



# CITY SIDE

SEPTEMBER 2021

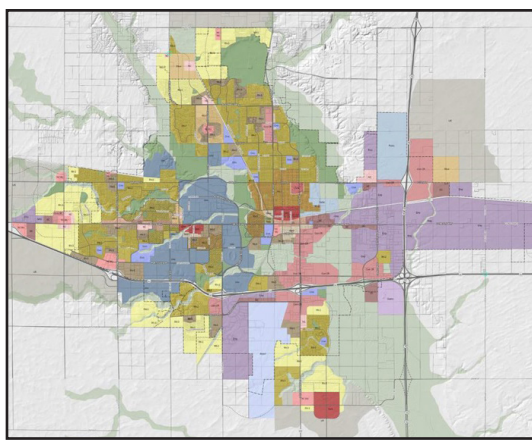
## AMES PLAN 2040 RETURNS WITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR FEEDBACK

Planning ahead for the future of Ames requires preparing for change and growth. In the next two decades, Ames could approach a population of 80,000. Ames Plan 2040 is the City’s proposed comprehensive plan for addressing growth within and expansion of the community. Decisions made today will better prepare Ames for challenges and opportunities ahead.

Ames Plan 2040 started off with public workshops and community surveys intended to identify interests of residents, businesses, and the City Council looking forward for 20 years. The City partnered with a consultant team lead by RDG and studied issues related to population projections, housing requirements, and job growth to help inform options for meeting various needs across the community.

To best encapsulate the goals and purpose of Ames Plan 2040, the City Council has used this vision to guide its preparation:

*“To consider Ames as an evolving city that will not only grow outwardly, but also invest in existing areas and support change within the community that ensures Ames is an inclusive, thriving, and vital community with a diverse economy, environmentally sustainable practices, and a high quality of living that meets the needs of both current and future residents.”*



A major step in developing the plan was the scenario analysis of options to best serve a growing population. The scenarios considered the addition of 15,000 people to the community and how this could be accommodated in order to establish community priorities.

However, Ames Plan 2040 is more than a map for new subdivisions and business parks. The Plan holistically addresses quality of life and community needs with elements of planning for enhancements to transportation, parks and open space, housing, commercial areas, community character, and the environment.

“Ames Plan 2040 is a critical policy decision for the City as it will guide many decisions by the City Council over the next 20 years,” said Kelly Diekmann, Planning and Housing Director and project manager.

### Ames Plan 2040: Share Your Thoughts

The Mayor and City Council invite you to participate in the review of Ames Plan 2040 by providing your feedback on the vision and principles of the plan. A draft copy of Ames Plan 2040 is available for public review at [www.CityOfAmes.org/amesplan2040](http://www.CityOfAmes.org/amesplan2040).

This web page provides background about the creation of the plan, allows users to review the plan, and includes a place to provide comments about the draft.

In addition to reviewing documents, the web page will be updated with opportunities for in-person and online options to interact with staff, ask questions, and provide comments.

## CITY NEWS TO USE

### IN THIS ISSUE:

- Ioway Creek Stabilization Plans
- City Partners with Verbio
- Mental Health Expo Planned
- Pregracke Lecture in September
- Parks & Recreation Notes
- Energy Q&A

### LABOR DAY:

- City Hall and most City of Ames offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 6, for the Labor Day holiday. For more information about the City of Ames calendar or hours of operation, go to [www.CityOfAmes.org](http://www.CityOfAmes.org).



## IOWAY CREEK STABILIZATION PLANS

Plans are underway for improvements to Ioway Creek through Brookside Park that will combat erosion and improve water quality.

This project is designed to restore stream function and stabilize the Ioway Creek stream banks on a section of the waterway between Sixth and 13th streets in Brookside Park and on adjoining private properties on the east side of the creek.



*Stream bank improvements implemented on Ioway Creek near Lincoln Way are similar to those being proposed for Brookside Park.*

Similar efforts along the creeks in Ames have included clearing fallen trees from the channel, grading and stabilizing stream banks, and protecting banks with riprap and native vegetation. The Brookside Park project will also include fixing separated storm sewer pipes,

realignment of the pedestrian trail to improve access to the creek in Brookside Park, and new plantings of native trees and vegetation.

