

CITYnews



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Tax Breaks for Property Improvements

Property owners who upgrade their residential properties located within a designated urban revitalization district may receive a 10-year exemption from the property tax increase that normally accompanies many improvements. Feb. 1, 2015 is the deadline



Owners of commercial property in the Washington Neighborhood Urban Revitalization District may be eligible for a three-year exemption. Tax-assessable improvements include building additions, a new room, patio, porch, or deck. The addition of plumbing fixtures, installation of heating and electricity to unfinished rooms, and the

installation of central air conditioning or a fireplace would be subject to property valuation as determined by the City Assessor. A map of the urban revitalization areas and applications are available at www.cityofdubuque.org/urbanrevitalization or at the Housing and Community Development Department, 350 W. Sixth St., Suite 312.

Applications are due by 5 p.m. on Feb. 1. For more information, call 563-589-4212 or email ehaugen@cityofdubuque.org

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Four Downtown Intersections Feature Crosshatch Pavement Markings

A new traffic control pavement marking was incorporated into the redesign of two downtown Dubuque streets last summer. Dubuque motorists are reminded to note the change and stop where directed by the signage at the four intersections featuring diagonal crosshatch markings.

The purpose of the markings is to force traffic to stop at a red traffic signal at a distance before the intersection, which allows truck traffic adequate space to safely make turns on to that street from the right of the intersection.

White "Do Not Block" diagonal crosshatch markings were added to two intersections on Ninth Street and two intersections on Eleventh Street as part of last summer's

one-way to two-way conversion of those streets. The intersections are for westbound traffic at the intersections of Ninth Street and White Street, Ninth Street and Central Avenue, Eleventh Street and White Street, and Eleventh Street and Central Avenue. Each intersection features signage stating "Stop Here on Red."



Motorists who do not stop their vehicle where directed and instead stop in the crosshatch area are subject to enforcement by the Dubuque Police Department. §

Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Public Meetings Schedule

All meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. and are held in the City Council Chambers on the second floor of the Historic Federal Building at 350 W. Sixth St. All meetings are broadcast on CityChannel Dubuque on the Mediacom cable system on channels 8 (analog) and 85.2 (digital) and video streamed live and archived at www.cityofdubuque.org/media.

Date	Meeting Topic
Monday, Feb. 2, 2015	Recommended Budget Document Presentation to City Council at Regular City Council Meeting
Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2015	Department Presentations: Information Services, City Attorney, City Manager's Office, City Council, City Clerk, Cable TV
Thursday, Feb. 5, 2015	Department Presentations: Library, Planning Services, Finance, Human Rights, Airport, Building Services
Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2015	Department Presentations: Housing & Community Development, Parking, The Jule Transit, Economic Development
Monday, Feb. 23, 2015	Department Presentations: Purchase of Services, Parks, Recreation, Five Flags Civic Center, Grand River Center
Tuesday, March 3, 2015	Department Presentations: Health Services, Emergency Management, Emergency Communications, Police, Fire
Thursday, March 5, 2015	Department Presentations: Water, Water & Resource Recovery Center, Public Works, Engineering
Thursday, March 12, 2015	Public Hearing to Adopt the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget

The recommended budget materials will be placed on the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget webpage at www.cityofdubuque.org/FY2016budget on Tuesday, Feb. 3, and will be available at the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 50 W. 13th St., and at the Reference Desk at the Carnegie-Stout Public Library at 360 W. 11th St. For additional information, call 563-589-4110.

New Name, Same Great Program for Rental Property Owners

Save the Date!

The City of Dubuque is sponsoring an educational program, Successful Rental Property Management (formerly known as Dubuque Crime-Free Multi-Housing Program,) for property owners and managers on all aspects of managing rental property. According to the City Code of Ordinances, as recommended by the Safe Community Task Force, all Dubuque rental property owners or their property managers **must** attend this program. *Licensed real estate professionals or those who have already completed this program are exempt.*

One attendee said, "The class was right on task for rental property owners. My tenant retention has gone up by years, saving me money and headaches."

