



**COTTAGE GROVE PUBLIC SERVICES
COMMISSION**

12800 RAVINE PARKWAY SOUTH
COTTAGE GROVE, MN 55016

COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 7:00 PM

July 20, 2026

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Approval of Minutes
 - A 2026-05-18 Minutes
6. Open Forum
7. Presentations
8. Business Items
 - A Hunting Maps
9. Commission Comments
10. Staff Reports and Materials
11. Council Comments
 - A Council Agendas
12. Adjournment



COTTAGE GROVE PUBLIC SERVICES COMMISSION
12800 Ravine Parkway South
Cottage Grove, MN 55016
COUNCIL CHAMBER - 7:00 P.M.

May 18, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Cottage Grove Public Services Commission meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Lisa Kons.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Lisa Kons asked everyone to please join in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Kari Reubish had called the roll. Present: Chair Lisa Kons; Vice Chair Ron Kath; Commissioner Lise' Rediske; Commissioner Jenny Olson; Commissioner Nate Lotts-Arrived after Roll Call; Commissioner Tracy Jenson.

Absent: Commissioner Kelsey Moyer

Staff Present: Nick Arrigoni, Deputy Director of Public Safety/Fire Captain
Gwen Martin, Deputy Director of Public Safety/Police Captain
Council Member Dave Clausen

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Vice Chair Ron Kath made a motion to approve the agenda; second by Commissioner Jenny Olson. Motion carried: 5-0.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. *Staff Recommendation: Approve the 3-16-2026 Public Services Commission Meeting Minutes.*

Commissioner Tracy Jenson made a motion to approve the 3-16-2026 Public Services Commission Meeting Minutes; second by Vice Chair Kath. Motion carried: 5-0.

6. OPEN FORUM

Chair Kons asked if anyone wished to speak on Open Forum tonight. No one spoke. Chair Kons closed the Open Forum.

7. PRESENTATIONS

A. Construction Update

Good Evening, Chair and Commissioners. I'm Paul Sponholz, I'm the City Engineer, Ryan is not able to make it tonight, so you've got me tonight. So, I've got some updates for you on the construction projects in the City. First off, we'll get started with the stuff that we've got this year, in 2026. We're already making a big impact already with this season, there's a lot to do and a very limited amount of time. As you know, Minnesota has two seasons, construction and winter, and even though it's late Spring here, winter is coming, they say.

80th Street Reconstruction

So, we've already started a significant project here on 80th Street, as you probably might know, a major project with major disruptions to the community here in traffic. This is a joint project with MnDOT and the County and includes work to reconstruct the trunk Highway 61 and 10 interchange ramps, kind of shown in the green here, in the picture on the left. The work overall includes replacing all of the pavement, some improvements to the traffic signals, reconfiguring some of the traffic lanes to improve the traffic flow, adding a turn lane for Park High School, landscaping, and some other minor improvements. We're going to be maintaining traffic, one lane in both directions through the west part of the project, everything west of Hardwood Avenue. On the portion east of Hardwood Avenue, we've got down to just one lane in one direction only, the eastbound, and that's going to be that way pretty much for the rest of the summer. Right now, that one lane closure is only between Hardwood and Hinton, but as soon as school is out in the second week of June, we'll be closing or extending that westbound closure all the way to Ideal, where the project ends. So, and that'll be pretty much throughout the rest of the summer, and we'll finish that piece in front of the schools hopefully just

before school starts up again, in September. But until we finish the rest of that portion in October, that'll be one lane pretty much all throughout the project.

As far as the Highway 61 ramps, the north ramps, so that's the northbound on ramp and the off ramp going southbound, those ramps will be closed here pretty soon. I don't quite have a timeframe on that yet, probably soon after Memorial Day, and we'll close those completely for that construction there; that will last about 10 weeks or so, and then we'll be switching everything over to the next phase, and then we'll close those south ramps for another 10 weeks or so, and reconstruct those ramps.

The plan is to complete all this work in one construction season. It's a very, very tight schedule that we have, and it's a lot of heartache for a lot of people here and we get that, but we're going to get it done in one season. It should hopefully be reopened just before that snow flies again here. A lot of planning and a lot of effort went into getting this done in one season, so we're not stretching it out over two years.

At the bottom of the screen here is our website that has updates on the project. I certainly encourage everybody to check that out for updates, and you can also sign up for weekly email updates or any other significant updates as they're changing traffic patterns throughout the project. So, 80thStreetCG.com is a great source to get some information.

Our Communications team is doing an awesome job. They're throwing things out there on our social media, we'll probably be putting out things at least twice a week here, coming up, so that's another good source of updates and information.

Vice Chair Kath asked so the goal, then, is once the westbound lane is complete then from say, what is it, Ideal, up by Park High School, all the way down to the highway, then we'll flip it at that point, then? And then the eastbound will be closed then.

Paul replied well, we're going to be keeping that westbound closed at all times throughout the project, and we're just starting work on the north lanes, the north side of the road, and when we finish that work, we'll move traffic; we'll keep that eastbound traffic going, and then move it over to those north lanes. So, keep the same direction of traffic going at all times throughout the year.

Vice Chair Kath said okay, so, east will always be open, west is the one that the detours and everything are set up for; Paul replied correct. Vice Chair Kath said okay, gotcha. Because I had gotten some feedback from some folks, they said well, this was going to be a two-year project and all this, and I said well, I didn't think so. I mean, obviously weather will probably have a big impact, but we are trying to get it done then in the one season, as you mentioned? Paul replied barring a major snowstorm in October, we're hoping to.

Chair Kons said I was just going to ask you, what does the season consist of? What's the end date of a season consist of, or?

Paul replied we expect to have things open to traffic by October timeframe, so. Chair Kons asked October? Paul confirmed that. He said there'll be some minor work that might stretch out into next year, but it'll be all open to traffic is the intent.

2026 Mill and Overlay Project

Our next project here is every year we do a Mill and Overlay project, it's just to continue our maintenance of our roadways. That consists of just grinding off, or milling off, the top inch or two of pavement, and then replacing it with a new surface of asphalt. So, this year's project here, we do one of these projects every year, this year's projects include 95th Street, from Hadley to Jamaica, and then that cul-de-sac portion of Ideal Avenue. Also, under Ideal, we have some storm sewer structure repairs that we've got to do, so we'll be doing that as part of the project.

Also, as part of the Mill and Overlay project, we'll be working here in the neighborhood where the library is at; this includes Hinton Heights and the Oakwood Heights additions, so it includes these streets shown here in the pink. On the right is kind of a detailed shot of what's in front of the Park library. On the work there on Hemingway, we're doing some curb bump outs and some improvements for the pedestrians and parking there. That's kind of part of Washington County's library project, so we'll make some improvements there for pedestrians.

2026 Pavement Management Project

Another annual project we do is our Pavement Management Project. This is a little bit more intensive, a little bit more robust work than we do for the Mill and Overlay, this typically replaces the entire pavement structure except for the gravel base; we can usually save that gravel base, save some money here, it's not a full-blown reconstruction project, but it replaces that asphalt pavement. And then we also do a lot of curb and gutter replacements, as well as a lot of other improvements. In this case, we'll be working here in the Thompson-Grove Estates neighborhood, on the corner of 90th and Jamaica, so we're showing everything there in the yellow that we'll be doing there.

80th Street/Keats Intersection Improvements

On the east end of 80th Street here, the City's participating with Washington County in a County-led project this summer. They've already started that work last week, building a roundabout here at 80th and Keats. Contractors will be doing a lot of work, under traffic, with constructing of some bypass lanes on the west side of this intersection. With that, they'll be able to move that traffic over as far as they can to the west, and then they'll be able to build at least 3/4 of the roundabout, the east piece of the roundabout

pretty much with all the traffic pushed over to the west. To do that, though, we'll have to close that east leg of 80th Street, for most of the summer that'll be closed. Once they have most of the roundabout built, then they'll put traffic on the new roundabout, close that east leg for a couple weeks in late summer or early fall, and get that done as quick as possible so we can reopen that west leg.

Vice Chair Kath said a question on that roundabout, is it going to be a double roundabout or a single?

Paul replied no, just a single, single lanes in all directions here. So, you can see some of the detail here with 80th Street, with the four legs, it'll merge the traffic down to the one lane, and then it'll be one lane coming in and out of that in all directions.

Commissioner Jenson asked so, the one on 70th, is it similar to the one on 70th?

Paul replied, yeah, I would say so, yeah.

Commissioner Rediske asked what are the rules to determine if it's going to be a single roundabout versus a double? Is it based on traffic volume?

Paul replied traffic volume, yeah. Yeah, traffic out here right now is a single lane is all that's needed for many years to come. Even with all the development that we've planned out here, roundabouts are very efficient at moving that traffic, so that should serve us well for the foreseeable future.

2025 Mill and Overlay Project

Just a quick update here on the project we did last year. As you know, we installed some traffic signals at Hardwood Avenue and Hardwood Court, the driveway to Kohl's and US Bank and so forth. You may have noticed it's been sitting in all flash here for a couple weeks. For a while, we were thinking it was some kind of warranty issue, so we're dealing with the contractor, trying to sort that out, but after a lot of work, we finally determined that it was likely caused by a crash that took out a pedestrian pole. There's these poles about four feet high on the corners, and a recent crash took one of those out, and that somehow caused some cascading issues with the electrical systems in the control box. So, unfortunately, we've got to replace that entire control box, so, we've got that on order here, and now that we finally know what's going on, we can move forward, and we hope to have that replaced here soon and traffic restored to normal here in a couple weeks.

