REPORT / RECOMMENDATION

To: MAYOR & COUNCIL

Agenda Item #: IX. A.

From: Debra Mangen
City Clerk

Date: February 3, 2015

Subject: Correspondence

Action ☒
Discussion ☐
Information ☐

Action Requested:
No action is necessary.

Attachment:
Attached is correspondence received since the last Council meeting.

Mr. James Hovland, Mayor
4801 W. 50th Street
Edina, Minnesota, 55424
January 17, 2015

Dear Mr. Hovland

I reside at 6424 Nordic Circle which places our home and neighborhood in Valley Estates. We live west of the flood plain, east of Gleason Road, below the school property, and flanking the western side of Creek Valley Road.

I am writing to you out of grave concern for our neighborhood should the decision be made to extend Creek Valley Road to the proposed new Activity Center. My reasons are enumerated below.

All children in our neighborhood walk to school, using Creek Valley Road as their route not only to attend the grade school, but also the middle and high school. The most direct route to the middle and high school both from our neighborhood and Indian Hills is along Creek Valley and then through the fields and up the hill. Children frequently use the streets to walk to the soccer fields, the sliding hill, and playground. **It is extremely difficult to understand how opening the road and preparing parking lots that would be in use not only during the day, but also evenings and weekends, would be in the best interests of your children and families. I think it places the present and future young people that attend Edina schools at risk.**

Parents drop off and pick up their children at Creek Valley School each school day, temporarily creating long lines of cars on both sides of Creek Valley, Nordic Circle, and Gleason Road. We try to avoid using those streets around 8:45-9:15 am and 3:30–4:00pm because it is often hard to see the walkers along the street.

Traffic associated with reconstruction and remodeling impact the safety and ease of travel down our roads. While this is an inconvenience for several months, it validates that Creek Valley Road was not designed for ease of travel outside of what is generated by the neighborhood.

In recent years, the Soccer Association has practices, games, and tournaments on city fields. Traffic generated is heavy, as parents drop children off for practices and park in our neighborhoods for games. The Police Department needed to post one side of the street as "no parking" so that emergency vehicles could travel on them and that neighbors could exit their driveways.

We urge you to <u>not</u> <u>allow</u> Creek Valley Road to be extended. If both construction and future traffic pass along a route heavily used by children, it will make the road unsafe for walkers.

Records will show that our roads were recently rebuilt at considerable expense to the homeowners and the city. The neighbors bore the costs of construction. The school did not offer to contribute to that considerable expense.

The school property borders the wetlands and Nine Mile Creek. Previous school improvements had to address the run-off created by hard surfaces. We trust the same attention to a green space and a natural resource will be given to protect those spaces-whatever the school decides to do.

We have lived in our home for over forty years. This has always been considered a highly desirable neighborhood and homes that go on the market are sold quickly. Our home has been kept in excellent repair and is our greatest asset. It would be reasonable to assume that the next owner will make some modifications and updates that would increase its value and tax base. But if the neighborhood is degraded by steady traffic and activities, I would expect the value to depreciate. This would not serve the city well. However, I write out of concern for the well-being of families and students, not monetary motives.

Thank you for your consideration. We have always appreciated the quality of life in Edina and the excellent education received by our children and grandchildren. We would like to be supportive of the school. However, a meeting was not called with this neighborhood until one week before the school board vote, and long after general plans had been formulated. This does not lead to trust and good will.

Thank you for letting me address my concerns. I urge you to act in the best interest of the students and families in our neighborhood, to include their safety in your decisions, to monitor carefully the plans for Creek Valley Road, and to protect current and future children and students from heavy traffic and its related dangers.

Sincerely,

Joanna Swanson

Joanna Swanson

Heather Branigin

From: Tony Skunberg <tonyskunberg@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 3:00 PM
To: Edina Mail; Kevin Staunton; Robert Stewart; Mary Brindle (Comcast); swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Please vote NO tonight for the 7200 France Amendments

City Council,

I am a resident of the neighborhood west of this project and live on Belvidere Lane. I support the development of the 7200 site, but feel the current proposal not being in compliance with the city's comprehensive plan requires the council to vote no.

This project is too large for the site and needs to be scaled down. Also, please reconsider blocking off 72nd street to slow the cut-through traffic in the neighborhood as part of this development. 70th street is a parking lot during rush hour and many people cut through the neighborhood to get over to France. Adding residential at this site and keeping 72nd open will only increase the cut through. Thanks in advance for protecting our neighborhoods.

Tony Skunberg
4509 Belvidere Lane

Heather Branigin

From: Sara Kaufman <sara.kaufman08@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 6:34 PM
To: Joseph Totten
Cc: James Hovland
Subject: Re: Edina Traffic Safety Request

Hi Joseph,

I've been meaning to write to thank you - on behalf of the Concord Elementary parents - for all your work in helping to make the school Walking Zone on 59th street actually walkable. While sidewalks in this busy public area are still our long-term goal, your work to ban on-street parking on 59th, between Concord and Ashcroft Aves, has made a HUGE positive difference for both our walkers, and the general driveability of the intersection at school rush hours. Our kids, who have no bus option, no longer have to walk down the *middle* of a busy, bottle-necked road to get to and from school, and the buses can actually make a turn without having to jockey back and forth. We still have issues with a few repeat offenders who beat the parking restriction by idling in their cars in the restricted zone, (thus, leaving the same bottle neck), but we're off to a great start.

Thank you!
Sara Kaufman
5841 St. John's Ave.

On Fri, Oct 3, 2014 at 10:25 AM, Joseph Totten <jtotten@edinamn.gov> wrote:

Hello,

The Edina Traffic Safety Committee has reviewed your request for improvements to safety for children walking along 59th Street near Concord School. Staff recommends asking the Edina School District to move bus routes to 58th Street, where there are sidewalks, and restricting parking from Concord to Ashcroft on the south side of the street during school days.

If you would like to speak further to this matter you may address the Edina Transportation Commission on October 16th or the City Council on November 18th, at 7 PM in the City Council Chambers of City Hall.

Regards,

Joseph Totten, Traffic Safety Coordinator

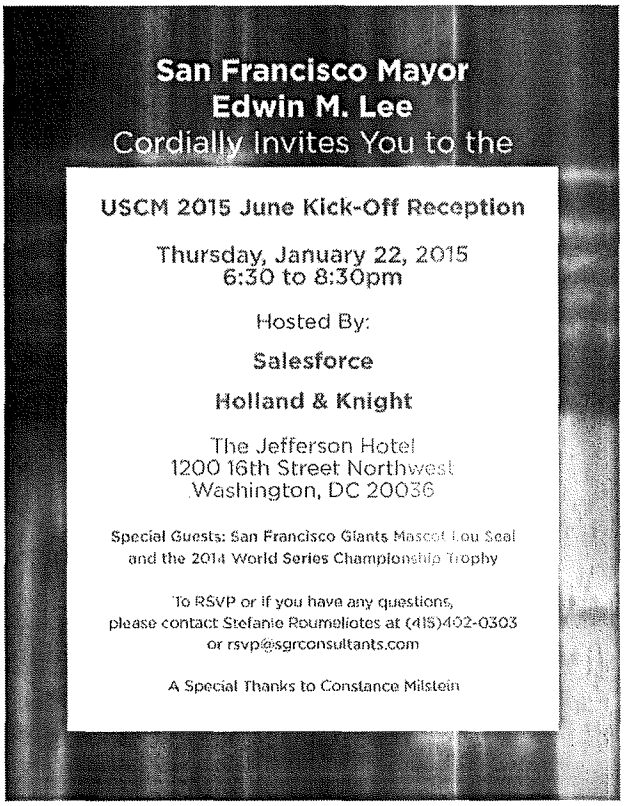
952-826-0349 | Fax 952-826-0392

jtotten@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov

...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

Heather Branigin

From: RSVP <rsvp@sgrconsultants.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 6:39 PM
Subject: Mayor Lee's USCM Reception This Thursday
Attachments: USCM Kick-Off Reception Invitation.pdf



Heather Branigin

From: Shelly Elmore <tcb@readexsurvey.net>
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 9:42 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: We Need Your Help

Dear James Hovland:

A few days ago you should have received an email from me, asking for your help with a simple survey about your awareness and opinions of local resources for Twin Cities Business magazine.

As a sincere thanks for your participation, once you have completed the survey, you can enter into a drawing for a $100 Visa gift card that can be used like cash anywhere Visa is accepted.

We are expecting no more than 500 responses so your odds in the drawing are very good.

Please take a few minutes now to let us know your opinions by completing this simple survey:

?http://www.readexweb.net/tcb/survey.asp?12445MSM

And, all your answers will be kept confidential by the research company. They will not be used for any other purpose.

Thank you for taking time from your busy schedule to help us better serve you.

Sincerely,

Shelly Elmore
Publisher
Twin Cities Business Magazine

We apologize if this correspondence reached you in error. This contact was selected by Readex Research from a list provided by Twin Cities Business for the purpose of this survey only. Readex adheres to ethical practices, and respects your rights of privacy and choice. To be eliminated from additional contact from Readex on behalf of this survey sponsor, please go here - http://www.readexsurvey.com/drop.htm?edinamail@edinamn.gov or reply with the following as the subject: drop edinamail@edinamn.gov

Readex Research
2251 Tower Drive W
Stillwater, MN 55082
USA

Heather Branigin

From:	deborahjopp@gmail.com on behalf of Deborah Jopp <deborah@metroblooms.org>
Sent:	Wednesday, January 21, 2015 11:20 AM
To:	Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); swensonann1 @gmail.com
Subject:	Announcing Metro Blooms Raingarden Workshop in Bloomington February 14!

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

Although the heart of winter, we are already getting a head start on our raingarden workshop season! Hosted by Oak Grove Presbyterian Church, Nine Mile Creek Watershed District and the City of Bloomington our first one will be on February 14th in Bloomington! Join us to learn ways to help keep our lakes and rivers clean and recharge our precious groundwater while creating a beautiful and bee/butterfly-friendly habitat in your yard! And if you've already been our guest before, please help us spread the word by forwarding this email to your family and friends - about 20% of attendees have heard about our workshop from a family or friend. Thanks for helping to spread the word!

Raingardens and Beyond: Clean Water, Healthy Habitats

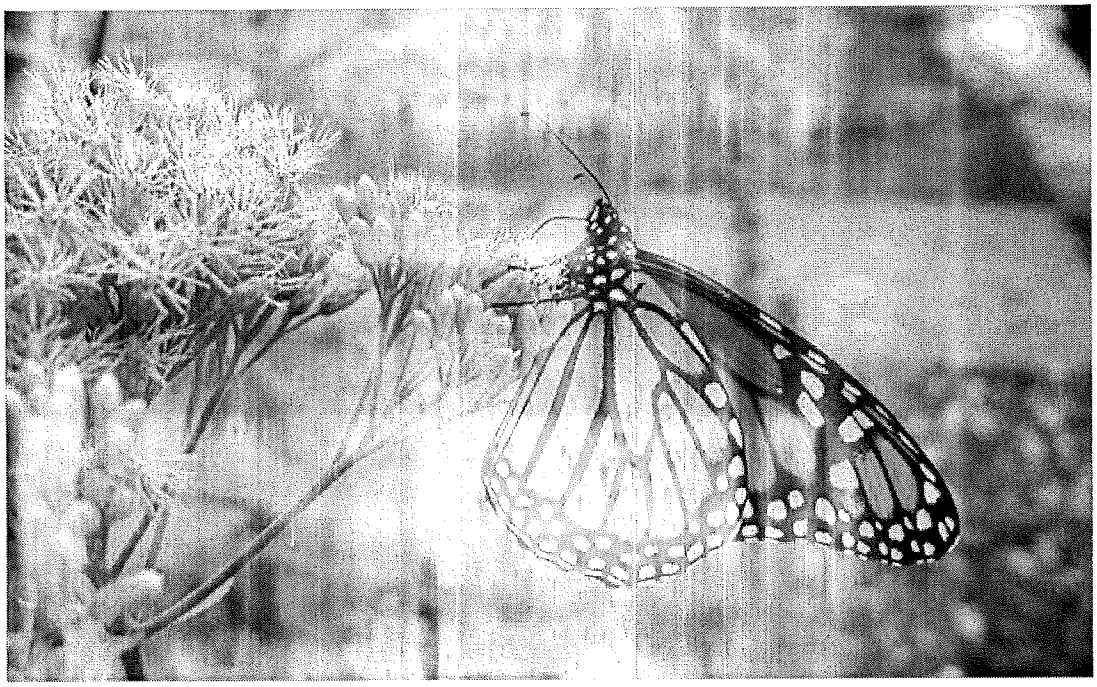
Participants will get an overview of raingardens and native plants and receive recommendations for their property with one-on-one assistance from Metro Blooms landscape designers and Hennepin County Master Gardeners. Also learn about various cost-share programs in your watershed and how you can apply.

Saturday, February 14

8:30--11:30 AM

Oak Grove Presbyterian Church , 2200 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, MN

$15. Register by visiting metroblooms.org or call 651-699-2426



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Deborah Jopp
Administrative Assistant

Metro Blooms
PO Box 17099
Minneapolis, MN 55417
(651) 699-2426 office

www.metroblooms.org

Heather Branigin

From: Mark Manfred <markjulie44@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 2:39 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: council meeting

To: Jim Hovland
From: Julie Manfred

Mayor Hovland,
Concerning the 72nd and France project:
-although the project does not directly affect us, I was disappointed in the result. I liked the architecture of the condo project but had some concerns: density,
traffic. I felt the traffic problem was dealt with and decreasing the height of the SW corner was a good idea.The problem was that those most affected could not
express their opinions; hence, two council members voted to support the neighborhood's previous objections.

Density: was it not possible to decrease the percent of subsidized housing? If so, maybe the density of the housing could have been decreased even more.
This area has it's share of lower income housing. Why not decrease the percent and have a project that would be a good addition to Edina. Now,
a medical building? Really? That's not good for the Cornelia community or for the beauty and functionally of France Ave. I am not aware of any pre-planning
with the Cornelia neighborhood and any ongoing communications but I know we were not included. In the future a task force with all stake holders should be
formed (if it wasn't).

