



City Manager's Report: March 6, 2023

Projects, Updates, Community Information, Staffing, General Operations

STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Pension Funding Grant Program	In 2022, the state legislature was considering creating a grant fund to help cities pay down their unfunded liabilities with pensions. \$750 million was going to be allocated for cities that were below 60% funded and \$250 million was for cities over 60% funded. The \$750 million was kept but the \$250 million was eliminated. So only municipalities (cities, counties, villages) with a sub-60% funded ratio are eligible. Owosso's funded ratio is 86% so we would not qualify. I am now a member of a city managers work group to lobby this legislature to reinstate funding for cities like Owosso who have made sound pension financing decisions over the years rather than continue to let funding levels slide – thereby creating a fiscal crisis needing a state bailout.	
Curbside Recycling Required by 2028	Passed in December of 2022, this legislation amended PA 451 of 1994 – specifically Part 115 – to mandate that all cities over a population of 5000 shall be required to have curbside recycling established with at least 90% of single family households within the city by January of 2028.	HB 4454 (2021)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

152 Howard Street - \$725,000 Rental Rehab Grant (Federal) - 2019	\$1.2 million project to rehab building to add 7 new residential units – 4 of which will be low income for 5 years. Façade restoration is included. MEDC announced to owners that this grant program does not fit with the project. We are awaiting their alternative proposal to continue redevelopment efforts. This project has local tax abatements.	Owners have elected not to pursue grant funds as of February, 2023
Westtown craft brewery – tentative \$400,000 CRP grant - 2022	\$800,000 project to redevelop a historic Westtown storefront building into a craft brewery and upper story housing. Total state grant amount estimated at \$400,000 through the Community Revitalization Program grant	Application Submitted
123 N Washington project – estimated \$750,000 CRP grant - 2022	\$2.9 million redevelopment of downtown building to include 11 new upper story residential units and a restored historic façade. This project includes local tax abatements.	CRP grant LOI received. Owners working with MEDC for formal grant award
Old Middle School project - 2022	Estimated \$12-\$15 million redevelopment to include 50-54 new residential units. This project will most likely include LITEC and historical tax credits. This project was granted a 4% PILOT for the life of the mortgage but only for the previous developer. The new developer will ask for a similar PILOT ordinance to be granted. The tax credit application was rated	OPS sold property to Venture, Inc. 4% PILOT ordinance approved. Tax Credit application submitted to state in October 2022. Denied.

	3 rd out of all submitted. It is likely that MSHDA will only have enough funding this round for one project. October round denied. Will apply again in April 2023.	Resubmitting in April, 2023.
114 W Main St Upper Story Housing - \$700,000 rental rehab grant - 2021	This project will add 7 new residential units on the 3 rd floor of this downtown building. The first two floors are commercial. This project includes tax abatements already granted.	Contractor selected for abatement and construction.
TOTAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS	\$19,900,000	

Project Name		Status
ZONING AMENDMENTS		
City of Owosso	Amendments and rewrite of the City’s zoning ordinance – 15 to 18 month process Currently in review process with Staff and Planning Commission	
BUILDING PERMITS – COMMERCIAL		
209 W Main	Commercial building – new roof and sign for front area of building	
204 W Main	Interior renovations to 1 st floor of building for a new butcher shop	
MARIHUANA LICENSES		
GROW		
1. 1750 E South St	Recreational	Renewed – July 2022
2. 1370 E South St	Medical/Recreational/Excess	Renewed - October 2022
3. 1455 Industrial	Medical Recreational	Renewed Feb 2023 Issued Feb 2023
4. 1410/1420 Hathaway	Recreational	In Process- new build
PROCESSING		
1. 1750 E South St Ste. 1	Recreational	Issued Jan 2023
RETAIL		
1. 117 W Main St	Medical and Recreational	Renewed - October 2022
2. 1115 Corunna	Medical and Recreational	Opened July 2022
3. 901 W Main	Medical and Recreational	Renewed – May 2022
4. 116 N Washington	Medical and Recreational	Renewed – December 2022

NON-CITY PROJECTS OF PUBLIC INTEREST		
Matthews Building Site	Site backfilled, hydro-seeded, and secured. Code enforcement will be issuing additional violations for the condition of the building that remains	

