








October 2017 Edition



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Employee Spotlight

The City of Hobbs is constantly directing ongoing large scale projects throughout our community. Whether it is working to extend the life of the aquifer our community relies on or designing and constructing the CORE, Anthony Henry pushes to make them a success! As Senior Staff Engineer, Anthony holds many responsibilities to ensure these projects run smoothly. He works in conjunction with both the Engineering and Utilities Departments, as well as many other departments and organizations, to achieve their goals, describing his work as support to various City of Hobbs Capital Projects. Anthony is a proud graduate from Hobbs High and New Mexico State University. It has been our honor to have him as a City of Hobbs employee since 2009.

When asked what his favorite part of being a member of the City of Hobbs is, Anthony replied **"being a part of improving my community."** His proudest moment is "being a part of a community where our leaders can come together through multiple partnerships to create a beautiful project like the CORE!" This type of motivation nourishes great employees and navigates them through daily challenges and obstacles they must



overcome. Never shying away from solving a problem or finding an answer that is not apparent at first, Anthony was nominated as this month's "Employee Spotlight" by his supervisor and Head City Engineer

Todd Randall. In Todd's own words, "Anthony has a relentless commitment and work ethic to our organization and is a solutionist to everyday challenges. The impact Anthony has on our organization and community is best described by his admirable traits: **integrity, discipline and servant leadership.**"

With both his parents holding experience as public servants, Anthony also cherishes a large amount of respect for firefighters. His father is a retired firefighter from Hobbs Fire Department, and

thankfully Anthony is able to work on projects that supply these members with the resources to perform their jobs at the best possible level. At times, Anthony finds guidance in his favorite quote from Michael Jordan: **"Obstacles don't have to stop you. If you run into a wall, don't turn around and give up, figure out how to climb it, go through it or work around it."** We appreciate you Anthony and look forward to future accomplishments you are sure to reach!



Upcoming Events



October 6 - National Domestic Violence Day

October 7 - Community Clean-Up

October 8-14 - Fire Prevention Week

October 16 - City Commission Meeting at 6 p.m.

October 28 - City Halloween Carnival from 12–5 pm at Lea County Event Center

October 31 - Safe Stops—Visit us at City Hall during Safe Stops for some treats and oooley-gooley fun!



MVD'S Busiest Hours and Days, Plus Tips Before You Make the Trip!

If you did not know, the MVD is a department of the State of New Mexico and subject to policies and procedures applied by the State, not the City of Hobbs. This means that your local Hobbs MVD office follows statewide laws without exception, which can be a little complicated for customers sometimes, but we want to help with that.

If you dread going to the Motor Vehicle Department due to long wait times or because you're never quite sure what documents to bring, boy do we have some tips for you! First, here is a compilation of the shortest and longest wait times so you know when and when not to make your visit.

Shortest Wait Time:

Before lunch time! Usually this is before noon. If you go during lunch, you'll be surrounded by several others who are going during their lunch.

The middle of the week, Tuesday-Thursday tend to have the lowest traffic of all days.

The middle of the month.

Longest Wait Time:

During lunch hour, typically noon until around 2 p.m.

On Monday and Friday.

During the first or last week of the month.

On the day just before or after a holiday.

Tips for a smooth visit:

Always bring your driver license or State-issued identification card. We suggest that you check the website for any documents you may need prior to your visit so that you are more prepared. You can do this by visiting New Mexico MVD's website or by giving your local MVD office a call. You can also complete many tasks online, so make sure you check the website for that accessibility, as well! For example you can renew vehicle registration, update insurance information, pay balances, tickets, and citations, and much more! Know which holidays are observed by the MVD (New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas).

We hope you're able to apply this advice to your next visit and find that it helps! For more information or assistance, visit <http://www.mvd.newmexico.gov/> or call (575)397-9213.



Fire Prevention Week: October 8-14

This year, Fire Prevention Week is October 8-14. During this time, Hobbs firefighters will be presenting to elementary students at schools within the Hobbs Municipal Schools District the subject of fire safety for their homes and families. This education has helped to save lives of family members in the past because the child knew what to do to keep their family safe.



