



April 2019

Volume 133

The City of Hiawatha understands the importance and benefits of its parks and open space system. As a City we are committed to providing the recreational needs of current and future residents. Parks and open space provide a safe and healthy place to lay, all while beautifying and protecting the natural environment of the area. In Fall of 2018, Hiawatha City Council and the Park Board approved City staff to update the current Comprehensive Plan with MSA Professional Services, Inc. This plan will provide an updated vision for the future growth of the community including a section devoted to parks and recreation. The previous plan was adopted in 2010 and much has changed since it was written. That document has served the community to its potential, so an updated vision is needed to undertake the upcoming opportunities of the next 10 years.



By updating this plan, it provides current insight into the existing conditions of the parks as well as concepts for a new 18-acre park in the North West part of Hiawatha that the City acquired this past year. The purpose of the plan is to guide the continual improvement of the City's parks and recreation areas and direct policy for parks and open space. It predicts a connected system of parks and open spaces throughout the community and provides a framework to guide long and short-term decision making and investments in the system.

The Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Vision Plan complements the directions established in the Hiawatha 2036 Comprehensive Plan, and provides detailed guidance on the development, managements and operations of the park system. The direction is also based on the community's expressed needs and desires from public engagement throughout the planning process.

The planning effort kicked off in September of 2018, and represents input gathered from the community, stakeholders, and City staff over the following eight months. Four hundred plus people participated in an online survey, crowd-source map applications, focus group meetings, and a public open house community meeting helped guide the development of this plan by providing valuable citizen input. Oversight for the project was provided by the City's Park and Recreation Director as well as the Steering Committee for this project. Meetings between the Steering Committee and the consultant provided input for the plan's content throughout the four phases of the project.

April 1, 2019, a Public Meeting was held in the multi-purpose room at City Hall where MSA Professionals facilitated a meeting and presented information from the community survey, focus groups and information about Parks and Recreation in the Hiawatha Community. Display boards



were set up around the room for residents to visualize the information collected, ask questions and write comments. MSA presented a 20-minute presentation on Hiawatha's current trends, public usage and needs. A North West territory park concept was displayed showing residents the potential for the City's new park based on feedback from the different phases within this study. It was a great chance for residents to help the planning committee collect any last comments before the completion of 2029 Comprehensive Park and Recreation Plan. The City's Park and Recreation Board is excited to put this plan into action as it will be a great guide for the next ten years. Thank you for everyone's participation and feedback.

Comprehensive Plan Timeline:
Committee Meeting #1 October 2018
Residential Survey November-December 2018
15 Focus Group Discussions December 2018
Committee Meeting #2 January 2019
Committee Meeting #3 February 2019
Committee Meeting #4 April 2019
Hiawatha Public Open House April 1st, 2019
City Council Adoption May 2019

Robins Road Improvement Project

FINAL PUBLIC PRESENTATION MAY 16, 2019

“The Robins Road corridor has the potential to be a community asset and example of how thoughtful design and future planning can reinvigorate Hiawatha. The corridor does not currently create a great first impression for the community. It doesn’t represent the character of a thriving mix-use corridor; the presence of significant professional corporations and industries, or community pride.”
 (Planning Submittal, Bolton & Menk 2018)



The City of Hiawatha has determined Robins Road is a key component of the creation of a “downtown” within the community and is in need of public improvements. To address these issues a study has been commissioned to plan the revitalization of the area along Robins Road from Boyson Road to the new intersection at North Center Point Road. The scope of the study includes:

