

Economic Development

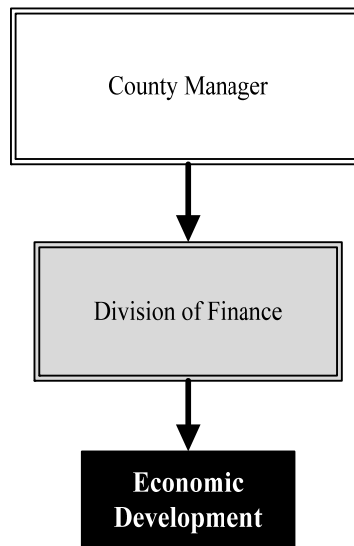
Mission: *Develop and sustain a strong and diverse regional economy by working with regional partners to attract and grow talent, enhance opportunities for businesses to retain or attract new jobs in the region, support healthy and vibrant communities, expand the County's tax base, and promote initiatives to enhance quality of place.*

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Overview

Sedgwick County Economic Development collaborates with other governments, partner organizations, and businesses to retain and expand local businesses and attract new companies that pay above average wages and create and retain value added jobs. The County is a grantee for Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) #161, which allows companies using the FTZ an exemption from paying duty or Federal excise taxes while the goods remain in the zone, thus lowering costs of the importing business and encouraging investment and production that might otherwise take place in another country.

Sedgwick County applies consistent guidelines to analyzing economic development incentives; to assure prudent stewardship of public financial resources and a positive economic benefit that meets or exceeds the public investment and promotes responsible economic growth.



Strategic Goals:

- Collaborate with community partners in economic development for future growth and opportunities for industry and residents
- Retain and expand value added jobs through judicious use of relocation / expansion incentives
- Promote efforts to maintain and develop the region's workforce to accommodate the jobs of today and tomorrow



Accomplishments and Strategic Results

Accomplishments

Accomplishments for 2024 include:

- construction of the South Central Regional Mental Health Hospital in southwest Wichita, which will be managed by Sedgwick County and operation of the facility, funded with a combination of State and Federal money, will be the responsibility of the State of Kansas;
- Quickstep, an Australian aerospace composite manufacturer, selected the region for its first United States engineering and manufacturing facility;
- Bloc Digital, a company that provides three-dimensional content and data visualization to the aerospace and other industrial sectors, announced its Wichita expansion;
- groundbreaking on the shared biomedical campus in downtown Wichita, in collaboration with Wichita State University (WSU), the University of Kansas (KU), and WSU Tech took place in May, 2024; and
- a Reinvestment Housing Incentive District (RHID) Policy establishing fiscal and market parameters for analyzing potential RHID opportunities to align County participation with expanded economic activity was adopted.

Strategic Results

Strategic Results for 2024 include:

- a collective increase of almost 2,500 jobs, a 5.0 percent increase over the previous year, fueled by strong job growth from top employers;
- the beginning of non-stop air service to Washington D.C.; and
- quality of life investments in Exploration Place beginning with the groundbreaking of the amphitheater and Destination Playscape.

