

# *Financial Profile*

2025



# FINANCIAL PROFILE 2025

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# Letter from the *City Manager*

On behalf of the City of Garden City staff and elected officials, we thank you for picking up this copy of our 2025 Financial Profile! This document was prepared for the purpose of helping you better understand the revenue streams into your local municipal government's budget, and the way that money is spent in the form of daily services and projects. This document also features many of the elected and appointed public servants responsible for decisions regarding City finances, service delivery, and project construction.

In the summer of 2024, the City Commission approved a 2025 annual budget with the overall statutory authority to spend \$183,091,835. In the pages that follow, we will break that number down much further and distinguish between those funds

allocated to general government services (such as streets, parks, recreation, fire, and police), enterprise funds (such as electric, water, sewer, and solid waste), and many other special purpose funds that serve as reserves or holding places for dedicated grant dollars aimed at accomplishing specific projects or initiatives defined in the grant award.

We continue to live in exciting times in Garden City with multiple public and private projects in progress and more slated on the horizon! The stewardship of public finances plays a critical role in many of these projects as well as the overall health and resiliency of the community moving forward. As our community considers its future and communicates its will to and through its local elected officials, it is helpful to have a solid understanding of the facts as they relate to public finances. Our hope is that you will find this document helpful in that regard and that you stay informed and active in letting your City elected and appointed leaders know your opinions.

For even more information on the City and its finances, I invite you to visit our website, [www.garden-city.org](http://www.garden-city.org).





# Goals

- 01** Develop and preserve strong relationships with our community, other communities, and other levels of government
- 02** Upgrade and maintain existing public infrastructure and facilities
- 03** Encourage private development consistent with being the regional hub
- 04** Develop new public facilities

# CITY COMMISSION 2024

**Manny Ortiz** Mayor

**Roy Cessna**  
Commissioner

**Bryce Landgraf**  
Commissioner

**Tom Nguyen**  
Commissioner

**Troy Unruh**  
Commissioner

# FACTS AND FIGURES

**Incorporated**  
1883

**Population**  
30,049

**Median Age**  
32.3 Years

**Land Area**  
11.4 Miles

**Average household size**  
3.35

**Regional trade area population**  
325,279

**Number of languages spoken in USD 457**  
38

## Principal Employers

Tyson Fresh Meats  
USD 457  
St. Catherine Hospital  
City of Garden City  
Sunflower Electric Corp.  
Finney County  
Walmart Supercenter  
USD 363 Holcomb  
Garden City Community College  
Dillon's

COMMUNITY STATISTICS	2023	2022	2021	2020
1. Population	30,049	31,142	31,275	31,275
2. General Obligation Debt Per Capita	\$2,836	\$2,840	\$2,504	\$2,293
3. Labor Force	20,603	20,402	19,765	20,648
4. Unemployment	3.1%	2.2%	1.9%	4.4%
5. New Residential Construction Permits	52	79	61	58
6. Central Business District Occupancy Rate	95%	94%	94%	93%

# FINANCIAL CYCLE

Commission holds goal-setting retreat.

**FEB** ▲

The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) from the previous year is presented and submitted to the Government Finance Officers Association.

**JUNE** ▲

City's assessed value is determined. The budget is finalized with a public hearing and formal adoption.

**SEPT** ▲

Financials are closed out; audit preparation begins.

**DEC** ▲

**SEPT** ▼

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) process begins at the department level. CIP projects are reviewed by a citizen committee before the plan is reviewed by the Commission for the upcoming budget cycle.

**MAR** ▼

City departments prepare budgets to present to the City Manager, who then finalizes a proposed budget to present to the City Commission.

**JULY** ▼

Public budget presentations are made to the City Commission.

**OCT** ▼

Finalized budget is sent to the County Clerk. Debt is issued for approved projects.

**2025** ▼

In February, an external auditor & City Staff begin working on the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and audit for the previous year.



# Governmental Services

Throughout the year, the City of Garden City employs 400 full-time staff, along with part-time and seasonal staff members who carry out the day-to-day operations that make Garden City a safe, enjoyable place to live, work, and visit.

You may encounter some of these employees regularly. They include police officers and firefighters who make Garden City a safe place to live. They also include Public Works crews who are responsible for the maintenance of city streets and sidewalks as well as solid waste services. City staff also run several specialized departments. They include Lee Richardson Zoo, Garden City Regional Airport, Buffalo Dunes Golf Course, Sunset Memorial Gardens, Valley View Cemetery, Garden Rapids at the Big Pool, and Garden City Parks and Recreation.

You may not encounter other City employees as often, like the Public Utilities crews who are responsible for the management of electric, water, and wastewater utilities, or the Neighborhood and Development Services personnel who are responsible for maintaining the structural standards of the community through planning and enforcement of the City's building codes and comprehensive plan.

The Administration and Finance departments are responsible for the general and financial administration of the City and include the City Manager's Office, City Clerk, Service and Finance, Municipal Court and Prosecution, General Counsel, Human Resources, Information Technology, and Communications.

# In Review

## Street

The last year has been busy with many projects within the Street department. A two-inch mill and overlay were completed on Fulton Street from Inge Avenue to Taylor Avenue and on Mary Street from 8th Street to 3rd Street. Reconstruction of the base and asphalt on Pine Street from Main to 8th Street not only included seven-inch asphalt but curb and gutter repairs as well. Crack sealing of all asphalt streets was also completed as part of the department's Cycle 4 plan. Other projects include repairing bridges and installing new sidewalks on East Harding Avenue, Campus Drive, East Schulman Avenue, and Harold Avenue.



Multiple asphalt potholes and water main break patches have been completed and continue to be repaired around the city. Asphalt paving of larger areas on Short Grass Street, Henderson Street, Koster Street, and Pawnee Street have been completed, with some areas still in process. Manhole adjustments have been made in different areas of the city, including Spruce Street and Harding Street. A two-inch mill and overlay on Buffalo Jones Avenue from Bancroft Street to the railroad tracks and on Campus Drive from Labrador Boulevard to the US-83 bypass was completed this summer.

Due to wash out and to increase the public's safety, the north side of the Harding Street bridge is scheduled to have the wall and sidewalk replaced to match the south side this August.

# Public Works

## Drainage Improvements

Over the remaining 2023 and now 2024 years, multiple drainage improvement projects have been completed, and five other drainage improvements are also in the works to be completed this year. The 100 block of South Campus near the KDOT inlet and the 900 block of East Fair Valley Street were replaced; Fair Valley Street included gutter replacement. The streets of 11th & Jenny had drainage pipes replaced, new base material installed, and asphalt work done. Removal of sediment along Drainage Ditch #1 is in progress and the Fulton Street Drainage Project is also on the list of completed projects for 2024.



## Efficiency Planning

In terms of efficiency the department had two remote-controlled mowers approved, purchased, and received to assist in mowing drainage ditches and other hard-to-reach areas within the City limits. Professional Engineering Consultants completed and provided the department with a Street Inventory & Evaluation Rating for all City streets, which includes an 8-year maintenance plan. Post bollards have been installed along Main Street to increase public safety during parades and events. The Street Department has completed bollards from Fulton to Laurel and will complete this project in the remainder of the year.

## Fleet

A new vehicle diagnostic tool was purchased to assist in diagnosing City Fleet on repairs and maintenance. New toolboxes and some specialty tools were purchased to ensure safety and efficiency within the department. One more full-time mechanic was approved for hire to assist with the day-to-day workload, which has been a tremendous help.

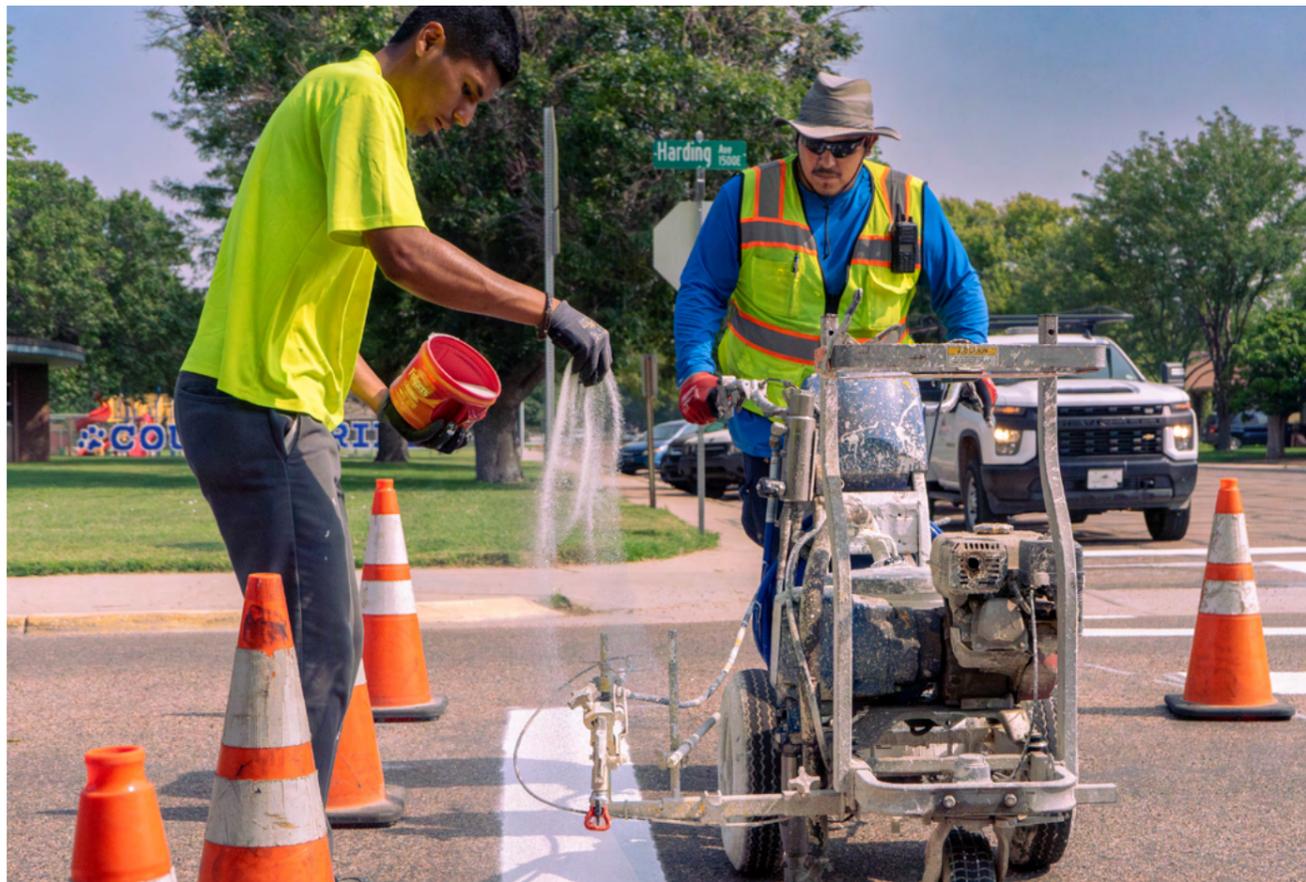


## Traffic

The Traffic Department, the organization's smallest department with three members, paints approximately 25 lane miles and 230 crosswalks annually.

