

Update Rock Island News Release

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Media Contact:

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Update Rock Island is a segment at City Council meetings given by Mayor Mark Schwiebert focusing on news in Rock Island. The video segment from the meeting is available on the home page of www.rigov.org and provides more information on the topics listed.

Appropriation of \$1 million of Motor Fuel Tax to Street Maintenance Considered

City Council will consider a resolution appropriating \$1 million of Motor Fuel Tax funds for street maintenance.

Hydropower Plant Update

The City purchased the Sears Powerhouse in June 2008 and began expanding its production capacity from 600 kilowatts to 1,200 kilowatts. All the environmental requirements for the expansion have been satisfied and the operating agreements with MidAmerican Energy Company have been executed. The documents needed for Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approval have been submitted and formal approval of the expansion is expected shortly.

The expansion project is underway with a combination of in-house and contract services. The turbine rehabilitation will be completed within the next couple months, but installation will probably be delayed until summer due high water on the rivers.

Water Treatment Plan Provides Very High Quality Drinking Water According to IEPA

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency stated in a letter to Mayor Schwiebert, "Over the past several years, the water treatment plant staff has made large gains in providing very high quality drinking water for your customers by reducing the finished water turbidity to levels which are significantly and consistently below state and federal standards. Your staff should be commended for the progress made in this area."

Excellence in Financial Reporting Awarded to City

For the twentieth consecutive year, the City of Rock Island received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2008 by the Government Finance Officers Association. This is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

St. Patrick Society Grand Parade

The St. Patrick Society of the Quad Cities will host the Grand Parade XXIV on Saturday, March 14 starting at 11:30 a.m. The Grand Parade begins at 23rd Street and 4th Avenue in Rock Island and proceeds through downtown and crosses the Mississippi River to downtown Davenport. This is the only interstate St. Patrick's Day Parade in the United States. For more information visit www.stpatsqc.com.