





The illustration shows proposed renovations to the property at 3907 Floyd Blvd, which houses several small businesses.

CITY-WIDE INVESTMENT

Changes are coming to three community corridors, as Sioux City's City Council recently approved a façade improvement program for Leeds, Riverside, and Peters Park. Over the next five years, the city will make a collective \$3 million investment to those neighborhoods.

"These are small and longstanding businesses, almost all locally owned, that have chosen to stay in their commercial corridors and provide key services to their communities," says Jeff Hanson, community development operations manager. "This effort benefits neighborhoods, businesses, and in turn, the city."

Mayor Pro Tem Dan Moore agrees. "Ultimately, the façade program will help us grow Sioux City by revitalizing, promoting, and embracing our diverse neighborhoods."

Designed to encourage investment in local businesses, these efforts improve the exteriors of the buildings and complement recent street improvements to create greater impact. The city has seen success with similar improvements along Pierce Street, Historic Pearl, and West 7th Street corridors in recent years.

Businesses complete a competitive application process for grants of up to \$60,000 per property. In turn, they agree to invest a 25% match of any funding received.

\$40 MILLION IN **IMPROVEMENTS**

After receiving \$40,618,687 through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, the City of Sioux City had a unique opportunity. How could it maximize resources to benefit everyone and create the best possible future for our community?

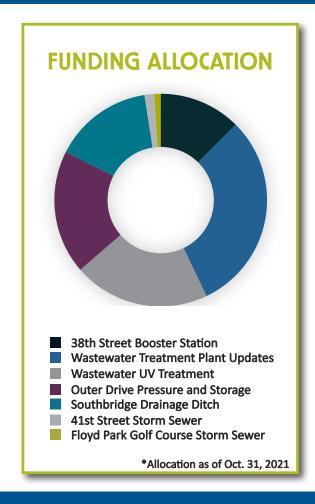
Three words: Water. Sewer. Broadband.

"These areas were selected as having the most impact," says Finance Director Teresa Fitch.

Of the \$40+ million allocated by the United States Treasury, the City of Sioux City received \$26.5 million by Oct. 31, 2021. Of that, roughly \$7.3 million will go to water infrastructure, nearly \$14 million is earmarked for sewer infrastructure, and \$4.65 million will benefit storm water infrastructure.

"It's really a win-win. Certain projects are necessary to keep our wastewater treatment plant running, but they would otherwise involve high rate increases for our residents," explains Fitch.

Mayor Bob Scott is pleased with the decision. "These projects impact all residents equally. They increase the quality of service to our community, reduce the future burden on our citizens, and allow us to stay within the funding parameters."



INFRASTRUCTURE PUSH

All through the year, the City of Sioux City's Engineering Division is working to develop plans and projects for key infrastructure (water, sewer, storm utilities) and city street improvements that keep our community safe, support economic growth, and improve quality of life for all.

Through its Capital Improvement Program, City Council has directed more than \$10 million per year to the Public Works and Utilities Departments from 2023 through 2026.

Benefitting Sioux City residents and visitors alike, this funding covers a wide range of projects and maintenance work—including traffic signals, street reconstructions and overlays, utility repairs and replacements, and bridges, along with water and wastewater treatment plant needs.

"The city's biggest infrastructure challenge is the age of the system itself," explains Senior Civil Engineer Brittany Anderson. "Nearly 40% of the street system is over 70 years old."

In the past two years, the Engineering Division has completed projects valued at \$29 million and spanning 9.15 miles. Reconstruction and improvements will continue through 2022 and beyond.

"During the design process, we review not only the engineering aspects of utilities and paving, but also the neighborhood access, environmental considerations, streetscaping, and bicycle and pedestrian accommodations," states Anderson.





ENGINEERING ACCOLADES!

The City of Sioux City's Engineering Division was recently awarded the Public Works Project of the Year Award through the Iowa Chapter of the American Public Works Association. The award recognized a five-year project that rebuilt one of two important connections across the Big Sioux River between Sioux City and our neighbors in South Dakota.

This \$6.9 million effort replaced a bridge deck and fully reconstructed Military Road from River Drive to Riverside Boulevard. New paving, sidewalks, driveways, street lights, water mains, sanitary sewers, storm sewers, trail connections, and streetscaping elements were also involved. Project partners included the lowa and South Dakota Departments of Transportation, the communities of Sioux City and North Sioux City, and seven funding sources.

