

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

REGULAR SESSION
JUNE 9, 2022

The Unified Government Commission of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, met in Regular Session Thursday, June 9, 2022, with eight members present: Burroughs, Commissioner At-Large Second District; Townsend, Commissioner First District; McKiernan, Commissioner Second District; Johnson, Commissioner Fourth District; Kane, Commissioner Fifth District; Stites, Commissioner Seventh District; Davis, Commissioner Eighth District; and Garner, Mayor/CEO, presiding. The following members were absent: Bynum, Commissioner At-Large First District; Ramirez, Commissioner Third District; and Markley, Commissioner Sixth District. The following officials were also in attendance: Cheryl Harrison-Lee, Interim County Administrator; Patrick Waters, Deputy Chief Counsel; Casey Meyer, Senior Counsel; Bridgette Cobbins, Assistant County Administrator; LaVert Murray, Chief Economic Development Advisor; Reginald Lindsey, Budget Director; Laura Cromwell, Fiscal Officer, Police Dept.; Michael Callahan, Police Chief; Monica Sparks, Acting UG Clerk; and Terri Kimble, UG Clerk's Office.

Mayor Garner said before I call this meeting to order, I want to announce that some commissioners, staff, and the public are attending remotely via Zoom, by phone, or onsite. All participants joining by phone should mute their phones when not speaking to avoid background noise during the meeting.

During the meeting, please make sure that you announce yourself by name and title every time you speak so the public that is observing knows who is speaking. This is critical given the number of remote participants and is current guidance from the Kansas Attorney General's Office.

I will now call this meeting to order. Clerk, could you please give the call roll.

Roll call: McKiernan, Johnson, Kane, Stites, Davis, Burroughs, Townsend, Garner.

Mayor Garner said the invocation is going to be given by Commissioner Harold Johnson of Faith Deliverance Church of God in Christ, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Garner said I'll ask the Clerk, are there any revisions to tonight's agenda? **Monica Sparks, Acting UG Clerk**, said yes, Mr. Mayor. A blue sheet has been issued removing Items 2, 3, and 4 from the Standing Committee Agenda. Those are all the revisions.

MAYOR'S AGENDA

Item No. 1 – 211532...COMMUNITY INPUT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Synopsis: Public forum to allow citizens to express concerns and present solutions relating specifically and solely to the Unified Government's span of interest and control. Participants will be limited to two minutes in duration. Citizens appearing in the Municipal Office Building lobby will be given priority, followed by a limited number of participants who have registered online through the Unified Government Clerk's Office. Those who have registered online may not be given an immediate opportunity to participate due to time constraints to be determined by the Mayor/CEO. If time allows, persons listening online who wish to make comments will be recognized. All interested participants should know that Mayor/CEO Garner has also placed a maximum time limit of 45 minutes to host and conclude these discussions. In the interest of time, there should be no expectation for requested participants guaranteed inclusion to be recognized for comment and participation.

Mayor Garner said I will open the public comment and I'll ask the Clerk to provide a synopsis indicating how many comments were submitted to the Clerk's Office. **Monica Sparks, Acting UG Clerk**, said we have five individuals who signed up in the lobby here in the chambers to speak, and we have two individuals who've requested to speak online.

Mayor Garner said staff will call your name for any resident that wants to speak. You can come to the podium. Once you've been acknowledged, we ask that you provide your name and city of residency for the record. You'll be given two minutes to state your comments. Staff will announce that you have been given one minute remaining so you can wrap up your comments.

This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Rules of Procedure. If your remarks are determined to be out of order, I shall instruct the speaker to stop making such remarks and declare them to be out of order. Derogatory and improper language or remarks that

are offensive will not be tolerated. If you persist with such derogatory statements, you may be asked to leave the commission chambers. All your comments will not be entered into record.

I'll turn it over to the Clerk at this time.

Ms. Sparks said our first speaker is Desiray Bush.

Desiray Bush, Kansas City, KS, said tonight, I would like to recommend two projects to you all. First, there's an issue with the trash. Over the past couple of years, I've noticed so much trash within Wyandotte County, particularly on the east end. As we know, trash can be a common nuisance to our urban area. I would like to propose the Community Beautification Unit. Now, this unit can potentially be housed in the SOAR or Livable Neighborhoods Program. The purpose of the unit, or the projects of the unit, would include trash pickup, flags and signage, something comparable to what we see on Minnesota Avenue, to increase community morale.

This can be a hub for a new code violation program/class, which I'll call the property of etiquette class. This class would be offered to those individuals who are ongoing code violators. If you think about it, it is additional revenue for our city...**Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining.

Ms. Bush said also, we could partner with Livable Neighborhoods, NRC, also the Sheriff's Office and District Court for those folks who are in jail for minor issues such as like tickets or community service for folks who need to face a certain sentence.

The second recommendation I have is a lot of our folks want to see fireworks in our community. A lot of people leave the county, including myself, to go see fireworks display. Turner Recreation and Bonner Springs pay for community fireworks display. I would like to propose that Parks & Rec Department host annual fireworks displays for our public. Again, potential revenue. For example, parking permit fee, or you could purchase your ticket online, or it could be free, either/or. A theme I thought about for such a proposal would be...**Ms. Sparks** said your time has expired.

Ms. Bush asked, may I ask for another just 30 seconds, a minute? **Mayor Garner** said no, ma'am.

Ms. Sparks said our next speaker is Shirley Wainwright.

Shirley Wainwright, 408 Haskell, said I know that some people have been getting buildable lots from Land Bank approved. May I go and submit my application for approval for a yard extension? That's the question I'm asking, to apply for an application.

Mayor Garner said you can continue with your statement. This is an input and recommendation, so you would make your statement. This isn't a meeting where we answer questions during this meeting.

Ms. Wainwright said that's what I was asking about. **Mayor Garner** said what you can do is, I'll take your information, or I'll have someone from my staff, and then we'll get back with you on it, okay, to answer your question.

Ms. Sparks said our next speaker is Curtis Martin.

Curtis Martin, 3071 N. 32nd, said I've been a lifelong resident of Wyandotte County. With all due respect, this new Mayor-elect had my vote and I respect him being in the position he's in. I'd like to make a request that all you commissioners get onboard and follow his route.

Furthermore, we need a transfer station for trash in Wyandotte County. People have to drive too far out to dump their trash, that's why they're dumping on the side of the roads and in the streets. It would be good if we had some transfer stations so people can pay to dump their trash.

Another issue is the BPU situation. On our bills, since 2006, we have been paying an access charge because we're connected. Everybody gets a monthly fee, whether they use utilities or not, on the average amount of \$40 per month times the 68,000 plus customers...**Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining.

Mr. Martin said this is over \$3M a month that they're collecting, and nobody knows where this money is going. Bill Johnson said the money was going toward renewing the electricity, maybe the telephone wires and stuff in that area, but there's nothing been done since 2006. Here and there a few spots have. This access charge needs to be taken off our light bills so people can be able to pay their bills because it's getting strenuous.

The stormwater amount they're putting on our bills started off with \$4 a month; now it's \$14 a month times 68,000 customers. That's a lot of money too they're getting and nobody

knows where it's going. So, I'd like for the commissioners to look into that situation and do something about it because it's getting ridiculous.

Ms. Sparks said our next speaker is Reginald Jones.

Reginald Jones, 1220 Cleveland, said there's a couple of things I want to say. One, I want to make the record clear to Mrs. Gayle Townsend and Brother Johnson, Mr. Johnson, Harold Johnson. I just want to apologize to you on the comments that I made last month. I know you've been working tirelessly in the community; both of you. I just want to let you know that, but I was just kind of rambunctious. I wanted to say things about you being visible; not being visible in the community. I know you are, but it's really a dire need that we see you more in the community. Gayle, Ms. Townsend, I seen you the day before yesterday and I just wanted to say thank you. You made yourself available in the community. **Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining.

Mr. Jones said there's about three things I want to say. One is that, to the commissioners in the Fourth District and then, I think, in the Fifth District, there's a couple of things that I've noticed. I just want to be your ears and your eyes in the community. There's one—there's a couple of problems. One, there needs to be more speedbumps around Caruthers Elementary School. They have them in all the other elementary schools. They need speedbumps. They do a lot of speeding in the area.

Number two, they need to have a tree that's in the vicinity of Heathwood, over the waterpark. It's dangerous. It needs to be cut down or something is going to fall on the kids.

The last is, they need to have a track and field at Caruthers Elementary School. Just been built a year ago. They have been practicing on the street. **Ms. Sparks** said your time has expired.

Mr. Jones said on the land and then in the grass and everywhere, so I just want to make that known that these are things that need to be attended to around the community.

Ms. Sparks said our next speaker is Carolyn Wyatt.

Carolyn Wyatt, 359 Troup, said a few things I want to say about Boston Daniels Park—her name is Ms. Daniels. Anyway, she had a 3-on-3 scheduled at Kensington Park, at Kensington Recreation Center. The staff had her change her 3-on-3 after she had it all scheduled, ready to go. People come there but they said they didn't have staff. I did talk to the guy that works there and he said he would, but they're not asking anybody. They're not saying, would you mind working overtime or whatever to get it done. She had a 3-on-3. They told her to cancel it until August. So now, she had to cancel that 3-on-3 to August.

Also, I had a summer program scheduled for Beatrice Lee. After I got it all scheduled, got people, applications in, got everything scheduled, ready to go because I did a spring...**Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining.

Ms. Wyatt said anyway, they cancelled that and they let YMCA have a summer program there. So, our youth that was scheduled to be there, they couldn't have a summer program. So, the staff, like I say, they're not working with us. They're trying to say that the gyms are empty so why are we having these gyms. They're trying to make them empty because they're working against us. We're trying to—they're charging people so much money to use the gym. If you live in Wyandotte County and you're running a basketball league there, not a league would practice. They want to charge you \$35 an hour just to come and practice. Why should our kids have to pay? The one that gets it for them pay \$35 an hour just to practice when the gym is sitting empty all the time...**Ms. Sparks** said your time has expired.

Ms. Wyatt said gyms are empty and they're trying to make them look like that, so I think you need to check into that and make sure that our kids have a safe place to go, and we should have our summer camp.

Ms. Sparks said we have Evelyn Hill online.

Dr. Evelyn Hill, Kansas City, KS, said I am here tonight as the Director of Equity and Justice at Avenue of Life. I am also a member of the Mayor's Housing Task Force and the Justice and Equity Coalition. I'm really just speaking and I have in support of the presentation that will be made by Amber Adams and the United Churches for Justice. We want to make sure that everyone knows that we support proposal one of the affordable housing and equity trust fund, increasing housing equity in the historically redlined areas in Wyandotte County. And proposal

two, hiring the national network and safety communities to provide...**Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining.

Dr. Hill said to provide technical assistance to implement group violence intervention in Wyandotte County. So excited I went to the event. I saw the Mayor. Over 600 people in attendance. Very exciting event. Thank you to all our commissioners and Mayor for the work that you do.

Ms. Sparks said our next speaker is Maddie Waldeck.

Maddie Waldeck, Bonner Springs, KS, said at last month's public comments, several acquisitions were made against the commissioners with one of the acquisitions being the commissioners are not accessible and visible in the community. A few weeks ago, I emailed Commissioners Bynum, Burroughs, and Townsend about a concern that my parents had in their neighborhood at 57th & Leavenworth Rd. All three commissioners responded within 24 hours. Commissioner Townsend even drove by the area of concern and followed up with a phone call to my parents. This is the type of responsiveness you don't typically see in larger cities and counties. I have personally reached out to Commissioners Stites, who is my commissioner, about a concern that I had and, again, he reached back out to me in less than 24 hours.

I routinely see all commissioners at community events and see their strong social media presence and accessibility. It is important for this Commission to know that these complaints lodged against you may be the experience of some, but certainly does not represent the experience of all.

Secondly, please do not accept the...**Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining.

Ms. Waldeck said please do not accept the revenue neutral rate. The revenue neutral rate does not take into consideration a growing community with an infrastructure that is crumbling. Factor the growth and allocate those dollars toward infrastructure.

Lastly, I would encourage this Commission, Mayor, and Administrator to take a very strong look at the cost savings this organization is realizing on the backs of the very overworked and undervalued staff. Having over 200 vacant positions is saving this organization a lot of money. At \$15 an hour, with a 30% benefit rate for 12 months for 200 positions totals \$8.1M conservatively. It's my recommendation you repurpose those dollars to recognize the

hardworking staff who work tirelessly to ensure continuity of service during an especially difficult time. You could comfortably give each employee in this organization a sizable reward and still capture cost savings.

Ms. Sparks said we have Rose online.

Rose Eilts, Strawberry Hill, said I just have a couple of things I wanted to mention and probably ask for help on. The first thing is safety. We're having a big problem, a big increase in gunfire, shots fired up on Strawberry Hill, specifically in front of St. John's Baptist Church, resulting in an almost deadly experience last night. I wanted to see what we could do, as a neighborhood association or neighbors, to help the UG curb this violence. I'd really like to try and get some traction on this problem, getting together with whoever the stakeholders are and the staff that could help get this resolved. I realize it's an uphill battle and a never-ending one. **Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining.

Ms. Eilts said then the other problem, of course, is the 505 Central Development Project. I know they're in the process of negotiating incentives with the UG right now. I feel like these developers who come in from outside of Wyandotte County and want to try and use up our resources and get us to pay for them to do that, it's an untenable situation. The UG can't afford that, and I'd like to see any kind of incentives for that project denied. I know we need development; we need more housing. This just isn't the way to do it.

Ms. Sparks said we have Jerri Hessel online.

Jerri Moulder Hessel said my husband and I, Buck Hessel, have submitted to the Mayor and to all the commissioners, and to Pam Curtis and David Haley, our list of items that we feel are important about the funding for 505 Central Luxury Highrise, 8-story complex. We are not in support of this complex, and I can list several neighborhood groups that are not in support of this complex. The last thing we want to do is to see our public funds and public dollars going to support this project when they're not building in conformity to what the neighborhood wants. It is our sincere plea that you honor the constituents of this community and support our desire to limit the scope and size of this development. We are offering a valid compromise for the public

good of our community. It is our intention to inform all homeowners and the public surrounding this development of the financial...**Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining.

Ms. Hessel said of the financial incentives and giveaways the UG is offering to the developers, which serve only to increase Sunflower Development, the owners, and the investors' profit and serve no public good.

Ms. Sparks said, Mayor, we have no other requests to speak.

A Woman in the audience said (inaudible). **Mayor Garner** said come to the podium and state your name and address.

Mata Townsend, 553 Freeman Ave., said I am also an AmeriCorps VISTA member currently serving as a Communications Coordinator for GroundWorks NRG, a small but mighty non-profit organization. Last week a concern was raised about trails being proposed for the Northeast corridor. I'll paraphrase the question, why do we need trails? That money would be better spent on community centers, playgrounds, parks, and other things that our children in the community so desperately need. First, I'm glad someone voiced that concern to you, our local governing body, because I completely agree that we need all of those things and a lot, lot more.

I'm originally from Flint, MI, so I know about cities in desperate need. I've lived here for 10 years now. In the 10 years I've lived here, I've not seen a lot of improvement, at least not in the lives of the everyday, ordinary citizens. Even though I think that is shameful and inexcusable...**Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining.

