

City of Ramsey
Agenda
City Council Work Session
Tuesday, September 8, 2026
5:30 pm

Lake Itasca Room, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW

Remote Attendance available at www.cityoframsey.com/meetings.
Those joining remotely and requesting to speak are asked to use a webcam when speaking.

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Topics for Discussion**
 1. Anoka County Sheriff's Office Drone Assisted Response and Automated License Plate Reader Pilot Project
 2. Data Center Discussion
 3. Discussion Regarding Union Contract Negotiations (Discussion Closed to the Public)
3. **Topics for Future Discussion**
 1. Review Future Topics/Calendar
4. **Mayor/Council/Staff Input**
5. **Adjournment***

***Note: the City Council may motion to recess this Work Session meeting and reconvene after the regular City Council meeting if items on the agenda are not completed.**

CC Work Session

Meeting Date: 09/08/2026

Primary Strategic Plan Initiative: Enhance City's communication through transparency and accountability.

Information

Title:

Anoka County Sheriff's Office Drone Assisted Response and Automated License Plate Reader Pilot Project

Purpose/Background:

Anoka County Sheriff Brad Wise will be present to discuss the collaborative Anoka County Drone Assisted Response and Automated License Plate Reader pilot program with the Ramsey City Council.

No public engagement will occur during the work session. Sheriff Wise will present on the pilot program at the regularly scheduled City Council meeting immediately following the work session.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the City Council discuss the pilot program with Sheriff Wise and provide any questions or feedback.

Outcome/Action:

No formal action is requested. The City Council will receive information, discuss the pilot program, and provide feedback.

Attachments

No file(s) attached.

Form Review

Inbox

Brian Hagen

Form Started By: Brad Bluml

Final Approval Date: 09/03/2026

Reviewed By

Brian Hagen

Date

09/03/2026 12:57 PM

Started On: 08/31/2026 05:14 PM

CC Work Session**Meeting Date:** 09/08/2026**Primary Strategic Plan Initiative:** Not Applicable**Information****Title:**

Data Center Discussion

Purpose/Background:

Recently in the media, data centers have been a topic of discussion. Common concerns of the larger data centers include water and electricity usage, noise pollution and proximity to residential land uses and schools. The most recent case was a proposed ordinance amendment and conditional use permit (CUP) request for a data center located in Elk River. Ultimately, the Elk River City Council denied the request and have placed a one-year moratorium on data centers to allow staff to research the concerns around data centers.

The current Ramsey zoning code allows data centers to be located within the I-1 and I-2 zoning districts as a permitted use with no specific performance standards. The attached map shows the industrial zoning districts and the vacant parcels that could potentially be developed. Parcel availability is limited. However, there is still an opportunity for a data center to be located within the City of Ramsey. Most likely it would be a smaller-sized data center because of the lack of large developable industrial acreage in Ramsey.

Types of Data Centers

There are three (3) types of data centers: edge data center, cloud computing center, and AI data center. All data centers require large amounts of energy and specialized cooling systems, but AI data centers are larger, use more resources, and incorporate specialized equipment.

Edge Data Center: Typically it is a colocation center, meaning it enables businesses to rent out space for their own hardware. Instead of using their own on-premise space for servers, networking devices, and other computing equipment, they can rent out space in a data center. The end user is typically located close by the facility. Edge data centers generally require less power, less transmission infrastructure and have a smaller footprint.

Cloud Computing Center: Cloud computing facilities don't rely on specialized computer chips, they share space with multiple tenants, and act as a digital warehouse for data. These facilities host, compute, storage, and networking resources for large enterprises and consumers worldwide. They are operated by large operations such as Amazon, Microsoft, Google and other companies that require the storage of large amounts of data.

AI Data Center: AI data centers are built for a single purpose, use specialized computer chips to process massive amounts of data, are generally the largest of the data centers and use more resources.

There are many components to regulating data centers that staff will continue to research and bring the information to the City Council for discussion.

