

TO: City Commission  
CC: Department Directors  
FROM: David Dillner, City Manager  
SUBJ: Weekly Report  
DATE: September 3, 2021



**Items of Note:**

- At the request of Senator Roger Marshall, the City organized a Meet and Greet event with federal, state, and local officials at 11:00 am on September 11. The event will be held at BrewCo following the 150Fest parade. Please RSVP to Kristina ([ktraina@eldoks.com](mailto:ktraina@eldoks.com)) so we can get a count of who plans to attend.
- The El Dorado Chamber of Commerce named Phil Benedict as the organization's executive director. He met with me this week to discuss his vision for the Chamber. We also discussed how both organizations could work together for the betterment of El Dorado. Phil would like to implement new programs to assist the business community, specifically focusing on making businesses stronger and more resilient. He also thinks we can work together to bring events to the community.
- The El Dorado Chamber of Commerce plans to host a local elected official forum sometime in October to give the community a chance to meet the candidates and learn more about what priorities they wish to pursue.
- Leonard Hernandez, SBAMH President and CEO, and I discussed the health of Susan B. Allen Hospital. He has been with the hospital now for about one year, and seems to be making headway on the hospital's financial difficulties. Leonard has had experience working with rural hospitals that needed a reorganization to address financial challenges. He says he spent a large part of the prior year observing hospital operations, and developed strategies to increase cash flow. The next phase of his approach will be to review existing business operations and determine ways to make them more sustainable.
- KDOT informed the City that the agency is agreeable to allowing the City apply to use previously awarded transportation funds for the bike/pedestrian path to a different route for the path. BNSF has made it difficult to proceed with the planned alignment adjacent to the compost site. Staff will discuss this request at an upcoming work session.
- Stephan Mogolis, general manager of Holiday Inn Express, met with Police Chief Curt Zieman and I to discuss the Police Department's enforcement of truck parking along El Dorado Avenue in the business park. City ordinance prohibits trucks with a gross weight in excess of 24,000 pounds to park on City streets unless necessary for local deliveries or otherwise signed to allow truck parking. El Dorado Avenue is not signed to allow trucks to park on it. Mogolis wants the City to allow trucks to park on El Dorado Avenue because the Holiday Inn and Days Inn parking lots are not large enough to accommodate trucks who may be staying overnight. Staff explained that trucks were not allowed to park on City streets because the streets were not built for large trucks and such use causes damage. I informed him that the City Commission will discuss the request in the near future.
- Walnut River Brewing Company finished making its "Ale Dorado," a special, limited edition wheat beer brewed to celebrate El Dorado's first 150 years of existence. Ale Dorado has a crisp wheat flavor with a hint of orange. A delightful beer that quenches your thirst while brightening your day. The beer will be available during the 150FEST next Saturday. You will also be able to pick some up at select stores following the birthday bash. We are very appreciative of Walnut River Brewing Company for brewing Ale Dorado to honor El Dorado's history.

- The El Dorado Fire Department plans to escort the El Dorado High School football team buses to BG Stadium from El Dorado High School on home game Fridays. The procession will comply with all traffic laws, including traffic signals, and the department will not run lights and sirens. Wes Bell, the head football coach, made the request of the Fire Department as a way to get people excited about football games. The procession will maneuver through downtown on Main Street and Central Avenue beginning around 5:00 pm.
- The City’s auditors recommended the City negotiate an agreement with the Senior Center to address some long-standing issues that need reduced to writing. Staff will be discussing an agreement with the Senior Center board of directors in the coming weeks. The agreement will be brought to the City Commission for approval once finalized between the parties.
- KDHE will bring their mobile testing lab back to Butler County for the month of September. Beginning Wednesday, September 8, and for each subsequent Wednesday in September, they will be offering same-day PCR tests and vaccinations from the El Dorado YMCA parking lot from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.
- The Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP) Third Quarter Regional Convening will focus on the impact regional collaboration has on mental health and substance abuse care in South Central Kansas. The convening will take place from 8:30 am to 11:30 am on Friday, September 17, 2021, at the Hughes Metropolitan Complex, Room 180 at Wichita State University. Free parking is available on the southwest side of the building. A light breakfast will be served beginning at 8:30 am. REAP Chair, McPherson Mayor Tom Brown, in collaboration with the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Coalition, will be discussing topics such as: Community Impact of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Crisis, Public Safety Implications, Policy Initiatives, and Workforce Scarcity. Please let me know if you are interested in attending.

**Personnel Update:**

- The following positions are vacant and currently advertised: Police Officer, Public Works Maintenance Worker (2), Distribution/Collection Maintenance Worker, and Sanitation Lead.
- Scott Watkins began his job as a Sanitation Lead and Joshua Int’Veld began his job as a Public Works Maintenance Worker this week.
- The management team is preparing a proposal for an employee bonus program to provide compensation for the response during COVID. Employees were instrumental in keeping public services going despite the ever-changing situation that caused stress and anxiety and that required continuous adaptation by employees as never before. To that end, the American Rescue Plan funds allow the City to pay premium pay to employees. Staff plans to provide a recommendation to the City Commission by late September so bonuses may be paid to employees by mid- to late-October, provided the City Commission approves the plan.

**Commission Calendar:**

- *Upcoming City Commission Items (subject to change):*
  - **September 7 Regular Meeting** - Professional Services Agreement for GPS Mapping Services; Professional Services Agreement for GIS Antenna; Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing; Standard Traffic Ordinance; Uniform Public Offense Code; Memorandum of Understanding/Real Estate Contract with JB Rentals, LLC
  - **September 15 Work Session** – ARP Employee Bonus Program; Code of Procedure; Truck Routes and Parking; Bike/Pedestrian Path Grant
  - **September 20 Regular Meeting** - 2022 Budget Hearing and Adoption