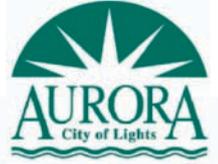


AURORA BOREALIS



Aurora crime rate hits all-time low

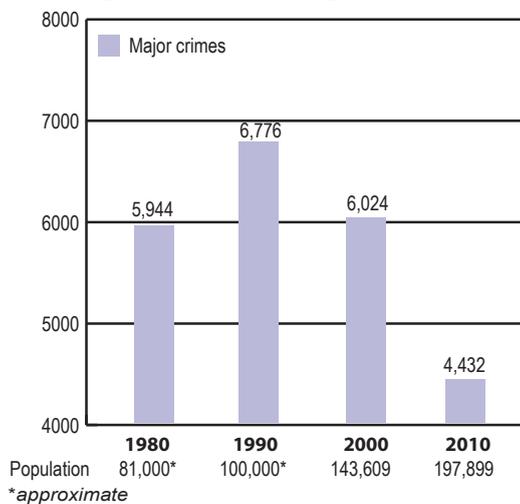
Major crime in Aurora was so low in 2010 that officials cannot pinpoint a year when there was less crime.

It is not for a lack of trying.

Detailed crime statistics were first tallied by Aurora Police 32 years ago in 1978 when the City had just under 80,000 people. Since then, Aurora's population has more than doubled yet major crimes continue to drop. Last year, major crime dropped 11 percent compared to 2009, bringing it to the lowest level since before 1978.

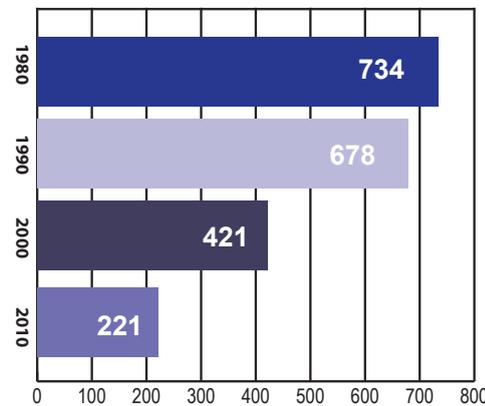
Aurora's long-term crime trends show equally impressive declines, especially when considering the substantial rise in population. Aurora's adjusted crime rate per 100,000 population shows that overall major crime has fallen 31.81 percent in five years, 46.84 percent in 10 years; and 67.09 percent over a 20-year period.

Major crimes through the years



“Working together with a world-class police force, our community has overcome great adversity,” Mayor Tom Weisner said. “Achieving a 32-year low in crime is a tremendous accomplishment, especially considering that our population has more than doubled during that time. Gone are

Major crimes per 10,000 population



the days when people could point to Aurora and claim we were an unsafe community – that’s simply not true today. These statistics continue to prove that chapter of our story is behind us.”

“I am so proud of the effort on behalf of the officers and support staff that resulted in such a significant crime drop,” Aurora Chief of Police Greg Thomas said. “I am also appreciative of other City departments, the partnerships formed with various law enforcement agencies, and the community itself that have had a positive effect on crime.”

Major crimes, known more commonly as “Part One Index Crimes,” include the violent crime categories of murder, criminal sexual assault, robbery and aggravated assault/battery; and the property crime categories of burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft and arson. Violent crime is down 13.98 percent and property crime has decreased by 10.49 percent compared to 2009.

Other numbers released by Aurora Police show a dramatic drop of 16.7 percent in shots fired and 2 percent fewer vehicle crashes in 2010. The decrease in shots fired to 75 was the lowest number in the City since those statistics were tracked starting in 1996, when 357 shots were fired. *

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From the Mayor's Desk

Record low crime statistics, balanced budget highlight Mayor's State of the City Address

The only good thing about the month of March, in my view, is that it immediately precedes April, when the days become temperate, Mother Earth turns green and baseball, golf and sundry other sports seasons begin. I hope that by the time this letter reaches you, the seasons are already changing.