To help with striping, a Colorado contractor was hired to stripe several intersections along Kansas Avenue, Mary Street, and Schulman Avenue

using epoxy paint which is expected to last three years. This company also was contracted to apply epoxy paint on Fulton Street from 9th Street to Campus Drive, Kansas Avenue from 5-points to Staples, and Mary Street from VFW to Jennie Barker Road.



## Solid Waste

The Solid Waste Department was approved to enter a five-year service agreement with Rubicon Global LLC., a Solid Waste Management Program. This has been implemented and utilized in all Solid Waste Collection trucks. Data is being collected and utilized to move to the next route optimization phase in the coming months. This program has also helped with reporting code enforcement issues, alleys needing to be repaired, tonnage at the landfill, and maintenance issues with the vehicles/equipment.

## Recycling

The Recycling Department researched and now has multiple options for selling recycled materials while ensuring they get the most for their product. Some of these include local selling options. Multiple improvements have been made to the department including new equipment, an improved drop-off location with asphalt, new containers, and signage. Additional drop-off recycling trailer locations can now be seen around town in locations requested by residents.



# Electric

In the last year the Electric Department continues to build into new subdivisions such as Hunters Glen, Chappel Heights, Sunset Terrace, and Lost River providing services for new constructions within the city. Many updates have been made within the department's responsibilities to ensure up-to-date equipment upgrades, replacements, and frequent monitoring. Substation improvements included breaker relay upgrades, insulator replacement, Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) and surveillance. Kansas Avenue from 3rd Street to Campus Drive has upgraded streetlights and neighborhood street lighting starting to fail were replaced with newer, brighter LED luminaires.



# Public Utilities



## Water

### Completion of Booster Station No. 8

The booster station located near the Jameson Energy Center will ensure reliable water delivery to the growth area along US50 Highway on the east side of Garden City. The project was a component of the Transmission Waterline Project authorized by the Governing Body in 2022, which, in addition to the booster station, included the installation of nearly 13,000 feet of 16-inch water transmission main from the Finnup Park area to Jennie Barker Road.

### Lead Line Inventory Project

This staff project includes the investigation and categorization of all service connections within the City's water supply. Approximately 8,850 water service connections are cataloged and will be incorporated into the inventory submitted to KDHE for compliance with new Lead Regulations.

### Wastewater Treatment Plant Aeration Improvements

Improvements needed at the Wastewater Treatment Plant to provide adequate treatment for industrial growth in Garden City are substantially complete. The \$3.8 million dollar project was funded by empirical Foods through a development agreement with the City.

### WWTP Inflow and Infiltration Study

The City has completed the installation of 30 Smart Cover units that will continuously monitor sewer flows and provide information to City Staff and engineers to identify issues of stormwater infiltration into the Sewer System. The Smart Cover units communicate wirelessly 24/7 and can provide notifications to staff if there are issues with sewer flow.

# Police and Fire

## Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) And Records Management System (RMS)

For nearly four years, the Police Department, Fire Department, and Municipal Court worked to make a new collaborative RMS/CAD system a reality after identifying the need to replace outdated and end-of-life phases with a more robust solution.



Following product demonstrations and reference checks, Tyler Technologies was selected to build the new software. The RMS/CAD system went live in July 2024. This project was a department-wide effort with the evaluation, build, and instructing processes.



We broke ground on Station 3 and ordered the new apparatus specifically for this station. Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) are being installed in all of our apparatus and trucks. This advancement improves our operational efficiency and communication capabilities during emergency responses.

Additionally, we implemented a new reporting software that will streamline our reporting processes, enhance data security, and improve overall operational management. These achievements and ongoing projects reflect GCFD's dedication to improving safety, efficiency, and service to our community.

The Fire Department has had a productive year with several noteworthy accomplishments and ongoing projects. We successfully received the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG), which enabled us to install diesel emission exhaust systems at both Station 1 and Station 2. This upgrade significantly enhances the safety and health of our firefighters. We entered into a partnership agreement with the Kansas Forest Service, which led to our Wildland Team being deployed to assist with major wildfire incidents in Alaska and California.



# New Garden City Regional Airport

The Garden City Regional Airport terminal project started in May 2022 and was completed in May 2024. Project costs including design, construction, furniture, engineering and architectural services, and construction observation services were just shy of \$31,000,000. The project was partially funded through a local Garden City sales tax measure as

well as \$22,000,000 in federal funds through the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) and CARES Act grant.

The project includes a brand-new facility that doubles airline gate capacity, increases space, provides advanced technology and security, a baggage carousel, and enclosed passenger boarding bridge.

The 27,000 square foot terminal meets future air service demands, opens southwest Kansas to greater economic development, streamlines the passenger experience, and provides a beautiful gateway to our community. Thank you for supporting GCK!



An air service study will be completed towards the end of 2024. Data from a 90-mile catchment area surrounding Garden City will be collected to determine trends of local travelers such as destination, departure airport, and airlines. This data will be helpful when pursuing future air service options.

Air Service Study  
in the Works



# Airport





## Parks

A lot of new and exciting things are happening in our parks! The Skate Park project on the north side of Finnup Scout Park on 8th Street and Emerson Street was completed in August 2023 with a ribbon cutting held on Tuesday, December 19th to celebrate its completion. The Wiley ballfield repair project was completed earlier this year in April and included dragging out the thatch, hydroseeding fields, and irrigation repairs on all three fields. If you enjoy any of the 14 miles of trails and frequent Talley Trail, you might have seen the recent collaboration with Finney County Library to install a story walk on the trail in late July 2024. Residents on the trail are now able to stop and enjoy a part of a monthly story at any of the 18 posts. The long-awaited Southeast Park is set to be completed in December of this year. The installation of playground equipment and surfacing, the building of restrooms and pavilion, planting of trees, native grasses, and turf is all currently in the works. In 2023 the department entered a 3-year tree trimming contract for city rights-of-ways. The contractor will assist multiple departments on rotation and will continue to trim trees January through March of 2025 and 2026.

# Parks & Recreation

The Recreation Department has experienced a lot of growth internally as well as in their programs. The department expanded its number of Recreation Coordinators by two this year to better serve the community's recreation needs and is working on a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategic Plan to improve parks, recreation programs, and spaces. Activity Guides are available on the website at [grec.com](http://grec.com) or at 310 N 6th Street and include a 6-month list of activities.



## Lee Richardson Zoo

New additions, upgrades, and habitats are continuously happening at Lee Richardson Zoo!

Last year, a new eagle and bighorn sheep habitat was created and completed to add to our various habitats. Also, in 2023, the Karakul Sheep Habitat was expanded, Amur Leopard Habitat was rebuilt, and the Tortoise Building was renovated for fennec foxes. Trees continued to be planted with 23 more added last year.

2023 and 2024 also brought in new residents! An endangered siamang was born at Lee Richardson Zoo on May 23, 2023, the first in over 20 years for the Zoo. A trumpeter swan cygnet hatched on June 7, 2023, and was sent to a program for reintroduction into the wild in Oregon, and Red-billed blue magpies and red and yellow barbets joined the Zoo family in 2024!

Lee Richardson Zoo added Agents of Discovery, a play-on-site-activity, to its programs. It's an online education platform that allows the Zoo to provide an innovative way to engage guests by featuring a mission and various challenges that the participant can enjoy throughout the application.

## Golf

This year Buffalo Dunes Golf Course is taking lessons off the court by implementing the Golf n Parks program, which will continue through the remainder of 2024. This program brings an introduction of the game of golf to community parks to help introduce new golfers to the game in a familiar setting. More information about this program is available on social media by searching, Buffalo Dunes Golf Course or Garden City Parks and Recreation.

At the conclusion of 2024, Phase 5 of 6 will be complete of the Course Improvement Plan. About 90% of the total project and all green complexes will be completed by the end of this year. These projects are all being completed in-house by the maintenance staff with the aid of architect Zach Varty. About 90% of the work has been completed while spending 45% of the total projected cost.

Based off current market costs, if this project was outsourced it would be in the ballpark of \$4,000,000-\$5,000,000.



## City Clerk

In early 2024 the City Clerk's office implemented a new Agenda Management Software for the City Commission meetings and all City Advisory Boards, which allow an updated view of packets found on the City's website and a more efficient process on the backend for the input of items for meetings. Along with this update, City Clerk's also opted for researching and implementing a new records request software, GovQA, for

## HR

In 2023, the Human Resources Department underwent a significant transformation by implementing Tyler Technologies. This transition included moving most of the City's Human Resource processes from an outdated software system to Tyler Technologies, which resulted in a major enhancement in efficiency for the HR Department. One major improvement was digitalizing the Personnel Action Report (PAR) process, which is used daily for various tasks such as changing an employee's pay, hiring an employee, or even updating their address. Switching this process has streamlined our operations.

