

**To:** Honorable Mayor and City Councilors  
**From:** Michael Spurgeon, City Manager  
**Date:** June 24, 2016  
**Re:** Notes to Council

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### **1. STAFF REPORTS / ITEMS REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ATTENTION**

- N/A

### **2. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE / NOTIFICATION**

- Press Release – Russell Gale Named Assistant City Manager of Administration
- Press Release – Rose District Landscape Changing with Demo of Former Church Building

### **3. SPECIAL EVENTS / ACTIVITIES**

- Upcoming Special Events

Respectfully submitted,



Michael L. Spurgeon

jmh  
Attachments

# 1. STAFF REPORTS / ITEMS REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ATTENTION



## 2. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE / NOTIFICATION



**Contact: Krista Flasch**  
**Director of Communications**  
**City of Broken Arrow**  
**Phone: (918) 259-2400, ext. 5309**  
**Mobile: (918) 409-7771**  
**Fax: (918) 259-8226**

## **City of Broken Arrow Names Assistant City Manager of Administration**

**Broken Arrow, Okla. (6/21/2016)** – Russell Gale, long-time Human Resources Director for the City of Broken Arrow, has been promoted to Assistant City Manager of Administration. Gale will oversee the administrative division of the organization, which includes the following departments: Finance, General Services, Human Resources, City Clerk, Municipal Clerk and Information Technology.

“I look forward to working with City Manager Michael Spurgeon and the management team in advancing Broken Arrow to a greater level,” said Gale. “I have always felt fortunate to serve in a city as creative and successful as Broken Arrow, and I am very appreciative of this opportunity that the City Manager has extended to me.”

Gale’s career with the City began in 1978, working as the Administrative Assistant to the City Manager. Two years later, he became the City’s first Human Resources Director, responsible for employee recruitment and certification, administration of city-wide training programs, collective bargaining, and payroll administration. The City Council has twice appointed him Acting City Manager in the past four years, during which time he increased franchise taxes, initiated LifeRide, an ambulance subscription service that has reduced the operating deficit of the emergency medical services division, and was instrumental in developing an action plan to capture the retiring Vision 2025 sales tax for both operational and capital projects. Gale holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Oklahoma State University.

*(Continued)*

“Russell Gale has a distinguished 35-plus year career with the City. Having served as Interim City Manager on two separate occasions, coupled with his detailed knowledge of City operations and affairs, I can’t think of a more qualified individual to work as the Assistant City Manager over the Administration Division,” said City Manager Michael Spurgeon. “Russell is a Broken Arrow native, a straight-shooter, and someone who is well respected within the community. The relationships and respect he has built over three decades will serve our citizens and businesses well.”

Gale’s appointment as Assistant City Manager of Administration is effective immediately. The City will begin recruiting for a Human Resources Director in July.

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Contact: Krista Flasch**  
**Director of Communications**  
**City of Broken Arrow**  
**Phone: (918) 259-2400, ext. 5309**  
**Mobile: (918) 409-7771**

**Rose District Landscape Changing with Demo of Former Church Building**  
*Demolition starts June 23*

**Broken Arrow, Okla. (6/21/2016)** – Contractors for the City of Broken Arrow will begin demolition of the old Assembly of God Church on the morning of Thursday, June 23. The removal of the former church building at 305 N. Main Street will expand the Rose District north and open up room for additional retail, business, and residential space.

“Anyone visiting the Rose District can see there’s a lot of excitement and momentum surrounding downtown Broken Arrow,” said City Manager Michael Spurgeon. “The demolition of the vacant church building will clear the way for an entire city block to be developed into another great addition to the Rose District.”

The Broken Arrow Economic Development Corporation is currently reviewing mixed-use project proposals from developers. The former church has been vacant since 2006. In February of this year, the City purchased the building for \$600,000.

**ABOUT THE ROSE DISTRICT**

The Rose District is an arts and entertainment district located on Main Street in Broken Arrow. It is quickly becoming a go-to destination for unique dining, handcrafted gifts, antiques, artisanal goods, jewelry, boutique clothing and world class entertainment at the Broken Arrow Performing Arts Center. Contractors are currently constructing an interactive water feature at the Rose District Pavilion, which is scheduled to open later this summer.

