

# Council Connection



#### Upcoming meetings:

- Community Health Committee, 6:30 p.m. Sept. 11
- Heritage Preservation Board, 7 p.m. Sept. 11
- Park Board, 7 p.m. Sept. 11
- Planning Commission, 7 p.m. Sept. 12
- Energy & Environment Commission, 7 p.m. Sept. 13

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**We'd like to hear from you ...**  
If you have any comments, call Communications & Technology Services Director Jennifer Bennerotte at 952-833-9520. The text of this publication will be available online at [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov).



## A summary of the Sept. 4 Edina City Council meeting

### **Council unanimously approves conditional use permit**

The Council approved a conditional use permit to raze a home at 4710 Golf Terrace to construct a new home.

A conditional use permit is required to allow the first floor elevation of the new home to be 3.2 feet higher than that of the existing home. This is 2.2 feet above what is allowable by City Code and needed to protect the new home from groundwater intrusion.

The Planning Commission recommended denial at its Aug. 22 meeting because it felt there was not adequate information justifying need for the conditional use permit. The Commission felt it needed more information to prove a water table issue existed and to show that the new home would fit the character of the neighborhood.

There is a mixture of housing styles and periods of construction throughout the neighborhood, including ramblers and two-story homes nearby. The proposed home is two stories with an attached three-car garage. It was designed with thought to mass and scale to minimize any impact the new home may have on adjacent homes.

The Council's only concern regarded the possibility of water runoff negatively impacting adjacent properties. Using a land survey, the builder assured the Council water is directed to run off into the street and pond behind the home.

Final grading and drainage plans are subject to review and approval by the City Engineer prior to issuance of a building permit.

Following the staff recommendation to approve the conditional use permit, the Council unanimously voted in favor of the project.

### **Tax levy and operation budget carried**

The Council voted to approve a resolution setting the preliminary property tax levy at \$26,912,484 for 2013.

This is a 2.5 percent increase from the 2012 property tax levy. The approved 2013 preliminary property tax levy is the City's maximum property tax levy for 2013.

The Council can decrease, but not increase the 2013 property tax levy. However, expenditures and revenues could change before the final budget adoption. A public hearing on the budget is set for Dec. 4.

### **New bike lanes and routes get Council's nod of approval**

The Council approved the first reading of an ordinance amending City Code, designating bike lanes on several roads. A second reading of the ordinance was waived.

In January, the Council accepted the Edina Transportation Commission's recommendation that 70th Street, Cahill Road, Antrim Road and Valley View Road be established as bike routes and striped with bike lanes yet this year.

The ordinance included previously striped bike lanes along Interlachen Boulevard from Blake Road to Vernon Avenue, West 58th Street from France Avenue to Xerxes Avenue and West 54th Street from Wooddale Avenue to Minnehaha Boulevard.

### **Council gives new medical building positive comments**

A proposed medical building at 6500 France Ave. received positive feedback from the Council.

Earlier this summer, the Council denied a request from Mount Development for a two-phase, four- to six-story medical office building on the site across from Fairview Southdale Hospital.

The developer presented the Council with a revised plan. Though the site plan is generally similar to the previous proposal, a green roof would replace roof-top mechanical equipment, the parking ramp would be attached and the building entrance at 65th Street and France Avenue would be pedestrian friendly, rounded and grand in scale.

Council members generally liked the plans and believed they were an improvement over the previous proposal.

Mount Development is expected to file plans for formal approval of the project later this year.