

DES MOINES City Source

April, 2007

Your Direct Link to City Hall

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Des Moines To Host 2007 U.S. Youth Soccer Region II Championships See story on page 8

What Is Ahead in Des Moines’ DESTINY?

Citizen outreach efforts by the City of Des Moines have been widespread and intense during the past 30 days. The Mayor, Council and City Manager lead a proactive effort to get input from residents for a council recommendation on the use of sales tax referendum funds, should voters approve the measure. The question asked was “*What would you do to improve the quality of life in Des Moines?*” The City is interested in which projects or initiatives taxpayers believe should receive more financial support.

Meetings were held in each of the four council wards and online during the month of March. Citizens discussed a number of possible city projects that might be funded

by discretionary funds generated from the proposed sales tax referendum, known as “Project Destiny.” Hot topics mentioned at each of the meetings were additional property tax relief, park improvements, business development, the Blank Park Zoo, and infrastructure needs. A summary of the citizen input is available on the City’s website at www.dmgov.org.

“The town hall meetings provided us with valuable input that we were able to use to formulate recommendations for the City Council as they develop their plans for community improvements and spending,” said City Manager Rick Clark. “Our approach continues to be

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Worldwide Spotlight on Des Moines for International Triathlon

Des Moines is now among the ranks of leading cities of the world as it prepares for a World Cup



Triathlon. On June 17th Des Moines will host the *Hy-Vee International Triathlon Union (ITU) World Cup Triathlon*, making Iowa’s capital only the fourth city in the United States to host a World Cup event. “It’s an opportunity to showcase the City of Des Moines and Hy-Vee’s commitment to health and wellness,” says Hy-Vee CEO Ric Jurgens. Hy-Vee has put up the largest purse ever in elite triathlon competition – more than \$700,000 – which has attracted national and international organizations.

The first-place winners in the elite division of the men’s and women’s event will each take home paychecks of \$200,000 and an H3 Hummer. Amateurs will also have

an opportunity to participate in a citizens’ race – the Hy-Vee Triathlon. Enthusiasts will compete in age

group and team events for more than \$40,000 in gifts and prizes. The elite and amateur triathlons will be run on Sunday, June 17, 2007. The entire weekend of June 15-17 will have events designed to encourage health and fitness with activities for families and people of all ages.

A triathlon encompasses three distinct sports: swimming, cycling and running. The Des Moines event includes a 1.5-kilometer swim, a 40-kilometer bicycle ride, and a 10-kilometer run. The swimming portion of the event will take place at Gray’s Lake, while the running and biking segments will take place on streets and trails in Des Moines and the greater metro area.

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Des Moines: Award Winning City

City Source Newsletter

The *Gallery of Printing Excellence Silver Award* was presented to the Public Information Office in recognition of printing excellence in the production of the newsletter from the Midwest Printing and Graphic Association.

Asphalt Paving Awards

The City of Des Moines Engineering Department received two awards: the first for the paving of the Bill Riley Trail and another for the Cownie Soccer Stadium where a giant soccer ball pattern was pressed into the paving.

Urban Steward Award

The Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) named the Parks and Recreation Department its 2006 Urban Steward Award winner. The award recognizes the Department for their efforts that resulted in the installation of soil and water saving practices on park land.

2007 Best of Des Moines Awards

Readers of *Cityview* Newspaper voted Waveland Golf Course, 4908 University Avenue, as the "Best Place to Play Golf (Public)" and Gray's Lake Park as the "Best Place for a Run."

United States Marine Corps Award

The Fire Department and the City were recognized by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) and the US Marine Corps for continuing health insurance, facilitating leaves, and taking care of families for city firefighters serving in the military.



