

VOTE YES for 3/8 cent sales tax for better streets and safer traffic management

In support of the citizen-led Infrastructure Advisory Group, the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce is asking for your support of the 3/8 cent sales tax vote.

Ballots should be in your mailbox any day now. Please mail in your ballot NO LATER than June 22.

This is an important vote, and we encourage your support. For more information: <https://yes4op.com>.

QUICK FACTS

4 Previous Yes Votes

Overland Park is a proactive city. We keep up and invest in our infrastructure. Voters approved similar tax votes in 1998, 2003, 2008 and 2013.

2,000 Lane Miles

The street distance we must maintain and improve in Overland Park. That's farther than driving from OP to Seattle, WA. That's a lot to maintain.

18% Less Chip Seal

A YES vote results in an 18% reduction in chip seal in the first year alone.

45 Cents

3/8 of a cent on a \$120 restaurant bill

20.5 Million

Fund created every year dedicated to funding for streets and traffic management systems.

3 Drop Boxes

Meet the June 22 noon deadline by dropping your ballot at one of the following drop boxes:

Johnson County Election Office
2101 E. Kansas City Rd., Olathe

Blue Valley Library
9000 W. 151st Street, Overland Park

Central Resource Library
9875 W. 87th St., Overland Park

Chamber Board

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Joan Wells, Chair
Augeo

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Tracey Osborne Oltjen, CCE, Chamber

Mayor Curt Skoog, City of Overland Park

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Tracey Osborne Oltjen, CCE

Chamber President

[@traceylosborne](https://twitter.com/traceylosborne)



Why I'm voting Yes4OP

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

My father worked for the Missouri Department of Transportation for nearly 45 years.

I grew up with a more than average appreciation for the role infrastructure plays in the development of communities. Perhaps it was inevitable that I would choose a career advocating for quality of life and prosperity initiatives. One of these opportunities is before us now.

In early June the citizens of Overland Park will receive a mail ballot to authorize for ten years a 3/8-cent city sales tax for infrastructure and traffic management improvements. You may recall voting for this in the past. In 1988, voters approved a 1/8-cent tax, renewing it four times with more than a 70% approval.

That's not surprising, since citywide surveys indicate that two of our residents' highest priorities are maintenance of city streets and improved traffic flow. In response, our City Council and professional staff have utilized this dedicated revenue stream well. Over the past 25 years, OP has constructed new residential streets in established neighborhoods while simultaneously building and expanding thoroughfares in still-developing areas.

So why increase the tax now?

For nearly a year, a group of citizens studied the broad scope of infrastructure needs

across our community. They determined we needed an additional \$28.5 million per year to address the growing maintenance and construction costs in our city. They also want to decrease our reliance on chip-seal for maintenance of our streets. To accomplish these goals, the City Council unanimously approved placing consideration of a 3/8-cent infrastructure sales tax before the voters to replace the 1/8-cent sales tax that sunsets next year.

Remember – Overland Park is now more than 60 years old. That's well into middle age in street-years. While we're still growing in some areas, our maintenance needs are increasing in others. One of the qualities I noticed immediately when I moved here was the high quality of our streets and traffic systems. This doesn't just happen. It's intentional, and takes dedication, leadership and money.

Two of ForwardOP's values are that Overland Park will be forward-thinking and innovative.

Your "yes" vote ensures funding is available to enhance the maintenance and safety of our streets, sidewalks and traffic systems throughout Overland Park, creating opportunities for businesses to grow and for residents and families to flourish.

Please join me. Spread the word to your neighbors and don't forget to return your ballot by NOON June 22. **#Yes4OP**.

<https://yes4op.com>

Upcoming events

Wednesday Wake-up

Wednesday, June 14 – 8:00-9:00 a.m.
[School of Rock Blue Valley](#), 11516 West 135th Street

At this monthly networking event, make connections, develop lasting business relationships and create new opportunities while enjoying coffee and breakfast items.

School of Rock transforms lives through music education and performance. It teaches beginners and rockstars, age four and up. Pick your instrument(s), join one of its bands, learn your songs and hit the stage.

Free for Chamber members - [register here](#).

