



City of
St. Francis

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2018 | VOL. 3, NO. 2

St. Francis Forward Redevelopment Plan Overview

Building upon previous planning efforts in St. Francis, the City launched the completion of a Redevelopment Plan for the core areas of the community in Fall 2016. The planning efforts provide a vision for the ongoing redevelopment and growth of the Bridge Street corridor on either side of the Rum River, the Highway 47 corridor and adjoining and nearby areas of vacant lands and redevelopment opportunity in St. Francis. These areas comprise the heart of St. Francis, including the area traditionally considered downtown and the main retail and commercial corridor, Highway 47 (also known as St. Francis Boulevard). The community provided input through community meetings, stakeholder meetings and online surveys as the planning effort progressed. The St.

Francis community envisions Bridge Street as its downtown and expressed a desire for better community gathering places and amenities in this key district. Residents and other stakeholders expressed a desire for a wider range of retail, shopping, dining and entertainment options in St. Francis, as well as housing options for various segments of the population. Community members also expressed strong support for leveraging the redevelopment plan to attract new businesses and more jobs to St. Francis. The community believes that tying St. Francis to the Rum River and leveraging this key natural asset will help strengthen ongoing redevelopment efforts.

The overall master plan resulting from

Continued on page 3

Message from your Mayor

By the City of St. Francis Staff

Due to circumstances beyond the Mayor's control, he has had two surgeries in the last five months for cancer. The good news is he is cancer free and is recuperating right now to regain his strength. Mayor Steve Feldman wanted us to tell you that he wishes you all a happy, healthy summer and is looking forward to getting back to full strength and attending meetings and events when he is able to do so.

Mayor Feldman also wanted us to share with you the following watering ban information:

The City of St. Francis will be enforcing an odd-even watering ban. Odd addresses may water on odd days only and even addresses may water on even days only.

Residents may not sprinkle between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Restrictions begin on May 1 and run through September 30.

New sod and seed is exempt for 30 days. While you still need to pay for the water you use, no enforcement action will be taken if you notify the Public Works Department at 763-233-5200 prior to sod/seed installation.

Did you know?

- Your yard only needs an inch of water a week. Make sure to adjust your sprinkling system.
- If you suspect a leak or have high water usage, you may have a leaky toilet. A leaky toilet can waste hundreds of gallons of water a day. Please call Public Works at 763-233-5200 if you suspect a water leak or high water usage beyond your normal usage.
- Mayor Steve Feldman's Tips on Ways to Help Reduce Your Water Bill can be found on our City's website at: www.stfrancismn.org/publicworks/page/water

Know The Flow! www.knowtheflow.us

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Visit us on social media!



City of St. Francis

Notice of candidate filings for office

The candidate filing period will be open between Tuesday, May 22, 2018 and Tuesday, June 5, 2018, during office hours. All candidate filings must be received by Tuesday, June 5, 2018, 5:00 p.m.

Candidate filings for the following offices are to be filed at St. Francis City Hall, 23340 Cree St NW, St Francis, MN, 55070.

- **Mayor** (two-year term)
- **City Council Member at Large** 2 seats (four-year term)
- Filing cost is \$5

Barb Held
City Clerk

Polling locations for St. Francis residents have changed

In December 2017, the City of St. Francis changed polling locations for Precincts 1, 2 and 3. Precincts 1 and 2 will now vote at the St. Francis Area Schools Central Services Center, 4115 Ambassador Boulevard NW. Precinct 3 will do mail balloting. This summer you will be receiving notification from Anoka County Election Department of the change in polling location. Election dates in 2018 are: primary election - August 14 and general election - November 6.

Dog courtesy



A friendly reminder to always pick up your dog's waste while out and about this summer. Let us keep our City's parks looking beautiful.

Register to vote

If you have recently moved, changed your name or became of legal age to vote, register to vote by visiting to www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote.

