

NEWSBRIEF



Date: July 1, 2016

To: Council & Senior Staff

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

(Items are alphabetized)

1. Crystal Arrest and Crime Activity Reports (June 22-29, 2016)
2. Ewald at the Capitol (June 24, 2016)
3. LMC Cities Bulletin (June 27, 2016)
4. News from Hennepin County Commissioner Linda Higgins (July 2016)
5. Northwest Community Television Spotlight (July – August 2016)
6. Paster Properties: 91,000 Square Feet of Retail Space Leased at Crystal Shopping Center

Crystal Arrest Report

Date Range: 06/22/2016 06:00:00 AM - 06/29/2016 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>
CYAR16-010133	N	RYAN	MORRIS	ROBERT	M	19	06/22/2016 8:19 PM
		Address: 4425 RHODE ISLAND AV N	223	NEW HOPE	MN	55428	
		Statute: 609-52-2-1	THEFT-VEH MOTOR VEHICLE				
CYAR16-014991	N	LONG	ALLEN	RANDALL	M	54	06/23/2016 1:00 AM
		Address: 3220 FRANCE AV N		ROBBINSDALE	MN	55422	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-1	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEGREE				
CYAR16-014991	N	LONG	ALLEN	RANDALL	M	54	06/23/2016 1:00 AM
		Address: 3220 FRANCE AV N		ROBBINSDALE	MN	55422	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-5	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEG ALCOHOL CONC OVER .08 OR MORE W/ 2 HOURS				
CYAR16-015046	N	SCHULTZ	BONNIE	LISA	F	35	06/23/2016 6:47 PM
		Address: HOMELESS		MINNEAPOLIS	MN		
		Statute: 152-092	CONT SUBST-POSS-DRUG PARAPHERNALIA				
CYAR16-015046	N	SCHULTZ	BONNIE	LISA	F	35	06/23/2016 6:47 PM
		Address: HOMELESS		MINNEAPOLIS	MN		
		Statute: MISWA	MISC OFCR WARRANT ARREST				
CYAR16-015068	N	PHRACHOMPHONH	NATHAN	TAWATTXAY	M	27	06/23/2016 11:26 PM
		Address: 7800 MAPLE HILL RD	B4	CORCORAN	MN	55340	
		Statute: MISWA	MISC OFCR WARRANT ARREST				
CYAR16-015091	N	HART	CASEY	NIKKO	M	33	06/24/2016 2:29 AM
		Address: 3060 SUMTER AV N	5	CRYSTAL	MN	55427	
		Statute: 169A-20-2	TRAF-DUI 2ND DEG REFUSAL TO SUBMIT TO TEST				
CYAR16-015091	N	HART	CASEY	NIKKO	M	33	06/24/2016 2:29 AM
		Address: 3060 SUMTER AV N	5	CRYSTAL	MN	55427	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-1	TRAF-DUI 3RD DEGREE				
CYAR16-015091	N	HART	CASEY	NIKKO	M	33	06/24/2016 2:29 AM
		Address: 3060 SUMTER AV N	5	CRYSTAL	MN	55427	
		Statute: 624-7142-1-4	WEAPON-CARRY WHILE UNDER INFLUENCE ALCOHOL				
CYAR16-015091	N	HART	CASEY	NIKKO	M	33	06/24/2016 2:29 AM
		Address: 3060 SUMTER AV N	5	CRYSTAL	MN	55427	
		Statute: 169A-35-3	TRAF-OPEN BOTTLE-DRIVER/PASSENGER POSSESS				
CYAR16-015132	N	GRANDISON	STEIVSON		M	49	06/24/2016 9:03 PM
		Address: 3430 OLIVER AV N		MINNEAPOLIS	MN	55412	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-5	TRAF-DUI 3RD DEG ALCOHOL CONC OVER .08 OR MORE W/ 2 HOURS				
CYAR16-015132	N	GRANDISON	STEIVSON		M	49	06/24/2016 9:03 PM
		Address: 3430 OLIVER AV N		MINNEAPOLIS	MN	55412	
		Statute: 169A-25-1-A	TRAF-DWI-2ND DEG-DRIVING WHILE IMPAIRED-2 OR MORE				
CYAR16-015132	N	GRANDISON	STEIVSON		M	49	06/24/2016 9:03 PM
		Address: 3430 OLIVER AV N		MINNEAPOLIS	MN	55412	
		Statute: 171-02-1	TRAF-DL-NO MN DL/WRONG CLASS/MORE THAN ONE VALID				
CYAR16-015137	N	MARTIN	DESHAUN	MARCEL	M	24	06/24/2016 11:48 PM
		Address: 2568 RHODE ISLAND AV N		GOLDEN VALLEY	MN	55427	
		Statute: 169-14-2	TRAF-SPEEDING				
CYAR16-015137	N	MARTIN	DESHAUN	MARCEL	M	24	06/24/2016 11:48 PM
		Address: 2568 RHODE ISLAND AV N		GOLDEN VALLEY	MN	55427	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-5	TRAF-DUI 2ND DEG ALCOHOL CONC OVER .08 OR MORE W/ 2 HOURS				

Arrest Report

Date Range: 06/22/2016 06:00:00 AM - 06/29/2016 06:00:00 AM

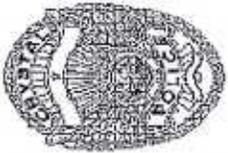
<u>Case Nbr</u>	<u>Juv</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Middle</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Date Arrested</u>
CYAR16-015304	N	GRAHAM	JORDYN	NICOLE	F	29	06/26/2016 11:51 PM
		Address: HOMELESS		MINNEAPOLIS	MN		
		Statute: 609-605-1-B-4 TRESPASS-BUILDING OR DWELLING					
CYAR16-015304	N	GRAHAM	JORDYN	NICOLE	F	29	06/26/2016 11:51 PM
		Address: HOMELESS		MINNEAPOLIS	MN		
		Statute: 609-72-1 DISTURB-DISORDERLY CONDUCT					
CYAR16-015304	N	GRAHAM	JORDYN	NICOLE	F	29	06/26/2016 11:51 PM
		Address: HOMELESS		MINNEAPOLIS	MN		
		Statute: 609-595-3 CRIMINAL DAMAGE PROP-4TH DEG-VALUE \$1 TO \$500					
CYAR16-015328	N	PORTER	MICHAEL	TRAVIS	M	25	06/27/2016 10:29 AM
		Address: 8201 45 AV N		119 NEW HOPE	MN	55428	
		Statute: 169A-20-2 1 TRAF-DUI 1ST DEG REFUSAL TO SUBMIT TO TEST					
CYAR16-015328	N	PORTER	MICHAEL	TRAVIS	M	25	06/27/2016 10:29 AM
		Address: 8201 45 AV N		119 NEW HOPE	MN	55428	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-1 TRAF-DUI 1ST DEGREE					
CYAR16-015328	N	PORTER	MICHAEL	TRAVIS	M	25	06/27/2016 10:29 AM
		Address: 8201 45 AV N		119 NEW HOPE	MN	55428	
		Statute: 609-506-2 GOVT-GIVING PEACE OFFICER FALSE NAME-OF ANOTER PERSON					
CYAR16-015328	N	PORTER	MICHAEL	TRAVIS	M	25	06/27/2016 10:29 AM
		Address: 8201 45 AV N		119 NEW HOPE	MN	55428	
		Statute: 171-24-5 TRAF-DRIVING AFTER CANCELLATION (IPS)					
CYAR16-015328	N	PORTER	MICHAEL	TRAVIS	M	25	06/27/2016 10:29 AM
		Address: 8201 45 AV N		119 NEW HOPE	MN	55428	
		Statute: MISWA MISC OFCR WARRANT ARREST					
CYAR16-015419	Y					15	06/28/2016 2:33 AM
		Address:					
		Statute: 609-52-2-1 THEFT-VEH MOTOR VEHICLE					
CYAR16-015419	Y					15	06/28/2016 2:33 AM
		Address:					
		Statute: 609-506-1 GOVT-FALSE NAME TO POLICE OFFICER-MISD					
CYAR16-015419	Y					15	06/28/2016 2:33 AM
		Address:					
		Statute: 171-02-1 TRAF-DL-NO MN DL/WRONG CLASS/MORE THAN ONE VALID					

End of Report

Arrest Report

Date Range: 06/22/2016 06:00:00 AM - 06/29/2016 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>
CYAR16-015137	N	MARTIN	DESHAUN	MARCEL	M	24	06/24/2016 11:48 PM
		Address: 2568 RHODE ISLAND AV N		GOLDEN VALLEY MN		55427	
		Statute: 169A-25-1-A TRAF-DWI-2ND DEG-DRIVING WHILE IMPAIRED-2 OR MORE					
CYAR16-015185	N	HEDLUND	RICHARD	CURTIS	M	66	06/25/2016 2:09 PM
		Address: HOMELESS		MINNEAPOLIS MN			
		Statute: 609-605-1-B-3 TRESPASS-REFUSE TO LEAVE-GM					
CYAR16-015127	N	SHAR	JEREMIAH	TOH	M	28	06/25/2016 8:36 PM
		Address: 9311 NANTWICK LN		BROOKLYN PARK MN		55443	
		Statute: 168A-30-2-3 TRAF-FAIL TO DELIVER TITLE CERTIFICATE TO TRANSFEREE					
CYAR16-015127	N	SHAR	JEREMIAH	TOH	M	28	06/25/2016 8:36 PM
		Address: 9311 NANTWICK LN		BROOKLYN PARK MN		55443	
		Statute: 169-06-4-A TRAF-SEMAPHORE VIOLATION - FAIL TO OBEY TRAFFIC CONTROL					
CYAR16-015127	N	SHAR	JEREMIAH	TOH	M	28	06/25/2016 8:36 PM
		Address: 9311 NANTWICK LN		BROOKLYN PARK MN		55443	
		Statute: 609-50-1-1 GOVT-OBSTRUCT LEGAL PROCESS-MS-LAWFUL EXECUTION LEGAL					
CYAR16-015229	N	PASSLEY	MARVEL	LEROY	M	45	06/25/2016 11:57 PM
		Address: 1658 S LINWOOD AV		EVANSVILLE IN			
		Statute: MISWA MISC OFCR WARRANT ARREST					
CYAR16-015254	N	PORTER	BRIAN	DAVID	M	23	06/26/2016 2:51 AM
		Address: 3354 BOONE CIRCLE		NEW HOPE MN		55427	
		Statute: 169A-27-1 TRAF-DWI-4TH DEGREE-DRIVING WHILE IMPAIRED					
CYAR16-015254	N	PORTER	BRIAN	DAVID	M	23	06/26/2016 2:51 AM
		Address: 3354 BOONE CIRCLE		NEW HOPE MN		55427	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-5 TRAF-DUI 4TH DEG ALCOHOL CONC OVER .08 OR MORE W/ 2 HOURS					
CYAR16-015300	N	DAVIS	NICOLLE	MONEKE	F	39	06/26/2016 10:01 PM
		Address: ;					
		Statute: 609-2242-1 ASSAULT-DOM-MS-INFLT BOD HRM-HNDS-FAM					
CYAR16-015300	N	DAVIS	NICOLLE	MONEKE	F	39	06/26/2016 10:01 PM
		Address:					
		Statute: 609-2242-1 ASSAULT-DOM-MS-FEAR BOD HRM-HNDS-FAM					
CYAR16-015300	N	DAVIS	NICOLLE	MONEKE	F	39	06/26/2016 10:01 PM
		Address:					
		Statute: 609-72-1 DISTURB-DISORDERLY CONDUCT					
CYAR16-015300	N	DAVIS	TJRON	TREMAYNE	M	39	06/26/2016 10:01 PM
		Address:					
		Statute: 609-2242-1 ASSAULT-DOM-MS-INFLT BOD HRM-HNDS-FAM					
CYAR16-015300	N	DAVIS	TJRON	TREMAYNE	M	39	06/26/2016 10:01 PM
		Address:					
		Statute: 609-2242-1 ASSAULT-DOM-MS-FEAR BOD HRM-HNDS-FAM					
CYAR16-015300	N	DAVIS	TJRON	TREMAYNE	M	39	06/26/2016 10:01 PM
		Address:					
		Statute: 609-72-1 DISTURB-DISORDERLY CONDUCT					
CYAR16-015304	N	GRAHAM	JORDYN	NICOLE	F	29	06/26/2016 11:51 PM
		Address: HOMELESS		MINNEAPOLIS MN			
		Statute: 609-52-2-1 THEFT-OTHER PROPERTY-VALUE LESS THAN \$500					



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

June 29, 2016 - 12:00:00 AM

CASE NO	LOCATION	OFFENSE	VALUE	PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	DATE OCCURRED
CY16-015173	53- 36 AV N	ACC-ACCIDENT PUBLIC			06/25/2016 09:49
CY16-015300	52- UNITY CT	ASSAULT-DOM-MS-INFLT BOD			06/26/2016 21:51
CY16-014907	36&WELCOME AV N	CONT SUBST-POSS-DRUG PARAPHERNALIA			06/22/2016 00:09
CY16-015046	1- WILLOW BEND	CONT SUBST-POSS-DRUG PARAPHERNALIA			06/23/2016 18:15
CY16-015231	36 AV N&NEVADA AV N	CONT SUBST-POSS-DRUG PARAPHERNALIA			06/26/2016 00:10
CY16-014950	32- DOUGLAS DR N	CRIMINAL DAMAGE PROP-4TH DEG			06/22/2016 16:09
CY16-015304	58- ORCHARD AV N	CRIMINAL DAMAGE PROP-4TH DEG			06/26/2016 23:27
CY16-015300	52- UNITY CT	DISTURB-DISORDERLY CONDUCT			06/26/2016 21:51
CY16-015304	58- ORCHARD AV N	DISTURB-DISORDERLY CONDUCT			06/26/2016 23:27
CY16-015120	56- REGENT AV N	FOUND PROPERTY			06/24/2016 13:40
CY16-014942	60 AV N&WEST BROADWAY	GOVT-FALSE NAME TO POLICE			06/22/2016 14:20
CY16-015419	45 AV N&WELCOME AV N	GOVT-FALSE NAME TO POLICE			06/28/2016 02:22
CY16-015328	36 AV N&XENIA AV N	GOVT-GIVING PEACE OFFICER FALSE			06/27/2016 10:20
CY16-015328	36 AV N&XENIA AV N	GOVT-GIVING PEACE OFFICER FALSE			06/27/2016 10:20
CY16-015127	CO RD 81&CORVALLIS AV N	GOVT-OBSTRUCT LEGAL			06/24/2016 20:13
CY16-015035	50- LAKESIDE AV N	JUV			06/23/2016 00:00
CY16-015102	77- 36 AV N	JUV			06/23/2016 00:00
CY16-015335	59- WEST BROADWAY	JUV			06/24/2016 00:00
CY16-015281	48- DOUGLAS DR N	JUV			06/26/2016 16:30
CY16-015231	36 AV N&NEVADA AV N	JUV			06/26/2016 00:10
CY16-015231	36 AV N&NEVADA AV N	JUV			06/26/2016 00:10
CY16-015046	1- WILLOW BEND	MISC : WARRANT ARREST			06/23/2016 18:15

