



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER



**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

**FROM:** Patrick Urich, City Manager *Patrick Urich*

**DATE:** February 25, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Issues Update

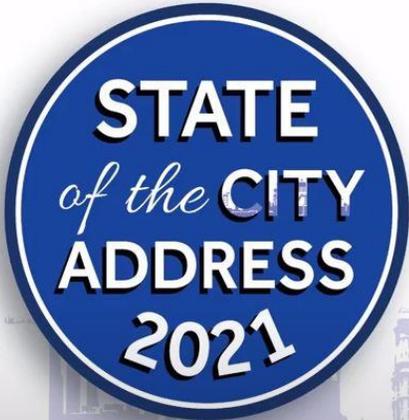
The following are issues related to the City for the weekly Issues Update. If there are additional items you believe should be included, please let me know.

**Weekly COVID-19 Briefing**

Due to the Governor’s visit yesterday, there will be no COVID19 briefing today. We will resume weekly briefings on March 4.

**2021 (Virtual) State of the City Available**

On February 24, the Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce presented the annual State of the City Address with Mayor Ardis. To view the event, please click [HERE](#)



**WELCOME**  
Joshua Gunn

**INTRODUCTION**  
Tracy Coker

**STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS**  
Mayor Jim Ardis

**CLOSING REMARKS**  
Joy Ledbetter

**Community Development—Public Meeting Scheduled for March 2 for Glen & University Car Wash Development**

The city of Peoria Community Development Department will host a public meeting on March 2 from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM regarding a special use request for a car wash at 1217 W Glen Avenue and 4926 N University Street. The public is invited to attend and provide comments or ask



questions. The meeting will be held at the Gateway Building, 200 NE Water Street, Peoria, IL 61602. Capacity in the Gateway Building will be limited to 50 people due to Phase 4 Restore Illinois guidelines. Attendance will be first come, first serve with doors opening at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, March 2. Mask wearing and social distance guidelines will be strictly enforced for the safety of all in attendance.

The subject of the meeting is the property located at the corner of Glen and University. The property is owned by Joseph Real Properties and the applicant for the special use request is Club Carwash. Several representatives from both entities will be in attendance, including Eric

Kirchner from Cochran Engineering firm representing Club Carwash, David Wright from Traffic Impact Group, Alex Apter from Location CRE, Roland Bartels from Club Carwash, and Justin Barnes from Club Carwash.

Staff from Community Development Department will first provide a brief overview of the zoning process. After the conclusion of the overview, the building owner and applicant for the special use request will be available to answer questions from the public.

The public may participate in person or by email. If emailing, please email questions and comments by Sunday, February 28, at 5:00 PM to [communitydevelopment@peoriagov.org](mailto:communitydevelopment@peoriagov.org). A recording of this public meeting will be made available on the City of Peoria YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofpeoriatv> on Wednesday, March 3.

For questions regarding the zoning process, please contact Senior Urban Planner Kerilyn Weick at 309-494-8600 or [kweick@peoriagov.org](mailto:kweick@peoriagov.org).

### **Community Development-2021 Great American Cleanup Scheduled for Saturday, April 24**

The 2021 Great American Cleanup has been scheduled for Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021. This event provides residents an opportunity to build a sense of community pride and stewardship by eliminating blight, litter, and debris.

The Community Development Department, in partnership with Keep Peoria Beautiful, will provide dumpsters to twenty neighborhood associations on a first come, first serve basis. The Community Development Department supplies dumpsters and volunteers to enhance neighborhood cleanup efforts. Providing dumpsters, along with partnering with neighborhood associations, makes a lasting impact in the fight against blight. To request a dumpster for your neighborhood cleanup, please contact Neighborhood Enhancement Coordinator Kaylee Drea at [kdrea@peoriagov.org](mailto:kdrea@peoriagov.org) or by calling 309-494-8624.

Keep Peoria Beautiful will supply trash bags, yard waste bags, and gloves to community groups participating in the Great American Cleanup. Please contact Keep Peoria Beautiful at 309-672-6288 or [keeppeoriabeautiful@gmail.com](mailto:keeppeoriabeautiful@gmail.com) to register your cleanup and take advantage of free trash bags, yard bags, and gloves. Please note that there will be no supply pick-up this year. Instead, Keep Peoria Beautiful will drop off supplies at the homes of the cleanup organizers.

