

REPORT / RECOMMENDATION



To: MAYOR & COUNCIL

Agenda Item #: VIII. A.

From: Debra Mangen
City Clerk

Date: September 16, 2015

Subject: Correspondence

Action
Discussion
Information

Action Requested:

No action is necessary.

Attachment:

Attached is correspondence received since the last Council meeting.

7500 York Ave. So. #441
Edina, MN 55435
September 3, 2015

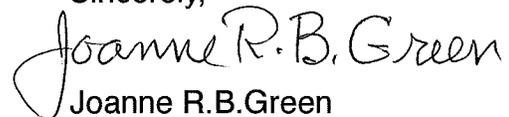
Mayor Hovland and Members of the Edina City Council

As a resident of the Southdale area I am greatly concerned about the developer's plan to take down the Titus Building and the medical buildings on 66th Street across from Southdale on the north, to build luxury apartments.

Several of my doctors have offices in those buildings and they are close to where I live and have convenient adequate parking. One of the reasons I moved to this area and have chosen to stay in my later years is the access to medical facilities. I am unable to drive long distances on freeways with heavy traffic. I do not want to lose my doctors!

Do we really need more luxury apartments? Please reject this plan and keep that area as it is.!

Sincerely,


Joanne R.B.Green

Heather Branigin

From: Edina Student Council <edinastudentcouncil@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 04, 2015 3:04 PM
To: James Hovland
Subject: Edina Homecoming Parade

Hello Mayor Hovland,

This is Michael Rodriguez writing on behalf of Student Council. As you may know, our homecoming parade is scheduled for Friday, September 18th at 4:30. We would love if you were able to join us again this year! We are asking participants to arrive at the tennis/pool parking lot off 50th street at 3:45. Per usual, you would be offered your own convertible, however, if you would like to ride with Dr. Dressen again, that also works! If you have any questions feel free to e-mail me back.

Best,
Michael Rodriguez
Edina Student Council

Heather Branigin

From: Shirley Maltby <smaltby@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 08, 2015 3:50 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: play set on public property

To City Council Members

Why is the Berger play set still on park land?

I went by today and no movement. This is putting
the city in jeopardy. What if some one has an accident?

Shirley Rerat

4913 Payton Court 55435

Heather Branigin

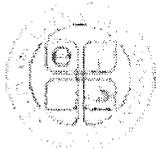
From: Scott H. Neal
Sent: Tuesday, September 08, 2015 4:27 PM
To: 'Common Sense Edina'; James Hovland; Robert Stewart; swensonann1@gmail.com; Mary Brindle; Kevin Staunton
Subject: RE: Common Sense for Edina - Edina Urban Vision Symposium - who is underwriting the cost of the symposium and what is the cost?

Mr. Frenkel –

The press release typo has been corrected. It will be reissued immediately, drawing attention to the reason for its reissuance. Thank you for bringing it to our attention.

The City is paying for the event from its General Fund. As noted in the press release, it is a public event and the public is invited to attend.

Biographical information about the speaker for the event is included in the press release. Staff made an editorial decision about how much of his lengthy bio to include in the release.



Scott Neal, City Manager
952-826-0401 | Fax 952-826-0390
sneal@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov

The City of Edina was named one of the *Star Tribune's* Top Workplaces in 2015!



From: Common Sense Edina [mailto:commonsenseforedina@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 08, 2015 3:41 PM
To: James Hovland; Robert Stewart; swensonann1@gmail.com; Mary Brindle; Kevin Staunton
Cc: Scott H. Neal
Subject: Common Sense for Edina - Edina Urban Vision Symposium - who is underwriting the cost of the symposium and what is the cost?

If the City of Edina is underwriting the cost of the Edina Urban Vision Symposium what is the cost and where is the money coming from to pay for it?

These are basic transparency questions that residents have a right to know.

I would also have somebody fix the typo in the press release, presumably the symposium is in the morning but the press release says the reception and networking are in the evening.

It is also standard procedure to include the bio of speaker(s) that are presenting at a conference, seminar or luncheon. Below the symposium press release is an example of a luncheon invitation I recently received and it shows a bio for the speaker because it adds speaker credibility and helps people decide if they want to attend the event. Also notice the difference in URL's for each event. The Edina press release URL means nothing to the general public and the AFCEA event below has a meaningful URL.

David Frenkel

http://edinamn.gov/index.php?section=pressroom_pressreleases&prid=1042

Friday, September 04, 2015

Public invited to Edina Urban Vision Symposium

Edina, Minn., Sept. 1, 2015 – The City of Edina invites residents to hear a free presentation on urbanism from national expert Joe Minicozzi.

The presentation will be held 8 to 10 a.m. Monday, Sept. 14, at the Edina Country Club, 5100 Wooddale Ave. Registration and networking will be held from 8 to 8:30 p.m. Minicozzi will speak for about 45 minutes beginning and 8:30 a.m. and will then answer questions from the audience.

