



»» NEWSLETTER ««



**CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS**  
**2077 LARPENTEUR AVENUE WEST**  
**FALCON HEIGHTS, MN 55113**  
**651-792-7600**



# CONTACT US

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| City Hall  | 651-792-7600 |
| Jack Linehan<br>City Administrator                                   | 651-792-7611 |
| Kelly Nelson<br>Assistant to the City Administrator                  | 651-792-7617 |
| Elke van der Werff<br>Administrative & Communications<br>Coordinator | 651-792-7621 |
| Roland Olson<br>Finance Director                                     | 651-792-7612 |
| Hannah Lynch<br>Community Development Coordinator/<br>City Planner   | 651-792-7613 |
| Colin Callahan<br>Public Works Director                              | 651-792-7618 |

## FIRE

Fire protection is provided the by St. Paul Fire Department.

|               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| Emergencies   | 911          |
| Non-emergency | 651-266-8989 |

## POLICE

Police protection is provided by the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office.

|               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| Emergencies   | 911          |
| Non-emergency | 651-767-0640 |

## CITY HALL HOURS:

Monday - Friday  
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM





# CITY COUNCIL

The City Council meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur Avenue. Meetings are streamed live from NineNorth (formerly CTV) and televised on public access channel 15.



## MAYOR RANDY GUSTAFSON

RANDY.GUSTAFSON@FALCONHEIGHTS.ORG



## COUNCIL MEMBER YAKASAH WEHYEE

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## COUNCIL MEMBER MELANIE LEEHY

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## COUNCIL MEMBER JIM WASSENBERG

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## COUNCIL MEMBER ERIC MEYER

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### UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Wednesday, November 1 City Council Workshop Meeting - 6:30 PM
- Wednesday, November 15 City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM (Rescheduled from November 8th)



# »» CITY COUNCIL UNOFFICIAL MEETING RECAP ««

CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
OCTOBER, 25 2023  
7:00 PM

## AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00PM

### PRESENTATIONS

- Charitable Gambling Proceeds Donation to the Friends of the Philando Castile Peace Garden

### MINUTES

- October 11, 2023 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes (Leehy; Approved 4-0)

### PUBLIC HEARINGS

### CONSENT AGENDA

1. General Disbursements, Payroll, Wire Payments
2. City Licenses
3. 6-Month Performance Evaluation – Administrative and Communications Coordinator Elke van der Werff
4. ~~Appointment of Wesley Goldberg to the Parks and Recreation Commission~~
5. Resolution in Support of Buhl Investors' Application for Emerging and Diverse Developers Grant Funds. (Wassenberg; Approved 4-0)

### POLICY ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT: 7:57 PM

**>>> CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING AGENDA <<<**

CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 1, 2023  
6:30 PM

**AGENDA**

**POLICY ITEMS**

1. 2024 Budget Workshop #4 – 10-Year Capital Plan Update
2. Employee Personnel Policy Update
3. Pathway Sidewalk Maintenance Map and Plowing Update
4. Law Enforcement Services Update

# CITY COMMISSIONS <<<

The City of Falcon Heights has four City Commissions, which serve the City Council in an advisory capacity. Commissioners are volunteers including Falcon Heights residents, local business owners, and business designees who have been appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMISSION

The Community Engagement Commission advises the City Council on matters related to community needs and issues, crime and prevention, public awareness, community involvement, and human rights issues. The commission also helps plan and facilitate community events such as Human Rights Day and the Ice Cream Social.

The Community Engagement Commission meets on the third Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

There are currently THREE vacancies. To apply, [click here](#)

## PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

The Parks & Recreation Commission advises the Council on matters related to the operation of the City's public parks and the City recreation program.

The Parks & Recreation Commission meets on the first Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

There is currently ONE vacancy. To apply, [click here](#)

## PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission advises the City Council on matters related to planning, zoning, and land use. Meetings are streamed [live from NineNorth](#) and televised on public access channel 15.

The Planning Commission meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

There are currently NO vacancies.

## ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

The Environment Commission advises the City Council on matters related to environmental issues, including recycling and waste disposal, community gardens, and storm water runoff. The Commission also develops and recommends implementation of environmentally friendly initiatives such as rain barrels and solar panels, supporting and advancing the City's participation in the [GreenStep Cities](#) program.

The Environment Commission meets the second Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m., at City Hall.

There are currently NO vacancies.

# PUBLIC WORKS & TRAFFIC UPDATES

## MN State High School League - Cross Country State Tournament

On Saturday, November 4 the MSHSL Cross County State Tournament will take place at Les Bolstad Golf Course. Spectators are asked to park at the MN State Fairgrounds, where free shuttle services will be available. To report parking code violations, contact Ramsey County Non-Emergency 24/7 at 651-767-0640. Residents should expect traffic delays. For more information, click [here](#)

## 2023 Pavement Management Project

Staff is working with the contractor to ensure that weeds are mitigated and turf is established in the disturbed areas. The City is retaining project funds to ensure this work is completed.

The final assessment amounts have been mailed to the affected property owners adjacent to the project. The assessment hearing was October 11, 2023.

Property owners can pre-pay their assessment until Friday, November 10, 2023

Spring 2024 – Warranty Items & Final Restoration Touch-Up

## Mowing

Public Works will continue mowing city-maintained grass and mulch leaves, as needed.

## Sidewalks

Public Works will be grinding down sidewalk panels that are trip hazards.

## Street Sweeping

Public Works will be street sweeping throughout the City as needed. They will continue to sweep the City multiple times this fall as leaves drop.

## Ramsey County Cleveland Avenue Reconstruction

The traffic signals at the Larpenteur and Cleveland intersection are working, and the final layer of asphalt has been installed. Striping is scheduled for early November.

For more information or to sign up for alerts, click [here](#)

# PUBLIC WORKS <<<

## Public Works Senior Maintenance Worker

The City of Falcon Heights is seeking applicants for the position of Public Works Senior Maintenance Worker (FT, non-exempt). This position carries out a wide variety maintenance activities without requiring oversight. These duties including mowing parks and boulevards, fertilizing city grounds, street and sidewalk repairs, snow and ice control activities including snow plowing and shoveling. Candidates with a Class C CDL or greater are preferred, or candidates with a Class C CDL in progress. Experience working in construction, landscaping or trades required. Experience in public works preferred.

The complete job description and application is available at [www.falconheights.org](http://www.falconheights.org) under 'City Government'.

Send resume and city application to "Public Works Maintenance Worker", City of Falcon Heights, 2077 W. Larpenteur Ave., Falcon Heights, MN 55113 or by email to [jack.linehan@falconheights.org](mailto:jack.linehan@falconheights.org).

The position is open until filled, with first review of applicants occurring on Monday, October 23rd, 2023.



## Public Works Seasonal Snow Laborer

The City of Falcon Heights is seeking a dedicated and reliable part-time Seasonal Snow Laborer to assist with snow removal operations. This individual will be responsible for operating a range of snow removal equipment including, but not limited to, skid steers, snow blowers, and snow shovels. The role requires flexibility to report on-call during inclement weather conditions and work variable hours to ensure the safety and accessibility of city streets, sidewalks, and other public areas.

The complete job description and application is available at [www.falconheights.org](http://www.falconheights.org) under 'City Government'.

Send resume and city application to "Public Works Snow Laborer", City of Falcon Heights, 2077 W. Larpenteur Ave., Falcon Heights, MN 55113 or by email to [jack.linehan@falconheights.org](mailto:jack.linehan@falconheights.org).

The position is open until filled, with first review of applicants occurring on Monday, October 23rd.





# COMMUNITY PARK **RENOVATION**

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The City has long been planning the renovation of Community Park, located at 2050 Roselawn Avenue. Since the 1970s, the City leased the land from the University of Minnesota. With our lease expiring, the City purchased the property from the university for \$1.1 million this past May.

Back in 2014, the City hired WSB, a civil engineering and planning firm, to develop a parks master plan. The initial plans included multiple concepts for the renovation of Community Park. The City has once again hired WSB as the project manager and HCM Architects as the architects for the renovation. Both firms have extensive municipal park renovation experience, including both firms as the partners in the Roseville parks renovation.

