

- Civility
- **FOCUS: Des Moines International Airport Terminal**
Wednesday (1/26) at 4:30: [Town Hall Zoom Link](#)
- Regional Water discussions
- Property Taxes
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Civility



“We would never accept news that is disproportionately positive. Why are we so willing to accept the reverse?”

... Mark Sappenfield, Editor, *Christian Science Monitor*, 12/25/18

If most of what is seen in the popular press, late-night TV, video games, movies, and the internet is “bad behavior”, **does bad behavior become “legitimized” and therefore, mimicked?**

The media outlets may be beyond control, but is it unrealistic to hold ourselves, those around us, and those who are entrusted with public responsibilities, to a “higher standard?” **Modeling the behavior desired of others, should start at home.**

Des Moines International Airport - New Terminal Plan



The Airport Authority is currently soliciting support from central Iowa communities, the state and federal government for a new terminal facility. The 2018 Program Definition Manual includes a “Rough Order of Magnitude Cost Estimate” of \$431,990,016.

Does the project make sense?

Get the facts.

FOCUS: DSM New Terminal Plan

- with Brian Mulcahy, Director of Finance

Wednesday, January 26, 4:30 PM

[Zoom link](#)

Meeting ID: 838 1893 4115 | Passcode: 380259

Dial in: 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)



Regional Water Discussions



In 2017, Des Moines Water Works (DMWW) began a multi-year process with partners from across the region, examining ways to increase cooperation, share decision-making, balance risk, and equitably distribute benefits across the region.

In July of 2020, representatives of the three Board-managed water utilities (Des Moines, West Des Moines, and Urbandale) determined that the best path forward was to address the outstanding questions by establishing a working “Regional Micro Group.” The eight-person group issued a “Report Out on Discussions, Outcomes and Considerations” in November 2021.

Presently the Trustees of various governing entities are considering resolutions to begin discussions regarding a possible 28-E agreement.

Representatives from the Regional Micro Group have been asked to provide a historical context for this effort and an overview of the report at the Wednesday, February 9, 2022, Town Hall beginning at 4:30 PM. Additional details and Zoom link will be provided closer to the event.

Property Taxes:



Iowa’s Bold Tax Reform - Gov. Reynolds proposes a big income tax cut and a 4% flat rate.

Wall Street Journal January 20, 2022

“The economic recovery has state governments rolling in tax revenue, and most are spending the windfall, on pace to spend an average of 9.3% more than in 2021. Iowa’s Kim Reynolds is among a handful of governors returning money to taxpayers to sustain the economic rebound.”

Among the Governor’s proposals:

- Establishing a flat 4% individual income tax rate.
- Eliminating retirement income tax.
- Reforming Iowa’s corporate income tax.

What will the impact of these cuts have on the revenue streams to local public entities? What about property taxes that have increased at a rate multiple times that of local population growth and incomes?

The income tax discussion needs to be broadened. Without a thoughtful, comprehensive approach taking more than an election-year legislative session, it is likely unintended consequences may result.

EVENT: FOCUS: Iowa’s Tax System – Challenges & Opportunities
Wednesday, February 23, 7:30 PM
Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden

Please forward this notice to your friends, colleagues and neighbors who share your interest in "Vibrant, just, and safe Central Iowa communities."