The next sessions are scheduled for Thursday, March 5 and Saturday, March 14, from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. at NICC Town Clock Center, 680 Main St. Register online at www.nicc.edu/solutions and enter "Successful Rental Property Management" in the search box or call Northeast Iowa Community College at 563-557-8271, ext. 380. Additional information about the program, registration details, and training manual are available at www.cityofdubuque.org/srpm.



Do you have questions about City department services? Are you wondering how to be involved in the City's decision making? If so, City Life is for you!

City Life explores 17 City departments through presentations and dialogues over a 10-week period with participants meeting once a week from 6 - 9 p.m.

The next session of City Life will be offered in Spring 2015. Up to 25 community members can participate and so far over 60 community members have gone through the program.

For more information and photos of previous sessions, visit www.cityofdubuque.org/citylife or contact: Nikola Pavelic, Community Engagement Coordinator, at 563-589-4182 or by email at npavelic@cityofdubuque.org.



For more information on these and many more upcoming events, visit www.mfcdbq.org. Both FREE programs will be held at the MFC at 1157 Central Ave., and require registration by calling 563-582-3681.

SPICE: CULTURAL COOKING NIGHT

Free - everyone welcome

Multicultural Soup Night
Jan. 15, 5:30 - 7 p.m.
Multicultural Family Center, 1157 Central Ave.
Registration is required at 563-582-3681
Everyone is welcome to this FREE event.
Program includes making and enjoying a favorite meal. Children must be accompanied by an adult (program best suited for children over the age of 8).



DIVINE CULTURES

Free - all ages welcome

Saturdays, from 11 a.m. - Noon
January 17-Vietnam; January 24-Brazil;
January 31-Mexico; February 7-So. Sudan;
February 14-Haiti

Join Divine Word College students as they share their culture with Dubuque citizens. Through presentations and activities, students from around the world will share what is most divine about how they grew up. There will be music, dancing, writing in a new alphabet, a new way of counting, cooking, and discussions of customs and traditions. Call to register at 563-582-3681.



A MESSAGE from the CITY MANAGER

Michael C. Van Milligen

Job Growth

Dubuque and Dubuque County continue to experience significant job growth according to recent reports from Iowa Workforce Development. The total number of people employed in Dubuque County in October 2014 was 61,600. This represents an increase of 2,000 jobs in Dubuque County over October 2013. The entire state added 15,400 jobs during that 12-month period. Dubuque County has just three percent of the state's population but created 13 percent of all the new jobs in Iowa. Dubuque County's unemployment rate for October 2014 was 3.4 percent.

Dubuque Region Selected for State Parks Pilot Project

Iowa Governor Terry Branstad, the Iowa Parks Foundation, and the Green Ribbon Commission — a special state commission charged with developing a long-term and sustainable strategy to revitalize Iowa's State Parks systems — announced at the end of September that the Grant Wood Mississippi River Region was selected as the location for the first strategic Iowa parks pilot project. The region consists of Dubuque, Jackson, and Jones counties and includes four state parks, scenic byways, and the potential for land and water trail development. The City of Dubuque is partnering with Dubuque County, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and partners in Jackson and Jones counties on this

regional effort. The Grant Wood Mississippi River Region plans to expand infrastructure; create connections; and improve the structural, economic and community connections to its state, county and city parks. Our region was selected among four competing regions that offered long-term strategic plans to revitalize park systems in their areas.

The pilot project will be a public/private partnership funded by nearly \$2 million from the State Legislature and matched 5:1 by local governments, businesses, non-profit organizations, and individuals through additional funds or contributions of land or services. The pilot project will set the precedent for what can be accomplished in a region with dedicated strategic planning and sustainable funding.

Gov. Branstad believes that the Iowa Parks Foundation and the Green Ribbon Commission's strategic recommendations can create a lasting legacy for Iowa. The Iowa Parks system will celebrate its hundredth anniversary in 2020.