Since 2010, the City has sunk nearly \$10 million into infrastructure improvements on Main Street and the surrounding area. The private sector has responded with nearly \$30 million of investment, creating hundreds of jobs and opportunities to shop local. Learn more at [www.rosedistrict.com](http://www.rosedistrict.com).



### 3. SPECIAL EVENTS / ACTIVITIES





**To:** Jennifer Hooks, Executive Assistant to the City Manager  
**From:** Vaunda Olivera, Events Coordinator  
**CC:** Scott Esmond, Kenny Schwab  
**Date:** June 20th, 2016  
**Re:** Notes to Council

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### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Broken Arrow High School Class Reunion** will be hosting an event at Central Park, **June 24<sup>th</sup>**, from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. This event is open to Broken Arrow High School graduates from 1970 to 1979. They will have music, food and activities. This event is catered and will be serving low point beer. No road closures are required. We will be providing barricades to designate the area as a private event.

**Tulsa Home School Expo** will be hosting an annual event to raise funds for homeschooling families in need of financial assistance. This event will showcase curriculum vendors and speakers/presentations from local, out of state and young entrepreneurs. The event will be held at Northside Christian Church on **June 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>** from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. No road closures or city services requested.

**Rockets Over Rhema** will be hosting their annual event **June 26<sup>th</sup>** at Rhema Bible College on Kenosha. Festivities planned for this year include music, lots of food, fireworks and of course lots of fun. Each year over 50,000 citizens enjoy the family fun atmosphere of the event. Road closures will include Kenosha from Aspen Avenue to Elm Place and various side streets. Kenosha will be closed from 5:00 p.m. to no later than 11:30 p.m. The Police Department and Fire Department will be on site to provide assistance. They have been issued a permit for commercial fireworks display. They have created a great website with information and volunteer sign up opportunities - <http://www.rocketsoverrhema.com/>

**Family Fun Festival CANCELLED EVENT** will be held at 216 Luther Drive on **June 26<sup>th</sup>** by Healing Grace Church. The event will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. They are expecting approximately 500-700 participants. They will be providing food, music and fellowship to citizens in the area of the church. Though this is an Independence Day event, they will not be discharging fireworks. Luther Drive (private street) immediately in front of the church will be closed to ensure safety of participants. No city services have been requested.

**Tulsa Criterium** will be holding their monthly racing event at the Chisholm Trail Events Park on **June 28<sup>th</sup>** from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. No city services have been requested. For information on signing up you can email Josh at [jbrazel@transitionslc.com](mailto:jbrazel@transitionslc.com)

**Hidden Springs Block Party** will be hosted by Jasper and Andrea Hinkle on **July 3<sup>rd</sup>** beginning at 4:00 p.m. This block party is a fundraiser for neighborhood resident, Caleb Anderson (age 6) who is suffering from cancer. They have a cookout, games, face painting, bounce house and sprinklers planned for families. They have requested the closure of Utica Place between Cedar Court and Birch Avenue. Estimated attendance is 75.

**Pembroke Park** will be hosting their annual block party on **July 4<sup>th</sup>** from 7:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Planned this year will be Jupiter Jumps, fireworks and a cook out. The event organizers have requested Umbrella Avenue be closed from 3413 S. Umbrella Avenue to Laredo Place. Estimated attendance is 150.

**Silvertree** subdivision will be hosting their annual block party **July 4<sup>th</sup>**, from 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. They are planning a band, cookout, games and fireworks. The event organizers have requested Sycamore Place between Utica and Twin Oaks be closed for the event. Estimated attendance is 30.

**Stars and Stripes Extravaganza** Los Cabos will be hosting their 8<sup>th</sup> annual fireworks display on **July 4<sup>th</sup>**, from 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at their location on Hillside Drive. Event organizers are not requesting city services or road closures for this event. Estimated attendance is 3,000. A permit for Commercial Fireworks has been issued for this event.