

May 2026

Caretaker REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS



69
Professionals



Admin 3	Planning & Design 10	Environmental Compliance 4	Facilities 4	Operations 35	Fleet 13
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Public Works Planner Daniel Colter utilizes a drone to check construction progress for River Street Park, Phase 2. (11 May)

**PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
ANDY SOUZA**



(270) 393-3657 ANDY.SOUZA@BGKY.ORG

Available on our website
www.bgky.org/publicworks



(Top) **National Public Works Week** was observed from May 17 to 23, 2026. Members of the American Public Works Association from across the Commonwealth gathered to attend a proclamation issued by Governor Beshear on May 14 in Frankfort. Representing Bowling Green were Lizette Garcia, Farah Wallace, and Ryan Johnson (from left to right). [Click here](#) to read more. (Bottom) Mayor Alcott and Commissioner Parrigin present the city's proclamation to the Public Works Staff. Benito, the Public Works mascot, was also present, with Tommy the Turtle. (18 May)





Operations

Ryan Johnson, Manager
(270) 393-3204

Street Maintenance * Sidewalks * Signals * Signs * Plowing * Road Closures
Leaf Pick-up * Dead Animal Removal * Curb Painting * ROW Trimming * Storm Drains

Summary: Operations completed **89 work orders** in May. Operations repaired/installed **0** traffic signals and **52** signs. **0** injection well was drilled. There were **.48 miles** of added maintenance from subdivision acceptance this year (1.96 miles in 2025, 6.53 miles in 2024). **Curb painting continued this month. Curbs are painted every 3-years.**

