



Inside this issue:

Comprehensive Plan Open Houses.....Pg. 1
 Land Use Application Under Review.....Pg. 2
 FEMA Updates Flood Hazard Maps.....Pg. 2
 Fire Department Open Houses.....Pg. 3
 Community Conversation Event.....Pg. 3
 2016 General Election Information.....Pg. 4
 2017 Budget Summary.....Pg. 4
 Rethink Your Recycling Routine.....Pg. 4
 Medina Celebration Day Recap.....Pg. 5
 Winter Reminders.....Pg. 5
 City Meeting Calendar.....Back
 Winter Parking Regulations.....Back
 Fall Hydrant Maintenance and Flushing.....Back

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The Medina Message

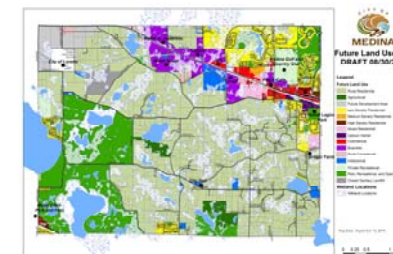
A bi-monthly publication from the City of Medina

Help Shape the Future of Medina by Attending an Upcoming Comprehensive Plan Open House this Fall!

Over the past year, the City has been working on updating the Comprehensive Plan and now has a draft Plan available for you to review and open houses scheduled for you to learn about and discuss the Plan with city officials and staff. We encourage all residents to come and go at their convenience during the scheduled time slots below.

The Open Houses will be held at the Police and Public Works Facility, 600 Clydesdale Trail on the following dates:

- Thursday, October 27 (5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.)
- Saturday, October 29 (9:00 a.m. – noon)
- Tuesday, November 1 (4:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.)



The draft Plan can be reviewed at <http://medinamn.us/2040compplan/>.

The Comprehensive Plan guides the future of the City, including the location and types of growth and development in the City. The Plan also advises future policy and investments in infrastructure and services such as transportation, parks, trails, recreation and water resources.

The Comprehensive Plan anticipates 950 additional households over the next 20 years, 250 of which are required to be higher-density housing such as apartments and townhomes. This is a substantial reduction of approximately 40-50% from what the City has previously planned.

The Planning Commission is tentatively scheduled to hold a Public Hearing on the Comprehensive Plan on Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. Prior to this meeting date, the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee will review the feedback and discussions from the Open Houses and prepare a draft of the Plan.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

- In addition to attending the Open Houses, various opportunities exist for you to take part in creating the Comprehensive Plan and to help guide the future of the City.
1. Review the draft Comprehensive Plan at <http://medinamn.us/2040compplan/>
 2. Participate electronically anytime at Medina's mySidewalk page: <https://medinacompplan.mysidewalk.com/>
 3. Attend the Public Hearing (tentatively scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 13, 2016)
 4. Discuss with your neighbors or with members of the Steering Committee, Planning Commission or City Council
 5. Send comments or speak to City Planner Dusty Finke at dusty.finke@ci.medina.mn.us or (763) 473-8846

CITY HALL

2052 County Road 24
 Medina, MN 55340
 p: 763-473-4643
 f: 763-473-9359
 e: city@ci.medina.mn.us

City Hall Office Hours
 Mon-Fri 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY

600 Clydesdale Trail
 Medina, MN 55340
 p: 763-473-9209
 f: 763-473-8858
 e: police@ci.medina.mn.us

Police Department Office Hours
 Mon-Fri 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Mayor

Bob Mitchell 763-473-1042

City Council

Jeff Pederson 612-916-6448
 John Anderson 612-618-5702
 Kathleen Martin 612-344-1111
 Lorie Cousineau 612-251-3244

City Council Meetings

First & third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission Meetings

Second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Park Commission Meetings

Third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Newsletter Editor

Jodi Gallup
 Assistant City Administrator

www.ci.medina.mn.us

City Meeting Calendar

October

- 4th Tues—City Council 7 pm
- 11th Tues—Planning Commission 7 pm
- 18th Tues—City Council Work Session 6 pm
- 18th Tues—City Council 7 pm
- 19th Wed—Park Commission 7 pm

November

- 1st Tues—City Council 7 pm
- 8th Tues—General Election 7 am to 8 pm
- 9th Wed—Planning Commission 7 pm
- 11th Fri—City Offices Closed (Holiday)
- 15th Tues—City Council Work Session 6 pm
- 15th Tues—City Council 7 pm
- 16th Wed—Park Commission 7 pm
- 24th Thurs—City Offices Closed (Holiday)
- 25th Fri—City Offices Closed (Holiday)

All meetings at City Hall unless otherwise noted.
 Meeting agendas on website when available.