Future Projects

Paul said I just want to touch base on a couple future projects here:

County 19A/100th Street Realignment: Our next major project will be the realignment of 100th Street and County Road 19A, or Innovation Road. This is going to extend 100th Street, that starts here at Jamaica and 100th, and go straight east, towards the Innovation Road interchange with Highway 61. That's going to open up the area to development and provide better access to the trunk Highway 61 for the area. Hopefully, that should relieve some of the traffic at the Jamaica Avenue roundabouts at the Highway 61 interchange there. We're going through the Final Design phase now, worked out a lot of significant utility issues here, you can see all these lines here; it's hard to read this thing, but these are all different utilities from Northern National Gas, the Met Council sewer, and a few other things going on here, power lines and so forth, but we finally found a way to thread the needle, so to speak, here and avoid some costly utility relocations. We've got some significant challenges yet, with the total cost of the project, currently, it's about a \$47 million project. We had about a \$22 million funding gap yet, but we just heard last night the State legislature approved some bonding, so we got \$9.6 million as part of that bonding, and that's going to be certainly applied to this project and used well. So, we're excited for that, that's going to be a significant benefit for this project to move this thing forward, so. We are in a situation where we have to move forward with this project, we have a lot of Federal funding that has already been established, and if we don't use it soon, we're going to lose that funding. But with this money awarded last night, we can certainly move forward with some phases of this project and make something happen. Construction is starting hopefully in the fall of 2027 is what we're aiming for.

Vice Chair Kath asked is there going to be a bridge over the railroad, or how is that? Paul replied yes. Vice Chair Kath said okay, so there will be a bridge over the railroad tracks, which Paul confirmed, and said it's hard to see in all this line work here, but this orange area here is that bridge, so.

Vice Chair Kath asked double lane the whole way, then, just like 100th is today, all the way to?

Paul replied it'll be one lane in each direction is the current need for the foreseeable future, so that's what we're going to build it to, but we are building it to expand it to a four-lane in the future if it's ever needed, so. The bridge itself is going to be built with four lanes right away because the lifecycle of a bridge can be 75-to-100 years. So, we're going to build that up front, and then part of the phasing of this, especially with that funding gap, is just build the bare minimum that we need for the next two decades at least, and then we can expand fairly easily then in the future when that need is there. And the lifecycle of a pavement is usually only about 20-to-30 years, so, that'll be a good use of the current need and the funding that we have available now.

Vice Chair Kath said okay, thanks.

Paul said I've got some updates on some of the water projects here:

Low Zone Water Tower

We are working on building that new Water Tower here, right next to Hamlet Park. You may have seen this weekend they raised the tank. They constructed it kind of at the bottom, a lot easier to access and all that welding of all those steel panels at the ground level, and then I just got to watch it get raised up Saturday morning. So, now you can see it fully in place, so that's a pretty good step that we're excited to see. We're hoping to have that project done here at about an August timeframe and put that into use.

Vice Chair Kath asked can you remind me and the community, too, with the design of that one, it was going to save us money from the painting part of how we maintain our current like all-metal type water towers? I remember Ryan talking to us about that, that there was going to be less maintenance, especially with painting, it was over \$1 million to paint these.

Paul replied okay, I'm sorry, I don't know too much about that, but I can certainly find that out and get an answer to you.

Vice Chair Kath said, okay, thanks. I just recall him talking about it, that's why with the concrete structure being built versus all metal, there's less maintenance on the concrete versus a metal one that was created.

Paul replied and I can see that. Now, here's just some artist renderings of what that tower is looking like, and now that you say that, I see it's just the concrete color there at the bottom. So, I see some communities paint that, but I don't want to speak here because I don't know for sure, if that's gray in these pictures, maybe the intent is not to paint that, and that would be a good cost savings.

Vice Chair Kath said you're just going to have to make Ryan buy you lunch for this because he didn't prep you right.

Paul said I'll get an answer on that, and I can get that forwarded to you then, so. But, yeah, here's just some renderings of the water tower and what it's anticipated to look there with the logo here, and we'll get that logo painted here soon, and just a couple more views from different locations of the City.

Intermediate Zone Water Treatment Plant

Paul said then the other major water project is the Intermediate Zone Water Treatment Plant, that's being constructed behind the Central Fire Station, that's full steam ahead. We're hoping to get that finished and online in 2028, so that's continuing to go on and moving forward. A lot of work going on there, and here's just some renderings of what that building will look like when it's done.

I'd mentioned the specific website for the 80th Street project, but all of these projects that we've got going on, we do have highlighted in our webpage. If you just go to the City of Cottage Grove's main page, what I've got circled in red is a button you can click on that takes you to construction projects. Then on that page you can pull up this map and you can see on the right side, the different highlighted projects that the City's going for, and you can click on current projects or future projects. If you click on those individual projects, it'll pull up more information and take you to a website for each of those projects with all the updates. Some projects that are a lot more intensive, like the 80th Street project, will have ways to sign up for email updates and get on that update list. Or you can find the project by name on the side and click on that, and that's another way to get to those projects and get some information. So, a lot of good ways to get that information.

Vice Chair Kath said for the community, I would really recommend doing that, especially the 80th Street one. The updates, like originally it was going to be like the 18th, we were going to close down the ramps, and that email came out before a lot of people knew; and, so, they're really doing a good job of getting ahead of it, so I would highly recommend folks to sign up for those updates.

Paul replied yep, get that email and check out that Facebook page for sure. Thank you, commissioner.

Paul said that's all I had for tonight. Any questions?

Vice Chair Kath said I think I've used all mine up. There were no other questions. Chair Kons thanked Paul.

B. Fire Year in Review

Good Evening, Commissioners, thanks for having me. I am Nick Arrigoni, Deputy Chief with the Fire Department, and tonight I'm excited to talk to you about our Annual Report for 2025. So, it's a very similar format to what the P.D. went through last meeting. So, covering a lot of the good work we did in 2025 and how we'll move forward into 2026.

So, first and foremost, I'll kind of introduce you to our Fire Department Leadership Team, which I'm sure you know most of:

- Director of Public Safety Brad Petersen
- Fire Chief Jon Pritchard: Jon is really the visionary as the Fire Chief for where we're going to go. You know, he's the one, the three, the five, the ten-year plan, he's kind of the brains behind that.
- Deputy Chief Nick Arrigoni, myself, I am the Operations Chief, so I oversee all of our fleet and personnel.
- Deputy Chief Peter Fischer: Training is one of his very big lifts for us, policies and procedures.

So, that right there is what makes up the Fire Department Leadership Team.

Mission: The Cottage Grove Fire Department proudly serves the community, providing protection of life and property. We do this with honor, professionalism, empathy, and community partnerships.

This, along with the Vision that I'll hit here soon, we tweaked this a little bit a few years ago, and one of the things that we added to the Mission was community partnerships. So, as we've had some turnover from retirements and promotions in the leadership team, we kind of wanted to add our own style to our Mission and Vision, and that's one thing we really believe in is community partnerships.

Vision: The Cottage Grove Fire Department will be an elite Fire Department that lives our Mission to provide exceptional fire, emergency medical services, specialized response, and community risk reduction services to our customers.

So, we need to be an all-hazards Fire Department. Now, that doesn't mean that we're going to be able to have the specialized response trailers or a high-angle rescue team and a swift-water rescue team and all of the things that comes with that, but we will be trained in it, and we will have the equipment to at least get things moving. So, when we get called to these, specifically the specialized response, you know, I can say five-to-seven years ago, we really had very little capability to really start providing care or even accessing these patients. So, I'll hit on it later in the report, but we've done a lot of work in 2025 and continuing to do that in 2026 on some of our very high risk and low frequency calls that we get.

Another thing that we're very passionate about is our community risk reduction. We're out in the community constantly, and one thing that I won't say is a tweak, but something that we're just really putting an emphasis on is having impactful conversations and interactions with the community. So, let's say we're going to go show the fire truck at a certain event. What we want to do is that's great, that will go show our fire truck and the things that we carry on the truck, but we also want to make sure that we're having good conversations with the community and just information is power. So, making sure that people understand our staff, how we respond, and the equipment we carry. So, building on that a little bit more.

Core Values: These are our Core Values, and these were all selected by our firefighters. So, a couple ones that we had but are really hitting on this year in the community is Accountability, making sure that when we show up to somebody's emergency, that we're accountable to ourselves and to them. We want to be Collaborative, we want to have good Communication. If you ever ask in any organization what people tend to struggle with, I bet you communication always comes up. And, so, that's something we really honed in on, and it's communicating to our members on the Fire Department but also our community as well. We want to be Inclusive, we want to be Safe; obviously, what we do is inherently dangerous on an every day basis. So, there's a lot of risk mitigation that goes in that. We want to be aggressive, and we can be aggressive, and I think we are aggressive, but we've got to be safe while we do that, and a lot of that goes into good, strategic decision making.

Strategic Plan: As you know, much like the Police Department, we also did a Five-Year Strategic Plan. And, so, one thing I'm really proud of on our Fire Department Leadership Team is we actually have a dashboard that we use, and we visit it at least once a quarter to update or look at things that, hey, did we accomplish this? So, what we'll do is if we're deficient in an area, it'll be red, and as we make progress, it'll go to orange; and then as we get to the point that we want to be at, one example could be we want 75% of our fulltime firefighters to be trained in either water rescue or swift-water rescue, we started in 2025 in the red. We had nobody, right now we're getting to that orange area, and by the end of the year, I'm hoping we're going to be in the green. So, Strategic Plans are great, but they're only great if they're a live document and they're revisited.

So, a couple things that we're really working on are: The specialized response, like I talked about and I'll hit on that a little bit more; Fire investigations, so we are able to promote, it's a specialty position within our fulltime firefighters, FAOs, so, Apparatus Operators and Fire Inspectors, making sure that we're out in our communities, in our businesses we're doing fire inspections to make sure that they're safe, and then also to make sure that we are familiar with the building if we're ever called there for an emergency.

