

COMMUNITY RENEWAL AND VITALITY September 2019

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS, Missouri

For over a century Excelsior Springs was known as a destination location, named for and known for its reputed healing water. The buildings and landmarks from the centuries-old era remain steadfast and the City's leaders have recognized the importance of preserving history then – and now in the making.

A cruise in the Downtown Historic District provides a snapshot of an era where sidewalks bustled with tourists and storefronts hosted boutiques, eateries, small shops and professional offices, a standard even today. The Elms Hotel and Spa, made famous in the Truman-era, justifiably boasts the largest spa



footprint in the Midwest- inviting guests to relax and unwind in its historical grandeur.



The present-day Excelsior Springs is teaming with renewed vitality. Excelsior Springs is experiencing a renaissance as historical homes and buildings are being redeveloped and repurposed. Population is increasing. Specialty shops and small businesses are sustaining and developing. Industry is expanding. These three indicators speak directly to the quality-of-life offered as well as the local investment by both private and public sectors to preserve and grow community.

Highlights of Community Vitality and Renewal:

- Known as a regional daytime and overnight destination, Excelsior Springs draws visitors from across the region throughout the four seasons. In 2018, there were approximately 27,209 overnight stays.
- The Excelsior Springs Hospital serves a population double the size of the city proper. This year the Hospital invested in a da Vinci Xi Surgical System and Robotics-Assisted Surgery Program to further enhance existing health care services and offer more specialties in quality care.
- Boasting "the newest fitness, recreation, and swimming facility in the Greater Kansas City area", the Excelsior Springs Community Center offers 50,000 square foot of leisure and active-lifestyle space for community residents and center members.
- There are approximately 1,000 business establishments located in Excelsior Springs. Business and industry employees roughly 5,100 people in the Excelsior Springs economy.
- The Excelsior Springs School District has also been selected as one of the Top 25 Most Innovation Schools in the nation by the American Association of School Administrators. In addition, the Excelsior Springs High School stands out as ranked in the top 15 percentile of "Best High Schools Rankings" by US News and World Report.
- Excelsior Springs is recognized as one of the safest communities in Missouri according to the "Safest Cities to Live in Missouri 2019" report (Backgroundchecks.org).
- The City of Excelsior Springs continues to invest and re-invest in the infrastructure of the community. In August 2019, the City Council budgeted nearly \$2.2Million in improvements including sewer upgrades, sidewalk replacement, removal of blighted property, and support for business investment.

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