



STATUS & INFORMATION REPORT

WEEK OF AUGUST 18, 2008

Cedar Rapids is a vibrant urban hometown - a beacon for people and businesses that are invested in building a greater community for the next generation.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- ✓ The consultant team of Sasaki-JLG will be in Cedar Rapids this week. The team will continue stakeholder meetings, analysis of feedback, and preparation of draft concepts for the September 9th open houses. In addition, Sasaki-JLG will meet with Vision Iowa staff to discuss a River Enhance Community Attraction and Tourism (RECAT) grant application. Staff will also be attending an August 26th workshop on the RECAT grant application.
- ✓ Neighborhood meetings will be held Monday and Tuesday of this week at Jefferson High School and Washington High School respectively to provide information regarding FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and the September 12th Notice of Intent. The meetings will begin at 7:00pm and end at 8:00pm. In two weeks of collecting the Surveys of Interest, more than 530 forms have been collected. Collection will continue for the first step of the application process until August 29, 2008. Property owners can still complete and return Survey of Interest forms after the August 29, 2008 deadline. Completed surveys can be mailed to the current City Hall location of 3851 River Ridge Drive NE or may be delivered to the Contractor Certification Center, located in the lower level of Westdale Mall near Younkers. Property owners that have turned in an interest survey will receive a letter indicating their property's inclusion in the Notice of Interest prior to the September 12th application submission to the State of Iowa.
- ✓ Staff attended a meeting at the Chamber of Commerce to discuss the possibility of organizing a group to sell historic preservation tax credits. The discussion was lead by Rod Scott a contractor and preservationist from Iowa Falls. Mr. Scott provided meeting attendees with applications for state and federal historic tax credits. The intent is to form a non-profit organization that would pool and sell the tax credits.
- ✓ Staff met with John Helbling from Alliant Energy to begin organizing the next Lean Event for the building permit process. The next event will begin the week of September 22nd and is anticipated to last five days. Staff will begin developing a charter for the Lean Event and start to map out the current process in the next few weeks.
- ✓ As of August 13, 2008, FEMA has leased 486 manufactured home sites within the Metro area manufactured housing communities. FEMA has delivered 375 manufactured housing units with 211 of these units currently occupied. The remaining 164 units are being set up for occupancy.
- ✓ City Planning Commission (CPC) will hold its regularly scheduled meeting on August 19, 2008 at Mt. Mercy College. One of the items for their consideration is the amendment to Chapter 32 of the Municipal Code, the Zoning Ordinance, which grants CPC approval authority for Preliminary Site Development Plan applications. As discussed with City Council on June 4, 2008, public notice will still be required for these types of applications. City Council will act as the appeal body and will review applications where an appeal of the City Planning Commission's decision has been challenged.
- ✓ In response to a question by City Council, staff wanted to inform the Council that the Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization's "Cedar Rapids Metro-Area Hazard Mitigation Plan", which was adopted by Cedar Rapids in 2007, documents the City's response to all natural disasters such as flooding and tornados.

- ✓ Code Enforcement Division - Staff continues to confirm contractor registration when in the flood-affected area. As of Tuesday, August 12th, 907 companies and 6,024 contractors had gone through the certification process. The list of certified companies is available at www.corridorrecovery.org. The Contractor Certification Center is located in the lower level of Westdale Mall, near Younkers. Hours of operation are 8:00 am 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

FIRE

- ✓ Pump training for all crews will resume this week at the drill tower.
- ✓ The Battalion Chiefs are putting together a list of purple and red placarded homes which are not safe to enter. Crews may be asked to make a defensive attack only.
- ✓ There are approximately 800 flood homes on a list that have been “abandoned”. When entering those homes, wearing an SCBA will be mandatory throughout the entire incident including post overhaul. This is due to the concern about the high mold content inside these homes
- ✓ Bids for the removal of debris in the river were opened on August 18. The same contractor that was awarded the bid for the removal of the collapsed railroad bridge was awarded the contract to remove debris above the 5-in-1 dam.
- ✓ A foam trailer will be purchased to supplement current equipment during specific fires that foam would be an asset.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- ✓ The *Flood Affected Employee Support* committee has recently been formed to support city employees that were directly affected by the flood. The committee members are Gary McClure, John Ernst, Joe Hanrahan, Darrin Crow, Vicky Grover, Bonnie Weltz, Scott Saylor, Sandi Fowler, Becky Kluesner, Karen Michael and Jan Rushford. The committee meets each Tuesday afternoon from 3:00 – 4:00 to discuss ideas to support fellow employees. Any ideas and/or suggestions are welcomed by contacting one of the members. An employee bake sale (held by location) will be held Friday, August 22nd. Please see a member of the committee for details. Watch for details via e-mail and posted announcements.

