



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

December 6, 2013, Edition No. 108

REPORT:

1. MFPRSI: Please see the attached handouts (4) from this week's Iowa League of Cities MFPRSI City Summit.
2. Transfer Station: Press Release: Compost Site Closing Date for 2013. The City of Muscatine's Compost Site will be open for the last day of the season on Sunday, December 15, 2013. The site will be open until December 15th as follows: Sunday- Friday – Noon – 6:00 pm and Saturday – 9:00 am – 6:00 pm. For more information contact the Muscatine Recycling Center and Transfer Station at (563) 263-9689 or visit www.muscatineiowa.gov.
3. Status: DPW has 4 trucks and the required staff out daily. One truck is making rounds based on calls to DPW. The remaining trucks are still picking up leaves going through the zones systematically. We will continue until it either snows or we have all of the leaves.
4. Automate Garbage Program: From Laura Liegois - Staff from Refuse Collection has delivered over 700 containers to residents in the pilot program. As we found out in our delivery and mapping there were areas where additional containers were needed. The additional areas include Houser St. from Spinning Wheel Court area to Mulberry Ave, including the side streets on Houser St in this area. The area from Parham to Maple St. on Mulberry Ave across from Parham St. will have containers. We also had several areas where there were a few addresses not shown in our map and listing. This has made some changes from our original plan. The additional containers will arrive here in early January 2014. Staff will be delivering containers as soon as we receive them to the addresses left on our list. This includes Houser St. and the side streets on Houser St., and the center of town 500-600 Blocks of E. 8, 9, 10, and 11th. St. If you have any further questions, please let me know. I hope this makes sense and again..if you have any questions, please ask!
5. Blue Zones Application: The City's (organization) application to become a Blue Zones designated worksite has been submitted and is currently being evaluated. We hope to hear shortly regarding our application. We will let you know as this process proceeds.
6. Blue Zones: I have attached a copy of the Muscatine Food Policy Workshop report.
7. Budget Calendar: Please see the revised budget meeting calendar (attached).

October 7, 2013

Mr. Terry Slattery, CEBS
Executive Director
Municipal Fire & Police Retirement System of Iowa
7155 Lake Drive, Suite 201
West Des Moines, IA 50266

RE: 25-Year Cost Projections Using Alternative UAL Amortization Methods

Dear Terry:

As requested, we have prepared 25-year projections for the Municipal Fire & Police Retirement System of Iowa ("System") reflecting two alternative unfunded accrued liability ("UAL") amortization methods. Enclosed are the results of the projections reflecting a change to amortize the UAL over a 25-year period as a level dollar amount, closed layered basis and as a level percentage of pay, closed layered basis. Currently, the amortization of the UAL is over a 25-year period as a level dollar amount, open basis. An open basis means the UAL is amortized over a new 25-year period each year in the projection period. A closed layered basis means the UAL is initially amortized over a closed 25-year period the first year and any actuarial gain or loss on the UAL for each subsequent year during the projection period is separately amortized as a new base over a closed 25-year period.

Assumptions

The projections assume that no changes in benefit provisions would occur from those currently in place for the System members. The projections also reflect the same assumptions and census data as those used in the recently completed July 1, 2013 actuarial valuation except for the addition of two modifications necessary for a long-term projection. First, the number of active member participating in the System is expected to slightly increase by 0.2% per year during the projection period. Secondly, the non-investment expenses of the System are assumed to grow by 4.0% per year. Both of these additional assumptions are reflective of actual experience over the past several years of the System.

Please note, the enclosed cost projections are based on the stated investment return, other actuarial assumptions used in the annual actuarial valuation and additional actuarial assumptions and UAL amortization methods described above. Actual experience will differ from that assumed which may result in actual contribution rates and funded status materially different than forecasted.

Mr. Terry Slattery, CEBS
October 7, 2013
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Please call me if you have any questions or if we can be of additional assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael S. Ehmke".

Michael S. Ehmke, ASA, EA, MAAA
Principal

MSE/rb

Enclosures

Municipal Fire & Police Retirement System of Iowa
Alternative UAL Amortization Methods Impact on Contribution Rates and Funded Status
(Amounts in Thousands)

Valuation Date	7/1/2013	7/1/2014	7/1/2015	7/1/2016	7/1/2017	7/1/2018	7/1/2019	7/1/2020	7/1/2021	7/1/2022
Actual Prior Year										
Investment Return on Assets										
- Market Value	N/A	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%
- Actuarial Value	N/A	10.65%	9.73%	7.23%	8.44%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%
Covered Payroll	258,425	270,054	281,532	293,497	305,970	318,974	332,531	346,663	361,396	376,756
Alternative Entry Age Normal Method										
25-Year Amortization Period of UAL										
Level Dollar, Closed Layered Amortization										
Actuarial Accrued Liability	2,518,229	2,612,587	2,709,046	2,807,365	2,907,397	3,008,966	3,111,866	3,215,861	3,320,677	3,426,001
Asset Values										
- Market Value	1,964,267	2,064,477	2,170,224	2,274,404	2,379,368	2,487,213	2,595,493	2,705,743	2,817,936	2,931,895
- Actuarial Value	1,860,948	2,011,300	2,157,473	2,254,892	2,379,368	2,487,213	2,595,493	2,705,743	2,817,936	2,931,895
Funded Ratio (Actuarial Value Assets)	73.90%	76.98%	79.64%	80.32%	81.84%	82.66%	83.41%	84.14%	84.86%	85.58%
Contribution Rates (% of Payroll)										
- Cities	30.41%	28.25%	27.14%	26.83%	25.81%	25.38%	25.01%	24.66%	24.33%	24.00%
- Members	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%
- State	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
- Total	39.81%	37.65%	36.54%	36.23%	35.21%	34.78%	34.41%	34.06%	33.73%	33.40%

Assumptions and Data

Interest Rate	7.5%
Active Members	
- Population Growth	0.2%
- Average Age	40.8
- Average Service	13.5
Non-Investment Expense Growth	4.0%
Census Data	
- As of July 1, 2013	
Asset Data	
- As of July 1, 2013	

Municipal Fire & Police Retirement System of Iowa

Alternative UAL Amortization Methods Impact on Contribution Rates and Funded Status

(Amounts in Thousands)

Valuation Date	7/1/2023	7/1/2024	7/1/2025	7/1/2026	7/1/2027	7/1/2028	7/1/2029	7/1/2030	7/1/2031	7/1/2032
Actual Prior Year										
Investment Return on Assets										
- Market Value	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%
- Actuarial Value	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%
Covered Payroll	392,768	409,460	426,862	445,004	463,917	483,633	504,188	525,616	547,954	571,242

Alternative Entry Age Normal Method 25-Year Amortization Period of UAL Level Dollar, Closed Layered Amortization

Actuarial Accrued Liability	3,531,477	3,636,699	3,741,211	3,844,498	3,945,980	4,045,010	4,140,863	4,232,730	4,319,712	4,400,810
Asset Values										
- Market Value	3,047,422	3,164,204	3,281,969	3,400,363	3,518,939	3,637,286	3,754,893	3,871,137	3,985,368	4,096,863
- Actuarial Value	3,047,422	3,164,204	3,281,969	3,400,363	3,518,939	3,637,286	3,754,893	3,871,137	3,985,368	4,096,863
Funded Ratio (Actuarial Value Assets)	86.29%	87.01%	87.72%	88.45%	89.18%	89.92%	90.68%	91.46%	92.26%	93.09%
Contribution Rates (% of Payroll)										
- Cities	23.69%	23.39%	23.09%	22.81%	22.54%	22.27%	22.01%	21.76%	21.52%	21.28%
- Members	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%
- State	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
- Total	33.09%	32.79%	32.49%	32.21%	31.94%	31.67%	31.41%	31.16%	30.92%	30.68%

Assumptions and Data

Interest Rate	7.5%
Active Members	
- Population Growth	0.2%
- Average Age	40.8
- Average Service	13.5
Non-Investment Expense Growth	4.0%
Census Data	
- As of July 1, 2013	
Asset Data	
- As of July 1, 2013	

