

# El Reno Insights

*It's good to be here.*



## EL RENO AIR SHOW

Join us on Saturday, September 28, 2024 for the fifth annual El Reno Airshow & Community Day! It's going to be a fun-filled day, perfect for family and friends. Get ready to be amazed by thrilling aerial performances. You can also enjoy delicious food from a variety of food trucks and explore unique crafts from local vendors.

Whether you're an aviation fan or just looking for a great time, this event has something for everyone. You won't want to miss one of El Reno's biggest events of the year!

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- SEPTEMBER 10**- Coffee Connection @ Canadian Valley Technology Center
- SEPTEMBER 10**- City Council Meeting
- SEPTEMBER 27**- Gold Star Plaza Dedication
- SEPTEMBER 28**- El Reno Air Show & Community Day



## DOWNTOWN HIGHLIGHTS

### **Progress Continues in Downtown El Reno**

Building owners Mike and Janice Freeman are restoring their property at 117 South Bickford Avenue, the former JC Penney location, with support from a \$5,000 grant from the City of El Reno's Downtown Revitalization Program. This program has funded several downtown improvements.

Downtown sidewalk repairs, including ADA upgrades and concrete replacement, will soon begin. We apologize for any disruptions these repairs may cause, but many sidewalks are in urgent need of repair.

Additionally, the City is updating the Centre Theatre marquee with new lighting. The Centre Theatre is a hidden gem in Oklahoma (and essentially on Route 66) and we want to continue creating a space that adds to the cultural asset that we have. Fun fact, the City owns the Centre Theatre and leases it to Centre Theatre for the Arts.

# STREETS DEPARTMENT

## Big News!

The City of El Reno has been awarded \$1.5 million in loan forgiveness funds for drainage project engineering from the Oklahoma Water Resources Board. As you may recall, the City contracted with the consulting firm Freese and Nichols to develop a Master Drainage Plan (utilizing an earlier round of loan forgiveness funds) focusing on key drainage areas. With this plan, the City applied for engineering funds to design priority projects. The next step will be to seek additional construction funding through the OWRB to implement the necessary drainage improvements.

In August, the City Council approved the reconstruction and resurfacing of Foreman Road between Manning Road and Banner Road, in partnership with District 1 Canadian County. Currently, West 10th Street is undergoing reconstruction and resurfacing, in partnership with District 3 Canadian County. Additionally, City crews recently repaired a significant portion of South Radio Road adjacent to Love's Travel Plaza, which had buckled due to heat and weather conditions. City staff is also collaborating with the Oklahoma Department of Transportation to address repair needs along key locations on state highways, including South Rock Island Avenue and Sunset Drive.

