Home Building in Olathe on the Rise

Olathe is leading Johnson County in single-family home building this year, second only to Kansas City, Mo., in the metropolitan area. Through July 2016, the City of Olathe issued 318 single-family home permits, an increase of approximately 30 percent over last year, according to Mark Wassom, Olathe assistant fire chief.

This is the most home building activity since 2007. At this pace, a total of more than 500 single-family home permits may be issued by the end of the year.

The residential building activity is occurring in Olathe’s west, northwest, and south central areas. One of the highest concentrations of building is in the south central area, generally south of 164th Street, between Ridgeview and Black Bob Roads. In this area alone, the Stonebridge development has approximately 1,500 home sites approved through a preliminary plat and almost 500 lots are ready for construction.

In multi-family building permits, Olathe is third in Johnson County and fourth in the metropolitan area.
Mayor’s Message

Olathe Reading Programs Support a Strong Community

Olathe is a caring, giving community that understands we all shoulder the responsibility for giving our children the best opportunities to learn and succeed. We value reading as an important part of good citizenship, and we know it is essential to success in life. Across our city, you will find wonderful literacy programs and partnerships that are making a positive difference.

Our partnership with Olathe Public Schools is key to the success of the “I Read with Mayor Mike” program, which has reached hundreds of first-graders each year since 2005. The program allows me the privilege of sharing the importance and joy of reading with students, who also receive a book and bookbag. “I Read with Mayor Mike” is totally grant funded, thanks to generous sponsors, including Cintas Corporation, Farmers Insurance, Olathe Medical Center, the Olathe Noon Rotary Club, and the Walmart Foundation.

Thanks to the Olathe Housing Authority, Olathe Public Library, and Friends of the Olathe Public Library, a Reading Garden in the Olathe Housing office provides books for children and teens of families who receive housing assistance. The Reading Garden is exceeding expectations, with more than 2,000 books donated during its first six months.

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The Olathe Public Library’s Summer Bookmobile is encouraging reading for children who do not regularly use the Library. The Bookmobile visits select elementary schools where many of these children attend summer school. Each child is encouraged to check out three books at each visit, and no Library card is required. Our community donates books for the program, and students at the Bookmobile’s last visit receive a book to keep.

The Olathe Fire Department is another great literacy partner, teaming up with the Olathe Public Library this fall to offer a new goLibrary at Fire Station No. 6, 24200 W. College Blvd. Like the Olathe Community Center’s goLibrary, visitors may pick up books on hold, return materials, browse the catalog, and place holds. The goLibrary is located just inside the Fire Station’s public entrance.

Olathe seeks to be known as a “City of Readers,” and there are many more community organizations and individuals taking meaningful leadership roles in promoting literacy. Dedicated volunteers with organizations such as the Olathe Noon Rotary Club, School Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students), and Seniors Serving Schools are creating in children a lifelong love of reading.

We can be thankful that so many are committed to supporting our reading community – Olathe’s high quality of life and future depend on it.

Sincerely,

Michael Copeland
Mayor
Olathe Police Department Gets Abundant Community Support

Immediately following police tragedies in Dallas, Texas, Baton Rouge, La., and Kansas City, Kan., members of the Olathe community have come forward nearly every day to show support for the Olathe Police Department. Visit the Facebook page “Olathe Citizens Showing Their Love,” to see more kind deeds from the community.

Stay Connected With Us

OLATHE PUBLIC LIBRARY
201 E. Park St. ............................... 971-6850
13511 S. Mur-Len Rd. .................... 971-6835

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
OLATHE COMMUNITY CENTER
1205 E. Kansas City Rd. (TDD/Voice) ... 971-8563

POLICE DEPARTMENT
501 E. 56 Highway .......................... 971-7500

HUMAN RESOURCES
100 E. Santa Fe .............................. 971-8735

Larry Campbell
Ward 1
913-488-7278
lcampbell@olathecis.org

Jim Randall
Ward 2
and Mayor Pro Tem
913-424-3999
jrandall@olathecis.org

Wes McCoy
Ward 3
913-269-1035
rmccoy@olathecis.org

Marge Vogt
Ward 4
913-269-0625
mvogt@olathecis.org
This summer, residents showed their Olathe pride by finding the #OlatheProud sign posted weekly around the community. On-location selfies were shared through the City of Olathe’s Facebook page and Twitter account, along with what makes residents #OlatheProud. Participants were eligible to win #OlatheProud t-shirts.

