



cityNEWS



GOLDEN VALLEY SUMMERS BRING TONS OF FUN

We have concerts, movies, and a variety of activities for your enjoyment. Check it out!

SEE PAGE 15

Photo by Stan Waldhauser

WHAT TO DO ABOUT BROOKVIEW?

The aged Brookview Community Center needs attention. See options under consideration and find out how you can be involved.

SEE PAGES 8-9

[in this] ISSUE

Restoring Bassett Creek • 05

2015 Construction Updates • 07

Neighbors Help Family Escape Fire • 11

Managing Infrastructure • 12



cityHEADLINES

Financing Infrastructure Needs

CIP Funds Large Capital Expenditures

As explained on page 12, all capital outlay expenditures over \$5,000 are scheduled for replacement or construction through the City's five-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Some infrastructure projects are financed by Enterprise Funds, which get their revenue from user fees. Others, such as streets, are financed with assessments to users, debt instruments, and franchise fees. The City's General Fund, which gets its main revenue from property taxes, also provides transfers to the CIP. The following CIP funds cover the City's main infrastructure areas (see pages 12–13).

Street Improvement Fund

Type: Capital project

Purpose: Finance major street improvements

Main Revenue Sources: Assessments, municipal state aid funds, franchise fees, and debt instruments

Water & Sewer Utility Fund

Type: Enterprise

Purpose: Operation and renewal and replacement of the City's water and sanitary sewer systems

Main Revenue Sources: User charges, assessments, Joint Water Commission

Building Fund

Type: Capital project

Purpose: Finance major improvements to City facilities

Main Revenue Sources: Transfers from the General Fund

Park Improvement Fund

Type: Capital project

Purpose: Finance major park and open space improvements

Main Revenue Sources: Transfers from the General Fund, park dedication fees, and donations

Storm Sewer Utility Fund

Type: Enterprise

Purpose: Maintenance and improvement of the citywide storm water system, including storm sewers and holding ponds

Main Revenue Sources: User fees to all properties in the City based on the level of estimated storm water runoff from a given class of property

Equipment Replacement Fund

Type: Capital project

Purpose: Finance major vehicle and equipment purchases for the City

Main Revenue Sources: Proceeds of the sale of Certificates of Indebtedness (short-term general obligation debt instruments issued for a term of four years and repaid from annual tax levies)

Brookview Golf Course Fund

Type: Enterprise

Purpose: Operation and improvement of the City's golf course, driving range, pro shop, grill, and lawn bowling green

Main Revenue Sources: User fees 

Brookview Community Center Replacement

Project Costs Have Various Impacts On Property Taxes

A major infrastructure project such as replacement of Brookview Community Center requires financing beyond what has been budgeted in the five-year CIP. This would have an impact on all taxpayers. For example, the proposed \$12 million dollar replacement would cost the owner of a median-valued home in Golden Valley (\$252,000) and additional \$72 per year in City property taxes. An apartment valued at \$3 million would pay an additional \$1,352, and a \$3 million commercial building would pay an additional \$1,620. The proposed \$38 million dollar replacement would cost the same homeowner an additional \$239 in City property taxes. The apartment would pay an extra \$3,810, and the commercial building an extra \$6,019. These rates may fluctuate based on when bonds are sold and the current interest rate. 

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Run The Valley Draws 442 Participants

21st Annual Event Raises \$16,000

The 21st annual Run The Valley 5/10K Run and 5K Walk drew 442 participants April 11 to compete for medals and raise money for the Golden Valley Human Services Fund (GVHSF).

The event raised more than \$16,000 for the GVHSF, which allocates funds to local human service organizations that benefit the community.

Of the 442 participants, 219 ran the 5K race, 148 ran the 10K race, 48 did the 5K walk, and 27 youngsters ages 2–8 dashed in the fun run for kids.

Winners of the 10K were Shannon Sullivan of Minneapolis (46:27) and John Grimes of Hopkins (37:43). Winners of the 5K were Anne Balfour of Morristown, NJ (21:53) and Doug Keller of Plymouth (18:24).

Golden Valley medalists in the 10K included Bryan Duling (46:25—first, males age 0–19) and Warren Eck (44:04—first, males 40–49). Golden Valley medalists in the 5K were Sam Theisen (20:00—first, males 0–19), Yirga Reminick (25:28—first, females 0–19), and Tracy Godfrey (37:55—first, females 60–69).

Corporate sponsors were Park Nicollet Clinic, Bassett Creek Dental, City of Golden Valley, HCMC Golden Valley Clinic,



Volunteers from event sponsor Bassett Creek Dental show their support during the race.

and Liberty Carton. Water stops and post-race snacks were provided by Al's Coffee, Byerly's, Einstein Bros Bagels, Finken Water Solutions, Frito Lay, Old Fashioned Donut Shoppe, Perkins Family Restaurant—Highway 55, Perkins Family Restaurant—394, Pilgrim Cleaners, Road ID, Valley Pastries, and Yoplait USA. Cable 12/NWCT provided pre-race promotions and race-day commentary. Go Health Chiropractic provided free post-race chair massages. 

GVHSF Golf Classic Set For July 10

The 2015 Golden Valley Golf Classic will be held Friday, July 10, at Brookview Golf Course. The Golden Valley Human Services Fund (GVHSF) hosts the annual event to benefit local charities, and it distributes 100 percent of funds raised to causes directly serving the Golden Valley community.

JOIN THE PARTY. The tournament begins with an 8 am shotgun start. Foursomes can register for \$300 (includes fees, cart, continental breakfast, lunch, and a chance to win prizes). Or, bring a second foursome for \$500 total (both foursomes must register together).

