

City of Falcon Heights Environment Commission

City Hall
2077 Larpenteur Avenue West

AGENDA

Monday, September 8, 2025
6:30 p.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL: Beth Mercer-Taylor (Chair) ____ Georgiana May ____
 John Pellegrini (Vice-Chair) ____ David Smith ____
 Adam Keester ____ VACANT

 Staff Liaison Lynch ____
 Council Liaison Mielke ____

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. August 11, 2025

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Community Park Landscaping Update
2. Future Topics Discussion

F. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Staff Liaison Report
2. Council Liaison Report

G. ADJOURN

Next regular meeting date: October 13, 2025

City of Falcon Heights Environment Commission

City Hall
2077 Larpenteur Avenue West

Minutes

Monday, August 11, 2025
6:30 p.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL:

Beth Mercer-Taylor (Chair)	_A_	Georgiana May	_X_
John Pellegrini (Vice-Chair)	_X_	VACANT	
Adam Keester	_X_	VACANT	
VACANT			
Staff Liaison Lynch	_X_		
Council Liaison Mielke	_X_		
GreenCorps Member Siebert	_X_		

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice-Chair Pellegrini made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion passed by consent.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. July 14, 2025

Commissioner Keester made a motion to approve the July 14, 2025 minutes. Motion passed by consent.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Native Landscaping Ordinance Discussion

Staff Liaison Lynch opened the discussion about native landscaping, specifically in the right-of-way/boulevards, and asked Commissioners to discuss not how the language is currently written in City Code, but rather what they would like to see and not like to see out of rules around this. Regarding boulevard plantings, it was determined the Environment Commission would not want to see invasive/noxious weeds in boulevards and they would like residents to be educated about identifying and removing them. Commissioners also want to ensure Code does not show a preference towards turf grass over native landscaping in the wording and language. They want to ensure there is no intrusion of plantings into the road, sidewalk, or neighbors' yards, and they do not want to see decorative fencing or landscaping rocks in the boulevard area for the safety of vehicles and pedestrians. Shrubs and trees would not be permitted, unless planted by City staff,

plants would not be permitted to block signs, and fertilizers/pesticides/etc. would not be allowed.

For what Commissioners do want to see in City Code around boulevard plantings, they would like to remove height limits from native and pollinator plantings, but rather have them restricted to a height that still provide site lines of the sidewalk, right-of-way, corners, and signs. They would be okay with restricting turf grass to a height of no more than 8". They also want to ensure that anyone planting in a boulevard has called Gopher State One Call within 48 hours of planting to ensure they will not be interfering with utilities.

Regarding pollinator yards, or other alternative yards to turf grass, there needs to be a "permit" system where the resident fills out a form to inform Staff about their pollinator yard. They will receive a small yard sign from the City for their yard to alert neighbors and possible code enforcement of their permitted yard.

Commissioners also discussed boulevard trees and how to restart a boulevard tree planting program. The City's GreenCorps Member, Olivia Siebert, who has been serving for 11 months, along with the City's Climate Action Plan, have identified areas of the City that need boulevard trees based on heat island effect and space for those trees. The priorities for new boulevard trees should go as follows:

- 1) Replace any that were removed recently. Continue to replace trees as they are removed.*
- 2) Plant trees where residents have requested one in the past, assuming space is available.*
- 3) Begin going through the prioritized list. This will include a letter to the resident to alert them to their eligibility for a boulevard tree, and asking them to respond to the City to let Staff know if a tree is wanted. Three letters will be sent to the resident, each a week apart, before the address is moved to the bottom of the list due to non-response. If no response is received, a tree will not be planted.*

All new boulevard trees should be planted with a 20-gallon watering bag and residents having a tree planted in their boulevard should receive educational material to assist the resident with ensuring their tree survives.

2. Energy Action Plan Update & Next Steps

GreenCorps Member Siebert gave an update on her work on the Energy Action Workplan during her 11 months with the City. There has been a lot of outreach and education to residents. She recommends moving forward to work with multifamily homes, businesses, potentially having a discussion with the University about the Energy Action Plan and Climate Action Plan, and working with Falcon Heights Elementary School and the MN State Fair.

Staff Liaison Lynch also explained the next outreach step she will be taking with the workplan will be to reach out to multifamily landlords via annual licensing to provide them with information on the programs offered for electrifying and upgrading their buildings.