LIBRARY

- ✓ The Library Board of Trustees welcomes new members Harriet Kalinsky, Hilery Livengood, and Paul Pelletier.
- ✓ The library is proceeding with plans to expand the library space at Westdale Mall.
- ✓ A “wish list” for members of the public who would like to donate a library book can be found via the library’s temporary web site at www.crlibrary.info

PARKS & RECREATION

- ✓ The 8th Ave Farmers Market has moved back to the 8th Ave location on Saturdays only. The Tuesday and Thursday market will remain at Noelridge Park for the time being.
- ✓ The Jackson Park playground installation was completed last week. Parks staff will complete fine grading, seeding and installation of benches near the playground this week. The playground is geared towards children ages 2-12. There is a main play structure as well as a stand alone climber, swing, and plastic hippopotamus play sculpture.
- ✓ Fall registration is currently being accepted. Program catalogs are available at the Ambroz Recreation Center, 2000 Mt. Vernon Rd. SE and at community drop off locations including grocery stores. Program information is also listed at www.crrec.org.
- ✓ The Parks and Recreation Department will hold a free Back-to-School Open Swim on August 19 at Bever Pool and Cherry Hill Aquatic Center. The pools will be available for open swimming from 1:00 - 5:00pm and from 6:30-8:00pm. The free Back-to-School Open Swim is being offered as a way for school children to reconnect and renew friendships before returning to classes this fall. Occupancy restrictions and regular facility closing policies will be enforced. Patrons will be admitted on a first-come, first-served basis.

POLICE

- ✓ The SW beat officers took down over 400 signs in one day that had been placed on public property. The signs were advertising clean-up information for flood victims. The sign removal continued throughout the week and into this week in other quadrants. The companies were also notified of the violation.
- ✓ The Joint Communications Center was recognized as having achieved certified compliance in meeting/exceeding the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials Project 33 – Minimum Training Standards for Public Safety Telecommunicators. This standard specifies the minimum training requirements, in general, of operational personnel assigned to any public safety communications. The certification was awarded August 5, 2008 at the Annual Conference in Kansas City, MO.
- ✓ The curfew continues to be enforced by officers. As of August 17, 2008, 15 people have been charged with Curfew violations since June 11, 2008.
- ✓ A meeting was held for landlord and tenants from the Florida Ct and Florida Ave SW apartment complexes along with Kirkwood Community College Security. The meeting was in regards to underage drinking, and safety in the area.
- ✓ The Police Recruits spent a majority of the week doing accident reconstruction and medical training.

PUBLIC WORKS

- ✓ Mowing continues in the SW quadrant of the city. Crews will be in the Kirkwood Blvd and 6th St SW areas. This will complete the second rotation for the year and the first following the flood. After these areas are complete, crews will move to the NW quadrant at E and F Avenues. Mowing was performed on the parking areas in Czech Village and at the Czech Museum to improve appearance and quality of life for those that are accessing the area.
- ✓ Sewer televising has completed roughly 25% of the flood zone. Significant debris continues to be found in the residential lines and is being cleaned. The lines were found roughly 1/3 full of sand and heavy sludge. The material came in via the 4 to 5 dozen manhole lids that came off during the flood.
- ✓ Sewer construction crews will finish street repairs on Sue Lane NW and fix a sink hole by M Ave and 1st St NW on a culvert that was damaged in the flood.
- ✓ Work in the southern portion of the city will concentrate on alley repairs and patching.
- ✓ Work in the eastern portion of the city will continue on Otis Rd SE.
- ✓ Work in the western portion of the city will continue on Rogers Rd and E Ave NW near Stoney Point Rd. Yellow painting of line markers will complete this week. The school cross-walk painting is nearly complete with roughly 190 of the 193 sites finished. The outstanding cross-walks will be painted at night or are waiting other construction work. Work on legend markings, stop bars, and turn arrows will restart next week.
- ✓ Street repairs will be performed in the 100 to 300 block areas of 31st and 32nd St NW. This increases the quality of driving in a neighborhood and eliminates structures that cause issues for snow plowing.
- ✓ Natural gas is expected to be restored to the oil house at Public Works this week. Seal coating of streets can then begin.
- ✓ Traffic signal technicians have completed their annual inspection for school crossings at traffic signals. Pedestrian push buttons, pedestrian signal indications, and general traffic signal operation is inspected and repaired to eliminate service calls for repairs with the start of school. This work activity supports the City Council goal of providing a Safe and Healthy Community.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' CALENDAR

