

City Council Information Packet

May 12, 2022

IP1. Council Tentative Meeting Schedule

May 17 Work Session

- IP2. Work Session Agenda
- IP3. Pending City Council Work Session Topics

Miscellaneous

- **IP4.** Memo from City Manager: Utility Billing Procedures and Status of Utility Enterprise Funds
- IP5. Iowa City Fire Department: 2021 Annual Report
- IP6. Letter from Northside Neighborhood: Draft Statement of Purpose
- **IP7.** Press Release: Iowa City Fire Department to celebrate 150th anniversary
- IP8. Civil Service Examination: Maintenance Worker I Water Customer Service
- IP9. Civil Service Examination: Recreation Program Supervisor Special Events & Communications



Council Tentative Meeting Schedule

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Council Tentative Meeting Schedule



City Council Tentative Meeting Schedule Subject to change

May 12, 2022

<u>Date</u>	<u>Date</u> <u>Time</u> <u>Meeting</u>		<u>Location</u>
Tuesday, May 17, 2022	4:00 PM	Work Session	City Hall, Emma J. Harvat Hall
	6:00 PM	Formal Meeting	410 E. Washington Street
Wednesday, May 18, 2022	9:30 AM	Work Session - Strategic Planning	East Side Recycling Center
			2401 Scott Blvd SE
Monday, June 6, 2022	4:00 PM	Work Session	City Hall, Emma J. Harvat Hall
	6:00 PM	Formal Meeting	410 E. Washington Street
Tuesday, June 21, 2022	4:00 PM	Work Session	City Hall, Emma J. Harvat Hall
	6:00 PM	Formal Meeting	410 E. Washington Street
Tuesday, July 12, 2022	4:00 PM	Work Session	City Hall, Emma J. Harvat Hall
	6:00 PM	Formal Meeting	410 E. Washington Street
Monday, July 18, 2022	4:30 PM	Joint Entities Meeting	TBD
		Hosted by City of Coralville	
Tuesday, August 2, 2022	4:00 PM	Work Session	City Hall, Emma J. Harvat Hall
	6:00 PM	Formal Meeting	410 E. Washington Street
Tuesday, August 16, 2022	4:00 PM	Work Session	City Hall, Emma J. Harvat Hall
	6:00 PM	Formal Meeting	410 E. Washington Street
Tuesday, September 6, 2022	4:00 PM	Work Session	City Hall, Emma J. Harvat Hall
	6:00 PM	Formal Meeting	410 E. Washington Street
Tuesday, September 20, 2022	4:00 PM	Work Session	City Hall, Emma J. Harvat Hall
	6:00 PM	Formal Meeting	410 E. Washington Street
Monday, October 3, 2022	4:00 PM	Work Session	City Hall, Emma J. Harvat Hall
	6:00 PM	Formal Meeting	410 E. Washington Street
Monday, October 17, 2022	4:30 PM	Joint Entities Meeting	City Hall, Emma J. Harvat Hall
		Hosted by City of Iowa City	410 E. Washington Street
Tuesday, October 18, 2022	4:00 PM	Work Session	City Hall, Emma J. Harvat Hall
	6:00 PM	Formal Meeting	410 E. Washington Street
Tuesday, November 1, 2022	4:00 PM	Work Session	City Hall, Emma J. Harvat Hall
,	6:00 PM	Formal Meeting	410 E. Washington Street
Tuesday, November 15, 2022	4:00 PM	Work Session	City Hall, Emma J. Harvat Hall
•	6:00 PM	Formal Meeting	410 E. Washington Street
Tuesday, December 6, 2022	4:00 PM	Work Session	City Hall, Emma J. Harvat Hall
•	6:00 PM	Formal Meeting	410 E. Washington Street

Item Number: 2.



May 12, 2022

Work Session Agenda

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Work Session Agenda



410 East Washington Street Iowa City, Iowa 52240-1826 (319) 356-5000 (319) 356-5009 FAX www.icgov.org

Special Formal Meeting 4:00 PM - separate agenda posted

lowa City
City Council Work Session Agenda
May 17, 2022 - 4:00 PM
Emma J. Harvat Hall
410 E. Washington Street

www.icgov.org

Following the 4:00 PM Special Formal Meeting

Meeting Rules can be found at: icgov.org/meetingrules

You can watch the meeting on cable channel 4 (118.2 QAM) in lowa City, University Heights and Coralville, or you can watch it online at any of the following websites:

- https://citychannel4.com/live
- https://www.youtube.com/user/citychannel4/live
 - https://facebook.com/CityoflowaCity
- Presentation from the local childcare coalition
- Clarification of Agenda Items
- Information Packet Discussion [May 5, May 12]
- University of Iowa Student Government (USG) Updates
- · Council updates on assigned boards, commissions, and committees



Pending City Council Work Session Topics

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Pending City Council Work Session Topics



PENDING CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION TOPICS May 12, 2022

June 6, 2022

Annual Presentation from the Iowa City Area Development Group

June 21, 2022

Review of Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan

Other Topics:

