

AMES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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October 8, 2008

Mayor Ann Campbell
Ames City Council Members
City of Ames
515 Clark Avenue
Ames, IA 50010

Dear Mayor Campbell and Members of the Ames City Council:

The Ames Chamber of Commerce and the Ames Economic Development Commission (AEDC) are very excited to invite you to our joint annual meeting on February 3, 2009. Similar to last year's event, our two organizations are pleased to bring in *The Second City Comedy Troupe* to Stephens Auditorium, preceded by a dinner reception at the Scheman Building. The dinner and program will serve as a celebration of 2008 accomplishments for the Chamber and AEDC and a preview of what's ahead for our business community in 2009.

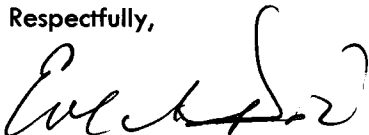
While last year's event was a new concept for our members, it was very well received. We had our highest attendance number for the dinner reception, and the crowd at Stephens Auditorium was estimated at 1200. We are looking forward to not only duplicating our efforts for 2009, but also building on our past experience to make this year's event even greater.

However, as was the case last year, logistics have forced us to schedule this event on a date that conflicts with the budgeting hearing schedule for the City of Ames. Because the City of Ames is a valued member of both the Chamber and the AEDC, and because this event is such a prominent gathering for the Ames business community, we are asking you to rearrange your budget hearing schedule so you may attend our event on **Tuesday, February 3, 2009**.

We believe it's essential for the City of Ames – especially our elected and staff leadership – to be represented at events that are important to the business community. We would be very grateful if you would seriously consider the schedule change, and would be honored if you could all attend. There is City of Ames staff support for this request, as we have already discussed this request with Steve Schinker.

Please call Dan Culhane or me if you have any questions. Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Respectfully,



Eve A. Doi
Vice President of Chamber Operations and Communications