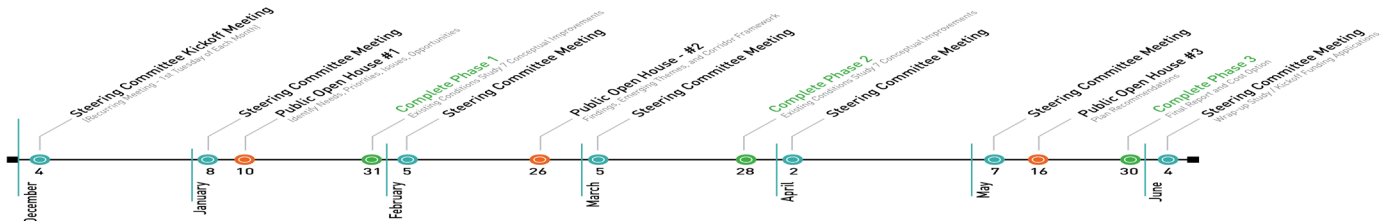
- **Gateway Entrance Features**
- **Pedestrian and Bicycle Accomodations**
- **Urban Renewal Concepts**
 - * Delineating future land uses based on trends that may need to be accommodated along the corridor to promote a more robust economy and development pattern.
 - * Defining a variety of land uses and creating guidelines that fit these uses into the corridor in a harmonious and supportive way.
 - * Detailing how buildings interact with fronting and side streets for our Design Guidelines including the scale, massing, and form of various building typologies based on land use, density, urban form, and position along the corridor.
 - * Addressing how properties work together to help access management and parking issues.
 - * Promoting landscape design to create a higher level of place, character, environmental sustainability, stormwater management and urban heat island mitigation.
 - * Providing for more walkable and mixed use patterns where appropriate.
 - * Accommodating and promoting opportunities for gateway properties.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND INPUT: The study process includes a steering committee made up of the general public, affected property owners, elected officials and city staff who have been meeting monthly with design representatives from Bolton & Menk. This group has provided feedback and direction to the design team.

Along with the steering committee input, opportunities for the general public interaction have been created through public meetings and internet availability. The introductory open house was in December and the progress open house was in February with a final plan recommendation to be presented on **May 16, 2019 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the lower level of Hiawatha City Hall**. For those who choose the internet option, the public can find the Robins Road Study information link on the City of Hiawatha website:

www.hiawatha-iowa.com/new/robinsroadstudy and are invited to comment on the City’s comment link: www.hiawatha-iowa.com/requests

Join us as we continue to advance our “Beautiful Hiawatha” vision!



Hiawatha BUSINESS Summit

Please join us for a special Hiawatha Business Summit to help us celebrate FSB’s 50th year of doing business in Hiawatha. You’re invited to a morning of networking with the Hiawatha business community!

Special ribbon cutting to commemorate our 50th year in Hiawatha on **May 14, 2019 at 7:45 AM** followed by an open house from 8:00-9:00 AM with our friends and neighbors.

“A lot has changed during the past 50 years...but our commitment to the Hiawatha community and the customers we serve will never change.” Gene Neighbor, President/CEO

The Hiawatha Economic Development Corporation, City of Hiawatha and the Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance collaborate to bring you this event.



AVENUE OF FLAGS

If you haven’t already signed up for the Avenue of Flags, you still have until **May 11, 2019** to sign up. A registration form can be found on the home page of our website at www.hiawathaiagonpost735.org.

Hiawatha Council Action

The Hiawatha City Council meeting minutes may be obtained on-line at www.hiawatha-iowa.com/government/city-council-documents/ or by request to the City Clerk's Office at City Hall at 319-393-1515 ext. 526.

Hiawatha Approves Contract for 12th Avenue Reconstruction Project

The City Council approved an engineering contract to prepare a project that will reconstruct 12th Avenue from Blairs Ferry Road to just south of Lyndhurst Avenue. The intent is to add a new asphalt surface to the existing street and replace the current sidewalk ramps at six intersections with new concrete ramps meeting ADA guidelines.

MSA Professional Services will review the current street condition and determine the best process to improve the street surface. As the design progresses, a public input meeting will be scheduled to notify the local residents of the construction schedule and possible traffic detours that will be required to complete the project.

The project will be funded using Local Option Sales and Service Tax and is scheduled to be completed by fall of 2019. Any questions, please contact the City Engineer at: jbender@hiawatha-iowa.com



Hiawatha moves forward with Willman Street Signal Project



The City Council approved an engineering contract to prepare a project that will install traffic signals at the Willman Street intersection with Center Point Road. The intersection currently controlled with a four-way stop after the completion of the new Emmons Street/Robins Road intersection. The intent is to add new traffic signals that will only be activated with a vehicle or pedestrian call from

Willman Street. The latest plan is to replace the entire intersection with new colored concrete and reconstruct sidewalk and bike trail ramps to meet current ADA standards.

