



CITY OF DAVENPORT
CITY ADMINISTRATOR MONTHLY UPDATE
May **2022**



THE CITY OF
DAVENPORT
IOWA | USA

VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK PHASE 2 GROUNDBREAKING

VIBRANT
REGION



Club members of the Friends of Veterans Memorial Park, City staff, City Council members, and Veterans celebrated the groundbreaking on Phase 2 construction at Veterans Memorial Park. This phase of the project has been 10 years in the making and will include development and installation of a river overlook amenity, installation of an 8' x 40' custom mural representing all five branches of the military by local artist Dave Schaeffer, and preparation of proposed trail sites. Construction began the week of May 16.

WELCOMING
NEIGHBORHOODS



PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Each year Davenport Parks and Recreation is awarded \$350,000 in Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) funding for the Park Development Program. This funding is used for projects, equipment, and special requests not typically covered by general funds or the operating budget. Over the years this program has replaced playgrounds, enhanced park amenities, updated facilities, purchased equipment, created new program opportunities, and more. Staff are encouraged to submit project ideas for consideration. After review and ranking by the Parks Advisory Board and City Council approval, 12 projects will move forward. These include much needed repairs at the Davenport Skate Park, replacement of equipment at The River's Edge, a new inclusive swing, We-Go Swing at Gabe's All Inclusive Play Village at Vander Veer Botanical Park, replacement and updating of Special Olympics sports equipment, a new maintenance building at the City Cemetery, updating of all DPR vehicle branding, exterior improvements at Davenport Junior Theatre, new flooring at the Credit Island Lodge, Cougar House roof replacement at Fejervary Park, a restroom renovation at Duck Creek Golf Course, and the purchase of a new multi-use mower and turf tractor for the golf courses.



SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE



WATER RESILIENCY STUDY

Davenport's ongoing effort to improve the City's resilience to natural and manmade disasters has resulted in assistance from the US EPA in evaluating the resilience of the community's waste infrastructure.

Last fall, the US EPA reached out to several communities across the US to seek interested candidates for a disaster debris and waste infrastructure resilience study. Davenport was selected as one of ten communities and, since that time, has been working with the EPA, their partners Eastern Research Group and RTI International, the Waste Commission of Scott County, and the Scott County EMA to evaluate the City's waste management system and resilience to disaster.

The study will:

- Evaluate the cost and life-cycle environmental impacts of the current municipal solid waste system
- Provide access to debris and waste management tools and information
- Project potential debris volume, cost and environmental impact based on a significant event in support of debris management planning activities
- Evaluate local capacity for the potential volume of debris from a significant event and suggest alternative processing methods that might be employed

The Davenport/Scott County waste system analysis follows a study of a coastal community a few years earlier. Our community looks forward to incorporating the study results into Davenport and Scott County's Debris Management Plan and learning more about potential optimization of waste and debris management and GHG emission reduction opportunities when the results of the study are made available later this fall.

WELL-PROTECTED COMMUNITY



GROUP VIOLENCE INTERVENTION

The City has hired a new Group Violence Intervention Coordinator. This coordinator will be responsible for executing the implementation of the GVI strategy in alignment with our key community partners. DeAmbuir Carter began in the new role as of May 16.

In addition, trainers from National Network for Safe Communities provided training on custom notifications to law enforcement and community partners on May 19 and 20. Custom notifications are a key element of the GVI strategy that enables quick, tactical, direct communication to particular group members at risk of violent offending or victimization. Custom notifications articulate that group members are valued members of the community, give individualized information about their legal risk if violence persists, and offer opportunities for help. They effectively interrupt group "beefs", avoid retaliation after incidents, calm outbreaks of violence, and reinforce the GVI message. It is anticipated that regular custom notifications with group involved members will begin by mid-summer.

HIGH-PERFORMING GOVERNMENT



PARK ADVISORY BOARD SPRING TOUR 2022

Park Advisory Board members and staff participated in the annual Spring Tour. The goal of the tour is to highlight for PAB members current and upcoming projects in parks. The tour this year included Dohse Pool, Roosevelt Community Center, Davenport Skate Park, and Main Street Landing/Quinlan Court. The group was joined by Alderman Jobgen at stop #3, Davenport Skate Park. Following the tour, PAB members, their families, Council members, and staff participated in the VIP Preview of Cosmic Golf, a new night-time driving range amenity coming this summer.





DREAM PLUS

Building on the previous successes of the DREAM Project, a neighborhood consisting of roughly 700 parcels was selected (informally referred to as the “Gaines Street Corridor”) for a targeted disbursement of funds. The focus of these projects will address exterior improvements, health and safety issues, mechanicals, and energy efficiency related items. The application period was open to both owner-occupied and residential rental properties in the Gaines Street Corridor for the month of April. Staff received 82 eligible current homeowner applications and 47 eligible rental property applications.