Dream Center Peoria will provide volunteers to assist neighborhood groups. If your neighborhood association is interested in having volunteers from Dream Center Peoria or the City of Peoria to help fill the dumpsters, please indicate on your dumpster request form that you are interested in this opportunity.

While it is important to maintain clean and healthy neighborhoods all year long, this nationwide cleanup effort is an opportunity to show appreciation for your neighborhood and gives us all more reasons to appreciate Peoria.

Please contact Neighborhood Enhancement Coordinator Kaylee Drea [kdrea@peoriagov.org](mailto:kdrea@peoriagov.org) or at 309-494-8624 with any questions about the Great American Cleanup. For more information on what the city of Peoria Community Development Department is up to, please visit [www.AppreciatePeoria.com](http://www.AppreciatePeoria.com) or check out our Instagram @AppreciatePeoria.

### **Economic Development- \$950,000 Awarded to Local Businesses Through the Business Recovery Grant**

*Fifty-Seven Businesses Received Grants Up to \$50,000*



The city of Peoria Economic Development Department recently distributed more than \$950,000 to local businesses through two rounds of the Business Recovery Grant (BRG) Program. Established in November 2020, the BRG program provided grants to Peoria-based businesses on a reimbursement basis to offset higher costs of operations associated with COVID-19. Monies for this program were provided by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (IDCEO) to the City via the CURES Act Economic Supports Payment Program.

Economic Development and Finance staff were able to quickly distribute funds to fifty-seven businesses within three months, beginning with the establishment of the program in November and the distributions in January of this year. Grant allocations ranged from \$533 to \$50,000. Out of ninety-seven grant applications, forty-eight percent were submitted from minority-owned businesses. Businesses that received funding from the Business Interruption Grant disqualified them from receiving any BRG funding.

Assistant City Manager and Economic Development Director Deborah Roethler stated, “Our Economic Development staff have been hard at work to maximize the money going to businesses that were impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. Not only were we able to provide some sizeable grants, but we were able to do so quickly to ensure that businesses could immediately put that monetary relief to use and stabilize their future.”

Businesses were able to apply for reimbursement of expenses in two different rounds of funding under the categories of sustainability, capacity building and business transformation. Each grant allowed for reimbursement of up to \$5,000 (per category, per round) of their specific costs related to COVID-19 mitigation and response. Sustainability grants reimbursed basic expenses such as rent, utilities, and other operating expenses. Capacity Building grants provided funds to support service to customers due to capacity limitations. Examples of these expenses include modifications to provide outdoor experiences. Business Transformation grants provided funding to adapt the business model to meeting changing consumer demands, such as providing delivery services to pivot from an inbound customer experience to delivery model. Businesses could apply in all the categories and in both rounds.

Reimbursement amount varied based on the type of service provided. Businesses were eligible for up to \$15,000 of reimbursement. Hotels were eligible for up to \$25,000, based on the number of rooms and eligible expenses. Awards within each category required a demonstration of eligible expenses for reimbursement.

For more information on the Economic Development Department and programs, please visit [Grow Peoria](#) or call 494-8640

For a list of the recipients, please click [HERE](#)

### **Economic Development-Peoria Business Recovery Grant Spotlight: Award Recipient Seven Strands Hair Salon**

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted just about every industry in town. The City of Peoria developed the **Business Recovery Grant Program** to provide financial reimbursement for costs associated with the increased costs of doing business in a pandemic. The City of Peoria has awarded more than \$950,000 to local businesses through the Business Recovery Grant program. Here is one of the businesses you should know.



SEVEN STRANDS HAIR SALON - 8811 N. ALLEN ROAD PEORIA, ILLINOIS 61616309 7562-193

<https://sevenstrandshairsalon.com/>

Hair is it just hair? It isn't if you speak with Iris Leverett owner of Seven Strand Hair Salon. "Hair is the source of strength, power and expression" according to Iris Leverett. Hair is a canvas and gives a stylist the freedom to express themselves. Whether its a cut, color, highlights braids or extensions you a stylist has an opportunity to pour something of themselves into the work. Why not have it say something about who you are and have your customers represent the expression of your talents. This is exactly what is poised to deliver. When it comes to self-care Seven Strands has you covered. Seven Strands is the inspired name based on the story of Sampson a biblical character who drew his strength in the length of his hair.

