# MOUNDS VIEW MATTERS

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#### **I35WMnPASS Lane Update**

You may have noticed construction activity along I-35W between Roseville and Lino Lakes in the median. This is all part of the front-end work (crossovers) for the lane construction work which will begin April 2019. The schedule is for southbound to be reconstructed in 2019 with all pavement changed/replaced with concrete. This will result in lane reductions which will impact traffic flow.

The construction of a noise wall will occur simultaneously with the road construction. The section along the Colonial Village manufactured housing community is scheduled to be replaced and extended all the way around the curve, and will begin around April 1st.

The center lanes, which are the MnPASS lanes, and median will be constructed in 2020; the northbound lanes in 2021. Thus, traffic will be disrupted for three (3) years with 2019 being the most disruptive. There will not be any lane reductions needed in 2020 and 2021.

#### Time to Nominate the 2018 Citizen of the Year

Nominations for the 2018 Mounds View Citizen of the Year are being accepted. Annually the City recognizes ordinary citizens who have demonstrated initiative to improving our community, whose service or performance exemplifies the spirit of giving back, and who inspire others in their volunteer efforts. The City Council will review the nominations and select the recipient.

Nominations are open to the public, must be in writing, and may be supported by letters/documentation. All submitted material must be received by Friday, March 22, 2019, and become the property of the City. Current elected officials, City employees, City contractors, or past Citizen of the Year award recipients are not eligible. The award will be presented at the annual Town Hall Meeting.

Nominations are judged on the following:

- Courage
- Initiative
- Time Commitment
- Effectiveness
- Unselfishness

To obtain a nomination application please refer to the City's website at www.moundsviewmn.org or call 763-717-4000.

## Town Hall Meeting Monday, April 15

15<sup>th</sup> annual Town Hall Meeting 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday, April 15, 2019 Mounds View City Hall 2401 Mounds View Boulevard

## **Building Safety Month**

This time of year building and remodeling tends to slow down as people hunker down against the cold. So the Building Department would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that the gradual warming of springtime ushers in an anticipated time of year for all—Building Safety Month in May! This year's theme is, "No Code. No Confidence."

Building Safety Month is an international campaign to promote building safety through proclamations, informational events, legislative briefings and more. All communities need building codes to protect their citizens from disasters like fires, weather-related events, and structural collapse. Building codes are society's best way of protecting homes, offices, schools, manufacturing facilities, stores, and entertainment venues. Code officials work day in and day out to keep the public safe.



Please visit the City of Mounds View's website, www.moundsviewmn.org, and go to the Building Information section for safety information, building handouts, permitting, etc. Please also visit the Building Safety Month website at www.buildingsafetymonth.org to learn more about this important initiative.

## Dear neighbors and friends,

It has been a very busy winter! I am looking forward to spring with its warmth, longer days, and, hopefully, lots of sunshine.

I am pleased to report that we have finished and adopted the City's 3-year strategic plan.

After two (2) years of planning, the replacement of audio and visual (AV) equipment and controls for City Hall will finally be completed in late-February. Soon we will be approving plans to remodel a portion of our Police Department to finally provide showers and locker rooms.

Our Public Works team has been busy removing diseased trees from City parks and boulevards. Eventually a variety of disease-resistant species of trees will be planted to replace the trees the City had to remove. The Public Works Department has information for property owners regarding the Emerald Ash Borer and other tree diseases. Property owners are required to treat or remove diseased trees on private property.



Please mark your calendars for Festival in the Park, which will be held on Saturday, August 17, 2019, at Silver View Park. The new location presents some challenges but gives us opportunities to expand the Festival. If you

would like to help, the Festival in the Park Committee meets monthly at 7:00 p.m. on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at the Community Center. We would love to have you join us!

I am proud to announce that Mounds View is participating with 4 or 5 other cities to establish a mental health liaison with our police departments and Northeast Youth & Family Services (NYFS). NYFS has partnered with Mounds View and several other north Ramsey County cities for over 30 years. Ramsey County Police Chiefs had identified a need for response support for residents with mental health issues. NYFS President Jerry Hrmotka made a presentation during the January 7, 2019, City Council Work Session, which is available for web streaming on the City website. It is expected that the NYFS liaison position will be filled and operational this summer.

Thank you for your partnership as we continue building community together. Don't forget to submit a nomination for Citizen of the Year and Coach of the Year.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at the Town Hall Meeting!