- 1. Consider a plan for rubberized surfacing at park playgrounds and develop strategies to address equity gaps noted in the Parks Master Plan and plan for the equitable distribution of destination parks within an easy and safe distance of all residents.
- 2. Discuss possible changes to residential zoning classifications to allow and/or require a greater diversity of housing types (i.e. missing middle)
- 3. Consider establishing a cost of development framework that can help guide decisions on how best to accommodate future growth
- 4. Review low-income fare free transit options
- 5. Review Sunday transit service operational proposal
- 6. Discuss low-intensity commercial use allowances in residential zones
- 7. Discuss long-term planning work group priorities
- 8. Discuss Local Option Sales Tax
- 9. Discuss a land acknowledgement for City Council meetings
- 10. Strategic Planning sessions



Memo from City Manager: Utility Billing Procedures and Status of Utility Enterprise Funds

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Memo from City Manager: Utility Billing Procedures and Status of Utility Enterprise Funds

Date: May 12, 2022

To: Mayor and Council

From: Geoff Fruin, City Manager

Re: Utility Billing Procedures and Status of Utility Enterprise Funds

Summary

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the City has been operating on a relaxed billing and collections protocol for delinquent utility accounts. These billing and collection adjustments were intended to avoid water shut offs and provide relief for households who may have experienced financial impacts due to the pandemic. Although this shift in protocol provided critical, needed relief to households during the worst of the pandemic, it has resulted in growing revenue loss in the City's utility enterprise funds and particularly the Water Fund. The City's utility bills include charges for water, wastewater, stormwater, and curbside collection services. To date, the amount of delinquent utility payments has risen to over half a million dollars. This memo provides background on past utility account relief actions taken by City Council and some options for consideration within the context of the current situation.

Background and Analysis

<u>March 2020</u>: Due to the pandemic, the City discontinued charging late fees, carding fees, and re-connection fees; shutting off water; and filing liens or using collections services.

October 2020: The City Council adopted changes to the City's water rate ordinance including eliminating the water shut-off carding fee and reducing the reconnection fee. These changes were estimated to save households approximately \$45 in fees during a water shut-off/reconnection situation and resulted in an estimated \$150,000 in annual revenue loss in the Water Fund. At this time, the City also established additional notification procedures to implement when water shut-off protocols resume, including mailing, e-mailing, and texting households who are risk of water shut-off.

In October 2020, the City also notified households with delinquent accounts by phone and mail of the State's Utility Disruption Prevention Program and the City's low-income discount program. The City also expanded eligibility for the low-income discount program through the end of Fiscal Year 2021 and eased the enrollment process by requiring only proof of assistance from another state, federal, or local program. The City used local funds and pandemic relief funds to operate multiple rent, utility, and essential need assistance programs through local social service agencies throughout the pandemic.

<u>November 2020</u>: City staff recommended a timeline for transitioning to the standard collections procedures by March 2021 and Council elected to delay this by one month to see whether state relief programs were extended or expanded during this time.

<u>February 2021</u>: The State of Iowa announced a new rent and utility assistance program, in addition to its existing Utility Disruption Prevention Program.

March 2021: The City resumed a 'soft' collections procedure which transferred only inactive delinquent utility accounts to Valley Collection Services. No active accounts were/are currently transferred. Valley Collection Services set up payment plans for the delinquent accounts on the City's behalf and did not use any action against an individual's credit report or legal procedures. Application of late fees and water shut offs remained discontinued.

In March 2021, the City Council held a Work Session to discuss utility account protocols. Staff reported 1,661 delinquent accounts (\$344,000 total past due), including 521 (approximately \$82,000) which were inactive. Since inactive accounts were not at risk of water shut-off due to households no longer living at the residence, staff recommended proceeding with the formerly proposed return to normal collection procedures for inactive accounts. In light of the new state assistance program, staff recommended some options for collecting on delinquent active accounts that took the new state program into consideration, would not jeopardize households' eligibility for that program, and emphasized a strategy of setting up payment plans. Council again decided to delay a transition back to normal collection procedures until the rules for the new state assistance program were released.

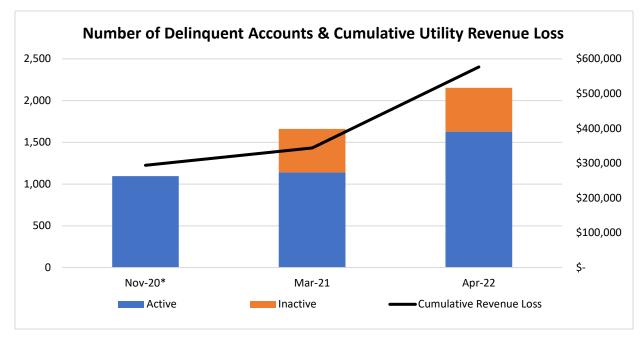
<u>September 2021</u>: The State of Iowa announced a new Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP). When mailing October past due notices, the City included information about this program in the notice as another option for households who were eligible and needed help paying overdue bills.

