

SI<sup>OX</sup> CITY™

# PROGRESS



**RESCUE READY**



**VISIONARY VENUE**



**LOCAL LANDMARKS**

# LANDMARK RENOVATION

Renovation of two Sioux City treasures is underway! The Warrior Hotel was built as a premier hotel in 1930 but closed in 1976, while the Davidson Building was the city's first office building when it was constructed in 1913. Both appear on the National Register of Historical Places but have been underutilized for decades.

"With a \$73 million price tag, this is arguably the most significant project we'll see in downtown Sioux City in our lifetimes," says Mayor Bob Scott.

Developer Lew Weinberg and Restoration St. Louis will transform the buildings into Autograph Collection Hotels by Marriott due to open in the fall of 2020.

The 10-story art deco-style Warrior Hotel will feature 148 guest rooms, 11 suites, 22 luxury apartments, a second-floor restaurant, ballroom with terrace, and bowling area. The adjacent six-story building will house Davidson Apartments with 20 luxury one-to-two-bedroom units and lofts, plus 56 hotel rooms and street-level commercial space.

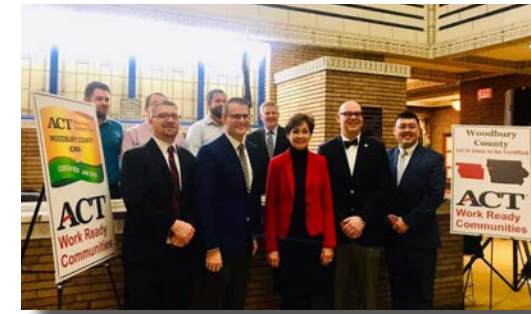
A key component of Sioux City's \$151 million Reinvestment District, the Warrior/Davidson project will contribute greatly to economic growth and quality of life within the community.



# READY TO WORK

Partnering with the City of Sioux City, Woodbury County has become the first county in Iowa to achieve ACT Work Ready Communities certification—a national initiative that matches skilled workers with jobs in demand.

The program provides companies with evidence of a skilled workforce, as each participating community must measure and improve the skill levels of its workforce through a standardized workforce skills credential—the National Career Readiness Certificate.



"This recognition provides local employers and prospective companies with credible data on the workforce in our county," says Councilmember Pete Groetken. "At a time when workforce is a critical issue for many regions, this certification helps Sioux City stand out."

# START-UP SUCCESS

Sioux City continues to be a place where entrepreneurs can thrive.

"Sioux City's strength is in elevating and connecting individuals in the entrepreneurial community," says Beth Trejo, CEO of Chatterkick, a Sioux City-based social media agency with clients nationwide. Trejo was a finalist for the CEO of the Year award given annually by the Technology Association of Iowa to honor innovation, creative solutions, and industry leadership.

"The City of Sioux City has been incredibly supportive, and people have been so willing to help us out," adds Geoff Arnold, CEO of lienwaivers.io, which was launched in 2016.

Recently named Small Business Development Center's Business of the Quarter, lienwaivers.io provides a comprehensive technology solution to the lien waiver and payment process. The company works with 18,000 contractors nationwide and saw consistent monthly growth of up to 20 percent through 2018.



# ROOM TO GROW

The City of Sioux City is well-prepared for business and industrial growth! This spring, officials named 27 Flags at Southbridge Business Park as the city's latest certified site. A prime location for development, this former golf course offers easy access to rail and Interstate 29 along with streets, an electric substation, and a water treatment plant ensuring abundant clean water.

"We know being shovel-ready is critical," says Sioux City Mayor Bob Scott. "Sioux City has been a leader in developing business and attracting good-paying jobs and capital investment. We are committed to creating even more industrial sites to promote continued growth."

In 2013 Southbridge welcomed Sabre Industries, which invested \$28 million to build a 150-acre complex employing over 500 people. The city followed a similar certification process with Bridgeport West, a 250-acre site where Seaboard Triumph Foods has made a \$330 million investment in Sioux City and is hiring 2,000 employees.

The city will work with the Iowa Economic Development Authority and other partners to market the new site and attract future development in Sioux City.



