

Comprehensive plan moves forward

The City of Broken Arrow is in the middle of creating a new comprehensive plan — Broken Arrow Next. The comprehensive plan is an aspirational and strategic policy document that helps guide the City’s future development pattern and further enhance quality of life over the next 20 years.

The plan development process for the Broken Arrow Next is being led by Half Associates Inc., professional planning consultants. As part of the process, the City has held public meetings to gather feedback on how the community feels development in the City should take place in the future.

The third of those public meetings was held on Sept. 25. Building on what was developed during the June meeting, the project team presented more details and comparisons of the future

growth scenarios that look at different ways Broken Arrow could grow in the future.

The scenarios that were discussed include:

1. Trend scenario, in which current development patterns are expected to continue in the future;
2. Infill scenario, in which growth is focused on filling in undeveloped areas within the current city limits;
3. District scenario, in which activity nodes are created throughout the city with more intense development; and,
4. Proposed scenario, which is a mix of the three alternative growth scenarios and will serve as a framework for the updated future land use plan.

The team also presented preliminary plan concepts, including districts, corridor enhancements, and parks and open space

PRELIMINARY PLAN CONCEPTS

Placemaking Elements:

- Districts
- Corridors
- Parks and Open Space

Preliminary plan concepts ultimately provide the framework for the updated future land use plan, but *does not* serve as the future land use plan itself.



recommendations.

Since the last comprehensive plan was adopted in 1997, Broken Arrow has seen significant growth and its estimated population has climbed to approximately 112,000 — making it Oklahoma’s fourth largest City. Today an update is needed to proactively prepare and respond to

new and emerging market conditions in Broken Arrow. Through this 18-month planning process which was started in March 2018, many future community needs will be identified, prioritized and incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan.

For more information about the plans visit www.BrokenArrowNext.com.

Thrive! Read the annual Financial Report

The City of Broken Arrow will be mailing out its third annual financial newsletter, called “THRIVE! Your Money at Work.” The report illustrates how the City generates revenue and how your tax dollars are spent. It also details projects the City will be working on in Fiscal Year 2019, along with updates on Fiscal Year 2018 projects.

It’s important for citizens to know where their tax dollars are going. The financial newsletter includes several detailed graphs explaining how the City



gets its revenue, how it spends it and the breakdown where sales and property taxes go.

If you missed the report in your mailbox, it will also be available online at www.BrokenArrowOK.gov/YourMoney.

Utility rate increase takes effect

As part of a multi-year, utility infrastructure reinvestment plan approved by the City Council, the City of Broken Arrow implemented a third rate increase for water, sewer and stormwater services. A similar rate increase was approved in September 2017.

Beginning with November 2018 utility bills, a typical residential customer in the city limits that uses 7,000 gallons of water per month will see their water fee increase about \$2.29, their sewer fee increase about \$2.19 and the stormwater fee increase by \$0.57. These changes make the bill for a typical household using 7,000 gallons increase about \$5.05 per month.

The rate increases are necessary to continue providing utility services in Broken Arrow and pay both operational costs and debt service payments on \$90 million worth of capital projects for the utility infrastructure.

“These utility rate increases are required so that the City can continue to improve our water, sewer and stormwater systems to handle the continued growth Broken Arrow has experienced,” City Manager Michael Spurgeon said. “Major capital investments are needed to make our utility systems reliable and efficient, and to ensure we can accommodate future growth anticipated in the next 10-15 years.”

Holiday trash schedules

City offices will be closed Monday, Dec. 24-Tuesday, Dec. 25 for Christmas and on Tuesday, Jan. 1, for New Year's Day.

There will be no trash service on any of those City holidays. Service will resume on the next regularly scheduled day.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Ongoing through January 12 — Broken Arrow Soccer Club Spring registration Open to boys and girls ages 3-18. Visit www.bascok.com.

December 1 — Civitans Christmas Parade 10 a.m. Main Street.

