

# Sustainable Success Stories

## *K-State Olathe Innovation Campus / Kansas Bioscience Park*

### Project Description:

The K-State Olathe Innovation Campus/Kansas Bioscience Park is a 92-acre, master-planned research /office park in Olathe, Kan. The objective of the park is to create a sustainable campus design that spurs collaboration between several partners in the private and public sector. The project features 1,200 linear feet of stream restoration, a 22,000-square-foot constructed wetland, 11,000 square feet of native and wetland plantings, 2,500 native grasses and wildflowers and over 150 native shrubs and trees. The planned buildings are arranged to provide views of existing and enhanced natural environments, and to preserve significant areas of trees. Irrigated areas are minimized, and the entry monument lighting is solar powered.

Creation of the park began as a collaborative effort between Kansas State University, Kansas Bioscience Authority, and the city of Olathe recognizing the importance of developing bioscience and animal health initiatives within Kansas and along the animal health corridor. All parties have contributed, beginning with the city of Olathe providing a land grant and establishing a benefit district to provide infrastructure funding which could be assessed to the project through property taxes. The Kansas Bioscience Authority shares the cost of infrastructure and its first building through funding established by the state of Kansas to attract bioscience development in an effort to drive economic growth within the state. Additionally, the citizens of Johnson County recently passed a 1/8-cent sales tax through the Johnson County Educational Research Triangle initiative. The K-State Olathe Innovation Campus is an important leg of this triangle, and the tax will help the university fund the construction of its first educational facility within the site.



*The hike/bike trail provides opportunities for people to enjoy the natural environments.*

### What makes this a Success Story?

The Success Stories selection committee was particularly impressed by the public-private partnerships reflected by this project and the innovative financing techniques chosen to fund the development.

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