The total park renovation budget is between \$2.5 to \$3 million. It is estimated that the new building will take approximately half of the budget, and the parking lot, design fees, site features, and to-be-determined park amenities will be the other half of the project cost. The City has been strategically saving for this renovation for many years, and will be able to pay a majority of the project cost through existing reserves. We also have a bonding request in to the State of Minnesota for \$1 million, and are applying for a wide variety of grants to assist with the project. Any remaining costs for the project will be financed through a municipal bond as a debt issuance. The City remains in a strong financial position with minimal debt.

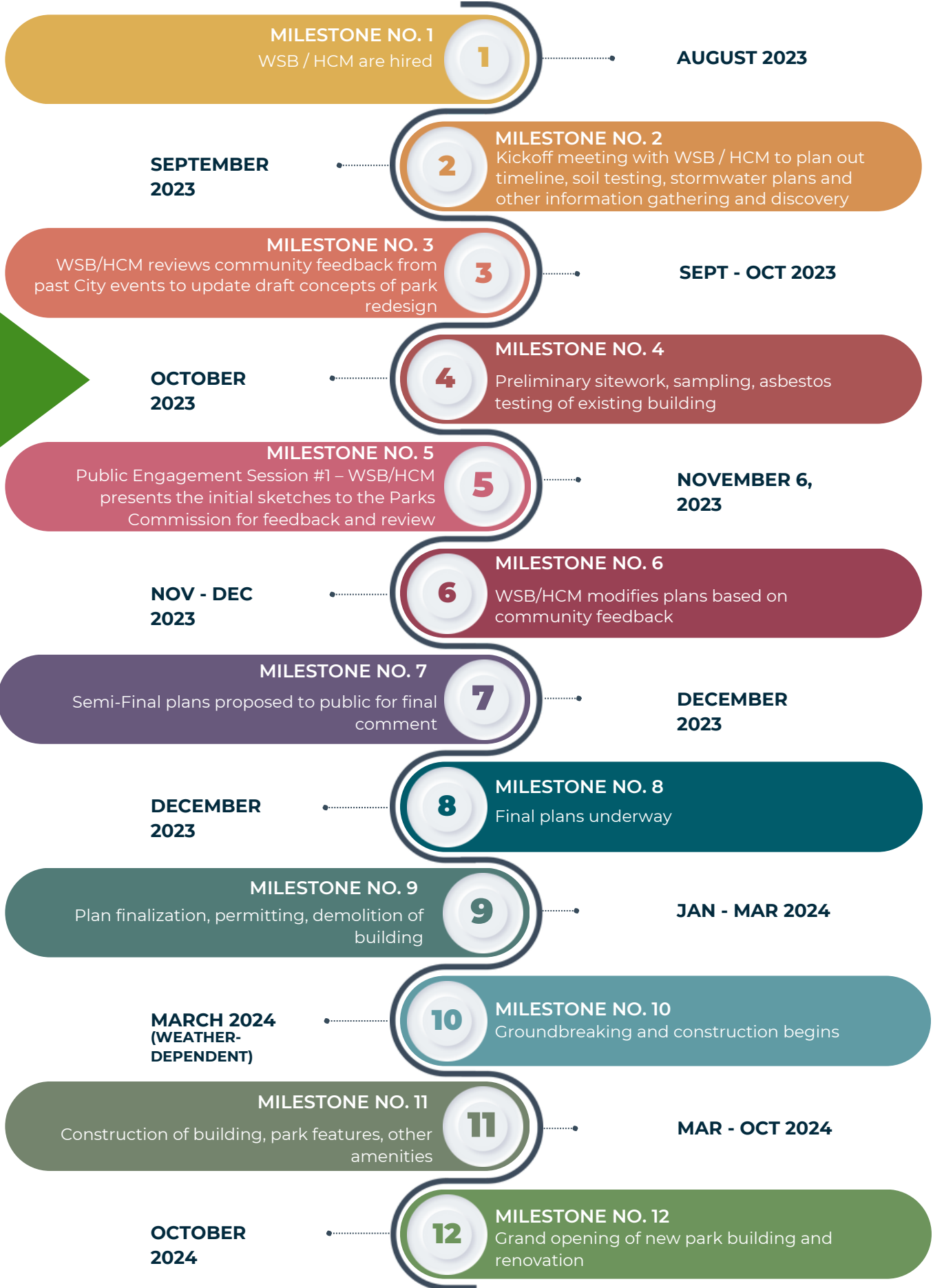
## **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SESSION #1**

