

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

DATE: FRIDAY, DEC. 20, 2013
TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: SCOTT H. NEAL, CITY MANAGER
RE: FRIDAY REPORT FOR DEC. 20, 2013

FRIDAY REPORT



1. **Sports Dome Grant Award** – The City has been notified that it will receive a grant of \$250,000 from Hennepin County's Youth Sports Facility Grant Program for the Sports Dome project.

2. **Employee News** – We are currently interviewing finalists for the Fire Chief and Engineering Director positions.

We have extended an offer to a candidate for the Executive Assistant position.

After 31 years of employment, today is Liz Lopez's final day of work in our Assessing Division. Liz is exceptionally good at her job, and she will be missed.

3. **MLC Legislative Breakfast** – The annual MLC West Metro legislative breakfast meeting will be 7:30 to 9 a.m. Feb. 21 in Plymouth. If you want to attend, please let me know and I will coordinate a reservation from our City.

4. **Swimming Lesson World Record** – Guinness World Records recently recognized the Edina Aquatic Center for participating in the World's Largest Swimming Lesson and hosting the largest event in the Aquatic Center category. On June 18, 2013, we had 474 participants take part in a 30-minute swim lesson that was conducted simultaneously around the world. A new world record was established for this event with 32,450 participants throughout the world. The World's Largest Swimming Lesson builds awareness about the vital importance of teaching children to swim and to help prevent drowning.

5. **Sidewalks** – Hennepin County has selected two of the City's applications for sidewalk grant funding at the following locations: York Avenue from 66th Street to Southdale Transit Center and Vernon Avenue from Doncaster Way to Ayrshire Boulevard. The estimated cost of the York Sidewalk Project is \$111,000. The grant amount is \$27,750. We anticipate that project to be constructed in 2014. The estimated cost of the Vernon Sidewalk Project is \$200,000. The grant amount is \$50,000. We anticipate construction of that project in 2015.

6. **Building & Development Revenue** – The City has issued 113 new house permits so far this year. Building and development permit revenue through the end of November exceeds our budget revenue target by just over \$1 million.

7. **Joint Staff Meeting** – We held one of our biannual joint staff meetings with the School District today. We discussed mutual goals and challenges, and generally got reacquainted. There are many new faces around the table, so it is important to be deliberate about getting together and talking.

- 8. BETF Relationship Agreement** – Staff will be advancing a proposed agreement between the City and the Bike Edina Task Force (BETF) that defines and describes our relationship. The agreement was reviewed by the Transportation Commission this week. It will be considered by the City Council at its Jan. 21 meeting.
- 9. I&I Nugget** – The Council received a report at the Dec. 17 Council meeting about the importance of identifying and remedying Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) issues in our sanitary sewer collection system. Fixing a 1 gallon per minute (gpm) leak of clean water into the sanitary sewer system saves the City approximately \$1,000 in Met Council disposal fees per year. The trunk sanitary sewer lining project scheduled for 2014 is estimated to reduce I&I by 40 to 80 gpm, potentially saving the City \$40,000 to \$80,000 per year in disposal fees. A very good ROI, indeed.
- 10. City Hall Schedule** – City Hall will be closed the afternoons of Dec. 24 and 31. The building is closed all day on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.