

Emporia Eco Devo A Brief Timeline

Founding Dates (Informational Only)

1857 - City of Emporia, KS

1897 - Emporia Chamber of Commerce

1952 - Emporia Industrial Payroll Industrial Plan (EIPIP) Created by W.K. Calhoun

1952 to 1957 - Committee of 50 builds trust fund (\$120K from 253 people)

1952 - Emporia Enterprises (created as a negotiating vehicle for Committee of 50)

1991 - Emporia Main Street (established by the City of Emporia)

March 17, 1993 - Regional Development Association of East Central Kansas (formed by City of Emporia)

Pre-RDA

- 1942 - Fanestil Opens
- 1953 - Hopkins Manufacturing Corp. Founded (Hopkins Tool Co.)
- 1954 - Sauder Tank Company (now Sauder Custom Fabrications) Recruited to Emporia
- 1955 - Emporia Wholesale Coffee Company purchased by W.J. "Wally" Evans from the Mose Neill estate
- 1957 - Diddle Glaser Opens
- 1964 - Interstate Bakeries / Dolly Madison Opens
- 1967 - Armour Hammer (soon to be IBP) Opens
- 1970 - DeBauge Brothers Inc.
- 1971 - Detroit Diesel Opens / expands in 1972
- 1973 - Modine Opens
- 1975 - Bunge Plant Opens
- 1978 - Committee of 50 dissolves / assets transferred to Emporia Enterprises
- 1978 - Safeway Pet Food Opens
- 1979 - Cargill Opens
- 1979 - Glendo Corp. Opens
- 1983 - Emporia Wholesale Coffee Company Expansion
- 1985 - Vektek Opens
- 1992 - Detroit Diesel Expansion

1990's

Baseline Population: 25,458

Baseline Median Income (Emporia): \$22,621 (1994)

Baseline Median Income (KS):\$27,856 (1994) (Emporia was 9% less than KS median)

Baseline Median Income (US): \$32,264 (1994) (KS was 14% below national median; Emporia was 30% below national median)

Emporia Eco Devo A Brief Timeline

- February 21, 1994 - First RDA Director is selected
- November, 1994 - voters approve half-cent city sales tax (78¢ to 22¢)
- 1996 - Bunge Expansion
- 1997 - Simmons (Menu) Pet Food Opens
- 1997 - Dan & Jan Smoots buy Fanestil Meats

2000's

Population: 26,927

Median Income (Emporia): \$30,809

Median Income (KS):\$40,624 (Emporia was 24% less than KS median)

Median Income (US): \$41,990 (KS was 3.3% below national median; Emporia was 27% below national median)

- 2000 - IBP Expansion
- 2000 - Norfolk Iron and Metal (NIM) Announces Expansion to Emporia
- 2000 - Didde Closes
- 2001 - Redline Trucking Opens
- 2001 - Tyson Takes Over IBP
- 2003 - Birch Telecommunications Opens
- 2005 - Modine Sold to Transpro / Closes Emporia Plant
- 2006 - Camso Opens (now Michelin - note: Caterpillar opened first and then was purchased by Camso / early 2000s)
- 2006 - Norfolk Iron & Metal Expansion
- 2006 - Westar Announces Peaking Power Plant in Lyon County
- 2007 - Hill's Pet Nutrition Opens
- 2007 - Holman Distribution Opens.
- 2007 - Didde Closes
- 2008 - Better Life Technologies Opens
- 2008 - Tyson Ends Slaughter in Emporia

2010's

Population: 24,910

Median Income (Emporia): \$34,443

Median Income (KS):\$47,900(Emporia was 28% less than KS median)

Median Income (US): \$50,046 (KS was 4.3% below national median; Emporia was 32% below national median)

- November, 2012 - Hostess Closes
- June, 2013 - Hostess Reopens
- 2014 - Detroit Diesel Warehouse Project
- 2014 - Enterprises Board Changes Composition from 1 City/1 County/9 Chamber Reps to 2 City/2 County/7 Chamber Reps

Emporia Eco Devo A Brief Timeline

- 2015 - Hostess Expansion (Autobake Line)
- 2017 - Simmons Plant Expansion
- 2018 - Cargill Opens New Warehouse
- 2018 - New Water Tower at Park IV
- 2019 - Simmons Expands / Adds New Building
- 2019 - Detroit Diesel Closes

2020's

Population: 24,092

Median Income (Emporia): \$49,661

Median Income (KS):\$69,747(Emporia was 29% less than KS median)

Median Income (US): \$77,397 (KS was 3.2% more than national median; Emporia was 26.5% below national median)

- 2021 - Dynamic Distribution Warehouse Opens
- Late 2023 - City creates Economic Development Structure Advisory Task Force
- April 16, 2024 - City formally receives Economic Development Structure Advisory Task Force final report
- August, 2024 - Michelin announces layoffs (76 jobs)
- September 11, 2024 - City formally receives VisionFirst final report
- October, 2024 - City creates Economic Advancement Advisory Task Force
- December 2, 2024 - Tyson announces closure of local plant effective 2/14/24 (809 jobs)