Culture is a very big one for us. We're kind of rebranding, we had a lot of retirements in the past five years, a lot of different people that came into the organization, and with that, a lot of upward movement as well. So, with that, we're kind of revisiting what does our culture look like? I'm super excited, I've been here almost 17 years, so I've seen a few different cultures, if you will, and I really believe in what we're building here on the Fire Department. So, a lot of, the number of members we have that are maybe on that five and under scale is probably higher than I've ever seen it, but what they bring is new ideas. You know paramedic schools are different than what I went to, fire school is different, so it's just making sure that we don't get stagnant. I think the Strategic Plan reflects that.

A couple other things are workload and services, so how do we manage? You'll see we were extremely busy in 2025, so how do we have that work-life balance for our firefighters? Last year, by the numbers, I think if there's one really impressive number on here, it's that there 8,745 hours of training completed by our firefighters throughout the entire year. So, we recently had our appreciation dinner, and we had what's called the 200 Club; so, if you made 200 hours and above in training, you get a certificate. We had a couple people well into the 300s, so a lot of that is completed on shift, but not anywhere near that 200- or 300-hour mark. So, one thing I'm really proud of is our firefighters just wanting to hone their craft, they want to be professionals, and they want to

be good at what they do, and that takes time and that takes work. So, that's a lot of times they're coming right off shift, from a 24-hour shift, and going straight to a training for the day, which can get pretty difficult.

We had 49 new certifications, that goes from Fire Officer I, Fire Instructor I, Firefighter 1, Firefighter II, a lot of FAO certifications. So, we have our foot on the gas when it comes to getting people certified with the State Certifications.

We had 46 Community Paramedic Visits. The credit goes to one of our Fire Captains, Chelsea Flores, she did just about all of these, and per visit, I bet she had an hour or two into, on the back end of that. So, we partner very closely with our CMU team on the Police Department, and we're going to continue to build upon our Community Paramedic program, which will continue to work closely with the CMU team.

There were 67 Public Events completed, I can tell you that's just what we captured; I know for a fact we did more, and so, that's again about being out in the public and having important interactions with the public.

There were 5,315 Calls. So, aside from all the hours of training and certification, they went on over 5,300 calls, which is continued growth from year to year, which we anticipate to continue seeing.

On the very bottom left there, you have our average response times. So, for EMS calls, we're just over 6 minutes, and for Fire calls, just under 6.5 minutes. We've been some of the best in the metro with our response times over the last few years, and that has continued to build that direction for us. So, it's getting the call, moving with purpose, and getting the wheels turning, and getting out the door.

Major Accomplishments

- Responded to over 5,300 Calls for Service
- We initiated the Five-Year Strategic Plan
- We completed our Standards of Cover and authorized to pursue staffing grants
- We expanded our Community Paramedic services; like I said Fire Captain Chelsea Flores did a lot of that, looking into 2026, we have three more Community Paramedics that also just finished or are about to finish their certification. This program allows us to go out into the public, we can help people with medication, substance abuse, diabetic care, anything that hopefully prevents hospital visits or admissions is something that the Community Paramedic program focuses on a lot.
- Established a Special Operations Team, so we can do water rescue, swift water, we built on our Haz-Mat response, and then technical rescue as well
- Improved our ISO rating from 4 to 3; a lot of that was from the training hours that we accomplished, that's what really tipped the scale to get that improved.
- Developed a peer support network with holistic wellness support, so what we were able to do is we actually have an app that's on our phones; it was 100% adopted throughout the Fire Department, and it's a good platform for us to put a lot of just our health and wellness things that we want to push. We are not only able to imbed in that app our peer support members, so if somebody's struggling and they want to talk to somebody, they can call us, or what we did is we vetted other peer support members in the Fire Service in the metro and put them on there as well. So, being a smaller department, if I'm going through something, there may be, and I'm happy to say we don't have this problem, but I may be a little hesitant to call one of my members for confidentiality concerns. So, they do have options to call somebody else. We have therapists on there, and there's just so many things we can do with this app, and that's kind of the groundwork for it, but all of our peer support members go to quarterly training to make sure that they maintain their certifications on that. So, it's really a committed effort to make sure that we're able to have long, healthy careers, both mentally and emotionally in this job.
- Implemented a Fire Cadet program. This was really cool to see come to fruition. When we posted for that program, I phone interviewed over 85 people. It's an entry-level position, so they didn't have to have any certifications or qualifications to really apply for that position. Other departments are doing this as well, but it allows us to get somebody that hasn't gone to school yet, we'll send them to EMT if they don't have it, we'll send them to Fire school. It's a three-year program. The whole goal of that is to bring them into our fulltime firefighter ranks; I'm proud to say that our Fire Cadet now is doing very well, and it's been a really kind of just fun process to watch as she's hit the ground running for it.
- Our first two Paramedics certified with Firefighter EMT to Firefighter Paramedic program.
- The East Metro Training Facility is where we do all of our live fire training, and it gets us the best training you can possibly have in a truly live fire, and we were out there multiple times a year.

Standards of Cover Findings

- We have a lot of call concurrency, so, over 40% of our calls overlap. If either an ambulance or fire truck is out on a call, 40% of that time, that other crew is going to get a call as well. What that ultimately sometimes leaves us is nobody in the City. So, if we're only staffed with two crews that day, until one of those crews clears the call that they're on, nobody is staffing the department. We do rely heavily on mutual aid, as other departments rely on us as well.

- With that increasing demand, that's one thing that we've seen a bit of, and I'll talk about hopefully some more staffing adds here that will help decrease that call concurrency.
- If we have any change to our Public Service Area (PSA) options, one of the big findings was the study showed that even if we are without Newport and St. Paul Park for delivering EMS services, we still needed to add staff regardless. It changed very little kind of where we are at in that tipping point from that.
- Aging Fleet: It's very nice that we've had the support to really try and make up some real ground in our fleet. We have a brand-new ambulance, another one is on the way. Our new Tender will be backing into the station at the end of the month, and then our next pursuit is to hopefully order an Engine potentially in 2027 or hopefully for sure in 2028. Obviously, the cost of our equipment is what hinders us in just replacing things as quickly as we would like. So, unfortunately, everything we own and drive is very costly. The engine is about \$1 million, ambulance is running at the \$300,000 mark, and that's not with it filled with all of our equipment. So, we understand that it is a tall ask.
- The Central Fire Station right now meets our current demand, but we talked about a second station in the southwest portion of the City, I think probably closer to that 15-year timeline, and that would be a staffed station.
- We're looking at sunseting our parttime firefighter program. This isn't new to Cottage Grove. As we've grown and our call volume has grown exponentially, the parttime programs have just not been as successful as they were in the past. So, that's why we're looking truly at adding more fulltime firefighter-paramedics on our team. The sunset, just to give you a little bit more context to that, what we're looking at is putting them back on a paid, on-call model, so they would respond back for all calls. We would not be firing anybody, they would be able to stay on the department as long as they wanted to, and then when they deemed it was time for them to retire, they could do that, but we wouldn't be replacing any of the parttime firefighters.

Looking Forward

- We just got news today that the SAFER Grant is going to open tomorrow, it looks like, and it'll be open through I believe it's June 22. So, all of our ducks are in a row for that to be able to apply for that when it officially opens. If we do get the SAFER Grant, it's going to bring us up to 24 firefighters, so we'll be 8 on shift, allowing us to add additional crews 24/7.
- Continue the Firefighter-EMT to Firefighter-Paramedic pathway
- As I talked about, the Engine replacement is on the horizon for us as well
- Our SCBAs must be replaced by 2029, they were put in service in 2014, and they have a 15-year lifespan
- Continue to build out our all hazards training and response; we're going to partner very closely with Dakota County's Special Operations Team and that will be kind of our, either them or St. Paul Fire will be our callouts when we're gathering our equipment and getting to scenes, they'll already be on their way.

A few pictures here, kind of just showing some of the trainings we went through last year:

That's actually me repelling for our Ropes Rescue Class; that was a 40-hour class that a lot of us went to, and now we do quarterly training for that as well. Again, it's the ability to, let's say we have an incident at the quarry or really, wherever it might be, that we can access and start patient care, even if right now we don't have the abilities to truly like then get that person out of there. By that point, Dakota County or St. Paul will be there and can assist us with that.

We did some K-9 training, so this is something that I've had some experience with in the military. So, as a flight medic in the Army, we take care of the military working dogs. So, I said why can't we do that here for our K-9s that the Police Department has? So, the answer was yes, we can do that, so in the off chance that a K-9 is hurt or injured while on duty, we'll be able to take care of that K-9, and we want to continue to build that out, get specific equipment, and things like that, but that's one thing that we'll continue to build on as well.

We had a national conference here with our Incident Command team, and then that's Firefighter-Paramedic Tyler Mielke doing the swift-water training. So, a lot of that obviously will be in the Mississippi for us, but swift water isn't probably what you think of, like rapids; it's really only, I think it's one-or-two knots of moving water is considered swift water.

Some of our live fire training, obviously, the community interactions that we do, the bottom right one there is Firefighter-Paramedic Sam Anderson, we participate in Safety Camp. So, we do a heavy part in Safety Camp, showing the kids fire safety and fire prevention.

Some of the, again, the community outreach things that we do. I can say this confidently, I think we're out in our community far more than maybe some of the other departments that are surrounding us, and it's, you know, we're lucky because our community wants us there, but also, it's just so impactful for us to go out and educate and just interact.

We were able to go up to the Fire Chiefs Conference. Fire Captain Chelsea Flores received an award, Adam Higley, teaching some CPR, and then with that national conference we had as well, there were some elected officials that came in from that sprinkler trailer demonstration.

I like that picture with Lindy and Chris, that's things a little bit on the lighter side at the Fire Department, so, two rock solid members of our B shift. And then the bottom one is Fire Marshal Bill King was sworn in last year, along with a couple firefighter-paramedics that were recognized, and that's also when we promoted our FAO Inspectors.

Deputy Chief Arrigoni asked are there any questions or discussion?