SUPPORT THE CAUSE. Prefer the role of booster? You can support the GVHSF and this event as a Corporate Sponsor (\$1,000) or Golf Hole Sponsor (\$500). Contributions of cash, merchandise, and in-kind items or gift certificates are welcome for hole contests, prizes, and drawings.

The 2014 event drew 56 golfers who, with corporate and individual sponsors, helped the Golf Classic raise \$4,000 (net) for local human service organizations.

For more information or to volunteer the day of the event, visit www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/golfclassic or contact staff liaison Jeanne Fackler at 763-512-2340 or jfackler@goldenvalleymn.gov. 



SOME HOUSEHOLD TRASH IS HAZARDOUS WASTE

Green Up Your Spring Cleaning By Disposing Of HHW Properly



As you clean your house and yard this spring, remember there are items that may require more careful disposal than just going in the trash. The National Waste & Recycling Association recommends the following safe and environmentally friendly ways to clear out your junk.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)—First check if anyone you know can use your leftovers, otherwise take them to a HHW disposal site. Such items include fertilizers, pesticides, weed killers, and pool chemicals; household chemicals

(nail polish remover, bleach, oven cleaners, drain cleaners, metal polishes, etc); energy-efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs), which contain mercury; and paint thinners, varnishes, and oil-based paints. Latex paint can be dried out and put in the trash—but the cans can be recycled.

Recycle, Reduce, and Reuse—Recycle batteries, motor oil and filters (check with HHW facilities, automotive stores, repair shops, and garages), and electronic waste (computers, cell phones, televisions, etc).

Extra Care Required—Medical waste, like sharps (needles, syringes, lancets), medicines, and pharmaceuticals require special care. Place sharps in approved containers and dispose according to local guidelines. If throwing out medicines, never flush them down toilets or drains as wastewater facilities cannot filter them and they may impact aquatic life. Check for local medical waste disposal sites.

Pressurized Containers—Because these items may explode under heat or pressure, take them to a HHW collection site (empty aerosol containers are recyclable). Refillable propane tanks can usually be returned to suppliers.

HHW Disposal Options—Hennepin County organizes collection events throughout the year to give residents convenient, local disposal options for HHW (see box).

Hennepin County's two permanent drop-off sites (8100 Jefferson Hwy, Brooklyn Park and 1400 W 96th St, Bloomington) accept HHW, including electronics, year-round. For more information, call 612-348-3777 or visit www.hennepin.us/dropoffs.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF

June 11–13, 9 am–4 pm

2025 Texas Ave S, St Louis Park (St Louis Park Jr High School)

Accepted Materials (free of charge)

A complete list of accepted materials and drop-off instructions can be found at www.hennepin.us/collectionevents.

- Aerosol cans
- Auto/fuel wastes (no motor oil or filters)
- Batteries (household and vehicle)
- Driveway sealer
- Fluorescent and HID lamps (straight, compact, u-tube, circular) limit 25
- Gas cylinders under 40 lbs
- Mercury-containing items (thermostats/thermometers)
- Paint, paint thinners, stains and solvents
- Pesticides
- Pool, photographic, and hobby chemicals
- Rechargeable products

Not Accepted

Any waste from businesses, appliances, asbestos and construction debris, compressed gas cylinders and tanks that require special handling, electronic waste, explosives, garbage, medical or infectious wastes, radioactive waste (eg, smoke detectors), tires, and yard waste.

Golden Valley Recycles

GRAY Holiday Schedule

Holiday Week	Pick-Up Date
Thanksgiving	Sat, Nov 28
Christmas	Sat, Dec 26

BLUE Holiday Schedule

Holiday Week	Pick-Up Date
Fourth of July	Fri, July 3
Labor Day	Sat, Sept 12
New Year's 2016	Sat, Jan 2

Missed Pick Ups

If your recycling is missed on Friday, call Republic Services at 952-941-5174, Option 5, before noon on the following Monday. If you have specific recycling questions, call 763-593-8030.

The Golden Valley Recycling Program is partially funded by the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners.



To sign up to receive emailed recycling updates and reminders, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/news/subscribe.

Restoring Bassett Creek

2015 Project Will Improve Almost Two Miles Of Creek Bank

In a continuing effort to improve water quality in Golden Valley and beyond, the City will restore and stabilize a 9,500-foot stretch of Bassett Creek from 10th Ave to Duluth St as part of a \$1.5 million project scheduled to begin this fall.

The City of Golden Valley will manage the project on behalf of the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission, which will provide funding.

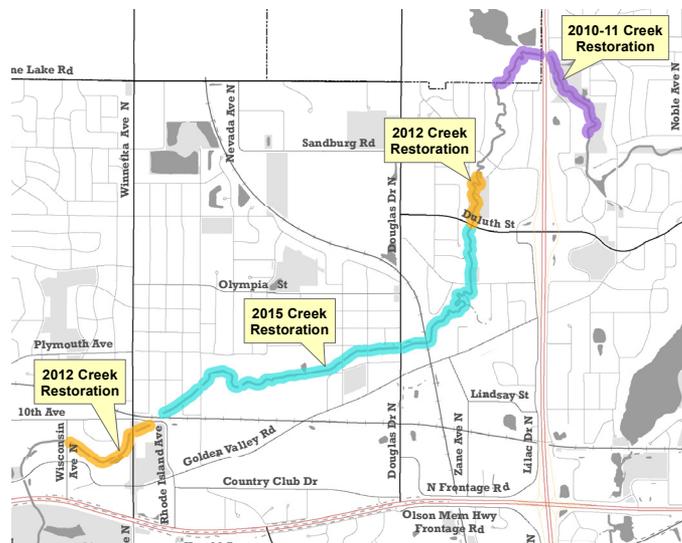
The Bassett Creek Main Stem Restoration Project will stabilize eroding stream banks and repair deteriorating storm sewer pipe outlets, resulting in property protection and improved water quality in Bassett Creek. The project, to be completed by summer 2016, will connect with the 2012 creek restoration project areas. By this time next year, a good portion of Bassett Creek's banks will have been restored and stabilized (see map).