# GET THE LEAD OUT

Local homeowners can receive funding to address lead paint and other health hazards thanks to a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Program. Sioux City is one of just 48 state and local government agencies in the nation to share in \$139 million awarded through the HUD grant.

"This special honor is given to the community as a whole, yet the improvements benefit individual property owners," shares Mayor Pro Tem Dan Moore.

"Lead poisoning is an important safety issue because it affects children during their most critical neurological development years," explains Ron Engle, project coordinator. "It's easy to apply for the program, which can yield thousands of dollars in improvements ranging from new siding to window and door replacements."

For details, visit [www.siouxcityleadgrant.org](http://www.siouxcityleadgrant.org) or call 712-279-6328.



## YOU'RE ELIGIBLE IF:

- You own or rent a Sioux City home or apartment built before 1978. If home is owner-occupied, program pays 100%; if residence is a rental, landlord must match project costs.
- You have a child five years of age or younger in the home.
- Your household income is at or below 80% of the area median income.

# ROAD REPORT

Summer construction season is underway in Sioux City! Here's what you can expect:

## INTERSTATE 29 SOUTHBOUND

Reconstruction continues from west of Hamilton Boulevard to the Floyd River. Wesley Parkway ramp to southbound I-29 and Floyd Boulevard entrance to I-29 are closed through July 1.

## CITY STREETS

"These projects may temporarily interrupt driving routes, but they ultimately create better driving surfaces and extend the life of streets and utilities," says Gordon Phair, city engineer.

- Military Road reconstruction from Military Bridge to Riverside Boulevard, with detours from May 1 to end of the year and Military Bridge closed May 1 until early October
- Pierce Street reconstruction spanning 18th Street to 24th Street from late April through November
- Morningside Avenue reconstruction at Lakeport Street intersection until August
- Leech Avenue reconstruction from South Fairmount Street to South Rustin Street from July to November
- Glenn Avenue reconstruction from South Cecelia Street to South Rustin Street will run from June through October

## HIGHWAY 20

A primary artery into Sioux City, U.S. Highway 20 has moved from two to four lanes, and the Iowa Department of Transportation reports increased traffic since project completion last fall.

# EXPO UPDATE

The new Siouxland Expo Center will be one-of-a-kind yet offer something for everyone.

"This dynamic facility will be completely unique to the region and complement existing venues in the community," shares Renae Billings, business development coordinator for the City of Sioux City. "Major expo events can attract thousands of people from a wide radius and generate considerable economic activity for the region."

The massive 105,000-sq. ft. multipurpose building will feature an 80,000-sq. ft. expo hall for hosting large-scale agricultural, recreational, and major events. Its flexible design also meets a growing community need by accommodating regional sports teams for practices and tournaments.

"The Siouxland Expo Center is part of Sioux City's 25-acre entertainment and cultural Reinvestment District," adds Councilmember Alex Watters. "And since it's situated right off Interstate 29, it provides a tremendous opportunity to transform the front door to the city."

Owned by the Siouxland Expo Center non-profit board and managed by the City of Sioux City, this public/private partnership will be funded by grants, private sponsorships, and public contributions—including a \$500,000 pledge from MidAmerican Energy Company.



# SIoux CITY FIRE RESCUE: ALWAYS THERE, ALWAYS READY

## HOME SAFE HOME

Even though about 80 percent of Sioux City Fire Rescue fire calls involve residential fires, it's not always easy to get into homes and identify areas of concern. SCFR's Safe Home program is a three-part initiative designed to keep local homes fire-free:

1. **FREE FIRE & SAFETY BOOKS.** Helpful resources share basic fire and safety info for families to review regularly, available during a Safe Home visit or online at [sioux-city.org/firesafehome](http://sioux-city.org/firesafehome).
2. **FREE SMOKE ALARMS.** Teams will install smoke alarms in any Sioux City home, especially those with young children, seniors, and residents with financial need.
3. **FREE FIRE SAFETY CHECKS.** In-home inspections can identify fire and/or safety hazards.

"We know there have been fires where people have gotten out because of information or smoke alarms they received from their Safe Home visit," says Fire Chief Tom Everett. "It's an extremely successful program."

