



COTTAGE GROVE PUBLIC SERVICES  
COMMISSION

November 18, 2024

12800 RAVINE PARKWAY SOUTH  
COTTAGE GROVE, MN 55016

COUNCIL CHAMBER - 7:00 PM

- A. Call to Order
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Roll Call
- D. Approval of the Agenda
- E. Approval of Minutes
  - A Minutes 10.21.24
- F. Open Forum
- G. Presentations
  - A Snowmobile Club Update
- H. Business Items
  - A Granada Park Parking Restriction
- I. Commission Comments
- J. Staff Reports and Materials
- K. Council Comments
  - A Council Agendas
- L. Adjournment



## MINUTES

### COTTAGE GROVE PUBLIC SERVICES COMMISSION

October 21, 2024

12800 Ravine Parkway South  
Cottage Grove, MN 55016

#### COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 7:00 p.m.

##### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Ron Kath called the Public Services Commission meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

##### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chair Kath asked everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

##### 3. ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Kath was advised that Roll Call had been taken; Chair Lisa Kons was absent.

##### 4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Kelsey Moyer made a motion to approve the agenda; Commissioner Jenny Olson seconded.  
Motion carried: 6-0.

##### 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

###### A. APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE JULY 15, 2024 MEETING

Motion by a Commissioner Tracy Jenson to approve the July 15, 2024 meeting minutes; seconded by Commissioner Lise Alden-Rediske. Motion carried: 6-0.

##### 6. OPEN FORUM

Vice Chair Kath opened the Open Forum. As no one wished to speak, Vice Chair Kath closed the Open Forum.

##### 7. PRESENTATIONS

###### A. PRESERVE.PLAY.PROSPER PLAN

Zac Dockter, Parks and Recreation Director, stated I appreciate the opportunity to talk about the Preserve.Play.Prospers Plan. Hopefully, this isn't the first time you've heard of the plan that we're discussing tonight. We've been working really hard to try to educate the public, to make sure that they understand before they go to the polls exactly what the questions are and what the opportunities are, and what the tax impacts are. I will go through this rather quickly, but there's going to be plenty of time for me to answer any questions you might have.

Director Dockter stated this all started with the community telling us that they want more parks and recreation in Cottage Grove; we hear that in a multitude of ways, whether it's community surveys, feedback at any of our meetings, and also just by the way the parks are used, as they are used like crazy. Any time we build something new, it gets used a lot, and any time we refurbish something, it gets used a lot. A new playground, a new trail, whatever it might be, there's instant use and a lot of use, at that. So, we're a very active town, and people are using the parks a lot.

In 2022, we embarked on a journey that was called Reimagine Recreation, an engagement process. We went out and did a bunch of surveys, we went to a bunch of different events around the community, we did online surveys, Facebook surveys, and all sorts of different ways to try to engage the public. Basically, we got a laundry list of new and improved recreational opportunities that people wanted in the community. We took that list, narrowed it down, tried to implement it in a few main projects, which I will talk about next. Those projects were: 1) To upgrade and enhance Hamlet Park; 2) Create a new 33.3-acre, nature-based park along the Mississippi River, at Mississippi Dunes Park; and 3) Transforming the River Oaks Golf Course and Event Center into a year-round recreation destination for all ages.

#### **Hamlet Park**

This is our oldest and largest park in Cottage Grove. The proposed plan is \$17 million and would include:

- Upgrading the replacement of the existing playground equipment.
- Building a new four-season recreation building.
- Installing a small splash pad.
- Replacing the existing skateboard park with new; I do like to add that we would engage with the skateboarding community to make sure that they help design the skate park itself.
- Building an amphitheater.
- Creating an art walk/sculpture garden with benches and an informational kiosk, so again probably would engage some artistic folks in the community to help design some of that.
- Adding a synthetic turf sports field with lighting and that will be replacing the existing lit natural turf field.
- Completing the south baseball complex. We've owned that land since 2002, and we've built two of the fields, which is halfway home; so, in 22 years we've owned that land, we've only been able to build two ballfields with the existing funding, so this would complete that project by finishing those last two ballfields.
- Parking lot.
- Trails and Landscaping.

#### **Mississippi Dunes Park**

We were lucky enough to acquire 33.3 acres, all through grant funding just this past year; , partnering with the County and the State, to get over \$1 million to acquire that property was very impressive. The plan now is to actually do something with the land that we own there. There are over 1,900 feet of actual shoreline along the Mississippi River. We've wanted for generations to get more public access on the Mississippi River, and this is really the best opportunity the City has ever had to do that. The proposed plan is \$13 million and would include:

- Restore and preserve natural habitat, over 25 acres would just be preserved as natural habitat: To do some restoration work, protecting the oak forest, replanting some prairie, and protecting the wetlands.
- The other 8 acres would provide recreational access so things like a canoe and kayak launch, a small boat launch for fishing boats, duck boats, or pontoons; every vessel's a little bit different, but there's a channel out there that's about anywhere from 3-to-5 feet that people could get out to the main channel from there.
- Construct new and enhance existing walking and hiking trails.
- Create a nature-based playground.
- Provide space for outdoor classrooms.
- Build an interpretive learning center, there's actually a Concept Design within that photo on the top left of what that four-season building might look like.
- Adding facilities for all sorts of nature activities, picnicking, and other things. I always like to mention this is next to 240+ acres of the Grey Cloud Dunes Scientific and Natural Area (SNA), so this is just adding to that entire complex of habitat.

#### **River Oaks Golf Course & Event Center**

Certainly, River Oaks is a point of pride in the community. Golfers love it, people who host events and banquets there love it, people love being on the patio. It is the community's golf course, it is over 200 acres of property that the City of Cottage Grove owns and the people own, so we want to find different ways for people to use it. What you're not going to see in here are a lot of things about golf or weddings. This \$6 million project would add:

- Install multi-sport simulators, so it could be used for soccer or golf or all sorts of things.
- Add a pickleball/event court, so a multipurpose court.

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- Create a new winter mountain biking course, like a fat tire course, using all that property for that.
- Upgrade the building, kind of connecting those 2 buildings.
- Enhance the patio dining area.
- Build a 9-hole Himalayan putting green course, designed for all skill levels. There's kind of an example shown to the right that's pretty extensive, but it's really just a hilly green and you kind of put the pins in different, unique positions so people can kind of putt away at that. It's similar to our practice green, but it's kind of our practice green on steroids; again, that would be free to the public just like it is today.

So, among the three projects, \$17 million for Hamlet Park, \$13 million for Mississippi Dunes Park, and \$6 million for the River Oaks Golf Course, to fund the proposed investment, the City is asking Cottage Grove residents to consider a half-percent Local Option Sales Tax as part of the General Election on Tuesday, November 5, 2024. If approved, that would generate \$36 million spread over a 25-year period.

Why a Local Option Sales Tax? There are a couple options to fund projects like this, but we cannot fund it through just the General Levy each year, there's just not enough money to do things like that, as that pays for our operating costs and kind of minor upgrades. So, this is a different funding source for the parks. The sales tax spreads the burden, so there would be two options: You can either bond for it through a referendum approved by voters through property tax, or what the City is proposing is going through the Local Option Sales Tax. The difference with the Local Option Sales Tax is everybody in the community gets taxed as they spend, as well as visitors who come into the community and spend.