Another subject: Hennepin County Library.
I read that it may be closed to allow the expensive land to be used for other purposes (probably more high density housing). This would be very unfortunate
for the surrounding communities. If you have any input on this, I would hope that you would adamently disagree with this proposal. An educated public
is very important.

Thank you for being our mayor and for listening. J-

Heather Branigin

From: Wilharm, Katie <WilharmK@Vikings.nfl.net>
Sent: Thursday, January 22, 2015 2:59 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: LTC Government Day

Mayor Hovland –

I'm reaching out to you on behalf of the Minneapolis Regional Chamber regarding Leadership Twin Cities. We are currently planning our Government Day which will be held on **Thursday, February 12** at the Stassen Building in St. Paul.

We are hoping to have a panel from the Regional Council of Mayors and we're wondering if you would like to be part of it. The panel would take place at approximately 3pm (last about an hour). The topic(s) of the panel discussion will depend on which Mayors participate.

Leadership Twin Cities is comprised of roughly 55 participants from various for-profit and non-profit businesses in the Twin Cities. For more information please visit the following website:
http://www.minneapolischamber.org/pages/LeadershipTwinCities

Please let me know if you have any questions. I hope you can participate!

Thank you,

Katie Wilharm
Marketing Partnerships Coordinator | Minnesota Vikings Football, LLC
1010 South 7th Street, Suite 500 | Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415
P: (952) 918-8526 | M: (612) 723-7308
E:WilharmK@Vikings.NFL.net

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Twin Cities Campus

State and Local Policy Program

Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs

295 Humphrey School
301 – 19th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Office: 612-625-7357
Fax: 612-626-9833

January 22, 2015

Mr. James Hovland
Mayor
City of Edina
4801 West 50th Street
Edina, MN 55424

Dear Mayor Hovland,

On behalf of the University of Minnesota, I'm writing to invite you to be reappointed as a member of the Advisory Board for the Transportation Policy and Economic Competitiveness Program (TPEC). We believe that your leadership and contributions in transportation and economic competitiveness issues in Minnesota make you an excellent candidate to provide guidance for this program.

TPEC is an initiative of the State and Local Policy Program (SLPP) at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs. Established in 2013, the program performs research, outreach and education around transportation and its connection to economic competitiveness. The TPEC program will seek to further articulate how improvements in technology, finance, and industry cluster strategies can impact the region. The results will have the potential to inform the methods that MnDOT and its partners use to engage stakeholders, analyze investments and approach programming. Ultimately, all users of Minnesota's transportation system should benefit through a more efficient and productive transportation system that is a key contributor to the economic vitality of the state and the region. TPEC is funded by the Minnesota Legislature and includes collaboration with MnDOT and the Center for Transportation Studies (CTS).

Advisory Board members are expected to attend biannual meetings to provide direction to program activities, learn about ongoing research, and shape overall goals and strategies.

As confirmation of your acceptance to be reappointed as an Advisory Board member, we would appreciate your completion of the enclosed acceptance form. The next meeting of the Advisory Board will be in February 2015, with the exact date and time based on member schedules. Should you accept our invitation, SLPP staff will contact you in the future to determine your availability.

I hope you will accept our invitation to continue your work on the TPEC Advisory Board. We would be honored for you to continue shaping this important and lasting initiative. Please feel free to contact me at 612-625-7357 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Lee Munnich
Director, State and Local Policy Program

Heather Branigin

From: Tim Savaloja <tsavaloja@colonialchurch.org>
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 11:02 AM
To: Edina Mail
Cc: Daniel Harrell
Subject: Support of Beekeeping in Edina

The Honorable Mayor Hovland and Members of the City Council

The purpose of this email is to express our support for the beekeeping amendments to the City code, and to also express our sincere gratitude for your work and consideration of this important change.

We are aware of the gentle strains of bees now available and would like to play a small part in stemming the dramatic decline in the bee population by hosting two hives on the Colonial Church property. Our plans include using the hives to educate our members, especially children, about the merits of having healthy bee populations nearby.

We assure you we will follow the ordinance fully, and will provide a healthy environment for the bees on a secluded portion of our property. In addition, we have already benefited from the expertise of apiarists from the University of Minnesota as we develop our plan. We have been advised that Italian bees are particularly gentle and have decided to order accordingly.

Again, thank you for your work to make this a reality.

Respectfully,

Timothy Savaloja	Rev. Daniel Harrell
Dir. Finance & Operations	Senior Minister
Colonial Church	Colonial Church

Heather Branigin

From: Suzie Nakasian <suzienakasian@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 2:10 PM
Cc: David Bly; Sen.Kevin Dahle; Galen
Subject: REGIONAL RAIL UPDATE
Attachments: Inter-City Regional Passenger Rail Route Options form So Central MN through Northfield to the Twin Cities Metro(11).png; SUGGESTED LETTER TO MNDOT.doc; Connection to Amtrak.pdf

Support for South Central Minnesota-Twin Cities
Inter-City Regional Passenger Rail Service Through Northfield

Progress Update:

As of today, eleven regional cities, two counties and a dozen additional regional stakeholders have written to MnDot to support our request that the **South Central Minnesota to Twin Cities Rail Corridor through Northfield Rail Corridor** be designated as a "Tier One" project in the State's revised Rail Plan. "Tier One" status is requested for the purpose of preliminary evaluative study of the corridor for inter-city regional passenger rail service on *existing* rail lines through Northfield. Two routes are proposed for study (see attached map).

NEW MNDot Project Deadline: Official letters to MnDot must be submitted by (new deadline): **March 10, 2015!** (A sample letter text is attached to this email). In addition to official letters, regional residents and stakeholders are encouraged to submit comments and suggestions about the Rail Plan via MnDot's Rail Plan Website.

UPCOMING MEETING for Regional Leaders:

SAVE THE DATE: **Monday, February 2, 2015, 3:00-5:00 pm**. for our next project briefing for regional city/county officials and administrators! The meeting will feature presentations by **Dave Christianson** and **Dan Krom of the MnDot Rail Office** on feedback received from around the State, and discussion of potential next steps for our regional rail initiative.

The Feb 2 Regional Leaders meeting will be held in the Weitz Center for Creativity, Carleton College, 320 Third Street East, Northfield, MN Larson Room (Room #234). A MnDot Rail Plan Public Open House for the general public will follow in the same room from 5:00-7:00pm.

A formal invitation and agenda will follow in a second email from Rep. David Bly next week. SAVE THE DATE FEB 2 to join us!

Please contact me if you have questions or need additional information concerning our regional rail initiative, or if I can assist your efforts on its behalf.

Thank you for your consideration and support!
Sincerely,

Suzie Nakasian
Northfield City Council
Coordinator, South Central Regional Inter-City Passenger Rail Initiative.
Suzienakasian@gmail.com

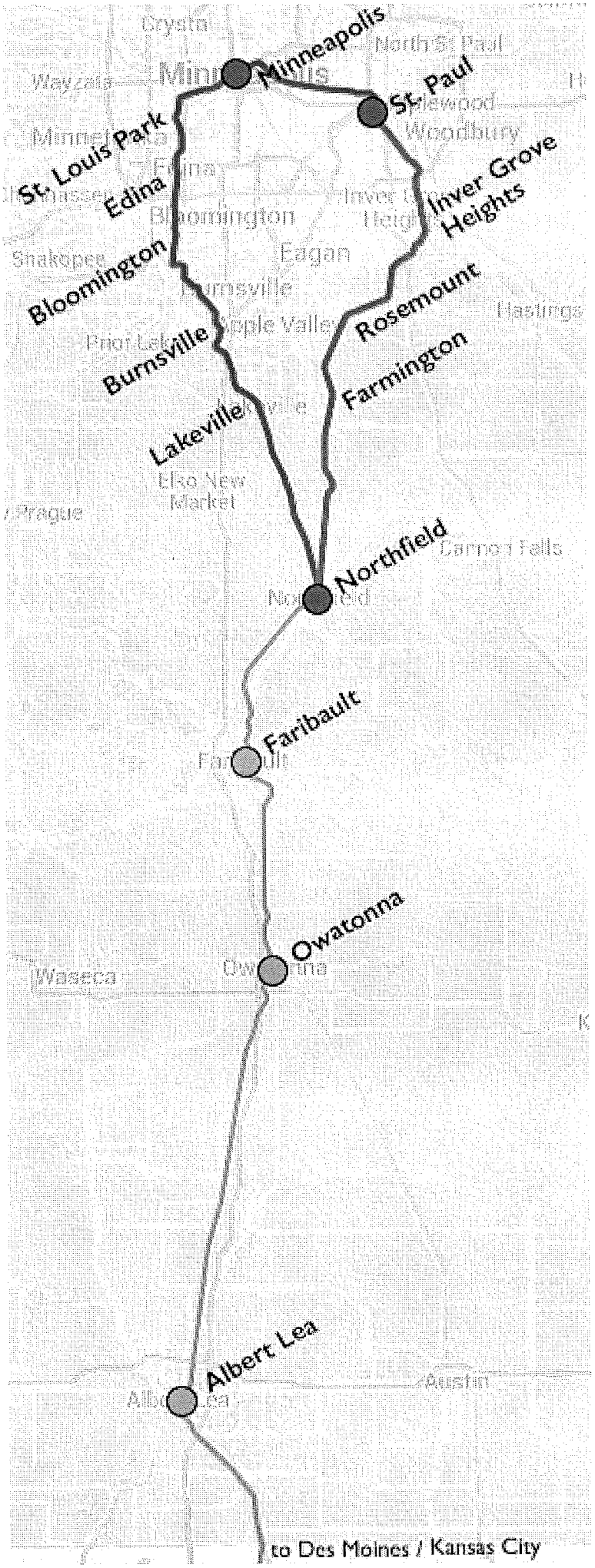
c: 507-649-0382

PROGRESS UPDATE Official letters to MnDot from Cities/ Counties and Stakeholders as of 1/22

1. Albert Lea
2. Carleton College
3. Dundas
4. Edina (1/20)
5. Elko/New Market
6. Farmington
7. Lonsdale
8. Northfield
9. Northfield Convention and Visitors Bureau
10. Northfield Chamber of Commerce
11. Northfield Economic Development Authority
12. Owatonna (1/20)
13. Ramsey County Regional Rail Authority
14. Rice County
15. Richfield
16. Rosemount
17. Savage
18. South Central Community College, Faribault and North Mankato
19. Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MNSCU)
20. Rep. Clark Johnson, District 19A (Mankato) (House Transportation Committee)
21. UMore Development LLC, Rosemount

Letters on Upcoming Agendas:

22. pending 1/26 - City of Mankato
23. pending 1/27- City of Faribault
24. pending 1/27 - Steele County Board of Commissioners


Minneapolis
St. Paul
St. Louis Park
Edina
Inver Grove Heights
Bloomington
Rosemount
Burnsville
Farmington
Lakeville
Northfield
Faribault
Owatonna
Albert Lea
to Des Moines / Kansas City

South Central Minnesota Inter-City Regional Passenger Rail Initiative

DRAFT TEXT for letters to MnDot

Summary: letters to MnDot are requested from regional governing bodies, economic stakeholders and residents, to ask MnDot to study the feasibility of restoring inter-city regional passenger rail service between south central Minnesota and the Twin Cities on existing rail lines through Northfield, and to move that project to Tier One status in the State's Rail Plan which is currently under revision.

Letters are due to MnDot by (NEW Public Comment Deadline) **March 10, 2015.**

Please address letters to:

Charles Zelle, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Transportation
395 John Ireland Boulevard, Mailstop 100, St. Paul, MN 55155-1899

cc: Dave Christianson, Project Manager, Minnesota State Rail Plan, MN Department of Transportation, 395 John Ireland Blvd , Mailstop 480 Saint Paul, MN 55155-1899

cc: Dan Krom, Passenger Rail Director, Minnesota Department of Transportation, 395 John Ireland Blvd , Mailstop 480 Saint Paul, MN 55155-1899

SUGGESTED TEXT – to be adapted/edited as needed

Dear Commissioner Zelle:

We writing to encourage MnDOT to move restored inter-city regional passenger rail service between south central Minnesota and the Twin Cities on existing rail lines through Northfield, to Tier One status in the State's revised Rail Plan. We urge MnDot to commence an evaluative study of our rail corridor, including the inter-state connections that this line would restore to our State and communities.

We feel strongly that this project presents sufficient merit to our region and State to warrant serious study for possible development in the near future. We see this project as beneficial to the economic development of our city and region. We also recognize the potential inter-state rail connections that our particular rail line would open for Minnesotans by virtue of the intersection of our line with three of Amtrak's most heavily trafficked inter-state lines that intersect with our rail line as it continues south to Kansas City and Des Moines.

The 2009 Minnesota Comprehensive Statewide Freight and Passenger Rail Plan identifies the Northfield – Metropolitan corridor for Tier II development. Moving this corridor forward to Tier One Status in the Stats Rail Plan for purposes of evaluative preliminary study is more than justified by the forecasted levels of usage, and the apparent technical feasibility of two existing rail alignments that serve our region. Importantly, study of restored passenger service between south central Minnesota and the Twin Cities through Northfield is also justified by the financial feasibility of this project as compared with other proposed passenger rail projects in the State, since our project would introduce passenger service on existing rail lines.

