

**Lauderdale**  
POPULATION 2,271



# Lauderdale Crier

**City of Lauderdale, MN    JANUARY-MARCH 2022**

## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Residents,

I am pleased to report that Real Estate Equities' (REE) application for tax credits and bonding authority for the creation of affordable senior housing at 1795 Eustis Street was successful. The City received notice on January 11, just as the newsletter was going to print. The project creates homes for our seniors who want to age in place and improves the City's tax base which benefits all of us. This means the next six months will be busy processing their applications and finalizing financial details of the project. Thank you to everyone who provided feedback through the planning process to date. We ask that you continue to do the same as the project approvals process pick ups where it left off with Real Estate Equities requesting zoning approvals along with the drafting of the development agreements.

Sign up for e-mailed notifications via the City's website to follow the approvals process. On the homepage is a "Notify Me" icon. After signing up, you will receive notice of city council agendas and public hearings. City council meetings will continue on Zoom for at least a few more months. City staff send out the Zoom link in advance of the meetings. If you just want to watch the discussions, the meetings are available live and on replay on our community access channel (Comcast channel 16) or on NineNorth's website ([www.ninenorth.org/your-city/lauderdale/](http://www.ninenorth.org/your-city/lauderdale/)).

We look forward to your participation and feedback as we bring this project to fruition. Additionally, there is much more going on at City Hall. We are kicking off our zoning ordinance rewrite with a request for your feedback via an online survey. If you would like a paper copy, please contact city staff. Our new building officials are up and running; see page 4 for more information. Also on page 4, meet the City's newest employee, Tom Douvier.

- Mayor Mary Gaasch

## Zoning Ordinance Rewrite

Seeking Feedback from All Residents and Business Owners

The City is obligated to update its zoning ordinance by law but more so because it is time. Staff regularly field questions about why certain things are and are not allowed. The answer is generally because it is required by the zoning ordinance. However, a lot has changed in the past few years and some parts of the zoning code haven't been updated in decades.

Zoning ordinances are at the heart of answering what you are allowed and not allowed to do on your property. While not everyone is going to agree, our goal is to make sure everyone's opinions are heard and considered. The changes made to the zoning ordinance will be derived from what the community wants—the community being those who participate in the zoning ordinance update process.

Your first opportunity to participate is via an online survey. The survey responses will focus our energy and resources. Please complete the survey by March 31, 2022 via this web address or the link on the City's website.

[www.surveymonkey.com/r/LauderdaleZoningUpdate](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LauderdaleZoningUpdate)



## JANUARY — MARCH COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Tuesday, January 11	City Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Monday, January 17	Martin Luther King Jr. Day	City Hall Closed
Tuesday, January 25	City Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 8	City Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Monday, February 21	President's Day	City Hall Closed
Tuesday, February 22	City Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 8	City Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 22	City Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.

## CITY & EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

City Hall Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Phone: (651) 792-7650 [www.lauderdalemn.org](http://www.lauderdalemn.org)

### ***CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS***

Mayor Mary Gaasch  
1736 Malvern St.; 651.645.5918

Council Member Jeffrey Dains  
1743 Carl St.; 651.645.7068

Council Member Roxanne Grove  
1966 Eustis St.; 612.402.0219

Council Member Duane Pulford  
1757 Eustis St.; 507.254.5166

Council Member Andi Moffatt  
1773 Fulham St.; 651.917.3579

To send an email to all council and staff:  
[council@lauderdalemn.org](mailto:council@lauderdalemn.org)

### ***CITY STAFF***

Main Office: 651.792.7650  
Fax: 651.631.2066

Heather Butkowski 651.792.7657  
City Administrator  
[heather.butkowski@lauderdalemn.org](mailto:heather.butkowski@lauderdalemn.org)

Jim Bownik 651.792.7656  
Assistant City Administrator  
[jim.bownik@lauderdalemn.org](mailto:jim.bownik@lauderdalemn.org)

Miles Cline 651.792.7655  
Deputy City Clerk  
[miles.cline@lauderdalemn.org](mailto:miles.cline@lauderdalemn.org)

Gordy Beck 651.792.7662  
Public Works Utilities and Maintenance  
[gordy.beck@lauderdalemn.org](mailto:gordy.beck@lauderdalemn.org)

Tom Douvier 651.792.7661  
Public Works Utilities and Maintenance  
[tom.douvier@lauderdalemn.org](mailto:tom.douvier@lauderdalemn.org)

### ***EMERGENCY NUMBERS***

Police Emergency: 911  
Police Department: 612.782.3350

Fire Emergency: 911  
Fire Department: 651.224.7811

Ramsey County Dispatch: 911  
Ramsey County Dispatch Non-emergency Number: 651.767.0640

