

**City of Ramsey
Weekly Update
April 25, 2013**

1. **April 25, 2013**

Weekly Update

1.

Meeting Date: 04/25/2013

Information

Weekly Update

April 25, 2013

Attachments

Weekly Update

Form Review

Form Started By: Kathy Schmitz

Started On: 04/25/2013 10:44 AM

Final Approval Date: 04/25/2013

WEEKLY UPDATE

Administrator's Report



April 25, 2013

Tuesday, April 30, 2013

5:30 p.m. – Joint City Council Work Session with City of Anoka– Lake Itasca Room

Thursday, May 2, 2013

7:00 p.m. – Planning Commission – Council Chambers

Preview of Next Week

Joint City Council Work Session with City of Anoka (5:30 p.m. Dinner, 6:30 p.m. Meeting-LIR)

- Highway 10
- Great River Energy Transmission Project (115 kV Route Plan)
- Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization/Rum River Dam
- River & Shoreland Regulations
- Mississippi River Trail
- General Development

Planning Commission (7:00 p.m. – CC)

- PUBLIC HEARING: Request for an Extension of Existing Interim Use Permit for Grading and Mining Activities on Outlots A & B Elmcrest Sanctuary; Case of Oakwood Land Development Inc.
- Request for Site Plan Approval for an Expansion of an Outdoor Patio and Covered Bar at 6415 Highway 10 NW; case of Willy McCoys
- PUBLIC HEARING: Consider Amendments to the Tree Preservation Ordinance

Council Update

Administration

- City Council approved hiring Sean Sullivan as the new Economic Development Manager. Sean will begin work on Wednesday, May 29. Sean is coming to Ramsey from the City of Isanti. Prior to work for the City of Isanti Sean was part of the Ramsey team from 2000 to 2010. Welcome Home Sean – we look forward to working with him again.
- Councilmember Elvig turned in his resignation, effective immediately, at the last City Council meeting. Jo Thieling will be putting together a Special Election to fill the vacancy. More information on the Special Election will be sent out as it becomes available. *Attached to the Weekly Update is Councilmember Elvig's Resignation letter and Press Release.*

- On Wednesday, April 24, the City of Ramsey Department Heads and Management Team cooked breakfast for all employees to celebrate Employee Appreciation Day. The breakfast tasted wonderful and a lot of employees attended and had a good time. After breakfast was served, Mayor Strommen (Councilmembers Backous, Kuzma and LaFourneau also were able to attend) and City Administrator Kurt Ulrich handed out “Years of Service” Awards. A BIG THANK YOU and congratulations to the following employees:

Five Years of Service: Tim Gladhill, Matt Kohner, Denelle McAlpine, Chad Sacre, Isaac Schulz, Michael Suchy, Charles Swirtz, and Tyler Wiemann.

Ten Years of Service: Leonard Linton, Katy Okerstrom, and Gina Weiler

Fifteen Years of Service: Todd Brotkowski, Lee Hollom, John Nelson, Nicholas Stolp, and Jason Waldowski

Twenty Years of Service: Paul Minear, Brad Paplham, and Chris Weiss,

Twenty-Five Years of Service: Linda Aaseby, Thomas Hoxter, Dean Kapler, Keith Noreen, Kathleen Schmitz, and Greg Talbot

Thirty Years of Service: Mark Riverblood.

After the awards, Anita reviewed the results of the Employee Survey. Thank you to everyone who participated in this event, your help was greatly appreciated. A DVD of the all staff meeting will be available early next week for anyone who was unable to attend.’

- The new Engineering printer/scanner has arrived and was installed. The purchase was made because our older units were approaching their respective end-of-life periods, and were hurting productivity. The huge speed and technology improvements of the new unit should be wildly helpful to Building, Community Development, and Engineering staff alike.
- City Staff reviewed final plans with Anoka County Library Staff to convert the Mississippi River Conference Room into a Community Library Service Center, expected to open by mid-summer 2013.

