#### **CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS**

Regular Meeting of the City Council City Hall 2077 West Larpenteur Avenue AGENDA September 8, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.

- A. CALL TO ORDER:
- B. ROLL CALL: ANDREWS \_\_\_\_ GUSTAFSON \_\_\_\_ LEEHY \_\_\_\_

MIAZGA \_\_\_\_ WEHYEE\_\_\_\_

STAFF PRESENT: THONGVANH\_\_\_\_

- C. PRESENTATION
  - 1. League of Women Voters Equitable Representation on City Commissions
- D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
  - 1. August 25, 2021 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
  - 2. September 1, 2021 City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes
- E. PUBLIC HEARINGS:
- F. CONSENT AGENDA:
  - 1. General Disbursements through: 9/01/21 \$15,339.27 Payroll through: 8/31/21 \$20,435.91
- G: POLICY ITEMS:
- H. INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

#### I. COMMUNITY FORUM:

Please limit comments to 3 minutes per person. Items brought before the Council will be referred for consideration. Council may ask questions for clarification, but no council action or discussion will be held on these items.

J. ADJOURNMENT:

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August 27, 2021

Dear Mayor Gustafson:

On behalf of the League of Women Voters of Roseville Area, I commend you and the other Falcon Heights council members for continuing to work to make affordable housing at Snelling and Larpenteur a reality.

As you may recall, our local league completed a study of affordable housing in our five cities (Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Little Canada, Maplewood and Roseville) in 2017, and I've attached our report. At that time, we presented the results to each of the five cities, including Falcon Heights.

If our members, especially those of us who live in Falcon Heights, can help in any way, please let us know.

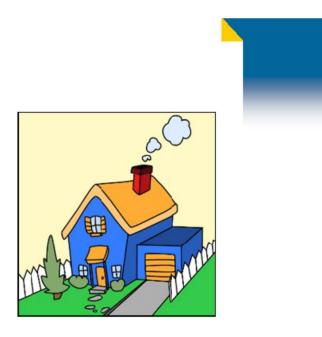
Sincerely,

Barbara & Barany

Barbara Barany, President League of Women Voters of Roseville Area

cc: Council Members Leehy, Miazga, Wehyee and Andrews; City Manager Thongvanh

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# A place for us?

A Study of Affordable Housing and its Availability in Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Little Canada, Maplewood and Roseville



# Study of Affordable Housing and its Availability in Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Little Canada, Maplewood, Roseville

League of Women Voters Roseville Area, March 2017

# by Judy Berglund, Rebecca Bormann, Mindy Greiling and Bonnie Koch

"I believe we're headed into the greatest housing problem for poor people in our country since the early 1900s. Not since 2008. Not since World War II, but since the early 1900s. I think the convergence of market forces, social issues, policy and politics is going to present us with the greatest problem we've seen for many, many decades, so we need to pass these kinds of bills (capital investment) that didn't get passed last year. We need to all pitch in and do our work."

--Alan Arthur, president Aeon October, 2016, at a celebration of new affordable housing built by his company

Fact: There are more low-income people in the suburbs than there are in the central cities, and the need for affordable housing is as great. (*Dr. Ed Goetz, CURA*)

Fact: So far this decade, 28 communities in the Twin Cities have added 4,584 new affordable rental units. That amounts to just one year's worth of metro wide demand. More than half of those units were built in Minneapolis and St. Paul, according to the Met Council, though the two cities account for just one-fourth of the region's population. (*Star Tribune, Dec. 30, 2016*)

Fact: Three in 5 households earning less than \$50,000 experience housing cost burden. *(Minnesota Housing Partnership)* 

Fact: Homelessness is down statewide since 2012, but in Ramsey County, it increased 14 percent. (*Wilder Foundation*)

Fact: There are more homeless children in Minnesota today than there were homeless people in all of the state in 1991. (*Wilder Foundation*)

Facts like these prompted the League of Women Voters of Roseville Area to take a serious look at the housing crisis, which, one agency says, is a "tsunami that is broad, complex and multifaceted."

The League has a long history of advocating for equality of rights. Social policy positions center on securing "equal rights and equal opportunity for all" and promoting "social and economic justice." The demographics of first-ring suburban cities in the League of Women Voters Roseville Area, which includes Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Little Canada, Maplewood and Roseville, are changing dramatically. The Minnesota Department of Education documents that in the last 10 years there has been a 125 percent increase in the percentage of students in

Roseville Area schools and 85 percent increase in the North Saint Paul/Maplewood school district who are learning English. We have a sizable Karen community (Burma refugees). Approximately fifty-seven percent of students in the Roseville schools are now students of color. Homeless students are a part of our school population.

# **Study Goal**

This study examines if fair housing and an adequate housing supply exist for all our community members. It focuses on available units for families and individuals using Metropolitan Council definitions. We chose Council definitions because they are the ones cities will use for updating their comprehensive plans due to be filed with the Met Council next year. The League sought to determine if our inner-ring suburbs are doing our share.

# What is affordable housing?

Housing is affordable to a family or individual if costs are no more than 30 percent of their income. For people who earn less than the median income this can be a challenge.

Government subsidizes housing to make it affordable in a variety of ways with the main goal of preventing homelessness. Affordable housing is obtained by: building it publicly, building it privately with public assistance or by giving rental vouchers to people who, on their own, must find landlords who will accept them.

In addition to government-subsidized affordable housing, manufactured mobile homes, older homes and apartment buildings provide affordable homes as well.

The Metropolitan Council's new Housing Policy Plan, developed to assist cities, states, "Having a variety of housing types, including housing affordable to very-low-income households or those with special support needs, is part of a well-balanced, economically resilient community and an economically competitive region."

