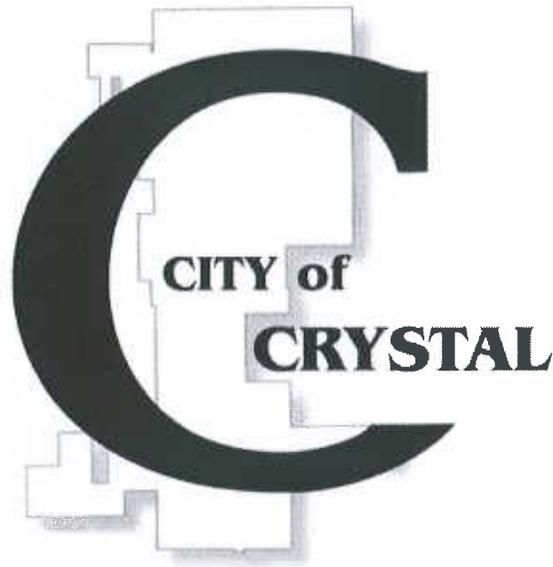


NEWSBRIEF



Date: June 24, 2016

To: Council & Senior Staff

Turn the page for a list of what's included in this packet.

(Items are alphabetized)

1. Capitol Update by Sen. Ann H. Rest (June 25, 2016)
2. Code Review Taskforce Meeting Notes (May 26, 2016)
3. Communications Highlights for June (June 24, 2016)
4. Crystal Planning Commission Agenda (July 11, 2016)
5. Crystal Police Department Arrest Report (June 15–22, 2016)
6. Crystal Police Department Media Report (June 22)
7. Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) Meeting Minutes (May 19, 2016)
8. Local Market Update (May 2016)
9. Sun Post Article on Blue Line Extension (June 21, 2016)
10. Sun Post Video Link of Airport Open House (June 23, 2016)



Dear Constituents,

Just a quick reminder that our next listening session will be this **Saturday** (June 25th) from 11 AM to Noon at Frankie's, 3556 Winnetka Ave N., New Hope (36th and Winnetka.)

These events are an opportunity for constituents to stop by and talk about current legislative issues. All are welcome.

Please check my [Senate webpage](#) for future listening session dates to be announced.

In your service,

Ann

3209 Minnesota Senate Building
95 University Ave West
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Approved 6-28-16

CITY CODE REVIEW TASK FORCE

MEETING NOTES

MAY 26, 2016

Task Force Members Present: Kirsten Anderson, Bonnie Bolash, Carolyn Maristany, Candace Oathout and David Seffren.

Also present: City Attorney Troy Gilchrist and City Manager Anne Norris.

Vice Chair Maristany called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Elect New Chair for City Code Review Task Force

With the resignation of Chair Richter, a new chair is needed for the Task Force. Motion by Bolash, seconded by Seffren to name Carolyn Maristany as Chair of the Task Force. Motion carried.

With the consent of the Task Force, Bonnie Bolash volunteered to be Vice Chair of the Task Force.

April 28, 2016 Meeting Notes

The April 28, 2016 meeting notes were accepted as presented.

Review Comments – Chapter 6, Sections 630 – 670

Section 635 – Merge with Section 605.

Section 635.01, Subd. 2 – Definitions need to be relocated and definitions need to be updated and reference appropriate terms (litter, garbage).

Section 635.03 -.07 – The Task Force agreed litter and abandoned property need to be separated. There is an incorrect citation in 635.07.

Section 635.09 – Simplify and clarify. Updated references to health inspector.

Section 640 – The Task Force agreed this section needs to be renamed, overhauled and updated.

Section 640.01 – The Task Force agreed the purpose section needs to be relocated or removed.

Section 640.03 – Definitions need to be reviewed and updated as needed and relocated consistent with prior sections.

Section 640.15, Subd. 4 – Update (eliminate permit requirement if possible) and native vegetation better defined. Move references to weeds to the weed section.

Section 640.19, Subd. 1d – Be sure reference to State statutes is current.

Section 640.17, Subd. e – Update and remove need for permits and strengthen language regarding enforcement.

