



INSIDE GARDNER

Your Community

January - February 2014

Comprehensive Plan Update

In 2003, the City adopted its current Comprehensive Plan, with a limited update completed in 2008. Since that time, the City of Gardner has experienced tremendous population growth, and based on trending over the last four decades, the City will be near 40,000 residents by 2020.



Seeing the economic development potential associated with a growing population, the Governing Body included an update to the current Comprehensive Plan as one of their key initiatives in the 2014 Budget. This updated Comprehensive Plan will strengthen the City's vision and direction, and establish a roadmap for future economic development opportunities.

In October, the City initiated the public outreach component of the plan, and has since hosted three public workshops with both residents and business owners. Some of the issues and priorities identified in the workshops include: the need to improve and maintain roads, parks and other infrastructure; create an environment friendly to business; and strengthen the identity and maintain the character of Gardner. The workshop participants also identified some of Gardner's strengths, which include: great location and potential, quality schools and a friendly, tight-knit sense of community.

There will be additional opportunities for residents, business owners and others to engage in the process. They include, but are not limited to, an interactive project website, social networking, an online community issues mapping tool, a community open house and public meetings of the Gardner City Council and Planning Commission. The City will also be hosting a Community Vision Session, tentatively scheduled for late January or early February 2014.

City Administrator, Cheryl Harrison-Lee, notes, "The Comprehensive Plan Update is a key project for the City of Gardner. I look forward to hearing from our residents and business community as the project goes forward. We hope to provide the public with many opportunities to contribute to this essential visioning process."

For the most up-to-date information, summaries of past workshops, and opportunities to provide input, please visit www.hlplanning.com/portals/gardner/ or contact Mike Hall, Community Development Director, at (913) 856-0913 or mhall@gardnerkansas.gov.

Rate Changes Approved for Water and Wastewater

The City Council approved rate changes for water and wastewater at their August 5, 2013 meeting. For your usage in January 2014, water rates will increase 8% and wastewater rates will increase 11%. These changes will be reflected in your statement starting February 2014. The following is a summary of the rate changes by utility:



Water Rates

Water rates will implement the graduated water rate structure and rates will be increasing 8%. The monthly service charge will increase from \$11.55 to \$12.45. The cost for the first 6,000 gallons of water will go from \$5.15 per thousand gallons to \$5.55 per thousand gallons. The average increase for a residential water customer is \$3.20 per month.

Wastewater Rates

Wastewater rates will be increasing 11%. The monthly service charge will increase from \$11.90 to \$13.20. The usage charge will go from \$7.60 per thousand gallons to \$8.44 per thousand gallons of water used. The average increase for a residential wastewater customer is \$5.39 per month.

Holiday Home Decorating Contest

The City of Gardner wants to congratulate the following winners of the 2013 Holiday Home Decorating Contest:

Most Creative Display

Kevin and Rachel Davidson
802 N. Maple

Most Twinkling Lights

Jason and Laura Stucky
327 N. Adler

Mayor's Choice

Ron and Terri Ashlock
711 S. Spruce



2013 Safety Committee Member of the Year

Matthew Solorio, Wastewater Plant Operator, was named the 2013 Member of the Year by the City of Gardner Safety Committee. Recipients of the award must have 100% attendance to all monthly Safety Committee meetings and functions, zero personal accidents or City property damage infractions, and must also participate in safety discussions.



Solorio was recognized at the annual Safety Committee Luncheon held on Thursday, December 12th at City Hall.

Inside This Issue

Mayor's Message	.....	Pg. 2
Contact Us	.....	Pg. 2
Upcoming Events	.....	Pg. 3-4
Updates and Projects	.....	Pg. 1-4
Community Info.	.....	Pg. 1-4
Parks & Recreation Info.	.....	Pg. 3

A newsletter published for the residents of the City of Gardner
City Hall • 120 E. Main St.
Gardner, KS 66030 • 856-0939

Mayor's Message to Gardner Residents



Greetings fellow citizens,

Throughout the 2013 Holiday Season, the generosity of our community was again on full display. Many in our community have volunteered their time and donated presents or money through a variety of organizations to help everyone in Gardner feel the joy of the season. With great volunteer effort, generous donations and support of City staff, participation in the Christmas for Children Program and the Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund served nearly 100 families and over 260 children. Donations received through the Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund will also provide an opportunity to continue to help others throughout 2014.

As the New Year begins in Gardner, the City continues to gather information for the Comprehensive Plan, which will serve as a blueprint for the future of our City. There will be multiple opportunities for residents and businesses to get involved. I invite you to please take some time to communicate your vision for the City and identify what issues you see as most important for the City to address. We know that the success of this planning effort will depend on engaging our community, so outreach to residents and stakeholders are included throughout the planning process. You can also participate via the website at www.hlplanning.com/portals/gardner/.

Please take some time and visit the website, take the survey and use the "sMAP!" option to interactively map your own vision for Gardner's future. Opportunities to participate will continue throughout the first half of 2014. Keep your eyes focused on the local newspaper, City website and social media, your email and future city correspondence to see when the next community meeting will take place.

