A GOOD WORD FROM  

Mayor Michelle Distler  

We are headed into the holiday season and this one is going to look and feel a lot different. All of us have had to sacrifice something this year, whether it be a layoff, a cancelled vacation, or maybe an unusual start to the school year. As your Mayor, I truly hope each and every one of you reading this are able to spend time with your family and friends over the next couple months and take stock of the many things we have to be thankful for.

As I do every year, I take great pride in choosing local Shawnee organizations to benefit from the Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund. Both Shawnee Community Services and Mercy and Truth Medical Missions will get a boost from the donations that our local businesses and people like YOU send in. I am so proud of our community for stepping up every year to help others. Last year, we raised more than $33,000 with the Mayor’s Christmas Tree Fund. I hope to top that this year.

There are several ways you can donate including dropping off or mailing a check to the address below.

City of Shawnee  
Mayor’s Christmas Tree Fund  
11110 Johnson Drive  
Shawnee, KS 66203

We also have online options, if that is easier for you. Head to cityofshawnee.org/mctf for full details.

I wish you all an incredible holiday season. Let’s take this time to focus on what is important in our lives. I am fortunate enough to have spent time with many of you and I know one thing we can all agree on is how much we love Shawnee. Our community is strong and kind and I know we can all come together to make sure that never wavers and only builds as we head into 2021.

Happy Holidays,

Michelle

Mayor Michelle Distler
There is still time to donate to the Mayor’s Christmas Tree Fund! Mayor Michelle Distler chose Mercy & Truth Medical Missions and Shawnee Community Services to benefit from this year’s fund. All the money raised will go directly to these organizations and directly to people who need a hand up in our community.

Mercy & Truth Medical Missions provides health care to those in need at a low cost. They have clinics in Shawnee and KCK. Mercy & Truth’s mission extends to serving people in several countries where teams set up mobile patient clinics. The organization also donates medicine and medical supplies to make a difference in lives around the world and right here in Shawnee.

Shawnee Community Services offers several programs including a food pantry, free clothing and household items along with emergency financial help for shelter, utilities and health care. They serve thousands of residents every year and make a huge difference in our community.

So, how can you help? There are several ways. For just $5, you can sponsor an ornament that will hang on the Christmas tree inside the City Hall lobby with your name on it. Or simply make a donation at cityofshawnee.org/mctf, in person at City Hall, or through the mail!

We have full details online at cityofshawnee.org. Thank you for considering taking part in the Mayor’s Christmas Tree Fund!

Shawnee Swag

Adult T-shirts $12
Adult Hoodies $30
Toddler (2T-5T) T-shirts $8
Baby Onesies $8

Shawnee Town 1929 Visitor’s Center
11501 W. 57th St.
M-F • 8am-5pm
What’s New in Shawnee?

Do you want to know what’s shaking in Shawnee, visit cityofshawnee.org and click on the “Construction Projects” icon located on the home page. You will find a complete list of City and private projects. Below are just a few of the projects going on in Shawnee!

- Hawaiian Brothers Restaurant going in at the former Boston Market building at 11600 Shawnee Mission Parkway
- Hartman Hardware Building renovation plans at 11018 Johnson Drive
- Pflumm Road Rehabilitation Project from Midland Drive to the southern City limits
- Schier Headquarters at Woodland and Shawnee Mission Parkway
1. What do you like most about your job?
I would be hard pressed to find a job that's as interesting, challenging, and consequential as working for the Shawnee Fire Department. We can go from changing smoke detector batteries for an elderly resident to working a cardiac arrest resuscitation to extinguishing a house fire in the course of one shift. Each call is challenging and unique. People call the fire department when they don't know who else to call for help. It's a privilege to be able to provide that service for others.

2. How does your work impact the community?
One of my responsibilities is medical education. From teaching the EMS modules for Fire Department recruits, to writing continuing education hours for the Johnson County EMS system, to teaching CPR and first aid to citizens, I have a lot of opportunities to play a role in the delivery of medical care in the community.