We hired the University of Minnesota to do an independent study; they are projecting right now about 31.3% of the sales tax will be paid for by non-residents that come to visit Cottage Grove or purchase from Cottage Grove. That includes online purchases, whether it's from Menards or a business in the industrial park, the sales tax on those purchases all goes toward this, assuming they're taxable purchases. That ends up contributing about \$11.3 of the \$36 million dollars, and that's a projection based on today's calculations; that will change as the community, the demographics, and the economy of Cottage Grove changes over those years.

Right now, the projection is \$22.99 for the average resident in Cottage Grove; so, it's half of 1 cent for every \$1 spent is the math on how that's paid out.

Just a real quick reference of some of the other communities that already have Local Option Sales Taxes, which are in the green, and then the blue are all pending Local Option Sales Taxes coming up in November. So, the State requires you now to ask the voters on a General Election, so that's why there are quite a few of them this year: Woodbury, Stillwater, Brooklyn Center, Roseville, Richfield, and Chanhassen are all going for referendums on sales tax this year.

It's a little bit confusing on the ballot because we have 3 projects with 1 tax; so, I want to make sure that that's very clear. We're trying to find all sorts of different ways to message that. If you vote for Hamlet Park, it's a half-percent sales tax. If you vote for Hamlet Park and Mississippi Dunes Park, it's still just a half-percent sales tax. If you vote for Hamlet Park, Mississippi Dunes Park, and River Oaks, it's still just a half-percent sales tax. So, I want to make that very clear.

If just 1 of the projects passes, let's say just Hamlet Park were to pass, obviously that would accumulate more money quicker for just that 1 project, as opposed to spreading the cost over 3 projects. That's important to know because once the projects are paid for, the sales tax has to go away, and these are all State laws, so these are things that the City has no control over, there's no wiggle room. The State says that once you get to \$36 million dollars or 25 years, those projects are done, and the tax has to come off. Now, the City could go back and ask questions on something else if they wanted to, but as far as this plan, it has to come off. So, it's important to know that. And if all 3 projects fail, then there is no sales tax.

Director Dockter said I guess the biggest thing I want to make sure people understand is the website is phenomenal, there's so much information on there, and all of the frequently asked questions. Almost every question I get is on the website, but I'm always happy to answer them anyway. It's very informative, if you have time to look at it, that way if your neighbors ask you questions, you can be a little bit more informed. We did a Facebook Live event this afternoon, if you want to take a look at that. Mayor Bailey and I sat down and tried to answer some of the frequently asked questions, so we're trying to make sure that people have an educated vote when they go to the polls; however they vote, they vote, and we'll take it from there. With that, I'll stand and answer any questions.

Vice Chair Kath thanked Director Dockter, said we really appreciate you coming in and sharing that with us. So, I'll open it up to the commission if anybody has any questions or comments this evening.

Commissioner Nate Lotts said I'm trying to think how best to phrase this so it makes the most sense to everybody. Which of the 3 projects is the most expensive? Director Dockter replied Hamlet Park. Commissioner Lotts asked so if only Hamlet Park passes, what's the forecasted payoff timeframe with the half-percent sales tax?

Director Dockter replied right now we projected we could bond for I believe it's about \$12 million; so, basically we would bond, take out a loan for the first part of the project, and then pay that back as the revenues come in. Each year, we're going to figure out how much revenue comes in, but we think that \$12 million, so we would be able to fund the majority of that park. I should have also mentioned, it's a good question because I should have mentioned that each project, Hamlet, Mississippi Dunes, and River Oaks, we've tiered all the projects within the projects. So, synthetic turf and the playground might be first, the building might be in Tier 2. So, all those are tiered so that whichever questions get voted, however this all lands out, we'll sit down with Council and Commissions and kind of figure out what the priorities are and how that works. Hopefully, that helps.

Commissioner Lotts replied yeah, certainly. So, in terms of timeframe to pay off estimate, what do you expect, 10 years or something? Director Dockter asked for the first tier? Commissioner Lotts replied yeah. Director Dockter said I think we were thinking like 5-to-7 years, but really the first year is almost just developing plans and specifications. Commissioner Lotts said yes, absolutely, thank you. I was asking purely from ignorance because I didn't watch the Facebook Live event, so that might've been answered, sorry for that.

Director Dockter said again, it's hard, commissioner, because we're using data from maybe 2 years ago on sales tax revenues, and that's probably different today, especially with inflation and everything else, I'm sure that the; well, I'm not going to talk about taxes.

Commissioner Lotts said actually I was going to ask another question about one of your charts. So, St. Paul was listed as 1.5% in the green, so they already have a 1.5% sales tax, is that correct? Director Dockter replied correct, and I believe they just passed theirs for improvements to parks and roads, a 1%. Commissioner Lotts said perfect, awesome, thank you.

Commissioner Olson asked what is the timeline as far as completion of let's say all 3 projects' paths? I mean, is it going to take 5 years, 7 years to implement all of the points?

Director Dockter replied yes, thank you, commissioner, for the question. I don't have a specific answer, but again, I think we would, for sure we have the top-tier projects that we would bond for right away and get those going in the first 5-to-7 years, I would say. And then depending on revenues, hopefully it's not too far after that we could bond for the next tier of projects, and then finally the last-tier projects. I don't know if that's going to be 15, 20, or 25 years, if it's going to take all 25 years for that to happen or not, just because we don't know what the revenues are going to do each and every year. But, certainly, within the 25 years, we would want them to be all complete. And I will say those numbers that are all budgeted in here, they include inflation, escalation, and we're trying to project out in the future; that way, if we don't, if we can't build some portion of the project for 20 years, we're prepared for that.

Commissioner Alden-Rediske asked with the groups that you've already met with in the past, what is their feedback? Are they pretty much in favor of it, or are you facing any pushback?

Director Dockter replied commissioner, I don't know. Do you want to go on Facebook and look? I would say most people understand that there's a need to improve parks and recreation in the community, and there's an understanding that you can't do it all just with a property tax levy because we need to pay for Police and Fire and Public Works and water and utilities. There's a limited source of that, so if we want some of these other things and you want these generational impacts, we have to find different sources. But any time you mention tax, it's difficult, and it's understandable, and I'm not going to argue with anybody about their personal finances. So, we'll find out on November 5.

Commissioner Olson said I have one last question. So, if unfortunately none of them pass, is there a contingency plan to still be able to achieve what we're trying to achieve, or it'll just kind of fall apart, so to speak?

Director Dockter replied that's actually a great question because that's one that gets asked a lot, are you going to do it anyways if it doesn't pass? And the answer is, I'm speaking on behalf of the mayor, who just said it today, that's why I feel like I can say it, to some extent, yes. These are not projects that we just made up and said, all right, we're going to do a Local Option Sales Tax and if the tax passes, we'll do them, and if doesn't, we're not. These are projects that have been waiting a long time; Hamlet Park is a great example, we've been waiting to do that for 21 years. Just because it gets voted no doesn't mean we just throw away, we still own the land, we still want to develop the land. Mississippi Dunes, clearly, we want to develop that property. So, these would just get put back in the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP), get prioritized, try to find different funding sources, and chip away at it. But, again, that may end up coming off of property taxes instead of the sales tax, or it may come out of who knows what. And I should also mention, too, this won't be the sole source of funding; we would still look for grants, we would still look for, even at Mississippi Dunes, there's a lot of opportunity for restoration grants and 3M Settlement grants or whatever else that we would try to achieve. If we can achieve those, it brings the project costs down and maybe gets us to get all those other projects done faster. So, there are lots of different ways to get to the end goal.

Commissioner Jenson asked is there a projection with River Oaks, specifically, that there would be increased revenue to help offset the investment in amenities there? What does that look like financially?

