

Edition: Edina

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The City of Edina



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Legend:

- Infrastructure
- Commercial and Mixed-Use Redevelopment
- Workforce
- Communication and Engagement
- Community Vision
- Aviation Noise

Speak Up, Edina!

The City's next monthly discussion is now available at www.SpeakUpEdina.org. The discussion, which focuses on the use of plastic bags in Edina, is available until Jan. 2, 2015.

Plastic bags have become a staple in modern retail, being used in many commercial businesses. It is estimated that more than 1 trillion plastic bags are used every year around the world, most of which are thrown away. Los Angeles; Seattle; Austin, Texas; and other cities have banned plastic bags. In the discussion, the City asks whether or not plastic bags should be banned in Edina; whether or not a fee or tax on single-use bags should be imposed as an alternative to banning them; and how the City can better educate shoppers and encourage the use of reusable bags.

This month, the City has been gathering feedback on residential fire sprinklers. Questions posed range from whether residential fire sprinklers should be required in all homes, regardless of size; if the potential benefit outweighs upfront costs; and if sprinkler systems could decrease the number of major fires. The discussion is open until Monday, Dec. 1. Feedback from the discussion will be presented to the City Council Dec. 16.

To make your voice heard, visit www.SpeakUpEdina.org

Police 'Focus In' on the 'Move Over' Law

As the 2014 "Focus In" campaign comes to an end, Edina patrol officers are focusing efforts on the "Move Over" law in December.

Each year, hundreds of accidents and injuries occur while police officers conduct roadside traffic stops. Following the tragic death of State Trooper Ted Foss, the Minnesota Legislature enacted the "Move Over" law, requiring drivers to move to the furthest lane away from an emergency vehicle as possible. If a driver is unable to move over, the law requires him or her to reduce the vehicle's speed while passing the officer.

Education will include a warning to those who violate the statutes or codes. In extenuating circumstances, a citation may be issued.

"Focus In" is a campaign aimed to educate the public and gain compliance with various state statutes and ordinances. The violations the Police Department focus on have seasonal relevance, affect the quality of life in Edina or pose safety risks to residents. All statutes are enforced year-round, but additional attention is paid to the focus of the month.

This year, Police focused on obstructed vision, failure to signal, unsafe equipment and failure to display headlights, bike safety, curfew laws, pedestrian safety, child safety and seat belts, school bus stop arms and school speed zones. From January through November, officers made 733 stops for "Focus In" violations.

For more information, contact the Edina Police Department at 952-826-1610.



Staunton, Stewart Elected to City Council



Kevin Staunton

Kevin Staunton and Bob Stewart will take the oath of office as members of the Edina City Council Tuesday, Jan. 6.



Bob Stewart

Seven people ran for the two open seats, including incumbent Josh Sprague. Council Member Joni Bennett did not seek re-election. Staunton, a longtime member of the City's Planning Commission, bested challengers with nearly 25 percent of the votes.

"We have a great City. We have a great community and my objective is to ...

keep going in the right direction," Staunton said. "We have a bunch of issues that I've been dealing with for the past nine years [on the Planning Commission] and I am anxious to keep working on those and other issues as I move forward onto the City Council."

Stewart narrowly edged out Jennifer Janovy for the second open seat with 7,100 votes to her 6,977.

Stewart said he's looking forward to serving Edina. The Council candidates ran good campaigns and it was a close race, he said, adding that he's relieved and delighted to have won. "We had seven candidates for two seats, so it was a challenging campaign," he said. "Thank you to the other candidates. It's a great community with a lot of talented people who stepped forward to offer their services."

Staunton and Stewart will serve four-year terms.

"We have a great City. We have a great community and my objective is to ... keep going in the right direction."

— Kevin Staunton

Election Results

Candidate	Votes
Kevin Staunton	8,593
Bob Stewart	7,100
Jennifer Janovy	6,977
Josh Sprague	6,034
Keeya Steel	2,754
Blake Johnson	2,108
Thomas Bliss	875
Write-In	180

Braemar Field and Backyard to Open Dec. 5

The public is invited to celebrate the grand opening of Braemar Field and Braemar Arena's Backyard rink, 7501 Ikola Way, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5.

"We are so excited to see this project come to completion," said Braemar Arena Assistant Manager Amanda Holle. "It's been a long time in the making, and we know our residents and visitors will greatly enjoy both amenities."

Participants can gather for speeches and the ribbon cutting at 6:45 p.m., followed by events at Braemar Field, the artificial turf field that is domed in the winter months. Refreshments will be served alongside tours, sport demonstrations, drawings for giveaways, open field time, yard games, walking track activities, music and more.

At 7:50 p.m., people can enjoy a performance by the Braemar-City of Lakes Figure Skating Club at the Backyard rink, an outdoor refrigerated rink at Braemar Arena. Open skating will start shortly after.

