



## REPORT/RECOMMENDATION

<b>To:</b> MAYOR AND COUNCIL	<b>Agenda Item</b> <u>IX. A.</u>
<b>From:</b> DEBRA MANGEN CITY CLERK	<input type="checkbox"/> Action
<b>Date:</b> JULY 17, 2012	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information
<b>Subject:</b> CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST COUNCIL MEETING	

**INFORMATION/BACKGROUND:** Attached are copies of e-mails and letters received since the last Council meeting.

Dear Mayor James Hovland,

My name is Ivy Cada and I work for The Daily Energy Report. I'm contacting you because our publication is interested in having you write an editorial about Edina's energy challenges and accomplishments. Some potential questions that you could answer include:

- What is Edina's Energy and Sustainability strategy?
- How much energy does the city/community spend on energy costs each year?
- What political tools can you take advantage of that will help you make your city more sustainable/energy efficient?
- What can businesses do to help the city achieve success?

I'm happy to coordinate a brief phone call with Ben Lack, CEO/Chief Conversationalist if you have any questions about what we are looking for. Thank you for the consideration and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

--

Best Regards,

Ivy Cada

The Daily Energy Report

Follow us! [@dailyenergynews](#)

[ivy.cada@dailyenergyreport.com](mailto:ivy.cada@dailyenergyreport.com)

[www.dailyenergyreport.com](http://www.dailyenergyreport.com)

Susan Howl

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**From:** Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail  
**Sent:** Monday, July 09, 2012 8:38 AM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: email for Mayor and Council Members regarding Edina financials



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389  
[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

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

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Please make note of my new email address.

We're a *do.town* ... working to make the healthy choice the easy choice!

**From:** Keith Kostuch [<mailto:kkostuch@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Sunday, July 08, 2012 12:56 PM

**To:** Edina Mail; Edina Mail

**Subject:** Fwd: email for Mayor and Council Members regarding Edina financials

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Keith Kostuch <[kkostuch@gmail.com](mailto:kkostuch@gmail.com)>

**Date:** Sat, Jul 7, 2012 at 6:26 PM

**Subject:** email for Mayor and Council Members regarding Edina financials

**To:** [edina@edinamn.gov](mailto:edina@edinamn.gov)

Dear Mr. Mayor and City Council Members,

Thank you for the publication of the 2011 Edina Management report. It is a very helpful introduction to the City's financials and my quick read of the report provoked this email. I particularly want to congratulate all of you for your prudent financial management of General Fund spending during recent years when many residents and businesses have struggled due to the difficult economy. Your discipline in keeping spending flat is admirable.

That said, the state of several of the city enterprise operations are very concerning. While the operating profits or losses of various city enterprises are not explicitly provided in the report, I assume that subtracting operating costs from operating revenues is a close proxy with the following results:

Utilities - \$3,850,174 operating surplus

Liquor - \$1,445,378 operating surplus

Aquatic - \$209,834 operating surplus

Golf - (\$113,813) operating deficit

Arena - (\$457,299) operating deficit

Art - (\$163,829) operating deficit

Edinburgh - (\$419,495) operating deficit

Total for operations in deficit - (\$1,154,436) or ~\$24/resident

As a citizen, taxpayer and former businessman/consultant it seems to me that losses of this magnitude for non-essential services should be unacceptable. I definitely believe that the losses could be greatly reduced with

some basic management instead of being subsidized with transfers from the profitable enterprises. While these money losing enterprises do enhance the quality of life for a minority of Edina residents (and undoubtedly many non-residents who make use of our taxpayer subsidized enterprises), I expect that most citizens would be surprised by the magnitude of the losses. The fact that losses are growing at some of these enterprises should be a concern (or a scandal) to every taxpayer in Edina.

I heard there are "interest groups" that may have captured the boards of their respective enterprises and promote their own agendas at the expense of the ordinary residents. Ordinary residents who don't use those enterprises, don't follow Edina city government closely and who don't see that almost all the profits of the liquor stores and aquatic center are consumed by the losses at the golf, hockey, arts and Edinborough enterprises.

I recall from a Sun-Current article that Edina taxes were raised by about \$400,000 this year (that is from memory and may be wrong). Reducing the operating losses at the enterprises could have covered that increase and allowed Edina to boast to its current and prospective residents and businesses that it did not need to raise taxes.

Given you represent all citizens, I would ask you to push back on what economists would call "rent seekers" and force them to come up with plans that either dramatically reduce losses at "their" enterprises or find a way for them to take over the operations via some sort of non-profit organization. The city might even come out ahead if it gave the assets to such a group for \$1. This is particularly true if Edina must put new money into capital improvements. That is clearly "good money after bad." It is my experience that most golfers, hockey players and arts lovers spend a lot of money on their hobby and are probably able better able to handle a cost increase than below average income residents or fixed income seniors suffering from low interest rates on their investments.

If you didn't see the article on privatization in today's Wall Street Journal, it may be relevant to your deliberations on this topic.

