



# Hometown Hall

Updates, Insights, and What's Next!

October 24, 2024

light

clock

Wife, Monica Walker

Mayor Rick Walker

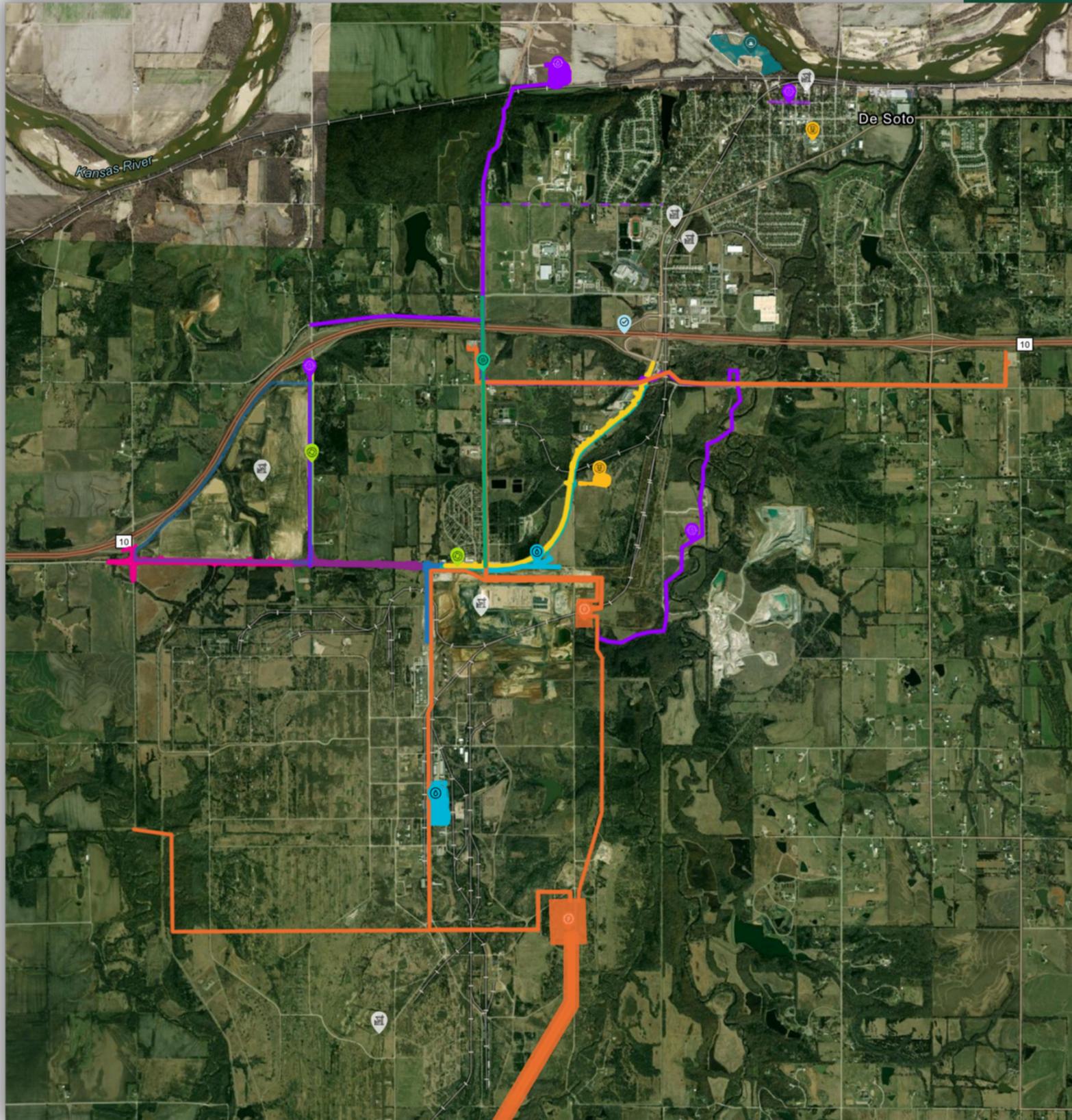


DE SOTO  
Kindergarten  
66-67

**Strategic.  
Sustainable.  
Supportive.**







**\$400 Million+**  
Combined infrastructure,  
educational and  
community benefits over  
the next 20 years.

# Community Engagement

**DE SOTO**  
News for Residents

**UPCOMING DATES**

- May 25th, 12:30pm - 6pm: Aquatic Center Opening Day
- May 27th: City Hall Closed - Memorial Day
- June 1st, 8am - noon: Brush Site Open
- June 7th, 9pm: Movie @ Miller: Wonka
- June 8th, 10am-noon: Touch-a-Truck @ Miller Park
- June 15th, 8am - noon: Brush Site Open
- June 15th, 8pm: Splash n' Play Night Swim | \$1
- June 19th: City Hall Closed - Juneteenth
- June 21st, 7pm: Legends of Rock Concert @ Riverfest
- July 4th, 7pm: Celebration @ Riverfest
- July 12, 9pm: Movie @ Miller: Raiders of the Lost Ark
- July 19th, 7pm: Country Roots Concert @ Riverfest

**WATER LINE MATERIALS SURVEY**

Under recent EPA regulations (called the Lead & Copper Rule), all water providers (like the City) are required to catalog the materials used in all water service lines — these are the pipes that deliver water from the City's main water supply directly to your property.

The goal is to ensure that lead and copper levels in your entire water supply—from the Water Treatment Plant to your faucet—are controlled and within safe limits; for the City-owned side (up to the meter), the Water Department is performing manual inspections of every water service line connection around De Soto.

Now, we need your help to inventory the portions that run into your home businesses. Please help us build our records by participating in a survey about property's water service lines. You can also complete and return the attached survey at the City Hall or the drop box.

**SUNFLOWER NATURE PARK OPENING EARLY**

Disc Golf Course Support Opportunity

We are excited to announce that sponsorship opportunities for the Riverfest Park Disc Golf Course are now open. Whether you're drawn to disc golf for the positive influence it brings to our community or you're simply looking for a fun and healthy activity, your support is crucial in making this vision a reality. From course sponsorships, every bit of support counts. For hole and course sponsorships, check out our sponsorship packet for options. For those wanting to donate, you can also donate to the Sunflower Nature Park. There are two donation methods: a one-time donation of \$50+ and a monthly donation of \$10.

