

**CITY OF DUBUQUE, IOWA  
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
SPECIAL SESSION**

The Dubuque City Council met in special session at 6:30 p.m. on January 11, 2021.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and mandates for social distancing, this meeting was conducted virtually via GoToMeeting and aired live on CityChannel Dubuque (Mediacom cable channels 8 and 117.2) and streamed live on the City's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/cityofdubuque](https://www.facebook.com/cityofdubuque). The meeting was scheduled to stream live on the City's website at [www.cityofdubuque.org/media](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/media), but the live stream did not occur due to technical difficulties. The archived meeting video is available on the City's website.

Present: Mayor Buol; Council Members Cavanagh, Jones, Lynch, Resnick, Roussell, Sprank; City Manager Van Milligen, City Attorney Brumwell.

Mayor Buol read the call and stated this is a special session of the City Council called for the purpose of conducting a work session on the Draft Equitable Poverty Prevention Plan.

**WORK SESSION  
DRAFT EQUITABLE POVERTY PREVENTION PLAN**

Planning Services Manager Wally Wernimont introduced the work session on the Draft Equitable Poverty Prevention Plan. Mr. Wernimont introduced Eric Schnurer, President of Public Works, LLC, the consulting firm that the City retained to help create the Equitable Poverty Prevention Plan. Mr. Schnurer provided an overview of Public Works, LLC and introduced consultant Dr. Linda Rhodes, who served as lead on the Draft Equitable Poverty Prevention Plan. Dr. Rhodes provided a video and power point presentation on the Draft Equitable Poverty Prevention Plan. Topics included:

- Scope of work;
- Methods used by Public Works, LLC to conduct the work;
- Understanding poverty:
  - Defining poverty in Dubuque
  - Measuring poverty in Dubuque
  - Rising poverty in Dubuque
  - Racial disparities: poverty in Dubuque
- Taking on poverty: the determinants and promising practices:
  - Economic insecurity
  - Transportation
  - Education and skills training
  - Health and food insecurity
  - Racial equity
  - Housing

- Children and youth
- Taking on poverty: infrastructure:
  - Obstacles to access:
  - Promising practices
  - Collective impact vs. silos
  - Foundational principle
- City of Dubuque office of shared prosperity:
  - Leadership
  - Areas of engagement
  - Citizen input
  - Anchors
  - Data collaborative
  - Grants and internships

Dr. Rhodes, Mr. Wernimont, and City Manager Van Milligen responded to questions from the City Council following the presentation. The City Council provided feedback on potentially renaming the Equitable Poverty Prevention Plan, establishing goals to reduce the number of families in poverty, and the need for broad community support for the plan. Mr. Wernimont stated the next steps for the plan are for City staff and Public Works, LLC to use City Council's feedback from tonight's work session to revise the draft plan. The plan will then be formally adopted at a future City Council meeting. After the plan is adopted, City staff will work with the City Manager on budgeting and implementation.

There being no further business, Mayor Buol declared the meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

/s/Adrienne N. Breitfelder  
City Clerk