

Edition:Edina



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CITY GOALS:



Strong Foundation



Reliable Service



Livable City



Better Together

Tax-Increment Financing Helped Create Iconic Edina Spaces

Centennial Lakes, Edinborough Parks Relied on Financing Tool

This is the final article in a three-part series explaining tax-increment financing (TIF) and how it has been used in Edina. Parts one and two appeared in the June and August 2019 issues of Edition: Edina, available online at EdinaMN.gov/news.

Tax-increment financing (TIF) has been used to help create some of Edina's most iconic and beloved spaces. Without this financing tool, these projects likely never would have happened in the way Edina residents and visitors experience them today.



Centennial Lakes Park

When: 1980s-2000s

TIF used for: Purchase of 51-acre former gravel pit and industrial site south of Southdale Center and holding property until the market was ready for each phase of development.

Result: Six office buildings, 250 condominiums, 96 luxury townhouses and a multi-tenant retail center built around the City's crown jewel 25-acre outdoor park. The project has been nationally recognized for excellence in redevelopment. Photo by Dietrich Nissen

50th & France



When: 1970s

TIF used for: Public parking and reconstruction of original sidewalks and streetscapes, including lighting.

Result: Improvements made 50th & France more appealing to business owners and shoppers, helping transform the small business district into a premier high-end shopping destination. Photo by Katie Laux

Edinborough Park



When: Mid-1980s

TIF used for: Site acquisition and development.

Result: Mid-rise office building, high-rise senior housing building and hotel, all connected to an indoor public park and event space with additional outdoor park space. The original event space and ice rink were replaced in 2003 by a children's indoor playpark. Edinborough Park also includes an indoor swimming pool, fitness area and amphitheater for public use. Photo by Debbie Townsend

Grandview Square



When: Early 2000s

TIF used for: Site acquisition and cleanup of environmental contamination on 12 acres and installation of infrastructure.

Result: New office building, condominiums and new public building housing a branch of the Hennepin County Library and the Edina Senior Center. The buildings encircle an outdoor public plaza used by visitors and residents. "Egghed," a sculpture by Kimber Fiebiger, was later installed in the center of the plaza. File Photo

City Sets Maximum Tax Levy for 2020

Budget Includes Upgrading Public Safety Equipment

The City Council in September adopted the City's preliminary tax levy and operating budget for 2020.

The total of all levies is \$39,467,543, an increase of just under 6 percent. This is the maximum amount the levy could be. However, expenditures and revenues could change before final budget adoption.

The draft budget focuses on four goals:

-  **Strong Foundation** – maintaining physical assets and infrastructure
-  **Reliable Service** – maintaining service levels that best meet the needs of the community
-  **Livable City** – planning for connected and sustainable development
-  **Better Together** – fostering an inclusive and engaged community

Specifically, the draft budget includes new staff positions for facilities maintenance and public safety; mass replacement of the City's emergency response fleet, including fire engines, ladder truck and ambulances; body-worn cameras for police officers; a new service to inspect and license rental residential properties; and continued funding of the City's race and equity initiative.

The median-value single-family home in Edina is about \$548,500. If the budget is approved, the effect on that property would be a 5.9 percent increase in property taxes – about \$87 per year, or \$7 per month.

A public hearing on the budget and levy will be held Dec. 3. The City is required to certify the final property tax levy to the County Auditor by Dec. 28.

In other business last month, the Council:

- Approved a multi-phase development plan with variances for improvements at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church on Eden Avenue. The church's master plan includes a new priest residence, activity center, expansion of the parish gathering space, school expansion and remodeling of some areas within existing buildings. The priest residence would be built first, followed by the activity center, preschool building and improvements to the school cafeteria, kitchen and restrooms.
- Recognized Especially for Children and Casa de Corazon for supporting new moms when they return to work by being breastfeeding-friendly workplaces.

The City Council next meets 7 p.m. Oct. 1 and 15 in the Council Chambers of Edina City Hall, 4801 W. 50th St. For more information, visit EdinaMN.gov.

– COMPILED BY JENNIFER BENNEROTTE

BY THE NUMBERS

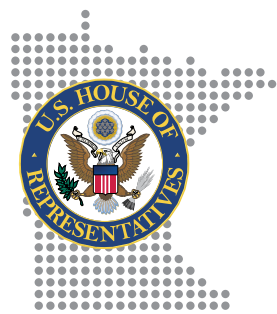
2020 Census

As required by the U.S. Constitution, the Census Bureau will conduct a count of the entire population in 2020. The intent is to count everyone living in the United States. Every household will receive a mailing requesting their participation in March 2020.