Half of home fire deaths happen while the occupants are asleep in the night. For the best protection, protect yourselves by installing smoke alarms in your home and regularly changing the batteries every 6 months. Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home, including the basement. For more tips, follow the Hobbs Fire Department's Facebook page!



Let Hobbs Express Pick You Up!

It is the mission of Hobbs Express to deliver safe, dependable and affordable transportation services in a courteous and professional manner.

The Hobbs Express provides **two types of service, general public demand response transportation service and fixed route service**. The fixed route service is your typical public transportation service where the public transportation vehicles make regular stops at selected locations at the same time every day they are scheduled. The demand response service is a curb-to-curb transportation service from a pickup location to a drop-off location. To receive demand response service, the customer must make the request by calling Hobbs Express 24 hours before trip.

Their number is below. To see when the next Hobbs Express bus is making a stop by you or your place of business, reference the route map below.



Veterans ride free with Hobbs Express! Since November of 2016, Hobbs Express provides free public transportation service to all veterans on all bus routes, as well as for the demand response service. Upon boarding any of the fare-based routes, Veterans must present a Veterans ID photo badge or valid New Mexico driver's license with a Veteran's designation, and their fare will be waived. Hobbs Express is grateful for the service provided by all veterans and wishes to provide this service as a token of gratitude.

All Hobbs Express vehicles are ADA accessible, including wheelchair lifts and tie-downs. This vital program for the citizens of Hobbs is provided six days per week within the five mile addressing area for the City of Hobbs. Hobbs Express observes all state holidays. For more information or to schedule a pickup, call Hobbs Express at (575)397-9290. And remember to follow Hobbs Express on Facebook!

Voluntary Administrative Leave (VAL)

In 2015, the City of Hobbs came to the realization that organization and individuals within our community need more than what they were receiving from the limited resources they had. Volunteer numbers are down sometimes, and being an organization made of public servants we have many individuals with hearts for serving and volunteer work. Due to these needs, desires, and a common drive, Voluntary Administrative Leave was created in order to allow employees to give back to the philanthropic programs and activities of their choice.

The rundown:

VAL applies to all full-time, part-time exempt, and non-exempt team members. Seasonal and temporary team members are not eligible. Team members can donate up to 24 hours of labor per calendar year towards a charitable organization or Hobbs Public Schools.

- ◆ Must be approved by employees Department Head and City Manager
- ◆ Must submit “VAL Form” 3 weeks prior for scheduling purposes. This form will be returned to HR with a signature from a representative of the charitable organization attesting to the time volunteered.
- ◆ Requests can be denied due to staffing, ineligible charitable organizations, or that the service does not directly impact or benefit our community
- ◆ VAL may not be used for organizations that discriminate based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, age, disability, or any other federal, state or locally protected characteristic.
- ◆ VAL can be taken in 2 hour increments up to 12 hours in a day.
- ◆ VAL cannot be taken for volunteer time completed outside normally scheduled work hours
- ◆ VAL will be awarded on the first day of the first pay period each calendar year.
- ◆ VAL will expire on final day of last pay period of calendar year and will not carry through to the next year.
- ◆ VAL cannot be used to supplement any other type of leave including PTO
- ◆ VAL is nontransferable between team members
- ◆ VAL will not be considered “time worked” when determining overtime eligibility.
- ◆ Team members will record the time as VAL on their timesheets
- ◆ Team members wishing to volunteer to assist with programs not operated by the city must seek approval from HR Director
- ◆ Team members may not provide or use City tools while performing community service unless previously approved by the City.
- ◆ Team members may not accept any form of compensation while on VAL.



If a team member abuses the VAL program in any way, they will be subject to revocation of eligibility and disciplinary procedures. All of this information was taken directly from AR 15-01. Feel free to refer back to that for more detailed information.

Employees are encouraged to give back to a community that grows and thrives so much every day. It is only together that we are able to accomplish the milestones we have. Thank you to community members and organizations who give us the opportunities to go the extra mile!