May 2026



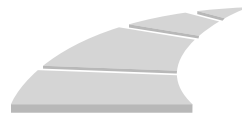
Potholes
Repaired

14



Street
Sweeping
Hours/Miles

108/190



L/ft
Sidewalks
Repaired

35



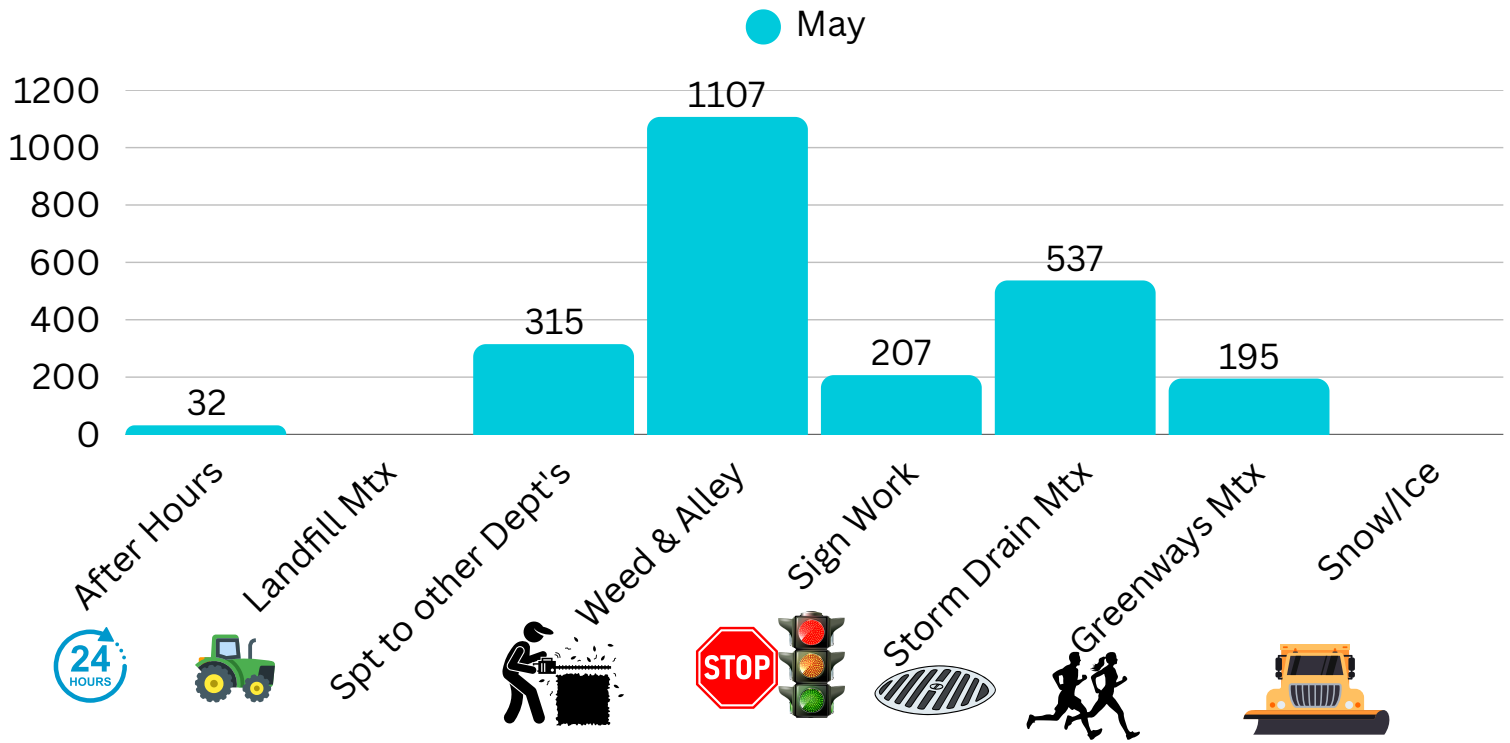
Tons of
Asphalt Used

1.4



The operations crew addressed tripping hazards near **East 6th Avenue and Chestnut Street** (May 28).

Operations Hours



Operations crews began repairs on a sinkhole on [Yulan Circle](#), adjacent to Plano Road. The team utilized hydroexcavation techniques to identify utilities in the affected area (refer to the inset in the photo on the right). Following the identification of these utilities, the necessary repairs were initiated. The city is equipped to manage smaller sinkhole repairs internally, while larger repairs necessitate the engagement of a contractor. This work was conducted from May 11 to May 13.

Sculpture in the park support

1



September 2025

2



December 2025

3



February 2026

4



May 2026



20-FOOT DOUBLE ARM POLE	14-FOOT SINGLE ARM POLE
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HEIGHT: 20 Feet LIGHTS: 2 LED Fixtures (Double Arm) POWER: Solar-Powered with Battery Backup IDEAL FOR: Roadways & Greenways, Water Coverage 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HEIGHT: 14 Feet LIGHTS: 1 LED Fixture (Single Arm) POWER: Solar-Powered with Battery Backup IDEAL FOR: Pedestrian Pathways, Smaller Areas, Cost-Effective
COST: \$3,610 per pole	COST: \$2,745 per pole

During the week of May 11, Operations crews successfully installed 11 solar lights along two segments of city greenways. Double-arm, 20-foot pole lights were positioned along **Cemetery Road**, while single-arm, 14-foot pole lights were set up along **Atlanta Way**. This year's budget allocated a total of 35 lights, with plans for additional installations along Cemetery Road and near **Sandra Street**, behind WalMart.



Planning & Design

Melissa Cansler, City Engineer
(270) 393-3212

Plat Reviews * CDR Reviews * Surveyor
Subdivision Inspections * Traffic Planning
Capital Improvement Programs

Plats Reviewed	Site Inspections	ROW Permits	CDR Reviews
5	68 Initial 251 Reinspections	7	23

ROW- Right of Way work. <https://www.bgky.org/publicworks/right-of-way>

CDR- Comprehensive Development Review. <https://www.warrenpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CDR-QA.pdf>