Director Dockter replied yeah, thank you, commissioner, not a lot, most of the items there are meant to be more free-to-use opportunities. I mean things like the event court, we would have rental fees with that, the simulator, there would be some user fees with that, but we're trying not to interfere with the golf course and event center operations because it is a profitable operation the way it is; which is also why we don't want someone paying for a round of golf, their round of golf shouldn't be paying for a fat tire course. We're trying to keep those a little bit separate, so not a lot of revenue opportunity, but certainly the more people that use it will just create more activity and more attention; hopefully, they're going to eat there, shop there, drink there, whatever it might be, or maybe pickup golf, who knows?

Commissioner Moyer said because you said you guys had projected for inflation and everything like that, so if we have more money than we need for funding, then what would that money be used for? Do we have any ideas for that, or?

Director Dockter replied thank you, commissioner, great question. There is a \$36 million cap; once we collect \$36 million in revenue, that tax has to go away, according to State law, it cannot exceed it. It's important for people to know that.

Commissioner Lotts stated so this comp plan is pretty awesome, that newsletter that comes, that was pretty thorough and very educational. I definitely enjoyed it, and I know the neighborhood that I live in did, like they all read it and then came and talked to me, so it was good.

Director Dockter said thank you, the Communications team has been working really hard and taking some heat along the way, too, but I hope people understand we're just trying to educate people so they can make the best decision for them and their families.

Commissioner Lotts commented I would say the perception probably hasn't been clarified with a lot of people, in terms of the social media presence that I've seen with the fact that the sales tax goes away after you've collected the projected amount. I think oftentimes people just assume that once you start a tax, it never goes away, and it's never going to go back down. So, I think the clarity around that, I actually didn't realize that until you just told us that.

Director Dockter said thank you, I'll try to get some extra information on that.

Vice Chair Kath stated well, it's kind of similar to US Bank stadium, right? They said the pull tab or whatever those e-tab things were going to pay for it, it did, and now guess what? They don't have to worry about it. So, Zac, the question I have is maybe you could provide some feedback because when I was on the Parks Commission with you, a committee of volunteers for our current Bike Park came forward and helped develop that. What's kind of the difference between the two different types of events, then, the summer Bike Park vs. a winter Fat Tire Park? Do you foresee that being an attraction like our Bike Park? I know when that thing opened, it just started attracting people from throughout other communities to our community for that Bike Park.

Director Dockter replied thank you, Vice Chair, the same thing, I think we engaged with the community and we got a really good Fat Tire biker right there, who happens to be an engineer, that would probably help us guide some of that conversation and get a good design to make sure that its going to be usable and exciting for people to use. So, yeah, we would engage with the community and try to help build that. They need to come, there are crews, I think, usually with that, but it's a different experience. The Bike Park is kind of a completely different experience than this Fat Tire course where you're going to kind of go, I think it's a 3.5-mile loop we currently have projected, whereas the Bike Park is more stationary with more active jumps and toys and whatever else it is.

Vice Chair Kath stated okay, thanks. And I, too, want to echo, I even brought the brochure along, just communication vehicles like this that have been coming to peoples' mailboxes and obviously through social media and then the websites and stuff, I really feel that the communication is out there. And if people have questions, they have opportunities to reach out to both yourself and other staff people to do that. I guess I would ask folks if they still have questions coming to the end, with a couple weeks to go, certainly reach out to our staff to answer those questions; you'll feel really educated moving forward.

Director Dockter said thank you, Vice Chair Kath, thank you members of the commission. I've always said there's no secrets, I'm going to tell you like it is, and then you make your vote. So, anytime, email, call, whatever it is, I will answer your question.

Vice Chair Kath said the other thing that's interesting to me is I'm very supportive of it, and to me, it kind of helps level set our older parks with our newer parks. Because again, it gets to be this has and the has not, then; you know, just because I live in a new neighborhood and I've got a fancy new park, if I live in an older neighborhood, and now my park's kind of running down because it's in a 10-year program. This is a way to kind of jumpstart that, I think, and keep it more equitable throughout our whole community.

Commissioner Lotts said I just drove past Glacial Park on the way here, and there was probably 4 parking spots available, so its definitely being used, especially with the weather today, but that park is fantastic.

Director Dockter replied it is, and that's the fun stuff to see, when you build something and then all of a sudden it just, people are there right away. We'll pave a trail; sometimes I'm worried they're going to sink into the asphalt they get on it so quick, so, yeah, it's fun to see.

Commissioner Moyer said you said that you're going to connect with different communities to create designs. How do people get involved with that, or do you already have set people that you'll be speaking to, to help design, or can anybody from the community be a part of that?

Director Dockter replied thank you, commissioner, it's a little bit of both. I mean, we have different methods of trying to get people involved, but yeah, we would reach out to the community through social media or whatever it is to try to get people into a Task Force of some sort to try to help contribute and give their feedback and expertise in those areas.

Vice Chair Kath asked if there were any other questions or comments, and there were none. He stated again, Zac, thank you so much for coming forward and presenting that to us this evening at our commission meeting. Director Dockter replied thank you, have a good evening.

## **B. INTERMEDIATE WATER TREATMENT PLANT**

Vice Chair Kath stated our next presentation is the Intermediate Water Treatment Plant update, and our Director of Public Works, Ryan Burfeind, will be presenting that to us.

Director Burfeind stated thank you, Vice Chair, and members of the commission. So, as I've been doing throughout this process with all these 3M Settlement Funds that Cottage Grove has been getting to provide clean, treated water for generations to come, I have a very important check in tonight because we're working diligently on our Intermediate Zone Water Treatment Plant. I'll get into the details of what that means a little later, but this is the larger of 2 treatment plants that are going to serve Cottage Grove for decades and decades, really, and for the foreseeable future that were funded by that 3M Settlement.

As I've talked about before, we had the Low Zone Water Treatment Plant, and that's really treating all the water kind of south and west of Highway 61. It's under construction right now, we started that in the Fall of 2023, and that'll be wrapped up probably in May 2025.

This Intermediate Zone is going to really treat all the water north and east of Highway 61, really kind of the dividing line in our City. The reason for that is we've got all this elevation across town, it's a higher elevation on the north end, it's a lower elevation by the river, so there are different kinds of zones where we provide all that water that work independently. One thing I always like to mention is you hear a treatment plant under construction, so what's happening right now, but in this Intermediate Zone we have 5 temporary Water Treatment Plants that we've been building up over the years. The final 2 actually came online this past summer, 1 was close to the archery range and the other 1 was right across from the splash pad. So, we've continued to provide fully compliant, treated water to our residents, even as things have gotten more strict over the years with the State and Federal Health and EPA Departments. So, I always like to mention that our water is clean and safe to drink right now, and this is just our permanent solution.

This is an overall map of Cottage Grove, there are a lot of words and a lot of detail I won't get into, but the main thing is that bluish area and the orange areas, that's the area that's going to be treated by this new Water Treatment Plant. The green area and then the red, which we call the River Zone, those are the ones being treated by that Low Zone Water Treatment Plan that's under construction.