Series Sponsor: [Fortune Financial Advisors](#)



SERIES SPONSOR



LOP Project Fundraiser Wine for Signs

Wednesday, June 7 – 6:00-9:00 p.m.
Bourgmont Winery, 20299 Quivira Road

The Leadership Overland Park Class is hosting a fundraising event with the [Overland Park Host Lions Club](#) to improve accessibility at Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead for visitors with visual impairments. Live music, appetizers, a tour and two complimentary glasses of wine are included in the general admission ticket. VIP tickets also are available and include a VIP wine tasting with Bourgmont's Director of Operations.

For tickets, [click here](#).



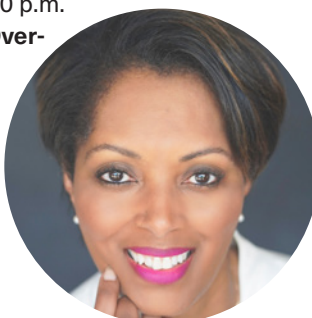
Leadership Overland Park Graduation Luncheon

Thursday, June 22 – 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
DoubleTree by Hilton Kansas City-Overland Park, 10100 College Boulevard

Join us to celebrate the graduation of our 2023 Leadership Overland Park class members.

Our keynote speaker will be Kaye Monk-Morgan, president and CEO of the Kansas Leadership Center (KLC). Her work fosters civic leadership for stronger, healthier, and more prosperous communities in Kansas and beyond.

To register, [click here](#).



Kaye Monk-Morgan
Kansas Leadership Center

OP After Hours

Thursday, June 8 – 4:30-6:30 p.m.
[Avenue 81 Senior Living](#), 8055 Metcalf Avenue

Join us at OP After Hours for a fun evening of networking, delicious appetizers and drinks. This event is a great opportunity to see the luxury senior living community, Avenue 81 provides all the modern services and amenities of an upscale resort with no upfront buy-in. Avenue 81 will redefine the way you think about retirement living.

Attendance at this event is an exclusive benefit for Chamber members only.

Register by noon on June 6 – [click here](#).

Series Sponsor: [SQUAD Medical Staffing](#)



SERIES SPONSOR



Ribbon cuttings

June 7 – [Tiger-Rock Martial Arts](#), 8819 West 95th Street - 12:00 p.m.

June 9 – [Anytime Fitness](#), 8809 West 95th Street - 12:00 p.m.

June 29 – [BuiltKC](#), 8895 Bond Street - 2:30 p.m.



Executive Leadership Series

Tuesday, June 20 – 7:30-9:00 a.m.
Featuring Julie Lorenz, 1898 & Co. | Part of [Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc.](#)

Watch for your email invitation.

Young Professionals Mix & Mingle

Thursday, June 29 – 4:30-6:30 p.m.
[Torchy's Tacos](#), 6815 West 135th Street

Join other Young Professionals for a happy hour Mix & Mingle at Torchy's Tacos. Make new connections, catch up with colleagues, and have delicious food and drinks from Torchy's Tacos.

To register, [click here](#).



VOTE PROGRESS YES OP



Peggy Amor

“Overland Park’s infrastructure is the backbone of so much of what I love about this city. To keep what we have strong, and make the changes many of us want to see, we can’t keep doing what we’ve always done. I’ll be voting yes on the mail-in ballot to keep what we have strong and invest in change for the better.”

www.yes4op.com



Neelima Parasker shared her journey to becoming an IT industry leader at our recent Executive Leadership Series breakfast sponsored by [FNBO](#). Founder, President and CEO of [SnapIT Solutions](#), Neelima also talked about her patent-pending business model through which SnapIT seeks, trains and deploys individuals – especially those from underrepresented and underserved communities – into the IT workforce.

Town halls for upcoming special election

The City of Overland Park will host three town hall events for residents interested in learning more about the upcoming OP Moves sales tax election.

June 1 at 6:30 p.m.

Johnson County Library Blue Valley, 9000 West 151st Street

June 8 at 6 p.m.

Remote by telephone. Call (817) 288-4144

Meeting ID: 7440

June 13 at 6:30 p.m.

Matt Ross Community Center, 8101 Marty Street

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

Sponsorships available! 2023 Golf Tournament August 14, 2023

We have many opportunities to promote your company to the business professionals participating in the Chamber's popular annual Golf Tournament.

