



*City of Roeland Park
Employee Handbook
Adopted 10/18/2021
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The City of Roeland Park, Kansas

R.I.C.T.E.R. Scale

- **Respect:** We show consideration for all persons with whom we have contact; both our customers and fellow employees.
- **Integrity:** We have the courage to consistently do what is right and fair.
- **Creativity:** We find better ways to do things. We are innovative in achieving excellence.
- **Team Work:** We support and encourage others as we work toward a common goal.
- **Excellence:** We strive to exceed expectations for the results we produce, the quality of our services and the interactions with our customers.
- **Responsibilities:** We embrace the opportunity to do the right thing in carrying out commitments and obligations.

Management Team Leadership Philosophy

We believe that the employees are the most valuable assets. We are an organization of diverse individuals with integrity who trust each other to make right decisions. We value all staff and recognize that improvements derive from the people providing the services. We work together to produce excellent results. To this end we foster an environment that maximizes talent, skills and creativity.

Employee Mission Statement

Staff members work with elected leaders and citizens to make our community the best it can be.

Realizing the balance between diverse interests and desires, we, as employees, pledge to provide outstanding services for the residents and customers of the community every time.

We are an organization committed to provide the necessary support and opportunities for each staff member to honor this pledge.



City of Roeland Park - Employee Handbook

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A. GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Policies Established-

The following policies, guidelines, and other provisions for personnel administration in the City of Roeland Park are established to:

- a) Promote and increase the efficiency and effectiveness of City service;
- b) Develop a program of recruitment and advancement which will make City service attractive as an employment opportunity; and
- c) Establish and maintain a uniform plan of performance evaluation and compensation based upon the relative duties and responsibilities of each position to assure a fair and equitable wage or salary to all employees.

2. City Employment and Personnel Policies-

The policies in this Employee Handbook are not intended to cover every situation or question that might arise during the course of your employment, but rather, serve as general information and guidelines to provide a framework for day-to-day practices. While this Employee Handbook describes certain policies, procedures, and benefits, it is subject to change from time to time, with or without notice to employees, and at the sole discretion of the City.

This Employee Handbook supersedes any and all past handbooks, policies, procedures, understandings and standards, written or verbal, express or implied.

3. At-Will Employment-

This Employee Handbook does not create express or implied contractual employment rights to continued employment or employment benefits. Employment at the City is at will, which means that either the employee or employer may terminate the employment at any time, for any reason not prohibited by law, with or without notice. All employees are considered to be at-will employees for the purposes of City employment, and no supervisor or other management personnel has the authority to change, either orally or in writing, the at-will status of any employee or create an employment contract. Only the Governing Body has the authority to create an employment contract and such contract must be in writing.

4. Application of Policies-

The policies and guidelines in this Employee Handbook shall apply to all employees in the service of the City except elected and appointed officials.

5. Departmental Guidelines-

The head of any City department may formulate, in writing, reasonable guidelines for the conduct of the operations of his or her department, such as those relating to safety or operational procedures, which shall be available to all departmental employees. Such department guidelines shall not be less stringent than, in violation of, or in conflict with this Employee Handbook. When a conflict exists between this Employee Handbook and guidelines set by a department, the Employee Handbook shall govern.

6. Amendment of Policies-

These policies may be amended from time-to-time in the same manner as they were adopted. Any such amendment shall become effective upon adoption by the Governing Body. The most recent version of this policy can be located online or by contacting the City Clerk.

B. WORKPLACE GUIDELINES

1. Equal Opportunity Statement-

It shall be the policy of the City to provide fair and equal employment opportunity to all qualified applicants and employees, and not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender identity and sexual orientation, disability, religion, age, national origin, military and/or veteran status, citizenship status, genetic information or any other characteristic protected by applicable federal, state or local laws. Our management team is dedicated to this policy with respect to all terms and conditions of employment, including but not limited to: recruitment, hiring, placement, promotion, transfer, demotion, layoff, termination, training, recruitment, advertising, compensation, benefits, employee activities, all other terms and conditions, and general treatment during employment. In most cases, vacant positions shall be advertised, except those that fall under the internal promotion policy and those exempted by the Governing Body on an emergency basis.

The City Administrator has overall responsibility for this policy and maintains any required reporting and monitoring procedures. Employees' questions or concerns should be referred to the City Administrator.

Any employees with questions or concerns about equal employment opportunities in the workplace are encouraged to bring these issues to the attention of the City Administrator. The City will not allow any form of retaliation against individuals who raise issues of equal employment opportunity. To ensure our workplace is free of artificial barriers, violation of this policy may lead to discipline, up to and including discharge.

2. Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy-

The City is committed to a work environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. Each individual has the right to work in a professional atmosphere that promotes equal employment opportunities and prohibits discriminatory practices, including harassment. Therefore, the City expects that all relationships among persons in the workplace will be business-like and free of bias, prejudice, and harassment.

a) **Sexual Harassment**

Sexual harassment constitutes discrimination and is illegal under the law. For the purposes of this policy, sexual harassment is defined, as in the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Guidelines, as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when, for example: (i) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment; ii) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual; or (iii) such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive working environment.

Sexual harassment may include a range of subtle and not so subtle behaviors and may involve individuals of the same or different gender. Depending on the circumstances, these behaviors may include, but are not limited to: unwanted sexual advances or requests for sexual favors; repeated requests for social engagement or interactions when prior social invitations have been refused or when the employee has otherwise indicated such invitations are unwelcome; sexual jokes and innuendo; verbal abuse of a sexual nature; commentary about an individual's body, sexual prowess or sexual deficiencies; leering, catcalls or touching; insulting or obscene comments or gestures; display or circulation in the workplace of sexually suggestive objects or pictures (including through e-mail); and other physical, verbal or visual conduct of a sexual nature. Sex-based harassment that is, harassment not involving sexual activity or language (e.g., male manager yells only at female employees and not males) may also constitute discrimination if it is severe or pervasive and directed at employees because of their sex.

b) **Other Prohibited Harassment**

Harassment on the basis of any other protected characteristic is also strictly prohibited. Under this policy, harassment is verbal or physical conduct that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual because of his/her race, color, national origin, religion, age, disability, creed, marital status, ancestry, sexual orientation or any other characteristic protected by law or that of his/her relatives, friends or associates, and that: (i) has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment; (ii) has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance; or (iii) otherwise adversely affects an individual's employment opportunities.

Harassing conduct includes, but is not limited to: epithets, slurs or negative stereotyping; threatening, intimidating or hostile acts; denigrating jokes and display or circulation in the

workplace of written or graphic material that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual or group (including through e-mail).

c) Individuals and Conduct Covered

These policies apply to all applicants and employees, and prohibit harassment, discrimination, and retaliation whether engaged in by fellow employees, by a supervisor or manager or by someone not directly connected to the City (e.g., an outside vendor, consultant or customer). Conduct prohibited by these policies is unacceptable in the workplace and in any work-related setting outside the workplace, such as during business trips, business meetings and business-related social events.

d) Retaliation is Prohibited

The City prohibits retaliation against any individual who reports discrimination or harassment, or participates in an investigation of such reports. Retaliation against an individual for reporting harassment or discrimination or for participating in an investigation of a claim of harassment or discrimination is a serious violation of this policy and, like harassment or discrimination itself, may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge.

e) Complaint Procedure

Employees who have experienced conduct they believe is contrary to this policy have an obligation to take advantage of this complaint procedure.

The Employer strongly urges the reporting of all incidents of discrimination, harassment or retaliation, regardless of the offender's identity or position. Individuals who believe they have experienced conduct that they believe is contrary to the City's policy or who have concerns about such matters should immediately file their complaints with their immediate supervisor or the City Clerk or the City Administrator. Individuals should not feel obligated to file their complaints with their immediate supervisor first before bringing the matter to the attention of the City Clerk, especially if the employee believes the supervisor is the offending party.

Early reporting and intervention have proven to be the most effective method of resolving actual or perceived incidents of harassment. Therefore, while no fixed reporting period has been established, the City strongly urges the prompt reporting of complaints or concerns so that rapid and constructive action can be taken. The City will make every effort to stop alleged harassment, discrimination, or retaliation, but can only do so with the cooperation of its staff/employees.

The availability of this complaint procedure does not preclude individuals who believe they are being subjected to unwelcome or unlawful conduct from promptly advising the offender that his or her behavior is unwelcome and requesting that it be discontinued.

Any reported allegations of harassment, discrimination, or retaliation will be investigated promptly, thoroughly, and impartially. The investigation may include individual interviews with the parties involved and, where necessary, with individuals who may have observed the alleged conduct or may have other relevant knowledge.

Confidentiality will be maintained throughout the investigatory process to the extent consistent with adequate investigation and appropriate corrective action, or legal processes.

Misconduct constituting harassment, discrimination, or retaliation will be dealt with promptly and appropriately. Responsive action may include, for example, training, referral to counseling, monitoring of the offender and/or disciplinary action such as warning, reprimand, withholding of a promotion or pay increase, reduction of wages, demotion, reassignment, temporary suspension without pay or termination, as the City believes appropriate under the circumstances.

If an employee making a complaint does not agree with its resolution, the employee may appeal to the City Administrator .

Individuals who have questions or concerns about these policies should talk with the City Administrator.

Finally, these policies should not, and may not, be used as a basis for excluding or separating individuals of any protected class or characteristic from participating in business or work-related social activities or discussions in order to avoid allegations of discrimination, harassment, retaliation. The law and the policies of the City prohibit disparate treatment on the basis of any protected class or characteristic, with regard to terms, conditions, privileges and perquisites of employment. The prohibitions against harassment, discrimination, and retaliation are intended to complement and further these policies, not to form the basis of an exception to them.

f) Policy Relating to Persons with Disabilities

It is the City's policy not to discriminate against any qualified employee or applicant who can perform the essential functions of the job because of such individual's disability or perceived. Consistent with this policy of nondiscrimination, the City will provide reasonable accommodations to a qualified individual with a disability, as defined under applicable law, who has made the City aware of his or her disability, provided that such accommodation does not constitute an undue hardship on the City.

Employees with a disability who believe they need a reasonable accommodation to perform the essential functions of their job should contact their supervisor then the City Administrator. The City encourages individuals with disabilities to come forward and request reasonable accommodation.

On receipt of an accommodation request, the City Administrator and your supervisor, if other than the City Administrator, will meet with you to discuss and identify the precise limitations resulting from the disability and the potential accommodation that the City might make to help overcome those limitations.

The City will work with the employee to determine the feasibility of the requested accommodation, or other potential accommodations. In doing so, the City will consider various factors, including, but not limited to the nature, effects, and cost of the accommodation.

The City will inform the employee of its decision on the accommodation request or on how to make the accommodation. If the accommodation request is denied, employees will be advised of their right to appeal the decision to the Governing Body by submitting a written request within ten business days of the decision explaining the reasons for the request. If the request on appeal is denied, that decision is final.

An employee or job applicant who has questions regarding this policy or believes that he or she has been discriminated against based on a disability should notify the City Administrator, or, if necessary, the Mayor. All such inquiries or complaints will be treated as confidential to the extent permissible by law.