Section 640.21 – Make consistent with previous discussion on this topic. Make sure penalties are current and consistent with others.

Section 645.01 – Make sure formatting is consistent with previous/other sections.

Section 645.03, Subd. 3 – Update. Attempt to distinguish between one-time noise and multiple noise situations.

Section 645.03, Subd. 8 – Update and eliminate redundancy.

Section 645.05 – Reformat, consider using a table. Questioned the need for establishing different hours weekdays and weekends.

Section 645.07, Subd. 2 – Why is the exception only for city streets and not county or state highways?

Section 645.09, Subd. 2 – Be sure reference to State statutes is current.

Section 645.15 – Reformat similar to other sections.

Section 645.15, Subd. 3 – Clarify.

Section 645.15, Subd. 5 – Clarify authority of noise control officer.

Section 645.19, Sects. 2, 3, 5, 6 – Clarify to make less confusing and be sure penalties are consistent with previous discussions throughout Code.

Section 645.19, Subd. 3 – Clarify rules for legal procedure reference. Use full citations for cross-references to other sections.

Section 646 – Remove since railroads are regulated at the federal level.

Section 650.01 – Relocate definitions. Consider combining with sections on garbage.

Section 650.01, Subd. 2 and 7 – Use one term and one definition.

Section 650.01, Subd. 5 – Make staff person consistent with rest of Code.

Section 650.03 – Clarify City Council (not just council).

Section 650.05 – Clarify and define different services and how they are billed.

Section 650.11 – Update archaic language (public health sanitarian). [*Council member Kolb requested the No Scavenging prohibition be raised as part of the report to the City Council*].

Section 650.17 – Relocate to the section discussing garbage.

Section 650.19 – Relocate definitions as in previous discussions/sections.

Section 655.01 – Update the entire Section 655 to reflect community standards, not be AIDS focused, and format to previous sections and discussions.

Section 655.09 – Typo

Section 660 – Relocate to where other deleted sections are.

Section 665 – Update to be consistent with State law. Expand notification requirements, particularly near schools, daycares, churches or playgrounds.

Section 670 – Update and expand this section beyond meth labs. Should this include hazardous materials? Update references to the official involved in these matters.

Assignments and Homework

The homework is to review Chapter VIII, Sections 800 – 810. Comments are due Monday, June 13, 2016. The next meeting of the Task Force is Thursday, June 23, 2016.

Adjournment

Chair Maristany adjourned the meeting of the City Code Review Task Force at 9 p.m.



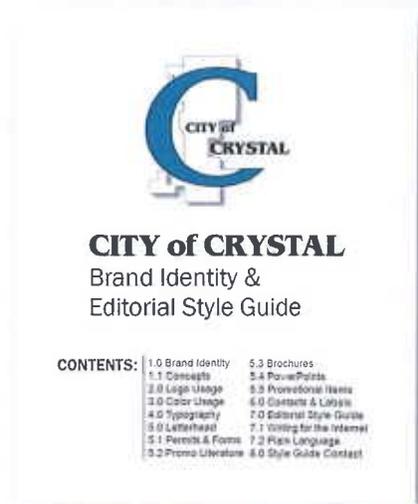
Communication Highlights (June)

Crystal Brand Identity & Editorial Style Guide

In my first year as communications coordinator, I wanted to create a guide for staff that explains the Crystal brand and offers ways to reinforce it consistently across all applications and materials. The 20-page guide is meant to not inhibit, but improve the creativity of staff, while stressing the importance of maintaining the brand's integrity.

The guide includes sections on city identity, logo use, color palette, typefaces, forms, designing publications, PowerPoints, email signatures, writing for the internet, implementing plain language and an editorial style guide.

The guide was presented to senior staff in early June, and then presented to their staff. Hard copies were made available, and it is also on the city's "I" network drive in pdf.



