



The Basehor Quarterly

Bringing City of Basehor information to our community's mailboxes since 2022

2022 Quarter 1 Volume 1

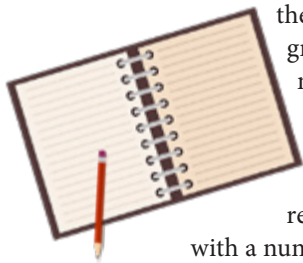
www.cityofbasehor.org

Letter from Leslee, your City Administrator

It is a tremendous privilege and honor to serve the community of Basehor. Thank you for choosing Basehor as a place to call home. I have been honored to be the City Administrator in Basehor since February 2019. If I have not had the opportunity to meet you – I look forward to connecting in the future. I look forward to working with Mayor Drennon and our City Council to

continue providing the projects and growth the community expects to see. The City has excellent working relationships

with a number of partners and agencies. In this edition of *Basehor Quarterly*, we are pleased to share how some of these partnerships are contributing to the quality of life in Basehor. We are thrilled to work so closely with the Basehor-Linwood school district. The collaboration results in new community parks that were in part, designed and planned, with significant input from our youth, while also providing real world learning opportunities. Additionally, we would not have the external funding to improve 155th Street or begin construction on the Metrogreen trail system without the support of our community. We truly hope you enjoy this inaugural edition of the *Basehor Quarterly*!



Meet the Mayor: Mayor Dick Drennon



Mayor Richard "Dick" Drennon was elected as the Mayor of Basehor on November 2, 2021 and sworn in on January 10, 2022.

Here is some information about our Mayor.

I'm Dick Drennon and I have lived in Basehor for thirteen years. I have been married to my high school sweetheart Debbie for 48 years. We have two children: Mike and Heather. Mike (married to Erin Scholl) graduated from Basehor-Linwood in 1994. Heather (married to John Dixon) graduated from Basehor-Linwood in 1998. I worked for Sears and Roebuck for 21 years and for the Basehor-Linwood USD 458 School District as the Director of Buildings and Grounds for 26 years. I am very proud to have been able to retire from such a great school district. We have five grandchildren all of whom have attended Basehor-Linwood or are currently in Basehor-Linwood schools.

What are you most excited about when you think about being Basehor's Mayor?

I'm very excited to be the new Mayor of Basehor. As I campaigned, I want to promote community involvement in the City and I want people to have their voices heard. I can't wait to start working towards that goal. The first thing I plan on doing is changing processes so community members can speak at both the City Council Work Sessions as well as the City Council Regular Meetings. I also look forward to the opportunity to hearing the community's input on the Field of Dreams and how we can improve the facility together.

What is your favorite thing about Basehor?

The love and passion of the people of Basehor is why we moved to Basehor many years ago. While campaigning for Mayor, I was amazed with the amount of love and support that this town has. That is what excited me about being the new Mayor of this great town.

What project on horizon has you most excited and why?

I'm very excited about the improvements we are going to make to 155th street, including the sidewalks and multi-use paths alongside Basehor's main street. It's going to make travel and safety better for all of our citizens. I'm excited about Tomahawk Park and am extremely grateful to the Miles family for their generous land donation to make the park possible. I'm also excited that Tomahawk Park will include new trails for easier connectivity to our parks and library.

What can city residents expect from you as Mayor?

Citizens can expect me to deliver on my promise of being accessible and available to all residents. The residents' opinions are incredibly important to not only me as the new Mayor, but also the City Council, the City Administrator, and City staff. My phone number is 913-416-0200 and my email address is ddrennon@cityofbasehor.org. I want citizens to feel comfortable that they can call me and talk to me about any issue. If I don't know the answer, I will do my best to find the answer to the question.



Events Calendar

City Council Work Sessions:
2nd Wednesday Monthly

City Council Regular Meetings:
4th Wednesday Monthly

Planning and Zoning Commission Meetings:
2nd Tuesday Monthly

For the most up to date calendar of events, including community events and special meetings, please visit our website at www.cityofbasehor.org and see the City Calendar.

Projects on the Horizon: Parallel Road and 158th Street Bicycle/Pedestrian Improvements (Metrogreen)

This project implements Metrogreen and regional bikeway system in areas of greatest need and growth in the City of Basehor. Inadequate bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure exist along Parallel Rd and 158th Street leaving little options for safe mobility choices.