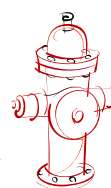
Winter Parking Regulations

The Medina Police Department will soon be enforcing seasonal parking restrictions. According to Medina City Code 340.05 Seasonal Parking Restriction, from November 1 to March 31 inclusive, no person shall park or permit any motor vehicle to stand on any street, highway or alley for all or any part of the period from 1:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.

The police enforce this ordinance to keep the streets clear for snow plowing. If you have any question in reference to the parking ordinance, please call the police department at 763-473-9209.

Fall Hydrant Maintenance and Flushing

Fall hydrant maintenance and flushing is scheduled throughout the month of October for all Medina water users (Account numbers beginning with 01 & 03); however, Independence Beach water users (Accounts beginning with 02) will have their fall flushing done on their regular monthly flushing schedule the second Thursday from 9 am - 2 pm.



NOTE: You may experience discoloration while the watermain in front of your property is being flushed, as well as fluctuation in water pressure. If you experience water discoloration, turn on your outside faucet until it runs clear.

Land Use Application Under Review

The following land project is currently under review by the City. For more information or for an update on the review schedule, please visit <http://medinamn.us/citygov/departments/planning-zoning/> or contact the Planning Department at (763) 473-4643, ext. 1.

AutoMotorPlex – East of Arrowhead Drive, North of Hamel Road – Bruno Silikowski has requested review of a PUD General Plan and Plat for development of approximately 237,500 square feet of private garage condominiums for motorsports enthusiasts. The space is also proposed to include other uses related to the garage condos. The developer previously developed a similar facility in Chanhassen. The Planning Commission is tentatively scheduled to hold a public hearing on the request at their October 11, 2016 meeting.

FEMA Updates Flood Hazard Maps—Property Owners May Need Flood Insurance

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently completed a multiyear project to re-examine flood risks throughout Hennepin County and develop electronic flood hazard maps, which will become effective on November 4, 2016.

Federal law mandates that any federally regulated or insured lender require any property with a structure within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) on these maps to carry flood insurance.

Most mortgage lenders will check their loans when the updated maps become effective on November 4, 2016. Lenders will likely send a letter to all properties in SFHA, and other properties that are even close to the SFHA, to notify them that they must purchase flood insurance within 45 days. If a policy is not purchased within this time period, the lender will “force place” a policy, which is normally much more expensive.

Flood insurance is available through your agent or one of the agents listed by searching the “Agent Finder” section of FEMA’s Flood Insurance website, FloodSmart.gov. If you have any kind of risk for flood damages, both in or out of the floodplain, the city encourages you to purchase flood insurance.

If you live near a lake, stream, or large wetland, you are encouraged to investigate whether your property may be “newly mapped” within the SFHA. A map is available on the City’s website at <http://medinamn.us/floodplain/>.

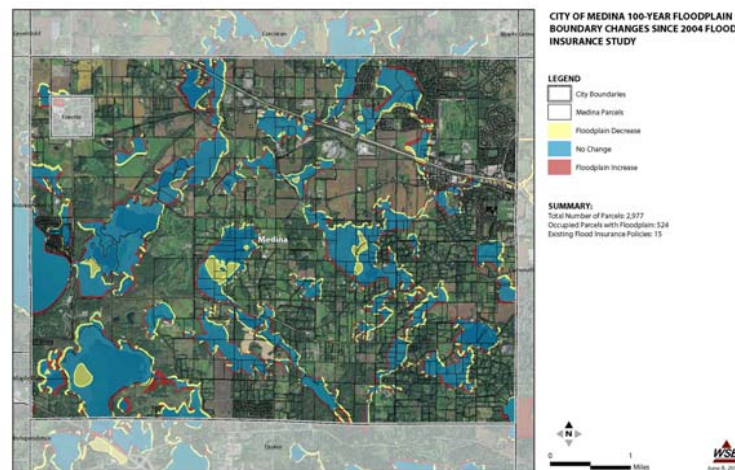
What to do if you believe you’ve been inadvertently included in the Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA)?