# **Gathering Background Information**

A committee of League members questioned a variety of housing experts to gather information for this report. Interviewees were: Barbara Dacy, Washington HRA; Dan Hylton, Housing Link researcher; Paul Fate, recently retired CEO, Common Bond; Dr. Edward Goetz, Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA); Libby Starling and Beth Reetz. Metropolitan Council; Commissioner Mary Tingerthal and Katie Topina, Minnesota Housing; Cathy Bennett, Housing Initiative, Urban Land Institute Minnesota (ULI), Cathy ten Broeke, Minnesota state director to Prevent Homelessness, and Dr. Craig Waldron, Hamline University.

Ellen Shelton, Wilder Foundation, addressed homelessness at the League's November meeting. We focused on affordable housing and homelessness at our meeting with local policymakers in January. Dr. Goetz, (CURA) John Slade, Organizer for Ramsey and Washington Counties, Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing (MICAH) and State Representative Alice Hausman, a legislative leader on expanding affordable housing units, were speakers at our February meeting. City and county elected and appointed officials and staff involved in comprehensive planning were invited to this meeting. Many were in attendance.

#### History

The federal government began building subsidized housing as part of President Roosevelt's New Deal. No new federal public housing has been built since the 1970s, when policy shifted to programs for private developers to create affordable housing. In Minnesota the number of lower-cost units constructed peaked in 2001 and has since declined.

No publicly subsidized apartments have been built this decade in more than 80 suburbs and exurbs around Minneapolis and St. Paul, according to an analysis by Dougherty Mortgage, a firm that tracks the local apartment market.

In 1974 the Housing and Community Development Act created a Section 8 Voucher Program for rental assistance to low income applicants. In the early eighties the federal government decreased its funding for rental assistance vouchers from about \$10 billion to about \$2 billion.

Metropolitan Council researchers report that the number of households paying more than half their income for rent doubled between 2000 and 2013.

MICAH estimates that \$1.06 billion is needed in Minnesota to fill an existing affordable housing gap. Rep. Alice Hausman states that 41% of Minnesota renters are cost burdened, meaning they pay more than 30% of their income for rent.

It's become increasingly difficult for people of modest means to find housing. Developers, catering to more affluent clients, are purchasing and upgrading large apartment complexes, often forcing low-income renters to move.

# **Current Challenges**

The major challenges for developing affordable housing in the five suburbs represented by the League are building costs and the need to find subsidies, according to Goetz (CURA). "We don't have subsidies available; they aren't funded adequately at the state or federal level, though we have one of the better state finance agencies," he said.

In addition to needing to secure scarce funding, it's difficult to develop housing for a city's poorest residents because their potential neighbors worry that it will reduce property values or damage quality of life. These people are called NIMBYs (Not in My BackYard). MICAH states that NIMBYism is often rooted in racism. In Minnesota, 25% of renters are white and 75% are people of color.

According to Paul Fate, immediate past president of CommonBond, the Met Council hasn't been as aggressive as they should be in promoting affordable housing. Dr. Ed Goetz says the Met Council could use their levers more aggressively.

On the other hand, Council housing experts say they are limited in what they can do. The Council has four systems of responsibility determined by state statute - transportation, parks, wastewater and aviation. If housing were one of the systems, the Council could insist noncompliant cities modify their housing plans.

The Met Council does have an enforcement tool. Its Livable Community Program, funded from the Council's property tax levy, grants funds for expansion and preservation of affordable housing to help cities meet housing goals. Local governments' housing plans must pass muster to receive monies. Of the 179 local units in the Metro Area, 95 participate in the Livable Community Program. Of our five cities, only Little Canada does not.

The Metropolitan Council prioritizes funding requests by giving a performance score based on how well communities are maintaining or expanding and promoting affordable housing supplies and if transit is accessible. Scores are based on data from the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) and range from 0 to 100. Below is a score comparison of our five cities and neighboring communities.

City	2016 Housing Performance Score
Maplewood	84
Roseville	82
Shoreview	81
Fridley	79
White Bear Lake	75
North St. Paul	70
Mounds View	69
New Brighton	69
Arden Hills	68
Falcon Heights	40
Lauderdale	34
Little Canada	25

Dr. Ed Goetz says that generally speaking we have enough affordable units at the 80% level, but where we lack is for 50% AMI (Area Median Income) and 30% AMI. In that respect, he said, we're far behind. John Slade of MICAH says that the Met Council's goal is based on

given growth in population and jobs, not how much affordable housing is needed. They don't deal enough with current need.

#### Vouchers

Financial help for low income renters is available through Section 8 vouchers. The Housing Choice Voucher Program, funded by the federal government and distributed through Metro HRA, offers rental assistance. Eligible households pay 30% to 40% of their incomes for rent, and Metro HRA pays the remainder. Families may rent any type of housing in the Metro HRA service area where the landlord agrees to program participation and within HRA rent guidelines.

Special vouchers are also available. Bridges, a state program, provides rental assistance for households with one or more adults with mental illnesses. Veteran's Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH), a federal program, offers rental assistance for homeless veterans in connection with supportive services provided through the Veteran's Administration.

Low-income people in the Twin Cities wait years for a Section 8 housing voucher. The Metropolitan Council, which oversees Anoka, Carver, and most of the suburbs in Hennepin and Ramsey counties, opened its waiting list in February 2015 for the first time since 2007. The agency received 35,000 applications in four days. Only 2,000 names were put in a lottery, and those families face a wait of up to three years to actually get a voucher.

