

AGENDA

1. CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION CALLED TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL: Blackledge, Greenberg, Parisian, Caceres Aranda, Mayor Sutton
3. DISCUSSION
 - A. Pedestrian and Cycling Planning Discussion
 - B. Annual Goals and Priorities
 - C. May 18th Town Hall Planning
4. STAFF UPDATES
 - A. Sanborn Park Renaming
 - B. Performance Measurement Annual Survey
 - C. City Manager Annual Review
 - D. City Proclamations - Quick Review
5. COUNCIL UPDATES
6. ADJOURNMENT



TO: Mayor and City Council

PREPARED BY: Richard McCoy, City Engineer/Public Works Director, Matthew Bazyk, Recreation Services Manager

APPROVED BY: Tim Sandvik, City Manager

DATE: April 14, 2026

RE: Pedestrian and Cycling Planning Discussion

Background:

Providing a network of safe and logical routes for walkers and cyclists throughout the City has been a key priority for the City Council for a number of years. Plans of routes have been included in the City’s Comp Plan for a number of cycles and the plan has been refined a number of times based on opportunity to partner with other agencies and the City’s own Capital works schedule. The current Comprehensive Plan version of the Pedestrian and Bike Plan is included for Council Member’s reference.

City Council Members may also be aware of an update to this plan being led by City Recreation, Sustainability and Planning staff and the Cycling and Pedestrian Committee. This work is being funded through an assistance program received through the National Park Service. The Committee consists of resident representation from the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission (PRF), the Senior Commission and the Sustainability Committee, along with representation from the County Active Transportation Committee. Planning assistance is being provided by a National Parks Service staff planner. Work on this review commenced in Summer of 2024. A copy of a presentation made to the PRF Commission in January of this year has been included to provide Council Members with an outline of the steps that have been taken and some design suggestions for improved safety.

The purpose of presenting this item is to provide Council with an update on the revised Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan that will be presented for approval this summer.

Additionally, staff seeks further discussion and direction about the importance of the bike path on the north side of Shoreline Drive, which will serve as a connecting trail to two regional bike paths and a main leg a new crosstown bike thoroughfare connecting Robbinsdale to both Minneapolis and Crystal.

Analysis:

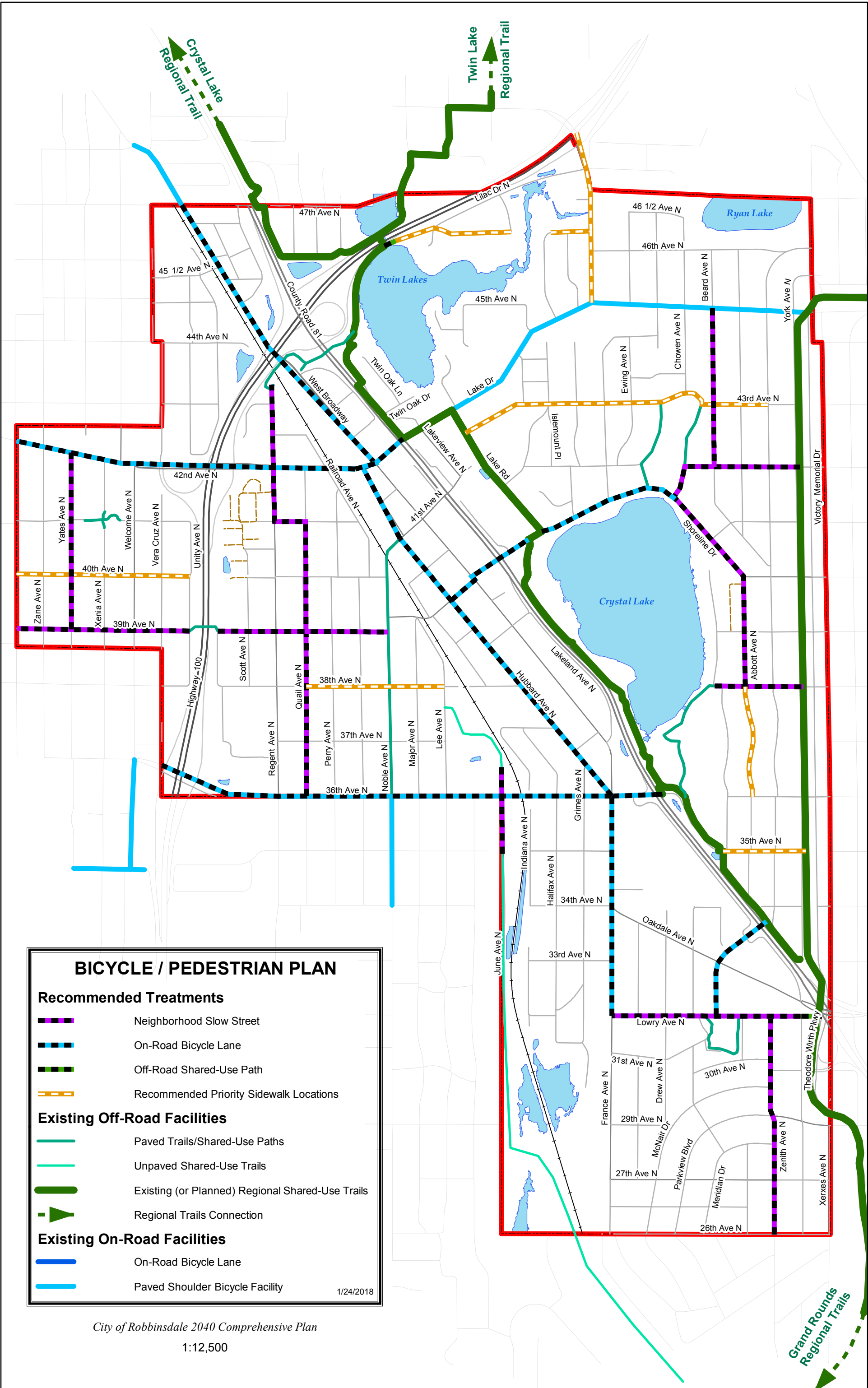
Recommendation:

City Council receive information, discuss and provide comment on the draft Pedestrian and Cycling Plan for the City.

Further, City Council discuss and provide direction to staff for the proposed trail on Shoreline Avenue between Lake Road and 41st.

Attachments:

1. Pedestrian and Bike Plan
2. Robb PRF Comm Presentation rev 1-27-26



BICYCLE / PEDESTRIAN PLAN

Recommended Treatments

- Neighborhood Slow Street
- On-Road Bicycle Lane
- Off-Road Shared-Use Path
- Recommended Priority Sidewalk Locations

Existing Off-Road Facilities

- Paved Trails/Shared-Use Paths
- Unpaved Shared-Use Trails
- Existing (or Planned) Regional Shared-Use Trails
- Regional Trails Connection

Existing On-Road Facilities

- On-Road Bicycle Lane
- Paved Shoulder Bicycle Facility

1/24/2018

City of Robbinsdale 2040 Comprehensive Plan
1:12,500

Grand Rounds
Regional Trails



City of Robbinsdale
Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan



Adopted by the Robbinsdale City Council
September 2, 2014



Robbinsdale Cycling & Pedestrian Plan Update

with the Cycling & Pedestrian Committee

Robbinsdale Parks, Recreation & Forestry
Commission Presentation

January 27, 2026



Cycling & Pedestrian Committee Members

- **City Staff:**
 - Matt Bazyk
 - Kayla Kirtz
 - Will Bucheger
- **County Active Transportation Committee:** Tammy Lemore
- **Parks, Rec & Forestry Commission:** Nick Erdos-Thayer
- **Senior Commission:** Claudia Fuglie
- **Sustainability Committee:** Nick Heid
- **City Resident:** Anders Hanson
- **Planning Assistance:** Holly Larson, Outdoor Recreation Planner, National Park Service, Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program

Planning Process to Date

City application for National Park Service/Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance program assistance	March 2024
Walkability/bikeability audit	Summer – Fall 2024
Cycle/Ped Ad Hoc Committee formed	December 2024
Public input at Chamber Meet and Greet	Sept 2024
Data gathering & analysis, formulation of goals & draft recommendations	Ongoing
Public input at Chamber Meet and Greet	Sept 2025
Meetings with Engineering staff, County bike/pedestrian coordinator, etc.	Ongoing

New Guidance Documents: What's changed since 2014 Plan?