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304141204577508482349727396.html?mod=WSJ\\_Opinion\\_LEFTTopOpinion](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304141204577508482349727396.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEFTTopOpinion)

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,

Keith Kostuch  
[kkostuch@gmail.com](mailto:kkostuch@gmail.com)

Keith Kostuch  
4511 Lakeview Drive

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Keith Kostuch  
[kkostuch@gmail.com](mailto:kkostuch@gmail.com)

**From:** Marc Grossman [mailto:[marc.grossman75@gmail.com](mailto:marc.grossman75@gmail.com)]

**Sent:** Sunday, July 08, 2012 7:57 PM

**To:** Edina Mail; [jonibennett12@comcast.net](mailto:jonibennett12@comcast.net); Mary Brindle; [joshsprague@edinarealty.com](mailto:joshsprague@edinarealty.com); [swensonann1@gmail.com](mailto:swensonann1@gmail.com); Wayne Houle; Scott Neal

**Subject:** Richmond Hills Project - Sewer Upgrade Overpayment

Hello,

I am a resident at 5008 Windsor Ave in the Richmond Hills Park Neighborhood that is undergoing the 2012 roadway improvement project.

On January 31, 2012, I received a letter from the city (attached) informing residents of the options for upgrading the sanitary sewer service pipe between the street and right-of-way. The amount estimated was \$3,400. After seeking 3 bids, I hired a private contractor along with neighbors to have the work completed for \$2,500 on March 20, 2012. On April 14, 2012, I learned through word of mouth and confirmed with SEH that the new amount for this work from the city contractor is \$1,400. As a result, I over paid for this work by \$1,100.

My understanding is that the city contractor for 2012 roadway projects significantly underbid this portion of work since they were not awarded this work in other neighborhoods in the past. In my opinion, it does not appear to be a fair bidding practice for the total project contractors to underbid a portion of work against private contractors, since they have the advantage of making up for this loss elsewhere in the project.

As a lifelong resident of Edina (36 years), I rely on the expertise of the city staff to look out for residents that will only participate in 1-2 of these projects in their lifetime. If there was a chance for variability of this magnitude, I would have expected some further guidance and caution in the letter from the city. Why should residents have this portion of work completed by private contractors if this bidding risk exists? I would have been better off doing nothing and having the city contractor complete the work.

I have heard from city staff that this may be a rare case and has not happened before with these roadway projects. As a result, I am asking that this issue be addressed at the appropriate time during project reviews and/or final assessment. I am seeking re-payment of \$1,100 for myself and residents affected by this issue.

I appreciate your concern and attention to reviewing this matter.

Sincerely,

Marc Grossman

5008 Windsor Ave

612-812-4950

Susan Howl

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**From:** Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail  
**Sent:** Monday, July 09, 2012 8:44 AM  
**To:** Jeff Long  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: My Concerns About Slavery

Good morning,

This message has been forwarded to Mayor Hovland and Jeff Long.



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389  
[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

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Please make note of my new email address.

We're a *do.town* ... working to make the healthy choice the easy choice!

**From:** Slavery Footprint [<mailto:no-reply@slaveryfootprint.org>]

**Sent:** Sunday, July 08, 2012 8:13 PM

**To:** Edina Mail

**Subject:** My Concerns About Slavery

Dear James Hovland,

I want to see an end to modern-day slavery, a crime that continues today and is present ever here in our city. I respectfully ask that you help make our city a leader in the fight to end slavery.

The first place to start is to ensure that our law enforcement are trained to identify victims of trafficking. Once victims of trafficking have been identified, we need a system in place that ensures the safety and rehabilitation of victims. Our law enforcement should be equipped to conduct proactive, victim-centered trafficking investigations and be prepared to help with the prosecution of trafficking crimes.

I respectfully ask that you allocate funding in your budget for training of law enforcement. At a minimum, I want our police department to have one officer trained as a point-person for cases of human trafficking and slavery.

Victims of human trafficking face a horrific life in which they are threatened, beaten, raped, starved, locked up, or psychologically manipulated - all for the financial profit of human traffickers.

I urge you to help us in this fight. To notify voters in our area about what your administration is doing to protect the victims of human trafficking in our city and to prosecute those who perpetrate this crime, please e-mail a copy of an open letter or statement on the issue to: [mycity@slaveryfootprint.org](mailto:mycity@slaveryfootprint.org).

Sincerely,

Lauren Bank  
[laurenbank@gmail.com](mailto:laurenbank@gmail.com)

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Officer Pesek -

I wanted to personally thank you for your assistance with my family and, particularly, my daughter (Ellie) who was struck by a vehicle at 50th and Arden last night while crossing the street. I was not at the scene along with wife to witness it, but my entire family said the quick response and professional yet personable approach you had with our kids helped alleviate an already stressful situation.

As I spent the evening with my daughter at Children's Hospital getting X-ray's she clutched your "trading" card to her chest and kept staring at it surely bringing her comfort. At the end of the night, she said while pointing to your card, "Daddy, she was the first one at the accident and the last one to leave". While I cannot imagine the emotional distress of being five and having your foot run over by a car while doing everything the way she was taught (look both ways, only walk in crosswalks, make sure the drivers of cars see you, etc), I can assure you that your approach with her and my entire family made a very bad situation much better.

Thank you, again, and please do not hesitate to let me know if there is anything I can ever do to help you.