3. Drug, Alcohol and Controlled Substance Abuse Policy-

a) General Rules

- i. The Alcohol and Controlled Substance Abuse Policy applies to all City Employees.
- ii. The Federal Department of Transportation (DOT) and various other Federal Programs specifically require additional prohibitions, notices, testing and training for employees involved with the operations of mass transit, aviation and commercial motor vehicles. Each agency of the DOT issues regulations specific to their industry. The City Administrator or designee is responsible for developing and implementing procedures for compliance with such regulations and shall issue copies of the procedures to covered employees as appendices of this Employee Handbook. In the event of any conflict between rules and regulations, the stricter rule or regulation shall govern.
- iii. The City has an obligation to its employees to take reasonable steps to ensure a drug-free and safe place to work. The City also has an obligation to the citizens of Roeland Park and the public at large to provide quality and safe services through a policy and program prohibiting alcohol, illegal drugs, and controlled substances in the workplace.
- iv. The City prohibits the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of alcohol/intoxicants, illegal drugs, and illegal controlled substances in the workplace. Any employee who violates this policy may be subject to disciplinary action including termination.
- v. The Mayor, City Council and City Administrator of the City affirm the City's policy that, as a condition of employment, all employees will abide by the policy for a drug-free workplace and adhere to the following prohibitions:
- vi. No employee shall report to work under the influence of alcohol/intoxicants, illegal drugs, or illegal controlled substances.
- vii. Employees shall not unlawfully manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, or use illegal drugs or controlled substances in any manner (1) on City premises or in City vehicles at any time, whether or not performing City business, or (2) while performing City business

at any location. An employee convicted of violating any criminal drug statute on or off City property may be subject to disciplinary action, including termination.

- viii. Employees shall not use City property or their position with the City in any way to make or traffic alcohol/intoxicants, illegal drugs, or illegal controlled substances for their own purposes.
- ix. Employees shall not engage in any other illegal use, possession, or trafficking of alcohol/intoxicants, illegal drugs, or controlled substances in a manner which is detrimental to the interest of the City.

b) Notice of Conviction-

Any employee convicted of a criminal drug statute violation occurring in the workplace will notify the City Administrator of such conviction no later than five days after conviction.

c) Notice of Legal Drugs or Medications-

Employees taking medication that result in impairment must inform his or her supervisor if they believe they will be impaired or need a reasonable accommodation. Employees shall not commence or continue work if they are uncertain whether they can perform their duties safely.

d) City's Right to Search-

Employees will have no expectation of privacy in any City property, including desks, city issued cell phones, devices, and other electronics. As a result, the City shall have the right and ability to search City-owned property at any time and for any reason. Further, when the City has reason to believe an employee is violating any aspect of this policy, the City may ask the employee to submit immediately to a search of any locker, lunch box, briefcase, purse, wallet, personal belongings, desk, vehicles, or other receptacle the employee uses or has access to. Entry on City premises constitutes consent to searches and inspections. Refusal to consent to a search or inspection when requested by the City constitutes insubordination and is a violation of City policy which may result in disciplinary action, including termination.

e) City's Right to Test-

- i. An individual may not be hired to perform a safety sensitive function unless the individual passes a drug test of urine for evidence of all illicit Schedule 1 drugs including marijuana, cocaine, opiates, phencyclidine (PCP), and amphetamines. .
- ii. All new hires and re-hires of full-time, part-time, or temporary/ seasonal employees may be required to take urine or other medical test, so long as directly related to the employee's ability to perform his or her job responsibilities, and to agree in writing to allow the results of those tests to be furnished to and used by the City.
- iii. Those persons who do not pass such test(s) shall not be employed.

- iv. An employee performing a safety sensitive function who is reasonably suspected of using alcohol or a prohibited drug, may be required to take a drug or alcohol test(s) or both. A supervisor's reasonable suspicion must be based on specific contemporaneous, articulated observations concerning the appearance, behavior, speech or body odors of the employee. Alcohol testing may also be performed at any time prior, during or following an employee's work shift.
- v. An employee who performs a safety-sensitive function that either contributed to an accident, or cannot be completely discounted as a contributing factor to an accident, may be required to take a drug test(s).
- vi. Employees who perform safety sensitive functions are subject to drug testing on an unannounced and random basis.
- vii. Except as otherwise required by law, all information from an employee's drug or alcohol test shall be treated as confidential. All information related to the drug or alcohol test of an employee will be maintained in his restricted file. Anyone disclosing drug test results, in violation of this policy, will be subject to disciplinary action. Drug and alcohol testing is not genetic testing and no genetic testing will be performed on any blood, urine, or other samples provided for drug and/or alcohol testing.

f) Disciplinary Action for Violation of the Policy-

Any employee who violates any aspect of this policy, including refusal to submit to any of the above described searches, inspections, or testing when requested by the City, may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge. Failure to provide adequate breath or urine may constitute a refusal to test if a medical evaluation determines there is no medical condition preventing the employee from providing the sample. When the City has reason to believe the employee is violating this policy, the employee may be suspended immediately pending investigation.

g) Response to Questions about the Policy-

The City Administrator has been designated as the person responsible to answer questions about the alcohol and drug testing program.

4. Nepotism-

In order to avoid favoritism or the appearance of favoritism based on family relationships, no one shall be employed in a department where the supervisor or department head is a member of their immediate family. "Immediate family" is defined to include only an employee's:

- a) Parents or stepparents;
- b) Spouse or children;
- c) Sister or brother;

- d) Grandparents or grandchildren;
- e) Mother or father-in-law; or
- f) Brothers or sisters-in-law.

In addition to the above, no person shall usually be employed in a position in any department if that person is a member of the immediate family of another employee within that department. However, members of immediate families may be employed within the same department if one or more family members are employed only as a part-time, temporary or seasonal employee for not to exceed six months in any 12 consecutive month period.

If two employees within the same department marry or otherwise obtain a relationship whereby they become members of each other's immediate family, one of the employees shall usually be transferred to another department, if possible, without loss of pay or other benefits. However, in most cases, the establishment of such a relationship alone shall not be the basis for termination of employment.

5. Employment Eligibility-

In compliance with the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, each new employee, as a condition of employment, must complete the Employment Eligibility Verification Form I-9 and present documentation establishing identity and employment eligibility.

On your first day of work, new employees must complete Section 1 of the Federal Form I-9 and, within three business days of commencement of employment, you must show acceptable documentation, pursuant to those listed in the Form I-9, proving that you are eligible to work in the United States. This is required by federal law.

6. Political Activity-

It is the right of every employee to register and vote on all political issues. Employees are permitted to join political organizations, civic associations or groups, and become involved in political activities subject to the following restrictions:

- a) As private citizens, employees may participate in all political activities, including holding public office. Employees may not engage in any activity regarding the election of candidates for any City office.
- b) City employees are not prohibited from supporting candidates for office or from contributing labor to candidates and organizations that endorse candidates. Employees are not permitted to be candidates for City elective office in Roeland Park.
- c) Political activity must not interfere with job attendance or performance. Employees are not permitted to solicit or handle political contributions in City elections. They are not permitted to wear or display political badges, buttons or signs on their person or on City property while working.
- d) No supervisor or other person in authority shall solicit any City employee for contributions of money or labor for any candidate for elective office, or otherwise compel, or attempt to

compel, any employee to support a candidate for elective office or to engage in any political activity.

The purpose of this policy is to prevent and avoid the appearance of impropriety on the part of any City employee. City employees are neither appointed to, nor retained in, the City's service on the basis of their political affiliations or activities.

7. Residency-

Residency requirements, if any, are determined by the Governing Body.

8. Outside Employment-

Full-time City employees shall not be employed in outside employment without the approval of his or her department head and the City Administrator. This applies to any significant form of non-City employment activity, whether part-time, temporary or permanent, for which the employee receives money, goods, services or other forms of compensation. Employees interested in securing outside employment shall provide their department head a request for outside employment containing full disclosure of the employer's name and address, the nature of work to be performed and the approximate hours per week that the employee will engage in outside employment. Outside employment by a full-time employee shall only be permitted when such outside employment:

- a) Is considered secondary to service with the City;
- b) Does not interfere with the performance of duties for the City; and
- c) No legal, financial or ethical conflict of interest results from such dual employment.

Approval to perform continuous outside employment must be renewed and re-authorized annually by the department head and City Administrator.

9. Gift Restriction –

There will be a general prohibition against gifts, services or things of value to City staff with the following exceptions: (A) An occasional non-pecuniary gift, service or thing of value, insignificant in value (\$50.00 or less); (B) An award publicly presented in recognition of public services.

10. Gender Transition Guidelines –

The City of Roeland Park is committed to diversity and equal employment opportunities for all employees and qualified applicants. We do not discriminate on the basis of gender identity or expression in any aspect of the employment relationship, including hiring, promotions, training, working conditions, compensation, and benefits.

We believe that providing a work environment based on respect, trust, and collaboration creates an exceptional employee experience where employees can bring their whole selves to work and thrive in their careers. These guidelines are intended to address the needs of the City's transgender and gender non-conforming employees who may be undergoing a gender transition and to answer questions that may arise about how to protect their rights, as well as to provide

guidance to their co-workers, managers, human resource professionals, and others in the workplace.

Definitions

The following definitions apply to the City's gender transition guidelines:

Cisgender is an adjective describing a person who identifies as the same gender that they were assigned at birth.

Gender identity refers to a person's inner sense of gender (being male, female, both male and female, or neither male nor female, or something else), regardless of the sex assigned to that person at birth.

Gender expression refers to a person's gender-related behavior or appearance, whether or not it conforms to traditional gender stereotypes or to the sex assigned to that person at birth. It can include manner of dress, grooming, mannerisms, and speech patterns.

Nonbinary is an adjective describing a person who does not identify exclusively as a man or a woman.

Sexual orientation typically refers to a person's physical, romantic, or emotional attraction to people of the same and/or opposite sex. Transgender people, like cisgender people, can identify as having any sexual orientation (such as heterosexual, gay, lesbian, bisexual, or asexual).

Transgender is an adjective describing a person whose gender identity or gender expression is different from that typically associated with the sex assigned to that person at birth.

Transition is a series of processes that some transgender or nonbinary people may undergo in order to live more fully as their true gender. It may include using a different name or pronoun, using different facilities (such as restrooms or locker rooms), undergoing medical treatment or procedures (such as hormone therapy or surgery), and changing their name and sex on documents. The process varies for each person, and while some people might choose to undergo medical treatment or procedures, these steps aren't necessary for a person to transition their gender.

Nondiscrimination

The City of Roeland Park strives to create a workplace where employees who are transgender can be their full selves without fear of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation. We are supportive of transgender employees who are considering or undergoing gender transition. Any discriminatory, harassing, or retaliatory actions taken against employees based on their gender identity, gender expression, or gender transition are considered violations of the State's Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action policy (EEO Policy) and are subject to the State's disciplinary policy.

Confidentiality

Transgender employees have the right to discuss their gender identity or expression openly or to keep that information private. The employee has the right to decide when, with whom, and how

much to share their private information. Information that may reveal an employee's transgender status should only be shared with another employee where it is necessary for the employee to do their job (e.g., human resources staff) or with the consent of the transgender employee.

Questions from coworkers or others regarding an employee's transition should be referred to the employee or to a person whom both the employee and their manager agree to designate this responsibility. It should be emphasized in the workplace that questions regarding an employee's medical procedures, body, and sexuality are inappropriate.

Managers may not single out transgender employees for intrusive requirements, such as psychological or medical examinations based on their transgender status.

