



THIS IS EL DORADO

Commission approves new fee schedule

The El Dorado City Commission approved the 2026 Fee Schedule during a December meeting. This schedule includes a few changes to fees, which will begin on Jan. 1, 2026.

Among these changes are increases to water, sewer and trash fees.

Increases were:

- Water Rate - 15 cents per 1,000 gallons

- Water Readiness-to-Serve Fee - 11 cents
- Sewer Rate - 11 cents per 1,000 gallons
- Sewer Readiness-to-Serve Fee - 13 cents
- Trash - \$1.00

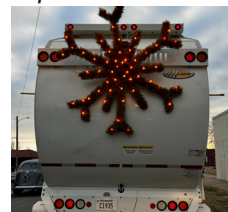
The monthly increase for an average utility bill - using 5,600 gallons per month for water and sewer - would be \$2.70.

Residents will see the new rates on the bill sent out in February.

Hometown Christmas in El Dorado



BELOW: The sanitation department received "best overall float" in the parade.



Landfill voucher program continues

The City of El Dorado is again offering Butler County Landfill vouchers for 2026.

Through this program, two vouchers for free trips to the landfill will be provided to residents for each residential address within the El Dorado City Limits. Each voucher is good for one pick-up load of trash with a 625-pound maximum weight. It does not include refrigeration units,

hazardous materials, mattresses/box springs or tires.

Residents can visit Public Works, 222 E. Second Ave., or City Hall, 220 E. First Ave., to pick up their vouchers for the Landfill. Residents will need to bring their driver's license showing they live at the address for which they are collecting the vouchers.

Community Events

- **Feb. 2 & 16**
City Commission Meetings
- **Feb. 2**
Potluck @ Senior Center
- **Feb. 4**
Chamber Chat
- **Feb. 6**
Music Bingo @ Senior Center
- **Feb. 7**
Student Art Show @ Coutts
- **Feb. 9**
Crafty Senior Society @ Senior Center
- **Feb. 14**
Pancake and Sausage Feed @ American Legion



- **Feb. 17**
Coutts Brown Bag Program
Book Club @ Bradford Library
- **Feb. 18**
Auditions for Wildcatter's Kids
Theater @ KS Oil Museum
- **Feb. 20**
Music Bingo @ Senior Center
Homeschool Days @ Oil Museum
- **Feb. 23**
Heritage/Gordy Page Turners Book Club
- **Feb. 27**
Live Band @ Senior Center

Reoccurring events:

- **Tuesdays**
Full STEAM Ahead @ Library
- **Thursdays**
Little Historians @ KS Oil Museum
Elks Bingo @ Elks Lodge
Toddler Time and Builder's Club @ Library
Coffee Group @ Equality El Dorado
- **Fridays**
Preschool Story Time @ Library
- **Fridays & Saturdays**
American Legion Bingo @ Legion
- **Saturdays**
Drop-In Activities @ KS Oil Museum

Commission Action

December meetings

- The Commission approved the 2025 budget amendment.
- The Commission appointed Commissioner Kendra Wilkinson as the vice mayor for 2026.
- The Commission approved the bid of \$17,056 from H6 Excavation for the demolition of structures at 937 N. Oak Street (south building), 501 W. 12th Avenue and 1125 N. Walnut St.
- The Commission authorized staff to proceed with the demolition of 920 N. Gordy St. and 502 W. 12th Ave.
- The Commission tabled the finance agreement with Frontier Development until their next meeting.
- The Commission approved the 2026 fee schedule resolution and amended the financial policies.
- The Commission held a public hearing for the Community Development Block Grant for 142 N. Main Street close out.
- The Commission approved the close out of the CDBG at 142 N. Main.
- The Commission approved a resolution adopting an advisory board and committee policy and establishing administrative procedures and guidelines for implementation.
- The Commission approved Amendment No. 2 to the Planned Development Overlay for The Greens at Prairie Trails.
- The Commission approved the final plat for The Greens at Prairie Trails, 2nd Addition.
- The Commission authorized staff to proceed with the demolition of 610 W. 10th Ave.
- The Commission approved a resolution adopting the 2026 State Legislative Agenda for the City.
- The Commission reviewed training on conflicts of interest.

What's happening in the City...

ELDO^{KS} Department Updates

Parks and Recreation

- Park staff has completed the installation of new decking on two of the three bridges on the bicycle/pedestrian path. Work on the third bridge will begin soon provided that the weather continues to cooperate.
- Recreation staff has started the installation of a bullpen for Hamblin Field at Central Park. This project will be completed prior to the start of youth practices in March.

Administration

- Experience El Dorado is already planning several events for 2026, including GoldFest and a celebration of America's 250th.
- Finance is looking to fill a position vacated by a recent retiree. Find more about open positions at www.eldoks.gov/jobs.

Public Utilities

- The City's annual sewer rehabilitation program continued through December, repairing aging sewer mains with minimal digging and fewer long-term street impacts. As of Dec. 22, 10 of 14 planned lining runs were complete, and the remaining work was scheduled for the week of Jan. 5, 2026 to reduce holiday disruptions.
- Utility crews responded to several water leaks during December, including a major water main repair near First Avenue and Ohio Street during the Dec. 5 to 18 reporting period.
- At the Water Treatment Plant, routine maintenance and cleaning continued.

Public Works

- Crews completed annual maintenance and set up on all snow removal equipment needed to clear the city streets of snow and ice. The City's salt storage and de-icing materials are at capacity in preparation for the winter.
- The beacon rehab and apron lighting project is nearing completion, and a final walk through is slated for January.
- Between adoption, rescue and reuniting with owners, the Animal Shelter's success rate for dogs was over 85%. They also received the Shelter Neuter and Release Program grant for cats for 2026.

Fire Dept.

- In December, the department began selecting part-time firefighters for duty after the start of 2026.
- The department has been working with Butler County Emergency Management and neighboring departments on the Wildland Mitigation Project, preparing for the upcoming grassfire season.