Grants			
Grant	Amount	Status	Description
Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund - 2023	\$1,033,750	Preliminary Award - 2023	This grant will help with lead service line replacement, water main replacement, and well upgrades. It’s part of a \$4,045,000 project to continue improving the Owosso water system. Water Main: North, Lee, Clyde, Lunn, Huron, Milwaukee. Lead Service replacements in water main project areas. SCADA upgrades at water treatment plant. Improvements to Palmer 3a and Juniper wells. Fishbeck water study. Remainder of cost will be paid with low interest SRF loans.
Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund - 2023	\$1,412,500 plus \$5,300,000 loan forgiveness	Preliminary Award – 2023	This grant plus loan forgiveness program will partially fund the replacement of the 3 treatment towers at the wastewater treatment plant. Total cost of the project is \$13,425,000. The remainder of the cost will be paid with low interest SRF loans.

Railroad Grade Repair Grant	\$181,653	Awarded	This grant is from MDOT and will fund the replacement of the railroad crossing at S. Cedar Street.
ARP Grant – Medicare/Medicaid/CHIP - 2021	\$80,708	Award Updated	The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), is making payments to providers based on the amount and type of Medicare, Medicaid, and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) services provided to rural beneficiaries from January 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020. Initial award was \$56,200. An additional \$24,530 was awarded in Dec 2021.
ARPA Funding - 2021	\$1,510,000	Awarded	1 st payment received. Last payment will be received in 2022. Public online survey completed. Waiting on Council members to submit project application scoring to staff. \$750,000 has been allocated to water infrastructure.
MSHDA NEP Grant - 2023	\$75,000	Awarded	Used to assist low-income home owners with eligible exterior home improvements up to \$7,500. Application being drafted.
MSHDA MI HOPE Grant - 2023	\$105,000	Application in process	This grant program is designed to encourage and facilitate energy-efficiency focused residential housing repairs and upgrades to owner occupied homes and non-owner occupied single-family homes and multi-family properties consisting of a maximum of three total units within both rural and urban areas.
DNR Grant for Holman Pool Building - 2020	\$150,000	Cancelled	Bids came back more than twice what was budgeted for the project due to increases in labor and material costs. The building will be used for storage.
EGLE DWAM Grant - 2019	\$460,000	Awarded	Work scope includes investigating 364 water service lines through the city, updating distribution system material inventory, and updating the water asset management plan. Water service line material investigations inside the building at the water meter have been completed. Potholing bid advertised with a bid letting of March 7, 2023. Project is scheduled to begin mid-April. The project is funded by a grant from the State of Michigan.
EGLE Service Line Replacement Funding - 2020	\$3,000,000	Awarded	Owosso’s application was scored the highest this round. Project plan submitted July 1, 2021. This is 100% forgiven loan (Booker Funding) through the state’s revolving loan fund program. Dollars will be used to replace water service lines subject to LCR requirements.
EGLE Service Line Replacement Funding (2)	\$1,345,000	Awarded	This partial loan forgiveness funding is tied to the application above. This project involves more LSR replacements coupled with the replacement of the Center St water main and rehabilitation of the water system elevated towers. This opportunity is 30% Booker forgivable. Remainder of this project will need ARPA funding to complete.
FEMA SCBA Grant - 2022	\$250,000	Denied	This grant replaces the OFD’s breathing apparatuses. This is the second year we have been denied.
FEMA Radio Grant - 2021	\$1,200,000	Denied	This grant was in conjunction with other municipalities to replace OFD’s radio units.
Federal COPS Grant - 2022	\$582,875 over 3 years	Denied	This grant funds up to 3 new police officer positions for 3 years. If awarded, the city would be required to continue funding these positions for an additional year.
Saginaw WIN Grant - 2020	\$10,500	Awarded	To help fund the Middle School area kayak launch.
Safe Routes to School - 2022	\$600,000	Applied	Work scope includes constructing ADA compliant sidewalk ramps at various locations within the city along with constructing new sidewalks primarily in the Middle School area. Design work is underway by city staff. Individual meetings have been held with