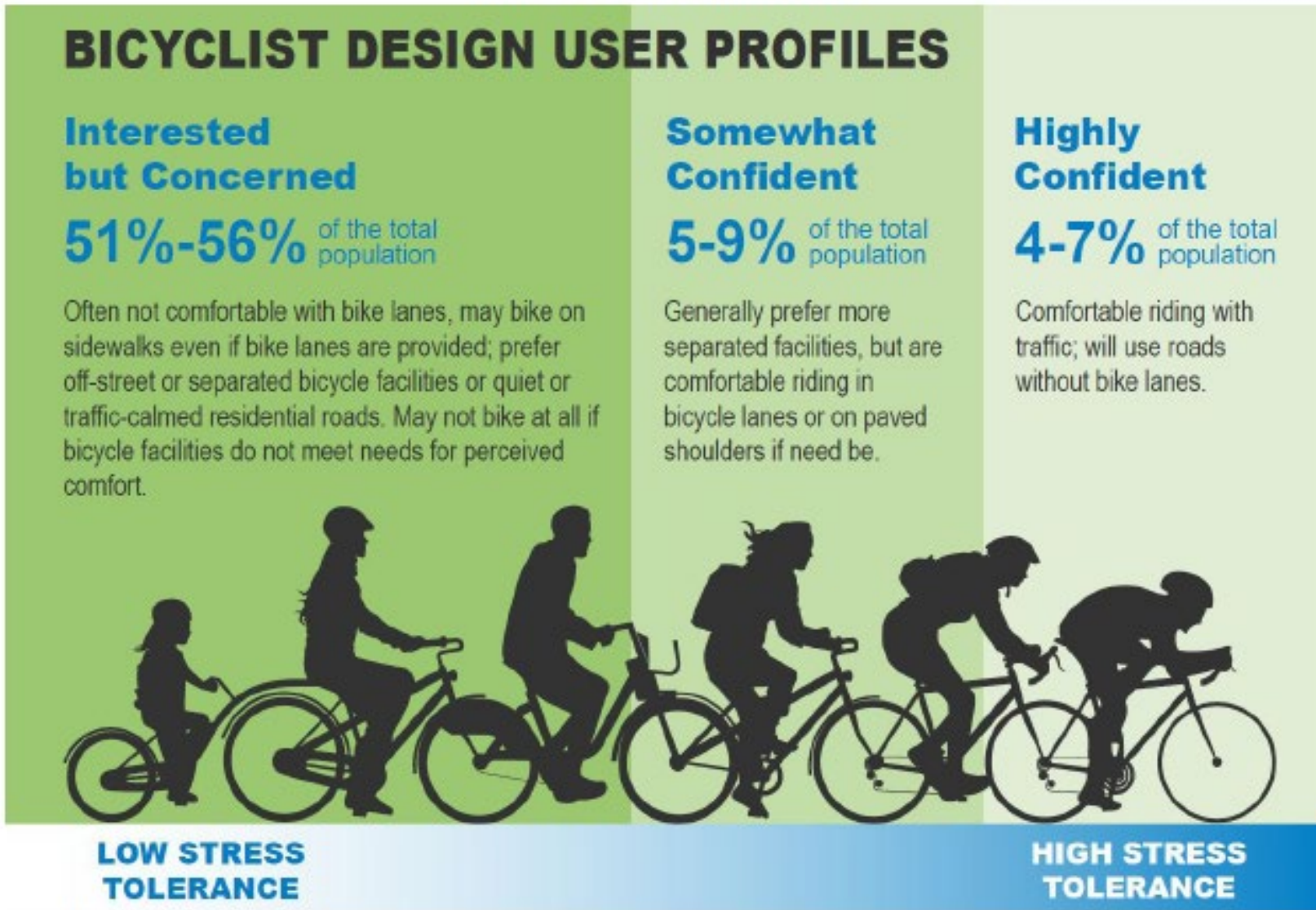
AASHTO Guide for the
Development of Bicycle Facilities,
Dec. 2024

MNDOT Bicycle Facility Design
Manual, Sept. 2024

ADA & ABA Accessibility Guidelines
for the Public Rights of Way, 2023-
24

- Paradigm Shift to Multi-Modal: Complete Streets concept, moving away from decades-long predominant focus on motor vehicles
- Strong emphasis for planning for all ages and abilities
- Much more bicycle & pedestrian safety data available
- New guidelines based on new data
- More flexibility in selecting appropriate treatments

Figure 6: Bicyclist Design User Profiles



Note: the percentages above reflect only adults who have stated an interest in bicycling.

New Safety Data



Benefits of Cycling & Pedestrian Improvements

Reduce accidents, increase safety for cyclists & walkers

Improvements increase perceived safety, encourage more people to walk or cycle more often

Reduce motorized traffic congestion

Reduce motor vehicle emissions, reduce air pollution

Improve access for people with disabilities

Benefits of Cycling & Pedestrian Improvements, contd.

