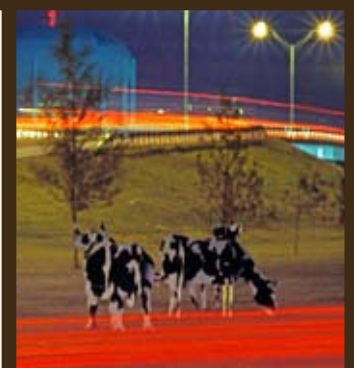
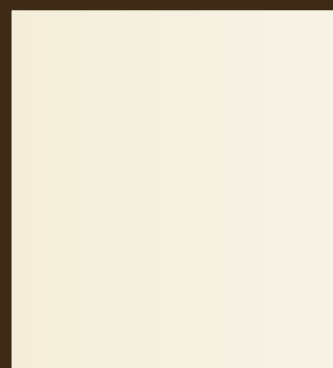
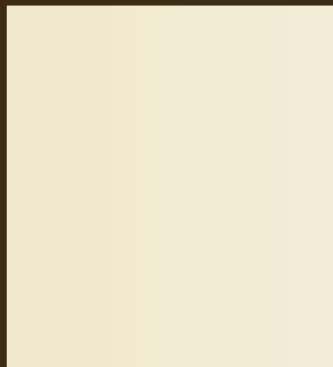
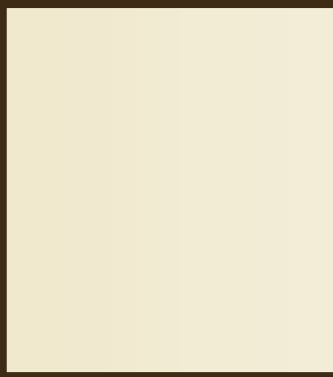


Abilene, Texas
Annual Report 2010



Abilene in Action





Norm Archibald ▪ Mayor



Larry D. Gilley ▪ City Manager



Shane Price ▪ Place 1



Joe Spano ▪ Place 2



Anthony Williams ▪ Place 3



Robert O. Briley ▪ Place 4



Stormy Higgins ▪ Place 5



Kellie Miller ▪ Place 6

Dear Citizens,

We are dedicated to providing efficient, customer-focused services to the citizens of Abilene even in a tough economic environment. Our accomplishments over the last 12 months range from the groundbreaking of a new Federal Aviation Administration airport traffic control tower to the passage of a new Land Development Code. As we consider all that took place during Fiscal Year 2010, it brings to mind the City of Abilene's mission statement, "We work together to build a community of the highest quality for present and future generations."

Our community made a concerted effort to support the U.S. Census Bureau and its call for every resident of our nation to be counted in the 2010 Census. Abilene had the highest mail participation of similar-sized cities in Texas. As of April 30, Abilene's participation rate was 74 percent, which is 2 percent higher than the national average. Next year, the Census will announce the 2010 population number for Abilene. Thank you for being counted!

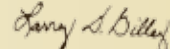
Efforts to combat red light running are gaining momentum. Since the red light safety initiative began in January 2008, the Abilene Police Department noted a 32 percent decline in the number of red light running accidents in Abilene. This significant drop is attributed to increased traffic enforcement, a public awareness campaign and increased court fines for red light running violations.

Back in May 2006, Abilene voters approved a \$29.8 million bond election consisting of seven propositions. Four years later, nearly all of the projects are complete or nearly complete. The projects involve street reconstruction, airport improvements, stormwater/drainage improvements, zoo improvements, sidewalk construction and ballpark field lighting. Construction is underway at Lake Fort Phantom Hill parks where we will all be able to enjoy the major improvements at Johnson Park, SeaBee Park and the "north" boat ramp by next July.

The City of Abilene strives for excellence in the services and programs provided to our citizens. Due to local economic challenges, the City implemented several fiscal strategies including furlough days to maintain a balanced budget. Through the efforts of visionary leaders, dedicated staff, and enterprising citizens, Abilene is a vibrant, family-oriented community that continues to grow business, expand educational opportunities and enhance our quality of life.

Sincerely,


Norm Archibald
Mayor


Larry D. Gilley
City Manager

Attaining Community Development

Land Development Code

The Planning Services division completed its work on a new Land Development Code (LDC) which the City Council adopted on April 22, 2010. The new LDC took effect on June 1, 2010. A land development code is an ordinance regulating land development, which will replace the City's existing and separate zoning and subdivision ordinances.

South Downtown Master Plan

The City Council approved the South Downtown Master Plan on June 10, 2010. The plan is intended to guide redevelopment and revitalization of a 50-block area bounded by North 6th Street on the north, South 7th Street on the south, Treadaway Boulevard on the east and Pine and Butternut Streets on the west. It's intended to be complementary and compatible with improvements to North Downtown. The division will continue to implement the Comprehensive Plan and respond to special projects such as a revision to the Sign Ordinance, neighborhood plans, corridor plans, transportation plans, hike/bike/sidewalk plans and other projects as needed.

Safe Routes to School

The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program is a national and international movement intended to promote safe walking and bicycle ridership for children in grades K-8. In FY09, the City of Abilene and the Abilene Independent School District adopted the "Safe Routes Abilene Plan" identifying a number of strategies to promote and improve safe options for the children of Abilene. In FY10, city staff began evaluating over 500 potential Safe Routes segments to prioritize potential sidewalk projects. In June 2010, the City began construction of a sidewalk along Green Street from North 18th to North 12th Streets near Fannin Elementary School. This project, expected to be completed for the 2010-2011 school year, was funded 100% by a federal grant obtained through the SRTS.