**SPONSORSHIP PACKET**

Disc Golf Course Sponsorship Packet

**DE SOTO**  
KANSAS  
City Publication  
www.desotoks.us

**CITY OF DE SOTO NEWSLETTER**  
Your City Hall news bulletin with updates on all things De Soto.

April 5th, 2024

**City News & Updates**

**Women's Self-Defense Class - This Sunday**

We're partnering with the Johnson County Sheriff's Office to host a FREE, fun, and engaging Women's Self-Defense Class!

- Date: Sunday, April 7th
- Time: 2pm-4pm
- Place: De Soto Community Center

The event is open to women and girls ages 14 and up and covers safety tips, awareness techniques, physical self-defense principles, and a Q&A session.

**Free Sign Up**

**FlashVote** DE SOTO KANSAS

FlashVote helps you make a difference in your community

**Survey Results: Growth**

Survey Info - This survey was sent on behalf of the City of De Soto to the FlashVote community for De Soto, KS.

These FlashVote results are shared with local officials

Filter results by: Locals only

**247** Total Participants  
240 of 375 initially invited (64%)  
7 others  
Margin of error: ± 6%

Applied Filter: Locals only

Response Time (hours)

Started: Apr 30, 2024 2:25pm CDT  
Ended: May 2, 2024 2:27pm CDT  
Target Participants: All De Soto

Q1 De Soto is experiencing some of the most significant development in Kansas history. Considering this growth, how do you feel about the future of De Soto?  
(178 responses by locals)

Response	Percentage
Very Optimistic - I think the growth...	20.2%
Somewhat Optimistic - I think the...	32.0%
Neutral - I don't really see things...	4.5%
Somewhat Pessimistic - I think the...	21.3%
Very Pessimistic - I think the growth...	18.5%
Not Sure	3.4%

**Register Here**

This Cookie Decorating Class is kid and adult-friendly, and spots are filling up!

**Construction News**

**Bridge Work Complete**  
Clarkson Construction

Work on this 50-year-old bridge replacement project over Kill Creek is complete on the eastbound K-10 bridge. The project included a full deck and approach slab, bearing resetting and girder painting.

**103rd St. Birds Eye View**  
KDOT & Clarkson Construction

The first roundabout on the De Soto Local Road Improvements Project is officially taking shape as crews have successfully poured the first 300 cubic yards of concrete! Additional pours and hand finishing work are scheduled in the coming weeks.