Commissioner Rediske said I do have one question because it's the first time I'm hearing about a second fire station. I think we talked about it briefly a couple meetings ago, but can you tell me more about that? I'm hearing you say it's in the southwest? But our City's kind of growing out to the east?

Nick replied so, it's a very good and fair question. So, what we identified in the Standards of Cover Study was: 1) That we did a good job, and when I saw we, I didn't necessarily have a part in that, but the Central Fire Station is placed exactly where it should be. So, that has a great response time throughout the majority of our City. And as they want to keep a second station in the City, they identified that that southwest portion was where we could reach the areas that we're not able to get to within a certain timeframe from the Central Fire Station 2) Another spot that they identified, which obviously has a lot of political implications, was actually the St. Paul Park fire station, but if we don't cover them for our PSA anymore, that would be null and void.

Commissioner Rediske said so, I'm looking at a map of Cottage Grove right now, is that little hook, are you thinking it's going to be in that little hook area, or?

Nick replied I believe they're looking right in the 103rd and Hadley area. It would be a much smaller station, so it would be what we call a satellite station.

Commissioner Rediske said but you said a staffed station earlier? What does that mean?

Nick replied it would be staffed, yes. So, staffed means people would be there 24/7, much like we have at the Central Fire Station right now. Our old model of response was a paid on-call model, so somebody wasn't at the fire station 24/7; this would be staff members, you would split the crew. So, if we had eight on, two-to-three, maybe four people would go down to that satellite station, and realistically at that point, we'd have more staff members. So, you'd have four people down there and six people up at Central.

Commissioner Rediske said okay, I was thinking staffed meant administration, like an administration building, kind of like here.

Nick replied no, no.

Commissioner Rediske said so, this building would have like the trucks and everything?

Nick replied yeah, they would have a fire engine down there, they would have an ambulance down there. It'd be like what you see at Central Fire Station but smaller, probably three-to-four bays, five-to-six dorms, a workout area, office area, kitchen, and living room.

Commissioner Rediske asked and you said about 15 years out?

Nick replied yeah, I think, roughly, is what we're looking at. The conversations I have been a part of have been right in that 10-to-15 year mark.

Commissioner Rediske said thank you.

Commissioner Olson said I have two questions. You talked about the 40% overlap, is that common in other cities, or is that kind of a norm?

Nick replied it isn't, no, it is high, and that was really one of the things that probably opened a lot of eyes, like we do have to add staff. So, it is high, the good news is we have help on the way. So, if we don't get the SAFER Grant, we'll be asking for seven firefighter-paramedics, or if they're firefighter-EMTs, we'll train them to paramedics. But if we don't get that, we're going to add those seven over the next three years. So, even just if we add three next year, that 40% will likely drop, it'll help stabilize us quite a bit. So, really what we're looking for when we have those 24 firefighter-paramedics, you'll have 8 on shift, which is a fully-staffed day, that doesn't account for annual leave or anything like that. What that'll get us is for sure two staffed ambulances and a dedicated engine, and that's what we don't have right now, and that engine is equipped with ALS medical equipment; so, as a first respond unit, even if mutual aid makes the transport, we can first respond to that as well.

Commissioner Olson asked and then has there been any resolution to the whole PSA discussion, as far as what that would look like, or I know there was a lot of controversy about what was going to happen with that. Has a decision been made?

Nick replied no, not as far as I know, no official decision. I know there's still conversations, and you know, there's a lot behind the scenes that has to go into that, but no, no official decision has been made. When that will happen I'm not sure.

Vice Chair Kath said so, just more of a general question, just curiosity wise, every once in a while if I'm going up 80th Street, at the Central Fire Station I'll see like a Lake Elmo fire truck there, and there's training going on. Is that common to bring other facilities here, and then do you guys head over to the HERO Center after that, or?

Nick replied it is common now. So, I'll give Deputy Chief Fischer some kudos on that one. He's really built out our training program, so we host a lot of training now as well. One thing, a small part of what happens when you host is you usually get free seats for the class as well. That is obviously not the only reason we host, we have the ability and the space to do that; specifically, like the last couple weeks, we've been doing an FAO aerial class. So, if you've seen any of the ladder trucks from Mahtomedi or Lake Elmo at our station, we did use the HERO Center for that, so they do the classroom part of that training in the morning, and then they'd go out to the HERO Center in the afternoon and use that back lot to use their hydrants, spray their water, and train on the trucks.

Chair Kons asked if there were any other questions, there were none, so Chair Kons said thank you very much to Nick.

8. BUSINESS ITEMS - None.

9. COMMISSION COMMENTS - None.

10. STAFF REPORTS AND MATERIALS

Chair Kons said Fire, you have already gone, so, we'll move to the Police Department with Gwen.

Hi, thank you, Commission Members. For those of you who do not know me, I am Gwen Martin, I am a Deputy Director of Public Safety. I've been with Cottage Grove for almost 26 years; this man right here (indicating Council Member Clausen) was my primary FTO, that was a lot of years ago. Council Member Clausen said you're blaming me! Gwen replied I am. As a police captain, I'm the Administrative Captain. I am in charge of the non-sworn staff, supervise the Records Division, I have an Administrative Sergeant, and I am also the Emergency Manager for the City.

So, as we transition to Director of Public Safety Brad Petersen, we are going forward with promotional processes for a captain and then a sergeant position. We have seven sergeants who have applied for the promotional process for the captain's position, so we're currently going through that process, and then we have eight officers who have then applied for the sergeant position. So, this month and into next month we're working through that process, so that's what we are focusing on right now, in addition to run-of-the-mill budget stuff. But that's what we're doing right now.

Chair Kons said run-of-the-mill budget stuff, I like that. Thank you for that update. Any questions? There were none asked. Chair Kons said all right, we will jump right over then to Mr. Clausen.

11. COUNCIL COMMENTS

A. Council Agendas

Council Member Clausen said thank you, members. A couple updates, I was going to talk a little bit about the 100th Street/19A realignment, Paul did a great presentation on that. We were just so fortunate today to find out that we did receive \$9.6 million towards that \$47 million project. It's just going to help kickstart it and get that moving with major construction in 2027 and 2028. We hope that's really going to open up better access to the Business Park and the homes that are going that direction now. I mean, if you've driven Jamaica and Highway 61, you know that most of the day that's near or at capacity, so this is going to help that area quite a bit.

Since our last meeting, the new City Ordinance on e-Bikes is active, approved, whatever word I want to use. Leading up to that, I probably received three-or-four, maybe even up to five emails of people that are like this is a problem, we need to do something. So, you folks all worked hard on that, and thank you very much, and if you follow social media, there's been some spirited discussion, a lot of head nodding, on social media the last couple weeks; but all in all, I am understanding that we're focused on education right now and just getting the word out, working with the schools, and maybe we'll have more on that in the future, but I'm glad we passed it.

Chair Kons said yeah, I would like to say from a State perspective, I get calls, three-to-five a week, from different cities and municipalities who are looking for e-Bike suggestions from City Ordinances. Cottage Grove really stuck their neck out first, and really moved fast, and I am using it as a State resource right now. There are templated cities and people utilizing it. I commend you for getting this through and working so quickly because it is an issue that we just don't know enough about right now, and there isn't a template out there, it's coming so quickly. And, so, e-Moto versus e-Bike, you just did a great job with it, so thank you so much. We are sharing.

Council Member Clausen said Director of Public Safety Petersen did a lot of work and so, he helped out a lot, and thank you. And I will say that even in a meeting I had with some other cities, our neighboring cities, and they were asking us, what are you doing? Because they don't have anything yet, so.

Chair Kons said I brought it up at the Committee for Traffic Safety, Towards Zero Deaths has a committee, the Advisory Council, and there's several people who serve in it, and I just said, use it, its on their website, its done well, and it's a starting point. To your

point, there's just not a lot out there. And even the spirited comments, how we're dealing with them, is also something that is lovely, so thank you.

Council Member Clausen said the next thing, with the County Road 19 and 80th Street roundabout, I'm told that Commissioner Karla Bigham demanded that there be a place for corn, Tank's stand, to be there, so they're working on that; that will still be at that intersection somewhere.

A couple things I want to just talk about that Deputy Chief Arrigoni spoke to about the Standards of Cover Study that just kind of popped in my head as he was speaking. I believe you had the presentation on that, too, but one of the big things we noticed on it is the 40% overlapping calls, which was surprising to us that it was so many because we're using a lot of staff time. It's our, I don't remember the number, but the number of calls they're handling per firefighter was very high compared to other agencies, or the number of calls that are going on, or it's staying very busy and not a lot of down time, which can be hard on people. So, they recognized that we have to do something with staffing. So, we're working on the grant, we're hoping it will help with some money there to help staff up sooner and faster.

One thing I hope to hear something on in the next few months, we talked about the ambulance PSA area. It's unfortunate, but our neighboring cities don't seem to be interested at the moment, so we're trying to figure out what to do. We've got great cooperation, and we've worked so well together the last many years, and as many years that I've been in the City, and it's unfortunate that we seem to be going the direction of not covering them for the ambulance service. I don't think I've said anything I can't say, but we're just unfortunate that it's going that direction. I wish it wouldn't, but here we are, the ball is in their court, so we'll see where that goes.

And then that's all I have in my notes. If you have any questions for me, I'd be happy to answer any.

Kari Reubish said I want to share one quick thing. This week is National Public Works Week. I want to say thank you to that incredible team for all their hard work and dedication.

Chair Kons said thank you very much. Thank them for us.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Kath made a motion to adjourn; second by Commissioner Rediske. Motion carried: 6-to-0.
The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Minutes transcribed by Judy Graf.



To: Members of the Public Services Commission

From: Gwendolyn L. Martin, Deputy Director of Public Safety

Date: July 14, 2026

Subject: Designated Hunting Areas

INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

Cottage Grove city ordinance **5-3-5: Hunting** addresses the use of firearms and archery equipment in the City of Cottage Grove. In addition, **5-3-5 (c) 1 and 2** specifically state that designated hunting areas will be reviewed annually by the Public Services Commission and that before hunting season commences, the City Council will approve the recommended designated hunting area maps prior to publication.