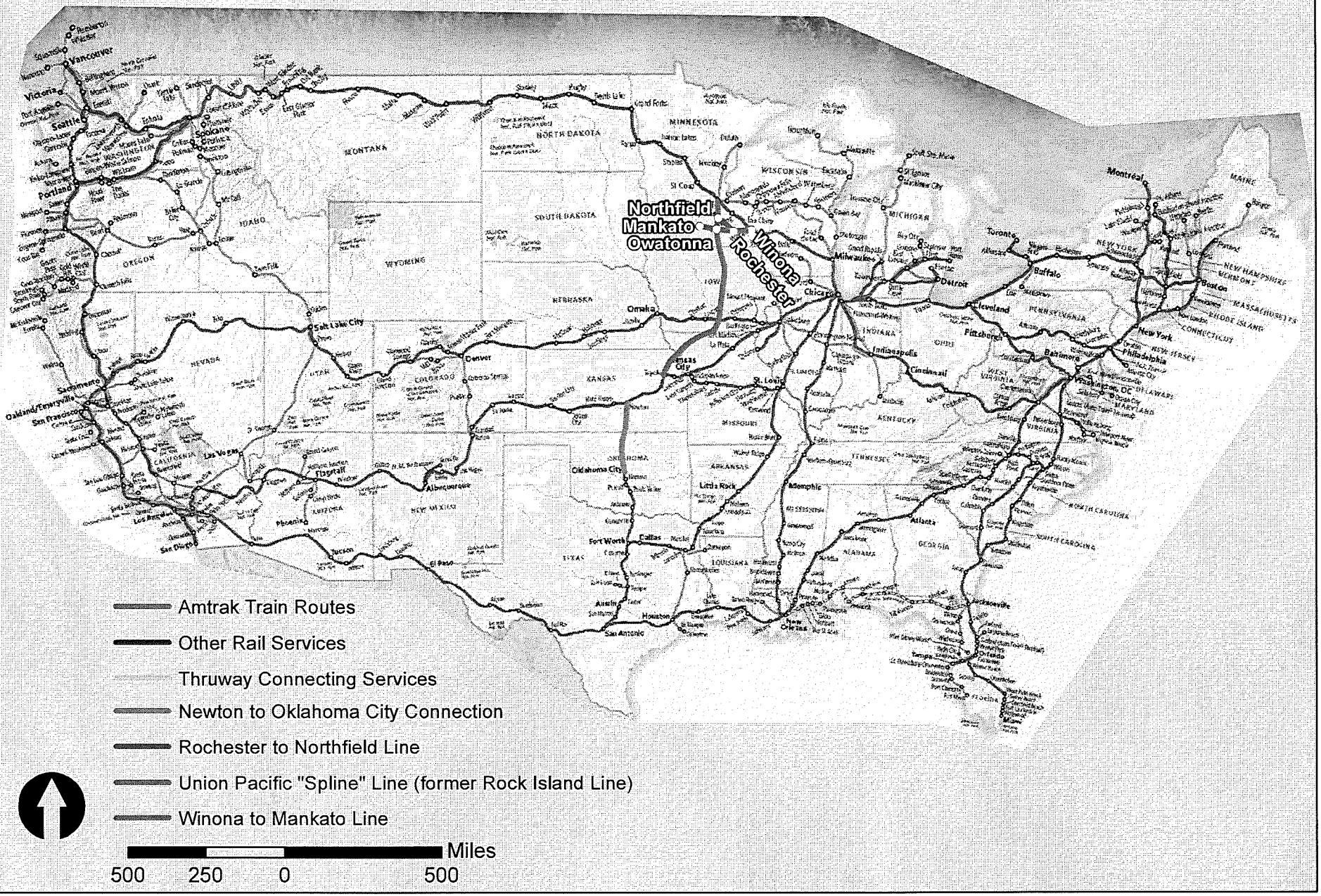
Elevating our central Minnesota passenger rail corridor to Tier One Status in the State Rail Plan is warranted by the enthusiastic grass roots support that this project has received from regional stakeholders. Representatives of (municipality/county or other stakeholder) have met with elected and appointed leaders from around our region and we see this project as one of common interest to our communities, region and the State.

We strongly encourage MnDOT to elevate restored regional inter-city passenger rail service from south central Minnesota to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, to Tier One status in the State's revised Rail Plan, and ask you to commence an evaluative study of that alignment as part of your statewide rail planning.

Respectfully,

_____

THE AMTRAK SYSTEM



MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

QUALITY OF WATER QUALITY OF LIFE

The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District is committed to a leadership role in protecting, improving and managing the surface waters and affiliated groundwater resources within the District, including their relationships to the ecosystems of which they are an integral part. We achieve our mission through regulation, capital projects, education, cooperative endeavors, and other programs based on sound science, innovative thinking, an informed and engaged constituency, and the cost effective use of public funds.

January 20, 2015

Mayor James Hovland
City of Edina
4801 W 50th St
Edina, MN 55424-1330

RE: Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Comprehensive Plan Update

The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD or District) is embarking on an update to its Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan (Plan) and invites you to participate in the process. The Plan, which is required by law and updated every 10 years, guides the District's efforts to meet its clean water goals. The current Plan was adopted in 2007 and its next generation Plan is due in June 2017.

In recent years, in partnership with several private entities and other public agencies, the MCWD has implemented some of the most important water protection projects and programming in its 48-year history. With your input and that of other stakeholders throughout the District, the next Plan will continue to focus our work and mission in making a measurable impact on the water resources we are charged with protecting.

MCWD will host two kickoff meetings, where you can learn more about the process, hear about the opportunities to get involved and provide input. You'll also be introduced to some of the major themes and focus areas the District has identified for this Plan update. Please see the enclosed brochure for more information.

The kickoff meetings will be held on Wednesday, February 18th from 1:00-2:00 PM and 6:00-7:00 PM at the Minnetonka Community Center, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd, Minnetonka, MN 55345.

Please RSVP to Becky Christopher at bchristopher@minnehahacreek.org if you plan to attend. Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Becky Christopher
MCWD Lead Planner & Project Manager
952-641-4512

SCOPE

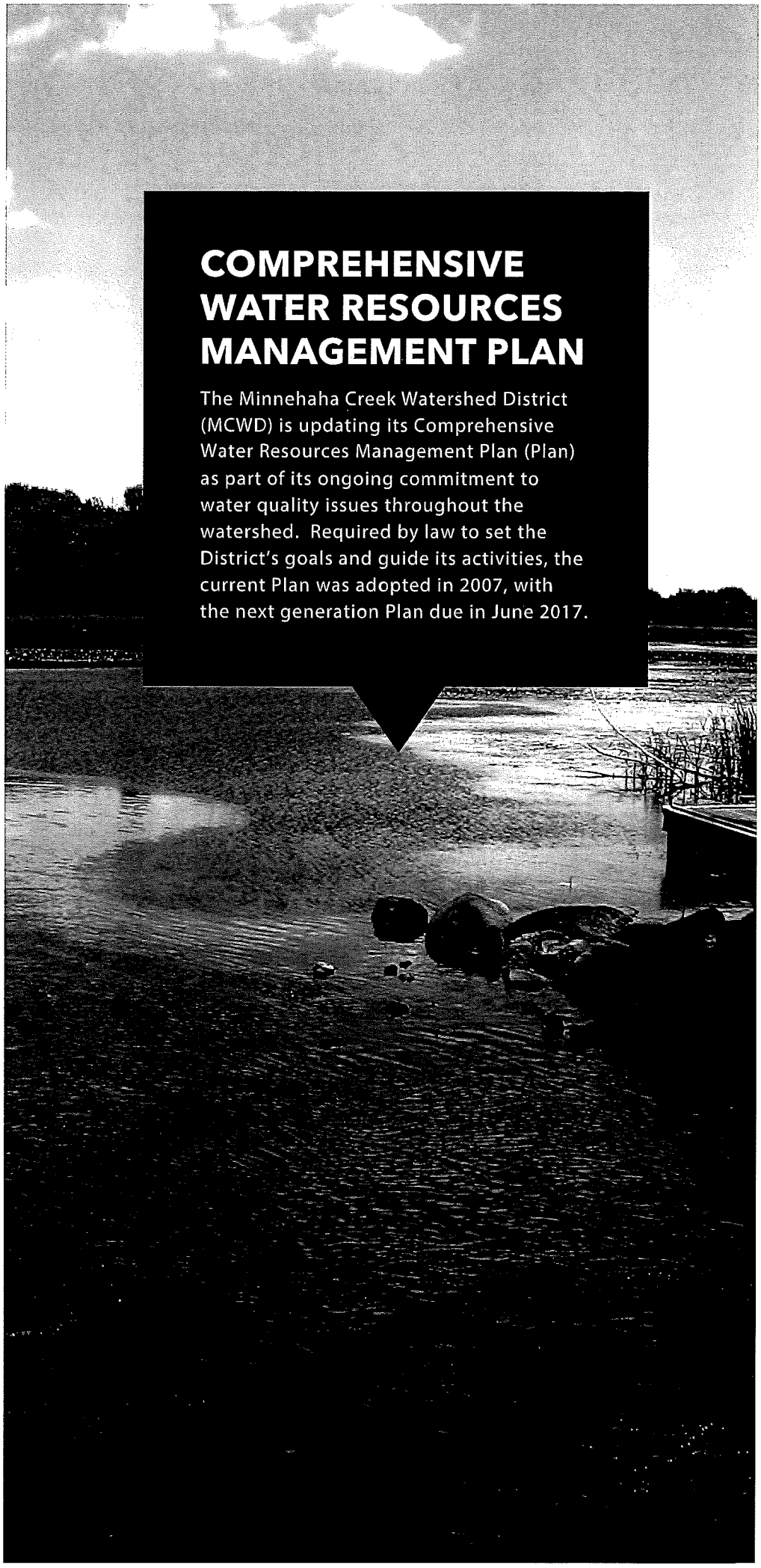
Developing the District's 2007 Plan involved extensive analysis of the watershed and a robust stakeholder engagement process to set long-term goals. The 2017 Plan update will build on this strong foundation and focus primarily on developing policies and processes to improve service delivery and project implementation. Consistent with past practices, the District welcomes input from our engaged communities and citizens alike.

IN PURSUIT OF A BALANCED URBAN ECOLOGY

Recognizing the relationship between our natural and built environments, the MCWD works in partnership with the public, private and civic sectors to help protect and improve our natural systems, make wise investments in public infrastructure and improve the quality of water and quality of life in our communities. The District pursues this work under three guiding principles:

- **Philosophy of Partnership** - We will join with others in pursuing our watershed management goals
- **Geographic Focus** - We will intensify and maintain our focus on high-priority projects
- **Responsiveness and Flexibility** – We will be flexible and creative in adapting our practices to those of our partners

MINNEHAHA CREEK
WATERSHED DISTRICT



COMPREHENSIVE WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) is updating its Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan (Plan) as part of its ongoing commitment to water quality issues throughout the watershed. Required by law to set the District's goals and guide its activities, the current Plan was adopted in 2007, with the next generation Plan due in June 2017.

TWO-TRACK APPROACH

For the 2017 Plan update MCWD is proposing using a "Two-Track" approach that will allocate District resources to their highest and bes

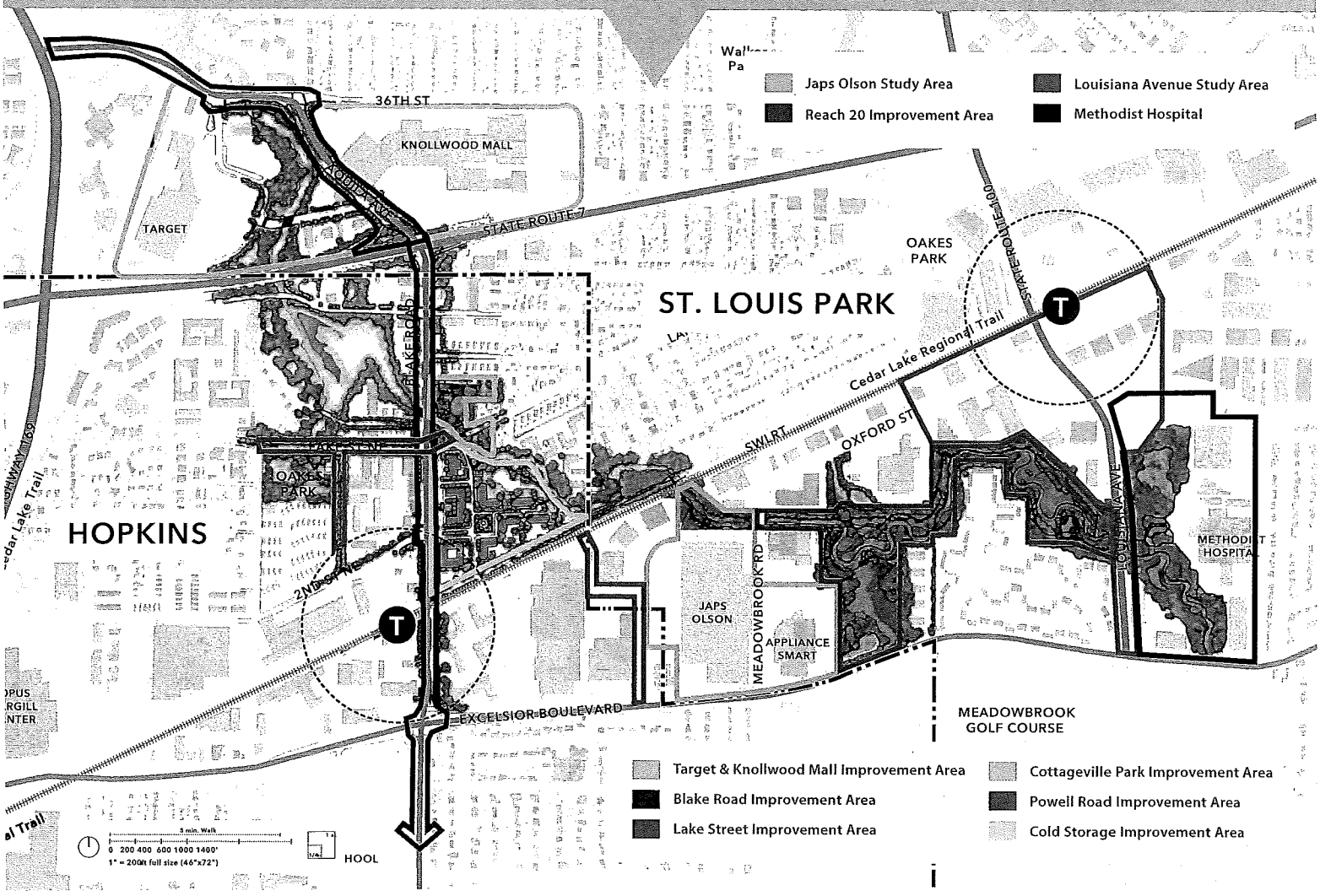
TRACK 1 - FOCUS

This track will prioritize projects, staff and financial resources to "high need" areas within the District in order to make significant, lasting improvements to the most sensitive water challenges in the watershed.