There are often scenarios where the boundaries of the floodplain do not accurately reflect the true topographic characteristics of a site. In addition, it is likely that lenders will be fairly conservative when determining if a property may require flood insurance.

In much of the county, the boundaries of the floodplain have not been updated with better elevation information since they were originally mapped in the early 1980’s. This newest map update merely digitized these areas – making them easier for everyone to view. If you believe your structure and/or parcel is higher than the actual flood elevation, there is a procedure for appeals known as a Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA). Traditionally, a LOMA involves hiring a surveyor to verify the lowest ground touching the structure, deck or stairs is above the 100-year flood elevation.

Under the right circumstances, the city may be able to assist with collecting data rather than hiring a surveyor. City staff may be able to use LiDAR-derived contour elevations from the Minnesota DNR to verify that a structure is above the 100-year flood elevation.

If you have any questions, please contact City Planner Dusty Finke at 763-473-8846 or dusty.finke@ci.medina.mn.us.



Medina Celebration Day Recap

The City of Medina would like to thank all the contributors, exhibitors, volunteers and committee members who were involved in Medina Celebration Day on Saturday, September 17th, at Hamel Legion Park. This event could not have happened without your support! The City was excited to see one of the largest attendance numbers from the community and local businesses. The afternoon was filled with many great activities for young and old alike, including a business expo, bingo, pumpkin decorating, kids games, face painters, city vehicles, North Star Search and Rescue dogs and Drone demonstrations, as well as another spectacular fireworks display sponsored by area businesses and residents. A special thank you to the City of Loretto for lending us the kid’s barrel train ride which again was a huge hit with the kids.

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU GOES OUT TO THE FOLLOWING MEDINA BUSINESSES AND VOLUNTEERS:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 3 Rivers Church | Medina Entertainment Center |
| Adams Pest Control | Medina Police Department |
| Art 2 Heart | Medina Public Works Department |
| Boy Scout Troop 570 | North Star Search & Rescue |
| Buzzella Massage | OAK Eatery |
| Complete Eye Care of Medina | Pilates Advantage |
| Contemporary Images | Polaris |
| Countryside Café/Peg’s Catering | Scherer Pumpkin Patch |
| Ditter Heating & Cooling | Suzie Sween |
| Dobo’s (Danny’s Catering) | Tina Tate |
| DoJo Karate | Uptown Hamel Business Group |
| Farmers State Bank of Hamel | Urban Even Salon and Boutique |
| Fortin Consulting | Walter G. Anderson |
| Fortin Health & Wellness Clinic | West Financial |
| Goddard School | Wright-Hennepin Electric |
| Gregor’s Farm & Greenhouse | |
| Tom Hamel Family | <u>Celebration Day Committee:</u> |
| Hamel Fire Department | Anne Klaers |
| Hamel Lions Club | Anne Morehouse |
| Highway 55 Rental & Sales | Carrie Leadens |
| Houlihan Insurance & Financial Services | Chris Pederson |
| Intercomp | Ed Belland |
| Jimmy’s Pizza | Gail Schuette |
| John Day Company | Janet White |
| Kalla Lily Salon and Spa | Linda Lane |
| Kumon Math and Reading Center | Lorie Cousineau |
| Loram Maintenance of Way | Molly O’Brien Hasek |
| Maple Crest Landscape | Rick Traut |
| Mario Fabrizio | Tina Tate |



