



cityNEWS



◦ **OLD NUMBER 1: A GOLDEN VALLEY TREASURE**

This 1923 fire pumper traveled from Golden Valley in the 1940s to a fire department in Brown Deer, Wis, then back to Golden Valley, uniting two retired firefighters along the way.

SEE PAGE 11

CITY SURVEY RESULTS

Stability and satisfaction are two main themes in the results of Golden Valley's most recent citizen survey.

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City Council To Finalize 2017 City Budget And Levy

One of the City's primary goals is providing quality services for its taxpayers, and Golden Valley takes a responsible, long-term perspective to financial planning and management. This is evaluated each year, starting with budget planning in January and concluding Dec 6, when the City Council adopts the budget and certifies the final property tax levy.

At its Sept 20 meeting, the Golden Valley City Council certified a preliminary 2017 tax levy of \$21,663,103. This total tax levy is the amount of property taxes needed to help fund the City's general operations and bond payments.

Of the proposed total tax levy for 2017, \$14,998,330 is allocated to the General Fund for operations (police, fire, inspections, engineering, parks and recreation, transfers, etc), \$5,314,773 is allocated for bond payments (for pavement management and equipment purchases), and \$1,350,000 is allocated for bond payments for the new Brookview Community Center (see page 3).

Transfers from the General Fund help fund street overlays and improvements to buildings and parks. In 2017, \$850,000 is allocated to fund buildings, parks, and overlays.

Taxable market values overall increased by 6.61 percent. Due to the many changes in property values, the tax impact could vary for each property.

The median home value increased 1.6 percent after the Homestead Market Value Credit, from \$258,000 to \$262,000. The City portion of taxes on the median home is expected to increase by \$68.72, or \$5.73/month (this includes financing for



the new Brookview). Because values for each property vary, you may see a different total tax amount than your neighbor.

If your taxes increase, you may qualify for one of Minnesota's three property tax relief programs: the Homestead Credit Refund Program, the Targeting Property Tax Refund, or the Senior Citizen Property Tax Deferral Program. For more information about these programs, go to www.revenue.state.mn.us or call 651-296-3781.

More information about the proposed City budget is available at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/budget/index.php or call Finance Director Sue Virnig at 763-593-8010.

View the complete documents at:
www.goldenvalleymn.gov/budget.

Start Thinking About Those Summer Seasonal Jobs

In January, the City of Golden Valley will begin accepting applications for roughly 100 seasonal/part-time job opportunities, ranging from maintenance worker, playground leader, and athletic instructor to golf course ranger, grill cook, and lawn bowling official. Details will be posted in January at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/jobs.



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HRA Sells Bonds To Finance The New Brookview

Construction of the new Brookview is under way, with funding for the \$18.2 million facility included in the 2017 City budget.

The 36,000-square-foot building will be financed through lease-purchase bonds. After an April public hearing, Golden Valley's Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) passed a resolution approving the issuance of the bonds, which were sold in September and will be paid back over 20 years using property taxes.

Starting in 2017, the lease-purchase portion will be added to property tax bills. A median value home (approximately \$262,000) in Golden Valley will see an estimated \$7.58/month (\$91/year) increase in property taxes to pay back the 20-year lease-purchase bond and fund yearly operations for the building (see page 2 for the total estimated City property tax increase on a median value home).

The City website features a chart showing the taxable market value range for residential properties, corresponding tax increases, and the proportions of those taxes that will pay back the bond and fund ongoing operational costs. (These charts only show the tax impact for the new Brookview.) Similar charts are included for commercial properties and apartments. Go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation/brookview/brookview-study.php and click on "Financing This Project."



Brookview Planning Process

The Brookview Community Center replacement process began in 2014 and included a feasibility study and design proposal, work by a City Council-appointed citizen task force, and multiple public input meetings throughout.

The new building is under construction just south of the existing 19,000-square-foot community center, which will remain open during construction (see page 6). Completion of the building as part of the initial construction phase is set for fall 2017, at which time the old building will be demolished. Final landscaping will begin in fall 2017 and may require additional work during spring 2018.

For more information or to follow the process online, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation/brookview/brookview-study.php.

OPERATION: RESCUE ROOM

The 2017 West Metro Home Remodeling Fair is looking for ugly rooms that need rescuing.

The sixth annual Operation Rescue Room contest will give \$1,000 to the homeowner whose room is voted most in need of help by visitors to the Home Remodeling Fair on Feb 12, 2017.

Get rules and entry forms at www.homeremodeling-fair.com/fair-day-activities/operation-rescue-room/. Deadline to enter is Feb 6, 2017.

*Do you have
the baddest
bathroom in
the west metro?*



*The cruddiest
kitchen in the
county?*



SHOP ECO-FRIENDLY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

The holiday season can be a major contributor to waste and missed ecological opportunities. From Thanksgiving to New Year's Day, household waste increases by more than 25 percent, according to Rethink Recycling. But a little time and research can steer you to better choices for you and your community. Check out the following eco-friendly shopping and gift ideas.

BUY LOCAL

Buying local requires less transportation to ship the products and keeps more money within the community.



BUY CONSUMABLES

A box of teas, an arrangement of coffees, a bottle of wine (with a reminder to recycle the bottle)—if the gift is consumable, organic, and recyclable, it reduces waste and relieves the

recipient of guilt and clutter. Event tickets or memberships have similar benefits. If you're giving to people who are also environmentally conscious, you can give green, literally. Order a tree or shrub, have a tree planted in their honor, or make donations in their name to an environmental protection group or program.

Along those lines, the Rethink Recycling program offers these eco-friendly gift ideas:

- candlelit dinner
- passes to a favorite park
- gift certificates for dinner, a massage, or a day at the spa
- coupon books or gift certificates that offer your time to walk a pet, babysit, or help with extra chores

BE THOUGHTFUL

Waiting until the last minute to do your holiday shopping can lead to rushed, poorly selected gifts that go to waste. Take time to

make sure the receiver will actually use and enjoy your gift. If it's being used, it's not being wasted.

USE RECYCLABLE OR REUSABLE WRAPPING

While some companies have begun making recyclable wrapping paper, the vast majority is still non-recyclable.