Shive Hattery Engineers will design both plans to bid the traffic signal equipment and the reconstruction of the intersection. The project will be funded using Local Option Sales and Service Tax and is scheduled to be completed by Fall of 2019.

Any questions, please contact the City Engineer at: jbender@hiawatha-iowa.com

Grant Award

At the March 27, 2019 Iowa Park and Recreation Spring Conference, the Friends of Hiawatha Park and Recreation Foundation were awarded a grant of \$1,000 for park equipment updates at Tucker Park. This summer Tucker Park will receive a face lift on outdated equipment in our toddler area. The new equipment will feature a new 2-5 year old structure that has all-inclusive components, musical play, hands on features and creative panels for children with disabilities to play. The Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Friends Foundation additionally donated \$13,000 towards this project and will provide volunteers to assist with the install. The local HiCREW Kiwanis Club has also agreed to commit \$1,000. With the support from these three organizations, this project is 90% funded by non-profits. We are excited for this project to take place and grateful for the support we have in our community!



April Calendar

- 03 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 08 History Committee Meeting 1:30 PM
- 08 Board of Adjustment Meeting 5:30 PM
- 09 Parks Commission Meeting 6:00 PM
- 09 Library Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 16 Water Board Meeting 5:30 PM
- 17 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 19 Holiday - City Offices Closed
- 20 Easter Egg Hunt - Guthridge Park 9:00 AM
- 22 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM
- 27 Earth Day Event 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
- 29 Farmers Market 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Guthridge Park

May Calendar

- 01 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 04 City Wide Garage Sales
- 05 Farmers Market 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 12 Farmers Market 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 13 History Committee Meeting 1:30 PM
- 13 Board of Adjustment Meeting 5:30 PM
- 14 Parks Commission Meeting 6:00 PM
- 14 Library Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 15 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 19 Farmers Market 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 20 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM
- 21 Water Board Meeting 5:30 PM
- 26 Farmers Market 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 27 Holiday - City Offices Closed

Save a Life on April 27

The Hiawatha Fire Department is teaming up with the American Red Cross and local volunteers to install free smoke alarms in select areas of the city. This is part of a national movement to save lives in fire vulnerable neighborhoods. Alarms will also be installed in Marion and Cedar Rapids on the same day.

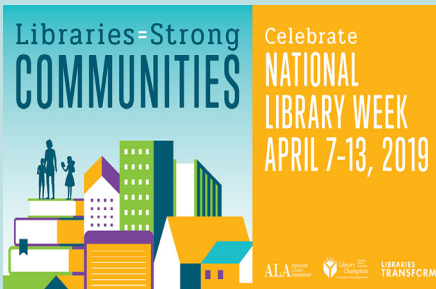
Fire Department officials have been participating in regular planning meetings to ensure a successful opportunity to save lives in our community. If you feel you need a smoke alarm and cannot afford one or need help installing one, visit getasmokealarm.org to request assistance from the Red Cross. Arrangements will be made to install your alarms on a future date.

On Saturday, April 27, volunteers will be knocking on doors in specific neighborhoods to offer the free alarms. They will install up to three alarms in a home, check existing alarms to ensure they work, and replace dead batteries where necessary. Firefighters are reminding the public that smoke alarms that are more than ten years old, should be replaced. The 3-person installation team will also offer fire safety education to all occupants of the home and leave materials with residents for planning a fire escape route.

Residents who would like to be part of the effort to save lives by installing these alarms can volunteer to be on an installation team. To register, go to soundthealarm.org. Click on volunteer, enter your zip code, and select the Cedar Rapids project. Volunteers will meet at 9:00 AM at Cedar Rapids First Assembly Church (3233 Blairs Ferry Road NE, Cedar Rapids) to gather supplies and be assigned to a team.