Where this is actually going to be located is right behind the Central Fire Station. We've got a couple of what we call ground storage tanks, water towers along 81st Street, right by the archery range, and this is where this treatment plant has to go. Right now, it's just kind of an open space, not being used for anything specific, but it is kind of park land today. The reason it has to go here is we have 7 wells that are kind of right around this area, really close to this treatment plant, and they all come together into one watermain, going directly to here, to these water towers. So, we can basically intercept that pipe and put it into the treatment plant because that's the way you have to do it; you have to centralize everything. We're very fortunate that we have that, some other communities in this 3M Settlement are having to spend tens if not hundreds of millions of dollars of the Settlement money to connect all their wells to a single point. We actually have that already, just the way it was developed over the decades so we're very fortunate. There are 2 wells, 1 by the splash pad and 1 more up by Sunnyhill Park, that we have to connect down to here because this will treat 9 wells in total; otherwise, those other 7 come to here. We have been planning this for quite some time; basically, in 2017, when these issues really came up, we kind of knew this was coming at this location. I'm here tonight because we really started our public engagement process, which I'll talk about more, where we had an open house

with this neighborhood. So, we want this commission to be informed on what we're doing, how we're doing it, and kind of the schedule so if you get questions from the public, you're able to answer them.

So, that area in blue that will be the treatment plant itself, so you can see the Central Fire Station just north of it, so it is larger than the Central Fire Station, so it will be a very big structure that we have to put in there. It kind of works pretty nicely because that's kind of a little bit of a valley between the water towers and the Central Fire Station, so we can kind of work with that valley to keep this building from getting too tall. It'll have a pretty similar height as the Central Fire Station itself, so it won't be too daunting or overpowering for that neighborhood. You can kind of see a proposed playground, there's a little park component to this that I'll talk about at the end; because we are using existing City park land, we are requesting that the State basically pay back the value of that land because we're kind of losing park space, which is very important. We have to build these treatment plants, but we really don't want to lose that park space forever; so, we did an appraisal, and they'll be paying that value of the land, which we're then going to reinvest into this park. So, the Parks Department is actually working on a Master Plan right now to kind of enhance this whole area from those park components since we're building this treatment plant here.

Director Burfeind said here's a rendering of what it's going to look like; we're trying to mimic the Central Fire Station pretty well, as this is more of a residential area. Of course, we can't make it look like a home, but we want to have it pretty aesthetically pleasing and match that Central Fire Station architecture that we have today.

With the Low Zone plant, we built that right in the Business Park so obviously there we could kind of match it into those businesses that were in that area, but this will be just a little bit nicer; that reddish color is an actual brick, and we'll have limestone accents as well. That kind of darker brown, the taller panels, that are like Tilt-up concrete panels, kind of like the HERO Center is right over here, but it actually casts like a brick face into the concrete; so, it's very cost effective, very low cost, but gives it a really nice finish, and it'll be pretty appealing to that neighborhood because it's obviously a big change for them to have this treatment plant there. The general height is about 32 feet tall, so it is a pretty tall building, but that's pretty similar to that second story of the Central Fire Station, so it'll match pretty well and not stand out any more than that does. Here are just some other elevations; you can see we tried to incorporate more windows, some awnings, just some things to make sure it doesn't look too industrial in a largely residential area.

The next three, I won't get into the details, these are kind of the different floorplans, but I kind of want to talk in generalities about what this facility does. This is the basement, so in that valley, there's a really deep basement of all the concrete; you'll actually see this concrete being poured for probably 1.5 years before this building gets out of the ground. These are very large tanks as the water kind of flows through the plant and does its business. Rather than burying all of this in the ground and having the pipes buried in the ground, which we can never get to again, we have them all in a basement; so it is really good for long term Operations & Maintenance (O&M) of this facility, that we're not having to dig up concrete floors and things like that if we have a watermain that breaks or something along those lines. So, that will be really good for us in the long term.

The main floorplan: The water is going to flow through the plant from kind of the upper-left corner to the bottom right. So, in upper left, we have a lot of iron and manganese in our water, you probably see that when we do flushing twice a year, the water gets churned up and dirty because right now we don't remove that iron and manganese; we don't need to, the levels aren't high enough to require it, so it kind of settles out in all our watermains, it's more of an aesthetic issue. The trouble is when we treat for PFAS, the way we do that, that iron manganese is very hard on that treatment process. The way we do it, there's basically the big filters I've talked about in the past, like a big Brita filter that's specially designed to take the PFAS out. If we don't remove the iron and manganese, that stuff will last like a year and we have to change it out at several million dollars; with removing the iron and manganese, it lasts 6 years, so you can kind of get 6 times the life out of it. So, even though there's an expense to take the iron and manganese out of our water, that's going to save a lot of money in the long run for the City, so that's a good benefit.

So, in that far-right corner you can see in real small words PFAS Treatment, that's where you just have these big tanks; they're big, 12-foot diameter, 20-foot tall tanks that the water flows through. What's nice is this is a very quiet process; it's all enclosed, most of it is just kind of pressurized, you don't even see anything happening, it's all in pipes and tanks. So, it's not like a big commotion for the neighborhood. Obviously, construction is tough, but once we're done, it actually kind of runs on its own; we'll maybe have an operator there for 4 hours a day, just checking in, checking things, making sure it's all working, but there's no actual 24/7 operation where we need to have a huge new crew to run this plant. So, it's very automated, very hands off, so that will be really good for our team in the long run. There is an upper level, just where we have some of the control rooms and lab space.

Director Burfeind stated like I mentioned, we also have kind of a park component to this process here. You can see the new Water Treatment Plant in white, and this is working with the Parks Department on when we get this funding from the State to kind of make up for loss of park space, what are we going to use that for; so, one is proposed to be a playground by the Central Fire Station, that actually was part of the Central Fire Station project back when it was going to be built, but with some funding challenges, it had to be cut. Really, on this end of town, there's not really a neighborhood park in this area. So, it's not meant to

be some big, huge park with a big regional draw because obviously there's not really the parking facility for that. It's just meant to be a neighborhood park, so we'll connect trails into the different neighborhood areas so people can walk to it. The Parks Department is also looking at kind of a beginner type disk golf course; we obviously have a very nice disk golf course at Oakwood Park, and this would be kind of a beginner, 9-hole course they've called it. Like I said, new trails throughout the area, and then maybe like a boardwalk across Pine Tree Pond that we could add. So, these are some of the features that they're looking at right now that we'd probably build with the treatment plant just because it would be more cost effective to do that.

Like I said, we are kind of starting the public engagement process right now. We had an open house on October 10, and we invited 850 homes all around that area, but we only had 3 people attend, so not a huge turnout. So, we're going to continue to do that public engagement because we want to make sure they know what's coming to their neighborhood, and that's right near the Central Fire Station, so it's kind of right in the neighborhood, easy to attend.

Tonight we're having the Public Service Commission Meeting, we'll be at the Planning Commission Meeting on Monday night to get a Site Plan approval, that is required from them with our Code, we'll be at the City Council Meeting on November 20, and then we'd be bidding it in March, 2025. Construction would begin next summer, and it'll probably be 2.5 years of construction, so it will be complete in late 2027. So, it is a little bit of a longer process; right now, we're estimating about \$100 million for this plant, so by far, the most expensive thing, as currently our most expensive project in town is \$40 million for the Low Zone Water Treatment Plant. So, we're very fortunate to have that 3M Settlement funding, as this is all being paid for not by the taxpayers, not by the water users in town, it's all being paid by the 3M Settlement, which is a very fortunate thing for us.