BUILDING A BETTER WORKFORCE

Local construction companies recently taught students about the trades at the second annual Build My Future Expo. Hosted by the Home Builders Association of Greater Siouxland and Siouxland Construction Alliance at the Siouxland Expo Center, the event welcomed 1.049 students and 43 chaperones from 25 high schools across 15 counties in the tri-state area.

At hands-on learning labs, teens gained a better understanding of carpentry, plumbing, heavy equipment, masonry, welding, drywall, electrical, heating and cooling, and more.

"Development of a skilled workforce is a big issue for communities right now," says **Economic & Community Development Director Marty Dougherty. "Encouraging** young people to learn new and needed skills is critical to our future growth."



THE BEST THING ABOUT SIOUX CITY IS...



Listen in as locals talk about being part of this community. For some, Sioux City is a new adventure. For others, Sioux City is the only home they've known. For all, living in Sioux City is a choice they've made and a choice they love.

For more, check out "My Sioux City Mondays" on the city's social feeds.





DEANNA FARIS SECURITY FORCES COMMANDER, 185TH ARW. IOWA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

I moved here for a job as a Sioux City police officer, with my closest family member over three hours away.

What's kept you here? I stayed because of connections I made. Siouxland offered excellent childcare and educational endeavors for my daughter. Likewise, Sioux City provided solid employment opportunities that strengthened my resume and provided ventures I never thought I'd entertain.

Any favorite local attractions? Hands-down, local county fairs are my favorite. I also enjoy the Sioux City Public Museum. It holds so much valuable history!

The best thing about Sioux City is knowing I'm not only serving the military, but also the people of Siouxland. Support from this community is genuine and reminds me why serving a greater good is so rewardina.

I was raised near Roosevelt Elementary and graduated from West High, then moved away for college and other adventures. After living in Indianapolis and Seattle about 14 years, I moved back in 2015 to help while my dad began treatments for a brain tumor.

What's kept you here? When I learned about my dad, there was an immediate "I'm moving home" and I never looked back. Great friends, family time, professional opportunities. an affordable lifestyle, and the up-and-coming vibe makes me excited to be part of this area's growth.

What makes Sioux City feel like home? Hills, bluffs, rivers, lots of trees, distinguishable neighborhoods and architecture, a cultural melting pot with fantastic food, friendly down-toearth people...these all make me feel at home here.

away shop or food truck for a meal because it's likely going to change your life. You always meet great people when vou do it!

ADRIAN KOLBO

WHOLESALE DIRECTOR, STONE BRU COFFEE COMPANY

The best thing about Sioux City is dropping by a tucked-

VERONICA ZENK OWNER. SEW IN STYLE

I was born in Denver but moved here as a baby. Growing up in Sioux City, we didn't have a lot of choices for our hair. I always knew I wanted to bring in hair supplies for people of color and mixed races if I could. In 2019, I found the right location and everything fell into place.

What's kept you here? My family. My husband owns Zenk Auto & Repair. We have two daughters and five grandbabies, and I play a part in their lives every day. Over the years it's been perfect!

Why should others make their home here? Back in the day there was a phrase, "Sioux City. A Place to Grow." It's so true! If you have a vision...and you have the faith...you can make it happen. Yes, you may have some ups and downs, but you'll get there. Here I am at 55, running my own shop and living my dream.

The best thing about Sioux City is that there's backing and support when you need it. Every day I try to make a difference in other people's lives because Sioux City made a difference for me.

BEN KNOEPFLER DEALER PRINCIPAL.

KNOEPFLER CHEVROLET CO.

I grew up in Sioux City, moved away when I was 18, and returned in 2007 to work in our family business.

What makes Sioux City feel like home?

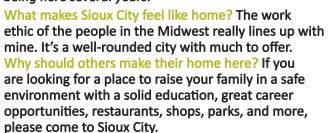
When I left, I was seeking. When I came back, what I found was a different home than I left. I had changed, and so had Sioux City. I enjoyed having things I had taken for granted, like some of the best food on earth and how traffic is 15 minutes in any direction. I enjoyed the ease of life, too, but what really made it feel like home was family and friends.

Why is Sioux City a great place to work? I've watched from the front row as downtown Sioux City has developed with retail, housing, and shops. This is a big small town, and it's fun to network here.

The best thing about Sioux City is making strong and meaningful relationships. That's how I know I'm home.

JOSE E. PABÓN PLANT MANAGER, **SMITHFIELD FOODS**

Two years ago, I was relocated from Wilson, N.C., to run operations in Sioux City. This is a large assignment, so my family and I look forward to being here several years.



