2016 Planning & Development Services Annual Report

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City of Lawrence
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Department Statistics

The Planning and Development Services Department (PDS) handles a multitude of inquiries, applications, and projects related to development in the community throughout the year.

Overall, the PDS Department handled **13,000** planning applications, licenses, permits, code enforcement cases, rental licenses and inquiries in 2016.

PDS Applications Submitted in 2016	
Planning Applications	557
Code Enforcement Cases	1,617
Building Safety: Permits	2,577
Contractor/Trades Licenses	1,155
Rental Licenses Issued or Renewed	6,128
Inquiries/Investigations	966
Total	**13,000**

*The total valuation for building permits issued during 2016 was **$220.9M**, the second highest annual total building permit valuation recorded for Lawrence, and just slightly less than the annual total valuation record of $227.9M in 2015. The 2016 permit valuation total valuation was **34.5% higher** than the rolling 5-year annual average of $164.23 (2012 through 2016), and 61.8% higher than the rolling 10-year annual average of $136.5M (2007 through 2016).*

Building Safety Division Statistics

The Building Safety Division (BSD) processes and reviews building permit applications, performs inspections, investigates work without a permit complaints and manages the contractor licensing program. In 2016, the division performed **10,995 inspections** and issued **1,155 contractor licenses**. Total project valuation was around **$221 million** resulting in almost **$1.3 million** in fees collected.

*BSD issued **723 Contractor Licenses and 432 Trades Worker Licenses** in 2016.*

*BSD staff performed **10,995** inspections in 2016, up 31% over 2015.*

	2016 Total	2015 Total	2014 Total
Inspections/Occupancy			
Inspections Performed	10,995	8,359	6,962
Investigations	98	60	46
Certificates of Occupancy Issued (Commercial)	118	240	195
Certificates of Occupancy Issued (Residential)	213	122	
Licensing			
Contractor Licenses Issued	723	609	574
Trades Worker Licenses Issued	432	362	379
Fees			
Permit Fees Collected	$1,311,813	$1,093,327	$669,545
License Fees Collected	$80,981	$76,210	
Construction Valuation			
Total Valuation	$220,882,200	$227,899,792	$99,707,903
Public Project Valuation	$25,663,895	$35,430,989	$12,518,055

*Development Services worked closely with the **Lawrence Home Builders Association** (LHBA) during 2016 in development of two LHBA continuing education seminars for contractors that were conducted in December 2016 (nearly 140 attendees). Development Services works with the LHBA to provide area licensed contractors with local opportunities to get quality code-focused continuing education credits. LHBA supports the licensing program and considers the education to be an important component of that program.*

Building Safety Division Program Enhancements

- In early March 2016, the City adopted the **2015 editions of the family of International Code Council residential and commercial building, trade (mechanical, electrical, plumbing, fuel & gas), energy and fire codes**, which became effective on July 1, 2016. During the 10-12 months prior to adoption, Development Services Staff coordinated review of with/among Staff, the Building & Trade Boards and various stakeholder groups. After dozens of Board meetings, all Boards prepared and made recommendations for code adoptions, with amendments, and proposed adopting ordinances, for City Commission review and consideration during the first quarter of 2016. Development Services Staff produced and provided a number of educational/information documents and training for design and construction stakeholders during 2016.

Permit Statistics

- The total number of building permits issued during 2016 (all types) was **2,577**, an **11.1%** increase over the total number issued in 2015, and the highest annual number issued since 2006.
- In 2016, **74** building permits for new multifamily residential buildings (3+ dwelling units), with a total of **1,205** new residential dwelling units, were issued. **was the highest number of new multifamily units ever permitted in a single year in Lawrence**, and the highest number since 1996 (when permits for 972 new units were issued). The total of 1,219 new multifamily units was 158% higher than the number for 2015 (467 units), 153.9% higher than the 5-year annual average of 474.6 units (2012 through 2016) and 208.3% higher than the 10-year annual average of 390.8 units (2007 through 2016).
- In 2016, **28** building permits were issued for new commercial, office and industrial buildings, with a total permit valuation of **$37.7M**. The 28 new construction permits was the highest number of annual permits issued for new commercial, office and industrial buildings since 2003, when 30 permits were issued. The 2016 permit total was 27.3% higher than the permit total of 22 in 2015, 57.3% higher than the 5-year annual average of 17.8 permits (2012 through 2016) and 91.8% higher than the 10-year annual average of 14.6 permits (2007 through 2016).

