The City of Olathe is observing 160 years of community this year, and we are so pleased to celebrate this special milestone with you!

I know you share my tremendous pride in our great city and all we have accomplished as a community. It is your involvement and support that allow us to continue setting standards of excellence in the services and quality of life we provide for our residents. Because of you, Olathe shines as one of the strongest and most vibrant cities in America.

While we look forward to a bright future ahead, we also reflect upon our rich and colorful past and the amazing legacies of those who came before us. May we never forget their vision, leadership, and service in shaping the future direction of our city.

All of us on the City Council say thank you for the honor of serving you and the trust you’ve placed in us. Together, we will continue to lead our community forward, building upon our proud heritage, great diversity, and solid foundation for the future.

Happy 160th Birthday, Olathe!

Michael Copeland
Mayor
WHAT WE’VE ACCOMPLISHED

• Answered 90 percent of calls to customer service in 15 seconds or less, a five-second improvement from 2015
• Increased total of e-bills to 61,086, a 23 percent increase from 2015
• Completed the City of Olathe website redesign project under budget, which included two website designs, five advanced design layouts, an enhanced mobile view, and an e-notification system
• Increased communication efforts from 2015 levels via social media to include:
  • Nextdoor household subscribers increased 28 percent, more than 21 percent of households subscribe
  • Twitter followers increased 23 percent
  • Average monthly Facebook impressions increased 30 percent
  • Average monthly Facebook reach increased 28 percent
  • Facebook page likes increased 25 percent
• Upgraded the City Council Chamber technology to improve public meeting broadcasts
• Produced 100 public videos
• Increased the number of residents using OlatheConnect (citizen request system) via online access and mobile application; exceeded the goal for the established response rate
• Transitioned the City of Olathe’s video presence to YouTube, allowing searchable, accessible, and device responsive City-produced videos
• Streamlined the court docket schedule resulting in reduced wait time at the clerk window and easing overcrowded parking
• Increased the number of residents using the Olathe Trash Day mobile application and widget
• Began the second phase of the Police Department’s American Sign Language training in partnership with the Kansas School for the Deaf and the Olathe Club for the Deaf

MAINTAINING AND PROVIDING INFRASTRUCTURE

Maintaining our street system is a high priority for our citizens. We continue to invest in our streets, address traffic flow, and maintain City structures. We’ve made numerous infrastructure improvements, including important upkeep of our water collection wells, treatment plants, and the pipes that keep essential public services safe and reliable.

WHAT WE’VE ACCOMPLISHED

• Managed the City of Olathe’s investment in the street system:
  • Completed 16 lane miles of arterial mill and overlay projects
  • Completed 34 lane miles of collector mill and overlay projects
  • Completed 62 lane miles of surface treatment projects
• Began constructing 159th Street improvements, Old U.S. Highway 56 to I-35
• Began constructing College Boulevard improvements, Lone Elm to Woodland
• Completed design for 143rd Street improvements, Pflumm to Quivira
• Began the concept design for the 119th Street and I-35 Interchange
• Leveraged a combined total of $7.7 million in outside funding to complete a variety of improvement projects
• Completed the Harold Street Wastewater Treatment Plant rehabilitation project to ensure the City of Olathe continues to meet permit discharge requirements
• Completed the Inflow & Infiltration Master Plan for the Mill Creek watershed
• Completed construction of two stormwater projects and initiated design of two additional stormwater projects funded by the Johnson County Stormwater Management Advisory Council
• Completed the Transportation Master Plan and adopted the Major Street Map
• Completed 90 percent of the Water Plant 2 filter rehabilitation project, rehabilitating the conventional filters and enhancing operational reliability
• Started constructing a new Environmental Laboratory
• Inspected all 374 water transmission valves larger than 18-inches with no issues or failures detected
• Cleaned 567,233 linear feet of gravity sewer mains and performed leak detection on 848,842 linear feet of water mains
• Exceeded the 40 percent residential waste diversion goal with a record 44.60 percent diversion rate in 2016
Our Police Department is implementing key initiatives resulting in low crime rates across most categories. The City of Olathe has outperformed the average for our Benchmark Cities’ agencies for the last several years. The Olathe Fire Department is one of only 38 fire departments to hold the distinctive Class I ISO rating and accreditation by the Commission of Fire Accreditation International.

