

CITY OF **DUNCAN**

OKLAHOMA

A Closer Look at Our Community

Volume 1-B



Letter from Mayor Robert Armstrong

Community Heart & Soul is a resident-driven process that engages the entire population of a town in identifying what they love most about their community, what future they want for it, and how to achieve it. This will determine the projects that will shape what Duncan will look like for decades to come.

As we move into the fall and the start of another school year is well underway, I am encouraged by the direction our community is moving towards and gaining strides to becoming a place our kids want to come back to work, live and play. In visiting with Duncan Public Schools Superintendent, Dr. Channa Byerly, I am excited for the vision she is bringing to the future of our schools and our children.

I am also pleased to see that Duncan Chamber of Commerce's current Leadership Duncan class, Class 26, is embracing as their class project a strategic community planning process called "Community Heart and Soul".

As I promised when I ran for Mayor, I will listen to what you, our citizens, want for our community, and this process will lay out exactly what you want so that our community can put in place the tools to accomplish that. Rarely is there an opportunity to have a direct impact on shaping the vision of a community, so I encourage everyone to take part in this process. Stay tuned for more details and meeting times to engage in.

Together, we will grow Duncan into a place our children want to come back to!



What's Inside

PAGE DEPARTMENT

- 2 City Manager**
- 3 Police | Fire**
- 4 Public Works**
- Airport | Streets | Water**
- 5 Duncan Power and Emergency Management**
- 6 Parks | Lakes | Cemetery**
- 7 Community Development and Library**
- 8 City Calendar | Spotlight**

Duncan City Newsletter is published by the City of Duncan to keep our citizens up-to-date on all of the exciting things happening in our community.

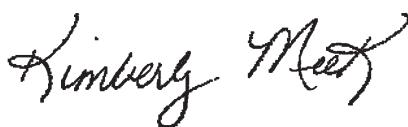
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Kimberly Meek
CITY MANAGER

With students back to school, the heat of summer ending and heading into the last quarter of 2022, I am pleased to share the City of Duncan's continued efforts in this second newsletter for the year. Updates from our departments show the work done every day to provide the services, amenities and experiences that continue to grow our relationships with you, the citizens of this community that I am proud to call home.

Relationships are built by better communication. As a part of that commitment to you, the City of Duncan will be launching a new website in late December/early January that will provide easy access to information for "all things city" including digitized department forms. A new app "DunCAN Connect" will be available to be your personal assistant to report non-emergency concerns quickly and easily to our staff. Once you download "DunCAN Connect" via your App Store, you will be able to select the appropriate category for your concern, upload a photo or video and report right away to the appropriate city department. You will also be able to request notification when the concern is addressed by staff. "DunCAN Connect" is free to download and use! So, please assist us, and access your City of Duncan services through this simple and easy communication tool to help us serve you better. It takes each of us, working together and doing our part, to make Duncan a better place to live, work and play and we appreciate our citizens who engage with their municipal government as we strive to make Duncan the best it can be.

Projects, both short and long term are getting accomplished, even with the continued challenges in the supply chain and staffing shortages. As you peruse this second newsletter, my hope is that you recognize the accomplishments of our staff, who are your friends, family and neighbors, and know that we are happy to serve you, the citizens of this great community.



Kimberly Meek



**Coming
in early
January 23!**

City Council

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Nick Fischer, Vice Mayor

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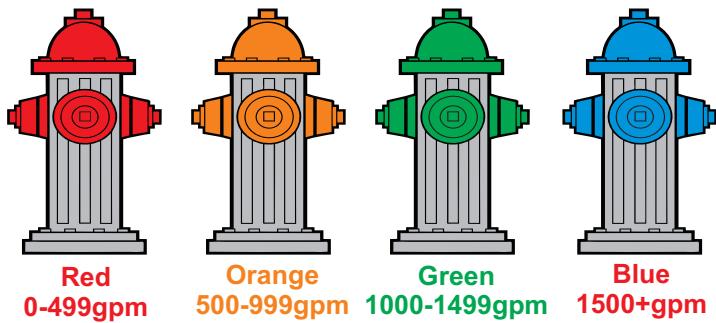
CITY MANAGER

Kimberly Meek

kmeek@duncanok.gov

Regular meetings of the City Council are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:15 pm at the City Council Chambers. Citizens are invited and encouraged to attend.

