



COMMUNITY NEWS August 2025

Important Numbers

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

What's Inside

- Summer Construction Updates
- Public Works Update
- Drop Off Batteries to City Hall
- School Driving Reminders
- Do Your Part to Help Keep Windsor Heights Beautiful

Contact Council

Mayor Mike Jones

- mike.jones@windsorheights.org

Councilor Susan Skerries

- susan.skerries@windsorheights.org

Councilor Joseph Jones

- joseph.jones@windsorheights.org

Councilor Michael Libbie

- michael.libbie@windsorheights.org

Councilor Lauren Campbell

- lauren.campbell@windsorheights.org

Councilor Threase Harms

- tharms@windsorheights.org

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



We're gearing up for one of the most anticipated events of the year—the Windsor Heights Fall Festival, and we want YOU to be part of the fun! This year's festival will be filled with exciting activities, delicious food, lively entertainment, and, of course, our beloved Windsor Heights Parade.

Here's how you can get involved:

Join the Parade!

Do you have a business, organization, or group that wants to spread joy and show off some community spirit? The Windsor Heights Parade is your chance! Decorate a float, march with friends, or come up with something creative to wow the crowd. It's a fantastic way to celebrate our city and have some fun!

Volunteer and Make a Difference

Love the festival and want to help make it even better? We need enthusiastic volunteers to help with all kinds of activities—from assisting with the parade to helping with family-friendly events. It's a great way to give back, meet new people, and be part of something truly special.

Be a Vendor and Showcase Your Business

Are you a local business or artisan? Don't miss this opportunity to connect with the community and share what you do best! Vendor booths are the perfect way to meet new customers, showcase your products, and be part of the festival buzz. Spaces are limited, so register early to reserve your spot!

Stay tuned for more details and updates as the festival approaches. All the latest information, including registration for the parade, volunteering, and vendor booths, will be posted at www.windsorheightsfallfestival.com.

Canopy to Concrete: Windsor Heights is Improving for You

Street Tree Planting Program – Fall 2025

The City of Windsor Heights is pleased to announce the return of its Street Tree Planting Program this fall. Later this August, residents will be able to sign up via the City's website to request a tree to be planted in front of their home near the street. Keep an eye out for the registration link on the City website and take part in enhancing our community's canopy! Tree planting projects along Hickman and replanting of trees planted in 2024 that did not survive are also expected to take place this fall.

Infrastructure Project Updates

It's been a very active season for infrastructure improvements across Windsor Heights. Thank you for your continued patience during this challenging construction period!

- Forest Ct.: The overlay project is now substantially complete, and Forest Ct. is open to traffic.
- Asphalt Patching: Public Works continues to conduct full-depth asphalt patching in areas with persistent pothole issues. These are temporary repairs, but more durable fixes until full street reconstructions or resurfacing can be completed.
- Wilshire Blvd.: Storm sewer improvements are planned for construction summer/fall of 2025 on the western half of Wilshire Blvd. The street will remain open during work, although intermittent spot closures will occur.
- 74th St. Reconstruction and storm sewer improvements: Storm sewer improvements in areas adjoining 74th St., including 75th St., are anticipated to occur late this fall. Reconstruction of 74th St. is slated to occur calendar year 2026.
- University Ave. Maintenance:
 - Restriping of all of University Ave. will occur in late August.
 - Asphalt sections are scheduled to be rejuvenated in early September.
 - University Ave. will remain open, with temporary lane adjustments during construction.
- 68th St. & University Ave. Intersection: Work is expected to wrap up at this intersection by early to mid-August, after which the University Ave. lane shifts will be removed.

73rd Street Reconstruction

This 6-stage project includes water main replacement, storm sewer construction, utility relocation, sidewalks replacement, street resurfacing, and driveway approach replacements.

- Stage 1 (North of University Ave): Traffic has shifted to the east side of 73rd St. Business access is being maintained throughout construction. Substantial completion is anticipated by late August.
- Stage 4 (Adjacent to Clive Learning Center): Crews continue to work six days a week in anticipation of reopening this Stage to traffic concurrent with the start of school at the end of August.
- Stages 2 & 3: In an effort to substantially complete reconstruction of 73rd St. this year, Stage 3 work is expected to begin by mid-August. If weather permits, Stage 2 will commence after Stages 1 and 4 reopen.

68th Street Reconstruction

- Stage 1 (South Section): This stage is paved and nearing substantial completion. School Street is open to vehicle and pedestrian traffic.
- Stage 2 (North Section): Underground infrastructure is nearing completion; work on this Stage is expected to continue into September.
- Stage 3 (Middle Section):
 - Mott Ave. work is tentatively slated to begin early/mid August.
 - 68th St. work is tentatively slated to start late summer, contingent on timely completion of Stage 2.

Irrigation & Restoration

At the time of drafting of this newsletter, the irrigation ban for commercial users is being gradually lifted. For the most up-to-date information, check out Central Iowa Water Works' website at www.ciww.gov. The City of Windsor Heights anticipates sodding 2025 infrastructure projects this fall, when weather is more favorable.

Andy's Corner!