If you can't find recyclable wrapping paper and really want to get resourceful, consider using:

- fabrics, like scarves or handkerchiefs
- reusable containers, like flower pots, that double as their own gifts
- reusable gift bags
- recyclable newspapers and brown bags that you can decorate at home
- maps or pages from an expired calendar

And remember not to throw conventional wrapping paper in the recycle bin. It has to go in the trash.

SEND ECARDS

Send electronic holiday cards to reduce paper waste, or buy cards printed on recycled paper.

USE REUSABLE SHOPPING BAGS

When shopping, try to use reusable cloth bags to cut down on the amount of paper or plastic bags that can really pile up during the holiday season. ♻️



Sources: Golden Valley Recycling, Hennepin County, Rethink Recycling, Twin Cities Metro Independent Business Alliance.

Golden Valley Recycles

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.

Sustainability And Resilience: Key Words For Community Planning

Climate trends suggest that in the next 50 years Minnesota will experience increased precipitation, hotter summers, warmer and wetter winters, and more severe weather events. Such changes could damage infrastructure, drain resources, and impair a City's capacity to respond to residents' needs. As part of its 2040 Comprehensive Plan, the City of Golden Valley is developing strategies to ensure it will survive and thrive under these chronic stresses and extreme events.

As encouraged by the Metropolitan Council, Golden Valley will include a chapter on sustainability and resilience in its Comprehensive Plan for the first time in the update due in 2018.

Sustainability aims to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. This will ensure that future generations of Golden Valley have the ability to use its resources to survive and grow.

Resilience is the capacity to respond, adapt, and thrive under changing conditions. This includes planning for more severe weather and prolonged heat waves, for improved health of residents, and for economic strength and diversity.

Resilience encompasses planning at several levels. For example, cities must develop strategies to respond to changing rainfall patterns that require additional storm water management capacity. Individuals should prepare their homes for prolonged power outages that may be brought on by severe weather.

Creating a sustainability and resilience plan is one of the City's top priorities. At the Sept 19 Comprehensive Plan Open House, attendees were encouraged to indicate their top priorities from a list of potential sustainability goals for Golden Valley. Citizens are encouraged to attend upcoming community engagement and stakeholder meetings to ensure continued input and feedback.

Sustainability Goals

Which of these should be Golden Valley's top priorities? Take the 2040 Comp Plan Survey online at bit.ly/GV2040CompPlan.

- Encourage use of renewable energy, including wind, solar, etc
- Encourage waste reduction, recycling, and composting
- Encourage energy efficiency for buildings and lighting
- Enhance water quality
- Maintain/increase vegetation
- Educate and engage the public in sustainability opportunities
- Enhance air quality
- Foster local food production
- Build community resilience to changing climate

Consideration of the community's vulnerabilities—and responses to those vulnerabilities—will strengthen Golden Valley's ability to prepare for and respond to climate impacts. To assess how you can prepare your home for future climate impacts, take the online preparedness questionnaire at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/about/sustainability-and-resilience.php. 🌱

City Begins GreenStep Evaluation Process



How is Golden Valley doing when it comes to sustainability efforts like efficient building practices, land use, and

economic development? How does it measure up to other Minnesota cities? GreenStep Cities is a free, voluntary program facilitated by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency that evaluates and tracks progress towards such goals.

Golden Valley became Minnesota's 105th GreenStep city in June 2016. This fall Minnesota GreenCorps member Hannah Garry began working with the City on its GreenStep program and various sustainability initiatives.

GreenCorps helps preserve and protect the state's environment while training a new generation of environmental professionals. The program places Americorps members with organizations around Minnesota, where they will serve for 11 months on focused environmental projects that help build community resilience (see story above).

Garry hopes to help Golden Valley move from a Step One to a Step Two City before her service year ends in August 2017.

To learn more about the Golden Valley's participation and progress in the GreenStep Cities program, go to <http://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/>. 🌱

Recreation Highlights

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

Youth

Youth Basketball (grades 2–7)—January–mid-March, register by Dec 9, \$60. Volunteer coaches needed.

Mites Basketball (grades K–1)—Instructional program for little hoopsters. Jan 28–March 18, Crystal Community Center, \$50, registration opens Dec 1.

Adult

Boot Camp—Come ready to burn calories and build endurance while having a great time. Jan 8–March 12, 9–10 am, Davis Community Center, \$50 res/\$53 non-res.

Seniors

Holiday Tea—Entertainment, finger foods, and deserts. Festive attire encouraged. Bring a tea cup and saucer. Dec 12, 1–2:30 pm, Brookview, \$9. Register by Dec 9.

Money Matters—Dec 15: “What to know to get your home ready for sale;” Jan 19: “Leaving a Legacy.” Both 10 am, Brookview. Call 763-512-2339 to register.

Coffee Talk—Jan 25: “Care of Houseplants,” 9:45 am, Brookview, \$2 at door. Call 763-512-2345 to register.

Mary Wanderers Travel Show—Be the first to hear about our travel adventures of one day and longer trips. Jan 30, Brookview, \$4. Register by Jan 26.

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.

Brookview Open During Construction

Even with construction of the new Brookview under way, Brookview is open for business all winter, offering disc golf and trails for fat tire biking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, skijouring, and winter walking. Warm up at the outdoor fire pit and enjoy a variety of food and beverage offerings, plus discounted appetizers and drinks, during the new “Brookview Buzz” happy hour. Upstairs, Parks and Recreation activities will continue as usual.

Brookview’s Winter Highlights

Brookview Buzz—All week, Brookview Bar & Grill will serve cocktails and menu options customers have come to expect, as well as feature a brand new happy hour from 2–5 pm daily. “We’ve done late night happy hour during golf season, but Brookview Buzz will be our first real after-work happy hour,” says Kim Straw, assistant golf operations manager.



Trivia Nights & Vikings Games—Are you a trivia wiz? Weekly trivia nights start Dec 8 on Thursdays at 6 pm. The trivia quiz consists of six rounds, covering everything from pop culture to history to geography, plus a picture-image round, song-sound round, or question matching. Prizes are given out each week. Another new indoor activity will be Vikings parties for Sunday noon games.

