

EL DORADO

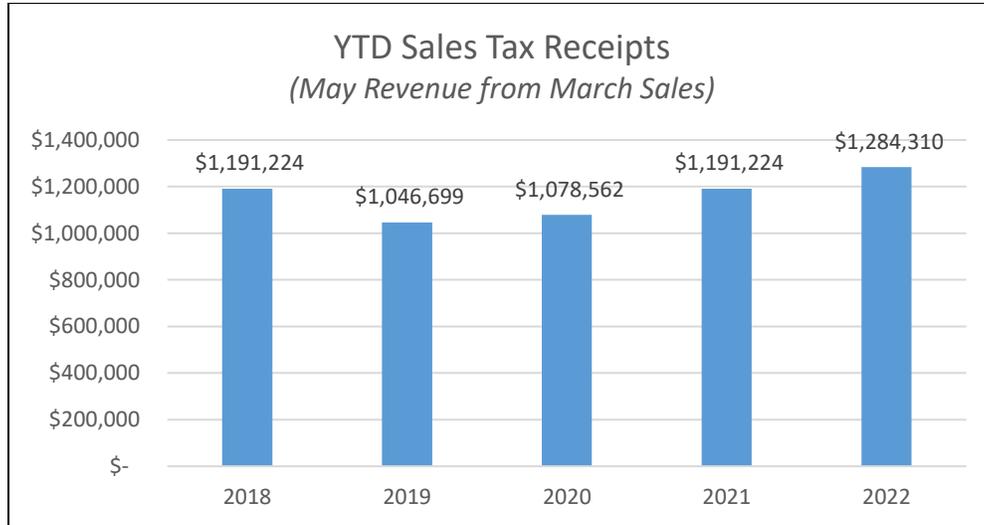
K A N S A S

TO: City Commission
FROM: David Dillner, City Manager
SUBJ: Weekly Report
DATE: May 20, 2022

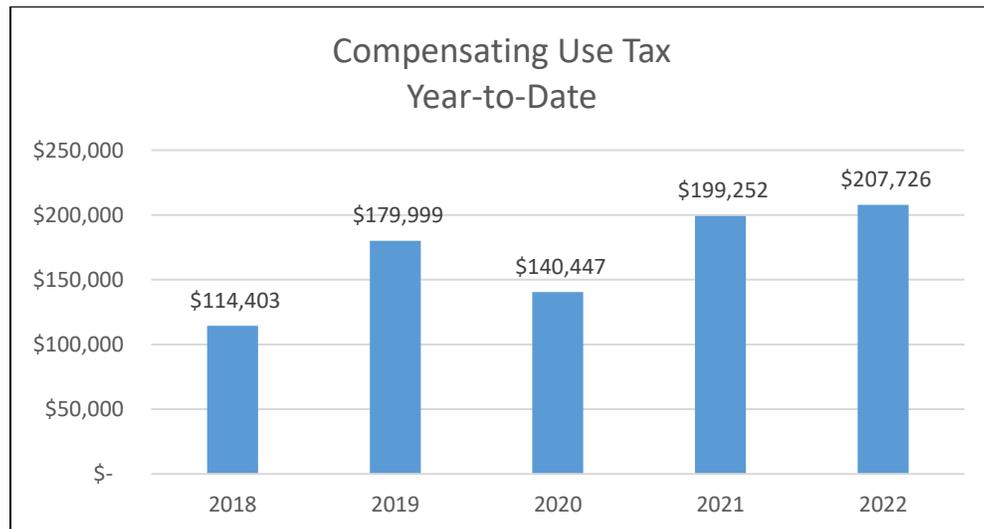
Items of Note:

- With the rise in gas prices, there has been a lot of interest from the public to obtain permits for all-terrain vehicles, also known as ATVs. The City's ordinance allows golf carts, work-site utility vehicles (such as a gator), and micro utility trucks (i.e., Cushman's). The Police Department seeks clarification on the ordinance, and especially on the definitions for these vehicles, because of the increased interest from the public. The department interprets the ordinance as not prohibiting the use of ATVs on public right-of-way. Staff plans to prepare some alternate language that clarifies this position for the City Commission's review so there is clear direction for enforcement purposes.
- A few weeks ago, staff presented a concept for establishing a tax increment financing (TIF) district in downtown as a way to receive reimbursement for proposed public infrastructure investments within the downtown district. The full value of a TIF district cannot be realized with the use of the City's Neighborhood Revitalization (NRP) Program. The NRP provides a rebate on increased valuation from investment, while a TIF captures additional taxes generated from increased valuation for reimbursement of infrastructure expenses. The City cannot reimburse itself for infrastructure expenses with funds that have been rebated back to the property owner. The City Commission will need to weight the benefits of both of these programs to determine which one will provide more "return on investment." For context, it will take approximately \$26.7 million in increased valuation over twenty years to generate \$1.0 million in incremental taxes for reimbursement of public infrastructure. This means that on average, the downtown district's valuation would need to increase about \$1.3 million per year to generate \$1.0 million in property taxes over the life of the TIF district.
- The developer of the Myers East Addition plans to build sixteen speculative homes within the development. Originally, the developer planned to market the development as a "bring-your-developer" opportunity. The infrastructure is complete and so residential construction will presumably begin soon.
- The Engineering Department will receive bids for public infrastructure to serve the Deer Run Addition near 3rd Avenue and Boyer Road on May 25. The Utilities Department will receive bids for the Industrial Water Tower Project on that same day as well.
- Scott anticipates receiving an agreement from BNSF concerning its railroad crossing on 9th Avenue. The agreement will outline the company's obligations concerning the 9th Avenue Improvement Project, which is currently in the design phase.

- The City received \$275,011 in sales tax collected on retail sales occurring in March. Year-to-date, the City received \$1,284,310, which is 7.8% higher than last year's record setting pace. The City projects annual sales tax collections between \$2.9 million and \$3.0 million.



- Compensating use tax receipts returned to normal levels in May. The City collected \$39,444 in compensating use tax purchases made in March. Year-to-date, the City received \$207,726, which is 4.2% higher than last year's receipts. Compensating use tax makes up about 16% of total sales tax receipts received by the City.



- The Engineering Department plans to pilot alternative hours beginning June 1. The revised hours will be 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Thursday and 8:00 am to 3:00 pm on Friday. The department will operate with half-hour lunch breaks to accommodate

an earlier closing time on Fridays. The pilot will last a month and will be evaluated before continuing past June 30.

- The Public Works Department will not have a Spring Clean-up this year, primarily due to staffing challenges. Instead, the department is looking into changing its approach to annual clean-up activities by providing each address with a limited number of “passes” to the landfill. Citizens can take whatever the landfill accepts and the City will have the ability to allocate staff to other assignments. Augusta offers this service instead of conducting an annual curbside clean up. Stay tuned as we develop this idea further.

Personnel Update:

- *Vacant and advertised positions:* Public Works Maintenance Worker (5), Police Officer (2), Fire Captain, Building Maintenance Worker, Wastewater Superintendent, Wastewater Operators (2).
- Jacob McCoy graduated from the Kansas Law Enforcement Center on Friday. He will now work on completing his field training program.
- The Police Department extended two offers of employment for police officer.
- James Richard resigned his position at the Wastewater Reclamation Facility to pursue an opportunity in Louisiana. His last day is May 26. The department extended an offer of employment to a candidate for a wastewater operator.

Commission Calendar:

- *Upcoming City Commission Items (subject to change):*
 - **June 1 Work Session Meeting** –Tall Weeds and Grass Amendment (Native Grass Plantings); Golf Cart Ordinance; Park Capital Plan; BASE Grant Finance Plan
 - **June 6 Regular Meeting** –BASE Grant Local Match Authorization Resolution; Liquor Tax Distributions; Industrial Water Tower Project bids; Deer Run Public Infrastructure bids
- *Pending Items (Items to be scheduled for upcoming meeting once completed):* Street Cut Ordinance; Food Vendor Ordinance; Transient Vendor Ordinance; Business Park Re-platting and Rezoning