### McGrath Human Resources Assists with Handbook and Pay Scale

In 2022, HR received approval to work with McGrath Human Resources to redo the employee handbook and update the pay scale. A full handbook review has not been done for many years. After two years of review by the City Attorney, HR Director, Assistant City Manager, and City Manager, the handbook is nearing completion. At the beginning of 2024, a working group that consisted of City employees

including supervisors from various departments was created to review the draft handbook. This group helped work through several policy issues. Once finalized, HR plans to create a training video to highlight major updates and new policies, which will then be distributed to all employees, including new hires. The updated handbook will be accessible on the City website and available on all City desktops and devices. Although a full compensation study was not complete, McGrath reviewed the scale and several positions that were out of grade. Regular review of the Pay Scale is recommended every 3-5 years, and we managed to complete this review three years after our last pay study.

## Communications

The Communications Department reprioritized the website redesign earlier this year as the current site was nearing 8 years since its last redesign. Since signing with CivicPlus in April, the department has met with a Project Manager to highlight key features desired in the redesign all while keeping residents in mind. The website will go live in October of this year providing a resident-focused accessible site for anyone residing, visiting, or investing in Garden City.

## IT City Network Infrastructure Update

The Information Technology Department has successfully completed multiple network refresh projects across the organization. The most recent comprehensive network refresh was carried out in 2018. Since then, the City has expanded its infrastructure, adding multiple new buildings and cameras at various facilities. Additionally, our partnership with Pioneer Technologies has significantly increased the number of connected City owned facilities. Due to the way the previous network infrastructure was licensed, we had to replace it all at once. However, the new network infrastructure is designed to support a hardware refresh cycle spread over multiple years, providing flexibility and cost efficiency. This expansion includes the addition of switches and access points to new buildings such as Garden Rapids at the Big Pool, Airborne Gymnastics, the Indoor Gun Range, and Municipal Court. In addition, access points have been installed in existing buildings to facilitate the use of iPads and other wireless devices for city functions.

### Video Surveillance Expanded at Lee Richardson Zoo

Another big undertaking by the department this year was adding 15 switches and 5 access points at Lee Richardson Zoo to enhance video surveillance for staff to monitor animals and grounds effectively.

## Pioneer Technologies Fiber Project

The Pioneer fiber project has transformed connectivity at most remote sites. Previously, these sites used Cox or AT&T internet connections with site-to-site VPNs on firewalls. Now, they have direct fiber connections for City WIFI, allowing us to eliminate the need for Cox or AT&T connections and the associated firewalls. The Pioneer fiber project has also extended connectivity to previously unconnected locations, including traffic lights, most parks, Train Depot, recreation facilities at ball fields, and substations used by the Water and Electric Departments.

### Juniper Switches and Access Points

The IT Department staff spent 7 months researching and demoing several different companies' products before deciding on Juniper for switches and access points and FortiGate for the firewalls. Juniper access points and switches, combined with Fortigate firewalls, enhance organizational security and network performance through advanced threat detection, seamless integration, and robust scalability. They offer superior network visibility, automated management features, and enhanced cybersecurity capabilities, which were lacking in previous solutions, ensuring a more secure and efficient infrastructure.





# 2023 Financials

The City of Garden City's assets exceeded its liabilities at the close of 2023 by \$184,925,697. Of this amount, \$48,681,866 is unobligated and may be used to meet the City's ongoing obligations. The City's total enterprise fund balance increased by \$3,119,872.

This growth in fund balance is attributable to an increase in charges and usage for services in the enterprise funds (listed to the right). This growth is also attributable in part to the stabilization of wholesale power expenses.

At the end of 2023, the unassigned fund balance for the general fund was \$13,209,578 or 38.98% of total general fund expenditures. Another way to look at these funds is as the ending cash balance of the general fund. These funds are available for use in the next fiscal year.

The City's total long-term debt increased by \$2,608,754 during the 2023 fiscal year. The City issued \$4,945,000 of general obligation bonds for internal improvements and \$2,715,371 in capital lease financing. This was offset by payments of \$7,690,000 in general obligation bonds and \$4,301,585 in capital leases.

	2023	2022	2021
<b>Government-wide</b>			
Assets	404,859,413	382,604,860	348,548,575
Liabilities	219,937,716	227,941,838	205,505,225
Total Net Assets	184,925,697	154,663,022	143,043,350
<b>Revenues</b>			
Government Funds	57,369,571	62,438,083	44,017,499
Enterprise Funds	59,738,716	59,350,913	59,159,039
Total Revenues	117,108,287	121,788,996	103,176,538
<b>Expenditures/Expenses</b>			
Governmental Activities	55,294,582	44,916,180	47,244,379
Enterprise Funds	52,088,520	55,852,169	59,309,252
Total Expenditures	107,383,102	100,768,349	106,553,631
<b>Capital Assets - Net of Accumulated Depreciation</b>			
Governmental Activities	96,801,021	65,926,824	60,548,640
Enterprise Funds	194,106,239	198,045,140	178,835,565
Total Assets	290,907,260	263,971,964	239,384,205
<b>General Fund Balance</b>			
Unreserved (unassigned)	13,209,578	13,523,106	14,681,201
Debt Service Fund - Reserved	2,355,702	1,943,196	1,857,735
<b>Long-term Debt Outstanding</b>			
Governmental Activities	106,814,017	101,362,869	77,798,383
Enterprise Funds	92,953,410	100,790,329	105,861,122
Total	199,767,427	202,153,198	183,659,505

### Terms to know

**Assets** - Items of economic value owned by the City, including cash

**Governmental Activities** - The City's basic services such as Police, Fire, Public Works, Zoo and Parks, which are funded mostly by property tax, sales tax, and franchise fees

**Capital Assets** - Stationary assets of the City that include machinery, equipment, real estate, streets, sidewalks, water, sewer, and drainage systems

**Net Assets** - The difference between assets and liabilities

**Fund Balance** - The difference between assets and liabilities of a fund

**Liabilities** - Debt or obligations of the governmental unit that are to be met using the governmental fund's expendable financial resources

**Enterprise Funds** - Airport, Golf Course, Electric, Solid Waste, Water, Sewer, Stormwater - all funded by fees charged to users



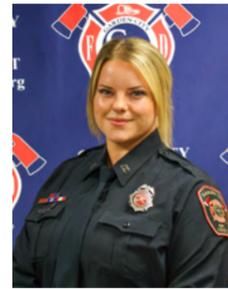
**Cameron Albus, Zoo**  
Zoo Picture of the Year  
2023



**John Bemis, GCFD**  
Employee of the Month  
May 2024



**Colby Biernacki, GCFD**  
Employee of the Month  
November 2023



**Anna Carpenter, GCFD**  
Lifesaving Award  
Firefighter of the Year



**Senior Sergeant Matt Cole**  
GCPD Employee of the Year  
(Sworn)



**Corporal Jacob Cosper**  
2023 GCPD  
Marksmanship Award



**Andy Crittenden, GCFD**  
Employee of the Month  
June 2023



**CSO Troy Davis**  
GCPD Meritorious  
Service Award



**Corporal Josh Doull**  
GCPD Lifesaving Award



**Joe Erskin, GCFD**  
Employee of the Month  
September 2023



**Luke Freeman, GCFD**  
Lifesaving Award



**Isabelle Fricano**  
Zoo Employee of the  
4th Quarter



**Ljay Geist, GCFD**  
Employee of the Month  
May 2024



**Houston Glover**  
Zoo Employee of the  
3rd Quarter



**Tony Hurtado**  
Water Operator of Excellence  
Kansas Municipal Utilities



**Fred Jones**  
2023 Richard Porter Service  
Award, Kansas Chapter AWWA



**Ruby Martinez, GCFD**  
Lifesaving Award



**Jeremy Moore, GCFD**  
Employee of the Month  
January 2024



**Mike Muirhead**  
2023 Mark Crisson  
Leadership & Managerial  
Excellence Award, APPA



**Idris Patterson**  
GCPD Lifesaving Award



**Cory Rupp, GCFD**  
Employee of the Month  
August 2023



**Joe Scott, GCFD**  
Employee of the Month  
December 2023



**Jose Seijas, GCFD**  
Employee of the Month  
July 2023



**Carrie Thurman**  
Zoo Employee of the 1st  
Quarter & Employee of the  
Year 2023



**Thomas Turpin, GCFD**  
Employee of the Month  
October 2023



**Josh Urteaga**  
GCPD Employee of the Year  
(Non-Sworn)



**Mike Walker, Traffic**  
Quarterly & End of Year  
Safety Award



**Chris Wilson**  
GCPD Lifesaving Award



**Cooper Wilson, GCFD**  
Employee of the Month  
September 2023  
Lifesaving Award



**Donna Wohler**  
Zoo Employee of the  
2nd Quarter



**Communications Department**  
Citibot Premier Community Award



**Electric Department**  
2023 Excellence in Reliability - APPA  
2023 Safety Award of Excellence - APPA



**Water Department**  
2023 Safety Award - Kansas Chapter AWWA



**Buffalo Dunes Golf Course**  
GOLF.com Top 100 Courses by Value (ranked by price, #2)  
GOLF.com Top 30 US Municipal (ranked #8)



**Parks Department**  
Parks & Natural Resources Outstanding Park Project Finalist for Rise of the Robots Program (Robotic Mower & Painter initiative), KRPA  
Parks & Natural Resources Outstanding Park Project Finalist for New Skate Park Project, KRPA



**Jared Rutti & Recreation Department**  
Exemplary Service from Babe Ruth/Cal Ripkin  
Baseball Association

As we strive to effectively, efficiently, and equitably provide services and facilities that meet public needs and work to enhance the quality of life in the community, the City and its staff sometimes receive local, state, and national recognition.

Here are some of the awards that were earned recently by the City of Garden City and its staff.