Fat Tire Biking—For the third year, Brookview will offer fat bike rentals for use on the winter trails. Fat bikes are rented in two-hour increments for \$25 and come with a bike helmet (required), a small storage bag, and lights for after-dark trail use. A waiver is required for all bike rentals (parent/guardian signature required for those under age 18), as is a credit card hold until the bike is returned. Rentals are available during winter hours. Call 763-512-2305 for reservations. If you have your own fat-tire bike, there is no fee to use the trails.

Disc Golf—For the second year, Brookview will offer an 18-hole disc golf course and host a number of tournaments. Disc golf works like regular golf, but instead of hitting a ball into a hole, players throw specially-designed discs into chain baskets, counting up the number of throws it takes to get from the launch point to the basket. There is no fee for disc golf.

Winter Trails—Once there’s a decent layer of snow, Brookview will offer groomed trails for skate style cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, skijouring, and winter walking.

For a full schedule and hours of operation, go to www.brookviewgolf.com/winter-recreation. Rest rooms and locker rooms will be available. For updates on construction of the new Brookview, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation/brookview/brookview-study.php.

Skating Rinks in Golden Valley

Golden Valley maintains skating areas at 10 City parks. Opening day is set for Sat, Dec 22, with staggered closing dates in February. To see a list of rinks, amenities, and hours of operation, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/parks/skatingrinks.





HRC Conversations

Three major trends are shaping Minnesota and Golden Valley as we move into the future: population shifts, aging, and growing diversity. The Golden Valley Human Rights Commission's (HRC) goal is to encourage dialogue about what this means in a three-part series. This is the last of three articles.

Golden Valley Invites Discussion On Population Diversity

Though Golden Valley is more diverse than Minnesota as a whole, the rest of the state has and will see a faster shift toward diversity. There are reasons why Golden Valley falls behind in this area, and the City is working to address them.

According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Minnesota is about 82 percent white, 6 percent black, 5 percent Hispanic, 5 percent Asian, 2 percent multiracial, and 1 percent American Indian.

Populations of color, which make up approximately 19 percent of the State's overall population (and 25 percent of Golden Valley's), are responsible for the largest change in population numbers. Between 2010 and 2014 populations of color increased by 13.4 percent, whereas the white, non-Hispanic population increased by less than 1 percent. People aged 40 years and younger make up the bulk of the shift in increased diversity, with one in six people under age 20 being children of immigrants.

Diversity in Golden Valley is expected to rise with that of the rest of the state, but the City will not see as big a shift in the make-up of its ethnicity as Minnesota overall, says Jason Zimmerman, City planning manager.

"We don't expect to see a huge surge in diversity, but as we've taken feedback on the City's Comprehensive Plan, we've had some residents express a desire for more diversity, and we will continue to work with residents on ways to promote it," Zimmerman says.

That said, it's important to note that diversity is about much more than just ethnicity, says Andy Snope, City Council liaison to the Golden Valley HRC. It also means respect for and appreciation of differences in gender, age, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, education, religion, and economic status.

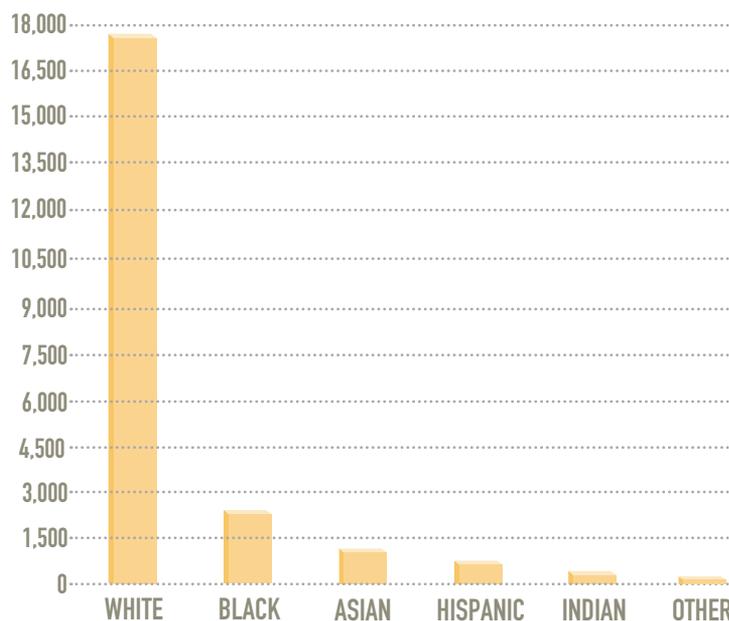
With a City as densely developed as Golden Valley, any demographic changes happen slowly, and the Comprehensive Plan is more about the physical aspects of the City than it is

about the social aspects. But, Zimmerman adds, that's not to say the physical can't affect the social, or vice versa.

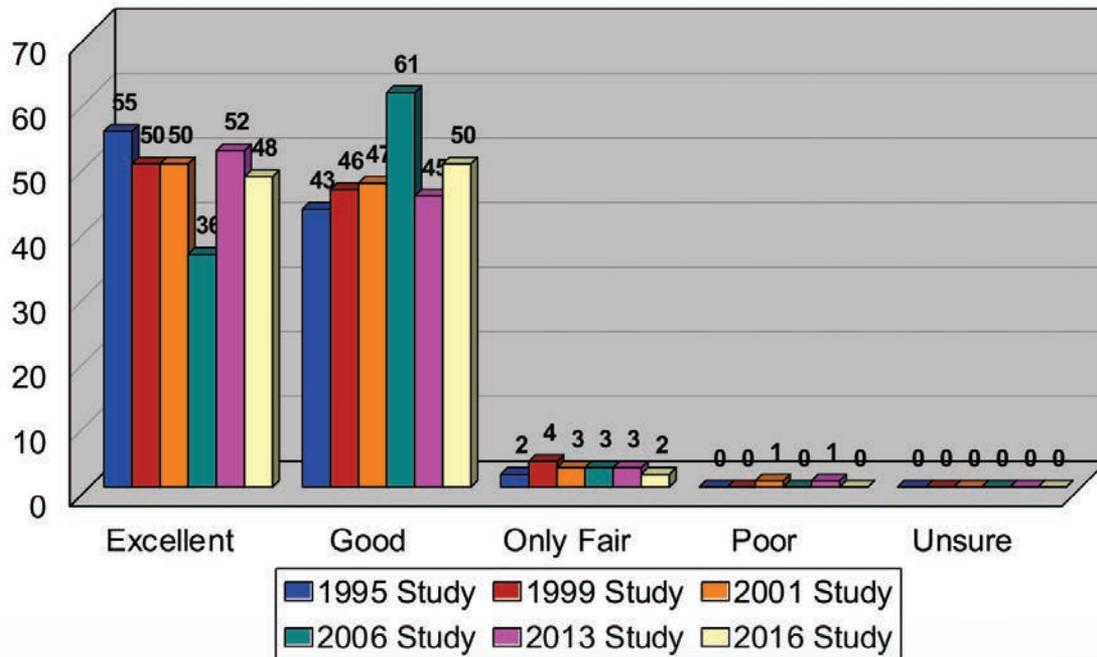
"As we put forth the elements of the Comp Plan, we welcome suggestions on what, if anything, we're doing that could be modified to ensure more diversity, or if there's anything that people see as a barrier to more diversity that we can mitigate with future planning," Zimmerman says. "We invite people to share their thoughts and we hope to generate a discussion."