For details, [click here](#) or contact Alex at acook@opchamber.org or (913) 766-7603.

Click below for more information.



A Celebration of Growth AT THE OVERLAND PARK ARBORETUM & BOTANICAL GARDENS

ENJOY

Wine with exclusive hand-painted wine glass
Delicious food from local restaurants
Live music and entertainment
Sneak peek of LongHouse
Fireworks and floral landscapes

JUNE 24, 2023 • 7-10 p.m.

Purchase your tickets or sponsorship package today!

Visit stemssoiree.org or call 913.322.6467 for all ticket and event information.



PRESENTING SPONSOR
& HONORARY CHAIR

**JANET
LONG**

LEGACY SPONSORS

Bank of Blue Valley
in partnership with the
Regener Family Foundations

**frank
AGENCY**

Welcome to the Chamber!

INTRODUCING OUR MAY NEW MEMBERS

Beef-A-Roo – Coming Soon!

Dawn Durkin, Brand Leader
9500 West 135th Street
Overland Park KS 66221
(815) 637-1008
overlandpark.kansas@beefaroo.com
www.beefaroo.com
Restaurants, Caterers

Bloomin Blinds

Dana Henton, Owner
Overland Park KS
(913) 732-0442
overlandpark@bloominblinds.com
www.bloominblinds.com
*Home Improvements, Window Blinds,
Coverings & Shutters*

Chick-fil-A 95th & Metcalf

Nancy Zarccone, Sales & Brand Director
9591 Metcalf Avenue
Overland Park KS 66212
(913) 341-2655
www.chick-fil-a.com
Caterers, Restaurants

Foundation King

Christa Pointer
10119 East Truman Road
Independence MO 64052
(913) 909-5464
info@foundationking.com
www.foundationking.com
Construction Management, Foundation Repair

Gragg Advertising

Lisa Maher, Business Development
Executive
5200 Metcalf Avenue, Suite 320
Overland Park KS 66202
(816) 931-0050
www.graggadv.com
Advertising

If you know a company that
should belong to the Chamber,
refer them to Dave Dyer at
ddyer@opchamber.org and
you'll earn credits when they
become a Chamber member.

JSunPV LLC

Jason Peterson, Owner/Sales
Overland Park KS
(913) 766-2266
www.jsunpv.com
*Contractors - General, Environmental &
Ecological Consultants*

OWN – New EDC Investor!

Sterling Cramer, Chief Operating Officer
941 West 141st Terrace
Kansas City MO 64145
(816) 777-0400
www.weareown.com
Engineers; Land Surveyors

Ronco Construction

New EDC Investor!
Jason Jacobson, Regional Director
1816 Walnut Street
Kansas City MO 64108
(816) 293-4898
jjacobson@ronco-construction.com
www.ronco-construction.com
Contractors - General

Studio FIVE VR

Joe Bartels, Owner / Visionary
19310 East 50th Terrace, Suite M
Independence MO 64055
(816) 782-8988
www.studiofivevr.com
Entertainment, Amusement Places

Tiger-Rock Martial Arts of North Overland Park

Payton Donnell, Owner/Operator
8819 West 95th Street
Overland Park KS 66212
(605) 595-5284
tigerrocknorthop@gmail.com
www.kctigerrock.com
Fitness, Martial Arts Instruction

United States Army Recruiting

Nathan Johnson, SSG, Army Recruiter
13519 South Mur-Len Road, 138 Suite B
Olathe KS 66062
(913) 731-5170
www.goarmy.com
Government

Zoom Room

Tim Schoenfelder
11670 West 135th Street
Overland Park KS 66221
(913) 732-3083
www.zoomroom.com/kcop
Dog Training, Pet Services & Supplies

Thanks for reinvesting!

MAY MEMBER RENEWALS

50+ Years

Spectrum Business

40-49 Years

Humana, Inc.

20-39 Years

Burnett Automotive, Inc.
Community Blood Center of Greater Kansas
City
Craig Sole Designs
Johnson County Government
Marge Roche and Associates
Show-Me Live Event Production
Straub Construction Company, Inc.
TranSystems

10-19 Years

3&2 Baseball Club of Johnson County, Inc.
BHC
Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company
Fisher Phillips LLP
Home Association Solutions LLC
McCarthy Building Companies
Nolan Real Estate
Oades Brothers Tire & Auto
Object Technology Solutions Inc.

