



# City of Lawrence

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CITY CLERK'S  
OFFICE

## LAWRENCE CITY COMMISSION VACANCY APPLICATION

Thank you for your interest in serving your City in this capacity. Information including process to fill the vacancy, key dates and additional details are available on the City's website: [www.lawrenceks.org/vacancy](http://www.lawrenceks.org/vacancy).

**Instructions:** Please complete this brief form and other required items listed on the checklist to help provide sufficient information to the City Commission, which will fill the vacancy. Completed applications must be received by the City Clerk's office no later than **Wednesday, September 9, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.** in order to be considered. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

**Process:** Applications will be reviewed by an advisory committee appointed by the City Commission. The committee will forward a list of no more than six candidates to the City Commission, selected from the pool of qualified applicants. The City Commission will then select an individual to fill the City Commission vacancy from qualified applicants, including but not limited to the six candidates provided by the advisory committee. Applicants will be required to participate in the advisory committee and City Commission process.

**Eligibility:** To be eligible, applicants must be a U.S. Citizen, at least 18 years old, a qualified elector of the City of Lawrence, and a resident living inside the Lawrence city limits at the time of appointment and during the term duration.

**Public Information:** Any and all information provided as part of this process, including but not limited to the application and supporting documentation, is public information and will be made openly available on the city website. The process will be entirely public, including any interviews held with applicants.

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Name: Dave Crawford

Address: 715 Illinois St., Lawrence, Ks 66044

Phone number: 785-218-4279 E-mail: dave@dave.crawford.org

Occupation: Retired

How long have you lived in Lawrence? Approx. 61 years (w. breaks)

**Tell us about yourself. Please describe, in 200 words or less, your reasons for seeking a position on the Lawrence City Commission, and why you believe you can represent the citizens of Lawrence as a member of the City Commission:**

"I sit at the other side of the table from the politicians". At 65, I believe in civic pride - life's responsibility.

I worked through night-college as a welder, then United Steelworkers Union advocating living wages. Finding opportunity I began teaching welding. Apprentices came from difficult backgrounds winning my heart - that triggered my life's work.

Having taken a commitment to leadership I created jobs for 30+ homeless from City Union Mission, pre-apprenticeship construction jobs on the Christopher S. Bond Bridge. Then, organizing GreenKC, with Green For All Oakland, CA. The resulting principle, meeting the need for jobs with unmet needs in the new Green Labor movement.

My Lawrence base includes; Commissioner-Traffic/Safety Commission, LiveWellLawrence, OWL NA, and Downtown Lawrence Grocery project. DTGroc is 2+ years, meeting with stake-holders; and bridging as many differences. YES, it looks like this project will happen.

DTGroc's the solution for 10 square miles of food desert problems Downtown – a social-center anchor, promoting live, shop, and work Downtown. DTGroc model is how to work for our Lawrence.

This is extensive experience. Bringing people to the table. Negotiating until problems are solved, with patience and forbearance for listening, discussing, solving. I'm ready for this challenge!

**Education / Experience.** Please provide a brief summary of your education, and any training or experience that you possess which would be beneficial to the City Commission position.

- High School Drafting student:  
city, town or village plat drafting/drawing, knowledge showing subdivisions into blocks with streets and alleys.
- Shawnee Mission East High School, student, class of 1968.
- University of Kansas, student, Liberal Arts program.
- Park University, KCMO, student, Downtown School of Business Administration:  
basic of: financial management, human resources, communications, and technology management.
- International Brotherhood of Boilermakers employed by:  
wrote apprenticeship curriculum, taught construction project planning, taught mechanical drafting & blueprint reading, OSHA Safety Instructor past certificate.
- Vatterott College employed by:  
taught Architectural Drafting & Design, AutoCAD, and advanced blueprint reading.
- Operations Director; Grand Avenue Temple, KCMO employed by:  
this is a mission church for homeless population; supervised food-bank, winter months shelter supervisor and all volunteer services.
- Gamaliel Foundation National Training Graduate, student:  
institutional organizing, community organizing, methodology for building power, tools to make and sustain relationships, 'Self-Interest' public arena medium of exchange, power analysis, building support with money and media, elements of good meetings, elements of power organization, structuring personal and organizational time, strategic planning, political and economic analysis.
- Computer technology:  
windows operating system, Microsoft Office Suite of applications, Excel, AutoCAD Drafting, Adobe Illustrator
- New Media, mobile/social:  
Google Calendar, Facebook, Google Maps, SnapChat, Twitter, Swarm, etc.