Recently, I delivered a State of the City address and, although I have room only for a few highlights, I'd like to summarize.

Crime dropped significantly once again this year, with major crime falling for the fourth year in a row. On a straight numerical basis, major crime is down 11 percent compared to 2009. Factoring in our significant population growth, per capita major crime is down by 32 percent over the past five years. We've averaged only 3.3 homicides per year over the last three years, a far cry from just eight years ago when we experienced 26.

Only 75 confirmed gun shots were fired in Aurora in 2010. This represents almost a 40 percent reduction since 2005, and a 79 percent reduction since 1996.

We owe a big thank you to our Aurora Police Department, to our vigilant neighborhood organizations, and to all the laws enforcement agencies who assist our officers. Our new state-of-the-art police facility is already enhancing the Police Department's effectiveness.

Because of rising costs and an \$11 million drop in revenues driven by the recession, the City faced a significant budget shortfall going into 2011. Nonetheless, we balanced the City budget – not through borrowing and debt – but through \$18 million in budget

cuts. As a result, the City's portion of your 2010 property tax bill – payable this year – should prove to be less than last year's bill for most residents.

During the past two years, we have reduced executive level staff by 25 percent and the size of our workforce by 175 employees. Despite these efforts, the mushrooming costs of public safety employee pensions are creating tremendous pressure on our City budget.

Created and often enhanced by our state legislature, public safety pensions constitute a huge "unfunded mandate" imposed by the legislature upon local property taxpayers. The effect of so-called reform legislation earlier this year affects only new policemen or firemen, making its impact minimal in the near term.

Despite major budget cuts, the City has created new partnerships to produce summer entertainment opportunities, while reducing tax dollar inputs. Robert Cray and Buddy Guy will be the Friday and Saturday night headliners at Blues on the Fox (June 17 & 18) and American English (July 15) and Seventh Heaven (Aug. 12) will grace the stage at Aurora's two Downtown Alive! events. And with the help of American Legion Post 84 and other Veterans Groups, we will have a Fourth of July Parade, along with our "second to none" fireworks display.

This spring, I encourage you to check out one of the many new dining and entertainment choices that have opened or expanded in Aurora – Chick-fil-A, Chipotle, Golden Corral, Basil's, JJ's Prime Time, Vic and Rick's BBQ, Wang's Garden, Chef Amaury's 33 West, Comfort Zone BBQ

and The Comedy Shrine.

New businesses coming to our City have helped keep Aurora's unemployment levels lower than similar Illinois communities. At the end of 2010 Aurora's unemployment rate was 9 percent, compared to Rockford 14 percent, Elgin 11.8 percent, and Joliet 11.7 percent.

We must continue to invest in Aurora – creating jobs for today and tomorrow – in order to strengthen our tax base for years to come.

Sincerely,


Tom Weisner Mayor,
City of Aurora

"We balanced the 2011 City budget – not through borrowing and debt – but through \$18 million in budget cuts."
Mayor Tom Weisner

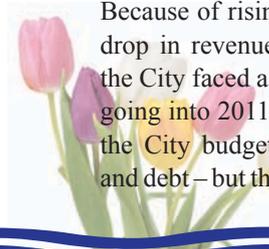
Downtown Alive! the Fox to light u

A few changes are in store, but the Downtown Alive! festival series will be ready to rock Aurora this summer.

After organizing and funding the events since their inception, the City's revenue shortfall prompted the elimination of the Special Events Division and scaling back spending on community events in 2011. The City has developed community partnerships to support several traditional events.

For the summer concert series, Mayor Tom Weisner approached the Paramount Theatre and local service organizations to take the lead in organizing the events. Tim Rater, the Paramount's executive director, said the Theatre is ready to support the City and further his organization's mission to bring people to downtown Aurora.

