

Village NOTES

“A Village in the City”

Winter 2021

Perspectives and Thankfulness

by Mayor Randy Stille

We are now in a new year with a fresh start; yet, we are still experiencing the drastic effects of a global pandemic. Even though COVID-19 has encompassed our lives since March 2020, we are continuing to find ways to adapt to our current situation. Even so, we are living in a reality where an extended lack of human connection is taking its toll. Not being able to socialize in-person with friends and extended family, or attending in-person school and places of worship, or gathering at the Unofficial or the Village Pub—the way we live our lives has greatly changed. And some of us have experienced the ultimate sacrifice of losing loved ones to COVID-19.

The monotony and lack of personal connection with others over the past 10 months has proven difficult for many. There are those fortunate enough to work from home, yet missing interactions with coworkers. There are Villagers who live alone and are experiencing loneliness without daily interpersonal experiences and activities. Parents are juggling a balance of work and distance learning with their children, facing increasing demands on multiple fronts. And our children are missing out on connecting with their peers, traditional school, and engagement opportunities.

And the medical providers and public safety personnel who place themselves in harm's way every day to protect and serve our Village, often providing care to COVID-19 patients. Every time you hear a siren, these first responders, police officers, and firefighters are coming to a resident's aid.

I am also thankful to the child care staff in our

community that ensure our children are cared for while families continue to work away from home, often on the front lines of COVID-19. I'm also grateful that our school teachers and school staff are developing new ways to teach and provide learning opportunities during continuous changes in educational delivery methods.

These sacrifices are very real, very raw, and impact everyone. And through it all, I see our residents coming together safely and courageously to provide comfort and care to our community. From the St. Anthony-New Brighton School District and Community Services providing resources to community members, to local organizations creating opportunities for residents to write notes of gratitude to health care workers, firefighters, and police officers. And I see residents individually stepping up by making food, providing supplies, and giving gifts to share love and joy, especially during this holiday season.

I am tremendously grateful to all the Villagers on the front lines of COVID-19. Their personal sacrifices and selfless efforts continue to bring me perspective—taking one day, one week, and one month at a time. I urge all of us to continue to do our part by following the Minnesota Department of Health guidelines of maintaining physical distance from others, staying home when necessary, and by wearing our masks.

Let's continue to persevere, to look out for one another, and to begin 2021 with legitimate hope and expectation that this year will be one of renewal and promise. ■

IN THIS EDITION:

- JAY HARTMAN
- 2020 ELECTION RECAP
- FINANCE UPDATES
- FIRE PREVENTION POSTER CONTEST



CITY COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION

'Hat's Off' to City Staff

by Charlie Yunker, Interim City Manager

At the end of each year, City staff begin to prepare and plan, compile annual reports, and discuss staff's contributions for Goal Setting held each January. While reflecting on the difficulties and change that everyone has experienced over this past year, I've developed an even deeper appreciation for the resiliency of our City staff.



Merriam-Webster defines resilience as, "an ability to recover from or adjust easily to misfortune or change." And 2020 was a year filled with a great deal of hardship and challenges that have significantly impacted each and every one of us—including all St. Anthony residents in a number of ways.

With all the developments and constant change of 2020, City staff never wavered in their genuine concern for each other, nor in their dedication to service and care for the St. Anthony community. They handled a pandemic (both professionally and personally), social issues, a contentious election, and a sudden and painful loss of a dear friend and colleague.

And people don't tend to pursue a career in public service for recognition or accolades. Frankly, most seem to prefer to remain on the sidelines or in the background. Still, I'd like to take this time to extend my sincere appreciation and admiration to each and every staff member for their dedication, adaptability, and resilience.

My hope is that all St. Anthony residents know and feel they can depend on their City services, no matter what 2021 and beyond may bring. ■

2020 Election Recap

by Nicole Miller, Administrative Services Coordinator

The 2020 election season was a great success for St. Anthony Village, with 64% of registered voters casting their ballots early either by mail or in-person absentee.

Our City owes a big thank you to our election judges who helped keep everyone safe this election season. They provided a welcoming atmosphere during uncertain times, guiding folks through the voting process with a friendly and caring approach. They helped voters navigate adjustments to the overall voting experience, provided information and education on how to drop off of ballots and partake in curbside voting, along with all the additional procedures and cleaning to help reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. We could not have been so successful without them—thank you! ■



