

# First Impressions

## Glasco, Kansas

K-State Research and Extension in Partnership  
with

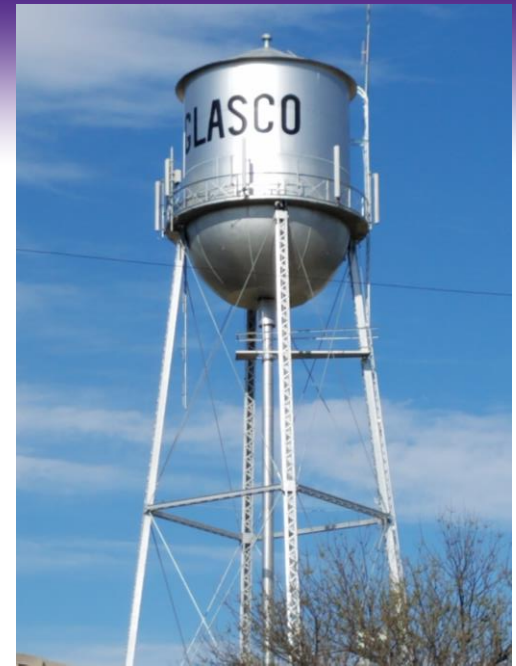
The Dane G. Hansen Foundation



## Demographics:

- Population: 498
- Graduation rates: High School- 91.6% (KS 90.5%) College – 20.3% (KS 32.3%)
- Median age: 43.6 years (KS 36.3%)
- Poverty rate: 6.6% (KS 12.8%)
- Median household income: \$43,654 (KS \$55,477)

(Source: [factfinder.census.gov](https://factfinder.census.gov))



## Web Presence:

- <https://www.glascokansas.org/>
- Excellent website
- Very thorough with good links
- Recommend adding a calendar
- Facebook presence is through groups



**The Glasco Community Foundation values the tradition of supporting the community and its institutions.**

**Welcome to Glasco, Kansas!**

# The “Five-Minute” Impression

- Quiet clean community
- Many empty houses and storefronts
- Most yards tidy
- Paved streets



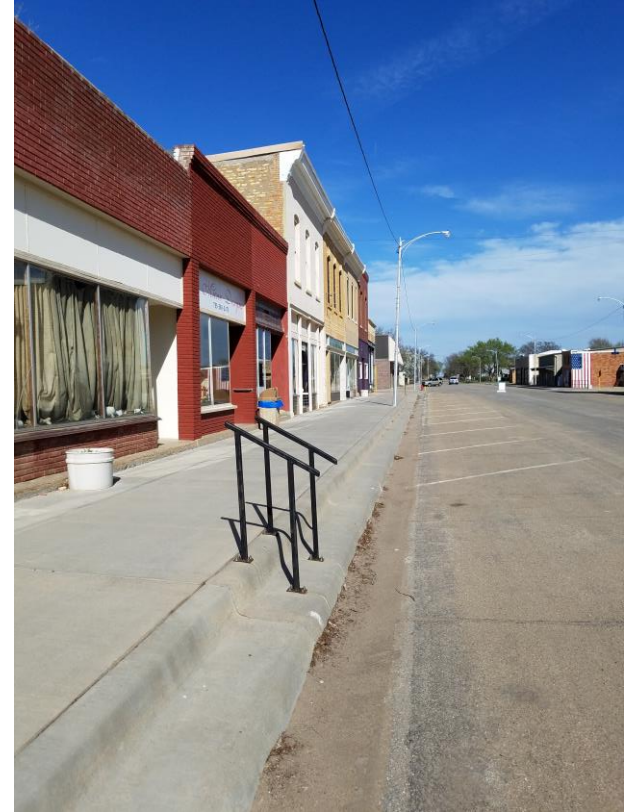


- Entrance sign impressive
- Directional sign on HWY 24
- Glasco history sign



# Downtown Business Area

- Great curbs and sidewalks
- Large limestone buildings
- Many vacant buildings
- Attractive windows





