



FALCON HEIGHTS
THE CITY THAT SOARS

>>> NEWSLETTER <<<



CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS
2077 LARPEN TEUR AVENUE WEST
FALCON HEIGHTS, MN 55113
651-792-7600



CONTACT US

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

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COUNCIL MEMBER ERIC MEYER

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Wednesday, November 15 City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM (Rescheduled from November 8th)
- Wednesday, November 29 City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM (Rescheduled from November 22nd)



>>> CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA <<<

CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER, 15 2023
7:00 PM

AGENDA

PRESENTATIONS

MINUTES

- October 25, 2023 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

PUBLIC HEARINGS

CONSENT AGENDA

- General Disbursements, Payroll, Wire Payments
- City Licenses
- Canvassing Election Results for November 7, 2023
- Construction Cooperation Agreement for Roselawn Avenue
- Resolution in Support of Application for MPCA Brownfield Assessment Grant

CONSENT AGENDA CONTINUED

- 2024 Ramsey County Select Committee on Recycling & The Environment (SCORE) Grant Submittal and Enter into Agreement with Ramsey County for Funding
- City Administrator Jack Linehan – 18-Month Employee Step Adjustment
- Finance Director Roland Olson – Pay Adjustment
- Authorization for City Administrator to Negotiate and Approve Employee Benefit Plans
- Release of RFP for 2024 Printing Services
- Support for City Administrator Jack Linehan to Participate in Compass Peer Leadership Group

POLICY ITEMS

1. Amber Flats PUD
2. Pathway Sidewalk Maintenance Map and Plowing Update
3. Resolution Authorizing the City Administrator to Execute Grant Applications

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

Mowing

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

Equipment

Public Works will be performing routine equipment maintenance this week.

Ramsey County Cleveland Avenue Reconstruction

Work is ongoing between Buford and Larpenteur Avenues. The traffic signals at the Larpenteur and Cleveland intersection are working, and the final layer of asphalt has been installed. Pavement marking, lights and turf restoration is ongoing.

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

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.



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 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.

The position is open until filled.



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 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.

The position is open until filled.



COMMUNITY PARK **RENOVATION**

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.

