REGULAR SESSION – WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2022

STATE OF KANSAS)
) SS
CITY OF KANSAS CITY)

The Board of Public Utilities of Kansas City, Kansas (aka BPU, We, Us, Our) met in Regular Session on Wednesday, October 17, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. The following Board Members were present: Mary Gonzales, President; Rose Mulvany Henry, Vice President; Thomas Groneman, Secretary; Robert L. Milan, Jeff Bryant, and David Haley.

Also present: William Johnson, General Manager; Angela Lawson, Deputy Chief Counsel; Lori Austin, Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administrative Officer; Jeremy Ash, Interim Chief Operating Officer; Johnetta Hinson, Executive Director Customer Service; Steve Green, Executive Director Water Operations; Jerin Purtee, Executive Director Electric Supply; Darrin McNew, Acting Executive Director Electric Operations; David Mehlhaff, Chief Communications Officer; Dennis Dumovich, Director of Human Resources; Patrice Townsend, Director Utility Services; and Robert Kamp, IT Project Manager.

A video of this meeting is on file at the Board of Public Utilities and can be found on the BPU website, www.bpu.com.

Ms. Gonzales called the Board meeting to order at 6:04 P.M. She welcomed all that were listening to or viewing the meeting. She stated that the Board felt it was necessary to offer the use of technology for staff as well as for the general public. During the public comment section, members of the public who wished to speak to the Board using Zoom needed to use the Raise Hand feature at the bottom of the application or window to signal that they wish to address the board during the public comment section. Members of the public connected by phone only, needed to press *9 to indicate they wished to address the Board in the public comment section. Staff would assist those attending in person. During the public comment section of the agenda, community members would be asked to provide their name and address and had five minutes to speak. As always, the public could also email or call the BPU with any concerns. The agenda and presentations could be found on the BPU website or if they were using Zoom they would appear on their screen. Ms. Gonzales introduced herself and the other Board Members along with the General Manager, and Legal Counsel.

Roll call was taken and all Board Members were present.

Item #3 – Approval of Agenda

A motion was made to approve the Agenda by Mr. Milan, seconded by Mr. Groneman, and unanimously carried.

REGULAR SESSION - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2022

STATE OF KANSAS)	
)	SS
CITY OF KANSAS CITY)	

Item #4- Approval of Work Session Minutes of October 5, 2022

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Work Session of October 5, 2022, by Ms. Mulvany Henry, seconded by Mr. Haley, and unanimously carried.

Item #5- Approval of Regular Session Minutes of October 5, 2022

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Regular Session of October 5, 2022, by Mr. Milan, seconded by Ms. Mulvany Henry, and unanimously carried.

<u>Item #6 – Public Comments</u>

There were no visitors wishing to speak.

<u>Item #7 – Wyandotte Economic Development Council (WYEDC)</u>

Mr. Greg Kindle, President of the WYEDC, gave the Board an update on the economic development opportunities in the community. He reported on the areas of attraction and recruitment, business retention and expansion, marketing and promoting, and workforce solutions. (See attached PowerPoint.)

Mr. Kindle responded to comments and questions from the Board and Mr. Johnson.

Item #8 - General Manager / Staff Reports

- i. Corporate Communications Quarterly Update: Mr. David Mehlhaff, Chief Communications Officer, gave the Board an update on BPU Corporate Communications as well as a forecast of what was to come in the future. (See attached PowerPoint.)
 - Mr. Mehlhaff responded to comments and questions from the Board.
- ii. Cold Weather Rule Resolution No. 5278: Mr. Bryant explained the proposed change in wording to the current policy. (See attached.)

A motion was made to approve Resolution No. 5278, by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Mr. Milan, and unanimously carried.

REGULAR SESSION – WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2022

STATE OF KANSAS)	
)	SS
CITY OF KANSAS CITY)	

The Board received clarification that the change would go into effect November 1, 2022.

iii. Miscellaneous Comments: Mr. Johnson reported that the Unified Government (UG) County Administrator search was once again moving forward with the new search firm.

Mr. Johnson also said that he had forwarded Ms. Mulvany Henry a list of PILOT charges by classification, for the Unified Government PILOT taskforce that she was a part of.

