

THIS IS ELDORADO



2020 Budget

By: *Tabitha Sharp, City Clerk*

The public hearing and approval of the 2020 Annual Operating Budget was approved by the City Commission on August 5, 2019. There is no planned increase to the mill levy or to water, sewer and trash fees included in the budget. Revenues for 2020 are estimated at \$25,806,359 and expenses are estimated at \$28,558,063.

Expenses are currently budgeted over revenues because we plan to spend down the cash balance in a few funds such as Tourism, Refuse and the General Fund. Tourism will be spending down their fund balance in order to complete a community branding study that will help us market the City of El Dorado to prospective businesses and citizens. Tourism is funded by bed taxes paid by individuals who stay in the hotels in El Dorado. The refuse department is proposing some changes, and with those will come the purchase of some new carts, which has led to the anticipated decrease in their cash balance. This department is funded strictly through the fees paid for refuse collection in the City of El Dorado. Finally, the General Fund balance will be spent down due to a transfer required to fund the Bond and Interest Fund. Previous projects have caused that fund to be short the required payments in 2020, and the General Fund will make up the difference. Current staff have developed a plan to ensure that the Bond and Interest fund remains at 10 mills or under in the future.

As previously stated, there is no projected increase in the mill levy. We have submitted the budget at the current rate of 53 mills. For a single-family residence valued at \$150,000, this is approximately \$917 per year for the city's portion of property taxes. To calculate



your liability, multiply the assessed valuation of your home by 11.5%, divide that by 1,000 and multiply the total by the mill levy. Commercial calculations are multiplied by 25% instead of 11.5.

El Dorado KANSAS

Annual
Operating
Budget &
Capital
Improvement
Plan

Living
Well
SINCE 1871

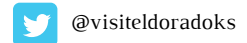
City Hall
220 East 1st Ave
El Dorado, KS 67042



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN EL DORADO

- **September 2 - Labor Day - City Offices Closed**
- September 3 & 16 - City Commission Meetings
- September 14 - Night Lights Sky Lantern Festival, El Dorado Lake
www.nightlightsevent.com
- September 21 - Family Fun Day at Kansas Oil Museum
- September 27 - EHS Homecoming Parade at 2 p.m.
- September 28 - Rods for Rides Car Show at Susan B. Allen

FIND MORE EVENTS AT WWW.ELDOKS.COM



Citizen Satisfaction Survey Question of the Month

By: *Tabitha Sharp, City Clerk*

This month's survey topic is traffic signals. We had many questions regarding the traffic signal at Village and Central, so here are a few things to help you get through those intersections more efficiently.

The devices on the top of the traffic signals are not cameras, they do not record anything. They are actually sensors for the signals. When at a traffic signal such as Village and Central, drivers need to ensure that they are behind the white stop line on the road. The sensor is set to see things that are behind that stop line and if you stop in front of it, the sensor does not recognize the vehicle.

The white stop line painted on the road at various traffic signals throughout town is intended to ensure that pedestrians using cross walks are safe, or areas with truck traffic leave room for the trucks to make a wide turn. Please make sure you stop behind the white stop line to help prevent accidents.



Should you continue to have trouble getting through that signal, it likely means that wind has moved the sensor or that there is some other malfunction. Please call 322-4481 to report any such issues.



Did you know that the City has Public Notarys? If you need a document notarized, call City Hall between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. to set up an appointment.
FREE SERVICE!

From the City Manager's Desk

By: David Dillner, City Manager

Nearly every community in the country desires growth and development in one way or another. Growth provides the engine to develop and sustain a tax base that supports the public services and quality of life desired by a community. Law enforcement, street maintenance, and parks and recreation programs are largely funded from taxes generated from economic development activities over many years. A city may provide more services to the public with a larger tax base.

I often compare economic development efforts with a summer afternoon of fishing. Sometimes you get a lot of bites and others, the fish simply are not biting. You can't catch a fish if you aren't getting any bites... or can you?



Economic development leads for major private investment and jobs often come to the City from the Kansas Department of Commerce in the form of information requests. These requests are meant to solicit information from communities throughout the state for a company that is looking to expand or relocate. Oftentimes, companies solicit potential sites throughout the nation as they attempt to locate the best place to do business. El Dorado, Inc., an economic development partner of the City, responds to many of these requests for information in an attempt to compete for projects.

The City and El Dorado, Inc. recently changed the strategy for recruitment of economic development projects from "reactive," or responding to requests from the state or other leads, to a "proactive" approach. This change in strategy requires the City to identify target industries that best align with our community's strengths and actively market to companies within these targeted industries. In other words, instead of waiting for the fish to bite, we are going to make the fish come to us using the very best bait available.

El Dorado has many great assets to attract growth and development. However, our core assets align best with water-intensive industries requiring large tracts for development (greater than 200 acres), Class I railroad access (BNSF and Union Pacific), and highway access. The City, in partnership with El Dorado, Inc., will be developing and implementing strategies that focus on recruiting industries that capitalize on these strengths. Success will not only bring large industry to town, but will also create opportunities for commercial, retail, and residential development.

New Police Vehicles

By: Curt Ziemann, Chief of Police

The El Dorado Police Department recently took delivery of four new patrol vehicles as part of the regularly scheduled Equipment Replacement Program. These four vehicles are replacing patrol vehicles which are at or beyond their useful life. The make and model of the new patrol vehicles are different and they have a fresh new wrap and decal design. The vinyl wraps are much more cost effective than painting vehicles.