Director Burfeind said one other component we're working with is with the Central Fire Station directly; I want to talk about the schedule quick, but we have a little bit of a challenge where we can't turn around semis on this site, there's just not the room. So, when we do have to do semi traffic to like deliver new treatment media, we're actually going to drive through the building and then go out through the Central Fire Station because that kind of loops around the east side of the Central Fire Station on this image, then we're going to build a new road out to 80th Street. Now, working very closely with the Central Fire Station because we do not want to impact them in any way; we don't want a semi coming through their back road right when an ambulance is trying to get moving and go on a call. So, that's why we're really working closely, hand in hand, with the Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief, and we actually met with a bunch of the Fire team itself to talk about this. So, there is some money that we're going to have to spend to maybe make that road a little bit wider because we want to be able to have 2-way traffic on that fire station driveway. If we have traffic, fire trucks and ambulances can still get through, so that's one thing I'd like feedback on from the commission. I think we want support from the community that we cannot impact that Central Fire Station in any way. There might be questions on why are we investing 3M Settlement money on a fire station property, but we're pretty strongly firm that we have to do what we can do to not hamper that Central Fire Station in any way, even a 5-second delay in an ambulance is not something we can have. So, that's a big part of this project. Overall, it's a cost savings as if we had to find a way to turn semis around on this property, we'd be spending much more money than we are to make that Central Fire Station property kind of work for us. So, I think that's one thing on which I'd like some feedback; we're not looking for any formal approvals tonight from the commission, but we'd like feedback if you have any questions and making sure there's support for that part of it as well with the Central Fire Station.

Director Burfeind stated I've talked through the schedule already, and we will probably have more public engagement over the winter, just like updates to the neighborhood. We have a really great website and a story map that kind of talks through all this that we've provided to folks. We would do like another neighborhood meeting before construction starts as well. With that, I'll stand for any questions.

Vice Chair Kath thanked Ryan and opened it up to commissioners for any comments or questions.

Commissioner Moyer said I have a question about the entrances. Will people from the public be able to enter these as well? Like, if they find out that oh, maybe this is a shortcut; will they be able to have access to that or will it be closed off at any point?

Director Burfeind replied that's a good question, commissioner, because it is kind of another cut through off the neighborhood. So, we are looking at kind of an actual controlled access gate with like a badge to get in off of 81st Street and to go onto the fire station property just so there's no confusion there as well. Actually, thinking of access with that playground so close to the Central Fire Station, we're actually looking at kind of a fence to separate those two. This is more in the Parks territory, but I'm trying to think through that, we don't want children thinking, oh, it's the fire station, I want to go into the back of the fire station and see the ambulance. So, we'll have some more decorative fence to separate those 2 uses, just so it's not impeding the fire station as well.

Commissioner Alden-Rediske stated I have a few questions, again, I'm a little naïve on this topic, so sorry if they're silly questions. Director Burfeind said no problem. She said I'm leveraging a little bit of my experience back from when we built Walmart, so that was a big impact to the neighborhood that was right behind them. So, there was a lot of concern at that time regarding noise,

construction noise, and beeping noise, and I'm curious because this is right next to another neighborhood. So, like what would the backup be for the construction, as you said 1.5 years or so of laying down cement, concrete. Are there going to be hours put in place for construction timing?

Director Burfeind replied yep, that is a great question. So, we would adhere to all of our City construction hours, which are 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Saturday, and no work on Sundays or holidays. I was here when Walmart was built, and I do know that did drive a lot of complaints. What's nice is because this is a City construction project, we have full control over it. It's not that Walmart wasn't trying to control that, but it is hard when it is private, you have a lot of subcontractors. We're very tight on those hours, we don't let them even warm up equipment or anything before 7:00 a.m.; it's 7:00 a.m., no earlier start. We're also going to see if we can work to widen that driveway off of 80th Street first so we can actually get construction traffic off of 80th, around the fire station, rather than all of it coming through the neighborhood off of 81st Street; so, that's another thing we're trying to work on.

Commissioner Alden-Rediske said here's my naïve question: A couple years ago I went on a tour with the group, and I think it was the Wastewater Treatment Center. Now, this is not wastewater that we're dealing with, right?

Director Burfeind replied no, that's correct, it's all drinking water.

Commissioner Alden-Rediske said only drinking water, which Director Burfeind confirmed. She said okay, because I was making sure that there's no smell or anything that's going to impact the residents.

Director Burfeind said no, and that is really good to clarify, commissioner, because even when we built that Low Zone plant, there were a lot of questions about is this a wastewater plant because it's definitely a different process there and it smells, but this is all drinking water, all enclosed. So, it is a big building, but once its operational, it's a pretty good neighbor.

Commissioner Alden-Rediske asked so when it is operational, is there going to be any sound or is there going to be any noise impact to the residents?

Director Burfeind replied no, not at all; day to day there's probably just 1 pickup truck that'll be coming through, just like a City pickup truck with our operator to stop in and check on it. With everything enclosed, even inside actually, the only thing that has any noise is that pump room where we actually pump the water out to the City, but that all has OSHA requirements for sound deadening to capture the sound in the building because that can get loud. So, that is a mandatory thing with OSHA. Then every other part of it you could have this kind of a conversation in the building, and you'd be able to hear because it is that quiet.

Commissioner Alden-Rediske said oh, good, because I was worried about the rumbling or the motor or the fan noises that would be all day long. Director Burfeind replied, no, that's a good question.

Commissioner Moyer said I have a question about the construction as it's going in and out; because we don't have this third entrance, how will they be getting through and like how will that traffic kind of work then?

Director Burfeind replied so I think what our goal is with the Central Fire Station is to actually build that new entrance first; so, that would actually be kind of a scheduled thing where we'd look to do that right at the start of construction, as long as we can work that out with the fire station operations so then they can come off 80th Street. There might need to be some work off of 81st Street to get things moving, but our goal would be to get that new entrance built off of 80th and then really focus all the construction traffic there.

Commissioner Moyer said then I'm just wondering about the length of the project; you said it'll be done in about 2027, so does that include the park stuff as well, or is that just the building part, and then we're going to move forward with the park stuff after that?

Director Burfeind replied I think the park stuff would all be in that same timeframe; we'd probably build that in 2027, at the tail end of the project just so this work isn't impacting any of it, and that'd be a lot quicker to build. So, I think that would be in 2027 when we'd likely build the park component.

Commissioner Jenson asked can you talk about the capacity of the water treatment and would we have room to grow into the future?

Director Burfeind replied yep, that's another great question. So, with the way the State works, because obviously they're not trying to just treat Cottage Grove's water, it's the water in Woodbury, Oakdale, and Lake Elmo, our design for the actual treatment right now is 20 years. Obviously, Cottage Grove still has room to grow after 20 years, so there is actually some room to expand this treatment plant right here to kind of get some more growth after that. That Low Zone plant we talked about, that can really double in size and kind of serve the whole south part of Cottage Grove for a full buildout. It all depends on how water usage grows over the years. We're really close for this treatment plant, it would actually serve the rest of Cottage Grove as we grow. There is the potential, way down the line, where you could have a third treatment plant out in like the east part of town, as we grow out, east of Old Cottage Grove; that kind of remains to be seen on how water usage changes over the decades, but we're pretty close, we're really maximizing the space. I should have said we're using a little different type of treatment that's a

little smaller in scale, so we can fit more treatment capacity into this building with that goal of hopefully making this our final permanent treatment plant we have to build.

Commissioner Moyer said so I was thinking about the basement. So, you said that the pipes aren't under, so that if anything was to break, we'd be able to have access to it. So, if that does happen, because I don't know how these places work, I'm just imagining water everywhere. So, like how would that work then if there was a break?

