



CITY OF FORT DODGE

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MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 29, 2019

Over the Memorial Day weekend, the City of Fort Dodge was made aware of the unkempt conditions at Memorial Park Cemetery, 3242 5th Avenue South. Since then, several City employees have been in contact with the Iowa Insurance Division, the state agency tasked with regulating and supervising cemeteries and burial sites, to address the concerns brought forward by citizens and families of those interred at the cemetery.

The City and Iowa Insurance Division are working together to determine the best course of action in regards to the care and ongoing upkeep of the property. The first step of the process is to establish a receivership which allows the Iowa Insurance Division to take ownership of the maintenance and make arrangements for a long term solution as it relates to Memorial Park Cemetery. During the time prior to receivership, the City of Fort Dodge and the Iowa Insurance Division are not authorized to perform any maintenance on the property. Please be aware that the receivership proceedings can take several weeks to months to complete, however the City is working diligently with the Iowa Insurance Division to expedite the process.

The best method for citizens and families to file a registered complaint regarding the care and maintenance is to contact the Iowa Insurance Division. You can file a complaint online at <https://iid.iowa.gov/insurance-consumer-complaint> or by calling (877) 955-1212. These complaints may assist in expediting the receivership process.

We will provide additional updates as they become available.