



THE CITY OF
DAVENPORT
IOWA | USA

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MIDWESTERN REGION
WELCOMING VIBRANT
NEIGHBORHOODS FISCAL VITALITY
HIGH-PERFORMING GOVERNMENT

CITY OF DAVENPORT

WELL-PROTECTED
GOALS HONEST
RESILIENT COUNCIL
COMMUNITY
SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE
GIVING

.....
CITY ADMINISTRATOR
MONTHLY UPDATE

July 2022





Davenport Police Department announces **NEW CHIEF OF POLICE**



Major Jeffery Bladel

On July 18, the City of Davenport announced that 27-year veteran of the Davenport Police Department Major Jeffery Bladel was selected as the new Police Chief effective August 30. Major Bladel has served as the Assistant Chief of Police since 2016.

Throughout his career with the Davenport Police Department, Major Bladel has served in all operational divisions of the department. During his tenure as Assistant Chief, Major Bladel was responsible for overseeing several key departmental initiatives aimed at addressing violent crime including the QC NIBIN Initiative, implementation of a new crime analysis unit, and launching of a group violence intervention strategy.

“I am honored to be named as the next Chief of Police for the City of Davenport,” said Major Bladel.

“The Davenport Police Department is comprised of extraordinary men and women and it is a privilege to work with such a tremendous team. Our officers and professional staff have been steadfast and resolute in their commitment to keeping our community safe, and I couldn’t be more proud of the work they do each and every day.”





National Public Safety Partnership Update



The Davenport Police Department is currently in its third year of the Department of Justice’s Public Safety Partnership (PSP) program. PSP provides coordinated training and technical assistance to enhance local public safety strategies. DPD staff recently participated in two different peer exchanges and training opportunities through the PSP Program.

In June, DPD and City Administration staff traveled to Oakland, California for a peer exchange to learn about Oakland’s Ceasefire Program, a group violence intervention strategy. Staff met with OPD’s command staff and observed their weekly shooting review meeting. In addition, staff from Oakland’s Ceasefire Program met with peer exchange participants to discuss the importance of community partnerships in the GVI strategy. Davenport participated in this peer exchange with other police departments across the country including Miami, Kansas City, and Indianapolis.

In May, DPD personnel attended a conference in Denver, Colorado to learn about Place Network Investigations (PNI). PNI is an essential part of violent crime reduction strategies and compliment other offender-based strategies such as GVI. PNI expands upon traditional police responses to promote sustainable crime reduction guided by crime science research with the intention of strengthening communities and reducing reliance on police resources.



Police Department Accreditation

The Davenport Police Department earned its seventh award for Advanced Law Enforcement Accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA). The Davenport Police Department has continuously maintained its accredited status since 2003, distinguishing it as a meritoriously accredited agency. To earn reaccreditation, the Davenport Police Department voluntarily and continuously submitted annual reviews of applicable policies, procedures, and compliance documents for 468 standards in the Advanced Law Enforcement Accreditation program.



At the conference in Chicago, Davenport Police Chief Paul Sikorski, Major Jeffery Bladel, and Captain Jane Imming appeared before a review committee to provide CALEA commissioners with additional information related to services provided to the community by the Police Department. Upon receiving a positive recommendation from the review committee, the reaccreditation of the Davenport Police Department was approved by the full commission during a banquet at the conclusion of the conference.



“I am very proud of the men and women of the Davenport Police Department and the work they continue to do day in and day out,” said Chief Paul Sikorski. “CALEA accreditation is the gold standard for law enforcement. Maintaining this high level of accreditation demonstrates that the Davenport Police Department operates professionally and reaffirms that the agency aspires to provide the highest level of service to our community.”



Library Accreditation

The State Library of Iowa has announced that Davenport Public Library has met the conditions for state accreditation as outlined in “In Service to Iowa: Public Library Standards Sixth Edition.” The accreditation status began July 1, 2022 and is valid through June 30, 2025.

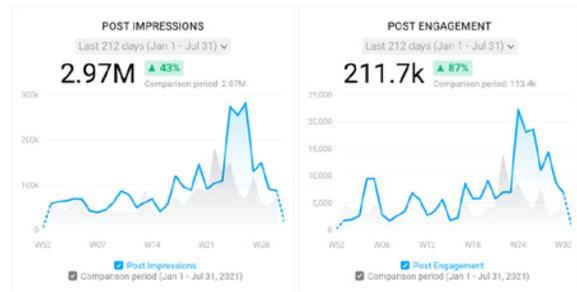
“The Director and board of trustees of Davenport Public Library and the City of Davenport are to be commended for this achievement and their commitment to excellence in public library services for their community,” said State Librarian Michael Scott.

Iowa’s accredited public libraries are recognized for being responsive to their communities and for exhibiting excellence in their provision of library services. More than two-thirds of all Iowans have active public library cards. Iowa libraries play key roles in workforce and economic development and lifelong learning and e-government activities. Iowans use their libraries to find jobs, do homework, locate a good book to read, research medical conditions, access government information, and more.