3. What is your favorite spot in Shawnee?
This might sound crazy but I like being at work, on Engine 71, which runs from our headquarters station at 65th street and Quivira. Engine 71 and Shawnee Fire Headquarters are some of the busiest firefighters in the entire state. We are out in the community every day and night. I really enjoy what I do for a living and the people that I work with. Emergency services personnel in Shawnee have such a wealth of educational and experiential diversity that it makes for a great place to work with excellent co-workers.
HELLO SHAWNEE!

It’s time to take a look at our Comprehensive Plan, and we need YOUR help!

www.achieveshawnee.com
In September, the City of Shawnee kicked off an exciting and important project for the future of our community: a new Comprehensive Plan. The current comprehensive plan was originally adopted in 1987, so it is time to update and look forward to the future. With the help of a local consultant (Ochsner Hare & Hare, the Olsson Studio), the new plan will be based on community input, opportunities, economic realities, and the city’s new strategic vision.

WHAT IS A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN?
At its core, a comprehensive plan is a vision for the future at a community scale. Comprehensive plans are created by and for the community to record shared goals and desires for themselves and their fellow community members. A comprehensive plan examines what a community is, where it came from, and crafts a coordinated road map for the future. This road map guides the growth and development of the community for the next 10 to 20 years, and is revisited to ensure its relevance.

WHAT DOES THE PLANNING PROCESS LOOK LIKE?
The plan development process will take approximately 12 months and consists of six primary phases: discovery, engagement, planning, refinement, implementing, and sustaining. Together, these phases will lead Shawnee to a new comprehensive plan. From Discovery, where a baseline understanding of Shawnee is created, to Engage where the community shares their voice, to Planning and Refinement when the actual road map for the future of topics like development, connectivity, and housing are recorded, to Implementing and Sustaining when the new comprehensive plan is put to work for the community.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?
There will be many opportunities to participate during this year-long effort, including workshops focused on specific corridors and areas of Shawnee, public open houses, an online survey, and more! There will be a mixture of in-person and online events. All in-person events will adhere to all current gathering guidelines.

visit often!

www.achieveshawnee.com

questions? email achieveshawnee@cityofshawnee.org
Did you know our website has quite a bit of information about how senior citizens and other folks in our community can get help? Here are just a few examples of programs 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 few of the local resources that can help you. Head to cityofshawnee.org and search “Senior Services” or just give us a call at 631-2500. We will be happy to talk to you about the different requirements for each program and help you through the process.

“Neighbors Helping Neighbors” is a program connecting volunteers with eligible residents. A couple hours of your time makes a lasting impact on our community.

Check out some of the ways our volunteers help their neighbors in need:

- Trash removal
- Yard maintenance
- Lawn mowing
- Limited plumbing and electrical repair
- Exterior painting
- Raking leaves
- Trimming branches
- Washing windows
- Changing light bulbs
- Changing smoke alarm batteries
- Turning mattresses

Do you know a Shawnee resident who is disabled or is 65 or older? If so, the City offers a transportation program called CityRide. It is a partnership between the City and 10/10 Taxi that allows eligible riders to purchase 10 one-way trips per month for $2 per trip. Riders can go anywhere in the City limits and to the Shawnee Mission Hospital Complex, or the Mission Transit Center. Riders can also take up to three additional riders for no extra cost. Contact the City Clerk's Office at 742-6014 to sign-up and purchase ride.
Following winter storms, there are many residents in our community who are unable to clear snow and ice off of their driveways and sidewalks. That's when the Shawnee Snow Squad jumps into action!

If you own a snow shovel, snow blower, or snow plow and have a passion for serving in the community, volunteer to join our Snow Squad. Volunteers assist Shawnee residents that are physically unable to remove snow from their driveways and sidewalks.

Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Elizabeth Griffith, at 742-6244 or egriffith@cityofshawnee.org to sign up!

Join Our Team
cityofshawnee.org/jobs

Put a FREEZE on Winter Fires

Home fires occur more in winter than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this winter, be fire smart!
Did you know that your everyday habits impact our water quality? When it rains or snows, water runs across rooftops, down streets and across parking lots and yards, picking up substances along the way. This stormwater “runoff” often contains materials like chemical fertilizer, pet waste, cigarette butts, automotive fluids and yard waste.

This untreated runoff water washes down storm drains and into local streams and rivers and that can cause pollution and endanger public health and wildlife. Water quality is not only important for our environment but also for plants, animals and our community.