To share your ideas and suggestions, go to the City's 2040 Comprehensive Plan web page at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/planning/comprehensiveplanupdate and click on "Comprehensive Plan Survey" and "Share Your Ideas." 🐾

GOLDEN VALLEY'S POPULATION



Quality of Life Rating



Citizen Survey Shows Vibes Of Stability, Satisfaction

Golden Valley citizens remain very pleased with their community. So say results of a survey conducted by the City in August 2016 to measure residents' satisfaction with quality of life, service delivery, and some specific issues where input is needed for future planning.

According to the survey, a solid 98 percent of residents rate the quality of life in Golden Valley as either "excellent" or "good," with 48 percent rating it as "excellent." Just 2 percent post "only fair" ratings. These positive ratings have held fairly constant since 1995.

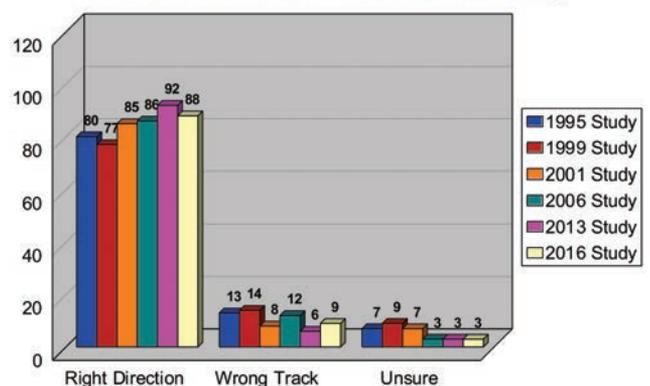
"The 48 percent 'excellent' puts you within the top five suburban communities across the metropolitan area currently over the past two years," said Bill Morris, president of Morris Leatherman Company, as he briefed the City Council in October on the surveyors' results.

When people were asked what makes Golden Valley high quality, Morris said they ranked "good housing" and "strong neighborhoods" first, followed by "nice people," and then "City government" and "schools."

When asked about low quality aspects of the community, the reaction was "quite startling," said Morris. "Thirty-nine percent said there's nothing low quality here, and of that, about a third indicated 'how dare you ask that question.'"

"People here are very, very optimistic," said Morris. Eighty-eight percent feel the city is moving in the "right direction," while 9 percent think it is going "off on the wrong track." Although this reflects a 4 percent decrease from the last sur-

Direction of Community



vey, Morris explained that given the sample, it isn't statistically significant.

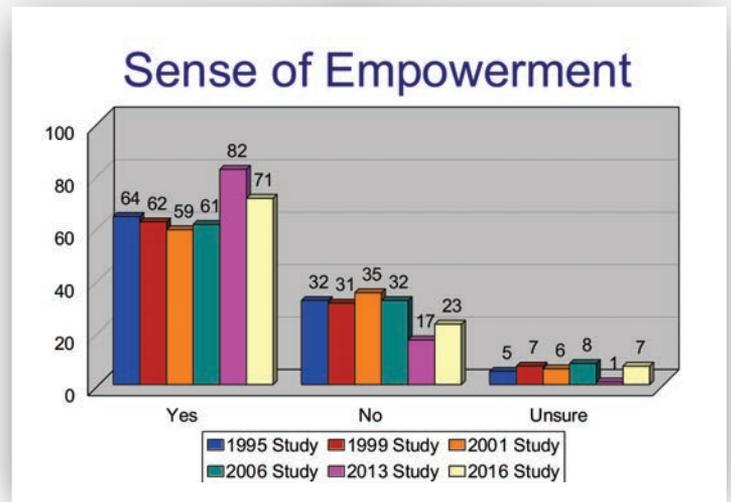
Golden Valley residents also feel more empowered than the suburban area norm, said Morris. Seventy-one percent feel they could have an impact on the way things are run in Golden Valley (an 11 percent decrease since 2013 but still 10 percent higher than 2006), while 23 percent think they could not.

High Ratings For City Services

The “average positive rating for all City services was an astonishingly solid 95.2 percent,” reported Morris. “Residential views of City government continue to rank among the top four or five cities in the metropolitan area. Confidence in the future, which was very shaky in the 2006 study, is maintaining high levels of stability.”

Fifty-two percent of residents report having contact with City staff, a level 6 percent higher than the 2013 study. Eighty-seven percent rate the staff as “excellent” or “good,” while only 8 percent rate them critically, relatively unchanged from 2013.