As the state program rules were released, the City notified households with delinquent accounts and continued to help qualified households get assistance through state and local programs or enroll in the City's low-income discount program. Since the March 2021 Work Session, the City has continued to operate upon the billing and collections protocol last directed by Council:

- <u>Active accounts</u>: Connect and refer to assistance programs and encourage households to pay what they can. No late fee, water shut-off, or collections penalties in effect.
- <u>Inactive accounts</u>: Transfer to Valley Collection Services for 'soft' collections that do not use any action against an individual's credit report or legal procedures.

To date, the City has received approximately \$242,000 from the state relief programs that assisted households with paying off past-due balances, including approximately \$145,000 from the state utility relief programs and \$96,000 from the LIHWAP program.

As of April 14, 2022, 2,153 utility accounts are delinquent with a total past due amount of \$576,654. Of those, 526 (\$99,400) are inactive or stopped accounts, meaning the household has since moved away and is no longer receiving service. Of the 1,627 active accounts, only 62 are enrolled in the low-income discount program despite the City's targeted efforts to enroll as many eligible households as possible over the past two years. The City anticipates the number of delinquent accounts and amount in unpaid balances will continue to grow as has been the trend.



As a reminder, the utility funds are enterprise funds, which means staffing and operations are self-supported through utility rates and service fees. For example, approximately 91% of Water operations are funded through charges for services and the Water Fund also supports capital maintenance through revenue bonded debt which has certain debt coverage requirements. Although the City's utility enterprise funds have weathered the revenue loss impacts generally well, they are likely unable to sustain this rate of revenue loss if the City continues to operate on the relaxed utility billing and collections procedures.

The City has taken several steps to connect households with relief programs and the soft collections procedures have not resulted in significant improvements in unpaid balances of delinquent inactive accounts. Furthermore, collections and water shut offs are two of the only tools the City has to incentivize households to pay on overdue balances. Without these incentives, continued growth in revenue loss is expected. Sustained revenue loss will lead to more pressure for rate increases, which are borne by all utility users, not just those with past-due balances.



Recommendation

Staff recognizes a need to address losses in the utility enterprise funds while also transitioning back to normal utility billing and collection procedures in a manner that is sensitive to the households with delinquent accounts, some with large past due balances. As such, staff recommends using a portion of the City's ARPA funds to replace lost revenue in our utility accounts, effectively eliminating the need to pursue shut-offs based on current past-due balances and enabling a clean return to normal utility operating protocol:

- By fiscal year end, use ARPA funds to pay off any delinquent bills generated prior to June 1, 2022 for all active and inactive accounts (estimated cost approximately \$580,000 to \$600,000).
- Resume regular collections procedures and late fees on delinquent accounts beginning in August 2022 for bills generated June 1, 2022 and after.
- Reinstate water shut-offs in September 2022.

As a reminder, several water service fees (carding, reconnection, etc.) were reduced or eliminated through the October 2020 Ordinance amendment. Additional notification procedures were also established at that time and would be implemented through this transition. Additionally, staff will continue efforts to boost enrollment in our low-income discount program and connect residents with ongoing pandemic relief programs.

No formal City Council action is needed on this matter. Staff intends to move forward as outlined above absent alternative direction from the City Council.

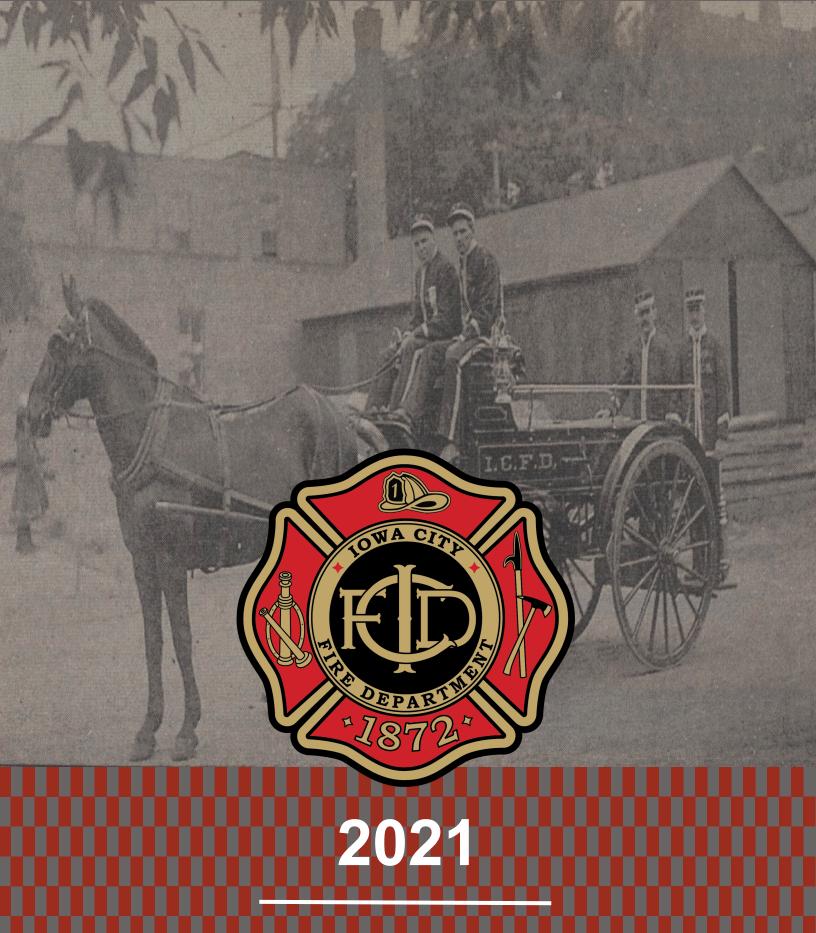


Iowa City Fire Department: 2021 Annual Report

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Iowa City Fire Department: 2021 Annual Report



ANNUAL REPORT

MISSION, VISION & VALUES

MISSION

To protect our community by providing progressive, high-quality emergency and preventive services.

