



# fresh

Your Weekly Source for City News and Information

## City Services have moved to the City Hall building at 3800 Laverne Avenue

### Public Meetings Next Week

- Planning Commission Meeting Monday, September 27 - 7:00PM
- EDA Meeting Thursday, September 30 - 6:00PM



[City Agendas and Minutes](#)

Visit our website



Tuesday, September 21st City Council Meeting Summary

**At their regular meeting on Tuesday, September 21 the City Council:**

- Called for a Final Assessment Hearing for Old Village Phase 5 and 6 Street and Utility Improvements to be held Tuesday, October 19 at 7:00PM
- Approved the Preliminary 2022 General Fund Budget and Preliminary Property Tax Levy, and set a Public Hearing date for the 2022 Budget and Property Tax Levy to be held Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM

**On the consent agenda the Council:**

- Approved Payment of Disbursements
- Accepted August 2021 Public Works Report
- Accepted August 2021 Fire Department Report
- Accepted August 2021 Building Department Report
- Accepted August 2021 Sheriff's Department Report
- Authorized Application for Sunfish Lake Park Cross Country Trail Grooming Grant
- Approved Certification of Delinquent Accounts Code Ordinance – Storm Water
- Approved Oakdale Sewer Service Agreement
- Approved Step Increase for Utility Billing Clerk
- Approved Hire of POC Firefighter
- Approved Pay Request No. 2 for Tamarack Farm Estates Street Improvements
- Approved Pay Request No. 2 for the 38th-39th Street Neighborhood Street and Utility Improvements
- Approved Pay Request No. 3 for Old Village Phase 5 and 6 Street and Utility Improvements
- Approved Pay Request No. 5 for Hamlet on Sunfish Lake Street and Utility Improvements
- Approved Pay Request No. 5 for Heritage Farms Street and Utility Improvements
- Approved Release of Utility Warranty Security for Inwood 5th Addition
- Accepted Improvements, Approved Security Reductions, and Approved City Oversize Reimbursements for Four Corners 1st Addition
- Called for Final Assessment Hearing for Stonegate Addition Street and Utility Improvements
- Called for Final Assessment Hearing for 31st Street/Stillwater Blvd Watermain Extension

## Monday, September 27 Planning Commission Meeting Agenda



3800 Laverne Avenue North  
Lake Elmo, MN 55042

(651) 747-3900  
www.lakeelmo.org

### NOTICE OF MEETING

The City of Lake Elmo  
Planning Commission will conduct a meeting on  
**Monday September 27, 2021**  
**at 7:00 p.m.**

### AGENDA

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approve Agenda
3. Approve Minutes
  - a. August 23, 2021
4. Public Hearings

**A. Crossroads East Final Plat and Final PUD Plan- Lake Elmo Ave and Hudson Blvd**

Launch Properties and Crossroads Properties have filed an application for approval of a Final Plat and Final PUD Plan to be known as Crossroads East 1<sup>st</sup> Addition. The property is located at the northeast quadrant of the intersection of Lake Elmo Avenue N. and Hudson Boulevard N. and is zoned BP (Business Park/Light Industrial). The Final PUD Plan would allow the construction of two industrial office buildings, along with the necessary infrastructure. The Final Plat consists of two lots for the proposed buildings, three outlots for stormwater management, and right-of-way along Lake Elmo Avenue.

5. New/Unfinished Business

- a. None

6. Communications/Updates

a. City Council Update

09-07-2021 Meeting – Variance requests for the property at 3100 Lake Elmo & 8249 Demontreville Trail, Enterprise Zoning Code Text Amendment, Final Plat and CUP, Wildflower 4<sup>th</sup> Addition Final Plat and PUD  
09-21-2021 Meeting

b. Staff Updates

c. Upcoming PC Meetings:

1. October 11, 2021
2. October 25, 2021

7. Adjourn

\*\*\*Note: Every effort will be made to accommodate person or persons that need special considerations to attend this meeting due to a health condition or disability. Please contact the Lake Elmo City Clerk if you are in need of special accommodations.

