



Letter from Mayor Robert Armstrong

Duncan is steeped in a rich history and anchored in the values of hard work, enterprising spirit, and offering a helping hand. We are built on the grit and hard work of cowboys making their way up the Chisholm Trail, on the enterprising spirit of oilmen, and on the persistence and determination of farmers and ranchers. While we appreciate where we have been, we have a vision for the future of our community. We will continue to invest in Duncan, the entrepreneur, the business community, and our quality of life. We will continue to evolve into a place our children will come back to raise their families. We honor our past and welcome our future. For these reasons and more, I love our community.

We are a community that derives a sense of meaning and purpose in serving others. There are multiple examples of non-profits in our community, made up of citizens that give of their time, talents, and/or treasure to better our community and the lives of our citizens. We are a community that ascribes to the Golden Rule. As Mayor, I see our city employees go about their workday trying their best to make our small part of the world a better place. It is not easy to do all that our staff does every day to make certain the citizens have all the services we do and I thank them for it.

I would like to thank you for being our customer. We encourage you to attend our council meetings to learn more about our focus areas as a council and so that you are aware of what steps we are taking to make improvements. Our focus in this inaugural newsletter is to provide an update on city happenings and how we are focused on continuing to improve our utilities and infrastructure.

Duncan has challenges. Infrastructure is a priority for your council, and we are working towards improved reliability and quality of services. There is not a month that goes by that the council doesn't review requests to purchase new transformers, restore electrical lines to neighborhoods, replace water lines, and receive updates on sewer rehabilitation projects. In 2021, we replaced almost 16,000 feet of pipes and over 199 manholes with more improvements planned that will serve us well in the years ahead.

City Council recently approved a funding request for a meter replacement project. Being good stewards of our resources, staying within our limited budget as a city, and having up-to-date audits, allows us to leverage funds to do projects of this scope.

I hope you see the amount of effort, time, energy, and resources we are pouring into making our community better. Improvements will continue to be a priority. We will never stop looking for ways to make Duncan better as a city and a service provider. As we build upon our values, we work towards an even brighter future.



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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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City Manager



Kimberly Meek

CITY MANAGER



The City of Duncan is moving forward for you, the citizen. We all know that 2020 and 2021 were challenging and historic years for our community. Individuals, families, and businesses faced challenges that were unheard of. In the true pioneer spirit of Duncan, our community rose to the occasion, adapted, and made things better. For the City of Duncan, 2022 represents a turning point for a hopeful future where we can work together and continue to improve our great city.

I am so pleased to be a part of the inaugural issue of the City of Duncan newsletter. As we put the newsletter together, I felt proud of the information my team included.

One of our most recent projects that was completed was the purchase and installation of brand-new playground equipment at Timbergate Park. A member of our community shared a special message about the park that really hit home. I wrote it down to always remember why we do what we do in municipal government. They said they go by the park daily and each time, there are bikes parked and the park is full of kids playing and having fun. This never happened in the old park. The space was underutilized and often overlooked. They said a community that exists on the smallest scale with the kids in the park is what it is all about. That citizen was right.

My goal as your city manager, and the goal of my team is to provide services, amenities, and experiences that bring our community together. When people are able to gather and work together, great things happen. Relationships are formed. Community grows.

We are continuing our theme of community with other exciting projects planned for 2022. To name a few, you will see

Abe Raizen/Jess Welch Sports Complex

New bathrooms and sunshades

Pirkle Park

New bathroom

Inflow and Infiltration of Wastewater Project

Phase One of Two

It is my pleasure to share this first issue of the City of Duncan newsletter with you. I hope that you are as proud as I am of the accomplishments of your fellow community members working for the city, working for you, to bring you the best possible services.

A handwritten signature of Kimberly Meek in black ink.

City Council

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CITY MANAGER

Kimberly Meek

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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.



2021 69,695 admin phone calls received
13,987 911 calls to Dispatch
Responded to 31,329 service calls

Getting information from dispatch to emergency response personnel in clarity and detail is a key piece of improving emergency response time. A comprehensive and accurate communication system has a substantial effect on time and safety and can be the deciding factor between life and death.