For the Dogs

The Camp Berkeley Dog Park, located in Nelson Park on the east side of the Abilene Zoo entrance, is a public/private venture between the City of Abilene and The Park People, a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) organization. A groundbreaking for the dog park, which is named after a World War II camp near Abilene, took place in July. The dog park will consist of a one acre leash-free fenced area for small dogs and a two acre leash-free fenced area for big dogs. It will become the first-ever facility of its kind in Abilene and is expected to open within the year.



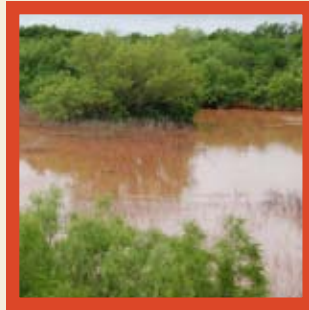
City News Source

The City of Abilene website, www.abilenetx.com, features a wealth of information about city services and programs. All news releases are posted online and citizens can subscribe to receive them via e-mail. In 2010, the City was honored with a first place award for excellence in Media Relations: News Releases by the Texas Association of Municipal Information Officers. The City also provides timely information via social media on Twitter and Facebook.

TV Channel 7 is your education and government channel. It's where you can find the latest City of Abilene news and information. You can watch live and rebroadcast City Council and Planning & Zoning Commission meetings. Other programming includes the community bulletin board, "Pet of the Week", public service announcements, locally produced City programming and other timely information. The television channel is available through Suddenlink Cable Channel 7 and KXN-TV, Abilene Christian University's low-power broadcast Channel 7. Videos are also available for viewing on YouTube on the Abilene Television and Texas On The Wild Side channels.

Advancing & Securing Our Future

Securing Water – Our Most Valuable Resource



Building a new reservoir is part of the recommended water management strategy to meet the future water needs of the City of Abilene and the region. The proposed site for the dam of the Cedar Ridge Reservoir is located on the Hendrick Ranch. The majority of the reservoir is located on the Hendrick Ranch in Shackelford and Throckmorton Counties. This dam site will have a capacity of 227,127 acre-feet of water. Estimated costs to build the Cedar Ridge Reservoir range from \$215 million to \$250 million, depending on the future demands. These costs include the dam/spillway, pipeline/pump station/water treatment plant, land acquisition and contingency/engineering/permitting. The next step in the process is to file a Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Water Rights Permit near the end of 2010, followed by filing a Federal Section 404 Permit Application near the end of 2012. The timeline for the reservoir to be actually built is in the distant

future, sometime from 2030 to 2060 and beyond, at which time the City Council determines the reservoir is needed to meet water needs.

Lake Fort Phantom Hill is located in far north Abilene, within the city limits, and serves as the primary water supply for Abilene. Other water sources include the Hubbard Creek Lake, and the O.H. Ivie Reservoir.

The City utilizes a “scalping station” located on the Clear Fork of the Brazos River to pump water from the Clear Fork into Lake Fort Phantom Hill. The scalping station, initially constructed in 1956, is capable of pumping up to 650 million gallons per day.

The Water Utilities Department is committed to providing high-quality service to the customers and citizens within the service area. This commitment requires that efforts are made to ensure that maintenance and operation practices are both effective and efficient. Improving technologies make efficiency gains more attainable so the Wastewater Collection division is utilizing a dynamic computer model of the collection system to identify sections of the system that need improvements. The division then uses state-of-the-art video inspection equipment to determine the exact needs of a given section of the system. The division will then utilize a trenchless rehabilitation process to improve the performance of these sections of the system. All of these moves work together to adequately repair or improve the collection system without the time and resources required to reroute traffic, cut up the street and replace the system components.

Stormwater Utility Services

In 2009, the Stormwater Utility Services maintenance crew:

- Conducted 20.9 miles of unimproved creek channel maintenance
- Mowed 7,544 acres of improved creek channels, drainage easements, barrow ditches and detention ponds
- Removed 10,224 cubic yards of silt
- Removed 1,917 cubic yards of vegetation and debris
- Removed 6,696 cubic feet of trash from local creeks and drainage ways



Military Neighbor

Dyess Air Force Base is located in the southwestern corner of Abilene. Dyess A.F.B., named after Lt. Col. William E. Dyess, was known as Abilene Army Airfield from 1942-1948 and Abilene Air Force Base until Dec. 6, 1956. The base is home to the 7th Bomb Wing, with its B-1 Bomber squadrons, and the 317th Airlift Group, which operates two C-130 flying squadrons. The first of 28 C-130J Super Hercules transports, which will replace the C-130s, was delivered to Dyess Air Force Base this spring. Dyess A.F.B. supports more than 6,000 military members and civilians in addition to their 8,000 family members and retirees.



