



COMMUNITY NEWS MAY 2025

Important Numbers

City Hall 515-279-3662
Public Safety 515-277-4453
Emergencies 911

What's Inside

- Road Construction Update
- Battery Drop-Off at City Hall
- Spring Clean Up
- Windsor Heights Podcast
- Library Update
- Council Meeting Recap

Contact Council

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You can also
scan [click here](#) to
contact Council
as well!

Windsor Heights' Sidewalk Assessment Program to Promote Safety and Accessibility

Sidewalks play a vital role in the infrastructure of any urban community — and Windsor Heights is no exception. They serve as essential links between neighborhoods, schools, parks, and local businesses, while also providing a safe and convenient way for residents to travel throughout the city.

To ensure our sidewalks remain safe and accessible, the City of Windsor Heights has introduced a structured Sidewalk Assessment Program. This initiative establishes a formal process for inspecting sidewalks and ordering necessary repairs, replacements, or construction.

A Five-Year Inspection Plan

Windsor Heights has been divided into five zones, with each zone scheduled for inspection on a five-year rotation. One zone will be reviewed annually, ensuring a consistent and proactive approach to maintaining our pedestrian infrastructure. Through this rotation, the City aims to uphold sidewalk standards across all neighborhoods.

Sidewalk Construction Policy

It's important to note that properties currently without sidewalks are not required to install them under existing City Ordinance. Instead, the need for new sidewalks is evaluated during road reconstruction projects. If deemed necessary, sidewalks may be installed by the City as part of these projects, balancing community development with thoughtful planning.

How Residents Can Help

Sidewalk maintenance is a shared responsibility. Property owners are required to ensure sidewalks adjacent to their properties are safe, in good repair, and free of hazards. This includes removing snow and ice in the winter, trimming low-hanging tree branches, and keeping sidewalks clear of yard waste or other debris.

By working together, we can maintain a safe and walkable community for everyone. Thank you for doing your part to keep Windsor Heights connected and accessible! Learn more about the program, including inspection zones and inspection years, [by clicking here](#).



WINDSOR
HEIGHTS
the heart of it all

Andy's Corner!

- Our Public Works crew has begun pavement projects for the year and will continue throughout the summer/fall. Projects include filling potholes, preventative maintenance such as crack sealing and gap mastic, street panel replacement, and curb gutter repair and replacement.
- Reminder that the Storm Water Best Management Practices Program is available again this year. Windsor Heights is committed to increasing water quality and decreasing run-off which collect contaminants that eventually lead directly into our water ways. Visit the Public Works Department on the City's website for more information about the program and reimbursement rates.
- Sidewalk Improvement Grant Program is also available. Each year, a portion of Windsor Heights' sidewalks are inspected for deficiencies. For more information about this year's inspection zone, sidewalk deficiencies and grant program information, please visit the Public Works Department page on the City's Website.
- May 18-24 is National Public Works Week. Please join our crew for a Public Works Open House and Luncheon at the Community Event Center on May 23, 2025, from 11 AM to 1 PM. Come meet your Public Works Department and learn more about the operations of our department.
- Our crew has been hard at work completing several other projects, including Zone 2 sidewalk inspections, spring clean-up in the parks and along the Windsor Trail, storm sewer cleaning and televising, and ongoing road maintenance.

Tune In to Windsor Heights: Explore Colby Park

Welcome to your go-to podcast for everything happening in the heart of Windsor Heights! This month's episode Features Adam Plagge, City Administrator, and Jason Roberts, Public Works Assistant Director, discussing Colby Park.

[Dive into the improvements that have happened and that are to happen by clicking here.](#)

73rd Street Reconstruction

Progress continues on Stage 1 of the 73rd Street reconstruction project. Storm sewer and water main installations are nearing completion, with paving for Stage 1A scheduled for mid May. Construction activities are expected to largely shift to Stage 4, adjacent to Clive Elementary, at the start of summer break.

68th Street Reconstruction

Stage 1 Sanitary sewer repairs and water service connections are being completed. Paving of Stage 1 is anticipated in early June, after which construction will transition to Stage 2, just south of University Avenue. Please remember to use 69th Street for access to Colby Park while Stage 1 work is ongoing.

[Click here to learn more about the projects!](#) Bookmark the page as updates will be posted regularly.

Kick Off Summer with Fun Community Events!

Get ready for an exciting start to summer in Windsor Heights with a lineup of family-friendly events you won't want to miss! All event are happening in Colby Park!

Join us **Friday, May 30, at 4:30 PM for the Colby Park Splash Pad Ribbon Cutting!** Celebrate the grand opening of this refreshing new feature just in time for warm weather. Right after, stick around for **Touch A Truck at 5 PM**, where kids can explore fire trucks, dump trucks, and more up close and meet the people who operate them.

Then on **Friday, June 6**, bring your blankets and lawn chairs for a **Movie in the Park featuring Disney's The Lion King at 7:45 PM**. It's a perfect way to spend a summer evening with the whole family. We'll see you there!



Keen to spring clean? Spring Cleanup is just around the corner!

Spring Cleanup in Windsor Heights will be on June 14. This is a great opportunity to get rid of large items or extra garbage right at your curb!

What's Accepted?

Items that can be set at your curb include:

- Couch
- Desk
- Lamp
- Toys
- Mattress
- Chairs
- Doors
- Carpet (must be cut into 4' long x 18" diameter rolls)

What's Not Accepted?