Notification:

Not applicable

Time Frame/Observations/Alternatives:

If the City Council directs staff to amend the code to allow data centers as a CUP with specific performance standards, the process may take between 4 to 6 months. This amount of time will be needed for staff to become well-educated on data centers, present information at future work sessions, and work with the City Attorney to develop an ordinance that meets the needs of the City of Ramsey.

Funding Source:

Not applicable

Recommendation:

Staff recommends City Council discuss data centers and consider the following:

1. Leave data center as a permitted use in the I-1 and I-2 Industrial Districts (no city code changes)
2. Amend City Council to permit data centers as a CUP with specific design and performance standards
3. Amend the City code to prohibit data centers as a use in all zoning districts

Outcome/Action:

Provide staff with direction in terms of amending city code language regarding data centers.

Attachments

Industrial Zoning and Vacant Land

Form Review

Inbox

Brian Hagen

Form Started By: Stephanie Hanson

Final Approval Date: 09/03/2026

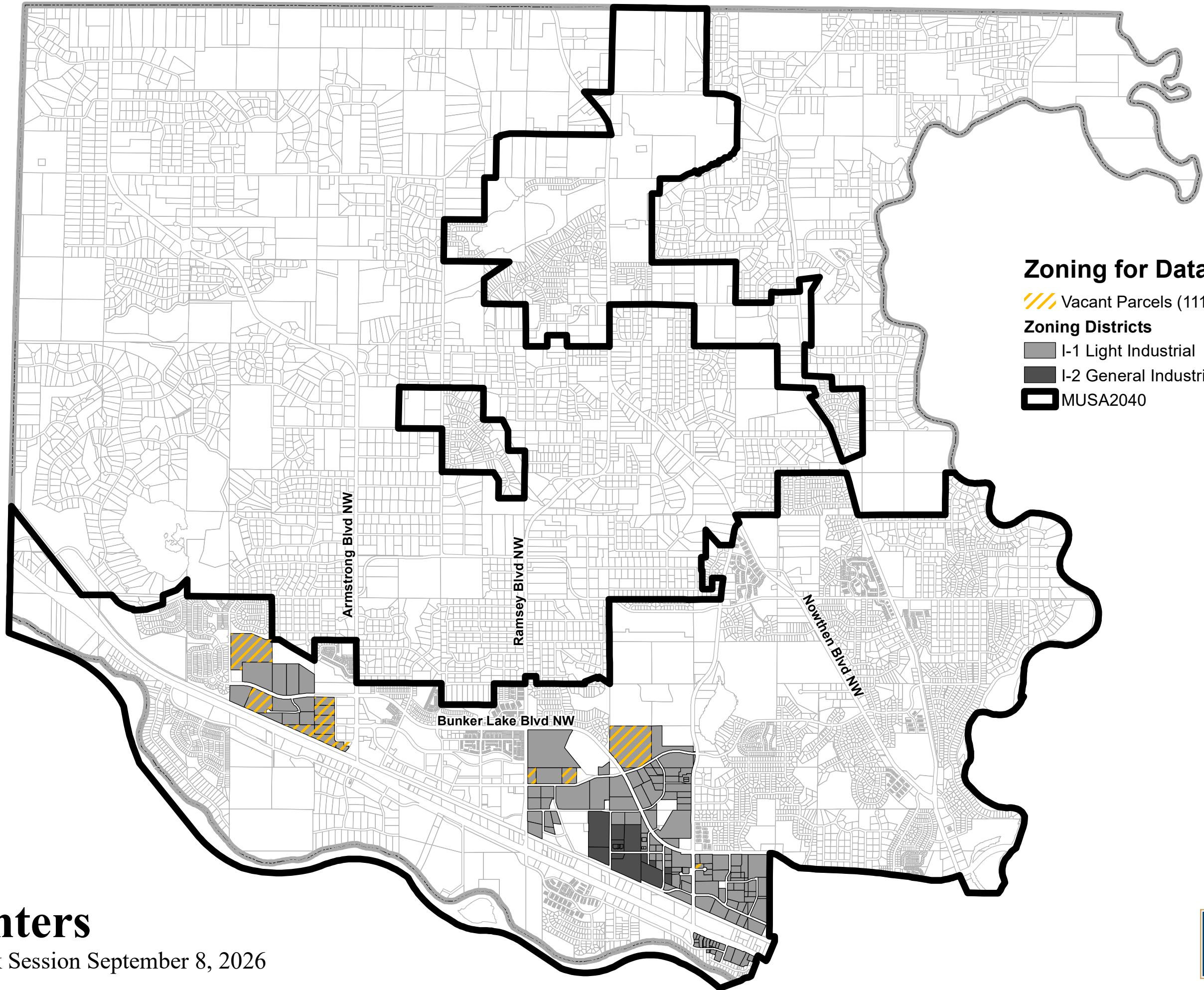
Reviewed By

Brian Hagen

Date

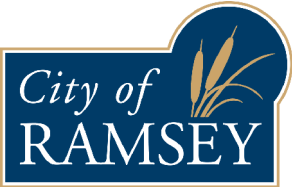
09/03/2026 01:01 PM

Started On: 08/31/2026 11:20 AM



Data Centers

City Council Work Session September 8, 2026



CC Work Session**Meeting Date:** 09/08/2026**Primary Strategic Plan Initiative:** Strive for high organizational morale and employee retention.

Information**Title:**

Discussion Regarding Union Contract Negotiations (Discussion Closed to the Public)

Purpose/Background:

The purpose of this discussion is to update the City Council on the status of negotiations for the City's five contracts and to gather Council feedback to guide the next phase of negotiations.

Per Minnesota Statutes 13D.03, which states: "The governing body of a public employer may, by a majority vote in a public meeting, decide to hold a closed meeting to consider strategy for labor negotiations, including negotiation strategies or developments or discussion and review of labor negotiation proposals, conducted pursuant to sections 179A.01 to 179A.25, staff is requesting that the City Council go into closed session to discuss the City's labor negotiations strategy.