With warmest regards, Carol Mueller





## City Administrator Report

January 3<sup>rd</sup> marked the one year anniversary of my permanent appointment. As I reflect back on the year, noted are the accomplishments of the team worthy of sharing:

- Hiring/integration of 10 vacant positions
- Completion of and moving into new Public Works Facility
- Five (5) Council retreats resulting in development of a Strategic Plan
- Archiving, recycling, and web accessing 60 years of public data
- Purchase/implementation of public infrastructure asset management software
- Updating of the City Code (over half-way done)
- Updating of all City policies
- Sale of Crossroad Pointe property with 127-unit market rate apartment project
- Further completion of street reconstruction (Business Park North)
- Begin upgrade to City Hall Park which includes a splash pad
- 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration events
- Boulevard Apartment project (Groveland and Mounds View Boulevard)

The following goals have been set for 2019:

- Completion of City code update, codification, and making entire City website accessible
- Redevelopment of Skyline Motel property
- Completion of the Comprehensive Plan
- Implementation of the Strategic Plan
- Continuation of development/redevelopment activity
- Phase 1 of Municipal Water System upgrade (first of three years)
- Further completion of street reconstruction—
  Woodale Drive from Long Lake Road to Edgewood
  Drive
- Finish upgrade to City Hall Park—including picnic area and splash pad
- Launch Police Reserve Unit
- Increase production of information videos
  (3-7 minutes) and post on web and social media

## Save the Date for Clean-Up Day!

Spring Clean-Up Day will be Saturday, May 11, 2019, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at Mounds View Public Works, 2466 Bronson Drive. A flyer will be sent to all residents in mid-April. For more details, please refer to the City's website at www.moundsviewmn.org.



City Administrator Nyle Zikmund

## Redevelopment—The Why? Crossroad Pointe and Skyline Motel

With the purchase of the Crossroad Pointe property by INH Development to construct a 127-unit market rate apartment building and the pending purchase of the Skyline Motel property by the City, it is a good time to review the "why" of those decisions. To begin, redevelopment by the City is always the last choice. In every scenario imaginable it is far better for the private sector to undertake the effort. However, when that fails to happen (and it does for a variety of reasons) then the political subdivision (city, county, state) can step in and facilitate change.

But, at least in Mounds View, that only occurs after we have conducted significant research, investigation, discussion, deliberation, and everything else related to due diligence. In the end the City Council has one goal: to balance all factors—blight, jobs, housing, community amenities, property taxes, and finances—and make a decision that, when weighing those factors, results in a net gain for the community.

Using Crossroad Pointe as an example: The process began after several years of complaints regarding the blighted property (gas station and donut shop) and ongoing deterioration. Additionally, blight, vandalism, and criminal activity were occurring at a significant level on the Robert's site with pressure on the Council to address it. Eventually the City purchased all three (3) properties and combined them into a more marketable 4.25 acre site.





After a quality developer was identified in 2015 but subsequently fell through due to financing difficulties on their end, we are now to the present with the purchase by INH and the market-rate apartment project. The City invested \$1.8 million to acquire the three (3) parcels, demolish the buildings, and prepare the site for sale. The property was sold for \$1.35 million with contract provisions to pay for some infrastructure and other costs, not to exceed \$250,000.

Thus, the worst case scenario is the City nets \$1.1 million. How does the City become whole on the fiscal side?

Unlike the private sector which needs to have their investment returned in 15 to 25 years on property, the City has a longer time frame to work with. Apartment buildings have a life expectancy of 50 to 100 years. With the City share of property taxes estimated at \$77,250 per year it will take 10 years to become whole.

However, back to the balance equation mentioned at the beginning; there are no market-rate apartments in the community. Putting a value on that is subjective depending on the individual. However, there is clear evidence of demand so this project fills a "hole" in Mounds View's housing stock. What is the value of cost of blight; again subjective but based on resident complaints—there is a value. Likewise, the cost of vandalism and crime is real and, while difficult to measure, it was a serious concern to the residents in the area.

Circling back to the beginning, the Council evaluates the combination of factors and is not solely focused on the fiscal equation, but does everything to ensure the fiscal equation works over time. The combination of attributes along with the fiscal drives the final decision. Within all of this is community input and some residents may recall this is the fourth iteration on the project with the gun club and Kwik Trip proposals rejected by City Council based on the feedback.

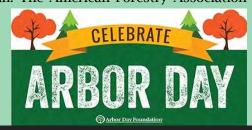


The Skyline Motel has been on the City's radar for a measure of time because it has all the components mentioned above. The property was sold but fell through and now the City is in the process of purchasing and this same process will begin all over again. The goal will remain the same: balance all the issues and, in the end, add value to our community.

