

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

SPECIAL SESSION, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2021

The Unified Government Commission of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, met in Special Session, Thursday, February 25, 2021, with ten members present online. Bynum, Commissioner At-Large First District; Burroughs, Commissioner At-Large Second District; McKiernan, Commissioner Second District; Ramirez, Commissioner Third District; 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. Townsend, Commissioner First District, was absent. The following officials were also in attendance: Doug Bach, County Administrator; Bridgette Cobbins, Interim Assistant County Administrator; Melissa Sieben, Alan Howze 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; Angel Obert, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation; Greg Talkin, Neighborhood Resource Director; Jeff Fisher, Executive Director of Public Works; Rob Anderson, Public Works Asset Manager; Troy Shaw, County Engineer; Chris Cooley, GIS Director; Logan Masenthin, SOAR Coordinator in General Services; Jenna Hillyer, Delinquent Real Estate Manager; Rob Richardson, Director in Administrator's Office; Patrick Holton, Code Enforcement Division Manager; Cheryl Martel, Neighborhood Resource Center; and Officer Joseph Caiharr, KCK Police Department.

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, McKiernan, Ramirez, Johnson, Kane, Alvey.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL SESSION of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, to be held Thursday, February 25, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. by way of Zoom regarding the 5-Year CMIP followed by a SOAR Update.

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

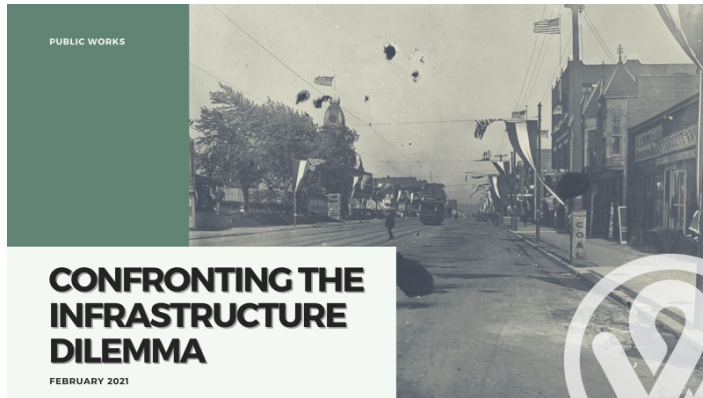
CONSENT TO MEETING of the governing body of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, accepting service of the foregoing notice, waiving all and any irregularities in such service and in such notice, and consent and agree that we, the governing body, shall meet at the time and place therein specified and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

Mayor Alvey said as the Clerk stated, we have two items tonight. The first is the 5-Year CMIP. I will turn it over to Mr. Bach to introduce staff.

Doug Bach, County Administrator, said every year as we go through our CMIP Projects, it's really an extended process that continues out through many months of the year. In the fall months we appear before the Commission and standing committee levels and go through and talk to them about what projects are coming up in the coming year that we built into our budget and then we start to structure what we're looking at for our next five years and work those through a priority. Then, as we move into the new year, we start trying to pair up those high priority projects with our current budget. Then, of course, as we go through the coming months after this, we will continue to strategize about what all we can fund and try to get done.

Tonight, we want to talk about what those projects that are in the 5-Year Plan and, of course, we think about the many projects that we have and the need that we have for the next 20 years.

I'm going to turn this over to Jeff Fisher, Director of Public Works, and his team to present this item this evening.



Jeff Fisher, Executive Director of Public Works, said since Doug has given the intro and explained the process, I'll just start by saying over the last couple of years staff has been working closely with the County Administrator's Office and Commission to evaluate and understand the needs around infrastructure and assets and begin to determine how we go about developing strategies and solutions.

I don't have good news. We have a daunting problem before us, but it is a problem we can solve with a sustained commitment over many years. The problem didn't occur overnight, and it won't be solved overnight. The last three years has been a period of data collection and analysis. Data regarding the condition of streets, bridges, stormwater systems and facilities, and the data and condition assessments when projected out over the next decade tells us that we will face serious conditions. We're experiencing this already with poor street conditions, failing bridges like Central Avenue that recently shutdown. Failing storm boxes like on 91st Street and buildings that require big dollars to maintain year after year like City Hall and the court system facilities. It should not be news that cities across the country are struggling to meet these challenges just like KCK. It may be news to some in KCK though that a crisis is looming, and we are at a crossroads.

The questions before us are what kind of community do we want to be going forward, what kind of community do we want to hand down to the next generation and how do we want to support our business community. The path we're on currently will not be good for either. This will require bold thinking and bold actions in my opinion.

Before we get into the presentation, I would like to introduce Rob Anderson, the UG's Asset Manager and Angel Obert, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation. They will play a part in this presentation.



The projects that will take place in '21 and '22 was included in the CMIP in most cases 3+ years ago and all were determined to be important to improve quality of life in some way or another.

PUBLIC WORKS

2021 Projects

- 01 Wolcott Treatment Plan**
\$52M investment
- 02 Kaw Point Biosolids**
\$62.6M investment
- 03 Asset Management**
\$12M investment
- 04 7th & Central**
\$2.5M Total investment: \$1M grant & \$1.5M local
- 05 Hutton & Leavenworth**
\$7M investment
- 06 Safe Routes to School**
\$2.2M total investment: \$1.7M grant & \$500K local

There are very large investments that span multiple years like Wolcott and Kaw Point projects. Those are treatment plants that are funded by wastewater rates. It's relatively small vital projects like 7th & Central that's funded by the General Fund, taxes.

PUBLIC WORKS

2021 Projects

- 07 Courthouse**
\$4.4M investment
- 08 Parking Lot Upgrades**
\$900K investment
- 09 City Hall Stabilization**
\$2.5M investment
- 10 NRSA Improvements**
\$650K investment
- 11 WyCo Lake Water Line**
\$400K investment
- 12 Trail Network**
\$100K investment

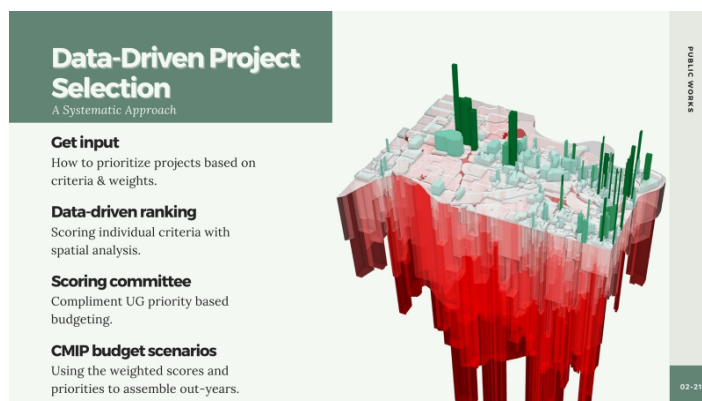
There are dollars allocated each year to maintain and improve public buildings and assets and dollars spent to improve public health, and then neighborhoods each year.



Improving quality of life doesn't have to be a guessing game. The UG has improved greatly in its efforts recently to utilize data to target needs.

I'll now hand it over to Rob to describe how we're using data in a systematic approach to make smart investments.

Rob Anderson, Public Works Asset Manager, said I want to first start by saying thank you for your support of the asset condition collection process and all the different versions of that for different asset classes. We've collected information around our streets, our bridges, our buildings, and several other asset classes. We use that information to drive how we prioritize the needs.

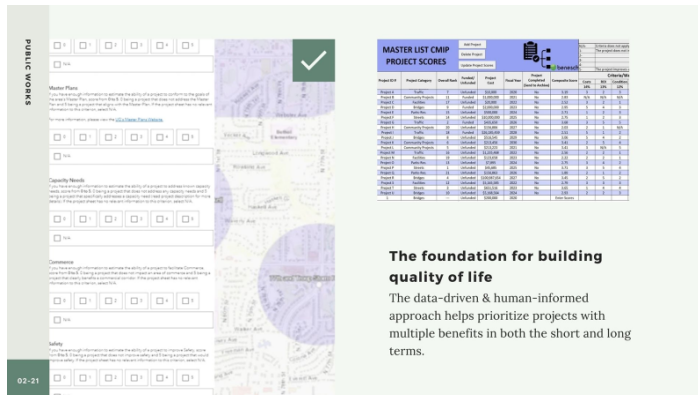


A year ago we reached out to you for modifications to the CMIP Capital Maintenance Policy and we gathered information that we thought was able to be produced into a data-driven model that

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was a way to get and capture your priorities for the community so that weighted criteria is what drives this system.

On the right you can see it extended upwards. What that looks like—what that landscape that you gave to us looks like. Extending downwards is the cost of infrastructure on each of those blocks.



By using that information to drive the process, we can produce the best quality of life outcomes for our community.

PUBLIC WORKS

RANKED PRIORITY LIST

Rank	Project Name	Score	Rank	Project Name	Score
1	Police Station Area Maint Program	4.84	32	Farfax Turnpike Repair	3.63
2	Fiber Connectivity Projects	4.67	33	Kay Lane- Douglas Ave. to Gibbs Rd.	3.63
3	6th Street Improvements, Ave Ave to Central Ave	4.50	34	Central Ave. and Grandview Blvd. Intersection Improvements	3.63
4	Memorial Hall Facility Improvements	4.42	35	88th Street Lighting Improvements	3.53
5	Annual Elevator Operator	4.41	36	86th Street Improvements - State Ave. to Parallel Pkwy	3.47
6	Storm Sewer Repairs/Replacement	4.40	37	Dorahood Road - Hutton Rd. to 15th St.	3.44
7	Stardom Hill Complete Streets Project	4.29	38	Trail Project: Kamen Park	3.42
8	IPBC Jail	4.28	39	Hollinworth Road Improvements, 15th St. to 123rd St.	3.37
9	Parks Restrooms	4.28	40	Douglas Ave - Hwy Ln to 15th St.	3.35
10	District Court Carpet replacement	4.20	41	58th St. Everett to Parallel Pkwy	3.32
11	SRTS Phase C (Northwest Middle and Caruthers Elem.)	4.20	42	38th St - 2nd St. - Metropolitan Ave. to Merriam Ln.	3.31
12	Salt Dome	4.18	43	Museum HVAC	3.31
13	W. 36th Ave Improvements, Rainbow Blvd to State Line Rd.	4.11	44	10th St. Jct. McDowell Ln. Improvements	3.26
14	72nd St. - Parallel Parkway to Leavenworth Rd	4.02	45	Museum Roof	3.23
15	Kansas Ave - 72nd Street to K-32	3.96	46	10th Street Bridge over Jersey Creek	3.23
16	NISA Improvements (City Park)	3.94	47	10th St. and Riverview Ave. Intersection Improvements	3.21
17	Chrysler Road Mill and Overlay Option	3.90	48	At-Grade Intersection at 68th St. and Turner Diagonal	3.12
18	IPBC West Annex	3.85	49	Davis Hall Renovations	3.10
19	87th St. - Parallel Parkway to Leavenworth Rd	3.81	50	White Hills Capacity 82nd & Hadwell	3.09
20	Leavenworth Road - 78th St. to 52nd St.	3.81	51	Hutton Rd. and Leavenworth Rd. Intersection Improvement	3.07
21	Facility Annual main/Rep	3.78	52	Relocation of SHD Facility	3.07
22	7th St. to 4th St. and Central Ave. Reconstruction	3.76	53	20th St. China Storm Sewer	3.03
23	Trail Project: Riverside Park	3.76	54	83rd & Ella Capacity Enhancements	3.02
24	Kan. Point Deer Front Park	3.74	55	Trail Project: Pearson Park	2.97
25	Village W. Infrastructure Improvements	3.71	56	Hindelberger & McCormick Paving	2.95
26	Annex Parking Lot Improvements	3.72	57	Kaw Point Biosolids Digestion	2.95
27	K-32 Quiet Zone	3.70	58	18th St. and Metropolitan Ave. Reconstruction	2.90
28	34th St. Woodland Ave. Metropolitan Ave. to Merriam Ln.	3.68	59	Hollinworth Rd. 15th St to 123rd St	2.82
29	Chrysler Road - Full Concrete Replacement Option	3.67	60	I-32 Bridges over Kaw Dr and UP Railroad	2.82
30	IPBC - Courthouse	3.67	61	Trail Project: Wyandotte County Park	2.76
31	Central Ave. and Grandview Blvd. Intersection Improvements	3.65			

02-21

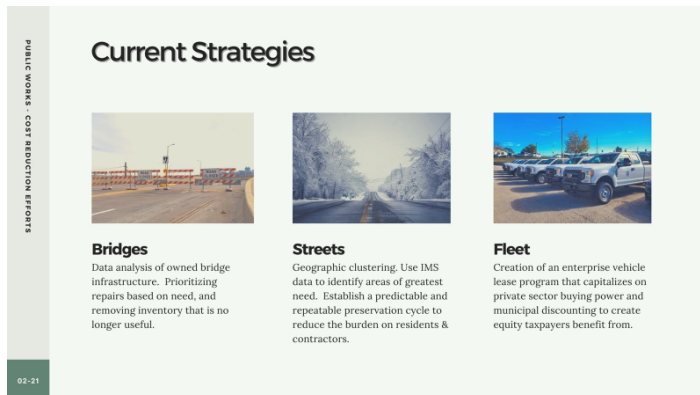
Here is the current list of projects and their ranking in relation to your criteria that you outlined for us. This list might look longer than it did the last time. The reason for that is that we've added some annual maintenance line items from the budget just to illustrate how impactful the maintenance activities that Public Works does are for the community. So, using your weighted criteria matrix we have shown that our regular maintenance operations are impactful.

I want us to also think more broadly and ask ourselves what if every block, what if every street in our community was considered an unfunded project.



Now, I'm going to pass it back to Jeff to cover our current and future strategies that Public Works employs.

