

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN

WEST ST. PAUL

Fall 2020

A NEW NORMAL



city directory

CITY OF WEST ST. PAUL

Municipal Center
1616 Humboldt Avenue
West St. Paul, MN 55118

Office Hours M-F - 8:00am - 4:30pm

MAYOR

David Napier [612-562-9773](tel:612-562-9773)
dnapier@wspmn.gov

CITY COUNCIL

Ward I | Bob Pace [612-308-9659](tel:612-308-9659)
bpace@wspmn.gov

Ward I | Dick Vitelli [651-460-0419](tel:651-460-0419)
dvitelli@wspmn.gov

Ward II | Anthony Fernandez [612-978-4461](tel:612-978-4461)
afernandez@wspmn.gov

Ward II | John Justen [763-442-1107](tel:763-442-1107)
jjusten@wspmn.gov

Ward III | Wendy Berry [612-414-2749](tel:612-414-2749)
[wberry@wspmn.gov](mailto>wberry@wspmn.gov)

Ward III | Lisa Eng-Sarne [651-757-7090](tel:651-757-7090)
lengsarne@wspmn.gov

CITY MANAGER

Ryan Schroeder [651-552-4101](tel:651-552-4101)
rschroeder@wspmn.gov

PHONE

Main Line - Reception [651-552-4100](tel:651-552-4100)

Emergency Police or Fire [911](tel:911)

Non-Emergency Police [651-322-2323](tel:651-322-2323)

South Metro Fire Dept. [651-552-4176](tel:651-552-4176)

Parks & Recreation [651-552-4150](tel:651-552-4150)

Building Inspections [651-552-4116](tel:651-552-4116)

Code Enforcement [651-552-4114](tel:651-552-4114)

Police Admin/Records [651-552-4200](tel:651-552-4200)

Elections [651-552-4102](tel:651-552-4102)

Ice Arena [651-552-4155](tel:651-552-4155)

Sports Dome/WSPRAC [651-552-4158](tel:651-552-4158)

Street Maintenance/Trees [651-552-4160](tel:651-552-4160)

Street Projects [651-552-4131](tel:651-552-4131)

Inflow & Infiltration [651-552-4137](tel:651-552-4137)

Business Licensing [651-552-4203](tel:651-552-4203)

WEB

www.wspmn.gov

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Held the 2nd & 4th Monday of each month
6:30pm - City Hall Council Chambers

 facebook.com/CityofWSP
facebook.com/WestStPaulPD

 [@WestStPaul](https://twitter.com/WestStPaul)
[@WestStPaulPD](https://twitter.com/WestStPaulPD)





LIFE IN WEST ST. PAUL DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

There's no question, our way of life just a few months ago is a long-gone memory. Eating in a crowded restaurant, shaking hands after a meeting, even simply grabbing a door handle without thinking twice are behaviors of a simpler time. A time when most of us didn't worry about keeping a six foot invisible bubble around us at all times. A time when masks were for healthcare workers and Halloween.

As we navigate this new normal, let's keep in mind all the precautions we're taking are for the safety of those most vulnerable in our community.

Like the rest of the world, COVID-19 is present in West St. Paul. While everyone is susceptible to this virus, our older residents, especially those in congregate care facilities, are at the highest risk. Congregate care facilities have accounted for most of the cases in our community and nearly all of the fatalities. On behalf of the entire city, I would like to take a moment to thank the employees of these facilities for working tirelessly to keep their residents as safe as possible in the middle of a crisis. We see how hard you're working and appreciate your dedication in these dangerous times. Please stay safe and know your City is behind you.

When visiting public spaces and businesses, please be courteous to those around you by keeping your distance and respecting the rules implemented by the establishment.

Until recently, City Council meetings have been held virtually as we made plans for safely transitioning back to in-

person meetings. Thanks to all of you who continued to call in and stay involved with local issues from the safety of your homes.

There are some noticeable changes with holding public meetings in person again. The number of seats open to the public is far fewer than pre-COVID meetings. To ensure the public is still able to stay involved in City Council issues, staff have created alternative interaction options.

To continue allowing all attendees to participate, even if they don't get a seat in the Council Chambers, the City of West St. Paul is airing meetings live on screens in the lobby and lobby conference room. Those in the overflow areas wishing to speak on issues may sign up before the meeting begins. When a speaker's name is called, they can enter the Chambers, address the Council, then proceed back to the overflow areas to continue watching.

