WHAT'S HAPPENING IN
WEST ST. PAUL
Summer 2022

Homeownership Preservation
Redistricting Boundaries
2022 Election Timeline
CITY OF WEST ST. PAUL

Municipal Center
1616 Humboldt Avenue
West St. Paul, MN 55118

Office Hours (Memorial Day - Labor Day)
M-Th - 7:00am - 4:30pm
Friday - 7:00am - 11:00am

MAYOR
David Napier 612-562-9773
dnapier@wspmn.gov

CITY COUNCIL
Ward I | Julie Eastman 651-270-3392
jeastman@wspmn.gov
Ward I | Dick Vitelli 651-460-0419
dvitelli@wspmn.gov
Ward II | Robyn Gulley 612-558-6019
rgulley@wspmn.gov
Ward II | John Justen 763-442-1107
jjosten@wspmn.gov
Ward III | Wendy Berry 612-414-2749
wberry@wspmn.gov
Ward III | Lisa Eng-Sarne 651-757-7090
lengsarne@wspmn.gov

CITY MANAGER
Nate Burkett 651-552-4101
nburkett@wspmn.gov

PHONE
Main Line - Reception 651-552-4100
Emergency Police or Fire 911
Non-Emergency Police 651-322-2323
South Metro Fire Dept. 651-552-4176
Parks & Recreation 651-552-4150
Building Inspections 651-552-4116
Code Enforcement 651-552-4114
Police Admin/Records 651-552-4200
Elections 651-552-4102
Ice Arena 651-552-4155
Sports Dome/WSPRAC 651-552-4158
Street Maintenance/Trees 651-552-4160
Street Projects 651-552-4131
Inflow & Infiltration 651-552-4137
Business Licensing 651-552-4203

WEB
www.wspmn.gov

COUNCIL MEETINGS
Held the 2nd & 4th Monday of each month
6:30pm - City Hall Council Chambers

facebook.com/CityofWSP
facebook.com/WestStPaulPD
@WestStPaul
@WestStPaulPD
When you think of city employees, you probably think of those out working on our streets and in our parks. While those employees are key to the city’s success and may be the most visible, there are many staff members busy working behind the scenes to make sure the City Council’s initiatives are fulfilled and West St. Paul reaches its potential. Inside City Hall you’ll find engineers making sure we have safe streets; the Finance department balancing budgets; Community Development staff making sure that our city is well planned and construction is done safely up to code; the Clerk’s office ensuring our elections are run smoothly, and so much more. If the streets and parks are the arteries reaching every corner of West St. Paul, City Hall is the heart pumping life into all city functions. The administration facilities are currently receiving a long overdue remodel to better serve our community and staff.

West St. Paul’s first City Hall was completed in 1889 and at the time was sufficient to hold the few employees the city staffed as well as the meetings of the council. Meetings rooms in the original City Hall building were stocked with essentials, including ample spittoons surrounding the council’s table. While this building of course met the needs of the City in the 19th century, the city quickly outgrew the space that building provided. By 1964, the old City Hall was large enough to house only the police, fire and street departments. All other departments were leasing space at The Dodd School through the mid-sixties.

In 1969, the current City Hall completed construction at the corner of Humboldt and Wentworth Avenues and just three years later, the original building was demolished. In the last five decades, city services continued to expand and space has once again become tight. In addition to space issues, the concrete cantilevered building poses challenges to current office life. While an architectural model at the time, West St. Paul’s current City Hall lacked things that modern offices take for granted. While the concrete building is plenty sturdy, the original plans lacked things like windows and adequate HVAC systems. The current remodel is not only reworking the office space to house more employees than were needed half a century ago it’s addressing the lighting issue by adding windows and integrating modern HVAC technology for comfortable climate control.

You may remember just over a decade ago there were discussions to construct a brand new City Hall at a significant cost. The current remodel not only addresses the staffing and community needs, it does so at a fraction of the price of a newly constructed building.

Not only is the remodel creating an adequate workspace for current staffing needs, it will also create a more inviting publicly access area for the community to enjoy.