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

December 6 — Planning Commission 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

December 6 — BA Wine Walk 6-9 p.m., Rose District

December 8-9 — Ruts N Guts Events Park, 21101 E. 101st St. Details at rutsnguts.org.

December 15 — Rudolph Run 8:30 a.m. Fun Run; 9 a.m. 5K, Rose District. Details at fleetfeetulsa.com/races/2018-rudolph-run

December 15 — Cookies With Santa 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Nienhuis Park Community Center, 3201 N. 9th St.

December 18 — Broken Arrow City Council 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

December 20 — Planning Commission 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

December 24-25 — Christmas City offices closed. No trash pickup.

January 1 — New Year's Day City offices closed. No trash pickup.

January 2 — Broken Arrow City Council 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

January 10 — Planning Commission 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

Buy Broken Arrow

The importance of shopping local

Broken Arrow boasts a multitude of things to be proud of. For example, just in 2018 Broken Arrow was named the Best U.S. City for First-Time Home Buyers (WalletHub), the Most Livable Small U.S. City (U.S. Conference of Mayors), 9th lowest-crime city (Business Insider) and among the Top 50 Charming Main Streets in America (USA Today).

Likewise, our public school systems are outstanding in every regard. And similarly, this excellence extends to our outstanding business community.

One way to keep Broken Arrow the wonderful and vibrant city it is to shop local. When you spend your hard-earned dollars at "brick and mortar"

stores, you're not only helping the local economy, your tax dollars go to pay for critical City services we all depend on.

Almost half of the City of Broken Arrow's total operating revenue comes from sales tax generated from goods purchased in our City. By state law, all cities in Oklahoma rely primarily on sales tax to pay for city operations. Because of this, shopping locally is one of the most important things we all can do to support our community.

Core services the City provides to the community that are paid for with sales tax include:

- Police operations
- Fire suppression

- Emergency medical services
- Ambulance services
- Streets maintenance and repair
- Traffic signalization
- Permitting and inspections
- Code enforcement
- Swimming pools
- Community centers
- Parks
- Cemetery

If you have questions about how your tax dollars are spent, be sure to check



\$15,000

SHOP HERE & WIN

out this year's edition of the City's annual financial newsletter called "Thrive! Your Money at Work." It is mailed directly to homes and is full of important information. If you have not had the opportunity to read it, it is available on

our website at BrokenArrowOK.gov/YourMoney.

Please help us maintain our high quality of life by shopping at and supporting our local businesses. Doing so this holiday shopping season could also lead to a little extra money in your pockets as the Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce is holding its annual Buy Broken Arrow campaign.

From Nov. 1-Dec. 9, customers at participating businesses will earn 1 ticket for every \$10 spent at area merchants. Each ticket is entered into a random drawing for \$10,000, \$3,000 and \$2,000 cash prizes. The drawing will be held Dec. 11.

Permit required for open burning

It's fall, and for a lot of people that means bonfires and leaf burnings. In order to burn within city limits, residents are required to obtain a burn permit.

The permit can be filled out at the Public Safety Complex, 1101 N. 6th St.

The burn site will need to be inspected and a \$56 fee will need to be paid before burning is allowed. For the complete process of obtaining a burn permit, visit www.BrokenArrowOK.gov/BurnPermit. You may also contact the Broken Arrow Fire Marshal's office at 918-259-8360.

The City of Broken Arrow sends alerts about emergencies, neighborhood meetings and other important information through Swift 911.