Mayor Frank Cownie – Testimony Before US Senate Committee

Email: FCownie@dmgov.org Phone: 515-283-4944

I had the distinct honor and privilege of traveling to Washington, D.C. last month to testify before the United States Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works at a hearing entitled, "State, Regional, and Local Perspectives on Global Warming." The purpose of the hearing was to review state, local and regional government approaches to addressing global warming. I am proud that our City is nationally recognized for initiatives that reduce energy consumption and protect the natural environment. My testimony focused on the leadership role of the City in using energy conservation practices. I informed the Senate of the Mayor's Task Force on Energy Conservation and Environmental Enhancement that examines energy usage and environmental protection and works to encourage energy and environmental practices, policies, and ordinances. I highlighted several other factors including the fact that the international body, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, plans to set up its fourth regional capacity center in the United States here in Des Moines and that the City Council has made sustainability part of the overall goals for the City. The Police Department introduced Hybrid vehicles into the City fleet, Public Works purchased new trucks that use bio-diesel fuel and compact cars are replacing larger vehicles. To see a complete copy of my testimony, go to www.dmgov.org and click on *City Source* Newsletter links.

Chris Coleman, At-Large – Downtown Skywalk Expansions

Email: CColeman@dmgov.org Phone: 515-237-1622

If you have been downtown lately, you've probably seen the construction along Locust Street for the Nationwide expansion. We are really excited about this addition to the Western Gateway area, which will add over 1,500 new jobs in Des Moines. The growth is also affecting our extensive skywalk system. A new skywalk will be built across Walnut Street to connect the new Nationwide building to their existing parking garage. This fall when Nationwide expands their campus west, another skywalk will be built over 12th Street to connect the corporate campus with the rest of downtown. Plans also include a climate controlled skywalk from a new parking ramp at 12th and Walnut to their existing parking ramp. Extending the skywalks signifies the great partnership between the City of Des Moines and the business community. Come and enjoy all of the growth happening downtown!



Michael Kiernan At-Large – Importance of Communications

Email: MJKiernan@dmgov.org Phone: 515-237-1621



I believe communication between the city government and residents is among the most important factor that makes a city a great place to live. Communication provides residents with meaningful information on government activities and gives them the opportunity to share their opinions and ideas with the City Council and the administrative staff. The City shares information with residents in several ways: *City Source*, our quarterly newsletter is mailed to all residential addresses. Feedback is gathered through the *Citizen Satisfaction Surveys* each year. This year's annual performance report, *Building Community: 2006 Performance Report*, was mailed to every household in the City. DMTV City Cable Channel 7 provides live coverage of City Council and other board and commission meetings, civic announcements, department services and interesting talk shows on various City topics. You can call the City Information Center at 283-4500 where knowledgeable Customer Service Representatives will answer your questions or send emails to info@dmgov.org, and you can visit us on the web at www.dmgov.org.

Tom Vlassis, Ward 1 – Civic Center of Greater Des Moines

Email: TDVlassis@dmgov.org

Phone: 515-237-1623



Over 27 years ago, one of the world's best venues for live performances was completed, right here in Des Moines. The **Civic Center of Greater Des Moines** is your own premier center for high quality entertainment. It was rated as the 15th top theatre venue in the world in 2006! With shows like *The Lion King*, *Mamma Mia*, and *Triple Espresso*, the Civic Center offers entertainment that is truly unique in Central Iowa. The Civic Center is in the midst of a capital campaign to raise \$7 million for renovations to the facility. A new roof is in, and new lighting and backstage equipment is operating. New seating will be installed this summer. Still to be done are modern exterior signs, new lobby lighting and new carpeting. You can help. Become a member of the Civic Center, starting at only \$60. Help the capital campaign with a kind contribution to this great facility. Attend shows at the Civic Center and invite your friends and family to attend. Be a volunteer and help others. Take advantage of the wonderful things we have in Des Moines – especially the gem that is the CIVIC CENTER OF GREATER DES MOINES.

Robert Mahaffey, Ward 2 – Great New Features for Eastside Parks

Email: RLMahaffey@dmgov.org

Phone: 515-237-1624



Look for great new features at several of our eastside park facilities in the next year. Teachout Aquatic Center will open for the season on June 2 with two new water slides – an open U-shaped slide and an enclosed tube – as well as a new slide tower, stairway system and sun shade structure. The just-completed full-restroom facilities and 24-space parking lot at Sargent Park will provide a new trailhead for users of the popular Gay Lea Wilson Recreational Trail. Construction in the first of several future phases of master plan improvements in north Union Park will begin following the closing of the wading pool in August. The parking lot will be reconfigured to incorporate pathways and safer pedestrian traffic between the park's popular amenities and will be ready for the 2008 park season. The new 4-season shelter on the drawing boards for Martin Luther King, Jr. Park will be the first Parks and Recreation Department shelter with a kitchen and will be large enough to handle the department's growing demand for year-round sites. The City's first skateboard facility, which will be located at our Four-Mile Community Center, is in the design phase and targeted for completion this fall. And, on the horizon for 2008, is a new playground and open-air shelter at Grandview Park. ENJOY!

