



Shawnee  
Chamber of  
Commerce

## **SHAWNEE CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORT A YES VOTE ON THE PROPOSED COMMUNITY CENTER**

The Shawnee Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors has voted to support the proposed New Community Center with a Yes Vote on the May 2019 mail-in ballot. The Board recognizes the need for this community asset and supports the City's plan to design and construct the facility, slated to be complete in August 2021 if approved.



*Rendering of the Proposed Community Center to be located at 61<sup>st</sup> and Woodland*

“As stated in the Shawnee Chamber Strategic Plan, we support economic development initiatives that demonstrate investments in our community which includes public amenities that enhance quality of life,” notes Shawnee Chamber of Commerce Chairman of the Board Heidi Thummel of GBA, “Thus when brought before the full Board of Directors we determined it was imperative to support a project of this nature. A positive vote is an investment in healthier Shawnee families.”

The Shawnee Chamber Board believes that the Proposed Community Center is a positive development for the City of Shawnee for the following reasons:

- When surveyed in 2018, 76 percent of corporate executives identified quality-of-life factors as “Very important” or “Important” in their site location decisions—up from 55 percent in 2005, according to the National Recreation and Park Association. This will support efforts to attract and retain high-quality businesses.
- The City of Shawnee Parks and Recreation obtained data from a 2018 city-wide survey that notes the desire for an indoor aquatics facility and additional indoor recreation programming options. Additionally, high usage of already existing Parks and Recreation programs are demonstrating the likely operating success of the Proposed Community Center.
- The Shawnee Chamber believes a key city investment, like the Proposed Community Center, will have a positive economic impact to surrounding businesses and may increase usage of neighboring amenities, including parks, restaurants, retail and sports facilities.

The Chamber encourages residents to become educated about the proposed Community Center and participate in the mail-in ballot election in May 2019. Information regarding the proposed facility, financing and ballot language can be found on the City’s website at <https://bit.ly/2Zws1U0>.