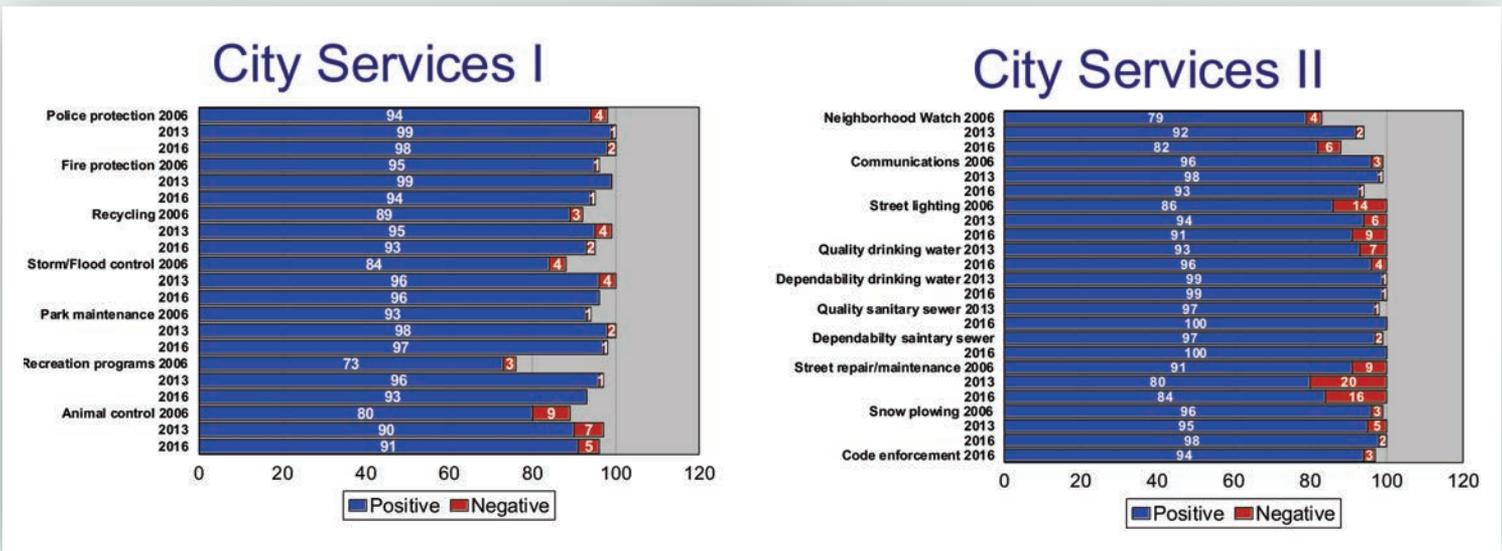
Eighty-five percent either “strongly approve” or “approve” of the City Council, while 11 percent register disapproval.



Moving Forward

“Once again, Golden Valley citizens remain very pleased with their community — City services, City staff, and City Council,” said Morris. “There are no major declines in service ratings, indicating the 2013 changes were not a fluke but a significant and sustainable change.”

The City will use results from this year’s survey as community input for the 2040 Comprehensive Plan update. To learn more, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/planning/comprehensive-planupdate.



Get The Full Report

To keep track of Golden Valley’s progress over the years, the City Council conducted community surveys in 1995, 1999, 2001, 2006, 2013, and again in 2016. As in past years, the phone survey randomly sampled 400 households with an error rate of plus or minus 5 percent.

To watch Morris’s presentation to the City Council, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/council/meetings.php, then click on the “Watch on TV or Online” link and open the Oct 18, 2016 City Council meeting link. See the full report at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/community/survey.

Morris Leatherman’s clients include metro area cities such as Plymouth, Maple Grove, Edina, Eden Prairie, St Louis Park, Crystal, New Hope, Bloomington, Minnetonka, Burnsville, Richfield, Woodbury, and Eagan, to name a few, as well as school districts and corporations.

Shopping Season Can Be A Holiday For Crooks

Protect Yourself From Seasonal Theft And Fraud

As people head out to the stores or order items online during the holiday season, crooks see many opportunities for crime.

Joanne Paul, Golden Valley crime analyst, offers some tips on how to avoid being a criminal's target this shopping season.

Package Theft

With more and more people ordering gifts and other valuables online, there's a corresponding uptick in the number of packages stolen from doorsteps, Paul says.

"These thefts increase because online shopping has increased," she says. "But they're easily avoidable."

First, when purchasing an item, request a mandatory signature so the package isn't just left on the stoop. Better yet, if you know you won't be home when the package arrives, arrange to have it delivered to your place of work, or request to have it held at the post office or delivery hub and pick it up yourself.

The longer the package sits unattended on a doorstep, the higher the chances it will be snatched. If that happens, Paul says, call the police and report the crime, then notify whichever company was in charge of the delivery.

Credit Card Fraud

A bigger worry than package theft, Paul says, is credit card fraud, which also increases the more people shop online.

"Credit fraud is one of the fastest growing crimes online," Paul says. "Make sure you use credit cards on secure sites, and check

your credit card and bank statements frequently. Make sure you can account for everything on those statements."

If you do see any suspicious activity, report it to the bank or credit card company immediately.

Theft From Vehicles

Keep in mind that crooks may be casing parking lots this shopping season for cars that contain valuables.

If you buy something, put it in the trunk so it's out of sight. Also, put it in the trunk before you head out to the next location. If a crook sees you take an item from the backseat of your car and put it in the trunk, they now know what's in there.

Don't Advertise To Crooks

If you recently purchased a valuable item, like a large-screen TV, break the box down so it's not visible after you throw it away.

"If you leave a giant box out on the sidewalk, you'll be advertising to crooks that there's a new flat-screen TV in your house," Paul says.

Keep Things Locked And Secure

Finally, always remember to lock the doors to your car, your home, and garage, and password protect your wi-fi network. Don't let this shopping season become a holiday for crooks. 



2017 Citizen's Police Academy

Tues, Jan 17–March 7, 6–9 pm

Golden Valley Police Department

Go behind the scenes at the Golden Valley Police Department. Get applications at the Police Department (7800 Golden Valley Rd) or at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/police/gvpdu. Tuition is free!

Seven-week course covers:

- 911 Dispatch Center
- Police Investigations

- Crime Analysis
- Hennepin County Crime Lab
- Hennepin County Canine Unit
- NW Metro Drug Task Force
- SWAT Team
- Use of Force
- Patrol Operations

For more information, call the Golden Valley Police Department at 763-593-8079. 



HISTORICAL FIRE TRUCK SHAPES THE HISTORIES OF TWO RETIRED FIREFIGHTERS

In 1943, a group of concerned citizens pooled \$400 to buy Golden Valley's first fire truck, a 1923 four-wheel drive, 200-gallon capacity Oshkosh. Refurbished with a large, gold number "1" on both sides, atop wooden wheels the pumper truck would dispatch at max speeds of 10 to 15 mph, depending on how much water it carried.