This work is part of the transportation infrastructure improvements necessary to support the Panasonic Energy Co. electric vehicle battery manufacturing facility and additional developments in the area. The improvements include updating 103rd Street between Evening Star Road and the Lexington Avenue/K-10 interchange and Astra Parkway south of 103rd Street.

For more information on the project, please visit [KDOT's De Soto Road Improvements page](#).

**Railroad Crossing Repairs**

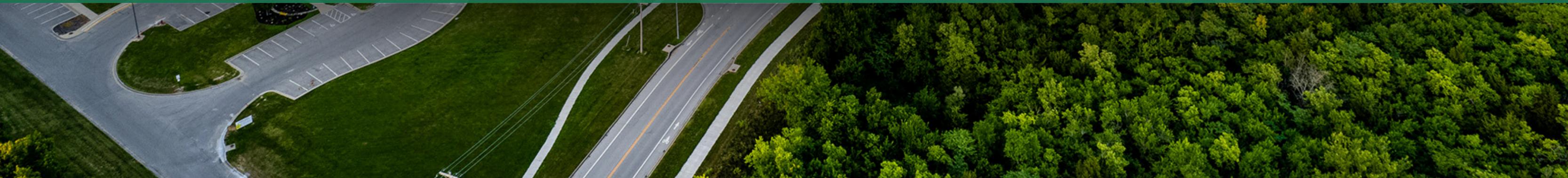
Repairs are complete on the Commerce Drive railroad crossing (near Rherig Pacific), resulting in a much smoother drive over the tracks!



- E-newsletter
- Open Houses
- Flash Vote
- Quarterly Publication



- Historic decrease in property taxes
  - Diversified revenue streams
- Significant upgrade in critical infrastructure
  - 100% YOY increase in retail activity