For additional information and updates, visit BetterTogetherEdina.org.



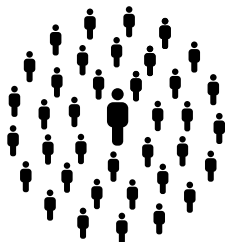
8



The number of U.S. House Representatives Minnesota currently has in Washington D.C. There are 435 total representatives who are apportioned based on the Census population counts. Minnesota has had at least 8 representatives for the last 100 years.

8,739

The margin of the population count that allowed Minnesota to keep its 8th representative after the 2010 Census results. If 8,740 more people had been counted in Missouri in 2010, they would have been given another representative and Minnesota would have lost one.



72 Number of years your specific, personal information is required to remain confidential. The data is collected for statistical purposes only.

\$28,000


Estimated amount of federal funding distributed* for each counted person over 10 years (about \$2,800 per person per year).

*for Medicaid, highways, education and other programs



VOLUNTEERS REMOVE BUCKTHORN AT PAMELA PARK FOR SERVICE DAY PROJECT

Over 200 volunteers from River Valley Church in Edina and 10 City staff members tackled buckthorn at Pamela Park in July and removed 300 cubic yards of the invasive plant. The City will replant several new tree seedlings native to Minnesota this fall to discourage regrowth of the buckthorn.

Edina residents have the opportunity to bring their own buckthorn waste to a dumpsite Oct. 19-20 and 26-27 (8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and noon to 4 p.m. Sundays) across from Braemar Golf Dome, 7420 Braemar Blvd. Residents must bring a photo ID. Photo by Debbie Townsend 

Stoplight to be Added at Valley View and Wooddale

Traffic Signal Planned to Alleviate Traffic Problems During Peak Times

BY KRYSTAL CARON

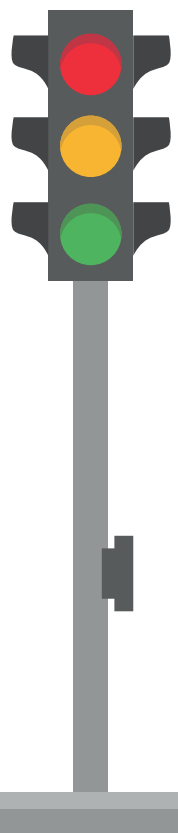
To moderate the flow of traffic at a busy intersection, a new traffic light will be installed at Valley View Road and Wooddale Avenue by November.

“This traffic signal will allow more cars to go through the intersection so they won’t feel the need to cut through the neighborhood north of Valley View Road,” said Engineering Director Chad Millner. “This will also make it much more pedestrian friendly. We will have push buttons on every corner, audible pedestrian signals, crosswalk pavement markings in all four directions and ADA-compliant pedestrian ramps.”

Traffic on Valley View Road between Wooddale Avenue and Brookview Avenue often backs up and leads to drivers taking alternate routes through residential areas. After a traffic study was completed in 2017, staff identified the area as a priority. With the addition of a traffic signal, more people will be able to pass through that intersection during rush hours and reduce the number of people who find detours through adjacent streets.


“The goal is to make it more attractive to drivers to drive on Valley View and Wooddale

where they should be. In addition, it will be an improvement for bikes and pedestrians in the area – a goal of the Wooddale & Valley View Small Area Plan,” said Transportation Planner Andrew Scipioni.



The intersection will include cameras that will help moderate traffic by adjusting lights when traffic is present in either direction. Energy use will also be reduced as new LED lights will be installed. The nearly \$300,000 project is funded through the Pedestrian And Cyclist Safety Fund and tax-increment financing.

Materials for the project were ordered in April, but due to delays in steel production, the delivery won’t occur until later this month. Drivers should expect some lane closures and minor traffic delays while the project is underway.

For more information about the project, contact the Engineering Department at 952-826-0371. 

UPCOMING EVENTS

Recurring Events:

Community Concerts, Edinborough Park
7 p.m. Sundays and Tuesdays

Children’s Programming, Edinborough Park
Noon Thursdays

Tuesday, Oct. 1, 7 p.m.

City Council meeting, Edina City Hall

Thursday, Oct. 3, 5 p.m.

35th-annual Edina Art Center Members’ Juried Art Exhibition Reception, Edina Art Center

Tuesday, Oct 8, 8 a.m.

