

TO: City Commission  
FROM: David Dillner, City Manager  
SUBJ: Weekly Report  
DATE: October 29, 2021



**Items of Note:**

- Funeral services for Sheriff Deputy Stephen Evans will be Monday, November 1 at the Hubbard Welcome Center at Butler Community College in El Dorado. Deputy Evans' body will be laid to rest at Walnut Valley Cemetery following the funeral services. The funeral procession route for Deputy Evans' funeral will follow this route: from Butler Community College south on Haverhill Road to the SW Trafficway to Main Street to Central Avenue to US-196 to SW 10<sup>th</sup> (Towanda Avenue) to Boyer Road to Walnut Valley Cemetery. Street closures will begin around 1:30 pm and may last until 4:00 pm. At an estimated 450 vehicles, staff estimates the duration of the procession at 45 minutes to an hour depending on several factors. Traffic throughout El Dorado will likely be delayed given the number of streets that will be closed during the procession.
- The El Paso CGP Company, LLC agreed to terms for a proposed consent annexation agreement. The agreement will allow the City to annex approximately 103 acres located north of Refinery Road, and will allow the City to streamline the development process should an industrial prospect select the former CIC refinery site for development. Staff anticipates the scheduling of the agreement for the January 17 regular meeting.
- Staff participated in a webinar to learn more about the Recreation Economy for Rural Communities program through the EPA. Following the webinar, staff decided not to pursue an application because the program funds technical assistance to help communities plan recreation opportunities. The impending Lake Recreation Master Plan will address a recreation economy planning process involving El Dorado Lake, so it does not make sense to seek funds to duplicate the effort.
- The City's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit is due by December 31. The NPDES permit program, created in 1972 by the Clean Water Act (CWA), helps address water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants to waters of the United States. The permit provides two levels of control: technology-based limits and water quality-based limits (if technology-based limits are not sufficient to provide protection of the water body). To prevent harmful pollutants from being washed or dumped into municipal separate storm sewer systems, certain operators are required to obtain NPDES permits and develop stormwater management programs. The program describes the stormwater control practices that will be implemented consistent with permit requirements to minimize the discharge of pollutants from the sewer system.
- The supply chain challenges continue to affect purchasing. Many recent purchases have increased significantly (in some cases doubling in price) from the time of ordering to the time the materials are available and delivered. In addition, vehicle and equipment purchases continue to experience delays. For example, the Public Works Department does not expect delivery of a refuse truck ordered last year until 2022. The Fire Department reported that a new fire engine would not likely be available until 2023 if ordered in the near future.
- The Public Utilities Department received an update on the Water Treatment and Capacity Study this past week. The consultant needs to make some minor changes to the water system model based on feedback from staff and then prepare the report. Staff anticipates the final report in the first quarter of next year.
- Recent inflow measurements for the sanitary sewer capacity study provided sufficient data to analyze the system and make recommendations for improvement to the system to improve capacity. The study

required a few documented rain events to achieve the data thresholds for the analysis. Staff awaits an update meeting with Garver once the analysis may be completed.

- The Public Utilities Department continues to research options for obtaining wood chips to assist with the removal of nitrogen and phosphorus from activated sludge. An arrangement with a third party to produce wood chips from compost site material fell through when the company's price for the services increased significantly. The department identified an opportunity to obtain wood chips at no cost (except for transportation) from a venue in Derby. The cost to haul wood chips would cost between \$14,000 and \$16,000.
- The consultant tasked with mapping the City's underground infrastructure (water, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer) will begin work on November 3. Following completion of this project, the City will have a digital, GPS-coordinated map of underground infrastructure.
- The Public Utilities Department vapor-rooted about 2,500 feet of the sanitary sewer system this past month. Vapor-rooting helps remove tree roots from sewer mains to prevent potential breaks or blockages. Year-to-date, the department has vapor-rooted nearly 11,500 feet of the system.
- The Parks and Recreation Department completed the installation of the new playground at Riverview Park. The department is now looking at options, such as a shelter in the area south of the playground and east of the Walnut River, to enhance the recreation opportunities at this park.
- The department plans to remove the dilapidated restroom in R.I.O Park in the near future. The Graham Park playground bids are scheduled for the City Commission's November 15 regular meeting. Work at the Forest Park band shell has been delayed as the department seeks quotes for the work from contractors. The installation of a batting cage in East Park should be next week.
- Staff will meet with representatives from Standard and Poor's (S&P) next week to answer questions in preparation of the City's bond rating for the upcoming bond issuance.
- I will begin meeting with Police Lieutenants next week to receive input on the Police Chief position. I will also solicit input on the Police Department and the position from Chamber members at a discussion at next week's Chamber Chat.