Christine Hensley, Ward 3 – Exciting Events in Des Moines

Email: CLHensley@dmgov.org

Phone 515-237-1625



It's that time of year again, when the weather is warm and we get excited about spending time outdoors. I encourage you to attend some of the great events held in Des Moines each summer. The Downtown Farmers Market runs May 12 to October 27 each Saturday morning from 7:00 a.m. to noon. If you have not attended the Farmers Market, put it on your list of things to do this summer. The Des Moines Arts Festival will be held again this year downtown in the Western Gateway Park. This year the Arts Festival is June 29-July 1. The inaugural Iowa Outdoor Wellness Adventure (I.O.W.A.) is set to debut on June 15-17, next to the finish line of the Hy-Vee ITU World Cup Triathlon at Des Moines' State Capitol Complex. Admission to I.O.W.A. is free. I hope you make time this summer to attend these events. For more information go to www.dmgov.org and click on *City Source* Newsletter Links

Brian Meyer, Ward 4 – Introduction

Email: BJMeyer@dmgov.org

Phone 515-237-1626



I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as your newly elected Ward 4 representative. On January 22, 2007, I was sworn in as my wife, Ann, friends, and colleagues looked on. I am an Easter Lake area homeowner and the parent of two young children, Evelyn (age 6) and Clara (age 5), who attend Studebaker Elementary School. I am excited to work on issues that are important to Ward 4 residents – issues that will improve our quality of life both today and far into the future. As a member of the City Council, I will focus on roads – the repair of older roads and the construction of new ones to ease traffic congestion, responsible development, and a more open and accessible budget process. During the past two months, I have been meeting with neighborhood groups in order to **learn how I can best serve our ward**. I welcome your ideas and suggestions. Please feel free to call or send an email. I look forward to hearing from you!

Summer Fun in the City

2007 Daily Pool Admission Rates

Less than 3 years old	free
3 – 20 years	\$2.00
21 and over	\$4.00



1/2 price admission after 5:00 p.m. Monday – Thursday

The City of Des Moines Park and Recreation Department will begin selling season swim passes April 2.

Save from \$5 – \$40 by purchasing passes during the month of April at the Des Moines Park and Recreation office, 3226 University Ave. from 8 am to 5 pm, Monday – Friday.

SWIM PASS Season Rates

Resident	Early Bird Rate	After April 30
Individual	\$ 40.00	\$ 45.00
First two in family	\$ 75.00	\$ 80.00
Additional family member	\$ 25.00	\$ 30.00
Family maximum	\$120.00	\$140.00

Non-Resident	Early Bird Rate	After April 30
Individual	\$ 80.00	\$ 90.00
First two in family	\$150.00	\$160.00
Each additional member	\$ 50.00	\$ 60.00
Family maximum	\$240.00	\$280.00



The pools will open for the season on Saturday, June 2. The season passes are good for admission to any of the five City of Des Moines Public Pools and Aquatic Centers: Nahas, Teachout, Northwest, Birdland and Ashworth. The Park and Recreation Department recommends and requests adult supervision of non-swimming children at all aquatic/beach facilities. Reduced-price admission is provided to low income families by contacting Des Moines Community Services at 515-248-6216.