"The concerts are an opportunity to get out of the house on a nice night to enjoy great





Aurora becomes Illinois' first Green Power Community



What are the benefits?

So Aurora hit the 2 percent benchmark to become a Green Power Community, but what does that mean?

2% = **4,000** passenger vehicles carbon dioxide emissions each year **or** **2,000** average homes carbon dioxide emissions from electricity annually

Illinois' second largest city continues to be a renewable energy leader after being named the state's first Green Power Community by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Aurora was honored by the EPA at the Feb. 22 City Council meeting for reaching the 2 percent benchmark of renewable energy used by electricity customers. For Aurora, that translated into about 25.6 million kilowatt hours (kWh) annually.

Aurora took on the Green Power Challenge last summer with the EPA and BlueStar Energy, an independent Illinois-based energy solutions provider. Demonstrating its commitment to environmental initiatives, the City accepted the Challenge to encourage residents and businesses to choose green power over traditional "brown" power for their electricity needs.

The total green energy used in Aurora was 26.8 million kWh annually, with eight businesses leading the way with 22.5 million kWh last year. Continuing to educate residents on the importance of using green

energy is going to be key moving forward, according to Mayor Tom Weisner.

"The Aurora business community's enthusiastic response helped make this goal a reality," he said. "However, we have to reach a 3 percent benchmark in order to maintain our status as a Green Power Community in 2012."

Aurora has become the 34th city in the country to become a Green Power Community.

"To be named Illinois' first Green Power Community is quite an achievement that all of Aurora can take pride in," said 5th Ward Alderman John "Whitey" Peters, the chairman of the City's Building, Grounds & Infrastructure Committee, which has worked with several of the City's sustainability initiatives. "The City's continued push to be an environmental leader is certainly a step in the right direction for the future."

Green power is electricity that is generated from renewable resources such as solar, wind, geothermal, biogas, biomass or low impact hydro rather than from traditional sources such as the burning of fossil fuels like coal and oil which, according to the EPA, is the nation's single-largest industrial source of air pollution.

Aurora's continued support of sustainability initiatives has made the City a municipal green leader.

"By supporting green power, Aurora is helping to reduce the environmental impacts associated with its operations and is demonstrating civic leadership," U.S. EPA Environmental Scientist Alexis Cain said at the Feb. 22 meeting. "Aurora serves as a model for the rest of the Midwest and for other communities across the country."

For more information or to sign up for green energy, visit the City's website at www.aurora-il.org and select the "Go Green Aurora" link. For additional information on the EPA's Green Power Community Initiative, visit www.epa.gov/greenpower/

Blues on the river

music along with food and drinks at a reasonable price," Rater said.

The Downtown Alive! festival, which includes the Blues on the Fox concerts, is being relocated from Galena Boulevard to North River Street Park to have a bigger venue. While the location is temporary, the backdrop of the Fox River will be a permanent fixture for both festivals after the completion of the RiverEdge Park Music Garden, which construction is slated to start this year.

Thanks to the sponsorship from Hollywood Casino, the Blues on the Fox events will be "kicked up a notch" with entertaining opening acts and big name headliners to celebrate the festival's 15th anniversary, Rater said.

"We're bringing back fan favorites and now we got Buddy Guy, so it is an All-Star line-up when it comes to Downtown Alive!

Schedule

Blues on the Fox

June 17: Robert Cray

June 18: Buddy Guy

Downtown Alive!

July 15: American English

Aug. 12: 7th Heaven

All events will be held at North River Street Park, Cedar and North River streets

and Blues on the Fox," he said.

The events still will feature food and beverage vendors as they did in the past. One other change is a \$5 admission for Blues on the Fox and \$3 for Downtown Alive!, which will be charged at the gate to help offset some costs.

For more information on Blues on the Fox and Downtown Alive!, visit www.downtownaliveaurora.com.

Get City news, events and alerts delivered right to your inbox

Sign up on our website by entering your e-mail address and selecting your topics of interest. We had more than 300 people sign up in just a few days to get blizzard updates in February.