VISION

Provide exemplary services to our community through innovation and collaboration, while honoring tradition, leading change and embracing inclusion for all.

VALUES

Professionalism We are dedicated to the pursuit of excellence and the

demonstration of high professional standards.

Accountability We are accountable to each other and the community we have

sworn to serve.

Respect We believe in the dignity of every individual and value all

members of the community and organization.

rustworthiness We embolden trustworthiness as it encompasses such qualities

as honesty, integrity, loyalty and reliability.

PRIDE PROTECTING PEOPLE

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Notable ICFD accomplishments in 2021 include:

Submitted Annual Compliance Report. The ACR was reviewed by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International, and the ICFD was unanimously recommended to retain accredited status.

Obtained state grant for additional commercial washing and drying equipment to more adequately remove toxins and carcinogens from PPE following fires.

Updated automatic aid agreements with the Coralville and North Liberty Fire Departments.

Received delivery of new 2021 Pierce Enforcer engine.

Fire Prevention Bureau composed and prepared a virtual presentation for Fire Prevention Week delivery to elementary schools.

Developed and instituted a program to augment the work of the Johnson County Social Services Navigator.

Completed specification and placed order for new 2022 Pierce Ascendant ladder truck.

Car Safety Technicians continued to conduct car seat safety checks with both in-person and virtual models through the pandemic.

Instituted new program to recognize exceptional performance by ICFD members.

Implemented new three-year strategic plan and began rewriting community risk assessment & standard of cover.

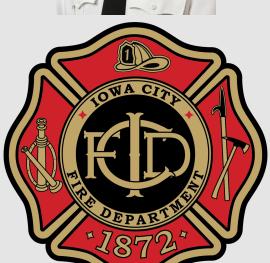
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

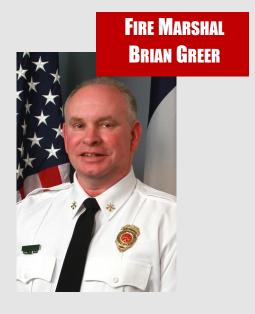
ERIC NURNBERG

FIRE ADMINISTRATION

FIRE CHIEF JOHN GRIER
RETIRED FEBRUARY 2022





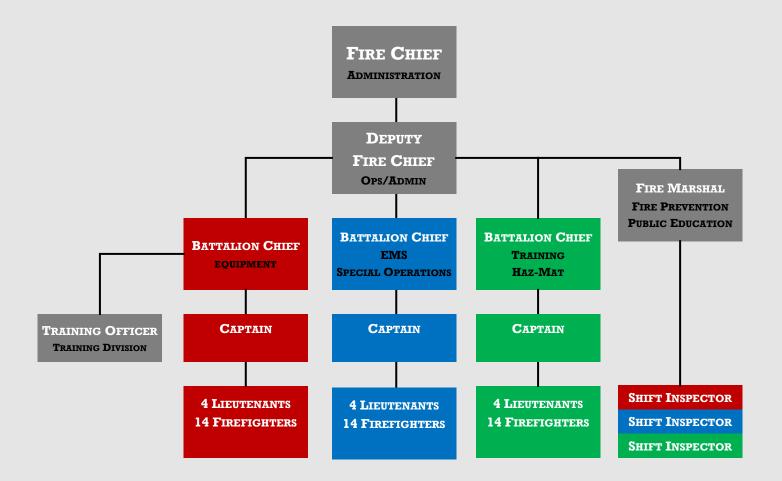








ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL 1 FIRE CHIEF 1 DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF 1 FIRE MARSHAL 3 BATTALION CHIEFS 1 TRAINING OFFICER 3 SHIFT CAPTAINS 12 SHIFT LIEUTENANTS 39 FIREFIGHTERS

FIRE DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW STAFF - 40 HOUR WORKWEEK MONDAY-FRIDAY SHIFT A, B, C - 56 HOUR WORKWEEK 1 DAY ON, 1 OFF, 1 ON, 1 OFF, 1 ON, 4 OFF 16 FIREFIGHTER MINIMUM STAFFING

