

All Things

HOMETOWN

Winter 2024



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INTERNATIONAL





WORDS from the HEART

Mayor Michelle Distler

Well, after many years, we've finally arrived at the finish line. Together. As my time as Shawnee's Mayor is coming to a close, I have a lot to be grateful for. Every day was a learning experience as I surrounded myself with the brightest staff, the most caring community, and the most dedicated residents who volunteer and serve the public alongside me. With each groundbreaking, ribbon cutting, new hire, new park, and event, I was proud to witness Shawnee's fabric being woven right before my eyes. Along with all of you, I anxiously await the completion of the chapel at Shawnee Town 1929!

When I began my time in public service as a Ward IV councilmember in 2006, I was a lifelong resident looking to get involved and make a difference. I couldn't have imagined that now, almost 18 years later, my passion and dedication would have led me to being Shawnee's first female Mayor for two terms. I have had the pleasure of witnessing so much history being made with the revitalization of our Downtown district, the ribbon cuttings of several new businesses and parks, championed accreditation in many departments, and celebrated community members and staff alike.

I am proud to have raised tens of thousands of dollars for local charities through the Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund during my time as Mayor. This position has granted me opportunities to give back and I can assure you my commitment and involvement in this community will continue after my term is over.

Throughout my time as Mayor, one common thread has served as my "why" over and over again: the people. I believe our community is nothing without the kindness from a neighbor, the helping hand lent freely by a friend, the careful consideration of the greater good by City staff, and the beaming smiles I see at events. We are a hometown community built on the heart, souls, and desires of some of the best people I've ever known.

As my time comes to a close, I want to offer a few thanks. To God, for leading me to my service here. To my daughter, for her constant love and support. I cherish her more than anything in the world. And to my parents for their support. To all the City and Chamber staff who have put years into making this community what it is. They have become friends, trusted advisors, and a guiding light through hard times. And to you, the residents. The business owners. The children. The teachers. The parents. Even the pups. You all have played the most important role in making this community what it is today. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Sincerely,

Mayor Michelle Distler

Spread holiday cheer this season by donating to the

Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund



cityofshawnee.org/mctf



It may seem hard to believe, but it's time to start thinking about Santa, holiday trees, and decorations! Pledge your support today for the Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund!

**all proceeds benefit two
local organizations**

 Shawnee Community Services

 Sunflower House

cityofshawnee.org/mctf

Christkindl at MOONLIGHT MARKT



Downtown Shawnee ■ City Hall Parking Lot
November 16 ■ 4pm - 7pm



Discover YOUR Downtown.

There's always something **NEW TO DISCOVER** in Downtown Shawnee. **TASTE** local flavors, grab a bite to eat at one of our local restaurants. **INDULGE** in retail therapy with boutique shopping. **UNCOVER** Shawnee's rooted history with an outdoor escape.

**AND WITH EXCITING NEW DEVELOPMENTS TO DISCOVER,
YOU'LL WANT TO KEEP COMING BACK.**

cityofshawnee.org/downtown

Stay Connected with Shawnee's Growth!

Simply visit cityofshawnee.org and explore our "Construction Projects" section. There, you'll find all the latest updates, from exciting new businesses to infrastructure projects. Explore a glimpse of the newest businesses in Shawnee below:

- Bubble Room Laundry - 7441 Nieman Road
- Abelardo's Mexican Fresh - 5650 Hedge Lane Terrace
- Gallagher's Coffeehouse - 22742 Midland Drive
- Friction Beer Company - 11018 Johnson Drive
- Wild Child - 11022 Johnson Drive
- District Pour House - 11101 Johnson Drive
- Five Below - 15300 Shawnee Mission Parkway
- Bath and Body Works - 15310 Shawnee Mission Parkway
- Twisted Sugar - 15810 Shawnee Mission Parkway
- Jersey Mike's Subs - 15810 Shawnee Mission Parkway
- Rhythm Cycle & Sculpt - 7470 Nieman Road
- Flapjacks 'N More - 22716 Midland Drive
- Smoothie King - 22018 W. 66th Street
- Nothing Bundt Cakes - 12258 Shawnee Mission Parkway
- Abide Functional Wellness - 6109 Nieman Road
- Tidal Wave Auto Spa - 12500 Shawnee Mission Parkway
- Optum - 13340 W. 62nd Terrace
- Tropical Smoothie Cafe - 22233 W. 66th Street
- Buffalo Wild Wings 'GO' - 6638 Monticello Road
- BIBIBOP Asian Grill - 22235 W. 66th Street
- Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen - 6235 Nieman Road



Construction Projects

TIDY TOWN Reminder

As a reminder, you need to schedule your customized curbside pickup date directly with your trash company. You can also use the voucher that was mailed to every home in January and take one car or pickup truck load to the landfill for a free drop-off. Please note, you must take your voucher with you. Questions about the landfill drop off, call (913) 631-8181 and hit prompt #2 or email jcl@wm.com.

