

WEEKLY UPDATE

Administrator's Report



July 18, 2013

Tuesday, July 23, 2013

5:30 p.m. – Work Session– Lake Itasca Room

7:00 p.m. – City Council – Council Chambers

Immediately Following City Council – HRA – Council Chambers

Farmers Market. The Ramsey Farmers Market will begin July 18 and continue throughout the summer. This event will be held on Thursdays in conjunction with The Draw Summer Event Series.

Preview of Next Week

Work Session (5:30 p.m. – LIR)

- Budget Discussions

City Council (7:00 p.m. - CC)

- Adopt Resolution Concerning the Commencement of Renewal Proceedings Under the Federal Cable Act
- Consideration of Adopting Resolution 13-07-125 Accepting Bids and Authorizing Award of Contract for IP 13-00; 2013 Pavement Maintenance Program
- Receive Update on Highway 10 Access Study Group and Provide Comment on Draft Problem Statement

HRA (Immediately Following CC – CC)

- Consider Offer to Purchase Outlot A, RTC 8th Addition (portions may be closed to the public)
- Consider offer to purchase Outlot A of RTC 7th Addition (Portions may be closed to the public)

Council Update

Upcoming Project - Highway 47 between Ramsey and Saint Francis. To improve pavement quality and extend the life of the highway, MnDOT will be installing a new layer of pavement atop Highway 47. (Specifically, we will install an ultra-thin bonded wear course. It's a specially mixed layer of asphalt, $\frac{5}{8}$ inch thick. It seals cracks, extends the life of the highway, and provides a new, skid-resistant driving surface.)

The project will run from **just north of Alpine Drive in Ramsey to Pederson Drive in Saint Francis**. Work is scheduled to begin August 12, 2013. We expect the project will be finished by late September 2013, weather permitting.

The work will require temporary lane closures with a flagging operation. To minimize the impact on motorists, we'll be taking the following steps:

- A portable changeable message sign will be deployed 5 consecutive days in advance of the lane closures, to advise travelers of upcoming impacts.
- Lane closures will not be allowed between 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m., nor between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- Lane closures will not be allowed after 12:00 noon on the Friday before Labor Day.
- Lane closures will not be allowed before 9:00 a.m. on the Tuesday after Labor Day.

We anticipate that each flagging operation will typically be limited to no more than one mile in length. However, the project may require multiple, simultaneous flagging operations at different points along Highway 47 between Ramsey and Saint Francis.

When a flagging operation is in place, motorists will experience delays and patience will be necessary. Because Highway 47 will not be completely closed, MnDOT will not be posting a detour. Motorists familiar with the area are of course free to use alternate routes of their choice if they choose to avoid the work zone.

Please inform your emergency services staff, Council, or any others you think should be aware. Thank you. If you have questions, please call Paul Jung, P.E., PTOE, North Area Engineer, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Metro District at 651-234-7716

Night to Unite. Night to Unite is Tuesday, August 6th and police and fire will be venturing out to all registered parties throughout the City that evening. Please RSVP to Chandra Kreyer at ckreyer@ci.ramsey.mn.us or 763-433-9891 with your preference for riding with police or fire **by 7/22** so scheduling can be done to accommodate respective wards and resident requests for visits.

Newspaper Article regarding the bike/pedestrian trail in Ramsey and Anoka along the Mississippi River and the Rum River. *Attached to the Weekly Update is an article regarding trails in Ramsey and Anoka.*

Community Development/Development Services

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

IT

- The City of Ramsey internal network was switched over to the Anoka County Fiber network at the end of last week. The changeover has been a complete success with

only slight modifications needed to complete the change. This allows building-to-building communication speeds much faster than were possible before at a significantly reduced cost between the City Hall/PD building, Fire Stations, and Public Works facilities. The next step will be to replace the connection coming in from outside our facilities. This is where the City will truly see an increase in speed and productivity. The Ramsey IT department is currently cooperating with Anoka County, LOGIS, and the City of Coon Rapids in order to make this connection possible by end of Q3.

