

## Curbside recycling approved for BA

The Broken Arrow Municipal Authority (BAMA), which is comprised of the five City Councilors and oversees the City's Sanitation service, unanimously approved adopting a curbside recycling program for Broken Arrow refuse customers at its Nov. 5 meeting.

The approved recommendation includes:

- Converting the entire City to once per week collection via rerouting
- Issuing all customers a 96-gallon blue recycling cart with the option to opt-out
- Issuing all customers a black refuse cart with multiple size options
- Implementing a walk-up service for disabled and elderly customers
- Discontinuation of the City-provided trash bag program
- Replenishing the City's sanitation fleet with automated trucks for collecting recyclables

"I appreciate all the heartfelt thought and consideration Council members have put into this decision. It's a sorely needed service if Broken Arrow is to continue on the trajectory of growth we have been," said City Manager Michael Spurgeon. "Now with the Authority's approval, the real work starts as the City's staff begins putting together a public education and operational plan in order to ensure we have a highly successful rollout in the next year."

Full implementation is expected to take until fall 2020, due to logistical reasons, such as purchasing and distributing carts, determining new routes, training personnel and purchasing or retrofitting trucks for carts.



### January Holiday Trash Schedule

City offices will be closed on Wednesday, Jan. 1, for New Year's Day, and on Monday, Jan. 20, for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

There is no trash service on Jan. 20. Monday's pickup will occur Tuesday, Jan. 21, and Tuesday's pickup will occur Wednesday, Jan. 22.

The Police and Fire Departments will remain open. If an emergency call requires the services of Public Works crews in water or streets, employees will be brought in to fix the emergency. The after-hours emergency number is 918-259-8400.



"We understand this is a major change in how we do business," Spurgeon said. "We will be working with residents before implementation to answer all their questions, and we'll continue to be there with answers for them long after it's rolled out."

Details regarding the size options for carts and the walk-up service will be determined during the implementation phase. The \$620,000 budgeted annually for the City-provided trash bag program will be reallocated to purchase carts and other equipment needed for program implementation.

Future considerations for the Authority include the study and implementation of a green waste collection program and separating the Sanitation Division from the General Services Department to create its own department.

"Broken Arrow residents have always been proud of the service our Sanitation Division provides. Let me assure you, that quality service is not going anywhere. It is just adapting to a modern world that has different demands," Spurgeon said. "Broken Arrow is seen as a leader among communities in the state and around the region, and implementing this curbside recycling program catches us up on the one area where we've been behind the curve."

# Ground broken for Creek 51 Business Park

Broken Arrow area officials broke ground on the new Creek 51 Business Park on Oct. 28. Creek 51 will be a 90-acre business park offering manufacturing companies lots ready for construction.

The aim for Creek 51 is to attract companies in the “clean” manufacturing industry. Clean manufacturers are those that use as few nonrenewable resources as possible while reducing waste and minimizing environmental impact.

The business park will be developed with the help of a Tax Increment Finance (TIF) District, only the second such district in the history of Broken Arrow. The only other TIF District is the downtown area, which includes FlightSafety and the Rose District.

Unlike the City’s first TIF, in which the City took out a loan to pay for improvements, this project is entirely funded up front by the developer. Fifty percent of ad valorem taxes on the property will go toward reimbursing the developer’s investment. (The remaining 50 percent of ad valorem taxes will go to the taxing entities.)

TIFs are a common tool used by local governments to finance projects within the boundaries of the TIF. Increases in property taxes within the district go into a fund that is used for debt service



on projects during the lifespan of the TIF. The Creek 51 TIF will remain in effect for a maximum of 10 years or \$5 million, whichever comes first.

The City Council approved the creation of this new TIF District on Aug. 6, after receiving support from the other taxing entities involved. They are:

- Broken Arrow Public Schools,
- Tulsa Technology Center,
- Wagoner County,
- Wagoner County Health Department and
- Rural Water District No. 4.

“Creek 51 Business Park is a tremendous project which will prove beneficial not just for Broken Arrow,

but for all of Wagoner County,” said City Manager Michael Spurgeon. “Embracing regionalism with our partners to the east is vital for the overall success of Broken Arrow, Coweta, Wagoner, and all other communities in the County.”

The business park will bring in new companies to the region and make it possible for existing manufacturers in the area to expand their operations.

Broken Arrow is the 3rd largest manufacturing hub in Oklahoma, and Creek 51 Business Park will help the City’s on-going efforts to recruit and retain high-paying jobs for our community.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Ongoing through Jan. 18 — BA Soccer Spring registration** Visit [bascok.com](http://bascok.com) for details.

**Jan. 1 — New Year’s Day** City offices closed.

**Jan. 7 — Broken Arrow City Council** 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

**Jan. 9 — Planning Commission** 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

**Jan. 20 — Martin Luther King Jr. Day** City offices closed. No trash service.

**Jan. 21 — Broken Arrow City Council** 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

**Jan. 21 — “The Color Purple: The Musical”** 7:30 p.m., Broken Arrow PAC, 701 S. Main St. Tickets start at \$30. [BrokenArrowPAC.com](http://BrokenArrowPAC.com).

**Jan. 23 — Planning Commission** 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

**Feb. 4 — Broken Arrow City Council** 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

**Feb. 8 — Daddy-Daughter Dance** 6 p.m., Nienhuis Park Community Center, 3201 N. 9th St.

**Feb. 13 — Planning Commission** 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

## Sign up for motorcycle safety course

Motorcycles are inexpensive to operate, fun to ride and easy to park. Unfortunately, many riders never learn the critical skills needed to ride safely. Motorcycling requires skill, concentration and reasonable precautions.

The Share the Road course is designed to teach experienced riders how to survive riding on our roadways. It’s taught by seasoned police motorcycle officers who know how to stay safe on a motorcycle. Riders will learn effective turning, obstacle avoidance, braking and more.

Dates for 2020 “Share the Road”



courses are: April 19, May 3, June 14 and Sept. 13.

All classes will be from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the BA Events Complex, 21101 E. 101st St. in Broken Arrow. Visit [BrokenArrowOK.gov/ShareTheRoad](http://BrokenArrowOK.gov/ShareTheRoad), or call 918-259-2400 ext. 8769 for details.

## Tulsa’s Mulch Site free for green waste dropoff

With fall leaves piling up in yards and bare tree limbs begging to be trimmed, many Broken Arrow residents may wonder how to get rid of it all.

In summer 2017, the City of Broken Arrow entered an agreement with the City of Tulsa to allow Broken Arrow residents use of Tulsa’s Mulch Site free of charge.

Simply present a recent utility bill or drivers license showing your Broken Arrow address.

The Mulch Site, located at 2100 N. 145th E. Ave., accepts tree limbs, grass clippings and leaves. Visitors can also pick up firewood. A cutting area is available but you must bring your own saws.

Items not accepted are root balls or trees with foreign materials (such as fencing or concrete), rock, pipe, lumber or treated wood, trash, dirt or building materials.

The Mulch Site is open seven days per week, excluding City of Tulsa observed holidays. Hours are 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.