

# HEADLINES

September 14, 2005



## ROCK ISLAND CITY COUNCIL SETS GOALS

At Rock Island's goal setting session September 9 and 10, 2005 [City Council](#) set top priorities for the coming year. Over the two days, achievements are reviewed and challenges and opportunities are evaluated. After much discussion, City Council selected their top and high priorities for 2006. The items listed under management agenda are items that are currently underway or being discussed. The goals 2010 section addresses the overriding goals for the city.

### TOP PRIORITIES

1. Infrastructure upgrade plan and long-term funding mechanism
2. [Columbia Park development \(QCIC\)](#)
3. Casino Rock Island relocation and related opportunities
4. [RiverVision Plan](#) implementation
5. [Armory Plan](#) completion and implementation action
6. Blackhawk Road corridor retail development

### HIGH PRIORITIES

1. Property tax relief strategy and actions
2. Long-term control plan for wastewater system
3. [Rental housing inspection program](#) implementation and funding
4. [Martin Luther King Community Center](#) operating funding and partnership
5. Armory Park direction and actions
6. Southwest and Andalusia Road retail development

### MANAGEMENT AGENDA

1. Storm water management plan implementation
2. County study on telecommunications access and services
3. Healthcare cost containment strategy
4. Community brand and marketing program implementation
5. Downtown residential units market and evaluation
6. Gateway and entrance beautification projects
7. Sylvan Slough Natural Area Park development
8. District short term actions including security and cameras

### GOALS 2010

1. [Quality services, financially sound city](#)
2. [Growing economy](#)
3. [More and better retail](#)
4. [More new homes, upgraded older homes](#)
5. [Neighborhoods that are more livable](#)
6. [Improved riverfront and downtown](#)

## **Goal 1: Quality Services, financially sound city**

### Objectives:

- Expanded city tax base
- City services delivered in a customer-driven and cost-effective manner
- Maintaining and improving bond rating
- Controlling the cost of government
- Adequate resources to support defined services and service levels and well-maintained infrastructure
- Investing in city's infrastructure
- Financially responsible actions creating a long-term, sustainable city government

### Actions 2005-2020:

- Infrastructure upgrade plan and long-term funding mechanism
- Healthcare cost containment strategy and action plan
- Gaming revenues: policy framework for use of revenues
- Property tax relief strategy
- Long-term control plan for wastewater system; mitigation: consent decree
- Water system improvement – financing direction

### Management Agenda:

- Rock Island Arsenal water system acquisition
- Storm water management plan implementation
- Merger of Quad LINC (local libraries)

## **Goal 2: Growing Economy**

### Objectives:

- More jobs created and retained
- Attraction of new businesses
- Retention and expansion of local businesses
- More effective use of new and old industrial sites
- Expanded high tech and environmental economy
- Attraction of high paying jobs
- Attraction of the "Creative Class" and young professionals
- Effective regional economic development
- Attraction of high tax generating businesses
- Expanded technology infrastructure

### Actions 2005-2010:

- Wireless telecommunications infrastructure study and plan
- Columbia Park Redevelopment (QCIC)
- Casino Rock Island relocation and related opportunities
- Annexation: next actions
- Regional economic development strategic goals and plan

### Management Agenda:

- Wetland mitigation direction and actions

- County study on telecommunications access and services

### **Goal 3: More and better retail**

#### Objectives:

- Attraction of new retail businesses
- More grocery stores
- Strengthening retail corridors
- Retaining major retailers
- Target retail site for future development

#### Actions 2005-2010:

- Blackhawk Road corridor retail development
- Southwest Rock Island and Andalusia Road retail development
- 11<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor Retail Development
- Casino Area Retail Development
- QCIC (Columbia Park) Retail Strategy and Development

### **Goal 4: More new homes, upgraded older homes**

#### Objectives:

- More new homes built in Southwest Rock Island
- More infill housing in older neighborhoods
- Better variety of new housing alternatives within the city
- Upgrade older homes and removal if necessary
- Better quality rental units
- More downtown residential units

#### Actions 2005-2010:

- Infill housing projects
- Southwest residential development
- Community brand and marketing program implementation
- Rental housing inspection program implementation and funding
- Downtown residential units evaluation of number and market, parking

### **Goal 5: Neighborhoods that are more livable**

#### Objectives:

- Upgraded neighborhood infrastructure, streets and facilities
- Stronger neighborhood identity and pride – stronger neighborhood associations
- More attractive and beautiful neighborhoods, corridors and gateways
- People feel and are safe in their neighborhoods
- People want to live in the neighborhoods
- Designing new and old neighborhoods

#### Actions 2005-2010:

- Gateway and entrances beautification plan and projects

- New Old Chicago neighborhood plan completion and implementation
- Martin Luther King Community Center – operating funding and partnerships
- Martin Luther King Community Center expansion and direction
- Liquor control policy and actions

## **Goal 6: Improved riverfront and downtown**

### Objectives:

- Development of residential opportunities
- Reuse of old industrial sites and Armory
- Expanded public control of riverfronts
- Expanded public uses of riverfronts
- More retail dining and retail opportunities along the rivers
- Enhanced arts and Arts and Entertainment District
- Rock Island Downtown as part of the urban core of the Quad Cities

### Actions 2005-2010:

- RiverVision Plan: Rock Island projects and actions
- Columbia Park Redevelopment (QCIC)
- Armory Plan completion and implementation action
- Armory Park direction and actions (transient boat slips, etc.)
- District evaluation, goals/future direction and plan, organization structure, city's role

### Management Agenda:

- Sylvan Slough Natural Area Park development
- District short term actions: security and cameras