



# Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas

Mark Holland, Mayor/CEO

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The Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas successfully used prevailing wage and supplier diversity policies on public works and economic development projects for years. In 2013, the Kansas Legislature, passed legislation prohibiting the Unified Government prevailing wage requirement. This was and remains an unnecessary and unwelcome intrusion in local affairs and violates the spirit of Home Rule for cities which has been a guarantee in the Kansas Constitution for more than 60 years.

In 2017, House Bill 2185 would restore the Unified Government's ability to require use of prevailing wage in our public works projects and economic development projects. The prevailing wage requirements fit the nature of our community and is supported by our citizens. It has encouraged economic success, not hurt it.

The Unified Government has been recognized as one of the most business friendly local governments in the Kansas City region by Ingram's Business magazine. And Wyandotte County is an economic engine for the State of Kansas, having created and built the successful Village West and Legends shopping destination using prevailing wage.

We strongly believe the decisions to require prevailing wage is best made at the local level, but locally elected officials representing the citizens who elected them.

We strongly support HB 2185.

**Mayor Mark Holland**

**Commissioner Melissa Bynum**

**Commissioner Hal Walker**

**Commissioner Gayle Townsend**

**Commissioner Brian McKiernan**

**Commissioner Ann Brandau Murguia**

**Commissioner Harold Johnson**

**Commissioner Mike Kane**

**Commissioner Angela Markley**

**Commissioner Jim Walters**

**Commissioner Jane Winkler Philbrook**