

Lauderdale
POPULATION 2,379



Lauderdale Crier

City of Lauderdale, MN JULY-SEPTEMBER 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Residents,

We're excited to announce that Lauderdale is kicking-off the Zoning Ordinance Update process and project. The Zoning Ordinance is an often-overlooked policy tool because it is technical, can be difficult to understand and may not feel like it has a direct impact on your daily life. In reality the Zoning Ordinance is one of the most important tools in the City's toolbox because it directly affects every property in town. It not only establishes standards for existing uses and neighborhoods but sets the standards for future development and redevelopment in Lauderdale. Zoning is truly the foundation to every physical characteristic in the City. So, while zoning is in part about regulations and standards, it is also about the market, character, and equity of the community. Because the Zoning Ordinance is such an important policy tool, the City Council has specifically identified the following key objectives to achieve in this project:



- To create an updated Zoning Ordinance that supports equity in our community. Our regulations and standards should support the continued diversity of our neighborhoods, our residents and our businesses.
- To provide education and information to residents, business owners, and stakeholders about the process and the final Zoning Ordinance. Communication is key and will take on a variety of forms from virtual and on-line, to in-person meetings and interactions (finally)!
- To create a user-friendly, easy to understand Zoning Ordinance that is accessible to residents, business owners and stakeholders.

Many of you will remember the 2040 Comprehensive Plan ("2040 Plan") process in 2018 and 2019 that set the City's vision for the next 10-20 years. This Zoning Ordinance update project is a key step to implement the 2040 Plan to make sure our standards achieve and support our goals. We initially planned to get this process started last year after the 2040 Plan was adopted, but like many of our initiatives we thought it was prudent to delay this until we could involve the community in the process. Now that restrictions on public gatherings and meetings have loosened, we can resume the process and safely meet and engage with you throughout this process.

Over the next year we want to hear from you as we work through this process. The first opportunity to get involved is to participate in the Issue Identification Survey that will be available on our new website. We anticipate the survey to launch within the next month. If you're on our email list we'll send an email out to let you know when it's live. If you're not on the email list, either sign up or make sure to check the website for more information. After the survey, there will be more opportunities to get involved so make sure you follow city council meetings and the website for more information.

Sincerely,
Mayor Mary Gaasch

JULY — SEPTEMBER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Monday, July 5	Independence Day Observed	City Hall Closed
Tuesday, July 13	City Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, July 27	City Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Thursday, July 29	Event at Community Park: Health and Well-Being	6:00—8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, August 3	Night to Unite	6-9 p.m. block parties
Tuesday, August 10	City Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, August 24	City Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Monday, September 6	Labor Day	City Hall Closed
Tuesday, September 14	City Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Monday, September 20	Event at Community Park: Roseville Community Band	6:00-7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, September 28	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

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

CITY STAFF

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Gordy Beck 651.792.7662
Maintenance
gordy.beck@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

AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Cline Celebrates 5-Year Work Anniversary

Miles Cline began working for the City in the summer of 2016 as the deputy clerk-treasurer. In that role, Miles can assist you with building permits, Social Room and park reservations, rental housing applications, election questions, pet licensing, and any general questions you may have. When not working on those tasks, he handles accounts payable, accounts receivable, utility billing, and digitizes city records. Please congratulate him if you find yourself at City Hall.



Eustis Street Walkers

A Eustis Street property owner recently noted that many folks walk on the east side of Eustis Street where cars are parked instead of taking advantage of the no parking area on the west side. It is available for you to use; feel free to take advantage.

The Puppet Wagon Returns! Thursdays June 24 - August 19 at 11:30 a.m. Lauderdale Community Park 1885 Fulham Street

Catch a new show each week! The Roseville Puppet Wagon presents 15-20 minute themed shows. All shows are family friendly and include a variety of classic tales.



Happy Summer from St. Anthony Park Area Seniors!

Thank you to the 330 seniors and caregivers that received COVID-19 vaccines at City Hall in April. Congratulations! We hope that you are getting out and about now that you are vaccinated.

Our in-person individual activities are back “on”! If you are interested in receiving assistance with home chores, computers, grocery delivery, rides to medical appointments, or respite care, contact us to get connected with one of our awesome volunteers.

Our virtual activities continue. Call us for the Zoom link or phone login information.

- On July 21 from 1:30-3:00 p.m., we will host, **“Technology for Older Adults and Those They Care For.”** It will be a live presentation by experts and vendors of products and services to facilitate healthy and safer living. From medication administration to communication to tools that enable a remote family member to be notified when a loved one needs assistance.
- We continue **online concerts** given by local artists. Currently, we have concerts scheduled for July 12 (guitar concert by Dave Lee) and July 26 (vocal concert by McPhail artist, Ivory Doublette).
- **Virtual lunch gatherings** are every other Wednesday. We eat, chat and play BINGO for prizes.

To find out more about our program visit our website at www.sapaseniors.org. We can be reached at office@sapaseniors.org or 651-642-9052. If you don't catch us, please leave a message.

