Chamber Adopts Position on Four State Questions

The Greater Oklahoma City Chamber’s Board of Directors recently voted to support three state questions and oppose one state question on the upcoming November ballot.

“The outcome of these four questions is critical to the business community and to the future economic growth of Oklahoma City,” said Roy H. Williams, CCE, president and CEO of the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber.

Chamber supports SQ 792

If passed, State Question 792 would allow wine and strong beer to be sold cold in grocery and convenience stories beginning in 2018. It would also permit liquor stores to sell limited amounts of products other than alcoholic beverages. Voting yes on SQ 792 would also result in the enactment of several statutory changes – including allowing wineries to ship directly to customers in Oklahoma, and allowing craft breweries to sell their product in a more locations.

GE Oil & Gas Research Center Grand Opening Celebrated

GE Global Research’s first industry-specific research center celebrated its grand opening in Oklahoma City on Oct. 5. The center, which is located at 10th and Walnut Avenue near downtown Oklahoma City, will employ about 120 people in high-tech positions when fully staffed and is expected to have a direct and indirect economic impact of $13 million on the state and local economies.

GE Global Research announced its intent to open its 125,000-square-foot center in Oklahoma City in December 2013 and broke ground on the facility in May 2015. The facility is part of GE’s overall increased investment in the oil and gas industry.

The new center seeks to build broad technical capabilities that can deliver productivity gains and foster innovation for its oil and gas customers and the industry. The center is focused on accelerating mid- to later-stage oil and gas technologies developed in GE’s Global Research labs, including production systems, well construction, water use optimization, CO₂ solutions and energy systems. The company also focuses on unconventional ways to extract resources like shale gas.

The campus is located in the heart of Oklahoma City’s innovation district and its construction was an important first step in encouraging a partnership with the Brookings Institution and the Project for Public Spaces for the ongoing study of the district. Its proximity to research and science institutions, the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics and several major oil and gas companies will encourage collaboration and continued innovation.
Oklahoma City is filled with innovation, and that innovation is often times made possible by data speeds. Our community has become a high-tech hub with a strong focus on bio-med, energy, healthcare and bio-tech, and we know that technology can’t continue to grow and thrive without high-speed internet service.

Businesses have been using gigabit speed for years, and it’s now making its way into homes; especially those that have many devices connecting simultaneously to the internet. Coupled with the more than 1,000 employees in Oklahoma City, Cox’s continued investment in our infrastructure and deployment of the fastest speeds available are powering economic growth and development for both business and residents in Oklahoma City.

Here Cox Communications’ Kristin Peck discusses what consumers should know when determining the right speed for their individual needs.

**What speed do I need for my internet at home?**

It really depends on what’s happening in your home. We know that the average American spends 11 hours a day using digital media, and the average household has more than six devices connected to the internet. With lots of tablets, smart phones, computers, gaming consoles, Wi-Fi devices and an average-sized family, you place an enormous amount of demand on your network.

**Which speed works for which activities?**

Here is a basic rundown of speeds:

- **10 megabits per second (Mbps)** is good for email, basic web browsing and one standard-definition stream (lower resolution video).
- **100 Mbps** works well for more advanced web browsing, basic gaming sites and two high-definition streams (such as high definition movies).
- **300 Mbps** is best for a household doing a mix of 10 and 100 MB activities.
- **1,000 Mbps (1 Gigabit)** is great for gaming, teleconferencing, ultra-high-definition streams and a household of high end users. Gigabit internet speed is the next generation of broadband internet service, delivering speed to power all your devices in the home at the same time, whether you’re using your mobile devices, video streaming, gaming or have a home office.

**What can you do with gigabit internet service?**

It offers speeds 100 times faster than the average speed in the U.S. today. It delivers more speed, a powerful home network and rich broadband enabled services to customers.

