

Wastewater Infrastructure: Re-Investment for Health & Safety

The City of Broken Arrow is responsible for managing wastewater produced by residents and businesses within our community. Wastewater collected from toilets, sinks, washing machines, etc. travels underground through a vast network of sanitary sewer lines, until it reaches one of our wastewater treatment facilities.

The City of Broken Arrow owns two such facilities. One is the Lynn Lane Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), located near 9th Street and Jasper Street. Broken Arrow also shares ownership of the Haikey Creek Regional WWTP near Garnett Road and E. 151st Street South, with the Cities of Tulsa, Bixby, Jenks and Owasso, and splits operating costs among the active contributors.

Why are Treatment Plants Important?

Wastewater treatment plants reduce pollutants in wastewater before it is released back into the environment. That's why these facilities are heavily regulated by both state and federal governments and are very expensive to operate and maintain. Capital improvements easily add up to millions of dollars; however, maintaining an efficient utility infrastructure is critical to keeping our citizens and our environment healthy.

Much of the utility infrastructure you see today in Broken Arrow was built during the 1960s and 70s. We've added more water and sewer lines, treatment plants and water tanks since then, but we're still struggling to make sure our systems keep up with the population growth. Keep in mind, we've added about 100,000 new residents in less than 50 years. The rapid growth along with the aging infrastructure has placed a lot of stress on our utility systems.

In order to modernize our wastewater system and set the stage for further growth and development, the City Council has approved a Five-Year Utility Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) that calls for a \$102 million re-investment in the wastewater infrastructure.

Lynn Lane WWTP

We are excited to announce that starting in August, the City will be incorporating the long-awaited improvements to our sludge digester units at the Lynn Lane WWTP. These improvements will help process the sludge more efficiently, as well as reduce odors produced at the plant. Rehabilitation of the digesters will allow a higher percentage of solids to be generated, which will reduce hauling costs to the landfill and reduce power consumption and expenses.

The project will take about six months to complete and cost approximately \$1.3 million. Loans from the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB) are financing the project. The City will use revenue from rates paid by utility customers to pay back the debt on outstanding OWRB loans.

The digester rehabilitation is the first of two approved Lynn Lane WWTP projects that will improve plant effectiveness and efficiency while greatly reducing plant odor. The second project is the construction of a new combined headworks screening and grit removal facility. This improvement will fully enclose two existing units that are currently open to the air. Construction is anticipated to start this fall and last about 18 months. The headworks project will cost approximately \$12 million and is also funded through an OWRB loan.

Haikey Creek WWTP and Lift Station

Improvements at the Haikey Creek Regional WWTP include the construction of a second flow equalization basin (FEB) to offset peak flows at the plant when it rains. This facility will increase plant storage capacity by an additional 18 million gallons, bringing the plant's total capacity to 30 million gallons. Our share of the cost for the new FEB is approximately \$5.3 million. Construction began in June and

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Your Bond Dollars at Work

Construction of 37th Street Connection Underway

Construction of 37th Street (209th Street) between Omaha (51st) Street and Albany (61st) Street began in June of this year. What was just a dirt road will become a paved three-lane street that will improve access in the northeast part of Broken Arrow by providing connectivity to schools, businesses and the Creek Turnpike. Drivers will need to be aware that the 37th Street intersections at Omaha and Albany will be all-way stops. Voters approved the 37th Street connection as part of the 2014 General Obligation Bond package and costs about \$4 million. Weather permitting, the project will be completed by spring of 2018.



Pets in Public: Leashes and Clean-up Required

The Parks and Recreation Department has received many complaints from residents regarding pets in parks not being leashed, along with pet owners not picking up pet waste. The City requires that dogs are to be on a leash in public parks and on public property. Dogs are not permitted at events with 1,000 or more people in attendance. These rules do not apply to police dogs or service dogs. Pet owners also violate park rules when they do not pick up their pets' excrement in parks. Please remember to clean-up after your pet when you visit public spaces. Thank you for your cooperation!

