



THE CITY OF  
**DAVENPORT**  
IOWA | USA

COMPLEX UNAPOLOGETICALLY  
MIDWESTERN REGION  
WELCOMING VIBRANT  
NEIGHBORHOODS FISCAL VITALITY  
HIGH-PERFORMING GOVERNMENT

# CITY OF DAVENPORT

WELL-PROTECTED  
GOALS HONEST  
RESILIENT COUNCIL  
COMMUNITY  
SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE  
GIVING

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**CITY ADMINISTRATOR**  
**MONTHLY UPDATE**

*September* 2022





# 5-Year Scott County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Council approved the submission of updated hazard mitigation actions and hazard scoring for Davenport to the Scott County Emergency Management Agency and Bi-State Regional Commission to update the 5-year Scott County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan scheduled for renewal in 2023. The action was essential in updating the critical document which is set to expire on June 25, 2023.

Staff provided information on the hazard scoring and announced the addition of four new hazard categories to be added in the renewing plan: Cyber Terrorism, Human Disease/Pandemic, Civic/Public Disorder/Unrest, and Railway Transportation Incident.

It was noted that 49 hazard mitigation actions would be included in the upcoming plan and 21 new activities were added, while eight measures were removed as either completed actions or no longer relevant to preparedness and resiliency planning. Actions cover ongoing emergency preparedness, planning, mitigation, response, and recovery operations; all hazard and multi-hazard actions; cyber terrorism; civil unrest; and hazardous material response. Six of the new actions were identified as a result of the flood resilience study.

The planning effort has remaining phases to complete before a final draft is presented to Council for approval in late 2022 or early 2023.



## Budget Kick-off Recap

The Finance Department held the annual Budget Kick-Off at the Eastern Avenue Library. This year, the theme was a gameshow called “Is the Price Right?”. Complete with a host and games, the Budget Kick-Off was an exciting way to start off the budget season. Contestants (the audience) heard from multiple presenters who gave valuable updates on the City Administrator’s Workplan, American Rescue Plan Act, business plans, and the Capital Improvement Program. The star of the show was the FY 2022 financial update, and a FY 2024 budget review and projection where Assistant City Administrator, Mallory Merritt, updated the crowd on the City’s financial position and the next steps in the budget process. Next steps for the Finance Department FY 2024 Budget include reviewing budget entry requests and developing the City Administrator’s recommended budget for the Budget Workshops in January 2023.



## Housing Voucher Sign Up

The Housing Choice Voucher Office accepted applications for the Housing Choice Voucher Program (formerly known as the Section 8 rental assistance) waiting list for two days in September. Staff received around 1,000 applications. Next steps for staff include inputting the applications which will prioritize them based on preferences and then assign a number placement for each applicant.

# International City/County Manager's Association's Annual Conference

City staff recently attended the International City/County Manager's Association annual conference in Columbus, OH. The ICMA conference brings local government officials together for professional development and featured over 150 educational breakout sessions. While in attendance, City Administrator Corri Spiegel and Budget Analyst Hanna Whitehurst presented a session regarding organizational culture.

In addition, Chief Strategy Officer Sarah Ott graduated from Leadership ICMA, an intense two-year program designed to cultivate key competencies needed for successful leadership in local government management. Ott also presented a session highlighting the key successes of their capstone project for the Leadership ICMA program.

In 2021, City Administrator Corri Spiegel was chosen to serve as the Midwest Regional Vice President for the ICMA Executive Board and is currently in her second year of service. The ICMA Executive Board oversees the organization's financial, member-related, and programmatic affairs.



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## Parks Summer Scholarship Recap

Davenport Parks and Recreation, in partnership with Community and Economic Development, provided 246 Davenport youth with scholarships for summer programs at a variety of agencies including Parks and Recreation, YMCA, Putnam Museum, Boys and Girls Club, Hand in Hand, Figge Art Museum, Boy Scouts, and Family Museum. Over \$143,000 in vouchers were redeemed at these agencies. The scholarship program was made possible utilizing CDBG funding.

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## Davenport Dog Park Ad-Hoc Committee

A Dog Park Ad Hoc Committee made up of representatives from staff, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the dog park community was developed with the purpose of creating Davenport dog off leash area (DOLA) standards to not only address current concerns within the dog parks, but aid in future dog park plans. The committee is made up of eight members and held its first meeting in September to outline the goals and objectives of the committee and identify standards to be created. Future meetings will be held at dog parks throughout Davenport and the Quad Cities area.