CASE NO	LOCATION	OFFENSE	VALUE	PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	DATE OCCURRED
CY16-015231	36 AV N&NEVADA AV N	MISC WARRANT ARREST			06/26/2016 00:10
CY16-015328	36 AV N&XENIA AV N	MISC WARRANT ARREST			06/27/2016 10:20
CY16-015304	58-- ORCHARD AV N	THEFT-OTHER PROPERTY-	0	1 VISA CREDIT CARD	06/26/2016 23:27
CY16-015419	45 AV N&WELCOME AV N	THEFT-VEH MOTOR VEHICLE			06/28/2016 02:22
CY16-015419	45 AV N&WELCOME AV N	TRAF-DL-NO MN DLWRONG CLASS/MORE			06/28/2016 02:22
CY16-014942	60 AV N&WEST BROADWAY	TRAF-DRIVING AFTER CANCELLATION			06/22/2016 14:20
CY16-015328	36 AV N&XENIA AV N	TRAF-DRIVING AFTER CANCELLATION (IPS)			06/27/2016 10:20
CY16-015152	53-- 36 AV N	TRAF-DRIVING AFTER SUSPENSION			06/25/2016 02:21
CY16-015328	36 AV N&XENIA AV N	TRAF-DUI 1ST DEG REFUSAL			06/27/2016 10:20
CY16-015328	36 AV N&XENIA AV N	TRAF-DUI 1ST DEGREE			06/27/2016 10:20
CY16-015137	36 AV N&DOUGLAS DR N	TRAF-DUI 2ND DEG ALCOHOL CONC			06/24/2016 23:39
CY16-015091	30-- SUMTER AV N	TRAF-DUI 2ND DEG REFUSAL			06/24/2016 02:23
CY16-015091	30-- SUMTER AV N	TRAF-DUI 3RD DEGREE			06/24/2016 02:23
CY16-014907	36&WELCOME AV N	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEG ALCOHOL CONC			06/22/2016 00:09
CY16-014991	36 AV N&KYLE AV N	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEG ALCOHOL CONC			06/23/2016 00:47
CY16-015254	36 AV N®ENT AV N	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEG ALCOHOL CONC			06/25/2016 02:21
CY16-014907	36&WELCOME AV N	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEGREE			06/26/2016 02:44
CY16-014991	36 AV N&KYLE AV N	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEGREE			06/22/2016 00:09
CY16-015152	53-- 36 AV N	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEGREE			06/23/2016 00:47
CY16-015254	36 AV N®ENT AV N	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEGREE			06/25/2016 02:21
CY16-015137	36 AV N&DOUGLAS DR N	TRAF-DWI-2ND DEG-DRIVING WHILE			06/26/2016 02:44
CY16-015127	CO RD 81&CORVALLIS AV N	TRAF-FAIL TO DELIVER TITLE CERTIFICATE			06/24/2016 23:39
CY16-015091	30-- SUMTER AV N	TRAF-OPEN BOTTLE-DRIVER/PASSENGER			06/24/2016 20:13
CY16-015127	CO RD 81&CORVALLIS AV N	TRAF-SEMAPHORE VIOLATION			06/24/2016 20:13
CY16-014942	60 AV N&WEST BROADWAY	TRAF-SPEEDING			06/22/2016 14:20
CY16-015137	36 AV N&DOUGLAS DR N	TRAF-SPEEDING			06/24/2016 23:39
CY16-015328	36 AV N&XENIA AV N	TRAF-SPEEDING			06/27/2016 10:20
CY16-014942	60 AV N&WEST BROADWAY	TRAF-UNLAWFUL TO WEAR HEADPHONES			06/22/2016 14:20
CY16-015304	58-- ORCHARD AV N	TRESPASS-BUILDING OR DWELLING			06/26/2016 23:27
CY16-015185	56-- WEST BROADWAY	TRESPASS-REFUSE TO LEAVE-GM			06/25/2016 14:09
CY16-015091	30-- SUMTER AV N	WEAPON-CARRY WHILE UNDER INFLUENCE			06/24/2016 02:23
CY16-015231	36 AV N&NEVADA AV N	WEAPON-POSSESS			06/26/2016 00:10

[View in a browser.](#)

Ewald Consulting



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June 24, 2016

Pessimism Grows on Special Session

When the 2016 legislature adjourned for the year, it did so without passing legislation on two premier issues of the session: a comprehensive transportation funding package and a bonding bill. On top of that, Gov. Mark Dayton vetoed the omnibus tax bill over what has been described as a “drafting error” that could cost the state upward of \$100 million over the next three years. With these issues left unresolved, there has been discussion between legislative leaders and Gov. Dayton about calling a special session. Only the governor can call a special session, but once it is called, he cannot control the agenda — so Gov. Dayton has offered specific conditions that must be agreed to by Speaker of the House Kurt Daudt (R-Crown), House Minority Leader Paul Thissen (DFL-Minneapolis), Senate Majority Leader Tom Bakk (DFL-Cook) and Senate Minority Leader David Hann (R-Eden Prairie). Included in these conditions was fixing the error in the tax bill, \$200 million in additional bonding projects, and additions to the supplemental budget that was passed in May.

The four leaders and Gov. Dayton have been meeting regularly since adjournment, but this week there was growing pessimism by all sides that a special session would occur, especially when Gov. Dayton imposed a deadline of July 1 to have an agreement for a special session. Further complicating the process were two proposals from Speaker Daudt that he wants included in a possible special session agenda. One proposal calls for blocking local governments from passing their own wage and benefit laws, while the other would provide a tax credit for Minnesotans who pay for private schools. While the second proposal is considered a non-starter by DFL legislators, Republican legislators say the Southwest Light Rail project has no support within their caucus. With disagreements seemingly more entrenched by the day, the prospect of a special session being called this year seems more and more unlikely.

Bonding Bill Receives Committee Hearing

On Tuesday, June 14, the House and Senate held a conference committee meeting to resume negotiations on the bonding bill that failed to pass both

chambers in the finals minutes of the 2016 session. This was the first time that a public hearing was held on the bill, which was voted on by both chambers with time running out for the session. While there is bipartisan agreement that a bonding bill is important to our state-owned infrastructure, there has been disagreement on the specific projects to be included in the bill. As part of his special session requirements, Gov. Dayton said he would like to have projects for the University of Minnesota and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, along with Minnesota Sex Offender Program hospital upgrades. Also included in a version of the bonding bill was \$18 million for security upgrades to the capitol complex, which has been undergoing major renovations for the past two years. Without this funding, there could be delays in completing the renovation project, which was projected to be finished by January 2017.

New Laws Take Effect July 1

July 1 marks the new state fiscal year, and with that appropriations in effect for FY17 are now available to state agencies and other recipients. In addition, a number of new laws go into effect July 1. [View a summary of selected new laws.](#)

Road to the 2016 Election

With the conclusion of the 2016 session and the prospects of a special session becoming less and less likely, elected officials and the public are starting to focus more on the November elections. Similar to 2012, this year's ballot will feature the presidential candidates as well as the entire Minnesota House and Senate. Here is a quick rundown of where the House and Senate stand by party control and what their goals will be going into November:

Minnesota House

House Republicans currently have a 73-61 majority over their DFL counterparts. The Republicans have six retiring members while the Democrats have four retiring, as well as five members running for a State Senate seat. For the House Democrats to retake the majority, they will need to retain the nine vacated seats and win elections in seven seats currently held by Republicans. Traditionally, fundraising efforts are generally to the advantage of the majority party, and this year is no exception; House Republicans have raised \$471,000 compared to \$390,000 raised by House Democrats.

Minnesota Senate

Senate Democrats currently have a 39-28 majority over Senate Republicans. The Senate Democrats have eight retiring members, as well as one member running for Congress, while the Senate Republicans have four retiring members. In order for the Senate Republicans to flip the majority, they would need to retain the four vacated seats while picking up six seats that are currently represented by a Democrat. Similar to the House, the majority party has the edge in fundraising, as

Senate Democrats have raised \$476,000 compared to \$242,000 raised by their Republican counterparts.

Let the Voting Begin!

Even though the General Election is more than five months away, voting will begin for the August 9 primaries on Friday, June 24 via absentee balloting. Voters will be able to cast no-excuse absentee ballots leading up to the August 9 election day, and then will be able to cast the no-excuse absentee ballot in a presidential election for the first time in Minnesota history. The absentee ballots can be mailed or submitted in person at county or local election offices, and will be deposited in a vote tabulator seven days before the general election; in previous years, the count did not start until after polls closed. As before, the tally will not be released until after polls close.

[Apply for an absentee ballot on the Secretary of State's website.](#)

They Said It

"We think that voters increasingly will take to this reform. They like the freedom and they like the flexibility that it gives them. So anyone who wants to vote absentee can now do it. You don't have to give a reason or an excuse; they can just do it if they want to do it."

- Steve Simon, Minnesota Secretary of State, on no-excuse absentee voting

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CITIES BULLETIN



Issue 53

June 27, 2016

League Selects 31 MN Lawmakers as 2016 Legislators of Distinction

The honor recognizes legislators for specific city-friendly actions during the 2016 legislative session.

In Other News

Updated 2016 Budget Guide Reflects New Laws

The Budget Guide focuses on just those new laws that you need to know about now.

Focus on New Laws: Changes to Veterans Preference Act

Included in the changes, cities now have explicit authority to require a veteran to complete an initial probationary period upon hire.

League Provides Sample Letters Requesting Special Session

The letters—one generally supporting a special session and a second supporting inclusion of a transportation bill in a special session—can be easily customized.

2016 Preliminary Law Summaries Now Available

Find out how laws passed during the regular 2016 legislative session will affect cities.

HUD Releases New Criminal Background Check Guidance

The Supreme Court has ruled that the Fair Housing Act covers not just intentional discrimination but also unintentional discrimination.

FAA Announces New Drone Rules

Compliance with the new requirements may be necessary for a city UAS user in certain circumstances.

Star Tribune Names League of Minnesota Cities a 2016 Top Workplace

The Star Tribune's list of Top 150 Workplaces recognizes the most progressive companies in Minnesota.

More Information and Resources

Mayors: Don't Forget to Register for Effective Leadership Workshops Happening in July

Fiscal Disparities Data Available for Metro Cities

Clerks: Discounted Hotel Rate for Your Conference Expires July 31

Inspect Your Swimming Areas and Marinas for Risk of Electric Shock Drowning

New Manual Helps Minnesota GreenStep Cities Structure Great Internships

Discount Available for NLC University Leadership Summit in Madison

New LMC Lookup Tool: Find Out How Other MN Cities Promote Civility

Learn How a Southern Minnesota Fire Department Landed a 'New' Fire Truck with a Special History

Get the Information You Need to Reach Minnesota City Officials—Order the 2016 Directory!

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New LMC Board Members Elected

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Oak Park Heights Mayor Mary McComber Receives 2016 C.C. Ludwig Award

Belle Plaine, Hastings, Oak Park Heights, and a Collaboration of 10 Small Cities Receive 2016 City of Excellence Awards

City of St. Anthony Village Wins Sustainable City Award

Outgoing LMC President Honors Retiring Legislator's Who Have City Roots

League Recognizes GreenStep Cities Participants

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Upcoming League Events

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League Selects 31 MN Lawmakers as 2016 Legislators of Distinction



The honor recognizes legislators for specific city-friendly actions during the 2016 legislative session.

The League of Minnesota Cities has selected 15 members of the Minnesota House of Representatives and 16 state senators as Legislators of Distinction for 2016. The honor recognizes legislators for specific actions that aided efforts of Minnesota cities during this year's legislative session.

Legislators of Distinction are annually approved by the League's Board of Directors to recognize that in order to successfully serve commonly shared constituents, state and city officials must work together to meet the unique needs of rural, suburban, and urban residents all across Minnesota.

To be eligible for Legislator of Distinction honors, legislators must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- The legislator is generally and reasonably accessible to League representatives.
- The legislator seeks input on issues of importance to cities.
- The legislator listens to League concerns and is receptive to the League providing information on issues.
- The legislator sponsors and/or supports League initiatives.
- The legislator speaks out on behalf of the interest of cities.
- The legislator demonstrates the importance of partnership between the state and cities.

Recipients of the recognition received a letter of appreciation and a certificate. The letters of acknowledgement noted the specific act, bill, sponsorship, or actions in support of city-friendly legislation. Additionally, a copy of the Legislator of Distinction acknowledgement letter is sent to the mayor of each city in the district of each award winner. Mayors are encouraged to share these letters with their city council and residents.

The League of Minnesota Cities Legislators of Distinction for 2016 are:

Minnesota House of Representatives

An asterisk () notes legislators who are also former elected city officials.*

- Rep. Paul Anderson, R-Starbuck
- Rep. Tony Cornish, R-Vernon Center
- Rep. Greg Davids, R-Preston*
- Rep. Jim Davnie, DFL-Minneapolis
- Rep. Dan Fabian, R-Roseau
- Rep. Mike Freiberg, DFL-Golden Valley*
- Rep. Laurie Halverson, DFL-Eagan
- Rep. Debra Hilstrom, DFL- Brooklyn Center
- Rep. Jeff Howe, R-Rockville
- Rep. Roz Peterson, R-Lakeville
- Rep. Cindy Pugh, R-Chanhassen
- Rep. Tim Sanders, R-Blaine
- Rep. Erik Simonson, DFL-Duluth
- Rep. Cheryl Youakim, DFL-Hopkins*
- Rep. Nick Zerwas, R- Elk River*

Minnesota Senate

An asterisk () notes legislators who are also former elected city officials.*

- Sen. Jim Abeler, R-Anoka
- Sen. Scott Dibble, DFL-Minneapolis
- Sen. Chris Eaton, DFL-Brooklyn Center
- Sen. Dan Hall, R-Burnsville
- Sen. John Hoffman, DFL-Champlin
- Sen. Vicki Jensen, DFL-Owatonna
- Sen. Ron Latz, DFL-St. Louis Park
- Sen. John Marty, DFL-Roseville
- Sen. Carla Nelson, R-Rochester
- Sen. Sandra Pappas, DFL- St. Paul
- Sen. Bev Scalze, DFL-Little Canada*
- Sen. Matt Schmit, DFL-Red Wing
- Sen. Rod Skoe, DFL-Clearbook
- Sen. David Tomassoni, DFL-Chisholm
- Sen. Patricia Torres Ray, DFL-Minneapolis
- Sen. Melissa Wiklund, DFL-Bloomington

Read the current issue of the Cities Bulletin (*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp>*)

Updated 2016 Budget Guide Reflects New Laws



The Budget Guide focuses on just those new laws that you need to know about now.

