

**PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES
Monday, October 21, 2019**

The meeting of the Public Works and Safety Standing Committee was held on Monday, October 21, 2019, at 5:00 p.m., in the 5th Floor Conference Room of the Municipal Office Building. The following members were present: Commissioner Bynum, Chairman; Commissioners Markley, Kane, Johnson, and BPU Board Member Groneman. Commissioner Philbrook was absent. The following officials were also in attendance: Alan Howze and Emerick Cross, Assistant County Administrators; Misty Brown, Deputy Chief Counsel; Troy Shaw, County Engineer; Michael York, Interim Chief of Police; Michael Callahan, Fire Chief; Morris Letcher, Assistant Fire Chief; Jeff Fisher, Executive Director of Public Works; Kurt Winters, Director of Water Pollution Control; Robby Anderson, Asset Manager; John Kelly, Director of Buildings & Logistics; Renee Ramirez, Director of Human Resources; and Officer Jay Doleshal, Sergeant-at-Arms.

Chairman Bynum called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken and all members were present as shown above.

Chairman Bynum said we have a revision under Item No. 3. We have additional information that will come forward with Jeff Fisher, Director of Public Works.

Approval of standing committee minutes from August 26, 2019. **On motion of Commissioner Kane, seconded by Commissioner Markley, the minutes were approved.** Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Agenda:

Item No. 1 – 19983....RESOLUTION: DONATION OF A 2005 SEAGRAVE FIRE APPARATUS

Synopsis: A resolution authorizing the donation of a 2005 Seagrave fire apparatus, which is obsolete, to The Village of Birmingham, Missouri Fire Department, submitted by Michael Callahan, Fire Chief.

Michael Callahan, Fire Chief, said we were approached by a volunteer fire department from Birmingham, Missouri, about a possible donation of a fire truck, really a quint that we don't have any utility for any longer. We need Commission approval to make that donation. It's a 2005 Seagrave. It's got about 106,000 miles and 9,300 work hours on it. It's worth about \$5,000. We're requesting to donate that to them. They have a volunteer fire department.

The amount of labor it would cost us to get that rig up to speed would not be worth it because at the end of this year, the NFPA recommendation is that rig would be taken out of service anyway. They happen to have a couple of diesel mechanics that are volunteers for their fire department, so their labor would be free to fix the truck up for their use.

Action: **Commissioner Markley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to approve.** Roll call was taken and there were five "Ayes," Groneman, Markley, Kane, Johnson, Bynum.

Item No. 2 – 19985....PRESENTATION: LOW-PRESSURE SEWER PROGRAM

Synopsis: Presentation on the Unified Government's Low-Pressure Sewer Program, submitted by Jeff Fisher, Executive Director of Public Works.

Jeff Fisher, Executive Director of Public Works, said Misty Brown is also going to join this presentation and Kurt Winters, Director of Water Pollution Control, is here to cover some of this ground. As you may know, we have a small area out in Piper that is serviced by a low-pressure sewer system, boss & grinder pumps at each house. I think I'll let Misty kind of describe some of the background and history of this area.

Presentation Overview

- ▶ What is a Low Pressure Sewer (LPS)
- ▶ History of UG LPS Pump Warranty Program
- ▶ Challenges with existing LPS and Warranty Program
- ▶ Future of Program

October 21, 2019

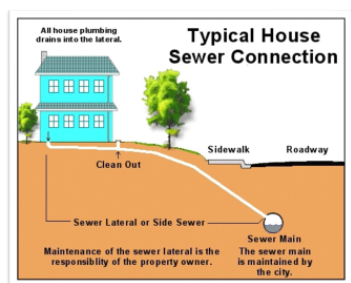
Misty Brown, Deputy Chief Counsel, said years back when I first started in the Legal Department in about 2004, I was presented with this program. It turns out that about 2000, 2001 when the area was largely developed, some developers approached the Unified Government and had talked about developing out and building houses in the Piper area. There were a number of challenges there. At the time, the Director of Public Works Bob Roddy came up with an incentive along with the developers to install low-pressure sewers in the area to help spur development. Jeff and Kurt will go into more of what a low-pressure sewer is. Essentially, it was a development tool that was used to encourage development and it worked. Now we have a program that we need to dust off and take a look at.



Kurt Winters, Director of Water Pollution Control, said we have different types of sewer systems out there in our system. The first one being gravity. That's our preferred system where you use the water in your house, it goes down a drain, and it would gravity all the way to our treatment facilities. That's the preferred option.

We get into areas where the topography does not allow that to go by gravity so we have to put in a pump station or, in this instance, this was looked at, these are small grinder pumps. They're designed to go right next to the house. The water flows out into them and then they're pumped to an elevation either up to a gravity line, which is a second option, or the third option is the whole system is a low-pressure system. The whole community is on this system. It's pumped under pressure until it does hit one of our sewer systems that can go by gravity. That's what we're here to talk about today is that third one there, the low-pressure system and the issues with it.

Gravity Connection

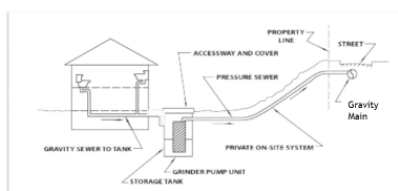


I've got some drawings here of a typical—this is the gravity system that you would have on your house. The sewer all flows out. It all goes down the topography down to the lower levels and hits a sanitary sewer line, which would then carry it down to the treatment facility. It's all gravity. This is the preferred option.

Again, when topography does not work, you may have a house sitting down below where our sewer gravity main sits. With this option, we would have to put in some kind of a grinder pump, the homeowner would, to pump that flow back up to get it into our system. This would be, if I was building a house somewhere, we had a gravity line sitting out there, I could then get this to pass through all the codes and put in this system and I would be taking care of it myself.

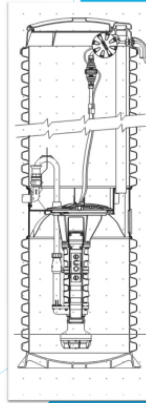
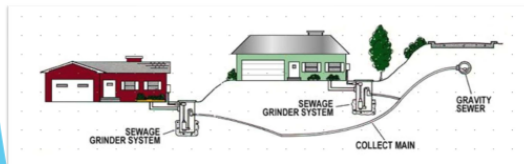
What we're talking about today is what Misty explained. We've allowed these developers to come in and develop areas that due to topography or due to just the nature of the way our system is developing, we don't have sewers in that area. This is a cheaper method to put in to get sewers to an area that then we could develop.

Grinder Pump to Gravity



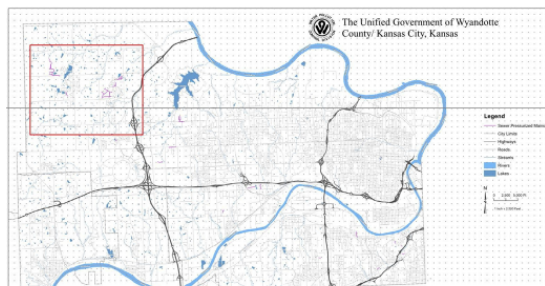
We have the grinder pumps that flows out of your house. The sewer flows out into these systems and are pumped in a force main.

Grinder Pump Low Pressure Sewer



Other houses hook into that force main and they're also pumped. The only time water runs in this system is when a pump is running. There become issues with these with odors and corrosion because of the nature of the waste and the H₂S it creates. It will create corrosion so we have to worry about that into our systems. At some point down the line, it's going to flow into our gravity sewers and be collected and mixed with other sewage at that time.

Map Showing Existing Low Pressure Sewers in UG Service Area



What we've done is we've created a map here. This is not all inclusive, but this is our area out in Piper that we have a couple of bigger developments that have these systems that we're dealing with a warranty program.

The developer went in and put in these systems. They had to meet our criteria. We then will warranty the pump, and the pump only. That's what we're here to talk about today is whether we need to be in that business of that warranty or do we just need to absorb this cost into our program. We're going to show you, again, some of those costs.

October 21, 2019

Overview of Low Pressure Warranty

- ▶ 2001+/- First LPS Approved and Ordinance Passed
- ▶ Developers allowed to install LPS as a development incentive
- ▶ UG agreed to provide LPS Warranty for the pump and system
- ▶ LPS Owners were required to pay a fee and provided 24/7 service
- ▶ Some LPS Owners declined participation in Warranty Program
- ▶ SOP later developed to Allow Customers to Join Warranty Program at Original Installation or Later if Requirements were met

This next slide, again, is kind of the ordinance and stuff. Misty, do you want to say anything more about that? **Ms. Brown** said I guess going into it, it's not the typical topic that comes before standing committees. A grinder pump is kind of like a giant garbage disposal shoved into a tin can beside the house. It then, like Kurt said, through pressure, it sends all the sewage through a pressurized line which means, if there's a problem in the pressurized line, as a homeowner, you can't go out there and get into it without disrupting the entire system.

We have whole neighborhoods that are out there on these programs and they have these grinder pumps, which do require special usage like typical things that folks don't know who have a grinder pump is if the power goes off, if we lose power in a storm, should stop using water because your pump is not pumping. You could back yourself up but you don't know it because you don't know what you have out beside your house. A lot of folks do know, but sometimes when ownership changes, people don't know that that's what they have.

Getting back to the incentive. When the developers put these in, there was a way to economically develop the area out there to allow new houses, which they could contribute to the tax base. Part of the agreement was these pumps are fairly expensive. The developer paid for the pumps and the Unified Government agreed to create a warranty program. Each of these folks that were on it would pay a fee, which I think at the time was about \$4 a month. That would go to if something happened to the grinder pump or the service line that ran from the house to the other pressurized main, if there were any issues with it, there was an 800 number they could call 24-hours a day and Haynes Company would come out and service the pump at any time.