Things to Remember as Winter Approaches

- ▶ Shore up your fall projects before winter, so spring rains will not cause erosion. The City has a compost/brush site located behind City Hall off County Road 24, which is free for residents. Leaves, grass clippings, and brush are all welcome.
- ▶ REMEMBER: City ordinance prohibits parking on any public street from November 1 through March 31 during the hours of 1:00 AM – 6:00 AM. If at all possible, the City plow crew would appreciate having no vehicles parked on City streets when snowfall occurs during the daytime.
- ▶ Please check your mailbox for sturdiness and get repaired as needed, as the City is not responsible for mailboxes damaged by snow being pushed off the roads.
- ▶ To limit damage to sod, it is advised to place a marker along curb lines; however, metal poles are strictly prohibited within the City right-of-way.
- ▶ Be cautious of what you use and the amount you apply for your own personal ice control, as it will eventually end up in the storm sewer and out to our lakes and rivers.
- ▶ It is the responsibility of property owners to remove snow and ice on their own sidewalks. However, please use ice control sparingly, because after it enters the storm drain it will eventually end up in local lakes and rivers.
- ▶ The City adopted a Snow Plowing-Ice Control Policy, which can be seen in its entirety on the City Website at <http://medinamn.us/citygov/departments/public-works-dept/#SnowPolicy>.

Election & Administration

2016 General Election Information

Election Day is Tuesday, November 8, 2016. Polls open 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Voter Registration—If you voted in the last election in Medina and have not moved or changed your name, you should already be pre-registered to vote in the next election. If you need to pre-register to vote in Medina or would like to check if you are registered, go to mnvotes.org. The deadline to pre-register for the next election is October 18th, but don't wait—register today to save time at the polls. Information on Election Day registration and proof of residence can be found at mnvotes.org.

Voting Locations—Medina has two voting precincts that run along school district boundaries. Residents in the Orono or Delano school districts within the City vote at Medina City Hall, 2052 County Road 24. Residents in the Wayzata or Rockford school districts within the City vote at the Hamel Community Building, 3200 Mill Drive. If you are still unsure where to vote, go to: <http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/>.



Absentee Voting—Residents can vote by absentee ballot by mail through Hennepin County by filling out an online application at mnvotes.org or vote in-person at City Hall during regular business hours. Absentee ballots are currently available at City Hall through November 7th. Additionally, City Hall will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, November 5th for absentee voting.

New for 2016

- ▶ **Absentee Voting via Direct Balloting** will be available from November 1st through November 7th at Medina City Hall. Voters may complete an absentee application, vote and place their ballot directly into the tabulator just like on Election Day instead of using a series of absentee ballot envelopes.
- ▶ **Electronic Pollbooks** are replacing paper rosters for voter check-in and registration in polling locations on Election Day.

Meet the Municipal Candidates Event—The League of Women Voters will be holding a Medina Meet the Candidates Event on Wednesday, October 12, 2016 from 7-8 p.m. at the Hamel Community Building, 3200 Mill Drive. The event will include candidate Bob Mitchell for Mayor and candidates John Anderson and Jeff Pederson for City Council. These candidates are all running unopposed. Candidates will have an opportunity to give a five-minute introduction and will be available to meet and greet voters and respond to questions. This event is free and open to the public!

Election Questions? Call Election Coordinator Jodi Gallup at 763-473-8850.

2017 Budget Summary and 4.4 Percent Tax Rate Decrease

The City Council approved a preliminary budget and property tax levy for 2017 at the September 6th Council meeting. Immediately prior to approving the proposed budget, Council held an Open House in order to consider comments from residents.

The proposed 2017 tax levy was \$3,808,978 with a tax levy rate of 22.22%. The preliminary estimates show the City's property tax rate would decrease from 23.30% in pay 2016 to 22.22% in pay 2017, or a 4.4% decrease in the rate.

The proposed budget includes a 3.0% increase to the General Fund property tax levy for 2017. The General Fund Budget was proposed at \$4,353,918. The \$100,524 proposed increase will be utilized for the general maintenance and operations for the Public Works and Police facility, city hall, parks, City roads, increased fire services expenditures, increased insurance costs, and a 2% cost of living increase for staff. The General Fund budget provides for all basic City services and has remained quite steady over the last decade. The final 2017 budget approval is scheduled for the December 6, 2016 City Council meeting.

Rethink Your Recycling Routine

Do you recycle everywhere you can at home? About half of home recyclables never make it to the recycling bin.

We do well recycling kitchen items, but our bathrooms, laundry rooms and home offices have lots of recyclables we throw out. So it's time to refresh your laundry room, revamp your bathroom or rethink your home office by adding a bin, bag or basket to collect recycling.

Get tips and order free labels at www.hennepin.us/recycleeverywhere or stop by Medina City Hall during regular business hours.