Were you one of them?

www.aurora-il.org
All Aurora INFO
All the Time

TEAR OUT AND SAVE!

Aurora comes alive in SPRING 2011!

APRIL

**Sunday, April 10 to
Sunday, April 17**

National Library Week

Program times and locations vary
The Aurora Public Library celebrates National Library Week with several programs, including a visit from "New York Times" bestselling author Audrey Niffenegger, National Bookmobile Day, an appearance from Curious George and an "Encounter with Mark Twain and Will Rogers." For more information, call the library at 630-264-4100 or visit www.aurora.lib.il.us.

Monday, April 11

Severe Weather Spotter Training

7 p.m.
Aurora Police Department,
1200 E. Indian Trail Road
Residents can sign up for this free training program to learn how to spot the warning signs of severe weather. The program is presented by the National Weather Service. Registration is required. To register or for more information, call the Aurora Emergency Management Office at 630-256-5800.

New hours, same great service

Aurora's Customer Service Call Center provides a one-stop outlet for information on City services, programs and events.



(630) 256-INFO
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday - Friday

Want to file that request online? No problem. You also can submit an issue electronically to Customer Service 24 hours a day, seven days a week by visiting the City's website at www.aurora-il.org.

Friday, April 15
Civil War at 150

10:15 a.m.
David L. Pierce Art & History Center,
20 E. Downer Place
The Aurora Historical Society and the Aurora Public Art Commission team up for a cooperative exhibit commemorating the start of the Civil War. The exhibit will be open from noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday to Friday. For more information, call 630-256-3340 or visit www.aurorahistory.net.

Friday, April 29
Arbor Day

1 to 1:45 p.m.
Washington Middle School,
231 S. Constitution Drive
Residents attending the Arbor Day ceremony will be eligible to pick up a free tree sapling, while supplies last. For more information on the event, visit the City's website at www.aurora-il.org.

Saturday, April 30
Earth Day Cleanup

9 a.m. to noon
Phillips Park Mastodon Trail parking lot
on Wyeth Drive
Residents can help keep Aurora clean by picking up litter at Phillips Park, 1000 Ray Moses Drive. Participants are encouraged to wear old clothes and bring gloves. The event is sponsored by the Friends of Phillips Park.

El Dia de Los Ninos

1 to 5 p.m.
Lincoln and Spring streets near
the Aurora Transportation Center
"The Day of Our Children" is full of storytelling, reading and activities for the whole family. The event is sponsored by the Aurora Hispanic Heritage Advisory Board. For more information, visit the group's website at www.aurorahispanicheritage.com.

MAY

Sunday, May 1
Motorcycle Sunday

9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Phillips Park, 1000 Ray Moses Drive
Bikers will roll into Phillips Park for the 11th annual Motorcycle Sunday. The free event will feature a motorcycle rally, live music, bike blessing, bike shop and food vendors, safety presentations and people's choice bike contest. A 60-mile bike ride begins at 1 p.m. For more information, visit www.motorcyclesundayaurora.com.

Friday, May 13
Aurora Sports Festival

9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Main event at Phillips Park, 1000 Ray Moses Drive, but other locations include East Aurora High School, Parkside Lanes and the Aurora Skate Center
The City celebrates May as National Physical Fitness and Sports Month by inviting middle school students with grades of either an "A" or "B" in physical education to participate in "Olympic-style" sports and recreation competitions. For more information, visit www.aurora-il.org.

Friday, May 20 to Aug. 12
Works by Ruth Van Sickle Ford

Noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday to Friday
David L. Pierce Art & History Center,
20 E. Downer Place
Patrons can meet Nancy Hopp, the author of "Warm Light/Cool Shadows" and "The Life and Art of Ruth Van Sickle Ford" during a special reception scheduled for Friday, May 20. For more information, visit the City's website at www.aurora-il.org.