With a gig, you can:

- Run ALL your devices at the same time
- Download an HD movie in less than 60 seconds
- Download 100 songs in three seconds
- Upload 1,000 photos in about a minute

**How can I really be sure I’m getting the best deal for my needs?**

You should consult with an expert. At Cox.com, you can discover the internet speed package that’s best for you with the Cox Speed Advisor. You can get free advice that could save you time, money and bandwidth. You can also call us at 600-8282 or stop by a Cox Solutions Store to demo our products and services.

**So if I work from home and have lots of wireless devices running, I could benefit from Gigabit speed?**

You could, but it really depends on what you do and how many devices you have running all at one time. Gig speed offers a unique opportunity to dramatically increase productivity and workflow whether employees are working from home or the office.

It’s best to ask an expert and let them help you decide what’s going to keep you up to speed as well as select the best available service for you.

Tomorrow’s internet speed, today.
Leadership Notes

Remembering Mike Chumo

When Mike Chumo joined the staff of the Chamber in 2005, he had one of the most unique reasons to search for employment: boredom. You see, Mike had already experienced a full professional life in California, with full stints in the United States Marine Corps and involvement in countless business and charitable organizations. So when Mike retired to be near his son in Oklahoma City, he did not find retirement to his liking. He then brought his years of business expertise and his degree in economics from the University of Southern California to our business retention and expansion team in the Chamber’s economic development division.

Mike was a natural fit for our team; he innately understood that economic development is, at its heart, about building relationships and helping other people succeed. When he met with business owners and managers, he took the time to understand their unique challenges and opportunities. He was an advocate for strengthening Oklahoma City’s workforce, especially the need to connect students with job-ready technical skills. During his time at the Chamber, our BRE program had more than 3,700 company visits and helped add more than 34,000 jobs to the regional economy.

Mike passed away after 11 years at the Chamber on Aug. 30. He left a legacy that will be impossible to fill, but his impact on our organization and our community will be long lasting.

Sincerely,

Roy H. Williams, CCE
Chamber CEO & President
Is your business

OKC’S BEST KEPT SECRET?

Psssst ... Worried your brand isn’t top of mind? Stop worrying and start boosting your business today with Oklahoma’s ultimate resource for brand awareness: The Oklahoman Media Company.

The OMC is your one-stop shop. Nowhere else will you find such an extensive menu of services, including optimized print and digital ad building, customer mapping, list acquisition, sophisticated geo-targeting, web design, search engine marketing solutions, and much, much more. No one can deliver more eyes on your brand and more traffic to your store.

WE CAN HELP MOVE YOU FROM STEALTH TO WEALTH!

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THE OKLAHOMAN
Reach the state’s largest, most affluent mass audience.

THE OKLAHOMAN DIRECT
Target your most valuable customers with the state’s most advanced direct marketing agency.

NEWSOK.COM
Boost your brand on the state’s highest trafficked website — 3mm+ unique visitors every month.

BIGWING
Interactive
Take your audience from “interested” to “sold” with the state’s most sophisticated digital marketing agency.

To boost your brand awareness today, visit OklahomaUnfolded.com/BuildYourBiz or call 855-958-0386.
Bring your friends, coworkers and clients to Oklahoma City’s most entertaining networking trade show! From promoting your company, making new contacts, and generating sales leads to winding down after work with a drink and tasty treats from OKC’s best restaurants and caterers, the SchmoozaPalooza experience is all about business in action and making connections.

**Get Spooky at SchmoozaPalooza**

**Oct. 27, 4 to 7 p.m. | State Fair Park, Oklahoma Expo Hall**

Bring your friends, coworkers and clients to Oklahoma City’s most entertaining networking trade show! From promoting your company, making new contacts, and generating sales leads to winding down after work with a drink and tasty treats from OKC’s best restaurants and caterers, the SchmoozaPalooza experience is all about business in action and making connections.

**At SchmoozaPalooza, you can...**

- Enjoy live entertainment
- Sample treats from OKC’s best restaurants and caterers.
- Meet new clients and make a sale.
- Enjoy the Schmooza signature drink with a $10 ticket purchase.
- Show off your style with costume and booth decorating contest.
- Play networking games and win prizes.

