All meetings of the St. Louis Park City Council will be conducted by telephone or other electronic means starting March 30, 2020, and until further notice. This is in accordance with a local emergency declaration issued by the city council, in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and Governor Walz’s “Stay Safe MN” executive order 20-056.

Some or all members of the St. Louis Park City Council will participate in the July 20, 2020 city council meeting by electronic device or telephone rather than by being personally present at the city council’s regular meeting place at 5005 Minnetonka Blvd.

Members of the public can monitor meeting by video and audio at https://bit.ly/watchslpcouncil and on local cable (Comcast SD channel 17 and HD channel 859, or CenturyLink SD channel 8117 and HD channel 8617) or by calling +1-312-535-8110 meeting number (access code): 372 106 61 for audio only. Cisco Webex will be used to conduct videoconference meetings of the city council, with council members and staff participating from multiple locations.

Members of the public wishing to address the city council regarding items on the agenda should call the number noted below next to the corresponding item.

(4a – 4g) Consent agenda items – 952.562.2886
(8a) COVID-19 pandemic: face coverings – 952-562-2887

If you wish to provide public comment, please call when the meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. and follow instructions provided. Comments will be taken during each item in the order they are received. Public comments must relate to an item on the current city council agenda.

6:30 p.m. CITY COUNCIL MEETING

1. Call to order
   1a. Pledge of allegiance
   1b. Roll call

2. Presentations -- None

3. Approval of minutes
   3a. Study session minutes of May 11, 2020
   3b. City council emergency meeting minutes of May 30, 2020
   3c. City council meeting minutes of June 1, 2020
   3d. Study session minutes of June 15, 2020

4. Approval of agenda and items on consent calendar
   Recommended action: **Motion to approve the agenda as presented and items listed on the consent calendar; and to waive reading of all resolutions and ordinances. (Alternatively: Motion to add or remove items from the agenda, or move items from consent calendar to regular agenda for discussion.)
   4a. Adopt Resolution authorizing installation of permit parking restrictions in front of 4212 Wooddale Avenue.
   4b. Adopt Resolution authorizing installation of permit parking restrictions in front of 2720 Utica Avenue.
4c. Authorize mayor and city manager to execute the utility easement with Xcel Energy for burying of the overhead power lines.

4d. Adopt Resolution authorizing the special assessment for the repair of the sewer service line at 1801 Ford Road, St. Louis Park, MN, P.I.D. 01-117-22-44-0090.

4e. Adopt Resolution authorizing the special assessment for the repair of the sewer service line at 3304 Utah Avenue South, St. Louis Park, MN, P.I.D. 18-117-21-14-0025.

4f. Adopt Resolution authorizing the special assessment for the repair of the sewer service line at 3305 Aquila Lane South, St. Louis Park, MN, P.I.D. 18-117-21-24-0036.

4g. Adopt Resolution authorizing the special assessment for the repair of the sewer service line at 3305 Utah Avenue South, St. Louis Park, MN, P.I.D. 18-117-21-14-0022.

5. Boards and commissions – None

6. Public hearings – None

7. Requests, petitions, and communications from the public – None

8. Resolutions, ordinances, motions and discussion items
   8a. COVID-19 pandemic: face coverings
       **Recommended action:** Motion to adopt Resolution approving emergency action calling for face coverings.

9. Communications – None

**NOTE:** The consent calendar lists those items of business which are considered to be routine and/or which need no discussion. Consent items are acted upon by one motion. If discussion is desired by either a councilmember or a member of the public, that item may be moved to an appropriate section of the regular agenda for discussion.

St. Louis Park Economic Development Authority and regular city council meetings are carried live on civic TV cable channel 17 and replays are frequent; check [www.parktv.org](http://www.parktv.org) for the schedule. The meetings are also streamed live on the internet at [www.parktv.org](http://www.parktv.org), and saved for video on demand replays. The agenda is posted on Fridays on the official city bulletin board in the lobby of city hall and on the text display on civic TV cable channel 17. The agenda and full packet are available by noon on Friday on the city’s website.

If you need special accommodations or have questions about the meeting, please call 952-924-2525.
The meeting convened at 6:30 p.m.

