



October 2019 Project Highlights

City Manager's Office

- A City review committee is evaluating five proposals received to develop a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory for the Ames community and will meet at the end of September to narrow down the choices. The RFP seeks consultant services for benchmarking citywide greenhouse gas emissions. The data generated will follow the recommendations of three organizations that have recognized standards in GHG Inventory data collection (Global Covenant of Mayors, STAR Community Rating System, and City Inventory Reporting and Information System CIRIS). The consultant selected will be tasked with collecting GHG data to increase the awareness and understanding of Ames citizens regarding our city's carbon footprint, to forecast projections if no community changes are made, and to identify opportunities for emissions reduction in the future. Once selected, it is anticipated a consultant will present the results of the project to City Council within six months.
- Mayor Haila will convene the first meeting of Ames Complete Count Committee (CCC) for Census 2020 on Wednesday, Oct. 2. It is recommended that all cities/counties establish a CCC to help disseminate census messaging and serve as a resource about the U.S. Census to constituents they represent. The Claim Ames CCC includes invitees from Iowa State University, Chamber, Ames Convention and Visitors Bureau, school districts, United Way, faith-based organizations, civic groups, social service agencies, hard-to-enumerate (HTE) populations, and more. Census marketing and awareness information will continue to be shared throughout the fall, with the Claim Ames Census 2020 campaign gearing up in January 2020 and continuing for several months.
- Staff is continuing to work with MetroNet to discuss plans for the buildout of its fiber internet infrastructure. MetroNet's plans call for over 1.1 million feet of fiber to be installed in Ames. The initial buildout is expected to begin this fall with the construction of a hut and overhead pole attachments. Underground installation will begin in spring 2020, and MetroNet's goal is to complete construction by September 2020. This rapid pace of buildout will impact City staff's ability to review and approve construction documents and perform utility locates in a timely manner. Therefore, staff

is working with MetroNet to develop an agreement whereby MetroNet will use its contractors to locate some of the City's utility infrastructure, and will take on the liability to do so. Additionally, Electric Engineering's ability to review the pole attachments proposed will be limited, so staff is exploring requiring MetroNet to hire a firm at its cost to verify the proposed attachments are acceptable. Once these issues are addressed, staff will bring these agreements and a pole attachment agreement to the City Council for approval.

- The Microbility Committee, involving City and ISU staff representation, is meeting to address the Council's directive to investigate how other communities regulate micromobility operations (electric scooters, electric skateboards, electric pedal assist bicycles, etc). The committee has identified four focus areas – safety, infrastructure, enforcement, and liability – that will be reviewed with plans and/or ordinances from similar-sized university communities around the country.

Public Works

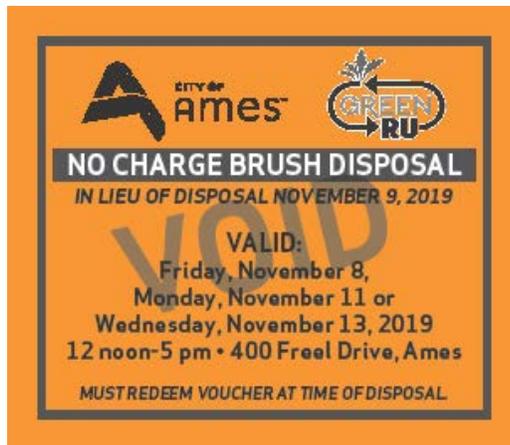
- The first informational video is currently in production for **Forward 2045: City of Ames Metropolitan Transportation Plan**, and will be released in October before the first public meeting for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan update. A visioning open house will be held November 14, 2019 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- Planning for the City of Ames 2020 Eco Fair (10th Anniversary) has commenced. Volunteers or subject matter experts interested in working with City staff on the event and other related events can contact Tracy Warner or Jake Moore.
- Ames on the Go, the customer service app and website portal that allows citizens to report issues or make requests, continues to broaden availability for users. Electric, Fire, and Parks and Recreation departments have joined Public Works to allow users to make requests and report concerns.



- Recent tours of the Resource Recovery Plant include 35 Cub Scouts and their families from Pack 160, 28 Ames High School Earth and Space Science students, and 21 DMACC students in the hydraulics and pneumatics program.



- Science Nights with the Ames Elementary schools will kick off in November.
- With the weather challenges experienced in past years on Yard Waste Days, Resource Recovery and GreenRU are offering participants the option of picking up a voucher at the Resource Recovery Plant. Instead of only having one day to drop off brush, the voucher is good for a one-time brush disposal during any of the following times:



- Several 2020 projects are going through the design process and many outreach events will be held to engage residents.
- Mark Peebler, Lorrie Hanson, and Bill Schmitt (pictured) attended ISU's Local Food Festival, and talked to attendees about the Food Waste Diversion pilot program and how to reduce their amount of food waste.
- An interactive construction map can be found at www.cityofames.org/construction for weekly updates on projects under construction and in design. Wet conditions have affected project timelines, but projects continue to progress.