### Arbor Day: April 26, 2019

Arbor Day originated in Nebraska by J. Sterling Morton. Birdsey Northrop of Connecticut globalized it in 1883 on a trip to Japan. The American Forestry Association

a s s i g n e d Northrop to campaign for Arbor Day nationwide that same year.



## Be On the Look Out (BOLO): Scammers

Crime prevention methods react to current trends to deter criminal activity from happening. That said, scammers are also evolving and continue to bring in large amounts of money. One thing prevails; if it does not feel right, it probably is not.

For years now law enforcement has discouraged people from paying any "debt" with gift cards. It does not make any sense to pay the IRS in Amazon or iTunes gift cards. Heeding the advice is working!

We are now hearing of scammers requesting people send cash through the mail. It's most commonly seen with the friends and family scams, such as the Grandparent Scam.

According to the Federal Trade Commission, people 70 and older reported a median loss of \$9,000. This compares to other age groups who reported a median loss of \$2,000.

Seniors can be especially vulnerable to these scams. Eliminating the fear they will be in trouble if they ever report falling victim to these scams can help open the door to the conversation, heading off further damage. Contact our agency with questions or reassurance regarding a scam at 763-717-4070.



## Official Newspaper

The Sun Focus is no longer covering our community and thus, the City has selected the **New Brighton** - **Mounds View Bulletin** as the official newspaper. This change is effective immediately.

#### **New Police Hires**

Michael Hanson comes to the Mounds View Police Department with four (4) years of experience as a deputy sheriff at Carver County. His assignments included patrol, FTO, hostage negotiator,

and crime scene tech. Mike is a long-time Mounds View resident. He is a proud father and enjoys volunteering in

enjoys volunteering ir the community as a coach.



Police Officer Michael Hanson

Alex Aase is a life-long resident of nearby Coon Rapids where he was a high school football quarterback.



Police Officer Alex Aase

He graduated from UMD with a degree in Criminal Justice and worked as a security guard with the Anoka Police Department prior to joining our police department. Alex recently completed field training and looks forward to gaining skills in his law enforcement career and is already proving to be a great member of our team.

## **Preventing Mail Theft**

Check out these tips from the United States Postal Inspection Service for keeping your mail as safe as possible:

- Deposit outgoing mail in a blue collection box, at a Post Office, or by handing it directly to your letter carrier.
- Never leave mail in your mailbox overnight.
- If you see suspicious activity call police immediately and Postal Inspectors.
- Never send cash or coins in the mail.
- Promptly remove mail from your mailbox after delivery. Or ask a trusted friend or neighbor to pick up your mail if you're expecting high value items.
- Have your Post Office hold your mail while you're absent from your home for a period of time at holdmail.usps.com/holdmail/.
- If you don't receive valuable mail you're expecting, contact the issuing agency immediately.
- If you believe your mail was stolen, report it immediately by submitting an online complaint at postalinspectors.uspis.gov or call 877-876-2455.

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## **Under Age Drinking**

The Mounds View Police Department (MVPD) responds to several underage drinking parties each year. What these events have in common is the adult(s) are on vacation, no one is watching the house, and a teenager is left home alone.

When the MVPD respond, the homeowner is contacted and the parents are requested to pick up any juveniles. Alcohol is confiscated and citations for underage consumption are issued. Medical assistance is provided if needed.

It's widely known that adults are the primary source of alcohol for teens. While alcohol can be easily accessed within the home, adult friends or siblings can also supply alcohol.

#### **Solicitors**

The City of Mounds View requires any person engaging in door-to-door sales of merchandise or services, including magazines, roofing or siding, or taking or attempting to take orders for future delivery on behalf of themselves or another agency, have a permit from the City. A permit must be issued by the City before a person can sell or solicit business. Peddlers and solicitors are allowed to operate in the City between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. any day of the week. They must carry an ID badge with them when soliciting. Feel free to ask anyone that comes to your door to show you their Mounds View-issued identification badge. If they do not show their City-issued ID, please contact us with as much information as possible about the individual(s). Non-profit organizations (i.e. Scouts, School Organizations) must be registered with the City but do not require a permit or City-issued ID. Vendors who deliver milk, bakery products, or other groceries who distribute their products to regular customers on established routes also do not require a City permit or ID.

