

*Pioneering the Good Life*

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**PLATTEVILLE**

W I S C O N S I N

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THE YEAR 2017 IN REVIEW

# Thank You to Our Retirees!

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*Front from Left to Right: Stephanie Saager-Bourret, Jan Martin, Monie Konecny, and Dave Niehaus*  
*Back row: Kevin Tanner and Duane Knox*

*Below: Dennis Moen and Kim Lowery*





# New Faces and Promotions!

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Simeon Morell

Rosa Moore

Jeff Frederick

Colette Steffen

Casey Pickel

Nicola Maurer

Joe Bass



Kyle Crook

Nick Seng

Mitch Wellsandt

Brandon Lipska

Tracey Roberts

Candace Koch



A group of Platteville residents created the nonprofit Platteville Area Senior Services (PASS) whose mission is to support area seniors by supporting organizations like the Senior Center.



Sgt. Andrea Droessler and Sgt. Kris Purkapile worked with other employees and a member of the Police and Fire Commission to revise the Police Department's mission statement, values, and goals.







A new exhibit, African American Lead Miners in Wisconsin, was developed in partnership with a group of UW-Platteville students and the Rollo Jamison Mining Museum.

The project received state-wide publicity and acclaim.

A group of local residents raised funds to construct a new outdoor fitness center near the David Canny Rountree Branch Trail. Featuring equipment with a total of 120 exercises, this fitness center is used by trail enthusiasts, high school physical education classes, and local sports teams.





The Public Works Department oversaw several street projects, including the reconstruction of Elm Street, Laura Street, and Ellen Street.





The Community Development Department completed zoning approvals and a development agreement for the former Pioneer Ford redevelopment site. Staff also completed an environmental review as required by the Community Development Block Grant.





GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

*Distinguished  
Budget Presentation  
Award*

PRESENTED TO

**City of Platteville  
Wisconsin**

For the Fiscal Year Beginning

**January 1, 2017**

*Christopher P. Morrill*

Executive Director

Platteville received the Government Finance Officers Association Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the 2017 Budget due to the work of the Administration Department and Department Heads.



Parks staff installed a Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) optimization in partnership with Johnson Controls. A normal pump has only two settings – on or off. A VFD automatically monitors the flow rate produced by circulation pumps and reduces the speed when appropriate, which results in energy savings.



The Police Department, under the guidance of Lt. Haas, implemented new 911 and call logger systems. Dispatch staff adapted well to the new 911, collectively learning the new technology quickly.



The David Canny Rountree Branch Trail won the Wisconsin Rural Partners Development Initiative Award. The awards ceremony was part of the 2017 Wisconsin Rural Summit.





A Museum volunteer subcommittee developed a volunteer handbook, marketing materials, application, and onboarding process. The Museums hosted their first volunteer picnic with 55 attending.



The second annual Make Music Platteville was held on June 21. Platteville is the smallest of the 750 participating cities, and one of just 36 cities in the United States to host the event. Music was played in several locations around Platteville including City Park and the Aquatic Center.





The Community Development staff developed a request for proposal regarding the City-owned vacant lots on Elm Street. Staff received two proposals for redevelopment and sold the lot to the selected developer. Currently, a duplex unit is being constructed on the property.





Staff developed and implemented a kinder and gentler snow removal policy. Twenty-four hours after a snowfall, City staff places a door hanger on places that have not shoveled. If the snow has not been removed after another twenty-four hours, a contractor clears the snow. This policy helps keep walkways safe for pedestrians.





The City transitioned to new Voice Over Internet Phone (VOIP) system. This system has a large variety of features that can be accessed from either the phone or desktop computers. This system is expected to save around \$15,000 annually!

On August 5, Parks and Recreation hosted the Platteville Triathlon with 27 athletes participating. This year's race featured a Sprint Triathlon, Super Sprint Triathlon, and a Tag Team Relay.



