

2020 – 21 City Commission Goals/Items

PROGRESS UPDATE



Organization Excellence

- Undertake Strategic Plan (Engaged Planning NEXT consultants, created project website through EngageMHK.org, held two rounds of public engagement and held 20 focus groups of stakeholders and City employees, held two City Commission Retreats (January and June '21). Held four Community Project Committee meetings and four Staff Technical Committee Meetings, Strategic Plan adoption scheduled for September '21)
- More department / sales tax updates (Department Head Presentations in July 2020, January 2021 (OEI update) and June 2021. Budget Revenue updates presented monthly in mail folders)
- Paperwork reduction --- more online services (Utility billing, paperless) less printed and duplicate notices (with Pandemic, eliminated billing inserts and moved more services online)



Built Environment

- Manhattan Development Code (community meetings, explanation of changes and implementation) (Conducted City Commission and Planning Board updates in April, May and June 2021. Engaging public/stakeholders on virtual platforms, adoption scheduled for Fall 2021)
- Aggieville Redevelopment/North Manhattan Avenue (N. Manhattan Ave/Laramie Parking Deck, along with Laramie/14th Street intersection and 14th/Anderson under construction with completion in first quarter 2022, N. Manhattan Ave from Bluemont South to Fremont St under final design. Temporary Parking Plan adopted in 2021, 12th/Laramie surface parking lot redevelopment in talks with one respondent to the RFP.

Misc streetscape and water, sewer and road projects underway throughout the district, including Cycle Track design.)

- Annexation Study (Consultant Draft Report expected in July 2021)
- Housing Market Study (Selected consultants should begin in August 2021 for a 12 -15 month process)
- Establish financial policy about waiving fees (No action)
- Bike Ped Master Plan – Develop 10-year funding and implementation plan (City Commission adopted the Master Plan in March 2020, no formal funding plan has been developed)



Safe and Healthy Living

- Lease information addendums for fair housing laws and flood-prone areas (“Turn Around, Don’t Drown” signs posted in key flood prone areas in April ‘21. Flood information for leases to be considered with Resilient Wildcat Creek Plan adoption in Sept/October)
- Resilient Wildcat (Resilient Wildcat Creek Plan adoption set for Sept/October; Wood Environment has updated the 2D Model to HECRAS 6.0 and completed the alternative model run scenarios of new Ft Riley Blvd Bridge currently under construction, also one with removing the railroad bridge or elevating it to a different grade. EPA grant for Plaza West Small Area Plan with Stantec and the Flint Hills Regional Council – Community open house was on May 27)
- Levee raise (Easement and acquisition work complete, agreements and cost share finalized with Corps of Engineers, Borrow site for fill dirt to be under contract in June 2021. Project expected to go out for bid by US Army Corps of Engineers in Summer ‘21)



Economic Vitality

- Support Ft. Riley through engagement with workforce issues (City Manager and community leaders met with new Commanding General Simms and having ongoing dialogue, MRC luncheons now in-person again; Chamber workforce initiatives)
- Maintain 150 foot runway width at MHK (Runway design completed in Feb 2021, working on funding plan to maintain 150 width, included in legislative briefing and applied for KDOT and applying for DoD grants as funding opportunities)
- Support Region Reimagined (Effort folded into new Chamber of Commerce economic development strategy)
- ED Tax support – ballot effort that provides a revenue stream to support infrastructure, jobs and debt service (.5% Citywide sales tax initiative on Nov '20 ballot passed with 61% support; starts in 2023)
- Implement North Campus Corridor Plan (Completed North Manhattan Avenue street work, College and Kimball intersection completed, secured State funding for Phase 9 and 10; bids to go out in July '21)
- Support NBAF (Hiring plan has been substantially completed, with Director identified, construction was set back with a two-month COVID delay. Key NBAF employees participate in Monthly Intergovernmental meetings; City represented on NBAF Community Liaison Group)
- Stabilize the bond and interest fund (Significant debt has rolled off, but more coming in the future, will present multi-year bond and interest funding strategy as part of budget process.)



Quality of Life

- Develop Public Art Ordinance (Juried art program implemented in June '20, Work Session to create a public arts program on the June '21 City Commission agenda)
- More proactive on legislative matters and bill tracking (Enhanced communication with city lobbyist, limited legislative action due to pandemic, unusual legislative session with

discussion over COVID authority with Governor, and bills with no committee hearings or public debate.)

- Open Recreation Centers (Douglass and Anthony Centers opened in March / May. Eisenhower Rec Center scheduled to open in August '21)
- Swimming Pools (City Park and Northview Aquatic Facilities open and staffed for summer 2021)