Even with overflow areas open, some residents may not feel comfortable attending a public meeting. To allow those at home to be able to speak during public input items, a call-in line has been created. Once the phone line is open for callers, the phone number will appear on screen during live airings on television, as well as streaming online. The calls will queue and be answered in the order received.

City Hall is also open for regular walk-in business after a period of closure. Everyone entering City Hall is encouraged to wear a face mask and consider if their business can be handled without talking to staff face-to-face. If your business can be handled

over the phone or through email, please consider those options in lieu of entering the building.

Around the same time City Hall opened back up to the public, many businesses began expanding their offerings and allowing people inside their doors once again. I want to thank the business community and their employees for their sacrifice over the last few months. Though some businesses were able to survive or even thrive during this period of closure, many have seen a dramatic decrease in customers and revenue. Whenever possible, please try to keep your purchases in West St. Paul. Our businesses need our help now more than ever.

As life continues to change in the coming months, please remember to stay vigilant in doing everything you can to help slow the spread of this deadly pandemic. Keep washing and sanitizing your hands, wearing a mask in public and staying home if you have any symptoms consistent with COVID-19, including a cough or fever.

Most importantly, please continue to heed the advice of public health officials as they progress in studying and learning more about this virus and the best ways of containing the spread.

Stay safe West St. Paul,
MAYOR DAVE NAPIER



As we navigate the COVID-19 pandemic in our own lives, please take time to consider the local businesses that are struggling more now than ever before. Many West St. Paul businesses are built on decades of hard work. They give back to our community and are the life-blood of this City.



The next time you think about making a purchase from that giant online behemoth, ask yourself, “Can I get this locally?”. Shipping in a few days is nice, but our stores are stocked now ready for pickup today! Next time you’re craving some tasty treats, think about which West St. Paul restaurant has your favorites egg rolls, the best pizza or the fastest delivery.

Our businesses have been sacrificing for our safety the first half of this year. Those of us that have the ability to safely help them, let’s make up for the second half of 2020 and beyond.

Please respect the safety rules of each individual business; mask up, wash your hands, sanitize and stay home if you have ANY COVID-19 symptoms or may have been exposed to anyone that is potentially infected.

Stay safe, West St. Paul. We’ll get through this together... but six feet apart.

A NEW NORMAL





River to River Greenway ROBERT STREET UNDERPASS

On July 14, 2020 the County Board approved the low bid for the River to River Robert Street Underpass. Work on the project has begun with completion scheduled for November 2021.

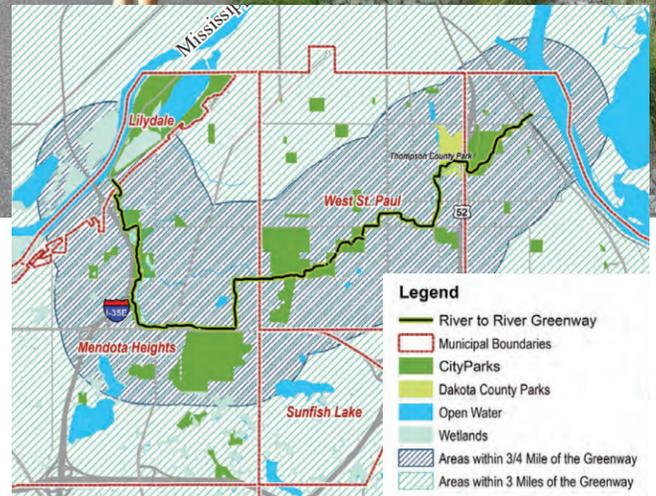
It has been a long road for this project. Dakota County began greenway planning 20 years ago and approved the River to River Greenway plan (under the previous project name of North Urban Regional Trail or NURT) initially in 2008. The plan was updated in 2015 and forwarded to WSP for consideration. At the time, the greenway and adjacent development plans had conflicts, which caused a significant delay in the implementation of the project. Eventually, the conflicts were resolved and construction is now underway. Some of the major approvals by the West St. Paul City Council (past and present) to make this project a reality include:

- 12/12/11: Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan adopted
- 7/13/15: County R2R Master Plan received (original County plan in 2008)
- 10/24/17: Adopted Resolution 17-99 declaring intent regarding R2R and Bond Funds
- 12/26/17: Amended CIP to include \$2.2

- million in R2R state bond funding
- 4/23/18: ADA Transition Plan adopted
- 10/8/18: Adopted Resolution 18-117 Authorizing JPA with County on R2R
- 11/13/18: Authorized Met Council Grant Agreement on use of bond funds
- 12/9/19: Amended County JPA regarding R2R

The County Board has also authorized \$60,000 to engineer the new regional trail alignment through Garlough and Marthaler Parks. The WSP match is \$15,000.