3. Green To Go / Packaging Fair Updates

Staff Liaison Lynch explained she and GreenCorps Member Siebert recently attended the City of Roseville's Sustainable Packaging Fair and attended a restaurant visit at Stone Pho in Roseville with their city staff. She detailed the large number of options that exist for compostable and recyclable to go packaging and gave a rundown of how the restaurant visit went. She explained she believes it would be possible for Falcon Heights city staff to handle enforcement of a Green To Go ordinance in Falcon Heights for the 6-7 restaurants that exist in the City at a time.

GreenCorps Member Siebert also suggested the City adopt a purchasing policy for kitchen supplies to ensure only compostable and/or recyclable supplies are purchased. These are available via the State contract and can be purchased for City use internally and also for special events.

4. Lawn & Garden Tours – Recap and Recommendations

Council Liaison Mielke explained the Lawn and Garden Tours seemed successful with 7-10 residents visiting her garden. She explained there probably could have been a bit more promotion of the event by city staff, but acknowledged that was difficult at the time due to the City's annual Ice Cream Social being the same week.

Commissioner Keester agreed and stated he thought it was successful and the timing and duration of the event seemed to be perfect.

F. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Staff Liaison Report – *Staff Liaison Lynch explained GreenCorps Member Siebert's last day of service with the City is August 12, 2025 and thanked her for her service to the City. She also explained the SolarAPP+ system for solar permitting will be up and running shortly, and updated Commissioners that the new City Hall solar panels have received all building permits and the process to remove the existing panels and install the new panels will begin as soon as the interconnection request with Xcel Energy is approved.*
2. Council Liaison Report – *None.*

G. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Next regular meeting date: September 8, 2025



ITEM FOR DISCUSSION

Meeting Date	September 8, 2025
Agenda Item	E-1
Attachment	Community Park Planting Order
Submitted By	Hannah Lynch, Community Development Coordinator

Item	Community Park Landscaping Update
Description	City staff shared the feedback regarding the landscaping choices for the Community Park remodel. The comments were heard and responded to by WSB and they have swapped out certain plants as advised. The updated plant order is attached.
Budget Impact	None.
Attachment(s)	- Community Park Planting Order
Action(s) Requested	None.



14045 Northdale Blvd.

Rogers, MN 55374

Phone: 763-241-1596

Date: 7-10-25

To: WSB

Project: Falcon Heights Community Park

Product: Landscape Items

Submittal #: 9

For Review:

Product Data: X

Shop Drawings:

Jason Marquette

Project Manager

jmarquette@newlookcontracting.net

612-213-6794

wsb		SHOP DRAWING REVIEW	
☐ No exceptions taken	☐ Rejected		
☒ Note markings	☐ Revise and Resubmit		
Any action indicated above is the result of a review only for general conformance with the design concept of the project and general compliance with the contract documents. Any action indicated above is subject to the requirements of the contract documents and does not relieve the Contractor from liability for deficiencies in the shop drawings or its obligation to comply with the contract documents.			
WSB			
BY: <u>Bob Stipka</u>			
PROJ. NO. <u>023655</u>		DATE <u>08/13/2025</u>	



HOFFMAN & MCNAMARA

8/5/2025

Falcon Heights Park Improvements

Information Regarding Safety Program:

Safety Officer:	Brian McNamara
On site Employee with first aid training:	Brian McNamara

Project Suppliers:

See Attached

Contract Information:

Project Manager	Erik Pliego	651-230-8966
	Erik.Pliego@hoffmanandmcnamara.com	
Superintendent:	Brian McNamara	612-366-7547
Foreman:	Forthcoming	Forthcoming
Staking Foreman:	Forthcoming	Forthcoming
Office Manager:	Ken Partch	651-437-9463
	(Pay Estimates/Prevailing Wage Reports)	
	Ken.partch@hoffmanandmcnamara.com	

24 HR Traffic Control Contacts:

Erik Pliego	651-230-8966
Brian McNamara	612-366-7547
Mike McNamara:	612-366-3544

Plant Material Supplier Schedule -		Falcon Heights Park Improvements	
Date:	8/5/2025		