**David Magruder • Olathe Community Center**

#OlatheProud that our town has given us an epic place to swim when it gets too cold in the winter. Such a great place to raise my family.

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**Lorrie Hill • Lone Elm Park**

We are #OlatheProud of our Parks & Recreation Department. I love having my boys participate in activities every season.

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**Lacy Carpenter • Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop**

What makes Bodhi Olathe proud is the stagecoach ride and the Independence Day celebration ice cream!

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**Rich Barnes and sons • Two Trails Park**

#OlatheProud

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**@100milerO • Johnson County Square**

Proud to have @OlathePolice, @OlatheFire and @OlatheGovNews to keep us safe and informed! #OlatheProud

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**@tiffanyksmoot • Civic Center Park**

I love this gorgeous city so much and was so excited to finally find the #OlatheProud sign!

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**@Launy23Launy • Olathe Public Library**

Proud to live in a community full of fun activities and events! #OlatheProud

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**@DragonGoddess73 • Civic Center Park**

I am #OlatheProud because downtown has been turned into such a beautiful place to walk.
Area KDOT Projects Near Completion

The I-35 pavement reconstruction project, Santa Fe Street to 151st Street, is scheduled for completion in September 2016, weather permitting. Questions about this project can be directed to Kimberly Qualls, 785-640-9340, kqualls@ksdot.org; or Joshua Welge, 913-764-4525, joshua@ksdot.org.

The second phase of the Johnson County Gateway Project, I-435/I-35/K-10, should be substantially complete by the end of 2016. The westbound I-435 entrance and exit ramps for Lackman Road will be closed through early October, weather permitting. Project updates are available at JoCoGateway.com. Questions can be directed to the project office, 913-577-0000, jocogateway@hntb.com.

City Council Adopts 2017 Budget and Capital Improvement Plan

The Olathe City Council formally adopted the 2017 Budget and the 2016-2020 Capital Improvement Plan on Aug. 16.

The 2017 Budget focuses on strategic investments that support the resident priorities of public safety, transportation, and infrastructure maintenance. The City of Olathe operates under a two-year budget term, which allows for better long-range planning and program analysis. To learn more, or view a copy of the budget, visit OlatheKS.org/Finance/Budget/BudPlan.

What’s Being Built in Olathe

Dial Senior Apartments

A three-story senior apartment building is under construction on the southeast corner of 116th Street and Ridgeview Road. The development includes 146 dwelling units with amenities such as a swimming pool, bocce ball and shuffleboard courts, and community gardens.

Olathe Medical Clinic at Prairie Farms

A new medical clinic is proposed at the southwest corner of Santa Fe Street and Hedge Lane. The clinic is affiliated with Olathe Medical Center, including a 9,300 square foot one-story building, and space for a future building addition.

Garmin International

Garmin broke ground Aug. 26 on a new manufacturing and distribution center near the northwest corner of 151st Street and Ridgeview Road. The City Council approved a rezoning and preliminary development plan in 2015.

Olathe Fire Department Open House

Oct. 9, Noon - 4 p.m.
Fire Station No. 1
501 E. Old 56 Highway

All activities and refreshments are free.

- Meet Olathe firefighters
- Spray water from a fire hose
- See Olathe fire trucks and equipment
- Watch a bomb squad demonstration
- Meet Sparky the robotic fire dog
- See a rescue demonstration using the Jaws of Life
- Enjoy hot dogs grilled by Atmos Energy

Interpreters will be available.

For more information, please contact 913-971-7900.