Sidewalk Repair/ADA Upgrades

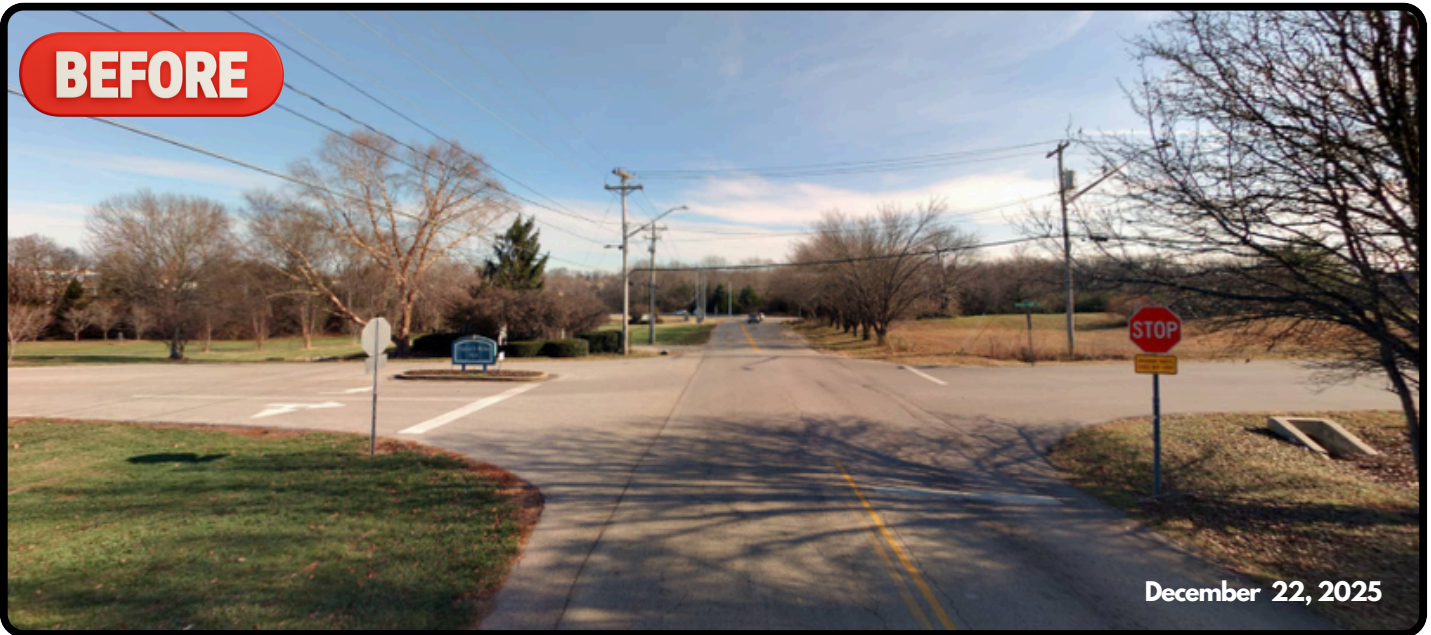
Public Works is committed to improving the walkability and accessibility in our rights-of-way (ROW). With every capital improvement project we are checking that sidewalks, driveways, and intersections comply with the latest Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Additionally we commit funds annually to evaluate existing facilities within ROW and eliminate barriers to access for people with disabilities. One example is the City's Sidewalk Rehabilitation Program. Additionally, with our annual overlay (paving) contract we replace all adjacent handicap ramps as needed to meet standards. Grants and other funding opportunities often become available throughout the year to allow the City to address more needs. Below is work that is being completed by Baker Contracting along **Center Street** to address some ADA issues along the sidewalk behind the former Post Office and BG Towers.