FOCUS SPOTLIGHT: *Restoring Minnehaha Creek through its most degraded section*

Beginning in 2009, the District has concentrated resources on the most urbanized section of Minnehaha Creek, through St. Louis Park and Hopkins. The District has worked closely to understand the goals of its partners, and as a result has achieved enduring, measurable improvement in the creek while leveraging resources and benefiting surrounding communities. Partners include the City of Hopkins, City of St. Louis Park, Hennepin County, multiple public agencies and private businesses.

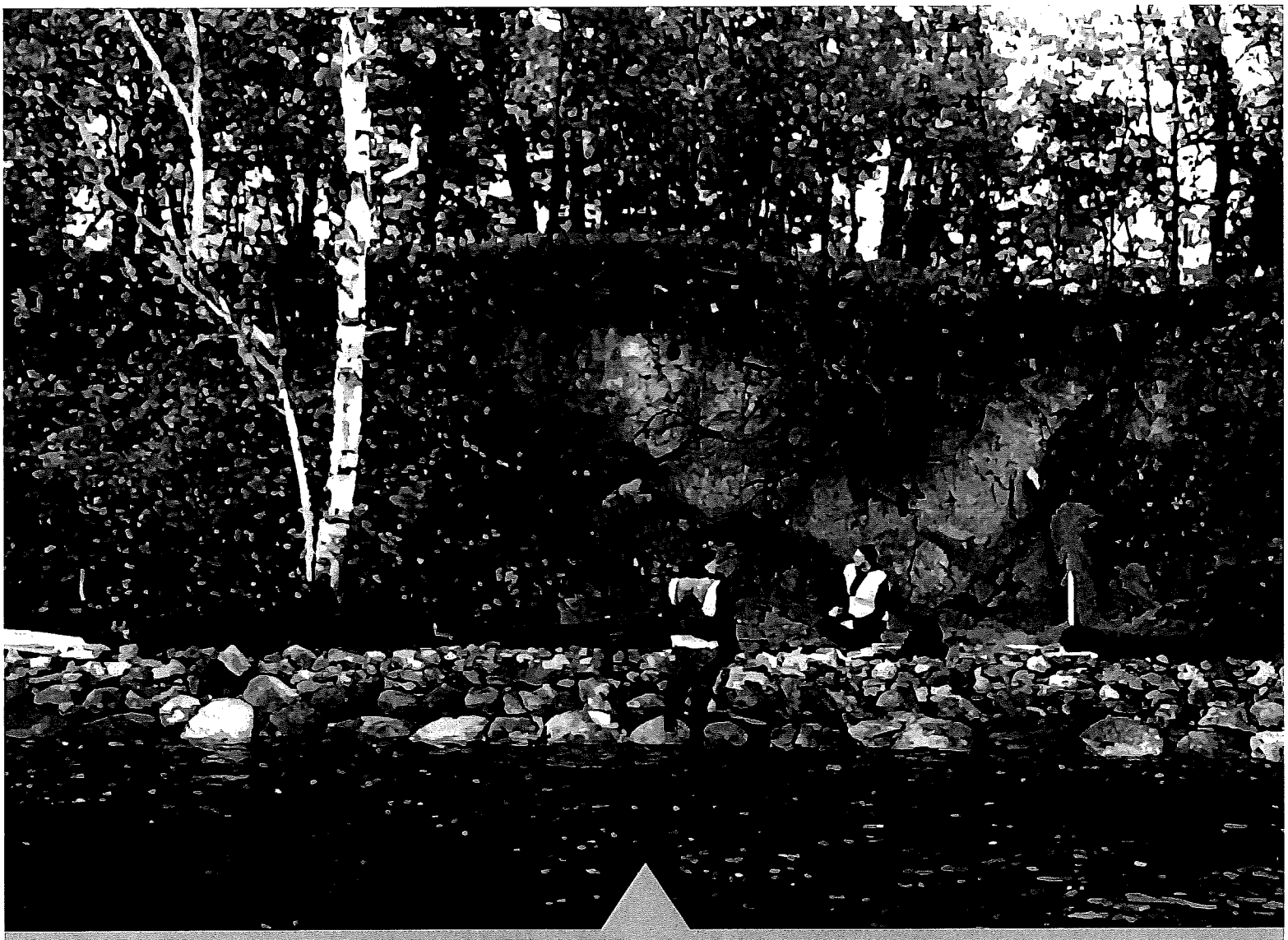
When the series of projects is complete, the District and its partners will have achieved significant results: 550 acres of stormwater management; 1.5 miles of restored stream channel; 50 acres of newly-accessible green space; two miles of new trails and boardwalks; 150 jobs created; the connection of 600 housing units to within a 10-minute walk of transit hubs; financial contributions from at least six other organizations, and free private property easements.



protecting the water quality and addressing flooding throughout the watershed.

TRACK 2 - FLEXIBILITY

The District will continue to remain responsive to needs and opportunities District-wide through project partnerships, grant funding, education programming, permitting assistance, aquatic invasive species prevention, and other District resources.



FLEXIBILITY SPOTLIGHT: *Seizing opportunities for partnership*

The District strives to remain open to opportunities for cost-effective partnership, often combining funds with developers, private businesses, nonprofits, and other agencies to achieve water quality benefits on projects. Recently, the City of Orono and Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) identified an opportunity to restore steep, eroding bluffs on a TRPD nature preserve on Lake Minnetonka's Big Island. The ensuing partnership between TRPD and MCWD resulted in 1,200 feet of restored shoreline.

The project was modeled after the District's major restoration of another section of Big Island a few years earlier in cooperation with the City of Orono. Both projects preserve habitat and prevent soil from eroding into one of the most sensitive and productive areas of the lake.

BE HEARD: Opportunities for Public Input

The District values input from all of its stakeholders -- local technical staff, policy makers, and the general public. There are a variety of ways to get involved:

- **Join an advisory committee (throughout 2015)**
  - **Technical Advisory Committee**
  - **Policy Advisory Committee**
  - **Citizen Advisory Committee**
  - **Six Mile Steering Committee**
- **Attend a local subwatershed meeting (late 2015)**
- **Keep up to date on our website, www.minnehahacreek.org/2017**
- **Learn the latest by following us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and subscribing to our Splash e-newsletter**

TIMELINE

February 2015 – *Kickoff Meeting*

Early 2015 – *Public opinion survey*

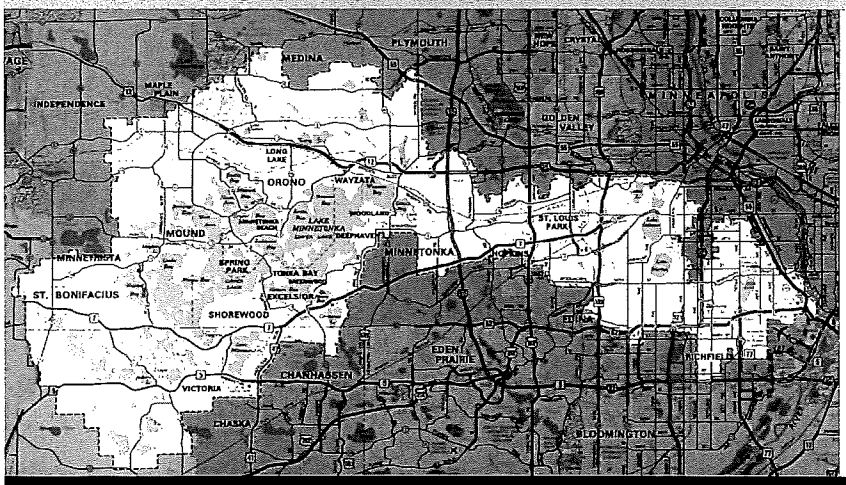
Throughout 2015 – *Bi-monthly/quarterly advisory committee meetings*

July-December 2015 – *Local subwatershed meetings*

January - June 2016 – *Plan drafting and committee review*

July - December 2016 – *Formal review process (60-day and 90-day comment periods)*

June 27, 2017 – *Deadline for Plan adoption*



CONTACT

Direct questions to MCWD Planner:

Becky Christopher
bchristopher@minnehahacreek. org
(952) 641-4512

www.minnehahacreek.org/2017

Heather Branigin

From: Amy DeCrans <AmyD@veap.org>
Sent: Monday, January 26, 2015 9:56 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: VEAP Communications Survey

Hello Mayor Hovland

As you likely know, VEAP is in the process of a leadership transition. Given this important time in the life of our organization, we believe it is important to understand how VEAP is perceived by its most important stakeholder groups. VEAP has always been about improving the lives of people in our community through a neighbors-serving-neighbors approach. This fundamental mission will not change, but we want to hear your thoughts about VEAP – how you perceive the organization, what we do well and what we can improve upon.

We have asked Bloomington-based Tunheim, a communications consulting firm, to interview a cross-section of VEAP's key stakeholders and provide us with an analysis of their findings, which they have agreed to do on a pro-bono basis. Tunheim will speak with VEAP volunteers, donors and partners, as well as elected officials in the communities in which we serve.

We've asked Tunheim to contact you as part of this work to interview you about your perceptions of VEAP, your understanding of our organization and how we might improve communications with partners like you. The discussion should take no longer than 15-20 minutes, and the comments will be presented anonymously as a part of the larger group of stakeholder responses, so our hope is that you will be frank and open with your feedback.

A representative from Tunheim will reach out to you in the coming days, and we would appreciate your time and candid conversation. If you have questions or would like to further discuss, please feel free to reach out to me directly at 952.955.8310 or pattys@veap.org.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Patty Schulz
Advancement Director

Heather Branigin

From: Mertyce Mrvos <mertyce@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 26, 2015 9:58 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Fowl Ordinance
Attachments: Chicks 1.JPG; Chicks 2.JPG; Chickens.JPG; Coop.JPG; eggs.JPG

Dear Mayor Hovland and City Council Members,

Our family is thrilled to learn that a Fowl Ordinance is under consideration in Edina! We have been chicken keepers since June of 2014, after we gave our daughter permission to keep three chicks that were hatched in her science class.

It has been incredible and educational to watch these chicks grow and develop into the egg layers they are today. My two children and I have done extensive research. We have learned what to feed them and how to care for them at their various stages of life. We even worked with a coop maker to have a custom coop and run constructed that would be ideal for the chickens and look nice in our yard. We have also learned that there is a lot more to chickens than we ever knew. They have personality and are very intelligent. They get excited when we bring them treats like shredded cheese, their favorite. They softy cluck when we come home, eager to be with us and to get out into the yard to eat bugs and weeds.

Our chickens are very entertaining to watch as they hop, flap and walk about the yard. Urban farmer and author, Hannah Litt, refers to them as “mobile lawn ornaments” and we agree that they are a delightful and decorative addition to our backyard. It is a great way to get our kids to spend time outside! The chickens fly up on our laps and enjoy being petted. Ours have become beloved pets. We even transported them to and from our cabin every weekend this past summer when they were small and still housed in a bin indoors.

And then there is the egg part. We eagerly awaited that first egg. My daughter checked the nesting boxes numerous times a day. In December, that day came! We have learned that eggs from chickens raised the way we raise them are more healthful than conventionally farmed eggs. They have 25% more vitamin E, 75% more beta carotene, as much as 20 times the amount of omega-3 fatty acids and only half as much cholesterol. I feel great feeding them to my family and my children have even been inspired to cook more when they can use the eggs from chickens they are raising.

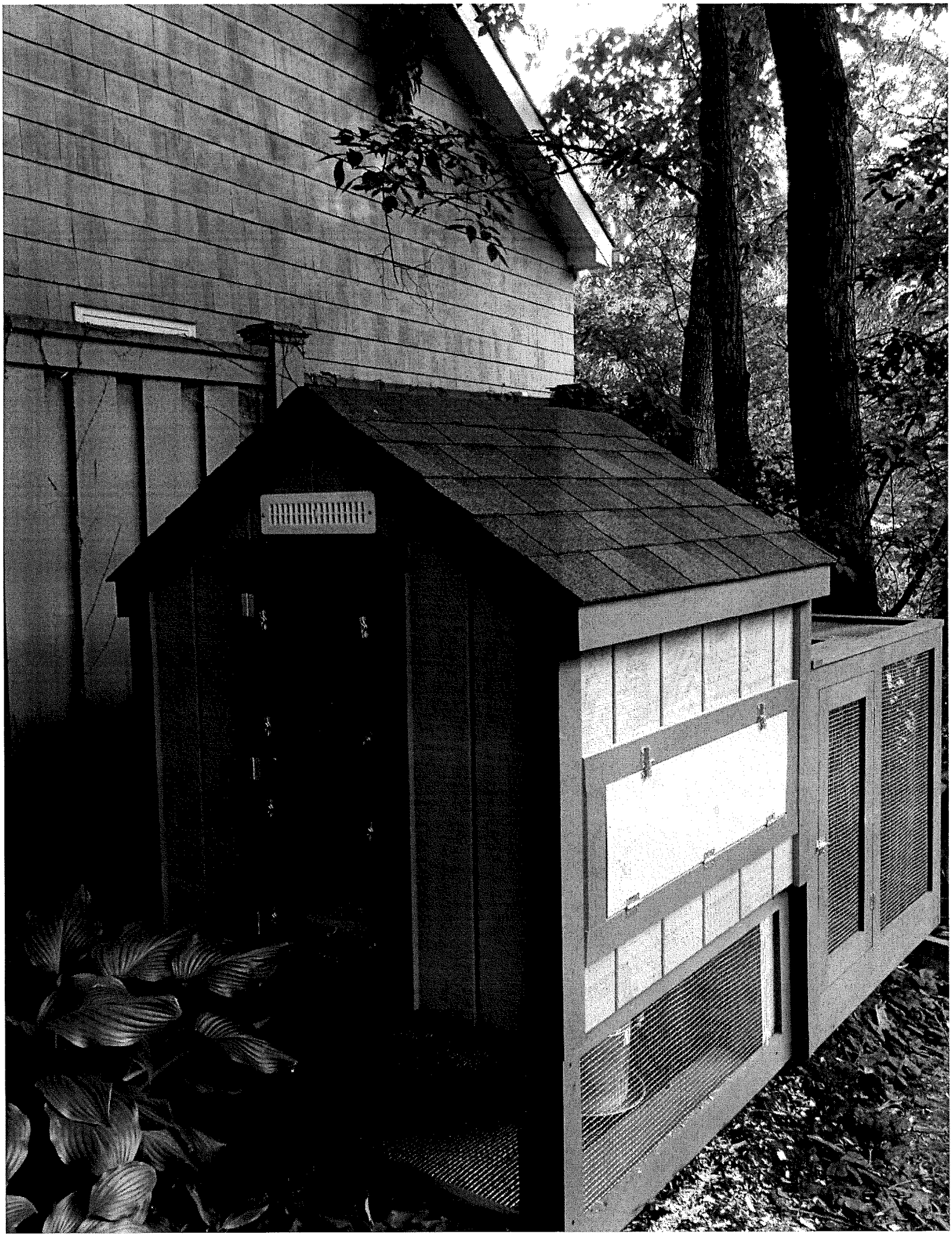
Taking care of our three hens is proving to be a wonderful and bonding family activity that gets us outside. In addition, our children have assumed greater responsibilities to care for the chickens. They are learning a lot about animals and nutrition. They have a greater connection to their food source and are experiencing first-hand what the "local food movement" is all about.