Councilmembers present: Mayor Jake Spano, Tim Brausen, Rachel Harris, Larry Kraft, Anne Mavity, Nadia Mohamed, and Margaret Rog

Councilmembers absent: none

Staff present: City Manager (Mr. Harmening), Director of Operations and Recreation (Ms. Walsh), CIO (Mr. Pires), Police Chief Harcey, Fire Chief Koering, Engineering Director (Ms. Heiser), Sr. Engineering Project Manager (Mr. Sullivan), Communications Manager (Ms. Smith), Senior Management Analyst (Ms. Solano), and Recording Secretary (Ms. Pappas)

Guests: Derek Reise, Executive Director, STEP; Curt Raymond, Treasurer, STEP

1. **COVID-19 pandemic update**

Mr. Harmening stated staff is working on a re-entry plan. He stated the number one priority is the safety of the city’s residents and visitors, city employees, and the plan is being implemented in a deliberate, thoughtful and incremental way. He noted with this plan, it is possible there will be a number of staff that continue to work from home for quite some time, if they are able to do their jobs remotely.

Councilmember Harris asked how long some city employees will continue to work from home for their safety and well-being. Mr. Harmening stated through summer, and if the virus continues to be a threat, it depends on the recommendations of the governor, the CDC, and MDH. He noted the city has been fortunate that no employees have become ill, and added when employees do return to city hall, temperatures will be taken, and masks will be worn. He stated he is very pleased with the work staff has done on this plan.

Councilmember Kraft asked about the 4-phase plan. Mr. Harmening noted the details of the phases and stated these phases will blur into one another as things change in how the workplace will operate in the future.

Mayor Spano asked about healthcare data as it relates to employees returning to work and how that will be managed in the city. Mr. Harmening stated staff is looking at information from the state and resources on this currently, as well as studying what other cities are doing around the country.

Chief Koering gave the fire and emergency management operations report. He noted fire call volumes remain at pre-COVID levels, adding that calls are triaged more now and fewer runs are completed. He stated there has not been a positive COVID case on the fire staff and added that
20% of fire calls are COVID-related, with 38% in private residences, and the rest in congregate communities.

Councilmember Kraft thanked Chief Koering for the work of the emergency management operations team, adding it is reassuring the city has control over the situation.

Councilmember Rog stated she continues to hear about people congregating in parks and other places and playing roller hockey on basketball courts. She asked if there was anything new to report on this issue. Chief Koering stated the plan relies on human behavior and noted Ms. Walsh would have more information to share.

Chief Harcey stated police staffing levels are consistent, and no one has tested positive on the police force. Shifts remain full and very little sick time is used, and no vacation time. He added there is a mutual aid plan with other cities in Hennepin County, if needed.

Chief Harcey stated calls related to social distancing have been tracked since the beginning of COVID, and over the last week, there has been a significant decrease in calls. He added the city has done a good job communicating expectations and some issues have been eliminated but noted if the stay at home order is extended, people may become more reluctant to follow it, and police will continue to monitor this.

Chief Harcey added the Park Nicollet testing site on Excelsior Boulevard is running smoothly with no back up issues. He stated they are testing about 200 people each day. He noted there has been no increase in calls for service nor in domestic violence, but there has been an uptick in vehicle threats and burglarized construction sites.

Councilmember Kraft asked about dispatch data the state was supposed to start providing and if this has happened now, if it has been helpful and if there is any information related to a summary level of cases in St. Louis Park that could be shared. Chief Harcey explained the state data has been minimal and has not been received in a timely manner. He noted the data is only kept on file for 14 days and then required to be removed from the system, which has not been working as well as it should.

Councilmember Mavity asked if the city is collecting data by race to see how it is impacting the city’s work on race equity, noting nationally there has been an enormous impact on race. Chief Koering stated the city does not collect data on race, adding the bulk of COVID cases are in the long-term care facilities, in the senior and white populations.

Chief Harcey added 20% of cases are unknown as per the Department of Public Safety Data, so it is hard to know who is affected. He added he can share the Department of Public Safety Data with the council.

