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At the first city council meeting of the new year, we approved new educational opportunities, funding for Public Art, funding for improvements at the historic Beyer Stadium, and funding for neighborhood and corridor signage plus landscaping. Bring on the New Year!



Smooth Sailing Ahead: 2024 Road Revamps

Madison Street is slated to undergo a \$5.5 million multi-year reconstruction to rebuild the pavement, bury utilities and improve the streetscape.

Whitman Street from Underwood Street to the Rock River will undergo an estimated \$10.5 million reconstruction in 2024. Improvements will include reconstructing the pavement, doing sidewalk repairs and realigning a sharp curve in the road. It will also connect the Mel B. Anderson multiuse path to the Rock River Path on the south side of the road.

Lee Street will undergo a \$550,000 reconstruction in 2024 between School Street and Fairview Court to boost this industrial road's functionality for businesses and local residents.

Topping the list of residential roads scheduled for resurfacing in 2024 is **12th Street** from 16th Avenue to Broadway. Other prioritized streets include **Greenwood Avenue** and **Jackson Street**, a pair of parallel roads from Rome to James Avenue.

New Adult Learning Opportunities

This upcoming fall, Goodwill Industries of Northern Illinois will open the FIRST Excel Center in Illinois in Rockford. The Excel Center is a free adult high school that provides a high school diploma, workforce credentials, dual credits, free childcare and wrap-around supports in one location for adult learners. It is a proven model with over 37 high schools around the country.



Family Peace Center Grows

The City of Rockford will acquire the temporary library location for the Family Peace Center. This move will allow for additional partners that the current space cannot house. The FPC currently has more than 34 partners and this will allow them to more than triple their space and impact. Services at the Family Peace Center are critical not only for survivors but also as part of the City's violent crime reduction efforts.



Family Peace Center



Field of Dreams Upgrade

The City Council approved funding for improvements to Beyer Field, opening the door to attracting a Women's Baseball Demonstration Tournament in Rockford. After the USA Women's Baseball National Team event in August of this year, there has been interest from Women's Baseball World Cup, USA Women's National team, Major League Baseball and World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) for future events which would require these additional field improvements.



Bejeweling the City with Art Gems

New funding will expand art throughout the city including the re-establishment of the Founder Landing piece as it comes out of long-term storage. Additional art pieces have been secured for display and these funds will assist in the installation. Public Art plays a critical role in our community and has the power to bring hope, healing and pride to our people and our city.

Sprucing Up Entrances and Boosting Neighborhood Pride

The City of Rockford will establish entry signs and landscaping for several entrance locations into the City. These entryways are the front door to our city and should be welcoming. We will also assist neighborhood groups with signage to reinforce identity and pride.



Thank You!

Thank you to the City's Public Works and other government employees who braved snowstorms and extreme cold to keep our streets clear and our city running smoothly!



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A copy of our report is on file with the Winnebago County Clerk, 404 Elm St, Rockford, IL. Tom McNamara, Democratic Candidate for Rockford Mayor. Paid for by friends of Tom McNamara.

Send to Friends of Tom McNamara
P.O. Box 1134
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