Eureka Construction is the prime contractor for the Robert Street Underpass Project. They were also the prime contractor on the Robert Street Reconstruction Project so they have familiarity with the area and how much their work impacts traffic. With only a little of the construction season available this year, Eureka is trying to get as much done as possible in 2020 before the cold weather shows up. Their plan is to reconstruct Crawford Drive (moving it slightly north), install



the east half of the underpass (precast concrete sections) and construct the trails that lead up to both sides of the underpass. Sidewalk connections will be back in place along Robert Street at the end of this construction season. Look for work to wrap up in October. That leaves everything from Livingston Ave. to the center of Robert Street for 2021 construction, and Eureka plans to start up again in May.

Based on the type of construction necessary to install the underpass, single lane traffic is necessary between Thompson Avenue and Wentworth Avenue. However, even though this project is split into two construction seasons, the total number of days Robert Street will be experiencing single lane traffic will be the same. For everyone's safety, please drive slowly through the construction zone.



Night to Unite

It is with sadness that for the first time in years, we will not be attending block parties to hang out and chat during Night to Unite. Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic along with the Governor's Executive Order that limits gatherings at private residences to 25 individuals, the West St. Paul Police Department will not be participating or promoting Night to Unite in 2020. The date had originally been pushed back to October 6th, however due to the ongoing spread of the virus, we have decided for the safety of our community and department to skip this year's events. This decision was not easy as we all look forward to being out in the community getting to know and speak to all of you.

In 2019, your police department was involved in almost 200 community outreach efforts focusing on youth, seniors, minority populations, community and business groups, faith based organizations, and neighborhood groups. This is very important to our philosophy of community policing and engagement. We do look forward to the future to make sure our reach out efforts continue to create and sustain our vital partnerships within the City of West St Paul.

With all that said, we will continue to meet with small groups when requested to address concerns or to just have conversations. We will also continue virtual events through Facebook or other platforms. Keep an eye on our social media accounts for updates on those events.

We look forward to 2021 and beyond.



4 Paws on Patrol

According to a 2019-2020 pet survey, over 63 million households in the United States own at least one dog. West St. Paul has over 300 licensed dog owners. What does that mean? It means we have over 300 pairs of extra eyes and ears on our streets, helping local law enforcement when it comes to suspicious activities. Rain or shine, night or day, our furry friends will need to be walked! So why not use that time to also help keep our community safe.

4 Paws on Patrol encourages local dog owners to continue their walks while becoming extra eyes and ears for law enforcement and for our community while at the same time enhancing the partnership between police and the community.

4 Paws on Patrol is the new movement when it comes to neighborhood watch with a lot less commitment. Our calendars are already booked full of meetings, training, play-dates, school activities, etc. 4 Paws on Patrol asks dog owners to walk their dogs and keep an eye out for suspicious activity. This is an easy way to keep an eye on your community while getting exercise for your dog and yourself!

Never approach dangerous situations. If you see anything suspicious, always call law enforcement. Contact us today for a free LED Pet Light and for more information about 4 Paw on Patrol! Laura Vaughan, Crime Prevention Specialists at 651-552-4235 or lvaughan@wspmn.gov

(LED pet lights available while supply last)



A small white dog with its tongue out sits on a grassy field. To its right, the lower legs and feet of a person wearing blue shorts and sneakers are visible. A blue plastic bag is on the grass near the person's feet. The background shows a park-like setting with trees and a clear sky.

Why Scoop the Poop?

Our parks in West St. Paul truly boast an incredible amount of greenery for such an urbanized area. Kids running through the grass, families enjoying picnics, and all sorts of wildlife to enjoy. The West St. Paul parks are a place for everyone in our community to enjoy. As you visit our parks, we ask that you please remember to pick up after your pets.

Most of these beautiful parks are also storm water intakes, which means the contaminants we leave behind from our visits to the park have a greater impact than you'd think. Pet waste is a large contaminate into our City's storm water system. Exposure to the harmful bacteria in human and pet waste can cause minor to severe health problems.

Humans, over the course of history, have developed intricate systems to transfer water and sewage into and out of our cities, as we know all too well about that here in West St. Paul. These intricate waste disposal systems prevent us from exposure to human waste, but what about Fido's poop?

