



Bel Aire Utility Advisory Committee 2025 Annual Report
(As required by Resolutions R-11-06 and R-13-42)

2025 Annual Report

Year in Review

- 1) There were eleven UAC monthly meetings and one field trip held during 2025. Monthly meetings are generally on the second Wednesday of each month, from 3 pm to 4:30 pm at City Hall's Senior Center
- 2) Authored and submitted for publication 11 "Did You Know?" information articles. The articles were published in the Bel Air Breeze newspaper.
- 3) UAC prepared and submitted the 2025 Water Conservation Plan to the Governing Body for approval. Gallons per capita per day (GPCD) water usage for 2025 was 69, far below the prior nine-year average of 96 GPCD. This is attributed to water conservation efforts by the public, as Bel Aire continues with water restrictions that started in August 2024 when Cheney Lake (Wichita raw water source) went below 60% water level. Bel Aire transitioned into a permanent water restriction stage in September 2025 when Wichita changed to a permanent restriction stage, also.
- 4) Mayor Benage requested that the UAC consider an alternate water conservation management model, where Bel Aire is responsible for identifying, monitoring, and achieving water conservation goals. This would be independent of the water supplier's (primarily, Wichita's) implied management of water conservation within the city. UAC developed a proposal that the city could take to their water suppliers for discussions of a future agreement on conservation management. The UAC agreed to write a 2026 Water conservation plan based on the outcome of these discussions.
- 5) 2025 rainfall was substantially over the 30-year NOAA average at the end of the year, See the graph in Figure 1 for details.
- 6) The UAC organized and attended a tour of the CCUA water facility in Park City, One of the two water sources that Bel Aire uses to supply potable water. The facility also treats Bel Aire's wastewater.
- 7) UAC officers elected for 2026 are: Chairperson Terry Ercolani, Vice Chairperson Sean Brata, and Secretary Antonio Kitt.
- 8) The UAC mourned the passing of Art Tenbrink, longtime member of the UAC and past chairperson for many years. The UAC worked with the Bel Aire Tree Board to establish a tree planting in memory of Art.
- 9) Shome (Sean) Brata was welcomed as a new member of the UAC in December. His term as a member lasts for two years.

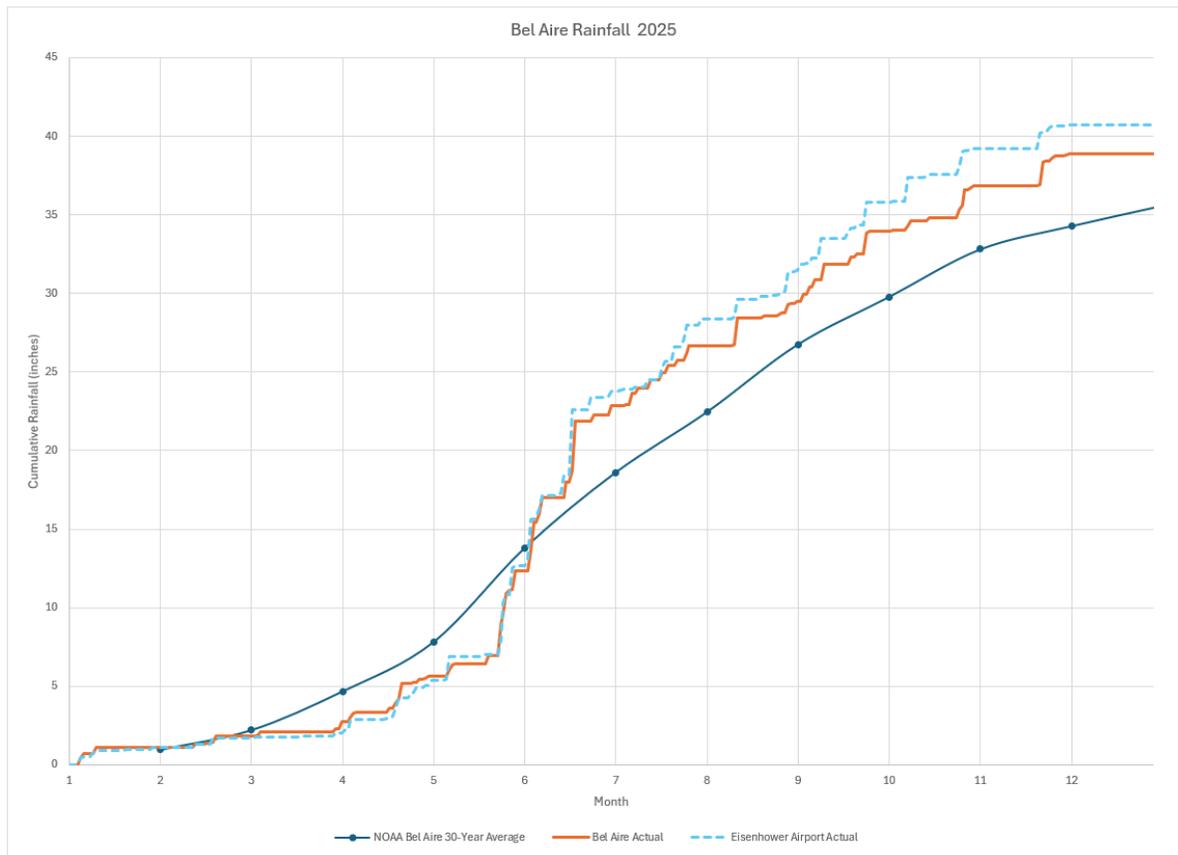


Figure 1 Bel Aire Rainfall for 2025

2026 Goals and Objectives

- 1) Prepare and submit the 2026 Water Conservation Plan to the Governing Body for review and approval
- 2) Promote compliance with the backflow preventer inspections in 2026 (compliance is for even-numbered years)
- 3) Periodically review available water and wastewater data, with subsequent comments and questions to better understand changes and provide review during continued drought restrictions
- 4) Organize a UAC field trip during 2026 to increase understanding of water and other utility aspects associated with the City of Bel Aire and include the Governing Body. Will consider a trip to the Equus Beds ASR (Aquifer Storage and Recovery) among other places.
- 5) Continue education of utility-related topics in Bel Aire’s communication platforms with monthly submittals of the “Did You Know?” column
- 6) Upon request, provide input to the City’s stormwater management in compliance with KDHE guidelines.