He informed the Board that no one from BPU was currently part of the UG taskforce on Environmental Sustainability and Green Energy. He would follow up with the UG on what direction they were going and what they were hoping to accomplish with that taskforce.

He said that he had been notified that UG rate increases would begin to appear on the BPU bill in January 2023.

He also wished Mr. Haley a Happy upcoming Birthday.

<u>Item #9 – Board Comments</u>

Mr. Bryant thanked everyone for the evening's presentations. He also reiterated to the Board that they could face any new challenges that came their way by continuing to work together.

Ms. Gonzales also thanked every body for the presentations as well as the help staff provided in preparation for the upcoming budget discussion.

Mr. Groneman said that he had attended the International Linemen's Rodeo and was impressed by the number of teams that were there. He was also impressed by the BPU team that competed. He also thanked Mr. Kindle for his informative presentation on WYEDC.

Mr. Haley echoed Mr. Groneman's comments on WYEDC. He also thanked Mr. Mehlhaff on his communications update. He also wanted to thank Ms. Johnetta Hinson, Executive Director Customer Service, and Ms. Gabriela Freeman, Supervisor Customer Services, as well as Mr. Johnson for enlightening him on Customer Service. He spoke about

REGULAR SESSION – WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2022

STATE OF KANSAS)	
		SS (
CITY OF KANSAS CITY)	

his attendance at the UG Standing Committee on Economic Development and Finance meeting and commented that he had asked again for a better understanding of the PILOT.

Mr. Milan felt it was important the public knew that the upcoming 2023 increases on their utility bill were coming from the UG on UG charges, not BPU or the BPU Board.

Ms. Mulvany Henry thanked everyone for the helpful presentations. She also thanked Mr. Kindle for his economic development update.

Item #10– Executive Session

Ms. Angela Lawson, Deputy Chief Counsel proposed a motion for adoption as followed:

"I move that after taking an ten minute break the Board go into Executive Session for 20 minutes in the first floor conference room to discuss confidential matters related to employment of the general manager, a personnel matter of nonelected personnel as justified under the exception in the Kansas Open Meetings Act; and that the General Manager, William Johnson, and the Deputy Chief Counsel, Angela Lawson, be present to participate in the discussion, all others to be dismissed from the room and electronic and telephonic transmissions to cease, and that we reconvene in open session returning to both electronic and telephonic broadcasting at 7:50 P.M. in the board room to either take action in an open session or to adjourn".

A motion to go into Executive Session and reconvene at 7:50 P.M. was made by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Ms. Mulvany Henry and carried unanimously.

At 7:50 P.M. the meeting returned to Open Session in the board room.

A motion to extend the Executive Session for 20 minutes, until 8:10 P.M. was made by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Mr. Haley and carried unanimously and the Board went back into closed session in the work room.

Item #11 - Adjourn

At 8:10 P.M. the meeting was reopened to the public in the board room and a motion to adjourn was made by, Mr. Bryant seconded by Ms. Mulvany Henry and carried unanimously.

REGULAR SESSION - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2022

STATE OF KANSAS)
(SS CITY OF KANSAS CITY)

ATTEST:

Secretary

APPROVED:



Board of Public Utilities: Economic Development Update

OCTOBER 17, 2022



OUR FOCUS

Mission

To promote and strengthen Wyandotte County's economy through innovative approaches to programs, partnerships, and leadership in industrial, residential, office and retail markets.

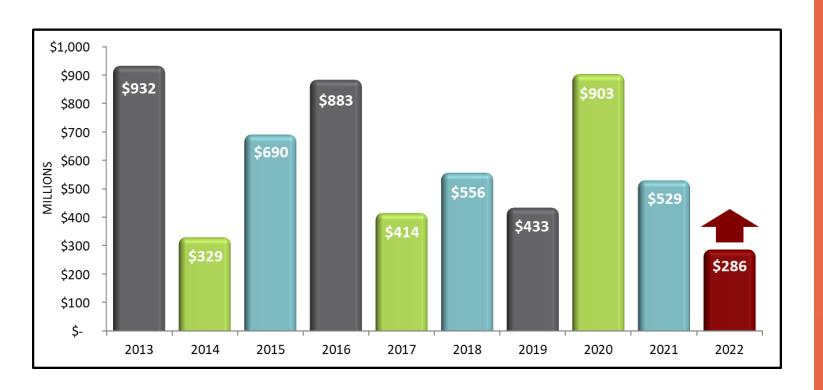








CAPITAL INVESTMENT



21 PROJECTS 2,180,684

Z, 10U,004 SQUARE FEET

208JOBS

Thuasne USA (Sock)

