 10 and I forget which period of time he alluded to, but I will tell you over the years they have deserted in droves and we've hired new people, they stay a few years, and they move on. Unlike my office, Ken's office we've had a lot of people that never left. The pay raises were reasonably good, the pay was comparable, the benefits; you know if we leave this again with this sort of general hee haw direction of well Doug will get with the District Attorney and they will try to figure something out over the next God knows how many months, nothing will get done and it will be here again next year. Are we the commissioners in charge of this budget or is it Administration?

I guess I've come to the point where if we don't do any damn thing on this, we don't reduce budget, we don't want to reduce taxes; we just might as well not even have these ridiculous workshops and just tell him to draw up a budget and we will just rubberstamp it. Whose budget is it anyway? It's our budget. It's our primary duty under the Charter. It is not the Mayor. He's got all the power in a lot of ways, it's not the Administrator; it's our budget. If you just want to be a rubberstamp for what they put out there and do that, then that's fine. I brought up about reducing taxes. You all know the people out there, out in the community, wants that mill levy reduced; nobody wants to do that right now and so far we haven't made one cut that I'm aware of in the budget. Right now we're sitting here and we know we've got a problem and we're going to kind of say let's let Doug and him get together and talk it over and end up we're not going to do anything. I don't want to do that. Why even come to these meetings except the final one if we're not going to make any changes, if we're not going to put our imprint of what we want in this budget to be there. I just feel that way and it's very clear, he has made very persuasive case and the previous District Attorney made a persuasive case too and nothing changed did it? As far as I'm concerned our decision tonight should be direct Mr. Bach to meet with the District Attorney, make a substantial movement towards accomplishing the

objectives that we all so far have agreed with and to bring it back for the 2017 Budget. Whether we've got 2017 Amended or 2018 I want to see a decision made and if that's not the wish of the commissioners, then I've done all I can do. If we're not going to cut the budget or work on the budget, why should I come to anymore of these meetings? Why should you come? It's already cut in wool and now we will just show up on July 27th and adopt it and go home and be proud of ourselves.

Commissioner Philbrook said let me ask you a question. She corrected you; the lady in yellow corrected you, and said it was going to be around \$330K. Is that per year increase for the next four years? Am I correct on that? **Brandy Wells, Manager of Office & Community Affairs in the DA Office**, was speaking but was inaudible due to not being at a mic. **Mr. Dupree** said let me repeat that for the microphone. Ms. Wells, my Office Manager, said yes and it's \$300K, not \$330K. **Commissioner Philbrook** said I just wanted to make sure I understood that it was an additive thing. It's not just \$330K or \$300K, you keep adding it on. **Mr. Dupree** said add it to the budget every year. **Commissioner Philbrook** said eventually then it's \$1.2 over four years. **Mr. Dupree** said eventually. **Commissioner Philbrook** said I just wanted to make sure that was extremely clear because sometimes when we talk about adding stuff to the budget it's like a one-time thing or then we just keep adding or we don't so I just wanted to make that clear.

Yes, I do agree that we need to come in line in your area and I know we need to come in line in a lot of our areas although I'm not sure how the heck we're going to cut our budget but increase our budget at the same time. Where are we going to take it from to move it to, I sure don't know and I'm definitely open for suggestions because I would like this money to fall out of the sky so you could have it all at once, but I don't know where that would come from unless the Kauffman Foundation would like to send us 1.2 mill. We are going to have to go back to the table to figure out a plan to actually put it into action. I don't know how the rest of the commissioners feel about wanting us to create a plan to put this into action to happen over the next four years, I have no idea. I do know how this commissioner feels but that to me would make sense but I just don't know how we're going to do it.

Mayor Holland said I will say I have heard a consensus around this table that there is a desire to move forward with a plan and I think there is legitimacy in saying we want it to start whether it's

'17 or '18, we want to start sooner than later. We're not looking for a 2019 plan to start, but \$300K with benefits we're looking at closer to \$390K. The other thing that I'm conscious of is I don't then want to flip the script and have our city legal team on the other side. If we're going to address attorneys in the organization, we're going to need to look at both sides of that because I don't want to solve one problem and create another one. I do hear a consensus, unless I've missed it, that there is a desire to start moving in the right direction with the salary study, with the recommendations that have been brought today and then I think we can ask Mr. Bach to look through it and bring us on Monday a preliminary recommendation. I think that's something we can do and then we need to see our appetite for what change he recommends because it's going to have to come from somewhere. I think that's the next step and that's the consensus that I've heard from this group unless I've misheard it. I haven't heard someone say I want all \$390K in Amended '17, but I didn't hear the DA say that either. I think what we need to do is we have preliminary number and obviously we're going to have to crunch that down, we're going to have to get our Budget Office involved and look at what that's going to mean and run the numbers. Then Mr. Bach will have to come back with whether it's a one year, two year, three year, or four year plan to get us to where we think we need to be. It would not be unlike us to do a multi-year plan to try to get where we're going. It just depends on how big a bite we want to take.

I do hear a consensus to make some movement now. I have not heard anyone say we want to sit out on this.

Commissioner Murguia said I just want to say I want to reduce taxes also Commissioner Walker and I want to give our District Attorney what they need to do their job and every community survey that we've ever taken the community has said that they wanted more Public Safety. I would include the District Attorney Office in Public Safety because without you we can't prosecute the cases that our police officers bring to you and we need to do that in a quality way. We can't do that in a quality way if you don't have the money to do that. I like you, District Attorney Dupree, like to come to the table with a solution. I think all the commissioners, at least what I've heard, want to see you get the money that you need and want to see the mill rate go down, but the reality of that is that in order to do that we have to take money from somewhere else and I'm not opposed to doing that. I think where the frustration comes from with what Commissioner Walker is talking about comes from the way that we get to a balanced

budget. Like I said, we have to take money from somewhere else in order to give you the money that you need to do your job.

A few years ago I had asked for a list of all the services that the Unified Government provides that are mandated by legal statute. I had suggested at that time that our government try to focus on those things that were mandated to fund, fund them well, and do them well because I believe that's what our job is. Unfortunately over the years many years prior to any of us sitting up here along the way other politicians had chosen to add to that list and fund programs or special interest projects. Somehow that became almost an Entitlement Fund where now those organizations or those groups expect that funding every single year. They were not onetime or two-time or three-time capacity building funds. They ended up being forever and ever and now we're in a situation where for decades we have given out money to organizations and groups that expect that money on a regular annual basis.

I'll say again as a reminder what I said when our first Budget Workshop started, we want a safe and quality Wyandotte County across the board east to west, north to south and I think we all agree on that. We have also agreed on the way to lower our mill levy in one strategy to get you what you need and get others what they need is to grow our community and really that is the long-term goal and I think we're all in agreement with that. Where it becomes difficult is while we're growing our community is what do we do in the interim with the funding that we have which obviously I think has been clear we don't have enough of. I will say again what I suggested before is that we fund what we're required to fund by State Statute, be very focused and vigilant about that and not that that will give us tons of extra money either but I think it's a good start in the right direction. I don't see any other solution and some might say we've talked about these smaller programs before or these smaller amounts of money that we give out and we've said—every time one comes up to be cut there is a single or a couple or three or four commissioners that step-up and say they don't want that to happen. Well, just a little bit of research I have done, those small \$50K, \$100K programs are nickel and diming us to death and if we add all of those up there are some things that we could fund.

Again, I will just remind everyone, I'm like you District Attorney Dupree, I mean if there is a problem I like to approach it was a solution. What I'm proposing may not be very politically popular but I think it's a very practical solution and I think it would also eliminate our community's expectation that our government has to be everything to everybody. We can't do

that. We can't do that and move all of Wyandotte County forward so right now we don't have as much money as we would like to have so if we do what we do really well and in the interim work together to grow all of Wyandotte County to increase property values all across Wyandotte County not in just very small areas of our county, I think that eventually as the funding increases we can make stronger commitments to those departments that we are required to fund and maybe then consider capacity building financial opportunities for special interest and other organizations.

Commissioner Kane said, Mr. Walker, I think you're going to miss us and I'm glad you got fired up and you did and I kill it the first time no doubt about it, but when they come up and they explain they need this, this and that and I didn't mean Doug and him go off and not come back in a month and a half. This is something that's important to all of us. We've said it. It's time that we give them the assignment to go fix it, but I wasn't talking about dragging their feet. You're right, I don't want to rubberstamp anything and in fact if you remember I'm the one that has voted no by myself before because I felt that was the best thing. What you said tonight you felt that's the best thing. Doug, I think you've got your assignment and I think the commissioners all agree with that and I think you guys should get to it.

Mr. Dupree said I will conclude with this; I appreciate all the work that you fine commissioners do. I appreciate the work that Mr. Bach and all of his wonderful administration does but I truly appreciate the work that every last one of the 61 employees in my office does on a daily basis and they come to work and they work and give everything they have making less than everybody they know and they still come to work. I want to be clear that I understand that we are not Johnson County and that we are not as large as Sedgwick County and so there are some people as Mr. Walker said I will not be able to keep, but there are those like a young lady who I took out of a very small western county who came here to make less than what she was making and she just won a trial today of two boys who were molested and raped by their uncle multiple times. Her counterparts in four of these counties make a minimal of \$15K more than what she makes, but she comes in and she fights like a beast because she has a desire, a desire to bring justice for every victim in this county. I do not want it to be said or thought that I have a grudge against the Fire Department, Police Department or even Ken Moore and his office. The reasons why I

brought these numbers up is because I know I can't compete with Johnson County, but when you have the Unified Government and we are unified in one, but when my main competition is across the street it makes my attorneys think twice. Luckily, you're right, when they get over there they are making good money and they're not going to leave so I'm not asking that you compare us to folks that are not in our county. I'm asking that you give the folks in my office what is the market value of their talent, of their skills and of what we as a county are already paying for an office that is working hard in the Civil Department.