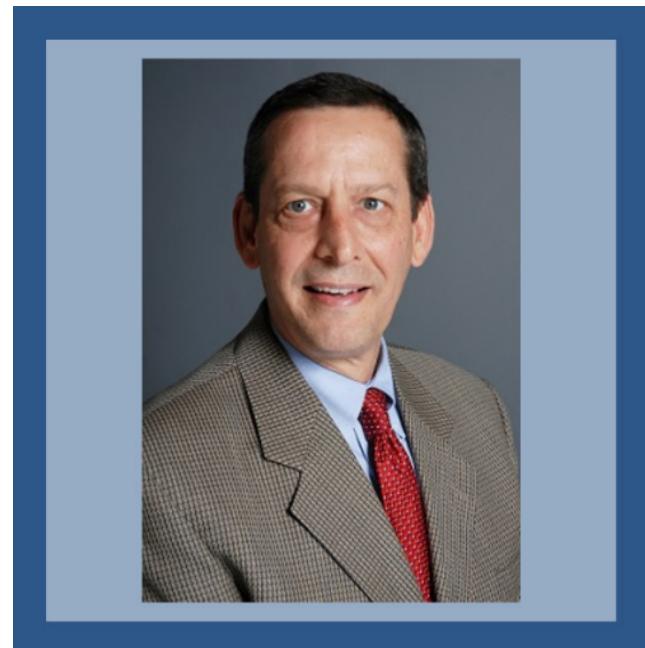
Jay Hartman

In November, we announced the sad news of the passing of Jay Hartman, St. Anthony's Director of Public Works. Jay has left a tremendous void across every City department, greatly affecting those that worked with him and called him a friend. Jay's fierce loyalty was unmatched with 43 years of service to the Village where he was born and raised. City staff will never forget his character, his undeniable humor, his values, and his incredible commitment to helping others. We continue to learn from Jay's integrity and approach to life—and his passionate dedication to the entire St. Anthony community.

St. Anthony's flag was flown at half-staff in November to honor Jay and his memory, and Mayor Stille provided a moment of silence at the Nov. 10 City Council meeting. Many residents and colleagues have offered kind words and memories; including a tribute at the Nov. 24 City Council meeting. Our Public Works crew, along with an escort made up of members of the Police and Fire departments, drove their big rigs in his funeral procession to pay tribute to their dear friend and colleague.

We will continue to keep Jay's family, friends, and the entire Public Works crew in our thoughts during this difficult time.

Jay—Friend. Mentor. Colleague. Public Servant. We miss you, and we thank you. ■



Did You Know St Anthony Village Has Six Parks?

by Therese Bellinger, Parks and Environmental Commission Chair

Over the past few months, we've been putting on our sneakers and touring all six of our City's beautiful parks. Did you know that we have a bat house at Emerald? A skateboard park at Central? One jewel that might get missed by many is Trillium with its fountain and plantings creating a monumental feel. Silver Point packs its punch with ball fields, a skating rink, a walking path, a storm water collection area, and native gardens that are a test area for feasibility in other parks. Salo offers both an urban pathway and a naturalist pathway where wildlife can rest. All these features are just a small portion of our park's amenities. We Commissioners are pleased with what's available to our community and friends. I would like to invite you to "take the tour" and visit our parks. As your acting advisory committee, we need feedback and ideas to assist in preparing our 2021 plan recommendations to City Council. Your suggestions are a vital part of the process. Please write to us. Find us online at: savmn.com/ParksandEnvironmentalCommission

We will miss Jay

We Commissioners would like to share our sincere sympathies to Jay Hartman's family on his passing. Jay oversaw the Park and Environmental Commission. With his help, leadership, and guidance, he facilitated what we appreciate in our parks today. We will miss him very much. ■



COFFEE WITH THE COUNCIL

Join members of the City Council and the community via Zoom for informal discussions about the Village.

Upcoming events:

- Jan 9, 2021
- Feb. 20, 2021
- March 27, 2021

Zoom meeting links will be provided on the City website.



Visit: savmn.com/CoffeeWithCouncil for current information and updates.

FINANCE

Finance updates: Community Solar Gardens and Use of CARES Act Funding

by Shelly Rueckert, Finance Director

Community Solar Gardens

In 2016, St. Anthony became a member of the Metropolitan Council Community Solar Garden Collaborative that facilitated a group-buy of solar garden subscriptions— providing solar-based electricity for its members — with neighboring municipalities. Currently, there are two active solar gardens subscriptions with a third anticipated to begin in 2021. The City facilities that are associated with the solar subscriptions are shown below:

Developer	Proposed Facilities Subscribed	Total Subscription Size (kWh)
SolarStone Community LLC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Silver Point Park Shelter• Silver Point Park• Trillium Park• Central Park	\$63,700
United States Solar Corporation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• City Hall• Fire Department	\$584,420

During 2019, the US Solar gardens subscriptions became available online and produced \$9,500 in savings on electrical costs. The 2020 projected savings for a full year in operations is \$18,800. The original projections estimated the net present value of the City's electric cost savings over a 25-year lifetime at \$330,000. The early results of the program are in line with the original estimate.

Use of CARES Funding

The State allocation of the federal CARES Act funds supports local government coronavirus (COVID-19) relief efforts. The City of St. Anthony Village received a distribution of \$683,110. These funds were used for necessary COVID-19 expenditures incurred from March 1 to Nov. 15, 2020. During this timeframe the City Council and City staff monitored and managed the allocation of funds to various COVID-19 needs. The expected disbursement of funds includes the City's use of \$568,110 funds for the following:

- Personal protective equipment (PPE), sanitizers, and similar supplies.
- Modifications to facilities/parks to allow for protective barriers and social distancing.
- Upgrades to all HVAC systems to provide an ionization process to eliminate viruses.
- Computer equipment to allow greater efficiency for employees while working remotely.
- Employment costs that help reduce employee exposure to COVID-19.
- Public safety costs in a COVID-19 environment.

