

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

DATE: FRIDAY, MAY 4, 2012
TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: SCOTT H. NEAL, CITY MANAGER
RE: FRIDAY REPORT FOR MAY 4, 2012

FRIDAY REPORT



- 1. MLT Vacations** – I spoke with a representative of the communications department at MLT vacations this week to learn more about the company’s possible relocation from Edina to Atlanta. MLT is a wholly owned subsidiary of Delta. At this point, Delta says it is only studying the feasibility and possible benefits of moving the MLT operations to Atlanta. The relocation would impact somewhere between 180 and 200 jobs. I contacted the Minnesota Department of Trade and Economic Development (DTED) for assistance with contacting Delta and setting up a meeting for us to engage in a discussion about the proposal. DTED has also reached out to Greater MSP to help us retain the jobs here. We have not been successful yet in getting a meeting with Delta, but best efforts are being made. I will keep Council Members updated as news breaks on this matter.
- 2. MLC Board Meeting is Canceled** – The MLC Board meeting scheduled for May 7 in the Hughes Pavilion at Centennial Lakes Park has been cancelled. I will share the rescheduling information with Council Members as it is finalized.
- 3. Southdale Redevelopment Agreement** – I met with representatives from Simon Property Group at the mall this week to discuss a number of possible uses for the third floor of the mall. The discussion centered on community arts uses and community meeting rooms. We will continue this discussion and consider new ideas as they arise. They plan to bring in their plans and permit submissions today, which will include a partial building permit estimated to be in excess of \$200,000. They are also continuing discussions with a joint venture partner on a possible residential project on the southeast corner of their property.
- 4. Hornets’ Nest Proposal** – Attorneys from the City and the Drive for the Hive have had an initial discussion about the format of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). I will meet with the City Attorney and Parks & Recreation Department staff next week to start identifying the various issues that will be important to have included in the MOU.
- 5. Edinborough Park Recommendation** – City staff had originally planned to advance a recommendation to the Park Board regarding the future of Edinborough Park on at the May 8 Park Board meeting. Earlier this week, staff decided to postpone that presentation in order to develop a more detailed financial pro forma for the recommendation and the alternatives. We now plan to advance this recommendation to the Park Board on June 12 and to the Council on June 26.
- 6. Metro Transit Service To Edina** – Metro Transit is considering some service reductions to a route that serves Edina. Route 46, operating between Edina and the Highland Park neighborhood of Saint Paul, is proposed to have some service reductions to weekday peak frequency, and to trips in the early mornings and late evenings on weekdays, Saturdays and Sundays. These changes have been proposed to take effect Sept. 8. This information is being distributed on the Route 46 buses between April 28 and May 6. They are seeking comments from customers and interested parties about the proposal on or before Friday, May 11. They will consider the input before finalizing our service change plans.

7. **City Facility WiFi Project** –City staff plan to advance this project to Council for funding approval at the May 15 Council meeting.
8. **Taste of Edina** – The Chamber of Commerce’s annual Taste of Edina event will be Thursday, May 17 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Centennial Lakes Park.
9. **Chamber President Search Process** – Chamber President Arrie Larson Manti will leave her position this summer. The Chamber Board of Directors has been involved in a search process to select a new president. School Superintendent Ric Dressen and I will interview finalist candidates for the position on May 10. The Board hopes to announce a selection decision before the end of May.
10. **Citizens League Membership** – The Citizens League has approached me about a municipal membership for the City. An annual membership would cost the city approximately \$3,500. Given our recent experience with the Citizens League, and given that we plan to have them back again, I think the Council should consider this proposal. Other governmental members of Citizens League include Moorhead, St. Louis Park, South St. Paul and Woodbury. There are some programming benefits and price discounts that would make this membership a good value for us. I would like to ask the Council to consider this proposal at the May 15 Council meeting.