Achieving Community Enhancements

Significant Parks Projects in 2010

- Sears Park, construction of new baseball field and concession building
- Completion of plans and specs for Lake Fort Phantom Hill projects at SeaBee and Johnson parks, and beginning of construction in July
- Construction of Phase I of Camp Barkeley Dog Park in Nelson Park
- Planted 24 trees in Will Hair Park and 25 more trees in various other parks
- Constructed 18 Disc Golf tee pads in Will Hair Park

Beautification Efforts

Keep Abilene Beautiful (KAB) continues its efforts to promote beautification and was honored with a 2nd Place Governor's Community Achievement Award in 2010. KAB focuses on three areas: litter prevention, beautification and waste reduction. During the 2010 Spring Clean event, nearly 1,211 residents brought in 157 tons of trash, 1,601 tires and 13 tons of metal. The annual event offers Abilene residents a chance to spring clean their homes and properties and take their cast-off items to the Environmental Recycling Center (ERC) free of charge. There is also a similar event in the fall. Additionally, through a grant from Keep America Beautiful, KAB was able to purchase ten Smokers Cease-Fire containers to further KAB's Cigarette Litter Prevention Program.



Community Recycling

(October 2009 – May 2010)

- 2,399.19 tons of common recyclables
- 17,718 cubic yards of tree limbs
- 4,248 tires
- 3,036 gallons of oil
- 990 oil filters



Environmental Enforcement

The Environmental Enforcement division works to educate citizens about illegal dumping as well as investigate and prosecute crimes.

In FY09, the City's environmental enforcement officer responded to 452 calls for service, investigated over 200 illegal dumping sites along roadsides and other areas, and completed cleanup of over 145 confirmed dump sites. Two events of note in FY10 involved the successful cleanup of a 5,000 gallon oil spill from a semi-tractor accident near Loop 322 and Highway 36 and the cleanup of an accidental discharge of over 40 gallons of toluene from a business near T&P Lane.

Solid Waste Services

(October 2009 – May 2010)

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| ▪ Miles Driven | 428,178 |
| ▪ Loads to Landfill | 10,641 |
| ▪ Tons to Landfill | 73,459 |
| ▪ Landfill Cost | \$1,609,685 |

Technology

One-Stop Shop for Services

ABILENE411 is an interactive online service provided within the City of Abilene website that increases citizen access to information 24/7. The system, which is a form of citizen relationship management (CRM), offers answers to more than 500 frequently asked questions. Citizens also have the capability to pose a question from their computer to City staff if an answer is not already available. In addition, citizens can make online service requests ranging from reporting potholes to requesting a map of a City park. From October 2009 to June 2010, the City responded to 650 citizen-initiated requests through ABILENE411. In this same time frame, citizens reviewed more than 9,200 frequently asked questions. Citizens can visit the CRM section of the website at www.abilenetx.com and then click on ABILENE411.

Technological Improvements

In May 2009, the City Council approved staff's recommendation to convert the City's financial and human resource systems to Lawson Software Systems. This decision was the culmination of a year-long search for the appropriate solution to replace the City's mainframe legacy systems for processing payroll and financial information.

The Lawson enterprise resource planning (ERP) solution is comprised of the following modules:

- Human Capital Management – recruitment, onboarding, benefits management, training and development, payroll, Human Resources Information System (HRIS)
- Financial Management – budget creation, daily transaction accounting, accounts payable and receivable, grants and project management, financial reporting
- Procurement – sourcing and vendor management, bidding processes, requisitioning, inventory management and payments
- Asset Management – fleet management and maintenance

Everything is tightly integrated, providing a much more efficient processing environment. The system is highly secure, driven by the City's network environment with Web-based user interfaces. When fully implemented, employee and manager self-service applications will provide operational efficiencies and managerial enhancements.

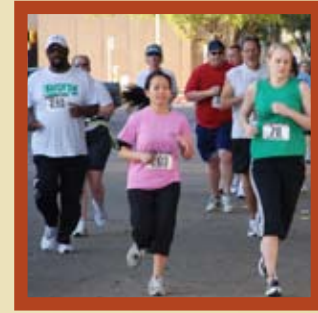
The Human Capital Management portion of the solution was implemented in just 16 weeks, going live in December 2009. According to Lawson, this is about one-third of the time it can take to bring up Human Capital Management. Lawson credits the efforts of the City's human resources team, information technology staff, project management team and extremely strong support from upper management as the keys to success of the implementation. The Financial Management, Procurement and Asset Management modules will be implemented during 2010, with a target date to go live October 1, 2010.

Animal Welfare

The Animal Services Shelter and Adoption Center completed renovations and an expansion in 2010. The animal shelter now has 13 additional kennels, a renovated front office area with new paint and lighting, and new kennel wire. The renovation, which was paid for through designated capital improvement funds in the 2006 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP), has improved safety in the shelter for both the animals and potential adopters. An outdoor space was fenced in as an overflow area for livestock and also serves as additional space for volunteers to work with animals. A three-officer cruelty team began to focus on animal cruelty and inhumane treatment of animals. The team has rescued 85 animals from livestock to cats and puppies. This is the first year in Taylor County history that an individual spent time in jail on an Animal Cruelty offense. The Animal Services division kicked off a new volunteer program in Fiscal Year 2010. Over the past year, 125 volunteers were recruited for dog walking, adoption events and front office help. Animal Services has begun providing community animal education for children. Lessons range from how to approach a stray dog to how to be safe around dogs. Staff has educated over 250 children so far this year with hopes to expand the program in the future.



Assuring Health & Wellness



Community Health

The Abilene-Taylor County Public Health District is a division within the Community Services Department of the City of Abilene. Health care services are offered in the areas of immunizations, cholesterol and diabetic screening, family planning; Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program; primary health care and children's dental services among other services.