People who do manage to secure a voucher often have a hard time redeeming them since few places accept them. According to Met Council data, less than two thirds of Section 8 voucher holders are able to use them. The success rate for people with mental illness who have Bridges vouchers is one-third.

The Metropolitan Council data below shows voucher usage in our five cities. Numbers fluctuate and may not be totally accurate in 2017.

Type of Voucher	Falcon Heights	Lauderdale	Little Canada	Maplewood	Roseville
Housing Choice (Section 8)	39	6	135	380	262
Bridges	0	0	6	5	3

# Developers

"Funding is the responsibility of the developer. He or she must pull the funding together and make it work. If you are a developer and you have a vision, you would not proceed without making sure you have the underlying financing and subsidies in place," said CommonBond's Paul Fate.

The tool that affects the largest expansion of affordable housing is the Low Income Housing Tax Credit, (LIHTC) which gives developers tax incentives for including affordable housing in their projects, generally up to 60% Area Median Income (AMI). (Minnesota Housing prefers 50%.) Tax credits come through the Federal Government Treasury Department and are administered by local housing authorities. Credits are only applicable if there is land available for development or redevelopment and usually require givebacks from the city as well.

NIMBYs (Not in My BackYard) discourage developers because they lead to "slow nos," where the city doesn't say no right way, but rejects a project later in the negotiations process. Delay is costly for the developer who may be paying for an option on the land, own the land or be paying a holding cost. Developers learn which cities do this and gravitate to other cities.

#### **Minnesota Housing Finance Agency**

The Minnesota Housing Finance Agency distributes funds to cities through a consolidated Request for Proposal (RFP) to facilitate one-stop shopping. It partners with the Met Council, Section 8 vouchers, and Greater Metropolitan Housing to offer this funding, which comes from state and federal sources.

Cities rarely apply for funding for a building entirely devoted to Section 8 renters because the funding is hard to put together and make work. However, Minnesota Housing encourages local housing authorities to allocate at least some units for Section 8 vouchers within workforce housing projects. It's valuable to do so in terms of Housing Performance Scores for state funding, according to Commissioner Tingerthal.

# Landlords

Section 8 voucher renters are not protected under Fair Housing regulation. Even when receiving a housing voucher, they can't easily find a landlord who will accept them. Section 8's reputation is negative. Landlords don't want to deal with the extra inspections and paperwork that are a part of the voucher program. In today's current competitive housing market, they don't need to bother with the hassle or accept applicants who have bad credit ratings or misdemeanors, which many low-income people and people with mental illness have.

The Minnesota Legislature is currently examining policies that would encourage landlords to take a risk on the poorest and most vulnerable rental applicants. Legislators recently allocated a small amount of money to provide a backstop to landlords renting to families who have criminal backgrounds or mental illness, to compensate for damages beyond what insurance covers. Current state policy discussions focus on how to prevent "three calls from police and then you get evicted" policies if the calls are due to a mental health crisis.

Some housing non-profits are compiling data with the hope of giving landlords more accurate screening processes to enable them to better determine who would be a good tenant.

Housing Link maintains a website to assist people in finding apartments where vouchers are accepted. Their research manager, Dan Hylton, recommends cities give rental licensees information about Housing Link and urge them to list there if their units are affordable.

#### **Minnesota Challenge**

A particularly helpful study of practical things that can be done to increase the willingness of local governments to build affordable housing is the Minnesota Challenge study conducted in 2014. The goal is to give state and local communities additional options for providing a full range of housing choices for low and moderate income residents. The study was conducted by CURA, the Housing Justice Center and Becker Consulting and funded by Minnesota Housing, the McKnight Foundation, ULI Minnesota and Enterprise Community Partners.

The most important lesson from the research is that local policies that affect cost play an important role in determining whether it is feasible to build affordable housing and in the amount of affordable housing that can be built throughout the region.

The report identifies eleven areas where improvements can be made, such as:

- Supporting appropriate density. The single area with the largest impact on cost is the failure of cities to support cost-effective density and scale of affordable housing projects. Several cities have been successful in resisting this tendency.
- Finding and acquiring sites for new developments is one of the most difficult, time consuming and expensive tasks developers undertake. A number of cities have been quite proactive in easing these burdens, from identifying appropriate sites to zoning sufficient land.
- Fee reductions and waivers. Local fees, which vary widely, can easily add \$20,000 to \$30,000 in costs per unit.
- Supporting inclusionary housing, where market rate units must include a certain ratio of affordable units.

#### Hope for the Future

Despite the complex challenges listed in this report, we are guardedly hopeful for the future. The Greater Minnesota Housing Fund, a nonprofit affordable housing lender, is developing the nation's first regional pool of money to help affordable housing stay that way. The Fund will assist buyers who want to buy apartment complexes when they come up for sale in the seven-county metropolitan area. The goal is to purchase 10 to 20 percent of the affordable housing buildings that go on the market.

In our area, Aeon, a Twin Cities non-profit organization, recently purchased a pair of apartment buildings that will provide much needed workforce housing. The first, Goldenstar, is a 109-unit building in Maplewood. The other, Sun Place, is a 30-unit structure in Roseville.

Recent research by the Urban Land Institute and the Regional Council of Mayors (RCM), that ULI staffs, found:

- Cities that are more accepting and intentional in supporting affordable housing as part of a full range of housing choices ensure their competitive ability by accommodating income diversity in their communities.
- Communities are adopting housing policies and modifying zoning codes to support mixed use, mixed income and walkable places.
- 51 percent of affordable housing units in suburban areas were built or preserved in Regional Council of Mayors (RCM) cities participating in the Urban Land Institute's services from 2008-2014.