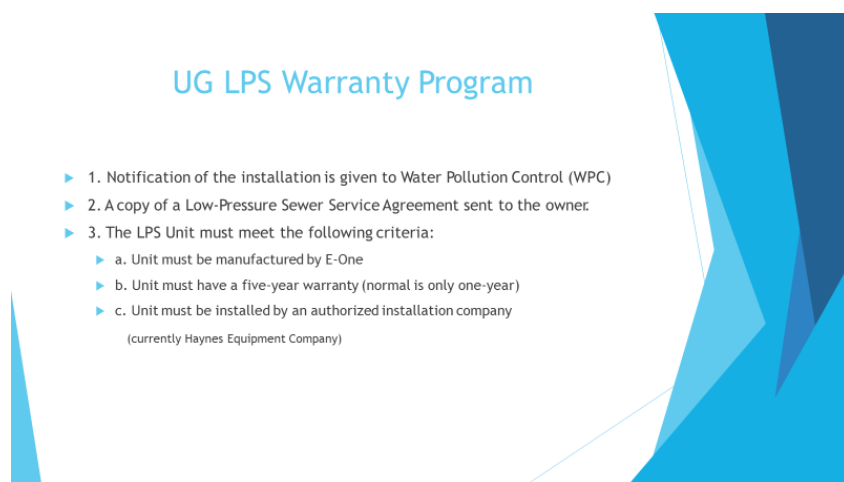
The folks that opted into the program signed up for it. They signed agreements. They were filed with the Register of Deeds. Some folks chose not to opt into the program and didn't pay the fee. As years have gone by, some of the pumps have started to fail, which they do. Other issues have become apparent with it.

October 21, 2019

As our sewer rates have went up, the cost has gone up as well for the monthly maintenance fee. Just like anything, sometimes the folks realized that's what they had. Their pump failed. They were looking at perhaps a \$5,000 or more replacement cost for the pump and they wanted to know why am I not on the warranty program. How was I supposed to know about the warranty program? How can I get on the warranty program now?

Staff has had to go back and develop some operating procedures of how you would let somebody onto the program retroactively. It's kind of like insurance. If your car is damaged, you can't buy insurance right then to cover that incident. There were some procedures in place that if you had to end up replacing the pump and you had a brand-new pump and wanted to get on the program at that time, they were allowed to join at that point in time.

As you can image, as these systems have grown and residents have changed hands several times, it's become a bit onerous to manage the program just with staff time and watching various complaints and keeping track of who owns the property and how to get them the proper notification.



Mr. Winters said going through the program, we sent out notifications. We get notification after something's been installed by Haynes Equipment. We then try to reach out to the owners to make sure they understand the program, how it works, there's a placard in their house on who to call when there are issues.

Some of the things that are a must, it must be manufactured by E-One. It must have a 5-year warranty program instead of the 1-year that normally comes with, and it has to be installed by an authorized dealer, which is right now it's Haynes Equipment Company.

UG LPS Warranty Program

- ▶ 4. The signed agreement must be returned to WPC within six-months of installation or first occupancy of the building.
- ▶ 5. The Agreement is filed with the Recorder of Deeds with the Property
- ▶ 6. The property is added to the Low-Pressure Sewer list.
- ▶ 7. Notice is given to the Board of Public Utilities.
- ▶ 8. If the six-month period has elapsed, the property can enroll only when the pump has been replaced and meets all requirements above.

We send out a mailer. They sign up. They have to return the mailer back to us within the six months of the installation. We then, as Misty said, record it with the record of deeds with the property. We then put them on a low-pressure sewer list and we give the Board of Public Utilities the notification so we can get the billing going out going forward.

The billing is a little confusing. It doesn't have a line item that says you're on a warranty program. You have to back calculate so it's a little confusing for residents to know, without knowing they have a grinder pump, if they are getting billed for it because it doesn't state it's a warranty program. It's a little confusing.

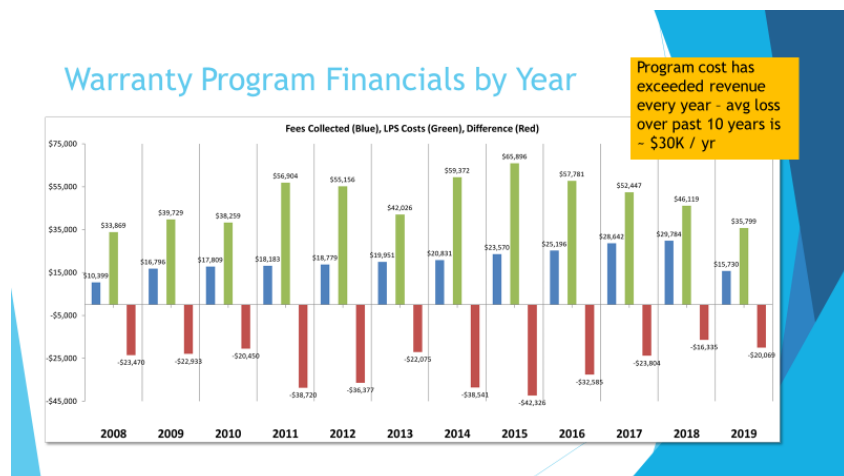
Issues with LPS and/or Warranty program

- ▶ LPS owners did not choose the system
- ▶ LPS systems create odor and corrosion
- ▶ Lack of Understanding by Owner
- ▶ Solvency of LPS and Warranty Program
- ▶ Administration inconsistent with Ordinance
- ▶ Property Ownership Change
- ▶ Billing is difficult to Understand
- ▶ Communication to/from owner

Going forward, some of the issues we have is some of the owners did not chose—no owner chose to have this system out there. They just bought the house and it was there. It does create the odors and corrosion problems throughout our system that we have to deal with that other folks have to pay for. There's a lack of understanding by the owners. We have the solvency with the program. It's not paying for itself. Administrative throughout the year it's been inconsistent with the ordinance on how it's been maintained and approved.

October 21, 2019

The ownership change is an absolute nightmare for us to keep track of when the house sells. Billing is an issue. It's hard to understand. Communication with owners to us/from them is hard to track. Those are some of the issues.



Now we get into our annual costs. You can see here the fees we collect is in the blue. Our costs are in the green. The difference is the red. We operate in the red. The 10-year average, up there you can see, the average loss over 10 years has been \$30,000 a year. That's what we paid out that's not covered by the warranty program.

Direction for LPS Pump warranty program

- ▶ Option A - Eliminate Fee
 - ▶ Warranty program fees "eliminated" and costs to maintain/replace LPS pumps absorbed by WPC operating budget.
 - ▶ Requirement for a new Grinder pump to subscribe after initial install is waived.
 - ▶ Results in loss of revenue to offset costs.
 - ▶ May require ordinance revision.
- ▶ Option B - Keep Warranty Fee
 - ▶ Everyone in the LPS Pump warranty program per Ordinance and will be notified to begin paying monthly fee.
 - ▶ Requirement for a new Grinder pump to subscribe after initial install is waived.
 - ▶ Program still not self-funding unless rate is adjusted.
 - ▶ Some customers have opted out and now won't have that option.

We have had a couple of options we looked at. Staff is recommending Option A. Option A is we eliminate the fee. We absorb the costs. We treat this just like our other costs in our system where you would hook up to our gravity system. The service line is yours. We take care of the gravity line. On this one, that gravity line is actually the pump. We would take care of that pump, and the homeowner would be responsible for their service line and everything around that pump.

Option B, again, is what we already have, is keeping the warranty fee. Again, we would want everybody to be mandated to be on the program. You cannot opt out. We would start the program. If you're not on it, you would start getting billed today and you would be on the program. We would not be looking to retro anybody and collect other monies, so that's the other option.

We recommend Option A. We do know we have another entity here. Johnson County does Option A. It's how they do their system and treat it just like it's an overall cost for the system and that pump should be paid for just like a gravity sewer system.

Mr. Fisher said I'd like to reinforce our recommendation. It's important to recognize that these folks did not have a choice. This was proposed and approved by the UG. You move in, you have a pump, you don't have any choice. They have to have this system. That's the one single thing in staff's eyes that kind of makes it "why charge them" if they didn't have any choice. It is part of the system required to provide them service.

Chairman Bynum asked how many total homes are on the low-pressure system. **Mr. Winters** said we have about 400 homes total. Out of those, I don't have the number right in front of me of how many are on the warranty program. **Chairman Bynum** said what you're proposing is everybody would be on the warranty program. **Mr. Winters** said if it's Option B, everybody is on it. If it's Option A, the warranty program goes away. **Chairman Bynum** said Option A, warranty program goes away but we just take on the costs. **Mr. Winters** said yes.

Chairman Bynum said going back to your slide where the dollars are, the bar graph, if the average loss is \$30,000 annual, the average cost annual is higher, what's the average cost? **Mr. Winters** said as you see the bar graph, over the years, it goes up or down, depending on when these pumps fail. Average life on these pumps is between that 5 – 10 years. Depending on how many were installed when, you could say costs went up to around \$65,000, almost \$66,000 to a low year to what we have here, \$35,000—that's a partial year—\$33,000 back in 2008 early on when all the pumps were fairly new. We're looking at a total cost of around \$70,000. 2015, in that year, we spent \$42,000 out of our pocket. We collected \$23,000. It would be another \$23,000 out of our operation budget.

