



2020  **YEAR IN
REVIEW**

The 2020 Year in Review for the City of Douglas looks at the many projects, initiatives, and partnerships from the past year. These accomplishments are listed in the categories established through the Mayor and City Council Strategic Plan 5 key initiatives of Expanded Collaboration, Enhanced Community Communication, Promote Douglas, Strengthen Trade & Commerce, and Advance Infrastructure Development & Improvement.

Expanded Collaboration

Definition: Leveraging partnerships and connections between all levels of government, residents, corporate, educational, and non-profit partners, outside agencies, and binational relationships.

Actions

- In partnership with the Borderlands Restoration Network, the city completed the Native Plant Patio Project
- City officials participated in the Economic & Appropriation Roundtable held by Congresswoman Kirkpatrick's office
- Library Staff participated in Love of Reading Week at Liberty Traditional School
- City staff helped install a new roof and interior lights at the Douglas Art Gallery
- Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) staff worked with Mexican public work officials to prevent future effluent water from backing up into our plant
- GSA/EPA funded a downtown revitalization study for Douglas in anticipation of the changes that the new port of entry may bring to the City
- City officials met with Senator Mark Kelly to discuss funding the new Port of Entry
- Collaborated with APS for a City-owned site remediation project south of 3rd Street and Chiricahua
- Collaborated with Center for Academic Success to sell them land on 3rd Street and B Ave to expand their school
- Renewed and expanded Intergovernmental Agreement with Cochise College to transport students to Douglas Cochise College and SV Cochise College

Enhanced Community Communication

Definition: Expanding participation of Citizens in governing and decision making

Actions

- Census fliers were distributed with event/meeting information happening around the City
- City Council Reports (CCRs) for equal communication to all City Councilmembers have continued; 23 CCRs were posted to the city website for public view
- Sent out 28 press releases to the media and public for open communication
- Established COVID-19 sanitation and safety protocols for all City Facilities. Kept public meetings open to the public, live-streamed and added telephonic call option to the public

Promote Douglas

Definition: Brand Douglas in such a way as to encourage lifestyle events and activities, increase tourism, etc.

Actions

- The City of Douglas Recreation Division launched Fun Fridays for our youth
- The project for resurfacing the Aquatic Center's baby pool was completed
- The City of Douglas was featured in the Business View's May 2020 edition
- The Arizona State Library awarded the Douglas Public Library a grant to further the community's health and wellness goals through "Cooking With STEAM"
- The Leisure Services department hosted their first Drive-In Movie
- The City of Douglas partnered with Agua Prieta to publish a magazine "Apson" to promote regional economic development opportunities
- An outdoor inflatable movie screen was purchased through grant funding provided by the IDA
- The City Manager attended the Rate Review Advisory and CCTEC meeting, gathering information to advance tourism efforts in our community

Strengthen Trade & Commerce

Definition: To promote a business climate that brings revenue stability and growth

Actions

- In partnership with the Douglas Realtor's Group, La Familia was able to receive a new paint job through the City's façade improvement program
- City officials held various stakeholder meetings for the commercial Port of Entry
- Obtained a grant from the Arizona Department of Administration to repair the call center's back up power supply
- 41 new businesses opened this year and 658 business licenses were renewed

Advance Infrastructure

Development & Improvement

Definition: Planning and development of existing and future assets which will benefit the community over time

Actions

- Installed a new heater for Aquatic Center Therapy Pool
- Completed reconfigured angled parking in Downtown north of 10th Street
- Bay Acres sewer connection project started connecting 350 units
- Hotel feasibility study was commissioned and completed
- The Automated Meter Infrastructure (AMI) project was completed (6,000+ meters were installed)
- A Diplomatic Note (U.S. President to Mexican President) was delivered, indicating the long-term solution requires the construction of a second port of entry for commercial traffic at the James Ranch Road site

- City was awarded \$172,679 in grant funding through a Community Development Block Grant CDBG, for FY20 projects for improvements at the Aquatic Center that included a new pool pump, dehumidifier and new LED basketball court lights
- The basketball court located at the Veteran's Memorial Park (8th St.) was resurfaced
- Work on a Water and Sewer Infrastructure Masterplan for new port was started in partnership with Cochise County
- Finished the expansion of the Wastewater Treatment Plant from 2.0MGD to 2.6MGD
- Purchased new Fire Engine and Ladder Tender

The City of Douglas is committed to enhance quality of life and economic growth in the community by providing the finest municipal services through excellent customer service, consistent practices, and support of partnerships.

In doing so, city employees are:

- Valued
- Innovative
- Empowered
- Well-trained

2020 Year
IN REVIEW

