CITY OF

Waukesha

STATE OF THE CITY

April 16, 2019

Dear Residents, City Council, and City Staff,

It is an honor and privilege to serve as your Mayor. It is hard to believe that it has been five years since I first took the Oath of Office as Mayor. This past year, was another great year of growth and opportunity for our City.

During the year, as a Council and staff we went through a Strategic Planning process. With the adoption of the Strategic Plan the following were re-affirmed as our goals for the City:

- **Safe and Secure -** Work in Partnership with the community to prevent, respond to, and mitigate unsafe conditions and emergencies with a focus on problem solving.
- **Well Managed/Financially Sound -** Develop fiscally sound financial practices and effectively manage public resources within budgetary limitations. Be a good steward of public finances, continually seeking more efficient, cost effective ways to provide services.
- **Customer Focused -** Provide prompt and responsive service with a caring attitude.
- **Economically Strong and Diverse -** Use strategies and policies that are forward thinking to retain and expand existing businesses, attract new businesses and high-quality jobs, and promote quality redevelopment.
- **Well Planned, Sustainable and Environmentally Sensitive -** Plan appropriately to be a City whose development, natural resources and public infrastructure are sustainable, accessible and environmentally sensitive while keeping pace with growth.
- **Civic, Cultural and Recreational Center for the Region -** Foster exceptional programs, services and facilities that promote a continued renaissance highlighting our arts community, musical assets, library services, parks/open spaces and diverse recreational opportunities.
- **Vibrant Neighborhoods and Business Area -** Promote attractive and clean neighborhoods with a sense of identity. Promote redevelopment while preserving historical assets.

I hope that you will enjoy reflecting with me on what I consider be our top accomplishments for the past year under each of our goal areas. All of our accomplishments are brought about by the excellent team of professionals we have working day in and day out for the City and by the guidance and direction of the entire Common Council. We should all feel a sense of pride and achievement over what we have accomplished during the last year.

This next year will bring challenges, as well as continued opportunities. I look forward to working with the Common Council and our team of employees to help continue to lead the City forward this next year.

Sincerely,

Shawn N. Reilly

Shawn N. Reilly, Mayor

2018

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Safe & Secure

Collected 1,206 lbs of medications in 2018 for a total of 3,253 lbs since the program started in 2015s.

Replacement of Fire Engine 4 to meet the needs of the community on the City's North side

Full utilization of the new Fire station #3 and Police sub-station which serves the southern portion of the City

Replacement of Firefighter self-contained breathing apparatus which allows firefighters to work easier and longer in hazardous environments

Hired 4 additional Community Service Officers who help to increase Police visibility in the community.

Switched from contracted security at the Transit Center to hired security guards which has improved safety

Relocated four polling locations out of schools to provide for better handicap accessibility along with increased safety and security

Introduced online security awareness training for all employees to reduce our cyber security risk

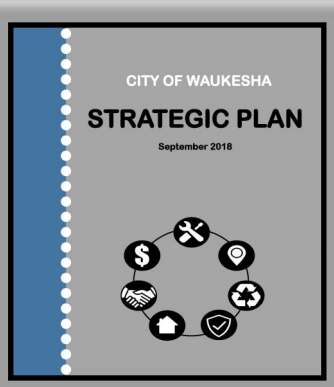
Well Managed/Financially Sound

Received the Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department received reaccreditation. There are only 169 accredited Parks Departments in the nation.

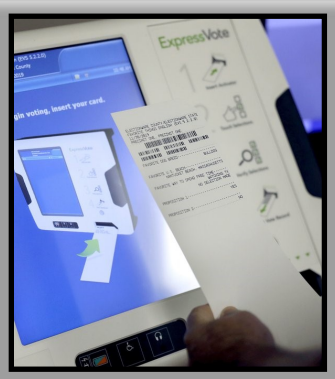
Implementation of Employee Performance Review System which will lead to a Pay for Performance Plan