Ms. Townsend said I don't have time to address the lack of progress. Just so you know, I'm doing something about it: cleanups, food drives, building playgrounds, etc., to help coordinate. I also helped coordinate two community festivals for the Northeast Kansas City, KS Heritage Trail. That trail is why I'm here tonight.

I'm here tonight to tell you and everyone who will listen with an open heart and ears what trails are good for. Build trails can be an economic engine. There are obvious physical and mental health benefits, especially when you consider that people live in the Northeast corridor die up to 20 years earlier due to lack of green infrastructure, etc. There is community pride. It attracts tourists and visitors and new residents. It helps property valuations and connects

communities. I know the UG already values this. I know because in 2018, you took the time to create the NEAMP. **Ms. Sparks** said your time has expired.

Ms. Townsend said (inaudible) is my bible. So I say to you, get that build back better money and build as a beacon of light and a jewel everyone wants to see called the historic Northeast Kansas City, KS Heritage Trail.

Mayor Garner said if you'd come forward one at a time. If you come to the front, those of you who still want to speak, if you have a desire to speak, just come to the front on the front row and we'll take you one at a time. Just please state your name and your address for the record.

Mischon Arrington, 1309 N. 79th Terr., Churches United for Justice, said we signed up online. Churches United for Justice is an ecumenical, non-profit that seeks to be a voice for Wyandotte County. We began by holding listening sessions to understand the problems of our community. From there, we came to a consensus of seeking to better understand the needs of housing and violence in Wyandotte County. We effectively researched with experts and community partners to better understand how these issues were having an impact on our community. We met with over 15 various organizations and experts to learn about the problems at hand. We asked about solutions that seem to be currently in conversation among Unified Government departments and officials as well as community partners.

We want Churches United to help be a voice among unheard voices throughout Wyandotte County. We were able to have this happen through our inaugural Nehemiah Action this past Tuesday, June 7th, at the Mt. Carmel Church of God in Christ. At the Nehemiah Action, Mayor Garner agreed to help us to bring proposals to the full Commission by September 20, 2022. Our housing proposal is the creation of an affordable housing and equity trust fund. This will not only help with the development of...**Ms. Sparks** said you have one minute remaining.

Ms. Arrington said would increase and promote homeownership in Wyandotte County with an emphasis in historically redline communities.

The violence proposal is to hire the National Network on Safe Communities to provide technical assistance to bring group violence intervention, GVI, to Kansas City, KS. GVI is an effective method for crime reduction that is recognized by the Department of Justice that has

been proven to reduce violent crime by up to 60% in cities where it has been implemented. Thank you for your time, and we look forward to working with you all.

Judy Ancel, 4014 Metropolitan Ave., said I come as a member of the Safe and Welcoming Coalition. Of course, that item is on the agenda tonight to amend the Safe and Welcoming Act in order to bring it into compliance with the preemption law that was passed by the state legislature. When the Public Works & Safety Committee met, we testified and requested that there be more time for the Coalition to be able to examine the amendments that have been proposed. They said that they were going to put it on the agenda and we could still make our points.

We have two requests. We understand that the Act needs to be amended in order to diminish any risks for the city, but there are two things that are in the amendments which we would like to change. **Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining.

Ms. Ancel said the first is the name. The Safe and Welcoming City Act really needs to be changed because of the actions of the state government. This law is no longer safe and welcoming, especially for our immigrant community. We would like to propose that the name be changed to the Wyandotte County Community Identification Act or Community ID Act.

The second thing we ask is that in making the changes, the attorney suggested that the ID have an expiration date of two years. We think that two years is extremely short and we would propose an expiration time of five years. If it's only two years, what's going to happen is, it's going to increase the costs and the need for administration. **Ms. Sparks** said your time has expired.

Ms. Ancel said also, a number of people who expire are probably not going to renew. If we want more people to do it, then we need to have a longer time.

Ms. Sparks said we have one additional speaker online, Thomas Gordon.

Thomas Gordon, 2521 N. 7th St., said I've been listening to the concerns of the people, but I wonder how the commissioners are able to record and respond to all the concerns. I don't see anyone taking any notes and I don't know how you go—well, thank you very much. At the same time, I just wonder how everyone was going to get a response back to their concerns. Would that be publicly made? Is there a response?

Mayor Garner said, Mr. Gordon, this is input and recommendations, so your recommendation has been noted.

Mr. Gordon said I would like to see some way that the responses are made public as to the concerns of the people so that it can become a public record.

Ms. Sparks said, Mr. Mayor, we have no other requests to speak.

Mayor Garner asked, is there anyone in the audience that choses to speak before we close this segment of the Mayor's Agenda? This is a unique opportunity that I felt would be of value to this Commission to hear the concerns of our residents and constituents and those that have interest in Wyandotte County and interest of the Unified Government's span of control. We've got one. Please come to the podium and state your name and address for record.

Reece Towers, 615 N. 82nd St., said I want to address the cancellation of the meeting today at 4 p.m. with our developers. It was brought to our attention that we didn't get any type of participation from our commissioners. The community wants to know why because there's development going on all around us, but the area that needs to be developed. That's a high, high, highly concern of the people of Wyandotte County that live in that area. So, I would like to know why there was no real response to the cancellation of today's meeting at 4:00 when we brought in developers to address the issue of the desert that's going on at 635.

David Haley said I've served in this community in different capacities: precinct committeeman, state legislator, BPU Board Member. First and foremost, and I haven't addressed this Commission before. I'm a little nervous being here, believe it or not, because of the rising concern that I feel that we've seen in the abilities to address issues that affects this entire community. I've served in elected capacity, I think, longer than anyone else in Wyandotte County. The good people of this county have favored me with their votes, as they have each of you. What I've tried to do wherever I can, gentlemen, ladies, is to find consensus to address the targeted areas of concern that will make us all a stronger, better county. I'm concerned that that friction somehow, someway is deteriorating from the fabric of Wyandotte County...**Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining.

Senator Haley said and inside of that, that we find some means by which the areas that are often neglected could somehow be lifted high. The high tide should lift all boats. I've participated indirectly the development of part of our community, that being Village West. I was key, as some of you know, in seeing some of the development go there. It is time, gentlemen, ladies, please, to find a way to bridge whatever differences that we have; to find ways for the rest of our county to see prosperity, economic development, and growth should anear to every corner. Each of you has the ability to make that happen. I, David Haley, your humble and obedient servant, ask you to please, on behalf of the people of this county, find a way to bridge those differences and to make it so.

Darrel Hall, 2314 N. 82nd Terr., said I'm just coming up before you as one of the people. Just wanting to know if you have still heard our voice. It seems like you all did. We're glad we have a good team here to represent us as our voice. We've had issues of like the PILOT program with BPU and issues with high property taxes and the things that affects us. We see that you're addressing many other things. I don't want to judge—we'll be judged by our fruit, but I don't want to judge the fruit too early before it's ripe because I know you've all come together to work as a team. I want to give you a chance for that...**Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining.

Mr. Hall said like we would want you to give others. I'm not sure if all of you all full-time to this county, or do you all have jobs or other issues, other interests as well. Just as I've heard you against Ms. Lee, concerned about her time spent. None of us—none of you have time to spend totally just doing this. Just want to know if you still hear our voice like you did when you were running your campaigns. It seems like you did then, so we just want to address some of the issues that we have expressed to you as our voice. Thank you and we're counting on you.

Ms. Sparks said, Mayor, we have Eleanor Jefferson online with her hand raised.

Elnora Jefferson said I'm speaking tonight to let the Commission, the elected officials and staff know that the 2022 Brownfields Conference is going to be held in August in Oklahoma City, OK. Now, maybe some of you have attended, but for those who have not, it is an excellent opportunity to learn about Brownfields reclamation and climate control as well as information on the infrastructure bill. So, what I'm saying tonight is to let you know that. You can probably

find out more information from either through the Economic Development Department or by simply googling Brownfields Coalition Travel & Training there in Oklahoma City, OK.

Ms. Sparks said we have Karen Daniels online.

Karen Daniels, 3005 Oakland Ave., said since 2017, I've been trying to bring awareness to Boston Daniels Park on 8th & Quindaro. I've always been told by Parks & Rec that there was never any funds in the budget to improve his park. I just want to bring attention to his park and ask that the commissioners please help get Boston Daniels Park the much needed improvements that it needs. He was a servant of Kansas City for 25 years as the first black Chief of Police. I just want to keep his park, his memory alive. So, please consider improving Boston Daniels Park.

Mayor Garner said this will be the last call. Any other comments in the audience? Thank you for those comments. Again, those are valuable comments. One of the commitments I made to residents that know me is we value your input. That's how we get better. Let us know how we're doing; how we're measuring up. Not just who we are as a Commission and a Mayor, but who we should be to better serve you as your public servants. Thank you for all the comments that are made, and thank you for those of you that had the courage to come forward and really make your voice and the interest that you have to better Wyandotte County know.

Mayor Garner said before I close the Mayor's Agenda, I just want to send out a formal apology to all our residents and to those individuals that had signed up over a long process of probably two to three months to come forward for a meeting at 4:00 to really address some of the issues that were important, which is really east of 635. The disinvested, disenfranchised areas of our community have far too long been left out. My Community Development Liaison LaVert Murray really worked hard to try and bring a vision together of individuals that wanted to share their vision on what it would look like for redevelopment/reinvigorated east of 635.

Some say, what is that, Mayor? What we've identified is the area of 55th St., in between State and I-70, going east. Then you talk about the Northeast, which is truly one of those areas that have been left out in the minds of so many; disenfranchised. The economic segregation that

I call has been unacceptable. That's a true area that needs our attention, especially when you talk about the Land Bank properties that are there and some of probably the best land and most valuable land, I think, anywhere you can find in the metropolitan area.

Then you get into our Downtown, Armourdale, northern Rosedale, as well as Argentine. Those areas, as well, have been identified by LaVert Murray as an area of interest and then he brought these developers together.

I'm going to give LaVert, Mr. Murray, just a few minutes just to go into what we're going to see tonight, and then what you can expect moving forward. We still want to move and bring these individuals back to the public. They've worked hard with presentations. Folks from out of town had planned to come into town, as well as some key developers that have really spent a lot of time and effort to make that presentation tonight, but unfortunately, it's going to be pushed back. I'll let Mr. Murray describe what that process will look like.

LaVert Murray, Chief Economic Development Advisor, said today we had it planned at 4:00 a presentation on the part of several developers who have shown interest in developing specific neighborhoods in areas east of 55th St. It didn't just stop within the Northeast community. It included Rosedale, Armourdale, and Argentine as well. We had several developers prepared to present to you proposals and ideas for the development of these areas we've identified. I do want to say that because this meeting was cancelled, we have spoken with all of the developers. They have agreed to come back, so we are going to work with you, the community, with the Commission and reschedule these presentations.

The presentations we're going to start with a visual of what has taken place in Omaha, NE, undertaken by a community agency called Seventy Five North. We believe that they have found a way to revitalize distressed urban communities with primarily private funding; but, of course, we know that there are infrastructure needs that you, the Commission, will need to invest and make these developments happen. So, these developers are prepared to express to you what those needs are as well.

I will tell you that they did submit some exciting proposals today, and we're holding those proposals until we make that presentation again to you, the Unified Government Commission, and the public. The developers remain extremely excited. These were majority developers as well as minority developers. It was a great number of them. My concern was how

we would build-in enough time for you to hear all of those developers. Of course, we will continue to work to make that happen.

Again, the developers have committed to return. We will work with everyone to make sure there is timely planning to make that happen so that the community can hear the potential and the possibilities within those areas east of 55th St., east of 635.

Mayor Garner said, again, this vision that was brought forward from these developers is trying to bring about hope for folks that for far too long, in my opinion, really haven't had a lot of hope in these disenfranchised areas and really trying to visualize working with our Commission, working with our staff, that shared vision on how we turn those hopes into realities in these disenfranchised areas of our community.

I believe that Mr. Haley said it perfectly. We don't want to negate or overlook the development that has gone out west in our community. We want to continue to build upon that, and we want to continue to support that. But then, we also need to look east and see because we believe that those developments offer a unique opportunity for Wyandotte County to really become something great, not just in the metro area, but something of a success story throughout this country, a reinvigorated major player where this would be the first choice of anybody looking for somewhere to live, work, and raise a family. We want to anchor people right here in Wyandotte County, in all parts of Wyandotte County.

You shouldn't have to see too much of a divergence when you go east to western Wyandotte County. Some of you have heard me say that. I'm really passionate about that. We're at a crossroads and we have an opportunity working with this Commission, working with you, the community, and a really anxious staff to really find solutions to some of these real problems that we know affect the lives of real people every day. We're optimistic. We're excited. We're looking forward to bringing about those developers.

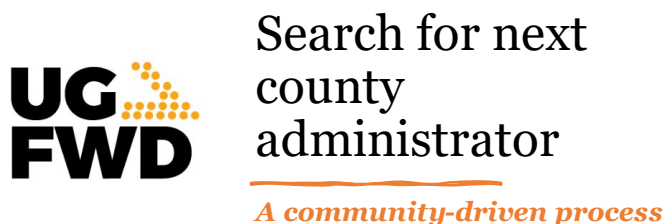
Again, I want to send a sincere apology to those developers and to Wyandotte County, and anybody that came expecting to hear that presentation because I know the word had gone out. Some were disappointed and those messages got back. It was a conflict of interest between some of the scheduling with some of our commissioners. No fault of Mr. Murray's, but we just didn't have the numbers to really have a quorum to be able to move the meeting forward according to the Unified Government Rules of Procedure.

Again, we apology. Please stay tuned; look forward. We're hopeful that good things will come of what we see as we move forward throughout the months and the days to come.

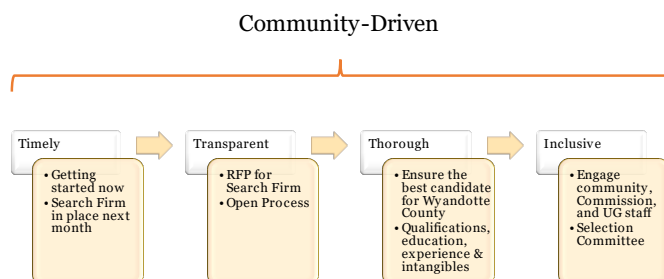
Mayor Garner said I will close the public comment at this time.

Item No. 2 – 211724...PRESENTATION: COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR SEARCH PROCESS

Synopsis: Presentation on County Administrator's Search Process submitted by Tyrone Garner, Mayor/CEO.



Mayor Garner said I just want to talk real briefly about that. I just want to say that I made a commitment after it was brought to my attention by the Commission that they would like me to start a search. As a result of that request, our Interim County Administrator made a decision, it was not solicited, to remove herself being in that running, and requested of me to honor the request of this Commission and to start a national search. So, I made that commitment. That commitment involved me ensuring this Commission and the community that the search would be timely, it'd be transparent, it'd be thorough, and inclusive.



What that means in a nutshell, this is going to be a community-driven process. It's going to be one that's going to involve a variety of stakeholders.