**\$249 Million**  
in infrastructure  
improvements

# DE SOTO

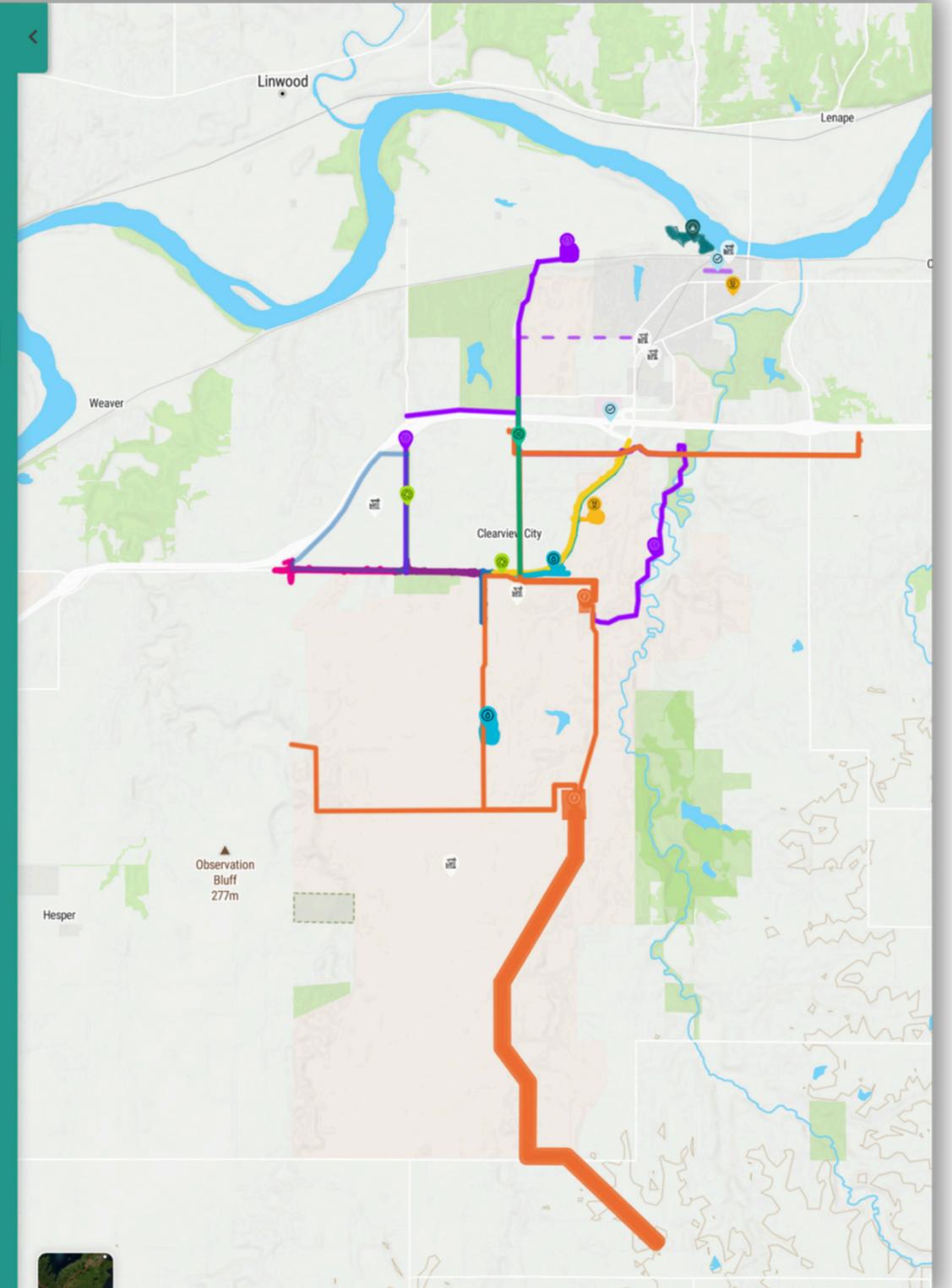
KANSAS

## Construction Projects

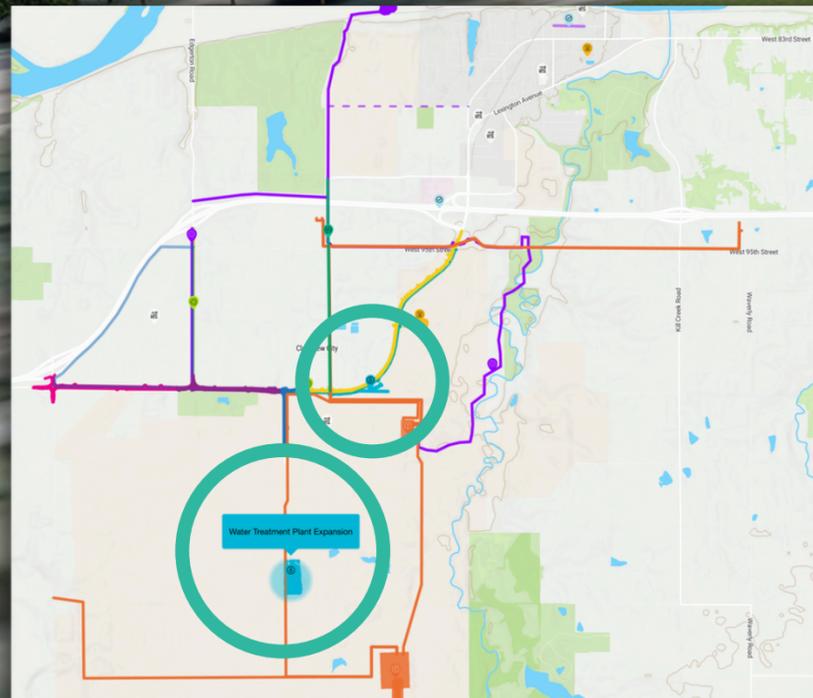
Explore current and upcoming construction & infrastructure projects happening in De Soto, Kansas.