Crews will reshape the stream banks to create gentler slopes and remove undercuts, as well as fix aging storm sewer pipes that are cracked, broken, or separated. Crews will also plant native vegetation and install rock along the bank to create buffer zones that help prevent erosion and filter pollutants.

"The main objective is to improve water quality," says Eric Eckman, public works specialist. Additionally, he says, these efforts protect property, improve the creek's aesthetics, and bolster natural habitats.

The ongoing Bassett Creek stabilization project has been completed in phases during the last several years. This will be one of the largest stretches restored in a single phase.

After Bassett Creek was placed on the 2004 list of impaired waters as determined by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the federal Clean Water Act, Golden Valley has made water quality improvements a major goal. Its efforts through bank stabilization, pond construction and maintenance, reduced



chemical application, and public education have shown promising results.

A recent report by the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services showed that concentrations of pollutants like sediment, phosphorus, and nutrients have decreased in Bassett Creek since 2009. Specifically, over the last five years the total suspended solids concentration in Bassett Creek dropped by 30 percent, nitrate concentration dropped by 27 percent, and phosphorous concentration dropped by 17 percent.

The only negative news was an increase in chloride levels, probably due to de-icer chemicals used in winter, the report states. Future goals include finding ways to decrease salt use without compromising public safety.

Several more water quality improvement projects are in the planning stages now, Eckman says. Watch for future City newsletters or visit www.goldenvalleymn.gov/surfacewater/index.php for more information. 🐾

Hearing Set For Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan

Every year the City of Golden Valley is required to report on how it is managing storm water discharge to reduce sediment and pollution loading in receiving waters. The process is called the Phase II National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit, and it requires significant planning by the City, including a public meeting with the City Council (this year set for June 16 at 7 pm).

All communities with more than 10,000 people are federally mandated to get the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System

permit. The June 16 City Council meeting will give the public a chance to share comments on the plan. All written comments should be received no later than 4:30 pm the day of the meeting.

Forward comments to City of Golden Valley, Attn: Thomas Hoffman, 7800 Golden Valley Rd, Golden Valley, MN 55427. A copy of the plan is available at the Engineering Department in City Hall. For information, contact Hoffman at 763-593-8044. 🐾

Recreation Highlights

Complete list in the Spring/Summer Recreation Activities catalog or at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation.

Youth

American Red Cross Babysitting Training (ages 11–15)—June 6, 8 am–4:30 pm, \$77.

Playground Programs (ages 6–12)—Register online for FREE summer playground programs.

Teen Sand Volleyball (ages 13–18)—Thurs, 6–7 pm, starting June 2, Brookview Park, free.

Seniors

Chillin' With BandanAhh!—July 20, 1 pm, Brookview. Celebrate National Ice Cream Day with sundaes, root beer floats, and music. \$5. Register by July 15.

Lawn Bowling Clinic—June 9, 10–11 am, Brookview Lawn Bowling Courts, \$3.

Lawn Bowling League—Tues, June 16–July 21, 10–11 am, Brookview Lawn Bowling Courts. \$5 league fee + \$3/week.

Coffee Talk—June 24: “Loss of Privacy;” July 22: “What is Tech Dump?” 9:45 am, Brookview, \$2 at door. Call 763-512-2339 to register.

Living Wise and Well—July 2: “Heads Up - Achieving Perfect Posture and Greater Flexibility;” Aug 6: “Meditation Made Simple.” 1 pm, Calvary Coop.

Money Matters—June 18: “Smart Charitable Giving;” July 16: “Reverse Mortgages.” 10 am, Brookview.

For more information or to register, call 763-512-2345 for Youth and Adult and 763-512-2339 for Seniors (M–F, 8 am–4:30 pm). Register in person, by mail, fax, or online.

Projects Improve City Parks

Hampshire Park, Sandburg Ballfields Get Lifts

One improvement project was recently completed at Hampshire Park and another is under way at the Sandburg Learning Center Athletic Facility as the City works to keep its recreation infrastructure up to snuff for public enjoyment.

The old Hampshire Park play structure was demolished in early May and replaced with a new structure the following week, and the new park playground is now fully operational. The play structure, which was selected by neighborhood residents and benefited from a \$17,700 Gametime playground grant awarded to the City, includes an hour glass climber, multiple slides, arched loop ladder, whirlwind seat, wave climber, thunder ring, six swings, a separate play structure for kids ages 2–5, and more.

The Sandburg project will improve the baseball and soccer fields as well as provide better trail access to convenient parking. Sandburg is a principal location for soccer and Babe Ruth baseball for Golden Valley and surrounding communities. The two full-sized youth baseball fields were built in the early 1970s and have not had any capital improvements since. The soccer fields were positioned over three old softball fields and a running track.

Crews are removing the old softball fields and running track so the area can be re-graded for better fields, and plans are being finalized to solicit bids for irrigation, fence replacement, and concrete work for new dugouts. Key environmental improvements will include installation of proper drainage and storm water management facilities. The project is set to be completed by fall 2016.

The project is a partnership between the City of Golden Valley, School District 281, the Park Valley United FC, and the Armstrong-Cooper Youth Baseball Association with help from a Hennepin Youth Sports Program grant.



