



BLAZING NEW TRAILS



2016 ANNUAL REPORT



Cheryl Harrison-Lee
Gardner City Administrator

The City of Gardner Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2016 encapsulates many of the successes accomplished by our talented and hardworking employees who are dedicated to meeting and exceeding the needs of our 21,000 residents.

In 2016, the city remained focused on making continuous improvements and enhancements to services and programs that aligned with the city's strategic goals established by the Governing Body, which are to Promote Economic Development, Improve Quality of Life, Increase Infrastructure and Asset Management, and Improve Fiscal Stewardship.

The many accomplishments detailed in this report rest on the foundation of our mission, vision and core values. These principles set the standards against which we weigh our actions and decisions and reflects our commitment to providing excellent service.

Thank you for being on this journey with us to achieve sustainable, quality growth. Together, we will face the challenges, reach many more milestones and transform Gardner into a thriving and prosperous city. Let's go "Blaze New Trails."



We are blazing new trails and reaping new harvests.

VISION

We are recognized as a high-performing, progressive organization setting the bar for excellence in service delivery.

MISSION

To provide exceptional services to benefit and enrich the community.

CORE VALUES

COMMITMENT

We are passionate about the services we provide. We are loyal to our employees, dedicated to our customers, and steadfast about accomplishing the vision and mission of the organization and community.

INTEGRITY

We are ethical, honest and transparent in our communications and actions.

PROFESSIONALISM

We incorporate industry best practices, achieve desired results, and foster respectful relationships.

STEWARDSHIP

We responsibly plan, manage, care for and enhance the community's resources.





Strategic Goals

The Governing Body established long-term strategic goals to guide their vision and funding decisions for Gardner, Kansas. These goals set the priorities for the organization and help bring plans and projects to fruition.

Governing Body pictured at left.

Back row, left to right: Councilmember Rich Melton, Councilmember Lee Moore, Mayor Chris Morrow, Council President Steve Shute

Front row, left to right: Council Vice President Todd Winters, Councilmember Kristina Harrison



PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A healthy community stems from having a healthy economy, which is why we have worked tirelessly over the years to bring new developments to Gardner. In 2016, we increased our housing market to accommodate our rapidly growing population, expanded and renovated existing businesses, and facilitated the opening of new ones. Investing and encouraging development in the city not only diversifies our tax base and provides access to more jobs, but it also gives our residents and visitors purchasing options right here in Gardner. We anticipate the fruits of our labor extending well into the future, as we continue to promote the many benefits of this vibrant and progressive city.

- 98 new housing units
- 15 new businesses and expansions (received \$20.5 million in private investments)
- Implemented new brand identity
- Launched new city website (3,500 visits per week)
- Completed Land Development Code update
- Completed I-35 and Gardner Road SubArea Plan

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QUALITY OF LIFE

Each year, we enhance the quality of life for our citizens through programs and activities that promote safety, health and community involvement. We also seek to build and nurture a culture that is all-inclusive and serves the needs of our citizens. Providing new youth outreach programs and offering many social events and outdoor activities are just a few of the services we provide to maintain Gardner's reputation as one of the safest and most enjoyable places to live, work and play.

- New K9 Unit
- Enhanced July 4th Celebration, brought in a record-breaking crowd
- Renovated Gardner Senior Center to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards
- Introduced youth outreach programs
- 100+ special events, sports tournaments and recreational activities
- 13-time recipient of Tree City USA Award

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INFRASTRUCTURE & ASSET MANAGEMENT

As one of the few cities in Johnson County to own and manage its municipal utilities, we strive to deliver consistent quality service. By upgrading and replacing aging utility systems and models last year, we improved the efficiency of our water, wastewater and electric services and received multiple awards for our successes. Gardner also implemented many miles of road improvements throughout the city as part of our Pavement Management Program. We also made significant progress with accessibility relating to ADA that included reconstructing sidewalks and renovating building entrances, to enhance inclusiveness for all our residents and visitors.

- Completed 27 lane miles of improvements, including 33 new ADA ramps
- Completed waterline relocation for the reconstruction of Center Street, from Kane Street to Grand Street
- Constructed new salt storage facility
- Updated Water Master Plan based on water supply treatment and distribution system assessment
- Updated Wastewater Master Plan after assessment of collection system
- Installed “no turn on red” signs at Cedar Niles & US-56
- Developed new minimum standards and hangar lease agreements for Gardner Municipal Airport
- Water Treatment Quality Achievement Award
- Wastewater Plant of the Year Award

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FISCAL STEWARDSHIP

The City of Gardner has a proven track record when it comes to fiscal responsibility based upon sound financial planning and management. Our best practices have helped the city consistently earn a AA bond rating, allowing us to cost-effectively pursue major city projects and plan for future initiatives. We delivered an intelligible, well-balanced priority-based budget aimed to allocate resources to the areas that best serve our community. Our newly implemented Grants Program also garnered much success this past year, helping to support city and community initiatives while offsetting cost to the taxpayers.