City of Des Moines Golf Courses

Blank, Grandview and Waveland Golf Courses

Green Fees:	<u>9-hole weekday</u>	<u>9-hole weekend</u>	Weekend Specials (after 12:00 noon)	
Grandview	\$ 8.00	\$12.00	<u>9-holes</u>	<u>18-holes</u>
Blank	\$12.00	\$16.00	Grandview	\$8.00 \$12.00
Waveland	\$16.00	\$19.00	Blank	\$12.00 \$16.00
	<u>18-hole weekday</u>	<u>18-hole weekend</u>	Waveland	\$16.00 \$19.00
Grandview	\$12.00	\$22.00	Carts	<u>9-holes</u> <u>18-holes</u>
Blank	\$16.00	\$26.00		\$9.50 \$13.00
Waveland	\$19.00	\$30.00		

Programs

College and active military personnel with proper ID can play at a 25% discounted green fee rate. Youth play free with a paying adult during non-prime-times (details: blackout times include Saturdays and Sundays before 12:00 noon; one free youth with one paid adult; badges are excluded). Seniors 62 and older have the option of buying a private cart permit for \$80.00 and paying a daily trail fee of \$7.00 or purchasing a season cart permit for unlimited use for \$450.00. Choose the option that's most economical for your needs. For more information visit us on the web at www.dmparks.org.



A series of concerts featuring a mix of music including jazz, blues, folk and more. Held each Thursday evening at the Simon Estes Riverfront Amphitheater, on the banks of the Des Moines River, from June 7 through August 2. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and sit back and enjoy the evening. Concessions are available or bring in a cooler with your food and non-alcoholic drink. Alcohol is available for purchase. Concert admission is \$8.00 for adults, children under 12 are free.

Tickets will be available in May. Purchase at the Park and Recreation Administration Office, 3226 University Avenue, Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. or on-line at www.iowatix.com. For more information, please visit our website, www.dmparks.org, or call 515-237-1386.



FREE ADMISSION

Nikki Giovanni

Sunday, April 1
2:30 PM Central Library

Jim Autry

Sunday, April 15
2:30 PM Central Library

Greg Mortenson

Wednesday, April 18
6:30 PM Central Library

Erik Larson

Friday, April 20
6:30 PM Sheslow Auditorium

Mary Doria Russell

Thursday, May 3
6:30 PM Sheslow Auditorium

Masha Hamilton

Monday, May 7
6:30 PM Central Library

Bill Geist

Wednesday, June 6
6:30 PM Sheslow Auditorium

Shirley Damsgaard

Saturday, June 9
2:30 PM Central Library

Chip Kidd

Saturday, June 30
2:30 PM Central Library



The Zoo's main telephone number has been changed to
515-323-8383.

City Launches Springtime Paving Projects



Hot Mix Asphalt Overlay Program

The pavement condition data was used to identify the streets to be included in the pavement resurfacing program for 2007. Some of the major roadways to be included are:

Ward 1

Clark Street from 19th to 17th;
Hickman Road from ML King to 9th

Ward 2

Oak Park Avenue from 6th to 11th;
Easton Blvd. from Stewart to Delaware

Ward 3

19th Street from Woodland to Center;
9th St. from Jarvis to Creston

Ward 4

Davis Avenue from South Union to SW 9th;
SE 5th from Army Post to McKinley

The resurfacing maintenance plan for 2007 will include over 75 lane miles of streets.

In 2006, citizen survey results continued to show the need for further street improvements. Using state-of-the-art pavement condition index data, the Public Works Department, in conjunction with the Engineering Department, has identified the streets to be included in the programs to be completed either under contract or by the Public Works resurfacing crew.

2007 SCRUB Improvements

Spring Cleanup to Remove Urban Blight (SCRUB) offers Des Moines' residents a great opportunity to get rid of junk and debris. In 2006, over 2500 tons of material was collected at the City's SCRUB events. This was a 25% increase over 2005 tonnages. The Public Works Department has worked with neighborhood leaders to schedule the following SCRUBs in 2007:

April 7, April 21, May 5, May 19, June 16, June 30, July 21, August 25, September 22 and October 20

Locations of the neighborhood SCRUBs can be found on the City's website; go to www.dmgov.org or call the Public Works 24-hour Customer Service Center at 283-4950.

