

October 4, 2012

## *Weekly Calendar of Events*

### **Tuesday, October 9, 2012**

- 5:30 p.m. – Personnel Committee – Lake Itasca Room
- Immediately following Personnel - City Council Work Session - Lake Itasca Room
- 7:00 p.m. – City Council – Council Chambers
- Immediately following CC – HRA – Council Chambers

### **Thursday, October 11, 2012**

- 7:30 a.m. – EDA – Lake Itasca Room
- 6:30 p.m. – Park & Recreation Commission – Council Chambers

## *Preview of Next Week*

**Farmer's Market.** Today, October 4.

### **Personnel Committee (5:30 p.m. – LIR)**

- Consider a Resolution Ending the Probation Period of the Management Analyst

### **City Council Work Session (Immed. following Personnel & Finance Committees - LIR)**

- 2013 Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges
- Sunwood Drive / Armstrong Blvd - Consider Change Order #3
- Sunwood Drive Project - Consider Additional Electrical Receptacles
- Discuss Requesting/Allocating Funding from Anoka County Housing and Redevelopment Authority toward The COR Development
- Review Future Work Session Topics and Calendar

### **City Council (7:00 p.m. – CC)**

- Change purchase entities for property at 14590 Armstrong Blvd., NW (Wise Choice Liquors).
- Adopt an Ordinance to Amend the Official Zoning Map in the for Lot 9, Block 2, WINDSORWOOD, Related to the City-Owned Lands Project

### **HRA (Immediately following City Council - CC)**

- Consider purchase of 14590 Armstrong Blvd. NW Ramsey, Minnesota (Wiser Choice Liquor Store) from M&W Holding Company, LLC.
- Approve Development Agreement - COR TWO
- Approve documents related to the plat of COR TWO

### **EDA (7:30 a.m. – LIR)**

- Guest Speaker--Don Haller, Connexus Energy
- 15153 Nowthen BLVD, Old City Hall Site, Consider Future Development
- Business Retention & Expansion Program Introduction, Continued
- Ramsey EDA Business Networking Breakfast Event Update
- Prospect Update, Mike Mulrooney
- Demolition of Buildings Located on 8020 147 Ave NW, Update
- City Owned RALF Properties, Leasable Space Update

### **Park and Recreation Commission (6:30 p.m. – CC)**

- 2012 The Draw Summer Event Series Recap
- Consider Disc Golf Utilizing the Lawful Gambling Fund Volunteer Match Program
- North Common's Tree Grant Planting – October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012

#### **Commission/Staff Input**

- Identify Trail Priorities
- MN DNR Trail Grant
- Met Council Trail Grant

## ***Council Update***

**Thank You from Northern Lights Church.** Staff received a Thank You letter from Northern Lights Church (lease the west side of 6701 Highway 10) in regards to their appreciation of staff's assistance during the water main break at 6701 Highway 10. *Attached to the Weekly Update is a Thank You Letter from Northern Lights Church.*

**Thrive MSP 2040 (Regional Framework) Listening Sessions.** The Metropolitan Council is hosting additional listening sessions related to the upcoming 2040 Framework Process. This is a precursor to the formal review and update process, but provides an excellent opportunity for the City to provide early feedback on the process and content. The Regional Framework includes plans on land use, transportation, housing, and natural resources. This may be an excellent opportunity to submit our comments on the importance of Highway 10. The Development Services Manager plans to attend the Monday evening session. If you would like to carpool or attend, please contact Mr. Gladhill at 763-576-4308 or [tgladhill@ci.ramsey.mn.us](mailto:tgladhill@ci.ramsey.mn.us). *Attached to the Weekly Update is the notice of the Thrive MSP 2040 (Regional Framework) Listening Sessions.*

**Fall Recycling Day a Success.** The Annual Fall Recycling Day was held on Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at the Public Works Campus. The event was a large success, with an above average attendance for the fall event of nearly 300 vehicles. Thank you to Chris Anderson, Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator for coordinating the event and a special thank you to the Public Works and Building Maintenance staff for hosting and staffing the event (including preparation).

**Ramsey Raceway.** The City of Ramsey has a 50% profit sharing agreement with the Ramsey Raceway Racetrack. For races during the time period of May 18, 2012 through September 8, 2012, the city received a total of \$5,322.50 for its share. Of note, on September 8, 2012, which was the date of Happy Days, 131 spectators visited the track, in comparison to the estimated average attendance of 50 spectators.