Councilmember Mavity added it is important for the city to collect this data as much as possible, and as a council and staff, everyone needs to understand how to track this information, to respond appropriately.
Ms. Walsh stated complaints about parks are down, noting either people are growing weary of calling to complain or they are complying more. She noted maintenance is staffed in shifts, especially the water treatment operators, to ensure water system safety.

Ms. Walsh stated portable bathrooms are now out in several parks, at the request of many residents. She added seasonal employees have been cut back also.

Ms. Walsh stated they are receiving many calls on tennis and pickle ball court nets and noted nets will not be put on courts until the governor order is released. She added when nets do go up, they will be set up on every other court.

Councilmember Mavity asked, with all the folks out biking and walking, if signage that says ‘please wear a mask’ can be put up along the creek and Bass Lake trails, where it is very confined for walking. She added there needs to be more education about these trails and stated the city will not want to close them down. Ms. Walsh stated staff will work on these tight spots on trails. She added staff has had many requests to use fields; however, she stressed there will be no league play, no reservations taken, or bending of the rules. She added that coaches and leaders will need to think through a plan on social distancing, wearing masks, and using hand sanitizer before teams return to fields.

Councilmember Rog asked what the masking rules are for staff and seasonal maintenance staff when out in the community. Ms. Walsh stated staff is told to keep social distance with residents and other staff, and if possible, to wear a mask or PPE.

Councilmember Rog asked about the possibility of having a single basketball hoop on larger courts at Birchwood and Sunshine Parks. Ms. Walsh stated yes, staff would like to put single basket nets up at various parks, and that will be considered, but they were removed because there was so much activity. She added this will need to be monitored to see how re-entry will evolve.

Councilmember Rog asked if more portable bathrooms can be added, and can folks reach out to staff with questions. Ms. Walsh stated yes; however, some of the portables were vandalized and folks were stealing hand sanitizer, so this is being monitored.

Councilmember Brausen stated he appreciated the basketball rim at Willow Park, noting he plays there. He also noted the Jr. High School has a singular rim available for shooting baskets. He added he is starting to see smaller children play on park equipment and asked if there is any way to clean the equipment over time. Councilmember Brausen stated it will be difficult to get little kids to social distance, adding this is a reality.

Councilmember Harris noted recently there are fewer cars on her street, with folks using bikes and walking more, which gave her an image of what might be in the future. She noted families feel safer on busy stretches of road when there are fewer cars, adding this will be a future conversation for the council to address.

Councilmember Harris added she had a parent reach out asking about the city maintaining a single mountain bike track created by kids in a small wooded area within the city. Ms. Walsh
stated staff can follow up on this but noted single track mountain biking areas do need to be maintained. She stressed there would need to be a much larger area here to allow for safe mountain biking, and the city does not have that available. Ms. Walsh noted Three Rivers Park has great mountain biking courses with more open area available.

Councilmember Mohamed asked if facilities will be closed when the stay at home order has been lifted. Ms. Walsh stated staff is waiting to see what the governor will do next, adding they are not sure if he will lift the order or modify it.

Councilmember Mohamed stated regarding the basketball courts, it might be perceived by some in the city that this is a takeaway, especially if tennis court nets are put back up, and golf courses are open. She asked if one of the basketball rims could be replaced, as this takeaway might be perceived by minority kids as unequal. Ms. Walsh thanked Councilmember Mohamed for this observation and noted staff is thinking about this as well.

Ms. Walsh stated when nets are replaced on tennis and pickle ball courts, they will be set up every other court, and only singles play will be allowed, so as not to attract groups. She stated the city encourages folks to go shoot baskets at the single nets, set up at parks across the city.

Mayor Spano asked when the cut-off date is to not offer any summer programming within the city. Ms. Walsh stated early June. She noted all June programs have been cancelled or realigned to July or August.

2. St. Louis Park Emergency Program (STEP) update

Derek Reise, STEP Executive Director, and Curt Raymond, STEP treasurer, presented an update.

Mr. Reise reported that COVID has changed the staffing at STEP, and most volunteers were sent home in March. He stated STEP is continuing to serve the community with a no-contact grocery pick up. He noted STEP is not closed and is still operating and responding to the community needs.