Vehicle Speed Perception Video

I published a video designed to enhance people's perception of vehicle speed within a residential setting June 1. The video was requested by Public Works Director Mark Ray and filmed in Crystal. Often residents complain about cars speeding through neighborhoods, but it is difficult to establish how fast they are going. The video is available on the City's YouTube Channel and at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=blp5ysHVdca>

CGI Communications Video Profile

For the last six years, the City of Crystal has featured a multi-chaptered video profile on its website designed to attract residents and businesses to the city (go to the Crystal Video Tour under the Video Highlights on the homepage). Every three years the video is updated. This year, the company that edits the video and sells ad space with it went to a higher-definition format, and I led their videographer around Crystal in early June. The first draft was complete and we are working on some minor changes. The video should be complete and available in July. The first draft is available at <http://bit.ly/28Oym3g>





Becker Park Pavilion Rental

City of Crystal
Channel settings

11 views

+ Add to Share ... More

Published on Jun 23, 2016

This site is perfect for indoor/outdoor picnics, family gatherings and company functions. It can accommodate up to 80 people.

New Becker Park Pavilion Rental Video (right):

This one-minute video was created for the recreation web area so that residents can learn more about the facility.

The video is available on the city's YouTube channel and will be loaded to the city website. Click below to view:

<https://youtu.be/ndsFFxL5sho>



4141 Douglas Drive North •
Crystal, Minnesota 55422-1696

Crystal Planning Commission Agenda

Monday, July 11, 2016

7 p.m.

Crystal City Hall Council Chambers

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Monday, June 13, 2016 meeting minutes
3. Public Hearings*
 - a. Variance request from SVK Development to reduce the required front setback for two single-family homes located at 3226 and 3232 Georgia Avenue North
4. Old Business - None
5. New Business - None
6. General Information
 - a. City Council actions on previous Planning Commission items: Early Steps Learning Foundation CUP
 - b. Update from Council Liaison
 - c. Update on City Code Review Task Force
 - d. Staff preview of likely agenda items for Monday, August 8, 2016 meeting
7. Open Forum
8. Adjournment

** Items for which supporting materials will be included in the meeting packet.*

CITY OF CRYSTAL

**PROPOSED VARIANCE APPLICATION FOR
SVK DEVELOPMENT LLC**

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
7:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, JULY 11, 2016
CRYSTAL CITY HALL (4141 DOUGLAS DR N)**

The Crystal Planning Commission will consider a Variance application from SVK Development to reduce the required front setback from 30' to 15' for the properties located at 3226 and 3232 Georgia Avenue North in the Gardendale Subdivision.

General summary of the proposal:

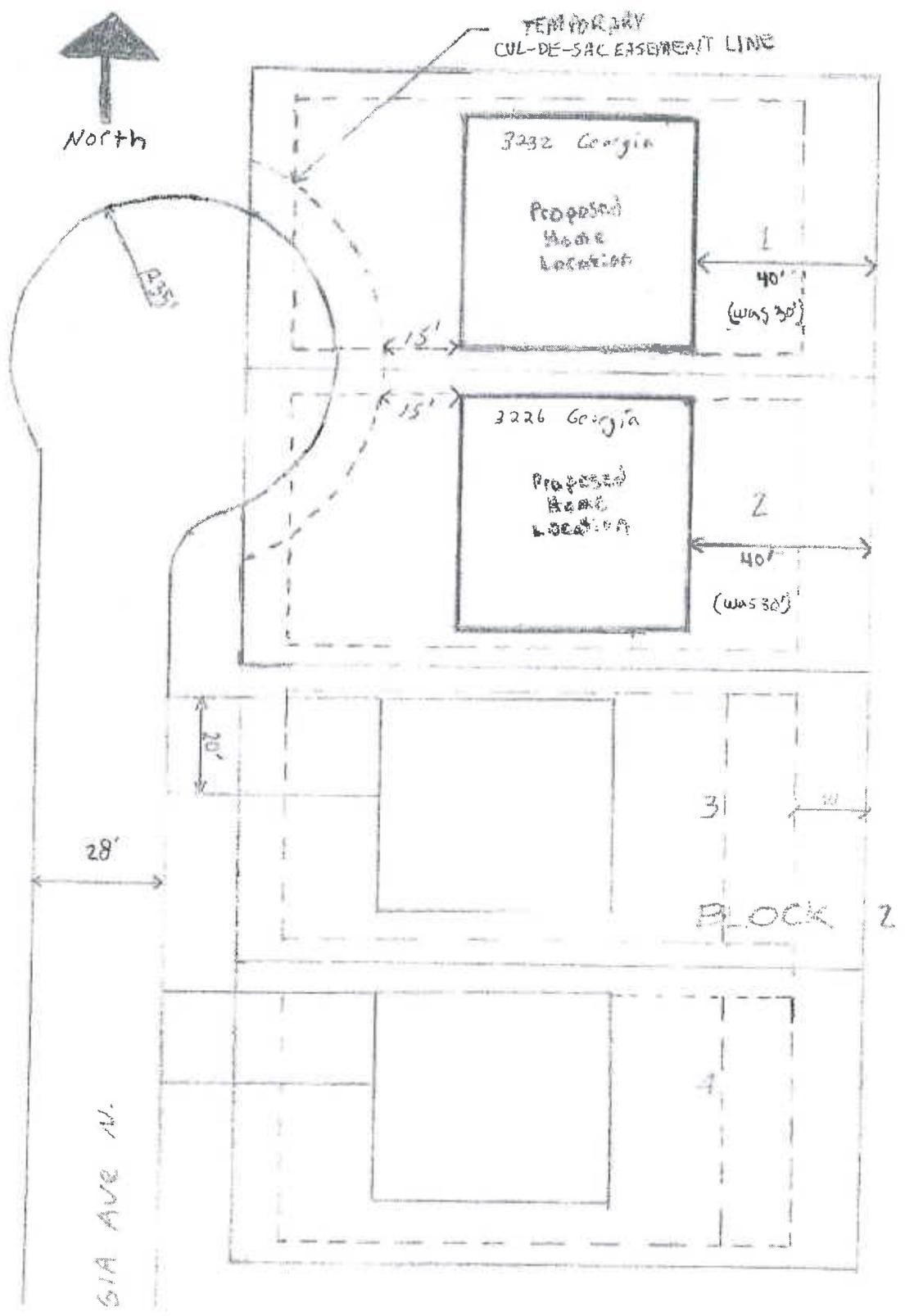
- SVK Development is proposing to reduce the required 30' minimum front setback for the proposed homes at 3226 and 3232 Georgia Avenue North to 15'. The proposed distance is measure from the cul-de-sac easement line to the home's foundation, which would mean the new homes would be located approximately 25' from the cul-de-sac curb instead of the currently required 40'.

The public is invited to view the proposal at Crystal City Hall during normal business hours or on the city website at www.crystalmn.gov/city_departments/land_use_applications.php. The Planning Commission staff report will be available for viewing after July 8th at the same weblink.

To discuss the proposal or submit written comments for the record, please contact Dan Olson, City of Crystal, 4141 Douglas Dr. N., Crystal, MN 55422, dan.olson@crystalmn.gov or 763-531-1142.

To speak directly to the Planning Commission, please attend the public hearing on Monday, July 11, 2016 at 7 p.m. at Crystal City Hall.

LEGAL NOTICE: Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the City of Crystal will meet on July 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Crystal City Hall, 4141 Douglas Drive North, in said City, to consider a Variance Application for SVK Development LLC to reduce the required front setback from 30' to 15' for the properties located at 3226 and 3232 Georgia Avenue North. After holding the public hearing, the Commission is expected to make a recommendation to the City Council for their meeting on Tuesday, July 19, 2016. Persons desiring to be heard are invited and encouraged to attend the public hearing. Persons unable to attend may submit written comments prior to the date of the hearing to: Dan Olson, City of Crystal, 4141 Douglas Dr N, Crystal MN 55422. Auxiliary aids for handicap persons are available upon request at least 96 hours in advance. Please call the City Clerk at 763-531-1145 to make arrangements. Deaf and Hard of Hearing callers should contact the Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 V/TTY or call 711 to be connected to a TTY.