Record sales of new endowments at Prairie Home Cemetery

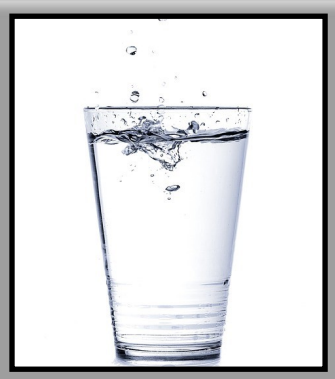


Completed an updated Strategic Plan for the City

City had a 9% increase in employee participation at the Health & Wellness center which saves the City on insurance costs



Utilized new ballot marker during in-person absentee voting which helped keep the costs of ballots down and reduced time on Election Day processing ballots



Received authorization to move forward in WIFIA process which will provide low-cost federal loans for the water project and help ensure the lowest possible costs for ratepayers

Customer Focused

Rolled out online permitting for electric, plumbing and HVAC permits. Contractors can now apply online for these permits and schedule inspections online

Completed Library Strategic Plan. Goals: redesigned first floor with meeting space, focus on needs of diverse community, and expanded awareness of programs

Hired a Community Library Liaison who works at the School District and Library. This has led to improved communication between the School District and Library

Service in Action

25,617
Police calls for service

7,508
Fire/EMS calls for service

1,585
Code Enforcement Inspections

1,456
Recreation programs and classes offered

203
miles of sanitary sewer pipes cleaned and maintained

34
Salting/Plowing operations

Economically Strong and Diverse

NEW ZONING CATEGORY

Created a new zoning category, Mixed Use industrial, to better serve our businesses and allow them additional flexibility

TAX INCREMENT FINANCE DISTRICT

Created a redevelopment tax incremental finance district along White Rock Ave. to encourage reinvestment in the White Rock Corridor

FACADE, SIGN & AWNING GRANTS

Provided facade, sign and awning grants to 11 small businesses that catalyzed $81,721 in building improvements downtown

Well Planned, Sustainable, and Environmentally Sensitive

Signed the Mayor's Monarch Pledge and committed to create habitat for the Monarch butterfly and pollinators

Continued planning and permitting for transition to Lake Michigan water by 2023

Collected 5,424 tons of leaves that were processed into compost and put out for public use

Forestry Department continues fight against Emerald Ash Borer

79% of the City's 4,920 Ash trees are protected from Emerald Ash Borer through treatment

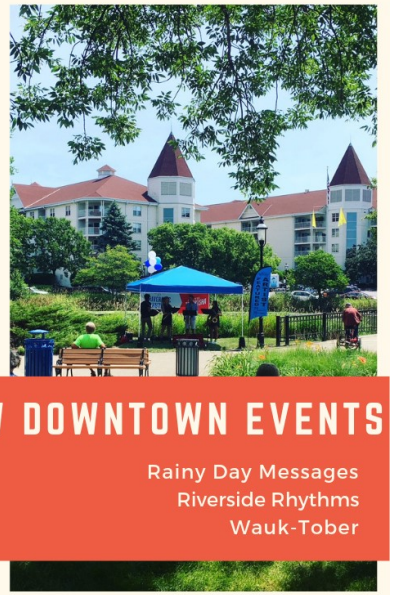
Completed design and bid of the Greenmeadow Interceptor Sewer Project which includes installation of a new gravity sewer and allows for the elimination of two pump stations.

Completed design and construction of Phase 1 of the Area 5 Flood Mitigation improvements to mitigate the flooding in the area near Waukesha Memorial Hospital