A \$12.2 million project, Braemar Field and the Backyard rink have been in the works for years. At an August 2011 meeting, City Council directed staff, under the guidance of the Park Board, to prepare a feasibility study for an indoor athletic facility. After researching the possibility of a sports dome, Parks & Recreation Consultants presented their findings in February 2012. For most of the spring and summer that year, local architecture firm The Cunningham Group surveyed possible sites to build facilities. By November, the Board recommended the Braemar athletic field site to the City Council and planted the idea of expanding playing fields at multiple parks in Edina. In August 2013, the Board recommended a new outdoor ice sheet at Braemar Arena. Construction began the spring of 2014 and wrapped up shortly before the grand opening.

Braemar Field measures 400 feet long, 250 feet wide and 75 feet high and will be a covered field from November to April. The indoor turf field is surrounded



by a turf track that will be open to the public when baseball and lacrosse practices aren't taking place.

The Backyard rink is a covered regulation-size rink with a refrigerated sheet of ice.

Parks & Recreation Director Ann Kattreh hopes the extra sheet of ice and field will help alleviate some of the traveling Edina athletes and their families have to do.

"I'm thrilled for the residents who have worked on this initiative for so many years," said Kattreh. "I'm also very happy for the Edina families who will spend less time traveling around the metro area for training opportunities. These facilities are a tremendous addition to our park system."

For more information on Braemar Field and the Backyard, visit www.EdinaParks.com or call Braemar Arena at 952-833-9500.

Edina Liquor – 50th & France to Celebrate Remodeling

After major remodeling in October, Edina Liquor – 50th & France will host a grand reopening event Dec. 4-6 to celebrate.

"The update went well; the old store was outdated," said Director of Liquor Operations Steve Grausam. "We're hoping to see our customers come back from shopping at our other stores and visit 50th & France again."

Included in the estimated \$311,000 remodel were 10-foot ceilings throughout the store, high-efficiency LED lighting, a redesigned front checkout area, new wood plank vinyl flooring, brick accents, a new color scheme, newly tiled entryway, updated shelving and display case at the front of the store and way-finding signage. The office has also been relocated to the front of the store.

The grand reopening celebration will feature discounts and giveaways, including special pricing on high-end scotch, sales of the Surly Darkness Brew (otherwise sold out market-wide) and Surly Eight Ale, limited-edition wine sales, tastings and a three-for-\$20 mix-and-match wine special. Customers will have an opportunity to sample new offerings from Dewars and wax-dip a bottle if purchased – a great holiday gift idea – from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6. All deals and specials are only available at the Edina Liquor – 50th & France location.



"We're eager to have people see the new facelift; it's beautiful in there," said Edina Liquor Marketing Assistant Kate Wissner. "This grand opening event is really an opportunity to come in and take a look around, take advantage of some special deals and see the new space."

The 50th & France location will see even more updates next year as the exterior of the building is refaced.

Edina Liquor offers more than 1,000 varieties of wine, 250 brands of beer and 400 brands of liquor and has three locations throughout the City.

All locations of Edina Liquor will be closed Nov. 27 for Thanksgiving. Stores will be open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve. Stores will be closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

For more information, visit www.EdinaLiquor.com.

EDINA LIQUOR

Edina Resident Selected as Public Art People's Choice Award Winner



Nick Legeros was named winner of the 2014 People's Choice Awards for his bronze sculpture "Leaping Hare."

In its 10th year, Public Art Edina named an Edina resident winner of the People's Choice Awards in Edina's annual public art poll.

Each year, new public art sculptures are voted on by community members to identify the top three favorites. The winner of this year's People's Choice Awards was "Leaping Hare" by Edina resident Nick Legeros, located at Grandview Square Park. "3 Dancing Sand Hill Cranes" by Jim Dehne, located at 50th & France, received second place and "Argonaut" by James Bearden, located at Grandview Square Park, received third place.

"I was both surprised and delighted that this was selected as People's Choice," said Legeros of his sculpture. "It's an approachable piece; it's a playful element that's very appealing."

"Leaping Hare" was originally commissioned by a Wayzata couple who wanted a piece to remind them of Texas and their alma mater, the University of Texas – Austin. Legeros explained that they wanted something that would reflect the hare indigenous to Texas. Once it was completed, he decided to do a second casting of it and submit it to Edina for the rotating sculpture exhibits. Legeros has submitted sculptures for the rotating sculpture exhibits several times in the past. His sculpture "Reflecting on Friendship" received second place in the People's Choice Awards in 2010 and was then purchased as a gift to the City of Edina. It can be found at Centennial Lakes Park outside Hughes Pavilion.

