

**City of Ramsey  
Weekly Update  
September 13, 2012**

- 1. Weekly Update**
  - 1. September 13, 2012**

**Weekly Update**

**1. 1.**

**Meeting Date:** 09/13/2012

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**Information**

**Weekly Update**

September 13, 2012

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**Attachments**

Weekly Update 091312

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**Form Review**

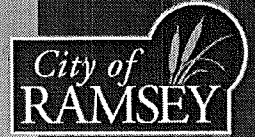
Form Started By: Kathy Schmitz

Started On: 09/12/2012 10:58 AM

Final Approval Date: 09/12/2012

# WEEKLY UPDATE

*Administrator's Report*



September 13, 2012

## *Weekly Calendar of Events*

**Tuesday, September 18, 2012**

6:00 p.m. – Public Works Committee – Lake Itasca Room

### *Preview of Next Week*

**The Draw Summer Series:** September 13 at The Draw – Park Patron Picnic – 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.  
*Attached to the Weekly Update is the Park Patron Picnic Flyer.*

**Farmer's Market.** Today, September 13.

#### **Public Works Committee (6:00 p.m. – LIR)**

- Review Resident's Concerns With The Sunfish Lake Blvd/CR116 Project
- Consider Stop Sign Request for 145th Lane and Tungsten Way
- Consider Stop Sign Request at 152nd Lane and Helium Street
- Consider Sight Triangle Concerns at Alpine Drive and Puma Street
- Crosswalk Request for Zirconium St and Alpine Drive
- Consider Retention Pond Improvements Near 5430 149th Lane
- Consider Stormwater Improvements at Rum River Hills Golf Course - A Continuation of Discussion Related to 2011 Flooding Concerns
- Sunwood Drive Project - Supplemental Agreement #1, Change Order #2 and Connexus Relocation Charges
- Review of Miscellaneous Storm Water Appurtenances in the Vicinity of Lake Ramsey
- Follow-up Information on Radar Speed Signs

### *Council Update*

**Building and Planning Division Webpage Updates.** In an effort to serve our customers better, updates have been completed to the Building and Planning Division Pages. These pages are a continual process for improvement, so comments on how to continue to improve these pages are greatly appreciated. All Building and Zoning Permits can now be found in one location with a simplified URL at [www.cityoframsey.com/permits](http://www.cityoframsey.com/permits). Previously, users needed to navigate to either the Building Division or Planning Division page (depending on the permit type), through the Community Development page. Staff is hopeful this better matches the needs of website end-users and will assist Staff in more efficiently instructing callers where to access Applications. In addition, based on feedback from users, a comprehensive list of permits was developed to assist users to navigate, search, and identify appropriate permits, while still maintaining the current 'all-inclusive' Application. Also, Rates and Fees are more prominently displayed, which will assist Applicants in project planning. A link to this page can also be found

in the left-side Table of Contents that is part of all City webpages under 'Permits and Applications'. Finally, Land Use Applications such as Site Plan Review and Conditional Use Permits can now be found at

**Firewood – Proceeds to Youth First.** There were 8 pallets of split firewood left over from Happy Days. The firewood is being advertised on public auction with all proceeds going to the Youth First Program. The link to the auction is listed below:  
<http://www.publicsurp.lus.com/sms/ramsey,mn/list/current?orgid+245904>  
[www.cityoframsey.com/LandUse](http://www.cityoframsey.com/LandUse).

**Canvas Craft.** It appears that Canvas Craft has chosen to sell its Ramsey location to another business user. The City received a site plan/conditional use permit application from Lake Region RVs for the property to operate a motor vehicle sales site. This is an existing Ramsey business, located near the western border on Highway 10.

### **Department Activities:**

#### **Building Maintenance**

- Happy days clean up
- Repair bad pump at fire #1
- Repair bad faucet in parking ramp
- Attend meetings and meet with contractors

#### **City Clerk**

- Moved into new office space
- Researching questions with Secretary of State's Office from League of Women Voters
- Completed work on Special Events permit with Police Chief and Fire Inspector

#### **Engineering**

- Sunwood Drive / Armstrong Blvd: Construction of the last section of curb and gutter on Sunwood Drive is scheduled for this Friday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. Paving on Sunwood and Armstrong is now scheduled for September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. After the paving on this phase is completed, Sunwood Drive and Armstrong Blvd (north of Sunwood Drive) will be open to traffic. Temporary traffic control (stop signs) will be placed at the intersection of Sunwood Drive and Armstrong Boulevard until the traffic signals are installed.
- The Alpine Drive project is scheduled to start next week. The Contractor will begin by performing the storm sewer and curb repairs. Although some delays can be expected during construction, Alpine Drive will remain open to local traffic.

