

CITYnews



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Central Avenue Corridor Initiative Launched

The City of Dubuque has launched a new initiative to engage residents and stakeholders in planning for the revitalization of Dubuque's Central Avenue Corridor from 14th Street to 22nd Street.

The corridor connects the city's central downtown and Historic Millwork District to the North End and features a wide variety of historic buildings offering commercial and retail opportunities on the ground floor and residential spaces on upper floors. The goal of this initiative is the economic revitalization of the corridor through community engagement, educational outreach, and community-informed storefront and streetscape design.

"The scheduled completion of the Southwest Arterial in 2019 and subsequent removal of the majority of truck traffic from the corridor, combined with the improved resilience of the neighborhood thanks to the Bee Branch Creek Watershed Flood Mitigation Project, will create a prime environment for a renaissance," said Economic Development Director Maurice

Jones. He said the purpose of this initiative is to engage stakeholders in the process to prepare for and guide this renaissance. Stakeholders include business owners, employees, patrons, residents, landlords, social service agencies, community leaders, the City of Dubuque, and partner agencies.

To assist with the initiative, the City of Dubuque has entered into a collaborative relationship with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach (ISUEO). Specifically, ISUEO will assist with outreach and community engagement efforts, asset mapping of buildings and businesses in the corridor, and identification of additional partnership opportunities.

For more information, visit www.cityofdubuque.org/cac or contact the Economic Development Department at 563-589-4393 or econdev@cityofdubuque.org.

City Offers Food Scrap 'Recycling' Options

Weekly curbside collection of yard waste and food scraps on customers' regular collection days has resumed for the 2017 season. The City reminds its customers that multiple options are available to "recycle" food scraps rather than dispose of them with trash.

The City's curbside food scrap collection program accepts all food scraps (including meat and bones); coffee filters and tea bags; all food-soiled paper cups and paper plates; and paper towels, placemats, napkins, and bags. If you are unsure about what can or cannot be placed with food scraps/yard waste, use the Waste Wizard at www.cityofdubuque.org/rethinkwaste.

The City offers residential and commercial customers a subscription-based service with City-provided tipper carts. Monthly costs for residential and K-12 school customers are: \$1 for 13-gallon container, \$8 for 48-gallon container, and \$11 for 65-gallon container. Commercial subscriptions are also available.

Food scraps collected by the City are transported to the Dubuque Metropolitan Area Solid Waste Agency's landfill on U.S. Highway 20, where they are processed with yard waste and converted to compost.

For additional information on this service, contact the Public Works Department at 563-589-4250.

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SPRING CLEANING?

Did you know that the City of Dubuque offers curbside collection of large items?

Items include, but are not limited to:

- Microwaves - Stoves
- Dishwashers - Freezers
- Refrigerators - Furnaces
- Air Conditioners
- Water Heaters
- Washing Machines - Dryers
- Dehumidifiers - Chillers



*No TVs, computers or other electronics

Call 563.589.4250 for pricing and to schedule a collection. For a full list of acceptable and unacceptable items, visit www.cityofdubuque.org/LIPU

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center Reopens



Household hazardous wastes, such as oil-based paint, motor oil, lawn chemicals, and other chemicals, should not be disposed of in trash cans, floor drains, or storm sewers. Please safely dispose of these items at the Dubuque Metropolitan Area Solid Waste Agency (DMASWA) Regional Collection Center located just off U.S. 20 west of Dubuque. This service is FREE to Dubuque and Delaware County households. Materials can be dropped off anytime between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday, through October 2017. No appointments are needed for residential customers. For more information, visit www.dmaswa.org or call 563-557-8220. §

Parking Division Office Moves to Intermodal Transportation Center

The City's parking division's administrative and parking enforcement staff and offices have moved from the Locust Street Parking Ramp to the Intermodal Transportation Center at 950 Elm St. in the Millwork District. Parking tickets can continue to be paid at City Hall, online at www.cityofdubuque.org/parkingtickets, and can also be paid at the Intermodal Center. Monthly ramp and surface lot parking requests, as well as residential and disabled parking requests, can be made in person at the Intermodal Center, or forms for these processes are available at www.cityofdubuque.org/parking.