At this time, City staff met with all the unions, including the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), Law Enforcement Labor Services (LELS) Patrol group, LELS Sergeants, LELS Captains group and the LELS Crime Data Analysts groups. Staff will provide a detailed update on all negotiations.

Supporting documentation will be distributed and recollected at the meeting.

Time Frame/Observations/Alternatives:

Up to 20 minutes

Funding Source:

Not applicable at this time.

Recommendation:**Outcome/Action:**

For the City Council to provide staff with direction regarding how to proceed with contract negotiations.

Attachments*No file(s) attached.***Form Review****Inbox**

Brian Hagen

Form Started By: Colleen Lasher

Final Approval Date: 09/03/2026

Reviewed By

Brian Hagen

Date

09/03/2026 01:03 PM

Started On: 09/03/2026 10:07 AM

CC Work Session

Meeting Date: 09/08/2026

Primary Strategic Plan Initiative: Enhance City's communication through transparency and accountability.

Information

Title:
Review Future Topics/Calendar

Purpose/Background:
The attachment is the current list of future topics for work session discussions. Items are drawn from Council requests at meetings, or are related to topics that have been identified in the City's strategic plan.

Recommendation:
For Council review - no formal action necessary.

Outcome/Action:
For Council review.

Attachments

Future Topics

Form Review

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
Brian Hagen	Brian Hagen	09/03/2026 01:03 PM
Form Started By: Katie Schmidt		Started On: 09/02/2026 09:21 AM
Final Approval Date: 09/03/2026		

	<u><i>Tentative City Council Future Work Session Topics</i></u>	
Proposed Date	Topic	Minutes (Estimate)
2026		
09/22	Responsible-Bidder Policy/Project Labor Agreement Policy follow up	
10/13	Facility Tour – Public Works	90
10/27	Quarterly Police & Fire Update	
10/27	CIP	
10/27	Review 2027 Proposed Rates, Fees and Charges	
11/10	Final Budget Review	
11/10	Hwy 10 Code Compliance Update	
TBD	Facility Tours	
TBD	Comp Plan	
TBD	Discuss Commercial Property Public Utility Connection Program	
TBD	Subdivision Code	