

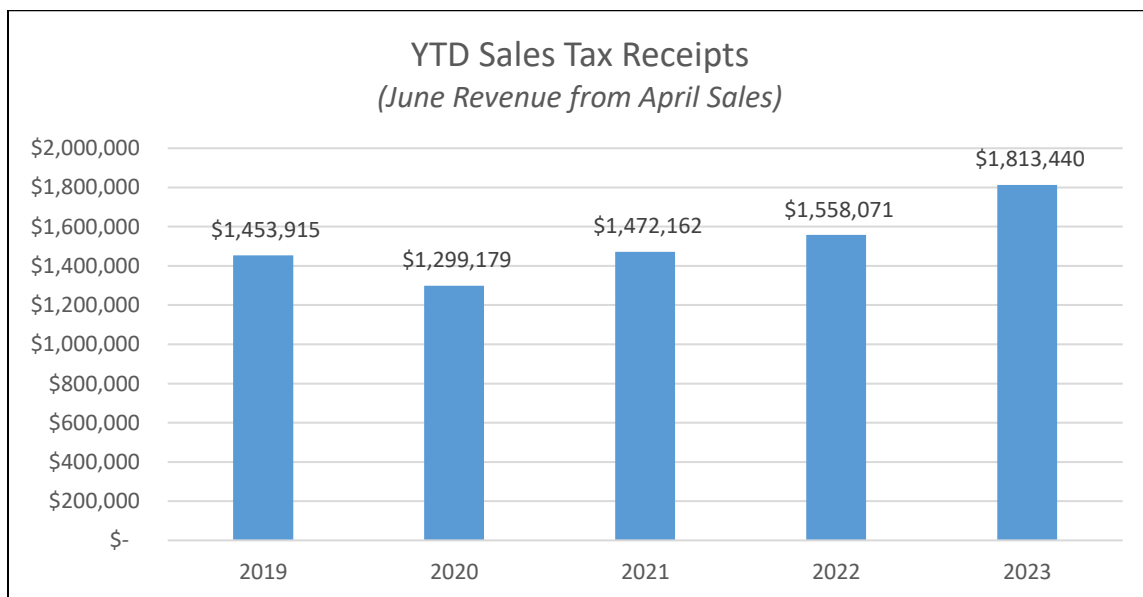
EL DORADO

K A N S A S

TO: City Commission
FROM: David Dillner, City Manager
SUBJ: Weekly Report
DATE: July 7, 2023

Items of Note:

- The City received its annual invoice from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers concerning its share of the operations and maintenance expenses at El Dorado Lake. Per the City’s water supply agreement with the Corps, the City is responsible for paying a percentage of the overall O&M expenses based on its activated interest in the water storage supply of the lake. This year, the Corps invoiced the City for \$217,819, which is nearly 12% higher than last year’s \$195,031 invoice. The five-year average for O&M expenses is \$225,897.
- Staff met with Conco and GravityWorks to discuss the status of the concession and restroom facilities for East and Central Parks. The group coordinated several site issues and discussed some specific building requirements for communication and appliance electrical needs. Construction staging was also discussed as demolition work will begin fairly soon following the closure of the baseball and softball seasons. Conco anticipates starting this phase of work the week of August 7.
- Real Life Church confirmed that its last day at the Civic Center will be July 23. The church will close on its acquisition of the Haverhill School on August 1.
- The City received \$296,220 in sales tax collected on retail sales occurring in April. Year-to-date, the City received \$1.81 million compared to \$1.56 million from a year ago (+5.8%). Projections indicate annual sales tax receipts of \$3.29 million.



