

CITY OF
*Dodge
City*

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



DODGECITY.ORG

MESSAGE *from the* CITY MANAGER

What a year!

2021 was a whirlwind of exciting activities and developments that go to show that Dodge City is the best place to be! One of the standouts was Governor Kelly’s announcement that the Hilmar Cheese Company will open a new cutting-edge cheese and whey production facility in our community. This new facility will break ground in 2022, bringing 750 new jobs including ancillary jobs with the dairy industry in our area along with hundreds of millions of dollars in investments to our local economy.

The public’s investment in new technologies such as our Warrior Project Biogas Facility at the South Wastewater Treatment Plant has proven essential in maintaining our competitive edge. The future expansion of this facility to accommodate Hilmar Cheese will allow us to continue to attract good paying, steady, and permanent jobs by increasing its processing capacity and even introduces the potential for Dodge City to become a leader in water conservation within the Ogallala Aquifer’s footprint.

Other exciting updates for 2021, included the election of two new commissioners, Michael Burns and Chuck Taylor who were welcomed to the City Commission with their terms starting in 2022. The Boot Hill Museum Expansion was opened to the public and had a tremendous first year attracting nearly 90,000 visitors. There were several other significant business expansions and openings including the start of FedEx Ground’s new 217,000 square foot facility, the Boot Hill Distillery’s expansion, Black Hills Energy’s new office building and National Beef expanded their truck wash. Harbor Freight, DBC Fabric and Boutique, Truck Center Companies and the USFCW 2 Community Center were all opened just to name a few of the awesome additions to our community.

Not to mention, lots of work was happening to address the continued need for housing in Dodge City. Residential permits increased in 2021 totaling approximately \$13 million. The City entered into five housing development agreements for around 200 units. The City has a great partnership with the Dodge City Community College Building Construction Technology program to help train qualified contractors. In addition, \$550,000 in grants was awarded to the City to further our housing efforts.

We also faced some tough challenges in 2021. One of those was the devastating loss of the Water Plant and office building for our Public Works Department on West Trail Street which destroyed by fire. This displaced staff who were temporarily moved into City Hall as we worked on plans for a new facility. The City has recently purchased a building that will serve to replace this facility but also create a hub for the different municipal services to be joined under one roof. This will help improve operations in how we serve the public.

In closing, the 2021 Annual Report, recaps the highlights of the work that has taken place throughout this past year as well as a few sneak peeks at what is to come! Enjoy and happy reading!

All the best,



City of Dodge City, City Manager



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YOUR CITY OF DODGE CITY

FORM OF GOVERNMENT

Dodge City is a city of the First Class, which is a city with a population of 10,000 or greater. Since 1970 the City government has operated under the Commission-Manager form of government, where residents elect the local governing body, which then appoints the City Manager. All power and authority to set policy rests with the elected governing body, including the Mayor and the Commission members. The City Manager serves as the administrative head and provides professional leadership to implement projects, policies and oversee the budget approved by the City Commission. In addition, Dodge City appoints community members to serve on various boards and commissions to make recommendations to City staff and the Commission. This allows for community input regarding local government operations.

Born out of the U.S. progressive reform movement at the turn of the 20th century, the commission-manager system was designed to combat corruption and unethical activity in local government by

promoting effective management within a transparent, responsive, and accountable structure.

The commission-manager form of local city government and similar city administrator form is used by nearly all cities with 5,000 or larger populations in Kansas, the surrounding states, and the world.

Three of Dodge City's five City Commissioners are elected on the first Tuesday in November of every odd-numbered year. After each election, the two candidates who receive the highest number of votes receive four-year terms, and the candidate with the third-highest number of votes receives a two-year term. City Commissioners are elected at large, which means that every citizen in the community has the opportunity to vote on every member of the City Commission. The Mayor is chosen each year at the Commission's first meeting in January by a vote of the City Commission members after the City Clerk swears in any new commissioners. The Mayor presides over all City Commission meetings and represents the City as its official head on formal occasions.

COMMISSION MEETINGS

The City Commission meets twice a month on the first and third Monday at 7 pm in the Commission Chambers at 806 N. 2nd Ave. Agendas for meetings are prepared in advance and published on the City's website. The meetings are open to the public, or for those that wish to watch meetings in the comfort of their home or at a later time, the meetings are streamed live on the official City of Dodge City Facebook page or our Vimeo page. To have a matter considered by the City Commission, please contact the City Manager's office at 620-225-8100.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Once governed by France, Spain, Mexico and the former Republic of Texas, Dodge City's diverse demographics are vital to the City's past, present, and future. Today's population is 62% Hispanic, with 30.1% of Dodge City's population being foreign-born and 67% speak Spanish at home. In other demographics, the median age is just under 29 years of age, with 52% of the population being male. The largest age group is 0 - 19.

THE *Commission*



KENT SMOLL



MICHAEL BURNS



RICK SOWERS



JOE NUCI

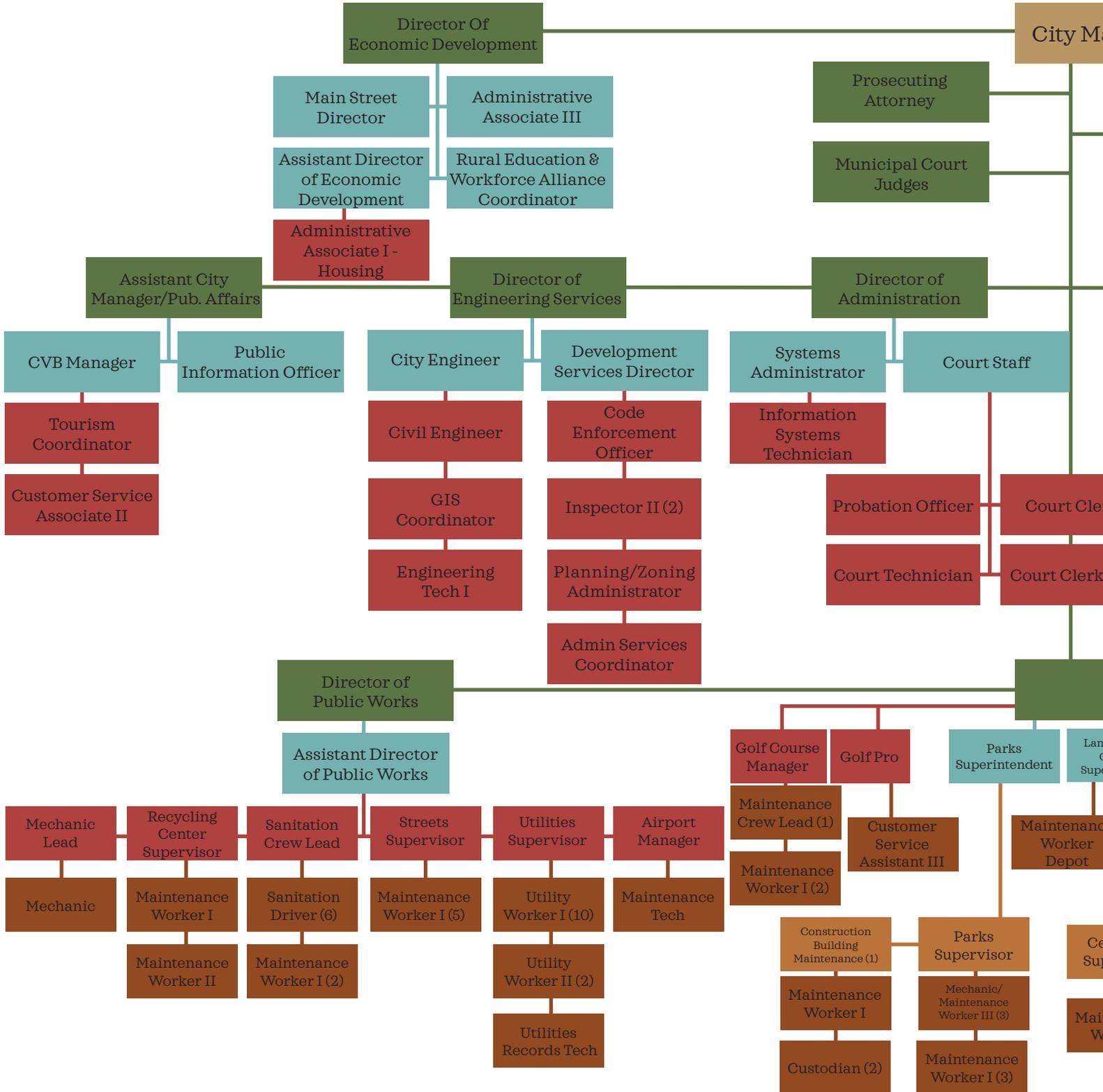


CHUCK TAYLOR





ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE







FINANCE

3 Full Time Staff Members

GOVERNMENTAL EXPENSES

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

The City provides many services, including police and fire protection, administration, economic development, administration, municipal court, public works, engineering, airport, cemetery, public transportation, parks and facilities, zoo, golf course, and development services. In 2021, governmental expenditures totaled \$16,263,086. This is an increase of approximately \$2,416,046 or 17.45% compared to 2020, primarily due to increases in personnel services and the purchase of new ERP software.

Annually, a budget is prepared by City staff for Commission approval. The goal of the City Commission over the last few years has been to reduce the mill levy, which translates into reducing expenditures.

The following are brief descriptions of general fund expenses:

Commission - Includes wages of the City Commissioners and other expenses associated with travel and community events required as they fulfill their role as a City Commissioner.

Administration - Included within the administration are the City Manager's office, Human Resources, Finance, and City Attorney.

Economic Development - The City supports Economic Development by paying wages of the five full-time and one part-time employees.

Development Services - Expenses incurred for issuing permits for

building projects, both commercial and residential, ensuring zoning and building code compliance are all responsibilities of this department.

Police - Expenses for the wages and other items and services required to protect the citizens of the community.