You might say, who are those stakeholders? It's going to involve number one, our Commission. They have to have a voice. I want them to have a voice. We have to build this relationship and a strong partnership to make sure that we have the right administrator that can provide the right government and the leadership in Wyandotte County to take us to the next level of where we need to be as well as our employees.

Our greatest asset within the Unified Government are our employees. We want them to have a voice. We want them to know that we really value what they think. We want their input to really resonate as well with our Commission as well as myself. What we're looking for, we want to know what they see as being a leader. What they see as being somebody that can take this organization from being just a good organization to a great organization. As well as you, the community. We're going to be seeking input from the community as well on what they would like to see in a county administrator as well.

When I talk about timely, here we are today. What you can expect is that we will select a firm. We hope to have that firm selected and in place by middle of next month, July. Transparent. There's going to be an RFP process. It's not going to be one of these things where I just pick somebody. It is going to be an RFP process to make sure that we're getting the right consultant to come forward. It's going to be an open process when you talk about the process and the search. It's going to be thorough. We just want to make sure that we have the best candidates brought forward and just beyond the minor qualifications of what type of qualifications, their education, experience, and intangibles. We want to make sure that the right fit for the Unified Government and not just for the Unified Government, but for this community in Wyandotte County. Again, it's going to be inclusive. I talked about that involving both this Commission, the community, as well as our employees here. There will be a selection committee that will aid in this process.

So, those are some of the things that you can expect as we move through trying to get to the point to where we have that candidate for consideration. I'm going to continue to update this community, this Commission, and all our staff here about the ongoing progress. That's a commitment I made. I want this to be transparent. I don't want there be any question about how we're doing things because really, I said this before in a variety of ways, I'm not your Mayor because it's about me. It never was, it never has been, and it never will be. It's about this

community and it's about what I can do to bring forward what's best for Wyandotte County in a way that's community-driven.

I've got to say it again, I've got to work and I'm committed to working with our Commission. I've got to work with our Commission, and I mean that with all sincerity. We have got to come together as a Commission and do what's right for the people. I've heard that over the months, I guess, with these open inputs. I've heard it out in the community. I can tell you; this community wants us to come together, set-aside whatever differences we may have, and do what is right for Wyandotte County because that's what's important.

Some of you heard me say, I'm not a politician. Some have asked me, what does that mean? That means I'm not here to play games. I don't want anything. I don't need anything. I'm retired. I'm here because the people asked me to be here, not because I had to be, because I wanted to be here because I, too, share in the belief that we can create a great Wyandotte County together, not by myself. I can't do this by myself and I've said that over and over again. We have to come together and do what's best for Wyandotte County.

I haven't said a lot about some of these inputs, but I'm going to say it tonight. I share, whatever differences, we have got to set it aside. Politics, as usual, has to stop. We've got people's lives in our hands and the livelihood of Wyandotte County is at stake. It's not a game for me and it's not politics for me in a sense that some people would think it is. I'm here because I truly care about this community.

When I hear people and the desperation in their voices when they talk about high taxes, when they talk about their utilities, when they talk about the disinvestment, when they talk about the bureaucracy, when they talk about politics being played, I ran because I joined this community in saying, enough of the buffoonery that we've seen over the years. We have got to move Wyandotte County forward. I'm not here to say that in a disrespectful way, but it hurts me to see what is going on and what has been going on. Some people forget I worked here for 32 years. I know and I've seen things that have been disturbing just working out in this community.

I want a better Wyandotte County and we have a real opportunity. So, I challenge this community to support not just this Mayor, but this Commission and our Administrator and our staff. I ask you to please get engaged and realize and wakeup to what is going on in this Unified Government and the decisions that are being made because they shouldn't be being made for you. They should be being made with you.

I ask this Commission to please work with me because I'm willing to work with you. I have to. The community, the success of every person that calls Wyandotte County home or that wants to call Wyandotte County home, depends on what we can do together. I'm not asking you to go to any of my family reunions, but as professionals, the elected officials that are supposed to be moving this county forward in a direction that can lift, as Senator Haley said, all boats for everybody that wants to have an opportunity to work hard because they want better, not just for themselves, but for this community. They want to have an opportunity for success. Let's work to give it to them.

As you've heard me say, let's work together to make Wyandotte County a great and safe place to live, work, and raise a family. Finding an administrator is just the first step. We've got a lot of work to do because there are a lot of problems. As we go into the coming months and our administrator begins to reveal some of the audit results, this community, this Commission, and this Kansas City region is going to see the hard work that Wyandotte County has ahead of it. We've really got to dig-in, work hard to overcome some of these major challenges and issues that really affect us all. People's lives depend on it. So, enough of that, but thank you.

Action: For information only.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Garner asked, does any member of the Commission or County Administrator wish to set-aside any item on the Regular Consent Agenda? If any item is set-aside, all items on the Regular Consent Agenda will be voted on by one vote. I'll entertain a motion for approval of the Regular Consent Agenda if there's nothing set-aside. Clerk, were there any set-asides that you're aware of? **Ms. Sparks** said no, Mayor. **Mayor Garner** said I'll entertain a motion for approval of the Regular Consent Agenda.

Action: Commissioner Johnson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kane, to approve as submitted.

Mayor Garner said I have a motion and a second. Is there discussion?

Commissioner Townsend said I just wanted to clarify. I believe earlier in the meeting there was a notice that several items were removed. So, before the vote is taken, just wanted to make sure we know what is now still on the agenda. **Mayor Garner** asked, Clerk, can you read those items, please?

Ms. Sparks said the items that were removed this evening were from the Standing Committed Agenda. That was Item No. 2 – Ordinance adopting the Building and Safety Code I. Item No. 3 – Ordinance adopting the 2018 Life Safety Code and International Fire Code. And Item No. 4 – Ordinance adopting the 2018 International Residential Code. Again, those were on the Standing Committee Agenda.

Mayor Garner said I have a motion and a second. Is there any further discussion? Seeing none, roll call, please.

Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” McKiernan, Johnson, Kane, Stites, Davis, Burroughs, Townsend.

Item No. 1 – 211597...FY22 LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT CRIME GUN INTELLIGENCE CENTER INTEGRATION INITIATIVE

Synopsis: The Police Department is seeking approval to apply for and accept the FY22 Law Enforcement Crime Gun Intelligence Center grant award in the amount of \$700,000, submitted by Laura Cromwell, Fiscal Officer, KCK Police Department. There is no match required from the UG. On May 23, 2022, the Public Works and Safety Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner Markley, voted unanimously to approve and forward to the full commission.

Action: **Commissioner Johnson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kane, to approve as submitted.** Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” McKiernan, Johnson, Kane, Stites, Davis, Burroughs, Townsend.

Item No. 2 – 211598...GRANT: FY 22 COPS HIRING PROGRAM

Synopsis: The Police Department is seeking approval to apply for and accept funding through the FY22 COPS Hiring Program to fund twelve patrol officer positions for a three-year period.

We are requesting a match waiver to cover these positions at 100%. Should we not receive the match waiver, we are estimating the total cost to the UG would be \$173,355 per position over the three-year period, which would equate to \$2,080,267 per twelve patrol officer positions over the three-year period, submitted by Laura Cromwell, Fiscal Officer, KCK Police Department. On May 23, 2021, the Public Works and Safety Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner Markley, voted unanimously to approve and forward to the full commission.

Action: **Commissioner Johnson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kane, to approve as submitted.** Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” McKiernan, Johnson, Kane, Stites, Davis, Burroughs, Townsend.

Item No. 3 – 211426...PROPOSAL: DRAFT REMOTE WORKER POLICY

Synopsis: Policy for remote work to be included in the Human Resources Guide, Section 2, Policy 2.20, submitted by J. Renee Ramirez, Director of Human Resources. On May 23, 2022, the Administration and Human Services Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner Markley, voted unanimously to approve and forward to the full commission.

Action: **Commissioner Johnson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kane, to approve as submitted.** Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” McKiernan, Johnson, Kane, Stites, Davis, Burroughs, Townsend.

Item No. 4 – 211731...PLAT: PIERSON PARK FIRE STATION

Synopsis: Plat of Pierson Park Fire Station located at 55th and Douglas, being developed by the Unified Government of Kansas City, Wyandotte County, Kansas, submitted by Brent Thompson, County Surveyor; and Troy Shaw, County Engineer.

Action: **Commissioner Johnson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kane, to approve as submitted and authorize the Mayor to sign said plat.** Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” McKiernan, Johnson, Kane, Stites, Davis, Burroughs, Townsend.

Item No. 5 – 211732...PLAT: PARALLEL APARTMENTS

Synopsis: Plat of Parallel Apartments located at 112th and Parallel Parkway, being developed by North Point Development, submitted by Brent Thompson, County Surveyor; and Troy Shaw, County Engineer.

Action: Commissioner Johnson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kane, to approve as submitted and authorize the Mayor to sign said plat. Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” McKiernan, Johnson, Kane, Stites, Davis, Burroughs, Townsend.

Item No. 6 – 211733...PLAT: HOMEFIELD PERFECT GAME

Synopsis: Plat of Homefield Perfect Game located at 90th Street and Walker, being developed by HFPG KCK, LLC, submitted by Brent Thompson, County Surveyor; and Troy Shaw, County Engineer.

Action: Commissioner Johnson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kane, to approve as submitted and authorize the Mayor to sign said plat. Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” McKiernan, Johnson, Kane, Stites, Davis, Burroughs, Townsend.

Item No. 7 – 211734...PLAT: HOMEFIELD SPORTS TRAINING

Synopsis: Plat of Homefield Sports Training located at 94th and State Avenue, being developed by HFPG KCK, LLC, submitted by Brent Thompson, County Surveyor; and Troy Shaw, County Engineer.

Action: Commissioner Johnson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kane, to approve as submitted and authorize the Mayor to sign said plat. Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” McKiernan, Johnson, Kane, Stites, Davis, Burroughs, Townsend.

Item No. 8 – 211726...MINUTES

Synopsis: Minutes from Planning & Zoning and Regular Session of January 6, 2022; and Special Sessions of April 7 (4 p.m.) and May 3, 2022.

Action: Commissioner Johnson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kane, to approve as submitted. Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” McKiernan, Johnson, Kane, Stites, Davis, Burroughs, Townsend.

STANDING COMMITTEES' AGENDA

Item No. 1 – 211720...PRESENTATION: BUDGET REVISION IN EXCESS OF \$50,000 FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NEW TURNER FIRE STATION

Synopsis: Presentation of budget revisions approved under Section IV.B.7(a) of the UG Operating and Capital Budget Policy related to the revised construction cost of the new Turner Fire Station, submitted by Reginald Lindsey, Budget Manager. This item was scheduled to appear before the Economic Development and Finance Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner Burroughs, on June 6, 2022. It was requested, and approved by the Mayor, to fast-track this item to the June 9, 2022, full commission meeting.

Mayor Garner said I'll ask Commissioner Burroughs to make some opening remarks.

Commissioner Burroughs said the subcommittee chose to advance this to the full Commission with unanimous support. Approval of this project will allow a transfer to the city cash funded Capital Projects Fund and allow the Turner—it affects the quartermaster's budget, but it will also allow the Turner Fire Station to move forward because of the hit on inflation and building materials. I would ask that the Commission give this strong support.

Mayor Garner asked, do any commissioners have any comments?

Action: Commissioner Stites made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McKiernan, to approve as submitted.

June 9, 2022

Mayor Garner said there's a motion and a second. Is there any further discussion? Seeing none, roll call, please.

Roll call was taken and there were seven "Ayes," McKiernan, Johnson, Kane, Stites, Davis, Burroughs, Townsend.

Mayor Garner said just for a note of information, Items 2, 3, and 4, per the blue sheet, will be added on our June 30th Commission Agenda.

Item No. 2 – 211727...ORDINANCE: ADOPTING BUILDING AND SAFETY CODE 1

Synopsis: The most recent building and safety code adoption for the City of Kansas City, KS, occurred in 2016 with the 2012 I-Codes and the 2009 IECC. The International Code Council (ICC), a developer and publisher of model codes, is on a 3-year update cycle. The City of Kansas City, KS, has opted in the past to adopt the International Codes, or I-Codes, every other cycle, which equates to every 6 years. The 2018 suite of building and safety codes is the next round in the 6-year cycle. Item submitted by Greg Talkin, Anthony Hutchingson, and Patrick Holton, NRC. The following codes will be adopted under a single ordinance:

- 2018 International Building Code (IBC)
- 2017 NFPA 70 - National Electrical Code (NEC)
- 2018 International Mechanical Code (IMC)
- 2018 Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC)
- 2018 International Property Maintenance Code
- 2018 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)
- 2018 International Existing Building Code (IEBC)

This item was previously before the full Commission on May 26, 2022.

Action: **This item was previously removed from tonight's agenda, per the blue sheet, and will be added to the June 30, 2022, agenda.**

Item No. 3 – 211728...ORDINANCE: ADOPTING THE 2018 LIFE SAFETY CODE AND INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE

Synopsis: The most recent building and safety code adoption for the City of Kansas City, KS, occurred in 2016 with the 2012 I-Codes and the 2009 IECC. The International Code Council

(ICC), a developer and publisher of model codes, is on a 3-year update cycle. The City of Kansas City, KS, has opted in the past to adopt the International Codes, or I-Codes, every other cycle, which equates to every 6 years. The 2018 suite of building and safety codes is the next round in the 6-year cycle. Item submitted by Greg Talkin, Anthony Hutchingson, and Patrick Holton, NRC. The following codes will be adopted under a single ordinance:

- 2018 Life Safety Code
- 2018 International Fire Code

This item was previously before the full Commission on May 26, 2022.

Action: **This item was previously removed from tonight’s agenda, per the blue sheet, and will be added to the June 30, 2022, agenda.**

Item No. 4 – 211729...ORDINANCE: ADOPTING THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE

Synopsis: The most recent building and safety code adoption for the City of Kansas City, KS, occurred in 2016 with the 2012 I-Codes and the 2009 IECC. The International Code Council (ICC), a developer and publisher of model codes, is on a 3-year update cycle. The City of Kansas City, KS, has opted in the past to adopt the International Codes, or I-Codes, every other cycle, which equates to every 6 years. The 2018 suite of building and safety codes is the next round in the 6-year cycle. Item submitted by Greg Talkin, Anthony Hutchingson, and Patrick Holton, NRC. The International Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings is presented with three options from which the Commission may choose and will be adopted under a single ordinance:

- 2018 International Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings (IRC), Option A (staff recommendation)
- 2018 IRC, Option B
- 2018 IRC, Option C (unamended energy provisions)

This item was previously before the full Commission on May 26, 2022.

Action: **This item was previously removed from tonight’s agenda, per the blue sheet, and will be added to the June 30, 2022, agenda.**

Item No. 5 – 211582...AMENDMENTS: SAFE AND WELCOMING ACT TO COMPLY WITH HB 2717

Synopsis: Amendments reflecting changes necessary to comply with HB 2717, submitted by Casey Meyer, Senior Attorney. On May 23, 2022, the Public Works and Safety Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner Markley, voted unanimously to approve and forward to full commission.

Mayor Garner said I'll ask Ms. Meyer, with our Legal staff, to make some opening comments.

