



STATUS & INFORMATION REPORT

WEEK OF JULY 29, 2007

CITY MANAGER

- ✓ **Green Square Meals** - John Locher reported that a potential permanent location has been identified for the Green Square Meals program. More information on the viability of this location is expected next week. One option that was previously considered (the Cardiologist Building) has apparently been ruled out by the GSM Board. The Salvation Army option is still under consideration but the timeline on availability of that building is likely at least one year out. John Locher did reiterate his intention to be relocated by this fall.
- ✓ **Shooting Incident** - A shooting incident occurred in the 1500 block of 4th Ave SE on early Thursday morning. There were no injuries. In response, City staff including Sandi Fowler, Chief Klappholz, Captain Stephens, Captain Walthers, Captain Mellgren, Sgt. Estling, and Jim Prosser met with neighborhood representatives. A plan for follow-up has been initiated including neighborhood canvassing, increased police presence, meetings with landlords, improved street lighting and stepped-up inspections for problem properties.

FIRE

- ✓ The City's newly organized Land Records Staff Team met with ATI Telemanagement on July 3rd to begin the process of purchasing software to assist the City of Cedar Rapids in its Land Development, Permitting & Licensing efforts. This software is needed to improve and assist numerous city departments involved in development, inspection, permitting, and other efforts related to land use such as the Enhance Your Neighborhoods program. The consultant developed Sample Functional Specifications and a presentation for a project initiation workshop that he presented to 27 city staff from 14 departments on July 16. Following the workshop, the main site work began with the gathering of information for the needs assessment. The consultant worked from July 16 to July 20 meeting with 54 city staff from 15 departments all with some involvement in lands development processes. The results of these meetings will be a Request for Proposals including a performance based contract that is scheduled for release on Friday, August 31, 2007 with proposals expected back from vendors on October 31, 2007.

LIBRARY

- ✓ The EIEIO story time program at Bever Park, which is collaborated with the Parks & Recreation Department, has continued to grow over the summer reaching 113 kids on July 13. The Junior League provides volunteers for the special story times which are held at 10:30 every Friday through August 3.

PARKS & RECREATION

- ✓ The Iowa Amateur Softball Association Men's 12" Slow Pitch Class D Men's State Tournament will be held at the Tait Cummins Softball Complex, August 3-5. Approximately 50 teams from throughout the state will participate.
- ✓ The Kick It 3-on-3 Regional Soccer Tournament will be held August 4-5 at the Tuma Soccer Complex. Approximately 175 - 200 teams from throughout the Midwest are expected to compete.
- ✓ Open Houses for the proposed Twin Pines golf project will be held August 1st from 3:30-5:30pm in the Veteran's Memorial Armory (basement of City Hall) and August 9th from 5:00-7:00pm at the Time Check Recreation Center, 1131-5th Street NW. Larry Hirsh, the golf consultant, has been visiting with staff at Twin Pines and touring the facility.

PUBLIC WORKS

- ✓ The Edgewood Road SW viaduct plans were submitted this week to IDOT for their finalization for an October 2007 bid opening. When constructed, this 902 foot long bridge over the Union Pacific RR and Prairie Creek

will be 238 feet longer than the City's current longest, Edgewood Road over the Cedar River. Once IDOT completes their work on the bid documents, a Public Hearing before City Council will be scheduled.

- ✓ Excess Public Property for Disposition Task Force - The task force is in the process of reviewing a draft process developed for disposal of public property. A data base has been developed for identifying the public property inventory with supplemental information needs to determine if it can be disposed of as excess property. A presentation summarizing options for resources and implementation timelines will be complete by August 15, 2007.
- ✓ Sewer Maintenance crews accomplished over 245 miles of cleaning and nearly 150 miles of televising in FY2007. This produced an outcome of less than 40 known city caused blockages which is roughly 1/3 of the national average for a system of our city in calendar year 2006. Calendar year 2007 is on track for similar results.
- ✓ Significant work:
 - 32nd St NW by Johnson Ave – full pavement concrete repairs, near future
 - Hinkley Blvd. NW (from 15th St. to Johnson Ave) - seal coating, starting
 - 17th St. NW (from 1st Ave to Johnson Ave) - seal coating, starting
 - Maple Dr. NW (from 18th St to Johnson Ave) - seal coating, starting
 - 29th St NW (North of Johnson Ave) - seal coating, near future
 - B Ave NW (from 29th to 30th St) - seal coating, near future
 - 27th St SW (south of Johnson Ave) - seal coating, near future
 - Wenig Rd NE (3000 block) – sanitary manhole replacement, starting
 - 930 Westwood and Waveland NW – storm sewer inlet construction, near future

UPDATES

Building Maintenance Service Evaluation Task Force

The Task Force, consisting of Dave Elgin, Dave Bowser, Jerry Potter, Don Crane, Craig McNabb, Dwight Dohlman and Dean Archer, identified areas where services could be improved by utilizing in-house staff. These areas included some custodial contracts, HVAC/mechanical contracts, electrical services, overhead doors and RPZ testing and repair. A Request for Information (RFI) was developed and sent to all maintenance groups to recover maintenance costs including personnel, maintenance contracts, task/time costs, square footage, services needed, and services that could be contributed to a consolidated maintenance group.

The Davenport and CR School Districts operate as a centralized consolidated facility maintenance group and were invited to attend one of the Task Force meetings to share insight. Current supervisor-to-frontline ratios throughout the city were gathered and compared to national averages from different sources. With this information, several recommendations for the organizational structure were made as well as changes in some of the maintenance activities.

The Building Maintenance Division is now working with Casey Drew regarding personnel placements in the organization. Casey is also meeting with frontline employees to gather input for position descriptions. The reorganization of the group should be moving forward rather quickly over the next few weeks.

Dilapidated Homes

- 1126 - 12th St. NE – Property has recently been sold; permits to rehabilitate have been issued.
- 1644 - C Ave. NE – Property has recently been sold; permits to rehabilitate have been issued.
- 1512 - 1st St. NW – House and garage have been demolished.
- 3051 Canton Dr. SE – Owner will demolish the house in August and is planning construction of a new home.

Sinclair

Cedar Service is performing major repairs to two roofs above one of the tenants and Bowker Mechanical is finishing up rerouting of water and gas lines to bypass a deteriorated structure. Solid Waste has inquired about leasing space to store 90 gallon containers that is anticipated to arrive next month.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' CALENDAR

*(Not all meetings are noted. The calendar is **not** an official posting.)*

<u>Monday, July 30</u>	5:30pm	City/Count Joint Meeting, <i>(Board of Supervisor's Room)</i>
<u>Tuesday, July 31</u>	Noon	Federal Lobbyist Brown Bag, <i>(Council Chambers)</i>
<u>Wednesday, August 1</u>	3:30pm 6:00pm	Twin Pines Golf Course Open House, <i>(Vets Memorial Armory)</i> Council Meeting, <i>(Council Chambers)</i>