City of Duncan's investment in Spillman Flex, used by 2,000 agencies in 43 states, is a proven, integrated solution backed by the industry's most experienced teams and is known for its performance.

The Flex System provides:

Complete system integration ensures an open, centralized database where information is entered, stored, and extracted in real time, in a software integration that allows all departments to share live data while reducing duplicate entry, ensuring the highest standards for data accuracy and usability.

Superior multi-jurisdictional data sharing capabilities that allow multiple agencies to use a single database to securely exchange information in real time while keeping sensitive information secure and preserving individual agency standards.

The ability for dispatchers using CAD to instantly query records and do searches in other local, state and national databases saving significant time.

Calls mapped with real time call updates ensures unit responses and automatic alerts on wanted or missing persons, as well as the ability to determine which unit is closest to a call and where all field units are currently located.

Information to be easily accessed, and added to, in real time by officers in the field.

Spillman Flex provides your first responders with quicker access to dispatch information, a quicker arrival on scene and a streamlined workflow from call to case closure enabling them to work smarter, safer and more efficiently.



2021 2,869 EMS responses
901 fire responses
3,761 total
Mutual Aid responses avg 4-6/mth

Time is a critical element in the equation that ultimately leads to saving lives and property. Rule of thumb for a fire is that it will double in size for every minute it has to burn, provided it has oxygen and fuel.

DFD Response Time Dispatch to Arrival Average 0:05:38.

National response time average: National Fire Protection Association standard is 0:06:00.

NFPA provides the minimum requirements relating to the organization and deployment of fire suppression operations, emergency medical operations and special operations by the public by career fire departments. **Only 58% of full-time fire departments nationwide, including your DFD, meet the response time guideline from alert to arrival.**

Detectores Save Lives

50% of house fires responded to do NOT have a smoke detector in home, have a missing or expired batteries, or a non-working detector. Smoke detector lifespan is 10 yrs/carbon monoxide detector lifespan is 7 years.

Check batteries and expiration dates annually! In 2021 DFD installed 2 to 3 smoke detectors/carbon monoxide detectors, (per home) in 118 homes in partnership with American Red Cross for qualifying households. To see if you qualify call 252-0250.

**Duncan Fire Dept. Response time:
Dispatch to Arrival average 0:05:38
National response average: 0:06:00**

Public Works

Airport | Streets | Water



Street Projects

2021 saw the asphalt paving completed of 13th St, 7th St, Fir and Walnut Avenues.

2022 will see various blocks of Hackberry, Peach, Ash, Beech, Oak, Walnut Avenues and 12th St.



More projects in the works

The El Rancho Water Tower will be assessed and renovated.

Re-establishment of drainage patterns through Williams, West and Timbergate streets, as well as Timbergate Park.

Reshape drainage and clean silt from pipes to Duncan Halliburton Airport. Clear trees, remove two irrigation pivots in development area.

An airport development study is in progress.

Plato Road Bridge



Before



After

Plato Road bridge failed an engineering inspection and was immediately closed for public safety. It was replaced, reopening for traffic in December 2021.

Airport Gets New Sign



Duncan Power & Emergency Management



Over the past few months Duncan Power crews have been working on Fuse Coordination Projects in various locations on our distribution system. Fuses are used to protect electrical equipment like transformers from permanent damage. But they also protect the distribution system from failed equipment like a bad transformer. If the fuse coordination is wrong, a blown fuse can shut off power to a transformer AND the line that serves it; meaning more customers are out of power than just those served by the bad transformer. If we get fuse coordination right, a blown fuse will only kill power to the transformer its supposed to protect, not put all other transformers (customers) on the same line, in the dark. This takes good record keeping and consistent follow up, which we're glad to do for the good of all.