To boost your brand awareness today, visit OklahomaUnfolded.com/BuildYourBusiness or call 855-958-0386.

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Chamber Forum to Focus on State Questions

The Chamber’s upcoming Chamber Forum will focus on the state questions that will appear on ballots in Oklahoma on Nov. 8. Sen. Stephanie Bice, Oklahoma State Senate; Jim Couch, City of Oklahoma City; Pat McFerron, CMA Strategies, Inc. and Kris Steele, The Education & Employment Ministry, will discuss how these potential changes to Oklahoma state law will impact economic development and business growth on Monday, Oct. 31, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Skirvin Hilton, 1 Park Ave.

Tickets for members are $40 and $60 for nonmembers. Tables of eight are available for $600. For more information email register@okcchamber.com. Special thanks to Signature Sponsor Cox Business and Host Sponsor The Skirvin Hilton.

State of the Aerospace Defense Industry: Oct. 18

Learn more about the aerospace defense industry and its impact on the economy at the Chamber’s State of the Aerospace Defense Industry event on Tuesday, Oct. 18, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Embassy Suites Oklahoma City Downtown/Medical Center.

Speakers include Lt. Gen. Lee K. Levy II, commander of the Air Force Sustainment Center at Tinker Air Force Base, and Edward Dolanski, president of global services & support for The Boeing Company. Tickets for members are $40 and $60 for nonmembers. Tables of ten are available for $600. For more information, email register@okcchamber.com.

Special thanks to Signature Event Sponsors Central Liquor Company, Devon Energy Corporation, Enable Midstream Partners, Hobby Lobby and Wal-Mart District Office of Public Affairs and Signature Sponsor, The Boeing Company.

Register for events online and view a complete event calendar at www.okcchamber.com/events.
Network on the Links at the Chamber Golf Tournaments

Hit the course and tee off with clients, prospects and friends at the Chamber’s annual golf tournaments at the Oklahoma City Golf & Country Club. On Oct. 10, 17 and 24, the Chamber will host half-day tournaments with 9 a.m. shotgun starts following a scramble format.

Golfers will enjoy a hot breakfast and coffee bar, beverages and snacks on the course, an award luncheon with goody bags for each golfer, prizes for the winners and the opportunity to wind down with a relaxing massage.

Four-person teams are $1,300, or for $1,700 your company can gain additional recognition as a hole-and-team sponsor with the opportunity to meet, greet and network with golfers at your sponsored hole during all three tournaments. To register your team, email register@okcchamber.com. Special thanks to Signature Sponsor Topgolf.

Attend Rise & Shine on Oct. 25

Learn new ways to volunteer with the Chamber and network with other business professionals while enjoying a complementary continental breakfast at the Chamber’s Rise & Shine. The breakfast will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 25, from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at the Central Oklahoma Home Builders Association. RSVP is required. Register to attend at www.okcchamber.com/riseshine.
A College Education Changes Lives.

We know that and it’s why we offer the Bank of Oklahoma Achieving New Goals Scholarship.

OKC Public Schools students can apply October 1, 2016 through March 1, 2017 by going to www.occf.org/scholarships or by talking with their school counselor.
Implementing these laws, which would be the first major update to the state’s liquor laws in decades, is common sense. Not only would it enable consumer choice about where people want to purchase wine and beer, it would allow Oklahoma to better compete with the 45 other states that already allow wine and single-strength beer to be sold cold in grocery and convenience stories. Some grocery stores are less likely to enter Oklahoma City’s current market because it would be cost-prohibitive without the sales of wine and beer.

The law would also create additional law enforcement oversight of alcohol sales by giving the Alcoholic Beverage Laws Enforcement Commission more direct control of alcohol sellers and the ability to more quickly revoke licenses and stop sales to minors.