**BROOKVIEW PUB BOWL
LAWN BOWLING TOURNAMENT**

BRING YOUR FRIENDS, BUILD A TEAM, AND BOWL OVER THE COMPETITION

FRIDAY, SEPT 4–SUNDAY, SEPT 6, 2015

Lawn Bowling Coed Fours Team Event | \$125/Team

Register by | Aug 15, 2015

Sign Up Now! Open To Anyone Over 18

www.brookview.com/lawnbowling/tournament



2015 Construction Updates

Douglas Drive, Winnetka, JWC Projects May Cause Traffic Delays

Douglas Drive Utility Work

In preparation for next year's reconstruction of Douglas Dr, private utility companies are working on their systems within the road right-of-way during 2015. This includes reconstruction or relocation of CenterPoint Energy, Xcel Energy, Century-Link, Comcast, and other private utility company distribution systems.

Most of the utility work will be in the boulevard between the existing curb and gutter and property lines. Extensive impacts to traffic aren't expected, but there will likely be occasional lane shifts to accommodate construction.

Periodic utility construction updates will be provided throughout the summer. For more information, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/streets/construction/douglas-drive-construction.php. Full reconstruction of Douglas Dr will begin in spring 2016 and continue through fall 2017.

Hwy 55/Winnetka Intersection Upgrade

In June, construction will begin at the Winnetka Ave and Hwy 55 intersection to improve traffic flow. During construction, traffic lanes north and south of the intersection will be impacted

and backups are anticipated. Motorists are encouraged to use alternate routes.

Existing conditions at the intersection cause delays on local streets during peak hours (6:45–8:30 am and 3:30–6 pm). The project will add a southbound through-lane and dual protected left turns for northbound and southbound traffic entering Hwy 55. The cooperative project between the City, MnDOT, and Hennepin County will be completed in August 2015. For more information, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/streets/construction/index.php.

JWC Water Main Replacement

Work is under way on replacement of the deteriorating 36-inch pipe that delivers water from Minneapolis to the Joint Water Commission (JWC) Cities of Golden Valley, Crystal, and New Hope. The 50-plus-year-old concrete water main broke twice in the last two years, flooding homes and businesses in Robbinsdale. The project will cause some traffic delays in Crystal and Robbinsdale and requires that residents watch for notifications regarding water use (see below). For more information, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/watersewer/water/index.php.



Use Water Wisely This Summer

The Joint Water Commission (JWC) residents of Golden Valley, Crystal, and New Hope use more water on hot summer afternoons than any other time of year. To meet the demand on these high-volume days, the JWC relies on the storage capacity of its reservoirs in Crystal and Golden Valley.

This summer, the water reservoir in Crystal will be shut down because of the replacement of the 36-inch water main (see above), and all of the water for the three JWC cities will be pumped through the reservoir in Golden Valley. Although the JWC is not anticipating a shortage of water this summer, with the JWC's water reserve capacity cut in half, residents are encouraged to use water wisely, particularly on hot summer days.

If high water demand or other unplanned circumstances make it necessary for JWC customers to reduce water usage, the JWC may need to impose a partial watering ban or a ban on outdoor water use. Water customers would be notified of these restrictions through posts on the City websites, social media, local news outlets, and possibly other means.

Please note that watering restrictions are not currently in place and will only be enacted if required.

The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that up to 50 percent of water used outdoors is wasted due to evaporation, wind, or runoff caused by overwatering and suggests the following tips for using water wisely outdoors:

- It's best to water in early morning or evening (after the sun goes down), because significant amounts of water can be lost to evaporation during the heat of the day.
- Limit lawn watering during dry weeks to one inch per week. Check by setting a tuna can under the sprinkler—the lawn has enough moisture when it overflows.
- Adjust sprinklers so they aren't watering the driveway, the street, or your house.
- Inspect and repair/replace leaky hoses and irrigation systems.
- Sweep driveways and sidewalks rather than hosing them off.
- Don't leave a hose running while washing the car. Consider using a bucket instead.
- Save water in the garden by using mulch to maintain moisture in the soil, using a watering can rather than a hose to put water only where it's needed, and using water from a rain barrel to water the garden.

BROOKVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER

What To Do About Brookview?

City Considers Options For Replacement

Brookview Community Center is nearly 100 years old and has been expanded and remodeled several times over the years. With critical repairs looming, the City is faced with either investing in maintenance of the aging building or investing in a new building that better suits community needs.

At its May 5 meeting, the Golden Valley City Council moved forward in the process to replace Brookview Community Center by directing staff to hire the architecture firm Hammel, Green & Abrahamson (HGA) to begin a pre-design phase and public input process. The goal is to appropriately size conceptual designs put forth by a task force to align with community needs and budgetary constraints.

Community Task Force

In 2014 the City hired HGA to evaluate Brookview and develop a needs assessment, then work with staff and a Council-appointed task force of citizen representatives to study historical use patterns, community needs, and future program and revenue opportunities to come up with an initial feasibility study and conceptual design.

The Community Center Task Force spent nine months studying issues and alternatives related to how Brookview Community Center meets Golden Valley's needs for recreation programming, meeting spaces, banquet facilities, and community gathering spots as well as the needs of its golf customers.

At a check-in meeting with the City Council Oct 14, the Council directed the Task Force to develop a concept between \$9 and \$38 million, with \$9 million being the baseline cost to replace Brookview at its current size (approximately 20,000 square feet). At the Dec 9, 2014 Council/Manager meeting, the Task Force presented a summary report with recommendations that included a vision and initial design concepts for a larger community center facility at approximately 79,000 square feet and a cost of \$38 million.

