



City rededicates Vietnam War Memorial

The City of Broken Arrow formally rededicated the Vietnam War Memorial at Veterans Park, 1111 S. Main St., during a ceremony in August.

The memorial honors the seven Broken Arrow residents who were killed during the Vietnam War. It was located in Central Park for decades; however there was a desire to have it relocated across Main Street to Veterans Park.

This was done partly because many

who visited Veterans Park did not make the trek to the memorial. Also, some events held at Central Park would cause the memorial to be obstructed from view or risked damage to it.

“I think it’s important to remember the sacrifice of those seven young men, four of whom died in one year – 1969,” said Councilor Johnnie Parks. “Since we had Veterans Park available I think the memorial needed to be moved so that people, especially kids, who come to Veterans Park can remember their

service to the nation.”

The City Council approved the memorial’s relocation in April 2017. It was placed in Central Park in spring 1994 after being moved from its previous location in downtown Broken Arrow.

Due to concerns moving the granite monument might damage it, a replica was installed at Veterans Park and the original was sent to the Military History Center in the Rose District.

Mayor makes third White House visit in 2018

He was previously invited in January and March

On Aug. 21, Mayor Craig Thurmond was invited to the White House for the third time since January. Thurmond attended the White House Conference with Oklahoma local and county leaders.

The purpose of the conference was to develop a working relationship between the White House and leaders within the State of Oklahoma.

“It’s always an honor to be invited to a meeting at the White House,” Thurmond said. “I appreciated the opportunity to discuss issues that matter most to Broken Arrow residents, and Oklahomans as a whole, with the President’s staff.”

Thurmond was previously invited to the White House as a select group of U.S. mayors to attend Mayors’ Day at the White House: A Conversation with President Trump in January where President Donald Trump announced plans to spend \$1.7 trillion on infrastructure.

Thurmond was also invited to attend the Mayor’s Infrastructure Discussion in March, where a select group of mayors met with D.J. Gribbin, Special Assistant to the President for Infrastructure.

City Manager Michael Spurgeon joined Thurmond at both the March and August meetings.



BAPD encourages ‘Remove it, Lock it, Report it’

This past summer, the Broken Arrow Police Department saw a dramatic increase in vehicle burglary and auto theft. Statistics show over 70 percent of the victim vehicles were left unlocked. In August 2018, BAPD began the “Remove it! Lock it! Report it!” campaign as a way to educate the public in the area of vehicle and

property protection.

Remove it!

Remove valuable items from your vehicles; especially firearms.

Lock it!

Lock your vehicles. Criminals walk around neighborhoods in the middle

of the night checking to see if cars are unlocked.

Report it!

If you are a victim of crime in Broken Arrow, report it to the BAPD. Call 911 in an emergency or 918-259-8400 for non-emergencies and to report information.

Night Out Against Crime October 27

The Broken Arrow Police Department will host its Night Out Against Crime on Saturday, Oct. 27, in the Rose District. The goals of this event are to:

- Heighten crime prevention and drug prevention awareness.
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police and community partnerships.
- Send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back against crime.
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime efforts.

The community party in Broken Arrow runs 6-8 p.m. on Oct. 27. BAPD and numerous public service agencies will be available.

The Night Out Against Crime Event will have a live band, petting zoo, jump houses, Vince and Larry the Crash Dummies, McGruff the Crime Fighting Dog, and a costume contest, hosted by First National Bank.

Halloween Safety

The City of Broken Arrow does not specify a date for trick-or-treating. Since Halloween this year falls on a Wednesday that means the curfew is from 11 p.m.-6 a.m. for individuals under 18 years of age. This is the standard Sunday through Thursday curfew. (Curfew hours on Friday and Saturday are from midnight to 6 a.m.) Children accompanied by a parent or guardian are not in violation of the ordinance.

To stay safe while trick-or-treating, follow these tips from Safe Kids Worldwide:

- Trick or treat with an adult.
- Stick to familiar areas that are well lit.
- Cross the street at corners and crosswalks and look both ways before crossing.
- Always walk on sidewalks or paths.
- Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and choose light colors.
- Avoid masks if possible; they can obstruct vision.
- Make sure costumes fit well to prevent trips and falls.



Rose District Farmers Market season ending

The Rose District Farmers Market's season is coming to an end. The Market will be open 8 a.m.-noon every Saturday through Oct. 27, weather permitting.

Produce available this time of the year includes: apples, carrots, green beans, cut herbs, okra, pears, peppers, squash, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, watermelon and more!

Visit the Market at the Rose District Pavilion to find fresh options and locally-made products.

Free Dump Day October 20

Residents will have the opportunity to dispose of unwanted items at the City's annual Fall Clean-Up on Saturday, Oct. 20 from 7 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Waste Management Quarry Landfill, 13720 E. 46th St. North. This is easily accessible by traveling north on U.S. Highway 169 to the eastbound exit at 46th St. North.