- The Butler County Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing at its meeting on July 11 (7:00 pm) on proposed amendments to its zoning regulations concerning large-scale solar facilities. Per the regulations, large-scale solar facilities would not be permitted within three miles of any city limits located within Butler County, except for non-contiguous (island) areas of a city that are less than eighty acres in size. In addition, at least 80% of Butler County has been defined as a “Project Area Exclusion Zone” designed to preserve the Flint Hills area.
- The first public meeting for the K-254 Corridor Management Plan was held last Tuesday night. According to Katie Dawes, executive director of the K-254 Corridor Association, “There was great attendance, and KDOT and the consulting groups received numerous insightful comments from the Steering Committee, Stakeholder Groups, and Community Members.” The consultant developed a website for the project that may be found at <https://www.publicinput.com/k254plan>. You may provide input for the plan by sharing feedback using the opinion survey found on this site. The consultant will also post periodic updates on the plan’s development on this website.
- The Public Utilities Department will increase the septic waste fee from \$0.02 per gallon to \$0.05 per gallon effective September 1, 2023, to provide sufficient time for us to notify these customers and allow them time to update their billing systems. City staff estimates the actual cost of treating this waste stream at \$0.15 per gallon. We will likely increase it over the next few years to get closer to our cost.
- In addition, the Public Utilities Department will develop a proposal to change the fees we charge for water meters to ensure we collect the cost of meters for each meter size. The City will not do anything with water and sewer readiness-to-serve or volume charges until conducting a rate analysis later this year.
- The Twilight Swim last Friday had approximately 400 people in attendance. The Fourth of July event at East Park had approximately 350 in attendance and the afternoon’s free swim had approximately 500 in attendance. The youth recreation baseball and softball seasons will conclude on July 10 if the weather cooperates.
- The sensor at the North Main splash pad is not working properly. The Parks Department has ordered a replacement sensor. The splash pad will operate constantly until close until this sensor is replaced.
- The Parks Department received four bids for turf replacement at McDonald Stadium. Staff is reviewing the bids and will have a recommendation for the City Commission’s consideration at the July 17 regular meeting.
- Water Filter Consoles, Phase 2 will commence the week of July 11. The Ultraviolet Replacement Project is anticipated to begin testing as early as next week.
- The Public Works Department took delivery of the replacement traffic signal cabinet for the intersection of Village and Central, although the camera system has not yet been delivered so the project is still pending.
- Pearson Construction indicated they want to start construction on the Airport Access Road/Parking Lot Project late this summer. They need to obtain a Notice of Intent from the FAA prior to starting, which may take until late August. The project specifications indicated that they would need to be completed by October 31 for a Fall 2023 start date.

They will be pushing the limits of the overall end date if they start in late August or early September. The company will still be required to complete the project within the overall allowed 45 working days.

- Sergeant Thompson provided some initial data that shows off-route truck ticket counts have actually increased since the new signs have been installed. He also indicated that drivers are still telling him that they are using GPS. Meanwhile, management is working with John Prater to identify solutions to getting the City's truck route included in commercial routing (GPS) software. Some truckers, however, use non-commercial solutions, such as Google Maps, which do not provide directions to the truck route because the software does not know that the driver is a commercial truck driver.
- Coordination continues with Butler REC to bore under Griffith Street to provide fiber to the Parks building on Locust Street. This fiber will ultimately connect to the new concession stand planned for East Park.
- Troy Wege made a request that the BMX track under the North Main Park be designated as an official City park. The track was built by a local, grassroots effort on City-owned land and has experienced notable use by local and regional BMX riders. Kevin plans to take the request to the Parks Advisory Board in August for their input and feedback. The City has not had any involvement in the track's design or construction.

City Manager's Priorities:

1. 2024 Budget
2. Sales Tax Ballot Question
3. Civic Center Disposition
4. BCC Facilities/Project Agreements

Upcoming Milestones/Deadlines:

- **July 17** – Transportation Master Plan Award and Contract
- **July 17** – Temporary and Off-Site Advertising Signage Recommendations
- **October** – Draft Housing Needs Assessment Report

Personnel Update:

- *Vacant and advertised positions:* Public Works Maintenance Worker (3), Police Officer (5), Marketing Specialist, Engineering Technician I, Sanitation Lead, Budget Analyst, and Firefighter.
- Public Works promoted Britt Simmons to Sanitation Lead. He has been with the City since 2013.
- Public Works Equipment Operator Kurt Bradshaw has submitted his intent to retire from the City after almost thirteen years of service. Kurt is often seen operating the street sweeper. He plans to retire later this year.
- Chris McGathy and Andres Couch recently graduated from the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center (KLETC). They return to the El Dorado Police Department to begin their required field training. Chris was also selected president for his class.

Commission Calendar: *Upcoming City Commission Items (subject to change):*

- **July 12 Work Session** – 2024 Budget; Sales Tax Ballot Question; Setting Public Hearing for El Dorado Plaza CID
- **July 17 Regular Meeting** – Prairie Trails Agreement; Transportation Master Plan Agreements; McDonald Stadium Turf Bid Approval; Sales Tax Ballot Question Resolution; Intent to Exceed Revenue Neutral Rate; Branches Daycare SUP; El Dorado Main Street Master Plan; West Locust Sanitary Sewer Project; Concrete Improvement Project on 119 W. Ash Street; and N. Main CCLIP Consulting Agreement (Preliminary Engineering); 2022 Financial Audit Results
- **August 2 Work Session** – 2024 Budget
- **August 7 Regular Meeting** – El Dorado Plaza CID Hearing and Ordinance

Items Pending in the Queue: *(Items working through a process that will eventually appear on the Commission's agenda)*

- City Attorney Professional Services Agreement