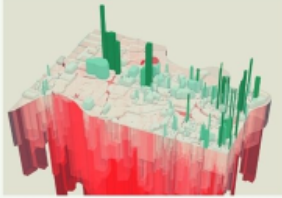
Mr. Fisher said understanding that the community has high expectations, the UG has been working diligently to identify strategies with a continuous improvement mindset that will result in streamline processes, more efficient services, economic opportunities, and cost savings. Good work has been done and there is a lot ahead of us.



Some examples of that include reducing assets, modifying assets to create opportunities and long-term maintenance using new techniques to stretch the dollars farther and maximizing return on investments.

PUBLIC WORKS - COST REDUCTION EFFORTS

Current Strategies



Asset management
Understanding the full extent of the Unified Government's assets and using data to make better maintenance and improvement decisions.



Parks
Leverage the available grants to improve local parks through renovations, maintenance, and improvements like those performed at City Park.



Buildings review
Full-scale review of public building conditions and associated assets.

02-21

Much of the discussion we've had recently around infrastructure and assets has been the philosophy of asset management, one of the most important initiatives, in my opinion, for the UG and certainly Public Works. Asset Management is simply put understanding needs and conditions very accurately so that the UG can make the smartest decisions possible. The buildings inventory is much like streets, bridges, and stormwater. The large portfolio and many buildings require a lot of attention and investment.

The most important first step has been completed, additional assessment of much of the inventory. The next step is to develop a plan to reduce that portfolio and hence the burden on the financial health of the UG long-term.

It appears to me much like the buildings issue, the Parks & Rec system presents similar issues; therefore, it seems to warrant the same consideration. The idea on both fronts could be that focusing dollars and investments on less reduces burden and will result in great services as opposed to maybe mediocre services.

Transitioning the stormwater user fee will slow system deterioration and protect streets from unnecessary additional damage.



Increasing inspection efforts and associated fees can prevent problems down the road and recoup funds for taxpayers.



Right-size existing assets to better meet community needs and uses.

2021

Pavement Condition Index

Street Preservation

IMS data

Street-level data collections tell us about the condition of roads in Kansas City, Kansas.

Actionable

Understanding road conditions allows Public Works to prioritize and focus street preservation efforts.

Outcomes

Prioritizing streets this way lets Public Works make more efficient decisions and stretch limited funding even further.

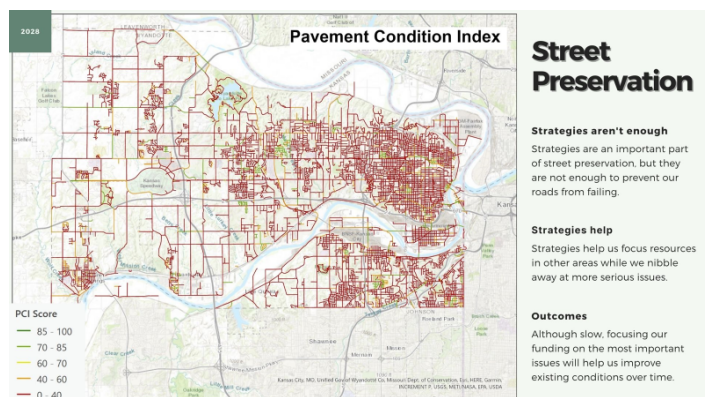
PCI Score

- 85 - 100
- 70 - 85
- 60 - 70
- 40 - 60
- 0 - 40

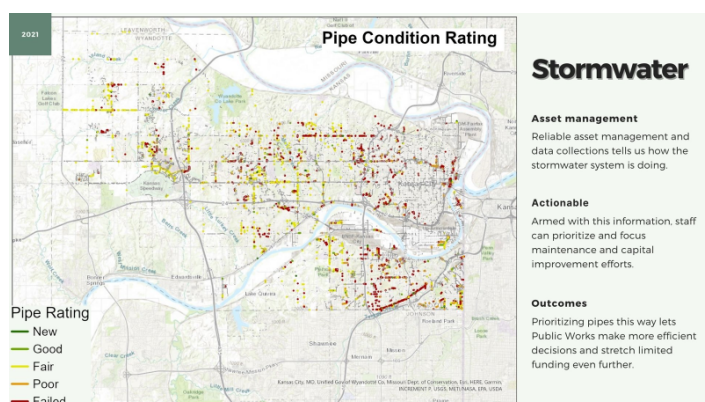
Kansas City, MO: United States Geological Survey, Missouri Dept. of Transportation, Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, NGA, EPA, USDA, NPS

This is street preservation, for example. We've talked about this program off and on for quite a while. You see a lot of yellow and zero to 100 the average pavement condition in KCK is

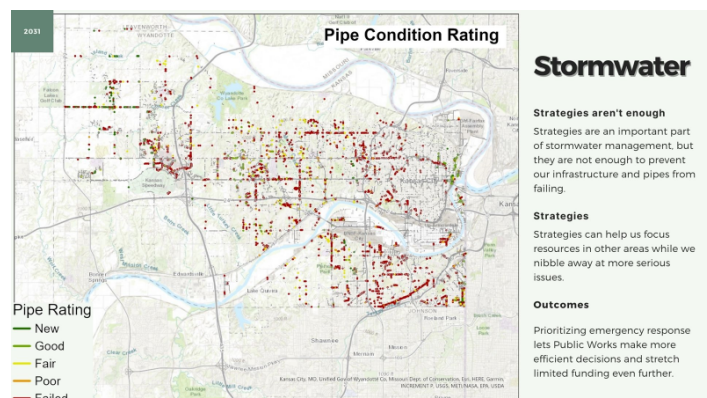
a 53. Three years ago when we collected the data, it was about 56 so it's declining, and it will continue to decline at current spending levels.



Now you see seven years of projections. You see a lot of red and that means a 60-65% of the system will below a score of 40, poor and failed.



The stormwater system is very similar. Its current condition, you see a lot of fair to poor and some red and we project that out 10 years.

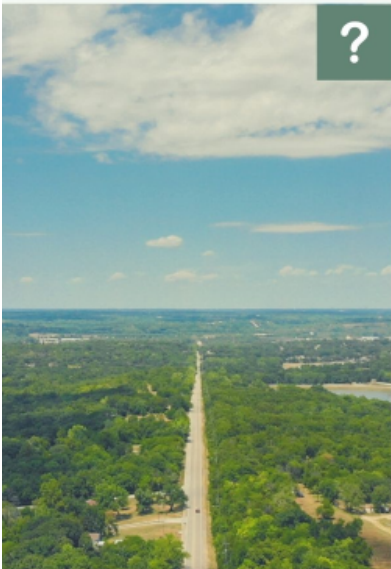


Due to the material types in this system, which are a lot of concrete and pipe, if not maintained appropriately, and they aren't right now because of funding levels, even areas like the Legend's you start to see go red because 10 years from now much of that infrastructure will be 20 to 30 years old. If not maintained appropriately, they will begin to move into that poor and failed condition.



There are serious infrastructure problems to confront. A long-term strategy and systematic approach will be instrumental and reimagine the future of building. Robbie is going to walk back through the work of the Commission and staff over the last 60 days.

Mr. Anderson said, again, I want to thank the Commission for their time meeting with us one-on-one and in teams covering, you know, a lot of difficult material around what asset classes we need to be funded at and what they're currently funded at.



25-Year Vision

- 01 Thinking deeply**
Minnesota Avenue was constructed more than 100 years ago, and it is still used today. What can we do to help future generations?
- 02 Understanding needs**
How do we balance our current and future desires with our current and future needs?
- 03 Prioritizing our direction**
How can prioritization and clear objectives help us plan for future generations?

PUBLIC WORKS

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Every year you get together and approve a CMIP and it might look like it's just next years' project that you're focused on or maybe if you're thinking a little further down the road, it's two or three years. In reality, for society, what matters is a long-term vision. What does that look like when reproduced out over and over again into the future say 25 years, so we need to think deeply about these questions. We need to have an accurate assessment of all the conditions so that we can calculate the needs and then we need to prioritize what kind of direction and which way we want to go in the future and what kind of world we want to leave behind for the next generation.

PUBLIC WORKS

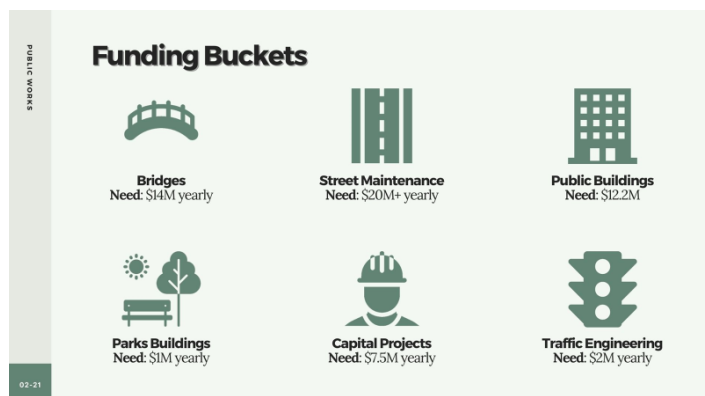
Funding Buckets

 Bridges	 Street Maintenance	 Public Buildings
 Parks Buildings	 Capital Projects	 Traffic Engineering

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In order to do that, what we did was take the current budget and break it down into some understandable categories to the layperson and the individual project might have a name that really

doesn't make sense to the public, but we've collected that information into categories here and that's what we did in our engagement with the Commission. So, you have bridges, street maintenance, public buildings, a subset of those public buildings being parks buildings, capital projects and traffic engineering.



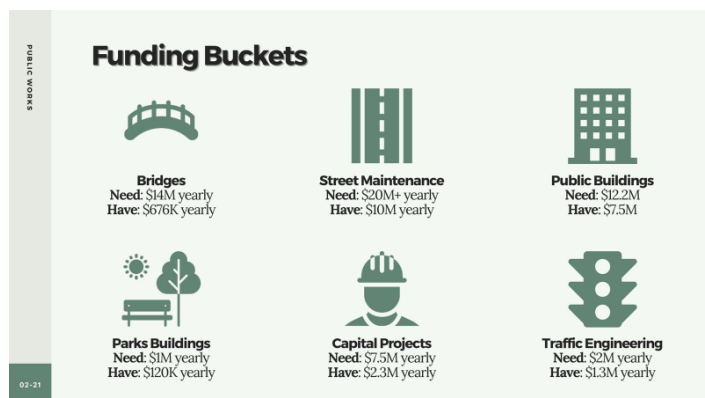
We'll walk through the needs first. The needs here are outlined from bridge inspection, so based on bridge inspections for legal, legal bridges and short span bridges we estimate a need of around \$14M a year. That does not include long bridges like ones crossing the river, so the recently closed Central Avenue Bridge is not included in this assessment for our annual needs here.

Our street maintenance, we have been pushing this repeatedly. We need around \$20M annually in pavement preservation to adequately improve the PCI score of our roads as Jeff spoke to earlier.

Public buildings information, we got a really high quality Ameresco walkdown of our buildings. That gave us a good calculation to say we need around \$12M annually for our UG public buildings and, again, that subset of parks buildings being around \$1M annually of needs.

Capital projects here include things—in this estimate here includes a streetlight modernization project spread out over multiple years. By funding these capital projects what other communities might consider traditional capital improvements as opposed to maintenance, you have things also like Leavenworth Road or a true reconstruction of a road.

Traffic Engineering might be our least pinned down asset condition class but based on our rough estimates we need around \$2M annually for traffic improvements.



Then, we get to the half. So, currently, for bridges we fund that at around \$700K a year, clearly that comes up very short of the needs. We have about \$10M annually for the street maintenance. We have about \$7.5M for public buildings which speaks to the need for possible examination of contracting. We have parks buildings as a subset, and they have about \$120K annually.

For Capital Projects which typically go to the match projects like Leavenworth Road, we have around \$2.3M for those types of projects.

Traffic Engineering, we spend around \$1.3M annually but that also includes some other technology improvements to our fiber optic network.



Now I'm going to pass it over to Angel Obert to cover some parks capital and maintenance items.

Angel Obert, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation, said like Robbie said, these are the four funding buckets that we have identified for Parks & Recreation. We have our capital projects, our park maintenance, our recreation, and programming, and also our trails. What you will see here, these figures are estimates and data that we gathered from the recent master plan we did in 2017.

Starting with Capital Projects, so annually we have about \$250K to attack those capital projects that we have in our department when really we need roughly \$3M. A good example of this and we get asked often about the Beatrice Lee Community Center. So, for example, to bring that center up to code, it would be about \$2.2M.

Our Park Maintenance funding bucket, we have \$2.5M yearly, \$5M would be more comfortable for us to maintain everything that we do here in parks, and this is anything including our buildings, shelters, playgrounds, beautification. We have roughly 200 playground systems within our parks and the average age of the equipment is anywhere from 12 to 15 years.

Recreation/Programming, we have \$1.5M. More programs require more staff. That's a large deficit we see there to be able to bring more programming to our community and quality services and programs for our youth.

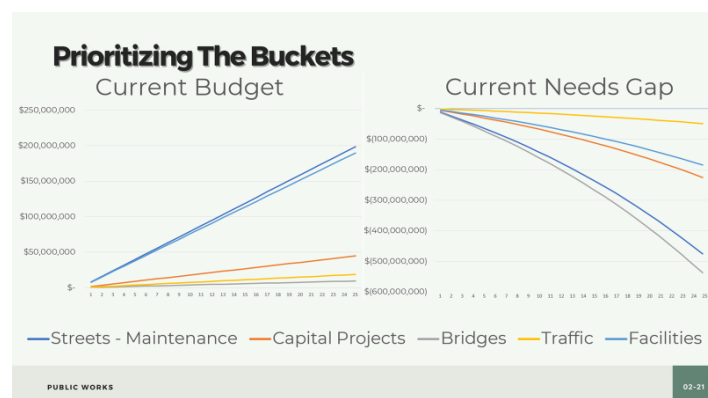
Our Trails funding bucket, we recently took this over from Public Works budget and it's \$100K every year. This is exciting for us because it is a big need for our community. They came out and ranked us as one of the top five features they would like to see more of in parks. We are moving forward with our first project here, Klamm Park, but with only \$100K a year this will be a multi-phase project, so five phases being completed in 2025.

