

## Local Resident, Payton Adair Serves Community as an Intern



Left to right:  
Mayor Hardcastle, Payton Adair, Public Works  
Director/City Engineer Kevin Rohani

Over the past few months Oakley's Public Works Division has had some additional support provided by intern, Payton Adair.

Payton, a senior student at Freedom High School says she picked up a flyer at the Oakley Library regarding the Metropolitan Transportation Committee's High School Summer Internship Program. Payton who is considering a career in engineering (while now leaning towards the biomedical field) thought to apply "because the opportunity sounded interesting."

The program is aimed at exposing young students to the transportation profession and introducing them to funding, construction and planning sides of transportation. Payton's summer internship commenced in late June, with her working full-time, only recently reducing those hours to part-time due to the start of school.

Payton, a 14 year resident of Oakley states the experience has been rewarding. "Everyone on staff is nice, not to mention it's been neat to learn about the city I grew up in. My very first day I received a tour of all the City's ongoing and impending projects."

Some of her tasks included developing outreach materials, filing, researching and writing memorandums, reviewing footage of surveillance video at local parks, mailing notices to residents, developing maps, and a traffic index of local streets, and more.

Among her main takeaways, Payton states, "was a better understanding of the Department's mission. I hadn't realized before, just how intricate each of these responsibilities is, each little project takes so many clearances and paperwork in order to make sure that it is up to all standards and doesn't cause problems in the future... it gave me a new appreciation for all of the improvements and maintenance that I see going on around the city."

Oakley's Public Works Director/City Engineer, who served as Payton's mentor stated, "This was a win, win, win, for all involved. The Oakley community was well served by Payton's work, which was made possible through MTC's financial support and meanwhile we believe Payton left inspired to pursue a career in transportation or public service, after being reassured of her tremendous capacity."

The program concludes on August 28<sup>th</sup>

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