

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

DATE: FRIDAY, DEC. 12, 2014
TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: SCOTT H. NEAL, CITY MANAGER
RE: FRIDAY REPORT FOR DEC. 12, 2014

FRIDAY REPORT



- 1. Weber Woods Closed Session** – The City Council will meet in closed session starting at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, in order to discuss the possible acquisition of the Weber Woods property at 40th & France.
- 2. CATV Franchise Transfer** – Brian Grogan, attorney and administrator for the Southwest Cable Commission (SWCC), will provide a presentation to the City Council at its Dec. 16 public hearing regarding the proposed cable television franchise transfer from Comcast to Midwest Cable. The Southwest Cable Commission has recommended that member cities of the SWCC approve the transfer request.
- 3. 7200 France** – Staff met with Hennepin County staff to discuss the 7200 France redevelopment project. Discussions focused on how the transportation needs of the site could be completed without significant impacts to the surrounding neighborhoods. Access from France Avenue and 72nd Street were discussed. The county developed one concept to address the concerns of the neighborhood about increased traffic volumes from the redevelopment and from 70th Street. The concept that is being explored is the installation of a cul-de-sac just east of the intersection of 72nd and Lynmar Lane. This would limit access to France from 72nd to only the 7200 France property. France Avenue access for the neighborhood would occur at the signalized intersection of France and Hazelton Road. A traffic study is being completed to determine the impacts of this design for further consideration.
- 4. City Manager Performance Review** – The performance review process will begin later today. A large sample of City staff and Council Members will receive the rating sheets via email with directions about how to complete the form and return it directly to the consultant who is coordinating the review.
- 5. Tree Ordinance** – The Planning Commission did not take action on the tree ordinance at its meeting this Week. They continued the matter to its Jan. 14, 2015 meeting. The City Council will be asked Tuesday, Dec. 16 to continue its scheduled public hearing to Feb. 3, 2015, to allow time for the Planning Commission to continue its work on the ordinance regarding trees.
- 6. Proposed SMPSTF Expansion** – The Board of the South Metro Public Safety Training Facility (SMPSTF) has recommended an expansion of the training facility to add new classroom space. The SMPSTF owners have started the process of gaining financial support for the proposal from their respective governing boards. The Metropolitan Airports Commission is expected to approve the expansion proposal at its Monday, Dec. 15 meeting. I will advance the proposal to the City Council at its Jan. 20, 2015 meeting.

7. **USA Hockey National Sled Development Team** – The new Braemar Backyard rink was specially designed to accommodate sled hockey. The USA Hockey National Sled Development Team will be in town today and Saturday to practice at the Backyard. They will practice today from 9 to 10:30 a.m. and 2 to 2:30 p.m. and 8 to 9 a.m. tomorrow, Saturday, Dec. 13.
8. **City Hall Office Closed** – Due to the proximity of the Christmas Day and New Year’s Day holidays to their subsequent weekends, I have authorized City Hall offices to be closed to walk-in traffic on Friday, Dec. 26 and Friday, Jan. 2. Employees may use accumulated paid leave time to be absent from work on those two days, or they may use the days to clean, organize and catch-up on projects.
9. **New Council Member Orientation** – Department Directors and I will conduct eight hours of City government orientation on Thursday, Dec. 18 and Friday, Dec. 19 for Council Members-elect Bob Stewart and Kevin Staunton.
10. **Joint City-School District Staff Meeting** – The respective leadership teams from the City and Edina Public Schools will meet next week for a joint staff meeting to discuss matters of mutual concern, including the City’s Vision Edina and the school district’s upcoming referendum plans.
11. **Edinborough Park** – The Park recently received four mini-library houses from Will Burns Jr. as part of his Eagle Scout project. Will grew up coming to Edinborough Park and swims competitively with the Edina Swim Club, so he has spent a lot of time at Edinborough Park. When he was considering ideas for his service project, he immediately thought about the number of kids visiting Edinborough Park and the opportunity to encourage and **improve literacy**. The libraries will be placed around the Park and children are welcome to take a book home and bring it back on their next visit. Children think Edinborough Park is a really fun place and if they discover reading is fun while they are here, it’s a win-win for everyone. Will is a member of Troop 123 in Edina and this is a wonderful accomplishment for him. The libraries are a nice addition to the Park.