

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

SPECIAL SESSION, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021

The Unified Government Commission of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, met in Special Session, Thursday, February 11, 2021, with eleven members present online. Bynum, Commissioner At-Large First District; Burroughs, Commissioner At-Large Second District; Townsend, Commissioner First District; McKiernan, Commissioner Second District; Ramirez, Commissioner Third District, (arrived at 5:25 p.m.); Johnson, Commissioner Fourth District; Kane, Commissioner Fifth District; Markley, Commissioner Sixth District; Walters, Commissioner Seventh District; Philbrook, Commissioner Eighth District; and Alvey, Mayor/CEO presiding. The following officials were also in attendance: Doug Bach, County Administrator; Bridgette Cobbins, Interim Assistant County Administrator; Melissa Sieben, and Emerick Cross, Assistant County Administrator's; Ashley Hand, Director of Strategic Communication; Brett Deichler, Interim Unified Government Clerk; Angela Lawson, Deputy Chief Counsel; Kathleen VonAchen, Chief Financial Officer; Jack Webb, Deputy Director of Parks & Recreation; Angel Obert, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation; and Rocki Mayes, Program Supervisor in County Administrator's Office.

MAYOR ALVEY said before I call the meeting to order, I want to announce that due to COVID-19, individuals are attending remotely. All participants joining by phone should mute their phones when not speaking to avoid background noise. During the meeting, please make sure that you announce yourself by name and title every time you speak so that the public participating knows who is speaking. This is critical given the number of remote participants in his current guidance from the Kansas Attorney General.

MAYOR ALVEY called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL: Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Burroughs, Townsend, McKiernan, Johnson, Kane, Alvey.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL SESSION of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, to be held Thursday, February 11, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. by way of Zoom for: MARC Climate Action Report, Parks & Recreation New Improvements & Enhancement, and SVV/Casino Grant Distribution Formula.

Due to COVID-19 the public will be able to observe or listen to the meeting live on YouTube or UGTV or through Zoom.

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

Mayor Alvey said as the Clerk stated, we have three items tonight. First up is the Mid-America Regional Council Climate Action Report. I don't think Mr. Bach is on. I know we have a couple of presenters. **Melissa Sieben, Assistant County Administrator**, said, Mayor, I'm available. **Mayor Alvey** said thank you. We have Karen Clawson, I believe, and Tom Jacobs presenting for Mid-America Regional Council. Thanks for coming and doing this. I know this has been in the works for a couple of years, even longer than that. I think it's interesting for us. I thought the timing for this was appropriate as we again look at our infrastructure needs, and we look at solutions to our stormwater problems. I know because of climate change it does affect the water runoff, it affects the resiliency of our infrastructure, so it seemed appropriate that we would have this report brought to our public and the entire Commission at this time. So, thank you for coming and we look forward to hearing your report.

Tom Jacobs, Director of Environmental Programs at MARC, said thank you so much Mayor Alvey. I surely appreciate it. Karen Clawson is our Air Quality Program Manager. She and I have been connected at the hip for the last two years developing this Regional Climate Action Plan.

Before I begin, I just wanted to thank Commissioner Markley who co-chairs our Air Quality forum at MARC, Commissioner Walters who co-chairs our Sustainable Places Policy

Committee, and Commissioner Johnson who is our newly elected chair of the MARC Board of Directors. Mayor Alvey, I thank you for the gracious invitation.



I'm going to do my best to share my screen and walk everybody through a PowerPoint. My hope is that I can get through this in about 15 minutes or so and can leave ample time for questions and discussion. This plan was borne in partnership with Climate Action KC, a roughly three-year old group now that was founded by Mayor Mike Kelly from the city of Roeland Park and Councilwoman Lindsey Constance from the city of Shawnee. They've assembled a partnership including over 100 elected officials, I think, including some of you on this call tonight who have expressed public support to work on Climate Action.

Mayor Kelly and Councilwoman Constance approached the MARC Board two March's ago to ask if we would make an application to the Global Covenant of Mayors which is an international consortium of municipals, all who are working on similar kinds of issues and there's an opportunity to receive technical support for developing this plan. The thing that differentiated us from many of the other is we are tackling this regionally.

Fast forward to where we are today. We have had a very extensive set of community engagement exercises involving, we believe, over 1,000 people and the tone of the conversation was absolutely ambitious reflected by the title here and net zero region by 2050. It's an aspirational goal. It's one that absolutely plausible from a technical perspective and the spirit of our plan is one in which we are not trying to be prescriptive in any manner. We're trying to offer a collaborative framework that brings people together to focus on those places where we believe we can have the greatest impact. It's in that spirit with which I offer the plan.

Guiding thoughts

1. So much of what we need to do, we want to do. Climate solutions build stronger, healthier, more vibrant communities.
2. Resilience builds from **existing success**. We have already proven we can do this!
3. Leadership comes from all of us.
4. Solutions must match the **scale** of the problem, and there is much that we can do to make a big difference.
5. Do no harm. Doing nothing is harmful. **Doing a lot is possible.**



To start us off, there's a number of guiding thoughts here that really frame up what we were trying to do. The first point is so much of what we would need to do, we want to do anyway. We all want to build stronger, healthier, more vibrant communities. You can look at virtually any comprehensive plan from any community in the region and the language that's reflected here will be reflected in that local plan.

In preparing for today's meeting, in conversation with Melissa and having some involvement in some other issues, there's just an incredible amount of successes to build on in Kansas City, Kansas and Wyandotte County and to build on your areas of focus. Mayor, you had mentioned the question of resilient infrastructure and stormwater and combined sewers and, certainly, the Levee Project and focused on biosolids for methane generation is something that you've looked at.

This incredible amount of activity thinking about neighborhood improvement and incremental development, thinking about housing renovation and linking that to infrastructure design perhaps through Complete Streets. I know that there's a focus on solid waste contracts and litter abatement thinking about how to make the facilities in public facilities managed by the Unified Government more efficient, working perhaps at times with different ESCOs or other organizations. There's so much stuff going on in your community that's 100% consistent with what we're trying to do and it's all in the spirit of kind of community vitality and looking at it through a climate lens.

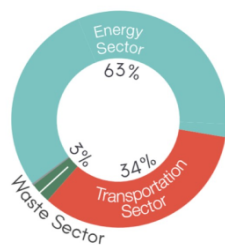
We believe there is leadership from all corners of our community from those of you on the call tonight to representatives of communities throughout the region. We're trying to look for opportunities to set the scale up our solutions and there's virtually not a single thing that we've included in the plan for which there's not a local example. We have very high performing

buildings. We planted trees, restored watersheds. We've installed solar in wind. We've built bike lanes and trails and so forth. We know how to do these things, but the thing that is so hard is to scaling it up into trying to make a system level impact. We don't want to do any harm and we know in this case doing nothing is harmful, doing a lot is possible, and so we're trying to figure out how can we frame up some ideas to help move the ball down the field with respect to this agenda.