I will conclude with this and I will meet with Doug with whatever thing we need to do as soon as we need to do it and hopefully come back quickly, but we all say that the District Attorney's Office is Public Safety, and again, I say my budget is not Public Safety budget. Public Safety, they're getting \$53M. Public Safety they're getting \$54M. Sixty percent of our total County budget goes to Public Safety but the DA's Office is over in Justice and I've got to fight for \$1.2M so if it is \$1.2M I'm not asking for \$53M so how to do we resolve this? I would say that you keep me in Justice but then you supplement that \$1.2 and you find out of one them and you find me \$1.2M from the Public Safety so that way when I come here I can say not only are we Justice, but we are a part of Public Safety because every last one of my attorneys feel that we are and every police officer and Fire Department that we fight neck to neck with and hope we can get a conclusion, the right conclusion to make sure that boy, that child and that person is not violated again. They consider us Public Safety. We need law enforcement and law enforcement needs us so how do we find the funds? You treat us as Unified Government and as Public Safety.

Mayor Holland said thank you all very much for coming and for the presentation. We appreciate it and we do have another presentation now on probably one of the more complicated puzzles that Wyandotte County has woven and is how we handle libraries in Wyandotte County. As we switch out for the presentation I do want to note that it's 7:30 p.m. We're going to take a twelve minute break and then we will come back at 7:45 p.m.

LIBRARY MILL RATE



Mayor Holland said we are going to hear about the Library Mill Rate. There was a question raised about the approval by this body of the Library Mill Rate. It turns out the library is a very long and very interesting saga that has a 130 year history. I say this because I aspire to have a ten minute presentation because the answer is there is not much we can do about it in this budget. If we want to learn and dive more deeply into library issues for our own edification we can come back at a Special Session after the budget. Let's click through quickly the overview and then we will—I just want to say whoever tore that building down is not my friend.

KCK Public Library History

The first library was established by the City federation of Women's Clubs of Kansas City, Kansas, and was opened May 1892.

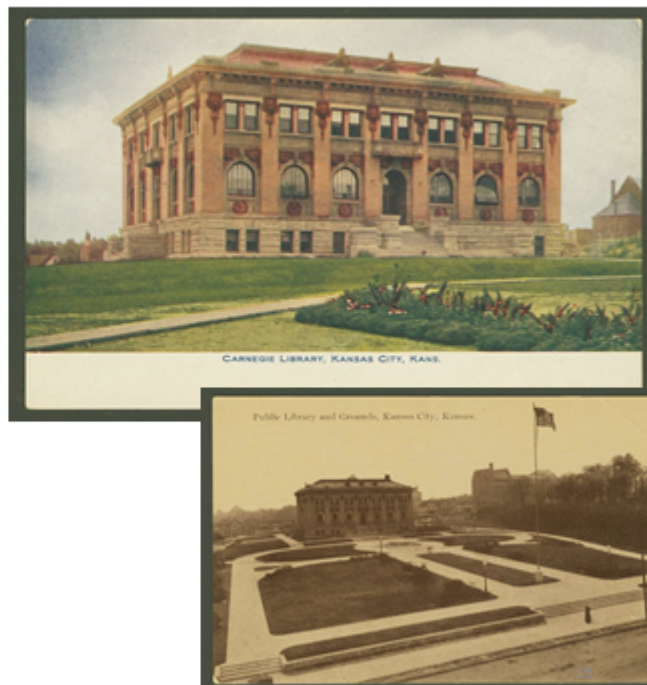
In 1893 a special act of the Kansas Legislature gave the Board of Education of Kansas City authority to levy a 1/2 mill tax for library purposes. *In January 1899 the KCK Board of Education accepted the responsibility of library administration for the city.*

On July 4, 1901 a \$100,000 Carnegie Foundation grant for a building was made. The designer of the new Carnegie Library was William W. Rose, official architect for the Board of Education. The cornerstone of the building at Minnesota and 6th streets was laid on September 6, 1902, with 3,000 in attendance.

When the new Carnegie Library opened in 1904 it had 5,500 books on its shelves with a total circulation in its first year of operation of 60,000. In addition to the library, the building housed the KCK Board of Education offices.

Historical Reference at: <http://www.kckps.org/district/history/classicbuildings/carnegiepublic.html>

Photo at: <http://www.kansasmemory.org/item/305949>



Ms. VonAchen, Chief Financial Officer, said this was one of the first libraries built in Wyandotte County. It was built with a Carnegie Grant of \$100K in 1901 and it was on 6th & Minnesota and a beautiful library. It was torn down, actually Ken and I were looking it up, in 1965. The key thing on this slide I want to point out is the governance of the library system in our county began back in January of 1899 when the Kansas City, Kansas Board of Education accepted the responsibility of library administration so that's where it all started. I am going to try to go through rather quickly.

Wyandotte County's Library District History

go to: [KCKPL Library Board Website](#)

The Chair of the Wyandotte County Library Board is appointed by the Mayor of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas. The remaining district board members are appointed by each commissioner representing their respective districts. [more detail in a later slide]

- 1. Wyandotte County has two library systems which are operated by:
 - the Kansas City Kansas Public Library (KCKPL)
 - the Bonner Springs City Library (BSCL)
- 2. The original Wyandotte County Library District was created by the County Commission in 1965 under the authority of State statute to provide library service for areas of the County not already served by a library system. Their respective populations are:
 - Piper (11,000)
 - Most but not all of Edwardsville (4,200)
 - Turner (19,600)
 - A small part of KCK (600)
 - Part of Delaware Township (50)
 - The part of Lake Quivira in Wyandotte County (50)



Main Library
625 Minnesota Avenue, KCK



West Wyandotte Library
1737 N. 82nd Street, KCK

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I did want to point out that we have a variety of libraries which I've shown pictures here. This is the Main Library at 625 Minnesota and we have West Wyandotte County Library but generally there are two libraries system in our county. The first one is called the Kansas City, Kansas Public Library and the second is the Bonner Springs City Library. The original Wyandotte County Library District was created by the County Commissioner in 1965 with the authority of State Statute to provide library services in the areas. It's not served by the library system already in place which was in the USD 500 School District and so those were those respective surrounding populations based on the US Census in 2010.

County's Library District History (continued)

- 3. The County Library District is governed by the County Library (District) Board. Prior to 1999 the Board consisted of five members appointed by the County Commission.
- 4. The County Library (District) Board has the authority to set the County District Library Tax Levy. With that money this Board could either establish or operate a library or it could contract with another library (or library system) to provide library services to the residents of the County Library District.
- 5. Between 1966 and 1999 the County Library District Board contracted with USD #500 for KCKPL to provide library services to the residents of the Library District in exchange for payment to USD #500 of all the proceeds from the County District Library Tax Levy.

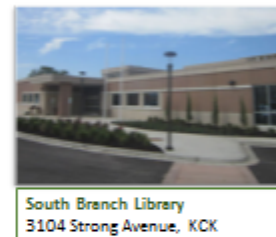


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The library district is governed by a Board and prior to 1999 the Board had five members on it appointed by the County Commission. As well it has the authority, the Library District Board, has the authority to set the County District Library Tax Levy and with that money the Board can either establish or operate a library or it could contract with another library system to provide services to the residents. Between 1966 and 1999 this Library District Board contracted with USD 500.

County's Library District History (continued)

- 6. In October 1997, after a vote of the people, the City of KCK and Wyandotte County governments consolidated into the Unified Government. In Spring of 1998 the Unified Government Board of Commissioners created the Public Library Task Force to make recommendations how library services and taxation within Wyandotte County should be structured, particularly the Wyandotte County Library Board.
- 7. In May 1999 the Task Force submitted its report and recommendations to the Unified Government Board of Commissioners. One finding of the Task Force's findings was that funding of library services was inequitable. In 1999 the mill levies for the three taxing entities were:
 - USD 500 - 6.556 mills
 - BSCL - 3.77 mills
 - County Library District - 2.344 mills
- 8. The Task Force made four recommendations to the UG Board of Commissioners:
 - Restructure the County Library District Board
 - Charge the County Library District Board to work closely with USD #500 and Bonner Springs to promote joint county-wide library planning
 - Charge the County Library District Board with the responsibility to develop and promote new interlocal agreements
 - Raise the County Library District Tax Levy from 2.344 to 3.380 mills



South Branch Library
3104 Strong Avenue, KCK



Turner Community Library
831 S. 55th Street, KCK 18

In 1997 a Task Force was formed and in 1998 the Task Force came down with a variety of recommendations. One of the recommendations was that they felt the library funding was inequitable so here is a listing of the mills at that time. You must remember that these are not the same level of mills as they are that you are used to seeing for countywide because they only are using the assessed value of the respective smaller areas. I will show you that later on. One of the key items of the Task Force aside from wanting to more equitably distribute the mills amongst the various areas of the county was that the County Library Board would have the responsibility to develop and promote through a new interlocal agreement and establish that.