- The Ramsey IT department is still preparing for the replacement of the City's core switch. Hours of prep-work from IT staff and LOGIS staff will hopefully not only make the transition as seamless as possible, but also make network infrastructure changes much easier in the future.

Save the Date:

- **Local Government Officials Meeting.** The quarterly Local Government Officials Meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 31, at 6:00 p.m. at the Chomonix Golf Course, 700 Aqua Lane, Lino Lakes. The County Commissioners will be grilling dinner for the attendees. Jo has sent a calendar request to Mayor and Council.
- **2nd Annual Police Explorer Bowling Fundraiser.** Saturday, August 17, 2013, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Super Bowl, 6720 Riverdale Drive NW, Ramsey. All proceeds go to the Ramsey Police Explorer POST 3819. For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact Kristin Camacho, 763-576-4301 or kcamacho@ci.ramsey.mn.us.

Best regards,



Kurt Ulrich
City Administrator

Attachments: Article regarding trails in Ramsey and Anoka
Development Update

StarTribune | north metro



News Local Sports Business Politics Opinion Lifestyle Entertainment Obituaries Classifieds Autos Housing Jobs

North Metro West Metro South Metro East Metro Minneapolis St. Paul Your Voices Blogs + Columns Minnesota Topics

twinsbaseball.com STAR TRIBUNE OFFICIAL PARTNER Twins vs. [logo] JULY 19 at 7:10PM GET INFO Buy Tickets

Home > Local > North Metro

Key bike trail links coming in Anoka, Ramsey

Article by: JIM ADAMS, Star Tribune | Updated: July 16, 2013 - 2:12 PM

Federal grants will help build bike trail segments this summer in Anoka and Ramsey that will connect to regional and national trail and park systems.

1 comments resize text print buy reprints Recommend 9 Tweet 3 share +

Two missing links will be built this summer in Anoka and Ramsey, filling gaps in bike/pedestrian trails along the Mississippi and Rum rivers, officials say.

The Anoka City Council on Monday approved plans for a \$1.37 million segment that will extend bike trails from the city's Mississippi River Community Park through undeveloped King's Island to the relatively new Mississippi West Regional Park in Ramsey.

Also this week, work was to start on the last piece of the Rum River trail in Anoka. That quarter-mile segment will run behind City Hall along the Rum to the existing river trail three blocks north, said Greg Lee, city public services director. The project will include two river overlooks, rain gardens with granite benches, interpretive signs and kiosks with trail maps. It will cost nearly \$1.54 million, about half paid by a federal transportation grant of \$760,000, he said.

The two projects "will complete two of the most important trail systems we have: the Mississippi River Trail and the Rum River Regional Trail," Lee said.

The 1.5-mile segment that will go across King's Island and on into Ramsey will be part of the national Mississippi River Trail, which runs from the river's source in Lake Itasca to New Orleans. The Rum River Trail intersects with the national trail in Anoka.

Busy summer

Work on the King's Island/Ramsey segment is supposed to start in early September and be substantially done by month's end.

Before that, the Anoka County Board will be asked to approve a joint powers agreement with Anoka and Ramsey in August. The county has supported the project.

The \$1.37 million cost will be covered by the two cities and the county, along with a \$440,000 federal transportation grant, officials said. Anoka's share is about \$325,000 and Ramsey's nearly \$270,000, while the county has committed to pay \$340,000.

The county hopes to obtain state Legacy Amendment grants in the next few years that would cover its outlay, said John VonDeLinde, county parks and recreation director.