Location: 123 Osage Avenue, Kansas City

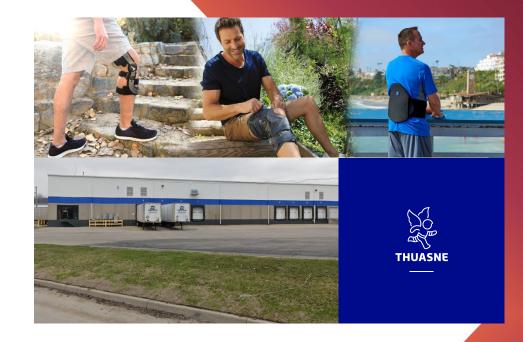
Project Type: Retention/Expansion

Project Info:

- Thuasne USA, distributes orthotic products, which includes knee braces, ankle/foot orthotics, back braces, and several other orthotic products.
- 123 Osage Avenue will be their main distributions hub.

Drivers: Central Location, Growth, Expansion into Midwest markets

Investors/Partners Engaged: Knit-Rite, Premier Investments, CBIZ, KDOC, BPU



Kansas City Treats (Bone)

Location: 16 Kansas Avenue, Kansas City

Project Type: Expansion

Project Info:

• 100,00 square foot expansion adjacent to their 96,000 square feet facility

• 25 net new employees

Drivers: Growing contracts for extrusion, manufacturing and packaging

Investors/Partners Engaged: KDOC and UG







PBI Gordon(Zone)

Location: 300 S. 3rd St., Kansas City

Project Type: Expansion

Project Info:

- 1,700 truckloads of fill dirt due to proximity to levy
- 6,200 square feet renovated

Drivers: Infrastructure improvements for further expansion

Investors/Partners Engaged: GBA, Terracon, CBIZ, KDOC and UG





Bank of Labor (Labor)

Location: 745 State Avenue, Kansas City

Project Type: Redevelopment

Project Info:

- 20 market rate apartments south tower
- Renovate north tower for office users
- Retain Bank of Labor
- Demolish adjacent UG building for new parking
- Historic tax credits, super NRA
- Completion by end of 2024

Drivers: Lack of downtown apartments, early adopter

Investors/Partners Engaged: Polsinelli, Unified Government





Homefield – Margaritaville Resort

Location: 1111 N. 98th St. Kansas City

Project Type: Attraction

Project Info:

• 250 rooms initially

Construction starts Fall 2022, Opens Spring 2024

- Connected to Perfect Game Midwest –
 75K room nights annually
- 1st full-service hotel in Wyandotte County
- Privately financed not tied to STAR Bonds

Drivers: Location, Growth mode

Investors/Partners Engaged: UG, KDC



YEAR-END PROJECTIONS

	Project	Size (s.f.)	Investment	Jobs	Industry
•	Big House	400,000	\$70M	400	Light manufacturing
•	Premier	300,000	\$65M	300	Headquarters campus
•	Threshold	232 units	\$62M	5	Multifamily
•	505 Central	129 units	\$40M	5	Multifamily
•	Orange	419,000	\$15M	300	Light manufacturing
Po	otential	1,119,000	\$252M	1,010	
Cı	arrent Announcements	2,180,684	\$286M	208	
Es	timated Totals	3,299,684	\$538M	1,218	
O	rganizational Goals	1,000,000	\$500M	1,000	





RECENT INVESTMENTS EAST OF 635

Downtown Specific:

- KU Strawberry Hill renovation
- MERC Grocery
- Catholic Charities relocation
- Hilton Garden Inn renovation
- KCK Police Athletic League
- UG Juvenile Justice Center
- Crosslines Tower renovation
- Y Lofts
- **Boulevard Apartments**
- Shalom HOuse
- Metro KC Fitness
- KCKCC Downtown Campus pending
- Downtown Library under discussion
- Lanier Multifamily/Mixed Used under discussion McDonald's

