



August 1, 2025

To: Mayor Mike Topliff and City Council Members
From: City Administrator Sam Anselm
Re: Weekly Update

Please see below for this week's update.

Administration

- I'm happy to announce that Chris Henson has been appointed to serve as our next transportation director. Chris currently serves as our airport manager and has experience with the Missouri Department of Transportation and law enforcement. Please join me in congratulating Chris on his new position! His first day will be August 11th.
- Attached is the most recent sales and use tax information prepared by our finance department.

Community Services

Parks & Recreation

- Installation of the new Children's Park playground equipment began last week, and parks staff have also installed two new shade structures at the splash pad in the park.
- Signage is being created alerting parks visitors that surfaces may be hot in extreme temperatures, and footwear is strongly recommended.
- Dirt has been delivered to Evans Complex, and work to repair those fields will begin later this week.
- The July 26 Movie in the Park at Carmical Field was a huge success. Over 200 people were in attendance to enjoy the movie *Cars* and participate in games and activities. Thanks to the police and fire departments for bringing their vehicles to the event.
- Adult volleyball is ongoing, and registration is now open for youth volleyball. Youth volleyball will be the launch of the new free draft leagues in which there will be free registration for those who participate.
- Last week the pool was open for all seven days, and there were 1,106 total attendees.

WP Public Library

- The library now has a new self-checkout station, which was funded by the Missouri State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). This station allows

customers to independently borrow, return, and renew library materials, enhancing convenience and efficiency.

- This year's summer reading program concluded with great success, culminating in a foam party celebration at Galloway Park. A big thanks to Parks Manager Mike Davis and the West Plains Fire Department for helping make the event a memorable experience for more than 100 children. In total, participants read over 60,000 minutes, and teens and adults logged more than 700 books.
- Unfortunately, the large White Oak tree in front of the library has been diagnosed with Armillaria Root Rot, a common and incurable disease in trees, by the Missouri Department of Conservation. The tree is scheduled for removal this fall. In its place, a beautiful maple will be planted. A local woodworker has offered to craft a bench from the oak's wood, which will be displayed inside the library as a tribute to the tree's legacy.

WP Civic Center

- Manager Tony Abbruzzo is attending the IAVM (International Association of Venue Managers) annual conference and trade show in New Orleans this week. This event connects professionals from a spectrum of public assembly venues including arenas, convention centers, amphitheaters, fairgrounds, performing arts centers, stadiums and universities.
- The American Red Cross will host a blood drive in the exhibit hall this Thursday, July 31, from 10 am to 5 pm. Registration is encouraged at redcrossblood.org.

Tourism/Welcome Center

- The first day trip video was shot on Saturday. Six local individuals will be featured in the "Mills, Springs & Falls, Oh My" day trip. A grant from the Missouri Division of Tourism will help cover part of the expenses. In total there will be five different videos produced.
- A welcome packet including a guidebook was distributed to vendors at the Gun & Knife Show last weekend at the Civic Center.

Facilities/Maintenance

- Manager Jay Martin is gathering quotes for a new HVAC system for the city hall and the police department complex.
- The new diving board for the Civic Center pool has arrived and will be scheduled for installation.

Fire

Last Week's events:

- 7 EMS incidents. (Medical calls, EMS lift Assist, Lock-in)
- 2 Structure related calls. (1- fire alarm, 1 – natural gas leak)
- 1 Motor vehicle accident.
- 1 Brush/grass fire.
- 1 Motor vehicle fire.

- 1 Smoke scare/unauthorized burn.
- 1 Gas odor investigation.
- 2 Animal rescues.
- Truck display at the Movie in the park.
- 10 burn permits were issued.

Planning

- Planning staff participated in an introductory call with the Missouri Department of Economic Development team overseeing the \$2.5 million appropriation for the 601 Washington Avenue renovation. Scoping for the architectural design contract is expected to be completed prior to the August city council meeting.
- Staff met with the FEMA public assistance team this week for a recovery scoping meeting to discuss damages incurred during the April flooding event. The FEMA team was extremely complimentary of the city's documentation and preparation both for the disaster and for the recovery visit. We appreciate the help from all departments as we continue to fine tune details for FEMA submission.
- Applications for the administrative assistant position are currently being reviewed. In-house applications are being sought for the vacant planning technician position.