2015 GHG Emissions

2015 GHG Emissions for the MARC Region are estimated for the following sectors:

- Stationary Energy
 - Residential Buildings
 - Commercial and Institutional Buildings
 - Manufacturing Buildings
- Transportation
 - On-road Transportation
- Solid Waste
 - Waste Disposal
 - Wastewater

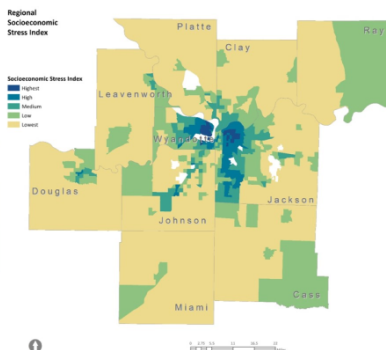
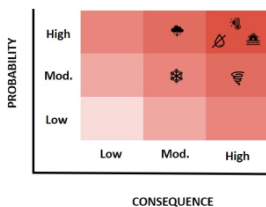


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We developed a regional Greenhouse Gas Emissions inventory and it's a technical process. The headline here is two-thirds of our Greenhouse Gas Emissions come from using energy in buildings and one-third comes from the transportation sector. You can slice and dice this data in a lot of ways, but those are really the headlines and I think you will find the part of our plan that speaks to climate medication or greenhouse gas emissions reduction focuses on those two pieces.

Climate Risk & Vulnerability

Risk Matrix



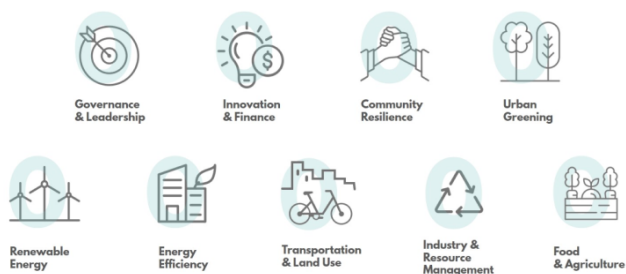
We then developed something called a Climate Risk & Vulnerability Assessment. A few years ago we generated what's called a Downscaled Climate Model for Kansas City. When you read articles, and the press oftentimes will reference national or even global climate models and so we

asked the question, what does it mean for Kansas City. The work that we did allowed us to, with some continents say that the most significant risks come from three main national hazards which are drought, flood and extreme heat. I can go into much more detail around this absolutely, but those are the things we wanted to focus on. Those other icons are in severe thunderstorms and tornados and snow are certainly important as well.

On the right side of this graphic you'll see a Socioeconomic Stress Index and it's a kind of map that is probably familiar to all of us throughout the region. We use census tract, census data to identify these areas and it reflects issues of socioeconomic stress, health, education, and so forth. Then, what we did, is we overlayed these areas of known socioeconomic stress with some of the climate risks. Where is it hottest, where are there heat islands, where are there flood risks, and digging deeper into that over time we'll enable us to really target our solutions in ways that help address the needs in the most vulnerable amongst us.

If there was one thread of conversation in our overarching planning exercise, it's that we need to need to focus on issues of social equity at the intersection with climate and we believe that there's many, many ways to do that.

Action Areas



Our plan is, it lays out action areas in nine different chapters and I'll walk through these just briefly. The first piece on Governance & Leadership is really about how do we work together in collaborative ways to build leadership at every scale from a neighborhood scale to a regional scale and to think about how we can work together and drive all of this agenda forward.

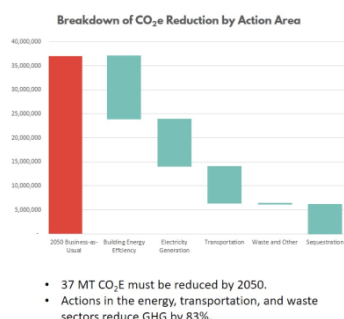
On the Innovation & Finance side, there's a lot of potential we believe to create jobs, to create business opportunities, to support workforce development programs all in service of issues like energy efficiency, renewable energy and green infrastructure.

The Community Resilience piece is really more of what this community has done for a long time. There is so much energy throughout the community in which people are working to help each other in different kinds of ways. It might be a multiple issue so it might be on literacy, it might be on health, it might be on environment. When you look at the climate issues and how they intersect in each of these areas, we believe that there's opportunities to amplify the impact of all of our work through a stronger web, if you will, of resilience.

Then, from there, I believe, there are six different action area chapters and I'll go through these in turn in a couple of upcoming slides.

Mitigation

- Energy generation
- Energy efficiency
- Transportation
- Sequestration
- Circular economy
- Food & agriculture



This slide speaks to climate mitigation. We're talking about greenhouse gas emission reductions and we estimated that in 2015 our region generated about 30M metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents per year. In the business as usual case, if nothing were to change, that number would grow to 37M by 2050 and so we did some quite expensive modeling to try to understand what would it take to drive this number down to zero and there's four main categories.

The first two speak to building energy efficiency and renewable energy and that gets us some very significant way down the road. I know that BPU has been very active on this front and there's really substantial opportunities to make additional interventions, for example, reduce energy burdens by lowest income, you know, in the lowest quintile—lowest income quintile of our community and so forth in ways that also provide for public health benefits and other benefits.

The transportation I said it contributes about a third of the emissions to our region and so what we're talking about here is over time electrifying the fleet, reducing how much we all drive and thinking about how we get around. Maybe it's walking or biking or public transportation or ride sharing.

The final significance bar on the right, sequestration, is everything we couldn't reduce through renewable energy or building energy efficiency or transportation, we really put into this bucket of how do we put a lot of carbon up in the soil and in vegetation through nature-based solutions. That could be urban forestry, it could be stream restoration, it could be more regenerative agriculture, it could be habitat restoration in different parts of the community.

On the left, you'll note, there's two additional bullets of circular economy and food and agriculture. Our model different allow us to really estimate how much benefit we could obtain regionally through looking at supply chains or urban food systems. We know that interventions in those areas provide very substantial opportunities to reduce emissions, but we weren't able to estimate that in our study.



The next set of goals and actions fall under the heading of Climate Adaptation. We know it's going to get hotter, we know that we will have more flood risks, we know we'll have more extended periods without precipitation and so how might we think about that and how do we do so in a way that focuses on issues of social equity at along with all of the other co-benefits that might accrue from some of our work, whether it has to do with economic development and ecological vitality or community social cohesion and the like.

On food and agriculture, you know, the pandemic has really highlighted the level of food insecurity in our community. It's a thing that's completely astounding and it's something we believe we can make a difference. That could be from urban agriculture to the gleaners. I'm in awe of non-profits called After the Harvest that last year gleaned over 5M pounds of food from farmers' fields and distributed it to food kitchens and Harvester's and the like. There are opportunities to become better stewards of our lands.

I'm shifting to the nature-based solutions so this could be watershed and stormwater kinds of activities or that maybe intersect also with combined sewer overflows and wet weather remediation. There are opportunities to think about land stewardship in a way that turns the ground into a stock of sponge. It puts more carbon in the ground and at the same time addresses explicitly food insecurity through urban agricultural kinds of intervention, thinking about gardens and orchards and the like.

