

LIFE IN THE PRAIRIE

edenprairie.org



2016 CITY COUNCIL

The Eden Prairie **City Council** typically meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Beginning at 5:30 p.m. the Council participates in a workshop to learn about and discuss various predetermined topics. These sessions, which are not electronically recorded or televised, take place in the Heritage Rooms at City Center (8080 Mitchell Road) and are open to the public.

From 6:30 to 6:55 p.m., the Council invites members of the public to speak at an untelevised **open podium** session in the Council Chambers. Those who wish to address the Council about an issue related to City government and have questions about open podium should contact the City Manager's office at **952-949-8412**.

Council meetings begin at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers. In addition to being open to the public, these meetings are broadcast live on **EPTV cable channel 16** and can be viewed — live or on-demand — via **CITY TV** at edenprairie.org/citytv. The meetings are also replayed on EPTV 16 several times each week. Visit edenprairie.org/eptv16 for days and times.

Mayor Nancy Tyra-Lukens

Nancy Tyra-Lukens was re-elected as mayor of Eden Prairie in the November 2014 election to serve her third four-year term, having previously served on the City Council from 1994 through 2001, and as mayor from 2002 through 2006 and 2010 through 2014.

Mayor Tyra-Lukens can be reached at ntyra-lukens@edenprairie.org or **952-937-1898**.



Council Member Brad Aho

Brad Aho was re-elected in the November 2012 election to serve his third four-year term on the Eden Prairie City Council.

Council Member Aho can be reached at baho@edenprairie.org or **952-303-6884**.



Council Member Ron Case

Ron Case was re-elected in the November 2012 election to serve his fifth four-year term on the Eden Prairie City Council, having previously served from 1994 through 2006 and 2008 through 2012.

Council Member Case can be reached at rcase@edenprairie.org or **952-949-0915**.



Council Member Sherry Butcher Wickstrom

Sherry Butcher Wickstrom was re-elected in the November 2014 election to serve her fifth four-year term on the Eden Prairie City Council, having previously served from 1997 through 2008 and 2011 through 2014.

Council Member Butcher Wickstrom can be reached at sbutcherwickstrom@edenprairie.org or **612-296-3721**.



Council Member Kathy Nelson

Kathy Nelson was re-elected in the November 2014 election to serve her third four-year term on the Eden Prairie City Council.

Council Member Nelson can be reached at knelson@edenprairie.org or **952-941-6613**.



Q & A with the Council:

What do you want the Eden Prairie community to know?

As representatives of the residents of Eden Prairie, all of us on the City Council consider it a great privilege to serve our community. We value the input we receive from residents and encourage the involvement of the community in the governmental process. I would also like the community to know about the stellar staff at City Hall. From customer service to finance and all points in-between we have well-trained, dedicated staff that work to keep our City functioning efficiently. They also focus on keeping the cost of government down while delivering high quality services. In fact, Eden Prairie residents pay among the lowest municipal property taxes when compared to our peer cities. I hope you enjoy living here as much as I do.

– Nancy Tyra-Lukens

That City government needs them! We need their voices, talents and perspectives of our residents because what they think matters to each one of us on the City Council, and we are here to listen and learn from them. I also believe that it is our responsibility to be engaged as citizens and to model the tenets of democracy to our children and grandchildren. Government is theirs, too and they need to know that they can make a difference in the world. It is always uplifting to see the City Council Chambers fill up with Eden Prairie High School students from the government class or scouts working on their civic badges. They are our future leaders and I believe we need to inspire the vision for them to carry our democratic government forward.

– Sherry Butcher Wickstrom

I really enjoy being a member of the City Council and serving the people of Eden Prairie. It is truly a privilege to serve on the Council and help to shape our great community. I am always impressed by the caliber and quality of the people that choose to call Eden Prairie home and enjoy meeting many people and getting to work with our talented City staff.