Planning & Design

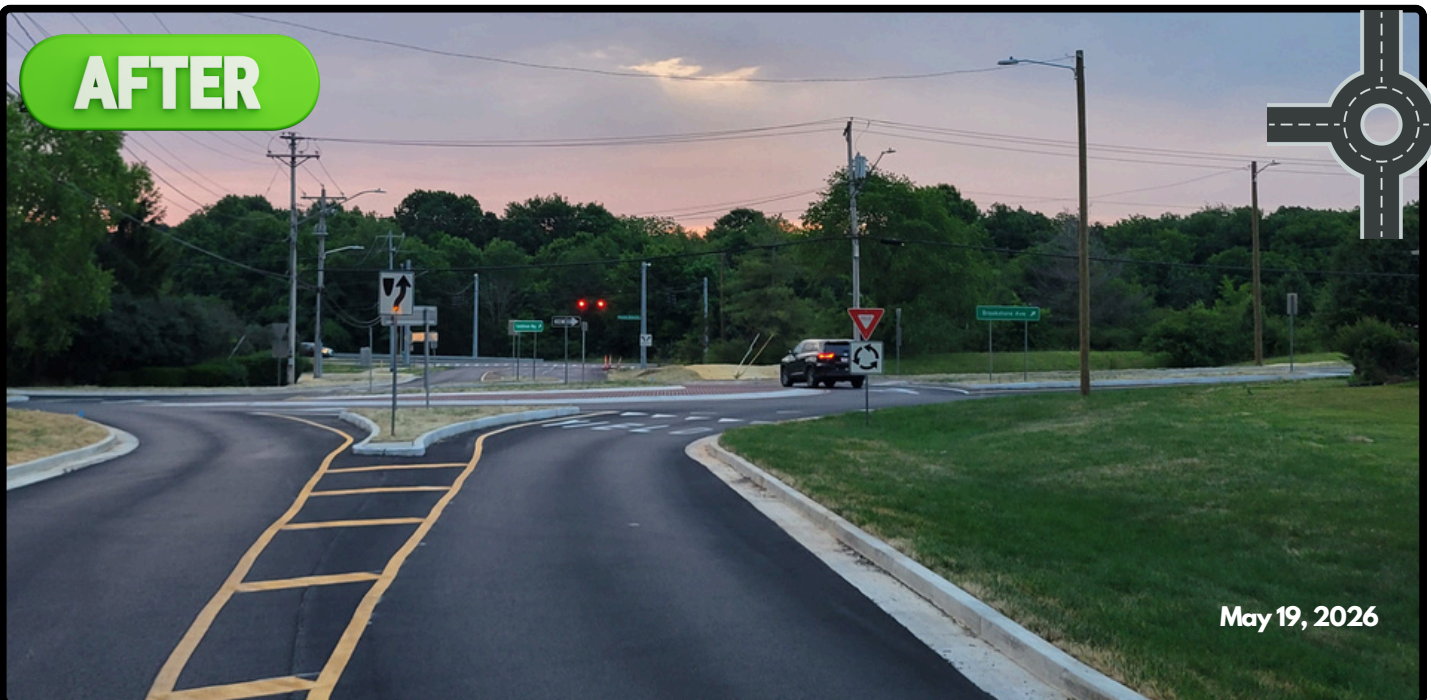
BEFORE



December 22, 2025

The Tomblinson Way Roundabout construction is nearing completion. This single-lane roundabout will replace a 3-way stop-controlled intersection that provides access to the Whispering Hills Neighborhood, Deer Park Estates, and Preston Miller Park/Russell Sims Aquatic Center, among other connecting neighborhoods. The new configuration will provide safer and more efficient traffic control and ultimately showcase a new entry sign into the park.

AFTER



May 19, 2026



Road Overlay



As part of this year's road overlay contract, improvements were planned for 94 roadway segments. The final work was completed during the week of May 18, with 71 segments receiving repaving that included asphalt overlay and the installation of ADA-compliant ramps. Additionally, the final phase involved new pavement markings, such as stop bars and crosswalks. Due to rising construction and material costs, just over 9 miles of roadway were ultimately replaced. This program is financed through an annual allocation of \$2 million, comprising \$1 million from the General Fund and \$1 million from liquid fuel tax revenues. Missed sections will be assessed for next year's plan.





Environmental Compliance

Geologist * Sinkholes * Spills * Education * Water Sampling
Matt Powell, Manager
(270) 393-3071



(Left) In preparation for an upcoming stormwater rehabilitation project on Chestnut Street, crews are conducting potholing to accurately determine the location and depth of existing utilities. This proactive measure aims to mitigate risks and prevent unforeseen costs during construction. Environmental Manager Matt Powell discusses the discrepancies observed in the field compared to the blueprints. (5 May)

(Right) During this year's International Erosion Control Association MS4 Conference in Savannah, Georgia, our team was honored with the 2026 Innovation Project of the Year award for the Glen Lily Landfill Outdoor Classroom. (4-6 May) To learn more about the IECA [click here](#).





Sinkhole Repair



The sinkhole located on **Cambridge Drive** and **Grinstead Way** was completed in May. During heavy rains on 26 May, the drainage was working as designed.



Stormsewer Inspection

On May 15, members of the Environmental Team inspected the storm sewer system beneath Chestnut Street to verify infrastructure records and assess current conditions ahead of upcoming repair work.

WHAT ARE THOSE RED WORMS IN THE STORM SEWER?

Those little red, thread-like creatures are most likely *Tubifex tubifex*, commonly called sewer worms or sludge worms.

They live in nutrient-rich, low-oxygen environments where organic matter settles and breaks down.

