

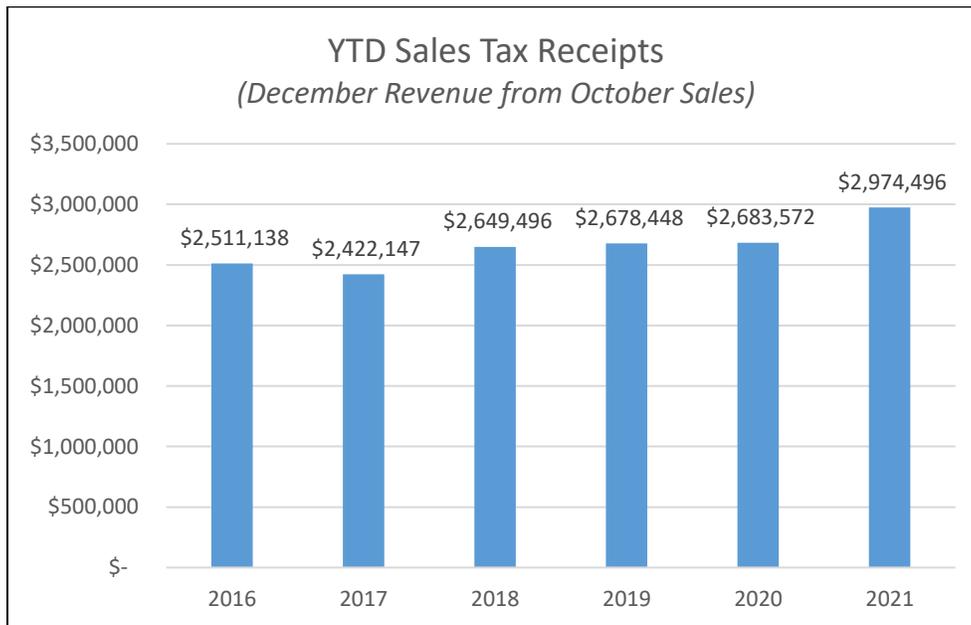
EL DORADO

K A N S A S

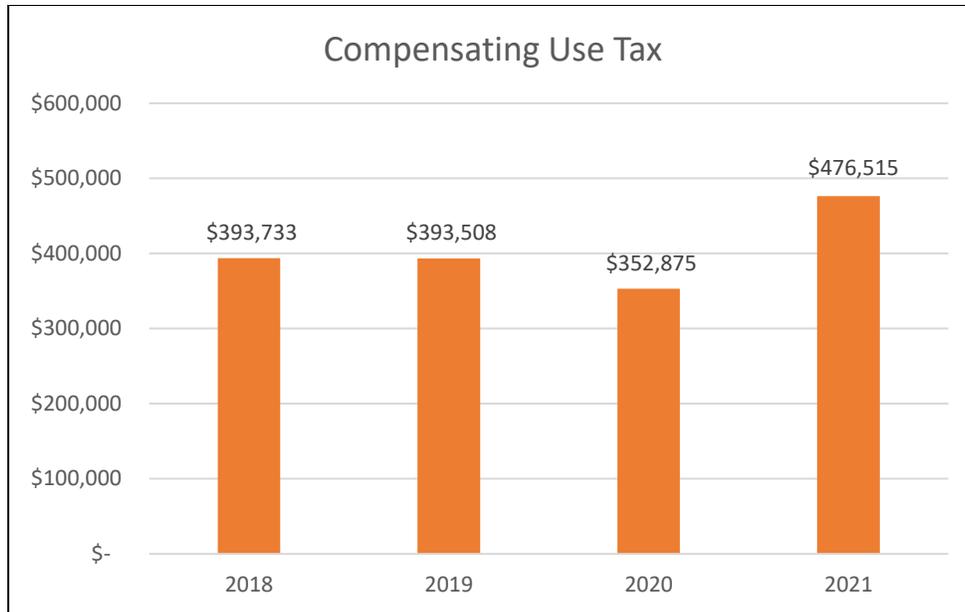
TO: City Commission
FROM: David Dillner, City Manager
SUBJ: Weekly Report
DATE: December 30, 2021

Items of Note:

- REMINDER: City offices will be closed Friday, December 31 for New Year's Eve.
- This year, sales tax is the gift that keeps giving. In December, the City received \$240,128 in sales tax from retail sales occurring in October. The City received \$2.97 million surpassing last year's record of \$2.68 million by \$290,924 (10.8%)! This will be the fourth consecutive sales tax record-breaking year.