Three new 2019 Dodge Charger Pursuit AWD and one new 2019 Dodge Durango Pursuit AWD, were put on patrol in July. All of these vehicles were purchased through the state bid process, which ensures best possible pricing. The Dodge Charger Pursuit is currently the most cost effective police package vehicle on the market and has been a tried and true police vehicle for some time. One of these Chargers is assigned to the Shift Lieutenants. The other two have been assigned to patrol officers. The 2019 Dodge Durango has been assigned to the City's Code Enforcement Officer.

Each of these vehicles was delivered with the police package. Some believe the police package is all about making the vehicle go fast. While most police package vehicles are high performance, the reality is there is much more to it than that. Law enforcement vehicles endure a lot of abuse, in some cases are driven every day. In-city driving is particularly hard on vehicles as they are constantly turning corners, more so than if one was constantly driving on the highway. These vehicles are also required to idle for long periods of time, examples of this include: a patrol vehicle blocking a roadway for an accident or a vehicle monitoring a crime scene with emergency lights activated. These vehicles usually have to stay running to operate the emergency equipment.



Police package vehicles are more robust than stock vehicles for durability and include but are not limited to the following upgrades:

- Larger radiators and fans
- Transmission coolers
- Larger alternators to sustain the electronic emergency equipment
- Special driver seats to accommodate equipment belts
- Reinforced suspension and brakes.

We are pleased to have had the opportunity to purchase these vehicles and are excited about the new fresh design! These vehicle additions will help us to continue to serve our community.

Preventing Future Problems

Blockages or even the collapsing of a home or business service line is frequently caused by tree roots that grow into service lines, blocking or crushing the service lateral. Removing trees that grow over the path of the service lateral can be effective in preventing problems. There are also chemical products that will kill tree roots, but won't harm the tree. Never Plant trees on top of or near sewer lines.



Grease is a frequent cause of sewer blockages/backups.

While hot water may cause grease to "melt" in your sink, it quickly re-forms into a solid blockage in your service lateral preventing flow and causing backups. Please drain grease into containers such as jars or cans that can be thrown away in the trash. Cease the grease!

Private service lines (laterals) are not large in diameter, typically only 3 or 4 inches. They are intended for the passage of water and soluble waste. Flushing insolubles, such as paper, diapers, feminine products, plastic or even food and vegetable waste can quickly block your sewer line.

NON-FLUSHABLE, "FLUSHABLE" WIPES

Avoid flushing any type of wipe, "flushable" or otherwise, down the toilet, because the wipes do not disintegrate easily or quickly, and can cause a blockage in your pipes. They also clog sewage treatment equipment and cause back-ups within the sewer system, leading to sanitary sewer overflows. Typical clogs include any combination of baby wipes, paper towels, dental floss, and disposable cleaning wipes, gummed up with fats, oils, and grease. Also, never flush hypodermic needles.

To ensure the best possible service to our customers, please help us by putting trash in the trash.



Trash collected from our sewer system.

Contact Us

WATER DISTRIBUTION AND SEWER COLLECTION

390 E. Central
El Dorado, KS 67042
316-322-4411



CITY OF EL DORADO Public Utilities Department

YOUR SANITARY SEWER



HELP US KEEP THE ENVIRONMENT CLEAN, BECAUSE WE ALL LIVE DOWNSTREAM.

316-322-4411 | ELDOKS.COM

Sewer Emergency

WE ARE ON CALL 24/7

If you are experiencing problems with your sanitary sewer, call the City of El Dorado Public Utilities Department.

**Monday-Friday
8 AM - 5 PM
316-322-4411
Or
FOR EMERGENCIES
Nights/Weekends
316-323-4987 or 316-323-4997**

- ▶ We will check the City's sanitary sewer main and let you know if you need to contact a plumber.
- ▶ We have people on standby and will do our best to get to your home as soon as possible, and in most cases within 20-30 minutes.
- ▶ Check out the Sewer Service Line Warranty information in this brochure. For about \$5.00 per month, your water or sewer service line is covered for repair or replacement.



Combination Truck (Flush/Vac)

The City of El Dorado would also like to remind our citizens, we have endorsed the company, Service Line Warranties of America. Insure your Water or Sewer services lines for approximately \$5/month.



To learn more about this program, call 1-866-922-9006 or visit their website at www.SLWofA.com.

INSURANCE

The City is not automatically responsible when a sewer backup occurs. There are many reasons for back-ups which the City cannot control.

For example, people dumping inappropriate items such as grease, diapers, and other unwanted debris into the system can create a blockage. Tree roots can grow into and obstruct the lines. Sometimes, your homeowners' insurance will pay for sewer back-ups. Not all policies have this coverage and you should check with your agent.

You can help prevent sewer backups by spreading the word, "Don't flush trash".

Even paper towels can eventually cause a blockage in the sewer system. Education is the best way to prevent damage from sewer backups.



EL DORADO

THE FINE ART OF LIVING WELL

ACCESS

Utility easements are very important, especially when it comes to sewer lines. Manholes need to be accessible in order for us to flush sewer lines. Our goal is to respond to calls within 20 to 30 minutes.



Manhole buried in a rock garden.

If crews have to spend time looking for manholes that have been covered up, it can cause delays and further damage from the sewer backup. If the Utilities Department has to remove any structures on the utility easement (fences, out buildings, plant beds, or anything else that should not be there) to gain access or make repairs, the city will give you 24 hours to remove. If it is an emergency, the City may be forced to remove the structure to alleviate the problem. Anything occupying the sewer easement is at the owners risk and may not be restored or replaced.