

## City of Fremont Update

Date: January 8, 2021

To: City Employees/ City Boards/ Mayor & City Council

### **City Mourns Loss of Parks & Rec Director, Kim Koski**

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to a dear friend and colleague, City Parks & Rec Director, Kim Koski. Kim lost her war with cancer, a foe she fought with through many battles.

Over the past 25-years, Kim has certainly had an impact on Parks and Rec activities in Fremont, including Splash Station, several splash pads across town, Christensen Field, City Auditorium, Ridge Cemetery, and her favorite, Ronin Pool. Her “hometown” oversight over the department was truly special and will be greatly missed.

Kim was a special person and her life touched the lives of many, many people at the City and across our community. God rest her soul.



### **Keep Fremont Beautiful Receives State Grant**

The Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) has awarded Keep Fremont Beautiful (KFB) a \$70,785.00 Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant and \$30,414.00 Waste and Recycling Grant. The grant funds will fund KFB’s programs throughout the year, including the tire, metal, and hazardous waste cleanups, as well as the programming they provide to elementary students.

The City also helps fund KFB’s activities by contributing \$10,000 towards their efforts to promote beautification in the community, reduce litter, promote proper waste disposal, and educate children about recycling and litter. The City’s agreement with KFB goes back many years and was most recently renewed in 2018 for a four-year term.

### **City Information Technology (IT) Department Reports Trouble Ticket Volume**

Several years ago, the City’s Information Technology (IT) Department implemented a means for employees to report and submit computer troubles. The process is simply to send an email describing the trouble to the IT helpdesk.

Last year, IT reported receiving more than 12,000 trouble tickets. A lot of the troubles were printing issues, others involved software issues like problems with Microsoft Word or Outlook, and others were related to incoming or outgoing email issues. Occasionally, the complaint was, “I accidentally deleted the file, can you find it for me and restore it?” At the end of the year, all but 25 of the trouble tickets had been resolved. I think that is quite remarkable, considering the volume and the fact that the City IT Department consists of five professionals.

My point is this: I think we have an outstanding IT Department! Not only do they respond promptly to trouble tickets, but they keep our hardware and systems up to date, and more importantly, they take a hardline approach on cybersecurity by promoting user education and monitoring our network. My thanks to the Department Director, Nick Brand and his staff (Tammy, Pat, Mike, and Jeremy) for the work you do.

---

**There is no job so important and no service so urgent that we cannot take the time to do the work safely!**

### Three Rivers Vaccinating Essential Workers

Fremont Police Lieutenant Shane Wimer is shown in the picture getting his COVID-19 vaccine at Three Rivers Health Department's drive-through vaccination site at Christensen Field. The Fremont Police officers and City utility workers are all part of the Phase 1B Tier for essential workers to receive the vaccine.



Three Rivers also announced they will begin accepting signups from people 75 years old or older (also part of the Phase 1B Tier) to get vaccinated. I have attached a graphic from Three Rivers to this update with information and the link to sign up. The link is:

[https://nalhd.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_cFU8KpGUaby2QAZ](https://nalhd.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cFU8KpGUaby2QAZ)

### Tree Grinding in Fremont/Blair

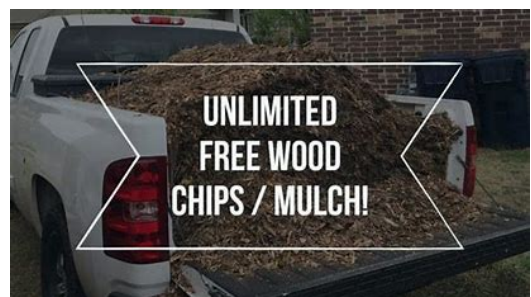
After an unusually high number of storms in 2020, the amount of tree debris in both Fremont and Blair is more than we have seen in many years. So much in fact, that it took about seven days of grinding in Blair and almost two weeks in Fremont to grind all of the debris. The picture on the right is a payloader pushing the chips into a large pile in Blair. The piles of chips in Fremont would have been more than twice as large if we had not been hauling chips to the Rod & Gun Club and Wastewater Treatment Plant.



Both Fremont and Blair stockpile tree debris from the community throughout the year before the grinder comes to chip up the debris. In 2017, Fremont and Blair were awarded a grant from the state to purchase the grinder. The grinder is shared between the two Cities and is transported between Fremont and Blair at least once a year to grind the accumulated tree debris.

### Free Wood Chips

Because of the excessively large volume of wood chips at the Tree Dump, the City is offering free wood chips to the public. Anyone wanting wood chips is invited to come out to the Tree Dump on South Broad Street on Saturday mornings from 8 AM to 12 Noon. No one will be available to load the chips, so they must be loaded yourself.



---

**There is no job so important and no service so urgent that we cannot take the time to do the work safely!**

# ATTENTION: INDIVIDUALS AGED 75 AND OLDER!

## 3RPHD COVID-19 Vaccine Sign-Up

- If you are 75 years of age or older and would like a COVID-19 vaccination, please click on the link below to complete the form.
- This will put you on the list, and you will be notified when vaccines are available to you. It may be several weeks.

[https://nalhd.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_cFU8KpGUaby2QAZ](https://nalhd.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cFU8KpGUaby2QAZ)