The City provided \$15,000 to Northeast Youth & Family Services (NYFS) to cover extraordinary COVID-19 related costs. St. Anthony has an ongoing partnership with NYFS to provide mental health, youth diversion, and senior chore services. Lastly, the St. Anthony-New Brighton School District was provided \$100,000 in support of: Facilitating distance learning with Chromebooks; Food programs/meal delivery; and Tier 1 childcare.

Our community continues to adapt to the ever-changing challenges of the pandemic and its impact on City finances. Council and City staff have been mindful of the effect that COVID-19 has on its citizens, including financial challenges. St. Anthony's receipt of CARES Act funding from the state and federal government has lessened the financial burden created by COVID-19. Knowing the importance of being good financial stewards of local, state and federal funds, the Council and the finance team continues to focus on expenditures that would best address the City's needs and the uncertainties of the COVID-19 pandemic. ■

SUSTAINABILITY

Recycle all batteries

Did you know? Batteries can start fires in the trash if not recycled properly. With so many different kinds of batteries, it can be confusing to know which batteries can be recycled. Ramsey County makes it simple by accepting all batteries for recycling.

Place spent batteries in a plastic tub with a loose-fitting or breathable lid and store them in a cool, dry location. When you are ready to dispose of your batteries, bring them to a Ramsey County Household Hazardous Waste facility. For hours and locations, visit RamseyRecycles.com/HHW. Before you leave, don't forget to check your home and garage for any other household hazardous waste items you'd like to get rid of such as paint, fluorescent light bulbs, used oil, and aerosol cans. ■



Christmas tree disposal

During the first two weeks of the year, haulers will pick up Christmas trees at no charge. This applies to single family houses that are covered under the organized collection contract. For questions, please contact City Hall at 612-782-3301.

Recycle unwanted holiday lights

The City is accepting unwanted holiday lights through the end of January. Lights can be deposited in a container that is located at the Community Center outside of the entrance to City Hall. The lights will be brought to Tech Dump, a 501(c)(3) electronic waste recycler with a mission to protect the environment, to provide safe and secure electronics recycling, and to create stable jobs for people with barriers to employment. Questions: City Hall at 612-782-3301.



STAY INFORMED

Know Who And When To Call For Water And Sewer Emergencies



If you are experiencing a water or sewer emergency, make sure to **contact City of St. Anthony offices immediately at 612-782-3301** (during normal business hours).

For after hours service, contact the Fire Department at 612-782-3400 or call 911.

City crews will be dispatched to evaluate the situation and assist the property owner.

Remember, the property owner is responsible for maintaining sanitary sewer service from their building up to and including the connection to the main sewer line. Single family and 2-family residential property owners are responsible for maintaining water service from their building to the curb stop including any connection at the curb stop. I & I (Inflow/Infiltration) inspection is required by the City prior to the sale of a house.

THIS WINTER, DON'T GET STUCK!

Remember:

- Two inches or more of snowfall, plows are out.
- No parking on any City streets for 48 hours or until streets have been plowed, curb to curb.



SIGN UP FOR SNOW PLOW ALERTS:
SAVMN.COM



PUBLIC SAFETY

Update From Police Chief Mangseth

Since the tragic in-custody death of George Floyd, I have been repeatedly asked what changes our police department has implemented since the officer-involved shooting of Philando Castile. Police departments across the nation are working on reforming their policies in order to reduce excessive use of force through de-escalation tactics. And at the St. Anthony Police Department, we will remain intentional, focused and proactive to ensure these senseless tragedies do not occur. The perception of police officers needs to change from that of warriors to guardians and protectors. Yet, police departments still have a lot of work to do to make this essential change. What I can offer to members of our community is an overview of how we equip our officers with the training, knowledge and capacity to perform with a service-based mindset.

I remain encouraged by the work we have accomplished, particularly in the area of the Collaborative Reform Initiative for Technical Assistance (CRI-TA). CRI-TA focuses on the following key areas that have been identified through community listening sessions:

- Revision of the department policy manual.
- Developed a data-driven strategic plan for initiating and conducting vehicle and pedestrian stops, community engagement, and enhancing policing practices.

- Continuation of professional development focusing on training, best practices and procedures within specific areas of importance: use of force, de-escalation, encounters with those suffering from mental illness, and leadership.

Policy manual updates and strategic plan

CRI-TA training in Fair and Impartial Policing and Procedural Justice have been intentionally embedded into our department policy manual, training accomplished with certified in-house instructors, and in the creation of a more robust strategic plan. Every police officer and staff member must be able to articulate how every action they make is aligned with our strategic plan.

