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CITY GOALS:



Strong Foundation



Reliable Service



Livable City



Better Together

Center Ramp Opens at 50th & France

Final Pieces of Market Street Redevelopment Are Falling into Place

BY KRYSTAL CARON

Just in time for holiday shopping, visitors to the 50th & France area will now have easy access to free, covered parking. The Center Ramp reopens Nov. 1, bringing the total number of free, public parking stalls available at 50th & France to over 1,100.

“We’ll have more than 120 free public parking spaces on the first level of the Center Ramp and those are designated specifically for visitors to the 50th & France area,” said Project Communications Coordinator Pat Tucker.

Another level will be dedicated to residents of Nolan Mains, the rental property located above the Center Ramp. The ramp has an elevator and several handicapped parking spaces. Since the ramp is underground, parking is kept cool in the summer and warm in the winter.

A formal grand opening event will be held in the spring of 2020.

“There is a stairway and elevator in the center to access businesses. We added a stairway

on the west side to make it easier to access those buildings and another stairway on the east end that is the closest to get to things like restaurants, retail and salons,” said Economic Development Manager Bill Neuendorf. “Rain and snow shouldn’t slow you down.”

Entrances to the North and Center ramps are both accessible from Market Street and the South Ramp can be accessed from West 51st Street. Providing additional parking has been a long-term goal of the City. The Market Street project began over five years ago and has resulted in over 100 new parking spaces in the area.

“The completion of this ramp is another phase in this public/private partnership,” said



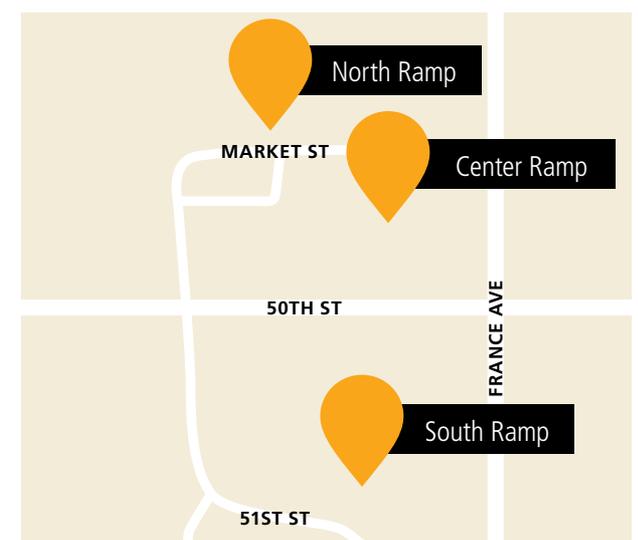
Neuendorf. “This gives us parking capacity for more businesses, more employees and more customers.”

Work won’t be entirely finished, though. Tucker says there are still odds and ends that need to be finalized on the Center Ramp, such as wayfinding signs. Those details will continue to be installed after the ramp opens to the public. Nolan Mains and a public plaza are also still under construction. A formal grand opening event will be held in the spring of 2020.

“We’re really excited about the public area that’s being finalized there. It’s a large gathering area with retail space, open air and a fire pit,” said Tucker. “It’s really something special now and for generations to come.”

For more information, visit EdinaMN.gov/50thandFrance or contact Tucker at 952-826-1605. 

The Center Ramp at 50th & France, located under Nolan Mains, opens Friday, Nov. 1. This is the last ramp to be reopened after construction at 50th & France. Photo by Kaylin Eidsness



All three parking ramps are now open.

Braemar Golf Dome Opens With Latest Ball-Tracing Technology

Toptracer Range Installed in all 44 Bays



Toptracer Range allows golfers to track and analyze shots from all of their clubs, providing them with data, including flat carry, total yards, height and hang time. Submitted Image

BY DEBBIE TOWNSEND

The Braemar Golf Dome isn't just the largest or longest-hitting indoor practice facility in the Twin Cities anymore. It's also the only place in Minnesota with Toptracer Range technology,

some basic data. With Toptracer Range, golfers will be able to see the ball's entire flight path, ball speed, launch angle carry, curve, hang time and more. The information can help golfers adjust their swing and instantly see the results.

the most advanced ball tracing available. Golf fans have seen it during TV coverage of major golf tournaments.

