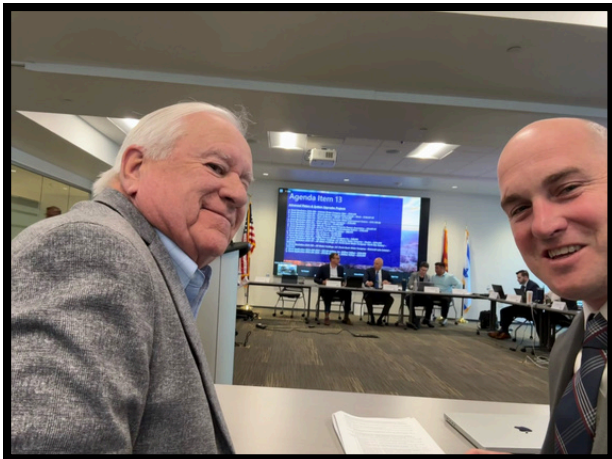


NOTABLE ITEMS:

- Water Infrastructure Finance Authority Grant

- **Smart Irrigation Systems at City Parks and Meter Replacement to Water Users (\$3,200,000)** – The existing sprinkler irrigation systems at Keiller, Quail, and Railroad Parks are over 20 years old and inefficient in conserving water. Staff have manually turned on and off park sprinkler systems for the last five years. This often results in parks being overwatered and flooded. Smart irrigation technology uses weather data or soil moisture data to determine the irrigation needs of the parks. A smart sprinkler system will be able to be remotely monitored by staff and will ensure overwatering does not occur. New smart meters will monitor and notify staff of any line breaks and water leaks to help the city improve its water conservation. The Water Conservation Grant Fund Committee voted unanimously in support of the \$3.2 Million project. The WIFA Board has approved the funding.



- **Repaving of Haskell Avenue and Rex Allen Drive**

- The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), which owns and maintains Haskell Avenue and Rex Allen Drive, replaced concrete aprons and sidewalks in November 2023. The concrete aprons allow water to drain correctly and preserve roadways as vehicles turn. ADOT has completed paving Haskell Avenue and Rex Allen Drive within city limits. In March ADOT paved Haskell Avenue to both exits in FY 2024-2025.



- **Earth Day Community Clean-Up**

- In celebration of Earth Day, the city organized a community clean-up with the support of numerous local sponsors and partners. We extend our thanks to Southwest Disposal, Valley Telecom, McDonald's, Dos Cabezas Coffee Co., Desert Brew, Sierra Lumber, Ace Hardware, Cochise County, and the Willcox Middle School for their contributions in cleaning up our city.



- **Upcoming City Manager Podcast**

- I recently participated in a podcast hosted by Valley Telecom, discussing the inner workings of the city, our progress, and future initiatives. Details on when and where to listen are forthcoming.



- **Dog Park Progress**

- The new dog park is nearing completion, featuring a new water feature and freshly laid red gravel. The final addition will be the installation of dog play structures.



- **Scott St. Construction Progress**

- Rockhouse construction has quickly and efficiently completed their portion of the construction on Scott St. which included widening the street from one to two lanes, new curbs, new sidewalk, new alley and driveway approaches. The city will be completing the project with a chip seal in the next few weeks. The city would like to thank SEAGO, ADOH, and Rockhouse construction for all of their assistance on this project.



- **City Hosts Brownsfield's Workshop**

- The city recently hosted a Brownsfield workshop, which saw great attendance and received numerous positive comments about Willcox. This engagement highlights our community's commitment to sustainable development and environmental health.



- **New Signage for Twin Lakes Golf Course & Birding/Wildlife Area**

- The city has installed new signage at the Twin Lakes Golf Course and Birding/Wildlife Area to improve navigation and enhance visuals for the visitor and residential experience.



- **Workout Equipment at Keiller Park**

- New workout equipment has been installed at Keiller Park, funded by a recent grant. This upgrade will enhance our community's fitness facilities.



- **Sulphur Springs Water Alliance**

- In 2023, the Babbitt Center along with Arizona State University's Water Innovation Initiative and Lincoln Institute's Consortium for Scenario Planning, brought together farmers, ranchers, residents, city and county officials, and business leaders from the Sulphur Springs Valley to find common ground on water issues facing our region. Councilmember Bowlby, Michael Resare and myself attended the workshop in Elfrida to represent the interests of the Willcox community. The diverse group is continuing to work together today to preserve our local water supply in the Willcox Basin as the Sulphur Springs Water Alliance. A video was made of the process and can be watched at:
 - <https://www.lincolnst.edu/publications/multimedia/agriculture-water-in-west-community-takes-charge>

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

- **Willcox Wine Festival** - May 17th-19th
 - VisitWillcox.az.gov/willcox-wine-country-spring-festival/
- **Rex Allen Museum Car Show** - May 25th
 - VisitWillcox.az.gov/rex-allen-museum-car-show/
- **Lavender Festival** - June 10th
 - VisitWillcox.az.gov/lavender-festival/

QUESTIONS FROM COUNCIL:

- **Councilmember Garza asked if the Dos Cabezas is on, or can be added to the transit route.**
 - In order for our service area to be expanded, a feasibility study is required to be completed by SEAGO and approved by ADOT/FTA. This grant cycle has already been submitted. During the budgeting process, if Council desires, staff can evaluate expanding the service area and preparing for the next feasibility study





GENERAL INFORMATION

April 2024

- **Councilmember Garza asked for clarification on whether we would get funding if approved or rejected on adding the Benson route.**
 - The application would not have been rejected by ADOT if the Council voted to submit the grant application without service to Benson.
- **Councilmember Garza asked for clarification on the Chamber of Commerce participating in ribbon cuttings.**
 - When a new business applies for a permit with the City of Willcox, staff asks the business if they would like a ribbon cutting with the Mayor, City Council, Willcox Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture, and community. If the business would like the city to host a ribbon cutting, staff notifies the Mayor, City Council, Willcox Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture, and community and assists in developing an agenda. Please see attached files for detailed process and application information.
- **Councilmember Garza would like to know if the splash pad is delayed as well as the pool.**
 - The splash pad uses the same filtration system as the pool. The pool will need to be complete for the splash pad to work.
- **Councilmember Garza would like to know about vehicles parking against traffic on our roads.**
 - It is illegal to park against the flow of traffic.
- **Councilmember Garza would like an update on the cemetery. We haven't removed the grassy area.**
 - City staff have been actively completing other projects and plan to address the cemetery this year.
- **Councilmember Hestand wants to know how much people can bring back on the transit bus.**
 - Passengers are generally allowed Five(5) grocery store type bags or two(2) large shopping bags person, though if they are able to carry them on their own, exceptions can be made to allow a few more bags.



GENERAL INFORMATION

April 2024

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND AGENDA ITEMS:

- May 16 - Budget Conversations
 - Variance
 - CFO Designee Resolution
 - Presentation to Cheryl Moss
 - Approval of WIFA Grant
 - Award of Bus Barn
- June 6 - Budget Meetings
- June 20 - Budget Meetings

Willcox City Manager, Caleb Blaschke

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Blaschke".