To schedule an in-home inspection or alarm installation, call 279-6377.

## AMBULANCE SERVICES

Since 2018 when SCFR absorbed ambulance services, Sioux City's new Emergency Medical Services division has hired 27 people, relocated eight ambulances to the fire stations, and answered 7,365 calls in its first year.

"Our biggest advantage was that we could put rigs and staff in our stations, back them up, and have eight ambulances on the street at any given time," says Fire Chief Tom Everett. "It was a natural fit with our people, our resources, and the work we do every day."



## WORKING AROUND THE CLOCK

Think of firefighting as the simple life of waiting for the next call? Not by a longshot! Sioux City Fire Rescue professionals are constantly at work—always there to serve, teach, connect, and always prepared to do it all over again the next day.

### SERVING

Serving the community is SCFR'S first priority, and it involves far more than fighting fires. In fact, the majority of its calls are emergency medical responses. The department ensures regional HAZMAT services for 12 area counties and is part of Iowa's Urban Search & Rescue Team funded by the Department of Homeland Security and deployable nationwide. In addition, SCFR provides technical extrication, trench rescue, technical rope rescue, water and ice rescue, structural collapse rescue, and confined space rescue.

"When there is no one else to solve a problem, we're the ones who will solve that problem," shares Fire Chief Tom Everett. "We continually add to our professional competencies and have teams who train to serve in each of these unique situations."

### TEACHING

SCFR is a longtime partner with local schools, taking the "Learn Not to Burn" program to elementary grades each year and inviting third graders to explore the Fire Safety House.

The department also hosts the Citizen's Fire Academy, which allows each class of 12 participants to appreciate SCFR's vast scope of services. "Our unique program is nine weeks long with 36 hours of instruction," explains Everett. "It's a commitment on the part of the citizens, but it's one they don't want to end."

Another key component of educating the public involves Safe Home visits (see sidebar) and basic fire safety instruction for businesses and other organizations.

SCFR education impacts even the youngest residents, as its certified technicians provide instruction on how to properly install child safety seats. "Parents think their kids are safe in expensive car seats, but unfortunately most are installed incorrectly," Everett notes. "Our technicians complete extensive training in this area, and they love it when people make appointments to learn proper use of child safety seats."

### CONNECTING

Outreach is a way of life for Sioux City Fire Rescue professionals. "When we're not busy serving and training and teaching, we're out in the community making it safer," states Everett. "We enjoy being involved with community functions, taking our rigs all over the city for events, hosting hydrant parties on hot summer days, and more."

The department is also sharing its story through #SCFRready, a single social media destination for citizens to see what SCFR is doing in the community when not engaged in service and safety efforts.

### PREPARING

Because SCFR professionals realize being prepared means being at their best, firefighters spend a part of every shift working on physical fitness and setting fitness goals.

Since specialized training is also central to preparedness, the department's fire and EMS members logged 33,000+ hours of training last year alone. SCFR has also formed a new training team to research, develop, and instruct future classes based on trends discovered during emergency calls.

"We're incredibly data-driven," shares Everett. "Every day we're working to make the department even better."

## #1 ISO RATING



Sioux City Fire Rescue is the only department in Iowa to earn a #1 rating from the Insurance Services Office. Awarded to less than one percent of fire departments in the U.S., this is the highest possible ISO rating. SCFR is also accredited by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International, recognition earned by just 300 departments worldwide. This honor, combined with the top ISO rating, puts SCFR in the company of only 50 departments nationally.

Evaluating factors such as training, personnel, equipment, statistics, fire prevention efforts, and ability to respond, the ISO's rating system is a key factor for insurance companies as they determine policy coverage and pricing. In simplest terms, SCFR's #1 rating means local residents pay less for insurance.

