

## TTEC Holdings announces plans to create 450 jobs in Overland Park



Kansas Lieutenant Governor David Toland joined company officials and local economic development partners in making a virtual announcement about TTEC Holdings establishing an Overland Park office.

**"In addition to hundreds of new, high-quality jobs, TTEC will contribute to the growing sophistication and technological innovation synonymous with Overland Park and the rest of the Kansas City region. Companies like this are a perfect fit with our state's new Framework for Growth, and they make our state a global destination for creative businesses."**

— Kansas Lieutenant Governor David Toland

TTEC Holdings, Inc., one of the largest global digital customer experience (CX) technology and services innovators for end-to-end, digital CX solutions, announced plans to create 450 high-paying customer service jobs in the next six months in the Kansas City region. Initially, all positions will be work-from-home, with plans to move to a new office in Overland Park in the near future.

The company is hiring with plans for continued growth throughout 2021. In addition to customer service positions, interested sales candidates will be provided with training to become licensed property & casualty insurance agents. TTEC will provide its innovative AI-enabled learning and performance program to rapidly train candidates to reach average earning potential of up to \$19 per hour.

"What makes Kansas City such an attractive location for TTEC is the thriving technology scene, its cultural diversity, and its focus on education," said Trevor Forrester, vice president of global operations at TTEC. "We are thrilled to be opening a new location in Overland Park and are committed to making these jobs as accessible as possible to a diverse talent pool who will undoubtedly add to TTEC's exceptional employee culture."

TTEC, which *Forbes* named "One of America's Best Large Employers of 2021," also ranks No. 24 on its Best Employers for Veterans list. The company has pledged to hire 1,000 veterans annually and encourages veterans and military families to apply for open positions with a strong career path.

"We're thrilled to welcome TTEC to Overland Park," said Overland Park Mayor Carl Gerlach. "The addition of 450 jobs to our community reinforces Overland Park as a hub for companies seeking technology innovation, a dynamic and diverse culture and highly skilled workforce."

## Chamber Board endorses express toll lanes

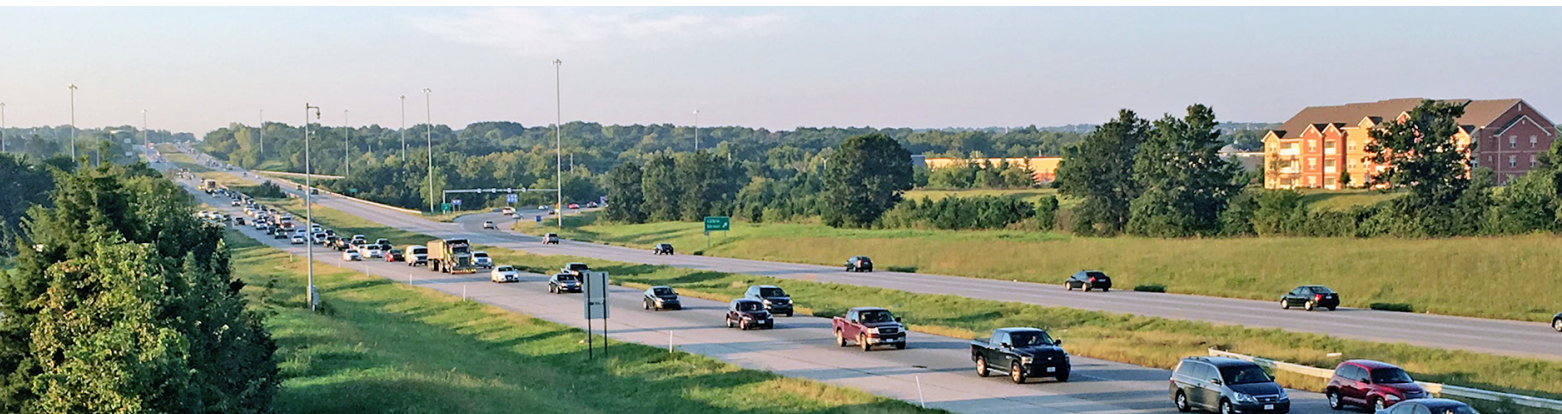


The Overland Park Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors recently endorsed Express Toll Lanes as the preferred option for modernization and expansion of the U.S. 69 corridor, recognizing revenue from tolling provides the city's local contribution for the project while providing the best value for local and state-wide taxpayers.