Municipal Fire & Police Retirement System of Iowa
Alternative UAL Amortization Methods Impact on Contribution Rates and Funded Status
(Amounts in Thousands)

Valuation Date	7/1/2033	7/1/2034	7/1/2035	7/1/2036	7/1/2037	7/1/2038
Actual Prior Year						
Investment Return on Assets						
- Market Value	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%
- Actuarial Value	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%
Covered Payroll	595,520	620,830	647,215	674,722	703,397	733,292
Alternative Entry Age Normal Method 25-Year Amortization Period of UAL Level Dollar, Closed Layered Amortization						
Actuarial Accrued Liability	4,474,914	4,540,797	4,597,100	4,642,323	4,674,811	4,692,739
Asset Values						
- Market Value	4,204,817	4,308,273	4,406,228	4,497,574	4,581,015	4,655,115
- Actuarial Value	4,204,817	4,308,273	4,406,228	4,497,574	4,581,015	4,655,115
Funded Ratio (Actuarial Value Assets)	93.96%	94.88%	95.85%	96.88%	97.99%	99.20%
Contribution Rates (% of Payroll)						
- Cities	21.05%	20.83%	20.61%	20.39%	20.18%	17.00%
- Members	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%
- State	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
- Total	30.45%	30.23%	30.01%	29.79%	29.58%	26.40%

Assumptions and Data

Interest Rate	7.5%
Active Members	
- Population Growth	0.2%
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Non-Investment Expense Growth	4.0%
Census Data	
- As of July 1, 2013	
Asset Data	
- As of July 1, 2013	

October 7, 2013

SilverStone Group

Municipal Fire & Police Retirement System of Iowa

Alternative UAL Amortization Methods Impact on Contribution Rates and Funded Status

(Amounts in Thousands)

Valuation Date	7/1/2013	7/1/2014	7/1/2015	7/1/2016	7/1/2017	7/1/2018	7/1/2019	7/1/2020	7/1/2021	7/1/2022
Actual Prior Year										
Investment Return on Assets										
- Market Value	N/A	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%
- Actuarial Value	N/A	10.65%	9.73%	7.23%	8.44%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%
Covered Payroll	258,425	270,054	281,532	293,497	305,970	318,974	332,531	346,663	361,396	376,756

Alternative Entry Age Normal Method 25-Year Amortization Period of UAL Level Percent, Closed Layered Amortization

Actuarial Accrued Liability	2,518,229	2,612,587	2,709,046	2,807,365	2,907,397	3,008,966	3,111,866	3,215,861	3,320,677	3,426,001
Asset Values										
- Market Value	1,964,267	2,064,477	2,152,192	2,240,891	2,331,779	2,425,808	2,521,248	2,619,172	2,719,803	2,823,106
- Actuarial Value	1,860,948	2,011,300	2,139,441	2,221,379	2,331,779	2,425,808	2,521,248	2,619,172	2,719,803	2,823,106
Funded Ratio (Actuarial Value Assets)	73.90%	76.98%	78.97%	79.13%	80.20%	80.62%	81.02%	81.45%	81.91%	82.40%
Contribution Rates (% of Payroll)										
- Cities	23.97%	23.41%	23.34%	23.60%	23.32%	23.42%	23.60%	23.78%	23.95%	24.12%
- Members	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%
- State	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
- Total	33.37%	32.81%	32.74%	33.00%	32.72%	32.82%	33.00%	33.18%	33.35%	33.52%

Assumptions and Data

Interest Rate	7.5%
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October 7, 2013

SilverStone Group

Municipal Fire & Police Retirement System of Iowa

Alternative UAL Amortization Methods Impact on Contribution Rates and Funded Status

(Amounts in Thousands)

Valuation Date	7/1/2023	7/1/2024	7/1/2025	7/1/2026	7/1/2027	7/1/2028	7/1/2029	7/1/2030	7/1/2031	7/1/2032	7/1/2033
Actual Prior Year											
Investment Return on Assets											
- Market Value	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%
- Actuarial Value	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%
Covered Payroll	392,768	409,460	426,862	445,004	463,917	483,633	504,188	525,616	547,954	571,242	

Alternative Entry Age Normal Method 25-Year Amortization Period of UAL Level Percent, Closed Layered Amortization

Actuarial Accrued Liability	3,531,477	3,636,699	3,741,211	3,844,498	3,945,980	4,045,010	4,140,863	4,232,730	4,319,712	4,400,810	
Asset Values											
- Market Value	2,928,989	3,037,377	3,148,092	3,261,004	3,375,957	3,492,671	3,610,865	3,729,846	3,849,175	3,968,296	
- Actuarial Value	2,928,989	3,037,377	3,148,092	3,261,004	3,375,957	3,492,671	3,610,865	3,729,846	3,849,175	3,968,296	
Funded Ratio (Actuarial Value Assets)	82.94%	83.52%	84.15%	84.82%	85.55%	86.35%	87.20%	88.12%	89.11%	90.17%	
Contribution Rates (% of Payroll)											
- Cities	24.27%	24.42%	24.57%	24.70%	24.82%	24.86%	24.89%	24.90%	24.90%	24.89%	
- Members	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	
- State	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
- Total	33.67%	33.82%	33.97%	34.10%	34.22%	34.26%	34.29%	34.30%	34.30%	34.29%	

Assumptions and Data

Interest Rate	7.5%
Active Members	
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- Average Service	13.5
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Census Data	
- As of July 1, 2013	
Asset Data	
- As of July 1, 2013	

Municipal Fire & Police Retirement System of Iowa

Alternative UAL Amortization Methods Impact on Contribution Rates and Funded Status (Amounts in Thousands)

Valuation Date	7/1/2033	7/1/2034	7/1/2035	7/1/2036	7/1/2037	7/1/2038
Actual Prior Year						
Investment Return on Assets						
- Market Value	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%
- Actuarial Value	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%
Covered Payroll	595,520	620,830	647,215	674,722	703,397	733,292

Alternative Entry Age Normal Method 25-Year Amortization Period of UAL Level Percent, Closed Layered Amortization

Actuarial Accrued Liability	4,474,914	4,540,797	4,597,100	4,642,323	4,674,811	4,692,739
Asset Values						
- Market Value	4,086,626	4,203,507	4,318,387	4,430,457	4,538,945	4,642,781
- Actuarial Value	4,086,626	4,203,507	4,318,387	4,430,457	4,538,945	4,642,781
Funded Ratio (Actuarial Value Assets)	91.32%	92.57%	93.94%	95.44%	97.09%	98.94%
Contribution Rates (% of Payroll)						
- Cities	24.90%	24.90%	24.91%	24.90%	24.88%	17.00%
- Members	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%	9.40%
- State	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
- Total	34.30%	34.30%	34.31%	34.30%	34.28%	26.40%

Assumptions and Data

Interest Rate	7.5%
Active Members	
- Population Growth	0.2%
- Average Age	40.8
- Average Service	13.5
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Census Data	
- As of July 1, 2013	
Asset Data	
- As of July 1, 2013	

Municipal Fire and Police Retirement System of Iowa (MFPRSI)

For additional information, contact:

Dustin Miller

Director of Government Affairs

dustinmiller@iowaleague.org | (515) 883-0925



Summary: The information below is a listing of all legislators that represent the 49 cities who are part of the MFPRSI.