Animal Control - This department is responsible for enforcing the City's animal control ordinances.

Fire - This department is tasked with providing fire, rescue, medical first response, and hazardous material response services for the City.

Public Works - A portion of the costs of the wages of employees who are responsible for taking care of the streets is paid from Public Works.

Airport - The airport employees are responsible for the maintenance

of all buildings and grounds at the airport and working with the EAS provider.

Engineering - This department is responsible for planning, designing, administering, inspecting and overseeing the construction of bridges, streets, traffic signals, sewers, water mains and drainage projects.

Parks & Facilities - Included in this department are expenses to maintain and improve all the parks located within the City and other buildings such as Hoover Pavilion located within the City parks.

Cemetery - This department includes expenses for maintaining the cemetery and mausoleum.

Zoo - The employees of the Zoo are responsible for the care of all animals housed within the Zoo and the maintenance of the zoo grounds.

Image 1

GOVERNMENTAL EXPENSES

- General Government
- Public Safety
- Public Works
- Parks and Facilities
- Economic Development
- Development Services
- Non-Departmental

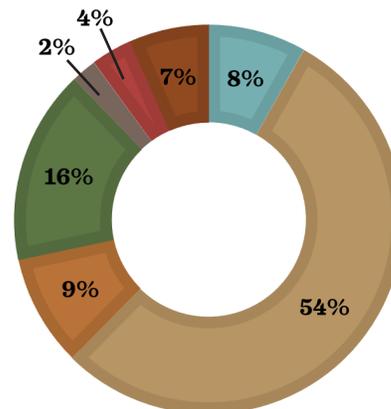


Image 1: Graph detailing the breakdown of the City of Dodge City expenses by budget category.



Golf Course - The costs for the maintenance of the Mariah Hills Golf Course are this department's primary cost.

Hennessey Hall - This building is located on the former St. Mary of the Plains campus, and the City took over operations upon the closing of the college.

Municipal Court - Municipal Court includes the municipal judges and prosecuting attorney contracts. Also included are the costs for court-appointed attorneys and staff to assist the judge and prosecuting attorney.

Depot Train Station - This department includes wages for the train station attendants and other small items made available to the Amtrak passengers.

Other items budgeted from the General Fund are the City's portion of the communications budget shared with Ford County, computer upgrades, and additional community support.

REVENUE SOURCES WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

Funding for the City government and the services provided to residents come from many sources. In 2021, the governmental activities revenues totaled \$16,582,118. A majority of total governmental activities revenue comes from sales and use tax (32.93%) and property taxes (29.54%). The City also receives revenues from charges for services, franchise fees, grants, interest, fines and various other revenues. In 2021 revenues increased by \$1,897,199 compared to 2020 due to increased sales tax collections.

Image 2

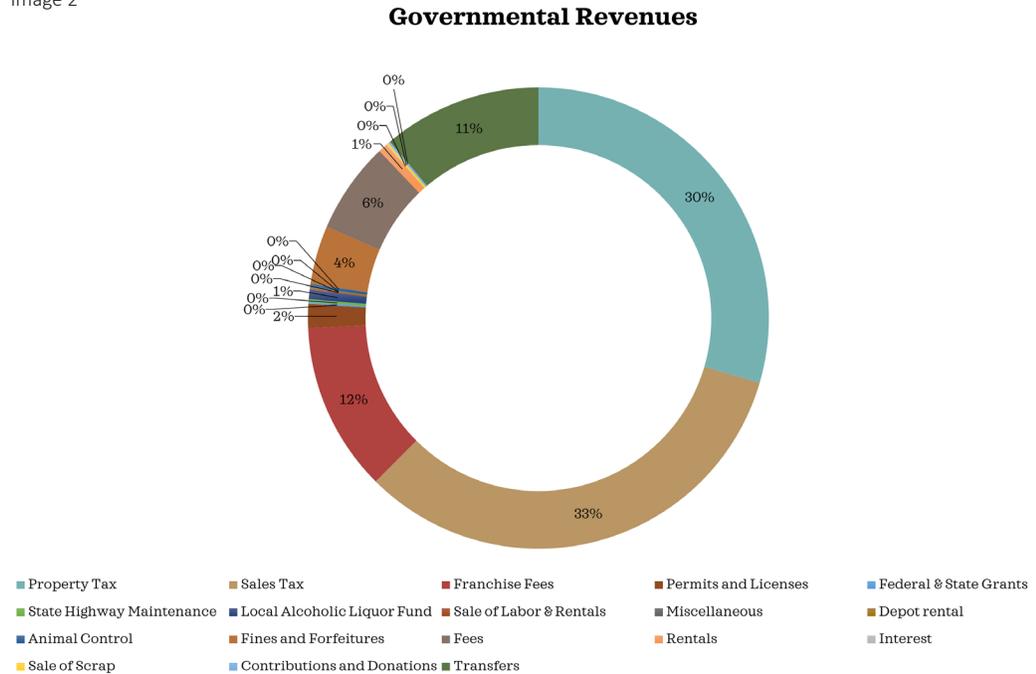


Image 2: Graph detailing the breakdown of the City of Dodge City revenues by budget category.

The following are brief descriptions of revenue sources:

Sales & Use Tax - The City collects a 1% sales tax on all retail sales in Dodge City, ½% is allocated to the general fund, and ½% is allocated to the Sales Tax Projects fund used to track the “Why Not Dodge Projects” activities.

Property Tax - Ad Valorem property tax is collected from all residential, commercial and other property in Dodge City. The City determines the amount needed to fund operations through the budgeting process.

Vehicle Tax - Vehicle owners in Dodge City pay a property tax based on a formula set by the State of Kansas and the vehicle's valuation.

Local Alcoholic Liquor Tax - This tax is generated from the sale of alcoholic liquor in Dodge City. One-third of this tax is deposited

into the General fund, ½ in the Special Parks and Recreation fund and ¼ into the Special Alcohol and Drug fund.

Franchise Fees - These fees are collected from utilities granted a non-exclusive franchise to operate within the city limits. Currently, the City has franchise agreements with AT&T, Cox Communications, Victory Electric and Black Hills Energy.

Permits & Licenses - Included in permits and licenses are building and inspection fees, licenses for private clubs, drinking establishments, liquor stores, cereal malt beverage establishments, peddler's permits, etc.

State Highway Maintenance - Funds received from the State of Kansas to maintain State highways inside city limits.

Animal Control - Includes sale



of dog tags and adoption fees collected by the Animal Shelter.

Fines & Forfeitures - Fines collected by Municipal Court for violations of City Ordinances.

Police - Reimbursements for security services and school resources officers and sale of copies of reports.

Engineering Fees - Charges for copies of plans.

Airport Fees - Funds received for leases at the airport, sales of gasoline and landing fees.

Cemetery Fees - Funds received for opening and closing of graves, sales of lots and mausoleum fees.

Golf Course Fees - Funds received for green fees, Golf Course Clubhouse meeting room rental, sales of merchandise in the pro shop, and rental of golf carts.

Public Buildings & Grounds Rentals - Rental of various properties owned by the City, including Hennessey Hall and Hoover Pavilion.

Interest - Interest collected on idle funds of the City.

Transfers - Funds moved the Water, Wasterwater, Sanitation, Drainage, CVB, Sales tax, Development and Growth, Special Parks and Recreation and Biogas funds to supplement the general fund operations and help pay for their costs in the General Fund.

PROPERTY TAXES

HOW YOUR TAXES ARE CALCULATED

The City's property taxes are approved when the City Commission adopts the budget.

Each year, the County Clerk sends the assessed valuation

of all property located within the city limits to the City. The assessed valuation is then used to determine what one mill is worth to that taxing entity. Each taxing entity has a different assessed valuation based on its boundaries. The value of a mill is figured by dividing the assessed valuation by 1000. For the 2022 budget, the City's assessed valuation was \$172,204,107; therefore, one mill's value was \$172,204.11. The amount of revenues and expenses needed

to operate each department is determined during the budget process. The total expenditures are then divided by the mill's value to determine how many mills will be required to fund the budget.

A resident of the City pays property taxes based on the mill levy of the City and property taxes for Ford County, USD 443 Dodge City Schools, Dodge City Community College, and the State of Kansas.



Image 3

MILL LEVIES OF TAX ENTITIES

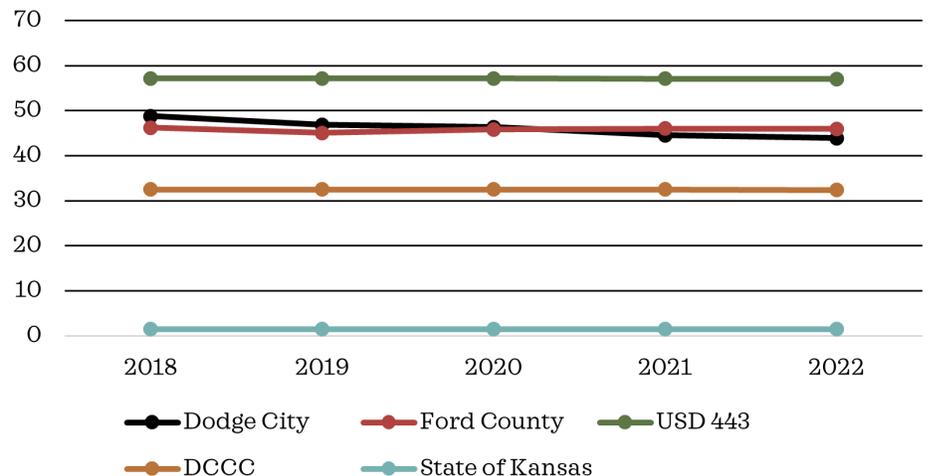


Image 4

Image 4: Change over time of the mill levies of the different taxing entities in Ford County.
Image 5: Change over time of the various types of debt payments by the City of Dodge City.



