



City of Topeka

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# Bill Cochran named Interim



# Police Chief

Bill Cochran will be replacing Kris Kramer as the Interim Police Chief for the City of Topeka. He starts his duties as Interim Chief on November 4th.

Cochran has worked with the Topeka Police Department for thirty-one years, starting his service on July 13, 1987. Cochran has worked in several capacities at the Topeka Police Department including: homicide, traffic, patrol, field operations, and criminal investigations. Most recently Cochran has been serving as a Major in criminal investigations as the Bureau Commander.

City Manager Trout will begin searching for the next permanent Police Chief starting November, 6th. Both internal and external



candidates will be considered for the position.

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# Recent Updates

- The Planning Department, with the assistance of a three grant awards through the Kansas State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), has initiated historic surveys for three neighborhoods to determine their eligibility for local/state/national historic district status: Auburndale, Country Club Addition and Collins Park.
- Budget amendments will be presented at the November 14th City Council meeting, proposed for a public hearing on December 5th and adoption December 12th.
- Work on SW 6th Street west of Gage that was delayed because of a bad pipe shipment will resume immediately after new usable pipe was delivered.
- The Fire Department Training Division completed courses on Supplied Air Breathing cart operations for the specialty team stations.



# Managers on the Move

On October 25th the City of Topeka hosted Laura Putnam, renowned Wellness Leader, for a one-day workshop designed to engage our managers to foster a culture of well-being within their work groups.

This training equipped managers with three strategies to build momentum Do- Lead by Example; Speak- Persuade team members to participate through effective communication and Create – Develop an infrastructure to make well-being easy and “normal”.

Participants of the workshop will be identifying ways to make incremental changes within their work groups which infuse well-being and will be sharing those strategies across the organization to foster a culture of wellness and well-being across the entire organization.



## Doughnuts at the Topeka Metro

City Manger Brent Trout, TFD Chief Duke, TPD Chief Kramer and TPD Major Bill Cochran handed out doughnuts and coffee to riders of the Topeka Metro Buses on Friday, November 3rd, early in the morning.

City officials were able to talk to and interact with citizens from all over Topeka over a doughnut and a cup of coffee.



## Halloween at City Hall





City Hall and the Holiday building hosted trick or treating. Both buildings participated in a Halloween decorating contest.

The Finance Department won first place in City Hall recreating Hogwarts from Harry Potter.

The Planning Department won first place in the Holiday building, turning Bill Fiander's office into a haunted office.

## Zoo tree removal and re-purposing

Three trees were cut down and replaced into an exhibit at the zoo that will be welcoming new animals in the next few months.

The animals are climbers so trees that were too tall were turned into enrichment toys for the animals.



The Forestry Department cut down the trees and replaced them using a crane. It was their first time using a crane for tree removal. The process went smoothly and they look forward to using a crane again in the future.

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## United Way Fundraiser

The City of Topeka had a fundraiser for the United Way of Greater Topeka. Whichever department had the highest percentage of employees donating to the United Way got to have a car washed by Deputy City Manager Doug Gerber and their Department head.

The Topeka Police Department was the winner of this contest and Jennifer was the lucky employee to get her car washed by Chief Kramer.



Chief Kramer and Deputy City Manager Doug Gerber were kind enough to detail Jennifer's car by cleaning the windows and drying the car.

## Coming up

- November 9th- Quarterly See-Click-Fix training.
  - November 13th- Construction Starts on SE Washington Street.
  - November 14th, the Governing Body will consider a three year labor agreement between the City and the AFSCME Development Services bargaining unit covering the years 2017-2019.
  - November 15th- KLETC LELA (Law Enforcement Leadership Academy) graduation-2 TPD commanders
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## Brent Trout

This weekly report is presented to you from the office of City Manager Brent Trout.

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*This report was produced through our [open data portal](#). We have several other open data portals to help connect you with the work we do, including portals that let you:*

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