Toptracer Range was installed this fall in all 44 bays on two levels of Braemar Golf Dome, 7420 Braemar Blvd.

Previous tee-tracking technology showed only the start of the ball's flight path and

"This will be the best game-improvement winter practice facility you are going to find anywhere," said Braemar Golf Course General Manager Joe Abood.

He expects a lot of players to dig into the mode called "What's In My Bag." They can track the swing data for every club, so on the course they can better understand how each club will perform.

"You can get dialed in and know exactly what you're hitting," Abood said.

Toptracer Range's other modes include games you can play against your friends at the Dome or worldwide against people at other ranges.

In addition to Toptracer Range, other improvements at Braemar Golf Dome include new seating and expanded hours. The dome, which opens Nov. 1, will operate 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily.

Learn more at BraemarGolf.com or by calling 952-903-5775.

BY THE NUMBERS

Pipes Don't Like Wipes!

When "flushable" wipes are flushed into the City system, they create clogs, which in turn cause sewer backups. Even wipes labeled as "flushable" should not be flushed.



180

The City has 180 miles of public sanitary sewer mains, 4,800 manholes and 24 lift stations within its system.



Be a good neighbor!
Don't flush wipes!

1 If you flush one wipe, it can cause a clog for an entire neighborhood.



6 Out of eight sewer backups in 2018, six were caused by wipes.



UP NORTH GIFT GALLERY OPENS NOV. 14

During the winter holiday season, the Gift Shop, Margaret Foss and Tea Room galleries at the Edina Art Center are transformed into the "Up North" Holiday Gift Gallery, featuring a variety of locally made artwork and photography at multiple price points to offer holiday shoppers a one-stop shopping opportunity. The Up North gift gallery opens Thursday, Nov. 14, and goes through Dec. 27. Art by Chris Emeott

UPCOMING EVENTS

Recurring Events:

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

Children's Programs, Edinborough Park
Noon Thursdays

Wednesday, Nov. 6, 7 p.m.

City Council Meeting, Edina City Hall

Friday, Nov. 8, 6:30 p.m.

Friday Family Movie Night, "Toy Story 4,"
Edinborough Park

Saturday, Nov. 9, 10 a.m.

The Author's Studio: *The Witness Tree* – Amy
Pendino, Edina Art Center

Monday, Nov. 11

Veterans Day; City Hall closed

Thursday, Nov. 14, 5-8 p.m.

Up North Gift Gallery Opening Reception, Edina
Art Center

Saturday, Nov. 16, 10 a.m.-noon

Town Hall Meeting, Edina Senior Center



Saturday, Nov. 16, 7 p.m.

"Pioneers of Color: The Yancey
Family of Edina," Minnehaha
Grange Hall

*The Yancey family was one of
Edina's founding families, leaders
not only in the local community,
but across the state of Minnesota.
Discover the history of this
pioneering family, from their*

*early years in slavery to becoming successful frontier
farmers and leaders.*

Tuesday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m.

City Council Meeting, Edina City Hall

Saturday, Nov. 23, 9-10 a.m.

Walk With the Mayor, Galleria

Sunday, Nov. 24, 7 p.m.

First John Philip
Sousa Memorial
Band, Edinborough
Park



Thursday, Nov. 28

Thanksgiving Day; City Hall Closed

Friday, Nov. 29

City Hall Closed

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

Building Permits Help Keep Structures Safe

Permit Fees Based on Building Values

BY KAYLIN EIDSNES

Building permits help ensure homes and buildings are safe from electrical and heating system fire hazards, structural failure and other health risks.

Chief Building Official David Fisher says the safety of residents and visitors in Edina is the No. 1 priority of his division.

"Building inspections reduce risk and give assurance that the work being done by residents and contractors is up to code," he said.

To pay for the inspections service, the City collects building permit fees. The fees cover costs incurred by reviewing plans, investigating code compliance and administering the inspections. According to the League of Minnesota Cities, State law requires that these fees must be fair, reasonable and have a connection to the actual cost of the service for which the fee is imposed. Statewide, most building fees for each project are set based on the building's valuation. However, some, such as the demolition permit in Edina, are a flat rate.

