Previous MAPS projects have helped transform Oklahoma City. Keep that momentum rolling Dec. 10 by voting “YES” for MAPS 4.

Greater Oklahoma City Chamber President and CEO Roy Williams has repeatedly said that the MAPS 4 package of projects is the right combination of what is needed to keep OKC moving forward.

“This package will make life better for every resident,” he said. “And when we help our residents, that sends a beautiful message to the rest of the country – well, even the world – that Oklahoma City is a place where you won't feel left behind.”

Previous MAPS projects have featured high-profile projects such as the Bricktown canal, Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark, Chesapeake Arena, creation of the Oklahoma River and RIVERSPORT, the streetcar, the new convention center, OMNI Hotel and Scissortail Park.

A recent report from RegionTrack shows that the MAPS projects have brought $7 billion in investment to Oklahoma City.

“You can see that the momentum created by the initial projects in the 1990s continues today,” said Mark Snead, economist and president of RegionTrack. “The public spending on MAPS projects led to sustained private investment over a long period of time, and the completion of the remaining MAPS 3 projects create even more momentum.”

To date, approximately $1.8 billion in city investment has been used or earmarked for the three rounds of MAPS projects in Oklahoma City. Additional city
Leadership Notes

As 2019 winds down, it’s always a good idea to reflect on the past year before launching into all that awaits the Oklahoma City metro in 2020. Looking back, it is readily apparent that the momentum generated by 26 years of MAPS initiatives continues unabated. There was no better example of this than the exciting grand opening weekend of the MAPS 3 Scissortail Park, highlighted by the opening night concert by OKC’s own Kings of Leon, who hosted 28,000 of their closest friends.

And while we’re on the subject of civic projects, many of the projects funded under the Better Streets, Safer City project, a package of 13 bond propositions and two sales tax initiatives which invests in streets, police and fire facilities, parks and other basic needs, are underway. And this month marks the one-year anniversary of the launch of the MAPS 3 OKC Streetcar, a popular way to get around downtown, Midtown and Bricktown.

Our economy and our economic anchors continue to grow. TTEC Holdings, Inc., a digital global customer experience technology and services company, is opening an office here. Kratos Unmanned Systems, who located an unmanned aircraft production facility here last year, rolled out the first drone built at that facility recently. Pratt & Whitney expanded their OKC presence. Tinker Air Force Base cut the ribbon on their KC-46a hangar, ensuring more jobs for the base – and Oklahoma City – for years to come. Will Rogers World Airport began expansion construction to add airline gates and a more efficient TSA checkpoint, in response to increased passenger traffic, a great sign for our economy.

Next year will bring even more opportunities to continue the development of an Oklahoma City that reflects the pioneering spirit of those who came here 130 years ago. As true today as it was in 1889, OKC wouldn’t be able to achieve all that it has and plan for the future without the efforts of our business community. And that is something for which we should all be thankful.

Sincerely,

Roy H. Williams, CCE
President & CEO

2020 Chamber Board (cont’d from page 1)
development; Teresa Rose Crook, Foundation Management, Inc., education; David A. Hager, Devon Energy Corporation, Forward Oklahoma City; Bradley W. Krieger, Arvest Bank, government relations; Carl E. Edwards, Price Edwards & Company, innovation and bioscience; Tom J. McDaniel, American Fidelity Foundation, MAPS development; Jenny Love Meyer, Love’s Travel Stops and Country Stores, marketing and communications; Bill Lance, The Chickasaw Nation, member health care initiative; Steve Hahn, AT&T Oklahoma, and Judy J. Hartfield, CCIM, Equity Commercial Realty II, LLC, military/aerospace; Clayton I. Bennett, Dorchester Capital, and J. Larry Nichols, Devon Energy Corporation, will serve as vice chairs of strategic planning.

