Stormwater Management

***Mission**: Protect people, property, and the environment by managing stormwater systems that reduce flood risks and support sustainable growth through ensuring adherence to development requirements, complying with stormwater regulations, and maintaining drainage systems in unincorporated areas to keep communities safe and resilient.*

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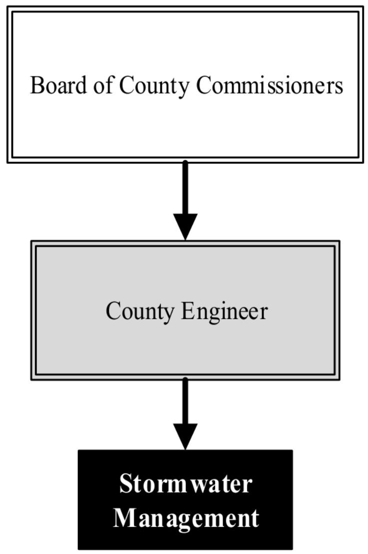
Overview

Stormwater Management reviews stormwater requirements for developments, provides planning and permitting services for capital improvement projects, and conducts and oversees long-term project planning of drainage enhancements in unincorporated Sedgwick County. Stream Maintenance, Flood Control, and Stormwater Engineering combine to prevent or minimize flood damage by shaping and clearing streambeds and managing drainage in the County's unincorporated areas.

Stormwater Management also partners with the City of Wichita to jointly fund maintenance of the M.S. "Mitch" Mitchell Floodway.



Strategic Goals:

- *Protect public infrastructure and improve stormwater quality, while minimizing flooding, property damage, and erosion through enforcement of local stormwater regulations and the maintenance of public drainage infrastructure*
- *Oversee joint funding with the City of Wichita to inspect, operate, and maintain the M.S. "Mitch" Mitchell Floodway in accordance with standards established by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)*

Highlights

- Removed tree and vegetation growth from 15 drainage structures throughout the County in 2025
- Designed and coordinated the construction of four large crossroad culverts that required replacement on County and Township roads
- Began working on a major streambank stabilization project along the Cowskin Creek at the South Hoover Road bridge
- Posted six updated stormwater educational topics on the County's social media

Accomplishments and Strategic Results

Accomplishments

The Stormwater Management Department provides annual joint funding with the City of Wichita to ensure upkeep and maintenance of the Wichita-Valley Center Flood Control project, also known as the M.S. "Mitch" Mitchell Floodway or the "Big Ditch", to meet Federal regulations.

The Stream Maintenance program has worked to improve water flow along Cowskin Creek at the Hoover Road Bridge by stabilizing 200 feet along the north bridge abutment with quarried limestone riprap. In addition, bridges and waterways were cleaned on tributaries to the Ninnescah River, Clear Creek, Polecat Creek, Dry Creek South of Cowskin Creek, Cowskin Creek, Middle Branch Clearwater Creek, and Jester Creek.

The Stormwater Management Department assisted in the review and approval of more than 20 developments in 2025 for water quality and quality requirements.

Strategic Results

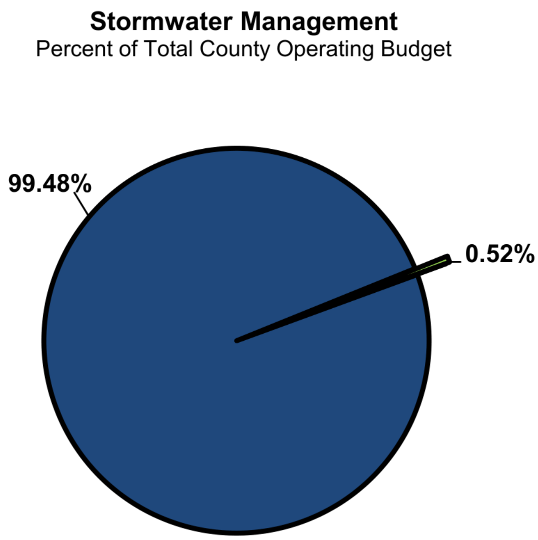
Stormwater Management has several strategic goals to track performance. One goal is the number of truckloads of vegetation, sediment, and debris removed from streams and bridges per year. The goal is to annually haul more than 900 truckloads of material from the unincorporated waterways. In 2025, 1,051 truckloads of material were hauled, which included 280 loads of trees, 731 loads of dirt, 10 loads of debris, and 30 loads of rip rap.