DEBT

The City has five different types of debt:

General Obligation Bonds (GO Bonds) - Debt backed by the full faith and credit of the City. As of December 31, 2021, the City's General Obligation bonds are rated an A+ by Standard & Poor's rating agency. This rating shows that the City's financial condition is strong. A majority of the City's debt is GO Bonds. The bonds are used for street construction and maintenance, infrastructure for new housing developments, biogas plant construction, and other infrastructure improvements needed throughout the City.

General Obligation Temporary Note - Debt backed by the City's full faith and credit that will be financed with GO Bonds at a later date.

Revenue Bonds - Debt secured by a future revenue source. These bonds were issued for the Special Events Center and the Longbranch Lagoon Waterpark and are paid by

sales tax.

Capital Leases - Financing arrangements that provide funding for the acquisition or construction of facilities and equipment. Capital leases have been used to construct the CREW building, a hangar at the airport, and purchase the ladder truck for the fire department and radios for all emergency service personnel.

KDHE Loan - The State Revolving Fund provided funds for constructing the North Wastewater Treatment Plant. These funds are loaned at rates that are typically lower than bond rates.

Debt Payments

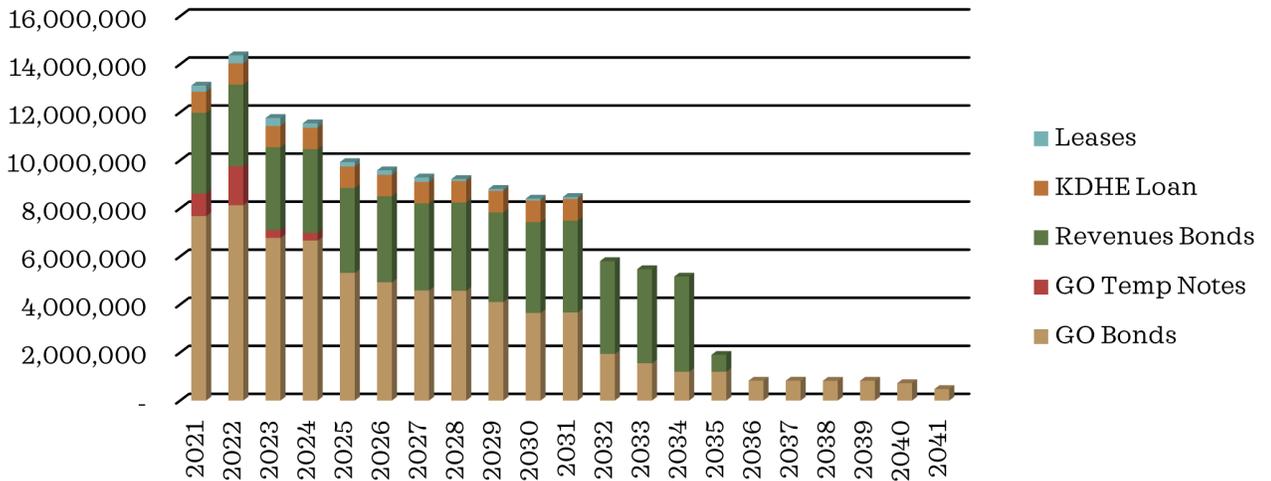


Image 5

Outstanding Debt

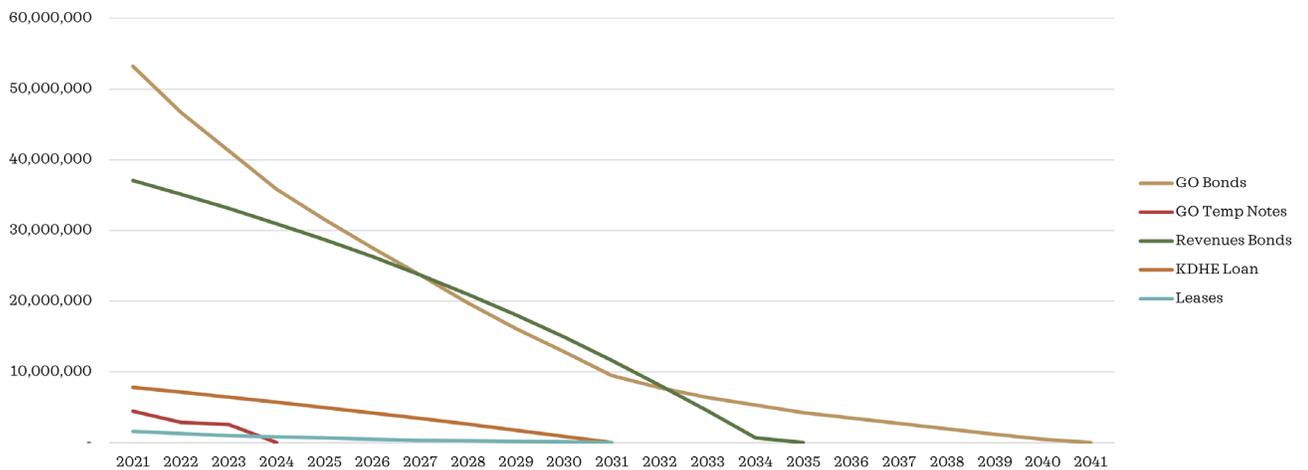


Image 6

Image 5: Change over time of the various types of debt payments by the City of Dodge City.

Image 6: Change over time of the various types of debt held by the City of Dodge City.





ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

5 Full Time & 1 Part Time Staff Members

WHO WE ARE

The City of Dodge City partners with the Dodge City/Ford County Development Corporation to help recruit and grow businesses and community development. The Development Corporation offers seamless, one-stop service for businesses seeking to locate or expand in the Dodge City/Ford County area, supports existing businesses, recruits new business and industry, provides workforce development services, promotes community development and many other partnerships and services.

The Development Corporation hosts the Small Business Development Center(SBDC) and the Kansas Department of Commerce Regional Business Development office. The SBDC increases economic prosperity in Kansas by helping entrepreneurs and small businesses start and grow through professional advising, training, and analytical tools and resources. The Department of Commerce promotes job creation and economic growth by assisting with business recruitment and expansion.

In 2021, the Dodge City/Ford County Development Corporation assisted with the recruitment of Hilmar Cheese. Plans are to break ground in Fall 2022 and open the plant in 2024. The processing facility will be a \$480 million investment and employ 260 jobs at the plant. They will need the capacity of 90,000 cows to meet their production needs, which will require an additional estimated investment of \$550 million for new dairies and an additional 750 dairy employees. They are working to site the dairies



Image 7: Finished single-family home at 1601 Mulberry Circle.

within a 45-to-50-mile radius of Dodge City, which will significantly enhance the economies of rural communities in this region.

In January 2022, the Development Corporation closed on the sale of 36 acres at the Dodge City Industrial Park. Construction has started on a new 217,000 sq. ft. small parcel service building. Completion is anticipated for September 2022.

The Development Corporation has created many organizations, including the Community Housing Association of Dodge City (CHAD), Dodge City Festivals, Main Street Dodge City and the Rural Education and Workforce Alliance (REWA), to facilitate community development needs. The City of Dodge City is strongly active and supportive of these initiatives.

CHAD

CHAD is a nonprofit organization established to facilitate all levels of housing for citizens of our community and members of our workforce that are commuting to Ford County for employment. CHAD continues to build and revitalize homes. In 2021, three

single-family homes were completed at 1601 Mulberry Circle, 708 Gardner, and 710 Gardner. CHAD is currently finishing a home at 602 Avenue N and a new build at 811 First Avenue in partnership with the Dodge City Community College (DCCC) Building Trades Program.

CHAD has many different programs that help families complete projects to revitalize their homes. In 2021 CHAD assisted in:

- ★ Paint Dodge- painted eight homes
- ★ Community Housing Renovation Program - 11 homes repaired for a total of \$30,065 in assistance.

CHAD had 1,782 volunteer hours. The Community Foundation of Southwest Kansas awarded CHAD \$5,000 for the Paint Dodge program and \$20,000 for the Community Home Renovation Program. National Beef awarded CHAD \$20,000 for the Community Home Renovation Program CHAD gave out \$5,000 in scholarships for the DCCC Building Trades Program students.



MAIN STREET

Main Street Dodge City is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the heritage of the downtown area to maintain the community's vibrant heart. The organization strives to unite both the private and public sector by coordinating different activities and events that stimulate pride and bring life to the downtown area.

The Downtown Revitalization Improvement Program is designed to assist property and business owners with improvements to the buildings' facades or updates within the building. In 2021, Main Street issued two 0% interest loans totaling \$10,000 with a private investment of \$21,147 and 548 volunteer hours totaling \$14,796 in value. The organization added 11 new business members in 2021.

REWA

The Rural Education and Workforce Alliance (REWA), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, was founded in 2019 to raise awareness of the lack of higher education and training opportunities in the Southwest Kansas region and build coalitions to support workforce-based education.

REWA oversees the University/Training Center, where multiple universities offer bachelor and master-level courses in Dodge City. Fort Hays State University's (FHSU) Bachelor of Nursing and Bachelor of Social Work programs have continued to be based out of the University/Training Center. FHSU announced in 2021 that they will be delivering a Bachelor of Communication Science degree program starting in August of 2022. FHSU is completing all its Master of Social Work clinicals at



Image 8: Homebuyer Education Class participants.

this location each semester. The Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center (KLETC) delivers continued education for law enforcement in the Southwest Kansas region. Additionally, the Small Business Development Center training courses are being held at this location monthly. REWA hosts a How-To Series Business Edition free to the public that teaches the resources to start a business or grow an existing business.

REWA was awarded the 2021 USDA grant to help develop a Makerspace at the University/Training Center. The Makerspace will include vinyl machines, heat press, multimedia machine and many other pieces of equipment for entrepreneurs to have a place to grow their ideas and for small businesses to test equipment that may be useful for their businesses. REWA was awarded a Kansas Health

Foundation grant and a Patterson Family Foundation grant for the continued growth of training and leadership opportunities in Southwest Kansas. REWA was also awarded the 2021 Community Foundation of Southwest Kansas grant for operating expenses.

