

DE SOTO

KANSAS

FEBRUARY 2025

News for Residents

PARKS & RECREATION

Youth T-Ball / Softball / Baseball

- **Fee:** T-Ball (\$40)/ Baseball/ Softball (\$80)
- **Register By:** February 28th

NEW: Rookie Ball

- **Fee:** \$60
- **Ages:** 5-6
- **Register By:** February 28th

Diamond Art Workshop

- **Date:** March 3rd
- **Time:** 6:30pm-7:30pm
- **Fee:** \$10/person
- **Register By:** February 28th

Homeschoolers Art Class

Drawing Animals

- **Dates:** March 10th & 11th
- **Time:** 9:30am to 11:30am
- **Ages:** 7-12
- **Fee:** \$25/student
- **Register By:** March 7th

2-Day Kids Painting Camp

- **Date:** March 17th & 18th
- **Time:** 1pm-2:30pm
- **Fee:** \$35/person
- **Register By:** March 14th

Youth Soccer Camp

- **Date:** March 19th
- **Time:** 5-7pm
- **Fee:** \$15
- Boys & girls, pre-k to 6th grade
- **Location:** DHS Soccer Fields



Parks Registration

WE'RE HIRING!

We're hiring for multiple positions at the City: full-time, part-time, and seasonals!

- **Public Works Administrative Assistant** (full-time): provides administrative support to the Streets, Water, and Wastewater divisions
- **Parks & Rec Seasonal Maintenance Worker** (seasonal): performs tasks like painting, tree trimming, weed control, ball field maintenance, and park cleaning



Job Opportunities

- **De Soto Aquatic Center** (part-time seasonal): lifeguards, front desk/ concessions, and pool manager

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

Thank you to everyone who completed our 2024 community survey; the survey was conducted to gather feedback about how the City is meeting community needs as well as help guide future decisions by City leaders. The survey captured responses from a total of 500 residents.

Key Takeaways

1

Consistent, High-Quality Service: From 2022-2024, our performance has remained steady despite ongoing growth and change. We're especially proud to have received our **first 90%+ rating** in customer service - 92% satisfaction with how courteous and polite our staff is!

2

Outperforming National & Regional Averages: De Soto's satisfaction scores are significantly higher than both the national and Plains region averages in two-thirds (23/34) of service categories, including...

Service	De Soto	U.S.	Difference	Plains Region	Difference
Overall quality of City customer service	73%	39%	-33%	42%	-31%
As a place to live	81%	49%	-33%	49%	-32%
Overall quality of public education	79%	48%	-32%	47%	-32%
Overall quality of street maintenance	70%	41%	-29%	35%	-35%
As a place to raise children	82%	61%	-21%	58%	-25%

3

Opportunities for Improvement Exist and are Underway: Some of the areas where residents are least satisfied are currently being addressed.

Service	De Soto	U.S.	Region	What We're Doing
Access to Quality Childcare	16%	N/A	N/A	Working with State and County officials to help address childcare, as well as doing our own feasibility study on a Community Center with possible childcare
Access to Jobs that offer a living wage	25%	N/A	N/A	Encouraging economic development that brings high-paying manufacturing jobs to De Soto
As a place to work	43%	57%	53%	Encouraging economic development that will make De Soto a jobs hub once again
Quality of drinking water	45%	59%	59%	Building a new water treatment plant

Want to dig into the findings? Check out our Community Survey Webpage for the full report, a two-page summary, and the presentation to the City Council!



Survey Info

PIT BULL BAN LIFTED

After months of research, discussion, and public input, the City Council removed breed-specific language from the animal control policy - officially lifting restrictions on pit bull-type dogs that had been in place since 1994. The updated policy ensures that all dogs are evaluated based on their behavior - rather than assumptions tied to their breed - as well as strengthens off-leash laws.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this process - whether by sharing feedback, asking questions, or engaging in thoughtful discussions. Your input played a large role in shaping this outcome.



Pit Bull Ban Info