"A kid on a bike could outrun this truck," says Jim Murphy, former Golden Valley assistant fire chief. He is also responsible for bringing it back to Golden Valley after it was sold to a collector in Wauwatosa, Wis for \$700 in 1967. At the time, the Fire Department didn't have room to store the old truck, despite its classic status and historical significance. For Murphy, regaining it became a personal mission. Finding it, though, wasn't easy.

The truck had changed hands several times over the previous 14 years, and no one knew exactly where it had ended up. The only thing Murphy could go on was the sales receipt. Like a detective following leads, he started making calls. Lots of calls.

"I had to find out where it was," Murphy says. "Took two years of searching."

Family History

Joe Muehlbach purchased the truck in the early '70s. He was a volunteer fire fighter in the Village of Brown Deer, Wis.

"The captain and I decided we wanted to buy a fire engine," Muehlbach says. "An old one." He heard about a collector who might have just what they were looking for.

The Golden Valley truck became a fixture in Brown Deer, and to this day it remains a fond part of Muehlbach family memories.

"My dad would always bring it to homecoming and Fourth of July parades," says Kerri Schmidt, Muehlbach's daughter. "As kids, we'd ride on it and throw candy."

The Muehlbachs had the truck for about 10 years before Murphy tracked them down to negotiate the purchase. It wasn't easy for Muehlbach to let it go. In fact, no one in the family wanted to lose it.

"I remember hearing about it getting sold and being really disappointed," Schmidt says. "But I'm glad it's back in its home now."

Back Home

Murphy bought the truck for \$1,700 with financial help from the Fire Relief Association and Jim Lupient/Lupient Oldsmobile. He traveled out personally to retrieve Old Number 1.

"Blew three tires on my trailer trying to get it back from Milwaukee," Murphy says. He left the truck on the side of the road, came back to Golden Valley, secured the use of a flatbed trailer from Liberty Carton, and returned to bring Old Number 1 the rest of the way. After a significant amount of repair and restoration by a team of firefighters and Lupient staff, the truck was transformed to its early glory and became a regular feature in Golden Valley parades. It's currently housed in Fire Station 2.

For Murphy it was worth the effort, a point of pride, he says—the truck is a part of Golden Valley's history. For Muehlbach, the truck is a part of his personal history. And for both men it's a symbol of something bigger: the long and honorable tradition of firefighting and what that history means to them.

Last year, Muehlbach's granddaughter visited Old Number 1 to have her picture taken with the truck. It was included in a scrapbook given to him as a Christmas gift. He keeps it in a room with his other firefighting memorabilia.

"Where I'm standing, you would see my little room here, my old badge on the wall, with a plaque, and then a big picture frame, with three big pictures of the Golden Valley engine," Muehlbach says. "There's a lot of good memories." 🌈



Jim Murphy was instrumental in bringing Old Number 1 home to Golden Valley.

WINTER IS COMING — BE PREPARED

Winter in Minnesota is so much easier when you know what to do. Here's a quick tutorial.

Plowing & De-icing

To keep traffic moving, crews first plow collector and arterial streets that connect neighborhoods to State and County roads. Plowing stops if strong winds and drifting result in unsafe conditions; it resumes when conditions improve. However, snow accumulation from consecutive snowfall events of less than 2 inches or hazardous/slippery conditions may initiate plowing and/or parking restrictions (see page 14 for winter parking rules).

Depending on weather conditions, de-icing crews use a variation of salt and additives on icy areas. Priority areas are treated first, and all other areas are done when time permits. Priority areas include:

- intersections of City streets and County and State roads, school and pedestrian crossings, bridge decks, and all arterial street stop sign intersections
- street intersections having higher than average traffic volumes, and streets with hills and curves
- all other stop signs and areas deemed hazardous by public works or police staff

Dealing With Plow Damage

The City is not liable for damages to obstructions in the road right-of-way (irrigation heads, landscaping, etc). These obstructions should either be removed from the right-of-way or marked

SHOVEL IT

As snow accumulates throughout the season, fire hydrants get buried, creating problems for firefighters.

When something is burning, stopping to dig out a hydrant wastes crucial time.

That's why the Golden Valley Fire Department needs help keeping fire hydrants clear of snow. A six-foot clear space around the circumference of a hydrant will help reduce the time it takes firefighters to hook up hoses if a fire occurs in your neighborhood.

The best time to shovel out a hydrant is after the streets are plowed, before snow accumulates and freezes.

Help make this winter a little better and a lot safer for your neighbors and your community by adopting a fire hydrant.

While shoveling your driveway, take an extra 10 minutes to shovel out the closest hydrant.

It could save lives. 



clearly so plow drivers can avoid them. The City will only repair mailboxes actually hit by a plow and installed to United States Postal Service Residential Mailbox Standards (for details, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/streets/maintenance.php). Check your mailbox to see that it complies. Sod damage can be reported to Public Works at 763-593-8030 in the spring. Damages to sod are repaired each spring with black dirt and seed or sod.

Snow Removal From Private Property

Minnesota State Statute (169.42) and City Code (Section 8.08) prohibit removing snow and ice from private property (including driveways and parking lots) to a roadway, across a roadway, or onto a sidewalk or adjacent property. If you or your plowing contractor have questions regarding this, contact Bert Tracy, public works maintenance manager, at 763-593-3981 or btracy@goldenvalleymn.gov.

Safety First!

Efficient, effective snow removal requires public cooperation. Please follow these important reminders to help stay safe this winter:

- Keep garbage cans and recycling carts in the driveway and off roadways and sidewalks.
- Keep sleds, toys, and portable basketball hoops away from the street.
- Never build snow forts or snow sculptures in the snow piles along the street.
- Reduce speed and keep a minimum distance of 50 feet from snowplows and sand trucks (frequent backing is necessary, and rear visibility is very limited).
- Never drive into a snow cloud or pass vehicles while they're plowing.
- Stay away from the end of a driveway when a snowplow is approaching.
- Listen to weather forecasts and adjust any travel plans accordingly.

Winter Parking Restrictions

Golden Valley's winter parking restrictions are in effect Nov 1–March 31 from 2–6 am daily. In addition, there is no parking on public streets after a snowfall of 2 inches or more until streets have been cleared curb to curb. Please see page 14 for details.