	Senate		House	
City	District	Name	District	Name
Ames	23	Herman Quirmbach (D)	45 46	Beth Wessel-Kroeschell (D) Lisa Heddens (D)
Ankeny	19	Jack Whitver (R)	37 38	John Landon (R) Kevin Koester (R)
Bettendorf	47	Roby Smith (R)	93 94	Phyllis Thede (D) Linda Miller (R)
Boone	24	Jerry Behn (R)	47	Chip Baltimore (R)
Burlington	44	Thomas Courtney (D)	87	Dennis Cohoon (D)
Camanche	49	Rita Hart (D)	97	Steven Olson (R)
Carroll	6	Mark Segebart (R)	12	Daniel Muhlbauer (D)
Cedar Falls	30	Jeff Danielson (D)	59 60	Bob Kressig (D) Walt Rogers (R)
Cedar Rapids	33 34 35	Robert Hogg (D) Liz Mathis (D) Wally Horn (D)	65 66 67 69 70	Tyler Olson (D) Art Staed (D) Kraig Paulsen (R) Kirsten Running-Marquardt (D) Todd Taylor (D)
Centerville	40	Ken Rozenboom (R)	80	Larry Sheets (R)
Charles City	26	Mary Jo Wilhelm (D)	52	
Clinton	49	Rita Hart (D)	98	Mary Wolfe (D)
Clive	22	Charles Schneider (R)	43 44	Chris Hagenow (R) Rob Taylor (R) *
Council Bluffs	8 11	Michael Gronstal (D) Hubert Houser (R)	15 16 22	Mark Brandenburg (R) Mary Ann Hanusa (R) Greg Forristall (R)
Creston	11	Hubert Houser (R)	21	Jack Drake (R)
Davenport	45 46 47	Joseph Seng (D) Chris Brase (D) Roby Smith (R)	89 90 92 93 94	Jim Lykam (D) Cindy Winckler (D) Frank Wood (D) * Phyllis Thede (D) Linda Miller (R)
Decorah	28	Michael Breitbach (R)	55	Roger Thomas (D)
Des Moines	13 15 16 17	Kent Sorenson (R) Dennis Black (D) Dick Deardon (D) Jack Hatch (D)	26 30 31 32	Scott Ourth (D) * Joe Riding (D) * Rick Olson (D) Ruth Ann Gaines (D)

	18 19 21	Janet Peterson (D) * Jack Whitver (R) Matt McCoy (D)	33 34 35 36 38 41	Kevin McCarthy (D) Bruce Hunter (D) Ako Abdul-Samad (D) Marti Anderson (D) * Kevin Koester (R) Jo Oldson (D)
De Witt	49	Rita Hart (D) *	97	Steven Olson (R)
Dubuque	50	Pam Jochum (D)	99 100	Patrick Murphy (D) Charles Isenhardt (D)
Estherville	4	Dennis Guth (R) *	7	Tedd Gassman (R) *
Evansdale	31	William Dotzler (D)	62	Deborah Berry (D)
Fairfield	35	Wally Horn (D)	82	Curtis Hanson (D)
Fort Dodge	5	Daryl Beall (D)	9	Helen Miller (D)
Fort Madison	42	Rich Taylor (D) *	83	Jerry Kearns (D)
Grinnell	38	Tim Kapucian (R)	76	Dave Maxwell (R) *
Indianola	13	Kent Sorenson (R)	26	Scott Ourth (D) *
Iowa City	37 43	Robert Dvosky (D) Joe Bolkom (D)	74 85 86	Dave Jacoby (D) Vicki Lensing (D) Mary Mascher (D)
Keokuk	42	Rich Taylor (D) *	83	Jerry Kearns (D)
Knoxville	14	Amy Sinclair (R) *	28	Greg Heartsill (R) *
LeMars	3	Bill Anderson (R)	5	Chuck Soderberg (R)
Maquoketa	29 49	Tod Bowman (D) Rita Hart (D) *	58 97	Brian Moore (R) Steven Olson (R)
Marion	34	Liz Mathis (D)	67 68	Kraig Paulsen (R) Daniel Lundby (D) *
Marshalltown	36	Steven Soddors (D)	71	Mark Smith (D)
Mason City	27	Amanda Ragan (D)	53	Sharon Steckman (D)
Muscatine	46	Chris Brase (D) *	91	Mark Lofgren (R)
Newton	15	Dennis Black (D)	29	Dan Kelley (D)
Oelwein	32	Brian Schoenjahn (D)	64	Bruce Bearinger (D) *
Oskaloosa	40	Ken Rozenboom (R) *	79	Guy Vander Linden (R)
Ottumwa	40 41	Ken Rozenboom (R) * Mark Chelgren (R)	80 81	Larry Sheets (R) * Mary Gaskill (D)
Pella	40	Ken Rozenboom (R) *	79	Guy Vander Linden (R)
Sioux City	3 7	Bill Anderson (R) Rick Bertrand (R)	5 6 13 14	Chuck Soderberg (R) Ron Jorgensen (R) Christopher Hall (D) Dave Dawson (D) *
Spencer	1	David Johnson (R)	2	Megan Hess (R) *
Storm Lake	6	Mark Segebart (R) *	11	Gary Worthan (R)
Urbandale	10 20	Jake Chapman (R) * Brad Zaun (R)	19 39 40	Ralph Watts (R) Jake Highfill (R) * John Forbes (D) *
Waterloo	30 31	Jeff Danielson (D) William Dotzler (D)	60 61 62	Walt Rogers (R) Anesa Kajtazovic (D) Deborah Berry (D)

Waverly	32	Brian Schoenjahn (D)	63	Sandy Salmon (R) *
Webster City	24	Jerry Behn (R)	48	Rob Bacon (R) *
West Des Moines	21	Matt McCoy (D)	42	Peter Cownie (R)
	22	Charles Schneider (R)	43	Chris Hagenow (R)
			44	Rob Taylor (R) *

SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

Name (Party)	District	411 Cities Represented
Jeff Danielson (D)	30	Waterloo, Cedar Falls
Pam Jochum (D)	50	Dubuque
Bill Anderson (R)	3	Sioux City, LeMars
Tod Bowman (D)	29	Maquoketa
Jake Chapman (R)	10	Urbandale
Tom Courtney (D)	44	Burlington
Dick L. Dearden (D)	16	Des Moines
Randy Feenstra (R)	2	
Wally Horn (D)	35	Cedar Rapids, Fairfield
Matt McCoy (D)	21	Des Moines, West Des Moines
Janet Peterson (D)	18	Des Moines
Roby Smith (R)	47	Bettendorf, Davenport
Steve Sodders (D)	36	Marshalltown
Jack Whitver (R)	19	Ankeny, Des Moines

HOUSE STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

Name (Party)	District	411 Cities Represented
Guy Vander Linden (R)	79	Oskaloosa, Pella
Jake Highfill (R)	39	Urbandale
Vicki Lensing (D)	85	Iowa City
Rob Bacon (R)	48	Webster City
Dennis Cohoon (D)	87	Burlington
Mark Costello (R)	23	
Jack Drake (R)	21	Creston
Pat Grassley (R)	50	
Chris Hagenow (R)	43	Clive, West Des Moines
Lee Hein (R)	96	
Bruce Hunter (D)	34	Des Moines
Charles Isenhardt (D)	100	Dubuque
Anesa Kajtazovic (D)	61	Waterloo
Kevin Koester (R)	38	Ankeny, Des Moines
Mary Mascher (D)	86	Iowa City
Linda Miller (R)	94	Bettendorf, Davenport
Dawn Pettengill (R)	75	
Todd Prichard (D)	52	
Quentin Stanerson (R)	95	
Sharon Steckman (D)	53	Mason City
Todd Taylor (D)	70	Cedar Rapids
Ralph Watts (R)	19	Urbandale
Cindy Winckler (D)	90	Davenport

Iowa League of Cities Research Note

For additional information on this research, please contact:

Erin Mullenix

Research & Fiscal Analyst
Iowa League of Cities
erinmullenix@iowaleague.org

Dustin Miller

Director of Governmental Affairs
Iowa League of Cities
dustinmiller@iowaleague.org

Jessica Harder

Legislative Counsel
Harder Government Relations
jessicaharder@hardergov.com

The Municipal Police and Fire Retirement System of Iowa (MFPRSI) provides a defined benefit retirement system for eligible police and fire employees of 49 cities in Iowa. The system originated in 1992, and covered cities of larger than 8,000 in population, according to the 1980 United States Census. City contribution rates have risen significantly in recent years. Cities are required to contribute at least 17% of covered employee wages to the system. There is no cap on the rate that cities must pay in system contributions. Covered employees in the system pay a fixed rate of 9.4% of covered wages. The State contribution had been 3.79% of covered wages, and was a result of the Legislature passing increased benefits in 1976. As of fiscal year 2013 (FY13), the State completely phased out its contribution, and cities now pay the difference.