– Brad Aho

I would like the people of Eden Prairie to know that Council members want and enjoy hearing from the people we serve. We welcome, in fact we value, feedback both before and after decisions are made. Mostly, I would hope that everyone on all sides of any issue realizes that at the end of the day we're friends, neighbors and/or co-workers who simply stepped forward to commit some time and energy to making Eden Prairie a better place to live.

– Ron Case

I always keep in mind the promises I made during the election, and make sure that I am working as a Council member to do the things that I promised to do.

– Kathy Nelson

THE 2016 CITY BUDGET

At its Dec. 1 meeting, the Eden Prairie **City Council** approved the 2016 City budget. This amount includes a budget increase of 3.5 percent, resulting in a tax levy increase of 2.9 percent or \$33,098,773 for 2016.

The approved 2016 City budget totals \$45,877,812. This amount includes a base wage increase for City employees of 2.5 percent in 2016.

The median single family home (MSFH) in Eden Prairie is valued at \$360,300 for 2016, and the estimated City property tax for a MSFH is \$1,173; this represents an increase of 0.01 percent more than 2015.

The final 2016 budget will be posted on the City website in January.

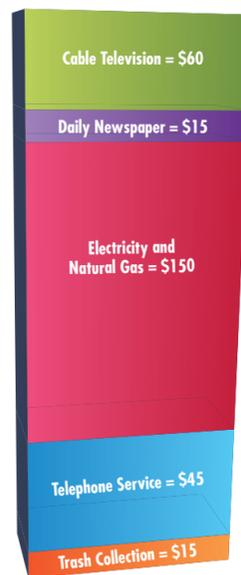
Your Tax Dollars at Work

The median single family homeowner in Eden Prairie pays approximately \$97.75 per month for all City services. These services include Fire and Police protection; Public Works, such as street maintenance; Parks and Recreation, including caring for more than 1,000 acres of parkland and nearly 122 miles of trails; and many other services provided by the City.

In comparison, Eden Prairie homeowners pay approximately \$285 per month for non-City services such as cable television, trash collection, daily newspaper and telephone.

Estimated Monthly Charges for Non-City Services = \$285

Total Monthly City Taxes (MSFH) = \$97.75



EP BILL PAY LAUNCHING IN 2016

The City is introducing a new and improved online billing and payment system for water and sewer utility customers! Beginning in early 2016, **EP Bill Pay** will make it even more convenient to pay Eden Prairie utility bills online with an improved user interface, and additional payment options and benefits:



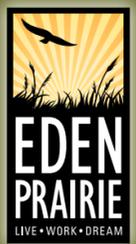
- Make one-time payments with no registration
- Schedule payments with credit card or bank account
- Pay by phone or pay by text
- Receive utility bills, confirmation of payments, reminders and receipts via email
- Use intuitive interface for mobile payments

HOLIDAY HOURS

Several City facilities, including the **City Center, Community Center, Senior Center** and **Eden Prairie Liquor** stores, will operate on modified holiday schedules through the end of the year. Please visit edenprairie.org/calendar for detailed information about holiday hours.

Have a safe and happy holiday season!





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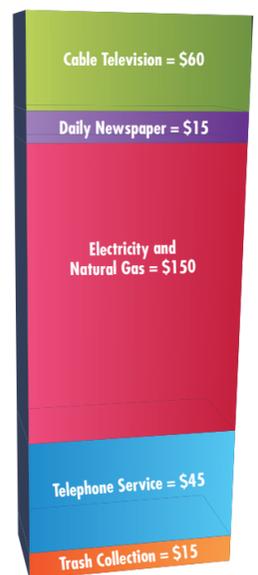
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City of Eden Prairie
8080 Mitchell Road
Eden Prairie, MN 55344-4485

952-949-8434
edenprairie.org



POSTAL CUSTOMER

CELEBRATING 2015

It has become an annual tradition for the Eden Prairie City Manager to write a year-end letter to the community, as a way of reflecting on what has happened and celebrating what has been accomplished. This is a great tradition, because as stewards of Eden Prairie's public buildings, parks, streets and much of its natural open space, we are accountable to you – the residents and taxpayers of this community. We want you to know that we take our stewardship responsibility seriously, and we celebrate with you, all of what has taken place in Eden Prairie in 2015.