Known for his take on “the smart math of mixed-used development,” Minicozzi is the principal of Urban 3. The company's work has prompted a paradigm shift in understanding the economic potency of urbanism and the value of well-designed cities. Urban 3's studies have resulted in the reevaluation of public policy and a broader understanding of market dynamics created by tax policy.

Space is limited, but reservations are required. Register for this free event at www.EdinaMN.gov or by calling Executive Assistant Heather Branigin, 952-826-0403.

<https://www.afceanova.org/September2015Luncheon>

Luncheon w/Maj. Gen. Linda R. Urrutia-Varhall, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, ISR

Event Date:

Friday, September 11, 2015 - 11:30am - 1:30pm

Maj. Gen. Linda R. Urrutia-Varhall is the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance, the Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

General Urrutia-Varhall was commissioned in 1984 as a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy. Following her initial assignments at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., she was selected to participate in the Professional Military Graduate Intelligence Program in Washington, D.C. After completion, she was the first Air Force representative to the National Military Intelligence Center. Her service at the Pentagon included executive support duty to three Secretaries of Defense and as an international politico-military affairs officer on the Somalia Task Force.

The general has held command and staff positions in the wing, major command, headquarters and joint environments. In 1998, she was named to command the first Air Force Information Warfare Flight at 9th Air Force/Central Air Forces, Shaw AFB, S.C. She also deployed to Southwest Asia where she served as Chief, Analysis Division, and an operations officer for the Joint Intelligence Center at U.S. Central Command Headquarters Forward. She also served as the Senior Military Assistant to the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Senior Executive to the Director of National Intelligence. Prior to her current position, she served as Director of Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (J2) at U.S. Southern Command in Florida.

Heather Branigin

From: nankfaust <nankfaust@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 09, 2015 2:33 PM
To: James Hovland
Cc: Dave Snaza
Subject: Great City employees

Dear Jim, I think it is important to tell you when city employees go the extra mile for the citizens. I have had a landscaping job on the agenda for a while but our lot had some city posts and signs that were difficult to work around. Dave Snazi and his supervisor, Dave O'Brian went over the city specs and I was allowed to purchase posts that were much more in line with my landscaping plans. They coordinated with the landscapers with concise instructions. I am so grateful...these men are great employees.

Sent from my iPad

Heather Branigin

From: nankfaust <nankfaust@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 09, 2015 2:35 PM
To: James Hovland
Cc: Dave Snaza
Subject: Faust

I forgot to sign my name to the letter about the great employees! Oh no. Nan Faust

Sent from my iPad

Heather Branigin

From: Reetz, Beth <beth.reetz@metc.state.mn.us>
Sent: Wednesday, September 09, 2015 3:17 PM
To: James Hovland
Subject: Maurice McGough, HUD, Region V, Director of FHEO

Dear Mayor Hovland-

At HUD's request, the Metropolitan Council was asked to provide names of individuals able to provide perspectives on the affordable and fair housing landscape in the 7-county metropolitan region. I am writing to let you know I provided your name given your role.

Mr. Maurice (Maury) McGough, Director of HUD's Region V Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity may contact you within the next few weeks to arrange a time to talk with you.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Best Regards,
Beth



METROPOLITAN
COUNCIL

Beth Reetz

Director | Community Development Division

beth.reetz@metc.state.mn.us

P. 651.602.1060 | F. 651.602.1442

390 North Robert Street | St. Paul, MN | 55101 | metro council.org

CONNECT WITH US



Heather Branigin

From: Steve Winnick <winsteve@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2015 11:33 AM
To: Robert Stewart; kstauton@EdinaMN.gov; Mary Brindle; swansonann1@gmail.com;
James Hovland
Subject: Affordable Housing

Mayor and Councilmembers: I am a member of the Human Rights and Relations Commission; but I'm writing you this message as an individual. As you know, the HRRC has issued its Advisory to the Council opposing "cash in lieu" of a developer of multi-family housing complying with a proposed minimum of 20% of units being affordable.

My family and I have lived here for over 40 years; first in the Cornelia neighborhood and now on Lanham Lane, near Lewis Park. We support Affordable Housing- and do so as neighbors of affordable and subsidized units on Cahill Road and West 70th Street. Oaks of Braemar and Oak Glen work alongside and near upscale townhomes and single family homes. We are richer for the diverse community and school populations.

To allow developers to buy their way out of a policy encouraging Affordable Housing when building new units is contrary to good policy. Either we believe in building a diverse community or not. Dollars in a pot to allow the City, in the undefined future to act as its own developer or hire another would only result in waste, duplicity and encouragement of building "housing projects" rather than diverse, multicultural, integrated homes for new residents who wish to take advantage of what Edina has to offer.

My view is that the discussion should be over the percentage of Affordable units; whether 20% or another number- not some overly complex formula to create a pot of money in lieu of immediate compliance. The community deserves certainty of direction in this debate. Thank you-

Steve Winnick
7117 Lanham Lane
winsteve@comcast.net