



Community Profile: City of Ottawa

A City of Tradition and Progress



Nestled on the banks of the Marais des Cygnes River in Franklin County, Ottawa, Kansas, is a city rich in history and brimming with potential. As the county seat, Ottawa boasts a proud past and a promising future, offering residents and visitors a unique blend of small-town charm and modern amenities.

Historical Heritage

Ottawa's history is deeply rooted in its origins with the Ottawa tribe of Native Americans, who played a significant role in its founding in 1864. The City's commitment to preserving its heritage is evident in landmarks like the Old Depot Museum, built in 1888, and the panoramic map of Ottawa from 1872. The City has also overcome challenges, such as the Great Flood of 1951, demonstrating resilience and community spirit.

Educational Excellence

Education is a cornerstone of the Ottawa community, highlighted by institutions like Ottawa University, which traces its beginnings to the Ottawa tribe's donation of land. This legacy of learning continues with Neosho County Community College, providing diverse educational opportunities to residents and students from afar.

Economic Development & Community Life

Ottawa's strategic location, just 58 miles southwest of Kansas City, positions it as a hub for growth and connectivity. Ottawa's City Commission and staff are dedicated to fostering economic development with initiatives that support local businesses and attract new investments. The Ottawa Area Chamber of Commerce, Ottawa Main Street Association, and strong citizen participation in numerous civic clubs are vital in offering resources, events, and support to area businesses and the community.

Events like the Chautauqua Festival Fireworks Show, The Ol' Marais River Run Car Show, and the Mayor's Tree Lighting are just a few examples of how Ottawa nurtures a vibrant community life. Legacy Square further adds to the city's appeal, providing a space for community gatherings and celebrations.

Natural Beauty and Recreation

Ottawa's picturesque setting along the Marais des Cygnes River offers residents and visitors numerous outdoor activities. The city's commitment to green spaces and recreational facilities is evident in its well-maintained parks and trails, encouraging an active and healthy lifestyle.



A Vision for the Future

As Ottawa looks to the future, the community is guided by the calling of stewardship of the abundant resources and opportunities inherited from our ancestors. This principle is reflected in a vision of sustainable growth and community-focused development.

The City's strategic plan prioritizes balanced urban expansion with environmental stewardship, ensuring a legacy of prosperity and well-being for future generations. Ottawa's leadership is committed to fostering a city where innovation thrives, community bonds strengthen, and opportunities abound.

At the heart of this vision is the commitment to nurturing a resilient local economy that can adapt to changing times. Initiatives to boost local entrepreneurship, support small businesses, and attract investment are vital to this effort. The City recognizes the importance of technology and innovation in driving growth. It is investing in infrastructure to support these sectors.

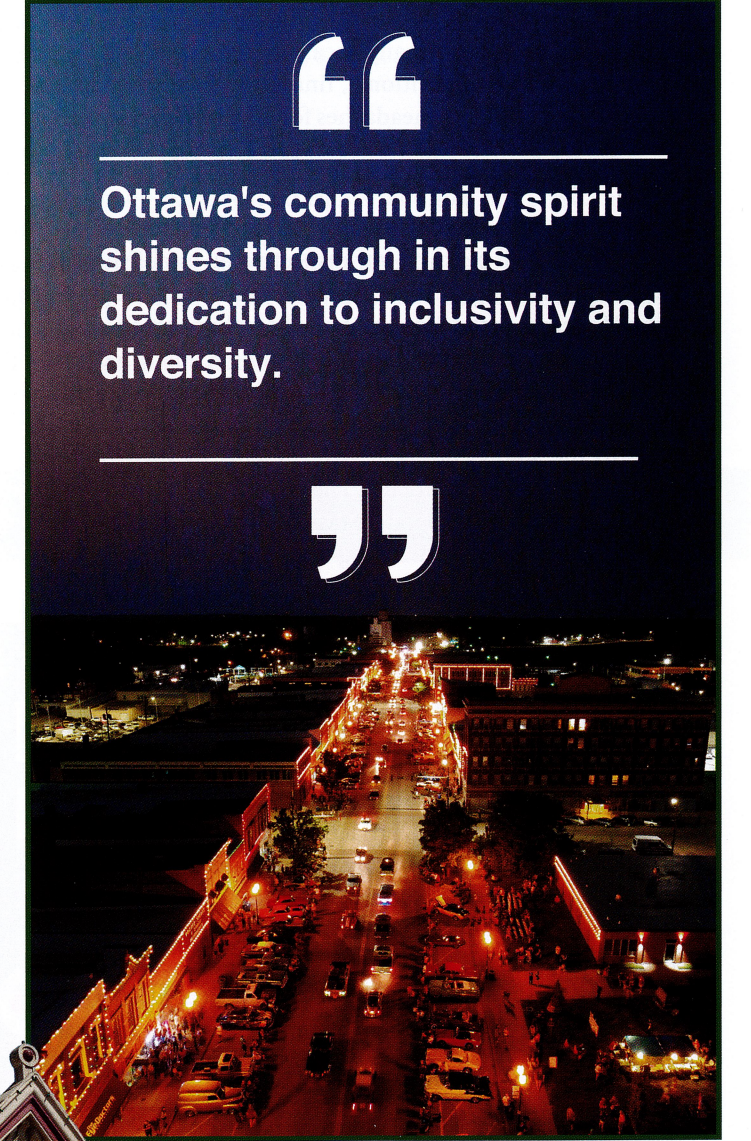
Ottawa's community spirit shines through in its dedication to inclusivity and diversity. Programs and events are designed to unite people, celebrate the City's rich cultural tapestry, and ensure every resident feels valued and heard. The focus on community engagement is seen in everything from town hall meetings to cultural festivals, reinforcing the City's ethos of unity and collaboration.

Prudent environmental sustainability is a core component of Ottawa's future vision. Projects aimed at enhancing green spaces, promoting renewable energy, and implementing sustainable practices in city operations reflect Ottawa's commitment to preserving the natural beauty of its surroundings for future generations.



Ottawa, Kansas, is a beacon of growth and opportunity in the Midwest. With its deep historical roots, commitment to education and healthcare, thriving economic environment, love for parks and recreation, and a forward-thinking approach to community development, Ottawa is not just a place to live but a community to be part of, a destination to explore, and a city on the rise.

To delve deeper and explore what Ottawa has to offer, you can visit the official city website at www.ottawaks.gov, and the Ottawa Area Chamber of Commerce website at www.ottawakansas.org.



Ottawa's community spirit shines through in its dedication to inclusivity and diversity.