This table below shows projected amounts MFPRSI cities will pay in contributions (in dollars) for fiscal years 2014-2018, using the entry age normal actuarial cost method, and level dollar amortization method, and beginning with FY15 a closed layered amortization basis (for FY14 this had previously been entry age normal, level dollar, open basis). This data was compiled from the MFPRSI system's actuarial report, which assumes a 7.5% investment return and a 4.5% annual increase in earnable compensation. Employers' contribution rates are projected at the following rates over the next 5 years: 30.12% (FY14), 30.41% (FY15), 28.25% (FY16), 27.14% (FY17), and 26.83% (FY18).

	FY14 (Actuarial Year 12)	FY15 (AY13)	FY16 (AY14)	FY17 (AY15)	FY18 (AY16)
CITY / PROJECTED CITY RATE	30.12%	30.41%	28.25%	27.14%	26.83%
AMES	\$2,094,280	\$2,209,594	\$2,145,018	\$2,153,469	\$2,224,670
change over previous year	\$356,332	\$115,314	-\$64,576	\$8,451	\$71,201
change since current year (FY14)		\$115,314	\$50,738	\$59,189	\$130,390
ANKENY	\$1,254,120	\$1,323,174	\$1,284,503	\$1,289,564	\$1,332,202
change over previous year	\$213,383	\$69,054	-\$38,671	\$5,061	\$42,638
change since current year (FY14)		\$69,054	\$30,383	\$35,444	\$78,082
BETTENDORF	\$1,473,735	\$1,554,881	\$1,509,439	\$1,515,386	\$1,565,490
change over previous year	\$250,750	\$81,146	-\$45,442	\$5,947	\$50,104
change since current year (FY14)		\$81,146	\$35,704	\$41,651	\$91,755
BOONE	\$452,661	\$477,585	\$463,627	\$465,454	\$480,843
change over previous year	\$77,019	\$24,924	-\$13,958	\$1,827	\$15,389
change since current year (FY14)		\$24,924	\$10,966	\$12,793	\$28,182
BURLINGTON	\$1,445,774	\$1,525,380	\$1,480,800	\$1,486,634	\$1,535,788
change over previous year	\$245,992	\$79,606	-\$44,580	\$5,834	\$49,154
change since current year (FY14)		\$79,606	\$35,026	\$40,860	\$90,014
CAMANCHE	\$193,651	\$204,314	\$198,343	\$199,124	\$205,708
change over previous year	\$32,949	\$10,663	-\$5,971	\$781	\$6,584
change since current year (FY14)		\$10,663	\$4,692	\$5,473	\$12,057
CARROLL	\$219,653	\$231,747	\$224,974	\$225,860	\$233,328
change over previous year	\$37,373	\$12,094	-\$6,773	\$886	\$7,468
change since current year (FY14)		\$12,094	\$5,321	\$6,207	\$13,675
CEDAR FALLS	\$1,379,225	\$1,455,167	\$1,412,639	\$1,418,205	\$1,465,096



The Iowa League of Cities serves as the unified voice of cities, providing advocacy, training and guidance to strengthen Iowa's communities. Contact us at 317 Sixth Avenue, Suite 800, Des Moines, IA 50309, (515) 244-7282 or visit us online at www.iowaleague.org.

Revision Date: 2013-11-27

<i>change over previous year</i>	\$234,669	\$75,942	-\$42,528	\$5,566	\$46,891
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$75,942	\$33,414	\$38,980	\$85,871
CEDAR RAPIDS	\$7,245,161	\$7,644,090	\$7,420,687	\$7,449,923	\$7,696,245
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$1,232,753	\$398,929	-\$223,403	\$29,236	\$246,322
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$398,929	\$175,526	\$204,762	\$451,084
CENTERVILLE	\$191,661	\$202,214	\$196,304	\$197,078	\$203,594
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$32,610	\$10,553	-\$5,910	\$774	\$6,516
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$10,553	\$4,643	\$5,417	\$11,933
CHARLES CITY	\$320,409	\$338,052	\$328,172	\$329,465	\$340,358
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$54,516	\$17,643	-\$9,880	\$1,293	\$10,893
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$17,643	\$7,763	\$9,056	\$19,949
CLINTON	\$1,531,348	\$1,615,667	\$1,568,448	\$1,574,627	\$1,626,690
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$260,552	\$84,319	-\$47,219	\$6,179	\$52,063
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$84,319	\$37,100	\$43,279	\$95,342
CLIVE	\$480,749	\$507,219	\$492,396	\$494,336	\$510,680
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$81,798	\$26,470	-\$14,823	\$1,940	\$16,344
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$26,470	\$11,647	\$13,587	\$29,931
COUNCIL BLUFFS	\$4,542,054	\$4,792,146	\$4,652,093	\$4,670,422	\$4,824,843
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$772,810	\$250,092	-\$140,053	\$18,329	\$154,421
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$250,092	\$110,039	\$128,368	\$282,789
CRESTON	\$233,224	\$246,066	\$238,874	\$239,815	\$247,744
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$39,682	\$12,842	-\$7,192	\$941	\$7,929
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$12,842	\$5,650	\$6,591	\$14,520
DAVENPORT	\$6,422,776	\$6,776,424	\$6,578,379	\$6,604,296	\$6,822,659
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$1,092,807	\$353,648	-\$198,045	\$25,917	\$218,363
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$353,648	\$155,603	\$181,520	\$399,883
DECORAH	\$226,895	\$239,388	\$232,392	\$233,308	\$241,022
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$38,605	\$12,493	-\$6,996	\$916	\$7,714
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$12,493	\$5,497	\$6,413	\$14,127
DES MOINES	\$14,300,611	\$15,088,023	\$14,647,066	\$14,704,773	\$15,190,968
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$2,433,186	\$787,412	-\$440,957	\$57,707	\$486,195
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$787,412	\$346,455	\$404,162	\$890,357
DEWITT	\$165,073	\$174,162	\$169,072	\$169,738	\$175,351
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$28,086	\$9,089	-\$5,090	\$666	\$5,613
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$9,089	\$3,999	\$4,665	\$10,278
DUBUQUE	\$3,988,621	\$4,208,241	\$4,085,253	\$4,101,348	\$4,236,954
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$678,646	\$219,620	-\$122,988	\$16,095	\$135,606
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$219,620	\$96,632	\$112,727	\$248,333
ESTHERVILLE	\$197,042	\$207,891	\$201,815	\$202,611	\$209,310
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$33,526	\$10,849	-\$6,076	\$796	\$6,699
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$10,849	\$4,773	\$5,569	\$12,268
EVANS DALE	\$80,694	\$85,137	\$82,648	\$82,974	\$85,718
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$13,914	\$4,443	-\$2,489	\$326	\$2,744
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$4,443	\$1,954	\$2,280	\$5,024
FAIRFIELD	\$251,914	\$265,785	\$258,017	\$259,034	\$267,598
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$42,862	\$13,871	-\$7,768	\$1,017	\$8,564