The only intricate waste disposal systems for our pets is you! WSP City Ordinance 90.03 states it is the responsibility of the pet owner to pick up and properly dispose of all poop. Not picking up after your pet causes serious doo-doo for your community, in your storm water, and for the WSP City workers.

We have all fallen victim to the soft squish of a huge pile of poop under our white tennis shoes, or the odor of Fido's gift ruining our picnic. Just one stink can contaminate the drink, so do the right thing and **SCOOP THE POOP!**



recreational BONFIRES

With the arrival of fall weather, many of our residents will want to keep warm outdoors and make s'mores with recreational fires. Each year South Metro Fire responds to numerous recreational fire complaints. Many of these complaints stem from people not following the rules and guidelines that are established by Minnesota Statutes and the Minnesota State Fire Code. Adhering to the following guidelines will cut down on recreational fire complaints.

FUELS: One of the biggest complaints we receive each year revolves around the type of fuel people are burning. The **ONLY** material permitted in a recreational fire is clean dry wood from trees and small branches. Treated lumber, construction debris, garbage, plastic materials, yard waste and other waste materials are **NOT** allowed to be burned. Many of these materials contain chemicals that when burned produce toxic gases and offensive smoke that can harm people and animals.

SAFETY FIRST: Location, location, location! All recreational fires must be at least 25 feet away from all buildings and/or combustible materials such as wood, paper, plastic and brush. Burning too close to combustible materials and structures could cause them to start on fire. If you have a portable outdoor fireplace you must be at least 15 feet from a structure and/or combustible materials. With any portable outdoor fireplaces, use them in accordance to the manufacturer's recommendation.

SAFETY SECOND: Even after finding that perfect location and clearing all fire hazards, unexpected fires can still happen. That is why it's important to have one or more options for extinguishing. Some great tools are a bucket with water, shovels, garden hose or a fire extinguisher. Never leave a fire

unattended. Safety should always be a top priority when having a recreational fire.

TIME RESTRICTION AND OTHER

CONSIDERATIONS: Sometimes weather conditions can play havoc to your plans. Sometimes the summer air can cause the smoke from your fire to hang close to the ground causing the smoke and odors to be offensive. If your fire is producing these odors, you will be asked to extinguish your fire. Also, to be considerate to your neighbors, all recreational fires need to be extinguished by midnight.

BURNING RESTRICTIONS: The Minnesota DNR will periodically restrict recreational fires due to hazardous, dry and windy weather conditions. When these restrictions are in place, South Metro Fire will notify the community through our facebook page and our website at SMFDMN.org.

You do not need to notify the fire department, 911 or obtain a permit if you are having a recreational fire. Unless there is a burning restriction in place, you can have a fire. If you need to report an illegal recreational fire, please call 911 so fire units can be dispatched to investigate, educate and extinguish illegal fires.

For the complete list of recreational fire guidelines, please visit www.smfdmn.org and click on the Safety & Education tab.

Have a safe and fun fall!





Open to Business – Provides FREE one-on-one business counseling to current and prospective Dakota County entrepreneurs. Can provide small business financing. For more information, contact the business advisor Karen Schaffhausen at 952-239-076.

Jameson’s Irish Bar and Bella Room (former Cherokee Tavern) (886 Smith Avenue) – The owners have announced a name change to Jameson’s Irish Bar and Bella Room. They recently received a Commercial Redevelopment Grant (forgivable loan) for \$25,000. The project includes exterior and interior renovations.

Blvd, Bar and Grill (433 Mendota Road) – Received a \$25,000 Commercial Redevelopment Grant (forgivable loan) to help pay for renovations and expansion of 2,000 sq. ft. of restaurant space.

Town Center 1 (Wentworth and S. Robert) – ROERS Companies is planning to start construction of a 192-unit market rate apartment complex with 1,700 sq. ft. for retail or restaurant use. Tax increment financing was approved to help fund this \$38M project.

Oppidan (Phase I) – Oppidan Development Company plans to start construction of a new 153- unit market rate apartment complex this fall.

Dominium/Kmart – Dominion plans to construct two multi-family buildings on the northern 12 acres of Signal Hills, including the former Kmart and Signal Bank buildings. The project includes a 146-unit, non-age restricted affordable housing complex and a 247-unit senior housing apartment complex. The developer is seeking TIF and tax exempt bonds to help fund this \$122M dollar project.

Cub Foods Outlot Buildings – Construction is underway on a two-building project. One building will be home to a Chase bank. The other is a multi-tenant building that will include a Starbucks.

AutoZone Relocation (1422 Robert Street) – AutoZone is on schedule to move into their new location (the former Chuck E. Cheese site) by end of October, 2020.

