

CITY OF DUBUQUE

2016

YEAR IN REVIEW

THE CITY OF
DUBUQUE
Masterpiece on the Mississippi

The City of Dubuque's mission is to deliver excellent municipal services that support urban living; contribute to an equitable, sustainable city; plan for the community's future; and facilitate access to critical human services. Progress was made in 2016 on a wide variety of projects and initiatives designed to fulfill that mission. This publication features brief summaries of just some of the highlights of 2016.



SOUTHWEST ARTERIAL

- Property acquisition completed and groundbreaking ceremony held in October 2016
- Grading for US 20 interchange and west grading project (English Mill Rd. to Catfish Creek) under way
- Vehicles will be driving on the Southwest Arterial by the end of 2019.
- Hundreds of trucks per day will come off of Highway 20, Central Avenue, and White Street.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.cityofdubuque.org/southwestarterial, 563.589.4270

JOB GROWTH & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Dubuque MSA (metropolitan statistical area) non-farm employment for December 2016 = 62,000, up from 61,200 in December 2015
- Dubuque MSA Unemployment Rate for December 2016 = 3.4%, Iowa rate = 3.6%, US rate = 4.7%
- Roasting Solutions invested approximately \$7 million to construct new national headquarter location and manufacturing facility in Dubuque Industrial Center South.
- Cottingham & Butler announced plans to add 90 new positions to local workforce over the next three years and invest \$2.4 million to expand operations into the Roshek Building.
- Rite-Hite announced plans to expand current production facility in Dubuque Industrial Center. The \$8.9 million project will add 138,000 square feet of manufacturing space and 24 new employees.
- Alliant Energy, A.Y. McDonald Mfg. Co., and City of Dubuque partnering to develop the largest solar project in Iowa
- Eighteen new restaurants and four new food trucks opened or began new construction.
- BioResource Development began construction on multi-million dollar biomethane system within City's Water & Resource Recovery Center. System will allow City to utilize biogas more efficiently and generate revenue in the process through a partnership between the City of Dubuque, BioResource Development, and Black Hills Energy.
- Arts and Culture Master Plan adopted by City Council
- Inclusive Dubuque network of over 60 businesses and organizations completed equity profile after engaging over 2,000 people in the process.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.cityofdubuque.org/econdev, 563.589.4393

In his book, "Growing Jobs: Transforming the Way We Approach Economic Development," author Thomas Tuttle cites collaboration and community engagement as key aspects of economic development. He cites two success stories: Austin, Texas, and Dubuque, Iowa, as models for today's solutions to economic development.



NEW COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

- "Imagine Dubuque" public engagement process launched in August 2016, asking all residents and stakeholders to share their vision for the future of Dubuque
- 14-month process to develop a new comprehensive 20-year plan for community
- New comprehensive plan expected to be completed by October 2017

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.imaginedubuque.com, 563.589.4210



BEE BRANCH WATERSHED FLOOD MITIGATION PROJECT

- Seventy-nine green alley conversions of the 240 planned are completed
- Upper Bee Branch Creek construction nearly completed. Creek is functional and landscaping and remaining work will be completed in spring 2017.
- City of Dubuque awarded \$31.5 million in federal disaster resiliency funds, including \$8.4 million for the Bee Branch Healthy Homes Resiliency Program.
- City has received \$160 million in federal and state grants for the \$219 million project.
- The Bee Branch Healthy Homes Resiliency Program includes financial assistance to improve 320 housing units. Funds will be awarded to properties where low- to moderate-income residents reside and used to make repairs and implement on-site stormwater management principles to decrease environmental health and safety issues from flooding.
- Visiting Nurses Association will engage residents of the homes to assist them on their personal road to success.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.cityofdubuque.org/beebranch | 563.690.6068 | facebook.com/BeeBranchDBQ



FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

- City on track to reduce use of statutory debt capacity from 90% in Fiscal Year 2015 to just over 50% in Fiscal Year 2025. Currently at 72% of statutory debt limit.
- In 2016, City added \$1 million to reserves instead of the originally planned \$600,000 contribution.
- City maintaining second-lowest property tax rate of the 11 cities in Iowa with populations over 50,000 (average property tax rate of those cities is 37% higher than Dubuque).
- In October, Moody's Investors Service upgraded the rating on a City of Dubuque bonds series from A3 to A2. The rating applies to the City's Sales Tax Increment Revenue (Annual Appropriation Property Tax Supported) Senior Bonds Series 2015A, which represent nearly \$18 million in bonds issued to support the Bee Branch Watershed Flood Mitigation Project.
- City Council approved FY2018 budget guidelines reducing property tax rate by 2.47% with no property tax increase for the average homeowner, a property decrease of 2.47% for commercial and industrial property, and a 6.71% property decrease for multi-residential properties.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.cityofdubuque.org/budget, 563.589.4110



JULE TRANSIT

- Intermodal terminal completed at 950 Elm St. in Historic Millwork District to improve access to The Jule, Burlington Trailways, and Lamers bus services.
- Construction contracts awarded in late 2016 for new Bus Storage and Maintenance Facility on Kerper Blvd. Construction is under way.
- The Jule provided 553,000 rides in 2016, representing a 39% increase in Jule ridership over last five years.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.juletransit.org, 563.589.4196



STREETS & ROUNDABOUTS

- Dubuque's first modern traffic roundabout constructed during summer 2016 at the Grandview Ave./Delhi St./Grace St. intersection and has greatly improved traffic flow at intersection.
- Dubuque awarded \$500,000 grant by the Iowa DOT in December 2016 for construction of another roundabout at the Grandview Ave./University Ave. intersection in 2018.
- Three additional roundabouts funded in the City's five-year capital improvement program.
- City paved 7.5 miles of streets.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.cityofdubuque.org/roundabouts, 563.589.4270

PERFORMANCE & TRANSPARENCY

- City launched “Open Expenses” financial transparency tool at <http://expenses.cityofdubuque.org>, providing a guided view of City’s expenses, allowing visitors to browse payments from a high-level summary to a detailed view. Information can be viewed and queried by department, vendor, or expense category.
- Police Department and partner agencies launched new website called Police to Citizen (P2C) at <http://p2c.cityofdubuque.org>, an online tool for quick and easy access to general information on calls for service (including a mapping feature), police reports, recent arrests, and a list of wanted individuals.