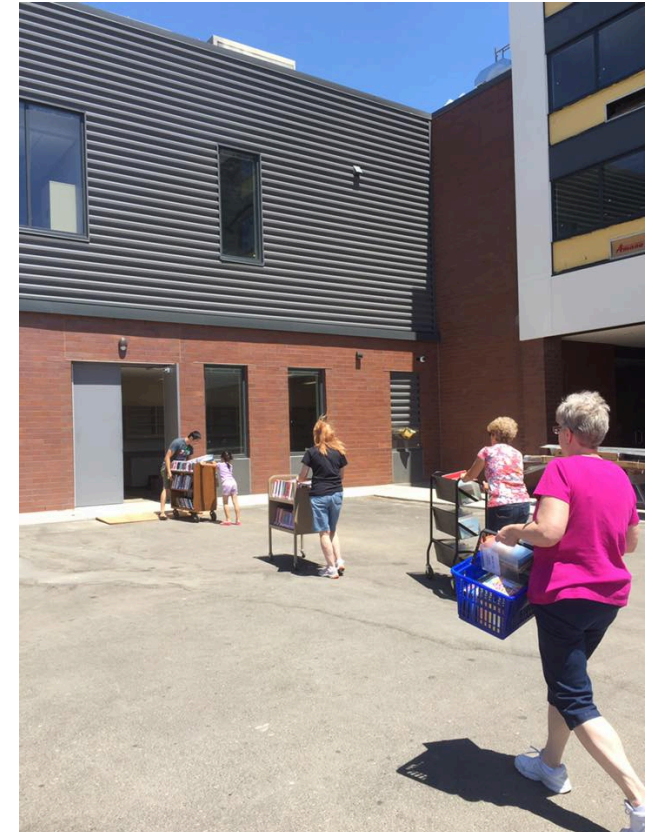




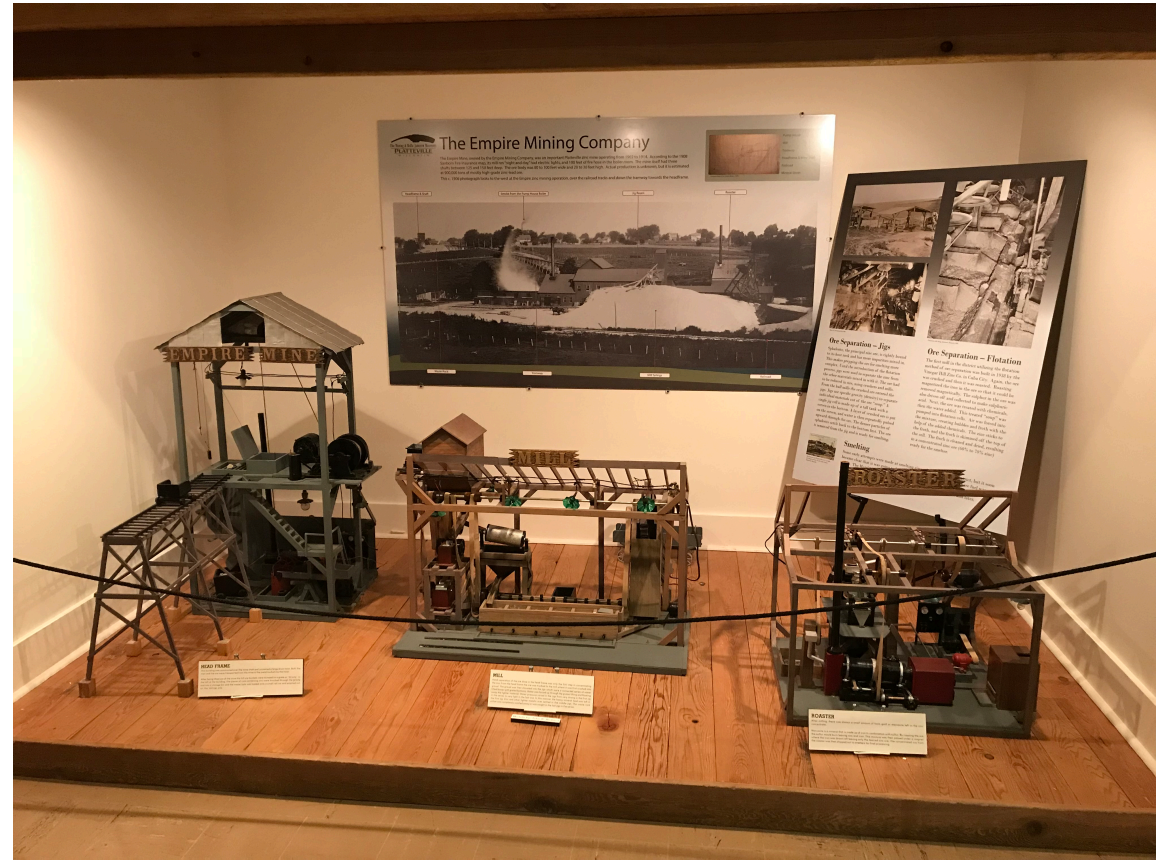
Sarah Hake researched and implemented an iPad solution to replace the Police Department's aging cash register. Her solution is efficient and costs significantly less than many of the other options considered.