Mr. Reise stated there has been an increase in first-time users at STEP, and while the model has changed at STEP, the food choices have changed also. He also noted the clothing program has been suspended. He stated the biggest impact has been in housing security and he really appreciated the city’s quick reaction on this and partnering on a grant to give emergency assistance to renters. He added STEP has also begun administering a county program with CDBG grants as well. Mr. Reise added he believes STEP has enough funding at this time to help folks with rental payments, however he is not sure how long it will last.

Mr. Reise stated last time he updated council on STEP, he had talked about the possibility of a new shared facility; however, he no longer believes this adds significant value, noting STEP is able to connect to many resources virtually. He did, however, state for their own programs to continue to function, STEP does need more space.
Mr. Reise added STEP will not be able to continue the clothing program in their current facilities during COVID, noted they will need a city partnership in order to respond to the community’s basic needs.

Mr. Raymond stated STEP did a strategic visioning process last year and identified many issues with their facility. He stated the owner of their handicapped parking area has also threatened to break the lease, so parking will be another issue for STEP. Mr. Raymond stated STEP has a building committee working on modifying the existing building, or purchasing a new building, or building new. He stated they have hired a broker to look at all options.

Mr. Reise added STEP is in a period of increased need now and does not have 5 years to raise funds for a building.

Councilmember Harris asked about the loss of handicapped parking at the end of 2020. Mr. Reise noted they may lose their lease for handicapped parking by the end of the year, which does put the pressure on to find an alternative. He stated they do have on street parking in front, but it is very limited.

Councilmember Harris stated historically Hennepin County has been a safety net for human and social services and asked if this is waning. Mr. Reise stated yes, federal funding is waning for the county’s SNAP program. He stated STEP has been a back-up for SNAP for decades, has filled in the gaps, but now the gaps are bigger, and many families are not eligible for SNAP or the benefits are not adequate.

Mr. Reise added another area the county supported in the past was housing, but the federal government and county have now fallen off on this, and STEP has always filled the gaps on this also, with helping folks to pay their rent, and now the county is forcing agencies like STEP to administer those programs vs. the county doing it.

Councilmember Harris asked what system changes can be enacted to ensure long-term help for resident’s needs, if the city can offer a loan.

Councilmember Mavity stated she generally would have some concerns about the city acting as a direct lender and providing STEP with a loan. She stated she agrees STEP is community-owned, but she wants to be careful on setting precedent. She added in the past, the city has been creative in finding solutions, and doing guarantees, but she has concerns, adding the council would also need to consider other non-profits in the city as well. Councilmember Mavity stated the city is in partnership with STEP, but she would have concerns about being a direct lender and would be in favor of other ways to support STEP.

Councilmember Kraft stated STEP’s rental assistance program is short-term only and asked if this situation existed for a long time for some folks, would there be changes in the rental program. Mr. Reise stated yes, typically STEP offers 1-3 months of rental assistance with city and county funds, but not all at once. He stated STEP is not able to provide support for longer than 3 months, adding it would take a significant number of additional funds to continue this program.
Councilmember Kraft asked if STEP has a way to track this over time to see how many people go through this program and how they fair at the other end. Mr. Reise stated STEP can track what is coming in, but it is harder to track results. He noted the city has a 3-year housing study that provides information on housing insecurity.

Councilmember Kraft asked what is needed for the clothing program, especially the winter coats program. Mr. Reise stated STEP might still be able to do it offsite, for one or two days per week, but it would not be easily accessible, and will be more costly to STEP.

Councilmember Kraft stated he feels like the city is in partnership with STEP and he is interested in continuing this discussion, noting he wants to learn more about the direct loan process.

Councilmember Rog asked Mr. Harmening if the city makes loans. Mr. Harmening stated yes; however, they are loans to improve buildings, or loans to housing associations for improvements and sometimes forgivable loans. He added a loan to STEP would be different, as it would be lending to acquire property and then the city would be a mortgage holder.

Councilmember Rog stated she is supportive of continuing the conversation with STEP and look for ways to continue to provide support. She asked if utility payments qualify through the rental program. Mr. Reise stated yes, a small subset of funds is available for utilities, but rent is the biggest focus.