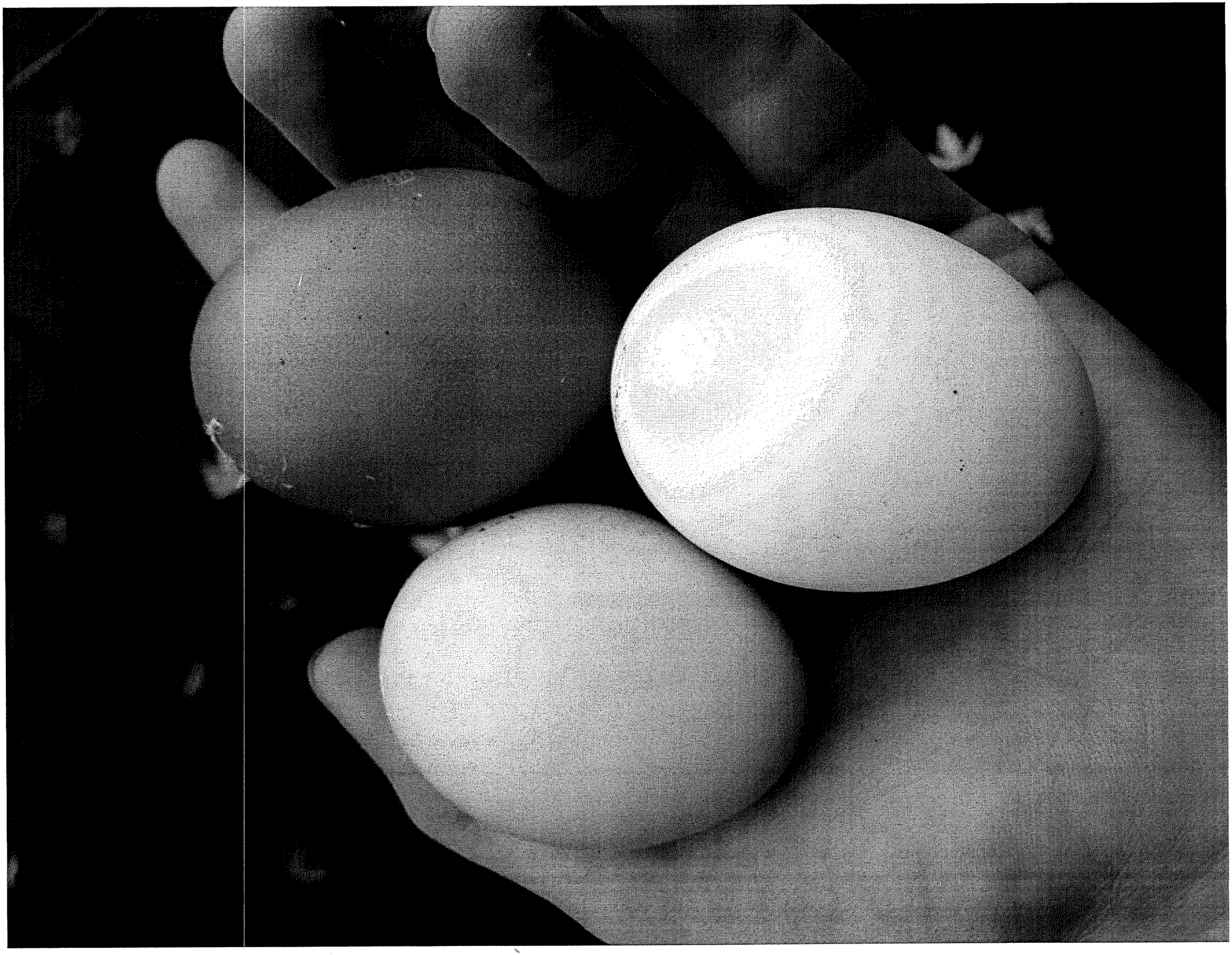
There are many benefits associated with allowing chicken keeping in Edina and I fully support the proposed Fowl Ordinance.

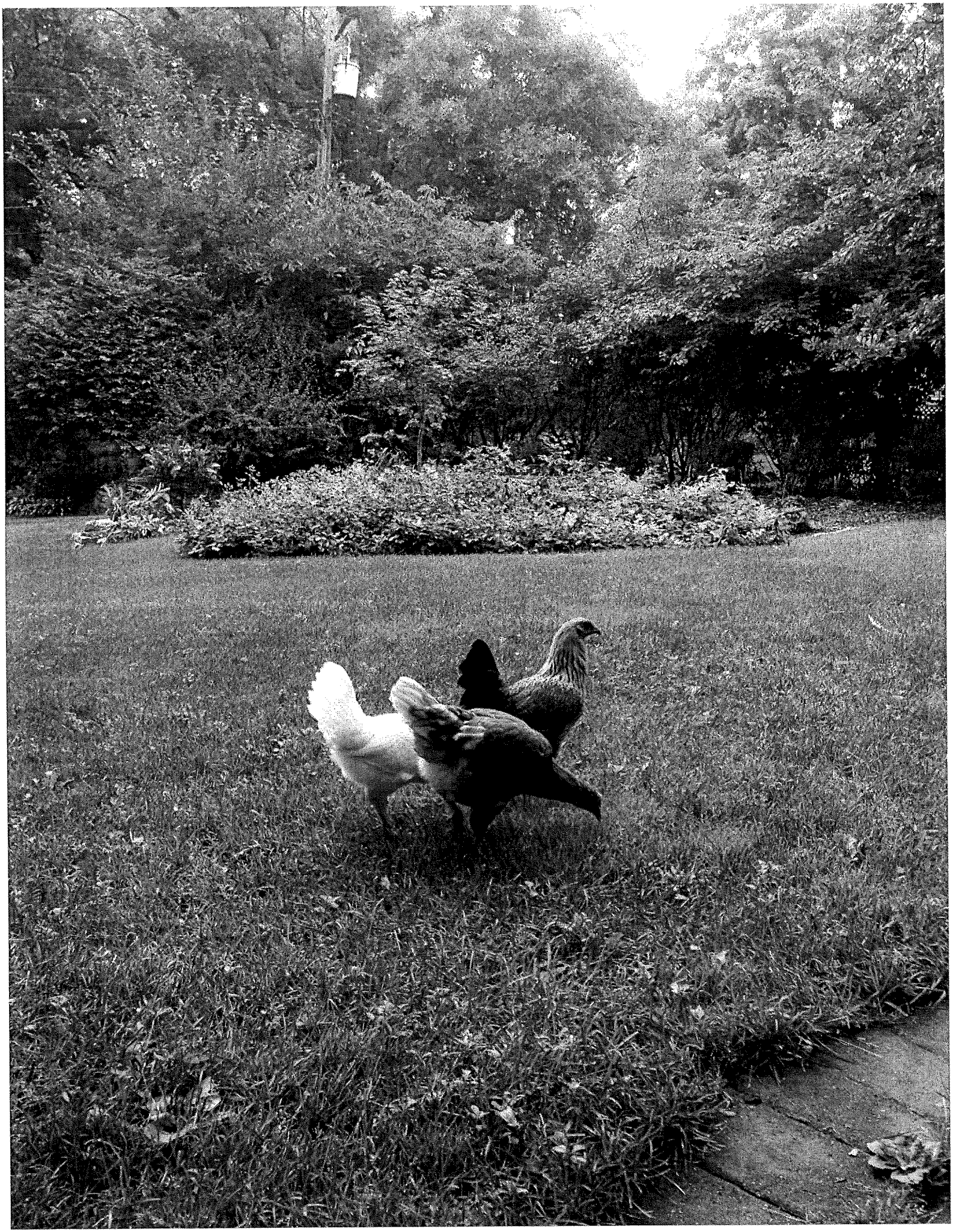
Kind Regards,

Mertyce Mrvos

5004 Bruce Avenue, Edina







Heather Branigin

From: Cora Ellenson-Myers <cora@environmentminnesota.org>
Sent: Monday, January 26, 2015 12:27 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Extended Deadline: Environment Minnesota Clean Water Letter
Attachments: MN elected officials letter.docx

Dear Mayor Hovland,

This is Cora with Environment Minnesota, hope you're doing well. We have had so much interest in our letter to Senator Franken in support of the EPA's proposed clean water rule after our original deadline, that we have decided to provide an additional opportunity to sign on. The deadline to sign on is now the end of this week, January 30th, and we'll deliver a final copy of the letter to Senator Franken the following week.

In short, we are building up support for the EPA's proposed clean water rule, which would close loopholes in the Clean Water Act to protections to thousands of streams and wetlands in Minnesota and across the country. These waterways impact the drinking water for more than 970,000 Minnesotans, and 1 in 3 people across the US. Unfortunately, the polluters who created these loopholes have been fighting to keep them in Congress, where this fall and in the recent Cromnibus spending bill there have been attempts to roll back this proposal. With this letter, we urge Senator Franken to stand up for the waterways Minnesotans love and depend on by defending the clean water rule in the Senate.

I would love to answer any questions or provide further information about the rule or letter for you. A copy of my original email is listed below, and the letter is attached. Please let me know whether or not you would like to sign on before the new deadline, January 30th.

Thank you,
Cora Ellenson-Myers
Environment Minnesota
612-379-1475

My name is Cora Ellenson-Myers; I'm the Campaign Organizer with Environment Minnesota working on clean water. I'm writing with an update on the EPA's proposed clean water rule, and to see if you can sign on to a letter supporting clean water to Senator Franken.

As I'm sure you know, right now the EPA is considering moving forward with a rulemaking to close loopholes in the Clean Water Act. These loopholes have resulted in a costly and inefficient process of case by case evaluation to determine if individual water bodies are protected by the Clean Water Act, and have called into question the protections of 47000 miles of Minnesota's streams, and 2 million miles across the country.

This is a big priority for Environment Minnesota – it could be the biggest victory for clean water in more than a decade.

As you might guess, the polluters who created these loopholes have gotten their allies in Congress to attack the proposal at every turn. This fall, they passed a bill in the House to strip the EPA's authority to make the rule, and similar attacks could come up in the Senate in the coming weeks.

Fortunately, Senator Franken has historically been an ally for clean water, but is getting a lot of pressure from the opposition. If we're going to get these protections over the finish line, we'll need as much support as we can get from Senator Franken. Environment Minnesota is circulating a letter from elected officials urging the senator to be a champion for Minnesota lakes and waterways across the state, and we would love for you to add your name.

Can you review the attached letter and let me know if you can sign on by December 19th? If we show a big wave of support from elected officials across the state, we can make sure Sen. Franken keeps standing up for our waterways.

Sincerely,

--
Cora Ellenson-Myers
Clean Water Campaign Organizer
Environment Minnesota
O: (612) 379-1475
C: (218) 341-8045

The Honorable Senator Franken
60 East Plato Blvd
Suite 220
Saint Paul, MN 55107

Dear Senator Franken,

As elected officials across Minnesota, we write you to urge you to declare your support for the Clean Water Rule proposed by U.S. EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers to restore Clean Water Act protection to thousands of waterways here in Minnesota and across the country.

As elected officials, we know how critically important clean water is to the health and economic livelihood of people across our state. Our constituents need clean water for drinking, fishing, swimming, agriculture, recreation, and the wellbeing of their communities. Waterways like the Mississippi River and Lake Superior are part of what make Minnesota beautiful, thriving, and prosperous. But our waters' health is threatened. Beginning in 1972, the Clean Water Act protected all of the nation's waters, from small, unnamed streams to the cherished Mississippi. But now, because of two bitterly-divided Supreme Court decisions (SWANCC in 2001 and Rapanos in 2006), many of our waterways are not guaranteed protection from pollution, including the streams that feed our lakes and rivers, and wetlands that help keep them clean.

Here in Minnesota, the threat is serious. Until this loophole is closed, 51 percent of our state's streams lack clear protection of our nation's bedrock environmental law. According to EPA data, these waters help provide drinking water to over 970,000 Minnesotans[1]. To protect our treasured 10,000 lakes, we urge you to take a public stand in support of the proposed rule to restore critical protections to these waters under the Clean Water Act. By restoring Clean Water Act protections we can put all of Minnesota's waters back on track to becoming safe for swimming, fishing, and drinking.

We appreciate your commitment to protecting Minnesota's waterways, and we hope you will move quickly to ensure they are protected for years to come.