The Express Toll Lane option is the best value to reduce congestion with fewer con-

struction impacts and the lowest construction cost, has lower lifecycle and maintenance costs and has a smaller project footprint and fewer impacts while keeping traffic further from homes and businesses.

U.S. 69 improvements were identified as the metropolitan area's most important priority during Local Consult meetings held across the State of Kansas in 2019.



## Express Toll Lanes are best option

After its founding in 1967 the Chamber Board identified securing an interchange at I-435 and Quivira as critical to serve the growth that was to come. Once accomplished, in the 1980s the Chamber tackled the addition of an interchange at I-435 and Antioch to serve the many homes and businesses in that area, including Corporate Woods. Two decades, and lots of community advocacy later, we celebrated the groundbreaking for this interchange in 2005.

It's nearly impossible to imagine our community without these two key interchanges, but community improvements, and the funding for them, don't just happen. They are a result of good partnerships and constant planning, strategizing, listening and advocacy to ensure the needs of the community are being met in a fiscally responsible way.

For many years, we've focused on the U.S. 69 corridor. Together with our partners the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), the City of Overland Park and [HNTB Corporation](#), we've traveled the journey of this corridor's 50-year life. We've learned a few key things:

- U.S. 69 is vital to the businesses and residents in our region for safe travel of our workforce and delivery of goods
- The corridor is one of the state's busiest highways with crash rates above the statewide average
- Crash frequencies of approximately once-daily create congestion, increase fuel consumption and lost time
- Consistent with the region's growth, traffic volumes are projected to double in some locations by 2050
- Travel times are projected to triple by 2040
- Pavement and bridges, at 50 years old, are at the end of their useful life.

Options to expand and modernize the corridor between 103rd and 179th streets have been underway for several years. These improvements were identified as the metropolitan area's most important priority during KDOT's statewide local consult meetings in 2019. The option that has emerged as the best value with fewer construction impacts and the lowest construction cost, lowest maintenance cost and smaller footprint with fewest impacts on homes, businesses and the environment is the Express Toll Lanes (ETL) option. For that reason, at its May meeting the Overland Park Chamber Board endorsed the ETL option as the preferred option for modernization and expansion of the U.S. 69 corridor, recognizing revenue from tolling provides the city's local contribution for the project while providing the best value for both local and state-wide taxpayers.

Tolls get a bad rap. No one loves them, but those who take the time to understand the Express Toll Lane option come away with a new respect for this option. By law, the existing lanes of U.S. 69 will remain forever FREE. You can choose to continue to use them free of charge, and never use the toll lanes. But, if you are ever in a hurry – late for work, an important meeting, school function or picking up your child from daycare – the Express Toll Lane is there with a faster, less congested option for you to choose whenever you need it.

I think that sounds like a great deal. If you'd like to learn more, check out [www.69express.org](http://www.69express.org), or contact us at the Chamber. We're happy to talk with you about this project.