5-9 Years

Avenue 80
Bury the Hatchet KC
Comfort Keepers of Overland Park
Firestone Complete Auto Care-135th Street
Golden Oak Lending
Infinitas
LANE4 Property Group
Lenny's Grill & Subs - 87th Street
Oliver Insurance Agency Inc.

1-4 Years

Advantage Tech, Inc.
Associational Insurance Services
Blue Nose Aerial Imaging of Overland Park
Crushed Red
Emerald Court Reporting, LLC
Great Plains SPCA
Johnson County Rehabilitation Hospital
Make-A-Wish Missouri & Kansas
Maxus Properties
Mission Farms West Development, LLC
Overland Park Historical Society
ReeceNichols - Jim Stewart
Regency Park
Shamrock Trading Corporation

Click below for more information.

VOTE PROGRESS YES4OP



Tom Mitchell,
DLR Group and
Community
leader

“It is imperative that we continue to invest in our infrastructure, so we are able to maintain, enhance and enjoy the quality of life we all covet here in Overland Park.”

Park.”

www.yes4op.com

Wine FOR SIGNS, A NIGHT AT BOURGMONT

to benefit Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead.

SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 7
2023

BOURGMONT WINERY

Featuring Live Music, Food, Drinks and Raffle Items

All proceeds of the event will be used towards replacing the exhibit signage around the park as well as other improvements to make the park more inclusive and accessible by the visually impaired. Live music, appetizers, a tour and two complimentary glasses of wine are included in the general admission ticket.

TICKET
Tickets start at \$50. VIP tickets are also available which include a VIP wine tasting with Bourgmont's Director of Operations.

The Leadership Overland Park Class of 2023 will be hosting a fundraising event in conjunction with the Lions Club of Overland Park.

LOP class studies regionalism and social services

Last month the Leadership Overland Park (LOP) class held sessions on regionalism and health and social issues.

On Regionalism Day, the class held a joint session with leadership programs from the Lenexa, Northeast Johnson County, Olathe and Shawnee chambers, and heard a panel of regional mayors and speakers representing several organizations including KCADC, KC Rising, the Kansas City Area Transit Authority and the Kansas City Sports Commission.

On Health and Social Issues Day, the class learned from speakers representing organizations that provide health care and social services. They also toured Advent-Health South Overland Park.

Health & Social Services
Lunch Sponsor:



FOX4 News Anchor John Holt moderated a panel of mayors from throughout the Kansas City metro.



Kristy Baughman, [United Community Services of Johnson County](#), was one of several presenters during Health and Social Issues Day.

2023 LOP Sponsor:



Osborne Oltjen selected for Women Who Mean Business

Tracey Osborne Oltjen, President & CEO, has been selected for the Kansas City Business Journal's 2023 class of Women Who Mean Business.

A panel of six judges selected this year's 25 honorees who represent professional women making significant strides in their business or industry and in the Kansas City community.

Also selected for the class are these Chamber member representatives:

- Kelli Allredge, [Chicken N Pickle](#)
- India Boulton, [T-Mobile](#)
- Laura Crowley, [Crowley Furniture](#)
- Emily Tilgner, [McCownGordon Construction](#)
- Julia Vander Weele, [Spencer Fane LLP](#)

The honorees will be featured in a special section of the publication on August 18 when they also will be celebrated at an awards event.



City Council President Jim Kite joined the Chamber in helping Randy Price, owner; Tony Witt, general manager; and their team celebrate a ribbon cutting for [Urban Egg](#) a daytime eatery, 4921 West 119th Street.

Urban Egg offers an award-winning breakfast and lunch menu featuring local, organic ingredients and innovative and flavorful presentations.

For more info: (913) 586-7500 or [click here](#).



City Council President Jim Kite joined the Chamber to help owners Joe & Kirsten Bartels and their team celebrate a ribboncutting for [KC Floorworx's](#) new showroom at 10514 West 103rd Street.

KC Floorworx is a woman-owned flooring company taking pride in offering a 5 STAR experience in the flooring industry. It has a 35,000-square-foot showroom/warehouse that provides everything you need for a home addition or remodel.