At its Jan 20 meeting, the City Council received and filed the report and agreed to consider the recommendations as part

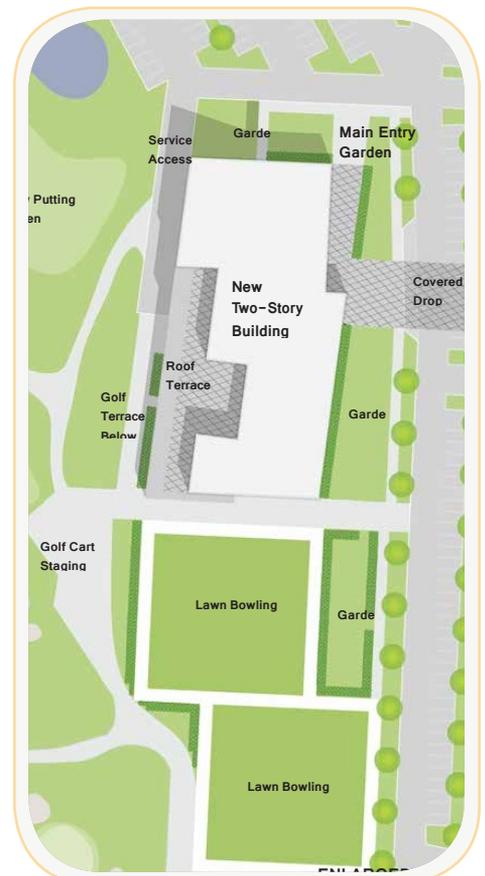
of the City's overall asset and infrastructure strategic plan (see pages 12–13).

Council next discussed the issue at its April 14 Council/Manager meeting. After considering tax impacts for the range of costs involved (see page 2), the Council directed staff to hire an architect and begin working on a scaled-down Brookview Community Center replacement plan with an approximate budget of \$9–\$12 million. The design would be required to include potential for future expansion. The City Council formally authorized that direction May 5.

Next Steps

City staff will work with HGA to integrate the Community Center Task Force recommendations into a pre-design scope that may include:

- replacement of key amenities needed to maintain current services



Site plan overview of community center as proposed by the Task Force.



- improved areas for current and future community programs, events, and classes
- enlarged facility areas wherever possible
- a focus on accessibility
- consideration for multi-use spaces
- an entrance/lobby that can serve as a gathering place
- location of building in a manner that takes advantage of Brookview's unique view and outdoor recreation areas, with connections to the green space
- use of building materials that reflect and enhance the park area and green space
- use of energy-efficient building technology

“The current Brookview building has areas dating to 1918,” says Parks and Recreation Director Rick Birno, “and aside from multiple problems that just can’t be patched any more, many areas of the building weren’t designed for use in public programming. If designed more efficiently for today’s world, a new building could better meet the community’s needs.”

The pre-design phase will also include two public information and idea-gathering meetings (see box below). Pre-design work will begin this summer. Schematic design would potentially begin in 2016 and could be included in the City’s 2016-2020 Capital Improvement Program.

For more information and updates, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation/brookview/brookview-study.php.

Brookview Community Center Replacement Open House

Learn more about the proposed replacement of Brookview Community Center, including process, initial design concepts, cost estimates, and more, then share your ideas and provide input. For more information, contact the Parks & Recreation Department at 763-512-2345.

Wed, July 15 & Mon, July 20 | 6–7:30 pm
Brookview Community Center
200 Brookview Parkway



Three drawings show proposed community center spaces as proposed by the Task Force (L to R: basement, first floor, second floor) at 79,000 square feet and \$38 million. City Council direction is to take these ideas and size them to a smaller \$9–\$12 million building.



Police Build Community Through Summer Fun

Cohesive communities are key to preventing crime, and summer wouldn't be summer in Golden Valley without programs that provide opportunities for residents to meet police officers and firefighters in a social setting.

Public Safety Open House

The annual Public Safety Open House “is a great opportunity for residents to meet the men and women that help keep them safe,” says Joanne Paul, crime analyst. The event features tours, demos, information, and fun, and is set for June 17, 6 pm, at the Police Department and all three Fire Stations. For more information, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/open-house/index.php.



Police and Fire in the Parks

Golden Valley police and firefighters started scheduling visits to local parks in 2010 as a way to make connections with kids and parents. Since then, Police & Fire In The Parks has become a weekly summer tradition that is helping strengthen relationships and build community. This year's dates and locations are:

- June 16: Gearty Park, 11 am
- June 24: Wesley Park, 11 am
- June 30: Hampshire Park, 2:30 pm
- July 7: Lion's Park, 2:30 pm
- July 15: Medley Park, 2:30 pm
- July 22: Scheid Park, 2:30 pm.



Coffee With A Cop



Throughout the year residents are invited to drop in for a cup of coffee and conversation with

Golden Valley police officers at various local venues. Upcoming Coffee with a Cop events are set for June 19, 8–10:30 am at the Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute, 3915 Golden Valley Rd

and July 21, 8–10:30 am, at Calvary Cooperative, 7600 Golden Valley Rd.

Bike-Along

Tour some of Golden Valley's trails and less well-known areas with Police Sgt Dave Kuhnly, head of the bike patrol unit, Sunday, June 28, 12:30–4:30 pm. The 10-mile tour begins and ends at the Golden Valley Police Department.



Kuhnly will guide residents through the local trail system while taking many detours to show points of interest—some recreational and some that are scenes of past crimes that have been investigated by the Police Department. To register, contact GVPD at 763-593-8079 or police@goldenvalleymn.gov.

Night To Unite



Night To Unite is an opportunity for neighborhoods to come together around the shared goal of a safe and healthy community. It also reinforces the Police Department's partnership with residents to deter crime. On Aug 4, Golden Valley neighborhoods are invited to join cities throughout Minnesota in having potluck dinners, ice cream socials, barbecues, bike parades, etc.

“It's a good chance to reconnect with neighbors,” Paul says. “You and your neighbors know what happens in your neighborhood, you know when something's not right, and the police rely on you to be their eyes and ears. That's much easier when you get to know your neighbors.” Visit www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/nighttounite/ to download a Night To Unite planning kit.

For more information about Golden Valley Police Department events and programs, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/police/index.php.