**Chamber supports SQ 780 and 781**

State Questions 780 and 781 both focus on an important topic to the Chamber – criminal justice reform. SQ 780 would reclassify some property crimes and drug possession charges as misdemeanors, while SQ 781 would use the money saved by SQ 780 to fund rehabilitation and other diversion programs.

The effort is being led by former House Speaker Kris Steele and the Oklahomans for Criminal Justice Reform Group, of which the Chamber is a member. More than 110,000 Oklahoma voters signed petitions calling for a vote on these two state questions.

The changes proposed by SQ 780 and 781 are in line with the reform efforts the Chamber is currently coordinating for the Oklahoma County jail and are starting points for the criminal justice reform that this state desperately needs. Currently, Oklahoma state prisons incarcerate 28,000 individuals. The state has the second highest overall incarceration rate in the country and the highest rate of incarcerated women. As the number of individuals in prison increases, so do the costs to taxpayers.

SQ 780 and 781 would lead to a more holistic approach to criminal justice and public safety. Funding additional rehabilitation programs will provide a better return on investment for taxpayers by addressing the root causes of crime. Mental health care, substance abuse treatment, education and job training programs have a proven record of increasing public safety more cost-effectively than locking people up for low-level, non-violent offenses.

**Chamber opposes SQ 779**

State Question 779 would increase the state sales tax rate by 1 percent to generate $615 million a year for a one-time teacher pay raise, higher education, grants, early childhood programs and career tech institutions. While the Chamber fully supports a pay increase for teachers and more funding for education, a statewide sales tax increase is a shortsighted solution that contains no education reforms. The Chamber believes that a long-term solution to this problem would be better addressed by the state legislature.

This permanent tax increase would turn Oklahoma City into one of the most heavily taxed cities in the country. Sales tax revenue funds critical city services and public projects, and there are better ways to address this issue without jeopardizing Oklahoma City’s future growth. SQ 779 does nothing to address the shortage of 1,000 teachers in the state, growing classroom sizes or the loss of funding for school programs such as arts and music. The state’s education problems require our elected officials to enact a long-term plan that ensures our students obtain the type of education they need to succeed.

State Questions 780 and 781 will continue criminal justice reform in the state and are in line with the Chamber-led reform efforts in Oklahoma County.
Elections Offer Chance to Support OKC Economy

Oklahomans will head to the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 8, with an opportunity to elect candidates who will advance the economic growth of Oklahoma City and the state. To educate its members on elections, the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber’s government relations division provides information prepared by the statewide Research Institute for Economic Development (RIED) to identify elected officials’ votes on issues important to the business community. Alongside the RIED scores, the Chamber also assigns a score to legislators based on priority issues advocated by the Chamber during the legislative session.

The following charts represent the voting records for State House and Senate members from the Chamber’s 10-county partnership region. Scores are based on the issues identified by the Chamber and RIED scores for 2016. RIED scores for previous years can be found at www.riedreport.com.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Party</th>
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<td>Young, George’</td>
<td>D</td>
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<td>67%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* = These legislators are up for reelection and will appear on the Nov. 8 ballot.
** = These legislators were ill most of the session, therefore their scores likely don’t reflect how they would have voted had they been present.
NG = No Grade
+ = Represents five bonus points on each vote if a legislator did not sign CCR to HJR 1009 and/or voted against HB 1619 in committee. A legislator receiving “100+%” would have received bonus points.
Oklahoma City’s MAPS 3 Projects See Progress

Oklahoma City continues to make significant progress on its eight MAPS 3 projects that were approved by voters in December 2009. Read on for how these projects are actively transforming the landscape of the Oklahoma City community.

Downtown Convention Center

As Oklahoma City’s appeal as a convention destination continues to grow, work is underway to replace its current aging convention center facility. On Sept. 21, city staff and consultants revealed updated preliminary renderings of the convention center, which show plans for a modern design featuring views of downtown.

The plans focus on energy efficiency and resilience against weather conditions. The convention center will be built along the eastern edge of the future MAPS 3 Park.