# Awards & Recognitions

# Leadership Roles

## Matt Allen

**City Manager**  
Co-Chair, Economic Lifelines

## Cynthia Beltran

**Court and Defendent Coordinator**  
Board Member, Emmaus House  
Board Member, Garden City/Finney County Crimestoppers

## Elena Billings

**Garden City Police Department Records Clerk**  
Committee Member, USD 457 Boundary Committee

## Mary Buchman

**Garden City Police Department Director of Communications**  
Second Vice President, Association of Public Communications Officers Standards Development  
Board Member, Salvation Army Garden City

## Danielle Burke

**Assistant City Manager**  
Board Member, Women Leading Government

## Matt Cole

**Garden City Police Department Senior Sergeant**  
Kansas Peace Officers Association District 5 Board of Governors

## Joe Conner

**Garden City Police Department Detective**  
Vice President, Little Leaders GCKS Board  
Board member, Garden City/Finney County Crimestoppers

## Aaron DeLeon

**Electric Lineman**  
Kansas Municipal Utilities Overhead Workshop Instructor

## Calvin Evans

**Electric Lineman**  
Kansas Municipal Utilities Overhead Workshop Instructor

## Jason Hase

**Golf Professional**  
Board Member, Real Men Real Leaders  
Vice President, Kansas Chapter of the South-Central PGA of America

## Ticia Herd

**Parks and Recreation Director**  
Member at Large, Kansas Recreation and Parks Association  
Board Member, Finney County United Way

## Andy Herman

**Solid Waste Superintendent**  
Committee Member, Solid Waste Management Committee

## Celyn Hurtado

**City Clerk**  
Board of Directors, Region VII - International Institute of Municipal Clerks Association  
Board of Directors, International Institute of Municipal Clerks Foundation Board

## Tanya Ibarra

**Court Clerk**  
Board Member, Garden City/Finney County Crimestoppers  
Board Member, Little Leaders GCKS Board  
Board Member, CASA

## Jon Irsik

**Fire Chief**  
Board Member, Salvation Army Garden City

## Fred Jones

**Water Resource Manager**  
President, Upper Arkansas Regional Watershed Group  
Vice Chair, Kansas American Water Works Association  
Board Member, Ground Water Management District 3

## Joe Knobbe

**Deputy Director, Lee Richardson Zoo**  
Steering Committee, Prosimian Taxon Advisory Group - Association of Zoos and Aquariums  
Steering Committee, Old World Monkey Taxon Advisory Group - Association of Zoos and Aquariums  
Advisory Board, Reproductive Management Center - Association of Zoos and Aquariums

## Yeimi Lopez

**Communications Manager**  
Secretary, Kansas Association of Public Information Officers

## Preston Martin

**Parks Foreman**  
Board Member, Friends of Buffalo Dunes

## Trent Maxwell

**Director, Neighborhood and Development Services/Building Official**  
Board Member, Kansas Building Industry Association  
Board Member, Southwest Kansas Builders Association  
Board Member, Garden City Community College Construction Trade Advisory Board

## Jeremy Moore

**Garden City Fire Department Lieutenant**  
Board Member, Big Brothers Big Sisters

## Mike Muirhead

**Director, Public Works & Utilities**  
Board of Directors, Kansas Municipal Utilities (KMU)  
Vice President, Kansas Municipal Energy Agency Executive Committee  
Chair, Kansas Municipal Energy Agency Dogwood Energy Committee

## Kristi Newland

**Director, Lee Richardson Zoo**  
Steering Committee, Struthioniformes Taxon Advisory Group - Association of Zoos and Aquariums  
Professional Development Committee, Association of Zoos and Aquariums

## Adam Patterson

**Garden City Fire Department Lieutenant**  
Board member, Russell Child Development Center

## Tyler Patterson

**Public Works Operations Manager**  
Committee Member, Solid Waste Management Committee  
Council Member, Holcomb City Council  
Board Member, KU-Heartland Certified Public Manager Advisory Board

## Clay Payne

**Golf Course Superintendent**  
State Board of Directors, Kansas Golf Course Superintendents Association

## Kent Pottorf

**Electric Operations Manager**  
Board of Directors, KMEA and KMGa  
Member, KMU-KMEA-KPP Distributed Generation Task Force

## Richard Powers

**Garden City Police Department Lieutenant**  
Executive Director, Western Kansas Coalition for First Responders  
General Manager for Pump Jack Baseball

## Courtney Prewitt

**Police Chief**  
Board of Directors, Livewell Finney County Health Coalition  
Region 6 Representative, Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police (KACP)  
KACP Representative, Kansas 911 Coordinating Council

## Derek Ramos

**Assistant City Manager**  
Commissioner, Kansas Hispanic & Latino American Affairs  
Board Chair, Finney County Childcare Early Learning Network  
Board of Directors, Livewell Finney County Health Coalition  
Kansas Future Fellow, KU Center for Public Partnerships and Research

## Alex Rodriguez

**Electric Lineman**  
Kansas Municipal Utilities Underground Workshop Instructor

## Junior Salinas

**Electric Foreman**  
Member, KMU KS Mutual Aid Program Task Force

## Erin Stillwagon

**Garden City Fire Department Administrative Assistant**  
Board Member, Garden City Community College Endowment Association

## Nolan Thill

**Parks Superintendent**  
Vice Chair, Garden City Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors  
Board Member, Kansas Recreation & Park Association Parks & Natural Resources

## Josh Urteaga

**Budget Analyst**  
Treasurer, Little Leaders GCKS Board

## Billy Villanueva

**Electric Superintendent**  
Committee Member, KMU Overhead and Underground Workshop Planning Committee





**Ed Barb**

The airport was blessed to onboard Ed Barb on September 11, 2017. Ed has played a vital role in the department as his work ethic is unmatched. He meticulously cared for the airfield, buildings, equipment, grounds, and people at the airport. Ed also helped train many new employees. Ed exhibits authentic traits of a public servant. His retirement is well deserved, and he will be greatly missed.



**Rose Christ**

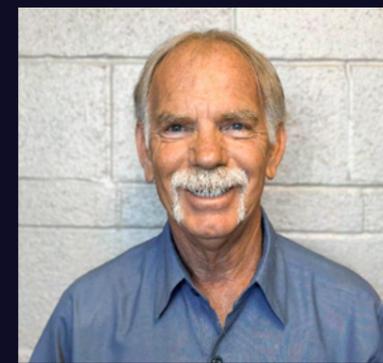
Rose began her career with the City at the Zoo 31 years ago before transitioning to the Information Technology Department, where she has made a significant impact. Throughout her tenure, she has installed thousands of computers and played a pivotal role in implementing and maintaining critical systems, including the City's first time clock system, the Bill Master utility billing program, and the MIP finance and HR software. Rose is Microsoft Certified, Security + Certified, Network + Certified, and is an A+ Certified Professional IT Technician.

Rose also supported the Municipal Court in implementing OneSolution IJS and has been responsible for ordering and managing City-owned iPads. In recent years, she has successfully completed several major projects, such as setting up the new billing system and implementing Tyler Technologies for the Finance Department.



**Fred DeSalvo**

Fred's career with the City started 13 years ago in the same position he is retiring. A Solid Waste Driver running the frontload commercial routes. Fred has proven to be very dependable over the years, working weekends and helping where needed to ensure the service to our community. We thank Fred not only for his years of service here in the City but also for his service to our country as a veteran. Fred, your knowledge and friendly presence will be missed. Enjoy your retirement with your family and rooting for the Chiefs!



**Grant Meyers**

Grant has been with the city for 43 years; talk about a devoted and loyal employee. His dedication is evident in his meticulous care in every task, ensuring that the town thrives and its residents are happy. Colleagues often look to Grant for guidance, admiring his wealth of knowledge and unwavering commitment. His stories of the city's history are intriguing, painting vivid pictures of its growth and transformation. As his retirement approaches, the entire organization prepares to celebrate his remarkable career, honoring the man whose efforts have left an incredible mark on the city's heart.



**James Southern**

James Southern served the Garden City Fire Department for 21 years, beginning as a firefighter on March 4, 2003, and ending as a Battalion Chief. During his time with the Fire Department, he selflessly served the community with distinction and honor. His presence in the fire department will be missed.



**Randy Ralston**

Captain Randy Ralston retired after 28 years of service and provided unwavering commitment and exemplary leadership within the organization and in the community.



**Diana Sanford**

Senior Records Clerk Diana Sanford retired after 16 years of service and was an instrumental figure in the Records Section for the GCPD.



**Raelene Stoecklein**

Raelene was employed with the City for 22 years. She was a well-respected, devoted employee. Raelene worked in several departments during her tenure including Service and Finance, alongside the Engineering department and also the Solid Waste and Recycling Department. She was committed to her job each day and enjoyed serving the community. Her knowledge and commitment to the City and our community will be greatly missed.