Finance and Innovation, perhaps the biggest move, at least in the short term, that we're going to make is climate action. KC is launching something called a Regional Building Energy Exchange. Think of it as a green bank. This organization will make loans to building owners, to homeowners, to support whole home, health, and energy performance to address issues of health and affordability. And at the same time we're working to link that with the entrepreneurship community in town through design challenges and the like working with a variety of accelerators and incubators to think about where the opportunities to support job creation and business creation and to link that with workforce development efforts so that we can really try to understand and work towards the economic growth potential that we think is inherent in this agenda.

The next section has to do with the solid waste management. The issue that I would like to highlight there has to do with organic waste. Last year in our metro we disposed of about 350,000 tons of food waste in area landfills. If all of that were composted and put back on the land to support urban agriculture and orchards and stormwater best management practices and habitat restoration projects, we would be—you know, it would be a win, win, win kind of thing. The organic waste in landfills is the part that really contributes to methane emissions which is a potent greenhouse gas. If we divert it, we're creating jobs and we're helping to restore nature and achieve a variety of policy goals related to air and water quality and public health all at the same time.

The last piece on resilient infrastructure is a huge topic. At a high level we know what these primary threats are that are facing us. As we begin to work towards becoming a more resilient community and thinking about people first and how do we build an infrastructure that creates better job access or that reduces the impact of infrastructure on heat islands which exacerbate, you know, problems of affordability of energy and so forth. There's a lot of potential there to rethink the way we plan and design and manage our infrastructure so that it really helps us along towards the solutions to these issues in front of us.

System Linkages



The way we constructed our plan is we were very intentional about trying to identify strategies that were a cross-sector, if you will, so in the petals of this flower it's not hard to imagine how the building energy exchange could support energy improvement, investments in residences throughout the region. At the same time, we would be building workforce and creating new jobs in the process. That in turn could lend a way to the whole agenda of affordable housing and neighborhood redevelopment and housing renovation and turn comprising and some of the building blocks of sustainable neighborhoods where we've used the language of 15 minute neighborhoods thinking of places where you can walk to where you need to go or to buy your grocery's or get to the library or whatever it is you need to do. In turn in these neighborhoods, we would be infused with green infrastructure approaches that contribute to active living and environmental and public health.

We're trying to understand how to weave together solutions that really capture all of these different benefits that are in front of us.

Next Steps

- Form a regional climate action and policy forum
- Launch Regional Building Energy Exchange
- Expand regional tree planting and green infrastructure initiatives



In terms of next steps, if you were to say, what are we really doing this year. I hope we do a whole lot of things. Three of those things might be to form a new committee jointly sponsored by MARC

and Climate Action KC with a very diverse representation from all corners of the region to help guide this agenda forward and find solutions and implement them where there is consensus to do so.

I mentioned to you that Climate Action KC is launching the Building Energy Exchange and it's a thing that has tremendous promise. It's modeled after similar in New York City. St. Louis is doing one and concurrent with us and it's going to be a very significant set of partnerships that helps move us all forward.

Finally, I like to think of tree planting as the low-hanging fruit of climate adaptation. It addresses so many issues at once. Trees and green infrastructure are important to addressing public health, water quality, air quality, walkability, habitat and so much more.



The plan queues up discussions on a variety of policy issues that local governments might consider. These are lumped here together under the categories of Energy, Urban Greening, Transportation and Land Use, and Food. Our intent was to identify these issues—these policy areas as areas of opportunity that we could work on together on a regional basis and support local conversations to figure out where we could make the biggest difference.

Energy, for example, Kansas City, MO has adopted a benchmarking ordinance some five or so years ago and it requires the owners of the largest buildings simply to disclose how much energy they're using. Nothing more and the hypothesis there is if folks are measuring what they're doing, then that would perhaps compel them to use less and save money and improve environmental quality at the same time.

There's a number of other kinds of issues there that you can build from a benchmarking policy to think about building performance, international energy conservation code updates, thinking about energy disclosures, solid readiness.

On the urban greening side, there's this whole world of potential around stormwater and stream management and tree protection and native landscaping.

Questions of transportation and land use speak to, you know, thinking back about what really makes a walkable community and one that's served well by public transportation and what are the urban design issues that are inherent in that and how do we think about the way our planning and zoning requirements either help or hinder our ability to accomplish these goals. There's a lot of opportunities here to move forward.

Local Government Actions

Planning and decision-making

- Adopt the Climate Action Plan
- Designate a point person for resilience
- Squeeze every benefit out of every dollar
- Complete local vulnerability assessment
- Implement resilience elements of local plans

Lead by example

- Retrofit city-owned buildings
- Plant trees – along streets and streams
- Join Every3's Renewable Direct Program
- Design resilient infrastructure

Think like a partner

- Collaborate on implementation (trees, bikes, building improvements)
- Encourage local participation (businesses, residents, institutions)



In terms of things that I might put in front of you for your consideration—I think probably the number one thing would be to think about a person or perhaps a committee of folks that might work together and review what's in our plan and review all of the other plans that the UG has adopted or is in the process of developing and think about where are the areas of intersection and how do we make progress on these sets of issues. Our document, again, is offered as a framework and one that might help identify areas of opportunity. I know—like I started my presentation, there's so much phenomenal work happening in Wyandotte County to build from and having a group of folks whose job it is to wake up thinking about how we connect the dots and squeeze every benefit out of every dollar, I think is just critically important.



With that, I'm going to stop, and I would be very happy to answer any questions. You can find my contact information and Karen's as well and we would be happy to answer any questions at any time.

Mayor Alvey asked, are there questions or comments of the Commission.

Commissioner Markley said as Tom mentioned, I do chair the Air Quality Form for MARC. Although that's separate, it's its own sort of entity. Certainly, we've been involved in this process in hearing updates throughout the process. I would comment for this Commission, I think in addition to this being good timing because of our stormwater discussion, I think it's also good timing because we are in the process of finalizing our new planning and zoning codes, our revision of those codes, and I think there's aspects of this plan that should or could play into those new rules as well, so I think it's good timing for that as well. The planning and zoning rules for our community, our code for our community, helped define what we want our community to look like so I think we need to be thinking about what portions of the code might be impacted by our hopes and dreams related to this Climate Action Plan.

Commissioner Ramirez said I apologize for being late but thank you Mr. Jacob. I got the tail end of your presentation. I would love to sometime in future to get together so that I can get the full presentation. That would be amazing. I know that I have had multiple conversations with Mayor Mike Kelly, who I believe is President or Chair of the Climate Action KC along with Lindsey Constance, about all of these issues and how we can work together as a region.

I'm excited that we have this plan and this is something maybe we as a Commission and Mayor for us to have a conversation maybe at a later date of maybe putting together a special—like a committee of us so that we can look at this plan and see what fits for our community, what can we specifically to make our community more sustainable, more environmentally friendly. This is an issue that I think is—it's important and while Wyandotte, as I've learned, we continue to do a lot in this realm and so I help that we take what we have learned today and we continue to build on that. Again, thank you, Mr. Jacobs, for your presentation. I will reach out to you so that we can have more conversation so that I can see the full presentation.

Mr. Jacobs said thank you, Commissioner. It will be my pleasure to meet with you at any time, so I look forward to that conversation.

