

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

DATE: FRIDAY, SEPT. 19, 2014
TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: SCOTT H. NEAL, CITY MANAGER
RE: FRIDAY REPORT FOR SEPT. 19, 2014

FRIDAY REPORT



- 1. Absentee Voting** – City Hall is now open for absentee voting for the next 46 days. There can be no campaigning in a polling place, so we are asking City staff to refrain from wearing political buttons or apparel in City Hall, and to keep conversations brief and quiet so that we do not disturb voters who may be in the lobby voting. Absentee voting and election-related work also takes over the Mayor's Conference Room and City Council office. These two spaces will be unavailable for public, staff or Council use until after the election.
- 2. Vision Edina** – Community workshops for Vision Edina have been scheduled with the Edina League of Women Voters on Oct. 9, Edina Chamber of Commerce on Nov. 5, Edina High School students on Oct. 6 and 7, and as part of Senior Center programming on Oct. 10. Staff are reaching out to wide variety of groups to invite them to host a meeting. Three workshops for the general public have been scheduled for November. We will have more details for you later.
- 3. Neighborhood Update** – Chowen Park held an organizing meeting with 45 residents in attendance on Wednesday, Sept. 17. They have agreed to pursue recognition and are scheduling a meeting to vote on bylaws. Pamela Park residents completed their application for recognition and are now officially the fifth recognized neighborhood association in the City. Normandale Park will hold an organizing meeting on Oct. 1.
- 4. Toolkits for Neighbors** – Staff have developed a new resource on our website for residents who have concerns and questions about residential redevelopment. View it online at: http://edinamn.gov/index.php?section=redevelopment_FAQ
- 5. The Fred** – Staff have confirmed that the Sunday Girls Junior League that has been playing at The Fred will play at Braemar in 2015. We also confirmed the Seagate Corporate league will be coming to the shortened Clunie course next year as well. Another Fred group, the Edina Seniors, has also confirmed their league slot at Braemar for the first half of the 2015 season, but is waiting to see what happens with potential course construction projects before confirming for the second half of the season. The last date of play for The Fred will be Sunday, Oct. 5.
- 6. 50th & France Liquor Store Project** – Edina Liquor – 50th & France will be closed starting on Monday, Sept. 22, for a remodeling project projected to last four weeks. Customers are receiving coupons encouraging them to visit other Edina Liquor locations during the project.

A new lighted outdoor sign was recently installed at the Grandview location and will be installed at Southdale shortly. The signs reflect Edina Liquor's new logo and will use substantially less energy than the previous signs.

7. **WVV Small Area Plan** – The date for the Discovery Workshop for the Wooddale Avenue and Valley View Road small area plan has been moved from Oct. 4 to Oct. 11 to avoid a conflict with Yom Kippur. The event will kick off at 8 a.m. with a free breakfast donated by Snuffy’s Malt Shop. The three-hour workshop starts at 9 a.m. and will include a brief presentation on the history of the area and the purpose of small area plans, a “walkabout” of the commercial node, and identification of key issues. The consultants on the project are also surveying local businesses and developing trade area analysis in conjunction with the discovery phase of the project.
8. **Sidewalks** – A sidewalk along the west side of York Avenue from 66th Street to approximately the new transit station has been installed. The same contractor is currently working on installation of a sidewalk along the north side of Vernon Avenue from Ayrshire Boulevard to Doncaster Way. Both projects are partially funded with a Hennepin County grant.
9. **Arden Park Neighborhood Street Reconstruction Project** – The second neighborhood meeting with the Arden Park Neighborhood is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 22. Staff will continue discussions with the neighborhood on improvements related to the 2015 street reconstruction project.
10. **Street Repairs** – Warranty work for the Minnehaha Woods and Richmond Hills street reconstruction projects is under way and will continue for the next few weeks. This work includes repairs to concrete curb and gutter and street pavement. Impacts to residents and traffic will be minimal and localized.
11. **Planning Commission Update** – The Planning Commission will hold several public hearings at its Oct. 8 meeting: final rezoning to PUD for Beacon Interfaith Housing for the proposed redevelopment project at 3330 W. 66th St.; preliminary rezoning to construct a free-standing 7,700-square-foot, 242-seat seafood restaurant at 7690 France Ave.; and consideration of several zoning ordinance amendments, including front street setbacks, first-floor elevation regulations for tearsdowns and rebuilds; commercial lighting, and minimum square footage for apartment units. The City Council is tentatively scheduled to consider these items at its Oct. 21 meeting.
12. **Planning Commission Calendar** – The Planning Commission meeting scheduled for Sept. 24 has been cancelled because it conflicts with Rosh Hashanah.
13. **Focus In** – The Police Department’s “Focus In” topic for September is distracted driving. As of today, officers have made 46 direct contacts as part of the program.
14. **Save The Date: Braemar Field Grand Opening** – Staff is tentatively scheduling the grand opening event for Braemar Field (the new sports dome) for the evening of Friday, Dec. 5. More on this later.