



May 10, 2022

Senator Ty Masterson  
P.O. Box 424  
Andover, KS 67002

Dear Senator Masterson,

The Bel Aire City Council recognizes the importance of state legislation that directly impacts local municipalities. We also value strong relationships with our representatives within the Kansas Legislature. Senate District 16 includes part of Bel Aire and we appreciate your service to our residents.

As the 2022 legislative session is coming to an end, I am writing on behalf of the Bel Aire Governing Body to invite you to a City Council meeting in June, July or August. We meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 pm. This is something new we are starting to intentionally foster a stronger relationship with you and our governing body as well as citizens. Please contact our City Manager, Ty Lasher, at [tlasher@belaireks.gov](mailto:tlasher@belaireks.gov) to set up a date that works with your schedule so that he can place you on the agenda.

We would really like to hear about the following:

1. **Legislative priorities update.** We would like you to cover the priorities included in our January 2022 letter to you: Redistricting, property taxes - tax lid repeal, mental health, countywide sales tax, home rule - unfunded mandates as well as other bills that were passed or defeated which directly impact cities.
2. **Bel Aire's BASE Grant funding denial.** We would like you to shed light on Bel Aire's BASE Grant denial as well as why Sedgwick County in total received only \$5 million in funding for one Wichita project while Johnson County received 6 projects totaling \$34 million. We also noted that northeast Kansas received \$60 million while southcentral Kansas received only \$30 million.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me. My email is [jbenage@belaireks.gov](mailto:jbenage@belaireks.gov) and phone number is 316-684--0226. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jim Benage", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jim Benage  
Mayor