Library staff moved over 51,000 books, DVDs, magazines, etc., as well as 57 computers from the old facility to the new one!







The mining exhibits were moved from the Rock School to the Hanmer Robbins Building. Now visitors can see both the mining and Rollo Jamison exhibits in one place.



Parks staff transitioned areas around Knoll Wood Park to low mow grass. This change will significantly reduce mowing time in the park.





Thanks to staff who spent the night at the Waste Water Treatment Plant, there was no sewer overflow after a 5+ inch rain event in July.





Administration staff worked with the Common Council to complete and adopt a Long Range Financial Plan.

As a result of the plan, the City restructured some of its existing debt. Prior to the debt restructure, debt payments were projected to increase by \$585,000 over the next five years. This number has been reduced to \$75,000.



Parks and Recreation and The Mining Museum teamed up with NEWaukee to host YPWeek. YP stands for Young Professionals. During the week, participants attended a Business Afterhours Social at the Museum and a Kickball Cookout at Legion Park.



A significant number of the Police Department's policies have been updated and revised through the use of the Lexipol policy service. The cost of the service was donated to the Police Department by TRICOR and EMC.



Librarian Emma Radosevich completed over 100 visits to various nursing homes and assisted living facilities to deliver library materials to residents.







Parks and Recreation staff worked with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee to host many events around Platteville for the holiday.