Voters to Decide Johnson County Public Safety Initiatives

Johnson County Government is asking voters to consider a quarter-cent public safety sales tax on the Nov. 8 ballot. The proposed sales tax will fund a new Johnson County Courthouse on Santa Fe Street, directly north of the existing courthouse building and west of Olathe City Hall in downtown Olathe. The new courthouse will address safety and security issues for victims, families, and jurors. It will improve accessibility and alleviate overcrowding challenges in the current courthouse. The sales tax will also fund a coroner facility for Johnson County. Currently, the County pays to use a lab in Wyandotte County. Under state statute, cities in Johnson County receive a split 34 percent of the total sales tax revenue for resources such as police, fire, streets, and other improvements. The sales tax will sunset in 10 years.

Public tours of the existing courthouse are offered on selected dates through Nov. 1. For more information, visit JoCoPublicSafety.org.
Benefits of Using the Olathe TrashDay Mobile App

- Get trash day reminders
- What goes where? Find where to dispose various items
- Request a bulky item pick-up
- Report a problem

Need a Larger Recycling Cart?
If your household needs a larger recycling cart, you can upgrade to a 95-gallon cart at no charge. Make this request through the Olathe Trash Day mobile app, or call 913-971-9311.

NEW!
The City of Olathe Curbside Collection is now accepting waxed milk and juice cartons in the blue recycling carts.

For a full list of items accepted for recycling, visit OlatheKS.org/OMS/Recycling or use the What Goes Where? feature within the Olathe Trash Day mobile app or online.

Gray cart: Household trash
Green cart: Yard waste
Blue cart: Recycling materials
Managing Autumn Leaves

Whether you have few leaves or many that fall on your property, there are ways to take care of this yard waste. Raking may not be necessary for a modest amount of leaves. Regular mowing to chop up leaves provides a good source of organic lawn fertilizer. Try this method if leaves are not matted and grass is visible through the leaves. “Mow it high, let it lie” applies to this method of leaf management.

Raking is probably necessary for a heavier layer of leaves. Protect trees, flowerbeds, and vegetable gardens from cold temperatures by insulating them with ground up leaves.

Yard Waste Guidelines

Curbside Collection

- Yard waste bags* or a YardCart should be placed at the curb by 8 a.m. on the regular collection day
- Plastic bags will not be accepted
- Limbs and brush must be less than four inches in diameter, less than four feet in length, bundled, securely tied, and weighing less than 50 lbs.
* No limit on the number of yard waste bags accepted at the curb.

Bulk Pick-up
Limbs and brush exceeding the limits stated above should be scheduled for a bulk pick-up by calling 913-971-9311 one business day prior to the requested collection day. Fees apply: $20 per each 15 minutes of loading time.

Self-Haul
Olathe residents can drop off yard waste at the Composting Facility, 127th and Hedge Lane, Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. No fees apply.

Want to be more environmentally friendly?

Purchase a YardCart
$75, plus tax
To order:
Call Customer Service at 913-971-9311
Visit OlatheKS.org/secure/Forms/YardWaste

Sign Up for Free Electronic Billing

City of Olathe water, wastewater, and solid waste customers are encouraged to sign up for free electronic billing.

Electronic billing customers receive an email link to their online account login page when the bill is generated each month. Customers have the option to pay their bill in person, online, or mail their payment through the postal service.

Sign up at OlatheKS.org/CCS/ElectronicBilling. Once an online account is set up, customers can track water and sewer usage and account balances.

It is illegal to blow or rake leaves into the street, stormdrain or streams.
Wild West Days

ACTIVITIES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

SEPTEMBER 24 & 25
10am-4pm & 11am-4pm

$5 * $20
ages 5 & over for five tickets

FAMILY FRIENDLY ADMISSION!

Free parking and free shuttle bus from Olathe North High School

Some activities have an additional fee

1200 E. Kansas City Rd. • Olathe, KS 66061
913-971-5111 • mahaffie.org