(Published)

Are you working on your city's budget for 2017? If so, League research staff have a publication just for you—the 2016 Budget Guide! We know how busy you are, so the Budget Guide focuses on just those new laws that you need to know about now.

There were several new laws passed in the last legislative session that could impact your city's budget, and they are all detailed in the Budget Guide. These laws include changes to utility infrastructure in or near railway rights of way, temporary family health care dwellings, and the new ability for cities to donate surplus equipment to nonprofits. There were also some changes to election laws, plus a comprehensive law related to police body cameras.

What else is there?

- How about Truth in Taxation dates? There is a handy chart on page 3 of the Budget Guide.
- Are there changes in PERA withholdings? Check page 8, where you will see there have not been any changes—but it's still worth a look!

You can also get current information on election judge pay, the current IRS mileage rate, cost of living adjustment for 2016-2017 and forms cities may use to claim exemption from federal excise tax on purchase of diesel fuel and gasoline.

- **View the Budget Guide for Cities (pdf)** *(Link to:*

http://www.lmc.org/media/document/1/budget_guide_for_cities.pdf)

Read the current issue of the Cities Bulletin *(Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp>)*

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Focus on New Laws: Changes to Veterans Preference Act



Included in the changes, cities now have explicit authority to require a veteran to complete an initial probationary period upon hire. (Published Jun 27, 2016)

Chapter 189 ([Link to: https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/?year=2016&type=0&doctype=Chapter&id=189](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/?year=2016&type=0&doctype=Chapter&id=189)) is the omnibus supplemental budget act. The nearly 600-page budget bill contained many policy provisions, including significant changes to the Veterans Preference Act found in **Minnesota Statutes, 197.455** ([Link to: https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=197.455](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=197.455)).

Probationary periods

Article 13, section 54 amends Minnesota Statutes, 197.455, subd. 1 to add new language clarifying that a county, home rule charter or statutory city, town, or school district may require a veteran to complete an initial hiring probationary period, as defined under **Minnesota Statutes, 43A.16** ([Link to: https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=43A.16](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=43A.16)).

Section 55 amends **Minnesota Statutes, 197.46** ([Link to: https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=197.46](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=197.46)) by adding that “after an initial probationary period expires,” a veteran holding a position in state civil service or employment in any county, city, town, or school district shall not be removed from the position except for incompetency or misconduct shown after a hearing. Prior to this change, only veterans employed by the state could be subject to an initial probationary period.

The League of Minnesota Cities, in partnership with the Association of Minnesota Counties and the Minnesota Inter-County Association, has been working for several legislative sessions for consistency in the use of probationary periods across governmental units. Thus, effective July 1, 2016, a city may require employees, including veterans, to complete an initial probationary period as defined to be no less than 30 days but not to exceed two years of full-time equivalent service. However, after serving an initial probationary period for a city, a veteran would not be subject to additional probationary periods such as for a promotion or new assignment.

Given this change in law, some cities that have previously not required probationary periods for employees might consider doing so now. In those situations, it will be important to work with your city attorney to include strong disclaimer language stating no contractual relationship is created by the probationary period to avoid weakening the at-will status of many city employees.

Time to request hearing reduced

Section 55 amends Minnesota Statutes, 197.46, subdivision (b) by reducing the amount of time a veteran has to request a hearing from 60 days to 30 days.

Three-person panel replaced by one arbitrator

Section 55 amends Minnesota Statutes, 197.46, subdivision (c) to replace the three-person panel with one arbitrator. In a governmental subdivision that has an established civil service board or commission, or merit system authority, the veteran may elect to have the hearing for removal before the board or before an arbitrator.

The employer shall request a list of seven persons to serve as an arbitrator from the Bureau of Mediation Services. The employer shall strike the first name from the list, and the parties shall alternately strike names from the list until the name of one arbitrator remains. The veteran has 48 hours after receiving each of the employer's elections to strike a person from the list.

Payment for hearing

Section 55 amends Minnesota Statutes, 197.46, subdivision (e) to require that the governmental subdivision bear all costs associated with the hearing, but not including the veteran's attorney fees. If the veteran prevails, and the hearing reverses the level of the alleged incompetency or misconduct requiring discharge, the governmental subdivision shall pay the veteran's reasonable attorney fees. Prior to this change, the governmental subdivision would pay the costs of the hearing only if the hearing reversed all aspects of the discharge.

Get additional information from these LMC documents:

- For probationary periods for veterans, refer to the LMC information memo: **Veterans Preference in Hiring (pdf)** (Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/media/document/1/vetpreffs11.pdf>)
- Also for probationary periods, refer to the LMC **Personnel Policy Model (doc)** (Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/media/document/1/personnelpolicytemplate.docx>) (see page 16)
- For changes to removal procedures for veterans, refer to the LMC information memo: **Veterans Preference in Discipline, Discharge or Job Elimination (pdf)** (Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/media/document/1/vettermfs12.pdf>)

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League Provides Sample Letters Requesting Special Session



The letters—one generally supporting a special session and a second supporting inclusion of a transportation bill in a special session—can be easily customized.

(Published Jun 27, 2016)

The 2016 legislative session concluded with passage of neither an omnibus bonding bill nor a long-awaited robust transportation package promised at the end of the 2015 Session. Then, a review of the omnibus tax bill (**Chapter 188** ([Link to: https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/?year=2016&type=0&doctype=Chapter&id=188](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/?year=2016&type=0&doctype=Chapter&id=188))) that reached the governor's desk revealed an error in the charitable gambling tax section that would have resulted in a significant reduction in state revenues. Gov. Dayton exercised his authority to “pocket veto” the tax measure.

Barring a special session, lawmakers have failed to accomplish their three largest 2016 objectives—omnibus tax, bonding, and transportation packages.

The tax bill contained many provisions affecting cities—provisions related to local government aid, local sales taxes, tax increment financing, and more. (**Read related story.** ([Link to: http://www.lmc.org/page/1/OmnibusTaxBill16.jsp](http://www.lmc.org/page/1/OmnibusTaxBill16.jsp)))

The bonding bill contained over \$1 billion in public works projects large and small across the state. (**Read related story.** ([Link to: http://www.lmc.org/page/1/BondingTranspoBills.jsp](http://www.lmc.org/page/1/BondingTranspoBills.jsp)))

Without a transportation funding bill this year, Minnesota's road construction budget will shrink by 45 percent, and growing transit needs will go unmet. (**Read related story.** ([Link to: http://www.lmc.org/page/1/TransportationOffers.jsp](http://www.lmc.org/page/1/TransportationOffers.jsp)))

Many cities would like to see the Legislature reconvene to complete unfinished work. The League is providing sample letters—one generally supporting a special session, and a second supporting inclusion of an omnibus transportation bill in a special session—that can be customized by city officials who want to urge legislators to support a special session to complete work left unfinished when the 2016 Legislature adjourned *sine die*.

The text of the letters can be copied and pasted into an email or letter. It should be customized to include the name of your city, the provisions in pending legislation you support, as well as any information about specific local needs pertaining to provisions in the tax, bonding, and/or transportation bills.

—**View letter in general support of special session (doc)** ([Link to:](#)

http://www.lmc.org/media/document/1/specialsession_sampleletter_general.doc

—**View letter in support of including omnibus transportation bill in a special session (doc)** ([Link to: http://www.lmc.org/media/document/1/specialsession_sampleletter_transportation.doc](http://www.lmc.org/media/document/1/specialsession_sampleletter_transportation.doc))

—**Find out how to contact your legislator** ([Link to: https://www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/faq/faqtoc?id=47](https://www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/faq/faqtoc?id=47))

Recent news stories

- **Star Tribune (6/15/16): Editorial: Pick up the pace of legislative talks in Minnesota** ([Link to: http://m.startribune.com/pick-up-the-pace-of-legislative-talks-in-minnesota/383193751/?section=opinion](http://m.startribune.com/pick-up-the-pace-of-legislative-talks-in-minnesota/383193751/?section=opinion))
- **Twin Cities Pioneer Press (6/15/16): Stassen-Berger on a special session: will they or won't they?** ([Link to: http://www.twincities.com/2016/06/15/stassen-berger-on-a-special-session-will-they-or-wont-they/](http://www.twincities.com/2016/06/15/stassen-berger-on-a-special-session-will-they-or-wont-they/))
- **MPR News (6/15/16): Special session or not? MN lawmaker re-elections could hinge on answer** ([Link to: http://www.mprnews.org/story/2016/06/15/mn-lawmaker-reelections-could-hinge-on-special-session](http://www.mprnews.org/story/2016/06/15/mn-lawmaker-reelections-could-hinge-on-special-session))
- **Rochester Post-Bulletin (6/15/16): Project backers urge lawmakers to support special session** ([Link to: http://www.postbulletin.com/news/politics/project-backers-urge-lawmakers-to-support-special-session/article_7bb75aeb-6b75-5718-97d1-2ce657f58b09.html](http://www.postbulletin.com/news/politics/project-backers-urge-lawmakers-to-support-special-session/article_7bb75aeb-6b75-5718-97d1-2ce657f58b09.html))
- **Session Daily (6/14/16): Bonding bill that failed in session's final moments gets first hearing** ([Link to: http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/sessiondaily/SDView.aspx?StoryID=10325](http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/sessiondaily/SDView.aspx?StoryID=10325))
- **Session Daily (6/3/16): No tax bill without special session, Dayton warns lawmakers** ([Link to: http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/sessiondaily/SDView.aspx?StoryID=10321](http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/sessiondaily/SDView.aspx?StoryID=10321))

Read the current issue of the Cities Bulletin ([Link to: http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp](http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp))

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2016 Preliminary Law Summaries Now Available



Find out how laws passed during the regular 2016 legislative session will affect cities.

(Published Jun 27, 2016)

The League of Minnesota Cities annually prepares a summary of new laws that impact city operations. This publication is intended to highlight relevant new laws, but is not intended to be comprehensive legal advice.

Given the amount of unfinished business at the end of the 2016 session, as well as the uncertainty over whether or when a special session might occur, the League has published a preliminary edition of the *2016 Law Summaries*. This document will help city officials understand new laws that may impact city operations.

This year's legislative session was short and focused on contentious issues such as taxes, transportation, and bonding. In the end, relatively few new chapters of law were enacted, and major goals of the session have not yet been met. The Legislature failed to pass both a bonding bill and a transportation funding package. It did manage to pass an omnibus tax bill, but that bill was ultimately vetoed by Gov. Dayton. However, there were some positive outcomes for cities, including new laws providing body camera guidance, funds for broadband development, and changes to election laws.

At this time, we are still waiting to see whether Gov. Dayton will call a special session to work on the tax bill, bonding bill, and transportation funding package. A complete edition of the *2016 Law Summaries*, which will include a "Vetoed" section and a "Did Not Become Law" section, will be published after the conclusion of the first special session, if there is one, or after Gov. Dayton announces there will be no special session.

If you have any questions about new laws or legislation summarized in the preliminary edition of the *2016 Law Summaries*, please contact a member of the **League's Intergovernmental Relations Department** (*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/IGR-Staff.jsp>*). The initials of the best staff member to contact for a particular law are listed at the end of each summary. You can find a key for the initials on page 3 of the law summaries document.

- **View the Preliminary 2016 Law Summaries (pdf)** (*Link to:*

<http://www.lmc.org/media/document/1/prelimlawsummaries2016.pdf>)

Read the current issue of the Cities Bulletin (*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin->*

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HUD Releases New Criminal Background Check Guidance



The Supreme Court has ruled that the Fair Housing Act covers not just intentional discrimination but also unintentional discrimination. (Published)

Cities with public housing programs should be aware of a guidance letter from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The letter deals with criminal background checks of potential residents in the wake of a Fair Housing Act (FHA) ruling from the U.S. Supreme Court.

The FHA prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin. In a June 2015 decision, *Texas Dep't of Hous. & Cmty. Affairs v. Inclusive Cmty. Project, Inc.*, the Court ruled that the FHA covers not just intentional discrimination but also unintentional discrimination. A facially neutral policy or practice that has a disparate impact on individuals of a particular race, national origin, or other protected class may be unlawful discrimination.

The HUD letter focuses on how the FHA applies when a housing provider refuses to rent or renew a lease based on an individual's criminal history, and suggests blanket policies of not allowing anyone with a criminal background may be unlawful. The HUD letter explains that where a policy or practice that restricts access to housing on the basis of criminal history has a disparate impact on individuals of a particular race, national origin, or other protected class, such policy or practice is unlawful under the FHA if it is not necessary to serve a substantial, legitimate, nondiscriminatory interest of the housing provider, or if such interest could be served by another practice that has a less discriminatory effect.

HUD notes that African Americans and Hispanics are arrested, convicted, and incarcerated at rates disproportionate to their share of the general population. Consequently, criminal records-based barriers to housing are likely to have a disproportionate impact on minority home seekers.

The HUD guidance details the following three-part analysis to determine whether use of criminal background checks are unlawful:

1. The first step is evaluating whether the criminal history policy or practice has a discriminatory effect.
2. The second step is evaluating whether the challenged policy or practice is necessary to achieve a substantial, legitimate, nondiscriminatory interest, which a policy or practice that fails to consider the nature, severity, and recency of criminal conduct is unlikely to satisfy.

3. The third step is evaluating whether there is a less discriminatory alternative. The letter notes that individualized assessment of relevant mitigating information beyond that contained in an individual's criminal record is likely to have a less discriminatory effect than categorical exclusions that do not take such additional information into account.

Access the HUD guidance letter (pdf) (*Link to: <http://1.usa.gov/28ZBmOB>*)

Public housing providers should work with their attorneys to review their policies and practices regarding criminal background checks to ensure they comply with this new federal guidance.

Read the current issue of the Cities Bulletin (*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp>*)

FAA Announces New Drone Rules



Compliance with the new requirements may be necessary for a city UAS user in certain circumstances.
(Published)

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has released new rules regarding routine commercial use of small unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), or drones. The new rule is titled “Part 107.”

- **View the FAA’s Part 107 rule on drones**

(Link to: http://www.faa.gov/uas/media/RIN_2120-AJ60_Clean_Signed.pdf)

The new rulemaking from the FAA offers a more streamlined process for commercial users to take to the skies. Though the rule was announced June 21, it will not be in effect until August.

While the new rule only explicitly applies to civil operations, cities undertaking public UAS operations can opt in to the new Part 107 requirements. If cities do not opt in to the requirements found in Part 107, the city will be required to apply for, and receive, a Certificate of Waiver or Authorization (COA) from the FAA before operating a UAS.

Not all operations conducted by a city are considered public operations, so compliance with the new Part 107 requirements may be necessary for a city UAS user in certain circumstances. To determine whether a city’s operation qualifies as a public operation, please see the **FAA’s advisory circular on public aircraft operations** *(Link to: http://www.faa.gov/documentLibrary/media/Advisory_Circular/AC_00-1_1A.pdf)* .