Questions ? about Curbside Bulky-Item Pick Up Contact Your Hauler

Waste Management
913.631.3300

Republic (A-1/Superior)
913.279.6033

GFL Environmental
816.380.5595

KC Disposal
816.388.9739

Constable Sanitation
816.204.1192

cityofshawnee.org/tidytown

Need a RIDE?

CityRide is open to Shawnee residents aged 65 and older or those with disabilities. Curious if you meet the criteria? Reach out to us at 742-6014 or visit cityofshawnee.org and look for "CityRide" to learn more.



10/10 TAXI® **zTrip**®
913-647-0010

Stormwater Snapshot

Flood Insurance

While you are making your next "to do" list, be sure to talk to your insurance agent about flood insurance. Shawnee participates in the National Flood Insurance Program, so that means you are eligible to buy federally backed flood insurance if you are in a floodplain or on top of a hill. Shawnee also has a low FEMA Community Rating System, a Class 6, which means lower flood insurance premium discounts for property owners.

Flood Hazards & Floodplain Mapping

From tornadoes to snowstorms to flood hazards, the threat of weather is always around. Visit the FEMA Flood Map Service Center at msc.fema.gov/portal/home to see where the floodplain is in your area. You can also request FEMA floodplain map information through the Public Works Department at 742-6009.

Floods can happen anywhere.
To anyone. At any time.



Senior Services and Community Assistance

Our website offers a wealth of information on assistance programs available to senior citizens and community members. Take a look at some of these examples that can help eligible residents save money.

- City rebates on franchise fees and telephone land lines
- CityRide
- Neighbors Helping Neighbors program that provides some home maintenance and repair
- Property Tax Relief
- Johnson County Services
- Prescription Assistance Program
- Low Income Energy Assistance Program

These are just a handful of the local resources at your disposal. Explore cityofshawnee.org and search for "Senior Services" or reach out to us at 631-2500. We're here to provide you with information on the specific requirements for each program.



neighbors helping neighbors

Neighbors Helping Neighbors is a program connecting volunteers with eligible residents. A couple hours of your time makes a lasting impact on our community. Visit cityofshawnee.org/nhn to find out ways our volunteers help their neighbors in need.



cityofshawnee.org/nhn

SNOW SEASON

How You Can Prepare

Avoid Parking on the Street

When parking on the street, consider staying on one side to facilitate plow and emergency vehicle access.



Remove Basketball Goals from the Street

Remember, this includes skateboard ramps or any portable items that could obstruct our plows.



Give Our Drivers Time and Space

We share your commitment to clear roads. Kindly give our dedicated drivers the space and time they need to plow nearly 800 lane miles.



cityofshawnee.org/snow

Snow Squad



The Shawnee Snow Squad is a shining example of the power of community spirit and compassion. Through their selfless efforts, they ensure that no one is left behind during the winter season. If you have the means and the heart to help, consider becoming a part of this remarkable group, and together, we can make Shawnee a safer and more inclusive community for all its residents.

To sign up and become a part of the Shawnee Snow Squad, reach out to Volunteer Coordinator Elizabeth Griffith at 742-6244 or egriffith@cityofshawnee.org.

Shawnee Fire



Follow US!



@ShawneeKSFire

6 QUICK TIPS



PUT THE CHILL ON COLD WEATHER CRIMES

1 Don't warm up your unlocked car in the driveway.



2 Don't leave your car unlocked while getting gas or running inside a store.

3 Never leave children alone in the car.



4 Allow extra drive time during winter weather conditions.

5 Keep your cell phones charged.



6 Have an emergency kit in your car.

Employees with Heart



Austin Kronawitter
Supervisor - Stormwater

1. What do you like most about your job?

What I like most is knowing that the work I do has a positive affect on the City of Shawnee. Whether it be day to day stormwater repairs or emergency operations.

2. How does your work impact the community?

The work on stormwater impacts the community in various ways. On stormwater we repair and replace pipes, cut ditches, and clean creek channels to prevent flooding and allow water to flow to streams and creeks.

3. What is your favorite spot in Shawnee?

My favorite place in Shawnee would have to be all the fantastic parks!

Unlock Your Future

Service-oriented careers with the City of Shawnee offer a unique opportunity to combine personal fulfillment with community impact. By joining the city's dedicated workforce, you can contribute to the betterment of your community, enjoy competitive compensation and benefits, and thrive in a positive work environment.