My very kindest regards,

Brett Casebolt  
Chairman and CEO  
Puretein Bioscience LLC  
612.455.5533 Direct  
612.749.0497 Mobile  
[brett@PTBio.com](mailto:brett@PTBio.com)

**From:** Kate Cassell [[mailto:Kate\\_Cassell@Dell.com](mailto:Kate_Cassell@Dell.com)]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 29, 2012 9:49 AM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** RE: Edinborough Park vot on July 17

I am writing to urge the City Council to follow the recommendations of the Edina Park Board and keep the pool in Edinborough Park. In my Senior Aerobics class, there are people recovering from joint replacements and heart surgery. If Edina wants to remain a Blue Cross "do.town", we need to keep promoting exercise and rehabilitation.

The city spends many dollars establishing bike lanes that generate no revenue to the city. The city also has many lovely parks with playground equipment for young children. Are these amenities for children expected to be self-supporting? Please do not balance the budget on the backs of your senior citizens.

Again, I urge you on July 17<sup>th</sup> to vote to accept the Edina park Board's recommendation to keep the pool.

Thank you,  
Mary Cassell  
Edina, MN

**From:** Lynette Biunno [<mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov>] **On Behalf Of** Edina Mail  
**Sent:** Monday, April 16, 2012 8:52 AM  
**To:** Kate Cassell  
**Subject:** RE: Edinborough Park

Dear Mary,

Thank you for your interest in the City of Edina.

I have forwarded your message to the Mayor and Council members, City Manager Scott Neal, and Park & Recreation Director, John Keprios.

If I can be of additional assistance to you please contact me.



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389  
[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

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Please make note of my new email address.

We're a do.town ... working to make the healthy choice the easy choice!

**From:** Kate Cassell [[mailto:Kate\\_Cassell@Dell.com](mailto:Kate_Cassell@Dell.com)]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 16, 2012 7:47 AM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** Edinborough Park

But like lots of other public amenities out there – in America, not just in Edina – the cost of maintaining that amenity is borne by a much wider group of people than the people who enjoy the amenity.” — from Scott Neill's blog

Scott's statement is true of many services for which all residents of a community pay — whether they use the services or not. Edina seniors no longer have children in school, but these seniors still pay for schools through their property taxes. The children of Edina seniors are by now too old for the swings and slides used by younger children, but these seniors still pay for playground equipment through their property taxes.

To have a valuable and affordable senior resource taken away is not only ageist, it is unfair to those who cannot afford the Y or Lifetime fitness.

From his article, it reads like Scott has already decided on his view of the park's future. I hope that rest of the Edina decision makers are more open-minded.

Mary Cassell

Susan Howl

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**From:** Jennifer Bennerotte  
**Sent:** Monday, July 09, 2012 9:14 AM  
**To:** ED Everyone; Ann Swenson; Jim Hovland; Joni Bennett; Josh Sprague; Mary Brindle  
**Subject:** May 2012 Website Report

Good morning!

Activity on the City of Edina website reflected the following activity during the month of May 2012:

**Total visits:** 124,315  
**Number of visitors:** 53,442  
**Total number of hits:** 3,303,974  
**Average time of each visit:** 10 minutes, 52 seconds  
**Total page views:** 304,814  
**Average page views per day:** 9,832  
**Busiest day of the month:** May 7 with 144,342 hits

Besides the home page, the most visited page was the blog selection page where a user can opt to read the City Manager's, Edina Liquor, Park & Recreation, Police Chief's, Public Works and "Name Your Neighborhood" blogs, with 14,577 visits. Other top pages included the following (with number of visits):

Blog Comments – 3,746  
Contacts – 2,986  
Edina Aquatic Center – 2,834  
Job Listings – 2,814  
Parks & Recreation Department – 2,603  
Search – 2,463  
Centennial Lakes Park – 1,932  
Permits & Applications – 1,901  
Edina Aquatic Center General Information – 1,889

The most frequently accessed PDF among visitors was the Centennial Lakes Park summer entertainment calendar, which was downloaded 36,333 times. Other frequently downloaded files included the following (with number of downloads):

Bike Plan – 11,459  
Spring/Summer *Activities Directory* -- 6,114  
Edina Liquor Spring Sale catalog – 4,935  
West 70<sup>th</sup> Street Landscaping Concepts – 3,088  
Planned Unit Development Zoning Ordinance Information – 2,555  
Winter 1012 *About Town* -- 1,758  
Brochure for new and prospective employees – 1,613  
Commercial Building Permit Package – 1,396  
Comprehensive Plan Chapter 7 (Transportation) – 1,200

Ecommerce totaled more than \$71,471.13 in May. Top sales were Edina Aquatic Center season passes, \$26,443.37; Art Center program registrations, \$11,997; tennis program registration, \$3,578; Mini-Hawks program registration, \$1,271; Fab 4 & 5 program registration, \$1,175; and ventilation cleaning permit, \$805.

We have been streaming video on our website through Granicus for several years. In May, there were 519 views through Granicus. The most requested videos on Granicus in May were the May 1 City Council meeting, 93 views; May 15 City Council meeting, 84; April 17 City Council meeting, 33; May 9 Planning Commission meeting, 20; May 23 Planning Commission meeting, 20; April 3 City Council meeting, 17; April 25 Planning Commission meeting, 14; Nov. 15 City Council meeting, 14; Nov. 7 Park Board meeting, 12; and May 8 Park Board meeting, 12.