Neighbors Help Family Escape Fire

After an evening out on the patio enjoying a backyard chimenea fire with her family this April, Golden Valley resident Judy Rein called it a night around 9 pm. Her daughter-in-law and three grandkids went to bed shortly after, only to be woken up at 1 am by a pounding at the front door.

John Grunewald was driving back from a concert that Sunday morning. He lives a few blocks away from Rein's house and happened to go down Hampshire Ave on his way home. While driving by, he noticed flames towering off of Rein's garage. So he pulled over, dialed 911, and got out to alert the family inside.

"I ran up to the door and rang the doorbell like 30 times," Grunewald says. Finally, Rein's daughter-in-law answered the door. Rein woke up wondering what all the commotion was about.

"All I remember is, the two dogs barking and John saying, 'get out of the house! get out of the house!'" Rein says. "We got out and ran next door. He saved our lives."

The fire department arrived in time to douse the flames before they spread to the house.

"We believe we were minutes away from a total disaster," says Fire Chief John Crelly. "By the time we had the hoses out, the fire had consumed half of the garage. Four or five more minutes, it could have been into the entire roof of the house, or caused the ceiling to collapse, which means we were very close to having a multi-fatality fire."

After inspecting the scene, firefighters determined the flame likely started by an errant spark that had drifted out of the chimenea flue, floated 15 feet away and landed on a pile of firewood stacked against the garage.



Neighbors John Grunewald, Judy Rein, and Harold Hartsuiker pose in front of Rein's garage that was damaged in a fire this April at 1701 Hampshire Ave N.

Since smoke damage made the home uninhabitable, Rein spent the following week with her next door neighbors, Harold and Michon Hartsuiker.

Rein says the whole incident taught her many lessons. First, she'll pay attention to no-burn fire warnings from now on.

Second, she says she'll never leave a recreational fire without drowning it out with water, even if it's in an enclosed chimenea. She'll keep the chimenea farther from the house and garage and definitely farther from firewood.

Also, Rein says she'll renew her recreational fire permit, which helps ensure the fire pit set-up is as safe as possible.

"Boy, am I going to be more cautious when I have a fire outside," she says.

But one of the most resonating messages from this whole incident, Rein adds, is the value of neighbors.

"It's a reminder of how important your neighbors are," she says. "My neighbors are my saviors." 🌿



The culprit.

Heed These Safety Requirements For Recreational Fires

- Residents must obtain a City recreational fire permit and have it available during any rec fire.
- Fires must be a safe distance away from any structure (the International Fire Code recommends 25 feet) and at least 10 feet from any property line.
- Fire can be no larger than 3 feet in diameter and 3 feet high; pit must be surrounded by noncombustible and odor producing material.
- Only clean wood can be burned. No trash, leaves, or garbage can be burned or used to start a rec fire, and no flammable or combustible liquids shall be used.
- A garden hose or other adequate means of extinguishment must be available during any rec fire.
- The fire must be constantly attended by a responsible adult and extinguished when unattended.

For more information about recreational fires, including site and condition requirements, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/fire/permits/recreational-fires.php.

Managing Infrastructure

Planning Now For The Future

Infrastructure comprises all the basic structures and facilities that make a society habitable—buildings, water and sewer systems, transportation systems, etc—and people often take them for granted (that is, of course, until they stop working). Nearly every city, county, and state in the US is faced with the problem of aging infrastructure and how to pay for its renewal. Golden Valley is developing a long-term plan.

The first step is to help people understand how big the issue is. It's not just sewer and water systems. It's roads and bridges, effective police and fire equipment, and aging government buildings. It's outdated construction equipment, dump trucks, technology, mowers, play structures, and park shelters.

Most of the unseen infrastructure we use daily is a half a century or more old and, as populations grow, it's taking on service demands it was not built to handle. Currently, that infrastructure is maintained and patched up as problems arise, but these patches only push the larger problems further down the road.

The City of Golden Valley is developing a strategic plan that will help outline infrastructure project priorities and budget solutions. The long-term goal is to keep taxes and utility expenses lower than they would be if this infrastructure problem is allowed to grow into a full-blown crisis.

Meeting Expectations

According to the 2013 Community Survey, Golden Valley residents believe their City services represent a good value for their tax dollars, with 84 percent rating that value as either "excellent" or "good."

To maintain residents' expected level of service long into the future, while developing the strategic plan, the City Council will consider and take input on infrastructure projects and budget proposals to determine priorities and funding.

Financing Infrastructure

Many infrastructure projects are major purchases or construction that, due to their expense, cannot be financed in one year as part of the regular budgeting process. As such, they are included in the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) document, which schedules major expenditures for the upcoming five years and includes proposed financing (see page 2). The CIP is updated annually and adopted by the City Council each December.

The City Council will meet several times over the next two years to discuss infrastructure budget proposals, with public input encouraged along the way. Outcomes will be incorporated into the City's Comprehensive Plan, which reflects the goals and objectives of citizens and provides a blueprint for the City's future.

A Comprehensive (And Strategic) Plan

Golden Valley's Comprehensive Plan guides growth and redevelopment while protecting and enhancing natural resources and public infrastructure. It also ensures coordination with regional systems for transportation, surface water, sanitary sewers, and water supply.

The Metropolitan Council requires every municipality in the Twin Cities area to update its Comprehensive Plan every 10 years. Residents will also have a chance to see and comment on Golden Valley's full updated Comprehensive Plan in 2017 before it's submitted for approval by the Metropolitan Council in 2018.



PHOTO BY ISCO INDUSTRIES

Golden Valley Infrastructure At A Glance

Streets

Golden Valley owns 120 miles of streets that must be consistently maintained at an adequate level of service and safety. Through the City's Pavement Management Program (PMP), 100 miles of these streets have been reconstructed over the past 20 years. Ongoing maintenance is still needed to keep streets in good repair.



