



Gregg Mandsager  
City Administrator  
City Hall, 215 Sycamore St.  
Muscatine, IA 52761-3840  
(563) 264-1550 Voice/TT  
Fax (563) 264-0750

## City Administrator Report to Mayor & City Council

*May 31, 2013, Edition No. 89*

### REPORT:

1. City Council: Reminder - the July 4th City Council Meeting is canceled for this July. You may see a few additional items on the in-depth agenda (i.e. bills).
2. Vacation: Reminder - My family and I will be on vacation 6/1-6/8. I will be available by email or cell. Randy Hill will be available in my absence. Please feel free to contact Randy if you need something ASAP.
3. ED Committee: At this weeks Chamber ED Committee meeting I reviewed several City items with the group, including the 38/61 corridor plan (annexation, street, sewer, water, and zoning), the cities Comp Plan and specifically the ED chapter, the newly adopted tax abatement program, as well as the upcoming TIF agreement for action on June 20th. The Committee was supportive with all items and took action to support the upcoming/proposed TIF agreement for warehousing/distribution.
4. Heinz: We are coordinating with Tom Green and the Chamber to send a letter of support for the local Heinz Plant to the new CEO of Berkshire-Hathaway - Bernardo Hees.
5. Living with Floods: This past Wednesday City staff participated in the Living with Floods presentation at the Armed Forces Center in cooperation with the University of Iowa (Iowa Flood Center), Army Corp, and MAGIC. I am attaching the flood preparation info/summary provided by Randy Howell at the meeting. This document provides a nice summary of City action steps at each flood level. Good timing as the river is rising and at this point we are expecting a crest of 19' 6" on 6/3.
6. ROW/MPW - As we did with Cedar Street, staff continues our discussions regarding City projects and the need for MPW to plan and budget for the relocation of MPW utilities in the City's ROW and covering those expenses out of their "enterprise" like accounts in lieu of the City being asked to cover those costs (Bond/debt service/tax rate). All other utilities relocate at their expense. Current issues include Colorado Street and the CSO project. Costs have not been identified at this point and discussion continues. At some point, a joint board meeting may be required. I will keep Council posted on our progress.
7. Blue Zones: REMINDER - COMMUNITY INPUT OPEN HOUSE THIS COMING TUESDAY! Don't forget to join us Tuesday, June 4, for the Blue Zones Project™ Community Input Open House to learn more about the Project and share your ideas on ways we can improve the well-being of our community!  
Date: Tuesday, June 4, 2013, Time: 4:00-6:00pm, Location:  
Muscatine Community School District Administration Building, 2900 Mulberry Avenue, Muscatine, IA

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

## Preparatory to Flood Levels

- 16' Gage
- Official Flood Level – This corresponds to older records of 17'+ on the gage used prior to the 1985 relocation.
  - At this level, water is at the edge of the drive along the boat launch area on the riverfront, rising above that will start to reduce parking between Cedar and Chestnut Streets until the riverfront parking area is completely covered at 19.5'.
  - Monitor projections for river stages and monitor local weather respecting Mad Creek potential flows.
- 17' Gage
- Wait and watch.
  - 17.2' - Water will begin coming through the inlets on the riverfront.
  - The Street Dept. will distribute "Road Closed" and "Detour" signs at the appropriate locations to prepare for Mississippi Dr. closure.
  - 17.5' Water will encroach onto the walk area at Pearl City Station.
- 18' Gage
- Boat harbor breakwater overtops in scattered locations.
  - 18.2' - Water starts to back out of storm inlet at Mississippi Drive and Walnut Street.
  - Check seals at the closed Railroad (Closure structure #3) for forecasts of 19+ feet.
  - Prepare to phase all parking out of Riverfront parking lot.
  - With prediction of 18' make 2000 sandbags - 1000 for WWTP for use in the pump houses and 1000 for Public Works Street Department for detour signage and floodgates.
- 19' Gage
- Detour route is in place on Mississippi Dr.
  - 19.2' - Two lanes covered at Mississippi Dr. and Walnut.
  - 19.5' - Water across all four lanes of Mississippi Drive at Walnut. At this gage all of Riverfront parking lot is under water.
  - 19.64' - Water to centerline of Mississippi Drive at Mulberry.
  - Watch for local weather forecasts very closely in regard to Mad Creek flows. (Only a little over 1' available for storm flows.)
  - Alert Railroad and Heinz U.S.A. of potential closing of Pickle Spur at Mississippi Drive (Closure Structure#1).
- 20' Gage
- Closures include Structure #1 on Mississippi Drive.
  - Seepage appears along Island Levee toe from Canal Street to Kent Feeds plant.
  - At 20.5 the back water in street inlet at N.W. corner of Sycamore and Mississippi Drive is 1' below grate. Close the gate wells at Sycamore and Mississippi Drive at 20.7'.

- Watch the weather forecast.
  - If 22' or more is predicted we need to make 4,000 sandbags to have in reserve. Muscatine Power & Water and Grain Processing will need 2,000 empty sandbags each for the levee on their property.
- 21' Gage
- Close Structure #2, E. 2<sup>nd</sup> St., and detour Ia. Rte 92.
  - Adjust current detour route and set up additional signs for 2<sup>nd</sup> St. closure.
  - Subgrade of roadway will become saturated and want to protect bridge approach.
  - Sill elevation is 21.22' to 21.64' depending on rate of rise on river profile. (These two readings experienced in 1986 and 1993 respectively.)
- 22' Gage
- System is buttoned-up and need to patrol levees on 24-hr. basis.
  - Watch for boils and sandbag as necessary.
- 23,24,25'
- Maintain vigilance and contact Railroad about Gate closure.
  - Boils increase, especially at Power Plant and Musser Park.
  - During this period, water will enter onto Washington Street near Fillmore, previous observations were 23.65' in 1993 and 23.20' in 2001.
  - Walnut Street at #1 alley will require sandbag closure. Gutter line elev. 24.68' and top of drive ramp is 25.28'.
- 26' Gage
- Close main line railroad flood gate, sill elev. 26.16' at the absolute latest. By then RR will already be out of operation upstream.
- 27' Gage
- Water reaches top of the Muscatine flood wall.



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### Give us your input!

**Date:**

Tuesday, June 4, 2013

**Time:**

4:00-6:00pm

**Location:**

Muscatine Community School District  
Administration Building

2900 Mulberry Avenue  
Muscatine, IA



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We welcome all members of the community to join the open house. While there, you'll have the opportunity to give us your feedback on our plan to make Muscatine a better place to live, work, and play. You'll also learn how you can get involved.