We have been streaming all programming on YouTube since January 2011. In May, there were 2,319 views on the City's YouTube channel. The most requested videos on YouTube in May 2012 Taste of Edina promo, 108 views; Centennial Lakes Park Winter Ice Festival story on "Agenda: Edina," 72; late May 2012 episode of "Agenda: Edina," 64; underage drinking public service announcement (PSA), 56; May 1 City Council meeting, 51; Braemar Golf Dome commercial featuring "Fred," 48; Welcome to Edina video, 45; Edina St. Stephens's Church construction, 44; and May 2012 episode of "Beyond the Badge," 42.

Please continue to review our new website and think about ways to improve it. If you have suggestions or questions, contact Communications & Technology Services Director Jennifer Bennerotte, 952-833-9520. If you have things that need to be fixed, please write to [helpdesk@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:helpdesk@EdinaMN.gov).

I will send out the June website report as soon as I'm able to gather stats from the new website for the last week of the month.

Thanks! Have a great day!



**Jennifer Bennerotte, Communications & Technology Services Director**

952-833-9520 | Fax 952-826-0389

[JBennerotte@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:JBennerotte@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

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Please make note of my new email address.

We're a *do.town* ... working to make the healthy choice the easy choice!

**For Immediate Release: Revised and updated 6/28/2012**

Contact:

Lynda Smith: 612.920.1900 Cell: 612.644.8960

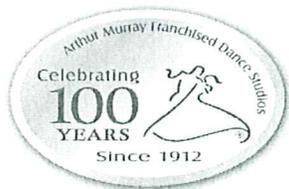
[worth4007@msn.com](mailto:worth4007@msn.com)

Arthur Murray Dance Studios Celebrate 100 Years of Teaching the World to Dance!

Twin Cities Arthur Murray Studios are holding a celebration at the Mall of America on Thursday, July 26, from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. Included will be performances of various eras of dancing, lessons on a variety of dances, and open dancing. The event is open to the public and no dance experience is needed to participate and have fun.

As America's second oldest franchise organization, Arthur Murray Studios are known as the leader in the dance industry with locations across the globe. The first Arthur Murray Franchised School of Dance was opened in Minneapolis in 1938. It has been in continuous operation ever since. There are now over 250 franchised schools in 17 countries, and we are proud to have been the first. With the rise of ballroom dancing in pop culture, Arthur Murray Dance Studios will remain the premier establishment for those seeking to join the fun!

All are welcome and invited to attend this celebration.



###

# Arthur Murray

franchised dance centers



**Lynda L. Smith**  
Minneapolis Franchisee  
Area IV Chairperson

28 June 2012

Honorable James Hovland  
Mayor, Edina, Minnesota

Dear Mayor Hovland,

In 1912, a young immigrant New Yorker named Moses Teichmann taught his first dance lesson in New York City. He later changed his name to Arthur Murray, and now – 100 years later – the company that still carries his name is celebrating his endeavors of teaching the world to dance!

The Twin Cities were a major player in the success of Arthur Murray's enterprise. Arthur Murray was a pioneer in developing the franchise system, and the first Arthur Murray Franchised School of Dance was opened in Minneapolis in 1938, making it the second oldest franchise in the United States. The Minneapolis/Edina location is still open today, and has been one of the most successful schools in the company as well as a success in the 50<sup>th</sup> & France Business District for many years running. There are now over 250 franchised schools in 17 countries, and we are proud to have been the first.

We would like you to consider July 26, 2012, as a proclamation of Arthur Murray Day for Edina. We will be holding a celebration on that day at the Mall of America Rotunda in honor of Mr. Murray's growing legacy. We would be greatly honored if you would join us for this celebration and for the proclamation of Arthur Murray Day.

Thank you for considering this proposal.

Lynda Smith  
Franchisee  
Minneapolis/Edina Arthur Murray Dance Studio

50th & France Edina | 5041 France Ave South Minneapolis, MN 55410

612.920.1900 email: [learn@arthurmurraympls.com](mailto:learn@arthurmurraympls.com) [www.arthurmurraympls.com](http://www.arthurmurraympls.com)

# SOUTH WEST TRANSIT

13500 Technology Drive, Eden Prairie, MN 55344  
952-949-2BUS • www.swtransit.org



June 28, 2012

William Hargis, Chair  
Transportation Advisory Board  
390 Robert Street North  
St. Paul, MN 55101

Dear Chair Hargis,

The purpose of this letter is to request that the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) reconsider its recent action related to the CMAQ grant awards, and revisit the recommendation from its advisory committees (TAB Funding and Programming, Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC), and the CMAQ Scoring Committee) that recommended CMAQ funding for project CMT-11-07 SouthWest Transit's (SWT) TH 169 & Pioneer Trail Park and Ride.

It is SWT's understanding that at the June 20<sup>th</sup> TAB meeting, SWT's CMAQ application was removed from consideration after concerns were voiced that SWT's project would overlap the CMAQ project request put forth by the City of Shakopee, that the point differential between SWT's and the next highest ranked project was too great, and because of uncertainty surrounding the funding of operations from the proposed P & R facility. Each will be described further below.