### Construction Projects Website

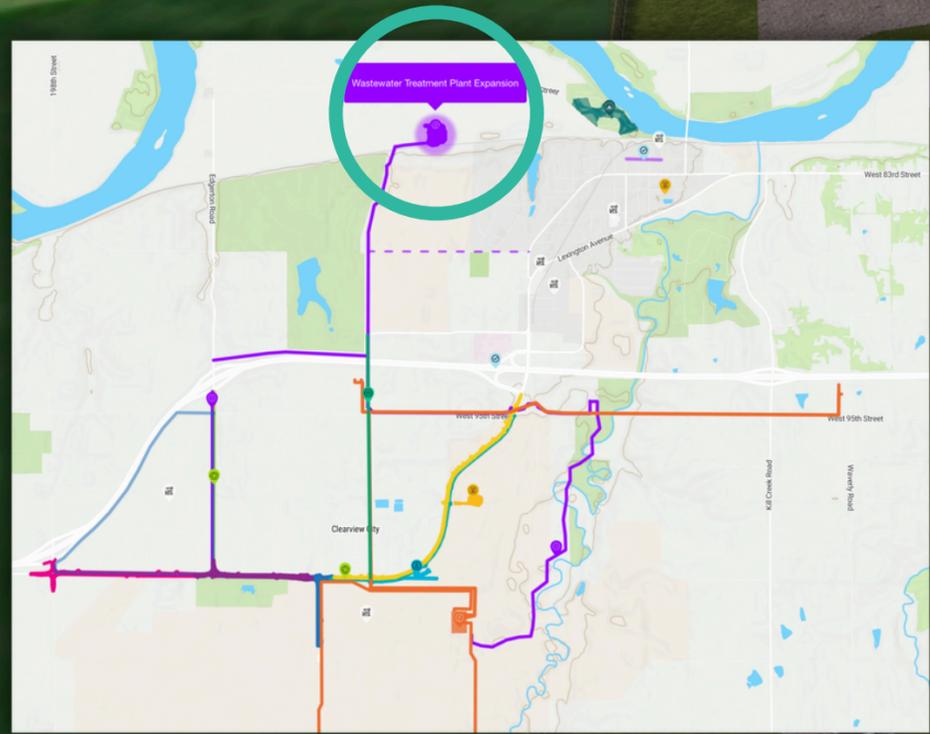
-  Facilities 4
-  Parks 1
-  Road Improvements 3
-  Trails & Sidewalks 1
-  Wastewater Improvements 3
-  Water Upgrades 2
-  Other Utilities 2
-  Private Development 6
-  Completed Projects 3



# Water Treatment Facility & Water Tower



Complete Spring '25



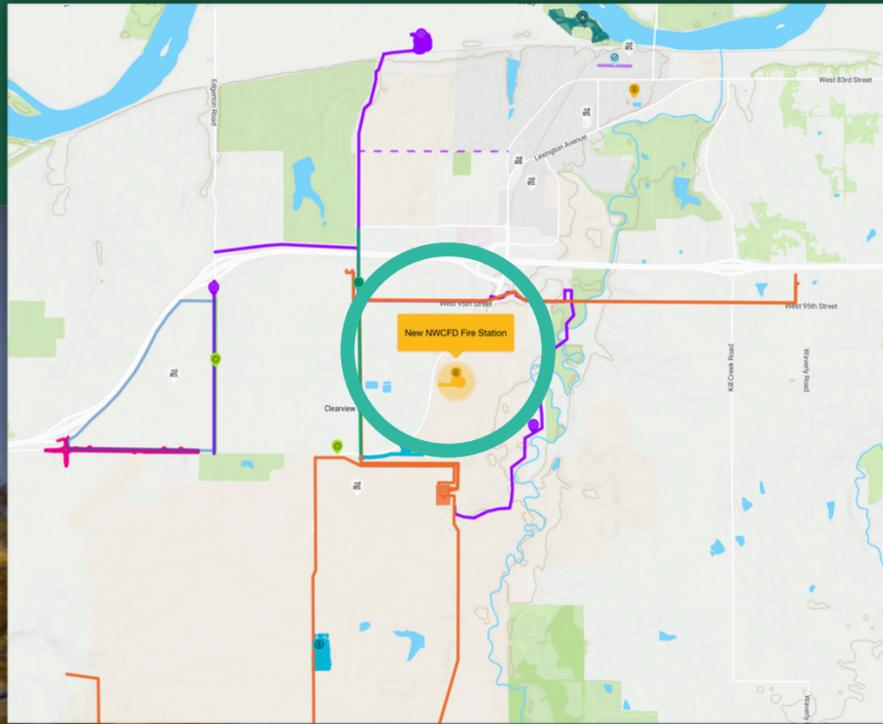
# Wastewater Treatment Facility & Sewer Expansions

Complete Spring '25

# Local Road Construction

- 4 lane roadway
- Curbs
- Sidewalks
- Enhanced safety





# New Fire Station & Fire Truck

# Local Benefits: Capital Improvements

- ✓ Water treatment facility - \$54.5M
- ✓ New water tower - \$7.7M
- ✓ Sewer treatment facility - \$40M
- ✓ Sewer system expansions - \$43.3M
- ✓ Local road construction - \$84M
- ✓ New fire station - \$17.2M
- ✓ New fire truck - \$1.8M

