

## **Welcome to the Mayor's Update June, 2013**

The Mayor's Update is 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 are included in a brief and, hopefully, informative manner.

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### **AdvancePierre Foods Facility**

Although an announcement has not officially been made, the sale of the Orange City facility has been made to Premium Pet Foods of the John Morrell Food Group. Hopefully, the plant will be up-and-running later in the fall.

### **Dunlop Wildlife Area**

Neppl Landscape Architecture and Planning has submitted their summary of the master planning study of the Dunlop Wildlife Recreation Area and the Alton Roadside Park. The plan responded to the comments and input of those present at the meetings and through personal visits to each of the areas and communities.

Areas under consideration include:

- Tent camping areas
- Playground equipment
- Walking and biking trails
- Fishing piers
- Planting design
- Bridge options
- Expansion of the disc golf course
- Picnic shelters and picnic areas
- Amphitheater
- RV campsites
- Potential participants, stakeholders and user groups

Each of the elements was explored during the planning process. Now the communities are beginning to assign cost estimates to each of the elements and prioritize the implementation of the plans.

### **City Highway Signage**

Installation of the new signs along Highway 10 is underway. Weather conditions have slowed the project, a bit, but installations of both signs should be finished in a month or two.

### **Housing Addition Infrastructure**

The infrastructure for Puddle Jumper #5 is presently being installed including sewer, water and streets. Once again, the wet weather conditions have delayed the project somewhat, but lots will be available for purchase late summer or early fall.

**Youth Baseball/Softball Fields**

The T-ball fields at the swimming pool are nearing completion. Backstop fencing and baseline fences are installed; the infield surface is in place; and the equipment shed for the complex is also finished.

The final stages for improving the fields at Vets Park include the addition of a batting cage for softball and baseball usage and installing a smaller piece of playground equipment in the area of the bleachers for the benefit of families with smaller children.

These two projects will enhance the youth baseball and softball recreational programs.

**Daycare Facilities**

The City is working with Cannon Moss Brygger Architects, Sioux City, to explore options 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, if necessary, will be designed accordingly with funding sources identified

**Bomgaars Relocation**

Construction on the Orange City Bomgaars store is a little behind schedule due to the weather conditions this spring. Hopefully, the building will be completed in early fall, 2013, allowing for store occupancy in the fall.

Significant efforts also continue to encourage a new retail business or businesses to occupy the present Bomgaars building on Central Avenue. These efforts are crucial to supporting a vibrant downtown business community.

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

Les Douma  
Mayor, Orange City