Community Development/Development Services

- The Community Development Department has provided an attached update to current development projects and draft policies as part of the attached Development Update. *Attached to the Weekly Update is the Development Update.*

Fire Department

- Notable Responses
 - 4/20- Natural gas smell in the residence in the 6600 block of 154th Ln NW. Unit arrived to find gas burner on stove was left on for a number of hours while homeowner was gone. Burner was shut off and crew ventilated home.
 - 4/20- P.I. accident involving a single motorcyclist in 18200 block of St. Francis Blvd. Unit arrived to find motorcycle and driver on shoulder of road. Patient stating leg and back pain. Crew assisted with patient care and traffic control.
 - 4/24- P.I. accident at the intersection of Sunwood Dr & Bunker Lake Blvd. Unit arrived to find a two vehicle accident with one vehicle on its side. Crew assisted with patient care of minor injuries and traffic control.

Public Works Activities

- Winter *should* be over now, so the PW department is moving on to our normal maintenance tasks for April. Water main flushing is complete for this spring and the utility department will be switching to repairing damaged valves and hydrants discovered during water main flushing. The park department's priority for next week is getting athletic fields in shape for the upcoming season. The street department is concentrating on pothole repair and repairing sod damage in the boulevard areas. The PW portion of the street sweeping program will be complete this week and the contractor will be starting on the northern half of the city probably next week.

Save the Date:

- **Spring Recycling Day Event** – Saturday, May 4, 2013 8:00 am to 12:00 noon – Ramsey Public Works Facility, 14100 Jasper Street NW, Ramsey.
- **2013 Ramsey Business Expo** – Saturday, May 4, 2013 – 9:00 am to 2:00 pm – Fountains of Ramsey, 7533 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey.
- **Mayors' Prayer Breakfast** – Friday, May 17, 2013 - 7:30 to 9:00 am – The Fountains of Ramsey, 7533 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey. This event is to benefit Youth First.
- **LMC Annual Conference and Marketplace.** The League of Minnesota Cities 2013 LMC Annual Conference and Marketplace is scheduled for Wednesday, June 19 through Friday, June 21. Please let Jo know if you would like to attend and if you plan to attend the preconference workshops as well and she will take care of the registration. There is a cost savings for 'early bird' registration.

Best regards,



Kurt Ulrich
City Administrator

Attachments: Councilmember Elvig's Resignation and Press Release
The Development Update
Anoka County Press Release–Public Health Awards Recognize Community Leaders

Letter of resignation of Councilmember David Elvig - 4/23/13

As many of you are aware, I've been faced with several challenges over the last few years. Last week I stood trial facing charges stemming from the closure of my former business. On Friday, a jury concluded that I had wrongly withheld funds for employee benefits.

The City of Ramsey has been faced with many challenges over the last few years as well. I brought and maintained a deep historical perspective, experience and skill-sets that were aligned with the City's needs, and I have always been committed to helping Ramsey realize its full potential. It has always been important for me to remain involved and to help guide the City through some troubling times and into a more prosperous and more unified era.

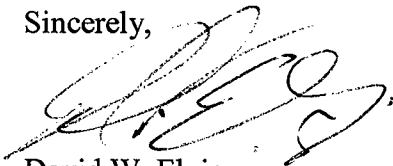
It has also been important for me to work at separating my personal life from that of a Ramsey City Councilmember. Although the final outcome with the court is not yet fully resolved and it may be or may not be possible for me to remain on the Council; I believe it is in the best interests of the City for me to step down as a Councilmember and HRA member at this time.

We have enjoyed many accomplishments in the City over the last 11 years. Much more work remains to be done. I don't want any of my personal issues to become a distraction for my colleagues. I don't want our dedicated City staff to be distracted from the tasks we've outlined through our strategic planning efforts and the real work of growing and managing this organization.

When you're an elected official there's always a question of when you should serve and when you should step away and let others offer their service. This conflict has been on my mind for several months. This last election installed a terrific new city council and I'm confident this council will carry the City forward and accomplish great things with grace and with dignity. This council will build Ramsey to be a respected and vibrant community; you will usher in that new era that I'd mentioned. So regardless of the final disposition of my court case, this is a good time for me to resign my service.