On April 20, youth volunteers will hang door tags and set out yard signs in neighborhoods where volunteers will be offering alarms on the 27th. If you see the tags and signs, you know you can expect friendly Red Cross and partner volunteers in your neighborhood between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM that Saturday. Volunteers will be clearly identified by Red Cross vests or bright yellow shirts. Fire Department personnel will be in the area to answer questions if they arise. Together, we can save lives and make Hiawatha an even better place to live!

Celebrate National Library Week April 7-13, 2019



In honor of National Library Week we would like to thank our dedicated Hiawatha Public Library Staff. Thank you for every story time you have provided, transforming the library to celebrate a letter of the alphabet, rocking out the summer reading program and encouraging donations to wrap our community in warm winter gear. Thank you for the countless hours of joy provided from newborn to adult in programming designed specifically for us. For every book you found based on an obscure description...maybe it had a bird on the cover? For every replaced book, CD and movie. For every log in to the computer and new library card holder. For creating a safe place for English as a second language class all the way to financial literacy courses. Thank you for working to preserve our community history and embarking on new challenges facing today's youth. For staying late, working on top of one another and helping patrons find resources beyond your library's walls. Thank you for continuing to create an environment to expand our mind and experiences.

We encourage Hiawatha citizens and friends to join us in celebrating National Library Week and thanking our hard working staff: Jeaneal Weeks, Erin Zaputil, Alicia Mangin, Deb Tobias, Sandy Raley, Taryn Kincarid, Marta Petermann and Kira Brennan.

Miss Iowa 2018 Shares Her Message of Hope

Miss Iowa 2018 Mikhayla Hughes-Shaw has a powerful message of hope that she will share with community kids and their caregivers on Tuesday, April 16 at 6:30 PM at Hiawatha Public Library.



Hughes-Shaw will discuss anti-bullying techniques that will help kids discover their own strength. She will read from Pete the Purple Bull by Kim Riley-Quinn, a fun interactive experience that amplifies the importance of respect and provides hope to those in pain.

In addition, Hughes-Shaw will raise mental health awareness by discussing overcoming the obstacles that may lead to low self-esteem and depression. She believes that starting the conversation about mental health and suicide at an early age is the key to helping others and teaching youth how to help themselves. Do not miss this opportunity to meet Hughes-Shaw and hear her message of hope.



Join Hiawatha and Marion in Major League Baseball's Pitch Hit & Run Competition. This is a FREE, 1-day event for boys and girls. Participants compete in either the Baseball Division or Softball Division and have the opportunity to advance through four levels of competition including Locals, Sectionals, Team Championships and the National Finals at the MLB All-Star Game.

Children ages: 7-14
 Fee: FREE, but must contact 319-393-1515 to register
 Date: May 6, 2019
 Time: 5:30-7:30 PM
 Location: Lowe Park in Marion
 Registration Deadline: April 26, 2019

Announcing a New Hiawatha City Clerk



Kari Graber has been appointed by the City Council as our new City Clerk. Kari has been with the City for five years and held the Deputy Clerk position since her hire date in 2014.

She has her Bachelors Degree with a double major in Business Administration and Criminal Justice from Mount Mercy University. She also holds her National Certification as Municipal Clerk and State Certification as Municipal Clerk and is working towards earning her certification as Master Municipal City Clerk.

Ms. Graber is dedicated to her profession and is a committee member of our regional clerks association who helps promote clerk training and education. Congratulations Kari!

Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Director Earns her Certified Parks and Recreation Professional Certification



Kelly Willadsen, Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Director, has earned her Certified Parks and Recreation Professional Certification. The Certified Parks and Recreation Professional (CPRP) certification is the national standard for all parks and recreation professionals who want to be at the forefront of their profession. Attaining the CPRP designation meets education and experience qualifications, and illustrates commitment to the profession as well as demonstrating knowledge and understanding of key concepts within parks and recreation.

Ms. Willadsen has been with the Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Department for six and a half years and is an active at large member on the Iowa Parks and Recreation Association board. She helps lead the Young Professional Network of over 90 individuals for the Association, and enjoys learning from other professionals around the state of Iowa. She has a passion for the Hiawatha community and is always finding new and exciting opportunities to bring fun into people's everyday lives. Congratulations Kelly!