We improved the City's outstanding network of parks, recreational facilities and natural open spaces by: opening Phase One of the **Aquatics Center and Fitness Expansion** at the **Community Center**; introducing **Fitness in the Parks** programming featuring outdoor group fitness classes in several community parks; and continuing the work of the **Mayor's Health and Wellness Committee** to support healthy and active living in Eden Prairie.



We enhanced public safety by: hosting a **Citizens Academy** and **Senior Citizens Academy** to provide hands-on law enforcement experience to members of the community; providing **specialized training to Fire and Police personnel** in the administration of naloxone, a medication that reverses the effects of heroin overdose; completing two **Fire Station remodel projects** to accommodate the Department's Duty Crew initiative; finalizing a **new mobile and portable radio strategy**; and partnering with the community to accomplish record-breaking participation in the annual **Night to Unite** event.



We dedicated significant time again this year to maintaining our City infrastructure and conserving our natural resources by: accomplishing the **City's lowest annual water use since 1997**; completing the **Shady Oak Road Phase Two** project involving the reconstruction of the bridge over Highway 212; implementing **street rehabilitation projects** on several major traffic ways including Franlo Road, Homeward Hills Road, Anderson Lakes Parkway and Riverview Road; finalizing the **extension of West 70th Street**; and providing **top-notch snow removal services** which earned a **"City of Excellence Award"** from the Minnesota League of Cities.



We helped strengthen the economic vitality of Eden Prairie by: obtaining a \$470,000 grant from Hennepin County to enhance the new **West 70th Street connection to Flying Cloud Drive**; finalizing **Station Area Designs and a Zoning Ordinance** in anticipation of construction on the Southwest Light Rail Transit project; and celebrating the opening of **Eden Gardens**, a new neighborhood development featuring 36 sustainable homes with green neighborhood amenities.



We continued our commitment to environmentally conscious operations by making final steps toward completion of the City's **20-40-15** initiative, aimed at increasing the energy efficiency of our public buildings by **20** percent, the energy efficiency of our vehicle fleet by **40** percent and to accomplish both of those goals by year-end **2015**.



We continued our efforts to maintain transparency and encourage online community engagement by posing several topics for discussion on the **City Connect** platform and providing multiple channels for open communication including **City News, Facebook** and **Twitter**.

There is much to celebrate about 2015! On behalf of your elected officials and everyone who works for the City of Eden Prairie, thank you for allowing us to serve you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Getschow".

Rick Getschow
City Manager



EDEN PRAIRIE COMMISSIONS

The Source of Successful City Government

The **Eden Prairie City Council** utilizes the expertise of several commissions for advice on matters ranging from economic development to environmental protection. Commissions are made up of Eden Prairie residents willing to share their time and knowledge for the better of the community.

Positions are currently available on nearly every commission. Applications are accepted in January, City Council interviews are conducted in February, appointments are made by the Council in March and commission terms typically begin April 1.

Conservation Commission

Members

Amanda Anderson
Gena Gerard
Laura Jester (Vice Chair)
Greg Olson (Chair)
Margaret Powell
Prashant Shrikhande
Lori Tritz

Student Members

Rachel Buckland
Emily Corpuz
Jenna Horner
Ashray Manipalli
Sophia Modeas
Anthony Polyakov

Staff Liaison: Tania Mahtani

Purpose

To advance and support the health and development of the citizens and natural environment of Eden Prairie through comprehensive environmental protection, conservation efforts and natural resource management.

Meetings

7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the City Center.

