

# OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

DATE: THURSDAY, AUG. 8, 2014  
TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
FROM: SCOTT H. NEAL, CITY MANAGER  
RE: FRIDAY REPORT FOR AUG. 8, 2014

## FRIDAY REPORT



- 1. Employee News** – Christopher Van Dam has accepted the position of 9-1-1 Dispatcher and will begin work for the City of Edina on Monday, Aug. 18. Christopher has been working as a Dispatcher for Hennepin County Sheriff's Office since 2006. He holds and associate degree in Air Traffic Control from Minneapolis Community and Technical College and a bachelor's degree in Communications from the University of St. Thomas.

Melissa Marohl started her new job as a 9-1-1 Dispatcher on Monday, Aug. 4. Melissa holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, and was most recently a sports writer for ECM Publishers, Inc., out of Waconia, Minnesota. She was also a Dispatcher for Valleyfair Family Amusement Park for four years.

New Engineering Technician Andrew Scipioni (replacing Jamie Cynor) started July 28.

New Engineering Technician Derek Northenscold (replacing Jeff Frahm) will start Aug. 18.

New Engineering Technician/Water Resources Charles Gerk will start August 19.

Bruce Dehn, Public Works Maintenance, will retire on Aug. 15. Peter Lucht, Public Works Maintenance, will retire on Aug. 28.

Joel Forseth will retire from the Fire Department on Aug. 27.

Finally, Finance Director John Wallin has announced that he will retire, after 30 years of service, on Sept. 4. I will appoint Assistant Finance Director Eric Roggeman to serve as Interim Finance Director in John's absence. I will announce a plan to fill the Finance Director position before the close of this month.

- 2. Lennar Mixed-Use Project** – Lennar closed on the land for the recently approved project on York Avenue. They closed July 30 on the vacated furniture building and the five adjacent single-family residences. The purchase price for the 3.3-acre commercial parcel was just under \$6.1 million. The total acquisition cost of all six parcels was approximately \$7.4 million. The developer is anticipated to break ground later this year.
- 3. Torchlight Concert** – The annual Torchlight Night event will be held Sunday, Aug. 10 from 6 to 10 p.m. at Centennial Lakes Park. The evening will include jugglers, magicians, antique vehicles, model boating and a special sunset concert by the First John Philip Sousa Band. Special treats and favors will also be provided at this great family event.

4. **Grandview RFI** – The deadline to submit a Letters of Interest (LOI) is Aug. 11. As of today, we haven't received any LOIs, but we expect to receive more than one by the deadline.
5. **Fighting Bike Theft** – The City has received a growing number of bike theft complaints this year. In response, the Police Department has started a "bait bike" initiative. The first bait bike, which is locked to a bike rack, was placed in the Centennial Lakes area on Tuesday, Aug. 5, and stolen later that same day. The bicycle thief was traced and apprehended later that night. He also had an outstanding burglary warrant from Edina, in addition to four other felony warrants and two other misdemeanor warrants.
6. **RMTs** – The Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) has notified us that they will need to move up their mobile noise testing study in Edina and St. Louis Park due to some staffing issues. They plan to place the mobile remote monitoring towers (RMT) Aug. 18 and retrieve them Sept. 2.
7. **MN-APA Conference Presentation** – Transportation Planner Mark Nolan, Transportation Commission Chair Katharine Bass and I will present a program at this fall's conference of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Planning Association. We are presenting a program about the City's experience with developing the Pedestrian and Cycling Safety (PACS) Fund and sidewalk program.
8. **Officer Patrick's Funeral** – 29 members of the Police Department, including some Explorers and Reserves, attended Mendota Heights' Officer Scott Patrick's funeral on Wednesday, Aug. 6. Thousands of officers and community members showed their support for Officer Patrick's family and department.