The transgender status of any former employee shall not be disclosed to subsequent employers when responding to a reference request or background check.

Transition Planning

The City of Roeland Park recognizes that there are specific workplace issues to be addressed throughout the gender transition process. Transitioning employees are encouraged to discuss their needs and expectations with their manager before, during, and after their transition. The City addresses each employee's needs and expectations on an individualized basis. The City may offer benefits – such as medical benefits and Employee Assistance Program services – that might assist transgender employees who are considering or undergoing gender transition.

No employee is required to utilize a workplace transition plan or to give advance notice of an intended gender transition to the City. If a transitioning employee chooses to work with the City, it is recommended that a transitioning employee, together with their manager and the HR representative, develop a workplace transition plan outlining the steps to be taken to provide a successful transition.

- A transition plan can include any or all of the following considerations:
- A list of employees who need to be advised of the transition in order to implement requested workplace changes (for example, HR personnel, the transitioning employee's manager) or as requested by the transitioning employee (including other managers, coworkers, or others).
- A plan for when and how those employees should be informed of the transition (through a staff meeting, email, or otherwise) and who will inform them (the transitioning employee, the employee's manager, or someone else).
- The date on which the employee will begin to present in a manner consistent with their gender identity (which might be immediately), including the date(s) when the employee will begin using a different name or pronoun and different facilities (restrooms and locker rooms).
- A list of the employee's records that will need to be changed to reflect their gender identity and new name (if applicable), and the expected date(s) on which these records will be changed.
- Any anticipated leave that the employee will take for transition-related medical treatment and any relevant benefits available to the employee during the transition.

The City recognizes that employees' needs may change during their gender transition and will work with employees to adapt their transition plan to accommodate additional requests that might arise.

Implementing Transition Plan

Access to facilities. Employees are permitted to use facilities (restrooms, locker rooms, etc.) that correspond with their gender identity. Each employee makes the decision of which facilities are appropriate for them. No documentation is required to access facilities. Any employee who has a need or desire for additional privacy, regardless of the underlying reason, can make use of alternative arrangements, such as single-occupancy restrooms, private areas for changing, a different time to use the locker rooms, or other alternatives, where possible. It is a violation of the EEO Policy to prevent transgender or transitioning employees from using facilities that correspond with their gender identity, or to ask or require employees to use facilities that don't correspond with their gender identity, or to ask or require transgender employees to use unisex/single-occupant restrooms instead of common restrooms designated for employees of one sex.

Travel policies. If employees are required to share rooms while on work travel, employees are permitted to share rooms in accordance with their gender identity. Each employee makes the decision of which rooming assignment is appropriate for them. Any employee who has a need or desire for additional privacy, regardless of the underlying reason, can make use of alternative arrangements such as single-occupancy rooms.

Dress and grooming standards. The City should not maintain a dress code or appearance standard that limits or defines appropriate attire or appearance on the basis of gender. Subject to such gender-neutral departmental dress codes or appearance standards (where applicable), transitioning employees have the right to dress and present themselves in a manner consistent with their gender identity or gender expression.

Employee records. The City will update HR records as needed to accurately reflect a transitioning employee's gender identity and new name (if applicable) when they choose to begin identifying with that gender and name. The City also will update the employee's ID badge, nameplate, email address, business cards, staff directory entry, nametag, and any other records or places bearing their name. Any photographs of the employee should also be updated, if necessary, to reflect the gender identity and expression of the employee.

For certain types of records, such as payroll and retirement records, the City can't make updates until employees provide official documentation of their gender and/or name change. The City will coordinate with employees to determine what documentation is needed to make these changes. Employees are not required to provide documentation to change their name on records or in places where supporting documentation isn't necessary (for example, their nameplate).

Name and pronouns. Employees can choose to be addressed and referred to by the name and pronoun of their choice (including "they" or "them"), both verbally and in writing. A court-ordered name or gender change is not required.

Employees are encouraged to take reasonable steps to inform their coworkers of their chosen name and pronoun. If a coworker is unsure of the name or pronoun to use in reference to a transgender or transitioning employee, the coworker can respectfully ask the employee how he or she wants to be addressed. Any intentional or persistent misuse of a transgender or transitioning employee's name or pronoun is considered a violation of the EEO Policy.

Hiring Practices

Applicants may use the name and gender consistent with their gender identity in an application, regardless of whether they have undergone a legal name change or changed the gender marker on their identification. Hiring practices shall not require disclosure of an applicant's transgender status or sex assigned at birth.

During the hiring process, hiring managers should be sensitive to the possibility that applicants have transitioned. The name and gender on the application may correspond with the person's gender expression; however, background or suitability checks may disclose a previous name that indicates a gender different from the applicant's current gender expression. In such cases, hiring managers should respectfully ask whether the applicant was previously known by a different name for background check purposes only, and confirm with the applicant the name and gender that should be used throughout the hiring process. Any information in a background check that indicates a previous name or gender change cannot be disclosed without the applicant's consent or used against an applicant.

Additional Resources

The following resources may offer additional guidance to support an employee's transition:

Books

- *Transgender Explained for Those Who Are Not* by Joanne Herman
- *Transgender 101: A Simple Guide to a Complex Issue* by Nicholas Teich

Websites and Videos

- *An Introduction to Transgender People*, National Center for Transgender Equality,
<https://www.facebook.com/TransEqualityNow/videos/vb.40078161989/10153582088701990/>
- *Trans 101*, Sylvia Rivera Law Project, <http://srlp.org/resources/trans-101>
- *Transgender Basics*, Gender ID Project, <https://youtu.be/UXI9w0PbBXY>
- *Gender Inclusive Initiatives*, Northwestern University,
<https://www.northwestern.edu/diversity/initiatives/gender-inclusive-initiatives/>
- Out and Equal Workplace Advocates, <https://outandequal.org/>
- HumanRightsCampaign (HRC), <https://www.hrc.org/news/transgender-visibility-in-the-workplace>

C. COMPENSATION AND PAY PRACTICES

1. Position classification-

Position classification is a system of identifying and describing different kinds of work in the organization. In most cases, each City position shall, on the basis of the duties, responsibilities, skills, experience, education and training required of the position, be allocated to an appropriate class, which may include either a single position or two or more positions.

2. Pay Range Plan-

The Governing Body shall adopt a pay plan, with minimum and maximum amounts of pay for each class of positions. The pay ranges assigned to each class of positions shall be periodically reviewed and revised by the Governing Body.

3. Maintenance of the Classification Plan-

It shall be the duty of each department head to report to the City Administrator any and all organization changes which will significantly alter or affect changes in existing positions or proposed positions. The Governing Body shall approve all new or revised job descriptions and pay ranges for such positions.

4. Categories of Employment-

Full-Time Employee-

One employed to regularly work at least 40 hours per work week who was not hired on a short-term or temporary basis. The work week is any consecutive seven-day period, except as otherwise provided in Section E-1.

Part-Time Employee-

One employed to regularly work less than 40 hours per work week on a regular and continuing basis.

Seasonal or Temporary Employee-

One employed to work on a regular and/or recurring basis during a specific season or portion of a year.

Volunteer-

Is a non-paid individual in the position he or she holds. When acting as a volunteer an individual is not an employee. City employees may volunteer for tasks that they would not be engaged in as part of their regular employment.

5. Pay Periods and Paydays-

The City shall pay all employees on a bi-weekly basis, every other week, for work performed for the previous two-week period. Should the regular payday fall on a City holiday, pay shall be distributed on the working day immediately preceding that day.

6. Hours of Work-

The work week is a period of seven consecutive days beginning at the nearest shift change on Sunday (or 12:01 a.m. on Sunday) and ending at the nearest shift change on the following Saturday (or 12:00 midnight on the following Saturday).

General Employees-

The normal work period for general employees, which includes all employees other than police officers, is 40 hours of work during a seven-day period.

Police Officers-

The normal work period for full-time police officers shall average 80 hours over a fourteen-day period.

Normal Work Hours-

No employee shall be permitted to work in excess of their normal work period except when so directed by the employee's department head. Work in excess of 40 hours per week for non-law enforcement employees, without prior written permission, constitutes insubordination which may result in discipline, up to and including termination.

Employees should see their supervisor for information regarding their meal break.

7. Employment Classification-

Positions are classified according to the responsibilities of the job, the number of hours worked each week and length of service. Employees may be eligible for different benefits and governed by different regulations dependent upon their job classification. The following definitions have been established in order to standardize terminology purposes of federal and state wage and hour laws:

a) **Exempt-**

Employees whose positions are exempt from the Fair Labor Standards Act and do not receive overtime pay and/or compensatory time. Exempt employees are paid on a salary basis and generally receive the same weekly salary regardless of hours worked, subject to certain, limited and legally permitted deductions.

b) **Non-Exempt-**

Non-Exempt Employees are employees who are paid on an hourly basis and who are subject to overtime/compensatory pay and minimum wage provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). Non-exempt employees will be paid overtime at the rate of one and one-half times their regular rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in a work week, unless otherwise specified by state law.

You will be informed of your classifications upon hire and informed of any subsequent changes to your classification.

8. Overtime Work-

- a) Compensation for authorized overtime work shall be paid at the rate of one and one-half times the employee's regular rate of pay for all hours worked over 40 per work week for non-emergency service employees.
- b) A work period for police and firefighters has been established under the Fair Labor Standards Act. Full-time police officers shall be eligible to receive overtime compensation only for work hours in a work period which exceed 80 hours per 14-day work period.
- c) Overtime compensation shall usually be paid not later than the first payday following the work week in which it was earned. However, an employee may be given compensatory time off in lieu of cash payments for the overtime worked. Any compensatory time off shall be at the rate of one and one-half times the hours of overtime worked and is accruable up to 80 hours (53.3 actual hours worked) for all employees.
- d) All overtime work must have prior authorization by the employee's department head. At the time of authorization, the department head shall advise the employee whether the overtime compensation shall be in the form of additional wages or compensatory time off. The department head shall maintain records of any overtime worked.
- e) Seasonal or temporary employees working at the Roeland Park aquatic center shall not be eligible for overtime compensation, pursuant to Fair Labor Standards Act Section 13(a)(3) and K.S.A. § 44-1202(e)(6) and 44-1202(h).
- f) For purposes of calculating overtime, hours worked include holiday, scheduled vacation (defined as vacation scheduled at least two (2) weeks prior to the first day of vacation leave) and actual hours worked.

9. Call Back Time-

- a) A Department Head may call an employee in to work on a regular day off or may call an employee back to work after a regular work schedule.
- b) All employees who are eligible to receive overtime, and who are called in to work on a regular day off or are called back to work after a regular work schedule shall be paid at the appropriate rate of pay for the hours worked, except such employee shall be paid a minimum of two hours at their overtime rate. The employee may choose to add these hours as compensatory time off.
- c) The minimum of two hours shall not apply if the employee was called in or called back during the two-hour period immediately prior to the beginning of the employee's next regularly scheduled work shift. Pay for call back begins at the time the employee reports for duty.

10. Pay Plan-

The salary of each employee of the City, except those appointed officers whose salary is specifically set by ordinance, shall usually be set, at least annually, at an amount within the pay range of the position class the employee is assigned as determined by the Governing Body, with the advice of the City Administrator.