Residential Units Built - 2016

Single Family	137
Duplex	34
Multi-Family	1,205
Total	**1,376**

	2016 Total	2015 Total	2014 Total
Permits Issued			
Single-Family	137	161	101
Duplex	34	78	15
Multi-Family (dwelling units)	74 (1,205)	7 (467)	6 (143)
New Commercial	28	22	18
Commercial Remodel/Addition	163	168	154
Residential Remodel/Addition	215	223	210
Mechanical/Electrical/Plumbing	1,559	1,320	1,123
Sign	236	245	237
Other	131	96	66
Total Permits Issued	2,577	2,320	1,930
Total Valuation	$220,882,200	$227,899,792	$99,707,903

Permit Review Times

BSD, in cooperation with other City review staff involved with development and construction, has a goal of completing at least **90%** of all initial reviews of submitted commercial building permit applications/plans within 15 business days; and of submitted residential permit applications/plans within 5 business days. These initial reviews were completed within target timeframes for **92%** of commercial applications/plans, with an average initial review period of **7.2 days** and for **96%** of residential applications/plans, with an average initial review period of **2.3 days**.

Commercial Permits – 1st Round Review Times	
	2016
% Completed in 15 Days	92.2%
Average Review Time - Days	7.2
Total Number of Reviews	1,570

Residential Permits – 1st Round Review Times	
	2016
% Completed in 5 Days	96.5%
Average Review Time - Days	2.3
Total Number of Reviews	1,367

Building Safety Division Program Continued

- To facilitate code-compliant commercial building permit projects during 2016, the Building Safety Division expanded upon a new program initiated in 2015 to offer and encourage **pre-construction meetings** with project general contractors (GCs), subcontractors, designers, owners and City Staff at the time a commercial building permit is issued. **Over 30 of these meetings were conducted during 2016.** The primary objectives of these meetings are to review pertinent City codes, policies, procedures and expectations, establish open lines of communication for the duration of the project, review the GC's/owner's projected construction and completion schedule, and assist the GC, the project owner and, when applicable, the project tenant to successfully obtain a temporary/partial certificate of occupancy, when necessary, and the required final certificate of occupancy for the building permit project in an efficient and timely way.
- During 2015, the Building Safety Division (BSD) developed and implemented new procedures to assist general contractors, project owners and project tenants obtain required final City inspections, temporary/partial certificates of occupancy (TCO) and final certificates of occupancy (CO) for commercial building permit projects in the most efficient and timely manner possible. Work on this **path to occupancy program** continued in 2016 and has been favorably received by all parties.

Community Development Division Overview

- The **Community Development Division** (CDD) administers multiple grants provided directly by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Kansas Housing Resources Corporation (KHRC) and the Kansas Department of Commerce. These include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), the HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), and the Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) programs.
- Staff worked with Tenants to Homeowners on their **Cedarwood Senior Cottages project**, which brought **14 new units of affordable senior housing** to the Community. The project included money from the City's HOME grant, as well as State of Kansas HOME grant funding.
- The **First Time Homebuyer Lawrence Community Housing and Land Trust** (LCHLT) program provided down payment assistance and placed seven first time homebuyers in new homes for a total subsidy of **$67,779.08.**

*There were **22 Emergency or Furnace Loan** applications approved and completed for a total of **$76,664.92.***

