



2022 ANNUAL REPORT



MESSAGE *from the* CITY MANAGER



Another historical year in the books,

As we reflect on 2022, Dodge City stands as a testament to transformative growth and defining moments that deepen our commitment to progress. A standout highlight was the start of the construction process of the new state-of-the-art cheese production facility, the Hilmar Cheese Company, which will serve as both a source of innovation and economic potential. The facility is slated to open in the fall of 2024.

The South Wastewater Treatment Facility is also set for an upgrade. These improvements were prompted by additional wastewater from National Beef, the needs of our expanding community, and the Hilmar Cheese Factory in the near future. The City was also fortunate to receive a \$2.5 million grant from the Economic Development Administration for this expansion. Such proactive measures further establish Dodge City as a frontrunner in water conservation efforts within the Ogallala Aquifer region.

2022 marked the celebration of Dodge City's 150th anniversary. Throughout the year, the whole community and our visitors enjoyed several events that celebrated the City's sesquicentennial legacy. Beyond commemorating our rich history, this year laid the groundwork for another century and a half of progress, driving us toward our "Core Purpose" of making Dodge City the best place to be.

In addition, this year also marked the onset of the revitalization of Dodge City's Historic Downtown, a crucial element of the Dodge City STAR Bond project. With the launch of the Downtown Streetscape Project, our aim is to honor Dodge City's storied past while rejuvenating our decades-old streetscape and century-old utilities. Through these enhancements, Dodge City will ensure that our historic downtown will live up to the expectations of our visitors and locals while making critical infrastructure improvements.

Renovations at the Municipal Service Building (MSB) are nearing completion. With the transformation of this building, the benefits of consolidating most of our operations under one roof will become evident. Serving as a central hub for municipal functions, we are eager to advance and provide the community with top-tier services while maintaining services in the core of our community at City Hall.

We hope you enjoy the 2022 Annual Report, and remember, if you have additional questions, don't hesitate to give us a call or send us an email. Our door is always open, and we are here to serve you.

All the best,

Nickolas J. Hernandez

City of Dodge City, City Manager



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the City Manager	2	Public Transportation	20
Your City of Dodge City	3	Fire	21
Finance	4	Police	23
Economic Development	8	Information Technology, Purchasing & Municipal Court.....	25
STAR Bonds	10	Human Resources	26
Parks & Facilities	12	Public Information	27
Public Works	15	Convention & Visitors Bureau.....	28
Development Services	17	Contact Information... ..	29
Engineering Services	18		





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 64.6% Hispanic, with 27.7% of Dodge City's population being foreign-born and 57.2% 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





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 2022, governmental expenditures totaled \$17,716,178. This is an increase of approximately \$1,453,092 or 10.5% when compared to 2021, primarily due to increases in personnel services due to increases in wages required to be competitive with other entities within the City.

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.

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

Administration – Included within administration is the City Manager’s office, Human Resources, Finance, IT, and City Attorney.

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

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.

Municipal Court – Included in Municipal Court are the contracts for the municipal judge and prosecuting attorney. Also included is the costs for court appointed attorneys and staff to assist the judge and prosecuting attorney.

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.

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.

Airport – The employees of the airport are responsible for the maintenance of all buildings and