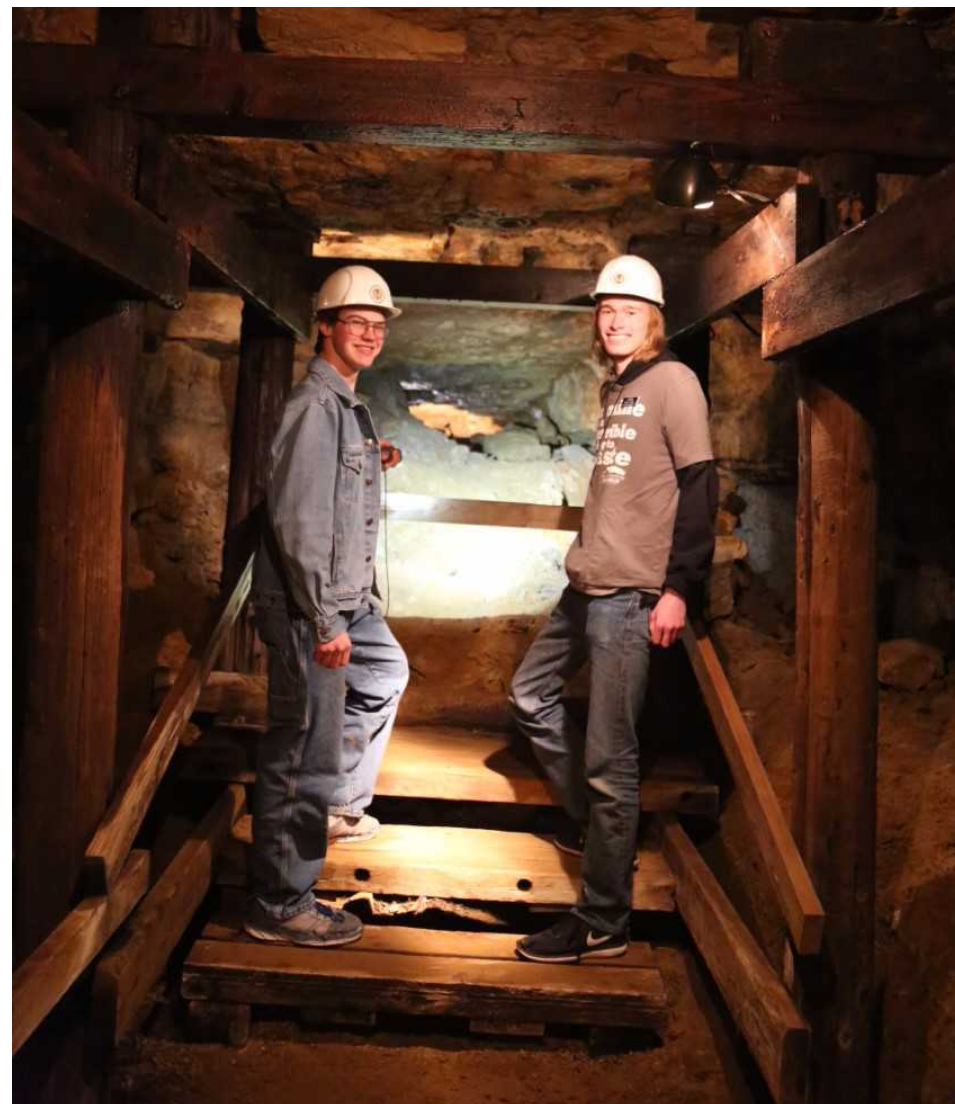
Festivities began with a 5k Run/Walk in the morning, with a bean bag tournament, food vendors, the Adam Bartels Band, and Bounce Houses later in the afternoon. The day wrapped up with fireworks of course!



In January, the Fire Department picked up its new 2017 Pierce Enforcer Pumper Fire Engine. This engine has a 1750 gallon per minute pump coupled with a compressed air foam (CAFS) foam suppression system. It replaced a 1982 Pierce Arrow pumper which was donated to Southwest Tech's Public Safety Training Division.



Total Museum attendance  
from January – October 2017  
was 11,756 people!





The Platteville to Belmont trail project extends the David Canny Rountree Branch Trail to Belmont, WI, connecting it with other state trails.

Beginning over a decade ago, this project was completed thanks to the perseverance of many Platteville community members and assistance from Public Works staff.



On Arbor Day this year, Recreation Coordinator Luke Peters along with representatives from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and UW-Platteville talked to Platteville 4<sup>th</sup> graders about trees and their importance. Later, each class was able to plant a tree in Westview Park.



A sexual assault case from 2009 was resolved with the conviction and sentencing of a suspect. The suspect was identified by DNA evidence and further investigation proved that the suspect had been in Platteville when the crime was committed.





Library staff conducted 83 infant/toddler story times, preschool story times, and lunch bunch programs.



The Museums developed a fundraising plan with the goal of raising \$50,000 in 2017 to cover the gap in operations coverage from the City for the fiscal year 2018.

As of December 11, the Museums are at 92% of this goal!





The Senior Center participated in several fundraising events such as brat stands and a casino night. On at least one occasion, their brat stand completely sold out!



To help with ease of use for customers, employees, and residents, the Downtown Parking Task Force and Public Works staff made changes to downtown parking.