Employees working on a part-time basis shall receive that portion of the salary assigned to their position to be determined by the actual time they work. The hourly wage for persons employed on a monthly salary basis is computed as follows: Monthly wage times 12 divided by (hours worked per week times 52) equals wage per hour for full-time employees.

11. Pay Increases-

- a) In most cases, pay increases shall not be automatic and such increases are subject to approval by the City Administrator.
- b) Annual cost-of-living pay increases may be given as approved by the Governing Body. Subject to the approval of the City Administrator, a department head may award a pay increase to an employee based on an annual performance evaluation submitted by the employee's immediate supervisor.
- c) Annual longevity pay may be given at the discretion of the Governing Body.
- d) Annual bonuses may be given at the discretion of the Governing Body.

D. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

1. Performance Evaluations-

An evaluation of the performance of each full-time and part-time employee based on his or her duties and responsibilities shall usually be prepared by the employee's immediate supervisor at least annually.

2. Qualifications of Employment-

Applications for any open position with the City shall usually be accepted from applicants who meet the stated minimum qualifications established for that position, subject to the following conditions:

- a) Each applicant shall complete a job application form.
- b) A medical examination or other testing, including drug testing, may be required only after an offer of employment has been made contingent upon the applicant passing the drug test, provided that, such exams or testing are required of all such applicants who are offered employment in similar positions or position classifications.

3. Promotion-

All employees seeking promotion shall usually be expected to meet the minimum qualifications for the position to which they seek promotion.

A medical examination or other testing, including drug testing, may be required only after an offer of promotion has been made contingent upon the applicant passing the drug test, provided that, such exams or testing are required of all such employees who are offered promotions in similar positions or position classifications.

E. TIME OFF POLICIES

1. Holidays-

The following will be the fixed holidays:

1. New Year's Day - always January 1. When January 1 falls on a Saturday, then Friday, December 31 of the previous year is observed. When January 1 falls on a Sunday, then Monday January 2 is observed.
2. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – always the third Monday in January
3. Memorial Day Monday – always the last Monday in May
4. Juneteenth – always the 19th day in June. When June 19th falls on a Saturday, then Friday, June 18th is observed. When June 19th falls on a Sunday, June 20 is observed.
5. Independence Day– always July 4. When July 4 falls on a Saturday, then Friday, July 3 is observed. When July 4 falls on a Sunday, then Monday, July 5 is observed.
6. Labor Day Monday – always the first Monday in September
7. Indigenous Peoples Day – always the 2nd Monday in October
8. Veterans' Day – always November 11. When November 11 falls on a Saturday, then Friday, November 10 is observed. When November 11 falls on a Sunday, then Monday, November 12 is observed.
9. Thanksgiving Day – always the fourth Thursday in November
10. Day after Thanksgiving – always the Friday immediately following the fourth Thursday in November.
11. Christmas Day – always December 25. When December 25 falls on a Saturday, then Friday, December 24 is observed. When December 25 falls on a Sunday, then Monday, December 26 is observed.

And in some years:

12. When December 25 falls on a Tuesday then, Monday, December 24 is observed as a holiday. When December 25 falls on a Thursday, then Friday, December 26 is observed as a holiday.

Employees required to work on a City observed holiday will receive 8 hours holiday pay or an alternative day off.

To be eligible to receive pay for a City holiday, an employee must not have been absent without approved leave either on the workday before or the workday after the holiday.

2. Vacation Leave-

Vacation leave shall be earned beginning with the date of employment under the conditions hereinafter stated. An employee who works fewer than 12 days in any month shall not accrue vacation credit for such month of service; provided that this restriction of 12 days shall not apply where the employee has worked fewer than 12 days due to authorized paid leave. No employee shall be permitted to use vacation time for any period spent on unauthorized leave.

a) Full-Time Employees-

Full-time employees are entitled to paid vacation leave time according to the following schedule, provided no paid vacation leave time may be taken during the first six months of employment.

Years of Continuous Employment	0-4	5-9	10-15	15+
Hours Earned Per Month	8	10.67	12	16
Equivalent Work Days	12	16	18	24
Maximum Hours Accumulation	240	240	240	240
Maximum Hours for One Time Leave	80	120	120	120

Employees on Medical leave are not subject to the maximum hours for one time leave.

Training Period-

Employees-in-training during their initial employment shall be credited with vacation leave for each month of employment but shall not be permitted to use any vacation credit prior to the completion of their training period. Training employees terminated during the training period shall be paid for any accrued vacation leave.

Scheduling-

The dates for the taking of vacation leave shall be scheduled in consultation with the employee's supervisor and department head.

Holiday During Vacation-

City holidays which occur during the taking of an employee's authorized vacation leave will not be counted as a day of vacation.

b) Minimum Hours-

Exempt employees may use vacation leave in full day increments and non-exempt employees may sue vacation leave in half-hour increments, subject to the approval of their supervisor.

c) **Termination –**

Upon termination, an employee shall be compensated for all earned but unused vacation leave at their final rate of pay, subject to the maximum hours of accumulation authorized in the schedule with the exception outlined in the separation of service section.

3. Sick Leave-

Full-time employees who are employed to work at least 40 hours or more per work period, shall be entitled to sick leave with pay for absences resulting from illness, injuries, accidents, or other physical incapacity, occurring either on or off the job. Sick leave with pay may also be used for absences resulting from illness, injuries, accidents, or other physical incapacity of the employee's spouse, child, or parent. A spouse is defined as a husband or wife as defined by the state of residence of the employee, as well as domestic partner. A child is a son or daughter, in addition to a biological child, adopted, foster or step-child. The definition of son or daughter also includes a legal ward or child of someone standing in loco parentis. A qualifying daughter or son must be under the age of 18, unless the daughter or son has a physical or mental disability that makes self-care impossible. In such cases, there is no age limit. A parent is defined as a biological, foster, adoptive or step-parent, or any person who served in loco parentis (served as a parent) to an employee. It does not include a parent-in-law.

No employee shall be permitted to use sick leave for any period spent on unauthorized leave. Full-time employees are entitled to sick leave with pay for physical examinations and dental work if they have provided at least one day's notice to their immediate supervisor.

a) **Amount of Sick Leave-**

Full-time employees shall earn eight hours of sick leave for each full month of service. Part-time employees who are employed to work not less than 40 hours per work week shall receive four hours of sick leave for each month of employment.

b) **Accumulation of Sick Leave-**

An employee hired prior to March 1, 2013, may accrue no more than 960 hours of sick leave. An employee hired after March 1, 2013, may accrue no more than 480 hours of sick leave.

c) **Computing Sick Leave-**

Any absence for a fraction or part of a day which is chargeable to sick leave shall be charged in increments of not less than one hour.

d) **Doctor's Certificate-**

For sick leave in excess of three consecutive work days, a department head may require a signed statement from a health care provider verifying the employee's inability to perform his or her assigned duties because of illness and/or his or her ability to return to work.

e) **Notification-**

To be eligible for paid sick leave, an employee, or his or her representative, shall notify his or her immediate supervisor and give the reason for the absence at least two hours before the beginning of the first work day for which sick leave is taken unless the cause is an emergency in which case notice shall be provided as soon as practical under the circumstances.

f) **Termination of Employment-**

An employee shall not be paid for any unused sick leave upon termination of his or her employment with the City with the exception outlined in the separation of service section.

4. Paid Parental Leave-

The Paid Parental Leave Policy will apply to eligible employees due to the birth of an employee's child or the placement within an employee's home of an adopted or foster child. The policy is in effect for childbirth, foster placements or adoptions occurring on or after the effective date of this policy.

a) Purpose

To establish uniform guidelines for how paid parental leave policy will work for all eligible employees, establishing eligibility criteria, and terms of leave for which someone can receive paid benefits. The goal of the policy is to give parents additional flexibility and time to bond with their new child, adjust to their new family situation and balance their work obligations. The City of Roeland Park prides itself on being a flexible, family friendly workplace and this policy, adopted as part of the 2020 Budget Objectives, is another step toward giving our employees the additional flexibility they need when adding a new family member. These policies will help the City of Roeland Park attract and retain quality employees, as well as work toward increasing diversity.

b) Policy

1. Eligibility

- i. Paid parental leave is available to full-time regular and appointed employees who have worked for the City of Roeland Park for at least twelve (12) months, at least 2,080 hours.
- ii. Surrogate mothers and sperm donors are excluded from coverage under this policy.
- iii. The adoption of a child by a new spouse is excluded from this policy.
- iv. Respite placement, or when one foster family temporarily cares for the foster children of another family, is not eligible for paid parental leave under this policy.
- v. The child being fostered or adopted must be age 17 or younger.

2. Term of leave – Eligible employees will receive six continuous weeks of pay. Paid parental leave is in addition to, and not a replacement for, any other leave for which an employee is eligible.

3. Employees can utilize paid parental leave only once in a twelve-month period and only once per child.

4. Paid leave will be based on the employee's certified normal rate of pay.

5. Eligible employees must apply for short-term disability benefits as a condition of receiving the salary continuation as addressed under this policy. Short-term disability benefits will offset, and not be in addition to, the salary continuation provided under this policy. Short-term disability benefits are provided to mothers who give birth to a child and provides 60% of the employee's salary with a maximum of \$500/week. These benefits provide six (6) weeks for vaginal births and twelve (12) weeks for a caesarian birth.
6. Employees receiving paid parental leave are expected to return to work for at least six (6) weeks following the conclusion of their paid parental leave. If the employee fails to return to work, they will be required to reimburse the City for the paid parental leave funds received from the City, excluding any short-term disability pay received. By accepting the paid parental leave, the employee agrees to these terms.
7. Vacation and sick leave benefits will continue to accrue during the period of paid parental leave. The City will continue to pay its share of the cost of an eligible employee's group health insurance during a paid parental leave. The employee's share of premiums and benefits will continue to be deducted as usual.
8. Paid parental leave must be used within twelve (12) weeks following the birth, foster placement or adoption of a child. If paid parental leave is paired with other forms of paid leave, such as sick, vacation and holiday, the paid parental leave shall be administered first followed by other forms of paid time off. Paid parental leave will not reduce eligibility for other types of paid and unpaid leaves such as sick leave, vacation, personal leave, and holidays.
9. If a holiday observed by the City of Roeland Park occurs during the eligible employee's paid parental leave, the eligible employee will receive holiday pay in lieu of a paid parental day. Use of holiday pay during a paid parental leave will not extend the length of the leave.
10. Multiple births or adoptions (birth or adoption of twins, for example) does not increase the length of paid parental leave granted for that event. If both parents are eligible employees, each will be able to use the appropriate provisions of this policy.

c) Procedures

1. An eligible employee must submit a completed Leave Request form requesting the Paid Parental Leave at least thirty days (30) prior to the anticipated date of the leave. To the extent that 30-day notice is not possible, a leave request should be made as soon as possible. The form will also indicate the employee's statement that they will return to work for at least six weeks following the conclusion of their paid parental leave.
2. For those eligible for short-term disability, the appropriate form will need to be completed by your healthcare provider.
3. An eligible employee will be required to furnish appropriate adoption or foster placement documentation, such as a letter from an adoption agency or state, or from the attorney in cases of private adoptions.
4. A fraudulent request for Paid Parental Leave is grounds for dismissal.