Other public art entries in the 2014 exhibition included "Density Housing for the Modern Urban Fairy" by Allison Ruby, "Mantle" by Steve Elliott, "Dynamic

Duo" by James Bearden, "Faith, Hope, Love" by James Gabbert, "Roman Astrolabe" by Peter Vanni, and "Medicine Wheel," by Kevin Komadina and Joel Carter, all located at The Promenade. "Honk!" by Chris Gustafson and "How to Build a Birdhouse" by Michael E. Kmiotek are located at 50th & France.

All 11 sculptures in the rotating exhibit will be on display through May 2015. Winners of the People's Choice Awards received \$1,000, \$750 and \$500, respectively, and agreed to show their sculptures until May 2016 for which they will receive another \$500 stipend.

"While 'Leaping Hare' was resoundingly selected as the people's favorite, the vast majority of sculptures were separated by only 11 votes," explained Public Art Edina Chair Barbara La Valleur. "We were very pleased with the quality and diversity of the pieces that we received ... and with the resulting ones that were chosen. It's always great to have things that look different and use different mediums ... and I think that resonates with the public."

Legeros and LaValleuer encourage Edina residents to contribute financially to the public art programs in Edina.

"I'd like people who are residents of Edina to know that they can contribute to the public art program in Edina through their water bill. I do it. I'm a resident of Edina and I think it's a modest way to contribute that shows your civic pride," Legeros said. "We have a great interest in the arts [here in Edina] and I think ... the program could continue to grow and expand." La Valleur agrees and noted that public art in Edina is growing in reputation, and could continue to grow with added support.

Public Art Edina encourages community members to visit each display. Several other permanent public art displays can be found throughout the City, including a new art wrapped utility box at 66th Street and Valley View Road that was designed by Public Art Edina member Mark Lidke.

For more information about public art in Edina, contact Art Center General Manager Michael Frey at 952-903-5729 or mfrey@EdinaMN.gov.

Crime Prevention Fund, City Set Up K-9 Retirement Fund

After Edina Police Department K-9s have served their time and entered retirement, their handlers may receive monetary help to cover the costs of caring for them.

Marlene Joan Grassl recently made a generous donation of \$20,000 to the Edina Crime Prevention Fund in order to start a program that will compensate K-9 handlers providing care to dogs that have retired from active service with the Edina Police Department. Handlers can receive up to \$2,000 annually for expenses like food, veterinary services, grooming and temporary kenneling services.

"Dogs have always been my love and not enough is done for the retired K-9s or the people who have to take care of all of the canine's expenses," Grassl said. "I hope this will be the beginning of others who want to donate to the cause and help the K-9s and their caretakers."

Edina Crime Prevention Fund Treasurer Denny Maetzold thinks this program will be beneficial to handlers who until this point were expected to take full responsibility for caring for the dogs. "There are a lot of expenses that go into caring properly for the K-9s and that can really add up," he said.

Edina Police Department Sgt. Kevin Rofidal, who cared for K-9 Kodiak for four years after the dog's retirement,

said, "There is no better way to for members of the community to show appreciation than to donate to the K-9 program. Over the years, I have been pleasantly surprised by the overwhelming and unwavering support the Edina community has afforded the K-9 program – it speaks volumes."

The Edina Police Department currently has two K-9s on duty, Diesel and Blade. Although Blade has many years ahead of him before retirement, Diesel will retire at the end of this year.

Edina Police Department K-9 Officer Mike Seeger is grateful for the support of the K-9 Retirement Fund as he is preparing for Diesel's retirement. "It seems like all of the medical expenses and other major expenses come up after retirement, so this program is really going to help when Diesel goes into retirement," he said.

Anyone can donate to the new K-9 Retirement Fund. If you would like to donate, please send a check payable to the Edina Crime Prevention Fund to Edina City Hall, 4801 W. 50th St., Edina, MN 55424. Please write "K-9 Retirement Fund" in the check's memo line.

For more information on the K-9 Retirement Fund, call the Edina Police Department at 952-826-1610.

City Seeks Community Input for Vacant Grandview Site

What could go on the vacant former Public Works site at 5146 Eden Ave.? The City of Edina is looking for ideas.

This fall, the City entered into a partnership with Frauenshuh Commercial Real Estate Group to help define what public and private uses could feasibly work together on the site. To accomplish this, extensive community feedback is needed.

"Neighbors have been talking about this site for more than five years – dreaming and setting a vision for the future," said Economic Development Manager Bill Neuendorf. "But this is where it gets real. This is where the public can help shape the next great Edina amenity."

When the City's Public Works Department vacated the 3.3-acre site in 2010, it sparked a two-year study of the entire Grandview area, during which a 50-member volunteer steering committee produced a development framework with seven guiding principles.

"Through the framework, we thought a lot about what the district could look like," Neuendorf said. "Beginning in December, the City is taking a close look specifically at the former Public Works site, which was envisioned to be reused with a combination of public and private uses. Now is the time to define what that looks like and potentially develop it."