City staff held an open house for public input, mailing out almost 300 letters to those immediately affected by the changes.





Community Development staff wrote and obtained approval for a Memorandum of Agreement between the City and the State Historic Preservation Office to address concerns about the historic nature of the former Gates Hotel.

Staff also solicited proposals to potentially relocate the structure.





The City moved to managed investment with about \$3,750,000 invested. This change is anticipated to increase investment earnings by about 0.5%, or \$35,000 over the next three years.





For the fourth year in a row, Platteville received recognition from Playful City USA. This program honors cities and towns that ensure that kids in their communities, particularly from low-income families, get the balanced and active play they need.

Platteville is one of only three communities in Wisconsin to have received the award multiple times.

After a rare bank robbery occurred in October, the Police Department worked diligently to apprehend a suspect. This suspect has been identified and it is anticipated that he will be charged by the Grant County District Attorney for his involvement with the robbery.



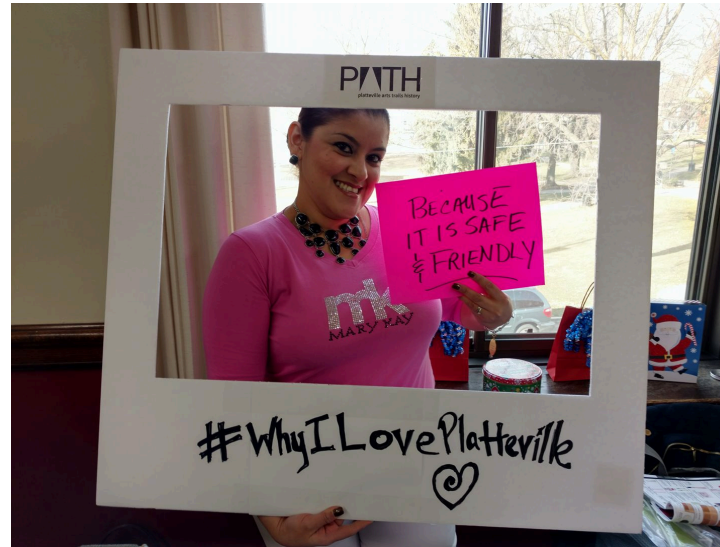


Librarian Erin Isabell conducted the final story time at the old Platteville Public Library on June 8 as part of the Final Farewell Party.



The Museums were granted two large, nationally-competitive grants:

- ❖ \$25,000 National Endowment for the Arts grant for the PATH project, and
- ❖ \$24,594 collections care grant from the Institute for Museums and Library Services.





The Public Works and Community Development Departments worked together to develop an updated storm water ordinance. This ordinance will regulate how storm water is controlled for the life of a construction project.

Building Inspector Ric Riniker became a Certified Storm Water Inspector to help Platteville maintain storm water compliance.





The Library Block project is completed giving downtown a new 20,000 square foot library and a 72 room Holiday Inn Express.



The Platteville Library Foundation launches the “Our Library, Our Future” capital campaign to equip the new library with furniture, fixtures and equipment. They raise \$600,000, exceeded their fundraising goal of \$500,000!





The Library Block project wins a 2017 Community and Economic Development Award in the public-private partnership category from the Wisconsin Economic Development Association (WEDA).



Filming crews arrive this fall for two television shows, *Around the Corner* and *Discover Wisconsin*. Episodes featuring Platteville are expected to air in April 2018.





Sgt. Ryan Knoernschild, Officer Pat Cieslewicz, and Officer Simeon Morell organized and conducted active shooter training and rescue task force training in the Middle School and High School prior to the beginning of the 2017 school year. Faculty and staff from the School District took part and observed the training.



Librarian Karina Zidon hosted tours of the new library for every student in grades 7 and 8 from the Platteville School District.





Over 10 volunteers cleaned and catalogued items in the Museum collections. Over 2600 objects are now cataloged using the PastPerfect collection software system.