*There were **23 properties that received Weatherization assistance averaging $1,559.64.** Attic insulation, weather-stripping of entry doors, and new storm windows were installed for a total of **$35,841.71.***

*In partnership with the Public Works Department the city was able to **improve sidewalk safety** near 24th and Ridge Court, as well as providing parking improvements to the United Way building for their clientele.*

Community Development Continued

*Danelle Dresslar assisted the Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition by providing training on the annual required **Point-In-Time homeless count** to seven different regions of the Balance of State Continuum of Care. Dresslar also assisted with statewide data analysis on the count.*

- **Tony Hoch** was elected **President of Kansas NAHRO** and attended spring conference in Wichita and fall conference in Manhattan as well as Southwest NAHRO conference in Kansas City, MO. As a member of the NAHRO CR&D committee he attended the summer conference in Portland, OR and the annual conference in New Orleans, LA.
- In conjunction with Tenants to Homeowners, the City received an additional **$215,000 in Neighborhood Stabilization Program funding**. The funding was used in the **La Salle project**, which was also a partnership with the City of Lawrence Housing Trust Fund. The NSP grant allowed for two new units of affordable rental housing, and the City of Lawrence Housing Trust Fund allocated money for one homeownership unit to be constructed by Habitat for Humanity.
- The Community Development Division, in partnership with Independence, Inc., provided accessibility modification grants to seven low income renters who had income below 50% Area Median Income in the amount of $38,837.47.

Code Enforcement Division Overview

The Code Enforcement Division (CED) is responsible for managing and obtaining code compliance with many City codes, including: the Rental Licensing and Inspection Ordinance; the Property Maintenance Code; the Weed Code; the Development Code; the Fence Code; the Sign Code; the Sidewalk Dining Ordinance; the Graffiti Ordinance; and the Sidewalk Snow Removal Ordinance. During 2016, there was a continued effort directed in the implementation and administration of the revised and greatly expanded Rental Licensing and Inspection Program as 2016 was the second year of the inspection cycle that was established during the adoption of the ordinance. Other important daily responsibilities of the Division include investigating general property maintenance code complaints, responding to tenant complaint housing inquiries from tenants, investigating Development Code land use violations and conducting site plan inspections to ensure compliance for residential and commercial properties that require a site plan submittal.

*Staff attended **Downtown Lawrence, Inc.** (DLI) and **Lawrence Landlord Association meetings** to discuss general code enforcement code provisions.*

*Code Enforcement Division staff performed **3,356** code enforcement inspections (excluding the rental inspections required per Rental Ordinance) in 2016.*

2016 Code Enforcement Division Caseload (Excluding Rental Licensing)

Code Violation Type	# of Cases Created During 2016	# of Created Cases Closed During 2016	Case Resolution Percentage *
Property Maintenance Code (PMC)	874	818	94%
Weed Code	523	523	100%
Sidewalk Snow Removal	24	24	100%
Sidewalk Dining License	82	82	100%
Right-of-Way Signs	20	20	100%
Tree Code	43	41	95%
Sign Code (Private Property)	17	17	100%
Development Code	43	39	91%
Illegal Right-of-Way	3	3	100%
ADA Complaints	1	1	100%
Fence Code	9	9	100%
Graffiti Code	0	0	Not Applicable
Urban Agriculture	4	4	100%
Occupancy	12	12	100%
Health and Sanitation	3	2	66%
Total Enforcement Cases	**1,658**	**1,595**	**96%**

*Since Case Resolution Percentage measures the number of cases closed in 2016 that were created in 2016, it is not practical to reach 100% in some categories, except for seasonal items (sidewalk snow & weeds) because some of the cases, specifically (PMC) cases created in the later months of the year, would not have had sufficient amount of time to reach compliance.

