The City of Falcon Heights has been chosen to be included in the Governor’s Bonding Proposal for the 2020 Capital Budget Requests that has been sent to the Legislators on Wednesday, January 15th.

Below is a link to all requests from the State and Local Jurisdictions. The Minnesota Management and Budget received bonding request in the amount of $1,325,643,000. The Governor’s recommended $408,616,000 of which included $1 million requested by the City of Falcon Heights to construct a new building at Community Park. The total project cost for the building is currently estimated at $3 million.

**Summary of Request:** Falcon Heights Community Park is located in the upper northwest corner of Falcon Heights near the intersection of Roselawn Avenue and Cleveland Avenue. This is the largest park in the city and used as a central playground for numerous children in the Falcon Heights, Roseville, and Saint Paul communities. It is also the central gathering place for numerous community events in and around Falcon Heights and summer Recreation on The Go events serving Roseville and Falcon Heights. The park is also rented for parties, reunions, picnics, and events. As the central park in the Falcon Heights area which includes the University of Minnesota the park serves a broader purpose than neighborhood parks by focusing on meeting community-based recreational needs as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. The park provides an appropriate blend of active and passive amenities to service a broad spectrum of interests and age groups. The park is also the main gathering place for the city of Falcon Heights.

After hearing numerous concerns from residents regarding various issues with the city’s parks in general and with Community Park in particular the city of Falcon Heights in 2013 undertook the bold step of commissioning a study facilitated by WSB and Associates Inc. WSB produced a report entitled *Falcon Heights Park Improvement Study* on May 21, 2014.

WSB recommended potential improvement costs for improvements as listed ranging from $600,000 to $800,000 depending on the building costs and the extent of changes to the site layout.
Almost six years have gone by since that report and no substantive or significant improvements have been made to the issues in Community Park identified in the report. The specific issues have only worsened including widening gaps in the concrete making it difficult for users, particularly seniors and individuals with disabilities, to safely navigate the pavement in and around the park building where a variety of community events serving Falcon Heights and neighboring cities and the University of Minnesota are held.

The City of Falcon Heights seeks to address specific issues identified the report and is asking for $1,000,000 to cover these costs based on the worsening conditions identified in the 2014 report, inflation, and a more detailed assessment of what is needed for renovation and repair.

I would like to personnel thank the community, support from the University of MN, Philando Castile Peace Garden Planning Committee, City Council, City Staff, and especially Council Member Mark Miazga for not only coming up with the idea for bonding, but also being a key contributor to drafting the bonding request with City Staff.

Link to all requests from the State and Local Jurisdictions: https://mn.gov/mmb/budget/capital-budget/current/#header

New Website Coming January 22

The City of Falcon Heights will soon get a new and improved website! The website address will continue to be www.falconheights.org. The website transition will start on January 21. During this time, the city's website may be unavailable. If you try accessing the website during the transition period and it is unavailable, please call City Hall at 651-792-7600 for inquiries. We are excited to make this transition and hope the new website better serves our residents, visitors, and businesses.

*** You will also soon see updates to your e-mail notifications. Since we are transitioning to a new website vendor, your existing e-mail notification preferences will be manually entered by city staff next week. You will receive an e-mail with a link to confirm your preferences. You must confirm in order to continue receiving e-mail updates from the city. If you have any questions about this process, please reach out to City Hall.

Curtiss Field Warming House set to open on Tuesday, January 21, 2020.

Warming House Hours:

- 1/21: 4PM-8PM
- 1/22: 4PM-8PM
- 1/23: 4PM-8PM
- 1/24: 4PM-8PM
- 1/25: 10AM-6PM
- 1/26: 10AM-6PM
- 1/27: 4PM-8PM
- 1/28: 4PM-8PM
- 1/29: 4PM-8PM
- 1/30: 4PM-8PM
- 1/31: 10AM-6PM
- 2/1: 12PM-4PM
Get Ready for the Minnesota Presidential Primary!
League of Women Voters St. Paul and League of Women Voters Minneapolis
Invite You to a Special Information Session

As Minnesota switches from a caucus system to a primary system for the Presidential election, the League is working to ensure that all voters have an opportunity to learn the ins and outs the new system. Michael Wall, of the Minnesota Secretary of State’s Office, will lead the information session. You’ll learn about the new ballot and get informed for the primary vote on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, the first presidential nominating primary in nearly three decades.