**WHAT WE’VE ACCOMPLISHED**

- Crime rates: (lower is better)
  - Total Part I Crime Rates (goal <26)
    - 2014: 17.70
    - 2015: 16.25
    - 2016: 16.84
  - Total Part II Crime Rates (goal <38)
    - 2014: 23.56
    - 2015: 23.12
    - 2016: 22.47
- Police Department response times to emergency calls (goal <5 minutes)
  - 2014: 5.02
  - 2015: 4.56
  - 2016: 4.49
- Invested in a law enforcement records management system in that all Johnson County law enforcement agencies and the District Attorney’s Office will use
- Continued the impactful Domestic Violence Lethality Assessment program, significantly reducing homicides
- Participated in the collaborative development of the 21st Century Public Safety Academy at Olathe West High School
- Responded to more than 10,800 calls for Fire, EMS, and rescue service
- Placed two, 40-hour squads in service in high demand areas
- Completed more than 1,800 fire and life safety inspections
- Assisted with the new Text to 9-1-1 initiative
- Placed new search and rescue canine in service
- Replaced six outdoor storm warning sirens
- Continued partnerships with the Health Partnership Clinic, Johnson County Mental Health, and Olathe Medical Center supporting the Mobile Integrated Healthcare program
- Installed 911 signs along trails
- Began updating the Envision Olathe Downtown Plan
- Issued more than 500 single-family residential building permits
- Developed a plan for a new Indian Creek Library location and opened a temporary space at the Santa Fe Square Shopping Center
- Opened a second goLibrary kiosk service at Fire Station 6 and operated the goLibrary a second year at the Olathe Community Center
- Provided 2,117 lunches for children and parents during the summer through a partnership with Harvesters and grants from Whole Foods and the Appleseed Foundation
- Researched resources available for homeless and those near-poverty residents, and made recommendations for partnerships to support this at-risk population — especially needs related to transportation and housing
- Invested more than $4.5 million in federal dollars into the community through housing, CDBG funds, and the Taxi Coupon Program
- Facilitated notable projects, including:
  - Dial senior apartments
  - Olathe Middle School No. 10
  - Garmin parking garage and campus improvements
  - Boulder Creek and Boulder Hills family subdivisions
  - Lone Elm Industrial Park
  - 56 Commerce Center of Johnson County
  - Olathe Medical Center expansion, including Cancer Center
  - Shops at Prairie Farms
- Developed a Neighborhood Conditions Toolbox to assist in addressing deficiencies and promoting engagement to improve the quality of life in Olathe neighborhoods
WHAT WE’VE ACCOMPLISHED

- Completed buyout of KCP&L street lights
- Converted 1,200 street lights and parking lot lights to LEDs, resulting in 60 percent energy savings
- Completed design for a CNG facility in collaboration with Johnson County Government
- Completed utility funds cost of service study and developed rate models for each fund based on cost of service, including a total cost of ownership
- Redesigned the stormwater rate structure from gross to impervious rates to be more in line with industry best practice with recommendation planned to the City Council in 2017
- Planned $9.6 million CIP funding for water and sewer line rehabilitation during the next five years
- Evaluated the Environmental Services maintenance operation and postponed the need for a central maintenance facility by assigning staff to specific facilities
- Planted 1,338 trees, and more than 10,000 flowers
- Donated more than 10,000 pounds of food from various community gardens to food pantries
- Administered maintenance functions for approximately 1 million square feet of City facilities
- Maintained the City of Olathe’s AA+ bond rating with Standard & Poor’s and Fitch rating agencies
- Issued $31,080,000 in general obligation bonds to fund 10 projects, including the street preservation program, Hedge Lane relocation, and the purchase of the KCP&L streetlights
- Completed Wellbeing Program skin screenings on approximately 150 employees for sun damage assessment
- Secured a Historic Preservation Fund grant for $18,000 from the Kansas State Historic Society to assist with the Olathe Memorial Cemetery’s survey and for historic nomination, resulting in the National Register and the Register of Historic Kansas Places designations
- Re-planted a large tree used for the Mayor’s Christmas Tree
- Completed restoration work on the Mahaffie farmhouse walls and the stone ice house

Approaching its third year in operation, the Olathe Community Center saw record growth in membership. Olathe Active programs offer opportunities for healthy lifestyles for all ages and abilities. During 2016, we moved forward to preserve and enhance two important community assets, Cedar Lake and Lake Olathe Parks, with the Lake Master Plan adoption.

WHAT WE’VE ACCOMPLISHED

- Completed master plans and began schematic development for Lake Olathe and Cedar Lake Parks, and the Cedar Creek Trail
- Completed Haven Park reconstruction
- Began construction of Arbor Landing Park
- Completed design and began construction documents for Meadow Lane Trail
- Completed site development plans for:
  - Prairie Center Park
  - Black Bob Park
  - Lone Elm Park
  - Olathe Girls Softball Association facility
  - Olathe Memorial Cemetery
- Completed a site master plan for the Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop and Farm
- Completed the Olathe Heritage Center’s parking lot extension
- Olathe Community Center generated a 10 percent membership increase and a 38 percent revenue increase
- Opened the second summer day camp at Black Bob Park, and the third summer day camp at Oregon Trail Park
- Increased program opportunities and variety for the Active Agers program
- Generated more than $90,000 in sponsorships and grants
- Moved and improved the 4th of July fireworks production
- Continued the Emerald Ash Borer action plan, including treatment and removal of ash trees, and creating a community education video
Olathe Billed One of America’s 50 Best Cities to Live
24/7 Wall St. recently names Olathe one of America’s Best Cities to Live. Olathe is tapped as the 11th best city on the list of 50.