Mayor Alvey said, Mr. Jacobs, if I could, I know in some cities, let's say culture cities for instance, they are in terms of their infrastructure, they're having to make modifications, for instance, to their seawalls. What kinds of infrastructure changes do we anticipate in this region to accommodate or to take care of the changes? I know that we talked about extended periods of drought but we're also talking about more intensive storms and when it does rain, we're going to get the 10 inches rather than just the two to three inches we might. You know we'll get more and more frequent big storms, interspersed with period of drought, that's the projection.

I also know that this past summer when we saw the fires in California, Oregon and Washington, I recall watching the head firefighter, forest firefighter for the state of California said when he first came on to fight fires everybody talked about your career fire. That would be a fire of 50,000 acres or more and he said they had nine of those this past year and one fire was 900,000 acres, and so the intensity of these events that what was projected 30 years ago from climate change has actually—you know, it's leapfrog. It's happened much more quickly than was anticipated. At least that's based upon some recent trends that seem to happen much more quickly than was anticipated. Can you speak to some of the infrastructure challenges that we're going to face? **Mr. Jacobs** said it would be a pleasure. As a planner and an ecologist and not an engineer and designer, I want to just put a caveat upfront about the limitations of what I know. I think our general approach is to say as we plan and build, design and build and manage any kind of infrastructure, how do we solve more than one problem at a time. I'll start with the question of flooding because I think that perhaps is the biggest concern for us. I know, I think, it was in 2017 we had back-to-

back 500-year events on Indian Creek in Johnson County and it really caught everybody's attention because it was just a lot of water. I know that event led to some flooding in a commercial area and there's been a lot of investment in trying to remediate that work in different kinds of ways. Interestingly, when that strip mall wasn't flooded, I think they are putting into park land which is one of the solutions. If we can think about how we manage our green spaces to accommodate water, you know, we're creating for recreation and in open space and flood risk reduction at the same time.

One of the reactions the engineering community has to this is just to build bigger culverts so we can shove more water through the system and it's a way of solving the problem. The downside of doing that, the energy inside of those larger volumes of water tends to substantially degrade downstream waterways. The conversation I think is one in which we think about whole watersheds and intersection with land use and development issues in relation to open space protection and green infrastructure preventions to try and understand how much potential there is to implement these sorts of, you know, nature-based solutions that provide all these different benefits while at the same time reducing flood risk and improving water and air quality.

It's important for me not to oversell that. We just completed a study, for example, on the whole Blue River Watershed that starts in southwest Johnson County and empties into the Missouri River five or six miles east of downtown Kansas City, MO. What we found was implementing very large-scale green infrastructure measures has substantial benefit for reducing flows that is mostly for the smaller events. When you have 100 and 500-year events, it wasn't sufficient, so you have to take a whole systems approach to understanding what mix of solutions work in a particular area.

The second issue I would call out is this question of heat islands. We know that our urbanized areas might be seven to nine degrees hotter than surrounding countryside, you know in the dog days of summer and there's a variety of concerns with that, especially as it gets hotter, folks that work outside might be subject to the public health risks; heat exhaustion and the like. There might be increased risks of ground level ozone formation. People will use more energy to cool their homes which is both an affordability problem and an emissions problem. At the same time a lot of these heat absorbing places in our urban areas are parking lots frankly. Too much surface parking undermines the liability of public transportation and generates extra runoff that contributes to our flooding problem.

As we think about redevelopment at a neighborhood scale and think about issues of walkability and transit oriented development interwoven with green spaces and urban forest canopy that creates an opportunity to cool the city to ameliorate the health risks and environmental risks associated with excess heat but at the same time solving a whole bunch of other problems. It's sort of a people-centered approach to infrastructure, so who are we serving, there's whole polemics here so I'll stop.

The third thing I wrote down was about walkable communities which is really to that previous point, so what makes a more walkable community. I'm aware that, you know, you all just passed a Complete Street ordinance and that kind of thinking about skinnier streets that are tree-lined and the like help you with the cool city's agenda, but increases physical activity so therefore improves public health and it makes a meaningful difference in terms of how much money you have to spend to maintain mending your roads. If they're skinnier, it shouldn't cost as much.

There's a bunch of things that come together there. I think that this whole realm of resilient infrastructure design is one that is really emergent so the communities that practice and planning and engineering are really wrestling this in trying to figure out what does it mean and how do we design what is our criteria and standard. I think that our premise as a starting point of people first, multi-benefits and a resilience orientation, kind of put some stakes in the ground for how you then frame-up your problem and choose your methods and guide your solutions.

Mayor Alvey said to that point, I think you say that people are just wrestling with this moving forward and that part of the problem is it's very hard to make the scale, as you said, who would have anticipated two 500-year floods back to back and can you build an infrastructure that actually handles that and to what scale would you have to do that. To rebuild the infrastructure really across the region is—and so to really focus in on these, what's the low-hanging fruit here, let's the people third approach, walkable neighborhoods, livable; anything that reduces the pressure is going to be a benefit and then, of course, the scale I guess will reveal itself over time. Is that generally—**Mr. Jacobs** said I think so. I participated—MARC participated as one of, I think, nine pilot areas around the country with a federal highway and climate adaptation grant and there's some coastal areas that were involved and they were doing some coastal restoration work to try to deal with sea level rise and all the other attendant issues and they're just learning how to do it. So,

what are your design criteria, what's a design storm. I think some of the movement and thinking is getting away from saying, you know, plan to how we should plan to deal with a certain size storm to thinking about risk management, so what's at risk in terms of people, property, and infrastructure and really focusing in that sort of way. That way you can be strategic. We could never rebuild all our infrastructure ever. There are probably opportunities to be very strategic in where we intervene and in different kind of ways.

Commissioner Johnson said, Tom, I want to say thank you for kind of leading and being the face on this multi-faceted issue that we're dealing with. The thing that I think struck me—a couple things that kind of struck me is looking at the heat map and seeing the areas that are most affected oftentimes are in the most disadvantaged areas of our community, Wyandotte County notwithstanding. I think the issue of community engagement which you all have already done, but I think is going to continue to be at the forefront in terms of how you do that and I think as we look at Wyandotte County and its diversity, we need to think about how—we continue to think about rather how we engage those diverse communities. Language and culture are issues that have to be overcome and in terms of engagement, thinking about how to educate the average person that might be the most affected by these issues in a way that is meaningful to them so that they can figure out ways they can be part of the solution and realize the long-term aspect of what's going on. I would just continue to encourage that.

As I look through this plan, I think the larger plan I believe is on the MARC website, but you can correct me on that. **Mr. Jacobs** said yes. **Commissioner Johnson** said the issue of inequity and justice or injustice come up and I think you guys have addressed that in the plan overall. I would, again, just kind of raise that to a level of consciousness for all of us that there are real inequities that can arise when we have issues. You know, God made problems, I suppose, that occur in our communities in making sure that all of our communities understand the significance of what's going on around us as it relates to climate and the things we're doing to try to enhance the quality of life in those communities.