The League will be reviewing the new rule and will have a more complete analysis about its impact on cities in the coming weeks.

- **Get more information from the FAA website** *(Link to: <https://www.faa.gov/uas/>)*

If you have any questions, contact LMC Research Attorney Quinn O’Reilly at **qoreilly@lmc.org** *(Link to: <mailto:qoreilly@lmc.org>)* .

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Star Tribune Names League of Minnesota Cities a 2016 Top Workplace



The Star Tribune's list of Top 150 Workplaces recognizes the most progressive companies in Minnesota.
(Published)

The League of Minnesota Cities has been named one of the Top 150 Workplaces in Minnesota by the *Star Tribune*. The Top Workplaces special section was published in the *Star Tribune* on June 26, and the report is also available online.

Produced by the same team that compiles the 25-year-old Star Tribune 100 report of the best-performing public companies in Minnesota, Top Workplaces recognizes the most progressive companies in Minnesota based on employee opinions, measuring engagement, organizational health, and satisfaction. The analysis included responses from over 73,870 employees at Minnesota public, private, and nonprofit organizations.

The rankings in the Star Tribune Top 150 Workplaces are based on survey information collected by WorkplaceDynamics, an independent company specializing in employee engagement and retention.

The League was ranked 16th on the small company list. LMC Executive Director David Unmacht said he was excited to hear the League has earned this distinction for the third year running.

"In my first ten months here, I've learned to appreciate the culture of LMC and how much work goes in to maintaining it," said Unmacht. "Credit goes to the ongoing leadership of department directors and the focused energy and commitment employees bring to their work every day."

Unmacht believes much of this success is due to a program known as the League Empowerment and Performance Program (LEAPP), which focuses on achieving key results—but allows employees to work when and where they are most comfortable. "This environment not only results in better service for our members, but it makes a real difference in the lives of our employees," he added.

To qualify for the Star Tribune Top Workplaces, a company must have more than 50 employees in Minnesota. Over 1,555 companies were invited to participate. Rankings were composite scores calculated purely on the basis of employee responses.

Read the Star Tribune Top Workplaces report (*Link to: <http://StarTribune.com/topworkplaces2016>*)

Fiscal Disparities Data Available for Metro Cities

Estimated 2017 fiscal disparities data for metro cities is now available on the League website (*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/property-tax-state-funding-fiscal-issues.jsp>*).

This data is provided by the Anoka County auditor to assist cities in the budgeting process. The data should be considered an estimate to aid in this process.

Table V, which shows each city's final contribution net tax capacity, is available now. Data for Iron Range cities will be available in July.

View Fiscal Disparities Data for Pay 2017 (pdf) (*Link to: http://www.lmc.org/media/document/1/fd_pay_2017_tablevcontribution.pdf?inline=true*)

Read the current issue of the Cities Bulletin (*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp>*)

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(*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/ads/102407>*)

Inspect your Swimming Areas and Marinas for Risk of Electric Shock Drowning

Cities are reminded to take precautions and inspect electrical wiring near swimming areas and marinas to minimize the risk of electric shock drowning this summer.

The use of electricity around lakes, rivers, and ponds has been increasing in the past two decades, and this use of electric power has introduced a new danger for swimmers and boaters. Electric shock drowning (ESD) is caused by the passage of very low level AC currents through the body while immersed in the water. These small currents can produce skeletal muscular paralysis, rendering the victim unable to help himself or herself. All too often the outcome is drowning of the victim. Higher levels of AC current in the water can result in ventricular fibrillation or electrocution.

Although electric shock drowning can happen in any location where electricity is used in, on, or near the water, a majority of ESD deaths have occurred in public and private marinas, and near residential docks. The typical victim of ESD is a child swimming or playing in the water where electrical wiring or equipment is nearby. Electricity enters the water as a result of faulty wiring or equipment. Swimming beaches can also be at risk. This in-water current cannot be seen or heard, and can occur suddenly and without any notice.

The Electric Shock Drowning Prevention Association (*Link to: <http://www.electricshockdrowning.org/>*) website provides information on ESD, including causes, minimizing the risk, and prevention. A second website—ESD MN (*Link to: <http://www.electricshockdrowningmn.com/>*) —offers additional prevention information along with access to local resources.

For more information, contact Ed Lethert, a volunteer for the Electric Shock Drowning Prevention Association, at elethert@gmail.com (*Link to: <mailto:elethert@gmail.com>*) or (612) 670-9801.

Read the current issue of the Cities Bulletin

(*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp>*)

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(*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/ads/102407>*)

Discount Available for NLC University Leadership Summit in Madison, WI

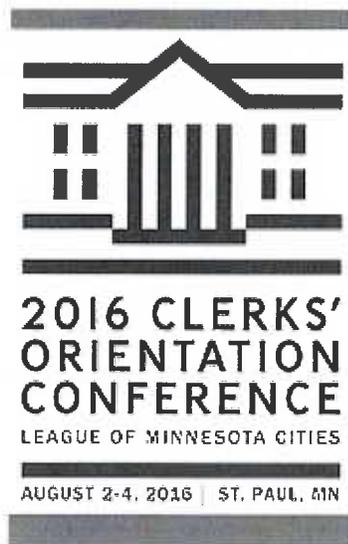
City officials can receive a discount on registration to NLC University's Annual Leadership Summit: Leading Collaborative Communities, scheduled to be held in Madison, Wisconsin Sept. 28-Oct. 1.

The Leadership Summit is a three-day program that will bring together city and state officials, private sector representatives and nonprofit leaders involved in municipal initiatives that require collaboration across sectors. Attendees will gain valuable perspective on the different sectors and will work in collaboration to address some of today's complex problems—from infrastructure to public safety to public health. Solving these issues will require collaborative, multi-sector efforts and leadership that understands the motivations and unique contributions of the various actors and can align common agendas, incentives and outcomes. Registration for the conference, as well as registration for accommodations, agendas and presenter information are available on the National League of City's website. Apply the code "League150" for a \$150 discount.

2016 NLC University Leadership Summit: Leading Collaborative Communities ([Link to: http://www.nlc.org/build-skills-and-networks/education-and-training/2016-nlc-university-leadership-summit](http://www.nlc.org/build-skills-and-networks/education-and-training/2016-nlc-university-leadership-summit))

Read the latest issue of the Cities Bulletin ([Link to: http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp](http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp))

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About the Civility Lookup Tool

New LMC Lookup Tool: Find Out How Other MN Cities Promote Civility

Interested in how other cities have addressed and promoted civility in their communities? The League's new Civility Lookup tool allows users to find examples from cities throughout the state. Examples are organized by steps local governments can take to address civility as identified in the LMC/MCMA Civility Task Force Report (*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/civilitytaskforce.jsp>*). For example, users can learn about ways cities have effectively engaged citizens to build support for a project.

Access the Civility Lookup tool (*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/civilitylookup.jsp>*)

Where do the examples come from?

The lookup contains examples gathered from media stories and League surveys, listservs, and events.

My city is not in the Civility Lookup!

We want to include you! In fact, we suggest you first use the tool to look up your city. If examples or details are missing, please let us know! Please send us a brief description of the effort, and we'll include it in our database

Submit your city civility example (*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cityaction-submission.jsp>*)

I found an exciting idea! How do I learn more?

Although League staff members know about city civility efforts, they often don't know many of the details about them. Please contact the city (*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/city-directory.jsp>*) directly to learn more about their process, pros/cons, lessons learned, etc. If an example from your city is short on details, please send us a more robust description and we'll add it to the lookup.

Where can I learn more about civility in local government?

As part of the League's initiative to improve civility in local government, we have compiled a variety of resources to help you spot many of the common indicators of pending incivility, help prevent it from happening, and give you the tools to help get your community back on the right track when it occurs. Resources are organized by topic area and includes dozens of tips, tricks, tools, templates, and real life examples. New resources are added frequently. If you have found a resource to be especially helpful, please tell us about it!

Access civility resources (*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/civility.jsp>*)

Read the current issue of the Cities Bulletin (*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp>*)

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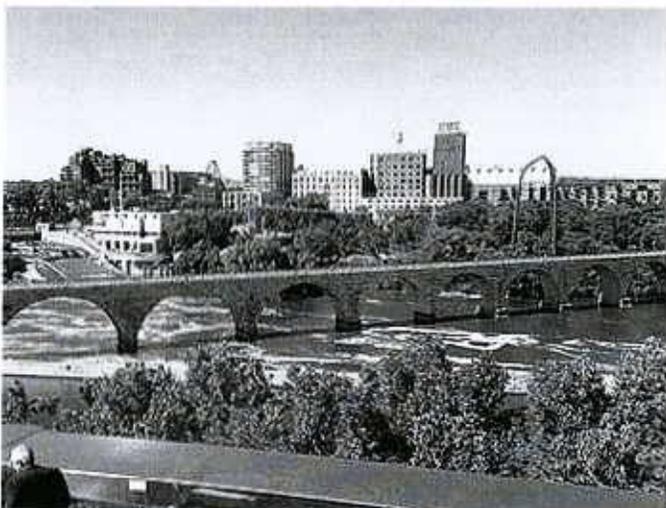
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(*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/ads/102408>*)

2016 Annual Conference: Getting Innovative to Create Future-Ready Communities



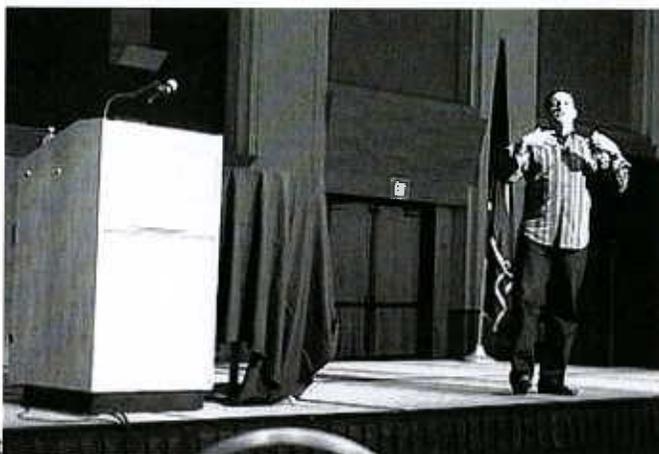
Think ahead 20 years and imagine what your community will look like a generation from now. What trends will have the greatest impact on your city and how are you preparing for those changes right now? More than 800 local government officials from across Minnesota and around North America gathered in St. Paul last week for the Future-Ready Communities: 2016 LMC+TLG Annual Conference to contemplate the future and how it will shape our communities—and explore innovative ways to deliver local services over the next 20 years.

During this three-day conference, co-hosted by the League of Minnesota Cities and the Alliance for Innovation, Minnesota city officials and local government staff from across the country shared ideas, insights, and perspectives at multiple social and networking events. Delegates also participated in 45+ educational sessions, visited with more than 185 vendors in the exhibit hall, and ventured to sites around the Twin Cities metro to see innovative projects and programs during nine field tours.

Is your city future-ready?



Wednesday's opening keynote speaker, Garry Golden, urged local government officials to be aware of current trends and technologies and how they are evolving. Explaining that data and analytics will drive how local government functions in the future, Golden asked the audience to think about how these new data models can help us understand our challenges better and provide new, more effective ways to deliver local services over the next decade.

What is innovation?

Innovation means different things to different people. To some it's about new ideas and approaches. To others it is about improving to be more efficient and more effective, or thinking creatively about how to solve problems. During the Thursday keynote address innovation expert Stephen Shapiro offered that innovation is about "being and staying relevant." Shapiro says that in a constantly changing world local governments shouldn't simply rely on the things that may have worked well in the past. We must adapt and evolve to meet their communities' future needs.

Innovating to get better outcomes

Everyone has opinions and suggestions for how to improve your city. So how can city officials determine which ideas will help you get the outcomes you want? Conference speakers suggested several things to keep in mind:

1. **Ask better questions.** Don't look outside the box; get a better box. Carefully frame your challenge so that you're solving the right problem.
2. **Explore purposeful tangents.** Look outside your work team or organization to see how someone else has solved the same kind of problem. What can you learn from their experience?
3. **Redefine failure.** Don't be afraid to fail. Allow people the time and freedom to experiment to find a workable solution.



Break out of your

4. **Embrace a beginner's mindset.** routines and challenge your assumptions to see all the possibilities.
5. **Listen to lead.** City leaders are like conductors and those in your communities are the players; it's your role as conductor to give them voice.

Showcasing local innovation

Participants learned about innovation happening around the United States and beyond during multiple innovation case study sessions. They also experienced innovation happening around the Twin Cities during several field tours, including transformative redevelopment projects, sustainability efforts, and the impact of health, sports, and arts venues and programs. Other conference events and entertainment highlighted effective community-based programs like St. Paul's Fitness in the Parks program, the Center for Hmong Arts and Talent, and the House of Dance Twin Cities.

Putting your knowledge to work in your city

Many attendees shared key takeaways from the conference in the LMC+TLG 2016 Event app and in the post-event survey. But how do you take those ideas and put them into action in your city? Here are a few resources and next steps:

The Next Big Things. Visit the Alliance for Innovation website (*Link to: http://transformgov.org/en/Page/101074/The_Next_Big_Things*) to learn more about the four forces and 44 trends



that could impact how local government operates in the next generation, including a free version of the report and other resources.

Shapiro 30-day Innovation Challenge. Take the 30-day innovation challenge to gain a better understanding of the concepts from Stephen Shapiro's keynote address. Go to Shapiro's website (*Link to: <http://stephenshapiro.com/alliance-for-innovation>*) to sign-up!

Presentation materials. Go to the League's website (*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/ac16-materials.jsp>*) to check out the presentation materials from the educational session to recall key tips, strategies and resources.

Virtual Exhibit Hall. Find information about city vendors in our Virtual Exhibit Hall (*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/VEH>*) and connect with them about how they can help with innovative projects in your city.

Continue the conversation. Share how you are reflecting on what you learned, adding to it and making it your own!

1. Comment on this article about innovative ideas you are bringing back to your city.
2. Share your ideas via social media (use #MNCities and #Minnovation).
3. Submit a City Action (*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/city-examples.jsp>*) to be included in our Collaboration, Budget-Balancing, HR Actions, or Civility lookup tools.