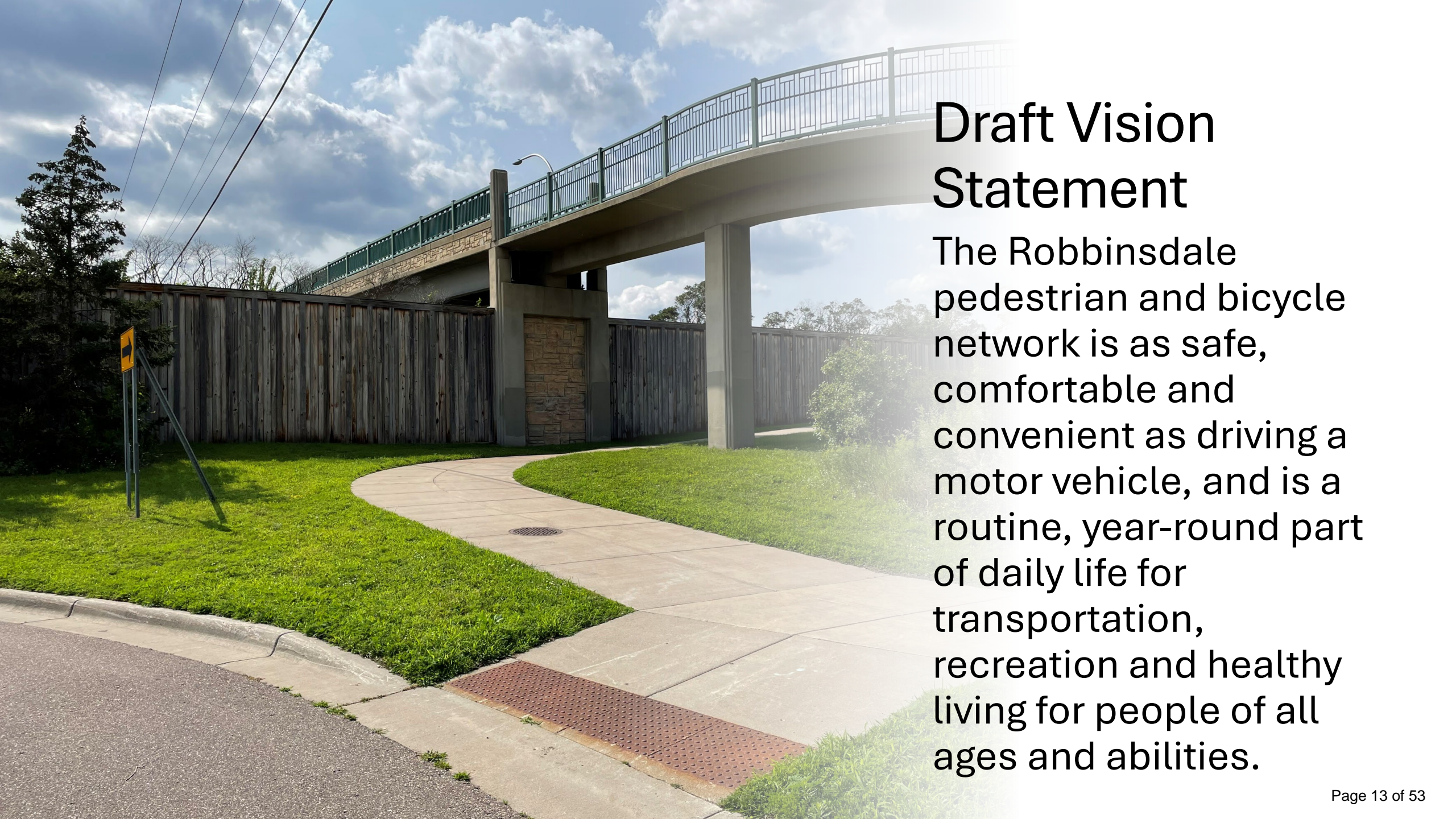
Means of transportation for people without access to vehicles

Safer access to public transit stops

Bring more foot traffic to local businesses

Encourage healthy lifestyles, reducing community health costs

Opportunities for recreational cycling and walking



Draft Vision Statement

The Robbinsdale pedestrian and bicycle network is as safe, comfortable and convenient as driving a motor vehicle, and is a routine, year-round part of daily life for transportation, recreation and healthy living for people of all ages and abilities.

Draft Goals: Cycling & Pedestrian Systems

Cycling System Goal:

- Build upon the existing network of bikeways and multi-use trails to create a robust network that provides safer, more comfortable cycling opportunities for all ability levels to reach destinations with Robbinsdale as well as the surrounding area.

Pedestrian System Goal:

- Improve the existing sidewalk, trail and road crossing network to increase safety and ADA accessibility so that walking is a viable form of transportation and recreation throughout the city.



42nd & W. Broadway

Draft Goals: Accessibility & Safety

Accessibility Goal:

- Improve the pedestrian network so that all public sidewalks, trails and pedestrian crossings meet accessibility standards, and private commercial areas have improved accessibility so that people with disabilities are able to comfortably access the entire city.

Safety Goal:

- Pedestrian and cyclist safety is considered as highly as motor vehicle speed, efficiency and safety in public funding, planning and design decisions



Crossing Hwy 81 at 42nd

Draft Goals: Connectivity & Transportation

Connectivity Goal:

- The Robbinsdale pedestrian and cycling network seamlessly connects to and is compatible with the pedestrian and cycling networks in surrounding communities and the greater metro area.

Transportation Goal:

- The percentage mode share of cycling and walking trips increases by 2035, especially for trips within Robbinsdale, to school within school walk zones, to transit, and to downtown.



Noble Ave. Multi-use Trail

Draft Goals: Recreation & Economic Development

Recreation Goal:

- Increase the connections and wayfinding to and around the local and regional trail system so that cycling and walking is fun and enjoyable for people of all ages.

Economic Development Goal:

- Improve access to and amenities for cyclists and walkers in the downtown and other commercial areas to boost local economy by increasing visits to local commercial establishments.



HyVee Entrance on 36th Ave.

Draft Goals: Wayfinding & Programming

Wayfinding Goal:

- Improve wayfinding for the cycling and pedestrian network with a comprehensive system of signs, maps and online tools so that people can easily navigate to their destinations.

Programming Goal:

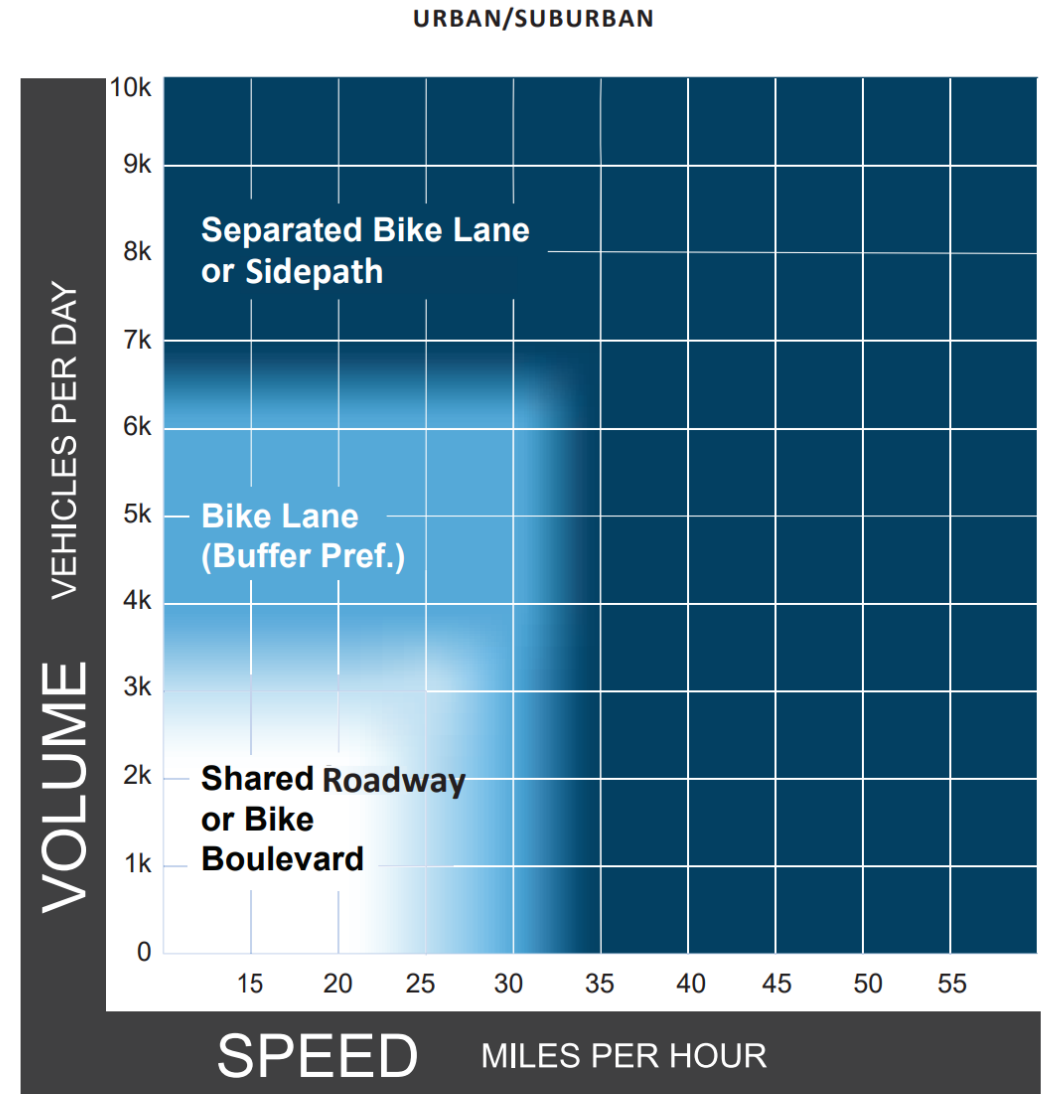
- Work with partners to provide events, activities and programs to inform residents of the pedestrian and cycling network and to promote its use.