5. Funeral Leave-

In the case of death of a member of an employee's immediate family (to include only the spouse, children, mother, father, brother, sister, grandparents or same by marriage of the employee or employee's spouse), full-time employees may request funeral leave not to exceed three consecutive working days. If an employee needs additional time off to attend to details of the funeral, it may be arranged with their supervisor. Leave in excess of three days may be charged against any unused sick or vacation leave, unless the employee elects to take leave without pay. Employees should notify their department head as far in advance as possible regarding a need for leave.

6. Family and Medical Leave-

If ever required by federal law, the City will administer leave that qualifies for Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) protection in accordance with federal law. This policy is intended for guidance and shall not be interpreted to expand the City's responsibilities beyond the requirements of the law. For employees who are not eligible for FMLA leave, including employees who have exhausted available FMLA-protected leave (if available under the law), requests for leave shall proceed according to the City's established policies. Any questions regarding available Family and Medical Leave should be directed to the City Clerk.

7. Injury Leave-

- a) All injuries occurring on the job shall be reported immediately to the employee's immediate supervisor.
- b) Any employee injured on the job shall usually be eligible to receive injury leave with pay during the seven-day waiting period for workers' compensation claims.
- c) When an employee receives compensation under the Workers' Compensation Act, the pay he or she receives from the City, while an employee of the City, shall be the difference between his or her regular rate of pay and the amount he or she receives from workers' compensation and shall be charged against sick leave.

8. Military Leave-

- a) Employees will be granted leaves of absence for military service, training or other obligations in compliance with Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act requirements and related federal and state military leave laws. Any employee so engaged in military or other uniformed services shall not be denied employment, reemployment, retention, promotion, or any benefit of employment on the basis of their active uniformed service. The City will not discriminate in employment against, or take any adverse employment action against, any person because he/she exercised these rights.
- b) As with other leaves, employees must provide advance notice to his/her supervisor of the intent to take military leave as well as appropriate documentation, as far in advance as possible, unless giving such notice is impossible, unreasonable or precluded by military necessity.

- c) Pursuant with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), employees are provided with broad protection in terms of their reemployment upon completion of military service, as well as specific time frames in which employees must return to work upon completion of service. Employees returning from military leave will (with limited exceptions) be returned to their position in accordance with current law then pertaining.
- d) Employees will not continue to receive pay during a military leave unless required by law. However, an employee may request to use earned but unused vacation time and sick time during military leave. Benefit coverage will continue for 30 days, provided employees pay their normal portion of the premiums.

9. Civil Leave-

a) **Civil Leave With Pay-**

An employee shall be given necessary time off with pay:

- i. When performing jury duty;
- ii. When appearing in court as a witness in answer to a subpoena or as an expert witness when acting in an official capacity in connection with the City;
- iii. When performing emergency civilian duty in connection with national defense; or
- iv. For the purpose of voting when the polls are not open at least two hours before or after the employee's scheduled hours of work.

However, an employee shall reimburse the City for juror or witness fees received while on civil leave.

b) **Civil Leave Without Pay-**

If an employee is involved in a personal lawsuit either as plaintiff or as defendant in an action not related to his or her duties with the City, the employee may take leave without pay unless he or she elects to utilize any accumulated vacation leave.

10. Other Leave-

a) **Educational Leave-**

An employee, upon written request, may be granted leave without pay for a period up to one year to further his or her education or seek specialized training, upon recommendation of the employee's department head and approval by the City Administrator and Governing Body. An employee may request leave with pay for a class related to their current work on a case by case basis which will need to be approved by his or her department head and the City Administrator.

b) **Leave of Absence-**

An employee, upon written request, and with the recommendation of his or her department head, may be granted a leave of absence without pay for a period of up to six months, subject to the approval of the Governing Body.

c) **Compensatory Time-**

Compensatory time off that is accrued by a non-exempt employee for overtime worked shall be taken within 13 pay periods following the pay period in which it was earned.

d) Request for Leave-

Except for sick leave, all leave must be authorized by the employee's department head prior to leave time being taken.

e) Credits for Paid Leave-

An employee, while on paid sick leave, vacation leave or other leave with pay, shall continue to earn credit for sick leave and vacation leave, but no leave credit shall be earned by any employee while on leave without pay.

F. OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

1. Health Care Program-

- a) All employees meeting the Affordable Care Act definition of full-time (working an average of at least 30 hours per week in a permanent position) shall be eligible for the City's group health care insurance program beginning on the first day of the month following the initial date of employment. A part-time employee who becomes a full-time employee shall be eligible for group health care insurance as of the date of change in employment status.
- b) When an individual employee is required to contribute because of participation in the City's group health care program the amount of such contribution shall be a payroll deduction.
- c) All costs for health care insurance shall be paid by the employee during any period the employee:
 - i. Is on a leave without pay (excluding Family and Medical Leave Act provisions);
 - ii. Is on suspension without pay;
 - iii. Is on unauthorized leave; or
 - iv. Is participating in any unlawful work stoppage.
- d) No employee shall be entitled to a cash payment in lieu of health care insurance coverage.
- e) Each employee should refer to the specific plan document, benefit booklet, or policy provided for each benefit to determine eligibility. A benefit plan document always supersedes all other information provided about a benefit. Summary Plan Descriptions (SPDs) can be found in City Clerk's Office and employees should see the City Clerk to request a copy.

The City reserves the right to amend or terminate benefits at any time.

2. Retirement - OASDI Benefits-

All eligible employees of the City are under the federal OASDI social security system, and receive the benefits thereof in accordance with federal laws and guidelines. The cost of this benefit is

paid equally by the City and the employee, with the employee contribution subject to payroll deduction.

3. Retirement - KPERS/KP&F Benefits-

All eligible employees of the City are members of the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System (KPERS) and/or Kansas Police & Firefighter Retirement System (KP&F) and receive the benefits thereof in accordance with state laws and guidelines. Under current law, KPERS members contribute six percent of salary, by payroll deduction. The employer's share is determined by KPERS, and varies annually.

4. Workers' Compensation Benefits-

All employees of the City receive the benefits of the Kansas Workers' Compensation Act, in accordance with such laws and guidelines. The cost of this benefit is paid entirely by the employer.

5. KPERS/KP&F Death and Disability Benefits-

All employees who are contributing members of KPERS/KP&F are eligible for the insured death and disability benefits provided by KPERS/KP&F, which is supplemental to the regular KPERS/KP&F benefits. The cost of this benefit is paid entirely by the employer. This insured death and disability benefit begins on the first day of employment, whether or not the employee is a contributing member of KPERS/KP&F.

6. Unemployment Compensation-

All employees receive the benefits of the Kansas Employment Security (unemployment compensation) Act, in accordance with such laws and guidelines. The cost of this benefit is paid entirely by the employer.

7. Life Insurance-

In addition to the death benefits provided under OASDI, KPERS and KP&F, the City makes available to each employee the option of purchasing group life insurance, administered by KPERS/KP&F, on a payroll deduction basis. The cost of this additional life insurance is paid by the employee and varies with the options selected by the employee.

8. Deferred Compensation-

All City employees may participate in any deferred compensation plan offered by the City, for which they are eligible.

G. AUTHORITY TO DISCIPLINE

Department heads and/or the City Administrator shall have the authority and the responsibility to discipline employees for violations of the City's personnel policies and any departmental guidelines.

1. General Policy-

The purpose of discipline is to ensure high standards of performance and efficiency, to maintain good working relationships among employees, and to provide the citizens of the City with the highest possible level of courteous and professional public service. Discipline in the City organization is for the most part “self” discipline. It is the duty of employees to make a conscientious effort to work and behave in accordance with the values, service standards, policies and guidelines of the City and the department in which they work. Each employee is expected to be self-disciplined and to work hard at being the best at what he or she does and to help the City provide a high level of public service. When an employee does not exercise adequate self-discipline or is not successful in meeting the requirements of their job, it may be necessary for his or her department head or supervisor to consider disciplinary actions to correct the problem.

It is not possible to list every possible instance in which an employee may be subject to discipline, up to and including termination. However, the following list (which is not all-inclusive) provides instances in which an employee may be subject to discipline, up to and including termination:

- a) The employee violates the provisions contained in this Employee Handbook, or any other written guidelines or procedures applicable to the department in which the employee works;
- b) The employee’s conduct reflects discredit to the City or hinders the effectiveness or efficiency of City operations; and/or
- c) The employee has performed an act of misconduct or has failed to perform an act which results in misconduct.
- d) The City Administrator believes discipline or termination would be for the good of the service of the City.

2. Disciplinary Actions-

The following types of disciplinary actions are possible:

a) **Verbal Warning-**

A verbal warning is an oral reprimand given to an employee by his or her supervisor or department head. A record of the warning shall be recorded in the employee’s file.

b) **Reprimand-**

A reprimand is a written censure to an employee by his or her supervisor or department head, a copy of which shall be recorded in the employee’s file.

c) **Probation-**

Probation is a trial period of a specific length of time during which an employee is required to fulfill a set of conditions, to improve work performance, or to improve on the employee’s job

behavior. Failure to meet the probationary requirements may result in additional disciplinary actions.

d) **Salary Reduction-**

A salary reduction is the lowering of an employee's rate of pay within the pay range to which the employee's position is assigned.

e) **Demotion-**

A demotion is the placement of an employee into a position of a lower pay range.

f) **Suspension-**

A suspension is the removal of an employee from service, with or without pay, for a specific period of time.

g) **Termination-**

Termination is the removal of an employee from City employment.

There is no requirement that the discipline of an employee involve all, or any, of the above-referenced actions. For instance, if warranted, an employee may be suspended or terminated without any prior disciplinary actions.

3. Procedure for Disciplinary Action-

Whenever in the judgment of the employee's supervisor or department head justifies the application of disciplinary action other than a verbal warning, the supervisor or department head might, in appropriate circumstances:

- a) Document the misconduct in writing;
- b) Determine the appropriate disciplinary action to correct the problem;
- c) Meet with the employee to review the problem and the proposed disciplinary action. The meeting should be private and include only the employee, supervisor, department head or other persons requested to be present by the department head;
- d) Give the employee an opportunity to refute the facts or argue against the proposed disciplinary action. The employee may submit comments in writing to be attached to the record of the disciplinary action;
- e) Make a final decision as to the disciplinary action; and/or
- f) Notify the employee of the disciplinary action in writing, except for verbal warnings. A copy of the documentation of misconduct and a note as to the form of disciplinary action taken shall be provided to the City Clerk for insertion in the employee's personnel file.

The procedure noted above is discretionary and may or may not be utilized given the particular circumstances.

4. Misconduct Subject to Disciplinary Action-

The following is a list of misconduct which may subject an employee to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment. The list is not exclusive; it is only representative of the types of misconduct which may subject an employee to disciplinary action. This list is provided for general guidance to employees and does not alter the at-will nature of an employee's employment relationship with the City.

- a) Conviction of a violation of any state or federal criminal law.
- b) Conviction of a violation of any City law.
- c) Failure to follow prescribed City or departmental safety policies and procedures, including failure to notify his or her supervisor of unsafe working conditions and negligent or willful creation of unsafe conditions in the workplace.
- d) Violation of personnel policies and guidelines or departmental policies and guidelines.
- e) Inattention to duty, carelessness, breakage or loss of public property or funds or willful or negligent damage to public property or waste of public supplies or equipment.
- f) Incompetency or inefficiency in the performance of the duties of his or her position or failure to render satisfactory service.
- g) Insubordination or other breach of discipline.
- h) Discourteous or disruptive conduct or other offensive behavior in public, to the public or to employees and officers of the City.
- i) Abuse of leave, excessive absenteeism or tardiness or absence without leave.
- j) Temporarily leaving the workplace without the approval of his or her supervisor.
- k) Failure to give proper notice of absence.
- l) Sleeping on the job.
- m) Use of alcohol or drugs, off the job, to the extent that the employee's job performance or effectiveness as a City employee is impaired.
- n) Inducing or attempting to induce any officer or employee of the City to commit an unlawful act or to act in violation of any lawful or official order or regulation.
- o) Unauthorized possession of firearms or other weapons on the job.