The best thing about Sioux City is the weather because you can enjoy all four seasons. I might not like winter as much since I grew up in the Caribbean...but it makes things interesting!

FATIYA ADAM FAMILY SERVICE COORDINATOR, MARY J. TREGLIA COMMUNITY HOUSE

Originally from Ethiopia, I immigrated to the U.S. in 2005. I was 17 and I had a baby. I went to high school and college in Marshall, Minn., and I moved here in 2013 after getting married.

What makes Sioux City feel like home? My husband and I bought our first house in 2019, so now it's really home! I have a job that I love helping people. I've made good friends. And Sioux City has a lot of immigrants and people from different backgrounds; it makes me feel more comfortable to see more people like me.

Why is Sioux City a good place to raise your family? It is a good place for the schools. That is key for me, as I have five children. You can choose which one fits best for your kids no matter what backgrounds they have.

The best thing about Sioux City is that you can find a job easily, pay is a good amount, and you can get affordable housing in a short time.



LUIS TREJO COO. CHATTERKICK

I've lived here 36 years. After college and marriage, my wife and I thought about moving to a larger city that was close to home, as both of our families reside in the area. We quickly realized the best way to stay close to home was to move there directly!

What makes Sioux City feel like home? The feeling of community and belonging. There's a great variety of things to do, but there's plenty of space if you want some peace and quiet.

What phrases come to mind when you think of Sioux City? Excellent quality of life, family friendly, downtown revitalization, fantastic local Mexican food!

The best thing about Sioux City is having the opportunity to create local influence on the community. Our population is just the right size, so you can actually see the impact you're making.

THE BEST THING ABOUT SIOUX CITY IS...

REVATHI RAJAGOPAL

ASSISTANT DEAN OF INCLUSION, WESTERN IOWA TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

I moved here in 2010 as an immigration attorney.

What makes Sioux City feel like home? I'm originally from New York, so Sioux City's diverse communities help me thrive.

Any favorite attractions? Do local restaurants and grocery stores count? Some of the best ethnic cuisines I've tried are hidden gems in our area.

Why is Sioux City a great place to work? Sioux City is a great place for those who aspire to make a name for themselves in the good work they do. There is so much room for growth, human engagement, and positive impact.

The best things about Sioux City are the people, the opportunities, and the growing diversity.



FREDDY DIAZ

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES PROJECT COORDINATOR, CITY OF SIOUX CITY

My family moved here from California when I was four. I call Sioux City my home and have stayed here 27 years because of the opportunities the city offers.

What makes Sioux City feel like home? I've made many friends, and I am very familiar with the community due to the volunteer work I do. My workplace in City Hall is close to my apartment in Bluebird Flats, so that makes my days much easier...and that makes me feel at home. Any favorite local attractions? My wife Brittany and I enjoy golf courses, bike trails, breweries, and good restaurants—La Juanita's, El Fredo's, Shahi Palace, and others!

The best thing about Sioux City is how stress-free it is compared to other cities.

JOHANNA HALBUR DENTIST, FAMILY FIRST DENTAL

Originally from Emmetsburg, Iowa, I moved to Sioux City 28 years ago to work with Dr. Dick Hettinger. I wanted a larger city with a diverse population.

Why is Sioux City a great place to work? The business climate in Sioux City is strong, and it is a small enough town that people know each other. This holds you accountable for your business practices and develops a good reputation if you treat people well.

Why is Sioux City a great place to raise a family?

Sioux City has taught our kids how to get along with children of other cultures besides our own. It's also a safe place where your kids can play in the yard and spend time in your neighborhood.

The best thing about living in Sioux City is connecting with warm and inviting people who are fair-minded, fun, and always willing to help each other. I also love the hilltop views and our unique downtown.



TUBING & TRAILS

Two new regional attractions—summer tubing and major mountain bike trails—are coming to Cone Park, which opened as a snow tubing venue in 2017.

"Cone Park has been incredibly successful in the winter, but these additions will completely change how it's used in the summer," says John Byrnes, recreation supervisor. "We did all kinds of research because we wanted the experiences to be thrilling. They're going to be a blast!"

By using an infrastructure that was already in place, Cone Park will provide a recreational draw that's unmatched in the region. Summer tubing should begin by June 2022.

And by 2023, a full-scale mountain bike park with more than nine miles of machine-built and engineered paths will wind through Cone Park and Sertoma Park. This \$2 million project will offer something for every ability level and create a recreational amenity presently unavailable in our area. Trails will also be suitable for use by walkers, hikers, and runners along with mountain bike enthusiasts.