Federal Highway Administration & MNDOT's Bikeway Selection Guide

<u>Street</u>	<u>Recommended Bicycle Facility per this Chart</u>
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France, Lake Dr & N	bike lanes, buffer preferred
Lake Dr, 81 – Mpls border	Separated bike lane or sidepath
42 nd /CR 9	Separated bike lane or sidepath
Oakdale	bike lanes, buffer preferred
France, Lakeland to south	Bike lanes, buffer preferred
Broadway	bike lanes, buffer preferred
36 th : 11k-16,700-off the chart	Separated bike lanes or sidepath



Notes

Source: FHWA Bikeway Selection Guide

- 1 Chart assumes operating speeds are similar to posted speeds. If they differ, use operating speed rather than posted speed.
- 2 Advisory bike lanes may be an option where traffic volume is <3K ADT.
- 3 See "Next Best Bicycle Facilities" on page 3-12 for a discussion of alternatives if the preferred bicycle facility type is not feasible.

Bikeway Facility Options

2-Lane Roadway (Shared Use Path Option)



Shared Road Option (Sharrow)



Bikeway Facility Options

2-Lane Roadway (Bike Lane Option)



2-Lane Roadway (Separated Bike Lane Option)



Source: Stamford, CT Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan

Draft Bikeway Recommendation Highlights

General

- Wayfinding signage system
- Consider speed limit reduction
- Add speed limit signs
- More bike racks
- Crosswalk maintenance



Adair & 42nd Ave., border of Crystal

Draft Bikeway Recommendation Highlights

Multi-use Trails on One Side of Street:

42nd Ave. N./County Road 9

West Broadway/County Road 8, north of
42nd

France Ave., north of Lake Drive

Extension of Noble Ave. trail to north to
downtown/Hubbard Ave.

36th Ave. N., west of Noble Ave. to City
border

Hubbard Ave., 38th Ave. to 42nd Ave.



Multi-use Trail along Regent, N of 42nd

Draft Bikeway Recommendation Highlights

Bike Lanes

1. Extend 36th Ave. N. bike lanes east to Hwy 81
2. 40th Ave. & 39th Ave from Hwy 81 west to pedestrian/bike bridge over Hwy 100 (multi-use trail on one side may also be considered)
3. Oakdale Ave., France Ave. to Hwy 81 (partially existing, eliminate sharrows)
4. Discuss potential improvements for 36th Ave. west of Noble with City of Crystal



Lake Drive

Pedestrian Crash Countermeasures

- Always consider
- Implement with other measures

Table 1. Application of pedestrian crash countermeasures by roadway feature.

1. High visibility crosswalk markings, parking restrictions on crosswalk approach, nighttime lighting, warning signs
2. Raised crosswalk
3. Advance Yield/Stop for Pedestrians sign & Yield/Stop line
4. In street pedestrian crossing sign
5. Curb extension
6. Pedestrian refuge island
7. RRFB
8. Road Diet
9. PHB

Roadway Configuration	Posted Speed Limit and AADT								
	Vehicle AADT <9,000			Vehicle AADT 9,000–15,000			Vehicle AADT >15,000		
	≤30 mph	35 mph	≥40 mph	≤30 mph	35 mph	≥40 mph	≤30 mph	35 mph	≥40 mph
2 lanes (1 lane in each direction)	① 2 4 5 6	① 5 6 7 9	① 5 6 ⑦ ⑨	① 4 5 6	① 5 6 7 9	① 5 6 ⑦ ⑨	① 4 5 6 7 9	① 5 6 7 9	① 5 6 ⑨
3 lanes with raised median (1 lane in each direction)	① 2 3 4 5	① ③ 5	① ③ 5	① 3 4 5	① ③ 5	① ③ 5	① ③ 4 5	① ③ 5	① ③ 5
3 lanes w/o raised median (1 lane in each direction with a two-way left-turn lane)	① 2 3 4 5 6 7 9	① ③ 5 6 7 9	① ③ 5 6 ⑨	① 3 4 5 6 7 9	① ③ 5 6 ⑦ ⑨	① ③ 5 6 ⑨	① ③ 4 5 6 7 9	① ③ 5 6 ⑨	① ③ 5 6 ⑨
4+ lanes with raised median (2 or more lanes in each direction)	① ③ 5 7 8 9	① ③ 5 7 8 9	① ③ 5 8 ⑨	① ③ 5 7 8 9	① ③ 5 ⑦ 8 ⑨	① ③ 5 8 ⑨	① ③ 5 ⑦ 8 ⑨	① ③ 5 8 ⑨	① ③ 5 8 ⑨
4+ lanes w/o raised median (2 or more lanes in each direction)	① ③ 5 6 7 8 9	① ③ 5 ⑥ 7 8 9	① ③ 5 ⑥ 8 ⑨	① ③ 5 ⑥ 7 8 9	① ③ 5 ⑥ ⑦ 8 ⑨	① ③ 5 ⑥ 8 ⑨	① ③ 5 ⑥ ⑦ 8 ⑨	① ③ 5 ⑥ 8 ⑨	① ③ 5 ⑥ 8 ⑨

Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB)



Benefits:

55%

reduction in
pedestrian crashes

- Improves motorist yielding for pedestrians by 90%

Rectangular Rapid-Flashing Beacon (RRFB)



Benefit:

47%

reduction in
pedestrian crashes

- Motorist yielding rates as high as 98%

4-to-3 Lane Conversion



Benefits:

47%*

reduction in all crash types

*FHWA sites a range of 19 to 47%

- Provides opportunity for shoulder and/or bike lane
- Reduces crossing distance
- Reduces risk of multiple threat crash

Safety Benefits:

High-visibility crosswalks
can reduce pedestrian injury
crashes up to:

40%¹

Intersection lighting can
reduce pedestrian crashes
up to:

42%²

Advance yield or stop
markings and signs can
reduce pedestrian
crashes up to:

25%³



Source: FHWA

Pedestrian Refuge Island



Benefits:

32%

reduction in
pedestrian crashes

- Reduces pedestrian delay
- Reduces/eliminates multiple threat risk
- Reduces crossing distance
- May influence driver behavior by visually narrowing roadway
- Can be used with unmarked crosswalk

Draft Pedestrian Crossing Improvement

36th at Kyle Ave.



 Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon 0' 5' 10' 20' 30'

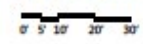
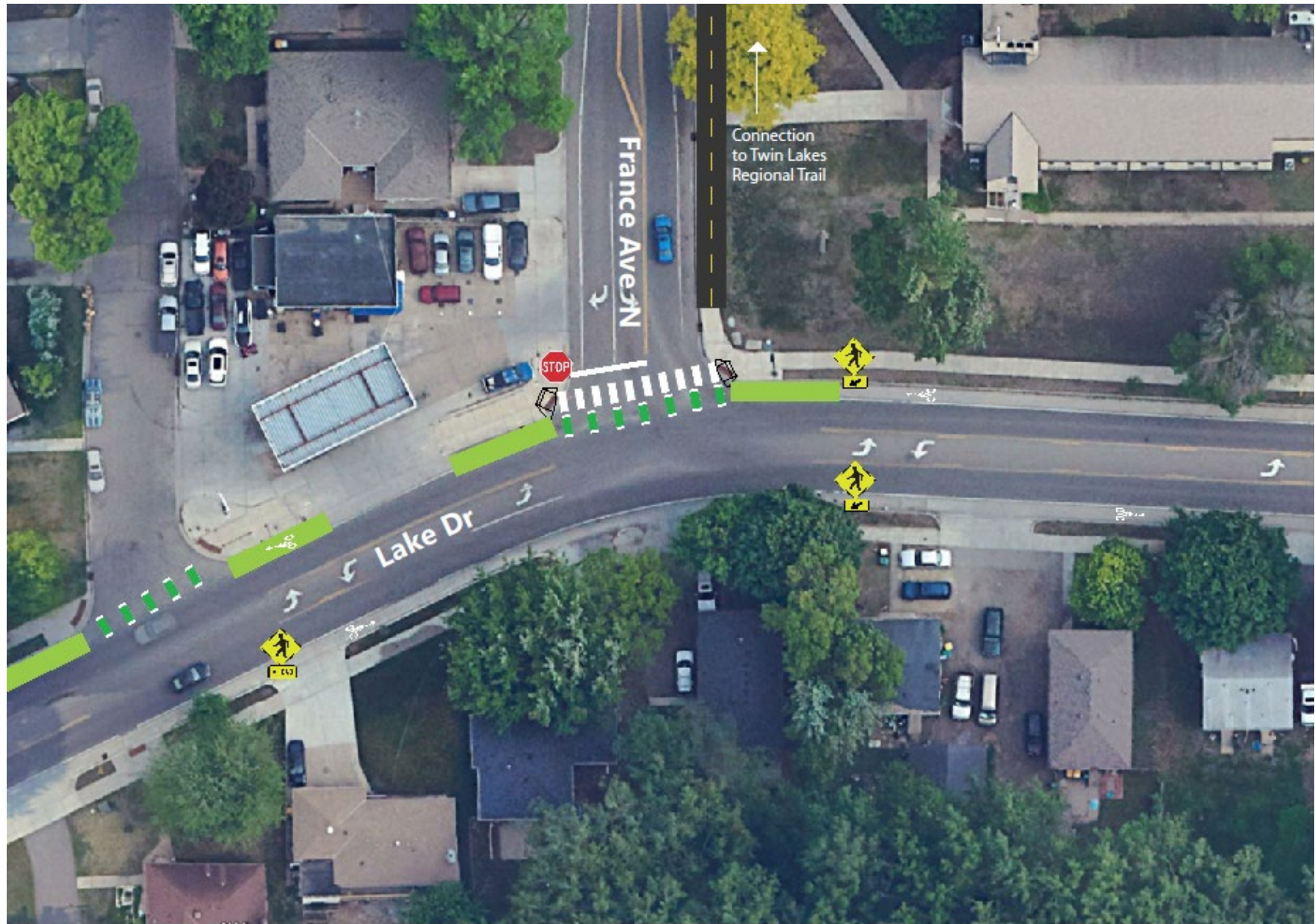
Draft
Pedestrian
Crossing
Improvement

36th at Cub
Foods
Entrance



Draft Pedestrian Crossing & Trail Improvement

Lake Drive and France Ave.



Draft Pedestrian Crossing & Trail Improvement

42nd Ave./CR 9 at Regent Ave.



■ Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon

0' 5' 10' 20' 30'





Des Moines, Iowa



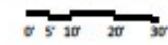
Coxe Ave., Asheville, NC

<https://asphaltart.Bloomberg.org/guide>

Draft
Pedestrian
Crossing &
Bikeway
Improvement

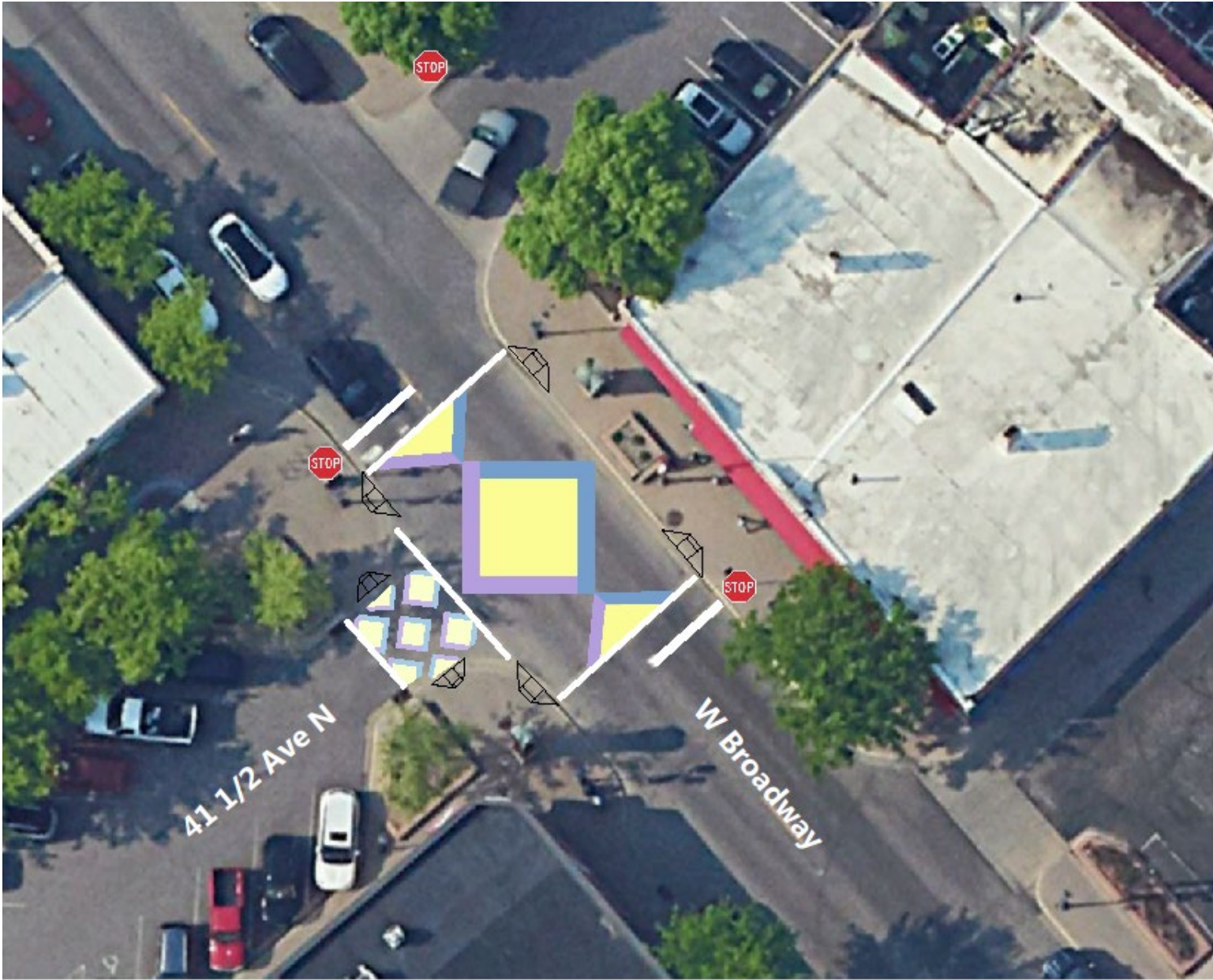
W. Broadway at
40th Ave.

(This
intersection is
planned to be
straightened
out, potentially
with Blue Line
construction.)



Draft
Pedestrian
Crossing
Improvement

West Broadway
at 41-1/2 Ave.



0' 5' 10' 20' 30'

Scale .3 in = 5 ft



Draft Pedestrian Crossing and Trail Improvements

42nd Ave/CR 9 at West Broadway



• Crosswalk Push Button
■ 2-Way Recreation Trail

0' 5' 10' 15' 20'



Funding Sources

Funding Source	Managing Agency
Transportation Alternatives	MnDOT
Federal Recreational Trail Program	MnDNR
Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund	MN Legislative & Citizens Commission on MN Resources
Active Transportation Funding	Metropolitan Council
Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement Grants	MnDOT
Hennepin County Transportation Budget	Hennepin County
Safe Routes to School—State Program	MnDOT
Private & Corporate Grants	Various

Planning Process Next Steps (4-6 months)

1. Create full draft plan
2. Reviews by:
 - A. Cycling & Pedestrian Committee
 - B. City Staff
3. Public Engagement
4. Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission Review
5. City Council Review & Adoption



2025 Meet & Greet



TO: Mayor and City Council
PREPARED BY: Tim Sandvik, City Manager
APPROVED BY: Tim Sandvik, City Manager
DATE: April 14, 2026
RE: Annual Goals and Priorities

Background:

Following the annual Goals and Priorities session in late February, staff is requesting that Council formally adopt the 2026 Top Priority Goals at the April 21 City Council meeting.

Analysis:

Prior to bringing this item to Council for formal adoption, staff is requesting a review of the summary, and DRAFT one-page (both attached).

Recommendation:

NA

Attachments:

1. 2026 Goals DRAFT
2. 2026 Robbinsdale Strategic Leadership Report

Top Priority Goals

- Coordinate Tree Lighting, downtown programming, the Santa Parade, and Small Business Saturday into a more unified seasonal event strategy.
- Identify a funding strategy for the Public Works Building, including evaluation of options such as a local option sales tax.
- Implement the staffing study and achieve identified outcomes.
- Create programs that strengthen relationships between public safety and the community.
- Advance a Downtown Revitalization Initiative and support community events through hosting and partnership.
- Prepare City resources and tools to respond effectively to development opportunities.
- Promote resident safety and clarity related to federal immigration enforcement through policy, training, public messaging, and accessible multilingual information.
- Host Town Hall meetings to support civic engagement and public dialogue.

Opportunity Goals

- Conduct a feasibility study on the Middle School property for redevelopment.
- Enhance the Welcome Experience packet and related outreach.
- Recognize, embrace, and honor Robbinsdale's history while also embracing new realities.
- Implement strategies and make financial decisions that support accomplishment of the 2026 goals program.



City of Robbinsdale 2026 Strategic Leadership Goal Setting Session

February 2026

Executive summary

On February 26, 2026, the Robbinsdale Mayor, City Council, City Manager, Department Heads, and staff convened for a four-hour Strategic Leadership Session focused on setting new goals for 2026. The session used a mix of small-group and large-group discussion to review 2025 goal progress and reflect on Robbinsdale's current condition, identify emerging opportunities and challenges, clarify aspirations for the community and organization, and establish a prioritized short-term goals program for the coming year.

The discussion reflected strong optimism about Robbinsdale's direction. Participants expressed confidence in the City's momentum, the dedication of its people, and the progress already underway in areas such as community engagement, downtown revitalization, public safety capacity, capital projects, and organizational leadership. There was a clear sense that Robbinsdale is well-positioned to build on current successes while responding thoughtfully to changing community needs.

The session also provided an opportunity to assess Robbinsdale's internal strengths and challenges, as well as the external opportunities and threats that will shape decision-making in the near future. Participants identified a talented and creative staff team, strong collaboration, and improving internal systems as organizational assets. At the same time, they acknowledged real pressures related to funding, facilities, staffing capacity, aging systems, and the increasing complexity of service demands and external conditions.

Looking ahead, the conversation reinforced a shared aspiration for Robbinsdale to remain a welcoming, engaged, and service-oriented community that preserves its character and affordability while managing growth, strengthening safety, enhancing downtown vitality, and maintaining an effective, high-performing organization. These themes informed the development of a short-term goals platform designed to help City leadership focus on immediate priorities that support long-term success.

The resulting 2026 goals framework reflects both urgency and opportunity. High Priority Goals identify the most immediate organizational focus areas, while Opportunity Goals represent important initiatives that should be advanced as timing, capacity, and external conditions allow. Together, these goals establish a practical roadmap for leadership and staff as Robbinsdale continues its work in 2026.

Optimism for 2026

Participants expressed optimism about 2026 because they see strong momentum, committed people, and visible progress across several important areas. Community engagement emerged as the strongest source of optimism. Participants pointed to a supportive community, stronger youth engagement, growing civic participation, new involvement, and positive energy as signs that the community is actively invested in Robbinsdale's future. This level of engagement was viewed as both a current strength and an important foundation for continued progress.

Downtown revitalization also stood out as a major source of confidence. Participants conveyed optimism about continued investment, visible improvement, and the strengthening of Robbinsdale's identity and vitality. The downtown remains central to the community's character and future, and

leaders expressed confidence that ongoing efforts in this area can reinforce Robbinsdale's appeal as a destination and a place of pride for residents.

Participants were also encouraged by the dedication of staff and leadership, a strong financial picture, and the presence of major capital projects that can help move priorities forward. Confidence in public safety capacity contributed to the discussion as well, including recognition of a fully staffed Police Department and strong Fire Department personnel. These factors created a broader sense that the organization has the people, leadership, and resources necessary to make meaningful progress in the year ahead.

Additional reasons for optimism included stronger relationships with organizations and partners, continued progress on parks and infrastructure projects, community sustainability and resiliency, ongoing learning, and the ability to see goals begin to come to fruition. Taken together, these themes suggest that optimism about 2026 is grounded not simply in aspiration, but in the belief that important work is already underway and that Robbinsdale is moving in a positive direction.