Mr. Jacobs said, Commissioner, thank you. I couldn't agree with you more. We tried very hard to highlight those issues in our plan and I'm going to ask Karen to comment as well if she would like. We recognize that we need to be talking and, frankly, listening to a lot more folks. We started. We didn't do enough. The pandemic made it harder but it's no excuse. We need to

be out in the community and figuring out how these sorts of issues can—how we can add value to folks lives in ways that make sense to them. I would love your guidance in how to think about that. I know that we've had, for example, a variety of conversation with Groundworks Energy or others about these kinds of things and we need to dig deeper.

Thank you for highlighting those issues and it's a top of line for us. Karen, did you want to share anything?

Karen Clawson, Air Quality Program Manager with MARC, said I don't know that I have too much more to share, but Tom is right, we did do a lot of outreach and engagement and equity was a big part of this plan. I hope we were able to convey that clearly of how important and essential it is to this plan. This year we will be really busy moving engagement work forward and I think it will be really important, as you mentioned, to continue to educate people about these issues and what it means to build your own personal resilience and also help people understand where their own pathway is as part of our collective climate action in the region. That will be a big body of work for us and we want to engage all of you on that. **Commissioner Johnson** said thank you.

Mayor Alvey said, Tom and Karen, I have to say just the presentation I know it moved through very quickly. The complexity of this in a way I think militates against the ability of people to comprehend what is at stake here, what the causes are, what the mitigation measures are, so I think it's going to be hard or it is hard to bring this to a level that it's not overwhelming. Climate itself is overwhelming. It's larger than us, it's more powerful than us, even when it's not overheated. How do we get beyond that sense of overwhelm because this can be—experience of being overwhelming and then to try and describe why it's overwhelming is overwhelming itself. **Mr. Jacobs** said that's so true. I'm laughing because this is what I'm living and trying to figure out, so that is the challenge in front of us.

The reason I included the slide about what's next with three things on it is—we're sort of proposing that's a really good starting place. Certainly, there are opportunities to work in many areas. Much of the work that we're already doing is pointed at resilience and it's all good and if we were to suggest where might be a couple of places to start, I would say plant a ton of trees and make all of your public buildings as efficient as possible and then put in place programs to help all parts of the community do the same for their building stock, residential and commercial or

institutional or what have you. I mean, those two things I think are just absolutely pivotal. I'm not discounting anything else, but that's sort of a nod in trying to simplify. Let's make our buildings efficient and plant a ton of trees. Trees are a little bit of a metaphor for land stewardship, if you will.

Another thing I will note, Karen and many others on our team, Mayor Kelly and all of the Climate Action KC folks, we're intending to develop a public communication and outreach, engagement strategy and your question highlights our challenge. We're going to try to solve it. We haven't gotten there yet. There's a lot of things we haven't gotten to yet, but this is what we want to do.

Commissioner Philbrook said I just want to say that for communities, Wyandotte County has a lot of them and they're very involved, so it won't be too hard to get a lot of involvement from our communities. As Mayor Alvey knows, he's been in conversation with a lot of those folks of different interests and so have all of us and our Livable Neighborhoods is a perfect example of community involvement. That's just one bunch of people so we already have a lot of people, Tom, so you know if you want to help us over here, we'll be more than happy to turn those people over to you. **Mr. Jacobs** said it would be our pleasure to help however we can, and I would love to talk with you further about how we could best do that. **Commissioner Philbrook** said I appreciate that, Tom, because I know you've got the fire going so let's just keep it fanning. Thanks a bunch.

Mayor Alvey said probably don't want to use the metaphor of a fire here. We have to measure the carbon emissions on that. **Commissioner Philbrook** said, well, can I say fire in the belly. **Mayor Alvey** said okay, that'll work.

Mayor Alvey asked, any other comments or questions. (There were none). Again, thank you Tom. Thank you, Karen, for joining us this evening and we will be following up because it's not going anywhere. **Mr. Jacobs** said, Mayor, and everybody on the Commission, thank you so much for your time and letting us share all this work. We are passionate about it and we want to work with you in whatever ways you feel would make the most sense and so thank you.

Mayor Alvey said that now takes us to our presentation on Parks & Recreation New Improvements and Enhancements. I would ask Mr. Bach to please introduce staff.



Doug Bach, County Administrator, said as most of you are aware last summer our Parks Department experienced unprecedented numbers of people attending the parks. COVID really put us in a different situation as we looked at what was going on and how we could go out socially distance from each other. Unfortunately, with COVID, also we were not able to get into many of our community centers due to the air handling equipment that we had in those areas. As the CARES funding came about, the community that looked at this was able to designate and then be approved by the Commission an allotment of money that went to our Parks Department to help improve our facilities and add new things.

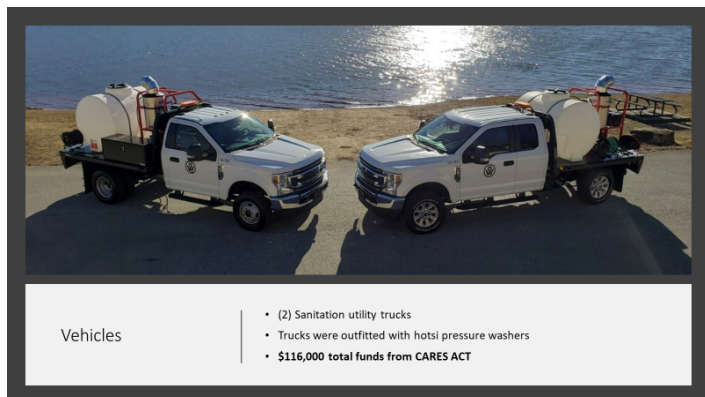
We were really able to make significant changes in this area, and as you see, the presentation that put us up here, during the last quarter of the year. We wanted to bring this back to the governing body and let you all see the fruits of the investments you made in our community. It's really advanced us many years from what we've been able to do in previous years.

Tonight, presenting for the Parks Department is Angel Obert and Jack Webb. I'll turn this over to them. I believe, Angel, you're ready to go first.

Angel Obert, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation, said first off, I want to thank you for your time tonight. As Doug was saying, this was so huge for our department and our community. I definitely want to start by thanking County Administrator Doug and his team. They really made parks and recreation a priority through the CARES Act funding. That got a lot of the projects moving forward and got us to where we needed to go, and this wouldn't have happened without

many departments that were helping us get our projects done. Some of those were Building & Logistics, Purchasing, Budget, and also the CARES Act team.

Tonight, Jack and I just want to go through these projects in a little bit of detail and really highlight just the success that we were able to have in 2020 in such a trying year and also the outcomes and the positive impacts that this will have for our community.



The first project that we have, we were able to get two vehicles and these are sanitation utility trucks and these trucks were outfitted with hotsy pressure washers and the total amount on this project was \$116,000 from the CARES Act.

I'm going to let Jack speak to these trucks and the effects and outcomes they will have on the Parks Department. I also do want to point out that this—this is a great picture, right, taken by Jack. Many of you probably don't know, but he's quite a photographer, so I'll let him speak to these vehicles.