Residents may dump free by presenting a driver's license with a Broken Arrow address or a recent

utility bill. City employees will be on site to verify residency. To view a list of eligible items, visit BrokenArrowOK.gov/FREEDUMP or contact the landfill at 918-439-7835.

Free document shredding

The Gatesway Foundation and DocLock will offer free document shredding from 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 10, at the Vandever Acres Shopping Center on the northwest corner of New Orleans and Elm.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Ongoing through October — Rose District Farmer's Market 8 a.m.-noon, Saturdays, Rose District Plaza, 418 S. Main St.

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

October 4-5 — Senior Pickleball Tournament (50 & Up) \$20/person. Register at Central Park Community Center, 1500 S. Main St. 918-259-8437

October 6 — Cool Grilles 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., The Rose District.

October 11 — Planning Commission 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

October 12 — Wine, Eats and Easels

October 16 — Broken Arrow City Council 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

October 20 — Free Dump Day See related story.

October 20 — Mummy and Me Dance 7-8:30 p.m., Nienhuis Park Community Center, 3201 N. 9th St.

\$5 per person in advance.

October 25 — Planning Commission 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

October 27 — Epsilon Sigma Alpha 46th Benefit Craft Show 9 a.m.-4 p.m., St. Stephen's UMC, 400 W. New Orleans St.

October 27 — BAPD's Night Out Against Crime 6-8 p.m., The Rose District.

November 1 — Planning Commission 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

November 2 — Night at the Museum...The Grand Event 6-11 p.m., Stoney Creek, 200 W. Albany St. brokenarrowmuseum.org

November 3 — Heart of the Crafter 9 a.m.-3 p.m., First United Methodist, 112 E. College St.

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

November 12 — Veterans Day (Observed) City offices closed. No trash pickup.

FOCUS on the Engineering and Construction Department

918-259-7000 EXT. 5414

BROKENARROWOK.GOV/ENGINEERING



DIRECTOR PROFILE



Alex Mills

Alex Mills, P.E., CFM, has been with the City of Broken Arrow since 2016. Alex has over 25 years of engineering and construction experience including various engineering consulting leadership positions, Director of Facilities for Tulsa Technology Center, and Operations Manager for an oil & gas services company.

Alex holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Oklahoma State University in Civil Engineering, and is a licensed Professional Engineer and Certified Flood Plain Manager in the State of Oklahoma.

Alex has two children and enjoys spending time with family and friends, boating, golf and other outdoor activities.

About the department

The Engineering and Construction Department's internal slogan is "Where Opportunity is Built." This obviously alludes to the City of Broken Arrow's slogan, "Where Opportunity Lives.

For members of this department, it exemplifies their role in the City. The Engineering and Construction Department has the responsibility for the design and construction of all public infrastructure in the City, including roadways, bridges, water and sewer, stormwater, parks, public buildings and public safety (Police and Fire) projects.

The department employs 24 people in four divisions: Construction, Engineering, Planning and Stormwater. The Construction Division manages the construction administration of all public improvements on public and private projects and oversees various

safety and inspection programs. The Engineering Division manages design contracts, performs in-house designs, manages the construction bidding process and contracts for other professional services. The Planning Division matches projects to various funding sources, including grants, loans, Capital Improvement or general obligation bonds; and oversees various preparation programs, such as ADA transitions and right-of-way acquisition. The Stormwater Division is responsible for floodplain management in the City.

"Where Opportunity is Built" directs the department's 24 staff members on their daily mission — to ensure the citizens and employees of the City of Broken Arrow live, work and play on the safest, most reliable, infrastructure possible.

What information is available on the Department's webpage?

The Engineering & Construction Department webpage (BrokenArrowOK.gov/Engineering) has links to numerous helpful documents.

One of the most important is the Construction Schedule. This document, updated a few times per year, lists every current construction project the City has in progress, including its funding source, the contractor awarded the project and anticipated completion date, which is always subject to change.

Other documents include GO Bond Project status updates, Streets Program updates, Utility Infrastructure improvement updates and numerous reports related to City projects.

Grants supplement City's cost on projects

The City of Broken Arrow applies for Federal and other grants to supplement the local sales tax and property tax for various improvement projects.

Recent transportation grants the City has acquired include:

- 23rd Street from Houston to Kenosha, approximately \$10.9 million in Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds; other grants pending.
- Olive Avenue from Kenosha to Albany; over \$3 million STP funds for construction.
- Washington Street from Garnett to Olive, approximately \$3 million STP grant for construction.

The City is also working on several Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Grants. These are for transportation facilities other than street widening or bridge replacement. Current TAP Grants include:

- Restriping and signage for the Main Street Bikeway from Washington to Kenosha.