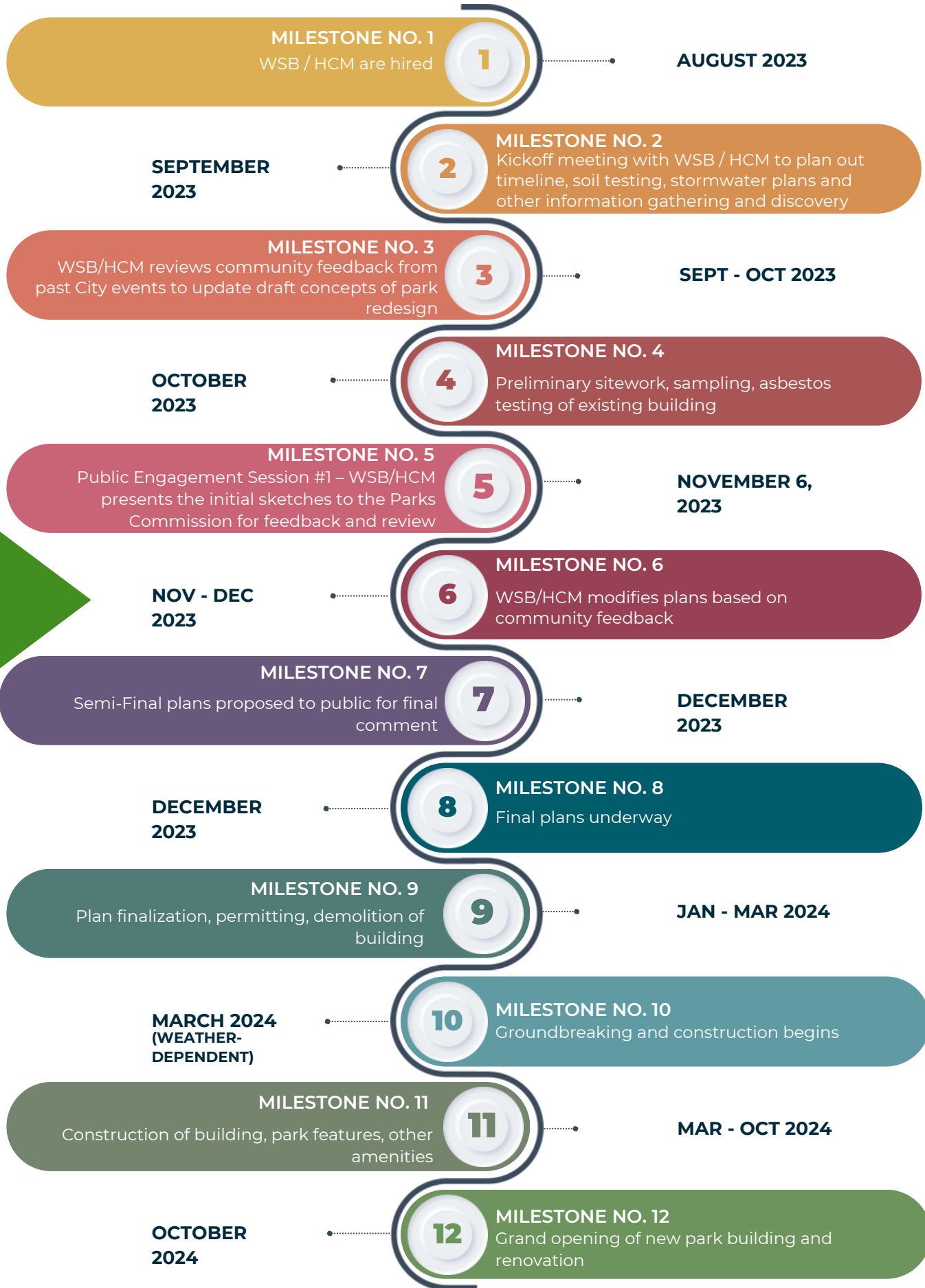
The total park renovation budget is between \$2.5 to \$3 million. It is estimated that the new building will take approximately half of the budget, and the parking lot, design fees, site features, and to-be-determined park amenities will be the other half of the project cost. The City has been strategically 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.

COMMUNITY PARK RENOVATION SURVEY

The City will soon be releasing an online survey seeking the community's feedback regarding the Community Park renovation. When the survey is launched, it will be published on the City's website [here](#). The City will also publish it in future newsletters. Make your opinions known and help shape the future renovation of Community Park!