- p) Taking or using any funds or property of the City for personal use or for sale or gift to others or the making of any false claim against the City.
- q) Refusal to abide by any lawful official regulation or order, failure to obey any proper direction made by a supervisor or department head or knowingly making a false statement to any employee or officer of the City.
- r) Claiming leave time under false pretenses or falsifying attendance records for oneself or another employee.
- s) Possession or use of alcohol or drugs, except where prescribed by a physician, after being afforded the opportunity to seek professional attention, or use of alcohol or drugs, except where prescribed by a physician, while on duty. Sale of or offering for sale or giving away alcohol or drugs while on duty or at the workplace.
- t) Illegal harassment of any kind, including sexual harassment.
- u) Disclosing confidential records or information unless directed to do so by his or her department head or supervisor.
- v) Revocation or suspension of a certification or license, including a driver's license, when such is required as a condition of City employment.
- w) Material falsification of application for City employment or making a false statement or report in regard to any test, certification or appointment or any attempt to commit any fraud that violates the merit principles of personnel administration.
- x) Giving or attempting to give any monetary consideration or the delivery of undeserved service to or from any person or organization for, or in connection with, any test or appointment.
- y) Taking or offering to take from any person for the employee's personal use any fee, gift or other thing or service of value, in the course of his or her work or in connection with it, when such gift or other valuable thing or service is given in the hope or expectation of receiving a favor or better treatment than that accorded any other person; accepting a bribe, gift, money or other thing of service or value intended to encourage the employee to perform or refrain from performing any official act; engaging in any act of extortion or other means of obtaining money or other things or service of value through his or her position in the service of the City.

In an appropriate case, an employee may be suspended, with or without pay, pending an investigation and review of the matter.

H. SAFETY

1. General Safety-

All employees are required to wear appropriate safety equipment and follow appropriate safety precautions according to City and/or departmental policy at all times. Failure to comply with safety policies may result in disciplinary action.

2. Smoking Policy-

Smoking shall not be permitted in any enclosed City facility. This includes common work areas, auditoriums, classrooms, conference and meeting rooms, private offices, elevators, hallways, cafeterias, employee lounges, stairs, restrooms, vehicles and all other enclosed facilities. This policy applies to all officers and employees of the City, contractors, and visitors. Smoking shall be permitted only at a reasonable distance of ten (10) feet outside entrances, operable windows and ventilation systems of enclosed areas where smoking is prohibited, so as to ensure that tobacco smoke does not enter those areas.

No Smoking signs shall be posted in all City facilities.

Those employees who smoke and would like to take this opportunity to quit are invited to call the free Kansas Tobacco Quitline (1-800-QUIT-NOW) for telephone cessation counseling and support.

3. Conceal Carry of Firearms-

Employees and officials, who are not otherwise prohibited by state or federal law, may carry a concealed handgun, consistent with the Kansas Personal and Family Protection Act, as amended, into City buildings, where the carrying of a concealed handgun is allowed under the provisions of state law.

- a) Any employee carrying a concealed handgun within a City building pursuant to the provisions of state law must keep said handgun completely concealed, in a proper holster or similar product, with all safety features in place.
- b) Storage of Concealed/Carry Firearms: It is the sole responsibility of the employee to maintain control of his/her concealed firearm and ammunition by ensuring that such firearm is on his or her person and attended to at all times.
- c) Employees are also permitted while on City owned property to store a firearm within their own vehicle provided that such storage is outside of plain view from the exterior of the vehicle and that the vehicle is locked when the employee is not in the vehicle.
- d) Other than certified law enforcement officers, it is outside of the course and scope of employment for any City employee or contractor to brandish, intentionally display, use,

discharge, point or threaten any person with the use of a weapon in the workplace or in the exercise of his or her duties.

- e) An employee's failure to maintain a firearm in a concealed manner or locked as described herein could result in discipline, up to and including termination.
- f) In the event that a City employee or official discharges a firearm while on duty, the Roeland Park Police Department shall investigate the discharge and file a report of investigation with the City Administrator. Based on such report, the City Administrator, or designee, will determine whether it constitutes grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including termination. The discharge of a firearm while on duty may also result in criminal charges.

Subject to other policies and procedures of the City of Roeland Park and Kansas law, law enforcement officers are the only individuals authorized to use deadly force while acting for and on behalf of the City of Roeland Park. Employees who are not authorized to use deadly force do not have the immunities and are not entitled to the same indemnity afforded law enforcement and other employees authorized to carry firearms within the scope of their employment. The City will not provide for, reimburse, or pay attorney fees or other costs in defense of any employee who uses deadly force if the use of deadly force is not a function of said employee's job.

4. Uniform Policy-

The purpose of this policy is to establish a policy concerning the proper wearing of City apparel for non-public safety employees and to identify those items that are "safety equipment" and not uniforms. Items will be replaced, as needed, based on budgetary considerations. Each employee, upon being hired shall be issued the following uniform items:

a) Public Works Department

- i. Five shirts with City logo.
- ii. Three heavy sweatshirts with City logo.
- iii. One winter jacket with City logo.
- iv. One pair of coveralls with City logo.
- v. \$150 to be paid each year (at the beginning of the year) through payroll for the purchase of work pants.

b) Administrative

- vi. Five shirts with City logo.
- vii. Two sweatshirts with City logo.

c) Code Enforcement

- viii. Five shirts with City logo.

- ix. Two heavy sweatshirts with City logo.
- x. One winter jacket with City logo.
- xi. One Khaki pants.

5. Specifics-

- a) Uniforms (excluding work pants) will be purchased only three times per year (usually March, June and September).
- b) All uniforms (excluding work pants) are the property of the City and must be exchanged when receiving new items or returned when leaving employment with the City.
- c) Uniforms now in the possession of City employees must be exchanged prior to receiving new uniforms.
- d) It is assumed that employees who wear uniforms while not on duty do so to bring credit to the City and will not engage in conduct that is disgraceful or an embarrassment to the City.
- e) All new uniforms, with a City logo, shall be approved by the City Administrator.
- f) It shall be the responsibility of the employee to wash, clean and maintain any City uniforms.
- g) Appropriate non-uniform clothing may be worn when attending training, schools, meetings, luncheons, workshops, etc.
- h) The employee is responsible for any loss or damage of City uniforms due to neglect.
- i) The City Administrator may authorize exceptions to the Uniform Policy.

6. Non-Uniform Safety Items-

The following items are considered Safety Equipment and shall be provided to necessary employees. These will be replaced as needed due to normal wear and tear or when damaged. The old items shall be returned prior to issuing new items.

- a) One pair of steel toed (ANSI approved) boots (Paid by City up to \$160.00).
- b) One pair of leather gloves.
- c) One pair of safety glasses.
- d) One pair of full eye goggles.

I. TRAVEL POLICY

The City pays business-related travel expenses of its elected officials, employees and other with the approval of the department head and City Administrator, as long as the departmental travel seminar and education line-item budget would not be exceeded.

a) Approved Travel-

- i. Any function of the League of Kansas Municipalities if held within the State of Kansas.
- ii. Any function of the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) if held within the member counties of MARC.
- iii. Any function of the Northeast Johnson County Chamber of Commerce.

b) **Reimbursement Rates-**

- i. Travel by personal car at the IRS-approved rate. In-state mileage shall be calculated by the City Administrator using the shortest distance method, plus five (5) miles per each day, or part thereof, that the person is engaged in City business. Out-of-state travel will be at actual odometer readings.
- ii. Other transportation, lodging and miscellaneous expenses at actual cost upon the submission of proper vouchers/receipts.

c) **Meals-**

- i. At actual cost upon the submission of proper vouchers/receipts for expenses not associated with travel requiring an overnight trip.
- ii. For travel requiring an overnight trip, the following per-diem (no receipts necessary) shall apply, or pro-rata based on the following:

In State		Out of State	
Breakfast	\$5.00	Breakfast	\$10.00
Lunch	\$10.00	Lunch	\$20.00
Dinner	\$15.00	Dinner	\$30.00

- iii. Banquets, lunches and other meals included in the registration fee or prepaid with the conference will be deducted from the per diem rate.

Individuals who are pre-registered for any event and not able to attend should make every effort to find another City official to go in their place.

J. EMPLOYMENT RECORDS

1. Personnel Records-

- a) Information contained in an employee's personnel file is highly confidential and is maintained by the City Clerk. The City Clerk shall keep adequate records of all persons employed, their pay scale, time worked, accrued vacation and sick leave, all absences for vacation, sick or other leave, accrued overtime, and all other records directed to be made and maintained under these policies and guidelines or under applicable state or federal law. Employee medical related records shall be kept in a separate file in accordance with these same provisions. All employee files remain the property of the City and contain only items that have direct bearing on the employee/employer relationship. This includes any documents that relate to the employee's recruitment, selection and retention; the employee's job

responsibilities and his/her ability to perform those duties; and the employee's present or future ability to perform work assignments.

- b) Employee files will be maintained by the City Clerk and must remain in the Administration Department at all times. Only authorized individuals have access to the information in these records.
- c) Managers should provide, to the City Administrator for review and approval, written notification of any corrective action or changes in the status for his or her employees. The City Clerk will maintain a record of all changes in the employees' personnel files.
- d) Current employees may request to review their personnel file. An employee's personnel file shall be available during office hours for inspection by that employee upon reasonable notice. Such request should be submitted to the City Clerk.

2. Access to Employee Files and Verification of Employee Records-

Information contained in an employee's personnel file is highly confidential and will be released only to authorized individuals within the City, upon receipt of a court ordered subpoena or to individuals with written authorization from the current employee. It is the City's policy to provide only limited information regarding a former employee in response to requests for references.

This policy shall be applied in accordance with the requirements of federal and state laws.

3. Release of Employee Files-

When an outside party requests information about a current or former employee, only the City Administrator or City Clerk is authorized to respond. Reference requests should be referred to the City Administrator or City Clerk.

All telephone or written inquiries for employment references must be referred to the City Administrator or appropriate manager. It is the general policy of the City that the City Administrator or City Clerk will release only the employee's dates of employment and job title; salary may only be verified in writing.

K. TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for use of the City's computer, communication, and related systems to ensure that this equipment is used in a manner consistent with its intended purpose and the mission of the City and to discourage or eliminate inappropriate use of the equipment.

1. Definitions-

- a) **Technology Equipment-**

Includes all computers and related hardware and software, voicemail, electronic mail, internet access, internet e-mail, phone systems, network systems, voice and data communications, printers, copy and fax machines, video cassette recorders, cameras, pagers, radios, and electronic equipment in general which is owned by the City, licensed to the City, or otherwise provided for use by the City through the use of public funds.

b) **Management Staff-**

Department heads, their designees, or other City staff in supervisory positions.

c) **Network-**

Any City owned or operated computer, telephone, or electronic system.

