

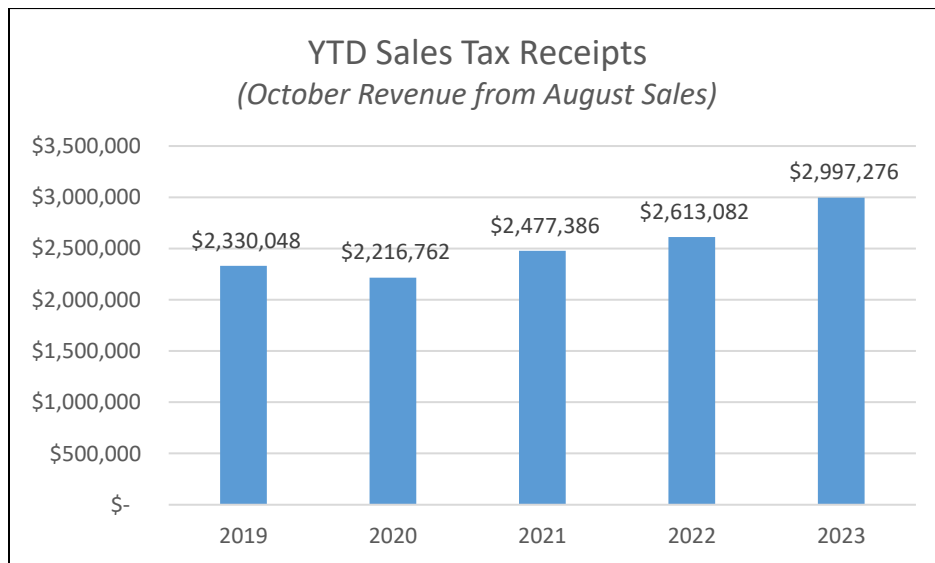
EL DORADO

KANSAS

TO: City Commission
FROM: David Dillner, City Manager
SUBJ: Weekly Report
DATE: October 27, 2023

Items of Note:

- The City received a Notice of Award from Congressman Estes' office of a \$160,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation. The grant will be used to develop a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan, which will be a component of the previously authorized transportation master plan. The grant will hopefully open other opportunities for federal or state grant dollars. Typically, federal funds are first used to fund planning documents to justify construction projects. The planning documents enable a community to apply for grant funds to assist with construction expenses.
- The State of Kansas has allocated \$200 million to the Kansas Infrastructure Hub, which allows local governments to apply for matching funds for eligible infrastructure projects. City staff will meet with the consulting firm assigned to our region to provide technical assistance to determine if any of our existing projects are eligible for these funds.
- The City received \$308,892 in sales tax collected on retail sales occurring in August. Year-to-date, the City received \$2.99 million compared to \$2.61 million from a year ago (+5.5%). Projections indicate annual sales tax receipts of \$3.5 million, which would be a new sales tax record if the next few months come in as projected.



- Two factors can largely explain the increased sales tax figures: 1) high prices from inflation and 2) significantly higher compensating use tax. The compensating use tax is

paid on merchandise purchased from other states and used, stored, or consumed in Kansas on which no sales tax was paid. The tax protects Kansas businesses from unfair competition from out-of-state retailers selling goods tax-free or at a lower tax rate. It also assures fairness to Kansans who purchase similar items in Kansas and pay Kansas sales tax. Use tax is due whether the property is shipped into Kansas or picked up in another state and brought back to Kansas. Individual Kansas consumers buying goods in other states or through catalogs, mail-order companies, over the Internet, or from television, magazine or newspaper advertisements must pay the Kansas Consumers Compensating Use Tax on these purchases if the seller does not charge a tax of at least 6.50 percent.