## CITY PARTNERS TO DISPOSE OF BIOSOLIDS

The Ames Water Pollution Control Facility produces about 30,000 gallons of biosolids each day. In a typical year, a contractor applies the biosolids to farm ground near the facility each fall. This year, the City has partnered with the Verbio Biorefinery in Nevada.



Verbio will use a large volume of the biosolids as a seed material for their anaerobic digesters. Anaerobic digestion uses bacteria to break down organic matter in the absence of oxygen. These digesters will produce renewable natural gas, which will be injected into an on-site natural gas distribution pipeline.

anticipated, over 2.2 million gallons of biosolids will have been transported from the Ames Water Pollution Control Facility to the Verbio Biorefinery. This is another way the City of Ames is exploring sustainable methods to recycle waste products. The department is also experimenting with digesting food waste from the Food Waste Diversion program deposited in containers by the Resource Recovery Plant.

By the end of August, it is

## MENTAL HEALTH EXPO

### PLANNED FOR SEPTEMBER

The annual Story County Mental Health Expo will be a virtual event on Tuesday, Sept. 21. “An Evening of Hope and Healing” will begin at 5 p.m. with a virtual resource fair followed by keynote speaker Kevin Hines at 6 p.m. More information is available at [www.StoryCounymhexpo.com](http://www.StoryCounymhexpo.com).

This event is coordinated by the Ames Police Department, Central Iowa Community Services, Community and Family Resources, Community Support Advocates, Eyerly Ball, ISU Counseling, ISU Committee on Lectures, ISU Police Department, Lutheran Services in Iowa, National Alliance on Mental Illness - Central Iowa, Optima Life Services, and Youth & Shelter Services.

### PREGRACKE TALK RESCHEDULED

Mark your calendar for the rescheduled presentation from Chad Pregracke, who founded the non-profit water quality education organization

Living Lands and Waters. Pregracke will speak at the Ames City Auditorium, 515 Clark Ave., at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 30. His talk supports Ames Public Works’ watershed education events and is part of the ongoing celebration of Ames being named “2021 Iowa River Town of the Year.”



More information about Pregracke and his organization is at: [www.livinglandsandwaters.org](http://www.livinglandsandwaters.org)

### CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

City Council meetings are held in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 515 Clark Ave.

6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 14

6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 21 (workshop)

6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 28



## WELLNESS AND DANCE CLASSES

### YOGA BASICS

Welcome to yoga! This four-week class is designed to familiarize beginners with basic yoga postures and breathing techniques, so you feel comfortable moving into other yoga classes. Classes begin Sept. 12 and meet at 6 p.m. Sundays.



### SALSA DANCE BEGINNER

Learn to dance salsa! Join us for a fun beginning salsa dance class introducing rhythm and timing of the music, techniques in leading and following, and basic footwork. This class will have you ready for a night of salsa dancing in no time! No experience or partner required. Classes meet from 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays, beginning Sept. 1.

### PLUS MORE CLASSES OFFERED!

For more details and registration information for youth and adult programs, visit [www.amesparkrec.org](http://www.amesparkrec.org) or call 515.239.5350.

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

### SWIM LESSONS

A multitude of lessons will be offered for youth with a session beginning in September and a second one in October. These classes fill early!

### DANCE AND GYMNASTICS

Many different dance and gymnastics programs are offered for youth looking to try it for the first time or continue to build on their skills. This next six-week session starts the week of Sept. 13 at the Ames Community Center.

### KIDDIE KICKERS

Children ages 5-6 will learn the fundamentals of soccer and teamwork in this program which is held Mondays & Wednesdays, Sept. 13 – Oct. 20. Parks and Recreation instructors will help the teams with different drills and activities for coaches to lead. The program will end with games the last few weeks

## CANOES, KAYAKS, & PADDLE BOARD RENTALS

Jax Outdoor Gear rents canoes, kayaks, and stand-up paddle boards at Ada Hayden Heritage Park to the public on Saturdays and Sundays (11 a.m. – 5 p.m.) through Monday, Sept. 6, weather permitting. All paddle board renters must wear a personal floatation device,

which is included in the rental rate. The rental rates for 30 and/or 60 minutes are as follows:

Canoes \$13/\$15  
 Kayaks \$13/\$15  
 Stand-Up Paddle Board N.A./\$17



## HOMWOOD GOLF COURSE

The new Homewood Clubhouse is a year-round facility that features a large room available to rent for meetings, birthday parties, graduations, and more. This new facility provides the perfect place for group outings. For more

information or to book your outing, please contact Nate Pietz at [nate.pietz@cityofames.org](mailto:nate.pietz@cityofames.org).