Sincerely,

---

[1] http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/guidance/wetlands/upload/2009_12_25_wetlands_science_surface_drinking_water_surface_drinking_water_mn.pdf

Heather Branigin

From:	Rep.David.Bly@house.mn
Sent:	Monday, January 26, 2015 2:04 PM
To:	Nakasian Suzie
Subject:	Mon Feb 2 Meeting re Regional Inter-City Passenger Rail
Attachments:	Connection to Amtrak.pdf; LIST OF SUPPORTERS.doc; SUGGESTED LETTER TO MNDOT.doc

The **Central Minnesota Inter-City Regional Passenger Rail Initiative**

Please join us for a MnDot Rail Plan Update and Discussion
for regional officials and administrators

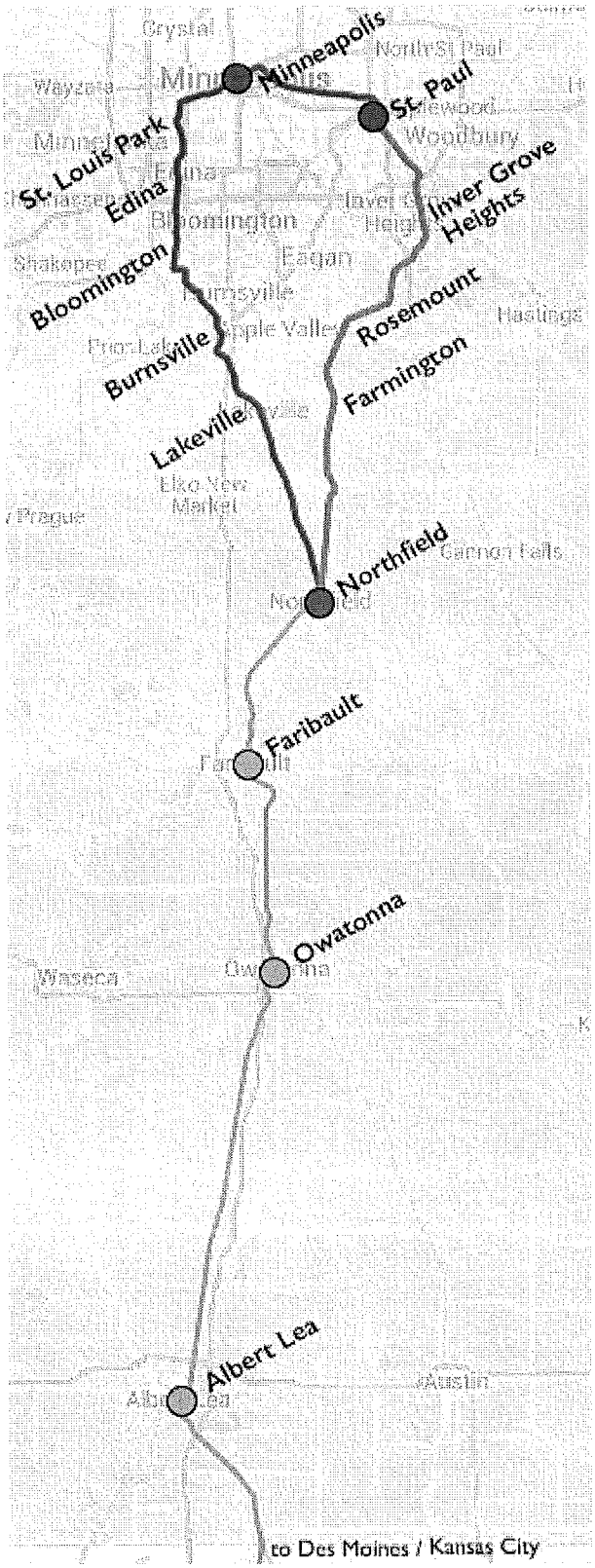
Monday, February 2, 3pm - 5pm

Weitz Center for Creativity, Carleton College
320 Third Street East, Northfield MN, Larson Room (Room #324)

Featuring Presentations and Discussion led by
Dave Christianson and Dan Krom, MnDot Rail Office

See **Meeting Agenda** below:

RSVP to Suzie Nakasian at 507-649-0382 or Suzienakasian@gmail.com and let us know who from your city/county or institution will be attending. Thank you.



Meeting Agenda

I. Update on support received (to date) for the Central MN Regional Inter-City Rail Initiative

II. Update on the State Rail Plan Revision (to date) : Dave Christianson, MnDot

- -Public Input received (to date)
- -Status of regional passenger rail projects around the State
- -Next/Final steps in the Rail Plan revision process
- -Legislative Outlook and Issues relating to Inter-City Regional Passenger Rail

III. Q & A for MnDot

IV. Next Steps for the Central MN Inter-City Regional Passenger Rail Initiative
-Discussion of potential governance structure and organizing strategies

Adjourn by 5:00pm

A MnDot Public Open House regarding the Revision of the State Rail Plan will immediately follow this meeting, in the Larson Room of the Weitz Center from 5:00 - 7:00pm. MnDot staff will be on hand to update the public on the Rail Plan's revision and receive public comments on the Plan.

Note: MnDot has extended the Rail Plan Public Comment period to **March 10, 2015** (from February 10). Members of the public are encouraged to submit comments regarding the rail plan in person, in writing to MnDot, or via the (Click Here) MnDot Rail Plan Comment Website.

More information about the State's Rail Plan is available here: (Click Here) MnDot Rail Plan.

For more information on the Central Minnesota Regional Inter-City Rail Initiative, contact Suzie Nakasian or Rep. David Bly.

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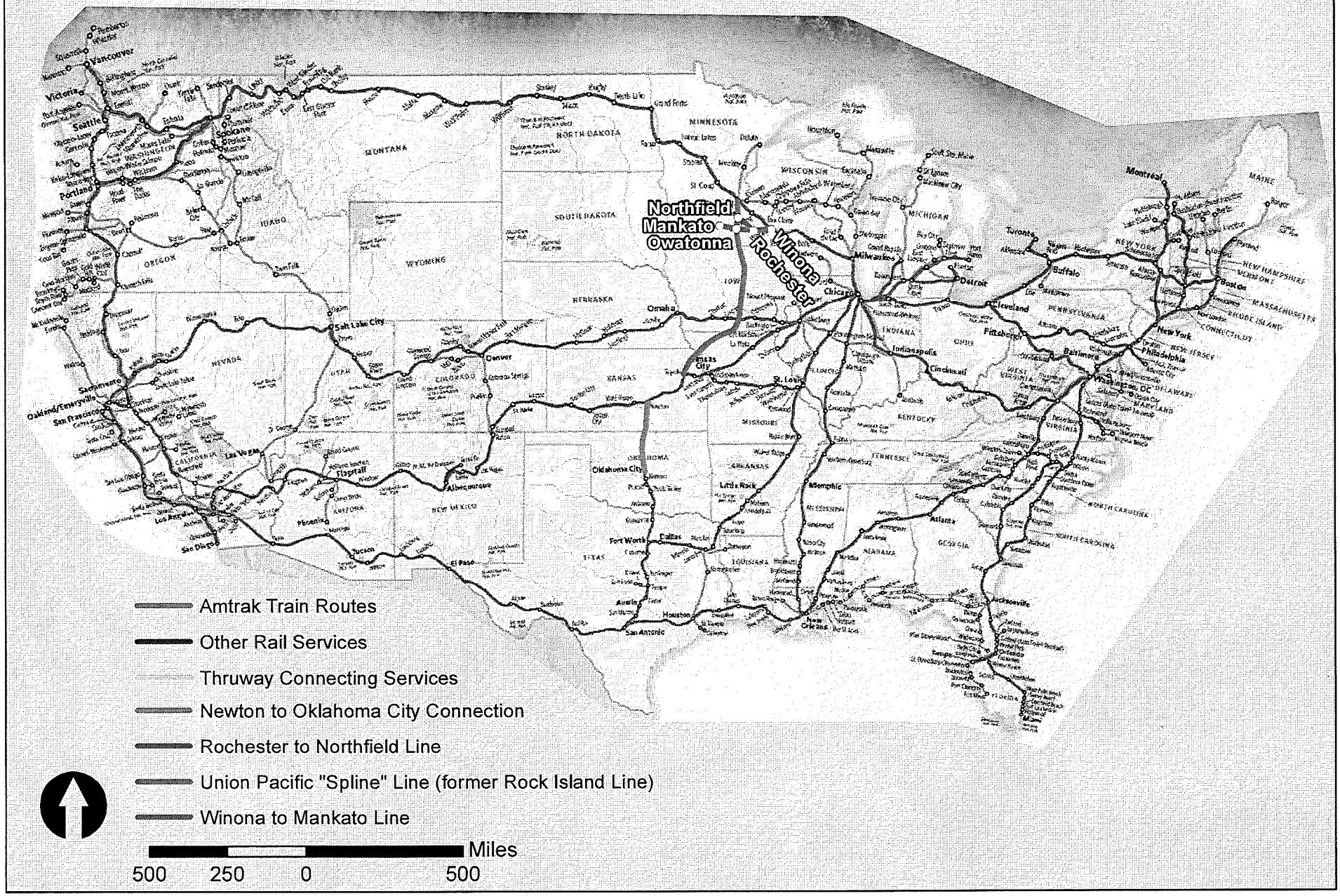

Letters of Support to MnDot from Cities/ Counties and Stakeholders (as of 1/23)
in Support of
Tier One Status forInter-City Regional Passenger Rail between South Central Minnesota and the Twin Cities Metro, on existing rail through Northfield.

1. City of Albert Lea
2. Carleton College
3. City of Dundas
4. City of Edina
5. City of Elko/New Market
6. City of Farmington
7. City of Lonsdale
8. Minnesota Association of Railroad Passengers
9. Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System (MNSCU)
10. City of Northfield
11. Northfield Convention and Visitors Bureau
12. Northfield Chamber of Commerce
13. Northfield Economic Development Authority
14. City of Owatonna
15. Ramsey County Regional Rail Authority
16. Rice County
17. City of Richfield
18. City of Rosemount
19. City of Saint Paul
20. City of Savage
21. South Central Community College, Faribault and North Mankato
22. Rep. Clark Johnson, District 19A (Mankato) (House Transportation Committee)
23. UMore Development LLC, Rosemount

Some of the additional letters that are schedule for consideration on upcoming Agendas:

24. pending approval 1/26 - City of Mankato
25. pending approval 1/26 - Northfield School Board
26. pending approval 1/27- City of Faribault
27. pending approval 1/27 - Steele County Board of Commissioners

Official letters and public comments regarding the Revision of the State's Rail Plan must be received by MnDot by the end of the day on March 10, 2015.

For an update on this list of supporters, email Suzienakasian@gmail.com

Thank you.

South Central Minnesota Inter-City Regional Passenger Rail Initiative

DRAFT TEXT for letters to MnDot

Summary: letters to MnDot are requested from regional governing bodies, economic stakeholders and residents, to ask MnDot to study the feasibility of restoring inter-city regional passenger rail service between south central Minnesota and the Twin Cities on existing rail lines through Northfield, and to move that project to Tier One status in the State's Rail Plan which is currently under revision.

Letters are due to MnDot by (NEW Public Comment Deadline) **March 10, 2015.**

Please address letters to:

Charles Zelle, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Transportation
395 John Ireland Boulevard, Mailstop 100, St. Paul, MN 55155-1899

cc: Dave Christianson, Project Manager, Minnesota State Rail Plan, MN Department of Transportation, 395 John Ireland Blvd , Mailstop 480 Saint Paul, MN 55155-1899

cc: Dan Krom, Passenger Rail Director, Minnesota Department of Transportation, 395 John Ireland Blvd , Mailstop 480 Saint Paul, MN 55155-1899

SUGGESTED TEXT – to be adapted/edited as needed

Dear Commissioner Zelle:

We writing to encourage MnDOT to move restored inter-city regional passenger rail service between south central Minnesota and the Twin Cities on existing rail lines through Northfield, to Tier One status in the State's revised Rail Plan. We urge MnDot to commence an evaluative study of our rail corridor, including the inter-state connections that this line would restore to our State and communities.

We feel strongly that this project presents sufficient merit to our region and State to warrant serious study for possible development in the near future. We see this project as beneficial to the economic development of our city and region. We also recognize the potential inter-state rail connections that our particular rail line would open for Minnesotans by virtue of the intersection of our line with three of Amtrak's most heavily trafficked inter-state lines that intersect with our rail line as it continues south to Kansas City and Des Moines.

The 2009 Minnesota Comprehensive Statewide Freight and Passenger Rail Plan identifies the Northfield – Metropolitan corridor for Tier II development. Moving this corridor forward to Tier One Status in the Stats Rail Plan for purposes of evaluative preliminary study is more than justified by the forecasted levels of usage, and the apparent technical feasibility of two existing rail alignments that serve our region. Importantly, study of restored passenger service between south central Minnesota and the Twin Cities through Northfield is also justified by the financial feasibility of this project as compared with other proposed passenger rail projects in the State, since our project would introduce passenger service on existing rail lines.

Elevating our central Minnesota passenger rail corridor to Tier One Status in the State Rail Plan is warranted by the enthusiastic grass roots support that this project has received from regional stakeholders. Representatives of (municipality/county or other stakeholder) have met with elected and appointed leaders from around our region and we see this project as one of common interest to our communities, region and the State.

We strongly encourage MnDOT to elevate restored regional inter-city passenger rail service from south central Minnesota to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, to Tier One status in the State's revised Rail Plan, and ask you to commence an evaluative study of that alignment as part of your statewide rail planning.

Respectfully,

_____

Heather Branigin

From: Shea Larson <shealarson1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 26, 2015 7:37 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Chickens

Dear honorable mayor Hovland and Edina city council,
These are the top five reasons why we should enjoy our chickens

1. The chickens were from our science teacher and we hatched them and we get to raise them. This is a form of education not only for us but also for the little kids in our area.

2. There is a 91 year old lady on our street who we visit often and she especially enjoys when we bring over our chicken's eggs.

3.I also have a few friends who have chickens and we like having the responsibility of taking care of them.

4. "The eggs from hens raised with access to your backyard will be tastier and more nutritious! Research shows they're not only higher in omega-3s, beta-carotene, and vitamins A, D, and E, but they're lower in cholesterol and saturated fat. They taste better, too. It's something you can see: All that extra nutrition gives backyard eggs a dark orange yolk-not the pale yellow color you see in store-bought eggs". (Lucas, Lissa, and Traci Torres. "Top 10 Reasons to Raise Chickens."*Organic Gardening*. N.p., n.d. Web. 26 Jan. 2015.)

5."Chickens will eat food and then convert them into eggs , and also fertilizer. If you grow vegetables or flowers, you'll find that composted chicken manure is great for your home garden, adding organic matter and nutrients to the soil. Plus, chicken manure from layers tends to be relatively high in calcium, which is helpful for plants". (Lucas, Lissa, and Traci Torres. "Top 10 Reasons to Raise Chickens."*Organic Gardening*. N.p., n.d. Web. 26 Jan. 2015.)

