

# NEWSBRIEF



**Date:** January 22, 2016

**To:** Council & Senior Staff

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

**(Items are alphabetized)**

1. BTYR Event: Light Up the Night for Heroes 5K Run (Apr. 23, 2016)
2. Crystal Arrest and Crime Activity Reports (Jan. 13 – Jan. 20, 2016)
3. Crystal/New Hope Business Council E-News (Jan. 2016)
4. Crystal Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes (Dec. 2015)
5. Crystal Recreation Monthly Reports
6. Crystal Planning Commission Agenda Summary (Feb. 8, 2016)
7. Help shape the future of Crystal LRT station area plans
8. Minnesota House of Representatives Rep. Lyndon Carlson Sr. (45A) – Legislative Update (Jan. 19, 2016)
9. Robbinsdale Area Schools Discover (Jan. 20, 2016)
10. Star Tribune article:
  - a. Minneapolis parks to seek \$300 million from taxpayers
11. SunPost articles:
  - a. Crystal family honored for reporting theft to police
  - b. Crystal insists on a pedestrian bridge near proposed LRT station
  - c. Police investigating ‘suspicious death’ in Crystal

# Light Up the Night for Heroes 5K Run

**Date: Saturday April 23, 2016**

**Registration & Check-in:  
7:30—8:20 pm**

**Race begins at 8:30 pm**

**Jacque B's Kitchen & Cocktails  
211 Buffalo Ave N  
Montrose, MN 55363**



**Beyond the  
Yellow Ribbon**



## AFTER THE RACE

Join us inside Jacque B's for:

- Food & drinks (available for purchase)
- Music provided by a DJ
- Silent Auction Items
- Prizes

### Entry fees:

- \$25/person or \$40/couple in advance (pre-registrations must be postmarked by April 15, 2016)
- \$35/person or \$55/couple day of
- **Servicemembers are FREE!** with valid ID
- Specify t-shirt size: M / L / XL
- Entry fee is tax deductible

**For more information contact:**

Melissa at

*BTYRmontrosemn@gmail.com* or 612-720-5349

**Glow sticks  
available for  
purchase**

**This is a glow in the dark event and lighting will be limited along the race course. We encourage you to wear fluorescent clothing, glow sticks, glow in the dark paint or anything that you think would be fun!**

### Mail form and entry fee to:

BTYR of Montrose  
PO Box 144  
Montrose, MN 55363-0144

Make checks payable to:  
**BTYR of Montrose**

Questions? Contact Melissa at  
*BTYRmontrosemn@gmail.com*  
or 612-720-5349

Servicemember **FREE!**  
with valid ID  
T-shirt size: M / L / XL

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**WAIVER:** By signing the registration form, you are releasing Beyond the Yellow Ribbon of Montrose, the City of Montrose and Jacque B's Kitchen and Cocktails from any liability.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent or guardian if  
under 18 years of age. \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\$25/person in advance. T-shirt size: M / L / XL

\$40/couple in advance. T-shirt sizes: M / L / XL

\$35/person day of event

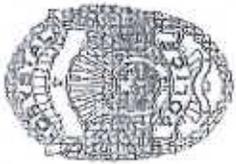
\$55/couple day of event

## Crystal Arrest Report

Date Range: 01/13/2016 06:00:00 AM - 01/20/2016 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>
CYAR16-000983	N	STILLDAY	TRACY	ANN	F	47	01/13/2016 8:54 PM
<b>Address:</b>							
<b>Statute:</b> 609-221-1 ASSAULT-AGGR-2ND DEG-FAMILY-KNIFE CUT							
CYAR16-000983	N	STILLDAY	TRACY	ANN	F	47	01/13/2016 8:54 PM
<b>Address:</b>							
<b>Statute:</b> 152-025-2-1 CONT SUBST-POSSESS SCHED I, II, III OR IV - FELONY							
CYAR16-001035	N	DOMEIER	TRAVIS	TYLER	M	35	01/14/2016 11:32 AM
<b>Address:</b> 6434 CITY WEST PKWY 6214 EDEN PRAIRIE MN 55344							
<b>Statute:</b> 171-24-5 TRAF-DRIVING AFTER CANCELLATION (IPS)							
CYAR16-001035	N	DOMEIER	TRAVIS	TYLER	M	35	01/14/2016 11:32 AM
<b>Address:</b> 6434 CITY WEST PKWY 6214 EDEN PRAIRIE MN 55344							
<b>Statute:</b> 169-06-4 TRAF-FAIL TO OBEY TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE							
CYAR16-001103	N	MARCH	RAYMUND	LEWIS	M	45	01/15/2016 7:51 AM
<b>Address:</b> 3320 DOUGLAS DR N 6 CRYSTAL MN 55427							
<b>Statute:</b> 609-52-2-1 THEFT-SHOPLIFTING-LESS THAN \$500(609-52-2-1)							
CYAR16-001156	N	ASBURY	KAYLA	ANTOINETTE	F	26	01/15/2016 11:15 PM
<b>Address:</b> 4203 46 AV N ROBBINSDALE MN 55422							
<b>Statute:</b> 169A-20-1-5 TRAF-DUI 3RD DEG ALCOHOL CONC OVER .08 OR MORE W/1 2 HOURS							
CYAR16-001156	N	ASBURY	KAYLA	ANTOINETTE	F	26	01/15/2016 11:15 PM
<b>Address:</b> 4203 46 AV N ROBBINSDALE MN 55422							
<b>Statute:</b> 169A-20-1-1 TRAF-DUI 3RD DEGREE							
CYAR16-001344	N	SCHULTZ	MATTHEW	ALLEN	M	21	01/19/2016 12:00 AM
<b>Address:</b> 17947 JUBILEE WAY A LAKEVILLE MN 55044							
<b>Statute:</b> 609-72-1-1 DISORDERLY CONDUCT-BRAWLING OR FIGHTING							
CYAR16-001344	N	SCHULTZ	MATTHEW	ALLEN	M	21	01/19/2016 12:00 AM
<b>Address:</b> 17947 JUBILEE WAY A LAKEVILLE MN 55044							
<b>Statute:</b> 609-595-3 CRIMINAL DAMAGE PROP-4TH DEG-VALUE \$1 TO \$500							
CYAR16-001344	N	SCHULTZ	MATTHEW	ALLEN	M	21	01/19/2016 12:00 AM
<b>Address:</b> 17947 JUBILEE WAY A LAKEVILLE MN 55044							
<b>Statute:</b> 609-50-1-1 GOVT-OBSTRUCT LEGAL PROCESS-GM-LAWFUL EXECUTION LEGAL							
CYAR16-001344	N	SCHULTZ	MATTHEW	ALLEN	M	21	01/19/2016 12:00 AM
<b>Address:</b> 17947 JUBILEE WAY A LAKEVILLE MN 55044							
<b>Statute:</b> 609-224-1-2 ASSAULT-5TH DEG-INFLICT OR ATTEMPT BODILY HARM							

End of Report



# CRYSTAL POLICE DEPARTMENT MEDIA REPORT

## CASE ACTIVITY: Previous 7 Days prior to

January 20, 2016 - 12:00:00 AM

CASE NO	LOCATION	OFFENSE	VALUE	PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	DATE OCCURRED
CY16-000951	27 ~ DOUGLAS DR N	ACC-MOTOR VEHICLE PROPERTY DAMAGE			01/13/2016 12:23
CY16-000983	54 ~ LAKELAND AV N	ASSAULT- DOMESTIC ASSAULT			01/13/2016 20:29
CY16-001104	45 ~ COLORADO AV N	ASSAULT- DOMESTIC ASSAULT			01/15/2016 08:54
CY16-001344	58 ~ OREGON AV N	ASSAULT-5TH DEG-INFLICT OR ATTEMPT			01/19/2016 00:42
CY16-000983	54 ~ LAKELAND AV N	ASSAULT-AGGR-2ND DEG-FAMILY			01/13/2016 20:29
CY16-000983	54 ~ LAKELAND AV N	CONT SUBST-POSSESS SCHED I, II, III OR IV			01/13/2016 20:29
CY16-001344	58 ~ OREGON AV N	CRIMINAL DAMAGE PROP			01/19/2016 00:42
CY16-001344	58 ~ OREGON AV N	DISORDERLY CONDUCT			01/19/2016 00:42
CY16-000983	54 ~ LAKELAND AV N	DISTURB-DISORDERLY CONDUCT			01/13/2016 20:29
CY16-001104	45 ~ COLORADO AV N	DISTURB-DISORDERLY CONDUCT			01/15/2016 08:54
CY16-001344	58 ~ OREGON AV N	GOVT-OBSTRUCT LEGAL			01/19/2016 00:42
CY16-001385	32 ~ DOUGLAS DR N	MISC			01/14/2016 17:09
CY16-001203	53 ~ 36 AV N	PARKING PROHIBITED, SPECIFIED PLACES			01/16/2016 17:50
CY16-001340	53 ~ 36 AV N	SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY			01/18/2016 22:30
CY16-001152	30 ~ WINNETKA AV N	THEFT-MAIL-INTENTIONALLY REMOVES MAIL			01/15/2016 22:00
CY16-001103	53 ~ 36 AV N	THEFT-SHOPLIFTING	288	MISC. MEATS - \$288	01/15/2016 07:51
CY16-001035	DULUTH ST&HWY 100	TRAF-DRIVING AFTER CANCELLATION (IPS)			01/14/2016 11:32
CY16-001203	53 ~ 36 AV N	TRAF-DRIVING AFTER REVOCATION			01/16/2016 17:50
CY16-001156	56 AV N&ORCHARD AV N	TRAF-DUI 3RD DEG ALCOHOL CONC			01/15/2016 23:09
CY16-001156	56 AV N&ORCHARD AV N	TRAF-DUI 3RD DEGREE			01/15/2016 23:09
CY16-001035	DULUTH ST&HWY 100	TRAF-FAIL TO OBEY TRAFFIC CONTROL			01/14/2016 11:32

