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Your Weekly Source for City News and Information

Public Meetings Next Week

- Planning Commission Meeting Monday, May 23 7:00PM

[City Agendas and Minutes](#)



Visit our website



The Brookfield building at 3880 Laverne Ave is closed and under construction. All City Services are available at City Hall, 3800 Laverne

Please drive slowly and watch for construction activity

Reminder: Solicitation for profit is prohibited by ordinance in Lake Elmo. We're receiving a lot of calls regarding solicitation in the wake of yesterday's weather, no door to door sales are permitted by the City. Peddling is considered a nuisance, and can be reported to Washington County Sheriff's Department at 651-439-9381.

[Monday, May 23 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 May 23, 2022
at 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approve Agenda
3. Approve Minutes – N/A
4. Public Hearings
 - a. CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR A POOL AND FITNESS CENTER - 11441 20th St. N (Royal Golf Club 1st Addition)
 - b. PRELIMINARY PLAT & PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT, ZONING MAP AMENDMENT, CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT - 9450 Hudson Boulevard.
 - c. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS – Addition to the MUSA and change in land use designation for Approximately 110 acres of City property at the northeast corner of 34th Street and Ideal Avenue.
 - d. ZONING AMENDMENTS - Zoning Code, §400 Fencing Regulations. Building Regulations Code, §160 Swimming Pools. General Provisions, §040 Required Screening.
5. New Business
 - a. Recommend minimum requirement for mixed-use in MU-C and MU-BP Districts
 - b. Consideration of front setbacks in MDR and HDR Districts
6. Communications/Updates
 - a. City Council Update 5-17 Driveway variance approved for 8930 Jane Road N.
 - b. Staff Updates – N/A
 - c. Upcoming Meetings:
 - June 13 -
 - o Zoning Text Amendment by Animal Inn to allow Commercial Kennel by CUP
 - o Variance for Impervious Surface - 1567 Ivory Avenue
 - o Zoning Text Amendment - Village Districts
 - o Zoning Text Amendment - Setbacks in MDR and HDR
 - o Zoning Text Amendment – Mixed Use Requirement in MU-C and MU-BP
 - June 27
6. 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

Tuesday, May 17 City Council Meeting Summary

At the City Council meeting on May 17th, the City Council:

- Approved a Variance at 8930 Jane Road North
- Accepted Bids and Awarded a Contract for the Tapestry Sanitary Sewer Extension, Declared Costs to be Assessed, and Called for a Hearing on the Proposed Improvement
- Authorized Participation in the State Performance Measurement Program and Reporting Results for 2021

On the Consent Agenda, the City Council:

- Approved Payment of Disbursements and Payroll
- Released Utility Warranty Security for Boulder Ponds 3rd Addition
- Approved Pay Request No. 8 for Old Village Phase 5 and 6 Street and Utility Improvements
- Approved Pay Request No. 1 for Whistling Valley Street and Utility Improvements
- Approved Pay Request No. 6 for the 38th and 39th Street Neighborhood Street and Utility Improvements
- Approved Pay Request No. 8 for Heritage Farms Street and Utility Improvements
- Approved Pay Request No. 4 for Lake Elmo City Center and Public Works Addition
- Approved Cooperative Agreements for the County State Aid Highway 15 and 30th Street Intersection Improvements
- Approved Closing Unused Funds and Transfers to Close Funds

Meeting Materials Can Be Accessed Here

Hwy 36 Little Canada to Stillwater Weekend Closure

EB Hwy 36 between Hwy 61 and I-694

9 p.m. Friday, May 20 to
5 a.m. Monday, May 23



m DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION





Watering Restrictions

Reminder: City ordinance allows for outdoor watering between the hours of 6PM and 5AM and follows an odd/even schedule. Properties with even-numbered postal addresses may water, sprinkle, or irrigate their lawns only on even-numbered days. Properties with odd-numbers postal addresses may water only on odd-numbered days.

To help reduce water usage, and your water bill, the City of Lake Elmo is contributing up to 90% of the cost of smart irrigation controller devices. These smart controller devices can help save a household as much as 10,000 gallons of water per year!

[Find out more here](#)



Parks Survey

The City of Lake Elmo is conducting a parks survey to gauge resident opinion on parks and park amenities.

[Share Your Input Here](#)



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 7, 2022

Contact: Kristina Handt
City Administrator
651-747-3905

Email: khandt@lakeelmo.org

Lake Elmo Adopts Moratorium on New Plats due to Water Supply Issues Created by District Court Ruling

At its April 5, 2022 meeting, the Lake Elmo City Council unanimously approved a moratorium on new plats in the city's low pressure water zone due to water supply concerns. The moratorium, which goes into effect April 8th and lasts for up to one year, will prevent developers from submitting applications for both residential and commercial development in roughly a quarter of the city.

