

# CITY OF WICHITA 2008/2009 ANNUAL BUDGET

**WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY  
WICHITA/SEDGWICK COUNTY 1.5 MILL LEVY BUDGET  
AS PROPOSED BY WSU PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

	2008 ADOPTED CITY	2008 ADOPTED COUNTY	2008 APPROVED TOTAL
<b>Budgeted revenues:</b>			
Beginning balance	0	0	0
Supplemental Mill levy taxes	199,500	66,500	266,000
Mill levy taxes	4,943,846	1,647,949	6,591,795
<b>Total resources available</b>	<b>5,143,346</b>	<b>1,714,449</b>	<b>6,857,795</b>
 <b>Budgeted expenditures:</b>			
Capital improvement			
Debt service	1,209,640	403,213	1,612,853
Campus Facilities Development	525,000	175,000	700,000
Building Insurance	46,657	15,552	62,209
<b>Total capital improvement</b>	<b>1,781,297</b>	<b>593,765</b>	<b>2,375,062</b>
Student support			
Undergraduate support	1,285,183	428,394	1,713,577
Undergraduate student programs	74,186	24,729	98,915
Urban assistantships	43,817	14,606	58,423
Sedgwick County Scholars	1,008,683	336,228	1,344,911
Graduate Research Assistantships	160,617	53,539	214,156
Graduate scholarships	75,099	25,033	100,132
<b>Total student support</b>	<b>2,647,584</b>	<b>882,528</b>	<b>3,530,111</b>
Economic and community development			
Interns City/County	56,000	56,000	112,000
Business and economic research	112,500	37,500	150,000
City government services	60,000	0	60,000
County government services	0	60,000	60,000
Economic Development Awards	37,500	12,500	50,000
<b>Total economic and community development</b>	<b>266,000</b>	<b>166,000</b>	<b>432,000</b>
Organization & Development			
Organization & Development	123,465	41,155	164,620
<b>Total faculty, research and services</b>	<b>123,465</b>	<b>41,155</b>	<b>164,620</b>
Contingency			
Contingent Revenue	199,500	66,500	266,000
Available for unexpected needs	67,500	22,500	90,000
<b>Total Contingency</b>	<b>267,000</b>	<b>89,000</b>	<b>356,000</b>
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>5,085,346</b>	<b>1,772,449</b>	<b>6,857,795</b>
 <b>Unencumbered balance</b>	 <b>58,000</b>	 <b>(58,000)</b>	 <b>0</b>

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## POSITION SUMMARY

COMPARISON OF Full Time Positions by Service

DEPARTMENT - SERVICE	2006 ACTUAL			2007 REVISED			2008 ADOPTED			Vol. II Page # Ref.
	GF	Other	Grant	GF	Other	Grant	GF	Other	Grant	
<b>Airport</b>										
Airport Operations	0	111	0	0	114	0	0	114	0	29
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>City Council</b>										
City Council Administration	10	0	0	10	0	0	10	0	0	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>City Manager</b>										
Administration	5	0	0	5	0	0	5	0	0	39
Administrative Services	8	0	0	7	0	0	7	0	0	41
Communications Team	4	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	43
Development Assistance Coordination	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	45
Arts & Cultural Programming	10	0	0	11	0	0	11	0	0	47
Botanica	4	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	49
Neighborhood Services	5	0	8	5	0	8	5	0	8	51
Economic Development	0	3	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	57
Property Management	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	61
Wichita Art Museum	0	24	0	0	24	0	0	24	0	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>8</b>	
<b>Environmental Services</b>										
Animal Control	20	0	0	23	0	0	23	0	0	71
Child Care Licensure	2	0	5	2	0	5	2	0	5	73
Food Protection & Tobacco Control	8	0	0	8	0	0	8	0	0	77
Administration	10	0	0	10	0	0	9	0	0	85
Air Quality	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	4	87
Environmental Assessment & Remediation	4	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	85
Storm Water Compliance	2	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	93
Water Resouce Conservation	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	95
Water Quality	4	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	97
Nuisance Abatement	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	99
Environmental Maintenance	4	0	3	4	0	3	0	0	0	101
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	
<b>Finance</b>										
Debt Management	6	0	0	6	0	0	6	0	0	109
Treasury	17	0	0	17	0	0	17	0	0	111
Director's Office	11	0	0	11	0	0	11	0	0	113
Controller's Office	14	0	0	14	0	0	14	0	0	115
Purchasing	11	0	0	11	0	0	11	0	0	117
Stationery Stores	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	120
Pension Management	0	6	0	0	6	0	0	6	0	147
Workers Compensation	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	135
Risk Management	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	137
Safety Office	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	139
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Fire</b>										
Operations	391	0	0	398	0	0	405	0	14	153
Fire Prevention	13	0	0	14	0	0	14	0	0	156
Administration	3	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	159
<b>Total</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	