Election day voting questions and answers

www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/election-day-voting

Election dates to remember

May 22 through June 5 at 5:00 p.m.	Filings open for local offices
July 2 through August 13 at 5:00 p.m.	Absentee voting at City Hall during regular business hours, 7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday
July 2 through August 13 at 5:00 p.m.	Absentee voting at Anoka County Office of Elections and Voter Registration, 2100 3rd Avenue, Suite W130, Anoka, MN 55303
August 14	State Primary Election – polls open 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Thank you volunteers

A huge thank you from the St. Francis Public Works Department to all of our volunteers. The Public Works Department really appreciates all of the hard work that you put in every year. Thanks goes to the St. Francis Home Run Club, St. Francis High School gymnastics team, St. Francis Mayor Steve Feldman, The Bridge Church staff, Gail Mengelkoch, local Cub Scout Pack #511, and the Knights of Columbus, Cedar Council #9585. We couldn't do it without you.



Car seat safety clinic

Tuesday, June 5 • 4:00-7:00 p.m.

St. Francis Police Department

Appointments required; please contact the Community Event Line at 763-267-6195.

Certified child passenger safety technicians will check for recalls and ensure all child restraints are installed by manufacturer specifications.

Each seat check typically takes 30 minutes (per seat, per car) and you will leave confident that you will be able to correctly install the seat and secure your child safely every time!

Please bring:

- Your child for proper fitting
- Your car seats and/or boosters
- Your car's manual (if available)
- Your child restraint device manual
- Your vehicle



Mosquito problems in your neighborhood?

You can now report the problem directly to the Metropolitan Mosquito Control by visiting www.mmcd.org/home-3/report-mosquito-problems

Crosswalk safety tips — slow down

As a pedestrian...

- Although a crosswalk exists at every intersection, whether marked or not, it is still your responsibility to make sure all vehicles have yielded before stepping into a crosswalk and crossing the roadway.
- Whenever approaching a crosswalk you should remove your earbuds, turn off your music and stop texting or talking on the phone. Be attentive when crossing. Distractions can lead to accidents.
- Make your intention to cross the road known by:
 - ◆ Extending your arm
 - ◆ Illuminating an overhead light
 - ◆ Extending and waving a crosswalk flag
- Make eye contact with the driver. Never assume a driver sees you.
- Be especially alert for turning vehicles—many vehicle-pedestrian incidents

occur with a right-turning vehicle.

- If you are not in a marked crosswalk, as a pedestrian you must yield to all vehicles.



As a driver...

- Drivers must yield the right of way to pedestrians lawfully in or stopped at a marked crosswalk.

- Stay alert and reduce speed in areas with crosswalks.
- Avoid distractions—using a cell phone, any hand-held device, listening to loud music, reaching for something on the floor, etc. These types of distractions can easily lead to accidents.
- Proactively check for pedestrians. In the same way you use your mirrors to be aware of traffic, check sidewalks and side streets for pedestrians who may be crossing at an upcoming crosswalk.
- Wait until pedestrians have crossed at least one lane past the lane you are in before resuming travel.
- Never pass another vehicle that has stopped or is slowing down at a crosswalk.
- Remember that it is unlawful and unsafe to pass another vehicle on the shoulder, as many pedestrians use the shoulder to walk.

Redevelopment Plan *Continued from page 1*

this effort reflects the general desire of the St. Francis community to reach for more transformative types of development in the heart of the community. The downtown area, along Bridge Street, could include a civic campus including various uses to draw more visitation and activity to the district. Retail redevelopment along Bridge Street would also build the retail base in downtown and establish it as a more prominent district in Anoka County.

Elsewhere, the master plan calls for the infill redevelopment of various parcels along Bridge Street and near Highway 47 as residential land uses of varying densities. It also calls for the infill development of vacant parcels along Highway 47 as a variety of retail and service uses. The overall plan also articulates a range of additional elements that should enhance the quality of life and attractiveness of the core of St. Francis. Improved way finding and signage at key entrances to the community and at key junctions will help guide visitors to destinations and amenities. Streetscape enhancements along Bridge Street and other key streets will enhance the attractiveness and marketability of the

core of St. Francis to potential businesses and residents. Improvements to parks and enhanced linkages to the Rum River corridor will enhance the quality of life as well. The overall plan calls for the creation of higher quality public realm throughout the area in order to create a community of quality. The implementation plan outlines a range of action items the City should pursue in order to move the plan forward, over the short term and longer term. The City has a range of tools, including incentives and regulatory strategies, that can assist the variety of potential projects outlined in this master plan.