It would be great if more people would embrace having chickens in Edina. Its a healthier life for the chickens and the owners.

Sincerely,
Shea Larson
7th grade
Southview Middle School

Heather Branigin

From: *CI-StPaul_Mayor <Mayor@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2015 4:54 PM
Subject: Please RSVP: Mayor Chris Coleman's 2015 Minnesota Mayor's Reception at the Saint Paul Winter Carnival

Saint Paul Mayor Chris Coleman
Invites you and your guest to join him for the
2015 Minnesota Mayor's Reception at the Saint Paul Winter Carnival

Saturday, January 31, 2015
5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Downtown Saint Paul
James J. Hill Center
On beautiful Rice Park
80 West Fourth Street
Saint Paul, MN 55102

The Mayors of Minnesota will gather once again in Saint Paul to celebrate winter in our capitol city. We will start this year by marching in the Winter Carnival Vulcan Victory Parade and then warm up at one of Saint Paul's most beautiful historic buildings.
The Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Saint Paul Downtown is offering a special rate to our guests on Friday, January 30 and Saturday, January 31. Reserve your room online at http://tinyurl.com/me4flj7
Or reserve your room by calling 651-291-8800, 24 hours a day. Ask for the Mayor's Reception rate and group code 500.

Schedule:

4:45 p.m. - Meet at the new Bedlam Lowertown, 213 East 4th Street (Across 4th Street from the Union Depot), for Parade Line-up.

5:30 p.m. - March to Rice Park in the Saint Paul Winter Carnival Torchlight Parade.
Parade steps off west from Wacouta and 5th St. We are **Lineup #7**

6:15 p.m. - Party with the Mayors at the JJ Hill Center.

Please RSVP to Chai Lee by **Wednesday, January 28, 2015,** and let us know how many will be attending.

651-266-8510
Or to
mayor@ci.stpaul.mn.us

Thanks to our sponsors:

Xcel Energy, www.xcelenergy.com
Comcast, www.comcast.com
Springsted, www.springsted.com
Davis Communications Management, www.daviscommunications.biz
Summit Brewing Company www.summitbrewing.com
Coca Cola North America Group http://www.coca-colacompany.com/our-company/north-america-group

Heather Branigin

From: Zanna Larson <zannal21895@apps.edina.k12.mn.us>
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2015 8:49 PM
To: Edina Mail

We Need Chickens!

1. We get fresh good eggs
2. Kids from all around the neighborhood love to come see them.
3. They are fun to care for.
4. We get more responsibility to care for animals.

I LOVE animals and it is nice to have a pet. these are wonderful pets. We love bringing them is our house and let them play!
And in conclusion WE NEED CHICKENS!

From Zanna Larson, 6th Grade, Southview Middle School

Heather Branigin

From: SALLY LARSON <sallylarson@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2015 9:46 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Chicken Proposal
Attachments: judah and chicken.jpg; chickens outside.jpg; chicken and egg.jpg; eggs.jpg; shea zanna and chickens.jpg

Dear Honorable Mayor Hovland and City Council Members,

I have attached some pictures to show you the many ways we enjoy our pet chickens, and the chickens enjoy us!

It has been an educational and fun journey for our family to raise chicks into egg producing hens.

We hope you vote to keep this tradition going in Edina so others can join in this healthy endeavor!

Sincerely,
Sally Larson
4507 Grimes Avenue

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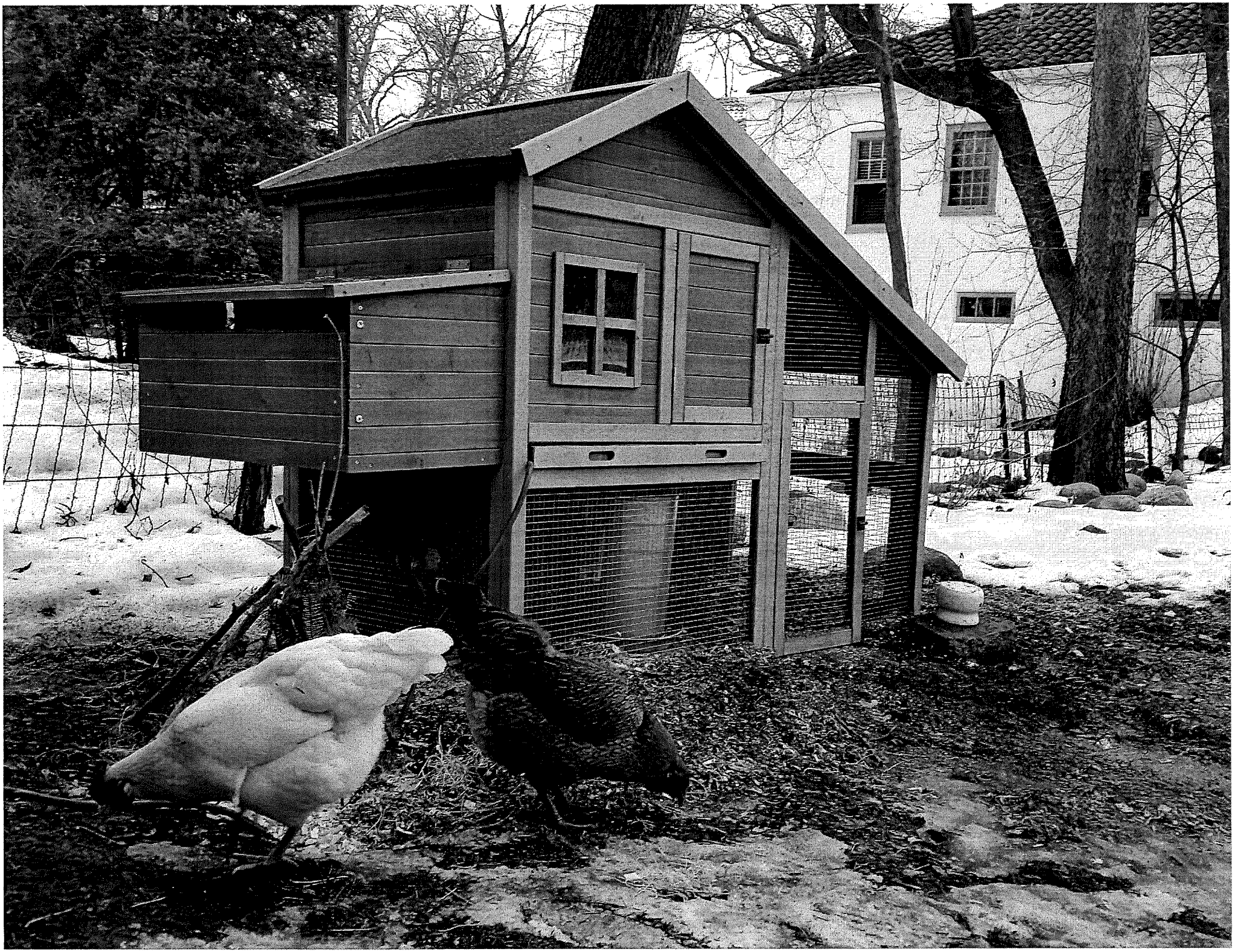

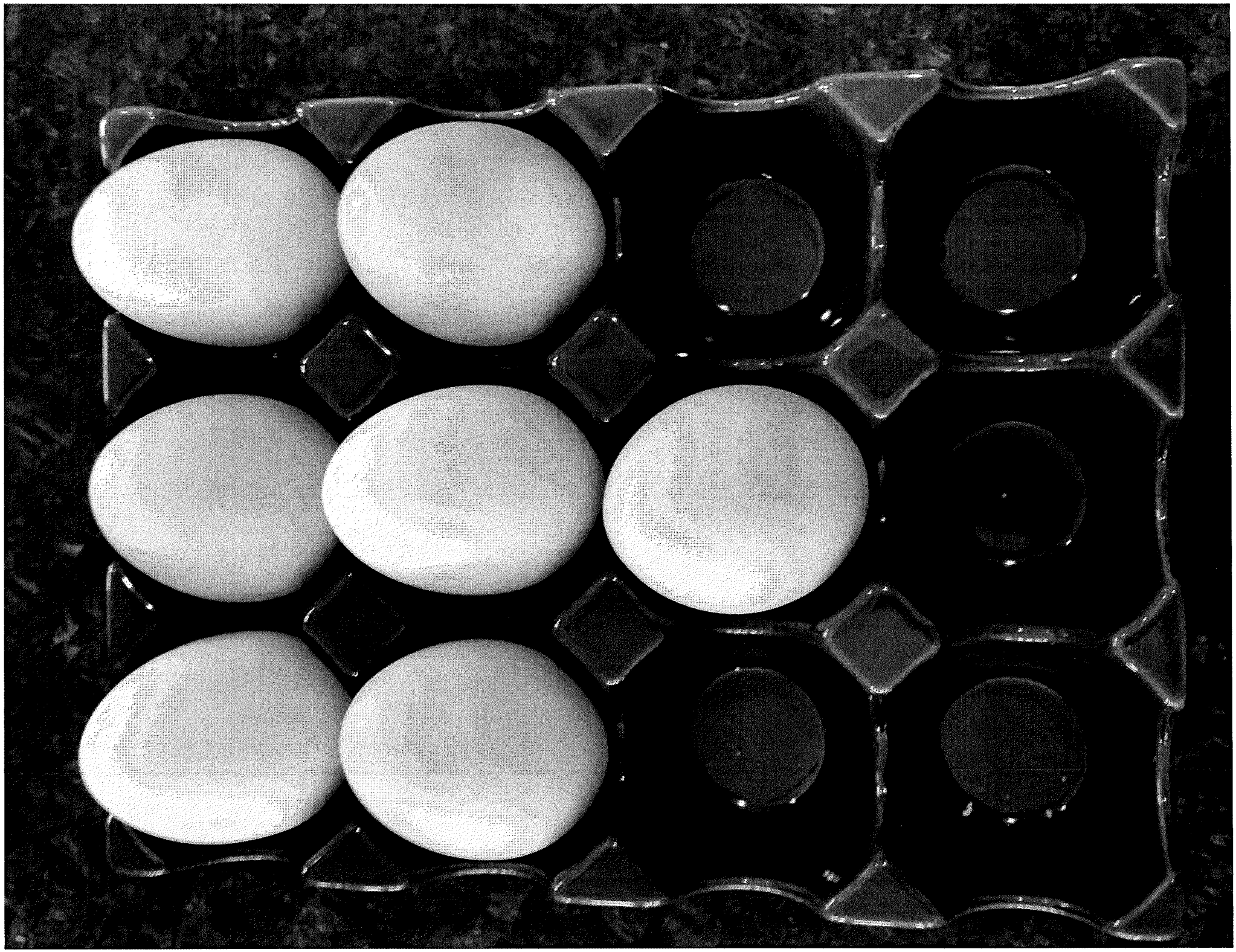

Heather Branigin

From: Shelly Elmore <tcb@readexsurvey.net>
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2015 9:28 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: TC Business Magazine

Dear James Hovland:

Recently I asked for your help with an important survey for Twin Cities Business magazine, and I wanted to give you one last opportunity to make your voice heard as we strive to better understand industry professionals like you.

Please take about two minutes now to complete this very short survey:

?http://www.readexweb.net/tcb/survey.asp?12445MSM

As a sincere thanks for your participation, you may choose to enter into a drawing for a $100 Visa gift card that can be used like cash anywhere Visa is accepted.

We are expecting no more than 500 responses so your odds in the drawing are very good. And your individual responses will not be used for any other purpose or sold to others.

Thank you for taking time from your busy schedule to help us.

Sincerely,

Shelly Elmore
Publisher
Twin Cities Business Magazine

We apologize if this correspondence reached you in error. This contact was selected by Readex Research from a list provided by Twin Cities Business for the purpose of this survey only. Readex adheres to ethical practices, and respects your rights of privacy and choice. To be eliminated from additional contact from Readex on behalf of this survey sponsor, please go here - http://www.readexsurvey.com/drop.htm?edinamail@edinamn.gov or reply with the following as the subject: drop edinamail@edinamn.gov

Readex Research
2251 Tower Drive W
Stillwater, MN 55082
USA

Heather Branigin

From: suekaiser2@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2015 4:42 PM
To: Heather Branigin
Subject: RE: grandview public works site

Heather, please include my comments. I also meant to say city-funded enterprises in the last paragraph.

Thank you!

Sue

Sent from XFINITY Connect Mobile App

-----Original Message-----

From: HBranigin@EdinaMN.gov
To: suekaiser2@comcast.net
Cc:
Sent: 2015-01-28 08:22:34 GMT
Subject: RE: grandview public works site

Sue,

If you would like, I would be happy to include your comments in our council correspondence. I will also forward your email to our Economic Development Manager, Bill Neuendorf. He is the person conducting the exploration sessions for Grandview redevelopment.

For future reference, comments you email to mail@EdinaMN.gov will go into the Council Correspondence and is provided to all council members in the biweekly council packet. This is also posted online for the public to see.

Thank you!
Heather

Heather Branigin, Executive Assistant
952-826-0403 | Fax 952-826-0390
HBranigin@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov
...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

From: suekaiser2@comcast.net [mailto:suekaiser2@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2015 2:32 AM
To: Heather Branigin
Subject: grandview public works site

Heather, I couldn't figure out how to join the discussion or add a suggestion on the grandview site.

I would like to see more mixed-use retail – in addition to Davanni's, we need some other faster food choices in the area.

I don't care to see any publicly funded/maintained enterprises.

Thank you.

Sue Kaiser
6915 Langford Drive
55436

Heather Branigin

From: Lori Grotz <lori@lorigrotz.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2015 6:42 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Edina Tree Ordinance

Dear Mayor and Edina City Council members,

We are writing in support of the Planning Commission Tree Ordinance. Planning Commissioners Mr. Platteter and Ms. Carr, along with the rest of the Commission, have taken so much of their time to create a Tree Ordinance to protect Edina's diminishing tree canopy.

Please pass the Tree Ordinance while there are still some trees left to protect from the developers' chainsaws.

Thank you.

