

CITYnews



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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2019

Dubuque Named a 2019 All-America City

The National Civic League recently named Dubuque a 2019 All-America City. The annual award recognizes 10 communities that leverage civic engagement, collaboration, inclusiveness, and innovation to successfully address local issues.

"This award recognizes communities that come together to improve their future," said Dubuque Mayor Roy D. Buol. "Being named an All-America City five times in just 12 years affirms that we are making progress and is a tribute to the work of so many people and groups. It also tells the world that Dubuque is a vibrant community that works together to address challenges."

The 2019 All-America City Award celebrates examples of civic engagement practices that advance health equity in local communities. The competition sought projects that demonstrated inclusive decision-making processes to create healthy communities for all, and



2007★2012★2013
2017★2019

particularly for populations currently experiencing poorer health outcomes.

As part of the competition for the award, a delegation of Dubuque residents traveled to Denver in June to participate in presentations and workshops at the 70th All-America City Awards & Conference. The Dubuque team included

representatives from the City of Dubuque, Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, Crescent Community Health Center, Dubuque Community Schools, the Dubuque Dream Center, Dubuque Main Street/Dubuque Eats Well, the Fountain of Youth, Inclusive Dubuque, and the Multicultural Family Center.

Dubuque's application focused on the civic infrastructure built on the **Inclusive Dubuque** network of over 60 partners working to advance justice and social equity, and **Imagine Dubuque 2017: A Call to Action**, the comprehensive planning process that collected input from 6,000 residents to identify a roadmap for Dubuque's future. The application and presentation also featured three projects demonstrating how partners are impacting health outcomes for all residents. "Health Care for All" highlights the progress Crescent Community Health Center has made, the impact of the Pacific Islander Health Project, and the recent work of the Brain Health Task Force. The Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project was the second project highlighted and the collaborative work happening by the Dubuque Eats Well coalition to increase access to healthy local foods is the third.

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This is the fifth time Dubuque has received this distinction since 2007. Dubuque was first named an All-America City in 2007 when its application described the America's River Project, Downtown Master Plan, and Crescent Community Health Center. Veteran-Oriented Programs, Workforce-Development Efforts, and the Historic Millwork District Revitalization were profiled in 2013 and 2012's successful application focused on the community's Plan to Improve Third-Grade Reading. In 2017, Dubuque's winning application featured the Dubuque Campaign for Grade-Level Reading. §

FREE family event!

CITY EXPO

THURSDAY, OCT. 17
4-7 p.m.
Five Flags

Dubuque
All-America City
NATIONAL CIVIC LEAGUE

2007★2012★2013
2017★2019

Join us for a
community celebration
of Dubuque's 2019
All-America City Award!



AmeriCorps Receives Funding, Seeks Members

The AmeriCorps Partners in Learning Program, sponsored by the City of Dubuque, was recently awarded \$475,453 in federal AmeriCorps funding from Volunteer Iowa and the Corporation for National and Community Service to support Dubuque's Campaign for Grade Level Reading. Additionally, AmeriCorps Partners in Learning was approved for \$89,995 in state AmeriCorps funding from Volunteer Iowa for a smaller grant focused on engaging teenaged youth in after-school and summer programs.

AmeriCorps is a national service program that engages Americans of all ages and



City of Dubuque

backgrounds to meet critical needs of communities across the country. Here in Dubuque, AmeriCorps Partners in Learning supports Dubuque's Campaign for Grade Level Reading with school year and summer tutoring programs, as well as teen programming through year-long afterschool programs and

with mentoring opportunities.

For more information, or to learn about joining AmeriCorps, please contact Heather Satterly at 563-690-6171 or hsatterl@cityofdubuque.org. Online applications can be found at www.cityofdubuque.org/employment. §

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE!

The City of Dubuque is updating its Climate Action Plan (CAP) to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions throughout the community. The City will engage the public in a number of ways for this project, one of which is an online Climate Action Survey.

Through this survey, Dubuque residents and business owners have an opportunity to share their ideas and concerns to help inform how the City of Dubuque might address climate change.

Please help establish Dubuque's CAP priorities by completing this survey. To take the survey or learn more about the plan, visit www.cityofdubuque.org/sustainability. It should take no longer than 10 minutes and all who submit will be entered into a drawing for a Farmers' Market gift card. For more information on the CAP, call 563.690.6038.