HB 2717 and Safe and Welcoming Act

IMPACT	PROPOSED DRAFT
• HB 2717 prohibits municipalities from restricting local government employee and law enforcement cooperation with federal authorities and limits the use of municipal IDs. • Passed by State legislature and signed into law by Governor Kelly, April 11, 2022. • Any conflicts between HB 2717 and Safe and Welcoming Act are void. • Several sections in our current ordinance conflict with HB 2717.	• To comply with State law, Unified Government ordinance sections 18162 through 18168 will need to be repealed in part or amended. • Resolves conflicts between HB 2717 and Safe and Welcoming Act and amends sections related to issues raised during Full Commission meeting. • Also changes "Municipal ID" to "Community ID".

Casey Meyer, Senior Attorney, said as you know, House Bill 2717 was passed by the state legislature and approved by Laura Kelly in April of this year. Because of that, any conflicts between that House Bill and the Safe and Welcoming Act are void. Several sections in our current ordinance conflicts with the House Bill. So, what you have in front of you is a proposed draft with red lines, which comply with state law. Additionally, I included some changes that I wanted to address based on some commission comments at the last full commission.

In addition, I believe there's some public comments, or at least some people that called in and requested that the municipal ID be changed to community ID. So, the name of it was changed throughout the Act as well.

Proposed Draft

The redlined sections were deleted/added to comply with HB 2717. The highlighted sections represent changes in accordance with issues raised at the last Full Commission meeting. "Municipal ID" was changed to "Community ID" throughout.

1. Sec. 18-165(a)(5). Added expiration term of 2 years from date of issuance or when the person no longer resides in Wyandotte County.
2. Sec. 18-165(b). Reorganized section layout.
3. Sec. 18-165(c). Added cardholder responsibilities to include notification of change of name or address and ability to suspend or revoke card for violations of article.
4. Sec. 18-165(d). Added requirement for Program Administrator to provide annual report or upon request and the option for UG to conduct audits of program as needed.

Really, all I want to focus on here is, and what you guys have, the draft you have, you see the red lines. The red lines are what address the conflicts in the Bill. The yellow highlights address the additional optional changes based on some of your full commission comments.

I believe there is a request to add an expiration term, which I included. When I researched this, the cities that have municipal IDs really ranges anywhere from two to five years. Several cities have expiration terms of two years, three years, four years. It kind of varies.

Most of the cities that had a two-year expiration term were similar. If you recall, the documents that we require to prove residency or identity, it was similar in length so that's why I chose the two-year expiration term. Legally, that's kind of a policy issue and that's up to you.

I also reorganized the section layouts just to clean it up a little bit so that it was easier to understand what sections addressed what. I also added Section 18-165(c) which include some cardholder responsibilities, which will include a notification if their name changes or if their address changes they need to get a new card so that the information on the card is accurate. Also, the ability to suspend or revoke the card if there are any violations of the article.

Additionally in 18-165(d,) we added the requirement for the program administrator to provide an annual report to the Commission or upon request, and also added the option for the Unified Government to conduct audits of the program as needed. I do remember at full commission there was a request for an audit process, which is now in the ordinance.

My presentation is very short. That is the proposed draft you have in front of you. I understand Ms. Ancel's request from the Safe and Welcoming Coalition regarding the name change. There's nothing illegal about that, obviously. If the Commission wanted to approve a name change, we would just need a motion to amend and then we can address that.

Commissioner Johnson said, Casey, I want to thank you along with the remainder of our staff, also Misty Brown, for the work that you all have put into this for quite some time. I want to say to the community and certainly to the Coalition, that has worked so hard with this Commission, how disappointed I am in the actions that have taken place down the highway in our legislature. But here we are. We've got to make, by law, we have to make some revisions.

I thank you for making the first adjustment to the naming of this to the community idea. I think I saw that's already been taken place throughout the document. **Ms. Meyer** said that's right. **Commissioner Johnson** said so the only issue at hand is whether or not we want to have an expiration date that is either two years or up to five years, as the Coalition has requested. **Ms. Meyer** said that's correct, for the name change.

Commissioner Johnson said I have a notation from Commissioner Bynum that I think she's good with extending it. As a matter of fact, before this, for the record, I want to make sure—take that off the record because I don't see that for sure. She's open to a concept longer than two years. I agree with that. If the Commission would so approve it, I don't mind going out as long as five years, as requested by the Coalition.

Mayor Garner asked, are there any comments, questions?

Commissioner Kane asked, did staff recommend two years? **Ms. Meyer** said based on my research, it was anywhere between two and five years. If you recall in the ID, the section which includes the list of ways to prove your residency and identity, our list is fairly broad. The cities in which they kind of had the broader list, they usually had an expiration term of two years. That is why I made that recommendation.

Commissioner Davis said just a quick question. When do we have to make a final decision on this, or is this just kind of Legal trying to make sure that we're being on top of it? **Ms. Meyer** said July 1st is the date that the statute comes into action. So, July 1st would be our deadline.

Commissioner Stites said one other question. What other cities have that broad list, and I mean cities within Kansas, have that broad list that you're talking about that would limit it or the

minimum of two years? **Ms. Meyer** said no other cities in Kansas have a community ID program. **Commissioner Stites** said nobody in Kansas. **Ms. Meyer** said nobody in Kansas.

Commissioner Stites said if you could go back to the presentation, I had a question about No. 3 where it said, ability to suspend or revoke card for violations of article. **Ms. Meyer** said of the Act, correct. **Commissioner Stites** asked, what exactly is that? **Ms. Meyer** said it's just another way to safeguard and make the card more reliable. If a cardholder violates any part of the Act, then it provides an avenue to revoke their ability to hold a municipal ID card.

Commissioner Stites asked, could you give me an example of a cardholder violating the Act? **Ms. Meyer** said, for example, if they were found to use a false or fraudulent document in order to obtain the card in the first place, or if they—if you see in the redline section, I added all the language for which the actual crimes are, which are included in House Bill 2717. Of course, any violation of that would be a violation of the Act so then we could revoke or suspend your ability to ever obtain a municipal ID card.

Commissioner Stites said so it doesn't have anything to do with a violation like out on the streets, I mean a traffic stop, any type of violation like that. **Ms. Meyer** said correct.

Commissioner Stites said I am in support of this, if we're going to do this, which two years would be where I'm at. But, again, there's no other city in Kansas that is doing this, correct? **Ms. Meyer** said correct.

Mayor Garner asked, any other discussion or comments? Okay. Again, I share in the sentiments of Commissioner Johnson, along with the Coalition that I worked with, just the disappointment that we're even here today having this discussion after so long, so much work, so much time put in by so many people in our community.

Commissioner Townsend said I just wanted to ask Counsel or maybe one of my other colleagues who was shepherding this through some of the standing committee. It's already been stated that no one else in the state of Kansas has anything like this. How difficult would it be if we went forward with two years, to come back at the end of the two-year period to see how this actually works and come back and adjust it to like three years, five years? **Ms. Meyer** said that would be very easy. That would not be hard at all.

Commissioner Townsend asked, if we went with the two years just to see how things worked, because that's a system, we could come back and amend that. **Ms. Meyer** said yes.

Commissioner Kane said we've done this with other projects where we let them go for two years then they come back and revisit. A lot of things we've done to do that. Then give them three or five years if they've done everything the way they're supposed to. I think if this matches—we're the only ones doing it. We don't know if it's going to work or not, so I would think that we would go with two years, have them come back and give us another presentation, and adjust accordingly. I guess that's a motion.

Action: **Commissioner Kane made a motion to approve setting a two-year expiration term for the municipal ID card.**

Mayor Garner said we have a motion to stick at two years, as has been presented from the recommendation of staff, I take it. Is that the recommendation? **Ms. Meyer** said yes.

Commissioner Stites asked, is this just a motion on the time or all the changes?

Commissioner Kane asked, everything that you've done puts us in line with the state, right? **Ms. Meyer** said that's correct. **Commissioner Kane** said right. The only thing that we've added was the two-year adjustment, correct? **Ms. Meyer** said we added the expiration term, which is the two-year adjustment, the ability to audit, and then additional cardholder responsibilities just to update their card if they change name, change address. Those are all optional things that I included based on comments at full commission. Those were not required, obviously. **Commissioner Kane** said no, but I like—could you repeat the last part about audit and then the rest of it? **Ms. Meyer** said the three sections that I audit were the two-year expiration term, the ability to audit the program administrator to make sure that they're following the rules, and then the third thing is the cardholder responsibilities where they have to update. If they change name, change address, they have to report that and get a new card.

Commissioner Stites said changing the name—tell me the name again, please. **Ms. Meyer** said I believe Ms. Ancel suggested Wyandotte County Community ID Act. I don't know if you would want it Unified Government Community ID Act, whatever. **Commissioner Stites** said I think we probably need to decide that before we vote. I'm not okay with it being Wyandotte County because Bonner Springs and Edwardsville have not been consulted on this and they are part of Wyandotte County. If it was going to be anything, it would be Kansas City, Kansas Community ID; not Bonner Springs and not Edwardsville.

Commissioner Johnson said I think what I see in the documentation is it just says community ID versus Wyandotte County. Clarify that. **Ms. Meyer** said Community ID Act. **Commissioner Johnson** said it just says community; it does not refer to Wyandotte County, it just says community ID.

Patrick Waters, Deputy Chief Counsel, said I think there's a little confusion between the use of the term community ID card that was changed and the actual name of the Act, which is in the heading. I think there was a request from some members of the public to simply change the name of the Act. The community ID card has been changed in the version that you're looking at here. Changing the name of the Act itself will have no legal purpose, no legal change. It won't have any affect; it's just simply how we refer to it. **Ms. Meyer** said the name of the card is the community ID Card. **Commissioner Stites** said I'm saying, I would like for it to say the Kansas City, Kansas Identification Card.

Commissioner Johnson said to the name of the Act itself it says that it's a Safe and Welcoming City Act. What has been asked is that would be changed to the Wyandotte Community ID Act. There's some pushback on this Commission with regard to the Wyandotte County portion of that. Would it make sense to call it then the Kansas City, Kansas Community ID Act? Would that be acceptable? **Mayor Garner** said I'll bring that up here shortly.

Commissioner Burroughs said I think there has been just a little confusion in what we're looking at. The municipal ID was not to be utilized by state law. It now has become the community ID. That's the change there. The Act itself, as stated by Commissioner Johnson,

does need a name change if the community wants that name change to be representative of the word community. Then it was mentioned by Commissioner Stites that it be the Kansas City, Kansas Community ID Act.

I think the main issue that we're struggling with here is, and I think we've almost come to terms, that is the timeframe, the two-year timeframe. I think that really puts into play the community that has been asking for this to come forward in a hurried process to get this ID up and running instead of waiting over a period of five years. I do strongly support the fact that they can come back before us and give us a chance to streamline and/or modify the Act. We'll find some bumps in it somewhere, I'm sure, because no ordinance, no resolution, no law is perfect. We'll have a chance to come back in two years and address this.

This reads pretty simply and I commend you for making the changes that you've made and getting us in line with the state requirements of 2717.

Mayor Garner said, again, to wrap up my comments, it looks like we have a motion from Commissioner Kane for the two years, or just the amendment and what's been brought forward by Legal staff as a recommendation to this Commission for the two years, as its been presented from Legal for consideration. I couple that with the name change as well. I believe that there was a motion to have the name changed at the request from a stakeholder in the community from what was presented and away from the suggestion of Wyandotte County Community ID Act to KCK Community ID Act. There was also an initial indication from Commissioner Johnson for five years. Then there was also mention of a staggered from the two years to get up to the five years, which might be mute, depending.

So, I think the issue is at hand, I've got a motion for the two years and what's presented from Counsel to this Commission, as it has been presented for consideration, which I have a motion from Commissioner Kane without the name change. We'll go through that motion first.

Commissioner Burroughs said actually, I think, if we just voted for the Act initially, what Legal has presented, and then the second motion can be the name change to the Act because it was presented to us with the two years and everything else was acceptable except for the name of the Act. We can handle that with a second motion, unless you want to combine them all in one motion, Mayor. At least we'll know what we're voting for if we vote for the two years, as

presented by Counsel for the entire Act, and then turnaround and vote for the name change of the Act, if that's acceptable.

Mayor Garner said I'll take you up on that, Commissioner Burroughs. Here's what we'll do. Commissioner Kane, would you like to amend that two years with the name change to Kansas City, Kansas Community ID Act? Would you like to amend that? **Commissioner Kane** said yes.

Action: **Commissioner Kane amended his previous motion setting a two-year expiration term for the municipal ID card to also include changing the name to the Kansas City, Kansas Community ID Act.**

Mayor Garner asked, is that your motion? **Commissioner Kane** said yes, sir. **Mayor Garner** said I've got a motion to amend his original motion to two years, as been presented, with the name change of the Kansas City, Kansas Community ID Act.

Commissioner Davis said just a question and then a comment. For this item, will there be public comment? **Mayor Garner** said there was no public comment. It's been through the standing committee. This is just for Commission action.

Commissioner Davis said okay. My comment will be this. Commissioner Bynum and Commissioner Ramirez were also part of the group of commissioners that were a part of bringing this forward. I think it would be fair for us to delay this until our next full commission meeting. That way, for Public Safety & Public Works, they can come up with some sort of compromise, work with the Coalition, and then we can fast track it from that standing committee meeting to that June 30th full commission meeting.

Commissioner Townsend said I just want to send the motion. This has gone through the standing committee process. What we're doing tonight, we recognize the desire to change the name. I think that's been accounted for. It's already been—in the version, we're voting on the two year. I think the only question I would have, would we—well, it expires in two years, but we can take this up again. If you want to make it a longer period of time, that can be done at that time.

Action: **Commissioner Townsend seconded Commissioner Kane’s motion.**

Commissioner Johnson asked, how many votes does it take to approve this as it stands? Legal, can you give us some guidance on that? **Mr. Waters** said yes, Commissioner, six votes.

Mayor Garner said I do have a motion that needs to be resolved. Is there a second? Commissioner Townsend did second that, so we have a motion and a second. Clerk, roll call, please.

Roll call was taken and there were four “Ayes,” McKiernan, Kane, Burroughs, Townsend; and three “Nos,” Johnson, Stites, Davis. (Motion failed.)

Mayor Garner said next we have two items under the Administrator’s Agenda. Standby just for a second. I’ve got one more question from Commissioner Townsend.

Commissioner Townsend said I just want clarity on where we go from here with this now. **Mayor Garner** said if someone would like to make a motion to bring it back to the next meeting or take it back to standing committee, I believe we can do that. I’m going to go refer to Legal and some of the legal implications of this vote and just bring us up to speed on our obligation. This is more in line, basically, bringing the Unified Government in compliance with state law as a result of the vote.

Mr. Waters said first of all, procedurally, we had a motion to approve with certain modifications that failed, but this is still an active item because there’s not been a finding either approval or denial of the item before us.

Second of all, in terms of the timing, I just want to remind the Commission the state law goes into effect July 1st. If we were to hold this over until the next meeting, June 30th, it takes a week to publish an ordinance so we would have a week where we potentially are out of compliance. It would be preferable to resolve the matter tonight if the Commission sees fit.

Action: **Commissioner Johnson said with that being said, I’d like to make a motion for all the changes that we would have made thus far with regard to the**

name or the Act, the name of the card, as well as I'd like to go back to the five-year expiration date. Commissioner Stites seconded the motion.