County's Library District History (continued)

- 9. In August of 1999 the Unified Government Board of Commissioners reconstituted the County Library District Board making it an 11-member board. *[Method of appointment on the next slide.]*
- 10. Beginning with the 2000 budget the County Library District Tax Mill Levy was raised to 3.380 mills where it remained through the 2006 budget year. Since 2007 this mill rate has increased (to be shown on a future slide).
- 11. The Public Library Task Force had recommended that, based on circulation figures of the two library systems for years 2000-2003, one-third of the "Edwardsville mill-equivalent" should go to the Bonner Springs Library system and two-thirds to the KCK Library system. That was done.
- 12. The County Library District Board, the two library systems, and the Unified Government Board of Commissioners entered into an Interlocal Agreement for 2003 and future years until modified or terminated.
- 13. Pursuant to the Interlocal Agreement and State statute, the Unified Government collects the taxes produced by the County Library District tax levy and deposits the taxes in a separate County Library District Fund.
- 14. The Interlocal Agreement states that the Unified Government Director of Revenue will distribute the funds collected into the County Library District Fund "according to the allocation formula contained in the current budget approved by the Wyandotte County Library (District) Board."
- 15. Taxes are collected on various categories of property:
 - Real estate
 - Personal property (intangible)
 - Personal property (motor vehicles)
 - Industrial revenue bonds payments in lieu of taxes (PILOTs)



In 1999 the Task Force recommendations were accepted and as a result the Board was sort of reconstituted to be an 11 member board rather than the five that were there previously. We're going to talk about how the board members are appointed in a moment in a slide that I have coming up. Back in 2000 they fixed the whole kind of inequitable mill levy level and so they set it so that the Library District Tax Mill Levy in the year 2000 was established at 3.38 mills and that is where it remained until 2007 which is what you will see in another slide. I will show you the history of the mill levy rates of not only the library district but also USD's dedicated library mill rate as well. As a result basically what we have now, a key point, so what we have now in place is an interlocal agreement pursuant to the Interlocal Agreement and State Statute that the Unified Government collects the taxes produced by the Library Board Tax Levy and deposits the taxes in a separate Library District Fund. This agreement states that the Unified Government Director of Revenue who is my Treasury Manager distributes the funds collected by the Library District according to the allocation formula contained in the current budget approved by the Library District Board. As I pointed out at the beginning they have the authority to establish this mill rate and then this is the procedure for collecting the funds.

Wyandotte County Public Library System

Wyandotte County Library (District) Board

Wyandotte County Library (District) Board provides services to residents in Wyandotte County who reside within the county but outside of the USD #500 school district and the City of Bonner Springs Library District. This area includes most of the City of Edwardsville and the school districts of Piper and Turner. This County Library (District) board consists of 11 members that are appointed by the Unified Government of Wyandotte County Commissioners.

The County Library (District) Board has the authority to set the County Library District Tax Levy.

Kansas City, Kansas Public Library System

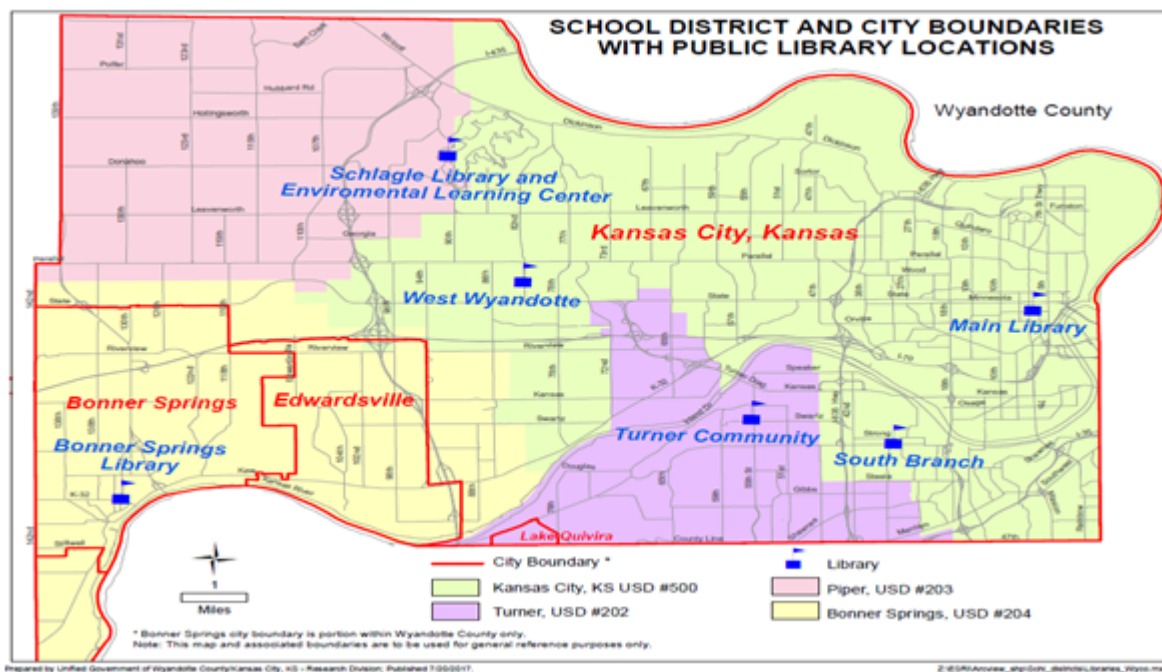
The Kansas City, Kansas Public Library system operates within the boundaries of the USD #500 school district and is governed by the seven-member school board who also governs the school district. USD #500 has its own mill rate for the operation of the library and they receive funding from the Wyandotte County Library District. KCKPL also operates and manages the Wyandotte County Library District.

City of Bonner Springs Library District

City of Bonner Springs Library District system operates within the boundaries of the City of Bonner Springs and while there is a Library Board, it is governed by the City Council, has its own city mill rate, and is partially funded from the Wyandotte County Library (District) Board to provide services to residents.

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Overall as I mentioned before there are two library systems. You have the Wyandotte County Library District Board which provides services to residents in Wyandotte County who reside outside—within the County but outside the USD 500 School District and Bonner Springs. This area includes most of the city of Edwardsville. It also includes the school districts in Piper and Turner and the Library District Board consists of 11 members appointed by the commissioners. The Library District Board has the authority to set the Library District Tax Levy. This part is in effect part of the Kansas City, Kansas Public Library System so the Kansas City, Kansas Public Library System operates within the boundaries of the USD 500 School District. It's governed by a seven board member who governs the school district as well. USD 500 has its own mill rate for the operation of their libraries and they receive funding from our district library. So combined the KCK Public Libraries also operates and manages the County Library District. Lastly, the city of Bonner Springs has their own library district. The system operates within the boundaries of the city of Bonner Springs and while there is a library board it is governed by the City Council and has its own city mill rate and is partially funded from the Wyandotte County Library District Board to provide services to residents there.



Here's the map. The various colors demonstrate where the school districts are within Wyandotte County. You've seen this before. As you can see the yellow or sort of a greenish yellow on the east side of the County is the Kansas City, Kansas Unified School District 500 whereas the yellow over there on the west is Bonner Springs School District, you have Turner down here in the south and then up there you have Piper. What we have here in blue are the locations of the various libraries as they are distributed amongst the various areas of the county.

Appointments to the County Library District Board

[UG Charter Resolution CR-01-99]

Section 3. Nomination, appointment, residence, and term of office. That the Wyandotte County Library Board shall hereafter consist of 11 board members occupying positions to be numbered one through 11 to be appointed as follows: to be nominated by the commission member indicated in the following table and to be appointed as set out in section 2-1002 of the Code of Ordinances. Members appointed to the library shall serve for the term indicated in the table and shall be residents of the geographic area indicated at the time of their appointment.

Board Position No.	Term	Nominated By Commission Member	Resident In
1	Ending August 31, 2003	Mayor	Edwardsville
2	Ending August 31, 2003	First District At-Large	USD 203
3	Ending August 31, 2003	Second District At-Large	USD 202
4	Ending August 31, 2002	First District	USD 500
5	Ending August 31, 2002	Second District	USD 500
6	Ending August 31, 2002	Third District	USD 500
7	Ending August 31, 2002	Fourth District	USD 500
8	Ending August 31, 2001	Fifth District	USD 203
9	Ending August 31, 2001	Sixth District	USD 202
10	Ending August 31, 2001	Seventh District	Bonner Springs
11	Ending August 31, 2001	Eighth District	Edwardsville

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In order to represent all these areas back in 1999 the County Commission adopted this Charter Resolution which established how the Library District Board was appointed and so each of you has a library district representative whom you've appointed. That's how it was set up in 1999 after consolidation.

Kansas City, Kansas Public Libraries - Property Tax Funding Summary

	AV for 2017 Budget	AV for 2018 Budget	Mill Levy	2017 Property Tax Revenue	2018 Property Tax Revenue	% of Total
UG County Library District	407,188,458	431,388,763	6.059	\$2,343,797	\$2,482,980	25%
USD #500 Library District	709,005,523	710,279,940	10.985	\$7,399,004	\$7,412,304	75%
Totals:	\$1,116,193,979	\$1,141,648,703	17.044	\$9,742,801	\$9,895,284	100%

City of Bonner Springs Library - Property Tax Funding Summary

	AV for 2017 Budget	AV for 2018 Budget	Mill Levy	2017 Property Tax Revenue	2018 Property Tax Revenue
City of Bonner Springs Library	\$65,338,084	\$66,063,337	5.190	\$322,149	\$325,725

Bonner Springs Funding Note: Also estimated in their 2017 Budget is an additional \$183,260 in County District tax revenue (from the amount above) to support library operations. Bonner Springs also had a 1/4 cent sales tax to support library capital needs which expired in December 2016. In April 2016 Bonner Springs voters approved renewal of the 1/4 cent sales tax for City general operating purposes.

Revenue Estimate Assumptions:

Assumes property tax mill levies remain the same as authorized as authorized for the 2017 Budget.

Assessed value for 2017 Budget based on October 2016 valuation update.

Property tax revenue figures do not include motor vehicle registration taxes, delinquent taxes and IRB taxes abatement payments.

Property tax revenue estimates include a 5% delinquency factor for comparative purposes.

* Turner School District also contributes funds for library services, although not through a dedicated mill levy.

* UG County Library total revenues total \$2.82 million. Other sources of \$337,000 from the districts portion of motor vehicle registration taxes, delinquent taxes, IRB taxes abatement payments and interest earnings.