Platteville receives a Tree City USA award. To qualify, a community must meet the four core standards of sound urban forestry management:

- ❖ maintain a tree board or department,
- ❖ have a community tree ordinance,
- ❖ spend at least \$2.00 per capita on urban forestry, and
- ❖ celebrate Arbor Day.





A Quality of Life Patrol position was established at the Police Department and embraced by Officer Devin Malott. This position is responsible for many community contacts as well as enforcement of quality of life issues such as loud parties, criminal damage to property, disorderly conduct, underage consumption, open intoxicants, etc.



Museum programs such as Teju the Storyteller, the Classic Toy Train Exhibit, lectures, the mine opening celebration, Heritage Day, and the Platteville Historic Re-enactment made history come alive for 6,951 people.

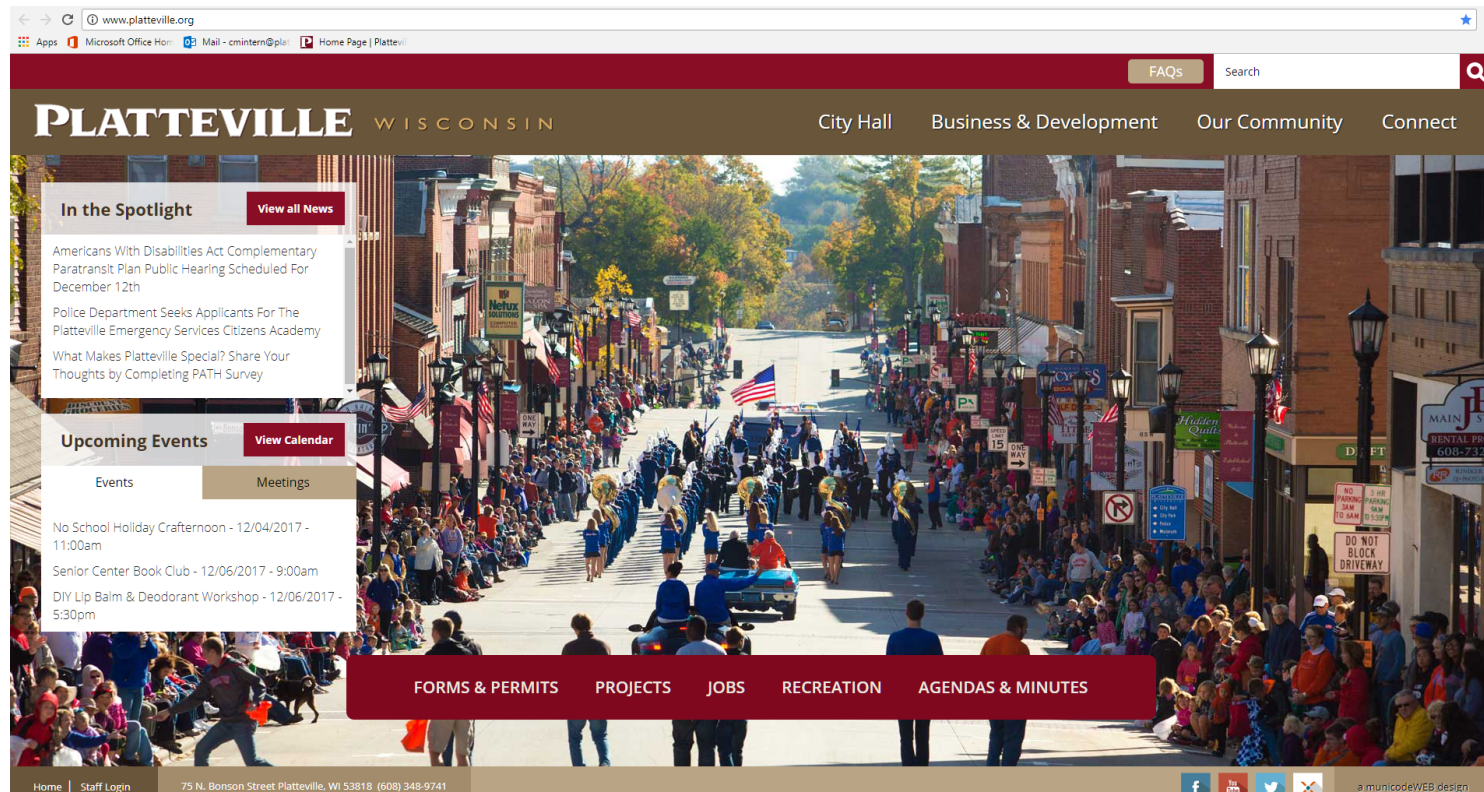




Public Works crews replaced the crumbling, old landscaping outside of the Museum with a new retaining wall.







On January 23 the new City website was launched! A team of City staff members partnered with a professional website design firm to create a City website that is user-friendly, visually appealing, and allows for two-way communication between city staff and the public.

On August 23, the Senior Center hosted its annual Senior Picnic at the Community Evangelical Free Church. Tom Bedtka played music, and Bingo started after dinner.





Use of the Library has doubled with the opening of the new facility. Average weekly visitor counts at the old building were 1,500. Now over 3,000 patrons visit the library each week.



The Museums underwent a year-long study by the Museum Assessment Program to ensure that activities align with the Museum's mission. The study culminated with a visit from a museum professional and a detailed report of suggestions for improvements to the facility and operations. This study was funded by the American Alliance for Museums and the Institute for Museum and Library Services.



**American  
Alliance of  
Museums**



INSTITUTE *of*  
**Museum** and **Library**  
SERVICES



Thanks to grants from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, lead service lines are being replaced across Platteville with the help of Public Works crews and local plumbers.

As of November 28, there have been 314 requests for funds totaling \$347,764 and 162 lines have been replaced with funds totaling \$179,271.



## **BUILDING DEMOLITION REVIEW POLICY**

Adopted by the Historic Preservation Commission on July 27, 2017.