Starting in 2026, the traditional “shotgun-only zone” in southern Minnesota has been officially eliminated by the State Legislature. Hunters can now use legal centerfire rifles statewide where deer hunting is allowed; however, individual counties still have the option to establish their own rules regarding firearms for deer hunting—thus allowing for more localized decision-making. As of today, Washington County has not established any restrictions on firearms and is instead leaving that decision up to individual municipalities.

Complaints have been minimal. There was 1 hunting-related complaint for the 2025-2026 hunting season, 3 complaints of shots heard that may or may not have been associated with hunting, and no archery complaints.

After consulting with Acting Director of Public Safety, Brad Petersen, City Attorney, Kori Land, and City Administrator Jeniffer Levitt, the consensus is that we should “stay the course” and not change our current city ordinance on hunting. **5-3-5: Hunting** has been shown to be very effective, adaptable to development, and addresses the safety concerns of the city. Landowner controlled access of hunters within the designated areas continue to be well-received by landowners, police officers, and persons wishing to take advantage of this recreational opportunity.

For the 2026-2027 hunting season, the Public Safety and Community Development Departments have reviewed and amended the designated areas for discharge of firearms (limited to shotguns and .22 caliber rifles or long guns of less than .22 caliber) and archery equipment.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. No changes to city ordinance **5-3-5: Hunting**.
2. Approve the 2026-2027 maps designating boundaries for the Firearm Hunting Area and the Archery Hunting Area.

Respectfully submitted,



Gwendolyn L. Martin
Deputy Director of Public Safety

§ 5-3-5: HUNTING:

A. Use of Weapons for Hunting:

1. Firearms:

a. The landowner of land zoned AG-1 or AG-2, consisting of forty (40) contiguous acres or more, persons while accompanied by the landowner, or persons in possession of written permission from the landowner of land zoned AG-1 or AG-2 of forty (40) contiguous acres or more may discharge firearms in hunting wild game in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 97B, upon the landowner's land.

b. Written permission from the landowner must be in the possession of the hunter at the time of hunting along with adequate identification.

c. No person shall take any wild game with any firearms on any land zoned AG-1 or AG-2 of forty (40) contiguous acres or more, or on any public right-of-way, under the following circumstances:

(1) In that portion of the City lying west of Keats Avenue, southerly of Military Road, and northerly of U.S. Highways 61 and 10.

(2) In that portion of the City lying south and west of U.S. Highways 61 and 10, except for the northwest and southwest halves of section 28.

(3) Within five hundred feet (500') of any building occupied by any human or livestock, except with the written permission of the landowner and occupant of such premises.

(4) Within five hundred feet (500') of any stockade or corral containing livestock.

(5) Within five hundred feet (500') of any highway or roadway.

d. All firearms used for the taking of wild game shall be limited to shotguns, .22 caliber rifles or long guns of less than .22 caliber.

e. Persons discharging firearms while hunting in accordance with Cottage Grove ordinances and State statute shall not let any projectiles pass beyond the boundary of the land they are permitted to hunt.

f. Persons discharging single projectiles from firearms while hunting in accordance with Cottage Grove ordinances and State statute must hunt from an elevated stand of at least six feet (6') or more.

2. Archery Hunting:

a. The landowner of land zoned AG-1 or AG-2 or R-1 consisting of a minimum of five (5) contiguous acres, or persons with written permission from the landowner of land zoned AG-1, AG-2 or R-1 consisting of a minimum of five (5) contiguous acres may, upon the land of the landowner, discharge a bow and arrow in hunting wild game in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 97B, and the ordinances of the City.

b. Written permission from the landowner must be in the possession of the hunter at the time of hunting along with adequate identification.

c. No person shall take any wild game with any bow and arrow on any land zoned AG-1, AG-2 or R-1 under the following circumstances:

(1) Within three hundred feet (300') of any property with a zoning classification other than AG-1, AG-2 or R-1.

(2) Within three hundred feet (300') of any public park land or public trail.

(3) Within three hundred feet (300') of any public right-of-way.

(4) Within three hundred feet (300') of any land or building not owned by the landowner.

(5) Any circumstance in which it is foreseeable that the safety of another person would be endangered.

d. Persons hunting in accordance with Cottage Grove ordinances and State statute shall not let any arrow pass beyond the boundary of the land they are permitted to hunt.

e. Persons hunting in accordance with Cottage Grove ordinances and State statute must hunt from an elevated stand of at least six feet (6') or more.

3. Rodent Control: The Director of Public Safety or their designee, upon the showing of a need, may grant exceptions through a permit to this Chapter for the purposes of rodent control on land zoned AG-1, AG-2 or R-1 and R-2. All weapons used in the control of rodents shall conform to regulations established in this Chapter.

4. Responsibility of Landowner: The landowner shall be responsible for the conduct of any hunter on land for which they have granted permission to hunt.

5. Enforcement:

a. Authority of Peace Officers: A peace officer is hereby authorized and empowered to enforce all requirements of this Section and related State statutes.

b. Seizure, Confiscation and Disposal of Game and Property: A peace officer is hereby authorized and empowered to seize and confiscate any wild game taken in violation of this Section and to seize, confiscate and dispose of all guns, firearms, bows and arrows, boats or vehicles used by the owner or any other person with their knowledge in unlawfully taking or transporting such wild game in violation of this Section. Articles which have no lawful use may be summarily destroyed. Upon conclusion of the prosecution of any case, the guns, firearms, bows and arrows, boats or vehicles seized pursuant to this Section shall be returned to the lawful owner thereof upon payment to the City of all costs incurred by the City in the seizure, to include towing fees and storage or impound fees. In the event the lawful owner cannot be determined or located, the property shall be disposed of in compliance with court order.

B. Excess Population; Special Hunting Areas:

1. Excess Population and Special Hunting Areas Determined: The Department of Public Safety shall determine, after consultation with the Department of Natural Resources, when there is an excess population of wild game or when herd control is required. Upon such determination, the Department of Public Safety shall designate additional area(s) for hunting of wild game, which hunting shall be in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 97B. The City Council resolution shall define the area(s) which may be hunted. Such resolution shall be effective for one (1) season.

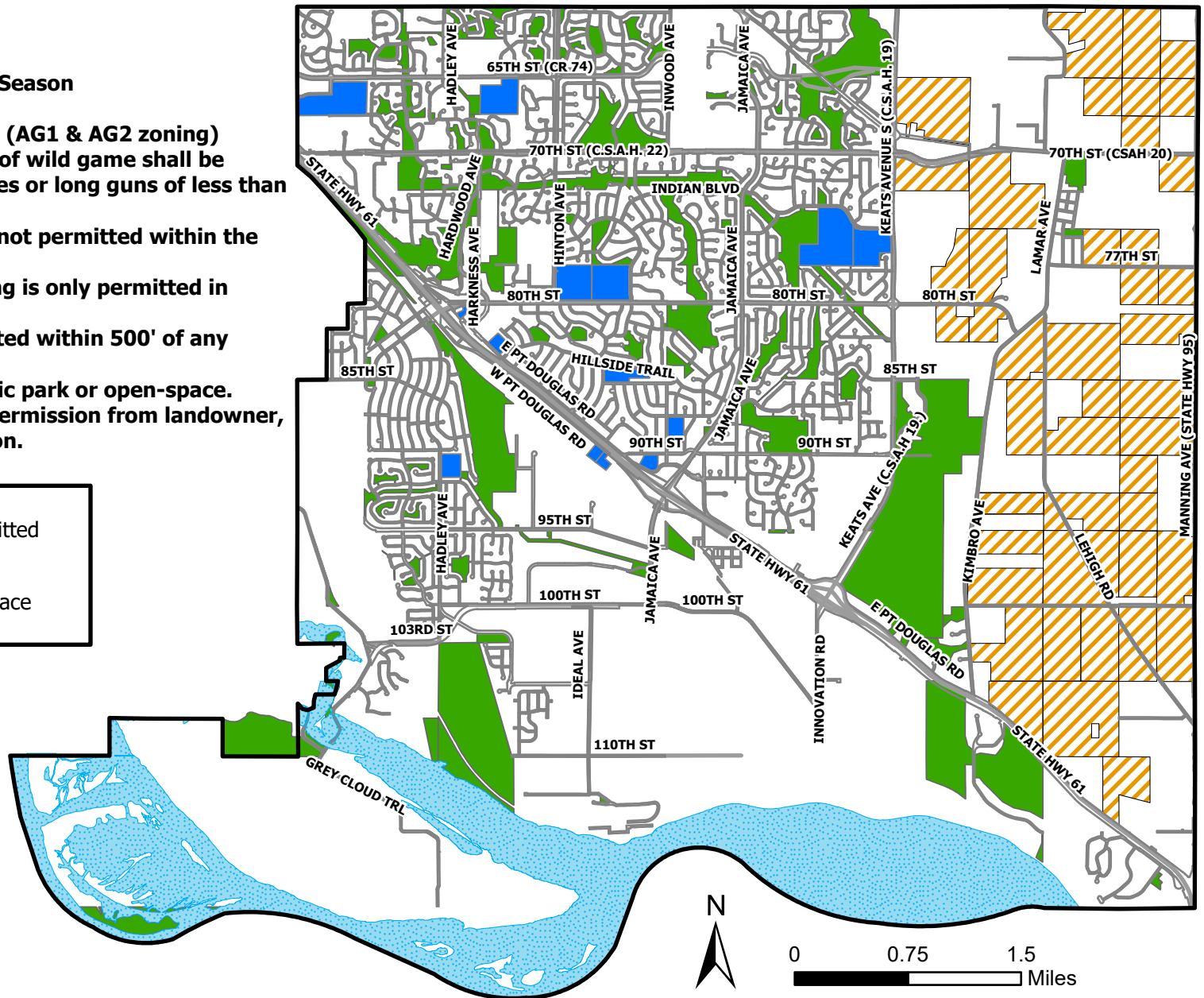
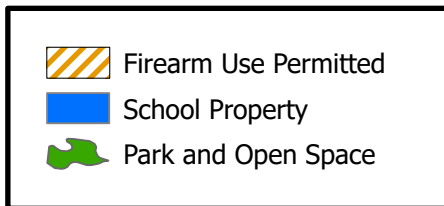
C. Designated Hunting Areas:

1. This Chapter along with the boundaries will be reviewed annually by the Public Services Committee.

2. Annually before the hunting season commences, the City Council will cause to be published a map designating the areas within the City where hunting is allowed.