Meeting Materials Can Be Accessed Here

Thursday, September 30 EDA Meeting Agenda



*The Lake Elmo Economic Development Authority (EDA) is committed to preserving and enhancing our community by creating an attractive business climate and listening to businesses and residents to prepare for the economy of tomorrow.*

### **NOTICE OF MEETING**

**City of Lake Elmo Economic Development Authority  
Meeting  
3800 Laverne Avenue North  
Thursday, September 30, 2021 6:00 PM**

### **AGENDA**

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| <b>A. Call to Order/Roll Call</b>   | <b>6:00 p.m.</b> |
| <b>B. Approval of August 26, 2021 Minutes</b>   | <b>6:00 p.m.</b> |
| <b>C. NorthPoint Development Intro</b>  | <b>6:05 p.m.</b> |
| <b>D. Refunding of the 2018A Bonds with proceeds from the 2021A Bonds and lease termination-<br/><i>Resolution 2021-001</i></b> | <b>6:30 p.m.</b> |
| <b>E. Economic Development Draft Plan</b>   | <b>6:45 p.m.</b> |
| <b>F. Business Subsidy Policy</b>   | <b>7:00 p.m.</b> |
| <b>G. Next Meeting Date/Future Agenda<br/>Items/Reports</b>   | <b>7:45 p.m.</b> |
| <b>H. Adjourn</b>   | <b>8:00 p.m.</b> |

[Meeting Materials Can Be Accessed Here](#)

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## **Minnesota Main Street COVID Relief Grants**

The Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development started taking applications for COVID Relief Grants on **September 20th, 2021**. The program will make available grants to Minnesotan owned and operated businesses effected by COVID-19 ranging from \$10,000-\$25,000.

[Apply Here](#)



## Feature Heading

This past Sunday Lake Elmo area Patrol Deputies were busy responding to separate reports of attempted Auto Theft and Tampering with Vehicles within the City of Lake Elmo. Thank you to the many residents who have contacted our office to offer their security camera footage of the area. If you have any information about these incidents or would like to offer your security footage please contact our Tip Hotline at 651-430-7850. Please remember to not leave valuables in your vehicles and to lock them whenever they are parked in your driveway.



# Neighborhood Watch

*Making communities safer - One neighbor at a time*



### Neighborhood Watch works because it is designed to:

- Teach simple techniques to reduce the risk of being victimized at home or in public
- Train how to recognize and report suspicious activities
- Help neighborhoods to make their homes more secure
- Show people how to easily make records of their property so that it can be identified if lost or stolen
- Encourage neighbors to get to know each other so that any out of place activity can be recognized, reported, and investigated
- Develop a cohesive body of concerned citizens addressing issues involving the entire community
- Improve public safety by fostering cooperation between the Sheriff's Office and the residents of our communities

### What is required of members?

#### Sign Up

Sign up online at [www.nnw.org](http://www.nnw.org)

You will be asked for your name, postal address, phone number, and email addresses.

These items are not shared with the public and are used for official contact purposes only.

#### Participate

Members attend two meetings per year.

1. **Social Meeting:** Groups are highly encouraged to participate in Night to Unite for the social meeting requirement.
2. **Business meeting** to discuss prevention tips, trends, and other concerns. Groups usually invite a Sheriff's Office representative to this meeting so that questions can be asked and answered.

Neighborhood Watch Block Captains are asked to maintain a current listing of their Neighborhood Watch members and share concerns of their neighborhood with the Sheriff's Office.

### How to start a Neighborhood Watch

1. **Talk to your neighbors.** See who in your neighborhood is interested in forming or participating in a Neighborhood Watch.
2. **Contact the Sheriff's Office** to schedule an informational meeting.
3. **Invite neighbors** and community members to attend the meeting.
4. **Elect a Block Captain.** This person is the contact person between your neighborhood and the Sheriff's Office.
5. **Ask your neighbors to sign up** for the neighborhood watch program.

**Stay active.**

**Talk with your neighbors.**

**Stay alert and report suspicious activity.**





## History

Neighborhood Watch was launched in 1972 by the National Sheriff's Association as a vehicle for citizens to organize themselves and work with law enforcement. The concept traces its roots back to the days of colonial settlements when night watchmen patrolled the streets.

The Washington County Sheriff's Office manages the Neighborhood Watch program for the cities and townships that are serviced by the Sheriff's Office for law enforcement services. These communities include:

Afton, Baytown Township, Birchwood, Dellwood, Denmark Township, Grant, Hugo, Lake Elmo, Lake St. Croix Beach, Lakeland, Lakeland Shores, Landfall, Mahtomedi, Marine on St. Croix, May Township, Newport, Pine Springs, Scandia, St. Mary's Point, Stillwater Township, West Lakeland Township, Willernie

## What it IS...

Neighborhood Watch is an association of neighbors who contribute to the safety and security of their neighborhood by working in partnership with the Washington County Sheriff's Office. Together, the Sheriff's Office and neighborhood volunteers work to implement the principles of crime deterrence and detection, while encouraging the active reporting of crimes and suspicious activity.