January 2016

## Upcoming Events

[Jan. 20—TwinWest Leadership Luncheon](#)

[Feb. 12—TwinWest Legislative Breakfast](#)

[Feb. 18 - New Hope State of the City](#)

[Mar. 11—TwinWest Legislative Breakfast](#)

[Mar. 16 - Crystal State of the City](#)

[Mar. 18 - TwinWest Annual Gala, Target Field](#)

For the most up to date information on TwinWest programs and events see our website, [www.twinwest.com](http://www.twinwest.com)

# TwinWest

## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



## News from the City of Crystal

Anne Norris, City Manager

[www.ci.crystal.mn.us](http://www.ci.crystal.mn.us)

- Working on 2016 street and alley reconstruction projects
  - Phase 15 of street reconstruction—Twin Oak Neighborhood
  - 3 alleys in Welcome Park Neighborhood
- Advisory Commissioners Wanted: Employee Review Board, Environmental Quality Commission, Human Rights Commission, Parks & Recreation Commission, and Planning Commission - here is the link to the application <http://www.crystalmn.gov/commissionapp.pdf> - application deadline is January 31
- City Council is working on 2016 goals
- The Robbinsdale School District is leasing 42,000 square feet of space in the Crystal Shopping Center's western building for its Adult Academic and Transition programs
- Crystal's State of the City will be on Wednesday, March 16, at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Room at City Hall



## News from the City of New Hope

Kirk McDonald, City Manager

[www.ci.new-hope.mn.us](http://www.ci.new-hope.mn.us)

At the January 11<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting the council approved a proposal from Wold Architects in the amount of \$42,500 to proceed with concept site options for a new police station/city hall facility on the existing city hall/ Civic Center Park site. In the upcoming months, Wold will be working with city staff, the Space Needs Task Force and the surrounding neighborhood to develop options which will be presented to the council and then to the public for feedback.

At the January 19<sup>th</sup> work session the City Council will review preliminary plans from Alatus, LLC. to construct a 180 unit, 4-story, luxury apartment complex on the city-owned site adjacent to and just west of the New Hope Village Golf Course. A neighborhood meeting will be held on January 26<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 p.m. at city hall to solicit resident feedback on the plans.

At the January 5<sup>th</sup> New Hope Planning Commission meeting the commission considered an application to convert the existing Winnetka Fuel/Tesoro gas station and car wash at 36<sup>th</sup> & Winnetka to a Jimmy John's restaurant with drive-thru and outdoor dining. A portion of the existing building would be demolished to make way for the new improvements. The commission recommended approval and the city Council will consider the request on January 25<sup>th</sup>.

The new North Memorial Clinic being constructed at 8100 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue in front of the new Hy-Vee will be conducting a grand opening on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. - noon. Opening day for patients will be February 16<sup>th</sup>.



## Update:

### Metro Blue Line Extension

The project design plan for the Bottineau LRT line has been sent to the Cities for Municipal Consent.

Minneapolis, Golden Valley, Robbinsdale, Crystal and Brooklyn Park will be holding meetings and taking action on Municipal Consent before March.

For more information on the project, [click here](#).



## News from the Robbinsdale School District

Al Ickler, Executive Director Community Education

Facilities Task Force

[www.rdale.org](http://www.rdale.org)

Robbinsdale Area Schools has concluded a number of facilities related decisions. The process of possibly reopening Sandburg Middle School, and therefore, finding "homes" for the programs currently housed in Sandburg has been ongoing for a number of months. Various options were presented to the school board and in community forums.

**Conclusion:** Sandburg will reopen for the 2017-18 school year. The Adult Academic Program and the Robbinsdale Transition Center program will relocate to space within the Crystal Shopping Center. About 40,000 square feet will be leased and renovated for classrooms. A conditional use permit has been approved by the Crystal City Council.

Community Education staff and programs (for seniors adults, youth, and pre K) currently at Sandburg will move and occupy part of a reopened Pilgrim Lane elementary. About 2/3 rds of the building will house a new K-3 arts magnet school (which will connect to the FAIR arts magnet program in Crystal which has grades 4-8. When final plans are developed, the district will work with the city of Plymouth re: a CUP.

Because of the reopening of the Sandburg Middle School, a Task Force has been formed to develop the program, and to redesign the current middle school programming. The recommendations by the task force will be heard by the school board in May.

### State of the City Addresses

**Hopkins | Mayor Molly Cummings**  
January 28, 2016 | 5:00-7:00 p.m.  
Hopkins Center for the Arts  
1111 Mainstreet, Hopkins

**New Hope | Mayor Kathi Hemken**  
February 18, 2016 | 7:30-9:00 a.m.  
New Hope City Hall  
4400 Xylon Ave. No., New Hope

**Minnetonka | Mayor Terry Schneider**  
February 10, 2016 | 7:30-9:00 a.m.  
Minnetonka Community Center  
14600 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka

**Golden Valley | Mayor Shep Harris**  
February 25, 2016 | 7:30-9:00 a.m.  
Golden Valley City Hall  
7800 Golden Valley Rd., Golden Valley

**St. Louis Park | Mayor Jake Spano**  
February 29, 2016 | 4:30-6:30 p.m.  
Steel Toe Brewing  
4848 W. 35th St., St. Louis Park

**Crystal | Mayor Jim Adams**  
March 16, 2016 | 8:30 a.m.  
Crystal Community Room, City Hall  
4141 Douglas Dr., Crystal

**Plymouth | Mayor Kelli Slavik**  
March 9, 2016 | 7:30-9:00 a.m.  
Trillium Woods  
5855 Cheshire Lane No., Plymouth



Crystal Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission  
December 2, 2015  
Crystal Community Center

Approved 1/6/16

The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Chairperson Erin Kolb. Commission members in attendance were: Lori Merriam, Nancy LaRoche, Lynn Haney, Tom Jungroth and Steve Hildre. Also present were Elizabeth Dahl, Council Liaison; Brad Fortin, and Gene Hackett from the city staff. Also attending was Meredith Torres-Walsh, a candidate for Commission membership.

The minutes were approved as sent.

Mr. Jungroth was congratulated on his 25 years of service on the Commission.

Commission members that are up for re-appointment should have received an email from the City Manager regarding the re-application process. The City Council hopes to begin the re-appointment/selection process in February. Mr. Jungroth suggested that the Commission by-laws be updated when the new appointment process is finalized. Four current Commissioners are up for re-appointment; and there are 3 candidates for the 3 available openings on the Commission.

Commission elections were held:

Chair	Nancy LaRoche
Vice Chair/Tree Board Chair	Erin Kolb
Secretary	Steve Hildre

Secretary duties will be updated to include coordinating Next Door, sharing Department Facebook posts and working with Scott for other social media and communications.

The Commission reviewed the updated final 2015 work plan.

**Moved by Mr. Jungroth and seconded by Ms. LaRoche to accept the final status report of the 2015 work plan.**

**Motion carried – unanimous.**

Ms. Kolb spoke with Shawn Smith from the Crystal Fund for Community Progress. The CFFCP is interested in funding park projects. They would prefer a selection of low, medium and high cost projects so that they can plan their budget. Staff will put something together for review at the January meeting. The Commission brainstormed ideas that would help the CFFCP fundraise such as Amazon Smile and a marketing campaign.

The Commission began review of the Long Range Plan 2016 and beyond for future discussion on funding priorities.

Bassett Creek Park – The Commission supported the vision of moving the dog park to Brunswick and construction of a new expanded park building. There was discussion about removing the tennis courts since they are in poor shape and re-construction could be cost prohibitive. Staff will work on a phase – in plan for these improvements.