Growth continues across southwest Johnson County in 2014. In Gardner with comprehensive planning we will continue to be successful, but it will take volunteer efforts from our residents, local businesses, City staff, and elected leaders to realize that success. I have faith, that with your help in 2014 and beyond, we will bring success to our outstanding community.

Best regards,

Calendar of Meetings

Jan	1	City Hall Closed in Observance of New Year's Day
Jan	2	Electric Utility Board - Work Session 7:00 PM - Regular Meeting 7:30 PM
Jan	6	City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM
Jan	7	Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting - 6:30 PM
Jan	20	City Hall Closed in Observance of Martin Luther King Day
Jan	21	City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM *TUESDAY due to holiday
Jan	28	Planning Commission Meeting - 7:00 PM
Feb	3	City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM
Feb	4	Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting - 6:30 PM
Feb	6	Electric Utility Board - Work Session 7:00 PM - Regular Meeting 7:30 PM
Feb	17	City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM
Feb	25	Planning Commission Meeting - 7:00 PM

Gardner City Council

Chris Morrow, Mayor
913-269-8495 (Cell)
cmorrow@gardnerkansas.gov

Kristy Harrison, Council President
913-884-2115 (Home)
kharrison@gardnerkansas.gov

Larry Fotovich, Council Vice President
913-856-4458 (Home)
lfotovich@gardnerkansas.gov

Heath Freeman, Council Member
913-908-2627 (Cell)
hfreeman@gardnerkansas.gov

Tory Roberts, Council Member
913-449-5522 (Cell)
troberts@gardnerkansas.gov

Steve Shute, Council Member
913-938-6887 (Cell)
sshute@gardnerkansas.gov

Messages may also be left for any
Council Member or the Mayor at
913-856-0939

City Management

City Administrator
Cheryl Harrison-Lee
charrison-lee@gardnerkansas.gov
913-856-0939

Community Development Director
Michael Hall
mhall@gardnerkansas.gov
913-856-0913

Finance Director
Laura Gourley
lgourley@gardnerkansas.gov
913-856-7535

Parks & Recreation Director
Jeff Stewart
jstewart@gardnerkansas.gov
913-856-0936

Police Chief
Gerry Cullumber
gcullumber@gardnerkansas.gov
913-856-7312

Public Works Director
Brian Faust
bfaust@gardnerkansas.gov
913-856-0914

Electric Utility Director
William Krawczyk
bkrawczyk@gardnerkansas.gov
913-856-7256

Items of Note, Project Updates & Community Information

NEW! Digital Magazine Format for Activity Guide

Gardner Parks and Recreation has created an exciting new Digital Activity Guide. The digital document will be distributed on a quarterly basis and can be viewed on your desktop, tablet or smart phone. The premier edition for January-March 2014 is full of current programs, community events and facility information, and is now available to view at www.gardnerkansas.gov/parks

2014 Summer Job Opportunities

Gardner Parks and Recreation is now accepting applications for the 2014 summer season! Applications will be accepted through **February 3, 2014**. Applications are available at Gardner City Hall or online at www.gardnerkansas.gov.

Return completed applications to:

Gardner Parks and Recreation
120 E. Main St.
Gardner, KS 66030

POSITIONS INCLUDE:

- Aquatics Facility Manager
- Aquatics Facility Assistant Manager
- Swimming Lessons Coordinator
- Swimming Lessons Instructors
- Aquacore Instructors
- Aquatics Facility Attendants
- Aquatics Facility Maintenance Staff
- Lifeguards
- Concessions Manager
- Concessions Workers
- Soccer Officials
- Umpires
- Facility Supervisors
- Parks Maintenance Staff



Winter Energy Savings Tips



It doesn't take much to get your home ready for Old Man Winter. A single weekend is all you need to properly winterize your home.

Below, Gardner Energy has identified some things that you can do to ensure you have a warm, safe house this winter and money left in your pocket. Winterizing your home makes your place more energy efficient so you can keep your family warm and toasty without

breaking the bank on energy bills. In addition to making your house more energy efficient, winterizing your home also entails doing small chores that will help prevent damage to your home from snow and ice.

DRAFTS – Reducing drafts in the home can cut down on energy use. Check around door and window frames, electrical and gas service entrances, dryer vents, bricks, siding, stucco and foundation, cable TV and phone lines, outdoor water faucets, mail chutes, air conditioners, and vents and fans.

CEILING FANS – Run ceiling fans in reverse (clockwise).

WATER HEATER – Set water heater to 120 degrees Fahrenheit or lower.

WINDOWS AND DOORS – Close all storm windows and install glass in storm doors.

THERMOSTAT – Turn down the thermostat when away and at night.

CURTAINS – Keep curtains drawn/closed wherever possible and install insulated curtains with thermo backed panels for increased efficiency.

For more energy-saving tips and tricks, please visit www.energy.gov.