Code Enforcement Division – Staff Education

*Staff provided code enforcement case tracking **training** to members of the Lawrence-Douglas County Fire Medical to allow them to utilize code enforcement records to assist them in obtaining owner information when responding to fires and/or medical emergencies. These records provide their department another resource in the field that will greatly benefit their ability to locate property owners/property agents when time is of the essence.*

- **Dan Devin**, Code Enforcement Officer, obtained the **Residential Building Inspector certification** issued and governed by the International Code Council (ICC). **Treni Westcott**, Field Supervisor, obtained the **Residential Plumbing Inspector certification** issued and governed by the ICC. The ICC is recognized as a foundation that is dedicated to developing model codes and standards used in the design, build and compliance process to construct safe, sustainable, affordable and resilient structures by providing minimum safeguards for people at home, school and in their work place. By obtaining these certifications, Dan and Treni have demonstrated code proficiency for building planning/structural and plumbing elements respectively for one and two-family dwelling units. This knowledge is used daily in their primary job duties of inspecting residential rental dwelling units that are regulated by the City's Rental Inspection Ordinance and responding to tenant complaint inspections of such dwelling units.
- Inspection staff attended the **fall education seminars** hosted by Johnson County Contractor Licensing (JCCL). JCCL's mission is to protect the public welfare by establishing minimum standards for licensing contractors and by providing continuing education to enhance contractor knowledge of building codes. This agency also allows for code enforcement staff to attend in order to maintain continuing education hours for certification renewals. Seminar topics included: Tank-less Water Heater Technology, Venting Gas Appliances, Quality HVAC Installation Practices, Electrical – Down the Load Path, Quality HVAC Installation Practices, Basics of Fire Alarm Systems and Fire Protection Systems: Save Your Life, Save Your Building.

Building Safety Division – Energy Code

The City of Lawrence has adopted the **2015 International Energy Conservation Code** (IECC). The city amended the IECC Energy Rating Index (ERI) rating for our climate zone to a maximum value of 70. The ERI is a measurement of a home's energy efficiency based on all energy used in the residential building. A residential building that uses zero net purchased energy has an ERI value of 0. Single family homes built in Lawrence this year using the ERI rating system have averaged an **ERI rating of 58**. A typical ERI rating in our climate zone is 64. A recent study conducted by researched from UCLA and UC-Berkley shows an energy efficient certified house adds an average of 9% to its selling value.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, Americans who purchase homes meeting the 2012 or 2015 building energy code will save between $4,763 and $33,105 in lower energy bills over a typical 30-year mortgage, depending on geography.

A survey conducted recently by the National Association of Homebuilders titled, "What Home Buyers Really Want," found that efficiency was the No. 1 response. "Nine out of ten buyers would rather buy a home with energy-efficient features and permanently lower utility bills than one without those features that costs 2 percent to 3 percent less," the report said.