The city was awarded a USDA Distant Learning/Telemedicine grant in 2020 that provided the technology needed for the classroom and office space at Hennessy Hall and satellite classrooms in St. John, Tribune, Elkhart, Scott City, and Jetmore. Students can attend any training or higher education opportunity at these locations and zoom in to the classes in Dodge City.

STAR BONDS

WHAT IT IS & HOW IT WORKS

Sales Tax and Revenue (STAR) Bonds is an incentive program to attract tourism through the State of Kansas. The program captures the “new” Sales Tax only and funds improvements within the “STAR Bond District.” The focus of the most recent effort is to continue the development of the newest STAR Bond Project Area along 14th Avenue. This supports the continued redevelopment of the Downtown Historic Area and Boot Hill Museum.

NORTH RETAIL PROJECT

The retail project was designed

to attract an additional big-box anchor retailer to the 14th corridor. Sutherland’s Home Improvement, consisting of a 75,000 square foot home improvement store and 35,000 square foot garden center, opened in October 2019. This investment continues to spur retail growth, including Casey’s Convenience Store, Scooters, and United Wireless. In 2021, Starbucks and T-Mobile opened, with Astra Bank and Tommie’s Express car wash coming in 2022.

This retail project is an important catalyst to bring significant development to Dodge City. In addition to the home improvement store, the retail project plan includes the development of the

outer parcels along 14th Avenue, which will provide critical space for the addition of restaurants and high-volume retail stores.

BOOT HILL MUSEUM EXPANSION

The Dodge City STAR Bond Project’s centerpiece is the renovation and expansion of the Boot Hill Museum. The reinvestment in this iconic museum added a new interactive fixed exhibit hall, gift shop, and the Mariah Gallery, featuring traveling exhibits and special events. In 2021, there was a 68% increase in admissions, with 87,812 visitors experiencing the museum.



Image 9: Interior of one of the new exhibits at Boot Hill Museum featuring a covered wagon and depicting life on the Santa Fe Trail.

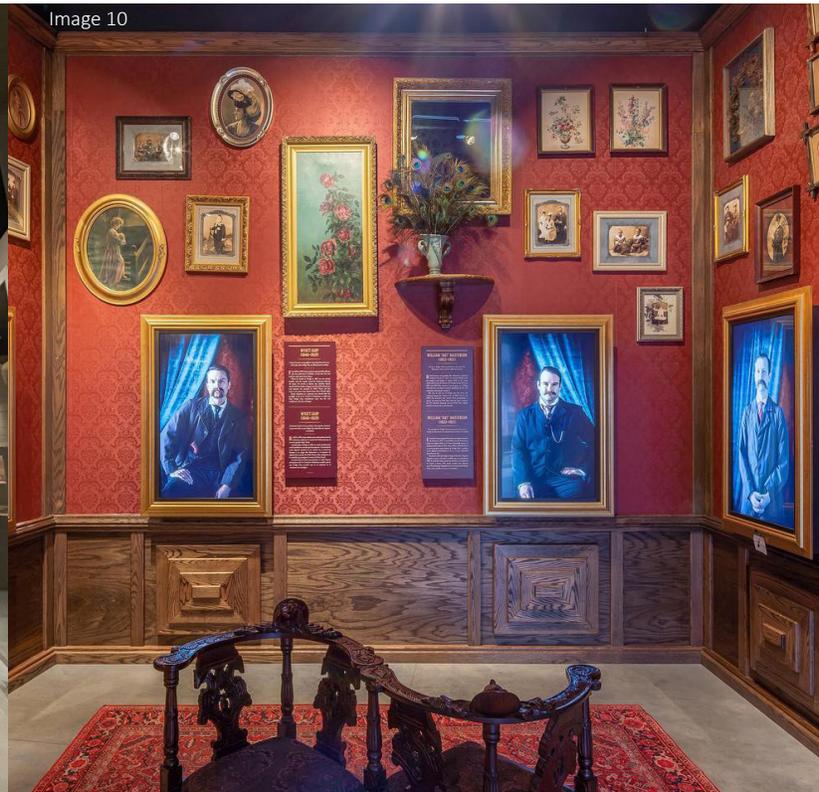


Image 10: Interior of one of the new exhibits at Boot Hill Museum featuring prominent figures of Dodge City history.



Image 11: Proposed design of the “Longhorn Plaza” area as part of the Downtown Streetscape project. Image 12: Proposed design of the walking trail extension along Wyatt Earp Blvd. as part of the Downtown Streetscape project. Image 13: Proposed intersection features at 2nd Ave. and Front St. as part of the Downtown Streetscape project. Image 14: Proposed design of the 3rd Ave. and Gunsmoke St. intersection as part of the Downtown Streetscape project. Image 15: Proposed design of the angled parking along 2nd Ave. as part of the Downtown Streetscape project.

DOWNTOWN STREETScape

The revitalization of Dodge City’s historic downtown is another essential part of the STAR Bond project. This project focuses on the streetscape and infrastructure improvements along Front Street from 3rd Avenue to Central Avenue. A recent Community engagement survey for Dodge City’s 2030 Comprehensive Plan revealed that 92% of citizens cited that strengthening the downtown was important to them, and 91% thought that the City should be involved in revitalizing the downtown. Making downtown more welcoming through improved landscaping, public art, walking paths and streetlights will entice visitors and locals to enjoy the unique sense of place and heritage that is Dodge City’s

trademark. As more people are attracted downtown, it will also help spur economic development and growth. In addition, the much-needed improvements to the local streets will provide more accessible parking, traffic calming measures and better walkability. Funding for the Streetscape project includes \$3.5 million from STAR Bonds, \$2 million awarded through the KDOT Cost Share, American Recovery Act funds of \$1.5 million and \$150,000 from the Information Network of Kansas and Dodge City Main Street Façade Improvement Program Funds \$95,700.

The Downtown Streetscape will strengthen the travel and tourism industry in Southwest Kansas through the focal point of this renovation project by creating

a western-inspired plaza area serving as a gathering place for locals and visitors alike. Second Avenue from Front Street to Gunsmoke Street will also be improved by creating a plaza street that can be used for vehicular traffic or easily closed to control traffic for events, international and Main Street festivals, concerts and markets that showcase Dodge City’s rich cultural heritage. A multi-use pedestrian and bicycle trail will be constructed along Wyatt Earp to provide better and safer pedestrian walkability from Boot Hill Museum to the downtown and the Historic Santa Fe Depot as part of the renovations. These improved services will help existing businesses expand and prosper while also enhancing the area’s economic development.



PARKS & FACILITIES

29 Full Time Staff Members

WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

The Parks & Facilities department consists of eight divisions, including Parks, Forestry & Landscape, Construction & Building Maintenance, Wright Park Zoo, Athletic Field Maintenance, Mariah Hills Golf Course, Maple Grove Cemetery, and Sports & Events.

Parks & Facilities maintains 18 parks, over 122 acres. They are responsible for maintaining the downtown district’s landscaping, the Hwy 50 Bypass, medians, roadsides, the river levee system, and several other non-park areas that span 684 acres across the community.

TREE CITY USA

Dodge City has a long history of care and concern for trees and is one of four cities in the country to receive the “Tree City USA” recognition for 45 years since the award’s inception. In 2021, the Forestry & Landscape Division planted 67 new trees and 410 annual plants while maintaining 316 downtown landscape beds and tree rings. They also removed 53 trees that were in poor condition.

REDO THE ZOO

In 2019, the master plan for Wright Park Zoo (WPZ) was completed. City staff has been working with the Friends of Wright Park Zoo (FWPZ) to develop their fundraising strategy for the “Redo the Zoo” campaign. The goal of the Master Plan is to make WPZ more animal and user-friendly.

FWPZ was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Southwest Kansas as ongoing support for the campaign. Wright Park Zoo acquired a Piney Woods

Image 16



Image 16: Overlook of Mariah Hills Golf Course.

cow, a rare and old breed of cattle that dates back to the Spanish settlers of the 16th century. With the help of FWPZ, Zoo staff now offer sloth encounters, an opportunity for the public to get up close with Lucia, our Linnaeus’s two-toed sloth, and learn fun sloth facts.

MARIAH HILLS GOLF COURSE

2021 was one of the best years at Mariah Hills in the last 20+ years. Golfers enjoyed 20,514 rounds of golf compared to 14,668 in 2020. There were 30 tournaments scheduled and hosted compared to 31 tournaments scheduled and 22 hosted in 2020. Mariah was able to host three of the bigger tournaments: 4A KSHSAA Boys State Tournament, Central Links High Plains Amateur, and KCAC Match Play. In 2021 Mariah Hills added ten new golf carts to the fleet, bringing the total golf cart fleet to fifty. This helps with day-to-day play and not having to rent as many

carts for tournaments. The golf course also gained national attention, being ranked by Golfpass 7th and Golfday 9th best public golf course in Kansas.

MAPLE GROVE CEMETERY

The Cemetery consists of 73 acres divided into 28 divisions with two mausoleums and a new division developed in 2021 and set to open in 2022. There are currently 24,272 plots in the Cemetery, and an additional 1,208 will be added with the new division’s addition.

“WHY NOT DODGE” PROJECTS

ATHLETIC FIELD MAINTENANCE

Athletic Field Maintenance (AFM) Division maintains 107 acres of athletic fields, including ten baseball/softball game fields, six soccer game fields and three football game fields at St. Mary’s Sports Complex. There are also



nine baseball/softball practice fields and six soccer practice fields throughout the community. In 2021, AFM placed and graded new shale in the warning tracks at Legends and Cavalier Fields and installed a new solar light along the walking trail donated through a partnership with Koch Industries.