WHO | YOU! Bring a friend, and learn from Voter Outreach Specialist Michael Wall of the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State
WHEN | Tuesday, January 21, 2020, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
WHERE | Saint Paul Neighborhood Network, 550 Vandalia Street, Saint Paul, MN 55106. The program will be cablecast live on SPNN channel 19, and MTN channel 16.
COST | This event is free!
REGISTRATION | Registration is not required but it is appreciated. Visit www.lwvsp.org to register.

This program is designed to inform the local voting public on issues relevant to our city and its residents and is sponsored by LWV St. Paul and LWV Minneapolis, with support from SPNN.

Absentee voting begins today!

Presidential Primary Voting
It's the first day to vote in the presidential primary!
Options for absentee voting by mail or in person: http://bit.ly/2xA9HLT

AARP Tax Service

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide offers free tax preparation assistance from Feb. 1 - April 15 for low-to moderate-income taxpayers - especially those 50 and older. You don’t have to be an AARP member, and there’s no age requirement to get tax help from IRS-certified volunteers. Click on the link below to find a location near you or call 888-227-7669 toll-free.

AARP Site Locator
Census 2020

There is a critical need for more people to apply for census taker jobs in Ramsey County. The application is open until February 1, and the Census Bureau is now offering $22.00 per hour for census takers in Ramsey County. People from historically undercounted communities and who speak locally significant languages (like Hmong, Karen, Somali, and Oromo) are strongly encouraged to apply. The online application, FAQ, and other information are available at [https://2020census.gov/jobs.html](https://2020census.gov/jobs.html)

Upcoming Events

**Hmong Community Census Event**

**Location:** Hmong American Partnership  
1075 Arcade St, St Paul, MN 55106  
**Date:** Saturday, January 18th, 2020 from 10AM to 12PM

**Somali-Community Census Event**

**Location:** Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota  
2400 Park Ave, Minneapolis 55404  
**Date:** Friday, January 24, 2020, 5:30 – 7:30pm

For more information, please visit Ramsey County or Email info@citizensleague.org

RESOURCES

The Census Bureau has released its language guides in 59 language other than English. Languages includes, Hmong, Somali, Lao, Khmer, Burmese, Amharic, Turkish, Hindi, Igbo, Russian and MORE!  
Click on the link below for more information.  

**Ramsey County**

**The 2020 Census: Why Does It Matter?**

**Why We Ask?**

**Census 101: What You Need to Know**

City Commissions

We have openings on the following commissions:

- Environment (1 vacancy)  
- Parks and Recreation (2 vacancies)  
- Planning (2 vacancies)  
- Community Engagement (1 vacancy)

Commissions meet once a month or every-other month and provide input on new city policies. If you are interested in serving your community on a Commission, complete an application on the city's website or stop by City Hall.

If you have questions, call City Hall at 651-792-7600 or mail@falconheights.org
Code Corner - Parking and Snow Removal

Winter in Minnesota obviously means snow, sometimes lots of it. This weekend we are expecting another large snowfall event. During and after snowfall, we ask that everyone follows the city code regulations regarding snow removal.

Street Parking

A snow removal period begins automatically when the city receives two inches of snow. Once two inches of snow has fallen, all vehicles must be removed from city streets so that the plows and emergency vehicles can access the streets. Vehicles must remain off the streets until the street has been plowed full-width. We anticipate that the Public Works Department will be plowing multiple times during the event. If streets have been plowed once but an additional two inches of snow has fallen, cars must remain off the street. If you have any questions about the snow removal period, please contact City Hall.

FALCON HEIGHTS
Human Rights Day
"Food Security & Child Hunger"

Monday, February 3
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Location:
Falcon Heights City Hall
2077 Larpenteur Ave. W.

Guest Speakers
- Sarah Aughnaugh - Food and Nutrition Programs Supervisor, MN Dept. of Human Services
- Stacy Koppen - Nutrition Services Director, St. Paul Public Schools
- Jessica L. Webster - Attorney, Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid
- Lindsey Torkelsen - Director of Programs, The Sheridan Story

Parks and Recreation Commission will provide activity for school children.