Councilmember Mohamed stated she is aware the city has funded STEP previously and asked why this situation is different. Mayor Spano explained the parking issues and space limitations as updated issues. Mr. Harmening added the loan is being discussed due to parking and building issues, and the fact that it would be more difficult for STEP to do a capital campaign to raise the funds needed for a new facility.

Councilmember Mohamed stated she agrees and wants to discuss this further as well, to understand the loan process better.

Councilmember Brausen added he is glad to hear STEP is not overwhelmed being asked for resources yet. He added he shares Councilmember Mavity’s concerns about a direct loan to STEP and added the council has had requests for loans in the past on a building from the historical society, which was turned down. However, he added he does want to continue the discussion on how the city can partner with STEP.

Mayor Spano added he is also interested in continuing the conversation. He asked Mr. Raymond how the budget has changed during the time Mr. Raymond has been treasurer. Mr. Raymond stated when he started the budget was near $800,000 and now it is in excess of $2 million.

Mayor Spano stated the city is seeing an expansion of need and it is difficult for STEP to keep filing the gap. He noted STEP is doing the work that state and county agencies should be doing, while these agencies are providing less and less funding every year to STEP.

*It was the consensus of the council to continue this discussion with STEP.*
3. Wooddale petition

Councilmember Mavity stated the Wooddale neighborhood is asking to change the plan and have the city go with the staff’s original plan of bike lanes on Wooddale and no parking, and with three trees removed. A petition of 31 signatures, all those who live on Wooddale Avenue from Morningside Avenue to 44th Street, was signed and submitted to the council, asking to return to the original plan presented by staff two years ago.

Councilmember Mavity stated she is frustrated and unhappy about this petition and cannot support it. She now has concerns for the adjacent neighbors, who are worried about overflow parking coming onto their streets. She asked the councilmembers to continue to support the approved project in place.

Councilmember Brausen agreed, and stated he is not in favor of the petition and supports the approved project in place.

Councilmember Rog stated the residents are struggling with the process and looking for the best outcomes. She stated the petition is completely legitimate and she is aligned with the best outcome for the area. She is not comfortable with how the public engagement process went, and she will support the petitioners.

Councilmember Harris stated she took much time listening to the residents and hearing how important parking was to them, adding she is going to support the original plan staff presented and is in opposition to the petition.

Councilmember Kraft stated he understands the concerns from folks who live in the adjacent area and asked about doing permit parking. Mr. Harmening stated yes, this could be done, but added that this is the public right-of-way, and there is a concern about reinforcing the thinking that on-street parking equals resident parking.

Councilmember Mohamed stated this is a complicated situation, but she will support the petitioners.

Mayor Spano stated he does share Councilmember Mavity’s views; however, he did not hear from anyone about this issue as it relates to engagement. He added that this does not mean there were no issues. He stated he will also support the petition as it is the simplest and most cost-effective way of doing the project and was also the original plan presented by staff.

Councilmember Kraft stated he is struggling with this but prefers the solution that costs less. He is concerned about making a change to the street that might be regrettable later, and added he is concerned about the public process as well. He stated the decision was made and now it is changing, and this bothers him. However, he will support the petition and if the plan does not work, it can more easily changed. He also had concerns that the other option might be more costly.
Councilmember Mavity stated she preferred this design from the beginning, it’s more cost effective, and not a horrible outcome. However, it subverts the process and shows that things do not end when the council votes, and she is concerned about that. She stated the council needs to be cognizant that public streets are public. She added she would like to pursue permit parking, as folks' driveways cannot support this, as well as supporting the interests of residents on Morningside Avenue or Dart Avenue.

4. Future study session agenda planning and prioritization

The following items were discussed as future study sessions topics:
- Budget, climate action in time of COVID
- Crime-free work group presentation
- ESC will present the work plan on climate action plan
- Re-visit commission and board interviews, appointment process, and timeline update
- Biking and walking during pandemic as an alternative to public transportation, and how this fit into Connect the Park

Councilmember Kraft noted the written report on the small business resources update. He stated he would like Ms. Barton’s summary thoughts about the business community, considering staff is speaking to over 1000 businesses during the pandemic. He asked if there are certain businesses in the city, in terms of climate action, that would increase biking and walking.

