

**MINUTES
OF THE EDINA CITY COUNCIL PLANNING RETREAT
HELD AT BRAEMAR GOLF COURSE
FEBRUARY 17 & 18, 2012**

Present were Mayor Hovland and Members Bennett, Brindle, Sprague, and Swenson. Staff members present were City Manager Scott Neal and Assistant City Manager Karen Kurt.

FEBRUARY 17, 5:00PM-10:30PM

The retreat began with a kickoff exercise where members and staff each shared their perspective on the strengths of Edina's city government, top priorities for 2012 and traits they sought from City leadership and their fellow council members.

City Manager Neal reviewed a proposal to establish a utility franchise fee for street-related improvements. The Council agreed that the concept was worth pursuing further and instructed City Manager Neal to schedule the topic for a future work session. Council members also expressed a desire to review the City's street assessment policy in conjunction with the utility franchise fee.

City Manager Neal gave a brief presentation on Edina's government structure. The group discussed the appropriate roles of boards and commissions, City staff and the City Council within the structure, why role confusion exists, and what steps could be taken to correct the issue.

FEBRUARY 18, 12:00PM-4:00PM

City Manager Neal reviewed Edina Vision 20/20. Council members discussed relevance of various elements of the current strategic plan and how another strategic plan might be structured for the future.

City Manager Neal discussed work items currently scheduled for 2012. Council members agreed to jointly prioritize and review new items as part of a work planning process moving forward.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen M. Kurt, Assistant City Manager

Minutes approved by Edina City Council, March 6, 2012.

James B. Hovland, Mayor