Public Safety & Environment

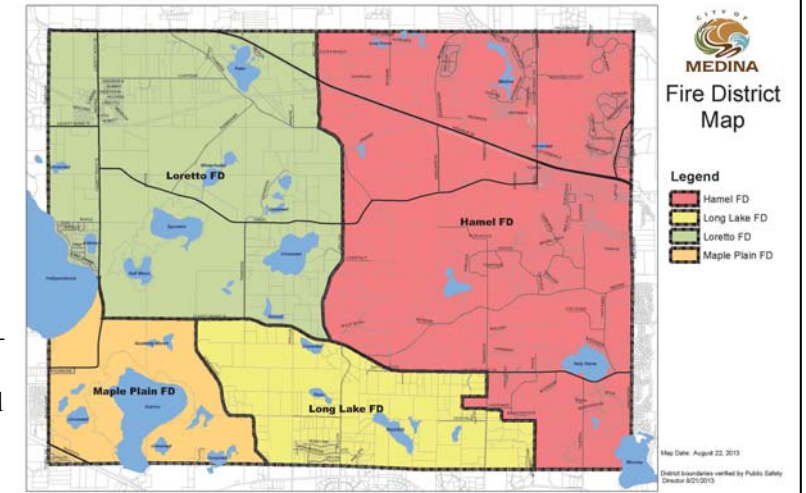
Fire Department Open Houses

Residents are invited to attend the Hamel and/or Loretto Fire Departments' open houses. Both events will have food, family fun activities and fire prevention tips and education.

Hamel Volunteer Fire Department Open House
Sunday, October 2nd from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at:
92 Hamel Road, Medina

Loretto Volunteer Fire Department Open House
Saturday, October 15th from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at:
259 Medina Street, Loretto

Fire Prevention Week (October 9 -15) is more than just an opportunity to attend local fire department open houses and check smoke/carbon monoxide detectors in your home. It is an opportunity to thank our local women and men who respond to emergency calls at all times of the day for our local fire departments.



The City of Medina is fortunate to be served by the Hamel, Long Lake, Loretto, and Maple Plain Fire Departments (see Fire District Map above). Department members respond to fire and emergency calls 24/7 and help keep our residents safe. The City of Medina thanks with gratitude all of the dedicated members of our four fire departments!

Community Conversation Event for the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy

On Wednesday, November 2, 2016 6:00-8:30 p.m. at Independence City Hall, the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed will hold its third and final Community Conversation as part of the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) to discuss implementation of the WRAPS. The first two Community Conversations provided information and data. The third event will focus on implementation actions.

Over the past three years, eight lakes and four streams in the watershed have been studied to gain a better understanding of water quality. Many of the lakes have been listed as "impaired" for phosphorus and all of the streams have been listed for E. coli. Lakes with high levels of phosphorus can pose a public health risk, as they're more likely to grow toxic algae which can kill pets and other small animals, and also cause serious illness in humans. High levels of phosphorus can also lower home values around the lakes, as a green and smelly lake impacts the aesthetics of the area. Fishing can also be impacted because an abundance of phosphorus reduces water clarity.

When most phosphorus comes from stormwater runoff, we can make a direct impact and keep our lakes cleaner by reducing the amount of phosphorus in the stormwater runoff that reaches the lakes and streams through many tried-and-tested practices. When phosphorus loading is internal other treatments are available if the runoff loading has also been reduced. E. coli indicates the potential presence of waterborne pathogens that are harmful to human health. Again, there are many ways to limit E. coli from reaching our waterways.

Every piece of land, even if miles away from a lake or stream, contributes to the water quality of our lakes and streams. We are inviting not only lakeshore owners but all land owners and elected officials within the watershed to attend our third Community Conversation to work together to begin implementing solutions together.

The purpose of this event is to: Network with engaged citizens, elected officials, and watershed Commissioners; establish which lakes should take priority for action, attention and funding; learn about proposed priority projects; review implementation goals for protection and restoration; and discuss the roles citizens, cities, and the Commission can play in restoring and protecting our waters.

Registration is requested but not required by October 26 at kerstin@jass.biz or 763-553-1144. Open networking, a snack, and discussion regarding the new buffer laws will occur 6:00-6:30 p.m. Presentation and discussion of projects will occur 6:30-8:30 p.m.