The Health division continued its response to the 2009 H1N1 Influenza virus pandemic during the fall of 2009 and spring of 2010. Significant planning was conducted through October to prepare for the arrival of vaccine to address the virus. Vaccine became available in November and the Health division began holding public clinics immediately. Initial amounts of vaccine were small and vaccinations were provided to approved target groups such as pregnant women and children. Large public clinics were held at the Taylor County Expo Center in December where vaccinations were available to everyone. Arrangements were also made to give vaccinations in the Merkel Independent School District for the students and faculty. Follow-up clinics were held for children who needed a second dose of the vaccine. Clinics were also held at the Health division facility on a regular basis through December, and special clinics were held at Hardin-Simmons University and McMurry University. Beginning in January, the vaccinations for H1N1 were available through the division's routine immunization clinics. The division provided over 6,500 doses of the vaccine, and local private providers gave thousands of doses.

In 2008, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention initiated a Public Health Apprentice Program in Texas. The purpose of the program is to increase the public health workforce by creating an expanding group of knowledgeable and well-trained professionals capable of working in local, regional, state or national public health programs. The City's Health division was one of eight local public health departments in the state to have an apprentice assigned.

The apprentice completed her first year by rotating through all of the division's clinical services and has been involved in the preparedness section activities since mid-2009. She was able to contribute immediately to the response to the H1N1 influenza pandemic, and will be involved for the next year in administrative functions such as grants, contracts, personnel and public education.

Environmental Health

The Environmental Health Section works with over 600 establishments including food and day care operations to help ensure safe and sanitary conditions for the citizens of Abilene and their children. The Environmental Health Section also inspects public and restricted-access pools and spas and septic systems to ensure compliance with requirements for safe and sanitary operation of these facilities. Additionally, Environmental Health operates the City's mosquito control program targeting both larva and adult mosquito populations during summer months.

Code Compliance

The Code Compliance division works with and educates residents to create safe properties by preventing and abating nuisances, and by working with property owners to repair or demolish substandard buildings that have been condemned. Code Compliance expects to close over 4,000 nuisance cases in FY10.



Accomplishing Community Safety



Abilene Fire Department



The Abilene Fire Department is staffed by 170 civil service employees and 6 civilians. The department is led by Fire Chief Ken Dozier and consists of two branches: Tactical Operations and Community & Support

Services. During calendar year 2009, firefighters responded to 14,834 incidents. Medical emergencies accounted for 74.23% of those responses.

In March the Fire Department took delivery of a new 2010 Sutphen ladder truck. The main feature of this new apparatus is the 100-foot aerial ladder platform. This is a 30-foot increase in capability over the 14-year-old truck that it replaced as a front line ladder truck. It is also equipped with a 300-gallon water tank, 1,500-GPM pump, 1,600 feet of hose and is fully loaded with a comprehensive inventory of tools to allow the crew to perform their primary assignment of rescue. The 1996 truck now goes to reserve status replacing a 1982 aerial truck that had served the City of Abilene for 28 years. The acquisition of this new apparatus results in a tremendous increase in capability to both our front line and reserve fleet.

Twenty-six firefighters and fire officers continue to work toward obtaining EMT-Paramedic certification. This 13-month course, consisting of 804 hours, will be completed in September 2010. Ten Firefighter/Paramedics are currently assigned to the Tactical Operations division and this new group will allow the department to begin paramedic-level advanced life support services from each front line engine company.

Abilene Police Department

The Abilene Police Department mourned the loss of Officers Rodney Holder and Boyd Burns in 2010. Officer Holder, a 28-year APD veteran, was killed in the line of duty in a motorcycle accident. Officer Burns, who served the Abilene community for 25 years, passed away of natural causes. In July 2010, the family of Officer Holder donated a fully restored 1953 Dodge police car to the Police Department. The vehicle was originally part of the NYPD's fleet and is named Car 187 after Officer Holder's ID number. Car 187 will be on display in front of the Law Enforcement Center, 450 Pecan Street, and will also participate in parades and similar events.

The Police Department implemented a strategy to evolve from a reactive/responsive approach to an intelligence-led policing approach. In doing so, a geographical command structure was established with the city now divided into four areas with a patrol lieutenant commander in charge of each area. Abilene police also created the Responsive Intelligence Division (RID), composed of the Intelligence Unit and the Street Crimes Unit. The goal of this intelligence-led policing division is to proactively reduce crime. Online crime reporting was offered for the first time in FY10, allowing victims to report some misdemeanor crimes through the Internet.

The Police Department was given City Council approval in May 2010 for the purchase of 53 Tasers. The Tasers, which were purchased using patrol seized funds, will provide officers with an additional use of force option where pepper spray and/or impact weapons prove ineffective. Officers are undergoing Taser training, which, in part, involves time in the new simulator and a review on the department's policies on use of force and safety.

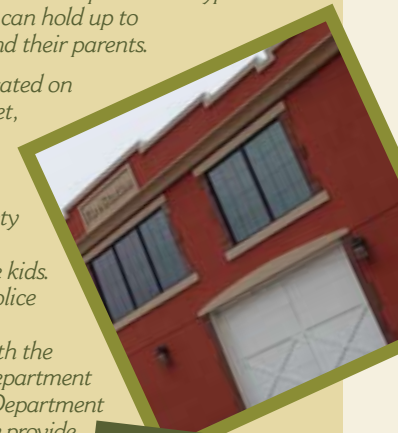
Officer Andy Atkins was named Abilene's Hometown Hero in 2010. As part of this recognition, Officer Atkins was awarded a flight in an F-16 jet that was flown by a United States Air Force Thunderbirds pilot.