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I'm going to show you a little about the funding mix. Most of the funding for libraries come from the property tax, not all of it, but most of it so we're going to focus just on that property tax. As you can see the top part is the Kansas City, Kansas Public Library System Property Tax Funding summary and I provided a couple of years so you can see. The UG County Library District assessed value is about \$431M. You realize that's the lower part of the county. It does not include all of Kansas City, Kansas. Then the USD Library is \$710M so quite a bit bigger and then the mill levy distribution as you can see is 6 mills for the Library District and then 10.9 or almost 11 mills dedicated for libraries in the Kansas City, Kansas School District. If you do the math, over here on 2018 property tax revenue you will see that the library districts 6 mills generates roughly \$2.5M a year and the USD 500 Library District of almost 11 mills generates \$7.5M. The difference between—basically they've got a 25/75 split for the funding of the library systems and it goes in line with sort of the utilization of the libraries in the respective areas.

In addition the city of Bonner Springs, a separate library system, has their own mill rate and I thought I would just provide that so their 5 mills generates about \$325K, not a whole lot but some to help them operate their system. That's actually set by the City of Bonner Springs City Council. Additionally, Bonner Springs does get a little bit of funding from the Kansas City,

Kansas Library District and I have that noted here. They get about \$183K toward the operation of their city library and I imagine that's because in order to supplement their revenue stream for those residents outside of the KCK USD 500 that probably helped them as well.

Commissioner Murguia asked Bonner Springs has how many libraries. **Ms. VonAchen** said they just have one. **Commissioner Murguia** said and they operate that library on a budget of \$322K a year. **Ms. VonAchen** said no, they also have other revenue sources. The City of Bonner Springs Library has other revenue sources. They have a sales tax that supported Capital and some Operating. There are some other revenue sources. I'm only showing the property tax mill here. **Commissioner Murguia** asked do you know what their total annual budget is for their one library. **Ms. VonAchen** said I don't remember offhand but I did look it up but I just don't remember offhand.

County Library District & USD #500 Library Mill Levy Comparison 2006 - 2017								
Tax Rate Year	County Library				USD 500 Library			
	County Library Mills	Net Chg. Prior Year	Pct. Chg. Prior Year	% Change (2007-2017)	USD 500 Library Mills	Net Chg. Prior Year	Pct. Chg. Prior Year	% Change (2007-2017)
2006	3.380	—	—	—	7.728	—	—	—
2007	4.130	0.75	22.2%	—	7.738	0.01	0.1%	—
2008	4.130	0	0.0%	—	7.730	-0.008	-0.1%	—
2009	4.130	0	0.0%	—	7.730	0	0.0%	—
2010	5.030	0.9	21.8%	—	7.954	0.224	2.9%	—
2011	5.030	0	0.0%	—	7.980	0.028	0.3%	—
2012	5.030	0	0.0%	—	7.980	0	0.0%	—
2013	5.578	0.548	10.9%	—	8.922	0.942	11.8%	—
2014	5.583	0.005	0.1%	—	8.911	-0.011	-0.1%	—
2015	6.059	0.476	8.5%	—	10.985	2.074	23.3%	—
2016	6.059	0	0.0%	—	10.985	0	0.0%	—
2017	6.059	0	0.0%	46.7%	10.985	0	0.0%	42.0%

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Here's the history of the mill rates between the two respective districts or taxing entities. We have the County Library Mill Rate starting from 2006 going back that's that 3.38 mills that was adopted when consolidation occurred. Now it has gone up a little bit over the years. You can see the amount of change. Over here on this side is the USD 500 Library. It started out at 7.7

July 20, 2017

and it's now 10.9. This big jump here there was a mill rate increase in order to dedicate more funding for Capital. Generally speaking the mills have increased fairly consistently between the two taxing entities.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Wyandotte County Resolutions

No 678, adopted September 28, 1964 directed an election to determine whether "a free public library in Wyandotte County" should be established.

**The election was held November 3, 1964 and the proposition passed 7386 - 3226

No 730, adopted June 28, 1965 established the library, set the mill levy, and appointed the original Board.

K.S.A. 12-1220

"If a majority of the votes cast at such election on such proposition shall be in the affirmative, the governing body shall forthwith establish such library and is hereby authorized to and **shall annually levy a tax** for the maintenance of such library in such sum as the library board shall determine within the limitations fixed by law..."

"Such tax shall be levied and collected in like manner as other taxes of the municipality and... shall be kept in a separate fund to be known as the library fund of such municipality."

Attorney General's Opinion No. 2006-4

"Thus, a board of county commissioners is authorized to establish a county library, **but it is the library board - not the board of county commissioners - that establishes the amount of the tax levy** needed to maintain the library. The only limitation on a library board is that the tax be "within the limitations fixed by law".

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The very last slide is one that I'm going to leave to our Chief Legal Counsel.

Ken Moore, Chief Legal Counsel, said this is probably just a very short summary of the framework which kind of gives the Commission position perspective is that back in 1965 the State adopted a statute that says a municipality could establish a Library District. The Statute defines a municipality as a School District, a City or a Township so any of those organizations or any of these could form a library district. We had an election in 1964 and the citizens overwhelmingly approved having a free library system in Wyandotte County. The Wyandotte County Library District was formed after that election in 1965. What we have is we kind of have three municipalities in Wyandotte County that runs a library system. One is the City of Bonner Springs. USD 500 has a library system and then the Wyandotte County Library Board runs the library system or at least finances the library system for the rest of the county and that's—kind of called the PET District; Piper, Edwardsville and Turner. The Wyandotte County Mill Levy is

just assessed against those areas but we do not ourselves operate the library system. We essentially contract with USD 500 to perform that service for us and then we give some money to the Bonner Springs library to operate their library. The statute and this is a 1965 statute says that the library boards sets the mill levy and we adopt that as part of our budget and collection, but then it's put into a Municipal Library Fund which is then turned over to the Library Board and the Library District to operate the system. It does make very clear that the Commission doesn't have a role in setting that as long as it's within the limits allowed by law. The Attorney General's opinion, there are a couple of them, I quoted the one that's probably most on point is it's the Library Board, not the Board of County Commissioners that establishes the amount of the tax levy to maintain the library system.

Mayor Holland said that was pretty quick so thank you. Any questions or comments from the Commission in terms—it is legitimate and complicated. I do want to recognize Senator Pat Pettey here tonight who is the President of the Wyandotte County Library Board and Chuck Stites who is the Vice-Chair and is a Councilmember in Edwardsville City Council. Thank you for being here and for your leadership on this.

Commissioner Walters said this is all very interesting and it appears to me that the Commission has had a lot of influence in this over the years but really not a whole lot has been done in the last 20 years. I see that a lot of this started in 1965 and you think about the County in 1965 half of it was unincorporated and the one thing that was a little startling to me was Edwardsville seems to be under discussion quite a bit. I see in one of your notes at some point someone decided that one-third of the revenue from Edwardsville would go to Bonner Springs and two-thirds should go to Kansas City. In my observation as Edwardsville being part of the Bonner Springs School District really relates to the Bonner Springs library far more than they relate to any Kansas City, Kansas library. I know we can't do anything about the mill levy, but if there is a parking lot of topics to think about at some point in the future since it's been 20 years since this evidently has been evaluated you know things do change, populations do shift and it wouldn't be a bad idea I think at some point to have somebody look and just refresh our understanding of these areas, boundaries and the various ways that people utilize these services to make sure we're doing the best job we can.

Commissioner Kane said maybe it's time to look for a library out in Piper. We have one at the lake but not in Piper.

Mayor Holland said I do want to ask, Senator Pettey if you would like to come to the table and make a comment, you're welcome to do that at this time.

Senator Pat Pettey said I appreciate the opportunity to be on the Library Board. I would say that Commissioner Walters comments are probably a good idea because actually there was a study done in 1999 about services and that was part of the decision process by that 16 member board. Commissioner Walker would be very familiar about that. He was involved with that as well, the Task Force, in looking at how the libraries were being used and who was using them because prior to that the Interlocal Agreement was with Kansas City, Kansas libraries not with Bonner and so that's when Bonner began receiving a portion of funding from the Wyandotte County Library Board because of the way that citizens who lived in Wyandotte County were using the libraries. The money from the Wyandotte County Library Board is not distributed by population so if that was the case if you look at the numbers about two-thirds lives in Turner so two-thirds of the money would be going to Turner, but that's not how it's distributed because the charge of the Wyandotte County Library Board is to make sure that there are services available for everyone who lives in Wyandotte County. That's why we have Interlocal Agreements with Kansas City, Kansas. We have nothing to do with the management of the Kansas City, Kansas libraries. We do provide the full funding for the Turner Library and that was established in I think 2000 and that involved another Interlocal Agreement between the Turner School District and Kansas City, Kansas and the UG for that library services. We contract with the Kansas City, Kansas Library System to manage and run the Turner Library so that's the only facility that's located in the PET District and yes there may in the future be interest in another location in the PET District. That hasn't come up in the last few years but we anticipate that could happen and there could be interest in having some sort of library facility in Piper but that involves of course interest on their part to look at a space and to figure out how that would occur. As a library board we don't own anything and we contract with both Kansas City, Kansas and Bonner.

Commissioner Bynum said I just wanted to go back a couple of slides to the slide that shows the Property Tax Funding Summary. The mill levy that we ratified was the 6.059. The 10.985 then that mill rate is adopted by—**Ms. VonAchen** said the USD School Board. **Commissioner Bynum** said the KCK School Board and so if I live in the boundaries of USD 500 am I paying the 10.9 or am I paying 17. **Ms. VonAchen** said you're paying the 10.9. **Commissioner Bynum** said so that's the one that's going to show up on my bill if I live in KCK School District. **Ms. VonAchen** said correct. **Commissioner Bynum** said if I live outside of it, I'm going to see the other one. **Ms. VonAchen** said right.

