

# A Framework for the Future



## HELP PLAN OUR

# community's future

The state of Kansas requires communities to have a comprehensive plan to guide spending on public infrastructure and facilities, and to authorize city and county land development approvals. Over the next three years, **Wichita-Sedgwick County** will be developing a new comprehensive plan that will guide our investment in public infrastructure for 2015 to 2035.

### Why should you care?

As a Wichita/Sedgwick County resident, you are a community shareholder in more than \$7 billion of combined city/county infrastructure and facility assets. These assets help shape our community's future economy and quality of life. These assets help drive private investment.

### Our Current Investments

Our infrastructure and facility assets have been assessed according to the following categories:

- **Transportation** (highways, bridges, streets, sidewalks/paths, parking facilities, airport, rail)
- **Water, Sewer and Stormwater** (improvements to water/sewer infrastructure, securing a long-term water supply, efforts to minimize stormwater and flooding problems)
- **Culture, Recreation & Parks** (libraries, culture/entertainment venues, parks, bicycle paths)
- **Community and Economic Development** (programs for youth, services to address chronic homelessness, workforce training, efforts to attract and retain businesses, downtown development initiatives)



**We need your help.** Our children and grandchildren need your help. We believe it's about defining future expectations for our public infrastructure and facilities.



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## Important Future Community Trends & Forecasts

- There are diminishing and shifting state and federal public resources for local community facility and infrastructure investment.
- The city and county revenue streams are slowing (property tax, local sales tax, etc.); this results in a growing imbalance between revenues and the rising costs of local government.
- Rising fuel and energy prices significantly increase capital, operational and maintenance costs associated with public facilities and infrastructure.
- External factors and compliance with environmental requirements will drive some of our future investment priorities (Clean Water Act, air quality and ozone issues, etc.)
- By 2035, our county population will range from 593,000 to 610,000, with most projected growth in the northwest and northeast sections of the community.

## So, again, why should you care?

Our future together as a community will be a function of what we collectively: have, need, want, currently spend and will spend on public investments and facilities. The question is: "how much," "how best" and "where best" should we invest our public funds in our community's public assets?

## Community Survey

Wichita State University will conduct a random, mail survey of 25,000 registered voters in January. We believe it will provide valuable community feedback to:

- Identify future spending priorities for essential infrastructure.
- Identify citizen "willingness to pay" (more, less or the same).
- Develop a new Wichita-Sedgwick County comprehensive plan.



## What else?

- To read in-depth fact sheets about the Plan topics, visit the website: [www.communityinvestmentsplan.org](http://www.communityinvestmentsplan.org).
- View a video about the CommunityInvestmentsPlan process on the website or Wichita's City Channel 7.
- If you or someone you know receive a survey, please complete it! If you do not receive a survey, but would like to join the conversation, go to the City of Wichita Facebook page or the Plan website.
- For any questions, contact Metropolitan Area Planning Department at 268-4421.



*Sedgwick County...  
working for you*