The following individuals were selected to serve on the board until Dec. 31, 2020: Mark Beffort, RobinsonPark; Martha Burger, Oklahoma City University; Steve Dixon, Tapstone Energy; Mohammad J. Farzana, Newhouse Creations; Kelly Dyer Fry, The Oklahoman; W. Kent Shortridge, Oklahoma Natural Gas; and Sean Trauschke, OGE Energy Corp.

Past chairmen and life members include: Clayton I. Bennett, Dorchester Capital; Richard H. Clemens, Clemens Food Company - Garden Club; Edward H. Cook; Luke R. Corbett; Peter B. Delaney, Tequesta Capital Partners; William E. Durrett, American Fidelity Assurance Company; Carl E. Edwards, Price Edwards & Company; Robert A. Funk, Express Employment Professionals; Gerald L. Gamble, Gerald L. Gamble Co., Inc.; Fred J. Hall, Hall Capital, LLC; V. Burns Hargis, Oklahoma State University; Dan Hogan, Dan Hogan Properties; Rhonda Hooper, Jordan Advertising; Stanley E. Hopkins, FACHE, INTEGRIS Health; David R. Lopes, DL Dynamics; Edmund O. Martin, Ackermans & McQueen, Inc.; Frank A. McPherson; J. Larry Nichols, Devon Energy Corporation; George Nigh; David E. Rainbolt, BancFirst Corporation; Lee Allan Smith, Oklahoma Events, LLC; and David L. Thompson, InvesTrust Wealth Management.

The ex-officio members serving on the 2020 Board include: Carrie Blument, Oklahoman County Commissioner Michelle Coppage, Mike Monroeny Aeronautical Center – FAA; Tricia Everest, Oklahoma County Criminal Justice Authority; Craig Freeman, City of Oklahoma City; Mayor David Holt, City of Oklahoma City; and Sean McDaniel, Ph.D., Oklahoma City Public Schools.

Shirley, National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum; Tony Tyler, Tyler Media; and G. Rainey Williams, Dallas Morning News, MYSTIC.”

They join the following individuals whose term also expires Dec. 31, 2020: David Carpenter, American Fidelity Corp; Jim Gehbhart, Mercy Hospital; Steve Hahn, AT&T Oklahoma; David Harlow, BancFirst Corporation; Michael Laird, Crowe & Dunlevy; Michael Lauderdale, McAfee & Taff; Tom McDaniel, American Fidelity Foundation; David J. Morgan, MidFirst Bank; Ford Price, Jr., Price Edwards & Company; Natalie Sheldon, Devon Energy Corporation; Corey T. Scott, Devon Energy Corporation; and Clayton I. Bennett, Dorchester Capital.

The following individuals are serving on the board until Dec. 31, 2021: Sanford Coats, The Boeing Company; Teresa Rose Crook, Foundation Management, Inc.; David A. Hager, Devon Energy Corp.; Judy J. Hartfield, Equity Commercial Realty II, LLC; Mark A. Helm, Dolese Bros. Co.; Joe Hoggins, OKFB Health Care Oklahoman; Jenny Love Meyer, Love’s Travel Stops & Country Stores, Inc.; Xavier Neira, Logatore, LLC; Claudia San Pedro, SONIC; Jason R. Sanders, MD, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center; W. Kent Shortridge, Oklahoma Natural Gas Company; and Sean Trauschke, OGE Energy Corp.

The Chickasaw Nation; Harshil Patel, Champion Hotels Oklahoma; Bradley W. Krieger, Arvest Bank; Bill Lance, Continental Resources; John D. Higginbotham, Bank of America; Bob Funk, Jr., Prodigal; John Hart, Devon Energy Corporation; Wendy Hupfield, FACHE, INTEGRIS Health; David R. Lopes, DL Dynamics; Edmund O. Martin, Ackermans & McQueen, Inc.; Frank A. McPherson; J. Larry Nichols, Devon Energy Corporation; George Nigh; David E. Rainbolt, BancFirst Corporation; Lee Allan Smith, Oklahoma Events, LLC; and David L. Thompson, InvesTrust Wealth Management.