# A Word of Caution

Though progress has been made in increasing affordable housing for Minnesota's low and moderate income families, the future remains uncertain, given an expected rise in interest rates and a potential decline in public housing funding under President Donald Trump.

Minnesota's Housing Fund is depleted pending Legislative action this year.

#### Analysis of Affordable Housing In Our Five Cities

On November 1st, 2016, The Roseville Area League of Women Voters Affordable Housing Study Committee sent Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Little Canada, Maplewood and Roseville City Managers a survey to determine the present affordable housing situation in their cities. The cities had just begun to update their comprehensive plans. In some situations answers were still unknown. City figures are accurate as of December 1, 2016.

The MN Housing Finance Agency defines affordability based on the Area Median Income (AMI). The agency publishes the AMI adjusted by county and by individuals per household. In Ramsey County the AMI is \$60,100 for an individual, \$85,800 for a family of four. Need for assistance is broken into three categories: those with incomes up to 30% AMI, incomes between 31 and 50% and incomes that are 51-80% of the AMI.

Survey questions were based on information members of the Study Committee gathered in interviews with individuals with expertise in regional affordable housing. The survey was organized into three areas based on the Metropolitan Council Housing Plan: Assessing Existing Housing/Needs/Priorities; Implementing Housing Planning; Projecting Future Affordable Housing Needs.

# **Existing Housing**

City	Popula- tion	#Units 0-30% AMI**	#Units 31-50% AMI**	#Units 51- 80% AMI**	Apartments (Units)	Mobile Home Parks/ Units	LIHTC Financed Units***
Falcon Heights	5,571	25* (25)	616* (628)	1,156* (752)	Unknown* (963)	None	None
Lauderdale	2,484	52* (15)	480* (590)	528* (464)	536* (648)	None	None
Little Canada	10,319	605* (953)	825* (1100)	850* (1753)	1,580* (2195)	3/573* (450)	118
Maplewood	40,567	1,327* (1218)	2,920* (4059)	7,776* (7454)	4,373* (4373)	4/726* (734)	31
Roseville	35,580	371 + 15 owned by Met Council (1169)*	175* (2517)	Unknown (7268)*	Abt 5,000 (Includes single family rentals)* (6087)	1/105* (112)	258

\*Number reported in survey (Met Council assessment)

\*\*AMI = Area Median Income. 0-31% includes homeless.

**\*\*\***LIHTC = Low Income Housing Tax Credit.

Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing (NOAH), homes that are available without subsidies, are not specifically tracked by any of the cities, but are tracked in the aggregate by the Met Council and included in their Performance Scores.

# **Implementing Housing Planning**

Acreage available for future development is minimal so our inner-ring communities are more likely to focus on redevelopment and rehabilitation.

City	Residential Acreage Available for Development	Residential Acreage Available for Re-development	# Developer -initiated Request for Affordable Housing Builds: 5yrs/10yrs.	Approved/Denied
Falcon Heights	1	Unknown	1/1	Approved
Lauderdale	None	None	0/0	
Little Canada	About 20 acres	Hard to Predict	Unknown other than senior housing/high % of rental housing available	Senior housing approved
Maplewood	Minimal	City doesn't specify	2/Unknown	Approved
Roseville	None	58 acres for high density residential dev.	2/4	1 Pending/2 Approved/1 Denied (hinged on significant amt. of subsidy)

# **City Programs To Encourage Affordable Housing**

There are many ways in which cities can encourage or make it easier for affordable housing to be developed in their communities. We asked if cities:

- Require a percentage of affordable units in high density development?
- Contribute local financial resources for low income housing?
- Reduce/waive building permit and municipal fees?
- Identify and acquire sites?
- Streamline the administrative process for project approval?
- Identify zoning regulations that allow for flexibility in affordable housing development such as parking requirements, design requirements?

There are few allowances in place in our cities presently, aside from:

• Falcon Heights: Has flexibility in zoning/subdivision codes through a Planned Unit Development (PUD).

- Lauderdale: flexibility.
- Little Canada: Assisted in providing tax exempt financing with some building upgrades. Contributed bond issuance fees to at least one complex to assist with improvement to a fire suppression system. Provided financing to three existing condo developments that met affordable guidelines using a statutory provision allowing for Housing Improvement Areas (HIA).
- Roseville: Has considered and given subsidy to low income housing projects.

Most cities require licensing of rental units and oversee them through state and city building codes. Maplewood does not have specific rental licensing standards. Falcon Heights only requires licensing of structures with four or less units.

Cities, generally, are not participating in programs that link individuals and families with affordable housing needs with availability in their communities.

Lauderdale and Roseville have participated in the Met Council's Livable Communities Program. Roseville has also worked with Corridors of Opportunity.

#### **Projecting Affordable Housing Needs**

The cities in the Roseville Area League are just beginning to update their comprehensive plans as required by the Metropolitan Council in 2018. When surveyed, they frequently did not have facts and figures readily available.

To assist communities in assessing their comprehensive plans, the Metropolitan Council forecasts population and job growth. It also projects regional household growth and determines each community's share of the regional need for housing. The figures below are based on a total regional need of 37,900 Affordable Housing units for the years 2021-2030. The numbers indicate how many units the Met Council has determined each community needs to add.

City	Allocation 0- 30% AMI	Allocation 31- 50% AMI	Allocation 51- 80% AMI	Total Units Needed
Falcon Heights	0	0	0	0
Lauderdale	0	0	0	0
Little Canada	26	28	25	79
Maplewood	250	95	165	510
Roseville	72	50	20	142

As first-ring suburbs with changing demographics, none has begun to consider examining the relationship between employment in their cities and the need for housing for those employed.