<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$13,871	\$6,103	\$7,120	\$15,684
FORT DODGE	\$1,171,410	\$1,235,910	\$1,199,789	\$1,204,516	\$1,244,342
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$199,310	\$64,500	-\$36,121	\$4,727	\$39,826
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$64,500	\$28,379	\$33,106	\$72,932
FORT MADISON	\$521,952	\$550,691	\$534,597	\$536,703	\$554,448
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$88,808	\$28,739	-\$16,094	\$2,106	\$17,745
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$28,739	\$12,645	\$14,751	\$32,496
GRINNELL	\$313,660	\$330,931	\$321,259	\$322,525	\$333,189
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$53,368	\$17,271	-\$9,672	\$1,266	\$10,664
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$17,271	\$7,599	\$8,865	\$19,529
INDIANOLA	\$352,409	\$371,814	\$360,947	\$362,369	\$374,350
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$59,960	\$19,405	-\$10,867	\$1,422	\$11,981
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$19,405	\$8,538	\$9,960	\$21,941
IOWA CITY	\$2,871,225	\$3,029,319	\$2,940,785	\$2,952,371	\$3,049,988
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$488,526	\$158,094	-\$88,534	\$11,586	\$97,617
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$158,094	\$69,560	\$81,146	\$178,763
KEOKUK	\$629,324	\$663,976	\$644,571	\$647,110	\$668,506
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$107,077	\$34,652	-\$19,405	\$2,539	\$21,396
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$34,652	\$15,247	\$17,786	\$39,182
KNOXVILLE	\$189,348	\$199,774	\$193,935	\$194,699	\$201,136
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$32,217	\$10,426	-\$5,839	\$764	\$6,437
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$10,426	\$4,587	\$5,351	\$11,788
LE MARS	\$270,490	\$285,384	\$277,043	\$278,135	\$287,331
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$46,023	\$14,894	-\$8,341	\$1,092	\$9,196
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$14,894	\$6,553	\$7,645	\$16,841
MAQUOKETA	\$166,740	\$175,921	\$170,779	\$171,452	\$177,121
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$28,370	\$9,181	-\$5,142	\$673	\$5,669
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$9,181	\$4,039	\$4,712	\$10,381
MARION	\$1,427,529	\$1,506,131	\$1,462,113	\$1,467,874	\$1,516,407
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$242,888	\$78,602	-\$44,018	\$5,761	\$48,533
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$78,602	\$34,584	\$40,345	\$88,878
MARSHALLTOWN	\$1,236,038	\$1,304,096	\$1,265,983	\$1,270,971	\$1,312,994
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$210,307	\$68,058	-\$38,113	\$4,988	\$42,023
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$68,058	\$29,945	\$34,933	\$76,956
MASON CITY	\$1,562,786	\$1,648,835	\$1,600,647	\$1,606,953	\$1,660,085
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$265,901	\$86,049	-\$48,188	\$6,306	\$53,132
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$86,049	\$37,861	\$44,167	\$97,299
MUSCATINE	\$1,359,890	\$1,434,768	\$1,392,836	\$1,398,324	\$1,444,558
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$231,379	\$74,878	-\$41,932	\$5,488	\$46,234
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$74,878	\$32,946	\$38,434	\$84,668
NEWTON	\$847,037	\$893,676	\$867,558	\$870,976	\$899,774
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$144,119	\$46,639	-\$26,118	\$3,418	\$28,798
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$46,639	\$20,521	\$23,939	\$52,737
OELWEIN	\$182,856	\$192,924	\$187,286	\$188,024	\$194,241
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$31,112	\$10,068	-\$5,638	\$738	\$6,217
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$10,068	\$4,430	\$5,168	\$11,385

OSKALOOSA	\$392,081	\$413,670	\$401,580	\$403,163	\$416,493
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$66,711	\$21,589	-\$12,090	\$1,583	\$13,330
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$21,589	\$9,499	\$11,082	\$24,412
OTTUMWA	\$1,169,180	\$1,233,557	\$1,197,506	\$1,202,224	\$1,241,974
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$198,931	\$64,377	-\$36,051	\$4,718	\$39,750
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$64,377	\$28,326	\$33,044	\$72,794
PELLA	\$234,612	\$247,530	\$240,296	\$241,242	\$249,219
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$39,919	\$12,918	-\$7,234	\$946	\$7,977
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$12,918	\$5,684	\$6,630	\$14,607
SIOUX CITY	\$5,076,950	\$5,356,494	\$5,199,947	\$5,220,434	\$5,393,041
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$863,823	\$279,544	-\$156,547	\$20,487	\$172,607
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$279,544	\$122,997	\$143,484	\$316,091
SPENCER	\$398,214	\$420,140	\$407,861	\$409,468	\$423,007
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$67,754	\$21,926	-\$12,279	\$1,607	\$13,539
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$21,926	\$9,647	\$11,254	\$24,793
STORM LAKE	\$295,146	\$311,397	\$302,297	\$303,488	\$313,522
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$50,218	\$16,251	-\$9,100	\$1,191	\$10,034
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$16,251	\$7,151	\$8,342	\$18,376
URBANDALE	\$1,380,612	\$1,456,630	\$1,414,059	\$1,419,630	\$1,466,569
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$234,905	\$76,018	-\$42,571	\$5,571	\$46,939
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$76,018	\$33,447	\$39,018	\$85,957
WATERLOO	\$4,523,857	\$4,772,947	\$4,633,455	\$4,651,710	\$4,805,513
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$769,714	\$249,090	-\$139,492	\$18,255	\$153,803
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$249,090	\$109,598	\$127,853	\$281,656
WAVERLY	\$279,893	\$295,304	\$286,673	\$287,803	\$297,319
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$47,623	\$15,411	-\$8,631	\$1,130	\$9,516
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$15,411	\$6,780	\$7,910	\$17,426
WEBSTER CITY	\$249,822	\$263,578	\$255,875	\$256,883	\$265,376
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$42,506	\$13,756	-\$7,703	\$1,008	\$8,493
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$13,756	\$6,053	\$7,061	\$15,554
WEST DES MOINES	\$2,421,983	\$2,555,341	\$2,480,660	\$2,490,433	\$2,572,776
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$412,089	\$133,358	-\$74,681	\$9,773	\$82,343
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$133,358	\$58,677	\$68,450	\$150,793
TOTAL - CITIES COMBINED	\$78,216,375	\$82,523,085	\$80,111,296	\$80,426,924	\$83,086,138
<i>change over previous year</i>	\$13,308,375	\$4,306,710	-\$2,411,789	\$315,628	\$2,659,214
<i>change since current year (FY14)</i>		\$4,306,710	\$1,894,921	\$2,210,549	\$4,869,763





Iowa League of Cities 2013 MFPRSI City Summit

December 4, 2013



Welcome

- Alan Kemp, Executive Director, Iowa League of Cities
- Information provided:
 - Agenda
 - Latest MFPRSI projections
 - League Research Note on dollar figures for new projections
 - Copy of State Government Committee members with corresponding cities
 - Copy of Legislators corresponding with cities
 - Power point

Terry Slattery, Executive Director MFPRSI
Dan Cassady, Deputy Director MFPRSI
Donn Jones, Silverstone Group

ACTUARIAL AND SYSTEM INFORMATION

Scott Sanders, Des Moines
Jody Smith, West Des Moines
Kay Cmelik, Grinnell
Duane Pitcher, Ames

MFPRSI BOARD CITY TRUSTEES

City MFPRSI Board Trustees

- City perspectives of recent board actions
- Citizen Board term MFPRSI member input, as per rule 1.11
- Board Recommendation-Restore 3.79% State Contribution

Appointment of Citizen Member

- **1.11 Appointment of the Citizen Member.**

Pursuant to section 411.36(d), the citizen member of the Board shall be appointed by the other members of the Board. Upon the existence of a vacancy in the position of citizen member or at the expiration of the incumbent's term, the Board shall make said appointment **following consultation with the governing bodies of the Iowa Association of Professional Firefighters, the Iowa State Police Association and the Iowa League of Cities, and posting of the vacancy on the System's website.** The Board may, in its discretion, use additional means to provide notice of such a vacancy to interested individuals. An incumbent citizen member may be reappointed by the Board.