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Criminal Justice Reform efforts show positive results

In response to growing concerns about chronic overcrowding in the Oklahoma County jail, the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber in December 2015 created a task force to evaluate Oklahoma County's criminal justice system. With collaboration and input from a diverse group of community members, the Chamber contracted with the Vera Institute of Justice to perform an initial analysis and make recommendations for reform of the county criminal justice system. One of the main recommendations of the Vera report was the establishment of the Oklahoma County Criminal Justice Advisory Council (CJAC).

CJAC Executive Director Timothy Tardibono said that, since its formation in November 2017, the council has focused on creating oversight and accountability mechanisms for the local justice system, reduction of jail admissions for municipal violations and low-level misdemeanors, creation of a fair and efficient pretrial release process, identifying and addressing district court case processing delays, expanding meaningful diversion program options – with a focus on those with mental illness and substance abuse disorders – and reducing the impact of judicial system fines and fees.

“For the past year, from Oct. 1, 2018, to Oct. 31, 2019, the CJAC tracked the daily jail population and created a monthly average total from those daily numbers,” he said. “No previous year-long data tracking had ever been conducted for the Oklahoma County jail. The data reveals that the one-year average number, they were pleased with our progress,” Tardibono noted.

“They were glad to see the continued progress that Oklahoma County has made in reducing the overuse of the jail. By being more intentional about the use of the jail, Oklahoma County has achieved real change in just a few years, reducing the average daily jail population by over 30 percent since 2015.

This historic progress, accomplished by the work of CJAC partners and community stakeholders, should be celebrated. However, the celebration should be tempered by the reality that CJAC partners still have work to do since even at 1,663, the jail is still overcrowded at 140 percent of designed capacity,” Tardibono said. While the efforts of the council has been effective, Tardibono knows that there are still challenges ahead.

“It’s totally appropriate to reflect on the headway that we have achieved,” he said. “But any celebration should quickly give way to the sober and formidable tasks still ahead for the CJAC and its partner agencies in expanding criminal justice in Oklahoma County.”

The chart below shows how that number compares to one-day jail population snapshots taken on Oct. 31 going back two decades. The two highest numbers were 2,598 on Oct. 31, 2004 and more recently, 2,581 on Oct. 31, 2015.

“When we notified the Vera Institute for Justice of this one-year average number, they were pleased with our progress,” Tardibono noted.

The Oklahoma City delegation received an economic overview from noted Houston-area economist Dr. Stephen Klineberg. For the past 38 years, Klineberg’s Houston Area Survey has measured the local economy, social issues and demographic changes. Armed with this insightful perspective, the visitors were then able to see first-hand some of the similarities between Houston and Oklahoma City.

When you think of cities that are similar to Oklahoma City, Houston is probably not the first city that pops into your head. But there are far more similarities than appear at first glance.

From city size (OKC – 620 square miles vs. Houston 637 square miles) to many of the same issues – transportation, quality of life, infrastructure, etc. – the two cities have so much in common that a group of more than 60 Chamber members and civic leaders recently visited the Bayou City to learn how Houston is dealing with some of those issues.

The Oklahome City delegation received an economic overview from noted Houston-area economist Dr. Stephen Klineberg. For the past 38 years, Klineberg’s Houston Area Survey has measured the local economy, social issues and demographic changes. Armed with this insightful perspective, the visitors were then able to see first-hand some of the similarities between Houston and Oklahoma City.

The similarities between the two cities are unmistakable. Except that OKC has far less traffic – and humidity!