Last year the City of Lake Elmo, applied for an amendment to its water appropriations permit to increase the allowed water usage due to rapid growth over the last few years. Citing the 2017 Ramsey County District Court Order 62-CV-13-2414 regarding water levels of White Bear Lake, the DNR denied the city's request.

"We are trying to abide by the Met Council's growth requirements and provide for the public health and safety of our community," said Lake Elmo Mayor Charles Cadenhead. "But our efforts are being hampered by a court ruling that is endangering the livelihood of our community. It should be noted that the trigger elevation in the court ruling is based on the recreational use of White Bear Lake and was not made for environmental reasons."

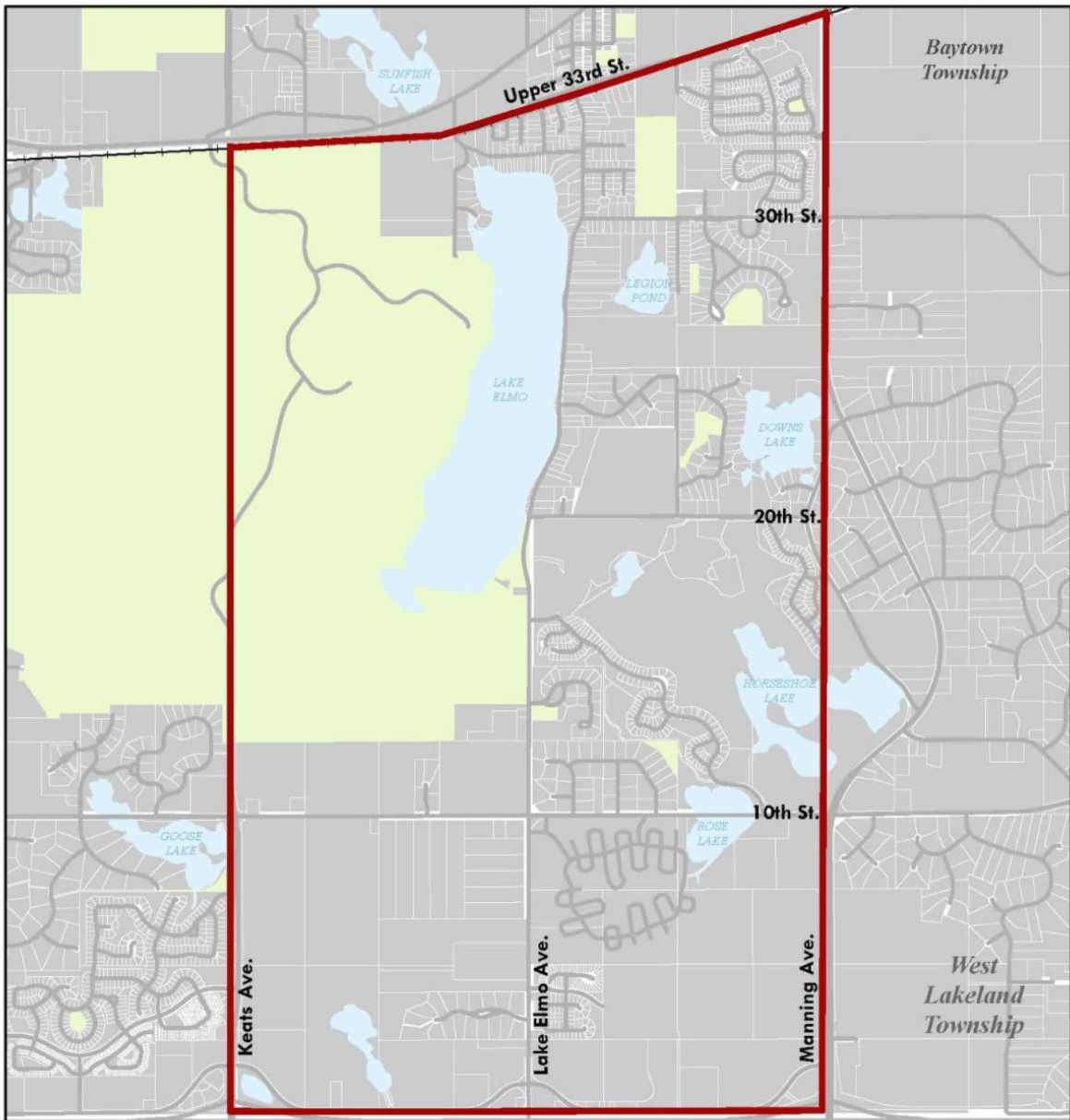
At the hearing Tuesday evening, the council heard from a number of landowners and developers who have been working on projects for a year or more. The moratorium will halt progress on nearly 800 residential units and 100s of thousands of square feet of new commercial, business and warehouse space. Residents also expressed concern about limiting the moratorium to just a portion of the city. While the council has not ruled out expanding the moratorium in the future, they are taking this initial step to protect the most vulnerable area of the water system.