Each year Duncan Fire Department tests each of the 1,351 hydrants within city limits. This year, the hydrants received fresh paint and color coding. What do the colors on the hydrants mean? Each hydrant's base color is grey, with the cap and valves painted to indicate the gallons per minute flow. Your firefighters, at a glance, know exactly what the gallons per minute flow is in a hydrant and plan accordingly which apparatus to use in an emergency:



As hydrants age out or land developers add new housing developments, the City of Duncan provides new hydrants at a cost of approximately \$3,500/each.



School Resource Officers are carefully selected, specifically trained, and properly equipped full-time law enforcement officers with sworn law enforcement authority, trained in school-based law enforcement and crisis response, assigned by the employing law enforcement agency to work in the school using community-oriented policing concepts. The three main roles of school resource officers are educator (i.e., guest lecturer), informal counselor/mentor, and law enforcement officer. The goals of an SRO are to provide safe learning environments in schools, provide valuable resources to school staff members, foster positive relationships with youth, develop strategies to resolve problems affecting youth and to protect all students, so that they can reach their fullest potentials.



2022-23 SROs are:



Master Officer
Daniel Glover
Red River Tech Center



Master Officer
Dustin Smith
Duncan High School



Master Officer
Jonathan Williams
Duncan Middle School



Master Officer
Nathan Carrio
Red River Tech Center

TRAINING

The departments partner together and do an annual school safety drill every fall at all Duncan Public School sites.



Both departments keep full training schedules for new members to learn basic skills and senior members to have as a refresher and to keep their skills sharp. Training is monitored and certified instructors ensure best practices are done. Like any industry, both departments are constantly evolving with recent technology, techniques and best practices for serving you, our citizens.

Street Projects

Asphalting completed:

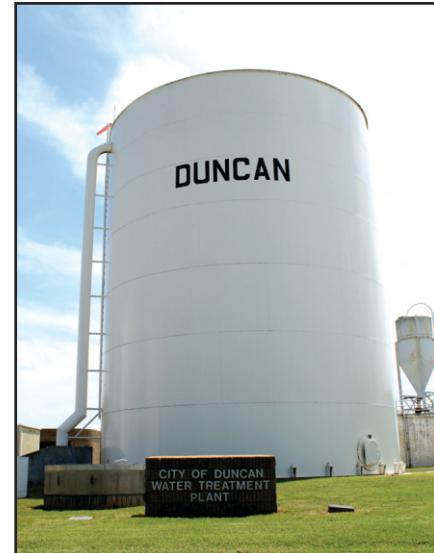
Hackberry between 7th and 8th
 7th Str between Hackberry and Pine
 Peach between 7th and 8th
 8th Str between Elder and Peach
 Walnut between A Str and 3rd
 Oak from 1st to 6th St
 Willow from 11th-15th Str
 Cypress between 3rd and 4th St
 Additional projects planned before end of asphalting season.



Street sweeper and street edger recently purchased are assisting crews with maintenance.



Gabion baskets installed and dredging done on Clarity Creek to increase creekbank stability and improve drainage.



More Projects In The Works

Duncan Halliburton Airport's preliminary study is completed and applications are being made for FAA grants for the improvements.

Inflow and Infiltration of Wastewater Project – Phase One is finishing fieldwork at the Water Treatment Plant and maintenance projects continue at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Oklahoma Water Resources Board loan funded projects are in process, with new water lines scheduled to be placed. Engineer plans are either in beginning design phase or nearing 60% plans complete. Bids will be let, and construction plans to start in the last quarter of the year on Chisholm Trail Parkway and 27th thru 29th Street off of Beech Ave, as well as others.

Duncan Power & Emergency Management



Spring brought damaging storms with an impressive amount of lightning leaving outages in their wake. Our Crews met the challenges delivered by these storms with tenacity, skills, late nights, early mornings, and long days.

Substation equipment replacements were scheduled before summertime electrical usage increases, with improvements at Plato and Elder substations done. The Stephens Substation breaker sensed a problem and shut off before it failed. It is repairable, but replacement parts have a long delivery wait. Being out of service, customers normally served by it were switched to a working breaker until parts arrive. Supply chain issues have made materials harder to acquire. Duncan Power staff has encountered delayed, canceled, or repeated back-ordering of many of items, have made maintenance repairs and improvements more challenging.