## What it is NOT...

Neighborhood Watch is not a vigilante force working outside the normal procedures of law enforcement. It is not designed for participants to take personal risks to prevent crime. Participation in the program is not a guarantee that crime will not occur in your neighborhood.

## Contact Information

Washington County Sheriff's Office  
Community Engagement Unit  
15015 62nd Street North  
Stillwater, Minnesota 55082

Emergency.....911

Non-Emergency Dispatch.....651-439-9381

Records/Reports.....651-430-7600

Tip-Line.....651-430-7850

[www.co.washington.mn.us](http://www.co.washington.mn.us)  
[www.facebook.com/WCSOMN](http://www.facebook.com/WCSOMN)

## Neighborhood Watch



Neighbors and Deputies  
working together  
for safer communities

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Neighbors and Deputies  
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for safer communities



Washington County Sheriff's Office  
Sheriff Dan Starry



# Washington County Sheriff Department

If you are planning on being away from home or on vacation please follow some of the tips below to increase the safety and security of your property.

1. Lock all of the doors and windows.
2. Clear out the mailbox and notify the post office to hold your mail until you return. If you are having packages delivered be sure to use the package tracking options and arrange for the package to be picked up by a friend of family member.
3. Keep the yard and/or driveway maintained. Removal of snow from the driveway and walking paths is important.
4. Hide or secure your valuables from view of windows. Using safes is helpful in securing important items.
5. Don't broadcast your plans of being gone on social media. Only notify those who will be helping you in keeping an eye on your residence like a neighbor, family or friends.
6. Get your security system updated, tested and notified of your vacancy. Posting security signage in your yard on residence can help with deterrence of theft and burglary. Many door camera systems can be purchased at a reasonable price with instant notification of activity at your residence while you are away.
7. Adjust your heating settings especially as temperatures can drop significantly this time of year to avoid frozen water lines.
8. Security lighting and timers. The proper lighting on your residence can help to deter theft.
9. Request vacation checks through the Sheriff's Office while you are out of town.

These are just a few quick steps you can take to increase the security of your home while you are away. If you are interested in receiving information on vacation checks call our non-emergency number 651-439-9381



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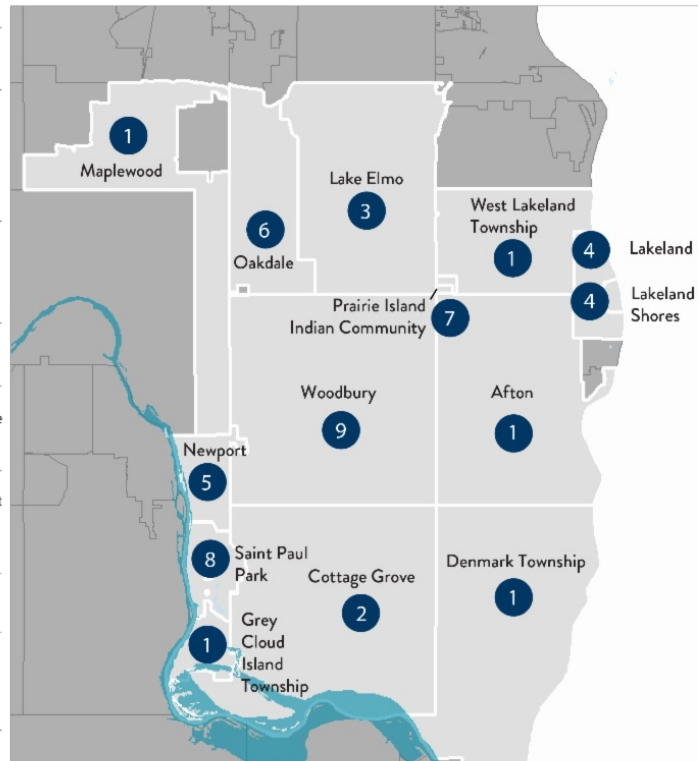
Learn more and apply at  
**[BizRecycling.com/Innovation](https://BizRecycling.com/Innovation)**