Jessica Harder, Legislative Counsel

Dustin Miller, Director of Government Relations

LEGISLATIVE OVERVIEW

2012 Session

- State Contribution – SF378 & SF452
 - MFPRSI Board Recommended to restore state contribution of 3.79 percent
 - Senate attempt at one-time state appropriation
 - Bi-partisan effort led by Senators Danielson and Dvorsky with Senators Bertrand and Sorensen
 - Standings bill appropriations: \$5 million per year for two years FY14 & FY15 plus \$9.6M for FY13
 - Removed in House bill and removed in Conference Committee
 - Wanted more than just money being put into system—further reforms
- Technical Bill - SF327
 - Related to IRS provisions and other technical changes.
 - Both League and Employees supported its passage

Brief Explanation of State Contribution

- The State of Iowa originally began contributing 3.79 percent to individual city pensions for police and firefighters in 1976.
 - This contribution was for benefit enhancements that the State put in place in 411.20.
- Beginning in 1993 the contribution was capped at a dollar amount and eventually phased out completely in 2012 with the total shortfall since 1993 being roughly \$89 million and just under \$9.8 million in 2013.

2012 Session

- Governor's Line-Item Veto Peace Officers Retirement System (PORS) & Iowa Judicial Retirement Fund
 - Gov. Branstad vetoed a state appropriation of a total of \$110.2 million approved by the Iowa Legislature to shore up the finances of the Iowa Judicial Retirement Fund and the PORS
 - Cited need for a long term plan to make up the shortfall, involving the state and the plan participants, not just taxpayers

Session Overview

- Big compromises reached last session
- Election Year
- Shortened Session—Starts January 13
- Focus on Budget
- Pension Year
- Split Chambers—Must look for compromise

Public Retirement systems interim

Meets every two years to review and make any recommendations to the legislature on the state's four pension systems: IPERS, PORS, Judicial and MFPRSI

Senate Members

- **Thomas G. Courtney** (D, District **44**), Co-Chair
- **Jeff Danielson** (D, District **30**)
- **Tim L. Kapucian** (R, District **38**)
- **Matt McCoy** (D, District **21**)
- **Roby Smith** (R, District **47**)

House Members

- **Dawn E. Pettengill** (R, District **75**), Co-Chair
- **Jack Drake** (R, District **21**)
- **Vicki S. Lensing** (D, District **85**)
- **Mark S. Lofgren** (R, District **91**)
- **Mary Mascher** (D, District **86**)

Public Retirement Systems Interim

- Met Wednesday, October 23 on MFPRSI
- League presented panel of City officials and financial experts. Message of:
 - Pressures cities are facing from high contribution rates and
 - To restore/create a better partnership in the system
- Employee groups also presented. Message of:
 - System working
 - Don't get social security or overtime
 - State should restore its contribution

Public Retirement Systems Interim

- Rep. Dawn Pettengill sent information request to 49 cities
 - Trying to gather information on other components of the system
 - League gathering information, working on comparisons
- Committee can make recommendations to legislature, but at this point, unlikely to see major changes recommended this session

State Government Committees

- Pension legislation goes through these committees
 - Chairs Representative Vander Linden and Senator Danielson
 - **Note:** Any **appropriation** for MFPRSI would not necessarily have to go through the State Government committees
- Committee members are more likely to understand pension issues—focus on pension bills
 - See list of committee members in packet and list of MFPRSI legislators with cities

Issue Status

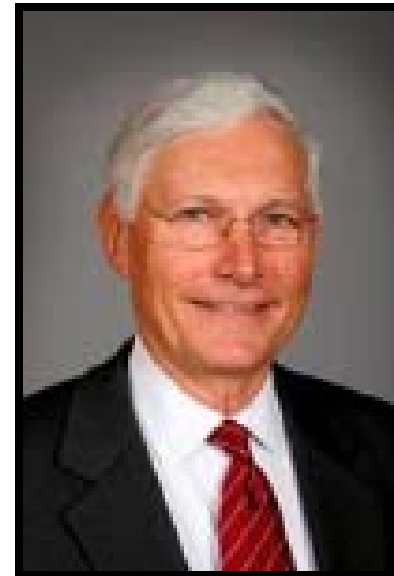
- With all factors considered:
 - Strategy has to be to look for compromise—where can we “meet in the middle”?
- Met with key legislators
- Discussions with Governor’s office
- Discussions with other groups with interest in pensions
- In addition to meeting with legislators prior to session, be ready to engage grassroots efforts during session
 - League action calls
 - Specific requests for your city to come to capitol or contact your legislator
 - Sign up for Legislative Link (League website) or email Dustin Miller at DustinMiller@iowaleague.org

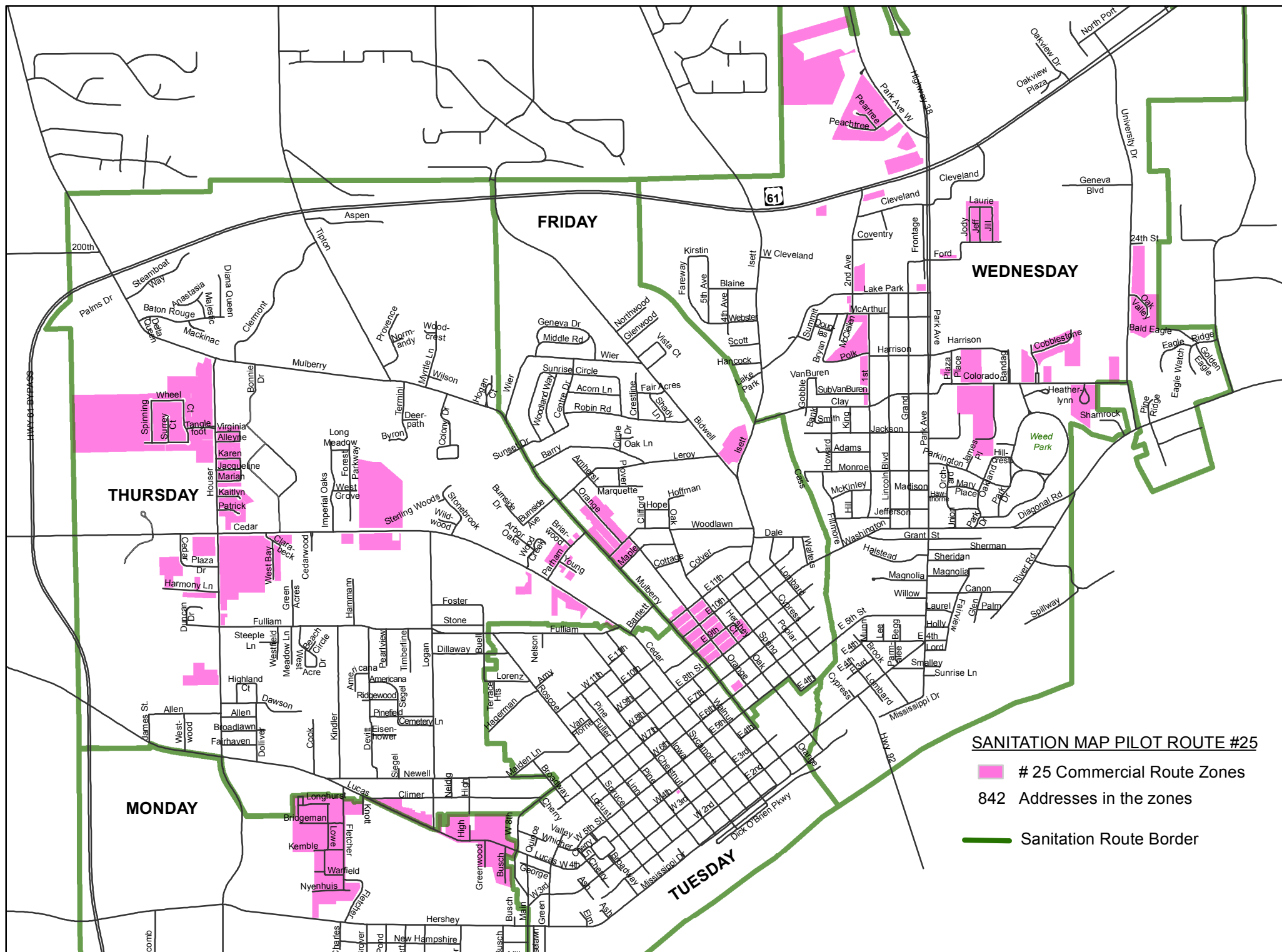
Dialogue with Legislators: Chairs of Ways and Means