Light snacks and beverages will be provided by the city.
For more information, please visit falconheights.org or call 651-792-7600

RSVP TODAY!
The new food scraps recycling collection site is now open! The site is located at City Hall, 2077 Larpenteur Ave West. Recycling food scraps returns essential nutrients to the soil and improves soil health. You can start a home food scraps collection (organics recycling) program by following these four easy steps: 1. Visit City Hall to pick up a free starter kit. 2. Fill up your compostable bags with food scrap recycling materials. 3. Bring it to the collection site for free disposal. 4. Get more bags from the dispenser on the fence or stop inside City Hall for more bags.

The Environment Commission has proposed an ordinance that would allow residents to plant and nurture native landscaping on their property. We would like your feedback on the new regulations. Visit the city's website to learn more. [https://bit.ly/2LVVsd1](https://bit.ly/2LVVsd1)

The city is sponsoring a winter photo contest. The community has the opportunity to submit photos taken within the Falcon Heights city limits. The photos will be used for the new city website. The theme is Shades of Winter. Photos with the most likes on Facebook will win passes to the History Museum. Two participants with winning photos will win a pair of MN Historical Society passes. [For rules and more information please click here.](#)

The Environment Commission has proposed an ordinance that would allow residents to plant and nurture native landscaping on their property. We would like your feedback on the new regulations. Visit the city's website to learn more. [https://bit.ly/2LVVsd1](https://bit.ly/2LVVsd1)

**January 2020 Key Dates**

**City Council Regular Meeting** - Wed, Jan 22 - 7:00 pm

**Agenda**

**Community Engagement Commission** - Mon, Jan 27 - 7:00 pm

Monday, Jan 20 - **City Hall closed** in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Como Park/Falcon Heights
Living at Home Block Nurse Program

The Como Park/Falcon Heights Living at Home Block Nurse program provides services and support to residents 65 and better who wish to remain in their home safely and independently. We are a local nonprofit that has served this area for almost 25 years.

No Cost Blood Pressure Clinics: Come meet our RN, Maria! Every 4th Monday, Maria is available at the City Hall, 2077 Larpenteur Avenue, for a No Cost Blood Pressure Clinic. **The next No Cost Blood Pressure Clinic is on Monday, Jan. 27, 1:00pm-2:00pm.**

Homemaking Services: Would you like to have a hand cleaning out the basement or has your doctor recommended you limit household activities like vacuuming and mopping the floor? We have Homemakers that will come to your home for housekeeping. This service is $25/hour with a one-hour minimum. They can come one-time or on a regular basis. Homemakers can also help with laundry, changing bed linens, meal prep, dusting, bathroom and kitchen cleaning.

No Cost Rides to Medical Appointments: We have reliable volunteers that can take you to and from your medical appointments. Must be enrolled in our program to qualify. Call for more information.

Tech Help: Do you have an ipad, smartphone or an electronic device and have questions about using it? We have volunteers that specialize in helping with technology issues. All volunteers have had training and have passed a background check. Call our Volunteer Coordinator to be connected with a tech helper.

For more information about any of our programs or services, please call 651-642-1127 or visit us at [www.comobnp.org](http://www.comobnp.org)

Saint Anthony Park Seniors

Saint Anthony Park Area Seniors helps seniors maintain their independence and remain in their homes as long as they wish and that is safe to do so. They provide individualized services (such as rides, chores and shopping trips) for seniors who live in Falcon Heights, west of Cleveland Ave. Upcoming activities that are open to ALL Falcon Heights residents include:

**Exercise classes:** Tuesday from 2:30-3:30 PM at SAP library (2245 Como Ave.) and Wednesday from 10:30-11:30 AM at Centennial United Methodist Church (2200 Hillside). **No registration or fees required.**

**Tai Ji Quan:** Moving for Better Balance - Thursday from 2-3 PM at Lauderdale City Hall (1891 Walnut Street). Registration is required and Class is Full. Watch for details for upcoming classes.

**Chair yoga:** Friday from 2:30-3:30 PM at the SAP library (2245 Como Ave.)

**Blood pressure clinics:** Wednesday, January 22 from 11:30 AM-noon at Centennial United Methodist Church (2200 Hillside)

For more information, please visit us at: [http://www.sapasedeniors.org](http://www.sapasedeniors.org) or call 651-642-9052

Follow us on Social Media!

#FalconHeights #TheCityThatSoars #FHFD