Items that should not be set out at your curb for Spring Cleanup include:

- Appliances
- Hazardous waste
- Yard waste
- Broken glass
- Tires (can be taken to 6900 School St., June 14, from 8:00 AM-2:00 PM)

Make sure all your items are set at the curb by 6 AM on your scheduled cleanup day. Some haulers like to start before the sun rises!

Wondering about an item that's not listed above? Give Metro Waste Authority a call at 515.244.0021, or visit www.WhereltShouldGo.com/SpringCleanup.



windsor heights

TIRE DROP-OFF

**JUNE 14, 2025
8:00 AM-2:00 PM
6900 SCHOOL STREET**

Spinning your wheels trying to get rid of an old tire or two? We can help! Windsor Heights has partnered with Metro Waste Authority for a tire drop-off event June 15, from 8:00 AM-2:00 PM. During this event, residents can drop off up to five tires at 6900 School Street free of charge. Tires from tractors and bicycles or solid tires from lawnmowers or golf carts are not accepted.

How's Our Newsletter?



Attention bargain hunters! It's time to register for the Annual Windsor Heights City Wide Garage Sale, scheduled for Friday, June 6 and Saturday, June 7! Registration will be open through May 28. A list of participating sales will be made available the following week. [Sign up by clicking here.](#)



**BATTERY
DROP-OFF
CONTAINER**

From remotes and phones to power tools and toothbrushes, batteries keep our lives running—but improper disposal poses serious risks. Tossing batteries in the trash or recycling can lead to fires and chemical leaks, endangering workers and facilities. That's why we've teamed up with Metro Waste Authority to install a battery drop-off container at City Hall.

Residents can now safely and free of charge dispose of household batteries and small rechargeable electronics. Just bag each battery using materials provided at the container and drop them in the labeled slot—it's that easy! Learn more at www.mwatoday.com or call 515-244-0021.

Share your comments and suggestions or ask a question! Email City Clerk Adam Strait at astrait@windsorheights.org or call 515-279-3662

AT YOUR LIBRARY

Grown-Up Book Fair - Saturday, May 31, 12-4 PM | Central Library

Join the Des Moines Public Library for its first-ever Grown-Up Book Fair and experience the fun of school book fairs all over again! Explore a variety of local vendors offering books, stickers, snacks, and more. It's the perfect way to treat yourself while supporting a great cause. 10% of all sales will benefit the library. Come for the nostalgia, stay for the books and goodies! Vendors include Annie's Foundation, Beaverdale Books, Bing's, Bookmarks, The Little Book, Lunita Planners, Nos Books, Pints by Beth, The Rook Room, Storyhouse Bookpub, and Wandering Raccoon Books.

Upcoming Author Event *Find more information about these programs at dmpl.org*

- **AViD Presents: Abby Jimenez** - Thursday, May 15, 7 PM | Franklin Event Center (4801 Franklin Avenue)
- **AViD Presents: Kevin Wilson** - Tuesday, June 3, 7 PM | Central Library
- **Author Visit: David Hage and Josephine Marcotty, authors of Sea of Grass** - Monday, June 9, 6:30 PM | Franklin Avenue Library

4/21/25 City Council Meeting Recap

- Council discussed Reimagine DART, focusing on ridership versus coverage models. Ridership, favoring frequency in high-demand areas, aligned best with City values. Key topics included budget, rider concentration, shelters, and economic development. The Council supported continuing design efforts under DART's current budget amid rising costs and the need for service quality.
- Council discussed the Code Update Project, covering ordinance codification Chapter 1-60, removing jail time for most violations, updating fire codes, and refining nuisance, noise, parking, and snow rules. Proposed changes include mayoral appointments for P&Z, banning invasive species, and expanding citation authority. Staff is continuing to review the remaining chapters.
- Council discussed launching a Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR) program for feral cats, with support from the Animal Rescue League of Iowa. The program includes spaying, neutering, vaccinating, and releasing cats. The City will provide traps, update ordinances, and aims to implement the program by August. Council expressed support for the initiative.
- Lieutenant Chad Norris led discussion on the 2024 Urban Deer Hunt, providing an update on its progress and challenges. He suggested continuing the program with the same property owner and hunting area, as expanding it could lead to issues with public spaces and trails.

4/7/25 City Council Meeting Recap

- Per state law, a special council meeting was held immediately prior to the regular council meeting to hold the public hearing on the City's proposed tax levy. The levy will be approved with the entire FY26 budget at the April 21 council meeting. The special adjourned immediately into the regular meeting.
- CatchDSM President and CEO Greg Edwards gave a presentation of the organizations efforts in the metro.
- Held public hearing for the Forest Court Overlay Project. The bid was awarded to Grimes Asphalt & Paving. More information on the project's schedule will be shared after preconstruction meetings occur between staff and the contractor.
- Approved proclamations honoring Arbor Day and National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week (April 13-19).

WE ARE LOOKING FOR HOSTS FOR YOUR BLOCK FOR THE WINDSOR HEIGHTS FOUNDATION'S ANNUAL



ICE CREAM SOCIAL!

JUN 22, 1 6:00-8:00PM

We are looking for block hosts! You provide the location, and we provide the Ice Cream. This is a great way to socialize with your neighbors and community!



Please Call Trisha Davis at 515-778-9733
or
Email WHIcecreamsocial@gmail.com