DAVENPORT DREAM *plus*



CEC MARINE LITTER REDUCTION PROJECT

A trash capture device may be coming to a creek in Davenport soon. Davenport has been invited, along with other agencies in the Quad City region, to potentially participate in a three-year project that would capture, analyze, and educate the community about litter for the health of our local and global waterways. The Marine Litter Reduction project is an initiative of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) in partnership with the EPA.

Staff, the Waste Commission of Scott County, and other agencies met with CEC contractor Osprey International about potential trash capture device locations and field visits on Tuesday, May 24. The Osprey team will be evaluating what they learned and come back to the City in early June with some potential device(s) and location(s).

Of particular note, the project is being carried out in one community in three countries. A project location in Canada and Mexico is yet to be identified. During the three-year project period, the devices in each country will be emptied and analyzed by the CEC contractor for approximately two years. With data in hand, the litter collection will be followed by stakeholder workshops, community planning, engagement activities, and education on the impacts of litter.

Updates will be provided to the community in the coming months.

GNP RESOURCE TRAILER

Parks and Recreation, the Davenport Police Department, and other City staff worked collectively in the spring of 2021 to earn a Regional Development Act (RDA) grant to help turn a dream into reality. The Good Neighbor Project (GNP) Resource Trailer will be available to reserve in summer 2022. This trailer will provide GNP leaders and their neighborhoods necessary resources to host a productive meeting, popular celebration, and more. It is filled with both useful equipment and entertaining games that neighbors might not already have, making their next meeting, block party, or discussion group a success.



HIGH-PERFORMING
GOVERNMENT



DAVENPORT U CITIZENS ACADEMY COHORT 6 GRADUATES

The 6th cohort of DavenportU Citizens Academy graduated in May and it is easy to see why this program continues to be a success! It is displayed through the efforts of City staff as well as DavenportU students. The amount of preparation that goes into this 9-week program is nothing short of impressive. Each session is thoughtfully planned out offering a lecture, activities, and tours, giving attendees two and a half hours full of information and a behind-the-scenes look at how the City of Davenport operates.

This year's cohort was incredibly engaged, open to experiencing each activity thrown their way, and gained a lot of knowledge from this program. We are so pleased that this cohort took the opportunity and made the most of DavenportU Citizens Academy 2022.



Letter: Thanks to citizens academy

As a Cohort of Davenport U 2022 Citizens Academy, I and my fellow Cohorts wish to publicly thank all who were involved in the planning, scheduling, procuring, and production of the multiple facets that resulted in a highly successful and over-the-top experience for the attendees.

Speaking for myself, I went into the first session not knowing what to expect. I knew that I wanted to better understand the workings of the city. When a topic of concern would come up in conversation over the backyard fence, I wanted to know real answers. Questions about the City of Davenport's governing powers and their goals, exactly how are our tax dollars at work, what safeguards are in place, just what can I as a citizen of Davenport expect to see? When you really start digging in to topics, there are questions that need answers. And then there were the questions that had never come to mind, but you were able to answer those too.

A program like Citizens Academy doesn't just happen. Your efforts and expertise were noticed and appreciated. To all who contributed, congratulations on a job well done!



DAVENPORT POLICE RECRUITMENT AND NEW HIRE UPDATE

WELL-PROTECTED
COMMUNITY



Three Probationary Police Officers have completed the Field Officer Training program and were assigned to the Patrol Division serving the Davenport community. One Probationary Police Officer is in the final stages of the Field Training Officer program. Five Probationary Police Officers graduated the ILEA Academy in late April and began the Field Officer Training program in early May. Once their training is completed, they will join the Patrol Division.

Four Probationary Police Officers, Riley McIntyre, Omar Alcala, Mark Rappel, and Zachary Morgan, started their 16-week training at the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy on May 3, 2022.

The Davenport Police Department is in the final phases of the April application process with a Civil Service list expected to be certified in mid-June. Another application process for the position of Police Officer was open from May 2 – 22 with a Civil Service list expected to be certified on July 13. Individuals offered employment from both recruitment processes will begin their 16-week ILEA Basic Academy Training on August 30. Another recruitment process is expected this fall.

Four other personnel were promoted this spring including Officers Pat Sievert and Robert Farra to the rank of Corporal, Corporal Greg Lalla to the rank of Sergeant, and Sergeant Austin Kean to the rank of Lieutenant.