Sustainable Dubuque Grants: Apply by Sept. 15

Put your idea into action with a Sustainable Dubuque Grant! Community project grants of up to \$2,500 are available to organizations, businesses, and passionate residents. Projects must incorporate Sustainable Dubuque principles and include an element of community engagement and/or education. Grant applications are reviewed and awarded twice each year. Apply by Sept. 15 or March 15. Learn more and apply online at www.cityofdubuque.org/sustainability or call 563.690.6038. §



Tool Lending Library a Valuable Community Asset



Tucked away in a residential neighborhood at 345 E. 18th St., the Washington Tool Library is a resource available to all city residents. The tool library operates much like a regular library, but loans tools instead of books. Originally established in 1973 to help Washington Neighborhood residents fix up their homes, the library has been in operation ever since and is available to everyone in Dubuque regardless of address or income level.

To access the wonderful assortment of tools, ranging from apple pickers to jacks to wet/dry vacs, simply apply for a membership card by bringing identification to the tool library. Hours of operation are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1-6 p.m. The tool library is staffed by a knowledgeable crew of volunteers who dispense advice along with tools. (The tool library does not have auto repair or gas operated tools.) Members can borrow tools for free for one week, with a cash deposit to ensure the tool is returned so another community member may use it.

This non-profit organization receives operational funding from the City of Dubuque's Community Development Block Grant Program as well as donations. Check out this great resource for your next home improvement or repair project! §

- Wood window restoration
- Energy efficiency in historic buildings
- Basics of purchasing & owning a historic building
- Preservation Service & Product Expo



STATE OF THE CITY

Mayor Roy D. Buol Summer 2019

Imagine Dubuque: Let's Do This!

This State of the City is a “Call to Action” for Dubuque residents and stakeholders to become involved in helping to implement our *Imagine Dubuque* Comprehensive Plan. Adopted in September 2017, “*Imagine Dubuque 2037: A Call to Action*” is the first completely new comprehensive plan the community has developed since 1995!

Our 1995 plan was updated several times over the years and contained over 640 goals and objectives. While certainly comprehensive, the sheer volume of information was challenging to convey.

The development of our new plan, *Imagine Dubuque*, relied on a community-driven approach, based on modern planning principles and community issues and initiatives. The result is a more focused, modern, and meaningful undertaking with 32 goals and 110 recommendations.

The initial project kick-off event was held in August 2016; however, much work was done leading up to the project. The City Council established that the project must be inclusive, highly engaging, and representative of today’s community. This was our challenge. Past planning efforts had previously engaged around 200 people in a planning process. We saw this new challenge as an opportunity to set the bar high for community engagement.

Our planning took place over 12 months with 92 percent of the project timeline and approximately 75 percent of the project budget dedicated to community engagement. This effort paid dividends.

Community ideas came through a variety of means: 6,000 ideas through quick polls...2,300 ideas through interviews...1,500 ideas from workshops...1,200 ideas from our idea tools such as the mobile idea board and postcards...700 ideas from focus groups...500 ideas from working groups, and 300 ideas from our pop-up events such as Farmers Market and All that Jazz.

In total, our community provided over 12,500 ideas to inform the plan, significantly more than any previous planning effort. Those 12,500 ideas were inventoried and then grouped by association. The ideas most represented were used to develop themes for the *Imagine Dubuque* plan.

Those themes, in turn, became our outline and table of contents. The first theme and chapter is Community Engagement – a key element of the process, and how we need to move forward after the plan’s development.

Other chapters of the plan include: Economic Prosperity, Environmental Integrity, Social and Cultural Vibrancy, Housing, Community Facilities, Transportation and Mobility, and Land Use.

The last chapter in the *Imagine Dubuque* plan is “A Call to Action.” This is perhaps the most important chapter. Just as the *Imagine Dubuque* Comprehensive Plan was built on community engagement, implementation of the plan requires an engaged community – one that pulls together, combines resources, and shares in the vision of making Dubuque more viable, livable, and equitable.

Goals, programs, and vision are all directed to achieving the plan’s desired outcomes. Our framework relies on many non-governmental entities and partnerships to effectively and meaningfully address the recommendations in the “Call to Action.” This collaborative, community approach will be essential to the plan and to our community’s success.

The good news is that many worthwhile initiatives are already taking place. Additionally, there are recommendations that are “low-hanging fruit” for our community that non-profits, residents, and businesses will be able to work on together. Some recommendations will be more of a challenge for us. Our goal in the implementation process is to highlight and support all efforts and to connect community to do more together.