Importantly, the ongoing success of this plan will depend on strong leadership from elected leaders and city staff and the pursuit and strengthening of working relationships and partnerships between City staff and St. Francis leaders and their counterparts in the school district and at the county and state levels. Through ongoing efforts and the creation of momentum over the next few years, St. Francis has the opportunity to create a great heart to its community.

Visit www.stfrancismn.org/commdev/page/st-francis-forward for more information.

Fireworks dos and don'ts

The police understand the desire to show your patriotism through the use of fireworks. Please remember, consumer fireworks may not be used on public property (i.e. parks, roads, alleys, schools, government property, etc.). Purchasers of consumer fireworks must be at least 18 years old. Explosive and aerial fireworks are prohibited for public sale, possession, and use. Prohibited fireworks include firecrackers, bottle rockets, missiles, roman candles, mortars and shells. There are several violations that can be enforced in regards to possessing or displaying unlawful fireworks.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the St. Francis Police Department at 763-753-1264.



Property assessing services providers

On November 20, 2017, the St. Francis City Council approved a new three-year contract with Property Assessing Services providers, independent contractors Erik Skogquist and Mary Wells. Erik and Mary are senior accredited Minnesota assessors, licensed through the Minnesota Department of Revenue. Previously these services were contracted with Anoka County. This new agreement will save the city more than \$23,000 over the three-year term.

There are approximately 3,020 parcels in St. Francis. Assessors set property values on those parcels for tax purposes every year. They are required (by state statute) to visit each property to physically inspect once every five years. This year, from April through September, the assessors will be working in the black outlined areas (below), inspecting residential properties.

If your property is in these areas, here's what you can expect:

- The assessor will come to the property and knock on the door. An inside review of your home may or may not be needed. The decision is based on the information already on file and other factors. If an inside review is needed, it typically takes five to seven minutes (longer for larger structures or multiple buildings). The assessors will walk around the outside of your home to verify exterior characteristics. If an inside review is not needed, they will only walk around the outside of your home (if accessible).
- Characteristics of the property that affect market value are age, square footage, quality of construction, condition, finished basement, etc.
- If no one is home when the assessor visits and an inside review is needed, they will leave an orange door hanger with instructions.
- The assessor will be wearing an official identification badge.

In addition to the five-year residential review areas outlined, the assessors will visit new construction, permit/remodeling work in all areas of the City. They will also visit some of the commercial, industrial, apartment and mobile home properties throughout the City.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation during this year's assessment review. If you have any questions, you may contact the assessor's office at 763-412-1966 or email to mnessorerik@gmail.com or mnessormary@gmail.com.



Did you know?

- Solicitors, peddlers and transient merchants are required to carry a permit approved by the City. If someone approaches you or your home, you can ask if they have a permit from the City!
- Septic system maintenance is to be reported to the City no less than every three (3) years. Make sure your maintenance provider is sending that in.
- The City supports solar projects and provides information and resources for residents to use on the City's website.
- Properties under five (5) acres can now apply for a permit to have backyard chickens.
- There are requirements based on property size, zoning district and urban areas that determine the allowable size of sheds and accessory structures.
- Projects in progress are listed on the City's website. You can find at any time where and what development is moving through the process.