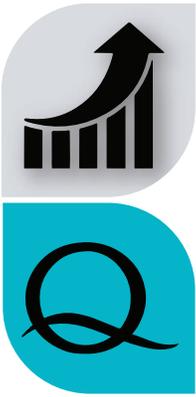
KPI Board Development

City Communications team partnered with Mindfire Communications in the development of a Key Performance Indicators (KPI) board. The City is now able to track real-time impacts of various social campaigns and website traffic. Decision making and evaluating the success of different efforts will allow staff to increase engagement opportunities with the community.



Alley Program Update

The annual application period for the City’s alley cost-share program was open from June 15 through July 15. Under the program, residents and commercial entities adjacent to a common alley in poor condition can request the alley be resurfaced or reconstructed and share the cost with the City. The program offers a 25/75 residential and 50/50 commercial cost-share for alley resurfacing and reconstruction. Ten applications were received during the 2022 application period. Applicants have until August 1 to return signed petitions in order to move on to the next steps in the program.



RED, WHITE & BOOM

In May, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Downtown Davenport Partnership, City of Davenport, and City of Rock Island was signed establishing an event model for Red, White & Boom through a collaborative policy, programming, and funding approach.

Through the MOU, Davenport will continue to provide family programming and entertainment in LeClaire Park and Quinlan Court for this annual tradition. Staff spent significant time planning for this year's event, providing a full day of activities for families to enjoy along the riverfront beginning at 10:00 a.m. and ending with the greatest fireworks show in the Quad Cities.

Local musical talents and food vendors were brought in, along with establishing a robust Kids Zone, which provided a festival-like experience for the community.



**BEER TENT,
LIVE MUSIC &
FOOD TRUCKS**

 +  +  =

A GREAT TIME!

1:00 p.m.
Quinlan Court





Litter Prevention Initiatives

• www.davenportiowa.com/litter •

Litter in Davenport, and across the country, is an environmental issue many contribute to and others attempt to change. In support of change, the City launched a new one-stop shop for all things litter: www.davenportiowa.com/litter. The site provides resources for awareness in the promotion of behavior change and resources to get involved in removing litter that might otherwise make it to our local and global waterways.

Marine Litter Pilot Project

Davenport, in conjunction with the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) and the EPA, launched a new Marine Litter Pilot Project in July with the installation of trash capture devices on Duck, Goose, and Silver Creeks. The City is excited and honored as one of only three cities in North America selected to participate in this initiative.

Through the fall, Osprey Initiative, the vendor selected by the CEC, will maintain and collect data from the devices. Data collected will be used to identify significant sources of pollution and help focus education and outreach efforts.

The traps are expected to remain in place through late-October to mid-November. The project's next phases will include citizen science activities, community conversations, and workshops to raise public awareness of the impacts of land-based sources of litter beginning in 2023.

The City will evaluate the project's effectiveness and resource requirements during later phases and determine if the litter traps will become a future City program. As a pilot project and part of regional collaboration, the Waste Commission of Scott County, the Partners of Scott County Watersheds, and the cities of Bettendorf, Moline, and Rock Island are also following and supporting the project in various ways. Regional partners will also consider future litter traps as part of the pilot project.





GOLF DAVENPORT COSMIC GOLF DRIVING RANGE

Davenport Parks and Recreation now offers Cosmic Golf, a night golf amenity for all levels. Beginning with a soft opening in late June, Duck Creek Golf Course is hosting a Cosmic Golf Driving Range every Friday and Saturday evening from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. The cosmic driving range is a series of gigantic smart targets that respond with light and sound when hit.



Hello Riverfront Launches!

Hello Riverfront is a new communication tool that allows citizens and residents to interact with the Davenport riverfront. Through text-based interactions anyone with a mobile phone can join the conversation.

This initiative will help promote events and activities along the riverfront and seek community feedback, ideas for the future of the riverfront, participate in local decisions, and stay informed on the latest changes.



Gold Coast Pedestrian Path Enhancements

The City of Davenport has partnered with the Gold Coast Historic District to enhance the pedestrian corridor on Brown Street between 6 ½ and 7th Streets. The overall goal of this beautification project is to improve drainage, reduce erosion, and enhance the neighborhood. The project will include brush and debris removal, vegetation management, and plant installation in 2022 and 2023. The Gold Coast will maintain the amenity when improvements are complete.

