

NEWS RELEASE

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EDEN PRAIRIE WINS DIGITAL CITIES AWARD

Eden Prairie, Minn. — The City of Eden Prairie was awarded first place in the **Center for Digital Government “Digital Cities Survey”** in the population category of 30,000 to 74,999.

The 11th annual survey spotlights the municipalities that best show how information and communication technology are used to enhance public service. The survey is conducted by the Center for Digital Government and *Government Technology* magazine and the top 10 cities are selected in four different population categories. This year’s survey focused on results achieved by cities, via the use of technology, in operating efficiencies and realizing strategic objectives despite current fiscal constraints.

For a complete list of winners, visit digitalcommunities.com.

Consolidation efforts were a large part of the reason Eden Prairie took first place in its population category. The City has been knee-deep in application integration, service customization and hardware consolidation projects which have improved service delivery throughout its operations. Eden Prairie has also saved approximately 28 percent on its desktop and laptop computer purchases by switching to a local reseller and buying from a contract set up by the State of Minnesota.

Lisa Wu, IT manager, said the project the City is most proud of is implementing a joint police and fire dispatch system to better share information between the departments. Previously, there were four different systems. But now combined in one solution, Eden Prairie can share information with both Hennepin County and the State of Minnesota to enhance public services.

“That’s a big project we’ve been working on for the last two years,” Wu said. “It’s not just technology; it’s an integrated business collaboration between the Police and Fire Departments, and IT.”

Wu said other efforts contributing to Eden Prairie’s recognition centered on the adoption of GIS and GPS technology to support various City departments, and using local school and retail buildings to wirelessly connect City sites to help avoid the high cost of fiber connectivity.

The City of Eden Prairie is a vibrant community of more than 60,000 residents located just southwest of Minneapolis. Eden Prairie has been nationally recognized as a great place to live, work and raise a family. Since 2006, Eden Prairie has been listed among MONEY Magazine’s 100 “Best Places to Live” in America, and in 2010 topped MONEY’s list as the Best Place to Live in America.

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