2015 Highlights

- The commission made recommendations to City staff on multiple projects, including the development of a sustainability program, public engagement efforts regarding landscape improvements at City-owned properties and an update to the Local Water Management Plan.
- The Commission provided public education at several community events, including the Arbor Day/Green Fair and the Chamber of Commerce Home and Garden Expo.
- The Commission continued to monitor the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency *GreenStep Cities* program, and worked with staff to achieve "Step 4" recognition.

Flying Cloud Airport Advisory Commission

Members

Bob Barker
Caryl Hansen (Vice Chair)
Victoria Price
Kurt Schendel
Joseph Sutilla
Keith Tschohl (Chair)
Mike Wilson (MAC Representative)

Student Members

Luke Holzworth
Michael Richter

Staff Liaison: George Esbensen

Purpose

To advise the City Council and the Metropolitan Airports Commission with regard to matters affecting the operation of Flying Cloud Airport.

Meetings

7 p.m. on the second Thursday of odd-numbered months at the City Center.

2015 Highlights

- The Commission began the investigative process seeking information on the potential impact of drone use within the City.
- The Commission addressed issues regarding helicopter operations at Flying Cloud Airport.

Heritage Preservation Commission

Members

Cindy Evert
Mark Freiberg
Tara Kalar
Ed Muehlberg (Vice Chair)
Steve Olson (Chair)
Pamela Spera
Paul Thorp

Student Members

Natalie Higgins
Zeinab Hussien
Alexander Modeas

Staff Liaison: Lori Creamer

Purpose

The Heritage Preservation Commission is established for the purpose of: (1) safeguarding the heritage of the City by preserving sites and structures which reflect significant elements of the City's cultural, social, economic, political, visual or architectural history; (2) promoting the preservation and continued use of historic sites and structures for the education and general welfare of the people of the City; and (3) fostering civic pride in the beauty and notable accomplishments of the past.

Meetings

7 p.m. on the third Monday of each month at the City Center

2015 Highlights

- The Commission implemented a new Heritage Preservation Award program.
- The Commission applied for and received several grants for funding upcoming projects.
- The Commission completed a kiosk grant project at Riley Lake.

Human Rights and Diversity Commission

Members

Tonja Bivins
Jenny Buckland
Sana Elassar
Sandra Filardo
Connie Iacovelli
Greg Leeper
PG Narayanan (Chair)

Student Members

Tala Alfoqaha
Turner Gunderson
Sarah Mason
Tanvi Mehta
Adrienne Retzlaff

Staff Liaison: Patricia Fenrick

Purpose

Act in an advisory capacity to the City on matters of diversity, civil and human rights, and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Meetings

7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month on the lower level of Eden Prairie Center mall.

2015 Highlights

- The Commission continued a monthly *Community Cinema Project*, partnering with Independent Lens, and Public Television to screen Emmy Award-winning films in a forum inviting community discussion about important social issues and featuring local guest speakers.
- The Commission hosted *Tracks in the Snow*, an exhibit showcasing The Minnesota Muslim Experience.
- The Commission presented annual Human Rights awards to residents and businesses.

Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission

Members

Donald Jacobson
Larry Link (Chair)
Debra McBride (Vice Chair)
Leonard Pesheck
Kirk Spreser
Deborah Tenner

Student Members

Bridget Dillon
Emily Harvey
Piper Lincoln
Stefan Wenk

Staff Liaison: Jay Lothhammer

Purpose

Act in advisory capacity to the City on matters of development and use of parks and recreation facilities, leisure services, recreation programming, preservation of natural resources and promotion of environmental awareness.

Meetings

7 p.m. on the first Monday of each month at the City Center.

2015 Highlights

- Commission members provided information and feedback on a multitude of park projects, including: the Aquatics and Fitness Expansion Project; Cedar Hills Park Design; Franlo Park Updates; and the Miracle League Field Project.
- Commission members heard staff presentations and provided input and feedback in the areas of: facility rentals; new recreation software implementation; park maintenance work items; concessions; fitness programming; and therapeutic recreation programs.