Commissioner Murguia said I believe you said that because these represent smaller taxing districts that the 10.9 isn't what we typically say up here which we would say that's \$10.9M. What does the 10.9 mill levy in USD 500—that's the amount \$7M. **Ms. VonAchen** said yes, because the assessed value is smaller it's not the whole county. **Commissioner Murguia** said does USD 500, that library district, get money beyond property tax like Bonner Springs does or is that all the money it gets is the money that you see from property tax? **Ms. VonAchen** said they also get this revenue here, Motor Vehicle Registration Taxes, Delinquency, IRB's, they get interest earnings and then they probably get other funding whatever their school board decide. I didn't see their budget. **Commissioner Murguia** said I don't have the request for tonight but what I would like to see if this is possible is I would like to see every library district, how many libraries they have, what their total annual revenue is from all sources and just a very easy one page 5.5x11 chart. Is that difficult to do? **Ms. VonAchen** said I was working on that very chart but I ran out of time. We didn't get all the information from the various sources so I would be happy to provide that to you as an information request. **Commissioner Murguia** said one last thing, if you could provide us also with the population of the district, the resident population. **Commissioner Markley** said of the library district. **Commissioner Murguia** said yes, of the library district. **Ms. VonAchen** said you can probably see that right here. You have 11,000 for Piper, 4,200 in the Edwardsville area, 19,000 for Turner. **Commissioner Murguia** said so USD 500 only serves 600 people. **Ms. VonAchen** said that's what was provided to us. **Mayor Holland** said no, that's the portion of KCK that's in the Wyandotte County portion. **Mr. Bach** said right, this is just the Wyandotte County. **Mayor Holland** said this is the Wyandotte County Board. **Commissioner Murguia** said there are too many variables here for me to keep track of.

Ms. VonAchen said tell me what you want. **Commissioner Murguia** said so really easy just list the districts. I think there are four or five of them. **Mayor Holland** said three. **Ms. VonAchen** said what their school enrollment—**Commissioner Murguia** said no. Does it have direct correlation with the school enrollment? I'm talking about the population it's supposed to serve because I don't go to the school and I go to the library. **Ms. VonAchen** said no problem. **Commissioner Murguia** said so if you could provide us with the name of the three districts and then provide us with their total annual operating budget just not from property taxes, then the population of the library district and—**Mayor Holland** said the total finances of their libraries. Isn't that what you asked for? **Ms. VonAchen** said you probably want a breakout of the Operating budgets. **Commissioner Murguia** said yes, the Operating Budget. Just for clarity on the legal side of things; the State only mandates—the Kansas State Statute mandates that our library board decides what the mill levy is, correct, but as far as how everything else is structured that is up to the Commission's discretion, no—**Mayor Holland** said its Interlocal Agreements so we would have to have new agreements with Bonner Springs, Edwardsville and the school districts. **Commissioner Murguia** said that's what I'm saying, that's all decided on the local level. **Ms. VonAchen** said it would be a voter referendum that mandates that. **Commissioner Murguia** said so it's not mandated by State Statute how it's structured, it's only mandated by State Statute that the Board sets the mill levy, correct? **Mr. Moore** said there are more statutes governing the library districts than the one I quoted here. The way I understand your question is that we collect the money, I mean the Wyandotte County District, we collect the money for the Wyandotte County Library District and we turn it over to them and then they have Interlocal Agreements with the different other entities that provide the service like USD 500 and Bonner Springs to provide the library services. The formula I think is subject to the Interlocal which I think the Unified Government is a part of that Interlocal with the other districts. We can't dictate it but we can work out an agreement.

Commissioner Walters said so there are three districts. What if we decided we wanted to establish a Piper Library District, we could do that? **Mr. Moore** said no, I think USD—**Commissioner Walters** said their not in USD 500 are they? **Senator Pettey** asked can I answer for you. My understanding is no you couldn't decide that but the Library Board could decide that because the Library Board would be making decisions—because we would be then

contracting with someone whether it be Bonner or whether it would be KCK to manage it because we would not run it. We don't run—**Mr. Moore** said the Piper School District since they fall in the definition of municipality could form a library district just as USD 500 did. **Mayor Holland** said and leave the Interlocal if they did that. **Senator Pettey** said I don't believe that's correct. I'm sorry that's not correct. They couldn't do that under Statute.

Commissioner Murguia said the presentation I know it was short notice but there are a lot of things that people seem not to be agreeing on and we can't—the misinformation is not helpful in understanding—**Mayor Holland** said I don't think there is any misinformation. I think it's just a misunderstanding. How about we do this, because we're not going to fix anything for setting our budget next week, let's do this; let's get the additional information we've asked for sent to all the commissioners and then after you digest that and you can reread this packet if a commissioner would like to request that we bring the library conversation back to a Special Session I would be glad to schedule that.

Senator Pettey said I might just add that just as a reminder that the Kansas City, Kansas Libraries are under the Kansas City, Kansas School Board and they establish that budget and Carol Levers is the Director of the Libraries and that budget is not finalized so for this year that would not be available by next week I don't believe. **Mayor Holland** said we can see what it was last year.

Mayor Holland said Senator thank you for being here and Councilman thank you for being here and thank you for your leadership on the Library Board and I've learned a ton tonight. It's fascinating. We have one more item, Development Project Report.



Mr. Bach said this is a request really about all the different projects we have working east of 635 and I had Mr. Stephens go through and do a little bit more comprehensive. It's hard to take a look at it and say here's a one-year snapshot and then you get a good feeling of it and so he has a little more historical. Though it is a fairly quick presentation because he just kind of highlights what's going on across the county.

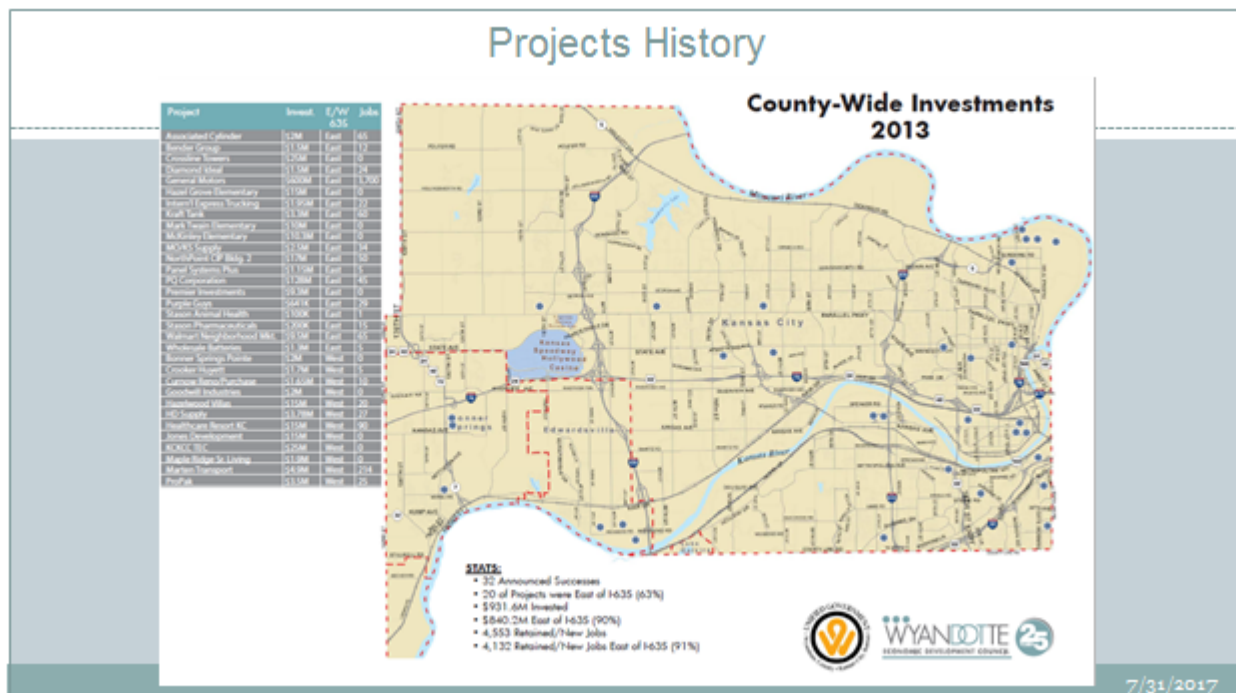
What we're here for tonight

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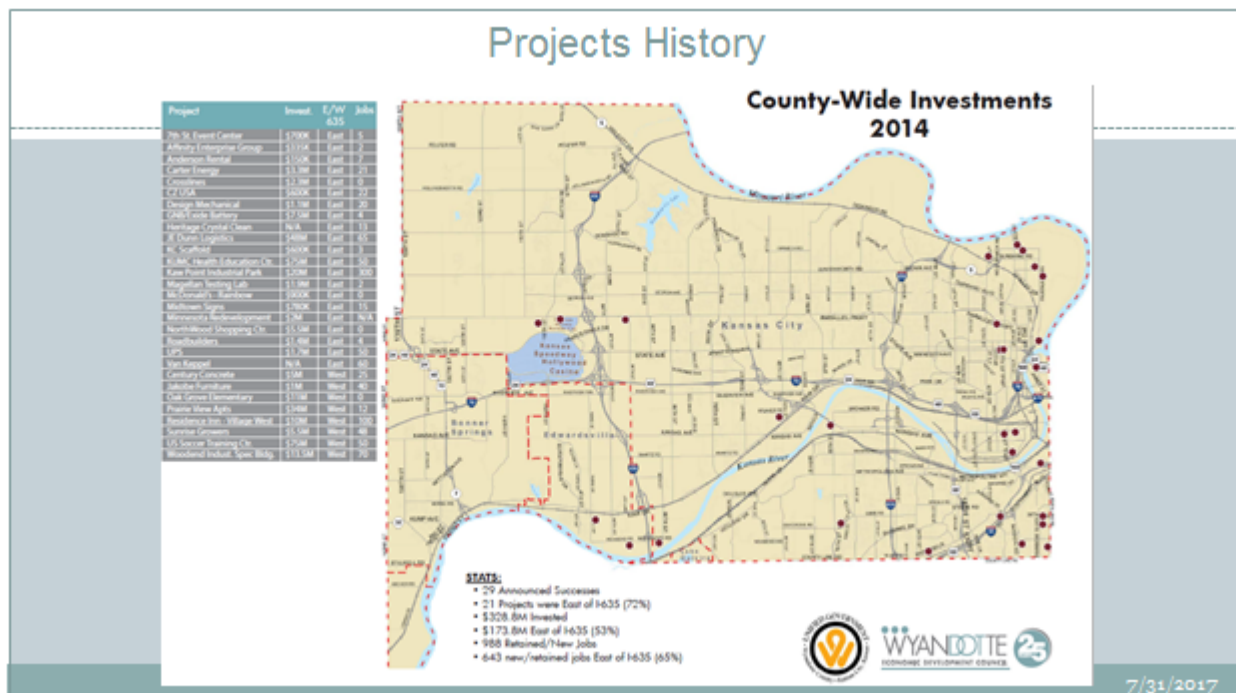
- Review a Summary of Projects
- Working Projects
- Impact and Investment of Projects