**2012 The Draw Summer Series to be Reviewed with Thank-You's to Sponsors.** In keeping with the tenets of Council's Strategic Plan relating to Marketing and celebrating positive events, targeting key markets, and investing in future success; at the Park and Recreation Commission's October meeting, the summer events at The Draw will be reviewed in detail. In addition to each event sponsor receiving personal thank-you's after each event as well as written correspondence, a special year-end thank you is being extended that calls attention to their business being highlighted on QCTV October 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. *Attached to the Weekly Update is the 'Short Version' of the Wrap-up Summer Event Series Presentation.*

### **Department Activities:**

#### **Building Maintenance**

- Paint first floor offices for engineering move
- Continue fall HVAC maintenance
- Miscellaneous 2012 general election items

#### **City Clerk**

- Receiving absentee ballots - daily, conducting Ballot Board and accepting absentee ballots into State system - bi-weekly
- Transcribed, proofed and edited several sets of minutes plus staff direction
- Attended Election Clerks meeting at Ham Lake City Hall, agenda by Anoka County Elections
- Data Requests (3)

#### **Finance**

- Public data requests
- Reconcile Landform invoices with contracts
- Prepare Comdata statements
- F&C 6<sup>th</sup> Draw Request reconciliation

#### **HR**

- Patrol Officer Interviews
- Training Research
- Personnel Related Work

#### **IT**

- Moving Day preparation!
- File Server cleanup
- All-Staff Presentation
  - Training Materials
- Cellular Phone switchover. As of October 22<sup>nd</sup> the City will be saying "So Long!" to Nextel phones and devices. We will be switching City employees over to Sprint phones

or smartphones over a two day period. Employees will be asked to drop off their phones with Kathy in the morning of the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> and picking up new phone 2-4 hours later.

### Parks

- Soccer jamboree this weekend at Elmcrest where at least 176 teams will be participating. Volunteer ARAA members stripped in the 16 fields that will be needed for this event.
- Fall trail pruning of the brush from the sides of the trails along with removing branches that are hanging to low over the trail. This makes it easier for our residents with dogs or bike riders to pass one another on the trails. It also helps staff to get through these trails with equipment for maintenance purposes...
- Mowing slowing down - will only need to mow a couple more times this fall (quite dry) before we service and put the equipment away for the season. Contract mowing of The Draw suspended this week
- DOC – Stripped soccer fields this week at Central, together with tree removal there and tire-tossing following Recycling Day.

### Planning/Building

- Finalized details of office space configuration
- Finalized individual unit addresses for Residence at The COR
- Finalized field laptops for Building Inspectors – streamlined data entry and paper reduction
- Met to discuss tree planting project in North Commons

### Streets

- Fall street sweeping continues to be the main focus for the street department this week. With the change in the weather we will set up one plow truck this week just in case we get a call for an icy intersection. The rest of the plow equipment is scheduled for assembly in late October or early November depending on weather forecasts.

### Utilities

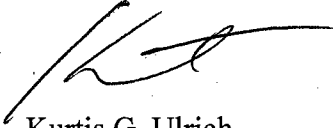
- We started our fall water main flushing program on Monday morning and a three person crew will be working for the better part of three weeks to complete the project, when completed over a thousand fire hydrants will be operated, oiled, and inspected
- We worked with a representative from Renner well and completed our annual well inspections on all eight city wells.

### **Save the Date:**

- **Friday, October 12, 2012. Win Big with Village Bank**, Friday, October 12, 2012, 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., for tailgate fun! Free Refreshments, including free chili from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., Free box of Village Bank Logo checks. *Attached to the Weekly Update is a Flyer for the Win Big with Village Bank event.*
- **Monday, October 15, 2012. MetroNorth Chamber of Commerce Membership Meeting featuring Rep. Bachmann.** “On Monday, October 15, members of the MetroNorth Chamber have the opportunity to hear from Congresswoman Michele Bachmann, whose district covers most of Anoka County. Rep. Bachmann will provide an update on national issues and other matters important to the local business community.

The meeting will be at 8:00 a.m. at Connexus Energy in Ramsey with light refreshments provided. There is **NO COST** for MetroNorth members to attend; however an **RSVP is required**". (*The City of Ramsey is a member of the MetroNorth Chamber.*) If you are interested in attending, please let Jo know and she will RSVP for you.

