



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



THE CITY OF
DAVENPORT
IOWA | USA



FY 2023 BUDGET WRAP UP

On March 23, the City Council formally adopted the FY 2023 Budget. From the date of adoption, staff will have 90 days to prepare the FY 2023 budget document which will be submitted to the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) in June for review of the Distinguished Budget Award criteria. Below are highlights of the FY 2023 Budget:



- Complies with the City Council's policies for all reserve and liquidity targets, maintains the current tax levy rate of \$16.78/\$1,000 taxable valuation, and continues to focus on the city's operational pillars, the American Rescue Plan Act adopted spending program, and the City Administrator's Workplan.
- \$1.0M for Flood Resiliency Program
- \$1.1M for Fire Apparatus Replacement
- \$1.2M for WPCP & Compost Flood Mitigation, Phase I
- \$2.1M for 53rd Street Reconstruction
- \$2.1M for Tremont Sanitary Sewer Interceptor Replacement
- \$4.4M for Neighborhood Street Repair
- \$4.6M for High Volume Street Repair
- \$10.0M for Fire Station 3
- \$21.4M for Streets & Sewers projects

	Adopted FY 2022	Adopted FY 2023
Operating	\$153,406,180	\$154,642,620
Capital	\$47,306,132	\$45,592,594
Debt	\$33,601,414	\$35,877,850
Total	\$234,313,726	\$236,113,064

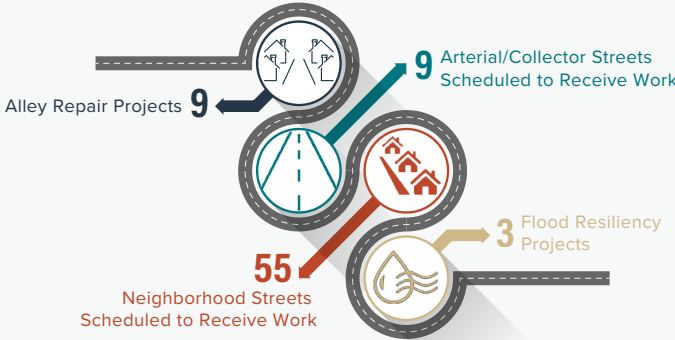
0.77% budget increase compared to FY 2022; represents a balanced and core-competency driven budget. 63% increase in total park systems enhancements in FY 2023 compared to FY 2022.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Davenport's City Council took a significant step toward improved infrastructure with approval of the City's FY2023 budget. Council action on the budget continues to echo the community's voice with increased investment in streets and sewers.

At a glance, approval of the budget will provide for improvements to nine arterial streets, 55 neighborhood streets, nine alley repair projects, three flood resiliency projects, sewer lining and manhole repairs in the 2022/2023 construction season. Additional sewer, trail, stormwater and facility improvements will also be set in motion.

Of the nine arterial streets, work has begun on two of the roads. Phase II of East 53rd Street (Eastern to Elmore Circle) and Lombard Street (Harrison to Brady).



Additional sewer, trail, stormwater and facility improvements will also be set in motion.

GVI U

The City of Davenport took a contingent of 19 law enforcement and community partners to New York City March 21-23 to participate in GVI University hosted by National Network for Safe Communities. GVI University is a workshop to educate key partners and stakeholders—including law enforcement, social service providers, and community leaders—on the key components of the Group Violence Intervention (GVI) strategy. Attendees of GVI University included City representatives, Davenport Police Department, 7th Judicial District, Department of Correctional Services, Davenport Community School District, Family Resources, YMCA, and several community members.

Led by Dr. David Kennedy and National Network staff, GVI University provided a comprehensive overview of GVI and an opportunity to discuss the additional innovations and investments that can be made to bolster and support the intervention. Partners and stakeholders came away from GVI University with a full understanding and how the three main components (law enforcement, community, and social services) of the GVI strategy work together to reduce gun violence, minimize the use of incarceration, and reset relationships between law enforcement and the community.

Subsequent meetings will be scheduled throughout the month of April with local community outreach and social services groups to educate them on GVI and garner support from a wider body of residents and organizations. It is anticipated that the strategy will launch by early summer.



DAVENPORT FIRE SWEARS IN FOUR NEW FIREFIGHTERS

Mayor Mike Matson had the honor of swearing in four new Davenport Firefighters at the March 2 Committee of the Whole Meeting: Dustin Garner, Grant Duncan, Craig Malchow, and Brian Chakour.

"As your Fire Chief, I am honored to be able to introduce four of the newest members to our family in the presence of the Mayor, the City Council, their families, and the community they will be serving." - Fire Chief Mike Carlsten.





