

AGENDA

1. CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION CALLED TO ORDER

A. VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE NOTICE

Minnesota State Statute 13D.02 allows for Council members to participate in meetings through interactive technology. This notice is to inform the public that Mayor Sutton will be participating in the March 10, 2026, City Council Work Session meeting via interactive technology and Councilmember Caceres Aranda may be participating via interactive technology.

2. ROLL CALL: Blackledge, Greenberg, Parisian, Caceres Aranda, Mayor Sutton

3. DISCUSSION

A. City Hall Native Plantings Project

B. Separation Ordinance — Discuss Expectations for Enforcement, Staff Accountability

C. Ongoing Engagement, Communications

4. STAFF UPDATES

A. Sanborn Park Playground Submissions

B. LRT Updates

C. Popcorn topics

5. COUNCIL UPDATES

6. ADJOURNMENT



TO: Mayor and City Council
PREPARED BY: Kayla Kirtz, Sustainability Coordinator, Stephan Papiz, Forester/Natural Resources Specialist, Jenna Wolf
APPROVED BY: Tim Sandvik, City Manager
DATE: March 10, 2026
RE: City Hall Native Plantings Project

Background:

One of the Robbinsdale Sustainability Committee's top priorities is green spaces and land use. The Committee formally recommended to the City Council in October of 2025 to pursue options to reduce the amount of turf grass on publicly owned land in the City. Further, the Committee recommended starting with City Hall because it is a highly visible, widely used location that represents the values we uphold as a community. Multiple City Council members voiced verbal support for this recommendation. As a result, the Sustainability Coordinator, City Forester/Natural Resources Specialist, and Water Resources Specialist have been working with Prairie Restorations, Inc. (PRI), to develop a proposal that would convert the areas of turf grass around City Hall and on the northern edge of Spanjers Park into a combination of sedge grasses, short prairie plantings, raingarden plantings, and wildflowers. This project would convert approximately one acre of turfgrass into more sustainable plantings that promote erosion control, pollinator habitat, and water retention. PRI is a reputable organization that works with the City on active prairie management projects. The final project proposal from PRI is included as an attachment and will be utilized for this discussion. At the March 3, 2026 City Council meeting, Council approved the submission of an Expedited Conservation Project grant application to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. If awarded the funding, this grant would fully fund the proposed project (approximately \$55,000).

Analysis:

The project would take place in a highly visible and well-trafficked public location. There will be stages of the project that will not be as visually pleasing while the plantings are getting established. We also understand that the public is more generally accustomed to traditional turf grass. We intend to provide Council with a thorough review of the project details, implementation timeline, management plan, and communication strategies so that members of the public have a thorough understanding of the project as it takes place.

Recommendation:

Discuss the project with staff.

Attachments:

1. Final PRI Proposal 19Feb26

Native Planting Proposal

Prepared For:

City of Robbinsdale
4100 Lakeview Ave N,
Robbinsdale, MN 55422

Prepared By:

Tyler Thorndal
Prairie Restorations, Inc.
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Project Areas:

N. Ballfield: 0.34 acres

City Hall: 0.55 acres

Raingarden: 0.01 acre



ABOUT US

Our Mission is to produce the most ecologically appropriate seeds, plants products, and services and to utilize them to restore and manage native plant communities.

Prairie Restorations, Inc. has been committed to restoring and managing native plant communities for over 45 years. During this time, we have partnered with thousands of clients on a diverse array of projects spanning both the public and private sectors across the Midwest.

Our team is comprised of experienced professionals with diverse backgrounds in biology, forestry, natural resources, and beyond. Their expertise and dedication ensure we provide exceptional service at every stage, from consulting and design to installation and management.

We are deeply committed to protecting and enhancing our natural ecosystems, bringing steadfast dedication and proven expertise to every project since 1977. We appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with you and look forward to making an impact together.

~ Your PRI Services Team





WHERE WE ARE

- **Princeton, MN**
(HQ, Services, Retail, Production)
- **Scandia, MN**
(Services, Retail)
- **Watertown, MN**
(Services)
- **Randolph, MN**
(Services)
- **Esko, MN**
(Services, Retail, Production)

With multiple locations across Minnesota, we are well-equipped to serve projects throughout the state and surrounding regions. Additionally, our garden centers in Princeton and Scandia, MN, are open to the public, offering multitudes of resources, inspiration, seed and plants for native landscaping.

We are dedicated to delivering exceptional service and cultivating strong, lasting connections within the communities we serve.

Project Overview

1. Establishing a native landscape creates a sustainable, site-adapted ecosystem that enhances property aesthetics while supporting songbirds, butterflies, bees, and other pollinators. Native plantings play a key role in carbon sequestration, storing carbon in their biomass and roots. They also improve water quality by filtering out pollutants and excess nutrients, aiding in stormwater purification. Moreover, native landscapes restore soils by promoting biodiversity, preventing erosion, and enhancing soil structure and nutrient cycling, resulting in healthier, more resilient ecosystems.
2. The site will be treated with herbicide to eliminate existing vegetation, then tilled and harrowed to create a smooth seedbed. Native grasses and wildflowers will be seeded, followed by straw mulching **or** covered with straw erosion blanket to protect the seed and the project area from erosion, promoting successful germination.
3. Native wildflower and grass plugs will be planted to enhance the diversity and aesthetics of the project.
4. An option is given to plant several species of native shrubs within the project area.

Important Notes:

1. PRI will check in within 90 days after the completion of the installation portion project (if the project is seeded in the fall, the consultation will occur the following spring). PRI will meet with the project owner to assess the status of the project, answer any questions, and provide any necessary recommendations. This follow-up consultation will be provided at no additional cost.
2. It can take native plants/prairies 3 to 5 years to properly establish. During this time, it is the property owner's responsibility to monitor and manage the property for invasive species and engage in Best Management Practices (BMP's) if management services were not agreed upon. Upon request, PRI can prepare a site management plan and conduct services. An estimate for management services will be provided in this proposal.
3. Property owners should understand that there are situations that are out of control of PRI. Such as damage to the landscape due to improper use, neglect, vandalism, animal damage, and Acts of God, and you agree that PRI is not responsible for such events.

Project Areas & Dimensions

The three main project areas are approximately **0.34 acres**, **0.55 acres**, and **0.01 acres**

- 1. The N. Ballfield area (0.34 acres)** is also currently a mix of turf grasses and associated weeds. The site is full sun and has a loamy surface soil. Like the City Hall area, much of the site is characterized by well-drained, drought-prone soils, localized pockets of more mesic conditions occur where soils have been imported or compacted. These areas may retain moisture for short periods following rainfall but are still subject to prolonged drying during extended drought conditions. The species mix will include native plants adapted to both drought-prone sandy soils and localized mesic conditions, allowing the planting to respond to site variability and promote long-term establishment and resilience.
- 2. The City Hall area (0.55 acres)** is currently a mix of turf grasses and associated weeds. The zones are comprised of about 10 polygons separated by concrete sidewalks or curbs. The site is full sun to part shade and has a loamy surface soil. The site is underlain by sand and gravel surficial deposits; however, soil conditions in landscaped and turf-managed areas have been significantly altered by past development, grading, and compaction. While near-surface soils may exhibit reduced infiltration and localized ponding following precipitation, the underlying sandy parent material promotes rapid drainage and drought-prone conditions at depth. Restoration design will account for these altered surface conditions while emphasizing plant communities tolerant of both periodic compaction-related moisture and long-term dry soil conditions.
- 3. The Raingarden area (0.01 acres)** is currently vegetated with cattails and Canadian thistle. The site is full sun and located within the most western polygon adjacent to City Hall. The city will prepare the area by scraping out the vegetation and sediment. The site is expected to experience short-term ponding following rainfall events, followed by rapid drainage and extended dry periods due to the underlying sand. The seed mix will consist of native species adapted to fluctuating moisture conditions to support infiltration, plant establishment, and long-term site resilience.





Site Preparation

1. In the spring, apply glyphosate herbicide with triclopyr, to the growing vegetation in the project area. Allow a minimum of 10 days before disturbing the vegetation with other procedures. The raingarden area will have its surface soils scraped by city staff prior to the growing season.
2. Allow the site to “green-up,” then apply a glyphosate herbicide in areas with growing vegetation. Allow a minimum of 10 days before disturbing the vegetation with other procedures.
3. Harley-rake or lightly till the soil to a depth of 2-4 inches.
4. The client will identify and mark any obstacles or shallow utilities (irrigation/low voltage wire) in the project area that may hinder site preparation.

Seed & Seeding

1. Seeding can occur during the growing season up to freeze-up, and in some instances after freeze-up. This project will be seeded in June/July of 2026.
2. The graminoid seed plus a cover-crop will be spread by broadcasting throughout the project areas.
3. A raking will follow to incorporate the graminoid seed into the soil.
4. The forb seed will be spread by broadcasting onto the soil surface after the raking.
5. Rolling or cultipacking will follow the seeding.

Project Seed Mixes

Below is the seed mixes proposed for your site. Each description includes the specific species, the percent of the mix, and overall seeding rate for your project site.

