

PROJECT: State of the City

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<p>Opening to shot of Mayor in his office</p>	<p>Introduction Mayor: Hello. I'm Mayor Longwell, and it's my pleasure to bring you my first state of the city. Instead of holding an event and giving a speech, I'm using video to reach you where you are.</p> <p>I'd like to begin by thanking you for allowing me to serve as your Mayor. I also want to thank Wichita City Council members for their support.</p> <p>I'm going to highlight some of our successes over the past year and share some goals for 2016.</p> <p>Good things are happening in Wichita and let me start with a topic close to my heart – our quality of life.</p>
<p>Shot of parks</p> <p>Shot of pop up park</p> <p>Graphic of proposed learning center</p>	<p>Quality of Life - Quality of life continues to be a key area of focus. : In 2015, we approved an urban wetlands park in Northwest Wichita, which will be the first of its kind in the Midwest and will Include water conservation, which is an added benefit for our community.</p> <p>We also approved a new splash park and approved two new Community Improvement Districts along West Kellogg to improve the area near our brand new airport.</p> <p>On the East side, we saw the opening of the Fieldhouse Project near K-96 and Greenwich. It includes a 140,000-square-foot sports facility with a trampoline park which is expected to bring in over 350,000 visitors, keeping our hotels at or near capacity every weekend.</p> <p>This is also an exciting time for Downtown Wichita, as Project Downtown is transforming the Core Area. In 2015, \$180 million of development was initiated along Douglas Avenue. Planned projects will double the core's residential population.</p> <p>Also, we made downtown more fun by building a Pop- up Urban Park along Douglas.</p> <p>Three major downtown projects kicked off in 2015: Exchange Place Apartments; Union Station, which will connect Old Town and The</p>

	<p>Downtown Arena; and River Vista Apartments, which is energizing riverfront development.</p> <p>- Advanced Learning Center – Core area attractions are important to our quality of life, and our Central Library is moving into the digital age to better serve the community. The Council recently approved the new downtown library– called the Advanced Learning Center. We’re excited about the many state-of-the-art features it will offer and its location on the riverfront.</p> <p>Arts and cultural initiatives – In 2015, we also saw cultural arts successes and milestones.</p> <p>We’re seeing an upsurge of cultural activity in Wichita and our Downtown Arena continues to bring us together. The Garth Brooks concert series alone brought 75,000 people to downtown. People also enjoyed Final Friday Art Crawls, music shows and a variety of other entertainment in the heart of the city.</p>
<p>Shot of Innovation Campus</p> <p>Bulleterd graphic</p> <p>Shot of Vincente Fox</p> <p>Bulleterd graphic</p>	<p>Economic Development</p> <p>Innovation Campus: In Wichita, we are breaking new ground in economic development.</p> <p>Innovation is the key to our future and a new Wichita economy. The City is thrilled to partner with Wichita State University on the Innovation Campus. We want Wichita to be known not only as the Air Capital of the World but also as a leader in innovation and collaboration - a destination for manufacturing and tech jobs.</p> <p>- BREG: This new approach is embodied in BREG - the Blueprint for Regional Economic Growth. The goal is to diversify and grow our region’s largest employment industries and create a culture of support between local organizations. Wichita is a proud partner of BREG and our collective efforts to grow jobs and investment in this regional economy.</p> <p>- Export Plan: Wichita is already a world leader in exports, according to the Brookings Institution. Last May, soon after I took office, we finalized the regional export plan. The plan is designed to help us promote our workers and sell the great products they produce here at home.</p> <p>- We’re working hard to prepare Wichita for growing opportunities and challenges we may encounter in the future.</p> <p>- A facilitator, not a regulator: We are strengthening our role as a market-based facilitator for economic development. We have been working to create a more-friendly environment for developers and job creators. Moving away from traditional incentives - this is a new approach in the city’s economic development and job-creation efforts.</p>