Image 1

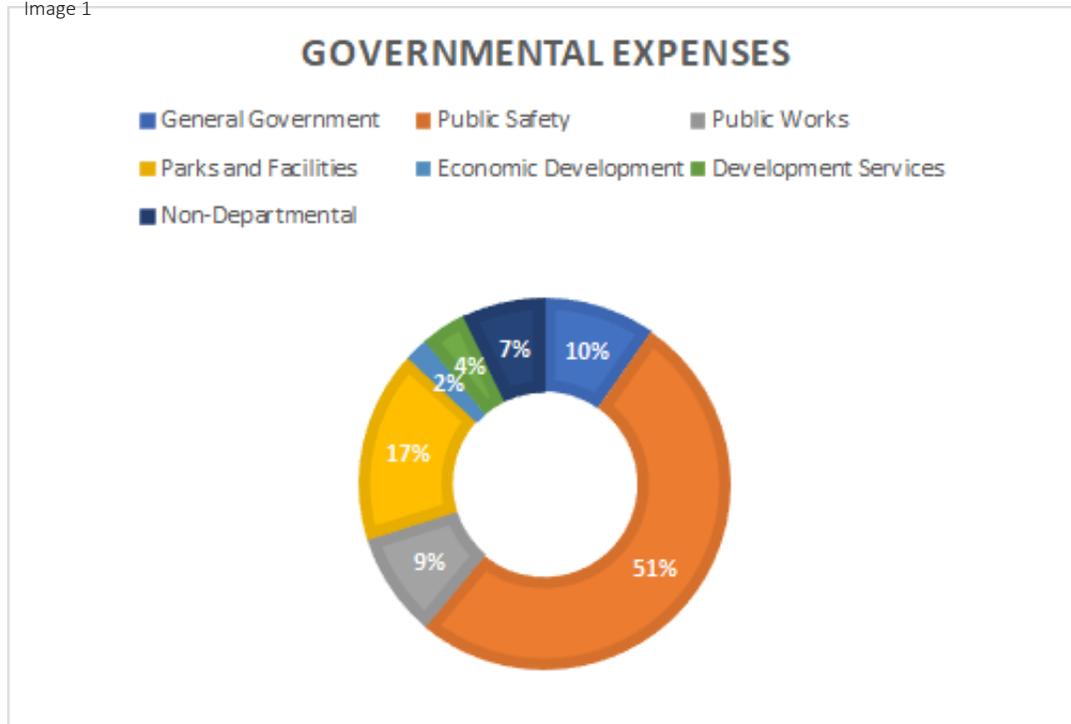


Image 1: Graph detailing the breakdown of the City of Dodge City expenses by budget category.



also working with the EAS provider.

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

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

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

Golf course - The costs for the maintenance of Mariah Hills golf course is the primary cost of this department.

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.

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.

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

REVENUE SOURCES WHERE THE MONEY COMES

Funding for the City government and the services provided to residents come from many

Image 2

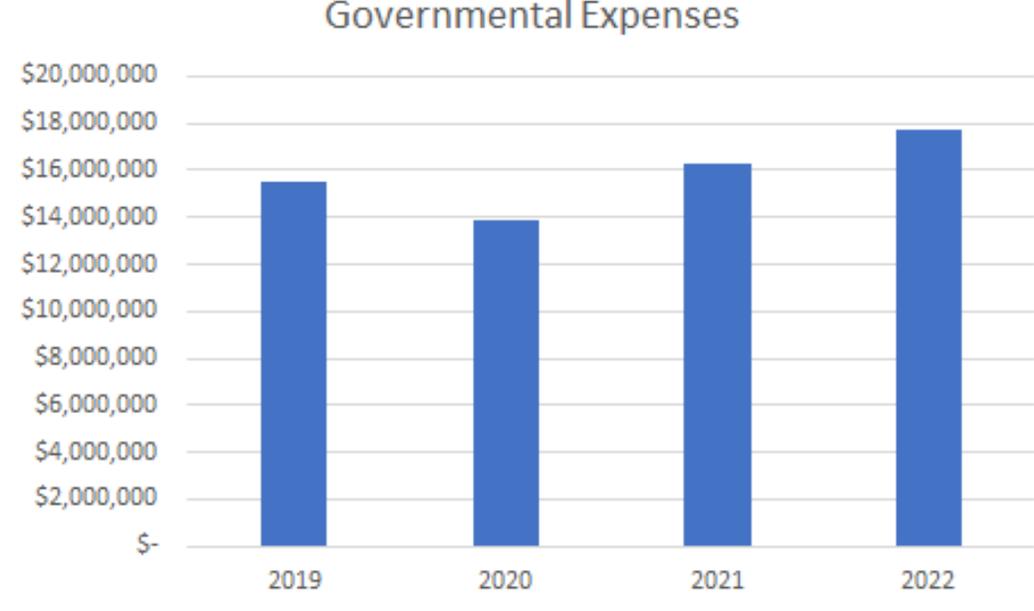


Image 2: Graph detailing the breakdown of the City of Dodge City Governmental Expenses

sources. In 2022, the governmental activities revenues totaled \$17,619,469. A majority of total governmental activities revenue comes from sales and use tax (34.5%) and property taxes (26.85%). The City also receives revenues from charges for services, franchise fees, grants, interest, fines and various other revenues. Revenues in 2022 increased by \$1,037,351 compared to 2021 due to an increase in sales tax collections.

The following are brief descriptions of revenue sources:

SALES AND 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, through the budgeting process, determines the amount needed to fund operations.

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 that are 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 AND 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 - Include sale of dog tags and adoption fees collected by the Animal Shelter.

FINES AND 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, rental of Golf Course Clubhouse meeting room, sales of merchandise in the pro shop, rental of golf carts.

PUBLIC BUILDING & 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 included 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.