Councilmember Rog noted smaller businesses don’t have access to consultants like ADP who can help with COVID-related issues, updates and information, noting it could be helpful to have some of that information go to small business from the city through an email or list serve. She added she has heard concerns from several small businesses that there will be cash flow problems when they re-open, and could the city look at rental assistance for small businesses down the road, when there is no longer rent relief from landlords. She stated she did hear a lot of gratitude for the city’s small business grant program, and added if the city can do it again, they should, as there will be more needs as time goes on.

Councilmember Harris thanked staff for looking into options on pop-up licenses, adding this will be a good tool to support the small business community.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Written Reports provided and documented for recording purposes only:

5. Annual small business resources update

______________________________________  ____________________________________
Melissa Kennedy, city clerk               Jake Spano, mayor
1. Call to order at 10:00 am

Councilmembers present: Mayor Jake Spano, Tim Brausen, Rachel Harris, Larry Kraft, Anne Mavity, Nadia Mohamed, and Margaret Rog.

Councilmembers absent: None.

Staff present: City Manager (Mr. Harmening), Police Chief (Mr. Harcey), Fire Chief (Mr. Koering), City Attorney (Mr. Mattick), Racial Equity Manager (Ms. Sojourner), Communications Manager (Ms. Smith), City Clerk (Ms. Kennedy), Senior Management Analyst (Ms. Solano),

Guests: None.

1a. Roll call

2. Presentations- none.

3. Approval of minutes- none.

4. Approval of agenda and items on consent calendar- none.


7. Requests, petitions, and communications from the public – none.

8. Resolutions, ordinances, motions and discussion items

8a. Approve proclamation declaring a citywide curfew for all persons within the City of St. Louis Park

Police Chief Harcey updated the council on several incidents from the previous night. In addition, he mentioned that individuals are looking for opportunities to loot or damage businesses. Officers have been successful deterring individual thus far. He noted that there had been verified burglaries and some damage to businesses in the city. He stated that damage continues to Minneapolis businesses, including looting at Calhoun Village near the St. Louis Park border. He shared that the national guard will be assisting Minneapolis today and that he is coordinating with other metro cities on assisting the city.

Councilmember Harris noted that the Governor’s statement indicated that many people are from out of state, she asked if people are staying in St. Louis Park hotels. Chief Harcey noted that the city is investigating and monitoring the hotels closely. Councilmember Harris thanked Mr. Harcey for the department’s coordinated efforts and thanked the department for keeping the city safe and preventing any damage.
Councilmember Mohamed asked what properties were damaged and if there were arrests made. Chief Harcey noted that no arrests were made, and he doesn’t have a complete list of businesses that sustained damage. He noted one business individuals tried to break into was Aldi. Councilmember Mohamed asked if the curfew helped. Chief Harcey noted that it’s unclear if it helped but it didn’t slow down individuals with the intent to damage property and commit burglaries. Councilmember Mohamed asked if a curfew will slow down further activities. Chief Harcey noted that intelligence shows there are more people coming from out of town and he expects another busy night for the metro area.

Councilmember Rog thanked Chief Harcey and the city’s officers for their work. Councilmember Rog stated this is not a situation confined to city borders and asked if the city was coordinating with other departments in the metro area and the national guard. Chief Harcey said there is a multi-agency emergency operation center that is controlling and directing the operation. Chief Harcey noted that St. Louis Park can work with other agencies, although suburban communities are not relying on that support due to all the activity occurring in St. Paul and Minneapolis. Chief Harcey noted he cannot speak about the operations with the national guard or active military deployment.

Councilmember Kraft thanked Chief Harcey and staff and asked what worries the chief the most. Mr. Harcey said his biggest concern is an attack on our city hall and police department as intelligence shows that suburban facilities will be targeted.

Councilmember Brausen thanked Chief Harcey and staff and asked if anything occurred at the high school. Chief Harcey noted that no activity occurred at the high school and the police department and school staff are monitoring the building 24/7.

Mr. Harmening also noted that we have cameras at all city facilities, and we are monitoring those buildings as well.

Mr. Spano noted that it’s important to keep coordinating with other agencies and has asked the county that they keep our city staff informed.

It was moved by Councilmember Mavity, seconded by Councilmember Harris to approve the proclamation declaring a citywide curfew for all persons within the City of St. Louis Park.