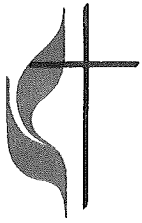
Best regards,



Kurtis G. Ulrich  
City Administrator

Attachments: Thank You Letter from Northern Lights Church  
Notice of the Thrive MSP 2040 (Regional Framework) Listening Sessions  
Wrap-up Summer Event Series Presentation  
Flyer for the Win Big with Village Bank event  
Minnesota Transportation Finance Advisory Committee, September 24, 2012  
Alliance Legislative Update, September 28, 2012

REC'D SEP 28 2012



The United Methodist  
Church of Anoka

850 South Street.  
Anoka, Minnesota 55303  
(763) 421-2378  
[www.anokaumc.org](http://www.anokaumc.org)

September 26, 2013

Cindy Nelson  
City of Ramsey  
7550 Sunwood Drive NW  
Ramsey, MN 55303

Dear Cindy,

Just a note to express our thanks for all the City of Ramsey did for us at Northern Light after we sustained water damage. Your response was prompt and professional. Please share our appreciation with all of those who were responsible for getting us back in there in such a timely manner.

Thank you also for letting us use the old city hall for our worship services. It worked out well.

We look forward to our continued partnership in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lyndon Zabel".

Lyndon Zabel  
Northern Light Pastor

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Eaves".

William Eaves  
Senior Pastor, UMC of Anoka

## Tim Gladhill

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**From:** Metropolitan Council <METC@public.govdelivery.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 8:39 AM  
**To:** Tim Gladhill  
**Subject:** Reminder - Thrive MSP 2040 Listening Sessions Next Week



### Join us for a listening session next week Oct. 8 in Minneapolis, Oct. 9 in St. Paul

Mark your calendars and join us next week for two additional Thrive MSP 2040 listening sessions, to help the Metropolitan Council create the vision for the Twin Cities metropolitan region over the next 30 years. The meetings are open to the public, and feature a brief presentation, followed by an open discussion where attendees can offer their ideas for the region. Attend whichever meeting is convenient to your schedule and encourage other members of the community to attend, as well.

Please RSVP to Council public information if you're planning to attend: 651-602-1140 or [public.info@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:public.info@metc.state.mn.us).

For more information about the Thrive MSP 2040 effort, visit [thrivemsp.org](http://thrivemsp.org).

Share Your  
Ideas  
**Thrive MSP**

**Can't make a  
meeting? Join the  
conversation  
online.**

Questions? Contact the Thrive MSP 2040 project team at [thrivemsp@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:thrivemsp@metc.state.mn.us)

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#### *Minneapolis*

**Monday, Oct. 8, 6 to 8 p.m.**

University of Minnesota, Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC)

2001 Plymouth Ave. N., Room 105

#### *St. Paul*

**Tuesday, Oct. 9, 6 to 8 p.m.**

Metropolitan Council Offices

390 N. Robert St., Lower Level, Room LLA



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This email was sent to [tgldhill@ci.ramsey.mn.us](mailto:tgldhill@ci.ramsey.mn.us) using GovDelivery, on behalf of: Metropolitan Council · 390 Robert St. North · Saint Paul, MN 55101-1805 · 651-602-1000



# The Draw Summer Event Series 2012

(Recap and wrap-up)



# Promoting

- The City and Foundation took a comprehensive approach this year promoting The Draw Summer Event Series.
- There was four 24 x 36 bi-weekly posters updated every other week for the upcoming events.
- The bi-weekly ads were posted on the city Facebook page and city website every week.
- These were also handed out at the end of every concert.

**THE COR** AT RAMSEY

## THE DRAW

SUMMER EVENT SERIES



**Aug 16:**  
SCOTT NOVOTNY



• 6:30-8:00 PM  
• PRESENTED BY:  
ALLINA MEDICAL CLINIC



• PRESENTED BY:  
SISTER KENNY SPORTS &  
PHYSICAL THERAPY CENTER



**Aug 23:**  
ELVIS, TODD ANDERSON



• 6:30-8:00 PM  
• PRESENTED BY:  
CONNEXUS ENERGY



• PRESENTED BY:  
GIFT OF RAMSEY FOUNDATION



*FARMERS MARKET* adjacent to the amphitheater in The Draw every Thursday from 3-7!