Dubuque Named One of World's 'Smart21 Communities'

The Intelligent Community Forum (ICF) recently named Dubuque as one of the world's Smart21 Communities of 2015. Dubuque is one of just five U.S. communities

named to the list of 21 communities in contention for the prestigious designation of Intelligent Community of the Year in June 2015.

Evaluation for the designation is based on five Intelligent Community Indicators, which provide the conceptual framework for understanding all of the factors that determine a community's competitiveness and point to its success in the broadband economy. In addition, the awards are guided by this year's theme, "The Revolutionary Community," which focuses on the study of urban and regional planning and how it is impacting the way people live, work and create in their cities and towns.

White House Names Dubuque a 'Climate Action Champion'

The White House has named Dubuque one of 16 Climate Action Champions, a diverse group of communities defining the frontier of ambitious climate action whose approaches can serve as a model for other communities to follow. The early December announcement cited Dubuque's greenhouse gas emission reduction targets of 50 percent below 2003 levels by 2030. Additionally, Dubuque is focused on flood risk reduction and resilience, especially as it relates to development and redevelopment of community infrastructure.

Dubuque will receive mentorship opportunities and targeted support from a range of federal programs. All 16 communities will be assigned a coordinator to foster coordination and communication across federal agencies, national organizations, and foundations in support of their efforts and raise awareness of funding and technical assistance opportunities. §

Interactive Map Features Little Free Libraries

Have you noticed all the Little Free Libraries around Dubuque? Two interactive maps are now available on the City of Dubuque's website that allow users to locate or add a location of their own Little Free Library (LFL) in the Dubuque community. One map allows users to add the location and information of their own LFL, and the other map locates an LFL nearest to the address the user provides. Check out the maps at www.cityofdubuque.org/GIS. §



Airport Receives 24th Consecutive Perfect Compliance Record

The Dubuque Regional Airport received its 24th consecutive year of perfect compliance with Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR) Part 139. FAR Part 139 governs safety standards for airfield operations, safety, and maintenance at airports served by commercial airlines. The Dubuque airport meets or exceeds all federally mandated standards, rules, and policies, which promote safety at all commercial airports. An FAA inspector evaluates the overall compliance in 23 separate categories.

No other airport in the country has a perfect FAR Part 139 safety compliance record for a consecutive 24-year period. §

Holiday Collections

New Year's Day collection: Saturday, Jan. 3
 Martin Luther King, Jr., Day (Jan. 19) collection:
 Saturday, Jan. 17

Yard Debris/Food Scrap Collection

Now through April 2, 2015, yard debris/food scrap collection will be on Thursdays, by appointment only. Call 563-589-4250 or submit a winter yard waste/food scraps collection appointment at www.cityofdubuque.org/yardwaste.

Merry Mulch Program

Christmas trees, yard waste and unscheduled food scraps in carts will be picked up Jan. 5 - 16 on regular collection days. Please attach a City brush tie or yard waste sticker.

Annual 2015 Yard Waste Decals are now on sale at the City Hall Utility Billing window. \$

New Faces & Retirements

The City of Dubuque welcomes these new employees:

Clayton Coleman - Transit

Kurt Diestelmeier - Police

Sharonda Johnson - Library

Beth Kaufmann - Library

Mary McAllister - Library

Zachary Ramage - Police

Congratulations to the employee who recently retired from the City of Dubuque:

Donald "Doc" Haverland - Airport

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 twitter.com/CityofDubuque

Contact Information

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

City Manager's Office
 50 W. 13th Street
 Dubuque, Iowa 52001-4864
 (563) 589-4110 phone
 ctymgr@cityofdubuque.org



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.