## STAFF DEVELOPMENT

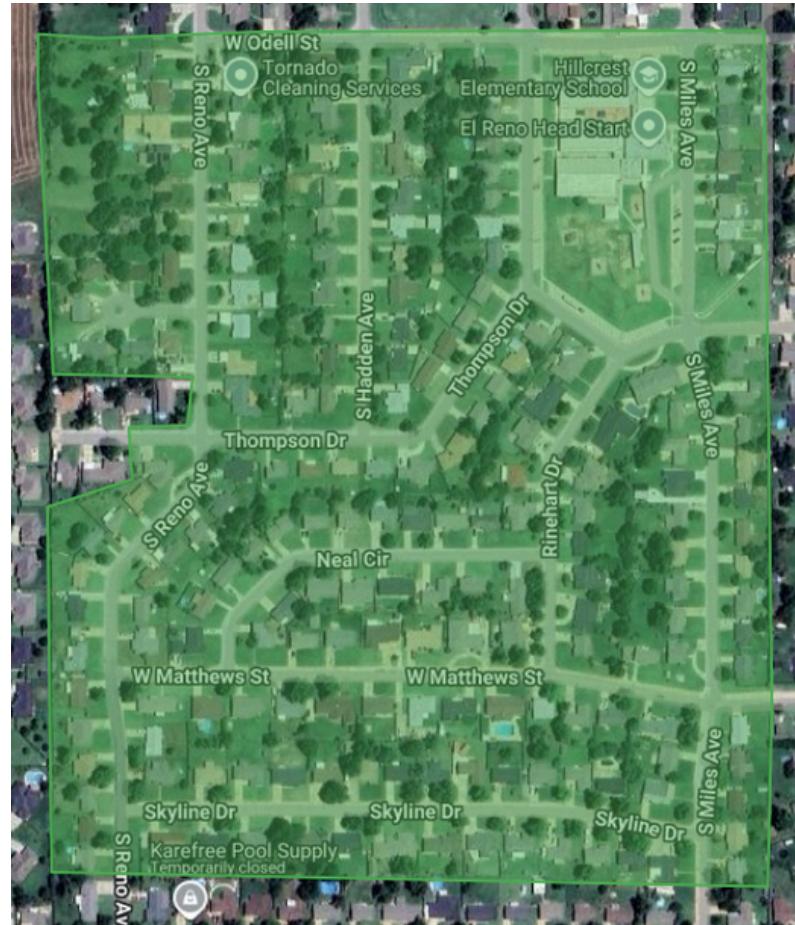
El Reno City Manager, Matt Sandidge, has been named a finalist for the Don Rider Award, presented by the Oklahoma Municipal League (OML). Additionally, El Reno City Clerk, Lindsey Grigg-Moak, is a finalist for the Woman of the Year Award, also presented by OML.

Both Sandidge and Grigg-Moak will discover if they've won these prestigious accolades during the annual OML conference, taking place on September 12 in Tulsa.



# FAST CONNECT

Our fiber internet system continues to expand! In August, crews extended service to new areas within El Reno (see map). Fiber construction will keep progressing throughout the city over the coming year. We'll keep you updated as new areas become available. To get fiber internet at your home or business, scan the QR code below to register.



## PARKS & RECREATION

We are wrapping up a successful summer! The swimming pool saw many visitors of all ages this year. For the first time in many years, we extended operations through Labor Day weekend, closing the pool on September 1st for the season. During the off-season, city crews will winterize the pool, replace the pump, and prepare for next year's season.

The Adams Park and Lake El Reno Master Plan is developing nicely. There is still an opportunity to participate in our Park Survey, [Adams Park & Lake El Reno Survey](#). We encourage park and lake users, as well as El Reno residents, to share their feedback. This plan will shape the future of recreation in El Reno.

The City of El Reno is proud of its partnership with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. In August, the City Council entered into an agreement with the tribe to install a fitness court in Adams Park. The tribe successfully secured grant funding through the National Fitness Campaign for this new equipment. This is a wonderful opportunity for El Reno, the tribes, and the entire community to benefit from enhanced physical fitness facilities in Adams Park. Be on the lookout for more information regarding construction!



## PUBLIC SAFETY

Our public safety officials love El Reno!

Recently our police department participated at United Supermarket with their Bagging with Badges event. Officers bagged groceries and helped carry them to patrons vehicles.

This partnership with United Supermarket raised \$1046.12 to be donated to Special Olympics Oklahoma!

We have openings within our Communications Division of our Police Department and within Animal Control. You can pick up an application at the police station or on our website, [El Reno Employment Opportunities](#). These positions play a vital role in our community. If you're looking for a career that makes a difference, apply today!

## UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

### Waterline Replacement Updates

The waterline replacement on South Mitchell Avenue is underway. This significant upgrade will benefit residents in the area. On September 9th, we will open bids for the construction of a waterline crossing I-40 at South Radio Road. This major project will enhance volume and capacity, complete a waterline loop to improve pressure, and allow for better management of repair needs.

Our Utility Lines department continues to advance with waterline replacements throughout the city. This ongoing task will span many years as we grow and upgrade our older infrastructure.

# CARNEGIE LIBRARY

In August, Library staff Bridget Scheffler and Maddie Razook attended the Community Baby Shower, promoting resources and the Imagination Library to over 100 expecting mothers and their families.

