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Rock Island City Council Sets Priorities for the Year

Rock Island City Council met September 24 and 25, 2004 to determine priorities for next year. For approximately twenty years, City Council has gathered together to discuss past successes and future needs.

Mayor Mark Schwiebert commented, "The session gives us an opportunity to review our successes and focus on our challenges for the next year and coming years. This year our priorities focused on some familiar issues such as housing and retail, and some new items emerged like development of wireless telecommunication capacity within the city."

The top priorities set by the Council for 2004-2005 are:

- Buxton retail study and implementation
- Wireless telecommunication infrastructure study and plan
- Gateway and entrance beautification plan and funding
- RiverVision plan and action
- Quad City Industrial Center (QCIC) plan and direction

High priorities include:

- Infill housing projects
- Retail development along Blackhawk Road
- Infrastructure upgrade plan and funding
- Vacant commercial site development and actions (29th to 31st Streets on 18th Avenue)
- Children's Garden at Quad City Botanical Center
- Business Park in Southwest Rock Island

Moderate priorities include:

- Public art
- Southwest residential development

Rock Island's goals through 2010 include:

- More new homes, upgraded older homes
- More and better retail
- Quality city services
- Financially sound city government
- Growing economy
- Neighborhoods that are more livable
- Improved riverfront

Rock Island's vision statement through 2020 is:

Rock Island is a growing city with a beautiful riverfront, a vibrant downtown, and livable neighborhoods. Rock Island is a proud community that respects diversity and history. Our citizens have choices for educational, cultural, and occupational opportunities, quality homes, and places for enjoyment and fun. Rock Island city government is financially sound and provides the best services in the Quad Cities.