Commissioner Bynum said the 400 homes, we know the addresses of those homes? **Mr. Winters** said yes. **Commissioner Bynum** asked are we going to mail them a letter explaining what the new program or process would mean, is going to be. **Mr. Winters** said correct. We have communication with them. We want to send out flyers, kind of the maintenance of this system, what to do and not do. Like Misty stated, when electricity goes out and electrical power goes out, these systems do not work. They need to know not to use water. We plan on doing that type of communication ongoing.

Commissioner Kane said several of these are in my neighborhood and it's been a problem since I moved in. I've been there 11 years. As it gets older, and older, and older, the houses get older, the units are going to get worse. I don't believe we should charge. Maybe we should have done a better job with the developers bringing something like that in just to build a house there versus the problems you have 5, 10, and 15 years down the line.

Chairman Bynum asked is it something that we still allow as an incentive to a developer. **Mr. Winters** said it will still be in our ordinances to be allowed, but we would have the right to reject it. We would put in—one of that is we're going to look really hard at some things that are in our ordinance that are not being upheld that we've got to look at. The odor control is a big part of that. These are causing problems downstream. The houses are not getting the odors; it's where that system is tied in are paying for those odors. Now we're having to look at doing odor controls in those areas. We'll be looking at that. These systems need to be designed for odor control, feeding them. It's another cost for that developer. That will drive that cost up and maybe look at that gravity line may become reasonable now. All the costs weren't percented may be fairly.

Chairman Bynum said I noticed at the frontend of your presentation it was shown that it was done as a development incentive. **Mr. Winters** said yes, correct.

Commissioner Markley said you asked several of my questions for me. I'm just wondering if part of the advantage to Option A just the ease of administration. **Mr. Fisher** said it certainly will reduce administration. This was difficult to administer. It's a lot of, as you saw, a lot of flaws with it. Folks didn't have any choice. It's difficult to administer. We believe it's the right way to go for the folks. I was going to say, it will make the billing process easier.

Commissioner Johnson said I just want to be clear on what's being offered to us as an option. That option is going to increase the cost to the UG, correct? **Mr. Fisher** said Option A, about \$25,000 a year. **Commissioner Johnson** said a year, okay. That's what I wanted to know, how much was that going to cost us. Is it in totality \$25,000 a year? **Mr. Winters** said it will be an estimate. Again, it will all depend on that year how many failures happen on average. These things will last between 5 – 10 years depending on the use of that system. Again, it's hard for me to sit here and tell you it's going to be exactly \$25,000, but we're going to be in that range. What we've seen throughout the year, as we've calculated and as we've shown the graph, that's been the range so far. As you replace these, they get a new 5-year warranty at no cost to us. So if anything happens, they're repaired or replaced on the manufacturer. Again, that's one reason we have that stipulation. They have to have the 5-year warranty; not just the 1-year.

Chairman Bynum asked are there any comments from the audience or questions. There were none.

Chairman Bynum said I need help from Legal. It's an information item or a voting item? **Ms. Brown** said it's an information item where staff is looking for direction from the Commission. I would point out too that we do have an ordinance in place. That ordinance states that when these systems are installed, everybody that has one of these is in the program and everybody is to be paying the fee. There was some pushback on that so some folks were allowed to opt out so that wasn't enforced.

The direction staff is looking for is let's revise the program in some way. It could be a different option that the Commission might like, or let's enforce our existing ordinance because right now, it's just not sustainable to continue what we're doing now.

Commissioner Kane said let's just revise it. Instead of going backwards, let's go forward. I think that would be the way to go. **Mr. Fisher** asked to eliminate the fee as well. **Commissioner Kane** said yes. **Chairman Bynum** said I think we have consensus around Option A. It sounds like we're going to be drafting a revision to an ordinance and bringing that forward. We are going to do that.

Action: For information only.

October 21, 2019

Item No. 3 – 19986....PRESENTATION: CMIP 2020 PROJECTS & MAJOR CAPITAL CRITERIA

Synopsis: Presentation on CMIP 2020 projects and major capital criteria, submitted by Jeff Fisher, Executive Director of Public Works.

Jeff Fisher, Executive Director of Public Works, said like it's been the standard practice, County Engineer Troy Shaw is going to highlight next year's CMIP only. Robby Anderson, our Asset Manager, is going to lead the discussion about how we select projects for the CMIP in future years.

2020 CMIP Quick Review

Troy Shaw, County Engineer, said I'm going to make this pretty quick because you guys voted on the budget so you're aware of what's in it next year. I'm going to highlight a couple of major projects and then you can feel free to ask questions about any other ones you have.

Leavenworth Rd. Modernization Projects

Phase I Update

- Completion in June 2019
- 4 months ahead of schedule

Phase II Timeline

- ROW negotiations underway
- Utility relocations to begin in Fall of 2019
- Major construction in September 2020

- Both projects funded with a combination of Federal Grant and Matching Local Funds(debt)
 - Phase I - \$13.3 Million
 - Phase II - \$9.0 Million (est.)

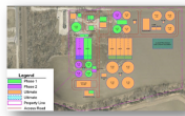


We'll start with, as you know, Leavenworth Road is still under construction. Phase I was completed. I think they've got a couple of little punch-list items left to finish up, but they're pretty much done with Phase I.

Phase II, utilities are relocating right now. BPU has started out there with electric, I know for sure. We will be moving into construction late next summer, early fall, and hopefully get that opened. We'll look forward to that and getting that project done.

October 21, 2019

Wastewater Projects



Wolcott Treatment Plant Expansion

- Project Est. \$45.5M
- Under CMAR contract
- Earthwork to begin in Summer 2019
- PS Elimination and Interceptor work to begin in early 2020

Kaw Point BioSolids

- Current Project Est. \$70.5M
- Possible revenue sources for the future.
- Progressive Design/Build team selection Summer 2019

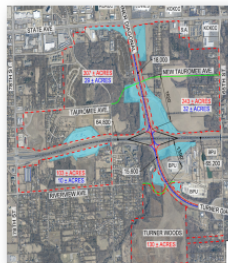


A couple of big wastewater projects. The Wolcott Treatment Plant as well as the Kaw Point BioSolids project. We've talked about these in the past. They're pretty much on schedule as planned. We've got contractors on board and we're moving forward with those as well.

Interstate 70 and Turner Diag. Interchange Reconstruction

Total Project Cost - \$30.5M

- Federal - \$14M
- State and Local - \$7.5M each
- Development - \$1.5M



Turner and I-70, many of you heard about this. We're currently in the process of selecting a design/build contractor with KDOT and KTA, as well as FHWA funding. We should have that selection at the end of October. At that point, we'll be able to get into the design and get a better schedule. However, the schedule is laid out in the RFP that they will be done, substantially complete by mid-October. We'll be moving really quick once we get started with that project. We're expecting that they start turning dirt late winter, early spring. The exact schedule will be determined once we get the design/builder to start designing.

New Fire Station Hutton & Leavenworth Rd



Total Project Cost Est. \$4.7M

A couple of building projects. The fire station at Hutton & Leavenworth currently underway and expected to be done the end of the first quarter of next year.

Juvenile Center Complex



Total Project Cost Est. \$28M

Same thing for the Juvenile Justice center, end of first quarter next year. Both of those weather permitting. We're hoping to have a good winter and get a lot of work done.

That's all I have for the big projects.

I do want to note that with part of the budget for 2020, you approved additional funding for a concrete program to go along with our pavement preservation. We will be seeing additional curb and gutter replacement with our pavement preservation next year, as well as you approved money for alley improvements as well. We will be taking a heavier look into alleys and what kind of a program to improve those annually as we move forward. I do appreciate that extra funding. I think you'll see that as we go forward with our pavement preservation.

We have a few other projects. If you have any questions, I'd be glad to answer anything specific about other projects, but I just wanted to note a few of the big ones.

October 21, 2019

Commissioner Johnson said, Troy, the I-70 & Turner Diagonal, you might have already said this and I might have just glazed over it, but how long do those projects typically take for that size of a project. **Mr. Shaw** said if you were going to do a design/bid/build, which is the typical delivery method, you would probably be looking at, at least two years or three years by the time you went through the whole selection, design, bidding, and construction process. We're really going to get it reduced as far as the design and construction and be working closely with the contractor and KDOT and KTA all at the same time. It's a pretty good effort.

Commissioner Johnson said it's going to cause some lanes to be closed during periods of time. We're going to get these questions indefinitely. **Mr. Shaw** said yes. That was one of our selection criteria for the design/builder was propose to us how you're going to manage traffic through the construction; closing the whole thing versus allowing traffic to go a certain direction at each time. We've also been in coordination heavily with Amazon and other businesses that are adjacent to the area so they know what to expect. We will have a much better plan of how traffic is going to get switched over and notification once we get a designer/builder on board and he comes up with a schedule and a plan for that. There will be a lot of communication with that.

CMIP Criteria

Mr. Fisher said I'll just give a quick intro. I think in your packet you have a few documents that will hopefully help you understand what we're trying to do here. We're just really being suggestive. This is very open. Very much would like to have your feedback on how we design this process. I think it's important that we do design a process and a system for how we evaluate and determine what that CIP looks like every year. Robby is going to hit on that a little bit.

Outline

- Why?
- Benefits
- Suggested Policy Changes
- Brief Criteria Descriptions
- OpenDiscussion of Weighted Criteria

CMIP Project Selection | Weighted Criteria

Robby Anderson, our Asset Manager, said just a real brief outline here. We're just going to cover why we need some help in trying to outline how to prioritize projects. We're going to outline some of the benefits of our suggested route and then cover some of the suggested policy changes and run through a few brief descriptions of those. Then we'll have an open discussion.

Why?