- Citizens State Bank, Corner Store, Salon



- Soda Fountain – Convenience foods, few groceries, cards and small gifts
- Pub/restaurant was closed





- Greeted warmly and promptly
- All questions answered
- Impromptu tour and history
- Newspaper stand



- Picket fence to hide metal waste
- Fence could use some touch-up





- Attractive pocket park



- Benches and trash receptacles
- Street message board
- Handrail
- No public restrooms
- Too early for planters





# Other Retail Shopping Areas

- Gas Service on HWY 24
- No other retail evident



# Industrial Parks/Commercial Areas

- Glasco Locker
- Seed dealer



- Some old commercial areas which could use some clean-up
- Or attracting a new business for an existing facility





# Health Care Services

- Glasco Medical Center?
- Nursing Home Facility





- Closest health services in Beloit
- Senior Center



# Housing

- Total housing units – 298
- Occupied – 222 (74.5%)
- Owner occupied – 82.0%%
- Renter occupied – 18.0%
- Vacant units – 76 (25.5%)
- Median home value - \$55,400  
(KS \$139,200)  
(Source – [factfinder.census.gov](https://factfinder.census.gov))



- A mix of housing is available for income levels and family size
- More than 56% were built before 1940





- MGM Apartments
- Did not see for sale or rental signs





- As in all communities, a few homes and yards could use some TLC



# Schools

- Grade school and high school in separate buildings
- Older buildings
- Part of the Southern Cloud school district





- Limited playground equipment
- Preschool on the edge of town





- District had a website
- Link on city site to a school page
- Lots of information
- School rated above average

**GIFTS: Glasco Inspires Free Talent Sharing**

**Arts - Health - Civics - Fun**

**A Free University to enrich your days & stretch your body & mind!**

Spring and Fall Semesters; classes for youth and adults. **785-568-0120**



The mission of Glasco High School is to develop well-rounded, morally responsible and self-motivated young adults. We will accomplish this by providing a diverse and challenging curriculum developed and presented by competent, motivated and cooperative staff in a safe, stimulating, educational environment.

# Childcare

- Daycare listed on Glasco website

Goddard Day Care – 306 E. Potts

# Faith/Religion

- Four active churches – Methodist, Catholic, Christian and Lutheran
- Some with meeting rooms





- Beautiful stained glass windows



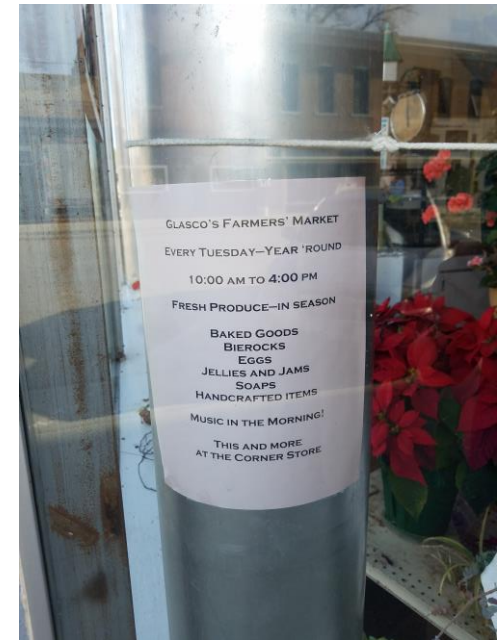
- Cemetery Road sign
- Nice veteran memorial signs





## Civic

- Groups listed on website with contact information
- Glasco Community Foundation
- Farmers Market

