



# City of Dubuque

# CITY NEWS

November/December 2024

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## Let's Be Social!



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**City News** is produced by the City  
of Dubuque Public Information  
Office. Comments are welcome at  
[publicinfo@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:publicinfo@cityofdubuque.org)  
or 563-589-4151.

## City Council Goals & Priorities

Over the course of three sessions in August, the City Council identified eight five-year goals for the city:

- **Vibrant Community:** Healthy and Safe
- **Financially Responsible, High-Performance City Organization:** Sustainable, Equitable, and Effective Service Delivery
- **Robust Local Economy:** Diverse Businesses and Jobs with Economic Prosperity
- **Livable Neighborhoods and Housing:** Great Place to Live
- **Sustainable Environment:** Preserving and Enhancing Natural Resources
- **Connected Community:** Equitable Transportation, Technology Infrastructure, and Mobility
- **Diverse Arts, Culture, Parks, and Recreation Experiences and Activities**
- **Partnership for a Better Dubuque:** Building Our Community that is Viable, Livable, and Equitable

They also identified top and high priorities for a 2024-2026 policy agenda. Policy agenda items are issues that need direction or a policy decision by the City Council, or need a major funding decision by the City Council, or issues that need City Council leadership in the community or with other governmental bodies.

## Top Priorities

- Air Service Future Strategy and Action Plan: Major Airline Hub Connections
- Central Avenue Revitalization Plan Implementation
- Construction of 14th Street Railroad Overpass and 16th Street Corridor Complete Streets Improvements: RAISE Grant and Matching Funds
- Police Staffing and Hiring
- Street Maintenance/ Rehabilitation Program

## High Priorities

- Catfish Creek Sanitary Sewer Project: Old Mill Road Lift Station Project
- Chaplain Schmitt Island Development
- City Workforce Retention and Attraction
- Comprehensive Study of Fire Station Locations and Staffing
- Parks Maintenance/Refresh Action Plan

Learn more at [cityofdubuque.org/citycouncil](http://cityofdubuque.org/citycouncil)



## LEAF RAKE-OUT

**October 14 – November 27**

The Public Works Department provides residents a leaf rake-out service by appointment each fall. The cost is \$20 for the equivalent of 40 leaf bags and will be added to your utility bill.

For guidelines and to schedule a leaf rake-out appointment, visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/yardwaste](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/yardwaste) or call 563-589-4250.

## Merry Mulch

**Christmas Tree Collection & Composting**

**January 6 – 17, 2025**

City crews will pick up natural Christmas trees (maximum of 8' high) with a City brush tie or one yellow yard waste sticker attached and visible from the street or alley on your regular collection day.

For questions, call 563-589-4250.



## Volunteers Needed

**DBQ SHOVEL CREW**

### Help Neighbors in Need with Snow Removal

DBQ Shovel Crew is a program that pairs volunteers with residents who are not physically able to remove snow and ice from their city sidewalk and do not have other resources to remove the snow and ice, such as neighbors, friends, or a hired service. The City is currently seeking volunteers who can help throughout the winter season. The commitment is caring for one address all winter.

We are all pedestrians at some point in the day, whether walking to a car, the bus, to work, to school, or just in your neighborhood. Your help in keeping sidewalks clear after snow and ice events is a meaningful way to help neighbors in need and the community.

To volunteer or to sign up for snow removal assistance, scan the QR code, visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/snowassistance](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/snowassistance), or call 563-589-4159.



Sign up to volunteer!

## Dubuque Regional Airport Daily Jet Service Begins Nov. 4

Beginning Nov. 4, 2024, Denver Air Connection will operate a daily flight between the Dubuque Regional Airport (DBQ) and O'Hare International Airport (ORD) on a 50-seat regional jet. Tickets can be purchased now.

**Fly from Dubuque**

Connect to Hundreds of Cities



**DenverAir**  
CONNECTION  
A Key Lime Air Company

**Book Now**  
[FlyDBQ.com/Flights](http://FlyDBQ.com/Flights)

**Fly**  
**D** **B** **Q**  
DUBUQUE REGIONAL AIRPORT

**Enjoy Free Parking!**

Denver Air has interline ticketing and baggage transfer agreements with American Airlines, United Airlines, and Delta Air Lines. With a single reservation, passengers will be able to travel, connect, and check their baggage through to their final destination.

The Dubuque Regional Airport offers free parking. Food and drink service is available within the terminal's secure waiting area.

**NOW is the time to book your trip!**  
Visit [FlyDBQ.com/Flights](http://FlyDBQ.com/Flights) to get on board!



## A Message from the CITY MANAGER

Michael C. Van Milligen

In addition to their many local commitments, the mayor and city council, as well as city staff, are often called upon to serve in leadership roles with state, regional, and national organizations to offer expertise and to advocate for Dubuque goals, priorities, and initiatives. Here are three recent examples.

### Mayor Cavanagh Elected ILC Board President

Mayor Brad Cavanagh was sworn in to serve as the president of the Iowa League of Cities (ILC) Executive Board at the league's Annual Conference and Exhibit in late September. He has been a member of the ILC's executive board since 2020 and has served as president-elect of the executive board for the past year. Mayor Cavanagh's term as president is one year.

The ILC, which celebrated its 125th anniversary in 2023, serves as the unified voice of cities across Iowa, providing advocacy, training, and guidance to strengthen the state's communities. Its executive board adopts policies to provide direction to the league, adopts the annual operating budget, establishes membership fees, and provides direction to the organization.

