

City of Falcon Heights Environment Commission

City Hall
2077 Larpenteur Avenue West

AGENDA

Monday, April 13, 2026
6:30 p.m.

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

B. ROLL CALL: Adam Keester (Chair) ____ David Smith ____
John Pellegrini (Vice-Chair) ____ Monika Chandler ____
Nuz Sanidad (Secretary) ____ Erica Bjelland ____
Beth Mercer-Taylor ____

Staff Liaison Myhren ____
Council Liaison May ____

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. March 9, 2026

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Lawn & Garden Tours
2. Sustainability Fair Update
3. GreenSteps Update

F. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Staff Liaison Report
2. Council Liaison Report

G. ADJOURN

Next regular meeting date: May 11, 2026

City of Falcon Heights Environment Commission

City Hall
2077 Larpenteur Avenue West

Minutes

Monday, March 9, 2026
6:30 p.m.

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

A. ROLL CALL:

Adam Keester (Chair) <u>X</u>	David Smith <u>X</u>
John Pellegrini (Vice-Chair) <u>A</u>	Beth Mercer-Taylor <u>X</u>
Nuz Sanidad (Secretary) <u>X</u>	Erica Bjelland <u>X</u>
Monika Chandler <u>X</u>	
Staff Liaison Myhren <u>X</u>	
Council Liaison May <u>X</u>	

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Keester made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion passed by consent.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Keester made a motion to approve the January 12, 2026 and February 2, 2026 minutes. Motion passed by consent.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Lawn & Garden Tours

Staff Liaison Myhren discussed scheduling the Lawn & Garden Tours to coordinate with Lawns to Legumes tours and to allow adequate time for advertising and increased attendance. Commissioners discussed adding additional sites to the garden map, including University gardens and the Bell Museum garden.

Commissioner Chandler referenced St. Anthony's garden tour and commissioners noted the importance of holding the event when plants are in bloom. Chair Keester raised the issue of tour hosts wanting to participate in the event; Commissioners agreed that Master Gardeners could serve as volunteers, and Commissioner Chandler will contact the Master Gardeners.

*The Commission agreed on holding Garden Tour on **Saturday, July 18, 2026, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.***

2. Sustainability Fair Update and Volunteer Sign-Ups

Staff Liaison Myhren Commissioner asks for commissioners to sign up for volunteer times. Chair Keester will be EC table AM. Commissioner Chandler will be on the EC table AM shift. Commissioner Sanidad will be Textile PM. Council Liaison May will direct cars in the AM. Commissioner Mercer-Taylor agreed to give a presentation for the fair on plants.

3. Climate Action Plan / Energy Action Plan Implementation Subcommittee

Chair Keester calls back to subcommittee formation conversation. We can only have 3 Commissioner members involved, and asks how many we should have in total. The Commission decided on the number 5. Chair Keester, Commissioner Mercer-Taylor and Commissioner Bjelland expressed interest in being part of the subcommittee.

4. Community Advisory Committee – Les Bolstad Golf Course Redevelopment

*Council Liaison May explained that the City is assembling a diverse group of nine local residents to serve on the Community Advisory Committee (CAC), which will provide input to the City Council. One representative from the Environment Commission is needed. CAC applications are available online. Commissioner Mercer-Taylor expressed concern about ensuring representation from both Grove and Coffman Condominiums residents. The application deadline is **March 16**.*

E. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Staff Liaison Report – Staff Liaison Myhren reported that Fairway Commons will hold a public hearing regarding a proposal for 110 affordable senior living units on **March 24**. The City is also pursuing the purchase of 1407 Larpenteur. As it is grant season, Staff Liaison Myhren will be submitting several applications. The City will also begin sending letters regarding boulevard tree planting as part of the tree grant program
2. Council Liaison Report – Council Liaison May shared that the Peace Garden will be included in the garden tour. She is continuing to get up to speed on Council activities and has been attending webinars, trainings, and workshops.

F. Adjourn

Chair Keester made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned by consent at 8:05 PM.

Next meeting date: April 13 2026



REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION

Meeting Date	April 13, 2026
Agenda Item	E-1
Attachment	N/A
Submitted By	Hannah Myhren, Community Development Coordinator / Planner

Item	Lawn & Garden Tours
Description	<p>The Environment Commission has agreed to hold the Lawn & Garden Tours on Saturday, July 18, 2026 from 9 am – 12 pm. At the last meeting, offering residents the opportunity to have a Master Gardener on site was discussed. Commissioner Chandler researched this potential with Ramsey County Garden Education Volunteer Program and they had the following questions for the EC to discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will attendees be traveling to each garden for the tour? • Are you looking for volunteers to be at each garden? • How many volunteers are needed? • Are the volunteers doing a talk to everyone or just available to answer questions? • What would the day look like? • Any other information that may be helpful for us to know so we can figure out what you are wanting from our volunteers? <p>Other news of note – The Lawn and Garden Tours were included in the printed spring newsletter that recently went out and a website to accept host sign-ups has been created. City Councilmember Paula Mielke will also be at the Environment Commission table at the Sustainability Fair to further advertising for hosts and participants for the Lawn and Garden Tours.</p>
Budget Impact	N/A
Attachment(s)	N/A
Action(s) Requested	Staff requests Environment Commission discuss the Lawn & Garden Tours questions from Ramsey County Garden Education Volunteer Program and furthering advertising of the event.