Firearm Hunting Rules 2026-2027 Season

1. Forty acres contiguous or more. (AG1 & AG2 zoning)
2. All firearms used for the taking of wild game shall be limited to shotguns, .22 caliber rifles or long guns of less than .22 caliber.
3. Recreational target shooting is not permitted within the city.
4. Discharge of firearms for hunting is only permitted in designated areas.
5. Discharge of firearms is prohibited within 500' of any residence.
6. Hunting is prohibited in all public park or open-space.
7. All hunters must have written permission from landowner, proper ID and licenses in possession.



Disclaimer: This map is intended for reference purposes only and is not a legally recorded map or survey. The City of Cottage Grove shall not be liable for any damages or claims that arise due to accuracy, availability, use or misuse of the information herein pursuant to MN Statute 466.03 Subd 21. Updated: 7/13/26

Archery Hunting Rules 2026-2027 Season

- 1. Five acre minimum required. (AG1, AG2, and R1 Zones)
- 2. Hunting not allowed within 300 feet of any public park, trails, open space or right-of-way.
- 3. Hunt from a stand with a minimum elevation of 6 feet.
- 4. No arrows to leave the property being hunted.
- 5. All hunters must have written permission from land owner, proper ID and licenses in possession.

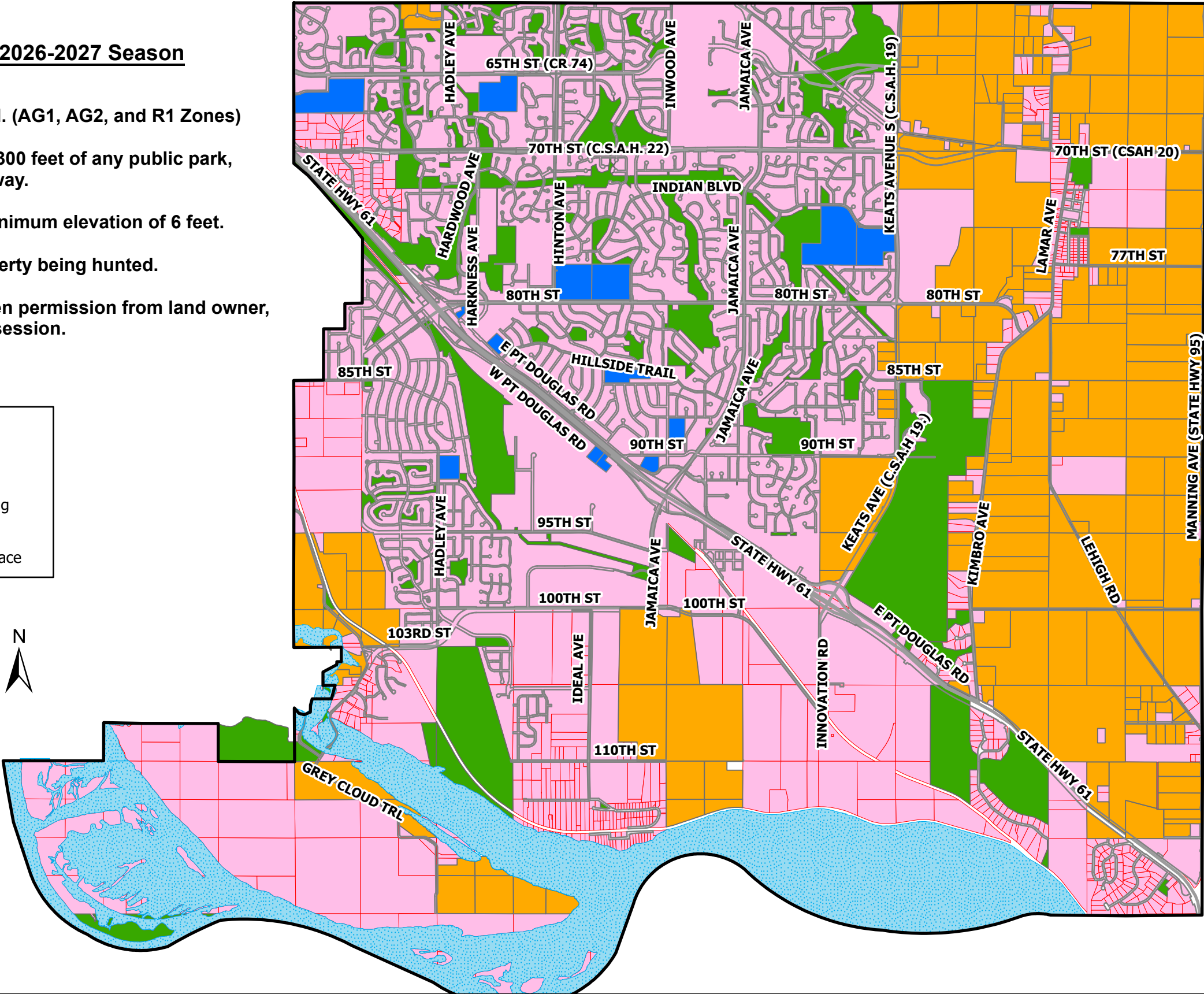
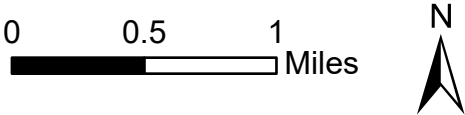
Legend

Archery Permitted

No Archery Hunting

School Property

Park and Open Space





COTTAGE GROVE CITY COUNCIL
12800 RAVINE PARKWAY SOUTH
COTTAGE GROVE, MINNESOTA 55016
COUNCIL CHAMBER - 7:00 PM

May 20, 2026

- 1 Call to Order
- 2 Pledge of Allegiance
- 3 Roll Call
- 4 Open Forum
- 5 Adoption of Agenda
- 6 Presentations
 - A 2026 Historic Preservationist of the Year
Staff Recommendation: Present the 2026 Historic Preservationist of the Year Award to Jake Jones for his work preserving history by performing restoration work on historic sites and landmarks in Cottage Grove.
 - B Historic Preservation Month Proclamation
Staff Recommendation: Proclaim May 2026 as Historic Preservation Month.
- 7 Consent Agenda
 - A City Council Special Meeting Minutes (2026-04-15)
Staff Recommendation: Approve the April 15, 2026, City Council Special Meeting Minutes.
 - B Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission Meeting Minutes (2026-03-09)
Staff Recommendation: Approve the March 9, 2026, Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Meeting Minutes.
 - C Economic Development Authority Commission Minutes (2026-04-14)
Staff Recommendation: Approve the April 14, 2026, Economic Development Authority Regular Meeting Minutes.
 - D Rental License Approvals
Staff Recommendation: Approve the issuance of rental licenses to the properties listed in the attached table.
 - E Designating New Polling Locations for Precincts 1 and 7
Staff Recommendation: Approve Resolution 2026-079 designating these new polling locations for Precinct 1 (District Program Center – 8400 East Point Douglas Road South) and Precinct 7 (Hillside Elementary – 8177 Hillside Trail South).
 - F Safety Consultant Service Agreement
Staff Recommendation: Approve the service agreement with SafeAssure in the amount of \$10,720.75 effective the first day of June 2026 through May 31, 2027.
 - G Cooperative Agreements - County State Aid Highway 19 (Keats Avenue South) and 80th Street South
Staff Recommendation: 1) Approve the Cooperative Agreement between the City of Cottage Grove and

Washington County for the construction cost of the Intersection of County State Aid Highway 19 (Keats Avenue South) and 80th Street South. 2) Approve the Cooperative Agreement between the City of Cottage Grove and Washington County for Maintenance of the Intersection of County State Aid Highway 19 (Keats Avenue South) and 80th Street South.

H Cost Participation Agreement - Nina's Park Trail Improvements

Staff Recommendation: Approve the Cost Participation Agreement with Independent School District No. 833 for Trail Improvements, and the appropriate officials are hereby authorized to sign all necessary documents to effectuate these actions.

I 113th Street Cul-De-Sac Permanent Roadway, Drainage and Utility Easement Agreement

Staff Recommendation: Approve the 113th Street Cul-De-Sac Permanent Roadway, Drainage and Utility Easement Agreement, and the appropriate officials are hereby authorized to sign all necessary documents to effectuate these actions.

J 2027 Pavement Management Project - Approve Benefit Appraisal Quote and Professional Services Agreement

Staff Recommendation: Approve an Agreement for Professional Services with BRKW Appraisals, Inc. for the 2027 Pavement Management Project benefit appraisals in the amount of \$34,300.00; the appropriate officials are hereby authorized to sign all necessary documents to effectuate these actions.

K TIF Agreement Amendment for Roers Housing Project

Staff Recommendation: Adopt Council Resolution 2026-077 amending the current TIF agreement for the apartment project, Roers, located at 6850 East Point Douglas Road South.

L Real Estate Equities Hadley Project LAHA and LCDA Subordination Agreements

Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2026-078 approving the LAHA and LCDA Subordination Agreements for the Hadley Ridge Apartments project.

8 Approve Disbursements

A Approve Disbursements

Staff Recommendation: Approve disbursements from 05-01-2026 through 05-14-2026 in the amount of \$1,984,816.54.