Jack Webb, Deputy Director of Parks & Recreation, said as you can see, we were able to purchase these two vehicles. We had them built to our specifications. They are self-contained. They can move anywhere; they are equipped with hotsy steam pressure washers. These units have the capability to use sanitizers, bleach, and very hot water. With these vehicles we can sanitize and clean playground systems, park shelters with the tables and benches and our park restrooms.

I want to thank Jeff Miles with Fleet for helping us get these vehicles going.



Jersey Creek Trail
Resurfacing

- The Jersey Creek Trail (roughly 3 miles) received a 2" asphalt cap
- \$150,000 total funds from CARES ACT

Ms. Obert said the next project we were able to accomplish is the resurfacing of the Jersey Creek Trail. I know when I first started with the UG the Jersey Creek group has been very active and involved in advocating for parks. This was always really high on their priority list. The National Recreation & Park Association has put out a lot of information regarding how—especially in 2021 parks are more important than ever because of due to the stress of the pandemic many people are looking to greenspaces, our parks and our trails and our lakes just for an outlet.

We were able to resurface the entire trail which is roughly three miles with a two-inch asphalt cap. That was a total project of about \$150,000. This first picture on the left, you can see that's what the trail looked like before the resurfacing and who would have thought asphalt so beautiful. The picture in the middle was taken after it was completed and looks really nice against the green and the blue. Then, we were able to do a very small ribbon cutting, social distance, of course, just celebrating that and how big that is for the community.

As Doug mentioned earlier, our parks were used more than ever in 2020. Jack's crew was noticing a lot more trash in our parks and facilities. As we closed out the year, we noticed our boating and our fishing revenue was up tremendously.

I did some research this afternoon and worked with Michael. I just want to report some figures here, but our boating permit sales were up 45% in 2020. Our fishing permit sales—and I asked Michael three times, but it was up 243%. You know in a time where citizens weren't really able to do anything, they were able to get out to the lakes that we have and do some sort of social distancing activities such as fishing to help with some of the stress of the pandemic.



Restroom Replacements (Site Prep)

- Four restrooms were replaced
 - Pierson, Parkwood, Lake West Shop, Lake #2

The next project we were able to accomplish, we were able to replace four restrooms and those locations are Pierson Park, Parkwood, the Lake West Shop, and Lake #2. These pictures are really just a lot of the prep work that it took beforehand on getting the sites and locations ready for the units.



Restroom Replacements (Installation)

- From bid process to installation, it normally take 6 months
- We were able to replace 4 restrooms in 3 months

Here you can see the installation process. Typically, since the Master Plan in 2017 we've been replacing one restroom per year, so to be able to do four was huge for us. Typically, from bid process to installation it would normally take six months for one restroom and a lot of that is, you know, the bid process, procurement, Jack will usually spec out the restroom and make sure meets all the needs that we might have or customize them for the park that we're putting it in, so it can take a lot of time to build, anywhere from 60-90 days. We were able to replace four restrooms in three months. If that tells you anything, we were working really, really quick on that with multiple departments.



Restroom Replacements (Completion)

- Four restrooms were replaced
 - Pierson, Parkwood, Lake West Shop, Lake #2
- \$504,700 total funds from CARES ACT

This slide is the completed projects, so the four restrooms shown here. You've got Pierson on the left, Parkwood second photo. This third photo is the Lake West Shop and then also this is Shelter #2 out at the lake. The total CARES Act dollars to this project \$504,700.

I will kind of let Jack speak a little bit here to the restrooms.

Mr. Webb said we were able to relocate these restrooms within their park to better accommodate the park users and the shelter reservations. These are prefab restrooms. They are 90-120 day builds once they are ordered. We were able to use the exact as builds as we use for our CDBG project at City Park, those two restroom replacements, so we were able to use those. The company went right in, took those, and produce these in record time of 35 days, so it was a quick turnaround on that build.

These restrooms are equipped with hot water which is not found in very many of our restrooms and exhaust fans to move the air, exhaust the air out.

HVAC/ Bipolar Ionization



- Seven facilities received Bipolar Ionization units
 - Joe E. Amayo
 - Armourdale
 - Beatrice L. Lee
 - Bethany
 - Patricia Diane Kane
 - Kensington
 - Pierson
- Four community centers received HVAC systems
 - Beatrice L. Lee
 - Bethany
 - Kensington
 - Armourdale

We also have our largest project, which is probably, I would say our most exciting project and has the most significant impact for the community. We were able to install Bipolar Ionization units in

seven of our facilities and those facilities are listed to the right. So, Joe E. Amayo, Armourdale, Beatrice L. Lee, Bethany, Patricia Diane Kane, Kensington and Pierson.

We were also able to install HVAC systems in four of the community centers gymnasiums. Those centers are listed, Beatrice L. Lee, Bethany, Kensington, and Armourdale. I think it's really important to note that these four centers, their gymnasiums did not have heating and cooling options before this. As you can imagine, and I'm sure you've all heard before, running leagues in the summer was very hard to do. Running summer programs was very hard to do. The gymnasium would get extremely hot and it was hard for kids to perform really any activities.

This picture on the left is the completed unit outside at Armourdale and the picture on the right is the rooftop unit at Bethany.

Mayor Alvey asked, could you explain what does a Bipolar Ionization unit do. **Mr. Webb** said I can talk to that. It kills the COVID-19 virus. It's more like infrared filter. We were able to add them to our existing units inside our centers, our multi-purpose rooms, which was all air-conditioned. Just the gyms were not. We not only added the bipolar to the existing units, but also to our new units for the gymnasiums.

HVAC/ Bipolar Ionization



- From start to finish, on average one center would normally take six months to complete
- Four centers were completed with HVAC units in three months

Ms. Obert said the slide here you can see the bottom photo on the left is Bethany, so it being a rooftop, we just had to have a crane come in and set the unit on top and the photo at the right is duct work happening inside of B. Lee. Jack and I have been out at the sites talking with some of the contractors and I know one of them mentioned when I was at B. Lee that specific site, they finished it in roughly three months. He said this is like a 6-9-month project for one center alone. From start to finish on average the center would normally take 6 months to complete and we were

able to get four centers completed in three months. I know a lot of the work that needs to be done is the design work and working with an engineer team to make sure that we're getting the right units placed in the right locations and our centers are a little old so it does take a little bit of work in planning them.



HVAC/ Bipolar
Ionization

- Ten years worth of capital improvements done in 3 months

Mr. Webb said as you can see here, 10 years' worth of capital improvements was able to be completed in three months with the COVID CARES Act. This took several departments working together to get this project accomplished. Building & Logistics took lead on the HVACs, Greg and John and his team were awesome. The CARES Act team, they found us some more money when we needed it. It was approved by Administration so, Doug, we thank you. Purchasing and Budget, it took all of us to get this done.

Ms. Obert said here are some photos of the completed project of the duct work. Here on the left you have the Beatrice L. Lee Community Center and then on the outside on what the units look like. Then, you have Armourdale on the right.