Upcoming Parks and Recreation Activities and Events

Youth Programs	Date	Registration Deadline	Age/Grade	Costs
Warriors Martial Arts	January 12	January 10	3 to 6	\$50
Tumbling Tots	January 13	January 6	3 to 6	\$50
Tumbling	January 13	January 6	7 to 9	\$50
Cheer	January 13	January 6	9 to 11	\$50
Kid's Wii Bowling Tourney	January 25	January 20	5 to 14	\$10
Spring Soccer	March 22	February 14	K thru 8th Grade	\$65/\$50
Micro Soccer	March 29	February 21	2 to 4	\$55
Player Development Program	March 27	March 21	5 to 12	\$65
Daddy Daughter Ball	February 15	February 7	3 to 10	\$35/couple
Competitive Baseball	Late April-Mid July	February 14	U8 to U14	\$900/team
Recreation Baseball/Softball/T-Ball	Late April-End June	February 28	6 to 15	\$50-\$80
Adult / Family Programs	Date	Registration Deadline	Age/Grade	Costs
Martial Arts	January 12	January 10	5 and Older	\$50
Women's Basketball	January 12	January 3	18 and Older	\$350/team
Men's Basketball	January 15	January 3	18 and Older	\$350/team
Scrapbooking	January 3/February 22	Thursday before crop	12 and Older	\$5
Bunco Babes	February 6	January 31	21 and Older	\$20
Adult Spring Softball	Early April	March 14	18 and Older	\$450/team

Additional program information can be found by visiting www.gardnerkansas.gov/programs_activities/.



City of Gardner
120 E. Main Street
Gardner, Kansas

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Gardner Historical Museum—Upcoming Events

Hours:

Gardner Historical Museum - 204 W. Main St.
Saturday through Tuesday: 1:00 to 4:00 PM
Friday: 4:00 to 7:00 PM

The Bray House - 207 W. Shawnee St.
Saturday, Tuesday, Wednesday: 1:00 to 4:00 PM

Call 913-856-4447 to schedule a tour.
Admission is FREE (donations appreciated)



Upcoming Exhibits

- January: “Happy Birthday, Kansas”
- February: “Cramer Chemicals and Products”

Visit www.gardnerhistoricalmuseum.com for more information!

New at the Gardner Library this Winter



Did you know that the Gardner Neighborhood Library is a great destination if you have young children? The interactive Early Literacy Space was designed with them in mind. Drop by any time to share early literacy activities based on a picture book. 6 by 6...where getting ready to read meets having fun!

Visit the Gardner Library or www.jocolibrary.org to learn more.

Gardner Police Department - Pet Registrations

All dogs and cats living in the city limits of Gardner, Kansas are required to have a city license. City licenses are issued each calendar year (January through December). Fees for 2014 are as follows:

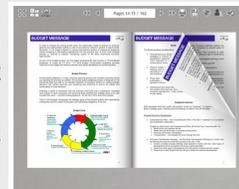
Unneutered male dog/cat	\$14.00 ea.
Unspayed female dog/cat	\$14.00 ea.
Neutered male dog/cat	\$7.00 ea.
Spayed female dog/cat	\$7.00 ea.
Special Permit	\$55.00
Breeders Permit	\$30.00



Tags can be purchased at the Gardner Police Department at 440 E. Main Street or by mail. To purchase a City license for your animal, you will need to provide a copy of a current rabies vaccination and proof of spay/neutering. Licenses may be purchased with cash or personal check; no credit or debit cards will be accepted. For questions or more information, please contact Jason Willis, Animal Control Officer, at 913-856-7312.

NEW! Digital Format for 2014 Adopted Budget

Using the PageTurn Pro software, citizens can now view the 2014 Adopted Budget digitally as a booklet on their desktop, tablet or smartphone. The budget includes a detailed Budget Message, supporting documents and spreadsheets for each City department. Providing the document digitally provides easier access and greater transparency for the City’s financial plan. View the 2014 Adopted Budget at www.gardnerkansas.gov/budget.



2013 Citizens Police Academy Graduates

The Gardner Police Department would like to congratulate the graduates of the first Citizens Police Academy. The Citizens Police Academy was designed to educate the community about the structure and activities of the Police Department.

A formal graduation ceremony was held on November 25th at City Hall. Thank you to the following participants for their commitment to making this program a success:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Audra Barber | Richard Melton |
| Karen DeBlock | Robert Moody |
| Amanda Freund | George Moore |
| Danedri Herbert | Matthew Russell |
| Walter Hermreck | Kathleen Stockton |
| Jody Hill | Norm Schutte |
| Jerry Kellogg, Sr. | Gregory Webb |
| Kenneth Keltner | Rodney Wiseman |

A second Citizens Academy is tentatively scheduled to begin in April/May of 2014. For more information, please contact Officer Joe O’Lucci at jolucci@gardnerkansas.gov or (913) 856-7312 .



Graduates of the first Citizens Police Academy pose with Captain Moore and Officers O’Lucci and Spalding on November 25, 2013 at City Hall.