



**FALCON HEIGHTS**  
*THE CITY THAT SOARS*

**75 Years**

**>>> NEWSLETTER <<<**



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



# CONTACT US

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Elke van der Werff Administrative & Communications Coordinator	651-792-7621
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## FIRE

Fire protection is provided by the 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 PM 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

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## COUNCIL MEMBER PAULA MIELKE

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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, May 22 - City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM
- Wednesday, June 5 - City Council Workshop Meeting - 6:30 PM





# CITY COUNCIL MEETING UNOFFICIAL RECAP



CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 8, 2024  
7:00 PM

## AGENDA

### PRESENTATIONS

- I. Year-End 2023 Audit Report  
(Meyer; approved 5-0)

### CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. General Disbursements, Payroll, Wire Payments
- 2. Accept Donation from AARP Tax-Aide
- 3. Pay Request #1 – Forest Lake Contracting Larpenteur Avenue Streetlight Project  
(Leehy; approved 5-0)

### MINUTES

### PUBLIC HEARINGS

### POLICY ITEMS

- I. Letter of Support for Falcon Heights Church Flood Mitigation Feasibility Study – Capitol Region Watershed District  
(Mielke; 5-0)



# 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 PM at City Hall.

There are currently no vacancies.

## 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 PM at City Hall.

There are currently no vacancies.

## 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 on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM 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 stormwater 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 at 6:30 PM at City Hall.

There are currently no vacancies.

## Ramsey County Master Gardeners Plant Sale

Ramsey County Master Gardeners will host their annual plant sale on May 18, from 9 AM to 2 PM at Aldrich Arena, 1850 White Bear Ave N, Maplewood, MN. This new location provides more room for more plants with more free parking!

Find your favorite plants and new varieties, including:

- Vegetables and herbs,
- Large selection of tomatoes
- More than 1,500 native perennials, pollinator-friendly plants
- Annuals and houseplants
- Garden accessories

Visit their website for updates.  
[Ramseymastergardeners.org/plantsale](https://ramseymastergardeners.org/plantsale)



# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Save the Date!

The City will host a Spring Together event on Saturday, May 18th from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM at Curtiss Field. Meet your neighbors, enjoy free ice cream and have fun! Remember to bring your lawn chairs and games.

Calling all musicians! This year we will be having a Musician-Only Open Mic. Showcase your talent in a supportive environment. Soloists, bands, and duos are welcome.

We hope to see you there!

A flyer for the 'Spring Together' event. The background is a gradient of light blue and green with a sun icon. The text reads: 'Spring Together' in a yellow and blue box, 'FREE ICE CREAM!' in a cloud, 'OPEN MIC!' in a cloud, 'GAMES!' in a cloud, and 'FAMILY FUN!' in a cloud. Below this, it says 'The City of Falcon Heights Welcomes All!', 'SATURDAY, MAY 18 3:00 - 5:00 PM', and 'CURTISS FIELD - 1551 IOWA AVE. W.'. At the bottom, it says 'Enjoy free ice cream, meet your neighbors and have fun! Attention musicians: Open mic night is calling for you!' and includes the Falcon Heights logo.

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## St. Anthony Park Area Seniors

Game Day is in Full Swing and the new LIFT is operating for easy access!

What: Morning of Coffee and Board Games

Date: Tuesday, May 28

Time: 10:00 – 11:45 AM

Where: 2200 Hillside Ave.

(Centennial United Methodist Church)

Cost: No charge, but donations are always appreciated.

Transportation is available for seniors in our service area with one week's notice.

No RSVP is needed.

We have Scrabble, Dominoes, Triominoes, and cards. You are welcome to bring your own games too! Sponsored by St. Anthony Park Area Seniors

ALL are welcome regardless of age, ability, or residency.

For questions, please call St. Anthony Park Area Seniors (651-642-9052)

**GROWING FOR GOOD**

**SATURDAY  
MAY 18TH  
12:00 - 2:00 pm**

**Como Park Lutheran Church  
1376 Hoyt Ave W, St. Paul**

Join us for an educational growing event to learn about pollinators, gardening, and the importance of sharing.