In 2021 Duncan Power contracted with Novinium™ for underground electric cable improvements throughout Westgate addition as a part of our capital improvement budget. Novinium workers utilized state-of-the-art processes to inject a liquid insulation within the older buried power cables that rejuvenates the insulation of the underground electrical cables to make them last longer without failures. By using this process Duncan Power can give exiting cables a new start on life expectancy with only minimal digging, boring or trenching in your yards. This does not mean there will never be another power outage, but it does mean that we were able to completely rebuild our electric system in Westgate addition in a few months, instead of a few years. The cost of the process was \$350,000 and it is the final corrective measure undertaken to eliminate repeated failures (outages) of the primary lines buried in the addition.

Refuge from a Storm

When severe weather hits, there's no better place to hide than a FEMA approved storm shelter.

May, 2013 saw hundreds of lives saved in Oklahoma when they took refuge in their storm shelter from an EF5 tornado.

It is estimated that less than a fifth of the state's 4 million residents have access to a meaningful private shelter from tornadoes.

When it comes to Emergency Management, life safety is our number one priority. The City of Duncan was awarded \$179,000.00 in FEMA grant money to help residents with the offset of the cost of a storm shelter. We had 128 residents sign up for the program, but only 72 have actually installed their shelter.

Shelters cost around \$2,800. The rebate program requires the homeowner to pay for installation of the shelter and then turn in their receipt for a 75% rebate up to \$2,000. So, if you spend \$2,800 on your shelter, you will receive a reimbursement of \$2,000 and are only out \$800 for a new FEMA approved shelter. The reimbursement process takes approximately 90 days because the approval goes through the State and FEMA. The piece of mind that comes from knowing you have a safe place to go when the storms hit is definitely worth the time and money to go through the program.

Any unused portion of this grant will have to be returned to FEMA. Rather than returning it, we would like to see our Duncan residents use it to install a new shelter. We are looking for about a dozen more residents to sign up for the program. If you would like to apply please contact:

City of Duncan Emergency Management
emduncan@duncanok.gov or call 580-251-7712

What to Listen For Duncan's Outdoor Siren System

Weekly testing of the siren system is now fully computer automated and activated every MONDAY, (unless severe weather is in the area or forecast). Each lake siren is automatically activated sequentially at 11:59 AM. City sirens follow at noon.

TEST Wait for Tornado Warning - 1.5 minute of "on and off"

TEST Steady for All Clear -1.5 minutes of steady sound

Please note: In the event of actual severe weather, warnings will sound with 3-minute sirens and then continue to sound.



New Clear Creek Spillway and Boat Ramp



Clear Creek Spillway construction began in November 2020, and the Phase One 9.9-million-dollar investment is recently completed, with a Phase Two dam evaluation study to be complete by end of May 2022. The new spillway holds over 100 tons of steel and is more than two football fields in length.



Clear Creek boat ramp is repaired and ready for the upcoming season.

Shorelines clean up at all lakes is being done, including a new access to Clear Creek Lake and an open view on the east side of the pavilion.



Timbergate Park

New playground equipment installed. Special thanks to the McCasland Foundation for making the Toddler Area possible.



Abe Raizen/Jess Welch Sports Complex

The parking lot was recently re-sealed. The park is scheduled to have new bathrooms and sunshades installed.



Columbarium at Duncan Cemetery

Duncan Cemetery Columbarium, with niches for loved ones, and the Chapel are available. For more information, contact 580-252-0250.



Community Development

Community Development is working with the Chickasaw Nation, Duncan Chamber of Commerce, and Duncan Convention and Visitor's Bureau on the **"Chickasaw Nation Placemaking Initiative"** to advance tourism focused placemaking in 10 communities across the Chickasaw Nation. This comprehensive planning program will focus on promoting a sense of comfort, improve accessibility, build the local economy, foster social interaction, support tourism, and promote healthier living within our community. Placemaking is a collaborative process of people coming together to create the great places at the heart of our community and this partnership with the Chickasaw Nation will begin to build the base on which Duncan can grow future projects that will continue to make the community a great place to live, work and play.

Staff with Community Development attended a kick-off meeting on March 29th where teams discussed the Power of Ten places that are currently community assets and have the potential to be grown into community assets. Focus was given to centrally located spaces that have economic/social potentials, cultural/historic value, spaces that can get people excited, attract tourists and places that need improvement.