Planning Commission

Members

Ed Farr
Ann Higgins
John Kirk (Vice Chair)
Andrew Pieper
Jon Stoltz (Chair)
Charles Weber
Travis Wuttke

Staff Liaison: Julie Klima

Purpose

To provide for an open process and a balanced review of development proposals and land use requests, both private and public, with regard to the City's Strategic Plan, Comprehensive Guide Plan and City land use.

Meetings

7 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at the City Center.

2014 Highlights

- The Commission reviewed the Transit Oriented Development Ordinance.
- The Commission reviewed development proposals for approximately 18,000 square feet of new retail construction, three landscape and façade remodel proposals, and various other development proposals.

AROUND EDEN PRAIRIE

A Page from the Blog of City Manager Rick Getschow

Municipal Liquor Profits: Giving Back to the Community Nov. 12, 2015



When you walk through the doors at any one of the City's three municipal liquor stores, you pass by a message that says, "Giving Back to the Community" – it's an important message, and one that I'd like to elaborate on a little.

Municipal liquor stores have been in operation since the United States government repealed prohibition in 1933, giving individual states the responsibility and authority to regulate liquor sales. At that time, the Minnesota legislature gave cities the option of issuing liquor licenses to private businesses or providing municipal alcohol dispensing services.

Eden Prairie, along with more than 300 other cities, chose to operate municipal liquor stores. This choice not only allows for greater control over liquor being sold and consumed in the City, but also further diversifies the City's revenue sources – because it allows us to invest liquor store profits back into the community.



The City's three Eden Prairie Liquor store locations generate more than \$1-million in profits annually.



And within the past year, those profits helped to fund a portion of the following Capital Improvement projects:

- Community Center Aquatics and Fitness Expansion
- New Fire Department Ladder Truck
- Franlo Park Tennis Court Renovations
- Playground Equipment Replacements

In other words, profits generated at the municipal liquor stores directly fund a number of improvements in our city – which also helps offset the amount of taxpayer dollars needed for these projects.

So next time you pass by that message, you'll know that your choice to shop at Eden Prairie Liquor makes it possible for us to give back to the community.

See more of Rick Getschow's blog entries by visiting edenprairieweblogs.org.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that an Eden Prairie **Community Center** membership is not required to use the facility?

The Community Center is a public facility available to walk-in participants as well as members!

Many Community Center features, including the fitness center, aquatics facility, racquetball courts, ice rinks and gymnasium, offer daily use fees ranging from \$4 to \$9, with discounted rates for Eden Prairie residents.



To find schedules for open swim, skate and gym, plus opportunities for class registration and more, visit edenprairie.org/communitycenter.

LIVE WELL EDEN PRAIRIE!

Explore New Fitness Classes at the Community Center

It's almost time to ring in the New Year! If your 2016 resolutions involve having more fun, getting in shape and feeling more energetic, then it's also time to try out some of the great new fitness classes offered at the Community Center!

Indo-Row – This 45-minute workout on cutting-edge Indo-Rowers provides an environment to participate in a fast-paced and engaging total-body workout. Each rower features a monitor that provides instant feedback on pace, distance and calories. Working in teams, partners and as one crew, Indo-Row captures all the elements of competitive, on-water rowing, using a variety of drills, waves and races that quickly convert first-timers to devoted team members. Great for any fitness level.

RPM – Looking for an indoor cycling workout? Take on the terrain with your inspiring team coach who will lead the pack through hills, flats, mountain peaks, speed work and interval training. Discover your athlete within – sweat and burn to reach your endorphin high! This program is self-regulated interval training – you will push hard, then rest, push hard, then rest. You control your resistance the whole time.



CxWorx – This 30-minute program is the ultimate way to strengthen and sculpt your abs, glutes, back, obliques and "slings" that connect the upper and lower body. Tighten and tone your core while improving functional strength for mobility and injury prevention. This class is suitable for all fitness levels. All equipment is provided, including resistance tubes and hand weights.