For more info: (913) 318-6549 or [click here](#).



For Small Business Appreciation Week, Mayor Curt Skoog presented a proclamation to Chamber Chairman Joan Wells, [Augco](#); highlighting the economic impact small businesses have on our local economy.

Affinis helps move communities forward

CORPORATE SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

As a civil engineering and surveying firm, Affinis knows they have a responsibility to advance the quality of life in the communities they serve; and that's a privilege they enjoy and take very seriously. Their guiding purpose is to move communities forward by creating holistic infrastructure solutions through valued partnerships with coworkers, clients, and colleagues.

The word Affinis is Latin for relationship, or strong bond, and long-lasting relationships are how they have built their business. A testament to Affinis' collaborative approach is their record of repeat business, which is 96 percent. They focus on serving public sector clients and enjoy the interaction that comes with working in neighborhoods and communities. They are passionate about designing awesome infrastructure that positively impacts a community and improves everyone's quality of life.

Since Affinis' founding, they've fostered a purpose-driven, relationship-based culture. They have been recognized by the Zweig Group as a "Best Firm to Work For" 13 times. Their selection is due in part to positive co-worker input through an anonymous survey describing work life at Affinis. 100 percent of their team believes they have the best interests of their projects end-users' (the general public, drivers, pedestrians, residents, etc.) at heart. [Discover what it's like to work at "The Best Firm to Work For," where values and culture let you fulfill your purpose.](#)



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 | www.opchamber.org



City Council Members Tom Carignan and Jim Kite and City Manager Lori Curtis Luther joined Chamber President Tracey Osborne Oltjen to help Brian Rodrock and his team celebrate a ribbon cutting for Sundance Ridge, a [Rodrock Homes](#) development near 175th Street and Mission Road in the [Blue Valley School District](#). For more information, [click here](#).



Will Ruder, [Home Builders Association Of Greater Kansas City](#), spoke to the Chamber Board of Directors recently about factors effecting the affordability and availability of housing stock in Overland Park and Johnson County.

VOTE PROGRESS YES OP



Dave White

“The 3/8-cent sales tax should be approved because it will give the City of Overland Park the means to increase maintenance of our streets, sidewalks and curbs so that they meet the demands of Overland Park residents.”

www.yes4op.com



Business leaders to lead Opportunity NOW committees

Several business leaders have stepped up in leadership roles with the advisory board for the Chamber's Opportunity NOW initiative.

Chairs include:

Board of Advisors Chair: Bill Ferguson, [Central Bank of the Midwest](#)

Chair, Small Business Council: Neelima Parasker, [SnapIT Solutions, LLC](#)

Chair, Talent Council: Dana Streck, [WellSky Corporation](#)

Chair, Business Environment: Michael Tracy, [OMNI Human Resource Management](#)

Chair, Jobs & Investment: Kim Winslow, [Evergy](#)

Opportunities are available to serve on the Board of Advisors directing this five-year strategic initiative to help make Overland Park more competitive. More details are [available here](#).

For more information about being involved in this initiative, contact Tracey Osborne Oltjen at tosborne@opchamber.org.



Mayor Curt Skoog joined the Chamber to help owner Jeff Rigler and his team celebrate a ribbon cutting for [Senior Helpers](#), 7203 West 110th Street.

Senior Helpers enables seniors to remain in their homes despite age-related illnesses and mobility challenges.

For more info: (913) 851-4800 or [click here](#).



City Council Member Jim Kite joined the Chamber to help owner Rakan Dogum and his team celebrate a ribbon cutting for [Marco's Pizza](#), 8930 West 95th Street. Marco's has been a Slice of the Community™ since 1978. It is known for its dough made from scratch and its three fresh signature cheeses.

For more info: (913) 871-5200 or [click here](#).

VOTE PROGRESS YES 4 OP

“Well-maintained infrastructure is a driver of economic growth and an essential facet of the high quality of life we pride ourselves on in Overland Park. Our city is at an inflection point where we risk falling behind in our duty to provide a well-maintained community to current and future residents. Grounded in responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars, OP Moves is a critical and responsible investment in our community's future.”



Brian Biggs

www.yes4op.com

Recent Events

MEMBERS CONNECTING WITH MEMBERS

Chamber members enjoyed coffee and breakfast items while networking at last month's Wednesday Wake-up event hosted by [Occidental Management, Inc.](#) at OPx.