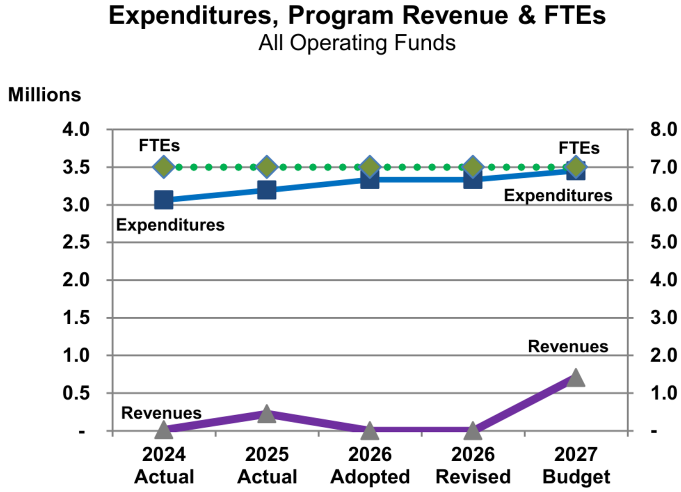
Another strategic goal is to inspect stormwater management permitted facilities in unincorporated Sedgwick County. In 2025, 18 stormwater permits were issued and as a result 122 inspections were completed, including some carryover projects from 2024. One hundred percent of the projects that were permitted in 2025 were inspected.

Significant Budget Adjustments

Significant adjustments to Stormwater Management's 2027 Recommended Budget include an increase in funding for a 2027 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) project ($740,000), a decrease in interfund transfers due to a 2026 CIP project ($740,000), an increase in all other revenue to bring in-line with past actuals ($706,288), and an increase in funding to match the Flood Control Agreement with the City of Wichita ($73,283).

Departmental Graphical Summary





Budget Summary by Category

Expenditures	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amount Chg '26 Rev.-'27	% Chg '26 Rev.-'27
Personnel	631,861	637,041	688,752	688,752	756,847	68,095	9.89%
Contractual Services	1,668,259	1,792,921	1,902,545	1,902,545	1,951,031	48,486	2.55%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Commodities	2,509	4,091	2,700	2,700	3,900	1,200	44.44%
Capital Improvements	-	-	740,000	-	740,000	740,000	
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Interfund Transfers	760,000	760,000	-	740,000	-	(740,000)	-100.00%
Total Expenditures	**3,062,630**	**3,194,052**	**3,333,997**	**3,333,997**	**3,451,778**	**117,781**	**3.53%**
Revenues							
Tax Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Licenses and Permits	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Charges for Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	
All Other Revenue	11,522	224,452	-	-	706,288	706,288	
Total Revenues	**11,522**	**224,452**	**-**	**-**	**706,288**	**706,288**	
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)							
Property Tax Funded	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	-	0.00%
Non-Property Tax Funded	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total FTEs	**7.00**	**7.00**	**7.00**	**7.00**	**7.00**	**-**	**0.00%**

Budget Summary by Fund

Fund	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amount Chg '26 Rev.-'27	% Chg '26 Rev.-'27
General Fund	3,062,630	3,194,052	3,333,997	3,333,997	3,451,778	117,781	3.53%
Total Expenditures	**3,062,630**	**3,194,052**	**3,333,997**	**3,333,997**	**3,451,778**	**117,781**	**3.53%**

Significant Budget Adjustments from Prior Year Revised Budget

	Expenditures	Revenues	FTEs
Increase in funding for a 2027 CIP project	740,000		
Decrease in interfund transfers due to a 2026 CIP project	(740,000)		
Increase in all other revenue to bring in-line with past actuals		706,288	
Increase in funding to match the Flood Control Agreement with the City of Wichita	73,283		
Total	73,283	706,288	-

Budget Summary by Program

Program	Fund	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	% Chg '26 Rev.-'27	26'-27' FTEs
Stream Maintenance	110	751,289	747,677	819,233	819,233	857,247	4.64%	6.00
Flood Control	110	2,175,640	2,273,959	2,292,324	2,292,324	2,365,607	3.20%	-
Stormwater Engineering	110	135,700	172,416	222,441	222,441	228,924	2.91%	1.00
Total		**3,062,630**	**3,194,052**	**3,333,997**	**3,333,997**	**3,451,778**	**3.53%**	**7.00**