Monday, May 30
Memorial Day Parade

Noon
Downtown Aurora
Aurora will remember all those who gave their lives to our country during a parade and ceremony. The parade steps off at River and Benton streets to Broadway Avenue,

TEAR OUT AND SAVE!

TEAR OUT AND SAVE!

heading north to Downer Place and then west to Middle Avenue. Visit the City's website at www.aurora-il.org for more details.

JUNE

Friday, June 3 Aurora ArtWalk

6 to 10 p.m.

Downtown Aurora

Aurora Downtown and "Cultural Creatives" showcase visual and performing artists display their talents in various downtown venues. For more information, visit www.auroraartwalk.com.

Saturday, June 11 Farmers Market

7:30 a.m. to noon

Aurora Transportation Center,
233 N. Broadway Ave.

The Farmers Market makes its 2011 debut and will be held each Saturday through Oct. 22. The market features farm-fresh produce, a variety of flowers, food demonstrations, knife sharpening and more. For more information, visit the City's website at www.aurora-il.org.

Aurora Green Fest

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Prisco Community Center,
150 W. Illinois Ave.

Aurora Green Fest is a free city-wide eco-fest highlighting the latest environmental ideas and technology. The event will feature more than 30 eco-friendly exhibits and speakers. Green Fest will entertain children with games and prizes while adults can learn green techniques to save money on their home utility bills. For more information, visit www.auroragreenlights.org.

Louche Puce Market

9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Downtown Water Street Mall between
Galena Boulevard and Downer Place

This new, outdoor European-style vintage and collectable market will be held in the heart of downtown on the second Saturday of each month through September. For more information, contact Jeannie Norris at norrisjeanne@gmail.com.

Saturday, June 11 and Sunday, June 12 Aurora Paddlesports Festival

All day events begin at 9 a.m.

Mastadon Lake at Phillips Park,
1000 Ray Moses Drive

A two-day canoeing and kayaking festival featuring on-water and on-land activities for both beginners and experts. Last year, more than 30 retailers, paddling clubs and river-related organizations provided patrons an introduction to the Illinois paddling community. All lessons taught at the Festival on the lake will be free. For more information, visit www.aurorapaddlesportsfestival.org.

Friday, June 17 Blues on the Fox

6:30 p.m.

North River Street Park, Cedar and
North River streets

The Blues on the Fox tradition continues this summer with a new location and partnership with the Paramount Theatre. The music festival series promises to be better than ever, thanks to a sponsorship from Hollywood Casino. Eric Lindell kicks off the event followed by headliner Robert Cray at 8 p.m. Admission is \$5. For more information, visit www.downtownliveaurora.com.

Saturday, June 18 Blues on the Fox

2 p.m.

North River Street Park, Cedar and
North River streets

Blues on the Fox continues into the weekend with a full schedule of performers. The line-up includes Hix Brothers Junior All-Stars, 2 p.m.; Billy Branch and the Sons of Blues, 3 p.m.; Kenny Neal, 4:45 p.m.; Charlie Musselwhite, 7 p.m.; and headliner Buddy Guy, 8 p.m. Admission is \$5. For more information, visit www.downtownliveaurora.com.

Call 630-256-INFO
for event information

TEAR OUT AND SAVE!

Get into the SWING of things

Golf season is around the corner and the City of Aurora has two public courses for you to tee off at this year.

Phillips Park Golf Course

1001 Hill Ave., Aurora

Fox Valley Golf Course

2500 N. River Road, North Aurora



Get the latest information on course openings, book a tee time online and get information on the City Golf Championship at www.aurora-il.org

Before you wash those clothes

The Aurora Fire Department will be flow testing fire hydrants in May and June to make sure they operate properly in the event of an emergency.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU:

The water is SAFE to drink, but run faucets for 30 seconds or longer if discoloration appears. The hydrant testing may produce rusty water capable of staining clothes. Residents should refrain from doing laundry between 8 a.m. and noon Monday through Thursdays during the testing period.