Thank you to our Series Sponsor: [Fortune Financial Advisors!](#)



The Chamber was pleased to help Michelle Morales, Store Manager, and her team celebrate the \$6 million remodel of [Walmart Overland Park](#), 15700 Metcalf Avenue.



The Chamber helped owner Dave Sopark and his team celebrate a ribbon cutting for [JINYA Ramen Bar](#), 7761 West 159th Street in Bluhawk. JINYA is known for its slow-cooked approach to ramen. From its customizable menu to sleek interior, JINYA presents a contemporary Japanese dining ideal for lively social gatherings. For more info: (913) 261-9598 or [click here](#).



City Council Member Jim Kite and Chamber President Tracey Osborne Oltjen helped Matt Sogard, CEO; and his team celebrate a ribbon cutting for the new, dedicated Women's and Children's entrance and the state-of-the-art renovations made to labor and delivery, postpartum and antepartum units at [Overland Park Regional Medical Center](#).



The Chamber joined City of Overland Park officials to celebrate a ribbon cutting for the Overland Park Police Department's new substation inside [Oak Park Mall](#).

The new substation is a collaboration with CBL Properties to provide security for shoppers and businesses in one of the region's highest profile retail centers.



Kevin Honomichl, [BHC](#), moderated last month's CEO Unplugged Series program for Overland Park Young Professionals. The lunch program featured Adam Fichman, [Lifted Logic](#); and Joan Wells, [Augeo](#).

Thank you to our **2023 CEO Unplugged Series Sponsor: [BHC](#)**

Thanks to our 2023 Young Professionals Sponsors:

Platinum Sponsor



Silver Sponsor



Driving Economic Success

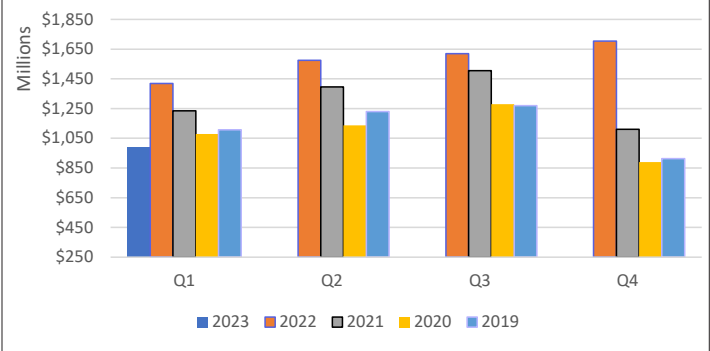
Unemployment

	Feb. 2023	Jan. 2023	Feb. 2022
Overland Park	2.9%	2.5%	2.1%
Johnson County	2.9%	2.5%	2.1%
Kansas City Metro MSA	2.9%	2.9%	2.6%
State of Kansas	2.9%	2.7%	3.7%

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

Retail Sales Comparison

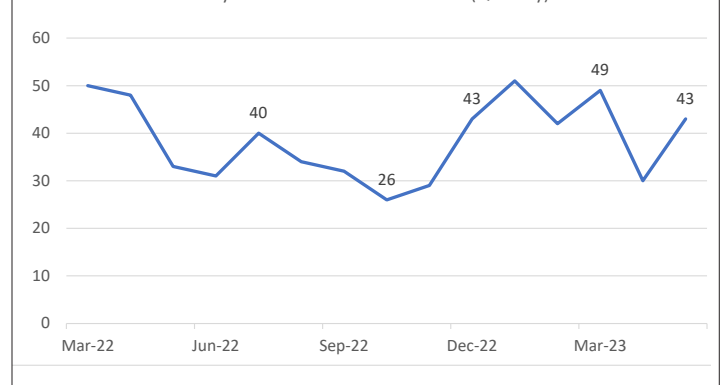
2019-2023



If strong retail numbers persist, Overland Park is expected to outperform last year's retail sales for the first quarter. In comparison with February 2022, this year's February retail sales saw a 13.9% increase. Figures displayed are based on sales tax collections.