**Work History.** Please provide a brief summary of your work history.

- Retired Sept. 2007 to present - International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Pension Fund, KCKS 66101
- Vatterott College, KCMO 64129, 10/2007 – 12/2009  
Instructor, AutoCAD Drafting and Architecture Design
- Grand Avenue Temple, United Methodist Church KCMO 64106, 10/2007 – 11/2008  
Director of Operations, homeless mission church with food-bank, winter shelter, and volunteer operations
- International Boilermakers Union National Apprenticeship Program, KCKS 66101 7/1995 – 9/2007  
Instructor; welding, blueprint reading, project management & planning, drafting, steel erection & fabrication, OSHA Certified Instructor, American Red Cross Workplace Certified Instructor
- Maple Woods Community College, KCMO 64156 1/1995 – 6/1995;  
Instructor; TWA - airframe TIG welding, blueprint reading, fabrication



**Public Offices Held.** Please provide a brief summary of elected service, or service as a member of a public board/commission/ committee/task force. Please list city, state, and dates of service.

- City of Lawrence Traffic and Safety Commission, 66101  
Commissioner, by appointment. 6/2015 - present

**Community Involvement.** Please provide a brief summary of your involvement in service to your community.

- Community Ownership Of Lawrence, 66101  
Commercial properties cooperative Founder & Lead organizer. 5/2015 - present
- Downtown Grocery For Lawrence Kansas, 66101  
Committee Founder & Lead organizer. 4/2013 - present
- LiveWell Lawrence Healthy Built Environment, 66101  
workgroup member 3/2015 - present
- LiveWell Lawrence Healthy Food For All, 66101  
workgrop member 9/2014 – present
- Old West Lawrence Neighborhood Association, 66101  
Association member, homeowner. 4/2011 - present
- Metro Organization For Racial and Economic Equity, KCMO 64111  
Board member representing Grand Avenue Temple UMC. 10/2007 – 3/2009
- Church of the Resurrection, Leawood Ks. 66224  
Feasibility Committee member for Downtown KCMO satellite church location. 2/2007 – 1/2008

**Top Issues.** Please describe, in 500 words or less, what you believe are the top issues affecting (act on with strong feelings) the City of Lawrence.

**Public Safety**

In 2014 there were six homicides in Lawrence, the highest number in at least a decade. This is a disturbing statistic. Improved police facilities, intelligently designed and located to promote proven community policing strategies, will do much to improve public safety.

**Smart Growth principles**

"People First"; pedestrian, bicycle-oriented, public spaces are proven healthy lifestyles, and provide overall livability in cities. Best incentives for attracting creative people and innovative businesses to Lawrence. Lawrence should highlight lively pedestrian spaces, charm, magic, authenticity of it's Downtown. Keep Lawrence, Lawrence!

**Tax relief**

City Budget Issues & Property Taxes - property taxes are the equitable way to fund local government rather than excessive sales taxes which cause the most burden. Use of growth-generated increases in tax dollars provides relief to working families.

Food Desert - 10 square miles surrounding our Downtown

USDA rated East/North Lawrence areas, and Pinkney neighborhood, official "food deserts"—i.e., areas devoid of convenient sources of high-quality primary ingredients for consumption. This distinction is usually reserved for urban wastelands, and remote rural areas, having a food desert in the midst of Lawrence is quite disconcerting. The solution - a downtown grocery store convently located in the vacant Borders building.

"Commitment" to fill vacancy

I love Lawrence. As City Commissioner I would bring real community organizing, and bridge-building experience to close the distance between our local government and neighborhoods. I have the life-experiences, and my retirement affords me the time to make City Commissioner a "full time" job.

Economic Development & Public Incentives

'Principled' - with nearly every community offering tax breaks to corporations, we are in a "race to the bottom". I support using public incentives where the benefits are broad-based, a clear benefit to under-served citizens, and can be shown to be cost-effective for Lawrence taxpayers. I will consistently oppose "welfare for the rich".

East Ninth Project

\$3 million in 2015 - 2016 is part of an effort to make an "arts corridor." With significant involvement of neighborhood leaders and artists, the East Ninth project will be a model for the nation. We need an "arts corridor" - place the needs of the community first, encourage affordable housing, and artist spaces.