Melvin Martin Center for Children's Safety

The expansion at the Melvin Martin Center for Children's Safety (also known as Safety City) is underway with the dedication of the new Fire Safety House. In December 2009, the Friends of Safety City board donated the 2,000 square foot fire education building to the City of Abilene. The Fire Safety House is modeled after the former #2 Fire Station on South 5th and Butternut Streets. It features an "engine room", a classroom with bleacher-style seating for up to 60 students; a room that has a realistic kitchen where kitchen safety is taught; and a bedroom setting where students learn survival tactics to utilize in case of a house fire.

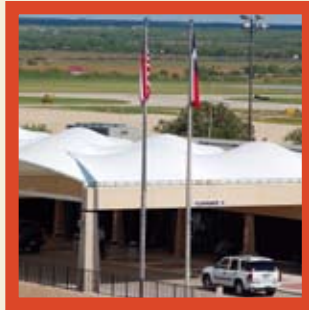
Construction of a 2,700-square-foot Police Station is scheduled to begin within the year. The 2,700-square-foot police education facility will house an amphitheater-type classroom that can hold up to 100 students and their parents.

Safety City, located on South 7th Street, is a child-sized town designed to provide fun, interactive safety education for elementary age kids. The Abilene Police Department in conjunction with the Abilene Fire Department and the Texas Department of Public Safety provide the safety lessons at the facility. Children learn about bicycle, pedestrian, vehicle and fire safety as well as stranger danger, drug awareness and officer awareness. Approximately 3,800 first and third grade students from 79 different schools attend Safety City every year.



Affirming Affordable Transit

Abilene Regional Airport



Abilene Regional Airport currently offers service from American Eagle/American Airlines to Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport. The national economic recession has taken a toll on the region's air travel demand with passenger enplanements down about

11%. However, experience has shown that economies cycle so the demand is expected to return over the next two to three years, which will aid in the recruitment of additional air service.

The ABI VIP Program celebrated its first full year of offering rewards to registered passengers who fly from the Airport. ABI VIP rewards those passengers with vouchers for free meals, shopping credits or activities through generous donations by local companies. The program has over 800 members.

The Airport is maintaining an aggressive capital improvement program that will keep the Airport's infrastructure updated to meet current and future demands. The Airport continues to replace and enlarge aircraft ramps, modernize airfield electrical systems, replace and update safety equipment and improve terminal service and convenience.

The Airport continues to look for opportunities to enhance passenger and cargo air service as well as general aviation through ongoing infrastructure improvements and marketing efforts.

New FAA Control Tower

A groundbreaking was held in April for the new Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) airport traffic control tower at Abilene Regional Airport. The \$9.24 million project is

solely funded by the FAA. The new 140-foot-tall tower will be located on 3.26 acres of land east of the existing tower to allow for proper fencing and security as well as to give tower personnel an optimum view of the entire airfield. It will replace a 62-foot-tall facility that was commissioned almost 49 years ago. Last year, the control tower handled 67,092 takeoffs, landings and overflights. Commissioning of the new tower is expected in late 2012.

CityLink Transit

CityLink is the public transit system for the City of Abilene. CityLink is managed and operated by contract with McDonald Transit Associates, Inc.

Vehicle replacement has been extensive during FY10 as 13 lift-equipped paratransit vans and four low-floor buses have replaced many of the agency's outdated vehicles. The 17 vehicles, totaling over \$2 million, were purchased with funding from the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) as well as Congressional Earmark funding. These purchases were made utilizing no City funding. Remaining ARRA funds supported the replacement of three staff vehicles, facility surveillance cameras and improved training equipment. The agency will also seek to rehabilitate the transfer lanes and purchase four new passenger shelters.

In January 2010, CityLink implemented a restructured fixed route system for the first time in twenty years. While ridership and travel patterns are still being evaluated for fine-tuning, the route system benefitted passengers traveling to northeast Walmart, Sunset Arbor Apartments, Fehr Foods and South 7th Street. ADA Paratransit ridership has increased almost 2 percent over last year's figures. From October 2009 through May 2010, CityLink's evening curb-to-curb demand response service has already provided almost 11,000 one-way trips for passengers traveling on work- and school-related trips.

Aligning Economic Development

Welcoming Development in Abilene

The Development Corporation of Abilene (DCOA) uses a special ½ cent sales tax for economic development to effectively stimulate Abilene's economic growth. This funding can be used for Section 4A Projects, which include land, buildings, equipment, facilities, improvements, and expenditures related to:

- ♦ Manufacturing, industrial, research and development, recycling, small warehouse and corporate headquarter facilities
- ♦ Distribution centers
- ♦ Closed or realigned military bases
- ♦ Job training for primary jobs and commercial/retail
- ♦ Business airport facilities
- ♦ Clean up of contaminated project sites (with special election)
- ♦ Infrastructure assistance to retail or commercial projects
- ♦ Section 4B projects with voter approval

The jobs created by projects funded by the DCOA are called "primary jobs" which create a good or service the majority of which is sold outside the Abilene region, thereby bringing new wealth to the local economy. Over the last 5 years, the DCOA has assisted 23 local companies by providing \$25.7 million to help them stay and grow in Abilene.

Creation of a biotech sector in Abilene is also a major DCOA priority, in part because biotech jobs typically pay twice or more the average salary in Abilene. The Abilene Life Sciences Accelerator (ALSA) is the new biomedical research center located in the 1300 block of Pine Street. In November 2008, DCOA approved the \$5.3 million budget for the 22,000-square-foot facility. It's designed to support six to eight companies.