Smart Salt Training for supervisors, managers, business owners and other lead staff, Edina Public Works & Park Maintenance Facility

Thursday, Oct. 10, 7:30 a.m.

Housing & Redevelopment Authority meeting, Edina City Hall

Saturday, Oct. 12, 10 a.m.

Author’s Studio: *Ivory Lust* with Colin Nelson, Edina Art Center

Tuesday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m.

City Council meeting, Edina City Hall

Saturday, Oct. 19, 9 a.m.

Walk With the Mayor, Arden Park

Thursday, Oct. 24, 7:30 a.m.

Housing & Redevelopment Authority meeting, Edina City Hall

Friday, Oct. 25, 6 p.m.

Not-So-Scary Halloween Party, Edinborough Park



Trick-or-treating, games, special kid-friendly entertainment and crafts round out this exclusive annual family event. Costumes are encouraged, but not required, and admission price includes full access to

Adventure Peak and the Great Hall play areas. Adults are free with paid child admission.

Friday, Oct. 25, 7 p.m.

Reel History: Movie Makers, Arneson Acres Park

Tuesday, Oct. 29, 8-9 p.m.

Virtual Town Hall, Visit Facebook.com/edinamn and interact with the Edina City Council online

For a complete listing of meetings and events, visit EdinaMN.gov.



SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

TUESDAY, NOV. 5

Seven candidates are vying for three open school board seats. Members are elected to four-year terms, with elections held every two years.

2019 Candidates

- Linda Friede
- Julie Greene
- Garrett Knudsen
- Lou Nanne
- Sarah Patzloff
- Janie Shaw
- Leny Wallen-Friedman

All voting will be held at polling locations from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Nov. 5 voters must be a resident living within the school district boundaries. **Visit PollFinder.SOS.State.mn.us** to find your polling place or vote via absentee voting.

In-Person Absentee Voting at Edina City Hall, 4801 W. 50th St.

- Monday-Friday through Nov. 1, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 2, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Monday, Nov. 4, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

No voting will occur at Edina City Hall Tuesday, Nov. 5. Vote via absentee ballot by requesting a ballot by calling 952-826-0363.

For more information about candidates, visit EdinaSchools.org; to learn more about the election visit EdinaMN.gov/Election.

CITY OF EDINA
4801 WEST 50TH STREET
EDINA, MN 55424

PRESORT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TWIN CITIES MN
Permit No. 3932

ECRWSS
POSTAL PATRON
CAR-RT-WS

It Still Pays To Recycle

Support Recycling by Recycling the Right Materials

BY KAYLIN EIDSNESS

Recycling has been in the news a lot lately due to shifts in markets and international policy changes. This has left many residents wondering what is happening to the recycling placed in their bins, and what they can do now to support recycling.

“The most important thing residents should do is recycle the correct items,” said Recycling Coordinator Solvei Wilmot.

Wilmot said that residents should know that their recyclables are still getting recycled.

“Unlike on the coasts where they rely heavily on international markets, recyclers in Minnesota are able to send most of the material they collect to local and regional markets to be processed into new materials,” she said.

Know what goes in your recycling cart:

- **Paper:** mail, office papers, magazines, newspapers
- **Boxes:** cardboard boxes, cereal and cracker boxes, shoeboxes, toiletry boxes
- **Cartons:** milk cartons, juice boxes, broth cartons

- **Glass:** food and beverage bottles and jars
- **Plastic bottles and jugs:** soda bottles, milk jugs, shampoo bottles
- **Cups and containers:** yogurt cups, clear cups, cottage cheese containers, produce containers
- **Metal:** food and beverage cans

Keep these items out of your recycling cart:

- **Plastic bags**
- **Diapers**
- **Large plastic items like laundry baskets**
- **Random metal items like hangers**
- **Single-use plastic utensils and straws**
- **Paper plates, cups and takeout containers**
- **Propane tanks**
- **Cords and string lights**
- **Electronics and batteries**
- **Needles and sharps**

Since the curbside recycling program began in 1989, participation rates have climbed from 30 percent to around 90 percent. Close to 5,000 tons of recycling is collected in Edina annually.



Keep these items OUT of your recycling cart! Photo by Dietrich Nissen

For the recycling guide of items that are accepted throughout Hennepin County, visit www.hennepin.us/recycling. For more information about recycling in general, contact Wilmot at 952-826-0463.