Read the current issue of the Cities Bulletin (*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp>*)

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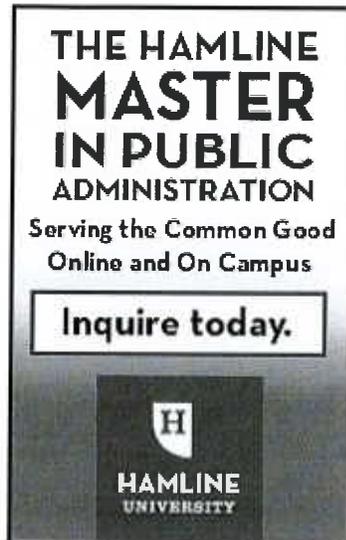
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2016-2017 LMC President

Northfield councilmember Pownell elected as League of Minnesota Cities president for 2016-17

(June 16, 2016 – St. Paul, Minn.) Rhonda Pownell, councilmember in the City of Northfield, was elected today as the president of the League of Minnesota Cities for 2016-2017. The election was held today at the League's Annual Conference in St. Paul.

Pownell was first elected to the City Council in 2008, and is currently serving her second term. She has served on the Northfield Economic Development Authority Board, the Northfield Enterprise Center Board, the Fire Relief Association Board, the League of Minnesota Cities Board of Directors, and the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust. Pownell graduated from St. Olaf College in 1993 with a degree in social work.

About the League

The League of Minnesota Cities is a membership organization dedicated to helping cities throughout Minnesota build quality communities through effective advocacy, expert analysis, trusted guidance, and collective action. The League serves its more than 830 member cities through advocacy, education and training, policy development, risk management, and other services.

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(Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/ads/102408>)

New Members and Officers Elected to LMC Board of Directors for 2016-2017

The League of Minnesota Cities elected several new members and officers to the organization's Board of Directors for 2016-2017 at its Annual Conference in Saint Paul.

President for 2016-17

Rhonda Pownell, Councilmember, City of Northfield

First Vice President for 2016-17

Jo Emerson, Mayor, City of White Bear Lake

Second Vice President for 2016-17

Heidi Omerza, Councilmember, City of Ely

City officials elected as new Board members

Mark Casey, City Manager, City of St. Anthony Village

Brent Mareck, Administrator, City of Carver

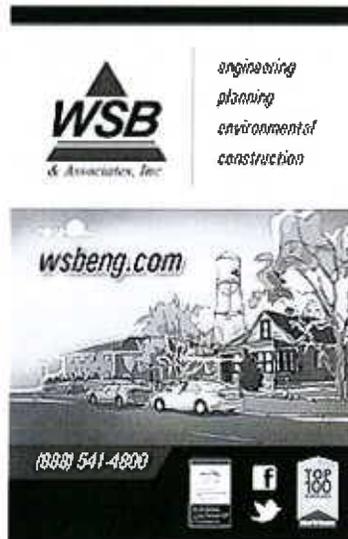
Dave Smiglewski, Mayor, City of Granite Falls

Kevin Staunton, Councilmember, City of Edina

Gary Willhite, Mayor, City of Crookston

See a complete list of new and returning Board members and officers ([Link to: http://www.lmc.org/page/1/league-bod.jsp](http://www.lmc.org/page/1/league-bod.jsp))

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([Link to: http://www.lmc.org/ads/102408](http://www.lmc.org/ads/102408))

2016 James F. Miller Leadership Award Winner

Shoreview City Manager Terry Schwerm wins James F. Miller Leadership Award honors from the League of Minnesota Cities

(June 16, 2016—St. Paul, Minn.) Shoreview City Manager Terry Schwerm has been selected as the League of Minnesota Cities James F. Miller Leadership Award winner for 2016. The award was presented today at the League's Annual Conference in St. Paul. The award is considered to be the League's highest honor for appointed city officials and is given annually in celebration of outstanding service.

Schwerm has served as Shoreview's city manager for the past 23 years and has been instrumental in establishing Shoreview's reputation as a premier Twin Cities suburban community. Prior to Shoreview, he served as an administrative assistant in Glencoe, Illinois, and as assistant city manager in Minnetonka.

During his tenure in Shoreview, Schwerm has overseen major renovations in the city's parks and a multi-million dollar expansion and renovation of the city's Community Center. He has also been involved in development of a comprehensive trail system, which has served as a major attraction and amenity for residents of all of Ramsey County. Additionally, under Schwerm's management, Shoreview has continually received the highest S&P bond rating, and is one of the smallest communities in Minnesota to receive the AAA rating.

Schwerm's contributions to public service extend beyond the boundaries of Shoreview. He has served on the Ramsey County Contract Cities Joint Committee and the Lake Johanna Fire Department Board of Directors. Additionally, he serves on the Board of Directors for the Municipal Legislative Commission, an organization that advocates for policy issues shared by 17 metro communities.

One of Schwerm's nominators noted that, "In my dealings with Terry, I have found him to be the consummate professional. He is a leader who consistently maintains the highest degree of integrity. In my opinion, the League could not find a more deserving person of this award."

About the judges

The 2016 James F. Miller Leadership Award nominations were judged by a two-person panel of past League of Minnesota Cities presidents, including Richard Brainerd, councilmember from the City of Mahtomedi, and Jim Miller, former executive director of the League.

About the League

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2016 C.C. Ludwig Award Winner

Oak Park Heights Mayor Mary McComber named by the League of Minnesota Cities as the C.C. Ludwig Award recipient for 2016

(June 16, 2016—St. Paul, Minn.) Mayor Mary McComber from the City of Oak Park Heights has been selected as the League of Minnesota Cities C.C. Ludwig Award winner for 2016. The honor was announced today at the League's Annual Conference in St. Paul.

The C.C. Ludwig Award is named for a former League executive director and is considered to be the League's highest honor for elected officials. Established in 1962, the award is given annually in celebration of outstanding service. Recipients are chosen for their vision, statesmanship, and unwavering commitment to the public good.

Mary McComber has served the City of Oak Park Heights since the year 2000, first as a city councilmember and then as mayor. She has served at a time when the city has been involved with major projects such as engagement with MnDOT for the new St. Croix River Crossing, construction of a new city hall, several park redevelopments, and many miles of street improvements.

Additionally, Mayor McComber currently serves as the council liaison to the city Park Commission, and previously served as a liaison to the city's Planning Commission. She is also a past president and member for the city Economic Development Authority.

Mayor McComber has an impressive record of service with the League of Minnesota Cities, through her participation on at least seven governing committees, most recently on the Executive Director Search Committee and the Improving Local Economies legislative policy committee.

During her years of service, Mayor McComber has earned high esteem and admiration from council peers, other state and county elected officials, and city officials from all around the state and nation. Of Mayor McComber, one of her nominators noted that she "...has always been open, responsive, and engaged."

About the judges

The 2016 C.C. Ludwig Award nominations were judged by a two-person panel of past League of Minnesota Cities presidents, including Richard Brainerd, councilmember from the City of Mahtomedi, and Jim Miller, former executive director of the League.

About the League

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2016 City of Excellence Award Winners

Thirteen communities receive honors from League of Minnesota Cities

Cities of Belle Plaine, Hastings, Oak Park Heights, and a collaboration of 10 small cities selected as City of Excellence Award winners for 2016

(June 16, 2016—St. Paul, Minn.) City-administered initiatives that included development of a child safety program, revitalization of a downtown riverfront area, community construction of a new park and playground, and creation of a multi-jurisdictional broadband network were recognized today when the League of Minnesota Cities announced City of Excellence Award winners for 2016. The awards were presented earlier today at the League's Annual Conference in St. Paul.

To compete for consideration as a City of Excellence, cities self-nominated a project, program, or initiative that was administered to achieve one or more of the following: improvement of the quality of a city service, development of an effective or innovative way to solve an old or common problem, modification of a program from another community or organization to fit city needs, discovery of a way to save the city money without compromising service results, and/or creative involvement of city staff or citizens in making a decision.

Winning entries were chosen in three population categories and in a special topical category. A description of each winning nomination follows.

Population under 5,000

Oak Park Heights—"From Pit to Park Project"

The city worked with volunteers, local businesses, and residents to turn a vacant, closed fly ash landfill pit into a new city park. The city also formed a task force of residents to create a formal plan that included suggested amenities to be located on the site, including a new playground, parking lot, trails, and a picnic pavilion.

The park was funded with the help of a grant from Kaboom!, Inc., and the city collaborated with the state of Minnesota, Xcel Energy, and a local business to design and construct an adjacent parking lot. To involve the community in creating a name for the park, the city's Park Commission sponsored a contest for kids in the community under the age of 18.

Overall, the project served as an inspiring example of using community engagement to better quality of life in the city. Volunteer residents built the park's playground area and constructed 50 benches that were placed in the park, as well as other parks and trails in the city. The city continues to tap into resources and seek input from citizens to improve what is now known as Oak Park Crossing Park, and has used the same development model to upgrade an existing neighborhood park each year.

Population 5,000 to 19,999

Cities of Brownton, Buffalo Lake, Fairfax, Gaylord, Gibbon, Green Isle, Lafayette, New Auburn, Stewart, and Winthrop—"RS Fiber Cooperative Project"

These 10 cities, along with 17 townships, worked collaboratively for five years to provide South Central Minnesota residents with access to high speed, affordable, and reliable gigabit internet service. The cities created a joint governance structure that aligned local taxpayer interests across entities, and initiated a public/private financing structure that enables residents to obtain internet broadband services at minimal risk.

The cities developed grassroots support for the project by hosting more than 150 meetings and by personally contacting hundreds of residents, local businesses, and government officials. Over the next five years, thousands of households and rural farm sites and hundreds of businesses and community organizations will be able to receive high-speed internet service access that greatly exceeds previous services provided by national telecommunications firms.

Communities need reliable broadband access to attract and retain new businesses and residents. The success of the "RS Fiber Cooperative Project" confirms the value of small communities working together with private interests to make a positive difference in lives of constituents.

Population 20,000+

City of Hastings—"Hastings Riverfront Renaissance"

For many years, the City of Hastings was a quiet Mississippi River town noted for a historic downtown area. Spurred by the construction of the Highway 61 Bridge, though, the community had a vision to become a premier gathering space for residents and visitors alike. A vision committee of city councilmembers, business leaders, and community groups organized to undertake a project that would attract visitors, enhance economic vitality, and improve quality of life for residents.

The city committed to a three-phase project with a budget of \$7.6 million. Now in its third phase, the project's success has encouraged current and planned economic development. The city has received \$500,000 in Redevelopment Incentive Grants, and about \$33 million of private development dollars has been committed in downtown Hastings. Additionally, a total of 17 businesses have invested in improvements or acquisitions.

Aside from investment, the project has evolved as a source of community pride, and a recent Grand Re-Opening of Levee Park on the Hastings RiverWalk event drew hundreds of attendees.

Topical category—Creative Programs in Public Safety Services

City of Belle Plaine—"Tiger Watch Program"

Tiger Watch is a community program designed to enhance the safety of young residents. The concept for the program was developed by Belle Plaine Police Chief Tom Stolee. It involves the identification of public facilities—city buildings, vehicles, and schools—along with participating local businesses as safe havens for children who are lost or whose safety is immediately threatened.

City staff and other participants at the approved facilities have gone through extensive background checks and have been trained to be the first contact, and will stay with the child until parents or police arrive to assist. Facilities participating in the program are visually indicated with a "Tiger Watch Safe Zone" decal in the window. Children or vulnerable adults who feel threatened are encouraged to seek facilities displaying the decal for safety.

Tiger Watch is a successful public/private partnership that could easily be replicated in other communities. By engaging a network of schools, businesses, and places of worship, the city helped to create a broader venue for community safety.

About the judges

The 2016 City of Excellence award nominations were judged by a two-person panel of past League of Minnesota Cities presidents, including Richard Brainerd, councilmember from the City of Mahtomedi, and Jim Miller, former executive director of the League.

About the League

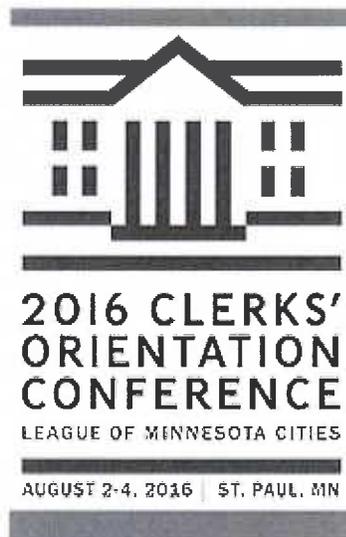
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2016 Sustainable City Award Winner

City of St. Anthony Village wins Sustainable City Award from the League of Minnesota Cities

(June 15, 2016 – St. Paul, Minn.) The League of Minnesota Cities has presented the 2016 Sustainable City Award to the City of St. Anthony Village for its “Sustainable City Through Collaboration” program. The award was presented earlier today at the League’s Annual Conference in St. Paul.

St. Anthony Village has participated in the GreenStep Cities program since 2011. Through leadership in local and regional collaboration, the city has accomplished an impressive number of sustainable projects and initiatives that incorporate GreenStep best practices. Last year, the city took on the task of organizing refuse and recycling collection, and now stands as a resource for other cities that are pursuing similar options.

As a Step 4 GreenStep Cities community, St. Anthony Village has completed 16 distinct projects and participated in a half dozen events and programs aimed at strengthening collaborative efforts toward resilience and sustainability. Among the 16 projects are a water re-use facility, partnership with faith-based organizations to establish raingardens, in-pavement LED crossings, installment of a park-based biofiltration stormwater treatment system, and many others.

To compete for the Sustainable City Award, cities self-nominated a project, program, or initiative that involved one or more of the 29 best practices and that was administered to achieve one or more of the following: improvement of the quality of a city service, development of an effective or innovative way to solve an old or common problem, modification of a program from another community or organization to fit city needs, discovery of a way to save the city money without compromising service results, and/or creative involvement of city staff or citizens in making a decision.

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Outgoing LMC President Honors Retiring Legislators Who Have City Roots

Seven of this year's retiring legislators began their public service in city halls.

(Published Jun 27, 2016)

Each year, the outgoing LMC president has the opportunity to acknowledge an individual or group that has contributed in a meaningful way to accomplishment of the League's mission and goals over the past year. One of LMC's highest ongoing priorities is working successfully with the Legislature to ensure that any new laws are consistent with the needs of our cities.

This year at the League's Annual Conference, outgoing LMC President Steve Nasby, administrator for the City of Windom, acknowledged the contributions of seven retiring legislators that began their public service in city halls. Over their years of service at the Minnesota Legislature, these individuals brought their municipal experiences and knowledge to the state Capitol.

This year's LMC President's Award recipients are:

Rep. Joe Atkins: Rep. Atkins is completing his seventh term representing House District 52B, which includes Inver Grove Heights and parts of Dakota County. Prior to his service in the Minnesota Legislature, he was the mayor of Inver Grove Heights.

Sen. Bev Scalze: Sen. Scalze is completing her first term in the Minnesota Senate representing District 42, which includes Little Canada and parts of Ramsey County. She also served four terms in the Minnesota House. Prior to her service in the Minnesota Legislature, she served on the Little Canada City Council.