- Broken Arrow Creek Trail Phase I, which will run from the Creek Turnpike Trail along Broken Arrow Creek to north of New Orleans Street along 1st Street.
- Broken Arrow Creek Trail Phase II, will begin where Phase I ends and extend north along 1st Street, ending at Arrowhead Sports Complex. This will connect the Main Street Bikeway with the Broken Arrow Creek Trail.

Another recent grant was a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for 4th Street reconstruction from Detroit to Midway. This was the second phase of a CDBG funded project to provide sidewalks on the west side of 4th Street for the safety of children walking to Rhodes Elementary.

The City is always looking for additional grants to supplement primary funding, such as general obligation bonds and sales tax funds, to ensure our streets, sidewalks and trails are being kept in the best condition.



How a roadway is created

When a road or street is needed, or needs to be widened, a long process is started that takes years to complete after funding is secured.

First is the design stage. This is where any studies that need to be done are conducted and detailed plans are created that define the width and curves of the road, number of lanes, curbs or shoulders, intersection layout and drainage. The surface (asphalt or concrete) is also planned at this stage. This information will help contractors during the bidding process. Design can take about a year to complete.

Next is right-of-way acquisition. This is the process where the City purchases part of a property where the new road will pass. This process usually takes

six months to a year, depending on the number of properties that must be purchased.

Once the land is acquired, the project is announced for bid to contractors. After a bid is awarded and contract approved by the City Council, utility companies are given a notice to proceed to relocate any lines above or below ground that may interfere with the new road. Utility relocation can take six weeks to up to a year if problems arise.

Once utility relocation is completed, the contractor begins the actual construction process. Depending on the complexity of the design, compliant weather and other factors, construction may take anywhere from six months to more than a year.

Construction Division makes BA happen

The Engineering and Construction Department's Construction Division is responsible for fulfilling the designs for the City's capital projects.

Comprised of a Construction Manager and five Contract Administrators, the division administers the construction contracts created within the Engineering Division.

In addition to these contracts, the construction division administers:

- Regional Metropolitan Utility Authority (RMUA) construction contracts (RMUA is regional authority including financing, administration, operation and maintenance of those facilities constructed for joint use of Broken Arrow, Jenks, Bixby, Owasso and Tulsa County),
- Quotes and purchase orders on construction projects, and
- Bonded private development public infrastructure projects.

Currently the Construction Division oversees in excess of \$40 million in infrastructure construction projects for the City of Broken Arrow and RMUA.

Protecting property and the environment

The Stormwater Management Division within the Engineering and Construction Department has three employees that focus on two main areas.

The first area of focus is stormwater quantity and conveyance. This includes floodplain management and review and inspection of stormwater detention facilities, as well as various stormwater drainage systems to ensure that people and property are protected from flood damage. The division's second area of focus is on stormwater quality, which aims to reduce pollution that flows into receiving streams to protect habitat, public safety and quality of life for Broken Arrow residents and visitors.

Buy flood insurance

Floods can happen anytime and anywhere. They cause physical, emotional and financial hardship — especially when victims realize flood damages are not covered by their standard homeowners insurance policy. Approximately 30 percent of flood insurance damage claims nationwide are even on properties outside of the floodplain, so please contact your homeowners insurance agent about a separate flood insurance policy if you feel your property is at risk for potential flood damage.

Help reduce pollution

Property owners can do their part to help reduce pollution in streams and ponds. Follow the proper instructions when applying fertilizers/pesticides/herbicides in your yard and apply them sparingly. Also pick up and throw away outdoor pet waste. Another way to help is to volunteer for creek cleanups or stream monitoring in Broken Arrow. Contact the Stormwater Division at 918-259-2400, ext. 5241 to learn more.



City, BAPS partner on innovative educational opportunity

In fall of 2017, the City of Broken Arrow and Broken Arrow Public Schools announced an innovative partnership to turn a detention pond across from the high school, renamed Tiger Creek Nature Park, into an outdoor science classroom, which will ultimately improve water quality for that watershed.

From there, students and City staff planned to create a floating wetland in the pond, which was eventually designed in the shape of the Broken Arrow Schools "BA" logo. The floating wetland measures approximately 75 feet by 45 feet and is believed to be the largest in the state of Oklahoma. Several local businesses also generously donated materials.

The mission of this project is to

improve water quality by using wetland plants that will absorb the phosphates and nitrates from fertilizer runoff that cause algae blooms. Those plants will also add oxygen to the water and will eventually provide habitats for fish to spawn under.

Broken Arrow High School students and staff and City officials launched the floating wetland in May 2018.

"We wanted to create something that is useful for the students at Broken Arrow High School and beneficial to the public in general, while at the same time fulfills our obligation as a City to control stormwater runoff and protect property within the watershed," said Assistant City Manager Kenny Schwab.