Affordable Housing

"Intentional mixed income housing" - maintaining a stock of high-quality affordable housing is vital to our local economy. Along with other quality of life indicators, it is a major factor that any business will consider when locating to Lawrence.

Maintenance Of City Streets, Sidewalks, other Infrastructure

Lawrence streets are generally good. Continued maintenance and improving will be a priority of mine. This should take priority over special-interest projects promoted by development interests.

Conference Center District Downtown

A state-of-the-art conference center – particularly one located in Downtown Lawrence – could be an asset to our community. Site selection, design must be thoughtful, smart, driven by community needs and community benefit. Design should enhance Downtown Lawrence, creating lively pedestrian-bicycle-friendly spaces – preserving, restoring, historic buildings - respecting the integrity of adjacent residential neighborhoods.

**Your Approach to Governing.** Please provide, in 500 words or less, a summary of your approach to handling issues that would come before you as a member of the Lawrence City Commission, and your approach to working with other City Commissioners on these issues.

As an elected official on the City Commission, my responsibilities are:

- Listen to all sides
- Make sure everyone with opinions are heard
- Keep the process transparent and open to the public
- Use Staff expertise, do not overlook
- Research issues, study!
- Negotiate, and anticipate problems, come up with workable solutions
- Use outside resources, for example (MARC) Med-America Regional Council
- Look to other communities that have made similar difficult studies, and review their outcomes

My approach, or style of working with other City Commissioners is:

- Follow the (KOMA) Kansas Open Meetings Act\*  
"A meeting of a public body subject to the KOMA has three elements; (a) An interactive discussion (NOTE: discussion alone triggers the KOMA, it is not necessary that action or votes be taken); (b) by and between at least a majority of the body; (c) on matters relating to the functions of that body. All three elements must be present to trigger the KOMA. A "majority" means the next whole number greater than one-half of the total number of members."
- LISTEN to Advisory Boards and other Commissions to gather meaningful information and advice.
- Meet with fellow City Commissioners, following KOMA guidelines, to discuss shared personal interests about issues.
- Build on shared personal interests to find meeting ground for negotiation. Not all topics are Black and White.
- My patience and forbearance for listening, discussing, solving allows me to build negotiations from a single shared interest.

\*<http://ag.ks.gov/legal-services/open-govt>



**Your Approach to Land-Use Planning.** Please provide, in 500 words or less, a summary of your approach to handling issues that would come before you as a member of the Lawrence City Commission, and your approach to working with other City Commissioners on these issues.

- I support planning based on proven 'Smart Growth' principles.

Ten basic principles to guide Smart Growth strategy,

- Mix land uses; blend a combination of residential, commercial, cultural, institutional, or industrial uses, where those functions are physically and functionally integrated, and that provides pedestrian/bike-friendly connections.
- Take advantage of compact building design.
- Create a range of housing opportunities and choices, intentional mixed income housing.
- Create walkable and bike-friendly neighborhoods.
- Foster distinctive, attractive communities with a strong sense of place.
- Preserve open space, farmland, natural beauty, and critical environmental areas.
- Strengthen and direct development towards existing communities.
- Provide a variety of transportation choices.
- Make development decisions predictable, fair, and cost effective.
- Encourage community and stakeholder collaboration in development decisions.\*

- Development Driven Planning vs. Smart Growth Principles

Lawrence should not allow the kind of over-development/development driven planning that promotes vacancies and blight in established commercial and residential areas of the city. When local governments allow over-development, the taxpayers are eventually saddled with the expensive and difficult task of remediating blight conditions elsewhere. The entire city suffers, not only from the direct financial burden, but from a deterioration in overall quality of life. Creative people and innovative businesses look for cities with healthy, vibrant, pedestrian-friendly centers. They avoid cities with unrestrained sprawl and central-city blight.

- 'Lawrence Trafficway Development' as example issue on our horizon

In the past, zoning decisions have often been driven by development interests, not community interests. Any new commercial zoning should be done thoughtfully and consistently with the neighborhood's and city's comprehensive plans. No new commercial zoning should be granted that causes vacancies and the resultant blight in existing commercial areas, including Downtown Lawrence.