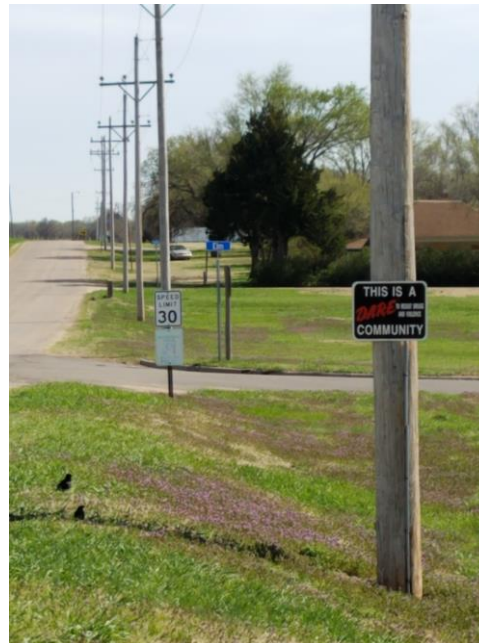




- VFW
- Stone sign honoring veterans
- Community engagement activities



- Kansas PRIDE Program
- HWY 24 Heritage Alliance
- DARE Community





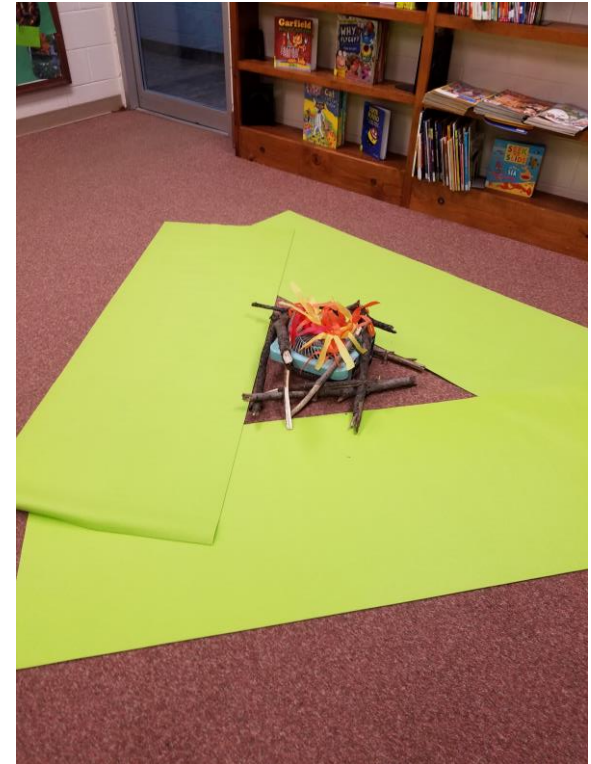
# Public Infrastructure

- Paved side streets
- Water drains well
- Ditches nicely mowed





- City Hall well marked
- Clerk friendly and knowledgeable
- Library in same building
- Good youth programs

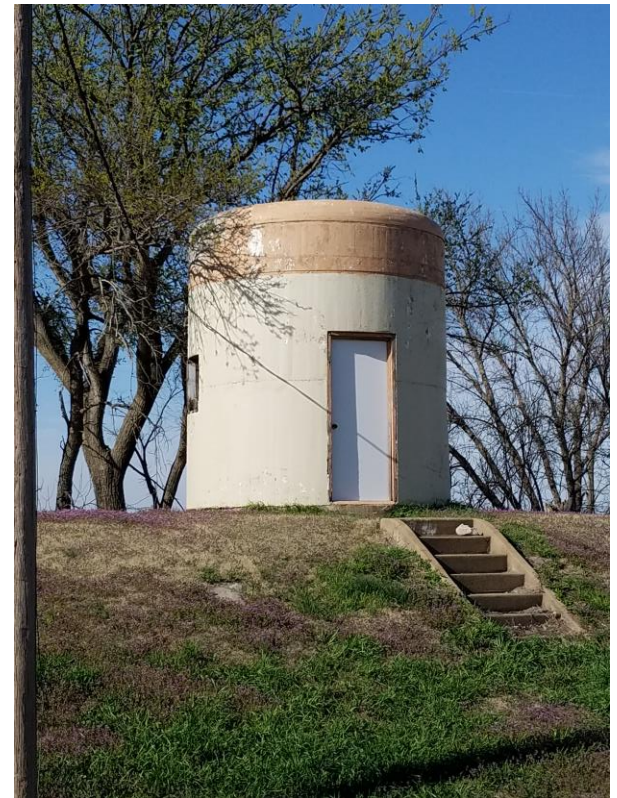


- Nice Fire and EMT Station
- Neighborhood Watch





- Is the old fire station still used?
- Round structure?