**Tracey Osborne Oltjen**  
President & CEO  
[@traceylosborne](#)



## Upcoming ribbon cuttings

**June 15** – 11:30 a.m.

[Fajita Pete's](#), 8909 West 135th Street

**June 16** – 4:00 p.m.

[HomeWell Care Services](#), 11304 West 144th Street

**June 17** – 11:00 a.m.

[Overland Park Auto Clinic](#), 9001 West 95th Street

**June 17** – 11:00 a.m.

[NCRI - National Catastrophe Restoration](#),

1912 East 123rd Street, Olathe

**June 23** – 4:00 p.m.

[The Single Mom KC](#), 11539 West 83rd Terrace

**June 24** – 9:30 a.m.

[Express Oil Change & Tire Engineers](#), 8950 West 135th Street

**June 24** – 11:00 a.m.

[Hook & Reel](#), 11721 Metcalf Avenue

## 2021 leadership class wrapping up this month

This past month, the Leadership Overland Park class had sessions on regionalism and economic development. On Regionalism Day (a shared session with three other Johnson County chambers), the class heard from Kansas City area mayors and regional organizations and received an update on the new KCI terminal. For Economic Development Day, they heard from representatives from numerous organizations working daily to enhance our local economy and learned about resources for career and workforce training.

This month, the class takes a look at quality of life in Overland Park before its closing session on June 16 and then graduation on June 18.

To see a roster of the 2021 class, [click here](#).



The 2021 Leadership Overland Park (LOP) class has chosen [KidsTLC](#) as beneficiary of its class project. Spending time at KidsTLC, class members learned of the need to resurface the playground area to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the children. Funds raised by the 2021 LOP class will ensure the project is completed in a timely manner. To support the class project, [click here](#).

## Upcoming events

**We are excited to return to in-person events this month!**

### Leads Groups

Small networking groups meeting twice a month to cultivate professional relationships, establish trust, increase knowledge and build business.

For more information, [click here](#).

### Wednesday Wake-up

**Wednesday, June 9** – 8:00-9:00 a.m.

[The Vue](#), 7201 West 80th Street

We're excited to be back meeting in person at this monthly networking event! Make connections, develop lasting business relationships and create new opportunities; all while experiencing the luxury apartment community in downtown Overland Park.

Series sponsor: [Fortune Financial Advisors](#)

To register, [click here](#)



**Our Event Host:**  
The Vue

### Leadership Overland Park Graduation

**Friday, June 18** – 11:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m.

Held virtually with limited space for in-person at [Fiorella's](#), 9000 West 137th Street

**Our Keynote Speaker:** Craig Zahnd, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City Due to limited space, we invite you to join us virtually as we celebrate the graduation of our 2021 Leadership Overland Park class members. A waitlist has been started for in-person attendance.

Waitlist spots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis, if seats become available.

To register, [click here](#)



**Keynote Speaker:**  
Craig Zahnd

### OP After Hours

**Tuesday, June 22** – 4:30-6:00 p.m.

[The Venue in Leawood](#), 4800 West 135th Street

Join us for our first in-person OP After Hours of the year and experience a modern and elegant event space. Don't miss out on a fun evening of networking, delicious appetizers and drinks.

Registration closes at noon on June 18 or when attendance has reached maximum capacity.

To register, [click here](#)



**Our Event Host:**  
The Venue

# Welcome to the Chamber!

## INTRODUCING OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

### Boy Scouts of America – Heart of America Council

Carlos Coronado, Assistant  
Director of Field Service  
10210 Holmes Road  
Kansas City MO 64131-4212  
(816) 942-9333  
hoac-bsa@bsaemail.org  
[www.hoac-bsa.org](http://www.hoac-bsa.org)  
Youth Organizations and Centers

### Cenetric Network Services

Noah Fugate, Solutions  
Engineer/Client Success Mgr.  
401 South Clairborne Road,  
Suite 200  
Olathe KS 66062  
(913) 210-1950  
nfugate@cenetric.com  
[www.cenetric.com](http://www.cenetric.com)  
Computer Networking, Computer  
Software & Services

### Gleason Magic –

#### Opening June 4

Greg Gleason, Magician  
5501 West 135th Street, #2310  
Overland Park KS 66223  
(913) 372-7469  
gleasonmagic@aol.com  
[www.gleasonmagicexperience.com](http://www.gleasonmagicexperience.com)  
Entertainment, Event Services

### In The Zone Cryo + Health Upgrades

Joni Van Horn, Owner  
7102 College Boulevard  
Overland Park KS 66210  
(913) 208-4859  
joni.inthezonecryo@gmail.com  
[www.inthezonecryo.com](http://www.inthezonecryo.com)  
Fitness, Health & Wellness

