

Headlines



CITY COUNCIL IDENTIFIES GOALS

10/16/06

Rock Island Mayor Mark Schwiebert and members of the City Council conducted their annual strategic planning session October 13 and 14. Rock Island's elected leaders have conducted such a session annually for over 20 years.

"This session helps us to consider our long-term vision for the community, as well as identify the most important issues for the coming year," according to Mayor Mark Schwiebert. "In the process, it allows us to surface new ideas that can promote our community's growth and betterment in the days and years ahead."

City Manager John Phillips commented on the session. "This was a very successful planning session. It provides clear policy direction for the City management staff."

Five-year goals identified by the City Council are as follows:

1. Quality Services, Financially Sound City
2. More and Better Retail
3. Growing Economy
4. More New Homes, Upgraded Older Homes
5. Improved Riverfronts and Downtown
6. Neighborhoods that are More Livable

Targets for action during the coming year include the following:

TOP PRIORITY

1. Promote and support 11th Street retail development.
2. Promote and support 18th Avenue retail development.
3. Support redevelopment of the Columbia Park area.
4. Begin implementation of the New/Old Chicago Plan.
5. Encourage development of agricultural and environmentally sustainable business.

HIGH PRIORITY

1. Improve energy efficiency of City Hall.
2. Encourage retail development on Blackhawk Road at 30th Street and 44th Street.
3. Promote campustown development in concert with Augustana College.
4. Solidify operating support and build partnerships with Martin Luther King Center.
5. Move forward with implementation of Martin Luther King Center expansion plans.

Several priorities were assigned to management to implement during the next year:

TOP PRIORITY

1. Pursue efforts to demolish the Rock Island Armory and complete the Armory Park Plan.
2. Implement the strategies included in the Downtown Strategic Plan.
3. Facilitate the relocation of the Casino Rock Island.
4. Develop a management succession strategy.
5. Continue implementation of the Infrastructure Upgrade Plan as part of the Capital Improvement Plan.

HIGH PRIORITY

1. Work to contain rising costs of health care.
2. Present an update of the Stormwater Management Plan.
3. Implement RiverVision projects.
4. Complete the Illinois 92 Corridor Study.