CITY COUNCIL UPDATES

Mayor Gaasch Appointed to LMC Board

Mayor Mary Gaasch was recently appointed to a three-year term on the League of Minnesota Cities (LMC) Board of Directors. In this role, Mayor Gaasch's work will impact the 800+ member cities across the state. LMC was founded by special legislation in 1913. Members of LMC rely on the organization for education, training, research, and advocacy on behalf of cities at the state and federal level. Congratulate Mayor Gaasch when you see her out and about.

1795 Eustis Street Update

The City and Real Estate Equities submitted an application for affordable housing tax credits for the proposed senior housing project but have not heard back as the newsletter when to print. To stay up to date on the project, subscribe to the City's new email service if you are not currently receiving notices of city council and community event updates.

<https://www.lauderdalemn.org/subscribe>

City Council Resumes In-Person Meetings

Unbelievably, the last in-person City Council meeting was March 10, 2020. The City Council and staff look forward to the return to in-person city council meetings. As you will read in the next article, the return to in-person meetings has been delayed as MnDOT staff are not allowed to attend in-person meetings until further notice. After MnDOT staff virtually attend the July 27 meeting, the City Council will return to in-person meeting on August 10. We hope to see you there!



Meeting with MnDOT about Proposed Changes to TH280

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) plans projects years ahead of time. They are currently working on three projects that will impact Lauderdale over the next ten years. MnDOT staff will virtually attend the July 27, 2021 council meeting to describe these projects and answer questions. Staff have been given an overview of these projects but look forward to the meeting to learn more.

- MnDOT proposes to eliminate the west bound turn lane on TH280 which allows access to Broadway Street. A barrier would be installed that would allow traffic to only continue northbound. MnDOT staff are currently studying this idea with the goal of implementation in 2024.
- MnDOT is completing a speed study of the entire TH280 corridor to determine the safest rate of speed. The study hasn't yet been released to the public.
- MnDOT has a schedule for paving projects and related improvements.

As of publication, MnDOT staff have not been granted permission to attend in-person meetings, so the plan is to continue virtual city council meetings through the end of July to make this presentation possible. The link to the meeting will be in the packet materials that will be sent out through our email distribution list on July 23. If you aren't on the list and would like to receive a copy, please contact Heather at heather.butkowski@lauderdalemn.org.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Summer Community Events

Thank you to those that attended the June 24 Public Safety in the Park event. If you missed it, see below for more chances to gather with your neighbors at fun events.



Food

Theme: Health and Well-Being
Thursday, July 29 from 6-8 p.m.
Lauderdale Community Park
1885 Fulham Street

The July park event features many of our favorite city partners that support our health and well-being as individuals and as a community. Guest exhibitors include the Rice Creek and Capitol Regions Watershed Districts, St. Anthony Park Area Seniors, Ramsey County Public Health, Ramsey County Soil and Water Conservation, and Northeast Youth and Family Services. Additional highlights include music by Lazy Does It Ragtime Band; food from PJ's Grill; and refreshments by Bent Brewstillery.



Beverages

Night to Unite: August 3

Are you new to the area or unfamiliar with your neighbors? Are you looking for a way to connect with the residents around you and in your community? Minnesota Night to Unite is a great resource to accomplish all this and more. Minnesota Night to Unite, held on the first Tuesday in August, is designed to build relationships among residents to make communities safer and ideal places to live while promoting partnerships with the Police and Fire Departments and other local leaders.

Home owners, apartment complexes, and homeowners associations are encouraged to plan events. Residents with questions or who plan to host a block party on August 3 may register on the St. Anthony PD webpage (<http://www.savmn.com/521/Night-to-Unite-2021>). The deadline to register is July 27, 2021. Contact Sgt. Mike Huddle with questions at 612-782-3350 or mike.huddle@savmn.com.

Block parties usually start around 6:00 p.m. and last until about 9:00 p.m. Block parties receive visits from the police department, fire department, and local leaders upon request. Parties that register by the July 27 deadline will be provided with an ice cream voucher for a five-quart pail of free ice cream from Cub Foods. Ice cream certificates and barricades will be delivered ahead of the event.

Back by Popular Request
Roseville Community Concert Band
Monday, September 20 from 6-7:30 p.m.
Lauderdale Community Park
1885 Fulham Street
Bring your chairs or blankets and enjoy!



UPDATES FROM PUBLIC SAFETY



Police Chief Update – Summer 2021

How we engage with our community

At the St. Anthony Police Department (SAPD), we hold a philosophy that our officers are community engagement officers - every interaction with the public is an opportunity to build trust and legitimacy with our community. We have the responsibility to identify the needs of our residents at an individual level, offering programs and services they may need.