Minutes: December 2015

Becker Park – Long Range Plan items are on hold pending the outcome of the LRT planning. Discussion was held regarding 2 ballfields – Crystal Frolics would like to keep 2, as more softball tournament teams brings in more people and then more money for the civic group sponsors. Since it is close to 5 years before the light rail comes to Crystal, Commission members felt strongly about investing in repairs to the building and grounds to keep the park useable. Ms. Dahl asked if repairs are made, what plans are there for using the building. Ms. Dahl asked staff to prepare a report listing Becker activities from the past, present and future plans. The cost of repairs is quite expensive and the cost may not balance out with the usage, especially if/when the park is redeveloped and building relocated or removed as in the LRT station planning discussions. Commission members felt that the 3 park options as presented by Hennepin County/LRT station planning have not been thoroughly discussed by the Commission, even though they have been presented to the public for comment. Some of the "low impact" ideas seem to make sense such as thinning out the trees and flattening the berm. Mr. Jungroth thought that the Parks Department could start thinning out trees to make the park more visible:

**Motion by Mr. Jungroth and seconded by Ms. Haney to recommend to the City Council that as a first step to redevelopment the park Department begin to thin out the trees and landscape around the park to make the park more visible.**

**Motion carried - Unanimous**

**Motion by Ms. Haney and seconded by Ms. LaRoche to recommend to the City Council to amend the 2016 budget to include the Becker building repair money for the roof and other building repairs be reinstated in the 2016 budget.**

**Motion carried - Unanimous**

Yunker Park – Mr. Fortin showed the Commission some ideas for the Yunker Park sun shelter. Members preferred the chalet style. The building is scheduled to be removed this year.

Rest of Plan – Mr. Fortin and Ms. Hackett will meet and make a recommendation on phasing in the plan including yearly costs for discussion at the January meeting.

Commission members were informed of a joint Planning and Park and Recreation Commission meeting on December 14 at 7pm at City Hall. The agenda will be a final report from the LRT Station Planning group.

Mr. Fortin reported that he is working on options for improvements at MAC Park. He will bring those to the Commission at a later date.

Staff gave the monthly reports, highlighting major activities.

Ms. Dahl highlighted the last City Council meeting. The 2016 budget was adopted.

There was not a report from the Crystal Frolics or the CBA.

Minutes: December 2015

Ms. LaRoche reported that the new dog park rule sign has been installed and looks great. Dog park users have requested a small dog area if there is reconstruction of the dog park. She reported that there seems to be a problem with the dog park lights. Mr. Fortin is aware of the problem and is working on it.

Ms. Dahl informed the Commission that she is working on recruiting volunteers for beautification projects and has started a Facebook page. She will coordinate projects with Mr. Fortin.

Community News items:

- The Crime Prevention group fundraiser is at Buffalo Wild Wings on December 7 and 16.
- The CBA holiday gathering is also at Buffalo Wild Wings on December 16.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

Gene Hackett  
Recorder

**CRYSTAL RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
MONTHLY ACTIVITIES REPORT  
DECEMBER 2015**

All numbers are individual registrations unless noted.

PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	REGISTRATION	AGE	LOCATION	DAY/TIME	INFORMATION
<b>PROGRAMS COMPLETED</b>						
<b>NUMBER</b>		<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>GROUP</b>		
2080	Fall Preschool Open Gym Objective: Successes: Problems: Recommendations:	403 To provide a parent/child activity where they can play together and make new friends Some new toys were added this fall None Continue this type of programming	423 Age 5 and under	CCC Gym	Weekday AM	
2040	Fall Archery Classes Objective: Successes: Problems: Recommendations:	18 To provide youth chance to learn a non-traditional sport good instructors First session had to be canceled due to instructor health issue keep present format	13 Age 5-12	CCC	weekday PM	co-op w/NH & Robb
2090	Amazing Athletes Objective: Successes: Problems: Recommendations:	51 To offer an introductory sports class for preschoolers good instructors None keep present format	NA Ages 3-5	CCC	Weekday PM	co-op w/NH, Robb & GV
2040	Winter Break Classes Objective: Successes: Problems: Recommendations:	54 To offer a variety of classes to youth on winter break Good offering none keep present format	NA Ages 6-12	CCC	Weekday AM	co-op w/NH, Robb & GV
<b>SPECIAL EVENTS</b>						
2610	Winterfest	1000	1000			
<b>PARK FACILITY USE</b>						
	Park Rental	0	1			

OVER FOR MORE ACTIVITIES

**SENIORS**

2420

**CENTER MEMBERSHIP**

December 2015: 254  
 November 2015: 250  
 December 2014: 235

**CENTER ACTIVITIES**

Cribbage Night	21	17
500 Day	15	16
500 Night	25	33
P-Star	6	6
Bridge Day	17	23
Duplicate Bridge	76	91
Pool	4	6
Whist - Day	19	16
Whist - Night	6	7
Walkers	24	28
Pickleball	32	34
Dominoes		6
Hand and Foot		15
Open Game Day		5
Open Game Night		7
		n/a

**LAST QTR REGISTRATION**

**NUMBER ATTENDING**

SPECIAL EVENTS  
 Duplicate Bridge Try 28  
 Whist Tournament 12  
 500 Tournament 92  
 Driver's Safety 39  
 Bridge Tournament 52

Holiday Luncheon 131  
 Holiday Band Concert 140  
 Holiday Tea 80

**COOP GROUPS**

Book Discussion 3  
 Roving Minds 4  
 Movie Discussion Series 4  
 Tripsters 17  
 Donut Make You Wonder not held  
 Osher Learning Classes not held  
 Local Author Series not held

**CRYSTAL**

**TOTAL NUMBER**

16  
 9  
 15  
 45

**LOCATION/TOPIC**

Rb/"When you were Older"  
 Rb/"Dakota 38"  
 Rb/ "I'll be seeing you"  
 History Theater/Buddy Holly Story

**CRYSTAL COMMUNITY CENTER  
MONTHLY REPORT  
December 2015**

<u>MEETING ROOM</u>	<u>PERMITS:</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Fees Paid</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
<b>RENTAL CATEGORY</b>				
1	2	7.1%	\$0.00	0.0%
2	3	10.7%	\$0.00	0.0%
3	8	28.6%	\$2,481.50	100.0%
4	0	0.0%	\$0.00	0.0%
Recreation Dept	15	53.6%	\$0.00	0.0%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>28</b>		<b>\$2,481.50</b>	

**GROUP HIGHLIGHTS:**

4 Church Groups  
1 Resident Function  
3 Business Functions  
Winterfest

<u>GYMS</u>	<u>PERMITS:</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Fees Paid</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
<b>RENTAL CATEGORY</b>				
1	0	0.0%	\$0.00	0.0%
2	1	5.6%	\$0.00	0.0%
3	6	33.3%	\$1,472.50	100.0%
4	0	0.0%	\$0.00	0.0%
Recreation	11	61.1%	\$0.00	0.0%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>18</b>		<b>\$1,472.50</b>	

**GROUP HIGHLIGHTS:**

6 Sports groups  
NEAR Baskets  
Winterfest

**SUMMARY GRAND TOTALS**

		<u>Dec 2015</u>	<u>Dec 2014</u>
Income		\$3,954.00	\$ 6,547.25
Number of permits	46		57
Category 1	2	\$0.00	2
Category 2	4	\$0.00	8
Category 3	14	\$3,954.00	16
Category 4	0	\$0.00	0
Recreation Dept.	26	\$0.00	31

OVER FOR FOREST

**FOREST GYMS  
MONTHLY REPORT  
December 2015**

<i>RENTAL CATEGORY</i>	<u>Permits</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Fees Paid</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1	0	0.0%	\$0.00	0.0%
2	0	0.0%	\$0.00	0.0%
3	2	40.0%	\$400.00	100.0%
4	0	0.0%	\$0.00	0.0%
School Function	0	0.0%	\$0.00	0.0%
Recreation Dept	3	60.0%	\$0.00	0.0%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>\$400.00</b>	
December 2014	8		\$1,725.75	

**RENTAL PERMIT HIGHLIGHTS:**

Volleyball  
Soccer Practice

**SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS:**

None

**RECREATION PROGRAMS:**

Hoopstars  
CoRec VB

**Park and Recreation Advisory Commission  
Monthly Maintenance Report  
December, 2015**

**Vandalism report for December:**

- Sod damage at Lion's Valley park (vehicle/sod)
- Entrance sign graffiti at Lion's Valley Place

**Projects:**

- Prep rinks warming houses for skating season
- Begin ice maintenance operations
- Tree trimming, removal and clean-up
- Conduct playground inspections
- Remodel office area at C.C.C
- Weekly garbage pick up
- Outdoor lighting maintenance
- Perform maintenance on city buildings (City Hall, CCC, Pool, park buildings)
- Perform vehicle and equipment maintenance
- Holiday decorations at City Hall
- Public Works Building operations/maintenance issues/HVAC issues
- Move from old Public Work the new facility
- Yunker's building demolition
- Complete tree inspections
- Landscape bed maintenance