VIBRANT
REGION



KIDS PASS RETURNS

The 2022 Summer Kids Pass officially went on sale March 15. The Kids Pass brings all Davenport has to offer together for just \$50! Kids will be able to cool off at Davenport pools, ice skate at The River's Edge, improve their golf game at Red Hawk, stay active at Davenport YMCAs, explore the Figge Art Museum and Putnam Museum, cheer on the River Bandits, and ride CitiBus for free.

In the first two weeks, 39 passes were sold with an additional 18 passes being issued as part of the Council Funded Kids Pass program. Staff anticipates increased sales as summer gets closer.

GOLF COURSES REOPEN

With the milder late winter and early spring temperatures, all three golf courses opened for play on Sunday, March 20. Duck Creek opened the driving range and full play with carts while Emeis Golf Course opened for walk on play. Red Hawk Golf Course opened access to the driving range and is scheduled to fully open at the beginning of April.



PARKS AND RECREATION JOB RECRUITMENT EFFORTS

Davenport Parks and Recreation recruitment season kicked off in February with efforts accelerating in March. Staff hosted four open interview events in addition to visiting Davenport high schools during the lunch hour, participating in local job fairs, and leading presentations for St. Ambrose University classes to get the word out on the variety of positions available. More open interviews are scheduled for April and staff will be visiting local high schools weekly.



**HIGH-PERFORMING
GOVERNMENT**



FEMA DERECHO REIMBURSEMENT

Early in March, Senator Grassley's office announced that Davenport will receive a \$1.7 million grant from FEMA to cover debris removal costs for the City of Davenport. In total FEMA has obligated \$1,814,598.20 with another \$5,145.04 that is pending final FEMA review. Total expected reimbursement to the City with the grant obligation will be \$1,819,743.23. The City should see these funds in the coming weeks.

CITIZENS ACADEMY

The 2022 Spring Cohort attended their first Citizens Academy session on March 28, kicking off the 9-week program with "An Introduction to Government". Each session will give participants a behind the scenes look at local government including community development processes, community policing, and budget planning. Interactive activities consist of a day spent in the field with Public Works staff, Police Department simulations, tours of several City-owned facilities, and various staff presentations. DavenportU Citizens Academy will conclude with graduation at the May 25 City Council Meeting.



FLOOD STUDY IMPLEMENTATION

City staff began planning for the implementation of the Flood Resilience Study following Council approval in November 2021. Initial steps to move toward a more flood resilient community have started with initial activities focused on underground infrastructure, minor road raises, and repairs to existing structural flood defense systems. Targeting these initial improvements comes with considerable benefit to the City, including more efficient response and reduced resource needs during times of flood. Find details on current steps at www.beprepareddavenport.com.

STAFF ATTENDS ICMA HIGH PERFORMANCE ACADEMY

Three Davenport City staff members are participating in the High Performance Leadership Academy through the International City Managers Association. This 12-week online program provides best practices in leadership, organizational development and change management, negotiations and collaboration, effective business communications, and how to deliver increased value from high performance management.

Tegan Trees, Management Analyst I in City Administration; Nicole Gleason, Assistant City Administrator and Public Works Director; and Gil Proehl, Davenport Police Lieutenant, will graduate from the program in mid-April.



SUMMER YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP

Returning in 2022, the Summer Youth Scholarship Program for Davenport youth in grades K-12 supports participation in summer programming. The scholarship program, funded through the CARES Act to address COVID-19 related needs in Davenport, provides scholarships for Davenport residents to attend eligible summer programs that will help them regain educational, social, emotional, and developmental opportunities lost throughout the COVID pandemic. This program is made possible through Community Development Block Grant funding.

Since the application period opened on March 7, Davenport Parks and Recreation Department staff has processed 51 scholarship applications and issued over 70 program vouchers for activities throughout Davenport at organizations such as Davenport Parks and Recreation, Family Museum, Hand in Hand, Nahant Marsh, Putnam Museum, and YMCA.



Employee Spotlight



BETSY TUBBS

Davenport Parks and Recreation Senior Park Operations Manager

Tubbs, was the 2022 recipient of the Slattery/Trueblood Professional Award. This is the highest honor a parks and recreation professional can receive from the Iowa Parks and Recreation Association (IPRA). To be considered for this award, the nominee should be an individual who has given of themselves at work and in their community. Their professional contributions should exemplify outstanding, dedicated, and unselfish service to the profession, community, and to IPRA.



In his nomination letter, Parks and Recreation Director Chad Dyson wrote, “Betsy is truly a one of a kind parks and recreation professional and I am proud and honored to know her as a colleague and team member. I am amazed at the vast and diverse career Betsy has had with the Davenport Parks and Recreation Department. Betsy is an invaluable resource for the Davenport community. Honoring her with the Slattery/Trueblood Professional Award would capstone a distinguished career for one of Iowa’s great parks and recreation professionals.” Staff from the department drove to the awards banquet in Dubuque to surprise and celebrate Betsy for this achievement.