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## POSITION SUMMARY

COMPARISON OF Full Time Positions by Service

DEPARTMENT - SERVICE	2006 ACTUAL			2007 REVISED			2008 ADOPTED			Vol. II
	GF	Other	Grant	GF	Other	Grant	GF	Other	Grant	Page # Ref.
<b><u>Housing &amp; Community Services</u></b>										
HOME Investments Partnerships Program	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	3	169
Public Housing	0	0	31	0	0	32	0	0	32	163
Section 8	0	0	22	0	0	25	0	0	25	165
Community Investments Division	0	0	5	0	0	5	0	0	5	167
Neighborhood Improvement Services	0	0	6	0	0	6	0	0	6	171
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>71</b>	
<b><u>Human Resources</u></b>										
Employee Development	18	0	0	18	0	0	18	0	0	177
Career Development	0	0	14	0	0	14	0	0	14	179
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	
<b><u>IT/IS</u></b>										
Information Technology Management	0	56	0	0	56	0	0	56	0	185
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b><u>Law</u></b>										
Prosecution & Diversion Services	10	0	0	11	0	0	11	0	0	191
Civil Litigation Services	14	0	0	14	0	0	14	0	0	193
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b><u>Library</u></b>										
Library Operations	87	0	6	87	0	6	88	0	6	197
<b>Total</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	
<b><u>Municipal Court</u></b>										
Probation Monitoring & Supervision	17	3	0	24	3	0	24	3	0	205
Weekend Intervention	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	209
Case Management	57	0	0	57	0	0	59	0	0	211
<b>Total</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b><u>Office of Central Inspection</u></b>										
Building, Safety & Construction Enforceme	0	53	0	0	51	0	0	51	0	217
Code Enforcement	0	19	0	0	22	0	5	22	3	219
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b><u>Park</u></b>										
Century II	22	0	0	22	0	0	22	0	0	229
Expo Hall	7	0	0	7	0	0	7	0	0	231
Recreation Center Programming	29	0	0	29	0	0	29	0	0	233
Forestry & Central Support	67	0	0	67	0	0	67	0	0	235
Park Management	76	0	0	79	0	0	79	0	0	237
Administration	9	0	0	9	0	0	9	0	0	239
Golf	0	38	0	0	38	0	0	38	0	247
<b>Total</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b><u>Metropolitan Planning</u></b>										
Current Plans & Historic Preservation	0	9	1	0	9	1	0	9	1	253
Transportation Planning	0	0	7	0	0	7	0	0	7	257
Advanced Plans	0	6	0	0	6	0	0	6	0	259
Administration	0	7	0	0	7	0	0	7	0	265
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>8</b>	

