

Gretna  
Mayors Quarterly Update  
May 2022

*Spring is here with birds singing in the backyards, trees welcoming their leaves back on their limbs and flowers starting to pop up after a long winter break. While I enjoy all seasons, Gretna always looks best in Green!*

*Just like the new growth that spring brings, our community continues to be one of new growth. Our school's excellent reputation, Gretna's strategic location, and our great quality of life are attracting residents who share those values and businesses wanting to serve our town. As the growth occurs, I am focused on ensuring our community is safe, fiscally strong and continues our strong sense of community.*

*Speaking of community, I want to thank Bob & Mary McKinney for decades of serving and supporting Gretna. Very few families have been so giving to so many organizations and people. I wish the very best to both them and their family in the next chapters of their life!*

*Mike Evans  
Mayor, City of Gretna*

### **Your New Representative**

City Council voted 3-0 to approve the appointment of Lauren Liebenritt to the vacated Ward 1 seat previously held by Councilman Logan Herring.

We had seven very capable applicants and it's encouraging to see so many residents willing to serve their community and continue helping make Gretna a great place to live. I really appreciate each one's knowledge and commitment to our community.

Councilwoman Liebenritt brings to the council a strong background for serving, both her community and the city of Gretna. A life-long Gretna resident and mother of 3, Lauren has served in a number of roles with the city, as a board member for the Gretna Days Foundation and as a youth leader at her church.

I am very excited to have Lauren part of our Council. She is passionate about Gretna, bringing a genuine commitment to her constituents and a desire to make Gretna an even better place to live, work and raise a family. Councilwoman Liebenritt's term runs through December 3, 2024.

### **Annual report**

Make sure to check out Gretna's first Annual report on the City's web site ([www.grentane.org](http://www.grentane.org)). It's important to me and our staff that you know how your tax dollars are spent and what is going on in our community. We will continue to look for ways to communicate better and more often to help you be informed.

### **Strategic Planning**

I had the opportunity to spend a day with our staff and council members to develop Gretna's first strategic plan since 2010, including identifying our Core Values, Mission Statement and Vision Statement. There will be more to come on this initiative once we finalize the document. As Gretna grows, it is very important that we understand who we are, what's important to our community and

what challenges exist for us. I appreciate the honesty, the respect for each other, the thoughtfulness and vision of all those involved. Gretna has so much to look forward to and having a plan will help us get there!

### **That time of Year!**

With spring and summer, comes road construction and there will be no shortage of projects in and around Gretna. In addition to roads in and out of new developments, there are some major road projects. Below is a list of a couple to be aware of. Sarpy County offers updates and information on some of these projects and you can find information about them at [www.ConnectSarpy.com](http://www.ConnectSarpy.com)

Capehart (Hwy 6/31 to 204<sup>th</sup>)

204<sup>th</sup> (Capehart to Schram)

Schram (west of 216<sup>th</sup>)

180<sup>th</sup> & Cornhusker

180<sup>th</sup> (north of Hwy 370)

### **Park**

Gretna Crossing Park continues to make great strides! Seems like every day we reach a new bench mark as this project gets closer to becoming a reality. Opening date is still scheduled for September 2023 and that would include the entire park. You can follow all the progress by visiting [www.GretnaCrossingPark.com](http://www.GretnaCrossingPark.com). In addition, we continue to apply for grants and seek private sponsorships to make this not only a great community asset, but affordable and sustainable.

### **Thank You!**

We are so thankful and honored to receive a donation from Wendy & Justin Pfeifer in their daughter Addison's name. Their very generous donation will be used to purchased children's playground equipment at Gretna Crossing Park that otherwise would not have been in the park.

What a beautiful tribute to their daughter and a way to give back to a community that helped support them and others during a very sad time for so many. This donation and playground will offer generations of smiles and memories for so many children and families who use this playground.

From the City of Gretna, our citizens and the many people that will use this in the years to come...thank you both very much.