On-going training

Our officers receive on-going instruction in evidence-based police de-escalation training through Crisis Intervention Team Training (CIT) and Integrating Communications, Assessment, and Tactics (ICAT). Training focuses on responding to individuals in crisis utilizing the CIT approach, which was developed through the Mental Health Crisis Response Institute and the Barbara Schneider Foundation (BSF). The BSF believes in a community-wide and ongoing collaboration among three community service providers—first responders, mental health and



community advocacy—to work to improve crisis response and prevention.

Professional development in crisis intervention

Our officers also receive a mandated 16 hours of continuing education credits on an every three-year licensing cycle in crisis intervention and mental illness crises, conflict management and mediation, and recognizing and valuing community diversity and cultural differences and implicit bias, as required by Minn. Stat. 626.8469. Additionally, we believe that every member of our community expects to be served by police officers who are healthy in mind, body, and spirit. Our officer wellness program incorporates all of these facets through the implementation of a physical wellness plan, an internal chaplaincy program, and a mandatory annual mental health checkup for every department member by a licensed psychologist. **(continued on page 9)**

Update From Police Chief Mangseth *(continued from page 9)*

Traffic-safety approach to vehicle stops

We participate in the Minnesota Department of Public Safety's Toward Zero Death grant program, placing more officers on our roadways to look for driving behaviors that can lead to crashes, injuries, and deaths, such as speeding, distracted driving, impaired driving, and failure to wear a seatbelt. We also utilize detection devices to determine problem areas so that resources can be better allocated to those locations.

Body-Worn Camera (BWC) program

Two years ago, we implemented a Body-Worn Camera (BWC) program to provide additional transparency for the public. Our officers are required to activate their BWC in nearly all interactions with the public, including all traffic stops. Internal audits of the BWC are conducted on a monthly basis, and supervisors randomly select BWC videos, confirm that a video is present for every call requiring its use, that videos are classified properly, and that our officer's actions are professional and adhering to department policy. In 2019, a total of 482 videos were randomly viewed, with 99% of those meeting the criteria set forth in our policy. BWC video is reviewed following any complaint or concern received to ensure fairness, impartiality, and professionalism, and not deviating from policy.

Mental health aid for public safety

We have met an important strategic goal by participating in mental health aid for public safety.

In partnership with Northeast Youth and Family Services (NYFS) and Ramsey County law enforcement agencies, we contracted to hire a community case worker that performs follow up services on police calls by providing resources to households and individuals with mental health or other basic family needs. This will help reduce repeated police calls and unwanted use-of-force encounters.

Police officers must be equipped with resources to mitigate rapidly evolving, highly intense, emotional situations involving people in crisis. I have personally found it extremely challenging to answer these calls, and disappointing due to limited resources to rely on (beyond a police response) in these difficult situations. Our training over the last several years has been well received and increased our capacity—yet I cannot help but think we can do better. I believe there is room to grow from CIT training and a benefit from receiving community-wide input. I will remain focused on developing our capacity in this area.

Emphasizing a service-based mindset

We will continue to build a culture that emphasizes a service-based mindset. Our focus will be to serve our community by strictly adhering to our Mission, Vision and department policies, which directly guides our training, hiring, and delivery of services. You can count on us to remain focused, proactive, and determined to ensure senseless tragedies do not occur. And we strive to gain your trust to serve and protect you and your fellow neighbors, each and every day. For a comprehensive list of initiatives, visit: savmn.com/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/594 ■



Winter-Related Crime Trends and Weather Ordinances

by, Sergeant Mike Huddle

We are well into our highly anticipated (or tolerated) Minnesota winter. And, with the changing of seasons, we learn to adapt our behaviors. We've ditched our LuluLemon shorts and flip flops in favor of Carhartt jackets and moon boots—it's what we do. It would be unwise and unsafe (and painfully unfashionable) if we didn't. And in addition to our clothing choices, we adapt in other ways. For example, you may choose to warm up your vehicle on a cold winter day. While doing this, we hope you're staying with (or inside of) your vehicle. Using a remote start would also be ideal (and fancy). Yet, if you choose to leave your vehicle unattended with its engine running, you're risking the possibility of your car becoming stolen. It is important to always remain with your vehicle while it warms to help deter would-be thieves seeking an easy opportunity. Just think about how inconvenient it is to process an insurance claim, file a police report, and walk to your destination in the freezing cold? Although preventable, we see these types of thefts occurring every winter.



Lock the ignition and remove the key: City ordinance 70.6

Did you know that leaving your vehicle running unattended with the key in the ignition is against St. Anthony City ordinance? City Ordinance 70.06 requires that *“every person parking a motor vehicle in an unattended parking area or on a public street or alley shall lock the ignition and remove the key.”* Quickly running into the gas station/store to pick up an item while leaving your vehicle running unattended is risky. It takes a thief a few seconds to jump into your vehicle and drive off—seconds. It may seem easy and convenient in the winter to leave your car running for your quick return; but is it worth the potential risk of having it stolen? And there's also that long cold walk home or to work...so cold.