HVAC/ Bipolar
Ionization

- More programming opportunities
- Better serve our community and meet their needs
- \$1,239,939 total funds from CARES ACT

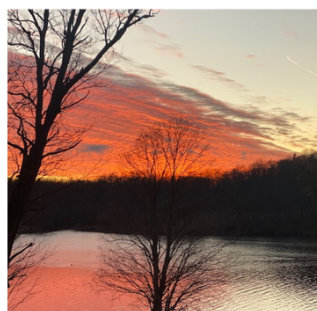
Mayor Alvey asked, Commissioner Philbrook, do you have a question, or do you have a comment that you want to wait until later. **Commissioner Philbrook** said I'm just going to go ahead and say something right now really quickly. The bipolar ionization units, a lot of doctor offices have been using those for quite a long time and we could set up just little individual ones in each room of the office and turns those on at night. It kills anything, nothing moves, even plants don't live. **Mr. Webb** said it's an air filter, an air scrubber is what they told me. **Commissioner Philbrook** said it's an air scrubber and they are definitely, absolutely wonderful, and thank you so much for getting those put in. They are literally going to be lifesavers and it's going to be wonderful to see because when you come in the next day after that has been running, there's not going to be a lot of live things hanging around on surfaces. I thought I would backup with you that, Jack, because you can't undersell those units, so thank you so much.

Ms. Obert said almost done. Again, this is just the wrap up of the HVAC project, so you've got B. Lee, Kensington, and then Armourdale here on the right. I just can't stress enough how many more programming opportunities this will allow for the community once we are in a safer place to be able to recreate and do that safely along with COVID. Really, this is just going to allow us to serve our community and meet their needs better.

The total HVAC project was about \$1.2M from the CARES Act dollars.

Summary

- CARES ACT funding in the total amount of \$2,010,639 was invested directly into the Parks and Recreation Department.
- Projects began September 16th, 2020 and were completed by December 30th, 2020
- In result, staff is better equipped to meet safety and sanitary practices as they relate to COVID-19
- Parks and recreation amenities (restrooms & community centers) are better equipped to meet safety and sanitary practices as they relate to COVID-19
- The HVAC System project will have a huge impact on our community, more programming opportunities will now be available



In summary, CARES Act funding in the total amount of roughly \$2M was invested directly into the Parks & Recreation Department. I think it's really important to know the projects began on September 16th. That is when we got the green light that we had been approved for all of our

projects and then they were completed by the deadline of December 30th, so we were working on a very tight timeline. Jack was very busy the last three months of last year.

In result, two of these projects as we walked you through, our staff is better equipped to manage the COVID-19 pandemic and also better serve our community. Again, I can't say enough how impactful the HVAC system project will be for the community and I know we're really looking forward to being able to hopefully offer more programs for our youth.

The pandemic highlighted the importance of parks and recreation services. As we said throughout the presentation, just a lot more people out using our parks and looking to them for a safe place to go and burn off some stress. As we move forward, we're going to continue to leverage some grant funding and also more opportunities just like the CARES Act to be able to update our infrastructure and also offer more efficient and quality services to our community.

This is a recent picture of the lake. That pretty much sums up the presentation. We're open for any questions or comments you might have.

Mayor Alvey said I do have one question. I'm assuming some of these projects like the restrooms and even the capping at Jersey Creek, those are projects that were in the pipeline. We were able to accelerate getting those done. Is that how that happened? **Mr. Webb** said yes, Mayor, they were already on the radar.

Mr. Bach said like Jack noted, like on the restrooms, those are ones we had kind of budgeted out there, hopefully, for one a year and things like Jersey Creek where I think it was a couple years out for their priorities, but it just takes funding and this was able to accelerate it. A huge deal and with great work of staff in order to make it happen. **Mayor Alvey** said, Doug, bipolar ionization was made necessary by COVID so that was helpful. **Mr. Bach** said yes, that was an added.

Commissioner Ramirez said I have words, but then again, I don't have words. I just want to repeat something Jack said, and please correct me if I misquote you, but you said within three months you completed 10-years' worth of Capital projects with the large investment. Is that correct, Jack? **Mr. Webb** said yes. **Commissioner Ramirez** said, again, I have no words. I can't thank you, Angel and Jack, and all the departments that were involved, that we were able to do these projects with the large infusion of money that you had. This shows that if we can invest in

our Parks Department, they can do the work and with the money they have now, they do an amazing job, but they could do an even better job if they had more money. With knowing this, this presentation, I'm coming into this years' budgeting I'm going to ask that we look into investing more in our parks so that we can get our Parks Master Plan dealt with, that we can put money towards that and make our amenities the best they can be because we're developing. We're bringing in businesses, we're bringing in people, but we need to have the amenities for them if they're going to come and move into Wyandotte County.

Again, thank you Angel, Jack, Emerick, Administration, all departments that were involved in this. It's amazing and so thank you for all that you do, that you continue to do, and I hope that we can create more investments like this in the future.

Commissioner Kane said he said a lot of what I wanted to say. Jack, Angel, and Emerick, you all did a great job and we really need to put this in our next *Citizen* about what we just did, all the improvements and let people know that, yes, look what they did. Again, in short order, with a limited amount of money. If they had more money, what more could we do.

Angel, what did you say about 243%? **Ms. Obert** said 243% increase on the fishing permits. **Commissioner Kane** asked, could you say that one more time please. **Ms. Obert** said I asked Michael about three times, 243%. **Commissioner Kane** said the reason I bring that up is because I know that we're stocking the lake now, but there's so much pressure out there, I think we need to take some of that 243% and purchase more fish. I think that's a huge thing and you guys did a good job. I saw those guys every Saturday and Sunday working their tails off keeping Wyandotte County Lake clean. It is something, Mr. Bach, that I would think during our budget we would look at and plan to do that and go ahead and do it this spring because—I've never heard of an increase like that on anything in my entire life. There's an amount of money there now that we didn't have before. I would rather see it go the fish and stuff like that for the parks, so that's my suggestion.

You guys did a really great job and we really appreciate you.

Commissioner Townsend said I just want to say, again, I told Ms. Obert and Mr. Webb in other meetings, Mr. Cross, how fantastic these improvements were. To the Administrator, this is a forward-thinking use of COVID funds. Regrettably we've heard too many times how lowly ranked

Wyandotte County is with regard to health outcomes, so it's imperative that our parks and recs which people can use for nothing really, for no charge, it's their tax dollars, the benefit of their tax dollars being returned to them. It's great to see the improvements that were made, again, improvements that would have been under other circumstances dragged out for years. To be accelerated with the forward-thinking us with these COVID funds is just fantastic and I applaud you all.

District 1 directly benefited from that with part of the Jersey Creek Trail. It begins there at District 1 on 5th Street and then with the Parkwood restrooms. We would have had to wait for that for some time.

That leads me to the disheartening aspect of it and I'm going to take this opportunity to appeal to our citizens to come forward and let it be known who the people are that have already begun to vandalize some of this tremendous work that has been done. It's utterly disgusting, and I want the public to be reminded that in our budget we have money. At this point it's \$250 per event for information leading up to the arrest, and possibly conviction, I would have to verify that with counsel, but \$250 in our budget for people to identify others in our community who care nothing about these fantastic improvements you just seen. I couldn't let this opportunity go by. There is also \$250 available on the books already for people who dump, but right now we're talking about vandals and people who have displayed their disregard. I hope folks will come forward. If you need to know where to go, call your commissioner who called the Mayor (inaudible) called Parks & Rec and we will see what we can do in terms about safeguarding your identity if you're concerned about that, but this type of thing has to stop. You've seen how much money it costs to do, and Mr. Webb and Ms. Obert could say how much it costs to undo.