**Aug 16: SCOTT NOVOTNY**  
Scott Novotny loves delighting audiences with his show – an act laced with characters, songs, jokes, dancing, props, improvisation, and physical comedy.  
Event Sponsors-Allina Medical Clinic - Ramsey, Sister Kenny Sports & Physical Therapy Center  
Allina Medical Clinic - Ramsey and Sister Kenny Sports & Physical Therapy Center are part of Allina Health. A not-for-profit health care system, Allina Health cares for patients from beginning to end-of-life through its 90+ clinics, 11 hospitals, 15 pharmacies, specialty care centers and specialty medical services. Learn more at [allinahealth.org](http://allinahealth.org).  
\*Food and drinks will be available for purchase during the event.

**Aug 23: ELVIS, TODD ANDERSON**  
Todd Anderson has brought joy, excitement, and music to audiences of all ages, and is a special favorite with senior audiences. He is a very versatile singer with a repertoire that includes many genres of music including rock & roll, gospel, opera, jazz, country western, and folk songs.  
Event Sponsor-Connexus Energy  
Based in Ramsey, Connexus Energy is Minnesota's largest electric cooperative, providing electricity and related products and services to homes and businesses in portions of Anoka, Chisago, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Sherburne, and Washington counties.  
\*Food and drinks will be available for purchase during the event.

Located at 'The Draw' - 7401 E Ramsey Parkway,  
Ramsey, MN  
[www.CORatRAMSEY.com](http://www.CORatRAMSEY.com)

# Promoting

The Draw 2012

Presented by:



## Summer Event Series

DATE: TIME: ACT:

**June 21 6:30-8:00pm Big Walter Smith and The Groove Merchants**  
Minnesota's most recognized bluesmen, earning an international reputation as an accomplished recording artist. *Sponsor: Anderson Dahlan Inc. and Village Bank*

**June 28 4:00-Dusk Radio Control Boat Races**  
Wind, Waves N Wakes showcases wind, gas and electric powered boats that can reach speeds in excess of 60 mph. *Sponsor: Edina Yacht Club*

**July 05 6:30-8:00pm Kendama Free For All**  
Bring your friends and kendamas for an extreme free for all. There will be music playing and the opportunity to participate in yard games as well. *Sponsor: Tamada Alley Sports*

**July 12 6:30-8:00pm Roadhouse Blue Band**  
Roadhouse Blue is a variety/classic country/rock band. Free samples of Killebrew Root Beer will be available. *Sponsor: RIM and Killebrew Beverages*

**July 19 6:30-9:00pm Bill and Tom Show**  
The Bill & Tom Show is a 2 man Guitar/Piano Duo playing popular good little songs from the 60's and 70's. *Sponsor: Trutt Brook Financial & Welke and Boyd Law Firm*

**July 26 6:30-8:00pm Me and Pop's**  
Classic American music with vocals and guitars, ME and Pop's tributes classic songs of each decade starting in the 1920's to the 1980's. *Sponsor: Field Law, P.A.*

**Aug 02 6:30-8:00pm The Whatnots**  
The Whatnots, practically the world's greatest cover band, play all your favorite rock, pop, 80's and disco. *Sponsor: Coborn's & Ramsey Rotary*

**Aug 09 6:30-8:00pm 1<sup>st</sup> Things 1<sup>st</sup>**  
1<sup>st</sup> Things 1<sup>st</sup> is a tribute to great writers and performers of 40's and 50's. The musical revue is a fun, high energy show that has delighted all ages. *Sponsor: Ramsey Lower Community Garden*

**Aug 16 6:30-8:00pm Scott Novotny-Comedian**  
Scott's act is loaded with characters, songs, dancing and jokes. *Sponsor: Sister Kenny Sports and Physical Therapy Center-Ramsey, Allina Medical Clinic-Ramsey*

**Aug 23 6:30-8:00pm Elvis, Todd Anderson**  
Elvis is a delightfully entertaining show for all ages! Todd's voice, costumes and moves are an exciting depiction of an actual Elvis concert. *Sponsor: Connexus Energy*

**Aug 30 6:30-8:00pm Bourbon Street Boys**  
Reuben Ristrom's styles include Dixieland, mainstream jazz, swing, latin and a dose of vintage rock and roll. *Sponsor: Jerry Bauer Land & Investments*

**Sep 06 6:30-8:00pm Splatter Sisters**  
This is a great opportunity for the whole family and kids of all ages. The Splatter Sisters show is a style of easy-folk and jazz based vocals. *Sponsor: Ramsey HRA/The COB at Ramsey*

**Sep 13 5:30-7:30pm Park Patron Picnic**  
Community picnic with a live broadcast. Shop at the farmers market and you will receive free food from the grill in the amphitheater. *Sponsor: Ramsey Park and Recreation Commission*



- There was five 24 x 36 full schedules posted throughout the city.
- This was another way for people to know what's going on ahead of time in the series.
- These were also handed out in person at many of the concerts towards the beginning of the season.