Winter parking prohibitions during snow events: City ordinance 72.36

It's probably also a good time to remind everyone about winter parking prohibitions during snow events (in Minnesota, it is always an event...never a dull moment). Our Public Works crew clears snow from City streets to allow for safe passage of traffic and access to emergency vehicles. You're part of the solution when you move your vehicle off the street and park in a driveway or open parking lot. This allows for a quick clearing of snow on roadways. City ordinance 72.36 prohibits parking a vehicle on any city street for a period of 48 hours, *“commencing immediately after 2 inches of snowfall, or until snow removal has been completed curb to curb.”* Please share this information with your guests and visitors so they can avoid being ticketed or having their vehicles plowed around.

A majority of thefts reported to the Police Department are due to unlocked vehicles. As always, please keep your vehicles locked and remove any valuables (including remote garage door openers) to help deter theft. You are more susceptible to additional crimes if your keys, garage door opener, and/or personal information happen to be stolen from your car.

Most of these measures are common sense and easy to implement. Take simple steps to adapt your behaviors this winter to protect yourself, your family, and your property. Winter already provides us with enough to contend with. Stay vigilant, stay safe, and stay warm.

If you'd like more crime information, prevention tips, reports, or have questions, please contact the St. Anthony Police Department at 612-782-3350. You can also follow us on the City website, Facebook and Twitter for alerts, news and updates. If you need to report a crime or suspicious activity, please call 911. ■

Fall Prevention in Your Home

by, Mattie Jaros, Fire Lieutenant

Each year, millions of people age 65 and older take a fall while at home leading to serious injury or even death. According to the Center for Disease Control, one out of every five falls causes a serious injury such as broken bones or a head trauma. These injuries can ultimately prevent people from getting around, doing everyday activities, or from living on their own. Some falls can lead to an extended stay in a rehab setting so an individual can recover.



There are a variety of factors that contribute to the likelihood of a fall occurring, such as lower body weakness, difficulties walking and balance issues, vision problems, and hazards at home. Here are a few quick tips to help with fall prevention:

- Get rid of things you could trip over, such as rugs and items scattered on the floor. Make sure to keep stairways clear of debris.
- Add grab bars on the inside and outside of your tub/shower and next to the toilet.
- Utilize hand railing when using the stairs; consider installing railing on both sides.
- Make sure your home has enough light so you are able to walk around safely. Consider adding additional lighting sources and/or brighter bulbs.
- Do exercises to help improve balance and increase strength.

It's especially important to talk with your doctor to evaluate your risk and receive recommendations to help prevent falls. Statistics indicate that if a person has previously experienced a fall, they are twice as likely to again. Be aware of your risks and take measures to ensure your home is safe of any hazards to help prevent you from becoming a victim of a serious fall. ■

Fire Prevention Poster Contest

Each year during Fire Prevention Month, the State Fire Chiefs Association, along with the National Fire Sprinkler Association, host an annual Fire Prevention Poster Contest. St. Anthony firefighters get the opportunity to discuss a specific fire safety message with fifth-grade students from St. Charles Borromeo School and Wilshire Park Elementary School. In turn, each student is asked to design a poster that creatively captures that message. This year's theme was "Serve Up Fire Safety in The Kitchen." This a great message for everyone, young and old, since a majority of residential house fires start in the kitchen. Student posters included a variety of tips, such as always watching what you cook and keeping combustible materials, like dish towels, three feet from the heat.

Posters are narrowed down to the top four finalists. The top two finalists are entered into the state-level contest. Over the past two years, state-level winners

came from St. Anthony. Naomi Waldusky's (2018) and Josie Tomas' (2019) posters were both recognized on covers of the Minnesota State Fire Chief's Magazine. In November, four new finalists were named in the Fire Prevention Contest:

- First place: Ella Gallagher, St. Charles Borromeo
- Second place: Stella Sawyer, Wilshire Park
- Third place: Stella Jacob, St. Charles Borromeo
- Fourth place: Stella Barrett, St. Charles Borromeo

Thank you to every student who participated—and congratulations to all of our finalists! ■



CITY PROJECT UPDATES

2021 Street and Utility Improvement Project

The 2021 Street and Utility Improvement Project consists of reconstructing the following roadways (illustrated below):