7/31/2017

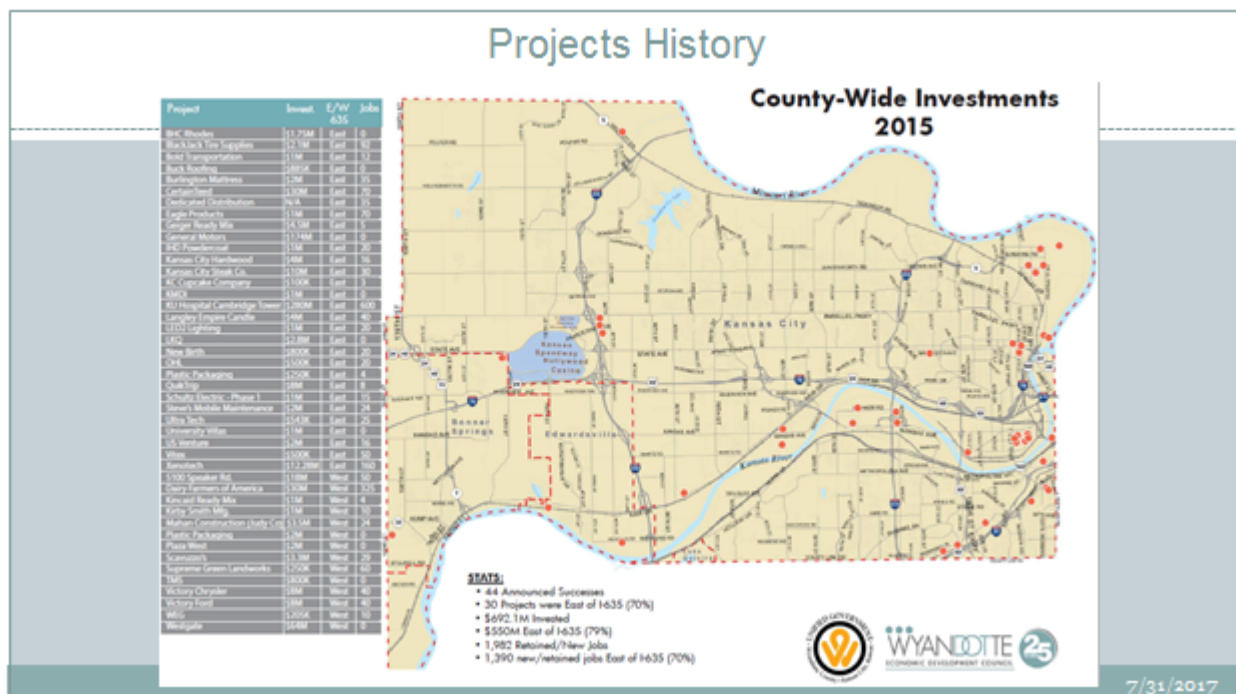
Jon Stephens, Director of Economic Development, said the task at hand tonight is to try to provide a review of the summary of projects, the working projects that we have currently at the level we can share them, and then some impact and investment of projects and some trends. The way that I think best to approach this at least with this outline tonight is to provide the economic development pieces, the geographic distribution of those projects and then the impact of those projects both financially, jobs and costs.



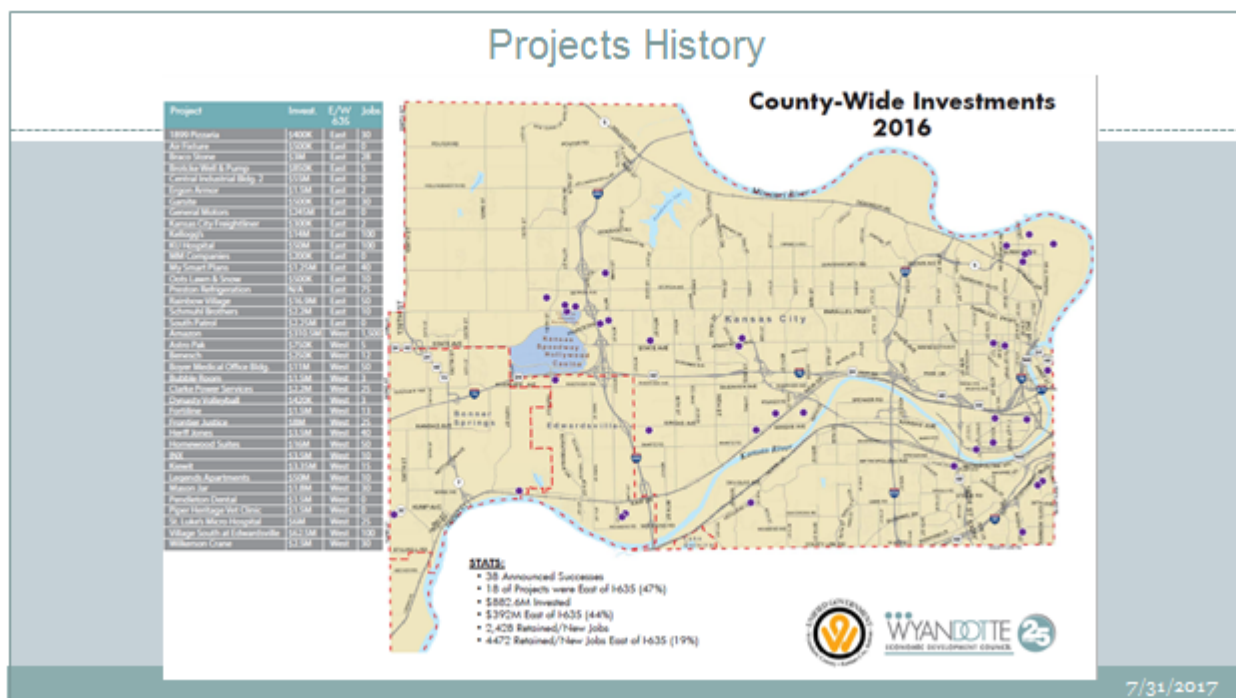
This is very small so I apologize and also the OCD in me the presentation on my screen stretched out so it lost a lot of the visual acuity so I apologize in advance for that. I do want to run through just a five-year summation of projects. In 2013 there were 32 projects listed here and this is a compilation with Wyandotte Economic Development Corporation, our partners, as well as our department. Of the 32 projects in 2013 20 of them were east of I-635 and because of some large projects 90% of the expense, the actual cost of those projects, was east of 635. Most of that to be fair in 2013 was a \$600M GM Project.



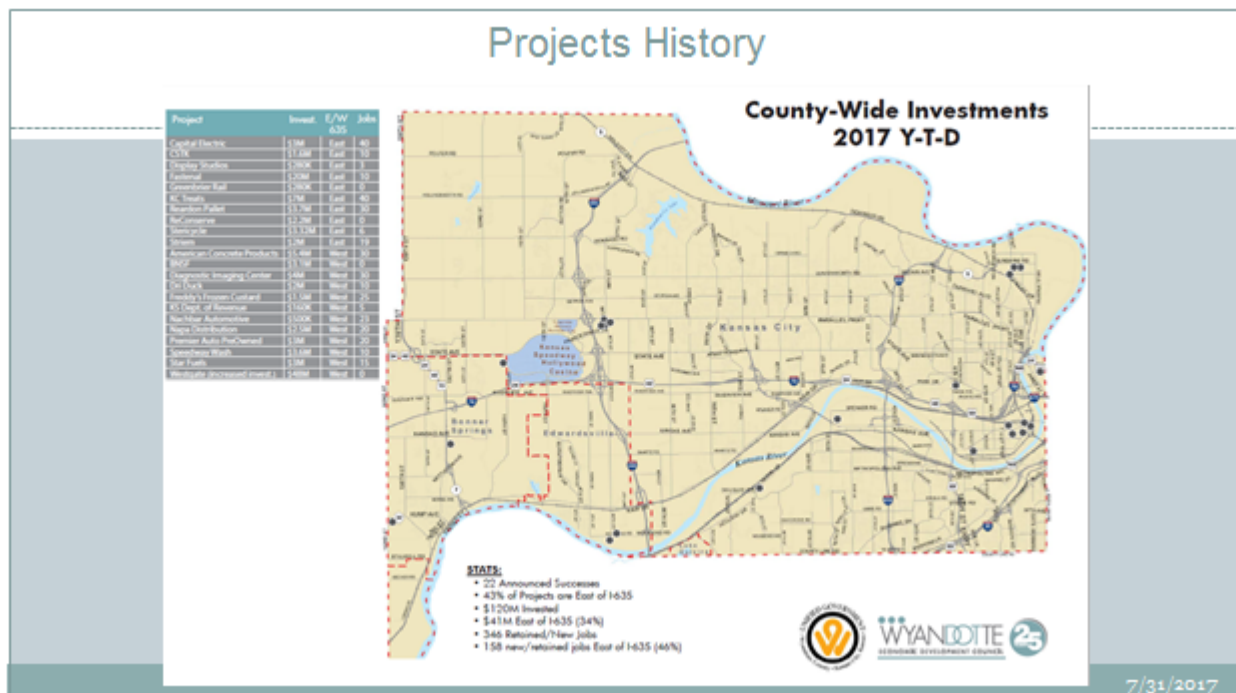
In 2014 we have 29 total projects, 21 of those were east of I-635, 53% of the economic impact of the economic spend was east of 635. To give you an idea that was Carter Energy, Kaw Point Industrial and then on the west side it was US Soccer which was a very large project of \$75M.