**Future:**

- Municipal building maintenance
- Ice rink maintenance
- Warming house maintenance
- Tree trimming, tree inspections
- Perform maintenance on seasonal equipment/prep for winter
- Move in to new Public Works building
- Research PIR purchases/ projects for 2016
- Snow removal with PW
- Plan for summer park improvement projects
- Refurbish park signage (LVP)
- Refurbish picnic tables
- Snow removal



National Recreation and Park Association

## NRPA Study Shows Americans Are Passionate About Local Parks and Recreation

You and I both know that local parks and recreation are valuable and critical aspects of the communities we live in. But what about everyone else? According to our new study, 92 percent of Americans believe their communities benefit from local parks — whether or not they personally use them. Released today, [Americans' Broad-Based Support for Local Recreation and Park Services](#) is an update to a study conducted in 1992. What we found is that during the past 25 years, the support and passion for local and community parks has remained strong. Think about that. Despite, massive technological changes and a diversifying and aging country, **Americans are still nearly unanimous in their support of parks.** That's not all we found. We also learned that Americans agree that NRPA's Three Pillars — conservation, health and wellness, and social equity — should be key priorities for our field. Additionally, Americans agree that parks are well worth the tax dollars invested in them.



This report is filled with data points on Americans' support and use of parks, number of Americans who live near a park, percentage of American who have participated in organized recreation activities and more. [You can read the executive summary, download the full report, view infographics and browse interactive charts here.](#) I challenge you to take these findings, combine them with data from our [Economic Impact of Local Parks](#) report and your own key data to demonstrate to your decisionmakers why parks and recreation must be supported and must have a seat at the table. The work we do is essential and should be supported as such.

Sincerely,

Barbara Tulipane, CAE  
NRPA President and CEO

[@BTulipane](#)



22377 Belmont Ridge Rd., Ashburn, VA 20148  
800.626.6772 © 2015 NRPA, All Rights Reserved



# CRYSTAL PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA SUMMARY

Monday, February 8, 2016

7:00 p.m.

Crystal City Hall – Council Chambers  
4141 Douglas Dr N

## A. CALL TO ORDER

## B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- January 11, 2016 meeting

## C. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Conditional Use Permit Application to allow an approximately 12,000 SF building expansion at Forest Elementary School at 6800-47<sup>th</sup> Avenue North
2. Gardendale Subdivision Application to create 10 new single-family home lots, with variance request to reduce street width

## D. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. City Council actions on previous Planning Commission items: Special Land Use Application (Subdivision, Site and Building Plan, Conditional Use Permits, and Variances) to create a new parcel for a 5,000 SF commercial building at 5537 West Broadway Avenue (Target store property) and to allow an off-premise sign at 6801-56<sup>th</sup> Avenue North (Crystal Shopping Center)
2. Update from Council Liaison
3. Update on City Code Review Task Force
4. Staff preview of likely agenda items for Monday, March 14, 2016 meeting

## E. OPEN FORUM

## F. ADJOURNMENT

**CITY OF CRYSTAL**

**PROPOSED CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO  
EXPAND FOREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE  
7:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2016  
CRYSTAL CITY HALL (4141 DOUGLAS DR N)**

**The Crystal Planning Commission will consider a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application from Robbinsdale School District to expand the capacity of Forest Elementary School (6800 - 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue North) from 568 to 704 students. The project would add 10,835 sq. ft. to the south wing of the building and 965 sq. ft. to the cafeteria on the north side of the building.**

Citizens may view the proposal at Crystal City Hall during normal business hours or on the city website at [www.crystalmn.gov/city\\_departments/land\\_use\\_applications.php](http://www.crystalmn.gov/city_departments/land_use_applications.php). The Planning Commission staff report will be available for viewing after February 5<sup>th</sup> at the same weblink.

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

**To speak directly to the Planning Commission**, please attend the public hearing on Monday, February 8, 2016 at 7 p.m. at Crystal City Hall.

LEGAL NOTICE: Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the City of Crystal will meet on February 8, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Crystal City Hall, 4141 Douglas Drive North, in said City, to consider a Conditional Use Permit Application at Forest Elementary School (6800-47<sup>th</sup> Avenue North). After holding the public hearing, the Commission is expected to make a recommendation to the City Council for their meeting on Tuesday, February 16, 2016. Persons desiring to be heard are invited and encouraged to attend the public hearing. Persons unable to attend may submit written comments prior to the date of the hearing to: Dan Olson, City of Crystal, 4141 Douglas Dr N, Crystal MN 55422. Auxiliary aids for handicap persons are available upon request at least 96 hours in advance. Please call the City Clerk at 763-531-1145 to make arrangements. Deaf and Hard of Hearing callers should contact the Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 V/TTY or call 711 to be connected to a TTY.



**GENERAL NOTES:**

1. REFER TO THE PROJECT MANUAL FOR ALL SPECIFICATIONS AND CONDITIONS.
2. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY PERMITS AND APPROVALS FROM THE CITY OF SEATTLE AND THE STATE OF WASHINGTON.
3. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY PERMITS AND APPROVALS FROM THE CITY OF SEATTLE AND THE STATE OF WASHINGTON.
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9. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY PERMITS AND APPROVALS FROM THE CITY OF SEATTLE AND THE STATE OF WASHINGTON.
10. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY PERMITS AND APPROVALS FROM THE CITY OF SEATTLE AND THE STATE OF WASHINGTON.

**PROPOSED BUILDING ADDITIONS:**

- BASE BLDG. SOUTH BUILDING ADDITION
- ALTERNATE 1: NORTH BUILDING ADDITION
- ALTERNATE 2: EAST BUILDING ADDITION

**PROJECT SUMMARY:**

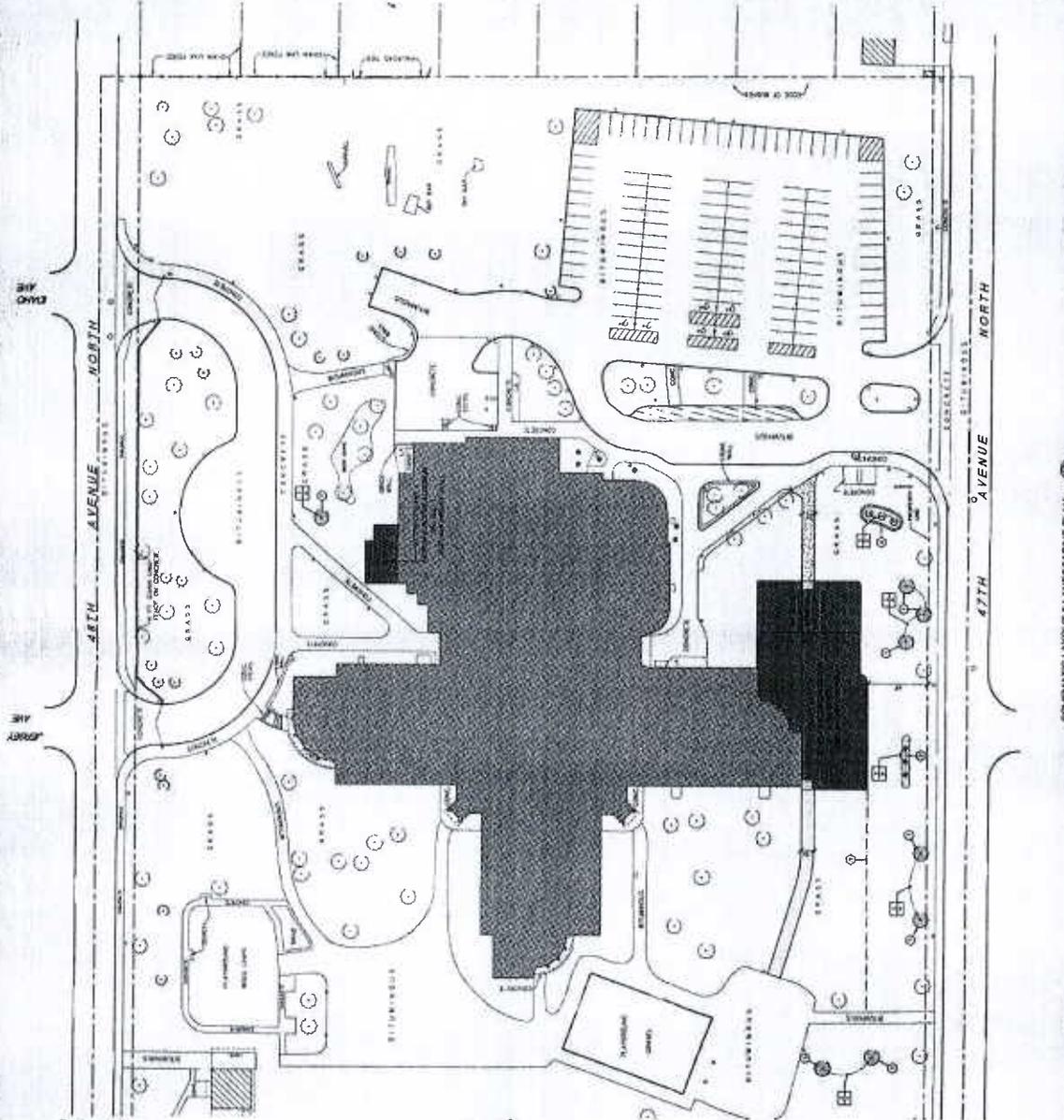
- TOTAL SQUARE FOOTAGE: 150,000
- ESTIMATED COST: \$15,000,000
- PROJECT LOCATION: 47TH AVENUE NORTH, SEATTLE, WA