NEEDS & WANTS > \$\$\$

CMIP Project Selection | Weighted Criteria

Just to be very blunt, our infrastructure needs and wants are very expensive. We want input on how to help in the capital selection process. We want to prioritize the projects based on a matrix score. We have identified the criteria already outlined in the existing policy and we just want to make some additions to that. The goal being to meet the Commission goals while accomplishing our own goals to deliver great services to our community and be good stewards of the taxpayers' dollars.

Benefits

- Objective & Targeted approach to CMIP Project Selection
- Transparency in Project Selection Process
- Compliments Priority Based Budgeting (PBB)
- Deliberate & Strategic approach to Infrastructure Grants
- Greater Certainty in the 5 year CMIP
- Project Coordination between internal & external stakeholders
 - Sequencing activity to provide quality improvements with minimum disruptions to the public

CMIP Project Selection | Weighted Criteria

Some of the benefits of transitioning into a weighted matrix score would be to include objective and targeted approach to CMIP project selection along with transparency in the project selection process by seeking input from the UG Commission and the Planning Commission. We believe this would compliment the Priority Based Budgeting process, the PBB, that has been going with staff here at the UG. Deliberate and strategic approach to infrastructure grants so we'll evaluate projects based on their merits alone, not just if they have been awarded grants or have the potential for grants. They'll be considered, but we would understand the score of a project on its own merit. Some of the other benefits would be to provide a greater certainty in the 5-year CMIP which would allow for us to have better project coordination between internal and external stakeholders. By allowing us to see in the future a little bit further, we can sequence our activities and coordinate with outside utilities and have proper staging of projects.

B. CMIP Project Selection - An objective set of criteria will be used to assess and evaluate project proposals. Major road construction, buildings and parks projects will be evaluated using a weighted matrix of the following criteria. The weighting of these criteria will be set with guidance from the UG Board of Commissioners and Planning Commission. Although specific criteria may be updated from time to time, the following concepts are core principles to be considered in the development of such criteria:

1. Long-Term Forecasts - Long-term forecasts should be prepared to better understand resources available for capital spending and to assess operational impacts and eventual maintenance replacement costs.
2. Revenue Generation or Economic Development Advantages - Projects should be given priority that demonstrate the potential to have a positive return on investment, either through expected increases in assessed valuation or other economic values that could generate future additional revenues.
3. Impact on Other Projects - Projects should not be considered in isolation. One project's impact on others should be recognized and costs shared between projects where appropriate. Project coordination will be properly sequenced both internally and alongside external stakeholders operating in Wyandotte County/Kansas City, KS.
4. Allow for Funding of Preliminary Activities - For some projects it may be wise to fund only preliminary engineering/planning before committing to funding the whole project. However, even these expenditures can be considerable. Therefore, these preliminary engineering/planning should also be evaluated, analyzed and prioritized appropriately.
5. Full Lifecycle Costing - Cost analysis of a proposed project should encompass the entire life of the asset, from planning and acquisition to disposal.
6. Predictable Project Timing and Scope - Schedule and scope estimates should be practical and achievable within the requested resources, including financial and human.
7. Population Served - An estimate of the population that would directly benefit from a project should be considered in the prioritization of project selection.
8. Capacity Needs - Using volumetric data, traffic counts, or daily visitors to evaluate the current and future needs of systems to prioritize projects that improve the overall function of network assets.
9. Community Sites - The social impact of projects near community locations should be considered in project selection.
10. Commerce - Projects that enhance the economic viability of future and existing commercial corridors should be considered during project selection.
11. Master Plans - UG master plans for zoning, transportation, trails, parks, bus routes and bike lanes should be considered in project selection.
12. Safety - The safety of the public interacting with UG infrastructure should be considered in project selection.
13. Infrastructure Condition - A combination of condition ratings, consequence of failure analysis, and likelihood of failure estimates should be considered in project selection.

CMIP Project Selection Policy | Suggested Revisions

October 21, 2019

Don't worry, I'm not going to read this. I will highlight that the red and underlined are some of the additions that we've recommended. Just to make sure I cover the key ones here, we want to introduce a weighted matrix for major road construction, buildings, and parks projects. The weighting of the criteria will be set with guidance from the UG Board of Commission and the Planning Commission. In addition to the impact on other projects, the project's ability to be sequenced appropriately both internally and alongside external stakeholders' capital projects should be considered.

IV. POLICY	Capital Criteria	Weight %
B1, B4, B5	Costs: Design, O&M, Full Lifecycle	
B2	ROI (Return-on-Investment)	
B13	Infrastructure Condition*	
B12	Safety*	
B8	Capacity Needs*	
B7	Population Served*	
B3	Coordination: Internal/External Stakeholders	
B10	Commerce*	
B9	Community Sites*	
B11	Master Plans*	
B6	Predictable Project Timing and Scope	
	Total Must = 100 %	

* Capital Criteria in Red are suggested revisions to the current CMIP Policy

Weighted Criteria | What criteria? How do we weight them?

A list of criteria that are data driven would include population served, capacity needs to network, community sites, commerce, master plans, safety, and infrastructure condition. These are just suggestions. We're seeking feedback here.

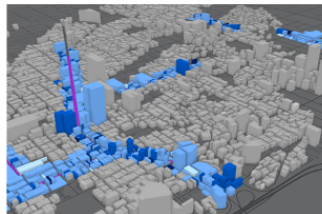
What this would look like if I gave you 100% and you could divvy it up across this, how would you weight these difference concepts or criteria. We'll come back to this at the end for discussion.

Just a brief walk-through here on our capability to meet the existing policy guidelines. We can do research into potential impacts of projects.

Return on Investment (ROI)

Historical Impact of Public Works Activity on
-Commercial Values
-Residential Values

Use data to assess the ROI for specific projects



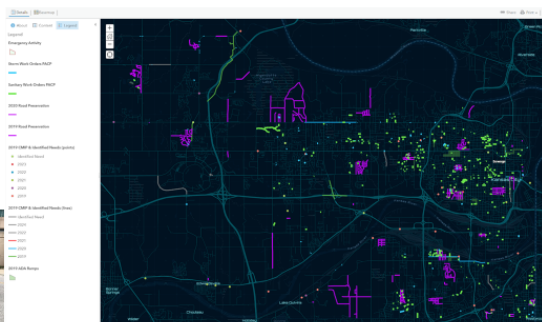
CMIP Project Selection Policy | Meeting the Goals of the Policy

What would the impact of a road project be on adjacent property values? To do this, we already started exploring the financial impact or the real estate impact on some of our previous CMIP projects. We can also outline whether or not there's a return on investment related to the funding of a particular project.

Coordination

Sequencing activity to reduce expenses and the impact on the community

NEXT STEPS:
Having capital improvement plans from other utilities



CMIP Project Selection Policy | Meeting the Goals of the Policy

To help meet the goals of the policy, we also have been improving our ability to coordinate internally. Here's a map I produced in concert with some other people that outlines and layers both our CMIP projects and identified asset needs from Water Pol. If we're going to go out and we have selected a road for pavement preservation, we can identify that other asset that's in the same space and notify Water Pol. and we can sequence that activity accordingly. **Mr. Fisher** said including BPU and gas. **Mr. Anderson** said the next stages of this would be to include other utilities' operations.

Condition Assessments

Pavement Condition Index (PCI)

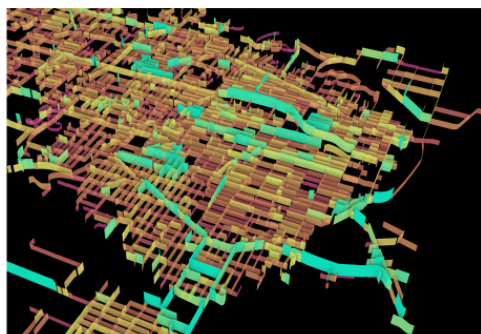
Curb

Sidewalk

Striping

Signs

Storm & Sanitary Infrastructure



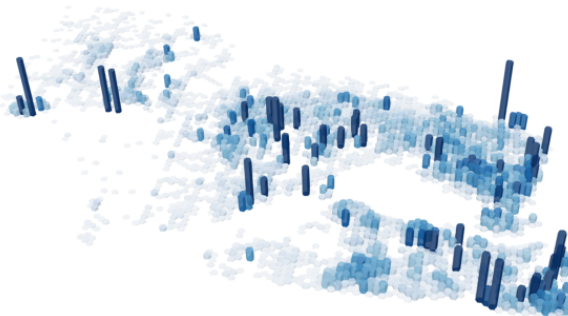
CMIP Project Selection Policy | Meeting the Goals of the Policy

We also have conducted and have access to data on condition assessments. Pavement condition index, you've been informed about before which has to do with our road conditions so we can prioritize what roads need what type of treatments at what time.

UG Population Density

Every Quarter

Down to the Address



CMIP Project Selection Policy | Meeting the Goals of the Policy

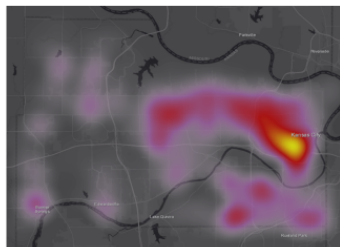
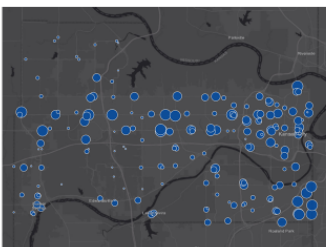
We can also assess how much of a population would be affected by a project.

Capacity Needs

Car Ownership Density

Average Daily Traffic

Storm & Sanitary Network Analysis



CMIP Project Selection Policy | Meeting the Goals of the Policy

October 21, 2019

We can assess the capacity needs. On the left here is the average daily traffic. On the right is a map of motor vehicle registrations.