# Parks Staff at NRPA Conference

The annual National Parks and Recreation Association hosted its annual conference in Phoenix, Arizona where thousands of parks and recreation professionals, vendors, and educators come together for educational sessions, networking opportunities, and demonstrations. Chad Dyson, Betsy Tubbs, Theresa Hauman, and Becca Niles attended the conference in person. Educational sessions covered a myriad of topics impacting the industry including COVID-19; diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI); new hiring and recruitment strategies; and conservation and sustainability practices.



# Parks and Recreation Department CAPRA Reaccreditation

At the 2022 National Parks and Recreation Association's annual conference, Davenport Parks and Recreation received its second reaccreditation. The department was first accredited in 2011 and was the only accredited parks and recreation department in Iowa until 2021, and the only accredited agency in the Quad Cities. Accreditation takes place every 5 years with annual reporting of compliance milestones. The Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) is the only national accreditation of park and recreation agencies and measures an agency's overall quality of operation, management, and service to the community. The next scheduled accreditation review is Spring 2027, but staff is already hard at work preparing for the review.



## *Staff Highlight: Cole McLeod, Parks and Recreation*

Hi! I just wanted to say thank you for putting my son on a team after registration had ended. I really appreciate it. He is so happy to play soccer with other kids and wears his jersey proudly as often as he can! His teacher sent me this picture yesterday and I just wanted to thank you for finding a team for him.

-Kandis Bower





# Viking Cruise Inaugural Visit

Following years of planning, the City of Davenport welcomed Viking Cruises to the riverfront. Community members and partners gathered in River Heritage Park for the inaugural docking and ribbon cutting. Viking joins American Cruise Lines, docking over 30 times this season, bringing four different cruise ships to the community. Partnerships with Visit Quad Cities, the Downtown Davenport Partnership, the Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce, and the Davenport Riverfront Improvement Commission made this possible.



## Fair Oaks Groundbreaking

Fair Oaks Foods broke ground on their state-of-the-art food production facility in the Eastern Iowa Industrial Center. City staff, elected officials, Fair Oaks Foods executives, community partners, representatives from The Austin Company, and members of the community were present. The \$134 million investment will construct a 150,000-square-foot facility that will create an estimated 247 new full-time jobs. The company plans to start operations in early 2024.

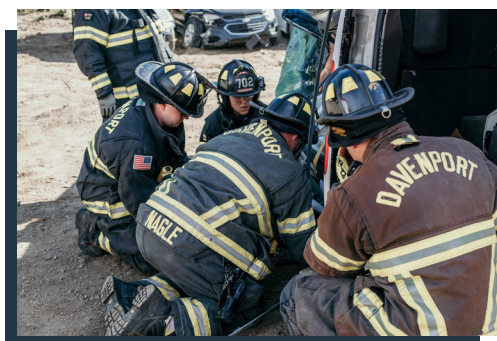




# Davenport Fire Training

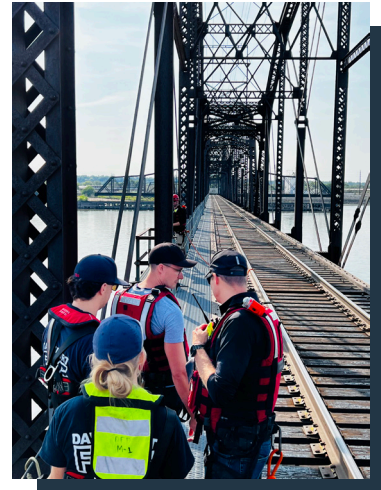
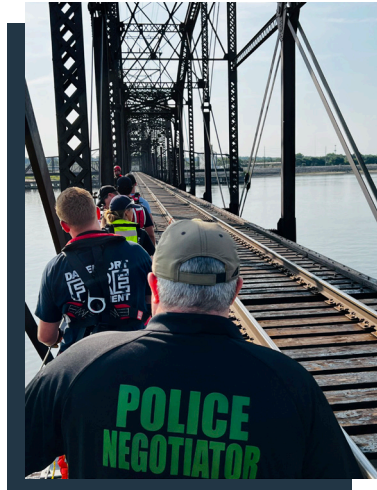
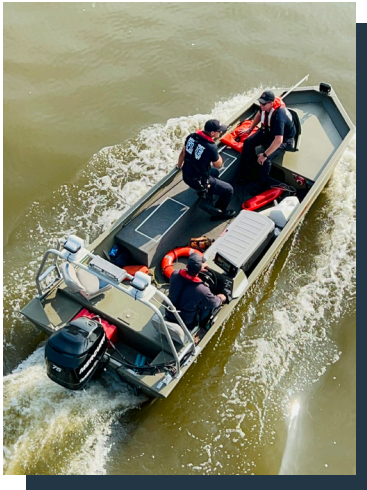
The Davenport Fire Department provides on-going training, education, and skills-based curriculum to personnel, allowing them to serve the community safely and efficiently. Davenport Fire personnel had multiple training opportunities in the month of September including several with partner agencies.