### Netrality Data Centers

#### – also EDC Investor

Chris Newlin, Director of  
Business Development  
1102 Grand Boulevard, Suite 1900  
Kansas City MO 64106  
(212) 317-1800  
cnewlin@netrality.com  
[www.netrality.com](http://www.netrality.com)  
Data Center Services; Real Estate-  
Commercial & Industrial

### Osman Consultants, LLC

Dan Osman  
P. O. Box 25092  
Overland Park KS 66225  
(913) 638-1107  
osmanconsultants@gmail.com  
[www.osmanconsultants.com](http://www.osmanconsultants.com)  
Construction Management, Legal  
Services

### Roling Chiropractic and Wellness

Dr. Joshua Roling, Owner  
11818 West 135th Street  
Overland Park KS 66221  
(913) 912-7007  
rolingchiropractic@gmail.com  
[www.rolingchiropractic-andwellness.com](http://www.rolingchiropractic-andwellness.com)  
Chiropractic Physicians-D.C.

### Taylor Strategies

Paul Taylor  
15709 Linden Street  
Overland Park KS 66224  
(254) 319-1823  
paul.taylor@taylorstrategies.org  
Government Affairs

### The Single MOM KC

Rachel Segobia, Executive  
Director  
11539 West 83rd Terrace  
Overland Park KS 66214  
info@thesinglemomkc.org  
[www.thesinglemomkc.org](http://www.thesinglemomkc.org)  
Fundraising, Non-Profit  
Organizations  
Referred by Bobby Olm-Shipman

### Torchy's Tacos –

#### Opening Soon!

Christopher Renfro, Managing  
Partner  
6815 West 135th Street  
Overland Park KS 66223  
[www.torchystacos.com](http://www.torchystacos.com)  
Restaurants

### Tradition Home Group

Becca Gelwix  
3740 West 106th Street  
Leawood KS 66206  
(816) 581-9000  
becca@thgsold.com  
[www.becca.livelovekchomes.com](http://www.becca.livelovekchomes.com)  
Real Estate-Residential

### Useagility

Michael Lehr, Business  
Development Associate  
118 Southwest Boulevard, Suite  
300  
Kansas City MO 64108  
(816) 945-6615  
info@useagility.com  
[www.useagility.com](http://www.useagility.com)  
Marketing Research, Website  
Design

### Whom would you like to refer to the Chamber?

Connect them to Stacey at  
[scowan@opchamber.org](mailto:scowan@opchamber.org)  
and receive a credit when  
they join.

Click below for event details.

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE SUMMER

FINE WINE + FOOD • LIVE MUSIC • FIREWORKS • FLORAL LANDSCAPES

# JUNE 26

Safely socialize at the beautiful  
Overland Park Arboretum &  
Botanical Gardens



# Stems

2021

A Garden Soirée



Visit [stemssoiree.org](http://stemssoiree.org) or call 913.322.6467  
for all ticket, sponsorship, and event information.



City Council President Curt Skoog and Chamber President Tracey Osborne Oltjen helped [FNBO](http://fnbo.org) officials celebrate a ribbon cutting for the bank's new Blue Valley Parkway location at 7335 West 119th Street. It is the first of three new FNBO locations to open in Johnson County this year. The new locations will bring FNBO's presence in the metro area to 10 branches. For more information: (913) 266-9340 or [click here](http://click here).



# Thanks for reinvesting!

## MAY MEMBER RENEWALS INVESTING IN COMMUNITY

### 50+ Years

Capitol Federal Savings Bank

### 40-49 Years

Humana, Inc.  
Stinson LLP

### 20-39 Years

Blue Valley School District  
BNSF Railway Company  
Craig Sole Designs  
Display Studios  
FNBO  
Johnson County Community College  
Johnson County Government  
Marge Roche and Associates  
Morgan Hunter  
Shawnee Mission School District

### 10-19 Years

Creative Planning  
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites  
Overland Park-West  
Object Technology Solutions Inc.