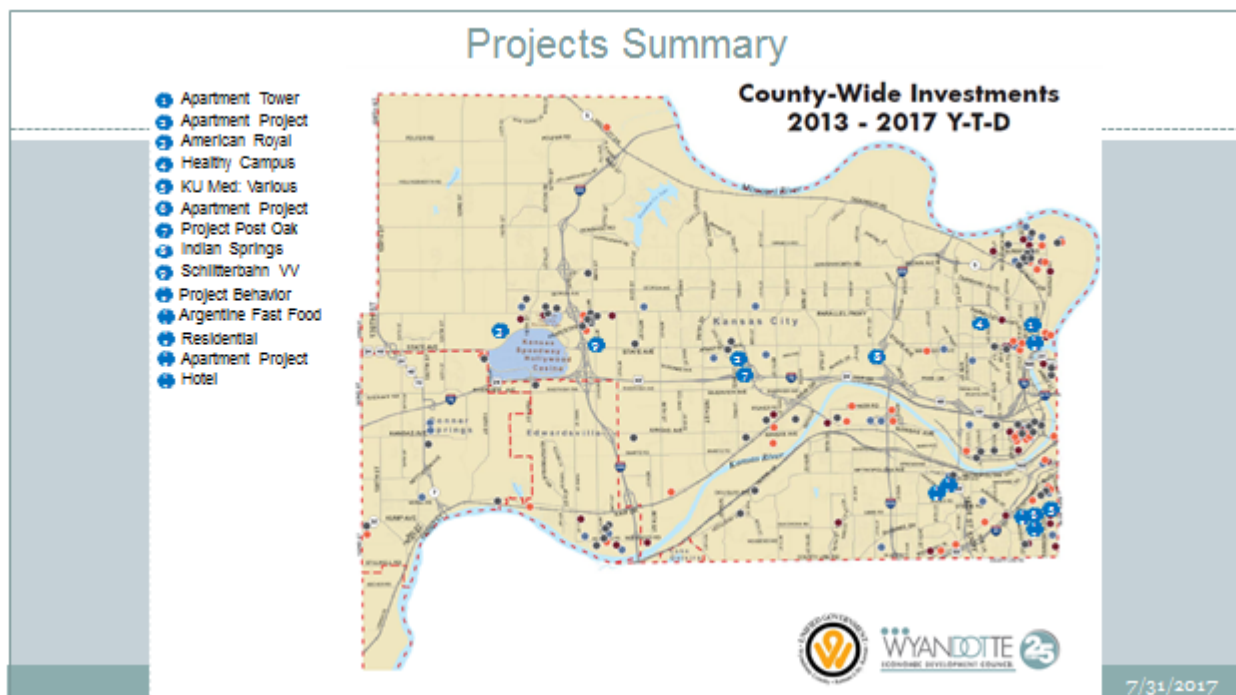
In 2015 we had 44 projects put through the pipeline and of that 30 of the 44 were east of 635 and 79% of the dollars invested were east of 635. Also, in fairness of those numbers that included CertainTeed, the second General Motors project, KC Steak Company, and a large KU Hospital project.



In 2016, 38 total projects. We had 18 east of 635 representing \$392M invested which is about 44% of the total invested. Those included again General Motors, their third project; Central Industrial District which was a large one, Kellogg as well as another KU Hospital project.



Year-to-date for 2017 there are currently 22 projects that we have year-to-date as of last month and 43% of those are east of 635 and represent \$41M in investment.



In total I'm sure you will be able to see and tell where everything is on here, but I also wanted to give you a little bit of a preview of some of the projects that are working for the rest of this year and possibly into next year. 1) That includes downtown on Minnesota is an Apartment Tower Project, 261 anticipated units. 2) Apartment Project which is Turner Vista area which is State Avenue & College. 3) You can see on there is the American Royal. 4) Healthy Campus. 5) Continuing KU Med Projects and associated development there. 6) Another apartment project and that is on Rainbow near the KU Hospital Campus. 7) It's called Project Post Oak that is north of the Amazon Project and is a pitched project as part of the large national search. 8) Indian Springs represented there continuing to work through the various processes. 9) Is Schlitterbahn Vacation Village and the next phases of retail and buildout. 10) Project Behavior which is the EPA Building project downtown. 11) Argentine project with the three fast-food venues. 12) Residential Silver City. 13) Another apartment project. 14) Finally 39th & Rainbow Hotel Project. It's just a quick summation of some of the projects that are currently in various stages of discussion within the Department of Economic Development.



In summation in trying to make this less than two hours, from 2013 to current, not counting the ones that are in that proposed project, working project list, we have 165 total projects; 98 of

those occurred east of I-635 representing 59%. \$2.9B total capital investment, 68% of that total investment occurred east of I-635. In new and retained jobs we estimate 10,297 new and retained jobs with 66% of those being east of 635.

Conclusions

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- Over the last five years, there has been investment across Wyandotte County
- Many high-capital/high-employment projects have occurred east of I-635
- Future project flow indicates several trends
 - Multi-family will continue to grow across the county, but have a higher rate of growth east of 78th Street.
 - Large-scale retail growth will slow, but infill retail and local retail projects will accelerate
 - Distribution and light industrial will continue to grow. Compression of available sites will occur.

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My final conclusions and some of the trends that I think are important to share from my perspective in the seat I sit in right now is that obviously over the last five years there have been considerable investment across Wyandotte County. Many high-capital/high-employment projects have occurred east of I-635 and then future project flow indicates several trends. I think it's important to cover these. Multi-family we see a trend of it continuing to grow across the county, but we do believe and I'm seeing that really east of 78th Street we will see a higher rate of growth; maybe not total units but a higher rate of growth. There has been a lot more infill and new project interest east of 78th Street. I think national trends indicate and we're seeing it, we will see it here, that large scale retail growth will probably slow not just here but nationally. We see that infill retail and local retail projects will accelerate and as we continue to work and create programs in ways to nurture local retail, growth of infill retail; I think that will be very important for us. We are continue to see a large interest in Wyandotte County with distribution and light industrial throughout the county where there are large acreages available; however, we are seeing

some compressions of available sites so we will have to start looking at how we aligned sites for the future with having available acreage for those large projects like Amazon.

Mayor Holland said can you go back one slide. **Commissioner Walker** said you know I've been laboring under the impression we're not doing anything east of 635. It would appear that not only was I laboring under a misapprehension; we need to move some of this to Turner. I know the Mayor counts Amazon as Turner but it is not considered Turner by anybody that lives in Turner I guarantee you that and it's only barely captured in the school district. I would like to see some projects out in Turner. I mean everything out in Piper and east of 635, you don't get anything Commissioner Markley, speak up. It's pretty one-sided. We need to get out of the urban core now. Okay, I'm done. I've had my fun. **Mayor Holland** said Amazon is the largest investment ever in District 202.

Commissioner Bynum asked is there a slide that has the whole thing altogether. To Commissioner Walker's point, is it a fair statement to make in your opinion and Mr. Bach's opinion, that part of what holds that area back is infrastructure? Is that a fair comment? **Mr. Stephens** said I think that would be a fair comment. **Commissioner Bynum** said the Turner area and the Leavenworth Road area to be frank. **Mr. Stephens** said we discussed also as you look at the northern area the Wolcott area. That is a very large piece of acreage up there that is ripe for large scale distribution, manufacturing development, but for a levee to protect it and open that up for development. **Commissioner Bynum** said I was just speculating that I think Turner has infrastructure needs, I think Leavenworth Road area has infrastructure needs and I think the lack of those infrastructure investments hold back good solid economic development in those areas and I'm just making an observation. **Mr. Stephens** said if I could respond, I would say in my very relative short time here that assessing all of this and then also working with Greg Kindle and our partners at WYEDC that none of the areas including Turner, none of the areas—even areas that have limited infrastructure buildouts when there are opportunities we've run those down and look at those. The problem what it becomes it does become a pretty heavy capital lift for those private sector developers and/or a very high incentivized type thing which in many incidents those deals just do not work until the infrastructure builds out to those areas.

Commissioner Markley said I was just going to say I think what this highlights is that while there are things happening east of 635, they're clearly concentrated along that so we're seeing a lot of development in Village West and we're seeing a lot happening far over from 635. I think what this highlights is that there still is that middle section that includes Turner and really just the whole middle part of the county that is not getting as much development. I think in addition to just generally we have the structure needs there. What else can we do to promote that area because I mean it's a great visual to be able to look at this and see all the dots along one side and say well that's great, but it's still not actually addressing the area that we were asking about initially? Thank you for putting this together and I think it does provide us the information we needed. It's just actually a different result than maybe anticipated so we have the middle area open.