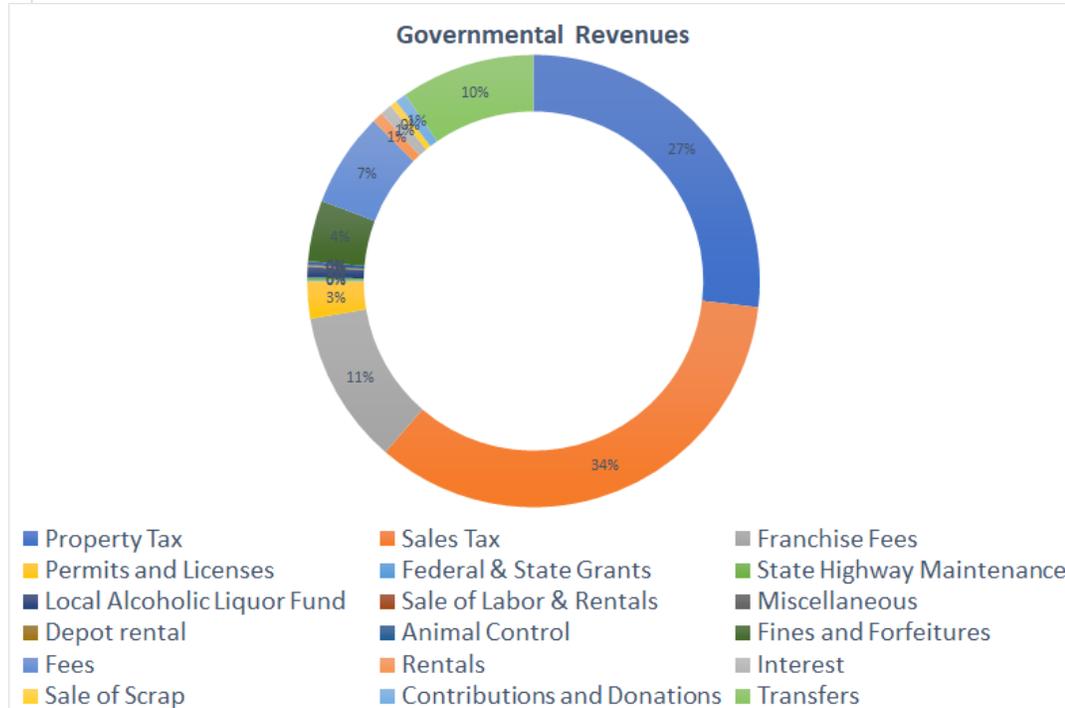
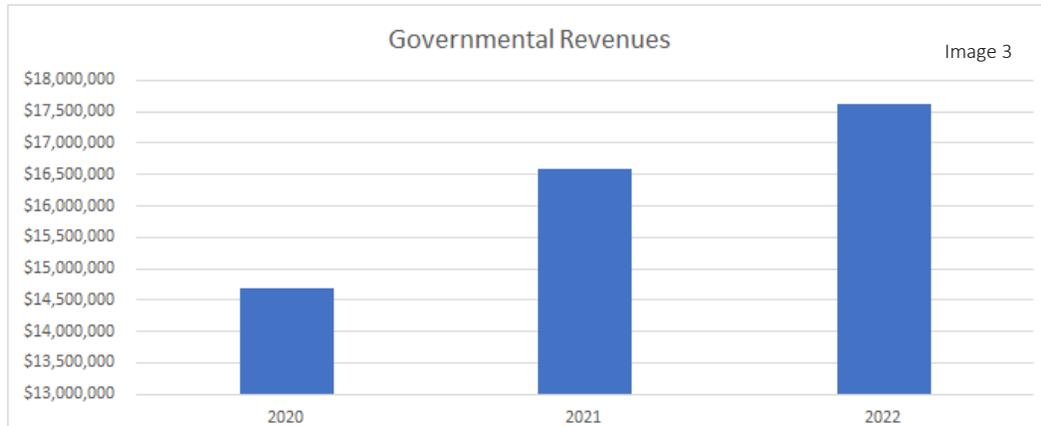


Image 3: Change over time of the Governmental Revenues.
Image 4: Chart that shows Governmental Revenues distributed.