Crystal

Arrest Report

Date Range: 06/15/2016 06:00:00 AM - 06/22/2016 06:00:00 AM

<u>Case Nbr</u>	<u>Juv</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Middle</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Date Arrested</u>
CYAR16-014320	N	ST JOHN	TRAVIS	DAVID	M	39	06/15/2016 3:56 PM
		Address: 6001 56 AV N	3	CRYSTAL	MN	55429	
		Statute: 609-605-1-B-4	TRESPASS-BUILDING OR DWELLING				
CYAR16-014344	N	WARD	RONNIE	TYRONE	M	27	06/16/2016 12:22 AM
		Address: 5414 OLD SHAKOPEE CIR W		BLOOMINGTON	MN	55437	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-1	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEGREE				
CYAR16-014344	N	WARD	RONNIE	TYRONE	M	27	06/16/2016 12:22 AM
		Address: 5414 OLD SHAKOPEE CIR W		BLOOMINGTON	MN	55437	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-5	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEG ALCOHOL CONC OVER .08 OR MORE W/ 2 HOURS				
CYAR16-014414	N	HENNING	BRANDON	JOHN	M	21	06/16/2016 7:00 PM
		Address: 7018 46 PL N		CRYSTAL	MN	55428	
		Statute: MISWA	MISC OFCR WARRANT ARREST				
CYAR16-014422	N	GEORGE	JOSEPH	CALVIN T	M	37	06/16/2016 8:51 PM
		Address: 8040 INGLESIDE AV S		COTTAGE	MN	55016	
		Statute: MISWA	MISC OFCR WARRANT ARREST				
CYAR16-014441	N	ROSS	JUSTIN	NICHOLAS	M	44	06/17/2016 12:04 AM
		Address: 2305 GOLDEN VALLEY RD		MINNEAPOLIS	MN	55411	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-1	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEGREE				
CYAR16-014441	N	ROSS	JUSTIN	NICHOLAS	M	44	06/17/2016 12:04 AM
		Address: 2305 GOLDEN VALLEY RD		MINNEAPOLIS	MN	55411	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-5	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEG ALCOHOL CONC OVER .08 OR MORE W/ 2 HOURS				
CYAR16-014527	N	EDGEWORTH	RONNIE	THOMAS	M	20	06/17/2016 11:40 PM
		Address: 4164 BRYANT AV N	1	MINNEAPOLIS	MN	55412	
		Statute: 169-797-2	TRAF-DRIVE WITHOUT INSURANCE - OWNER-GM				
CYAR16-014527	N	EDGEWORTH	RONNIE	THOMAS	M	20	06/17/2016 11:40 PM
		Address: 4164 BRYANT AV N	1	MINNEAPOLIS	MN	55412	
		Statute: 171-24-2	TRAF-DRIVING AFTER REVOCATION				
CYAR16-014556	N	ISIDRO	ALEJANDRO	ANDRES	M	30	06/18/2016 6:20 AM
		Address: 4642 TYLER ST NE		COLUMBIA HTS	MN	55421	
		Statute: MISWA	MISC OFCR WARRANT ARREST				
CYAR16-014578	N	HOUSE	KAMREN	KEVON	M	19	06/18/2016 1:35 PM
		Address: 5800 40 AV N		ROBBINSDALE	MN	55422	
		Statute: 609-52-2-1	THEFT-SHOPLIFTING-LESS THAN \$500(609-52-2-1)				
CYAR16-014609	N	NUR	ISSE	A	M	42	06/18/2016 7:27 PM
		Address: 4301 WELCOME AV N		CRYSTAL	MN	55422	
		Statute: 609-221-1	ASSAULT-AGGR-2ND DEG-NON-FAMILY-KNIFE				
CYAR16-014639	N	WHITTEY	BRANDON	REID	M	44	06/19/2016 3:12 AM
		Address: 3731 WASHBURN AV N		MINNEAPOLIS	MN	55412	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-1	TRAF-DUI 2ND DEGREE				
CYAR16-014639	N	WHITTEY	BRANDON	REID	M	44	06/19/2016 3:12 AM
		Address: 3731 WASHBURN AV N		MINNEAPOLIS	MN	55412	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-5	TRAF-DUI 2ND DEG ALCOHOL CONC OVER .08 OR MORE W/ 2 HOURS				
CYAR16-014642	N	WHITTEY	AMY	BRAFORD	F	44	06/19/2016 3:30 AM
		Address: 3731 WASHBURN AV N		MINNEAPOLIS	MN	55412	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-5	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEG ALCOHOL CONC OVER .08 OR MORE W/ 2 HOURS				