Join
Our Team



cityofshawnee.org/jobs

VOLUNTEER

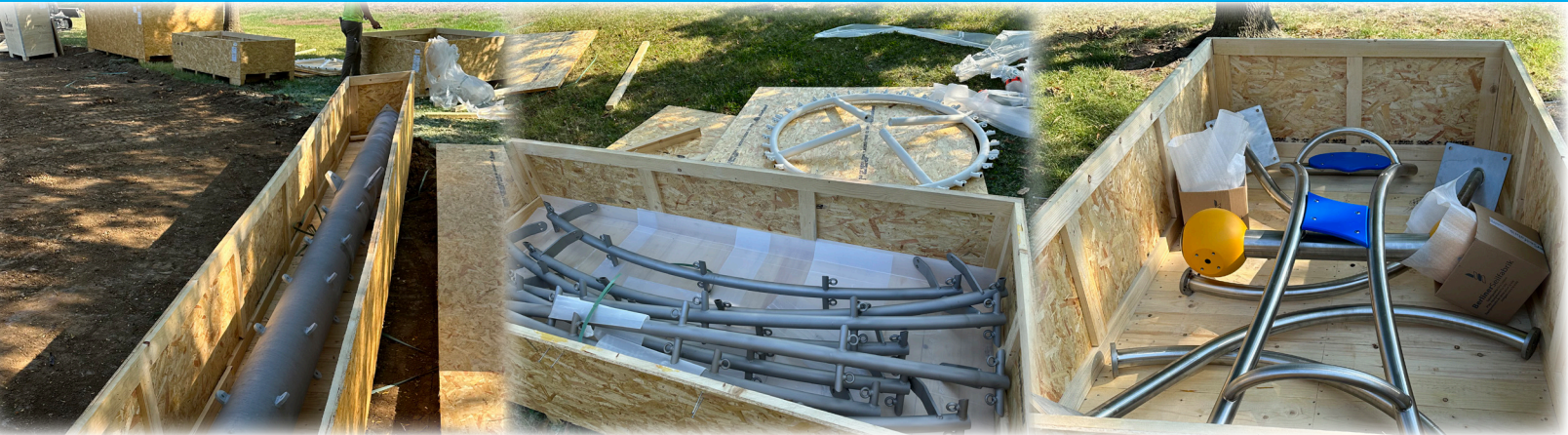


cityofshawnee.org/shawneevolunteer



Renovations are taking shape at Gum Springs Park!

Gum Springs Park ■ 11524 W. 67th Street



Gum Springs Park is getting a facelift! This renovation project includes a captivating new playground featuring a soaring 30-foot hot air balloon structure by Berliner Play Equipment. Additionally, all four baseball fields will receive updated backstops and fencing, offering improved facilities for sports enthusiasts. The park's trail system will also get a makeover, with a new eight-foot-wide concrete trail replacing the current asphalt path. Although the park, including parking lots and restrooms, will remain closed during construction, these enhancements promise to revitalize Gum Springs Park and provide the community with an even more inviting outdoor space. Gum Springs renovation is funded by the Parks and Pipes sales tax.

cityofshawnee.org/parkprogress

BUILDING A BETTER TOMORROW

Shawnee dedicated the Shawnee Parks & Recreation Maintenance Facility in August of this year. The new facility consolidates equipment, staff, and resources, streamlining operations for greater efficiency and effectiveness in serving Shawnee residents. This accomplishment reflects Shawnee's dedication to providing top-notch services to its citizens.

18570 Johnson Drive



In Their Footsteps: *Lantern Walking Tour*

Code: 395202

Saturday, November 11
6pm-9pm - \$10 per person

Timed Entry: Preregistration is required

Shawnee Town 1929 Museum - 11501 West 57th St
EVENT HELD RAIN OR SHINE!

Sensory Friendly Santa Experience

Saturday, December 2 ▪ 9:00am
Event Length: 3 hours, by appointment

Waiting in line to see the man in the red suit is often a challenge for little ones with sensory needs. We've arranged for Santa to make a special stop at the Shawnee Civic Centre! Schedule your time for a private visit and photo with Santa. Come enjoy some holiday treats and winter activities in our semi-private North Pole Lounge. Call 631-5200 to save your spot!

New!
\$15



390101-01 ▪ Ages 2 - 10

For Updates Please Visit
cityofshawnee.org/calendar

December

- 4 Planning Commission - 7:00 p.m.
- 7 Parks and Rec. Advisory Board - 5:30 p.m.
- 11 City Council & Council Committee Meetings - 6:00 p.m.
- 18 Planning Commission - 7:00 p.m.
- 21 Shawnee Downtown Partnership - 6:00 p.m.
Board of Zoning Appeals - 7:30 p.m.
- 25 Christmas Holiday - City Offices Closed

January

- 1 New Year's Day Holiday - City Offices Closed
- 3 Planning Commission - Time TBD
- 4 Parks and Rec. Advisory Board - 5:30 p.m.
- 8 City Council & Council Committee Meetings - 6:00 p.m.
- 15 Martin Luther King Jr Day - City Offices Closed
- 17 Planning Commission - Time TBD
- 18 Board of Zoning Appeals - 7:30 p.m.
- 22 City Council & Council Committee Meetings - 6:00 p.m.
- 28 Board of Zoning Appeals - 7:30 p.m.