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## POSITION SUMMARY

COMPARISON OF Full Time Positions by Service

DEPARTMENT - SERVICE	2006 ACTUAL			2007 REVISED			2008 ADOPTED			Vol. II Page # Ref.
	GF	Other	Grant	GF	Other	Grant	GF	Other	Grant	
<b>Police</b>										
School Services	16	0	0	22	0	0	22	0	0	271
Beat Patrol	513	0	1	506	0	1	506	0	1	273
Air Patrol	4	0	0	5	0	0	5	0	0	277
Persons Crime Investigations	51	0	4	51	0	4	51	0	4	279
Property Crime Investigations	51	0	0	51	0	0	51	0	0	283
Special Investigations	29	0	0	29	0	0	29	0	0	285
Technical Services	27	0	0	27	0	0	27	0	0	287
Support Services	21	0	0	21	0	0	21	0	0	289
Police Training	16	0	0	16	0	0	16	0	0	291
Warrant Office	4	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	293
Security Services	18	0	0	18	0	0	18	0	0	295
Police Records	72	0	0	72	0	0	72	0	0	297
Special Operations	11	0	0	11	0	0	11	0	0	299
Parking Control	4	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	301
Professional Standards	5	0	0	5	0	0	5	0	0	303
Administration	9	0	0	9	0	0	9	0	0	305
<b>Total</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>Public Works</b>										
Building Maintenance	96	0	0	98	0	0	99	0	0	313
Project Management	98	0	0	98	0	0	99	0	0	315
Signs and Signals	26	0	0	26	0	0	26	0	0	317
Pavement Maintenance	101	0	0	103	0	0	103	0	0	319
Pavement Cleaning	22	0	0	21	0	0	21	0	0	321
Administration	5	0	0	5	0	0	5	0	0	323
Wichita/Valley Center Flood Control Projec	0	18	0	0	18	0	0	18	0	339
Landfill Post Closure Maintenance	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	331
Construction and Demolition Landfill	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	327
Storm Water Utility	0	33	0	0	32	0	0	33	0	343
State Office Building	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	335
Fleet Maintenance	0	61	0	0	61	0	0	61	0	347
<b>Total</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Transit</b>										
Administration	0	1.45	6.35	0	1.45	6.35	0	1.45	6.35	365
Trolley Operations	0	0.2	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	371
Operations	0	63.1	9.90	0	63.1	9.90	0	57.1	9.90	361
Special Services	0	17.7	12.30	0	17.7	12.30	0	17.7	12.30	353
Maintenance	0	0	20	0	0	20	0	0	20	357
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>82.45</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>82.45</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>76.25</b>	<b>49</b>	
<b>Wichita Water Utilities</b>										
Water System Planning & Development	0	11	0	0	11	0	0	11	0	377
Water Distribution	0	67	0	0	67	0	0	68	0	379
Water Production	0	51	0	0	57	0	0	57	0	381
Customer Service	0	51	0	0	51	0	0	51	0	383
Administration	0	5	0	0	5	0	0	5	0	385
Sewer Maintenance	0	84	0	0	84	0	0	87	0	389
Sewage Treatment	0	73	0	0	72	0	0	75	0	391
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Total Locally Funded Positions</b>	<b>2,180</b>	<b>886</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>2,206</b>	<b>895</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>2,218</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>187</b>	

# CITY OF WICHITA 2008/2009 ANNUAL BUDGET

## POSITION CHANGES SUMMARY

Compared to the 2007 Adopted Budget (FULL TIME POSITIONS)

DEPARTMENT	2007	2008	2009	COMMENTS	Vol. II
SERVICE - POSITION	REVISED	ADOPTED	APPROVED		Page # Ref.
<b>CITY MANAGERS OFFICE</b>					
Administrative Services					
GF	(1)	0	0	Eliminated one Intern position	41
Arts and Cultural Services					
GF	1	0	0	Added one positions reimbursed by MAIC	47
	Department Total	0	0		
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES</b>					
Administration					
GF	0	(1)	0	Moved Code Enforcement activities to OCI	85
Environmental Maintenance					
GF	0	(1)	0	Moved Code Enforcement activities to OCI	101
GF	0	(3)	0	Moved Code Enforcement activities to OCI	101
Grant	0	(3)	0	Moved Code Enforcement activities to OCI	103
Storm Water Compliance					
Other	1	0	0	Environmental Scientist transferred from Water Utilities Department	91
	Department Total	1	(8)		
<b>FIRE</b>					
Operations					
GF	0	1	0	Reorganization to improve response times	153
GF	0	3	0	Reorganization to improve response times	153
GF	0	1	0	Reorganization to improve response times	153
GF	0	2	0	Reorganization to improve response times	153
GF	0	(1)	0	Reorganization to improve response times	153
GF	0	(1)	0	Reorganization to improve response times	153
GF	0	3	0	New positions to improve response times	153
GF	0	(3)	0	Reorganization to improve response times	153
GF	0	1	0	Reorganization to improve response times	153
GF	0	1	0	Reorganization to improve response times	153
Grant	(24)	11	0	New positions to improve response times	155
Grant	0	3	0	New positions to improve response times	155
	Department Total	(24)	21		
<b>LIBRARY</b>					
Operations					
GF	0	1	0	Added to enhance technological applications	197
	Department Total	0	1		
<b>MUNICIPAL COURT</b>					
Probation Monitoring and Supervision					
GF	2	0	0	Consolidated three PT staff into full time positions	205
Case Management					
GF	0	2	0	Added for increased statotorily requirements	211
	Department Total	2	2		
<b>OFFICE OF CENTRAL INSPECTION</b>					
Building Safety and Construction Enfmt.					
Other	(1)	0	0	Moved to the Code Enforcement service	217
Other	(1)	0	0	Moved to the Code Enforcement service	217
Code Enforcement					
Other	1	0	0	Moved from the Building Safety & Construction Enfmt.	219
Other	1	0	0	Moved from the Building Safety & Construction Enfmt.	219
GF	0	1	0	Moved from Environmental Services Department	221
GF	0	1	0	Moved from Environmental Services Department	221
GF	0	3	0	Moved from Environmental Services Department	221
Grant	0	3	0	Moved from Environmental Services Department	223
	Department Total	0	8		

