



Office of the City Manager

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Patrick Urich, City Manager *PUK*

DATE: October 7, 2011

SUBJECT: Issues Update

The following are issues related to the City for the weekly Issues Update. If there are additional items you believe should be included, please let me know.

TGF WASHINGTON REPORT. The TFG Washington Report is a monthly email publication designed to provide TFG clients with on-time, useful information about national legislative, regulatory, funding, and policy decisions taking place in Congress and the federal agencies. If you wish to obtain back issues of the TFG Washington Report or learn more about a particular issue, please contact The Ferguson Group at (202) 331-8500 or [click here](#) to contact us by email. The September, 2011 Report is attached for your review. **(Electronic Copy Only)**

PEORIA COUNTY ANIMAL PROTECTION SERVICES (PCAPS) ANNUAL REPORT. In the fall of 2010, the City of Peoria entered into a "full service" contract with Peoria County for the provision of animal control services (this was an upgrade from the "limited service" contract previously approved by Council). One stipulation of the contract was that PCAPS provide the City with an annual report that outlines their performance against certain targets. From October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011, PCAPS answered 10,378 calls within the city limits that fall into one of the five priority categories established in the contract. The contract stipulates that "90% of all calls shall be initially responded to within the [established] time frames." As shown in the table below, the County has exceeded its service goals:

Priority	Calls	Target Response Time	Target Compliance	Avg. Response Time
1	366	1 hr	98.89%	1 hr 10 min
2	473	1 hr	98.39%	31 min
3	4,934	8 hr	98.32%	2 hr 38 min
4	1,829	24 hr	96.38%	26 hr 59 min
5	2,776	24 hr	99.28%	12 hr 9 min
Total	10,378			

CITY FACILITIES WITHIN TIF DISTRICTS. At the October 4, 2011 City Council meeting, Council Sandberg asked if City Hall, the Peoria Police Department and/or the Municipal Services Buildings were in a TIF District. City Hall is not in any TIF District. Both the Police Department and Municipal Services Building are located within the Warehouse District TIF.

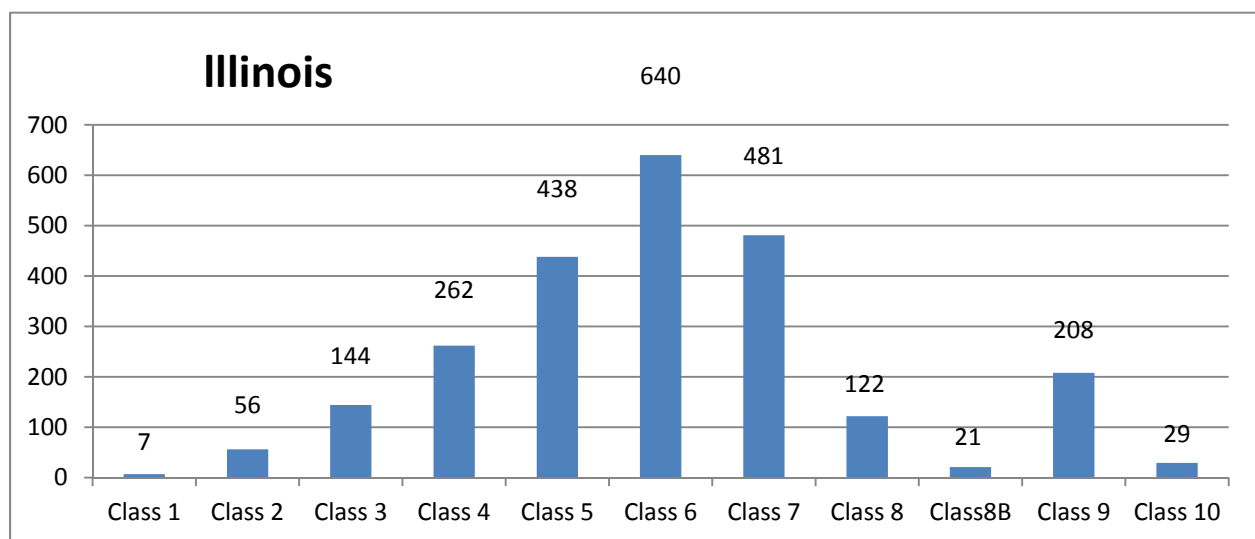
INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE (ISO) RATING. The Peoria Fire Department was analyzed and evaluated by ISO in 2011 and once again, received a Class 2 evaluation. The Insurance Services Office (ISO) collects and evaluates information from communities in the United States on their structure fire suppression capabilities according to a uniform set of criteria incorporating nationally recognized standards developed by the National Fire Protection Association and the American Water Works Association. The data is analyzed using ISO's Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS) and a Public Protection Classification (PPC) number is assigned to the community, a number from 1 to 10. A Class 1 represents an exemplary fire suppression program, and a Class 10 indicates that the area's fire suppression program does not meet ISO's minimum criteria.