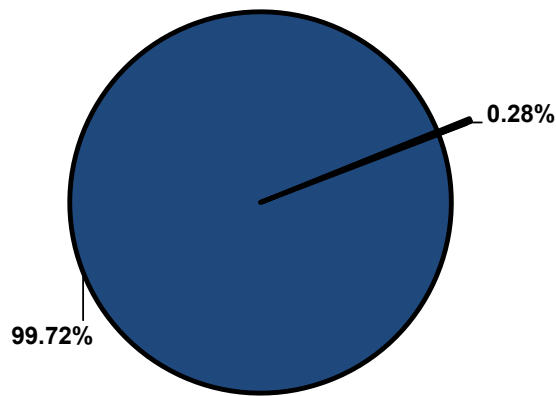


Significant Budget Adjustments

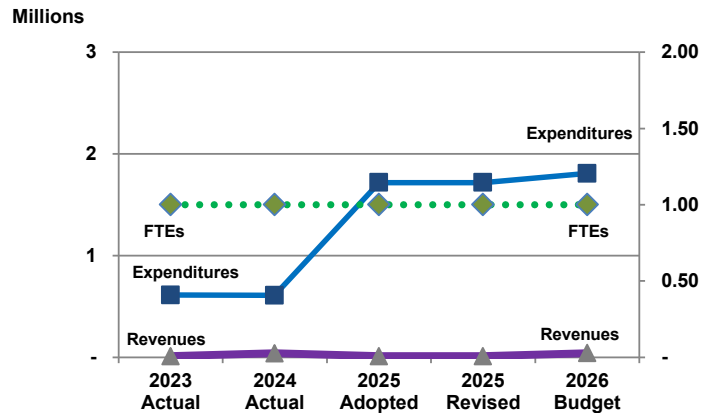
Significant adjustments to Economic Development's 2026 budget include an increase in contractals due to the reallocation of budget authority to the Highway Department for a project viability study for project R328: Northwest Expressway Right-of-Way Acquisition (\$100,000) in 2025.

Departmental Graphical Summary

Economic Development
Percent of Total County Operating Budget



Expenditures, Program Revenue & FTEs
All Operating Funds



Budget Summary by Category

	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	Amount Chg '25 Rev.-'26	% Chg '25 Rev.-'26
Expenditures							
Personnel	83,616	76,834	99,478	99,478	87,576	(11,902)	-11.96%
Contractual Services	528,635	531,783	1,609,335	1,609,335	1,709,335	100,000	6.21%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Commodities	41	9	9,500	9,500	9,500	-	0.00%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	612,292	608,627	1,718,313	1,718,313	1,806,411	88,098	5.13%
Revenues							
Tax Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Licenses and Permits	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charges for Services	10,000	7,500	10,000	10,000	7,500	(2,500)	-25.00%
All Other Revenue	-	31,750	-	-	32,388	32,388	-
Total Revenues	10,000	39,250	10,000	10,000	39,888	29,888	298.88%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)							
Property Tax Funded	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	-	0.00%
Non-Property Tax Funded	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total FTEs	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	-	0.00%

Budget Summary by Fund

Fund	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	Amount Chg '25 Rev.-'26	% Chg '25 Rev.-'26
General Fund	612,292	608,627	1,718,313	1,718,313	1,806,411	88,098	5.13%
Total Expenditures	612,292	608,627	1,718,313	1,718,313	1,806,411	88,098	5.13%

Significant Budget Adjustments from Prior Year Revised Budget

	Expenditures	Revenues	FTEs
Increase for 2025 reallocation to Highways for a project viability study for project R328	100,000		

Total	100,000	-	-
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Budget Summary by Program

Program	Fund	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	% Chg '25 Rev.-'26	25'-26' FTEs
Econ. Development	110	612,292	608,627	1,714,313	1,714,313	1,802,411	5.14%	1.00
Foreign Trade Zone	110	-	-	4,000	4,000	4,000	0.00%	-

• Economic Development

Economic Development promotes a strong regional economy by helping local businesses grow, increasing opportunity for international trade, and attracting new jobs to Sedgwick County.

Fund(s): County General Fund 110

Expenditures	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '25 - '26	% Chg. '25 - '26
Personnel	83,616	76,834	99,478	99,478	87,576	(11,902)	-12.0%
Contractual Services	528,635	531,783	1,605,335	1,605,335	1,705,335	100,000	6.2%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	41	9	9,500	9,500	9,500	-	0.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	612,292	608,627	1,714,313	1,714,313	1,802,411	88,098	5.1%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	-	31,750	-	-	32,388	32,388	0.0%
Total Revenues	-	31,750	-	-	32,388	32,388	0.0%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	-	0.0%

• Foreign Trade Zone

The Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) is a general purpose zone where foreign and domestic goods are not within U.S. Customs territory. The zone is ready to work for businesses involved in international trade. Air, rail, and surface transportation users find the international trade services and facilities convenient, user friendly, and highly cost-effective. Users of the FTZ are exempt from paying duty or Federal excise taxes while the goods remain in the zone. Funding is used to promote the zone itself, for training, and for travel expenses for economic development staff.

Fund(s): County General Fund 110

Expenditures	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '25 - '26	% Chg. '25 - '26
Personnel	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Contractual Services	-	-	4,000	4,000	4,000	-	0.0%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	-	-	4,000	4,000	4,000	-	0.0%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	10,000	7,500	10,000	10,000	7,500	(2,500)	-25.0%
All Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	10,000	7,500	10,000	10,000	7,500	(2,500)	-25.0%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%