## SCFR FAST FACTS

3 24-HOUR SHIFTS



24/7/365 EMERGENCY COVERAGE

33,000 HOURS OF TRAINING PER YEAR



165 ANNUAL SAFE HOME VISITS



52 EMERGENCY CALLS/DAY



18,969 RESPONSES PER YEAR



140 EMPLOYEES

9 FACILITIES

42 DIFFERENT RESPONSE VEHICLES

#1 ISO RATING

1/3 OF FIREFIGHTERS ARE PARAMEDIC TRAINED

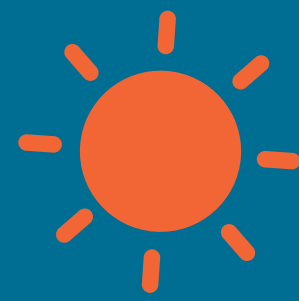


12 COUNTIES SERVED BY HAZMAT TEAM



# SUMMER IN THE CITY

See what's waiting for you this summer in downtown Sioux City!



**FOOD TRUCK FRIDAYS** are back! Explore your options at Pearl Street Park, located at the corner of 7th and Pearl Street, where they'll run 11 a.m.–1:30 p.m. on Fridays from May 31 to Aug. 23.

**DOWNTOWN LIVE** brings concerts to the lawn of the Sioux City Public Museum at 4th and Nebraska Streets again this summer. Formerly known as "Fridays on the Promenade," the concert series runs on selected Thursdays from 6–8 p.m.

**FARMERS MARKET** season is upon us! Check it out May 1 through Oct. 26 at the corner of TriView Avenue and Pearl Street every Wednesday and Saturday from 8 a.m.–1 p.m.

## FOR MORE EVENTS, VISIT THESE VENUE WEBSITES:



**DOWNTOWN**  
downtownsiouxcity.com • 252.0014

**SIoux CITY ART CENTER**  
siouxcityartcenter.org • 279.6272

**SIoux CITY MUSEUM**  
siouxcitymuseum.org • 279.6174

**SIoux CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
siouxcitylibrary.org • 255.2933, ext. 2231

**CONVENTION CENTER**  
siouxcityconventioncenter.com • 279.4800

**TYSON EVENTS CENTER**  
tysoncenter.com • 855.333.8771

**ORPHEUM THEATRE**  
orpheumlive.com • 855.333.8771

**PARKS & RECREATION**  
siouxcityparksandrec.com • 279.6126

**LEWIS & CLARK BALL PARK**  
xsbaseball.com • 277.9467



## GAME ON!

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics has given Sioux City the nod to host its women's basketball national championship in 2021—the first women's basketball championship to occur after NAIA's Divisions I and II merge in the fall of 2020.

With the move to a single division comes a change in format, as 16 sites will host opening round tournaments. The champion of each opening round will comprise the 16-team field final site at the Tyson Events Center.

Sioux City is the current home to the NAIA DII Women's Basketball National Championship and has been since the 1998 season. The new deal ensures NAIA women's basketball will continue to crown its champion in Sioux City through March 2024 and marks the community's longest contract to date with the NAIA.

"It's an amazing relationship we have with the NAIA," says Councilmember Rhonda Capron. "They see a city that works to meet and exceed their expectations—outstanding volunteers, great hotels and restaurants, and a vibrant community."

Adds NAIA Tournament Co-Director Corey Westra: "For basketball, we have a seven-day window to bring people to town and show off our hospitality as well as our growth. We also have three games on ESPN3 that allow us to share sights and sounds of Sioux City with an even larger audience. The tournament is a living billboard advertisement for our community."



Marking a 22-year run, Sioux City is currently the longest active host of NAIA annual championships!

## CULTURAL CONNECTIONS

Sioux City police officers go out of their way to help residents; they also go the extra mile to meet the people they serve.

In fact, the Sioux City Police Department created its Community Cultural Liaison program to connect with various segments of the community. CCL officers provide a "point person" for citizens who may feel underrepresented by the SCPD based on race, ethnicity, or belief system. Instead of assigning officers to work with specific communities or cultures, the department invites residents to choose their CCL based on personal experiences.

"We want to educate people to understand the SCPD and empower them to utilize our services," shares SCPD Chief Rex Mueller. "The goal of this program is to allow a direct channel to the department."

CCLs build trust with citizens and address community concerns, all while serving as SCPD representatives. At times, CCL officers may even suggest department policy changes or unique training to help the SCPD better serve various groups in the community.