Code Enforcement Division – News of Note

- Staff coordinated the review of the **2015 edition of the International Property Maintenance Code issued by the International Code Council** (ICC). The provisions of this code applies to all existing residential and nonresidential structures and all existing premises and constitutes the minimum requirements and standards for premises, structures, equipment and facilities for light, ventilation, space, heating, sanitation, protection from the elements, a reasonable level of safety from fire and other hazards. This code is the core code that assists the City in maintaining the livability of neighborhoods by reducing blighting influences that have significant negative impacts to such neighborhoods. After many meetings between staff, and discussion with the Building Code Board of Appeals, the code with amendments, was adopted by the City Commission and became effective on July 1, 2016.
- Staff completed **122 site plan inspections** in 2016. The purpose of requiring a site plan inspection and approval is to verify the site improvements/alterations are in compliance with the approved site plan in regards to the off-street parking, lighting, landscaping, pedestrian walkways and sidewalks, ingress and egress, and drainage on the site and from the site. These standards collectively promote safety and convenience for the public and preserve property values of surrounding properties.
- Staff continued to work on resolving the code issues at **1231 Pennsylvania St**. that resulted in two abatement resolutions (exterior yard violations and unsafe structures) being adopted by the City Commission. In late fall, the property was sold and the new owner has the intention of rehabilitation of the primary structure. In 2017, staff will work with the owner to bring the property into compliance with all applicable City codes.
- Staff assisted Planning Staff in the drafting the code language for the Land Development Code text amendments for **Urban Agriculture**. Staff attended numerous meetings to assist in the development of the code language and enforcement processes as the Code Enforcement Division assumed most of the enforcement regulations from Animal Control with the adoption.
- Initiated Condemnation declaration for the single-family house located at **2133 Carolina St.** due to the severed dilapidated conditions. Staff worked with the owner to bring the property into compliance with City codes. The owner obtained a building permit to correct all code violations and re-established residency in August.
- Identified **1244 Louisiana St.** as an illegal structure due to the re-configuration of three dwelling units to a more intense use without the required building permit. The owner obtained building permit with a licensed contractor and staff confirmed the owner returned the structure to its previous legal use.
- Worked with Planning Staff on **800 Ohio St.** illegal use violation concerning 4 dwellings within a single family zoned district. Attended numerous meetings, wrote several letters and performed inspection to confirm the property was in compliance with the legal duplex use.
- Staff executed an administrative search warrant at **2437 W 31st St.** to complete a required rental inspection. Staff cited a total of 19 code violations and re-inspected to confirm all violations had been corrected.
- Staff executed an administrative search warrant at **1305 New Jersey St.** due to the severe dilapidated conditions and prepared hearing resolution to the City Commission with a hearing date set in February of 2017.

*Staff attends the monthly **Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods** meeting and drafts a monthly newsletter for the organization about important development related items, including upcoming Planning Commission agendas, the Rental Licensing and Inspection Program and the Comprehensive Plan Update process.*

Planning and Development Services Staff Changes in 2016:

***Joseph Beeler** was hired as a Planning Aide in the Planning Division.*

***Margaret Campbell** was hired as a Transportation Intern in the Transportation Planning Division.*

Rental Licensing and Inspection Program

In 2016, the Code Enforcement Division (CED) completed the second year of the expanded Rental Licensing and Inspection Program. During the year, the 2nd round of required inspections was completed based on the licensing schedule table identified within the code. For the year, staff issued **6,128 licenses** with a total of **18,960 dwelling units licensed**. Staff collected a total of **$342,602** in fees which includes license and inspection fees. For the year, inspection staff completed **1,161** initial inspections, **86** re-inspections for a total of **1,247 inspections**. Program Standard violations were found in **65.8%** of the inspected units with an **average of 2.9 violations** per unit. In units where violations were found, violations were corrected within 60 days in **71.3%** of units. The most Program Standards violations found in 2016 remained consistent when compared to 2015. Common violations found include inoperable or missing smoke alarms, inoperable GFCI electrical outlets, missing electrical outlet covers; inoperable and/or damaged windows and/or window locks; inoperable or improperly installed mechanical (HVAC) systems; and inoperable or improperly installed plumbing fixtures.

RENTAL LICENSE SUMMARY DATA	2014	2015	2016
LICENSES			
Licenses Issued - Program Inception (July 1, 2014) to Month's End	1,871	6,407	**6,128**
Units Licensed - Program Inception (July 1, 2014) to Month's End	2,659	16,605	**18,960**
INSPECTIONS			
Initial, 3-Year, 6-Year or Additional Inspections Completed (by unit)	123	975	**1161**
% of Units Inspected with Violations (for Initial, 3, 6 year or Additional inspections)	74.0%	59.9%	**65.8%**
Reinspections Completed	86	531	**812**
Reinspections Completed with Violations Corrected	81	509	**765**
Average Number of Violations when Found	4.1	3.1	**2.9**
% of Units with Violations Outstanding after 60 Days	-	11.5%	**28.7%**
% of Units Inspected that Qualify for Inspection Incentive (5 or less violations)	82.1%	92.2%	**94.5%**
Total Number of PMC Cases Created as a Result of a Rental Inspection	56	314	**347**
% of Rental Units with PMC Case Created as Result of a Rental Inspection	45.5%	36.7%	**32.2%**
Average Number of Violations on PMC Case	2.1	2.4	**2.1**
MISC.			
Number of Cases sent to Prosecution	0	35	**28**
FEES			
Total Fees Collected	$50,226	$325,864	**$345,602**