CENTRAL IOWA WATER SYSTEM PURCHASE

- City Council approved purchase agreement with the Central Iowa Water Association (CIWA) to purchase their private water system near and including the Southwest Arterial project corridor.
- Purchase enables City to meet future needs of residential, commercial, and industrial water customers in these and surrounding areas.
- Dubuque’s municipal water system has readily available capacity and pressure needed for fire suppression to commercial and industrial facilities, as well as to serve needs of industrial manufacturing processes with water pressure requirements.
- CIWA also relinquished its federally protected service area for two miles outside of the City’s current corporate limits and no longer has a presence in Dubuque County.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.cityofdubuque.org/water, 563.589.4291

HISTORIC MILLWORK DISTRICT

- Four-story, 54-room Marriott TownPlace Suites extended-stay hotel planned for 1100 Jackson St. (former Spahn & Rose Lumber Co. warehouse) with construction starting in spring 2017
- Office and retail space planned for 1065 Jackson St. (also former Spahn & Rose property)
- Makeshift Motors Inc. expanding and relocating to 1101 Jackson St.
- 7 Hills Brewing Co. remodeling 1085 Washington St. into a brewery scheduled to open in spring 2017
- Backpacket Brewing Co. opening a taproom at 333 E. 10th St. (Novelty Ironworks Building) in early 2017
- First phase of Novelty Ironworks complete

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.cityofdubuque.org/millworkdistrict, 563.589.4291



NEW DUBUQUE REGIONAL AIRPORT TERMINAL COMPLETED

- Grand opening for the 36,000-sq. ft. terminal held on June 9
- Project completed six months ahead of schedule and under budget
- 85% of \$37 million cost covered by Federal Aviation Administration
- Passenger counts have increased steadily since 2013
- Presidential Candidate visits – Clinton (3X), Trump (2X), Rubio, Sanders
- New Restaurant opened (Barnstormers) – October 2016

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.flydbq.com, 563.589.4128





C.H.A.N.G.E. PROGRAM LAUNCHED

(Comprehensive Housing Activities for Neighborhood Growth & Enrichment)

- 739 downtown housing units will be improved from 2016-2021.
- \$19 million will leverage tens of millions of dollars in private investments.
- Building community enrichment through a collective/collaborative impact of programs, partnerships, and services to provide economic and social resiliency.
- C.H.A.N.G.E. includes marginal property acquisition (\$4.2 million, 100 housing units), lead and healthy homes program (\$3.2 million, 129 housing units), Bee Branch Healthy Homes Program (\$8.4 million, 320 housing units), and housing rehabilitation programs (\$3.74 million, 190 units).

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.cityofdubuque.org/CHANGE, 563.589.4231



SAFE COMMUNITY

- National Insurance Services Office (ISO) upgraded the City's fire suppression capabilities rating based on the city's fire department, emergency communications, water supply, and community risk reduction. Dubuque's new Class II rating places it among the top three percent in the nation.
- Fire Department received a 2016 Mission: Lifeline® EMS Silver Award from American Heart Association for implementing quality improvement measures for treatment of patients who experience severe heart attacks. Of 931 emergency medical service providers in Iowa, the Dubuque Fire Department is one of only four to meet the criteria.
- Police Department purchased and deployed 120 body-worn cameras for all police officers.
- City network of security and traffic cameras grew to nearly 1,000 in 2016
- Enhanced street lighting: 11 new mid-block poles and LED lights added to Washington Neighborhood in summer 2016 and 430 City-owned lights converted to LED since May 2015.
- International Property Maintenance Code adopted in July 2016 and applies to all property types and provides a standard for property maintenance and minimum requirements.
- Confirmed "shots fired" calls down from 33 in 2015 to 26 in 2016. Still not acceptable, but improving.
- Police Department received eighth accreditation since 1993 from Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) through regular review of compliance with CALEA's 489 standards of professionalism.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.cityofdubuque.org/police, 563.589.4110

EQUITY & INCLUSION

- The National League of Cities presented a first-place award in the 2016 NLC City Cultural Diversity Awards to the City of Dubuque for the City's support of Inclusive Dubuque and its efforts to develop a community equity profile.
- Dubuque's Mayor and City Council added the term "equity" to the City's Vision Statement and Mission Statement and selected Inclusive Dubuque as a top priority.
- Building housing the Multicultural Family Center (MFC) was renamed the Ruby Sutton Building and the abutting Colts building was purchased to allow for future MFC expansion.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.inclusivedbq.org, 563.588.2700

CRESCENT COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

- Celebrated 10-year anniversary in October 2016
- Served over 6,200 patients in 2015, 58% were below the poverty line
- Approximately half of the patients received dental care and half received medical attention.



FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.crescentchc.org, 563.690.2850