- Three active road construction projects are currently underway: 73rd St, 68th St. and an asphalt overlay on Forest Ct. from 64th St to 66th St. We also have an upcoming project along University Ave including pavement sealing and traffic markings. Please check out the Projects Updates on our website for the most up to date information regarding all projects.
- The Public Works Department would like to introduce our new Road Projects Map for your usage that highlights the areas actively under construction. This map is a quick way to visually see what road projects are currently in progress. The map highlights project details, the travel impacts, closures, and planned detour routes. Visit it at www.whroadprojects.com to check it out.
- The Sidewalk Improvement Grant Program and the Stormwater Best Management Practices Program are still accepting applications. Please visit the Public Works Department page on the City's Website for more information regarding both projects!
- Here are some other projects our crew has been hard at work completing:
 - Road Maintenance
 - Milling and Repairing Sections of Asphalt Pavement
 - Storm Sewer Intake Repair
 - Concrete Street Panel Replacement
- Parks and Grounds Maintenance
- Geographic Information Systems Data Collection

Help Keep Windsor Heights Beautiful

Windsor Heights is a great place to live, and we need your help in keeping it clean, safe, and beautiful as the season changes. If you notice a concern around town, let us know by calling City Hall at 515-645-6826 or submitting online report at windsorheights.org and selecting "Report a Concern" under the Residents menu. Here are some reminders of some seasonal code items to keep in mind:

- Keep your lawn mowed and free of trash and junk
- Clean up after your pets and keep them on leashes
- Keep your vehicles parked on pavement and not grass



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 dispose of household batteries and small rechargeable electronics free of charge. 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.

A movie poster for the musical 'Wicked' featuring the characters Elphaba and Glinda.

SEPTEMBER 5TH

JOIN US AT 7:15PM
MOVIE STARTS AT 7:45PM

Presented by

BOLTON & MENK

FREE!



How's Our Newsletter?

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

Storytime – featuring Mo Willems' Pigeon!

Join us at the library for a special storytime with everyone's favorite troublemaker, The Pigeon!

Enjoy a fun book, give The Pigeon a hug or high five, and get your picture taken - but don't let him drive the bus!

This event takes place at the Franklin Avenue Library on Tuesday, August 19, at 4 PM. Pigeon storytimes are also happening at other branches across our system August 19-25. Head to dmpl.org/events to learn more.

Gamer Jazz – Presented by the Des Moines Gamer Symphony Orchestra - Saturday, August 23, 2 PM – Central Library

The Des Moines Gamer Symphony Orchestra is once again transforming into a big band this summer to play the jazziest video game tunes out there. You won't want to miss this FREE live concert where your favorite gaming tracks are brought to life with the smoothest grooves you've ever heard! For all ages.

STOPPED SCHOOL BUS PASSING LAWS IN IOWA

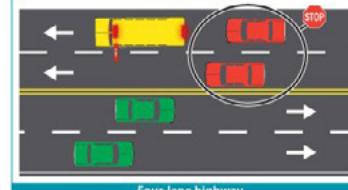
www.iowadot.gov/schoolbus/requiredstopping.html

3 LANES OR FEWER: ALL VEHICLES MUST STOP



Two-lane highway

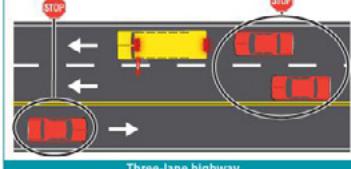
4 LANES OR MORE: VEHICLES APPROACHING FROM THE REAR MUST STOP



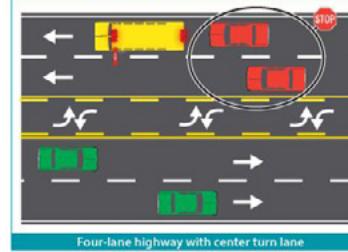
Four-lane highway



Two-lane highway with center turn lane



Three-lane highway



Four-lane highway with center turn lane



7/7/25 City Council Meeting Recap

- Council discussed how to improve the peddler and transient merchant permit regulations. This included consideration of the hours allowed, with concerns raised about the current regulations permitting activity too late into the evening. A consensus was reached on a time frame of 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM, Monday through Saturday, and 12:00 PM to 7:00 PM on Sundays. Discussion also addressed the permit fee and bond requirement. Staff will draft changes into the City Code as part of a comprehensive code review currently underway, which is anticipated to be completed by the end of the year.
- Council approved a 28E Agreement with the City of Urbandale, Iowa, which establishes a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) to be managed by the Urbandale Police Department (UPD). The team will consist of one mental health professional and one specially trained, sworn UPD law enforcement officer. The team's duties include responding to mental health-related calls for service, performing de-escalation and needs assessments, addressing substance abuse and homelessness, and facilitating access to necessary mental health services for individuals.

Most Requested Books – July 2025

What are our local readers reading? Here are the five most requested books in the month of July at the Des Moines Public Library. Learn more about buzzy books and new releases by checking out our Popular Page – dmpl.org/popular.

- 1) Atmosphere, by Taylor Jenkins Reid
- 2) The Wedding People, by Alison Espach
- 3) Broken Country, by Clare Leslie Hall
- 4) Project Hail Mary, by Andy Weir
- 5) One Golden Summer, by Carley Fortune



School Year Driving Reminders

- Take your time, SLOW DOWN, and watch for kids going to or coming from schools
- NEVER pass a school bus with flashing lights
- Be courteous to others in the area dropping off or picking up
- Do not park where you are blocking driveways, within 10-feet of an intersection, where you are blocking a crosswalk, or where otherwise posted

Learn more about school bus safety by visiting [iowadot.gov/schoolbus](http://www.iowadot.gov/schoolbus).