Remember that fall (August – October) student passes are available for sale and make a great gift for young golfers!

## AMES/ISU ICE ARENA BIRTHDAY PACKAGES

### PACKAGE 1: \$160.00

- 8" Dairy Queen ice cream cake
- 3 large 1-topping pizzas
- 3 pitchers of pop
- Admission for 10 skaters
- Skate rental for 10 skaters

### PACKAGE 2: \$205.00

- 10" Dairy Queen ice cream cake
- 4 large 1-topping pizzas
- 4 pitchers of pop
- Admission for 15 skaters
- Skate rental for 15 skaters

### PACKAGE 3: \$260.00

- Dairy Queen ice cream sheet cake
- 5 large 1-topping pizzas
- 5 pitchers of pop
- Admission for 20 skaters
- Skate rental for 20 skaters

# ENERGY Q&A

**Q: Why is this year considered the 125th anniversary of public power in Ames?**

A. That’s a great question. Ames Electric Services is celebrating 125 years based on a public vote taken in 1896. After the private sector took no action to build an electric power plant, the Ames City Council called for a \$12,000 bond to construct a municipal plant, and the citizens of Ames were very clear with their support. The vote was 298 in favor of the project and 40 against. It’s important to note that this was the first election in Ames where women were allowed to vote.

Ames’ first public power plant produced 150 kilowatts to light Main Street in the evenings. We now provide more than a thousand times that original electricity capacity. Ames Electric Services customers rely on power generated by natural gas, refuse derived fuel, wind, and solar. In 1975, Ames opened the first municipally operated waste-to-energy municipal facility in the country to create electricity out of garbage.

In 2016, we converted our boilers from coal to cleaner burning natural gas. Through the years, we’ve added wind power to our portfolio of electricity production. This year our first ever SunSmart Ames Community Solar Farm began producing solar energy for Ames Electric Services customers.

For 125 years, Ames Municipal Electric System has provided

local, reliable, sustainable electricity to customers.

Ames Electric Services is celebrating 125 years of public power by partnering with the Ames History Museum for an exhibit on display through the fall.

A timeline of the electric utility will highlight significant milestone events and two exhibit cases will feature electric-production artifacts including a utility pole, an original metal utility pole tag, climbing gear, and other items. The Ames History Museum is located at 416 Douglas Ave.



Ames is fortunate to have a long, successful history of locally controlled, dependable public power. Collaborating with the Ames History Center to produce this exhibit allows us to share the story of the Ames Municipal Electric System (AMES) with the rest of the community.

**Kayley Barrios Lain, Energy Services Coordinator**  
**515.239.5177 | Kayley.Lain@cityofames.org**

## RENEWABLE ENERGY BY THE NUMBERS

FOR JUNE 2021

<b>1.9%</b>	ELECTRICITY THIS MONTH WAS GENERATED BY REFUSE DERIVED FUEL (RDF) FROM THE RESOURCE RECOVERY PLANT (OR 1,120,502 kWh)	<b>48</b>	LED STREETLIGHTS INSTALLED FOR A TOTAL OF 4,972
<b>8.8%</b>	ELECTRICITY THIS MONTH GENERATED BY WIND POWER (OR 5,241,477 kWh)	<b>0.7%</b>	OR 416,096 kWh OF ELECTRICITY THIS MONTH GENERATED BY SOLAR
		<b>2,838</b>	MILES DRIVEN BY ELECTRIC VEHICLES USING PUBLIC EV CHARGING

DEGREE DAY INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT [WWW.CITYOFAMES.ORG/ELECTRIC](http://WWW.CITYOFAMES.ORG/ELECTRIC)

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Power Out .....	515.239.5240
Street Light Out.....	515.239.5500
Utility Bills.....	515.239.5120
Energy Questions .....	515.239.5177
Tree Too Close to Electric Line? .....	515.239.5500
Digging? Contact Iowa One Call.....	811
Storm Water Concern.....	515.239.5160
Rusty Water.....	515.239.5551

City Side is a publication of the City of Ames, Iowa  
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