9 Public Hearings

A Public Hearing for Conduit Debt Host Approvals

Staff Recommendation: 1) Open the public hearing for public comment on the issuance of revenue bonds by the City of St. Paul Park for a project located within the City of Cottage Grove. 2) Adopt Resolution #2026-076 approving the issuance of the Series 2026 Bonds by the City of St. Paul Park.

10 Bid Awards

A 2026 Denzer Park Project – Bid Award

Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2026-084 awarding the 2026 Denzer Park Project to Benson Excavating, LLC in the amount of \$283,882.15.

11 Regular Agenda

A Kwik Trip Highway 61 - Preliminary Plat, Final Plat, Conditional Use Permit, Site Plan Review

Staff Recommendation: 1) Adopt Resolution 2026-080 approving the Preliminary and Final Plats for Kwik Trip 1789; 2) Adopt Resolution 2026-081 to approve the Conditional Use Permit for a Kwik Trip convenience store to be located on Manning Avenue; 3) Adopt Resolution 2026-082 to approve the Site Plan Review for a Kwik Trip convenience store and fuel canopies to be located on Manning Avenue.

12 Council Comments and Requests

13 Workshops - Open to Public

14 Workshops - Closed to Public

A Closed Meeting — Property Acquisition

Staff Recommendation: Closed session pursuant to Minn. Stat. 13D.05 subd. 3(c) to develop offers for the purchase of property at PID # 2902721220004.

15 Adjournment



COTTAGE GROVE CITY COUNCIL
12800 RAVINE PARKWAY SOUTH
COTTAGE GROVE, MINNESOTA 55016
COUNCIL CHAMBER - 7:00 PM

June 3, 2026

- 1 Call to Order
- 2 Pledge of Allegiance
- 3 Roll Call
- 4 Open Forum
- 5 Adoption of Agenda
- 6 Presentations
 - A Introduction of K-9 Team Officer Whelan and K-9 Kye
Staff Recommendation: Receive the introduction and welcome of Officer Sydney Whelan and K-9 Kye.
 - B 2025 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report
Staff Recommendation: Motion to accept the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the year ended December 31, 2025.
- 7 Consent Agenda
 - A City Council Special Meeting Minutes (2026-05-06)
Staff Recommendation: Approve the May 6, 2026, City Council Special Meeting Minutes.
 - B Public Services Commission Meeting Minutes (2026-03-16)
Staff Recommendation: Approve the March 16, 2026, Public Services Commission Meeting Minutes.
 - C Rental License Approvals
Staff Recommendation: Approve the issuance of rental licenses to the properties listed in the attached table.
 - D LSP Co-Gen/Panamint Capital, LLC - Host Community Fee
Staff Recommendation: 1) Authorize the City Administrator to accept the negotiated agreement with Panamint Capital LLC. 2) Authorize the City Administrator to accept the negotiated agreement with Panamint Capital LLC for the battery storage facility.
 - E Cannabis Lower-Potency Hemp Edible Business Registration – Grove Liquor
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Cannabis Lower-Potency Hemp Edible Business Registration for Grove Liquor, LLC, located at 7155 Jorgensen Lane S, Suite 150, Cottage Grove, Minnesota.
 - F Security Enhancements Utility Well House Buildings
Staff Recommendation: Approve the proposal from Pro-Tec Design Solutions, as outlined in the attached quote, with all work to begin and conclude in 2026, at a project cost of \$129,507.54.
 - G MN Solar Agreement for the Engineering and Utility Building
Staff Recommendation: Appropriate officials are hereby authorized to sign all necessary documents to effectuate these actions.

- H Curb Runners and Cutting Edges Purchase
Staff Recommendation: Approve the purchase with H and L Mesabi for cutting edges and curb runners for a total amount of \$45,240.
- I 2026 Traffic Counting Program – Professional Services Agreement
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Professional Services Agreement with Quality Counts LLC for the 2026 Traffic Counting Program, and the appropriate officials are hereby authorized to sign all necessary documents to effectuate these actions.
- J Denzer Park Site Electrical – Quote Award
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2026-087 awarding the Denzer Park Site Electrical to the lowest accepted quote supplied by Killmer Electric Co., Inc. in the amount of \$17,680.00, and the appropriate officials are hereby authorized to sign all necessary documents to effectuate these actions.
- K Hamlet Park Sports Lighting
Staff Recommendation: Authorize a service agreement with Electro Mechanical Contracting in the amount of \$145,133.00 to install the Hamlet Park sports lighting system.
- 8 Approve Disbursements
 - A Approve Disbursements
Staff Recommendation: Approve disbursements from 05-15-2026 through 05-28-2026 in the amount of \$6,501,199.07.
- 9 Public Hearings
- 10 Bid Awards
 - A 2026 Joint Crack Sealing Project – Bid Award
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2026-086 awarding the 2026 Joint Crack Sealing Project to StonePros, LLC dba Sealpros including the base bid and the two alternates for a total of \$163,900.00.
- 11 Regular Agenda
- 12 Council Comments and Requests
- 13 Workshops - Open to Public
 - A Workshop - 2025 Fire Department Annual Report
Staff Recommendation: Receive the 2025 Cottage Grove Fire Department Annual Report presentation and discuss the department's goals.
- 14 Workshops - Closed to Public
- 15 Adjournment



COTTAGE GROVE CITY COUNCIL
12800 RAVINE PARKWAY SOUTH
COTTAGE GROVE, MINNESOTA 55016
COUNCIL CHAMBER - 7:00 PM

June 17, 2026

- 1 Call to Order
- 2 Pledge of Allegiance
- 3 Roll Call
- 4 Open Forum
- 5 Adoption of Agenda
- 6 Presentations
- 7 Consent Agenda
 - A City Council Regular Meeting Minutes (2026-05-06)
Staff Recommendation: Approve the May 6, 2026, City Council Regular Meeting Minutes.
 - B City Council Regular Meeting Minutes (2026-05-20)
Staff Recommendation: Approve the May 20, 2026, City Council Regular Meeting Minutes.
 - C City Council Regular Meeting Minutes (2026-06-03)
Staff Recommendation: Approve the June 3, 2026, City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
 - D City Council Special Meeting Minutes (2026-06-03)
Staff Recommendation: Approve the June 3, 2026, City Council Special Meeting Minutes.
 - E Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Meeting Minutes (2026-05-11)
Staff Recommendation: Approve the May 11, 2026, Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Minutes.
 - F Rental License Approvals
Staff Recommendation: Approve the issuance of rental licenses to the properties listed in the attached table.
 - G Mueller Systems Sentryx Meter Read Software Agreement
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Mueller Systems Sentryx SaaS quote, annual service, and related hardware in the amount of \$7759.16.
 - H Call for Sale of \$5,425,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2026A
Staff Recommendation: Call for the sale of 2026A General Obligation Bonds and call for a public hearing on the tax abatement portion of the issuance.
 - I Preliminary Approval to the Issuance of Revenue Bonds and Authorizing Application for Allocation of Bonding Authority for Roers' Cottage Grove Affordable Housing Project
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2026-088 granting preliminary approval to the issuance of revenue bonds and authorizing application for allocation of bonding authority for Roers' Cottage Grove affordable housing project.

- J Kingston Park Habitat Enhancement Grant Agreement
Staff Recommendation: Authorize MN DNR Expedited Conservation Partners grant agreement for Kingston Park habitat enhancement project.
- K 2026-2028 MCES Water Efficiency Grant
Staff Recommendation: 1) Adopt Resolution 2026-092 approving the Metropolitan Council Clean Water Fund Grant Agreement No.: SG-26E-03-07. 2) Authorize the expenditure of \$16,250 from the Water Utility Fund to match the MCES grant.
- L Shoppes at Cottage View Grant Environmental Review-Certifying Officer & Publication
Staff Recommendation: Approve City Administrator, Jennifer Levitt as the Certifying Officer for the Shoppes at Cottage View CPF Grant environmental review process and authorize publication of the Finding of No Significant Impact and Request Release of Funds.
- M 90th Street, Hadley Avenue to Hale Avenue – “No Parking” Zone
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2026-089 restricting parking on the north side of 90th Street extending from Hadley Avenue to Hale Avenue, Monday through Friday, 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM, and 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM.
- N 80th Street, East Point Douglas Road and TH 61/80th Street Interchange Rehabilitation Project – Change Order 1
Staff Recommendation: Approve Change Order #1, increasing the contract amount by \$50,262.95 for the 80th Street, East Point Douglas Road and TH 61/80th Street Interchange Rehabilitation Project, and authorize the City Engineer to sign the Change Order.
- O Phase 1 Water Meter and Radio Replacement - Stantec Consulting Services
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2026-094 approving the proposal for the Phase One Water Meter and Radio Replacement Project by Stantec Consulting Services.
- P Well 10 Temporary Water Treatment Plant Decommissioning Project – Approve Plans and Specifications and Authorize Bidding
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2026-093 approving the plans and specifications and authorizing bidding for the Well 10 Temporary Water Treatment Plant Decommissioning Project.

8 Approve Disbursements

- A Approve Disbursements
Staff Recommendation: Approve disbursements from 05-29-2026 through 06-11-2026 in the amount of \$5,224,740.90.

9 Public Hearings

10 Bid Awards

11 Regular Agenda

- A Tobacco Compliance Violations - Holiday Gas Station & Smoke Shop & Vape
Staff Recommendation: 1) Allow business representatives from Holiday Gas Station and Smoke Shop & Vape an opportunity to respond to the City Council regarding the underage sale of tobacco occurring on May 27th, 2026. 2) Impose the scheduled penalty of \$300 for the first violation in 36 months to Holiday Gas Station located at 8490 East Point Douglas Road and to impose the scheduled penalty of \$300 for the first violation in 36 months to Smoke Shop & Vape located at 6900 80th Street South Unit 100.
- B Geneva Meadows 2nd Addition - Zoning Amendment and Preliminary Plat
Staff Recommendation: 1) Adopt Ordinance No. 1115 approving a Zoning Amendment to change the zoning of 13.14 acres of land located at 8591 Geneva Avenue South, from R-1, Rural Residential, to R-3 Single-Family Residential. 2) Adopt Resolution 2026-083 approving the Preliminary Plat for a residential subdivision to be called Geneva Meadows 2nd Addition, which will consist of 23 single-family homes to be located at 8591 Geneva Avenue South.