Grass Seed Mixes

lbs./project area

Robbinsdale City Hall Sedge Meadow Graminoid Mix (Block C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J):

7% Plains Oval Sedge, 10% Woodland Sedge, 6% Wood Sedge, 7% Field Oval Sedge, 7% Bicknel's Sedge, 5% Long-beaked Sedge, 5% Many-flowered Wood Rush, 7% Porcupine Grass, 13% Sideoats Grama, 8% Blue Grama, 13% little bluestem, 7% Poverty Oats, 4% June Grass, **all by PLS weight**..... **3.0 lbs.**

Robbinsdale City Hall Short Prairie Graminoid Mix (Block B, K):

35% Little Bluestem, 25% Sideoats Grama, 15% Blue Grama, 4% June Grass, 3% Plains Oval Sedge, 10% Porcupine, 5% Rough Dropseed, 3% Sand Dropseed, **all by PLS weight**..... **2.5 lbs.**

Robbinsdale Ballfield Graminoid Mix (Block A):

15% Big Bluestem, 20% Sideoats Grama, 4% Prairie Brome, 4% Canada Wild Rye, 1% June Grass, 2% Blue Grama, 5% Slender Wheatgrass, 5% Sand Dropseed, 5% Prairie Dropseed, 12% Indiangrass, 5% Porcupine Grass, 2% Long-beaked Sedge, 20% Little Bluestem, **all by PLS weight**..... **4.0 lbs.**

Robbinsdale Raingarden Graminoid Mix (Block R):

12% River Bulrush, 4% Bottlebrush Sedge, 5% Hop Sedge, 3% Retrorse Sedge, 6% Pointed-broom Sedge, 3% Northwest Territory Sedge, 7% Fox Sedge, 6% Rattlesnake Manna Grass, 20% Big Bluestem, 8% American Manna Grass, 4% Fowl Manna Grass, 4% Dark Green Bulrush, 12% Fringed Brome, 1% Woolgrass, 5% Softstem Bulrush, **all by PLS weight**..... **0.25 lbs.**

Wildflower Seed Mixes

oz./project area

Robbinsdale City Hall Sedge Meadow Forb Mix (Block C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J):

2% Common Yarrow, 3% Butterfly Milkweed, 2% Whorled Milkweed, 3% White Prairie Clover, 3% Purple Prairie Clover, 2% Fragrant Hyssop, 2% Northern Bedstraw, 4% Rough Blazing Star, 12% Black-eyed Susan, 5% Gray Goldenrod, 4% Upland White Goldenrod, 2% Stiff Goldenrod, 2% Showy Goldenrod, 4% Smooth Blue Aster, 2% Prairie Spiderwort, 2% Western Spiderwort, 5% Hoary Vervain, 5% Golden Alexanders, 3% Prairie Phlox, 5% Lance-Leaf Coreopsis, 4% Long-Headed Coneflower, 2% Nodding Onion, 2% Prairie Onion, 3% Leadplant, 2% Bush Clover, 13% Wild Lupine, 2% Heath Aster, **all by PLS weight**..... **10.0 oz.**

Robbinsdale City Hall Short Prairie Forb Mix (Block B, K):

2% Columbine, 7% Wild Lupin, 1% Foxglove Beardtongue, 1% Fragrant Hyssop, 5% Partridge Pea, Lance-Leaf 2% Coreopsis, 2% Narrow-leaved Coneflower, 1% Long-Headed Coneflower, 2% Prairie Onion, 8% Purple Prairie Clover, 10% Black-eyed Susan, 7% White Prairie Clover, 8% Golden Alexanders, 2% Gray Goldenrod, 5% Hoary Vervain, 4% Prairie Cinquefoil, 4% Upland White Goldenrod, 4% Western Spiderwort, 3% Common Yarrow, 3% Butterfly Milkweed, 3% Northern Bedstraw, 2% Whorled Milkweed, 2% Rough Blazing Star, 2% Stiff Goldenrod, 2% Showy Goldenrod, 2% Prairie Spiderwort, 6% Sky Blue Aster, **all by PLS weight**..... **8.0 oz.**

Robbinsdale Ballfield Forb Mix (Block A):

1% Common Yarrow, 4% Fragrant Giant Hyssop, 4% Leadplant, 1% Common Milkweed, 1% Butterfly Milkweed, 10% White Prairie Clover, 13% Purple Prairie Clover, 5% Common Ox-eye, 3% Stiff Sunflower, 4% Bush Clover, 2% Rough Blazing Star, 2% Meadow Blazing Star, 2% Wild Bergamot, 10% Black-eyed Susan, 5% Stiff Goldenrod, 3% Showy Goldenrod, 4% Smooth Blue Aster, 4% Blue Vervain, 5% Hoary Vervain, 1% Culver's Root, 10% Golden Alexanders, 1% Heath Aster, 1% Prairie Sage, 1% Tall Thimbleweed, 1% Northern Bedstraw, 1% Yellow Coneflower, **all by PLS weight**..... **23.0 oz.**

Robbinsdale Raingarden Forb Mix (Block R):

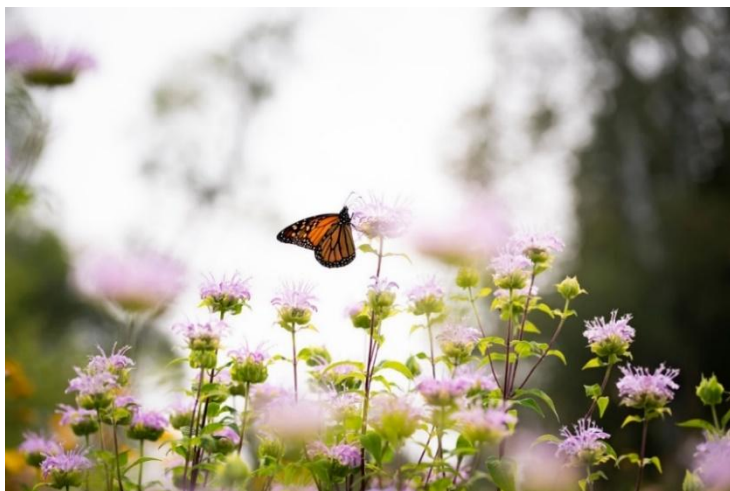
4% Sweet Flag, 2% Fragrant Giant Hyssop, 2% Water Plantain, 2% Canada Anemone, 11% Swamp Milkweed, 3% Flat-topped Aster, 1% Grass-leaved Goldenrod, 8% Joe Pye Weed, 3% Boneset, 7% Sneezeweed, 10% Blue Flag Iris, 2% Tall Blazing Star, 2% Great Blue Lobelia, 1% Monkey Flower, 2% Mountain Mint, 3% Cutleaf Coneflower, 4% Common Arrowhead, 2% Panicked Aster, 2% Bog Goldenrod, 19% Giant Bur Reed, 2% Red-Stalked Aster, 2% Purple Meadow Rue, 2% Ironweed, 4% Blue Vervain, **all by PLS weight**..... **6.5 oz.**

Erosion Control

1. Cover crop will be sown along with native grasses at approximately **25 lbs./acre**. Cover crops are an annual grass species that germinates quickly and reduces the risk of soil erosion. Oats will be used for spring or summer, and winter wheat will be used for fall.
2. The **Ballfield** area will be mulched with clean straw at the rate of 1.5 tons per acre. The straw will then be anchor disked into place.
3. Erosion blanket (CAT 20 – Straw or equivalent) will be applied per the manufacturer's directions to the **City Hall** and **Raingarden** areas.

Why Live Plants?

Native seeds, while invaluable in restoration projects, are sometimes only available for a limited number of species. This constraint can limit the breadth of ecological diversity achievable only through seeding. To mirror the rich tapestry of a natural ecosystem and foster biodiversity, incorporating live plants into your project is essential. Using mature plants not only introduces a broader spectrum of species, but it accelerates the establishment of the habitat. This offers the benefit



of creating a stable ecosystem and suppressing the emergence of unwanted weeds, as the plants outcompete unwanted species. Integrating a mix of both seeds and live plants presents the most holistic approach to ecological restoration and landscaping.

Plants & Planting

1. Following the implementation of erosion control measures, the planting will be further diversified with native wildflower or grass plants (plugs). These will be planted in appropriate microhabitats or in designated areas of the project.
2. Plant a total of 96 plugs of wetland and upland species in the **Raingarden** area, 1,002 “shorter” plugs for the other areas around **City Hall**, and 720 plugs for the **Ballfield** area.
3. The live plants will receive initial watering at the time of planting.

Please see the following list for plant species. Plants will be chosen based on current availability and will focus primarily on species not included in the seed mix. Approximately 10-15 species will be selected for each planting area. Please let the Project Manager or salesperson know if you have any preferences.

This is a comprehensive list of plants that could potentially be planted throughout the areas stated above. Some species may only be suitable for specific microhabitats within each area.

Wildflowers

Upland Wildflowers:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Meadow garlic (<i>Allium canadense</i>) | Meadow blazing star (<i>Liatris ligulistylis</i>) |
| Prairie onion (<i>Allium stellatum</i>) | Carolina puccoon (<i>Lithospermum carolinense</i>) |
| Pasque flower (<i>Anemone patens</i>) | Wood lily (<i>Lilium philadelphicum</i>) |
| Pussytoes (<i>Antennaria neglecta</i>) | Wild lupine (<i>Lupinus perennis</i>) |
| Wild white indigo (<i>Baptisia lactea</i>) | Horsemint (<i>Monarda punctata</i>) |
| Yellow Sundrops (<i>Calylophus serrulatus</i>) | Prairie ragwort (<i>Packera plattensis</i>) |
| Prairie coreopsis (<i>Coreopsis palmata</i>) | Prairie phlox (<i>Phlox pilosa</i>) |
| Silky prairie clover (<i>Dalea villosa</i>) | Mountain mint (<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>) |
| Carolina larkspur (<i>Delphinium carolinianum</i>) | Prairie buttercup (<i>Ranunculus fascicularis</i>) |
| Yellow gentian (<i>Gentiana flavida</i>) | Yellow coneflower (<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>) |
| Prairie smoke (<i>Geum triflorum</i>) | Prairie rose (<i>Rosa arkansana</i>) |
| Maximilian's sunflower (<i>Helianthus maximiliani</i>) | Meadow rose (<i>Rosa blanda</i>) |
| Stiff sunflower (<i>Helianthus pauciflorus</i>) | Early figwort (<i>Scrophularia lanceolata</i>) |
| Common ox-eye (<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>) | Compass plant (<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>) |
| Golden aster (<i>Heterotheca villosa</i>) | Blue-eyed grass (<i>Sisyrinchium campestre</i>) |
| Alumroot (<i>Heuchera richardsonii</i>) | Smooth aster (<i>Symphotrichum laeve</i>) |
| Long-leaved bluets (<i>Houstonia longifolia</i>) | Aromatic aster (<i>Symphotrichum oblongifolium</i>) |
| Two-flowered Cynthia (<i>Krigia biflora</i>) | Azure aster (<i>Symphotrichum oolentangiense</i>) |
| Rough blazing star (<i>Liatris aspera</i>) | Silky aster (<i>Symphotrichum sericeum</i>) |