During the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on Monday, November 6th at 6:30 PM, WSB (a civil engineering and planning firm) and HCM Architects will present initial sketches for the commission's feedback and review. The public is invited and welcomed to attend to share their feedback regarding the Community Park renovation project.

Monday, November 6  
6:30 PM  
City Hall  
2077 Larpenteur Ave. W.

# COMMUNITY PARK TIMELINE

The timeline is subject to change as the project develops.



# Snelling & Larpenteur

## CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT STUDY

In early 2023, the City of Falcon Heights applied for and received a grant from Ramsey County to review the two most critical transportation corridors within the city, Snelling Avenue and Larpenteur Avenue. The project is to evaluate the existing land uses along the two corridors and identify areas of potential future redevelopment and reinvestment to meet future housing and business needs. With the outside grant funding, the City is undertaking a corridor study that will look at existing sites, note economic and market trends, and gain input from the Falcon Heights community about what type of development they would like to see in the future. The Planning Commission will serve as the steering committee providing feedback and shepherding the study throughout the process.

# COMMUNITY EVENTS & UPDATES

Share your input! Take our community survey and give your thoughts on our community input map! Scan the QR codes below or click on the link above it.

### Community Input Map

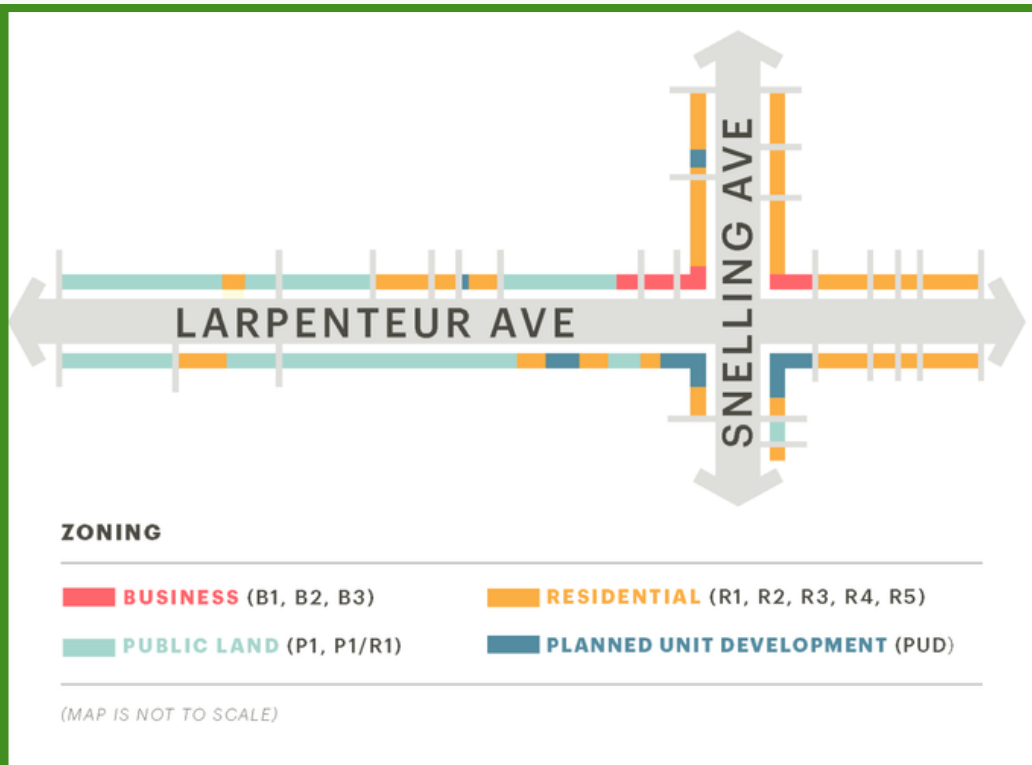


Community Input Map

### Community Survey



Community Survey



# COMMUNITY <<< EVENTS & UPDATES



City elections will be on Tuesday, November 7th, 2023. The Mayor and two Council seats are up for election with the current terms expiring December 31, 2023.