			affected homeowners who wanted to ask about the project. Letters were sent to each household offering to schedule a meeting with staff. These meetings have concluded and staff is moving forward with the bidding process.
Consumers LED Rebate - 2021	\$5,460	Completed	Replace light fixtures in City Hall with more efficient LED lights
Small Urban Grant - 2022	\$375,000	Denied	Reconstruct Chipman St from Beehler to M-21.
MEDC WRI Grant - 2021	\$1,600,000	Denied	Replace water main, streets, and LSLs on Center, Clyde, Huron, Lynn, and Milwaukee Streets. 25% match required.
MCACA Grant - 2020	\$82,500	Denied	Replace library AC, Library steam pipes, Gould House heat and AC, and Castle boiler. Required \$82,500 match. Will know in September, 2021 if we are awarded.
Small Urban Grant - 2019	\$375,000	Awarded	Reconstruct Gould St from Oliver to Moore.
T-Mobile Hometown Grant - 2020	\$45,300	Denied	Possibly help fund the Middle School Kayak Launch project so no millage money would be needed to complete the project. This would add to the Saginaw WIN Grant already awarded.
Wellhead Protection Grant - 2021	\$52,000	Denied	Fund wellhead educational activities, groundwater audit, wellhead protection software, and update the city's wellhead plan.
Consumers Tree Planting Grant - 2022	\$2,600	Awarded	Consumers Energy's tree planting grant program to assist with annual fall tree planting in 2022.
MDOT RR Grade Crossing Grant – Woodlawn	\$108,621	Applied	Replace RR crossing at Woodlawn Ave. Funding: 60% MDOT/40% RR
MDOT RR Grade Crossing Grant – Chestnut -	\$81,765	Applied	Replace RR crossing at Chestnut St. Funding: 60% MDOT/40% RR
MDOT RR Grade Crossing Grant – S. Chipman -	\$112,381	Applied	Replace RR crossing at S Chipman St. Funding: 60% MDOT/40% RR
FY 2023 DWSRF – Water	\$1,011,250	Awarded	Replace water main on North, Lee, Clyde, Lunn, Huron, and Milwaukee St and LSRs (see below for project specifics). SCADA control upgrade at water plant. Wells at Palmer and Juniper. Fishbeck water study. Grant amount is 25% of total project cost. Remainder to be funded by SRF low interest loans.
FY 2023 CWSRF – Sewer	\$6,712,500	Awarded	Replace waste water plant treatment towers (3). This represents 50% of the cost of the project funded by grants and forgivable loans. The remainder will be funded by low interest SRF loans.
DNR Spark Grant - 2022	\$752,500	Application delayed to resolve property ownership issue.	Make improvements to the James Minor River Trail along Jerome St to coincide with future street reconstruction. Grant will fund trail improvements and paving from Washington St to the Oakwood walk bridge.
Match on Main - 2022	\$25,000	Awarded	Grant from MEDC to Aviator Jayne for business expansion.
Match on Main - 2022	\$25,000	Awarded	Grant from MEDC to Taphouse Meat Market for business creation.
TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED	\$22,030,921	<i>Grants Denied</i>	\$4,187,675