Red Robin Gourmet Burgers-South Overland Park  
Tallgrass Creek-Erickson Living  
TownePlace Suites by Marriott  
Walmart-157th & Metcalf

### 5-9 Years

Firestone Complete Auto Care-135th Street  
Google Fiber  
Rock & Brews Overland Park  
Sykes/Lady Overland Park Golf Club  
TechCycle Solutions  
World Class Unlimited, Inc.

### 1-4 Years

AdamsGabbert  
Azura Credit Union  
Bury the Hatchet KC  
InQuest Marketing  
Lenny's Grill & Subs - 87th Street  
N2 Publishing  
Markley Strategies  
New Frontier Technologies  
Regular Guy Computer Services  
SnapIT Solutions, LLC  
War Horses for Veterans, Inc  
White Lawn and Landscape LLC

# U.S. 69 Ribbon-Cutting: 2025 or 2040?

I can be pretty simplistic sometimes, and when it comes to discussing the need for improvements on U.S. 69, the question I ask is simple: When do you want to cut the ribbon on an expanded roadway that is vital to the Overland Park and Johnson County economy?

The reality is if we wait on the traditional way of doing things – funding from Topeka for a statewide KDOT initiative – that ribbon cutting could be decades away. In the meantime, U.S. 69 will become more congested, with more accidents and a larger negative environmental footprint, and we will put the brakes on the Overland Park dynamic some already take for granted.

We know the problem: Our state highway fund is too empty to meet our needs. Communities that step up with a local contribution will be the most successful. The only truly viable local contribution for our needs is generating funds via express toll lanes. ETLs help all drivers move more smoothly and safely, whether they choose to use the new, added ETL or continue to use the existing, rebuilt free lanes.

Common sense and economic studies inform us that communities with effective transportation systems, moving goods and people, have thrived and will thrive going forward. U.S. 69 demonstrates this vitality every day.

Strong leadership is necessary to take this bold step. I'm convinced ETLs are the right answer to a growing problem and will add energy to our business community and our neighborhoods without overburdening those who do not consistently use U.S. 69.

Waiting will not make congestion go away or somehow make the decision easier. Let's do this right and sooner rather than later.

To paraphrase John Donne, whether you will use U.S. 69 or its express toll lanes, it "tolls" for you, benefitting the common good by better managing congestion and ensuring a vibrant future for Overland Park.



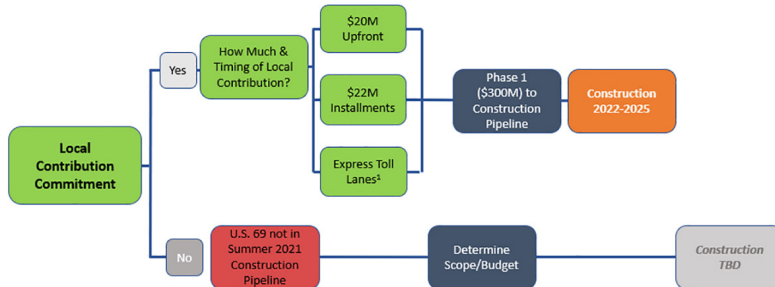
**Greg Musil**  
Partner  
[Rouse Frets](#)  
[White Goss](#)  
[Gentile](#)  
[Rhodes, P.C.](#)



City Councilmember Chris Newlin and Chamber Senior Vice President Beth Johnson helped Dr. David Allen and his team celebrate a ribbon cutting for the opening of [Overland Park Veterinary Emergency and Specialty](#), 8301 West 163rd Street.

OPVES is a 9,800-square-foot state-of-the-art animal hospital providing 24-hour ER, critical care, surgery, and internal medicine pet services. For more information: (913) 361-3800 or [click here](#).