## Voter Registration

If you need to register to vote or update your registration, you may do so in-person at an Early Voting location, or on Election Day at your polling place. Voters may also register online, or download and mail a paper application. Visit [MNvotes.org](https://mnvotes.org) for more information, and to verify any ID documents you may need to bring with you to your voting location.

## Important Dates

September 22 – Absentee Voting begins for General Election.

In-person absentee voting is available at Ramsey County Elections - Plato Building

- Sep. 22 - Nov. 3 Weekdays: 8:00 AM. - 4:30 PM
- Saturday, Nov. 4: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
- Monday, Nov. 6: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

In-person absentee voting is also available at the Ramsey County Library - Roseville

- Oct. 20 - Nov. 3 Weekdays: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- Saturday, Nov. 4: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
- Monday, Nov. 6: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

October 17 – Last day to pre-register.

November 7 – Election Day.

## Falcon Heights Polling Places

Falcon Heights has two election precincts. Properties west of Snelling Ave. are part of Precinct 1. Properties east of Snelling Ave. are part of Precinct 2. Voting hours: 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

- Falcon Heights City Hall (P-1) 2077 Larpenteur Ave. Falcon Heights, MN 55113
- Falcon Heights United Church of Christ (P2) 1795 Holton St. Falcon Heights, MN 55113

For the most up to date information on elections and voting, please visit:

<https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/elections-voting> or [MNvotes.org](https://mnvotes.org)



## St. Anthony Park Area Seniors

### Hybrid Caregiver Community Support Group

Do you take care of a parent, sibling, partner, friend, or neighbor? Would you like to learn from other caregivers? Would you like to discover other resources available to you?

The St. Anthony Park Caregiver Community Support Group is a caring peer group that will meet monthly in a hybrid format for a time to share ideas and concerns, learn, practice self care, and develop a community of care in a safe space.

The group is led by Katharine Tondra (SAPAS program director) and Jean Bendt (St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church parish nurse).

#### Group details:

- The First Thursday of every month, next meeting is on November 2
- 10:00-11:00 AM

Attend EITHER at the Fireside Room at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church (2323 Como Ave.) OR through Zoom. (Call 651-642-9052 or email [office@sapaseniors.org](mailto:office@sapaseniors.org) for the Zoom link.) We use an OWL speaker/microphone/camera for an excellent hybrid experience.

No charge to attend these events. No RSVP is needed.

ALL are welcome regardless of age, ability or residency.

# COMMUNITY <<< EVENTS & UPDATES

### Line Dancing

Do you like to Dance? How about line dancing?

St. Anthony Park Area Seniors will be offering a three-part line dancing workshop through WG LineDance, an organization that empowers individuals through personalized line dance instruction that encourages self-expression, fosters personal growth, and creates a sense of belonging. WG LineDance is dedicated to providing a supportive and inclusive environment where dancers of all levels can learn, grow, and thrive.

Dates: Thursdays, November 2 & November 9

Time: 7:00-8:00 PM

Place: Lauderdale City Hall (1891 Walnut St.)

No partners are needed.

You may attend 1, 2 or 3 sessions.

## City License Renewals

The 2024 city license renewal process is underway! Are you a current license holder? Here are some tips for a smooth renewal process: complete the application carefully and attach all required documents. Then, either email, mail or drop the documents off at City Hall. All current license holders should have received a renewal letter in the mail. If you have any questions, contact City Hall!