Mayor Garner said I have a motion and a second. Is there any discussion?

Commissioner Burroughs said, Mayor, this has been a point of concern for this community for a number of years. I know the results of what happened at the capital was due to, I think, a lot of miscommunications in the community. There are some that want to say differently, but you just heard that Bonner Springs and Edwardsville had some concerns but yet, there are those deniers that say that's not the case.

You have commissioners that are really trying to find a way to help here. It took Topeka to guide us. We weren't the only county in the state that had legislation repealed on the local level. There's Roeland Park that was impacted from this. We didn't learn from Roeland Park to come forward with the same language they had to move our ordinance forward.

Now, I understand this is a very important issue, but we want to get this right so we don't have to have the state interfere once again. That is what we are trying to do. I would ask the members of this community to understand that there is not a difference of opinion on the municipal ID, but now all of a sudden we're getting into the criteria of the municipal ID again. That's the name change. Then we're going to talk about the years. We have come a long way. I would ask your patience.

You have three commissioners that are not here this evening that were strong advocates of your safe and welcoming. I agree, they should probably have an opportunity to speak to this this evening. However, they knew this was on the agenda. I can't explain to you why they chose not to be here or what caused their absence this evening. I will state that this issue is important to a number of people in our community. We want to get it right. So, please, by all means, be patient enough. You found out that others are watching.

We just came through a process that divided this community straight down the middle and it is going to be 12 years possibly that we're going to be dealing with a divided community due to redistricting. This issue played into that issue, whether you want to believe it or not. As a public servant and as an advocate for this community, I would ask, please be patient and understanding that we are trying to get this right.

Commissioner Johnson said I'll tell you what, in the interest of trying to bring about an interest to bring this to a close with my commissioners, how about we meet somewhere in the middle and go with three years on the expiration date? It's not what everybody is wanting, but I think if we can get it over the hump.

Action: **Commissioner Johnson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Davis, to approve an expiration term of three years.**

Commissioner Townsend said I commend Commissioner Johnson for the Solomon move because that was going to be my recommendation. I think two years was reasonable given this is the first statute or ordinance like it in the city. I thought five years the first time would be a bit much. I think this three is fair and I think we should just move on so that we are in compliance with the state by the time this goes into effect and not leave that opportunity.

Mayor Garner asked, any further discussion? Just for clarity for those watching. We had an original motion to deny an amendment request to what was presented by our staff for consideration but the matter still persist on the original proposal that has been brought forward. Now, to hopefully resolve this issue, a motion has been made by Commissioner Johnson and seconded, I believe, by Commissioner Davis, for three years and to move the item that has been presented as recommended. Is there any discussion? Seeing none, roll call.

Commissioner Townsend said for clarity, does this include the name change proposed?

Mayor Garner asked, any discussion? I believe your comment was, it does include the name change. **Commissioner Johnson** said right. **Mayor Garner** said okay. I just want to be sure for that. I don't want to speak for Commissioner Johnson or Davis. If you could just clarify your motion, again, Commissioner Johnson.

Action: **Commissioner Johnson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Davis, that the Act be changed to the Kansas City, Kansas Community ID Act, and**

that the ID be called the community ID instead of municipal ID, and that we have an expiration date of three years, versus two years.

Commissioner Stites asked, again, what's the ID called? **Commissioner Johnson** said the community ID. **Commissioner Stites** asked, it's not called the Kansas City, Kansas Community ID? **Commissioner Johnson** said the Act is called the Kansas City, Kansas Community ID Act.

Mayor Garner said important discussion, as Commissioner Burroughs noted. Is there any further questions or discussions by this body? I have a motion and a second. No further discussion. Clerk, roll call, please.

Action: **Ordinance No. O-77-22**, "An ordinance relating to the Safe and Welcoming City Act Chapter 18, Sections 18-162 through 18-168, amending Sections 18-162 through 18-168 of the Code of Ordinances for the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas." **Commissioner Johnson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Stites, to approve the ordinance.** Roll call was taken and there were six "Ayes," McKiernan, Johnson, Kane, Davis, Burroughs, Townsend; and one "No," Stites.

ADMINISTRATOR'S AGENDA

Item No. 1 – 211725...PRESENTATION: FIRE STATION 15

Synopsis: Presentation on Fire Station #15 by IAFF and KCKFD, submitted by Chief Callahan.

Mayor Garner said our KCK Fire Department is providing options for Fire Station #15. This was something that was brought forward at the request of the Fairfax Industrial District and a lot of the businesses that they represent, as well as some of those residents that live in the Northeast.

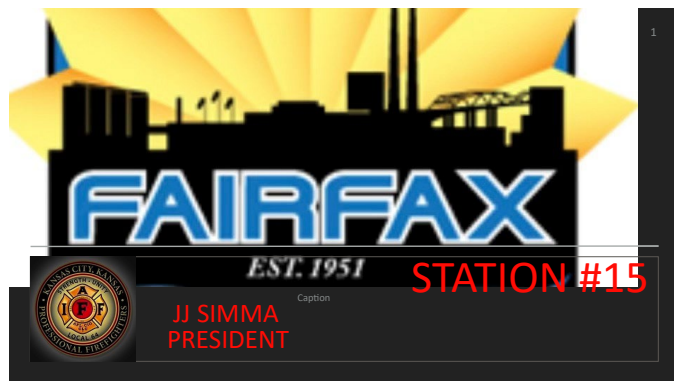
Just some context. Myself, Commissioner Kane, Commissioner Bynum, members from the Firefighters Union, as well as command, took a tour of that facility, which appears to be in really good shape. They were tasked and given a call to action to bring forth options on how, if at all, this Commission to consider to either open, maintain it as it is, or to not open that facility. We're looking forward to seeing what has been considered.

I'd like to turn this over to our Administrator and lead us into this presentation.

Cheryl Harrison-Lee, Interim County Administrator, said as the Mayor indicated, the discussion tonight is on the potential reopening of the fire station. We have KCK Fire Department staff here as well as IAFF, who will make presentation. They will give you some insight on options for your feedback.

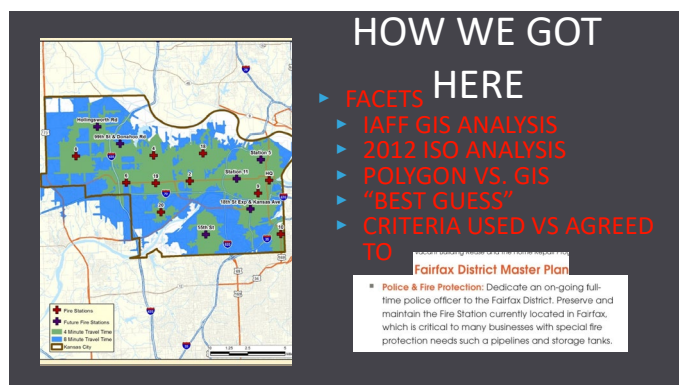
At today's ribbon cutting for the Fairfax Tower, business community also expressed some interest in seeing the reopening of the fire station. We're seeking your direction tonight as we continue to advance through the budget process.

With that, I'll call forward the representative from the IAFF.



JJ Simma, President, International Association of Firefighters Local 64, said I have with me as well tonight Bob Wing, Secretary/Treasurer of Tri-County Labor Council, to present with me. I want to thank you for the opportunity to meet with you tonight and discuss the possible reopening of Fire Station 15 in the Fairfax District.

We have a short presentation for you which we'll give you a brief history, where we are currently, the need we see to restore service in the district, and a joint recommendation from our two organizations as to how to accomplish this.



Over the last 30 years, Kansas City, KS, and Wyandotte County has experienced significant growth, both residential and commercial throughout our community. There's an ongoing and ever evolving need for fire and EMS service in multiple areas of our community. This has resulted in a number of conversations and studies brought forth in an effort to address future fire service in Kansas City, KS. Named are a few on this slide. The facets, independent consultant study was brought in, the IAFF GIS response analysis requested by Local 64 through our international offices, in addition to an independent ISO/GIS analysis in 2011/2012. Each of these studies identified areas of deficiency in Piper and other areas in our community. Approximately six years ago, the new Piper Fire Station #12 was approved by the Unified Government Commission.

THE PROCESS

- ▶ JULY 23, 2020
- ▶ CRITERIA FOR EMS19 VS P15
- ▶ APPARATUS REMOVED FROM FAIRFAX
- ▶ FAIRFAX FIRE PROTECTION REDUCED
- ▶ PIPER STATION #12 RECEIVED APPARATUS #15



Around 1980, General Motors (GM) purchased the North American Aviation Company. This building burned in the early 1980s, and after this GM purchased all the land that the airport occupied, including the fire station. GM tore down all the buildings and built the factory they work out of today. In 1985, in return for the company purchasing the land that the fire station was located, GM built the current station #15 located on Kindelberger Road."

As Station 12 neared completion, the conversation began about how to accomplish staffing of the fire station. The intent for opening of Station 12 was never to be at the expense of another area in the community. Ultimately, Pumper 15 in the Fairfax area was identified as the existing apparatus to relocate. The criteria used to identify Pumper 15 was it had the lowest call volume, lowest annual call volume apparatus in our fleet. We do not believe call volume is a valid criterion to utilize to identify need for fire service.

At the same time, EMS 19 in the Midtown area was also identified for relocation to the new Piper fire station. The same criteria was not used as it was the third busiest EMS unit in the city at the time. Appropriate criteria with regards to apparatus and station locations and deployment of resources would be hazard risk analysis, response time analysis, and consideration of safety standards. IAFF and independent ISO analysis with consideration of these criteria not only identified the Piper area as a need for coverage, but made no recommendation of closure or relocation in the Fairfax area.



Station 5 at 910 Quindaro was identified by the Fire Department to provide Fairfax coverage. Housed at Station 5 is Pumper 5 and EMS 5.

FAIRFAX INDUSTRIAL AREA COVERAGE



~Same or faster response times

- Station 5 can access Fairfax from three directions – 10th St, 7th St, Quindaro Blvd
- Fairfax remains covered by 4 minute response time in accordance with NFPA standards

~Same speed of medical response

- Fairfax EMS transports will continue be run by EMS 5 (910 Quindaro Blvd) – as they are now

~More “weight” to fire response

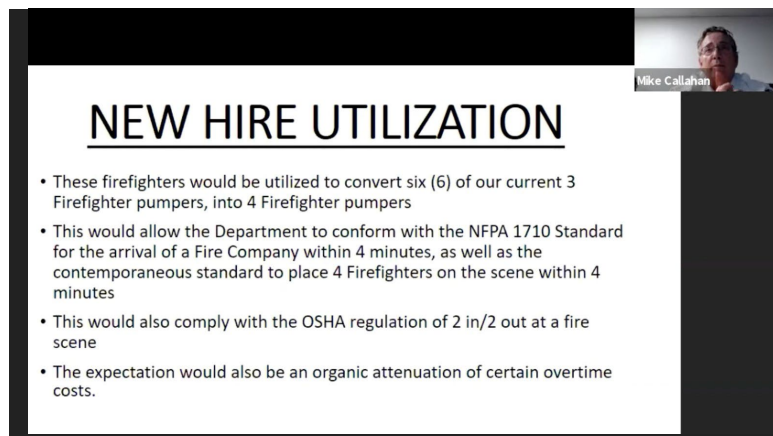
- Enhancing Station 5 (Quindaro) pumper to 4 Firefighters – allowing faster attack on interior structure fires
- Converting Pumper 9 and Pumper 11 (Fairfax Responding Companies) to 4 Firefighter pumpers – increasing the weight of responding crews
- KCKFD recently increased number of personnel responding to “General Alarm” fires in Fairfax to 33 – up from previous standard of 25 – with plans increase to 36-37
- Fairfax Fire calls will be run by P5 (910 Quindaro Blvd), P1 (815 North 6th St), P9 (1100 Central Ave), & P11 (3100 State Ave) and Aerials T1 (815 North 6th St), Q3 (420 Kansas Ave), & T14 (2615 North 27th St)

In the next two slides, and a presentation provided by the Fire Department in April of 2020, the case was made for the same or faster response times as you can see. We do not believe response time data will reflect such. Fairfax has limited access points and numerous rail crossings creating a number of response challenges for fire apparatus to enter the district. It was also stated at that time that the Fire Department monitors rail crossings for trains, preventing the

blocking of access by fire apparatus. We are not aware at this time, or at any time, of any KCKFD apparatus which monitors train activity.

As you'll see, it was stated that the weight of the response would become greater. Fire Station 5 with Pumper 5 would be enhanced to four firefighters. Pumper 9 and Pumper 11 responding Fairfax companies would be enhanced to four firefighters. To this day, Pumper 5 was increased from three firefighter staffing to four with the removal of the four firefighters from the Pumper 8 old Piper fire station which, to our knowledge, was never discussed. The firefighter was transferred, not physically the individual, but the staffing position was transferred.

Pumper 9 and Pumper 11 are still running to this day with three firefighters regularly.

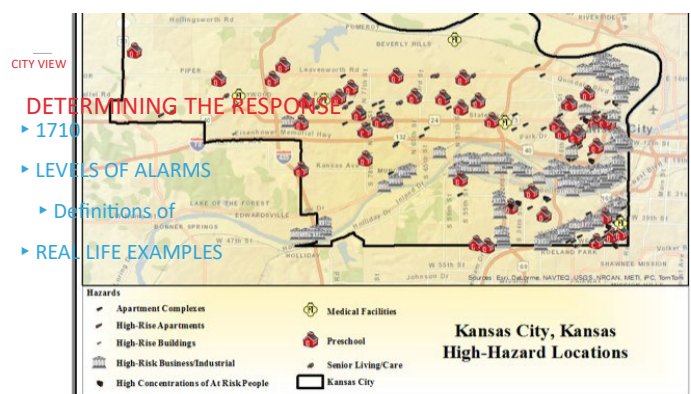


NEW HIRE UTILIZATION

- These firefighters would be utilized to convert six (6) of our current 3 Firefighter pumpers, into 4 Firefighter pumpers
- This would allow the Department to conform with the NFPA 1710 Standard for the arrival of a Fire Company within 4 minutes, as well as the contemporaneous standard to place 4 Firefighters on the scene within 4 minutes
- This would also comply with the OSHA regulation of 2 in/2 out at a fire scene
- The expectation would also be an organic attenuation of certain overtime costs.

Mike Callahan

In this slide, during the discussion for the SAFER application in an effort to convert six of our three firefighter pumpers to four firefighter pumpers, the grant was awarded and received; however, this has not been accomplished. The proposal of the Fire Department in April of 2020 was to increase from one four-firefighter pumper to seven four-firefighter pumpers. Today, we still have one four-firefighter pumper.