Water & Sanitary Sewer

Utility infrastructure is the underlying physical foundation of a city, as access to clean, safe water and disposal of sewage greatly affects quality of life. Most of Golden Valley's 113 miles of sanitary sewer pipe and 136 miles of water main were constructed in the 1950s and have reached or surpassed life expectancy.

Although some have been replaced as needed over the years as part of the PMP, the City is facing large expenditures for renewal and replacement of aging water and sewer lines.



The operating and capital improvement expenditures of the trunk water system are shared by the Joint Water Commission (JWC) Cities of Golden Valley, New Hope, and Crystal. The trunk sanitary sewer system is owned by Metropolitan Council Environmental Services, to which the City makes monthly payments for operations and capital improvements.

Public Buildings

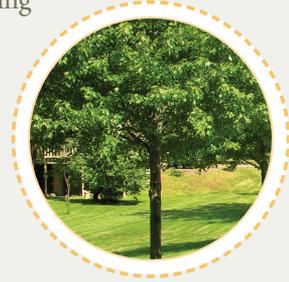
The City of Golden Valley owns 36 public buildings, ranging from those on the City Hall campus to Brookview Community Center (see pages 8-9) to park shelters, warming houses, and sewer system pumping stations. Most were built in the 1970s or before. A 2006 analysis revealed that all of them need some level of repair, and improvements are budgeted as funding permits. In some cases, demands for service have evolved and grown beyond a building's current capabilities.

Parks

Fifteen percent of Golden Valley is dedicated to parks and open space, and the City maintains 19 parks and 11 nature areas, including nearly 50 miles of trails, as well as numerous ball fields, courts, and activity areas. Due to budget con-



straints resulting from the recent recession, facility compliance and upgrades were delayed for all park buildings, fields, irrigation, courts, trails, signage, and lighting. Some of these facilities are moving to a critical decision point regarding continued operation. In addition, use of parks and athletic fields has increased, making it difficult to meet required and expected maintenance standards, and new and younger residents are requesting amenities currently not available in the park system.



Golden Valley's aging urban forest requires additional expenditures to maintain the environmental and economic benefits of a forest canopy. And to meet the challenges of non-native invasive plants and insect species, the City must budget for appropriate removal and replacement costs.

Storm Water

Storm water management is critical for protecting property and improving water quality in compliance with state and federal standards. Besides providing flood control, the City must ensure that storm water is treated on-site, that sediment is not deposited into lakes and streams, and that water is kept as clean as possible.



Vehicles & Equipment

For staff to provide services to citizens in a cost-effective manner, the City needs dependable, efficient vehicles and equipment. This includes fire trucks, snowplows, squad cars, and mowers as well as computers, firearms, fire hose, and phones, to name only a few. Even with the best of care and maintenance, vehicles and equipment often have a limited life span and are in frequent need of repair and replacement, or at the very least, technological upgrades.

Brookview Golf Course

Because of its age, Brookview Golf Course faces several challenges, including aging irrigation systems and deteriorating buildings. Most golf course maintenance is covered by an enterprise fund financed by user fees and which transfers profits to the City's General Fund. Major projects are included in the City's Capital Improvement Program. 



Understanding Roundabouts

These Safe, Efficient Intersections Coming Soon To Golden Valley

A roundabout is a circular intersection where traffic travels counterclockwise around a center island. They are often used in place of signal-controlled intersections due to their higher level of safety and traffic efficiency. The Douglas Drive reconstruction project will transform the intersections at Golden Valley Rd and Sandburg Rd into roundabouts by 2017.

One drawback to roundabouts is that drivers sometimes find them intimidating. While roundabouts might feel more dangerous because of the constant flow of traffic around one point, it's that very flow that makes them safer. All conflicting vehicles come from one direction. Potential conflicts are not at a right

angle or head on, which are the kind of crashes that result in the most serious injuries.

The lack of conflicting vehicles also means drivers may proceed through the intersection at slower speeds with minimal delay, reducing traffic congestion. Not only is this a safer and more efficient design, it also prevents idling and hard accelerating, which in turn reduces fuel consumption, pollution, and vehicle wear.

For these reasons, roundabouts have become fairly common across the country and in the Twin Cities metro area. As drivers get more used to them they will be less intimidating.

Roundabouts are different from neighborhood traffic circles and rotaries. Traffic circles are typically smaller and are used to calm traffic in residential areas. Rotaries, found in some parts of the United States and in Europe, are larger and typically function as higher speed intersections of major roadways. See below for guidelines for properly navigating a roundabout. 



→ navigating a ROUNDABOUT

← Navigating a roundabout can be a smooth process if you remember the following guidelines.

- Slow down as you approach the roundabout.
- If there's more than one lane, use the left lane to turn left, the right lane to turn right, and all lanes to go through, unless directed otherwise by signs and pavement markings.
- Yield to pedestrians and bicyclists crossing the roadway. You may need to yield at crosswalks before entering or as you exit the roundabout.
- Watch for signs or pavement markings that require or prohibit certain movements.
- When entering a roundabout, yield to vehicles already in the roundabout. Do not enter the roundabout until you have a safe gap in traffic coming from the left.
- After entering the roundabout, drive counter-clockwise until you reach your exit.
- Do not stop or pass within a roundabout.
- Make your way through the roundabout before pulling over to allow emergency vehicles to pass.
- As a pedestrian, use the median to cross one direction at a time, stay on designated walkways and sidewalks, and never cross to the center island.
- For biking, ride with traffic inside the roundabout or use the sidewalks around the roundabout. (If riding in traffic, follow the same rules as motorists. If using the sidewalk, walk the bike as a pedestrian.)