Arrest Report

Date Range: 06/15/2016 06:00:00 AM - 06/22/2016 06:00:00 AM

<u>Case Nbr</u>	<u>Juv</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Middle</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Date Arrested</u>
CYAR16-014642	N	WHITTEY	AMY	BRAFORD	F	44	06/19/2016 3:30 AM
		Address: 3731 WASHBURN AV N		MINNEAPOLIS	MN	55412	
		Statute: 169A-27-1 TRAF-DWI-4TH DEGREE-DRIVING WHILE IMPAIRED					
CYAR16-014659	N				F	25	06/19/2016 12:56 PM
		Address: 4417 ALDRICH AV N		MINNEAPOLIS	MN	55412	
		Statute: MISWA MISC OFCR WARRANT ARREST					
CYAR16-014659	N				M	24	06/19/2016 12:56 PM
		Address: 642 FULLER AV		ST. PAUL	MN	55104	
		Statute: 518B-01-14-C DOMESTIC ABUSE-VIOLATES OFF W/IN 10 YEARS OF PREVIOUS					
CYAR16-014828	Y				M	17	06/21/2016 12:22 AM
		Address: MISWA MISC OFCR WARRANT ARREST					
CYAR16-014816	N	SALAZAR	LEONARDO	MARTINEZ	M	34	06/21/2016 2:54 AM
		Address: 2737 COLUMBUS AV S		MINNEAPOLIS	MN	55408	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-1 TRAF-DUI 2ND DEGREE					
CYAR16-014816	N	SALAZAR	LEONARDO	MARTINEZ	M	34	06/21/2016 2:54 AM
		Address: 2737 COLUMBUS AV S		MINNEAPOLIS	MN	55408	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-5 TRAF-DUI 2ND DEG ALCOHOL CONC OVER .08 OR MORE W/ 2 HOURS					
CYAR16-014816	N	SALAZAR	LEONARDO	MARTINEZ	M	34	06/21/2016 2:54 AM
		Address: 2737 COLUMBUS AV S		MINNEAPOLIS	MN	55408	
		Statute: 171-05-1-A TRAF-DL-VIOLATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL PERMIT-18 OR OLDER					