DEPARTMENT DEMOGRAPHICS

25.28

Square Miles

POPULATION

75,798

ANNUAL BUDGET

8,883,021

ISO Rating: 2

64

Number of Uniformed Personnel

Fire Stations **Engines**

Ladder

Quint

Rescue Utility



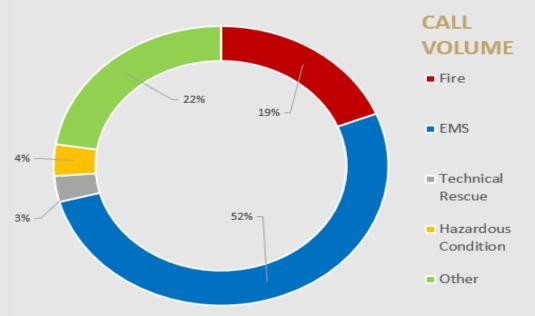


STATION



EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Average Response Time



6
Minutes
AND
28
Seconds

4,208

1,534

243

295

1,826

EMS Calls Fire Calls

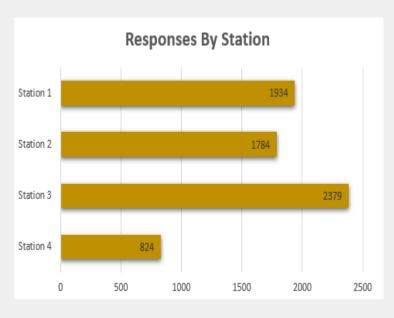
(includes building fire, vehicle fires, vegetation fires and fire alarms) Technical Rescue Calls

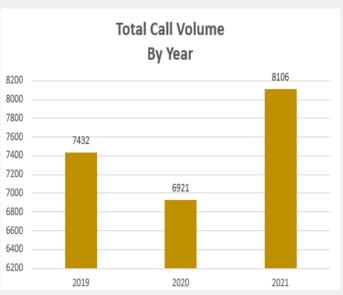
(includes confined space, high angle, trench, and water incidents; rescue standbys, extrications) Hazardous Condition Calls

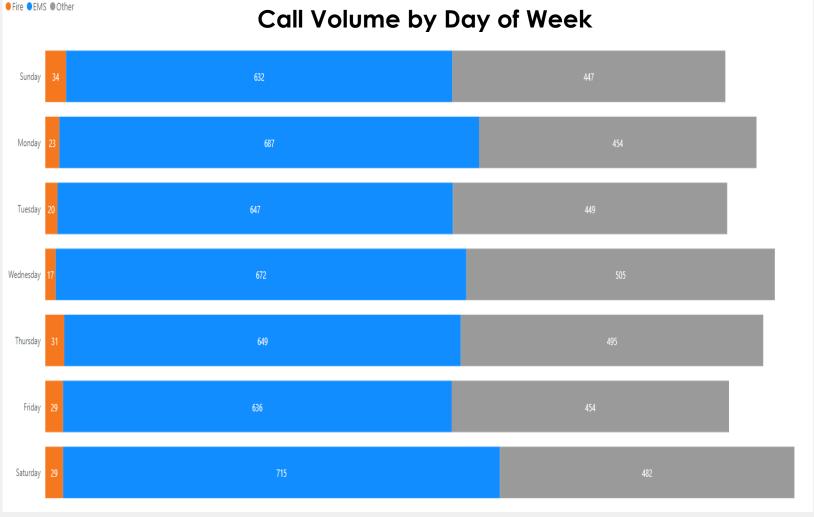
(includes chemical leaks and spills, equipment problem, toxic release)) Other Calls

(includes citizen complaints, public assistance, cancelled en route, no incident found)

CALL VOLUME









UNIT	2021
Battalion Chief	342
Engine 1	2424
Engine 2 / Quint 2	2098
Engine 3	2570
Engine 4	1033
HazMat 1	1
Rescue 1	232
Truck 1	492

TRAINING

DIVISION







FIRE, RESCUE & EMS
TRAINING HOURS

11,039

PHYSICAL FITNESS TRAINING HOURS

5,047

PER FIREFIGHTER
MONTHLY AVERAGE

23.3

Newly hired firefighters complete 240 hours of entry-level instruction in the ICFD recruit academy.

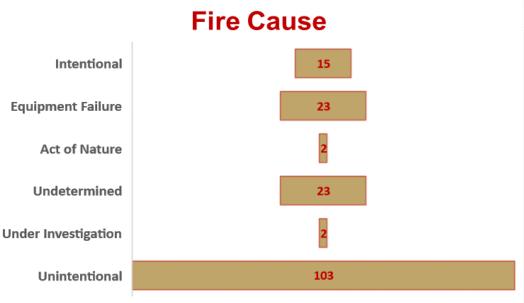


\$1,635,203 \$54,660,063

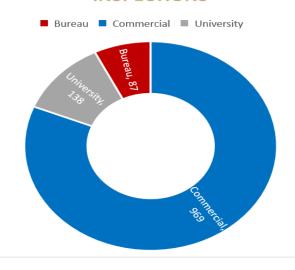
Total Value Loss Fire Cause Investigations