Vision:

Sequencing Activity

Project Areas - Package needs by area, chart a course for each unique set of needs, score packages against each other?

Maintenance activity in concert with Capital Projects?

What should the minimum for a capital project be? \$200K?

Scoring Projects on their Face Value (without Grant Applications)

Update Project Lists by Rank

Stability of CMIP

Community Vision | CMIP

The vision here is we'd like to be able to sequence activities, start to identify project areas that have mutual needs or areas of mutual interests to different stakeholders. We'd like to ask some questions here about the maintenance activity in concert with capital projects and the minimum for a capital project. I know this is a concern to Jeff is that \$200,000. Is it beyond that? We want to score projects on their face value without regard to grant applications. We want to create a rank order list of the projects so we can provide a stable CMIP.

IV. POLICY	Capital Criteria	Weight %
B1, B4, B5	Costs: Design, O&M, Full Lifecycle	
B2	ROI (Return-on-Investment)	
B13	Infrastructure Condition*	
B12	Safety*	
B8	Capacity Needs*	
B7	Population Served*	
B3	Coordination: Internal/External Stakeholders	
B10	Commerce*	
B9	Community Sites*	
B11	Master Plans*	
B6	Predictable Project Timing and Scope	
Total Must = 100 %		

* Capital Criteria in Red are suggested revisions to the current CMIP Policy

Weighted Criteria | What criteria? How do we weight them?

To return back to that matrix for discussion. **Mr. Fisher** said we really would like to get two things out of this discussion. One is what's the right criteria. Once we kind of have some feedback on that, the idea would be we would send this body an email of the survey Monkey and allow you to score/to weight each of those criteria. We'll take that from this body and from the Planning Commission. We'll have a similar discussion with them in November and sort of average that and

October 21, 2019

see what those right weights are for each of those criteria. We would apply that to the four out years of the existing CIP and the unfunded list and see how all those projects score and might rank, and then provide to the full Commission a report in early December and sort of go from there. Once we kind of work the bugs out of that, then we would have a final CMIP, I think, in February for the next five years.

It's important to know there's an existing policy. We're enhancing that policy and then using this system to determine what that CMIP needs to look like. That would be the extent of what the involvement would be. What are the right criteria and what are the weights for those criteria? We'll take any questions.

Commissioner Markley said I really appreciate this. I feel like we've been inching toward this before Jeff even joined us. At that time, we had budget issues and we would have a sister project and there was no ranking at all. It was put upon the Commission to decide which project should get cut when we had no frame of reference. We started seeing the ranking so up in our budget and that's been helpful. I think this is just the next level of that detail to help us to see what projects should be moving forward and which projects should have that higher priority.

I'm really glad to see safety added in your suggestion. I feel like Mike Kane. I'm really glad to see safety added in. We often have complaints about streets from residents where it might not be the most well-traveled street. The pavement may be okay, but people are flying off the corner into somebody's yard every week so that's a problem and it needs to be addressed at a different level. Definitely, I'm glad to see that one added in. I think your other suggestions are very good as well.

I think probably we—I don't know how much detail other commissioners want, but I'd be interested to know how we're figuring up some of these as we get into more detail. There are probably other commissioners—I won't name names who would also be interested in that level of data.

Commissioner Kane said I certainly agree with the safety part. It ought to be a lower number instead of a B12. I think you should combine B7 and B9 with the population out west and apart west of 435. I don't see that anywhere in your plans, but I think we should be putting that there. **Mr. Fisher** said the B1, that column on the left is just a section of the policy. **Commissioner Kane** said I'm talking about—I don't care about your policy. I don't care what we've got written.

I'm telling you what we haven't gotten written and what we don't have is a park out west. Thank you very much. **Mr. Fisher** said it's not a score.

Commissioner Johnson asked will you bring these to us maybe in 3-ons. I'd like to have more details as well. I don't know whether it's best to do it at a standing committee or outside of that. Certainly, I want to be able to better understand each of the points there to form my decisions.

Chairman Bynum said I don't think we're going to do any rating tonight. **Mr. Fisher** said no. **Chairman Bynum** said I think we're going to look at CMIP and the outyears, and you're going to give us an opportunity to do so weighting using the criteria you've developed. **Mr. Fisher** said if there are no adds or changes to what staff suggested for the criteria, then we'll send that out in an email and you'll weight those. Then we'll go to Planning Commission and do something similar.

Chairman Bynum said you're going to find some way to compile among ten commissioners, a mayor, and a Board of Planning & Zoning what consensus looks like as it relates to the criteria not only that exists but that you're suggesting be added, which are the items in red. **Mr. Fisher** said right. **Chairman Bynum** said you think by somewhere January, February, you're going to be able to bring that back to us. **Mr. Fisher** said we're going to have a follow-up discussion with full Commission in early December. Then we'll have a couple of months to present a final CMIP.

Commissioner Markley said Mike Kane's question just brought another question up. We're talking about weighting and we're talking about weighting all projects using the same percentages. Like parks projects, would they be in the CMIP? **Mr. Fisher** said yes. **Commissioner Markley** said we're not going—**Mr. Fisher** said I'm glad you said it. **Commissioner Markley** said the safety of a park project, there's some weirdness there. I feel like they're always going to come out on the bottom because some of these are short and applicable to adding a park; meeting capacity needs. **Mr. Fisher** said they'll probably score high in a couple of the other areas pretty consistently.

Chairman Bynum said I do have one question with regard to the last year that we spent talking about stormwater. I know that you've identified the top four or five projects chronologically that

you believe need to happen in this community to deal with stormwater. **Mr. Fisher** said right. **Chairman Bynum** asked is that factored in. **Mr. Fisher** said they're not scored. We're proposing that we don't include stormwater and wastewater because we've already outlined a stormwater plan and we've locked in on certain projects in that order. Wastewater is much influenced by the consent decree, so we just kind of leave those alone. What we would do is when we're considering road projects and parks projects and buildings, that we're considering those stormwater and wastewater needs to make sure we're leveraging the projects right.

Commissioner Kane asked how many of those stormwater projects are west of 435. **Mr. Fisher** said I don't recall. I don't think any of them are. **Commissioner Kane** said I want you to say that louder. I don't recall...**Mr. Fisher** said I don't recall any being west of...**Commissioner Kane** said that you don't have any of them west of 435. **Mr. Fisher** said correct. **Chairman Bynum** said, however, some are in your district. **Commissioner Kane** said one.

Chairman Bynum said, Mr. Groneman, any questions or comments. (He had no questions.)

Chairman Bynum asked do we understand what's going to happen next because this is also an information item. Okay. I think we mostly understand. I think the next thing from you will be some communication about the projects you're going to ask us to look at and put our scores on. **Mr. Fisher** said you're going to receive this and you're going to assign weights to each of those criteria.

Commissioner Johnson said I need to have a one-to-one with you guys. **Mr. Winters** said sure, absolutely.

Action: **For information only.**

Public Agenda:

Item No. 1 – 19961....APPEARANCE: ROBERT WING

Synopsis: Appearance of Robert Wing regarding health and safety issues – KCK Fire Department. This appearance was removed from the September 23, 2019 meeting and moved to October 21st, at the request of Mr. Wing.

October 21, 2019

Chairman Bynum said, sir, Commissioner Kane has requested that you be invited up to the front table for your comments. I am happy to have you come forward.

Robert Wing said my business address is 7540 Leavenworth Road. I am currently the state president of the Kansas State Council of Fire Fighters Union and the current business manager of International Association of Fire Fighters Local 64 here in Kansas City. I'd like to thank all of you for allowing me to take up a couple of issues that have been longstanding and I think need to be addressed by the committee here. They involve the staffing of the new fire station, which was pictured in the prior presentation at Hutton Road & Leavenworth Road, and the continuing fire station issues in Kansas City, KS. By continuing fire station issues, I'm talking about structures that quite frankly in some cases are not even livable. I think it's time to come to this committee.

I was at a meeting of the Commission several years ago under the prior Fire administration. Commissioner Bynum, you were correct when you instructed that administration that these types of issues start with this committee and go up to the full Commission from there. That's why I'm here.

The document I passed out is the current labor agreement. That is really the charge that brings me here. Under Article 35, at the bottom of page 49, and then at the top of page 50. What is going to be addressed here stops at the end of line 6, the term Kansas standard. What the language says, just for those in the audience, this is a joint labor management process to analyze the Fire Department. It's been ongoing for some time. Factors to be considered in the analysis and in the development of a comprehensive master plan where the development include but are not limited to the following station locations including: potential new stations and renovation and expansion and/or closure of existing stations, deployment of manpower and apparatus, response times, the safety of Fire personnel and consideration of the NFEA 17 standard.

Members of committee, what brings me here is a notification or a call that firefighters received from the Fire staff stating City Hall wanted a recommendation or what the committee was going to be recommending as far as moving a fire apparatus existing from the urban core, from inside the city limits or the city itself, that exists right now to man the new Piper station. One, I take exception to that because that undermines the committee's work. Our charge was to analyze through data compiled over a period of years, that we have disseminated to all the commissioners to this point. Every one of you, I believe, has every document we utilized to make this decision and recommendation to you all.

Commissioner Groneman, I don't think you have, but I would be very happy to provide you with all the documentation.

With that, I will not speak for the department but I will speak for the firefighters. We took exception to that. It undermined our work. Quite frankly, it's not the first time that City Hall has interfered in this committee's work. Just being very frank about it. We were charged, as professionals, to bring it to the elected officials not to city hall, not to the Administrator's Office, recommendations on what needed to be to improve fire service and EMS service in the city of Kansas City, KS, and the county of Wyandotte. Quite frankly, that effort has been hindered continually by these types of requests and, if you will, different people sticking their nose in our business so we can't come over and make these recommendations. That's what brings me here.