- Six DFD members attended the annual Iowa IAAI Fire Investigation Seminar & Meeting. During the 3-day event Fire Cause Specialists and Investigators were educated on post scene inspections, electrical arc mapping, LP/natural gas investigations and live burn cells. The training also included recent case studies from area fire departments.
- DFD hosted members from Muscatine, Iowa City, Coralville, Tiffin, and Bettendorf Fire Departments to attend a 40-hour Iowa Fire Service Training Bureau Instructor I class at Central Fire Station. This certification class allows for firefighters to learn the best techniques for future training topics. This course provided participants with the basic knowledge and skills to effectively deliver instruction from prepared lesson plans and maintain associated training records.
- DFD spent time at Alter Metal and Recycling and Fred's Towing for annual training on car extrication and stabilization. These trainings allow DFD to be prepared and learn new techniques and efficiently operate tools when responding to incidents.
- DFD trained with the Iowa Army National Guard at the Army Aviation Support Facility (AASF) based at the Davenport airport, simulating a hard landing with injured flight crew and passengers. DFD members were also given a tour of the aircraft and met with facility staff, establishing relationships and familiarity, allowing member to train on aircraft entry and extractions.



# Police and Fire Host Joint Crisis Negotiation Exercise

DFD and DPD hosted a joint crisis negotiations training exercise with the Rock Island and Bettendorf Police Departments. First responders participated in a joint practical exercise to refine techniques and interagency high-angle crisis negotiation response and incident resolution.



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## DPD Attends Crime Analytics Conference

Members of the Davenport Police Department attended the 2022 International Association of Crime Analysts (IACA) Training Conference in Chicago. Sponsored by the Bureau of Justice Administration (BJA), the conference featured five days of training in various crime analysis and policing topics, exhibitions, and allowed for peer discussions about best practices in the field of crime analytics. The training supports the Davenport Police Department's overall strategy to reduce gun violence by building skills and capacity within the Crime Analytics Unit.





# Davenport Police Adds Professional Staff

In an effort to enhance investigative operations and support sworn personnel, the Davenport Police Department added two professional staff positions within the department. In September, the department hired a Civilian Digital Forensics Technician. This position analyzes, processes, interprets, and assesses digital evidence in support of investigations. A second position, Civilian Gun Crime Data Analyst, will begin in early October. This position will enhance operational and investigative support by examining physical evidence associated with firearms investigations, analyze data related to cartridge casings from crime scenes and test-fired firearms in coordination with the department's National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) initiative, and will identify potential links between shooting incidents and a particular firearm.



## DPD Attends FBI Intelligence Forum

Command staff from the Davenport Police Department traveled to the University of Omaha for a joint intelligence forum hosted by the FBI Omaha Field Office. The forum focused on expanding collaborative partnerships, enhancing intelligence capabilities, and building awareness of FBI resources to assist in Iowa and Nebraska.



## Davenport Police Host Latent Print Examination Training

The Davenport Police Department hosted a week-long forensic training, *Introduction to the Science of Friction Ridge Examination*. Eleven students were present, five DPD Civilian Crime Scene Technicians and six from outside agencies. Through a series of lectures and practical exercises students built their foundational knowledge and confidence in the usefulness of latent print examination and their ability to use it. Friction ridge skin and latent prints were discussed in detail including the challenges associated with this type of forensic science.