The next statistic on the master plan to reference our budget and our operations is we maintain over twice as much park land per 1,000 residents than other municipalities similar population to us, 100K to 200K. That data is also tracked by the National Recreation and Parks Association Performance metrics.

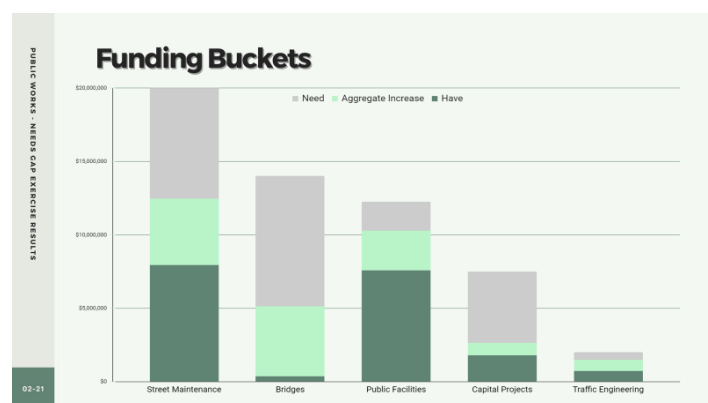


Mr. Anderson said so to bring it back big picture to the exercise that we reached out to the Commission on. We wanted to gather—based on this needs data and the needs gap information,

we wanted to not only get information around what you might like to see those funded at, we wanted also to gather where you might place emphasis within each of those individual asset classes. So, if you have roads and parks, how would you split that up if you were having to decide how you would do that.



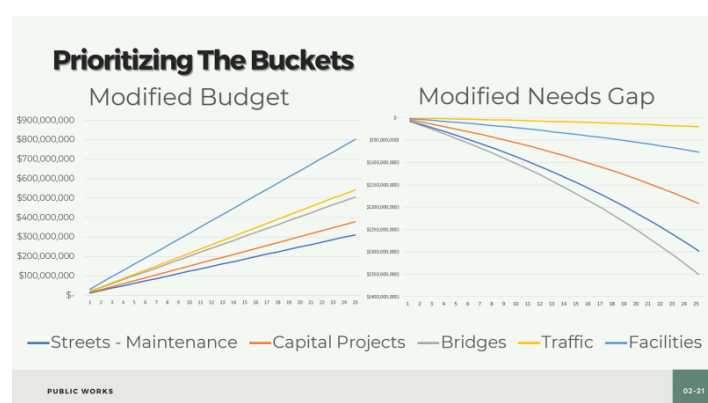
In that tool we also created some projections for 25 years of what this ongoing CMIP funding gap deficit for maintaining infrastructure would look like. So, projecting out the current rate of spending for each of these funding buckets, 25 years from now you can see how much we would have spent on each of those categories, but you also see the current needs gap. Twenty-five years from now we're looking at around half a billion dollars in deferred maintenance debt for both streets and bridges. When you add that up with the other funding buckets, you're looking at around \$1.5B worth of deferred maintenance gap that the next generation will have to figure out how to pay for it.



When we reached out to you we got information around how you might increase that in a theoretical environment, not a real-world budget, just as an exercise.

To walk you through this little bar graph here, you can see color. The dark green represents what we currently fund each of these categories at, the light green represents the aggregate change or the average change that was accumulated in our interactions with you on the tool. The remaining gray box on top represents the total needs for each of those funding buckets, so even after our engagement process, we came up short in the majority of these categories.

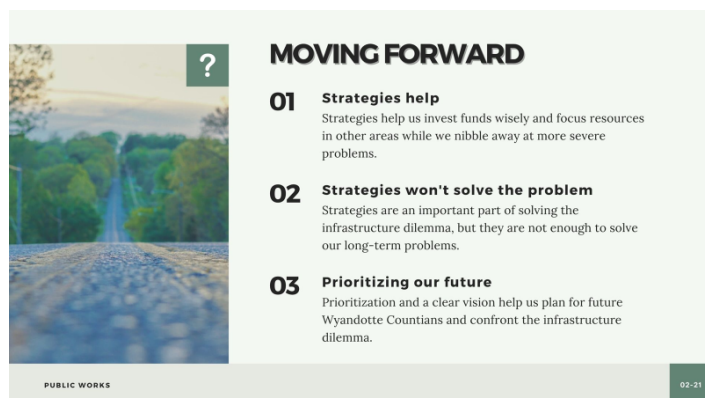
I think it's interesting to note, bridges here which represents obviously maybe a knee-jerk reaction to some fresh data from the Commission around the condition and annual funding for our bridges. What does that look like if we project it out 25 years in the future.



Clearly we have increased the total amount of money spent 25 years from now in this theoretical modified budget, but we still come up short 25 years on the modified needs gap. To bring this home to an individual level, right now at the current rate, every resident would have around \$260 of deferred maintenance debt annually now, today, and 25 years from now our future residents would have \$10K in deferred maintenance debt per person.

So, what do we want to be, how do we want to look to both goods, services and our community and what kind of life and quality of life do we want to provide for society? To me, public spaces are the seam that pulls us all together and makes society function.

I'm going to pass it back to Jeff to round out this discussion and start a discussion with you here today.



Mr. Fisher said in conclusion, staff believes there are two most important actions to leave here with is one, adopt a stormwater rate that is a step in the right direction in this budget cycle this year. Staff and our consultant have been working on an alternative plan. I mentioned on-three's. We would be ready to engage the next few weeks and then together to build up—probably more importantly, to build up written long-term strategies. Strategies, of course, are not going to solve the problems establishing priority action plans that are routinely reviewed and updated and acted upon over a long period of time are going to be necessary.

Again, I believe we will need to be bold to change the trajectory this community is currently on. Whatever the strategies may look like, I would suggest that we will need to—they will need to result in substantial shifts and capital investments to manage the crisis and build the future.

Staff is prepared to be part of those discussions and strategies.

Mr. Bach said with this, Mayor, I think we set out where we are. Not a pretty picture when it comes out to looking at. It's a major investment area as you can see the numbers that it has. We do spend a lot of money in this area every year, but we are an older community with aging infrastructure which causes us to have a continual need that continues to grow each year and I think that's what staff is really trying to underline to the governing body as we think about our priorities in the future. There are some things we look at that I think were mentioned. I mean in some areas maybe some of our public buildings and things we saw with changes with virtual environments that we don't need as much of and there may be some changes we can go to, but there is a big issue out here if we look at our overall infrastructure. I think that's the path you want to discuss this evening with the Commission.

Mayor Alvey said thank you Doug, thank you Jeff, thanks to everyone who had a hand in this, to the Commission for your input during the on-three's and clearly when I first saw this, and as we've seen over the past several years, this can feel overwhelming. I describe it as trying to climb Mt. Everest with a daypack instead of a backpack. I think moving forward what we really need to do as suggested, and I hear this from the Commission so often, it's hard for us to take constituent calls who have a complaint about road deterioration or simple things like curbs out of repair, stormwater running through a yard and flooding someone's basement. I can tell that story myself. I've seen streets, roads that are on ditches that clearly we cannot and are not maintaining them sufficiently and so we end up having washouts that then require even emergency repair which are far more expensive than just maintenance.

The totality of it I think can really be overwhelming to us because we have to explain to constituents why things are not getting done and we don't want to have to tell constituents why things are not getting done. We want to tell them thank you for bringing that to our attention, for reporting that, we will push that on, and they will get that fixed. Too often we're just—most often we're not able to do that. I think Jeff Fisher had told me they have a stormwater review committee so that when there is an issue report on stormwater and some damage done or some deterioration, that then they take it to the committee and the committee looks at it and 70% of the time they have to say no, we don't have the resources to do anything about it. That's the message none of us want to tell our constituents, it's not the message that we want Kansas City, Kansas to have to tell.

What we want to be able to say is that we understand the full range, the entire panoply of infrastructure needs of capital improvements, of building maintenance of streets and stormwater. We understand those, we understand where we are, what their current state is and we know where we want to be and ultimately we want to create a community that when people visit us or we drive people around we are proud to point out to say this is a well-maintained city that invites you to be here, to live here, to establish a business here. And that we are so committed to our city that we are investing in these capital needs so you should invest your own capital whether it's purchasing a home, whether it's establishing a business, that's the dynamic for growth for moving us into the future.

When I listen to this the trajectory I see that we are on is on decline and that we're not even able to fund up adequate maintenance to prevent things from getting worse and, in fact, at our current levels they are necessarily going to deteriorate even further and it's going to create

even more costs for future generations. So, I think sometimes if my own children were to watch this presentation and they began to make decisions about where they want to build, where they want to settle, why would they if they thought we were not going to take this into consideration and really come up with a long-term vision, a long-term plan.

The other thing I will say is, again, we had a two year process of looking at stormwater and then we look at our street conditions, and then we look at really what we need to do for our street lights, and then we look at our Parks Department, our buildings. We will take those buckets and we look at them in isolation and we might increase funding for one bucket thinking we're doing some good but that means then there's not money for the other buckets. You know if we take money from streets, okay, and to put it to parks, good, but we're taking money from streets and it's getting worse or if we put money into—we've already seen it on our mowing of lots for blight remediation. We've had to pull people from Parks & Rec to go and cut the lots for the blight remediation, which is a good thing, but again, it means our parks are not being cut as often.

We don't have the resources at this point to do what we need to do, and so part of the vision is where do we want to be in 25 years because we're not going to climb Mt. Everest in one year, two years or five years using CMIP. We've really got to extend 25 years and we really have to come as a Commission with a commitment to a vision of where we can in 25 years and commit to developing a strategy that will last beyond my term, beyond any of our terms, that it becomes a commitment of our electorate, our communities to say this is who we can become in 25 years if we follow the strategy. We know it's going to require tremendous discipline that is discipline means saying these are the things we must say yes to and these are the things we say no to if we're going to attain the vision, the greater place we need to be.

I have to say it's a little overwhelming, it can be discouraging only if we say that we're powerless and we are not powerless. We have to use the power that we have to tell the story to our constituents, to engage them, and to really make the commitment to say we can improve the quality of life. In fact, we must improve the quality of life if we want to continue to grow this community and that's going to be our responsibility I think. We have to come up with a process that engages the entire Commission in looking at these problems, describing the vision we want to get to and describing the strategies we're going to use to get there and then as a whole taking that to the electorate telling the story and engaging them and leading them on the way, encouraging them so that we can become the city that our residents and our businesses deserve.

I want to thank again Jeff and Rob and the team for putting this together. I will not be discouraged by this; I will not be defeated. I'm resolved to working with the Commission, working with staff, working with our electorates to really putting together a 25-year plan that is going to significantly move us forward and help us climb that mountain.

Commissioner Markley said I think the big takeaway for me from this presentation is that we have to take our first step and we aren't going to climb Mt. Everest with a daypack, but maybe the daypack can get us to the base camp, I don't know, then we can see from there where do we go next, but I think over the years this problem is so big that we said we don't have enough budget to solve the problem and we kind of backed away from taking the first step. We've got to take a first step and we've got to take a step in the right direction, and then next year we're going to take another step, and the year after that we're going to take another step, but we've got to stop waiting to have enough money to take those steps because that day is not going to come. It's just like in your home budget, if you're like waiting for that day when you're going to win the lottery and you're going to get to do that big project, it's not going to come. You better start putting money in your piggybank because that's the way you're going to get there.

We've got to start taking those small steps deciding how much money is going to go in our Public Works piggybank and we've just got to take it, you know, little by little and know that we're not going to win the lottery. It would be nice if we did but we're not going to win the lottery. We've just got to decide how much we're going to commit and take those first steps and the sooner the better. It's been put off long enough.

Commissioner McKiernan said to Jeff, to Robbie, to Angel, to everybody who has participated in doing this assessment and bringing us the sobering reality I thank you. I agree with the Mayor, I agree with Commissioner Markley that we are going to need to simply take the steps to start the process of improving our infrastructure.

This is a question I started with Robbie the other day and I would like maybe to pursue a little bit further, not tonight, but in the weeks to come. So, Angel, you said that we maintain about twice the square area of park land compared to peer cities on a per capita basis. **Ms. Obert** said, yes Commissioner, according to the NRPA data from 2017.

Commissioner McKiernan said, Jeff, I think you have mentioned in the past that we maintain, or we have and need to maintain many more lane miles of roadway than peer cities. Would that be accurate? **Mr. Miles** said the system is large and we spend about a third per year of peer cities per lane miles. **Commissioner McKiernan** said one of the questions that I think we need to discuss is, for example, with parks. Why do we maintain double the square area on a per capita basis? What's the advantage to us of doing that? Is the advantage to us compelling enough to spend the additional money? Can we learn some lessons from other cities and shrink maybe our square area and still provide all the amenities that our constituents want and need? So, a question we're not going to answer tonight, but I think questions we need to consider, what lessons can we learn from other cities? For example, if we took peer cities of similar geographic size, similar population, similar age of infrastructure, how do we compare in terms of CMIP spending on a per capita basis with them, do we spend more, do we spend less, are there strategies that they are using that can inform our program going forward? I would love to know how we compare to peer cities in terms of both our assets and their condition and our plan for moving forward with the repair of those.