"Some individuals come from places where law enforcement isn't positive, so it's up to us to build those bridges...to build trust," Mueller explains. "We're not there to intimidate. We are there to engage."

## RECYCLING RAMPS UP

About half of Sioux City residents are actively recycling, but the City of Sioux City wants to boost that percentage even higher. Melissa Campbell, environmental services analyst, shares details on a new campaign to increase the amount of materials local residents recycle.

**What are the main goals of this campaign?** We want to educate current recyclers on what can be recycled in their curbside recycling containers (as this reduces contamination) and to encourage residents who don't currently recycle to request a recycling container.



**How are you getting the word out?** Using eye-catching colors and simple design elements, we are updating info pieces, translating everything to Spanish, and creating ads for print, radio, TV, and online—all with the same bright, bold look. We're also doing a bus wrap to promote the program, the first one in Sioux City! And soon we'll have a new magnet for quick reference on what is or is not recyclable.

**Why is recycling important?** It improves our environment and sustains our planet for future generations. Paper, cardboard, plastic, and metal can all be recycled to save landfill space, use less energy, and conserve natural resources.

### WHAT CAN I RECYCLE CURBSIDE

PLASTICS & PLASTIC FILM



PAPER & CARDBOARD



ALUMINUM & TIN FOOD CANS



# NOW HIRING: INTERNS

The City of Sioux City has expanded its internship program!

"Internships offer mutual benefits," explains Janelle Bertrand, director of human resources. "For students, they are a great way to gain work experience in the public service sector. For the city, they provide ready access to potential employees who value civic service."

These scenarios highlight how internships are a win-win for students and the city alike.

Sara Zylberberg is an intern with the Waste Water Treatment Plant. She is a junior at Ohio State University majoring in microbiology with a focus on epidemiology—the cornerstone of public health. As an intern, she has gained experience in data tracking, report generating, scheduling, compliance regulations, field monitoring, field sampling, and lab testing. "I'm learning things that we've covered many times in my biology classes," she says, "and I've had exposure to laboratory testing and public health related issues." It's a strong foundation for Sara, who dreams of working for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control.



Eric Griffith was a Parks & Recreation intern in the summer of 2011 following his graduation from the University of South Dakota. "My biggest take-away was knowing I wanted to work for city government after my internship was over," he shares. Eric stayed on with the department as he entered grad school and became a recreation supervisor by November 2012. "Being an intern for Sioux City was one of the best decisions I have ever made," Eric says. "I learned different programs and procedures that I still use—and now I get to help other interns reach their goals and explore jobs in the Parks & Recreation field."



## INTERESTED IN INTERNSHIPS?

Visit [www.sioux-city.org](http://www.sioux-city.org) for current opportunities.

## SIoux CITY CITY COUNCIL



Pete Groetken • Rhonda Capron • Alex Watters • Bob Scott • Dan Moore

CONTACT A COUNCILMEMBER: 279.6102 • [ccouncil@sioux-city.org](mailto:ccouncil@sioux-city.org)

Robert Padmore, City Manager

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# FIRING UP FOR SUMMER

Sioux City is gearing up for summer fun with its newest splash pad in Rose Hill Park. Its firefighter theme complements the park's existing playground with fun water features like a fire hydrant, two dalmatians, and a fire truck with a slide. Free and open to the public, the splash pad area offers benches and picnic sites, along with parking on Grandview Boulevard and in a lot off the local alley.

"Years ago, the Rose Hill Neighborhood Coalition worked with the City on a firefighter-themed park in memory of firefighters who gave their lives serving the community," says Amy Keairns, neighborhood services project coordinator. "To honor that idea, we created this new splash pad with the same theme."

"This project was truly a team effort for the City of Sioux City," says Councilmember Pete Groetken. "Led by our Neighborhood Services Division, it also involved staff from Parks & Recreation, Building Maintenance, and the Engineering Division."



PHOTO CREDITS: Front Cover & Pages 4-5, Fire Rescue: GR Lindblade & Co. Page 6, Battery Park Concert: Matt Downing Photography.