

Council Connection



Upcoming meetings:

- Heritage Preservation Board, 7 p.m. April 10
- Park Board, 7 p.m. April 10
- Planning Commission, 7 p.m. April 11
- Energy & Environment Commission, 7 p.m. April 12
- City Council, 7 p.m. April 17

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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.



A summary of the April 3 Edina City Council meeting

WSB to coordinate France Avenue pedestrian project

The Council hired WSB & Associates, Inc. to complete engineering services for pedestrian crossing improvements on France Avenue.

The City has been granted \$1 million in Federal Transportation Enhancement funding for the project. In order to receive the funding, the project documents must be complete by March 31, 2013. Construction is expected to take place next summer. Since the City needs to be aggressive to keep the project on schedule and the Engineering Department is currently short staffed, the City Engineer recommended the City contract the engineering services for the project.

WSB will oversee the project's development, design, bidding and construction services at a cost of \$265,070.

Council continues study of sports dome

The Council voted to hire a consultant to study possible locations for a "sports dome."

Last year, a group of Edina residents who wish to develop an indoor sports facility for recreational and competitive athletic activities came forward. A working group of the Park Board was established to determine if there

is community need and desire for such a facility.

The working group determined that there is significant community interest in the construction of a sports dome. Members also determined that due to limited field space in Edina, it is in the community's best interest to build a sports dome in a location that results in a net gain of an additional athletic field that can be used throughout the year. The desired solution is a new rectangular-shaped artificial turf field with an inflatable dome over it during the winter months.

At a work session last month, the Council agreed to continue studying the matter and recommended that the Braemar Park area be examined first, in case an opportunity arises to build a sports dome alongside a new golf dome. The new golf dome would replace the structure deflated by fire earlier this year.

Cost of the continued study will be \$12,000. The consultants, Park and Recreation Consultants, believe they can complete that part of the study within six weeks. Their findings might be available for the Council to review as early as May 15.

Council reviews sketch plan for new Byerly's

The Council reviewed sketch plans for another redevelopment on France Avenue.

Lund Food Holdings is proposing to tear down the existing Byerly's store at 7171 France Ave. and build a new 52,000-square-foot supermarket with a 96-unit, 7-story apartment building on top. The development would also include a second 19,000-square-foot retail building with a 67-unit apartment structure on top. Parking for the building would be below the retail space. Primary access to the site would be off Hazelton Road, with a secondary access off France through the Macy's site to the south.

Lunds officials presented their sketch plans to the City Council. Council Members were generally supportive of the mixed-use redevelopment concept, but had some concerns about the site plan layout and the location of the proposed loading docks, which would be seen from the Promenade. The Council emphasized the importance of creating greater pedestrian connections to France Avenue and the Promenade to support the Living Streets concept in the Southdale area.

If Lund Food Holdings officials decide to pursue the redevelopment, they will seek a rezoning of the property to Planned Unit Development from the Planning Commission and City Council.