Located in North Peoria, this gem is more than a hair salon. Filled with self-care products throughout, Seven Strands also serves waxing. Owner Iris Leverett has turned Seven Strands into an extension of herself. The Salon provides a complete day spa experience with comfortable treatment rooms.

Iris has spent the better part of two decades in the hair and self care business. She has transitioned from working in her mothers basement to Salon owner with employees and lots of responsibility. Those responsibilities became more pressing with the pandemic hit and like many business owners Iris was faced with the challenge of maintaining the business she built. The



Peoria Business Recovery Grant was able to assist Seven Strands with a \$14,000 grant to reimburse them for expenses related to COVID-19. "I am so thankful for the grant by the City of Peoria" It allowed us to continue to make rent payments, maintain our staff through and afford the cleaning products

related to the new regiment associated with maintaining a clean and safe environment in a post pandemic world. Currently, Seven Strands continues to operate at limited capacity. The Salon is adhering to social distancing and mitigation protocols.

"We are looking toward the future when we return to full-time hours. Our customers can expect us to provide outstanding customer service". The original reason customers selected Seven Strands is because we provide skillful professional who are friendly and willing to treat customers well.

### **Peoria Public Schools – Update from Superintendent Dr. Sharon Desmoulin-Kherat**

This week Peoria Public Schools received a State of Illinois Restore, Reinvest, Renew (R3) grant in the amount of \$858,669 to provide services primarily to residents of Peoria’s 61605 zip code – one of the poorest in the nation – that perfectly personify the mission of The Wraparound Center.

The R3 program provides 25 percent of cannabis revenues for grants to support communities impacted by the violence, disinvestment, child poverty, unemployment and incarceration rates.

Through the R3 grant, PPS Wraparound Center and its community partners will provide services and supports for individuals and families to guide them to healthy, productive and sustainable lives. The program will serve PPS students and their families as well as adults in the community, with or without children in our schools.

The R3 program will focus on

- Successful re-entry for adults and juveniles who have been involved in the criminal justice system.
- Treatment for mental health, trauma and substance abuse issues.
- A summer program for at-risk students about to enter high school.
- Developmental youth services for PPS students.

In announcing the R3 program, State Representative Jehan Gordon-Booth, said expungement services are a critical part of the services provided. Adults, many of whom are PPS parents, can be stuck in poverty for a decades-old criminal justice record. A record of incarceration or involvement in the criminal justice system greatly impedes finding employment, housing, furthering education or even volunteering at your child’s school. Hiring an attorney to facilitate expungement can cost thousands of dollars. The R3 grant will fund the services of an attorney to provide legal representation and/or legal advice to clients who qualify. Many individuals who become involved in the legal system do not have the knowledge or resources to navigate the process. The attorney will work on expungement, sealing, individual housing cases, uncontested and simple divorces, child custody cases, and orders of protection.

Grant funds also will provide services to help adults who have been incarcerated or involved in the judicial system successfully reenter society. Wraparound Center community partners, including Chestnut Health Systems and Family Core, will provide mental health and substance abuse services. The grant also provides funding to expand the Peoria County Sheriff’s Department current three-step reentry program, Successful Transition and Reentry (STAR). Reentry assistance includes assistance to attain housing and employment, support relationships with children and families and ultimately become contributing members of society. These steps will reduce recidivism, improve public safety and save taxpayer dollars.

A portion of the R3 grant funds will directly support PPS students:

- Justice Advocates will support PPS students involved in the criminal justice system. Justice Advocates ensure students are enrolled and attending school, attend court appearances, support students to complete the orders of the court, assist them in meeting their basic needs and collaborate with career coaches to keep students on track to graduate and prepare for college or career after graduation.
- Career Coaches help students develop employment skills such as how to interview, how to handle stressful situations, how to complete paperwork and how to keep a job. Career Coaches will help students secure a job and monitor them while on the job to support their employment.
- W.I.N.N.I.N.G. (What I Need Now In Ninth Grade), a summer program targeting 30 PPS incoming high school freshman, will provide activities and presentations to prepare them for a successful transition from middle school to high school including guest speakers, career information, meaningful field trips, college visits and strategies for high school success.
- Working with Hult Center for Healthy Living, R3 funds will provide sexual and reproductive health education to 4,500 students in grades 5-12.