The average value of a demolition and newly rebuilt home in Edina is \$677,480. For a project of that amount, building permits would total \$11,003, or 1.62 percent of the value of the new home built. Permits for such a project would include demolition, building, sewer/water disconnect and connect, Public Works curb cut, plumbing, mechanical and electrical.



Building Inspector Peter Akmenkalns inspects a residential basement remodeling project in Edina. Photo by Kaylin Eidsness

The homeowner would also have to pay a plan review fee.

"In my entire career, I've never seen such high building valuations," said Fisher of last year's valuations, which totaled \$344 million. "That's up there with Minneapolis and St. Paul for total valuations."

In 2018, six Building Inspectors made 12,443 building inspections, compared to 9,664 building inspections in 2014. These inspections range from looking over a simple residential deck to very complex mechanical installations at some of the city's businesses.

*For more information, contact Fisher at
952-826-0450.*



SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION TUESDAY, NOV. 5

Visit MNVotes.gov

- Find your polling place
- See a sample ballot
- Learn about candidates

Edina School District

All voting will be held at polling locations 7 a.m.-8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 5. In-person absentee voting will take place at Edina City Hall; visit EdinaMN.gov/Election for a list of times.

Richfield School District

For Edina residents who are eligible to vote in the Richfield School District election, your polling place is Sheridan Hills Elementary School Gym, 6400 Sheridan Ave. S., Richfield. Contact the City of Richfield at 612-861-9700 to learn more about absentee voting.

Hopkins School District

For Edina residents who are eligible to vote in the Hopkins School District election, your polling place is Shepherd of the Hills Church, 500 Blake Road, Edina. Contact the City of Hopkins at 952-935-8474 to learn more about absentee voting.

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

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Permit No. 3932

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POSTAL PATRON
CAR-RT-WS

Parking To Be Added Along Braemar Boulevard

Improvements at Golf Dome Expected to Draw Bigger Crowds

Anticipating the need for additional parking at the Braemar Golf Dome, the Edina City Council has authorized shoulder improvements along Braemar Boulevard.

During the 2018-2019 season, the City began to see a need for more parking at the Golf Dome, 7420 Braemar Blvd. With the recent installation of first-in-the-state Toptracer Range technology in the practice facility, it is anticipated that there will be an even greater parking demand.

Staff completed a study to determine if parking could be expanded west of the current lot, a new lot built on the south side of the Golf Dome or additional parking provided along Braemar Boulevard. Providing additional street parking was determined to be most cost effective.

The City Council awarded the contract for the project to Pember Companies at its Oct. 15 meeting. As part of the \$60,000 project, which will be paid with remaining 2017 bond proceeds from the golf course renovation, three seven-foot shoulders will be constructed in three locations.

In other business last month, the Council:

- Purchased MUNIS, an integrated enterprise resource planning software system, from Tyler Technologies. The system combines core financial (general ledger, budgeting, accounts payable and receivable, payroll and purchasing), utility billing and Human Resources systems. The technology will allow staff to more efficiently maintain and locate data for the public, provide better data and analysis for informed decision-making by elected officials and staff, and reduces the risk of lost data and human error. Implementation will begin in November, but is expected to take 18-24 months to complete. The planned “go-live” date is Jan. 1, 2021.
- Certified unpaid utility bills to the County for collection. There are currently 519 properties with delinquent accounts totaling \$331,706.
- Approved the plat for 200 Southdale Center. Formerly a lot for JC Penney, there are now three lots at the site for Life Time Fitness, a multi-tenant space and an outdoor plaza.



Life Time Fitness, which will feature a rooftop restaurant, accompanied by leisure pools, lounge seating and bocce courts, plans to open before the end of the year. Photo by Dietrich Nissen

- Authorized the study of surface and ground water interactions at Highlands Park to determine how water levels respond to various weather conditions. Barr Engineering will also begin to develop options and estimates that might address flooding issues there.
- Directed staff to scope a process for creating a climate action plan for Edina.

The Council will next meet 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 6, and Tuesday, Nov. 19, at Edina City Hall, 4801 W. 50th St. For more information, visit EdinaMN.gov.

– COMPILED BY JENNIFER BENNEROTTE