January

- 1 City offices closed for New Year's Day. Curbside collection will be Sat., Jan. 3
- 4-25 Hempstead Pool public open swimming, Sundays 1-4 p.m., adult lap swim/waterwalking 4-5 p.m.
- 5-16 Merry Mulch Christmas tree recycling program and yard waste collection. Call 563-589-4250 for details.
- 5 In-person, mail, e-mail and/or fax registration begins for Leisure Services Winter/Spring activities
- 5 City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 6 Environmental Stewardship Advisory Commission, 5 p.m., Conf. Room I, City Hall Annex
- 7 Cable TV Commission, 4 p.m., Conf. Room I, City Hall Annex
- 7 Zoning Advisory Commission, 6 p.m., Historic Federal Building
- 8 Transit Advisory Board, 4:15 p.m., Room 223, Historic Federal Building
- 12 Human Rights Commission, 3:30 p.m., Conf. Room II, City Hall Annex
- 13 Park and Recreation Commission, 4:30 p.m., Bunker Hill Golf Course Snack Bar
- 15 Historic Preservation Commission, 5:30 p.m., Historic Federal Building
- 19 City offices closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Curbside collection will be Sat., Jan. 17
- 19 23rd Annual Dr. King Breakfast, 7 a.m. Grand River Center. Pre-registration required by Jan. 13 at www.dbqfoundation.org/MLK or by calling 563-588-2700.
- 20 Housing Code Appeals Board, 4:30 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
- 20 City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 21 Community Development Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Bldg.
- 22 Zoning Board of Adjustment, 5 p.m., Historic Federal Building
- 22 Carnegie-Stout Public Library Board of Trustees, 4 p.m., Lacy Board Room
- 26 Five Flags Civic Center Commission, 3:30 p.m., Five Flags Civic Center
- 26 Airport Commission 4 p.m., Dubuque Jet Center
- 27 Housing Commission, 4 p.m. Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
- 27 Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission, 4:30 p.m., Lacy Board Room, C-S Public Library
- 28 Investment Oversight Advisory Committee Meeting, 3 p.m., Conf. Room A, City Hall

February

- 1-22 Hempstead Pool public open swimming, Sundays 1-4 p.m., adult lap swim/waterwalking 4-5 p.m.
- 2 City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 2 Recommended Budget Document Presentation to City Council at regular City Council Meeting 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 3 Environmental Stewardship Advisory Commission, 5 p.m., Conf. Room I, City Hall Annex
- 4 Cable TV Commission, 4 p.m., Conf. Room I, City Hall Annex
- 4 Zoning Advisory Commission, 6 p.m., Historic Federal Building
- 4 FY2016 Budget Hearing #1, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 5 FY2016 Budget Hearing #2, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 9 Human Rights Commission, 3:30 p.m., Conf. Room II, City Hall Annex
- 10 Park and Recreation Commission, 4:30 p.m., Bunker Hill Golf Course Snack Bar
- 10 FY2016 Budget Hearing #3, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 12 Transit Advisory Board, 4:15 p.m., Room 223, Historic Federal Building
- 16 City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 17 Housing Code Appeals Board, 4:30 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
- 18 Community Development Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Bldg.
- 18 Long Range Planning Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., Historic Federal Building
- 18 Carnegie-Stout Public Library Board of Trustees, 4 p.m., Lacy Board Room
- 18 Zoning Board of Adjustment, 5 p.m., Historic Federal Building
- 19 Historic Preservation Commission, 5:30 p.m., Historic Federal Building
- 23 Airport Commission 4 p.m., Dubuque Jet Center
- 23 FY2016 Budget Hearing #4, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 24 Housing Commission, 4 p.m. Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
- 24 Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission, 4:30 p.m., Lacy Board Room, C-S Public Library
- 26 Carnegie-Stout Public Library Board of Trustees, 4 p.m., Lacy Board Room
- 26 Zoning Board of Adjustment, 5 p.m., Historic Federal Building

City Hall: 50 W. 13th St.

City Hall Annex: 1300 Main St.

Historic Federal Building: 350 W. 6th St.

Carnegie-Stout Public Library: 360 W. 11th St.

Bunker Hill Snack Bar: 2200 Bunker Hill Rd.

Dubuque Jet Center: 11000 Airport Rd.