As far as the manning of Station 12, we had a full committee discussion with the staff, with the chiefs, and his selection for members of the committee and the firefighter side and our selection of members for the committee. Without dissent, the committee chose to bring forward the discussion that we had and that Station 12 should be manned with a newly created company. There should be no fire company moved from the inner-city to take care of the issues that have long existed in Piper. As I said, there was no dissent on either side of that discussion. There were no names named on anyone from City Hall who mandated that this recommendation come over moving a company from east to west. Quite frankly, all the data that we have, none of us support that type of movement. In fact, there is data going back to the early 2000's on a study we did that clearly states, and it was declared a valid document at that time, any movement of any—further movement of apparatus from its current location anywhere to the west end should be considered a reduction in service to that area. That's the way we view it.

In the discussions that I've had with both community leaders and some commissioners, I have not had anybody tell me that they think it's okay in your commission district or in the commission district that they live in that they think it's good that they want to give up some piece of service that they receive right now. They're there for a reason. They were put there with the safety of the residents and the safety of firefighters in mind. In our eyes, that is exactly what this still mandates so that was without dissent our discussion and I thought you should know that.

Second issue. The condition of the stations in Kansas City, KS, should be no secret. It's been made public several times. It was included in the FACETS study, which I can tell you probably is one of the more valid conclusions that the FACETS study come through with. In fact, I think

it's the only valid part of that study. The firefighters were truly disappointed in what they brought forward there for fire and EMS service coverage in this community.

One thing that sticks out is they had the good sense to hire an independent architect to go around and take a look at every one of the 18 fire stations in Kansas City, KS. These are buildings that people live in 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It's like their home away from home. I'm almost sure that all of you have seen some, if not all, the news coverage here of some of the problems that have surfaced in these stations. Let me assure you, those are not the first time these problems have surfaced in those fire houses and there are more than those. Quite frankly, I just got tired of looking at myself on television and so did my wife so I decided to bring them here to you.

Just on the surface, the mold that was found in the Argentine station was deplorable. The further they got into it, the more mold they found. That has existed before in that station and obviously has a health risk not only to the firefighters who live in that station, but to the steady traffic that comes in and out of there because it sits in that city park.

The animals that were living in the attic at the fire station at 51st & Gibbs is unheard of. It's unheard of from the perspective that the employer from—I don't know if the Fire Department knew it. I don't think so. Someone in this Unified Government knew there were animals up in that attic and did nothing about it. Probably thought it was funny because I've seen some smirks on some officials' faces about that. I don't think it's funny at all. Those animals carry diseases and it's a shame when you have to surface when they come crashing through the ceiling of the eating area in the middle of the night. The firefighters had to corral those things.

The fire station at 78th & Kansas has been found to be structurally unfit and today remains structurally unfit to the point where it is feared it could collapse. That is stated in the FACETS study. It has been looked at by the internal people here in the city and they recognize there's a problem out there.

Chairman Bynum asked, Mr. Wing, could I interrupt you for one moment. **Mr. Wing** said sure. **Chairman Bynum** asked are we timing. Do we need to—are we at the end of our time? Do we need to extend time?

Action: **Commissioner Kane made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Markley, to extend time to complete his topic.** Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Wing said I'm coming to the end anyway, Commissioner. Commissioner Bynum, I know you go up and down Leavenworth Road every day. That's your district at large. I see you out there. Something as minor as a retaining wall on the south side of the fire house at 81st & Leavenworth Road, which has existed for years and has not been repaired, is an eyesore. If that was someone's private property in this community, I'll bet Codes would be out there citing them and get that wall repaired in some way, shape, or form. That's as minor a problem that hasn't been taken care of within our structure of fire houses. I'll assure you there are many more specifically in that building, as you well know. I applaud you for the interest you've taken in that Leavenworth Road corridor, specifically the public buildings and the fire houses along Leavenworth Road. That just glares at you if you drive by.

I have witnessed the last few nights, the last week to 10 days the interest in the ballpark out there. The funds that have come forward that can be identified to take care of the issue out there—and don't get me and take me out of context. Don't get me wrong. That's an asset to this community. I think it should be preserved. I think that is an entertainment venue that needs to continue to exist. As we identify in this community as quickly as it has come about, funds that can go forward to make sure there's a baseball team here and that we not only keep the stadium that the UG owns the way it is, but can find money to improve it, but 15 out of our 18 existing fire houses don't meet code. I think it's embarrassing at best. I'm speaking as a taxpayer.

I know we're talking about money here. In some respect, we're talking about serious change. This is due to an administration who has underfunded and underresourced the Fire Department for a period of years. I, as a taxpayer, an individual, and a union official think it's time that we collectively start taking these issues up and finding some resolve to them. I've given ideas out before publicly and they have just been ignored, I think, by different individuals, be the elected officials, or Fire Department officials, or leaders of the community that could start to remedy these. Patience is growing short on our side. I think the firefighters should be commended for putting up with this this long.

In Kansas City, MO, they had this problem some years ago. It took two ladies filing two separate federal lawsuits to get Kansas City, MO, off the dime. Kansas City, MO, bit the bullet. They passed the sales tax and they can be proud of their fire houses over there now. The morale of their firefighters is tremendously better than when they lived in these buildings, that quite frankly, we're living in right now.

With that, that's what brings me here.

Commissioner Kane said I've got a couple of comments and a couple of questions. When the FACETS did the study, it said we needed two fire stations, not one. We have to remember that because we know one isn't enough to cover the ground out there. Is the fire station down in Fairfax #15? **Mr. Wing** said yes, sir. **Commissioner Kane** said I worked at General Motors. I was one of the union reps at the time. That request came from General Motors to build that fire station. You have to remember that Fairfax was half empty at the time. It's full now. One of the very first things staff mentioned about was taking some people out of Station #15 and you've got how many thousands of people down there every day? This is a little sideways because we get information from the administration, but not so much from you folks. I have four questions.

What is the status of your grievance presently pending? What is the labor board change pending? What are your present negotiations? What will it take to get all of these resolved?

Mr. Wing said I will speak as loudly as you want me to almost. I don't want to get under your skin like the prior speaker. I'll repeat anything you tell me.

Commissioner Kane said first one, grievance presently pending. **Mr. Wing** said you know, Commissioner, I made a request to be on the agenda several months ago to take up pending grievances that had not been addressed up to that point, disappointing to both my office and to the firefighters who were affected. When I did that, there was some movement to get those issues resolved. I had several documents from the employer to point toward a wanting to resolve them, but to date, nothing's resolved. Several of them include funding of payment to firefighters and simply nothing has transpired.

Commissioner Kane asked what's the status of labor board change pending. **Mr. Wing** asked are you talking about the labor board charges regarding bad faith bargaining. **Commissioner Kane** said correct. **Mr. Wing** said they're still pending. I think you're all aware one of those has been going on now almost two years, which is a simple resolve. I have responded to the attempt by the Administrator to resolve that one. I think it's close. He has a document from my attorney through Mr. Denk that will get that resolved. Basically, all the employer would have to say was—that issue that has been discussed really more than I care to talk about, no firefighter did any wrong. No law was broken by any firefighter. No contractual provision was violated by any firefighter. That's all the response from my office to my attorney to the city attorney says. That is in the Administrator's Office right now hopefully to get executed and that charge will go away.

Commissioner Kane asked what is the status of your present negotiations. **Mr. Wing** said negotiations are stymied on charges. I've been questioned by elected officials...**Commissioner Kane** asked you have not refused to bargain with them. **Mr. Wing** said I am not going to bargain until those charges are resolved, Commissioner Kane. No one knows better than you what I'm talking about. If they try to bargain with the UAW down there when you were down there on that UAW bargaining board and the allegation by either side, by the labor side or by the employer's side, that there was bad faith or evidence of bad faith bargaining, negotiations stopped. **Commissioner Kane** said the reason I said that is he's 100% right. You finish the issues that you have on the table before you start your next negotiations. That's not just their union, the UAW, Laborers 1290. You negotiate what you have and you finish those, whatever those issues are, and then you start negotiating. You don't negotiate with those items still left on the table. I think it's very important that we talk about that because before the UAW went on strike, they didn't talk about what happened here; they're talking about what's happening now. It's the same thing. If you don't have that issue resolved, you win nothing. Not one union, your dad was a UAW guy, you're married to an electrician, go home and ask them. That's exactly the way it works. I know a lot of people don't necessarily like it, but that's the way it is. That's the way all union contracts are dealt with.

Mr. Wing said, Commissioner, we're just trying to live by the rules. We didn't make the rules. Some people disagree with the rules. I may disagree with some of the rules, but that's what we live by.

Commissioner Kane said last question. What would it take to resolve all these issues? **Mr. Wing** said I think the simplest answer, Commissioner, is reasonable people doing reasonable things. Coming to the table with the intent of okay, we've got these out in front of us instead of okay, I'll listen to you and then I'm going to walk away from you. I'm not going to let stuff take the issue of the charge.

The response from the union has been in the Administrator's Office now for several weeks. Nothing has been acted on. All it takes is a signature and/or discussion, a reasonable discussion. Okay, where are our differences here? Now I've got an arbitration with him tomorrow. Hopefully, we're going to go after that arbitration, which shouldn't take long, and find some resolve to this, or my next intent is to get back on the agenda of the full Commission and bring them to the Commission. I will not get off that one.