Thank you to the community and staff for their patience during the remodel. It’s a bit of a nuisance for the time being, but will be well worth it when the project is complete.
Loans offer 0% interest and no monthly payments.

Does your home need repairs that you can’t afford to make? The Dakota County Community Development Agency (CDA) may be able to help!

The CDA’s Home Improvement Loan Program provides a 0% interest loan with no monthly payments for low- and moderate-income homeowners in Dakota County. The loan is repayable when your home is sold or you no longer live there. Loans range from $15,000 to $35,000.

Common improvements include: replacing roofs, siding, windows, furnaces, doors, and driveways. The CDA will inspect your home and work with you to determine the scope of the project. You will get bids from contractors and the CDA will work with you on the best solution for your home. After loan documents are signed, the contractor can begin work. Payments will be made directly to the contractor once the work has been completed, inspected and approved by you and the CDA.

To qualify, you must be a homeowner, have sufficient equity, a satisfactory credit history and a gross annual income under the following limits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Size</th>
<th>Maximum Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$55,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$63,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$71,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$79,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$86,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>$92,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>$99,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>$105,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Income limits are as of June 1, 2021 and are subject to change.

To apply for the program, download an application from www.dakotacda.org or request an application by calling 651-675-4462.

Outstanding Property Awards Are Back

We all took a little break during COVID, but we are happy to announce that the Outstanding Property Awards are back.

Nominate your neighbor or a friend down the road for their outstanding efforts in maintaining their property and continuing work to make West St. Paul look great. Photos are highly encouraged.

A select few nominees will be recognized by the West St. Paul City Council and presented with the Outstanding Property Award.

To nominate a property, visit www.wspmn.gov/property-award

City Hall Administration Summer Hours Change

Beginning May 30th, 2022 and ending September 5th, 2022, the hours for in-person administrative services are changing.

City Hall Administration hours from between Memorial Day and Labor Day are changing to

- **Monday – Thursday**: 7:00am – 4:30pm
- **Friday**: 7:00am – 11:00am
- **Saturday**: CLOSED
- **Sunday**: CLOSED

Access to police department office staff will remain Monday – Friday 8:00am – 4:30pm.

Construction Updates:

The City of West St. Paul has contracted with Eureka Construction, Inc. to reconstruct Crusader Avenue and the Humboldt Avenue Cul-de-sac. The existing pavement, concrete curb & gutter, concrete aprons, water main, and select sewer structures will be removed and replaced during the course of the project. Eureka will also be constructing a new sidewalk on Bidwell Street, from Crusader Avenue to Marie Avenue, as well as a new sidewalk on Crusader Avenue, from Robert Street to Bidwell Street.

An enhanced pedestrian crossing will also be constructed as part of our 2022 Street Improvements. This will provide a safe crossing from the Dodge Nature Center to the Garlough Elementary School.

Estimated Project Timeline: May 1st to October 1st
Homeownership Preservation Program
Dakota County has partnered with the Minnesota Homeownership Center to offer the Dakota Homeownership Preservation Program (DHPP).

The DHPP provides support to homeowners in Dakota County who are past due on their mortgage or other housing expenses. The DHPP offers advisory services for foreclosure prevention and limited financial assistance. You must be able to demonstrate that you can pay your housing expenses moving forward in order to be eligible for relief, not all homeowners will qualify for financial assistance.

To see if you could qualify see the infographic below, visit www.dakotahpp.com, or call 651-236-8952.
Every ten years, cities are required to redraw their Council Member district boundaries based on the population counts from the census. In early 2022, West St. Paul redrew its Council Member districts and precinct boundaries based on the population count of the 2020 Census.

Redistricting is the process of redrawing the boundaries of election districts to ensure that the people of each district are equally represented.