**KEYED NOTES:**

1. SEE THE PROJECT MANUAL FOR ALL SPECIFICATIONS AND CONDITIONS.
2. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY PERMITS AND APPROVALS FROM THE CITY OF SEATTLE AND THE STATE OF WASHINGTON.
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10. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY PERMITS AND APPROVALS FROM THE CITY OF SEATTLE AND THE STATE OF WASHINGTON.

**PLANT SCHEDULE**

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT
1	CONCRETE	10,000	YD <sup>3</sup>
2	STEEL	500	TONS
3	BRICK	1,000,000	BRICKS
4	GLASS	10,000	SQ. FT.
5	PAINT	10,000	GALLONS
6	ROOFING	10,000	SQ. FT.
7	MECHANICAL	10,000	BTU
8	ELECTRICAL	10,000	AMPS
9	PLUMBING	10,000	FEET
10	LANDSCAPE	10,000	SQ. FT.



SCHEMATIC LAYOUT & LANDSCAPE PLAN  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

**CITY OF SEATTLE**  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
ENGINEERING DIVISION

**ROBBINSDALE AREA SCHOOL - ISD 281**

**FOREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**2016 ADDITION**

**DATE:** 08/14/2015  
**PROJECT NO.:** 1500000000  
**PROJECT NAME:** FOREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 2016 ADDITION  
**PROJECT LOCATION:** 47TH AVENUE NORTH, SEATTLE, WA

**DATE:** 08/14/2015  
**PROJECT NO.:** 1500000000  
**PROJECT NAME:** FOREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 2016 ADDITION  
**PROJECT LOCATION:** 47TH AVENUE NORTH, SEATTLE, WA

**CITY OF CRYSTAL**

**PROPOSED PRELIMINARY PLAT  
GARDENDALE SUBDIVISION**

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE  
7:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2016  
CRYSTAL CITY HALL (4141 DOUGLAS DR N)**

The Crystal Planning Commission will consider a Preliminary Plat application from SVK Development for Gardendale Subdivision in the area north of 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North between Florida and Hampshire Avenues North.

The existing parcels to be included in the plat are 3215 Florida, 3228 Georgia and 3220 Hampshire Avenues North. The existing house at 3220 Hampshire Avenue North would be demolished.

The project would result in ten lots for construction of new single family houses:

- Two lots on Florida Avenue North (likely addresses 3213 & 3219)
- Six lots on an extension of Georgia Avenue which would end in a cul-de-sac approximately 400 feet north of 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North
- Two lots on Hampshire Avenue North (likely addresses 3214 & 3220)

In addition to the preliminary plat approval, SVK Development is also requesting a variance to reduce the required street pavement width from 30 feet to 28 feet for the extension of Georgia Avenue North.

Citizens may view the proposal at Crystal City Hall during normal business hours or on the city website at [www.crystalmn.gov/city\\_departments/land\\_use\\_applications.php](http://www.crystalmn.gov/city_departments/land_use_applications.php). The Planning Commission staff report will be available for viewing after February 5<sup>th</sup> at the same weblink.

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

**To speak directly to the Planning Commission**, please attend the public hearing on Monday, February 8, 2016 at 7 p.m. at Crystal City Hall.

**LEGAL NOTICE:** Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the City of Crystal will meet on February 8, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Crystal City Hall, 4141 Douglas Drive North, in said City, to consider a Preliminary Plat called "Gardendale Subdivision", with a variance to street width, located near the intersection of Georgia Avenue North and 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North. After holding the public hearing, the Commission is expected to make a recommendation to the City Council for their meeting on Tuesday, February 16, 2016. Persons desiring to be heard are invited and encouraged to attend the public hearing. Persons unable to attend may submit written comments prior to the date of the hearing to: Dan Olson, City of Crystal, 4141 Douglas Dr N, Crystal MN 55422. Auxiliary aids for handicap persons are available upon request at least 96 hours in advance. Please call the City Clerk at 763-531-1145 to make arrangements. Deaf and Hard of Hearing callers should contact the Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 V/TTY or call 711 to be connected to a TTY.

**Anne Norris**

---

**From:** Hennepin County [hennepin@public.govdelivery.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2016 6:46 AM  
**To:** Anne Norris  
**Subject:** Reminder! January 25 meeting on station area planning in Crystal



Hennepin County

## Help shape the future of Crystal

**Join us to see and discuss new plans for the area surrounding the city's light rail transit station!**



*View of Bass Lake Road looking east to County Road 81, along a promenade connecting shops with the proposed LRT station.*

**Monday, January 25, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

**Crystal Community Center – Gymnasium**  
**4800 Douglas Drive North**

## Metro Transit bus route 716

- Hear a presentation and see drawings on ideas for the area around Crystal's light rail transit (LRT) station, including:
  - Concepts for Becker Park and for Bass Lake Rd. between West Broadway and County Rd. 81
  - Concepts for pedestrian crossings at County Rd. 81
  - Biking, walking and land use plans for the half-mile area around the LRT station
- Share your comments and ask questions

### **Background**

Station area planning for the Bass Lake Road light rail transit (LRT) station launched in September with a community-wide meeting, where Crystal residents talked about the strengths and weaknesses of the station area and their vision for it. The process continued in early November at a three-day design workshop, where the community input was used to develop initial design concepts for the station area, which were shared at a November 5 community meeting. Join us to see how that feedback has informed the latest concept plans, and to share your comments.

Co-hosted by

[Hennepin County - Bottineau LRT Community Works](#)  
[City of Crystal](#)

More information

Contact [bottineau@hennepin.us](mailto:bottineau@hennepin.us) or Denise Engen at 612-348-4454.

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INTERACT WITH HENNEPIN COUNTY:



This email was sent to [anne.norris@ci.crystal.mn.us](mailto:anne.norris@ci.crystal.mn.us) using GovDelivery, on behalf of: Hennepin County · 300 South Sixth Street · Minneapolis, MN 55487 · 612-348-3000

**govDELIVERY**  
get the word out.

## Anne Norris

---

**From:** rep.lyndon.carlson@house.mn  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 19, 2016 3:54 PM  
**To:** Announcements from Representative Lyndon Carlson  
**Subject:** Legislative Update - January 19, 2016

[Trouble viewing this page? Visit us online](#)



# Minnesota House of Representatives

## Rep. Lyndon Carlson Sr. (45A) - Legislative Update



\* 283 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King  
Jr. Blvd.  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155  
651-296-4255

**E-mail:**  
[rep.lyndon.carlson@house.mn](mailto:rep.lyndon.carlson@house.mn)

**Legislative Assistant:**  
Lill Pohlkamp 651-296-9552

**Committee Assignments:**  
**DFL-Lead:** [Ways and Means](#)  
[State Government Finance](#)  
[Taxes](#)

**Biographical Information:**  
**Home:** Crystal 8216 - 35th Ave.  
N., 55427; 763-533-9779  
**Occupation:** Retired teacher  
**Education:** B.S., social studies,  
graduate work, Minnesota State  
University, Mankato and  
University of St. Thomas  
**Elected:** 1972  
**Term:** 22nd  
**Family:** Married, spouse Carole,  
3 children

Dear neighbor,

The start of 2016 has been busy at the legislature, and I want to update you on some of the things that have happened at the Capitol. Working groups have convened to discuss several important issues, including: REAL ID, racial economic inequality, and Iron Range unemployment.

### REAL ID

You will have noticed recently that Minnesota's noncompliance with the federal REAL ID act has been in the news. The REAL ID Act, passed by the U.S. Congress in 2005, requires higher security standards for identification needed to board commercial aircraft and to access many federal buildings, military bases, and nuclear facilities. Currently, Minnesota driver's licenses do not meet these requirements.