While Oklahoma City is in the midst of a MAPS-driven renaissance, Houston experienced many of the same negative economic factors that resulted in a concerted effort to diversify its economy, becoming less reliant on oil and gas, and investing in a better quality of life in an effort to attract and retain a qualified workforce. Much like the new downtown Scissortail Park is the crown jewel of OKC’s recognition that quality of life is a vital economic development component, Houston has Discovery Green, located in front of that city’s convention center. And while OKC now has a streetcar system and is exploring regional transit options, Houston has a light rail system and a network of dedicated high occupancy vehicle lanes, built primarily...
Mark your calendar and attend the Legislative Breakfast Jan. 30

Attend this annual breakfast to hear key insights from our state’s legislative leaders on the top issues that will be debated at the State Capitol in 2020. This event is a perfect opportunity to meet area legislators, network with other professionals and learn more about how public policy impacts your business.

Tickets are $40 for members and $60 for nonmembers. Register at okcchamber.com/legislativebreakfast.

Special thanks to Presenting Sponsor The Boeing Company and Government Relations Benefactors Devon Energy.

2020 Chamber Forum series kicks off Jan. 15

The Greater Oklahoma City Chamber will continue its successful Chamber Forum series in 2020, beginning on Jan. 15 with a panel discussion on justice reform efforts in Oklahoma County. In November 2019, the Oklahoma County Jail Trust selected a new administrator for the Oklahoma County Jail, changing the structure of management at the facility. At the January Chamber Forum, panelists Tricia Everest, Oklahoma County Criminal Justice Advisory Council (OCCJA) chair; Greg Williams, OCCJA CEO; and Tim Tardibono, OCCJA executive director, will discuss how these changes will impact the Oklahoma County Jail and what additional changes are needed as Oklahoma County continues to tackle the issue of justice reform moving forward.

The forum will take place on Wednesday, Jan. 15, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the 50th Floor of Vast, 333 W Sheridan Ave. Tickets are $35 for Chamber members and $50 for nonmembers. Register online at www.okcchamber.com/januaryforum.

Special thanks to Series Corporate Sponsor ADG.

Mayor Holt to deliver annual State of the City address Feb. 26

Don’t miss this opportunity to hear Oklahoma City Mayor David Holt reflect on his second year in office, including the recent MAPS 4 vote results, and project where the city is headed in the future. More than 1,500 of OKC’s business leaders are expected to attend this event on Wednesday, Feb. 26, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Cox Convention Center, 1 Myriad Gardens. 2020 Chamber Chair Percy Kirk will highlight the Chamber’s strategic objectives for the coming year.

Tickets are $60 for Chamber members and $100 for nonmembers. Table sponsorships seating 10 are available for $1,500. To register, visit okcchamber.com/soc.

Special thanks to Presenting Sponsor The Professional Basketball Club, LLC - Oklahoma City Thunder.
Digital technology and services company opens OKC office

TTEC Holdings, Inc., a leading digital global customer experience technology and services company focused on the design, implementation and delivery of transformative solutions for many of the world’s most iconic and disruptive brands, recently hosted a grand opening of its Oklahoma City facility.

“TTEC is proud to be a part of Oklahoma City, with its community-wide focus on education and training, as well as its significant military and veteran population,” said Darryl Prater, Senior Vice President of Operations, TTEC. “Our new brand ambassadors are service-minded, eager to further their professional development, and create captivating experiences for the customers they serve.”

“We could not be happier for TTEC to officially begin their operations in Oklahoma City,” said Greater Oklahoma City Chamber President and CEO Roy H. Williams. “Beyond the jobs and economic impact they will provide, TTEC brings a reputation of being a great partner in the community, especially with the military and veteran communities. We are excited to see their impact in the community for years to come.”

Community partners who were instrumental in the establishment of TTEC’s operations in Oklahoma City, included the Alliance for Economic Development of Oklahoma City, City of Oklahoma City, Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, Francis Tuttle Technology Center, Oklahoma Department of Commerce, and Oklahoma Works.

Time to vote for MAPS 4 (...cont’d from page 1)

infrastructure expenditures in the period totaled $690 million and worked to enhance the outcome of the MAPS projects. Other federal, state and local government entities invested an additional $600 million in the downtown area.

Total public investment through city spending on MAPS and investments by other public sector entities reached $3.1 billion between 1995 and 2018.