The trail is an important link that ranks high on grant criteria scales because it connects regional and national bike/pedestrian trail systems, VonDeLinde said.

more from north metro

1 dead, 2 badly hurt in crash in East Bethel

More than 1,000 veterans flock to job fair in Brooklyn Center

Blaine family thrives after both daughters get heart transplants

from the homepage

Boy's body was in trunk of locked vehicle, sheriff says

St. Louis Park office tower evacuated after explosion

The List of Lists 2013

Famous Footwear

FamousFootwear.com/ShoeSale Save On Large Selection Of Shoes. Shop Online & Order Now!

Free Bike Maps

inbox.com/BikeMaps Get Access to Trails, Directions & Biking Maps w/ Free Maps Toolbar!

Map

www.MapsGalaxy.com Search Maps, Get Driving Directions Instantly with Free App!

AdChoices ADVERTISEMENT

most read most emailed most watched

Mauer helps shut down NL team

Hundreds turn out to search for boy

StribCast: Searchers look for missing 2-year old

StribCast: Missing 2-year old boy's body found

Gophers basketball team holds summer workouts

More Video



He said the link also will bring more people to the Mississippi West Regional Park and spur development in the 240-acre site in Ramsey. It now has a short bike trail and a dirt Traprock Street from Hwy. 10 to a boat access ramp, parking lot and two river overlooks. Picnic and play areas and trails may be built in the next three to five years, VonDeLinde said.

Cutting across the island

About a half-mile of the segment will cross King's Island, a wooded, Mississippi flood plain in the northwest corner of Anoka. River channels meander through the undeveloped area that once had a gravel mine, but now shelters wetlands, leaping deer and an occasional kids' log fort.

Trail bridges will be built on both ends of the island. Lee noted that the island channel will be dug out this fall and winter to deepen it and restore vegetation on the banks.

The channel restoration will cost about \$260,000, to be covered by a Legacy grant, Lee said.

Ramsey Parks Superintendent Mark Riverblood said the King's Island link "is a very important connection between the two cities and their park and trail systems." He said local stores and restaurants will also benefit from the bikers pedaling through town. He said the Ramsey City Council has supported the trail and is expected to approve its share of costs under the joint powers agreement next week.

He noted that Ramsey has won another federal grant for \$1.2 million to continue the trail northwest from Mississippi West park to the Elk River-Sherburne County line.

Jim Adams • 612-673-7658



ADVERTISEMENT



ADVERTISEMENT

fan gear »

Gear up for MN Twins baseball! Shop Now »

digital access »

\$5 for 8 wks

Save on Star Tribune Unlimited Digital Access! »

steals »

Steals from StarTribune Save Now!

Save 50% off or more! »

ADVERTISEMENT



ADVERTISEMENT

1 **comments** [- resize text](#) [+ print](#) [buy reprints](#) [Recommend](#) 9 [Tweet](#) 3 [share +](#)

- From Around the Web sponsored links
- 5 Great Seasonal Jobs for Retirees (AARP.org)
 - The 10 Worst Hotels and Motels in America (The Fiscal Times)
 - 10 Cheapest Places to Live in the U.S. (Kiplinger)
 - 5 Things to Bring on Every Flight (AARP.org)
 - The Average Income of an Airline Stewardess (eHow)
 - The 10 Best North American Family Resorts (Resorts and Lodges)

- More from Star Tribune
- 2 more motorcyclists killed in Minnesota (Local)
 - Cliff-jumper who leapt to his death was Chisago Lakes HS swimmer (Local)
 - Missing Mr. Movies co-founder turns up in Montana (Movies)
 - CPSC: Sears announces another recall of nearly 800,000 dehumidifiers after new fire reports (Politics)
 - 4 other jurors distance themselves from Zimmerman juror who gave television interview (Nation)
 - Gun-toting dad: Cops caught me asleep at slow west metro McDonald's drive-thru (Local)

[?]



minnesota topics

Comprehensive Star Tribune coverage of Minnesota's people, places and companies.