Off-Downtown:

- Slaps BBQ expansion
- Strawberry Hill Brewing Company
- Bethel Neighborhood Center renovation
- Splitlog Coffee expansion
- Strip center 7th & Central
- Yards II (new name) Bottoms
- 505 Central pending

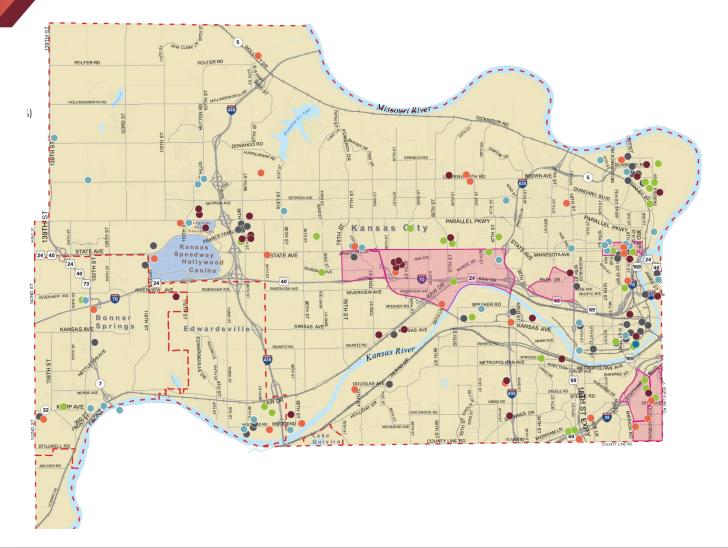
Armourdale:

- Rock Island Bridge
- Pepsico/Frito Lay
- Knit-Rite
- KC Treats





2017-2021 COUNTY-WIDE INVESTMENTS



STATS:

- 161 Announced Successes
- 78 Projects were East of I-635 (48%)
- \$2.8B Invested
- \$1.03B East of I-635 (37%)
- 8,624 New/Retained Jobs
- 1,733 New/Retained Jobs East of I635 (20%)

- 2017
- 2018
- 2019
- 2020
- **2021**
- Opportunity Zones





Industrial

- . Urban Outfitters
- 2. Woodlands/435 Logistics
- 3. Turner Logistics Center
- 4. Scavuzzo's/Indian Springs
- 5. Medline
- 6. Old Dominion
- 7. Block at K-7/Nettleton

Residential

- 1. Village West Apartments Phase III
- 2. Legends 267
- 3. Homefield Apartments
- 4. KCKCC Student Housing
- 5. The Yards II
- 6. Reardon Center
- 7. 505 Central

Retail/Tourism

- 1. Homefield
- 2. Menard's South
- 3. Rock Island Bridge/Flying Truss
- 4. American Royal
- 5. Camping World

Potential Development Area

- 1. Americold Site
- 2. Ridge/Sandifer Business Park
- 3. 5701 Kaw Drive
- 4. Juniper Gardens
- 5. K-5/18th St.
- 6. 435/Wolcott
- 7. BPU Quindaro Site
- 8. BPU Kaw Site
- 9. 110th & I-70
- 10. 435/Woodend
- 11. Loring



EMPOWER WYCO LOAN

Blu Sequin Women's Clothing Retailer

Core Construction

Commercial and Residential Contractor

Friendly's Café & BBQ Take Out Restaurant & Catering

Gutters Experts KC
Gutter Installation & Maintenance

LRG Commercial
Contracting
Painting Contractor

El Taquito

Restaurant & Tortilleria

Holy Smoke BBQ Restaurant

Madison's Towing
Tow Service

Royalty Enterprises
Bar Service

Sowful Hands Hair Salon

Thunderlight Workboots
Industrial Footwear Retailer

Triple Oak Home Health Senior Healthcare Service

Donnell's Kitchen & Lounge Restaurant/Bar & Event Space

Greenthumb Landscaping Landscaping

14 BUSINESSES

\$15,000 LOANS 4% RATE 4-YEAR PAYBACK

\$210,000 TOTAL

ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

Labor Participation Rate:

Wyandotte County: 65.9%

Kansas: 65.9%

U.S.: 58.4%

Source: US Census ACS 5-year, 2016-2020

MEDIAN ANNUAL WAGES BY COUNTY

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Wyandotte County	\$40,081	\$40,102	\$39,471	\$41,307	\$44,259
Johnson County	\$38,293	\$38,998	\$40,227	\$41,985	\$44,733
Leavenworth County	\$39,503	\$39,501	\$41,399	\$40,503	\$43,255

Source: Kansas Wage Survey, 2020, PEAK Median Wages by County



Wyandotte County MHI has improved 4 of the last 5 years.

2020: \$48,093 (82nd)*

2019: \$46,881 (87th)*

2018: \$47,285 (66th)*

2017: \$46,310 (76th)*

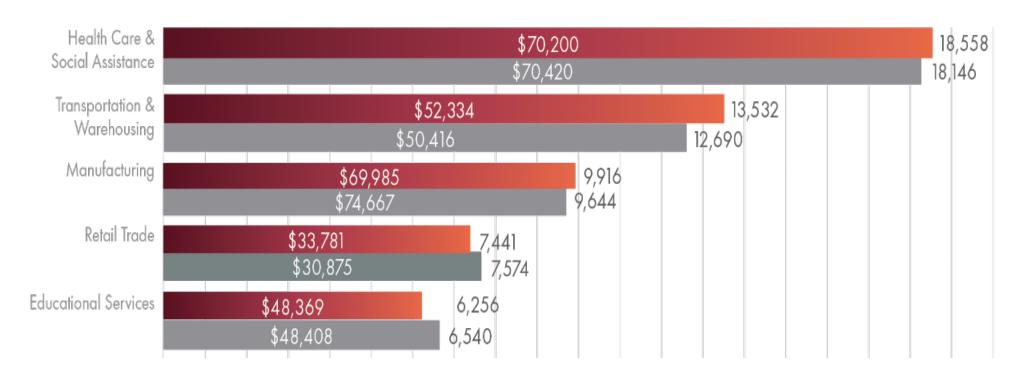
2016: \$43,396 (87th)*

*Out of 105 counties in Kansas

2019 Source: US Census ACS 2016-2020 2015-2018 Source: US Census ACS 1-year

WORKFORCE DATA

WYANDOTTE COUNTY EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, 2021 vs. 2020







BRE TRENDS 2017-2021

2021 Top 10 Open Positions:



Registered Nurses



Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers



Retail Salespersons



Stockers and Order Fillers



Maintenance and Repair Workers, General



Sales Representatives of Services, Except Advertising, Insurance, Financial Services, and Travel



Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand



Medical and Health Service Managers



Medical Secretaries and Administrative Assistants



Janitors & Cleaners, except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners



CHIP- COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN



Childcare/Early Childhood Education – Increase quality childcare spaces, support a quality improvement system, remove barriers to creating early childhood centers, develop a community/business awareness campaign



Criminal History – Support Clean Slate Law – auto expungement of some criminal records after time served, asset mapping of services for justice-involved individuals, engage companies in hiring programs



Language – Identify and engage businesses interested in Business ESL program via KCKCC



Post Secondary Education/Industry-Recognized Credentials – Support Education to Employer pipeline, align education continuum with available jobs/livable wages/trends



Transit – National Science Foundation grant application via KU geared towards youth employment transportation access, potential pilot Edwardsville Industrial Park project, Urban Outfitters transit project





C.H.I.P. UPDATE



A WYCO family may spend up to 20–25% of their household income on child care. At times, costing more than housing.

*Journal of of median recover roles and median need housing costs.

19%
CHILD CARE COSTS

+ 19%
HOUSING (RENT)

Raising WYCO



Producing industry-driven career guide in collaboration with WYCO companies & partners, student bus tours, tied to Making It In the Dotte program





LET'S CONNECT.

GREG KINDLE gkindle@wyedc.org 913.748-2272



Marketing/Corporate Communications/Initiatives

Overview October 17th, 2022



Highlights...