Again, this year SCRUBs will be held at Metro Waste Authority's Metro Transfer Station and Metro Compost Center. Both facilities are not normally open to the public. During SCRUB Saturdays only, MWA's Metro Transfer Station, at 4198 Delaware Avenue, will offer convenient off-loading for trash, and MWA's Metro Compost Center at 1601 Harriett Street, will offer the same convenience for yard debris. **These MWA facilities are open to residents on SCRUB Saturdays only.**

2007 SCRUB Program Improvements

- Additional trash containers at neighborhood SCRUBs
- Portable toilets for volunteers at neighborhood SCRUBs
- Extended hours at MWA Metro Transfer Station and Metro Compost Center – now open from 7:00 am – 2:00 pm ***on SCRUB Saturdays only***
- Less delays because all yard debris will now go directly to the MWA Metro Compost Center at 1601 Harriett Street

"Throw It In – Fill the Bin"



Curbside recycling in the City of Des Moines is easy and convenient. It's a program that helps everyone by reducing landfill tonnage and generating revenues to offset collection costs. Recycling also helps residents to maximize the space in their garbage carts. So, when it comes to recycling – "Throw it in – Fill the bin."

Accepted Materials

- Newspaper
- Mixed paper
- Plastic bottles
- Aluminum, aerosol, and tin cans
- Food jars
- Plastic margarine/yogurt containers
- Cardboard
- Wire hangers

If you have any questions regarding Des Moines curbside recycling program, call the Public Works 24-hour Customer Service Center at 283-4950.

Items Allowed at SCRUBs

- General Trash: furniture, lawn mowers (fluids drained), televisions, computers
- Appliances (disposal fee of \$10.00 each)
- Tires – on or off of rims

Items not allowed

Car batteries, propane tanks, toxic liquids such as oil, paint, etc., toxic or hazardous chemicals. These items can be disposed of at Metro Waste Authority's Regional Collection Center for Household Hazardous Waste near Adventureland. For driving directions and facility hours, please call 967-5512 or go to www.mwatoday.com.

Airport Deploys K-9 Unit

The Des Moines International Airport (DSM) and the Police Department are using explosive sniffing dogs to serve on the front line of America's War on Terrorism. The mobility of the K-9 teams is an advantage over a fixed detector unit. They identify dangerous materials threatening airport/airline safety and rule out the presence of dangerous materials in unattended vehicles, structures, or unattended packages. Officers Chris Mahlstadt and Matt Harkin along with partner dogs Ives and Glory, respectively, have been at the airport since last September. Officer Scott Neely and Indigo just recently joined the unit.

After six weeks of training by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), the dogs are deployed to law enforcement agencies. The officer adopts the dog (24 hours a day, seven days a week) and will be the only one to feed the dog to build rapport and obedience. An additional eight weeks of local training involves the presentation of 20 distinct odors and how to move and interact with the dog.

Training for the dogs costs approximately \$20,000 compared to \$1 million for a detection machine. Labrador Retrievers are generally used because of their innate skills. Many dogs come from a guide dog background, are

two-three years of age, and can be utilized up to 7-9 years of service. The program is turning out 100-150 trained dogs per year all over the United States and in 16 other countries.

"Most of the duties with the dogs fall under the category of random inspection," states Officer Mahlstadt. "The less predictable we are the more effective we are in terms of airport safety and security. The demands of the dogs are rigorous and they cannot be distracted by noise and crowded terminals." So, if you see them around the Airport, rest assured that man and beast alike are making your travel the safest it can be.



Officer Chris Mahlstadt and Ives (Black Lab) and Officer Matt Harkin and Glory (Yellow Lab) patrol the terminal.

Emergency Repair Loans

The City of Des Moines' Neighborhood Conservation Services Division in the Community Development Department is currently accepting applications for its Minor Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Program, also known as the Emergency Repair Loan Program. The program is designed to address major problems that create a threat to the health and safety of the occupants or will seriously damage the structure if not addressed immediately. Typical problems are:

- Severely Damaged or Worn Roof Requiring Replacement
- Failed Furnace
- Faulty Electrical System Which Could Cause a Fire
- Broken or Leaking Water or Sewer Line
- This program does not provide assistance for routine homeowner maintenance

If a household member is physically disabled, funding may be available for handicap accessibility, which may include the construction of a handicap accessible ramp or bathroom. Program qualifications include:

The property must be owner-occupied for at least one year prior to application. The applicant's household income must be less than 50% of the HUD median income guidelines. The applicant must be titleholder of the property.

For additional information, or to request an application, please contact one of the following individuals: Tom Nancarrow at 515-283-4512 or Mike Kruse at 515-283-4776.