## HOW LOCAL CONTRIBUTION AFFECTS SCOPE AND SCHEDULE



<sup>1</sup>Approval by Kansas Turnpike Authority and State Finance Council required



## Chamber Board

### Board Officers:

Bill Ferguson, 2021 Chairman  
Central Bank of the Midwest  
Tony Rupp, Chairman-Elect  
Foulston Siefkin LLP  
Joan Wells, 1st Vice Chairman  
Wellington  
Cindy Rock, 2nd Vice Chairman  
Kendall Bank  
Josh Beck, Secretary  
MarksNelson  
Chris Wally, Treasurer  
Wally & Co.  
Bobby Olm-Shipman, Immediate Past Chairman  
Saint Luke's South Hospital  
Mike Hess, Past Chairman  
HNTB Corporation

### Board Members:

Aaron Attebery, Black & Veatch  
Sean Barnard, Bambou Salons & Spas  
Patrice Brown, Yellow  
Faruk Capan, Intouch Group  
John Fuller, DLR Group  
Tracy Garry, Empower Retirement  
Matt Gunter, SelectQuote  
Tom Herzog, Netsmart Technologies  
Brenner Holland, Hunt Midwest  
Angela Hurt, Veracity Consulting, Inc.  
Dr. Tonya Merrigan, Blue Valley School District  
Melody Rayl, Fisher Phillips LLP  
Stacy Rose, AdamsGabbert  
Allan Samson, T-Mobile  
Rick Schier, CommunityAmerica Credit Union  
Matt Sheets, FNBO  
Matt Sogard, Overland Park Regional Medical Center  
Steve Troester, PGAV Architects, Inc.  
Kim Winslow, Evergy  
Jason Wright, JE Dunn Construction Company

### Ex-Officio Board:

Dr. Andy Bowne, Johnson County Community College  
Bill Ebel, City of Overland Park  
Mayor Carl Gerlach, City of Overland Park  
Dana Markel, Visit Overland Park  
Matt Masilionis, Perspective Architecture + Design  
[2021 Chairman of Chamber Economic Development Council]  
Tracey Osborne Oltjen, CCE, Chamber

## Chamber staff

Tracey Osborne Oltjen, CCE, President & CEO  
Drew Aggus, Member Services Coordinator  
Stacey Cowan, Membership Director  
Frank Ebling, CFO  
Celia Fritz-Watson, IOM, Director of Events & Member Services  
Tim Holverson, IOM, Director, Workforce & Business Growth  
Chris Jackson, Research Analyst  
Beth Johnson, CEcD, Senior Vice President of Economic Development  
Stan Lawson, Communications Director  
Erin Murray, Executive Assistant  
Kevin Walker, IOM, Senior Vice President of Public Policy

## Member news

[Overland Park Regional Medical Center](#) recently celebrated the grand opening of its Small Baby Unit in the neonatal intensive care unit.

Twelve students across [Blue Valley School District](#), [Olathe Public Schools](#) and [Shawnee Mission School District](#) have been named 2021 National Merit Scholarship winners.

[Saint Luke's South Rehabilitation Institute](#) recently became the first LEED for Healthcare V4 project to obtain certification in Kansas.

Several Chamber member hospitals were recognized with a 4- or 5-star rating from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. [Link](#)  
Many Chamber member hospitals also were recently recognized by Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade, earning grades of A or B. [Link](#)

[Johnson County Community College](#) Continuing Education's [new website](#) is now live.

[Creative Planning](#) and The Mallouk Family Foundation have established Pathway Financial Education, a non-profit that will provide free financial education and training to small business owners, adults and youth in under-served communities. It was established with support from partners including [JE Dunn Construction](#) and [Royals](#) Charities.

[Plowboys Barbeque](#) recently landed its Bovine Bold and Yardbird Rubs on Good Housekeeping's list of "The 17 Best BBQ Rubs for the Tastiest Barbecue Ever."