I am grateful to the outstanding efforts of the City staff. I will miss my association with my Council colleagues. But I am most grateful to the citizens of Ramsey who elected me three times and allowed me the honor and privilege to serve as their representative. I thank you all very much for your friendship and your support along the way, and I sincerely wish you, and the City of Ramsey a prosperous future.

Sincerely,



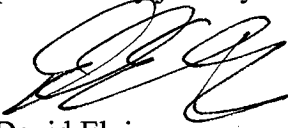
David W. Elvig
Councilmember, Ward I

Statement 4-23-13

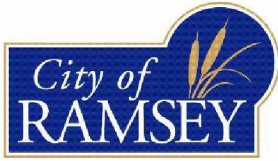
As reported in the media, I recently stood trial on charges stemming from the closure of my business, E-Street Makers. On Friday, a jury concluded that I had wrongly withheld funds for employee benefits, without in fact funding those benefits.

E-Street Makers was a thriving business with its team members intact for nearly 30 years. We faced many hard times over that many years and earned our way out of each of them. However, like many other businesses, we faced significant financial struggles during the recession. In 2009, we were fighting to keep the business afloat, and the company invested funds into payroll and purchasing materials rather than funding some of the employee benefits, as is required. While my intent was to keep the business alive and my staff employed, not timely funding those accounts was clearly the wrong decision.

I respect the jury's decision, and I am now prepared to face the consequences. I sincerely regret any harm I may have caused to a solid group of employees, and as I have maintained all along I fully intend to make restitution and amends. I am anxious to put this chapter behind me, and to apply the painful lessons I've learned as I enter the next phase of my journey.



David Elvig



City of Ramsey Development Update

April 25, 2013

Report Background

The following report is updated weekly.

Seasons of Ramsey **[Updated]**

Primary Reviewer: Tim Gladhill (tgladhill@ci.ramsey.mn.us; 763-576-4308)

The Seasons of Ramsey is a 50 unit rental townhome development located in the Town Center Gardens plat at the northeast intersection of Bunker Lake Boulevard and Town Center Drive (also known as Center Street). The Planning Commission reviewed the Sketch Plan of the Plat on December 6, 2012. The Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on the Preliminary Plat and reviewed the Site Plan on January 31, 2013. The City Council approved the Preliminary Plat, Final Plat, Site Plan, and associated requests of February 12, 2013. The Developer has submitted an Application for Building Permit.

The Developer was able to successfully close on the Property on Tuesday, March 19, 2013. The Developer anticipates to complete the entire project by December 31, 2013. The City is awaiting a request from the contractor to issue the Building Permit. Leasing information is available at www.essenceproperties.com, 320-255-9910, or info@essenceproperties.com.

Staff is reviewing revised plan sheets submitted by the Developer. The Developer now expects to commence construction on preliminary grading the week of April 29, 2013, dependent upon final review of the revised plan sheets. [Updated April 25, 2013]

McDonalds (Sunwood Retail in The COR) **[Updated]**

Primary Reviewer: Chris Anderson (canderson@ci.ramsey.mn.us; 763-433-9905)

The Planning Commission reviewed a Request for Site Plan Review for McDonalds on January 3, 2013. The City Council approved the site plan and associated requests on January 22, 2013. The project is now eligible to submit a Building Permit. The City has received an Application for Building Permit.

The Ramsey Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) directed Staff to prepare a case to advertise for bids to complete the City required Stage I Improvements (common improvements). Design Plans have been completed for these improvements, and specifications are being prepared in preparation of a case for the HRA to advertise for bids. Staff anticipates that the Plat will be recorded next week, allowing title work to be completed. Staff continues to review the submitted Building Permit. [Updated April 25, 2013]

Northgate Performing Arts Center **[Updated]**

Primary Reviewer: Consulting Planner (Contact: Tim Gladhill (tgladhill@ci.ramsey.mn.us; 763-576-4308)

The Planning Commission reviewed a Request for Site Plan Review and Conditional Use Permit for Northgate Performing Arts Center located at 7295 Sunwood Drive NW (northeast intersection of Sunwood Drive and Peridot Street NW on October 4, 2012. The City Council approved the request on October 23, 2012.

