



City of Topeka

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From the Interim City Manager's Desk

July 3, 2017

Happy Independence Day!

Topeka wants you to have a happy and safe Fourth of July! Remember:

- You can purchase fireworks through July 5th.
- Fireworks may be discharged within the City limits between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. on July 1, 2, and 3, and between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. on July 4th.



- Check out some safety tips from the Topeka Fire Department on their [Twitter page](#)!
 - And finally - HAVE FUN!
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Recent Updates

- TPD's Interim Chief Kramer [provided a statement](#) regarding the recent violence in Topeka. What he and the City Manager's office want the community to know is that Topeka is still a safe place to live, and we are working hard to ensure the trend does not continue.
- Communications did a Tweet Along with [Water Pollution Control](#) this week. It provided a great opportunity to share more about all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes at WPC.
- We wanted to pass along a comment the Water Department recently received: "I just paid my water bill using your new utility website, and I wanted to pass along my appreciation for the new features. I signed up for the auto-pay service, which will be very convenient for me. I know it is always a lot of work to upgrade a payment system, but your team's efforts are appreciated!"
- Development Services issued a building permit for the Zoo's [Camp Cowabunga](#) project! We're very excited about this and will keep you updated on its progress. The ground breaking ceremony will be July 6th at 10:00 a.m. at the zoo.



- The Finance Department has been volunteering at Williams Magnet School. Once a week, two staff members spend an hour in the classroom assisting the teacher and providing one-on-one tutoring for the students. We encourage and are proud of our staff's involvement in the community.

WaterShare Program

The WaterShare Program allows customers paying their City utility bill to add an automatic amount of their choosing to go to charity, for the purpose of assisting in the payment of City utility bills of those less fortunate.

Local charitable agencies and the City of Topeka created the WaterShare program as a means of facilitating convenient monthly charitable donations by citizens through their City of Topeka utilities bill. [Doorstep](#), Let's Help, and the [Salvation Army](#) are administering all funds and selecting eligible recipients. In

A vertical flyer for the WaterShare program. At the top is a circular logo with a star and the text "SHOW YOU CARE WITH". Below the logo is the word "watershare" in a stylized blue and white font. A black box contains the text: "With \$1 per month, you can help Topekans in need pay their utility bills." Below this is a larger black box with white text explaining the program: "WaterShare is a partnership between the City of Topeka, Doorstep, Let's Help, and the Salvation Army. Doorstep, Let's Help, and the Salvation Army administer all funds and select eligible recipients. All donations are clearly marked as charitable contributions on utility bills, and may or may not be tax-deductible (consult a tax advisor). You may stop your contributions any time by calling (785) 368-3111." Below this is a grey box with the text "Donating is easy." followed by instructions: "Complete the form on the reverse side of this slip & send it back with your utility payment." and "Fill out our online form at www.topeka.org/watershare". At the bottom is another black box with the text "Call a customer service representative at (785) 368-3111." and the "watershare" logo at the very bottom.

SHOW YOU CARE WITH

watershare

With \$1 per month, you can help Topekans in need pay their utility bills.

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SHOW YOU CARE WITH

watershare

addition, all donations to the WaterShare program are clearly marked as charitable contributions on City utility bills and may or may not be tax-deductible (consult a tax advisor).

You may sign up to contribute to the WaterShare Program by:

- Calling the Customer Service Center at 785-368-3111
- [Applying online](#)
- Faxing The [PDF form](#) to the Customer Service Center at 785-368-3825
- Mailing a [PDF form](#) with your next City utility payment or to the following address: City of Topeka Customer Service Attn: Utility Accounts 3245 NW Water Works Dr. Topeka, Kansas, 66606

Your contribution will be appreciated by those in need.



Coming up

- City offices will be closed on July 4.
- A ribbon cutting celebrating the reopening of Seward Avenue is set to begin at 4:00 p.m. Friday, July 7th, at NE Seward and NE Freeman.
- "[Light the Night](#)" will be held Friday, July 7, from 8:00 – 10:00 p.m. This will be the first time ever that the historic water tower at 11th and Quincy has been illuminated by LED lighting. There will also be food and games to enjoy.
- Please take a moment to complete the [ADA Survey](#) that closes on June 30.
- [Refuel Topeka](#) continues to provide free meals to kids this summer. You can follow them on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#)
- July 10th, 12th, and 15th, the TPD will be providing Child Identification Kits to the community at Area McDonalds. Check out their [Facebook page](#) for more details!



Topeka Neighborhood Partnership Program

We are currently accepting applications for [Topeka Neighborhood Partnership Program](#). The Neighborhood Partnership Program is a competitive grant program providing funding for neighborhood projects. This program:

- o Provides funding for events, projects and local grant-matching requirements for other grant programs
- o Is open to all formal and informal neighborhood groups. Informal groups can partner with a local non-profit or the Department of Neighborhood Relations Division of Community Engagement
- o Funds project costs from \$500 to \$2,500

The deadline for applications is July 28.





Doug Gerber

This weekly report is presented to you from the office of Interim City Manager Doug Gerber.

[For other weekly reports, visit the City's website.](#)

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:

- [Visualize Topeka's \\$270M budget](#)
- [See Topeka's expenses, one check at a time](#)
- [Navigate our major infrastructure projects](#)



- [Track departments' progress toward our goals](#)

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