Late last year, the Department of Homeland Security denied Minnesota's request for an extension to come into compliance. This would have meant that sometime in 2016, DHS would begin enforcement of REAL ID for Minnesota air travelers. Sensing the urgency of this situation, Gov. Dayton was seeking a special session to address this, and a legislative working group was convened to find a solution.

### News Items

[Season's Greetings from Rep. Lyndon Carlson](#) - (Posted: Dec 30 2015 3:17PM)  
[Legislative Update: Budget Outlook Improves](#) - (Posted: Dec 4 2015 5:27PM)  
[RELEASE: Minnesota Budget Surplus Grows to \\$1.87 billion](#) - (Posted: Dec 3 2015 3:15PM)

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### Audio & Video

[Audio Commentary](#)  
[RSS Audio Commentary \(podcast\)](#)  
[Informational interview](#)

\* Prefers interim mail at this address.

However, the **Department of Homeland Security has now [reported](#) that passengers can continue using their current IDs until Jan. 22, 2018.** Some would have until Oct. 1, 2020. After those dates, passengers without the proper driver's licenses would have to use other federally-approved forms of ID such as a passport.

If you are worried about the prospect of your current driver's license not being accepted at the airport, you have a couple options. You can apply for an enhanced Minnesota driver's license which meets REAL ID requirements, but several documents are required for this including your birth certificate and social security card. You can find out more information about the application requirements [here](#). You can also travel with your passport as a safeguard if you have one, as this continues to be accepted as a form of identification to board airplanes.

### **Racial Disparities**

The [2015 US Census report showed that household income for black Minnesotans](#) plummeted in the past year. From 2013 to 2014, the median income for black households in the state fell 14 percent. In constant dollars, that was a decline from about \$31,500 to \$27,000 — or \$4,500 in a single year. Meanwhile, the statewide poverty rate for black residents rose from 33 percent to 38 percent, compared to a stable overall state poverty rate of 11 percent.

The income inequality legislative working group spent time listening to Minnesota State Demographer Susan Brower to learn more about how the population of African American Minnesotans has been changing, what unique challenges they face, and how we might specifically target those challenges.

## **Iron Range Unemployment**

This working group listened to testimony from citizens, business representatives, and union leaders to learn more about how the crashing market for taconite and US steel is having devastating effects on Iron Range communities. The working group is charged with finding a way to help the miners and steelworkers who are unemployed because of steel dumping by other countries into the US market.

An extension of unemployment benefits for unemployed workers and investments in job training programs will be the most likely outcome.

## **Insurance Information Required for Vehicle Registration**

Beginning this year, when you register a vehicle, renew your license tabs, or transfer ownership of a vehicle, you will be required to provide auto insurance information. This new law, passed during the 2015 Legislative Session, was a recommendation of the [Motor Vehicle Insurance Task Force](#). According to a report of the task force, 10.8 percent of Minnesotans drive without insurance, and this new law is aimed at decreasing that number.

Vehicle owners will be required to provide the name of the insurance company, policy number, and effective dates of the policy. For more information, please [visit the Department of Public Safety's website](#).

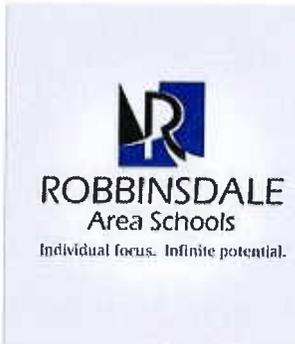
Please contact me if you have questions, comments, or concerns.

Sincerely,

Lyndon Carlson  
State Representative

[click to unsubscribe](#)

**From:** Robbinsdale Area Schools [robbinsdaleareaschools@rdale.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 20, 2016 5:04 PM  
**To:** Anne Norris  
**Subject:** Discover: The Latest News Updates from Robbinsdale Area Schools!



# DISCOVER

## ROBBINSDALE AREA SCHOOLS

COMMUNITY E-NEWSLETTER

Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2016

### RMS student wins gold in Jr. High Math League

Aidan Bimberg, an Robbinsdale Middle School eighth-grader, won the gold medal for the highest cumulative score for the season in Minnesota Jr. High Math League among the roughly 120 students who participated.

This is the third year Aidan has won a medal, having finished with a bronze (third place) as a sixth-grader and a silver (second place) last year as a seventh-grader.

Team Coach John Orbison says the Minnesota Jr. High Math League is the first of two significant competitions for the team. The second one, a national competition called MATHCOUNTS, is beginning now, and will have a regional competition on Feb. 13 and a state competition on March 12.

"Last year, Aidan had great success in those competitions, including an eighth-place finish among the top 120 or so students from throughout the state," Orbison said.

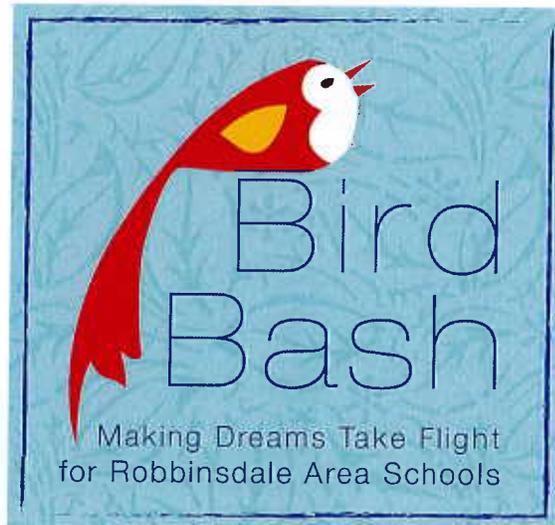


## Bird Bash is Feb. 20; tickets now available online

Bird Bash, the Seven Dreams Education Foundation's annual benefit, will be Saturday, Feb. 20, at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest.

This annual event benefits the Seven Dreams Education Foundation and Robbinsdale Area Schools' learners. The first two Bird Bash events raised more than \$78,000 for STEM initiatives in the middle and elementary schools. Money raised this year will be used to create flexible learning spaces in the media centers at both Armstrong and Cooper high schools.

Click [here](#) to get tickets!

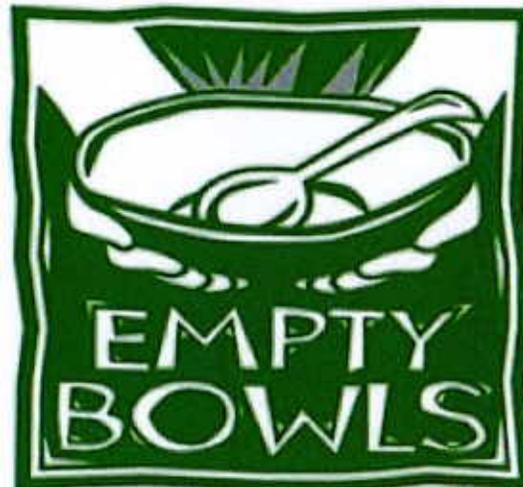


## Empty Bowls Community Bowl Making

Adults and children age 5 and older are invited to make clay bowls during free Community Bowl Making events at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and noon Saturdays, Jan. 23 and Feb. 26, at Robbinsdale Middle School, and at 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 26 and Feb. 9, at Plymouth Middle School.

The bowls will be sold at the Sixth Annual Empty Bowls Event Tuesday, March 8. Empty Bowls hopes to raise \$20,000 to alleviate hunger in the community.

These events are sponsored by Seven Dreams Education Foundation. Click [here](#) to reserve your space today! Groups are welcome. Reservations are encouraged, but not required. Call 763-504-6990 or click [here](#) for more information.



## Meet our Remarkable students and staff

More than 12,000 students and 2,000 staff members attend class or work at the Robbinsdale Area Schools. They come from different walks of life and different backgrounds, and each has a unique story. We will be sharing their stories through a new campaign. Learn more [here](#). At Robbinsdale Area Schools, we invite all students to make their mark. We are Robbinsdale Remarkable. Know someone Remarkable? Click [here](#) for a nomination form!



## Meet Mark

Mark Campbell, one of Robbinsdale Area Schools' remarkable students, pushes himself on and off the basketball court.

"I love basketball," the FAIR School Crystal eighth-grader says. "I started four years ago, and I've progressed a lot."

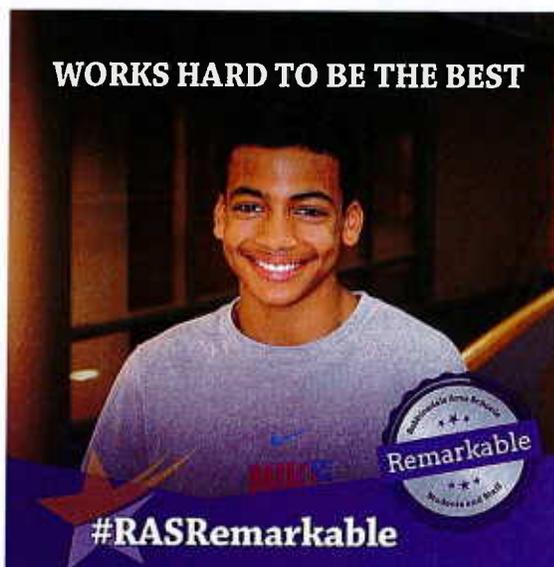
That progress came after a lot of hard work. Mark wanted to get better, and dedicated himself to practice. Mark scrimmages with other students, learns about stretches and tries to do better each day in the hope of making the team.