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

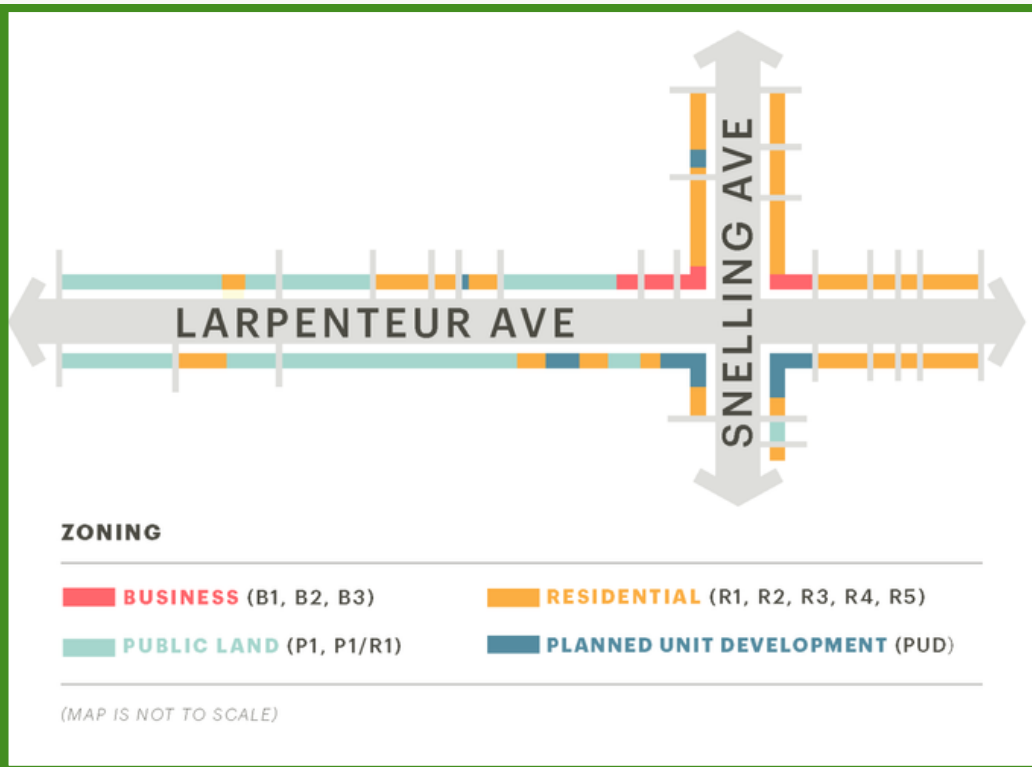


Community Input Map

Community Survey



Community Survey



Keystone Community Services

Volunteering with Keystone gives you the opportunity to see your community transformed. We love working with our volunteers to give them roles that fit their interests and work with their schedule. Whether it's helping distribute food at one of our food shelves or interacting with kids in our enrichment programs, you'll feel fulfilled serving the community at Keystone.

To become a Keystone volunteer, you must fill out an application and go through an orientation session with the volunteer coordinator. A criminal background check is also conducted for all individual volunteers. New volunteers receive an orientation and all volunteers are supervised by Keystone professional staff.

Are you looking for a group volunteer activity, please visit our page dedicated to group volunteers.

Steps to becoming a Keystone volunteer:

- Complete the volunteer application.
- Your application will be processed and a background check will be run.
- The volunteer coordinator will work with you to determine a volunteer role and schedule.
- You will need to participate in a volunteer orientation.
- Then you can begin volunteering and supporting the Keystone community!
- On average, the process to start volunteering typically takes 7-10 business days.

Click [here](#) for the Volunteer Application Form

COMMUNITY <<< EVENTS & UPDATES

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!

St. Anthony Park Area Seniors

Free 55+ Defensive Driver Course

When: Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Time: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Where: Fellowship Hall at 2200 Hillside Ave.
(Centennial United Methodist Church)

Pre-registration is required.

Cost: NO CHARGE

Prerequisite for this 4-hour course is the 8-hour Defensive Driving Course

This 4-hour refresher class is taught by a National Safety Council certified instructor. Those who complete the class may be able to receive a 10% discount on their auto insurance.

Call St. Anthony Park Area Seniors 651-642-9052 for more information.



COMMUNITY <<< EVENTS & UPDATES



MN FAIRGROUND EVENT

North Star Roller Derby
Season 18 - Bout 2

North Star Roller Derby is a member-run, nonprofit roller derby league based in Minneapolis. Skaters play a version of the roller derby you may have seen on TV in the 80s, but on a flat track instead of a banked track.

When: Saturday, November 18

Location: Warner Coliseum

Hours: Doors open at 5:00 PM, Bout starts at 6:00 PM

Admission: \$15.00

For more information, click [here](#)

RECYCLING FUN FACT

8 million metric tons of plastic winds up in the oceans every year. That means that there are five plastic grocery bags for every foot of coastline in the world.

The Mayor for a Day Essay Contest is back

To enter, fourth, fifth, and sixth graders can answer the prompt, "What would you do if you were mayor for a day?" for a chance to win \$100 and recognition in Minnesota Cities magazine.

The deadline for submissions is Dec. 12. Students and parents/guardians can submit essays via an online form, a PDF email attachment, or through the mail. Winners only will be notified in early January. Some cities may provide additional local recognition for participants.

How can you submit your essays?

There are three ways to send us your students' essays.

Submit online – students can enter their essays into this online form and submit them directly.