"These will be trails like you'd normally see in Colorado or Arkansas," shares Byrnes.

The project will be funded through a generous \$1 million gift from the Chesterman Foundation and \$700,000 allocated by the City of Sioux City, along with \$300,000 in community donations. To help create trails for years to come, visit coneparksiouxcity.com/coming-soon.

"These attractions will open up a new world of leisure and recreation for Siouxland," notes Councilmember Alex Watters. "Summer tubing and mountain biking will be huge assets to our community and a big draw for visitors."



On behalf of the Chesterman Foundation, Jay Chesterman (left) shares a major gift for mountain bike trails.

ART CENTER CELEBRATES

The Sioux City Art Center marks 25 years in its current location in 2022! Plan to be part of the festivities planned for this spring, including an art auction and the opening of Towers of Tomorrow a new interactive LEGO-themed blockbuster exhibit—in early May. Watch for updates at siouxcityartcenter.org, @SCArtCenter on Facebook, or siouxcityart on Instagram.



LOOK BEYOND THE BOOKS

The Sioux City Public Library has something new to check out: Smarter HotSpots™!

Tablet- and phone-sized hotspots were checked out 215 times in the first few months. Patrons are thrilled to take them home to do homework, apply for jobs, stream movies, and more.

"The world is digital, but it's still a luxury," says Helen Rigdon, Sioux City Public Library director. "We want everyone to have access to resources that enrich their lives. Ultimately, that builds a better community." For even greater access, locals can now apply for a

library card online!

In the past, getting a library card required a visit to the library with a photo ID and proof of address. Thanks to the library's new system, Sioux City residents can apply with an online form powered by a service



called Verify, which confirms the applicant's info and upon approval—provides almost instant access to the library's online catalog and digital resources.

Rigdon also reminds there's one more thing to check out at the library: No overdue fines for full-service cardholders!

SO MUCH TO DO!

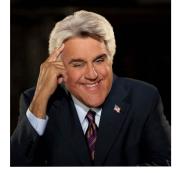
























CONE PARK

coneparksiouxcity.com • 712-223-2663 Snow tubing & ice skating + warming lodge

DOROTHY PECAUT NATURE CENTER

woodburyparks.org • 712-258-0838 Hiking trails + snowshoeing; see Facebook page

DOWNTOWN SIOUX CITY

downtownsiouxcity.com • 712-252-0014 Walking tours & skywalk adventures + shopping, dining & events

IBP ICE CENTER

siouxcityparksandrec.com • 712-279-4880 Public ice skating Fridays & Saturdays from

LAUNCHPAD CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

launchpadmuseum.com • 712-224-2542 STEM-based play + open 7 days a week

LEWIS & CLARK INTERPRETIVE CENTER & BETTY STRONG ENCOUNTER CENTER

siouxcitylcic.com • 712-224-5242 Exciting exhibits + special events

MID AMERICA MUSEUM OF **AVIATION & TRANSPORTATION**

midamericaairmuseum.org • 712-252-5300 Informative displays + Flight 232 exhibit

ORPHEUM THEATRE

orpheumlive.com • 712-279-4850 Sioux City Symphony Orchestra + concerts & **Broadway shows**

SIOUX CITY ART CENTER & GILCHRIST **LEARNING CENTER**

siouxcityartcenter.org • 712-279-6272 Exhibits open + art classes for all skill levels

SIOUX CITY PARKS & REC

siouxcityparksandrec.com • 712-297-6126 See Facebook page for climbing wall details, trail info

SIOUX CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

siouxcitylibrary.org • 712-255-2933 Extensive programming + no library fines

SIOUX CITY PUBLIC MUSEUM

siouxcitymuseum.org • 712-279-6174 Special exhibits + programs for all ages

SIOUX CITY RAILROAD MUSEUM

712-233-6996 Visit Facebook page for details on this kidfriendly attraction

TYSON EVENTS CENTER

tysoncenter.com • 712-279-4850 Sioux City Musketeers & Sioux City Bandits + a growing slate of events







SO MUCH TO EXPLORE!

Explore Sioux City, which encompasses the marketing efforts of the Sioux City Regional Convention and Visitors Bureau, has welcomed Kristi Franz as its first executive director. Check out her thoughts on this new role...

You've hit the ground running! What are your top priorities?