The services and supports funded by the R3 grant are provided by The Wraparound Center and its community partners. Our community partners are in the trenches with Peoria Public Schools every day. Through our ongoing partnerships, we are changing lives.

With Gratitude,



Dr. Sharon Desmoulin-Kherat, Superintendent

### **Community Development Weekly Report**

- Please see attached

### **Peoria Cares Monthly Report**

- Please see attached

**Date: 2/24/2021**

This summary document is produced on a weekly basis. It is used as an agenda for the City Development Review Board and as a transparency tool to allow the public to be aware of development in Peoria.

### 1. Summary Information

- **One Stop Shop** is held every Monday at 1:30 PM in City Hall. This is a free service for anyone who wants to discuss development with staff from various City departments, local utility companies, the Health Department, and CityLink.
- **Development Center Permits** can typically be issued immediately and/or do not require an extensive review period. These permits include most trade (electrical, plumbing, HVAC, etc.) permits, repair permits, new single-family residential construction, alteration/additions, and demolitions.
- Each permit application includes a self-reported value of the project. The **Total Value of Development (YTD)** is the sum of these reported values.

	This Week	YTD
One Stop Shop Customers	2	10
Development Center Permits Issued	19	184
Total Value of Development (YTD)	\$ 2,686,645	\$ 8,756,689

### 2. Development Review Board Projects

- The **Development Review Board** is a group of City staff, local utility representatives, and other local government agencies that review and comment on more complex development applications and cases that are required to go to a public hearing.
- A **Job** is a development application that requires multiple departments to review for compliance but does not require a public hearing or City Council review.
- A **Project** is a development application that requires multiple departments to review for compliance and requires a public hearing before a City Commission and in some cases, a final decision by the City Council.
- The **Staff Assigned** to each Job or Project is the primary contact person for any inquires.

#### Additional Activity

- These projects are not subject to review by the Development Review Board.

Job/Project #	Address	Type	Description	Council District	Planner Assigned
Sign-002173-2021	4603 N. Knoxville Ave 14-21-381-035	Freestanding Sign	Permanent Sign	3	KW
Sign-002181-2021	814 NE Jefferson 18-03-358-022	Wall Sign	Permanent Sign	1	LA
Sign-002182-2021	5201 W. War Memorial 13-11-176-009	Wall Sign	Permanent Sign	5	LA
Sign-002186-2021	1922 N. Wisconsin 14-34-357-002	Wall Sign	Permanent Sign	3	KW

### 3. Certificates of Occupancy Issued

- **Certificates of Occupancy** are issued after the work authorized by a permit has been inspected and substantially meets all applicable codes and regulations.

Address	Type	Business Name	Council District
6035 N. Knoxville Suite 105	Final	Keller Station	3

**4. Peoria City/County Health Department License Information**

- The **Peoria City/County Health Department** licenses multiple types of food establishments. The information in this table is provided for informational purposes only.

Address	Business Name	Description	Council District

- The following table provides contact information for the **Community Development Staff** who are typically assigned to manage development applications.

<b>Community Development Department Staff Contact Information</b>			
Leah Allison (LA) Senior Urban Planner	494-8667	Kerilyn Weick (KW) Senior Urban Planner	494-8606
Josh Naven (JN) Senior Urban Planner	494-8657	Wes Stickelmaier (WS) Building Inspections Coordinator	494-8608
Craig Reid (CR) Building Inspector	494-8925	Matt Ziller (MZ) Building Inspector	494-8628
Rich Storm (RS) Plumbing Inspector	494-8632		