DODGE CITY RACEWAY PARK

Craig Dollansky Racing, the new DCRP Operator & Promotor, kicked off a stellar opening season in 2021. The firm is led by the dynamic duo of Craig and Julie Dollansky, who bring 25 years of professional management and dirt track promotions experience.

They added several new events to the lineup, including the National Tractor Pull Association, Tractor Pull, and flat track motorcycle

races. URSS/IMCA Weekly Races provided great entertainment for the fans. The Short Track Series offered an opportunity for area youth to get involved in racing. The 2-day sprint car and midget special, Steve King Memorial Race, wrapped up the season with nearly 70 competitors. Several improvements were made to enhance the fan experience at the facility, including new bilingual signage and a point of sale system that allows for the use of credit cards to purchase passes to attend the races. A new, interactive website was implemented to promote the track at <https://dodgecityracewaypark.com/>.

LONG BRANCH LAGOON

The western-themed water park featuring over 27,000 feet of water

surface entered its 6th year of operation. In 2021, they welcomed 74,701 visitors compared to 24,806 in 2020. There were 555 visitors daily as opposed to 351 in 2020.

DODGE CITY SPORTS COMMISSION

The Sports Commission is a City ad-hoc committee whose objective is to identify and recruit potential athletic events to Dodge City. Representatives include the City, USD 443, Dodge City Community College, United Wireless Arena, the Western State Bank Expo, and the Dodge City CVB. The Dodge City Sports Commission hosted six events throughout the year. Four high school events, including the 1A State Basketball Tournament, 1A and 2A State Volleyball, 4A State Golf and the 6-Man Wild



Image 17

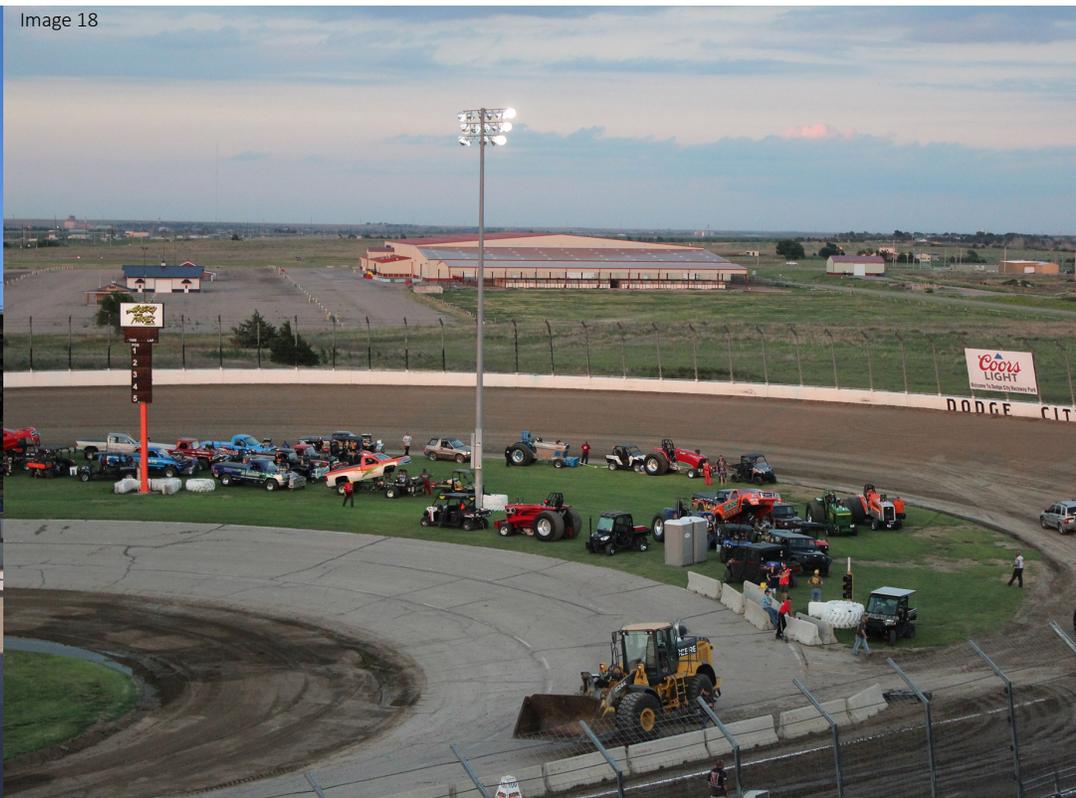


Image 18

Image 17: New signage for the 2021 Season at Dodge City Raceway Park.

Image 18: Tractors and trucks in the in-field at Dodge City Raceway Park for the National Tractor Pull.



West Bowl and two college events, including Region IV Softball and KCAC Golf Match Play.

SPORTS & EVENTS

For the 2021 season, 11 youth baseball and softball tournaments were initially scheduled, with two tournaments canceled due to weather at Legends Ballpark. A total of 218 youth teams registered for the tournaments, 46 teams for the 48- Hour tournament and 24 teams for a benefit tournament held in August. There were 10,650 people through the gate at Legends in 2021, helping generate \$47,671 in revenue when combined with team entry fees. In comparison, the 2020 COVID-19 shortened season saw six tournaments and 69 teams

participating.

UNITED WIRELESS ARENA & BOOT HILL CASINO & RESORT CONFERENCE CENTER

Managed by VenuWorks and located adjacent to Boot Hill Casino and Resort, this special events center is the entertainment hub for Southwest Kansas. Since 2015, the facility has experienced a 150% increase in competitions and tournaments. These have included events such as state volleyball and basketball. The average annual attendance is 58,291, with an average economic impact of \$5,770,800.

Throughout the year, 162 events were hosted with a total attendance of 42,354, with an

economic impact of \$4,235,400.

However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 26 events were postponed or canceled. The loss of economic impact from these events was \$472,600.

Despite cancellations, the United Wireless Arena welcomed a great variety of shows in 2021. These included Jeff Dunham, Banda El Recodo, Stars on Ice, and Gary Allen, to name a few. Roller skating was added as a new entertainment opportunity in the fall, and ice skating and ice hockey returned in the winter. In 2022, the Southwest Storm Arena Football team will join the lineup of family fun.



Image 19: State Volleyball hosted at United Wireless Arena. Image 20: Chris Lane performing at the 2021 Dodge City Days Concert. Image 21: Hockey arena/ice floor at United Wireless Arena.



PUBLIC WORKS

32 Full Time Staff Members

WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

The Public Works consists of seven divisions: Streets, Sanitation, Recycling, Fleet Maintenance, Water, Wastewater, and the Dodge City Regional Airport. Together they maintain the City's most critical infrastructure with approximately 43 employees.

STREETS

Dodge City has 146 miles of paved streets within the city limits that must be maintained. Services provided are pavement maintenance, stormwater facilities maintenance, traffic control services and signal maintenance, river levee maintenance, alley maintenance, and snow and ice control.

SANITATION

Weekly residential solid waste collection is provided for approximately 6,582 accounts. Services include weekly curbside collections of household solid waste, grass clippings and tree limbs. In addition, bulk waste collection days for metal and furniture occur weekly. Customers can rent a 20-yard roll-off container for residential cleanup projects or construction debris removal.

RECYCLING

Community Recycling Environmental Waste (CREW) is responsible for the reduction of solid waste within Ford County. CREW is a drop-off service located at the newly constructed building 124 N 14th Ave. There are seven neighborhoods where a recycling trailer rotates each week for residential convenience. The trailer is located at Long Branch Park on Mondays, Colleen Park



Image 22: Ribbon Cutting for the Jane Longmeyer Recycling Center hosted by the Dodge City Area Chamber of Commerce.

on Tuesdays, Spiers Park on Wednesdays, and Well 17, located at Ave P and Elbow Bend on Thursdays. On the 1st weekend of every month, the trailer is placed at 12th Ave. and Brier St. Then, on the 2nd weekend, the trailer is at Center and Plains Ave. On the 3rd weekend, it is placed in the YMCA parking lot. Staff also provides weekly pickup of recycling to each of the Dodge City Schools. CREW is an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, which initiates programs relating to litter abatement, graffiti education, and beautification projects.

January of 2021, CREW recycling opened the Jane Longmeyer Recycling Center at 124 N 14th Avenue. On April 24, 2021, a ribbon-cutting was held, dedicating the build to Jane Longmeyer and all her dedication to the recycling program in Dodge City.

In September of 2021, the Recycling Program was awarded a solid waste grant to purchase a loading dock for the facility.

To date, the building has produced 372.58 tons of recycled materials. Mostly cardboard, some newspaper, and aluminum cans have been shipped from the building. Exact tonnages will be published later this year.

FLEET MAINTENANCE

Fleet Maintenance services 173 vehicles amongst all city departments. The division also provides vehicle inspections for vehicle-based vendors such as taxis and street legal utility vehicle certifications.

WATER DIVISION

The City provides 8,332 accounts with over 2 billion gallons of safe drinking water to residents per year. The water is obtained from groundwater in the Ogallala Aquifer. There are currently 21 active wells, three water towers and one underground storage tank. More than 148 miles of water main lines make up the distribution system. The water is routinely sampled to ensure compliance with the Safe Water Drinking Act



standards and meet strict KDHE compliance guidelines.

WASTEWATER DIVISION

Approximately 150 miles of underground sewer mains make up the sanitary sewer system maintained by the Wastewater employees, and more than 2000 sewer manholes provide access to the sewer system. In addition, the division assists plumbers and residents when problems occur with sewer services.

DODGE CITY REGIONAL AIRPORT

Air travel is an integral part of the transportation infrastructure for Southwest Kansas. Dodge City Regional Airport (DDC) serves as a vital link for the quality of life, economic growth, and community stability. The main objective at DDC is to maintain safe and stable air service for visitors arriving by air, including commercial service, charter service, military, cargo operations and general aviation. DDC is a fully

certified airport with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), regulated under the Part 139 Federal Standards, with two active runways; 14-32, which is 6,899 ft. by 100ft., newly reconstructed concrete runway; 02-20, our crosswind runway, is 4,649' by 100' asphalt runway.

