

# Great Ideas Implemented in 2016

- Implemented an emergency dispatch app to utilize when calling in a crew for after-hours work to help streamline the dispatch process.
- Began using Amazon Smile for purchases from Amazon.com which automatically donates a portion of the purchase price to charity (we chose United Way Fox Cities).
- Restructured the plow maps to correspond with the forecasted snowfall amounts, which provides a more consistent level of service across the City.
- Created a water distribution maintenance app to accurately document and easily view all maintenance performed on the water system.
- Installed a fall protection system in the CEA mechanics shop to provide a safer environment when working on top of large equipment.
- Created a "Front End Loader Academy" to properly train the numerous employees that operate a loader to load trucks (including school district maintenance staff).
- Modified the announcement related to spring yard waste collection to not include the specific dates which allows for better planning and scheduling in the spring.
- Worked with the police department to provide them with 4x4 trucks during heavy snow events to help improve their mobility.
- Added the bike lane routes to our priority spring street sweeping list to provide a clean path in a timely manner.
- Streamlined the DNR water supply cross connection reporting process to make this process more accurate and efficient.
- Installed leaf pushers on single axle dump trucks to help make the leaf pushing process more efficient.
- Added a Polylevel program to our budget which will allow for the repair of more concrete panels for less money, less waste and less disruption to our customers.

- Installed quieter backup alarms on the street sweepers, bringing the sound below 85 decibels (from 107 decibels). This has resulted in fewer complaints from residents that are getting woken up by the alarms at night.
- Worked with TS to create a report for new buildings and remodels that were issued the previous 90 days on the Departments webpage that customers can run whenever they wish.
- Started using a hose connected to a meter in the hydrant flushing process to more accurately account for water used in the flushing process, to reduce damage to terraces and landscaping, and to eliminate hazard of flushing directly into the street.
- This year, Forestry has started a monthly specialized safety meeting that are specific to Forestry topics. We are very close to rolling out something similar with other interested divisions. The idea is for the ownership of the meetings to belong within the group and to have it facilitated by the representative of the safety committee. Anyone from within division can volunteer to lead or research a monthly topic.
- Forestry hand dug 13 trees that were going to be cut down as part of the John Street Reconstruction Project and replanted them at Pioneer Park.
- Installed backup cameras on equipment to increase visibility and overall safety.
- Installed snow tires on all Police squad cars to improve traction and mobility in winter months.
- Purchased iPads for updating our tree inventory to make this process more efficient.
- Began purchasing rebar that is already cut to length and bent to eliminate the need to cut and bend rebar ourselves.
- Offered additional recycling collection options for our downtown commercial recycling customers during Mile of Music.
- Built a plow blade mounting jig to make this process safer and more efficient.
- Assisted Valley Transit with fuel and parts ordering.

- Created a Spring Sweeping Map that identifies all islands and sidewalks to help make this process more efficient.
- Worked with Lowe's to provide fire extinguishers and smoke alarms to City employees at a reduced cost.
- Began disassembling old fire hydrants at the construction site to make this process more efficient for the contractor and City crews.
- Created a plow straightener tool to make this process more efficient
- Added remote grease lines on the automated garbage trucks to eliminate the need to crawl under the truck for the weekly greasing.
- Purchased a traffic speed display board to help calm traffic in work zones.
- Added daytime sweepers to our leaf collection crew to reduce the amount of debris on the streets, in the storm sewers and in our waterways.
- Reduced the fee charged for a 2<sup>nd</sup> recycling cart to encourage additional recycling, which should help reduce tipping fees and extend the life of the landfill.
- Installed the first Pave Drain system in a city street, near the intersection of Glendale/Sandra.
- Added "hands-on" training for our annual snow and ice training day.
- Established a ladder inventory and inspection program.
- Restructured the street sweeping schedule to allow for increased sweeping frequencies in areas that are directly contributory to the Fox River.