**\$248.5M**





# Who's Paying?

- ✓ Panasonic: \$166.5 Million
- ✓ Johnson County: \$15 Million
- ✓ KDOT: \$65 Million
- ✓ De Soto: \$2 Million



# Local Benefits: Other, 20-Year Total

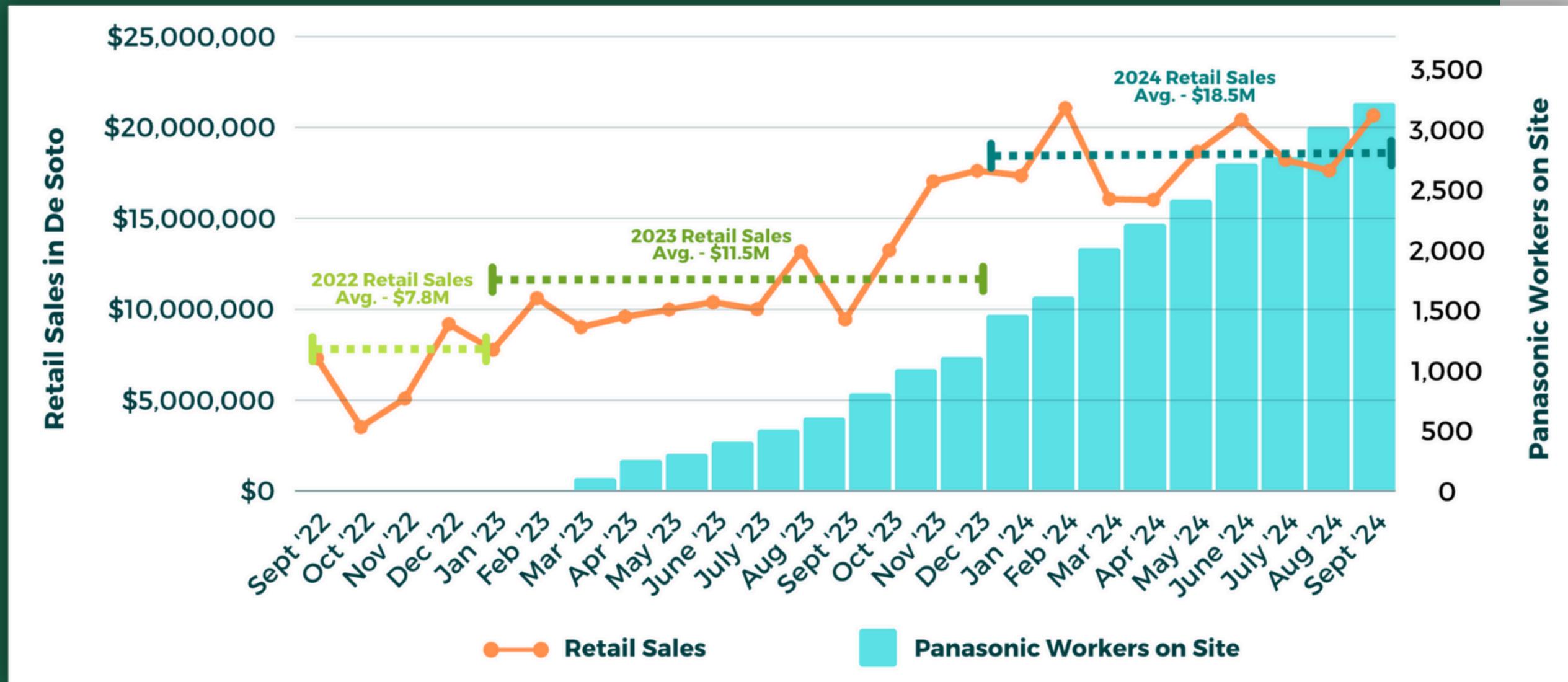
- ✓ Investment gains - \$3.9M
- ✓ Electric franchise tax - \$77.2M
- ✓ State school funding - \$34.9M
- ✓ Local school funding - \$14M
- ✓ Added fire service - \$17M
- ✓ Added police coverage - \$2.4M