### **Things to Think About:**

- Motorized scooters are one step closer to making their way from downtown Kansas City to the Overland Park area. At their Wednesday meeting, the city council's Public Works Committee recommended the approval of a new resolution that would allow city staff to start negotiations for an e-scooter pilot program with Lime and Bird, two of the biggest players in the emerging e-scooter industry. Both companies have shown interest in bringing their pay-per-ride vehicles to the Johnson County suburbs. Last month, Bird inked a deal with Prairie Village to launch a pilot in that city. *Source: Prairie Village Post*
- ICMA surveyed local government chief administrative officers about their priorities for using the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)'s Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, based on available guidance as of September 2021. More than 530 town, city, and county managers responded. Two-thirds of the responses came from communities of 25,000 or fewer residents, which fall under the FRF definition of "Non-entitlement Units (NEUs)." Infrastructure was the top investment priority for communities of all sizes, followed by replacing lost public sector revenue. Within the infrastructure category, most anticipated projects and priorities concern water and sewer infrastructure—prioritized by 74% of respondents. Broadband infrastructure is being considered by 45% of direct recipients and 25% of smaller communities/NEUs. *Source: ICMA*

## In which of the following categories of eligible expenses is your local government actively considering spending its allocation of funding?



## Which of the following types of projects/priorities is your local government looking to support with ARPA Fiscal Recovery Funds?

	All Local Governments	Direct Recipients	Non-entitlement Units
Water and sewer infrastructure	74%	67%	78%
Public safety equipment	33%	38%	30%
Broadband infrastructure	31%	45%	25%
Small businesses	28%	43%	21%
Housing and neighborhoods	26%	42%	17%
Other capital improvements	25%	31%	24%
COVID-19 mitigation and containment	25%	41%	17%
Nonprofit support	24%	41%	16%
Tourism, travel, and hospitality industries	21%	27%	18%
Improving remote work capacity	21%	24%	19%
Cybersecurity capacity	16%	16%	16%
Families and household assistance	15%	27%	9%
Behavioral or mental health	14%	28%	7%
Other specific priority	11%	17%	9%
Rehiring government staff	9%	12%	7%
Educational disparities	4%	4%	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>537</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>364</b>

### Personnel Update:

- *Vacant and currently advertised positions:* Police Officer (2), Public Works Maintenance Worker (3), Distribution/Collection Maintenance Worker, Sanitation Lead, Firefighter, Water Treatment Superintendent, Animal Control Attendant, Recreation Leader
- *Pending advertisement:* Police Chief

### Commission Calendar:

- *Upcoming City Commission Items (subject to change):*
  - **November 10 Work Session** – Legislative Agenda; FEMA BRIC Grant Request
  - **November 15 Regular Meeting** - Condemnation Resolution (320 W. Towanda, 513 W 5<sup>th</sup>, 624 N. Atchison, 626 W. Carr); Park Curfew Ordinance; Pets at Recreation Activities Ordinance; Sale and Consideration of G.O. Bonds, Series 2021; SUP at 323 S. Main Street (Public Assembly); Hazardous Materials Agreement with Butler County; Myers East Addition Public Infrastructure Authorization; Graham Park Playground bid; Executive Session for City Manager Evaluation
  - **December 6 Regular Meeting** – Commission Transition; Selection of Vice-Mayor; City Service Awards; Cereal Malt Beverage Licenses; FEMA BRIC Grant Request
  - **December 15 Work Session** – Commission Orientation; Legislative Agenda
- *Pending Items (Items to be scheduled for upcoming meeting once completed):* Augusta Wholesale Water Agreement; Professional Services Agreement with PEC (Lake Recreation Master Plan); Street Cut Ordinance; Food Vendor Ordinance; Transient Vendor Ordinance; Business Park Re-platting and Rezoning
- *Upcoming Planning Commission Items (subject to change):*
  - **November 25** – No meeting (Thanksgiving)