Finally, do I understand, and I see Kathleen is on, do I understand that at the moment at least we're contemplating that the majority of any increase that we would devote toward improving our assets would come from cash and not from debt? **Kathleen VonAchen, Chief Financial Officer**, said that's correct. It would have to come from cash because our debt is already pretty much at its limit considering our current assessed value. The credit rating agencies do a ratio analysis then and given our current debt load compared with their assessed value we're up there, so it wouldn't be advisable to issue more debt than we currently do.

Commissioner McKiernan said thank you so much. I just wanted to confirm that because I think that, again, informs the strategies that we might use going forward because it does color how we're going to end up paying for the improvement process.

Commissioner Philbrook said just to tail end on everything that everybody else has said, this is just one more thing that I do have a question about, and I know we have a lot of building assets, that sort of thing, and it was mentioned earlier that we're not necessarily needing all of that and there may be some things that we're taking care of that we could sell and, therefore, not spend money on taking care of them and handle things a little differently. I'm just, you know, going

down the road of streamlining like if you can't afford the bass boat right now, even though you love to go fishing, you may have to fish bank once in a while now instead of owning the bass boat because if you can't make the payments and take care of your kids and your home and make it work, then you go without the bass boat and just make it to the edge of the pond. Just making a suggestion on that.

I really think that I appreciate all the hard work everybody has put into this because this has been very painful for all of us to admit as stewards of our community we really need to just dig in and work on it and just have to be tough and do it.

Commissioner Johnson said thank you Jeff and to all that took part in this discussion. It's quite a sobering dialogue. I think I would like to just piggyback on Commissioner Philbrook with regards to our facilities. It seems to me that might be what one might consider low-hanging fruit in the sense that if we could streamline things as she has suggested, it might help us to save money that could then be transferred to the maintenance and continued building of infrastructure. That might be that small first step that Commissioner Markley and Commissioner McKiernan were alluding to. We just have to be diligent, and as Jeff has said, we have to be bold, and it could be that is the first step that we need to take and something that we can control relatively easy in terms of identifying facilities that are not needed right now that we might be able to sell or however we need to remedy that. I would like to offer that as a potential starting point and I'm sure there are some other ideas that will come along as well from my colleagues.

Thank you for all the work that you all have done. It's a necessary conversation and we're just going to have to put on our big boy, big girl pants and make some tough decisions.

Mayor Alvey said that seems to be it on the hands up. I'm going to recommend that if any commissioner would like—I would like to create let's say a steering committee that would work for the Commission to put together the strategy for how we might take on and tackle this problem. It's not something I think that's going to happen overnight obviously. It's going to be something that would be coming over time. Honestly, this is going to take us a year or two to put together a 25-year plan to fully explore what our options are. I mean perhaps we can reduce our assets. Obviously, we're going to continue to move forward and some of this funding could be accessed perhaps by the federal government—through the federal government. There is talk about bringing

earmarks back and if we specify things that we would really like to be funded, we can work with our congressional delegation on that.

The entire cost may not come directly only from us but there may be other sources. Either reduce our cost and/or find other sources but be very strategic but it's really going to take discipline. You don't have to say now. Just send me an email that you would like to be considered to be part of that and we will put together a steering committee.

Commissioner Bynum said I was just going to volunteer for your committee since I chair the Public Works & Safety Standing Committee. **Mayor Alvey** said you aren't going to be able to not volunteer Commissioner. Thank you very much.

Mayor Alvey said that takes us to our next item on the special session and that is a SOAR Update.



Melissa Sieben, Assistant County Administrator, said I want to say thank you for letting us be here again tonight. I know that the first presentation was probably a little more challenging to follow than our typical SOAR presentation starts, but we're back here tonight with our Stabilization, Occupation and Revitalization update. We're going to be looking at what happened last year which was a very tough year for all of us in a whole variety of ways and that was no different for our SOAR work. Also, we're going to be talking about what we're working on currently and some of the things we've already achieved in '21.

Typically, when I come to you to do these updates we have a ton of folks with us and have them rotate through. I was trying to simplify things tonight. We have a limited set of guests,

but I can tell you there is an audience of folks out there listening that work in this every day and are very interested in what we're all doing in this area across all of our departments.



Just to remind you, SOAR is about improving the quality of life in Wyandotte County working in three main areas: appearance, safety, and communication. Our program tonight, we will go through a variety of these focusing on appearance, safety, and communication but not in our normal typical way we've done this.

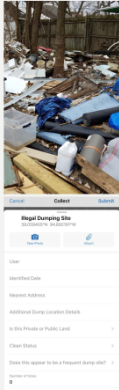
Hopefully, as we go through this, you'll kind of learn about the interdependencies of a lot of the work that our groups are doing, and our team is engaging in across all of our departments and with the community.



The first area we're going to address tonight was the big kickoff that we had last year on litter and illegal dumping. This has been a challenging project for all parties involved.

2020 LITTER & ILLEGAL DUMPING

- SOAR engaged 13 departments, the Mayor's Office, and a Commissioner to develop systems to address litter and illegal dumping
 - Commenced work in December 2019
 - Met biweekly all of 2020
- Improvements so far include:
 - Increased collaboration between departments
 - Starting to streamline tracking and data collection of dumpsites through an internally develop GIS app
 - Began requiring automotive businesses to maintain record of proper disposal of tires
 - Increased fines and focus on enforcement
 - violators can face fines up to \$2,500
 - **\$250 reward available for eligible witnesses**
 - SOAR utilized an AmeriCorps VISTA Summer Associate to help with data and mapping efforts last summer



I would like to highlight we have 13 different departments working on litter and illegal dumping or our LID program. That also includes assistance from the Mayor's Office. We want to thank Lynn Melton for her time and devotion to that group and really helping us understand to what's going on as well as Commissioner Angela Markley who also has been a very key person to listening to what we're talking about, you know, helping us maybe throw some things into the hopper that we might not have considered or throwing some things out that we were thinking might work. That work started really in the end of 2019 and has continued to meet bi-weekly all of 2020 and continues now into '21.

What we're trying to achieve here and obviously increase collaboration as well as streamlining the way we're tracking and collecting data in this area. With so many different departments having hands in this work, we've actually worked really hard to develop an app that we can all put information into and track what's happening and that is actually the bottom right side is what you would see on your phone when you're out in the field.

Also, one of the big things that we also accomplished was changing our SUP standards through Planning and working with the Police Department as well on requiring automotive businesses to maintain a record of how they're properly disposing of tires. We think that's going to be a big way of starting to help track what's happening with tires in our community.

We've also talked a lot about this this year as well. We've increased fines for violators and rewards for eligible witnesses. Just like last year, we paid out our first \$250 reward which was wonderful. A lot of this work was started and kicked off last summer with AmeriCorps VISTA which we are very happy to have helping us.



2020 LITTER & ILLEGAL DUMPING, CONT.

- Communication efforts:
 - No funds for a specific campaign in 2020 or 2021
 - COVID-19 was priority for all UG communications
 - Launched webpage in 2021! – wycokck.org/Litter
 - Webpage includes resources on where to properly dispose of unwanted items
 - Signage now available to community groups to sponsor
 - \$60 per sign, with the option of including a sponsor name for \$20
 - Citizen newsletter and E-news included related articles

Here on this page you can see on the left-hand side a copy of one of the signs that we are now offering to our community groups and they can actually sponsor these. We kind of studied the impact of signage on repeat dump sites and there is some correlation we feel to asking people not to do it which seems kind of odd, but we're hoping that some more folks get engaged and purchase these signs to put out in their neighborhoods to stop that kind of activity.

We didn't have any specific dollars for communications through this whole program for this year and last year, but we are able to say that we have put some stuff in the newsletter. We'll show you a bit of that on the next slide, but also with the help of our SOAR Coordinator we were able to launch a webpage right at the start of this year about littering so it kind of gives people the resources of where to take this stuff that they might otherwise be depositing somewhere they shouldn't.

2020 LITTER & ILLEGAL DUMPING, CONT.

Don't Trash Your Neighborhood (or Anyone Else's)!



The WICAP Initiative (Solidification, Occupancy, and Rehabilitation) is working hard to make our neighborhoods safer and more beautiful. Proper disposal of trash is the first step to keeping your property and your neighborhood looking great. Here are some tips to help with that.

- Put your trash and recycling out no earlier than 6:00 p.m. on the day before your trash day and bring your cans back in by 7:00 a.m. the day after.
- Subscribe to the Unified Government's Dispatch or follow us on social media to keep up on schedule changes due to extreme weather or holidays.
- If there is an issue with your trash pick-up, report it to 3-1-1, online at myWyo.wy.gov or using the myWyo mobile app (search "myWyo" whenever you download apps).

• Put your trash in bags and put three bags in containers with tightly fitting lids.
• Do not bring your trash cans to front of your house when out at the curb. Put your trash cans where they can't be seen or stepped on.
• Place trash cans near to the curb and make sure they are visible between curb parked on the street. Do not place them behind vehicles where they can't be seen by Trash Management from the street.
• The Recycling and Reuse Center is located at 1415 Park Drive, Kansas City, Mo.
• The Household Hazardous Waste Collection Site is located at 2443 S. 10th Street, Kansas City, Mo.
• Call 3-1-1 to find recycling options to learn more.

LITTER AND ILLEGAL DUMPING: You Can Help Stop It!

Littering and illegal dumping are significant problems throughout Wyandotte County. People who either litter or ignore litter allow our community to look dirty and unattractive. Fortunately, there are many ways we can work together to minimize littering and illegal dumping and make Wyandotte County a cleaner, better place to live!

Illegal dumping is a problem we can fix - affordably! There are many ways to dispose of trash items that are very affordable or even free. The Unified Government's SOAR Initiative (Solidification, Occupancy, and Rehabilitation) and Mayor David Abney are asking for your help in tackling litter and illegal dumping.

Reduce the amount of litter by making sure your trash and recycling are set out properly:

- Put your trash and recycling out no earlier than 6 p.m. on the day before your trash day and bring your cans back in by 7 a.m. the day after.
- Set up your trash as late as possible, especially when weather will be a factor.
- Put your trash in bags and put the bags in containers with tight-fitting lids to ensure it is not accessible by animals and does not blow in the breeze on a windy day.
- If you feel uncomfortable doing so, encourage your neighbors to follow these guidelines as well.
- Pick up trash or recycling that is blowing in your neighborhood, along the street in front of your home, and on your way to and from the park or a local restaurant.
- Lastly, report littering to 3-1-1 or on the myWyo app.

If everyone in the community takes the extra effort to pick up litter, even if it's not yours!, that extra effort will improve the appearance of our community.

If you find illegally dumped materials or large amounts of litter, take these steps:

- Contact 3-1-1 or report it on the myWyo app.
- The City will determine next steps in remediation of the dumping. Depending on the time of the year, it may be weeks before items are removed due to the City's ability to deploy resources.

If you catch someone in the act of illegally dumping:

- Call 311 and provide as much detail as possible.
- If you feel comfortable, take pictures that might help identify the violator. This could include their vehicle, license plate, or face.
- If you identify a violator and they are convicted of illegal dumping, you are eligible for a \$250 reward.
- A \$250 reward is also available if you catch someone vandalizing an area with graffiti and there are removed of the crime. Follow the same process for this.

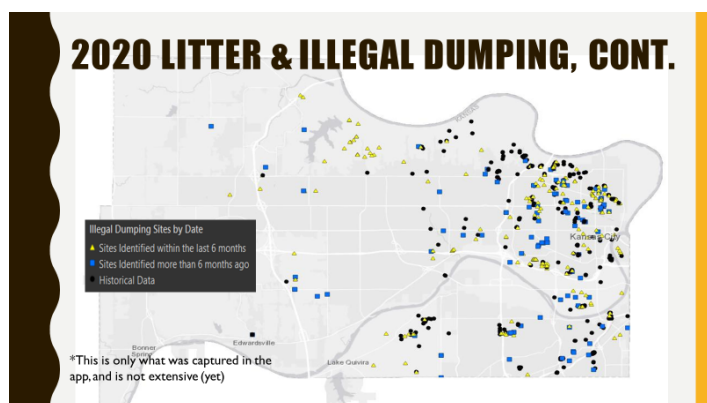
If you know of an area that collects a lot of litter, consider adopting it! Learn more at wycokck.org/SOAR/Helping.

Here's just a couple of things that we were able to get into the *Citizen* this year which we are very proud of. One about how to properly dispose of your trash. It probably needs to be a repeat item for all of us and then how to handle illegal dumping and what you can do.

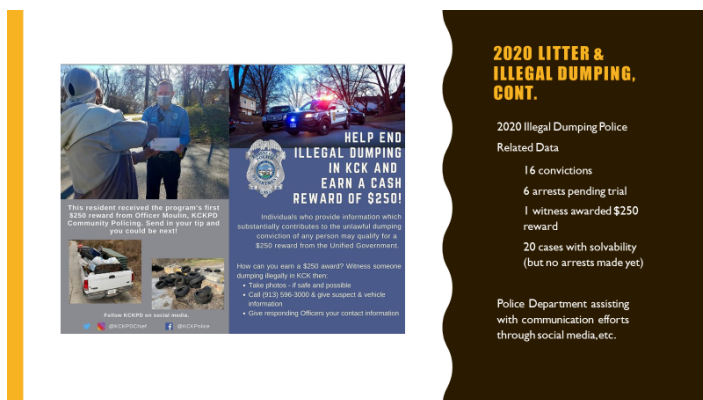


On this slide we have some data. I will say there are some asterisks here on this data. It's really important we understand we started in this work the middle of 2020 and as we went along we realized data lived in other places, so we tried to get some cost totals of what the cost impacts of illegal dumping are on our community. What I can tell you, what you see here, is only a portion of the information that actually occurred but just in the Street Division we dealt with almost 750 tires which if you think about that, and then you look at what Parks dealt with, another 80 and we're going to have another slide here with Officer Caiharr who is going to show even more.