The Essential Air Service Act helps keep commercial air service in Dodge City. On February 13, 2020, Dodge City Regional Airport had its inaugural flight with United Airlines, operated by SkyWest. Currently, United Airlines provides a 50-passenger jet offering two daily round-trip flights to Denver with the exceptions of Tuesday and Saturday, which offers 1 flight. DDC surpassed 8000 enplanements in 2021, with 8243 total enplanements for the year. Due to the enplanement status, DDC will receive \$600,000 in entitlement funding in 2023.

The airport operates on 440 acres of land and has 1,154,900 sq. ft. of runways and taxiways that staff must maintain and keep with FAA Part 139 safety standards.

The airport was awarded a \$750,000.00 FAA grant to acquire a snow removal broom to assist in the snow removal process. Funding for this purchase will come from airport entitlement funds and a local match determined by the FAA.

LOOKING AHEAD

AIRPORT TERMINAL REMODEL

The airport staff is currently working with FAA to secure Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) grant funding to pay for the remodel of the terminal building. If awarded, the grant would include an expansion of the existing parking lot. Securing funding will delay the project by approximately one year to allow for additional study work required by the FAA.

PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING

On April 15, 2021, a fire occurred at the Water Plant building located at 703 W Trail St. The fire resulted in a total loss, and the building had to be torn down in December. Staff is currently working on plans to rebuild offices at the old All for Fun site, which currently houses Parks & Facilities.

Image 23



Image 23: The front of the Dodge City Regional Airport terminal.



DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

6 Full Time Staff Members

PERMITS & VALUATION

Building Permits are an essential indicator of where the construction market is headed and can indicate growth in the community.

The total permit valuation for 2021 was over \$34 Million.

COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION

Commercial permits valuations totaled approximately \$13 million. This is an increase from 2020 due to projects such as High Plains Farm Credit, Blue Beacon Truck Wash, and the Plaza Del Soule development.

RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION

Residential permit valuations increased in 2021, totaling approximately \$13 Million, with 65 single-family dwellings permitted. Material Shortages and shipping delays increased the cost of new residential construction in 2021. Shortages of windows, entry doors and garage doors caused many new homes to sit unfinished for several months.

All other permit valuations, such as accessory structures, fences, and remodels, totaled approximately \$8 million.

PERMITS APPROVED SINCE 2017:

2017	2018	2019,	2020	2021
2012	1240	1267	1204	1186

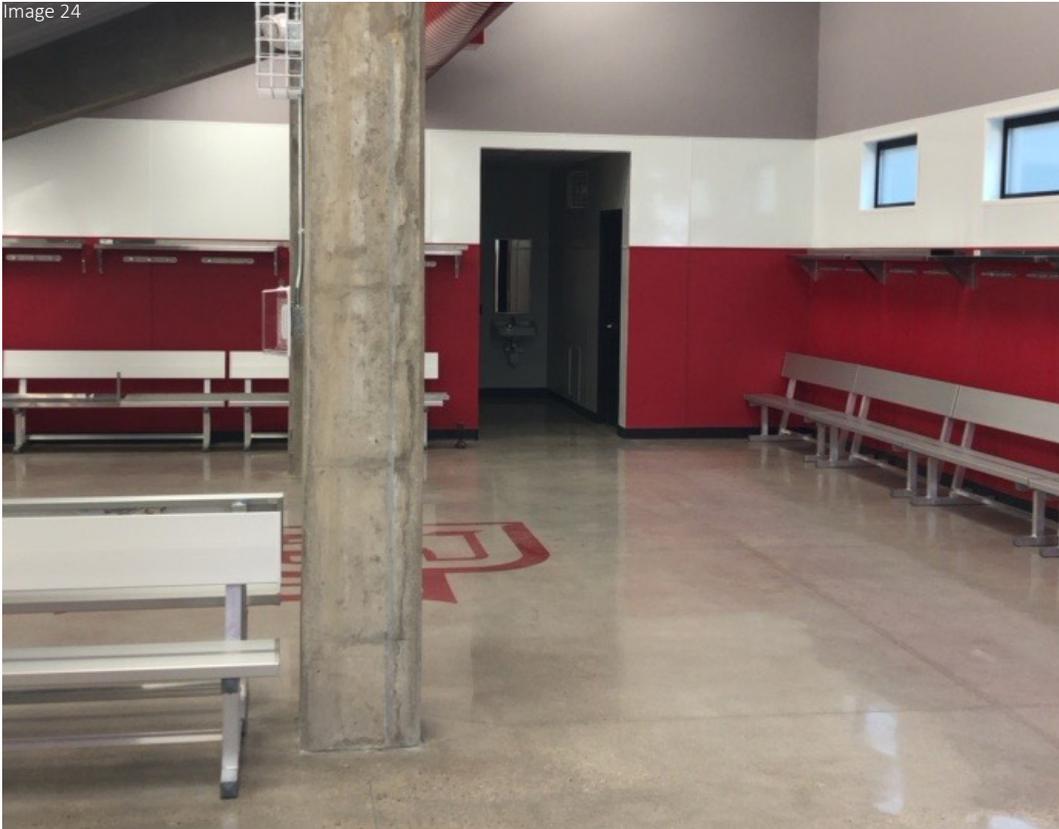


Image 24: Finished reconstruction updates of the locker rooms at Memorial Stadium. Image 25: Framework being done by Dodge City Community College Construction Trade Students at the CHAD house located at 811 1st Ave.

ENGINEERING SERVICES

5 Full Time Staff Members



Image 26



Image 27

Image 26: Concreted being placed for the Iron Rd. construction from Ave A to 6th Ave. Image 27: Finished McCaustland Rd. #2 reroute.

WHAT WE DO

The Engineering Services Department is responsible for the planning, designing, and oversight of public infrastructure projects, new construction and reconstruction of city streets, sidewalks/trails, wastewater treatment facilities, water and sewer mains, storm sewer structures, and the Warrior biogas upgrading facility.

The department is involved in these projects from start to finish, from preplanning to construction inspection and as-built drawings.

2021 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ★ Drainage improvements to the Green Hill's O'Ford subdivision and a drainage

way on east Trail St. were completed. The City partnered with landowners to make these projects happen and resulted in reducing the flooding possibility and help the property owners with maintenance along the drainage areas.

- ★ In cooperation with the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), the intersection of US 50 & Gary Ave. was widened to include a left turn lane at the intersection. This increases safety through a reduction of crashes and limits delays at the intersection.
- ★ Another project being done in partnership with KDOT,

is the Improvements to the Trail St. & US 56/283/400 Intersection. The project is currently under review by KDOT and has a letting date of May 2022.

- ★ The reroute of McCaustland Rd. #2 was substantially completed in 2021. Crews are finishing some curb & gutter work to separate the residential traffic on McCaustland Rd. #2 and the recent commercial development near the road.
- ★ Construction started on a section of Iron Rd. from Ave. A to 6th Ave. in 2021. This new collector roadway will help with traffic flow in this fast-growing residential area of town. It is on



schedule to be completed by mid-2022.

- ★ Reconstruction of Fairway Drive from Comanche Street to University Drive was completed in 2021. The project replaced a 40+-year-old asphalt collector of varying thickness with 7" concrete pavement.
- ★ The north and southbound traffic signals at Central Avenue and University Dr./ Soule St. were replaced with modern signals. The camera signal detection for east and westbound traffic was replaced with radar to negate the detection issues experienced at the intersection due to sunlight glare.

NEW RESIDENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

In 2021, infrastructure for 62 residential lots was constructed. This represents 8,568 lineal feet of new water line, 2,500 lineal feet of new sewer line, 4/10th of a mile of new asphalt streets and just over a ¼ mile of new concrete street. Currently, infrastructure is being constructed for an additional 24 residential lots, plus more are planned to be developed in the coming year.

FUTURE PROJECTS

The following list of projects is already in the pipeline for construction:

TRAIL ST. WIDENING

This project coincides with the US 56/283/400 & Trail St. intersection improvement project. With this project, a center two-way left-turn lane (TWLT) will

be constructed from the US 56/283/400 intersection to just west of McCaustland Rd. #1. This will provide a lane for left-turning traffic to help with congestion on this roadway portion. The project is currently under design and could let in 2022 if funding is available.

COMANCHE STREET RECONSTRUCTION

In 2021, a project to reconstruct about 1,000 feet of Comanche Street from 14th Avenue to the west was put out to bid. The commission approved the bid from Building Solutions, and the project is set to start in the spring of 2022.

DOWNTOWN STREETSCAPE & UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS

In 2021, the City of Dodge City was awarded \$2 million from KDOT through the Cost Share Program to help pay for the downtown streetscape project. Building Solutions was selected as the CM@R for the project that will start in the spring of 2022 and take approximately two years to construct. This project will replace 100+-year-old private and public utilities throughout several blocks of the downtown area.

2ND AVE. BRIDGE REPAIRS

This project will start in February/March of 2022. The project will rehab sections of the bridge to provide a longer life of the structure. The crash attenuator will be removed and replaced with a standard bridge rail tie-in as part of the project.

IRON RD. CONSTRUCTION

A new section of Iron Rd. will be constructed from 6th Ave. to 14th

Ave. to help with traffic flow in this fast-growing residential area of town. Currently, under design, the project will be ready for bid sometime in 2022.

US 50 & LORETTA AVE. INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

In a partnership between the City, KDOT, USD 443, and Dodge City Community College (DC³), the study has been completed on this intersection and adjoining roadways to determine what improvements are needed to provide access from US 50 to Dodge City High School and to improve the existing access to DC³. A consultant has been selected, and the design of the improvements will begin in 2022. No timeline has been established for the completion of the design or construction of the project.