What this means is that MAPS projects, from the original $350 million public works and redevelopment project, to MAPS for Kids, a $700 million school improvement initiative, to the MAPS 3 $777 million quality of life improvement initiative, OKC resident have continually invested in the future of the city and the results are real.

“With the increase in visitation, the growth of housing and hotels and all of the other private investments, we have a true destination that will only grow – creating more jobs and spurring additional investment,” said Williams.

MAPS 4 will fund 16 projects, including improvements in parks, transit, sidewalks, senior wellness and youth centers, mental health and domestic violence programs, an innovation district, the animal shelter and beautification. It would also pay for a new multipurpose stadium and improvements to the Chesapeake Energy Arena and the Fairgrounds Coliseum.

“Previous MAPS programs have been called some of the most successful and innovative tools ever developed by a city,” said Percy Kirk, Greater Oklahoma City Chair. “We have seen MAPS strengthen Oklahoma City and create an environment of growth. MAPS 4 will keep the momentum going and extend the scope of community enhancements and capital projects.”

So now, it’s up to you. Vote “YES” for the MAPS 4 projects. Encourage your friends and co-workers to vote “YES.” Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Dec. 10. Your vote is important!
The holidays come alive downtown in December

Residents and visitors to downtown Oklahoma City can enjoy a collection of more than 30 holiday events and activities this winter. Downtown in December is back for its 18th year and is made possible through generous sponsorships from local businesses and organizations.

Each holiday season, the Myriad Botanical Gardens transforms its seasonal plaza into the Devon Ice Rink. This signature attraction is returning for its ninth year and is open seven days a week at the corner of Robinson Avenue and Sheridan Avenue. Admission is $13 per person with skate rental and $8 per person with personal skates. The Devon Ice Rink will be open through Feb. 2.

Santa Claus is coming to town! Children and families can visit Santa and other holiday characters, make crafts, listen to live music, and more. Visits with Santa are first come, first served. Guests should register on-site upon arrival and bring their own camera to take photos with Santa.

See the historic buildings of Automobile Alley in a whole new light during Automobile Alley’s Light Display. More than 230,000 colorful LED lights will curtain the buildings along ten blocks of North Broadway and side streets making for a magical holiday destination through Jan. 11.

The Bricktown Canal Light Display will brighten your Bricktown experience through Jan. 11. Stroll the canal and enjoy the dining and shopping throughout Bricktown, OKC’s premier entertainment district, under the holiday lights. The display is free to the public and begins at dusk each evening.

EMBARK is celebrating the Oklahoma City Streetcar’s first year of service with free rides on the Oklahoma City Streetcars on weekends (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday) through Jan. 5 in celebration of their one-year anniversary.

For a complete listing of Downtown in December activities, visit www.DowntowninDecember.com.

Advertising opportunities available for your business

Reach the Chamber’s engaged, active audience of community and business leaders through available advertising opportunities.

The POINT! Newsletter
With a monthly circulation of 3,250 print and more than 8,000 digital copies, The POINT! Newsletter communicates topics that are relevant to the business community. Single-placement ad rates start at $375.

2020 Welcome Guide
This guide directly targets new or soon-to-be-new Oklahoma City residents with information about housing, utilities, weather, education, culture and moving resources. Ad rates start at $1,250.

VelocityOKC.com
This Chamber website drives the conversation in Oklahoma City about economic development, business advocacy, lifestyle and more. Advertisers will have the chance to get in front of an audience that wants to know what is going on in Oklahoma City. Single-placement banner ads are $100, leaderboard-sized ads are $1,000 and sponsored content is available for $4,000.

For more information about advertising with the Chamber, contact David McCollum at 405-297-8971 or dmccollum@okcchamber.com.
When Oklahoma City residents voted on the third rendition of the Metropolitan Area Projects in 2009, they knew it would be years before the first item started coming out of the ground. Like the MAPS initiatives before it, the projects aren’t built until the money is available.