Items	Size	Qty	Supplier	Comments:
Autmn Blaze Maple	2.5"	6	Hoffman & McNamara	
Nothern Acclaim Honey Locust	2.5"	6	Gertens	
Swamp White Oak	2.5"	9	Hoffman & McNamara	
Autmn Brilliance Serviceberry	1.5"	3	Hoffman & McNamara	
Purple Cone Flower	#1	5	Gertens	
Powwow Wild Berry Coneflower	#1	5	Gertens	
Mesa Yellow Blankeyconeflower	#1	15	Gertens	
Walkers Low Catmint	#1	10	Gertens	
Black Eyed Susan	#1	8	Gertens	
Prairie Dropseed	#1	32	Gertens	
Unknown Species	#1	4	TBD	Can we get confirmation on what species you would like.
TOTAL:		103		
Misc Items (Edger, Fabric, Fertilizer Etc)	Size	Qty	Supplier	Comments:
Type 6 wood mulch			Rumpca	
Compost Type 2			Rumpca	

VENDER LIST		
Hoffman & McNamara Co. 9045 180th St. E Hastings, MN 55033 651-437-9463	Gertens 5500 Blaine Ave E Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076 651-450-1501	Rumpca 9600 Glendenning Rd Cottage Grove, MN 55016 651-459-1556

Mn/Dot Certified Landscape Specialists

COMPANY:

Hoffman and McNamara Co.

Last Name	First Name	Cerfication #	Expiration
Abbott	Ryan	1840	30-Apr-27
Beissel	Nicholas	1838	30-Apr-27
Connor	Joshua	1618	30-Apr-27
Dodge	Ben	1397	30-Apr-27
Ehlers	Hunter	2201	30-Apr-26
Grussing	Durant	2045	30-Apr-26
Hoffman	Peter	1051	30-Apr-27
Hougnon	Tom	2361	30-Apr-28
McCallum	Adam	2199	30-Apr-26
McNamara	Brian	460	30-Apr-27
McNamara	Mike	467	30-Apr-27
Peterson	Evan	2198	30-Apr-26
Pliego	Erik	2377	30-Apr-28
Puertas Salvidar	Favian	2379	30-Apr-28
Puertas Saldivar	Jesus	2376	30-Apr-28
Puertax Salvidar	Ruben	2378	30-Apr-28
Ramirez Rodriguez	Juan	2380	30-Apr-28
Thell	John	887	30-Apr-28
Tetzlaff	Hanna	2271	30-Apr-27
Trotter	Bill	466	30-Apr-27
Wald	Mitch	2059	30-Apr-26

HOFFMAN & MCNAMARA COMPANY
9045 180TH ST E
HASTINGS, MN 55033
US

Minnesota Department of Agriculture
625 Robert Street North, St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-2538
Live Plant Dealer Nursery Certificate

HOFFMAN & MCNAMARA COMPANY

9045 180TH ST E
HASTINGS, MN 55033 US

Certificate Type: LIVE PLANT DEALER NURSERY CERTIFICATE

Certificate Number: 200003083

Certificate Fee Paid: \$2,530.00

Effective Date: 1/1/2025

Expiration Date: 12/31/2025

This certificate is not transferable.

In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, an alternative format of communication is available upon request.



2025 CERTIFICATE OF QUARANTINE COMPLIANCE

US Domestic Japanese Beetle Harmonization Plan:

Shipment to Category 2 States

The Minnesota grown plants accompanied by this certificate have been produced, maintained and/or treated by the company listed below to comply with the provisions of the **US Domestic Japanese Beetle Harmonization Plan**.

HOFFMAN & MCNAMARA COMPANY
9045 - 180th Street East
Hastings, Minnesota 55033

The company is under compliance agreement with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to meet the following requirements:

- **Field Grown Nursery Stock Accreditation Program:** The rooted plants (or plant material) are certified as apparently free of Japanese beetle (*Popillia japonica*) in accordance with the Field Grown Nursery Stock Accreditation Program protocol. (Not accepted by CO)
- **Treated Plants:*** The plants were treated to control Japanese beetle (*Popillia japonica*) according to the criteria for shipment to Category 2 states. (See Colorado specific requirements below.)

This signed certificate is only valid through December 31, 2025 and is subject to revocation at any time by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steven Shimek'.

Steven Shimek
Japanese Beetle Certification Program
Coordinator
Plant Protection Division
652-201-6619 - OFFICE
612-600-6558 - MOBILE
Steven.Shimek@state.mn.us
MDA.Exports@state.mn.us

Date: December 10, 2024

* Treatment records will be kept on file by the company for one year and will be made available for review upon request.