#### **Finance**

- 2013 Proposed Levy Documentation & Resolutions to County
- Field resident calls from certification letters sent last week
- Finalize F&C fifth draw
- RALF Properties - tax & property summaries, determine lease rates & work with tenant regarding compressor issue

#### **Fire**

- Notable Responses

- 9/6- P.I. accident near Bills Superette in Nowthen. Two vehicle accident with both vehicles moved into parking lot. Provided patient care to driver with minor injuries. Transported by Allina
- 9/11- Mutual aid to St Francis for a grass fire. Crew assisted with grass fire in ditch.
- Administration
  - Worked with applicant to meet requirements of special events permit
  - Met with business owner to define construction options for addition
  - Meeting to schedule S.T.E.P. school topics and dates
  - Filmed public safety show at QCTV
- Training this week: Business Meeting

### HR

- Rehired Jason Fredrickson as a Temporary IT employee
- Continued/started recruitments for Patrol Officer and IT Specialist
- Met with Finance staff regarding open enrollment

### Parks

- Tear down/clean-up after happy Days
- Repaired swings at Rivers Bend and Emerald Pond parks following vandalism
- DOC – field striping

### Planning/Building

- Finish Additional Forecast Analysis per Metropolitan Council Staff request (Comprehensive Plan Amendment)
- Meeting about Cross of Hope project
- Drafting RFP for recycling enhancement grant project

### Police

- **Safety Patrol.** Approximately 150 fourth and fifth graders at Ramsey Elementary School were trained and installed as official School Safety Patrol (bus and crosswalk) assistants. We encourage everyone to be aware of the crosswalk kids (clearly identified by their bright sashes and flags) and if you get a chance to ever thank them, please do so. These kids brave the pouring rain and blustery winter snow to make sure all students cross safely on school grounds. Bus patrol students have equally challenging jobs helping manage unruly riders so that the drivers can do their jobs. Safety is their number one priority....and they are very excited to serve in this capacity!
- **BCA Training.** Capt Katers and Joleen Wiemann attended the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension's Criminal Justice Information Users' Conference this week. They attended sessions involving the FBI's Security Policy, Data Practices, Criminal History Suspense Reconciliation, as well as others. Their registration to this conference was paid for by the Joint Law Enforcement Council, as part of the Anoka County Central Records project.

### Public Works

- Clear ROW and culverts in the Rodeo Hills sub-division
- Grade dirt roads (finally got a little rain!)
- Tear down signs and other equipment for Happy Days

**Utilities**

- Received a call on water running out of the ground possible water main break at 148<sup>th</sup> and Bison street. Crew arrived to find that the water curb stop in a vacant lot had been damaged from recent site leveling and water was flowing rapidly from the site into a storm pond, employees had to excavate the site and manually shut of the damaged curb stop to stop the flow of water. A large painted stake was left at the site to alert construction crews of the shut off.
- Utility employees outfitted the jetter truck for our annual sanitary sewer televising program. We are required to televise 1/10 of our sanitary sewer mains each year, we are focusing on some of the newer construction north of Bunker Lake Boulevard this season, crews televised several thousand feet of sewer mains, manholes and service lateral connections to the mains

**Save the Date:**

Best regards,



Kurtis G. Ulrich  
City Administrator

Attachments: Park Patron Picnic Program  
News Release: Anoka County Board Proposes to Lower Levy Again  
News Release: Cover Photo Contest

# Park Patron Picnic

Thursday, September 13 from 5:00-7:30

The Draw 7401 E Ramsey Parkway, Ramsey, MN 55303  
(within the COR)