All are welcome to attend an "Exploration Session" 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, at the Edina Community Center, 5701 Normandale Road, Room 303. At this meeting, the conversation around the site's future will be renewed. Ideas and suggestions are encouraged.

Those unable to attend the meeting can organize smaller group meetings by contacting Executive Assistant Heather Branigin at 952-826-0403. Ideas are also taken online at www.SpeakUpEdina.org.

"We want to hear the needs of residents, the business community, the schools, worship groups, visitors – if you have a stake in Edina, we want to hear your ideas," Neuendorf said.

In March, a discovery session will be held for public evaluation of the initial reuse concepts compiled from community meetings and "Speak Up, Edina!" The community will have a chance to build on and further refine the best use for the site.

Then, the ideas and concepts will be narrowed and several possible scenarios will be developed. An open house to review and comment on these scenarios will be held in April.

For more information, visit www.EdinaMN.gov/Grandview.

Upcoming Events

Monday, Dec. 1, 6:30 p.m.

Community Health Commission meeting, Edina City Hall

Tuesday, Dec. 2, 7 p.m.

City Council meeting, Edina City Hall

Wednesday, Dec. 3, 6 p.m.

Wooddale/Valley View Progress Update, Edina Senior Center

Thursday, Dec. 4, 9 a.m.

Edina Liquor – 50th & France Grand Reopening Begins

Thursday, Dec. 4, 7 p.m.

Grandview Exploration Session, Edina Community Center

Friday, Dec. 5, 6:30 p.m.

Braemar Field and Backyard rink opening, Braemar Field

Saturday, Dec. 6, 10 a.m.

Town Hall Meeting, Edina Senior Center

Tuesday, Dec. 9, 6 p.m.

City Council meeting, Edina City Hall

Tuesday, Dec. 9, 7 p.m.

Park Board meeting, Edina City Hall

Tuesday, Dec. 9, 7 p.m.

Heritage Preservation Board meeting, Edina City Hall

Wednesday, Dec. 10, 7 p.m.

Planning Commission meeting, Edina City Hall

Thursday, Dec. 11, 7 p.m.

Energy & Environment Commission meeting, Edina City Hall

Tuesday, Dec. 16, 7 p.m.

City Council meeting, Edina City Hall

Thursday, Dec. 18, 6 p.m.

Transportation Commission meeting, Edina City Hall

Tuesday, Dec. 23, 7 p.m.

Human Rights & Relations Commission meeting, Edina City Hall

Wednesday, Dec. 24, noon

City Hall closed for Christmas Eve

Thursday, Dec. 25 & Friday, Dec. 26

City Hall closed

Wednesday, Dec. 31, noon

City Hall closed for New Year's Eve

December Broadcast Schedule

Edina City Council (shown until the next scheduled meeting – generally two weeks)

- Saturdays – 7 p.m.
- Sundays – 3 a.m., 11 a.m.
- Tuesdays – 7 p.m. (live broadcast on first and third Tuesdays of every month)
- Wednesdays – 3 a.m., 11 a.m.

Planning Commission (shown until the next scheduled meeting – generally two weeks)

- Wednesdays – 7 p.m. (live broadcast on second and fourth Wednesdays of every month)
- Thursdays – 3 a.m., 11 a.m.
- Fridays – 7 p.m.
- Saturdays – 3 a.m., 11 a.m.

Park Board (airs through Dec. 8)

- Mondays – 7 p.m.
- Tuesdays – 3 a.m., 11 a.m.
- Thursdays – 10 p.m.
- Fridays – 6 a.m., 2 p.m.

Community Health Commission (airs Dec. 1-29)

- Mondays – 10 p.m.
- Tuesdays – 6 a.m., 2 p.m.
- Thursdays – 7 p.m.
- Fridays – 3 a.m., 11 a.m.

Human Rights & Relations Commission (airs Dec. 11-Jan. 8)

- Sundays – 7 p.m.
- Mondays – 3 a.m., 11 a.m.
- Wednesdays – 10 p.m.
- Thursdays – 6 a.m., 2 p.m.

Agenda: Edina (new episode on the 1st and 15th of each month)

- Daily at 2:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m.

Beyond the Badge (new episode on the 1st of each month)

- Daily at 2 a.m., 10 a.m., 6 p.m.

Enterprise Edina (new episode on the 15th of each month)

- Daily at 2:15 a.m., 10:15 a.m., 6:15 p.m.

Rotary Club of Edina Meetings (new episode weekly)

- Daily at 1 a.m., 9 a.m., 5 p.m.

Programs can be watched on cable channels 16 (standard definition) or 813 (high definition). All content is also streamed online at www.EdinaMN.gov and www.youtube.com/EdinaChannel16.