Receptor Logic, a company doing cancer research, was its first tenant with employment expected to grow to 40. Enavail, LLC recently announced plans to occupy 1,800 square feet in the ALSA for its specialty drug manufacturing operation. The company is anticipated to create 28 jobs within 4 years.

Building Inspections

The Building Inspection division is completing the review process for adoption of the 2009 International Building, Residential, Existing, Energy Conservation, Plumbing, Mechanical and Fuel Gas Codes. The review and council adoption process is projected to be completed by October 2010.

Permit and Inspection Data (October 2009 – June 2010)

- ♦ 4,800 construction permits
- ♦ 15,000 inspections

Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS)

The Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS), which is part of the City's Planning & Development Services Department, works to distribute over \$1,179,600 in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to provide services to low- and moderate-income citizens in Abilene. Additionally, ONS manages the provision of over \$615,700 in funds for housing through the federal HOME Investment Partnerships program (HOME). These two programs were used to assist a variety of service providers in the community such as Adult Protective Services Partners, Abilene Volunteer Weatherization Program, Connecting Caring Communities, CityLink Transit, Medical-Dental Assistance, and Senior Nutrition and Activities. A CDBG award allowed Phase I of a

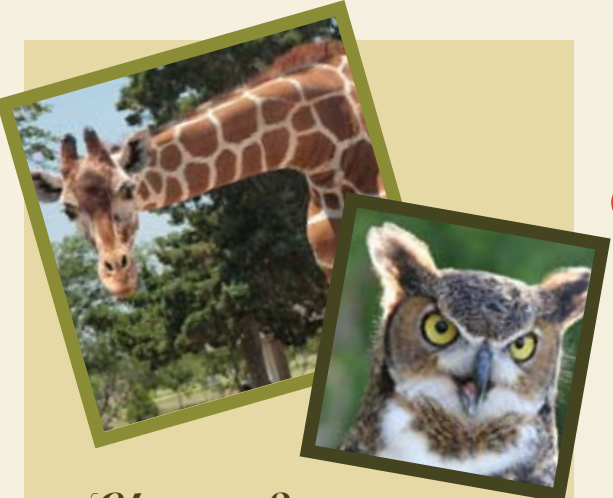


long-awaited transitional youth facility (Our House) to be completed. The City committed \$90,000 in HOME funds towards the construction of four new houses in Abilene. Over \$656,000 in HOME funds were committed to homeowner rehabilitation projects and assistance to first-time homebuyers to provide decent, safe, affordable housing to very low- and low-income families and individuals.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) in the form of CDBG-R funds totaling over \$292,000 will be used to assist several areas of our community's greatest needs. Christian Community Development Corporation (CCDC) will complete the final phase of Our House; Connecting Caring Communities will add additional infrastructure to the neighborhood park located on Lowden Street; FaithWorks and Presbyterian Medical Care Mission will make energy efficiency improvements and needed repairs and electrical upgrades to their current client facilities. The stimulus funds will also assist the Abilene-Taylor Public Health District to contract additional dentists for dental clients. Adult Protective Services will now also be able to serve a greater number of elderly and disabled clients with home repairs.



Attracting Leisure, Learning & Events



Library Services

The Abilene Public Library provides traditional library services including general reference services, a Spanish language collection, genealogy collections, and children's services, and also offers the community nontraditional services such as Internet access and electronic resources and education. More than 300,000 volumes and numerous library services are available to the public. The Abilene Public Library is comprised of a Main Library, the Mockingbird Branch Library and the South Branch Library. These locations serve 42,000 library cardholders who check out more than 750,000 books and materials each year.

Library Highlights (October 2009 – May 2010)

- Number of items checked out: 602,688
- Number of reference questions answered: 64,812
- Number of library visitors: 375,664



Abilene's #1 Attraction

The Abilene Zoo, Abilene's #1 visitor attraction, is home to more than 500 animals representing 160 species. The mission of the Zoo is to promote an increased awareness of the natural world through conservation, environmental education and the preservation of endangered species. The Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), and continues to upgrade existing facilities and add new exhibits to help fulfill the highest standards in the Zoo industry while providing an exciting visitor experience.

In the fall of 2010, the Zoo will open the Elm Creek Backyard exhibit series, which will be the third phase in the Zoo's ten-year master plan. The Elm Creek series will feature native species common to Texas and will highlight the great diversity found in the Elm Creek watershed. The Zoo also participates in conserving endangered Texas species such as the Attwater's prairie chicken and the ocelot, which will be featured in a new exhibit also scheduled to open in the fall of 2010.

The Zoo offers visitors several special events throughout the year. The Sunset Safari and Spots & Stripes Forever! Concert Series take place on Thursday evenings during June, July and August. The zoo proudly hosts ZOOlute to Dyess day in May to honor Abilene's military personnel. Additionally, Zoo staff, local area schools, and green organizations celebrate Earth and Enrichment Day in April to educate visitors about the importance of conserving our natural resources. One of the most highly anticipated annual events is October's Boo at the Zoo!, a trick or treat gathering for kids and kids at heart. The Adventure Center houses educational programs for children and adults year-round as well as provides visitors a unique shopping experience in the 1,300-square-foot Zoo Gift Shop. The Abilene Zoo is open every day except for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

Recreational Activities

Recreational classes are offered at all five recreation centers. Information can be found on all our classes and programs at www.abilenetx.com/Recreation/documents/leisure_guide.pdf. Adaptive Recreation Services also provides specialized leisure and adaptive recreational activities for persons with disabilities. The Recreation division offers special events throughout the year. These events include NFL Pepsi Punt, Pass & Kick, Daddy/Daughter Date Night & Dance, the Steam-N-Wheels Bike Race and Doggie Splash Day. This year's Summer Playground program saw an increase in registration with one of the highest number of participants to date. Recreation provided a safe, fun program for over 700 children this summer. New this year are basketball camps and a golf clinic for both boys and girls. Rose Tennis Center always brings in local, state and national tennis players of all ages to play in a wide range of tournaments.