City of St. Francis Recycling Events

LePage and Sons
23602 University Ave NW
Bethel, MN 55055

**August 18 • September 15
October 20
9:00 a.m.-Noon**

Items Accepted at NO Charge:

Clothing dropped off at donation box
Scrap metal
Automotive batteries
Cardboard
Recyclables

Items Accepted For a Fee:

Yard waste \$1 per bag (Compostable)
Appliances \$10 (No commercial)
Gas refrigerators, ammonia or Lp .. \$75+
Electronics \$5
TVs
Up to 18 inches \$15
19 to 28 inches \$25
29+ inches \$35
Console TVs \$40
Wooden TVs add \$5
Mattresses/box springs \$16
Tires (with or without rims)
Motorcycle \$4
Car \$8
Truck \$10
Tractor \$20

Questions? Please call Public Works at 763-233-5200 or LePage and Sons at 763-757-7100.

No hazardous materials accepted.

Crime prevention tips for the home

- Lock windows and doors, including the garage door. Unlocked doors are open invitations to intruders.
- Secure sliding glass doors with commercially available bars or locks or put a wooden dowel or broom handle in the door track.
- Remove valuables from vehicles and lock vehicle doors.
- Use deadbolt locks on exterior doors.
- Don't hide a spare key outside such as under a bush or flowerpot.
- Remove obstructions in your yard that could conceal a burglar.
- Don't put your box for your new TV or other valuable item next to the trash can. It lets everyone know what you have inside your home.
- Leave lights on when leaving or have them on a timer to make it appear someone is home.
- When gone for an extended period of time, have a family member, close neighbor or friend pick up mail, newspapers and remove the trash can from the curb.
- Get to know your neighbors and help one another maintain a crime-free neighborhood.

Construction season is in full swing throughout the City and the police would like to remind residents to immediately report any suspicious activity in and around construction areas. Thieves like to target these areas and the police department will be providing extra patrol.

Neighborhood Watch

We encourage participation in the community and are looking for people who are willing to be block captains. Block captains are responsible for relaying information to the members on their block, keeping up-to-date information on residents, making special efforts to involve the elderly, working parents and young people. Block captains also serve as liaisons between the neighborhood and the police and will communicate information about meetings and crime incidents to all residents.



We encourage those of you interested in becoming a block leader to visit the city website at stfrancismn.org/neighborhoodwatch to register online or register by calling the Community Event Line at 763-267-6195.

Anoka/Washington County Head Start- Early Head Start Program

Now Enrolling

Our program is FREE for eligible families with children from birth to age five and pregnant women. In Anoka County, we offer a variety of options including center-based and home-based programs. Our center-based program offers a four-day school week for children three to five years-old with half-day and full-day options. We offer highly qualified staff, research-based curricula, parent volunteer opportunities, free meals at school and so much more.

Please contact us at 763-783-4300 or visit www.accap.org.



Code enforcement

Questions are received about how the City addresses code enforcement. St. Francis operates on a complaint basis and residents can contact the City for assistance with troubled properties anonymously. There are neighbors that can cause issues in communities with multiple vehicles, junk or an unsafe structure. By notifying City Hall, staff will follow the administrative process to work with those properties. Code enforcement begins with a letter to the property owner. This informs them if a complaint was made, an inspection was completed and provides a date to address the concerns. If the City does not receive a response or the situation does not improve, a citation will be sent. The citation amount increases based on the length of time a property is not in compliance. If a property has a same or similar situation within 12 months, the process picks up where it left off. If you are concerned about a vacant structure or a property that has unsightly or difficult issues, contact City Hall by phone, email or through the website and we will look into the situation.



Tips from the St. Francis Fire Department

Keep bonfires in check

Three by three feet recreational fires are allowed. Be safe when around fires and keep surrounding rubbish away to avoid the spread of wildfires. Do not burn garbage. All bonfire pits need to be at least 25 feet from all structures and to fences.



Be barbecue safe

While barbecuing keep grills a safe distance (at least 10 feet) away from any structure such as a garage or home. Do not use a grill in a garage, breezeway, carport, enclosed porch or under any surface that could catch fire.

Multi-family homes

By law, which has been adopted by the City of St. Francis, no person shall kindle, maintain or cause any fire or open flame on any balcony above ground level or on any ground floor patio within 15 feet of a multi-family structure.