You start adding this up across the Unified Government, imagine if we didn't have to deal with these and also imagine that we didn't even begin to touch the tip of the iceberg of what's out there to address.



We have a map that our VISTA who is on this tonight has put together for us to kind of show you where we're tracking these. We have some historical data that was actually on kind of a paper map out at NRC and then we pulled stuff in from other departments and started to plot it to kind of have an idea to see if there was some pattern out of it that we might assess. Probably not as much of a pattern as we hoped.

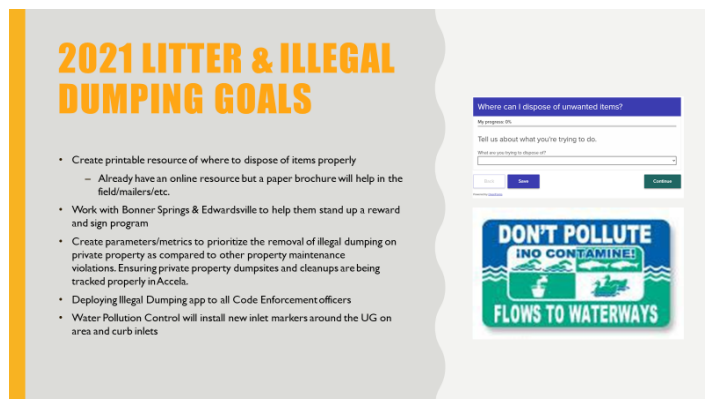


Officer Joseph Caiharr, KCK Police Department, said the data that we have for the Police Department for 2020 in regard to illegal dumping, we had 16 convictions, 6 arrests that were pending trial, we had one witness that was awarded a \$250 reward on the left side of the screen. You'll see Officer Moulin is presenting that check to our witness and the pile of tires that you see underneath him is actually the tires that were dumped, and he witnessed. There are 20 more cases with solvability, but no arrests have been made on those just yet. Then, our Police Department is actually assisting with the communication efforts through social media, citizen contacts and various other areas.



In 2020 we also had our Police Department clean up six illegal dumpsites. That's fewer than we normally do. Just with the COVID-19 it kind of interfered with how we typically do things. SOAR assisted in developing and sharing a calendar for Community Police cleanups and Community Corrections can provide community service opportunities for system-involved youth where we can have them actually come out and assist us in doing some of these cleanups.

Ms. Sieben said I just want to state here for the Commission and the Mayor that this partnership that we're forging, this team that we're forging on this between the Police Department, Community Policing, and other departments within the UG has been really valuable because of the increasability to communicate out through their channels as well as the UG's other formal channels.



This last slide here on illegal dumping is what we're working on in '21 and I just want to say that we do have the litter sites that's out there but we're also looking at some printable resources and talking with our different departments that are working this area, we found that was a lot of need amongst them to be able to have something to handout. You know, a resident or someone they're seeing utilizing our vacant properties for managing their waste needs, what can we give them so we're working on some of that to help them understand what options they have and also what really the norm should be for how they handle that.

Additionally, we've been talking with Bonner Springs and Edwardsville. They are part of our Adopt-A-Spot Program that we will talk about a little later. We're also looking at trying to get them to bring in a reward-based system as well so that across Wyandotte County we have sort of a consistent messaging approach to handling illegal dumping.

The other thing we're working on is prioritization of illegal dumping on private properties and trying to ensure that private dumpsites and cleanups are being tracked properly. Again, trying to kind of get an understanding of the totality of the impact that illegal dumping is having on our community and also on the workload for the Unified Government.

The last item here is not really related to illegal dumping but is one thing that we will be working on which is illegal dumping in a different form. It's when people dump pollutants into

our stormwater system and helping to try to educate the public by doing inlet markers around the community about what happens when it drains to the lake, it drains to the river and so that was another contribution from our team as well.



Logan Masenthin, SOAR Coordinator in General Services, said our Adopt-A-Spot program did get a little bit of a rough start in 2020 as we cancelled all of our cleanups in the spring, but despite that, we still had 26 cleanups held. We do have 25 spots adopted currently with 113 still available. Then, some more information on the cleanups, a total of 287 trash bags collected as well as two tires, 212 volunteers and a total of almost 400 manhours going towards those cleanups, so that was pretty exciting.

We also had some pretty good process improvements this year. We started to utilize Lucy to track our cleanups and get the folks out there to pick up the trash bags after those events which is helping with recording as well.

For 2021 goals we have actually already launched a dynamic map of spots on the website. That happened this month and that includes the adopters and the date of last cleanup, so it helps folks who want to adopt, and it also helps get recognition for those who have adopted. Our plan for 2021 is to create and implement a marketing plan for the program and aim to get at least 50% of the spots adopted.

Ms. Sieben said you'll see here the tires are another theme throughout the conversation, but also the communication component and we could desperately use the Commission's help in helping us promote this valuable program. On the left-hand side of the screen you'll see that our first ever

Rotaract Club is working on Fisher Park which was great to see them get involved in the community in that way.



Ms. Masenthin said there are other efforts going on for cleanups as well. The Mayor launched his Flash Trash Mob last year and there is a Facebook group you can join to keep up with those events. There are 115 members and counting and they were able to hold four events. We just launched it in the fall as you can see there, but they're already having really good success around 12 to 15 volunteers at each one. You can see Commissioner Markley and the Mayor and the cute kids on Halloween there.

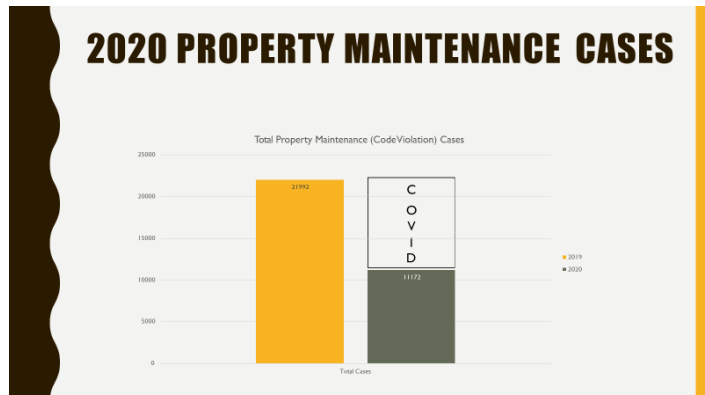


We want to do more to bulk up these cleanups and to make the collaboration more efficient. We're looking to utilize Lucity in the same way we are for Adopt-A-Spot for all of our other cleanups. If we can include Adopt-A-Spot, the Flash Trash Mob, Neighborhood Cleanups, and Community Policing cleanups all on Lucity, we will all have it in one place where we can track and report really easily. That will also help us communicate those efforts with the public.

We also learned of this cool opportunity, a company called Budget Dumpster has a donation program and so we're working with them to get more dumpsters out to cleanup events in the community as well. The Livable Neighborhoods letter—annually they send out to talk about cleanups with neighborhood groups and that goes out next month and it will mention this donation program.



Ms. Sieben said now on to property maintenance.



Greg Talkin, Director of NRC, said this slide here is not one that I wish I was bringing in front of you, but these are number of cases that we had in 2020 for property maintenance cases. If you compare those to the previous year, you'll see that we're just barely over 50% of what we did in 2019. There's a number of reasons. The biggest reason is COVID. COVID really introduced a new learning curve to us. Of course, we worked day in and day out with customers and those conversations sometimes are already challenging with the work we're in, let alone introducing COVID, and trying to keep distancing and things along that line. We've got a lot of our staff

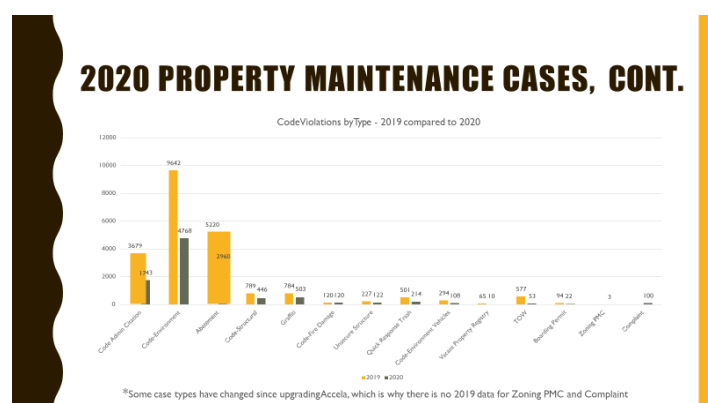
working remotely, all of our staff working remotely for a while, and we still have some working remotely.

We had to put in new safety protocols, we had to question all the things we did and how we operated, what we needed to do differently. The remote equipment we were using, at least initially, was a hodgepodge of things we could put together, so technology problems also existed throughout that.

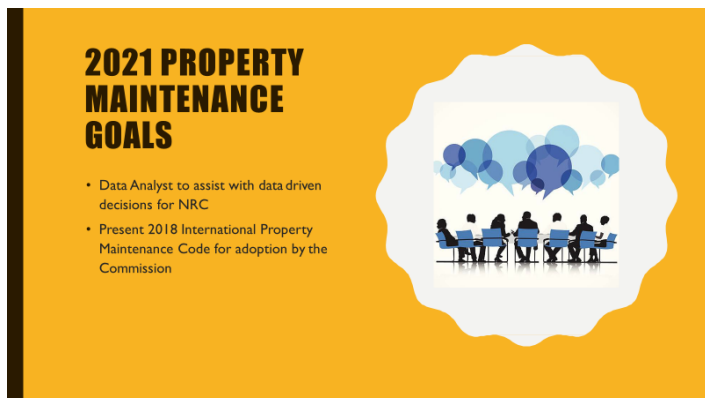
Some of our support systems were interrupted. PD and COPPS unit that we work very closely with, they had some new tasks they had to take on. We weren't sure what we were doing for a little while. We also had approximately 1,500 hours of staff time that they took off with COVID related reasons during that year.

We also had staff assigned and the implementation of Accela. That's a big task that we have, a very important task and we had a lot of staff assisting with the upgrade, doing testing which we still kind of have going on right now, just not quite as extreme. We're trying to tidy things up, but that took a lot of time. We also were operating with an average of five vacancies during that year, four inspectors and one supervisor. The other thing, not that it should have really mattered in these numbers, but the complaints we received during that time, it's obvious people were shut-up in their houses. They had other concerns. We didn't receive near as many complaints as we normally do. It seemed to drop off the priority list. A lot of people were worried about putting food on the table and paying their mortgages, so that also dropped.

Once again, this is not something I wish occurred, but we are looking forward to this year and moving forward.



This basically is just a breakdown of the types of cases comparing 2020 to 2019. I'm not going to go over each one of those individually.



Moving on to 2021. We did a reorganization at the beginning of 2020 and just were trying to get it off the ground when COVID hit. We had a number of things that occurred and mainly there was a hiring freeze for the most part. In our reorganization that we started we realigned a position; an existing position and we were proposing a data analyst. That got put on hold. We've now been released. We're working on the job description trying to get it specific and we'll be advertising for that position. I think data analytics is something that we really need to get into. A lot of the other UG departments are doing that and it's showing great benefit and we want to be on that board, and we believe we have a lot of benefit from that too.

One other thing we're working on in Property Maintenance, not just Property Maintenance, across the board for all building codes and property maintenance codes we're in the process of getting those codes updated and here in 30 to 45 days we will be hoping—we are planning on posting that online for public comment and at some point later this year we will be bringing that to the governing body with information and a request for approval of the new standards.

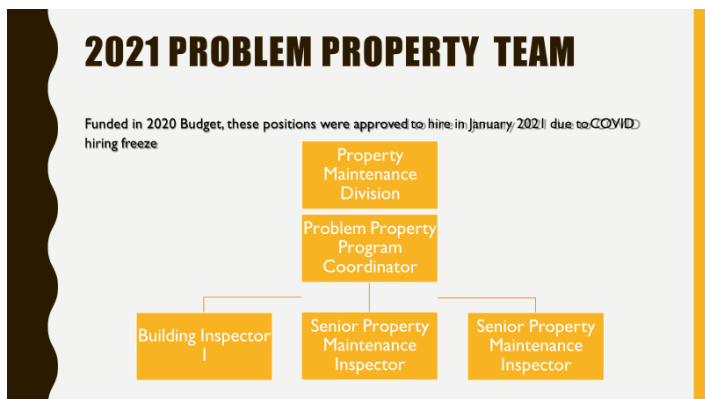
2021 PROPERTY MAINTENANCE GOALS, CONT.

- Conduct a vehicle blitz in each area of the City
 - Focusing on vehicles parked on unimproved surfaces
- Communications Articles
 - Vehicles
 - Grass/weeds
 - Pools and fencing
 - Vacant Property Registry



That combined with a few other communication pieces we have ready to go out for grass and weeds before the weed and grass abatement season starts and we did see an uptick in pools on

people's properties probably because of the public pools being closed so we are wanting to put out a communication piece dealing with the proper fencing you need to have to keep those pools on your property.



Mr. Talkin said in 2021 we were able to move forward with something that we tried to kickoff in 2020 and, once again, due to the hiring freeze we weren't able to go forward. We are in the process of hiring and filling all of our positions that we currently have vacant in the Property Maintenance Compliance Division. For those that may not be aware, the Property Maintenance Compliance Division formally used to be Code Enforcement. We're changing the name to give a different tone but also to make it more clear the type of ordinances we are actually enforcing.

The Problem Property Team is a concept that basically is going to go out and enforce a number of issues that are problems and take a load off of our general staff. It's going to compose of a Manager and one building inspector will be involved and then two senior property maintenance inspectors. Those two senior property maintenance inspectors are the two positions ultimately we've got to get filled here in the very near future to complete the team.