Water Emergency (St. Paul Regional Water): 651.266.6868

Sewer Emergency: 911 or  
651.767.0640

Illicit Discharges to the Storm Sewer:  
911 or 651.792.7650 (business hours)

Xcel Energy Electric Emergency or  
Outage: 1.800.895.1999

Xcel Energy Gas Emergency or Gas  
Odor: 1.800.895.2999

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## AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

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### Memory Loss Classes Through Lyngblomsten

**2nd Half with Lyngblomsten** is offering *Memory Collective*, an *enrichment* class for those early in their dementia journey. Joining the Memory Collective is a way for participants to directly form a *social group* with others experiencing a similar life change, while continuing to seek out enriching experiences.

Each Memory Collective class is eight weeks: the first seven weeks are virtual (online via Zoom) and the eighth week is an in-person outing at a fun community location. Participants may have a guest of their choosing attend some/all of the sessions.

The first classes are being held this winter: February 3–March 24 on Thursday afternoons AND February 4–March 25 on Friday mornings. Registration closes January 21 and space is limited. More information is available at [www.lyngblomsten.org/MemoryCollective](http://www.lyngblomsten.org/MemoryCollective).

**2nd Half with Lyngblomsten** offers additional services for those caring for person with dementia. Visit [www.lyngblomsten.org/caregiving](http://www.lyngblomsten.org/caregiving) for more information about these opportunities.

### Lions Club Offers \$1,000 Joe Barrett Scholarships to 2022 RAHS Graduates

As they do each year, the Falcon Heights/Lauderdale Lions Club is offering two \$1,000 Joe Barrett Scholarships to two 2022 RAHS graduates. The only selection criterion established by the Lions Club is that the recipients be residents of either Lauderdale or Falcon Heights. The scholarship winners will be selected by the Roseville Area High School Scholarship Program Committee. The scholarship application can be found in Naviance and in the RAHS Career Center. Applications are due February 25.

### Upcoming Events Hosted by St. Anthony Park Area Seniors!

- \* Monday, January 24 from 11 a.m.-noon will be a live, online presentation by Dr. Angela Smithson from UM St. John's Family Medicine Residency on "**Sexual Health for Seniors.**"
- \* On Thursday, January 20 at 7 p.m., Dave Lee will provide an online **guitar concert**.
- \* **Exercise** with the group: New Tai Ji Quan and chair yoga sessions start in January.
- \* Dave Healy will host an 8-week online **poetry** class in January and February focusing on Robert Frost.

Call our office at 651-642-9052 to get the Zoom links for these events or to discuss our other services including: support with home chores, respite care, tech support, grocery delivery, rides to medical appointments, handyman services, and fun virtual events like BINGO.



### Partnership with Hearts & Hammers

Hearts & Hammers' mission is to provide exterior home improvement help for senior citizens, disabled adults, and veterans. Each year, from June 1 to October 1, thousands of volunteers provide exterior painting and maintenance for homeowners throughout the seven-county metro area.

To be eligible, participants must be a homeowner who meets income guidelines, be 60 years or older, have a permanent disability, or be a veteran of the United States Armed Forces or their surviving spouse. The gross monthly household income cannot exceed \$2,602 for one person, \$3,523 for two people, \$4,444 for three people or \$5,365 for four. The home must be a single-family home and occupied by the owner.

Homeowners can apply at [www.heartsandhammers.org](http://www.heartsandhammers.org) or call 651-636-0797 to have an application mailed. Hearts & Hammers accepts applications all season long. Applying does not guarantee your home will be selected. Homes are selected based on availability of volunteers, materials, and scope of work.

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## CITY HALL UPDATES

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### New Steps to Apply for a Building Permit

Andy Schreder and his team at Rum River Consultants (RRC) are officially the City's building official effective January 1. Our inspector for residential projects is Mark Peterson. We look forward to having them as part of our team but there are a few changes in permit processing that we want to make you aware of.



Application for building, plumbing, and mechanical permits now begin in RRC's office instead of City Hall. RRC has a page on their website devoted to Lauderdale. Application for permits and informational forms can be found at: [www.rumrivercc.com/lauderdale](http://www.rumrivercc.com/lauderdale). If you are unable to complete the application process online, stop by City Hall for assistance. We can scan your application materials and get them to RRC. After RRC reviews and approves permits, fees are collected by city hall staff. Please let city staff know if you have any troubles navigating this new permit application processes.



