



The change of seasons in Nebraska is something I truly appreciate about our state. Every season offers something I truly look forward to, and fall has a bunch of them! Whether it's watching your team's football game, the color of the leaves, cooking your favorite chili recipe or carving a pumpkin, I hope you and your family enjoy all the things the season has to offer.

Below is our community update and see ya at Vala's!

Mike Evans

Mayor, City of Gretna

Community Complex

This exciting project, located next to Gretna Crossing Park, will be a great addition to Gretna. This will bring together a new library, much needed community space, and city offices into one building. In addition to the building, the space around the building will be another special place in Gretna to live, meet friends, eat, shop and strengthen our community. More will be coming out in the months ahead, with an expected opening of December of 2026.

Follow the project by visiting the [City of Gretna Website](#)



Parks

Peterson Park Pool

After generations of great memories to so many, we had to make the difficult decision to have the city pool removed. It was always a place where children and adults could go to cool off from the hot summer days, hang-out with friends or just visit. Time took its toll and the pool was financially and functionally beyond repair.

We do feel this space should continue to be a place where children and adults can go to cool off from the hot summer days, hang-out with friends or just visit. We have begun working with a small group from the community and a design firm to create some initial concepts that will accomplish that need. Once these concepts are complete, the group will share them with the community to see how the next generations should spend their time cooling off in Peterson Park on hot summer days. We expect the designs to be done some time next spring to share.



Forest City Recreational Area update

After years of planning and construction, this new NRD recreational area located near 204th and Schram Road is set to open this fall. It will feature a 15-acre lake on 80 acres of public recreational space. A trail around the lake will provide multiple access points to fishing areas surrounded by native grasses and wildlife. There will be two kayak launches (one ADA accessible) and a fishing pier which will allow for wheel chair accessibility.

Safe Places

Our community is proud of our quality of life and respects all the public places that we get to enjoy. It certainly is disappointing when others do not appreciate or respect those same spaces. To continue to make sure our parks are safe from crime and misuse, the city council included in this year's budget a 24-hour security system for our most-frequented parks. Along with the heightened presence of Sarpy County Sheriff's Department, these high-definition cameras will be able to identify unwanted actions, the people doing them and help the City hold those individuals accountable. We greatly appreciate our residents keeping us informed...when you see something, say something.

Budget

Thanks to staff and the City Council for another fiscally conservative budget that was passed for the 2025-26 year thereby decreasing Gretna's levy for the third time in four years. While developing miles of infrastructure, creating new parks and building a new community center we were able to lower the levy just over 2% and maintain an excellent bond rating which helps keep interest payments low. Below are some highlights of this year's budget.

Key Expense Drivers in Budget

Community Complex - \$23 million

Infrastructure - \$24 million

Capital Projects - \$11 million (Roads, Sewer, Water, Equipment)

Sales & Property Tax

Property tax represents only about 13% of our budget. Sales taxes accounts 41% more revenue than property taxes, with the majority of sales tax being collected from shoppers outside of the community. Total Property Tax revenue collected will increase by 4%, with only an increase of 2%

from existing properties. This increase is almost 1 % less than the 2.9% Cost of Living Adjustment for 2025.

Roads

New I-80 Interchange (192nd Street)

A new 192nd Street interchange on I-80 was announced by NDOT (NE Department of Transportation) on September 26, 2025. This important step formally identifies this location as the interchange site, which allows NDOT to take next steps of development including environmental reviews and early design.

This interchange is much needed and locally will take pressure off Highway 370 and Highway 6/31. The time frame is yet to be determined, but we will work with NDOT and the other stakeholders to deliver this project as soon as possible.

The full release can be found at: <https://dot.nebraska.gov/news-events/>



Schram & 204th

This \$8 million project is being overseen by the Nebraska Department of Transportation on behalf of the Federal government. This project was accelerated earlier this year with the initial construction beginning the Fall of 2026.

192nd Street & Surrounding Corridors

With the announcement by the Department of Transportation, a number of streets in this part of Gretna will be reviewed for improvements over the coming years. While it may be some time before any major improvements are made, we will continue to invest in these roads to support the increased traffic. We appreciate your patience.

Community

Farmer's Market

A special thanks to Briana Bowdino and all those involved in making the 2025 Farmer's Market a great success. This event is becoming a Saturday morning summer tradition for many across the area. Every weekend it's a chance for people and dogs to support these local providers.

Gretna Crossing Amphitheater

What a great fall evening of Bluegrass music September 20th was. This was the second concert held this summer at the Gretna Crossing Park. Thanks to our staff and all the people that supported and attended these events...*look for more coming in 2026!*



Trick or Treat on the Trail – Lincoln Place Park

Make sure to add October 18th on your schedule for trick or treating at the Lincoln Place Park between 2:00pm – 4:00pm. There will be treats, games and a costume contest for all ages. This is a great family friendly day full of fun, friends and treats.



What's Going On?!

We are holding events all year long. Make sure to follow [City of Gretna, NE Events](#) on Facebook for all the upcoming activities.

Also be sure to follow [City of Gretna, Nebraska](#) on Facebook to keep up to date on all City Council meetings, development updates, public safety notices and much more.