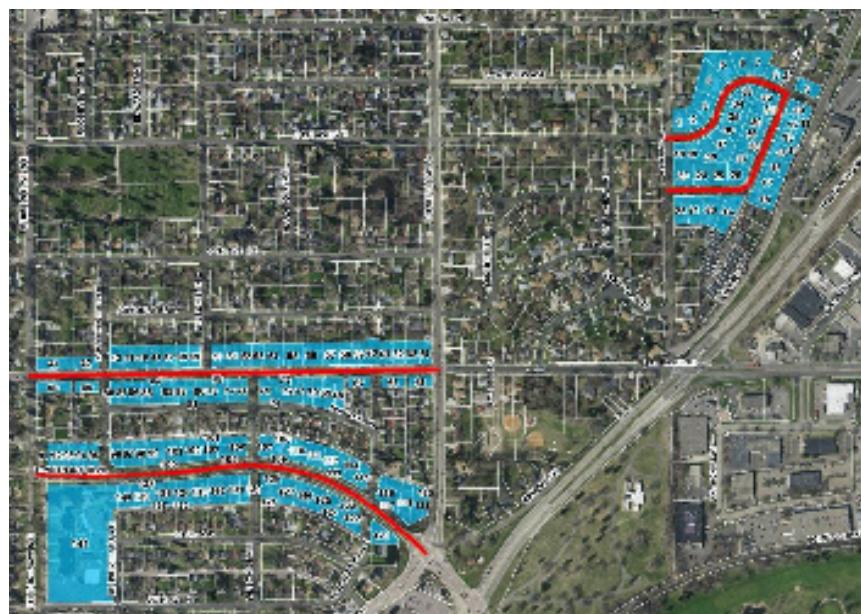
- Skycroft Drive from 33rd Avenue to 32nd Avenue
- Croft Drive from 33rd Avenue to 32nd Avenue

Proposed utility improvements include: sanitary sewer and water main replacement; individual services to the right-of-way boundary; replacement of all hydrants, water valves, and manholes that do not meet current City standards; and new storm sewer and catch basins.



The bituminous mill and overlay of the following roadways will also be included in the 2021 Street and Utility Improvement Project (illustrated below):

- 31st Avenue from Rankin Road to Old Hwy 8
- Croft Drive from Rankin Road to 31st Avenue
- 29th Avenue from Stinson Boulevard to Silver Lake Road
- St. Anthony Boulevard from Stinson Boulevard to Kenzie Terrace



2020 Street And Utility Improvement Project

The Contractor has substantially completed the street reconstruction, utility replacements, restoration and clean-up for the 2020 Street and Utility Improvement Project. The contractor will return in the spring to complete any final turf establishment and place the final layer of asphalt pavement. The bituminous mill and overlay of Silver Lane from Stinson Boulevard to Silver Lake Road is identified to be completed with the final layer of asphalt in 2021.

Should you have any questions or concerns with construction, please call Jake Grainger at 612-364-5319. He is on site to represent the City during construction.



Monitoring and Managing Chlorides to Address Environmental Impacts

by Justin Messner, City Engineer

Chlorides found in local bodies of water have become a rising and valid concern in recent years. As winter weather approaches, our parking lots, roadways, and sidewalks are treated with salt to melt snow and ice.

Yes, salt does create safer winter driving conditions. However, the environmental impacts of salt use are raising concerns on the long-term effects on fisheries, plant life and surrounding wildlife. The salt used to treat our roadways and pedestrian areas contains chloride that dissolves when mixed with water. This has resulted in an increase of chloride concentrations in lakes, streams, and wetlands. The elevated chloride levels are high enough in some cases to cause significant environmental impacts.



Removing chloride from water is possible, but the technology is incredibly expensive. Not to mention the disposal of the removed chloride is a challenge, requiring high-tech reverse osmosis filters. This is not unlike the challenges presented in treating ocean water to become drinkable.

Ultimately, we create a better understanding of the effects of chlorides on our environment by monitoring impacted surface water bodies and runoff where heavy salt application is occurring. It is imperative that communities manage salt application rates to help balance both public and environmental safety.

In recent years, St. Anthony has been working closely with state and local agencies to monitor and track the application, runoff concentrations, and impacts of chlorides due to salt application during the winter months. Recently, the City installed salt-tracking software within its trucks to monitor the salt applications and concentrations. The goal is to develop a better methodology to manage the application, potential chloride disposal opportunities, and minimize environmental impacts.

The City's reduction in de-icing and salt application use is one of the many reasons St. Anthony Village has received both step four and step five recognition with the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program. View St. Anthony's Best Practice Action Steps, assessment and performance metrics with the GreenSteps program: https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/city-detail/12419?ctu_code=2396471

As we continue to monitor and evolve our understanding of chlorides, we are developing several initiatives with neighboring cities, watersheds, and the Metropolitan Council that will provide balance to future management strategies, public safety, and environmental impacts of chlorides.

To learn how you can apply road salt safely with a focus on water quality, please visit the City's website for more information at savmn.com/224/Road-Salt. ■

CITY PLANNING

Planning and Citizen Involvement

by Stephen Grittman, City Planner

Last winter, we used this space to talk about citizen participation in government, particularly with planning and zoning. It was noted that even during normal times it can be difficult for residents and property owners to figure out how to engage with their local government (beyond just receiving City services). Planning, however, is one City realm where citizen participation is key to a successful community. There is a broad array of opportunities for community members to monitor and affect City growth and development.

Then, as we know— 2020 happened. The ink on your newsletter was hardly dry when public meetings dramatically changed. The City has worked diligently to build its technology to hold safer meetings. Even so, we understand it has been difficult for members of the community to participate virtually. While all of the Planning Commission meetings are open to the public, participation through direct attendance has become problematic, whether through the logistics of “social distancing” (a phrase few of us had heard of prior to March) or with adapting to Zoom meeting technology.