In Minnesota, the state legislature has constitutional responsibility for redistricting Minnesota’s Congressional districts, as well as Minnesota Senate and House districts, and Metropolitan Council districts. Local governments are responsible for redistricting other election districts:

- County boards are responsible for redistricting county commissioner districts
- City councils are responsible for redistricting city wards
- School boards are responsible for redistricting board member districts

In Minnesota
In early 2022, the State of Minnesota went through their redistricting process. The results of the State Redistricting do impact West St. Paul. West St. Paul is bisected with the northern section located in Senate District 65 (House District 65B) and the southern portion is located in Senate District 53 (House District 53A).

In West St. Paul
On March 28th, 2022, after Charter Commission recommendation, multiple public readings and a public hearing, the City Council unanimously adopted an ordinance approving the new wards and precincts as presented by staff. The new districts will be valid starting with the August 9th, 2022 State Primary.

For more information, to view a larger West St. Paul ward/precinct map or view state redistricting maps, go to www.wspmn.gov/redistricting.
2022 is an Election Year! City offices included on the November 8th, 2022 ballot are three 4-year City Council seats and the Mayor seat.

2022 Election Timeline

Affidavits of Candidacy will be accepted for the following offices:

- One Mayor at large, term to expire December 31, 2024. The Mayor serves a two-year term.
- One Councilperson for each Ward 1, Ward 2, and Ward 3, terms to expire December 31, 2026. Each Councilperson serves a four-year term.

Affidavits of Candidacy will be accepted at the City of West St. Paul Municipal Center, 1616 Humboldt Avenue, West St. Paul, Minnesota, May 17, 2022 through May 31, 2022. Office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The filing fee is $20.00. Please note that City Hall will be closed on Monday, May 30th in observance of Memorial Day. Filing of affidavits shall close at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 31, 2022.

To be eligible to file for office, a candidate must be a United States citizen, must be eligible to vote in Minnesota, must not have filed for the same or any other office at the election, must be 21 years of age or more upon assuming office, and must have maintained residence in the City of West St. Paul for at least 30 days before the General Election.

For questions and additional information, contact West St. Paul City Clerk Nicole Tillander at (651) 552-4102 or ntillander@wspmn.gov

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2022 ELECTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 17, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 p.m. on May 31, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 p.m. on June 2, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 24, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 19, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 9, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 23, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 18, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 8, 2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Donating and thrift ing just got easier**

Try out the Reduce & Reuse Map by Dakota County to quickly find the closest places to donate goods, shop used, rent equipment and repair your stuff. You can select custom filters based on what you need:

- **Rent**: Search for tents, linens, tools and other equipment rental locations for your next party or home project.
- **Donate/Buy Used**: Find the closest location to donate and buy secondhand household goods, books and furniture.
- **Repair**: Get items like shoes and jewelry fixed and mended using a local repair business.
- **Sell Used Items**: Discover consignment shops that will pay you for your gently used sporting goods and clothing.
- **Drop boxes**: Drop-off clothes and shoes using a donation box near you.

You do more than save money when you make your stuff go the extra mile or score unique items at a secondhand store. By reducing and reusing instead of buying new, you’ll spend less money, keep your home organized and simplify your life while helping the planet. Check out the new map at www.dakotacounty.us, search reuse map.

---

**Athletic Gear Donation Event**

The city is partnering with United Heroes League to collect good-condition athletic gear and equipment which will be donated to military families in need. United Heroes League is a nonprofit organization that keeps military kids active and healthy through sports while their parents serve our country. So far they have helped over 50,000 military families keep or start their kids in sports. United Heroes League wants to ensure that all 5 million military kids are able to develop critical life skills through sports.

We are collecting:

- Items in good condition (like ones you’d find at play it again sports)
- Downhill and cross country skis
- Cleats for baseball and soccer
- Gloves/mitts
- Skates
- Lacrosse items
- Golf clubs

**No work out clothing/tennis shoes**

Collection boxes located at:

- Mendota Heights City Hall (1101 Victoria Curve)
- West St. Paul Sports Dome (1655 Livingston Ave)
- Doug Woog Arena (141 6th St S, South St. Paul)

Want more info? Visit https://unitedheroesleague.org/

Box $3/4 full? Contact Cassandra:
cjohnson@wspmn.gov or 651-552-4118
Always remember, anything that enters a storm drain goes to a local water body or river. It does not go to a waste water treatment facility.