Commissioner McKiernan said I would piggyback on that and I think as I look at my district here the dots are all where I would expect them to be and that's in Armourdale. That would be where the high dollar, high investment jobs or projects would end up being is in my primarily commercial industrial area. I think what all of us are starting to look at is those projects that would start to fill out that wouldn't be the PQ's of the world, but would still bring investment into some—they would necessarily be lower dollars in some cases, but they would start to bring that investment further west from the very eastern border of the county. Since this really came up originally I think as a function of our discussion around increasing our total valuation for the purpose of ultimately lowering dollars of property tax per dollar of assessed value. Correct me if I wrong, but I think we see the blessing in the curse of this investment right now. There is a large dollar amount of investment shown on this screen, but since you're only showing the last five years we are still since we incented most of that development, we are still in the time period of deferring the ultimate gain from that investment. We have set in place investments that will begin to payoff for us in coming years but in the meantime those incentives are delaying the ultimate return—the monetary return we get from those investments. Would that be correct?

Mr. Stephens said no, absolutely Commissioner, I mean Mr. Bach could speak more completely as to the history of all these project; however, I'll say generally with these incentive structures that are timed the great thing about them is once you start the clock you know that investment is going to go on the tax rolls and it is going to roll off and so you can kind of start timing those out

and I do think that's important. In the meantime you are also generating—you're retaining and generating jobs and as we were going through and assembling this there were literally thousands of jobs that were truly—some are not as at-risk but there were thousands of jobs that were truly at-risk of jumping to another community that we were able to retain. Many of these other projects we track what the new hire rate will be so if they expand, relocate we generate new jobs there.

Commissioner McKiernan said that was my point from the other night is that these although we are delaying our ultimate gain from these, we are not losing by incenting these developments. We are in fact getting amenities, we are in fact getting jobs, we are in fact contributing to the strength and the growth of our districts in our neighborhoods but we are necessarily delaying the ultimate amount of monetary gain we will get from them. **Mr. Stephens** said I would also add that this truly—you know this is a relatively compressed frame to put all these projects together to bring them to the Commission to review tonight so this is truly a snapshot. I do think it encompasses a lot of the major projects, it encompasses a pretty good breath of projects but this does not encompass the literally hundreds of small projects, the NRA Projects, a lot of these other projects that have invested in the community; they're not represented on here but they are important and they continue to accelerate. Knock on wood we have to keep those accelerating.

Commissioner Philbrook said also going along with our future development and what's starting to take place now is because a lot of our industrial areas are already being developed and we don't have quite the variance or opportunity in some of those for bigger ones or certain size and now we're looking along our corridors like the Turner Diagonal corridor, I-70, K-32; all of that. Those are the new booming locations although I wish Leavenworth Road would boom but it's a whole different type of boom up there but I would like to see development up there. I don't know how we can create that corridor into something—you know economic development of some type but I would like to keep that in mind as we move forward. **Mr. Stephens** said so noted.

Commissioner Murguia said thanks a lot for your hard work on this and I get the general picture, but I personally think this is very deceiving and it's not sending a clear message of

what's really going on. For example, most of the development you see east of 635 appears to be industrial, correct? **Mr. Stephens** said a very large portion of it yes industrial and institutional with the hospital. **Commissioner Murguia** said so if you want to compare one neighborhood to another do you really want anyone sharing that, do you want industrial development in Turner? **Commissioner Walker** said yes. **Commissioner Murguia** said and where would you put it and where is it zoned appropriately for industrial? **Commissioner Walker** said you've got the whole bottom area by the river. I want jobs. I want people to have decent opportunities for jobs. (Not speaking in mic).

Mayor Holland said, Commissioner, I think your point that you might be getting at is my point as well. This reflects to me good city planning because the areas where you don't have commercial dots are residential areas. **Commissioner Murguia** said that's right. **Mayor Holland** said you're not going to put some of the projects down in Armourdale in Piper or Leavenworth Road or the residential portion of Turner. You do have commercial portions of Turner that are on the Kansas Avenue corridor around the railroad tracks. There is a lot of good commercial property there so I think this is good city planning because we have the commercial in our commercial areas, we have our residential in the residential areas; that's the part of the gist is that we have three employment nodes. We have Village West, we have Fairfax and we have KU Med; 11,000, 11,000, 12,000 jobs respectively. **Commissioner Murguia** said what it also still tells me though is that the demand for industrial development is still high across the board and industrial development is willing to locate in Wyandotte County but in a very specific area east of 635. That doesn't necessarily translate into jobs for Wyandotte County residents and we already know that. Are all of these businesses employing only Wyandotte County residents? **Mayor Holland** said I doubt any of them are employing only—**Commissioner Murguia** said I'm just saying we're talking about though as if—the way we're talking to the general public and what we're demonstrating is that if we're creating jobs to these developments that they're only hiring Wyandotte County people, I just don't want any misrepresentation. **Mayor Holland** said I don't think anyone has ever represented that.

Commissioner Murguia said east of 635 is predominately attracting commercial because they have commercially zoned areas and that's good. What I'm also saying though is that areas—we're still not attracting things like retail and amenities and growing our tax base and those retail amenities is what is going to attract people to our community. People want to live in

communities where they have everyday amenities. What is concerning to me is those areas that are right for retail development other than Village West and the KU area like Leavenworth Road and in Turner. There isn't retail attraction there and there obviously would never be industrial attraction there and we would never want it there so it's not really to say there is 10 over here and there is none here so it's 10/0. I just don't want to misrepresent that to people. I'm saying it's great we're tracking industrial, it's great that our staff is working on it, but I think where the disconnect comes and why sometimes the Commission collectively complains about what's not available is I haven't heard Commissioner Townsend ever say—be advocating up here on the high demand and need that our constituents want to see more industrial development. I have heard her say I want to see a grocery store in the northeast so it's a little bit misrepresentative of what the intent of the question was on where the development is happening. It's good, this seems to be more in defense that staff is saying see we are working on all these projects and maybe I wasn't clear. I absolutely believe our staff is working on projects but it may not necessarily align with what the priority projects are of our constituents or the Commission. Does that make sense? Is that clear? **Mr. Stephens** said I think it completely makes sense and I'll tell you I was not task to create a defense. I was task to outline what our economic indicators that we could show and represent that show how Wyandotte County has developed and I certainly appreciate the comment concerning commercial versus local retail versus industrial. I think that's an important conversation to have and I would completely agree with you Commissioner. **Commissioner Murguia** said yes, there is a lot of development going on, there is a lot of job creation which is fantastic but we can't get those people to live in our community if they don't have the amenities that they need in their community to live and it can't just be in one area of the city. I do think there is absolutely opportunity for that. I think that's where the disconnect is.

Mayor Holland said I do want to point out that we have the lowest unemployment rate in 20 years and so the bringing in of jobs or the retaining of jobs—the last unemployment report and I believe all the commissioners are sent that, the last unemployment report showed it's at an all-time low. That's really great news though we have more work to do because we have too many folks in Wyandotte County who are still unemployed or underemployed, but we're trending in the right direction.

Mr. Bach said, Commissioner, I did understand I think where you were going with not just showing the industrial and manufacturing and that's where Jon layered on these blue dots which I think all of those big blue dots you see that are underway now; those are all commercial, retail or housing. That gives you a good perspective of where we're spending our time when it comes to that type of project work and quite frankly you don't really see a visual age really point out, we spend most of our time working east of 635 so it did kind of pop out to me as we went through it how much we spend in efforts. I will also say every time we work in the urban core on those kinds of projects we probably spend five times as much effort trying to advance a project as we do the ones out in the western area and then a lot of times they fall off of the chart. We then go back and try to find something else to replace them. **Commissioner Murguia** asked why is that. **Mr. Bach** said there are just more challenging projects to do. **Mr. Stephens** said they are harder deals. **Commissioner Murguia** asked what's harder about them. **Mayor Holland** said well you can tell us what's harder about urban redevelopment. How do you deal with a Brownfield? (Inaudible due to Commissioner Murguia and the Mayor speaking at the same time). **Mayor Holland** said we know exactly what it is, it's Brownfield development, it's absentee landlords trying to acquire property, assemble property. Property assemblage, Brownfields, redevelopment; you want to build a new house and you dig in and there was a house that was collapsed 40 years ago that they just poured into the basement and you have to excavate it. Everything about urban development is harder and so it takes staff a lot more time to pull it off. **Mr. Bach** said when they run their numbers they won't calculate rents or sales at the same level. **Mr. Stephens** said the dreaded feasibility, market feasibility study circles that many developers look at impacts that return.

Commissioner McKiernan said again I'm going to agree. Commissioner Murguia took further a point that I had made earlier and that was a lot of the development was in the industrial commercial section but if you actually look up here north of the river in where we're sitting, there isn't a dot there. I completely appreciate that we got two levels that we're working on here. One that grows the valuation so that we ultimately get more in property taxes and from commercial, wonderful, because that helps all of us in terms of how much tax we pay and the valuation. The second piece is if I really want to grow the population of my downtown neighborhood I have to have those noncommercial, nonindustrial projects that serve as amenities,

that serve as anchor points for people to say I want to live there because they've got all those cool places that I can go shop or play or do whatever it is. I completely appreciate your point that this is part of the picture, but especially when we're talking about redeveloping our urban neighborhoods it's only part of the picture and we have a lot of work to do on those smaller but very important projects.

Mayor Holland said let's not forget the impact of we're doing a \$25M road project on Leavenworth Road. That's going to change the dynamic of investment up there and our investment in our parks. Parks are amenities that people want and bringing our parks up to a standard that will attract housing. There are just a lot to do but I think we're on the right track.

**MAYOR HOLLAND ADJOURNED
THE MEETING AT 8:47 p.m.**

dt

Bridgette D. Cobbins
Unified Government Clerk

July 20, 2017