The motion passed 7-0.


10. Adjournment
1. **Call to order**

Mayor Spano called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

1a. **Pledge of allegiance**

1b. **Roll call**

Councilmembers present: Mayor Jake Spano, Tim Brausen, Rachel Harris, Larry Kraft, Anne Mavity, Nadia Mohamed, and Margaret Rog.

Councilmembers absent: None.

Staff present: City Manager (Mr. Harmening), City Attorney (Mr. Mattick), CIO (Mr. Pires), Deputy City Manager/Human Resources Director (Ms. Deno), Assistant Zoning Administrator (Mr. Morrison), Senior Planner (Mr. Walther), Sr. Engineering Project Manager (Mr. Sullivan), Engineering Director (Ms. Heiser), Racial Equity Manager (Ms. Sojourner), Senior Management Analyst (Ms. Solano), and Recording Secretary (Ms. Pappas).

Guests: None

2. **Presentations**

2a. **Recognition of Donations**

It was noted the $1,500 American Legion donation was used to purchase a portable data network for police and an update for communication equipment.

3. **Approval of minutes**

3a. **Study session meeting minutes of April 13, 2020**

*It was moved by Councilmember Kraft, seconded by Councilmember Rog, to approve the April 13, 2020 meeting minutes as presented.*

*The motion passed 7-0.*

3b. **Study session meeting minutes of April 27, 2020**

*It was moved by Councilmember Rog, seconded by Councilmember Harris, to approve the April 27, 2020 meeting minutes as presented.*
The motion passed 7-0.

3c. City Council meeting minutes of May 4, 2020

Councilmember Rog noted on page 4, paragraph 2, it should read, “Councilmember Rog noted that of the 20 comments received by staff the primary presenting concern was semi-truck parking followed by concern about not enough parking, and then sightlines, visibility and safety. She noted that staff recommended options addresses only one of those concerns. She expressed her wish for staff to take more time to study the traffic and parking issue and bring information back to council before a final decision is made.”

Councilmember Kraft stated on page 6, it should read “…did not analyze semis because the city cannot change the definition in the code…it feels to him a resident would think that’s a cop out.”

It was moved by Councilmember Rog, seconded by Councilmember Brausen, to approve the May 4, 2020 meeting minutes as amended.

The motion passed 7-0.

4. Approval of agenda and items on consent calendar

4b. Moved to 8d.
4c. Authorize mayor and city manager to execute the overpass easement agreement with BNSF Railroad Company for the construction and operation of a separated grade crossing for the Dakota bikeway bridge.
4d. Adopt Resolution 20-084 approving acceptance of a monetary donation from the American Legion to allow the police department to purchase a portable data network.
4e. Adopt Resolution 20-085 approving labor agreement between the city and the firefighter employee bargaining group, establishing terms and conditions of employment for one year, from 1/2/2020 – 12/31/2020.

Councilmember Rog requested that consent calendar item 4b be removed and placed on the regular agenda as item 8d.

It was moved by Councilmember Brausen, seconded by Councilmember Harris, to approve the agenda and items listed on the consent calendar as amended, and to move consent calendar item 4b to the regular agenda as item 8d; and, adding the item 8a. Proclamation declaring a local emergency resolution, emergency ordinance establishing the curfew, and to waive reading of all resolutions and ordinances.

The motion passed 7-0.
5. Boards and commissions

5a. Appointment of representatives to boards and commissions

Councilmember Kraft stated because of COVID, there were delays to this process, but he was blown away by folks who applied. He stated he would like to further discuss the process of appointments at a study session in the next few months, work to help folks do a better job getting involved, and work better as a council with commissions. He thanked Claudia Johnston-Madison and Carl Robertson for their years of service on the city’s planning commission.

Councilmember Harris stated there were many applications, more than can be selected, and she encouraged folks not selected, to consider serving on one of the city’s task forces. She noted folks should reach out to staff liaisons and pointed out many are needed on an ongoing basis as volunteers. She stated this group was particularly notable, such as CEO’s, board members, and family members. She thanked those leaving boards and commissions for their service to the city, adding their work cannot be understated.