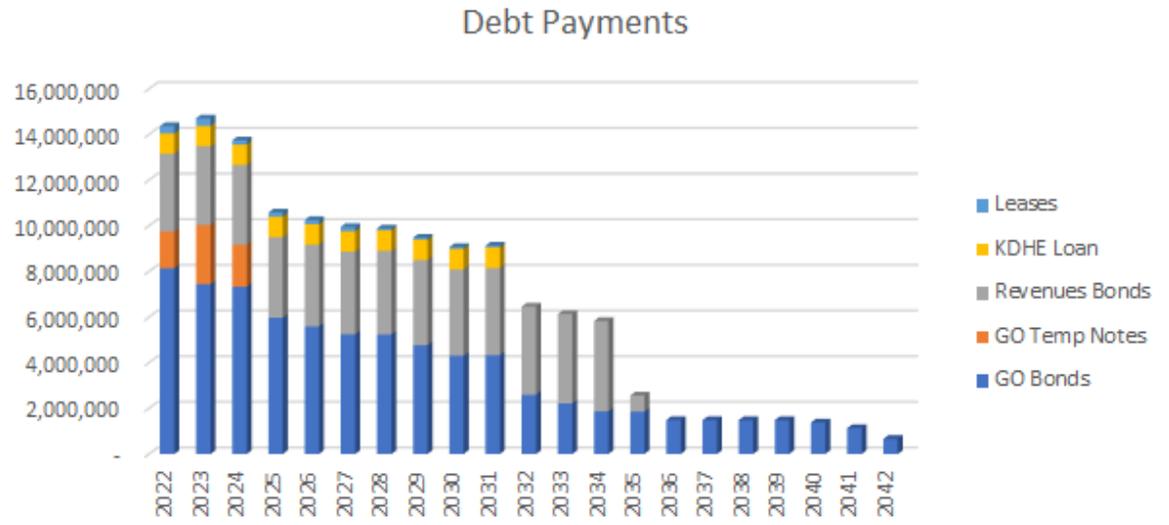
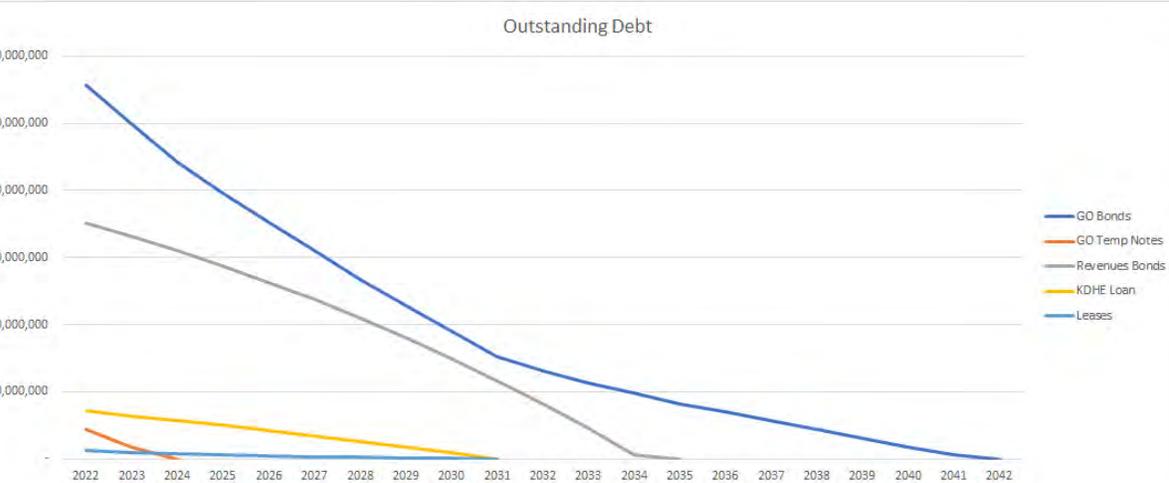
The value of a mill is figured by dividing the assessed valuation by 1000. For the 2022 budget, the City's assessed valuation was \$179,954,929; therefore, one mill's value was \$179,954.93. During the budget process, the amount of revenues and expenses needed to operate each department are determined. 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.

DEBT
The City has five different types of debt.

GENERAL OBLIGATIONS BONDS (GO BONDS) - Debt backed by the full faith and credit of the City. As of December 31, 2022, 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, construction of the biogas plant and other infrastructure improvements that are needed throughout the City.

GENERAL OBLIGATION TEMPORARY NOTES - 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

Image 5: Chart that shows Outstanding Debts
 Image 6: Chart that shows Debt Payments

the ladder truck for the fire department and radios for all emergency service personnel.

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





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 the Hilmar Cheese Company. The ground breaking ceremony was held in September 2022 and the plans are to open the plant in Fall 2024. . The processing facility will be a \$600 million investment and employ 260 jobs at the plant.



Image 7: Finished single-family home

They will need the capacity of 110,000 cattle 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 continue to work to site the dairies within the Southwest Kansas region, which will significantly enhance the economies of rural communities in the area.

In January 2022, the Development Corporation closed on the sale of 36 acres at the Dodge City Industrial Park. The new 217,000 sq. ft. Fedex small parcel service building was completed in October of 2022 and is fully operational.

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. In 2023 the Development Corporation took the lead to organize the Childcare Coalition

Corporation took the lead to organize the Childcare Coalition of Dodge City. 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 2022, three single-family homes were completed at 811 First Ave, 602 Avenue N, and 805 First Ave. CHAD is currently finishing a home at 1403 E Vine Street and a new build 600 Avenue N 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 including Paint Dodge and the Community Housing Renovation Program. CHAD and the City of Dodge City were awarded a \$300,000 Community





Development Block Grant through the Kansas Department of Commerce in 2022. This funding is being utilized for emergency home repairs in a designated area in Dodge City.

CHAD had 3,811 volunteer hours in 2022. The Community Foundation of Southwest Kansas awarded CHAD \$5,000 for the Paint Dodge program and \$10,000 for the Community Home Renovation Program. CHAD gave out \$7,000 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.

Main Street Dodge City is an Accredited Program through the National Main Street America Program and is one of 28 Designated Communities through the State's Kansas Main Street Program. Main Street Dodge City has established programs like the Downtown Revitalization Improvement Program (DRIP), that consist of a façade improvement grant and a 0% interest loan program for internal upgrades.

On December 8th we celebrated the groundbreaking of the much-anticipated Downtown Streetscape Project. Main Street Dodge City is working closely with the City of Dodge City and Building Solutions to keep the businesses and community

informed about the Downtown Streetscape Project. Promoting all the businesses in the downtown area throughout the duration of the project is the organizations main priority.

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(UTC), where multiple universities offer bachelor and master-level courses in Dodge City. Fort Hays State University's (FHSU) Bachelor of Nursing, Bachelor of f Communication Science and Bachelor of Social Work programs have continued to be based out of the UTC. FHSU is completing all its Master of Social Work clinicals at this location each semester. The Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center (KLETC) delivers continued education for law enforcement in the Southwest Kansas region. Newman University continues to offer higher education opportunities for teachers and paras. 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 continuousness education for law enforcement in the Southwest Kansas region. Newman University continues to offer higher education opportunities for teachers and paras. 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 and many other pieces of equipment for entrepreneurs to have a place to grow their ideas 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 2022 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.

