



Minnetrista Messenger

2023 Winter/Spring Edition

Message from the Mayor

Greetings Minnetrista Residents,

Snow, snow and more snow. This has been one of the snowiest winters on record. I'm sure if you're like most of us, you have had difficulty trying to keep your driveway clear of snow and ice. It's no different for our public works crew. Please be patient. They are out plowing and sanding as quickly and as frequently as possible.

Staffing levels will be one of the items the Council will be discussing at our Strategic Planning session on March 20th. Specifically for our Police and Public Works Departments. As a growing city with more roads and more emergency calls, we will be discussing options to add additional police officers and public works maintenance personnel over the next few years. That said, there are challenges we face. Like many cities, right now there is a shortage of qualified individuals applying for open positions. The Council also must consider the impacts to our property tax levy. Balancing increased taxes with needs and services is always a challenge.

The bids for our two major road reconstruction projects came in under our engineers' estimate. That's good news! The mill and overlay projects also came in

better than we anticipated. This year, due to the size and scope of the projects, we will be bonding to finance all our road projects. Per our city policy, there will be a small percentage assessed to benefitting properties for the reconstruction projects. However, the city picks up 100% of the cost for mill and overlays. The assessment hearing and the sale of the bonds will be at our March 20th City Council meeting.

The Council recently approved several city events. We are bringing back the State of the City Address. This year it will be held at the Burl Oaks Golf Club in Minnetrista. There will be light refreshments provided and a cash bar. Please mark your calendars for April 18th. This is a great opportunity to meet your Mayor and Council Members and to hear about your city government. Please RSVP to this event, more information can be found on the city's website.

Trista Day will be held on May 20th, from 11:00am – 2:00pm. Many fun things are being planned for the entire family. No RSVP is needed, just come and have fun!

I'm also excited to announce that once again I will be hosting our annual city bus tour. This is a great (and fun) way to get to know your city. A very comfortable coach-bus takes us through our entire city. We show and tell you of

our past, present and future. So mark your calendars for June 6th. We depart from city hall at 5:30 and a light supper is provided. Space is limited so please RSVP once the event is posted on the City's website and social media to ensure your spot.

We still have two open seats on our Parks Commission. If you are interested in being more involved and playing a role in city government, please consider applying. Applications are available on our website or call city hall.

A friendly reminder as we head into our lawn irrigation season; use our water resources sparingly. This will ultimately save you money. Please adhere to the summer water restrictions and keep in mind other water conservation strategies. Pay attention when you water; a few hours every other day is all most lawns need. In fact, some people only watered twice a week last summer and had healthy, green lawns. Don't water during rain events. Set your irrigation systems so they don't over water.

If you need assistance call city hall. Also check out our website for more helpful tips!

As Always,
Your Mayor



Let's Talk Water Rates!

During the 2023 Budget process, the City Council approved increasing the residential water rates to help support water infrastructure needed in our community. The below rates are effective January 1, 2023.



Usage	2022	2023
Base Rate	\$31.97	\$33.89
0-25,000 gallons	\$4.50	\$4.77
25,001-65,000 gallons	\$6.25	\$6.63
Over 65,001 gallons	\$11.25	\$11.93

**per 1,000 gallons*

Outdoor watering and irrigation season is coming up. Here are a few reminders to help conserve water:

- Summer water restrictions are in effect from **May 1-September 30**. If you are on public water supply, you can not irrigate between **10am-6pm**.
- To further conserve water, odd/even restrictions are effective as well. Residents with an odd address can water on odd dates, even addresses can water on even dates.
- Check your irrigation system and adjust to conserve water
- Improve lawn care practices (see www.extension.umn.edu/turfgrass)
- Change your expectation to allow for temporary discoloration during drought periods

Welcome New City Councilmembers & Commissioners

Congratulations to Peter Vickery and Claudia Lacy and welcome to the City Council! This is both Vickery and Lacy's first time holding office as councilmembers. Each member was sworn in on January 9, 2023.

Michael Kirkwood, Sarah Hussain, and Heather Charles were appointed as Planning Commissioners and Marc Henning and Zak Gangestad were appointed as alternate commissioners. Alyce Vogel was reappointed to the Parks Commission and Kelly Philips was newly appointed as a Parks Commissioner.

Thank you too all commissioners for volunteering their time and effort to improving our community!

Best Practices for Snow Removal



Do not put snow on roadways. It is against state law and city ordinance to plow, shovel, blow, or place snow onto public roadways. Depositing snow in any fashion onto a roadway is illegal and punishable as a misdemeanor

Every year our plow drivers have incidents with garbage and recycling cans being placed in the roadway. When there is snow expected, we would like to remind homeowners that it is difficult for our plow crew when garbage/recycling cans are placed too far into the road.

Public Works crews work as efficiently as possible during and after a snow storm. We appreciate the resident's patience and cooperation during these snow events. A big thank you to our team! They put in long hours in take pride in keeping our roads safe.

Arbor Day Tree Sale

Minnetrista has partnered with Tree Trust for the Arbor Day Tree Sale which offers residents trees at a discounted price. The intent of this is to encourage residents to replant a diversity of tree species. There is a limit of two trees per household.

Dates to Order: Starting **March 10 at 8am**, trees will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis until sold out or May 26. **Limit two trees per household.**

Species available: Honeycrisp apple (dwarf), River Birch (single stem), Kentucky coffeetree (esspresso), Royal raindrops crabapple, Prairie sentinel hackberry, Sunburst Honeylocust, Ironwood Parkland pillar birch, Redbud (multi-stem)

Pricing: \$50 per tree

How to order: Trees can only be ordered and paid for online at <https://minnetrista-tree-sale.myshopify.com/>.