- Park well-maintained – entire city block
- Inviting playground equipment
- Gazebo and horse shoe pit
- Restrooms closed
- Tennis and basketball courts





- Nice swimming pool
- Baby pool not attractive during the off season





# Recreation/Tourism

- Downtown sign listing events
- Sign was out of date
- Community events posted in store windows



- Museum downtown
- Theater??





- Ball field rather hidden
- Need clean-up of properties around the ball field



- Golf Course outside of town
- Airport to bring visitors in
- Historic Bridge



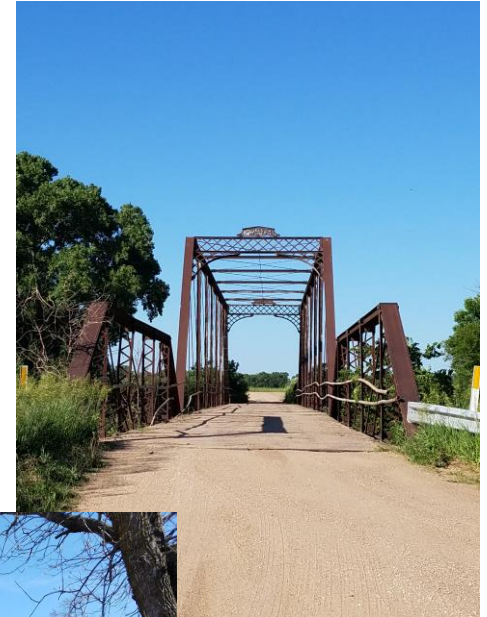


- Stained glass window tour??
- Preserve America??



# Restaurants, Specialty Shops or attractions that would bring you back:

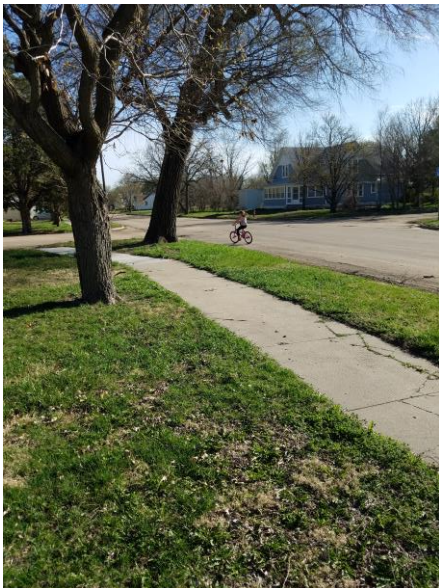
- The heart of a small town is its restaurant
- Maybe the pocket park or the bridge





# Most Positive Observations!!

- Community Development Organization
- Safe town for kids
- Good downtown sidewalks
- School
- Well kept yards



# Biggest Obstacles/Challenges

- Empty downtown
- Keeping the school





# What will you remember most in six months?

- A quiet little town on the way to Beloit!
- A friendly place with people working hard to make it a good place to live
- Hoped the restaurant/bar would be open – hear it had good food



## Recommendations:

- Calendar of events updated regularly on the website
- Capitalize on “Glasco Next 5 Exits”
- Stained glass tour
- Let folks know where you are
- Youth Community Perceptions





- The Dane G. Hansen Foundation wants to help communities in Northwest Kansas become the best they can be and take great PRIDE in who they are and what they can be.



- <http://danehansenfoundation.org/>