Help [Harvesters](#) replenish its food pantries and keep up with  
(continued on page 8)



City Council President Curt Skoog and Chamber Senior Vice President Kevin Walker helped celebrate a ribbon cutting for [Serendipity Labs](#), 5440 West 110th Street.

Serendipity Labs offers upscale, flexible workspace for the on-demand needs of independents, mobile employees, work teams, and corporate alike. For more info: (913) 214-9900 or [click here](#).



City Councilmember Fred Spears and Chamber Senior Vice President Kevin Walker helped Jozie Garner and her team celebrate the third anniversary of [Profile by Sanford](#), 13378 Metcalf Avenue.

Profile was developed by physicians and provides nutrition, activity, and lifestyle coaching to help members reach their health and wellness goals. For more info: (913) 800-5160 or [click here](#).



City Councilmember Tom Carignan and Chamber Senior Vice President Beth Johnson helped Joni Van Horn, her team and friends celebrate a ribbon cutting for [In The Zone Cryo + Health Upgrades](#), 7102 College Boulevard. In The Zone provides an array of clinically proven health services that support the body's natural healing process including cryotherapy, infrared heat and cold laser therapy. For more info: (913) 208-4859 or [click here](#).

# Health system meets rapidly changing demands for the metro

## CORPORATE SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

The past year has been especially unpredictable, requiring health care providers to meet new and uncertain demands, including testing, diagnosis and treatment for many people who contracted COVID-19. [The University of Kansas Health System](#), part of the leading academic health system serving Kansas City and the region, is among those who have led the region in providing testing, treatment and information to protect people from the novel coronavirus. It's all part of the health system's mission to enhance the health and wellness of the communities it serves.

Such innovative care is available at the more than 100 locations the health system offers, including its main campus in Kansas City, Kansas, and the Indian Creek Campus in Overland Park. Multiple locations conveniently placed in communities across the region extend the reach of academic medicine and vital services for any condition to more people closer to home.

The health system provides primary, specialty and emergency care for all conditions – from routine to rare. Its facilities in Overland Park are inviting, convenient locations for a wide range of services designed to meet the needs of the community.

The Ambulatory Surgery Center at Indian Creek Campus provides same-day procedures in a comfortable setting. Care teams at the campus specialize in spine, sarcoma, sports medicine, orthopedics, GI, neurosurgery, plastic surgery, urology, ear, nose and throat care, and more. The campus is also home to The Women's Cancer Center, specializing in breast and gynecologic cancer.

Indian Creek Campus also offers a hospital and multiple physician offices. Essential services conveniently located here include pharmacy, imaging, pain management and others.

Additional services offered elsewhere in Overland Park include cardiology, dermatology, reproductive medicine and fertility, rehabilitation obstetrics and gynecology, and more.

Learn more at [www.kansashealthsystem.com](http://www.kansashealthsystem.com).



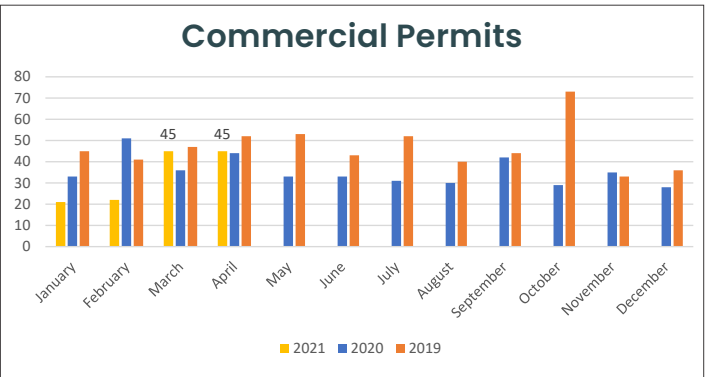
# Driving Economic Success

Unemployment			
	Apr. 2021	Mar. 2021	Apr. 2020
Overland Park	2.8%	3.0%	11.4%
Johnson County	2.7%	3.1%	11.3%
Kansas City Metro MSA		4.2%	13.2%
State of Kansas	3.5%	3.7%	12.6%