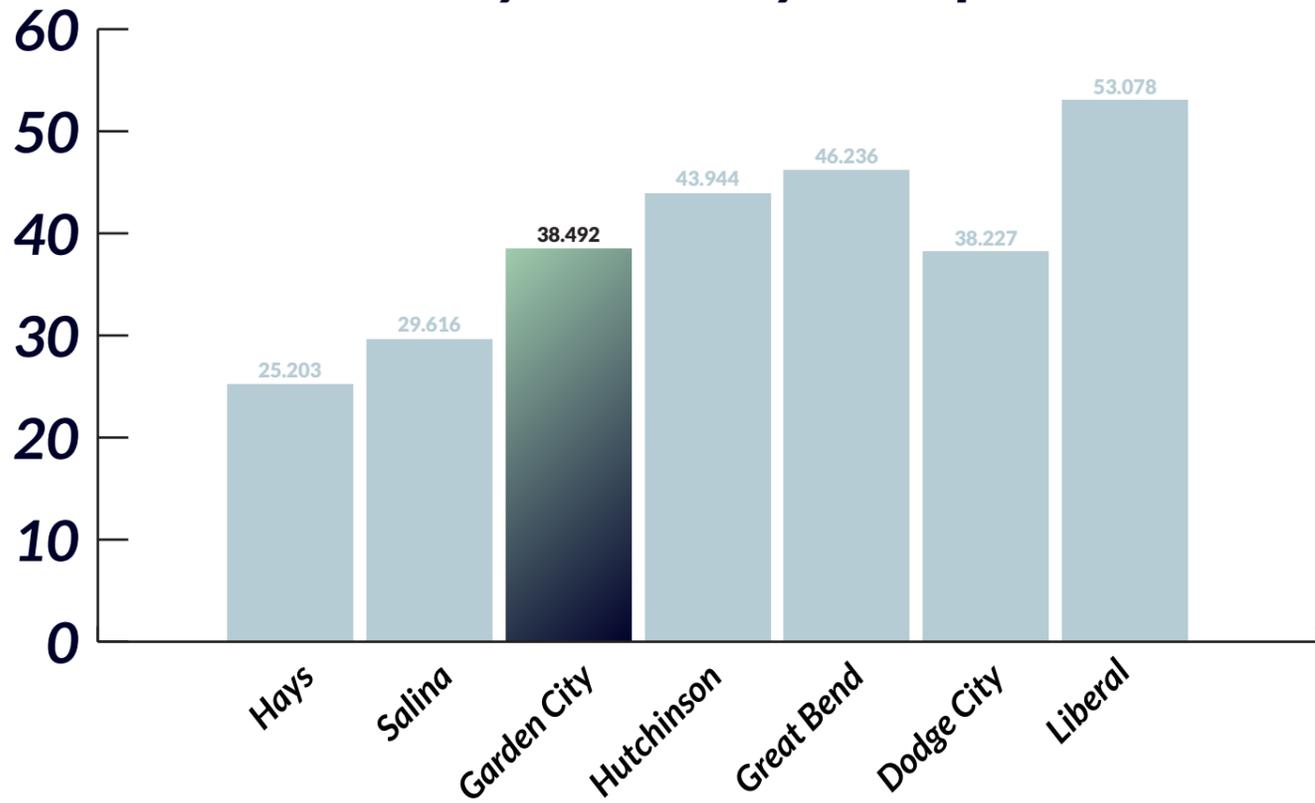


**Mike Walker**

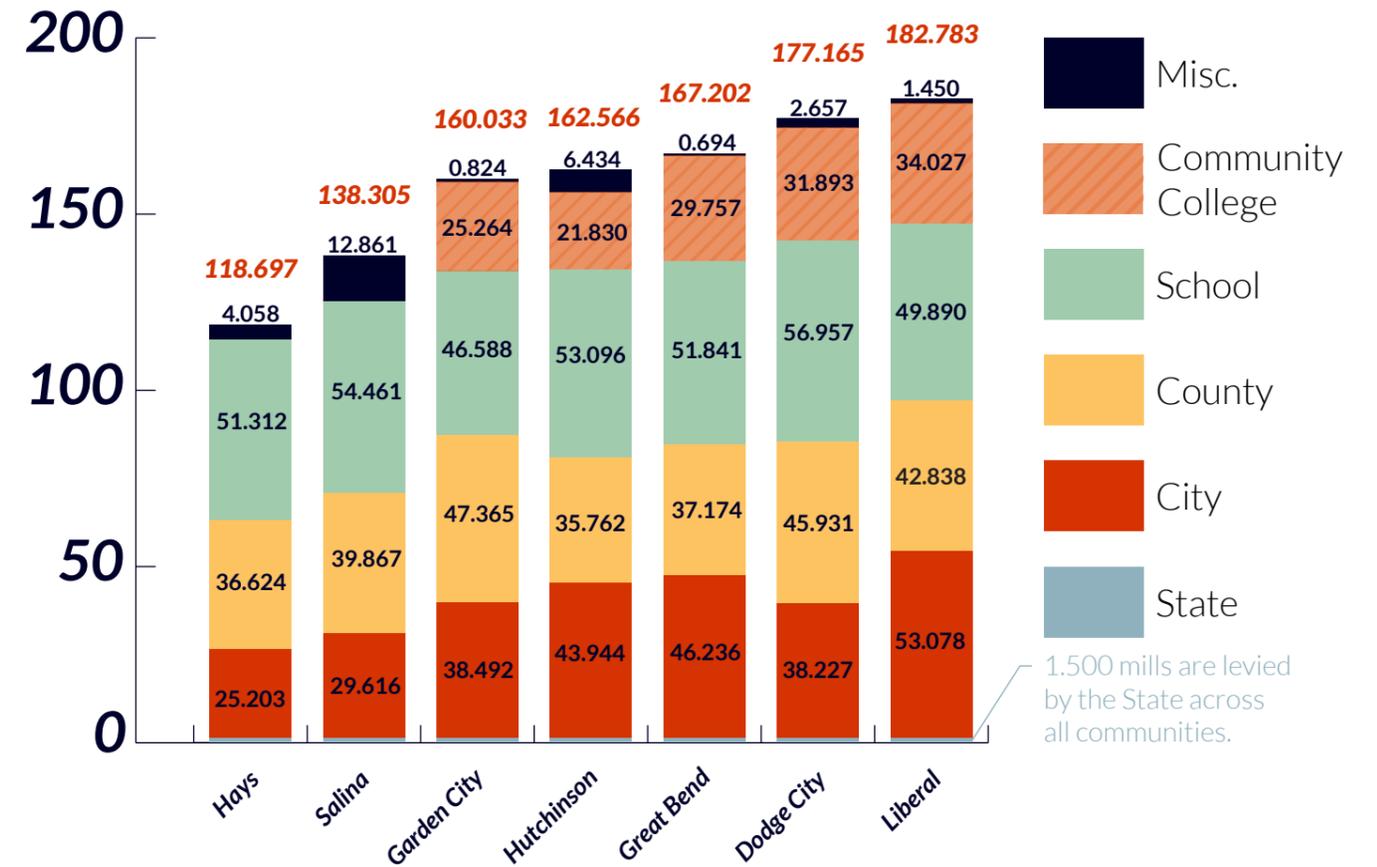
Mike was employed by the City for 18 years, all with the Traffic Department. He has been a devoted and hard-working employee. Mike has been very dependable; he did not miss one special event in the 18 years. We want to thank him for always being available to help his co-workers and other departments, such as Streets for clean-ups and Water for setting up work zones. On his off time Mike enjoys working on his home and yard. Happy Retirement, Mike!

# MEET OUR RETIREES

## 2023 City Mill Levy Comparison



## 2023 Mills Levied Per Community



How does your monthly property tax rate compare to your other monthly expenses?

Based on a two parent, two child household in Finney County, Garden City's monthly property tax rate accounts for **less than 1%** of average monthly expenses.

- City Property Tax
- Other Taxes
- Housing
- Transportation
- Food
- Other Necessities
- Healthcare
- Childcare

The property taxes you pay provide funds for several services that you benefit from directly including: Neighborhood & Development services, street repairs and upgrades, Lee Richardson Zoo maintenance and operations, parks and recreation, police and fire protection, regional airport services, traffic control and signals, as well as cemetery maintenance and operations.

# WHERE THE MONEY GOES



# CITY PROGRAMS

Over the years, several programs have been created to help the City and its residents work together to keep the community clean, comfortable and safe. In 2023 and 2024, 437.7 tons of trash were collected and disposed of during the spring and fall City-wide cleanups. Another 375 tons of waste were recycled through the City's recycling center. The Tree Rebate program and the Tree Loan Program helped plant 20 new trees in residential neighborhoods.



## AFAC GRANT

The State of Kansas provides funds generated from a special tax on liquor sales to cities and counties. A portion of the funds are devoted to alcohol and drug treatment or prevention.

The City of Garden City and Finney County empower a joint Alcohol Fund Advisory Committee (AFAC) to solicit applications and make recommendations for the use of the local funds by programs that aid in the abatement of drug and alcohol abuse.



## COMMUNITY GRANT

The Community Grant is designed to award funds to persons or organizations that undertake projects or begin programs that benefit the entire community or significantly benefit a targeted

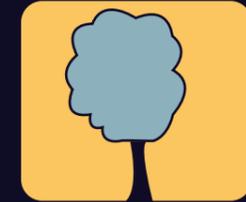
segment of the population. The Grant is intended to award money for projects or programs that would not customarily be funded through the annual City Budget, but serve to meet the identified goals and objectives of the City. Any person, civic group, not-for-profit agency, or private entity will be considered for receiving funds, except for those that would qualify for the AFAC and Arts Grant funds.



## NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION

The Neighborhood Revitalization Program is a tax rebate program for homeowners whose taxes have increased due to a home improvement. Depending on where the home is located, a homeowner may receive a 75-95% rebate on the

difference between the current year and the application year for a seven-year period or a ten-year period. The program is also available to commercial businesses at a rate of 75% for seven or ten years. The project application must be filed within 180 days of permit issuance.



## TREE LOAN PROGRAM

The City has a revolving interest-free loan fund to assist homeowners with the removal of dead trees and tree stumps and with the pruning of trees.

The maximum loan amount is \$1,000, with a maximum loan term of one year. A 10% down payment is required.



## ART GRANT

The Art Grant program awards funds to persons or organizations that undertake art projects or begin art programs that benefit the community. Any person, civic group, not-for-profit agency, or private entity will be considered for receiving funds, except for AFAC fund qualifiers, Community Grant fund recipients, and governmental agencies.

Grant fund recipients, and governmental agencies.



## HOME INSULATION LOAN

The Home Insulation Loan is an interest-free loan provided by the City to homeowners who will replace windows, storm doors, insulation, thermostats and attic fans. The purpose of the program is to improve

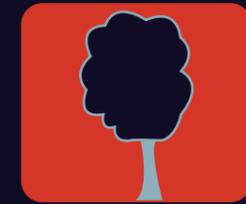
the face of homes and to increase energy efficiency. The maximum loan amount is \$1,500, with a down payment of 10% and a maximum term of 60 months.



## RENT-A-TRUCK

The City's Rent-A-Truck Program assists residents of Garden City in cleaning projects around their property. For a prepaid fee, the City will park a dump truck on the homeowner's property and pick it up the next business day. This allows

homeowners to load debris for the City to haul away for disposal.