- Working together on the Commission

As City Commissioner I'll work together with city staff and the other Commissioners. We will not always agree on every agenda item, yet I'll pledge to be part of the solution rather than the opposition. It will be my responsibility to study each proposal before setting foot in a Commission meeting. My style includes talking with stakeholders and listening intently. This includes any negotiating if possible until problems are solved, with patience and forbearance for listening, discussing, then solving for an answer the majority can be satisfied with.

- My Vision For Lawrence

My motto is, "Keep Lawrence, Lawrence!" We have a unique community with a vibrant downtown, healthy and diverse residential neighborhoods, and numerous historic sites and structures. My goal is to retain and enhance these unique qualities by encouraging creation of well-paid and environmentally friendly jobs, stable and affordable neighborhoods and commercial areas, and attractive pedestrian-friendly public spaces. That is the proven equation for a community that attracts innovative and creative people and businesses.

\*<http://www2.epa.gov/smartgrowth/about-smart-growth>

**Application Materials Checklist.** All applicants must complete the following forms and return application materials to the City Clerk's Office, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of City Hall, 6 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, no later than **5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 9, 2015** to be considered for the vacancy.

- Complete Lawrence City Commission Vacancy Application
- Statement of Substantial Interest for Local Office
- Three Letters of Recommendation

**Statement of Verification**

I hereby certify that I am qualified to serve as a member of the Lawrence City Commission. I am a U.S. Citizen, am 18 years of age or older, am a qualified elector of the City of Lawrence, and a resident living inside the Lawrence city limits. I understand that my application and materials will be a public record.

*Dan W. Crawford*  
Signature

*Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015*  
Date



**STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL INTERESTS FOR LOCAL OFFICE**

**INSTRUCTIONS.** This statement must be completed by each person required to do so by K.S.A. 75-4301a. Upon completion, mail or hand deliver your completed statement to the office where you filed your declaration of candidacy. If appointed to fill a vacancy in a local elective office, file this form where your predecessor filed for office.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

**A. IDENTIFICATION:**

Crawford David W.  
Last Name First Name MI

Crawford Pamela M  
Spouse's Name

715 Illinois Street  
Number & Street Name, Apartment Number, Rural Route, or P.O. Box Number

Lawrence, Ks. 66101  
City, State, Zip Code

785-218-4179  
Home Phone

same  
Business Phone

**B. OFFICE SOUGHT, HELD OR APPOINTED TO:**

City Commissioner  
List Name of Office

Position District

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Date received (Official use only)

C. **OWNERSHIP INTERESTS:** List any corporation, partnership, proprietorship, trust, joint venture and every other business interest, including land used for income, and specific stocks, mutual funds or retirement accounts in which either you or your spouse has owned within the preceding 12 months a legal or equitable interest exceeding \$5,000 or 5%, whichever is less. Please attach additional pages if necessary to complete this section.  
 If you have nothing to report in Section "C", check here \_\_\_\_.

BUSINESS NAME AND ADDRESS	TYPE OF BUSINESS	DESCRIPTION OF INTERESTS HELD	HELD BY WHOM
1. 442 SW Watson Topeka KS 66606	rental property	house	PMC
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

D. **GIFTS IN THE FORM OF GOODS OR SERVICES:** List any person, business or combination of businesses from which you or your spouse either individually or collectively, have received in the preceding 12 months, without reasonable and valuable consideration, goods or services having an aggregate value of \$500 or more.  
 If you have nothing to report in Section "D", check here .

NAME OF PERSON OR BUSINESS FROM WHOM GIFT RECEIVED	ADDRESS	RECEIVED BY:
1.		
2.		
3.		

**E. RECEIPT OF COMPENSATION:** List all places of employment in the last calendar year, and any other businesses from which you or your spouse received \$2,000 or more in compensation (salary, thing of value, or economic benefit conferred on you or your spouse in return for services rendered, or to be rendered), which was reportable as taxable income on your federal income tax returns.

1. YOUR PLACE(S) OF EMPLOYMENT OR OTHER BUSINESS IN THE PRECEDING CALENDAR YEAR.

If you have nothing to report in Section "E"1, check here \_\_\_\_.

	NAME OF BUSINESS	ADDRESS	TYPE OF BUSINESS
1.	Boefermaker Pension Fund	KCKS 66101	Pension Fund
2.			

2. SPOUSE'S PLACE(S) OF EMPLOYMENT OR OTHER BUSINESS IN THE PRECEDING CALENDAR YEAR.

If you have nothing to report in Section "E"2, check here \_\_\_\_.