ISO recognizes the dynamic and comprehensive duties of a community's fire service, and understands the complex decisions a community must make in planning and delivering emergency services. In developing a community's Public Protection Classification, only features related to reducing property losses from structural fires are evaluated.

A community's investment in fire mitigation is a proven and reliable predictor of future fire losses. Statistical data on insurance losses bears out the relationship between excellent fire protection – as measured by the PPC program – and low fire losses. So, insurance companies use PPC information for marketing, underwriting, and to help establish fair premiums for homeowners and commercial fire insurance. In general, the price of fire insurance in a community with a good PPC is substantially lower than in a community with a poor PPC, assuming all other factors are equal.

PPC also provides fire departments with a valuable benchmark, and is used by many departments as a valuable tool when planning, budgeting and justifying fire protection improvements.

The 2011 published statewide distribution of communities by the Public Protection Classification number is as follows:



2010 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS). The Census Bureau recently released the 2010 American Community Survey (ACS) data related to housing. Included in this data is information on owner occupancy, vacancy, and median value. The tables below indicate these data points for the City of Peoria, the Peoria Metro Area (Peoria, Tazewell, Woodford, Stark, & Marshall Counties), Illinois, and the United States. The Planning Department will continue to release data points from the most recent Census, as they are made available.

Owner Occupancy Percentage

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
United States	67.3	67.2	66.6	65.9	65.4
Illinois	69.9	70.1	69.3	68.0	67.7
Peoria Metro	73.4	73.2	75.4	72.4	73.3
Peoria City	62.0	58.5	62.0	61.4	57.9

Vacant Housing Unit Percentage

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
United States	11.6	12.1	12.4	12.6	13.1
Illinois	9.1	9.3	9.7	10.1	10.3
Peoria Metro	7.8	8.6	7.5	8.4	8.3
Peoria City	13.0	11.1	9.1	12.1	10.8

Median Value (Owner Occupied Units)

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
United States	\$185,000	\$194,300	\$197,500	\$185,200	\$179,900
Illinois	\$200,200	\$208,800	\$214,700	\$202,300	\$191,800
Peoria Metro	\$115,300	\$122,100	\$113,952	\$108,700	\$110,593
Peoria City	\$110,700	\$111,800	\$123,200	\$123,300	\$122,500

2010 CENSUS DATE (AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY) CITY OF PEORIA. Below are several summary tables with recently released data from the Census Bureau related to income, education, poverty, and commuting for the City of Peoria. The Planning Department will continue to provide these data updates as they are made available by the Census Bureau.