13th Street Extension Fence (under the Union Pacific Railroad) : A chain link fence was installed to provide a barrier between pedestrians/bicyclist traffic and vehicle traffic. This fence was installed

on the barrier rail along 13th Street to provide protection for shared use path users because of the steep slope.

E. Industrial Area Utilities: There has been a verbal agreement with landowners for acquisition for the lift station and elevated water tower site. The plat and site plan will be processed for this site. Final plans are being updated with a goal of Winter 2019 bid letting.

S. Grand Avenue Extension: Land acquisition has been the focus for this project. On September 24, an eminent domain hearing was held and the City was awarded the land at the cost of the City's appraisal. A voluntary agreement has been reached for the lease hold interest of Coldwater Golf Links. Temporary and permanent easements from Iowa State University west of the Vet Med trail are being processed. A December IDOT bid letting is anticipated at this time.

S. 16th/S. Duff Ave Intersection: The property at 100 S. 16th Street is moving toward an eminent domain process. Spring 2020 is the anticipated timeline for local bid letting.

Fire:

- ISU Football back is in full swing, and the Fire Department helps staff the ISU Emergency Operations Center every home game, where traffic and emergency incidents in and around the stadium are monitored.
- Last Sunday the Fire Department held a picnic for active and retired Ames Fire Department members and their families, which included members from our Inspection Division and Administrative Services Division.
- This week kicked off the new Ladder Truck Replacement Team. Over the next 10 months, this Team will research and develop a set of specifications for a replacement ladder truck which will go out for bid around July 2020.
- On September 6, crews provided hands-on fire extinguisher training for 100 students from two of the ISU residence hall groups, Shilleter Village and Frederiksen Court.
- On September 18, the Fire Department teamed up with ISU Environmental Health & Safety for Campus Safety Day, where hands- on fire extinguisher training was provided for hundreds of ISU Faculty, Students, and Staff.
- At the end of this month, Ames Firefighters will participate in the Midwest Traffic Incident Management Safety Summit. We have members who will be speaking, serving as Color Guard, and attending classes.
- With ISU back in session and Fire Prevention Week quickly approaching, crews have been busy attending Block Parties, giving fire safety presentations, and helping organizations conduct fire drills. It is through these important outreach events that the fire safety message is shared with attendees to help keep Ames "Fire Safe".

Library:

- After 35 years of service we said farewell to Mike Quinn, Adult Services Resource Librarian, who retired September 6. Mike's contributions are far too many to list. He will be missed by community members and his coworkers.

Parks and Recreation:

- Staff recently completed installation of a two-bay swing with a concrete border in Country Gables Park. The surrounding area was graded and seeded as well.
- A resident contacted Parks and Recreation concerned that a cottonwood tree (pictured) in Brookside Park was damaged and may fall on and damage a foot bridge. The City Forester investigated the concern and determined the tree is posing a potential threat to people and property. A contractor will be removing the cottonwood along with an ash tree on October 8 & 9, weather permitting. This is a great example of a resident identifying a concern, communicating the concern, and City staff responding in a timely manner.



Planning and Housing:

Planning:

- A Voluntary Annexation Petition has been received for the 170-acre Champlain Lloyd Farm (comprised of four parcels) located generally at 3339 Dartmoor Rd. Staff is evaluating the application for completeness and will forward it in the near future to City Council for direction on how to proceed.
- Burgason Annexation: The voluntary annexation of eighteen parcels of land, totaling 156.6 acres, located south of Oakwood Road between University Boulevard and Cedar Lane is now officially approved and within the City of Ames.
- One grant application was submitted for the first round of Downtown Façade Grants. Applications were due on September 23. Staff will evaluate the applicant and forward to City Council later this fall.

- The official Comment and Appeal period for proposed changes to the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) has begun. Public or private property owners with property in the floodplain that wish to do so have until December 26 to submit comments or appeals to FEMA. An appeal of the proposed FIRM map requires engineering data from the party making the appeal showing FEMA's engineered data is incorrect.
- A new neighborhood association (NA) has been recently formed. The West Towne NA is official and includes approximately 600 rooftops. It is on the west side of the city and is the largest neighborhood association recognized by the City. Organization and communication are priority for this group. They have already had meetings with different representatives from the City and created several sub committees addressing various topics to make sure the entire neighborhood is represented.