Senator Jeff Danielson
(D) Dist. 30



**Representative Guy
Vander Linden (R) Dist. 79**







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Muscatine Food Policy Workshop

Summary Report of Stakeholder Priorities

September 2013

Introduction

The following report provides a summary of key issues and proposed priorities to improve the food environment in Muscatine through new or enhanced policy and programs. A diverse group of stakeholders representing city government, public health, education, community organizations, grocers and restaurateurs convened for a workshop facilitated by national experts Dan Buettner, Dan Burden, and Mark Winne. (See Appendix for facilitator biographies and participant list) The workshop resulted in a set of priorities to be presented to the Blue Zones Project™ Power 9 Team for integration into plans supporting Blueprint implementation or pursuit through collaborative community partnerships. Each community is challenged to pursue at least three policies or programs of significance with one marquee policy or program that stands to make a long-term impact on the food environment and improve community well-being.

Overview

Representatives from the Iowa Blue Zones Project Demonstration Communities of Cedar Rapids, Muscatine, and Sioux City met independently in planning workshops during the week of September 9th to identify and select policy-related options that could improve their respective food environments. The community of Muscatine identified a unique set of challenges and then selected policy options tailored to its own circumstances. Reducing obesity and promoting food security were major concerns expressed by the participants. Making the healthy food option the easy and affordable option for all residents was also a high priority.

Participants saw the generally poor state of food knowledge – buying, cooking, and growing food – among young people, many adults, especially the most nutritionally vulnerable, as a serious challenge facing the community. This led to the selection of a number of educational approaches.

Increasing access to locally produced food – and healthy food in general – was a widely acknowledged interest. Though challenges to acquiring such food at reasonable prices were noted, expanding its availability through farmers' markets, farm-to-school initiatives, community supported agriculture, food pantries, and restaurants were identified goals. Related to improving access to and distribution of locally produced food was a passionate interest in expanding gardening opportunities. Whether it was at schools, on the grounds of faith communities, or on vacant public or private land, gardening was identified as a healthy, community-building activity that should be available to all.

Lastly, fast food restaurants and convenience stores (cafeterias and vending machines in public institutions as well) were singled out for both their too-easy availability and unhealthy food content. The

need to make changes was strongly affirmed. While two general approaches were identified – one that made use of restrictive regulations that try to curb the location, food content, and advertising of unhealthy food outlets, and one that is based on incentives for vendors to change what they sell and for consumers to change what they buy – the consensus position favored mildly aggressive approaches such as requiring healthy options in public vending machines, and strong incentives for consumers to make healthy choices.

Selected Policy Priorities

What follows are the policy options that were proposed and debated at the Muscatine workshop. While dozens of options were proposed, the following subsequently received the largest share of “votes” by the participants.

- Expand farmers’ market voucher programs and ensure that all farmers’ markets accept SNAP; extend those benefits to off-season, grocery stores, and other appropriate outlets; “Veggie Scripts” (fruit and vegetable coupons issued by a health care provider) and “double buck” programs (doubling the value in produce of SNAP benefits used by a SNAP recipient at a farmers’ market) should be established.

These are proven methods to expand the benefits of farmers’ market – both through produce and related food education – to more members of the community, especially lower income residents. Some of voucher programs can be implemented with local resources – people, organizations, and funds (even a modest amount of funds, when carefully targeted, can have significant impacts) – while some actions would require authorization from state and/or federal agencies, and require additional appropriations from public sources.

- Expand nutrition/cooking/food education programs to children, students, parents, and seniors. Emphasis is largely on fresh, whole food, often local or in-season. Education can be extended as well to food processing, storage, canning and budgeting.

While this area of interest is common and popular, it’s often stated vaguely or not well understood. If communities are pursuing this general direction they should first conduct a thorough review and inventory of similar programs and resources that are already available in their area. Sometimes it’s just a case of conducting better outreach for existing programs or expanding those programs as opposed to developing new ones. They should also try to coordinate efforts between existing programs, and possibly seek new resources that would help

all service providers. One example is USDA's SNAP-Education program which is targeted at food stamp recipients. "SNAP-Ed" can sometimes be expanded or targeted in ways that serve multiple interests, e.g. youth, seniors, and farmers' market shoppers.

- Establish community gardens in areas not currently served by them; establish school gardens; allow front yard gardening; give community gardens first priority use for vacant municipal land.

These are relatively direct and easy goals that don't require a lot of money or elaborate approval processes. City action, however, both in terms of a general resolution of support as well as determining if there are special zoning and permitting issues, would be desirable if not necessary. Perhaps establishing clear targets such as the number of new gardens and gardeners would be a good idea, e.g. 10 new garden sites and 500 new gardeners in three years. A city-wide gardening initiative can be supported by mapping assistance from the city, and the development of gardening skills could be supported by existing gardening education efforts such as Extension's Master Gardener program.

- Create more healthy food options in public venues and where children go for recreation.

This is a fairly straightforward policy action that can be taken by the city. Muscatine should use all its organized BZ constituencies to get behind a resolution on this issue and use it as their first big win. Other communities should consider this item as well for their first foray into food policy. If not this one, another one should be selected by each community's Power 9 or other entity to be acted on as quickly as possible. An item that is a likely "policy win" or low-hanging fruit should be identified and moved through the appropriate policy channels. An early victory is a good way to galvanize support and build group morale.

Conclusion

Organizing a community to make fundamental, long lasting change to their food environment through policy is not easy, but it has and can be done. It won't be done, however, through the actions of a few individuals or a couple of existing programs, but through the concerted effort of dozens and even hundreds of individual citizens and organizations who share a common vision for a healthier food system.

While such a vision, informed by a comprehensive understanding of a community and a well-thought out action plan are necessary ingredients for success, there are several additional ingredients and actions that are critical to accomplish as well. First, policy work is not intuitive nor does it come easily to those who have run projects or programs for most of their career, nor to individuals who may be new to organized food activities. Time and training are necessary for people to acquire the skills to work effectively in the policy arena. Initially, this should include a grounding in how government operates, makes laws, etc, which can be a kind of “Civics 101” approach (“Good Law, Good Food: Putting Local Food Policy to Work for Communities” is an excellent primer for local food organizations and is available at www.markwinne.com under “resource materials”).

Second, good leadership, whether it’s coming from staff dedicated to Blue Zones Project work, other community professionals, or volunteers is absolutely necessary to direct the work of a group of diverse community food system stakeholders in the direction of real policy work. In a related vein, cultivating champions, particularly in the public sector – elected and administrative officials – is key to making a food issues a regular part of the public agenda.

Lastly, good timing, both short term and long term, must be taken seriously. In the case of Blue Zones Project, the leadership, organization(s), and key participants who will be doing the work must be identified and mobilized quickly. The momentum that has developed through the workshop must be maintained and put into action immediately.

Though it is important to move forward with all due speed, it is not necessary to forfeit careful groundwork which will inform the entire process. For instance, conducting a community food assessment of modest proportions, preparing thoughtful policy proposals, and developing a good communications platform will all pave the way for future success. Once this work has been done, good timing means selecting the right moments to push forward with the right proposal and to take advantage of unexpected opportunities.

Muscataine has enormous capacity to develop healthy food environments. It has started that process by identifying and selecting practical food policy actions. To make those actions a common part of their community’s everyday life will now require good leadership and organizational development.

Appendix

Facilitator Biographies

Dan Buettner

Dan Buettner is an internationally recognized researcher, explorer, New York Times bestselling author and National Geographic Fellow. He founded Blue Zones, a company that puts the world's best practices in longevity and well-being to work in people's lives. His books *The Blue Zones* and *Thrive* appeared on many best seller lists.

