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### **Free Home Visits for Newborn**

As mayor and a father, I'm proud to support Winning Start Winnebago, a new countywide program that gives every newborn and their family a free home visit from a public health nurse starting this July. These visits will help check on baby's health, support parents, and connect families to community resources—no matter where they delivered or receive care.

Funded by a \$300,000 state grant, the initiative will also expand access to doulas and training for more local birth support professionals. By identifying early risks and offering support from the very beginning, we're laying the foundation for healthier families and a stronger future.

This is exactly the kind of community-first investment that makes Rockford and Winnebago County better for every child.

[Learn More](#)

## **New Skate Park, Playground, Riverfront and Roads**

Big things are happening this summer—starting with a major transformation at Davis Park! We're adding a new stage for regional acts, a playground, a skate park, riverfront paths, a new seawall, and more to create a vibrant destination for residents and visitors alike.

Beyond the park, we're investing \$97 million in infrastructure upgrades across the city to make driving and walking safer and easier. Whitman, Madison, and 11th Streets are getting full reconstructions, including water, sanitary, and pedestrian improvements—plus a safer railroad crossing on 11th. Auburn Street and downtown roads like Chestnut, Walnut, and 1st Avenue will be resurfaced and revitalized with new streetscapes. These projects are all part of our mission to build a stronger, more connected Rockford.



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### **City Maintains Tax Levy**

Since taking office, I've made it a priority to respect and realize the property tax burden our residents carry. That's why we've kept the City of Rockford's property tax levy essentially flat since 2017. In fact, we're the only one of 11 local taxing bodies with a lower levy today than we had a decade ago. This year, we're collecting nearly 2% less than we did in 2015—\$48.2 million compared to \$49.1 million. We've stayed disciplined and focused on doing more with every taxpayer dollar.



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## **New Appointments to City Leadership**

I'm delighted to announce the appointments of Sarah Leys, Angela Hammer, and Scott Sanders to lead key City departments—Community and Economic Development, Law, and Public Works, respectively. Each brings exceptional experience, proven leadership, and a deep commitment to serving Rockford. These appointments reflect our commitment to strong, effective leadership. I'm excited to work alongside them as we continue building a better Rockford.



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## **Taking Steps to Rehab Vacant Homes Sooner**

For the past eight years, we've prioritized reducing vacant and blighted properties to protect home values and strengthen Rockford's neighborhoods. Traditionally, we relied on complaints to identify

these properties—often too late to prevent serious deterioration. That's why we've expanded our use of Tolemi, a data platform that helps us proactively flag and address vacant homes earlier. It's a smarter, preventative approach that stops neighborhood decline before it starts and puts more homes back on the path to recovery.



### **Rockford is the Place to Visit for Sports!**

Congrats to GoRockford on being named the 2025 Sports Tourism Organization of the Year by Sports ETA! Out of more than 80 national entries, they were recognized as the best in class! This award highlights their incredible work attracting and hosting sporting events that boost our local economy. Their efforts continue to raise Rockford's profile as a top-tier sports destination.



## Gold Seal of Approval

I'm proud to share that the City of Rockford earned the 2025 Gold Bell Seal for Workplace Mental Health from Mental Health America—for the second year in a row. This national recognition reflects our continued commitment to supporting employee wellness and creating a culture that prioritizes mental health.



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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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