

June 2023

# CITY ADMINISTRATOR

## [Monthly Update]

Keep up with the city you know and love



### Unpretentious-

[adjective]

not attempting to impress others with an appearance of greater importance, talent, or culture than is actually possessed.

### Real-

[adjective]

(of a substance or thing) not imitation or artificial; genuine.

### Resilient-

[adjective]

(of a person or animal) able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions.

### Welcoming-

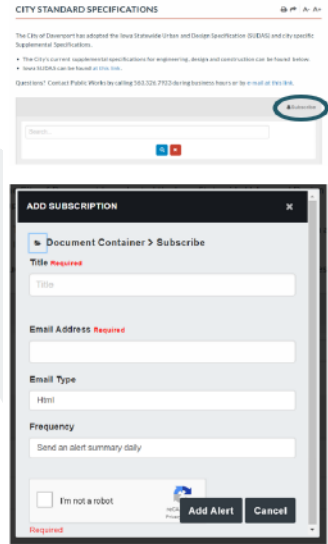
[adjective]

behaving in a polite or friendly way to a guest or new arrival.



# 01 CONSTRUCTION COMMUNICATION & COMPLIANCE ENHANCEMENT

Process improvement is always in play at Public Works. The latest continues to enhance communication with the design and construction community and improves the efficiency and compliance of project design, construction, and service delivery. With a recent mailing, the community was informed of a new notification tool for staying up to date on changes to specifications and more. The update also discussed procedural changes for lane reduction and closure requests and significant updates to the Iowa Storm Water Management Manual used to manage stormwater runoff.



# 02 DAVENPORT AWARDED \$7.8M GRANT

The Federal Railroad Administration announced \$7.8 million in grant funding awarded to the City of Davenport through the Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program for the design and construction of an overpass and elevated roadway on South Concord Street near West River Drive. The program provides funding for highway-rail or pathway-rail grade crossing improvement projects that focus on improving the safety and mobility of people and goods.



Installation of the bridge will reduce the risk of collisions with trains and improve overall access to the area by eliminating blocked crossings. The bridge will also include a separated path to accommodate pedestrians and other non-motorists. The adjacent roadway raise will further support and ensure permanent access to the critical infrastructure during times of flood. The final component of the project will eliminate the rail crossing at Wapello Avenue once construction of the overpass is complete.

The total project is estimated at \$9.7 million. The remaining costs will be met through Canadian Pacific Railway Company's community investment of up to \$2 million in grant match funding.

# 03 CREDIT ISLAND NATURE PRESERVE & PARK REOPENS

Throughout June, staff from Public Works worked hard to repair and patch the Credit Island causeway allowing Parks and Recreation staff to move into the park to remove tree limbs and debris and deep clean shelters and playgrounds after flooding in April and May. Once the park was safe, it reopened to the public on June 14. Staff is now deep cleaning the Lodge in preparation for July events.





## 04 STATION 3

Construction of the new Station 3 has been progressing smoothly. The second-floor wall framing is almost done, and the first-floor walls are halfway completed, which allows for mechanical, electrical, and plumbing work to continue. The exterior brickwork is complete except for two special features that will be finished soon. The parking lot and driveway concrete are being added weekly. Next, the exterior window, door frames, and wood siding will arrive on site to give the building a finished look.

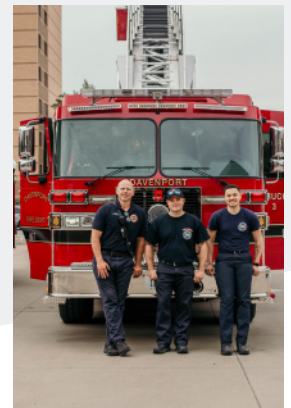


## 05 TRUCK 3 PUT INTO SERVICE

On June 7, DFD's new aerial apparatus, Truck 3, was officially put into service as part of the apparatus replacement plan. Before its official launch, Fire personnel were given the opportunity to train on the new truck to ensure operational confidence. Since its launch, the truck had already responded to 127 calls for service as of June 26.

The new 100-foot aerial apparatus is a sister to Truck 1 currently located at Central and replaces a 70-foot aerial. It has a larger capacity to carry and organize equipment used by a truck company, such as ventilation fans, saws, ladders, and forcible entry tools. It can also carry 300 gallons of water and can flow 2,000 gallons per minute from the elevated monitors on the platform. These features allow DFD to better serve the growth in industry and housing in the northern parts of the city.

The next phase in the apparatus replacement plan is to refurbish the 70-foot aerial that was replaced. Legacy Fire will go through the entire apparatus, replacing any parts that are in disrepair. When this apparatus returns to DFD, it will replace the current Truck 2 at Station 4 on East Locust and will continue to operate as a first-line apparatus. The cost of refurbishing this apparatus is approximately \$250,000 compared to the cost of \$1,329,000 for the new aerial.



## 06 DAVENPORT FIRE HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM RECIPIENT

The Davenport Fire Department has been awarded more than \$36,000 from Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSMED) through its Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The funds will cover the installation of a storm siren near Locust Street and Grand Avenue, which will fill a gap in storm siren coverage in the east/central portion of Davenport. DFD has begun to work with City staff on the next steps to have the sirens installed by May 2024.

## 07 DAVENPORT POLICE & COMMUNITY PARTNERS ATTEND VIOLENCE INTERVENTION & PREVENTION CONFERENCE

The Davenport Police Department, TMBC at the Lincoln Center, and United Way of the Quad Cities attended the 16th Annual Rebuilding the Village Conference in Omaha, Nebraska. The conference provided insight on comprehensive community-based approaches to reduce gun violence, enhance upon and build stronger police-community relations, and provide ideas for enhancing prevention, intervention, enforcement support, reentry & reforms, and support service efforts within the Davenport community.

## 08 DAVENPORT POLICE PRESENT ON NATIONAL CRIME ANALYSIS WEBINAR

Crime Analyst Allissa Hawk had the opportunity to showcase success stories from the first year of the DPD Crime Analytics Unit as a presenter for the National Public Safety Partnership (PSP) Crime Analysis Community of Practice (CACoP) national webinar. The presentation focused on how the unit leveraged and aligned leadership, people, and technology to drive a department-wide data-informed policing effort. The webinar was attended by analysts and various law enforcement officials from all across the United States.



## 09 CRIME GUN ANALYST PRESENTS TO BOSTON UNIVERSITY CRIME ANALYSIS STUDENTS

In late-June, Davenport Police Crime Gun Analyst Isabella Zak was a featured presenter for Boston University's Crime Analysis Program students. The presentation showcased Davenport's Gun Intelligence Analysis efforts with a focus on the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network along with an overview of tools and techniques utilized by the Davenport Police Department for firearms analysis related to violent crime reduction strategies. Zak demonstrated the importance of increasing law enforcement's crime analysis capacities so that department command is able to make data-driven decisions in real time.



**BOSTON  
UNIVERSITY**

## 10 MEDIA PARTNERSHIPS GROW

Communications staff has worked closely to develop a relationship with KWQC to showcase City initiatives and successes through their on-air programming. Earlier this year, KWQC shared the work that the City has done in partnership with our community through the GVI strategy on the INSIGHT6 program. This episode of INSIGHT6 was recognized for sharing important community work through earning the Severeid Award at the Midwest Journalism Conference.

Recently, CED staff, City Council members, and local housing non-profits were showcased on INSIGHT6 to discuss neighborhood revitalization and the opportunities to get involved through the Davenport DREAM Project and Extreme DREAM. City staff, Family Resources, and the Davenport School District were also highlighted on another episode of INSIGHT6 about the Coordinated Assessment Program, discussing the history of the program as well as successes in the first eighteen months of implementation.

Staff continues to work with media partners to help share positive stories of partnerships throughout our community.



# 11 TALENT STABILIZATION & ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The City of Davenport prioritizes the growth of its employees, both personally and professionally. To demonstrate this commitment, numerous developmental programs are provided throughout the year.

## DSI

The 11th cohort of Davenport Strengths Institute (DSI) graduated in June after completing the 12-month strengths-based leadership program. Participants included Adam Holland, Fire; Brittany Berger, Owen Farrell, Ryan Bowers, Jordan Sander, Alison Shoppa, and Michelle Voelkers, Police; Nick Browne, IT; Andrea Maas, HR; Matt Werderitch, Wade Burnett, Mike Kramer, Nichole Kuzniewicz, Michael Sabel, Samantha Schrupp, and Geoff Blandin, Public Works; Maria Bucksbaum-Jones, Finance; and Jessica Rhoads, Parks & Recreation. Cohort 12 is underway with graduation in December 2023. Cohort 13 commences on its strengths-based journey in January 2024. To date, over 195 City employees representing every department have either graduated or are completing this program. The International City County Management Association (ICMA) awarded its Strategic Leadership & Governance Award to DSI in 2021.

## BLUE

In May of 2023, the City of Davenport celebrated its inaugural cohort of Davenport BLUE. Davenport BLUE is a new, multi-faceted professional development program within the Davenport Police Department (DPD), focused on management and leadership skills. Eight DPD personnel of varying tenures, serving in the ranks of Sergeant and Lieutenant, successfully graduated from this program.

## NEXT

Davenport NEXT is the sequel to the Davenport Strengths Institute (DSI). DSI allowed participants to focus on individual strengths, while Davenport NEXT concentrates on further developing management styles using the DiSC assessment as a platform. The DiSC assessment is a tool used to help improve teamwork, communication, and productivity in the workplace. To apply for Davenport NEXT, participants must have completed DSI. Interested candidates can expect to see the application process open in December of 2023 for a January 2024 launch.

## RED

Davenport RED is an organizational development program specifically designed for Davenport Firefighters. This experience will strive to enhance leadership skills, evolve management abilities, and prepare individuals for long-term growth as they evolve into the next group of leaders within the City of Davenport.





## 12 URBAN HOMESTEAD UPDATE

The next home for sale through the Urban Homestead Program located at 1413 W 13th Street is currently in the application process. Residents can apply to become first-time homeowners June 20 - July 14.

The available two-story home is approximately 1,300 square feet with three bedrooms and one and three-quarter baths. The sale price is \$138,000 for applicants with a minimum income of \$31,500. Federal requirements, including income and asset limits, apply to all residents interested in applying. City staff will host two open houses to provide an opportunity for applicants to tour the home.

The City of Davenport's Urban Homestead Program utilizes federally funded grants to provide homeownership opportunities for low and moderate-income households. Since the start of this program in the 1980s, the City has rehabbed approximately 140 homes for the Davenport community.

The City has recently acquired three homes for the continuation of this popular program. Rehab for two properties is expected to begin in the latter half of 2023.



## 13 GNP TRAILER ANNIVERSARY

The one-year anniversary of the Good Neighbor Project's resource trailer was recently celebrated. The trailer provides leaders with the necessary resources to host productive meetings and block parties, including games such as giant Jenga, bags, giant Connect Four, and frisbee, as well as resources such as tables, folding chairs, shade tents, coolers, and more. Access to this trailer is just one of the perks of being involved in Davenport's Good Neighbor Project.



## 14 SMALL BUSINESS LOAN PROGRAM UPDATE

Many small businesses in our community have received support through the City's Small Business Loan Program (SBLP). Over the past six months, four different businesses have received over \$350,000 in funding for various uses.

1. QC Custom Tees, opened their storefront in the Hilltop Campus Village on June 28.
2. Stompbox Brewing was able to expand its sales and increase revenue with the purchase of a canning machine.
3. Oh So Sweet, a small business that received a loan in the past, has successfully expanded its services and menu to a new location. The City was proud to support them again for this expansion.
4. After an inspection by the Davenport Fire Department, Furnish 123 needed to update its sprinkler system to meet code requirements. Staff provided funding to ensure that the store could continue to serve the community.





# Employee Spotlight

## QC CORPORATE GAMES MEDAL WINNERS

This summer marks the third year for the Quad Cities Corporate Games. The City of Davenport is among 33 local companies and organizations participating this year.

The City of Davenport Men's Bowling team, made up of Jared Francis, Steve Hagedorn, Rob Larson, James Salzer and Steven Schneider, defended their 2022 victory and took 1st place.

The City of Davenport also took home medals in Pickleball. The Co-ed team of Theresa Hauman and Matt Werderitch won the Gold medal, while both of the Men's teams medaled with Silver (Shane Hoaglin and Thomas Kneipp) and Bronze (Kevin Carver and Mike Sabel).





## Project Highlights:

### **Youth & Family Support | Group Violence Intervention: One Year In**

The City of Davenport launched the Group Violence Intervention strategy in May 2022 which focuses on the groups at highest risk for violent victimization and offending, with the intention to keep those individuals safe, alive, and out of prison. The GVI partnership of law enforcement, social services, and community members communicate directly with group members, conveying a powerful community message against violence and in support of community safety, concrete opportunities for both immediate and longer-term assistance and support, and clear prior notice of the legal risks associated with continued violence.

During its first year in existence, over 90 custom notifications were completed with high-risk individuals in our community. Of those that were custom notified, only five have reoffended with a weapon. Fifteen individuals have also accepted services through GVI caseworkers at Family Resources.

The City of Davenport has also transitioned the GVI Coordinator position to Family Resources, in an effort to align staffing for the long-term viability of the GVI strategy in our community. In combination with funding from the Quad City Community Foundation's Transformation Grant, Family Resources will now house a GVI unit comprised of the GVI Coordinator, GVI Outreach Specialist, and two GVI caseworkers.

Since launching the GVI strategy, the City has seen a significant decrease in the amount of shots fired. As of June 19, there has been a 24.4% decrease in shots fired incidences in 2023 to date compared to the same time period in 2022. In addition, there has been a 10% decrease in the number of non-fatal shooting victims and a 28% decrease in group violence-related non-fatal incidents.





# ARPA Continued



## Planning & Development

### **Neighborhood Reinvestment**

Regional Transitional Housing | Funding allocated to Regional Transitional Housing was awarded as Displacement Assistance by City Council in the amount of \$600,000. These funds were utilized to aid residents and businesses affected by the 324 N. Main Street building collapse

### **Creating Places**

Main Street Landing: Adventure Play and Event Lawn | City Council approved a contract amendment with the project's design firm for the Main Street Landing component of the Destination Iowa project. Design work is expected to take approximately 10-14 months to complete; this includes obtaining any necessary federal or state permits

### **West Locust Sewer Connectivity**

Duck Creek Sewer | All engineering design documents have been completed. The City is waiting to receive final federal and state permits before going out to bid to secure a construction contract

### **Multi-Modal Connectivity**

Multi-Modal | N/S Path | The design process for the project continues; meanwhile, City staff will soon begin the land acquisition process with affected property owners

### **Flood Mitigation**

Flood Mitigation Stage 22 | HR Green has begun the check plan design (95% plan preparation) and continued coordination with regulatory agencies and private utility owners



## Construction

### **Neighborhood Reinvestment**

DREAMPlus | Forty-seven projects have now been awarded, with seventeen already complete or with work underway

### **Library Enhancements**

Fairmount Community Center | The Fairmount Community Center groundbreaking will take place July 11, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. located at 2980 North Fairmount Street

### **Creating Places**

Public Wi-Fi Hot Spots | Staff has completed testing for three locations, has finalized park signage, and are currently preparing promotional material. Full launch is anticipated summer of 2023



## Completed

### **Youth & Family Support**

Launch of Coordinated Assessment Program (CAP)

Launch of Group Violence Intervention (GVI)

### **Creating Places**

MLK Plaza: \$500,000 commitment awarded by City Council

### **Library Enhancements**

Hiring of Library Social Worker

Launch of Pre-K Literacy Initiative



# ARPA Continued



## Davenport Parks and Recreation updates:



### Planning & Development

#### **Creating Places | Neighborhood Parks-Play**

Cork Hill, Van Buren, and Herrington Multi-Sport Courts | Project will rebid in the fall of 2023

Emeis Adaptive & Inclusive Playground | In design phase through June of 2023

Cork Hill Splashpad | Design is under the review of City staff and contracted engineers to finalize project engineering plans and specifications

Dohse Splashpad | The plans and specifications went before Council on June 21. Upon recommendation from City Council, staff will move forward with the bidding process



### Completed

#### **Creating Places | Neighborhood Parks-Play**

Whalen Playground | June 2023

Harbor Road Playground | December 2022

Lafayette Playground | December 2022

Emeis Ninja Warrior Playground | June 2023

*Before*



*After*





# Library Updates

## 01 OWL AND OUTREACH EFFORTS DEPLOYED DOWNTOWN

In response to the 342 Main Building Collapse and the subsequent closure of the Main Library branch, Library staff was quick to respond. Library staff boarded the Outreach Wheeled Library and Library vans to bring internet access, holds, notary services, and more to individuals impacted by the branch closure. Library staff also attended the American Red Cross Multi-Agency Resource Center at the Downtown YMCA.



## 02 SUMMER READING CHALLENGE KICK-OFF

On June 3, Davenport Public Library held a kick-off to Summer Reading Party. In addition to signing up for Summer Reading, attendees were able to participate in Touch a Truck. Partnering agencies and organizations included Davenport Police, Davenport Public Works, John Deere, Scott County Conservation, and more. The Library was excited to welcome over 730 attendees!

## 03 DAVENPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY CELEBRATES DIVERSITY

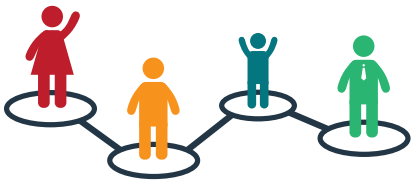
Davenport Public Library along with Moline Public Library, Rock Island Public Library, and Bettendorf Public Library attended the Unity Pride Parade on June 17 in Moline. Davenport Public Library staff also attended the Juneteenth Celebration at the Lincoln Center on June 17. Staff promoted Library programming as well as shared resources with attendees.



## 04 DAVENPORT REPRESENTED AT THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN CHICAGO

Brittany Peacock, Community Outreach and Marketing Supervisor, represented Davenport Public Library and The Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. In addition to attending, Peacock co-presented on the topic of the Importance of Outreach and Meeting Folx Where They Are. The presentation welcomed 45 individuals who are passionate about outreach.





# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



## 01 DFD HOST SUMMER YOUTH CAMP TOURS

The Davenport Fire Department opened the doors to Central Fire Station for several group tours. Davenport Adventure Camp visited the oldest, active firehouse west of the Mississippi for four tours. The campers were educated on the activities of firefighters, organizational structure, and apparatus used for emergency response. Magnets were distributed to continue the conversation on the importance of smoke alarms and exit drills in the home (EDITH) with parents. To accommodate the large groups, time was split with a tour at the Davenport Police Station.

## 02 MUSIC ON THE RIVER KICKS OFF

Music on the River kicked off for the 2023 season with Josh Duffee and His Orchestra on June 11 followed by The RiverCity 6 on June 25. Over 100 community members enjoyed the free live music in LeClaire Park. These free concerts will be held through August.



## 03 PARTY IN THE PARK

Party in the Park kicked off the 2023 season at Lafayette Park on Thursday, June 15. Attendees enjoyed hot dogs and chips courtesy of presenting sponsor, Kraft Heinz, along with ice cream served by this year's food vendor Sweet Delite. With four different opportunities to visit Davenport parks this summer, the free events offer kids and families activities, games, crafts, and more. A full lineup is planned this year with over 20 vendors participating and City staff is so thankful for the enthusiastic participation by all involved.



## 04 FINDING NATURE'S VOICE AT VANDER VEER BOTANICAL PARK'S SUMMER THEME

This summer the community can explore Vander Veer Botanical Park and Conservatory while *Finding Nature's Voice* as part of the annual summer theme. The goal of this year's theme is to bring awareness to some lesser known and familiar vulnerable species throughout the world, to "hear their voice" speak about their ecological and endangered status and conditions. Activities run through Labor Day weekend. Participants can pick up a VOICE (aka BINGO) card to complete activities as part of a scavenger hunt-like game and enter to win raffle prizes donated by organizations throughout the Quad Cities. Prize contributors to the 2023 summer game include Davenport Parks & Recreation, River Bandits, Friends of Vander Veer, River Action, Living Lands & Waters, Nicolina's Turtle Co., Common Chord, Kwik Star, Quad City Symphony, Figge Museum, Nahant Marsh, X-Stream Cleanup, Partners of Scott Co. Watersheds, Starbucks, Niabi Zoo, Isabel Bloom, Progressive Action for the Common Good, Grammy's Butterfly Shack, Family Museum, and German Heritage Center.



## 05 PUTNAM MUSEUM SUMMER CAMP AT FEJERVARY AQUATIC CENTER

On Friday, June 16 Davenport Parks and Recreation staff partnered with the Putnam Museum's Summer Camp at the Fejervary Aquatic Center. Campers spent their week building "junkrafts" and tested them at the in the pool for a day of fun in the sun with a science twist. All of the rafts floated!



## 06 SUMMER KICKS OFF WITH FEJERVARY FAMILY FUN DAY

Over 100 kids and adults kicked off summer at Fejervary Fun Days with activities such as a petting zoo, bounce houses, the Davenport Public Library's OWL, giant connect four, bags, coloring sheets, and arts and crafts with staff from the Nature and Garden program.



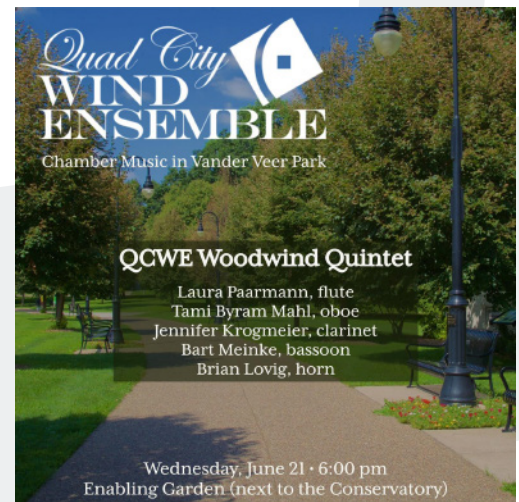
## 07 MOVIE IN THE PARK SHOWCASES 'THE LORAX'

The community enjoyed the 2nd Movie in the Park showcasing 'The Lorax' at the Annie Wittenmyer Complex. Attendees played 9-Square, enjoyed tasty food from local food trucks, enjoyed themed coloring sheets, and then settled in for a movie under the stars.



## 08 QUAD CITY WIND ENSEMBLE POP-UP CONCERTS AT VANDER VEER BOTANICAL PARK

Throughout the summer, the Quad City Wind Ensemble will occasionally hold pop-up concerts at the Enabling Garden in Vander Veer Botanical Park. The first hour-long concert took place on Wednesday, June 21 as part of a collaboration between Davenport Parks and Recreation and the QC Wind Ensemble.



## 09 DAVENPORT PARKS AND RECREATION ATTENDS SCOTT COUNTY HEALTH AND WELLNESS RESOURCE FAIR

Staff from Davenport Parks and Recreation were on hand for the Scott County Health Department's 2nd annual Health and Wellness Resource Fair at the Freight House Farmers' Market. Staff handed out information about summer programs, answered parks and recreation related questions, and discussed healthy activity options in parks.



## 10 COPS N' KIDS

On Friday, June 23 Davenport Police partnered with TMBC at the Lincoln Center for the 3rd Annual Cops N' Kids book drive at KWQC. The primary goal of this drive is to create positive community interaction with community youth and police through relationship building and promoting youth literacy skills. Davenport Police Officers collect and distribute the donated books at community events. This book drive supports the TMBC at the Lincoln Center's library which allows area youth to receive a free book when they visit.

## 11 DFD VISITS THE PUTNAM

A crew of the new Truck 3 had the chance to attend the Putnam Museum's Summer Camp. Firefighters educated attendees on their duties and discussed the various tools used as well as operations of a fire truck.