Hobbs Public Library Introduces New Program

The Hobbs Public Library works diligently on bringing new innovative programs and activities to your local library. The most recently introduced program is "Got Science?!?" The Science Spectrum in Lubbock, TX staff will bring to the Library youth hands-on workshops like "Crazy Chemistry!", "Grossology", "Curious Case of CSI", "Dissect This!", and so much more!

In order to hold this program, the Friends of the Library and Library staff did what they do best—they got innovative! Public libraries have a plethora of amenities available to the public, but there is not always funding available for the add-on projects and programs they wish to bring to the public. Putting their knowledge to work, the Friends of the Library filled out the United Way grant application which is making funding for this program possible. The grant was created by a generous endowment by the late Mrs. Belle Solie. The United Way's mission focuses around 3 core beliefs, including education, income, and health. Obviously falling under the education category, the Friends of the Library detailed their goals with the Got Science?!? program as

"Helping children and youth achieve their potential. The Library is a wonderful after-school extension of the learning process. The target group of 4th through 8th graders has programming during the summer for this age group, but there is no specific program for them during the school year. The hope is that many youngsters in the Library

neighborhood will take advantage of this programming. Oftentimes, they do not have the resources to participate in other costly after-school

programs, such as sports, dance, music. The emphasis of this program will be to allow interested students to experience a wide variety of science

areas which may provide the impetus for their further interest in things scientific. The chosen topics will be intriguing to them, and the additional books and games, etc., will allow them to not only increase their own knowledge, but also to engage their families in the "wonderful world of science...." Providing learning

opportunities outside of the formal classroom setting reinforces not only the necessity of continual learning but also the pure joy and fun of learning—especially when there will be no tests! Any program or activity that increases the understanding of one's world—whether physical or intellectual—is worth the time and effort spent by both instructors and students.... The mission of the Friends is to provide additional resources and programming for the Library—dependent on the amount of money generated from membership fees and book sales. We also apply for relevant grants, such as this Belle Solie Focus grant."

The Hobbs Public Library is extremely grateful to the Friends of the Library for their commitment to continuously improve library services with their creativity, innovation, and involvement. It is due to their book sales and numerous other efforts they utilize to add onto this fantastic facility and its amazing staff.

The next program, "Grossology!" will be held on October 11th in the Hobbs Public Library meeting room. Space is limited, so reservations will need to be made for each child. Participants are to be in Grade 4 and up. Contact Tonya Allen at (575)397-9328 to reserve your spot or more information.



Hobbs Public Library



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This Month's Safety Tip

Many people know about the dangers of running internal-combustion engines indoors, but do you know of the other sources of carbon monoxide (CO), the early symptoms of CO poisoning or what one should do if poisoning does occur? These tips are useful in all fields of work and lifestyles.

1. Learn to recognize symptoms of CO poisoning.
 - The first symptom is usually a throbbing headache.
 - Continued exposure, or exposure to higher levels, may cause dizziness, confusion, nausea, fainting, and weakness.
 - Very high exposure can cause increased and irregular heartbeats, unconsciousness, and death.
2. Know what to do if poisoning occurs. You should:
 - Immediately move the victim to fresh air, call 911, warn everyone in the area that CO is present, and evacuate.
 - Administer 100% oxygen using a tight fitting mask if the victim is breathing.
 - Administer CPR if the victim has stopped breathing.
3. Shut down any equipment or processes that may be generating CO, and ventilate the area. It is possible for rescuers to be exposed to fatal levels of CO. Rescuers should be trained and skilled in performing recovery operations and using recovery equipment.

Remember, our best resources and assistants are each other. Look out for each other as well as yourself!

These tips and information were provided to you by the City of Hobbs Human Resources Department, with the original source being b21 Business Publications.



Do you have Facebook?

Be sure to look out for Our Week For You,
a week-in-review of the day-to-day work and efforts of the City of Hobbs municipal
government.

This publication is posted every Friday evening to our Facebook page at
facebook.com/cityofhobbsgovernment/