# *Peoria Cares*

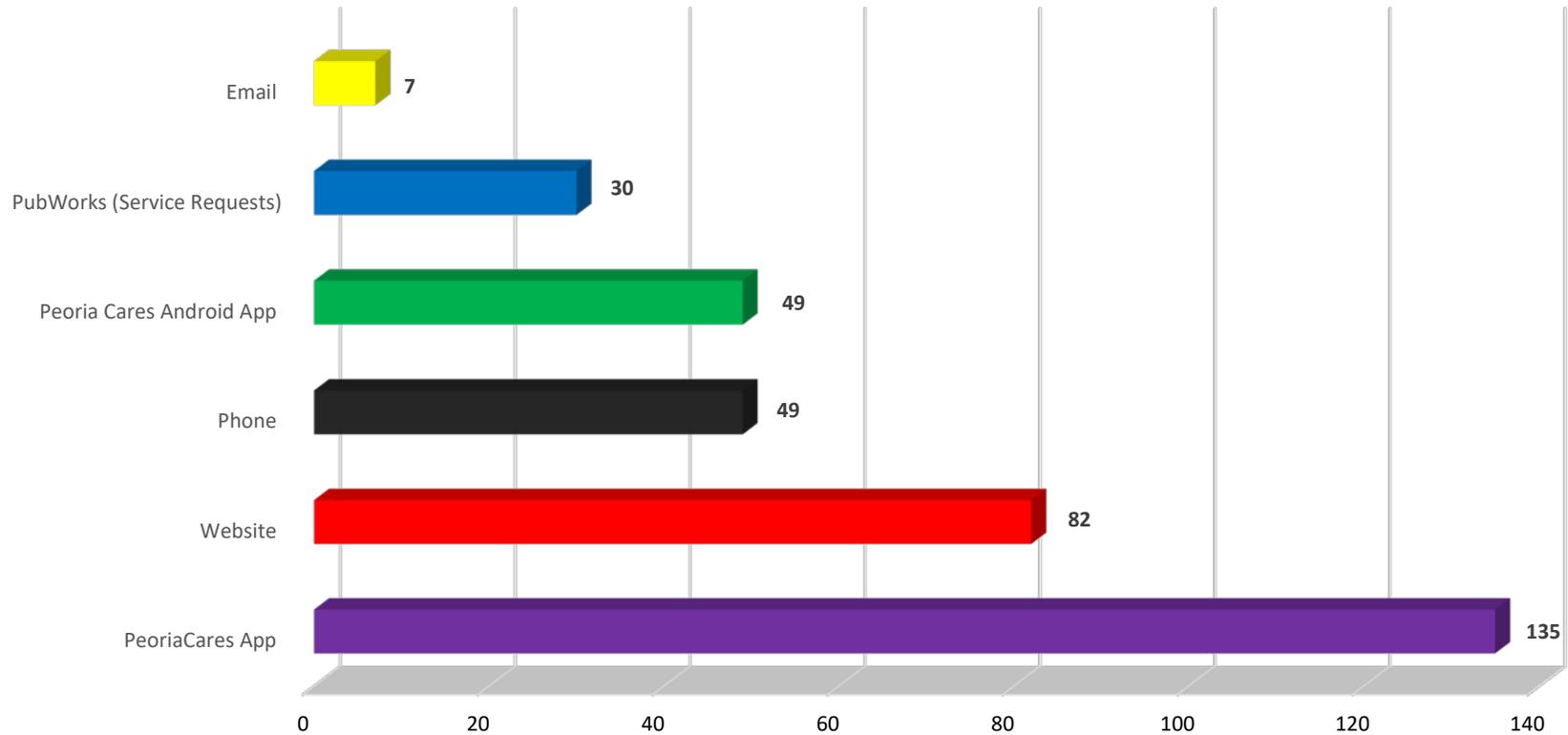


## *2021 Monthly Report*



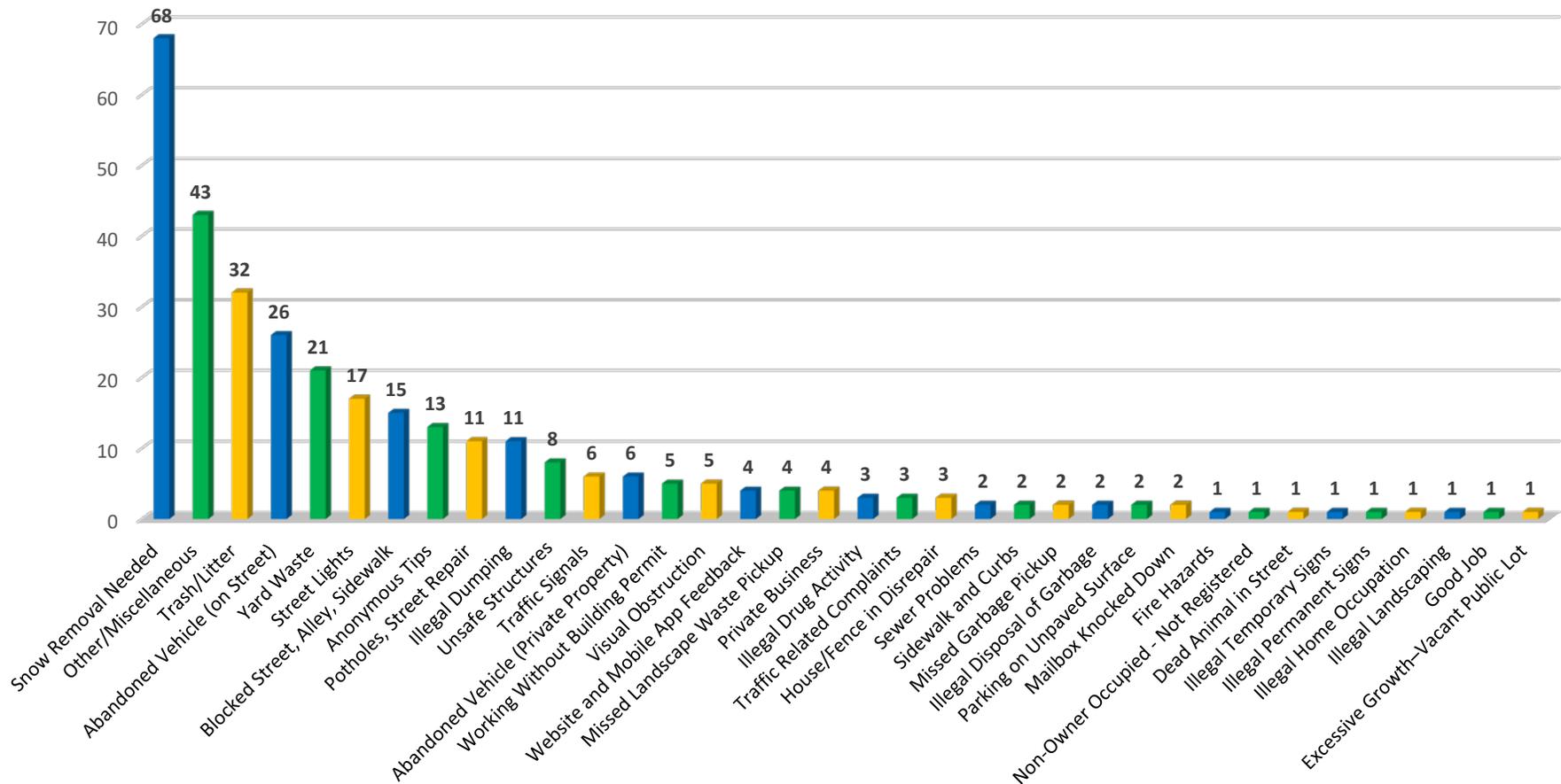
***From: The Office of the City Manager  
Presented to: City of Peoria, Mayor and Council Members  
Monday, February 22, 2021***