Sept. 30 is Renewal Deadline for Intrusion Alarm, Pet Permits

Reminder: September 30 is the renewal deadline for intrusion alarm permits and pet permits. Both forms must be submitted in person or mailed to the One-Stop Center at City Hall, 220 South First Street. Intrusion alarm forms can be found online at BrokenArrowOK.gov/ALARMPERMIT. Download a pet registration form at BrokenArrowOK.gov/PETLICENSE.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Ongoing through October - Rose District Farmers Market 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and 7:00 a.m. - noon on Saturdays, 418 S. Main Street.

September 4 — Labor Day Holiday City offices closed. Monday and Tuesday trash service will be one day later.

September 5 — Broken Arrow City Council 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

September 14 — Planning Commission 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

September 15-17 — Gatesway Balloon Festival Broken Arrow Events Park, 21101 E. 101st St.

September 10 & 17 — Share the Road Motorcycle Safety Course 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Nienhuis Park, 3201 N. Ninth St.

September 19 — Broken Arrow City Council 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

September 22 — Cox Community Concert Gates open at 5 p.m., Broken Arrow Events Park, 21101 E. 101st Street.

September 22-23 — Chalk It Up! Festival 7-11 p.m. on Friday and 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. Saturday, Rose District, Main Street.

September 28 — Planning Commission 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

October 3 — Broken Arrow City Council 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

October 12 — Planning Commission 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

Gatesway Balloon Festival Returns

The City of Broken Arrow and the Gatesway Foundation are excited to announce the 21st Anniversary Gatesway Balloon Festival will be held September 15 -17 at the Events Park in Broken Arrow, 21101 E. 101st St. (4000 E. New Orleans), just east of the Northeastern State University campus.

This family event will highlight approximately 30 hot air balloons from across the nation and feature balloon competitions, live musical entertainment, arts and crafts vendors and, of course, plenty of great food. All proceeds from this event will be used to continue the programs and services offered to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities served by Gatesway.

For more information about Gatesway and the balloon festival, visit www.gatesway.org.

Chalk It Up!

The Chalk It Up! art festival runs Friday, September 22, from 7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 23 from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. on Main Street in the Rose District. Competing artists will begin their chalk creations on Friday and complete their designs Saturday. Three different age groups from 6 years old to adult will have an opportunity to compete in

five separate categories including Masters, Animation, 3D, Original and Artist Choice. In addition, the competitors will have an opportunity to compete for Best of Show and the People's Choice Award. A total of 17 cash prizes will be awarded. For more information about competing, booth space or the event, contact Alisa Inglett at yourdesignllc@yahoo.com.

Cox Community Concert with Country Music Star Josh Turner

Cox Communications will host a free outdoor concert at the Events Park, 21101 E. 101st Street, on Friday, September 22. Country music star Josh Turner headlines the show, with opening acts by LANCO and local favorite Thomas Martinez. Food vendors will have refreshments available for purchase. No outside food or beverage please. Gates will open at 5:00 p.m. Tickets may be picked up at any area Cox Store (limit four per customer) with a canned food donation. Don't forget to bring your blankets and lawn chairs!

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will last approximately 12 months. OWRB loans are financing the project.

In addition, we are constructing a new 36-inch diameter parallel force main running from the Haikey Creek Lift Station, about three and a half miles away, to the plant. This project will greatly enhance the system's ability to transport wastewater collected at the lift station to the plant, and it will significantly reduce non-permitted sewer overflows and increase the overall efficiency of the system. The work is expected to begin late this fall and last nearly a year. An OWRB loan of \$6.5 million will cover our share of the cost for the improvements.

There is more work to be done! These projects represent just a fraction of the improvements being made to the community's overall wastewater collection and treatment systems. Specifically, the previously mentioned projects equate to just over \$25 million of the \$100 million plus scheduled in the Five-Year Utility CIP. Staff, along with our professional consultants, are designing another \$25 to \$30 million worth of system-wide improvements for the upcoming years.

View videos and documents at www.BrokenArrowOK.gov/waterandsewer.