Source: *Johnson County Economic Indicators, County Research Institute (CERI)*, Source: *Kansas Department of Revenue and Cities*

Overland Park Commercial Permits



Corporate Partners



Corporate Sponsors

[Affinis Corp](#)

[Empower](#)

[Energys](#)

[FNBO](#)

[Foulston Siefkin LLP](#)

[JE Dunn Construction Company](#)

[Johnson County Community College](#)

[Kansas Gas Service](#)

[McCownGordon Construction](#)

[The University of Kansas Edwards Campus](#)

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

Member News & Events

The [Prairiefire Summer Music Series](#) features free live music concerts, 7-10 p.m. every Thursday through August 31.

[AdventHealth South Overland Park](#) is hosting a free Kansas City Symphony outdoor concert, 7-8 p.m. on **June 4**.

[Kansas State University Olathe](#) is hosting a Hospitality Management Alumni and Industry Night with guest speakers talking about the school's Hospitality Management program, 5:30-7:30 p.m. on **June 6** at Strang Hall.

[PREVAIL](#) presents the seminar, Creating Wealth Series: The Power of Passive Income, 4-5:30 p.m. on **June 7**.

The free [Downtown Overland Park Car Show](#) will feature classic and contemporary cars, 6-8 pm. on **June 8**.

The Downtown Overland Park Art Fair is **June 23** with food trucks, live music, children's activities and 75 juried artists. Vendors and entertainment will extend along Santa Fe Drive from Thompson Park to 79th Street. Contact Angie at angie@downtownop.org to learn about sponsorships.

The [Arts & Recreation Foundation of Overland Park](#) presents its annual [Stems: A Garden Soirée](#) on **June 24** at the Overland Park Arboretum & Botanical Gardens. Proceeds from this garden party support programs and capital improvements at our cultural and recreational community gems including the Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead, the Overland Park Arboretum & Botanical Gardens and city art installations.

[BHC](#) has acquired long-time Kansas firm Savoy Company, P.A.

[Black & Veatch](#) is expanding its construction solutions through its acquisition of Bird Electric.

To meet the growing demand for tech-sector jobs locally and nationally, [KU's School of Professional Studies](#) has launched a new bachelor's degree in applied cybersecurity.

The [Overland Park Convention Center](#) announced a partnership with Pete's Garden, a food recovery organization that recovers surplus prepared foods and repackages and redirects the food as healthy take-home meals for families who need assistance.

This fall [Kansas State University Olathe](#) will offer more scholarships including funds for transfer students, hospitality management majors and Johnson County residents.

[Overland Park Regional Medical Center](#) was recently recognized among the nation's top hospitals for heart attack patients.

Overland Park Chamber member hospitals received A and B grades in the [Spring 2023 Safety Grade](#) from The Leapfrog Group, a national nonprofit upholding the standard of patient safety in hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers.

[Foulston Siefkin LLP](#), welcomes Cameron Edens, Andrew Foreman, Nicholas Kaechele, Jordan Miller, Molly Morgan, Quan Nguyen, and Grace Vogel as 2023 summer associates.

[AdventHealth Medical Group](#) has launched a new virtual care practice that allows patients to see a provider from the comfort of their home or workplace.

[Sunflower Bank's](#) small business lending platform, created in partnership with SmartBiz, now includes an application and approval process for US Small Business Administration (SBA) 7(a) loans.

It's severe weather season and [Kansas Gas Service](#) offers some helpful tips on protecting your natural gas meter and your safety.

Tara Eberline is now partner-in-charge for [Foulston Siefkin LLP's](#) Kansas City office. Eberline has chaired the firm's Kansas-City-area employment and labor/litigation practice since 2021. She succeeds Foulston trial lawyer Tony Rupp. Eberline and Rupp will continue serving clients in their active practices.

David Gray has been selected as Executive Director of the [Kansas City Ballet](#), effective July 1. He will succeed Jeffrey J. Bentley, who has served Kansas City Ballet since August 1998.

Alysen Abel has joined [Garver's](#) Transportation Team as Municipal Team Leader.

Sandy Johnson and Gina Hacker have joined [Johnson County Community College's](#) Business Solutions team.

The American Public Works Association named Tim Ross, former CEO and President of [GBA](#), as a 2023 Top Ten [Public Works Leader of the Year](#).

To submit your member news and events, [click here](#).