End of Report



CRYSTAL POLICE DEPARTMENT MEDIA REPORT
CASE ACTIVITY: Previous 7 Days prior to

June 22, 2016 - 12:00:00 AM

CASE NO	LOCATION	OFFENSE	VALUE	PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	DATE OCCURRED
CY16-014422	70 - 34 AV N	ACC-VEHICLE PROPERTY DAMAGE			06/16/2016 20:31
CY16-014609	43 - WELCOME AV N	ASSAULT-AGGR-2ND DEG-NON-FAMILY-KNIFE			06/18/2016 19:19
CY16-014622	47 AV N&CO RD 81	ASSIST OTHER AGENCY			06/18/2016 23:36
CY16-014659	60 - LAKELAND AV N	DOMESTIC ABUSE-VIOLATES OFF			06/19/2016 12:00
CY16-014503	54 - LAKELAND AV N	FRAUD-THEFT-FALSE			06/17/2016 17:49
CY16-014376	47 - 58 AV N	JUV			06/15/2016 00:00
CY16-014829	55 - WEST BROADWAY	JUV			06/19/2016 00:00
CY16-014816	56-AV N&CO RD 81	MISC DETOX			06/21/2016 02:35
CY16-014555	60 - LAKELAND AV N	MISC OTHER			06/18/2016 05:10
CY16-014422	70 - 34 AV N	MISC WARRANT ARREST			06/16/2016 20:31
CY16-014659	60 - LAKELAND AV N	MISC WARRANT ARREST			06/19/2016 12:00
CY16-014578	53 - 36 AV N	THEFT-SHOPLIFTING	25	MERCHANDISE - \$25	06/18/2016 13:35
CY16-014479	27 - DOUGLAS DR N	TRAF-ACC-HIT AND RUN			06/17/2016 12:40
CY16-014816	56 AV N&CO RD 81	TRAF-DL-VIOLATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL			06/21/2016 02:35
CY16-014639	42 AV N&HWY 100	TRAF-DUI 2ND DEG ALCOHOL CONC			06/19/2016 03:02
CY16-014816	56 AV N&CO RD 81	TRAF-DUI 2ND DEG ALCOHOL CONC			06/21/2016 02:35
CY16-014639	42 AV N&HWY 100	TRAF-DUI 2ND DEGREE			06/19/2016 03:02
CY16-014816	56 AV N&CO RD 81	TRAF-DUI 2ND DEGREE			06/21/2016 02:35
CY16-014344	47 AV N&WEST BROADWAY	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEG ALCOHOL CONC			06/16/2016 00:06
CY16-014441	36 AV N TO SB	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEG ALCOHOL CONC			06/16/2016 23:55
CY16-014344	47 AV N&WEST BROADWAY	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEGREE			06/16/2016 00:06
CY16-014441	36 AV N TO SB	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEGREE			06/16/2016 23:55
CY16-014320	55 - LAKELAND AV N	TRESPASS-BUILDING OR DWELLING			06/15/2016 15:56

End of Report

minutes

6-16-16

Crystal, Environmental Quality Commission Meeting		
5.19.2016	7:05 pm	Crystal City Hall
Meeting called by	ReNae Bowman, EQC Secretary	
Type of meeting	City of Crystal, Environmental Quality Commission Meeting	
Note taker	ReNae Bowman	
Attendees	ReNae Bowman, Kyle Turner, Dave Anderson, Mark Hanson City Staff Rep: Anne Norris,	
Old Business		
[Time allotted]	General Discussion	
1. Approve Minutes	Moved by Dave with a second provided by Mark	
2. Officer Election	None	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Old Business - General		
[Time allotted]	General Discussion	
Discussion		
Conclusions	See below:	
<p>1. Tech Dump Day, May 21</p> <p>2. June 11 - Annual MAC Park Clean-up</p> <p>3. Green purchasing policy- discussion: Anne will draft something for June meeting.</p>		
	Person Responsible	Deadline
New Business		
[Time allotted]	[Presenter]	
Discussion	None	
Conclusions	Meeting adjourned at 7:45	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Next meeting: June 16, 2016		

SUN POST
6-23-16

Community & People • Government

Will Southwest light rail's lack of funding affect the Blue Line Extension?

Published June 21, 2016 at 8:11 am

By Joe Bowen

Some city leaders worry lack of state funding could jeopardize federal grants; transit authority staff say projects don't compete against one another for federal money



An updated map of the Metro Blue Line Extension, a 13-mile light rail transitway proposed to run from Minneapolis through Brooklyn Park. (Map provided by Blue Line Extension Project Office)



Some West Metro leaders have shown concern for the fate of the Blue Line Extension light rail project as a similar transportation project awaits state funding.

The Green Line Extension – also known as the “Southwest Line” – needs about \$135 million apportioned to it from the state, but Minnesota lawmakers could not reach an agreement to do that before their legislative session ended in May.

While the governor and other legislative leaders are battling conditions for a special session back and forth, some city-level leaders fear the light rail line's current lack of funding could create a logjam of sorts, where both it and the Blue Line compete with one another for construction grants in future federal budgets. Both projects plan to pay for nearly 50 percent of their costs with money from the Federal Transit Authority.

“There are numerous other projects throughout the United States that are applying for federal funding,” said Robbinsdale Mayor Regan Murphy, who worried that other projects – with their state and local money in line – could “leapfrog” the Blue Line. “If we don't have a plan to fund Southwest, that sends a signal to the federal government that we may not have support for the Blue Line.”