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Agenda Item	E-1
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Budget Impact	N/A
Attachment(s)	N/A
Action(s) Requested	Staff requests Environment Commission discuss the Lawn & Garden Tours questions from Ramsey County Garden Education Volunteer Program and furthering advertising of the event.

Sustainability Fair 2026 - Tablers				
Organization	Website	Contact	Contact	Attending (Y/N)
Home Energy Squad	Home Energy Squad Center for Energy and Environment	Gerardo - groc@aumnnee.org		Y
Monarch Joint Venture	Monarch Joint Venture	Contact Us Form on Website	kpuffer@monarchjointventure.org	Y
Minnesota Tool Library	MN Tool Library	programming@mntoollibrary.org	kate.hersey@mntoollibrary.org	Y
CERTs	Community Energy Ambassadors Clean Energy Resource Teams	Keely - krau@gpisd.net	Olivia - osiebert@gpisd.net (main)	Y
CapRegion Watershed District	Home - CRWD	mixon@capitolregionwd.org		Y
Bicycle Chain	The Bicycle Chain Roseville, MN Bike Shop	info@bicyclechain.com		Y
Ramsey County Recycling Ambassadors	Recycling Ambassador Program Ramsey County, Minnesota	gabriel.reynolds@co.ramsey.mn.us		Y
Ramsey County Garden Education	Ramsey County Master Gardeners Gardening Volunteers	Contact Us Form on Website	rcmg2@umn.edu	Y
Gibbs Farm	Gibbs Farm - Ramsey County Historical Society	Sammy - sammy@rchs.com		Y
Adopt a Drain	Adopt-a-Drain - Minnesota	info@adopt-a-drain.org		Y
Xcel Energy / PIE		??	CC Marcus - mbaker@mnnee.org	Y
Citizens Utility Board of MN	Homepage Citizens Utility Board	Carmen - carmenc@cubminnesota.org	Alexis - alexis.manda@gmail.com	Y
MN Master Naturalist	Minnesota Master Naturalist > About Us	Beth Mercer-Taylor		Y
University Students		lamp036@umn.edu	booe001@umn.edu	Y
Lauderdale Environment Commission				Y
FH Environment Commission				Y
GreenSteps				Y
Saint Paul Regional Water	Saint Paul Regional Water Services Saint Paul Minnesota	Joshua.Cobb@ci.stpaul.mn.us		Tentative Y
Electrify Everything MINCEE	Home Electrify Everything	Matthew - mdouglassmay@mnnee.org		N
Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota	Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota	Contact Us Form on Website		Y
Blue Thumb	Blue Thumb - Planning for Clean Water	info@bluethumb.org		Y
Solar United Neighbors	Solar Help Desk - Solar United Neighbors	mnteam@solarunitedneighbors.org		Y
Cooperative Energy Futures	COOPERATIVE ENERGY FUTURES	Contact Us Form on Website		Y
Bee Lab	Bee Lab Bee Lab	BeeSquad@umn.edu		Y
Reuse MN		emilyn@reusemn.org		Y
Bell Museum	Welcome to the Bell Museum - Bell Museum	bellinfo@umn.edu		Y
Rice Creek Watershed District	Rice Creek Watershed District	Kendra - ksommerfeld@ricecreek.org		Y
MN Seed Project	https://mnseedproject.org/	mnseedproject@gmail.com		Y
Shift2Electric	About Shift2Electric	Contact Us Form on Website		Y
MN Renewable Energy Society	Contact Us — Minnesota Renewable Energy Society	Contact Us Form on Website		Y
Sierra Club - North Star Chapter	North Star Chapter Sierra Club	north.star.chapter@sierraclub.org		Y

Falcon Heights & Lauderdale Sustainability Fair - April 18, 2026
Volunteer Shifts & Sign-Up Sheet