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS

2023 Chip Seal Program		The scope of work is double chip and fog seal on the following streets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beehler from Lansing to Cedar 	Summer 2023
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bradley from Lansing to Curwood Castle Cedar from River to Beehler Howell from Bradley to River Lansing from Beehler to Beehler Lyon from Bradly to Beehler River from Cedar to Shiawassee (M-52) Union from Beehler to north end <p>Project advertised for bids with a February 7, 2023 bid letting. Work is planned to start around July 1, 2023.</p>	
2023 Sidewalk Replacement Program		The focus area for sidewalk replacement is the area bounded by Hickory St, Main St, Gould St, and Jerome St. Project is scheduled to be awarded at the March 6 council meeting. Work is planned to start after July 1, 2023.	Fall 2023
2023 Street Patch Program		Work scope includes patches on various streets within the city of Owosso needed for water main breaks, sewer repairs, etc. Project is scheduled to be awarded at the March 6 council meeting. Work is planned to begin around July 1, 2023.	Fall 2023
Street Projects	Center Street: King to North	Center Street from King to North. Work scope includes crush and shape with asphalt pavement construction (south end) and asphalt pavement rehabilitation and select curb and gutter replacement (north end). Project has been awarded to Glaeser Dawes with the project scheduled to begin May 30, 2023.	2023
	North Street: Hickory to M 52	North Street from Shiawassee St (M-52) to Hickory St: Work scope includes pavement rehabilitation with select curb and gutter replacement, ADA sidewalk ramps, select sidewalk repair, select storm sewer replacement, and permanent pavement markings and signing; water main replacement and water service line replacements. The street portion of the project is being funded in part by a MDOT Small Urban grant with the water main portion of the project being funded by an EGLE Drinking Water Revolving Loan. Contract has been awarded, via MDOT, to Champagne & Marx. Project is scheduled to begin the end of May.	2023
	Lee Street: Clark to Ada (petition)	Work scope includes pavement rehabilitation with select curb and gutter replacement, ADA sidewalk ramps, sidewalk replacement, and select storm sewer replacement; water main replacement and water service line replacements. Project was initiated by citizen petition. The water main portion of the project is being funded by an EGLE Drinking	2023

		Water Revolving Loan. Project is scheduled to begin end of May pending loan closing.	
	Jerome: Hickory to Oakwood	Work scope includes crush and shape with asphalt pavement construction along with minor drainage upgrades. Project is on hold until funding is available.	On hold pending funding.
2024	Stewart: M52 to Washington	Stewart Street from Shiawassee St (M-52) to Washington St: Work scope includes pavement reconstruction with curb and gutter replacement, storm sewer replacement, ADA sidewalk ramps, select sidewalk replacement, and permanent pavement markings and signing; water main replacement. Project is a MDOT Small Urban Program project. Design work is underway by city staff.	2024 MDOT Small Urban Project. Design Phase
Downtown/DDA	Replace overhead street lights and poles	Select replacement of street lights with new chairman lights and LED bulbs. In partnership with DDA. \$275,000 APRA awarded project. UPDATE: a survey of the foundations for existing lights were found to be deficient for reuse. They were not reinforced when installed. The project will continue but less lights will be replaced because of the added cost to replace the light foundations.	Efforts to begin in FY 22-23
	EV Station Update - 2019	Both stations are now repaired and operational. DDA staff obtained another year on the warranty due to constant issues with equipment. This warranty should last until fall 2023. The stations still do not bring in enough revenue to pay for the loan that the DDA received from the local RLF.	Complete and open for use

UTILITIES (Water and Sewer)

Project	Project Name/Description	Status	Completed
Lead/Galvanized Service Line Replacement	2022-2024	Work scope includes noncompliant water service lines replacements at 600 locations within the City of Owosso over a 3 year time period. 180 replacements were completed in 2022. Roughly 285 replacements are planned for 2023. Water service line replacements will begin again in March or April 2023, weather permitting.	Ongoing
Water Billing Customer Portal	ACLARA ACE Portal - 2020	Allows customer online access to monitor their water usage. About 200 accounts are utilizing the system. We are trying to get the word out for more participation.	Complete
Water Treatment Plant	SCADA System - 2023	Kick-off meeting with Tetra tech was 10.30.20. Design phase completed. Included in next DWRP loan application.	In progress
Waste Water Treatment Plan	Screw pump building roof replacement	Replace roof on screw pump building.	Postponed due to cost
	Influent sampler replacement	Replace 25 year old influent sampler	Postponed