Raingarden Wildflowers:

- | | |
|---|--|
| Sweet flag (<i>Acorus americanus</i>) | Great blue lobelia (<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>) |
| Swamp milkweed (<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>) | Monkey flower (<i>Mimulus ringens</i>) |
| Turtlehead (<i>Chelone glabra</i>) | Obedient plant (<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>) |
| Boneset (<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>) | Calico aster (<i>Symphotrichum lateriflorum</i>) |
| Grass-leaved goldenrod (<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>) | New England aster (<i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i>) |
| Joe-Pye weed (<i>Eutrochium maculatum</i>) | Red-stalked aster (<i>Symphotrichum puniceum</i>) |
| Bottle gentian (<i>Gentiana andrewsii</i>) | Tall meadow rue (<i>Thalictrum dasycarpum</i>) |
| Wild iris (<i>Iris versicolor</i>) | Ironweed (<i>Vernonia fasciculata</i>) |
| Michigan lily (<i>Lilium michiganense</i>) | Culver's root (<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>) |
| Cardinal flower (<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>) | |

Integrated Plant Management (IPM)

Effective management is essential for the success of any native landscape installation, especially during the establishment phase. Active management is recommended to maximize the project's success.

In the germination year, mowing may be required to manage annual weeds. If a dense canopy develops, mowing helps reduce competition and supports prairie seedling growth. Mowing is also necessary if weeds are nearing seed production. PRI can provide these services as needed.

In following years, Integrated Plant Management (IPM) services are used to control annual, biennial, and perennial weeds in the planting. IPM practices include spot herbicide applications, spot mowing, or full-site mowing. These services are billed per trip, with costs agreed upon before the growing season.

When the planting matures, prescribed burning is recommended to promote native species and suppress invasive plants. Alternatively, Spring Dormant Mowing can clear old growth and prepare the site for the new season. Both services are offered as separate lump-sum options.

Anticipated Management Schedule:

(Post Establishment Period)

Year(s)	Management Strategies
Installation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project monitoring • Selective site mowing to manage unwanted weed growth
2027 IPM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete / selective site mowings to control annual weed canopy (3 to 4 mowings as needed) • Project monitoring
2028 IPM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selective site mowing • Integrated Plant Management (IPM) - spot spraying, wicking, hand weeding, and a combination of other techniques to control weeds and invasive species. (3 to 4 visits as needed) • Project monitoring
2029 IPM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Plant Management (IPM) (3 to 4 visits are typical) • Project monitoring
2030 RX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After the 3rd IPM season, conduct a spring burn to encourage native plant growth and deter invasive species.

Terms & Conditions

By signing this contract, you agree to the terms and conditions stated below.

Project Cost: The customer agrees to the entire project cost as outlined in **Estimate #8433** provided by Prairie Restorations, Inc. The amount detailed in this estimate represents the full and final cost for the project unless adjustments are agreed upon as outlined in the "Price Variance" provision. By signing this agreement, the customer acknowledges and accepts the entire scope and cost of the project as stated in **Estimate #8433**.

Entire Agreement: This agreement represents the entire understanding between the parties and supersedes any previous communication or agreements that may exist.

Acknowledgment of Terms: Each party acknowledges that they have read this agreement, understand the terms of this agreement, and have signed this agreement voluntarily.

Amendment: This agreement can be amended only by a written document signed by both parties.

Force Majeure: Prairie Restorations, Inc. shall not be liable for any failure of, or delay in, the performance of this agreement for the period that such failure or delay is beyond the reasonable control of Prairie Restorations, Inc. and could not reasonably have been foreseen or provided against. These occurrences include but are not limited to weather, drought, wildlife, etc.

Governing Law: This agreement shall be governed, construed, and enforced in accordance with the laws of the state of Minnesota.

Waiver: Failure or neglect to enforce any rights under this agreement does not construe an agreement to waive any right in the future. A waiver or extension is only effective if it is in writing and signed by the party granting it. No single or partial exercise of any right or remedy will preclude any other or further exercise of any right or remedy.

Payment Terms: A deposit of 50% of the total installation project is required before the commencement of work, with the remaining balance due upon project completion. This does not include Integrated Plant Management.

Late Payments: Any amount not paid when due will bear interest from the due date until paid at a rate equal to [1]% per month ([12.68]% annually) or the maximum allowed by Law, whichever is less.

Severability: If any part of this agreement is declared unenforceable or invalid, the remainder will continue to be valid and enforceable.

Markings & Flagging: The customer agrees to indemnify Prairie Restorations, Inc. for any damages to property caused by improper or no marking or flagging of necessary areas (i.e. septic tank, gutters, etc.). The customer is responsible for marking or flagging any areas that may be vulnerable to damage from Prairie Restorations' equipment in a manner visible to our team. The client will also communicate any potential obstructions to Prairie Restorations, Inc. to avoid damage.

Change Order: If changes to the project scope are requested by the customer or become necessary due to unforeseen conditions, Prairie Restorations will issue a written change order detailing the proposed modifications and any associated adjustments to the project cost or timeline. No changes will be implemented without prior consultation and the property owner’s written approval of the change order.

Price Variance: Customer agrees that they have fully disclosed the full project scope including but not limited to project areas and dimensions, existing vegetation, prior site history, and any other relevant information.

- a. If a situation or condition arises that materially impacts on the execution or pricing of this agreement and was not disclosed to Prairie Restorations prior to this agreement, the customer understands that this contract may become void. In such cases, the contract may be amended, or a new proposal may be issued, as appropriate.
- b. The customer agrees to indemnify and hold Prairie Restorations, Inc., harmless from any liability resulting from property damage caused by the customer's omission or failure to provide necessary information.

Burning Liability Disclaimer: It is the responsibility of the property owner to visibly mark and notify the crew of any objects in the burn area that need to be protected. Prairie Restorations will not be held liable for any damage to property that was not marked appropriately.

- Objects will be marked at a height to be seen above vegetation and visible from our equipment,
- Potential obstacle/hazard items include but are not limited to:

Underground or above-ground fencing	Electrical boxes
Irrigation nozzles	Septic caps
Drainage culverts	Lights or other man-made installations
Landscaping	Decorative rock
Ornamental plants	Trees and shrubs

While Prairie Restorations will make every effort to protect all identified trees and shrubs within, and surrounding the burn unit, it may be unavoidable to protect some trees from temporary cosmetic damage. Prairie Restorations will not be responsible for any damage that occurs if the landowner mows their own burn breaks.

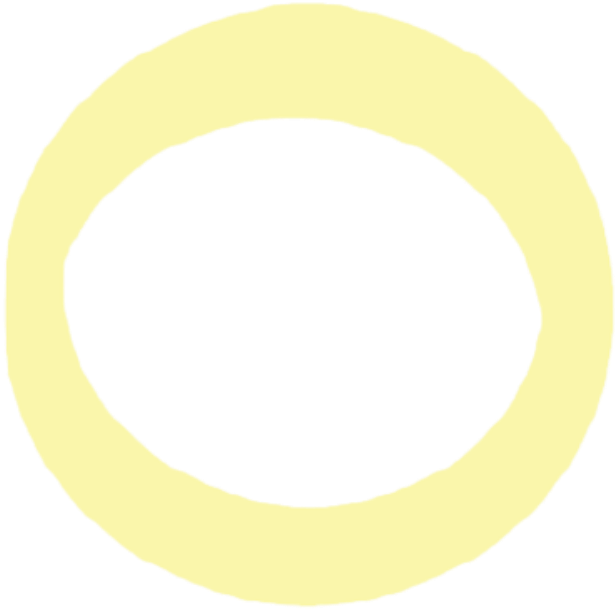
Due to the sensitivity of fire, burns will be conducted only when environmental conditions are feasible and safe. Conditions affecting burns include but are not limited to relative humidity, wind direction and speed, soil moisture, rain, and current vegetation type. Spring Prescribed Burns are conducted generally during March-June.

- I understand that Spring Prescribed Burns are conducted during March-June. Prairie Restorations Inc. will make efforts to conduct the prescribed burn during these months but cannot guarantee completion. If the burn is not completed during the scheduled year, the burn will be moved to the priority list the following burn season.
 - I give Prairie Restorations Inc. prior authorization to enter the property and conduct the burn during these months. Prairie Restorations, Inc., does not need to contact me prior to conducting burning activities.
- OR –
- I would like to be contacted prior to any burning activities taking place on my property.

Estimate Number: #8433 and 8434

Proposal Validity: This proposal is valid for 30 days from the date of the proposal.

Customer Name	Customer Signature	Date
Salesperson Name	Salesperson Signature	Date



Thank you
for trusting
us with your
restoration
project.





TO: Mayor and City Council
PREPARED BY: Tim Sandvik, City Manager
APPROVED BY: Tim Sandvik, City Manager
DATE: March 10, 2026
RE: Separation Ordinance — Discuss Expectations for Enforcement, Staff Accountability

Background:

Council discussed actionable items related to Operation Metro Surge at the January 13, 2026 Work Session - staff was directed to draft language to be considered as an Emergency Ordinance for review on February 10th and enacted on February 17th. At the February 10th Work Session, Amendments were proposed, and ultimately incorporated into a First Reading of a Separation Ordinance on February 17th.

Analysis:

At the first reading of an Ordinance Adding New Language to xx Relating to Administration and Employee Authority in Immigration Matters (attached), Council motioned and supported continued discussion on a prior version considered as an Emergency Ordinance (attached). A second reading is scheduled for March 17th, 2026, and would go into effect 30 days thereafter.

At this point, staff is needing clarification on expectations related to enforcement. If the City Manager is being directed to interpret language, that needs to be explicitly stated for a variety of reasons.

Recommendation:

Staff will introduce the item, seek clarity on outstanding items, and confirm next steps for the March 17th, 2026 Council Meeting.

Attachments:

1. Ordinance Adding New Language - Admin and Employee Authority in Immigration Matters DRAFT
2. DRAFT (Emergency) Ord 26 - xx

Member _____ moved and Member _____ seconded a motion that the following Ordinance, be given its first reading on February 17, 2026.

ORDINANCE 26 –

AN ORDINANCE ADDING NEW LANGUAGE TO xxx RELATING TO ADMINISTRATION AND EMPLOYEE AUTHORITY IN IMMIGRATION MATTERS

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROBBINSDALE DOES ORDAIN

- 1) The Robbinsdale’s city code Chapter(s) xxx, and xxx, be amended with the following language:

Section 1 - xxx – Purpose and Policy. The City of Robbinsdale recognizes that our community includes people of many races, ethnicities, Tribes, and nationalities; that our community is linguistically and culturally diverse; that our community includes people of different gender identities and sexual orientations, including people who are transgender and non-binary; that our community includes LGBTQ+ people; that our community includes people of different religions and people who are not affiliated with any religion; that our community includes immigrants, both recent and historical, both documented and undocumented; that our community includes people with different abilities and disabilities; that our community includes people of all ages, from babies to elders; that our community includes people who receive public benefits including economic assistance, health care coverage, nutrition assistance, child care supports, small business and other types of loans and grants, road and highway maintenance, access to state and national parks, and other services; that our community is made up of people from all walks of life, who may be employed, unemployed, and underemployed, who are renters, homeowners and the unhoused; in sum, that our community is made up of a diverse population with different identities, cultures, experiences, and means and that the use of city property and personnel in federal civil immigration matters threatens to erode the trust this vibrant and diverse community has in the City and its services.

Section 2 – xxx - Definitions. *City Property* means real property owned by the City of Robbinsdale, the Robbinsdale Economic Development Authority, or any other public body established by the City including parks, lots, out lots, buildings, parking lots and parking structures; but not including right-of-way, public streets, and sidewalks. City Property also includes property generally open to the public, and non-public property such as City utilities and spaces designated as employee-only or secured access for entry.

Staging Operations means actions taken to mobilize, prepare, or deploy vehicles, equipment, materials, or personnel for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law.

Section 3 – xxx - General Services. City employees are to carry out regular duties for the purpose of general services and programs. City employees shall follow general city, state, and federal guidelines to assess eligibility for services. City employees shall only solicit immigration information or inquire about immigration status when specifically required to do so by law or program guidelines as a condition of eligibility for the service sought. City employees may require evidence of a person’s identity and may ask to see a person’s identifying documents only when specifically authorized and required to do so by the



employee's duties. City employees shall not discriminate against any current or potential service users on the basis of any of the protected categories defined by statute, federal law, or immigration status.

Other than where required by law, City employees, representatives, and contractors shall not use city resources (e.g., facilities, property, moneys, equipment, data, technology, video, computers or personnel) for the purpose of enforcing federal civil immigration laws. Employees shall, when required by law, comply with any properly issued judicial subpoena or other compulsory legal process for the production of documents or witnesses, even if related to immigration issues. Employees shall comply with I-9 audits performed by the federal government.

Other than as required by law, City employees, representatives, and contractors shall not collect, maintain, disclose, or share information regarding an individual's immigration or citizenship status for the purpose of enforcing federal civil immigration laws. No City employee, representative, or contractor shall voluntarily provide personal information, records, or data for civil immigration enforcement purposes unless required by law, court order or judicial warrant.

Where presentation of a Minnesota Driver's license is customarily accepted as adequate evidence of identity, presentation of a photo identity document issued by the person's nation of origin, shall be accepted and shall not subject the person to a higher level of scrutiny or different treatment than if the person had provided a Minnesota driver's license. This paragraph does not apply to I-9 forms.

The city shall provide information and training in new employee training and on-going training regarding expectations set forth in this chapter.

Section 4 – xxx – Access to City Property. No individual or federal, state, or local agency may use or access City Property for the purpose of staging operations, except the use of City Property authorized by a judicial warrant, subpoena or other similar lawful authorization. Federal, state, or local government entities or personnel will not receive special or enhanced access to City Property for operations enforcing federal immigration law.

City employees and representatives do not have the authority to consent to a request to access non-public City Property for the purpose of enforcing federal civil immigration laws, except pursuant to a judicial warrant, court order, or other legal obligation requiring such access.

Section 5 – xxx - Public Safety Services. To the extent permitted by law, in providing public safety services, employees of the police and fire departments, shall:

- a. Not undertake any law enforcement action for the purpose of enforcing immigration laws or verify immigration status.
- b. Not question, arrest, or detain any person for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration laws.

Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit public safety personnel from assisting federal law enforcement officers in the investigation of criminal activity involving individuals present in the United States who may also be in violation of federal civil immigration laws.

Section 6 – xxx – Reporting Requirements.

Subdivision 1. Reporting. City employees or City public officials who observe or identify use of City resources for one of the purposes prohibited in Section 3, or who denies a request to use City resources for one of those purposes, must provide a report to the City Manager as soon as reasonably practicable and in no event later than 5 business days of observing, identifying, or denying City resources, including the following:

1. Date of request for resources were observed or identified as used for a prohibited purpose;
2. The identity of the individual or agency requesting use of City resources for a prohibited purpose or who was observed or identified as using City resources for a prohibited purpose;
3. A summary description of the City resources requested or used;



4. The prohibited purpose for which City resources were used or for which request for City resources was denied.

Subd. 2. Annual Report. The City Manager shall prepare and make publicly available an annual aggregate report summarizing compliance with this chapter. The report may be presented to the City Council and published in a manner consistent with the City’s usual practices regarding transparent government. and should include, at minimum, a description of:

1. The number of requests received for use of city resources for purposes prohibited by this chapter;
2. The number of requests denied;
3. The number of instances in which prohibited use of City resources was observed or identified;
4. The general types of agencies involved.

The annual report shall not include personally identifiable information. No information that would otherwise required to be reported under this chapter may be reported in a manner that would violate any applicable federal, state, or local law or regulation relating to the data privacy and classification of information, including the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act.

Section 7 – xxx – Compliance with Law. Nothing in this chapter should be construed to violate state or federal law or to prohibit City employees from providing data or services when required by state or federal law.

Section 8 – xxx -Severability. If any section, clause, provision, or portion of this chapter is judged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, that part may be severed and shall not invalidate or affect the enforceability or the remainder of this chapter.

Section 9 – xxx – Reserved.

- 2) The following summary clearly informs the public of the intent and effect of the ordinance and is approved for publication: “The purpose of this ordinance is to amend and update sections of the city code relating to Administration and Employee Authority in immigration matters.”
- 3) This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its passage and publication as required by law.

City Code CHAPTER xxx, Administration and Employee Authority in immigration matters.

First Reading: YEAS:
NAYS:
Second Reading: YEAS:
NAYS:

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL THIS ____ DAY OF XXX, 2026.

Brad Sutton, Mayor

ATTEST:

Chase Peterson-Etem, City Clerk



Member _____ moved and Member _____ seconded a motion that the following Ordinance, be given its first reading on xxx, 2026.

ORDINANCE 26 –

AN ORDINANCE ADDING NEW LANGUAGE TO xxx RELATING TO ADMINISTRATION AND EMPLOYEE AUTHORITY IN IMMIGRATION MATTERS

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ask to see a person's identifying documents only when specifically authorized and required to do so by the employee's duties. City employees shall not discriminate against any current or potential service users on the basis of any of the protected categories defined by statute, federal law, or immigration status.

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- d. The prohibited purpose for which City resources were used or for which request for City resources was denied.

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City Code CHAPTER xxx, Administration and Employee Authority in immigration matters.

First Reading: YEAS:
 NAYS:
Second Reading: YEAS:
 NAYS:

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL THIS ____ DAY OF xxx, 2026.

Brad Sutton, Mayor

ATTEST:

Chase Peterson-Etem, City Clerk





TO: Mayor and City Council
PREPARED BY: Tim Sandvik, City Manager
APPROVED BY: Tim Sandvik, City Manager
DATE: March 10, 2026
RE: Ongoing Engagement, Communications

Background:

Council has expressed interest in continuing to grow efforts in engagement and formal communication.

Analysis:

Staff is seeking guidance on future engagement opportunities, whether a Town Hall or otherwise. The City Manager will continue to push back on rhetoric suggesting an absence, whether a Council Member or staff, somehow indicates apathy towards engagement, or generally. With that, any guidance the Council can provide on upcoming potential opportunities (individually, or collectively) will help staff propose future events.

Related, staff was asked about collecting emails from the general public to be included in the record. Historically, City Council Members have directly provided emails (received) to be included in materials (agenda packets and minutes), that were used in the decision-making process. This promoted transparency, and allowed for more voices to formally participate in the process. While a new account has been created, staff is seeking feedback before it is formally advertised.

Recommendation:

NA

Attachments:

1. Town Hall Meeting Minutes - February 23 2026
2. Town Hall Meeting Min COPILOT

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL TOWN HALL MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Sutton called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present: Member Blackledge, Member Parisian, Member Caceres Aranda, Mayor Sutton, Member Greenberg

Absent: None

Staff: Tim Sandvik, City Manager; Rachel Leen, Communications Coordinator

DISCUSSION

A. Robbinsdale City Council Town Hall Session

Mayor Sutton opened the meeting by acknowledging the difficult events the community has experienced in recent months. He stated that the purpose of the town hall was to foster open dialogue and hear from residents, either in person or in writing. Comments were limited to four minutes unless otherwise noted, and staff would follow up on any questions that could not be answered during the meeting. He emphasized the importance of honest conversation and reiterated that the Robbinsdale Police Department (RPD) and the City do not work with ICE in any capacity. He also noted that the City has been considering a separation ordinance for some time.

City Manager Sandvik provided a brief update on recent immigration-related matters. He noted the City's focus on communication, including sharing know-your-rights materials and business resources through outside organizations. He stated that the separation ordinance will be discussed at the March 10 Work Session, with a potential second reading on March 17. He also noted that the City joined the Coalition for Safe and Stable Communities when eligible. He added that RPD has had three encounters with ICE in Robbinsdale, all stemming from 911 calls.

The Council then opened the floor to community members:

- Patrick Nailon shared his involvement in organizing protests and protest walks, as well as gathering food and clothing for residents. While he described recent months as a “nightmare,” he emphasized that his work continues to focus on helping build better lives and restoring hope within the community.
- Carissa Wyant urged Council to pass the separation ordinance. She acknowledged her privilege and clarified she was speaking personally, but noted that she started a Change.org petition approximately 48 hours prior that had already gathered more than 168 signatures. She referenced the incident in which a woman involved in a car crash sought refuge inside City Hall and called on Council to act quickly to demonstrate governmental support that matches the community's efforts. In her view, it is beyond time for action.
- Michelle Connealy described organizing grocery deliveries for families staying home. With significant support from Golden Age Design, the effort—called BeGood—has grown to 75 volunteers serving more than 250 families, raising over \$40,000 along with substantial in-kind donations. She shared a written note from Molly Beahan, who stated that while the work has been meaningful, it is far from over. The note described the impact of ICE activity in Minnesota as catastrophic and long-lasting, shared stories of hardship, and also highlighted the inspiration drawn from volunteers and local

businesses. Michelle asked Council to consider converting the space at 4161 Hubbard into a community food shelf to support residents in need.

- Sam Sant requested a no-mask ordinance for federal agents and encouraged local police to arrest ICE agents detaining U.S. citizens. He also raised concerns about water softness levels at the Water Treatment Plant and asked Council to review testing to ensure adequate softening.
- Maggie Arbeiter, a five-year resident, spoke to her frustration and desire for political efficacy. She believes residents have clearly expressed support for a separation ordinance and that patience is wearing thin. While she understands procedural requirements, she considers this an emergency and believes passing the ordinance is a necessary step.
- Julie Lapointe, a Robbinsdale resident of over 30 years and a board member of the League of Women Voters in New Hope, shared that she has always felt safe in the community and wants that same sense of safety for every black and brown resident. She read a statement from the League affirming that democracy is built by the people and condemning unwarranted immigration deployments in Minnesota or elsewhere.
- Matt Murphy reflected on losing a coworker when Alex Pretti was killed, sharing how such an event permanently changes perspective. While acknowledging differing viewpoints, he emphasized the need to move forward together and described those attending as heroes for supporting their neighbors.
- Heaven Keane, a two-year resident, shared that she has witnessed significant community solidarity through school pickups, responses to detentions, and mutual aid efforts. Referencing the phrase “Who keeps us safe? We keep us safe,” she asked Council to use every available tool to support the community, including passing a separation ordinance.
- Kara Kurth, owner of Golden Age Design in Robbinsdale, described the City’s growth over the past 12 years and her efforts to draw visitors to downtown. Over the past six to eight weeks, her business has collected substantial food donations and partnered with BeGood to distribute supplies to anyone in need. She noted the strain on small businesses following the pandemic and current events, specifically mentioning that Marnas is struggling. She stated that business owners chose Robbinsdale because of its community and want to feel valued. Golden Age plans to continue operating its food pantry and hopes to eventually establish a permanent space in partnership with the City.
- Lindsay Grady referenced the City’s resource webpage and suggested highlighting more hyperlocal mutual aid organizations to help donors direct limited financial resources effectively.
- Jess Lewis, a Golden Valley resident seeking to represent Robbinsdale in the State House, thanked the community for its mutual aid efforts and acknowledged Council’s consideration of financial impacts related to the ordinance. She invited audience members who support moving forward with the separation ordinance to stand; most attendees did so.
- Laurie Blais stated she attended to listen and learn. She observed widespread frustration but also unity across political lines and expressed appreciation for the various mutual aid efforts underway. She emphasized that residents are prepared to support necessary action.
- Julie Ralston-Aoki noted that the Human Rights Commission presents hero awards and said many in the room would qualify. She spoke about participating in mutual aid efforts she never anticipated and addressed longstanding mistrust between communities of color and law enforcement. She urged

continued dialogue and expressed hope that future town halls would include police department participation to help develop a plan moving forward.

- Jackie Schluter Johnson responded to concerns about the cost of the separation ordinance, stating that community members have personally contributed funds to support neighbors and that the City should likewise identify resources.
- An unidentified resident expressed concern that Council has suggested many elements of the ordinance already exist in City policy. She reported difficulty locating certain police policies online and suggested clearer language regarding policy on immigration activity. Mayor Sutton asked about state-level policy requirements, and Sandvik responded that many police policies reflect state law and statutory duties but agreed that additional discussion would be beneficial.
- Claire, a resident, expressed support for the separation ordinance and frustration that the City appears concerned about risk management while individuals are taking personal risks to support neighbors. She asked for stronger visible support from the City.
- Carlos Smith, a member of the Human Rights Commission, clarified that his views align with the HRC's formal position but spoke personally as a Black immigrant. He thanked attendees for their empathy and emphasized that empathy is foundational to public policy. He described this as a historic moment requiring extraordinary action and cautioned against normalizing the erosion of public decency. He urged Council to pass the ordinance as a meaningful policy step that matches the community's efforts.
- Erin, a resident, said she wants elected officials to publicly stand with the community. She noted she has not seen City officials at recent protests or the monthly vigil held at RPD since the murder of George Floyd and asked them to show up, engage directly with residents, and demonstrate support.

Mayor Sutton then invited Council comments. All Council members thanked residents for attending and sharing their perspectives, acknowledged the emotion in the room, and expressed appreciation for the community's mutual aid efforts and business support. Council members noted that ordinance adoption requires adherence to City Charter and statutory processes, even in urgent situations, and that March 17 is the earliest possible date for action based on prior Council direction. Council also expressed interest in additional community engagement opportunities moving forward, including more informal gatherings like this town hall. Mayor Sutton closed by thanking residents for their participation and affirming that their voices matter.

STAFF UPDATES

None.

COUNCIL UPDATES

None.

ADJOURNMENT

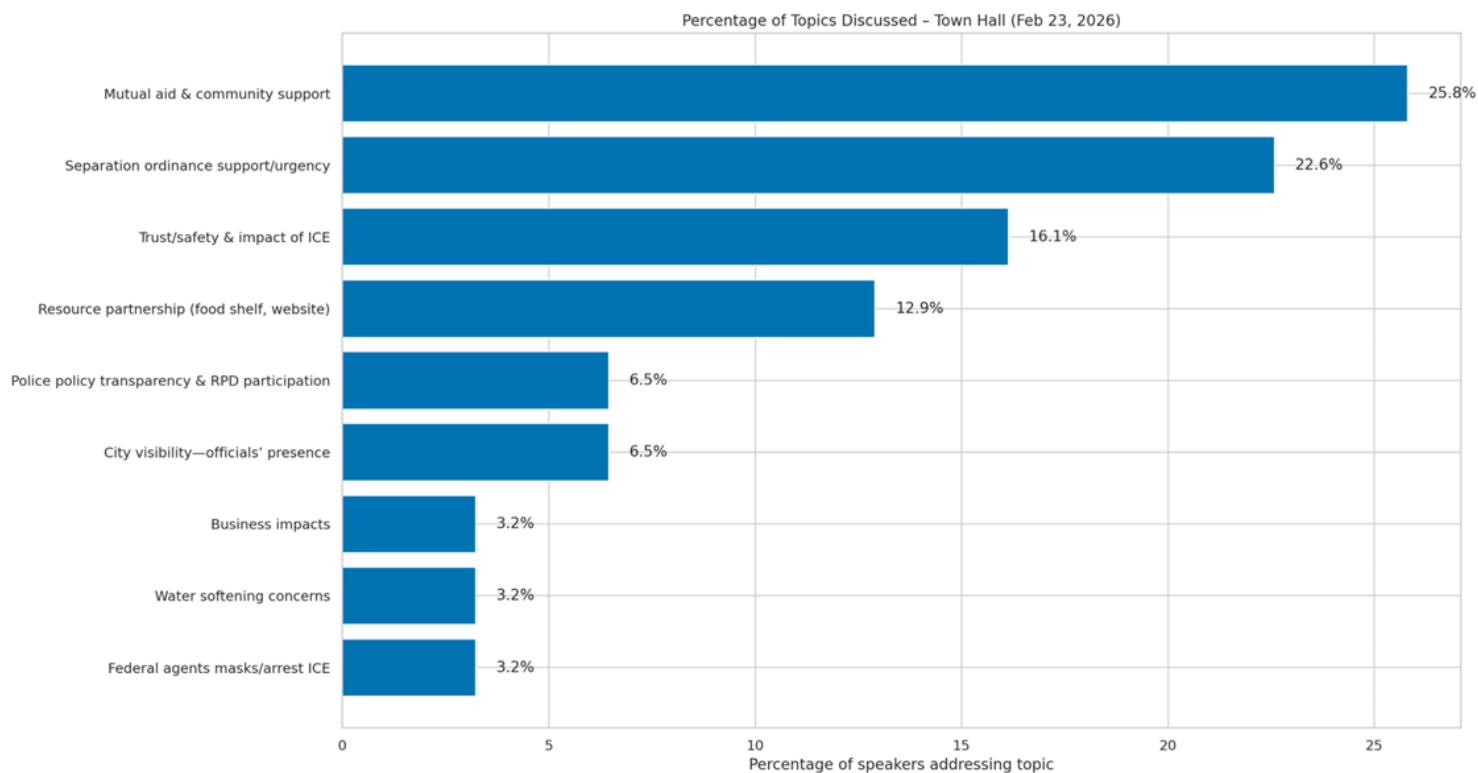
Mayor Sutton adjourned the meeting at 7:24 PM.

Rachel Leen, Communications Coordinator

Raymond Blackledge, Mayor Pro Tem

Top Themes in the Meeting Minutes

- **Strong community support for a separation ordinance** — Most speakers urged the City to pass the ordinance quickly and clearly define limits on cooperation with immigration enforcement.
- **Widespread mutual aid efforts** — Residents and businesses detailed large-scale volunteer work, food distribution, and support networks formed in response to recent ICE activity.
- **Desire for stronger public support from City leadership** — Many asked Council members to be more visibly present at community events, vigils, and protests.
- **Concerns about trust and safety** — Speakers emphasized fear within immigrant communities, historical mistrust of law enforcement, and the need for clear, accessible policy communication.
- **Requests for City partnership on resources** — Suggestions included creating a community food shelf, highlighting local aid groups on the City website, and supporting small businesses affected by recent events.
- **Urgency and frustration over process timelines** — Many residents expressed that while they understand procedural requirements, they see the current situation as an emergency.
- **Interest in ongoing community engagement** — Calls for continued town halls, more informal conversations, and future participation from RPD to build trust and transparency.



Source: Robbinsdale Town Hall Meeting Minutes (Feb 23, 2026)





TO: Mayor and City Council
PREPARED BY: Matthew Bazyk, Recreation Services Manager
APPROVED BY: Tim Sandvik, City Manager
DATE: March 10, 2026
RE: Sanborn Park Playground Submissions

Background:

The Parks Master Plan (PMP) was approved in 2025. Within that it states that Sanborn Park is due for upgrades. The playground and updated tennis and pickleball courts are Stage 1 of what will be a multi-stage process for improving the park over the next four years. We are currently in the middle of our RFP process for choosing a playground vendor. We have received four submissions and need to choose one by March 13th.

Vendors were asked to submit two designs. One "Grant Funded" with a budget of \$700,000. One "Non-Grant Funded" with a budget of \$350,000. We are applying for the DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant in hopes of funding the larger playground options. Specifications for designs regardless of cost were, full pour-in-place or alternate surface for more accessible play (no wood chips), play equipment below 20 feet (residents expressed concerns over blocking the view of the lake), walking paths on multiple sides of the playground for improved accessibility, and keeping the designs within a 75'x100' area.

Analysis:

Due to the amount of feedback and input from residents during the PMP process, specifically around Sanborn Park, City Staff feel confident in choosing the playground vendor. However, we received input from the PRFC and would like input from City Council to help us select the winning proposal.

Recommendation:

Provide feedback on which playground you would like to see installed at Sanborn Park.

Attachments:

1. Sanborn Combined Proposals

Landscape Structures/Flagship Recreation
Grant Funded
(\$700,000 approximate)



*COLORS NOT SET AND CAN STILL BE CHANGED



Sanborn Park - Option 1

Robbinsdale_Sanborn Opt 1 021726 • 2.18.2026



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Landscape Structures/Flagship Recreation
Grant Funded
(\$700,000 approximate)



A playground with a blue slide and a blue swing.
AI generated content

*COLORS NOT SET AND CAN STILL BE CHANGED

6



Sanborn Park - Option 1

Robbinsdale_Sanborn Opt 1 021726 • 2.18.2026



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Landscape Structures/Flagship Recreation
Grant Funded
(\$700,000 approximate)



*COLORS NOT SET AND CAN STILL BE CHANGED

 Sanborn Park - Option 1
Robbinsdale_Sanborn Opt 1 021726 • 2.18.2026 
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Landscape Structures/Flagship Recreation
Grant Funded
(\$700,000 approximate)



*COLORS NOT SET AND CAN STILL BE CHANGED

Landscape Structures/Flagship Recreation
Non-Grant Funded
(\$350,000 approximate)



*COLORS NOT SET AND CAN STILL BE CHANGED

29

 landscape structures

Sanborn Park - Option 2

Robbinsdale_Sanborn Opt 2 021726 • 2.19.2026

 flagship recreation

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Landscape Structures/Flagship Recreation
Non-Grant Funded
(\$350,000 approximate)



*COLORS NOT SET AND CAN STILL BE CHANGED

Landscape Structures/Flagship Recreation
Non-Grant Funded
(\$350,000 approximate)



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Landscape Structures/Flagship Recreation
Non-Grant Funded
(\$350,000 approximate)



*COLORS NOT SET AND CAN STILL BE CHANGED

Midwest Playscapes
Grant Funded
(700,000 approximate)



AGE-SEPARATED PLAY

Inclusive outdoor recreation environments should separate pre-k and school-age play environments as a best safety practice. However, it is critical to provide clear sight-lines and central viewing positions for caregivers supporting multiple children of different ages to ensure play is monitored. Our design has several central viewing areas and the playground equipment has a high level of visual transparency to support observation of multiple children in a large recreation environment. The recreation spaces are linked by a shared swinging play feature to ensure the environment is well connected to promote safe joint experiences between the age groups.

Midwest Playscapes
Grant Funded
(700,000 approximate)



EXTENDING PLAYTIME

Providing shaded accessible places for care-givers to sit and children to rest is a critical step in creating an outdoor recreation environment that is inviting and comfortable. Our design integrates shades into both the rest and playground areas to support longer activity periods for children and their caregivers while visiting the park. In addition to the shade structures, we strongly recommend exploring tree plantings around the playground to soften the environment and provide environmental cooling through natural shade.

Midwest Playscapes
Grant Funded
(700,000 approximate)



ACCESS VIA EQUIVALENT FACILITATION

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, access to play via rope features meets access requirements if those features provide substantially equivalent or greater access and usability for individuals with disabilities than traditional ADA transfer stations. Adding rope play to a traditional playground provides open-ended and non-prescriptive play routes that allow children with special needs to enter a dynamic play experience immediately after they transfer to the ropes, whereas a transfer station requires users to move up to the first play event in order to begin their experience. Our goal with a hybrid rope + post and platform play system is to provide a dynamic play environment that challenges ALL children at their ability level and allows them to participate in dynamic play with their peers, supporting group play and the development of social skills.

Midwest Playscapes
Grant Funded
(700,000 approximate)



CHOICE, CHALLENGE, & ZONES

Inclusive playgrounds do not segregate 'accessible and inclusive' features from the overall environment. Grouping similar play movements like spinning in the same area while providing different levels of challenge allows children of all abilities to participate in group activities with their peers without the stigma of being isolated. The rocking and spinning features in the bottom right introduce accessible and inclusive play features the moment a child enters the playground, communicating this is a place for everyone!

Midwest Playscapes
Non-Grant Funded
(350,000 approximate)

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Midwest Playscapes
Non-Grant Funded
(350,000 approximate)



ACCESS VIA EQUIVALENT FACILITATION

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, access to play via rope features meets access requirements if those features provide substantially equivalent or greater access and usability for individuals with disabilities than traditional ADA transfer stations. Adding climbing elements that are accessible from the playground surface provides open-ended and non-prescriptive opportunity that allows children with special needs to enter a dynamic play experience immediately after transferring, whereas a transfer station alone requires users to move up to the first play event in order to begin their experience. Our goal with a hybrid play system is to provide a dynamic play environment that challenges ALL children at their ability level and allows them to participate in dynamic play with their peers, supporting group play and the development of social skills.

Midwest Playscapes
Non-Grant Funded
(350,000 approximate)

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Midwest Playscapes
Non-Grant Funded
(350,000 approximate)



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MWP/Gametime
Non-Grant Funded (Did not submit Grant Funded option)
(350,000 approximate)



MWP/Gametime
Non-Grant Funded (Did not submit Grant Funded option)
(350,000 approximate)



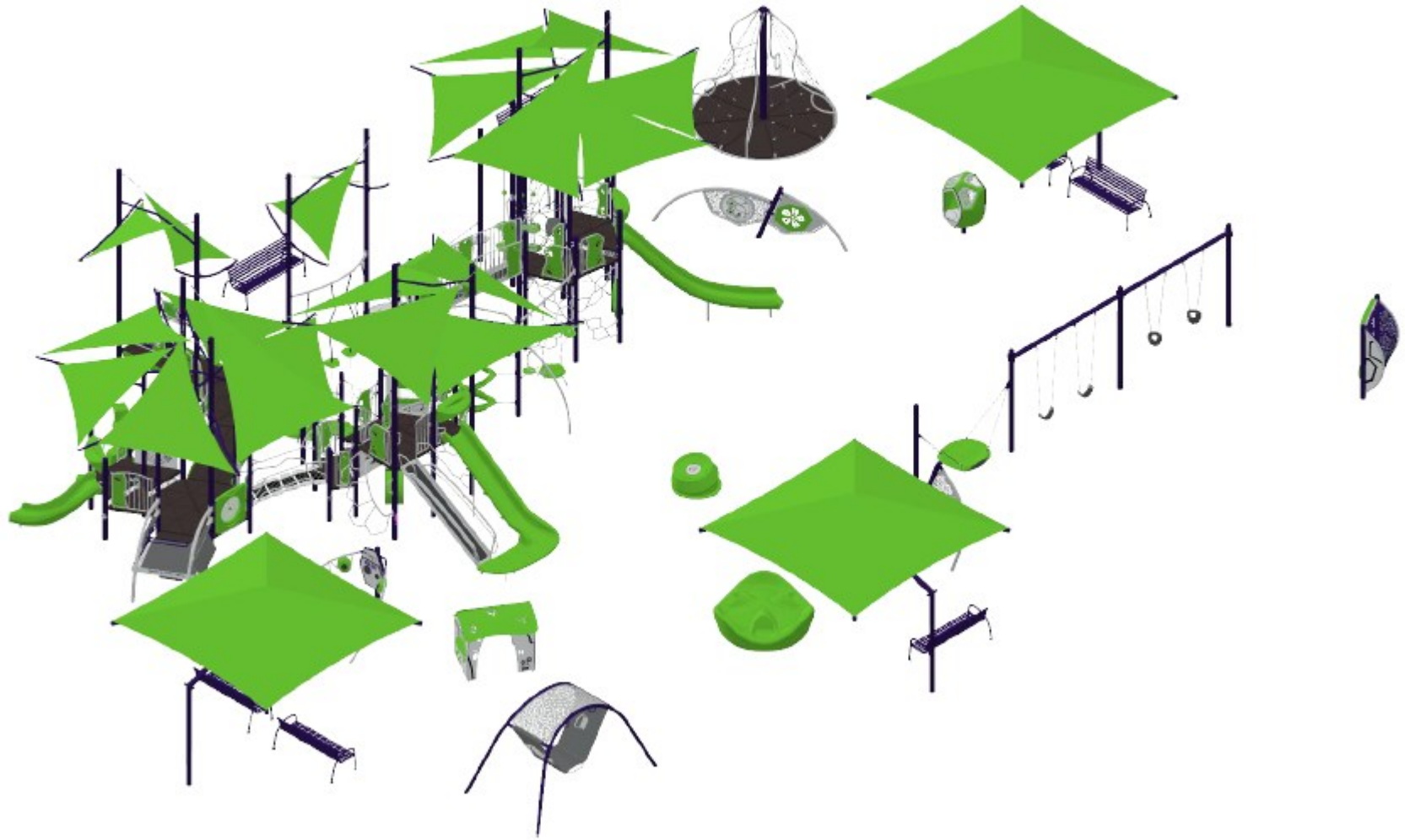
MWP/Gametime
Non-Grant Funded (Did not submit Grant Funded option)
(350,000 approximate)



MWP/Gametime
Non-Grant Funded (Did not submit Grant Funded option)
(350,000 approximate)



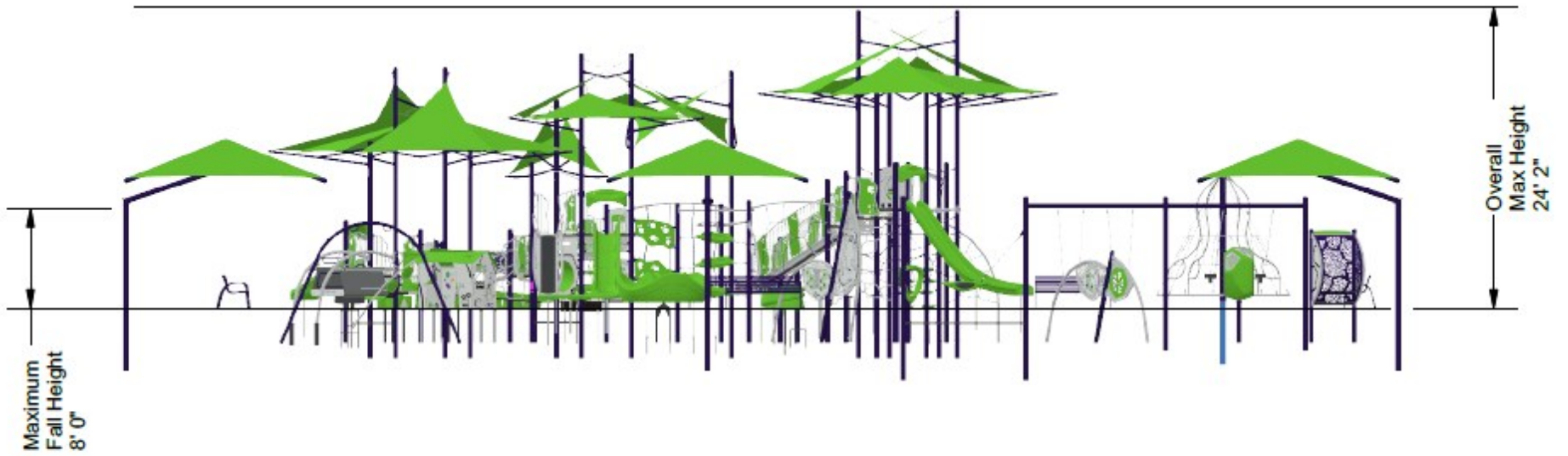
St. Croix Recreation/Burke
Grant Funded
(700,000 approximate)



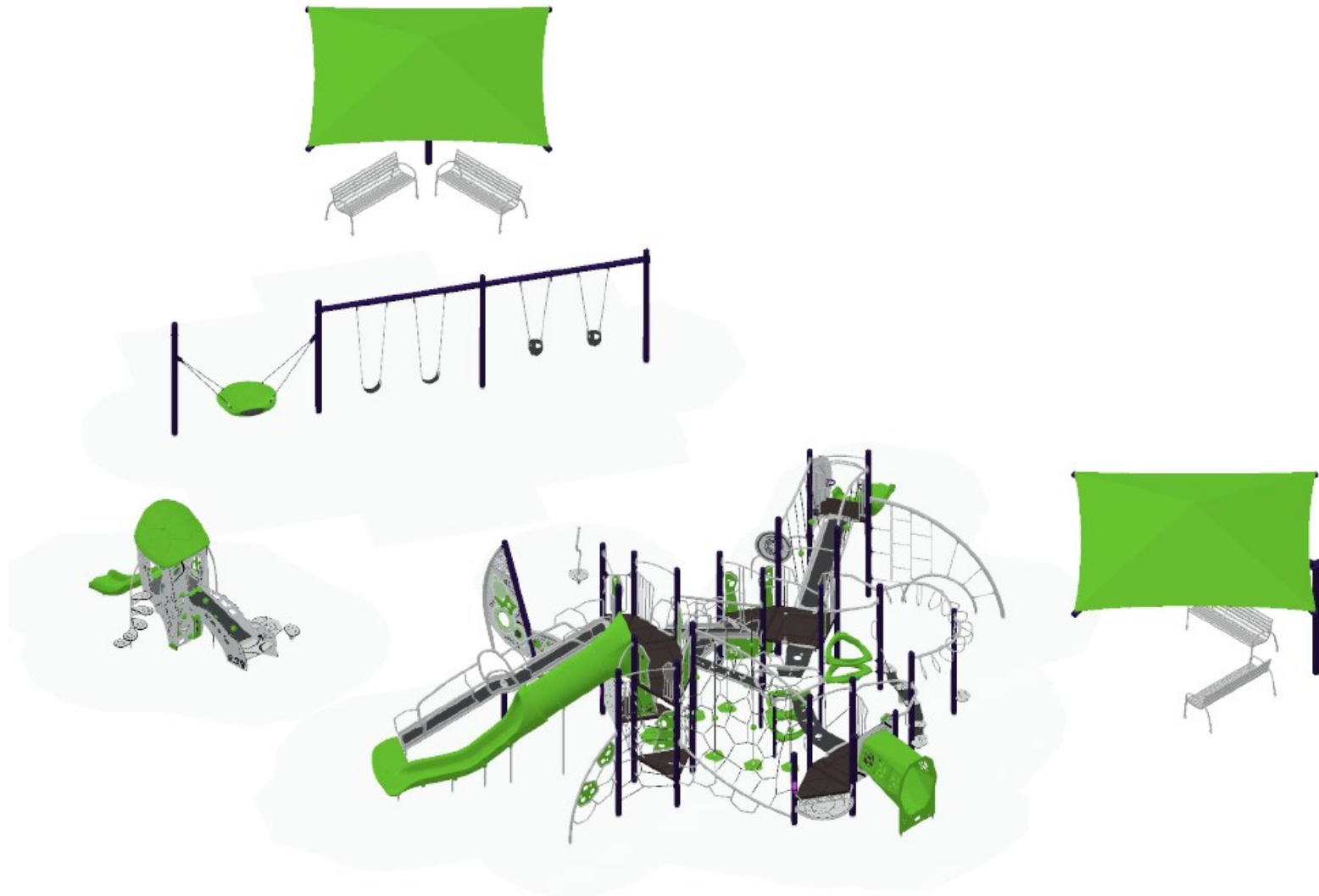
St. Croix Recreation/Burke
Grant Funded (Main structure removed.)
(700,000 approximate)



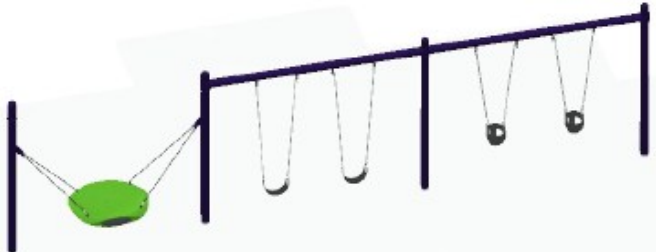
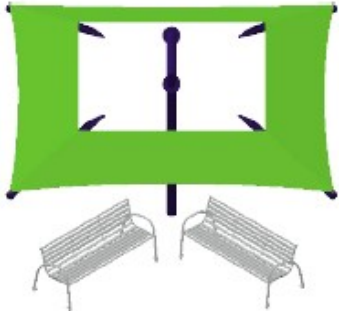
St. Croix Recreation/Burke
Grant Funded
(700,000 approximate)