Gateway Place (895 S. Robert Street) – Dakota County has begun construction on a 54-unit affordable apartment building. Construction is expected to be complete by fall of 2021.

Suite Living Senior/Memory Care Facility (938 S. Robert Street) – Hampton Companies plan to construct a 32-unit senior living facility, that will include 14 memory care units as well as 18 assisted living units.

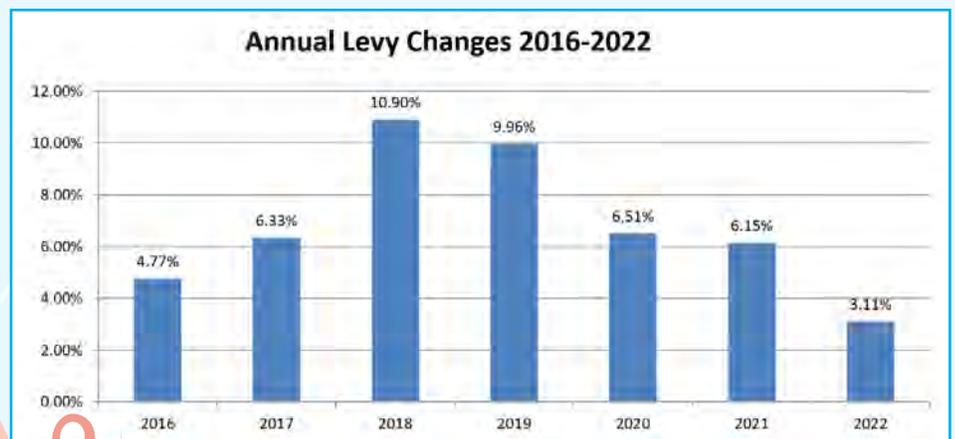
Single Family Homes – Nine new single family homes are under construction or have recently been completed.

2021

West Saint Paul Budget & Levy

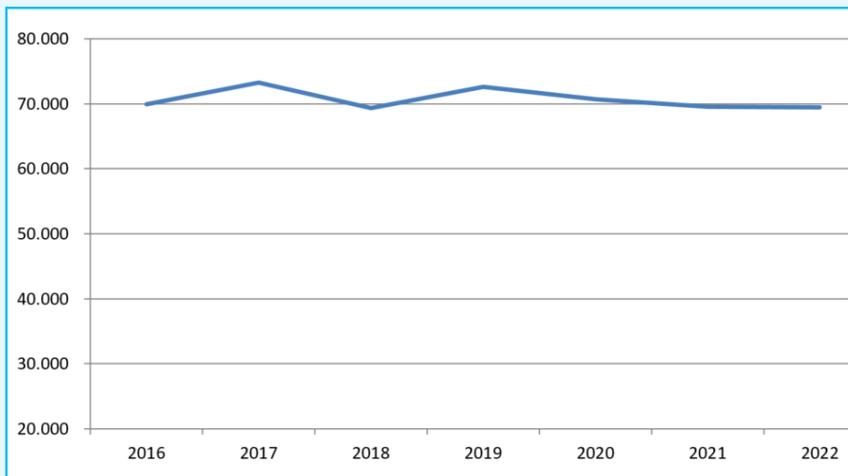


At the August 17, Open Council Work Session (OCWS), the Council conducted an initial review of the 2021-2022 budget as well as the 10-year 2021-2030 CEP/CIP plan. The preliminary 2021-2022 budget indicates the property tax levy is moderating after absorbing the high costs of Robert Street and similar previous infrastructure projects. In 2017, staff had projected consecutive 10% levy increases in each of 2018, 2019, and 2020 with moderation of future increases beginning in 2021 or 2022. Due to Council policy changes, levy moderation began in 2020 which will be continued in 2021 and 2022. For 2021, staff is projecting a 6.15% increase with further moderation of the levy in 2022. Below is a graph of the past five years levy tax increases as well as the projected 2021 and 2022 levy increases.



Tax Rate History

The City tax rate reached a level of 73.280% in 2017. The Council has been striving to incrementally decrease the tax rate, while also providing roadway, sidewalk, and trail improvements that had been necessarily deferred.



