

## City of Fremont Update

Date: July 17, 2020

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

### GFDC Conducting Workforce Housing Study Update

Following a 2018 survey on housing in Dodge County, the Greater Fremont Development Corporation (GFDC) is updating the study to see if progress is being made on meeting workforce housing needs. This year's survey will focus on two components. The first component will be to determine the involvement of employers in providing workforce housing options for its employees. For example, in some communities with workforce housing shortages, employers provide rent assistance, help with mortgage down payments, and company-owned housing. The survey will look to see if employers in Dodge County are providing or maybe thinking about providing housing options to employees. The second component is asking housing stakeholders (real estate, banking, contractors, etc.) for their opinion on which sector of the population has the greatest housing need, what type of housing is needed the most, and if COVID-19 has had an impact on housing in Dodge County. The surveys were expected to be sent out this week.

### City Auditorium Renovation Nearing Completion

The \$2.7 million-dollar renovation of the City Auditorium is into its 13<sup>th</sup> month and much of the work is nearing completion.

Cheever Construction, who was awarded the contract for the work in July 2019, has stayed on schedule despite the COVID-19 virus pandemic.



The picture above is what was the basketball court in the auditorium, looking at the east wall. Please notice that the floor is being covered with underlayment before new luxury vinyl tile will be installed. The stage on the north side of the gym remains, but a wall has been installed to separate it from the large meeting room. The new openings on the south side of the room lead to main floor restrooms and to a dedicated serving area.

Cheever estimated that the renovation will be finished in September. The City is planning an Open House for early October before opening the building to public bookings.

**COVID-19 statistics.** Please note that each underlined title is a hyperlink to that organization's website. Dodge County dropped to seventh from fourth in the state with amount of positive cases this week. Three Rivers Public Health Department's COVID-19 Dashboard contains additional statistics:

<https://www.threeriverspublichealth.org/Coronavirus-Updates>

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

**Dodge County** 717 positive cases — 5,045 total tests (tenth in state with positive cases)

**Nebraska** [Department of Health and Human Services Dashboard](#)  
22,134 positive cases — 204,062 negative tests — 299 deaths

**United States** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [website](#):  
3,483,832 cases — 136,938 deaths <https://www.cdc.gov/covid19>.

**Globally** [World Health Organization Situation Report](#)  
13,378,853 cases — 580,045 deaths

[Johns Hopkins University of Medicine COVID-19 Dashboard](#)  
13,832,242 cases — 590,650 deaths (U.S. ranks first, followed by Brazil in cases)

### Weight Piping Being Installed on Lagoon Covers

As the lagoons at the Wastewater Treatment Plant near completion, one of the final steps is to install weight piping on top of the membrane covering each lagoon. As shown in the picture, each lagoon is installed with an airtight cover designed to collect the gas



from decomposing industrial waste. The weight piping across the top of the cover is designed to minimize inflation and ballooning of the cover and to reduce potential vibration and fatigue from wind, which can reduce the life span of a cover.

Once the weight piping is in place, the lagoons will be tested one final time for leaks before being placed into service. We anticipate putting them into service this month.

### News in Numbers

50% - The learning rate at which students in grades 3-8 are gaining math skills while learning from home. The same students are only experiencing reading gains of 70 percent during this period of e-learning.

27% - The percentage of council seats filled by women has steadily increased since 1985, though as of 2019 women only occupy 1 seat to nearly every 3 seats held by men. Research shows that when women run for elected office, they win in equal numbers to men.

84% - The proportion of small business employees that have been supported by the Paycheck Protection Program during the economic downturn of the coronavirus pandemic.

\$100 million - The amount that Netflix will donate from its cash holdings to financial institutions and organizations that provide direct support to Black communities in the U.S.

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