#### Conclusion

At the time of the survey, all the cities indicated acreage available for new residential development is minimal to non-existent, placing emphasis on future redevelopment of existing land tracts and upgrades or rehabs of current properties.

In general, cities were not well informed about low-income affordable housing AMI availability and present rental voucher usage. Nor were they making affordable housing more development friendly through regulation flexibility. Connecting local individuals/families to support organizations that help them find housing is minimal.

Reflecting the LWVMN position on housing, improvement needs to be encouraged in:

- Providing for a full range of affordable housing opportunities in each city.
- Preserving and improving current affordable housing.
- Promoting better awareness of rental housing subsidy usage and linking low- income residents to support services.
- Supporting incentives that make development/rehabilitation more attractive to developers.
- Maintaining and regulating rental properties.
- Considering inclusion of affordable housing when minimal land available is developed.
- When licensing landlords, urge or require them to list on HousingLink if their units are affordable.

#### What's Next?

This year's study sought to educate League members, elected officials and the public about the need for affordable housing and its availability in the five cities in which most of our members reside. Many of the housing experts we interviewed told us that informed local advocacy by the League of Women Voters, partnering with other organizations, including churches, could be a key factor in garnering local interest to increase affordable housing options in our cities.

# **Capstone Project**

League members are working with a team of University of Minnesota Humphrey School of Public Affairs graduate students working on a Master's Degree Capstone Project. The goal of the team is to analyze existing affordable housing in our five cities and build a framework of successful practices to meet future needs of our changing cities. With the students, we will make our study results and the framework they develop available to our cities to use as they update required Metropolitan Council housing plans. We will also make the framework available to other leagues representing first-ring suburbs who have many of the same needs as our cities.

# LWV Affordable Housing Study Committee

Thanks to committee co-chairs: Rebecca Bormann, Mindy Greiling, Bonnie Koch and members: Judy Berglund, Emma Duren, Georgeann Hall, Claire Jordan, Kathy Juenemann, Kris Nagy, Beth Salzl.



This study is dedicated to Ann Berry, a lifetime League member and passionate advocate for affordable housing. Ann died in 2016.

#### **CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS**

Regular Meeting of the City Council City Hall 2077 West Larpenteur Avenue **MINUTES** August 25, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.

- A. CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 PM
- B. ROLL CALL: ANDREWS X\_ GUSTAFSON X\_ LEEHY X\_

MIAZGA \_X\_\_ WEHYEE\_\_\_\_

STAFF PRESENT: THONGVANH\_X\_

#### Administrator Thongvanh

The general disbursements and payroll have been amended. This accounts for a pass through for the Amber Union project for bonding received from the State. There is also an additional item added to the consent agenda, amending the 2021 City Fee Schedule.

Motion by Council Member Andrews to amend the agenda; Approved, 4-0.

#### C. PRESENTATION

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:1. August 11, 2021 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion by Council Member Leehy to approve the minutes; Approved, 4-0.

2. August 18, 2021 City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes

Motion by Council Member Miazga to approve the minutes; Approved, 4-0.

#### E. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

#### F. CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. General Disbursements through: 817/21 \$828,713.20 Payroll through: 8/15/21 \$19,363.92
- 2. Amended North Suburban Communications Commission Joint and Cooperative Agreement for the Administration of Cable Communications Franchises
- 3. 2021 City Fee Schedule

Motion by Council Member Leehy to approve the consent agenda; Approved, 4-0.

- G: POLICY ITEMS:
  - 1. 2021 Pavement Management Project (PMP) Pay Estimate #5

Jesse Freihammer, City Engineer

The majority of the work has been completed. We are retaining 5% to cover corrective work that still needs to be completed. We recommend approval of pay estimate #5.

Motion by Council Member Andrews to approve Pay Estimate #5; Approved, 4-0.

2. 2021 Pavement Management Project (MPM) Declare Costs to Be Assessed and Call for Assessment Hearing

#### Jesse Freihammer, City Engineer

Since we know what the real costs of the project are, the next step is to set a public hearing. We recommend scheduling the hearing for September 22. The overall project is under budget compared to the feasibility report. The assessment cost is also lower than projected, and this is included in the assessment rolls included in the packet. The proposed assessment rate is 4 percent over five years for residents that do not prepay. The notice would probably go out right after Labor Day in anticipation of the September 22 meeting.

Motion by Council Member Andrews to approve Resolution 21-35; Approved, 4-0.

#### Jesse Freihammer, City Engineer

There is one change in the assessment rolls because of a correction in status we made to 1899 Larpenteur from commercial to residential since we determined this address is homesteaded.

- H. INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS:
- I. COMMUNITY FORUM:
- J. ADJOURNMENT: 7:31 PM

Randall C. Gustafson, Mayor

Dated this 25th day of August, 2021

Sack Thongvanh, City Administrator

#### **CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS**

City Council Workshop City Hall 2077 West Larpenteur Avenue

#### MINUTES

September 1, 2021 6:30 P.M.

- A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:40PM
- B. ROLL CALL: ANDREWS \_\_\_ GUSTAFSON\_X\_ LEEHY\_X\_ MIAZGA \_X\_ WEHYEE\_X\_

STAFF PRESENT: THONGVANH\_X\_ WALTER\_X\_

C. PRESENTATIONS:

#### D. POLICY ITEMS:

- 1. Proposed 2022 Levy and Budget
  - a. General Fund
  - b. Debt Services
  - c. Special Revenue Fund
  - d. Enterprise Fund

#### Administrator Thongvanh

In the park programming fund, the revenue and expenditures were less than in previous years. Parks programs are not money makers. The park programs fund (201) receives \$26,000 via transfer-in from the General Fund.

