

City Commission Goals and Priorities for 2018 - 2019

The 2018 - 2019 City Commission goals and top priorities were discussed and developed during the annual City Commission Retreat and Goal Setting Session on January 30, 2018, discussed during subsequent Discussion/Briefing Sessions and from Commissioner feedback as well as comments received during the May 8 City Commission Work Session. The City Commission reviewed and provided additional updates during the City Commission Retreat and Goal Setting Session on January 25, 2019, as well as further feedback from Commissioners is reflected in this document. City Commission Guiding Statements were also incorporated to serve as continual, ongoing priorities for the City of Manhattan.

City Commission Guiding Statements

- The City supports continuing and strengthening collaborative partnerships with local, regional and intergovernmental organizations such as Kansas State University, Fort Riley, Riley County, Pottawatomie County, Geary County, USD 383 and other area schools, Flint Hills Regional Council, ATA Bus, and Flint Hills Metropolitan Planning Organization.
- The City supports public safety for our residents and the Riley County Police Department.
- The City supports delivering services that are customer friendly, efficient, transparent, and effective.
- The City supports a stable and diversified economic base that maximizes inclusion of higher paying jobs in growth industries.
- The City supports strengthening workforce development.
- The City supports the implementation of Region Reimagined (R²): A Blueprint For Prosperity.
- The City supports the implementation of the long-term Comprehensive Plan, Manhattan 2035, and the development and implementation of Master Plans.
- The City supports providing diverse cultural and recreational amenities that help enhance quality of life that support citizens and employers in the city.
- The City supports providing safe and reliable infrastructure throughout the community.
- The City supports land use development and will take into consideration preservation of historic community assets.
- The City supports quality, diverse neighborhoods and services that help foster the social, medical and mental well-being of citizens.

1. COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS, COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION

- A. Expand entity and departmental reporting to quarterly updates from the Riley County Police Department, Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce and Region Reimagined (R²), Airport, Parks and Recreation/Recreation and Trails Sales Tax Projects, Public Works/Street and Safe Routes to School Sales Tax Projects.
- B. Continue with the North Campus Corridor Design implementation.
- C. Work with K-State to set up a town-gown committee, including other community stakeholders, to boost the education and prevention of alcohol abuse, sexual harassment, assault, rape, housing, public transportation, etc.
- D. Initiate a housing study in collaboration with the Chamber's Region Reimagined work group to assess housing issues, including but not limited to, affordability, suitability, and availability of income based rental units.
- E. Identify City support requirements due to NBAF and coordinate with DHS/USDA for funding.
- F. Examine the K.S.A. 19-44 for Riley County Police Department including the financial responsibilities and levels.

2. CUSTOMER SERVICE, GOVERNANCE, REGULATORY AND FINANCE

- A. Continue to develop strategies that achieve efficiencies and effectiveness across City departments, i.e., pet licensing, water bills, and online transactions as well as code inspections and parks and recreation services.
- B. Support the implementation of the Urban Core Residential District.
- C. Support the development and implementation of the Unified Development Ordinance.
 - ✓ Address short term rentals and non-conforming properties
- D. Support long-range growth planning.
 - ✓ Blue Township services and growth analysis, including timing, financial and economic cost/benefit analysis, and the impact on residents and businesses of Blue Township
 - ✓ Seth Child Corridor design and education on impacts of future improvements
- E. Explore a potential service agreement with Riley County EMS within the City of Manhattan in Pottawatomie County for secondary support.
- F. Further develop and monitor the educational component of the Rental Registration Program.

- G. Provide to the Commission options and financial considerations regarding special assessments and options to reduce risk.
- H. Provide a transparent and informative budget process with open data sources for the City overall and City staff.
- I. Consider budgetary targets for outside and social service agencies funding prior to the budget process.
- J. Work towards developing better understanding of roles, relationships, vision and long-term maintenance between the City and private groups supporting a City facility improvement or programs, sponsorships and other support activities at City owned places as well as review of current documentation or MOU's that created the formal relationship, e.g., Sunset Zoo, FHDC, Friends of Peace Memorial Auditorium, parks, etc.
- K. Coordinate with RCPD to consider possible amendments to existing ordinances regarding parking and towing on private and public properties.
- L. Consider Neighbor to Neighbor program (similar to the City's Snow Partner program).

3. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC VITALITY

- A. Support the implementation of Region Reimagined (R²): A Blueprint For Prosperity, in conjunction with the Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce and other partners.
- B. Provide updates regarding current use of economic development tax funds and provide additional reporting on the current funds, and consider timing and structure of a future city-wide election renewal.
- C. Support initiatives to recruit business and related ventures surrounding the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF).
- D. Implement design and next steps in coordination with Kansas State on the North Campus Corridor Plan.
- E. Support developing a regional plan for workforce development.
 - ✓ Support initiatives of the Manhattan Area Technical College for future growth to address workforce needs and retain graduating students
 - ✓ Support and retain workforce initiatives by Fort Riley and related military entities such as Soldier for Life and K-State veterans programs that serve to keep Fort Riley soldiers in the local area
 - ✓ Build workforce initiatives with more nontraditional support groups, e.g., Flint Hills Job Corps, Big Lakes Developmental Center, etc.

4. NEIGHBORHOOD LIVABILITY AND HISTORIC CULTURE

- A. Evaluate and develop options for the rehabilitation and repurposing of the Community House for alternative uses.
- B. Encourage and nurture neighborhood involvement.

5. MENTAL HEALTH

- A. Support the concept of a Crisis Stabilization Center to improve mental health services and facilities locally and regionally.
 - ✓ Create a development plan taking into account operating costs provided by Pawnee Mental Health and establish regional partnerships in participation of this plan
 - ✓ Advocate legislation that would create appropriate funding/support sources at the State and Federal level
 - ✓ Provide formal written position and testimony that promotes mental health initiatives
- B. Assess the benefits and impacts of the two mental health co-responders with Riley County Police Department and quantify how those positions might work in conjunction with a stabilization center.

6. QUALITY OF LIFE AND PARKS & RECREATION

- A. Finalize Master Plans for City Park, Warner Park and Lee Mill Heights including multi-year phased development.
- B. Continue efforts and develop strategies to extend the pool season through Labor Day.
- C. Evaluate recycling the water at the splash park in City Park to reduce water consumption.
- D. Complete design plans, identify funding and begin construction of the South East Neighborhood Recreation Center.
- E. Collaborate with USD 383 to complete the design of two multi-purpose gymnasiums/neighborhood centers in preparation for construction in 2019.
- F. Identify trails and plan a timeline for design and future construction utilizing quality of life sales tax revenue as well as coordinate plans with Street Maintenance and Safe Routes to Schools.
- G. Develop plan to increase the presence of public art and create a signature theme in the community.
- H. Cooperate in the study for potential riverfront development along the Kansas River.

- I. Explore offering green burials at Sunrise Cemetery.
- J. Advance the concept of “street fests.”

7. TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- A. Develop a plan for the entryways to the community through implementation of County/City gateway plans and improve maintenance of right of ways on state and county corridors.
- B. Continue to support the growth of the Manhattan Regional Airport.
 - ✓ Develop Airport parking design, determine level of expansion and develop a plan to implement paid parking
 - ✓ Develop a plan for the runway upgrade
 - ✓ Develop a plan for the expansion of flight destinations
- C. Begin implementation of the Aggieville plan as well as address parking and financing options for public projects within the Aggieville District.
- D. Utilize street maintenance sales tax funds and provide quarterly updates on plans for future use of the funds.
- E. Work with Region Reimagined (R²) to assess availability of current broadband/Wi-Fi infrastructure in the community and advocate for Federal policies to expand broadband to communities.
- F. Improve IT infrastructure system within and for the City.
 - ✓ Explore the installation of traffic cameras at school crossing zones
 - ✓ Complete the installation of Voice over IP system in City Hall
- G. Cooperate with Pottawatomie and Riley Counties to review a second east/west route from eastern Pottawattamie County to Tuttle Creek Boulevard.
- H. Initiate Resilient Wildcat Creek Strategic Initiative with request for proposals process for modeling, social vulnerability assessment, and identify/prioritize action items as well as create a Community Resiliency Committee.
- I. Coordinate with the Army Corps of Engineers on preliminary design of the levee improvements along the Kansas and Big Blue River systems.

8. LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

- A. Work with strategic partners to draft and propose legislation to our Representatives in the form of “near ready” bills for submittal to the legislature.
- B. Continue to advocate for local collection of internet sales tax.
- C. Continue to advocate for STAR Bonds and TIF Financing legislation.
- D. Advocate for a strong and well-funded Kansas Department of Commerce in order to provide the environment necessary for growth in Kansas especially regarding business expansion, retention and new development in cities.
- E. Advocate for a strong and well-funded Kansas Department of Transportation in order to provide the infrastructure and maintenance necessary for growth in Kansas that will support cities.
- F. Work towards solutions and gain approvals for administrative and legislative actions and coordinate with area chambers of commerce and similar organizations.
- G. Continue to support and work with legislators and Leagues of Municipalities for the adoption of legislation to prevent Dark Store Theory.
- H. Continue to support collection of local Ad Valorem from the state of Kansas.