6TH/7TH AVE. REALIGNMENT

Once completed, 6th Ave. will have a direct connection to Wyatt Earp Blvd. over what is currently 7th Ave. from Cedar St. to Wyatt Earp Blvd. The new roadway will provide dedicated parking lanes for the current 7th Ave. residents, new sidewalk/trail, and waterline and services. As part of the project, Spruce St. between 5th Ave. and 8th Ave. will be reconstructed to provide the same features as 6th Ave. Once complete, the residents along the new roadway from Wyatt Earp Blvd. to Ark Valley Ave. will have a new 6th Ave. address. The design of this project could be finished in 2022.





PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

1 Full Time & 12 Part Time Staff Members

WHO WE SERVE

With extensive support from the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) and accessing multiple Federal Highway dollars, Dodge City’s Public Transit program has evolved substantially in recent years. The City’s Transportation program started with a Demand Response program with two buses. In 2015, this program was expanded to include a fixed-route service with three routes and three

demand response buses serving over 30,000 rides annually. The department also provides ADA Paratransit/Demand Response Service in an area ¾ miles beyond the Fixed Routes. Since the Fixed Route service implementation, our monthly ridership increased except for the last two years due to the impacts of the COVID19 pandemic. However, the transit program is essential in the community. It plays a critical factor in the lives of residents who use this service, especially those

with low income, seniors, and medical conditions.

LOOKING AHEAD

City staff continues to work with KDOT to plan a transit storage facility and a combined Public Works/Transportation mechanic shop, improving and strengthening the Public Transportation Program in Dodge City. This would not be possible without the help of partners at KDOT and the Federal Transit Administration.



Image 28

Image 28: Green, Red, and Blue Route Public Transportation buses lined up outside the Santa Fe Depot.



FIRE DEPARTMENT

23 Full Time Staff Members

WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

Dodge City Fire Department's (DCFD) primary goal is to meet the community's public safety needs by reducing risk and preventing as many fire and medical emergencies as possible. To be effective in this mission, the department works to establish relationships with community groups, schools, building managers, health care workers and area businesses. These relationships help the public understand the various risks within the community and help the department design educational programs and mitigation strategies to address these risks.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION PROGRAM

During October, the Dodge City Fire Department was happy to get back into schools for the National Fire Protection Association's Fire Safety Week. Dodge City Fire Personnel visited nine elementary schools, and 21,182 K-2nd grade students were reached with our fire safety message. The 2021 theme was "Know the Sounds of Fire Safety." The focus during the lessons was on the sounds of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, fire safety, and practicing escape plans.

As a part of our Community Risk Reduction Program, Dodge City Fire Department provides fire and life safety inspections along with City Developmental Services, community education, and fire investigations. These functions help prevent fires, enhance public safety in all buildings and improve emergency responders' ability to



Image 29



Image 30

Image 29: Elementary students being shown the inside of the DCFD fleet during a tour of Station 1.
 Image 30: Elementary students putting out "fires" with the assistance of DCFD Firefighters.



manage incidents. We help achieve a safe, vibrant, and economically sustainable city by doing this.

In 2021, there were 296 fire inspection violations discovered by fire inspectors in the City of Dodge City. Through guidance and education and working with property owners, these code violations were corrected, mitigating the possibility of a catastrophic fire event.

Other vital programs to assist in the Community Risk Reduction Program are installing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in any homes within Dodge City, CPR training, and car seat inspections and installation.

There are many opportunities for the Dodge City Fire Department to interact with the public in a typical year. Schools request tours and educational presentations, neighborhoods and community groups invite the department to gatherings, and DCFD attends various festivals. This allows fire personnel time to connect with residents more personally. Additionally, the Fire Department participates in various community/fundraiser events. Social media is another venue to connect with residents and provide important safety and educational information. The Dodge City Fire Department takes pride in being an integral part of the community it serves.

AIR RESCUE FIREFIGHTING

The Dodge City Fire Department, with the assistance of Ford County Fire/EMS, provides Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting, aka ARFF, services in compliance with the regulatory mandates of 14 CFR, part 139 for the aviation operations

conducted at Dodge City Regional Airport. Based on various FAA and NFPA standards, ARFF is charged with maintaining a stringent response capability, extinguishing agent inventory levels, and training schedule. Under the leadership of Captain Bradley Hines, the ARFF team is comprised of 8 Dodge City and 3 Ford County ARFF Certified Fire Personnel. In 2021, DCFD personnel responded to the Dodge City Regional Airport for standby 819 times.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The Dodge City Fire Department works diligently to lower the risks of fire and other emergencies within our community by using the five E's to protect life and property. Those E's are comprised of education, enforcement, engineering, economic incentive, and effective emergency response when all previous prevention measures fail. In 2021, the DCFD was called more than 3000 times for emergent and non-emergent incidents. The majority, 53.23%, of those calls were for medical assistance. When responding to emergencies, our goal is to meet the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards for emergency response, where the first unit should arrive within 4 minutes, with an effective firefighting force (EFF) arriving within 8 minutes 90% of the time. In 2021, the DCFD met the 4-minute response

time 69% of the time. The DCFD assembled an EFF within 8 minutes 90% of the time. The response times for the Dodge City Fire Department averaged 4 minutes 05 seconds to all emergency calls.

There were 460 fire calls in 2021, of which 86 were actual fires when fire crews arrived. Of those fires, 32 were in structures, 7 were passenger vehicles, 30 were grass or brush fires, and the remaining 17 fires consisted of mixed rubbish or waste fires outside of structures. There was approximately \$1,698,820 of property loss in Dodge City due to fire in 2021.

Image 31



Image 31: DCFD putting out the fire that consumed the Public Works water building and offices.





POLICE DEPARTMENT

65 Full Time & 1 Part Time Staff Members

DODGE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

STRUCTURE, LEADERSHIP, STRENGTH AND GROWTH

The Dodge City Police Department consists of five bureaus: Administration/Professional Standards, Patrol, Detective, Support Services (Records), and the Animal Control & Shelter. The department has been under the command and oversight of Police Chief Drew Francis since 2016. Starting with the department in 2001, he has grown through the ranks into command. The department is staffed by 65 employees, 1 of which is part-time. The authorized (budgeted) police force strength, from the chief to the entry-level officers, consists of 49 sworn police officers. The remaining 16 are civilian staff

working in the Records, Property/Evidence, IT and Animal Shelter sections.

The department began a new entry-level, non-sworn community service officer position and program in 2020. This new program serves the department's effort to attract and retain local youth between the ages of 18 through 20 and build our officers from those already invested in our community. The program bridges a gap where it is seen that youth interested in a career in law enforcement either enter other job fields or move out of the community while waiting to turn the minimum age of 21. Often these youth do not end up joining the police field, or if they do, it is often the city they moved to that benefits from their application. The program has proven to be

a valuable success and the first two CSOs in the program are set to transition into sworn police officers within 2022. With the addition of this program, DCPD looks forward to working with the school district's Pathways Program to help identify and direct those local youth with the right stuff into this noble profession of law enforcement.

WORKLOAD & ENFORCEMENT

2021 Statistic TOTALS

Total calls for service: 22,987 = (1,916 calls per month or 442 calls per week or 63 calls per day.)

Reports made: 1,339 adult arrests, 240 juvenile arrests, issued 536 criminal citations covering 872 misdemeanor offenses. The police department completed 3,395 offenses/misc during this same time frame. Officers made 4,365 traffic stops resulting in 3,533 traffic violations cited and 3,026 warnings, and handled 954 vehicle crashes.

NON-ENFORCEMENT

The DCPD does much more than respond to calls and enforce laws. The Community/School Resource Unit provides daily support and security to the school district and kids. Officers continue to support healthy relationships and decision-making through the Gang Resistance Education And Training (GREAT) Program curriculum in the 5th and 7th-grade levels, taught by School Resource Officers. DCPD also provides community support and site safety courses to help safeguard workplaces and houses of worship from a multitude of potential acts of violence.



Image 32: Community Service Officer, Ruben Acosta, being sworn in as an official officer by Chief Francis.



The DCPD offers the Citizens Police Academy once a year each fall. This 10-week course includes informative classes offering Dodge City citizens an inside look at the operations and inner workings of their police department. Citizen students learn about the department's structure, workload, and capabilities. These interactive and even hands-on classes create a true and transparent understanding of what the department does and why. Graduates share their 'behind-the-scenes' knowledge with their family and friends, and some even go on to become volunteers with the department's Police Auxiliary unit.

ANIMAL SHELTER

In 2020, the Dodge City Animal

Shelter saw a desperately needed expansion to the animal shelter's facility. In 2021 staff worked hard to develop the capacity to hold animals in their care while meeting the State of Kansas' revised licensing requirements.

The animal shelter has made every effort under the supervision of shelter Director, Laura Stein, to rescue and adopt out animals coming into their care vs. euthanizing these loving companions. This effort involves not only working to locate owners of lost pets but also weekly arrangements for transports of animals to rescue operations outside of Dodge City, some outside of Kansas. The shelter works closely with the Ford County Humane Society in an effort to get more animals into loving homes

through adoption or rescue.

In 2021, the shelter adopted, rescued, or returned to their owners 1,342 domestic pets. Animal control also dealt with a total of 1,690 animal complaints, including 117 wild animals within the city. Animal control officers make every effort to humanely capture and return these critters to the wild outside the city limits. According to reports, they handled 27 bites, 90 citations, and 283 warnings.

With the new addition and increased capacity, the shelter hopes to be able to better serve the needs of the community and the furry friends.

Image 33



Image 33: DCPD officers participate in the Friends of Wright Park Zoo's Boo at the Zoo fundraising event.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, PURCHASING, & MUNICIPAL COURT

8 Full Time Staff Members

WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

Information Technology’s (IT) mission is to help City Employees meet and maintain their potential through technology. The two full-time staff and one seasonal employee work with all departments in the City. They plan, install, maintain, repair, and upgrade City computer hardware and software/ networking systems.

IT set plans in motion for several new implementations to replace old systems and to create new ones.