Every Thursday night from June 21 Sept 13 there will be an event at 'The Draw' Amphitheater

FOOD AND DRINKS will be available for purchase during the event

FARMERS MARKET adjacent to the amphitheater in The Draw every Thursday beginning on July 12 from 3-7!  
LOCATION: 'The Draw' 7401 E Ramsey Parkway, Ramsey, MN 55303 (with the CLK)

# Attendance

- Over 2,000 people attended events at The Draw Summer Event Series this year.
- The Farmers Market continues to bring people into the concerts, and as another way to cross-promote the events.
- This year the weather was great and there was no rainouts!



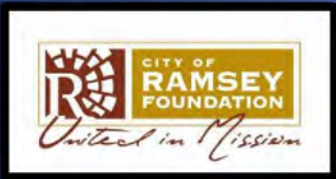
# Biggest Crowd

- The summer's biggest turnout came on August 23<sup>rd</sup> for the Elvis concert!
- Over 300 people attended this event.
- Elvis was a great show and he did an amazing job interacting with the crowd.



# Sponsors

- Thanks to our sponsors for making The 2012 Draw Summer Event Series successful.
- The Ramsey Foundation attracted a terrific group of sponsors this year.
- 12 of the 13 events were fully funded thanks to our committed partners in the community.



Jerry Bauer Land and Investments

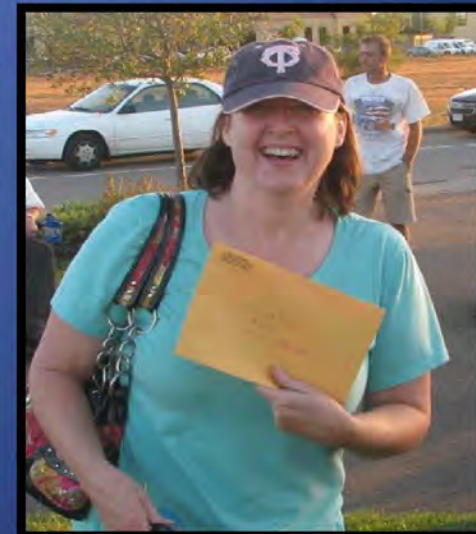
Edina Yacht Club



# Park Patron Picnic Sponsors



- The Park and Recreation Commission had over \$1,300 dollars donated in prizes for our prize giveaway at the picnic.
- Prizes ranged anywhere from a \$300 gift card to Sears to 2 free tickets to the UFC event at Target Center.



# Thank You

- Thanks to everyone who made this year's Draw Summer Event Series successful!
- The Ramsey Foundation sends out a huge thank you to the sponsors for their donations!
- Thanks to the park patrons for coming out and enjoying these events and we hope to see you next year!



# WIN BIG with VILLAGE BANK!



*Join us on Friday, October 12  
from 8:30am - 7:00pm for tailgate fun!*

# FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!

- **SIMPLY  
FREE CHECKING**
- **FREE GIFT**

*Plus these Tailgate  
Specials on October 12<sup>th</sup>*

- **FREE REFRESHMENTS  
INCLUDING FREE CHILI  
FROM 5pm - 7pm**
- **FREE BOX OF VILLAGE  
BANK LOGO CHECKS**
- **\$25 CASH**

RECEIVE UP TO \$25 FOR YOUR UNUSED  
CHECKS AND DEBIT CARD FROM ANOTHER  
FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.



- **A CHANCE TO WIN A  
43" FLATSCREEN TV**
- **AND OTHER  
GREAT PRIZES**



Minnesota Transportation Finance Advisory Committee  
September 24, 2012

The Minnesota Transportation Alliance was originally established in 1893 as Minnesota Good Roads. The Transportation Alliance is the oldest and most diverse statewide coalition of organizations that are all involved in planning, designing, building and operating Minnesota's transportation system. Our Alliance includes local governments, transit systems, labor unions, businesses, the transportation industry and representatives of all modes of transportation.