Of course, community members are still welcome (and encouraged) to attend, observe, and comment at meetings. And it is entirely understandable that people may feel uncomfortable attending a public meeting or connecting through the Zoom platform. Perhaps at this time, the best way to participate may be the old-fashioned way— write a letter (or more likely, the contemporary version via email). Written correspondence provides an opportunity to expand upon the issues you find important, giving the Planning Commission an opportunity to read and fully comprehend your points. Address postal mail or emailed comments to the City Clerk at City Hall to become part of the hearing record.

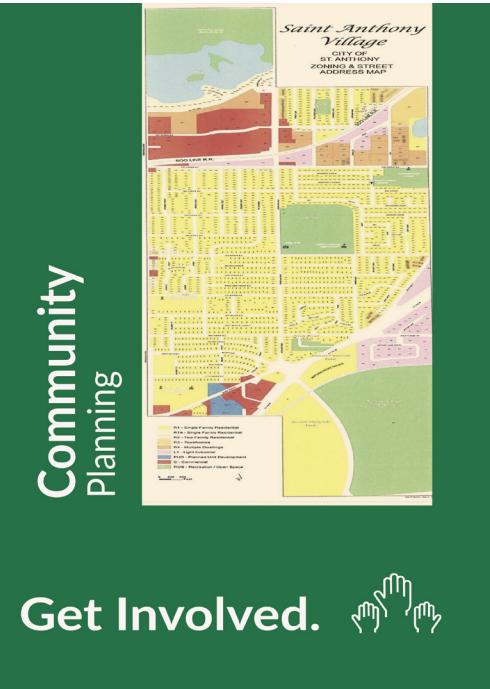
If you are unable to attend a meeting but are interested in the discussion, you can view a streamed version of the Planning Commission meeting at ctvnorthsuburbs.org/your-city/st-anthony/. The CTV North Suburbs website also provides links to City Council meetings, Parks Commission meetings, and many others you may have interest in watching.

A great way to stay informed on a particular issue is to monitor updates through signing up for push notifications via the City’s website at savmn.com/list.aspx. Receive information about current development projects, as well as a variety of other City activities. You can register by topic to be notified when an updated posting is added to the list.

Finally, if you prefer the old-school way of tracking Planning Commission matters, the City publishes public hearings in the legal notices section of the Star Tribune. Notices are located in the classified section of both the online and printed version of the newspaper.

The City of St. Anthony enthusiastically encourages your involvement in helping define our future as a community. Search, read, watch, attend, and participate— your opinion truly matters! ■

Community Planning



Get Involved.



Public Notice of Aeration Warning

(Official Publication)
City of St. Anthony

WARNING

An aeration system creating OPEN WATER and THIN ICE will begin operation on Silver Lake in Anoka County T30R24 and Ramsey County T30R23 on or after January 4, 2021. Weather conditions may cause the areas of thin ice and open water to fluctuate greatly.

Stay clear of the marked area!

If there are questions concerning this aeration system, please call the City of Columbia Heights, Minnesota at (763) 706-3700.



MUNICIPAL LIQUOR STORE

High-Quality Service, Contributing Since 1948

by Mike Larson, Municipal Liquor Store Operations Manager

With the new year, Municipal Liquor Store staff will begin the process of evaluating our two store's setbacks and successes in 2020.

We aim to improve operations so we can provide a better shopping experience for our customers. Our mission as a municipal liquor store operation is to control the sale of alcohol and generate revenue. We will make adjustments to align our goals with our mission to maximize our efforts and produce the best results.

Year-to-date financial statements indicate that our sales and profits increased significantly. The impact that COVID-19 had with closing bars and restaurants, along with the stay-at-home orders issued by Gov. Walz contributed to our increases.



The staff at our liquor stores, along with our City departments are to be commended for their commitment to carry out our St. Anthony's mission and vision. Everyone worked tirelessly to provide a high-level of service and safety to our residents and customers during unprecedented conditions. And even though our experiences in 2020 provided great learning opportunities — we are hopeful for a return of normalcy this year.

We appreciate our customers shopping local. Our profits continue to be used for the betterment of St. Anthony Village. Please contact me if we can assist you with anything that would provide a better shopping experience for you and your neighbors. I can be contacted by phone at 612-782-3455, or feel free to email me at mike.larson@savmn.com. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to serve you! ■

savmn.com

Sign up for push notifications:

- Updates on specific subjects.**
- Public safety alerts.**
- News Flash important messages.**
- Calendar notifications.**

PUBLIC WORKS

Winter Parking, Snow Plowing Reminders

by Jeremy Gumke, Public Works Superintendent

During the winter season, the first priority of the Public Works Department is to clear the snow and make St. Anthony's streets safe for traffic and emergency vehicles.