The library has an upcoming Banned Books Reading Challenge in September to coincide with Banned Books Week. Additionally, there will be a Medicare 101 class for seniors, and a Booster Seat Event in collaboration with the Canadian County Health Department.



El Reno Carnegie Library  <b>september</b>  events						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednes.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
2  <b>CLOSED</b>	3 <b>JOIN THE BANNED BOOKS READING CHALLENGE!</b>	4	5 LEGO CLUB @ 4 	6	7 MEDICARE 101  @ 11AM	
9 MUSIC MONDAY  @ 10 COME-AND-GO QUILLING CRAFT 10-6 	10 TEEN SYNC:  WRITING CLUB @ 4:30	11 STORYTIME @ 11 	12	13 AFTER SCHOOL BOARD GAMES (KIDS AND TEENS) @ 2-4 	14 GARDEN CLUB  @ 11:30-12:30	
16 MUSIC MONDAY  @ 10	17 TEEN ADVISORY GROUP: MEET & GREET  @ 4:30	18 STORYTIME @ 11 	19 BOOSTER SEAT EVENT  W/ OK DEPT. OF HEALTH @ 5PM	20	21 OUTDOOR STORYTIME @ 10 	
23 MUSIC MONDAY  @ 10	24 TEEN SYNC: BOOK  CLUB @ 4:30	25 STORYTIME @ 11 	26 HOMESCHOOL  HANGOUT @ 2	27 BABY PLAYDATE  @ 10	28	
<b>BANNED BOOKS WEEK 22-28</b> 						
30 MUSIC MONDAY  @ 10 SWAP CANVAS PAINTING @ 5:30 	1 SMASH BROS  TOURNAMENT @ 4:30	2 OUTDOOR  STORYTIME @ 11	3 ART LAB @ 4 	 AGES 0-6  AGES 7-12  AGES 13+  YOUTH ALL AGES	 AGES 12-18  ADULTS 18+  ALL AGES  OLDER ADULTS	



## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

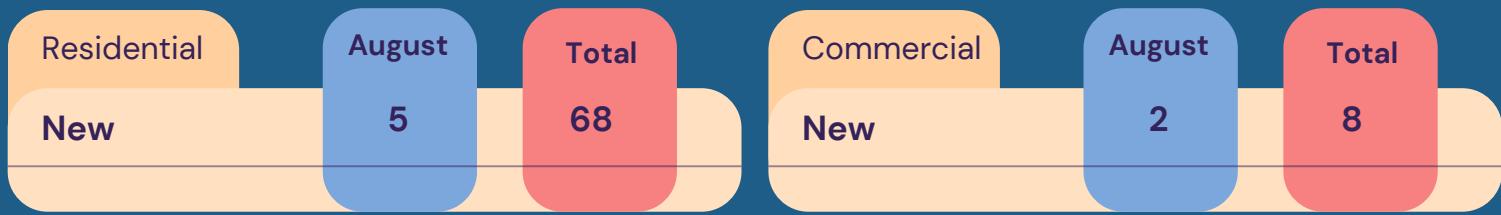
### Projects are moving forward.

Several construction projects are still underway, including Dill Electric's new headquarters and Liberty Oilfield Services significant new additions. Home builders are active, with many new homes being constructed in and around the Lake El Reno area.

As we head into fall and the growing season winds down, please remember to keep your grass mowed. We've experienced nice intermittent rain throughout the summer, resulting in lush, green lawns—and, in some cases, overgrown ones. Well-maintained lawns not only contribute to El Reno's beauty but also help deter pests like rodents and snakes.

Let's continue to support each other and take pride in our vibrant community. Whether through volunteer work, attending local events, or simply maintaining our homes and neighborhoods, every effort counts in making El Reno a wonderful place to live.

### PERMIT TOTALS



Thank you for keeping up with the activities in El Reno!

Matt Sandidge, City Manager