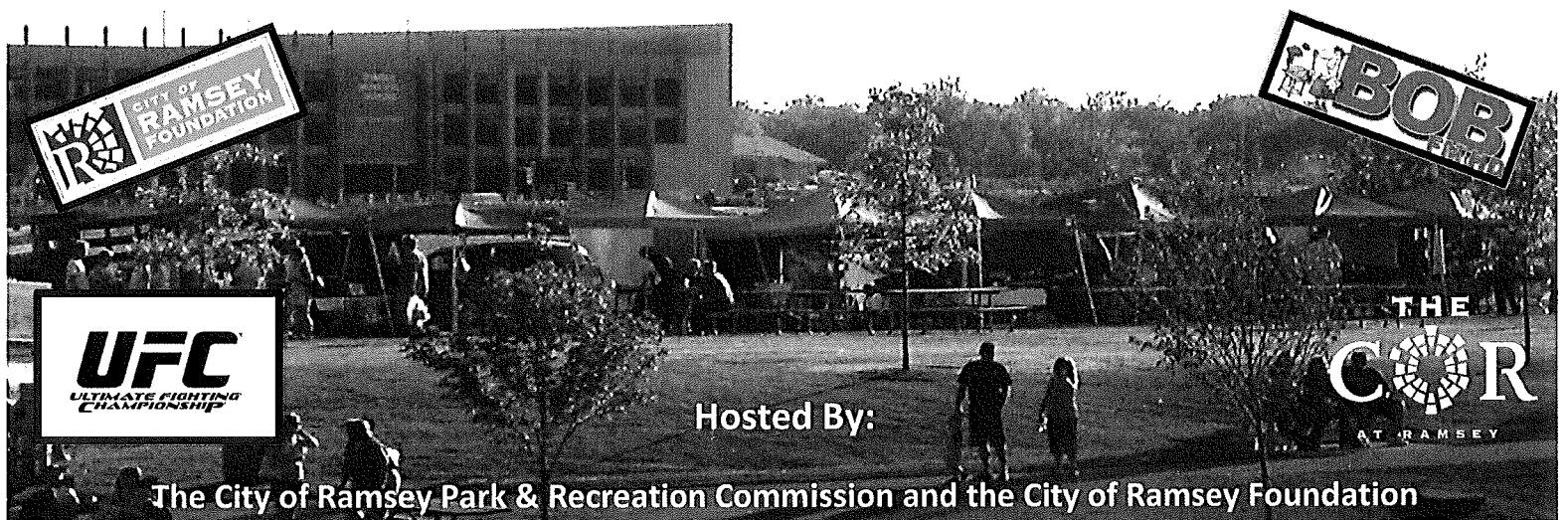
Come celebrate another successful year of The Draw Summer Event Series and Farmers Market with a live broadcast from BOB FM.

**\*Free Food & Free Prizes\***

## How It Works

*Pick up your Free Meal Card at any Farmers Market Booth on Thursdays from 3-7 PM. For each \$6 purchase at the Farmers Market from August 23rd until September 13th, you'll get a stamp worth 1 free meal at the grill. Fill a whole card (\$24 in Farmers Market purchases over 4 weeks) and qualify for the valuable grand prize. Turn in your stamped card from 5:00-6:45 PM on September 13<sup>th</sup> for free food, drink & to enter the prize drawing.*

*\*Must be present to win\* \*\*Rainout date is Sep. 20<sup>th</sup>\*\**



**FOOD AND DRINKS** will be available for purchase during the event  
**FARMERS MARKET** adjacent to the amphitheater in The Draw  
**LOCATION** The Draw 7401 E Ramsey Parkway, Ramsey, MN 55303

## Electronic Agenda

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**Subject:** FW: News Release

**Subject:** News Release

I have attached and copied into this message a news release, *Anoka County Board Proposes to Lower Levy Again!* If you experience any problems with this communication, please let me know.

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Contact: Martha Weaver, Public Information Manager, 763-323-5744, or e-mail: [martha.weaver@co.anoka.mn.us](mailto:martha.weaver@co.anoka.mn.us)

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **Anoka County Board Proposes to Lower Levy Again!**

The Anoka County Board of Commissioners has voted in favor of a 2013 budget that decreases the property tax levy yet again by more than \$1 million. The proposed budget of \$241.5 million will result in a reduction in the county portion of the property tax bill for most low and moderate value Anoka County homes.

“We’re just beginning to emerge from one of the most devastating economic periods in our country’s history,” said Board of Commissioners Chair Rhonda Sivarajah. “It’s our responsibility as leaders to not overburden (hit our citizens with a tax increase) our citizens just as they’re starting to get back on their feet. We will move forward with the excellent and diverse array of service as we always have, while staying focused on our priorities of sound management, a diverse tax base, low debt burden, and healthy reserves,” said Sivarajah.

The county board continued its focus on streamlining service delivery and applying innovative ideas in order to cut spending without cutting service to citizens. Cost-saving measures totaling \$1,013,299 enable a net tax levy of \$97,517,399. That amount represents a 1.03 percent decrease from 2012.

“Our priority is serving our citizens in the best way possible, while keeping their hard-earned dollars in their pockets to the greatest extent possible. Every day we demonstrate our commitment to public safety and service while maximizing the value of every tax dollar we collect,” said Sivarajah.

#### **Innovations, collaborations, and cost saving measures:**

- **Voluntary Separation Program**

In 2013, eligible employees will again have the opportunity to take advantage of a voluntary separation program that will save Anoka County taxpayers nearly half a million dollars annually in salary and benefit costs. Future ongoing savings will result from not filling some positions and either restructuring or hiring replacements at a lower pay rate for the balance.