## MAJOR JAMIE BROWN

Captain Jamie Brown, a 27-year veteran of the department, was recently promoted to the rank of Major and will serve as Davenport’s Assistant Chief of Police. Major Brown has served in all divisions within the Davenport Police Department and has worked on numerous critical assignments and incidents. During his career, Brown has 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, Crime Prevention Bureau Commander, Emergency Services Team

Commander, Patrol Division Commander, and Criminal Investigations Division Commander.



## BECCA EASTMAN

### AmeriCorps Management Analyst

The new AmeriCorps Management Analyst, Becca Eastman, joined the Parks and Recreation team in late August and hit the ground running in preparing for the fall recruitment season. Eastman comes to the department with over eight years of AmeriCorps leadership experience as well as experience within the City as the seasonal Senior Aquatics Manager. Parks and Recreation looks forward to having her bring new information and fresh ideas to Davenport’s AmeriCorps program.

# CONGRATULATIONS!





## AMERICAN LEGION POLICE OFFICER AND FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Davenport Police Officer Michael Catton was selected by American Legion Post #26 as Police Officer of the Year for his conduct, actions, and professionalism during two incidents in early 2022.



Davenport Firefighters Tyler Schmidt, Ben Weinstein, and Will Schorg were selected as American Legion Post #26 Firefighters of the year for their actions and response during a life-saving river rescue in April.



## PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT APPRECIATION BAGS

Parks and Recreation managers filled 220 appreciation bags for department staff as a way of saying thank you for their hard work and dedication during the busy summer months. Goodies included cake pops, granola bars, candy, River Bandits ticket vouchers, and coupons. Bags were delivered to staff throughout the City by Chad Dyson, Theresa Hauman, Betsy Tubbs, and Troy Evans.



# Library Updates



## TV 6 Book Club

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Brittany Peacock and Morgan Ottier from KWQC TV6 formed a new partnership Book Club that airs once a month. This first segment took place September 13 featuring the book, “You Had Me at Hola” by Alexis Daria. This was selected in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 – October 15). The next Book Club segment will take place on October 11.

## Banned Books Week Programming

September 19 – September 24 was Banned Books Week. Banned Books Week is an annual event and was created in 1982 in response to challenges and book banning in schools, libraries, and bookstores. Banned Books Week celebrates the freedom to read and to read widely. In response to this fun week, the Library displayed full shelves of banned books for checkout.

2

In addition to displays, the Davenport Public Library staff created programs to celebrate with banned books trivia and each branch offered Dear Banned Author Post Card Kits which came with postcards and addresses to write and thank the authors on the Banned Books List for their contributions to the literary world.

## Library Card Sign Up Month

September was Library Card Sign Up Month. The Customer Services Staff developed strategies to engage current cardholders and bring in future cardholders. Throughout the month of September, the following businesses supported the Library and offered special incentives for patrons who presented their library cards: Abernathy’s, Coffee Oasis, Cola Creations, Donuts and More, Jeanie’s Dips & Mixes, Lagomarcino’s, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Pour House, Putnam Museum, & Stevie’s Eatz.

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In addition to business partnerships, the Customer Services Department sent out postcards to individuals in hopes to bring in more cardholders.

The Library also showcased people in the community showing off their Library Cards and explaining how they use them.

# Library Updates

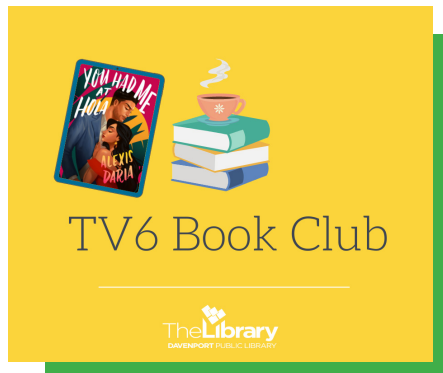
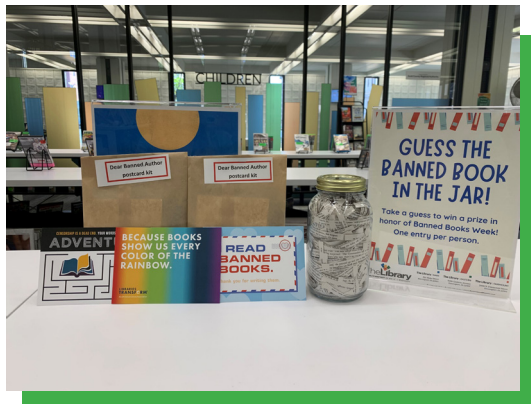