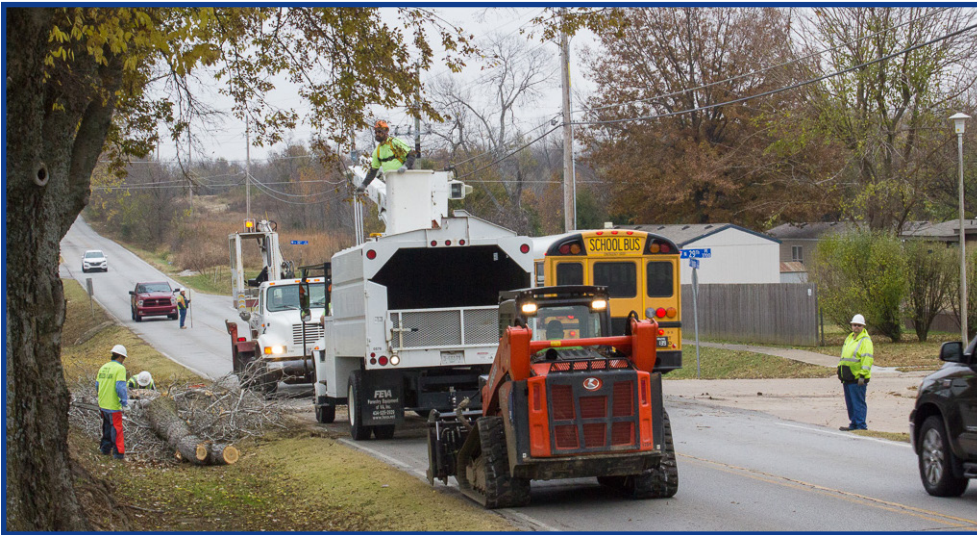
Sign up for notifications to stay connected and ready for any event.

Sign up at BrokenArrowOK.gov/ALERT or download the Swift911 app

FOCUS on the Streets and Stormwater Department

918-259-7000 EXT. 7380

BROKENARROWOK.GOV/STREETS



About the department

The mission of the Streets and Stormwater Department is to provide safe and well maintained transportation and flood control systems throughout the City. The department is divided into three divisions — Streets, Traffic and Stormwater.

The Street Division employs 27 people full time and is responsible for asphalt paving, traffic signs, traffic calming, street marking and dump truck support and overall maintenance of the City's 509 miles of roadway.

The City owns and operates 83 traffic signal systems, 18 school zone systems, and 56 civil defense and outdoor storm warning sirens, as well as numerous street lights. The 14 full-time employees of the Traffic Division oversee all the operations and maintenance associated with all these traffic management and

notification systems.

The Stormwater Division's 34 full-time employees are responsible for storm drain repair, mowing and tree trimming/removal, drainage and concrete repair and nuisance abatement. Improving flood protection and water quality throughout the City and the preservation and restoration of area waterways is a major focus of the Stormwater division.

Normal business activities such as patching of potholes and speed humps, traffic surveys, mosquito spraying, concrete repairs, street sweeping, abatement mowing and snow/ice removal are always given top priority in the department. Broken Arrow residents can be assured that their streets will be kept as safe as possible during times of hazardous weather.

DIRECTOR PROFILE



Rocky Henkel

Rocky Henkel began serving as the City's Streets and Stormwater Director in May 2018. A native of the Omaha, Neb., area, Rocky began his career as a land surveyor with the Nebraska Department of Transportation.

Prior to joining the City of Broken Arrow, Rocky worked for the City of Omaha where he administered federal aid transportation projects along with resurfacing and maintenance contracts. He has also served as the street superintendent for La Vista, Neb., and Norman, Okla.

Rocky holds a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Nebraska at Omaha and is an active member of the Oklahoma Chapter of the American Public Works Association.

FAQs

Q. How can I report potholes/sidewalk issues?

A. Residents can report all sorts of issues on the City's Action Center Broken Arrow website and app. Action Center BA makes it easy to report non-emergency issues such as potholes, streetlight outages and other concerns right from your phone or laptop.

Find out more, start a report or find download links for both iOS and Android devices at ActionCenterBA.com

Q. Who is responsible for the routine maintenance of creeks, channels, detention ponds, etc.?

A. This depends if the property in question is publicly or privately owned. The City maintains



publicly owned drainage ways. Homeowners or homeowners associations are responsible for privately owned drainage ways.

