

Senior Advisory Council, January 12, 2026, Gregg/Klice Community Center

In Attendance: Berry, Bradshaw, Forrest, Turner, Wilson; Howard Rice and Bertha Ross, City Clerk's office

Guests: Marvin Lyman, Development Manager, CJR Development Partners, Southpointe LLC; Leigh Adams, City Manager's office; Eric Goodman, Assistant to the Chief Equity Officer

The meeting opened with a New Year greeting from Chair Becky Forrest, and the introduction of Bertha Ross, the new representative from the Office of the City Clerk, who will replace Howard Rice at future Senior Advisory Council meetings.

The guest speaker was Marvin Lyman, Development Manager of Southpointe, the new construction complex at 63rd Street and Prospect in Kansas City. Southpointe LLC is leading the 28-acre mixed use development which will encompass twelve new city blocks at the intersection of 63rd street and Prospect Avenue, and adjacent to Highway 71 north and south exits. Mr. Lyman explained that his partnership has been in planning for the new development since 2023, after several previous failed attempts to develop the space.

Mr. Lyman stated that his enthusiasm for the Southpointe development stems partially from his having grown up in the area. His family had run Papa Lew's Restaurant in the Jazz District.

The Southpoint development plan, located across the street from HCA Research Hospital, includes Hyatt Studio, a mid-range extended stay 122-key hotel, designed to accommodate visitors to hospital patients, 40% of whom come from outside of the Kansas City metro. The largest building of the development will be a Kansas City Fire Department Headquarters/Academy, for training both firefighters and EMTs. As the Kansas City Fire Department is projected to lose 40% of its workforce in the upcoming five years, this location is expected to be well suited geographically for the attraction of recruits for the department.

Additional amenities for Southpoint will be a 221-unit workforce housing development, an 18,000 square-foot grocery store, 25,000 square feet for casual restaurants, a 1,500 square-foot coffee shop, a pickleball court, 15,000 square feet of retail services, 16 single-family townhomes, and 137 senior housing units. Ground should be broken for the new development by mid-summer.

Although the ownership of the project is private, the city of Kansas City has committed to financing of the infrastructure. The development partners are working with ADTI & Cisco, SMARTCity Technology Partners, to incorporate smart technology into the vision of the community.

During the question/answer session, member Wilson expressed encouragement for the Fire Training Academy to be the first construction, as she feels it will be a major draw to the area. Mr. Lyman responded that the City Manager was on board for the Academy, but that contractual obligations will see the hotel as the first structure. Leigh Adams asked about gentrification and the necessity of recognizing lower-income resident concerns. Member

Wilson asked that the development partners be aware of financial concerns of neighborhood shoppers when a grocery store provider is chosen.

Members discussed the continuing need to see current Advisory Council member terms extended and the hope that City Council members will nominate candidates to fill vacant positions in Districts 1, 2, 3.

Eric Goodman, Assistant to the Kansas City Chief Equity Officer, announced that the listening sessions for the “Senior Friendly City” aging initiative will be held in February for Districts 1, 2, 4, and 6. Mr. Goodman will forward locations and dates to Chair Forrest, who will inform council members. Both morning and afternoon sessions will be available. Mr. Goodman also mentioned the Aging Celebration, which will be held on June 5th at the Mohart Multipurpose Center located at 31st Street and Linwood.

The meeting was adjourned. Our next meeting will be on February 2 at 10:00 a.m., Gregg/Klice Community Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Bradshaw