



Mayor's Message

Greetings!

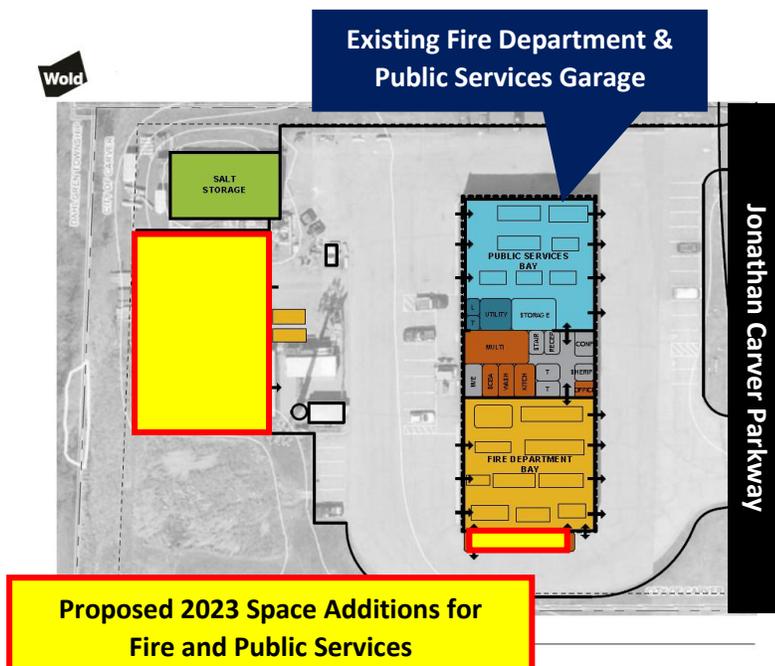
There are a lot of things we do at the City level and at City Council meetings which don't receive much attention until we're at the point of putting shovels in the ground. Despite that, for every project the City undertakes, there are months and often years of planning put into this work. With that, I'd like to share a bit of information about the Space Study for the Public Services and Fire Departments we recently completed.



In September 2020, the City Council discussed conducting a study to determine needs and costs related to operations in the Public Services Department and Fire Department. The Public Services Department's need for more space to house equipment has been discussed informally for several years; however, no analysis of space or relative cost had been prepared.

In December of 2020, Wold Architects and Engineers met with the City Council to provide an overview of the space study process and to define objectives for the outcome. The primary objectives of the study were defined as:

- The study should develop a concept that would facilitate indoor storage opportunities for the Public Services Department.
- The study should develop a concept that would provide an opportunity for vehicles, equipment, and general storage to be more consolidated to create greater department efficiencies.
- The study should identify an alternative space and location for the existing equipment and vehicle storage at 117 Broadway (former Fire Station building), so that the property may be redeveloped.



- The study should identify a means to separate turn-out gear from the apparatus bay to reduce firefighters' exposure to chemicals, carcinogens, and diesel engine exhaust.
- The plan should identify short-term solutions to existing space needs, while also providing a "master plan concept" to assist the City in future space challenges.

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Mayor's Message

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In addition to laying out a 20+ year facility Master Plan for Public Services, the study identified short-term a need to construct a 9,600 square feet vehicle and equipment building on the current Public Services site at Jonathan Carver Parkway. The proposed building site would be just west of the existing building and be primarily located in the existing outdoor storage area. Estimated project costs of \$2.3 million reflect inflation impacts out to 2023.

The Space Study also identified a need to construct an 820 square feet addition on to the south side of the existing Fire Station. In order to ensure the safest conditions for our firefighters, a best practice is to house their turn-out gear in a room separate from the fire garage, with its own ventilation, which allows the gear to off-gas away from where the firefighters work. This addition to the Fire Station has an estimated project cost of \$420,000 reflecting inflation impacts out to 2023, which is when the project is planned.