Total Value Saved



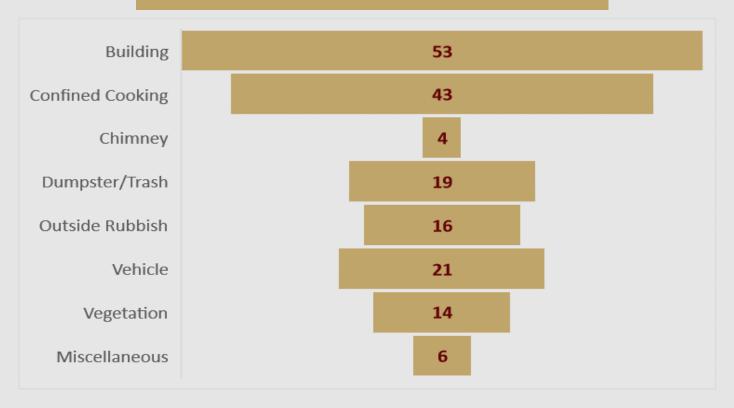


INSPECTIONS





FIRE STATS

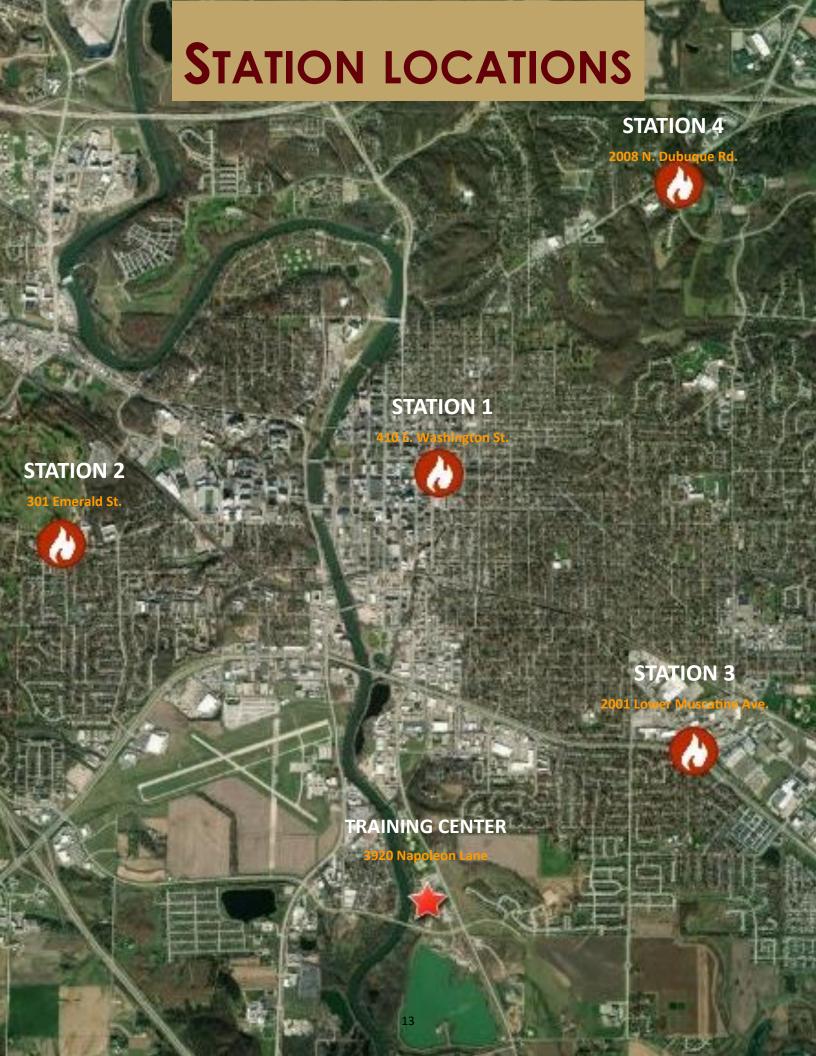


BUILDING FIRE CONTAINMENT



CASUALTIES DUE TO FIRE









Letter from Northside Neighborhood: Draft Statement of Purpose

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Letter from Northside Neighborhood: Draft Statement of Purpose

Kellie Fruehling

From:

Kellie Fruehling

Sent:

Wednesday, May 11, 2022 1:38 PM

To:

*City Council

Subject:

Council correspondence

Attachments:

2096_001.pdf

Councilor Thomas has requested this be distributed and added to the May 12th information packet.

Thank you



Kellie Fruehling, CMC

City Clerk

office: 319-356-5041

410 E Washington St, Iowa City, IA 52240

WWW.ICGOV.ORG









May 10, 2022

To the Honorable City Council Members and City Manager:

For the past several months, several Northside neighbors have been meeting to discuss what makes our neighborhood special, and to discuss some potential short- and long-term challenges to the Northside's quality of life. Those conversations resulted in a draft statement of neighborhood values and proposed actions. The draft statement was shared with the Northside Neighborhood Association email list in March, along with an invitation for feedback. (The statement can be viewed at https://bit.ly/Northside_Neighborhood_Statement.)

A number of neighbors responded to that March email, with scores of additional suggestions ranging from street improvements, incentives for property upgrades, traffic safety, and snow plow practices.

At the NNA meeting on May 1, a condensed version of the draft statement was circulated and signed by 20 individuals (neighbors who didn't attend signed later). These are attached. This draft, together with the original statement and email responses, demonstrate the concern and energy shared by dozens of neighbors to seek increased investment in the Northside, keeping it safe, beautiful, walkable, affordable, and diverse.

