



## STATUS & INFORMATION REPORT

### WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 23, 2007

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#### **FINANCE**

- ✓ Facilities Maintenance - Dean Archer has been hired as the Facilities Maintenance Manager. Dean, previously, was the City's Public Works Facility and Energy Management Director. Over the next few weeks Dean will be meeting with facility maintenance employees to discuss the next steps in the reorganization process for facilities maintenance.
- ✓ Fleet Services - Dennis Hogan has been hired as the Fleet Services Manager and will begin working for the City on October 1. Prior to accepting this position Dennis was the Fleet Manager for Alliant Energy. The reorganization process will begin for fleet services once Dennis has a chance to meet with staff and review operations.

#### **FIRE**

- ✓ Annual pump testing has been completed by Don Fox and Mike Pint on all of the fire apparatus. This testing is required annually to maintain ISO rating. The test verifies that the pumps on the fire trucks can pump the volume of water that they are rated for. Fox and Pint also perform this test for numerous other fire departments in Eastern Iowa, testing a total of 64 trucks from 27 different fire departments.
- ✓ The Public Education division is nearly complete with the first of four visits to sixty eight 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classrooms teaching them how to put together their personal home fire escape plan. An hour is spent in each classroom talking about smoke detectors, crawling low under smoke, two ways out of every room, having a meeting place outside and the importance of never re-entering a building that is on fire. The annual Fire Prevention Poster contest is held in October during Fire Prevention Week. Over 1700 3<sup>rd</sup> graders enter the contest each year by drawing a poster that conveys a fire safety message. Winners receive a fire truck ride home from school.
- ✓ As of 9/21/07, the urban deer hunt has harvested 38 does and one buck.

#### **LIBRARY**

- ✓ Representatives from the library's Board of Trustees, Friends, Foundation and staff met September 13<sup>th</sup> to discuss the library's Strategic Plan. The discussions cover all aspects of future library services, including service to the West Side.
- ✓ The Metro Library Network, which is comprised of Cedar Rapids, Marion and Hiawatha libraries, is exploring a project to provide downloadable audio to patrons. A joint project could result in a considerable cost saving, while making the service available to all three communities.
- ✓ During a meeting with the Cargill Cares Committee, offsite visits to the three preschools were set up monthly for October through December.
- ✓ The Book Buddy Program, a collaborative project between the Library and Cedar Rapids Middle Schools, has received funding from the Friends of the Cedar Rapids Public Library for 2008. The funds will allow the library to purchase books for 500+ middle school students who will read and discuss the book they choose with community volunteers. This will be the eighth year for the program.

## **POLICE**

- ✓ The K9 Task Force has completed their review and report on training, procedures, selection, acquisition and numbers of dogs needed. Based on the information provided senior staff and the Chief authorized the application and selection process to begin to add three new K9 officers to the PD.
- ✓ This past week the department received signed copies of 28E agreements between the State of Iowa and the City of Cedar Rapids. These agreements authorize the Special Response Team and Bomb Disposal Unit to be State teams to be called upon for incidents of terrorism and weapons of mass destruction. Congratulations to these teams for this designation as it will allow our department to obtain significant equipment procurements and training using Federal funding.
- ✓ Over the last several weeks the Captains, Lieutenants, and Sergeants have been designated for assignment to our new structure. The most significant change will be the move toward district policing and the establishment of the Traffic Unit. The bargaining unit is in the process of conducting the bid for shift assignments which will be held on October 8.
- ✓ Letters have been received from the United States Secret Service agency thanking our department for its outstanding support during the recent visits of Senators Clinton and Obama.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

- ✓ A public hearing is scheduled for October 3 on the construction plans for a new \$4 million bridge on Edgewood Rd SW over the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) and Prairie Creek with bids scheduled to be received October 16. Plans were actually completed in 2005, but the City was delayed over a year due to extended time in acquiring permission to cross the UPRR. Pile driving for the new bridge should commence this winter and the bridge construction should be substantially complete by the end of 2008. Traffic will remain on the existing Edgewood Road until a bridge is built over the CRANDIC RR in 2009.  
The Edgewood Road Bridge over the CRANDIC RR began design after the City accepted a \$7.7 federal earmark in spring 2006. Environmental review work was completed in February 2007 and right of way acquisition on this segment was approved to proceed by the Federal Highway Administration in the spring of 2007. Construction of a bypass with utilities is scheduled to begin in summer 2008 to allow Edgewood Rd to remain open during the 2009 bridge construction. Upon completion, this bypass road will be converted to frontage roads serving the Beverly Gardens and CRANDIC rail yard. This project is being closely coordinated with work funded by the RISE grant received by the City in 2006 to extend paving improvements south on Edgewood Rd to 60<sup>th</sup> Ave and east to the new ADM Ethanol Facility.
  - ✓ Patching Lot 15 for parking (US Cellular Center)
  - ✓ Paving lot and road for the Water Dept at the water tower site off of Boyson Rd NE
  - ✓ 6511 Cottage Hill Ln NE - manhole box out repair
  - ✓ 431 4<sup>th</sup> St SW - raise 5 storm intakes in alley for street program re-grading
  - ✓ Joint repairs with asphalt at H Ave NW (from Ellis Blvd to 10<sup>th</sup> St)
  - ✓ Joint repairs with asphalt at Edgewood Rd SW near Highway 30
  - ✓ Mowing 6<sup>th</sup> St SW after Westdale mall area is completed
  - ✓ Crack seal Edgewood Rd – E Avenue to north of Crestwood Dr NW
  - ✓ Concrete pavement patching work - Wiley Blvd between Hwy 151 and 31<sup>st</sup> Ave
  - ✓ Concrete pavement patching east side of Wiley Blvd SW from 31<sup>st</sup> Ave to 16<sup>th</sup> Ave, 4100 Block of 42<sup>nd</sup> St NE (panel failure), and 97 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave SW.
  - ✓ The sanitary sewer/storm sewer repair at C Ave and 16<sup>th</sup> St NE has been contracted. Repairs will start September 21 and take roughly a week.
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## COUNCIL MEMBERS' CALENDAR

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

<b>Monday, September 24</b>	6:00pm	Taylor Area Neighborhood Association (TANA), <i>(Taylor Elementary School cafeteria, 720 7th Ave SW)</i>
<b>Tuesday, September 25</b>	5:00pm	Key Financial Strategies, <i>(Council Chambers)</i>
<b>Wednesday, September 26</b>	6:00pm	Council Meeting, <i>(Council Chambers)</i>
<b>Thursday, September 27</b>	6:00pm	Cedar Hills Neighborhood Association meeting, <i>(St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 4700 Johnson Ave NW)</i>
	7:00pm	Northwest Neighbors meeting, <i>(Time Check Recreation Center, 1131- 5th St NW)</i>