

Gretna Mayors Quarterly Update September 2022

Summer is wrapping up and what a full summer it has been. Whether it was following your children's teams, taking care of your garden, going on a vacation, having friends for a backyard barbeque or cooling off in the pool, I truly hope you and your family had a fantastic summer.

A big THANK YOU to the Gretna Days Foundation, the many organizations and people that made Gretna Days a huge success!! It was great to see so many people at all the various activities. Many individuals put a great deal of time in to create a fantastic community celebration. If you see one, make sure to tell them thank you. Better yet, tell them you are interested in helping next year!

I am looking forward to the weather cooling off, enjoying the colors of the fall and kettle corn at Vala's.

Mike Evans
Mayor, City of Gretna

Thank You for Conserving!!

It's no secret that we have been short rain this year and the excessive temperatures created a high demand for water. We felt a voluntary water conservation was appropriate to make sure we did not put too much pressure on our water system. Everyone's cooperation in this made a big difference, as did some cooler weather. We continue to build out our water infrastructure for the future.

Your New Park - It's taking Shape

If you have been hearing about your new park, there is a reason why. Gretna Crossing Park is really taking shape and it is going to be a fantastic addition to our community. If you have missed the media recently, below is a link to our webpage with updates and others to recent news stories. Look for more updates and details on this exciting project following our media update on September 8th.

[Aquatic/Rec Center Construction Updates | Gretna Crossing Park](#)

[Gretna Crossing Park Is A Future Recreation Complex In Nebraska onlyinyourstate.com\)](#)

[157-acre Gretna Crossing Park making steady progress \(wowt.com\)](#)

Speaking of Parks!

We understand it is important to make sure our current parks remain safe and up to date. Earlier this summer our Parks staff painted lines to make 2 pickle ball courts on the tennis courts at the North Park. There is a Gretna Pickle ball Facebook group that is playing weekly and you can see others using these courts throughout the week. Grab a paddle and join the fun!

Budget

As our community continues to grow, our staff continues to work very hard to provide the services you expect and do so as efficiently as possible. Last year was a very challenging year as the city expanded greatly, but we did not receive all of the revenue to serve the expanded area due to Sarpy County contesting the Supreme Court's ruling on our annexation.

With Gretna's fiscally conservative approach we were able to manage this. This year's city levy is forecasted to be almost 3% less than last year. It will be the first time in 13 years our levy has been decreased.

Look whose Opening Now!

New businesses continue to open in our community and September is no exception! NEX, one of the best shopping experiences in our region continues to grow and is adding two exciting brands to their center.

REI (Recreational Equipment Inc) is one of the nation's best sports/recreation equipment supplier. REI sells [camping gear](#), [hiking](#), [climbing](#), [cycling](#), water, running, fitness, snow, travel equipment, and men, women and kids clothing. It also offers services such as outdoor-oriented [vacations](#) and courses. The grand opening for REI is scheduled for September 23rd.

Dragon Wok is often recognized as one of the best Chinese restaurants in the Omaha metro. Dragon Work Express will have the same great taste, with a little bit smaller menu. In addition to their quality food, they offer a very good online ordering experience...and yes they deliver!

Stories Coffee opened their fourth store in the metro right here in Gretna. It is located just east of Hwy 6/31 north of Hwy 370 in the same center as another recent addition, Good Life Sports Bar & Grill. While Stories offers fantastic coffee and a relaxing space to gather, they also offer a variety of food and adult beverages. Dan & Brooke are the owners, welcome to Gretna!

Speaking of Dragon's

Gretna is known for its quality schools and their 2022-2023 school year is off to a great start! We wish all the Dragon's teams, organizations and students continued success this year. Hey Dragon football, let's make it 2!

Back to School Time !!

While the excitement of school is in the air, that also means there are students in cars, on sidewalks and crossing streets. Please follow speed limits and stay alert when close to any of the schools.

