



CITY OF WESTWOOD, KANSAS NEWSLETTER

July through September 2018 4700 Rainbow Blvd, Westwood www.westwoodks.org

A MESSAGE FROM THE CITY

Friends and neighbors,

In our last newsletter message, we discussed the proposed 1/2 cent sales tax increase used to fund critical street and stormwater system projects. Your City Council had put the question to a ballot for citizens to decide. Westwood voters turned out in strong numbers: about 39% returned their ballots, and of them 81% approved the sales tax. These numbers demonstrate Westwood is ready to continue to invest in our city.

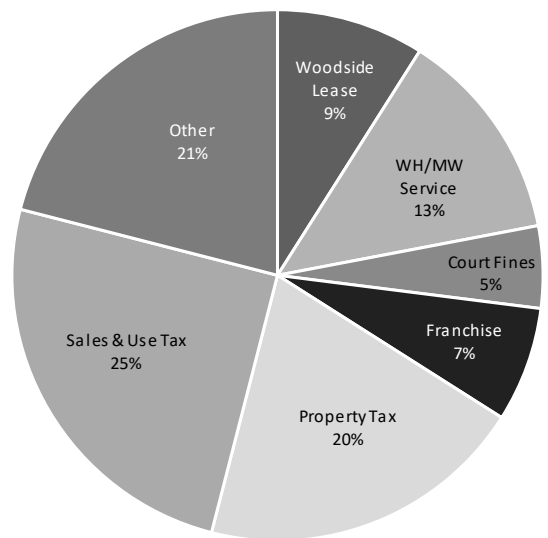
Over the summer, the Public Works department is finishing engineering plans for the projects and laying out the schedule. Public Works plans to begin soliciting bids in the fall.

In the meantime, the new 1/2 cent sales tax will go into effect October 1. With a new line of dedicated revenue in place, good planning, and weather permitting, the long anticipated work on the Capital Improvement Plan may begin over the winter.

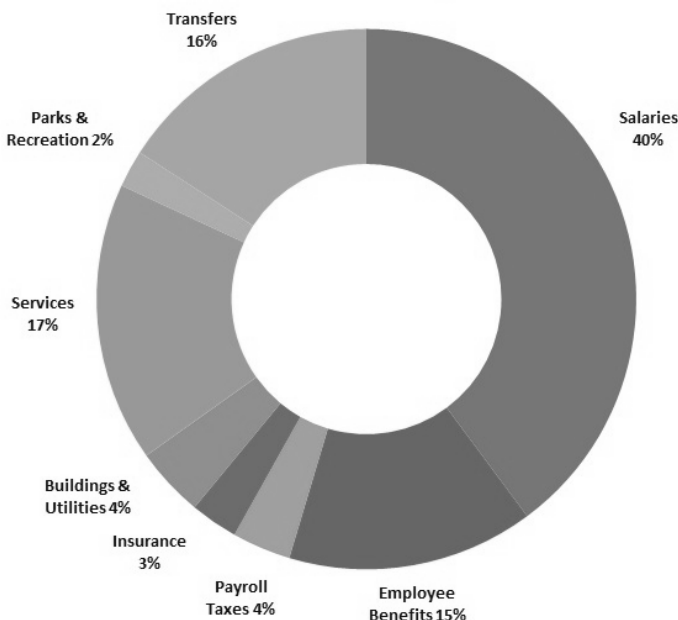
Your elected officials and the city administration are now focused on the 2019 city budget, with a goal of approving the budget in the August City Council meeting. In general, there are four major portions of revenue for the city: Sales and Use Tax, Property Tax, City Fees, and everything else (including liquor tax, stormwater fees, trash service fees, and Kansas State Highway tax). The graph at right shows the breakdown for 2018, which has budgeted revenues of \$2.7 million.

Over half of city expenses are salaries and benefits for city staff, with the next largest portion being city services. The graph below shows the breakdown for 2018.

2018 Westwood Revenues



FY 2018 General Fund Expenditures



As always, if you have questions or need more information please call City Hall at 913.362.1550, visit the city website at www.westwoodks.org, or contact any of your elected officials.

One of the best ways to stay in touch and understand the city is to talk in person. All are welcome and encouraged to attend city meetings. The Westwood Planning Commission meets the first Monday of every month at 7:00 pm, and the Westwood City Council meets the second Thursday also at 7:00 pm. Meetings are at City Hall at 4700 Rainbow Boulevard. Agendas and minutes for these meetings can be found at <http://www.westwoodks.org/agendasminutes>



**WESTWOOD FOUNDATION NAMES
2018 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT**

During its June meeting, the Westwood Foundation Board of Directors awarded a \$5,000 per academic year scholarship to Loren Davis. Loren is a 2018 graduate of Shawnee Mission East and the daughter of Mike and Kathy Davis. Loren is a member of the National Honor society, and an Honor Roll student.

