

CITY OF GONZALES

2024 SNAPSHOT



2024 flew by, but with so much going on in our little town, it's no wonder why the year seems like a blur. City staff worked hard all year to get our major projects underway. Making great advances, and wrapping up loose ends, while working alongside state and county partners to advance projects that will transform our community.

WE BROKE GROUND ON TWO MAJOR PROJECTS!

DENNIS AND JANICE CAPRARA COMMUNITY CENTER COMPLEX

This \$34 million dollar project is being funded through Measure X, private donations, grants and a USDA Loan. The center will bring in much-needed opportunities for our community. Phase I (under construction) includes a **Teen Innovation Center**, a **New County Library**, **Outdoor Amphitheatre**, **Meeting Rooms** and **Offices**. Staff is actively fundraising for Phase II, which includes the Community Hall, a Commercial Kitchen, and a Fitness Center. Phase I is set to be completed in **Dec. 2025** and will be open in early 2026!



MEET SPARTAN

Spartan was purchased earlier this year through the support of a grant. He has been instrumental in numerous cases. In his short time with us, he has assisted in capturing dangerous fugitives and has helped do away with the use of illegal fireworks.



INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

The **Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant** project will add much needed capacity to the City's wastewater system. The current facility is old and outdated and does not meet new Water Board standards. This new \$32 million dollar facility, funded through a State Revolving Fund Loan and grants, will add capacity to our system. It will allow us to meet the new regulations, continue to meet the City's current demand for wastewater, and add capacity for future projects.



EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Mrs. Julie Douglas was nominated by her peers as this year's employee of the year. Mrs. Douglas runs the City's Summer Camps and After School programs. She has worked for the City for 8 years, and with each passing year takes on more and more responsibilities. She is always willing to support the community and her colleagues. **Congratulations Mrs. Douglas on being the City's 2024 Employee of the Year!**



MEET OUR NEW TEAM MEMBERS

Three new members joined our team this year. Please help us make them feel welcome as you see them out and about.



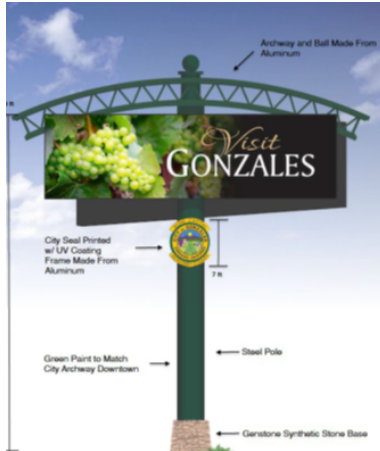
JEREMY LOPEZ

JASMIN GARCIA

MIKE MCCABE

DIGITAL BILLBOARD

The City Council approved the establishment of a digital billboard adjacent to Highway 101. This will be a great advertising and communication tool. It will also bring in some unrestricted revenue. We are excited to see its development.



PARTNERSHIPS

Through partnerships with the County Health Department, the Blue Zones Project, Alliance on Aging and Save the Whales, the City was able to offer more programming for seniors and youth this year, and establish a community garden.

Next year, we plan to continue bringing in programming for the community, including a mural and STEAM opportunities for our Kid Power students.



CITY SERVER UPGRADE

The City server upgrade has been completed. Replacing the network servers for the Police Station, City Hall and the Fire Station. This upgrade now allows for automation, which means you can now even establish reoccurring payments online.

GRANT FUNDING

The City received grant funding to purchase equipment that will help keep us all safe. The Office of Traffic Safety granted us funding to purchase state of the art "Jaws of Life". These tools will help us get to folks trapped in vehicle accidents much quicker. Unfortunately, staff has put them to use already, but we are glad that we have them available. We also received money for other traffic safety improvements including lighted stop signs and reflective pole sleeves as well as money for safety education.



The Department of Water Resources awarded us funding for an emergency texting system and other flood prevention equipment that we will use in case of an emergency.

GONZALES YOUTH COUNCIL (GYC)



The GYC continues with their civic engagement duties. They are actively involved in the development of the Community Center.

RINGING IN 2025...

- We will be celebrating the completion of Phase I of the Dennis and Janice Caprara Community Center Complex. This includes the Teen Innovation Center, the Library, the Outdoor Amphitheatre, a Meeting Room, Parking, and all the site work.
- We will continue to advance the construction of our Industrial Wastewater Plant project.
- We will be busy working to complete the annexation of the Vista Lucia housing project.
- And we will continue to be fiscally responsible and work to attract new revenue streams.