← City Tax Rate

2016 = 69.950%
 2017 = 73.280%
 2018 = 69.291
 2019 = 72.624
 2020 = 70.660
 2021 = 69.578 (preliminary)
 2022 = 69.481 (conceptual)

Levy Allocation

	Final 2019	Final 2020	Preliminary 2021	% Change	\$ Change	Conceptual 2022	Notes-2021
Fund							
General	10,825,926	11,022,962	11,505,749	4.38%	482,787	12,123,374	Operating
EDA	335,538	383,879	368,886	-3.91%	(14,993)	379,088	
Insurance	466,300	479,615	475,339	-0.89%	(4,276)	514,158	
Innovation Fund		25,000		-100.00%	(25,000)		Reallocated to Local street plan
Debt Service	3,755,657	4,354,162	4,058,658	-6.79%	(295,504)	3,833,620	Called bonds early 2021 reduces levy requirement
Street Maintenance	-	115,000	201,845	75.52%	86,845	200,000	Increased Asphalt supplies for paving/Robert street maintenance
Local Street Pavement Plan			300,000		300,000	300,000	New
Pedestrian Improvements		35,000	500,000	1328.57%	465,000	500,000	New
Vehicle & Equipment Reserve	58,000				-		FF and LGA have been allocated to capital funds
Ice Arena	-	55,248	147,125	166.30%	91,877	160,864	Increase for depreciation
Pool	100,404	93,529	44,668	-52.24%	(48,861)	105,909	For 2nd level priority and operating
Regional Athletic Center	231,820	236,719	231,820	-2.07%	(4,899)	272,122	Debt on facility
					-		
Total Levy	\$ 15,773,645	\$ 16,801,114	\$ 17,834,090		\$ 1,032,976	\$ 18,389,135	

Above is the allocation of the tax levy for years 2019 through 2022. The increase in tax levy is allowing for increased spending for pedestrian trails and sidewalks program that the City Council began with the 2020 budget. The increased levy along with grants will allow the City Council to improve the walkability of West St. Paul, a primary Council initiative. Another new program to begin in 2021 is the Local Road Pavement plan. This funding will allow the City to increase maintenance for neighborhood streets.

Debt

Part of the Financial and Debt Policies includes creation of a debt mitigation fund. Because of this policy adoption, in February 2021 we expect to pay off the 2010A bond issue that otherwise was scheduled for retirement in 2026. We are paying this debt with \$1,290,000 from the fund, which reduces our 2021, and future levy needs. In the future, we expect to be able to retire 2014B in 2024 which would be six years early. This payoff is allowing the debt levy to be reduced, allowing for reallocation to other priorities of the City, such as the Pedestrian Plan as well as the new Local Road Pavement Plan.

Summary

The preliminary budgets for 2021 and 2022 allow the City to continue to improve the overall financial position of West St. Paul. Over the past two years, our cash over debt position has improved significantly. Our net position at YE 2018 was (\$31,203,119) and our net position at YE 2020 has been projected at (\$23,727,539). This is due to financial policies adopted beginning in 2018 but primarily in 2019. Continuation of these financial policies allows the City to project a positive cash position by 2027.

WEST ST. PAUL FALL PARKS AND RECREATION

RECREATION OFFICE

City of West St. Paul Municipal Center
1616 Humboldt Avenue, West St. Paul, MN 55118

Ph: 651-552-4150 | Fax: 651-552-4190
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm
www.wspmn.gov

West St. Paul Ice Area651-552-4155
WSP Regional Athletic Center Dome (RAC)651-552-4158
TDD651-322-2323



/CityofWSP



@WestStPaul



Symbol denotes programs with limited registration. A COVID-19 Preparedness Plan (made in accordance with current recommendations) will be emailed prior to the start of the program.



STORY STROLL

Read through a children's story while strolling along our park trails. Stop at the book pages posted along the trail to take in the beauty of the words, illustrations, and surrounding nature.

September 21 - October 4

Marthaler Park, 1601 Humboldt Ave, West St. Paul, MN 55118
The start of the book will be near the trail on the playground side

October 12 - 25

Southview Park, 275 Westview Dr, West St. Paul, MN 55118
The start of the book will be near the park shelter



HALLOWEEN COLORING CONTEST

Get your art supplies ready for an epic coloring contest. Submit your completed picture by October 31 for your chance to win a prize! One entry per person will be accepted. City staff will vote on the two different images and two participants will be contacted to pick up their prize the following week.

Visit staff at Harmon Park Neighborhood Center on Halloween night between 5:30-7:00pm to give us your completed picture and receive a treat. Or, send your entry by mail to: Parks & Recreation, 1616 Humboldt Ave, West St. Paul, MN 55118.

Starting on October 14, print your copy at www.wspmn.gov or stop into City Hall during business hours to pick up a copy.