Thin, red, and up to 1-2 cm long with a blood-like color from hemoglobin that helps them survive in low oxygen.



WHY DO THEY SHOW UP?

Sewer worms are an **indicator species**. Their presence usually means conditions are ideal for them, not necessarily harmful to people.

- Standing or slow-moving water & sediment buildup
- Low oxygen conditions
- High organic matter/nutrient levels
- Illicit sanitary discharges or nutrient sources
- Stagnant areas or poor flow conditions

During the inspection, crews observed Tubifex worms – small red organisms commonly found in low-oxygen, nutrient-rich environments. While generally harmless, their presence can indicate standing water or sediment buildup within the system. The accompanying graphic explains more about these organisms and why they appear in BG's stormwater infrastructure.

WHAT DO THEY DO?

- Help break down organic matter by recycling nutrients.
- A natural part of the food web for small aquatic insects and fish.
- Generally NOT harmful to people or pets.

They are more of a signal of a system issue than a direct health risk.

WHY IT MATTERS

- Can indicate pollution, illicit discharges, or maintenance issues.
- Can clog filters, screens, and equipment.
- May cause odors and public complaints.
- Large numbers signal sediment and nutrient problems in the system.

WHERE YOU MIGHT FIND THEM



Commonly found in storm sewer pipes, catch basins, sumps, and other low-flow or stagnant areas.

WHAT CAN HELP?

- CLEAN IT OUT**
Remove accumulated sediment and organic sludge through regular cleaning (vacuum/flush).
- IMPROVE FLOW**
Ensure proper drainage and eliminate stagnant conditions.
- FIND & FIX SOURCES**
Identify and remove illicit discharges, sanitary leaks, or cross-connections.
- KEEP IT CLEAN**
Prevent leaves, debris, and trash from entering storm drains.
- MONITOR**
Regular inspections help catch issues early and keep systems healthy.

GOOD TO KNOW

Seeing red worms means your system is telling you something. Addressing the cause helps the environment, promotes better water quality, and reduces odors and complaints.

Healthy drains. Healthy streams. Healthy community.
Keep our storm sewer systems clean, clear, and flowing.



Environmental Compliance

MEET OUR INTERNS!



Davonne Souza

Hometown:

Cheyenne, WY
(but Bowling Green is HOME ❤️)



FUN STUFF

- 🍕 **Favorite Food:** Pizza, tacos... and healthy food too (except tofu...not that!)
- 🎵 **Favorite Music:** 80's pop
- 🎬 **Favorite Movie/Show:** *Sweet Home Alabama*, *The Big Bang Theory*, *The Office*, and psychological thrillers with a twist
- ☕ **Coffee Order:** 7 Brew – Medium, sugar free, light ice (Cookie Butter, German Chocolate, or Blondie)
- 🐕 **Pets:** Max and Charlie – “Lab” mix rescues from the Humane Society
- 🥚 **Hobby:** Pysanky eggs



THIS OR THAT

- 🌙 **Morning Person / Night Owl:** Mostly a night owl
- ⛰️ **Mountains / Beach:** Beach
- 🍟 **Fries / Pizza:** Pizza
- 📅 **Planner / 🎲 Go With the Flow:** Both – equally comfortable with either
- 🎧 **Music / 📻 Podcasts:** Books on tape – Vampires, Werewolves, Fairies...Oh My! No boring non-fiction for me.



FUN FACTS

- 😬 **A random fact about me:** I can't stand bananas. I don't like the taste, texture or smell.
- 🌍 **Something people may not know:** I've never been divorced, but married twice to the same man.
- 🏆 **Biggest accomplishment:** I have two sons who are both thriving adults and all around awesome people (their dad gets credit too!).