Director Burfeind replied yep, good question. So, it's pretty rare for something like that to happen, but if it were, there's all sorts of different alarms, flood alarms that go off and warn us right away. We have stuff like that right now actually at our temporary treatment plants as well, so our operators can respond and shut off that water flow. We have actually designed the plant because so much of our treated water is going to come from this, we can't let a single issue take it offline, right? Because all of a sudden you can't have no water to everything north of Highway 61, so we've designed it so there's kind of redundancy throughout the entire plant. So, if 1 pipe breaks, we have a different pipe that's a backup. If there are any issues, it might reduce the capacity a little bit if we have an issue, but at least we'd still be able to meet all our water demands. We've been very careful to design it that way because it's a bit of a change; right now, we have 12 wells sprinkled all over Cottage Grove, and if 1 goes down, we can deal with it. Right now, we kind of have all of our water in 1 spot, so resiliency was a big part of it for us.

Vice Chair Kath asked if Ryan could speak to the effect of how this new road with our current construction of 80th, is it going to make the plans of the current design of 80th Street have to be redone, or?

Director Burfeind replied so 80th as it is today, kind of a 4-lane road, that's plenty of capacity; this will just really be a new driveway coming in off the side, so no impact to the road. While there will be the construction traffic, there's plenty of capacity on 80th to handle that construction traffic as it comes in. Because even though it's a long period, it's not a lot in any given day, maybe it's 10-or-15 concrete trucks in a day, something like that.

Vice Chair Kath asked so that part of 80th isn't under that where we're going to be redoing 80th Street?

Director Burfeind replied not directly next to it, but a little bit further to the west is where we will be redoing 80th, kind of from the high school down to Highway 61. So, certainly, during that time, construction traffic for this would navigate it, but 80th will remain open while we're doing that work in 2026, so no major issues with this. Obviously, if there were, Jamaica Avenue would be another option for them to get to the project site.

Vice Chair Kath said I was just more like hey, you just got done fixing 80th and now you're going to go tear it up for a new driveway, why didn't you just wait and do it together; that's where I was kind of going with it, but if that part's not involved.

Director Burfeind stated yes, that is different, this one is a little further down; this one was redone in 2016, so it's still a good road, but it's about 10 years old.

Vice Chair Kath said I guess my initial thought when you said you wanted to work with the Fire Department long term, it brought back some memories of when I served on the School Board. When East Ridge was coming out of the ground, how when the architects got together and they looked at how Woodbury's fields were set up and the land that the School District bought, how could we land swap to maximize it for the community? To me, it seems like we have 2 public entities here, obviously mostly Cottage Grove, but how can we leverage that space to the best of our ability without having to do things outside of it. So, it kind of brought back some memories, and to me, I think that's smart for us to leverage the resources and the amenities that we have right before us instead of having to create new and just leave it because it's been like that for the last 10 years or whatever.

Vice Chair Kath asked the commissioners if they had more questions or comments, but there were none. He said I'm sure we'll get more updates as time goes on, so thank you, again, Ryan, for sharing that with us this evening.

Commissioner Lotts said I have one for Director Burfeind: You'd said the temporary one is across from the splash pad right now, and you have to essentially conjoin that with this plant once it is operational. What does that process look like? Do you have to do some massive trench digging and modifications to the existing infrastructure, or is it just as simple as turning a valve?

Director Burfeind replied so that will have to be a whole new watermain that'll come all the way down from Sunnyhill Park to Highlands Park, and then we're going to try to use green spaces for most of that. So, like that Cottage Grove Trailway Corridor with the big power lines, we're going to run down that with this watermain and then Pine Tree Valley; we're going to run right down Pine Tree Valley, kind of under the trail, so the trail will have to be replaced. So, because it's untreated water, we have to kind of pipe it directly to this plant. That will be a big project, there will be a couple of City streets that we will have to dig up to do that; we've already sent out some initial notices to those homeowners and we'll be working with them. There won't be any assessments, any road assessments, because the road's being dug up just for this watermain, not for road maintenance; but that'll happen in the summer of 2025, and that'll be a separate project that we'll do.

Commissioner Lotts said and then that facility, I think you discussed this at a previous meeting, that's across from the splash pad, when this thing's fully operational in 2027, you're going to essentially disassemble that and then you can reuse the innards of it?

Director Burfeind replied yep, that's correct. So, the 2 vessels that are in there and then the 2 that are by the archery range, yep, they will actually get moved to this facility; that's the most expensive part of those temporary plants, and we've designed it to be able to just move them right to this one and have no lost money. Other than obviously the expense to move them, there's some money there, and then that metal building, those are so new, I imagine when we demo them, it won't be a true demo, it'll be more of a salvage and someone can reinstall it somewhere else.

Commissioner Lotts said awesome, fantastic, thank you.

Vice Chair Kath asked if there were any other questions or comments, but there were none. Vice Chair Kath said thanks again, Ryan.

## **8. COMMISSION COMMENTS - None.**

## **9. STAFF REPORTS AND MATERIALS**

Director Burfeind said I'll cover a lot of Public Works right away, quickly, and then our Street Superintendent, Gary Orloff, is here as well if he has anything to add.

Director Burfeind said just a couple of road project updates: We opened those new U-turn intersections down by River Oaks, that's been worked on for about 2.5 months, it's been a long process with Highway 61 down to 1 lane during that. It's kind of a slow process with all the different concrete work and ways to build that, so I know people were getting a little antsy at the end to get traffic back to normal. So, that was a really great thing to open those up, and it's a great safety improvement; we've already had great feedback from the bus company that serves the church and school that shares a driveway with River Oaks, they've really seen it as a great benefit to them to have those dedicated U-turns and that new way of kind of navigating that intersection.

We kind of had a grand opening, ribbon cutting for the East Point Douglas & Jamaica Avenue improvements, that was in early September as well. You've probably seen some little bits of the work going on since then, some cleanup work, but that was kind of our final ribbon cutting, so nice to see those improvements operational and being used by everyone.

A couple other projects that we finished up were kind of a realignment of Hadley, 103rd, and 100th Street, down in the south part of Cottage Grove to serve new development in that area. That's been kind of a 2-year project we've been working through with most of the road work this year; that had a few closures, some different detours during that last phase of the work in September. So, we also finished that, and that's all open, so a lot of good progress. After a very wet summer, it's been pretty dry in September, so we could really knock out the projects and get them wrapped up.

The other thing I'll touch on initially and maybe Gary wants to add to it, but the big thing that happened since we met last was on August 29 we had that big storm. We had the downburst, you maybe heard about it, where we had at least 80 MPH winds the National Weather Service is saying on that evening. That was a big, tough night, and so we actually had our Emergency Operations Center (EOC) open here at City Hall. We had about 30 staff here with Police, Fire, EMS, Public Works, all the different supervisors were here. Really, in a couple neighborhoods, the Thompson Grove, south of Highway 61, and then the Thompson Grove Estates, kind of between East Point Douglas and Jamaica and 80th, were hit really hard. Just numerous Calls for Service. Our Police, Fire, and EMS were just inundated and literally overwhelmed, so we had support from all the surrounding communities and the Washington County Sheriff's Office to handle the calls that night. All of our Public Works staff were here that night to reopen roads; that was a tough night, I think it was about 12:30 a.m. when we finally wrapped up and had all the calls addressed, all the roads reopened, all the different powerline fires, lots of issues that night. That was a great response from our whole team. We do a lot of emergency training, and you kind of hope you never have to use it, but we had to use it that night, and everyone responded and did a great job. And we were safe about it; I mean, that's tough when you're out there that night, in the dark, with chainsaws, trying to open roads with equipment, trees on cars, trees on houses, and we had no injuries that night so I was pretty proud of our whole team for doing that. Then we started the cleanup, and we had about a month of picking up trees and doing all that work, which we actually reached out to our surrounding cities' Public Works Departments; so, Eagan, West St. Paul, Burnsville, Newport, and Washington County all helped us with that cleanup effort throughout September. That was a big project and more to come with different parts of it, with replanting trees and kind of doing the final cleanup, but it was kind of good to see everyone come together and manage that big storm we had. With that, I'll turn it over to Gary.