ADVERTISEMENT

inside the StarTribune

jobs ▾



2013 Top Workplaces

home ▾



'Giving up the Ghost,' a serial novel by Mary Logue

lifestyle ▾



Best of MN 2013: Guide to state's finest

sports ▾



Vikings stadium section: The game plan

local ▾



Follow Star Tribune on social media

sports ▾



Guide to Minnesota's 18-hole public golf courses



AdChoices

COMMERCE MARKETING
Tips & Tricks

Bronto

SIGN UP

StarTribune

Search the Star Tribune

- News
- Local
- Sports
- Business
- Politics
- Opinion
- Lifestyle
- Entertainment
- Obituaries
- Classifieds
- Autos
- Housing
- Jobs

425 Portland Av. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55488
(612) 673-4000




Company
About the StarTribune
Advertising
Directory + Contacts
Jobs at the StarTribune
Newspaper in Education
Vita.mn: Entertainment
Business Listings

Subscriber Services
Newspaper Subscriptions
Digital Access
eEdition
Vacation Holds/Billing
Newsletters

Website
Terms of Use
Privacy Policy
Ad Choices
Site Index

Buy Ads
Online Ads
Newspaper Ads
Classifieds

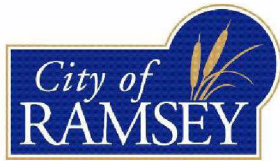
Store
Article Archives
Back copies
Commercial Reprints
Permissions

Connect with Us
Contact Us
Send a press release
 Become a Fan
 Follow Us
 RSS

© 2013 StarTribune. All rights reserved.

StarTribune.com is powered by Limelight Networks

-  Newspaper Subscriptions
-  eEdition
-  RSS
-  Newsletters



City of Ramsey Development Update

July 18, 2013

Report Background

The following report is updated weekly.

Seasons of Ramsey [No Update]

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.

Work has commenced and continues on the project. Staff will provide updates as needed.

The City Council approved a request to amend exterior materials on June 11, 2013, consistent with acceptable exterior materials per Zoning Code.

Project Photos:



Photo taken on June 27, 2013 from Bunker Lake Boulevard looking west.

Building Permits have been issued for twenty-eight (28) of the fifty (50) units as well as the community building. Framing and wall section construction has begun on multiple buildings. Staff completed review of an additional four (10) units, ready to be issued. [Updated July 11, 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 site is located along the re-aligned Sunwood Drive at Armstrong Boulevard, located just north of Northstar Marketplace. 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 HRA approved Plans and Specifications and authorized Staff to advertise for bids for the Stage I Improvements as directed by the HRA for the May 14, 2013 HRA meeting. Initial Building Permit Plan Review has been completed, subject to revisions as requested by the City's Technical Review Staff. Staff also continues work with McDonald's to complete pre-development activities and review the plan sheets submitted for Building Permit review.

The Ramsey Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) accepted bids and awarded a contract to construct the Stage I (common) Improvements for the three (3) lots within the COR TWO/Sunwood Retail area. The HRA also approved an extension to the Real Estate Contract to allow the Stage I Improvements to be completed and the due-diligence process to be completed. Construction is anticipated to begin on the facility itself this fall (2012).

The plat of COR TWO has officially been recorded. Work on the required common improvements is about to commence. Review of the Building Permit has been completed, pending final submittals by McDonald's. City Staff will work with the HRA to complete the real estate transaction. [Updated July 18, 2013]

Northgate Performing Arts Center [No Update]

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.