2021 PROBLEM PROPERTY TEAM, CONT.

Duties of Problem Property Team

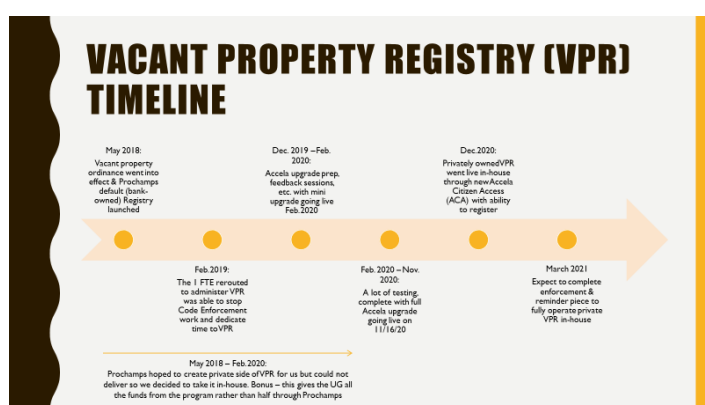
- **Priorities:**
 - Structures close to schools, parks, major streets
 - Located within Historic/Landmark Environs
 - Unsafe/police requests
 - Tipping point neighborhoods
 - Tax Delinquent & Vacant
- **Problem Property Criteria:**
 - Unfit, vacant, and/or boarded
 - On Dangerous Buildings/Demo list
 - Damaged by fire
 - Habitual offenders with more than \$1000/5th admin citation assessed



Duties of this and priorities; we're going to try to tackle those properties that are more critical, and more safety related: schools, parks, major streets. We're also trying to make an effort to save a lot of our historical and landmarks in the community. We have not done a good job on that in the past. We'll work with the Police Department on a lot of unsafe issues. We'll continue to work on tipping point neighborhoods and tax delinquent and vacancy.

The problem property criteria right now that we're developing so we know to try to have some triggers in place for when we kick the team in. That will be unfit, vacant and/or boarded properties, dangerous buildings. One thing I want to comment here is that the team effort under SOAR has made such a difference in the demolition program. I think everybody realizes that most properties that we used to tear down we couldn't get ownership, we didn't have a tax sale process and so we had to tear them down, that was our only option. Now we're finding that demand and the only properties we're really having to get involved in are those major fires and those major structurally compromised properties which are dangerous buildings now. We're looking to start tailoring back towards dangerous buildings as far as the naming of that program.

We're going to combine the dangerous buildings with the Problem Property Team of course and just so everybody is aware, it's our plan that Erin Downing who is head of the program for demolition will be heading up the Problem Property Team. We're also going to concentrate on habitual violators that have at least five administrative citations or at that level that staff has already put enough time in the regular property maintenance effort that we need to kick this up a notch.



Cheryl Martel, Neighborhood Resource Center, said I won't go through and read the timeline, but the vacant property ordinance began in May 2018 and I just want to simply say with the Accela upgrade it has given us a better ability to track the vacant in-house structures and that is what our goal is, to bring that private side into where we manage it instead of a third party.

2020 VACANT PROPERTY REGISTRY (VPR) NUMBERS

Vacant Property Type	Count
Total Mortgage Held Vacant Properties as of 12/31/20	446
Registered Mortgage Held Vacant Properties as of 12/31/20	330 (74%)
Total Privately Owned Vacant Properties as of 12/31/20	607
Registered Privately Owned Vacant Properties as of 12/31/20	10 (1.6%)

*These numbers are likely lower than 2019 due to federal & state eviction & foreclosure moratoriums

This is just a little bit of the numbers. Of course, 2020 with the moratorium there was—the numbers were lower for what was collected for the mortgage held properties, but on the private

side, more of the properties are being identified. That 607 number today is actually 634 so the potential is growing for us to understand what's out there and what needs to be done.

Ms. Sieben said, Cheryl, you might just mention a little bit the fact that we work with Pro Champs on the bank owned properties. The privately held, we really haven't even started any effort into because Pro Champs wasn't able to track those like we thought they might be able to and the Accela upgrade allowed that.

I'm going to talk a little bit about what we intend to do if you do have some next steps. We starting doing some tracking of this last year, correct? **Ms. Martel** said correct. With the Accela vacant property was the last to come over with the upgrade, so by, I want to say next week, we expect to be able to start addressing these properties on a larger scale so I will be able to—everything is in place for me to be able to start sending out notifications and for people that do not register we will, of course, be fining with the citation. The Pro Champs they handled the mortgage held and they do that very well. At first we had to have them—people had to register their privately owned through Pro Champs and now with Accela as of December, they can actually register online through our department. So, that was a huge win.

Ms. Sieben said there is a lot of communication to do around the privately held, but I can tell you with the mortgage held ones we were doing really well, but I think this next layer staff started sometime even in 2019 trying to gather where the privately held vacants were. The more we know about that, that translates into some of the stuff that our Delinquent Real Estate office partners with NRA on, so there's still a lot of opportunity here as we stand this up with Accela. I can't convey how important this is to the Commission and how excited we are because Cheryl has been leading up this effort at least from the data side in-house to get it into the system as opposed to in an Excel file. I'm pretty excited to see where we can head with this and, hopefully, you'll see the results of this work going forward.

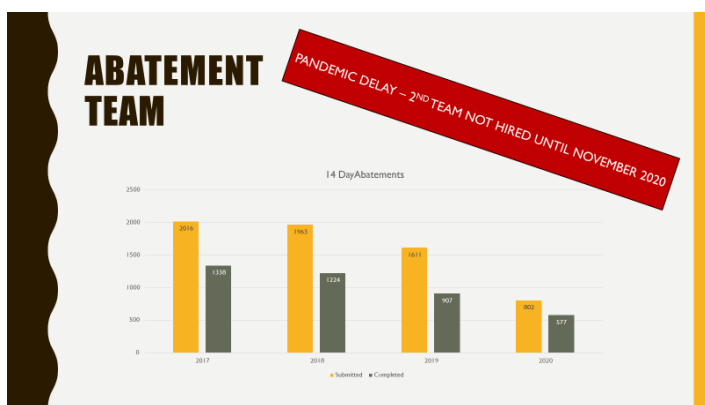
Are there any other things you want to say Greg or Patrick on that?

Mr. Talkin said I would just like to comment ditto what you said Melissa. This private side vacant registry that we haven't completely been able to get off the ground yet, I think it's going to be one of the biggest steps we take and it's going to make an impact because we have a lot of people just

sitting on properties that don't want to do anything with them. They're holding them to do something else or they are just continuing to like the community and I think us getting this into Accela and handling it ourselves, because we have the data for that, Pro Champs does not, I think is going to be a win-win.



Ms. Sieben said now we're going to transition back over to my presentation. We've lost our coordinator over our Abatement Team, but we do have some information that we wanted to present from them tonight. I just want to first note that this first slide says 2021 and that's kind of what Greg was talking about with our 2020 setback with hiring. The second Abatement Team the Commission approved for the 2020 budget was also not fully staffed until late, late, late '20.



We're really excited that they're on board and they're going to be hitting the streets to help out with what NRC is working on. We have the data here on the number of abatements. Abatements are down, though not as down as you would anticipate when you look at the data that Greg presented early on his property maintenance violations. There's a lot more capacity here for this

team now that we're up and off to the races under our new Accela platform and with all the work that we're going to be doing looking at boarding and also looking at vacant structures.

2021 ABATEMENT TEAM GOALS

- Determine what can be legally removed from private property during an Abatement. Bring together core staff within UG to come to set of defined parameters that can be legally defended and provide reassurance to those who are doing the work. Create cheat sheet for Abatement team staff.
- Resubmit budget request for AbatementTeam dump truck.



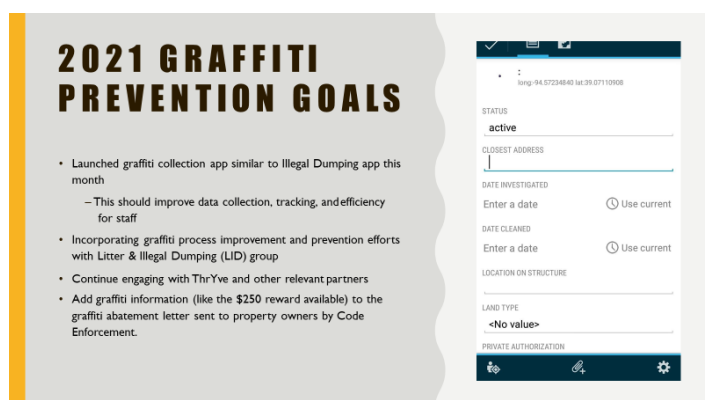
I also want to thank the Commission again on behalf of the Parks & Rec Department and the Abatement Team whose very proud to show off and I think we put this in a Friday note sometime last year, their brand new equipment that they finally got their own equipment to do these abatements on property. They're thrilled to have this stuff and it's helping them do their job more efficiently and we do want to thank you from the SOAR Team as well.

I'm going to turn this over to Officer Caiharr I believe.





Officer Caiharr said the 2020 Graffiti Prevention, some things that we did we conducted CPTED analyses on several of the parks that we have the most problems with graffiti in. We utilized the free AmeriCorps VISTA Summer Associate. Then, we added to existing CPTED analysis conducted by the Sheriff's Office in some of our other parks. We engaged with ThrYve Youth Development Empowerment program to partner with youth on graffiti cleanup and prevention efforts.



In 2021 the graffiti prevention goals we launched a graffiti collection app similar to the illegal dumping app this month and if you look over on the right side of the screen, it kind of shows you an example of what that will look like. This should improve the data collection, the tracking, and the efficiency for all the staff. We are incorporating graffiti process improvement and prevention efforts with the litter and illegal dumping, the LID group. We are continuing to engage with ThrYve and other relevant partners and then we are also going to add graffiti information, like the \$250 reward that's available if somebody turns somebody in, on the graffiti abatement letter that is sent to property owners who have their properties, somebody spray painting something on their property, then they get a letter in the mail and you'll have that information that there is an award

available to them so we're going to give them more information on how they can possibly make some money on turning somebody in.

Ms. Sieben said I want to say that this one is particularly challenging for all of our teams to try to figure out along with illegal dumping, but it is, obviously, something very critical that we're looking at. Since so many of the processes overlap in some way with the illegal dumping and litter stuff we felt it was best to do those together.

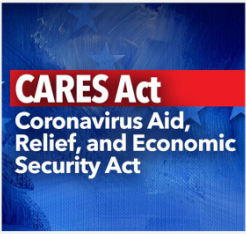


Rob Richardson, Director in Administrator's Office, said we're going to talk about Community Development for a little bit. I'm filling in for some folks in that department tonight. The first thing we want to talk about is the HOME Repair Program. We did 51 projects for just under \$300K and spent about \$5,600 for project and you can see some of the nice results there in the pictures, some interior work, and some exterior work.

2020 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, CONT.

CARES Act

- Community Development Block Grant - The UG received 2 allocations totaling \$2,143,980 of CARES Act CDBG funds from HUD to "prevent, prepare, and respond to Coronavirus"
- Emergency Grant (ESG) - The UG received 2 allocations totaling \$2,391,577
 - Round 1 - RFP and review process awarded 7 non-profit agencies
 - Funded activities include emergency shelter, prevention, rapid re-housing, and data collection
 - Round 2 - RFP and review, waiting on 1st round to be spent before its awarded
 - Funded activities include same as before, as well as street outreach



CDBG also received a couple of very large CARES Act funding grants. The first one was \$2.1M for prevention, preparation, and response to the COVID related issues. The second one—it's actually two additional, but they're lumped into one here for \$2.3M. The first round is going to seven not-for-profit agencies for emergency shelters, prevention, and rapid rehousing as well as the data collection. Once that money is spent, the second round will be spent on similar activities.

2021 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GOALS



- Apply to Federal Home Loan Grant
- Develop agreement between UG and AltCap for them to administer the Rehab Loan Program.
- Develop RFP for 5-year Consolidated Plan. Include Analysis of Impediment to fair housing.
- Work with Health Department to apply for second lead-based paint grant.

Ms. Sieben said this one here we're, as Community Development, they will be also working again with the Health Department to apply for another round of the Lead Paint program and we're also looking at a couple other things that are mentioned here on possible Federal Home Loan Grants which is helping with that GAP funding between appraisal and the actual cost to repair some of our properties here in town and possibly working with AltCap on that. Those are things we need to work on and doing a lot of support for infill housing.



Now onto Planning and I'm going to cover that tonight as well because our Director is on vacation.

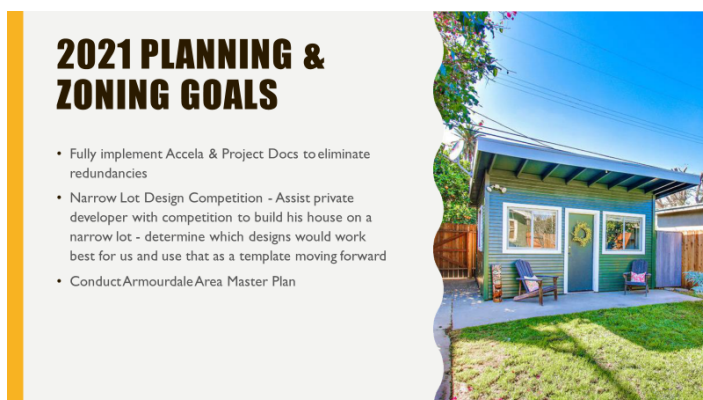


2020 Planning, they did start the Armourdale Master Plan which most of you are aware of, kind of in-house for most of 2020 and just kicked off their more public side of the planning process here in the first part of '21. We did start our new Director, Gunner Hand, this last year and he is quickly engaging in our SOAR efforts which is wonderful to see. We did report out some zoning case numbers. Those are also, I believe, down from '19 as well 35 different zoning cases and of those, about half are closed and then our Zoning Enforcement Officer also does inspections for Development Review, so about 36 of those this last year.