Avery Smith

🎓 **School / Major:**
WKU / Environmental, Sustainability, and Geographic Studies

📅 **Graduation Year:** December 2026

📍 **Hometown:** Bowling Green



FUN STUFF

- 🍣 **Favorite Food:** Sushi
- 🎵 **Favorite Music:** Radiohead
- 🎬 **Favorite Movie/Show:** *Pride & Prejudice*
- ☕ **Coffee Order:** Hot latte with vanilla
- 🐱 **Pets:** One cat named Winston
- 🏃 **Hobbies:** Hiking, arts and crafts, and running



THIS OR THAT

- 🌙 **Morning Person / Night Owl:** Night owl
- ⛰️ **Mountains / Beach:** Beach
- 🍟 **Fries / Pizza:** Pizza
- 📅 **Planner / 🎲 Go With the Flow:** Go with the flow
- 🎧 **Music / 📻 Podcasts:** Music



WHY I'M HERE

- 💡 **Why I chose this internship:**
I get to help out my community while gaining job experience
- ✍️ **What I hope to learn:**
How environmental work functions at a local government level
- 🚀 **Career goals:**
Working in the environmental field at the local/federal level



FUN FACTS

- 😬 **A random fact about me:** I can't touch my toes
- 🌍 **Something people may not know:** I was homeschooled until high school
- 🏆 **Biggest accomplishment:** Kayaking four miles against the current while fighting with my sister



FACILITIES

WORK ORDER REPORT

SAFE FACILITIES. EFFICIENT OPERATIONS. STRONG COMMUNITY.



1945	PW Admin		1			4	
1992	PW Ops	1				3	
1992	PW Fleet	1	2	1	2	2	
1907	City Hall	1	3	1		2	
1946	CH Annex	3	6				
1974	NCS			2			
1997	BGPD	3	2	1		2	
2009	Fire HQ		2			2	
1980	Fire #1	2	2			1	Spiders
1980	Fire #2		2				
2001	Fire #3					1	

FACILITIES
WORK ORDER REPORT
SAFE FACILITIES. EFFICIENT OPERATIONS. STRONG COMMUNITY.



PLUMBING



HVAC



ELECTRICAL



CARPENTRY



CLEANING



OTHER

2001	Fire #4		3	3		3	
2025	Fire #5	1		1	2	2	
2008	Fire #6			1	1		
2020	Fire #7	1	3			2	 Wasps
2024	Fire #8					3	
1995	Convention Ctr		4				
1872	Hobson House					1	
1930	White House		3		2	3	
1987	Transit Bldg					1	
1987	US Bank Bldg	1	4		5	4	
	BGPD Tower Spt						



Fleet

Denise Gilland, Manager
(270) 393-3201



**Heavy Duty Truck * Light Duty Trucks & Cars * Police
Fire * ASE Certified Mechanics * Enterprise Fleet Management**

- Fleet has selected 50 Enterprise lease vehicles to transition to the Fleet Division for maintenance instead of the Enterprise program beginning July 1st. This change will result in a significant annual cost savings.
- A purchase order for Unit 4137 (2019 International Tandem Dump Truck with Public Works) for engine repairs and fuel pump in the amount of \$5,747.60 was approved on 11 May.
- A purchase order for Unit 8111 (2022 F-350 with Parks and Recreation) for deer strike repairs in the amount of \$4,083.97 was approved on 14 May.
- A purchase order for Unit 3348 for cab repairs in the amount of \$7737.70 was approved on 26 May.

May 2026



Filled

Preventative

Repair

Parts Requests

Work Orders

Work Orders

158

52

100



Master Automotive Technician Trevor Noble successfully installs a new camera system on a BYPD Durango. The installation and synchronization of the automatic recording triggers require a total of 12 hours. (11 May)



Fleet

Denise Gilland, Manager
(270) 393-3201



Emergency Vehicle Technician Josh Johnson replaces the radiator on a fire department aerial apparatus. Routine maintenance is essential for maintaining the overall health of the fleet. The cost of the radiator was \$3,700. (19 May 2026)