**Let's cultivate a stronger community together!**

- Kids' Activities
- Ask a Master Gardener
- Local Honey Tasting

MN Hobby Beekeepers  
Lawns to Legumes  
Grow a Row  
Every Meal  
MN Tool Library

Scan QR Code:

COMO COMMUNITY SEED LIBRARY | COMO PARK | thrivent | COMO PARK LUTHERAN

## City Jobs

### Summer Program Intern

The City is currently hiring for a Summer Program Intern. The position will be responsible for planning, organizing, and coordinating summer recreational programs for children (ages 6-13) in an outdoor setting.

The position will also help hire and train other summer programming staff. The ideal candidate will be able to work with no direct supervision, excel in leading group activities, have experience working with children, and have a background in Parks and Recreation or Elementary Education.

If this sounds like you, we highly encourage you to apply! The position will close on Friday, May 31 at 4:30 PM

Please visit [our website](#) to view the entire job description and review the application requirements.

### Seasonal Recreation Staff

The City of Falcon Heights is seeking candidates for the temporary/seasonal positions of Seasonal Recreation Staff. These positions will be responsible for assisting in the implementation of summer programming for children (ages 6-13) in an outdoor setting. The ideal candidates will be energetic, reliable, and have experience in coaching or working with children.

Please visit [our website](#) to view the entire job description and review the application requirements.

# COMMUNITY EVENTS & UPDATES

## Family Fun Night

Join the Falcon Heights Elementary Community for their annual Family Fun Night fundraiser on Friday, May 17 from 5:00 - 8:00 PM at Falcon Heights Elementary, 1393 Garden Ave West, Falcon Heights, MN 55113

100% of the proceeds from Family Fun Night go back into the school through purchasing classroom supplies and technology, providing teacher grants, helping cut costs for families on field trips and so much more.

There will be food trucks on-site and activities for all ages.

More information can be [here](#).

## Dealing with Identity Theft

Thursday, May 16, 6-7:30 PM  
Online event

Knowing what to do if your identity were stolen is important because an identity thief can hijack your tax refund, alter your medical records, prevent you from getting credit or a job, and even borrow money in your child's name. This seminar covers what identity theft is, how to protect your identity to avoid theft, and clear steps to take if it happens to you.

[Register here](#), starting Monday, April 29.





# PUBLIC WORKS & <<< COMMUNITY UPDATES

## Stormwater

This summer, Public Works will rehab stormwater catch basins and vaults. They will start in the University Grove neighborhood and work east.

## Mowing

Public Works will be mowing city-maintained grass, as needed as well as weed-whip all parks and medians.

## Falcon Heights Monuments

Public Works will begin restoring the Falcon Heights monuments by removing the glass and pane frames and fabricating new pane frames.

## City Trash

Public Works will pick up trash throughout the City.

## Center for Energy and Environment

Falcon Heights is one of the 2023 Home Energy Squad Intercity Challenge Winners with the most rebates per capita!

Falcon Heights has been collaborating with the Center for Energy (CEE) and Environment and Home Energy Squad to challenge residents to have an energy audit done.

## Larpenteur Avenue Lighting Project

The Falcon Heights Larpenteur Avenue Lighting Project started last week and consists of removing and replacing 34 decorative light poles on Larpenteur Avenue from Fry Street to Arona Street. The proposed lights are decorative LED and will have a single light head and arms for decorative banners. The lights are DarkSky International-approved and will help significantly improve lighting in the corridor without unnecessary light pollution.

For more information about the project, click [here](#).

## MN Department of Transportation Highway 36 Study

MnDOT is conducting a study of Highway 36 from I-35W to the Bruce Vento Trail crossing just past English Street. This study will recommend future alternatives for improvement to multiple facets of the highway. Now in Phase Two of the study, MnDOT is evaluating different alternatives for improvements to Hwy 36 and the cross streets and wants to hear specifically from the bike walk community. There will be a virtual meeting on Thursday, May 16 at 6:30 PM. Please join MnDOT to help provide input for those who walk and bike near Hwy 36.

Registration is required for this meeting. Please register for the meeting [here](#). After registering, you will receive the Zoom link.



# PUBLIC WORKS & COMMUNITY UPDATES

## State Fair Task Force 2.0

Following the tremendous work done by State Fair Task Force 1.0 in 2023, the City Council determined that the City should again create a task force to continue and finish the work started by the previous task force.