IF YOUR CLOTHES ARE STAINED:

Laundry stained by rusty water should not be dried. The AFD offers free chemical treatment bottles to remove these stains.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Appointments can be made to pick up a bottle. Call Customer Service at 630-256-INFO or visit www.aurora-il.org

Hispanic, African-American winners put community first

The Hispanic Heritage Advisory Board and African-American Heritage Advisory Board held annual celebrations in January and February respectively to honor some of Aurora's most dedicated students and community leaders. While many were recognized, the winners of each organization's top award are spotlighted below.

Name: Adolfo Lopez

Title: Devoted Georgetown Elementary School parent

Award: Aurora Hispanic Heritage Advisory Board's Peter Perez Award



Background: Lopez has exceeded his role as a parent by ensuring his involvement at Indian Prairie School District 204 fully represents the interests of more than 1,200 Latino families. As a Georgetown School parent liaison, Lopez promotes Hispanic parental involvement and improving Hispanic students' education success. He also serves as a Georgetown Relief Efforts Neighborhood Organization (GRENO) board member to increase the level of Hispanic involvement in clean-up and beautification efforts.

Quotable: "We feel Adolfo deserved to be recognized for his grass roots efforts to change his school and community. Here's a person who promotes positive change and leads by example, and we're happy to have been able to honor his efforts in hopes it inspires others to do the same," said Diana Torres, AHAB chairman

Name: Scheketa Hart-Burns

Title: Seventh Ward Alderman

Award: African-American Heritage Advisory Board's Outstanding African-American Award



Background: Hart-Burns was Aurora's first African-American Alderman and has served on the City Council for the past two decades. She has chaired and been a member of multiple civic organizations and social groups such as Taking Back Our Community, Making a Difference, Inner Circle, African-American/Latino Alliance, Project Unity and Children Memorial Candle Lighting Ceremony. She also has been instrumental in the Aurora Housing Authority Back to School drives and community coat drives.

Quotable: "When I think about a woman of distinction, I believe Alderman Hart-Burns personifies the fullness of that description. Her success is for the advancement of people. She is committed to helping those who are in need," said Toussaint Smith, AAHAB chairman. *

Yard waste collection starts in April

As trees and flowers begin to bloom, the City of Aurora's yard waste and unbundled brush collection must be around the corner.

From April 4 to 15, Aurora residents can dispose of an unlimited amount of yard waste and unbundled brush in 30-gallon

Kraft paper bags without using a sticker. Bags must not exceed 60 pounds. After Friday, April 15, a garbage waste sticker must be attached to the bag. Yard waste mixed with garbage or yard waste placed in a garbage can or plastic bag will not be collected.

Branches and limbs that are ½ inch to 4 inches in diameter and 2 to 4 feet in length can be placed at the curb without a waste sticker. Brush should be in neat, manageable piles with the cut side of the limbs facing the street. Tangled and unmanageable piles will not be collected. Brush that is less than ½ inch in diameter is considered yard waste and must be placed in a Kraft paper yard waste bag. A sticker must be used after April 15.

Both yard waste and unbundled brush collection takes place on your regular garbage day and should be at the curb by 6 a.m. For more information, visit www.aurora-il.org or call 630-256-INFO.

All for free
For the first two weeks in April, residents can dispose of an unlimited amount of yard waste.

Rodgers Community Center welcomes new tenants to the neighborhood

The City of Aurora's continued emphasis to develop new partnerships has resulted in a network of community resources available to residents under one roof.

After the bulk of youth programming staff was cut in 2009 due to budgetary constraints, the City has made dedicated efforts to attract several new non-profit organizations to the Fred Rodgers Community Center to serve youth at a lesser cost to taxpayers.