Start Seeing Motorcycles

The weather is starting to turn and that means it's time to share the road with everyone. The St Francis Police Department would like to remind everyone to stay safe on the roadways this summer and "Start Seeing Motorcycles." Please follow these safety tips from the Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety:



- Motorists are advised to watch carefully for motorcycles in traffic and always look twice before turning or changing lanes.
- Riders are advised to wear full, brightly-colored protective gear, including a DOT-approved helmet.
- Riders should travel at safe speeds, pay attention, maintain a two-second following distance and ride sober.
- Riders should seek safety training.

Water softener tips

Just a friendly reminder to make sure your water softener is operating efficiently. As many of you know, when the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency renewed our wastewater permit in 2015, we were given a chloride limit; this is where we need your assistance. High chloride levels can have a negative effect on the ecosystem of streams, rivers and lakes. The main cause of high chlorides in wastewater is from water softeners. When a water softener goes into regeneration mode, the salt water (chlorides) used to regenerate the softener is discharged into the city's wastewater system. Public Works staff would like to remind residents to make sure their water softeners are operating efficiently. The drinking water in St. Francis is around 13 grains per gallon. Adjusting your softeners accordingly, will help in keeping chloride levels down.

Erosion and sediment control

Spring is in full swing, so that means the 2018 construction season has begun. This is a reminder that any earth disturbing activities may require an excavation, filling and grading permit from the City, which can be found on the City's Forms, Permits and Applications webpage. Requirements of the permit include silt fencing or perimeter protection to prevent sediment from traveling downstream and polluting nearby waters. Additionally, rock entrances for construction vehicles may be needed to help with removing dirt from the tires before the vehicles drive on City streets. If you notice a concern such as sediment tracking on the road or dirt entering neighboring yards, please call 763-753-2630.



CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!

Gopher State One Call

Local: 651-454-0002

Toll Free: 1-800-252-1166

St. Francis Pioneer Days

June 8th - 10th

Live Music
Community Park Tent

Friday

Party Patrol DJ

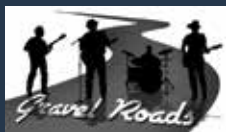
Saturday

The Wonderful World of Woody

The Fish Tone Rockers

Sunday

Gravel Roads



Volunteer Opportunities

stfrancischamber.org
763.438.5163



Buttons & Coupon Books Available at Local Businesses

Friday

SFHS Robotics Club Demo

Saturday

Grand Parade

Raptor Center Show

Pony Rides & Petting Zoo

Fireworks

Saturday

10 minutes after dusk

St. Francis High School

Sunday

Pony Rides & Petting Zoo

Kids Pedal Tractor Pull

Carnival
All 3 Days

Located in Community Park



Kid Power
Pedal Tractor Pulls

Ages 4-11 sit on a pedal tractor and drag a weighted sled as far as they can go



Pony Rides & Petting Zoo

University of Minnesota
Raptor Center Show



Friday, June 8

1:00-4:00 pm FREE Popcorn at Village Bank, sponsored by Village Bank
5:00 pm SFHS FIRST Robotics Club Live Demonstration in the tent at Community Park
5:00 pm Carnival rides, games, crafters, exhibitors and food booths in Community Park
5:00-9:00 pm St. Francis Lions Club Beverage Garden in Community Park, sponsored by North Lake Brewing & Beef 'O' Brady's
6:00-9:00 pm Live DJ by Party Patrol DJs in the tent at Community Park, FREE
9:00 pm Movie in Community Park, (bring blankets and chairs), sponsored by Cub Scout Pack 511