Civic, Cultural and Recreational Center for the Region

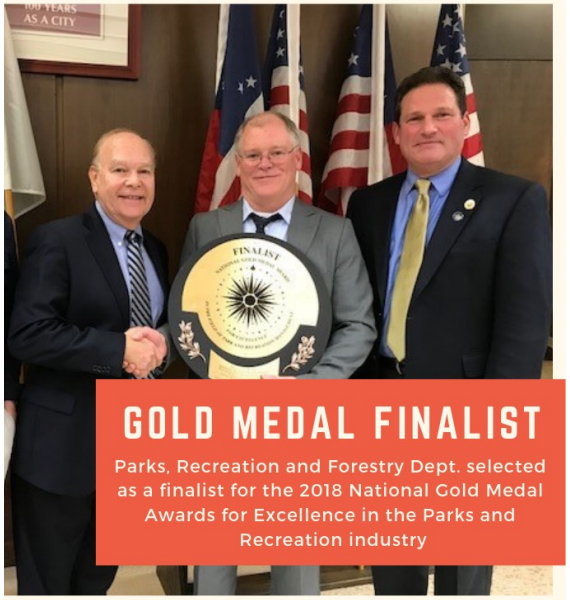
BIKE TRAIL

Completed Phase 1 of a project that creates the start of a connection between the New Berlin Trail and the Glacial Drumlin trail. Phase 1 included creation of a paved asphalt trail from Barstow Street to Frederick Street.



NEW DOWNTOWN EVENTS

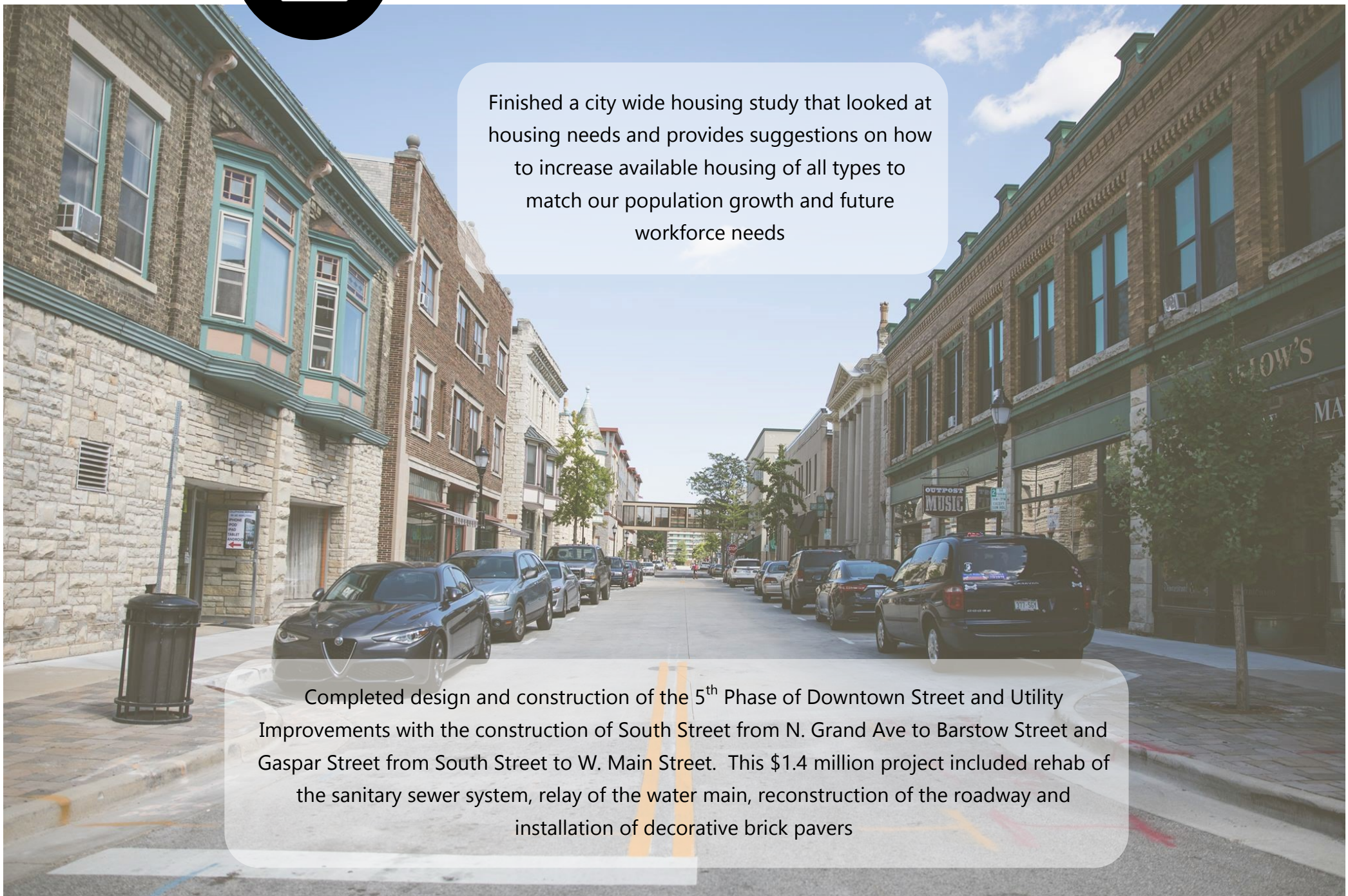
Rainy Day Messages
Riverside Rhythms
Wauk-Tober