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



Image 9: Interior of one of the new exhibits at Boot Hill Museum featuring prominent figures of Dodge City history.



Image 10: Proposed design of the “Longhorn Plaza” area as part of the Downtown Streetscape project. Image 11: Proposed design of the walking trail extension along Wyatt Earp Blvd. as part of the Downtown Streetscape project. Image 12: Proposed intersection features at 2nd Ave. and Front St. as part of the Downtown Streetscape project. Image 13: Proposed design of the 3rd Ave. and Gunsmoke St. intersection as part of the Downtown Streetscape project. Image 14: 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 47 years since the award’s inception. In 2022, the Forestry & Landscape Division planted 36 new trees and 336 annual plants while maintaining 316 downtown landscape beds and tree rings. They also removed 114 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.

City Staff worked with several zoos and animal sanctuaries to rehome the existing animal inventory. Many of the animals were returned to the facilities that

Image 15



Image 15: Overlook of Mariah Hills Golf Course.

had provided them, or were retired to licenced sanctuaries. Staff has began the process of demolition of all existing enclosures. To date, all enclosures have been removed that are not housing animals that have not been relocated yet. With the help of Friends of Wright Park Zoo, Zoo staff continue to 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

2022 was one of the best years at Mariah Hills in the last 20+ years. Golfers enjoyed 22,058 rounds of golf compared to 20,514 in 2021. There were 43 tournaments scheduled and hosted compared to 42 tournaments scheduled and 30 hosted in 2021. Mariah was able to host three of the bigger tournaments: 6A KSHSAA Boys State Tournament, Central Links Kansas Amateur Qualifier, and KCAC Match Play. 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 that opened in 2022. There are currently 25,480 plots in the Cemetery, after the addition of the new division. With the addition of the new division a new road was started in 2022. The road will connect the Scoggins Mausoleum with the north west entrance and is expected to be completed in 2023.





“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

Operations for the aquatics facility were brought in house and ran by the City of Dodge City for the 2022 season. A management team was created, staff were hired then trained and 50,676 people came to the facility over the summer season. Before the start of the season, a new wax coating was placed on all the slides to improve performance and provide longevity, half of the chaise lounge chairs were replaced to give better seating options to the public and the pumps, filters, and chlorinators were all serviced and ready to go in the filter building.

The western-themed water park featuring over 27,000 feet of water surface entered its 7th year of operation. In 2022, they welcomed 50,676 visitors compared to 47,701 in 2021. There were 576 visitors daily in 2022 as opposed to 555 in 2021.

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 multiple events throughout the year. Those events were the 1A & 2A State Volleyball Tournament, 1A State Basketball Tournament, 4A State Golf, 6-man State Football Championship, Region VI Softball Tournament, and KCAC Golf Match Play. West Bowl and two college events, including Region IV Softball and KCAC Golf Match Play.



Image 16: DCRP Track Trophy

Image 16



SPORTS & EVENTS

For the 2022 season, Legends Park initially scheduled 10 youth baseball and softball events and hosted 8 tournaments with two being cancelled by exigent circumstances. 170 baseball and softball teams participated in youth tournaments and had 35 teams play in the 48-hour adult softball tournament. Legends Park was able to generate \$29,666.52 of profit through our tournaments for gate fees as well as entry fees from registered teams.

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 80,474, with an average economic impact of \$7,966,926.

Throughout the year 2022, 294 events were hosted with a total attendance of 89,436, with an economic impact of \$8,854,164. The United Wireless Arena welcomed a great variety of shows in 2022. These included Comedy, Christian Music, Hispanic Music, Country and Classic Rock, to name a few. Roller skating, ice skating and ice hockey returned as entertainment for the entire family. In 2022, the Southwest Storm Arena Football team joined the lineup of family fun along with the Kansas Bandits Indoor Soccer team.