Storm drains carry runoff water to local bodies of water and rivers. Whatever washes off your yard and street can pollute these waters. That includes lawn fertilizer, grass clippings, pet waste, leaves, etcetera.

**Fertilize your lawn, not the lakes and rivers.**
- Choose a zero-phosphorus fertilizer. Many lawns have adequate soil phosphorus and will remain healthy without adding more.
- Mulching grass clippings reduces the need for fertilizers.
- If you think your lawn needs phosphorus, test your soil first.
- Sweep spilled fertilizer off paved surfaces.

**A common cause of lake and river pollution is phosphorus runoff.** In response to this, Minnesota has a law restricting the use of phosphorus lawn fertilizer. Although phosphorus is important for grass growth, many lawns have adequate soil phosphorus and do not need further phosphorus fertilization. Under the new law, fertilizers containing phosphorous can only be used on new lawns and in areas where soil tests show that phosphorous is needed.

**Phosphorus turns lakes and rivers green.** Phosphorus stimulates the growth of algae in lakes and rivers. This crowds out other water plants and reduces the amount of oxygen available to fish. The result is unattractive, foul-smelling water that is bad for fish, wildlife, and humans.

**Nitrogen, not phosphorus, greens up grass.** Phosphorus-free lawn fertilizer still contains nitrogen, the plant nutrient that greens up grass.

**Clean up after pets.** Scoop the poop. Pet waste contains phosphorus as well as harmful bacteria.

**Report illicit discharges!** It is illegal to dump chemicals, paints, oils, or anything else harmful down storm drains. If you see it happening, document it, and report it to West St. Paul immediately.
OUTDOOR STORYTIME

Meet your Dakota County, Wentworth Children's Librarian and friends in the green space near the splash pad at Harmon Park – 230 Bernard St. W., West St. Paul, MN 55118.

Read, play, sing, talk and write together. Enjoy stories and activities to develop early literacy skills for toddlers and preschoolers. Presented by Dakota County Library in partnership with City of West St. Paul Parks and Recreation. Geared for children ages 3 and older with parents and caregivers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>AGES</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6/16, 7/21, &amp; 8/18</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td></td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SUMMER GYMNASTICS

Tiny Tumblers:

This gymnastics class will stress the importance of respecting rules, learning gymnastics vocabulary, and the overall skill development that is needed as a gymnast. Classes are held at Harmon Park Neighborhood Center.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>AGES</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>6/15-8/10, No 7/6</td>
<td>4:45-5:30 pm</td>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>$80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Beginners:

This gymnastics class is tailored to the gymnast who has little to no experience. Participants will develop basic gymnastics skills within all four events while utilizing age-appropriate equipment. Tumbling, positions, dance, and strength and conditioning will be incorporated. Classes are held at Harmon Park Neighborhood Center.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>AGES</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>6/15-8/10, No 7/6</td>
<td>5:45-6:45 pm</td>
<td>5-6</td>
<td>$106</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Music Together
Mindful Music and Arts

RHYTHM KIDS CLASS

Interested in trying out a free Music Together class? Register for a demo class on July 5 or 6.

Join us for this fun class for ages 5 - 8 year olds! Rhythm is further explored and learned through the use of movement, singing, play and drumming on djembe drums. Children learn music in an energetic, immersive class exploring world music and rhythms in a playful, age appropriate way. Parents are optional to stay for this class. Location is outdoors at Harmon Park (near ice rink) or inside warming house when weather is inclement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>AGES</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>7/13-8/17</td>
<td>4:30-5:15 pm</td>
<td>5-8</td>
<td>$160 (1st youth) $75 (2nd sibling) $50 (3rd sibling)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MUSIC TOGETHER MIXED AGE FAMILY CLASS