## TREE REBATE PROGRAM

The City encourages Garden City residents to plant trees by offering a Tree Rebate Program. Homeowners can purchase two trees per year from a pre-approved tree list from local vendors between April 1-June

1 or September 1-November 30. The City reimburses homeowners for half of the cost of each tree, up to a maximum of \$50 per tree.



## CITYWIDE CLEANUPS

The City assists residents in removing unwanted personal property by organizing citywide cleanups in the Spring and Fall. During the cleanup efforts, City crews gather tree trimmings, old furniture, boxes, and old appliances from residential areas where

homeowners participate.



## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE AND RECYCLING

The City's Household Hazardous Waste Facility, 206 Isabel, accepts common household hazardous waste, including paint, fluorescent bulbs, aerosols, antifreeze, and more from Garden

City residents free of charge. Electronic waste and recyclable material are accepted at the City's Recycling Center, 125 J.C. Street.



## SIDEWALK/DRIVEWAY APPROACH PROGRAM

The City's Sidewalk Program is designed to help property owners install new or replace broken sidewalks and driveway approaches. The cost-share program is available to both residential and commercial

property owners without income qualifications.



## WATERSENSE IRRIGATION CONTROLLER REBATE

The City encourages Garden City residents to install WaterSense controllers that react to the conditions throughout the irrigation season to adjust for water usage

by offering a WaterSense Irrigation Controller Rebate Program. The City reimburses up to \$150 or the cost of the controller, whichever is less.

# LOOKING AHEAD

During the summer of 2024, the City Commission adopted a total operating budget for the 2025 calendar year of \$183,091,835. The mill levy was set at 38.492. In 2025, \$11,345,827 is expected to be generated by property tax for the City budget. Other revenue sources are sales tax, franchise fees, reimbursements, service charges, and utility user fees. Here are a few items you can expect to see progress on in 2025.

## Public Works

Street, drainage, and traffic improvements will continue in the next year including mill and overlay and other preservative treatments for asphalt streets. The East Side Pedestrian Pathway Project will be bid this fall, and will be bringing more trails into the East side of the City increasing equitable access and connectivity in the community. The Fleming Street and Spruce Street intersection traffic signal is in the final engineering phase with the installation to be completed in 2025. This project was approved by the Governing Body in 2021.

## Electric

The Electric Department will initiate projects under the grant funding provided through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law when approved. This will provide funding to rebuild the remaining underground primary electrical distribution system within the community. The department will be replacing the underground primary power cables and conduits to house them, as well as the pad-mount transformers and the pads that support them. This new equipment allows the area to convert to a higher primary voltage, lending to efficiencies in power consumption and reliability since most of the aging equipment was installed in the 1980s and 1990s. During this process, the department will also address any original design issues that have caused more than normal expected maintenance.



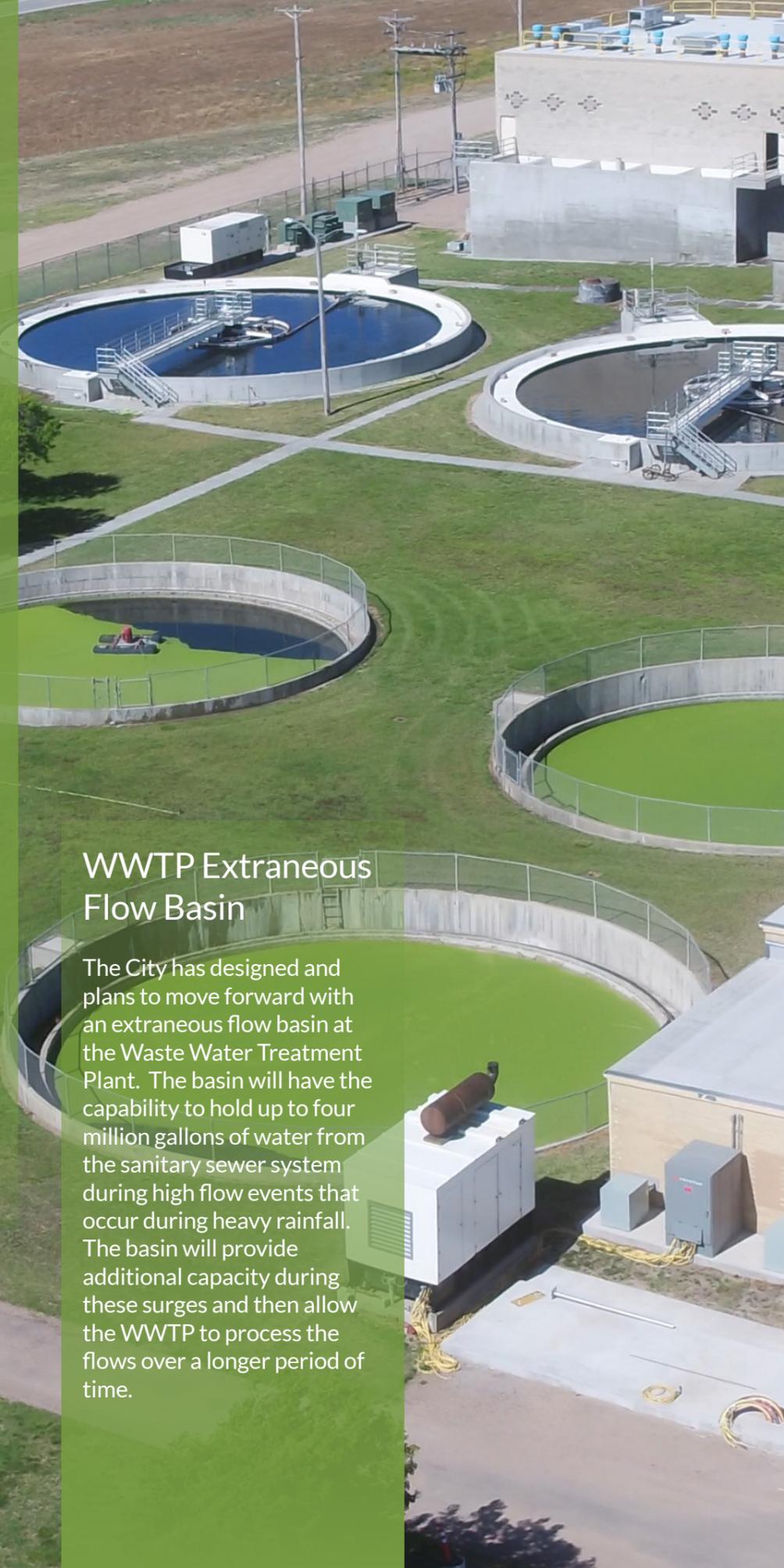
## Water

### Water Reuse Project

In 2022 Congress authorized \$19.1 million to the City of Garden City to implement a large-scale water reuse project to stabilize the city water supply. The City is in the project design phase and plans to complete the reuse project by the 4th quarter of 2027. The project will divert treated wastewater from the City's outflow to the river and send them to Circle Land and Cattle, an irrigation farm that is adjacent to the City's Sandhills Wellfield. The reclaimed water will directly replace 3,000-4,000-acre feet of ground water currently used at Circle Land and Cattle. This offset of groundwater pumping will stabilize ground water levels for the City's water supply and protect the City's water supply infrastructure. Circle Land and Cattle, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks and Wheatland Electric Cooperative are all participating as partners in managing the City's reclaimed water resources.

### WWTP Extraneous Flow Basin

The City has designed and plans to move forward with an extraneous flow basin at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. The basin will have the capability to hold up to four million gallons of water from the sanitary sewer system during high flow events that occur during heavy rainfall. The basin will provide additional capacity during these surges and then allow the WWTP to process the flows over a longer period of time.



# Police

## Law Enforcement Center Remodel

The Finney County Law Enforcement Center, which houses the Garden City Police Department, continues to experience significant maintenance issues. Following a December 2023 Finney County Commissioners meeting, the Board of County Commissioners created a committee to include City of Garden City representatives, intended to improve communication about Finney County's plans and timelines for making meaningful improvements to the building. The County also hired a third-party contractor, Justice Planners, to run and analyze data to provide a better picture of the

size of facilities for the Sheriff's Office and Police Department in the future. This will be a large capital project for Finney County and will take time to put into action once a plan has been identified. In June 2024, the City Commission notified Finney County of its recommendation to not renew the Law Enforcement Agreements for the Finney County Law Enforcement Center and terminate the use of police space at the facility by September 2025. This will allow sufficient time to identify temporary housing of Police Department operations and personnel.

## Southwest Kansas Radio Upgrade Project

The GCPD has begun initiating efforts to regionalize first responder radios for all Southwest Kansas agencies, which is aimed in improving overall interoperability and mutual aid efforts. The department expects progress on this project in 2025.



## Mobile Command Project Build

In December 2023, the City Commission approved the purchase of a mobile command vehicle. This vehicle will serve a dual purpose, providing a means for onsite coordination of incident command during critical incidents and a layer of redundancy as a backup 911 center. Vehicle bids were advertised and sent to prospective vendors, and Frontline Communications out of Florida earned the bid. The project is anticipated to be completed by Summer 2025.



# Airport

The Garden City Regional Airport will be acquiring an aircraft rescue and fire fighting truck and snow removal equipment in the upcoming year. Both pieces of equipment are specific to airfield operations. The equipment will be purchased using a cost share of 95% federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funds and 5% local airport funds.

The Airport will also start the design for the replacement of a portion of Taxiway Alpha. Taxiway Alpha is the parallel taxiway to the main runway 17-35. The design will be paid using a cost share of 95% federal Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funds and 5% local airport funds.