Image 17

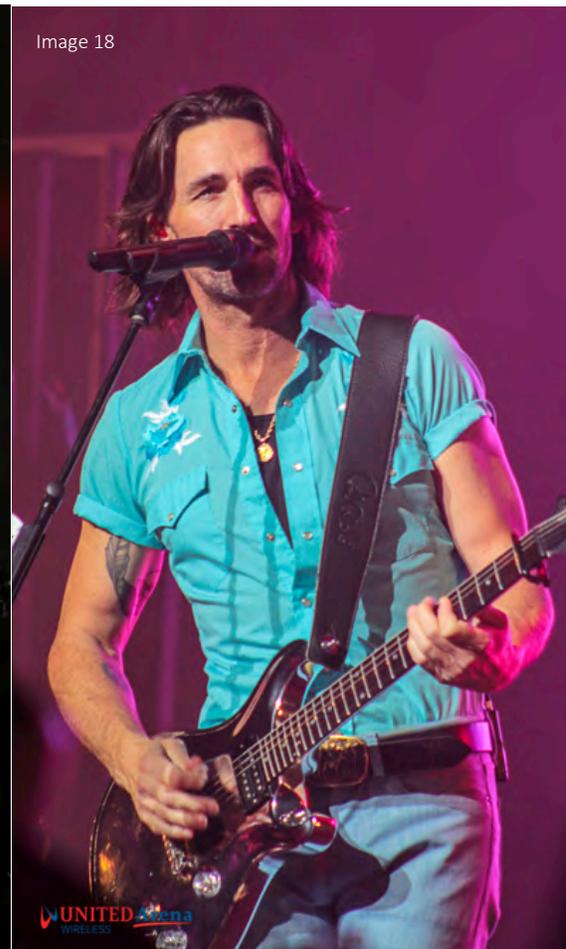


Image 18

Image 17: United Wireless Arena stage with band. Image 18: Jake Owens Performing live at the 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 153 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



Image 19

Image 19: Public Works team taking a picture together to celebrate Public Service Week

Park 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. To date, the building has produced 1008.67 tons of recycled materials.

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 8,911 accounts with over 2.5 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 200 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 180.88 miles of underground sewer mains make up the sanitary sewer system maintained by the Wastewater employees, and more than 2422 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.

Image 23

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.

AIRPORT TERMINAL REMODEL

The airport is expanding and updating the terminal buildings through a two-phase approach. The City of Dodge City applied for the Airport Terminal Program (ATP) grant and on February 27, 2023, the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) awarded nearly \$1 billion to 99 airports across the country to improve terminals of all sizes which included our airport. Dodge City received 7.3M as part of this grant. This funding comes directly from the U.S. Treasury’s General Fund and will be used to update the previous airport design, remove

the rest of the terminal building. The airfield vault will also be moved to an enclosure outside the terminal under this project.

Runway 02/20 Design and Reconstruction

Runway 02/20 will be reconstructed to 4,4649' X 75' (currently 100' wide) this will also include the connector taxiways to safety area and the relocation of airfield lighting with new LED fixtures (runway and taxiway edge lights), new PAPI's with the city taking ownership of the REILs. The scope and fee are being submitted by Burns and McDonnell. The city will conduct an IFE and the design phase of the project will be between June of 2023 to February 2024 with an anticipated construction timeline of May 2024 through November 2024.



Image 20: Plain being boarded

Image 21



Image 21: 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 2022 was over \$100 Million.

COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION

Commercial building permits valuations totaled approximately \$72.5 million. This is an increase from 2021 due to projects such as the FedEx facility and a partial permit for the Hilmar facility.

RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION

New housing permit valuations increased in 2022, totaling approximately \$14 Million, with 60 new housing units permitted. Housing construction occurred in four new developments and infill lots. Plats are being reviewed for three more new housing developments.

All other permit valuations, such as accessory structures, fences, remodels, mechanical, plumbing, and electrical totaled approximately \$13.5 million.

PERMITS APPROVED SINCE 2017:

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2012	1240	1267	1204	1186	1444

Image 22



Image 25



Image 22: Ground Breaking of the Hilmar Cheese facility.

Image 23: Framework being done by Dodge City Community College Construction Trade Students at the CHAD



ENGINEERING SERVICES

5 Full Time Staff Members

Image 24



Image 25



Image 24: The start of the Downtown Streetscape Project. Image 25: Crews placing a new concrete roadway

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.

2022 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" inch 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 2022, 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 of Dodge City has recently purchased the building located at 100 Chaffin Industrial Rd. to use for a central location for City public works, utilities, parks

department and public transportation. City staff continue to work with Brenda Martinez , Transportation Manager, in providing shelter and maintenance for 10 vehicles and providing office space combining Public Works/Transportation mechanic shop, improving and strengthening the Public Transportation Program in Dodge City. This would not be possible with the help of partners at KDOT and the Federal Transit Administration.



Image 26

Image 26: 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 2215, K-2 students were reached with our fire safety message. The 2022 theme was "Fire Won't Wait, Plan Your Escape" The focus during the lessons was making a plan to escape their homes and then practicing their escape plans. We asked each child to take their plans home and share them with their families.

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



Image 27



Image 28

Image 27: Elementary students being shown the inside of the DCFD service vehicle.
Image 28: Dodge City Fire Fighters sharing safety tips with Elementary Students.



emergency responders' ability to manage incidents. We help achieve a safe, vibrant, and economically sustainable city by doing this.

In 2022, there were 176 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 able to be 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. In 2022, several more certified child seat technicians were added so that each shift has someone available to assist the public.

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 (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 three Ford County ARFF Certified Fire Personnel. In 2022, DCFD personnel responded to the Dodge City Regional Airport for standby 548 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 2022, the DCFD was called to service 2953 times for emergent and non-emergent incidents. The majority, 58%, 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 2022, the DCFD met the 4-minute response time 70% 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 03 seconds to all emergency calls. There were 522 fire calls in 2022, of which 121 were actual fires when fire crews arrived. Of those fires, 39 were in structures, 18 were passenger vehicles, 51 were grass or brush fires, and the remaining 13 fires consisted of mixed rubbish or waste fires outside of structures. There was approximately \$1,698,820 of property loss and a fatality in Dodge City due to fire in 2022.