He even practices at recess, when other kids are shooting hoops for fun.

"I have a loud voice, so I can gather people together and we can play a game," Mark says.

"I practice, practice, practice against peers that I know are talented."

Click [here](#) to learn more!



## Performing Arts News

The Robbinsdale Cooper High School Music Department is pleased to present its fourth-annual variety show, "In the Mix!" at 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 22, in the Cooper Auditorium. This event will showcase the musically diverse talents of Cooper students. Tickets cost \$8 for adults, \$6 for students, and \$6 for seniors and district staff (with ID). Please come early for the Performing Arts Winter Social and Silent Auction at Cooper. Join us for an hour of tastings and treats before the show from 5:45-6:45. Enjoy appetizers, beverages and desserts for \$10. All proceeds from "In the Mix!" Variety Show will be used to purchase a new sound board/mixer for the Cooper Auditorium. To purchase tickets to the Pre-Show Winter Social, email [Cooper.performing.arts@gmail.com](mailto:Cooper.performing.arts@gmail.com).

## Upcoming arts events

**Grade 3 to Young People's Symphony Concert Association to Orchestra Hall,**  
11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 27

**Plymouth Middle School play "Guys and Dolls Jr."** 7 p.m. Jan. 28-30, Robbinsdale Middle School

**Family Band Night,** 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 2, Robbinsdale Middle School

### Concert Videos:

[AHS Parade of Bands](#)

[AHS Fall Orchestra Concert 10-19-15](#)

[Fall Music Festival at Orchestra Hall](#)

[Cooper Marching Band Concert "Light Up the Night"](#)

[All District & Combined Symphony Band Concert](#)

[AHS - PMS Winter Band Concert](#)

[CHS Bel Canto & Concert Choir](#)

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## Your attention, please:

The **Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC)** will meet from 5:45-8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 25, at the New Hope Learning Center Flex Lab, 8301 47th Ave. N. The meeting will feature a meet-and-greet with Superintendent Carlton Jenkins, Ph.D., along with a presentation on data and co-teaching. Click [here](#) to learn more about SEAC.

Our **Adult Academic Program** is currently enrolling for career-entry classes. Click [here](#) to learn more! Offerings include Medical Terminology, Green Construction, ServSafe Food Class, Customer Service Class and Citizenship Class.

Registration is now open for the fourth-annual **New Hope Women of Today 5K**. The April 16 event is at French Regional Three Rivers Park, and this year's beneficiary is The 30 Days Foundation. The organization is run by Mick Sterling and assists individuals and families in financial crises. Register [here](#).

A second-annual **Soup & Chili Dinner for KidPack** on Jan. 29 will raise funds to support KidPack at Meadow Lake and Forest schools. Click [here](#) to view the flyer!

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## School Board news

The School Board will meet **Saturday, Jan. 30**, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for a work session. Follow us on Twitter and Facebook to get important votes and other news live during the regular and business meetings. For more School Board news, click on Minutes, Podcast and Webcast below.

### School Board Resources:

- [Agenda](#)

- [Calendar](#)

- [Minutes, Podcast and Webcast](#)

*StarTribune  
1-21-16*

MINNEAPOLIS

# Minneapolis parks to seek \$300 million from taxpayers

Next, Minneapolis City Council approval or other options would get measure on ballot.

By Steve Brandt (<http://www.startribune.com/steve-brandt/10644486/>) Star Tribune

JANUARY 20, 2016 — 10:19PM

Minneapolis park commissioners voted unanimously Wednesday to ask voters this fall to authorize raising \$300 million over 20 years to repair and replace aging neighborhood park facilities and improve maintenance cycles.

"This is something that is going to be critical to the city of Minneapolis, and each of our neighborhoods," Commissioner John Erwin said.

The mechanics of how the proposal will reach the November ballot are undecided, since the board can't put it before voters on its own. The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's preference is to have the City Council put the matter before voters, according to its president, Liz Wielinski. But if the council balks, it has three other options: the Legislature, the Charter Commission or a direct petition.

Also unresolved is whether the park referendum, and another on whether to extend an existing extra levy for schools, will work together or if those goals will be pursued separately. There has been talk of coordinating the two campaigns, but no concrete steps to date, supporters of both said this week.

The school board last week voted to put its levy, which otherwise expires in 2017, before voters in November. The school board doesn't plan to define how much it will ask for and for what purposes it would spend the money on until this spring, after polling.

The proposal initially would raise about \$15 million per year for parks. Much of it would be spent to replace or upgrade 50-year-old buildings; some spending would address critical repairs to keep buildings viable until long-term needs are met. Mowing and tree-trimming are examples of maintenance activities that would be accelerated. Superintendent Jayne Miller said the renovations might adapt buildings and playfields to recreational changes, such as changing a baseball diamond to soccer.

The Park Board pulled the trigger on seeking the higher tax after almost three decades of complaining by commissioners about insufficient funding. The Park Board vote was 8-0, with Commissioner Brad Bourn absent.

But the proposal is a tough sell for City Council President Barbara Johnson. "It could be a real hit to the taxpayers, and I'm concerned about it," Johnson said. She said she hasn't decided how she'll vote. Wielinski asked park supporters to contact their council members to ask them to vote for the plan.

The most immediate precedent for having two spending referendums on the city ballot was 2000, when voters gave 72 percent support to extending the school levy and 67 percent backing to a \$140 million bond issue for libraries.

The Park Board had been moving to add a third spending referendum to that year's ballot, but then-Mayor Sharon Sayles Belton, concerned that a park proposal might hurt the other two spending proposals, struck a deal to budget more park money. That fell apart under her successor, R.T. Rybak, in a budget squeeze triggered by soaring pension costs and a state aid cut.

The board has three other options for putting the proposal on this year's budget. It could ask the Legislature to mandate a referendum; the board will huddle with local legislators next week. The Charter Commission could vote to authorize the referendum, with the council determining only ballot wording. Or park supporters could trigger a referendum if they collected roughly 6,900 signatures.



<http://media.startribune.com/images/13sidh0203.jpg>  
\$15 million: initial extra money per year

The proposal is a tough sell for Minneapolis City Council President Barbara Johnson. "It could be a real hit to the taxpayers, and I'm

\$65.68: for a home valued at \$190,000

\$112.04: for a home valued at \$300,000

\$173.97: for a home valued at \$450,000

Supporters of the proposal said they'll try to raise \$400,000 to sell it to voters. Mark Andrew, chairman of the Save Our Minneapolis Parks campaign committee, said \$60,000 has been raised. That doesn't count a separate \$50,000 paid for polling by the Jay & Rose Phillips Family Foundation.

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Community & People • Government

## Crystal family honored for reporting theft to police

Published January 20, 2016 at 8:27 am

By Joe Bowen

**Peter and Mary Wiggins saw someone steal a package from a neighbor's doorstep**



*Crystal Police Chief Stephanie Revering and Peter and Mary Wiggins pose with the police department's "Chief's Award," which Revering presented to the Crystal couple at a Jan. 5 Crystal City Council meeting. (Submitted photo)*

A Crystal couple was honored after their tip to the police resulted in two arrests. 

Peter and Mary Wiggins received the Crystal police department's "Chief's Award" at a Jan. 5 city council meeting. The Wigginses called 911 last December after they saw a teen run up to a neighbor's home and run back with a package in hand shortly after it had been delivered by a UPS truck.

"I told Mary, 'Something's not right, here,'" Peter Wiggins recalled saying moments before witnessing the alleged crime. The couple gave the 911 dispatcher a description of the suspect and a second teen who apparently assisted in the alleged crime. Peter was later brought to the police station to identify the first teen. Both teens have since been

charged with mail tampering, which is a felony, and the contents of the package were safely recovered.

“I told the police the kid wasn’t very quick – he didn’t run very effectively – you should be able to catch him,” Peter recalled with a chuckle.

Crystal Police Chief Stephanie Revering presented the award to the Wiggenses, and said the recognition is designed to encourage other residents to act similarly.

“We came up with the award to promote the idea that it’s a partnership,” she explained. “We can’t do our jobs effectively without their assistance.”

Revering said her department receives 2-3 calls like the one the Wiggenses made, where a crime is occurring or has occurred mere moments beforehand.

“A lot of people think they’re bothering the police by calling 911. ... They think their eyes aren’t seeing what they’re seeing,” she said.