Superintendent Orloff stated like Ryan said, we were pretty busy for 4-to-5 weeks, we just finished that up. So, now, we're prepping for wintertime, so we're out patching roads, trying to get everything buttoned up for that. Our stormwater crew is out doing inspections of catch basins, ponds, and we're out mowing ponds, mowing Right-of-Ways back for winter preparation. This

Wednesday we have our annual plow meeting, so we gather all divisions together and go over new assignments, what we're plowing. Friday we actually started putting front plows on the big trucks, Saturday we actually have people coming in to assemble all these trucks, so our goal is always by November 1 to have everything up and running.

Like Ryan said, we had a lot of trees down, so had to backfill those stumps, a lot of them were uprooted, we had about 50 trees uprooted, and we just pulled them out and filled them with dirt and hydroseeded them; in the springtime, we'll go out and grind the stumps down, and that's when we'll start the replanting process.

The other thing is we've been out for about 2 weeks now, we'll have 3 sweepers out and until the first snow, we'll be sweeping pretty heavily. So, one thing good for residents to know is we don't want them blowing their leaves in the street, so pick them up and bring them down to the compost site. That's pretty much it, we're just prepping to get everything buttoned up for wintertime. He asked if there were any questions, but none were asked.

Vice Chair Kath thanked Ryan and Gary for their team; it was incredible, as a resident, and he thought the communication was awesome regarding by October, put them on your boulevard and we'll come and take care of it, and you guys did, so thank you so much.

## 10. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Vice Chair Kath said Council Member Thiede is with us this evening, so asked if he had any comments.

Council Member Thiede said a couple things:

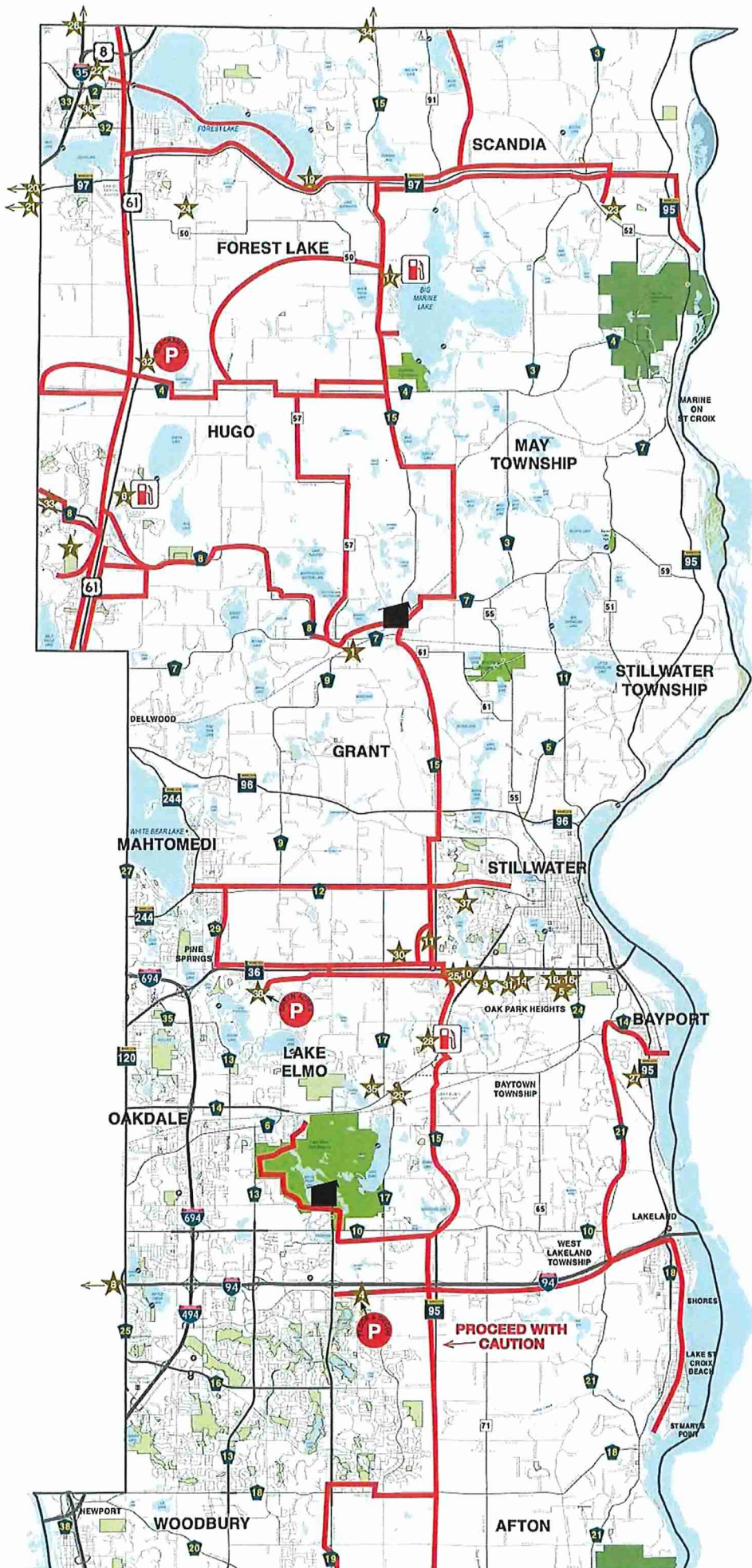
- We hired a new Communications Manager, Phil Jents, who actually grew up in Cottage Grove and has his Ph.D., a Park High diploma, so he's kind of getting up and going and getting used to things.
- We pretty much got the labor contracts and everything done.
- In terms of Public Safety, a DWI Traffic Safety Officer Grant Agreement got passed. We got some cardiac monitors, AEDs, and ventilators. We authorized putting out a purchase order for Public Safety vehicles that are on the budget for next year.
- We've just been working on the budget and so forth.

Council Member Thiede asked if the commissioners had any questions, but there were none asked.

## 11. ADJOURNMENT

**Commissioner Moyer made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Alden-Rediske seconded. Motion carried: 6-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.**

Minutes transcribed by J. Graf and reviewed by Kari Reubish.