I want to thank everyone who joined us for one, some, or all of our “**Imagine Dubuque – Let’s Do This!**” kick-start events on June 13, 14, and 15. From hearing about some of the amazing projects already underway at the Mayor’s Luncheon, to generating awareness and involvement at the Millwork Night Market, Farmers’ Market, Juneteenth, Food Truck Friday, and more... the *Imagine Dubuque* kick-start events were all about promoting community action, leadership, and learning about what projects are moving forward. You can check out the kick-start video at ImagineDubuque.com.

By working together, we will make *Imagine Dubuque* a reality. I encourage you to get involved either with efforts in progress or to organize with others and initiate projects about which you are passionate. An “Action Toolkit” is available to help bring attention to and celebrate your efforts. Please visit our *Imagine Dubuque* website at ImagineDubuque.com for more information. You can also contact the City of Dubuque Planning Services Department at 563.589.4210 or planning@cityofdubuque.org.

This is our plan...this is our City. We can do this. Let’s do it together! §

New Faces & Retirements

The City of Dubuque welcomes these new employees:

Rahim Akrami -

City Manager's Office

Tyler Carlson - Airport

Lavontay Cobb - Police

Tanner Delinger - Fire

Justin Harris-Davis - Transit

Emma Hayes - Library

Elizabeth Healy - Fire

Amber Hoffman - Police

Nathan Kelleher - Finance

Chris Kiolbasa - Finance

Barbara Kurt - Library

Connie Marcov - Airport

Andrew Morgan - Fire

Mareisha Neal - Library

Brian Pape - Fire

Jennifer Raber - Finance

Colin Reeg - Police

Christina Schneider -

Housing & Community Dev.

Sage Schroeder - Police

Nathanael Watak - Airport

Chelsie Wedan - Library

The City of Dubuque congratulates these recent retirees:

Randy Peck

Human Resources

Melinda Rettenberger

Planning

The City of Dubuque welcomes these new board or commission members:

Airport Commission Mariann Kurtz Weber

Arts & Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission Ryan Decker Nicholas Halder

Electrical Code Board Eric Trausch

Housing Trust Fund Advisory Committee Michelle Becwar

Human Rights Commission Jason Keeler

Library Board of Trustees Victor Lieberman

Park & Recreation Advisory Commission Hobie Wood

Zoning Board of Adjustment Gwen Kosek

Contact Information

The City of Dubuque welcomes comments and suggestions about your city government or news appearing in this newsletter. Please contact:

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Editorial Information

City News is published by the Public Information Office and is inserted in the City of Dubuque utility bills six times per year. For the most up-to-date City news and events, visit www.cityofdubuque.org.

CALENDAR

September

- 2 City offices closed for Labor Day (curbside collection on Sat., Aug. 31 instead)
- 3 City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 9 City Council Work Session, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 16 City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building

October

- 7 City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 17 City Expo: an All-America City Celebration, Five Flags Center, 4-7 p.m.
- 21 City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 24-25 Growing Sustainable Communities Conference, Grand River Center. Visit www.gscdubuque.com to register.

This calendar does not include all events and is subject to change. Sign up for Dubuque's "Notify Me" e-mail/text alert system at www.cityofdubuque.org/notifyme to receive agendas, news releases, event notifications, and other timely news.

2019 Water Quality Reports Available

The City of Dubuque Water Department has published the annual water quality reports for the Dubuque water supply. The drinking water met all state and federal water quality requirements and had no drinking water violations in 2018.



The complete report is available online at www.cityofdubuque.org/2019waterquality and printed copies are available at several locations including City Hall (50 W. 13th St.), the Carnegie-Stout Public Library (360 W. 11th St.), and the Multicultural Family Center (1157 Central Ave.).

For more information, call 563.589.4291 or visit www.cityofdubuque.org/water. §

12th Annual

GROWING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE

Hosted by:

 **SUSTAINABLE
DUBUQUE**
visible • feasible • equitable

OCTOBER
24-25, 2019

**NEW THIS
YEAR!**

Unable to attend the entire conference? No problem! Register to attend the breakfast plenary address, one of the keynote luncheon speakers or a combination of the above!

DETAILS & REGISTER AT WWW.GSCDUBUQUE.COM



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