Sen. Kathleen Sheran: Sen. Sheran is completing her third term in the Minnesota Senate representing District 19, which includes Mankato and parts of Blue Earth, Le Sueur, Nicollet, and Sibley counties. Prior to her service in the Minnesota Legislature, she served as mayor and city council president in the City of Mankato. While she was on the Mankato City Council, she served on the League of Minnesota Cities Board of Directors for four years.

Sen. Roger Reinert: Sen. Reinert is completing his second term in the Minnesota Senate representing District 7, which includes Duluth and portions of St. Louis County. He also served a term in the Minnesota House. Prior to his service in the Minnesota Legislature, he served as president of the Duluth City Council. Sen. Reinert authored the 2013 LGA reform bill supported by the League and other city organizations.

Sen. John Pederson: Senator Pederson is completing his second term in the Minnesota Senate representing District 14, which includes St. Cloud and portions of Benton, Sherburne, and Stearns counties. Prior to his service in the Minnesota Legislature, he served on the St. Cloud City Council.

Sen. Jim Metzen: Sen. Metzen is completing his ninth term in the Minnesota Senate representing District 52, which includes South St. Paul and portions of Dakota County. He also served five terms in the Minnesota House. Prior to his service in the Minnesota Legislature, he served on the South St. Paul City Council.

Sen. Alice Johnson: Sen. Johnson is completing her first term in the Minnesota Senate representing District 37, which includes Blaine and portions of Anoka and Ramsey counties. She also served seven terms in the Minnesota House. Prior to her service in the Minnesota Legislature, she served on the Spring Lake Park City Council.

Read the current issue of the Cities Bulletin ([Link to: http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp](http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp))

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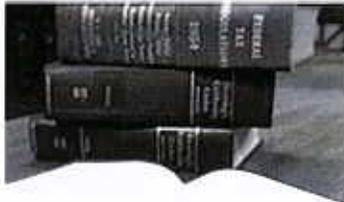


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2016 GreenStep Cities

League of Minnesota Cities recognizes GreenStep Cities participants for completing steps toward environmental sustainability goals

(June 15, 2016 – St. Paul, Minn.) The League of Minnesota Cities recognized 49 member cities and one tribal community at an awards ceremony held earlier today for completing at least one of four participation steps in the GreenStep Cities initiative. GreenStep Cities is a free and voluntary program designed to help Minnesota cities achieve their environmental sustainability goals through implementation of 29 best practices. There are now a total of 106 cities and two tribal nations in Minnesota that have completed one or more participation steps since the program began in 2010.

Each of the GreenStep Cities program's 29 best practices can be implemented by completing one or more specific actions from a list of four to eight actions in the areas of transportation, buildings and lighting, environmental management, land use, and economic and community development. The actions are tailored to all types of Minnesota cities, and they focus on cost savings, energy use reduction, and encouraging innovation.

Cities achieve Step One recognition by passing a resolution to become a GreenStep City. Step Two-designated cities have implemented up to eight of the program's best practices, and Step Three-designated cities have implemented up to 16 of the best practices. Some cities have completed more than one of the three steps within a single year.

The cities, along with one tribal reservation, recognized for Step One completion in 2015-2016 are **Aitkin, Albert Lea, Arden Hills, Barnum, Belle Plaine, Big Lake, Cologne, Faribault, Fergus Falls, Golden Valley, Hastings, Hewitt, Inver Grove Heights, Isanti, Jordan, La Crescent, Lexington, Mayer, Mounds View, New Brighton, New Germany, Red Lake Band of Chippewa, South St. Paul, Stacy, Sunfish Lake, and Winthrop.**

Cities completing Step Two include **Arlington, Delano, Elko New Market, Ely, Fergus Falls, Grand Marais, Hastings, Isanti, Lauderdale, Lexington, Marine on St. Croix, New Brighton, Mountain Iron, Richfield, St. Louis Park, St. Paul Park, and Sartell.** A total of eight cities completed Step Three in 2015-2016, including **Arlington, Austin, Hutchinson, Isanti, Marshall, New Hope, North St. Paul, and St. Paul.**

To reach Step Four, cities track and submit metrics from a selection of categories, such as energy and water use, vehicle fleet efficiency, community and economic development, and more. A total of six cities achieved this distinction in 2015-2016, including **Burnsville, Eden Prairie, Elk River, Hutchinson, Maplewood, and St. Anthony Village.** A list of completed actions for all 106 cities and two tribal nations participating in the program can be found at <http://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/allCities.cfm> (*Link to: <http://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/allCities.cfm>*).

In addition to the League, GreenStep Cities partnering organizations include the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the Division of Energy Resources at the Minnesota Department of Commerce, the Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTS), the Great Plains Institute, the Izaak Walton League–Minnesota Division, the Urban Land Institute of Minnesota, and the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota. This year's GreenStep Cities recognition program was sponsored by CenterPoint Energy, ICS Consulting, Johnson Controls, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, SEH, Springsted, Inc., The Weidt Group, and USAquatics.

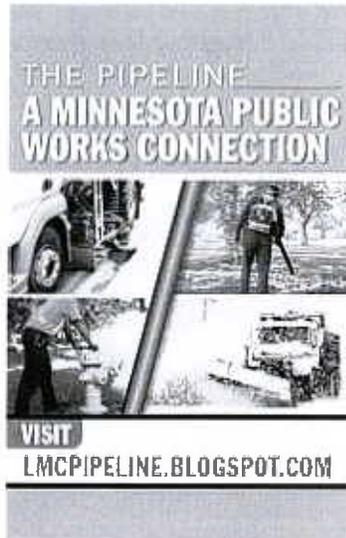
The League of Minnesota Cities is a membership organization dedicated to helping cities throughout Minnesota build quality communities through effective advocacy, expert analysis, trusted guidance, and collective action. The League serves its more than 830 member cities through advocacy, education and training, policy development, risk management, and other services.

Your LMC Resource

Contact Don Reeder

Assistant Communications Director for Public Affairs
(651) 215-4031 or (800) 925-1122
dreeder@lmc.org (*Link to: <mailto:dreeder@lmc.org>*)

New LMC Blog - The Pipeline



(Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/ads/103201>)



News from Hennepin County Commissioner Linda Higgins



JULY 2016

Thank you for subscribing to my newsletter.

IN THIS ISSUE

- [Top stories](#)
- [Board news](#)
- [Events](#)

I hope you have a safe and happy Independence Day weekend! There are many activities this weekend, including fireworks on the Mississippi River choreographed to Prince music, the Riverfront Fest on Friday evening, Plymouth's big music event on Wednesday, June 29 at the Hilde Center (more info at musicinplymouth.org), the Twin Cities half marathon, even the Fort Snelling Independence Day celebration. Find something fun, or relax at home with friends and relatives!

Be sure to check out all the great upcoming events this month, and think about [subscribing](#) to other interesting topics offered by Hennepin County.

Wishing everyone a happy 4th of July!

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)

WORKING AT HENNEPIN COUNTY

Hennepin County is a great place to work!

[Browse open positions](#) or sign up to receive [job notification](#) emails from the county.

Browse [current library openings](#).

CONTACTS

[Linda Higgins](#)
Commissioner, District 2
612-348-7882
www.hennepin.us/higgins

[Tina Sanz](#)
Principal Aide
612-348-5335

[Roshonda Royston](#)

Top stories Hennepin County to help preserve existing affordable housing

The Hennepin County Board of Commissioners, voting as the Housing and Redevelopment Authority, agreed to invest \$3 million in a fund that will be used to finance the purchase of about 530 units of existing affordable housing in the county.

Administrative Secretary
612-348-3526

You can also send comments via my [feedback form](#).

NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE

For past issues of my monthly newsletter, [visit my webpage](#).

ABOUT THE DISTRICT

District 2 serves the cities of [Golden Valley](#), [Medicine Lake](#), north and northeast [Minneapolis](#), southeast [Plymouth](#) and [St. Anthony](#).



[View larger map](#)

MORE COUNTY INFO

[County departments, agencies and other entities](#)

[Elected and appointed officials](#)

[Hennepin County libraries](#)

[Hennepin County Medical Center](#)

The county's investment is part of a \$25 million metro-area initiative by the Greater Minnesota Housing Fund, to acquire these units to keep them affordable. The program will target rental properties that are at risk of being converted to higher rents, and where low- and moderate-income residents are at risk of being displaced.



Affordable housing at risk

In Hennepin County, housing costs for 150,000 families consume more than 30 percent of their gross incomes; for about 60,000 households, rent is in excess of 50 percent of their incomes.

In this housing market, nonprofit and socially minded developers cannot compete with investors who are ready to purchase properties with cash on hand, ready to renovate and raise the rent. Their eagerness to buy up housing has further constricted an already tight rental market. More limited use of Federal Section 8 housing choice vouchers and state Group Residential Housing also has hurt county social service clients, who rely heavily on those programs for safe, stable housing.

Preservation makes sense

From an economic standpoint, it's more efficient to maintain Hennepin County's existing housing than to look for opportunities to create new housing.

Currently, Hennepin County has approximately 82,000 units of unsubsidized multifamily rental housing, with rents affordable to households with incomes at or below 60 percent of the county's average median income, which is \$51,480 for a family of four. Rents in these "naturally occurring affordable housing" units average between \$550 and \$1,200 per month. The properties

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range in size, age, location, and ownership.

About half of the metro area's naturally occurring affordable housing rental units are located in Hennepin County.

Making a difference in people's lives

The balance of the initial \$25 million invested in this project is expected to come from institutional, philanthropic and socially conscious investors. The county's \$3 million investment will leverage \$22 million in private investment to preserve affordable housing. The fund will provide 30 percent of the equity needed to finance housing purchases; the remainder will come from traditional mortgage financing.

"Hennepin County is leading the way to preserve naturally affordable, unsubsidized rental housing before it is lost to market forces," said Warren Hanson, president and CEO of Greater Minnesota Housing Fund (GMHF). "The County's commitment to the NOAH Impact Fund is a social impact investment that will prevent the displacement of low-income renters in Hennepin County."



HCMC named medical services provider for U.S. Bank Stadium

A partnership announced with U.S. Bank Stadium and Hennepin County Medical Center (HCMC) means that guests will be in good hands when the new stadium opens next month. Guest experience, including the health and wellness of guests, is a top priority for the Minnesota Sports Facilities Authority (MSFA), SMG and the Minnesota Vikings.

For HCMC, the new partnership is a natural extension of its health and wellness services into a venue that will bring millions of people from across the state, region, and world to downtown Minneapolis every year.

"Our services span the spectrum of health, from primary and specialty care in our clinics, to emergency medicine, EMS, and disaster preparedness, so it's a natural partnership for us to support the health and wellbeing of the guests who will attend events in the new stadium," said Jon L. Pryor, MD, MBA, CEO.

Paramedics and emergency medical response teams will provide care to event participants and fans with EMS coverage or first aid support for Vikings games and other major events at U.S. Bank Stadium.

If ambulance transport is needed to the hospital, HCMC's main campus, including Level I adult and pediatric trauma care, is just one block away. HCMC serves the healthcare needs of downtown residents, workers, and visitors today and is currently building a new, 377,000 square foot clinic and specialty center close to the new stadium. More information at hcmc.org.



Public Hearing- Plymouth and Penn Aves. N

NorthPoint Health and Wellness Center expansion

A public hearing to obtain comment on the proposed transfer of land related to the NorthPoint expansion will be held before the Hennepin County Housing and Redevelopment Authority on

Tuesday, July 19, 2016 at 1:30 p.m., or soon after, in Room A-2400 of the Hennepin County Government Center, 300 S. 6th St., Minneapolis. The proposed plan is to use the parcels for a mixed use development that will include an expansion of the NorthPoint Health and Wellness Center, and related parking facilities on the southeast corner, and a relocated Estes Funeral Chapel on the southwest corner.

The property on the southwest corner of Penn and Plymouth Avenues North would then be transferred to Estes Funeral Chapel. The property on the southeast corner would then be transferred to Thor Development. These transfers will allow the consolidation of property on the north side of Plymouth Avenue North for the expansion of the NorthPoint campus (see [notice](#) for further information).

[NorthPoint](#) Health and Wellness Center is a comprehensive health and human services agency located in the heart of North Minneapolis. The Hennepin County Board of Commissioners shares governance of NorthPoint Health and Wellness Center. Funding for the NorthPoint expansion project had previously been approved through the Hennepin County [Capital Budget](#).



Absentee voting has begun

Absentee balloting is now open for the state primary. Voters can choose to submit an absentee ballot in person or by mail. Most

cities in Hennepin County offer in-person absentee voting at city hall or other locations (see [Minneapolis](#)); call your city clerk's office for more information. Also, any Hennepin County resident can vote by in-person absentee ballot at the Hennepin County Government Center elections office in downtown Minneapolis from 8 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday.

Additional Hennepin County absentee voting hours are posted at hennepin.us/elections. You can request to have your absentee ballot mailed to you at mnvotes.org. For any questions, contact the Hennepin County Elections office at hc.vote@hennepin.us or call (612) 348-5151.

Plymouth water ski show July 12



The City of Plymouth will hold a water ski show featuring the Shockwaves Shakopee-Prior Lake Water Ski Association at 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 12 at Parkers Lake Park, County Road 6 and Niagara Lane.

The beach-front show will feature music, colorful costumes and a variety of water ski entertainment, including jumps, pyramids and other choreographed moves. Viewers are invited to bring lawn chairs, blankets and a picnic dinner. Cold Stone Creamery will sell ice cream at the event.

Sponsored by the Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department, the event is free and open to the public. Staff recommends viewers arrive early to claim a good seat, as beach-front space and event parking is limited.

A second water ski show is set for Aug. 9. For more information, call [763-509-5200](tel:763-509-5200). To check for cancellations in the event of inclement weather, call the weather hotline at [763-509-5205](tel:763-509-5205).



Get ready for Night to Unite

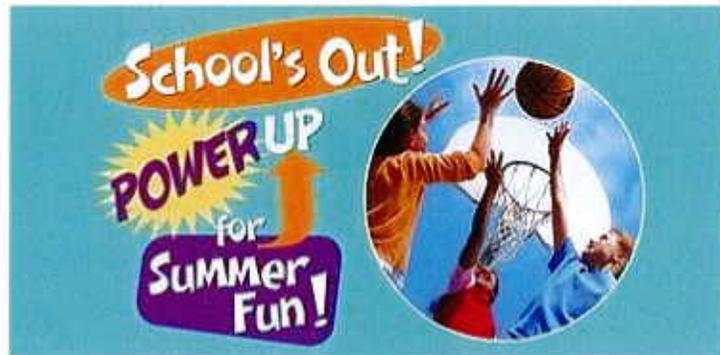
Amid potlucks and food, fire engines bearing excitement for kids, barks from a K9 or laughs from a neighbor – people, first responders and organizations unite together in home towns across Hennepin County for Night to Unite.