**- Stay On Trails -** The trails are established for safe riding. Many trails are on private property and will be closed if there are problems for land owners

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	SHELTERS	
	PARKING	
	STAR TRAIL	
	FEEDER TRAIL	
	NO STUDDS	<b>NO STUDED TRACKS</b>



**Park and Ride Sights:**

- Blacksmith Lounge, Hugo on Hwy 61
- Lamar Park, Cottage Grove

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- Green Acres  
Tubing and  
Recreation - Lake  
Elmo (Park in Back)



-  SHELTER
-  PARKING
-  TRAIL
-  GAS





**651-770-6060**  
8989 - 55th Street North  
Lake Elmo

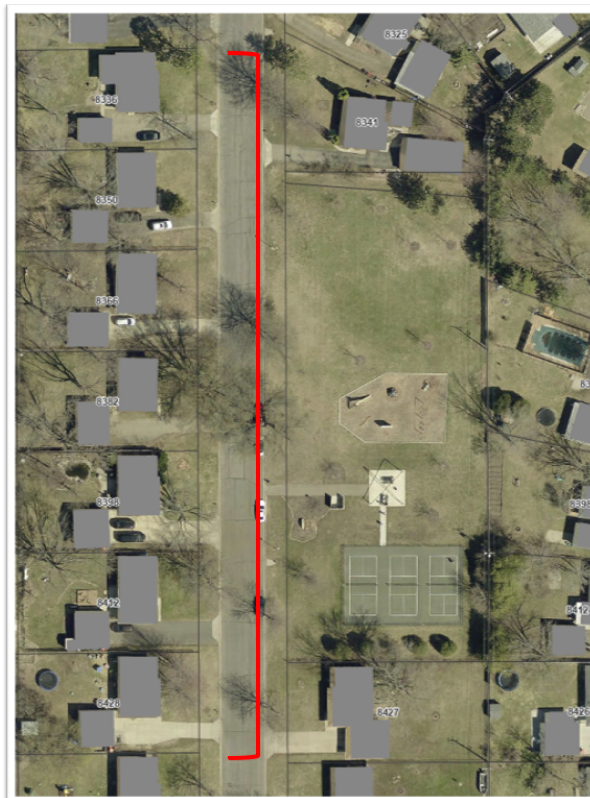
*Thanks to Green Acres for providing parking.*

<b>To:</b>	Honorable Mayor and City Council
<b>From:</b>	Gavin Hochstetler, Management Analyst Ryan Burfeind, Public Works Director
<b>Date:</b>	November 18, 2024
<b>Subject:</b>	Street Parking concerns near Granada Park

**Introduction/Background**

Granada Park has become a thriving park space, attracting community members and sports enthusiasts alike. The Cottage Grove Parks Department has invested heavily to bring the community quality pickleball opportunities throughout the parks system. The enhanced popularity of pickleball has led to a greater influx in visitors to Granada Park. While this increased usage is a testament to the parks success, it has also resulted in concerns about on street parking due to the park not having a dedicated parking lot.

Residents have reported concerns of limited parking availability near their residence, increased traffic congestion, and safety hazards. While options to address the parking concerns are limited, one potential solution is a one-sided parking restriction. This parking restriction would affect homeowners/residents of the proposed enforcement area which would extend approximately the entire length of Granada Park. In June of 2024, a request for public response was sent to affected residents and one resident was for the restriction, and one was against it.



**Staff Recommendation**

Provide direction for the potential parking restriction along Granada Avenue across from Granada Park.



**COTTAGE GROVE CITY COUNCIL**

**November 6, 2024**

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

- 1 Call to Order
- 2 Pledge of Allegiance
- 3 Roll Call
- 4 Open Forum
- 5 Adoption of Agenda
- 6 Presentations
  - A Mayor for a Day  
*Staff Recommendation: Appoint Lily Schmitt as Mayor for a Day on November 6, 2024.*
- 7 Consent Agenda
  - A City Council Special Meeting Minutes (2024-10-02)  
*Staff Recommendation: Approve the October 2, 2024, Special Meeting Minutes.*
  - B City Council Regular Meeting Minutes (2024-10-02)  
*Staff Recommendation: Approve the October 02, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes.*
  - C City Council Special Meeting Minutes (2024-10-16)  
*Staff Recommendation: Approve the October 16, 2024, Special Meeting Minutes.*
  - D City Council Regular Meeting Minutes (2024-10-16)  
*Staff Recommendation: Approve the October 16, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes.*
  - E Public Services Commission Meeting Minutes (2024-07-15)  
*Staff Recommendation: Approve the July 15, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes.*
  - F Planning Commission Meeting Minutes (2024-08-26)  
*Staff Recommendation: Accept and place on file the minutes from the August 26, 2024, Planning Commission meeting.*
  - G Massage Therapist License - Lisa Christine Ramos  
*Staff Recommendation: Authorize issuance of a Massage Therapist License to Lisa Christine Ramos.*
  - H Single-occasion Gambling Permit - Strawberry Fest Bingo  
*Staff Recommendation: Authorize issuance of a single-occasion gambling permit to Loriann Olsen on behalf of Strawberry Fest to conduct bingo at River Oaks Golf Course (11099 Highway 61, Cottage Grove) on February 22, 2025.*
  - I Rental License Approvals  
*Staff Recommendation: Approve the issuance of rental licenses to the properties in the attached table.*

- J 2025-2026 Police Officers Labor Contract  
*Staff Recommendation: Approve the 2025-2026 labor contract with the Police Officers union.*
  - K Metro Transit Network Now Comment Letter  
*Staff Recommendation: Approve submittal of the comment letter to Metro Transit on their Network Now plan.*
  - L Washington County 2025-2029 CIP Response Letter  
*Staff Recommendation: Approve the response letter to the Washington County 2025-2029 Draft CIP.*
  - M Joint Powers Agreement Between Washington County and the City of Cottage Grove for a Mass Community Notification System  
*Staff Recommendation: Authorize executing the Joint Powers Agreement between Washington County and the City of Cottage Grove for a mass community notification system.*
  - N Updated Ambulance Purchase Authorization  
*Staff Recommendation: Authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the sales quote for the purchase of a Ford E-450 Road Rescue Ultramedic from Everest Emergency Vehicles with an estimated cost of \$293,627.00 and an estimated delivery of December 2025.*
  - O Authorization to order 2025 Fire Tender  
*Staff Recommendation: 1) Authorize the order of the 2025 Fire Tender utilizing the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Group. 2) Approve Resolution 2024-155, Declaring the official intent of the City of Cottage Grove to reimburse certain expenditures from the proceeds of bonds to be issued by the City with respect to equipment (Fire Tender).*
  - P Utility and Engineering Building Change Order # 3  
*Staff Recommendation: Approve Change Order #3 for the Utility and Engineering Building which results in a reduction in project costs in the amount \$9,159.33.*
  - Q Goodview Avenue Well Sealing Project Final Payment  
*Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2024-152 approving the final payment in the amount of \$29,062.15 to Mineral Services Plus, LLC for the Goodview Avenue Well Sealing Project.*
  - R Gateway North Second Addition – Preliminary and Final Plat  
*Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2024-153 approving the Preliminary and Final Plat to be called Gateway North Second Addition in order to create two parcels (a 7.89-acre parcel for Kohl's and a new 1.03-acre parcel for Chase Bank).*
  - S Hometown Fiber Broadband Aware  
*Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends the approval of the scope of work and services proposed by Hometown Fiber for the Broadband Aware program, at a cost of \$22,528.*
- 8 Approve Disbursements
- A Approve Disbursements
- 9 Public Hearings
- 10 Bid Awards
- A Low Zone Water Tower Bid Award  
*Staff Recommendation: 1) Adopt Resolution 2024-151 awarding the bid for the Low Zone Water Tower to Landmark Structures 1, LP in the total amount of \$5,183,000.00. 2) Approve Resolution 2024-156, Declaring the official intent of the City of Cottage Grove to reimburse certain expenditures from the proceeds of bonds to be issued by the City with respect to the construction of the Low Zone Water Tower.*
  - B Kingston Park Electrical Improvements-Bid Award  
*Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2024-154 awarding the bid for Kingston Park Electrical Improvements to Killmer Electric in the total amount of \$152,345.*
- 11 Regular Agenda

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