City Continues To See Decreases In I/I

Over the last 10 years the City of Golden Valley has significantly reduced the amount of inflow and infiltration (I/I), or clear water, flowing into the sanitary sewer systems. This means less pressure on the sewer system, less wear and tear on the sewage treatment plant, and fewer (and smaller) Metropolitan Council penalty fees.

Because the regional sanitary sewer system was designed to handle sewage, not excess clear water, it becomes overloaded during times of high groundwater and/or heavy rainfall. The result is increased costs for needlessly putting clear water through the wastewater treatment process, sewer backups in homes, and discharges into rivers and other water bodies.

To combat the growing problem, the Metropolitan Council requires cities to reduce their excess flows. Since Golden Valley was a major I/I contributor, in 2007 the City Council approved a point of sale I/I inspection program requiring properties to pass a sanitary sewer inspection before being offered for sale or transferred to a new owner. The program, along with repairs of the public system, has resulted in significant decreases in Golden Valley's I/I.

Because of the age of Golden Valley's housing stock, about 90 percent of homes must make repairs to become I/I compliant before being sold to another owner, says RJ Kakach, engineer. Today, 54 percent of properties in the city have been inspected and 44 percent are I/I compliant.

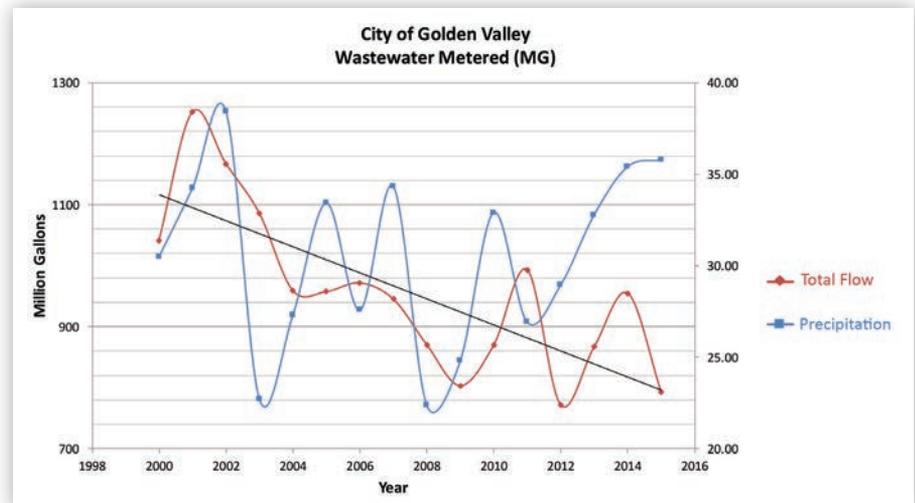
Inflow: When clear water from illegal connections of sump pumps, downspouts, and foundation drains is channeled directly into sanitary sewer pipes

Infiltration: When groundwater seeps into sewer pipes via cracks or leaky joints

Tracking I/I progress can be difficult when annual precipitation fluctuates so dramatically. But as shown in the chart below, when data is analyzed over several years, trends show a marked decrease in the flow of wastewater even in years of high precipitation.

The City offers a program to help residents finance sewer repair costs through special assessment. For more information, contact the Physical Development Department at 763-593-8030.

For non-PMP area I/I inspections, the application fee is \$250 for residential properties and \$750 (per building) for commercial or multi-unit buildings. To schedule an inspection, call 763-593-8030 between 8 am and 4 pm. 📍



PMP Revitalizes Streets

Golden Valley's Pavement Management Program (PMP) rehabilitates the City's aging streets as a long-term investment in the community's infrastructure.

The current section of the PMP includes streets in the area north of Plymouth Ave, east of Hwy 169, south of Naper Ave, and west of the General Mills James Ford Bell Research Center. Because required utility repairs exceeded the planning level cost estimates, the original project was split into three small projects for 2015, 2016, and 2017.

Streets are reconstructed to City standards, including concrete curb and gutter.

Necessary repairs are also made to the storm sewer, water mains, and sanitary sewer mains. In 2017 the City will reconstruct:

- Olympia St from Mendelssohn Ave N to Gettysburg Ave N
- Gettysburg Ave N from Olympia to Naper St
- Hillsboro Ave N from Olympia to Naper
- Independence Ave N from Olympia St to Earl St
- Wheeler Blvd from Mendelssohn to Earl

- Naper St from Independence to Flag Ave N

The City has completed preliminary survey and design work and met with affected property owners (a public hearing was held in January 2015). The City will bid the project in February, and work is expected to start in spring 2017.

When all reconstruction is complete, ongoing maintenance will help keep streets in good condition. For more information about Golden Valley's PMP, contact the City at 763-593-8030. 📍

Douglas Drive Reconstruction

Crews Prepare For Winter Work

Since June, crews have worked hard to keep the Douglas Drive reconstruction project on schedule, focusing on Douglas Dr (County Rd 102) between Duluth St (County Rd 66) and Medicine Lake Rd (County Rd 70) and the connecting segment of Duluth St.

Over the winter, when rain is less likely to disrupt work and create unsafe conditions, crews will reconstruct the box culvert at Basset Creek and work on the Honeywell pond.

Winter Construction Work

The box culvert reconstruction will improve its functionality and the aesthetics of the creek crossing. It will also align with improvements the City has already made to Basset Creek.

Improvements to the Honeywell pond will include:

- excavating the pond to expand its size and holding capacity, providing additional water quality benefit
- grading the east bank to create a more gradual slope
- creating benched tiers on the sides of the pond to improve safety

The pond will also be connected to a newly constructed innovative pump and irrigation system. The new system will pump water from the pond to Sandburg Learning Center to irrigate the athletic fields. Water will also be pumped to an underground infiltration vault to the south, where it will be naturally cleaned as it reenters the ground.

Work on both projects will begin in January 2017.



New pavement is in place on the north end of Douglas Dr.

Winter Detours

Starting the first week of January, there will be a full closure of Douglas Dr between Duluth St and Golden Valley Rd to allow for the winter construction work. All through traffic should use the new marked detour that follows Hwy 55, Hwy 100, and Duluth St.

The detour will remain in place through the 2017 construction season.

You will still be able to get to your favorite local businesses, and access will be maintained for residents in the construction zone. However, Douglas Dr will be completely closed at the creek crossing between Knoll St and Phoenix St while crews construct the new box culvert.