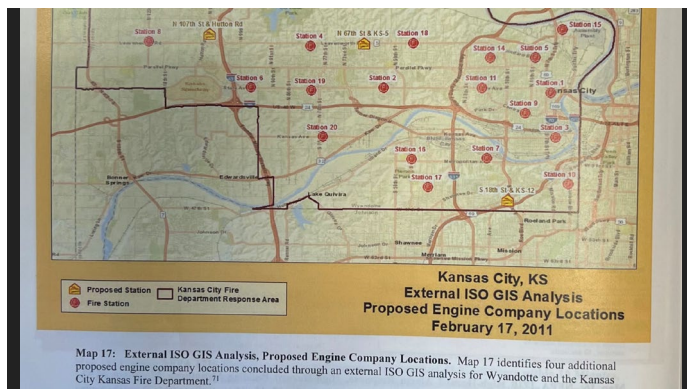
The proposed closure of Station 15 was opposed by Local 64 Tri-County Labor Council, the Fairfax Industrial Association, and numerous other interested parties. The need in the Fairfax District is high. There are 10,000 people who go to work down there, \$20M tax dollars are generated from the district, and \$5B in property value is in the district. The volatility and risk is high.

As you'll see from this map from the IAFF GIS study, the high-risk business industrial concentration in the Northeast, which is high-hazard occupancies as defined by the NFPA, is large. NFPA 1710 identifies three levels of alarms: low, medium, and high. Low being residential; primarily medium being standalone commercial, strip malls, garden style apartments; high being explosive plants, refineries, high-rises, schools, and hospitals. As you can see, the majority of Fairfax, it's blocked by the camera view, but the majority of Fairfax is high-hazard occupancies. The response requirement by NFPA 1710 for a high-hazard occupancy is 43 firefighters in 10 minutes and 10 seconds. Currently, we cannot meet that standard nor could we meet that standard to even prior to the closure of Fairfax Fire Station #15.

Ultimately, the decision was made to close Fairfax Fire Station 15 on the opening of Station 12 in the new Piper area on July 23, 2020. In addition to this, there were other additional relocations and reallocation of resources. As we discussed, the four firefighters who had staffed

Pumper 8 in old Piper for 30 years was moved to Pumper 5 at Quindaro. The ladder at 94th & State became cross-staffed as a secondary apparatus. Cross-staffed versus fully-staffed means firefighters staff two apparatus. The apparatus of need, they move back and forth from one to the other.

Currently, Rescue 6 at 94th & State is staffed full-time. Quint 6, the ladder, is staffed part-time leaving a decrease in the ladder coverage in the western portion of KCK. The closest dedicated ladder, after this reallocation and recommissioning, was 62nd & State Ave. This has created extended response times with regards to structure fires as aerial apparatus responding to the western portion of Kansas City, KS, have to come from east of 27th St., either north of I-70 or south of I-70.



As you'll see in this map, this is the ISO GIS analysis from 2011. Consistent with the Local 64 GIS analysis, it identified 107th & Hutton Rd. as the area of need for an additional firehouse while maintaining the firehouse at Station 15 in the Fairfax District.



We understand there is a cost to everything. Going forward, we would encourage the Unified Government and Fire Department to apply for SAFER grants for staffing purposes beginning in

2023 and beyond. The 2022 SAFER grant was not applied for. The federal government was providing 100% costs for the first three years. It is unknown if the local match will remain suspended in 2023 and beyond. We also would encourage the application for assistance for firefighter grants, which are equipment and apparatus grants for future purchases of fire apparatus in our community.

RECOMMENDATIONS. QUESTIONS?

We bring forth a joint recommendation, which is a short-term proposal, to staff the fire station in Fairfax in the very near future while further analysis is done for a long-term plan of the fire service in KCK and Wyandotte County. Our proposal will move no firefighters from their current assignment. Our recommendation will be apparatus reallocation/relocation only. Currently at headquarters, Truck 1 cross-staffs Rescue 1. Truck 1 would recommission to Station 14 and become Truck 14. Rescue 1 would become fully staffed with four members currently assigned, which would meet the national standard. Truck 14's apparatus would recommission to Station 15 and become Truck 15. Truck 15 would be staffed with four firefighters, provide water capability to carry and flow water in the area, which meets the national standard, and ladder coverage of two 100' aerial apparatus would be maintained in the northeast portion of the city. Truck 14's crew would remain assigned to 14's fire station and staff the newly commissioned Truck 14.

To address issues in western Kansas City, KS, we propose moving the platform aerial from Station 6 to Station 12 and staffing with four firefighters. It will provide water capability in its territory and provide a dedicated aerial apparatus to the Piper area, which right now we do not have.

We would then recommission Pumper 12 to Station 6, which would become Pumper 6. We would staff Pumper 6 with three, and Rescue 6 currently assigned there with two, which

would run in tandem both apparatuses. The national standard would be met and water availability would be maintained in the area.

The fourth suggestion we would make would be that the four firefighters that were sent to Pumper 5 would be moved back to Pumper 8 to restore the service as it was prior to the closure of the Fairfax fire station.

This, again, is a short-term recommendation. We have a written proposal we would like to submit to you that has narrative to go along with it, and we'd be happy to forward that to you in the near future.

At that, I would give this to Bob Wing of Tri-County Labor Council.

Bob Wing, Secretary/Treasurer, Tri-County Labor Council, said I appreciate the opportunity to address this issue with you all this evening. My presentation, as a representative of the Central Labor Council, will be brief and to the point. Several commissioners, I don't know—I'm not only an elected member of the Labor Council, I serve as President Emeritus of the Firefighters Local here in Kansas City. At the State Firefighters Union, I was a firefighter here in Kansas City, employed for 42 years.

I tell you that tenure of being a firefighter here for that amount of time because every joint committee that had ever been formed by the former City Council and the present County Commission, I have served on. That initiated with the former Mayor Steineger in the late 1980s. At no time did the committees that I served on ever not consider the term potential when we developed response times and station assignments for apparatus and personnel.

Here, in the Northeast, and, Mayor, it's ironic, we're talking about the Northeast again being abandoned. The Northeast had a firehouse closed. The first firehouse closed in this city for several decades, and that should be corrected.

Potential was used in the analysis for Piper here, Commissioner Kane, when you proposed to build that station out there, it was based on potential. It was based on the potential of Piper that the existing station wasn't adequate to perform what is needed in the community of Piper. More is needed, but the potential was identified that Piper needed more. As President Simma said, it was never envisioned that it would impact any other part of the city, specifically the Northeast.

When it was considered to staff Station 12, the Rosedale community was considered. Station 10 was considered, but that was proven to be not viable based on its potential, let alone the saber rattling of the business community, the community itself, and the potential of KU Med Center.

Here we have two pieces of a puzzle that were identified as the potential being too great, fire apparatus could not be moved, but Fairfax was identified as not having the potential to support a full-time fire company in Fairfax such that it has since 1966 when Fairfax was annexed into the city.

I'm confused by the Fire Department's lack of coming forward and identifying the potential publicly and the former Commission to keep Fairfax open. That should have been done. I find it even more interesting, Mayor, Madam Administrator, and Commissioners, that an application for a fire grant for radios—and these are the Fire Department's words—I give you these because a fire department knows you have to identify potential. This is their grant application. It's on file here at City Hall. I'll provide you copies if you need them. Here's part of what the text of their grant application reads.

Kansas City, KS, encompasses many uniquely different urban, industrial, and suburban communities. The varying communities amplify the vastly different fire and EMS challenges encountered by the Kansas City, KS Fire Department, including a wide variety of commercial and industrial hazards, high-rise structures, and obstacles related to a densely populated city. Wyandotte County has a population of 161,000 people. It covers 156 square miles. Kansas City, KS, population is over 152,000 and is the third largest city in the state of Kansas.

I underscore, this is the Fire Department's words. We have a vibrant industrial area with over 120 businesses employing 10,000 people, including General Motors, Kellogg's, Owens Corning, and CertainTeed. Three pipeline companies in the Fairfax District provide 95% of the Kansas City metro area supply of unleaded gasoline, diesel, and 100% of the jet fuel that supplies KCI.

That area was abandoned based on a fire department that did not come forward to use elected officials. Those 10,000 employees that are working in Fairfax, we represent. They have enjoyed full-time fire/EMS coverage in that district based on potential since 1966. I am asking this Commission to right the wrong. Take care of the 10,000 employees, the 120 businesses that

the Fire Department identified and abandoned and publicly said that fire station is not needed in this community. I find that astounding.

Mayor, I could go on, but once again, I appreciate the time. I wanted to make some very poignant remarks. These people that work down there deserve better. Not only do they work in Fairfax, a lot of them live in this community. A lot of them live in the Northeast. I've heard tonight how the Northeast has been abandoned. I think this would be the greatest piece of the puzzle in the Northeast that we can start by reopening that fire station. Not only giving Fairfax back their coverage, Fairfax covers the northeast part of this city with respect to the neighborhoods.

Mr. Simma said in conclusion, we would be happy to provide you with any documentation you wish. That PowerPoint presentation was a brief synopsis of the studies that have been done over the last 10-12 years and the numerous conversations and committee work over the last 10-12 years. We would be happy to have detailed conversation with you any time you would request. We will make ourselves available. We would stand for questions.

Ms. Harrison-Lee said maybe we'll hear from the Fire Chief at this time, and then we'll get all the questions at once.



Michael Callahan, Fire Chief, said the Fire Department was given a task to come up with some options for the Commission to consider in terms of reoccupying Station 15. We presented five options and they range in price from a lot of money to no money.

OPTION 1 STAFFING

- ▶ Build new Fire Station on 7th Street Trafficway to house a pumper (15) and an aerial (currently pumper 5) and an EMS Unit (currently EMS 5) and complete the contemplated station consolidation.
- ▶ This will require 17 additional employees apportioned as follows:
 - ▶ 4 member Truck -17 personnel -3 captains, 3 drivers, 11 firefighters
 - ▶ 4 member Pumper -17 personnel -3 captains, 3 drivers, 11 firefighters (already employed by KCKFD)
 - ▶ 2 member EMS Unit - 9 personnel (already employed by KCKFD)

These are going to get repetitive after a while, but this one won't be repetitive. Option 1 is to build a new fire station on 7th St. Tfr. to house a pumper, 15; an aerial, currently Pumper 5; and an EMS unit, currently EMS 5; and complete the contemplated station consolidation. This will require 17 additional employees apportioned as follows: a 4 member truck which has 17 personnel (3 captains, 3 drivers, 11 firefighters); a 4 member pumper, 17 personnel, same breakdown, already employed by the KCKFD; a 2 member EMS unit with 9 personnel, which are already employed by the KCKFD.

OPTION 1 COSTS

- ▶ Recurrent annual personnel costs (including fringe benefits) = **\$1,918,387.00**
- ▶ One-time cost for a new aerial apparatus = \$1,400,000.00
(Pumper 5 can be utilized in its current form)
- ▶ Total Apparatus cost = \$1,400,000.00
- ▶ One-time cost for a new fire station = \$11,000,000.00
- ▶ **Total upfront costs = \$14,318,387.00**

The recurrent annual personnel costs at today's dollars, including fringe benefits, are \$1.9M. The one-time cost of new aerial apparatus is \$1.4M. Pumper 5 would be used in its current form. Total apparatus cost is \$1.4M. One-time cost for a new fire station is \$11M today. Total upfront costs, \$14.3M.

OPTION 1 ADVANTAGES & LIMITATIONS

- ▶ Meets the NFPA Staffing Standard
- ▶ Immediate addition to the overall weight of response
- ▶ Resolves repair and refurbishment issues in 2 stations simultaneously
- ▶ Significantly optimized location; can respond equilaterally in 4 directions (*Area of Response (AOR) is 100%*)
- ▶ Adds an additional truck/aerial company (8)
- ▶ Will take additional time to complete
- ▶ Most costly

This meets the NFPA staffing standard. It's an immediate addition to the overall weight of the response. It resolves, repair, and refurbishment issues in two stations simultaneously. It's in a significantly optimized location. It can respond equilaterally in four different directions, which we don't have right now. The area of response is 100%. It also adds an additional truck or aerial company to our fleet bringing us to eight. The limitations are it takes additional time to complete it and it costs a lot of money.

The recommendation of the Fire Department would be Option 1. That would be the recommendation of the department.

OPTION 2 STAFFING

- ▶ Reoccupy the current Station 15 with a 4 member pumper and an EMS Unit.
- ▶ This will require 26 additional employees apportioned as follows:
 - ▶ 4 member Pumper-17 personnel-3 captains, 3 drivers, 11 firefighters
 - ▶ 2 member EMS Unit- 9 personnel

Option 2 is to reoccupy the current Station 15 with a 4 member pumper and an EMS unit. It will require 26 additional employees apportioned as follows: 4 member pumper with 17 personnel (3 captains, 3 drivers, 11 firefighters), and a 2 member EMS unit with 9 personnel.

OPTION 2 COSTS

- ▶ Recurrent annual personnel costs (including fringe benefits) = **\$2,833,805.00**
- ▶ One-time cost for a new pumper = **\$700,000.00**
- ▶ One-time cost for a new EMS Unit = **\$350,000.00**
- ▶ Total Apparatus cost = **\$1,050,000.00**
- ▶ **Total upfront costs = \$3,883,805.00**

The recurrent annual personnel costs at today's dollars, including fringe benefits, are \$2.8M. One-time cost for a new pumper is \$700K. One-time cost for a new EMS unit is \$350K. Total apparatus cost is a little over \$1M. Total upfront cost is \$3.88M.

OPTION 2 ADVANTAGES & LIMITATIONS

- ▶ Meets the NFPA Staffing Standard
- ▶ Will be completed faster
- ▶ Adds an additional pumper company (16)
- ▶ Adds an additional EMS Company (10)
- ▶ Does not contemplate new construction
- ▶ Suboptimal location (*Area of Response (AOR)* is truncated by 50%)
- ▶ Does not resolve repair and refurbishment issues in 2 stations simultaneously
- ▶ No immediate addition to the overall weight of response

Advantages and limitations. It meets the NFPA staffing standard. It will be completed faster. It adds an additional pumper bringing us to 16 instead of 15. It adds an additional EMS company bringing us to 10 instead of 9. It does not contemplate new construction. The limitations are: it's a suboptimal location. The area of response is truncated by 50%. That fire station cannot go anywhere north or east of the current station. It does not resolve, repair, refurbishment issues in two stations simultaneously. There is no immediate addition to the overall weight of the response in that area.

OPTION 3 STAFFING

- ▶ Reoccupy the current Station 15 with a 4 member pumper.
- ▶ 4 member Pumper-17 personnel-3 captains, 3 drivers, 11 firefighters

The third option is to reoccupy the current Station 15 with a 4 member pumper, 17 personnel, again, 3 captains, 3 drivers, 11 firefighters.

OPTION 3 COSTS

- ▶ Recurrent annual personnel costs (including fringe benefits) = **\$ 1,918,387.00**
- ▶ One-time cost for a new pumper = \$700,000.00
- ▶ Total Apparatus cost = \$700,000.00
- ▶ **Total upfront costs = \$2,618,387.00**

Recurrent personnel costs are \$1.9M. One-time cost for a new pumper, this is where it gets redundant, \$700K. Total apparatus cost is \$700K. Total upfront cost is \$2.6M.

OPTION 3 ADVANTAGES & LIMITATIONS

- ▶ Meets the NFPA Staffing Standard
- ▶ Attenuated costs
- ▶ Will be completed faster
- ▶ Does not contemplate new construction
- ▶ Suboptimal location (*Area of Response* (AOR) is truncated by 50%)
- ▶ No immediate addition to the overall weight of response
- ▶ Does not resolve repair and refurbishment issues in 2 stations simultaneously

The advantages and limitations of this action. Again, it meets the advantages. It meets the NFPA staffing standard. It has attenuated costs. It will be completed faster. It does not contemplate new construction. Disadvantages or limitations. Suboptimal location, again. Area

of response is truncated by 50%. No immediate addition to the overall weight of the response. It does not resolve, repair, refurbishment issues in two stations simultaneously.