### Welcome to Tom Douvier

Another new addition to the Lauderdale team is Tom Douvier in the public works department. He joins us after a career at Xcel Energy serving as a lineman. Tom brings a wealth of skills and resourcefulness to the position. Lauderdale was part of his territory at Xcel Energy so he is already familiar with the area. Be sure to give Tom a wave when you see him out and about.

### Are the Streets and Alleys Too Dark?

Periodically, residents mention a dark alley or section of a street that would feel more secure if better lit. The question is whether a light can be installed in these locations. The answer is yes. Xcel Energy installs and maintains all of the overhead lights in the City at a reasonable cost. There is always room in the budget to add a light where it makes sense. We ask that neighbors work together on their requests to make sure the new lights don't also light up areas where light isn't wanted, like in bedrooms.



### Partnership with Northeast Youth and Family Services

Starting on January 1, the City began partnering with Northeast Youth and Family Services (NYFS). What does this mean, you ask? St. Anthony Police Department asked the City Council to consider a membership because of their Community Advocate Program. This program serves people who have been involved with local law enforcement but have needs that cannot be sufficiently addressed by law enforcement alone. This can include: mental health issues, family instability, medical care and other needs. Addressing these underlying issues reduces the need for law enforcement intervention in the future.

That alone made becoming a member worthwhile but NYFS offers more services that will be available to our community. Through their Senior Chore Program, residents 60+ can be paired with someone to help with indoor and outdoor chores at a reduced rate based on income. Their Youth Diversion Program helps youth with misdemeanors get their lives back on track through an alternative to the juvenile justice system. This is in addition to their mental health services available through their clinics and available to our students through their partnership with the Roseville Area School District. Call their offices in Shoreview (651.486.3808) and White Bear Lake (651.429.8544) for more information.



# COMMUNITY UPDATES

## Halloween on Rose Hill

Thank you again to the organizers and volunteers that made Halloween on Rose Hill a safe and an amazing community experience.



## Pet Ownership Rules

City staff have received a number of complaints recently about pets. Here are a few reminders:

- All dogs and cats must be registered by the time they reach six months of age.
- Dogs and cats must be confined to the owners' property by fencing, leash, or electronic fencing.
- Dogs and cats must be on leash in all public places including playgrounds, parks, and on the street.
- Persons in control of an animal must clean up and dispose of the animals droppings.

The most frequent complaint heard by staff is that owner don't clean up after their pets—be that at the park, at the dog park, or in the boulevards. The second most frequent complaint heard by staff is that animals are running off-leash. The only public place a dog can be off-leash is in the fenced in dog park area at Community Park. In all other areas of the park, dogs must be leashed. Additionally, dogs must be confined to their owners' yards by fencing or leash. Too often dogs are left in their yards and roam off property disturbing neighbors and pedestrians. The third most frequent complaint heard by staff is that cats are allowed by their owners to roam. Please consider your current pet practices and whether they align with city code. If they don't, please change them.

## Ramsey County Offering Housing Payment Assistance to Suburban Ramsey County Homeowners

The Ramsey County Homeownership Preservation Program (RCHPP) assists homeowners at 80% area median income (AMI) or below in suburban Ramsey County with past due housing payments due to COVID-19 related financial issues. Eligible payments include mortgage, homeownership association (HOA) dues, water bills, homeowner's insurance, and property taxes. Expenses must have occurred after January 23, 2020. Total amount awarded cannot exceed \$35,000. Residents can call the Minnesota Homeownership Center for a pre-screening at 651-659-9336 or visit RCHPP - Neighbor-Works Home Partners ([nwhomepartners.org](http://nwhomepartners.org)) for more information and to apply.

Household Size	Maximum Household Gross Annual Income (80%)
1 person	\$55,950
2 people	\$63,950
3 people	\$71,950
4 people	\$79,900
5 people	\$86,300
6 people	\$92,700
7 people	\$99,100
8 people	\$105,500

## PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATES



### Winter Related Ordinances and Tax Related Identity Protection by Sgt. Mike Huddle

Hey, it's winter season. Guess what other season we're in—tax season. Two great seasons in one. Let's go ahead and cover both seasons right now.

*Tax season.* Your private tax information may be targeted by fraudsters, scammers, and identity thieves. The IRS provides resources and references to help you protect your tax-related identity information. There are simple tips we all

can do which makes it harder for scammers, hackers and thieves to steal our sensitive information. You can find all of this information on the IRS website, [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov), and simply search the site for “tax security.”

