



OKC NEWS

JULY 2022

AUGUST EVENTS

Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark
okcdodgers.com • (405) 218-1000

Visit okcdodgers.com for Dodgers schedule.

- 9-14 Dodgers vs. Round Rock
- 23-28 Dodgers vs. El Paso

Civic Center Music Hall
okcciviccenter.com • (405) 594-8300

- 5 Franco Escamilla
- 12 An evening with Vince Gill
- 16 Pretty Woman: The Musical

Myriad Botanical Gardens
myriadgardens.org • (405) 445-7080

- 12 Full Moon Bike Ride

OKC Fairgrounds
okcfairgrounds.com • (405) 948-6700

- 12-14 Renovation & Landscaping Show
- 20-27 Just Between Friends Consignment Sale
- 20-21 Repticon Reptile & Exotic Animal Show

Paycom Center
paycomcenter.com • (405) 602-8700

- 10 All This Future Tour
- 14 Kevin Hart
- 20 My Chemical Romance
- 23 Kevin Gates

Rose State College Hudiburg Chevrolet Center
okcciviccenter.com • (405) 594-8300

- 20 Amanda Miguel & Ana Victoria Verdaguer

Full calendar of events at visitokc.com



FIRST RAPID BRT VEHICLE UNVEILED

EMBARCK revealed the City's first *RAPID* Bus Rapid Transit vehicle in June at the Oklahoma City Convention Center. The bus will travel along OKC's first *RAPID* line, which is expected to launch in 2023 in NW OKC. The line is planned to have 32 stops and stretch 9.5 miles each way. It will travel through the OKC downtown core to Classen Boulevard and along Northwest Expressway to Meridian. Over 20% of the region's jobs are located within a half-mile of the Northwest line, which is estimated to include roughly 91,000 jobs.

RAPID is a high-frequency service that will transport thousands of residents and employees to areas of interest by using advance technology and service models. Partial funding for the *RAPID* NW line comes from a Federal BUILD Grant with project assistance from the Oklahoma Department of Transportation and the Federal Transportation Administration. Additional *RAPID* lines are expected as part of MAPS 4. To learn more about *RAPID*, visit embarkok.com/brt.

Know your H2O

Curious about Oklahoma City's drinking water? Visit okc.gov/ccr and read our Drinking Water Quality Report, also known as a Consumer Confidence Report. This report provides you with important information about the quality of your drinking water relating to all regulatory guidelines for 2021. It also provides information on our water sources, infrastructure and testing procedures. Last year, water quality staff tested more than 210,000 water samples from its treatment process and from 261 state-approved testing sites around the city. The Utilities Department has an outstanding record of providing clean, safe drinking water that meets or exceeds the regulatory guidelines set forth by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality. Hard copies of the report are available by calling (405) 297-2833.

Council adopts budget

In June, Oklahoma City Council adopted the City Manager's budget for fiscal year 2023, which began July 1. The City's total fiscal year 2023 budget is about \$1.8 billion, an increase of \$141.6 million compared to the FY 22 amended budget. The primary driver of the growth is the MAPS 4 Program fund, which increased by \$131.6 million to \$250.4 million. The General Fund, which pays for day-to-day operations, is budgeted at \$557.3 million, an increase of \$57.1 million (11.4%) compared to FY 22. The high level of growth is attributed to extraordinary growth in sales tax this year. The budget includes funding for 4,989 full-time positions, which is an increase of 123 positions (2.5%) from the FY 22 total. To view the budget book visit okc.gov/budget.

PARKS EVENTS

Senior Centers

EMBARK offers no cost, round trip rides to the City's senior center for people age 60+. Schedule at 405-297-2583.

For a full calendar of City recreation events visit okc.gov/parks.

Annual homeless count

More than 1,339 people were experiencing homelessness on the night of the City's annual Point in Time count conducted by the City, Homeless Alliance and volunteers in March. That number is down from 1,573 people counted in 2020 (The count was cancelled in 2021 due to the pandemic). While the number of people counted that single night decreased, it doesn't necessarily mean homelessness is down. Factors like the weather on the day of the count and counting strategies can cause numbers to fluctuate. See below for what the count found. Visit okc.gov/homeokc for the full *Point in Time* report.