- Promote Siouxland as a total destination to those planning conferences, conventions, meetings, and sporting events.
- Increase awareness of the Siouxland area to regional, state and national audiences.
- Encourage residents to explore Siouxland! Many people don't know how many great attractions, cultural experiences, dining, and shopping opportunities we have here.

How does the City of Sioux City benefit from promoting the greater region?

Marketing the Siouxland region attracts a larger audience. We promote Siouxland as a creative. diverse, historic, and vibrant region—and when we do that, we can feature more activities and opportunities to different segments of visitors so there's something for everyone!

By promoting the greater Siouxland area, we also see a bigger economic impact—not just in the hospitality sector, but directly and indirectly in all industries. It generates tax revenue for the City of Sioux City, which increases personal income, standards of living, and employment opportunities.





EMS MARKS 5 YEARS

It's been five years since Sioux City Fire Rescue launched its Emergency Medical Services Division. Here's a quick look at what the community's ambulance transport/paramedic unit has accomplished:

- Answered 8,000+ calls and transported 5,000+ people each year
- Added three paramedics in 2021 to bring current staffing to 30
- Replaced all eight ambulances plus all key equipment and gear
- Received the top donor award from lowa **Donor Network for four consecutive years**
- Became accredited by the Commission on **Ambulance Accreditation**
- Added the first EMS Physical Agility Test for hiring
- Delivered CPR and first aid training to 700+ people annually
- Changed staffing to a 24-hour model for better coverage and service
- Provided clinical ride-time for area schools and local agencies
- Earned the American Heart Association's Mission Lifeline Gold Plus Award...twice
- Operated at a break-even point financially
- Partnered with the University of Iowa Hospitals to house and operate a stateof-the-art mobile training platform bus for the region

Providing the best possible pre-hospital emergency care, SCFR's EMS Division has quickly become a regional leader and will continue to ensure exceptional care to Sioux City residents.



POLICE PARTNERSHIPS

Outreach and community interaction continues to be a priority for the Sioux City Police Department. Through our partnership with Unity in the Community, SCPD recently facilitated a community conversation on "Unity in our Multicultural Community" to engage locals and law enforcement in the areas of understanding and community safety.

The SCPD is also a charter member of lowa's Law

Enforcement Vision for Equality Task Force—a partnership uniting the NAACP, Unity in the Community, and Iowa Law **Enforcement Chiefs and** Sheriffs. The task force is a resource for all lowa communities seeking guidance or assistance, and its efforts have led to positive intervention in



emerging community issues and hate crime legislation that protects victims of discrimination related crimes.

"The Sioux City Police Department has always been a leader in equality and inclusiveness, and its team will continue to work on outreach initiatives that serve the diverse residents of our community." shares Councilmember Julie Schoenherr.

FOCUS ON WELLNESS



Responding to emergency situations is a dangerous and demanding

profession, both physically and mentally. Sioux City Fire Rescue has two systems in place to help improve the safety, performance, and quality of life for its team.

- The department's Peer Fitness Trainers complete an intensive program of study, testing, and certification in nutrition, fitness, and wellness. Six firefighter trainers offer group classes and personalized programs to help personnel identify, assess, and monitor their fitness and wellness goals.
- SCFR has a 13-member Peer Support Team. These certified members equip firefighters with resources to help maintain their mental and behavioral health. The team has also developed a referral network of health professionals who have experience working with emergency responders.

"Physical fitness has long been a priority for us," says SCFR Fire Chief Tom Everett, "but taking a more well-rounded approach to wellness and behavioral health has been a positive change that will lead to a stronger department in the long run."

HOUSING HELP

In partnership with the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, the Sioux City Housing Authority's Emergency Housing Program is working to help individuals and families quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis or homelessness.

This summer, SCHA was awarded 39 Emergency Housing Vouchers through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Working through the proper channels, Sioux City Housing Authority has helped distribute vouchers to many eligible families and individuals. At least 19 families have been housed and others are actively searching for suitable housing.

"Housing vouchers impact families with children, individuals with disabilities, and Sioux City's disadvantaged and vulnerable households—and they can be a lifeline to permanent housing and a fresh start," states Amy Tooley, who manages the Housing Services Division. "Having a safe, decent, affordable, and stable home is fundamental to forging a path out of poverty."

NEED HELP PAYING RENT?

Emergency Housing Voucher and Housing Choice Voucher eligibility is based on family size and income. Visit sioux-city.org/services or call Sioux City Housing Authority at 712-279-6348.





Contact Coordinated Entry at 712-301-7427 or 712-223-9766.