A few reminders to assist residents in achieving this goal:

- Residents are not allowed to park on any street for a period of 48 hours, beginning immediately after two (2) inches or more of continuous snowfall, or until the snow removal has been completed from curb to curb.
- The City understands that sometimes the schedule for snow removal doesn't correlate with residents' snow shoveling schedules. Snow plow drivers do their best to avoid pushing snow banks onto freshly shoveled driveways or sidewalks.
- Remember, it is dangerous for children to dig tunnels in the snow banks created by the plows. Tunnels can cave in, which can result in smothering. Plow drivers can't see children playing in or around the windrows and they can become covered or trapped in the snow.



Additional ways to assist with snow removal operations:

- Don't place refuse or recycling containers in the street.
- Don't plow, blow or shovel snow into the street.
- When shoveling, pile snow downstream of the plowing operations to minimize snow left in your driveway.
- Stay back when driving behind plow trucks.

With your cooperation, snow removal can be more efficient and roads cleared in very little time. **Sign up for snow plow alerts at savmn.com.** Contact Public Works Superintendent Jeremy Gumke at jeremy.gumke@savmn.com or 612-782-3441 with any questions related to City snow-plowing procedures. ■

Outdoor rinks are open with adjustments to comply with the MDH

by Jeremy Gumke, Public Works Superintendent

Outdoor recreational skating and hockey rinks will again be provided at Emerald, Central, and Silver Point parks this winter season. However, **in accordance with Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) safety guidelines, warming houses will not be open this year.** Skaters are welcome to enjoy the parks in a responsible, socially-distanced manner in order to keep everybody safe. The rinks are anticipated to open in mid- to late-December, weather conditions permitting. **Rinks close at 8:30 pm daily.**

St. Anthony offers outdoor skating at three locations:

- Central Park, located on Silver Lake Rd.
- Emerald Park, located at 3925 Macalaster Dr.
- Silver Point Park, located at 3010 - 29th Ave. ■



COMMUNITY

Greening Your Holidays

Season's greetings from Citizens for Sustainability.

From Thanksgiving to New Year's Day, residential waste increases by 25%. Food waste, product packaging, wrapping paper, and decorations add an extra one million tons per week to the nation's garbage piles. This holiday season, consider new traditions that create less waste, less stress, and more memories.



- **Shop local:** Support local businesses and cut down on the distance (and carbon emissions) items need to travel.
- **Plan ahead:** Make more of your purchases at the same time to reduce travel for each item. Place online orders early, slower shipping is better for the environment when fewer trucks deliver more products.
- **Give green gifts:** Create a homemade gift. Reuse material you have on-hand to make your own gift boxes and card holders. Instead of gifting "things", give the gift of your time, provide a service, or share an experience. Find a list of ideas at Minnesota Pollution Control Agency "Make Memories Not Trash".
- **Avoid plastic packaging:** Shop for products that do not use plastic packaging. Consider zero-waste personal products you can find at a nearby Co-op or online. If you shop with Amazon, request packages be sent plastic free.
- **Choose vendors that use recycled material or carbon offsets:** Research product and vendor information to find companies that account for the environmental impact of their products and shipping.

Sustainability is the best gift you can give this year. Find out more about greening any holiday with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency "No Waste Holiday." Visit us online at citizensforsustainability.org. Interested in our upcoming online book discussion of *Uninhabitable Earth: Life After Warming* by David Wallace-Wells— send us a note at info@citizensforsustainability.org. ■



FREE FOR ST. ANTHONY RESIDENTS— RECYCLE YOUR UNWANTED CARDBOARD.
PUBLIC WORKS GARAGE, 3801 CHANDLER DR.



3301 Silver Lake Rd.
St. Anthony, MN 55418-1699
612-782-3301
612-782-3302 (fax)

savmn.com

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Follow us [@CityofStAnthony](https://twitter.com/CityofStAnthony)

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY

- Jan. 9: Coffee with the Council
- Jan. 9: Cardboard recycling event
- Jan. 12: City Council Meeting
- Jan. 18: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Jan. 19: Planning Commission Meeting
- Jan. 20: Inauguration Day
- Jan. 26: City Council Meeting

FEBRUARY

- Feb. 9: City Council Meeting
- Feb. 15: President's Day
- Feb. 16: Planning Commission Meeting
- Feb. 20: Coffee with the Council
- Feb. 23: City Council Meeting

MARCH

- March 8: Parks & Envi. Commission Mtg
- March 9: City Council Meeting
- March 16: Planning Commission Meeting
- March 23: City Council Meeting
- March 27: Coffee with the Council

To request special accommodations or alternative formats for City meetings, please contact the City Clerk:
Phone: 612-782-3313
Email: city@savmn.com

ST. ANTHONY DIRECTORY

MORE INFO



City Hall.....612-782-3301
Building Inspection.....651-638-2050
Electrical Inspection.....763-754-2983
Code Enforcement.....612-782-3438
Utility Billing Questions.....612-782-3318
E-Mail.....city@savmn.com
Website.....savmn.com
Twitter.....[@cityofstanthony](https://twitter.com/CityofStAnthony)

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wendy.webster@savmn.com

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Community Services.....612-706-1166
Wilshire Park Elementary.....612-706-1200
St. Anthony Middle School612-706-1030
St. Anthony Village High School612-706-1100