These expenditures are written into our Long-Term Financial Plan, which was adopted last month. You'll be hearing more about these topics as we move closer to that date, so stay tuned.

If you have any questions or comments about the Space Study, the Long-Term Financial Plan, or anything else, please don't hesitate to reach out. As always, I look forward to hearing from you!

Mayor Courtney Johnson

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Minnesota Water Assistance Program

The Minnesota Department of Commerce announced a new Water Assistance Program. Minnesota received \$14,666,970 in federal funds authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act to assist Minnesota residents with past due or current water and wastewater usage charges, fees, and deposits in response to hardships brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. Applications will be accepted starting October 1, 2021.

For more details on how to apply, visit the City's website at www.cityofcarver.com/352.

Downtown Park Plan

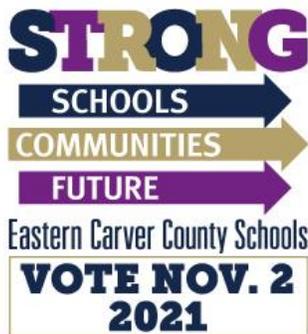
The Parks Commission and the City Council have been working on designs for a downtown park that will feature a multi-use community/performing space, designated food truck stalls with seating, and a splash pad. The planned location is at the end of Broadway Street, where the existing Public Services building will be demolished to make way for this community space.

The downtown park is currently slated for construction in 2026 but work has already begun for the park since there are several phases to the development and construction. The park will pay homage to the City’s historic downtown with play features that will be reminiscent of features seen throughout downtown. Keep up to date with the project and see additional renderings at www.cityofcarver.com/250.



District 112 Referendum

On November 2, 2021, Eastern Carver County residents will be asked to vote on a one-question operating referendum to increase the general education revenue by \$550 per pupil.



The operating levy is a strategic investment in sustaining and building the district’s high quality educational and programming activities into the future. If passed, funding received from the 2021 referendum will allow the district to continue the strong academic preparation of our students, lower class sizes at the elementary level, and grow our fund balance to protect programs and services from enrollment shifts, financial fluctuations, or other unforeseen circumstances.

Polls will be open on **November 2, 2021, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.**

Your polling location is based on your residence and may be different from previous elections. Visit www.mnvotes.org to find where to vote in this election.

Please note that early voting is available at the Carver County Government Center or by mail.

LEARN MORE AT www.ECCSVOTE.org

Park Shelter Restrooms Closing for the Season

All City park shelter restrooms will close on October 15 due to the impending cold weather. Satellite restrooms will be available until November 15, weather permitting. The City of Carver's parks, vast trail systems, and playgrounds are still available for you to explore. Thank you for a great season!



Pond Inspections

During the month of October, you may see Public Services staff members walking around the ponds in your neighborhood. This is part of the yearly pond inspections required by the City's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit. Staff will be looking for illicit discharge, trash, erosion, and nonfunctioning control structures. These inspections are documented and may require future work if maintenance is needed.



City staff is also developing an external pond maintenance schedule for all storm ponds. With more ponds in Carver, Public Services is maintaining the newer ponds and performing limited tree removal from older ponds.

HALLOWEEN TRUNK OR TREAT

Downtown Carver

Sunday, October 24, 1 pm – 3 pm

Bring all the kiddos to the Halloween Trunk or Treat event, sponsored by the Carver Lions. Local businesses, organizations, and individuals will offer Trunk or Treat goodies for the kids, and the Lions will provide treat bags, pop up party rentals, emergency vehicles, hotdogs, drinks, and a SPOOKTACULAR TIME!



The Lions are looking for businesses, organizations, and individuals to participate in the festivities...bring a vehicle (decorate it if you choose), dress up, have fun, and hand out treats to the little Trick or Treaters!

The generous donations from our community have made this event so much fun from year to year! All organizations and businesses are welcome to sign up.

*email Kim to sign up or to make a donation: kimberlywhaley14@gmail.com