The move allows parking division administrative and parking enforcement staff to be co-located with The Jule public transit administrative staff and is expected to create operational efficiencies and improved customer service. The parking division phone number, 563-589-4266, has not changed. §



Usha Park
(3937 Pennsylvania Ave.)
has been
designated a
pesticide-free park!

For a complete list of pesticide-free parks, visit www.cityofdubuque.org/ipm.

Summer Reading Programs Fun for All Ages

Carnegie-Stout Public Library offers summer reading programs for all ages from June 5 - August 11. Registration for both programs begins on Monday, June 5, at the library, or online at www.dubuque.lib.ia.us. Readers will receive the first reading log when signing up and can win prizes during the programs as well as become eligible for a grand prize. §

May is Building Safety Month

May is designated Building Safety Month to help communities understand what it takes to create safe and sustainable structures during renovations, repairs, or new construction. Please remember to contact the City of Dubuque Building Services Department and apply for permits prior to starting your projects to allow the department to review, support, and answer any questions to keep your projects and our community safe. For more information, visit www.cityofdubuque.org/buildingservices or call 563-589-4150. §

Recognize Local Public Service

Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW) is May 7-13, 2017. Celebrated the first week of May since 1985, PSRW was created to honor the men and women who serve our nation as federal, state, county, and local government employees. Please help the City of Dubuque recognize the contributions of City staff by sharing your thoughts on why you appreciate City employees or how they positively impact our community. General comments are welcome, but feel free to share specific examples of City of Dubuque employees whose work is making Dubuque a better place. Please share your thoughts by May 3 by submitting the form at www.cityofdubuque.org/PSRW, calling 563-589-4151, or mailing a note to City of Dubuque Public Information Office, 50 W. 13th St., Dubuque, IA, 52001. Thank you. §

Civil Service Commission Vacancy

The City of Dubuque Civil Service Commission has an opening for a qualified commissioner. Pursuant to Chapter 400 of the Iowa Code, the civil service commission is responsible for establishing guidelines for entrance and promotional examinations as well as scheduling and conducting the examinations for the City's nearly 350 civil service positions. The commission may occasionally conduct appeal hearings.

Commissioners are appointed by the mayor, serve four-year terms, and must be residents of the city preceding their appointment. The commission meets on-call approximately once per month and conducts examinations as necessary.

Applications can be completed online at www.cityofdubuque.org/boards. Contact the City Clerk's Office at 563-589-4100 for more information. §

Have you Imagined Dubuque? Be a part of shaping Dubuque's future!



Imagine Dubuque, the campaign for the new City of Dubuque Comprehensive Plan, asks residents to share their ideas to make Dubuque a more viable, livable, and equitable community. Share what you love about Dubuque, what could be improved, or what you would like to see. Visit the project website at www.imaginedubuque.com or download the free project app to learn more about the project, upcoming events, and to share your idea today. Your ideas matter!



A MESSAGE from the CITY MANAGER

Michael C. Van Milligen

The Mayor and City Council received the City Manager's budget recommendation on February 6. They then held six public meetings and a final public hearing where they received public comments and then decided to approve a budget which had been amended from the original recommendation.

The March 7 public hearing was the end of the annual budget process that began with community engagement activities in spring 2016 and concluded with a series of six public meetings in February 2017 to accept public input and review City department/division budget details.

The City's total budget for FY2018 is \$169.8 million, an 8.28 percent reduction from FY2017. The operating budget (\$129.4 million) is a 0.06 percent reduction from FY2017 while the capital budget (\$40.3 million) represents a 27.48 percent reduction from FY2017.