According to Section 23.06 of the Building Code, a permit is required to raze any building within the City limits of Platteville to ensure removal of the property from the tax roll. Prior to the issuance of a razing permit for any principal structure, the following procedure shall be followed:

1. A minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to issuing the razing permit, the City Staff shall notify the Historic Preservation Commission via either email, phone, or mail. The notice shall include the address and description of the structure to be razed, and the date on which the permit application was filed.
2. If any member of the Historic Preservation Commission believes the structure may meet the criteria in Section 27.05(B) of the Historic Preservation Ordinance, the member can request placing a potential nomination of the structure on the agenda for the next available meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission. If the Commission is not scheduled to meet within the fourteen (14) days following application for the razing permit, the member can request that a special meeting be scheduled.
3. Upon review of the potential nomination at a meeting, if a majority of the members of the Historic Preservation Commission agree the structure meets the criteria in Section 27.05(B), the Commission shall vote to begin the nomination process set forth in Section 27.06. The razing permit shall not be issued until the period of time provided in Section 27.07 has lapsed.
4. If no member of the Commission requests the item be placed on the agenda of a Commission meeting that is held within fourteen (14) days of the date the application is filed, or if a majority of the members do not agree the structure meets the criteria in Section 27.05(B), the razing permit shall be issued.

With assistance from the Historic Preservation Commission, Community Development staff created a new Building Demolition Review Policy.



In partnership with the Platteville School District, the Senior Center moved to O.E. Gray Learning Center. This move offers the Senior Center more meeting space, a kitchen, a large meeting room with audio-visual equipment, a gym, and outdoor space.





The David Canny Rountree Branch Trail was presented a national award from the Coalition for Recreational Trails for outstanding use of recreational trails program funds in the category of engaging public-sector partners.



Thank you to our employees and residents!

You can view the entire presentation on our website at: [www.platteville.org/documents](http://www.platteville.org/documents)