- 12 Council Comments and Requests
- 13 Workshops - Open to Public
- 14 Workshops - Closed to Public
- 15 Adjournment



COTTAGE GROVE CITY COUNCIL
12800 RAVINE PARKWAY SOUTH
COTTAGE GROVE, MINNESOTA 55016
COUNCIL CHAMBER - 7:00 PM

July 15, 2026

- 1 Call to Order
- 2 Pledge of Allegiance
- 3 Roll Call
- 4 Open Forum
- 5 Adoption of Agenda
- 6 Presentations
 - A Public Safety Swearing-In Ceremony
Staff Recommendation: Perform the Swearing-in and Badge Ceremony for Peyton Taylor and Michael Tobritzhofer.
 - B Public Safety Board Scholarship Award
Staff Recommendation: Present the Public Safety Board Scholarship Award to Alayna Adamez, Brett Salmonson, and Wyatt Beaurline.
 - C 2026 Night to Unite Proclamation
Staff Recommendation: Proclaim August 4, 2026, as Night to Unite.
 - D 2026 Parks and Recreation Month Proclamation
Staff Recommendation: Proclaim July 2026 as Parks and Recreation Month.
- 7 Consent Agenda
 - A City Council Regular Meeting Minutes (2026-06-17)
Staff Recommendation: Approve the June 17, 2026, City Council Regular Meeting Minutes.
 - B Convention and Visitors Bureau Meeting Minutes (2026-02-24)
Staff Recommendation: Approve the February 24, 2026, Convention and Visitors Bureau Meeting Minutes.
 - C Planning Commission Meeting Minutes (2026-04-27)
Staff Recommendation: Accept and place on file the minutes from the April 27, 2026, Planning Commission Meeting.
 - D Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission Appointment (Rediske - Youth Seat)
Staff Recommendation: Appoint Aaron Rediske to the Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission.
 - E Rental License Approvals
Staff Recommendation: Approve the issuance of rental licenses to the properties listed in the attached table.
 - F Tobacco License - Smoke Leaf (7155 Jorgensen Lane South #120)
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Tobacco License application for Sherif Amr Elbarawi, Smoke Leaf, located at 7155 Jorgensen Lane S, Suite 120, Cottage Grove, Minnesota.

- G Election Judge Appointment - Primary Election (August 11, 2026)**
Staff Recommendation: Approve Resolution 2026-102 and the appointment of the election judges listed in Exhibit A for the Primary Election on August 11, 2026, and authorize the City Clerk to appoint additional election judges, as needed, to fill vacancies.
- H St. Rita's - Gambling License**
Staff Recommendation: Authorize issuance of a Single Occasion Gambling Permit for St. Rita's Church to conduct a raffle, bingo and/or pull tabs at 8694 80th Street South for their annual Fall Festival to be held September 11–13, 2026.
- I St. Rita's - Temporary Liquor License**
Staff Recommendation: Authorize issuance of a Temporary Intoxicating Liquor License to St. Rita's, located at 8694 80th Street South Cottage Grove, for their annual Fall Festival to be held September 11–13, 2026.
- J 2026 Data Practices Policy**
Staff Recommendation: Adopt the 2026 City of Cottage Grove Data Practices Policies and Procedures.
- K 2026 Strategic Plan Mid-Year Update**
Staff Recommendation: Receive the 2026 Strategic Plan Mid-Year Update.
- L Firefighters Labor Contract Memorandum of Agreement**
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Memorandum of Agreement as an addendum to the 2025-2026 Firefighters Labor Contract.
- M Professional Services Agreement - GMP Consultants**
Staff Recommendation: Approve the professional services agreement with GMP Consultants in the amount of \$5,500 plus expenses.
- N Stryker PROCARE - LUCAS Device**
Staff Recommendation: Approve the attached quote at the price of \$11,112.00 (\$5,556 per year) for a 24-month renewal of the Stryker ProCare Plan for our LUCAS devices.
- O Building Access Controls Maintenance Upgrade**
Staff Recommendation: Approve of the attached service agreement and proposal from Pro-Tec Design Solutions, as outlined in the attached quote, with all work to begin and conclude in 2026, at a project cost of \$40,152.92.
- P 8077 River Acres Road Accessory Structure – Variance**
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2026-105 approving the variance request for a reduced corner yard setback of 10 feet when 20 feet is required at 8077 River Acres Road.
- Q 10590 East Point Douglas Road South - Accessory Structure Exterior Materials Variance**
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2026-104 denying the variance request to allow for the exterior of an accessory structure to be constructed of metal in a residential district at 10590 East Point Douglas Road South.
- R 9165 West Point Douglas Road (Majestic) Demolition**
Staff Recommendation: 1) Adopt Resolution 2026-099 making certain findings with respect to a structurally substandard building located at 9165 West Point Douglas Road South. 2) Approve the deferred assessment waiver agreement with Mike McGrath. 3) Adopt Resolution 2026-100 awarding the demolition and site restoration of 9165 West Point Douglas Road South to the low quote supplied by JM Hauling LLC in the amount of \$121,023.50. 4) Authorize execution of the service agreement with JM Hauling LLC. 5) Adopt Resolution 2026-101 approving an interfund transfer from EDA Trust Fund to EDA Operating Fund in the amount of \$121,023.50 for the demolition and site restoration cost.
- S Ravine Ridge – Final Plat, Development Agreement, and Development Plans**
Staff Recommendation: 1) Adopt Resolution 2026-106 approving the Final Plat for Ravine Ridge, subject to minor modifications as approved by the City Attorney. 2) Approve the Ravine Ridge Development Agreement with M/I Homes of Minneapolis/St. Paul LLC, subject to minor modifications as approved by the City

Attorney. 3) Adopt Resolution 2026-107 approving the Ravine Ridge Development Plans dated 5/27/2026, prepared by Hill Incorporated, subject to final approval by the City Engineer in writing.

- T First Amendment to the Lochridge Development Agreement**
Staff Recommendation: Approve the First Amendment to the Lochridge Development Agreement with Pulte Homes of Minnesota LLC, DRP Odin 16, LLC, and Rachel Development Inc., with minor modifications as approved by the City Attorney.
- U Low Zone Water Treatment Plant Project - Change Order #5**
Staff Recommendation: Approve Change Order #5 in the amount of \$245,159.06, for the Low Zone Water Treatment Plant project, funded by the 3M Settlement, increasing the current contract amount from \$40,632,818.93 to \$40,877,977.99.
- V 2026 Pavement Management Project – Change Order 1**
Staff Recommendation: Approve Change Order #1, decreasing the contract amount by \$23,787.50 for the 2026 Pavement Management Project, and authorize the City Engineer to sign the Change Order.
- W 2025 Sewer Lining Project - Change Order #2**
Staff Recommendation: Approve Change Order #2 for the additional cleaning of the pipe. This will increase the contract total by \$30,688.00 to a total revised contract amount of \$810,436.90.
- X Jamaica Avenue-Ravine Parkway All-Way Stop**
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2026-090 approving stop signs for north and southbound Jamaica Avenue at Ravine Parkway. The installation of these stop signs will make the intersection an all-way stop.
- Y Bolton and Menk Imagine 2050 Comprehensive Plan Update Scope of Work**
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Scope of Work with Bolton and Menk for the Imagine 2050 Comprehensive Plan Update.
- Z Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) – Proposal Selection and Consultant Agreement**
Staff Recommendation: Authorize the selection of Stantec Consulting Services Inc. and execute the agreement for professional services related to the Safe Streets and Roads for All project. The appropriate officials are hereby authorized to sign all necessary documents to effectuate these actions.
- AA First Amendment to the Amended and Restated Site Lease Agreement, Woodlane/West Draw Water Tower Site**
Staff Recommendation: Authorize the signing of the amendment to the lease agreement held between the City of Cottage Grove and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC.
- BB Cintas Settlement Payment Number 2**
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Cintas settlement checks in the amount of \$1,509.24.
- CC Track Loader Lease Agreement**
Staff Recommendation: Approve the two-year lease agreement with John Deere Financial for a track loader in the amount of \$14,884.83 per year.
- DD Final Payment for City Hall Front Desk Remodel**
Staff Recommendation: Approve \$5,048.30 to RAK Construction Inc for the final payment for the City Hall Front Desk Remodel Project.
- EE Replacement of Parking Lot Lights at City Hall**
Staff Recommendation: Approve the service agreement with Killmer Electric in the amount of \$17,129.40 to replace the parking lot lights at the City Hall/Public Safety Building.
- FF Jamaica Landscaping Reduction Agreement**
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2026-096 awarding the Jamaica Landscaping Reduction project to Valdes Lawn Care & Snow Removal in the amount of \$45,810.72, and authorize a service agreement between the City of Cottage Grove and the contractor.

8 Approve Disbursements

A Approve Disbursements

Staff Recommendation: Approve disbursements from 06-16-2026 through 07-09-2026 in the amount of \$6,580,972.67.

9 Public Hearings

A Property Tax Abatement for a portion of the 2026A General Obligation Bonds

Staff Recommendation: 1) Hold the public hearing for property tax abatements in connection with the bond issuance for the Oltman Park Improvements. 2) Adopt Resolution 2026-095, approving the property tax abatements.

10 Bid Awards

11 Regular Agenda

12 Council Comments and Requests

13 Workshops - Open to Public

14 Workshops - Closed to Public

15 Adjournment