Construction has officially commenced on the facility. The City has approved a temporary closure of one (1) block on Peridot Street for June 18, 2013 to June 21, 2013 in order to set building panels along Peridot Street. The closure would only be from Sunwood Drive north to 145th Avenue (one [1] block). The closure will also impact traffic patterns for PACT Charter School, which is currently not in regular session. The detour would use 145th Avenue west to Peridot Street, then south to Sunwood Drive. The Contractor will be forwarding Staff a detour plan/map. A sketch provided by the Contractor is shown below. When a more detailed map is provided, Staff will ensure proper communication with the City Council and adjacent property owners. *Below is an updated road closure map.*

Below are recent project photos. Progress has been made on the completion of the precast walls, with work beginning on placement of the roof. [Updated July 11, 2013]

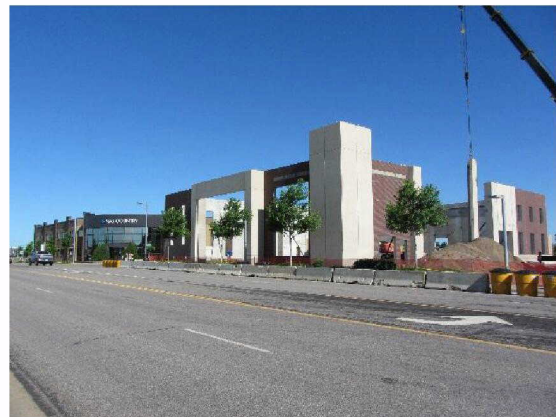


Photo taken June 27, 2013 at Sunwood Drive and Peridot Street looking north east.

Photo taken June 20, 2013 at Sunwood Drive and Peridot Street looking north west.

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.

On May 28, 2013, the HRA amended the scope of the project to focus on four (4) of the seventeen (17) lots that are located abutting North Commons (park). The remaining thirteen (13) lots that were approved along Bunker Lake Boulevard could be re-evaluated in the future as market conditions improve.

The Ramsey Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) reviewed a potential purchase offer on all or portions of the four (4) lots along the park. The HRA will be reviewing current market conditions and seeking additional qualified offers on these lots. A more detailed work plan will be provided soon. [Updated June 13, 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.

Staff did receive communication from the Developer's Managing Director for Minnesota that the project was awarded financing and expects to close on said financing within the next month. The Developer anticipates construction to begin mid-to-late summer. Staff is working on final review of the Building Permit with this most recent communication.

The Developer has informed Staff that a closing date has TENTATIVELY been set for the private financing of the development. Construction is anticipated later this summer or early fall. [Updated July 18, 2013]

Residence at The COR [N]

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.

A total of four (4) Temporary Certificates of Occupancy have been issued for a total of fifty-nine (59) and a portion of the office/common area. [Updated July 18, 2013]



Photo taken June 27, 2013 along Sunwood Drive at the Municipal Center looking west.



Photo taken the Municipal Center Plaza in front of the retail space.

Housing Assistance Policy [No Update]

Primary Contact: Tim Gladhill (tgladhill@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.

The Housing Sub-Committee has met on two (2) occasions to date. Current accomplishments include completion of an Interim Policy Statement (until the final policy is adopted), agreement on the framework of the policy, and establishment of housing-type priorities. All drafts must still be approved by the City Council.

Staff provided an update to the City Council on June 11, 2013, and received positive feedback on direction to continue along the current path for completion.

To date, the sub-committee has completed an initial review of demographic data, established an Interim Policy Statement, and established a framework of the proposed policy (product type priorities, minimum thresholds, and scoring/ranking matrix). The ad-hoc sub-committee met on Tuesday, June 25, 2013 and finished a draft of the Minimum Thresholds. The Minimum Thresholds are based on the Housing Chapter Goals and Implementation Strategies of the 2030 Comprehensive Plan. The final step is to complete a draft of the Scoring/Ranking Matrix. This is anticipated to be completed over two (2) to three (3) sub-committee meetings. At that point, a full draft would be reviewed by Planning Commission, EDA, and City Council. [Updated June 27, 2013]

167th Avenue Retail Node [Updated]

Primary Contact: Tim Gladhill (tgladhill@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.