## QC Deaf Resource Fair

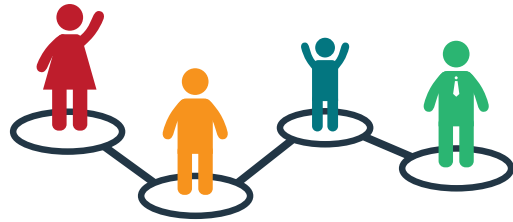
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The Davenport Public Library held a Quad Cities Deaf Resource Fair at the Eastern Branch to celebrate Deaf Awareness month. The Resource Fair included a wide variety of information available in the Quad Cities area for people who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, and/or late-deafened. The event was open to anyone in the community who wanted to learn more about the services and resources available to the Deaf community. American Sign Language interpreters were also on site.

This event was in partnership with Relay Iowa, Telecommunications Access Iowa, Iowa/Illinois Center for Independent Living, Quad Cities Deaf Club, and the Davenport Public Library.



# Community Engagement



## DPD Recruiting

Human Resources and the Police Department have been busy recruiting for talented individuals who have a desire to serve as a Davenport Police Officer. Narcotics Sergeant Brandon Koepke and his K-9 Dawn joined Talent Administrator Scott VanDeWoestyne at the Iowa National Guard Readiness Headquarters in Davenport during a recent drill weekend, visiting with over 200 soldiers in attendance.

City staff was also present at the Criminal Justice Career Fair hosted by Carl Sandburg College in Galesburg, IL. As the only Iowa agency present, DPD was able to interact with approximately 40 students enrolled in their criminal justice program.

Davenport Police joined approximately 120 other police agencies from around the Midwest at the Law Enforcement and Justice Administration Career Fair hosted by Western Illinois University. WIU graduates Detective Brittany Taylor and Traffic Officer Robert Cormier joined Scott VanDeWoestyne in sharing the benefits of working for the DPD with dozens of students.



## River Action's Annual Golf Cart Tour

Parks and Recreation Director Chad Dyson spoke to River Action's annual riverfront golf cart tour attendees providing information regarding Davenport's riverfront activities, events, and park improvement updates.

**"I have a newfound appreciation for your city. The riverfront is beautiful."  
- John K.**

## Movies on the Mississippi

Staff hosted citizens along the riverfront for Movies on the Mississippi featuring *Cars*. Attendees enjoyed food trucks and activities leading up to the movie.



## Riverpalooza Recap

A new concert series along the riverfront came to an end after 17 concerts and over 2,000 citizens enjoying the shows. Staff secured a grant from the Regional Development Authority to help fund the concerts and utilized Quinlan Court to host food trucks and live music weekly on Thursday evenings June – September.



## Bix7 First Responder Award

Davenport Fire and Police brought home the Quad-City Times Bix 7 Premier Buick GMC Dealers' First Responders' Challenge 2022 trophy. The team was represented by Cody Jaeger and Korinne Israel from DFD and Ali Mayfield, Jason Smith, Grant Killinger, and Andrew Harris from DPD.



## DFD "Filled the Boot"

The Davenport Fire Department continued its long-standing tradition as its members participated in the annual *Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) Fill the Boot* program. This year DFD collected a total of \$6,041.72 that will go towards research, camp, and families in the immediate area who need supplies and support.





## GNP Quarterly Meeting

Sergeant Andrew Harris and Community Engagement Coordinator Allie McWilliams welcomed guests to the quarterly Good Neighbor Project Meeting hosted at the Rogalski Center at St. Ambrose University. Kelly Telsrow, Coordinated Assessment Program (CAP) Supervisor for Family Resources, was invited as the guest speaker to inform the community on the new program and how families can get involved.

## SAU Softball Team Rail Painting

Staff coordinated with the St. Ambrose University Softball team to paint the riverfront railing from the channel cat entrance to the end of the black riverfront railing.

*Thank you for taking pride in Davenport!*



## National GNP Day

City staff and neighborhood leaders were excited to celebrate National Good Neighbor Day. Tammy Trice, Heatherton Neighborhood leader, accepted a proclamation on behalf of all Davenport neighborhoods involved in The Good Neighbor Project (GNP). To date, there are 96 GNP neighborhoods and counting with 34 neighborhood events held throughout the community this year.

