

NEWS RELEASE

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City Council Completes Annual Goal-Setting Sessions

DUBUQUE, Iowa – The Dubuque City Council completed its annual goal-setting sessions earlier this week. Over the course of two sessions in July and a follow-up session on Monday, City Council members reaffirmed the 15-year vision statement, mission statement, and goals. They also identified top and high priorities for a 2015-2017 policy agenda as well as a management agenda for projects and initiatives planned for 2015-2017.

The 2030 Dubuque Vision Statement

The city of Dubuque is a progressive, sustainable city with a strong diversified economy and expanding global connections. The Dubuque community is an inclusive community celebrating culture and heritage and has actively preserved our Masterpiece on the Mississippi. Dubuque citizens experience healthy living and retirement through quality, livable neighborhoods with an abundance of fun things to do; and are engaged in the community, achieving goals through partnerships. Dubuque city government is financially sound and is providing services with citizens getting value for their tax dollar.

Mission Statement

The City's Mission is to deliver excellent municipal services that support urban living and a sustainable city plan for the community's future and facilitate access to critical human services which result in financially sound government and citizens getting services and value for their tax dollar.

Five-Year Community Goals for a Sustainable Dubuque

- Economic Prosperity
- Environmental/Ecological Integrity
- Social/Cultural Vibrancy

Five-Year City Goals

- Planned and Managed Growth
- Partnering for a Better Dubuque
- Improved Connectivity: Transportation and Telecommunications

Five-Year Organization Goal

- Financially Responsible City Government and High-Performance Organization

2015 – 2017 Top Priorities (in alphabetical order):

1) East-West Corridor Study Implementation

City Goal: Improved Connectivity

Key Issues:

- Property acquisition
- Environmental assessment

- Funding for design and construction of roundabouts

2015-2017 Actions:

- Complete preliminary design and identify property acquisition parameters
- Maintain corridor preservation ordinance
- Development of a plan including prioritization of locations and capital improvement funding options

2) Environmental Stewardship Commission (Community Resiliency Commission)

Community Goal: Environmental/Ecological Integrity

Key Issues:

- Purpose and role of commission
- Size and diverse representation of community
- Staff support and funding

2015-2017 Actions:

- City Council approval of process to transition to new commission format
- Comprehensive community engagement effort to define purpose and role of commission and to recruit candidates

3) Historic Millwork District Parking (470 spaces)

City Goal: Improved Connectivity

Key Issues:

- Land acquisition
- Funding

2015-2017 Actions:

- Opening of new intermodal facility
- Property acquisition for construction of surface parking lots
- Funding strategy for design and construction of surface parking lots

4) Inclusive Dubuque Action Plan

Community Goal: Social/Cultural Vibrancy

Key Issues:

- Community engagement process on development of action plan for priority areas
- City role as a partner in implementation of action plan

2015-2017 Actions:

- Completion and analysis of Equity Profile assessment
- Development and implementation of Equity Profile Action Plan
- Quarterly reporting on implementation of Action Plan

5) Street Maintenance Program

City Goal: Improved Connectivity

Key Issues:

- Evaluate existing service level targets
- Funding to restore or expand service level targets

2015-2017 Actions:

- Review current program, assess condition of completed areas, and evaluate community needs
- Development of a strategy including prioritization of locations and budget options to maintain or increase service level

2015 – 2017 High Priorities (in alphabetical order):

1) Central Iowa Water Association

City Goal: Planned and Managed Growth

Key Issues:

- Annexation
- Funding
- Water Infrastructure

2015-2017 Actions:

- Research and prepare response to litigation
- Policy decisions on water extensions, annexation, and funding

2) City Economic Development

Community Goal: Economic Prosperity

Key Issues:

- Review staffing levels and partners
- Funding
- Goals and performance expectations

2015-2017 Actions:

- Identify partnership opportunities
- Develop strategic plan including funding

3) Citywide Flower-Planting Program

City Goal: Partnering for a Better Dubuque

Key Issues:

- Policy on use of volunteers
- Policy of location(s) for existing or new plantings and type of plant (annual vs. perennial)
- Funding and hiring freeze
- Ongoing operation and maintenance costs

2015-2017 Actions:

- Review current activities and assess community needs
- Development of a strategy including: prioritization of locations, plantings and staffing vs. volunteer needs and budget recommendations

4) Comprehensive Plan

City Goal: Planned and Managed Growth

Key Issues:

- Funding
- Community assessment and input process

2015-2017 Actions:

- Research alternative staffing and consultant options for development of process and creation of a new 20-year plan
- City Council direction on process and funding recommendations

5) Debt Reduction Policy

Organizational Goal: Financially Responsible City Government and High Performance Organization

Key Issues:

- Education for general public and for city staff

- Continued implementation of strategic debt reduction

2015-2017 Actions:

- Review and assessment of existing debt-reduction strategy
- Development of a policy for evaluating future use of debt for projects including: prioritization of capital projects and capital project assistance programs, project timing, and budget recommendations

6) Methane Gas Plan

Community Goal: Environmental/Ecological Integrity

Key Issues:

- Identify opportunities for methane gas reuse in city operations including BioCNG
- Development agreement for methane gas reuse

2015-2017 Actions:

- Develop cost/benefit analysis and policy for city vehicle conversion to BioCNG
- Negotiate agreement with private sector for methane gas reuse at Landfill and Water & Resource Recovery Center including capital investment requirements

7) Surveillance Camera Funding

Community Goal: Social/Cultural Vibrancy

Key Issues:

- Evaluate types of cameras for future purchase
- Funding and location of additional cameras
- Use and storage of data and information

2015-2017 Actions:

- Identify areas and phasing plan for installation of additional cameras, including access to existing or new fiber-optic connections
- Direction on funding for additional cameras and increased video storage capacity

2015 – 2017 Management Agenda (in alphabetical order):

1) Greater Dubuque Development Corporation: Sustainable Innovation

Community Goal: Economic Prosperity

Key Issues:

- Alternative energy options including bio compressed natural gas and hydropower
- IBM Smarter Cities partnership next phase

2015-2017 Actions:

- Council direction on agreement for use of bio compressed natural gas
- Analysis of hydropower opportunities
- IBM partnership agreement for workforce development and open data

2) Industrial Park Development

Community Goal: Economic Prosperity

Key Issues:

- Actions
- Funding

2015-2017 Actions:

- Develop budget options

- City Council direction on budget and timeline

3) National Incident/Event Report

Community Goal: Social/Cultural Vibrancy

Key Issues:

- Community engagement
- Community preparedness

2015-2017 Actions:

- Community engagement effort to identify issues
- Review other city and federal reports to develop local best practices
- Prepare report with local options and recommendations

4) Skate Park

City Goal: Partnering for a Better Dubuque

Key Issues:

- Location and scope of project

2015-2017 Actions:

- Contract for evaluation, design and site location
- Initiate private fundraising effort

5) Police: Review Best Practices

Organizational Goal: Financially Responsible City Government and High Performance Organization

Key Issues:

- Community engagement
- Community preparedness

2015-2017 Actions:

- Review 21st Century National Police Report to identify best practices and analyze opportunities for Dubuque
- Prepare action plan with options for City Council review and direction

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