Staff continues to review the Building Permit and revised plan sheets. Staff met with the Developer on Thursday, April 25, 2013 to review plan review comments. Staff expects final plans next week, with construction to commence soon after. [Updated April 25, 2013]

Super America (Sunwood Retail in The COR) *[No Update]*

Primary Reviewer: Chris Anderson (canderson@ci.ramsey.mn.us; 763-433-9905)

The Planning Commission reviewed a Request for Site Plan Review for Super America located in the Sunwood Retail Center of The COR, along the realigned Sunwood Drive on October 4, 2012. The City Council approved the request on October 16, 2012.

The City is awaiting said submittal of the Building Permit. [Updated March 14, 2013]

North Commons (COR THREE) *[No Update]*

Primary Reviewer: Tim Gladhill (tgladhill@ci.ramsey.mn.us; 763-576-4308)

The Planning Commission reviewed a Request for Minor Plat Review of COR THREE, a seventeen (17) lot single-family development located north of Bunker Lake Boulevard in The COR on June 19, 2012. The City Council approved the request on July 10, 2012.

Preliminary grading and utility work commenced at the end of 2012. The Plat will need to be recorded prior to any Building Permit issuance. [Updated March 14, 2013]

Residence at The COR *[No Update]*

Primary Reviewer: Tim Gladhill (tgladhill@ci.ramsey.mn.us; 763-576-4308)

The Planning Commission reviewed the request for Site Plan Review of Residence at The COR, a 230 unit apartment development along Sunwood Drive next to the Ramsey Municipal Center in 2011. The City Council approved the request in November, 2011.

The project is currently under construction. The Developer anticipates the opening of a leasing office on a temporary basis in the coming weeks. The Developer desires to open a portion of the project (approximately 50 units) in early May, at which time an existing unit will take the place as the leasing office until the actual leasing/management office is complete. For more information, visit www.corapts.com or call 763-208-5931. [Updated March 14, 2013]

Stoney River **[Updated]**

Primary Reviewer: Tim Gladhill (tgladhill@ci.ramsey.mn.us; 763-576-4308)

The Planning Commission reviewed the request for Site Plan Review of Stoney River, a 72 unit assisted living and memory care development at the northwest intersection of Nowthen Boulevard and Saint Francis Boulevard in August, 2011. The site is adjacent to the Lord of Life Lutheran Church Campus. The City Council approved the request in August, 2011.

The City has reviewed the Building Permit, and is awaiting final revisions as requested. According to Anoka County Property Records, the site is now owned by First Phoenix Ramsey, LLC. The Developer has stated they anticipate to close on the financing package sometime on in mid-April and has now agreed to submit the required financial surety in the form of the City's standard Letter of Credit.

Staff did receive the required Plumbing Plan Review from the State of Minnesota. Staff is still awaiting revised plan sheets, which are assumed to be under development to complete the Building Permit Review. Staff is also awaiting the required Letter of Credit. [Updated April 25, 2013]

Mary T, Inc. Housing **[Updated]**

Primary Reviewer: Consulting Planner (Contact: Tim Gladhill (tgladhill@ci.ramsey.mn.us; 763-576-4308)

The City has requested Planning Commission review of a concept plan for housing for disabled veterans on a parcel located within The COR.

The Planning Commission held a work shop to receive a presentation from Mary T., Inc. on Thursday, March 14, 2013. The Developer must now submit the required land use applications. Staff anticipates said applications in the spring of 2013. The Developer has stated they desire to start construction in 2013.

Staff has received notification that the Developer is now exploring multiple options for sites within Ramsey, other than the site originally identified. Staff will be meeting with the Developer in mid-May to discuss potential options. [Updated April 25, 2013]

Housing Assistance Policy [No Update]

Primary Contact: Tim Gladhill (tgldhill@ci.ramsey.mn.us; 763-576-4308)

The City Council has directed Staff to complete a Housing Assistance Policy. The intent of the policy is to provide a framework for which to review requests for housing assistance and provide a mechanism to review proposals for compatibility with the City's housing goals.

