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## City Administrator Report to Mayor & City Council

*February 15, 2013, Edition No. 77*

### REPORT:

1. Fridley: March 8<sup>th</sup> is the targeted date for the Fridley Theatre opening.
2. Blue Zones: There will be a walkable/livable community meeting with an outside expert the week of April 8<sup>th</sup>. Tentatively, the meeting is scheduled for April 10<sup>th</sup>. Please mark your calendars and I will send out the details as they are developed.
3. Fire: Effective Sunday, February 17, 2013, Andy Summitt is promoted to Fire Lieutenant. Andy's last day on Green shift is today, February 13<sup>th</sup>, and he will start on Blue shift on February 17<sup>th</sup>. Please join me in congratulating Andy on his promotion. We will have the swearing in for Rob and William (new fire fighters) on March 7<sup>th</sup> at City Hall during the council meeting. After the council meeting (probably 7:20) we will have the informal badge pinning for BC Janssen, Captain Hillard, and Lt. Summitt along with cake and ice cream for new hires and promotional candidates.
4. Community Development: Per Steve Boka: Just so you know...effective today, the City of Muscatine has Inspectors nationally certified in the following areas:
  - Michael Stensland, Senior Inspector, has ICC (National and State of Iowa) Certifications as:
    - Certified Building Official
    - Certified Building Inspector
    - Certified Plumbing Inspector
    - Certified Mechanical Inspector
    - Certified Plans Examiner
    - Certified Accessibility Inspector/Plans Examiner
    - Certified Fire Inspector II
  - Stephan Lemke, Inspector II has ICC (National and State of Iowa) Certifications as:
    - Certified Residential Electrical Inspector
    - Certified Commercial Electrical Inspector

I am passing this information along to you so you will know the very high level of competency the department inspectors have. It is unusual for a department our size to have (employed) this level of professional accreditation. The Mayor, City Council and you should all know that these certifications are quite difficult to obtain and will require continuing education to remain in good standing. The city is indeed fortunate to have professionally certified inspectors performing these important services for the City of Muscatine. I, for one, am extremely proud of their efforts.
5. EPA:
  - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has recommended that Muscatine County be designated "Nonattainment" for the 1-hour sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). This

**"I remember Muscatine for its sunsets. I have never seen any  
on either side of the ocean that equaled them" — Mark Twain**

recommendation is based on EPA's consideration of data measured at the SO<sub>2</sub> monitor located at Musser Park in Muscatine for the period 2008 through 2010, as well as the most recent measured data from 2009 through 2011.

- EPA has given the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) until April 8, 2013, to provide EPA with additional information for consideration prior to EPA finalizing the nonattainment recommendation. Therefore, the IDNR is requesting that Muscatine county residents and businesses send any comments and technical input on EPA's recommendation to the IDNR by March 15, 2013, to allow the agency an opportunity to consider the comments.
- EPA also plans to publish a notice in the Federal Register announcing a 30-day period for the public to provide input on EPA's preliminary designation recommendation. Muscatine county residents and businesses are encouraged to provide comments to both IDNR and EPA.
- EPA intends to finalize the nonattainment designations by June, 2013.
- On June 3, 2010, the EPA strengthened the health-based or "primary" standard for SO<sub>2</sub> by establishing a NAAQS for 1-hour average SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations at a level of 75 parts per billion. The Clean Air Act requires the EPA to complete the initial designations process within two years of promulgating a new or revised standard. If the EPA Administrator has insufficient information to make these designations, the EPA has the authority to extend the designation process by up to one year. On July 27, 2012, the EPA announced that it had insufficient information to complete the designations for the 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> standard within two years and extended the designations deadline to June 3, 2013. Additional technical background regarding EPA's recommendation can be obtained at <http://www.epa.gov/so2designations/region7r.html>.
- Please contact Jim McGraw at [515-242-5167](tel:515-242-5167) or [jim.mcgraw@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:jim.mcgraw@dnr.iowa.gov) if you have questions or need additional information.
- DNR's air list serve is targeted to the regulated public and consultants to deliver ☐timely regulatory news, program updates, and technical guidance to your email. ☐To subscribe, send a blank E-mail to [join-iairtech@lists.ia.gov](mailto:join-iairtech@lists.ia.gov) ☐To unsubscribe, click here: <http://Membership.Lists.ia.gov/u?id=6305413.6b5e8fbc0f338a886a1440bc8eb22a69&n=T&l=iairtech&o=783670> ☐or, send a blank E-mail to [leave-iairtech@lists.ia.gov](mailto:leave-iairtech@lists.ia.gov) ☐If you have difficulty, contact DNR's Wendy Walker at [515-281-6061](tel:515-281-6061).
- Update: EPA has given the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) until April 8, 2013, to provide EPA with additional information for consideration prior to EPA finalizing the nonattainment recommendation. Therefore, the IDNR is requesting that Muscatine county residents and businesses send any comments and technical input on EPA's recommendation to the IDNR by March 15, 2013, to allow the agency an opportunity to consider the comments.
- Consequences: (Per Steve Boka, Community Development Director) – We understand that it would require special emission modeling for any

new business interested in locating in the non-attainment area... in this case, Muscatine County. It also restricts expansion of any existing business in the area. In my opinion, this seriously affects our ability to recruit new industry or "grow" existing business. The non-attainment designation can (and likely will) be shared by the state with any industry considering potential locations within the state.