SHERRIE FISCHER

Davenport Parks and Recreation’s Adaptive and Inclusive Supervisor

Fischer was recognized by the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification (NCTRC) for 20 years of service as a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS). The CTRS designation is the unifying credential for recreational therapists throughout the United States, Canada, and 15 other countries. In practice, CTRSs apply this critical set of competencies and skill toward the total person and the life factors that are associated with a specific disability or illness. In this capacity, Sherrie oversees all adaptive and inclusive programming offered by Davenport Parks and Recreation as well as working in partnership on events, programs, and services with the Challenger League, Courage League, and Special Olympics.



LEXIE REILING AND LESLIE ROSS

Lexie Reiling (Assistant Library Director) and Leslie Ross (Library Information Services Supervisor) attended the bi-annual Public Library Association Conference in Portland, Oregon March 23-25. One session that the two Librarians benefitted from was presented by Luvvie Ajayi Jones about overcoming your fears and becoming a “professional troublemaker”! Other topics they took key information away from include:

- Breaking down barriers to library use and providing our community with better access to our resources
- Ensuring that our policies, collections, programming, and other services are consistent with our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion
- New technology that makes the library even easier to use!

This was a great opportunity for the staff who attended and the Library is excited to bring what they learned to Davenport.

Community Engagement

WE LOVE OUR SCHOOLS

The City of Davenport knows that the success of our community is tied intrinsically to the success of our children. Davenport Community Schools teachers and staff are dedicated to ensuring all children in our community grow and thrive. City staff, elected officials, and community partners IBEW Local 145 and Donuts & More visited Davenport schools delivering special treats and classroom supplies to show appreciation and recognize the hard work of teachers and staff in Davenport schools.



CORRIDOR CLEANUP

An amazing group of nearly 90 caring community members braved the weather and removed 198 bags of litter from several of our major gateways and right-of-ways during this year's Corridor Cleanup while the always active Central Community Circle Neighborhood removed another 24 bags from our streets. The team included many new and old faces and two Council members, Alderman Dunn and Alderwoman Lee. The energy was high as this awesome group made its way through our urban network. All enjoyed being a part of something big – keeping our streets clean and pollutants out of our waterways. These stewards truly made it a great morning filled with laughter and great conversation that benefited our entire community.



CREDIT ISLAND NATURE-BASED PLAY AREA COMMUNITY MEETING

Davenport Parks and Recreation held a public meeting with community members seeking feedback about a proposed nature-based play area at Credit Island Park. Consultants from Shive-Hattery along with Chad Dyson, Parks and Recreation Director, led the meeting giving attendees information about the project and descriptions of the two concepts for the new area. Attendees were asked to comment on the concepts themselves. This new area will replace a playground that was removed in 2021. A virtual survey has been developed for those who were unable to attend the meeting.



JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL D.A.R.E. GRADUATION

Jefferson Elementary School D.A.R.E students graduation following a ten-week course where students were taught responsible decision making and the effects that their actions have on them and others around them. Taught by Davenport Police, students also learned communication skills and the dangers of drugs.



Community Engagement

PARKS STAFF ATTENDS IPRA CONFERENCE

Davenport Parks and Recreation staff attended the annual spring Iowa Parks and Recreation (IPRA) Conference hosted by Dubuque March 21-25. IPRA is the state level professional association for park and recreation professionals. In addition to attending workshops and classes, this conference allows for staff to network, test new recreation tools, speak with contractors and vendors, and share best practices. The 2023 conference will be hosted by the City of Davenport Parks and Recreation Department in March!



CITY STAFF PARTICIPATES JOB FAIRS

Staff from multiple City departments attended three different job fairs in the month of March including the Quad Cities Mayors' Young Adult Job Fair, the Safer Foundation's Career Exploration event, and Scott County Catholic Schools 8th Grade Career Fair. Staff had the opportunity to speak to various age groups ranging from 8th grade to adults on the different career opportunities the City offers.



COMMUNITY BIKE RACK PROJECT WITH WEST HIGH SCHOOL WELDING PROGRAM

A Park Development Project from 2021 is moving forward. Parks and Recreation staff and Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members attended a presentation led by students from West High School's Welding Program where they introduced two concepts for a new custom hybrid bike rack/bench. Students in the program developed the concepts, rendered models, and discussed the pros and cons of each bike rack.

The next step is finalizing a decision between the concepts, determining park locations, and ordering production of the chosen model. Anticipated installation is slated for late summer, early fall.