HY-VEE Triathlon

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The event is free for the viewing public. In addition to the record large purse, the Hy-Vee ITU World Cup Triathlon is expected to draw top athletes because it is a qualifying event for both the 2007 World Triathlon Championships in Hamburg, Germany in September 2007, and the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics. The elite competition will be relatively small – it's limited to 75 men and 75 women from among the top 125 in each division. But the amateur event is expected to draw more than 2,000. People from all over the world will get a glimpse of what great things Des Moines has to offer through television broadcasts in countries around the world.

In all, the triathlon and related events are expected to generate more than \$2 million in direct economic benefit to Des Moines and surrounding communities. Residents can join in the fun and excitement of the triathlon by volunteering. For more information go to <http://hy-veetriathlon.com>. You and your family can also participate in the Iowa Outdoor Wellness Adventure weekend festival being sponsored by Hy-Vee and the Downtown Events Group.

It is important for residents to note that Gray's Lake Park and several city streets will be closed on the day of the event. For more information about street closures, volunteer opportunities, and hours of operation for Gray's Lake Park during the triathlon, please visit www.dmgov.org and click on *City Source* Newslinks.



Human Rights Symposium

On April 18, The City of Des Moines Human Rights Commission and its partners, the Greater Des Moines Friends of Human Rights, Inc., will present a symposium at the Hotel Fort Des Moines located at 10th & Walnut Street in downtown. Workshop topics include:

1. Familial Status and Discrimination in Housing
2. Myths and Overview of Immigration
3. National Origin Discrimination in Employment
4. Race/Hidden Bias: I and II
5. Revealing Hidden Bias
6. Disparate Impact of Predatory Lending
7. Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender: Youth Bullying
8. Employment Discrimination Case Studies
9. Importance of Same Sex Unions in Society

Send Registration Fee of \$25.00 Payable To:
 Greater Des Moines Friends of Human Rights, Inc.
 C/O Des Moines Human Rights Commission
 602 Robert D. Ray Drive, 2nd Floor Armory Bldg.
 Des Moines, Iowa 50309-1881
 Attn: Ruth Ann Gaines, President

CLE and CEU credits available. For more information, contact Rudy Simms at 515-237-1457 or rusimms@dmgov.org.

Destiny

(Continued from page 1)

to expand the channels of communication with our citizens and to develop the best plans possible while staying within limits of the City's budget."

Project Destiny town hall meeting input was reviewed and added to information which had been gathered from the City's *Citizen Request System*, *Citizen Satisfaction Surveys*, *Performance Measures*, and *Coffee with the Manager* meetings.

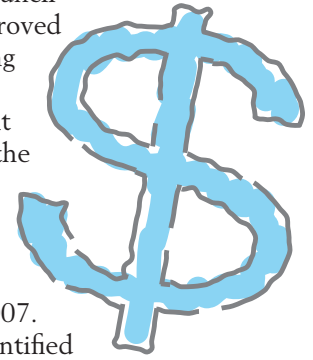
On March 26, 2007, the City Manager presented a recommendation to the City Council based on this information. To view the recommendation, visit the City website at www.dmgov.org and click on the *City Source* Newsletter Links.

Ultimately, voters will decide whether to add a one cent local option sales tax in order to reduce property taxes and make quality of life improvements. The sales tax referendum could generate an estimated \$35.5 million for the City of Des Moines in the first year. The funds would be divided into three categories. First, an estimated \$10.7 million annually must be used by the City of Des Moines for direct dollar-for-dollar property tax reduction. Another estimated \$11.1 million would be devoted to supporting regional, cultural and recreational amenities such as trails, the Civic Center, Blank Park Zoo, Science Center of Iowa, and many others. And third, the proposal also sets aside an estimated \$13.7 million each year in discretionary funds to be used by the City of Des Moines in a way that best serves the community.

At the City Council meeting on Monday, April 9, 2007, the Council will take action on the City Manager's recommendation for spending the discretionary funds, if the local option sales tax is approved. The public is invited to attend the meeting to share ideas. The final plan that is approved by the Council will be outlined in the ballot language for the Project Destiny referendum to be held on Tuesday, July 10, 2007.