Sing, dance, play and learn in a mixed age class for children aged 0 to 6 and their grownups. Under 8 months is free registration with one paid registration. Class is about connecting with music, your youth, and with other families in your community in a fun way! Location is outdoors at Harmon Park (near ice rink) or inside warming house when weather is inclement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>AGES</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T</td>
<td>7/12-8/16</td>
<td>4:30-5:15 pm</td>
<td>0-6 w/ Adult</td>
<td>$160 (1st youth) $75 (2nd sibling) $50 (3rd sibling)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>7/13-8/17</td>
<td>9:30-10:15 am</td>
<td>0-6 w/ Adult</td>
<td>$160 (1st youth) $75 (2nd sibling) $50 (3rd sibling)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FASCINATING FRIDAYS

Join us at Harmon Park on Fridays throughout the summer for action-packed, all-day activities, and games with an age-appropriate curriculum. This program will promote the development of friendships, good sportsmanship, and positive peer interactions. Each day will include the splash pad.

### Themes
- **6/17:** Silly Science
- **6/24:** Beneath the Sea
- **7/8:** Inventors Workshop
- **7/15:** Just Add Water

### Registration
- Registration closes one week prior or when filled.

**Fascinating Fridays!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>AGES</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>6/17-8/12, No 7/1</td>
<td>8:00 am–4:30 pm</td>
<td>6-12</td>
<td>$23/Friday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Themes**
- **6/17:** Silly Science
- **6/24:** Beneath the Sea
- **7/8:** Inventors Workshop
- **7/15:** Just Add Water

**Safe Kids:***

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>AGES</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T &amp; W</td>
<td>8/16 &amp; 8/17</td>
<td>8:00 am–4:30 pm</td>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>$40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Safety Camps**

Join the West St. Paul and Mendota Heights Police, Fire, and Recreation Departments for a day filled with fun activities, while learning how to be safe and healthy in your daily life. Participants will be hands-on learning about fire safety, stranger danger, first aid, and much more. All participants receive lunch, snacks, and a camp t-shirt with registration. Location is Harmon Park.

**Little Tykes:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>AGES</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>7/29</td>
<td>8:00 am–4:30 pm</td>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Safe Kids:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>AGES</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T &amp; W</td>
<td>8/16 &amp; 8/17</td>
<td>8:00 am–4:30 pm</td>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>$40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DISCOVER YOUR WEST ST. PAUL

**Thurs, August 11 – Sat, August 13**

City Open House, Fireworks, Parade, Movie in the Dome, Art, Culture and Environmental Fair, Food Trucks and a Live Concert Featuring PopROCKS!
Mark your calendars and let’s start planning for this year’s Night to Unite celebration! Night to Unite is an effective and fun way for neighbors to connect with one another. The West St. Paul Police Department will be out on August 2nd to talk to our residents about effective crime prevention strategies. Alongside your local law enforcement, the South Metro Fire Department and City Council members will also be out for Night to Unite to discuss and listen to important issues residents have regarding their neighborhoods.

Whether it’s your first time planning your block party or continuing a tradition, it’s up to you and your neighbors on how your would like to celebrate Night to Unite. Your block party can be as elaborate or as simple as you like—kids’ games, ice cream socials, pot lucks, parades, cook outs and more!

**Registration is simple!**
Visit the city website at www.wspmn.gov
For more information on how to plan your party, contact Laura Vaughan at 651-552-4235 or lvaughan@wspmn.gov
Check out the West St. Paul Police Department Facebook page for updates regarding Night to Unite at https://www.facebook.com/WestStPaulPD/

**Important dates to remember:**
- **July 18:** Last day to register block parties
- **July 26 through August 2:** Pick up goody bags

**ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES**
- Food and Drink Provided
- Climb in Public Safety Vehicles
- Fun and Games for Kids
- Meet and Greet with Public Safety Personnel!

C.O.P.S. in the Park stands for Community Outreach with Public Safety in the Park. The purpose for this event is to build positive relationships between our community and our public safety personnel. We provide a fun and laid back environment to meet and chat with our police officers, fire fighters and more! All community members are encouraged to attend!

While we truly hope we’re able to hold this event as advertised, organizers will take into account the danger COVID-19 poses leading up to the event to decide if any changes or cancellation need to take place. The safety of our community is our number one priority.