I know what was played here. They'll go away. Give them a little hot air and they'll go away. Give them a document here and there and they'll go away. We're not going away on these. These men and women deserve better than that. I know this Commission will give them better than that. It shouldn't take that. If we don't get these things moving and resolved, Commissioner, one, we'll never be at the table and secondly, we're going to continue to have these problems which not only wronged the individuals who filed the valid complaints, but it is not fair to the community because it drives morale into the ground of your employees. Employees with bad morale don't do good out in the community when they're out serving the community. That leads to problems.

I want to take up one other issue you raised about the FACETS study, Commissioner. It didn't recommend two fire houses, but it recommended closing four or five fire companies. Let's distinguish that. I'm not into buildings. I'm certainly not into rotting buildings. This is not about closing buildings; it's about closing fire companies. Fire stations don't put out fires. Fire stations don't respond to calls. Firefighters do on fire trucks. That's called a fire company. What we're saying is, the valid studies that we've done, even one that the Chief's Office showed me that was done out of the Administrator's Office on someone he's hired there to do GIS, almost mirrors what the firefighters put on the table. Not only are two fire houses needed, which was a bogus study and not really founded well because if you remember correctly, and I've raised this with the Fire staff, what that study actually said was, and I'll just use this as an example, and they said it right here in this room, look out at that station front bay doors at Station #10 at 39th & Rainbow, 37th & Rainbow, 36th & Rainbow and what do you see? A city within itself, the KU Med Center. They recommended you could run that part of town, specifically that med center, with one fire company. Clearly, the discussion went on when the gentleman explained well, if they had more time, they might have made a different recommendation. These are professionals hired by the UG. Everyone sitting in the audience who has any knowledge of this type of work knew that was a bogus claim.

What the document that I understand is coming out of the Administrator's Office and what the firefighters put on the table and was given to each one of you, is a minimum of four to five fire houses are needed in addition to what we have right now. Specifically, the fire response times and the load over in the south end is horrible. You only have to go to our document to find that. If you go to the one that came out of the Administrator's Office, it says the same thing.

Commissioner Markley, as you've discussed with the firefighters, you've been told the next fire house is going to be built in your district, I think in the park. One, that wasn't a determination of the committee. That's been a determination, once again, undermining the committee's work by somebody else. We didn't make that recommendation. Not saying it's not needed, but it's just a good illustration of what has not been adhered to regarding this agreed upon document. Our intent and our discussions should be, what does your district need as a whole. You need much more than they're telling you. You have done very well. I've commented both to you and Commissioner Bynum on you going into the fire houses to find out what's wrong. I'm here to tell you there's more wrong than you can see on its face.

The FACETS study, Commissioner Kane, was a dog and pony show at best. We put no faith in it at all. We're not using it to make any determinations.

Chairman Bynum said, Mr. Wing, in the essence of time only—and I appreciate what you brought forward and I'm compartmentalizing. I see a lot of compartments. This document that you've given us a copy of speaks to the committee that you're referencing. **Mr. Wing** said yes, ma'am. **Chairman Bynum** said and the recommendations that have come forward for both people and buildings. But then, I'm hearing you say that what we've heard to date so far that I don't know is in any sort of stone about the plans for the fire stations coming in the future weren't part of this committee's work. Am I hearing that correctly because we have had laid out for us like a 10 – 12-year plan. We know that we need the new stations. Everybody agrees we need the new stations.

I would say, just really quickly, to both Police and Fire, I do believe dilapidated buildings are not helpful to morale. I also think what I see is a Fire Department and a Police Department that works and works hard and works with passion, regardless of the state of the building they're coming out of to do that work. I'm not negating its impact on morale. I just think we happen to have a quality of people that do their job anyway in spite of. I would just add that to that piece of the conservation.

Chairman Bynum said we have had a presentation, I think, to this committee from Fire. It was easily a year and a half ago. We've had some discussion about the 10 – 12-year plan for replacement of stations. We're hearing from you tonight. We renewed our EMS sales tax, fortunately, a year ago on the ballot. We, tonight, talked about our CMIP and the ranking system and the weighting system. All of these things, to me, are going to fold together. I would appreciate

maybe more presentations like this that are planned for on the agenda as agenda items so that we can all be prepped and ready to have those very serious conversations. There's no question as the prior presentation said, our wants are many, our needs are many, and our dollars are fewer. We all know that we balance. We balance all the way through. What we're trying to do is balance more than one year at a time. What we're trying to do is make a plan that's viable.

I appreciate the labor questions that Mr. Kane has brought forward. I don't have an answer for those types of items, although I appreciate the discussion. I'm just wanting to sort of wrap this up, if you will, not by brushing it away, but by saying that we've got to look at what have we done so far. I think things like renewing the EMS tax was a statement from the community that its worth supporting. I think we've got to look at our CMIP and we've got to look at these processes we're trying to put in place to balance the money that we know is available and the needs that we know we have. Then I think we've got to do things like look at this potential plan or station replacement. You already know, obviously, what I want in the Leavenworth Road area. I realize that's just a desire based on my sentiment and my local, and that every part of our community wants the same thing.

Chairman Bynum said with that, Commissioner Kane, Mr. Groneman, Commissioner Johnson... **Commissioner Johnson** said the only thing that I would add to that was the discussion with regard to the manning fees. I think you said it very clearly once that just because we build a new fire station, you can't just assume that it doesn't include an increase in manhours, personnel. I don't want to get too much into labor and things like that, but that information as it relates to the manning of a station and being taken away from other stations, I think, is something that heightens my awareness. I think I need to hear more information from the appropriate parties with regard to that. I don't know that I've been given enough information to even speak intelligently about that. That's something I want to hear more about at some point.

Commissioner Kane said I actually think that we should have a special session on it with all the commissioners here. **Chairman Bynum** said I do too. **Commissioner Kane** said and with staff and let them tell their side of it. We don't have to have a war. We used to have to have a meeting to get off first base. **Commissioner Johnson** said that's a great way to do it, is my opinion.

Commissioner Markley said that was going to be my side as well. We're hearing sort of the committee, and we're hearing staff, and we're hearing Administration staff versus Fire staff.

We need to get everybody together so that we can hear the whole story all at once and get an idea of where we're supposed to be heading.

Chairman Bynum said I would just say at a very minimum, this is Public Works and Safety, so I am going to thank you for asking to come and talk to us. I remember as well what you're referencing when I was sitting as a member of the full Commission and very unhappy that something was in front of us that had never come forward through this body, so I appreciate that. If it's a full Commission discussion, I'm fine with that too. I think maybe you're opening up a conversation that needs to be had more fully. **Mr. Wing** said I agree. **Chairman Bynum** said and among more people. With that, I'll thank you for coming and for your comments. I think it's always important that we hear from you. **Mr. Wing** said I'd be happy to come back. **Chairman Bynum** said absolutely. We'll just be in touch.

Action: **No action.**

Item No. 2 – 19961....APPEARANCE: TSCHER MANCK

Synopsis: Appearance of Tscher Manck regarding:

- Lack of law enforcement
- Lack of officers & firefighters
- Lack of diversity of officers & firefighters in the Northeast area

Tscher Manck, Wyandotte County, said I do want to say we have an awesome looking Fire Department in here by the way. Shout-out. I am sad to hear Mr. Wing saying that they need all of these repairs and we just gave the T-Bones a million dollars and a year of help on their BPU bill. That's not safe for our firefighters. I've seen that news report by the way and I've seen the critter on the table that came through the ceiling. If you guys didn't see it, please go look at it.

I wanted to talk about, well, that kind of blew me away, the firefighters. I wanted to talk about how we're down like 40 officers in Wyandotte County; 40 – 60 officers. I just kind of was given some ideas not to put down our Police Department, but to give them some ideas on maybe to recruit. Maybe go out to the college. Maybe have a bar-be-que. Maybe have some basketball games with the community versus the Police Department, something, to kind of build their trust with the community and stuff like that.

I was also wondering; do we still have the truancy police? I live in close proximity to Wyandotte County. The kids walk up and down Minnesota during school hours. It's not safe. They sell drugs. They do other things. It's a high police area that they patrol right there by 38th & State or 38th & Minnesota, or whatever. I'm just trying to figure out how we can do something with that as long as we're down police officers.

There is a lack of diversity in my area. I, of course, I do not utilize out west more so I don't know if there are more diversified, or if there is more diversity out that way with the police officers, but there is not a lot of diversity down this way.

I also wanted to bring up the BPU issues that some of the residents are having with BPU since we have a BPU person here. We have a lack of linemen or we contract out to linemen. When I spoke to some of the linemen who we contract out to they said that they didn't want to live in Wyandotte County because the taxes are too high. How do we continue to contract out to different linemen in different areas? It seems like we're short with the Fire Department, the BPU linemen, and the Police Department due to high taxes, due to various other things that are going on in the community. I'm just trying to figure out where you guys are kind of headed with that. I'm talking about the lack of diversity. I was also talking about the shortage of like linemen like we're spending extra money contracting out to linemen and things like that instead of hiring them here, but they don't want to live here because of the taxes.

Chairman Bynum asked are you still making your statement or are you...**Ms. Manck** said no. I was asking you a question, Ms. Bynum. I'm like are we headed...**Chairman Bynum** said I just wanted you to take your time. **Ms. Manck** said yes, ma'am. **Chairman Bynum** said you have five minutes and make your statement. Then, if there are specific things we can address tonight, we will. There might be things that we cannot address in which case we'd have to have a follow-up conversation. I, for example, I'm not really able to speak to you about the hiring of contract BPU linemen. That would be fully in the purview of the Board of Public Utilities. I just wanted you to continue on if you don't mind.