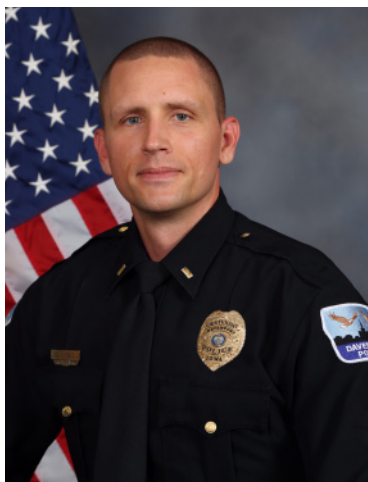
Employee Spotlight



CAPTAIN JAMIE BROWN DAVENPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

Captain Jaime Brown was selected as the Davenport Noon Optimist's Annual Sergeant Kevin Marxen Respect for Law Award recipient. This annual award is given to a Davenport Police Officer for outstanding performance of his or her duties and dedication to the profession. Captain Brown is a 27-year veteran of the department and has served in all divisions within the agency and has worked in numerous critical assignments and incidents. During his career, Brown served as a Field Training Officer, Gang Unit/Street Crimes Investigator, and 15-year member of the

Emergency Services Team. Brown has served as a Patrol Supervisor, CID Supervisor, Internal Affairs Officer, Traffic Safety Bureau Commander, and Crime Prevention Bureau Commander. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Brown played a key role in developing policy and protocol for the department, specifically the Patrol Division, to ensure the agency's emergency response continued without disruption while keeping employees safe. In 2020, like other cities in the U.S., the City of Davenport experienced civil unrest and violence after the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Captain Brown's leadership was demonstrated as he responded from home to help on-duty personnel coordinate a response to mobile rioting and violence by joining other command staff officers at a unified command post. In addition, Captain Brown was instrumental in enhancing a departmental officer fitness and employee wellness program. Captain Brown currently serves as the Emergency Services Team Commander and Criminal Investigations Division Commander.



LIEUTENANT AUSTIN KEAN DAVENPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

Sergeant Austin Kean was recently promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Kean, a 15-year veteran of the department, has served on all three patrol shifts, as a Detective in the Tactical Operations Bureau, and as the department's Range Officer where he was heavily involved in departmental training. He has thirteen years of experience on the department's

Emergency Services Team and currently serves as the Team's Tactical Commander as well as the Night Shift Patrol Commander.

Way to go!

Code Enforcement Officers, Chris Haut and Tony Haut, noticed a smoky haze and odor during a routine survey of potential demolition properties. After investigating, the team located the source, a sparking extension cord in a backyard bed of leaves starting to smolder. Tony was able to alert the residents of the property while Chris contacted 911. They were able to extinguish the fire and disconnect the faulty cord preventing further damage to the property and the residents.

Community Engagement

MOVIES ON THE MISSISSIPPI

The Riverfront Improvement Commission hosted the first Movies on the Mississippi for the 2022 summer. Over 300 residents attended, enjoying games, activities, and treats from their favorite food vendors.



NATIONAL POLICE WEEK AND POLICE MEMORIAL DAY

The Davenport Police Department hosted the 2022 Davenport Police Department Memorial Service honoring the four officers from the department who gave their lives in the line of duty to protect the citizens of Davenport. Family members of the fallen Davenport Officers were in attendance and honored followed by processions and gravesite memorials for each officer.



COFFEE WITH A COP WRAP UP

The second Annual Coffee with a Cop tour was a great success. The Davenport Police Department and Hy-Vee hosted five events on various Thursday mornings, March 24 through May 12. Officers of all ranks, City staff, and elected officials were present for the hour-long get-togethers to talk with residents, answer questions, and address concerns. Free coffee and pastries were provided at each event courtesy of Hy-Vee. It has been such an encouraging experience to see the positive outcome Coffee with a Cop gatherings bring to our community and we look forward to continuing this event!



GET OUT AND TRAIL

On Saturday, May 7 residents from all over the Quad Cities took part in a celebration and exploration of QC trails. Participants were able to explore trails on both sides of the river as pedestrians or cyclists and visit hosted stops to learn more about local agencies, win prizes, and enter raffles. After a three-year hiatus, this event returned as part of the City-wide summer theme Beyond the Beaten Path and was in partnership with City of Davenport Parks and Recreation, Davenport Public Library, Golf Davenport, Davenport Riverfront Improvement Commission, Freight House Farmers' Market, Nahant Marsh Education Center, City of Rock Island Parks and Recreation, Visit Quad Cities, City of Riverdale Parks and Recreation, Bi-State Regional Commission, Quad City Cycling Club, City of Bettendorf Parks and Recreation, Bettendorf Trails Committee, River Action, and City of Moline Parks and Recreation.



WEST HIGH SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

City staff, Mayor Matson, and Lorrie Beaman, Executive Director of the Freight House Farmers' Market, listened to West High School student presentations from Mr. Greg Smith's IEP class. The Riverfront Improvement Commission is partnering with these students to design collapsible wooden cocktail tables to be used at various events along the riverfront and at the Freight House to provide additional seating.