Community Development is excited about this process and intends to grow these initial steps with future community driven projects that will better the City of Duncan for years to come. If you would like more information or would like to share your vision of Duncan's future, please contact Nate Schacht, Director of Community Development at 580-251-7711 or nschacht@duncanok.gov.



2021 was a great year for the Duncan Public Library! It was our 100th year birthday, and we celebrated all year round with features and displays on library and Duncan history. We had over 63,000 visitors, and nearly 81,000 items were checked out by 17,849 people.

We even had over 50,000 digital items checked out through our virtual libraries on the Libby, OverDrive, and Hoopla apps. Our free WiFi logged nearly 95,000 sessions and we made over 110,000 copies and printouts for you!

This year, we want to remind you of all the great things you could use here besides just books (although those are amazing as well!). We offer free notary services, free tech help (call to schedule an appointment with Rich), and free computer access. We have DVDs, cake pans, and video games available for checkout. Don't forget, we offer free meals for children and teens (courtesy of the Chickasaw Nation). Make a vow to come walk the StoryWalk® and have lunch under the pergola, all provided to us by our Friends of the Library. Bring your kids to Minecraft in the back building Tuesdays and Thursdays. Did you know we offer Tai Chi classes?

Summer programs start May 31. This year's theme is Oceans of Possibilities, and we'll have all kinds of ocean-themed fun for all ages all summer long, including performers, crafts, reading challenges, and more.

Don't forget about the Stephens County Genealogy Library, our branch on 8th and Ash. Work with staff to learn how to explore your genealogy, research ancestry or history, and even put your memories into a new format by using the Memory Lab. You can transfer old slides, 8mm, records, and VHS to DVD or flash drive, or scan your old scrapbooks to save for posterity.

Lastly, you can access our online resources 24/7 from our website: <http://www.youseemore.com/duncan/> DPL works hard to provide you with unlimited entertainment and education. #FreeWithYourLibraryCard



City Calendar | Spotlight



City Calendar

Airport Commission

May 2 | June 6 at 5 pm
(No July meeting due to July 4 holiday)

Board of Adjustments

May 2 | June 6 | July 11 at 5:30 pm

City Council/Duncan Public Utilities Auth/ Duncan Economic Development Trust Auth

May 10, 24 | June 14, 28 | July 12, 28 at 5:15 pm

Duncan Enhancement Trust Authority

May 26 | June 23 | July 28 at 5:30 pm

Employee Retirement & Pension Board

May 16 | June 29 | July 18 at 9:00 am

Lakes Commission

May 3 | June 7 | July 5 at 5:00 pm

Duncan Public Library

May 24 | June 28 | July 26 at 9:30 am

Main Street Duncan

May 12 | June 9 | July 14 at 12:00 pm

Parks and Recreation Board

May 16 | June 20 | July 18 at 5:30 pm

Planning Commission

May 17 | June 21 | July 19 at 5:30 pm

South Central Oklahoma Environmental Auth

May 2 | June 6 | July 5 at 11:00 am

Waurika Lake Master Conservancy District

May 3 | June 7 | July 5 at 2:00 pm

Be sure and check out
duncancalendar.com for more exciting
things to do in our great city!



Fuqua Pool

Fuqua Pool has served Duncan since 1938, when the Works Progress Administration of the Depression Era built it along with the L-shaped culvert that still displays the WPA shield.

City of Duncan has contracted with the Simmons Center to operate the pool for summer 2022. Simmons Center members receive free entry. Contact the Simmons Center to make reservations for parties and special events at 252-2900. Make reservations early for the whole summer to avoid disappointment.

Opens May 28, 2022

Hours Monday-Sunday 1-6 PM

(12yrs - under supervised by guardian)

Under 3 yrs - free

\$1 per person 4 yrs-13 yrs

\$2 per person 14yrs and up

Kiwanis swim lessons

June 20-30 and July 11-21

Simmons Center swim lessons

Jun 6-16 and July 25 -Aug 4