

MAYOR'S UPDATE
December, 2012

Welcome to the Mayor's Update

The Mayor's Update will be an attempt, on a monthly basis, to better inform Orange City's citizens and others on the progress and activities occurring within the community. City Council decisions, retail and commercial development progress, business activities and other actions affecting the community will be included in a brief and, hopefully, informative manner.

Welcome to the Mayor's Update!

City Strategic Planning Session

On November 27, 2012, the City Council and City representatives conducted a strategic planning session for the City of Orange City. The 2013 City Strategic Plan focuses on the following:

Continue work towards a regional airport with Sioux County and Sioux Center:

- Land acquisition will continue with the assistance of the Federal Aviation Administration
- Planning will begin regarding the future use of the present airport

Develop plans to renovate the Dunlop Wildlife Area:

- Planning will occur in partnership with the City of Alton
- The Dunlop Wildlife Area, the Highway 10 Park in Alton, and expansion of the trail system will be included in the planning process

Expand the present trail system:

- A portion of the trail expansion plans will involve the Dunlop Wildlife Area
- Other options for trail expansion within the City will also be identified
- The City will partner with Alton in this endeavor whenever possible
- Included in the trail expansion planning process will be the engagement of community members and organizations to assist and support this endeavor

Explore avenues to meet the enrollment needs of the Orange City Daycare facility:

- The present facility is full to capacity through the fall of 2013
- The City will collaborate with the Daycare Board of Directors to identify future facility needs and potential enrollment growth
- Facility expansion will be designed accordingly with funding sources identified

Develop and prioritize plans for street improvements:

- Streets identified and scheduled for improvements will be prioritized for budget planning purposes
- Prioritization will include:
 - Ohio Ave. –in cooperation with the Sioux County Board of Supervisors

- 2nd Street – connecting Michigan Ave. and Ohio Ave.
- Side streets to Central Ave. in the downtown area
- Concord Pl. SE – the street east of the soccer field on Northwestern College’s campus
- Extending Frankfort Ave. – extending the street east of Fareway Grocery Store to better utilize the traffic light on Highway 10 for residents south of Highway 10
- Other street improvements may be identified as well

Renovate the City Sewage Treatment Facility:

- Work with the Dept. of Natural Resources to develop plans to address present Federal guidelines
- Expansion of the facility will be considered if future needs require such growth

Develop strategies to support and grow the services of Orange City Communications:

- Ensure that quality and excellent services are provided to its customers
- Identify future service needs and develop plans accordingly
- Grow the customer base of Orange City Communications

Identify and implement city employee relations strategies:

- Support and enhance relations with city employees
- Actions, with the collaboration of employees and the City Council, may include:
 - Communication efforts
 - Employee evaluation process

Thank you, citizens of Orange City, for making our community a special place to live, work, worship, and play.

Les Douma
Mayor, Orange City