The City has a dedicated Rental Licensing and Inspection website: **http://www.lawrenceks.org/pds/rental-licensing.**

In addition, the Rental Licensing and Inspection program can be reached at a dedicated phone number: ***785-832-3345*** *and through a dedicated email address:* ***rentallicensing@lawrenceks.org.***

Comprehensive Plan Update

In 2014, Staff started work on updating the City and County's comprehensive plan: ***Horizon 2020***. The City and County Commissions adopted a joint resolution setting up a steering committee to oversee and guide the review process. The Steering Committee started their review with an extensive public input phase in 2015 which included gathering comments from all stakeholders through a variety of public input meetings, presentations and surveys. This effort produced an Issue Action Report that identified key issues that are in need of revision. During 2016, staff worked behind the scenes on incorporating those issues into a draft chapter, as well as utilizing the Steering Committee to further explore key issues. Staff is on track to present a draft plan to the Steering Committee in the middle part of 2017.

Steering Committee meetings are video recorded, and along with agendas and more information, can be found on the website:

http://www.lawrenceks.org/pds/horizon-2020-update-process

Planning Division Overview

The Planning Division oversees growth and development in the City of Lawrence and Unincorporated Areas of Douglas County with respect to zoning and land use. A great deal of the division's time is spent handling information requests from the development community, other departments, neighborhood groups, and the general public. The Planning Division reviewed a total of **557 applications**.

In 2016, City Site Plan Applications are taking an average of **38** business days to complete. The first round of review comments were sent to applicants an average of **9** business days after the application was submitted.

2016 Site Plans - Round 1 Review Statistics (Business Days)	
% Completed in 15 Days	89.6%
Average Review Time	9
Max Review Time	36
Min Review Time	1

2016 Site Plans - Processing Time (Business Days), Submitted to Approved	
Average Review Time	38
Max Review Time	78
Min Review Time	1

2016 Planning Submittals	
ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT	3
AGRITOURISM	0
ANNEXATION	2
CERTIFICATE OF SURVEY RURAL	24
CERTIFICATE OF SURVEY URBAN	2
CITY SITE PLAN	74
CITY ZONING	18
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT	2
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT	13
COUNTY SITE PLAN	18
COUNTY ZONING	2
DESIGN REVIEW (Historic Resources)	134
FENCE VARIANCE	0
FINAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN	13
FINAL PLAT	8
FLOODPLAIN DETERMINATION	38
FLOODPLAIN PERMIT	11
HOME OCCUPATION TYPE B	3
LANDMARK NOMINATION	14
MINOR SUBDIVISION	14
NONCONFORMING USE REGISTRATION	10
PRELIMINARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN	2
PRELIMINARY PLAT	9
SECTION 106 REVIEW (Historic Resources)	15
SIGN VARIANCE	3
SPECIAL EVENT	28
SPECIAL USE PERMIT	6
TEXT AMENDMENT	8
VARIANCE	22
ZONING CERTIFICATION	61
Total	**557**

*In September 2016, the MPO staff coordinated **bicycle and pedestrian counts** at 35 locations throughout our community. The locations were counted by 35 volunteers who manually observed bicyclists and pedestrians. Count locations included bicycle and pedestrian activity areas or corridors (downtown, near schools, parks, etc.) and locations near proposed major bicycle or pedestrian improvements or recently built improvements.*