Throughout 2022 Duncan Power is contracted with Novinium™ for underground electric cable improvements in housing developments throughout Duncan. Their workers utilize a state-of-the-art process to inject a liquid insulation within the current buried power cables that rejuvenates the insulation to make them last longer without failures. By using this process, we can give existing cables a new start on life expectancy with only minimal digging, boring or trenching of yards. This does not mean there will never be another power outage, but it does mean that we can completely rebuild our underground electric system in a few months, instead of a few years. While there are many variables that affect costs, and a budget of \$750,000, we plan to treat as many cables as affordable.

Dovetailing in with the cable rejuvenation work, and a budget of \$200,000 dollars, were some complete replacements of underground primary cables in 4 housing additions because rejuvenation alone would not provide the reliability we are striving to achieve. Great gains have been made in increasing underground cable reliability and will continue on.



The Municipal Electric Systems of Oklahoma, Inc. (MESO) recognized Duncan Power, for Outstanding Achievement in the association's annual Electric Operations and Reliability Competition.



Disaster Preparedness

Disasters can happen anywhere, any time. That is why it is important to be prepared. Do you have a plan for yourself, your pets, and your family? How will you receive emergency alerts and warnings? Where will you shelter? What is your evacuation route? What is your family's communication plan to reunify after the storm? Do the kids know important phone numbers? Do you have an updated preparedness kit?

Disasters can leave children frightened, confused, and insecure. It is important to recognize these reactions, and help them cope with their emotions. If a disaster should hit your area, the following tips can help:

- Encourage questions and answers with your kids. Let them tell you how they feel and are concerned about.
- Limit the media disaster coverage they are exposed to.
- Make time for them to talk, play or do other family activities, to create a sense of security for them.
- Try to keep routines normal as possible.

For information: <https://www.ready.gov/helping-children-cope> and [ready.gov/kids](https://www.ready.gov/kids) provides games to help your kids become "Disaster Masters" and teach them how to build an emergency kit.

Your emergency kit should have everything you need to survive for several days. Include the following in your kit:

- Non-perishable food and water that can last several days (3 days minimum).
- Flashlights, radios & extra batteries.
- First aid kit.
- Consider any special needs your family might have.

Your pets are also part of your family so add these items in case you need to evacuate with your pets.

- A selfie with them in case you get separated.
- Medicine & grooming items.
- Collar with an ID & a leash.

For more information please visit:

<https://www.ready.gov/national-preparedness-month-social-media-toolkit>.



To sign up for Duncan Alerts please scan QR Code.

Parks

Abe Raizen Park will have new sunshades by year end, thanks in part to a McCasland Foundation grant. A preconstruction meeting was held for new bathrooms.

Pirkle Park's bathroom remodel is in process, with construction anticipated to begin in the fourth quarter of this year.

New storm siren installation at Abe Raizen Park



The new siren integrates automated lightning detection and lightning warning in our parks, walking trails, and sports complex that is a voice capable siren which gives a voice warning of approaching bad weather. Additional sirens will be located near the football stadium, Fuqua Park, walking trails, the splash pads, and are capable of public address to sound voice announcements for tornado warnings, flood warnings, high winds, siren tests and more. These improvements will make the **Outdoor Warning Siren System** more reliable, more functional, and give the public more time to reach shelter in an emergency.

Duncan Cemetery

Roadside Property: typical lot of six grave sites \$700.00 each, with smaller lots less than six or in fractions as options for purchase.

Interior Property: typical lot of six grave sites \$500.00 each, with smaller lots less than six or in fractions as options for purchase.

Henderson-Harris Cemetery

Sites are \$500.00 each

Special Property for Infants and Cremation in designated areas available at both locations. For additional fees and information contact the Cemetery Office, located at City Hall, 1600 S Hwy 81 on second floor or call 580-251-7734.

Cemetery Clean Ups are held quarterly on the 2nd Tuesday in February, May, August, and November each year.

Lakes

Our lakes were busy throughout summer season. Besides general maintenance, areas around the dams were cleared. (See photo below).

Camping spaces will be mapped for ease of locating, with kiosks updated prior to the start of camping season in 2023.

Grants applications are in process for replacements of area lake T-docks and other amenities.

Clear Creek Lake

Phase Two dam engineering study completed with embankment evaluation and recommendations received by Public Works.



Community Development and Library



Community Development

Did you know the Department of Community Development and Code Enforcement seeks out and applies for several community grants each year to help improve the quality of life for our citizens?