This project directly connects to programmed improvements on 155th Street. The project will include a multi-use path along Parallel Rd and 158th



Street, safe pedestrian crossings, off road trail along an identified Metrogreen corridor. The Project will include street trees, native grasses and stormwater best management practices.

The total estimated cost for the project is \$1,818,380. The City of Basehor received a grant for the project in the amount of \$500,000 from the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC). The improvements will start at the Basehor Community Library and continue north on 158th Street to Parallel Road. The improvements will continue east on Parallel Road to connect directly to the improvements included in the 155th Street Improvements project. Construction is scheduled to begin in late 2023 and complete in 2024. The project will have multiple open house events to receive public input.



Breaking Down the Mill Rate

	% of Total Levy	Total Mill Levy
City	23%	33.844
Leavenworth County	26%	36.946
USD #458	42%	60.544
State	1%	1.500
Other	9%	14.059
Total	1.000	146.893

Budget and Taxes

The City of Basehor prepares and presents to City Council an operating budget and capital improvement plan (CIP) for their review and approval annually. The primary purpose of the City’s budget and budgeting process is to develop, adopt, and implement a plan for accomplishing goals for the upcoming year within given constraints. The 2022 budget was designed and adopted to be consistent with the long-term vision of the City and the overriding objectives of maintaining a responsive and financially stable position while providing efficient and high-quality service levels.

Some of the highlights of the 2022 budget are:

- No increase to the tax rate
- A fully staffed, equipped, and trained Police Department
- Plans to inventory all street conditions for a long-term plan for road maintenance and improvements
- Enhancements in communication, such as the *Basehor Quarterly* and improvements to the City’s website

Every property in Basehor receives a tax bill from the Leavenworth County Treasurer’s Office. That tax bill includes the tax billing for all taxing authorities in Basehor, including the state of Kansas, Leavenworth County, USD 458 School District, Fairmount Township Fire District, and the Basehor Community Library. The City of Basehor’s portion of your tax bill is 23%. The remaining 77% of the bill goes to those other taxing authorities. Above is an example of where your tax dollar goes.

For more information on the City’s budget, please visit our website at www.cityofbasehor.org and select the option “Departments,” then “Administration,” and then “Budget.”

Planning for 2040 and Beyond: Basehor’s Comprehensive Plan and Parks Master Plan

The City of Basehor is developing Basehor’s Comprehensive Plan and Parks Master Plan: Planning for 2040 and Beyond. Comprehensive planning is a process that determines community goals and aspirations in terms of community development. This is a great way for residents to give feedback to the Mayor, City Council, and City staff on the direction in which they would like the City to go. We hear regularly about amenities such as a grocery store and a pool. Getting involved in this planning process is the perfect way to have your voice heard. Please visit this website to learn more about the planning initiative, see when the next feedback sessions will be, and use the survey tools to let the City know your thoughts.

<https://confluence.mysocialpinpoint.com/basehorplanning>



Basehor Comprehensive Plan + Parks Master Plan

Planning for 2040 and Beyond

Website: www.cityofbasehor.org
 Facebook: [@cityofbasehor](https://www.facebook.com/cityofbasehor)



Instagram: [@cityofbasehor](https://www.instagram.com/cityofbasehor)
 Twitter: [@cityofbasehora](https://twitter.com/cityofbasehora)



Preliminary design image provided by Olsson. Image is preliminary and subject to change throughout project.

Projects on the Horizon: 155th Street Improvements

155th St, Basehor’s main street, is currently substandard with an unsafe intersection at Parallel Rd and inadequate facilities for bicyclists and pedestrians. This project will rehabilitate, modernize & improve overall safety for motorists and non-motorists alike, including the addition of turn lanes as needed, stormwater improvements with adequate green infrastructure (best management

practices, native grasses and street trees). The intersection at Parallel Road will be improved with a roundabout. These improvements will add a 10 feet wide multi-use path for pedestrian, bicycle traffic along with a 5 feet wide sidewalk on the opposite side of the roadway.

The total estimated cost for the project is \$11,255,200. The City of Basehor received a grant for the project in the amount of

\$7,435,056 from the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC). The improvements will start at Wolf Creek Parkway and continue north on 155th Street to just north of the United States Postal Service Office. Construction is scheduled to begin in late 2023 and complete in 2024. The project will have multiple open house events to receive public input.