Oklahoma City Streetcar

The MAPS 3 Modern Streetcar project, now branded the Oklahoma City Streetcar, is well on its way to becoming a reality. In July, EMBARK unveiled its brand using Bermuda Green, Clear Sky Blue and Redbud as the color palettes for each of the six streetcars currently being built by Brookville Equipment Corp. In September, the first delivery of streetcar rails arrived in Oklahoma City. Construction is scheduled to begin on the rail in early 2017.

Oklahoma River Improvements

The eyes of America were on the Oklahoma River in May when the completed MAPS 3-funded whitewater rafting and kayaking center, RIVERSPORT Rapids, hosted the 2016 Olympic team trials for canoe/kayak slalom. In addition to Olympic athletes, RIVERSPORT Rapids offers recreation for people of all skill levels. The racecourse lighting along the Oklahoma River is also complete and is used for races throughout the year.

Senior Health and Wellness Centers

The MAPS 3 Senior Health and Wellness Centers will improve the health of the community by connecting seniors with important services and with social and recreational activities. Operators have been chosen for the first two centers, which are located at 11501 N Rockwell Ave. and at 4021 S Walker Ave. near Capitol Hill High School. Both facilities are under construction and will open next year. The City is seeking an operating partner for the third center.

Continued on page 19
When you YES the Yellow Ballot:

- You will approve $180 million to maintain the facilities and technologies in which taxpayers have already invested.
- You will help repair and replace HVAC systems, improve playgrounds and fund fine arts and athletics programs, among other critical maintenance needs.
- You will improve the schools' aging transportation fleet and make sure the schools' technology systems stay updated.
- You will NOT raise property taxes. The existing mill levy will remain the same.

Don't forget to YES the Yellow Ballot on Nov. 8. Register to vote by Oct. 14 in order to make your voice heard in this year's election.

For more information, visit www.maintainokcschools.com
On Election Day, don’t forget to “yes the yellow ballot” to support Oklahoma City’s students and protect our capital investments in public education. The Chamber supports passage of the three OKC Public Schools bond propositions that will appear on voters’ ballots on Nov. 8, and is running a campaign to help ensure their approval.

These bond issues will provide the district with needed funds to better maintain existing buildings, make important repairs on roofs and aging and often-used heating/air conditioning systems, electrical and plumbing systems, and provide funds for fine arts/athletics and playgrounds; allow the district to make proper updates to its technological and communications infrastructure; and to purchase necessary transportation-related equipment, including 100 new buses, all for the benefit of Oklahoma City’s students.

The bond package, referred to as a “maintenance bond” by district leaders, consists of no new construction projects, but seeks to provide the district with the ability to better address maintenance and operational issues that affect learning, such as repairing faulty air-conditioning and plumbing systems, in addition to providing transportation (the average district bus is now 10.5 years old and has almost 200,000 miles) and technology upgrades important to student success, like computer labs and testing computers. The last set of bond proposals to be approved by voters in the district was in 2007.

If the proposals pass, existing tax rates for property owners in the district will not change, as the existing mill levy for voters would simply remain the same. The district’s current rate for bond repayment, at 18.61 mills, is the fourth-lowest in Oklahoma County and well behind districts such as Edmond, Choctaw, Bethany, Piedmont, Mustang, Moore, Jones and Mid-Del, which all currently levy more than 24 mills for bond issues.

The proposed bond package of $180 million will appear on a yellow-colored ballot for voters in the OKCPS district, and is comprised of three separate bond proposals: $106.3 million for school building maintenance for 78 school district sites as well as district-owned buildings home to charter schools; $54.5 for technology and network infrastructure updates; and $19.2 million for transportation expenditures. Rather than a simple majority, each proposal must gain at least 60 percent approval at the polls in order to pass. Register to vote by Oct. 14 and don’t forget to “yes the yellow” to support our local students and help maintain OKC’s investments in public education on Election Day.
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Dobson Technology Celebrates 80th Anniversary

In 1936, Dobson Telephone Company was founded by the husband-and-wife team of E.R. and Ruby Dobson in Cheyenne, Okla. While its product has adapted as technology changed, the company has remained true to its mission to provide information and communications services to Oklahomans.