Applications are made to Keep Oklahoma Beautiful, Oklahoma Code Enforcement Association, AARP Community Challenge, Oklahoma Tree Bank Foundation, various manufacturers of playground equipment, national businesses and corporations that have a presence in Duncan, and federal Community Development Block Grant Program(CDBG) Small Cities Grants.

In 2022, the Department partnered with the Association of South-Central Oklahoma Government(ASCOG) and was awarded a \$450,000.00 CDBG Covid-19 Relief Grant that helps our community address and overcome the impacts of local economic strains that were caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. It was determined by grant holder that the funds would be made available to help provide additional nutritional assistance to the community through the senior citizen centers, provide greater access to personal protective gear and supplies, and to assist low and moderate income households with utility billing payments up to \$1,500.00.

As of the first of September, the utility billing assistance program helped over 300 low- and moderate-income households with their bills. To date, these pledges to help households totals more than \$95,000.00 that may have otherwise become delinquent during these difficult times. The average assistance for these households is approximately \$320.00.

- June 85 households assisted at \$23,303.70
- July 135 households assisted at \$40,239.31
- August 81 households assisted at \$32,393.33

Assistance for utility billing assistance is still available through this CDBG Covid-19 Relief Grant and low- to moderate-income households located in Duncan are encouraged to apply. Applications are reviewed as first come first served and applicants may only apply once. Applications and inquiries may be made to the ASCOG Office located at 802 W Main Street or by calling 580-252-0595 between 8 am- 5 pm Monday through Friday.



Duncan Public Library sends a huge, heartfelt thank you to our amazing community for participating in our Summer Reading Programs this year! For eight weeks, we held special events, Storytime, crafts for everyone ages 1-99, and reading challenges for all,

and you came out to show your support. Over 2,400 people came to our programs, with 636 people taking on our reading challenges. Our 25 hard-working teen volunteers racked up 1,392 volunteer hours. And we even issued 239 new library cards this summer. From a visit from the Science Museum Oklahoma, to mermaid Storytime, to our newest after-Storytime program: Stay 'n' Play, we had all kinds of adventures.

Some of the other exciting things that have happened in the past few months include the upgrades to our handicapped spaces, ramps, and general parking. These improvements have helped our patrons so much! We also received further repairs to our roof that have reduced our leaks to a much rarer occurrence. We moved our Impa'Chi free meals program to our upstairs kitchen area, where you can eat, watch a movie, play a game, or make some art.

Kristi at the Stephens County Genealogy Library joins the ranks of our librarians who are also notaries, so we now have notaries at both locations. Which reminds me, it's a great time to get some of your old slides, 8mm, or VHS tapes and take them to the Genealogy Library to have them transferred to modern formats so you can share them with family and friends.

Our partnership with the Duncan Area Literacy Council now includes basic computer classes every Monday and Wednesday morning in our upstairs computer lab. We are also ready to do more outreach, so watch for us at local events, ask us to participate or ask how you can help us. We're always looking for more community partners and are so grateful for your support!





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City Calendar | Spotlight

ALL monthly City of Duncan meetings
Oct 2022 thru April 2023



City Calendar

Airport Commission
First Monday at 5 pm

Board of Adjustments
First Monday at 5:30 pm

City Council/Duncan Public Utilities Auth/
Duncan Economic Development Trust Auth
Second & Fourth Tuesday at 5:15 pm

Duncan Enhancement Trust Authority
Fourth Thursday at 5:30 pm

Employee Retirement & Pension Board
Third Monday at 9:00 am

Lakes Commission
First Tuesday at 5:00 pm

Duncan Public Library
Fourth Tuesday at 9:30 am

Main Street Duncan
Second Thursday at 12:00 pm

Parks and Recreation Board
Third Monday at 5:30 pm

Planning Commission
Third Tuesday at 5:30 pm

South Central Oklahoma Envir. Auth
First Monday at 11:00 am

Waurika Lake Master Conservancy District
First Tuesday at 2:00 pm

(meeting dates may adjust due to holidays.
Please call 252-0250 to inquire prior to
attending).

Check out duncancalendar.com for more
exciting things to do in our great city!



Duncan
Enhancement
Trust Authority

DETA receives funding from code violation fees designated in the annual budget for beautification and enhancement. DETA recently contributed to the project at Beech Ave/Hwy 81, new city park signage and is working on replacement of street signs at major intersections on Hwy 81. As the Crapemyrtle Capital of Oklahoma, DETA asks citizens to plant crapemyrtles in support of our city's beautification.