	Pipe hanger replacement	Replace corroded plant sewer pipe hangers. As needed. Labor in house. Pay as you go.	Ongoing
	Solids Handling Project - 2022	Demolition of old equipment in sludge tank room is complete. Disk Filter PILOT program is progressing but needing adjustment more than we would like.	Winter 2022-3. Supply chain delays for new equipment
Sanitary Sewer Repair – 2023	N Chestnut, E Comstock, S Dewey, and Wilshire	Work scope includes open-cut sewer repairs on sanitary sewers on N Chestnut St, E Comstock St, S Dewey St, and Wilshire Dr. Project bids were received on February 28, 2023. Project is scheduled to begin mid-April, weather permitting.	Starting April, 2023
Water Main Replacement	Clyde St: Walnut to Shiawassee	Work scope includes water main replacement and water service line replacements. The project is being funded by an EGLE Drinking Water Revolving Loan. Project is scheduled to begin mid-April pending loan closing.	Summer 2023
	Huron St: Huggins to E end	Work scope includes water main replacement and water service line replacements. The project is being funded by an EGLE Drinking Water Revolving Loan. Project is scheduled to begin mid-April pending loan closing.	Summer 2023
	Lynn St: Howell to W end	Work scope includes water main replacement and water service line replacements. The project is being funded by an EGLE Drinking Water Revolving Loan. Project is scheduled to begin mid-April pending loan closing.	Summer 2023
	Milwaukee St: S Lyon to S Cedar	Work scope includes water main replacement and water service line replacements. Project under design phase. The project is being funded by an EGLE Drinking Water Revolving Loan. Project is scheduled to begin mid-April pending loan closing.	April 2023
	Center St: W North to W King	Work scope includes water main replacement and water service line replacement along Center Street from W King to W North. Project is complete. Project is complete and close out procedures are underway.	Complete
Storm Sewer Lining - 2023	Allendale, Beehler, S Elm, and River St.	Work scope includes cured-in-place pipe installation in storm sewers on Allendale Ave, Beehler St, S Elm St, and River St. Project was awarded to Insituform Technologies. Project is scheduled to begin mid-April, weather permitting.	Starting in April, 2023

PARKS/ CEMETERY/ FORESTRY/ NONMOTORIZED

Project	Project Name/Description	Status	Completed
	CIS Trail Extension – Extend trail from Priest Rd. to City.	Huron & Eastern Railroad told the city they will not agree to allow the trail to run along RR right of way for liability reasons. Alternate route being pursued. This route does not involve RR at all. Would require easements through township and private property. UPDATE: State funding may be available to complete. Unclear as to what route will be used. City engineers provided estimates for state officials to seek funding.	TBD
	Canoe/Kayak Launch installation	Work scope includes constructing a kayak launch, landing area, and stairway. The project location is along the east bank of the Shiawassee River, about 60' north of the Heritage Footbridge. The launch, landing area, stairway, sidewalk, and rip rap are complete. The site is mostly complete but we are still waiting on the canoe chute and railing to be installed.	Complete pending placement of canoe chute
	Oakwood Bridge Surface Repair	DPW to replace entire surface. Material costs estimated to be \$35,000	On Hold. Bad boards replaced or areas patched

MOTOR VEHICLE POOL

Public Safety	Ambulance replacement - 2022	Order placed. Will take 18 months. Saving \$100,000 this year and purchasing FY 2022-23. Chasing down potential new grant opportunities through USDA.	Complete

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Library	Exterior window painting	Scrape and repaint exterior windows	2023-24
	Boiler Steam Distribution Line Replacement	The boiler for the library is in good shape. However, the distribution lines are leaky and need replacement. This would replace the entire distribution system. Multiple patches have been installed and the leaks are just appearing in new areas. Unlikely to be completed with MCACA grant denial.	TBD
Gould House	Landscaping improvements - 2022	Peterson Landscaping hiring to begin major cleaning of landscaping. DPW staff assisted with some minor trimming and weeding to get us through the summer.	Initial clearing complete. On hold due to funding for completion
City Hall	Security and Accessibility - IT	Replace/Add technology at city hall for security and accessibility. Replace old doorbell on basement entry and upgrade silent alarm system.	2023
	Replace laserfiche server	Replace 20 year old server that holds many electronic city records for the clerk's office	Complete
	Wireless accessibility	Replace and add routers for better WiFi coverage in city hall. Current dark areas on all floors will be corrected. Speed increased	In process

	Replace phone system routers	These routers connect all city facilities on one phone system. Current routers are no longer supported by Cisco.	2023
	Replace server room Halon System	The gas fire suppression system in the server room needs to be replaced	Complete
2023	Police Body Cameras (20)	Purchase and equip officers with body cameras. Server purchased FY 19-20.	Complete

CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS