

# **City Administrators Report**

April 9-24, 2025

## **Keystone**

This project is progressing steadily, with visible advancements each day. There is also growing interest in the additional parcels expected to become available in the near future.

## **RR Tracks**

The City of Ames has retrieved the radar equipment in order to download and process the data collected from the crossings that have already been scanned. At this time, there are still two crossings within the city limits that remain to be scanned: S14 and South 6th Street. These will be scheduled for completion in the next phase of the project.

## **Sponsored Project**

We're excited to officially begin work on the project. At the last City Council meeting, the contract was awarded, marking a significant milestone. The next step is the preconstruction meeting, which is scheduled for May 5th. During this meeting, we'll review the full scope of the project, confirm timelines, discuss coordination efforts, and address any remaining questions to ensure a smooth start to construction.

## **Accessibility**

Marlys has reached out to ReciteMe and is currently arranging a tutorial with their team. This session will allow us to thoroughly review the platform's features and assess how well it meets our goals for website accessibility, user inclusivity, and ease of integration. We've narrowed our options down to a few top companies and will be scheduling demos with each of them to compare functionality, support, cost, and overall user experience. Several of these vendors already incorporate ReciteMe into their offerings, which will provide valuable insight as we determine the best fit for our website's needs.

## **Splashpad**

We are continuing our research into splashpad design and functionality, with a focus on reviewing best practices and successful implementations in other communities. Our goal is to identify features and layouts that are both engaging and sustainable. As part of this effort, Tim recently contacted state officials to inquire about the regulatory stance on bi-level splashpads. We are currently awaiting their response, which will help determine whether this type of design is permissible and aligns with state safety and accessibility standards. Their feedback will be an important factor as we move forward with planning and design decisions.

## **Sewerage Testing**

The test results have been received for another local business, and the findings appear to be favorable for both the business and our team. The data suggests a positive outcome that may simplify the next steps in the process. We will need to review the results collectively and seek input from the Iowa DNR to ensure alignment with regulatory expectations. Based on the current information, it is our preliminary assessment that a Treatment Agreement (TA) may not be necessary for this business. However, we'll confirm this after further discussion and official feedback.

## **Embark**

Embark has successfully received all the necessary components for the installation of the third television designated for the back wall. Their team is scheduled to arrive on the 29th to complete the full setup and installation process.

## **Saltech**

Saltech is scheduled to return on Monday to continue their work. Prior to the City Council meeting, members of the Council will conduct a thorough run-through and test of the product to ensure everything is functioning as intended. Assuming all systems perform as expected, we plan to officially go live with the product during Monday evening's Council meeting.

#### **Development Agreement**

The development agreement and trail agreement between the involved parties have been fully finalized. At this stage, we are in the process of addressing a few remaining items to ensure everything is in order before formally placing the agreements on the City Council agenda. The current plan is to present all related materials for review and approval during the final Council meeting scheduled for May.

#### **DOT**

It has been some time since I last received any updates from the Department of Transportation (DOT). I will be reaching out to them shortly to check on the current status and determine where things stand. Given the recent stretch of inclement weather and persistent rainfall, I anticipate that additional attention or action may be necessary regarding conditions on Maple.

#### **Windmill**

I have contacted Joe from BlueSky Wind to request a more specific timeline for the removal of the windmill currently located on our property. Joe informed me that he has already reached out to the responsible party to seek further clarification regarding the scheduling and next steps. Additionally, he confirmed that he has given them formal authorization to begin the removal process and has signed the necessary contract to initiate the work.

#### **Software**

The scheduled timeline for installation and system updates remains on track to begin in June and continue through the end of December. While we anticipate this period will present a number of challenges, particularly as we manage these upgrades alongside our ongoing responsibilities, the long-term benefits are expected to significantly streamline operations and improve efficiency for staff. It's important to acknowledge that the initial transition phase may come with some hurdles, but with proper planning, we will be able to navigate them successfully.

#### **Wellfield**

We are currently in the process of identifying suitable dates to conduct a controlled burn of the field located outside the new plant facility. This step is essential to properly clear the area and prepare the ground. Once the burn is completed, we will move forward with reseeding to promote healthy and sustainable vegetation growth in the space.

#### **Burke**

Burke is currently in possession of both the ordinance and the accompanying agreement. We have reached out to their team to request available dates for a meeting to review and discuss the documents in detail. Once we receive their proposed availability, we will work to schedule a time that accommodates all parties involved. Following the meeting and any necessary revisions or confirmations, we will proceed with placing the item on an upcoming City Council agenda for formal consideration and potential approval.

#### **Monthly Meetings**

WW Progress Meeting

FEMA Closeout

NEDC Exec

PPL



## **STAFF MEETING AGENDA**

**April 21, 2025**

### **A. Old Business**

- a. City Administrator
  - i. CDBG
  - ii. PPL
  - iii. RR
  - iv. 51 Acres
  - v. Splashpad
  - vi. Trail-Northview
  - vii. Capstone
  - viii. Trailside-Keystone
  - ix. WWTP-Burn
  - x. Vialytics
  - xi. Accessibility
  - xii. Street Lights, benches
  - xiii. Engineering
  - xiv. Social Media updates