The City, along with a number of other east metro communities affected by the Ramsey County District Court ruling, are seeking a legislative solution. SF 3055 (Housley) was heard in the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Policy Committee in February but the House companion (HF3880, Lillie) was later returned to the author. The bill would require the DNR to approve permit amendment requests for appropriations and new wells from communities within 5 miles of White Bear Lake provided that request is consistent with a DNR approved water supply plan prior to 2021. Most communities updated their water supply plans in conjunction with the 2040 comprehensive plans in 2020 to ensure proper infrastructure planning that aligns with the community's growth plan through 2040.

"Given the PFAS contamination and lack of access to a surface water source, a legislative solution is needed to solve the water supply issues in Lake Elmo," said Cadenhead. "Without action by our state elected officials, the city's hands are tied and we have no option but to look for ways to limit demand to this vital resource for communities"

Attached: Ordinance 2022-03

3800 Laverne Avenue North * Lake Elmo * Minnesota * 55042 * 651.747.3900



CITY OF LAKE ELMO WATER PRESSURE LOW PRESSURE ZONE



— LOW PRESSURE ZONE BOUNDARY

Map Date: March 2022
Created By: Planning Dept.





How will Lake Elmo change in 50 years?

Part of the construction of the Lake Elmo City Center is a time capsule project. We're inviting residents to share their predictions for Lake Elmo in the next 50 years. Submission slips are available at City Hall and City events for you to tell us how you think we'll change between now and 2073, so you tell us:

- How many people will live in Lake Elmo in 2073?
- What will downtown look like?
- How are City services delivered?
- What else does the future hold?

Fill out a slip and we will put them into a time capsule in the City Center, and come back in 2073 to see how your predictions turn out!

The City of Lake Elmo is accepting artifacts from Lake Elmo History to display in the new City Center. If you have something you'd like displayed, contact Jake Dickson, Assistant City Administrator at 651-747-3908 jdickson@lakeelmo.org

2022 Highway 36 Project Page

COUNTY HIGHWAY 13 (IDEAL AVENUE)

Project Update



When is this project expected to occur?

This project is expected to start in late-March or early-April with tree removals and private utility relocations. After private utilities have relocated, roadway work will start and is anticipated to be completed fall of 2022.

What hours will workers be in the area? Will they work on weekends?

Normal working hours for this project will be Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM and on Saturdays from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. No work will be allowed on Sundays.

Will there be dust? Noise?

Residents that live near the project should expect to see dust and hear noise from construction equipment during normal working hours. To help limit the amount of dust in the air, water or a dust palliative will be sprayed on gravel surfaces.

Will Ideal Avenue be closed during construction?

Two-way traffic will remain on Ideal Avenue during tree removal and private utility relocation; however, these lanes may be shifted and narrowed. Once roadway work starts, segments of Ideal Avenue will be closed. See the Construction Staging and Detour Route Graphics for more information.



CONSTRUCTION STAGING



STAGE 1



STAGE 2



STAGE 3

Allan Brandt | Washington County Project Engineer | 651-430-4348 | Allan.Brandt@co.washington.mn.us

The City of Lake Elmo is on Nextdoor!

In an effort to reach as much of the community as possible we've joined Nextdoor. We will use our public agency page to post news and important updates for residents.

[Find us here!](#)





Good news at Lake Elmo Library: the Book Club is back! The Lake Elmo Library Book Club will meet on June 2 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss our first selection, "Bel Canto" by Ann Patchett. Copies of this title are ready for checkout at the library. Meetings will be held at the same time on the first Thursday of each month. The Lake Elmo Book Club will be reading titles within the genres: classics, literary fiction, local interest, and award winners (with some exceptions as voted on by The Club). Book selections will be available one month prior to the meetings. We look forward to seeing you!

Join Lake Elmo Library for special storytimes at the Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center at Sunfish Lake Park. These events will be at 10:30 a.m. on the third Tuesdays of the month from May to September. Please bring your own chairs or blankets for the outdoor patio venue! **Join us, too, at the Lake Elmo Library for our Family Storytimes, Fridays at 10:30 a.m.** For exact dates and times, please visit washcolib.org/storytime.