**State announces comprehensive drinking water  
plan for 14 East Metro communities impacted by  
PFAS**

## COMMUNITY PROJECTS

PFAS Health Index at or above 0.5

- 1 **Maplewood, West Lakeland Township, Afton, Grey Cloud Island Township, Denmark Township**
  - Supply private wells with POETSS if over threshold
- 2 **Cottage Grove**
  - Treat 8 of 12 existing public wells
  - Replace 2 existing public wells with 1 new public well that will receive treatment
  - Add 2 new water treatment plants
  - Connect 156 homes
  - Supply other private wells with POETSS if over threshold
- 3 **Lake Elmo**
  - Supply drinking water from a combination of existing wells and new wells or an interconnect with Woodbury\*
  - Connect 97 homes
  - Supply other private wells with POETSS if over threshold
- 4 **Lakeland, Lakeland Shores**
  - Connect 29 homes
  - Supply other private wells with POETSS if over threshold
- 5 **Newport**
  - One interconnect with Woodbury and one with Cottage Grove
  - Connect 3 homes
  - Supply other private wells with POETSS if over threshold
- 6 **Oakdale**
  - Treat 2 of 9 existing public wells and expand 1 treatment plant
  - Replace 3 existing public wells with 3 new public wells that will receive treatment
  - Supply other private wells with POETSS if over threshold
- 7 **Prairie Island Indian Community**
  - Treat 1 existing public well
  - Add 1 new water treatment plant
- 8 **Saint Paul Park**
  - Treat 3 of 3 public wells
  - Add 1 new water treatment plant
  - Connect 6 homes
  - Supply other private wells with POETSS if over threshold
- 9 **Woodbury**
  - Treat 15 of 19 existing wells
  - Replace 1 existing public well with 1 new public well
  - Add 1 new water treatment plant
  - Connect 5 homes
  - Supply other private wells with POETSS if over threshold



\*The Co-Trustees set aside sufficient capital funding for either an autonomous option (two wells within Lake Elmo's borders that likely will need treatment) or an interconnect between Woodbury and Lake Elmo, due to some uncertainty regarding their future water source.

[Read More Here](#)

## Are There Forever Chemicals In Your Water Well?

A [research team](#) from Indiana University and RTI International, a nonprofit research institute, is seeking help from citizen scientists in Washington County for its study of a group of chemicals known as PFAS, or 'forever chemicals' in private wells.

[Find out if you're eligible for well testing here.](#)



# Small-scale Construction

Prevent erosion and protect Minnesota's water during construction, remodeling and landscaping projects.

Bare soil can erode easily during construction and landscaping projects. Though soil is natural, it can pollute lakes, rivers and streams by smothering habitat and making the water cloudy and unsafe for swimming.



## Stormwater Pollution Prevention

### Building a new home?

Refer to the diagram on the back of this page for guidance on preventing erosion and stormwater pollution.

When construction is in progress, verify that your builder has installed silt fence or other sediment control measures along the down slope perimeter of your property and near curbs, gutters, ditches, streams, lakes and wetlands. All bare soil must be covered and soil piles must be stabilized as well.

As a homeowner, you are responsible for inspecting and maintaining temporary stabilization measures until permanent ground cover is established on your yard. Reinstall or replace ripped, collapsed, or decomposed silt fence and remove sediment if deposits reach 1/3 of the silt fence height. Use downspout extenders to protect temporarily stabilized areas from roof runoff until permanent vegetation is established.

### Establishing a new lawn?

Cover bare soil with erosion control fabric, mulch, or quick-growing annual grasses such as annual rye, oats or winter wheat until you are able to lay sod or seed your lawn. Erosion control fabric can also help to protect hilly areas until new grass is fully established.

### Beginning a landscaping project?

Schedule large landscaping projects for dry weather. Cover bare soil with mulch and avoid disturbing the soil along stream banks and lakeshores. Study how water flows across your property and use trees, shrubs, deep-rooted native plants, and raingardens to slow down runoff and prevent erosion.

## We need your help to keep our waters clean!

Learn more about Minnesota water at [www.pca.state.mn.us/water/construction-stormwater](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/construction-stormwater)

Since the start of 2020 we've applied rebates for 80 smart irrigation controllers and efficient toilets, totaling over \$10,000 in credits to water bills. These efficient devices are expected to save over 749,000 gallons of water per year!

Program information and rebate forms are available here:  
<http://www.lakeelmo.org/residents/water.php>

# How much water can we save each year?

The smart irrigation controllers and efficient toilets installed through the City of Lake Elmo Water Rebate Program are estimated to save over 749,000 gallons of water per year!