Hiawatha GIS Technician Nominated as a 2019 "All Star" Kirkwood Community College Award Recipient



Kyla Pfeiler, GIS Technician has been nominated and chosen as a 2019 "All Star" Kirkwood Community College Award recipient. Ms. Pfeiler demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to our community, City of Hiawatha, and in her role as a volunteer. Kyla takes it upon herself to provide exceptional support and service to both her internal and external customers and to her profession. Kyla expressively demonstrates her "get it done attitude" by taking the City of Hiawatha's geographical information system (GIS) from the ground level to nearly the top floor. Kyla was able to take what she learned in the GIS program at Kirkwood Community College and was able to implement and turn our GIS program into a system that is used daily by our water, sewer, public works and engineering departments.

Kyla is a wonderful ambassador for our city..."She has built strong relationships as she assists department heads and their teams while they navigate through our unfamiliar GIS system that was once only on paper to helping bike enthusiast navigate their way to Riverside on Hibrai. If she did not exist, we would try to invent her," said Kyla's supervisor Marty Recker.

Mick Starcevich past president of Kirkwood Community College said, "These Creative Corridor All-Stars are proof that if you put in the time, and you work hard, you can accomplish any goal. I would encourage those inspired by these examples to take continue of their future."

Congratulations, Kyla! We are proud to call you one of our own!



Live Healthy Iowa Kids Track Meet

Join Hiawatha, Marion and Cedar Rapids as they collaborate for the Live Healthy Iowa Kids Track Meet on Saturday, May 18, 2019 at 9:00 AM located at the Marion Independent High School.

The LHI Kids Track Championships is a FREE event for kids ages 7-14! This is a grassroots track event. No track experience needed! No spikes are allowed and the events are simplified. Field events include a Standing Long Jump and Softball Throw. This is a great way to introduce your child to track and field!



Roughly 38 communities will host a local meet and the winners of each event at each location will advance to the Live Healthy Iowa State Track Championship Meet in Marshalltown on Saturday, June 22!

This is a free event, but all participants must register. Registration is now open! Deadline is May 3, 2019.

To register, go to: <https://events.clearthunder.com/LHIKTCREG2019> and select "Cedar Rapids/Hiawatha/Marion."

For specific questions regarding this meet, contact Ambyr or Kelly at 319-393-1515.

City of Hiawatha
 101 Emmons Street
 Hiawatha, Iowa 52233
 Phone: 319-393-1515
 Fax: 319-393-1516
 www.hiawatha-iowa.com

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Big Bang Foundation
FLAG FOOTBALL CLINIC

FOR BOYS & GIRLS AGE 5-14
 LOCATION: TUCKER PARK IN HIAWATHA
 Date: Saturday, April 27th

CLINIC INFORMATION
 We will focus on the fundamentals of the game such as passing, catching, agility and blocking. All the tools you need to give you the edge. Our clinic is designed to push players to their limits, motivate them and give them confidence to excel.

REGISTER YOUR CHILD
 \$10 Per Child
 Ages 5 - 9 8AM - 11:30 • Ages 10 - 14 12:00 - 3:30
 More info & registration form: www.hiawatha-iowa.com
 Call Ambyr for more info: (319)393-1515



LACROSSE CLINIC

GIRLS & BOYS ALL AGES
 GUTHRIDGE PARK, HIAWATHA
 MAY 11, 2019



During this clinic, participants will learn from the head Women's and Men's lacrosse coaches of Cornell College as well as current college athletes. Participants will learn parts of the stick, how to pick up ground balls, cradling, catching and throwing, shooting, dodging, and basic fundamentals of the game. Protective gear is not required as the clinic will be non contact and focused on fundamentals and fun!

REGISTER TODAY
HIAWATHA-IOWA.COM/PARKS-RECREATION/PROGRAMS



NEW DATE!
 Hiawatha!
2019 FUN FEST!
AUGUST 2-3, 2019

City Directory

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