During her time at SME Loren was active in many extra-curricular activities including serving as a chair of the volunteer program SHARE, and Youth in Government where she served as a Senator. Loren played lacrosse at SME, and was selected by the coaching staff three years in a row to be the recipient of the Team Spirit Award for outstanding positive attitude. Loren has been a member of the SME theatre program, serving as Crew Chief. Loren has also been a longtime Girl Scout, where she served as a summer camp counselor, and was a top seller in the annual cookie sale fundraisers.

Loren has been an active community volunteer at The

Farmer's House, Camp WIN, and Harvesters. Throughout the year Loren has worked at 1889 Pizza and also as a nanny . These jobs have helped her gain workplace etiquette and life experience. Outside of school and work activities, Loren has pursued her passion for music by playing guitar—she and her father have taken lessons together often play duets during family gatherings.

Loren will be attending the University of Arkansas and majoring in Biomedical engineering. Loren will be on the pre-medical course track to pursue her longtime goal of becoming a doctor. Loren hopes to one day help those in need through Doctors without Borders.

Loren was recognized during the July 12th City Council meeting.



2018 LEAF PICK UP PROGRAM CHANGES

Due to a change in service the city of Westwood will no longer be contracting final leaf pick up operations with Roeland Park. Instead, Westwood Public Works will be conducting all leaf pick up operations in Westwood this fall.

This change will no longer require residents to rake their leaves in to the streets in order to be collected during the final days of leaf collection operations, as was done in 2017.

Leaf collection operations will begin the first week of November and Public Works crews will make at least three passes through town. More information about this free City service will be provided closer to the start of the leaf pick up program.

KEEPING WESTWOOD BEAUTIFUL

The Westwood City Code contains a number of rules for residents and businesses to keep the city clean and attractive for all. City Inspector and Building Official Eddie McNeil is responsible for enforcing city code.

The city has long taken an approach of partnership to resolve code violations, not punishment. When code violations are observed or reported, the city will first visit the property to explain the pertinent city code and the violation, then work with the property owner to resolve the situation. Only after continued inattention to the problem will the city issue citations and take further legal steps.

The best way to keep Westwood well-kept is to prevent code violations before they happen. Based on the reports the city gets about the most frequent types of violations, Eddie McNeil would like residents to know and remember these rules in particular:

- Keep your grass cut to a height of less than 8 inches.

- Cut thick weeds, grasses, vines and brush. They can be a fire hazard and provide a haven for mice, rats, snakes, termites and other unwanted pests.
- Dispose of tree limbs, grass clippings, weeds and accumulated leaves properly. WCA, the city's waste pickup provider, will pick up yard waste year-round if placed at the curb for Wednesday collection as detailed at <https://www.westwoodks.org/trashguidelines>.
- Do not keep piles of building materials in public view or in contact with the ground on your property. These are unsightly and can harbor unwanted pests.
- Remove dead or diseased trees from your property. They may pose a hazard to homes and people when they fall. A diseased tree, such as one with the destructive Emerald Ash Borer beetle, will die and the beetles will move to the next tree.

If you have questions or concerns regarding code violations you may contact Eddie McNeil at 913.942.2130 or eddie.mcneil@westwoodks.org. Eddie is in the office Monday through Friday from 8am to 5pm.



RED NOVA LABS PARKING UPDATE

Red Nova Labs, 4830 Rainbow Blvd, is a local business creating technology solutions for the self storage industry. They are experiencing strong growth as a company and have begun to outgrow their existing parking lot. Red Nova has actively tried to be a good neighbor and has worked with the city to look at alternatives to address parking. Unfortunately, some of the possible solutions may involve construction and will take time.

Members of City Council, City Administration, Public Safety and Public Works have worked closely with Red Nova management to come up with a temporary plan. Monday through Friday, during the day, when their main lot is full, staff from Red Nova will be allowed to park along the north side of 49th Street between Rainbow Blvd. and Adams, and on the west side of Adams, between 49th and 49th Terrace, along a privacy fence. While this may not be ideal, these are public streets and working together we ensure no vehicles are along the curb line immediately in front of anyone's house.