	<p>- Using Workforce Alliance We will continue working with organizations like Workforce Alliance to help job seekers and employers.</p>
<p>Shot of streets/construction</p> <p>Shot of Water</p> <p>Shot of airport opening</p> <p>Shot of bus/trolley</p> <p>Bulleted graphic on screen</p>	<p>Infrastructure</p> <p>- Next, I want to discuss the importance of a strong and modern infrastructure.</p> <p>We continue to invest in our streets: In 2015, we implemented a new pavement preservation approach, which resulted in the completion of a two-year program to repair all thermal cracks throughout the city. We also started construction to buildout Kellogg on the East and West sides. To the East, one project reaches past Greenwich to extend the East Kellogg freeway to the K-96 interchange... and to the West, another project is rebuilding the Kellogg interchange at Interstate-235.</p> <p>- Airport terminal: in 2015, we opened the new Wichita Dwight D. Eisenhower terminal and parking garage. The new terminal –built entirely with user and airport- generated fees, not property taxes or sales taxes – is a modern facility that promotes our proud aviation history and provides a new window into our community.</p> <p>- Water conservation: Another key infrastructure goal is to conserve water. In 2015, we announced a partnership with Spirit AeroSystems to reuse waste water and save drinking water. This is good news for business <u>and</u> for residents. It’s an example of the City working with a major employer on innovative solutions to support growth and serve the public interest.</p> <p>In 2015, consumers exhausted the original \$1 million rebate fund and rebates were provided on more than 1,000 water-saving appliances. The success of this program encouraged the City Council to extend it for 2016.</p> <p>- Focus on Infrastructure / transit – We strengthened our public transportation options in 2015, adding new routes and 10 new buses while retiring 14 old ones, resulting in improved reliability and customer service. We still have Transit challenges ahead, but ridership grew for the first time since 2011.</p> <p>- Budget: The City of Wichita is in good fiscal health. We worked with citizens and various stakeholders to present a \$227 million budget, with \$27 million in reserve... keeping our mill levy steady for the 22nd year in a</p>

	<p>row Our finances are in good shape but we are constantly implementing new efficiencies and improving our budget process.</p>
<p>Shot of police</p> <p>Shot of police graduation</p>	<p>Public Safety</p> <p>- Added body cameras: Public safety continues to be a top priority for our city. We made significant improvements following the Wichita Police Department’s organizational assessment conducted by Wichita State University’s Hugo Wall School and involving extensive community engagement. The assessment generated 57 recommendations, and 20 projects designed to increase transparency and trust.</p> <p>One result is the commitment to outfit every field officer with body cameras. As of December, 212 body cameras are in use. This new technology will protect and serve residents and the officers who risk their lives every day to protect our community.</p> <p>- We are improving recruiting efforts and expect to hire even more individuals into law enforcement.</p> <p>- We’ve also added Chief Gordon Ramsay to our police force. Chief Ramsay has a strong commitment to community policing and using data to help reduce crime and we are thrilled to welcome him to Wichita.</p>
<p>Shot of business people shaking hands</p> <p>Shot of City to City trip</p> <p>Shot of meeting</p>	<p>Regional and Community Partnerships</p> <p>- We’re excited to continue our work with stakeholders. We want to work closely with our friends at REAP, BREG, Workforce Alliance, NIAR WIBA and our other amazing community organizations to continue to grow our community.</p> <p>- We have a renewed interest and focus in regional growth and partnership. For the first time in years, job growth in Wichita is cautiously positive, and we hope to see a continued upward trend in adding jobs to our market and diversifying our employer base. Diversification doesn’t mean that we’re going to turn our backs on aviation – not here in the Air Capital.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spirit still has long-term contracts with Boeing, Airbus and others... and a backlog of orders worth billions • Textron Aviation and others are continuing efforts to strengthen their place in the market. • Wichita’s aircraft companies have a huge slate of local suppliers... from medium-sized firms to small machine shops. <p>- We are sourcing the expertise of bright minds to help drive us forward and highlight areas of improvement.</p> <p>Community leaders across our region are raising their voices and lending their talents to help guide the city in the right direction: toward growth,</p>

<p>Mayor walking downtown... ends...then gets on phone, keeps walking</p>	<p>innovation and an enhanced ability to attract and retain bright, ambitious people who are passionate about Wichita.</p> <p>I'm inspired by the work of the Young Professionals of Wichita, who will be launching community pride and diversity and inclusion initiatives, promoting more positive Wichita perceptions, and helping ensure a more welcoming environment for all young talent.</p> <p>We are working hard to find new ways to engage and hear from you. While we will continue to hold meetings, we are also connecting with you where you are – in ways you want to connect with us - through Social Media at Facebook and Twitter, through town hall budget meetings and apps and other ways that are convenient for you.</p> <p>Please stay connected, remain engaged and help us continue servicing you, in many ways, every day</p>
<p>Panned shot of downtown Wichita (short music out)</p>	<p>Closing</p>