10%	veterans
16%	families with children
36%	women
63%	men
1%	transgender/ non-conforming
51%	white
27%	black
10%	Native American
20%	youth under age 24
28%	have a mental illness
35%	"chronically" homeless
50%	were staying in a shelter
13%	in transitional housing
35%	unsheltered

Consider solar energy

Solarize OKC, a new coalition led by the City's Office of Sustainability and other local organizations, invites you to learn about the benefits of solar energy Aug. 2 at EightTwenty, 1825 N. Walnut Ave. Doors open at 5 p.m. and the program starts at 5:30 p.m. Residents can sign up for a free solar evaluation and get information about group-purchasing discounts and federal tax credits. More than 140 Oklahoma City residents and business owners have signed up for solar evaluations since the program launched in May. Learn more at solarizeOKC.com.

Zoning codes feedback

The community is encouraged to attend come-and-go open houses hosted by the City's Planning Department to give feedback on how proposed zoning and planning updates could affect development around them. Comments received from residents will help us tailor new residential, commercial and industrial zones for the City. Community input is a vital step in the multiyear process. Visit okc.gov/codeupdate for details.

Aug. 20 • 2-4 p.m.

Ralph Ellison Library, 2000 NE 23rd St.

Sept. 10 • 10 a.m.-noon

Mustang Public Library, 1201 N. Mustang Rd.

Sept. 14 • noon-2 p.m.

Downtown Library, 300 Park Ave.

USS OKC decommissioned

The nuclear-powered attack submarine USS Oklahoma City (SSN 723) was decommissioned in May at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Washington, after more than 34 years of service. The Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine was commissioned July 9, 1988 and declared out of service Feb.10, 2022. At 361-feet long and displacing more than 6,900 tons, the USS Oklahoma City supported various missions, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface ship warfare, strike warfare and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance. USS Oklahoma City's notable deployments include the Mediterranean to participate in Operation Desert Shield, the Persian Gulf, Eastern Pacific and Guam. Efforts are underway to preserve the ship's sail and bring it back to OKC as a tribute to our naval history.

OKCPD is hiring

The Police Department is accepting applications for the January 2023 academy. Apply today at JoinOKCPD.com. Send inquiries to ocpd.recruiting@okc.gov or call (405) 297-1116. Follow them on social media @JoinOKCPD.

General requirements:

- U.S. Citizen
- 21-45 years old on first day of the academy
- Valid driver's license (for at least 2 years)
- High School Diploma/GED
- Good moral & ethical character

Cocktail Cruises

Relax and experience unique views of the Boathouse District, Wheeler Ferris Wheel and a beautiful Oklahoma sunset. This is an adult environment cruise but all ages are welcome. People under 21 are not allowed in the bar. The cruise departs from Regatta Landing on Friday and Saturday evenings. For more information visit okrivercruises.com or call Oklahoma River Cruises (405) 702-7755.

OKC Facts

According to the 2022 Census, OKC's population is 681,000 and growing. That makes us the sixth-fastest growing large city in the United States and the 20th largest city in the country. Much of our growth is from people from smaller cities and towns statewide moving here for better jobs and health care. The west side is the fastest growing area of town. When it comes to land, OKC is huge - 621 square miles. In fact, we are the fourth largest city in the nation by landmass. Oklahoma City is in Oklahoma County and stretches into parts of Canadian County, Cleveland County, and believe it or not, a sliver of Pottawatomie County.

Job Fair Aug. 18

Plan to attend a City-hosted job fair from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Aug. 18 at Metro Technology Center, 1900 Springlake Dr. Interviews will be conducted for certain jobs with offers of employment extended. Details will be available on okc.gov/careers as they are finalized. Check out our job openings at okc.gov/careers.