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## POSITION CHANGES SUMMARY

Compared to the 2007 Adopted Budget (FULL TIME POSITIONS)

DEPARTMENT	2007	2008	2009	COMMENTS	Vol. II
SERVICE - POSITION	REVISED	ADOPTED	APPROVED		Page # Ref.
<b>POLICE</b>					
School Services					
GF Police Officer	6	0	0	Shifted six officers from Beat Patrol	271
Beat Patrol					
GF Police Officer	(7)	0	0	Shift 6 Officers to School Services and 1 to Air Patrol	273
Air Patrol					
GF Police Officer	1	0	0	Added position from Beat Patrol Service	277
Department Total	0	0	0		
<b>PUBLIC WORKS</b>					
Pavement Maintenance					
GF Administrative Aide II	2	0	0	Transferred positions from PW Pavement Cleaning and from PW Stormwater Utility	319
Pavement Cleaning					
GF Administrative Aide II	(1)	0	0	Transferred position to PW Pavement Maintenance	321
Building Maintenance					
GF Plumber	0	1	0	New position to assist with maintainance of Keeper of the Plains	313
Construction and Demolition Landfill					
Other Principal Planner	(1)	0	0	Eliminated due to overlapping positions to achieve greater efficiency	327
Project Management					
GF Engineering Technician I	0	1	0	Funded by transfer from Storm Water Utility	315
Storm Water Utility					
Other Administrative Aide II	(1)	0	0	Transferred position to Public Works Pavement Maintenance	343
Other Engineering Aide III	0	1	0	New position	343
Department Total	(1)	3	0		
<b>TRANSIT</b>					
Operations					
Other Bus Operator	(4)	0	0	Adjustment following consolidation of Meridian routes	361
Department Total	(4)	0	0		
<b>WICHITA WATER UTILITIES</b>					
Water Distribution					
Other Equipment Operator II	0	1	0	New valve crew	379
Sewage Treatment					
Other Maintenance Worker	(1)			Eliminated position	391
Other Environmental Scientist	(1)	0	0	Was Chemist, transfer to Storm Water Compliance in Environmental Services Department	391
Other Environmental Scientist	0	1	0	Added to staff Mid-Continent facility	391
Other Electronics Technician	0	1	0	Added to staff Mid-Continent facility	391
Other Maintenance Mechanic	0	1	0	Added to staff Mid-Continent facility	391
Sewer Maintenance					
Other Equipment Operator III	0	1	0	New manhole adjustment crew	389
Other Equipment Operator I		1	0	New manhole adjustment crew	389
Other Laborer	0	1	0	New manhole adjustment crew	389
Administration					
Other Communications Specialist	1	0	0	New position for public education and outreach	385
Department Total	(1)	7	0		
<b>TOTAL NEW FULL TIME POSITIONS</b>					
	(27)	34	0		
<b>General Fund</b>					
	3	12	0		
<b>Other Funds</b>					
	(6)	8	0		
<b>Grant Funds</b>					
	(24)	14	0		

# CITY OF WICHITA 2008/2009 PROPOSED BUDGET

## EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

The 2008 Budget is based on the rates below.

Employee Benefit	Civilian	Commissioned
Social Security (FICA)	7.65%	1.45%
Retirement/Pension	5.00%	18.4%
Workers' Compensation	By Department	By Department
Unemployment Compensation	.20%	.20%
Health Insurance, Family	\$9,800	\$9,800
Health Insurance, Single	\$3,276	\$3,276
Life Insurance	.20%	.20%

**Wichita Employee Retirement.** Permanent full-time employees, except commissioned Police and Fire Department staff, are members of this retirement system. Employee contribution rates are a fixed percent of salary and dependent upon the retirement plan for which the employee is eligible (Plan 1 is 6.4% and Plan 2 is 4.7%). The City's contributions are based on actuarial recommendations. The City contribution rate for 2008 is 5.0 percent.