Ms. Manck said the UG has more say-so over what the BPU does than they like to let us think, but we can go back to the Fire Department and the Police Department. I just want to know do we have some ideas in place to recruit more police officers whether they are diverse or not? Do we have something in place to help the Fire Department out with this? I was originally talking about

the lack of help with the Fire Department because I also seen an ad that they are too short and that's not safe.

Chairman Bynum said our Police Chief is here. We'll take a minute or two, but I just want to make sure you are done with your comments. **Ms. Manck** said yes. I'm just asking about—I backed off the BPU. We'll talk about that another time. **Chairman Bynum** said we will answer a couple of your questions and then we will probably conclude this meeting so we can go on to the next one. **Ms. Manck** said no problem. **Chairman Bynum** said I want to thank you for taking time to be here.

Chairman Bynum said a couple of things that I heard, speaking to the lack of diversity. I know both Police and Fire have put efforts into that and also recruitment efforts. I've seen some of what the Police Department has done in terms of kind of new ideas on recruitment. Chief York, you want to take a minute or two and speak to those items?

Michael York, Interim Chief of Police, said when it comes to our recruitment, in the last two months, we have had a recruit drive. We have assigned six to seven officers to the Chief's Office. They have been assigned to do nothing but recruit police officers. What they've done is traditionally, we used to rely on word of mouth, social media, banners on I-70, mailers that we sent out in BPU bills saying we were hiring. That helped; that worked but we weren't seeing the numbers so we went to a more traditional approach that we used to do. We are putting a face to the name of KCKPD. This is what we're doing. We are not just going locally, but we are going regionally to all the universities, all the military bases in the region and we are actively recruiting police officers.

With the help of Human Resources, we have streamlined our test so the recruits don't have to keep on coming back time and time again to take a test. What we've done there is we've streamlined the test. An out-of-town recruit could maybe show up twice and then find out from there if he's hired or not. That's helped the process.

We have about 50 people right now in the process of being hired. My goal and hopes would be to hire at least 15 - 20 good, quality police recruits come January. From there, hopefully hire another 20 - 25 come July 2020.

Things are looking really up when it comes to our recruit drive. We are getting a lot of interest. We have done a few things to help out. I'll give you an example. We have a young man who lives in Chicago. He wants to come to KCK to be a police officer. We are going to him tomorrow. We are going to do his background with him tomorrow. We are going to do his lie detector test tomorrow. They don't have to come to us; we are going to them. We've seen some pretty good success with that. I am optimistic that we will have a class, hopefully a sizable class, starting January. If this works like I think it will, we'll keep on doing this type of recruit drive from here on out.

Chairman Bynum said anyone at the table behind you—you have Fire and HR back there. Do you want to speak into this at all—recruitment and diversity? Chief Fletcher and Chief Callahan? **Ms. Manck** asked do we still have the truancy officers. **Chairman Bynum** said thank you. I knew there was another question. Chief York, is there still a truancy officer? I'm not sure that we ever had a truancy officer. **Chief York** said no. We had school resource officers that are assigned to various schools like Turner, Piper, and Bishop Ward. **Chairman Bynum** asked am I correct that we've never passed an actual ordinance around truancy. I don't believe an ordinance...**Chief York** said I'm not really sure on that. I don't think that...**Ms. Manck** said the school board has one, but I've never known you guys to have an ordinance. The school board does, but I'll be there tomorrow. **Chairman Bynum** asked school. **Ms. Manck** said yes.

Chairman Bynum said I think we have a couple of folks from Fire and HR that might want to weigh-in, and then we'll thank you very much truly for taking time to come and share your concerns. If you have something you want to share.

Michael Callahan, Fire Chief, said I'll start and then I'll turn it over to Morris. In terms of ethnic, gender, and racial diversity in specific geographical areas, we're bound by the scriptures of the labor agreement. We can't make somebody stay somewhere if they want to bid out of that and they have the seniority to bid out of a station.

In terms of actual recruitment efforts, I would be remiss if I tried to name them all. The guy sitting next to me, he can.

Morris Letcher, Assistant Fire Chief, said I'm the recruitment officer also. We've done several things through the last couple of years actually that we hadn't done. I could just go off the

top of my head because this is what I do every day. As far as just the things you can currently see, we have a virtual tour of our department that has never been placed in the Kansas City, Kansas Fire Department within the last six months. We also have a new recruitment video that allows you to see members of our department from various diversified groups. We have been with our fire trainee program that we created. It's kind of like a cadet program. We went to every single school twice last year to allow our citizens, our hometown citizens, to be able to apply and start a career in fire service.

I'll just give you a little background how tough it is with recruiting. Recruitment for the Fire Department is tough nationwide, not just for fire personnel, but for minorities in general. It's a nationwide problem. I can say that because I've traveled around, go to different conferences and we have these discussions all the time.

We got approved to hire 8 fire trainees. We had an applicant pool of approximately 42. After the first testing, we were down to 19. As of today, I think we have done some certain tests and we're down to 15. The last fire trainee class we wanted to hire 8, we were only able to hire 6. It's tough to get people interested to become a firefighter due to different things whether its residency, pay, or an opportunity to learn. It's also tough to get minorities to apply. That's one of the things we've done as far as the KCK Fire Department is to try to recruit your own. I'll give you an example.

I was always told when I was a kid that if you want to be the president, you could be the president. I didn't believe that until Barack became president because I saw Barack. It's vital as a black person or black man that I go into my community to help recruit my people; likewise, it is for women and Hispanics and so on, Asians, and things like that. The responsibility is not just on the Fire Department as a department, it's on the Fire Department as our personnel. The reason why you have the mass numbers of white males apply is because that's what they see and they encourage that. I encourage our crew members to go out and do the same.

We have partnered with Kansas City, Kansas Police Department with the public safety Explorer's Program where they get to integrate in and see the different aspects of the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department and how they work. They come with us for a certain amount of time to also see how the Fire Department works. We've had fire paramedic training that we're trying to recruit in to our department also, which is parallel to the fire training program. What that is, you have EMTs that are existing EMTs. They come in and we're allowed to bring them on board providing they pass their paramedic license in a certain amount of time.

We go to every school for all types of PRs every day. There's not a day that goes by that the Kansas City, Kansas Fire Department isn't outside in our community. We don't turn down any community effort to recruit. That starts at a young age that we're starting to see. You can't wait until they're high school or going into college because a lot of those kids already have their minds set on what they think they might want to do.

I've traveled throughout the state to go to community colleges that have paramedic and fire programs. I'm going to be honest with you, it is tough to find minorities in these paramedic and EMT programs. That's a big problem. We try to focus not to just get a certain group, but we want to have a diverse group that we can pinpoint. Once again, we have to make sure we can get their interest in a certain amount of time.

We spent a thousand dollars on our advertising this past two years. We shortened our hiring process so we can get the process going so we don't lose candidates. We've also partnered with the Girl Scouts for Camp Fury and our female firefighters to try to draw interest with females. When you talk about diversity, that's a whole realm as we know as we sit here.

Next month, November 7th, we're starting our second year of Core 4 where we can recruit at the Core4 regions. Also, recruit people not only just diverse, just people to draw interest into our field.

I can go on and on seriously, but I'm going to stop right there because I think I've given you a little bit of what we have done as a Fire Department and even partnered with the Police Department and HR, I didn't mean to leave them out, because we do partner with HR with our events. From the Fire Department side, I'm available any time to discuss this with anybody. I can be reached. If you need my contact, I'll give it to you right after this meeting. **Chairman Bynum** said I appreciate that.

Renee Ramirez, Human Resources Director, said I wanted to make sure that everyone also knew the commitment that the Unified Government has to public safety and recruiting. We did have and formed a public safety task force. One of the commitments that the Unified Government made was to hire a dedicated recruiter for public safety, which we did do that. That public safety recruiter works diligently with the three public safety departments: Police, Fire, and Sheriff to attain applicants to apply. Yes, we are going through non-traditional strategies to get applicants to apply for all three public safety divisions. Chief Fletcher spoke to the career expo that we are going to

participate in with the Core4 that's hosting November 7th at Bartle Hall with all the surrounding agencies. We will play a key part in that.

In addition to those, we've been holding open houses at the Police training academy. We've been participating in KC Prep where our employees actually go and they meet with high school students and middle school students to talk to them about different careers in public safety as well as other career fields in the Unified Government.

We have extended a lot of things. We've also created our own UG Expo that we held last April and invited members of the public to come and visit with UG departments to find out more about our careers. We're working on our second one. We've really done a lot to reach out to the public and we're hoping that—we've done mailers to all the churches in Wyandotte County asking for their help as well. We are pleading with the citizens to help us recruit because that's the only way that we're going to be able to fill our positions.

Chairman Bynum said I appreciate all of that from all of you. Thank you for coming and being ready to help us understand more about what we are doing. I'll just say that we stand ready to help you in any way that we can because you are, I think, we have to move sort of outside the box/ideas on this.

Commissioner Johnson said you just took the words literally out of my mouth. I will say this, I am so committed just seeing what you all are talking about. I'm telling you now, I will commit my time to assist in any way, to be present in any way to do that. We are an international community. We have people from all over from different nationalities here. That comes with the challenges. I do believe this is a long place. First of all, I want you all to continue to do this and don't be discouraged. I think that we have to continue to stay focused on this and let our young people know that there is a path for them as they grow up to be one of the heroes of our town. Again, I just want to extend my assistance in anyway. If I can be of assistance, I'll be there. I just want to let you all know that I'm with you all.

Chairman Bynum said thank you very much and, Ms. Manck, thank you very much.

Action: **No action.**

October 21, 2019

Adjourn:

Chairman Bynum adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

cg