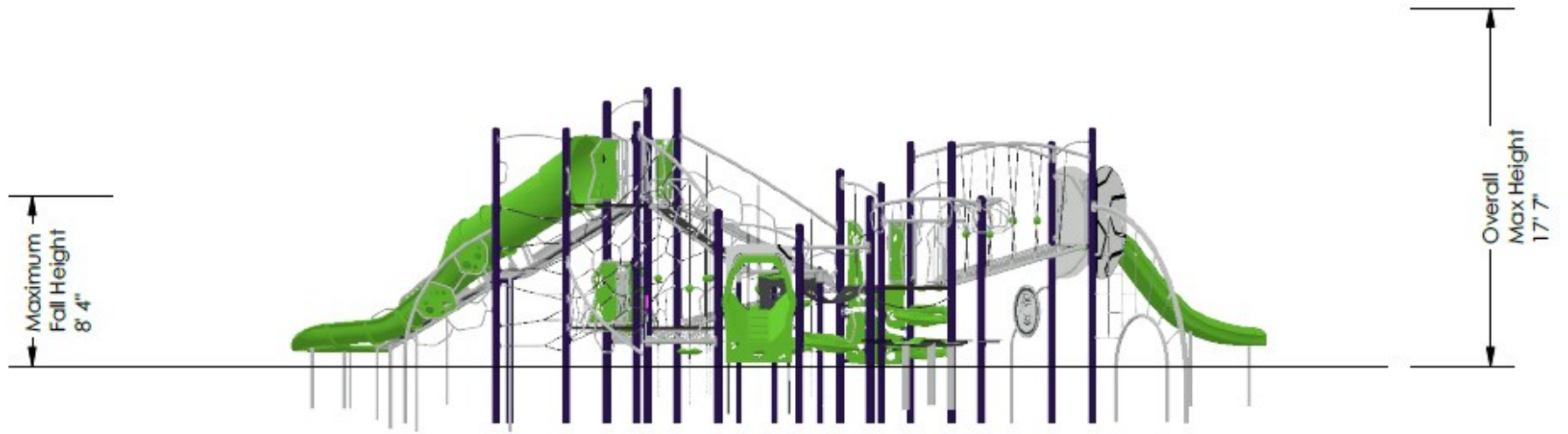
St. Croix Recreation/Burke
Non-Grant Funded
(350,000 approximate)



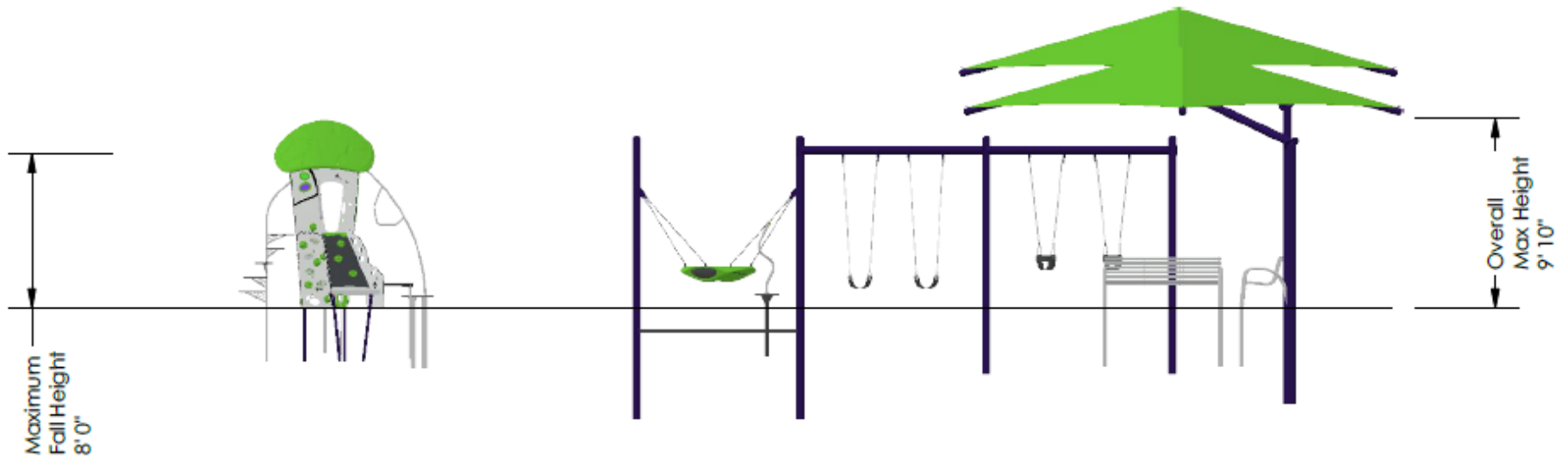
St. Croix Recreation/Burke
Non-Grant Funded (Main structure removed.)
(350,000 approximate)



St. Croix Recreation/Burke
Non-Grant Funded
(350,000 approximate)



St. Croix Recreation/Burke
Non-Grant Funded
(350,000 approximate)



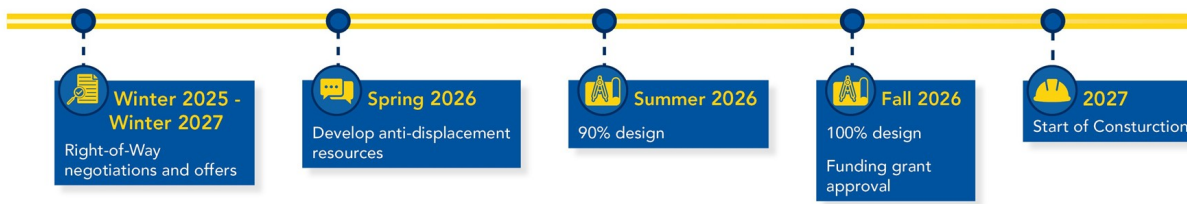
TO: Mayor and City Council
 PREPARED BY: Tim Sandvik, City Manager
 APPROVED BY: Tim Sandvik, City Manager
 DATE: March 10, 2026
 RE: LRT Updates

Background:

Staff continues to provide LRT updates to Council as we near the next major milestone.

Analysis:

The following timeline was shared by the project office:



As we continue to participate in regular meetings, staff wants to provide updates in two areas - landscaping and lighting.

Median Landscaping

The extent of the landscaping focuses on the proposed Downtown Robbinsdale Station, north to TH100 with consideration of expanding the landscaping some treatment to the south side of 36th Avenue.

Staff thoughts on the proposals are as follows – A combination of hardscape and plants within the section from the Downtown Station north to Highway 100 would provide a good combination of durability and attractiveness. It is likely that City resources will be required to provide long term maintenance of the landscaped area after the initial installation and establishment period.

It should be noted that the existing vegetated landscape area in the median along CR81 is currently the responsibility of the City. The City engages a Contractor to perform the maintenance a number of times each year and it would seem reasonable that the City would engage a Contractor to maintain any new landscaped areas (hardscape and plantings) as part of the Light Rail work.

Plans received by staff show potential areas south of the Downtown Robbinsdale Station extending to the south side of 36th Avenue that could also receive some landscaping treatments,

although details are not known at this stage. It would seem appropriate to replace the existing landscaping that will be lost with some new landscaped elements, knowing that City resources will ultimately be required for maintenance of the areas.

Lighting

Along with the median landscaping is the consideration of lighting along the corridor. The existing lights work reasonably well however with the Light Rail Project, the City has an opportunity to re-visit the lighting and possibly introduce some changes as improvements.

Staff have heard from City Council that providing adequate light for the roadway as well as pedestrian scale lighting for the adjacent trails and sidewalks is important, along with the tenant of lights being energy efficient (LED), dark sky compliant and being functionally decorative.

In order to achieve these goals, it is suggested that a High-Low-Low-High arrangement of lights along the corridor be adopted. The precise nature of the spacings needed to achieve this and the details of the fixtures is still under investigation.

As well as the lights themselves, staff support any opportunity to include banner poles, provision for flags and maintain corporate branding by including metal bird cut outs in the design of the light poles. In some focal areas, staff would like to investigate metal banners that will be more durable and reduce maintenance requirements over the longer term.

The City would be responsible for the energy usage and the ongoing maintenance of the lights and appurtenances, as it is with the current lights along the corridor.

Working With Joint Water Commission

Finally, staff will provide a brief update on continued efforts to work with the Joint Water Commission on infrastructure within and near the project.

Recommendation:

NA

Attachments:

None



TO: Mayor and City Council
PREPARED BY: Tim Sandvik, City Manager
APPROVED BY: Tim Sandvik, City Manager
DATE: March 10, 2026
RE: Popcorn topics

Background:

A brief update on upcoming items...

Analysis:

- Code updates — Shoreline management, exterior (residential) lighting, barking dog/domestic animals and recent language updates heard by Planning Commission
- Land Acquisition
- Update Rules of Decorum
- Eviction Moratorium/Eviction Assistance Support - Letter (attached)
- Interactive Technology - Policy/Practices updates (including Commissions?)
- Org Labor Contracts
- Cleaning RFP
- Legislative Updates

Recommendation:

Consider brief updates, staff will stand for questions, comments, or concerns.

Attachments:

1. 3.11.26 CC Letter DRAFT

City of Robbinsdale
4100 Lakeview Avenue North
Robbinsdale, MN 55422
763-537-4534
www.robbinsdalemn.gov



March 11, 2026

To our esteemed representatives at the State Capital

Senator Rest
Representative Freiberg

The City of Robbinsdale wishes to express support for emergency rental assistance at the state level. Federal immigration operations have reverberated throughout our region, heightening fear, anxiety, and uncertainty among residents - particularly within our immigrant and multi-lingual communities who already face systemic barriers. The visible and aggressive presence of federal immigration officers in our region has contributed to a climate where many feel unsafe reporting crimes, attending school, participating in community life, or simply going about everyday activities.

As concerns are not unique to Robbinsdale, the City supports statewide funding towards eviction support, as renting households are significantly harmed by recent activity. While there is suggestion that Operation Metro Surge has slowed, we continue to recognize there are new and growing consequences of immigration enforcement. We are all aware that people were staying home out of fear, and this meant lost wages – for those living on limited income, missing weeks of work will be detrimental for weeks and months to come.

The City of Robbinsdale celebrates a diverse population, and that includes a high number of renters. Unfortunately, the City of Robbinsdale does not have immediate capacity to assist with these consequences from federal enforcement, but will continue to explore opportunities to partner with our local agencies and non-profits. Further, while the City does not support a specific bill at this time, we continue to watch and support efforts, including but not limited to: SF3596 and HF3480.

We look forward to continued partnership serving our communities,

City of Robbinsdale City Council
Mayor Brad Sutton
Council Member Raymond Blackledge
Council Member Jason Greenberg
Council Member Mia Parisian
Council Member Alejandro Caceres Aranda