That's enough to fill -

Lake Elmo Fire Tender 1  
374 times



Como Harbor 3 times



## Drive Safe. Work Safe. Save Lives.

For the protection of all workers in public right of way, we hope you will help us to get the word out about following work zone rules. The following points from the American Traffic Safety Services Association were shared for work zone awareness week, but are just as important now:

- Slow down as you approach the work zone.
- When possible, safely move over to provide workers with a clear buffer lane from traffic.
- If you can't move over safely, reduce your speed to 20 mph below the posted speed limit as you pass the work zone.
- Never use your mobile device while operating a vehicle.

### New Interactive Parks and Trails Map

In 2021 the City introduced a new Interactive Parks and Trails Map showcasing City Parks, Trailheads, and Trail maps. Check it out [here!](#)



The City, through Living Healthy and Washington County, received grant funding to install bike repair stations in Sunfish lake Park and Ivywood Park. Both repair stations have tools, an air pump and a bike rack.



## Bicycle Repair Station Station de réparation de vélos



Living**Healthy**

Washington  
County



## ADOPT A STORM DRAIN



Storm drains in our city help to protect neighborhoods from flooding, but they also carry litter and polluted runoff from streets and parking lots into nearby lakes and streams.

You can make a difference by volunteering just 15-minutes, twice a month, to keep their nearest storm drain clear of litter, leaves, grass clippings and dirt. To sign up: go to [www.Adopt-a-Drain.org](http://www.Adopt-a-Drain.org) and use the map to find your neighborhood storm drains – then click and sign-up to adopt.

### Xcel Energy Consumer Update

Xcel Energy residential electric customers who have between \$1,000 to \$4,000 in past due charges are eligible for the Payment Plan Credit Program, which could forgive up to 75% of their past-due balance if they enroll and stay current in a payment plan. Customers can enroll in other payment plans we offer through the My Account feature at [www.XcelEnergy.com](http://www.XcelEnergy.com), or contact customer care at 1-800-895-4999





The **Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center building in Sunfish Lake Park** is open Monday through Friday 9 AM to 4 PM and Saturday 9-Noon. Please visit our website [www.sminc-lake-elmo.org](http://www.sminc-lake-elmo.org) for more information or to sign up for the monthly newsletter.

#### EXHIBITS IN THE BUILDING

##### **Sunfish Aquarium**

**Beehive behind glass** for observing the bees in action

##### **Park History**

##### **Park Geology**

##### **Butterflies**

##### **Aquatic Life**

##### **Native American Culture**

##### **Birds in the Park**

##### **Ecosystems in the Park**

**Prairie Restoration at Sunfish Lake Park** - what lives here

**Forest Floor** - flowers and mushrooms.

##### **3D printed insects**

##### **Weather Station**

##### **Kids Play areas**

##### **AED** defibrillator

WHAT YOU CAN SEE OUTDOORS (open whenever the Park is open)

**Apiary** where the bees are busy making honey for the winter

**Story Trail "Planting a Rainbow"** - in cooperation with the County Library

**Prairie Plant Specimen Walk** - see each plant as an individual before you walk the prairie trail

**Monarch way station** - nectar for their migration journey

**Messy Play Area** - a canoe full of sand, stepping stumps, very slow turtle ride

**Big Bird Nest** - walk in and pretend to be an eagle

**Rain Gardens** - program with Washington Conservation District / Valley Branch Watershed District

**Three Sisters Garden** - cooperation with Dist. 834 NAPAC

**Water for your dog**, air for your bike tires

#### **Check our website for events and programs**

Coming up -

**Kite Flying - Saturday October 2nd at Noon**

**Buckthorn Removal Day - Saturday Oct 9th - 9:30 AM or call 651-757-5610**

**Buckthorn Removal Festival Saturday October 23rd** - bring your team and compete, free lunch for workers





## Well sampling in the east metro area

If you live in the area that is a priority for testing, you can request that your private well water be tested.

- To see if you live in the priority sampling area, use the [interactive map](#).
- If you live in the priority sampling area, you can request to have your well tested by filling out and [submitting this online form](#).

More information about the priority testing area is available on the [Well sampling in the East Metro Area webpage](#).

## Water Conservation Rebate Program

The City of Lake Elmo, in partnership with the Metropolitan Council, is offering a rebate program for purchases of eligible WaterSense toilets and Smart Irrigation Controllers. Qualifying purchases are eligible for up to a \$200 credit on your water bill.



