

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July

17, 2015

For more information, contact:

KCPD

Media Unit

816-234-5170

Construction begins on new North Patrol Division

Police and City officials kicked off the construction of a new police station Friday morning with a groundbreaking ceremony at the site of the future building at 11000 N.W. Prairie View Rd.

The new station will replace the current North Patrol Division located at 1001 N.W. Barry Road. Construction is expected to be completed in Spring 2017.

“This new North Patrol Division will be the final project funded by the Public Safety Sales Tax, which the voters of Kansas City approved in 2002 and overwhelmingly renewed in 2010,” Chief Darryl Forté said at Friday’s ceremony.

He thanked the residents of Kansas City for supporting their police department.

Kansas City Councilman Ed Ford said the facility will be built with a long-range view of an eventual increase in law enforcement staffing.

“This new station will provide police services and security for our growing Northland community, which is approximately 40 percent developed at this point, with a strong potential for population growth and commercial development,” Ford said.

North Patrol serves an 85-square-mile area and is geographically the largest patrol division in Kansas City. In fact, if North Patrol Division were its own city, it would be the second-largest in Missouri, based on land area.

Chief Forté, members of the Board of Police Commissioners and City Council members – including in-coming Second District Council members Teresa Loar and Dan Fowler – shoveled the first ceremonial scoops of dirt at Friday morning’s groundbreaking ceremony. Community members joined police and city officials in celebrating the occasion. Attendees even were treated to free lip balm donated by Burt’s Bees to wish “Bon Voyage to the ‘Bumblebee,’” the

name by which many Kansas City residents know the current yellow-and-black North Patrol Division station.

When the existing station opened in 1976, about 15 employees worked there. Now more than 90 people do. In addition to its size, the building has numerous structural deficiencies, including the needed replacement of the roof and flooring, sewer problems, inadequate parking for employees and the public, and an unusable detention area.

Located near Kansas City International Airport, the new North Patrol will be situated on land already owned by the City's Aviation Department. At about 25,000 square feet, the new building will be about twice the size of the old one and feature community meeting space, a functioning detention area, a work-out room for employees, upgraded building security and more.

Treanor Architects, P.A., is the design team lead on the project. The bidding process for the general contractor is almost complete, and the construction company will be announced shortly. The project is funded by the quarter-cent public safety sales tax, which to date has funded four other new police stations, the Police Academy, a new Crime Laboratory and a complete renovation of Police Headquarters, as well as upgraded vehicles and technology.

###