



THIS IS EL DORADO

El Dorado receives \$1 million KDOT Cost Share Program grant

El Dorado is one of fourteen communities to receive a Kansas Department of Transportation Cost Share Program Grant.

El Dorado received \$1 million to be used for stormwater improvements to help reduce reoccurring flooding issues that plague the downtown area, as well as resurfacing approximately half a mile of Central Avenue to address the deteriorating pavement conditions in the heart of El Dorado's downtown.



The project includes a four-foot diameter underground drainage pipe from Star to East Park, as well as replacing inlets.

In all, about 80 communities applied for this program, which provides financial assistance to local entities for transportation projects that improve safety, support job retention and growth, improve access and help improve the transportation system. These grants are given twice a year.

The timing of this grant allows the city to pair it with the \$3 million BASE Grant the city received from the Kansas Department of Commerce to upsize the water transmission main from the water plant to the Industrial Park.

Over the last few years, El Dorado has prioritized marketing approximately 1,500 acres of currently undeveloped land to manufacturing companies that require large volumes of water for operations.

The City of El Dorado is unique when compared to other communities in Kansas because the City owns water storage rights for El Dorado Lake. This supply allows the City to respond to economic development projects that need water for operations without compromising its supply or requiring significant legal proceedings to develop and acquire water rights. Having access to quality water gives El Dorado a

What's Happening in El Dorado

- **Dec. 26** - City Offices Closed
Monday trash collected Tuesday; Tuesday trash collected Wednesday; Thursday and Friday as normal
- **Jan. 2** - City Offices Closed
Monday trash collected Tuesday; Tuesday trash collected Wednesday; Thursday and Friday as normal
- **Jan. 3 & 17** - City Commission Meetings
- **Jan. 8** - Kansas Oil Museum Sunday Speaker Series
- **Jan. 16** - City Offices Closed
Monday trash collected Tuesday; Tuesday trash collected Wednesday; Thursday and Friday as normal
- **Jan. 17** - Kansas Oil Museum History Happy Hour
- **Jan. 17** - Coutts Brown Bag Program & Library Book Club
- **Jan. 23** - Bradford Library Spring Children's Session begins
- **Jan. 25** - Coutts Caterpillars Preschool Program
- **Jan. 26** - Bradford Library Trivia Night (tentative)

Find more events at www.eldoks.com and sign up for notifications of upcoming events.

Be watching for the City's official 2023 Calendar, available at the end of this month at City Hall!

competitive advantage when compared to other communities.

The road will need to be removed for the water main project; therefore, the mill and overlay portion of the project will be sequenced after the water transmission main replacement.

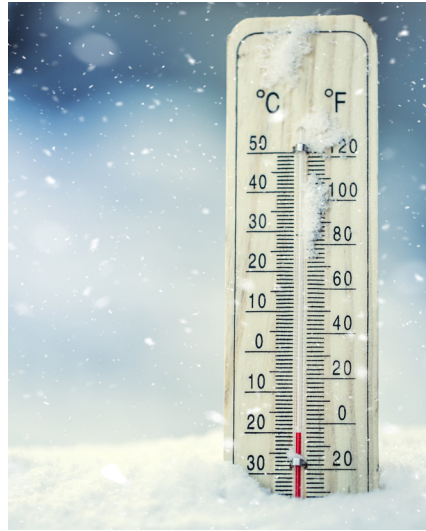
This project is a great example of an innovative partnership between the City of El Dorado, the Kansas Department of Commerce, and KDOT. KDOT's \$1 million investment into this project is supporting an overall \$9 million investment in the City of El Dorado to address current and future needs with our roadway network, drainage, sewer system, and water distribution.

Currently, the projects are in the design phase with a consultant, and construction is expected to start late 2023 through 2024.

Preparing your home for cold weather

With the arrival of cold weather, there are several things you can do to protect your home and have a safe and warm winter.

One of the most important things is to protect your pipes as temperatures fall. One of the most common causes of property damage in the winter is caused by frozen and busted pipes. It is especially important to protect pipes in unheated interior spaces such as basements, attics and garages. Here are a few tips to help you protect your pipes from freezing:



- Insulate your pipes and keep your home set at 65 degrees or more. It's also important to know where your water shutoff is located to quickly shut off your water in an emergency and limit damage to your home.
- Open kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing, especially on exterior walls.
- For that bitter cold weather, let the cold water drip from your faucets to help prevent pipes from freezing.

If you do get a frozen pipe, you still have the opportunity to thaw it out. Identify the frozen pipe, open your faucet and apply heat, such as with a hair dryer, to the section of pipe that is frozen.

In addition to protecting your pipes, here are some other things you can do to insure a hassle-free winter:

- Insulate your attic or crawl space, which will save money by keeping your home's heat from escaping into the attic and prevent ice dams from forming on your roof.
- Be sure to get your fire place inspected annually and cleaned, if necessary. Fireplaces, chimneys and heating equipment are some of the biggest causes of home fires.
- Replace window screens for glass storm windows, which creates an insulated layer of air between your windows and the cold outside.
- Repair any damaged or missing shingles on your roof because the weight of the snow or ice can cause them to shift further allowing the opportunity for water damage to your home.
- Seal any potential leaks, such as around recessed lights, the attic hatch or plumbing vents where cold air could enter the home. Remember to always allow for proper attic ventilation.
- Have your furnace serviced and change the filter regularly to ensure it is operating efficiently.

Tradition of Christmas decorations continue around town

It's beginning to look like Christmas around town. The Train Depot is showcasing its three lighted trees again this year thanks to the continued efforts of El Dorado residents Bob and Linda Baines.

The tradition began in 1989 when the Holiday Visions group was formed to put up decorations around town. The committee was under several groups throughout their time, including CARR (a retail revitalization group), the City and Main Street. Linda Baines was the chair for several years.



Bob Baines puts up the frame for the Christmas trees at the Train depot.

The group started a recycling program and used the money they collected from that to buy the decorations. They decorated the lawn at the court house and some city properties.

Each year, the Christmas parade would end at the Depot, and one year, Mayor Ed Blake said they needed a tree. The first tree had a big switch in front and when the Mayor flipped it, someone would plug the lights in so it looked like the switch turned the tree on.

The trees at the Depot now were inspired by a trip to pick up decorations in another town, where Linda saw a tree similar to what is at the Depot and Bob decided he could build it. Bob and Linda store the trees each year, pay for any repairs and Bob goes down and puts them up sometime in November and takes them back down after Christmas. The City took over the other decorations about fourteen years ago.

Thank you to Bob and Linda for their continued contribution to make our holiday season bright. We'd also like to thank the city and county staff, as well as residents, who help spread the holiday spirit.



Animal licenses need to be renewed by January 1 of each year and are good for one year. Fees are \$5 for each sterile animal and \$40 for non-sterile animals. Licenses can be purchased at your vet, the Animal Shelter or City Hall.