Council Finalizes Annual Budget

The City Council recently approved the Operating and Capital Improvement Budgets for the upcoming fiscal year 2007-08, which starts on July 1, 2007.



The City identified over \$8 million in operating savings, including a \$7.1 million reduction in employee health insurance costs. The City also reduced its general obligation bonding by \$25 million over the next five years. Because of these savings, the City Council set a tax rate that will result in a slightly lower city property tax bill for residential owners next year!

Next year's budget includes funding for several priorities related to the City Council's new goal statements:

- The City is creating "world-class lifelong learning opportunities" by opening the Central Library year-round on Sundays. Beginning in July, the Central Library will open at 9:00 a.m. on weekdays, adding five more hours each week to enjoy this centerpiece of our "vibrant downtown area."
- Keep watching DMTV Cable Channel 7 – Your Source for the City – for enhanced programming next year. This is part of the City's effort to give you "great customer service and communication."
- Beginning fiscal year 2008-09, \$1 million a year is budgeted to do more streetscape improvements like those you see along East Locust Street in the East Village and Highland Park on the north side. This funding is critical for developing vital "neighborhood commercial/retail districts."

There are other great services and programs reflected in the budget. For more information on the fiscal year 2007-08 budget, visit www.dmgov.org and click on *City Source* Newsletter Links.



Des Moines' Fast Growth

Des Moines had more multi-family units built in 2006 than all other cities in the metro area combined. A total of 397 building permits were issued for multi-family homes in 2006. Des Moines is also the second fastest growing city in the metro with 256 building permits issued in 2006 for single family homes.

In the U-Haul National Migration Trend Report for 2006 which reflects the nation's top growth areas for families who moved during 2006, **Des Moines had the highest percentage of growth, with 14.17 percent in the category for cities with 5,000-10,000 families moving.**

The report was based on nationwide trends in cities of all sizes and reflects communities with more than 5,000 families moving in or out of the area," said John "J.T." Taylor, U-Haul president. "Growth cities were then determined by calculating the percentage of inbound moves vs. outbound moves for each area." The 2006 Top Growth Cities Report was compiled from more than 1.62 million U-Haul transactions between January 1 and December 31, 2006.

Coffee with City Manager Rick Clark

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Central Library
1000 Grand Avenue

Free coffee and tea will be provided.

For more information, please contact the City Manager's Office at 515-283-4141.



City of Des Moines
400 Robert D. Ray Drive
Des Moines, Iowa 50309-1891

PRSR STD
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City Information Center

Call the number below or email info@dmgov.org where knowledgeable Customer Service Representatives will answer your questions. And don't forget, you can always visit us on the web at www.dmgov.org.

283-4500

U.S. Youth Soccer Region II Championships Returns to Des Moines for 2007

Over 15,000 soccer players and family members from 14 Midwest states will be loading up and converging on Des Moines for the 2007 US Youth Soccer Region II Championships, scheduled for June 22 - 27 at Des Moines' James W. Cownie Soccer Complex and West Des Moines' Hidden Valley Soccer Park. Preparations are underway by the Park and Recreation Department for this big event that will feature the region's top 220 boys' and girls' teams, which have advanced to the tournament from 14 surrounding states and Iowa. Young soccer players will be competing in age divisions ranging from under 13 years to under 19 years-of-age. The Greater Des Moines Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) estimates that the visiting players and their family members will have a \$7 million economic impact on our community.

The US Youth Soccer Region II Championships is the highest level of competitive youth soccer in the United States. The Des Moines and West Des Moines soccer communities are proud that the US Youth Soccer Association selected the Greater Des Moines area to host the tournament.

The pristine quality of the James W. Cownie Soccer Park and Hidden Valley Soccer Park was a major factor in acquiring the event. In awarding the Des Moines area with the tournament, the US Youth Soccer Association was also impressed with the success of the 2006 US Youth National Soccer Championships and the 2003 US Youth Soccer Region II Championships, which were also hosted by the James W. Cownie Soccer Park and Hidden Valley Soccer Park. Both complexes have undergone extensive improvements through donations and fundraising efforts by MidAmerican Energy, the Cities of Des Moines and West Des Moines, and the Patty and Jim Cownie Charitable Foundation.

Volunteers Needed

CALL Scott Koch 515-699-3460