UPCOMING events

PHOTO BY PATRICK O'ROURKE, VIEWS OF THE VALLEY 2014

Concerts In The Park

Mondays, 7 pm, Brookview Park
(see page 16)

Puppet Wagon Shows

Tues & Thur, June 8–July 23
New shows weekly. Schedule at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation/youth/free-events-and-activities.php

Views Of The Valley Photo Contest

Fri, June 12 | 4:30 pm
(see page 16)

MINI US OPEN FOR KIDS

Sun, June 14, Brookview Par 3
Ages 3–12 with adult. Kids play and the adults caddie! Pre-registration required. Schedule tee times starting at 11 am by calling 763-512-2345. \$14 per golfer (\$12 resident).

Police & Fire In The Parks

June 16–July 22
(see page 10)

Public Safety Open House

Wed, June 17 | 6–8 pm
Police Dept & Fire Stations
(see page 10)

Coffee With A Cop

Fri, June 19 | 8–10:30 am
(see page 10)

Water Days @ Scheid Park

1: Fri, June 19 | 12:30–2:15 pm
2: Fri, July 10 | 12:30–2:15 pm
Ages 6–14 with adult. Details at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation/youth/special-events.php.

Police Bike-Along

Sun, June 28 | 12:30–4:30 pm
(see page 10)

GVHSF Golf Classic

Fri, July 10 (see page 2)

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Mon, July 13 | 7 pm
FREE Sebastian Joe's ice cream at the John Philip Sousa Band concert. Details at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/icecreamsocial/.

Coffee With A Cop

Tues, July 21 | 8–10:30 am
(see page 10)

Penny Carnival

Fri, July 24 | 10:30 am–12:30 pm
Brookview Park
Details at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation/youth/special-events.php.

Picnic & Music In The Park

Wed, July 29 | 11:15 am–noon
Brookview Park
Details at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation/youth/special-events.php.

Movie On The Green

Fri, July 31 | 8:45 pm
Brookview Lawn Bowling Green
"Big Hero 6"

Minnesota Night To Unite

Tues, Aug 4
(see page 10)

Movie In The Park

1: Thur, Aug 13 | 8:30 pm
Brookview Park
"The Mighty Ducks"
(sponsored by Twin City Tennis Camps)
2: Thur, Aug 20 | 8:15 pm
Scheid Park
"Frozen Sing-Along"
(sponsored by Culver's)

More event information at: www.goldenvalleymn.gov/calendar

FIRE RELIEF ASSOCIATION STREET DANCE



Sat, June 20 | 5–midnight
Chester Bird American Legion, Hwy 100 & Glenwood Ave
Free event sponsored by the Golden Valley Fire Relief Association to celebrate its bond with the community. Features music, food, family activities, and fireworks. Details at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/streetdance/index.php.



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www.goldenvalleymn.gov

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Concerts In The Park

Mondays, 7 pm, Brookview Park

Enjoy free concerts at the large picnic shelter. For more information, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/concertsinthepark/ or call 763-512-2345.

- 6/8 Golden Valley Orchestra
- 6/11 Robbinsdale City Band (*Thur*)
- 6/15 St Louis Park Community Band
- 6/22 Plymouth Concert Band
- 6/29 Gypsy Mania Hot Club Quartet (*sponsored by Culver's*)
- 7/6 The Wendinger Band
- 7/13 John Philip Sousa Band
{ICE CREAM SOCIAL}
- 7/20 The Banjo Boys Variety Band
- 7/27 Minnesota State Band
- 7/29 Picnic & Music in the Park with The Flyers (*11:15 am-noon*)
- 8/3 Wendy's Wiggle, Jiggle and Jam
- 8/10 The Choo Choo Bob Show (*sponsored by Lupient Buick/GMC*)
- 8/17 On The Air

VIEWS of the VALLEY

Deadline For Entries Is June 12, 4:30 pm



Once again it's time to enter your best photos of Golden Valley in the City's 23rd annual *Views of the Valley* photo contest. Residents can submit up to three 5x7 color or black-and-white photo finish prints (no slides, photo-copies, or prints not on photo-quality paper). Digital files are appreciated but must be accompanied by a 5x7 print on photo-quality paper. Do not mat or frame photos.

Winning entries are published in *CityNews* and the City website. First prize winners in each category receive \$50; grand prize is an additional \$50. The People's Choice winner will receive \$25. Winners will be notified in early July.

Photos are judged in three categories: Natural Golden Valley (landscapes, flora, fauna, etc); Golden Valley Lifestyle (cityscapes, buildings, people, activities, etc); and Enhanced (photos significantly altered by editing software, lenses, etc). Public voting for the People's Choice award will take place June 15-26 at City Hall and online at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/photocontest/index.php.

To enter, attach a completed entry form to each photo and mail or drop off at Golden Valley City Hall before 4:30 pm on June 12.

To read complete rules and print entry forms, visit www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/photocontest/. You may also call 763-593-8004. 🐦



A CLOSER LOOK BY AMY SANDS (2012), RASPBERRY INVADER BY SARAH O'ROURKE (2013), LOOKING FOR A STRIKE (2014)



**The City of Golden Valley
Is Now On Facebook**

Visit www.facebook.com/cityofgoldenvalleymn to "like" us on Facebook.

Annual Drinking Water Report Available Online

As required by the US Environmental Protection Agency, all community water systems must distribute an annual drinking water report to their customers before July 1. Golden Valley's is available at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/watersewer/water/index.php. Paper copies are available upon request from 763-593-8030. 🐦



This document is available in alternate formats upon a 72-hour request. Please call 763-593-8006 (TTY: 763-593-3968) to make a request. Examples of alternate formats may include large print, electronic, Braille, audiocassette, etc.