Staff has scheduled a Stakeholder/Property Owner Meeting with owners of commercial/retail property in the area for Wednesday, June 5, 2013. The intent of the meeting is to outline options (land use and economic development related) for Property Owners and discuss a unified vision for the future of the current retail node. Staff will provide an update to the Planning Commission, EDA, and City Council following the Stakeholder Meeting.

The EDA discussed the topic at their July 11, 2013 Meeting and a Special Meeting on July 18, 2013 to finalize a recommendation on formulating current policies and recommendations as well as potential next steps. Staff will update the City Council in the near future. [Updated July 18, 2013]

Former Municipal Center Future Land Uses [No Update]

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.

Staff has updated the Planning Commission (5/2/13) and the EDA (5/16/13) on the status of the project.

Staff presented a case to discuss possible next steps at the June 11, 2013 City Council Meeting. The City Council directed Staff to re-engage the surrounding public through a collaborative process utilizing a task force to continue to review options for the site.

Staff met to discuss possible alternatives for the new public process, and anticipates bringing forward alternatives for consideration to the July 9, 2013 City Council Meeting.

The City Council approved the development of a Study Group to begin a collaborative input process to be held at a later date, in order to continue discussions with surrounding property owners as to desired future land uses for the site. Staff will be seeking interested individuals to participate in the process in the near future. Interested names in participating in the process will be brought forward to the City Council at a later date. [Updated July 11, 2013]

Alternative Urban Areawide Review (AUAR) Update for The COR *[No Update]*

In 2003, an Alternative Urban Areawide Review (AUAR) was prepared for the development formerly known as Ramsey Town Center, now known as The COR. The AUAR is an environmental review process that is an alternative to the standard, required environmental review for certain sized project. This alternative is a proactive, rather than individual reactive review, of the development as a whole as opposed to review with each individual project.

Minnesota Rules guiding the length of time this review is valid requires that the City update this document if it is to be used for current environmental review purposes. In addition, the preferred development alternative has changed from the original preparation.

On May 28, 2013, the City Council 'ordered' the AUAR, which sent the completed update for an official review process. The comment period ended on June 12, 2013. Staff received comments from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT), and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). Staff will now complete the final draft, including submitted comments, and distribute for final review. It is anticipated that the City Council will consider adopting the final document on July 9, 2013.

On June 19, 2013, the City also received advisory comments from the Metropolitan Council. These comments will also be incorporated into the final document, still tentatively scheduled for City Council consideration on July 9, 2013. [Updated June 20, 2013].

Potential Sign Overlay District for Armstrong Boulevard Interchange Area *[No Update]*

As part of the public review process for the Armstrong Interchange, several comments from commercial (retail) property owners discussed concern with loss of visibility to their business due to the height of the interchange. It was discussed as a potential solution to increase the allowable height for properties surrounding the interchange. One property owner has requested that the City consider implementing a zoning solution as soon as possible, to ensure when construction does begin, a tool is already in place to allow additional height.

The Planning Commission briefly discussed the request to begin a process on June 6, 2013, and directed Staff to begin the process of establishing an Overlay District related to signs adjacent to the Armstrong Boulevard Interchange. [Updated June 13, 2013]

July Planning Commission *[No Update]*

The regularly scheduled Planning Commission for July would normally be July 4, 2013. As City Offices are closed that day, the meeting has been **officially** re-scheduled for July 18, 2013. Cases tentatively include the following:

1. Consider Request for Sketch Plan Review of Oakwood Acres; Case of Oakwood Land Development
 - a. The request is to create three (3) new buildable lots along the re-aligned 167th Avenue, west of Nowthen Boulevard.
2. Consider Request for Site Plan Review for Expansion of Diamond Graphics Facility Located at 14350 Azurite St NW; Case of Diamond Graphics, Inc.
3. Consider Ordinance to Amend Official Zoning Map to Establish Sign Overlay District Adjacent to Intersection of U.S. Highway 10 and Armstrong Boulevard to Address Sign Height for Future Interchange Area; Case of the City of Ramsey

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