Kettlebell – Kettlebells are some of the most powerful tools for improving your fitness and physique. They combine strength training, mobility, flexibility and cardiovascular endurance. As a result, you spend less time working out yet get extraordinary results. Programs focus on joint mobility and stability, muscular strength, cardiovascular endurance, muscular flexibility, total-body range of motion and injury prevention.

CIZE – Unlike most cardio dance classes, this isn't just about shuffling your feet to old school tunes. CIZE will have you busting out full dance routines to the latest music tracks. Get sweaty, gain confidence and get an amazing workout! Think you can't dance? The instructor will break down the moves, step-by-step, and gradually add on until you and your new dance crew can bust out the whole routine!



Group fitness classes do not require registration, so drop in any time and give them a try! Community Center members may attend for free; non-members simply pay a daily use fee of \$9 for residents or \$12 for non-residents. Find additional classes, schedules and more at edenprairie.org/fitness.



This holiday season...
Shop wisely.

YOUR CHOICE TO SHOP EDEN PRAIRIE LIQUOR IS AN INVESTMENT IN OUR COMMUNITY!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

City Council Meetings*

Tuesdays, Jan. 5, 19; Feb. 2, 16; March 8

*All meetings begin at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the City Center.

Rock on Ice

Sunday, Jan. 17

5:30–8 p.m.

Miller Park Ice Rink

Bring the whole family for a free evening filled with skating and good old-fashioned rock 'n' roll, plus s'mores and refreshments by the bonfire.

Father and Daughter Sweetheart Dance

Saturday, Feb. 6

5–7:30 p.m.

The Garden Room

Dads, take the opportunity to dance the night away with your daughters, ages 3 to 15, and enjoy an evening of memories you will cherish for a lifetime. Registration is \$30 per child, \$32 per adult (by Jan. 28) and includes dinner, dancing, photo and special Valentine craft.

Senior Center Valentine's Breakfast

Friday, Feb. 12

9 a.m.

Senior Center

Celebrate with someone special and enjoy a delicious breakfast. Registration is required: \$9 per person by Feb. 5.

Eden Prairie Players Present:

Father of the Bride

Fridays and Saturdays, Feb. 19–20; 26–27 at 7:30 p.m.

Sundays, Feb. 21, 28 at 2 p.m.

Eden Prairie High School Auditorium

Visit edenprairieplayers.com for ticket information.

Annual Ice Show:

FROZEN: Let's Heat Things Up!

Friday, March 18 at 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 19 at 5 p.m.

Sunday, March 20 at 2 p.m.

Community Center

The Eden Prairie Figure Skating Club presents its annual ice show. Tickets are \$8 for adults; \$6 for children ages 3-17; free for ages 2 and under.

For more information about the City of Eden Prairie calendar of events, visit edenprairie.org/calendar, or call the City Center at 952-949-8300.



STAYING SAFE IN EDEN PRAIRIE



Annual CodeRED System Test

On **Tuesday, Jan. 29 at 1 p.m.**, emergency preparedness officials for the City of Eden Prairie will conduct a test of the **CodeRED** community notification system.

The CodeRED system provides the City of Eden Prairie with a high-speed telephone calling, email and text messaging system capable of delivering customized emergency messages directly to homes, businesses and mobile telephone users; therefore, information such as cellphone numbers, email addresses, work telephone lines and alternate emergency contact information should be updated on a regular basis.

To update your information in the CodeRED emergency notification system, visit edenprairie.org/codered. Be sure to enter your home or work **address in Eden Prairie**, the **main telephone number** where you can be reached and your **mobile phone** information if you would like to receive text message notifications.

On **Tuesday, Jan. 29** during the CodeRED system test, City officials will send a prerecorded voice message to all contacts within the system, as well as a written message to email and mobile phone users who have opted-in to those services.

If you have questions about the CodeRED emergency notification system, visit edenprairie.org/codered, email edenprairiealerts@gmail.com or call 952-479-0204.