The family business grew steadily throughout the years, becoming so important to communications in Oklahoma as to receive a $501,000 loan from the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) in November 1959 for its efforts to provide service in rural areas. In addition to providing landline telephone service in Oklahoma, the company also provided cellular service through Dobson Communications Company (DCC) from 1989 until that company sold to AT&T in 2007. In 1989, Dobson Telephone Company built a fiber route from Oklahoma City to Amarillo, Texas and in 1990, Dobson Fiber Company was formed and later was renamed Intelleq Communications in 2003. Today, Intelleq Communications owns 2,700 miles of fiber in Oklahoma and the Texas panhandle.

In 2003, the company built data centers and two years later launched a data backup and recovery company called Corevault. Corevault evolved to manage IT for other companies in 2012. In 2013, Intelleq Communications and Corevault merged to create Dobson Technologies. Dobson Technologies serves as the parent company of Dobson Telephone, which has an estimated 11,000 subscribers, and provides outsourced IT solutions, voice solutions and high-speed Internet via the miles of fiber optic network that the company owns. From its beginnings in 1936 until today, Dobson Technologies has remained on the forefront of advanced information and communication technology.

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Oklahoma City

15 October 2016 Greater Oklahoma City Chamber The POINT!
On Sept. 26, the Metro 50 committee honored 50 of the region’s fastest-growing privately-held companies at the annual Metro 50 Awards. TokenEx, a cloud-based enterprise data security platform, took the top honor as the fastest growing company. Draft2Digital, LLC, and PowerHouse Resources International, Inc., rounded out the top three companies at this year’s event.

“The innovative, creative companies growing and thriving all across Greater Oklahoma City are the bedrock of our economy,” said Kurt Foreman, executive vice president of economic development at the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber. “Our existing companies provide the most job growth to our region, and the 50 companies honored at this event exemplify the importance of encouraging entrepreneurship and business growth in our communities.”

This year’s top honoree, TokenEx, averaged a revenue growth of 318 percent and is pacing 100 percent growth for 2016. TokenEx currently secures more than half a billion dollars a month in transactions, and it has customers on every continent in the world, including privately-held Fortune 10-, Fortune 500- and Forbes 2000-size organizations. As a recipient of the OCAST OARS Grant and OCAST’s Technology Business Finance Program from the State of Oklahoma, TokenEx was given the necessary support to grow into what it is today. That dedication from its home state will empower TokenEx to bring jobs and revenue to Oklahoma for many years to come.
“Because Oklahoma City is committed to economic growth and industry diversification, TokenEx has been able to take advantage of a growing and vibrant start-up community willing to contribute and help one another,” Alex Pezold, co-founder and CEO of TokenEx, said. “Through the State of Oklahoma’s commitment to programs like OCAST and i2E, as well as through the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, organizations like TokenEx have a real opportunity to succeed and grow.”

Second-fastest growing company Draft2Digital LLC is a publisher and global distributor of e-books for the independent author or small press. In just four years, Draft2Digital has distributed a catalog of 92,000 titles from 26,000 authors. Its success has been recognized with the 2016 Oklahoma Venture of the Year award as well as the Alliance of Independent Authors’ “Outstanding Service to Authors” award in 2015.

“The biggest contributor to Draft2Digital’s success comes down to a singular focus: We only succeed if the authors succeed,” said Draft2Digital CEO Kris Austin. “Discovering and solving author pain points gives us a constantly moving target—and that always leads to an evolution of innovation.”