- Year-to-date, the City received \$607,873 from compensating use taxes. The City received \$393,836 over the same period from a year ago. This represents a 42% increase year-over-year.
- The McDonald Stadium fence installation is mostly complete. The contractors must install the gates and finish leveling and securing the fence. Construction continues at both East and Central Park on the concession/restroom facilities. Some fabrication has been completed since the last update, although rain has slowed progress this week.
- Youth basketball registration deadline is November 6 for youth in third through sixth grades. The deadline for first through second grade is November 20.
- Park restrooms are closed for the season. Staff closed restrooms earlier than in the past due to lower-than-average temperatures forecasted this weekend. The remaining downtown flowers will also be removed in the next few days.
- A rock was thrown at one of the large double-paned windows on the north side of the train depot this week. Replacement glass has been ordered and will be installed soon.
- AT&T inquired about potential locations on City-owned property for a telecommunication tower to improve service in El Dorado.
- The abandoned tank discovered at the airport has been filled. The sidewalk from the terminal building was removed, and the contractor prepared to install the replacement sidewalk. Rain also delayed this project. Concrete will be poured next week or so.
- Public Works reported that the 12th and Main Street traffic signal is on constant call for the rest of this week because the camera cannot “see” vehicles during sunrise.
- The City took possession of the upright supports for the new McDonald Stadium scoreboard. The scoreboard has also been delivered and will be installed once the contractor can get on-site and drill holes for the support beams. The scoreboard will move to left field to be seen better at the start of games.
- Public Works staff is working with the Police Department to install the Flock cameras. KDOT permitting has been completed. The department plans to prepare for installation next week.
- Staff met with Garver to review final details and clarifications in the Constant Creek Sanitary Sewer Project plans. One service line is directly connected to the interceptor we intend to abandon as part of the project. The City received a letter from the Kansas Historical Society stating the area has a high potential for previously unknown archeological sites. Staff will work with them to hopefully resolve their concerns without delaying the project. The project remains on schedule to bid in November.

- The City received two applications for a Moderate Income Housing (MIH) application and may only submit one application for funding. The Kansas Housing Resources Corporation has opened another round of MIH funding. One application comes from RSH Holdings, LLC, and proposes forty detached, single-family units to be built on Millheiser Road. The other application comes from Dean Construction, LLC, and proposes fourteen detached, single-family units and three townhome units on Towanda Avenue. Applicants must submit their applicant to the KHRC by November 15, so the City Commission must determine which applicant to submit at the November 6 meeting.

City Manager’s Priorities:

1. Capital Improvement Planning
2. Annual Evaluations
3. BCC Facilities/Project Agreements

Upcoming Milestones/Deadlines:

- **October** – McDonald Stadium Turf and Fence Installation
- **October** – Preliminary Engineering Central Avenue Water Main Project
- **November 7** – General Election (City’s one-cent sales tax)
- **December** – Completion of East Park Concession/Restroom Facility
- **December** – Constant Creek Sewer Interceptor Project Bid Opening
- **January 2024** – Completion of Central Park Concession/Restroom Facility
- **February 2024** – McDonald Stadium Scoreboard Installation

Personnel Update:

- *Vacant and advertised positions:* Public Works Maintenance Worker, Police Officer (2), Building Official, Management Analyst, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director
- *Conditional Offers (pending post-offer screening):* Police Officer (2) and Public Works Maintenance Worker (3)

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

- **November 1 Work Session** – Social Media Policy; Proclamation Policy; Public Comment Policy; Housing Needs Assessment; Moderate Income Housing Applications; Transportation Master Plan
- **November 6 Regular Meeting** – Moderate Income Housing Application; Water Conservation Plan Overview; Automated Meter System Project Authorization; Social Media Policy; Proclamation Policy; Public Comment Policy; Acceptance of Housing Needs Assessment; Excess Sales Tax Committee Appointments
- **November 15 Work Session** – Budget Amendment (if necessary); Annual Pay Plan Update; Purchasing Policy; Publication Charter Ordinance; Temporary/Off-Site Signage Regulations
- **November 20 Regular Meeting** – Special Assessment Hearings (Deer Run Addition and 5th, Hunton, Simpson, and 2nd); Publication Charter Ordinance; Temporary/Off-Site Signage Regulations