OPTION 4 STAFFING

- Reoccupy the current Station 15 with a 4 member pumper Overtime.

Option 4. Reoccupy the current Station 15 with a 4 member pumper on overtime.

OPTION 4 COSTS

- 4 members per day on overtime.
- Annual OT costs = \$1,358,325.00
- One-time cost for a new pumper = \$700,000.00
- Total upfront costs = \$2,058,325.00

Four members per day on overtime. Annual OT costs in today's dollars, \$1.35M. One-time cost for a pumper, \$700K. Total upfront costs, a little over \$2M.

OPTION 4 ADVANTAGES & LIMITATIONS

- Meets the NFPA Staffing Standard
- Attenuated costs
- Will be completed faster
- Does not contemplate new construction
- Suboptimal location (*Area of Response* (AOR) is truncated by 50%)
- No immediate addition to the overall weight of response
- Does not resolve repair and refurbishment issues in 2 stations simultaneously

The advantages and limitations. It meets the NFPA staffing standard. Attenuated costs. It will be completed faster. It does not contemplate new construction. Limitations. Suboptimal

location. AOR is truncated by 50%. No immediate addition to the overall weight of response. Does not resolve, repair, refurbishment issues in two stations simultaneously.

OPTION 5 STAFFING

- Relocate an existing pumper to Station 15.



Option 5. Relocate an existing pumper to Station 15.

OPTION 5 COSTS

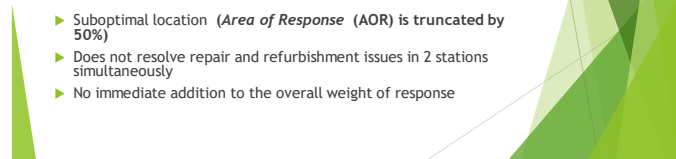
- No additional costs



No additional costs.

OPTION 5 ADVANTAGES & LIMITATIONS

- Lowest cost
- Most straightforward to facilitate
- Does not contemplate new construction
- Suboptimal location (*Area of Response* (AOR) is truncated by 50%)
- Does not resolve repair and refurbishment issues in 2 stations simultaneously
- No immediate addition to the overall weight of response



It's the lowest cost. These are the advantages. Most straightforward to facilitate. It does not contemplate new construction. Disadvantages or limitations. It's still a suboptimal location. It

doesn't resolve and take care of the issues in two stations simultaneously. No immediate addition to the overall weight of response.

That's the end of this presentation.

Ms. Harrison-Lee said, Mayor and commissioners, that completes our presentation. Questions at this time from either IAFF or the Chief or his staff?

Commissioner Kane said I want to make a couple of comments because it's the history of why we're here today. In July of 2016 on the last day of the budget, we voted to build the fire station out in Piper. There's been multiple excuses of why that fire station took forever to build. It was almost five years. They couldn't buy the property. The ground was wet. They had to do this. They had to do that. We had the ribbon cutting ceremony—had the groundbreaking ceremony in April 2019 and we cut the ribbon in August 2020.

Before we moved out there, there was supposed to be a meeting on the phone with the former Mayor and the Administrator to talk about the SAFER grants and the things that they could get. I talked to the lady prior to and she said yep. They'll supply the manpower and there's another grant; you can get equipment. It was supposed to be at 2:00. Doug Bach called at 5 til 2. When I got on at 2:00, he said the lady didn't know what she was talking about. They didn't want to build the fire station out west in the first place. It actually requires an additional one being built.

We were at the ribbon cutting ceremony today in Fairfax, Mayor, correct? There's 123 businesses down there; 120; 10,000 people and their request was to open up their fire station. We have some UAW people here tonight and one of their employees got hurt about a year or so ago and had to drive themselves to the hospital because it took that long to get there. How much does a life cost? What are we going to do when the most volatile area in all of Kansas City, KS, is left empty?

Now we did the tour down there, right, Mayor? Andrade said we don't need one truck, we need two. Now if he says that and we're asking to man it, what led up to that? This whole thing was political. Two mayors ago, he didn't like the Fire Department. He didn't want that fire station built so he drug his feet. Then the Administrator drug his feet. The next Mayor drug his feet. That's why we're at here right now. It's not necessarily about money. Those 10,000

people deserve to have the same coverage the rest of us have. As Bob said, the Northeast area, they took it from there. They don't live there, but they took it from there. Then we worry about money and we buy all these fancy vehicles that they have over there. There's two car seats in the back seat of one of them.

We need to get this solved. We need to make the entire community safe and I think we need to do it as soon as possible.

Commissioner Stites said I think it was Mr. Simma that was saying—would you explain what you were talking about when you said there was a grant applied for and received that I think said that we would go from four to seven, but that was never implemented. Is that right?

Mr. Simma said correct. Under FEMA, there is something called a SAFER grant. A SAFER grant is a staffing for adequate response grant from the federal government. In 2020, the Fire Department requested permission to apply for the SAFER grant. The purpose of the SAFER grant was to permanently make six additional pumpers, four firefighter staff pumpers. We, at the time, had one. That met the national standard of four. The grant would have increased that number to seven. At this time, the grant was applied for, awarded and received, and at this time, we still have one 4-firefighter staff pumper. That was at the old Piper Station #8, which is still in service, but the staffing of that, not the actual individual, but the seat, the firefighter in the seat was relocated from Pumper 8 in Piper to Pumper 5 at 910 Quindaro upon the closure of Station 15.

Commissioner Stites asked, what was that grant amount, do you remember? **Mr. Simma** said I don't know what the number was. It was for 18 firefighters. I don't know what the dollar amount was, but it was for 18 firefighters.

Commissioner Stites said through all those numbers that you were just saying, tell me how many did we get out of that? If it was for 18, how many did we get? **Mr. Simma** said we got 18. **Commissioner Stites** said we got the full 18.

Commissioner Stites said my other question that I had was, so, currently—and I was at that ribbon cutting this afternoon too and heard loud and clear Fairfax, I believe it was the president, she spoke and said she wanted to see that fire station reopened. If there is a train that is blocking at Quindaro right now, there's not service that can get down there in a hurry. Is that correct?

Mr. Simma said not from that direction. There are limited access points, as most everyone here knows, and there are numerous rail crossings at those access points and throughout the district. So, if there is a train in any of those locations, and I can speak from personal experience when I worked right down here at fire headquarters for almost eight years, and when we'd run north up Fairfax Tfry., the trains that would cross there at the south—I forget the name of the company, but the southern tank field, there's a rail crossing there. We would get stopped at those tracks in our response. There's nothing you can do about it. It's not very easy to turn a firetruck around, especially if there's other traffic. Generally, you're locked into place. By the time you turn it around and try to go all the way back and around, the train would be gone. You're just delayed.

Commissioner Stites said I, too, agree that this is a start in that Northeast, if this is part of the revitalization program of the Northeast. This can definitely be something that will help start that. I'm in favor of getting this back opened up.

Commissioner Townsend said I want to say that I appreciate seeing members of the union here tonight. Mr. Simma, Mr. Wing, good to see you all again. I appreciate our Chief and Deputy Chief here. I want to say that it's always hard to lose something that you already had. It was a tough decision but we want to remember that two years ago, there was a unanimous vote by us then, the Commission, based on what was presented to them with wanting to staff, Commissioner Kane—I'm thinking Commissioner Kane, I mean that district. I agree with that. It was a tough vote. Money is always an issue.

When I evaluate both of these plans, I'll be looking at money because a lot has been talked about the Northeast tonight. But, we're talking about millions of dollars here that could go elsewhere or maybe it should go there. So, that will be the analysis because that's what was determined two years ago when every commissioner then decided at that time that based on the resources available, this was what needed to be done. I look forward to speaking with representatives of the union and, again, our Police Chief and his Deputy to get a better detailed understanding of this.

When we talk about grants, I want to make sure that I understand that grants are going to fund someone from the date of hiring to the date presumably of retirement. That's the kicker

with the grants. A lot of times it's for a limited amount of time. So, it will have to come from other funding sources and watching what's in our budget.

I don't believe that the Northeast was abandoned. One of the decisions and guidelines was, how rapidly other fire stations could get to the Fairfax area. So, that needs to be revisited. My understanding is we've been tracing this. Is that—and I'll ask the Chief to talk more to this, that 90% of the time, the standards were being met. So, it's not abandonment.

I'd also like to see, I think it was made mentioned earlier tonight, the survey that was done some years ago of recommendations made. Part of that was the redo and improvement of House 5 and House 18, which are also in District 1. I want to see a lot of improvements to that as well.

I'm going to ask Chief, if you can tell me if 15s goes out of the Fairfax area. Does it serve anywhere else in the Northeast community outside of Fairfax? **Chief Callahan** said excuse me, Commissioner. I don't understand what you mean. **Commissioner Townsend** said if there was—do they answer calls outside of Fairfax? **Chief Callahan** asked, right now? **Commissioner Townsend** said when they were active. **Chief Callahan** said they answer calls wherever they're dispatched to. They can go anywhere in the city.

Commissioner Townsend said I look forward to more detailed instructions and review of these proposals from the union and from our own Chief.

Commissioner Kane said, Commissioner Townsend, I did not, would not, and will never vote to close a fire station. It was not a unanimous decision. We had the UAW guys right here. Judy Timmerman was the one who kept stats on how long it took to get to General Motors. I believe Melissa Clark, the President of the Fairfax District, has those exact same numbers. They failed those numbers twice as much as they met them. In fact, I don't know if they ever met them. I suggest we get ahold of them again and ask, what are the numbers. I don't want the numbers from either side, union or management. I want the numbers of the people that it's affected. I want you to think if you had a family member down there.

Several years ago, there was an explosion. The Phillips 66 caught on fire. They damn near had to close the General Motors plant. To watch what's going on—we were in Ohio at a conference, and to see the video, what they sent us back, the longer you wait, we all know the bigger the fire gets. There's more volatile stuff down there than anywhere else in all of

Wyandotte County. I don't think they'd want to live within a mile or so. It's frustrating because I've been dealing with this for a long time.

When we voted on it, not one time did we ever talk about taking one station, closing it, and going out to the other one. That's why I called FEMA and FEMA said, we'll pay for the new one and the equipment. The former staff and the two former mayors didn't want anything to do with it. We're here because of that reason. We have to mop up their mess.

Commissioner Townsend said that's the good thing about having these tapped so if I, if my recollection is faulty, I apologize, but I'm going to roll the tape because that was my recollection. The main point I want to make is looking at what the situation is now, how it's going to affect the budget, and how we would pay for what's being proposed on either side. That is the bottom line because there are a lot of things that the Northeast needs, so we have to look at all of those.

Mayor Garner asked, any other discussion, questions?

Commissioner Kane said, Mayor, I appreciate you bringing the two parties together. It's always better to see two sides. Now I think we have a task at hand to get into the weeds with it.

Mayor Garner said I've got a question for the Chief as well. If you could pull up Option 5, I believe it was you showed, Chief. If you could hold that. Commissioner Kane has a question.

Commissioner Kane said I was wondering if Bob or JJ had something they wanted to say. You want to wait until he's over?

Mr. Wing said when we talk about Station 15 and Station 10 and their locations being truncated, if you look at them on a map, they're identical. Those two stations are identical geographically. The only difference is Station 10 is loaded with equipment and personnel and it should be because of the potential in Rosedale, as I spoke to it. That potential exists in Fairfax also. So, the discussion of that fire station being truncated, so is Station 10, but it's not closed. Those people in Fairfax, those people in the north end, that Station 15 does respond to the neighborhoods in the north end normally in a residential response, a structure response, the same

way Station 10 does in Rosedale. Look at them on a map. For some reason, we kept Rosedale open. Not only open, it's flushed with equipment and personnel and Fairfax is empty. That's the difference.

Mayor Garner said, Chief, the question I had was on that, there's not much with that. Can you expound on that, maybe cost? Does that coincide with the recommendation that we got from the local union.

Chief Callahan said not exactly. That option is a zero dollar cost. That's literally telling one fire engine that's parked in a fire station today with another unit to drive over there and serve that particular location. The union, the presentation they made, it was a little bit hard to keep up with, but if you look at the totality of what they're suggesting, they're not suggesting any new apparatus. That's true. That is accurate. But, they're suggesting hiring about six additional firefighters, which with the staffing factor of 4.1 per seated position is 25 new hires. That's about \$2.732M at today's cost. That's absent a contractual pay raise.

I do take issue with one thing Bob said. Station 10 does have a truncated response area. It can't go east, but it can go south, it can go north, and it can go west. It's not as truncated as 15's current location. But, yes, he's right. It does have a lot of equipment and it does—there is a direction it can't travel, which is east because they're in Missouri.

Mayor Garner said I guess the question is, you gave a lot of data as far as cost, personnel. That option right there, what does that look like in terms of dollar amount, personnel? You talk about relocating positions. What does that look like? Where would you relocate a pumper from to 15? Then, is there any diminishing service that would be as a result or does the union's option that they gave on kind of that list of how this could probably work, is that an option that you've considered in your talks with the union or just that option alone? Can you be more specific as to how, if you were given direction today to make that happen, what would that look like as far as service for one for Kansas City, KS?

Chief Callahan said well, the determination would have to be made as to which—this is what got us where we're at in the first place. We took a company out of a station. That was the direction the Fire Department was given. I know Commissioner Kane knows this well. I don't know what went on before I got here in terms of who was going to be there and how it was going to be paid for, but when Station 12 opened, the Fire Department was given direction to determine

an existing apparatus and ambulance that would be relocated to that station. That's exactly what we're talking about here. That's why the Fire Department is recommending Option 1 if there's a recommendation from us. If we're tasked with providing a recommendation, that would be our recommendation.

Mayor Garner said I understand that, but if you were given that task right now to implement Option 5, as the Chief, what would that look like and where would you be pulling a pumper and personnel from? How is that even an option?

Chief Callahan said it would have to come out of a double house, so we have four double houses. One of the units in those double houses would have to come out to staff that company, which would leave the double house would become a single house. I'm not a proponent of that, but I was tasked with coming up with some options and that's one of them. I don't favor that option, but that's an option for the Commission to consider. It's cost-free. It cost nothing.

Mayor Garner said with that, I guess the biggest thing, would it diminish safety which translates, I mean, service which could translate into a diminishment of safety with that type of transfer? **Chief Callahan** said anytime you move an apparatus from anywhere, the people co-located around that area are going to suffer a decline in service. That's absolutely true.

Mayor Garner said I guess that bodes well to the argument that we need to pass something in Fairfax. Would you agree? **Chief Callahan** said yea, but I'd put it on 7th St. Trfy. around Sherman.

Mayor Garner said short of having a new fire station, I think it was what, \$14M, short of that, just where we're at today to provide optimal service with the resources that you've been given, and I know that's no fault of your own, but if you had to make a command decision and say the best way to provide services across the board in all four corners of Kansas City, KS, in all available fire stations, to do that effectively at minimal cost, would this be that option? **Chief Callahan** asked, that particular option there? Yes, of course it's an option if that's the direction the Commission gives.