The role of the Minnesota Transportation Alliance has always been to advocate for investments that will improve the safety and effectiveness of the transportation system as well as being a reliable source of accurate information on issues related to transportation. The Transportation Alliance lobbies at both the state and federal levels for adequate funding for all modes. Increasingly, our organization has been involved in public outreach through a variety of media.

Our goal is to work with the TFAC in advocating for additional funding to provide an economically competitive and world class transportation system in Minnesota.

The Transportation Alliance was a leader in efforts to increase funding in recent years. The Alliance worked with legislators, starting in 2003, to develop a comprehensive transportation funding package. That package included a 10 cent increase in the gas tax, eliminating the caps on the motor vehicle registration tax, authorizing local sales taxes for transportation including a ½ cent sales tax in the metropolitan area with ¼ cent for transit and ¼ cent for county highway needs, trunk highway bonding and the constitutional dedication of 100% of the motor vehicle sales tax to highways and transit.

In 2004, the legislature passed what was known as the Erhardt Amendment. The governor vetoed the legislation, but the language proposing a constitutional amendment could not be vetoed and therefore the proposed dedication of the motor vehicle sales tax was placed on the ballot for the 2006 general election.

The Transportation Alliance co-chaired the campaign – Minnesotans for Better Roads and Transit – to urge voters to pass the constitutional dedication. The transportation industry and business spent over \$3 million on the campaign. It passed with close to 60% of voters supporting the amendment.

Following that campaign, we worked with legislators to see the rest of the funding package enacted into law. In 2007, a transportation funding package was passed by the legislature and vetoed by the

**Since 1893**

525 Park St., Ste. 240 • Saint Paul, MN 55103 • 651/659-0804 • Fax 651/659-9009  
Email: [alliance@transportationalliance.com](mailto:alliance@transportationalliance.com) • [www.transportationalliance.com](http://www.transportationalliance.com)

governor. An attempt to override the veto failed by a handful of votes. Through an arm of the Alliance known as Progress In Motion, we conducted a public outreach campaign that involved radio ads, billboards and grassroots organizing. In 2008, a similar package was passed again and vetoed and the veto was overridden. One of the key lessons we learned along the way is that – similar to the capital bonding bill – it's hard to pass a small transportation bill.

Chapter 152 of 2008 Session Laws provided for a significant increase in revenue over and above existing funding. At the time, it was estimated that over 10 years, the bill would provide over \$6 billion – including bond proceeds – in additional spending capacity. The downturn in the economy has reduced that estimate.

At the time the bill was passed, legislators acknowledged that the bill would only meet a fraction of the identified needs on the transportation system. At the time, the estimate of unmet need on the state trunk highway system alone was about \$1 billion per year or \$20 billion over 20 years. If we take the \$21 billion estimate from MnDOT for scenario 3 and add in \$3 billion for Metropolitan Area Transit and \$12-15 billion for local roads and bridges we're at close to \$40 billion in terms of the gap. As you know from hearing all of the presentations and seeing what goes into that number – this is not a wish list.

Other states are also looking at the needs on their transportation systems and the options available to increase funding. The Colorado 2035 plan estimates a \$53 billion gap to maintain its transportation infrastructure, Arizona has estimated the funding gap between the full state needs and baseline revenues at \$62.7 billion through 2035, Florida has estimated a funding shortfall of \$62.5 billion over twenty years, Georgia has documented a funding gap of \$74 billion between 2005 and 2035, in Washington state a task force found the state needs to raise \$21 billion over 10 years for transportation needs and in Wisconsin, just the state highway system is short \$900 million per year or \$18 billion over 20 years.

Congress established two commissions – the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission and the National Surface Transportation Infrastructure Financing Commission to explore options for funding transportation into the future. Both of those commissions, comprised of national experts, found that in the short-term, the federal fuel tax should be increased and in the longer-term, a mileage-based fee of some kind should be implemented on the national level.

The Financing Commission found that without changes to current policy, it is estimated that revenues raised by all levels of government for capital investment will total only about one-third of the roughly \$200 billion necessary each year to maintain and improve the nation's highways and transit systems.

Given the significant current funding shortfall, the Commission recommended enacting a modest 10¢ increase per gallon in the federal gasoline tax, a 15¢ increase in the federal diesel tax, and commensurate increases in all special fuels taxes, and indexing these rates to inflation.