Image 29

Image 29: DCFD Testing Fire Equipment





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 two bureaus: Operations and Support Services. Under the Operations Bureau there are two Divisions; Patrol and Special Operations which includes two units; Detectives and Community Policing/School Resource. The Support Services Bureau has three Divisions; Professional Standards/Training, Records/Property, and the Animal Control/Shelter. The department has been under the command and oversight of Police Chief Drew Francis since 2016. Chief Francis has been with the department since 2001, growing through the ranks into

command. The department is staffed by 66 employees, 1 of which is part-time. The authorized (budgeted) police force strength, from the chief to the entry-level officers, consists of 50 sworn police officers. The remaining 16 are civilian staff working in the Records, Property/Evidence, 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 our 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 we see 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 already with three home-grown graduates now serving as your police officers! With the addition of this program, we look 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

2022 Statistic TOTALS
Total calls for service: 23,942 = (1,995 calls per month or 460 calls per week or 66 calls per day.)
Reports made: 1,414 adult arrests, 232 juvenile arrests, issued 569 criminal citations covering 823 misdemeanor offenses. The police department completed 3,481 offenses/misc during this same time frame. We made 5,586 traffic stops were made resulting in 4,219 traffic violations cited and 4,030 warnings. 931 vehicle crashes were also handled.

NON-ENFORCEMENT

The DCPD does much more than respond to calls and enforce laws. We have a Community/School Resource Unit providing daily support and security to our school district and kids. We continue to support healthy relationships and decision-making through our GREAT (Gang Resistance Education And Training) Program curriculum in the 5th and 7th-grade levels, taught by our School Resource Officers.



Image 30: DCPD officers serving food at the DCPD Chili Feed & Food Drive



The DCPD also provides community support and site safety courses to help safeguard our workplaces and houses of worship from a multitude of potential acts of violence.

The DCPD offers the Citizens Police Academy once a year each fall. This 10-week course includes informative classes offering our 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 we do 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

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 transport of animals to rescue operations outside of Dodge City, some outside of Kansas. The shelter works closely with the Ford County Humane Society to get more animals into loving homes through adoption or rescue.

In 2022, the shelter adopted, rescued, or returned to their owners 1,147 domestic pets. Animal control also dealt with a total of 1,822 animal complaints, including 55 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 30 bites, 76 citations, and 250 warnings.

With the new addition and increased capacity, we hope to be able to better serve the needs of our community and our furry friends.



Image 31

Image 31: Staff helping Dog with training



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.

IT PROJECTS

- ★ IT continues to work on replacing legacy enterprise software with other solutions such as Tyler software. IT has been preparing for the system’s implementation, getting data for conversion, attending training, etc. It is expect the second step of the new software installation to be completed mid 2023 (Utility Bililng and Payroll).
- ★ IT assisted with wiring and setup of technology at the new Municipal Services Building (MSB). All I.T. staff are now located at this building but continue to assist all City Divisions.
- ★ IT assisted Parks and Facilities with Water Park related setup of technology. I.T. also setup the system for reporting accidents and incidents.
- ★ I.T. upgraded security system at City Hall

- ★ I.T. upgraded the Internet services of several locations to improve speeds and reduce costs
- ★ IT works with third-party vendors, including security vendors, to install security camera systems where needed.
- ★ IT obtained bids, made recommendations, and assisted in implementing a new shared copier and printer for the MSB. . This unit is much larger and can print higher quality materials faster than prior models. Other related MSB pojects include the security system, access control, network setup, fiber runs, etc.

PURCHASING

Purchasing has been very busy through 2022—working with Departments to save the City money, comply with policies, and provide resources. Purchasing continues to have some special challenges due to global logistical and supply issues.

Staff worked on approximately 25 purchasing projects throughout the year. Including but not limited to:

- ★ New vehicles for many departments
- ★ Started work on new fire vehicle
- ★ United Wireless Event Center lights and ribbon boards
- ★ RFPs for various property sales

- ★ Miscellaneous software and associated hardware
- ★ Replacement mowers for Parks and Facilities
- ★ Enhanced camera system for the Water Park

MUNICIPAL COURT

Municipal Court has continued to fulfill its mission in 2022. Throughout most of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Court has been open to the public with enhanced safety protocols.





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

As with the rest of the world, filling vacancies as they occur throughout the City can be quite a challenge. In 2022, HR published 28 jobs (some multiple times) and received over 500 applications. Of those applicants, we hired 55 new full-time or regular part-time employees.

We hire a mixture of new and returning seasonal employees each year. In March of each year, we post seasonal positions for multiple departments. These include Parks, Public

Works, Engineering, Development Services, and the Convention & Visitors' Bureau.

We also host many internships throughout the City. In 2022, we contracted with Ogallala Commons to host several interns. These interns worked in different departments. We plan to continue to provide internships each year to give the youth in our community the opportunity to see what the City is all about.