City of Olathe Named Gold Level “Certified Healthy KC Organization”
The City of Olathe is named a Gold Level “Certified Healthy KC Organization” from Healthy KC, a program of the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City. The gold level designation is the highest level of certification within the program.

Olathe Earns Two Top 10 Ratings
Olathe ranks number one on Zippia’s list of the 10 Happiest Cities in America. The score considers factors like education, unemployment rate, cost of living, and poverty level.

Olathe also ranks number nine on Allstate Insurance’s list of America’s Best Drivers Report 2016. The list considers statistics like property damage claims, accident reports, and population density.

ICMA Certificate of Excellence for Performance Measurement
The International City/County Management Association’s Center for Performance Analytics recognizes the City of Olathe with a Certificate of Excellence for its performance measurement efforts. Olathe is among 34 jurisdictions receiving the Certificate of Excellence – the highest level awarded.

Blue Pencil & Gold Screen Awards of Excellence
The City of Olathe receives two Blue Pencil & Gold Screen Awards from the National Association of Government Communicators. Receiving Award of Excellence honors: the 2015 Budget Infographic and the Diverging Diamond Interchange video.

Congressional Fire Services Institute (CFSI) and Masimo Excellence in Fire Service-Based EMS Award
The City of Olathe receives the CFSI/Masimo Excellence in Fire Service-Based EMS Award for its Mobile Integrated Health Program. The award is presented annually for best practices and innovative solutions in the delivery of emergency medical services.

Thomas H. Muehlenbeck Award for Excellence in Local Government
The Alliance for Innovation awards the Thomas H. Muehlenbeck Award for Excellence in Local Government to the City of Olathe for its Mobile Integrated Health Program.

Buford Watson, Jr. Award for Excellence in Public Management
City Manager Michael Wilkes receives the Buford Watson, Jr. Award for Excellence in Public Management from the Kansas Association of City/County Managers. The award is given annually to one government manager in Kansas who has displayed the leadership attributes of the late Buford M. Watson, Jr. (former city manager of Lawrence), which includes serving as a role model in working with constituents, valuing customer satisfaction, and encouraging new members of the profession.

Elite ISO Class 1 Rating for Fire Protection Services
The City of Olathe attains the highest rating possible for fire protection service according to the Insurance Services Office (ISO), who designated Olathe a Class 1 community based on its independent rating system for assessing the quality and effectiveness of municipal fire protection.

National Mayor’s Challenge for Water Conservation
Olathe places fourth in the National Mayor’s Challenge for Water Conservation among cities with a population of 100,000 to 299,999 residents.

BlueCHIP Award
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas and the Kansas Recreation and Park Association present the City of Olathe with a BlueCHIP Award to recognize the Healthy Communities Initiative. The initiative focuses on the total health of Olathe residents through education, support, and physical activity.

2016 Healthiest Employer
The City of Olathe is recognized as a winner of the 2016 Healthiest Employers, an awards program presented by the Kansas City Business Journal. Winning organizations are honored for their commitment to employee health, with exceptional corporate wellness programming.

AAA Platinum Traffic Safety Award
The Automobile Association of America (AAA) recognizes the Olathe Police Department with their highest award for traffic safety.

Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award
For the 12th consecutive year, the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada awards the City of Olathe the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its 2016/2017 budget document.

GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Award
The Government Finance Officers Association awards Olathe the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 38th consecutive year. It is the highest form of recognition, representing a significant accomplishment for the City’s finance efforts.

National Procurement Institute Award
The Procurement Division received the National Procurement Institute Award. The award is based upon criteria designed to measure state of the art business practices.

Tree City USA and Tree City Growth Award
The City of Olathe receives the Arbor Day Foundation “Tree City USA” award for the 33rd year, recognizing the community’s commitment to urban forestry.

2016 Awards of Distinction
The Olathe Community Center receives Awards of Distinction from Commercial Amenity Pools and Westport Pools.

America’s Safest Cities
Olathe is named the fourth safest city among the top 25 safest cities in 24/7 Wall St.’s annual America’s Safest Cities list. The rating is based on low violent crime rates. All of the 25 safest cities have populations between 100,000 and 250,000.