



News Release

Unified Government Public Relations
701 N. 7th Street, Room 620
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

Mike Taylor, Public Relations Director 913.573.5565
Edwin Birch, Public Information Officer 913.573.5544

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 27, 2019

2020 Unified Government Budget

Budget Holds the Line on Wyandotte County and KCK Property Tax Rate

The Proposed 2020 Unified Government budget holds the line on property taxes for KCK and Wyandotte County home and business owners.

The proposed no tax increase budget follows three consecutive years of property tax reductions. The 2019 Budget reduced property taxes by 5% which was added to an 8% reduction since 2016. At the time of the Unified Government consolidation in 1997, the owner of a \$100,000 house paid \$1,116 in city/county property tax. More than 20 years later, an owner of a \$100,000 house will pay \$943 in Unified Government property tax. That's 15% less in property taxes.

The UG Commission property tax rate reduction for Kansas City, Kansas from 43.875 mills in 2016 to 38.138 mills in 2019, equates to an annual savings to taxpayers of \$6.3 million

The Unified Government makes up 46% of the total tax bill, with public schools, the Kansas City Kansas Community College, public library and State of Kansas collecting the majority of property taxes paid by residents.

"The budget is designed to improve critical infrastructure; increase operational efficiency and effectiveness; improve appearance and safety in neighborhoods; targeted investment to drive future growth; and long-term fiscal sustainability," stated County Administrator Doug Bach.

The Proposed 2020 Budget works to meet community needs and Commission goals by:

- Increasing funding for public safety;
- Improving streets through construction projects and better maintenance;
- Igniting economic development and creating new jobs;
- Protecting neighborhoods and businesses through major flood control projects;
- Protecting the environment through sewer and waste treatment processes;
- Enhancing quality of life by reducing blight and improving parks and trails;
- Elevating customer service with greatly improved on-line functions, making it easier to pay bills, check municipal court appearances and a variety of other communications with the Unified Government.

The 2020 Proposed Budget totals \$394.8-million, or 2.9% more than 2019.

For complete details on the 2020 Proposed Unified Government Budget go to www.wycokck.org.

CONTACT: Mike Taylor, Public Relations Director

Office: 913.573.5565 Cell: 913.449.4848

###