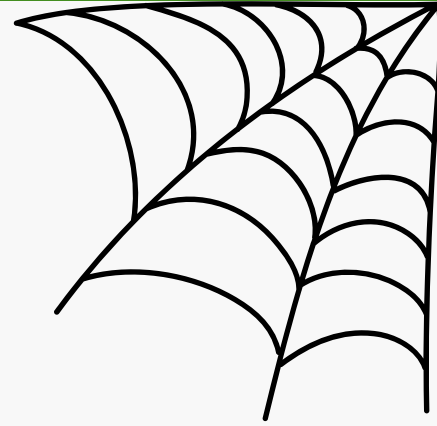


## NATURE NEWSFLASH

As autumn festivities conclude later this fall, you may find yourself with a front porch full of pumpkins. Good news for Ramsey County residents! Pumpkins may be disposed of at one of the seven free and local yard waste collection sites. These sites also handle hay bales and corn stalks! Be sure pumpkins are free of wax, paint, and glitter before disposal. Remove twine or ribbons from hay bales and corn stalks.

Submitted by Stephanie Skarolid, resident of Falcon Heights and member of the Environment Commission

Is there something you want to see in the Nature Newsflash, or are you an expert and want to be included in future articles? Send your ideas over to Hannah Lynch, Community Development Coordinator, at [hannah.b.lynch@falconheights.org](mailto:hannah.b.lynch@falconheights.org).



### FRIGHTENING RECYCLING FACT

Did you know that 63% of Halloween costumes can take up to 20-200 years to decompose, and roughly 35 million Halloween costumes are thrown away in the US each year? Take some of the fright out of Halloween and repurpose or recycle those Halloween costumes instead of throwing it away! Your brand new Barbie costume this year can be someone else's scary Barbie next year!

## Ready to Save on Your Energy Bills?

One convenient Home Energy Squad® visit is your answer to years of energy savings. We offer two home visit options:

- For homes built after 2000, mobile homes, condos, and renters – Only \$35 (normally \$70)
- For older homes – Only \$50 (normally \$100)

To learn more and to schedule your visit call 651-328-6220, or visit: [mncee.org/hes](http://mncee.org/hes)

Free visits available to income qualified households.



## Northome Neighborhood Halloween Parade

The Northome Neighborhood had their annual Halloween Parade and potluck last weekend.

# HALLOWEEN





## HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

Halloween is a fun and exciting time, but it's important to ensure the safety of yourself and others while celebrating. Here are some Halloween safety tips:

### 1. Choose Safe Costumes:

- Opt for flame-resistant costumes and accessories.
- Make sure costumes are the right size to prevent trips and falls.
- Use makeup and face paint instead of masks that can obstruct vision.
- Add reflective tape to costumes or use glow sticks to make your child more visible in the dark.
- Carry a flashlight or wear a headlamp so you can see and be seen.

### 2. Trick-or-Treating Safety:

- Always go in a group with friends or family and stay together
- Stick to well-lit streets and cross at crosswalks.
- Use sidewalks and avoid walking in the street.
- Be cautious when crossing driveways and roads.
- Avoid entering strangers' homes.
- Ensure that children know their emergency contact information or have it written down.
- Plan your night and route ahead, and talk it over with your child.
- Check candy before eating it

### 3. Driving Safety:

- Be extra cautious if you're driving on Halloween night, as there will be many pedestrians, including children, on the streets.
- Drive slowly and watch for trick-or-treaters, especially at intersections and crosswalks.

### 4. Home Safety:

- Keep walkways clear of obstacles and well-lit for visiting trick-or-treaters.
- Secure pets to prevent them from getting scared or running out when the door opens frequently.
- Turn on the outside lights. Turn off entry light if you don't want trick/treaters.





# >>> PARKS AND RECREATION <<<<

## City Hall Programming

### Tae Kwon Do <<<<

Register for upcoming Tae Kwon Do sessions!

Tae Kwon Do Basic and Intermediate/Advanced sessions will be held on Tuesdays, with classes running November 14. - December 19. No class will be held on November 7 or November 21.