# Parks & Recreation

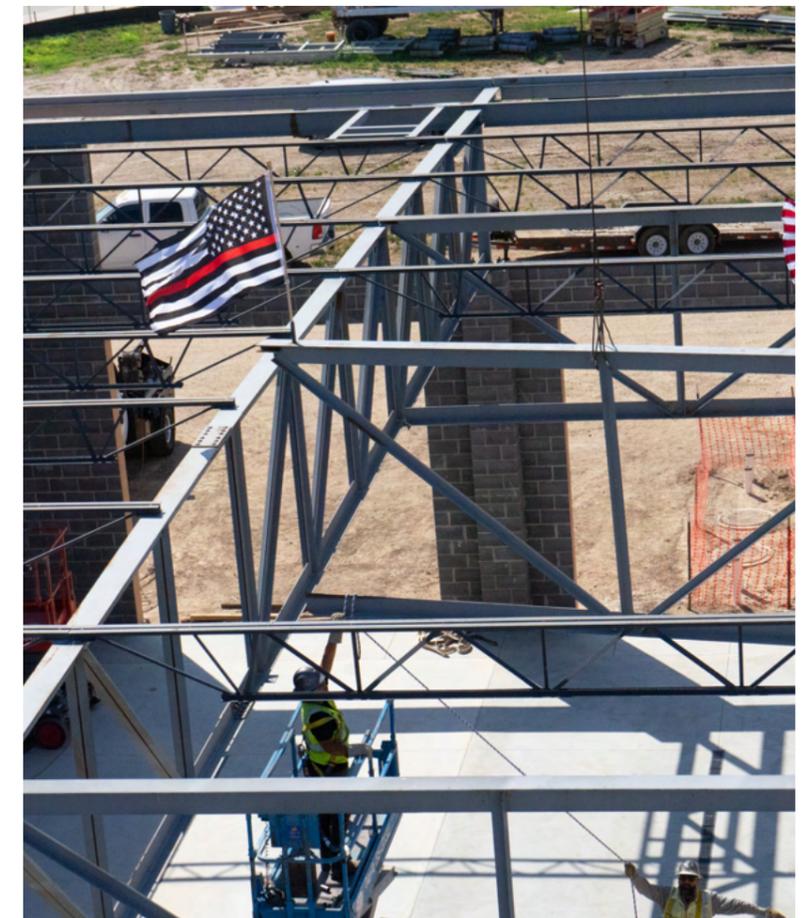
Many events are hosted yearly at Stevens Park in the heart of downtown resulting in a much-needed repair project to ensure an up-to-date quality space for all residents and visitors. The Stevens Park repair project will be completed in late Fall/Winter of 2025 and will include irrigation repairs, turf repairs, and sod/hydroseeding.

Another bid project for the department has been the Valley View Cemetery expansion which includes dirt work, irrigation installation, roadwork, plotting spaces, and seeding or plantings. This project will begin in January of 2025 and is scheduled to last all year.

Many new and exciting things are coming to Garden City Parks and Recreation! Along with the in-process DEI plan, the department plans to bring new programs to the community and new collaborations with community partners to increase opportunities and offerings for all residents. New and current offerings can be found on the activity guides available at the recreation building at 310 N. 6th Street.

# Fire

As we move into 2025, GCFD is excited by several key initiatives and projects that the community can expect to see progress on. We are thrilled to announce that Station 3 is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2025. This new facility will enhance our capacity to respond to emergencies and better serve our growing community. In tandem with the completion of Station 3, we will be rebuilding our response districts, allowing shortened response times. To further bolster community safety, we will complete our staffing plan to ensure Station 3 is fully staffed upon its opening. This expansion in staffing will ensure that GCFD has the necessary personnel to meet the demands of our enhanced operations and can continue to provide the highest level of service.



# Lee Richardson Zoo

The Songbird Garden and Critter Corner will be located in the north section of Lee Richardson Zoo. The project renovates an older element of the facility (goldfish pond) while encouraging community engagement. The Songbird Garden will not only bring attention to the decline of passerines, but also provide a space for songbirds of the region and native food resources. It will also provide a place for guests to visit to bird watch, listen, and relax. The Critter Corner will be a place to get to know the Zoo's Ambassador Animals that aren't seen in the Zoo regularly as they are participating in conservation awareness programs and live behind the scenes. The area will provide space for these zoo residents to explore outside safely. It also provides a designated area for the community to engage with these animals as well as a Zoo Educator or volunteer, asking questions, learning about the animals, or just observing.

The support generator for Zoo operations will be engaged automatically during a power outage. It will provide power for the Zoo's main food freezers and coolers as well as the Maintenance Shop, Animal Health Facility, and Animal Holding Building. It will greatly increase the Zoo's emergency preparedness, safeguarding over \$25,000 worth of food for the animals and supporting a base of operations for the staff during such emergencies. It will reduce the Zoo's reliance on smaller portable gasoline-powered generators and the time investment staff have to commit to operating those generators during such emergencies, allowing staff to focus their efforts elsewhere. This generator also supports the operations of the Animal Health Facility as well as areas to which some Zoo animals could be moved from other parts of the Zoo if necessary due to the situation.



## Golf

In 2025, Buffalo Dunes Golf Course plans to continue to grow the Golf n Park's program established in 2024. This program allows for residents to familiarize themselves with the game of golf and learn the basics at a park near them.

The "Course Improvement Plan" will be completed in 2025. This will come one year ahead of the 50th anniversary of Buffalo Dunes opening! The six-year plan will be made possible thanks to the help of more than 20 public service department employees and more than 100 golfing and non-golfing community volunteers.

## Parks

At the August 20 City Commission meeting the Governing Body approved naming the new community park in southeast Garden City in honor of Bob Halloran and the indelible mark his tenure as Assistant City Manager and as City Manager left on the community.

Eight nominations were received and voted on by the Parks and Recreation board before being brought before the Governing Body for consideration. The park is set for completion in the spring of 2025.

## Human Resources

As the new handbook completion wraps up, the Human Resources Department will begin another big undertaking by starting a supervisor manual that will improve the onboarding process for new department heads.

## Information Technology

In 2025, the Information Technology Department plans to transition the current access control system to a new, advanced platform. This upgrade aims to enhance security across the entire organization while providing departments with more secure access to City owned buildings. The new system will also allow for the customization of access times and schedules, ensuring a higher level of security and operational efficiency.



# FY 2024

# KEY NUMBERS & Mill Levies

## 160.033

Total Mill Levy in Garden City

### Local Taxing Entities & Mill Rates Levied

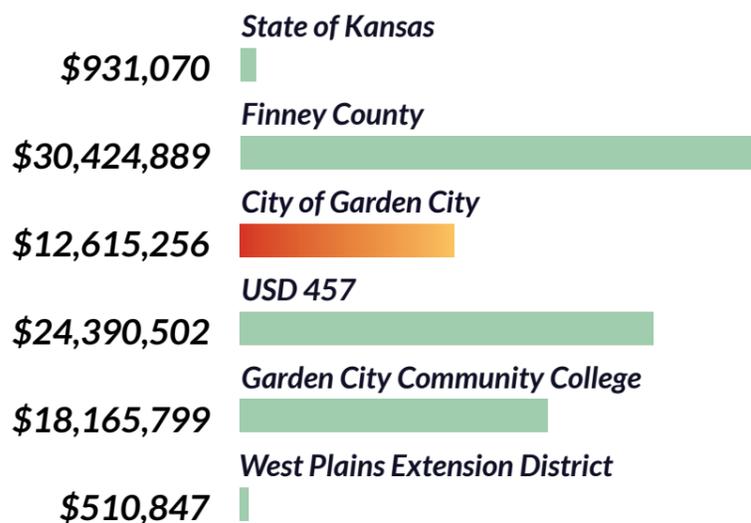
1.500	Levied by the State of Kansas
47.365	Levied by Finney County
38.492	Levied by the City of Garden City
46.588	Levied by Unified School District 457
25.264	Levied by Garden City Community College

Property taxes are levied by the State of Kansas, Finney County, Garden City USD 457, and Garden City Community College in addition to the City of Garden City. Some residents also pay property taxes to drainage districts.

In Garden City, the overall mill levy is 160.033. Of that, 1.500 is levied by the State; 47.365 is levied by the County; 38.492 is levied by the City; 46.588 is levied by USD 457; and 25.264 is levied by GCCC.

An estimated \$87,083,363 will be generated by local taxing entities in 2025. The graph [right] shows what is estimated to be collected based on the assessed valuation of each entity.

### Property Tax Dollars Generated



# LOOKING AHEAD 2025

Calculating your City property tax may not be as simple as 1+1=2, but it can be figured through a couple of easy steps. You can use this same process to calculate your monthly property tax for each of the local taxing entities identified on the previous page.

Start with your residential home's appraised value.  
**Appraised Value \$250,000**

Compute your property's assessed value (appraised value x 11.5%).  
**\$250,000 x 0.115 = \$28,750**

Divide the assessed value of \$28,750 by 1,000 to determine one mill, resulting in a mill value of 28.75.  
**28,750/1,000 = 28.75**

### Calculate your City Property Tax

Property Appraised Value \_\_\_\_\_

Appraised Value **X 0.115 =** \_\_\_\_\_

Assessed Value **/ 1,000 =** \_\_\_\_\_

Mill Value **X 38.492 =** \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Property Tax **/ 12 =** \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly Property Tax Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Find your annual property tax rate (mill value x City mill levy).  
**28.75 x 38.492 = \$1,106.65**

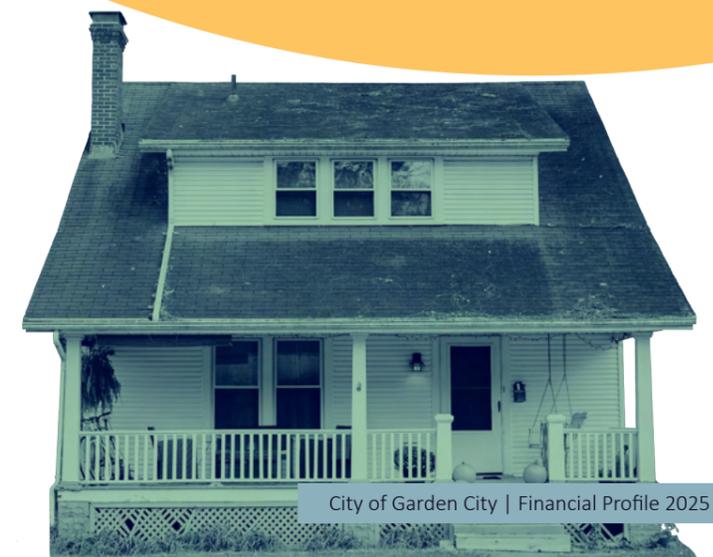
Finally, compute your monthly property tax amount (annual tax/12 months).  
**\$1,106.65/12mo. = \$92.22**

**411**  
Authorized City Employees

**\$306,779,127**  
2023 Assessed Property Values

**\$183,091,835**  
2025 Municipal Budget

**\$0.038492**  
2024 City Tax Rate



# YOUR CITY

Safety and sanitation measures are funded by the general fund.

