

# OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

DATE: FRIDAY, JULY 13, 2012  
TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
FROM: SCOTT H. NEAL, CITY MANAGER  
RE: FRIDAY REPORT FOR JULY 13, 2012

## FRIDAY REPORT



- 1. Recycling Contract** – The proposed staff recommendation to award the City’s residential recycling contract was reviewed and endorsed this week by the Recycling & Solid Waste Working Group and by the Energy & Environment Commission. Staff plan to present the recommendation to the City Council at its Aug. 6 meeting
- 2. Hornets Nest Project** – Bids for the Hornets Nest Project were opened on Thursday, July 12. The apparent low bidder – RJM Construction – offered a low bid that exceeded the project budget by \$447,000. A group of City staff and Drive for the Hive, LLC representatives met with RJM Construction earlier today to evaluate options to reduce the overall cost of the project through value engineering. The group identified approximately \$500,000 worth of potential cost reductions. Staff will present the potential costs reductions to the Council at the July 17 meeting.
- 3. Art Center Discussion** – Representatives from the Art Center Board and staff from the Parks & Recreation Department met with the architect for the Southdale renovation project this week. They discussed the feasibility of moving operating functions currently taking place at the Art Center to the third floor of the Southdale Center. It was a lively conversation. Simon is interested in moving a “destination use” into this part of the mall. The Art Center Board agreed to discuss it further.
- 4. Infrastructure Finance** – Staff are planning to present the Council with a proposed revision of the City’s Special Assessment Policy at the Council’s Aug. 6 meeting. The revision will represent the feedback and input we received from the Council at its June 5 Work Session. Extension of the City’s fiber optic network to the greenhouse at Arneson Acres is complete. The Tracy Avenue Roadway Reconstruction Project started last week.
- 5. Alternate Water Meter Reading Options** – The City received a request from a resident to install an alternate meter reading system, which involves the installation of additional wiring and a device on the outside of the home. There are potential medical reasons that make this option necessary for a small number of water customers. There are additional costs associated with this option, which is assessed to the customer. The cost depends on the complexity of each individual situation. If you are contacted by someone who wants more information about this metering option, please refer them to Public Works Director Brian Olson.
- 6. Upcoming Council Work Sessions** – Our July 17 Council Work Session will be the Council’s first ever Quarterly Business Meeting. Staff are working on the agenda and content for that meeting now. It will have a 5 p.m. start time. The Council’s Aug. 6 Work Session will consist of two unrelated subjects: a joint meeting between the Council and the Historic Preservation Board followed by a staff presentation on the pros and cons of creating a rental housing inspection program. The Council’s Aug. 21 Work Session is still in the planning stages, but is likely to be a joint meeting with the Edina Board of Education and a presentation on the proposed budget process for 2013.

7. **Golf Dome Replacement** – Parks & Rec staff are working with the Cunningham Group to prepare plans and specifications for the replacement of the golf dome. Lead times in the manufacturing of the fabric are going to push the completion date of the project into December or January. We are still working with Travelers to determine the final insurance settlement for the loss. We should be able to complete those discussions when the plans and specifications for the new golf dome have been completed.
  
8. **Appropriation of 2011 Undesignated Fund Balance** – I am working with staff on a recommendation for the Council for appropriating the \$1.6 million undesignated General Fund balance from the 2011 budget. I will present the recommendation to the Council at the Aug. 6 Council meeting.