The city will review the situation regularly and Red Nova will keep the city advised of their long term plans. Please call City Hall at 913.362.1550 or send an email to info@westwoodks.org if you have any questions.

FALL COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE ON SEPTEMBER 22ND

The fall Community Garage Sale will be held on Saturday, September 22nd. Those who are interested in participating can register at <http://bit.ly/2mpkHF7> or by contacting Abby Schneweis at 913.362.1550. The City will be advertising this event online, and participants are welcome to do any additional advertising as they see fit. A listing of participants will be available on the City's website and at City Hall.

OKTOBERFEST IS OCTOBER 6TH

Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 6th to celebrate the start of fall! Westwood's Oktoberfest celebration will be held from 4pm to 8pm in Dennis Park (50th Street & Rainbow Boulevard). There will be dinner, music, and fun for all ages! More details about this event will be provided on the City's website once they are confirmed. If you have any questions you may contact Abby Schneweis at 913.362.1550 or abby.schneweis@westwoodks.org.



BULK ITEM COLLECTION SCHEDULE CHANGE

WCA has made a change in their bulk item collection scheduled for Westwood. Bulk items will be collected

only on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Bulk items set out on any other Wednesday will not be collected.

If you have a question or issues with the collection of your trash, recycling, yard waste or bulk items, or to request special services from WCA use their on-line Customer Service Request Form located at <http://www.mywca.waste.com/> or by calling the WCA Customer Service line at 816.380.5595.

ELECTION DAY IS NOVEMBER 6TH

Polls will be open at City Hall on Tuesday, November 6th from 7 am to 7 pm. City Hall is a polling place for voters that have registered with the Johnson County Election office with a Westwood address.

Voter Registration: The last day to register to vote for the 2018 General Election is Tuesday, October 16th. To make sure you are registered visit <https://voter.jocoelection.org/> or call 913.715.6800.



Advance Voting: Advance Voting options are available by mail and in person at six locations in Johnson County. If you are unable to make it to your polling place on November 6th visit <https://jocoelection.org/advance-voting-0> to get more information about voting in advance.

NEW LICENSE PLATE PRODUCTION AND DELIVERY PROCESS

The Kansas Department of Revenue has announced that a new production and delivery process for Kansas license plates will be implemented in August. The new plates will carry the same designs currently offered, but will be flat instead of embossed. They will be mailed directly to customers.

Beginning Aug. 1, 2018, a customer receiving a new plate as part of his or her transaction will leave the office with a 30-day temporary license plate and a registration sticker. The permanent plate will be mailed directly to the customer. Customers can expect to receive plates within 10–14 business days.

It is very important that customers remember to put the registration sticker received at the county Motor Vehicle Office on the new plate and attach the plate to the correct vehicle.

Please note customers with current embossed plates do not need to order a new plate because of the system change.





CITY OF WESTWOOD
JULY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

CITY OF WESTWOOD
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913.362.1550
info@westwoodks.org

MAYOR

John Yéwestwoodmayor@sbcglobal.net

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Lisa Cumminslisa.cummins@westwoodks.org

Paul Daypaul.day@westwoodks.org

Jason Hannaman Jason.hannaman@westwoodks.org

Jeff Harrisjeff.harris@westwoodks.org

David Watersdavid.waters@westwoodks.org

CHIEF OF POLICE: Greg O'Halloran

SERGEANT: Gary Baker

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS: Chris Bishop, Marcus Burke,
Timothy Filson, Ruth Peter, Kurtis Stone, Sharon Taylor

COURT CLERK: Shelley Floyd

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS: John Sullivan

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: Mitch Landis

PUBLIC WORKS STAFF: Richard Fatherley, James Rankin

CITY CLERK: Fred Sherman

BUILDING/CODES OFFICIAL: Eddie McNeil

ASSISTANT CITY CLERK: Abby Schneweis

CONTACT INFORMATION

Emergencies	911
City Hall.....	913.362.1550
Public Works.....	913.432.1550
Public Safety.....	913.362.3737
JOCo Sheriff 24 Hour Dispatch.....	913.782.0720
Municipal Court.....	913.362.3737
WCA Disposal	816.380.5595
Kansas Gas Service.....	1.800.794.4780
KCPL	816.471.5275
WaterOne	913.895.5500
JOCo Wastewater.....	913.715.8587
Animal Control.....	913.782.0720
JOCo Information.....	913.715.1500
Driver's License Bureau	913.432.2266
JOCo Election Office.....	913.782.3441
JOCo Appraiser.....	913.715.9000
Shawnee Mission School Dist.....	913.993.6200