Personnel Summary by Fund

Position Titles	Fund	Grade	Budgeted Compensation Comparison 2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	FTE Comparison 2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget
Senior Engineer	110	GRADE 68	100,369	104,384	104,384	1.00	1.00	1.00
Maintenance Foreman	110	GRADE 59	77,085	84,011	84,011	1.00	1.00	1.00
Crew Chief	110	GRADE 57	68,536	75,920	75,920	1.00	1.00	1.00
Equipment Operator III	110	GRADE 56	207,397	230,734	230,734	4.00	4.00	4.00
Subtotal					**495,050**			
Add:								
Budgeted Personnel Savings					-			
Compensation Adjustments					23,669			
Overtime/On Call/Holiday Pay					6,000			
Benefits					232,129			
Total Personnel Budget					**756,847**	**7.00**	**7.00**	**7.00**

● Stream Maintenance

The Stream Maintenance Program serves Sedgwick County citizens by correcting obstructions within watercourses, reshaping bank lines to ensure the normal course of flow following flood conditions, and inspecting streams and other watercourses during prolonged rain and flood conditions to ensure protection of life and property.

The program's six-person staff performs the wide variety of work outlined above. They are assigned and use a variety of heavy equipment, principally bulldozers and tracked excavators, to accomplish their mission.

Fund(s): 110 - County general

Expenditures	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '26 - '27	% Chg. '26 - '27
Personnel	496,408	494,145	539,175	539,175	598,923	59,748	11.1%
Contractual Services	252,372	249,442	277,358	277,358	254,424	(22,934)	-8.3%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	2,509	4,091	2,700	2,700	3,900	1,200	44.4%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	**751,289**	**747,677**	**819,233**	**819,233**	**857,247**	**38,014**	**4.6%**
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	500,099	500,099	0.0%
Total Revenues	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**500,099**	**500,099**	**0.0%**
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	**6.00**	**6.00**	**6.00**	**6.00**	**6.00**	**-**	**0.0%**

● Flood Control

The City-County Flood Control program inspects, operates, and maintains the M.S. "Mitch" Mitchell Floodway in accordance with standards established by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). This program is administered by the City of Wichita's Public Works Department and is funded equally by the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County.

The M.S. "Mitch" Mitchell Floodway includes 40.9 miles of channels, 97.0 miles of levees, and total area of 5,613 acres. Maintenance of the flood control project includes mowing, clearing drainage structures, removing debris from bridges and other structures, grading levees and roadways, repairing erosion, stabilizing banks, and repairing fences and gates.

Fund(s): 110 - County general

Expenditures	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '26 - '27	% Chg. '26 - '27
Personnel	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Contractual Services	1,415,640	1,513,959	1,552,324	1,552,324	1,625,607	73,283	4.7%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	740,000	-	740,000	740,000	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	760,000	760,000	-	740,000	-	(740,000)	-100.0%
Total Expenditures	**2,175,640**	**2,273,959**	**2,292,324**	**2,292,324**	**2,365,607**	**73,283**	**3.2%**
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	11,522	224,452	-	-	206,189	206,189	0.0%
Total Revenues	**11,522**	**224,452**	**-**	**-**	**206,189**	**206,189**	**0.0%**
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**0.0%**

● Stormwater Engineering

Stormwater Engineering provides citizens with a single point of contact for drainage issues within the unincorporated areas of the county. Equally important is the capability to implement a comprehensive approach to stormwater planning and design. Established in 2001, the program has been responsible for a series of drainage projects beginning in the 2001 Capital Improvement Program (CIP). These drainage projects occupy a significant portion of the program's time, as does the design of future projects. The program has a wide variety of responsibilities that include implementation of Phase II of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), a federal mandate.

Fund(s): 110 - County general

Expenditures	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '26 - '27	% Chg. '26 - '27
Personnel	135,453	142,896	149,578	149,578	157,924	8,346	5.6%
Contractual Services	247	29,520	72,863	72,863	71,000	(1,863)	-2.6%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	**135,700**	**172,416**	**222,441**	**222,441**	**228,924**	**6,483**	**2.9%**
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**0.0%**
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	**1.00**	**1.00**	**1.00**	**1.00**	**1.00**	**-**	**0.0%**