The Charitable Gambling Fund (202) provides a small amount of revenue that must be donated to a charitable cause. Council will need to decide how to allocate this amount in the future.

The Water Fund (204) shows a revenue source which is comprised of dollars earned from the fee we charge on water use, which in the past has been used to fund fire hydrants or relocations of hydrants.

The Recycling Fund (206) is funded through service fees. The expenditures include staff salary for recycling-related work.

The Street Lighting Fund (209) could be used for replacement of the decorative lighting near Larpenteur and Snelling that was done around 1991 or 1992. To replace the lighting and do the electrical work that would be needed is about 250K. The City monuments will eventually need to be updated, as they are beginning to rust.

The Community Inclusion Fund (210) regularly shows a transfer-in and is used for staff training or for various programs for the community.

The Sanitary Sewer Fund (601) is an enterprise fund. We are proposing a 3% increase on sanitary sewer charges. This is a good fund to keep replenished because it can be used to fund a variety of projects for the City, not tied to a specific purpose like the special revenue funds. The Metro Sewer Charges is based on the usage of the sewer system and is a pass-through item. There is a lag, so the costs to the City are lower in 2021 because the State Fair was not held in 2020. I'm looking at reducing the frequency of televising and jetting of sewer lines. We probably have 3 or 4 miles left of the sewer lining project. The University Grove neighborhood used to be owned by the University but they turned over the infrastructure to the City, and the City maintains the sewer infrastructure and Saint Paul maintains the water infrastructure through Saint Paul Regional Water Services. Some cities, including Roseville and Apple Valley don't do assessments for pavement projects and fund them with the General Fund.

The Storm Sewer Fund (602) was used to fund projects such as the Curtiss Field project and the drainage ditch on Lindig.

The only lighting the City owns is the decorative lighting and the lighting in parks. The revenue from the street light fee is used to pay the electric costs of the lighting.

The project on Cleveland will involve third-party agreements between the City, County, and University. There will likely be maintenance agreements with Saint Paul to maintain lighting.

For the levy, we are anticipating a 5% increase this year. We'll need to start thinking about funding a different policing contract. The startup costs would be around \$400,000. We will be with Ramsey County Sheriff's Office for 2022.

If we don't keep the levy comparable to other cities, we would lose our fiscal disparity allocation. And if we were to lose fiscal disparity, we would have to levy more to make up for this. That would place a larger burden on homeowners.

- E. INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS:
- F. ADJOURNMENT: 8:20PM

Randall C. Gustafson, Mayor

Dated this 1st day of September, 2021

Sack Thongvanh, City Administrator



# **REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Meeting Date	September 8, 2021
Agenda Item	Consent F1
Attachment	General Disbursements and Payroll
Submitted By	Roland Olson, Finance Director

Item	General Disbursements and Payroll
Description	General Disbursements through: 9/01/21 \$15,339.27 Payroll through: 8/31/21 \$20,435.91
Budget Impact	The general disbursements and payroll are consistent with the budget.
Attachment(s)	General Disbursements and Payroll
Action(s) Requested	Staff recommends that the Falcon Heights City Council approve general disbursements and payroll.

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8/30/2021 8:41 AM PAGE: 1 A/P Regular Open Item Register PACKET: 02347 AUG 30 PAYABLES VENDOR SET: 01 City of Falcon Heights SEQUENCE : ALPHABETIC DUE TO/FROM ACCOUNTS SUPPRESSED ----ID-----GROSS P.O. # T DATE BANK CODE -----DESCRIPTION----- DISCOUNT G/L ACCOUNT ----- ACCOUNT NAME----- DISTRIBUTION 01-01012 COREMARK METALS I-5205613 ANGLE IRON/SLAT STEEL 183.96 8/30/2021 APBNK DUE: 8/30/2021 DISC: 8/30/2021 1099: N ANGLE IRON AND FLAT STEEL 419 4419-92056-000 LARPENTEUR MEDIAN 2020 183.96 I-5205983 ANGLE IRON ADN FLATE STEEL 100.23 8/30/2021 APBNK DUE: 8/30/2021 DISC: 8/30/2021 1099: N ANGLE IRON ADN FLATE STEEL 419 4419-92056-000 LARPENTEUR MEDIAN 2020 100.23 === VENDOR TOTALS === 284.19 01-05153 HOME DEPOT CRC/GECF I-202108307923 ORTH WEED CONTROL & TRASH CAN 74.91 8/30/2021 APBNK DUE: 8/30/2021 DISC: 8/30/2021 1099: N ORTH WEED CONTROL & TRASH CAN 101 4131-70110-000 SUPPLIES 74.91 === VENDOR TOTALS === 74.91 01-05509 LEAGUE OF MN CITIES 347452 2021 CLERKS CONF - ASHLEIGH 249.00 0/2021 APBNK DUE: 8/30/2021 DISC: 8/30/2021 1099: N 2021 CLERKS CONF - ASHLEIGH 101 4112-86100-000 CONFERENCES/EDUCATION/AS 249.00 === VENDOR TOTALS === 249.00 01-05834 LIVING WORLD FELLOWSHIP I-202108307921 REFUND CITY HALL RENTAL 5 DAY 500.00 8/30/2021 APBNK DUE: 8/30/2021 DISC: 8/30/2021 1099; N REFUND CITY HALL RENTAL 5 DAYS 101 34101-000 CITY FACILITY RENTAL 500.00 === VENDOR TOTALS === 500.00 01-05263 MID CITY SERVICES- INDUSTRIAL I-159498 FLOOR MAT SVC 42.15 8/30/2021 APBNK DUE: 8/30/2021 DISC: 8/30/2021 1099: N FLOOR MAT SVC 101 4131-87010-000 CITY HALL MAINTENANCE 42.15 === VENDOR TOTALS === 42.15

