



STATE OF THE CITY

Mayor Roy D. Buol Fall 2019

Maintaining Momentum Requires Strategic Goals

The changing of the seasons, especially the transition from summer to fall, is a time for both reflection and planning. The theme of the Fall 2019 State of the City message is about the importance of establishing strategic goals that will continue the positive momentum of the past, well into the future.

City Council Goals

The City Council's annual, facilitated, goal-setting sessions took place in mid-August, at which time the City's 15-year vision statement for the community and the mission statement for the city organization were affirmed. We identified eight five-year goals for the city; top and high priorities for a 2019-2021 policy agenda; and a management agenda for 2019-2021 planned projects and initiatives.

Dubuque 2034 Vision Statement

"Dubuque 2034 is a sustainable and resilient city and an inclusive and equitable community. Dubuque 2034 has preserved our Masterpiece on the Mississippi, has a strong diverse economy and expanding connectivity. Our residents experience healthy living and active lifestyles; have choices of quality, livable neighborhoods; have an abundance of fun things to do; and are engaged in the community.

City of Dubuque Mission Statement

"Dubuque city government is progressive and financially sound with residents receiving value for their tax dollars and achieving goals through partnerships. Dubuque city government'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."

City Council Adopted Five-Year Goals for Dubuque

- Robust Local Economy: Diverse Businesses and Jobs with Economic Prosperity
- Vibrant Community: Healthy and Safe
- Livable Neighborhoods and Housing: Great Place to Live
- Financially Responsible, High-Performance City Organization: Sustainable, Equitable, and Effective Service Delivery
- Sustainable Environment: Preserving and Enhancing Natural Resources
- Partnership for a Better Dubuque: Building Our Community that is Viable, Livable, and Equitable
- Diverse Arts, Culture, Parks, and Recreation Experiences and Activities
- Connected Community: Equitable Transportation, Technology Infrastructure, and Mobility

These goals are reflected in the three-year Policy Agenda and three-year Management Agenda that also were adopted as part of the goal-setting process.

Policy agenda items are issues that need direction or a policy decision by the City Council or need a major funding decision by the City Council, or issues that need City Council leadership in the community or with other governmental bodies. Management agenda items are issues for which the City Council has set the overall direction and provided initial funding, may require further City Council action or funding, or are major management projects that may take multiple years to implement.

Both the policy agenda and the management agenda each contain lists of top priority and high priority projects and issues.

Climate Action Goals

The City of Dubuque adopted the "Dubuque Community Climate Action and Resiliency Plan" in 2013. Efforts are under way to update to this plan and to reach our goal to reduce community-wide GHG emissions 50 percent below 2003 levels by 2030. The original plan was a mitigation plan and the updated plan also will explore adaptation strategies. The overall goal of this effort is to develop a comprehensive, science-based, robust, equitable and innovative climate action plan that will:

- Review global and local climate challenges and define the challenges and opportunities we face in meeting ambitious climate and GHG reduction goals;
- Serve as a mechanism to unify the City's existing and developing sustainability initiatives, strategies, and plans with appropriate climate science targets and the community's desired priorities;
- Establish a set of climate action strategies, implementation plans, and metrics for measuring outputs and outcomes, lowering community-wide greenhouse emissions, and empowering and engaging residents, businesses, and institutions with positive actions and tangible benefits; and
- Prioritize implementation strategies using an equity toolkit in order to ensure benefits for all members of the community.

As Dubuque does with all strategic plans, robust community engagement will be an essential element of the climate action plan update. I invite and encourage all residents and stakeholders to watch for opportunities in the coming months to share ideas and concerns that will help to inform the City of Dubuque's continued progress to address climate change impacts and to ensure the security of our community.