Debt Reduction

The adopted budget includes new measures to expedite the City's debt-reduction plan. Previously, the City was scheduled to continue reducing debt and be at 79 percent of its statutory debt limit in FY2018 and continue that trend and reach 66 percent in FY2025. Instead, under the new budget, the City will be at 64 percent of its statutory debt limit in FY2018 and be down to just 24 percent in FY2027.

Cash Reserve Fund Increases

The City maintains a general fund reserve, or working balance, to allow for unforeseen expenses that may occur. Under the new budget, this reserve will increase by \$5.925 million (54.24 percent) over the next seven years. It will grow from almost \$9.9 million in the current fiscal year to nearly \$14.2 million in FY2022.

City Portion of Property Taxes

The adopted property tax rate for the City portion of property taxes is \$10.89 per thousand dollars assessed value, a 2.47 percent reduction from FY2017. In terms of the impact on property owners in each of the four property classes, the \$10.89 rate represents no change for residential properties, a 2.47 percent reduction for commercial properties (or \$83.02 less for the average commercial property), 2.47 percent reduction for industrial properties (or \$124.43 less for the average industrial property), and a 6.71 percent reduction for multi-residential properties (or \$144.91 less for the average multi-residential property).

When compared to the FY2017 rates of Iowa's 11 largest cities, Dubuque's FY2018 property tax rate of \$10.89 is the second lowest. The average of those 11 cities (\$15.31) is 41 percent higher than Dubuque and the highest (Council Bluffs, \$17.75) is 63 percent higher.

Rates & Fees

The FY2018 budget includes the following rate and fee increases, which will be effective July 1, 2017:

- sewer rates will increase by \$1.14 per month for an average residential customer;
- water rates will increase by \$0.83 per month for an average residential customer;
- solid waste collection rates will increase by \$0.34 per month for an average residential customer; and
- stormwater rates will increase \$0.46 per month per standard family unit (SFU) equivalent.

Expansion of Transit Evening Service Hours

The adopted budget also includes funding for The Jule to expand its hours of fixed-route and MiniBus service to 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. every weekday. Service hours on Fridays and Saturdays are extended to 9 p.m. in summer and until 2:40 a.m. during the school year. This additional service is partially funded through Saturday service efficiencies.

Staffing Level

The new budget also includes some staffing changes with the net result of the City's staffing level being reduced by 2.87 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions in FY2018 to a total of 703.92 FTE. Additionally, 13.6 FTE positions remain frozen (unfilled vacancies).

Complete details on the budget are available at www.cityofdubuque.org/FY2018budget. §

June is NATIONAL HEALTHY HOMES Month



*Everyone Deserves a
Safe and Healthy Home*

Did you know?

- Your indoor home environment is closely linked to your health.
- A working smoke alarm can **cut in half** the chance of someone dying in a fire.
- Radon is the **second main cause of lung cancer** in the US.

*Learn more about these and other healthy home facts at
www.cityofdubuque.org/healthyhomes*

Last Chance to See the 2016-17 Art on the River Exhibit

Vote for your favorite Art on the River sculpture for the People's Choice Award before the close of the 2016 exhibit in early June. Visit the exhibit at the Port of Dubuque's Mississippi Riverwalk or view the selections online at www.cityofdubuque.org/artontheriver. New works will be selected and revealed at the opening reception scheduled for Thurs., June 29, at 5 p.m. at the Grand River Center. A kids' tour and reception will be held from 3:30 - 4:30. Set a reminder – this fun event is free and open to the public. Guests can meet the artists and find new pieces of art to love. For additional information, call 563-589-4393, visit www.facebook.com/ArtsandCultureDBQ, or email dalleyne@cityofdubuque.org. §

The City of Dubuque welcomes these new employees:

Denny Arensdorf - Parking	Austin Millius - Emergency Communications
Evan Armour - Police	
Peter Fleming - Police	Lisa Powers - Transit
Michael Hancock - Transit	Steven Schulz - Public Works
	Renee Tyler - Public Works

