

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

DATE: FRIDAY, NOV. 7, 2014
TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: SCOTT H. NEAL, CITY MANAGER
RE: FRIDAY REPORT FOR NOV. 7, 2014

FRIDAY REPORT



1. **Election 2014** – Approximately 350 election judges (including 72 Edina High School students) assisted 24,049 Edina residents (70.29 percent of registered voters) in casting their ballots on Tuesday, Nov. 4. Of the 24,049 voters, 5,057 were absentee voters. In 2010, 71.65 percent (or 25,463) voters cast votes with a total of 3,114 absentee ballots.
2. **Employee Update** – We have initiated the hiring process for a new patrol officer. Of the 184 applications we received, we have reduced the field to 40 for interviews.

Two finalists for Police Lieutenant were interviewed on Wednesday, Nov. 5.

David Norr will begin work for the City of Edina Police Department on Monday, Nov. 10 as a part-time Community Service Officer (CSO). David is currently a CSO for Metro Transit Police Department and a member of the Edina Police Reserves. He will finish his bachelor's degree in Law Enforcement from Minnesota State University, Mankato, in December.

Emily Jepson will begin work as a Community Service Officer on Nov 17. Emily has her bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota in Global Studies/Scandinavian Studies. She is also a graduate of Metropolitan State University with a degree in Law Enforcement.

3. **50th & France: Celebration** – The City and property owners invested \$5.8 million to rehabilitate the public parking ramps at 50th & France to make them cleaner, brighter, safer and more convenient with the addition of new flooring, LED lighting, fresh paint and preventative maintenance. A new electronic wayfinding sign system was also installed to help visitors find available parking in the three ramps. Landscaping and other streetscape improvements were also made throughout the district. A ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the parking ramp and streetscape improvements at 50th & France will be held 9 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 13 in the South Ramp's main entrance off 51st Street. Elected officials, residents, business owners, employees and shoppers are encouraged to attend.
4. **Sidewalk Plan Meetings** – The meetings requested by the Council at the Nov. 3 Council meeting have been set. Because of the accelerated timeframe to collect and present this feedback to the Council at its Dec. 2 meeting, our flexibility to schedule the meetings was limited. The schedule is as follows: Northwest Edina – 6 to 8 p.m. Nov. 17 at the Senior Center; Southwest Edina – 6 to 8 p.m. Nov. 17 at the Public Works & Parks Maintenance Facility; Northeast Edina – 6 to 8 p.m. Nov. 19 at City Hall; and Southeast Edina – 6 to 8 p.m. Nov. 19 at the Public Works & Parks Maintenance Facility.
5. **Transit** – Metro Transit is preparing a grant application for a potential mixed-use park-n-ride for the Grandview District. This use was identified in the 2012 Development Framework and could be one of several potential components included in the redevelopment of the former Public Works site. This portion of the parking area would be used by commuters during the day and would be available

for other users during nights and weekends. A resolution expressing support for the funding application is anticipated to be on the next City Council agenda.

6. **The Lid** – “The Lid” project was not recommended for grant funding through Hennepin County’s Transit Oriented Development grant program.
7. **Do You Have A Dream?** – The Wooddale-Valley View (WVV) Small Area Plan Dream Workshop will be held Saturday, Nov. 8 at the Senior Center. Registration starts at 8 a.m.; the workshop will be held 8:30 a.m. to noon.
8. **Holiday Gift Sale** – The “Gifts in the Gallery” Holiday Sale opened Thursday, Nov. 6. The theme this year is “Up North,” and upon entering the gallery you will feel like you just walked into a cabin up north. Think comfy lodge, warm earthen colors, natural textures combined with holiday-inspired fibers. There will also be an Open House on Saturday, Nov. 22 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nothing feels better than giving the gift of art!
9. **Great Places Awards** – Centennial Lakes is one of 15 nominees for the second-annual Great Places Award sponsored by the Sensible Land Use Coalition. The award ceremony is Wednesday, Dec. 10 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Hopkins Center for the Arts. If you are interested in attending the event, please RSVP through Heather Branigin.
10. **Neighborhood Associations** – Neighborhood organizing meetings are scheduled with Lake Edina on Nov. 12, Arden Park on Nov. 13 and Creek Knoll on Dec. 14.
11. **Golf Financials** – Golf revenues are much improved over last year and are closing in on the revenue target in our 2014 budget. At 82 percent of the way through the season, we have collected 88 percent of the revenue we need to meet our budget. Our 2014 performance through the end of Q3 is more than 20 percent over the same period last year. While we are entering the low revenue months for our golf enterprise, this will be the first Q4 that we’ve had the indoor range in operation. Revenue at the indoor range was very strong during the winter of 2014. If we have a 2014 Q4 that is comparable to 2014 Q1 at the indoor range, we could have a very good shot at meeting or exceeding our golf revenue budget target for 2014.
12. **Pamela Park** – The first section of the new field turf was installed at Pamela Park yesterday. The contractor is in a race with the weather to get it installed before it gets too cold to continue that element of the project.
13. **50th & France Liquor Store Project** – Edina Liquor – 50th & France re-opened this week. The project has transformed the store. The transformation will be complete when the building owner does the planned exterior renovation of the building next spring.
14. **Braemar Field** – We plan to inflate the new dome over Braemar Field on Nov. 8 and 9, depending on the weather. We plan to make ice in the new outdoor refrigerated ice rink, which has been officially named “The Backyard,” on Nov. 24. The grand opening and dedication event for the new facilities is scheduled for Friday evening, Dec. 5. More information on that later.
15. **Music In Edina** – The next Music in Edina event will be held at Dragseth Auditorium on Sunday, Nov. 9 at 3 p.m. The Minneha Music Repertory Orchestra with Conductor Craig Randal Johnson and Tenor Justin Berkowitz are featured. Edina native Justin Berkowitz is praised as “exacting and animated” and having a “bright future in Bel Canto.”