**Overlapping Service** - The analysis put forth in SWT's application showed a relatively small number of users coming from Shakopee's closest Transportation Analysis Zone (TAZ) to SWT's proposed facility. The analysis showed 78 out of a total of 309 users coming from Shakopee by 2020, and 110 out of a total of 391 users coming from Shakopee by 2030. Given that SWT's project proposal was only for a 300-stall facility, even without any projected users from Shakopee, the facility would be at 94% capacity by 2030; demonstrating a clear future demand for the facility just from Eden Prairie and Bloomington alone.

Today, SWT has a higher number of Shakopee residents utilizing our current facilities in Eden Prairie than what was put forth in the application. It should also be noted that this analysis was completed using the Metropolitan Council's Demand Estimation Methodology and was reviewed by both Metro Transit and City of Shakopee staff prior to being submitted.

**Point Differential** – The justification to remove SWT's proposed project from consideration based on its evaluation score relative to the next highest project score creates a number of issues that need to be further reviewed. The fact that the advisory committees recommended the project for approval in two different recommendations demonstrates that the project has merit. While there is a seemingly large

point differential between SWT's proposed project and the next highest ranked project, the point differential is really no greater than between Project #1 and Project #2 in the transit category.

Today SWT has a small/50 stall park-and-ride lot in the area being proposed (TH169 and Anderson Lakes Road). Because of the lot size limitations and our agreement with the property owner (Preserve Shopping Center), we are not able to expand our operations to provide adequate service to this area to meet current as well as projected demand.

This project also shows promise because it fits a more refined niche geared toward serving the densely populated area of southeastern Eden Prairie (an area that has diversified mixes of housing types and income levels).

The bottom line is that this project would provide transit options for a corridor that is underserved in the southwestern area of our metropolitan region.

**Funding of Operations** - SWT's CMAQ application was only for a capital project and funds to run operations from this facility was not overlooked but omitted from the application by design. SWT Transit has a long history of building successful park and ride facilities. Our past practices have always been that if a facility cannot be supported from day one within a current or projected operating budget, then we do not feel it would be within the region's best interest to apply CMAQ funds toward the construction of any facility. Because SWT chooses to approach CMAQ funding projects in this manner, we do not believe we should be penalized for an approach we see as being fiscally prudent.

Given the reasoning and information put forth in this letter, I respectfully request that the TAB reconsider its position as soon as possible. SWT staff would be happy to address the TAB with any questions or concerns it may have.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Nancy Tyra-Lukens

Chair, SouthWest Transit Commission

Mayor, City of Eden Prairie

cc: Susan Haigh, Chair, Metropolitan Council  
Gary Van Eyll, Metropolitan Council  
Jennifer Munt, Metropolitan Council  
Steve Elkins, Metropolitan Council  
Randy Maluchnik, TAB Member – Carver County

Jan Callison, TAB Member – Hennepin County  
Jon Ulrich, TAB Member – Scott County  
James Hovland, TAB Member – Edina  
Thomas Heffelfinger, TAB Member – District B  
Bethany Tjornhom, TAB Member – Chanhassen  
Aaron Isaacs, TAB Member – Transit  
David Van Hattum, TAB Member - Transit  
Len Simich, SWT CEO

Mayor Jim Hovland.

I would like to call your attention to a law enforcement problem.

Earlier this month, an unfamiliar vehicle was parked across the street opposite my driveway for several days. Parking opposite a driveway makes ingress and egress more difficult, and which I consider rude anyway. After five days, I called the police dept. to see if this car belonged to anyone legitimate. The owner of the corner house where the car was parked (5229 Maddox Ln) is a recluse and uses the side street for his vehicles where the garage is located. No one ever uses the front door, and there has been a trash can in front of it for a year.

Shortly after my call, Tim Hunter chalked the car's tires. Later, he came back and put a ticket on the windshield. He did nothing to find out who belonged to the car, or even give a warning. It turns out the car was from out of town and here for a family funeral. Later, the reclusive owner came to my house ready to kill me. I was gone, so he "talked" to my wife instead.

The next day, I talked to an officer at the police department. He said there is a law in Edina that no one can park on the street for more than six hours – a law no one knows about. (Everyone is aware of winter parking.) The officer said he could not cancel the ticket or convert it to a warning once it's issued.

I think it would be good to let the Edina public know about the 6-hour parking restriction in the next Edina *About Town* quarterly, along with other "neighborly" laws. I recommend the police do some investigating of a situation like this, and perhaps issue a warning ticket, rather than immediately going to the full blown ticket. I can see stopping speeders that pass through town. But the police can be more service oriented and helpful to the residents in cases like this.

A lot of communities mark their police cars with "Protect and Serve". Edina does not do this. I'm hoping you can help ameliorate this type of situation.

Grateful for your service,

Jim Bentley  
5228 Maddox Ln, 55436  
952-920-3980

P.S. I appreciate all the time you spend supporting the various organizations around town and the many hours you spend making Edina an exceptional place to live.