Night to Unite, also known as National Night Out, is Tuesday, August 2 and is an annual event that encourages residents to hold block parties and get to know their neighbors as a way to encourage crime prevention. Each year, the Hennepin County Attorney's and Sheriff's Offices visits more than 100 community gatherings. Sheriffs, prosecutors, victim advocates and other staff members are available to answer your questions about the justice system and provide crime prevention information regarding how you can protect your family and your property.

National Night Out is a great opportunity to promote community-police partnerships and enjoy a Minnesota summer evening surrounded by friends and family. You may contact your city to register (some requests have early deadlines) or for more information. See these links for [Golden Valley](#), [Minneapolis](#), [Plymouth](#), and [St. Anthony](#).

If you are hosting a block party and would like someone from the County Attorney's Office to visit, please contact Jean Heyer: jean.heyer@hennepin.us. To make a request for the Sheriff's Office to attend your neighborhood National Night Out

event, contact the Sheriff's office at (612) 348-3744 or email: sheriff@hennepin.us. Requests should be made soon.



Partner news: Summer meals for kids

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) ensures that low-income children continue to receive nutritious meals when school is not in session. This summer, USDA plans to serve more than 200 million free meals to children 18 years and under at approved SFSP sites.

Here are some ways that providers serving families can help:

- Use the [summer meal site locator](#) tool to find a location near the families that you serve and help ensure that no child goes hungry this summer.
- Check out the [Key Summer Food Service Program Resource](#) list and discover more ways to support childhood nutrition.
- [Sponsor](#) a Summer Food Service Program.

Learn more about nutrition programs by visiting the USDA Food and Nutrition Service web page at <http://www.fns.usda.gov>.

Hennepin County Career Connections – Hennepin employee recognition awards

This past week, the Hennepin County Board recognized employee achievements as the board does annually. The employees at Hennepin County always make me proud for their incredible work, but I would like to point out a few in particular related to their work with our district.



Diversity and Inclusion in Action

The award for Diversity and Inclusion in Action went to the Bottineau Community Works Team which includes employees from the Communications, Health and Public Works departments. The award recognizes employees who promote diversity within the organization, encourage a climate of inclusion and exhibit a positive attitude toward providing services. The Bottineau team was recognized for their work during the Bottineau Light Rail (LRT) planning process for bringing diverse faces and voices into the process. The video about this team is [here](#).



Hennepin Gives award

Nancy Anderson, a Plymouth resident and Trainer in Health and Human Services, was recognized with the [Hennepin Gives](#) award for her work volunteering in the various communities she serves. Whether working at the local food shelf, planting flowers with the city of Plymouth, or singing for terminal patients at Methodist Hospital, Nancy truly embodies the spirit of public service.

The video of the entire awards program (during the June 21 Board meeting) is available [here](#) for viewing.

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Board news

June 21

Increased funding will support 54 additional staff to meet new state requirements for Medical Assistance

The Hennepin County Board approved a Human Services staff increase to manage new state-imposed Medical Assistance

eligibility review requirements and the transfer of 41,000 clients' records to a new management system. The county does not control and cannot modify the state imposed system and processes. Human Services estimates that the additional workload eventually could require 110 to 120 additional full-time positions. The positions will increase the department's labor costs by \$2.7 million annually; the federal government is expected to reimburse \$1.5 million through Medicaid, and state Department of Human Services has allocated \$352,000 toward the county's additional staff costs. Human Services leadership will assess operations in the second half of 2016 to determine if more staffing is needed in 2017. [Learn more about the additional staffing need](#)

Gap funding approved for Southwest Light Rail project

Voting as the Regional Railroad Authority, the board voted to continue funding project development on the Southwest Light Rail from downtown to Eden Prairie, also known as the Green Line Extension. Initially, funding was set to end July 1; the funding now is extended through September. The measure was necessary because expected state funding for the project was not approved during the state legislature's 2016 session. The measure was approved in the hope that Southwest Light Rail funding is approved in a special session. No new funds were allocated. [Learn more about the extension](#)

Fund will help preserve existing affordable housing

The Hennepin County Board of Commissioners, under the authority of the Housing and Redevelopment Authority, agreed to invest \$3 million in a fund that will be used to finance the purchase of existing affordable housing in the county. *See story above.*

Sheriff's office to collaborate with other agencies on national conference

The board approved a plan to work with several regional sheriff's

offices to provide resources during the National Sheriff's Association Annual Conference and Major County Sheriff's Association summer meeting, for the conference scheduled in Minneapolis June 22-29. The Hennepin County Sheriff's Office is the lead agency for all operational and security planning. The Hennepin County Sheriff's Office and the Minnesota Sheriff's Association have been in contact with all 87 Minnesota sheriffs' offices to solicit assistance. Several agencies have offered to help.

Washington Avenue Bridge will be repaired after fire

The board approved a \$98,000 plan to repair damage on the Washington Avenue Bridge over the Mississippi River, from a fire last January. The fire occurred under the Minneapolis bridge in an area for maintaining utility facilities. The fire and subsequent abatement operation resulted in distortion of bridge structural steel beams. Transportation department staff has inspected the structure and verified that the bridge may remain open to traffic; however, it is necessary to repair the damage.

Funding okayed to add East Bush Lake Road on-ramp to westbound 494

The board approved the county's \$8.5 million share of a five-year plan to make improvements to East Bush Lake Road at Interstate 494 in Bloomington. The project will result in a new entrance ramp to westbound I-494, to relieve traffic on Normandale Boulevard/84th Street at Bush Lake Road. Bloomington is responsible for delivery of the project and anticipates construction may begin as early as 2017.

Public hearing: Proposed property transfer at Penn and Plymouth

The board voted to establish a hearing on the proposed transfer of property at the southeast and southwest corners of Penn and

Plymouth avenues north in Minneapolis. The hearing will be held Tuesday, July 19, 2016 at 1:30 p.m. *See story above.*

Carl Michaud appointed to lead Public Works

The board appointed Carl Michaud as assistant county administrator for Public Works. Michaud has been serving in an interim role for the past several months. Before his interim appointment, he was director of the Environment and Energy Department since 2007. In 29 years at Hennepin County, including 9 years as director of the Environmental Services Department, he worked on municipal solid waste management, hazardous waste management, energy issues and natural resources protection.

Budget hearings and other dates set

The board scheduled public hearings for adoption of the 2017 budget and levy, and set a schedule for the Budget and Capital Investment Committee to consider the proposed 2017 budget. The meetings will proceed as follows (note: Dates are subject to change. To subscribe to updates, visit the Hennepin County [Budget page](#)):

County administrator presents proposed 2017 budget to County Board

Tuesday, September 13, 2016, 1:30 p.m.

County Board vote on 2017 maximum tax levy and budget

Tuesday, September 20, 2016, 1:30 p.m.

Public safety

Thursday, September 22, 2016, 1 – 4 p.m.

Library/Operations

Monday, September 26, 2016, 1 – 4 p.m.

Health

Tuesday, September 27, 2016, 9 a.m. – noon

Human Services and Public Health

Thursday, September 29, 2016, 1 – 4 p.m.

Public Works

Friday, September 30, 2016, 1 – 4 p.m.

Human Services and Public Health

Thursday, October 6, 2016, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (follow-up, if needed)

Capital Budgeting Task Force and fees

Thursday, October 20, 2016, 9 a.m. – noon

Truth-in-Taxation public meeting

Tuesday, November 29, 2016, 6 p.m. Participants can park for free after 5 p.m. in the Government Center ramp. Enter on 3rd Avenue.

Administrator amendments

Wednesday, December 7, 2016, during Budget and Capital Investment Committee meeting

Commissioner amendments

Monday, December 12, 2016, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

County Board vote on 2017 budget and levy

Tuesday, December 13, 2016, 1:30 p.m.

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Events

St. Anthony

- **June 29 through July 8**

Park activities. For a list of activities, times and cost, visit

mynortheaster.com.

Silverwood Park

2500 County Road E, St. Anthony

- **Saturdays, July 16, 23 and 30, 10am-noon**
[Puppet shows](#). Free but there is a suggested donation of \$5 per person.
Silverwood Park
2500 County Road E, St. Anthony
- Silverwood OnStage. Live music, film and art performances.
For dates and times, visit [silverwoodonstage.org](#).
Silverwood Park
2500 County Road E, St. Anthony

Northeast

- **June 29 through September 1**
Activities for Seniors. For a list of activities, days and times, visit [mynortheaster.com](#).
Bottineau Park
2000 2nd Street NE, Minneapolis
- **Wednesday, June 29, 5-6:30pm**
Northeast Networking Night. Enjoy complimentary beverage and appetizers. Open to members and non-members \$15 members/\$20 non-members. To register visit [minneapolischamber.org](#) or contact Christine Levens at 612-378-0050.
Red Stag Supperclub
509 1st Avenue NE, Minneapolis
- **Thursdays, June 30 through September 29, 4-7pm**
[Mini Farmers Market](#)
Audubon Park
27th Avenue NE and Johnson Street NE, Minneapolis
- **Thursday, July 7 and Friday, July 8, 8am-5pm and Saturday, July 9, 8am-noon**
[Rummage sale](#). Clothes, dishes, kitchen ware, home decor, books, electronics, kids games, toys and much more.
Grace Lutheran Church
1500 6th Street NE, Minneapolis
- **July 11 through July 29**
Summer day camps. Low-cost. Fees based on family size, income, and the number of children registered. To register and for more information, visit [mynortheaster.com](#).
Grace Lutheran Church
1500 6th Street NE, Minneapolis
- **July 12 through August 20**
Library events. For a list of free summer activities, visit

mynortheaster.com or call 612-543-6850.

Bottineau Library

55 Broadway Street NE, Minneapolis

- **Tuesday, July 12 and 19, 9:30am**

Employment Orientation meeting. For low-income seniors in Hennepin County who are interested in paid on-the-job training in a variety of community based settings. Positions include janitors, warehouse worker, security, care givers, and office workers, to name a few. For more information, visit esns.org or call Macey at 612-787-4090.

- **Wednesday, July 13, 6-7:30pm**

[Water Wednesday workshop](#). Free event to learn about eco-friendly yard care.

Mississippi Watershed Management Organization

2522 Marshal Avenue NE, Minneapolis

North

- **Thursday, July 7 through Saturday, July 9, 9am-4pm**

Hazardous waste collection event. Drop off unwanted household materials. For a list of acceptable materials, visit hennepin.us.

Jenny Lind School

5025 Bryant Avenue N, Minneapolis

- **Monday, July 11 through Friday, August 12, 9am-4pm**

Camp Capri. Summer arts camp for middle school students. Theater, dance, drumming, music, and visual arts, culminating in the performance of Greta Oglesby's original play, "A Rhythm Runs Through It." To register, visit thecapritheater.org or contact Kiana Batteau at kbatteau@pcyc-mpls.org or 612-643-2061.

Capri Theater

2027 Broadway Avenue W, Minneapolis

- **July 11 through August 26, 11:30am-1pm**

Free summer food program. For ages 18 and under. For more information, call 612-521-1749.

Al-maa'uun

1729 Lyndale Avenue N, Minneapolis

- **Wednesday, July 13, 1-3pm**

[Ice Cream social](#).

Harrison Park

503 N Irving Avenue, Minneapolis

- **Thursdays, starting July 14, 3-7pm**

Camden Farmers Market
The Warren
4400 Osseo Road, Minneapolis

- **Thursday, July 14, 6-8pm**
Live on the Drive featuring the group, Mpls. For more information, visit liveonthedrive.org.
Victory Memorial Parkway
34th Avenue N and Victory Memorial Parkway, Minneapolis
- **July 16 and August 20**
Food program. Food distribution 8-9:30am and hot meals program 3-5pm. For more information, call 612-521-1749
Al-maa'uun
1729 Lyndale Avenue N, Minneapolis
- **Thursday, July 28 through Saturday, July 30**
FLOW Northside Arts Crawl. For highlights and event information, visit westbroadway.org.

North Loop

- **Sunday, July 10, 11am-5pm**
Open Streets. Explore downtown Minneapolis by bike, foot or skate on car-free streets. Get a map at openstreetsmpls.org.
- **Thursday, July 21, 7pm**
[Movie night](#). Watch "Overboard."
Target Field Station
335 N 5th Street, Minneapolis
- **Friday, July 22, 9pm**
[Movie night](#). Watch "Rocky."
Target Field Station
335 N 5th Street, Minneapolis
- **Saturday, July 23, 6-10pm**
[Block party](#). Live music, food and viewing of the Aquatennial fireworks. Free. Wristbands available for beer and wine.
Our Lady of Lourdes
1 Lourdes Place, Minneapolis

Bryn Mawr

- **Saturday, July 16, 9am-1pm**
Garden tour. See and learn about the amazing urban gardens of Bryn Mawr. \$10 before July 15 and \$15 after. To purchase tickets visit, bmna.org.