The ILC's executive board consists of 14 board director positions and five officer positions: president, president-elect, and three past presidents. All these positions are filled by current city officials who represent Iowa cities of various sizes across the state.

### Councilwoman Farber on FCC Advisory Committee

Earlier this year, First Ward City Council Representative Susan Farber was named a member of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Intergovernmental Advisory Committee (IAC). Her term on the committee will be two years.

The committee provides guidance, expertise, and recommendations to the FCC on telecommunications issues impacting local, county, state, and tribal governments. It also makes recommendations to the FCC on issues related to increasing deployment and adoption of broadband services.

Councilwoman Farber is one of 30 committee members who represent 20 states plus the District of Columbia. She is the only committee member from Iowa.

### Burbach Named Top 10 Trailblazer

Assistant City Manager Cori Burbach is currently serving as the Iowa City/County Management Association (IaCMA) president and she was recently a Top 10 Finalist for the League of Women in Government's 2024 Leadership Trailblazer Award. The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) award recognizes an accomplished women who are leaders in the local government profession and have inspired other women to achieve executive-level positions as well. To be considered, nominees must hold a local government leadership position, such as city manager/administrator, county manager/administrator, assistant city or county manager, or deputy city or county manager.

Congratulations to Cori for this national recognition!



## State of the City

On Sept. 13, Mayor Brad Cavanagh delivered the 2024 State of the City address, highlighting Dubuque's shared successes over the past year and the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Together, our community continues to make progress.

**Watch the full address and read the written remarks at:**

[www.cityofdubuque.org/sotc](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/sotc)



## FREE 'RIDE TO VOTE' Service on Election Day

The Jule is offering free bus rides for voters on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5, from 6:15 a.m. until 6:45 p.m. Residents who wish to utilize this free service can inform Jule operators that they are riding to vote. Fixed-route buses will not deviate from regular routes but will provide rides to bus stops within reasonable walking distance of polling places in Dubuque.

**Learn more at**

[www.cityofdubuque.org/ridetovote](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/ridetovote)

## New Faces

### New City Employees

Joseph Biedermann	Parks
Laurana Snyder	Parks
Derek Kuntz	Public Works
Lori Apel	Library
Mary Metcalf	Recreation
Kenneth Huseman	Water
Marcus Leitzen	Police
Brandin Mills	Airport
Ty Kiernan	Airport
Ryan Linkie	Airport
Khloe George	AmeriCorps
Zaebian Machande	AmeriCorps
Mikayla Brown	AmeriCorps
Allison Maas	AmeriCorps
Susan Lau	AmeriCorps
Macade Lacy	AmeriCorps
Ka'Meah Neal	AmeriCorps
Nicholas Stroschein	Recreation

### New Board/Commission Members

Diann Guns	Board of Library Trustees
Heidi Pettitt	Historic Preservation Commission

## City Awarded Nearly \$2 Million for Comiskey Park

### Phase 2 Improvements



The City was recently awarded a \$1.974 million Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) grant from the National Park Service for a second phase of improvements to Comiskey Park including:

- two full-size basketball courts,
- shaded picnic areas,
- replacement of an older basketball court, skate spot, and tennis court with a multi-use playing field,
- paved trails throughout the park,
- a new park entryway,
- a 53-stall parking lot, and
- landscaping including trees and native plantings.

Construction is expected to begin in August 2026, with an estimated completion date of July 2027.

Learn more at [www.cityofdubuque.org/comiskey](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/comiskey)

## Calendar

### November

4	City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
5	Election Day
11	City offices closed for Veterans Day ( <i>No change in curbside collection.</i> )
18	City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
28-29	City offices closed for Thanksgiving holiday ( <i>Thursday, Nov. 28, curbside collection will occur on Saturday, Nov. 30. No change in Friday, Nov. 29, collection.</i> )

### December

7	City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
21	City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
24-25	City offices closed for Christmas holiday ( <i>Wednesday, Dec. 25, curbside collection will occur on Saturday, Dec. 28. No change in Tuesday, Dec. 24, collection.</i> )

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are held at City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building, 350 W. 6th St.

The public has the option to view and participate in City Council meetings in person at City Council Chambers or virtually (see agenda for details). Meetings are aired live on CityChannel Dubuque (Mediacom cable channels 8 and 117.2 and ION channel 5), streamed live and archived on the City's website at [www.cityofdubuque.org/media](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/media), and streamed live on the City's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/cityofdubuque](http://www.facebook.com/cityofdubuque).

## New City Council Meeting Agendas & Minutes Portal

The portal displays a calendar view for October 2024, showing meetings for October 7, 21, and November 4, 18. Each meeting entry includes the date, time (6:30 PM CST), location (Historic Federal Building, Second-Floor Council Chambers 350 W. 6th Street, Dubuque, IA 52001), and a 'View Details' button.

The City recently launched a new portal for City Council meeting agendas and minutes. Explore the new portal at [www.cityofdubuque.org/agendas](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/agendas).

City Council agendas are published at 9 a.m. on the Friday before each council meeting. Current subscribers to City Council agenda notifications will remain subscribed automatically. Those interested in receiving agenda notifications may subscribe to the City Council Agendas Notify Me list at [www.cityofdubuque.org/notifyme](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/notifyme). For questions, call the City Clerk's Office at 563-589-4100.