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Walsh Honored at League Annual Conference

Matt Walsh, Mayor of Council Bluffs, was inducted into the Iowa League of Cities Hall of Fame during the Awards Banquet at their Annual Conference & Exhibit in Des Moines.

The League Hall of Fame Award was created in 1995 to recognize individuals who have provided extraordinary public service to the League and local government. The Hall of Fame has previously been awarded to elected or appointed city officials, business or civic leaders, and former members of the League staff. Selection for the award is made on the basis of service rendered to city government generally, advocating for cities and good local government, and providing exceptional professional assistance and support to cities.

Matt Walsh has provided extraordinary service to city government and the Iowa League of Cities through decades of leadership, governance, and commitment to community improvement. As a longtime public servant (serving 18 years on the City Council and more than a decade as Mayor of Council Bluffs) Walsh has demonstrated a deep understanding of municipal challenges and a remarkable ability to lead through them. In 2016, he served as President of the Iowa League of Cities, where he brought a unique and valuable perspective as the mayor of one of only two "strong mayor" cities in Iowa.

Walsh's impact extends far beyond administrative roles. Under Mayor Walsh's leadership, Council Bluffs has achieved several key milestones, including the completion of the West Broadway Reconstruction Project, one of the largest infrastructure investments in city history. The city has enhanced public safety through expanded police and fire services, supported economic growth with new commercial developments and job creation, increased housing options through major residential projects and revitalization efforts, and improved quality of life by expanding access to public spaces such as River's Edge Park, the FIRST AVE trail, and upgraded neighborhood playgrounds.

Walsh is the 62nd member of the League's Hall of Fame. Quentin Hart was also inducted into the Hall of Fame this year. League Hall of Fame inductees are nominated for the honor by their peers.

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The Iowa League of Cities is the oldest, continuously operating municipal league in the country. Founded in 1898, the League is a not-for-profit organization that serves as the unified voice for cities, providing advocacy, training and guidance to the cities of Iowa.