City Approves Pedestrian & Bike Master Plan
57 Miles of New Paths and Sidewalks are Planned

After months of collecting feedback from community members, the City Council approved an updated Pedestrian & Bike Master Plan. The plan lays the framework for Edina to have nearly 150 miles of pedestrian and bike paths. To develop the plan, the City gathered community feedback at six in-person events, through an online mapping tool collecting feedback and route ideas, and in an online survey that collected 680 responses. The process was completed in partnership with consultants Community Design Group and SEH, Inc.

“This plan is going to change the way we think about biking and pedestrian infrastructure in the city, we’re looking for opportunities everyone could use. This gives a 20-year outlook. It serves as a kind of comprehensive plan for bikes and pedestrians,” said the City’s Transportation Planner Mark Nolan. The approved plan has an immediate effect on many projects already in progress, but the entire scope of the project isn’t something the City expects to be finalized in the near future.

The Twin Loops framework will serve as the structure for all the other routes and connections in the plan in order to provide a high-quality and high-amenity network that organizes the rest of the routes and facilities for the city. Transportation Planner Mark Nolan says the approved plan has had an immediate effect on many projects already in progress, but the entire scope of the project isn’t something the City expects to be finalized in the near future.

Plan organizers used feedback to develop a “Twin Loops” walking and biking system for all ages and abilities that provides an outer loop around the perimeter of Edina and an inner loop connecting major destinations, both of which complement the existing Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail. The City already has 85 and 18.8 miles of sidewalks and shared-use paths, respectively, and the plan paves the way to add an additional 49 miles of sidewalk and 9 miles of shared-use paths. The outer loop was something that was already part of the planning documents in the 2015 Parks, Recreation & Trails Strategic Master Plan and several segments have already been completed. The Twin Loops framework will serve as the structure for all the other routes and connections in the plan in order to provide a high-quality and high-amenity network that organizes the rest of the routes and facilities for the city.

Transportation Planner Mark Nolan says the approved plan has had an immediate effect on many projects already in progress, but the entire scope of the project isn’t something the City expects to be finalized in the near future.

“The Twin Loops” system outlined in the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan provides an outer loop around the perimeter of Edina and an inner loop that connects major destinations, while complementing the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail.

To learn more about the Pedestrian & Bicycle Master Plan, visit EdinaMN.gov/pedbikeplan or contact Nolan at 952-927-2062 or mnolan@EdinaMN.gov.

Score the Perfect Summer Job

Tennis Instructor Noah Shaw matches his student practice his racquet skills. The City of Edina currently has several seasonal job opportunities available in the Parks & Recreation Department, including playground supervisors, tennis instructors and adult soccer officials. To view the list of fun summer jobs or to apply, visit EdinaMN.gov/jobs.

Coffee & Bagels Planned for Grandview

A Coffee & Bagels store featuring Caribou Coffee and Einstein Bros. Bagels may be built in the Grandview District.

Developer Ted Carlson, on behalf of Caribou Coffee and Einstein Bros. Bagels, has proposed razing the existing 5,000-square-foot building at 5000 Vernon Ave. and constructing a 2,748-square-foot Coffee & Bagels with a drive-thru.

The developer has agreed to provide easements on both Interlachen Boulevard and Vernon for future roadway improvements; bury existing above-ground utility wires; eliminate a curb cut on Vernon, construct improved sidewalks, add more green space; create an “art wall” on the property’s 12-foot retaining wall and clean up the site’s petroleum contamination.

Under existing zoning, a car wash, gas station or tobacco store could be built on the site without approvals from the City. Council members indicated their preference for the project over what is there today and what could be built there under “Planned Commercial District Type 4” zoning. At its meeting March 20, the Council approved rezoning the site to “Planned Commercial District Type 2,” preliminary development plan and variances necessary for the project to move forward.

In other business in March, the Council: • Approved final rezoning and a final development plan for the “Edina Flats” redevelopment at Valley View Road and Kellogg Avenue. • Approved an increase in the utility franchise fee for Xcel Energy to raise money for the City’s Conservation and Sustainability Fund. The residential customer franchise fee will increase by $0.45 per meter per month in 2018 and $0.50 in 2019. Fees for other customers will increase by a similar percentage. An increase for CenterPoint Energy customers was approved earlier in the year. • Proclaimed March 29 as Vietnam Veterans Day in Edina. • Set April 23 as the date for the Community Volunteer Recognition Reception. The event had been scheduled for March 5, but was postponed due to weather.

The Council will meet next month 7 p.m. April 3 and 17. For more information, visit EdinaMN.gov.
Art in Bloom at the Edina Art Center

Celebrate spring with the Edina Art Center’s annual ode to warmer weather, brighter colors and the love of all things green and the garden. The “Art for the Garden” exhibition opens April 26.

A selection committee made up of Edina Art Center staff and area artists invited seven artists to display their flora and fauna work in the annual show.

“This year, we have a wide range of garden-inspired art, from drawings and paintings to clay and jewelry,” said Pottery Studio Manager and Exhibition Coordinator Sandra Shaughnessy. “The art on display will be really bright, very springy imagery that’s new to the Art Center and available for purchase.”

“At the Art Center, we’re just coming out of winter and Exhibition Coordinator Sandra Shaughnessy. “The art on display will be really bright, very springy imagery that’s new to the Art Center and available for purchase.”

“At the Art Center, we’re just coming out of winter and the gallery comes alive with greenery, flowers and plants,” said General Manager Michael Frey. “It’s a wonderful transition because we are moving into spring and warmer weather ahead.”

“The art for the Garden” show will run through May 23 with an opening reception 5 to 8 p.m. April 26 in the Margaret Foss Gallery, 4701 W. 64th Street. The show is free and open to the public. All items in the show are available for purchase.

For more information, contact the Edina Art Center at 952-927-8861 or visit EdinaArtCenter.com.

Upcoming Events

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City of Edina
EdinaMN.gov
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