U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE

June 19, 2012

Suite 750 U.S. Courthouse  
300 South Fourth Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Chief Jeff Long  
Edina Police Department  
4801 West 50<sup>th</sup> Street  
Edina, MN 55424

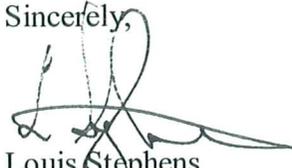
  
Dear Chief Long:

I am writing to thank you for the outstanding support the Edina Police Department provided to the U.S. Secret Service during President Obama's visit to Golden Valley on June 1, 2012.

As you know, security planning and operations for visits of this type are a monumental effort and require the collaboration, resources and cooperation of a multitude of law enforcement and public safety officials and institutions. Officers from your department worked seamlessly with the Secret Service, the State Patrol and the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office to provide route security for the presidential motorcade through Edina and other parts of Hennepin County. The collaborative and extremely professional efforts of your department are commendable and an excellent example of why the law enforcement community in Minnesota enjoys such an excellent reputation with the Secret Service throughout the United States.

It was a pleasure working with the Edina Police Department. We are grateful for your partnership not only through this protective visit, but through my agency's daily interaction with your department on the Minnesota Financial Crimes Task Force. The dedication, professionalism, flexibility, and adaptability demonstrated by members of your department are noteworthy and are a contributing factor for the success of this presidential visit and the Financial Crimes Task Force. I sincerely look forward to working with you in the future. Please do not hesitate to contact me if the Secret Service can ever be of assistance to you or the Edina Police Department.

Sincerely,



Louis Stephens  
Special Agent in Charge

Susan Howl

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**From:** Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 20, 2012 1:16 PM  
**To:** Susan Faus  
**Cc:** Susan Howl; Ann Kattreh; John Keprios  
**Subject:** FW: Edinborough

Good afternoon,

This message has been forwarded to the Mayor and Council members, Susan Faus, Ann Kattreh and John Keprios.

Lynette Biunno, Receptionist  
952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389  
[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business -----Original Message-----

**From:** Erik Hinkie [<mailto:hinkner@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 20, 2012 1:04 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** Edinborough

Good afternoon,

I'm writing in support of renovating the Edinborough Park pool and having it become the official home of the Edina Swim Club. As a father of three young children that have grown up playing at Edinborough, and with one child in the Edina Swim Club, I can personally attest to the incredible resource Edinborough is in it's entirety- the quiet spaces, Adventure peak, gym, birthday party venue, amphitheater, and pool.

Keep the pool!

On a final note, I read in a Star Tribune article a proposal to save money by removing plants and trees. I recognize the cost savings involved with the reduction in staff to maintain these plants. However, please don't overlook the value that green space provides in the depth of Winter. There are very few places in the greater Twin Cities Area that provide that type of green space. Rather than removing the plants, please consider further raising fees in areas like pool rental and birthday parties.

Thank you,

Erik Hinkie  
5547 Malibu Drive  
Edina, MN 55436

Subject: Re: Edinborough

Lynette,

I forgot something in my message... could you append the following suggestion?

"Another option to consider regarding the tree and plant maintenance is to pull together a volunteer corp to tend to the plants. I wouldn't be surprised if you had a lot of folks in that building alone that would be willing to take on some caretaking responsibilities. It would get folks otherwise inactive, active, provide a sense of community, pride, and purpose, and get the job done at the same time."

Erik

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

From: Erik Hinkie [<mailto:hinkner@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, June 20, 2012 1:04 PM

To: Edina Mail

Subject: Edinborough

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Thank you,

Erik Hinkie  
5547 Malibu Drive  
Edina, MN 55436

Susan Howl

---

**Subject:** FW: Thank You To All!

**From:** Michael Frey

**Sent:** Thursday, June 21, 2012 11:30 AM

**To:** llrdesigns@msn.com; barbara.lavalleur@gmail.com; patriciabeav@gmail.com; B E AMACHER Owner; Amy Kerber; Bill McCabe (wjmccabe4@gmail.com); marklidke@gmail.com; Anne Spooner; annarosepugh@gmail.com; 'Kristen Arden'; 'Tom Brewitz'; 'Heidi Hoy'; 'Roger Junk'; 'maxgraces@aol.com'; 'Peter Vanni'; genevievechamb@gmail.com; 'james bearden'; 'joel carter'

**Cc:** James Hovland; jonibennett12@comcast.net

**Subject:** Thank You To All!

I wanted to send this note of thanks and congratulations to both the Edina Public Art Committee and to the artists for your dedication, commitment and passion for the creation and public display of artwork. It was a wonderful event last evening to celebrate those that enrich our lives with art.

I want to thank everyone on the Public Art Committee for their hard work throughout the year that culminated with the reception last night. All of you did a tremendous job!

Also, I want to thank the artists for their presence and stories last evening. We missed those of you that could not attend.

Thank You!



Michael Frey, Interim Art Center Director  
952-903-5729 | Fax 952-903-5781  
mfrey@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaArtCenter.com

---

Please make note of my new email address.

We're a *do.town* ... working to make the healthy choice the easy choice!