October 31 | 5:30-7:00pm | Free | Ages 14 & Under

Register online at www.wspmn.gov





Sports Unlimited

Sports Unlimited Camps provide fundamental skill development for boys and girls with the emphasis on FUN! Camps are based on the philosophy of providing all children with the opportunity to develop sports skills while working on teamwork and sportsmanship through skill development and small group games.

SOCCER

Learn the rules of soccer while working on team play and sportsmanship through skill development and games. Individual skills taught: shooting, passing, dribbling along with learning the strategies of offense and defense.



October 14-15 | 9:00am-Noon | \$47 | Ages 5-10

Registration closes October 8 at 11:00am or when full

Regional Athletic Center (Dome)
1655 Livingston Ave, West St. Paul, MN 55118

FLAG FOOTBALL

Learn the rules of flag football while working on team play and sportsmanship through skill development and games. The following skills will be taught: passing, catching, kicking and strategies of offense and defense.



October 14-15 | 1:00-4:00pm | \$47 | Ages 5-10

Registration closes October 8 at 11:00am or when full

Regional Athletic Center (Dome)
1655 Livingston Ave, West St. Paul, MN 55118



MUSICAL THEATER CAMPS

Mayer Arts believes in not only providing training for those who are serious about learning, but also in having fun! They teach technique, terminology, body awareness, and appreciation for the arts.

TOY STORY 4 MUSICAL THEATER CAMP

What happens when your toys come to life? Let's become our favorite toys and go on a musical theater adventure! We will learn music and choreography from Toy Story and put together our own musical! Everyone will learn how to put together a professional show from start to finish. Learn how to properly speak your lines, block a scene, develop your character and much more! We will also play fun creative games! No experience necessary. All that is needed are comfortable clothing and lightweight tennis shoes or dance shoes.



October 14-16 | 9:00am-Noon | \$77 | Ages 5-9
Registration closes October 13 at 11:00am or when full

Mendota Heights Fire Hall Room
2121 Dodd Road, Mendota Heights, MN 55102

Music Together

Mindful Music and Arts is now offering Music Together® Online classes for families with children ages birth through five. Parents can now experience the same high-quality music and movement curriculum taught by Ms. Laurie of Mindful Music and Arts since 2016—from the safety and comfort of their homes. Visit www.mindfulmusictogether.com for the schedule and to register.

WEST ST. PAUL FALL PARKS AND RECREATION



REC PACK SUPERHERO MASQUERADE

Action, adventure, and fun awaits in your very own Superhero Masquerade Rec Pack. Your little superhero(s) will enjoy crafts, games and activities that have been put together for the participant(s) to enjoy in their own space at their own pace.

November 12-13 | \$20 | Ages 6-12
Registration closes November 4 at 11:00am

Rec Pack pick up will take place at Mendota Heights City Hall on November 12, 7:30am-4:30pm or November 13, 7:30-11:30am.



SECRET HOLIDAY SHOP

Kids of all ages can shop online for gifts to give to the special people in their lives. Gifts range from \$0.50-\$12.00 and include items like coffee mugs, jewelry, home accents, toys, and much more. Adult assistance and supervision may be required.

Watch our City website for the link to shop coming late November. Items will need to be picked up in December from City Hall.



NON-SCHOOL DAY CAMP



A fun-filled day with all things winter! Participants will walk over to Marthaler Park for a morning of sledding and snow fun. The day will finish with a warm cup of cocoa and a movie back at City Hall. Dress for the weather and bring a sled!

December 28 | 8:30am-4:30pm | \$20 | Ages 6-12

Registration closes December 21 at 11:00am or when full
1616 Humboldt Ave, West St. Paul, MN 55118



Warrior 5K in 2020 A Virtual Win-Win!

The ISD 197 Educational Foundation will be hosting their 11th Annual Warrior 5k Run/Walk and Family Mile, but this year it will be virtual. Rather than hold the traditional in-person race on September 26th as initially planned, they are asking participants to run or walk a 5k or family mile during our race 'window', between September 26th and October 4th.

Wear your school colors while you are walking or running and send in a picture! Make sure to tell your friends and family about this chance to support students in our district! We would love people to participate near and far.

The purpose of the Warrior 5k Run/Walk is to fund teacher-initiated academic opportunities and programs throughout

ISD 197. Literally every student in our schools has benefited from grants from the foundation- including books and programing that enhance reading, electronic microscopes and gardening supplies for science, world maps for geography and funding for art and theater programs. This race is our main source of fundraising, so even if you cannot fit in a run or walk, the foundation asks that you still consider donating or sponsoring the virtual race in 2020!