8/30/2021 8:41 AM PACKET: 02347 AUG 30 PAYABLES

VENDOR SET: 01 City of Falcon Heights

SEQUENCE : ALPHABETIC

DUE TO/FROM ACCOUNTS SUPPRESSED

T DATE BANK CODEDESCRIPTION	GROSS P.O. # DISCOUNT G/L ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT NAME DISTRIBUTION
		***************************************
01-05843 MN NCPERS LIFE INSURANCE		
I-458800092021 2021 LIFE INS SEPT	48 00	

1-45880009202	21	2021	LIFE INS SEPT		48.00				
8/30/2021	APBNK	DUE:	8/30/2021 DISC:	8/30/2021		1099: N			
		2021	LIFE INS SEPT			101 21709-000	OTHER	PAYABLE	24.64
		2021	LIFE INS SEPT			204 21709-000	OTHER	PAYABLE	1.60
		2021	LIFE INS SEPT			601 21709-000	OTHER	PAYABLE	15.52
		2021	LIFE INS SEPT			602 21709-000	OTHER	PAYABLE	6.24
		=== V	ENDOR TOTALS ===		48.00				

01-05870 XCEL ENERGY

I-202108307922 ELECTRIC 2,386.39 8/30/2021 APBNK DUE: 8/30/2021 DISC: 8/30/2021 1099: N ELECTRIC 101 4141-85020-000 ELECTRIC/GAS 29.53 ELECTRIC 101 4141-85020-000 ELECTRIC/GAS 15.28 ELECTRIC 209 4209-85020-000 STREET LIGHTING POWER 15.57 ELECTRIC 209 4209-85020-000 STREET LIGHTING POWER 78.02 ELECTRIC 209 4209-85020-000 STREET LIGHTING POWER 30.48 ELECTRIC 209 4209-85020-000 STREET LIGHTING POWER 0.96 ELECTRIC 209 4209-85020-000 STREET LIGHTING POWER 2,123.82 ELECTRIC 209 4209-85020-000 STREET LIGHTING POWER 92.73 === VENDOR TOTALS === 2,386.39 === PACKET TOTALS === 3,584.64

9/01/2021 1:23 PM A/P Regular Open Item Register PAGE: 1 PACKET: 02349 SEPT 1 PAYABLES VENDOR SET: 01 City of Falcon Heights SEQUENCE : ALPHABETIC DUE TO/FROM ACCOUNTS SUPPRESSED }----ID-----GROSS P.O. # ST DATE BANK CODE -----DESCRIPTION----- DISCOUNT G/L ACCOUNT ----- ACCOUNT NAME----- DISTRIBUTION 01-05422 BP I-202109017928 FUEL 1,193.08 9/01/2021 APBNK DUE: 9/01/2021 DISC: 9/01/2021 1099: N FUEL 101 4132-74000-000 MOTOR FUEL & LUBRICANTS 1,193.08 === VENDOR TOTALS === 1,193.08 01-05134 HEJNY RENTAL, INC. I-340184 EXCAVATOR RENTAL 650.44 9/01/2021 APBNK DUE: 9/01/2021 DISC: 9/01/2021 1099: N EXCAVATOR RENTAL 419 4419-92056-000 LARPENTEUR MEDIAN 2020 650.44 I-341049 EXCAVATOR RENTAL 668.47 9/01/2021 APBNK DUE: 9/01/2021 DISC: 9/01/2021 1099: N EXCAVATOR RENTAL 419 4419-92056-000 LARPENTEUR MEDIAN 2020 668.47 === VENDOR TOTALS === 1,318.91 01-05466 LAND'S END BUSINESS OUTFIT XIN9418923 CITY LOGO CLOTHING 32.90 01/2021 APBNK DUE: 9/01/2021 DISC: 9/01/2021 1099: N CITY LOGO CLOTHING 101 4112-70100-000 SUPPLIES 32.90 === VENDOR TOTALS === 32.90 01-05509 LEAGUE OF MN CITIES I-347454 2021 CLERKS CONF VANDARRA T. 249.00 9/01/2021 APBNK DUE: 9/01/2021 DISC: 9/01/2021 1099: N 2021 CLERKS CONF VANDARRA T. 101 4112-86100-000 CONFERENCES/EDUCATION/AS 249.00 === VENDOR TOTALS === 249.00 01-05582 MENARDS I-202109017924 TREATED LUMBER FOR LARP MEDIA 1,263.59 9/01/2021 APBNK DUE: 9/01/2021 DISC: 9/01/2021 1099: N TREATED LUMBER FOR LARP MEDIAN 419 4419-92056-000 LARPENTEUR MEDIAN 2020 1,210,43 TOOLS 101 4132-70120-000 SUPPLIES 53.16 === VENDOR TOTALS === 1,263.59