Colorado Specific Requirements:

- Only grasses/sedges in containers less than 12 inches diameter are allowed – must drench
- Non-grasses/sedges: [Containers less than 7 inches diameter - no treatment needed]
[7-12" – drenched] [12-32" – dipped] [Over 32" - field treated before harvest.]

Minnesota Department of Agriculture
625 Robert Street North, St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-2538
Live Plant Dealer Certificate

Certificate Type: LIVE PLANT DEALER NURSERY CERTIFICATE

Certificate Number: 200004927

Certificate Fee Paid: 5,037.01

Effective Date: 1/1/2025

Expiration Date: 12/31/2025

Company Name: GERTEN GREENHOUSES & GARDEN CENTER INC DBA
DBA:

Certificate Holder Address:
5500 BLAINE AVE
INVER GROVE HEIGHTS, MN 55076
US

This certificate is not transferable.

In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, an alternative format of communication is available upon request.

GERTEN GREENHOUSES & GARDEN CENTER INC DBA
5715 BLAINE AVE
INVER GROVE HEIGHTS, MN 55076 US

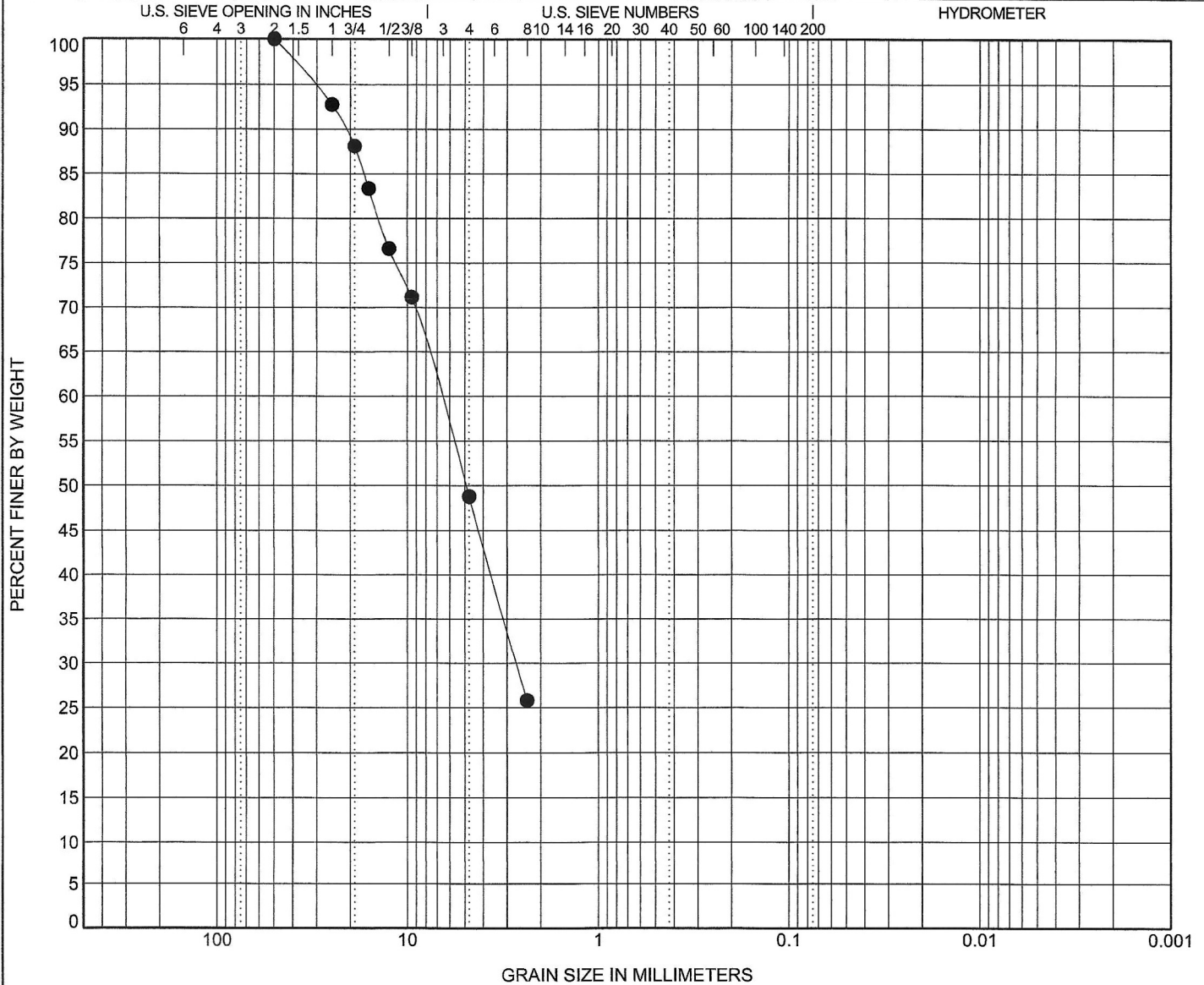


CLIENT Rumpca Companies, Inc

PROJECT NAME Mulch Informational 2025

PROJECT NUMBER 20M1434

PROJECT LOCATION



COBBLES	GRAVEL		SAND			SILT OR CLAY
	coarse	fine	coarse	medium	fine	

Specimen Identification		Classification					LL	PL	PI	Cc	Cu
● 4662											
		D100	D60	D30	D10	%Gravel	%Sand	%Silt	%Clay		
		50	6.722	2.681		51.2					
SIEVE	% PASS	SPEC		SIEVE	% PASS	SPEC		NOTES			
3"				#10				Sample Received April 4th, 2025. Longest individual size is 7".			
2"	100			#16							
1.5"				#20				Sample meets the particle size requirement for			
1"	93			#30							
3/4"	88			#40				MNDOT 3882 Type 6 Mulch.			
5/8"	83			#50							
1/2"	77			#60							
3/8"	71			#80							
#4	49			#100							
#8	26			#200							



700 Pullman Avenue, St. Paul Park, MN 55071 • Phone: 651-459-1556 • Fax: 651-458-0793

March 28, 2025

Hoffman & McNamara Nursery & Landscape
9045 180th St., E.
Hastings, MN 55033

Rumpca Companies is a pre-approved manufacturer of MN Dot Type 2 compost and Type 6 mulch.

We certify that our compost and mulch meets MN Dot specifications 2020 Edition.

You can see us listed at www.dot.mn.us/products/erosioncontrol.com
as an approved vendor.

Thank You,

Matthew Rumpca
Rumpca Companies
Phone: 651-459-1556