Hold on to your beach hat! Lake Elmo Library is getting ready for our Summer Reading program starting June 2. Check out the Library's website, washcolib.org, for information on Summer Reading 2022 programs and events for children, teens, and adults. Summer is always fun at the Library!

Lake Elmo Library

3537 Lake Elmo Avenue N
Lake Elmo MN 55042
651-275-8515
WashCoLib.org

Hours:

Monday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Tues., Wed., Thurs.: 12-8 p.m.
Friday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.



Business Retention and Expansion Program

The Lake Elmo Economic Development Authority (LEEDA) will be kicking off a Business Retention and Expansion Program in March. LEEDA members will be reaching out to schedule visits with members of our business community to learn more about their business, what's going well, what could be done differently and how LEEDA can help them continue to grow and prosper in Lake Elmo.

With around 300 businesses in Lake Elmo and only 6 LEEDA commissioners, this campaign will take many months and likely continue into 2023. Commissioners will be focusing on businesses in the Old Village area first and then moving towards the I-94 corridor later this year. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a visit contact Kristina Handt at 651.747.3905 or khandt@lakeelmo.org



Need a Trusted **Business Advisor?**

This program provides free and confidential one-on-one assistance from MCCD's experienced staff, customized to meet the specific needs of each entrepreneur in the creation, growth, and success of their business.

Technical Assistance & Lending

- Business & strategic planning
- Marketing & communications planning
- Regulatory, tax, licensing, & accounting training
- Financial assessment
- Referrals to critical professional services
- Access to capital



We want to help you succeed!

To learn more about a free personalized plan for your business contact:



info@mccdmn.org
(612) 789-7337

www.mccdmn.org/open-to-business



The City of Lake Elmo is Seeking Applicants for Multiple Committees

The City of Lake Elmo is seeking interested residents to serve on two committees:

- EDA
- Planning Commission

[More Information Available Here](#)

The Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center is open every day
Visit <https://sminc-lake-elmo.org/> for details.



The Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center in Lake Elmo's Sunfish Lake Park is operated by a non-profit organization for the benefit of the entire community. We offer programs and events for people of all ages, and have "adopted" the Park in the City's program. This work is all funded by donations. Thank you for your support!

Are you looking for ways to help at the Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center?

- We are looking for volunteer reception help, especially on weekends. If you have an open morning or afternoon (even if it is only once a month) and you enjoy talking with friendly people and offering them a cup of coffee, you could be a receptionist volunteer. Training and volunteer background checks are provided.

Are you looking for something to do this week? Check out this week's activities.

- **Saturday 5/21** from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM – Family Nature Exploration Saturdays – Mosquitos. Alex Carlson and Kathy Beadle from the Metropolitan Mosquito Control District will teach us about Minnesota's mosquitoes with live larvae. All ages are welcome.
- **Wednesday 5/25** from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM – Tai Chi – For details contact Paul Ryberg at pryberg@gmail.com. We are hosting a free Tai Chi class on Wednesdays. Outside if the weather is nice or inside if it isn't.
- **Daily** - Our bees are back! Come and see our indoor bee hive and watch the worker bees work. Can you find the queen bee?

In addition to our weekly activities, we have several upcoming opportunities to highlight.

Saturday 5/28 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM – Family Nature Exploration Saturdays – Scavenger Hunt. Stop in for a scavenger hunt and go on an adventure hike in Sunfish Lake Park. Check out binoculars or magnifying glasses to take a closer look. Great for all ages.

Saturday 6/4 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM – Family Nature Day. Nature fun and educational activities for all ages. Quiz and prizes for kids, scavenger hunts, Naturalist stations, live creatures, garden displays, and more. Free coffee and lemonade.

Thursday 6/24 at 7:00 PM – Mussels of the St. Croix River. Join us for our inaugural adult series presentation on Minnesota's 41 species of mussels. Discover the fascinating interconnectedness of our Minnesota mussels and its rivers through interactive instruction with local expert Denise Gerdes. \$10 cost per person.

Lake Elmo's Sunfish Lake Park Annual
Family Nature Day

Saturday June 4th 2022

9 AM to 1 PM - Rain or Shine

Nature Fun and Educational Activities

All ages: Preschool to Grandparents!