The task force will meet every third Wednesday of each month or as needed with its first meeting this week on Wednesday, May 15. They will review the necessary policies in 2024 and 2025 with a sunset date of December 31, 2025 unless extended by the City Council.

If you are interested in participating, please fill out the interest form [here](#).

## Minnesota GreenCorps

The City of Falcon Heights is thrilled to announce we will be hosting a MN GreenCorps member starting in September and the application for members is now open! We are looking for a member who is excited about community engagement and encouraging environmentally friendly actions throughout the City. There are 58 AmeriCorps positions statewide and the service term is September 2024 through August 2025. Learn more and apply now [here](#).

## E-Bike Rebate

The Electric-Assisted Bicycle Rebate (e-Bike Rebate) is designed to reduce the cost for Minnesota residents to buy a new e-bike at eligible retailers starting July 1, 2024.

The e-bike Rebate provides a discount of up to \$1,500 on a qualifying e-bike. The discount is 50-75% of a buyer's qualifying expenses, depending on their income. The rebate value cannot exceed the price of the e-bike.

Individuals (buyers) and retailers must apply to the Minnesota Department of Revenue to take part in the program. Total rebates are limited.

Individuals can apply for a rebate starting June 5 at 11:00 AM Central Time.

For more information and to sign up for email updates, click [here](#)

## Roselawn Pavement Management Project

Roselawn Avenue, between Snelling and Hamline, will be improved as part of the 2024 Pavement Management Project (PMP) in cooperation with Roseville. The project will include a mill and overlay, minor utility improvements, curb repairs, and pedestrian ramp upgrades. There should be one lane in each direction on Roselawn Avenue throughout construction, but on-street parking may be restricted.

Work is scheduled to begin the week of May 13, with estimated completion by late June. This schedule is weather-dependent.

For more information and to receive updates, click [here](#).



**Join**

# Minnesota GreenCorps



Spend a year of service addressing critical environmental issues in Minnesota while gaining experience and learning valuable job skills!

Application Due  
**June 13, 2024**

#### TOPIC AREAS:

- Community Readiness & Outreach
- Energy Conservation & Green
- Transportation Stormwater & Forestry
- Waste Reduction & Recycling

Learn more and  
apply [here!](#)



- Living allowance of \$16.24/hr
- Education award of \$7395
- Healthcare with premium paid
- Loan forbearance
- Cohort of 58 members
- Opportunities across the state
- Professional development

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**AmeriCorps**

**m1** MINNESOTA POLLUTION  
CONTROL AGENCY

[www.pca.state.mn.us/mngreencorps](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/mngreencorps)

# COMMUNITY UPDATES

## 75th Anniversary

On April 1, 1949, by a vote of 5 to 1, the citizens rejected petitioning either Roseville or St. Paul for annexation and chose instead to establish their own independent village government. The incorporation of the Village of Falcon Heights brought in all of the remaining unincorporated areas of Rose Township, including the State Fairgrounds, University of Minnesota Campus Golf Course, and Test Fields. In 1973, the Village of Falcon Heights became a city.

To celebrate 75 years since officially becoming "Falcon Heights", the City is working on plans to honor the occasion. If you are interested in participating in the celebration planning, please fill out a form on our [website](#).

## Compost Bin sale - save \$20

The Recycling Association of Minnesota is selling compost bins for \$76 plus tax this year before the discount. Ramsey County residents can receive a \$20 discount. Order online at [RecycleMinnesota.org](https://RecycleMinnesota.org) and enter promo code "Ramsey."



## 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.

The City received applications for a focus group as participants in the study and they had their first meeting on February 26, 2024

For more information and to follow the progression of the study, click [here](#)

# COMMUNITY UPDATES

## Ramsey County A to Z Green Guide

Meet the A to Z Green Guide: Ramsey County's new and improved disposal directory.

Ever wonder how to get rid of that old mattress or expired motor oil in the garage? Look it up in the [A to Z Green Guide](#)! The A to Z Green Guide (formerly A to Z Recycling & Disposal Guide), is an online disposal directory that gives disposal information specific to Ramsey County residents for hundreds of household items.

To use the guide, simply type in the item you want to dispose of in the search bar and a list of disposal options will appear, with the most environmentally-friendly options listed first.