## Peoria Cares Communication Transactions During Month of January



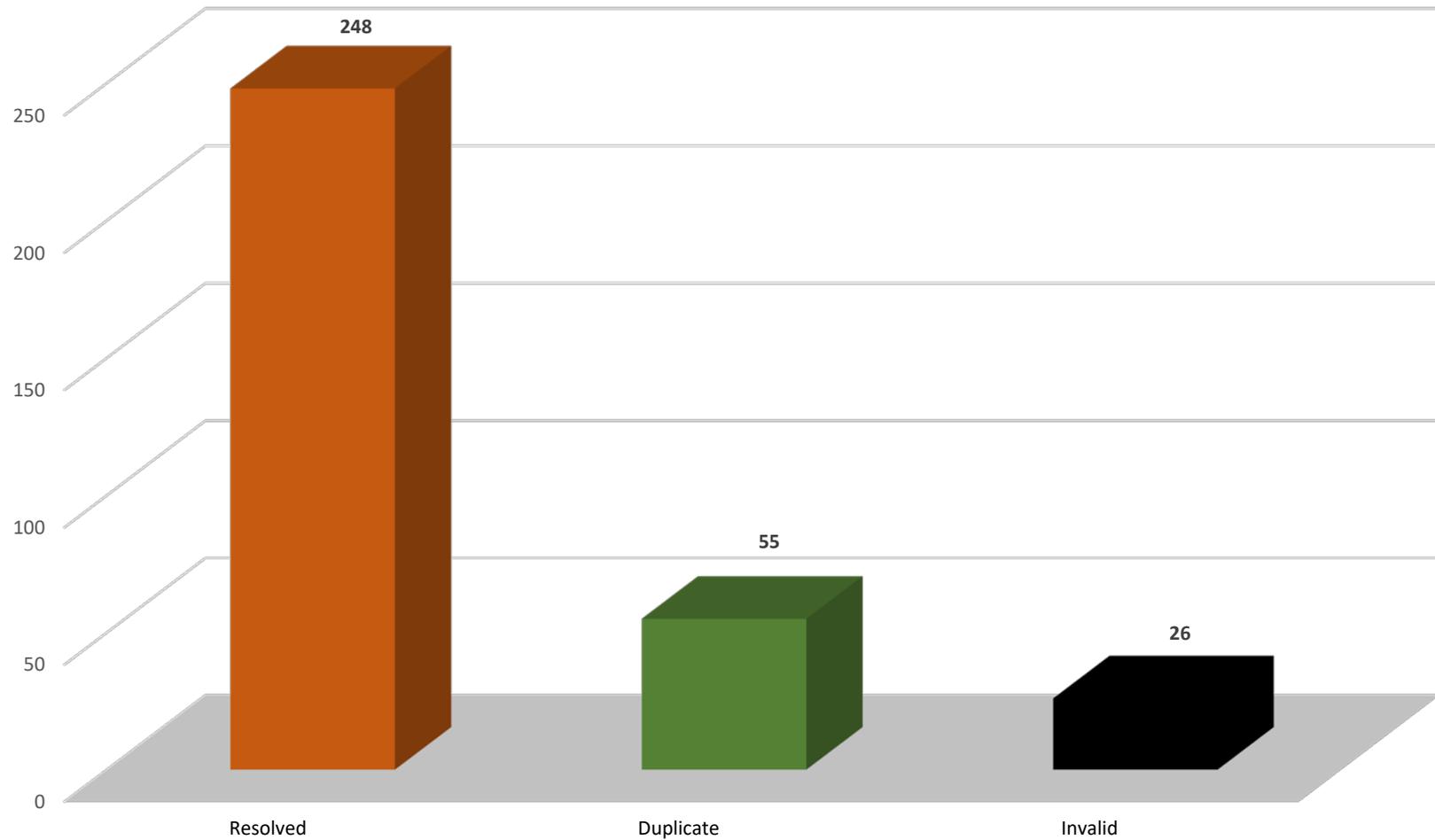
In January, a total of 941 calls were received from the Peoria Cares phone line. There were 49 phone calls that generated a Peoria Cares case and 30 phone calls that produced service requests. The cases were sent to the appropriate City Department(s). Each department handled the complaint from start to finish. Every call will always receive an optimum level of customer service; during this time period, there were calls that varied in response. In addition, some of the Peoria Cares phone calls required, research and information gathering for other assistance and services offered, in the Greater Peoria Tri-County Communities.

## Peoria Cares January 2021 Complaints by Category



There was a total of 329 Peoria Cares complaints that were submitted in the month of January. These complaints have been drilled down and categorized to indicate their status.

## Peoria Cares January 2021 Complaint Status



Out of the 329 Peoria Cares complaints, there are zero unresolved complaints. Each month, our goal is to follow-up with all departments unresolved complaints, to ensure we can quickly respond to each citizen's needs.