**\$149.5M**



# Increase in Retail Sales

## Due to Panasonic workers on site

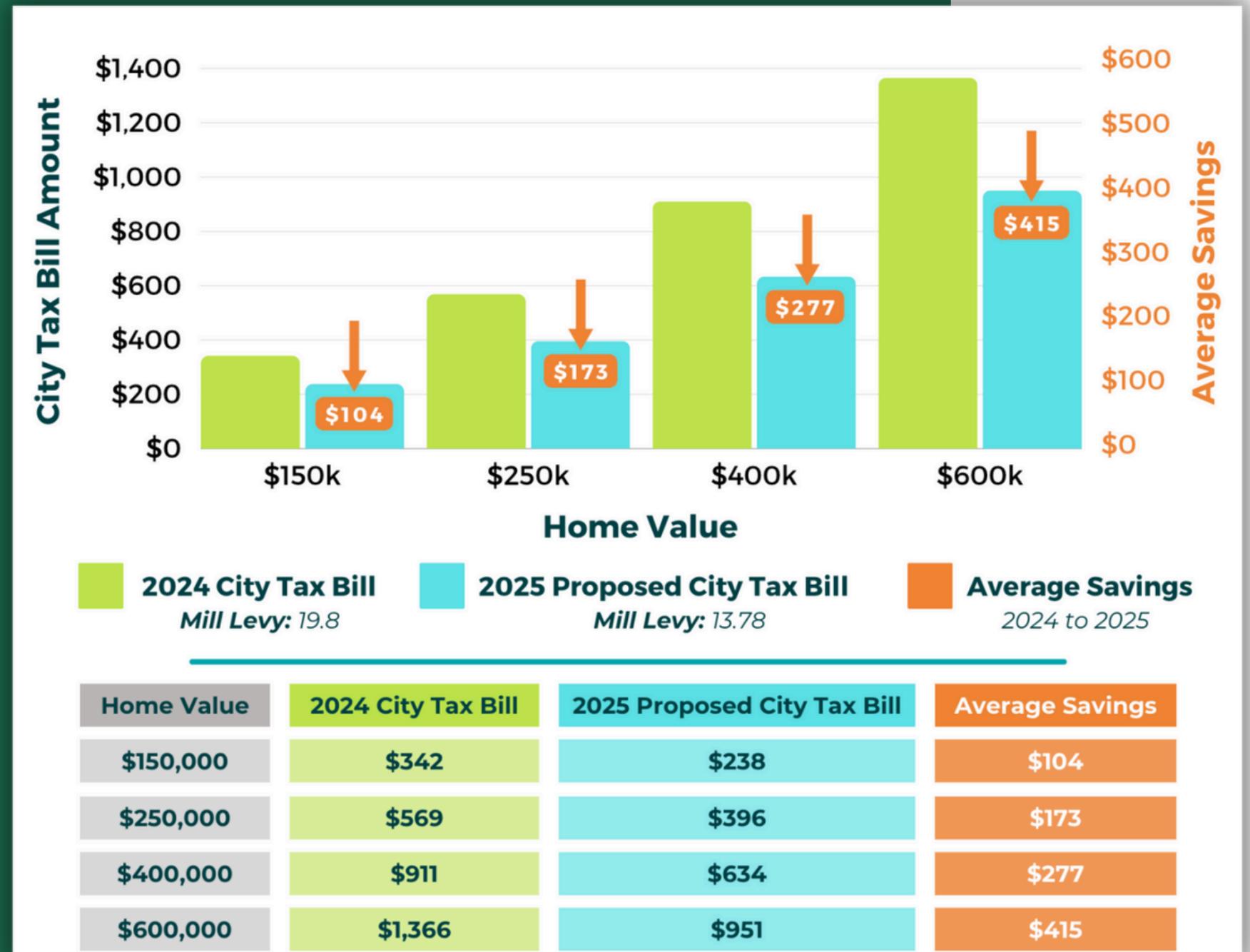


# 2025 Taxpayer Savings

✓ Lower mill levy, 19.8 to 13.78 mills

✓ 25.5% reduction in City property taxes

✓ Saves average resident about \$180, in spite of a 7.3% increase in property values



# Other Projects

- ✓ 83rd & Lexington Corridor Study
- ✓ Strategic Plan
- ✓ Community Center Feasibility Study
- ✓ Southwest Area Growth Plan
- ✓ Riverfest Park Master Plan