TRAINING & EDUCATION

In 2022, we hosted a variety of different trainings for staff to partake in. These range from supervisory and management skills to trenching and excavating. We work with multiple partners to provide these trainings throughout the year.

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. We regularly participate 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.



HUMAN RESOURCES



Image 32

Image 32: HR 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, event planning, advisory boards, and media relations.

NEW PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Collin Clark was selected to serve

as the Public Information Officer in November of 2022 Collin Clark is a 2022 graduate of FHSU with a Bachelor's in Business Administration with a focus in Management. Before joining the City of Dodge City, he worked for United Telephone Association as the Inventory Control Coordinator.

"Dodge City is my hometown, and I am excited to give back to a city that gave so much to me," Clark said. "I am truly excited to be joining a team that is dedicated to helping push past expectations and take Dodge City to the next level. I look forward to providing the community with my best effort and determination to achieve all goals set."

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.

SCAN AND FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

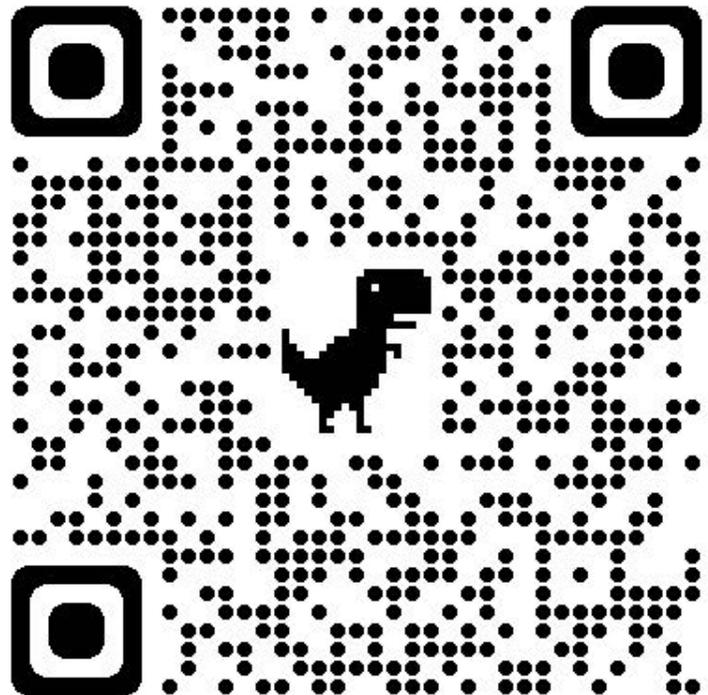


Image 33: New Public Information Officer, Collin Clark





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 2021 Economic Impact of Tourism in Ford County report, Tourism supported 1,499 jobs in Ford County (10.3% of all jobs in the county), making it the fourth largest industry in the county. The share of direct jobs supported by Ford County visitor activity in the county is higher than the statewide share, making Ford County more reliant on tourism jobs than the state. Ford County registered \$151 million in visitor spending and supported \$13.9 million in state and local government revenues. Historically, Ford County Visitor Spending ranks amongst the top 10 counties across Kansas. Recreational spending (the arts, entertainment, and recreation

super sector) captured 27.6% of all visitor spending, Food & Beverages captured 23.2%, Local Transportation at 18.6%, Lodging at 16.4% and Retail at 14.1%.

POST PANDEMIC RECOVERY

While many destinations are still in recovery from the pandemic, Ford County visitor activity surpassed pre-pandemic levels in 2021. As the indicators show, 2021 rebound in key tourism-centric industries was strong, outpacing the state. Kansas visitor spending reached 95% of 2019 levels in 2021, comparing to Ford County's 112% recovery. Lodging sales tax revenues for the state are 8% below 2019 levels while Ford County are above pre-pandemic levels. Restaurant and employment data also support the story of recovery in 2021 outpacing the state in terms of comparison to pre-pandemic levels.

Overall, visitor activity in the county had a strong rebound in 2021 which helped Ford County surpass pre-pandemic levels. This

Image 36

has also helped local employment and income to county job holders surpass 2019 levels. State and local governmental revenue also grew past pre-pandemic levels in 2019 as visitors have helped provide a strong boost to the Ford County economy in 2021.

The travel sector is an integral part of the Ford County economy. Visitors generate significant economic benefits to households, businesses, and government alike and represent a critical driver of the county's economy.

DISCOVERING THE UNEXPECTED IN DODGE CITY

2022 brought new (and old) excitement and energy to Dodge City! Travelers from across all fifty states, as well as international countries, traveled to Dodge City to celebrate Dodge City's 150th anniversary all year long! In 2022, we reminisced about our past all while looking forward to our future while we celebrated events such as The West Is Just The Beginning Art Contest, Founder's Weekend, Whiskey Run, Hoover Day, Dodge City Days, and the Ham Bell Pioneer Picnic.



Image 34



Image 35

Image 34: Participants of the 2022 Mr. Mustache competition

Image 35: Convention and Visitors Bureau crew presenting the Outstanding Frontline Employee of the Year Award





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