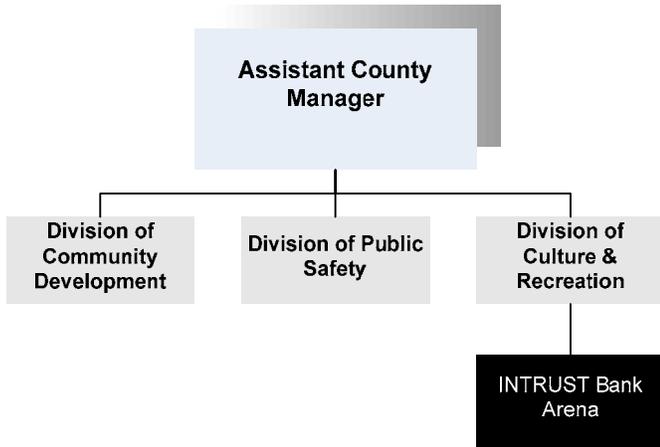




**Ron Holt**  
 Assistant County Manager  
 525 N. Main, Suite 343  
 Wichita, Kansas 67203  
 316-660-9393  
[rholt@sedgwick.gov](mailto:rholt@sedgwick.gov)

**Mission:**

- The Sedgwick County Arena will be a modern, first class sports and entertainment venue owned and operated by Sedgwick County, providing for 15,000 seats for basketball games. The Sedgwick County Arena will be home to indoor sporting events, concerts, family shows and other entertainment.



**Program Information**

Located in the center of a revitalizing area of downtown Wichita, the INTRUST Bank Arena will be a modern, first-class, sports and entertainment venue. The Arena, with 15,000 seats for basketball and 20 executive and two party suites, is designed to provide maximum “fan experience” for all ages. The facility will be bordered by William Street on the North, Waterman Street on the South, the railroad tracks on the East and Emporia Street on the West.

The facility is owned by the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, with a Management Agreement with SMG to provide pre-opening services and management for the INTRUST Bank Arena. SMG manages stadiums, arenas, convention centers, and theaters around the world, and will assume management of the Arena when it opens in early 2010.

Costs associated with the INTRUST Bank Arena will be funded without debt from the proceeds of a special one-cent County sales tax, which was approved by voters in November, 2004. Senate Bill 58, signed on April 4, 2005 by Governor Kathleen Sebelius, authorized Sedgwick County to collect a one percent sales tax for a period of 30 months beginning July 1, 2005. The proceeds for this tax are specifically designated for the construction of an Arena in the downtown area of Wichita and renovations to the Coliseum Pavilions. This method allows for the Arena to be constructed while the revenue is collected, eliminating the need for securing bonds to finance the project, saving approximately \$112 million in interest. The Arena sales tax revenues have exceeded the projected revenues and total \$206.5 million.

Construction is now underway in the downtown area of Wichita near the Oldtown district. Local general contractor Dondlinger & Sons partnered with Hunt Construction, a national firm with significant experience in building arenas. The construction team continues to work with the Arena designers, the Arena Design Consortium, in bringing to life the building's brick and limestone facades, and the expansive lobby view toward Kellogg will welcome visitors and blend with the surrounding architectural heritage. The location was selected to help generate further redevelopment efforts by the City of Wichita for the downtown area.

Management of the Arena will be done by SMG, a private company specializing in facility management of arenas for over 28 years. On June 23, 2008 SMG announced the selection of Chris Presson as the General Manager at the new INTRUST Bank Arena. Presson's impressive background in management, including ten years in executive level sports management, helped him secure the position. Presson is credited with many awards and accolades; most recently he led the turnaround of the Wichita Thunder Hockey team and negotiated the Wichita Wingnuts deal.

**Departmental Sustainability Initiatives**

The opening of the new Arena will contribute toward promoting, supporting and facilitating the creation of wealth and employment opportunities in downtown Wichita. The Metropolitan Area Planning Department (MAPD), which is jointly funded by Sedgwick County and the City of Wichita, is tasked with producing the neighborhood redevelopment plan for the area surrounding the INTRUST Bank Arena.

During construction, the Britt Brown Arena and Pavilions at the Kansas Coliseum will continue to operate as in the past, until the INTRUST Bank Arena opens. Once the Arena opens, the Pavilions will continue to operate in concert with the Arena, however,

the mission of the Britt Brown Arena will be changed. SMG, as part of their pre-opening consulting services, will assist in determining future use of the Britt Brown Arena.

**Department Accomplishments**

One of the unique aspects of the Arena project has been the continuous citizen involvement. Commissioners have encouraged citizen engagement as a means of soliciting ideas, concerns and views throughout the process. Two citizen-based committees, the Citizen Arena Sales Tax Oversight Committee and the Citizen Design Review Committee were created to ensure public participation, as well as numerous public meetings. In addition, Sedgwick County uses the Sedgwick County website and streaming video in an effort to continue a transparent and open Arena planning process.

**Budget Adjustments**

In January 2008, naming rights proposals were adopted for an additional \$14.8 million in revenue over the next 20 years. The major contributor, INTRUST Bank, will pay \$8.8 million for naming rights for the new INTRUST Bank Arena. For \$3.0 million each Cessna Aircraft will name the Plaza and Spirit AeroSystems will name the Concourse. Although the sales tax ended January 1, 2008, \$15.4 million

in pending disbursements for the end of 2007 were received during the first quarter of 2008. Revenue collected above and beyond the initial startup costs will be retained to serve as a reserve fund for the Arena. INTRUST Bank Arena will remain within the parameters of the County's capital budget until its opening.

**Arena Timeline**

- **1977** - Kansas Coliseum built
- **November 2, 2004** - Sedgwick County Arena approved by Sedgwick County voters.
- **April 4, 2005** - Governor signs Senate Bill 58
- **July 1, 2005** - Sales tax begins
- **July 27, 2005** - Arena Design Consortium awarded contract for engineering and architect services for the Arena.
- **November 2005** - Site selection complete
- **January 2006** - Land acquisition begins
- **May 24, 2006** - Exterior design selected
- **November 2006** - Start bid process to hire general contractor for Pavilion upgrade
- **June 2007** - Arena Design Consortium awarded contract for engineering and architect services for the Arena.
- **July 2007** - Site demolition completed
- **September 2007** - Arena construction begins
- **September 2007** - Pavilions closed for renovations (May - Sept.)
- **December 2007** - Sales tax ends
- **Early 2010** - Arena construction complete