	NAME OF BUSINESS	ADDRESS	TYPE OF BUSINESS
1.	University of Kansas	1535 W. 15th Lawrence	law school
2.			

**F. OFFICER OR DIRECTOR OF AN ORGANIZATION OR BUSINESS:** List any organization or business in which you or your spouse hold a position as officer, director, associate, partner or proprietor at the time of filing, irrespective of the amount of compensation received for holding such position. Please insert additional pages if necessary to complete this section.

If you have nothing to report in Section "F", check here X.

	BUSINESS NAME AND ADDRESS	POSITION HELD	HELD BY WHOM
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			



**G. RECEIPT OF FEES AND COMMISSIONS:** List each client or customer who paid fees or commissions to a business or combination of businesses from which fees or commissions you or your spouse received an aggregate of \$2,000 or more in the preceding calendar year. *The phrase "client or customer" relates only to businesses or the combination of businesses.* In the case of a partnership, it is the partner's proportionate share of the business, and hence of the fee, which is significant, without regard to the expenses of the partnership. An individual who receives a salary as opposed to portions of fees or commissions is generally not required to report under this provision. Please insert additional pages if necessary to complete this section.  
 If you have nothing to report in Section "G", check here .

	NAME OF CLIENT / CUSTOMER	ADDRESS	RECEIVED BY
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			

**H. DECLARATION:**

I, David Crawford, declare that this statement of substantial interests (including any accompanying pages and statements) has been examined by me and to the best of my knowledge and belief is a true, correct and complete statement of all of my substantial interests and other matters required by law. I understand that the intentional failure to file this statement as required by law or intentionally filing a false statement is a class B misdemeanor.

Sept. 8, '15  
Date

David W. Crawford  
Signature of Person Making Statement

NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL PAGES \_\_\_\_.

September 4, 2015

To: Advisory Committee for vacant Lawrence City Commission seat

I am writing to support David Crawford as a candidate for the vacant seat on the Lawrence City Commission. I have known and worked with David for the past 15 months on the Downtown Grocery Project, of which he was the founder and continues as the chair/leader. During that time I have met weekly with David in our group and found him to be not only passionate about our stated desire to fight the food desert in the north and east parts of the city, but to have the tenacity for the day-to-day grind of articulating the problem, doing research and reading, soliciting a broad range of community feedback on the issue through social media and on- the- ground face- to- face meetings with disparate individuals and groups representing all parts of the community and bringing various stakeholders to the table over and over to develop solutions. As various options have become untenable, David resolutely forged ahead, trying to find other ways to meet the goals of providing improved neighborhood access to affordable quality groceries for ALL citizens of Lawrence. During this time I also noticed David brought those same qualities of commitment, accessibility, willingness to learn, and flexibility in his run for the City Commission in Spring 2015. He filled every day of his candidacy with meetings with various community groups to listen and understand their burning issues and met with various former members of city government to learn from their hard-won wisdom about how to be the best possible public servant.

In addition to the Downtown Grocery Project and previous Commission candidacy, David has also been devoted to several other related groups in Lawrence. He is an Old West Lawrence Association member, he is a commissioner on the Traffic and Safety Committee, and is deeply involved with several LiveWell Lawrence sub-groups: the Healthy Built Environment work group and the Healthy Food for All work group. He also has attended most if not all of the City Commission meetings since I have known him.

I believe David brings a unique (and much needed) perspective as a retired boilermaker and union member. I believe this working man experience affords him a practical, no-nonsense and more accessible attitude that is easily communicated to those with whom he comes in contact. This attitude is combined with skills he acquired post-retirement as a graduate of the Gamliel Foundation National Leadership training in Chicago. I know he is a strong advocate for diverse members of our community, members who all too frequently are not heard.

In short, I hope you will consider David as a strong finalist for the City Commission vacancy.

Thank you,

Janice Melland RN/LSCSW, sole proprietor of psychotherapy practice in Lawrence since 1996, former clinical faculty member Washburn School of Nursing, former VNA Hospice Board member, former Womens' Transitional Care Services Board member, East Lawrence homeowner since 1986. I can be reached at 719 Massachusetts St., Ste. 127, office 865.0800, home 841.0720, jamelland@sbcglobal.net

Commissioners Leslie Soden, Stuart Boley, Matthew Herbert, and Mayor Mike Amyx  
Lawrence City Commission  
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Commissioners:

I first met David Crawford when we worked together at Van Go at 7th and New Jersey. We taught young adults, ages eighteen to twenty-two, skills that they could use to get jobs. I was the woodworking instructor; Dave taught metalworking.

From the beginning, I was impressed with Dave. He really listened to the kids, many of whom came from troubled backgrounds and all of whom had stories to tell. They needed someone to hear them as well as teach them. Dave did both.

He was extremely patient with the students, tailor-making the lessons to each one's abilities, and never making anyone feel slow or inadequate to the tasks at hand. He often laughed with them and encouraged them to try new skills, even when the young person doubted herself. The kids loved him!

Later, it was my pleasure to work with him on his campaign for City Commission. Since this was his first time to run for elective office, it took him a while to get up to speed on the various strategies one needs to win. Instead, he took the same thoughtful approach he used with the Van Go kids. He listened to all points of view, met with community leaders, both business and neighborhood, and took time to flesh out his own opinions on the issues of the day. Had the campaign season lasted longer, I have no doubt that he would have won a seat on the Commission.

Dave brings important strengths to the City Commission. He has his own opinions, but these are not set in stone. He does not insist on having his own way when someone can show him a better path. He listens to everyone, and knows how to negotiate and find reasonable solutions to problems. Since he has retired, he has the time it takes to read, research and otherwise explore any issues that may arise for consideration. His patience and thoughtfulness enable him to see all sides and come up with solutions that everyone can accept, and maybe even be happy with. He would make a great City Commissioner for all of Lawrence.

Sincerely,

Jolene Andersen

--

jolene andersen, psvd



**A. Townsend Peterson, Ph.D.**

*923 Rhode Island St.*

*Lawrence, Kansas 66044*

1 September 2015

Commissioners Leslie Soden, Stuart Boley, Matthew Herbert, and Mayor Mike Amyx  
Lawrence City Commission  
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Commissioners:

I write to you in strongest support of the application by Mr. David Crawford for the vacant post of City Commissioner. I have known Mr. Crawford for 2 years, and have worked closely with him since the first week that I met him. As such, I am well familiar with him and with his ideas, motivations, and actions. I believe that he would be an excellent city commissioner, in light of his strong and heart-felt commitment to the good of our community, combined with energy and drive that are dedicated to the projects in which he participates. If he has taken the decision to assume the responsibility of serving as City Commissioner, I am certain that he will fill the post to the maximum, with energy and dedication.

Mr. Crawford has a long record of deep involvement in community-building activities. To give some examples, he was active in apprenticeship program development in the Boilermaker Union National, and graduated from leadership training initiatives of the Gamaliel Foundation. He currently serves as a Traffic and Safety Commissioner, as founder and lead organizer of the Lawrence Downtown Grocery project, and as member of the LiveWell Lawrence Healthy Built Environment, LiveWell Healthy Food For All, and the Old West Lawrence Neighborhood Association. As Mr. Crawford moved to Lawrence after his retirement, he has quickly emerged as an important figure in the community, and ranks among Lawrence's important human-energy assets.

Mr. Crawford has been a particularly prominent figure in the movement towards bringing a grocery store to downtown Lawrence. The USDA has rated large parts of the East and North Lawrence areas, as well as the Pinkney neighborhood, as official "food deserts" —i.e., areas devoid of convenient sources of high-quality primary ingredients for consumption. This distinction is usually reserved for urban wastelands and remote

rural areas, so having a food desert in the midst of Lawrence, Kansas, is quite disconcerting. Mr. Crawford has been an effective, measured, and reasoned figure central to this effort, and his impressive leadership qualities shine as he has guided the initiative through many intricate negotiations. Although not yet successful, this effort has been an impressive demonstration of Mr. Crawford's abilities and leadership.

In sum, in Mr. Crawford, Lawrence has the opportunity to bring considerable energy to its City Commission. Mr. Crawford brings a balanced, measured energy to the projects in which he is involved, such that I have been most impressed with each of his efforts. I have observed the efforts of the City Commission in recent years, and I am convinced that it is much in need of this sort of energy and drive. As a consequence, I give Mr. Crawford my highest possible recommendation for this post.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information.

Very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Townsend Peterson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and "P".

A. Townsend Peterson  
University Distinguished Professor  
The University of Kansas

[town@ku.edu](mailto:town@ku.edu)