Peter Wiggins said he and his wife were both proud to receive the award.

“The police have a difficult job. They get so much bad press right now,” he said. “I think if people gave them a little more assistance and a little less resistance, I think it would be a helpful thing.”

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Filed Under: [Crystal](#)



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Community & People • Government

## Crystal insists on a pedestrian bridge near proposed LRT station

Published January 19, 2016 at 8:22 am

By Joe Bowen



*A design concept for a pedestrian bridge at the intersection of County Road 81 and Bass Lake Road, where Blue Line Extension planners intend to build a light rail station. Some Crystal City Council members objected to the design at a Jan. 14 work session and asked project planners to come up with alternatives. A design for the bridge is not currently included in the project's official plans. The Blue Line Extension's corridor management committee will be presented with a recommendation on whether to add a bridge to the project plans at a Feb. 11 meeting, and cities along the line are expected to vote on "municipal consent" by early March. Crystal has tentatively scheduled its vote for Feb. 16. (Submitted graphic)*

### **Municipal consent public hearing is Feb. 2, vote expected Feb. 16**

As plans for the Blue Line Extension light rail line chug along and expected votes on municipal consent draw nearer, Crystal City Council members made it clear that they want a pedestrian bridge over County Road 81 to be a part of those plans.

At a Jan. 14 work session, council members present were all staunchly in favor of a bridge spanning the county road immediately south of its intersection with Bass Lake Road, where a light rail station is planned, but many objected to plans for one presented by Met Council staff, calling the design "ridiculous" or a potential eyesore.

Intended to help residents access the light rail station from residential areas to the east without crossing the busy roadway at street level, the presented design would use two

winding “curly q” ramps on either side of the roadway and sit 24 feet above the county road.

“Nobody’s going to use that,” Councilmember Jeff Kolb told LRT planning staff at the work session. Kolb later added that if the “curly q” design was the final one, planners “might as well not build it at all.”



*A top-down schematic of the original plan for a pedestrian bridge over County Road 81 in Crystal, which is designed to help pedestrians access the station from residential areas to the east. Several Crystal City Council members objected to a design for the bridge presented at a Jan. 14 work session, and have asked light rail planners to come up with alternatives. (Submitted graphic)*

Met Council staff estimate that traversing the proposed bridge would take nearly nine minutes and the journey would cover 1,800 feet, rather than the three-minute and 480 foot journey they estimate along existing street-level crosswalks.

Council members asked about the possibility of installing elevators on one or both sides of the bridge, and asked Met Council planners to present them with alternatives to the presented design.

“I want to see options,” said Councilmember Olga Parsons.

Fellow council member Elizabeth Dahl, for instance, wondered about the feasibility of a bridge design that would cross over the county road and the proposed station before descending into the eastern side of adjacent Becker Park.

Project Manager Dan Soler cautioned that longer bridge designs would need to be even higher than 24 feet to accommodate existing freight rail lines that run parallel to the planned light rail tracks.

“There’s no topography that’s helping us, here,” he said of the area where the bridge is intended. Crystal city staff described the presented bridge design as “functional.”

The bridge is not currently included in the plans that the council will vote on as part of the project’s “municipal consent” phase. However, project staff are expected to recommend including it – or not including it – at a Feb. 11 meeting of the project’s corridor management committee, five days before the council is expected to hold its vote on municipal consent.

“When the City Council votes Feb. 16, the City Council will know what the Corridor Management Committee recommends on Feb. 11,” wrote Laura Baenen, the communications manager for the Blue Line and Southwest light rail projects. “If the committee recommends a pedestrian-bridge, project staff will work with the city to include one.”

Council members are scheduled to be presented with other pedestrian bridge designs and more detailed intersection plans at another work session scheduled 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 25, at the Crystal Community Center. The meeting will coincide with a “station area planning process” meeting at the community center.

A municipal consent public hearing is scheduled Feb. 2 at Crystal City Hall.

### **Intersection safety**

Other concerns about the County Road 81 and Bass Lake Road intersection included making it friendlier to street-level pedestrian traffic. The intersection is one of the city’s busiest, and council members said the general perception is that crossing the county road there is decidedly unsafe.

“People don’t let their kids cross at all,” said Councilmember Casey Peak.

Hennepin County staff presented a series of changes that could be made to the intersection to improve pedestrian safety, including adding stop bars and tightening the radius of right-hand turn lanes. Other changes requiring further study include narrowing or removing left turn lanes or lowering the road’s speed limit.

Some council members worried that changes to the intersection could ultimately hamper the flow of automobile traffic.

“I believe that it can make it more pedestrian friendly,” Mayor Jim Adams said of the presented plans. “But there’s a cost to it, and the cost is going to be the free flow of traffic or slowing down traffic. That’s the piece I’m not interested in trading.”

County staff anticipate that the proposed light rail station and adjacent park and ride lot will add hundreds of new pedestrians to that area per day.

### Noise impacts

*A map showing homes and other locations that could see "severe" noise impacts from the planned Blue Line Extension light rail line if no efforts are made to mitigate those impacts. (Submitted graphic)*

Council members were also concerned about noise generated by light rail trains.

Plans presented at the Jan. 14 work session showed noise walls along much of the southern portion of the line as it runs through Crystal, and only one residence at the intersection of the tracks and West Broadway would have a "severe" impact if all planned noise mitigation measures were taken.

Project planners believe there will be relatively few – if any – noise impacts on the northern chunk of the line because it runs along the already-noisy County Road 81 and the Crystal airport.

"Since noise impacts are calculated based on what's already there today, and how much worse does the train make it, if it's relatively noisy, it's relatively more difficult to see that there's going to be an impact from the train," said Kathryn O'Brien, a Met Council employee working on the environmental side of the project.

Kolb was skeptical of that determination.

"I'm trying to decide if I believe that adding a train is just not going to have an impact because you're adding more noise," he said. "If I'm at home, and my TV's on, and it's noisy and my kid starts yelling, then it gets more noisy and its worse."

Soler responded by saying that noise isn't "additive."

*A map showing areas in Crystal with "severe" noise impacts if noise walls and other noise mitigation measures are taken. (Submitted graphic)*

“If you have something that’s 15 decibels and something that’s 20 decibels, the noise level is 20 decibels, not 35,” he said.

“It’s not to say that you as an individual person living in your individual home in your individual circumstances aren’t going to be able to hear the train,” O’Brien said of the planners’ determination. “I’m not here to tell you that you’re not ever going to hear the train.”

Other noise mitigation measures include installing “wayside devices” along the line. The devices are designed to be pointed at roads and sidewalks to alert people to oncoming trains, and are used in place of bells or horns on the trains themselves in order to reduce the “blob” of sound emanating from the train’s operation, O’Brien explained.

“It’ll be more targeted,” she said.

Light rail designers from the Metropolitan Council will ultimately need to submit their plans for noise mitigation to the Federal Transit Authority, and the documents will be published as a “Final Environmental Impact Statement” this summer, O’Brien said.

Documents provided at a Jan. 14 meeting of the line’s corridor management committee indicate that two-car transit trains moving at 20 miles per hour will generate about 55 decibels worth of noise, five fewer than a typical “suburban ambient” environment.

Plans to mitigate train and construction noise are not part of those voted on during the municipal consent process. When city councils vote on the matter, they will be voting on broader elements like the alignment of the track and station locations.

### **Crystal’s light rail timeline**

Below are the scheduled hearings, open houses, and other meeting scheduled in Crystal to discuss plans for the Blue Line Extension light rail project.

**City council work session:** 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 25, at Crystal Community Center, 4800 Douglas Dr. N. 

**Station area planning event:** 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 25, at Crystal Community Center

**Municipal consent public hearing:** 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 2, at Crystal City Hall, 4141 Douglas Dr. N.

**City council vote:** Tuesday, Feb. 16, at Crystal City Hall

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Public Safety

## Police investigating 'suspicious death' in Crystal

Published January 13, 2016 at 3:59 pm

By Joe Bowen

*This post was updated at 4 p.m. on Jan. 13 to include additional information from the Crystal Police Department.*

Crystal police are investigating a "suspicious death" on the 5600 block of Adair Avenue after being called there late Tuesday night.

According to city and police department staff, police were dispatched to the area on a report of an "unconscious female" and made ultimately unsuccessful efforts to save her life. City staff described the incident as "an apparent narcotic overdose," but Crystal Police Chief Stephanie Revering declined to confirm one way or the other.

Police radio chatter during the incident indicates that a second person was at the residence during the incident, but it is unclear if or how they were involved. Revering confirmed that there was a second person present, but declined to say what their relation to the victim was, if any.

This post will be updated as more information becomes available. Updates from the Crystal police department may take a while, Revering cautioned.

"We're waiting on autopsy and toxicology reports, and that takes a long time, unfortunately," she said.

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