RAPID RESPONSE

Honored by the Iowa Finance Authority, the City of Sioux City's Neighborhood Services Division has earned the 2021 COVID-19 Housing Response Award for creating a new outreach office and emergency shelter program for those experiencing homelessness.

Responding to needs identified by city leaders in the midst of the pandemic, Neighborhood Services Manager Jill Wanderscheid and her team tackled two major questions:

- 1. With City Hall closed and people working from home, how could staff help those in need?
- 2. How could staffers use funds provided by the federal government to increase local street outreach and serve individuals who had nowhere to go?

"To address a growing need for housing, move people off the streets as quickly as possible, and do our best to avoid the spread of COVID-19, we really asked our team to rethink how everything was done," shares Mayor Pro Tem Dan Moore. "The response was incredible."

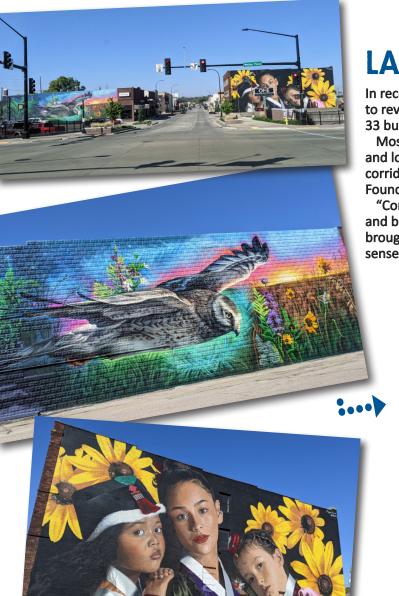
TEMPORARY SHELTER was the first priority. The city partnered with local hotels to meet the need and expanded rapid rehousing efforts to move people from hotels into apartments.

SATELLITE OFFICE SPACE was also needed. Staff envisioned an inviting space that served those experiencing homelessness in a way that was safe during the pandemic.

The solution? Downtown Sioux City's Martin Luther King Ground Transportation Center, which houses the City Transit bus terminal, connects to the skywalks, and is centrally located to the shelters and services for those experiencing homelessness.

"Personal connections we can make with people are forever changed because of this new space," shares Wanderscheid. "That allows us to build deeper trust, find the root of their homelessness, remove those barriers, and transition to permanent housing."

Since the pandemic began, 155 people have been housed through the emergency shelter hotel program and 77 individuals have used the rapid rehousing program.



LARGER THAN LIFE

In recent years, the City of Sioux City has invested millions of dollars to revitalize West 7th Street, enhancing the streetscape and impacting 33 businesses.

Most recently, the city has partnered with nationally known artists and local business owners to add vibrant murals on the West 7th Street corridor. Additional funding was generously provided by the Gilchrist Foundation and Missouri River Historical Development.

"Completing projects like this brings vibrancy to our neighborhoods and business districts," notes Mayor Bob Scott. "These works have really brought people together, and will continue to do so, as they create a sense of place that is unique to each area."

Located at 214 West 7th St., this mural showcases a large, photorealistic harrier hawk within a prairie scene. Painted by nationally known artist Sarah C. Rutherford, the image represents regenerative efforts of prairie spaces in recent years as well as revitalization efforts along West 7th. The project took Rutherford and her assistant, Amber Odhner, about a week to complete.

THOUGHTS FROM THE ARTIST:

What is special about this piece in this place? For me there is a connection between the city's revitalization efforts on West 7th and the region's regenerative prairie efforts. The mural features the locally endangered harrier hawk whose habitat is the prairie. To the left, you see neatly ordered rows of corn illuminated by moonlight transitioning into a sunset over the grass-filled prairie.

Located at 219 West 7th St., this mural was painted by internationally renowned graffiti artist Royyal Dog and depicts three girls who represent the African American, Southeast Asian, and Jewish communities and businesses that have made their home in the West 7th Street corridor over the years. The artist spent a few weeks conceptualizing his mural and selecting the colors, then took 11 days to paint.

THOUGHTS FROM THE ARTIST:

What is special about this piece in this place? I appreciate that Sioux City is sending a strong message of cultural diversity and harmony. I also like the Midwest, and this is my first mural in Iowa.

SIOUX CITY COUNCIL



Bob Scott • Alex Watters • Julie Schoenherr • Matthew O'Kane • Dan Moore CONTACT A COUNCILMEMBER: 279.6102 • ccouncil@sioux-city.org Robert Padmore, City Manager

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