“If the Federal Transit Administration sees that the Minnesota Legislature isn't going to support these projects, then why would they support other projects in the near future?” said Golden Valley Mayor Shep Harris. “That will be their reason just to bypass Minnesota and look at other applicants across the country.”

Staff at the FTA said that other funding sources need to be identified before they can “move forward” with awarding a construction grant to either transit project, but added that projects do not compete against one another. Rather, projects receive federal funding based on fund availability, project readiness and the results of an evaluation process.

Crystal Mayor Jim Adams said he thinks the Blue Line faces fewer challenges than Southwest.

“Everything I'm hearing from the project office is that we're standing on our own and will be approved on our own merits,” Adams said. “I believe the Blue Line has a better chance just based on its process being a little smoother.”

The majority of the Crystal City Council made a point of not giving “municipal consent” for the project, per se, preferring instead to take no formal action and thereby tacitly approving the project. Councilmember Elizabeth Dahl said she wanted to pick the best “no” vote for the project in a “scenario of yeses” and speculated that the light rail line could be stopped entirely in the Legislature. Dahl did not return a request for comment for this article.

Brooklyn Park Mayor Jeff Lunde said the city will concentrate on what city leaders can control, like being ready with the correct plans, when the light rail line funding comes through and the line is constructed. About half of the 13-mile Blue Line will be in Brooklyn Park, along County Road 81 and the BNSF Railway corridor and West Broadway from 73rd Avenue all the way to Oak Grove Parkway at the Target corporate campus. As its informal name implies, the Southwest Line is planned to connect southwestern suburbs like Hopkins and Eden Prairie to downtown Minneapolis.

"We are ready," Lunde said. "We know that, at the end of the day, that decision is out of our purview."

He used Highway 610, which was decades in the making and will finally connect to Interstate 94 this fall, and the so-called "devil's triangle" of County Road 81, Highway 169 and 85th Avenue, as examples where the city was completely ready with project plans when funding finally came to complete the projects.

"This is a very tenuous moment for ... not just the metro area that needs to rely on mass transit in the future, but even for greater Minnesota," Harris said.

Golden Valley Councilmember Andy Snope, who also serves on the Blue Line Extension's Corridor Management Committee, testified at the state Capitol on Golden Valley's behalf. He provided background information about the Blue Line Extension to the Capital Investment Conference Committee and explained how much work city officials and residents had invested in the project thus far.

"The whole purpose of the testimony really was to bring an 'in' to the argument of sustainable transit funding, which of course [the Legislature] failed to put together," Snope said.

The management committee has not met since lawmakers adjourned. A June 2 meeting, which was initially scheduled to discuss a new project scope and budget, was cancelled as was another meeting scheduled for June 23.

"In light of the recent legislative activities regarding the transportation bill, the Project Office's focus needs to be redirected for the next couple weeks," wrote Communications Manager Laura Baenen.

Project staff said they have asked committee members to hold special meetings July 7 and July 21.

Metropolitan Council light rail planners declined to be interviewed for this article, and released the following statement instead: "Whether a special session will be held and

funding secured for Southwest LRT remain unknown. We cannot speculate on what might happen and how any outcome would impact the Blue Line Extension.”

Metropolitan Council Chair Adam Duinick released a statement of his own June 15, which reads in part, “There are a number of ways the legislature can act to ensure Minnesota does not lose the \$900 million in federal money for the (Southwest) project. The project continues to enjoy broad support from the business community, local elected leaders and people across the region.”

Contact Joe Bowen at joe.bowen@ecm-inc.com

Community Editors Gina Purcell and Gretchen Schlosser contributed to this report.

Filed Under: [Brooklyn Park](#), [Crystal](#), [Golden Valley](#), [Robbinsdale](#)



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Sun Post
6-23-16

Arts & Entertainment • Community & People

VIDEO: Planes, helicopters and a remembrance at airport open house

Published June 21, 2016 at 1:05 pm

By Joe Bowen