**From:** Suzanne Sullivan [<mailto:suzannemsullivan@q.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 25, 2012 3:38 PM  
**To:** 'Edina@EdinaMN.gov'  
**Subject:** Accessibility in Edina Parks

Greetings,

I am an Edina resident. I reside at 4409 Country Club Road. I am writing you today about my wish to provide Edina with a universal playground.

I have three young boys ages 8, 6 and 4. My six year old son has profound disabilities and requires a wheelchair for his mobility.

Our house is directly behind Wooddale Park. We are frequent visitors of this park and enjoy its proximity to our house. Each time we visit the park, I have the experience of sitting with my middle son while we watch his brothers play. He occasionally goes in the ADA compliant swing, but only if he's alert that day and has enough strength to sit up and enjoy it. He benefits greatly from the vestibular movement, but not so much from the slouching and slipping down in the swing. The park department has provided me with strap that attaches to the swing to secure him in it, but I need to bring it with me whenever we choose to visit the park.

As for other activities, there are none. As I mentioned earlier, we sit and watch.

On days when we have extra time and plan ahead, I'm able to drive to Eden Prairie and visit Miller Park. If you are not familiar with Miller Park it was recently renovated in a private/public partnership as an accessible playground. The parents of a nine year old girl with Cerebral Palsy, Mike and Jenny Garvin worked in partnership with the City of Eden Prairie to create this beautiful park. Besides the swing, which offers better support and a non-removable five point harness, the park offers a fully accessible splash pad, an accessible sand and water table, a large playground apparatus that my son can wheel up on and actually be up with all the other children. He can look down from the equipment instead of always looking up AND most importantly a pour in place rubber surface. No woodchips, no tiny pebbles which get caught in his chair and cause him to get stuck.

As a member of the Edina ECSE Site Council, I recently worked with the Edina Community Center, where my two youngest have gone to preschool, to add some more accessible playground equipment in their courtyard.

Because of this work I've been inspired to create a universal playground for the city of Edina. I've been in contact with John Keprios in the Parks Department and he has been researching the timing and cost for such a project, specifically at the Wooddale Park location.

I am part of the Country Club Neighborhood Association and have had enthusiastic response from many people in the neighborhood.

My hope is to gather funding from private donations via events and/or fundraisers and perhaps state and federal grants to make this idea into reality. I am eager to provide the leg work necessary to make this universal playground a reality in Edina.

As I am sure you know, this type of project can only bring positive attention to the community and benefits all children, typically developing and a kids with disabilities. Learning to play together and recognizing that differences shouldn't exclude any child is a message that will stay with children as they grow into adulthood.

I would welcome the opportunity to speak to you regarding the proper steps in which to approach a project such as this. As I said I am willing to gather private funding if necessary and work with the city and vendors to see this project come to life. Please let me know what I can do from my end to get the ball rolling.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

**Sue Sullivan**

**612-558-1718 or 952-929-9055**

<http://sullivanedinaboys.blogspot.com/>



## BURNSVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

100 Civic Center Parkway | Burnsville, MN 55337  
(952) 895-4570 | [www.burnsville.org](http://www.burnsville.org)

Date: 6-19-2012

To: Chief Scheerer, FF/P Pete Fischer, FF/P Brandon Winkel

Hi Marty,

I had to give you a heads up on 2 of your FF/Medics. I want you to thank them sincerely from my family on the compassion and empathy that they showed to my mom on 4-19 Bonnie Latourell. They responded to my folk's house at 6905 Creston Rd. My mom fell that night after coming home from the Masonic home only 2 days prior for a total knee. She was there for rehab 4 weeks and was really excited to be home with my dad. Unfortunately she fell on both knees and FX her distal femur in 10 places. She was in extreme pain and I heard from dad how gently they handled her. I really appreciate what they did!

Mom has now been back at the Masonic home for rehab and has been there for 8 weeks now. It's been pretty brutal but she just took her 1<sup>st</sup> steps yesterday 20 to be exact and we are hoping her progress keeps heading in the right direction. Please thank Pete and Brandon for the wonderful job they did!

Regards,

Lee LaTourelle

Fire Marshal

Brandon + Pete  
Nice work!  
Thanks!  
Marty

6-7-12

Fire Dept. + Fire Men  
who responded to the "fire"  
on W. 62<sup>nd</sup> St on Wed, June 6.

I thank you for your  
quick response, and  
good humor - in not  
scolding my husband  
for burnt toast.

( I bought a new toaster )!

- Sardon
- Schmitzer
- Vadnais
- Gorshe
- Hanrahan
- Winkel

Sincerely,  
Lou Holdridge

Great work!  
Marty

Ms. Lou Holdridge  
4132 W 62nd St  
Edina, MN 55424-1902

Susan Howl

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**From:** Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 20, 2012 8:59 AM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: "Gangs In The Hood"  
**Attachments:** W. 70th & West Shore Dr..jpg



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389

[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

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

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Please make note of my new email address.

We're a *do* town ... working to make the healthy choice the easy choice!

**From:** Joe Florenzano [<mailto:vikingstwinsman@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 19, 2012 6:44 PM

**To:** Edina Mail

**Subject:** "Gangs In The Hood"

Dear Mayor Hovland and Edina City Council Members,

The subject line was intended to get your attention because this is a serious matter. Our sidewalks on W. 70th Street are being marked up with graffiti (see the attached photo). A utility company (Excel?) with red spray cans is having fun at our expense.