Non-commercial door-to-door advocates are not required to register as a solicitor. Also, anyone going door-to-door for the primary purpose of exercising that person's state or federal constitutional rights such as the freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of religion, and the like are also not required to obtain a permit or register with the City.

A transient merchant is defined as anyone who engages in a temporary business of selling within the City, and who occupies any building, parking lot, structure, vehicle, trailer, tent, apartment or room for the exhibition and sale of such merchandise, either privately or at public auction. A transient merchant DOES require a City permit. If they do not have a permit posted or proper identification, please notify the City.

If you have any questions or concerns about people going door-to-door within the City, please do not hesitate to contact the City at (763) 717-4000 or at info@moundsviewmn.org.

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism reports, "parents' ability to influence whether their children drink is well documented and is consistent across racial/ethnic groups. Setting clear rules against drinking, consistently enforcing those rules, and monitoring the child's behavior all help to reduce the likelihood of underage drinking."

The MVPD works with area businesses to encourage checking IDs during alcohol sales. Those that are found to have violated this law are prosecuted. Alcohol is prohibited in City parks.

While parents are away, the MVPD recommends:

- Have a teenager stay with friends or family
- Secure alcohol
- Request a neighbor or friend check on the house
- Notify the police department of a vacation

#### When hosting parties:

- Host safe, alcohol-free activities and events during prom and graduation season
- Be at home when your teenager has a party
- Make sure your teenager's friends do not bring alcohol into your home
- Do not reserve hotel rooms for teens to stay at after a prom or event

Sources: National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, Westmoreland Community Action, Maineparents.net, MN Crime Prevention Association.

### **Utility Rate Changes**

Effective January 1, 2019:

- Utility rates for storm water management
  - Increase by \$1/quarter, or \$4/year
- Street light rates: Unchanged for 2019
- Water utility base charge: Increase by \$4/quarter
- Variable water rates
  - \$0.10 increase per thousand gallons for the first 12,000 gallons
  - \$0.11 increase per thousand gallons for the next 13,000 gallons
  - \$0.13 increase per thousand gallons for amounts over 25,000 gallons/quarter
    - Cost approximately \$24 annually based on average use
- Sanitary sewer base charge
  - Increase \$1.74 and variable charge will increase \$0.14 per thousand gallons used based on winter quarter usage
    - Sanitary Sewer rates will increase by \$17 annually based on average use

Overall, rate increases will add \$45 annually (\$11.25/quarter or \$3.75/month) for the average user (15,000 gallons). Complete rates are on pages 10-12 of the 2019 Fee Schedule, located on the City's website, www.moundsviewmn.org, under "I WANT TO..." > Download > Code Regulations & Fees > Fee Schedule > 2019 Fee Schedule.

## **Spring Load Limits to Start Soon on Roadways**

Spring load limits (SLL) are typically used as a pavement preservation strategy in regions of the United States where pavements are constructed in freeze-thaw environments. During the spring, pavement layers are generally in a saturated, weakened state due to partial thaw conditions and trapped water. The critical time for SLL is when the pavement first thaws, so proper measurement and prediction of freeze-thaw events are crucial to a successful load restriction strategy.

Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) determines when SLL are placed and removed by using actual and forecasted average daily temperatures. Current law specifies that all county, township, and municipal roads will begin and end SLL in common with the truck highway system, unless these roads are posted otherwise. Mounds View will post signs on streets with load restrictions when state load limits begin and leave these signs in place until the restrictions end. SLL typically begin sometime in March and last for 7 to 9 weeks.

#### **Permits Required**

Trucks with loads over the posted limits must obtain a permit from Public Works. Permits will be issued to haulers who demonstrate that their load is unable to be lightened or adjusted. A permit fee is required at the time of issuance. Permit fees assist in deferring costs of damages caused by overweight vehicles to the roads during the spring thawing-out period when road

restrictions are posted and enforced. Please inform your contractor or supplier to contact Public Works before hauling if you are having any construction work done during SLL. Recycling trucks are exempt from SLL in accordance with state law.