PowerHouse Resources International Inc., the third-fastest growing company, was founded in 2010 as an HR and finance consulting firm for government contractors. The company shifted its business model a few years later, and now is an aircraft and ground vehicle maintenance company supplying services to the U.S. military throughout the country. PowerHouse Resources International is proud that over 50 percent of its employees are veterans. The company has been awarded three subcontracts in the last two years, which have given the company a revenue growth rate of 248 percent. PHRI has received the Patriotic Employer Award from the U.S. Department of Defense’s Office of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserves.

“People make organizations successful, and at PowerHouse, we have been extremely blessed,” said Linda Mandel, CEO and COO of PHRI. “Oklahoma City has provided our company a talented workforce with a strong work ethic. As we grow our Oklahoma City staff, I am confident that Oklahoma City will continue to meet our staffing demands.”

Continued on page 18
Metro 50 (cont’d from page 17)

The 2016 Metro 50 Awards also honored three companies that have been on the list seven or more times in the last 10 years: 4Corners Homes, Saxum and Wiring Solutions. This year, Saxum celebrated its 10th appearance on the Metro 50 list.

“Saxum’s growth is a combination of good timing and a lot of hard work,” said C. Renzi Stone, chairman and CEO of Saxum. “Oklahoma City’s growth is a true parallel to our path. The timing of energy sector growth (our largest practice) and an influx of talented, diverse people is what has made it all possible.”

Eight MAPS 3 Projects Transforming OKC (cont’d from page 11)

Downtown Park

By providing a space where the community can play and enjoy outdoor activities such as sports and concerts, the MAPS 3 Park will encourage people to spend time outdoors and improve the quality of life in our community. City Council approved a master plan and the project and preliminary construction plans are in design. Land acquisition on the upper section is nearly complete and is ongoing for the lower section.

Sidewalks

Phases 1 and 2 of the sidewalk construction are complete and are improving the accessibility, safety and quality of life in Oklahoma City’s neighborhoods. Phase 3 is under construction, and Phase 4 is in design.

Oklahoma State Fairgrounds Improvements

In June, the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma State Fair revealed the official name of the MAPS 3 Expo Center: the Bennett Event Center. When completed, the 279,000-square-foot Bennett Event Center will feature an exhibit hall with 201,000 square feet of contiguous floor space. The building will be the largest event space in Oklahoma City and is scheduled to open later this year.

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Trails

With the guidance of the Oklahoma City Trails Master Plan, the MAPS 3 Trails include connections between Lake Hefner and the North Canadian River (The Will Rogers Trail), Lake Overholser and the North Canadian Central Greenway (The West River Trail) and a loop trail around Lake Stanley Draper. The West River Trail is complete. Design is underway on the Lake Draper Trail, and construction has begun on the I-44 West Trail.
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Oklahoma City, OK  73121  
www.citywide.com/oklahoma

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Insurance  
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www.equitylifeassociation.com

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www.occjok.org

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Yukon, OK  73099  
www.orfta.com

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www.paychex.com

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October 2016 Greater Oklahoma City Chamber The POINT!
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Oklahoma City

**HUMILITY UNDER FIRE**
**THE PRESIDENT’S SON:**
**STEVE FORD**

Nov 17th
Jim Thorpe Center
Oklahoma City

**MICHELLE CORREIA TEMPLIN**
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Mar 22nd
The Petroleum Club
Oklahoma City

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OKC Ranks No. 7 in “Best Cities to Start a Career”

- WalletHub compared the 150 most populated U.S. cities for professional opportunities and quality of life to find the best cities to start a career.
- Using 17 metrics such as availability of entry-level jobs, annual job-growth rate and median annual income, WalletHub determined the strength of each city’s job market as well as the attractiveness of the social setting.
- Oklahoma City ranked No. 7 due to positive professional opportunities ranking and a high quality of life ranking.

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Source: WalletHub, U.S. Census

For comprehensive Economic Indicators and Regional Data, please visit your Greater Oklahoma City Chamber Economic Development Division www.greateroklahomacity.com/economicindicators or contact Eric Long, Research Economist – (405)297-8976; elong@okcchamber.com

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