Quiz – prizes for kids / Scavenger Hunts

Naturalist Stations and Garden Displays

Live Creatures

Free Coffee and Lemonade

at **Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center**

www.sminc-lake-elmo.org



SALLY MANZARA INTERPRETIVE NATURE CENTER

SUMMER CAMPS

FOR KIDS!



where kids of all ages experience the unique natural history and ongoing ecology of Sunfish Lake Park



Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center is located next to Sunfish Lake Park in Lake Elmo, Minnesota. The park offers 284 acres of natural area and over 5 miles of trails through forest, wetlands, and prairie.

SUMMER DAY CAMPS



Summer Day Camps are for kids **ages 4-14** and run **Monday - Thursday mornings, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

Camps are run by instructors based out of the SMINC Nature Center and include hikes and activities in Sunfish Lake Park in Lake Elmo. Camps are **\$175 per session**. Participants bring their own backpack with a mask, snack, water bottle, hat, sunscreen, bug spray and change of clothes if needed. Maximum of 10 campers per camp.

CRITTER CAMP
June 13 - 16
for 4-6 year olds

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES
July 11-14
for 9-12 year olds

**NATURE MURAL
ART CAMP**
June 20-23
for 9-14 year olds

BEEES & BUTTERFLIES
August 8-11
for 6-8 year olds

WONDER WEDNESDAYS

Kids ages 5-10 can enjoy a full day of outdoor adventures on select **Wednesdays** from **9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** and are **\$70 per date**. Participants bring their own backpack with a mask, snack, lunch, water bottle, hat, sunscreen, bug spray and change of clothes if needed. Maximum of 10 campers per camp. Campers will explore the outdoors with different themes including nature art, fishing, bees, birds, hikes and many more adventures enriched with Spanish language. Groups will be organized by age.

June 22
ALL ABOUT BIRDS

July 27
RAPTORS

June 29
FISHING

August 3
NATURE ART

July 20
WATER PLAY

August 17
POLLINATORS



Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center is operated by Friends of Lake Elmo's Sunfish Lake Park, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

Contact us: 651-408-2838 | camps@sminc-lake-elmo.org

Find us online: sminc-lake-elmo.org/summer-camp-registration-2022/

Lake Elmo



Farmers Market

Market Starts June 18th Sat 9-1

Our mission is to strengthen the farmers in our community and foster relationships with them to bring their produce to our Lake Elmo Community.

By keeping Vendor's fees low, we are offering low prices to the consumer.

By working with local business, we foster relationships that build a strong, vibrant and healthy community with local producers and their products.

Our vision is to bring business and community working together for all of Lake Elmo to prosper.

See us on Facebook at "Lake Elmo Farmers Market "or call 651-261-4493 for questions



LAKE ELMO FARMER'S MARKET

Seeking YOUTH Vendors for the 2022 Season

(We still have a few weeks available!!)

Market runs weekly beginning Saturday June 18th – September 3rd from 9-1pm

The market is offering an amazing opportunity for Youth in the community this summer, a booth dedicated to Youth Vendors/ Entrepreneurs!

Youth vendors may include: youth organizations (ie: Scouts), fundraising efforts (ie: PTO), youth farmers, young entrepreneurs looking for an opportunity within the community to sell their amazing creations/inventions, etc.

If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Jill (Market Manager) for more information about specific guidelines for youth vendors, application process and to answer any additional questions.

651-261-4493 or pottingshedpottery@gmail.com

*We are counting down the days until we WILL...
See YOU at the market!
(just 5 weeks!!)*

Like us on Facebook @Lake Elmo Farmers Market and watch for updates!

Public Facilities Project Update

- At the November 3 City Council Meeting the City Council awarded bids for the new City Center and Public Works Addition.
- At the January 4, 2022 City Council Meeting the City Council awarded bids for painting at the new City Center
- The Lake Elmo City Council and Staff held a Groundbreaking Ceremony on April 30, 2022

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



- 1 New City Hall Entrance
- 2 New Fire Station Expansion
- 3 Council Chambers/Community room addition
- 4 Parking
- 5 Fire Department Parking
- 6 City Hall/Sheriff
- 7 Laverne Avenue

LEO A DALY

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 or contact Kristina Handt, Administrator at 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.

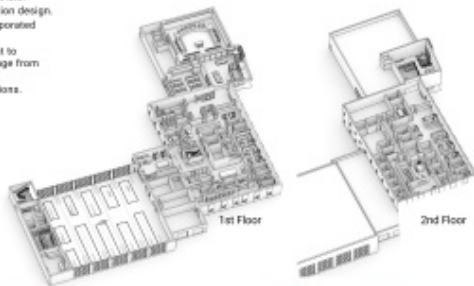
A FUNCTIONAL FIRE STATION

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.