Congratulations to you all and Wyandotte County step up and do the right thing if you know who is undercutting this tremendous work.

Commissioner Johnson said I'll put on my clergy hat for just a moment and say amen, amen, amen to everything that Commissioner Townsend has just alluded to. Again, thank you to Angel and Jack for your work. To the CARES Act Committee, to Doug, I appreciate the work you all did in such short order. It goes to show that good things can come out of bad situations. Again, we're all disheartened by what has happened through this virus that has attacked our world, but it

has in many ways forced people outside into the parks as a means of getting fresh air and just getting out of the house. I appreciate the work that has been done in all phases.

Again, District 4 has been a beneficiary in many regards and I'm very thankful for that. I can't emphasize enough, and Commissioner Townsend took the words right out of my mouth, about the people that come and vandalize now. Some of these facilities have not even been used yet. We've put over a million dollars into infrastructure and they have not been used and yet they've been vandalized. As we're looking into budget, I might just put the seed out there, if we can talk about maybe increasing that amount and becoming more aggressive in terms of how we try to identify people that are vandalizing, dumping. I think that is kind of forcing our hands to really consider that at this particular time given that we put so much money into the ground and really haven't seen any public usage of those facilities yet. So, again, I'm appreciative—I mean it's kind of like a double-edge sword for me, double peel there, so again, we want to appreciate what we've done and again appeal to the community.

I think that was my last point. Figure out ways that we can appeal to the community whether that be in the *Citizen*, whether that be through Livable Neighborhoods, but to let the community know that we are investing in our parks and recreation in ways they've not seen in decades.

Final thought, and I want to say, congratulations to Angel for being recognized. I think it's one of the thirty, under thirty, in terms of parks/recs representatives there across the nation, so great job. **Ms. Obert** said thank you, Commissioner.

Mayor Alvey said seeing no more hands raised, thank you for your presentation. It's really good news and, yes, what must we do to protect these facilities.

Mayor Alvey said that brings us to our last topic for the special session and this is a report back from, I think, Mr. Cross on the Schlitterbahn Casino Grant distribution formula. I will pass it over to Mr. Bach.



UG/Hollywood Casino Grant

SPECIAL SESSION PRESENTATION
FEBRUARY 11, 2021

Doug Bach, County Administrator, said you are correct, after having the information the last time we met with commissioners, we wanted to just come back with a summary of what we believe we heard from the governing body as we move forward to go out and issue out the grant process this year. Mr. Cross put this together and brought it back tonight to make sure we're going down the right path as we set the guidelines out as what expectations will be this year.

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

- ❖ Discussed options for additional \$375,000 from Home Field project on January 7th. Received feedback from Commission.
- ❖ Desire to keep funds in Casino Grant funding formula.
- ❖ Majority of responses were to allow for spending all additional funding in 2021 and/or 2022.

Emerick Cross, Assistant County Administrator, said I'm here regarding the UG/Hollywood Casino Grant. As you know for the distribution of funds on January 7th at the special session we discussed the options for the additional \$375,000 we're going to get from the Homefield Project and in that session we heard a lot of really good feedback and information and suggestions from you Mayor and commissioners.

With that information, I went back with Alley Porter, our Commission Liaison, and we sit down together and sifted through all the comments and all of the ideas. What we heard from the Commission is the desire to keep the funds in the casino grant funding formula and the majority of the responses that we received were to allow for spending all of the additional funding in 2021

and/or 2022. That means of the additional \$34,090.91 the Mayor and each commissioner will have, they can either allocate it all in '21, allocate it all in '22 or spread it over those two years.

2021 CASINO GRANT TIMELINE

- Application available on Monday, February 22, 2021
- Grant information session Tuesday, March 2, 2021 (VIRTUAL MTG.)
- Application deadline Friday, April 9, 2021
- GKCCF Review/Eligibility Recommendations complete Friday, May 7, 2021
- Commission Review of Grants May 10 – May 21, 2021
- Commission designations due Friday, May 21, 2021 at 5:00pm.
- Distribution of Proposed Designations to Commission Friday, June 4, 2021
- Commission Meeting to vote on distribution Thursday, June 24, 2021
- Notifications sent to recipients Friday, July 9, 2021

With that being said and that's the direction we're going in, I wanted to also put up the 2021 Casino Grant Timeline and it's basically the same it's always been before last year. The COVID year kind of changed that schedule for us, but this is the same as it was before the COVID year, a typical year for us.

I do want make note that the grant information session that we usually hold over at the Health Department in the first week of March, this year will be Tuesday, March 2nd, that will be a virtual meeting. Everyone who wants to attend that meeting, learn about the casino grant process, answer questions from the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation and myself, we will have that online in a virtual meeting and that way everyone can attend.

This will be the '21 Casino Grant Timeline. This will also be posted on the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation's website for any person that has questions. We will still be working with Denise St. Omer with the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation and if folks have questions in the meantime, they're more than welcome to contact her or myself.

With that, Mayor, I'll turn it back over to you.

Mayor Alvey said thank you Emerick. I think you captured it pretty well. I thought you sifted through that. That's pretty much what we seemed to be saying. It's good to hear that you heard the same thing.

Commissioner Bynum said, Emerick, are you able to tell us again the 2021 total amount that will be allotted per the Mayor and the commissioners? **Mr. Cross** said absolutely. With 2021 we'll have the same Hollywood Casino Grant contribution of \$500,000 and then on top of that from the Homefield Project of \$375,000, that will be a grand total of \$875,000 between the Mayor and ten commissioners, eleven folks. That would equal out to about—we'll also subtract the Greater Kansas City Community Foundations fee and that will give us a sum of \$852,500. You divide that by eleven, that's \$77,500. Like I said, if the additional \$34.91K we can spread that over two years or one year or next year. **Commissioner Bynum** said so the total is \$77,500 per each commissioner and the Mayor. **Mr. Cross** said yes, that's correct.

Mayor Alvey asked, what action do we need to take. Just basically say that—**Mr. Cross** said no, this was feedback and information from what we heard from the previous special session. We're good to go and we'll go ahead and get started on the 2021 Casino Grant process. As you can see here that application is going to be available on Monday, February 22, 2021 on the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation website.

Mr. Bach said just to clarify on that. When the Commission—when you vote on the final designation of the grant awards, that's your formal approval of, yes, you're good to spend that money. So, we just proceed down the path of letting you divide it up this way and that's clear and it seems to be that way from all of the governing body members. Your formal action comes when you actually vote on the awards of the grants that are given out. **Mayor Alvey** said thank you for that clarification.

MAYOR ALVEY ADJOURNED
THE MEETING AT 6:23 p.m.

Brett Deichler
Interim Unified Government Clerk

dt

February 11, 2021