Comms Campaigns	Marketing/Services	Media Relations/ Placements
*Understanding Your BPU Bill	Pay Online/Customer Portal (37,859 to date)	Broadcast / Print Interviews
*Utility Assistance Programs/Resources	Kiosk Pay Usage (5,505)	News release distributions
*Scam/Fraud Awareness	Paperless Billing (12,249)	Issues management
Efficiency/Weatherization/Bills Savings	Energy Engage Portal (10,923)	Social Media Reach/Echo
Electric Outage Restoration Processes	FlexPay Promo (1,176)	
Bill Pay Options (Kiosks, Online, etc.)	Equal Payment Plan (3,585)	



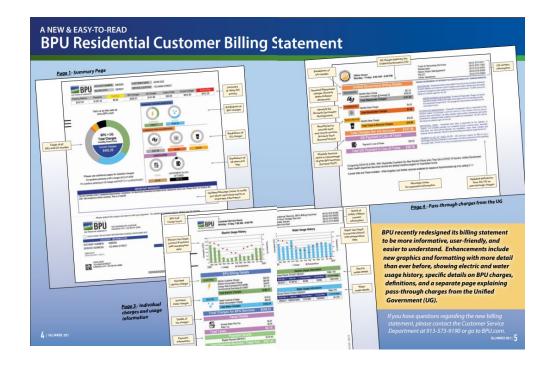
Highlights (Cont'd)...

PR Promos	Communication Collaterals	
Socially Responsible/Community Owned	BPU Connection - 2x (122k homes/biz)	
Renewable Energy Leader	Watts and Water – 6x	



Understanding My BPU Bill

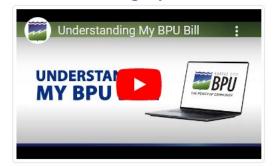
 Objective: new campaign, new bill design, promo social media, new video, etc.





Videos

Understanding My Bill



Video explains the new billing statement

Employee Foundation



Video explains how BPU gives back to the community

Renewable Energy



Updated video to reflect **48**% of BPU's energy comes from renewable resources.

Videos in progress:

Ways to Pay Your Bill and Report Streetlight Issues

BPU YouTube Channel -73 videos (energy efficiency/water savings, what we do, safety, etc.



Fraud Awareness

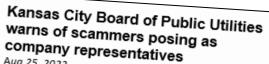
- **Objective:** Educate customers about utility scams
 - FTC received 2.8 million utility fraud/scam reports in 2021 alone







- News Releases
- Social Media posts
- Newsletter articles



Aug 25, 2022







Recent Awards/Recognitions

- 2022 Sue Kelly "Community Service Award"

 American Public Power Association (APPA)
- "Silver Stevie" Best Social Responsibility Program
 - 20th Annual American Business Awards (2022)
- PR News 2022 "Nonprofit Awards" Social Responsibility
- "40 Under Forty" Award Maurice Moss, Exec. Dir./Compliance, BPU
 - Ingram's Magazine recognition of young professional leaders in region
- KC "Corporate Champion" Philanthropy
 - Ingram's Magazine, Philanthropist of Year Awards Luncheon (Dec. 21)
- "250 Most Powerful Leaders" BPU GM Bill Johnson
 - Ingram's Biz Magazine regional awards











BPU has won 10x national/regional awards in '21-'22



Media Summary

- 52 media release distributions in 2022
 - 133 total over last 24 months
- Broadcast/ media interviews & statements
 - Covid Assistance/Relief, Scams, Storm Outages, etc.
- Proactive Media Outreach (Broadcast, print, digital)
 - Utility Assistance/Resource Programs, Scams, "A" Ratings, etc.
- Media <u>"Issue" Response</u>
 - Storm Outages-Blackouts / Service Issues / etc.