MAPS 3 construction started in 2021 and is expected to continue into 2022.

As the projects come to life, the Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) keeps a watchful eye over the work, from where each item will be built to construction bids, and other details that follow.

Tom McDaniel has chaired the CAB for MAPS 3 since its inception in 2010. He was asked to lead it after former Mayor Mick Cornett, who set up the structure a few months after MAPS 3 was approved.

Cornett said at the time that the MAPS 3 board was a combination of the best qualities of the MAPS Citizens Oversight Board, the MAPS for Kids Trust and the Sports Facilities Oversight Board.

McDaniel said the appointment came at a good time, as he was retiring from being the president of Oklahoma City University and was looking for a way to help the city.

“I was very excited about the direction our city was going,” he said. “I have three children and five grandchildren so I wanted to do something to help.”

The board has 11 members. Each of the eight council wards nominates a resident to serve. There are two at-large positions, including McDaniel’s, and a spot reserved for a city council representative, which rotates annually. Board members are appointed to three-year terms with the appointments staggered so that some positions expire and are eligible for re-appointment each year. There are no term limits; however, board members may be removed at any time.

McDaniel said this structure has been helpful in promoting constructive dialogue. He said the board not only has diversity in terms of where people live, but there’s a diversity of thought as well.

“We have people that come from all walks of life, who look at things differently,” he said. “When you’re spending the taxpayer’s money, it’s good to get a broad view.”
GRAND OPENINGS

Congratulations to Chamber members on their recent Grand Openings! To see the schedule of upcoming Grand Openings or subscribe to the Grand Openings calendar, visit www.okcchamber.com/grandopenings.

- OU Physicians Grand Prairie
  6001 NW 139th St.
  Oklahoma City, OK 73142

- Herbology
  718 N. Broadway Ave.
  Oklahoma City, OK 73102

- Brookdale Oklahoma City Southwest
  10001 S. May Ave.
  Oklahoma City, OK 73159

- Boys and Girls Club of Oklahoma County
  3535 N. Western Ave.
  Oklahoma City, OK 73118

- Waxing the City
  5801 N. May Ave., Suite 106
  Oklahoma City, OK 73112

- Bubba’s 33
  6212 SW 3rd St.
  Oklahoma City, OK 73128

- Loveworks Leadership (Wristworld)
  5 SW 104th St.
  Oklahoma City, OK 73139

- Suited for Success
  4557 NW 23rd St.
  Oklahoma City, OK 73127

- TransGlobal Services LLC
  11901 N. Morgan Road
  Oklahoma City, OK 73099

- Rivers’ Edge Design, Inc.
  9494 N. May Ave.
  The Village, OK 73120

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Oklahoma City ranks 8th for least expensive cities for retirees

- WalletHub ranked OKC No. 8 out of 270 selected urban areas for being one of the Least Expensive Cities for Retirees
- The data incorporates the costs of groceries, housing, utilities, transportation, health care and miscellaneous goods and services
- They also adjusted the data to increase the weight of health-care expenses, as these costs tend to become increasingly important in retirement

### Top 10 Least Expensive Cities for Retirees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>$5 and Over Population</th>
<th>% of Overall Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Laredo, TX</td>
<td>24,306</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Memphis, TN</td>
<td>81,617</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Knoxville, TN</td>
<td>23,584</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Huntington, W Va.</td>
<td>8,880</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Fort Smith, AK</td>
<td>12,064</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>San Antonio, TX</td>
<td>184,178</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Amarillo, TX</td>
<td>25,490</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Oklahoma City, OK</td>
<td>78,047</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Toledo, OH</td>
<td>38,854</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Jackson, MS</td>
<td>20,776</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates & Council for Community and Economic Research, Q2 2019 Cost of Living Index

For comprehensive Economic Indicators and Regional Data, www.greateroklahomacity.com/economicindicators or contact Eric Long, Research Economist – 297-8976; elong@okcchamber.com

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You deserve more.
And you can expect more from us.