#### **Facts about Spring Load Limits**

- As the average air temperature decreases, a pavement structure freezes from the surface, down. In the same manner, as the average air temperature increases, a pavement thaws from the surface, down.
- The most critical time for placing spring load restrictions is when the pavement structure has thawed a depth of 6 to 12 inches from the surface. SLL help to preserve the aggregate base layer during this time because excess moisture is trapped in this layer and is unable to drain into the frozen subgrade.
- The damage that occurs on roadways during each day in the spring is about five (5) times greater than the damage that occurs during each day in the summer.
- In Minnesota, there are about 39,000 miles of paved roads that have spring load restrictions, of which approximately 1/3 or 13,400 miles, are city or local streets.
- It is estimated that a typical low volume asphalt road's life will be increased by about 10% due to implementing SLL procedures. This increase in life is estimated to result in an annual savings of more than \$10,000,000 for Minnesota roadways alone.
- Contact MnDOT's Office of Material and Road Research dedicated hotline at 651-366-5400 or www.mrr.dot.state.mn.us for updates on spring load limits.

## Reporting Potholes, Frozen Storm Drains, and Snow Plow Damage

Contact Public Works at 763-717-4050 to report any potholes, frozen storm drains, or boulevard/mailbox damage by snow plowing operations this past winter.

Potholes and snow plow damage on the following Ramsey County roadways should be directed to Ramsey County Public Works at 651-266-7100.

- County Highway 10/Mounds View Boulevard
- Silver Lake Road
- Long Lake Road
- County Road H
- County Road I (Silver Lake Road to I-35W)
- Old Highway 8

#### 2019 Street Rehabilitation

This summer's street projects will include reconstruction of Woodale Drive and the Silver View Park Parking Lot. The City's engineering consultant, Stantec, has prepared plans and specifications for use in publicly bidding the project. A bid opening and contractor selection is scheduled for March.

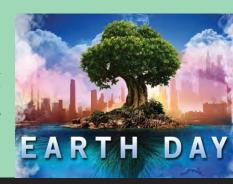
## **Street Sweeping**

Each spring, summer, and fall, Public Works crews sweep every mile of the City's

more than 43 miles of streets—curb to curb—to help keep our neighborhoods clean and to protect our waterways. Leaves, sediment, and other debris on the streets can clog storm drains and pollute our lakes and rivers. Street sweeping usually takes about four (4) weeks to complete. The spring sweeping operations begin once snow melt off is complete and before spring rains begin, typically near the end of March or early April.

## Earth Day: April 22, 2019

Earth Day is an annual event celebrated on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Worldwide, various events are held to demonstrate support for environmental protection. Earth Day was first celebrated in 1970.



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## National Public Works Week: May 19–25, 2019

National Public Works Week (NPWW) is a celebration of the tens of thousands of men and women in North America who provide and maintain the infrastructure and services collectively known as public works. Instituted as a public education campaign by the American Public Works Association (APWA) in 1960, NPWW calls



attention to the importance of public works in community life. The week seeks to enhance the prestige of the oftenunsung heroes of our society—the professionals who serve the public good every day with quiet dedication.



The Milmesota Department of Agriculture presented a report at the

April 26, 2018, Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission Meeting that Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is present in the City. An EAB injection program was established with Rainbow Treecare. With this program, high valued ash trees in City parks and on City grounds are to be injected with the goal to help slow the Emerald Ash Borer down while planting a new tree to replace a current infected tree. The program provides services to the businesses and homeowners of Mounds View to inject their private ash trees. Rainbow Treecare will be sending postcards at various times throughout the year regarding the program. If interested, please contact Rainbow Treecare at 952-922-3810 and ask them about the Mounds View program!

## **Water Main Flushing**

Public Works performs water main flushing after the snow has melted and the ground becomes unfrozen; this year it is scheduled for the week of April 21st. Flushing the water mains is done by opening the fire hydrants and letting the water flow at a high rate, which removes sand and sediment that has settled in the water main pipes since its last flushing. During and shortly after water main flushing, you may experience low water pressure or discoloration of water. Please note that this will last for only a short period and your normal water service will be restored. If you choose to wash clothes during this period of flushing, remember to check your washer at EVERY FILL CYCLE for "brown colored" water and discontinue the cycle until the water runs clear again. The flushing schedule and status will be posted on the City website sometime in mid- to late-April.



### What's Happening at Mounds View Library

Stop in and check out the Job Corner! Up-to-date job postings, resume tips, career workshop information, and more.

#### **Family Storytime**

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.

Start your day with stories, songs and finger plays designed to enhance your child's early literacy skills! Ages 2–5 with caregiver.

#### **Baby & Me Storytime**

Fridays, 9:45 a.m.

Share stories, songs, rhymes, and play with your baby at this story time, designed for the youngest learner. Appropriate for ages 6–23 months. Limited to 15 babies with caregivers.