Mayor Garner said and then I've got another. The SAFER grant. Can you describe that, do you support that, and is there any reason as to why that wasn't brought forward this year? **Chief Callahan** asked, are we talking about the previous SAFER grant with the 18 firefighters or are

we talking about a different grant? **Mayor Garner** said it doesn't matter where—I'm talking about today. The SAFER grant, can you describe that? Do you see value when we're short staffed in our Fire Department as that being an option to shore up monetarily those personnel shortages in a way that could benefit the great folks here in Kansas Cit, KS?

Chief Callahan said yes, sir. The SAFER grant will pick up the cost for usually three years. They'll sometimes pay 100%. During COVID, they were paying 100% for three years. But other times, it's 75, 75, 35%, and then the municipality, the UG, is on their own after that.

Mayor Garner said that makes sense, but how does that impact if we're just replacing folks? When you talk about attrition, because me coming from the Police Department, I can kind of understand that concept. With attrition, doesn't that somewhat have an effect of balancing?

Chief Callahan said let me give you these numbers and maybe I can clear that up. Our total strength is 482 employees. Total sworn, that's people who are sworn to put out a fire, is 440. Total current strength is 416, it means we're 24 short. We've got 13 recruits, COEs going out. That would leave us 11 short if those COEs are all accepted and they get through the process. But that's a dynamic number. It ebbs and flows so I couldn't say it's not the perpetual answer, a grant, because they're finite.

Mr. Simma said I just have a couple of comments I'd like to add if I could. We didn't bring forth any cost analysis because we don't have access to those numbers to provide an accurate estimate for this Commission and would not want to bring something forward inaccurately.

As far as the cost estimated of our proposal, I'm not sure if we would agree. We would have to see, obviously, those numbers and evaluate that. Our proposal would be essentially a net gain of six firefighters per day. That's 18 across three shifts. Approximately, the same as the SAFER grant, which we had which, at this time, does not accomplish the purpose of that SAFER grant. We believe, potentially, those 18 positions are existing within the Fire Department that came in two years ago that could be rather than those six 4-man pumpers, while we support that, utilized to move towards NFPA 1710 compliance in other areas.

Additionally, I want to comment on the relocation of an apparatus. As I stated during our presentation, the ISO independent study and the IAFF GIS analysis did not identify any relocation or closure to open Station 12. I'll agree with the Chief in that doing so now to reopen Station 15 would be simply shifting the gaps in coverage around once again.

During the 2020 process in the Fire Department's analysis, identifying 15s as the relocating apparatus, it was also established by the mapping utilized in their study that any other relocation would be a breach of service.

I would also invite at this time for another brief comment because it was 20 years ago and he would certainly have the history. When Fire Station 6 at 94th & State was opened 20 years ago, that was accomplished by relocation of existing apparatus. I believe at that time it was identified that any further relocation, 20 years ago it was identified that any further relocation of apparatus in Kansas City, KS, would be a reduction in service. I would ask Bob to comment to that because he was involved in that process 20 years ago.

Commissioner Johnson said, Mr. Wing, Mr. Simma, I'm not sure if you all had a chance to see those numbers that were presented by the Chief before the meeting. I'm curious as you all were able to observe those and analyze those, did you seem to lean towards any of the recommendations or any of the options that were presented by the Chief? I don't want to put you on the spot. Just kind of give me a sense here.

Mr. Wing said I'll respond. It's my understanding that the parties did not come together and make a joint recommendation. As I said, historically, we always came forward with a joint recommendation. My history has been with other administrations. I'm not active in the day-to-day operations of the Fire Department or the Fire Union anymore. Our belief was, and I think, Mayor, you can attest to this being a former Deputy Police Chief; Commissioner Stites, you could being a former police officer. The chiefs I worked for in the Fire Department, we concluded that when we come over here for the things that we could, we come hand in hand. We did our compromising over there. We never had a mayor and a council or commission question us, as professional firefighters, on the recommendations we made.

What I believe should be done is one thing this Commission can do is instruct the Fire Department and the Fire Union to bring us something jointly that you all can live with. Let's take this discussion to the Fire Department and give them a deadline. Nothing open-ended. We're not going to be having this discussion again two and a-half years from now at election time. As you said, Mayor, the politics in this city is worn out. It's time we move on and we make some decisions based on the good of the community.

Commissioner Johnson, to answer your question, I'm uncomfortable answering that because I haven't had access to those numbers. President Simma already said he didn't. I would make a suggestion that the instruction come from the Mayor and the Commission and the Administrator, get back over there and do your job and bring us something, as professional firefighters, you all can live with and that we can take to the community and be proud of. We've done it before and it can be done again. Is it going to cost some bucks? Probably, but we're not going to do it on the cheap because the Commissioner said, put a price on a life or a price on an injury. It can't be done, but it will exceed any price, hard dollar cost that is being discussed here in public before this Commission. That's what needs to be done in my estimation.

Commissioner Johnson said it makes a whole lot of sense to me. I'm always one that believes that there is power in compromise. That means that everybody won't get what they want, but if we can get to a point where all parties can be satisfied at a certain place, then that serves as a marker from which we can move forward. I'm always one, Mayor and to my colleagues, that we continue to encourage this as we talked about the earlier issue with regard to safe and welcoming. We made some compromise on the spot, but we made some compromise. I'd like to be able to encourage us to be able to do that in the same spirit between the union and our Fire Department.

Commissioner Stites asked, would somebody be able to tell me in the past 10 years, what the number, how many chiefs we had 10 years ago versus how many we have today with no additional—with the closure of a fire station, but how many chiefs we had 10 years ago versus today, and what that would look like if we were to transfer some of those positions and the savings to the street level.

Mr. Simma said I can't at this time give you an exact number. We definitely can put something together. We would have to do the research on it. My belief, as an estimate, as we're probably in the neighborhood of approximately five more chiefs now than there were 10 years ago. That's a very broad estimate. I do know our command staff has grown over the last several years. I will say this, too, it does date back 25 years. But 25 years ago, we were in the neighborhood of 17 or 18 chiefs. I believe right now we're at about 30.

Commissioner Stites said I guess that kind of goes back to what I'm getting at. If we're needing boots on the ground, I mean maybe they need to not have so many Yukons and Suburbans running around and people in firefighter uniforms.

Mr. Simma said I would certainly be very honest with you. We feel the priority of this government, of this Fire Department, and I can certainly tell you the priority of this local union is for the safety of the firefighters and the public that we serve. As a priority, our resources should be allocated there first. I would suggest that an analysis of the budget be done to determine if there are areas in which we could make some savings to further increase our staffing and our response capabilities to provide the service where it belongs.

Commissioner Stites said I would agree. It's very easy for us to get top heavy. It seems like that in the private sector and in the public arena also. What ends up suffering are the people that needs those services for the most part. The people in the north end, the people in the south end, it doesn't matter where we're talking about, but you overload. This is kind of ironic because it's chiefs, but too many chiefs and not enough Indians.

Commissioner Kane said I worked at General Motors for 35 years. In 21 of those years, I worked in safety. If there was a safety situation, we would go out and address it together, both management and union. Sometimes those discussions got pretty heated and sometimes you had to take them up front where nobody could hear you. But, by the end of the day, we did exactly what Bob said. We came out unified, told them good, bad, or indifferent. Whatever that answer was, was the answer and that's it. I think that's what we need to task the union and management. You guys need to work what's best for the community. Each of you need to give a little bit because you have to. I don't want you to come back here and say they said you guys need to come back and tell us exactly what both sides need and then we need to make that decision, Mayor.

Mayor Garner asked, did you have some numbers just on the dollar amount that Fairfax brings in? Did you bring that for us? **Mr. Simma** said yes, \$20M in tax revenue is the estimate that we pulled from a report from a couple of years ago. **Commissioner Kane** said and that doesn't count the BPU power usage either.

Mayor Garner said just to wrap this up, I just want to thank the UAW for being here as well. They've been a strong advocate for that fire station and supporting 15s. They also noted they would like to see that fire station open along with the Fairfax Industrial Association, so we're glad to see them here as well.

That call to action that has gone out from Commissioner Johnson, that was the original call to action from myself, from Commissioner Kane, and Commissioner Bynum, as well as our Administrator for you all to work together in a way, collaboratively to bring something to this Commission that was actionable that you both could agree upon as opposed to maybe a diverging option. It seems like, this is my opinion, the options that the Chief brought forward might coincide with some of the recommendations from the union. So, it doesn't seem like a really long bridge to cross.

I can say that public safety, just me coming from that background, is one of those things that I support. I support our Police Department. I support our Fire Department., our EMS workers. My belief, just from my experience, and I'll just use myself, people will put up with raggedy politicians so they'll vote their mayor out. They'll put up with bad streets. They'll deal with schools that may not be completely adequate, parks where swings don't work, but when they pick up the phone and they dial 911, that's where they draw the line.

When you talk about the taxes, the fees, and the PILOT that goes on our bills, I've had people tell me that they've had enough. Then they start asking, what are we getting for our dollar? What are we getting for our money? I can tell you, when you talk about the amount of money that Fairfax brings in and then the crossover service that that station provides to an area that has been disinvested and disenfranchised, and you've heard me say it for far too long, I think that's an area that we need not overlook any further.

I think that this Commission, and I ask that not only this call to action not go out to our command and our union to come together to work, but this Commission get behind this effort to support public safety because to have a great Kansas City, KS, you've got to have a safe Kansas City, KS, and that means supporting the men and women in uniform that keeps our community safe, the good men and women.

I just want to let the command and the union know; we support you. I think that's a shared message from this Commission that I think I feel comfortable saying, we support all our men and women that wear the uniform to keep this community safe.

I'd just like maybe just a show of hands, because this is not an actionable item, I just want to get some sense that our Administrator, our Fire Chief and his staff, as well as the union to just kind of give a direction, would we or are we saying we support them working together to at least bring back a proposal that would give something actionable to responsibly open up Station 15 in Fairfax.

Commissioner Stites asked, could we put a time limit on that of when we would like to see a proposal brought back? I don't know how long that takes. Is 30 days adequate? It is; 30 days then.

Commissioner Davis said just for clarity, we are going to go through the normal processes of putting this through the standing committee before bringing this back to full Commission because there are a lot of details that need to be vetted and things that just need to be ironed out before it comes back to this body. So, as long as there's clarity on that, I absolutely.

Commissioner Kane said I'd like to have on 3s so both groups know what's going on and then come to the standing committee. **Mayor Garner** said don't know if we can commit to that just to the timeframe. Administrator, you want to weigh in?

Ms. Harrison-Lee said what I'd like to know is if we can get the proposal together and you want to do an on 3s, if you want to extend the time just a little bit to make sure that we can get all the Commission members together for the on 3s and then we can get it through standing committee as well.

Commissioner Stites said I'm fine with that. Do you want me to put 45 days on it? **Ms. Harrison-Lee** said, President Simma, Chief? Okay.

Mayor Garner said if we—time limits are sometimes hard to keep. I just think that if you all can get this done in short order, expeditiously, as you bring your teams together and really talk and then move that forward. I'm really going to lean on our Administrator to facilitate that and she's going to move this thing forward, hopefully, in a manner that hopefully meets everybody's expectations.

Commissioner Burroughs said this isn't an issue that has not been out here for a while. It's been going on for quite a while. Many of us are aware of the needs and what happened with the Fairfax issue. There were a number of us that were very supportive of keeping Fairfax open. I believe we lease more vehicles. We're getting to the point where we're leasing more vehicles. When I see the cost of these vehicles come through and proposals, I want to take that back to my budget subcommittee and review those contracts to ensure that we're getting the proper equipment. I think, honestly, we've got intelligent individuals on both sides of this issue. I believe they've heard our, basically, our walking orders tonight to get together and come forward with a plan that we believe that the Commission can get behind.

I don't think there's a commissioner up here that doesn't support public safety. I just think it's a matter of being able to put to rest the division in our community between our Fire Department and administration. I want to be clear that I don't believe it's this administration at all that has had an issue with the Fire Department. What others did is behind us. Let's build it together, collectively, and put this issue to rest so that when we talk about public safety in Wyandotte County, it's not in a negative way; it's in a way that's respected and deserved for each and every one of the people that serve in public safety and in uniform.

Mayor Garner asked, any more discussion? That's concludes this.

Action: **For information only.**

Item No. 2 – 211735...UPDATE: GRANTS AND GRANT PROCESS

Synopsis: Update on status of grants and grant process, submitted by Cheryl Harrison-Lee, Interim County Administrator.

Mayor Garner said I'll ask our Administrator Ms. Harrison-Lee to make some remarks and turn it over to staff for presentation.

Cheryl Harrison-Lee, Interim County Administrator, said the Commission established the Infrastructure Committee of staff from Public Works and other staff have been working with Secretary Lorenz and Commissioner Kane to look at potential grant opportunities for

infrastructure. Commissioner Kane, would you like to provide some insight on some of the work that staff's been doing with you on the grant process with the Secretary of Transportation?

Commissioner Kane said several of us met from staff along with some folks from BPU, WYEDC and the Chamber. This is probably my fifth meeting with Secretary Lorenz. One of the things that she talked about is you had to have a shovel-ready project. Let's say it's \$10M. Then there's a way to apply for a grant. I guess we had a grant lady who was there with us and she can apply for a grant and even cover some of that. So, if we have a \$10M project and they pay \$7M, we can take that \$7M and put another project.

One of the things we have to remember is you've got to have one project, so the Commission's going to have to decide what project that is as a whole. Once you get this one going, then you go after another one. She made a comment the other day that one municipality applied for three major projects, and she said they're not going to get any of them. So, whatever project we apply for, we better make sure it's the one we get the most bang for our buck. Jeff and his staff, they have—and Finance was there—they've got several already set up. So, we need to sit down with some of those folks and say what is it, bring it to the Commission and say here's your five options, and let's make a decision.

Ms. Harrison-Lee said we will continue to have this item on the agenda for updates. We'll be continuing to work to see if we can get some options in front of the Commission for a decision. Also, just FYI, the portal is open for non-profits for ARPA funding and that closes on June 24th.

Mayor Garner said just to reiterate, Commissioner Kane has been tasked and he's accepted to chair an Infrastructure Task Force. This is directly related to the funds that were approved last year that should be coming through the state to be distributed for infrastructure needs. Commission Stites also agreed to co-chair this task force. We're anxiously awaiting to see what portion of that Wyandotte County can receive. We do know that is forthcoming. Like our Administrator indicated, we're going to keep you all posted as things progress and move forward. That is just probably just an update as we move along with continuous updates because infrastructure is a huge need here in Kansas City, KS, and Wyandotte County.

Action: For information only.

ADJOURN

Mayor Garner said that concludes. We have no further business from this governing body. I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

Action: On motion of Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Kane, the meeting was adjourned. Roll call was taken and there were seven "Ayes," McKiernan, Johnson, Kane, Stites, Davis, Burroughs, Townsend.

**MAYOR GARNER
ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 9:53 P.M.
June 9, 2022**

Monica Sparks
Acting Unified Government Clerk

cg

June 9, 2022