*Development Services staff again recycled **60 lbs.** of aluminum cans throughout 2016. The money received from this project again benefitted the Lawrence Humane Society.*

*The City of Lawrence participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) administered by FEMA, making flood insurance available to all community property owners. In addition, the city participates in the **Community Rating System** (CRS) which enables property owners to receive 15% discount on flood insurance.*

*In 2016, the City of Lawrence annexed roughly 55 acres, resulting in the City containing approximately **22,350 acres.***

Spotlight on Historic Preservation

Part of the purpose of the Conservation of Historic Resources Code is to foster and encourage the preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation of structures, areas, and neighborhoods and to foster and encourage the study and interpretation of our historic resources. In 2016, the city completed a Certified Local Government Grant to conduct a survey, write a National Register of Historic Places Nomination, and create a Teaching with Historic Places program for **Oak Hill Cemetery**. In addition to some of the significant monuments and mausoleums like the Usher Mausoleum (John Palmer Usher was the Secretary of the Interior under President Abraham Lincoln) and the Quantrill's Raid Citizen's Monument, the project also documented the lack of segregation in the cemetery, a concentration of veterans from the 79th and 83rd United States Colored Troops, and folk art concrete markers. William Allen White, a nationally renowned journalist, Progressivist, and native Kansan, referred to Oak Hill as the "Arlington of Kansas" in a February 1942 piece published in the Emporia Gazette.



In addition to notable Kansans listed in White's list such as Charles L. Robinson, the first Governor of Kansas, the project documents individuals such as George William "Nash" Walker who was instrumental in the landmark production, Dahomey, first all-black show to open on Broadway. The cemetery contains over 36,000 burials, dating from as early as 1860 to current date.

Spotlight on Current Planning Projects

During 2016, the Planning Division worked to process development applications and helped guide applicants through the development process. The following are a list of notable projects:

- **The Links**, an apartment complex in the northwest area of the city, gained final land use approvals and obtained building permits. Construction began in 2016 and the apartments are slated to be finished in 2017.
- A **Dollar General** store obtained land use approvals, building permits and was constructed at the shopping center on the southeast corner of 19th and Haskell Streets in 2016.
- Multiple improvements were made to the automobile shopping area by the **Brigg's** group in the area near 28th and Four Wheel Drive. The repair shop was expanded and the used car dealership was also expanded.
- Land use approvals and building permits were granted for the redevelopment of the **Seedco** building in the 9th and Pennsylvania area to accommodate apartments and a brewpub.
- Multiple restaurant projects were granted land use approvals in 2016, including **Bon Bon** (804 Pennsylvania), **HuHot** (2525 Iowa), **Levee Café** (239 Elm) and **Slim Chickens** (2412 Iowa).
- Land use approvals were also granted to a commercial project containing retail and fast order food uses at **24th and Inverness Streets.**
- Land use approvals were also granted for a new **hotel** to locate on East 23rd Street.

*The Historic Resources Division reviewed over **149 projects** for their impact on Historic Resources in 2016. This is in addition to providing guidance outside of formal development applications, staffing the Historic Resources Commission and processing Lawrence Register of Historic Places nominations.*

More information on the Historic Resources and Preservation in Lawrence can be found at: http://www.lawrenceks.org/pds/historic_resources

Historic Preservation – Listing Properties

The **Lawrence Register of Historic Places** was created in 1988 and the first five properties were listed in 1990. During 2016, 13 properties (see below) were individually listed in the Lawrence Register of Historic Places, the largest number of properties ever listed in one year. 5 of these landmarks were initiated by the City of Lawrence as the owner of the properties. **Johnson Block Historic District**, containing 22 properties was also listed in 2016. This is the first historic district listed in the Lawrence Register of Historic Places since the Oread Neighborhood Historic District was listed in 1991. With the addition of the individual property listings and the Johnson Block Historic District, the Lawrence Register now includes 125 properties.