Assessing Robbinsdale Today

As part of the Strategic Leadership Session, participants assessed Robbinsdale's current landscape through discussion of internal strengths and challenges, as well as the external opportunities and threats that may shape the City's future. This assessment reflected a realistic and balanced understanding of where Robbinsdale stands today and what will be required to continue moving forward effectively.

Participants identified a number of important internal strengths. Foremost among them was the strength of the staff team itself, including the quality of personnel, creativity, problem-solving ability, and the mix of experience, institutional knowledge, and diverse perspectives across the organization. Participants also noted the value of improving technology and internal communication, a positive workplace culture, and productive collaboration between staff and Council. Together, these strengths point to an organization with strong human capital and a solid foundation for future work.

At the same time, participants acknowledged several internal challenges that continue to affect organizational performance. Funding and limited resources were recurring concerns, along with space and facility constraints, staffing and capacity pressures, and the strain of balancing immediate service demands with longer-term priorities. Participants also discussed the impact of outdated systems, practices, and infrastructure, as well as internal communication and onboarding gaps that affect efficiency and continuity. These issues suggest the need for continued attention to organizational alignment, investment, and operational sustainability.

Participants also examined the external environment. Threats identified in the discussion included federal and state uncertainty, shifting policy conditions, funding pressures, broader economic and market challenges, public perception issues, affordability concerns, and growth pressures in relation to neighboring communities. These external dynamics create complexity for local decision-making and reinforce the importance of agility, financial stewardship, and proactive planning.

At the same time, participants identified meaningful external opportunities. Stronger civic engagement, partnerships and mutual aid, redevelopment and tax base growth, education and transit connections, recruitment pipeline opportunities, and learning from neighboring communities were all viewed as

promising avenues for progress. These themes reflect a belief that Robbinsdale is well-positioned to benefit from collaboration, community energy, and strategic growth if it continues to act intentionally.

Overall, the assessment of Robbinsdale today reflected an organization and community with considerable strengths, clear challenges, and real opportunities ahead. The discussion underscored the importance of maintaining a practical, forward-thinking approach that builds on the City's people, partnerships, and momentum while responding to resource constraints and external uncertainty.

Long-Term Vision: Aspirations for the City and Organization

A central portion of the Strategic Leadership Session focused on Robbinsdale's aspirations for the future. Participants articulated a vision for a City that remains welcoming, engaged, and community-centered, while also becoming more resilient, more vibrant, and more effective as an organization. The aspirations discussed during the session reflect both civic values and practical ambitions, offering a longer-term guide for leadership and organizational decision-making.

The strongest aspiration was for Robbinsdale to be a welcoming, engaged community with strong services and a strong sense of belonging. Participants emphasized a desire for Robbinsdale to be a place where people want to live, work, play, and visit, and where services and programming reflect the needs of a diverse community. Community engagement, welcoming practices, and a strong civic culture were seen as essential to that future. This aspiration builds naturally on the optimism already expressed around civic energy and resident involvement.

Participants also expressed a strong desire to preserve affordability and community character while managing growth thoughtfully and maintaining a high quality of life. The discussion reflected a commitment to ensuring that Robbinsdale can evolve and improve without losing the qualities that define it. Maintaining charm, protecting affordability, supporting housing needs, and investing in development, infrastructure, parks, and the tax base were all part of this theme. This aspiration reflects an effort to balance stability and progress in a way that supports both current and future residents.

Community safety also emerged as a significant aspiration, particularly in the context of relationships, trust, and long-term wellbeing. Participants emphasized the importance of fostering meaningful relationships between public safety and the community, and of ensuring that Robbinsdale remains a place where people feel secure, connected, and supported. This theme reflects a broad understanding of safety that includes both public service capacity and the quality of community relationships.

Another key aspiration centered on a vibrant, attractive downtown with strong identity and destination appeal. Participants envisioned a downtown that continues to evolve while preserving its unique character, serving as a hub for activity, events, business growth, and community pride. Ideas connected to aesthetics, pedestrian enhancements, and a broader sense of destination identity suggest that downtown remains central to the City's long-term civic and economic aspirations.

The discussion also reflected an aspiration for an efficient, high-performing City organization with strong staff, strong systems, and long-term sustainability. Participants expressed interest in a City government that is well-run, adaptable, and capable of continued success over time. This includes attention to organizational systems, leadership continuity, effective staff support, and a long-term commitment to service quality. Connected to this was an aspiration to invest in a strong civic campus and public facilities, as well as to improve connectivity and access across the community.

Taken together, these aspirations provide a meaningful guide for Robbinsdale's future. They reflect a community that values belonging, character, safety, vibrancy, and organizational excellence, and they establish a framework for how short-term actions can contribute to broader long-term outcomes.

Updated Short-Term Actionable Goals

The final portion of the session focused on developing a short-term goals program for 2026. Consistent with the goal development approach used in the prior Strategic Leadership process, participants brainstormed actionable goals and then prioritized them based on organizational relevance and visible support. The resulting goals were organized into two categories: High Priority Goals, representing the most immediate and important areas of focus, and Opportunity Goals, representing initiatives that are meaningful and supported but may depend on timing, capacity, or external conditions.

Top Priority Goals

The following goals are the priority of the City of Robbinsdale's focus for 2026. These goals are as follows:

- Coordinate Tree Lighting, downtown programming, the Santa Parade, and Small Business Saturday into a more unified seasonal event strategy.
- Identify a funding strategy for the Public Works Building, including evaluation of options such as a local option sales tax.
- Implement the staffing study and achieve identified outcomes.
- Create programs that strengthen relationships between public safety and the community.
- Advance a Downtown Revitalization Initiative and support community events through hosting and partnership.
- Prepare City resources and tools to respond effectively to development opportunities.
- Promote resident safety and clarity related to federal immigration enforcement through policy, training, public messaging, and accessible multilingual information.
- Host Town Hall meetings to support civic engagement and public dialogue.

Opportunity Goals

The following goals are important to the City of Robbinsdale and will be pursued during 2026 as opportunities present themselves. These goals are as follows:

- Conduct a feasibility study on the Middle School property for redevelopment.
- Enhance the Welcome Experience packet and related outreach.
- Recognize, embrace, and honor Robbinsdale's history while also embracing new realities.
- Implement strategies and make financial decisions that support accomplishment of the 2026 goals program.

Successful implementation will depend on treating these goals as an active management tool. To support follow-through, the City should keep the adopted goals consistently in front of organizational processes by intentionally linking them to annual budgeting, capital planning, departmental work planning, and regular leadership team check-ins. Following adoption, the next steps can be tailored to

the City's preferred implementation approach, with many communities finding it helpful to translate each goal into a simple workplan that clarifies the intended scope, key action steps, roles and responsibilities, partner involvement, general timing milestones, and anticipated resource needs, including any items that may require Council direction along the way. Similarly, establishing a consistent cadence for reviewing progress can provide a practical way to document accomplishments, identify barriers early, adjust to changing conditions, and maintain focus on delivering results that steadily advance the City's long-term vision.

Next Steps

With a clear understanding of Robbinsdale's optimism, current conditions, long-term aspirations, and immediate priorities, the next step is to translate these discussions into an actionable work program for 2026. The High Priority Goals should become the primary focus of organizational attention in the coming year, with clear staff ownership, implementation planning, and regular progress review. Opportunity Goals should remain active and visible so they can be advanced as timing, funding, and organizational capacity allow.