2. General Computing and Network Policy-

- a) Violations to this Policy are subject to disciplinary action, including termination.
- b) All users of the City's technology equipment must adhere to City, state, federal, and international laws governing the use of such equipment. All users of the City's technology equipment should strive to use such equipment in an efficient and effective manner consistent with the City's mission, and must avoid unethical, unauthorized, or any other use of such equipment in a manner inconsistent with good stewardship of public resources.
- c) Any provision or provisions of this policy may be waived only for unusual circumstances, and only with the concurrence of an individual's supervisor and the City Administrator or his/her designated representative.
- d) Users of the City's network services shall promote efficient use of the networks to minimize, and avoid if possible, congestion of the networks and interference with the work of other users of the network.
- e) Encryption of communications will be allowed only if it is determined to be necessary for the protection of citizens or employees, or is determined to be an integral part of an employee's performance of their assigned work.

3. Prohibited Uses-

- a) Use of the City's technology equipment for threats, harassment, slander, defamation, obscene or suggestive messages and images, political endorsements, commercial activities, or for the production or dissemination of any material which is discriminatory with regard to race, sex, religion, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or age is prohibited.
- b) "BIOS" (basic in and out system) passwords, unless approved by the City Administrator or his/her designated representative.
- c) Intentionally disrupting or damaging any of the City's network services or any components of the system.

- d) Deletion, examination, copying, or modification of files and/or data belonging to other users without their prior consent.
- e) Any unauthorized access or attempts to gain unauthorized access to data, system resources and passwords.
- f) Any attempt to secure system access privileges other than those assigned by the System Administrator or his/her designated representative.
- g) Decryption of system or user passwords.
- h) The copying or deleting of any software without the authorization of the City Administrator.
- i) Infringement on software licenses and copyrights.
- j) Loading of software onto the City's network, or any component of the network, without the advance approval of the City Administrator or his/her designated representative.
- k) The intentional introduction of computer viruses or other disruptive programs into the City's system.
- l) Sharing of passwords with other users.

4. Privacy Policy-

- a) No individual or group utilizing the City's technology equipment should have any expectation of a guarantee of privacy in their use of the City's technology equipment. The equipment is managed by the City for the purpose of City business, and authorized representatives of the City may access any aspect of the City's technology equipment at any time for work related non-investigatory or investigatory purposes. Authorized representatives of the City may, without advance notice, access any portion of the City's technology equipment for purposes related to claims of misconduct by City staff.
- b) Management reserves the right to monitor the use of any or all portions of the City's technology equipment, including electronic messages either sent or received, electronic files stored on the City's network, and internet sites visited.
- c) Management reserves the right to access, without notice, data or text caches, pager memory banks, e-mail, voicemail boxes or accounts, and other employer provided electronic storage systems.
- d) All data, information, electronic mail, and other documents contained on the City's network, or any component of the City's network, is City property, and may be accessed by authorized representatives of the City.

5. Electronic Mail Systems-

- a) **Privacy, Confidentiality and Public Records Considerations**

- i. The City will make reasonable efforts to maintain the integrity and effective operation of its electronic mail systems, but users are advised that those systems should in no way be regarded as a secure medium for the communication of sensitive or confidential information. Because of the nature and technology of electronic communication, the City can assure neither the privacy of an individual user's use of the City's electronic mail resources nor the confidentiality of particular messages that may be created, transmitted, received, or stored thereby.
- ii. All electronic files and messages on the City's systems are periodically backed up and generally available for re-creation, even if erased.
- iii. In all electronic mail communications, be polite and use appropriate language.
- iv. Delete all messages from the electronic mail system when they are no longer needed to help efficiently manage network storage resources.

b) Permissible Uses of Electronic Mail

a. Authorized Users-

Only City employees and other persons who have received permission under the appropriate authority are authorized users of the City's electronic mail systems and resources.

b. Purpose of Use-

The use of any City resources for electronic mail must be related to City business. Incidental and occasional personal use of electronic mail may occur when such use does not generate a direct cost for the City. Any such incidental and occasional use of City's electronic mail resources for personal purposes is subject to the provisions of this policy.

c. Prohibited Purposes

- i. Personal use that creates a direct cost for the City.
- ii. The City's electronic mail resources shall not be used for personal monetary gain or for commercial purposes that are not directly related to City business.

d. Prohibited Uses

Prohibited uses of electronic mail includes, but is not limited to the following:

- i. Do not use the City's electronic mail system for sending "junk mail" or "chain letters."
- ii. Never send electronic mail from someone else's account or electronic mail address.
- iii. Sending copies of documents in violation of copyright laws.
- iv. Inclusion of the work of others into electronic mail communications in violation of copyright laws.

- v. Capture and “opening” of other employees’ electronic mail except as required in order for authorized employees to diagnose and correct delivery problems.
- vi. Use of electronic mail for personal political use.
- vii. Use of electronic mail to harass or intimidate or to interfere with the ability of others to conduct City business. This prohibition specifically includes any communication which violates the City’s policies against illegal harassment and discrimination.
- viii. Use of electronic mail systems for any purpose restricted or prohibited by laws or regulations.
- ix. “Spoofing,” i.e., constructing an electronic mail communication so it appears to be from someone else.
- x. “Snooping,” i.e., obtaining access to the files or electronic mail of others for the purpose of satisfying idle curiosity, with no substantial City business purpose.
- xi. Attempting unauthorized access to electronic mail or attempting to breach any security measures on any electronic mail system, or attempting to intercept any electronic mail transmissions without proper authorization.
- xii. To distribute defamatory, fraudulent or harassing messages, or otherwise engage in any illegal or wrongful conduct.

e. City Access and Disclosure

By accepting and continuing employment, employees of the City are consenting to the City’s monitoring of their e-mail communications on City equipment and/or on City premises and/or on City paid time.

f. General Provisions

To the extent permitted by law, the City reserves the right to access and disclose the contents of employee and other users’ electronic mail without the specific consent of the user beyond the general consent provided as a condition of employment. The City will do so when it believes it has a legitimate business need including, but not limited to, those listed in Section (g) below.

Employees and other users are advised that the City’s electronic mail systems should be treated like a shared filing system, i.e., with the expectation that communications sent or received regarding City business or with the use of City resources may be made available for review by any authorized City official for purposes related to City business.

Any user of the City’s electronic mail resources who makes use of an encryption device to restrict or inhibit access to his or her electronic mail must provide access to such encrypted communications when requested to do so under appropriate City authority.

g. Monitoring of Communications

The City will not monitor electronic mail as a routine matter but it may do so to the extent permitted by law as the City deems necessary for any valid business purposes, including employee supervision.

h. Inspection and Disclosure of Communications:

The City reserves the right to inspect and disclose the contents of electronic mail:

- i. In the course of an investigation triggered by indications of misconduct or misuse;
- ii. As needed to protect health and safety;
- iii. As needed to protect the rights or property of the City;
- iv. As needed to prevent interference with the business mission of the City;
- v. To detect employee wrongdoing; or
- vi. As required for employee supervision or performance management.

The City will inspect and disclose the contents of electronic mail when such action is necessary to respond to legal processes and/or to fulfill the City's obligations to third parties.

i. Limitations on Disclosure and Use of Information Obtained by Means of Access or Monitoring

The contents of electronic mail communications, properly obtained for City purposes, may be disclosed without permission of the user. The City will attempt to refrain from disclosure of particular communications if disclosure appears likely to create personal embarrassment, unless such disclosure is required to serve a business purpose or satisfy a legal obligation.

j. Special Procedures to Approve Access to and Disclosure of Use of Electronic Mail Communications

Individuals needing to access the electronic mail communications of others, to use information gained from such access, and/or to disclose information from such access and who do not have the prior consent of the user must obtain approval in advance of such activity from the appropriate City authority. Any employee accessing the electronic mail communications of others without permission will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

6. Definition of City Authority-

For the purposes of this policy, City Authority is defined as having approval of the Governing Body or by the City Administrator.

7. Internet Access-

a) Authorized Users:

Internet access is provided to City staff only by approval of department heads, and with the concurrence of the City Administrator or his/her designated representative.

b) Purpose of Use-

The use of any City resources for internet access must be related to City business. Incidental and occasional personal use of internet access may occur when such use does not generate a direct cost for the City. Any such incidental and occasional use of internet access resources for personal purposes is subject to the provisions of this policy.

c) Prohibited Purposes-

- i. Accessing adult entertainment, pornography, illegal, suggestive or other inappropriate material via the internet at any time from any City facility using either privately-owned or City technology equipment.
- ii. Personal use that creates a direct cost for the City.
- iii. The City's internet access resources shall not be used for personal monetary gain (i.e. engage in e-commerce, investment banking activities or gambling activities, legal or illegal) or for commercial purposes that are not directly related to City business.

8. Social Media/Blogging-

The City respects the right of any employee to maintain a blog and other types of self-published online journals, social media sites and collaborative web-based discussion forums. However, to protect the City's interests and ensure employees focus on their job duties, employees are expected to follow the guidelines and policies set forth to provide a clear distinction between you as an individual and you as an employee.

a) Purpose-

This policy outlines the protocol and procedures for use of social media to publicize official City services and events. In addition, this policy addresses the responsibilities of individual employees and City officials with regard to social media and the use of City resources (time/equipment), as well as responsibilities related to public records and open meeting laws.

b) Definitions-

i. Social Media-

Various forms of discussion and information sharing, including blogs, wikis, social networks, virtual worlds, video posts, podcasts, message boards and online forums. Technologies include: picture sharing, wall postings, fan pages, e-mail, instant messaging and music sharing.

ii. Social Networking-

The practice of expanding business and/or social contacts by making connections through web-based applications. This policy focuses on social networking as it relates to the use of the internet to promote such connections for official City business for employees, elected and appointed officials who are using this medium in the conduct of official City

business.

c) **Policies and Procedures-**

All official City presences on social media sites or services are considered an extension of the City's information networks and are governed by the Technology and Electronic Communications Policy contained in the City Personnel Manual and used for the limited purpose of informing the public about City business, services and events.

- i. All City social media sites must comply with applicable federal, state and City laws, regulations and policies. This includes adherence with established laws and policies regarding copyrights, records retention, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), First Amendment, privacy laws and information technology, web standards, brand standards and media policies established by the City.
- ii. Each social media site used by the City will include an introductory statement that clearly specifies the purpose of the site and directs users to the City's website. In addition, wherever possible, links to information should direct users back to the City's official website for more information, forms, documents or online services necessary to conduct business with the City.
- iii. Purpose-To provide information to the users in a timely manner and to direct users to the website for additional information.

Employees representing the City via social media outlets must conduct themselves at all times as representatives of the City and in accordance with all human resource policies. Employees shall not disclose information about confidential City business on either the City's social media sites or their personal social media sites.

- iv. The City encourages the posting of comments by individuals; however, current elected officials are not to post on the City's official social media sites.
- v. The City's social networking content and comments containing any of the following forms of content shall not be allowed for posting:
 - Comments not topically related to the particular site or blog article being commented upon;
 - Profane language or content;
 - Content that promotes, fosters or perpetuates discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, age, religion, gender, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, national origin, physical or mental disability or sexual orientation or gender identify;
 - Sexual content or links to sexual content;
 - Solicitations of commerce;
 - Conduct or encouragement of illegal activity;

- Information that may tend to compromise the safety or security of the public or public systems; and/or
- Content that violates a legal ownership interest of any party. The City reserves the right to remove content that is deemed in violation of this policy or any applicable law. Any participants on the City's official social media sites who are in continual violation of the posting/commenting guidelines may be permanently removed from the City's site.