You can now suggest a new item by scrolling to the bottom of the page and clicking the button/text "Suggest [item name] as a new item." Our staff will work to add it to the directory.

Meanwhile, you can call the recycling and disposal hotline at [651-633-3279](tel:651-633-3279) (EASY) or [send Ramsey County a message](#).

## First Half of 2024 Property Tax Payments due May 15

The first half of 2024 property tax payments are due Wednesday, May 15. If your tax is \$100 or less for real property or \$50 or less for personal property, it must be paid in full by May 15.

### Payment options

Payments will be accepted via U.S. mail, at secure form drop-off locations and electronically. An online payment portal for property tax is available now.

- Pay online
- Pay by mail, in person or drop box

Payments must be postmarked on or before May 15 to avoid penalty. Checks and money orders should be made payable to Ramsey County.

A one-time late payment penalty waiver program is available to taxpayers. It may be used one time every ten years. It applies even if a property owner has used the one-time waiver in the past, and it will not impact the ability to use the waiver in the future.

More information on property tax payments can be found [here](#).





# COMMUNITY UPDATES



## **PARTNERS IN ENERGY** An Xcel Energy Community Collaboration

The City of Falcon Heights has partnered with Xcel Energy and MNCEE to join the Partners in Energy Program.

Partners in Energy is a two-year collaboration with Xcel Energy to develop and implement our community's energy plan goals. This is an opportunity to engage stakeholders, create goals and strategies, and develop a work plan to be successful.

The City needs your help! We are looking for responses from community members to help shape our Energy Action Plan.

### Take our Community Energy Survey

The outcome of this plan, through your input, will guide the City in reaching its energy goals over the coming years.

More information about the partnership can be found [here](#).

## 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)

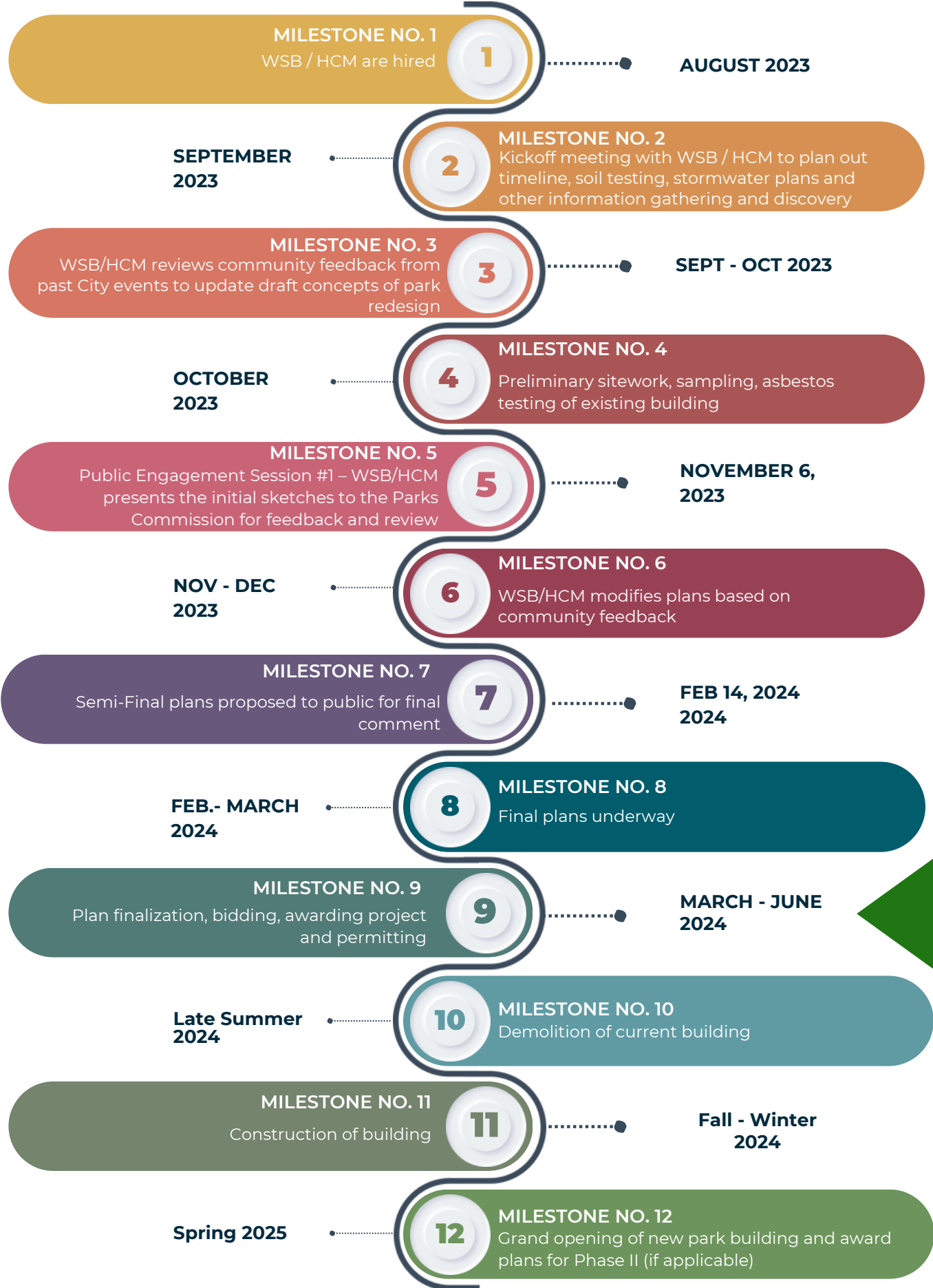
To learn more and to schedule your visit call 651-328-6220, or visit: [mncee.org/hes](http://mncee.org/hes)