The City of Dubuque congratulates these recent retirees:

Steven Heinz - Transit	Daniel Starkey - Public Works
Tim Horsfield - Parking	Janet Walker - Housing

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

Catfish Creek Watershed Management Authority	Investment Oversight Advisory Commission
Steve Drahozal	Franz Becker
Neal Patten	

Resilient Community Advisory Commission	Sister City Relationship Advisory Commission
Dean Boles	Sheila Castaneda
Sara Booth	Robert Felderman
Benjamin Darr	Dick Landis
Steve Drahozal	Annalee Ward

Housing Commission	Housing Commission
Robin Kennicker	Brett Shaw
Carrie Lohmann	
Laura Roussell	Community Development Advisory Commission
Leah Specht	Sara Burley

Human Rights Commission	Mechanical and Plumbing Code Board
Gail Chavenelle	Tom Giese
Miquel Jackson	
Jay Schiesl	

Housing Board of Appeals	Zoning Board of Adjustments
Gil Spence	Bethany Golombeski
David Young	

Community Development Advisory Commission
Robert W. Blok

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
Phone: (563) 589-4110 Email: 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.

May

- 1 City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Bldg.
- 3 Cable TV Commission, 4 p.m., Conf. Room I, City Hall Annex
- 3 Zoning Advisory Commission, 6 p.m., Historic Federal Building
- 6 City parks open for 2017 season
- 8 Human Rights Commission, 4:30 p.m., Conf. Room II, City Hall Annex
- 9 Park and Recreation Commission, 4:30 p.m., Location TBD
- 11 Transit Advisory Board, 4:15 p.m., Intermodal Conf. Rm., 950 Elm. St.
- 15 City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Bldg.
- 16 Housing Board of Appeals, 4:30 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
- 17 Assisted Housing Resident Advisory Board, 11:30 a.m., Historic Federal Building
- 17 Community Development Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
- 17 Long Range Planning Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., Historic Federal Bldg.
- 18 Historic Preservation Commission, 5:30 p.m., Historic Federal Building
- 20 National Kids to Parks Day - Free admission to Eagle Point Park
- 22 Civic Center Commission Meeting, 3:30 p.m., Five Flags Civic Center
- 22 Airport Commission 4 p.m., Dubuque Jet Center
- 22 City Council Work Session walking tour of Upper Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project, 5:30 p.m., parking area of Garfield Ave/Pine St.
- 23 Housing Commission, 4 p.m. Suite 312, Historic Federal Bldg.
- 23 Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission, 4:30 p.m., Lacy Board Room, Carnegie-Stout Public Library
- 25 Carnegie-Stout Public Library Board of Trustees, 4 p.m., Lacy Board Room
- 25 Zoning Board of Adjustment, 5 p.m., Historic Federal Building
- 27 Tentative opening date for Sutton and Flora pools
- 29 City offices closed for Memorial Day (Trash and recycling collection on Sat., May 27)

June

- 1 Resilient Community Advisory Commission, 5 p.m., Conf. Room I, City Hall Annex
- 5 City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Bldg.
- 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., Intermodal Conf. Rm., 950 Elm. St.
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- 13 Park and Recreation Commission, 4:30 p.m., Location TBD
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- 21 Community Development Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
- 21 Long Range Planning Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., Historic Federal Bldg.
- 22 Carnegie-Stout Public Library Board of Trustees, 4 p.m., Lacy Board Room
- 22 Zoning Board of Adjustment, 4 p.m., Historic Federal Building
- 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, Carnegie-Stout Public Library

This calendar does not include all events, and is subject to change. Are you using Dubuque's "Notify Me" e-mail alert system? If not, please sign up today at www.cityofdubuque.org/notifyme to receive agendas, news releases, event notifications, and other timely news.

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.
Intermodal Transportation Center: 950 Elm St.