**4.26** Average Response Time  
in minutes to Priority One police calls

**2,557** Fire Calls Answered

**302** Animals call Lee Richardson Zoo home

**75** Animal species in residence at Lee Richardson Zoo

**≈ 14** Miles of Trail

**249.3** Acres of Public Grounds  
The Parks and Recreation Department maintains **39 sports fields** and **19 parks** throughout the year.

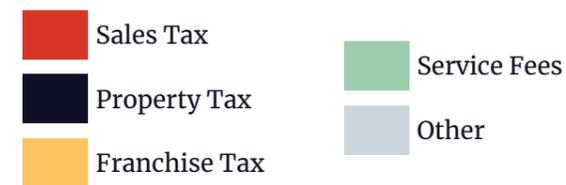
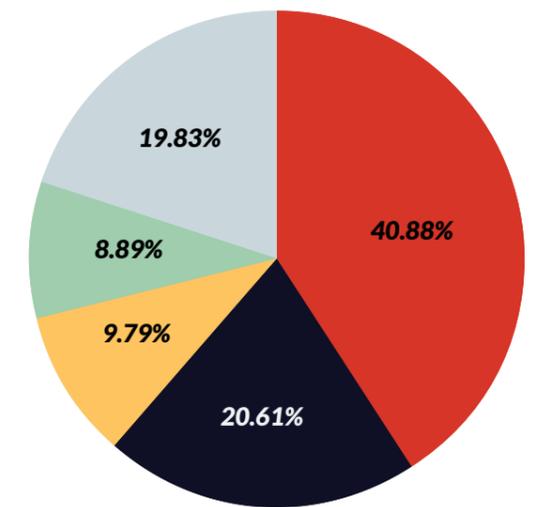
**437.7** Tons gathered during Fall '23 and Spring '24 City-wide Cleanup

**375** Tons Recycled

**19,821** Rounds of golf played at Buffalo Dunes

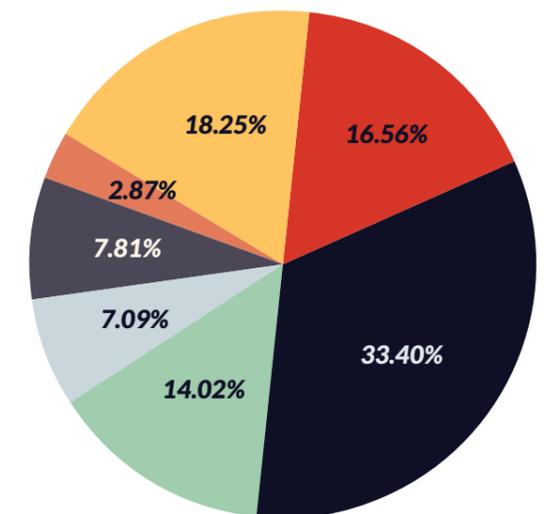
**56,113** Airline passengers

## Revenue: 37.1 million



# YOUR GENERAL FUND

## Expenses: 40.4 million



# ADVISORY BOARDS

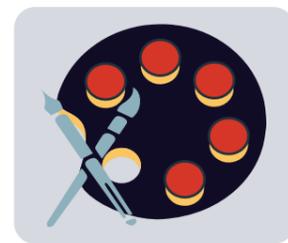
Are you interested in helping the City make decisions? The City has several advisory boards that assist in the affairs of the City. Members are appointed by the City Commission and/or County Commission. Ad hoc boards may also be appointed by the City Commission to serve until a specific need is met. If you are interested in serving on a board or commission, please submit your application online at [www.garden-city.org](http://www.garden-city.org)



**Airport Advisory Board**  
Studies all phases of the present and future operation, expansion, planning, and management of the facilities at Garden City Regional Airport and makes appropriate recommendations to the City Commission.



**Traffic Advisory Board**  
Advises the City Commission with regard to vehicle and pedestrian traffic control on City streets and rights-of-way.



**Art Grant Committee**  
Makes recommendations to the City Commission regarding the appropriation and use of Art Grant Funds.

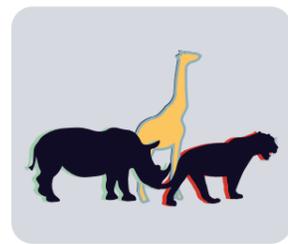


**Board of Zoning Appeals**  
Serves as a Quasi-Judicial Board to review and approve requests for variances from the zoning regulations and grant conditional use permits when appropriate. The board also hears appeals from enforcement decisions, conditional use permits, and variances. All actions of the board are final unless challenged in District Court.



**Public Utilities Advisory Board**  
Advises the City Commission on policy matters and programs as they relate to the operation, maintenance and expansion of the five public utilities: electric, water, wastewater, solid waste, and stormwater. Issues

may include but are not limited to rate structures, infrastructure improvements, residential and commercial solid waste service, recycling, power, energy, stormwater, water conservation, water quality, and hazardous waste disposal.



**Lee Richardson Zoo Advisory Board**  
Assists and advises the Governing Body, the City Manager, and the Zoo Director in the operation, care, maintenance, building, development, and promotion of Lee Richardson Zoo.



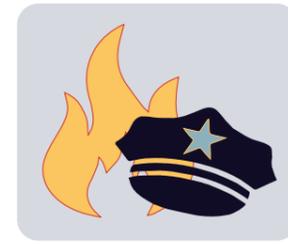
**Local Housing Authority**  
Serves as the Governing Board that oversees the operation and maintenance of the publicly owned, low-income housing units at Redwood Place and Pershing Manor. Assists staff in developing operating procedures and budgets.



**Planning Commission**  
Makes recommendations on applications for annexation, rezoning and subdivisions to ensure the orderly growth and anticipated physical development of Holcomb, Garden City, and the Finney County area.



**Cultural Relations Board**  
Advises the City Commission on matters related to minority communities within the City, monitors the policies and practices of the City to ensure fair and equitable application, and acts as a resource for intercultural awareness, education, and celebration among all people.



**Public Safety Board**  
This joint board studies problems, concerns, policies, and programs of the Police and Fire Departments in an effort to resolve issues and promote a smooth, harmonious relationship between the City's public safety departments and the public. The board consists of fourteen members composed of 10 special interest groups.



**Landmarks Commission**  
Makes recommendations to the City Commission on historic resources and looks after the architectural and cultural heritage of the community through the preservation of historic landmarks and historic districts. Three members must be part of a preservation-related profession as defined by the National Park Service.



**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**  
The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board is responsible for counseling and advising the governing body on the planning, development, and operations for all of the City's parks, trails, facilities, programs, and events.



**Community Health Advisory Board**  
Advises the City Commission on policy matters and programs relating to community health. Issues may include, but are not limited to, promoting healthy initiatives within the community and matters of healthy community design.



**Building Safety Board of Appeals**  
Involved with issues of building construction and permits. Reviews and recommends code amendments and changes in building construction methods. Assists the inspection division in building code interpretation. One position must be filled by a general contractor with eight years of experience, and one position must be filled by a licensed realtor with eight years of experience.



**Buffalo Dunes Advisory Board**  
Studies all phases of the present and future operation, expansion, planning and management of all facilities at Buffalo Dunes Golf Course, and makes appropriate recommendations to the City Commission.

# CONTACT US

## COMMISSIONERS

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**Commissioner Bryce Landgraf**  
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**Commissioner Troy Unruh**  
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# FACILITIES

*City Administrative Center*  
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 Garden City, KS 67846

*Buffalo Dunes Golf Course*  
 PO Box 998  
 5685 S. Hwy 83  
 Garden City, KS 67846

*Allen Shelton Central Fire Station*  
 PO Box 998  
 302 N. 9th Street  
 Garden City, KS 67846

*Garden City Regional Airport*  
 PO Box 998  
 2225 S. Air Service Road  
 Garden City, KS 67846

*Housing Authority*  
 PO Box 998  
 606 Pershing Avenue  
 Garden City, KS 67846

*O'Brate Gymnastics Center*  
 PO Box 998  
 909 E. Fulton Street  
 Garden City, KS 67846

*Labrador Fire Station*  
 PO Box 998  
 1605 E. Mary Street  
 Garden City, KS 67846

*Law Enforcement Center*  
 PO Box 998  
 304 N. 9th Street  
 Garden City, KS 67846

*Lee Richardson Zoo*  
 PO Box 998  
 312 E. Finnup Drive  
 Garden City, KS 67846

*Municipal Court & Prosecution*  
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 310 N. 7th Street  
 Garden City, KS 67846

*Parks and Recreation*  
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 310 N. 6th Street  
 Garden City, KS 67846

*Solid Waste and Recycling*  
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 125 JC Street  
 Garden City, KS 67846

*Schulman Fire Station*  
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 3535 Schulman Avenue  
 Garden City, KS, 67846

*Street*  
 PO Box 998  
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 Garden City, KS 67846

*Utilities Service Center*  
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 140 Harvest Avenue  
 Garden City, KS 67846

*Wastewater Treatment Plant*  
 PO Box 998  
 345 S. Jennie Barker Road  
 Garden City, KS 67846

*Valley View Cemetery*  
 PO Box 998  
 2901 N. Third Street  
 Garden City, KS 67846

*Core Fitness*  
 PO Box 998  
 941 Larue Road  
 Garden City, KS 67846

*Garden Rapids at the Big Pool*  
 PO Box 998  
 504 E. Maple Street  
 Garden City, KS 67846

**Follow us on Social Media!**

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[www.garden-city.org](http://www.garden-city.org)

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