Jobs	Shift 1 (10:30 AM - 12:30 PM) All of Shift 1 will attend the morning meeting at 10:30 AM and help set up before moving to your stations. The event begins at 11:00 AM.	Shift 2 (12:30 PM - 2:30 PM) All of Shift 2 will be expected to help clean up after the event ends at 2:00 PM.
Direct Cars (Spot 1) (One person per shift) Spot 1 is located at the Larpenteur entrance to City Hall. This will be to ensure cars are not trying to park here (unless they need accessible parking) and direct cars to electronics recycling, paper shredding, and textile recycling.	Name: Jim Wassenberg Email: Phone:	Name: Monika Davis Email: archismo@gmail.com Phone:
Direct Cars (Spot 2) (One person per shift) Spot 2 is located further down the driveway from the Larpenteur entrance to further direct cars to their destinations.	Name: Paula Mielke Email: paula.mielke@falconheights.org Phone:	Name: Bryan Carlson Email: carls031@umn.edu Phone:
Direct Cars (Spot 3) (One person per shift) Spot 3 is located on the drive directly by City Hall, north of the food scraps bin, to direct people to textile recycling, parking at the Blaze overflow lot, or back around to textiles and electronics.	Name: Jess Winkelaar Email: jwindelaar@gmail.com Phone: 651.788.0910	Name: Georgiana May Email: georgiana.may@falconheights.org Phone:
Direct Cars (Spot 4) (One person per shift) Spot 4 will be at the exit onto Prior Ave to prevent cars from entering from Prior Ave, direct cars to parking at the Blaze overflow lot, and to textile recycling.	Name: Keegan McKye Email: keegan.mckye@gmail.com Phone: 605.891.1157	Name: Randy Gustafson Email: Phone:
FH EC Table (Two people per shift) FH Environment Commissioner to remain at the FH EC table to answer questions. This will be a general "check in" table for the event. Will also be responsible for checking bingo cards and handing out food scraps bins.	Name: Monika Chandler Email: mc2monika@gmail.com Phone:	Name: Paula Mielke Email: paula.mielke@falconheights.org Phone:
FH EC Table	Name: Adam Keester Email: ajkeester@gmail.com Phone:	Name: Email: Phone:
Lauderdale EC Table (One person per shift) Lauderdale Environment Commissioner to remain at the Lauderdale EC table to answer questions and gather feedback regarding the Lauderdale Climate Action Plan.	Name: Ewa Prochniewicz Email: ewaalicia.pn@gmail.com Phone: 651.424.7681	Name: Gregory Goodwine Email: Phone:
Lauderdale EC Table	Name: Gregory Goodwine Email: Phone:	Name: Ann Sisel Email: annesisel@gmail.com Phone: 612.275.0774

<p>Textile Shredding (Manual Labor) (Two people per shift) We need people here to be able to lift large garbage bags of textiles into a commercial cargo van and ensure they are placed to ensure the maximum amount of bags can be placed inside.</p>	<p>Name: David Smith Email: david.smith52@yahoo.com Phone:</p>	<p>Name: Nuz Sanidad Email: nuzsanidad@gmail.com Phone:</p>
<p>Textile Shredding (Manual Labor)</p>	<p>Name: Email: Phone:</p>	<p>Name: Isac Rivera Robledo Email: Phone:</p>
<p>Paper Shredding (Manual Labor) (Two people per shift) This person will assist with people removing bags and/or boxes of paper from their vehicles and taking them to the shredding bins.</p>	<p>Name: John Pellegrini Email: jjpellegrini@stkate.edu Phone:</p>	<p>Name: Adam Keester Email: ajkeester@gmail.com Phone:</p>
<p>Paper Shredding (Manual Labor)</p>	<p>Name: Email: Phone:</p>	<p>Name: Email: Phone:</p>
<p>Floater (Indoors) (One person per shift) This person should float throughout the tables indoors to answer questions, direct people to restrooms/snacks/different booths, and fill in where needed.</p>	<p>Name: Emma Lynch (Hannah's daughter) Email: Phone:</p>	<p>Name: Emma Lynch (Hannah's daughter) Email: Phone:</p>
<p>Floater (Outdoors) (One person per shift) This person should float outdoors to answer questions and fill in when volunteers need to take a break.</p>	<p>Name: Emma Lynch (Hannah's daughter) Email: Phone:</p>	<p>Name: Emma Lynch (Hannah's daughter) Email: Phone:</p>



REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION

Meeting Date	April 13, 2026
Agenda Item	E-3
Attachment	See below.
Submitted By	Hannah Myhren, Community Development Coordinator / Planner

Item	GreenSteps Update
Description	<p>The City of Falcon Heights participates in GreenSteps every year. After the 2025 report was submitted, the City has again hit Steps 4 & 5! The items the City improved on for 2025 included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>City Buildings and Lighting</i>: kBTU per square foot, per year – Went down from 64.51 kBTU in 2024 to 61.21 kBTU in 2025 - <i>City Fleet</i>: Average MPG for Gasoline Fleet – Went up from 8.1 average MPG in 2024 to 9.78 average MPG in 2025 - <i>City Fleet</i>: Average MPG for Diesel Fleet – Went up from 2.4 average MPG in 2024 to 2.99 average MPG in 2025 - <i>Transportation Modes & Miles</i>: City Employees in Single Occupancy Vehicles (Vehicle Miles Traveled Per Person, Per Day – Round Trip) – Went down from 20.32 miles in 2024 to 19.93 miles in 2025 - <i>Open Space, Parks, Trees</i>: Net Number of New Trees Planted – Went up from 12 in 2024 to 67 in 2025 - <i>Climate</i>: Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Waste – Went down from 1437.9 Tonnes CO₂e in 2024 to 1396.9 Tonnes CO₂e in 2025 - <i>Climate</i>: Greenhouse Gas Emissions from (Non-Transportation) Energy – 20451 Tonnes CO₂e in 2024 to 20382 Tonnes CO₂e in 2025 <p>In 2024, the City only improved in four categories, and in 2023, seven.</p>
Budget Impact	N/A
Attachment(s)	N/A
Action(s) Requested	No action requested.