- Compensating use tax collections comprised 16% (\$475,515) of the total sales tax receipts. The amount received for compensating use tax also set a record, beating the prior year by 35%! Since 1937, Kansas has imposed a use tax on goods purchased by Kansans (individuals and businesses) from outside Kansas and used, stored, or consumed in Kansas on which no sales tax was paid, or a sales tax less than the Kansas combined rate was paid. The purpose of this tax is to protect Kansas businesses from unfair competition from out-of-state retailers who sell goods tax-free. It also ensures fairness to Kansans who purchase similar items in Kansas and pay sales tax on them.



- The Captain Jack Thomas Memorial Airport received notice that it will receive an increase to the airport’s annual entitlement funds over the next five years due to recent federal legislation. The airport receives about \$150,000 each year in entitlement funds, and will receive an additional \$159,000 making the total annual entitlement allocation \$309,000. Total entitlement funds over the five-year period will equal about \$1.54 million.
- The City recently subscribed to a service that allows us to view data collected from cellphone data and algorithms to improve our understanding of tourism to El Dorado. For example, the program allowed the City to see that 1,902 attended the 150 Fest in September with visitors represented throughout the region: Augusta (232), Towanda (230), Wichita (204), Leon (181), and Andover (92). The data will give the City unprecedented access to visitor data to enable us to understand trends. The City will also be able to experiment with strategies to increase visitors to various attractions and events and measure the success of such strategies.
- In November, the Census Bureau announced it would delay the release of the 2016-2020 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year data, originally scheduled for December 2021, due to the impacts of COVID-19 on the data collection. The bureau recently released a statement stating that the bureau continues to make progress towards a mid- to late-March 2022 data product release. The City uses the ACS to understand changes to its demographics.
- Last week, Lt. Governor David Toland made visit to Mears Fertilizer and BG Products to see these two anchor businesses in El Dorado. Mears Fertilizer continues to make substantial progress on its impressive \$13 million expansion. Both facilities were very impressive and demonstrated El Dorado’s can-do spirit when it comes to industrial development.

- Senator Moran visited El Dorado this week, and provided an overview of federal legislative issues to El Dorado Inc.'s board of directors. As always, Senator Moran is very interested in what is happening in El Dorado and wants to provide any support he can to facilitate the community's growth and prosperity.
- The Top Ten Notable Events in El Dorado this year include (*in no particular order*):
 - Mill and Overlay on the Southwest Trafficway;
 - Water and Sewer Studies;
 - Orscheln's Industrial Revenue Bond (IRB);
 - Riverview Playground;
 - Preliminary Engineering for 9th Avenue Improvement Project;
 - Community Development Block Grants for 142 N. Main Street;
 - Deer Run and Myers East Additions;
 - City Rebranding Campaign;
 - Record Sales Tax Receipts (\$2.9 million); and
 - 150th Celebration.

Personnel Update:

- *Vacant and currently advertised positions:* Police Officer (2), Public Works Maintenance Worker (3), Public Works Equipment Operator (2), Firefighter (2), Water Treatment Operator, Sanitation Lead, Pool Manager
- *Filled and currently advertised positions:* Police Chief
- I selected four candidates to interview for Police Chief in January. A very thorough process, including four interview panels and a community meet-and-greet, will help determine the best candidate for the community. Interview activities will take place on January 12 and 13. Governing body members will have a role to play in the process. I will send information out separately.
- Alexis Pollard started her new role as a Recreation Leader with the Parks and Recreation Department. She previously worked as the Administrative Assistant for the Public Works Department. The City Commission authorized this new position as part of the 2022 Budget process to provide additional personnel resources to the Parks and Recreation Department.

Commission Calendar:

- *Upcoming City Commission Items (subject to change):*
 - **January 3 Regular Meeting** – Advisory Appointments; El Paso CGP Company, LLC Annexation; Turnpike and Parallel Annexation
 - **January 12 Work Session** – Cancelled due to Police Chief Interviews
 - **RESCHEDULED: January 18 Regular Meeting** – Everygy Graham Park Easements; Everygy Legion (Land Bank) Easements; John Banks Speculative Building Sanitary Sewer Project; Fire Truck Bids Approval

- *Pending Items (Items to be scheduled for upcoming meeting once completed):* Augusta Wholesale Water Agreement; Street Cut Ordinance; Food Vendor Ordinance; Transient Vendor Ordinance; Business Park Re-platting and Rezoning

Other Events of Interest:

- **January 6** - Linda Jolly Retirement Party, 6:30 pm (District 142)
- **January 26** - Local Government Day in Topeka