In 2021 we are going to be adopting a new Zoning Code. I know we've been talking about this for a while but that will be coming before you and along with that comes some how-to videos for folks who want to interact with the new code. We will be looking at how we transition between the old and the new code and sort of what the time period is for folks to engage with one or the other. We're also going to be working on an annual report that we will do for our Zoning Enforcement Officer. That's been one of the dreams of mine since we started having zoning enforcement activities with the Planning Department again.

We are also in the process of on board here shortly with AmeriCorps VISTA to help with some of the kind of in-house work around zoning enforcement help. One inspector will be out there more on the streets instead of in-house doing so much of the admin work. We are also using more features in Accela this year and we are going to be seeking a request to the governing body for another zoning enforcement officer for '22 if that's possible.



The last one here, we are as the Planning Department, working with the team at NRC and in Public Works on Accela & Project Docs to help kind of improve our efficiencies in that area. One of the other exciting things that has come forward here this year for '21 is a private developer who is

interested in doing a narrow lot design competition and kind of looking at how we might be able to provide some information to future folks wanting to do that when we have come forward interested as well as with what we call ADUs or accessory dwelling units. I think this could be a really interesting one for the governing body as we move forward and sort of how that impacts how we think about our small lots.



2021 PLANNING & ZONING COMMUNICATIONS GOALS

- Create a list of the Top 10 Zoning violations to share in the Citizen newsletter. Share on the web/social media/E-news as well.
- Write Citizen newsletter article related to public safety and Planning issues for all 3 issues of Citizen. Share on the web/social media/E-news as well.



I believe the last one here is working on communication pieces for the zoning infractions that we see most common in the community and getting those out working with our strategic communication department and in several *Citizen* newsletters.



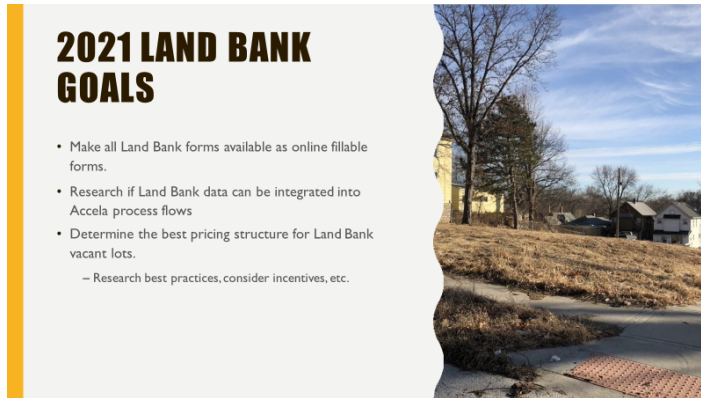
Mr. Talkin said let's talk a little bit about the Land Bank and 2020 results.



The Land Bank Rehab Program as of December 31st of last year had 62 total rehabs that were completed. They had 15 in the prior year, 57 houses currently in the program inventory, they have zero houses right now in the inventory that have—they at least have an offer right now and they have 243 rehabbers in the rehab pool right now. Total value added to the property appraisals through Land Bank Rehab Program is a little over \$300M or \$3B, not \$300M, sorry. They have seven properties that have been transferred and that doesn't include the six transferred to the Levee project.

Ms. Sieben said quick note here, there's some synergy that we are exploring between what Cheryl and Greg's team were presenting on the privately held and that 243 rehabbers. I think we will be, and I know we will be, trying to pair those folks up because we think there's an opportunity to move those vacants into an inhabited status and start our revitalization efforts in that way.

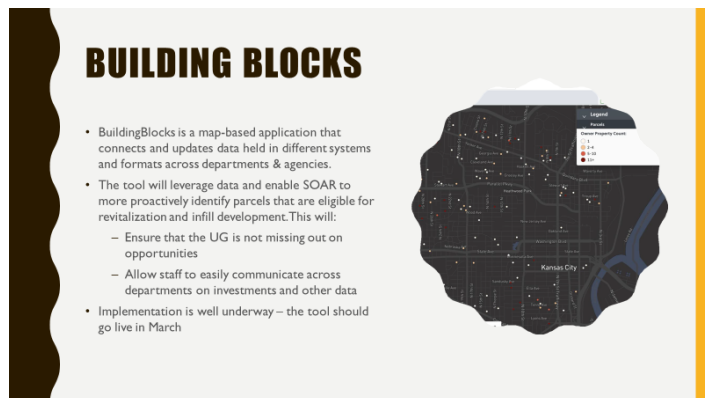
Mr. Richardson said, Melissa, we might say one other thing about that and that is we now have competition to buy those houses out of the tax sale with people that are actually wanting to do it. **Ms. Sieben** said yes, that will come up later for sure. **Mr. Richardson** said it's just so exciting.



Mr. Talkin said the 2021 Land Bank goals, make all Land Bank forms available as online fillable forms. We're going to do some research if the Land Bank data can be integrated into the Accela process flows which would be great for all of us using Accela because we always have to communicate of where processes are from what we're doing compared to what the Land Bank is doing. Determine the best practice pricing structure for Land Bank vacant lots and just continue to do research, a lot of best practices, consider incentives, etc.

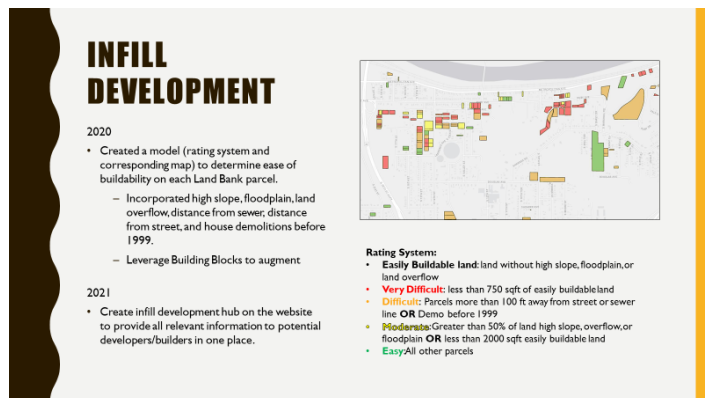


Ms. Sieben said this is our Land Team. Our Land Asset Management Team is trying to fix all of the issues with our land records.



Mr. Richardson said this is going to greatly appeal to a couple of our commissioners that love data. I won't name you, but you'll probably smile when I say that. The Building Blocks software takes data that we provide to them and integrates it and analyzes it and outputs it in a form that is useless to us. In this case, like I'll talk about tonight, how do we not miss opportunities. The software takes our Accela data, our GIS data and a couple other data sources and puts them together and does the analysis so that we can leverage that data and SOAR applications and Property Maintenance applications predicting in some cases where we might have issues. For instance, when we have shutoff data in there, it will start to be a predictive mode about how we can proactively look for properties that become property maintenance issues and address those very early in the process before they get so bad that they have to go into the rehab program. It also allows us to communicate with each other more effectively and I think it will also be a tool that will help the staff and Commission to communicate very effectively in terms of what properties should we focus on and how do we focus on them most effectively.

We're hoping that this will be live in March. We're well on our way. We've had some great support from our IT team to get that going and then get access to that data through our firewalls and that's all about to be completed.



Mr. Richardson said I have to thank our VISTA Nick Rebovich. I hope I got that right Nick. Nobody else tried it but I did. For a while, the Commission will know that we have been working on these vacant properties and well, that one is not developable because the basement was dug out, the house is just crushed into the basement and we put dirt over it, you've got to dig that out and it's an extra cost. That one looks developable, but you would think there would be a sewer in that alley because there are houses on it but they're all on the other end of the alley and there's no sewer on that one.

What Nick has done is taken all of our GIS data and looked at, is this lot easy to build on or is it hard to build on. Right now we have—you can see some of the results of that in the picture there. For 2021 we want to develop this into a hub or website where this can be easily accessed for folks that will actually work with the Land Bank and I think even in the future it will work with privately held properties because now that we are seeing demand, like we said, in the tax sale to buy a structure out of the tax sale; I think we will see people wanting to buy private land and so it will be important for them to have this information on the private land as well and we will apply this formula to vacant private properties as well.

As you see there, the very difficult means that it's less than 750 sq. ft. of easily buildable land and so easily buildable you talk about where are the sewer lines, what's the grade, what's the slope, many other factors in that.

Difficult is parcels that are more than 100 ft. away from the street and all the parcels are by a street, but there might be flat spot on the parcel and that part is like 100 ft. away from the street or the developable part of the parcel that's out of the floodplain is 100 ft. away or something like that. So, we really analyzed where is that buildable area on the property.

Moderate, it's a 50% land slope or it's in the land overflow where the rainwater goes, floodplain or it doesn't have at least 2,000 sq. ft. of buildable area and basically everything else would be considered easy.

It's just an incredible tool, something we've been working for, for a long and Nick has been able to take that and create the analysis tool that tells us this is a developable property. If the Land Bank is selling someone a property and it's green, there is not going to be any issues with that. They can go get their plot plan developed, get their house plans done and build on it. That's going to be a big step forward for that part of it as well. I can't sing Nick's praises enough because several of us intuitively thought this is what we need but we didn't have the technical ability to get there, so now we have this. Like I said, this will also supplement the Building Blocks program that we're working on as well. This data will go in there as well.

Ms. Sieben said that's very exciting, and this is definitely something that as far as our infill playbook that we're working on internally as well with our Land Asset Management group that we will be bringing forward more significant synergies between all of this information that we're talking to you about right now.

2020 LAND ASSET MANAGEMENT TEAM

- Resolve issues with UG properties that had taxes prior to UG acquisition
 - 1st piece complete – pay off the taxes for parcels owing \$500 or less
- Treasury is now able to clear taxes before putting new parcels into the Land Bank with one easy step
- Identified Land Bank lots in overland flow paths
- Presented to the Landmarks Commission on SOAR and specifically boarding efforts
- Removed unbuildable parcels in the Central Area from the Land Bank rolls/for sale lists

TAX PAID

easy

Ms. Masenthin said some accomplishments for that Land Asset Management Team other than Building Blocks and infill last year we were able to resolve some issues with UG properties that had taxes prior to UG acquisition. We haven't done all of the yet, but what we did was pay off the taxes for those owing \$500 or less. Another huge win was that Treasury was now able to clear taxes before putting new parcels into the Land Bank with one easy step, so this used to be a really complicated and time-consuming process and we had this huge backlog when the tax sale started processing more parcels, so the fact that they figured this out with one easy step was huge.

We also identified Land Bank lots in overland flow paths. We presented to the Landmarks Commission on SOAR and boarding efforts and removed unbuildable parcels in the Central area from the Land Bank rolls.



Ms. Sieben said one of the other things that we're looking at in '21 with the Land Asset Management Team is trying to ensure that we cleared all of the Land Bank lots that don't belong in the Land Bank. This has been a source of frustration for the governing body for a number of years and at the last standing committee meeting the Land Bank was at, you saw the start of that effort happening and I was over there having, you know, just like a cheering section myself and I think there are others that are feeling the same way. We're working on that as a group. This is a definite cross-departmental problem that we all face including also our BPU partners as well. We're working on this and pretty soon when you see it as a Land Bank lot, it is truly for sale and isn't going to be something that is some other type of asset within our portfolio.

We are also looking as we do this the excessive rights-of-way. In many cases when we've done different infrastructure projects over the years we had to buy more property than we needed so we're trying to look at what we have in that realm and then turn that into separated out parcels and possibly put more property that's publicly held and non-taxable back into the tax rolls where someone might develop on it.

Another issue if you've used our data at all and I think a few of you commissioners is that you will notice that there is about, I don't know, 30 different ways we name ourselves and that comes from consolidation and certain past practices in how we name things and we're working on a consistent nomenclature and what can be cleaned up and changed or what shouldn't be changed

at all. That's been an interesting project that we started a couple years ago and kind of sidestepped it for some other things but we're coming back to that this year.

One of the other ones that we mentioned already that's the last one here is the overland flow paths conversation and kind of making sure that we're not putting things back out for people to build on that are inherently going to have problems with overland flooding on their property.

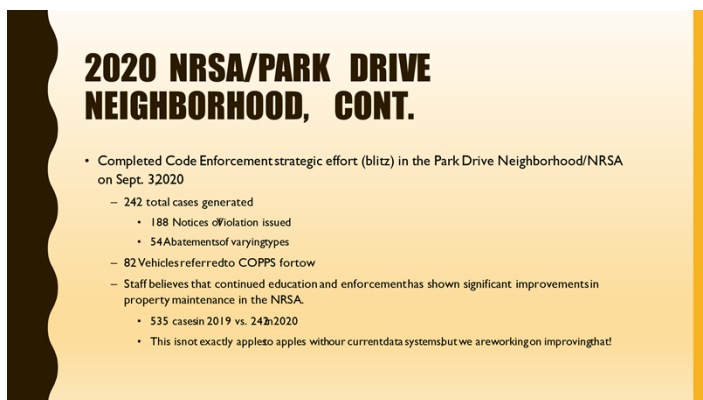
The one here that is kind of new that we haven't talked about is something that I think a lot of us have experienced if we live in more of a suburban development that has some amenities or supposed to have some amenities built. What we have seen is that developers are not coming through on their promises and that's creating kind of a blighted situation and so SOAR is wanting to work with NRC, Planning and possibly some others on how we manage the situation going forward so that we're not as a Unified Government left holding the bag say on a small park within a subdivision that does not have anyone to maintain it, formal structures weren't established, so on and so forth, or amenities weren't brought to bear that were promised. We need to get a better handle on that and handle that more efficiently for everyone.



Ms. Sieben said I'm going to turn this over to Logan and she is going to quickly run through our NRSA Program. Logan, we have about ten minutes or less.