We recognize that that goal will require partnership between and among neighbors as well as individuals and entities with various and sometimes competing interests. To that end, we have already engaged with other partners: the University (Prof. Jerry Anthony's graduate housing planning class who have completed a survey of the neighborhood; and VP Sarah Hansen and her assistant for off campus students, Tanya Vilhauer) and two property management companies with multiple student rental holdings.

Our momentum to acknowledge the treasures and address the challenges our neighborhood faces builds at the same time as you engage in Strategic Planning review.

We respectfully request that the City of Iowa City Council and City staff join with us as critical partners — to adopt policy, budget funds and devote

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other resources that align with our values and concerns. We stand ready to meet with Councilors and staff to discuss these issues. As you are aware, other communities nationwide have taken efforts to revitalize core neighborhoods and we hope to benefit from their actions.

We trust that you share our overall goals to increase diversity and affordability of our housing stock and to give attention to the neighborhood's walkability.

Linda Molmo

Linda McGuire

on behalf of Northside neighbors

618 Ronalds Street lowa City IA 52245

linda.mcguire7@gmail.com

TOTA HE AND: 1.2
CITY SLERK
LOWN CITY, 10 TA

We, the undersigned residents of the Northside neighborhood, support the Northside Statement of Purpose.

	Name	Street Address	Date
1,	Dan Commins	12 Bella Vista Pl	5/11/22
2.	Laurie Cummins	12 Bella Vista Pi	5/1/22
3.	JIM Throsmorton	814 Ronalds St.	5/1/22
4.	Maggie Halterman-	Dess GIT foralds St 519 Brown Street	5/1/22
5.	Sharon DeGraw	519 Brown Street	5/1/22
	Heaper Blatt	227 N. Governor St.	5/1/22
7.	Kothy Kusler	4/2 Fairchild	5/1/22
8.	Peter Speltz	317 Fairchild	5/1/22
	Bue melbane	833 N. Johnson St.	5/1/22
10.	Joseph Junay	311 Ronalds S.	5/1/14
11.		830 N. Dodge St.	5/1/22
12.	Diana Harris	523 Form It	Slitza
13.	Karan Leich	809 E. Blanned - Je	5-1-22
14.	Dan Movo	425 Davey Ort St.	5-1-22
15.		619 Brown	5-1-22
16.	In A J. AA	315 E. DAvenport St.	5-1-2
17.	PETER KUSSLER	414 E. DAVENAGRT ST	6-1-22
18.	Jim Tonto	618 Brown St	5-1-22
19.	Samo Ponto	618 Brown St	5/1/22
20.	Linda McGnire	618 Roralds St	5/8/22

NORTHSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD DRAFT STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

April 1, 2022 Summary

owa City's Northside neighborhood is a treasure, both in itself and for Iowa City as a whole. We Northside residents want to work with partners to confront shared challenges and make the neighborhood an even better place for all its current and future residents and businesses.

We recognize that multiple kinds of people and organizations have a stake in the neighborhood's health. These stakeholders have diverse and often conflicting interests, which affect how the neighborhood will evolve over time. This draft statement represents an early effort to articulate the interests and aspirations of residents who own and occupy homes in the neighborhood. We offer it in the hopes of stimulating discussion with other owner-occupants and subsequently working with other stakeholders to refine and solidify a unified course of action for the neighborhood.

The Northside Neighborhood Is a Treasure

Located within the 1839 plat of the city, the Northside neighborhood is Iowa City's oldest intact neighborhood. Located within convenient walking distance of the downtown and the main campus of the university, the neighborhood contains features that mark it as a model for inclusive and sustainable development, including: a vibrant commercial district, a thriving and recently renovated elementary school, a mixture of housing types and costs, a significant forest canopy, medical facilities and grocery stores, and many appealing components of an attractive public realm, including North Market Square Park and many others. The neighborhood is also a valuable asset for Iowa City as a whole; for example, because its residential density is considerably higher than most other neighborhoods, its property taxes per acre are also likely to be higher.

The Neighborhood Faces Various Challenges

Market forces create a financial incentive for property owners to convert existing single-family and duplex structures to rental units (especially but not exclusively) for students or else to demolish existing structures and replace them with structures housing a larger number of occupants. This market pressure drives up assessed values of property, which increases property taxes and makes the neighborhood less affordable for current and prospective owner-

occupants. The City's zoning code provides some protection against these market forces, but savvy developers know how to work around the code's restrictions. In our view, in-fill development is inevitable and welcomed if it complements the existing scale and character of the neighborhood. Yet, lot by lot, developers will continue seeking permission to construct on small lots structures which are excessively large and incompatible in scale and character with nearby buildings.

A related challenge concerns deterioration of older buildings due to mistreatment or a lack of investment in their maintenance or improvement. Some occupants can be tremendously hard on buildings. This drives up the owner's cost of routine maintenance, repair, and upkeep. Older residents who live on fixed-incomes face a different challenge. As market forces cause the assessed value of currently affordable housing to increase, such residents encounter increasing property taxes and, especially if they have low or fixed incomes, cannot afford to invest in their properties for home improvement or energy efficiency. Over time, such properties become increasingly vulnerable to purchase by investors who see opportunities to redevelop the properties.