GOLD MEDAL FINALIST

Parks, Recreation and Forestry Dept. selected as a finalist for the 2018 National Gold Medal Awards for Excellence in the Parks and Recreation industry

Vibrant Neighborhoods and Business Areas

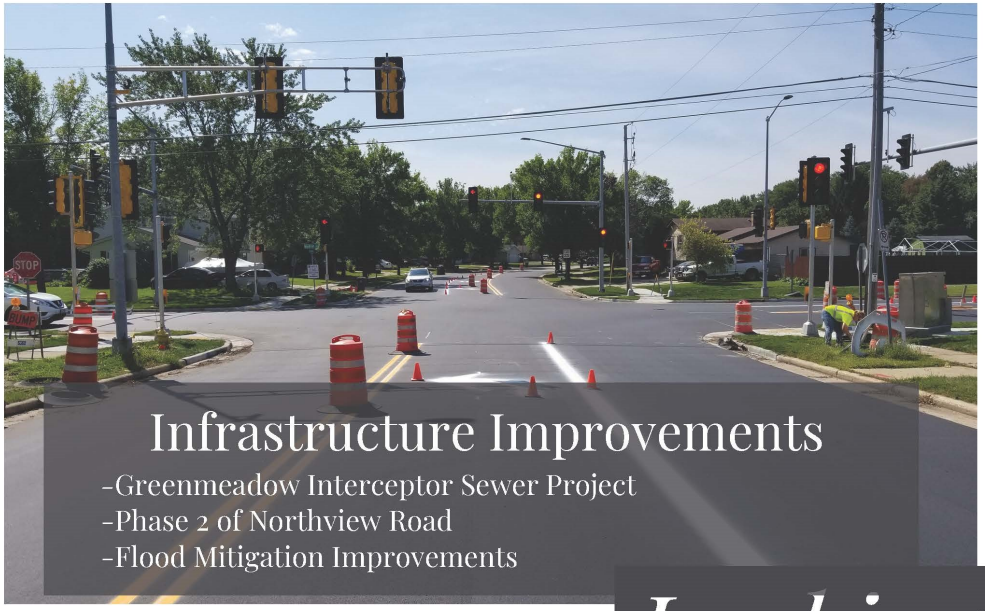


Finished a city wide housing study that looked at housing needs and provides suggestions on how to increase available housing of all types to match our population growth and future workforce needs

Completed design and construction of the 5th Phase of Downtown Street and Utility Improvements with the construction of South Street from N. Grand Ave to Barstow Street and Gaspar Street from South Street to W. Main Street. This $1.4 million project included rehab of the sanitary sewer system, relay of the water main, reconstruction of the roadway and installation of decorative brick pavers

Looking Ahead

2019 PROJECTS



Infrastructure Improvements

-Greenmeadow Interceptor Sewer Project
-Phase 2 of Northview Road
-Flood Mitigation Improvements

Water Project

Planning and permitting for the project with the goal of a 2023 transition to Lake Michigan Water

New City Hall

Construction is anticipated to start in Fall of 2019

Election Changes

-Have all poll locations moved out of schools
-Begin implementation of e-poll books

Policy and Planning Updates

-Update the City's Comprehensive Plan which is the guide for future development in the City.
-Update the City's Financial Policies
-Update the City's Human Resources Policies