The Policy was forwarded to the Planning Commission for development. The Planning Commission has established an ad-hoc sub-committee to assist in the development of the policy. A meeting schedule will be developed in the coming weeks. [Updated April 11, 2013]

167th Avenue Retail Node [No Update]

Primary Contact: Tim Gladhill (tgldhill@ci.ramsey.mn.us; 763-576-4308)

The Planning Commission and EDA have both discussed the status of the retail node located at the intersection of 167th Avenue and Saint Francis Boulevard (TH 47). The City had previously been asked to review two (2) potential users at 6001 167th Ave NW (indoor shooting range and clothing recycling warehouse distribution. Per EDA discussion, Staff will be setting up stakeholder meetings to discuss a comprehensive approach with all property owners of the node in regards to future land uses as well as mechanisms to achieve desired future land uses. A more detailed summary will be provided following the outcomes of these stakeholder meetings. [Updated April 11, 2013]

Former Municipal Center Future Land Uses [Updated]

Primary Contact: Patrick Brama (pbrama@ci.ramsey.mn.us; 763-433-9903)

In 2006, the City relocated the Ramsey Municipal Center from 15153 Nowthen Blvd NW to 7550 Sunwood Dr NW. The former location still operates as Fire Station #2. The City has been exploring options for future use of this campus and relocation of Fire Station #2. To assist in the analysis of acceptable land uses for this campus for future development, an Open House has been scheduled for Thursday, April 18th from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers (7550 Sunwood Dr NW). The Open House will explore options for single-family and data center users. Multiple smaller group stations, with full size maps and ability for written comments, will be available from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. A brief presentation will be presented, with ability for large group comment, from 7:00 to 7:30 (or until comments are complete). Small group stations will re-convene following the presentation and comment period.

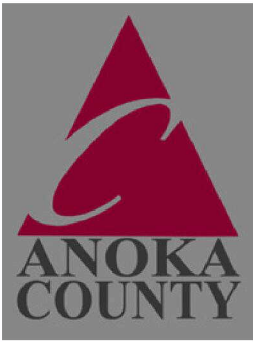
The Open House was held as scheduled despite weather concerns. Staff continues to compile results and comments from that Open House and presented preliminary findings to the City Council on Tuesday, April 23, 2013. Based on the results of that open house, Staff will presenting the detailed results to the Planning Commission, EDA, and City Council in May prior to taking any further steps. It is at this stage that Staff will discuss future direction, if any direction is desired at this time. [Updated April 25, 2013]

Detailed Report Information

For more information regarding the project listed above, please contact the Tim Gladhill at 763-576-4308 or visit www.cityoframsey.com/planning-division.

Tim Gladhill

Tim Gladhill, Development Services Manager



COUNTY OF ANOKA

OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

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April 23, 2013

MARTHA WEAVER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Health Awards Recognize Community Leaders

The Anoka County Board of Commissioners recognized the efforts of two individuals and a group for their efforts to promote and improve public health at the meeting held April 9, 2013.

The annual Anoka County Public Health Awards, established in 2006, recognize and honor citizens in Anoka County who devote their time, energy, and talents to improving public health in our communities.

George Steiner

As chair of the Northwest Community Health Council, George Steiner for many years has been a tireless leader in efforts to improve public health. He inspires those around him to build programs that address significant public health needs.

George was instrumental in the formation of a program that addresses a top community health concern, childhood obesity. With his leadership and ensuing collaboration with HealthPartners, the innovative *Family Power Pediatric Obesity Treatment Program* was formed. Because collaboration is a hallmark of any initiative in which he is involved, George invited representatives from area school districts to help develop a model program to help children be more active and eat healthier.

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Public Health Awards Recognize Community Leaders – Add 1

Second, George strongly advocated for the expansion of student wellness screenings in the Anoka-Hennepin School District. The program went from serving students in two district high schools to today serving all five high schools, plus Crossroads Academy.