Print and Mail – you can print this document for students to handwrite their essays and then mail them in to 145 University Ave. W, Saint Paul, MN 55103.

Email as an attachment – students can type their essays into the fillable PDF, save the document, and then email the finalized PDF to mayorforaday@lmc.org.



COMMUNITY <<< EVENTS & UPDATES

Saint Paul Regional Water Services (SPRWS)

Getting The Lead Out

In 2023 SPRWS launched an ambitious 10-year plan to remove all lead service lines in both private and public property. Lead Free SPRWS is offering free replacement to customers.

SPRWS is actively planning the next ten years of the program by working on obtaining funding and choosing an appropriate number of replacements to complete each year based on the funding. The SPRWS service area will be divided into project zones and they will prioritize based on several factors. Information will be shared on [SPRWS website](#) as soon as it is available. SPRWS will contact customers directly when they are coming to their area. To ensure SPRWS has the most up to date contact information, you can call customer service at [651-266-6350](tel:651-266-6350).

For more information, click [here](#)

Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

There are steps you can take to reduce exposure if you have a lead service line or lead in your interior plumbing:

- Let the water run for 3-5 minutes before using it for drinking or cooking if the water has collected in your plumbing for more than 6 hours.
- Use cold water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula. Hot water absorbs more lead from pipes than cold water.
- Clean your aerator. At least once a quarter, remove your aerator any small particles.
- Use a water pitcher or point of use filter for your drinking water

Ramsey County Property Tax Notices

Ramsey County property owners will receive their 2024 proposed property tax notices in mid-November. This notice estimates the amount of taxes property owners will pay in 2024 if the county, cities, school districts and other taxing jurisdictions approve their respective budget proposals.

Property tax refund

If you're a homeowner or renter in Ramsey County, you may qualify for one or more property tax refunds from the state of Minnesota. Visit the [Department of Revenue property tax refund page](#) for details and a full list of refund programs.

Winter Coat Drive

Falcon Heights will be participating in the winter coat drive again for the International Inatitute of Minnesota. Items can be dropped off at City Hall.

They are collecting men's, women's and children's winter jackets for newly arrived refugees:

- New or GENTLY used and
- laundered
- Sizes S-L (small and medium, especially)
- Thick: not a light jacket or Peacoat

They are also seeking other winter supplies in new condition:

- Hats
- Gloves

They cannot accept knitted or crocheted items.



NATURE <<< NEWSFLASH

5 ways to weatherize your home

As the cooler months settle in, consider these relatively cost-effective ways to weatherize your home. Weatherizing helps a home maintain temperature, conserve energy and save money on energy bills.

1. Consult the pros.

Request a consultation with a Home Energy Squad technician through Xcel Energy to help you understand opportunities to save energy and money on utility bills. Income-qualified customers may qualify for free visits.

2. Install (more) insulation in your attic.

Since hot air rises, a lot of heat escapes through attics. Installing insulation in the attic can help keep heat inside your home. Even if your attic has some insulation, you might be able to add more. Learn how to install attic insulation here.

3. Insulate your windows with plastic film.

A great option for renters, installing plastic film insulation is an affordable way to combat drafty (especially single-pane) windows. Make sure to read the directions on the package beforehand to set yourself up for success. At the end of the season, put plastic film insulation in the trash, not the recycling. Despite its name, plastic film insulation is NOT accepted with plastic bag/film recycling.

4. Seal gaps around windows and doors.

Before the weather turns especially frigid, use caulk or weather stripping to seal gaps around windows and doors. You can also put fabric or plastic sealers along the bottom of doors to prevent cold air from coming through.

5. Insulate outlets and light switches.

Did you know cold air can seep through outlets and light switches located on exterior walls? Add foam gaskets (like this one) to keep the warm air in and the cold air out.

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

Free visits available to income qualified households.



>>> PARKS AND RECREATION <<<<

City Hall Programming

Tae Kwon Do <<<<

Register for 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 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 upcoming yoga sessions!

Classes will be held on Mondays from November 27- March 4 at 4:30 PM. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall.

*No classes held on December 25, January 1 or February 5.

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