The IRS recommends the following steps to avoid becoming a tax related identity theft victim:

- Use security software and keep it up to date
- Use strong passwords (10 to 12 characters that include numbers and symbols)
- Only send personal information over encrypted/secure websites (“https” in the web address)
- Back up your computer files on a removable disk or hard drive
- Research companies to determine who you're really dealing with online
- Do not leave personal information lying around or up on a computer screen

Beware of “phishing” emails, phone calls, or text messages that appear to be from the IRS, or financial institutions you might be familiar with and normally trust. Go directly to the company's website to check for legitimate information. Don't click on links from suspicious, unexpected, or unknown emails, and don't download attachments if you don't know who sent them or aren't sure of what they are.

Avoid falling victim to IRS impersonators. The IRS does not call taxpayers and threaten lawsuits, arrests, or jail time. The IRS does not send unsolicited emails requesting sensitive personal or financial information online. The IRS does not initiate contact through text message or social media. They will not demand fine payments via retail gift cards. These are all indications of scams.

The IRS suggests checking your Social Security Administration records by signing up for My Social Security at [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov). The IRS reminds us to check your credit report annually and to regularly check bank and credit card statements. If you are a victim of tax related identity theft, visit [www.irs.gov/identitytheft](http://www.irs.gov/identitytheft) for what to do next.

*Let's move on to what you really came here for: Winter Parking Restrictions.*

Plow crews work hard to clear snow from city streets to allow safe passage for pedestrians, traffic, and access for emergency vehicles. You're part of the solution if you move your vehicle off the street and park in a driveway or open parking lot.

Lauderdale City ordinance 6-1-6 prohibits parking of vehicles on city streets for a period of 48 hours “commencing immediately after two inches or more of continuous snowfall, or until snow removal has been completed on that street, whichever occurs first.” Please share this information with guests staying with you to avoid being plowed around or ticketed.

And, just between us, Officers don't like writing parking tickets. Let's just try to avoid the whole thing, shall we?

If you'd like more crime information, prevention tips, reports or have questions, please contact St. Anthony PD at 612-782-3350. You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter for alerts, news and updates.





# ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP



**MISSISSIPPI  
WATERSHED  
MANAGEMENT  
ORGANIZATION**

## THE TRUTH ABOUT SALT

There is no such thing as an environmentally friendly salt or deicer. All such chemicals cause damage to our waterbodies, plants, wildlife and infrastructure. You should avoid using them as much as possible.

## WHEN TO USE SALT

If you apply salt or deicer, do it after the storm is finished. Clear off any loose and/or compacted snow first. Apply the product on ice only; do not apply it on dry pavement. Temperatures often drop after a snowstorm, so double-check the label on your salt or deicer product to make sure it will work before you apply it. Rock salt doesn't work below 15°F.

## HOW MUCH SALT TO USE

More salt does not equal faster melting — just more pollution and wasted money. Shoot for a 3-inch spread between salt granules. For \$10–\$20, a hand spreader can make the job easier and more accurate. To be more exact, try to apply no more than 1 pound per 250 square feet of pavement. (*Tip: A regular-size coffee mug typically holds about 1 pound of salt.*)

## WHAT ABOUT SAND?

Use sand when it's too cold for salt to work. Sprinkle just enough to provide traction on walkways. Sweep up any excess after the ice melts so that it doesn't get carried into storm drains. (Sand pollutes too.) Don't bother mixing sand and salt together. They serve two completely different purposes. Sand is useless in wet, melting snow and slush.

## A SALTY MESS

Just one teaspoon of salt is enough to pollute five gallons of water - forever.

Salt and deicers contain chloride, which is toxic to fish and plants. When the snow and ice melt, the chloride travels through storm drains into our rivers and lakes. Once there, it's nearly impossible to remove.

## Affordable Connectivity Program

**The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC program that helps connect families and households struggling to afford internet service.**

**See if You Qualify and Apply**

**Call: 877-384-2575**

**Visit: [ACPSBenefit.org](https://www.fcc.gov/ACP)**



**Learn more at: [fcc.gov/ACP](https://www.fcc.gov/ACP)**

Qualifying Comcast customers can apply to enroll in the **Affordable Connectivity Program**. This program will grant a temporary monthly credit up to \$30 per household toward any post-paid tier of Internet service for the duration of the program.

# City of Lauderdale

1891 Walnut Street  
Lauderdale, MN 55113  
[www.lauderdalemn.org](http://www.lauderdalemn.org)

**Return Service  
Requested**



Shop at City Hall for  
Lauderdale branded  
apparel:

Short-sleeve t-shirt: \$10  
Long-sleeve t-shirt: \$12  
Hoodies: \$20  
History books: \$25

*The City would appreciate your feedback!* Please feel free to call or visit us at City Hall or email your questions or comments to [Heather.Butkowski@lauderdalemn.org](mailto:Heather.Butkowski@lauderdalemn.org). Also, please contact City Hall with any changes to your name, address, or phone number.