- 304 and 302 Indiana Street – **Zimmerman House and Carriage House** (right)
- 1028 Rhode Island Street - **Parnham House**
- 819 Avalon Road - **Patrick Mugan Residence**
- **Clinton Park**
- **Oak Hill Cemetery**
- 1106 Rhode Island Street - **Rhody Delahunty House** (left below)
- **Fire Station #1** (right below)
- **Carnegie Building**
- **Union Pacific Depot**
- 2301 Massachusetts Street - **Carl A. Preyer House**
- 1345 West Campus Road - **Chi Omega House**
- 643 Indiana Street - Wilder- **Clark House**
- 1624 Indiana Street - **George Malcomb Beal House**





Spotlight on Transportation Planning

Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan:
This Coordinated Public Transit- Human Services Transportation Plan (CPT-HSTP) evaluates the services and needs of public transportation in Douglas County. This plan was updated in 2016. A consumer input survey was conducted and MPO staff rode alongside paratransit and human service consumers in regular daily service of Independence, Inc. and Douglas County Senior Services, Inc. Furthermore, MPO staff conducted personal interviews of consumers at Cottonwood, Inc. This information was used to develop actions to address identified gaps and needs.

Bikeshare Feasibility Study:
The Lawrence-Douglas County MPO engaged Toole Design Group (TDG) along with the public and stakeholders to assist the MPO in exploring options for a bike share program in Lawrence, Kansas. The feasibility study provides an overview of what a bike share system could look like in terms of its users, its size, phasing, and cost, as well as providing financial estimates for capital purchases and operating costs. The feasibility study was completed at the end of December 2016.

Transportation Planning Work Program

The **Lawrence–Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Organization** (L-DC MPO) is designed to foster cooperation among local governments in the region to plan for and develop a multimodal transportation system.

The MPO and its staff worked on many projects during 2016. The following items are highlights:

- Participated in the **Safe Routes to School** (SRTS) Planning Process with the Douglas County Health Department and Lawrence Public Schools- USD 597.
- Approved the 2017 **Unified Planning Work Program** (UPWP) and completed quarterly amendments to the 2015-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
- Participated in conversations about **bicycle and pedestrian planning** with other local groups including the Lawrence-Douglas County Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC), KU Bicycle Advisory Committee (KU-BAC), Lawrence Pedestrian Coalition and the LiveWell Lawrence Healthy Built Environment Work Group.
- Worked with paratransit and transit operators in Douglas County to update the **Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan** (CPT-HSTP).
- Completed a yearlong **Bike Share Feasibility Study** and a **Transit Comprehensive Operations Analysis** (COA), this information will be used by other organizations for potential implementation.
- Administered two LiveWell Community Wellness Grants to install **four bike repair stands and air pumps**, to install **three bike corrals** (30 bicycle parking spaces), and 44 spaces of on sidewalk bicycle parking in Downtown Lawrence.
- Completed the **Regional Pedestrian Plan**.
- Updated the **Bicycle Rideability Map** to reflect the new additions to the bikeway network and changing bicycling environments.
- Facilitated the BAC's application for **Bicycle Friendly Community** (BFC). Lawrence received the BFC Bronze level in 2016.

LAWRENCE - DOUGLAS COUNTY MPO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Find more information about the MPO online at: www.lawrenceks.org/mpo/

***Multimodal planning** refers to planning that considers a wide range of mobility options – automobile, public transit, walking, cycling, ridesharing (carpooling and vanpooling) and connections between modes.*

Regional Pedestrian Plan

The Regional Pedestrian Plan is the first of its kind for the region. It presents a vision of safe and accessible pedestrian environments for all users. The Plan aims to help guide the planning of our diverse communities so that they develop into places where people are allowed the choice to get to their destinations on foot. The plan was finalized in 2016 and provides information about existing pedestrian infrastructure, possible funding, and implementation scenarios for each of the communities in Douglas County.