Finally, George led efforts to establish the *Anoka County Area Mental Health Medication Assistance Program*. This program helped individuals in crisis get the psychiatric medication they needed if they could not afford to pay for them. To make this program a reality, George sought input from all the mental health providers in the county, as well as representatives from financial assistance agencies and pharmaceutical companies.

Dawn Rutt

Dawn Rutt has thoroughly embraced the mission of protecting and promoting the health and safety of our community. With a particular focus on young people, she has helped countless youth develop positive, healthy relationships and build a safe and stable environment in their school, home, and community.

As the Youth Services Coordinator with Alexandra House, Dawn advocates tirelessly for youth impacted by sexual violence, dating violence, or violence in their home or among peers. Recently, she spearheaded establishment of the *Choose Respect* program, an initiative developed by the Centers for Disease Control that works to prevent dating violence and promote healthy relationships among youth. *Choose Respect* quickly evolved into a highly successful after-school program currently operating in four middle schools in Anoka-Hennepin School District 11. Dawn also created a Train the Trainer curriculum so that other interested schools could implement a similar program.

Dawn believes in collaboration, understanding that youth are better served by a broad base of community support. She works closely with teachers, administrators, counseling staff, multicultural advocates, school nurses, and school psychologists to best meet the needs of students. Most recently, Dawn worked closely with Circle Pines Mayor Dave Bartholomay and student leaders at Centennial High School to plan and implement the second annual *Project Purple* which,

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Public Health Awards Recognize Community Leaders – Add 2

coincidentally, was recognized last year with an Anoka County Public Health Award. Led by students, *Project Purple* is a weeklong violence prevention awareness campaign that features daily prevention-focused activities, games, and educational events.

In addition to her work in the schools, Dawn participates and provides leadership on several community committees, task forces, and projects. In the summer months, she works in partnership with local mobile home communities, YMCAs, churches, youth initiatives, and others to coordinate a variety of programs including a summer girls group, violence prevention education, family activities, and youth activities. She also works with high-risk youth, facilitating groups and educational presentations with adolescent males and females housed at the Lino Lakes Juvenile Correctional Facility.

Dawn has touched the lives of literally thousands of young people throughout her career. For her unwavering commitment to the goal of helping young people develop positive relationships and establish a safe and stable environment in their school, home, and community, Anoka County recognizes Dawn Rutt with a Public Health Award.

Anoka-Hennepin District 11 School Nurses

School nurses in Anoka-Hennepin District 11 work every day to protect and promote the health and safety of students, staff, and the entire community. In the past few years, they have managed a Pertussis epidemic, the H1N1 outbreak, and any number of other contagious diseases found in schools. These school nurses have been more than up to the challenge!

School nurses work closely with parents to help them understand and comply with state immunization rules. Beginning in February of each year, school nurses begin communicating with students about what immunizations they will need for the next school year. They explain the benefits of immunizations to students and their parents while remaining respectful of parents' rights and choices with regards to them.

With Pertussis, better known as whooping cough, being so prevalent recently, school nurses worked diligently to educate students, staff, and parents about the disease. For the past three years,

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Public Health Awards Recognize Community Leaders – Add 3

the Pertussis vaccine has been offered to staff in Anoka-Hennepin schools in an effort to stop the spread of Pertussis from adults to students. As a result, community health has improved, with fewer people susceptible to pertussis and influenza.

Thank you, Anoka-Hennepin District 11 school nurses for your commitment to keeping students, staff, and our entire community healthy and safe!

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CUTLINES

Photo 1



From left: Commissioner Matt Look and George Steiner

Public Health Awards Recognize Community Leaders – Add 4

Photo 2



From left: Circle Pines Mayor Dave Bartholomay, Commissioner Scott Schulte, and Sue Redmond of Alexandra House accepting the award for Dawn Rutt, who was unable to attend

Photo 3



From left: Tara Bubar and Cynthia Hiltz, Anoka-Hennepin District 11, Commissioner Carol LeDoux, Kathryn Westensee and Elizabeth Field, Anoka-Hennepin District 11

MW:de