Free visits available to income qualified households.



# COMMUNITY PARK TIMELINE

The timeline is subject to change as the project develops.



# >>> 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 May 21 - June 25.

Cardio Kickboxing classes will be held on Thursdays, running from May 23 - June 27.

All classes are held in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

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 classes! You can purchase all sessions or as single drop-ins! Classes will be held on Mondays from June 3 through August 19 (no class on July 8) at 4:30 PM in the 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>





# >>> PARKS AND RECREATION <<<

## City Hall Programming

### Neighborhood Workouts at Curtiss Field <<<

Join your neighbors for a fun and friendly outdoor strength and conditioning workout instructed by Anne Schwalbe at Curtiss Field Park (1551 Iowa Ave. W.) on six Saturday mornings at 8:30 AM from June 22 - August 3 (no class on July 6).

Participants will use dumbbells, resistance bands, slam balls, and other implements to build overall strength, mobility, balance, and cardio endurance. All bodies are welcome here, regardless of age, size, and previous experience.

You can purchase all sessions or purchase single-session drop-in classes.

For more information, click this [link](#)

# 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!





The mission of ComoConnects is to organize community volunteers, professionals, and family members to provide care for their neighborhood seniors in ways that support choice, dignity, and independence.

With the spirit of "Neighbors Helping Neighbors," ComoConnects provides a spectrum of services, bringing neighborhood health professionals, volunteers, caregivers, and community leaders together to provide high-quality, long-term care.

They provide services to residents aged 65 and better in the community of Como Park as well as areas of Falcon Heights.

To learn more about ComoConnects, visit their website [here](#) or call 651-642-1127

### Tubman Legal Services

For over 48 years, Tubman has helped people of all ages, genders, and cultural backgrounds who are experiencing relationship violence, exploitation, mental and chemical health issues, and other forms of trauma.

Throughout the Twin Cities, Tubman provides safe shelter, housing legal services, counseling, youth programming, violence prevention, community education, and other wraparound services.

More information can be found [here](#).

# RESIDENT RESOURCES

## Northeast Youth & Family Services



**NYFS is here for you!**

Immediate openings are available for mental health clients age 4 and over

Call us at 651-486-3808 or [request an appointment online today!](#)



Northeast Youth & Family Services (NYFS) is a nonprofit, community-based and trauma-informed mental health and community services organization that has been serving people in the northeastern suburbs since 1976.

NYFS services include clinic-based and telehealth counseling for all ages, school-based services, day treatment services for middle and high school youth, diversion programming for youth, Community Connections programming for isolated youth, and Community Advocate services.



# 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

1st & 3rd Wednesdays from 10-11:30 AM at Hendrickson Apartments

## 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