Cardio Kickboxing classes will be held on Thursdays, running November 9- December 21. All classes are held in the City Council Chambers at City Hall. No class will be held on November 23.

Classes are instructed by Joshua Jordan, a 2nd-degree black belt. These classes help develop self-defense skills, mental strength, focus, self-confidence, physical health and flexibility.

For more information and to register, click this link:  
<https://www.falconheights.org/residents/tkd-information>

### >>> Yoga

Register for drop-in yoga sessions!



Classes will run every Monday from September 11 - November 20 at 4:30 PM. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall.

Classes are instructed by Shaila Cunningham, who has over 20 years of experience and was certified in 2001 in-residence at Kripalu. Appropriate for healthy beginners or for those wanting to explore "deeper practices," classes will combine classical yoga with best practices, served up with a side of humor. Shaila serves as instructor for North Oaks and Midland Hills Golf Clubs and offers additional classes at YogaHotDish locations.

For more information and to register, click this link:

<https://www.falconheights.org/residents/parks-recreation/yoga>



# CITY RENTAL FACILITIES <<<

## >>> City Hall

### Full Council Chambers

Full Capacity: 150 / 75 seated

Pricing: \$125 + tax for 3 hours      \$200 + tax for a half day      \$275 + tax for a full day

A \$200 refundable damage deposit is required and setup fees may also apply.

### Partial Council Chambers

Half Capacity: 75 / 30 seated

Pricing: \$60 + tax for 3 hours      \$115 + tax for a half day      \$175 + tax for a full day

A \$200 refundable damage deposit is required and setup fees may also apply.

### Conference Room

Capacity: 8 maximum

Pricing: \$35 + tax for 3 hours      \$70 + tax for a half day      \$125 + tax for a full day

A \$200 refundable damage deposit is required and setup fees may also apply.

### Kitchen

Capacity: 10 / 6 seated

Pricing: \$30 + tax for 3 hours      \$60 + tax for a half day      \$75 + tax for a full day

A \$200 refundable damage deposit is required and setup fees may also apply.

City Hall reservations are only available for PUBLIC use; no private events may be held here.

### Reservation Form

## Field/Court <<<

The City has various courts and fields that can be reserved at Curtiss Field and at Community Park. For details and specific pricing, please see the [reservation form](#)

## >>> Picnic Areas

### Community Park

- Upper Picnic Area (against building): 5 picnic tables, trash bins
- East Picnic Area (near playground): 2 picnic tables, trash bins
- Lower Picnic Area (SW corner): 2 picnic tables, 1 BBQ grill, trash bins

Each picnic area is \$20 + tax for a half day or \$35 + tax for a full day.

A refundable damage deposit and setup fees may also apply.

The Community Park building is unusable. A portable restroom is available in the park.

### Reservation Information and Forms Found Here!



# RESIDENT <<< RESOURCES

## Online BIPOC Support Groups

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) has coordinated various online support groups to help BIPOC. Please click [here](#) for more information.



## Energy Cents Coalition

Are you looking for help paying your Xcel bills or are you in need of a replacement furnace, water heater or refrigerator. Call 651 - 774 - 9010 to check if you are eligible

## Protection & Crisis:

There are protection & crisis resources available that are provided by Ramsey County. Click [here](#) for more information regarding protection and crisis resources.

## Emergency Assistance:

Get help with shelter payments, such as past due rent, to stop evictions or foreclosure. Click [here](#) for more information that could help!

## Blood Pressure Clinics

Sponsored by



Love your heart! Take advantage of these **free/donation-based** Blood Pressure Clinics.



1st & 3rd Mondays from 2-3:30 PM at Arbor Pointe Apartments

2nd & 4th Mondays from 2-3:30 PM at Falcon Heights City Hall

## Food Assistance:

There are many meal and food assistance programs that are available in Ramsey County.

Visit the Ramsey County website for information regarding food resource guides, programming, emergency support and more! Use the interactive map to find resources near you, including delivery services, free dining and meal sites.

## United Way

United Way 2-1-1 provides free and confidential health and human services information for people in Minnesota. They are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to connect you with resources and information. Just call 2-1-1