The neighborhood's walkability also needs constant attention. For example, adverse winter weather conditions coupled with the City's snow removal practices can result in sidewalks being blocked by piles of snow and ice.

What We Propose

We seek to address these challenges constructively, and to invent ways to make the neighborhood an even better place. In an effort to stimulate discussion and refinement, we propose that this effort would include the following five actions.

- · Developing a clear statement of what we value,
- Revitalizing the Northside Neighborhood Association as the primary structural means of living out our values,
- Obtaining technical assistance from students at the University of Iowa,
- Urging City government to adopt and undertake complementary policies and actions, and
- Consider creating a Self-Supporting Municipal Improvement District for the neighborhood

A complete version of this draft was distributed for feedback late in February. It can be found at: https://bit.ly/Northside_Neighborhood_Statement



Press Release: Iowa City Fire Department to celebrate 150th anniversary

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Press Release: Iowa City Fire Department to celebrate 150th anniversary

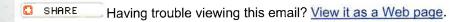
Kellie Fruehling

From: City of Iowa City: Do Not Reply <CityoflowaCity@public.govdelivery.com>

Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 10:02 AM

To: Kellie Fruehling

Subject: Iowa City Fire Department to celebrate 150th anniversary



City of OVACITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 05/11/2022

Contact: Lee Hermiston, Public Safety Information Officer

Phone: 319-356-5095

Iowa City Fire Department to celebrate 150th anniversary



A horse-drawn lowa City Fire Department cart, photographed on Linn Street in the early 1900s

The lowa City Fire Department - one of the oldest fire services in the state of lowa - is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year.

On May 20, 1872, following a large fire in the Downtown business area, the lowa City City Council agreed to purchase \$500 worth of fire fighting equipment, including buckets and hook and ladder equipment. This equipment was used by a new volunteer company Rescue Hook and Ladder Company #1 and was the genesis of the lowa City Fire Department.

The origins of the lowa City Fire Department actually date back to before lowa achieved statehood. In 1842, the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Iowa authorized the creation of the Iowa City Fire Engine Company, which was largely tasked with protecting the then-state capitol.

The Iowa City Fire Department was all-volunteer until 1912, when the City hired its first three paid firefighters: Herman Amish, George Kasper and Fire Chief James Clark. That year the fire department obtained its famed white fire horses Snow Ball and High Ball, who served the city until 1925.

These days, the lowa City Fire Department is made up of 64 personnel and four fire stations, providing fire protection, emergency medical service and public education to more than 25 square miles of service area. The department responded to 8,106 calls in 2021, including 4,208 emergency medical service calls, 1,534 fire calls, 295 hazardous condition calls, 243 technical rescue calls, and 1,826 "other" calls such as assisting the public or false alarms.

The fire department will celebrate its anniversary in the coming months, kicking off with the <u>Public Works Open House</u> on May 21, 2022. After touring the City's new public works facility, members of the community are encouraged to check out the fire department's new training tower and see some of the department's equipment.

Other upcoming celebrations include a display of the department's history at the lowa City Public Library and a meet-and-greet at an upcoming lowa City Farmers Market. The anniversary festivities will culminate at the lowa City Noon Optimist Club's fly-in/drive-in pancake breakfast at the lowa City Airport on Aug. 28, 2022. The event will feature a short program on the lowa City Fire Department and past and present fire equipment.

Follow lowa City Public Safety on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u> for updates on the fire department's 150th celebration as well as throwback photos from the department's history.



Questions? Contact Us

STAY CONNECTED:













Civil Service Examination: Maintenance Worker I - Water Customer Service

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Civil Service Examination: Maintenance Worker I - Water Customer Service



410 East Washington Street lowa City, lowa 52240-1826 (319) 356-5000 (319) 356-5009 FAX www.icgov.org

April 18, 2022

TO: The Honorable Mayor and the City Council

RE: Civil Service Entrance Examination – Maintenance Worker I – Water Customer Service

Under the authority of the Civil Service Commission of Iowa City, Iowa, I do hereby certify the following named person(s) as eligible for the position of Maintenance Worker I – Water Customer Service.

1. Todd Morrow

2. Evan Streeby

Iowa City Civil Service Commission

Rick Wyss, Chair



Civil Service Examination: Recreation Program Supervisor - Special Events & Communications

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Civil Service Examination: Recreation Program Supervisor - Special Events & Communications



410 East Washington Street lowa City, Iowa 52240-1826 (319) 356-5000 (319) 356-5009 FAX www.icgov.org

April 1, 2022

TO: The Honorable Mayor and the City Council

RE: Civil Service Entrance Examination – Recreation Program Supervisor – Special Events & Communications

Under the authority of the Civil Service Commission of Iowa City, Iowa, I do hereby certify the following named person(s) as eligible for the position of Recreation Program Supervisor – Special Events & Communications.

Michelle Wiegand

Iowa City Civil Service Commission

Melissa Jensen, Chair/