2021 IT PROJECTS

- ★ Prepared RFP for a new Enterprise software to replace the aging Naviline software that many divisions had been using. Tyler Technologies was selected, and IT has been preparing for the system’s implementation, getting data for conversion, attending training, etc. The first step of the new software installation set to be completed early 2022 is Financials.
- ★ Assisted the Water Department when the Water Building burned down. IT set up replacement machines rapidly for the displaced staff, recovered data that could be recovered, and prepared loss estimates for our insurance claim.
- ★ Assisted the Police in the deployment of their new camera systems. IT prepared a new outdoor wireless network and performed other networking tasks to create

a stable backbone for the system.

- ★ Maintained the laptops and systems in a ready status in case of a need to shift to work-from-home again.
- ★ Assisted Parks and Facilities with finding a replacement software and cashiering system, getting new hardware for the system, etc.
- ★ Researched and installed a new POS system for the CVB. The new system is easier to use and a much better fit.
- ★ Works with third-party vendors, including security vendors, to install security camera systems where needed.
- ★ Working with a new intern, who has been helping with more proactive maintenance.
- ★ Finished up the installation of the new Police Dictation system.
- ★ Obtained bids, made recommendations, and assisted in implementing a new shared copier and printer for City Hall. This unit is much larger and can print higher quality materials faster than prior models.

PURCHASING

Purchasing has been very busy through 2021—working with Departments to save the City money, comply with policies, and provide resources. Staff worked on approximately 25 purchasing projects throughout the year. Including but not limited to:

- ★ Racetrack signage
- ★ Police patrol vehicles and detective vehicles
- ★ Various other vehicles, including trucks for Streets, golf cars for Mariah Hill, new Brush Truck for Fire, etc.
- ★ Demolition of Water Building
- ★ Parks and Facilities software and associated hardware
- ★ Misc. requests for proposals, including child care, Chilton Playground, etc.
- ★ Loading dock for CREW

MUNICIPAL COURT

Municipal Court has continued to fulfill its mission in 2021. Throughout most of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Court has been open to the public with enhanced safety protocols. Tickets and caseloads were reduced during this period. Below is a table showing comparisons to prior years.





HUMAN RESOURCES

2 Full Time Staff Members

WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

The Human Resources (HR) department for the City of Dodge City exists to navigate employee conflicts, provide training and development, recruit and retain staff, and improve employee satisfaction while maintaining benefits and information.

Human Resources assists directors and supervisors in several employment-related issues, including hiring, terminating, disciplining, and other personnel-related matters.

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

With employment challenges, filling vacancies as they occur throughout the City can be quite a challenge. In 2021, HR published 35 jobs (some multiple times) and received over 500 applications. Of those applicants, 40 new full-time or regular part-time employees were hired.

A mixture of new and returning seasonal employees are hired each year. In March seasonal positions for multiple departments are posted online. These include Parks, Public Works, Engineering, Development Services, and the Convention & Visitors' Bureau.

The City of Dodge City also hosts many internships throughout the City. In 2021, the city contracted with Ogallala Commons to host four interns. These interns worked in Economic Development, Development Services, and Information Technology. Plans are to continue to provide internships each year to give the youth in the community the opportunity to see what the City is all about.

TRAINING & EDUCATION

In 2021, the HR department hosted over ten different trainings for staff to partake in. Ranging from supervisory and management skills to trenching and excavating. Staff works with multiple partners to provide these trainings throughout the year.

Members from the HR department also partner with USD 443 to assist with Mock Interviews, plan and execute career days (local government oriented), and speak about the Hiring Process and the Do's and Don'ts of applying and interviewing for jobs.

HR frequently assists employees and retirees (as applicable) with questions on policies, processes, insurance, and benefits, including changes to deferred compensation contributions, beneficiary designation, primary care physician, address, etc.

OTHER DUTIES

HR is also responsible for compensation administration and upkeep. The city regularly participates in compensation and benefits surveys from other cities and agencies and facilitate compensation studies to ensure we are keeping up with wage trends across the state.

In October of 2021, the city commission approved bylaws to implement a City Employee Advisory Committee (CEAC). This committee aims to bring issues on policy and procedure and other topics of conversation to a board of employees. Each department is represented on the CEAC. HR's role on this committee will be to provide information when

needed and research topics, and offer practical solutions to the committee. We serve in an ex-officio capacity.

EMPLOYEE SERVICES

In January of 2021, the City adopted a new Employee Assistance Program (EAP) through New Directions. This EAP aims to provide personalized solutions for the employee and their immediate family when dealing with a vast array of issues. These include mental health, depression, work-life balance, relationship issues, legal assistance, etc.

Employees can access these EAP services at any time. There are also monthly webinars and other training options available to staff.



PUBLIC INFORMATION

1 Full Time Staff Member

WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

The mission of the Public Information Office is the same as the City of Dodge City Mission Statement. “Together we promote open communications with our community members to improve quality of life and preserve our heritage to foster a better future.”

Public information oversees the City’s social media, website, Channel 8 local access TV, and media relations.

ENGAGE DODGE

In conjunction with the Human Resources department, 2021 saw the return of the Engage Dodge program with a new structure to be all-encompassing of the city departments. The ten-week program is an interactive educational opportunity designed to introduce citizens to city services, programs, and the employees who serve the Dodge City community.

Participants heard from every department head, toured project, and had their questions answered.

This program is intended to run every spring and open to anyone in the community.

STAY INFORMED

There are multiple ways to keep up to date with the City of Dodge City. The Community Newsletter is published the last Friday of each month and highlights work done within the departments, special projects, and other City news. Citizens can sign up to receive the newsletter along with news releases by going to <https://www.dodgecity.org/list.aspx>.

Follow the City of Dodge City – Government Facebook page to keep up as well or message with questions. Or individuals can stop by City Hall and speak with staff at anytime or call 620-225-8100 to schedule a meeting with the City Manager.

Image 34



Image 34: Participants of the 2021 Engage Dodge class being recognized at the City Commission meeting.

CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

The Dodge City Convention & Visitors Bureau’s mission is to bring convention and travel business to Dodge City by promoting Dodge City and area resources and assets to meeting planners, group tour operators, travel writers, and prospective tourists.

According to the 2019 *Economic Impact of Tourism in Ford County* report, Tourism supported 1,428 jobs in Ford County (10% of all jobs in the county). This resulted in \$135 million registered in visitor spending, ranking Ford County as the 8th largest visitor spend county in Kansas. Over the past nine years, visitor spending in Ford County has grown by roughly \$53.5 million. Recreational spending (the arts, entertainment, and recreation super sector) captured 29.2% of all visitor spending, Food & Beverages captured 22.5%, Local Transportation at 18.3%, Lodging at 16.7% and Retail at 13.1%.

COVID-19 AND TRAVEL

Two years ago, the COVID-19 pandemic crippled the convention and travel business globally. Worldwide, governments have enforced travel restrictions, including quarantine and testing requirements before and upon arrival/departure. As a result, in 2020, Dodge City, along with other destinations, saw a decline in leisure and group travel. Locally, an upward climb of the Transient Guest Tax collection began in June of 2020 as the initial restrictions began to lift. From June 2020 until December 2021, Americans took to the roads in record numbers. The Transient Guest Tax collection for 2021 came in 40% higher than 2020 and 21% higher than 2019. Rural America continues to offer travelers an ideal place to social distance, unexpected “off the beaten path” adventures, and great lessons in history.

DISCOVERING THE UNEXPECTED IN DODGE CITY

2021 brought new excitement and energy to Dodge City, and the Visitor Information Center hosted 58% more travelers than in 2020. Travelers from across all fifty states, as well as North American countries, traveled to Dodge City to discover all that Dodge City has to offer. During Dodge City Days, the American Solar Challenge quietly roared into Dodge City for a pit stop along their 2021 route to commemorate the bicentennial of the Santa Fe Trail. Nine teams, from MIT to Illinois State to Minnesota, constructed and drove either a single occupant or multi-occupant vehicle to travel the trail. And to finish the year, Dodge City was named one of Kansas’s 13 Picture-Perfect Christmas Towns and named one of the 10 Regional Winter Lights Displays Worth the Drive.



Image 35: American Solar Challenge single-occupant vehicle built by the Illinois State University Team.

Image 36: The Illinois State University American Solar Challenge team taking their required break and answering questions.



CONTACT US

City Manager	620-225-8100
City Clerk & Finance	620-225-8100
Utility Billing	620-225-8111
Human Resources	620-225-8100
City & Prosecuting Attorney	620-225-8100/800-220-2567
Public Information	620-225-8100
Director of Administration	620-225-8100
Dodge City Regional Airport	620-225-8170
Convention & Visitors Bureau	620-225-8186
Development Services	620-225-8105
Economic Development	620-227-9501
Engineering	620-225-8106
Fire Department (Non-Emergency)	620-225-8187
Municipal Court	620-225-8107
Parks & Facilities	620-225-8160
Maple Grove Cemetery	620-225-8140
Mariah Hills Golf Course	620-225-8182
Police Department (Non-Emergency)	620-225-8126
Animal Control	620-225-8180
Public Transportation	620-225-8119
Public Works	620-225-8170

CONNECT WITH US

WEBSITE	www.dodgecity.org
FACEBOOK	www.facebook.com/cityofdodgecity
VIMEO	www.vimeo.com/cityofdodgecity



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CORE PURPOSE

Together we serve
to make Dodge City the best place to be.

CORE VALUES

Safety

Together we endeavor to provide a safe and secure workplace and community.

Honesty, Integrity and Respect

Together we work honestly and with integrity, while respecting the rights of others.

Ongoing Improvement

Together we value progress, growth and new possibilities by providing and preparing for the community's future.

Working Towards Excellence

Together we strive to achieve high performance and service standards set by us and expected by the community.

MISSION STATEMENT

Together we promote open communications with our community members to improve quality of life and preserve our heritage to foster a better future.

WE ARE DODGE CITY