Opportunities for Seniors

The Senior Citizens division provides opportunities for older citizens to participate in a wide variety of activities and services including recreational activities, nutritional services and support social services through five neighborhood Senior Centers. A well-balanced, very tasty lunch is provided Monday-Friday at all the centers.

Abilene Civic Center

The Abilene Civic Center hosted 429 events with 100% weekend usage in Fiscal Year 2009. The facility features an auditorium, foyer, exhibit hall, conference center and meeting rooms. Approximately 400,000 people attended events here in FY09. Renovations to the HVAC system are complete and a new outdoor electronic marquee has been installed. The Civic Center brings in annual rental revenue in excess of \$352,900 and realizes a portion of the hotel/motel tax.



Abilene at a Glance



Abilene Profile

- Established in March 1881
- Council/Manager type of government with approximately 1,126 employees
- Located 186 miles west of Dallas
- At the center of a 22-county area, known as Big Country
- Estimated population of 117,179
- 110.7 square miles
- Average annual temperature of 64.5 degrees
- Average annual rainfall of 23.59 inches
- Average elevation is 1,790 feet above sea level
- (325) Area Code
- Offers 27 spacious parks
- Features 4 eighteen-hole golf courses, 1 nine-hole par three golf course, 7 adult softball fields, 17 youth softball fields, 12 baseball fields, 1 lighted football field, 9 soccer fields, 1 outdoor in-line skating/hockey rink with lights, 2 disc golf courses, 21 public tennis courts, 2 public pools, 1 bocce ball court, 1 model airplane flying field and 1 concrete skate park
- 500+ animals inhabit the Abilene Zoo
- Home to 4 universities, 1 college, 1 technical college, 1 commercial college and 1 pharmacy school

Major Employers

Company	Type	Employees
Dyess Air Force Base	Defense (Military/Civ)	5,993
Hendrick Health System	Hospital	2,656
Abilene Independent School District	Public School	2,566
Abilene State Supported Living Center	School for the Disabled	1,406
Texas Department of Criminal Justice	Correctional Facility	1,253

About Our Community

Fiscal Year 2010

Taxes	Assessed Value Rate per \$100
City of Abilene	.6932
Taylor County	.4675
School (Abilene ISD)	1.1659
School (Wylie ISD)	1.1300

City Sales Tax

- 8.25% (6.25% State tax plus 2% Local tax with 1.5% to the City and 0.5% for economic development)

Medical

- 2 Hospitals (Abilene Regional Medical Center and Hendrick Medical Center)

Higher Learning

- Abilene Christian University
- American Commercial College
- Cisco College – Abilene
- Hardin-Simmons University
- McMurry University
- Texas State Technical College
- Texas Tech University – Abilene
- Texas Tech University School of Pharmacy

Resources

Emergency 911

A Call for Help (Community Resources for West Central TX or (for cell phone users) 211
673-8211

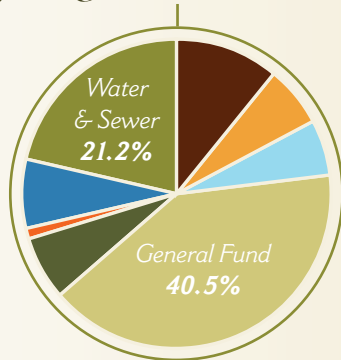
Abilene-Taylor County Public Health District 692-5600
Animal Services 698-0085
Building Inspection 676-6273
City Manager's Office 676-6206
CityLink Transit 676-6287

Municipal Court (Traffic & Parking Tickets) 676-6333

Fire Department (Non-Emergency) 676-6676
Job Line 676-6247
Keep Abilene Beautiful 734-3301
Library (202 Cedar) 677-2474
Mayor's Office 676-6205
Mosquito Spraying 437-4590
Police (Non-Emergency) 673-8331
Pothole Repair 676-6045
Recreation Centers 676-6217
Recycling 672-2209
Refuse Collection 676-6053
Senior Citizen Services 734-5300
Street Light Outage 1-866-223-8508
Water & Sewer Repair Service 676-6000
Water Billing Office 676-6405
Weed Control 676-6241
Abilene Zoo 676-6085