Utilities

- Utilities Administration: we met with members of GIS and planning to review the new updates coming to GIS in the fall and "what's next" for GIS in the future. A stop work order was issued for National On-Demand, a Brightspeed sub-contractor, until they can come in compliance with city standards. A meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 1st, to discuss compliance issues. Additionally, the transportation department painted parking lines for the south lot and did an amazing job. Thank you, transportation, for your work on finishing up that project.
- Electric: electric crews took advantage of the cooler weather this week, replacing several poles in need of being changed, felling trees for transportation, completing the ball field lighting project, and splicing fiber at Hampton Inn for the new KY3 weather camera. Additionally, Generator Unit 2 had two runs this week.
- Water: water crews have taken advantage of the cooler weather this week, completing several outstanding water services at 1343 Southern Hills Center (7Brew Coffee), 1223 N. Howell Avenue (new residential construction), and 1930 Debra Avenue (new residential construction).
- Sewer: the sewer crew has spent this week performing a hydro-vacuum in Pomona near our high-pressured sewer line and assisting the electric department in a hydro-vacuum in the south lot of city halls for two pole changes.
- Sanitation: refuse crews hauled 49 loads to the transfer station, totaling 216.03 tons of waste. Refuse disposal crews transported 33 loads of waste to the Hartville landfill. Additionally, crews continued to distribute poly carts to residents.



Sales and Use Tax Report – July 2025

Year-to-date sales tax revenues are down 1%, compared to budget through July 2025.

The City of West Plains' July 2025 sales tax revenues from the Missouri Department of Revenue were \$388,651. As of July 2025, year-to-date sales tax revenues are \$2,776,720. The city transferred \$104,718 of the year-to-date sales tax revenues to the applicable TIFs and CIDs. Revenues are 1% (\$16,855) below budget.

The July deposit from DOR reflects sales tax payments processed by the State in June 2025 for transactions made primarily in May.

Compared to last year's actuals, these revenues are 2% (\$53,651) higher on a year-to-date basis.

The city relies heavily on sales and use tax revenues as its main source of revenue to fund vital services such as police, fire, parks, and recreation. Approximately 45% of the General Fund revenue comes from sales and use tax. Franchise fee revenue from utilities accounts for 17% of General Fund revenues and a utility administration fee accounts for 14% of General Fund revenues. Property tax accounts for 6% of General Fund revenues.

Year-to-date use tax revenues are up 6%, compared to budget through July 2025.

The City of West Plains' July 2025 use tax revenues from the Missouri Department of Revenue were \$66,590. Year to date for the period ended July 2025 use tax revenues are \$553,588. Revenues are 6% (or \$32,190) above budget.

The July deposit from DOR reflects use tax payments processed by the State in June 2025 for transactions made primarily in May.

Compared to last year's actuals, these revenues are 1% (\$7,329) higher on a year-to-date basis.

**Sales Tax Revenue
General Fund - 1%**

Month Received	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	Year-over-Year Change		Cumulative Change	
January	\$ 338,288	\$ 381,500	\$ 407,013	\$ 25,513	7%	\$ 25,513	7%
February	\$ 396,553	\$ 431,736	\$ 403,876	\$ (27,860)	-6%	\$ (2,347)	0%
March	\$ 311,710	\$ 388,544	\$ 377,288	\$ (11,256)	-3%	\$ (13,603)	-1%
April	\$ 347,427	\$ 381,114	\$ 379,284	\$ (1,830)	0%	\$ (15,433)	-1%
May	\$ 329,520	\$ 354,663	\$ 398,280	\$ 43,617	12%	\$ 28,184	1%
June	\$ 413,305	\$ 410,851	\$ 422,328	\$ 11,477	3%	\$ 39,661	2%
July	\$ 362,857	\$ 374,661	\$ 388,651	\$ 13,990	4%	\$ 53,651	2%
August	\$ 401,355	\$ 413,042					
September	\$ 382,861	\$ 398,944					
October	\$ 362,112	\$ 353,551					
November	\$ 319,569	\$ 372,891					
December	\$ 373,281	\$ 325,058					
Total	\$ 4,338,838	\$ 4,586,555	\$ 2,776,720	\$ 53,651	2%		

**Use Tax Revenue
General, Capital, and Transportation Funds**

Month Received	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	Year-over-Year Change		Cumulative Change	
January	\$ 42,618	\$ 62,969	\$ 73,309	\$ 10,340	16%	\$ 10,340	16%
February	\$ 79,843	\$ 128,377	\$ 63,518	\$ (64,859)	-51%	\$ (54,519)	-28%
March	\$ 42,959	\$ 64,057	\$ 91,116	\$ 27,059	42%	\$ (27,460)	-11%
April	\$ 67,572	\$ 90,221	\$ 96,381	\$ 6,160	7%	\$ (21,300)	-6%
May	\$ 65,031	\$ 73,936	\$ 84,277	\$ 10,341	14%	\$ (10,959)	-3%
June	\$ 45,764	\$ 72,050	\$ 78,397	\$ 6,347	9%	\$ (4,612)	-1%
July	\$ 77,479	\$ 54,649	\$ 66,590	\$ 11,941	22%	\$ 7,329	1%
August	\$ 122,666	\$ 88,043					
September	\$ 67,921	\$ 55,732					
October	\$ 70,355	\$ 75,150					
November	\$ 82,713	\$ 75,283					
December	\$ 87,829	\$ 73,841					
Total	\$ 852,749	\$ 914,308	\$ 553,588	\$ 7,329	1%		