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church
420 Cedar Lake Road S, Minneapolis

- **Thursday, July 21, 3-5pm**
[Ice Cream Scoop off.](#)
Downtown Bryn Mawr
2823 Wayzata Boulevard, Minneapolis

Golden Valley

- **July 7, July 14 and July 28, 2:30pm**
Police and Fire in the park. Police and firefighters visit city parks and spend time with the children from the neighborhood. For park locations, visit goldenvalleymn.gov.
- **Friday, July 8, 9-11am**
[Open to Business.](#) Golden Valley residents, small business owners or entrepreneurs can get free, one-on-one business consultation services and other assistance.
Golden Valley City Hall
7800 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley
- **Monday, July 11, 7pm**
[Ice Cream Social.](#) Free.
Brookview Park
Hwy 55 and Winnetka, Golden Valley
- **Monday, July 11, 6:45-7:45pm**
[Gazebo grand opening ribbon cutting ceremony.](#)
Brookview Park
Hwy 55 and Winnetka, Golden Valley
- **Friday, July 15, 12:30-2:30pm**
[Water day.](#) Water slides, music and puppet shows. Drinks provided at the park shelter.
Scheid Park
1856 Toledo Avenue N, Golden Valley
- **Friday, July 29, 8:30-10:30am**
[Coffee with a Cop.](#) Neighbors are invited to drop in to chat with an officer and other staff.
Starbucks
7802 Olson Memorial Highway, Golden Valley
- **Friday, July 29, 10:30am-12:30pm**
[Penny Carnival.](#) Carnival games, dunk tank, puppet shows, hay rides, popcorn and more. Ages 4 and up. 3-5 cents per activity. Just bring pennies!
Brookview Park
Hwy 55 and Winnetka, Golden Valley

Medicine Lake

- **Wednesday, July 27, 7pm**
[Plymouth Lions Business meeting.](#)
Plymouth Library conference room
15700 36th Avenue N, Plymouth

Plymouth

- **Tuesday, July 5, 7pm**
[Free music.](#) Zachary Scott Johnson band performs.
Parkers Lake Park
15205 County Road 6, Plymouth
- **Wednesday, July 6, 11am**
[Free kids' theater performance.](#) "Tortoise and the Hare."
Hilde Small Stage
3500 Plymouth Boulevard, Plymouth
- **Monday, July 11, 7pm**
[Firefighter recruitment open house.](#) The Plymouth Fire Service is looking to hire paid-on-call firefighters.
Fire Station III
3300 Dunkirk Lane, Plymouth
- **Tuesday, July 12, 6-7pm**
[Walk with a Doc.](#) Residents are invited to take a 45-minute walk with a local doctor, who will share information on a health-related topic and answer questions during the event.
Plymouth Creek Center
14800 34th Avenue N, Plymouth
- **Tuesday, July 12, 7pm**
[Water ski show.](#) See the Shockwaves Shakopee-Prior Lake Water Ski team perform.
Parkers Lake Park
15205 County Road 6, Plymouth
- **Thursday, July 14, 7pm**
[Free music.](#) Jeff Dayton Band performs.
Hilde Amphitheater
3500 Plymouth Boulevard, Plymouth
- **Sunday, July 17, 4:30-6pm**
Log rolling. Learn to stay atop of the log. For ages 7 to adults. \$27 residents/\$33 non-residents. To register, visit plymouthmn.gov.
Parkers Lake Beach
County Road 6 and Niagara Lane, Plymouth

- **Tuesday, July 19, 7pm**
[Free music](#). Gypsy Mania Hot Club Quartet performs.
Parkers Lake Stage
15205 County Road 6, Plymouth
- **Friday, July 22, 7pm and Saturday, July 23, 2pm**
[Free kids' theater performance](#). "Sleeping Beauty."
Hilde Amphitheater
3500 Plymouth Boulevard, Plymouth
- **Thursday, July 28, 6pm**
[Kidfest](#). Live music, food trucks, games, inflatables and more.
Hilde Small Stage
3500 Plymouth Boulevard, Plymouth
- **Saturday, July 30, 5pm**
Live at the Hilde. ZZ Ward with special guest Eric Hutchinson performs. For tickets, visit plymouthmn.gov.
Hilde Performance Center
3500 Plymouth Boulevard, Plymouth
- Applications are now being accepted for Public Safety Citizens' Academy through Thursday, September 1. Free 12-week course which meets Thursdays, 6:30-9:30pm, beginning September 8. The Public Safety Citizens' Academy is for 12 weeks and is geared toward expanding public knowledge of the Plymouth Police and Fire Departments. To apply and for more information, visit plymouthmn.gov.

Multiple communities

- **July 4, 6-9:30pm**
[Fourth of July celebration](#). Live music, food, activities and fireworks.
Father Hennepin Bluff Park
420 SE Main Street, Minneapolis
- **July 13 through September 25**
Preserve Minneapolis walking tour. Over 20 summer tours of Minneapolis' historic neighborhoods. Most tours are \$9. For a list of tours and to register, visit preserveminneapolis.org.
- Music and movies in the park. For dates, times and locations, visit minneapolisparcs.org.

SPOTLIGHT

july • august 2016

Coming August—Final Cut X!

Move over, Final Cut 7—there's a new kid in town! This August, NWCT will transition volunteers to a new edit software, Final Cut X (FCP X). Though Apple's FCP X was released a while back, we were hesitant to switch to it as it differed so much from our current program, Final Cut 7 (FCP 7). But the software has seen a number of impressive updates since its release so NWCT/Channel 12 decided to purchase the program and integrate it into our operations in 2016. Channel 12 News began editing with FCP X in June of this year.

I'll be honest, FCP X operates differently than its predecessor. Though its general layout/infrastructure has changed, it has many, many pluses—rendering in the background, speed, automatic saving, social media upload features, easy to use effects—just to name a few! Reviews from volunteers, ven-

turing a peek at the new software, have already been positive. But be ready—there will be a bit of a learning curve!

Staff will launch FCP X training for current FCP 7 editors on Saturday, July 30, from 9am-3pm. The special all-day event will feature three training sessions—each class will be two hours in length and feature a one hour overview and a one hour hands-on class project. We are hoping to train close to forty editors at the event. Four additional training dates are also scheduled for the first week of August. See the schedule (top right) for dates and times. FCP X training for the general public will kick off in August as well.

Transitioning to new edit software is a big deal! Our last upgrade took place in 2007 when



we updated to FCP 7. Staff is busy planning curriculum and asks for your patience as we make the transition—hey, we're learning new software too! Many volunteers have asked how long FCP 7 will be around—it will be removed in November. This will give volunteers a two month window to finish projects begun in FCP 7. Questions? Feel free to email me (Barb) at bnolan@nwct.org. **BNC**

Want to be in a parade?

NWCT is recruiting volunteers to be part of 2016 northwest suburban parades—march alongside Channel 12 staff, smile and wave at parade goers and hand out fans promoting NWCT! Thanks to **Scott Burdette, Tommie Clark, Donald Jackson** (and son Quincy) for their exceptional help most recently with Brooklyn Park's Tater Daze parade. If you want to participate in an upcoming parade, please contact Javie at jcedillo@nwct.org or 763.278.4326 for more information. **JC**



UPCOMING PARADES

Robbinsdale Whiz Bang Days
Sunday, July 10, 3pm

Maple Grove Pierre Bottineau Days
Thursday, July 14, 6:30pm

Osseo Lion's Roar Days
Saturday, September 10, 12pm

Plymouth on Parade
Saturday, September 24, 11:30am

NWCT vision and mission approved

The Northwest Suburbs Cable Communications Commission approved the NWCT Vision and Mission at their May 19 meeting. As I have said in the past, think of the Vision and Mission as a blueprint and roadmap for the entire organization. Staff as well as Commission and Board Committee members spent time updating the Mission Statement and developing a Vision Statement for NWCT. The documents will be reviewed on an annual basis. In addition, we will review specific 10 year organizational targets and goals. I will talk about these targets and goals in future editions of the NWCT Spotlight Newsletter. **MIKE JOHNSON**



NORTHWEST COMMUNITY TELEVISION APPROVED VISION/MISSION (5/19/16)

VISION STATEMENT

Northwest Community Television will be a dynamic media resource, known by all in our member communities, which informs and inspires public engagement.

MISSION STATEMENT

Northwest Community Television creates, helps others create, and disseminates high-quality local content by serving our communities and associates above all else, with honesty, professionalism, and high integrity.

CORE VALUES

- ⊙ Serve our communities and associates above all else.
- ⊙ Display honesty and integrity.
- ⊙ Demonstrate professionalism.

CORE FOCUS

- ⊙ Serve and be a mirror of the communities as they evolve and change.
- ⊙ Offer opportunities to produce programming.
- ⊙ Support our commission member communities by providing media content production and delivery.
- ⊙ Be a local source so residents can be informed and aware, by documenting changes and the impact they have on our communities.

NICHE

We are built to identify, produce, and deliver high-quality community content in our member communities.

Super turnout for Super Saturday!

It's easy to see why Super Saturday is one of our most popular days of the year: one day, three production classes, hands-on experience, new knowledge, connections with fellow classmates, all by 5pm! This year's Super Saturday was no different. We welcomed 24 new excited members on April 30, and by the end of the day, they had three videos under their belt (and on our YouTube channel). Because of its popularity, we are doing a second Super Saturday on October 30—if you know anyone who is interested, have them contact us at 763.278.4330 or info@nwct.org. **NJ**



LINKS

 www.nwct.org

 [nwctv](https://www.facebook.com/nwctv)

 [@NWCTACCESS](https://twitter.com/NWCTACCESS)

 [nwct18](https://www.youtube.com/nwct18)

 [nwctaccess](https://www.instagram.com/nwctaccess)

North Hennepin student collaboration

Back in the beginning of April, NWCT helped out in a collaboration between Robbinsdale Area Schools (RAS), North Hennepin Community College, and Bemidji State University for a MN American Indian Rights Research Tour. During the trip, students from North Hennepin (**Teah Manneh** and **Taylor Rivera**) checked out equipment via NWCT and recorded their journey April 21-25. The goal of this project was for Taylor and Teah to document the trip and interview the other students, guests and staff, and provide a short film based on the Native American Tour.

First, in mid-March, we began the training with Taylor and Teah on the gear, from cameras, lighting, and microphones, basically, anything that could be of use in the field. We also showed them great examples of documentary-style filmmaking and editing. Once they felt comfortable, we sent them on their way for the trip, and over the course of four days, the students visited multiple sites with Native American historical significance. This field experience is more than a tour; it's helping to develop the important skill of research which will be a necessity for the students in the future. This experience included addressing issues such as colonization, treaty rights, racism, social movements, student activism, service learning, and political power learned in their everyday coursework or lived experiences. Students who participate in this service learning experience will use their research skills to help redefine the Native experience

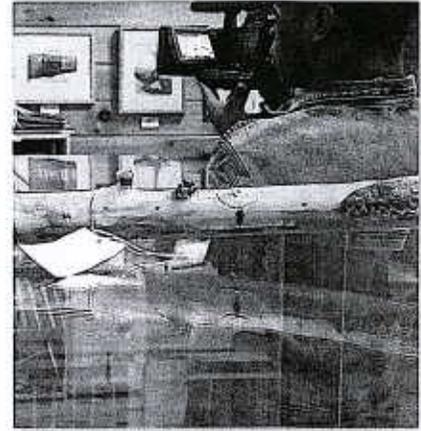
and how it will be taught and learned about in the future.

Once the students returned, the staff of NWCT, helped Taylor and Teah to ingest and edit using FCP 7 and to structure the piece for the showing which



Left: North Hennepin Community College students (Teah, front and center!). Right: Teah recording at one of the tour's sites.

was held June 2 at Robbinsdale Cooper High School. (The showing was a great success!) We look forward to future projects in our collaboration with North Hennepin Community College. Look for the program on our channels! **DC**



Javie's Late Show news

We had a great time May 9 recording another three Javie's Late Shows! Our featured volunteers were **Alex Aaron** (The Alex Aaron Comedy Hour), **Otieno Nyangweso** (firstWorld TV) and **Bill Weir** (Freethinking Forum). And, we had a HUGE crew, thanks in part to Super Saturday: **Scott Burdette, Sam Guerrido, Jasmine Hinrickson, Nevaeh Hinrickson, Gwen Hollins, Mary Lahaie, Keeran Nicholls, Marie Onaiwu, Cookie Rison, Kendrick Shang** and **Cory Shipp**.

Our next recording is Monday, October 3, 6:45pm-10pm. If you'd like to be featured or be volunteer crew, contact Javie at jcedillo@nwct.org or 763.278.4326. **TT**



Studio notes

CLOSED JULY 2-4

NWCT will be closed for the Independence Day weekend Saturday, July 2, through Monday, July 4.

NEW MEMBERS

We've got some new NWCT members to welcome to the studio:

Noah Bonds, Joe Cocozzello, Lisa Furnish, Thomas Furnish, Mike Hanrahan, Daisy Hayes, Nick Helsper, Dale Kraus, Perry Liestman, Shauna Madison, Heidi Maurival, Joe Morris, Blessing Mulbah, Keeran Nicholls, Marie Onaiwu, Summers Onaiwu, Rector Reeves, Cookie Rison, Kendrick Shang, Jacory Shipp, Roy Stein, Olufemi Valentine and Andrew Wegleitner.



Top to bottom:
Feed Me Vegan and Paws Up 4 Success.



NEW SHOWS

We've had a spate of new shows in the studio and on the channels. Check out the following: Apostle's Prophetic Word (**George Nathaniel**), Feed Me Vegan (**Cheryl Moline**), The Hand of the Lord (**Billie Bolden**), Merry's Eclectic Interests (**Mary Lahaie**), Only Believe (**Julian McClain**), Paws Up 4 Success (**Jodee Kulp**) and Secrets of the Coming Kingdom (**Enock Bigogo**). TT

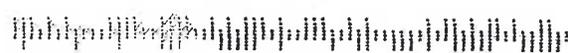


Northwest Community Television
6900 Winnetka Avenue North
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MINNEAPOLIS
WINNETKA
28 JUN '16
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Jessica Peterson
651.265.7885
jpeterson@pasterprop.com

91,000 Square Feet of Retail Space Leased at Crystal Shopping Center

Robbinsdale Area Schools Slated to Open a Learning Center this Summer

ST. PAUL, Minn., March 30, 2016 – St. Paul, Minn.-based Paster Properties, a leading developer and manager of neighborhood shopping centers in the Twin Cities, is proud to announce that it has leased more than 91,000 square feet of retail space at Crystal Shopping Center in the past year. Crystal Shopping Center's newest tenant, Robbinsdale Area Schools, is expected to open a 43,369 square foot learning center at the beginning of August.

Robbinsdale Area Schools will be relocating the community and adult education programs that are currently housed at Sandberg Learning Center in Golden Valley to Crystal Shopping Center. The new school will be named Crystal Learning Center.

In addition to working with a trustworthy and transformative property manager and developer, the location of Crystal Shopping Center was fundamental for Robbinsdale Area Schools when selecting a site for the new learning center. The shopping center is easy to access via public transportation, which is essential for many of the students enrolled in the adult academic program.

"Goal One of our Unified District Vision speaks to implementing policies and practices that open pathways to academic excellence for all students," said Robbinsdale Area Schools Superintendent Carlton D. Jenkins, Ph.D. "Offering these programs in an educational setting that is more accessible to more of these learners will help us continue to strive for excellence in our district."

The new learning facility will service nearly 350 students through both its adult academic program and transition program, which helps young adults with disabilities transition from school to adult life.

"We are eager to add value to the community by utilizing retail space in a unique respect," said Paster Properties President Howard Paster. "Crystal Shopping Center has transformed into a lively shopping center and we are confident that it will provide an engaging setting for the students to learn."

Including the space designated for Robbinsdale Area Schools, Paster Properties has leased more than 91,000 square feet of retail space at Crystal Shopping Center since March 2015. Dollar Tree will be relocating from the west side of the shopping center to the east side of the center this spring and Phenix Salon Suites is expected to open this summer. Pro Nails recently reopened in a new space a few doors down from their previous location and Payless ShoeSource relocated from the west side of the center to the east side of the center this past summer. Additionally, Pet Supplies Plus, Rainbow Apparel, Bargain Mart Furniture and African Foods and Gifts all opened at Crystal Shopping Center within the past year.



2227 University Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55114-1677

651.646.7901
pasterproperties.com

Additional information about Paster Properties can be found at www.PasterProp.com.

Founded in 1948, Paster Properties is a family-owned leader in shopping center management and development that owns and manages more than 1,000,000 square feet of commercial real estate. For over 60 years, Paster Properties has planned, built, leased and managed attractive, successful shopping centers in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, as well as in greater Minnesota. Paster Properties is committed to helping retailers flourish and serving as an excellent corporate citizen in the communities in which they have shopping centers. For more information, visit www.pasterprop.com.

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