Chief Community Services Officer Dan Barreiro said 75 percent of available office space in the building, 501 College Ave., will be leased while the gymnasium and conference rooms will be available for use daily by community groups. The new tenant additions highlight the City's efforts to fortify youth and community services through partnerships, he said.

"We have some groups that have been here from the beginning and others that are new," Barreiro said. "There are things going on here all the time."

The City will be collecting more than \$95,000 this year from the tenants to recover costs to maintain and operate the building.

The Community Center also houses the City's Community Services

Community coat drive keeps children warm

A collaborative community effort raised \$16,000 to purchase new winter coats to help keep children warm during the cold winter months.

After hearing about the City's coat drive in 2009, Aurora business owner Wally Mundy helped mobilize additional community support by bringing the Kiwanis Club, local businesses and union trade groups on board with the program. This year, the City bolstered the effort by partnering with Communities in Schools and Wayside Cross Ministries since both agencies conducted individual coat drives in the past.



Families with young children or those with teenagers were able to peruse tables full of coats of all colors and sizes at the Fred Rodgers Community Center in January. Children also could pick out a pair of new boots, scarves, gloves or school bags.

"The children are my top priority, and

the little help we provide to keep them warm is great," 2nd Ward Alderman Juany Garza said. "The coat drive gives parents one less thing to worry about during the cold winter months and allows them to focus on other issues in their children's lives."

Kiwanis Club President Pat Divine said the coat drive came at an opportune time given many local families have been hit hard by the economy.

"We had an excellent response," Divine said. "We are taking kids in the area to give them a new coat to keep them warm. It was a bad winter."

The Kiwanis Club of Aurora, Wayside Cross Rescue Mission Urban Youth Ministry, Communities in Schools, local businesses, civic leaders, labor organizations, 7th Ward Alderman Scheketa Hart-Burns, Garza and Mayor Tom Weisner spearheaded the coat drive in conjunction with the City of Aurora. 🌟

Department's Administrative Offices and Aurora's Youth and Senior Services Division. For more information on the Community Center, call (630) 256-3400. 🌟

The Tenants

- Communities in Schools** — Connects students in need with community services
- District 131 Magnet Academy** — Challenges middle school students beyond the scope of a traditional classroom
- Elsy Fabela Foundation** — Provides after-school and summer programs for youth; support services for parents
- Robert Crown Center** — Teaches health education for children and young adults
- Rebuilding Together Aurora** — Rehabs more than 20 homes annually with volunteers
- Triple Threat Mentoring** — Mentors youth through athletics, academics and the arts
- YWCA Aurora** — Conducts programs and classes geared toward eliminating racism and empowering women
- Illinois Worknet Kane County Department of Employment and Education and Waubensee Community College** — Offers job seekers training and employment assistance
- YWCA Metropolitan Chicago** — Provides childcare resource and referral services in DuPage and Kane counties

TAKE 4 with wind turbines

You may be used to seeing wind turbines driving along a rural highway. But now Illinois' second largest city has two of its own. Here is a top four list to help catch you up to speed on Aurora's latest green technology.



1. Location Two wind turbines were installed this year at McCoy Drive and Frontenac Road and Fifth Street and Waterford Drive to help offset the City's own use of energy for new traffic signals installed at each intersection. Both turbines are located on open parcels in order to harvest more wind energy.

2. Power The 5k turbines should generate in excess of 10 to 20 times the power of what the traffic signals at both intersections will be using. The additional green energy will be distributed into the electric power grid. The turbines are expected to become fully operational this spring.

3. Specifications The City chose low impact, 38-foot towers — the same height as current street light poles — due to the close proximity to residential neighborhoods at both intersections. The noise decibel level generated by the turbines is low and has been compared to two people speaking to each other.