9/01/2021 1:23 PM A/P Regular Open Item Register PAGE: 2 PACKET: 02349 SEPT 1 PAYABLES VENDOR SET: 01 City of Falcon Heights SEQUENCE : ALPHABETIC DUE TO/FROM ACCOUNTS SUPPRESSED ----- ID------GROSS P.O. # JST DATE BANK CODE -----DESCRIPTION------DISCOUNT G/L ACCOUNT ----- ACCOUNT NAME----- DISTRIBUTION 01-05343 MINNESOTA MULCH & SOIL I-W20575 LAPENTEUR SOIL DISPOSAL MEDIA 162.00 9/01/2021 APBNK DUE: 9/01/2021 DISC: 9/01/2021 1099: N LAPENTEUR SOIL DISPOSAL MEDIAN 419 4419-92056-000 LARPENTEUR MEDIAN 2020 162.00 === VENDOR TOTALS === 162.00 01-05979 NORTH SUBURBAN TOBACCO COMPLIA I-086-082621-B TOBACCO COMPLIANCE 174.00 9/01/2021 APBNK DUE: 9/01/2021 DISC: 9/01/2021 1099: N TOBACCO COMPLIANCE 101 4122-81000-000 POLICE SERVICES 174.00 === VENDOR TOTALS === 174.00 01-06185 RAMSEY COUNTY I-PRRRV 001633 3RD QTR ELECTION SVCS 2021 5,450.00 9/01/2021 APBNK DUE: 9/01/2021 DISC: 9/01/2021 1099: N 3RD OTR ELECTION SVCS 2021 101 4115-80300-000 ELECTION CONTRACT 5,450,00 === VENDOR TOTALS === 5,450.00 L\_\_\_\_\_ 01-06314 REHDER FORESTRY CONSULTING I-192 FORESTRY CONSULTING 536.00 9/01/2021 APBNK DUE: 9/01/2021 DISC: 9/01/2021 1099: N FORESTRY CONSULTING 101 4134-80330-000 FORESTRY CONSULTANT 536.00 I-202 FORESTRY CONSULTING 626.86 9/01/2021 APBNK DUE: 9/01/2021 DISC: 9/01/2021 1099: N FORESTRY CONSULTING 101 4134-80330-000 FORESTRY CONSULTANT 626.86 I-206 FORESTRY CONSULTING 531.74 9/01/2021 APBNK DUE: 9/01/2021 DISC: 9/01/2021 1099: N FORESTRY CONSULTING 101 4134-80330-000 FORESTRY CONSULTANT 531.74 === VENDOR TOTALS === 1,694.60 01-00935 ST PAUL REGIONAL WATER SERVICE I-202109017927 H20 131.33 9/01/2021 APBNK DUE: 9/01/2021 DISC: 9/01/2021 1099: N H20 101 4141-85040-000 WATER 32.61 SS 101 4141-85070-000 SEWER 11 83 H20 101 4131-85040-000 WATER 65.76

=== VENDOR TOTALS ===

SS

131.33

101 4131-85070-000 SEWER

21,13

9/01/2021 1:23 PM A/P Regular Open Item Register PAGE: 3 PACKET: 02349 SEPT 1 PAYABLES VENDOR SET: 01 City of Falcon Heights SEQUENCE : ALPHABETIC DUE TO/FROM ACCOUNTS SUPPRESSED ----ID-----GROSS P.O. # ST DATE BANK CODE -----DESCRIPTION----- DISCOUNT G/L ACCOUNT ----- ACCOUNT NAME----- DISTRIBUTION 01-07689 WALTER, ASHLEIGH I-202109017926 PHONE REIMB/SUPPLIES/ MILEAGE 43.75 9/01/2021 APBNK DUE: 9/01/2021 DISC: 9/01/2021 1099: N PHONE REIMBH 101 4116-85010-000 TELEPHONE 20.00 MILEAGE REIMH 101 4112-86010-000 MILEAGE & PARKING 3.36 SUPPLIES 101 4112-70100-000 SUPPLIES 20.39 === VENDOR TOTALS === 43.75 01-05870 XCEL ENERGY I-202109017925 ELECTRIC 41.47 9/01/2021 APBNK DUE: 9/01/2021 DISC: 9/01/2021 1099: N ELECTRIC 209 4209-85020-000 STREET LIGHTING POWER 12.28 ELECTRIC 209 4209-85020-000 STREET LIGHTING POWER 29.19 === VENDOR TOTALS === 41.47

=== PACKET TOTALS === 11,754.63

MP #	NAME	AMOUNT
	RANDALL C GUSTAFSON MELANIE M LEEHY MARK J MIAZGA YAKASAH WEHYEE KAY ANDREWS SACK THONGVANH ASHLEIGH WALTER VANDARA THAMMAVONGSA ROLAND O OLSON MATTHEW CHERNUGAL TIMOTHY J PITTMAN DAVE TRETSVEN COLIN B CALLAHAN	293.07 262.05 262.05 255.30 4,011.94 1,563.04 1,544.21 2,811.89 1,057.50 2,259.27 1,813.02 1,990.77

'OTAL PRINTED:

18,386.16

8-26-2021	8:55	AM	PAYROLL	CHECK	REGISTER	PAGE:	1
PAYROLL NO:	01	City of Falcon Height	S			PAYROLL DATE:	8/26/2021

\*\*\* REGISTER TOTALS \*\*\*

EMP NO	EMPLOYEE NAME	TYPE	CHECK DATE	CHECK AMOUNT	CHECK NO.
	MORETTO, PAUL A	R	8/26/2021	2,049.35	090707

13

8-26-2021	8:55	AM	P F	A Y	R	ΟI	L	CHECK	RE	GΙ	s '	ΓE	R
PAYROLL NO:	01	City of Falcon Height	s										

#### PAGE: 2 PAYROLL DATE: 8/26/2021

 REGULAR CHECKS:
 1
 2,049.35

 DIRECT DEPOSIT REGULAR CHECKS:
 13
 18,386.16

 MANUAL CHECKS:
 13
 18,386.16

 PRINTED MANUAL CHECKS:
 14
 20,435.51

 DIRECT DEPOSIT MANUAL CHECKS:
 14
 20,435.51

\*\*\* NO ERRORS FOUND \*\*\*

\*\* END OF REPORT \*\*