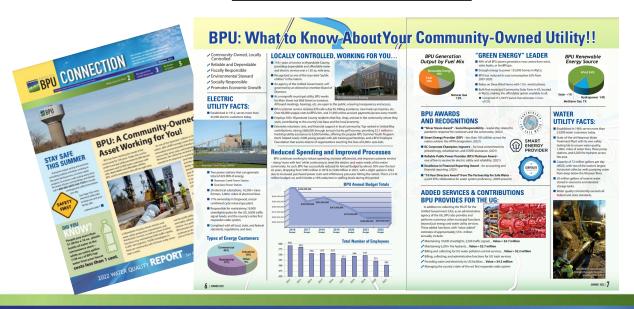
BPU Connection Newsletter

Objective: Mailed 2x a year to 61,000 customers, 8-12 pages. Provides key info about BPU services, products, safety, etc. 500+ distributed to key stakeholders, 11,500 online downloads. Shelf-life of 4-5 months

Fall/Winter 2021



Summer 2022/"WQR" Issue





BPU Connection eNewsletter

BPU Connection Newsletter Email: Twice a year





Watts n Water: Six times a year

Employee Newsletter



July and August 2022

Letter from the General Manager

As a municipal utility, BPU's top priority remains ensuring the delivery of essential electric and water service to the customers it serves, while working to improve the overall quality of life for the entire community.



BPU and its employees remain committed to meeting all the electric and water utility needs of Wyandotte County, with a continued focus on responsive customer service. As a not-for-profit municipal utility, BPU is a community enterprise measured by how much benefit it brings into the community, not profits for shareholders like private utilities, and which is directly reflected in the public service nature of BPU's primary Mission.

BPU has been able to achieve its primary utility services mission while simultaneously reducing its Annual Budget and spending significantly over the last 6 years, from \$495 million in 2016 to \$348 million in 2021, with a slight uptick in 2022 due to increased purchased power costs and inflationary pressures impacting all. This is almost a 30% cut in BPU's budget (nearly \$145 million). Simultaneously, BPU's electric rates remain comparable and even lower than most other local utilities.

BPU continues to introduce and implement new services, technology, and programs to improve efficiency, expand

In This Edition

Letter from the General Manager

Popular BPU Youth Program Stays Winning

BPU Receives "2022 Silver Stevie" Award for Community Response to Pandemic

BPU Staff Meets with Rep Davids to Discuss EPA Lead and Copper Rule

GM Johnson Speaks at KCK Chairman's Breakfast

BPU Hosts Women's Chamber Foundation Luncheon

BPU Health Benefits Update

Process for what to do when Considering Retirement

2022 Holidays

Offices will close to observe the following holidays:

LABOR DAY Monday, September 5



Direct Mail/Postcards

Automatic Bank Draft



Accurate Phone Number



FlexPay



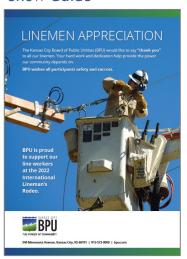
Upcoming Postcards:

Text Alerts, Streetlights, Manage Account Online

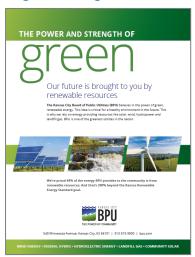


Print Ads

Linemen Rodeo Show Guide



Ingram's Magazine



Labor Management Celebration



Ingram's Magazine





Print Ads Series

Serving Our Community



Customer Service Excellence



Industry Recognition



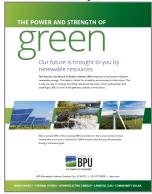
Giving Back



Proud to Support

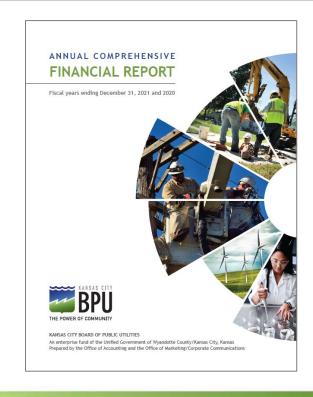


Green Utility





Annual Financial Report Cover





Looking Ahead

- Customer Research/Survey Initiatives
 - online, telephone, website, possibly via zoom
- Community Advisory Group
- "Renewable Energy Leader" Awareness Campaign
- Benefits of a Public Utility
- Crisis Communications Plan
- Media/Key Stakeholder Day (water/energy facility tour/etc.)
- Updating "look" of BPU Connection
- More Educational Videos (water & electric production/distribution), Benefits of a municipal utility, etc.
- Direct mail campaigns





