

# EL DORADO

## K A N S A S

TO: City Commission  
FROM: David Dillner, City Manager  
SUBJ: Weekly Report  
DATE: August 18, 2023

### **Items of Note:**

- The pre-construction meeting for the Airport Road and Parking Improvement Project is scheduled for August 22. Staff anticipates the project starting the second week in September.
- Public Works plans to install the replacement cabinet for the Central and Village intersection on August 24. Drivers should expect delays at that intersection.
- The Public Utilities Department repaired a water main leak in the 200 block of West Central Avenue. Public Works placed a temporary patch that will suffice until a mill and overlay scheduled in 2024 provides a long-term surface.
- PEC will provide an overview of proposed improvements for Central Avenue during the work session next week. The proposed stormwater improvements will be of special focus as the scope may need to increase to impact stormwater volumes post-construction. The City received a \$3.0 million KDOT Cost-Share Grant to assist with these improvements, although the project's ultimate cost will likely increase if the City Commission decides to move forward with the proposed scope.
- The Planning Commission will continue discussing temporary and off-site signage regulations at its August meeting. Staff anticipates a proposal to the City Commission in either September or October.
- The Engineering Department submitted a Safe Streets Grant Application seeking funding for the Transportation Master Plan the City recently started with JEO and PEC. Staff conducted a kick-off meeting with JEO this week and will have bi-weekly meetings for coordination and communication. The project will place cameras for traffic counts at four key intersections in the near future.
- Gold Fest buttons are available at City Hall, online ([experienceeldo.com](http://experienceeldo.com)), and Sunny Stop for \$8. Thus far, Experience El Dorado has received \$7,500 in sponsorships.
- The El Dorado Plaza Mural Project (north of Willie's) has made quite a bit of progress this week. Drive by and check it out. The City also received approval for another mural project on the west wall of the old Home Lumber Building.
- The next Farmer's Market is Sunday at 10:00 am in East Park. The Grizzly Gold Parade is Saturday, August 26 at 10:00 am on Main Street.

- The Turf Replacement Project continues at McDonald Stadium. Most of the concrete work has been completed and crews are now working on the playing surface grading.
- The Municipal Pool closed for the season on Sunday. Final attendance numbers will be available next week.
- Conco Construction should begin demolition of the East and Central restrooms/concession buildings next week. All scoreboards have been ordered and delivery and installation are expected to begin mid-October.
- The Graham Park splash pad has been experiencing an electrical problem. Staff determined that it is not a safety hazard for users but it does cause the park to become occasionally inoperable. Staff continues to work to resolve this issue. A fairly significant part may be needed and may cause the park to close earlier this year than planned.
- Registrations for fall sports continue to come into the office. Coaches are still needed.
- The annual United Way kickball tournament will be held at the Walnut River Complex on Friday night.
- A contractor was on-site today to attempt to level several concrete panels that had become trip hazards along the bike path. Unfortunately, they were unable to lift the panels. The Parks Department is determining a cost and timeline for replacing the panels.
- Nutrient trading contracts are being signed to plant 500 acres within the watershed this fall. The Public Utilities Department has also gained interest from private companies to purchase carbon credits as part of this pilot program. The City anticipates private dollars allowing the effort to continue for many years. Matching funds will bring the total investment in the watershed to \$450,000 over the next three years.
- Sarah Hoefgen and I met with representatives from Lange Real Estate and McCownGordon Construction to discuss the potential for a partnership on a speculative building.
- Butler County started an update of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan identifies projects that seek to mitigate or reduce the potential impact of natural disasters and other hazards in our region. Projects defined in the plan may be eligible for federal grant funding if funding is made available. The City will review projects included in the plan to determine if an update is warranted.
- Save the Date: The League's annual conference is October 7-9 in Wichita.

**City Manager's Priorities:**

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

**Upcoming Milestones/Deadlines:**

- **October** – Draft Housing Needs Assessment Report
- **November 7** – General Election (City's one-cent sales tax)

**Personnel Update:**

- *Vacant and advertised positions:* Public Works Maintenance Worker (3), Police Officer (5), Engineering Technician I, Firefighter.
- *Vacant and not advertised positions:* Budget Analyst
- *Conditional Offers (pending post-offer screening):* Police Officer (1), Public Works Maintenance Worker (2), Marketing Specialist,
- Kate Bosserman started as the Marketing Specialist and will assist Experience El Dorado with marketing and event planning.
- Trevor Mateleska will join the Police Department on August 21. The department has one conditional offer working through the post-conditional process. Interviews were also conducted with six candidates this week.
- The Public Works Department extended three conditional offers of employment. Two of these offers were for positions in the Streets Division and one was for a position in the Refuse Division.
- The Fire Department extended the deadline for applications for its vacancy until August 4 due to a lack of qualified applicants.

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

- **August 30 Work Session** – 2024 Budget; Central Avenue Stormwater Project; Social Media Policy; Proclamation Policy; Fleet Leasing Proposal
- **September 5 Regular Meeting** – Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing; Prairie Trails Agreement; Days Inn IRB; Resolution of Support for the Walnut River Bridge Project (KDOT); Economic Development Funds for City’s Share of K-254 Corridor Management Plan (\$11,100)
- **September 13 Work Session** – General Financial and Budgetary Policies

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

- None