(These percentages are not seasonally adjusted)  
 – Kansas Labor Information Center (KLIC)  
 – U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Building Permits				
	New Commercial	Institutional, Schools, etc.	Other Commercial	Totals
Apr. 2021	1	0	44	45
Sq. Feet	12,385	0	42,257	57,642
Value	\$1,435,792	N/A	\$34,464,987	\$35,900,779

– City of Overland Park



This newsletter is distributed monthly by the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce, 9001 West 110th Street, Suite 150, Overland Park, KS 66210.  
 (913) 491-3600 | Fax: (913) 491-0393  
[opcc@opchamber.org](mailto:opcc@opchamber.org) | [www.opchamber.org](http://www.opchamber.org)



## Corporate Partners



## Corporate Sponsors

[Affinis Corp](#)

[CommunityAmerica Credit Union](#)

[Empower Retirement](#)

[Evergy](#)

[FNBO](#)

[Foulston Siefkin LLP](#)

[JE Dunn Construction Company](#)

[Johnson County Community College](#)

[Kansas Gas Service](#)

[McCownGordon Construction](#)

[The University of Kansas Edwards Campus](#)

[The University of Kansas Health System](#)

To add your name to this list, contact Tracey Osborne Oltjen at (913) 491-3600 or [tosborne@opchamber.org](mailto:tosborne@opchamber.org).

### Member news continued . . .

the ever-increasing demand for food by purchasing a "Meat Me in KC" tee. The purchase of one shirt equals 21 meals. This campaign is also supported by [Fiorella's Jack Stack Barbecue](#) and [Q39](#).

[Overland Park Regional Medical Center](#) has achieved the Pathway to Excellence® designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

[APEX Career Services](#) is celebrating 10 years of providing career coaching, resume writing, outplacement services and HR consulting to individuals and corporate clients globally.

Due to an increasing need for blood donations, [Community Blood Center of Kansas City](#) seeks businesses and organizations to host a community blood drive.



The City of Overland Park opened its new Public Works Department fleet maintenance facility near 124th and Antioch. This facility provides a centralized hub for maintenance and repairs to more than 700 vehicles including work trucks, snow plows and fire trucks. [See more here.](#)

Chris Rosson is the new president & CEO of the [United Way of Greater Kansas City](#).

[Blue Valley Recreation Commission](#) fitness coordinator Tonya Williams was honored as the Kansas Recreation and Park Association's Distinguished New Professional.

Ron Appletoft has joined the [WaterOne](#) board.

Amy Spellman, [SelectQuote](#), was named a 2021 All-Star by OfficeNinjas.

To submit news, events or promotions, [click here](#). For login information: [daggus@opchamber.org](mailto:daggus@opchamber.org).

## McCownGordon focuses on building collaborative partnerships

### CORPORATE SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

[McCownGordon Construction](#) is recognized as one of the region's largest construction managers with offices in Kansas and Missouri. The firm focuses on building collaborative partnerships and offering clients the best building experience.

To accommodate the booming growth Overland Park has experienced, a new elementary school was necessary to ensure the students in the [Blue Valley School District](#) have the necessary attention, tools and space to learn and grow. The new ground-up elementary school includes 73,000 square feet of collaboration and common areas for students, teachers and administration to come together. Other notable features include a climbing wall, an art room with a clay kiln and an abundance of natural light throughout the building.

The site the elementary school sits on was complex and required the McCownGordon team to perform multiple rounds of value engineering in the preconstruction phase. The original

two-story building plan was value-engineered down to one single story.

McCownGordon is known for being fast-paced, performance-driven and client-focused with expertise in a variety of markets including corporate, health care, higher education, K-12 and private development. The company is 100 percent employee-owned, named one of the Best Places to Work by the *Kansas City Business Journal* for the past 16 years, and ranks as a *Fortune* 2019 Best Workplaces for Millennials. For more information, visit [www.mccowngordon.com](http://www.mccowngordon.com).