Q. Who is responsible for the maintenance of overgrown trees?

A. If the tree is privately owned and overhangs onto

public right of way, the owner is responsible for the maintenance of said tree. Likewise, if a publicly owned tree overhangs onto private right of way, the City is responsible for the maintenance of the tree.

Q. How do I know if maintenance work

is scheduled for my neighborhood?

A. The Streets and Stormwater Department is currently developing a method of communicating this information to residents. In the near future, it will be published on the City's website at BrokenArrowOK.gov/Streets.

Q. How often does the City sweep streets?

A. The Streets and Stormwater Department owns two street sweepers that are in operation all year.

A schedule has been developed to ensure each part of the City is swept twice per year. A schedule and map of this service is available online at BrokenArrowOK.gov/Streets.

Clearing the roads when winter hits

When winter weather threatens the area, the City of Broken Arrow is always prepared. The City is tasked with maintaining more than 439 lane miles for snow routes.

Streets and Stormwater Department supervisors continually monitor weather forecasts and will call personnel in for snow operations prior to the precipitation. When sleet or freezing rain are predicted, Street crews will pre-treat arterial streets with an application of salt which will help breakdown and prevent the bond of ice from forming to roadway surfaces, allowing for safer travel, but sun and warm temperatures are the only thing that will remove ice.

When winter weather does occur, Street crews have established routes to treat all arterial streets in the City, and they treat all locations on their established routes as quickly as possible.

A summary of the City's snow removal policy



is provided below. A brochure that includes more information, along with a map of arterial and secondary streets, can be found at BrokenArrowOK.gov/snow.

- During snow events, Streets Department crews will clear arterial roadways first as conditions warrant, with consideration for side streets (also known as collector/feeder roads)

- discussed after arterials are cleared.
- Neighborhood streets will not be plowed, unless the grade of street(s) exceeds a 10 percent slope.
- The City has 16 dump trucks equipped with snow plows and sanders. The Streets Department operates on two 12-hour shifts during snow operations, 24 hours each day during inclement weather.
- Although each truck is

- equipped with a snow plow, plows are designed to clear snow that is up to four inches. When there is a heavy snowfall in a short period of time, the snow must be removed in increments of four (4) inches at a time.
- It is important to note that the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) maintains the Broken Arrow Expressway, Old Highway 51 and the Creek Turnpike.

Paving the streets for where opportunity lives

Thanks to the voters' approval of the Vision 2025 renewal in 2015, the City of Broken Arrow has a dedicated revenue stream to fund a large number of streets maintenance projects.

When you purchase goods in BA stores and eat in BA restaurants, a 0.25 percent sales tax is restricted for street maintenance and repair.

Additionally, in August, voters approved the 2018 Build Our Future BA General Obligation Bond package that will allocate \$2.5 million per year for 10 years to the maintenance of our streets and subdivisions.

Without the continued support of residents, the Streets and Stormwater Department could not keep up with the demand placed on the City's transportation infrastructure. By approving bond projects and the Vision 2025 extension, as well as spending your money at Broken Arrow establishments, you make it possible to keep the City's streets and sidewalks in overall good condition.

In 2016, the City conducted a survey of all streets in Broken Arrow to determine their condition and prioritize repairs and schedule maintenance. The survey found that Broken Arrow's streets are in overall



good condition.

Using this and continuing surveys, the Department can identify street segments within a subdivision instead of naming entire subdivisions for resurfacing projects. This helps the City be more precise when estimating costs and budgeting for projects. It also allows the Department to better coordinate with other departments in the City, such as the Engineering and Construction or Utilities Departments.

Street segments are ranked by two main factors:

- Roughness index accounts for the number of bumps felt on a segment
- Pavement condition looks at cracks, potholes, raveling and other signs of distress in the surface.

The overall condition also accounts for the condition of underground base of the street surface.

Of the numerous rehabilitation and repair projects that are scheduled, the City utilizes both Streets division crews and contracted labor to complete projects. Annually, about 75 percent of the maintenance is contracted out.