Pick up day: June 3, 2023 9am-12pm. Residents who order will receive a postcard about 1-2 weeks before the distribution date with more instructions on pick up procedure.

Pick up Location: City Hall, 7701 CR 110 West Minnetrista, MN 55364.

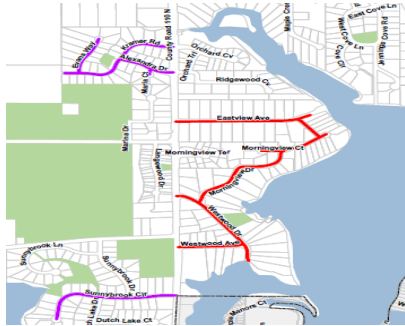


2023 Street Projects

Street & Utility Improvement Project

The proposed street improvements include a full reconstruction, storm sewer system, minor sanitary improvements, full watermain, and water service replacement throughout Eastview, Morningview and Westwood area.

Based on the bid price, the project cost is just over \$4.2 million and is proposed to be funded through a combination of City Funds and special assessments to benefitting properties. Once the contractor has developed a construction schedule, residents will be notified.



Street Improvement Project

The proposed improvements include a full depth reclamation of the pavement and minor enhancements to storm water drainage system in the areas of North Arm Drive, Trails End Road, and Trails End Circle. The project also includes a partial replacement of concrete curb and gutter, mill and overlay of pavement and minor enhancements to storm water drainage system of Timber Trail.



Based on the bid price, the project cost is just under \$1.2 million and is proposed to be funded through a combination of City Funds and special assessments to benefitting properties.

Street Resurfacing project

The proposed improvements generally consist of resurfacing the streets and minor enhancements to storm water drainage system in the Painters Creek Preserve neighborhood, Sunnybrook Circle (CR 110 to Sunnybrook Drive), the Turtle Creek neighborhood, Hunters Trail (Highway 7 to Bandy Lane) and Kings Point Road (from the northern intersection of Woodland Cove Parkway to the cul de sac). The budget for these improvements is \$1.29 million and will be funded through City Funds and State aid funds.

The City Council will consider awarding all contracts for the 2023 projects at the March 20th meeting. For more information on these projects, visit our website: www.cityofminnetrista.com/ConstructionProjects

Trista Day

Mark your calendars! 2023 Trista day will be held on **Saturday, May 20th from 11am-2pm**. This annual public safety awareness event is sponsored by the City of Minnetrista and features events for people of all ages including safety education displays, kids' activities, entertainment, product displays, promotional items, and free popcorn & water. This year we will also have food trucks with items for purchase.

It takes many volunteers, vendors and donors to make Trista Day a success. Trista Day is a great opportunity for your business or organization to promote itself to the area residents through a booth. It is a great way to serve your community, promote safety awareness and have fun!

If you are interested in helping make Trista Day a success by contributing as a vendor, entertainer, and/or booth-holder, please contact the Police Department at (952)446-1131 or police@ci.minnetrista.mn.us. Visit our website for more information!

What is the Crime Prevention Fund?

The Crime Prevention Fund (CPF) is a nonprofit organization that provides grants to the Police Department and other programs because safety matters! Some of the grants provided have been for non-budgeted equipment, program requests, staff wellness, training, and rewards for tips that lead to solving crimes. Other grants requests have included scholarships to local high school graduates, Citizen Academy, National Night Out, Drug Disposal Bags, and Trista Day! To learn more about CPF visit crimeprevention.org or save the date to attend the 30th Golf Fundraiser <https://www.crimepreventionfund.org/fundraisers> to show your support for police, safety and preventing crime!

Mackenthun's Development

In October 2022, the City approved site plans for a 148 unit apartment building and a Mackenthun's grocery store. Site work at Kings Point Road and Highway 7 started in late 2022 and the Developers and the City are currently working through the building permit process. Construction is anticipated to ramp up in spring 2023 with an eye towards fall 2024 for completion of both projects.



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This newsletter was published in accordance with the City of Minnetrista's Publication Policy which may be viewed in its entirety on the City's website at www.cityofminnetrista.com or during regular business hours at Minnetrista City Hall; 7701 Co. Rd 110 W; Minnetrista, MN 55364.

Upcoming Community Events

State of the City Address

April 18 5:30-7:30pm

This event is held to update residents on the important accomplishments in the past few years and the priorities for the next year. Please RSVP to this event here:

www.cityofminnetrista.com/events/75793/

Recycle Day

May 6 8am-3pm

This event is held so residents can up any items they wish to recycle. More information to come on our website and social media!

Trista Day

May 20 11am-2pm

This community event will feature safety education displays, kids' activities, petting zoo & pony rides, product displays, promotional items, food trucks, and free popcorn & water.

City Bus Tour

June 6 5:30pm-9:00pm

This is a great (and fun) way to get to know your city. A very comfortable coach-bus takes us through our entire city. More information to come on our website and social media!

City Meetings and Dates

City Council Meeting

March 20 7:00 pm

Planning Commissioner Meeting

March 27 7:00 pm

City Council Meeting

April 17 7:00 pm

Planning Commission Meeting

April 24 7:00 pm

Open Book Meeting (Virtual)

April 25 8:00am

City Council Meeting

May 1 7:00 pm

City Council Meeting

May 15 7:00pm

City Offices Closed (Memorial Day)

May 29 All Day



City of Minnetrista

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