Email: rumpca-office@comcast.net



700 Pullman Avenue, St. Paul Park, MN 55071 • Phone: 651-459-1556 • Fax: 651-458-0793

March 28, 2025

Hoffman & McNamara Nursery & Landscape
9045 180th St., E.
Hastings, MN 55033

Organic Mulch: Shredded hardwood, double shredded, natural color, free from deleterious materials and suitable as a top dressing of trees, shrubs, and planting beds.

Rumpca Companies is a pre-approved manufacturer of MN Dot Type 2 compost and Type 6 mulch.

We certify that our compost and mulch meets MN Dot specifications 2020 Edition.

You can see us listed at www.dot.mn.us/products/erosioncontrol.com as an approved vendor.

Thank You,

Matthew Rumpca
Rumpca Companies
Phone: 651-459-1556
Email: rumpca-office@comcast.net



HOFFMAN & MCNAMARA

Date: 8/5/2025
Project: Falcon Heights Park Improvements
Contractor: Hoffman & McNamara Co.

RE: Corrugated white plastic tree protection

We are seeking permission to install corrugated white plastic tree protection from on all deciduous trees. We are proposing the installation on all shade trees regardless of location (blvd, wetlands, parking areas, TPSS sites, etc.). This would be in lieu of the wire mesh rodent protection at the base of the tree.

Our proposal stems from experience and successes on similar sites. We are looking for more protection from deer, rabbit, and mice damage. Further, corrugated trunk protection help prevent frost cracking on soft trees such as maple and crabapples during the early establishment years. Wire guards have not proven to protect well against these variables. Further, long term removal can be costly for the owner and often not able to be removed before wire has caused damage or restricted plant establishment. Lastly, we have witnessed countless examples of snow accumulation, snowplow damage, mower damage, and vandalism that leaves the wire up bent up against the trunks of trees which can cause health issues.

Trunk protection is important during the early years of establishment. Post establishment becomes a time to allow trees to 'grow' on their own. Thus, we would plan to remove all corrugated plastics at the end of establishment period. This is a no cost change proposal.

Erik Pliego

Erik Pliego Project Manager
(Hoffman & McNamara Co. / Contractor)