Yet, we have found that community engagement can be rather challenging for police departments. Traditional efforts, such as crime prevention articles, educational seminars and booths at community events are useful, but not as impactful. Many entities offer various opportunities and activities that compete for the attention of our community members. And, with COVID-19, engagement initiatives have been further impacted. As a result, we've had to redirect our efforts in reaching our audiences where they spend most of their time - on social media.

Social media

Social media has grown to become a major component of our community engagement program. It allows us to reach a large segment of the community in a timely manner. Since our work with the Collaborative Reform for Technical Assistance, we have established our Community Engagement Team (CET), made up of a dedicated group of officers that focus their time on furthering our community engagement initiatives. Our CET manages the SAPD's social media accounts on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. We use these accounts to:

- Inform the public of crime information.
- Give public safety announcements.
- Announce weather alerts.
- Give education on police work.
- Request public assistance to help resolve crimes under investigation.
- Seek input from community members.
- Publish data of interest to the community.

All content posted to our social media platforms is accessible and viewable to the public - even if you don't have a social media account. Every account is verified (blue check mark), so you can trust the information and content being shared. You can easily search for our social media accounts online, or find them via the following social media handles:

Facebook: @StAnthonyPoliceDepartment

Twitter: @StAnthonyPolice

Instagram: @stanthonypolice

Use of video

We recently launched a new series of videos via social media that focus on our continuous Collaborative Reform work that began with the Department of Justice in 2017. The videos were released at the end of 2020, and will continue throughout 2021. Topics covered are body worn cameras, traffic stops, partnership with the Northeast Youth and Family Services Community Advocate program, and de-escalation and crisis intervention team techniques.

Collaboration with NineNorth

Our goal is to reach more community members and make information from the SAPD even more accessible. Our work with NineNorth (former CTV) began late in 2020, and content is expected to be available this year, so stay tuned!

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Habitat at Home: Planting for Pollinators and Starting Small By Adam Flett, MWMO

Protecting water quality and habitat are tightly connected, and each person can play a role in fixing the vexing problems we're facing on both fronts. Many of the issues stem from the vast land use changes that began with European colonization and westward expansion. When considering the extent of water pollution and habitat loss, it is important for us to take actions to restore and revamp our yards, open spaces and ecosystems with native plant communities.

To help steer you in the right a direction, here is a short list of native plants that are hardy, resilient, and provide habitat benefits. However, some of these native plants are known for their ability to take over gardens. A little research in advance of planting may save you some headache down the road.

- **Milkweeds:** Common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*), butterfly milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*), and whorled milkweed (*Asclepias verticillate*) are all great choices that are crucial for monarch butterfly populations (monarch larvae/caterpillars feed exclusively on milkweed leaves), and are beneficial for other insect species.
- **Asters and Goldenrods:** There are over 200 native species of asters and goldenrods in North America, which host an incredible amount of insect herbivores such as bees, butterflies, and wasps (which are pollinators, too).
- **Dogwoods:** Red-osier dogwood and grey dogwood are two great options for your yard and garden that both flower in the spring time for attracting pollinators and produce berries for birds to forage.
- **Viburnums:** Like dogwoods, two species of the Viburnum family (American highbush cranberry and Nannyberry) both flower in the spring and produce berries, and create beautiful fall colors as the season turns cold.
- **Oaks:** Members of the Quercus genus are world-renowned for the ecological benefits they provide; in North America, they provide food and forage for insects, birds, and mammals, including support for nearly [900 species](#) of moths/butterflies. Native oaks in Minnesota used to be incredibly abundant, and planting Bur oak, swamp white oak, northern pin oak and red oak all will provide habitat benefits as they slowly grow for future generations to appreciate.

We all can be a part of the solution to our water pollution and habitat loss issues. As you consider how you can take action, we are here to help answer questions you may have as your plans take root. Even a small patch can go a long ways for the insects that keep our world buzzing along.

Closing Out Construction Permits

City staff will be reaching out to building, mechanical, and plumbing permit holders with outstanding inspections in the weeks ahead. As the City expects to transition to a contracted building official service before the end of the year, we are looking to clean up loose ends. Typically, permits remain open because we don't hear from contractors after they finish their work.

When we periodically clear our inspection folders, the most common question we get asked is whether you have to schedule an inspection. The answer is no as you can deny us the ability to do that. We will note on the permit that inspections were not completed. However, this can have negative consequences down the road when you list your property for sale. We have seen sales fall through when perspective buyers find that inspections were not complete. Another question we receive is whether completing inspections will impact a home's tax value. Again, the answer is no. The City reports new permits to Ramsey County each month but the county assessors are ultimately responsible for setting your property value. Construction permits are just one tool used when making that determination.

City of Lauderdale

1891 Walnut Street
Lauderdale, MN 55113
www.lauderdalemn.org

**Return Service
Requested**



Shop at City Hall for Lauderdale branded short and long-sleeve t-shirts, hoodies, history books, and mugs. We also have free VHS copies of the 50th anniversary celebration for you to take home!

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. Also, please contact City Hall with any changes to your name, address, or phone number.