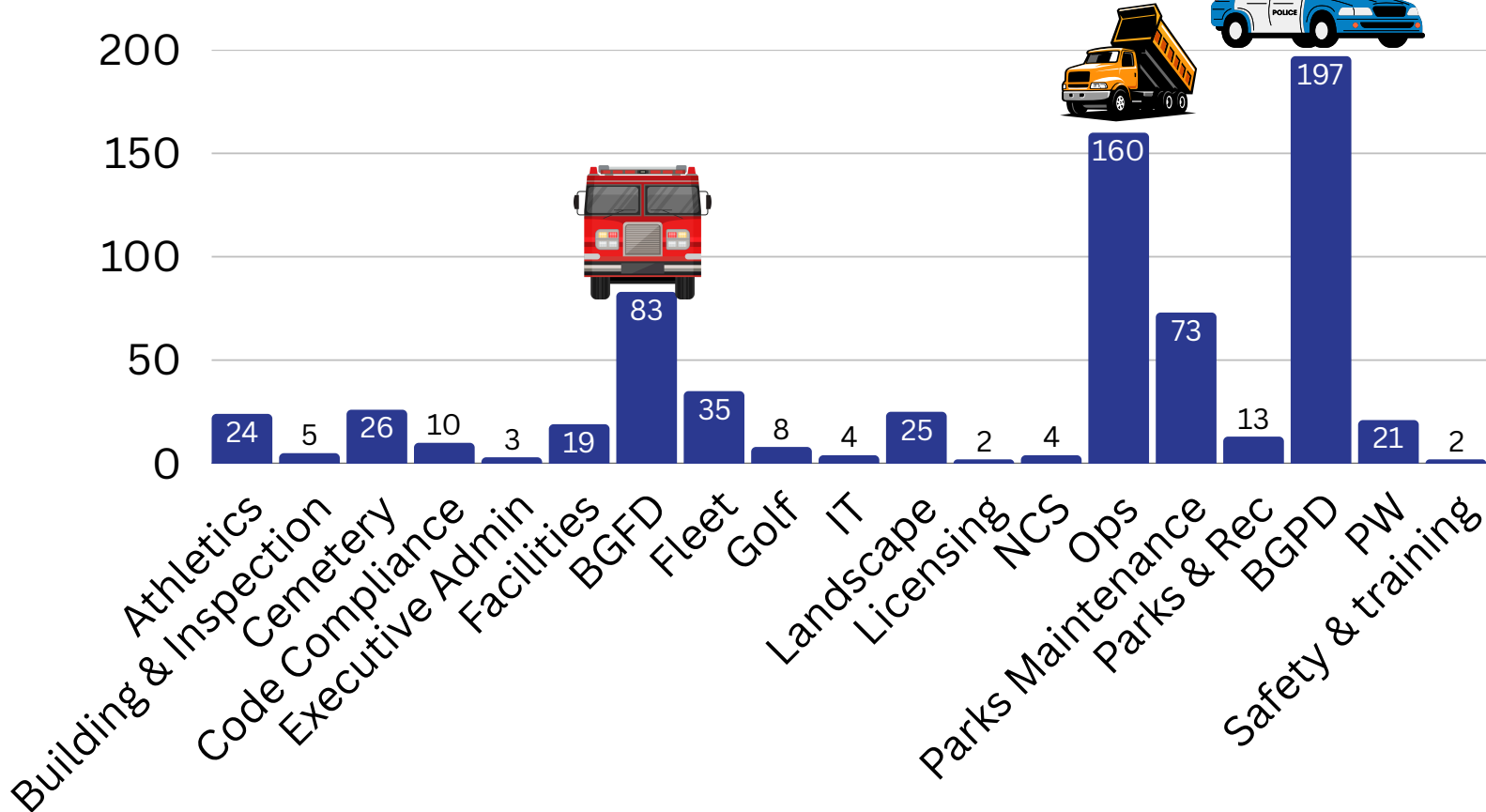
Fleet

Denise Gilland, Manager
(270) 393-3201



732

● Vehicles/Equipment *



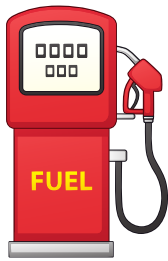
• Not shown- BG community Center (2) and City Transit (29)

CITY FLEET USAGE

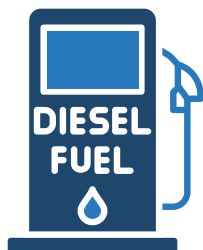


APRIL 2026

Last Month



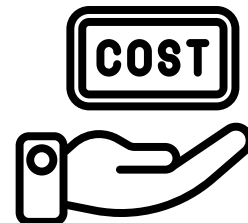
17K
Gallons



3.8K
Gallons



176
Gallons



\$68,698



Administration

Andy Souza, Director
(270) 393-3657

<p>New Hire</p>	<p>Operations Division</p>	<p>Municipal Order approving the probationary appointment of Joshua Phelps to the position of Operations Maintenance Technician I in the Public Works Department on 19 May 2026.</p>
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2026 Almanac



2025 Annual Report