I went for a walk today on 70th St. and this is what I saw on most of our sidewalks. The corner of 70th & West Shore Dr. is the newest sidewalk to be "tagged", because there is a new house being built at this location. This is very upsetting to me, because these "tags" by a utility company, don't have to be so destructive to property. In my opinion, it looks like the utility company is hiring former gang members who really enjoy their job. All joking aside, I feel the City of Edina needs to clean-up these permanent markings on our W. 70th Street sidewalks. Many of these concrete sidewalks were newly poured several months ago. This is really a crime because this paint does not fade and is not washable. A better solution may be to have the utility company, responsible for these tags, clean-up our sidewalks.

Thank you,

Joe Florenzano  
4712 West 70th St.



# ECHO Minnesota

*Emergency, Community, Health, and Outreach*



June 19, 2012

Deb Mangan  
4801 West 50th Street  
Edina, MN 55424



Dear Deb,

On behalf of Emergency, Community Health, and Outreach (ECHO) and the communities we serve, thank you for providing video broll for ECHO's most recent program, "Voting and the Democratic Process."

Your partnership and assistance helps us reach out to thousands of people each month, providing very important information to Limited English Proficiency (LEP) populations across the Twin Cities Metro Area and the state of Minnesota in the languages they know best. Without the visual resources provided by your organizations and others, we would not have been able to illustrate the content of this program as successfully as we were able to with your support. We were fortunate to receive a wealth of broll footage and in the end, only used a portion of what we received. All resources used in the final program were highlighted in the credits, however, we wanted to acknowledge everyone who supported us as we sincerely appreciated your time and effort.

The "Voting and the Democratic Process" episodes are broadcasting on *tptMN* on select dates in July and October – please see the enclosed flier for more details. The videos are also available any time to stream at [echominnesota.org/library/voting-and-democratic-process](http://echominnesota.org/library/voting-and-democratic-process). I hope that you will watch this show and that you will tune in to ECHO TV each month. After the broadcast, this program will remain an active part of ECHO resources for viewing or downloading on our website ([www.echominnesota.org](http://www.echominnesota.org)).

Up-to-date information on ECHO TV schedules, as well as critical health and safety information on over 70 topics is available at our website: [www.echominnesota.org](http://www.echominnesota.org). Please take a moment to visit us there and subscribe to receive updates on ECHO activities. You can also find information about a variety of topics in ten different languages by calling our toll free phone line (888-883-8831) or receiving information from our partners who help circulate ECHO materials locally in their clinics, libraries and other sites across Minnesota. We appreciate your continued support by providing these important resources to those in your community by spreading the word about ECHO.

Again, thank you for supporting ECHO TV – and for working with us to ensure that *everyone* has access to the information they need to *be healthy, be safe and be ready*.

With Gratitude,

Lillian McDonald, Executive Director  
651.789.4342 • [McDonald@echominnesota.org](mailto:McDonald@echominnesota.org)



**ECHO** ♦ **c/o Association of Minnesota Counties** ♦ **125 Charles Avenue** ♦ **Saint Paul, MN 55103**  
**(p) 651.224.3344** ♦ **[info@echominnesota.org](mailto:info@echominnesota.org)** ♦ **[www.echominnesota.org](http://www.echominnesota.org)**



BE HEALTHY. BE SAFE. BE READY.

**This Program  
Sponsored by:**



**In Collaboration with:**

CAPI – USA

Citizens for Election Integrity – MN

League of Women Voters

MN Council of Nonprofits

MN Schools Employee Association

MN Secretary of State’s Office

For more information about topic and resources, visit

[echominnesota.org/library/voting-and-democratic-process](http://echominnesota.org/library/voting-and-democratic-process)

To request a DVD of this program in email ECHO at

[info@echominneosta.org](mailto:info@echominneosta.org)

For more information about ECHO activities contact:

Lillian McDonald, Executive Director  
651-789-4342

[info@echominnesota.org](mailto:info@echominnesota.org)  
[www.echominnesota.org](http://www.echominnesota.org)



# Voting and the Democratic Process

One thing that makes the United States stand out is its system of government. We live in a democracy, which means the country’s people make the decisions.

This 30-minute program discusses the basics of voting and the democratic process, including voting eligibility, how to register to vote, voting on Election Day, and getting involved in ways other than voting.

“Voting and the Democratic Process” will broadcast in four languages on *tpt*’s Minnesota Channel (*tptMN*) – Comcast Channel 202 or 243, depending upon location:

**Sunday, July 1:**

English – 7:00 p.m.

Spanish - 7:30 p.m.

**Sunday, July 8:**

Hmong - 7:00 p.m.

Somali - 7:30 p.m.

**Sunday, October 7:**

English – 7:00 p.m.

Spanish - 7:30 p.m.

**Sunday, October 14:**

Hmong - 7:00 p.m.

Somali - 7:30 p.m.

Every person voting and getting involved in the democratic process can make a difference! This program is also available with English captions for the deaf and hard of hearing at [www.echominnesota.org](http://www.echominnesota.org).

