



CITY OF URBANDALE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER

Pandemic Impact Survey for Iowa's Businesses and Nonprofits

The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) is once again partnering with the University of Northern Iowa to undertake a survey to assess the current impacts of the pandemic on Iowa's businesses and nonprofit organizations. You may access the survey using this [link](#).

IEDA will use the information collected through the survey to form its public policy and programming in response to the ongoing impacts of the pandemic on Iowa. The deadline to complete this survey is 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 17, 2021.

2021 Road Construction Projects to Begin

With springtime approaching, our Engineering Department is beginning the 2021 road construction projects. Year 2020 was a big one for road improvements with the Urban Loop interchanges being completed last October. Year 2021 has several planned improvements including a major patching program on several city streets, Waterford Road from 142nd to 156th streets being expanded to 4 lanes with a regional bike trail, and Douglas Avenue from 100th St to North Walnut Creek being urbanized with curb and gutter, bike trail, and turn lanes.

A more detailed description and regular updates on the construction projects may be found on our [City Projects](#) page of our website.

Merle Hay Campus Revitalization Project Submitted for Iowa Reinvestment Act

The cities of Urbandale and Des Moines have jointly applied to the Iowa Reinvestment Act program for financial assistance in revitalizing the Merle Hay Campus. The project involves many unique components including a new multi-use arena and training center

for the Des Moines Buccaneers, 150-room multi-story hotel, major retail improvements at the mall and surrounding properties, senior housing development, and major on-site infrastructure improvements. These projects will transition the traditional retail mall area into a vibrant mixed-use campus focused on experiences, entertainment, sports and retail.

Iowa Student Internship Program

The Iowa Student Internship Program is open, and funding is still available for internships taking place in summer 2021. This program provides grants to small- and medium-sized companies in targeted industries to support internship programs, with a goal of transitioning interns to full-time employment in Iowa upon graduation. Targeted industries include bioscience, advanced manufacturing or information technology.

This program allows students to intern in a variety of areas, including as an export intern supporting a company's current or prospective international export efforts. Learn more at iowaeda.com/grow/student-internships/ or contact Kerri Yost at 515.348.6199 or internships@iowaeda.com.

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[City of Urbandale Economic Development Department Website](#)

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