Saturday, June 9

8:00 am All Day St. Francis Lions Club Softball Tournament in Community Park, sponsored by North Lake Brewing & Beef 'O' Brady's
8:00 am Life Fitness 5K Color Run/Walk, starts at St. Francis High School west parking lot, registration at 7:00 am, presented by St. Francis Lions Club, sponsored by Life Fitness
10:00 am-12:00 pm Car Wash at St. Francis United Methodist Church, Free Will Donations will go to North Anoka County Emergency Food Shelf
10:00 am Carnival rides, games, crafters, exhibitors and food booths in Community Park
10:00 am Petting Zoo and Pony Rides by Joah's Ark in Community Park
11:00 am-9:00pm St. Francis Lions & North Lake Brewing Beverage Garden in Community Park, sponsored by Beef 'O' Brady's
Noon St. Francis Dairy Queen and Killebrew Root Beer Kids Color Walk. FREE for all kids 12 and under, registration at 11:00 am, FREE Killebrew Root Beer
12:15 pm FREE ice cream given out in front of St. Francis Dental, sponsored by St. Francis Dental
1:00 pm GRAND PARADE
After Parade Bingo, Brats & Beverages at St. Francis Fire Station, sponsored by St. Francis Fire Department
2:30 pm & 3:30 pm - The Wonderful World of Woody - Live Music, Singing, Juggling & Magic in the tent at Community Park, FREE
3:00-5:00 pm 2018-19 Miss St. Francis Ambassador Coronation at St. Francis Middle School Gymnasium, admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for ages 5-17, under 5 are FREE
3:30-4:30 pm University of Minnesota Raptor Center Show at Community Park
4:30-8:30 pm University of Minnesota Raptor Center Meet-and-Greet Booth at the Community Park
5:00-9:00 pm Live Music by The Fish Tone Rockers in the tent at Community Park, FREE
10 Minutes after Dusk FIREWORKS at St. Francis High School football field, all school rules will be enforced - no tobacco or alcohol on school grounds, sponsored by St. Francis Bottle Shop

Sunday, June 10

8:00 am All Day St. Francis Lions Club Softball Tournament in Community Park, sponsored by North Lake Brewing & Beef 'O' Brady's
10:00 am Carnival rides, games, crafters, exhibitors and food booths in Community Park
11:00 am-4:00 pm St. Francis Lions & North Lake Brewing Beverage Garden in Community Park, sponsored by Beef 'O' Brady's
11:00 am Petting Zoo and Pony Rides by Joah's Ark in Community Park
1:00 pm Kids Pedal Tractor Pull in Community Park, All Tractors & Equipment Furnished by Kid Power Pedal Tractor Pulls
1:00-4:00 pm Live Music by Gravel Roads in the tent at Community Park, FREE!



Thank You Sponsors!

ECRWSS POSTAL PATRON

Events Calendar

Every Friday

May 18 -Sept 7 Car Show at St. Francis City Centre Mall, 5:00 p.m.

June 1 St. Francis Area Schools – Last Day of School

June 5 Free Car Seat Safety Clinic, St. Francis Police Department, 4:00-7:00 p.m.

June 8-10 Pioneer Days

July 4 Independence Day – City Offices Closed

August 7 National Night Out, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

August 14 State Primary, Voting Hours 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

August 18 Recycling Event, LePage and Sons, 9:00 a.m.

September 3 Labor Day – City Offices Closed

September 15 Recycling Event, LePage and Sons, 9:00 a.m.

For a full list of events—visit the city's website www.stfrancismn.org

City Council Meetings

First and third Monday each month at 6:00 p.m.
(If a holiday, the meeting will be Tuesday.)

Planning Commission Meetings

Third Wednesday each month at 7:00 p.m.

Meetings are held at St. Francis Area Schools District Office
4115 Ambassador Blvd NW

Agendas and minutes online:www.stfrancismn.org



City Hall Location

23340 Cree Street NW
St. Francis, MN 55070

Hours Monday-Thursday 7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Contact Us city@stfrancismn.org 763-753-2630

Website www.stfrancismn.org

City Council

Mayor Steve Feldman 763-235-2310

Council Member Rich Skordahl 763-235-2311

Council Member Robert Bauer 763-235-2312

Council Member Jerry Tveit 763-235-2313

Council Member Joe Muehlbauer 763-235-2314