[Program Details Available Here](#)



### **Water Wisely: Start in your own backyard**

Water is a precious resource needed by all living things. If you care for a yard or garden, you can help protect water resources by being wise about watering practices, starting in your own backyard.

Much of our treated drinking water is also used for landscape irrigation, so it pays to reduce water use and protect our supply by being wise about landscape watering practices at home.

Although all plants need water to be healthy and grow, some—like lawns—actually need less water than we think. While others—like trees—need more. Knowing the what, when, where and how of watering in your garden or landscape is key to growing healthy plants and conserving our precious water supply.

See the University of Minnesota's "Watering Wisely" tips [here](#).

#### **Lake Elmo Library**

Stop by Lake Elmo library to check out books, use a computer, reserve a meeting room, and participate in a variety of programs.

Library Hours:

Monday and Friday: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday: 12-8 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Sunday: Closed

Learn more about current library services at [WashCoLib.org/Covid19](https://WashCoLib.org/Covid19)



## Public Facilities Project Update

Regular updates and documents are available [here](#).



### CITY OF LAKE ELMO COMBINED CITY HALL & PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY

The new Lake Elmo City Hall / Public Safety Facility combines City Hall staff and functions, the entire Fire Department, and a satellite office for the Washington County Sheriff's department. This co-location involves renovating and expanding the City-owned Brookfield Office building to concentrate civic resources into a single structure at the historic core of the city. In addition, the Public Works facility will also be expanded to accommodate City growth and expanded service needs.



**TOTAL ANTICIPATED PROJECT COST:** \$14,600,000  
**DESIGN COMPLETION:** Late summer 2021  
**CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION:** Fall of 2022





**MEETING THE DEMANDS OF AN EVOLVING FIRE SERVICE**

Lake Elmo currently has two fire stations, Fire Station #1 at 3510 Laverne Ave. N. and Fire Station #2 at 4259 Jamaica Ave. N. This project will consolidate these two stations into a single, state-of-the-art station that will meet the needs of our community and firefighters today and into the future. The building is designed to accommodate increasing call volumes, meet the demands for training and to support our evolving role as all hazard responders.

Due to the changing environment of fire department staffing needs and the impacts of that in relation to incident response times and budget responsibility, the fire department is consolidating to a single station which will allow the department the ability to transition to a staffing model that provides 24/7 coverage from the single station. This change requires the updated facilities like staff dorm rooms, day room and kitchen area, fitness room, staff workspaces and offices.

Educational materials provided by the City of Lake Elmo

For more information, visit our website: [www.lakeelmo.org](http://www.lakeelmo.org) or contact Kristina Handt, Administrator at [KHandt@lakeelmo.org](mailto:KHandt@lakeelmo.org)



The current fire stations are too small to accommodate modern apparatus and equipment and cannot provide adequate health protections for our firefighters.

**A FUNCTIONAL FIRE STATION**

A new, single, state-of-the-art station will meet the needs of our community and firefighters today and into the future. Designed to accommodate our evolving role as all-hazard responders it will:

- Modernize our facilities following best practices in station design.
- Enhance firefighter training with training features incorporated into the building.
- The addition of living quarters will allow the department to transition to a staffing model that provides 24/7 coverage from the single station.
- Improve response times and overall department operations.

**DESIGNED FOR FIREFIGHTER HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- Distinct spaces to properly decontaminate gear and equipment. Focus to reduce staff exposure to firefighting carcinogens and other toxic materials.
- Properly ventilate the apparatus bay to reduce staff exposure to diesel exhaust and other harmful fumes.
- Space that supports the physical and mental health of staff.
- Clear separation between public and private spaces.



Lake Elmo City Hall, built in 1986, is a very small 2,806 SF. There are insufficient offices for all staff members and the restrooms are not accessible. The council chambers are small, do not provide sufficient space for department heads or members of the public, and lack modern technological updates. City staff have long outgrown this building and have since moved into the Brookfield Building located across the parking lot.

The Brookfield Building was purchased by the City in 2018 as a method of maintaining city functions next to the outgrown City Hall at a lower cost alternative to new construction. It was constructed in 1980 and will require a major overhaul to increase its useful life.

**AN EXPANDED AND IMPROVED CITY HALL**

- Improved service accessibility
- Community room available for public use
- New council chambers with updated technology
- Additional conference rooms
- Co-locate Washington County Sheriff staff
- Office space for growth of city staff
- Accessible restrooms.

