



City Manager's Progress Report

October 24, 2022

Traffic Improvements



2nd and Bryant

After 15 months of construction, the roadway portion of the improvements to the intersection of 2nd Street and Bryant are substantially complete and open to traffic. Staff is still working through some issues with connecting the traffic controller to the Traffic Management System. The infra-red detection system was configured the week of October 17.

Covell and Coltrane

Interim pavement improvements to the intersection of Covell and Coltrane were completed this month, along with the striping to add designated left turn lanes in three of the directions. The City of Edmond Electric Department will be working with Field Services to have temporary span wire signal poles installed. Field Services will be installing the traffic signal light and has placed the order for the radar detection system which has a 16-week lead time.

Edmond Electric Crews Assist in Florida

Seven of our linemen and four trucks traveled to Florida on September 28 to help with the response for communities affected by Hurricane Ian. They were part of an Oklahoma brigade, which included personnel from Skiatook, Stillwater, Tahlequah, GRDA, and others. The Edmond Electric Group was initially assigned to the Mount Dora area in Florida. After Hurricane Ian made landfall the Mount Dora Utility released the responding crews as they did not sustain the damage they originally anticipated and they were redirected to a small public power utility in Moore Haven, Florida. The Moore Haven area sustained damage to their infrastructure, but they remained energized. Our crews were assigned tasks to replace a couple of broken distribution poles and a transformer. The crews mentioned the utility they responded to only had one lineman on staff, and they were very appreciative that we had responded to assist.

Once the linemen had completed repairs in Moore Haven, they were notified that Public Power Utilities weathered the storm better than anyone expected, and our crews were released to head home. They arrived back in Edmond on October 4.

We want to say thank you to our seven linemen who exemplified the Edmond and Oklahoma standard by helping others in their time of need: Wes Bennett, Jason Smith, Mike Crow, Caleb Cross, Kyle Wilson, Dane Myers, and CJ Smitski.

Parks Director Search Update

The Parks & Recreation Director search is progressing well with nearly sixty applications received. Fourteen applicants have been sent a questionnaire for further information and those answers will be reviewed next week to determine who will move forward to interviews. Interviews will consist of a first round that narrows down to the finalists that will participate in a comprehensive interview day with multiple stakeholder groups. It is anticipated that a new Director will start their position in early 2023.



Blueberry (pictured) is available for adoption.

Animal Shelter Capacity

The City of Edmond Animal shelter is facing dog over population challenges, which are being seen by rescues and shelters across the state. Our Animal Shelter currently has more than 25 dogs available for adoption. We encourage those looking for a canine companion to check out the Edmond Animal Shelter. Adoption fees are \$25. You can view the adoptable dogs and cats on the city website at

<http://www.edmondok.gov/animalservices>.

City Summer Events Recap

The City of Edmond saw another successful season of events this summer and early fall, including VIBES, Heard on Hurd, and the Red Day Run.

VIBES

The second season of VIBES wrapped up on October 6. VIBES is a free event held in Downtown Edmond on the first Thursday of each month where the community can view visual and performing artists. Each artist is paired with a downtown business and has a small booth set-up with art for viewing and purchase. Throughout their second season, they averaged 1,000-3,000 attendees each month for an estimated total economic impact of over \$500,000 for 2022.

Heard on Hurd

For nine years Citizens Bank of Edmond has hosted an evening Food Truck Festival in Downtown Edmond on the third Saturday of each month from March to October. Throughout season nine, they averaged roughly 20,000-25,000 attendees each month, with March having over 45,000 attendees! Heard on Hurd has led to a more than \$60 million estimated economic impact since inception.

Red Day Run

The Red Day Run held by Keller Williams in Downtown Edmond on October 1 achieved a milestone this year. After only eight years of hosting this event, they surpassed over \$1 million dollars in donations to local nonprofits in our community. They gave out \$225,000 to eight local nonprofits from this year's event.

We have several more community events coming up to close out the year, including the UCO International Festival, Cycle 66, and Edmond Turkey Trot.

Upcoming City Events

Storybook Forest

Arcadia Lake and Edmond Electric will be presenting Storybook Forest at Arcadia Lake October 23-20, open 5:30 – 8:30 PM each day it is open. Storybook Forest is a safe alternative to traditional trick or treating. Children walk down a well-lit path in the woods and visit life-size scenes from classic storybooks to collect



candy. Families can expect to see recreations inspired by well-loved tales like The Little Old Lady Who Lived in a Shoe, The Three Little Pigs, and more!

At the concession area, there are campfires for families to roast hotdogs and s'mores as well as a reading tent where kids can hear stories. There is a carnival game area as well as a hayride for the entire family to enjoy.

Storybook Forest is come-and-go anytime between 5:30 and 8:30 pm on each evening of the event. It is not required to arrive early or right at 5:30. No one will be allowed at the event site prior to 5:15 pm.

Tickets must be purchased in advance and can be online at www.edmondok.gov

Luminance



Edmond Electric will be putting on their 5th annual 3D holiday walk-through light display at Mitch Park. Luminance will run from November 18 through January 1 and will be open daily from 5-10 PM. Admission and parking are free.

Luminance will also include Merry Marketplace, a holiday pop-up shop experience, from November 18 through December 17. Merry Marketplace will be open 4-8 PM.

The kick-off celebration for Luminance will be on Friday November 18 at 4PM near the baseball fields.

For more information, please visit www.edmondlights.com

November 8th Ballot Question

On Tuesday, November 8, 2022, Edmond residents will have the opportunity to vote on Referendum 02-21 (Ordinance No. 3832), a proposal that certain property generally located north of Memorial Road and west of the West I-35 Frontage Road be rezoned from A Single-Family Dwelling District and E-1 Retail General Commercial to PUD Planned Unit Development which will contain two variances and (301) multi-family apartments.

For more information, including the ballot language and how to register to vote, please visit www.edmondok.gov