The Commission also found that properly structured financing techniques and government financial programs, including those focused on facilitating partnerships with the private sector, can play an important supplementary role. Their success, however, will depend on their ability to leverage new revenue streams to repay upfront capital investments. Even with this, financing approaches will have limited positive impact if not coupled with substantial net new resources.

Many legislators agree that the issue of increasing funding for transportation needs to be addressed again. The Alliance has worked with its members to identify potential funding and financing options. While everyone is looking for the “magic bullet” or the new, interesting alternative for transportation, we would ask that you consider: the amount of revenue that would likely be generated by the funding options you consider, the number of projects that would likely work for financing options and the fact that all financing options involve borrowing money that has to be paid back by some entity with interest, whether or not the funding is dedicated and how strong that dedication is, and that a package of various funding and financing options will be needed.

Clearly, we cannot re-create Chapter 152. The options for increasing funding for highways will have to include other funding sources in addition to increasing the rate of the gas tax. Many ideas for generating additional revenue will be helpful, but don't raise significant amounts of revenue.

The members of the Transportation Alliance also want to stress how important it is specify exactly how additional funding will be spent. Projects sell the funding. In reviewing efforts in other states, including ballot initiatives, it is clear that when the public can see the projects that will be built or the services that will be provided, there is a greater degree of trust and support for increasing taxes. Trust is key and if people don't believe additional funds will be spent wisely –either because they don't know exactly how the funds will be spent or don't agree with the projects selected – funding proposals are not passed.

The Alliance has worked with our members to try to develop more of a vision for the future of transportation in Minnesota. We produced the Roadmap to 2040 report with maps that show people the current modes of transportation and then provide a vision for how the transportation system could look in 2040 with additional resources to make that vision happen. Key lessons learned in communicating with the public:

- Accountability – money won't be diverted, interactive maps to show what will be done
- Comprehensive strategy that reaches statewide
- Economy – transportation is the lifeblood of the economy
- Long-term plan – We have to build for the long-term not band-aid fixes
- State and local control – local control of money and project selection
- Sustainable mobility

We believe that a vision that includes the projects people care about vision along with leadership and commitment are the keys to success. With a strong coalition of committed advocates all over the state, we can accomplish big things and we can have a world class transportation system in Minnesota.

## Electronic Agenda

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**Subject:** FW: Transportation Alliance Legislative Update Sept 28  
**Attachments:** Minnesota Transportation Finance Advisory Committee.pdf

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**From:** "Margaret Donahoe" <[Margaret@transportationalliance.com](mailto:Margaret@transportationalliance.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 28, 2012 2:45:25 PM  
**Subject:** Transportation Alliance Legislative Update Sept 28



## Alliance Legislative Update

September 28, 2012

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### Transportation Alliance Candidate Forums

#### *Let's Make Sure Transportation is on the Campaign Agenda!*

**Bloomington – Tuesday, October 2 ▪ 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**

Bloomington Public Works Department – *Training Room*  
1700 West 98<sup>th</sup> Street, Bloomington, MN  
[http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us/main\\_top/2\\_facilities/pw\\_facility.htm](http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us/main_top/2_facilities/pw_facility.htm)

**Eagan – Wednesday, October 3 ▪ 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**

Eagan Community Center – *Oasis Room*  
1501 Central Park, Eagan, MN  
<http://www.cityofeagan.com/live/article.aspx?id=40467>

**Duluth – Thursday, October 18 ▪ 3:00 PM-5:00 PM**

Duluth City Hall – *Room 303*  
411 West First Street, Duluth, MN  
<http://www.duluthmn.gov/contact/location.cfm>

**Rochester – Wednesday, October 24 ▪ 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**

Ramada Hotel & Conference Center – *Grand B Room*  
1517 16th Street SW, Rochester, MN -  
<http://www.ramadarocheater.com/>

**Cottage Grove/Woodbury – Thursday, October 25 ▪ 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**

Washington County Service Center - *Rooms 147 & 148, Main Floor*  
13000 Ravine Parkway South, Cottage Grove, MN  
[http://www.co.washington.mn.us/your\\_county\\_government/service\\_center\\_in\\_cottage\\_grove/](http://www.co.washington.mn.us/your_county_government/service_center_in_cottage_grove/)

### ***Federal Funding – Not Quite There Yet***

The head of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) is urging the House to take a second look at the continuing resolution it passed this month because the bill does not incorporate the transportation funding levels enacted in MAP-21, the new transportation bill.