Projects on the Horizon: Tomahawk Park

Tomahawk Park will begin west of 155th Street at the intersection of 155th Street and Chestnut Street and continue west to 158th Street. The park will feature a trail system, a multi-use area, and a play area. City staff met with the students at Basehor Intermediate School to talk about Tomahawk Park and get their feedback on what they would like to see included in the play area of the park. The students input on the playground amenities was used to determine the final design package for this park. We look forward to everyone enjoying this park soon.

Tomahawk Park Phase II includes a parking lot, a park shelter, and bathroom facilities.

The total estimated cost for the project (including Phase II) is \$1,200,000. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2022.

The City would like to thank Steve and Darla Miles for their generous 12-acre land donation to make this park possible.



Crime Statistics
The 2nd Safest City in Kansas

 Property Crimes: 34	 Crimes Against Persons: 69	 Accidents: 98
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Chief’s Corner: Keeping Basehor Safe

The Basehor Police Department is under the command of Chief Kevin L. Self. The Basehor Police Department consists of 15 sworn officers, including the Chief and Deputy Chief. It also includes a Police Clerk and an Animal Control/Code Enforcement Officer. The Police Department’s primary focus is the safety of the citizens of Basehor. Our Police Department does a fantastic job of keeping our community safe and Basehor is currently ranked the 2nd safest city in Kansas! Here are some crime statistics for 2021 as of the end of November.

To reach the Police Department for non-emergent issues, please call 913-724-3397. In case of an emergency, please call 911.



City of Basehor
2620 N. 155th Street
Basehor, KS 66007



Did you know you can sign up for email or text alerts from the City of Basehor about upcoming projects or events happening in the community? Please visit our website at www.cityofbasehor.org and select the option "I want to... Sign up for Notifications."



Website: www.cityofbasehor.org
Facebook: [@cityofbasehor](https://www.facebook.com/cityofbasehor)
Instagram: [@cityofbasehor](https://www.instagram.com/cityofbasehor)
Twitter: [@cityofbasehor](https://twitter.com/cityofbasehor)

Have questions? Please contact City Hall at 913-724-1370 or info@cityofbasehor.org

Survey feedback? Please use this QR code to take our Newsletter Survey



Survey Feedback

Want to opt out? Issues of the *Basehor Quarterly* are mailed to all Basehor residences and businesses every quarter. If you no longer wish to receive issues of the *Basehor Quarterly* mailed to you, please email info@cityofbasehor.org and include your address in the email. All issues of the *Basehor Quarterly* will be available on our website at www.cityofbasehor.org.

Message from Municipal Services

The Municipal Services Department under the leadership of Director Gene Myracle Jr. is responsible for public infrastructure and building permits/inspections. One of those critical services is snow removal. Municipal Services would like to remind Basehor residents a few things in preparation for the winter season. Emergency Snow Routes are posted by signs and are plowed before any roads or streets not designated as an Emergency Snow Route. Please remember that shoveling private driveways and then tossing the snow out into the roadway is against City Ordinance.

When snow is in the forecast, please do your best to move your vehicles off the roadway to ensure areas can be cleared of snow.



Projects on the Horizon: Sentinel Park

The 4-acre parcel was donated to the City of Basehor in 2020 and the City has been hard at work alongside an incredible group of students from Basehor-Linwood High School's Innovation Academy Emerge Program to plan a park on the donated land. The students researched and planned the park and put together concept drawings including extensive feedback from the community. The landscape architect for the project, Doug Pickert of Indigo Designs, compiled all the students plans into one concept drawing shown below.

When the students surveyed the community, the most wanted amenity in the park was a nature/walking trail system. That also matches the most recent Basehor Citizen Satisfaction Survey. The nature/walking trail system shown in the concept drawing at the right ties in perfectly with the sidewalk and multi-use path improvements coming soon with the 155th Street Improvements Project. The park will also include a playground and picnic area, a water fountain with seating, restrooms, a pavilion, and a parking lot that pays tribute to the Basehor Brothers, the founders of Basehor.



The students recommended City Council name the park "Sentinel Park," honoring the rich history of the Basehor Sentinel, the local newspaper that was in circulation in our community for over 100 years. This name happily passed City Council's vote unanimously.

The total estimated cost for the project is \$1,750,000. The park will be located northwest of the intersection of 155th Street and Lakeside Drive. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2022.

On behalf of the City of Basehor, we would like to thank the students and faculty of the Basehor-Linwood High School's Innovation Academy Emerge Program. It has been an honor and we are looking forward to working with the School District on this continued effort as well as additional projects on the horizon.