**Police and Fire Retirement.** Permanent full-time commissioned employees of the Police and Fire Departments, and Airport security officers are members of this retirement system. Employee contribution rates are a fixed percent of salary and dependent upon the retirement plan for which the employee is eligible. The City of Wichita contributions are based on actuarial recommendations. The rate for the City in 2008 is 18.4 percent.

**Social Security (FICA).** The Federal government establishes the Social Security contribution rates. The employer and the employee each pay 7.65 % of the first \$97,500 of the employee's salary. For commissioned Police and Fire employees hired since April 1, 1986, the City pays only the Medicare portion equivalent to 1.45% of the employee's salary.

**Unemployment Compensation.** In 2008, the City of Wichita will contribute a budgeted .20% of total salaries to the State of Kansas Department of Labor to finance unemployment claims.

**Health Insurance.** The City of Wichita offers health insurance to full time employees. Contribution to the plan is a 80% – 20% split, with the City paying 80% of the premiums. For budgetary purposes, the cost to departments is computed using actual health plan participants at a given date. Vacant positions are assumed filled with family plan participants. For 2008, the City contribution per employee is budgeted at \$9,800 for family coverage, and \$3,276 for single coverage.

**Life Insurance.** Optional term life insurance is available to permanent full-time employees, with coverage based on twice the employee's salary. Contributions are financed equally by the City and employee. The City of Wichita contribution rate equates to .20% of salary in 2008. Accidental Death and Dismemberment coverage and supplemental life insurance is also available up to an additional four times an employee's salary, paid 100% by the employee.

**Worker's Compensation.** The City of Wichita's contribution rate for Worker's Compensation varies by department and is determined by utilization history. Worker's compensation rates range from .50% to 5.22% in 2008.

Worker's Compensation Rates			
Department	2008 Rate	Department	2008 Rate
City Manager	2.02%	Public Works	2.82%
Finance	0.56%	Env. Services	2.82%
Law	0.50%	City/County Planning	1.08%
Municipal Court	2.41%	Transit	5.22%
Fire	2.54%	Park	2.86%
Police	3.03%	Water and Sewer	2.30%
Library	0.54%	Airport	2.84%
Golf	1.56%	Housing	1.37%
Art Museum	3.61%	OCI	2.02%
City Council	0.50%	Human Resources	2.02%



## MANAGING FOR RESULTS

MANAGING FOR RESULTS (MFR) is a comprehensive approach to budgeting that focuses on both the City-wide mission of "providing an environment to protect the health, safety, and well being of all who live and work in the community" and the individual Service missions, goals, and objectives. MFR promotes a strategic methodology and establishes the outcome and/or accomplishment of the goals and objectives, as the primary endeavor for the organization. MFR requires the 1) establishment, 2) usage and 3) report of performance measures; so that management, elected officials and the public can assess the degree of success the organization has in accomplishing its mission, goals, and objectives.

In implementing the MFR budgeting method, each service has accompanying performance measures, which tie back to missions, indicators, and eventually the five goals adopted by the City Council: 1) Provide a **Safe and Secure Community**, 2) Promote **Economic Vitality and Affordable Living**, 3) Ensure **Efficient Infrastructure**, 4) Enhance **Quality of Life**, and 5) Support a **Dynamic Core Area and Vibrant Neighborhoods**.



Photo: Courtesy Don Siedhoff

The Keeper of the Plains sculpture raises his face toward the sky and lifts his arms in supplication to the Great Spirit.

### THE KEEPER OF THE PLAINS

*A symbol of Wichita and Sedgwick County, this majestic 44-foot sculpture was designed by Blackbear Bosin (1921-1980), a Kiowa-Comanche and internationally recognized artist, muralist and designer. On May 18, 1974 a ceremony took place to dedicate the Keeper, which was designated as a Wichita Bicentennial project. The project was rededicated to the community on the 33rd anniversary of that Bicentennial project date. The 5-ton sculpture was placed at the confluence of the little and big Arkansas Rivers, which is considered a sacred site by Native Americans and was home to the Wichita tribe for many years.*

*A 2006 project to elevate the sculpture on a 30-foot rock promontory so it could be seen from farther away was completed and officially dedicated by Mayor Carl Brewer and the City Council on May 18, 2007.*