Dan Burden

Dan Burden is an internationally recognized authority on livable and sustainable communities, healthy streets, traffic calming, and bicycle and pedestrian programs. Over the past 35 plus years, he has helped more than 3,500 communities become more livable, walkable, and sustainable. In 2001, TIME Magazine named Burden "one of the six most important civic innovators in the world." Also that year, the Transportation Research Board of the National Academy of Sciences honored Burden by making him their Distinguished Lecturer. Burden has devoted his life to getting the world "back on its feet". Dan is Co-founder of the Walkable and Livable Communities Institute.

Mark Winne

Mark is a co-founder of a number of food and agriculture policy groups including the City of Hartford Food Policy Commission, the Connecticut Food Policy Council, End Hunger Connecticut!, and the national Community Food Security Coalition. He was an organizer and chairman of the Working Lands Alliance, a statewide coalition working to preserve Connecticut's farmland, and is a founder of the Connecticut Farmland Trust. Mark was a member of the United States delegation to the 2000 World Conference on Food Security in Rome and is a [2001 recipient of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary's Plow Honor Award](#). Mark currently writes, speaks, and consults extensively on community food system topics including hunger and food insecurity, local and regional agriculture, community food assessment, and food policy.

Food Policy Workshop Notes, Muscatine, September 10, 2013

Goal: *By the end of the 2.5 hour work session, people, agencies and organizations with varied backgrounds are joined in a common desire to improve food policy.*

Participants:

Julie Brannen, Farmers Market	Mary Odell, Public Health
Maggie Curry, MCSA	Bonnie Buelt, Master Gardeners
Nancy Dew, Hy-Vee Food Store	Sharon Phillips, Pastor
Michael Edmonds, Kent Corp/Restaurant	Todd Poci, Senior Resources
Amy Hessel, Muscatine Community Y	Charles Rickey, Muscatine Arboretum
Todd Hessel, Church	Dr. Jerry Riibe, MCSD
Melanie Langley, DHS	Tim Stelzner
Randy Madsen, USDA	Ramona Sywassink, Hy-Vee Food Store
Shane Mairet, Local Grower	Lupe Vazquez, Guadalajara
Gregg Mandsager,	Mary Wildermuth, School Board Chair
Diane McCleary, Meals on Wheels	

Participants shared the following strengths and challenges associated with the current food environment in Muscatine.

- Strengths
 - Many volunteers willing to act on this
 - Teach and educate residents
 - Generosity in supporting food pantry with fresh (seasonal) produce
 - Restaurants can obtain fresh local produce
 - Muscatine Island—we have an abundance of fresh produce grown here
 - Feeding 100+ people each week from pantry
 - Volunteers willing to deliver Meals on Wheels
 - Farmers Market—we can explain where it comes from, we take WIC coupons
 - We have two Farmers Market locations, uptown and downtown
 - Concentration of growers, great soil and so we can produce it
 - Muscatine Island Research Farm
 - Income level for food program eligibility is improving
 - Bag of blessings – sending food home from schools over the weekend
 - School lunch program is promoting healthy eating
- Challenges

- Money issues and poverty
- Lack of time to have a healthy meal for busy families
- Availability of good food choices, fresh fruit and vegetables
- Restaurant prices can't beat chains
- Needing to know where local food comes from and what it is
- Unwillingness to accept what healthy food/eating is and embrace it
- Reaching more seniors via Meals on Wheels
- Residents do not know how to obtain WIC or that they can use at Farmers Market
- Education about what is available at the Farmer's Market, how it is grown and what to do with it
- Cost of fresh produce
- Converting healthy access to healthy, thriving living
- Getting people enthused enough to show up for a free presentation where we can teach them about healthy food
- Making healthy eating simple and appealing
- Increase in poverty rate; increase in single parent households is impacting families and healthy mealtime
- Battling cultural diet which is high fat/high sugar in schools—parents battling schools on this

Muscatine Food Policy Priorities (listed in order of priority)

Stakeholders were asked to identify community-specific priorities related to improving the food environment in the following categories.

- Access & Education— improving access to healthy food
- Production – increasing local food production
- Policy – proposing new or changing existing policy to improve the food environment and make healthy options more accessible
- Collaboration – fostering or incenting collaboration among government, schools, and other local organizations

Category	Priority
Access-Education	Provide cooking classes and demonstrations to get individuals to try healthy recipes. Conduct with in-season produce when these ingredients are less expensive, showing residents how to use fresh and dried herbs instead of other ingredients. Show individuals how to stretch food dollars.

Category	Priority
Access-Education	Create link between good nutrition and education in schools. Do this at earlier ages.
Access-Education	Expand community gardens, selecting locations that are near homes, utilizing municipal land.
Access-Education	Veggie Scripts. Public Health funding may be available.
Access-Education	Produce a Muscatine Healthy Eating Facebook page, share healthy recipes, how tos, and have experts contribute.
Access-Education	Programs in schools, i.e Farm to School education.
Collaboration	500 calorie plate club via community institutions (restaurants).
Access-Education	Storage of fresh foods for off season consumption.
Access-Education	Minimizing food waste, getting available food to people who need it vs. going to waste.
Policy	Healthy options at venues (vending and concessions) where kids spend time, including parks and sporting venues.
Access-Education	Family nutrition program--ISU Extension program for low income residents. Need analysis to know how/if we are having impact, so it can be expanded.
Access-Education	Helping individuals improve health by Moving Naturally.
Access-Education	Senior education on healthy eating so they understand advantages and impact well-being.
Access-Education	Come together to support locally owned restaurants.
Collaboration	Assure programs in place and being developed are sustained.
Policy	Unable to produce food in home kitchens (food inspection, cottage food regs.) and sell via Farmers Markets. Untangle these to make easy for small producers.
Access-Education	Dental clinic education opportunity for participants on healthy choices (bring back cool it with the pop program).
Access-Education	Giving packets of garden seeds to youth to plant.
Access-Education	Help people learn how to grow in small spaces--container gardening.
Collaboration	Moving to fresh from processed foods in restaurants.
Policy	Incent healthy food options in cafeterias and vending.
Access-Education	Bill Emerson Act--Inform residents how to direct food that may go to waste to food bank/pantry.

**PROPOSED 2014/2015 CITY COUNCIL BUDGET SCHEDULE
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM**

Date	Time	Department/Agency
Thursday, January 30, 2014	5:30 p.m.	General Fund Overview to City Council
Saturday, February 1, 2014	8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	City Council Budget Review Legal Services City Administrator Human Resources Risk Management Finance Information Technology Community Development Airport/Airport Subsidy Police Operations Animal Control Fire Operations Ambulance Emergency Management Library Operations Cablevision Art Center
Monday, February 3, 2014	5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	Parks Administration Park Maintenance Swimming Pools Recreation Soccer Kent Stein Wellness Cemetery Golf Course Boat Harbor Marina
Wednesday, February 5, 2015	5:30 to 8:30 p.m.	Public Works Administration Engineering Roadway Maintenance Traffic Control Snow and Ice Street Cleaning Building & Grounds Collection & Drainage Storm Water Equipment Services Equipment Replacement

Date	Time	Department/Agency
Thursday, February 6, 2014	5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Senior Resources Economic Development Humane Society CVB
Saturday, February 8, 2014	8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Iowa Legislators Parking Refuse Collection Landfill Transfer Station Transit WPCP Housing Review & Discussions Begin – General Fund
Tuesday, February 11, 2014	5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	Capital/Debt/TIF/RUT Local Option Review
Wednesday, February 12, 2014	5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	Review & Discussion Decisions for Public Hearing (may continue to February 15th)
Saturday, February 15, 2014	8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Final Decisions for Public Hearing (extra meeting unless concluded February 12th)
Tuesday, February 18, 2014	5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Set Public Hearing
Thursday, March 6, 2014		Public Hearing & Adoption
March 15, 2014		Approved budget filed with County Auditor for certification