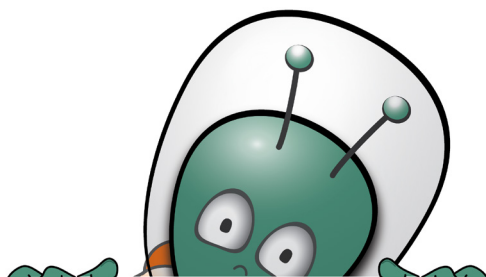
February

- 1 Parks and Rec. Advisory Board - 5:30 p.m.
- 5 Planning Commission - Time TBD
- 12 City Council & Council Committee Meetings - 6:00 p.m.
- 15 Board of Zoning Appeals - 7:30 p.m.
- 19 Presidents' Day - City Offices Closed
- 21 Planning Commission - Time TBD
- 22 Shawnee Downtown Partnership - 6:00 p.m.
- 26 City Council & Council Committee Meetings - 6:00 p.m.

NotifyJoCo

What I need to know.
When I need to know it.

NotifyJoCo is your lifeline to essential information in emergencies. Don't leave your safety to chance. Visit NotifyJoCo.org today to register and customize your preferences. Stay informed, stay safe, and empower yourself with NotifyJoCo.



Get Involved: Serve Your City on a Board or Commission

Serve Your Community

We're seeking dedicated
dolunteers with a
passion for serving
Shawnee!

Shape the Future of Shawnee

Board and Commission
makes recommendations
to our City Council on
a variety of projects,
developments and
decisions that help
shape Shawnee.

Ways to Serve

- Planning Commission
- Parks and Recreation
Advisory Board
- Board of Zoning
Appeals
- Code Board of Appeals
- Civil Service
Commission
- Community Police
Advisory Board

Tailor Your Commitment

Find the right Board
or Commission with
meetings that fit your
schedule!

[cityofshawnee.org/
calendar](http://cityofshawnee.org/calendar)

Explore Board and Commission Opportunities, Apply Anytime!

cityofshawnee.org

City of Shawnee
11110 Johnson Drive
Shawnee, KS 66203

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Olathe, KS
Permit # 609

CONTACT US

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Building Inspections/Permits | 742-6010 |
| City Hall | 631-2500 |
| CityRide – Request Ride | 647-0010 |
| CityRide – Sign-Up | 742-6014 |
| Civic Centre | 631-5200 |
| Code Enforcement | 742-6010 |
| Fire Department/Burning Permits | 631-1080 |
| Johnson County Election Office | 715-6800 |
| Odor Complaints | 894-3777 |
| Police (Non-Emergency) | 631-2150 |
| Police/Fire Emergency | 9-1-1 |
| Parks and Recreation | 631-5200 |
| Planning & Zoning | 742-6011 |
| Public Works | 742-6008 |
| Recycling & Trash | 742-6258 |
| Shawnee Town 1929 | 248-2360 |
| Snow Hotline | 742-6097 |
| Splash Cove | 631-7177 |
| Street Lights/Traffic Signals/Signs | 742-6008 |
| Thomas A. Soetaert Aquatic Center | 631-0054 |
| Traffic Tickets | 742-6003 |
| Volunteer Opportunities | 742-6244 |

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor

Michelle Distler (913) 634-5883 mdistler@cityofshawnee.org

Ward I

Tammy Thomas (913) 221-3606 tthomas@cityofshawnee.org

Tony Gillette (913) 230-1608 tgillette@cityofshawnee.org

Ward II

Eric Jenkins (913) 669-1076 ejenkins@cityofshawnee.org

Mike Kemmling (913) 667-9888 mkemmling@cityofshawnee.org

Ward III

Kurt Knappen (913) 608-2724 kknappen@cityofshawnee.org

Angela Stiens (913) 909-9903 astiens@cityofshawnee.org

Ward IV

Jill Chalfie (913) 259-4679 jchalfie@cityofshawnee.org

Jacklynn Walters (913) 302-3053 jwalters@cityofshawnee.org

All Things Hometown, an official publication of the City of Shawnee, Kansas, is published four times a year and mailed to residents in Shawnee under the direction of the Communications Director. Readers' comments may be directed to:

Communications Director
11110 Johnson Drive
Shawnee, Kansas 66203
By phone 742-6202 or
e-mail ddonahoo@cityofshawnee.org

This document, meeting agendas and packets, and information about Shawnee, are available at cityofshawnee.org.



Cover Picture:
Home Sweet Shawnee: A Place Like No Other!