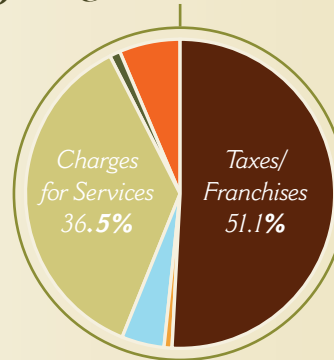
Adhering to Fiscal Accountability

Revenue Sources
Fy 2009-2010



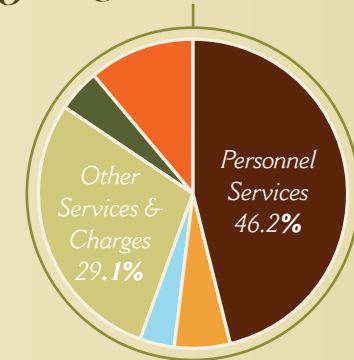
- Internal Service Funds ■ 11.1%
- Debt Service Funds ■ 6.3%
- Economic Development ■ 5.8%
- General Fund ■ 40.5%
- Federal/State Assistance ■ 6.6%
- Stormwater Services ■ 1.1%
- Solid Waste Services ■ 7.4%
- Water & Sewer ■ 21.2%

Revenue by Category
Fy 2009-2010



- Taxes/Franchises ■ 51.1%
- License/Permits ■ 0.7%
- Federal/State Assist. ■ 4.3%
- Charges for Services ■ 36.5%
- Fines ■ 1.2%
- Misc. Revenue ■ 6.1%

Expenditures by Category
Fy 2009-2010



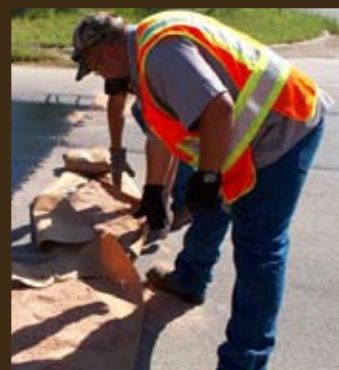
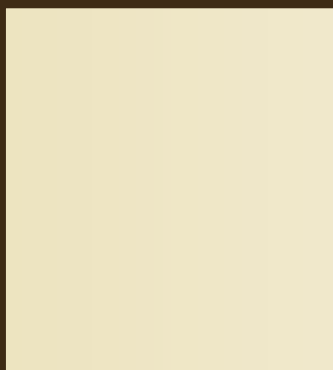
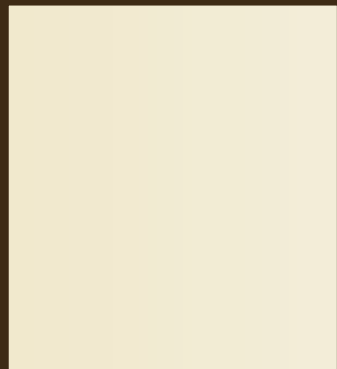
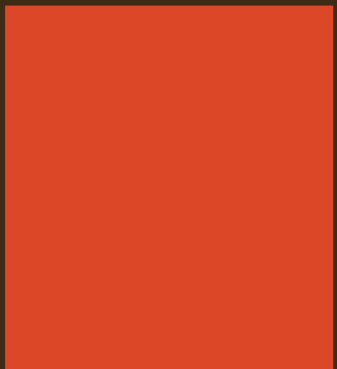
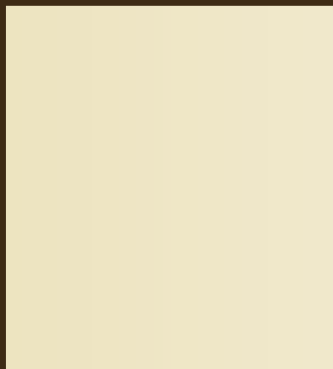
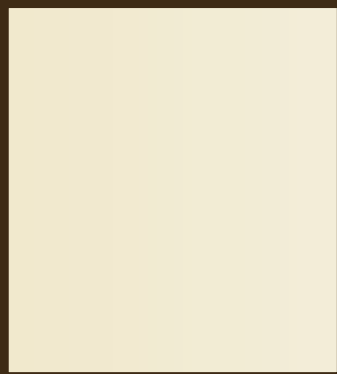
- Personnel Services ■ 46.2%
- Supplies ■ 5.8%
- Maintenance ■ 3.6%
- Other Services & Charges ■ 29.1%
- Capital ■ 4.3%
- Principal & Interest ■ 11.0%

DBOA - Approved Assistance Through June 2010

Company	Assistance Amount	Committed Job Retention/Job Creation	Actual to Date Job Retention/Job Creation
Project RC (contract pending)	\$15,000.00	20/00	20/00
Project JD (contract pending)	\$105,250.00	00/11	00/00
LM Wind Power	\$566,250.00	00/33	00/00
Texas Metals (BMWT Recycling)	\$44,050.00	00/00	00/00
Enavail LLC	\$994,105.00	00/28	00/00
Total	\$1,724,655.00	20/72	20/00
% to Abilene companies (names in bold)	10%		

Abilene Financial Facts

- FY09 General Fund Actual Resources \$70,630,723
- FY09 General Fund Actual Expenditures \$69,826,624
- FY09 Total Citywide Budget \$153,789,650
- FY10 General Fund Approved Resources \$70,570,710
- FY10 General Fund Approved Expenditures \$70,543,980
- FY10 Approved Citywide Budget \$156,016,696



Acknowledgements

**Publication produced by:
Communications &
Media Relations Office**

Special thanks to all City departments

Art Direction/Design:

*Lisa Mac, GoGo Creative
www.gogocreative.com*

Photography:

*City of Abilene
Dyess Air Force Base
Tremain Jackson
Jennifer Nichols
Mo Parker
Steve Butman Photography*



*555 Walnut Street
Abilene, TX 79601
(325) 676-6200
www.abilenetx.com*

*© 2010 All rights reserved
City of Abilene, Texas*