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

Monday, August 18	7:15am	Boards & Commissions interviews, (<i>Lower level conference room, City Hall</i>)
	8:00am	Council Briefing, (<i>Lower level conference room, City Hall</i>)
	7:00pm	Community Neighborhood meeting, (<i>Jefferson High School auditorium, 1243- 20th Street SW</i>)
	7:00pm	Lincolnway Village Neighborhood Association meeting, (<i>Green Acres Storage, 5315 - J Street SW</i>)
Tuesday, August 19	11:00am	Media Briefing, (<i>Lower Level, City Hall</i>)
	3:00pm	CPC meeting, (<i>Flaherty Community Center, Basile Hall, Mount Mercy College</i>)
	7:00pm	Community Neighborhood meeting, (<i>Washington High School cafeteria, 2205- Forest Drive SE</i>)
	7:00pm	Cedar Valley Neighborhood Association meeting, (<i>Cedar Valley Park</i>)
Wednesday, August 20	5:30pm	Council Meeting, (<i>AEGON USA Auditorium, 4333 Edgewood Rd</i>)
Friday, August 22	7:00am	Boards & Commissions interviews, (<i>Lower level conference room, City Hall</i>)
	8:00am	Council Briefing, (<i>Lower level conference room, City Hall</i>)

Municipal Service Locations

Department Name	Current Address	Phone Number	Mon-Fri Hours of Operation
Animal Control	6301 Kirkwood Blvd SW (Animal Health Technologies)	(319)286-5993	10 A – 5 P 10-4 Sat
Assessor	1211 6 th Street SW, Public Works	(319)286-5888	8 AM – 5 PM
City Clerk	3851 River Ridge Drive NE	(319)286-5060	8 AM – 5 PM
City Council		(319)286-5051	
City Manager	3851 River Ridge Drive NE	(319)286-5080	8 AM – 5 PM
Civil Rights	425 2 nd Street SE, Suite 960	(319)286-5036	8 AM – 5 PM
Code Enforcement – Building/Zoning	Westdale Mall, 2600 Edgewood Road SW	(319)286-5831	8 AM – 5 PM
Code Enforcement - Housing Inspections	1201 6 th Street SW, Public Works	(319)286-5197	8 AM – 5 PM
Community Development	3851 River Ridge Drive NE	(319)286-5041	8 AM – 5 PM
Eastern Iowa Airport	2515 Arthur Collins Parkway SW	(319)362-3131	8 AM – 5 PM
Facility Maintenance	1201 6 th Street SW	(319)286-5891	7 A – 3:30 P
Finance	3851 River Ridge Drive NE	(319)286-5006	8 AM – 5 PM
Fire (Central)	3851 River Ridge Drive NE	(319)286-5200	8 A – 4:30 P
Fleet	Central Fire complex, 222 Third Street NW	(319)286-5829	7 AM – 5 PM
Golf	3601 42nd Street NE	(319)286-5588	7 AM – 4 PM
Housing Services (Section 8, Leased Housing, Rehab)	Westdale Mall, 2600 Edgewood Road SW	(319)286-5872	8 AM – 5 PM
Human Resources	3851 River Ridge Drive NE	(319)286-5000	7:30 A – 5 P
Information Technology	3851 River Ridge Drive NE	(319)286-5500	8:00 A - 5 P
Joint Communications	505 1 st Street SW	(319)286-5491	24 hrs
Library	Westdale Mall, 2600 Edgewood Road SW	(319)390-7806	10 – 9 M-F 10 – 5 Sat 1 – 5 Sun
Parking – Revenue Collection/Cust. Service	Water Dept., 1111 Shaver Road NE	319-286-5003	8 AM – 5 PM
Parks	3601 42nd Street NE	(319)286-5760	7 AM – 4 PM
Police	505 1 st Street SW	(319)286-5378	7 AM – 6 PM
Public Works – Adm. Services/Engineering Dept.	1201 6 th Street SW, Public Works	(319)286-5802	8 AM – 5 PM
Public Works – Forestry	1201 6 th Street SW, Public Works	(319)286-5747	7 A – 4:00 P
Public Works – Sewer	1201 6 th Street SW, Public Works	(319)286-5815	7 A – 3:30 P
Public Works – Street	1201 6 th Street SW, Public Works	(319)286-5826	7 AM – 5 PM
Public Works – Traffic	1201 6 th Street SW, Public Works	(319)286-5176	7 AM – 5 PM
Purchasing	3851 River Ridge Drive NE	(319)286-5021	8 AM – 5 PM
Recreation	2000 Mt. Vernon Road SE	(319)286-5731	8 AM – 5 PM
Safety Office	3851 River Ridge Drive NE	(319)286-5034	7:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Solid Waste & Recycling	1201 6 th Street SW, Public Works	(319)286-5897	7 A – 3:30 P
Transit	Westdale Mall, 2600 Edgewood Road SW	(319)286-5573	5:15–5:50 M-F 8–4:15 PM Sat
Treasurer’s Office	Water Dept., 1111 Shaver Road NE	(319)286-5003	8 AM – 5 PM
Ushers Ferry	Closed temporarily	(319)286-5699	8 AM – 5 PM
Veterans Memorial	3851 River Ridge Drive NE	(319)286-5038	7:45 AM – 4:45 PM
Water	1111 Shaver Road NE	(319)286-5900	7:30 – 5:30
Water Pollution Control	7525 Bertram Road SE	(319)286-5286	24 hrs