#### Read It Down

First Saturdays: March 2, April 6, May 4

Got fines or fees? Read them away. Visit any Ramsey County Library on the first Saturday of every month to participate. Earn \$1 for every 15 minutes you spend reading in the library. Kids and teens 17 and under.

#### **Toddler Obstacle Course**

Saturday, March 9, 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Come join us in expending some pent-up energy in this specially designed active obstacle course for little ones. Believe it or not, playing in an obstacle course-like structure can enhance bilateral skills which directly correlates with early reading skills. Babies are welcome in their own activity corner with caregivers. Adults must remain with kids for the duration of playtime. Appropriate for ages 6 months-5 years.

#### Tree Weaving

Friday, March 15, 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Come create a tree weaving project using a paper plate and yarn. This event is funded with money from the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries. Space is limited to 25 on a first-come/first-served basis. Appropriate for ages 7–12.

#### **Decorate Your Own Tote Bag**

Friday, April 5, 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Discover how much fun it can be to decorate a tote bag with Sharpie markers. Supplies provided. Space is limited to 25 participants, no registration required. Ages 7–12.

#### Seasonal Public Maintenance Workers

If you're looking for summer employment, are 18 years of age or older, have a Minnesota driver's license, and able to work outdoors in all weather conditions, consider applying for a seasonal Public Maintenance Worker position. For more information see the City's website, www.moundsviewmn.org, under "I WANT TO..." Apply For > Employment > City of Mounds View > Download > Seasonal Application Packet.

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#### **CONTACT US**

City Hall 2401 Mounds View Boulevard Mounds View, MN 55112 763-717-4000

**City Website** www.moundsviewmn.org

City Email moundsview@moundsviewmn.org

#### **CITY COUNCIL 2019**



Council Member Bill Bergeron 763-717-4003 City Hall 763-780-2937 Home

**Council Member Al Hull** 763-717-4004 City Hall 763-600-1102 Home

**Mayor Carol Mueller** 763-717-4006 City Hall 763-458-2719 Mobile

**Council Member Gary Meehlhause** 763-717-4007 City Hall 763-780-9695 Home

Council Member Sherry Gunn 763-717-4005 City Hall 612-619-4333 Mobile

#### **PUBLIC WORKS**

763-717-4050 Main Line Monday-Friday, 7:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

publicworks@moundsviewmn.org

#### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

763-717-4070 Main Line Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

651-484-9155 Dispatch **After Hours & Weekends** 

## Dine at Texas Roadhouse and Support the Mounds View Police Foundation

**IOUNDS** VIEW POLICE FOUNDATION

The Mounds View Police Foundation in conjunction with Texas Roadhouse (Coon Rapids) is sponsoring a

fundraiser on Monday, April 29th from 5:00 p.m. to close. A percentage of your dinner ticket will be donated to the Mounds View Police Foundation. Please have dinner and support the Mounds View Police Foundation which helps fund outreach programs for the Mounds View Police Department. Bring this article or snap a picture on your phone and show your server so your meal will benefit the Mounds View Police Foundation. Texas Roadhouse is located at 2780 Main Street NW in Coon Rapids. Check the Facebook page for details at www.facebook.com/MoundsViewPoliceFoundation/.

## Comprehensive Plan

The Comprehensive Plan is the City's 20-year plan for growth and development, and includes City and regional infrastructure, services, and planning. The Plan is updated every 10 years. The City Council appointed nine (9) residents to a taskforce to guide the process. The taskforce met for a year. The draft plan will be available on the City's website by April, and then reviewed by the City's advisory commissions, and adjacent cities and agencies, after which it will be submitted to the Metropolitan Council for review of consistency with regional plans and policies.

What does this mean, and why should you care? The Comprehensive Plan sets the policy for land use. The City Code (the laws that we follow everyday) must be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. The Plan guides what properties can be redeveloped for what use; where City sidewalks and trails connect to county trails; how the City's water and sewer infrastructure is maintained; and much more. More importantly, the Comprehensive Plan is

intended to identify missed

opportunities.

Many of these missed opportunities were identified by residents in the 2018 community opinion survey (results are posted at www.moundsviewmn.org). These opportunities will be incorporated into the City's 3-year Strategic Plan and 5-year Capital Improvement Plan (as funding allows). If not funded, this presents the challenge to the City Council and staff to figure out how to implement them, and when.



If you're looking for summer activities for kids of all skill levels in Grades 1-6, find your deal and call 612-230-9622 or register online at www.ymcamn.org/summer.

