

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

DATE: FRIDAY, MAY 18, 2012
TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: SCOTT H. NEAL, CITY MANAGER
RE: FRIDAY REPORT FOR MAY 18, 2012

FRIDAY REPORT



- 1. Ground Breaking Event At Southdale Center** – Council Members are invited to attend a press conference at Southdale Center on Thursday, May 24 at 2 p.m. in the center court area outside of Herberger's.
- 2. Rescheduled MLC Board Meeting** – The May 7 MLC Board meeting that was canceled has been rescheduled for 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Monday, May 21, in the Hughes Pavilion at Centennial Lakes Park. If Council Members would like to attend, please RSVP through Susan Howl.
- 3. Employee News** – Brian Olson, our new Public Works Director, starts his new job here on Tuesday, May 29. Ross Bintner will start on Tuesday, May 29, as our new Environmental Engineer. He fills the position formally occupied by Jesse Struve. Ross is currently the Water Resources Engineer for the City of Prior Lake. Chad Millner will start on Monday, June 4, as our new Assistant City Engineer. He is currently a Project Engineer at SEH Engineering and has been working for the City on contract from SEH since February.
- 4. Edina Aquatic Center News** – In April, the City earned \$150,915 in online season pass revenue for the Edina Aquatic Center. Online season pass sales in April 2011 were \$108,986. The new FlowRider, named The Lost Wave, was tested this week. Construction continues on the new amenity toward the grand opening in June.
- 5. Golf Dome Future** – As I mentioned at the Council meeting this week, staff will advance a recommendation to the City Council at its June 5 meeting to rebuild the Braemar Golf Dome at the current golf dome site. Staff have been informed that making this decision in June will allow the City to plan, bid and rebuild the golf dome in time to put it into operation by November 2012.
- 6. Building Permit Revenue** – The City experienced an exceptional month of building permit activity and revenue in April. Reported building permit revenue for April was \$225,935 -- making it the sixth highest revenue month ever. Building permit revenue in April 2011 was \$124,951. In 2010, April building permit revenue was \$130,218. In 2009, it was \$81,020.
- 7. South Metro Public Safety Training Facility** – TPT2 is doing a special program this summer on innovative government collaborative programs and projects in Minnesota. One of the projects they plan to profile is the South Metro Public Safety Training Facility. I will interview with Gail Hudson for the program next week.
- 8. Open to Business** – In 2011, Council approved the City's participation in the Open to Business program in 2012. The business advising/mentoring program has been working with Edina residents since January. The program will begin to have regular business office hours in City Hall starting in June. A representative from Open to Business will be in the Mill Room in the Assessing Division Office on the second Wednesday of each month from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. City staff will not book appointments for Open to Business. We will have instructions about how to book an appointment on our website.

9. **Edinburgh Park Recommendation** – City staff had originally planned to advance a recommendation to the Park Board regarding the future of Edinburgh Park at the May 8 Park Board meeting. Staff decided to postpone that presentation in order to develop a more detailed financial pro forma for the recommendation and the alternatives. We now plan to advance this recommendation to the Park Board for their review and comment at its June 12 meeting. In my May 11 Friday Report, I told the Council that staff planned to advance this recommendation to the Council at the Council’s June 26 meeting. We now plan to push that consideration at the Council level back to July 19.

10. **Electronic Council Packets** – Staff are starting to research options for creating and distributing our Council meeting prep packets to Council Members electronically. If you have any thoughts on that matter, please share them with City Clerk Deb Mangen. Staff wants to discuss this item with Council Members at the July 17 second quarter Business Meeting.