



Unified Government Clerk's Office

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Interim Unified Government Clerk

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NOTICE OF SPECIAL SESSION

To the Members of the Governing Body of the
Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas:

You are hereby notified that I have called a Special Session of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, to be conducted in a hybrid format on Thursday, November 30, 2023, at 5:00 PM, for a special session hosting the state delegation to discuss the State Legislative Agenda in the fifth-floor conference room of the Municipal Office Building, 701 N. 7th Street, Kansas City, Kansas.

The public will be able to observe or listen to the special session live on YouTube or UGTV, or through ZOOM; information is below. The public may also view the special session from the 5th-floor conference room of the Municipal Office Building, 701 N. 7th Street, Kansas City, Kansas.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81423989537>

Or One tap mobile:

+12532158782,81423989537# US (Tacoma)

+13462487799,81423989537# US (Houston)

Or Telephone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

+1 253 205 0468 US; +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma); +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 444 9171 US; +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose); +1 719 359 4580 US

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 360 209 5623 US

+1 386 347 5053 US

+1 507 473 4847 US

+1 564 217 2000 US

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 689 278 1000 US

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 305 224 1968 US

877 853 5257 US Toll-Free

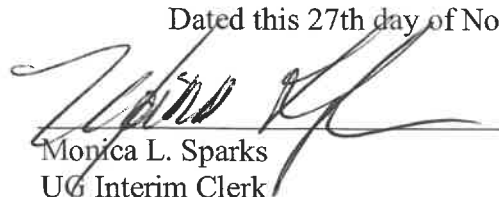
888 475 4499 US Toll-Free

Webinar ID: 814 2398 9537

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81423989537>

Dated this 27th day of November 2023.

ATTESTED


Monica L. Sparks
UG Interim Clerk


Tyrone A. Garner
Mayor/CEO

NAME: 2024 Leg Agenda - Final DRAFT

PRIORITY	Title	Description	Category	Legislation or Appropriation	Included in 2023 UG Leg Agenda	UG Department	Notes
Priority	Medicaid Expansion	The Unified Government supports expansion of the Kansas Medicaid program which will improve access to care for those most vulnerable in Wyandotte County. It is estimated that expansion would provide insurance for 7,466 currently uninsured Wyandotte County residents who would become eligible for KanCare with expansion. It would bring \$64,237,464 in new annual healthcare spending to Wyandotte County and create hundreds of new healthcare jobs.	Public Health & Human Services	Legislation	Yes	Area Agency on Aging, Health Department	
Priority	Protect State Infrastructure Funding	The Unified Government is strongly supportive of state funding for a broad range of infrastructure need. Federal infrastructure dollars sent to the state should be shared with local governments to support revitalization of infrastructure that is critical to economic growth and quality of life.	Economic and Community Development	Appropriation	Yes	Public Works	
Priority	Allow Flexibility for Revenue Sources	Cities should be authorized to approve revenue sources which best suit the individual community in order to maintain appropriate levels of funding for the health, safety, and welfare of our citizens. This includes local earnings/income taxes, development impact fees to pay for infrastructure, E-Commerce delivery fees to address wear and tear on roads, and other local taxes and fees. Sales tax exemptions should only be applicable to the state portion of sales taxes.	Tax and Finance	Legislation	Yes	Finance	
Priority	Expanded Childcare and Universal Pre-K	High quality childcare and Pre-Kindergarten should be extended to all children in Kansas. The State should develop and fund a plan to address the urgent need for childcare services in all communities, including in Wyandotte County. The need for childcare is a top concern for businesses.	Economic and Community Development	Appropriation	Yes	Economic Development	
Priority	Equalize Motor Vehicle Taxes	The Unified Government supports changes in the tax formula used to assess motor vehicles to equalize motor vehicle taxes from county to county.	Tax and Finance	Legislation	Yes	Treasury	
Priority	Pay Prevailing Wage	The Unified Government supports paying prevailing wage on public works projects and economic development projects where tax incentives are given. The Unified Government strongly urges the Kansas Legislature to repeal the law banning the use of prevailing wage on public works and economic development projects.	Economic and Community Development	Legislation	Yes	Economic Development	
Priority	Increased Funding for Mental Health and Psychiatric beds	The Unified Government supports full state funding for mental health services, including additional bed space for psychiatric patients. This will reduce the number of people with behavioral or substance abuse issues who are inappropriately incarcerated in county jails or who end up unhoused. This includes expanded State of Kansas mental health facilities that are backlogged.	Public Safety	Appropriation	Yes	Sheriff, Community Corrections	
Priority	Clean Slate Automated Expungement	The Unified Government supports the automated expungement of qualifying criminal records from public view. In Kansas, current expungement of a record requires a petition filed through the court and payment of fees.	Public Safety	Legislation	Yes	Community Corrections	
Priority	Funding for World Cup preparations	Provide funding to support preparations for the World Cup in 2026.	Economic and Community Development	Appropriation	No	Economic Development	