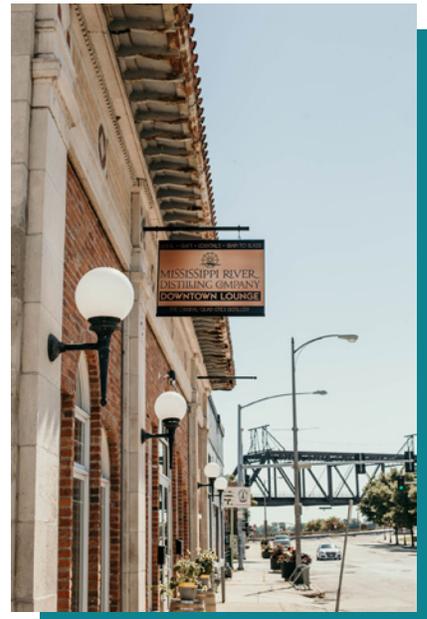
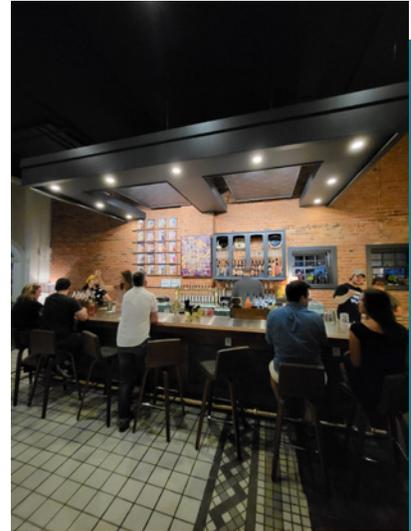


Welcome to Downtown Davenport!

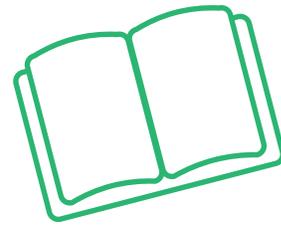


The Downtown Lounge opened its doors in June following a \$350,000 renovation of the space located at 318 East 2nd Street. MRDC was awarded a \$210,000 federally-funded small business loan by the City of Davenport through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The loan reimburses qualifying start-up expenses including payroll, monthly lease, supplies, and equipment. Nine full-time equivalent jobs were created with the opening of the Lounge.

“The resources made available to us through the City were what made this project go. It has been amazing to have such support throughout the whole process. We’re thrilled to expand to Davenport and look forward to being a part of this vibrant downtown community.” - Ryan Burchett, Mississippi River Distilling Company owner and distiller.



Library Updates



1

Summer Reading numbers have far surpassed those of last year and even pre-pandemic. This is a true testament to the hard work and dedication of Library staff. This year's theme is Read Beyond the Beaten Path and the Library has offered a lineup of fun activities, challenges, and programs to keep the community active both physically and intellectually.

2

The Customer Services Team at the Library is running a fine forgiveness program to spark higher Summer Reading registration rates and eliminate barriers to using the Library. This program began in June and will run the duration of Summer Reading.

3

The Community Outreach and Marketing Department began a new program called Tales and Trails at Sunderbruch and had a great time sharing stories in a beautiful space. A special thanks goes out to the Parks and Recreation Department for allowing the Library to carry out this initiative.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



POOL PASSES

Davenport Police Department and Davenport Parks and Recreation partnered up to provide 250 free admission pool passes to youth in the community! Kids are able to use the pass at either Fejervary or Annie Wittenmyer Aquatic Centers during public swim hours.



PARTY IN THE PARK

Two more Party in the Park events at Marquette and Duck Creek Parks were a success in July. Musicians Ace Jones and D'Allan Rice performed, adding to the family-fun environment full of games, free food, and local organizations.



RIVERFRONT EVENTS

Movies on the Mississippi; Riverpalooza; Music on the River; Red, White and BOOM!; QC Empowerment Market; and Freight House Farmers' Market continued in the month of July providing over 20 opportunities for the community to engage with and enjoy all that the riverfront has to offer.



DFD OPEN HOUSE

As part of the 140-year celebration, Davenport Fire hosted the community for a tour of Station 6, where attendees had the opportunity to learn more about the HazMat Division and tour the HazMat trailer.



DAVENPORT SKATE PARK USER PREFERENCING EXERCISE



Over 40 community members attended a public meeting to provide feedback and suggestions for improvements at the Davenport Skate Park. Staff provided funding updates and attendees participated in a preferencing exercise. Some of the feedback addressed adjustments to existing amenities in the park such as grind rails, offering programs and classes, development of a beginners' area, and increased outreach to the unhoused offering mental health and housing services.

STEPPING STONES

Youth involved the with Stepping Stones Program had an opportunity to tour both the Davenport Police Department and Central Fire Station. Officers from both departments provided a behind the scenes look at public safety and the equipment utilized for emergency responses.



YOUTHFEST 2022

Davenport Parks and Recreation hosted the annual YouthFest at Fejervary Learning Center and Park. Over 1,100 community members, school groups, and summer camps enjoyed live music, interactive displays, and hands-on games while having the chance to visit with community organizations such as AmeriCorps, Davenport Community Schools, Iowa-American Water, Gilda's Club, Community Health Care, Nahant Marsh Education Center, Putnam Museum, Davenport Fire Department, Davenport Police Department, Davenport Public Library, Head Start, Everychild, and John Deere Davenport Works.