- During the last four years, refinanced city debt, saving \$2.5 million in future interest cost
- \$2.2 million in grant money awarded
- TIF District payoff (39% increase of sales tax revenue)
- Added financial reporting, budgeting and compliance processes for the Gardner Municipal Airport and Infrastructure Special Sales Tax Fund
- Conducted debt financing for Phase 1 of Pavement Management Program, electric transformer project and land purchase for future city facilities
- Facilitated the inclusion of Gardner into Fire District No. 1 territory and eliminated the city's associated mill levy for fire services
- Implemented new time and attendance system and provided training for employees to provide more accurate, efficient data tracking
- 12-time recipient of Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Award
- Second consecutive Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

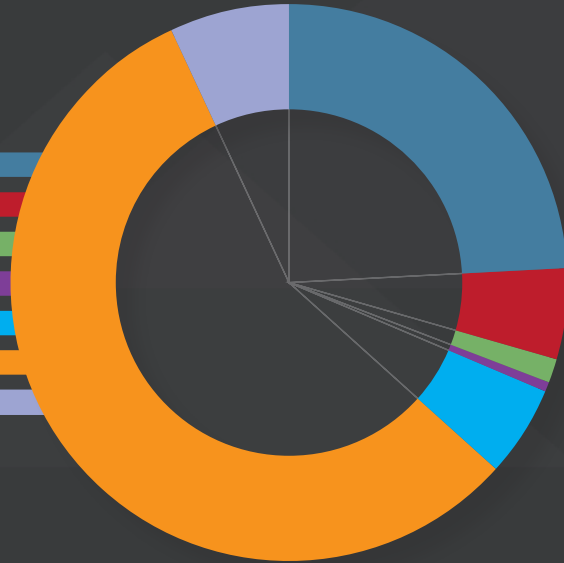
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Financial Overview

Below is a synopsis of our financial activity for Fiscal Year 2017. The illustrations demonstrate both our Revenue by Fund Type and Expenditures by Fund Type. For more detailed information, visit the financial section of our website at www.gardnerkansas.gov.

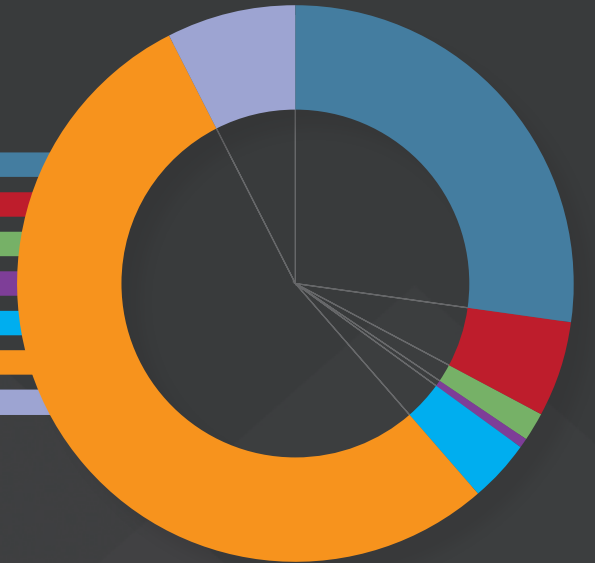
REVENUE BY FUND: 2017

FUND TYPE	REVENUE	% OF TOTAL
General	\$ 11,786,300	24.2%
Debt Service	\$ 2,646,400	5.4%
Capital Improvement	\$ 700,000	1.4%
Special Revenue	\$ 203,500	0.4%
Capital Projects	\$ 2,562,400	5.3%
Enterprise	\$ 27,453,900	56.4%
Internal Service	\$ 3,373,300	6.9%
TOTAL	\$ 48,725,800	100%



EXPENDITURE BY FUND: 2017

FUND TYPE	EXPENDITURES	% OF TOTAL
General	\$ 12,748,200	27.4%
Debt Service	\$ 2,616,300	5.6%
Capital Improvement	\$ 700,000	1.5%
Special Revenue	\$ 216,300	0.5%
Capital Project	\$ 1,784,800	3.8%
Enterprise	\$ 25,104,700	53.9%
Internal Service	\$ 3,373,300	7.3%
TOTAL	\$ 46,543,600	100%



Coming Projects

We are excited to welcome four new businesses to Gardner as we continue to pursue economic development and provide diverse services to our rapidly growing community.



KANSAS LOGISTICS CENTER

122 Acre Logistics & Office Park

33095 W 183rd Street



HAMPTON INN & CONFERENCE CENTER

5-Story, 84-Room Hotel & 200-Seat Conference Center

2025 E. Santa Fe Street



BILL GEORGE KIA NEW & USED OUTLET

10,000 Sq. Ft.
New and Used Car Dealership

905 E. Santa Fe Street



DAIRY QUEEN GRILL & CHILL

3,267 Sq. Ft.
Full-Service Restaurant

518 E. Main Street





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