As the City moves forward, continued alignment between Council, staff leadership, and the broader organization will be essential. The themes that emerged during the session point to the importance of balancing day-to-day operational demands with intentional long-range thinking. Ongoing check-ins, progress reporting, and thoughtful recalibration will help ensure that the goals remain relevant and achievable as circumstances evolve throughout the year.

Robbinsdale enters 2026 with strong momentum, a clear sense of purpose, and a leadership team committed to serving the community thoughtfully and proactively. The work completed during this Strategic Leadership Session provides a strong framework for the year ahead and positions the City to continue building on its strengths while addressing current needs and preparing for future opportunity.



TO: Mayor and City Council
PREPARED BY: Tim Sandvik, City Manager
APPROVED BY: Tim Sandvik, City Manager
DATE: April 14, 2026
RE: May 18th Town Hall Planning

Background:

Following an increased, continued series of community engagement opportunities in the first quarter of 2026, the City Council has scheduled a next Town Hall on May 18th, 2026 at 6pm. Staff leadership has committed to be present, including representatives from Administration, Community Development, Engineering, and Public Safety.

Analysis:

Staff will have some materials and suggestions ready to share, but will ask that Council host a conversation to create a framework for the upcoming Town Hall.

Recommendation:

NA

Attachments:

None



TO: Mayor and City Council
PREPARED BY: Matthew Bazyk, Recreation Services Manager
APPROVED BY: Tim Sandvik, City Manager
DATE: April 14, 2026
RE: Sanborn Park Renaming

Background:

Sanborn Park has been in the renaming process since 2023. Staff updated Council in December 2025 on the community feedback and received the directive to focus on utilizing Dakota Language to rename the park. City staff informed Council that in order to utilize Native Language in the naming process, we would need to release the naming rights to the Dakota people and develop continued education within the City and adopt a land acknowledgment statement.

Analysis:

Matt Bazyk has been working with a group of local experts to achieve the renaming goals. This group includes: Sisokaduta, Jim Rock and Crystal Boyd. Bios are below.

Šišókaduta (Wayne Joseph Bendickson) is an enrolled member of the Lake Traverse Reservation and a leading voice in Dakota language revitalization. He currently serves as Linguistic Director of Dakhóta Iápi Okhodakichiye, where he directs development of the Dakhóta Iápi Wičhóie Wówapi Dakota Language Dictionary app and leads language camps and community programming.

For fifteen years, Šišókaduta served as Dakota Language Senior Teaching Specialist at the University of Minnesota–Twin Cities, where he developed the curriculum for beginning and intermediate Dakota language courses, helped establish the world's first undergraduate Dakota language major, and co-created Dakhód'iapi Wahóhpi, a Dakota language nest at the Child Development Laboratory School. He holds a B.A. in American Indian Studies from UMN-TC.

A prolific presenter and researcher, Šišókaduta has shared his work at conferences across the North America, and led a delegation of 32 Dakota and Lakota language teachers on a cultural exchange with Māori language leaders in 2024. His documentary history of the Dakota language, Dakhóta Iápi: A Brief History in Three Parts, received the 2025 Minnesota History Award and the 2024 Virginia B. Kunz Award from the Ramsey County Historical Society.

Šišókaduta serves as Board Chair of Dakhóta Iapi Okhodakichiye and holds board memberships with the Lakota Language Consortium, Makoce Ikikcupi, and the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council Language Working Group.

Jim Rock (Dakota) taught astronomy, chemistry, and physics at Wayzata High School for almost 30 years. He also spearheaded a summer program at the University of Minnesota called Andogiikendassowin / Wasdodyawacinpi (Seek to Know), which introduced students to Indigenous ways of knowing that combine science, music, sacred sites, waterways, and experiential learning. Jim and his wife, Roxanne Gould, continue to support Indigenous-led

projects like Makoce Ikikcupi (Land Recovery) from their home in Golden Valley.

Crystal Boyd grew up in Golden Valley and is a community organizer for the Hñá Wakpádaŋ / Bassett Creek Oral History Project. She has served on the Minnesota Historical Society's Historic Resources Advisory Committee and the Minnesota National Digital Newspaper Program Advisory Board. She volunteers with the Robbinsdale Historical Society and co-hosts the history podcast Robbinsdale Revisited. She earned Bachelor of Arts degrees in English and Spanish from the University of Minnesota and a Master's degree in Museum Studies from the University of Colorado.

After a brief pause in January, due to the disturbances happening around Minneapolis and St. Paul, we have reengaged in conversations on how to rename Sanborn Park. This will include a prayer ceremony, which will be done in private, by a local spiritual or cultural leader. Sisoka is identifying who this individual will be. Once we have the name, we plan on unveiling the new name to the park in the Spring of 2027, along with a new park sign and playground.

Recommendation:

Support the continued work of City Staff to achieve the desired result from the years of City Council, staff and community input during this renaming process.

Attachments:

None



TO: Mayor and City Council
PREPARED BY: Rachel Leen, Communications Coordinator
APPROVED BY: Tim Sandvik, City Manager
DATE: April 14, 2026
RE: Performance Measurement Annual Survey

Background:

In 2010, the Minnesota Legislature created the Council on Local Results and Innovation. In February 2011, the Council released a standard set of ten performance measures for cities that will aid residents, taxpayers, and state and local elected officials in determining the efficacy of cities in providing services and measure residents' opinions of those services. A city that elects to participate in the standard measures/performance measurement program is eligible for a reimbursement of \$0.14 per capita, not to exceed \$25,000 and is also exempt from levy limits under sections 275.50 and 275.74 for taxes payable in the following calendar year, if levy limits are in effect.

In 2019, the Robbinsdale City Council approved the first Resolution adopting ten of the performance measures developed by the Council on Local Results and Innovation. The city has asked a similar set of 10-15 questions in each year of the survey since 2019. In 2025, 316 residents responded to the survey. The questions asked in 2025 were:

1. How long have you lived in Robbinsdale?
2. How would you rate the quality of life in Robbinsdale?
3. When you consider the property taxes you pay and the quality of city services you receive, how would you rate the general value of city services?
4. How would you describe your overall feeling of safety in the city?
5. What is your perception of the quality of services provided by the Robbinsdale Police Department?
6. What is your perception of the quality of fire education, inspection, and response services provided by the Robbinsdale Fire Department?
7. How would you rate the overall condition of city streets?
8. How would you rate the dependability and overall quality of the city water supply?
9. How would you rate the dependability and overall quality of the city sanitary sewer service?
10. How would you rate the city in enforcing the city code on such nuisance issues as parking, exterior storage and inoperable vehicles?
11. How would you rate the quality of communication/distribution of information?
12. How satisfied are you with programming and classes offered by the city's recreation department?
13. Do you find parks accessible, inclusive, and able to promote healthy and active living?

Find more information on the Performance Measurement Program from the Minnesota Office of the State Auditor at: <https://www.osa.state.mn.us/forms-deadlines/forms/performance-measurement-program/>

Analysis:

There is a financial incentive to issue the community survey every year, but it is also a valuable tool for gaining benchmark data and providing Robbinsdale residents with the opportunity to give feedback and assess city services at a high level.

Recommendation:

Staff recommend hosting the annual survey again for the 2026 program year, using the same questions from the 2025 survey. Staff are seeking input from the Council on the recommended survey questions.

Attachments:

None