4. Funding The turbines were funded as part of a \$1.57 million U.S. Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant, and no City money was used for the project. 🌟

Your Elected Officials

Mayor Thomas J. Weisner

630-256-3010

mayorsoffice@aurora-il.org

Aldermen's Office

630-256-3020

At-Large: Robert O'Connor

At-Large: Richard Irvin

Ward 1: Abby Schuler

Ward 2: Juany Garza

Ward 3: Stephanie Kifowit

Ward 4: Rick Lawrence

Ward 5: John "Whitey" Peters

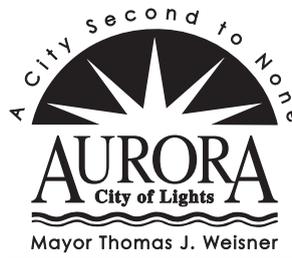
Ward 6: Mike Saville

Ward 7: Scheketa Hart-Burns

Ward 8: Rick Mervine

Ward 9: Allan Lewandowski

Ward 10: Lynda Elmore



Mayor Thomas J. Weisner

44 E. Downer Place
Aurora, IL 60507

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Aurora Borealis is published four times a year through the City of Aurora's Public Information Division.

Address correspondence to:

Newsletter Editor - City of Aurora

44 E. Downer Place

Aurora, IL 60507-2067

or publicinfo@aurora-il.org

City Web site: www.aurora-il.org

Aurora Community Television: Comcast Channel 10

Postal Customer

Aurora remains second to none in Illinois

Aurora still remains Illinois' second largest city with a population of 197,899, a 38.4 percent increase in size during the past decade, according to 2010 U.S. Census results released in February.

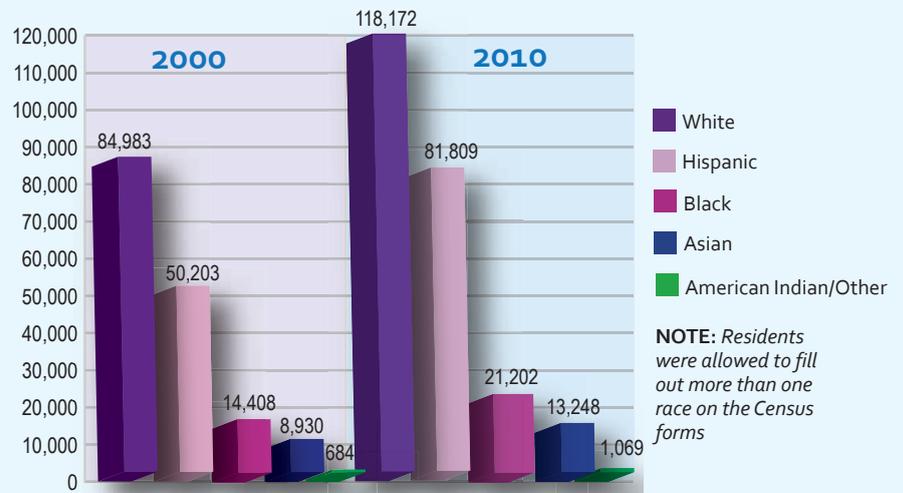
Data for Illinois shows that the five largest towns based off the 2010 Census are Chicago, 2.7 million; Aurora, 197,899; Rockford, 152,871; Joliet 147,433 and Naperville, 141,853.

"We were confident that we would maintain Aurora's status as a community that is second to none in Illinois," Mayor Tom Weisner said. "This is evident by the number of people that have moved to our community during the past decade to live, work and play."

The Census also indicated Aurora has 67,273 housing units in the City. Further Census results have not been released prior to publication.

Census statistics are important because the population impacts federal funding Aurora is eligible to receive for general government operations, street projects and community block grants that benefit low and moderate income families.

After receiving \$17.95 million annually prior to the 2010 Census, the City will now will get \$21.75 million based off the population increase. The City will likely receive a pro-rated amount this year before receiving the full increased funding in 2012.



DID YOU KNOW?

East Aurora High School has the largest Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps in the nation with more than 600 members. The NJROTC drill team and color guard perform at school events, area parades and special occasions. The rifle team competes at NJROTC meets.