Visit the ISD197 Educational Foundation's website to find out how to enter the race or to donate: www.isd197foundation.org.

FREE PUMPKIN RECYCLING

For residents of West St. Paul, Mendota Heights, South St. Paul, Sunfish Lake, Mendota & Lilydale

**Saturday,
November 7th - 8th**
West St. Paul City Hall
Parking Lot
(1616 Humboldt Ave)

Drop off your unpainted pumpkins to be composted for FREE. No painted pumpkins, wax or candles accepted. Look for the large dumpsters and chuck your pumpkin(s) in!

Questions? Call or email Cassandra 651-552-4118 or cjohnson@wspmn.gov



USING THE RECYCLING ZONE JUST GOT EASIER!

Over the last 25 years, over a million people have come into The Recycling Zone to drop off their household hazardous waste. Soon they can just drive right on through.

Dakota County is renovating The Recycling Zone for a streamlined, better experience better. Recyclers won't even have to get out of their vehicle to do the right thing for the environment. A convenient drive-thru lane allows recyclers to scan their drivers license or identification card at a kiosk and stay in the vehicle as household hazardous waste, electronics and recyclables are unloaded by staff. To make unloading safe and efficient, please bring waste in a container (such as a cardboard box) that can be left at the Recycling Zone.



The Recycling Zone is also expanding from two to three lanes to get you in and out faster.

The reuse area — where you can get paint, pesticides, household cleaners and more for free — now has a separate entrance with more space

For information on materials accepted and business hours, go to www.dakotacounty.us, and search The Recycling Zone.

Partially funded by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the Dakota County.



City of West St. Paul
1616 Humboldt Ave
West St. Paul, MN 55118

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Postal Customer**

2020 General Election - November 3rd

The General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020. To find where you vote, pre-register or update your voter registration, visit www.mnvotes.org

Registration deadline for the November Election is 5:00 pm on Tuesday, October 13th. Visit www.wspmn.gov/elections for information on what you need to bring with to register on Election Day.

Voting in Person on Election Day

You are important to us, and City Staff are taking precautions for your safety on Election Day. Procedures have been set to provide distance between voters, as well as between Election Judges. Both voters and judges are required to wear a mask while inside the polling room, and hand sanitizer will be available for your use at both the entrance and exit doors.

Please note that if the polling site is busy, Election Judges may need to limit the number of people entering the polling room. If waiting outside, please remember to follow CDC guidelines and distance yourself at least six feet from others.

Polling locations in West St. Paul:

- **Ward 1 Precinct 1: St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church**, 1250 Oakdale Avenue
- **Ward 1 Precinct 2: Augustana Lutheran Church**, 1400 South Robert Street
- **Ward 2 Precinct 1: Heritage Middle School**, 121 Butler Avenue West

- **Ward 2 Precinct 2: City Hall**
1616 Humboldt Avenue
- **Ward 3 Precinct 1: St. Joseph's Church**
1154 Seminole Avenue
- **Ward 3 Precinct 2: St. Stephen's Lutheran Church**, 1575 Charlton Street

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Absentee Ballots for the 2020 General Election will be available, starting Friday, September 18th. Anyone wishing to vote by Absentee Ballot must first complete and submit an Absentee Ballot Application. You may choose to vote by mail or vote in person at any Dakota County Elections Office. City Staff pick up Absentee Ballots submitted at the Northern Service Center on a daily basis. You may also choose to take your Absentee Ballot with you and drop it off at City Hall. A secure drop box for Absentee Ballots is available at City Hall in the main entry between the double set of doors. This area is under 24-hour video surveillance, and the drop box is emptied daily. All ballots, whether voted by absentee or at the polling site, remain secured at City Hall for 22 months following each election, after which time they are destroyed.

Dakota County Elections Offices:

- **Northern Service Center**,
1 Mendota Road, West St. Paul
- **Western Service Center**,
14955 Galaxie Avenue, Apple Valley
- **Administration Center**,
1590 Highway 55, Hastings

What's on My Ballot?

Get a copy of your sample ballot at www.mnvotes.org and search candidate filings, etc. You may also visit <https://candidates.sos.state.mn.us> where you can search by office or by candidate name. Along with contact information, most candidates also include a link to their campaign website.



For election questions or more information, contact: Shirley Buecksler, West St. Paul City Clerk, at (651) 552-4102 or sbuecksler@wspmn.gov