Ways to help deter stormwater runoff include:

- Plant native plants, trees and rain gardens: This can cut down on your mowing and increase filtration.  
  We have a cost-share program for that!
- Using lawn chemicals sparingly: They contain harmful ingredients. Have your soil tested to make certain you are using the right fertilizer for your lawn.
- Vehicle maintenance: Fix any fluid leaks under your car. Properly dispose of antifreeze.  
  Never dump it on the ground or down a storm drain.
- Ice melt: Only use the amount needed and try using eco-friendly alternatives to de-icing materials.
- Pick up after your pet: Pet waste is not a fertilizer and contains harmful bacteria.

To report stormwater pollution, contact the Stormwater Division at 742-6313 or email tsnyder@cityofshawnee.org.

Help Stop the Spread and STAY HEALTHY

We are proud that our City business keeps moving forward, even during a pandemic. You will notice several changes in our City buildings the next time you visit.

- Face masks are required in all of our facilities
- Hand sanitizer stations are available throughout buildings
- Clear, plastic barriers are up at public counters
- Floor stickers identifying six-foot distances for visitors

COVID-19 has impacted many of our community events and meetings. You can keep an eye on the latest updates and changes at cityofshawnee.org/calendar. If you have any questions, feel free to call us at 631-2500 or e-mail cityofshawnee@cityofshawnee.org.

NotifyJoCo

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

Those who live or work in Johnson County can now sign up to receive important information about locations they care about through NotifyJoCo, a free public notification system which will communicate emergency information through phone, text and email messages to members of the community.

Using contact information provided by users, NotifyJoCo allows local governments and utilities to notify the public about issues affecting locations users identify. Emergency notifications will be sent in cases needing an immediate response, such as tornado warnings, evacuation notices and public health alerts. Visit NotifyJoCo.org to register your information and customize your preferences today!
WANT TO SERVE ON A CITY BOARD OR COMMISSION?

SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY

We are looking for volunteers who are engaged in Shawnee and feel a strong drive to serve our community.

SHAPE THE FUTURE OF SHAWNEE

Our Board Members and Commissioners make recommendations to our City Council on a wide variety of projects, developments and decisions that help shape Shawnee.

DIFFERENT WAYS TO SERVE

• Planning Commission
• Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
• Board of Zoning Appeals
• Code Board of Appeals
• Civil Service Commission

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Each Board and Commission requires different time commitments. Visit cityofshawnee.org/calendar to see when meetings are scheduled.

READY TO APPLY?

Visit cityofshawnee.org

You will find descriptions of each Board and Commission, along with information on how to apply. We accept applications any time.

VOLUNTEER

cityofshawnee.org/shawneevolunteer

For Updates Please Check cityofshawnee.org/calendar

December
3  Parks and Rec. Advisory Board - 5:30 p.m.
7  Council Committee - 6:00 p.m.
   Planning Commission - 7:30 p.m.
14 City Council - 7:00 p.m.
17 Shawnee Downtown Partnership - 6:00 p.m.
21 Planning Commission - 7:30 p.m.
25 Christmas Holiday - City Offices Closed

January
1  New Year’s Day City Offices Closed
4  Council Committee - 6:00 p.m.
   Planning Commission - 7:30 p.m.
7  Parks and Rec. Advisory Board - 5:30 p.m.
11 City Council - 7:00 p.m.
18 Martin Luther King Jr Day City Offices Closed
20 Planning Commission - 7:30 p.m.
21 Board of Zoning Appeals - 7:30 p.m.
25 City Council - 7:00 p.m.

February
1  Council Committee - 6:00 p.m.
   Planning Commission - 7:30 p.m.
4  Parks and Rec. Advisory Board - 5:30 p.m
8  City Council - 7:00 p.m.
15 Presidents’ Day - City Offices Closed
17 Planning Commission - 7:30 p.m.
18 Board of Zoning Appeals - 7:30 p.m.
22 City Council - 7:00 p.m.
25 Downtown Partnership Mtg - 6:00 p.m.
The CityLine, 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 Manager. Readers’ comments are encouraged and may be directed to:

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

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