2024 Leg Agenda - Final DRAFT

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Priority	Funding for unhoused	Provide state funding for permanent supportive housing, supportive housing for youth that age out of foster care, and emergency shelter. Increase state funding for services for unhoused such as health and housing navigators and social workers. Support the development of a statewide plan to address homelessness - both the amelioration of suffering and the expansion of housing.	Public Health & Human Services	Appropriation	No	Health Department	
	Protect STAR Bonds	STAR Bonds have proven to be one of the most effective economic development and job creation tools in the State of Kansas. The Unified Government encourages the Kansas Legislature to continue a workable STAR Bond policy with maximum flexibility and without unnecessary restrictions.	Economic and Community Development	Legislation	Yes	Economic Development	Issue #2 in 2023
	Quindaro Ruins	Support efforts to restore Quindaro Ruins and create a destination attraction that reflects the prominent role of Quindaro Ruins and the Missouri and Kansas rivers in our nation's history	Economic and Community Development	Appropriation	No	Economic Development	
	Increased State Community College Funding	The Unified Government supports a funding formula for Community Colleges that gives full funding without increasing or placing an undue burden on local property taxes. A public education and Community College system which helps create a well-educated and trained workforce is crucial.	Economic and Community Development	Appropriation	Yes	Finance	
	Study Committee on Creation of a Riverfront Authority	Legislation authorizing a Study Committee to explore creation of a Kansas City, Kansas Riverfront Authority to develop the Kansas riverfront into a premier attraction.	Economic and Community Development	Legislation	Yes	Economic Development	
	Alternate Construction Delivery	The Unified Government supports further threshold reductions in State law that will allow local governments to use design build and construction manager at risk techniques for public construction projects at an even greater level. These techniques have saved Wyandotte County taxpayers millions of dollars and expedite schedules on several major public construction projects but are difficult to use under current State laws.	Local Government Operations	Legislation	Yes	Public Works	
	Felony Assault on Public Transit Employees	Increase penalty from misdemeanor to felony for assaulting public transit driver/ operator. The past few years have seen increases in assaults on public transit operators. Increasing the penalty would provide additional protections for these critical public servants.	Local Government Operations	Legislation	Yes	Transit	
	Medical Cannabis	The Unified Government support the legalization of medical cannabis. Medical marijuana should be subject to existing state and local sales tax and cities should be able to levy their own excise fees and receive a portion of any state funds to offset the impact of medical marijuana. Also, cities should have the ability to opt-in to allowing dispensaries in their city. Kansas should only allow the cultivation and processing of medical marijuana and THC in licensed facilities and should not allow residential grow operations of any sort.	Public Health & Human Services	Legislation	Yes	Finance	

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	Funding for Tuberculosis Outbreak Management	Wyandotte County has been a hotspot for tuberculosis cases in the past few years. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment provides some funding for TB management, but not enough to cover the costs of the testing and treatment regime needed to manage outbreaks. Additional direct funding for local health departments who are monitoring for TB would improve overall response and reduce public health risks associated with tuberculosis outbreaks. Additionally the creation of an "outbreak fund" within KDHE would allow the agency to provide surge support to communities during an active outbreak.	Public Health & Human Services	Appropriation	No	Health	
	Expand Treatment and Harm Reduction Approaches for Substance Abuse	1) The UG supports expanded state funding for substance abuse in-patient and out-patient treatment facilities in Wyandotte County. 2) Redefine what constitutes drug paraphernalia under State Law. Kansas puts needles and syringes in the category of drug paraphernalia under state law, making their possession illegal, and prohibiting any sort of syringe exchange programs that are an evidence-based approach to decrease the spread of deadly infectious diseases such as HIV and Hepatitis C. Current law allows for charges for possession of items related to marijuana use. 3) Remove from State Law that a 3rd charge for possession of marijuana is a felony. 4) Good Samaritan Overdose Laws protect individuals who act in good faith and call for help for a drug related overdose, should they be found to be in possession of a controlled substance or drug paraphernalia. Analysis from May of 2021 shows that Kansas is one of only 3 states that does not have a Good Samaritan Overdose Law.	Public Health & Human Services	Legislation	Yes	Health Department	
	Support for Services for At-risk Youth	1) Foster Care Support After Age 18 - provide State financial support to youth who age out of the foster care system at age 18. Additional financial support improves the likelihood of successful transition from foster care to being a productive resident and reduces risk of people who age of foster care ending up in the criminal justice system. 2) Expand Child-in-Need-of-Care Support Services to provide cognitive behavioral counseling and enhanced support for youth to prevent future incarceration or violence.	Public Health & Human Services	Legislation	Yes	Health, Human Services / Community Corrections	
	Allow Expedited Partner Therapy	Allow for Expedited Partner Therapy in the case of sexually transmitted infections. EPT is the clinical practice of treating sex partners of patients diagnosed with chlamydia and gonorrhea by providing prescriptions or medications to the patient to take to their partner without a health care provider first examining the partner. Kansas is one of only four states which do not explicitly allow EPT.	Public Health & Human Services	Legislation	Yes	Health Department	
	Protect Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	Approximately 13% of people in Wyandotte County (over 21,000 people) experience food insecurity. Research demonstrates that greater access to SNAP results in reducing hunger and poverty; and improving dietary intake, academic performance, mental health, economic self-sufficiency, and local job growth. There is no evidence showing that implementation of work and training requirements on SNAP creates significant increases in employment. The UG opposes making it more difficult for Wyandotte County residents to access SNAP.	Public Health & Human Services	Legislation	No	Health Department	
	Extreme Risk Protection Order	Legislation that allows law enforcement to seize firearms from a person who possesses an immediate danger of injury to self or others, while also providing due process protections to ensure fairness. Such legislation would reduce risks for suicidal individuals as well as reduce incidents of domestic violence, and has been enacted in 19 states.	Public Safety	Legislation	Yes	Health Department	

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	Offender Re-integration	The Unified Government supports full funding for community-corrections programs and grants that provide support for individuals to successfully re-integrate into the community. These include programs for behavioral-health initiatives that reduce community risk and offender recidivism.	Public Safety	Appropriation	Yes	Sheriff, Community Corrections	
	LAVTR funding	State funding for Local Ad Valorem Tax Reduction (LAVTR) program to provide additional revenue to local governments and reduce pressure on property taxes.	Tax and Finance	Appropriation	No	Finance	
	Local Share of Sports Betting Revenue	UG supports the State providing a share of sports betting revenues to local government.	Tax and Finance	Legislation	Yes	Finance	Issue #7 in 2023