The resolution extends current discretionary appropriations through March 27, 2013, but does not take into account the passage of MAP-21, said AASHTO Executive Director John Horsley.

"When you return following the November elections and conclude action on FY 2013 appropriations, we strongly urge you to honor the funding levels established in law by MAP-21, which merely maintain baseline funding for the first year," Horsley wrote in a letter to House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev. "Given the state of the economy and the critical need for jobs, we look forward to your positive response."

Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., chairman of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, also sent a letter to Boehner to state her dissatisfaction that the CR's funding levels for transportation do not match those in MAP-21, claiming the loss of that additional funding could cost up to 17,000 jobs.

Preliminary estimates released by the White House last Friday indicate funding for highways, transit and rail programs in 2013 will be cut by about \$1.5 billion on January 2 if automatic budget cuts take place as scheduled. Shrinking or preventing those cuts requires Congress and the White House to strike a budget deal. But Congress certainly won't come up with a fix before the election, and there's widespread pessimism about reaching an agreement by January 2.

The automatic cuts, known as "sequestration" in DC lingo, are a result of the inability of the White House and Congress to reach a budget deal back in 2011. **Now we know: the trust-fund transportation programs will be exempted from the cuts. The non-exempt transportation programs will be subjected to a 7.6 to 8.2% cut, depending on the program.**

However the general fund transfer that supplements the highway trust fund is subject to the automatic cuts, as is a portion of highway contract authority. Also note the cuts would occur when the fiscal year is already a quarter over. Implementing a 7% to 8% cut that deep into the budget year will make things even more difficult.

Here are the White House's preliminary estimates for funding reductions, but note this is all subject to change, whether or not Congress acts before January 2.

**Federal Highways: \$673 million**

\$471 million of General Fund transfer to Highway Trust Fund

\$56 million from the roughly \$700 million of annual highway contract authority that is typically exempt from the obligation limitation)

\$136 million from Emergency Relief Program

**TIGER: \$41 million** (of the \$500 million total)

**Federal Transit: \$176 million**

\$156 million from Capital Grants

\$8 million from Administrative

\$12 million from Wash. Metropolitan Transit Authority

Government-wide, the automatic cuts are projected to total \$1.2 trillion divided evenly across nine years. The cuts are also evenly split between defense spending (except spending on wars) and discretionary domestic spending (except for only "minor" cuts to Social Security and Medicaid).

***FHWA Releases MAP-21 Guidance***

The Federal Highway Administration has released new guidance documents related to MAP-21 on its web site. The new guidance covers the National Highway Performance Program (NHPP), the Surface Transportation Program (STP), Safety, Operations, CMAQ, Innovative Program Delivery and

Federal Lands. You can read the new documents at:  
<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/guidance/index.cfm>

### ***Transportation Finance Advisory Committee Meets***

The Transportation Finance Advisory Committee (TFAC) continues to meet to discuss recommendations for funding transportation in Minnesota. The committee met on Monday, September 24<sup>th</sup> and heard input from a number of stakeholder groups including the Minnesota Transportation Alliance.

A copy of the Alliance testimony is attached for your information. The Committee will meet again on October 15<sup>th</sup> and plans to allow additional public input at that meeting. Information and handouts from the meeting are available at: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/tfac/meetings.html>

The next Legislative Committee Meeting of The Minnesota Transportation Alliance will be held on

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

\*\*11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

AGC Conference Room, Ste. 110  
525 Park St, St. Paul

Agenda will Include:

Tax Reform in Minnesota – **Myron Frans**, Commissioner, Department of Revenue

Revenue and Financing Options for 2013 Legislative Session

Transportation Alliance Candidate Forums

Please let us know if you are planning to attend

\*\*Lunch will be provided for \$10. Please RSVP

## **Transportation Alliance Annual Meeting Featuring the *Construction Forecast***

**Thursday, November 1, 2012**

**Ramada Plaza Minneapolis, Minnesota**

(I-35W & Industrial Blvd.)

Don't miss this major event that brings together local government, contractors, engineers, suppliers, labor, transit and other modes with MnDOT, Met Council, and elected officials

### **Construction Outlook—**

- .. 2013-2016 STIP Highway Projects
  - .. Transitway Project Status
  - .. Status of Transportation Revenue
- .. Legislative Preview for 2013 Session

**Register Today: [www.transportationalliance.com](http://www.transportationalliance.com)**

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