The City reserves the right to temporarily or permanently suspend access to official City social media sites at any time.

L. CELL PHONE COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

It is the policy of the City to provide cellular telephones and/or wireless personal communications devices to designated employees in order to improve productivity, enhance customer service to our citizens, and/or to enhance public safety services.

It is also the policy of the City to maintain the right of access to and disclose of any and all messages communicated through electronic means when City-owned equipment is used. Regardless of the intent of the message (business or personal), any employee involved has no right to privacy, or to the expectation of privacy, concerning the content of any message or the intended destination of any message.

Decisions regarding the use of City cellular telephones and wireless personal communications devices, which are not explicitly stated herein, will be left to the discretion of the City Administrator. Department heads are authorized to administer, provide guidance on, and assure compliance with the features of this policy.

It is the policy of the City to provide reimbursement for cellular telephones and wireless personal communications devices to designated employees who can be recalled in order to improve productivity, enhance customer service to our citizens, and/or to enhance public safety services. At the City Administrator's discretion eligible personnel may obtain a personal cellular telephone, and/or wireless personal communications device. The City will reimburse the employee at a monthly rate of \$15.00. Department heads will be reimbursed at a rate of \$30 per month.

1. Applicability-

This policy and procedure applies to all City employees, departments, and organizations. Departments which use a pool system for cellular telephones, or which have cellular telephones assigned to vehicles or positions instead of to individuals, may develop departmental policies and procedures and/or regulations which provide greater direction to their employees, as long as that direction is consistent with this policy.

This policy includes City-owned cellular telephones and other wireless personal communications devices, which are not directly connected to a telephone line. It does not apply to direct-wired landline telephones.

2. Authorized Usage-

City-owned cellular telephones and other wireless personal communications devices are intended only for City business. No personal use of City-owned cell phones is allowed. In the event of an emergency personal call, the employee shall reimburse the City of the proportional share of the current monthly fee and service charges, as well as the direct cost of the minutes used (i.e. roaming, long distance, rate plan minutes, etc.).

Employees should not use cellular telephones to discuss confidential or sensitive information, as cellular telephone conversations are not secured.

3. Eligibility Criteria-

Employees eligible for assignment of City-owned cellular telephones, and other wireless personal communication devices are those designated by the City Administrator, including but not limited to:

- a) Employees who are frequently in a vehicle, if the individual must conduct City business by telephone while in the field, and it can be shown that cost savings and customer service efficiency will be realized through use of such devices;
- b) Employees who have a critical need to maintain accessibility with other department heads, City management staff and public officials in order to ensure uninterrupted customer services and/or the integrity of the organizations;
- c) Public safety positions as necessary to provide immediate and direct telephone communications with citizens, outside agencies cooperating in operations or other resource entities outside of City government, and to provide for communications which may be inappropriate for mobile radios;
- d) Designated employees involved in the City's emergency response plan; and
- e) Department heads and employees who have a responsibility for responding to public safety incidents in the field.

4. Responsibilities of Department Heads-

The department heads are responsible for:

- a) Recommending requests for cellular telephones, and other wireless personal communications devices from their respective subordinates;
- b) Ensuring that requests are in conformance with the procedures outlined herein, or that exceptions are justified;

- c) Ensuring that all persons assigned a City-owned cellular telephone, and/or other wireless personal communications device are provided access to a copy of this policy, and that the individual is in compliance with it;
- d) Conducting annual reviews of assigned devices to determine if such assignments continue to be justified; and
- e) Informing appropriate employees responsible for City communications of all reassignments of cellular telephones, electronic paging devices and other wireless personal communications devices.

5. Responsibilities of Employees-

Employees who are assigned the use of City-owned cellular telephones, and other wireless personal communications devices are responsible for the following:

- a) Ensuring the physical security of such devices;
- b) Ensuring that all communications on such devices are kept to the briefest duration possible;
- c) Keeping personal communications to a minimum;
- d) Ensuring that any personal use does not detract from the employee's availability for completion of assigned duties; and
- e) Reimbursing the City for any personal calls sent or received at the rate established by the City Administrator.

6. Use of Electronic Communications Devices and Safe Driving-

All City employees are expected to drive with safety as the first consideration. This includes driving safely while operating cellular telephones and other wireless personal communications devices. Recommendations for safe handling of vehicle-based calling from the wireless communications industry include the following:

- a) When driving, use voice-activated dialing or have frequently called numbers pre-programmed into the device, or consider pulling off the road to dial (or ask passenger to dial);
- b) Do not use the wireless communications devices at all if there are hazardous road or traffic conditions; and
- c) Avoid multiple tasks when driving, such as trying to take notes while using a wireless communications device.

Employees are responsible for, and will be held accountable for, safe driving at all times.

7. General Statements on Use of Wireless Communications Devices-

- a) Use of a log-on or password does not imply any right to employee privacy of communication.

- b) Use of a deletion keystroke or process does not mean a message/document has been eliminated from a wireless communications device, e.g. pager.
- c) On City-owned wireless communications devices, the City or department reserves the right to monitor and record communications traffic at any time, without notice to any employee.
- d) Any abuse or inordinate use of those devices will be considered misconduct and indifference to work, resulting in possible disciplinary action, up to and including termination. Any employee responsible for inordinate use of wireless communications devices may also be held responsible for the resulting costs to the City.

8. Monitoring of Wireless Communications by City Supervisors-

Supervisory reviews of wireless communications may be conducted for business reasons. Supervisors may review the communications of their employees to determine if there have been:

- a) Breaches of security;
- b) Violations of City policy; and/or
- c) Misuse by an employee.

9. Disclosure of Information-

The City will disclose the contents of retrievable wireless communications messages, upon receipt of a valid court order or legal request, including Public Information (open records) requests. The City may disclose the contents of retrievable wireless communication messages if the information will assist in official internal or criminal investigations.

M. SEPARATION OF SERVICES

1. Resignation-

An employee who terminates his or her employment voluntarily shall be terminated in good standing, providing the employee gives a minimum of two weeks written notice to his or her immediate supervisor or department head. Under appropriate circumstances, a shorter period of notice may be approved by the employee's department head and the City Administrator.

2. Payment upon Termination-

An employee whose employment with the City has been terminated shall receive his or her final paycheck on the first regularly scheduled payday following his or her termination.

- a) Employees who terminate shall be eligible to receive pay for any accrued unused vacation.
- b) Employees who have worked for the city in a full-time capacity for 5 years or more and who terminate with proper notice, may convert unused sick leave up to a maximum of 480 hours to vacation time at the rate of eight (8) hours sick leave to one (1) hour of vacation.

‘Termination with proper notice’ is defined as giving prior notice: four (4) weeks for exempt employees and two (2) weeks for non-exempt employees. No conversion is allowed when there is an involuntary separation due to poor performance or misconduct, or other violations of City policies and/or procedures.

- Example: Maximum sick accrual of 480 hours converts to a maximum of 60 hours vacation.

N. EDUCATION REIMBURSEMENT

This policy is applicable to any regular, full-time City employee who has completed his/her required initial probationary period.

1. Policy-

The City will only consider applications for assistance with tuition and book expenses for degree programs (Associate, Bachelor, Master or Doctorate) according to the following criteria:

- a) Before beginning a course of study, an employee must receive approval from employee’s department head and the City Administration prior to any request for tuition reimbursement; and
- b) An employee may be reimbursed only for courses of study which the City determines are directly related to the employee’s present job or which will enhance the employee’s potential for advancement to other jobs within the City; and
- c) Subject to budget availability, upon successful completion, as defined below, of any approved course, an employee may be reimbursed only the actual cost of the tuition for classes taken and any required course materials, but the City will reimburse up to a maximum of \$2,500 per calendar year; and,
- d) Eligible schools must be accredited by one of the six regional organizations recognized by the U.S. Department of Education; and
- e) On-line courses are permitted if offered through an eligible school and reviewed and approved through the regular tuition reimbursement process; and
- f) Tuition reimbursement must be approved by the employee’s department head and the City Administration, at least ten (10) business days prior to the first day of class; and
- g) All documentation regarding tuition reimbursement must be submitted for reimbursement within thirty (30) calendar days of the completion of the final class or payment will not be rendered; and
- h) Reimbursement will only be considered for courses that are successfully completed with a grade of “C” or better for undergraduate courses, or with a grade of “B” or better for

graduate-level courses. If an incomplete grade ("I") is received at the end of the term, the class must be successfully completed and documentation submitted for reimbursement within thirty (30) calendar days after completion. The date that the incomplete grade is officially replaced with another grade is the date that will govern with respect to tuition repayment; and

- i) The Education Reimbursement Policy will not duplicate other financial aid programs such as Pell Grants, Veteran's Administration Benefits, scholarships, etc. Any financial aid received will be deducted from the tuition and book fees reimbursed by the City; and
- j) If an employee's request for reimbursement under this policy is approved, he/she will be required to certify in writing, and agrees to re-pay the City all reimbursements he/she received if employee voluntarily separates from City employment within one year after receiving the reimbursement; and
- k) Any employee separated involuntarily within one year of reimbursement shall be required to make full repayment if the separation was for unsatisfactory performance/conduct.

2. Time Off For Class Attendance and Study Assignments-

Employees are expected to schedule class attendance and the completion of study assignments outside of their regular working hours. Employees will not be given paid time off, other than vacation and/or bonus days, to attend educational classes or to complete study assignments. In cases where productivity and proper supervision of employees are not adversely affected, management may approve changes in the work schedule to accommodate the pursuit of educational opportunities, however it is expected that educational activities will not interfere with employees' work. Any unsatisfactory job performance during class enrollment may result in forfeiture of educational assistance and/or disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment.

O. CITY SPONSORED MEMBERSHIP DUES POLICY

The City believes it is important for the members of the Governing Body and City employees to participate in professional organizations. While at the same time it is recognized that difficult economic times have caused strains on the City's budget. Therefore, in the future, the following represent the only types of membership dues that will be approved:

a) Professional association membership dues.

A professional association is usually a nonprofit organization seeking to further the interests of individuals engaged in that profession. The professional association will directly relate to the member(s) job.

b) Civic association membership dues.

A civic association is usually a nonprofit organization seeking to further the interests of individuals engaged in a community and the public interest. The City will cover the first \$100 of a civic association membership fee and match 50/50 the next \$100. Any amount over \$200 will be the responsibility of the individual.

c) **Multi-individual memberships and dues.**

Multi-individual memberships and dues for organizations, such as the Northeast Johnson County Chamber, Mid-America Regional Council, League of Kansas Municipalities or National League of Cities under which one membership dues covers all members of the Governing Body and City employees. Multi-individual memberships/dues are subject to Governing Body annual review for value to the City.

City of Roeland Park Employee Handbook Receipt

I acknowledge receipt of a copy of the City of Roeland Park Employee Handbook adopted _____ . I also acknowledge that its provisions are guidelines, subject to revision by the Governing Body at any time, and are not a contract of any kind between me and the City of Roeland Park.

Dated:

Employee's Signature:

Employee's Printed Name:
