

CITY OF MULBERRY, KANSAS
RESOLUTION NO. 2026- 39

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING “MULBERRY VISION 2040” AS A LONG-RANGE COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND GROWTH INITIATIVE FOR THE CITY OF MULBERRY, KANSAS

WHEREAS, the City of Mulberry, Kansas, recognizes the importance of establishing a long-term vision for the community that protects the interests of existing residents and property owners while creating opportunities for responsible growth, economic development, investment, housing, infrastructure, and improved quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mulberry recognizes that thoughtful planning for future growth is essential to maintaining a strong and sustainable community and to positioning the City to compete successfully for federal, state, regional, and private investment; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to establish **Mulberry Vision 2040** as a comprehensive, long-range community development initiative extending through the year 2040; and

WHEREAS, Mulberry Vision 2040 is intended to provide a framework for evaluating future land use, voluntary annexation opportunities, transportation improvements, infrastructure expansion, commercial and industrial development, housing, recreation, tourism, public facilities, utilities, and other community priorities; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the strategic importance of the U.S. Highway 69 corridor and its potential to support future commercial, industrial, agricultural, transportation, energy, tourism, and other economic development opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to explore the potential development of an industrial and commerce area along the U.S. Highway 69 corridor, including opportunities for business recruitment, advanced manufacturing, logistics, energy-related development, agricultural enterprises, and other compatible industries; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that future development should occur in a manner that respects existing agricultural operations, private property rights, existing landowners, neighboring communities, and the long-term character of the Mulberry community; and

WHEREAS, the City intends that participation by property owners in any future annexation or development initiative remain voluntary unless and until a separate lawful process is undertaken pursuant to applicable Kansas law; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that strategic planning and preparation may increase the City's ability to obtain grants, low-interest financing, infrastructure assistance, economic

development incentives, private investment, and other resources necessary to accomplish the objectives of Mulberry Vision 2040; and

WHEREAS, the City intends to work cooperatively with Crawford County, neighboring municipalities, regional economic development organizations, state agencies, federal agencies, utility providers, transportation agencies, educational institutions, property owners, businesses, developers, and other public and private partners in advancing the objectives of Mulberry Vision 2040; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that development of the Vision 2040 initiative should be based upon sound planning, documented community needs, economic feasibility, infrastructure capacity, environmental considerations, available funding, and meaningful engagement with affected property owners and residents; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to establish a framework through which future projects may be evaluated and prioritized according to their ability to strengthen the economic base of the community, increase employment opportunities, improve infrastructure, expand the City's tax base, enhance public services, and improve quality of life.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF MULBERRY, KANSAS:

Section 1. Establishment of Mulberry Vision 2040.

The City of Mulberry hereby establishes **Mulberry Vision 2040** as the City's long-range community and economic development initiative for planning and preparing for the responsible growth of the community through the year 2040.

Section 2. Purpose.

Mulberry Vision 2040 shall provide a framework for identifying, evaluating, planning, funding, and implementing projects and policies that support:

1. Responsible economic and industrial development;
2. Expansion and improvement of transportation infrastructure;
3. Strategic planning for future commercial and industrial areas;
4. Voluntary annexation opportunities where appropriate;
5. Protection of existing agricultural land and agricultural operations;
6. Improvement and expansion of water, wastewater, electric, telecommunications, drainage, and other infrastructure;
7. Housing development and rehabilitation;

8. Parks, recreation, tourism, and community amenities;
9. Downtown and community revitalization;
10. Workforce development and educational partnerships;
11. Increased employment and investment opportunities;
12. Expansion and diversification of the City's tax base;
13. Increased competitiveness for federal, state, and private funding; and
14. Preservation and improvement of the overall quality of life within the Mulberry community.

Section 3. U.S. Highway 69 Economic Development Corridor.

The City recognizes the U.S. Highway 69 corridor as a strategic area for future economic development and authorizes the continued study and planning of opportunities for commercial, industrial, agricultural, transportation, energy, and related development along the corridor.

The City may undertake or participate in studies concerning land use, infrastructure, transportation access, utilities, economic feasibility, workforce availability, environmental considerations, development incentives, and potential funding sources associated with future development.

Section 4. Future Industrial and Commerce Development.

The City supports the evaluation of opportunities to establish a strategically located industrial and commerce area capable of attracting new businesses, industries, investment, employment, and supporting infrastructure.

Any specific development proposal, property acquisition, annexation, zoning change, incentive agreement, infrastructure commitment, or development agreement shall be subject to separate consideration and approval as required by law.

Section 5. Landowner Participation and Property Rights.

The City recognizes the importance of maintaining open communication with property owners within areas being considered for future development.

Nothing contained within this Resolution shall constitute an annexation of property, a rezoning of property, a taking of private property, or a requirement that any property owner participate in future development.

Future annexation proposals shall be considered separately and shall comply with all applicable provisions of Kansas law. Kansas law provides different procedures depending

upon the circumstances of the proposed annexation, including procedures involving adjoining land, owner consent, county findings, public hearings, and planning review.

Section 6. Planning and Development Coordination.

The City is authorized to work with appropriate planning, engineering, economic development, grant development, legal, financial, transportation, utility, and other professional resources as necessary to develop and implement Mulberry Vision 2040.

Section 7. Funding and Grant Development.

The City is authorized to identify and pursue appropriate federal, state, regional, foundation, private-sector, and other funding opportunities that may support the goals and projects identified through Mulberry Vision 2040.

This may include, but shall not be limited to, funding for infrastructure, transportation, economic development, industrial development, parks and recreation, housing, community facilities, planning, environmental improvements, and public safety.

Section 8. Strategic Partnerships.

The City is encouraged to establish and maintain partnerships with Crawford County, regional economic development organizations, state and federal agencies, utility providers, educational institutions, businesses, property owners, neighboring communities, and other public and private organizations whose participation may advance the goals of Mulberry Vision 2040.

Section 9. Vision 2040 Steering Committee.

The City may establish or recognize a Mulberry Vision 2040 Steering Committee and appropriate subcommittees to assist with research, planning, landowner engagement, economic development, infrastructure planning, grant development, community engagement, and project implementation.

Any committee established pursuant to this Resolution shall operate in accordance with applicable Kansas law and policies of the City.

Section 10. Comprehensive and Phased Approach.

The City recognizes that the implementation of Mulberry Vision 2040 will occur over multiple phases and that individual projects shall be evaluated according to community priorities, feasibility, available resources, infrastructure capacity, economic benefit, and available funding.

Section 11. No Immediate Financial Obligation.

This Resolution establishes a policy and planning framework and shall not, by itself, authorize the expenditure of City funds, issuance of debt, acquisition of property, execution

of development agreements, or commitment of City resources beyond those separately authorized by the governing body.

Section 12. Annual Review.

The City shall periodically review the progress of Mulberry Vision 2040 and may amend, expand, reprioritize, or otherwise update the initiative as community needs, economic conditions, development opportunities, funding programs, and other circumstances change.

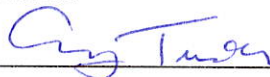
Section 13. Effective Date.

This Resolution shall take effect upon its adoption by the governing body of the City of Mulberry, Kansas.

ADOPTED this 8th day of September, 2026, by the Governing Body of Mulberry, Kansas.

By: 
Mayor Randy Jones

ATTEST


City Clerk Amy Tucker

SEAL