- **Investing in Technology**

Anoka County is investing in technology to enhance public safety, better serve the customers, and save dollars through the saving of staff time and resources. Implementing technology-based systems, such as the imaging project in the Human Service's Economic Assistance Department allows staff to quickly access data that otherwise would have been tucked away in a file drawer. The Commissioners also receive their board meeting packets electronically.

- **Highway Department**

Over the past two years, the Anoka County Highway Department has undertaken the largest investment in Anoka County's transportation infrastructure in the county's history. Significant projects have included the rebuilding of CSAH 14 (Main Street/125<sup>th</sup> Avenue) through Andover, Coon Rapids, and Blaine.

- **Fiber**

The Connect Anoka County project is nearing a successful completion to bring a 286-mile fiber optic network linking 145 public buildings – police, fire, public works, libraries, K-12 schools, colleges, city and town halls, and community buildings – in and adjacent to Anoka County.

“Last year we were one of only two counties in the entire state that cut their levy, the amount we collect from the taxpayer. We know that the recovery is just beginning and we are more than comfortable to once again lead in our effort to put our citizens first,” said Sivarajah.

Key Facts and Figures:

• Proposed 2013 budget	\$241,580,236
• Proposed 2013 net levy	\$97,517,399* (-\$1,013,399 or -1.03% from 2012)
• County program aid reduction	- \$917,666
• Certified foreclosures	2011 1,995 2010 2,259
• Average home value:	2008 \$213,000 2009 \$196,800 2010 \$177,500 2011 \$173,900 2012 \$155,400 2013 \$141,800

\*County line only, does not include rail levy or school district levy.

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*Martha*

MARTHA WEAVER  
PUBLIC INFORMATION MANAGER  
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763-381-4845 CELL/TEXT

## Our Mission



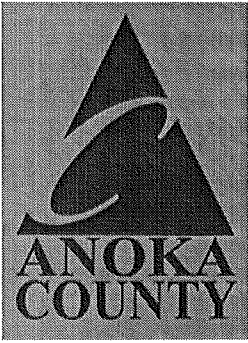
The mission of Anoka County is to serve citizens in a respectful, innovative, and fiscally responsible manner.

RATED AAA BY STANDARD & POOR'S!

[www.youtube.com/anokacountymn](http://www.youtube.com/anokacountymn)

Build your future here!

NOTICE: Unless restricted by law, email correspondence to and from Anoka County government offices may be public data subject to the Minnesota Data Practices Act and/or may be disclosed to third parties.



# COUNTY OF ANOKA

## OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

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September 13, 2012

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[martha.weaver@co.anoka.mn.us](mailto:martha.weaver@co.anoka.mn.us)

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **Anoka County Announces “Send Us Your Best Shot” Cover Photo Contest!**

Every two years, more than 122,000 households in Anoka County receive the **Recyclopedia**, a guide produced by Anoka County about how to reduce waste, reuse resources, recycle more, and dispose of materials safely. This ‘go to’ guide is tailored to each of the 21 communities within Anoka County.

New this year, the cover of the **Recyclopedia** will feature a photo taken by one lucky Anoka County resident. Please help us spread the word about the “Send Us Your Best Shot” cover contest. The winning photo will be featured on the cover of the 2013-2014 **Recyclopedia**.

“This is a great way to raise awareness of all the great information the **Recyclopedia** has to offer and to showcase the talents of our Anoka County citizens,” said Anoka County Commissioner Jim Kordiak, who chairs the county’s Waste Management and Energy Committee. “In addition to the cover shot, additional photos will be selected to be featured on the county’s web site [www.anokacounty.us](http://www.anokacounty.us).”

**-more-**

## Anoka County Announces "Send Us Your Best Shot" Cover Photo Contest! – Add 1

### The rules:

- Photos will only be accepted now through October 19, 2012.
- Amateur photographers only, please.
- Open to Anoka County residents only.
- Photo must be taken in Anoka County within the past two years.
- Digital photos only with minimal manipulation, i.e., color correction, cropping, etc.
- Photo must be a single work of original material.
- Minimum size 5" x 5" and 300 dpi but no more than 5 mb. Accepted formats: JPG or JPEG.
- Photos will not be returned. Contest participants grant Anoka County permission to use submitted photos for educational or promotional purposes with credit given.
- The photographer is responsible for obtaining written permissions and/or consent if photo contains another person's likeness or copyrighted material or elements.

Submit your photo to [photocontest@co.anoka.mn.us](mailto:photocontest@co.anoka.mn.us) and please include contact information (name, address, phone, email) and details about when and where the photo was taken.