Ms. Masenthin said some Park Drive neighborhood improvements we completed last year. We did a lot in City Park, restrooms, new service road, a concrete apron and ADA sidewalks. We also completed the Central Area Plan and that was adopted in October.



Mr. Holton said these are the numbers that compare 2019 blitz of the Park Drive area to 2020. The one thing that really showed us is that we need a better way of keeping our data, especially our blitz data, to assess our successes and/or failures. We believe these efforts to be successful as you can see by the significantly lower number of cases started in 2020 as opposed to 2019, but at this point that is anecdotal. That is not a full story as to how successful that program has been, but we're working on it and we're just going to keep at it.

2021 NRSA/PARK DRIVE NEIGHBORHOOD GOALS

- Park Improvements
 - Reconstruct parking lot at Clifton Park
 - Install safety net over playground at City Park ball field.
 - Complete walking trail around Clifton Park that will connect it to City and Regan Park.
 - Replace Clifton Park playground in different location



Ms. Masenthin said we have more park improvements coming this year. We're reconstructing the parking lot at Clifton, installing a safety net over the playground at City Park ballfield, completing a walking trail around Clifton Park that will connect it to City and Regan Park and replacing that playground in a different location.

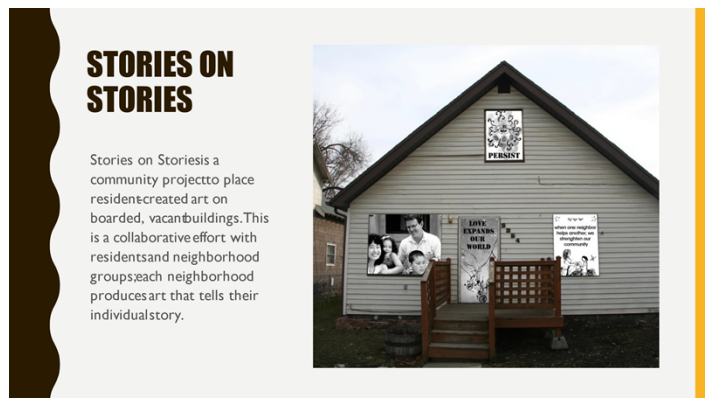


2021 NRSA/PARK DRIVE NEIGHBORHOOD GOALS, CONT.

- Assess whether or not the Code Enforcement communications offered throughout 2018 and blitz in 2019 have made visible improvements in property maintenance in Park Drive.
- Analyze metrics from original KU Census Tract report for tipping point neighborhoods. Determine if metrics have moved in either direction for Park Drive Neighborhood/Census Tract 422
- Analyze Census Tracts including those from the original KU report on tipping point neighborhoods, to determine ideal area for next NRSA.
 - Use analysis to select next NRSA and create goals.

Moving forward we're going to look at the Park Drive neighborhood and the NRSA more big pictures. We want to assess whether the code enforcement communications we offered have made visible improvements in property maintenance and then we also want to analyze the metrics from the original KU Census Tract report for tipping point neighborhoods to see if we've really moved the needle or not in census tract for '22.

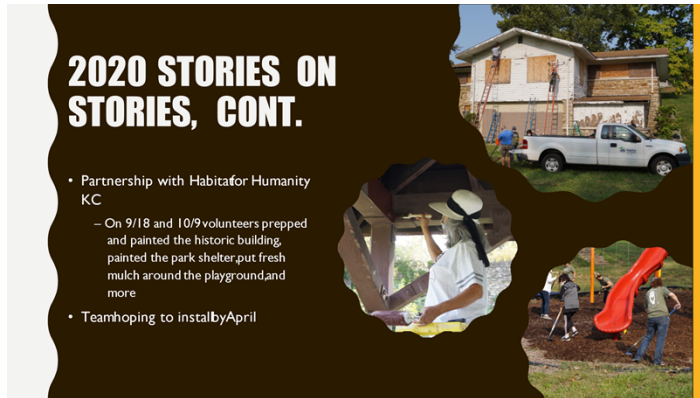
Again, big picture, we want to analyze our census tracts including those from the original report and ideally pick a new area for an NRSA.



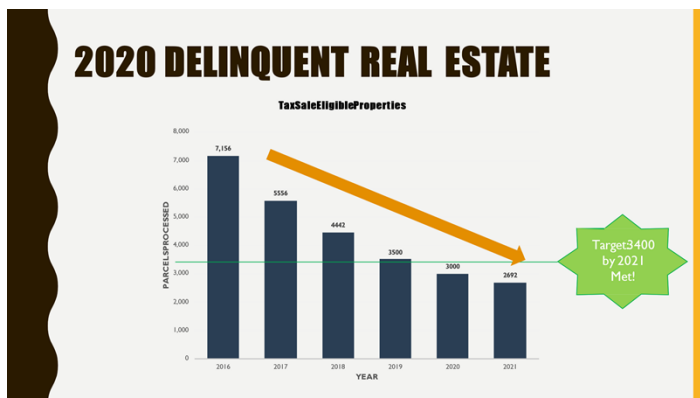
The Stories on Stories project ties in with the NRSA because of the location we chose this year. This is a community project to place resident created art on boarded vacant buildings. It's pretty complex and has a lot of collaborative partners but the mission is to connect communities and prevent crime while improving appearance.



Our 2020 project site would be the Historic Bathhouse in Clifton Park. We were able to do a lot of engagement. I will say it was definitely very challenging in 2020, but we were able to utilize those AmeriCorps VISTA Summer Associates and our existing community network to get a bunch of feedback from the residents in that area on what type of art they would like to see.

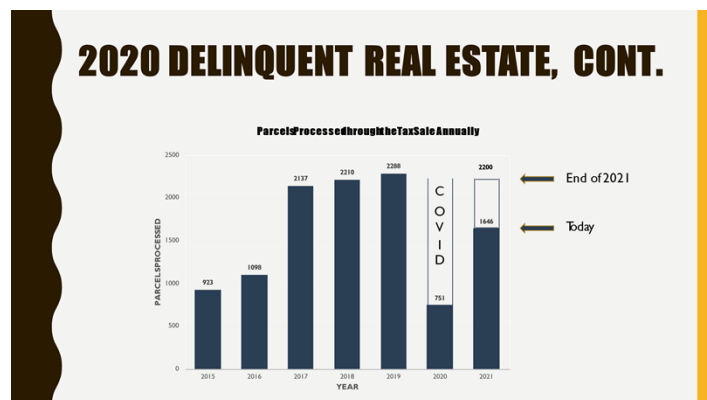


We were also able to partner with Habitat for Humanity. They repainted the building which badly needed it. They also repainted the shelter, put fresh mulch down and, again, this process was a lot more challenging due to the pandemic and a lot more time-consuming than we thought it might be, so we were hoping to install last year, but at this point we're aiming for April.

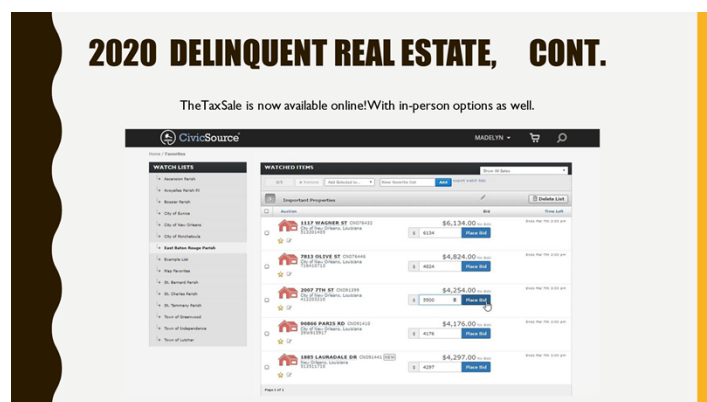


Jenna Hillyer, Delinquent Real Estate Manager, said here's where we started in 2016 with SOAR with 7,000 properties that had delinquent taxes that were tax sale eligible which is a huge

backlog and our goal in 2016 was to hit 3,400 which we have met and exceeded. We are on point to stay that way, so things are going really well with getting caught up with the backlog. It's the simple form.



We consider a property all the way through the tax sale process like actually once it's gone through the tax sale we continued to abstract through COVID which means we were working at properties for a sale, but we were only actually able to hold one. When added in an additional sale per year instead of just two and added in a third one, we were able to add in more properties by 1,000 actually so our production rate is up and it's continuing to be that way. Even though we had COVID we're back on track for hitting that number again thanks to being able to do an online tax sale which looks like this....



We started an online tax sale in December, and it does have an online component—an in-person component, sorry, obviously, it has an online one. This is actually Louisiana. We're working on getting some snapshots of Kansas City, but that has been wildly successful and we're continuing to work on improvements with that.



One of our wins, we had this house which you have seen previously in this presentation on Orville. It was one that we looked at demoing. It has huge fire damage as you can see. The significance with this house is that it is the first house in this neighborhood that would have been torn down, so essentially, by being able to—this house actually sold in the December tax sale online to a gentleman who has put a lot of effort into restoring the inside, the interior of it. So, not only is this house being saved, but by not tearing it down we actually were able to preserve the integrity of the neighborhood and the historic value of it. So, that's a big win for the rehabbers in general and the tax sale.

Mr. Richardson asked, Jennifer, how much did that sale for. **Ms. Hillyer** said about \$30K. **Mr. Richardson** said somewhere in the neighborhood of \$30K. **Ms. Hillyer** said yes, right above it. I don't remember the exact number.

Ms. Sieben said this was my test case and I want to thank Doug Bach for letting me push this one because I firmly believed this was possible, so I look forward to seeing more work when spring hits on this property, but this was truly a defining moment in the SOAR program.



Ms. Hillyer said this is our list of things we're looking for in 2021. It's largely communication. We're going to continue to monitor how the online tax sale goes and look for improvements. We're working with CivicSource on ways we can improve it and the interface and a lot of outreach with the community and instruction tutorials and whatnot on how it works for Wyandotte. Our language is a little bit different. If you look for tutorials now, what you find is a lot of things from Louisiana and they do things a little bit different. Every City Hall, you know, they have burrows and whatnot, and we don't have that here so it's a little bit different.

We do continue to work closely with NRC and Codes with the vacant property registry. If a home is actually vacant, we can get into a tax sale faster than if it's occupied so that information is really valuable for us, so if we have access to it through CIC, it's a lot easier for our abstractors. Right now we've done a great job working with the code enforcement officers, NRC, but there are ways we can improve that.

We're also working with CivicSource and investigating ways to reach out to people who are just one or two years tax delinquent and also ways we can remind them to pay monthly. A lot of people don't plan for a long-term, that giant bill at the end of the year. It's easier to budget for once a month we have to pay x amount of dollars to make our taxes, so if we can prevent delinquent taxes from happening, that's one of our goals.

Also, just informing the public on what their rights are. People who have had houses sold in the tax sale are entitled to the overages past what was paid for their delinquent taxes so being able to inform the public on what that process is would be really helpful I think. Just good community, good customer service and community outreach for our department.





Mr. Talkin said in 2020 Livable Neighborhoods has always been a partner when it comes to communication. They try to do any type of communication for neighborhood groups and getting information out to them. This is kind of a great fit with a lot of what's going on with the UG right now and trying to improve communications.

In 2020 Livable Task Force, their meetings went online through Zoom. They held their third meeting on Zoom today actually. They've made improvements to their website, reviewed 2019 NBR reports for all four quarters with the Mayor and Assistant County Administrator, worked with the SOAR Team to create an Outstanding Neighborhood Award including nomination process to recognize community members who go above and beyond to improve the community particularly when it comes to appearance and safety.

I apologize, I can't remember the lady's name that got that award, but—**Ms. Sieben** said I'll take it home for you here. **Ms. Masenthin** said Gabbie Martino.



Ms. Masenthin said some additional content we helped push in 2020 that made it in the *Citizen*. I don't need to read them all for the sake of time and for 2021 we're going to promote some Police Department initiatives.



We revamped and reorganized our dashboard. **Ms. Sieben** said which you can find online. With that, I will stop sharing my screen and stand for any questions.

Commissioner Bynum said just one question that's way back on the illegal dumping. I wonder if I could request that the SOAR Team discuss the possibility of impounding any vehicle that is associated with illegal dumping and could they look into the possibility of doing that and bring that back to us sometime in the future. I believe right now the answer is probably we can't do that and the question that I'm asking is, what would it take for us to be able to do that. I think impounding vehicles associated with illegal dumping might go a long way. **Ms. Sieben** said absolutely. We would love to look into that and if it's something we can put in our tool kit, I think Officer Caiharr is smiling, I think he would be excited to have something like that in his tool kit.

Commissioner Johnson said wonderful presentation tonight, very thorough. I just want to put this out there also. If in some bazaar reality we're able to find some cost savings somewhere in our budget, if we could consider maybe increasing the reward amount for those that are vandalizing and also dumping trash, it's absolutely deplorable what people are doing in our community. I've had a chance to go out with Community Policing and it's just absolutely mind-boggling what people do in terms of dumping in different areas. It just blows my mind. I don't know if there is any data out there that would suggest that increasing the reward amount might work or not, but it's just something I would like to continue to put out in the ethers as a potential possibility. **Ms. Sieben** said we can actually talk to you about that further offline, Commissioner, because we are running up against a hard stop, but we have looked at that.

Commissioner Philbrook said real quick, thank you. I don't know how the heck you're doing all this work during the last year but I'm just amazed at what you guys have accomplished. Thanks so much and I do know that we have so much more work to do, but there is no way I can express my thanks for the work, everybody working so well together. Keep up the good work folks. Thanks so much.

Mayor Alvey said we need to probably end now. Thank you for the presentation.

**MAYOR ALVEY ADJOURNED
THE MEETING AT 6:51 p.m.**

Brett Deichler
Interim Unified Government Clerk

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