Donate Now
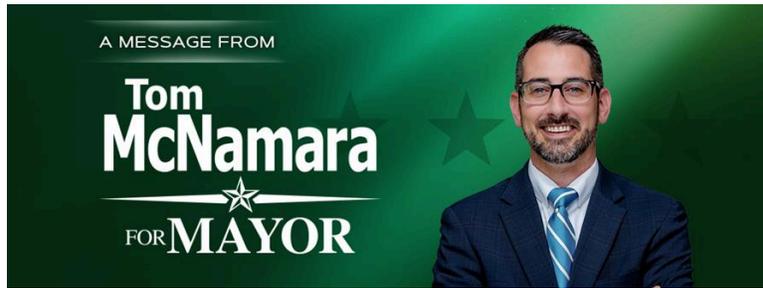
A Thanksgiving Message from My Family to Yours

As we head into Thanksgiving, my family and I just want to say how grateful we are for this community. Every day, we see neighbors helping neighbors, lifting each other up, and working together to make Rockford stronger and that's something worth celebrating.

Thanks for all you do. Happy Thanksgiving, Rockford!

Historic Factory, Modern Comeback

I'm thrilled to share that the old Gunite factory on Peoples Avenue is reopening under new ownership as Rockford Brake Manufacturing. Four former Gunite employees are investing $6.6 million to bring 150 jobs back to the facility and they're producing brake drums with 85% recycled material.

This isn't just about restoring a building. It's about honoring Rockford's manufacturing legacy and building a more sustainable future together.

Read More

Supporting Our Business Neighbors

We're kicking off the next round of our Commercial Corridor Property Revitalization Program — a great opportunity for business and property owners to get help making exterior improvements. Think windows, doors, roofs, parking lots, signage, masonry… the stuff that really boosts curb appeal and keeps our corridors strong.

Applications close November 26 at 11:59 p.m.

If you own a commercial or industrial property in an eligible corridor, I hope you'll take a look and apply. Strong, vibrant corridors lift our whole community.

Lean More

Help Us Deck Out Downtown!

It's almost time for Stroll on State, and our friends at GoRockford need some helping hands to turn downtown into a full-on holiday wonderland. If you're up for wrapping light poles, hanging garland, and spreading a little cheer, we'd love to have you join in.

Volunteers are needed Friday, Nov. 21 and Saturday, Nov. 22 with shifts from 8–12 or 1–5.

Sign Up

Driving Home a Win for Our Region

We got some incredible news for the Rockford area—Stellantis is reopening the Belvidere Assembly Plant and will start producing two new Jeep vehicles in 2027. That means 3,300 new jobs and a $600 million investment right here in our region.

This didn't happen overnight. It took hard work and collaboration from local, state and federal partners, and I'm grateful to everyone who helped make it a reality.

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15th Avenue Glow Up

The City of Rockford will receive more than $17 million to replace the 15th Avenue Bridge. It's the largest amount given as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's largest multi-year infrastructure program in state history — a $50.6 billion investment over six years through Governor JB Pritzker's Rebuild Illinois program.

Smarter Streets Ahead

We're rolling out new tech to make our roads safer and more efficient. This software tracks speeding, congestion, and traffic patterns across the city, giving our police and public works teams the data they need to put resources in the right places at the right time.

It's a simple upgrade with a big impact and another step toward making Rockford's streets safer for everyone.

Read More

Thank You for Fighting Hunger With Us

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us for this year's Mayor's Hunger Luncheon. With the support of our incredible Hunger Luncheon Committee, the Greater Rockford Pantry Coalition, and the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois, we hosted a sold-out event that brought 200 people together for one purpose: fighting hunger in our community.

Thanks to your generosity, we raised more than $60,000 to support the local pantries that serve our neighbors every single day. I couldn't be more grateful. Donations can still be made to support those in need below.

Donate

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