Educational Attainment (of population 25 years or older – 67,562)

Educational Attainment	Total Number	Percent of Population	Percent below Poverty
Less than High School graduate	7,621	11%	35%
High School graduate (includes GED)	16,784	25%	18%
Some college, Associate's Degree	19,524	29%	10%
Bachelor's Degree	23,633	35%	5%

Selected Poverty Information by Family Type

Family Type	Percent below poverty (all families)	Percent below poverty with related children under age 18	Percent below poverty Less than High School graduate	Percent below poverty Bachelor's Degree or higher
All Families	15%	22%	48%	6%
Married Couple Families	4%	8%	23%	3%
Female Householder, no husband present	39%	45%	83%	15%

Commuting to Work Information (workers 16 and older – 50,430)

Means of Commuting	Daily Number	Daily Percentage
Drove Alone	41,012	81%
Carpooled	4,187	8%
Public Transit	931	2%
Walked	1,796	4%
Other Means	1,301	3%
Worked at Home	1,203	2%

Household Income Distribution (46,537 total households)

Income Category	Number	Percentage
Less than \$10,000	5,219	11%
\$10K - \$14,999	2,620	6%
\$15K - \$24,999	5,476	12%
\$25K - \$34,999	3,531	8%
\$35K - \$49,999	6,909	15%
\$50K - \$74,999	9,499	20%
\$75K - \$99,999	5,453	12%
\$100K - \$149,999	4,688	10%
\$150K - \$199,999	1,250	3%
\$200K +	1,892	4%

Housing Units – Year Structure Built (52,187 total housing units)

Year Built	Number	Percentage of Total
Pre 1939	11,584	22%
1940 – 1949	5,202	10%
1950 – 1959	7,321	14%
1960 – 1969	6,523	13%
1970 – 1979	8,230	16%
1980 – 1989	4,055	8%
1990 – 1999	3,888	8%
2000 -2004	2,788	5%

2005 -

2,596

5%

TAX CREDIT WORKSHOP. A new state law providing tax credits for certain historic properties in a River Development Zone has prompted interest in how property owners and developers can qualify properties for the incentives. There is also interest in how owners of historic properties can qualify for incentives which have been previously offered by the state and federal governments. The Central Illinois Landmarks Foundation will host a workshop on the tax advantages of historic rehabilitation under both new and previous legislation. There are several national and state programs that can provide substantial benefits to historic property owners when they renovate their properties. Staff from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency and Dept of Commerce and Economic Opportunity will present this program. This will be a public meeting that will be of special interest to city council members, members of the Historic Preservation Commission, property owners, developers and tax accountants. Historic property owners can take advantage of several different tax incentives when they renovate their properties. Home owners and income-producing property owners are eligible for different tax incentives. These incentives are not grants and they only apply to property owners who make a substantial reinvestment in their properties. For home owners, the incentives apply to their real estate taxes. For income-producing properties the incentives apply to their federal and state income taxes. The current federal tax credit for income-producing properties is 20% of the renovation investment.

Next year, a new state income tax incentive takes effect for income-producing historic properties within certain Riverfront Redevelopment Zones. Peoria is one of only five Illinois cities eligible for the pilot program of the new state tax incentive. The new state income tax credit will be equal to 25% of the renovation investment and can be used in addition to the federal tax credit.

There are several different ways in which a property can qualify for these incentives based upon the property type, location and historic designation. All renovations have to meet preservation Standards that are reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Office and/or the National Park Services. Qualifying properties have to be listed on the National Register of Historic places either individually or within a historic district. A locally designated historic district can also be certified so these properties are eligible for these credits. The meeting will be held **Monday, October 24, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.** at the G.A.R. Hall, 416 Hamilton in Peoria.

2011 TAX COLLECTION SURVEY RESULTS. The Treasurer, Patrick Nichting would like to thank citizens who filled out a survey and chose to come to the City of Peoria's Treasurers Office to pay their real estate taxes. Acknowledgement is made to the staff's outstanding performance of which this survey demonstrates.

- 76% surveyed preferred paying their real estate taxes in the City of Peoria Treasurers Office.
- 90% surveyed who paid their taxes in the Treasurer's Office were made aware by the tax bill, advertisement and word of mouth.
- 81% surveyed acknowledge that paying in the Treasurer's Office was convenient with free parking, and received a receipt from courteous staff.
- 91% surveyed described their experience as excellent.