

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

DATE: FRIDAY, FEB. 1, 2013
TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: SCOTT H. NEAL, CITY MANAGER
RE: FRIDAY REPORT FOR FEB. 1, 2013

FRIDAY REPORT



- 1. France Avenue Byerly's Store** – Lund's has submitted its plans for the replacement of their current Byerly's grocery store at France Avenue and Hazelton Road. City staff are reviewing the plans and mapping out the process for it to be considered for its regulatory approvals.
- 2. CATV Bulletin Board** – On Monday, Jan. 28, the City's Communications & Technology Services Department implemented a new video bulletin board system for Edina 16. A tactic outlined in the Council's 2012 work plan, the new bulletin board has improved graphics and includes a weather crawl and automatic playlists for upcoming programs.
- 3. Fiber Optic Network Advancement** – The I.T. Division completed work to connect Edina Liquor – 50th & France to the City's fiber optic network this week. The City has been expanding its fiber optic technology, replacing traditional copper and leased circuit connections in order to improve bandwidth, consolidate connectivity needs, and reduce or eliminate telephone and data communication expenses. The connection to Edina Liquor was a 2012 CIP project. Now that the project is complete, liquor employees will benefit from faster network connections and the City's VoiP telephone system. Now that all three stores are on fiber, I.T. staff was able to consolidate and centralize all liquor point-of-sale data on one server and can backup data to the City's tape library. The store now has new phone numbers. The general number there is 952-903-5720.
- 4. Employee News** – We are welcoming four new employees to our team. Tom Buckley is a new Public Service Worker in the Public Works Department, starting Feb. 11. Bryan Sanford is a new Golf Course Technician II starting on Feb. 4. Brittany Salvate is a new 9-1-1 Dispatcher, starting Feb. 18. Jamie La Manna is a new Patrol Officer in the Police Department, starting Feb. 6.
- 5. Townes Road Wetland Cleanup** – Employees from the City's Public Works, Parks and Engineering departments collaborated with residents of the White Oaks neighborhood to conduct a cleanup of the Townes Road wetland. The neighborhood asked the City to remove only the currently identified dead trees from the area. The residents asked the City not to cut and remove trees that we identified as dying trees. We accommodated that request, but with the understanding that if any of the dying trees fall during the spring, summer or autumn, the City will not remove them until next winter when the ground is frozen again and resistant to damage from the heavy equipment used to do the work.
- 6. Swim Club Relations** – Representatives from the Aquajets Swim Club have requested a meeting with Parks & Recreation Director Ann Kattreh, City Attorney Roger Knutson and me to discuss the pool time allocations for the summer. We will meet with the Aquajets to discuss the operational impact of the Jan. 22 Council action on the Edina Swim club residency requirement prior to finalizing the 2013 summer pool time allocations.
- 7. Aviation Noise Update** – Rep. Ron Erhardt held a hearing this week in the House Transportation Policy Committee in which MAC Executive Director Jeff Hamiel, Mayor Jim Hovland and three Edina residents testified about aviation noise issue and the future of the

RNAV project. Council Member Joni Bennett also attended the hearing. One of us can give the Council a full update on the hearing at the Council Meeting on Feb. 5.

8. **City Inspections Hotline** – Chief Marty Scheerer is working on the development of a new telephone hotline number that residents and contractors would use to contact the City to schedule any kind of City inspection. We are hoping to launch this new hotline later this spring.
9. **Edinburgh Park Renovation** – The grotto and waterfall project has been completed. The restoration of the plants in the grotto will be completed later this spring.
10. **Community Gardens** – Parks & Recreation Director Ann Kattreh and I conferred this week on the approval timeline for the proposed community garden project in Yorktown Park. Ann is working with officials at the Southdale YMCA to discuss logistics for the proposed garden. In order to have the community garden be ready to go for the 2013 planting season, the City will need to advance this project through its due process without unnecessary delays. The first step in that process is a public hearing and approval at the Feb. 12 Park Board meeting.