Jim & Lori Grotz
5513 Park Place
Edina, MN

January 28, 2015

Please copy the Planning Commission members on this email. Thank you

Heather Branigin

From: SALLY LARSON <sallylarson@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2015 7:12 PM
To: SwensonAnn1@GMail.com
Cc: Dianne Latham; Lynette Biunno
Subject: Chickens

Dear Ms. Swenson,

Thank you for your questions regarding the care of my two pet chickens! I have been in extensive contact with Dianne Latham who has prepared a wonderful, detailed report about the care of my chickens and recommendations for ordinances about raising chickens which she will send to you shortly.
She has really put a lot of time and research into this proposal and can provide superior, independent assessment of the care of my chickens.

Dianne and I talked on the phone and she came to my house on Tuesday to see the chickens, the cape cod coop, the heat lamp (that is on 24/7), the 5 gallon water station with heating pad and 5 day feeding trough. We love to play with our chickens inside and outside every day. We've only had the hens since June 2014. They just started laying eggs last month and they give us 2 eggs every day... it is a win-win for our happy, healthy and warm chickens and my family!

Please feel free to contact me with any further questions.

Sincerely,
Sally, kids and chicks

From: Erika Ding
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2015 4:46 PM
To: jonibennett12@comcast.net ; mbrindle@comcast.net ; swensonann1@gmail.com ; joshsprague@edinarealty.com
Subject: Edina Robotics - Robot Reveal Invitation

Hello, City Council of Edina!

The Edina High School robotics team, The Green Machine, is currently in a frenzy of activity to finish our robot before the end of our 6-week "Build-Season", but we wanted to take a moment to invite you to the grand public unveiling of this year's robot.

The challenge for this year's robot is called Recycle Rush. The robot must create stacks of storage containers on top of scoring platforms and then top those stacks off with recycling bins. This has provided a great engineering challenge to our builders, programmers, and designers, and we are excited to show you what we have come up with.

Our 2015 robot reveal ("We <3 Our Robot Day") will take place on February 14th from 12 pm to 2 pm, at our workshop in Edina High School. The address for the school is 6754 Valley View Road, Edina, and our workshop is right by the Edina Performing Arts Center entrance (Door 3).

Attached is an official invitation to our 2015 robot reveal - this is a free event and all are welcome. If you have any questions at all, feel free to contact us at contact@edinarobotics.com.

We hope to see you soon!

Erika Ding
Business and Outreach Lead
Edina Robotics *FIRST* Team 1816 - The Green Machine

Jane Timm

From: Joni Bennett <jonibennett12@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2015 12:59 PM
To: Jane Timm
Subject: Fwd: Edina and St. Louis Park Aviation Noise Monitoring Study - for City Council

Hi, Jane -

How are you? I just returned home and found Deb's out-of-office response to my email below. Can you please include my email to the Council below in the Council packet for next Tuesday's meeting?

Please let me know if I should transmit this in another form. Thank you!

Joni

Begin forwarded message:

From: Joni Bennett <jonibennett12@comcast.net>
Date: January 29, 2015 8:05:14 AM CST
To: Deb Mangen <DMangen@EdinaMN.gov>
Subject: Edina and St. Louis Park Aviation Noise Monitoring Study - for City Council

Good Morning, Deb -

How are you? I hope all is well with you and yours.

I have some thoughts to share with the City Council regarding the report it will hear next Tuesday about the temporary noise monitoring that was done in Edina and St. Louis Park at the end of August 2014. Would you please share the comments below with the Council and include them in the Council packet?

Thank you!

Kind regards,

Joni

Dear Mayor Hovland and members of the Edina City Council,

At your regular meeting on Tuesday, February 3, you will hear a report from Metropolitan Airports Commission staff on aviation noise monitoring done in Edina and St. Louis Park for a 14 day period at the end of August 2014. As you review the written report (delivered to the MAC's Noise Oversight Committee in November 2014), it would be helpful for you to look also at the August Operations Report available on the NOC website at www.macnoise.com/tools-reports/monthly-operations-reports. The monthly operations reports provide many types of information including flight density, runway use, and aviation noise recorded at all 39

permanent monitoring locations in the Twin Cities area.

To better evaluate the study's objective measurement of aviation noise in Edina, please compare two items in the Edina and St. Louis Park Monitoring Study, Top Ten Loudest Noise Events for MSP (p. 24) and DNL for each monitoring location (Table 5, p. 12), with corresponding parts of the August Operations Report, MSP Top Ten Aircraft Noise Events per RMT (pp. 24-36) and Analysis of Daily and Monthly Aircraft Noise Events DNL (pp. 37-42).

The top ten loudest events measured by each temporary monitor in Edina and St. Louis Park ranged from 77.4 to 90.6 decibels at monitor #101 in St. Louis Park (located three blocks from the Edina border); 80.4 to 87.3 dB at monitor #102 in Arneson Acres and 79.9 to 83.7 dB at monitor #103 in McGuire Park. Eight of the 39 permanent monitors recorded lower or similar values for all top ten loudest August events: #12 (St. Paul; 71.2 to 78.2 dB); #19 (Bloomington; 80.4 to 84.8 dB); #20 (Richfield; 76.9 to 85.6 dB); #21 (Inver Grove Heights; 79.7 to 85.1 dB); #25 (Eagan; 77.4 to 83.5 dB); #26 (IGH; 79.9 to 84.6 dB); #32 (Bloomington; 75.2 to 77.6 dB) and #34 (Burnsville; 74.1 to 82.1 dB).

DNL is average sound level for aircraft noise events in decibels. Total DNLs for the 14 day temporary monitoring period were 54.7 at monitor #101 in St. Louis Park, 49 at monitor #102 in Arneson Acres and 47.7 at monitor #103 in McGuire Park. These DNLs are greater than the August Monthly DNLs - all 47.4 or less - measured by 10 permanent monitors: ##9, 11, 12 (St. Paul); 17, 31, 32 (Bloomington); 21 (Inver Grove Heights); 33, 34 (Burnsville) and 37 (Eagan).

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of the Aviation Noise Monitoring Study and for your ongoing work to address this significant issue.

Sincerely yours,

Joni Bennett
4003 Lynn Avenue
Edina MN 55416
952-927-0661

Heather Branigin

From:	David Frenkel <frenkel@att.net>
Sent:	Thursday, January 29, 2015 3:35 PM
To:	Scott H. Neal
Cc:	Bob Stewart; Kevin Staunton; Edina Mail; David Fisher; osha.compliance@state.mn.us; erosandich@lmc.org; envhealth@BloomingtonMN.gov
Subject:	Safety issues at Braemar Ice Arena (Edina, MN)

To: Edina City Manager,

Safety issues have to be taken more seriously by the city of Edina especially in venues used primarily by children such as the Braemar Ice Arena. The synchronized skating event at the Braemar Arena has forced children to walk on an icy road behind the east rink carrying hockey bags on a road that is also used by a Zamboni and delivery vehicles. This is a dangerous situation especially at night when it is poorly lit and parents are instructed to drop off children and let them navigate all this alone. Does anybody at the City of Edina understand how dangerous this is and what the liability is to the city if somebody gets hurt?

If you can't make the environment safe for children the outdoor rink should be closed until the indoor access can be used. Children's safety should not be a science experiment for the sake of making money selling ice time.

There is a good reason there is a state law which Edina does not follow that all organizations over 25 employees in the state of MN must have a safety committee and Bloomington does have a safety committee that does an annual safety review of the Bloomington Ice Garden (BIG).

The 1995 Workers' Compensation Reform Bill contained legislation that also impacted safety committees. All public and private employers with more than 25 employees are required to establish and administer joint labor-management safety committees.

http://www.dli.mn.gov/WSC/PDF/safetycommittees.pdf

The City of Edina not only needs a safety committee but is required by state law.

The temporary designated hockey drop-off area behind the east arena is not designed for this purpose and it is too tight for cars to turn around and it is marked for emergency vehicles only. The area could get congested making it difficult for an emergency vehicle to get through.

The ground around the outside rink is covered by packed snow and ice. Power cords are running all around where the temporary tents are and remember children are wearing hockey skates. The temporary tents have fire extinguishers on the muddy floor and the exit signs are not back lit as required by state code.
The heating vents into the tent are hot to the touch with no barrier to keep children from putting anything flammable to close to the heat. Even the state fire marshal recommends keeping items away from heating vents. The tents also have no smoke detectors.

The propane tanks used to heat the domes are out in the open and unsecured so anybody can go up to them and play with valves or connections. The tanks should be fenced in for security and safety.

The outdoor temperatures this weekend are predicted to get into the single digits and there is an outdoor unheated portable bathroom for the outdoor rink. Is the city staff expecting children to use an outdoor bathroom in winter weather?

The fire lane around the dome is blocked by signs and the temporary tunnel to the dome. Fire lanes by state code are not to be blocked.

If you go to the domes at Holy Angeles and Eden Prairie they both have perimeter fences for security and safety. The perimeter of the Braemar outdoor rink and dome are completely unsecured. If there is a heavy snow fall ice and/or snow from any of the Braemar roof structures could fall on both children and employees because none of the structures have any perimeter fencing to keep people away from the roof line.

Why is there so much large construction debris in the south parking lot? Not only is it dangerous and another liability it is also taking up parking spaces that evidently will be a premium this weekend. The same construction company that did the rink and dome at Braemar is doing the recreation center construction in Eden Prairie. It is interesting that the construction site and material storage yards are fenced and locked at Eden Prairie. At Braemer the rink construction site was NOT fenced and locked and there is still unsecured construction debris in the south lot. Same construction company different safety oversight.

For the sake of children if the safety conditions at the Braemar outdoor rink cannot be made safe close it for the weekend. Safety should be a priority not an afterthought.
I look forward to the quick formation of the Edina Safety committee as required by state law to help address any unresolved safety issues which would also include the lack of an AED in the Edina dome.

I need not remind you that the highest priority of government is the safety of its citizens including children.

Regards,

David Frenkel
Edina, MN
612-237-1966

HRA

HENNEPIN COUNTY HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
701 Fourth Avenue South, Suite 400
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415-1843 612-348-9260

January 27, 2015

The Honorable James Hovland
Mayor of the City of Edina
4801 West 50th Street
Edina, MN 55424

RE: Proposed 2015 Hennepin County Housing and Redevelopment Authority Activities

Dear Mayor Hovland:

The Hennepin County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HCHRA) was created under Minnesota Statute 383B.77 in 1987. The HCHRA has all the powers granted by the statewide "HRA Act" (MS 469.001 to 469.047).

MS 383B.77 requires the HCHRA to notify municipal authorities by January 31 of each year as to the activities the HCHRA may administer/facilitate within communities during the upcoming year. Communities may **opt out** of one or more HCHRA activities by notifying the HCHRA in writing to that effect within 45 days of the date of this notice.

Using a mix of federal, state, local, and private funding sources, the HCHRA has identified the following activities for program year 2015:

Activity Name	Description	HCHRA Contact
Minnesota Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program	Assists low-income homeowners in financing basic home improvements that directly affect the safety, habitability, energy efficiency or accessibility of their homes.	Rehab Staff (612-348-9260)
Minnesota Housing Emergency and Accessibility Loan Program	Assists low-income homeowners in addressing emergency conditions in the home or essential accessibility needs for a disabled resident.	Rehab Staff (612-348-9260)
Home Accessibility Ramp Program	Provides financial and technical assistance for the construction of accessibility ramps and/or low-riser stairs for low- and moderate-income disabled homeowners.	Carol Stinar (612-348-2670)
Affordable Housing Incentive Fund Program (AHIF)	Provides capital funding to assist in the development of long-term affordable housing units. Projects are selected through a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process and require a supporting city council resolution before receiving assistance.	Carol Stinar (612-348-2670)

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Linda Higgins, Chair | Randy Johnson, Vice Chair | Mike Opat | Peter McLaughlin | Marion Greene | Jan Callison | Jeff Johnson

Activity Name	Description	HCHRA Contact
Lead-Safe Rehabilitation Assistance Program	Provides financial assistance to property owners for lead-based paint hazard remediation in housing units serving low- and moderate-income households.	Mike Jensen (612-348-2114)
Transit Oriented Development Program (TOD)	Provides capital funding to assist development proximate to priority transit corridors and hubs. Projects are selected through a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process and must be in a recognized redevelopment area and receive a supporting city council resolution before receiving assistance.	Thatcher Imboden (612-348-4191)
Common Bond Fund Loan Program	Provides long-term, low-interest, fixed asset revenue bond financing for suburban Hennepin County manufacturing and production businesses.	Patricia Fitzgerald (612-543-0864)
Open to Business	Provides matching funds to cities to offer small business technical assistance to their entrepreneur community through the nonprofit Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD).	Patricia Fitzgerald (612-543-0864)
Economic Gardening	Provides technical assistance to companies that have grown beyond the startup phase and need access to information and decision-making tools typically only available to larger companies.	Patricia Fitzgerald (612-543-0864)
Shelter Plus Care Rental Assistance	Provides tenant-based rental assistance to low-income households through a third party provider (Hearth Connection).	Melisa Illies (612-348-2020)
Foreclosure Prevention Counseling	Provides foreclosure prevention counseling and outreach services through a third party provider (Minnesota Home Ownership Center).	Tonja West-Hafner (612-348-2599)
Homebuyer Education	Homebuyer education courses through a third party provider (TBD).	Tonja West-Hafner (612-348-2599)
Healthy Homes	Provides assessment and financial assistance to property owners to address health and safety hazards such as fall prevention, radon mitigation, and asthma triggers.	Melisa Illies (612-348-2020)
Main Street Business Initiative	As funding permits, provides matching funds to suburban cities for a variety of strategies (i.e. façade improvement, way-finding, streetscape, marketing/branding) that support main street small business districts.	Patricia Fitzgerald (612-543-0864)

We look forward to continuing to work with you in implementing these programs and to develop additional innovative approaches to address housing and community development needs. Please feel free to contact the staff person listed at the end of each program description for further details on the programs or specific funding allocations.

Sincerely,

Debra R. Brisk
Deputy Executive Director

cc: Commissioner Linda Higgins, Chair
Commissioner Randy Johnson, Vice Chair
Commissioner Mike Opat
Commissioner Peter McLaughlin
Commissioner Marion Greene
Commissioner Jan Callison
Commissioner Jeff Johnson

David Hough, Executive Director
Scott Neal, City Manager