To learn more about the Douglas Drive reconstruction project, including an anticipated schedule for 2017, visit www.hennepin.us/douglasdrive. You can also sign up for regular email or text updates there. To contact the project, call 612-543-3485 or email douglasdrive@hennepin.us. 

WINTER PARKING REMINDERS

Don't forget—parking in Golden Valley is prohibited on public streets and alleys Nov 1–March 31 from 2–6 am daily. This is a change from the former midnight–6 am restriction, which was modified by the City Council Sept 6. Vehicles may be parked on private property in parking lots and driveways.

Parking is also prohibited on public streets after a snowfall of at least two inches until the snow has stopped falling and the street has been plowed to the curb line. During a large snowstorm the City may plow a street multiple times. Keeping parked vehicles off the street helps crews efficiently and effectively clear

the snow. Vehicles in violation are cited by patrolling police. Vehicles found to be obstructing traffic or snowplows, and those still in violation after 24 hours, may be towed.

To request a temporary exemption from the winter parking ordinance, fill out the online winter parking waiver form at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/permits/index.php. All waivers are temporary and are not valid during a snowfall of 2 inches or more.

To stay informed, sign up for Golden Valley winter parking reminder email alerts at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/news/subscribe. 

UPCOMING events

GVPD "Toys for Tots" Drive
through Dec 15 (see page 16)

MAILBOX TO THE NORTH POLE

through Dec 16

Brookview Community Center

Drop off letters at Santa's special Direct-to-the-North Pole mailbox at Brookview Community Center. Include full name and address for replies.

Brookview Picnic Shelter 2017 Reservations

Thur, Jan 12 | 8 am

Brookview Community Center

Opening day for Golden Valley residents to reserve Brookview picnic shelters for 2017 (in-person only). Online registration for residents begins Jan 13. Details at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/parks/brookview/shelters.php.

HRC Honors Dr Martin Luther King, Jr Day

27th Annual MLK Holiday Breakfast

Mon, Jan 16 | 7-9 am

Minneapolis Convention Center

The Golden Valley Human Rights Commission sponsors two tables at the 2017 MLK Holiday Breakfast presented by The General Mills Foundation and The United Negro

College Fund. Beginning Jan 3, 2017, complimentary tickets are available first-come, first-served at City Hall to Golden Valley residents and students who attend school within Golden Valley. Get details at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/boards/humanrights/index.php.

Citizen's Police Academy

Tues, Jan 17-March 7 (see page 10)

WINTER FAMILY FESTIVAL

Fri, Jan 22 | 6-8 pm

Wesley Park

Fun for all ages, with sledding, ice skating, hayrides, hot chocolate, and a bonfire with marshmallow roasting. Free!

Operation Rescue Room Entry Deadline

Feb 6 (see page 3)

West Metro Home Remodeling Fair

Sun, Feb 12 | 10:30 am-3 pm

Eisenhower Community Center

For event details, go to www.homeremodelingfair.com.

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

CANADIAN PACIFIC HOLIDAY TRAIN

Whistlestop & PRISM Food Drive

Sat, Dec 10 | 3:35-4:10 pm

**Golden Hills Dr Railroad Crossing,
Golden Valley**

The 1,000-foot Canadian Pacific (CP) Holiday Train has traveled across the United States and Canada since 1999, entertaining communities and raising money and collecting donations for local food banks. The train will make its first stop in Golden Valley Dec 10, with all proceeds benefiting

PRISM. It's 14 rail cars will be decorated with hundreds of thousands of LED lights and holiday designs. Upon arrival, a stage door lowers for musical performances by Kelly Prescott and Colin James and a brief presentation. After 30 minutes, the boxcar door closes and the train moves on to the next stop.

For details about parking and viewing locations, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/cp-holiday-train.





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www.goldenvalleymn.gov

Golden Valley Crime Prevention Fund Donation Form

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Contribution: _____

Send donations to:

Golden Valley Crime Prevention Fund
Golden Valley Police Department
7800 Golden Valley Rd
Golden Valley, MN 55427

All donations are tax-deductible.

Crime Prevention Fund

Help Support Community Outreach Activities

The Golden Valley Crime Prevention Fund (GVCPPF) board and the Golden Valley Police Department (GVPD) once again thank residents for their support. Each year, generous community contributions help host many outreach events in which the police and citizens of all ages are able to meet with and learn from each other.

Highlights for 2017 include:

- Bike Rodeo, Community Bike-Along, Public Safety Open House, Senior Safety Camp, Shop With A Cop, and CounterAct in our elementary schools
- Public Safety in the Parks (family fun featuring pizza, ice cream, giant sprinklers launched from Golden Valley fire trucks, and a season-end celebration at Dover Hills Apartments)
- 90 block parties during Night to Unite, most of which were visited by a squad car, fire truck, or the SWAT vehicle
- Apartment Managers Networking Luncheon, and more

When the recent City survey asked residents if they or members of their household have had contact with the GVPD through these programs, 100 percent said “yes,” and 97 percent rated the programs as “good” or “excellent.” Please join us in keeping these programs going.

Thanks to your tax deductible donations, events such as these enable the GVPD to continue building community through service and dialogue.

Nancy Azzam, President, Golden Valley Crime Prevention Fund



GVPD's Collection In 22nd Year

Now in its 22nd year, the Golden Valley Police Department's (GVPD) Toys for Tots drive is a collaboration with regional law enforcement agencies to help those in need. On the last collection day, police from as many as 20 departments load their cruisers with donated toys and gifts and meet at the GVPD. Then, lights blazing and sirens blaring, they parade to the KARE 11 Toys for Tots drop-off site in time for the 5 pm news program. A small portion of toys is distributed to local disadvantaged children.

If you want to help with this community tradition, bring new, unwrapped toys to the GVPD at 7800 Golden Valley Road (open 24 hours a day) through Dec 15 at 3 pm. Don't forget gifts for older kids and teens. For more information, contact Commander Steve Johnson at 763-512-2502.

WATCH THE TOYS FOR TOTS PARADE

Dec 15 | 4:30 pm

The route starts at the GVPD (7800 Golden Valley Rd) and follows Golden Valley Rd to Boone Ave/General Mills Blvd to the KARE 11 parking lot.



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.