Councilmember Brausen thanked all who applied, stating annually this is the most challenging job the council has. He stated over 50 people applied and the committee went through all the applications and interviewed many. He stated the city is blessed with a wealth of applicants that want to share their time and skills with the council in managing affairs. He continued the applicants represent the breadth and depth of the community, both renters and homeowners, of all sexes, ages and races, and range of professions and experience. He added this year was difficult in scheduling for the council due to COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts. He noted this year the planning commission will lose Carl Robertson who has been on the commission for 20 years and Claudia Johnston-Madison the past 14 years. He stated both individuals served the community well over these years and they wanted to continue; however, it was reluctantly decided to appoint two new members to their seats, giving others the opportunity to serve.

Councilmember Brausen noted that incumbents who were not reappointed are disappointed and probably hurt, which reflects their strong desire to continue serving the community. He thanked them for their service to the community and noted the city is better because of their efforts. He added with the new appointments, the hope is the city will continue to be well-served as they each get their opportunity to make a difference too.

Mayor Spano agreed with all said and noted that unfortunately, there was many candidates with a limited number of spots.

Councilmember Mavity echoed the comments made, adding this is one of the most challenging tasks each year. She stated in the past they would just reappoint and not open applications to new appointees, but now the mission is to tap into all different kinds of expertise. She stated long-standing Commissioners Robertson and Johnston-Madison have done so much for the community, and we are learning the expertise that
folks bring comes in many different forms, such as from renters, and many different perspectives. She appreciated all who applied.

Ms. Solano stated the terms will begin today June 1, 2020.

_It was moved by Councilmember Rog, seconded by Councilmember Harris, to appoint the representatives to the boards and commissions as listed in exhibit A._

_The motion passed 7-0._

6. Public hearings - none

7. Requests, petitions, and communications from the public – none

8. Resolutions, ordinances, motions and discussion items

8a. Proclamation declaring a local emergency, resolution extending mayor-declared local emergency and emergency ordinance establishing the curfew Resolution No. 20-083, Emergency Ordinance No. 2586-20

(This item was added to the agenda during consent agenda approval)

Mr. Mattick stated the city wanted to be in alignment on curfew with surrounding cities and noted it has proved helpful in several cases. The ordinance for this evening would be to extend the curfew for tonight and tomorrow night, instead of holding emergency meetings with the council to extend curfew. This also allows staff to align with state government orders. He stated there is a proclamation and ordinance to approve declaring an emergency and put curfew in place.

Mr. Harmening added once approved, this information can be put on the city website and updated as needed.

_It was moved by Councilmember Brausen, seconded by Councilmember Kraft, to approve proclamation declaring a local emergency; adopt Resolution No. 20-083 to extend the period of a mayor-declared local emergency; waive first and second readings, and adopt Emergency Ordinance No. 2586-20 establishing the curfew, as presented and effective immediately._

_The motion passed 7-0._

8b. Southeast area bikeway – amend Resolution 20-058 – project no. 4018-2000

Resolution No. 20-086

Mr. Sullivan presented the staff report.

Councilmember Mavity stated in reference to the policy question, she does not want to modify the policy. She stated after two years of community engagement, it was disrespectful of the neighbors to want to change back to the original project plans. She
stated they could have saved a lot of staff time had they agreed with the original plan. She, however, stated she will support moving forward on this as she supported this design from the beginning as it was less costly and well-aligned with council policy of prioritizing pedestrians and bikes. She added there are other residents unhappy with this plan and the parking issues it may create on adjacent and indirect streets, with extraordinary disruptions, adding that she wants to work with staff to help develop plans for these neighbors. She stated it is the right design, but the wrong process.

Councilmember Harris asked how much money was saved with the new proposal. Mr. Sullivan stated it is a $75,000 cost reduction of the overall project by not constructing parking bays in this section of the roadway.

Councilmember Harris stated she previously had supported adding the parking bays, but now will shift her vote to approve this design and save money for the city, especially considering COVID. She added the more points of contact with cars and bikers can be minimized, the better. She noted there are fewer cars on roads now and more families out biking, who are interested by concerned bikers, and do not want to be in contact with vehicles. She stated she supports minimizing interactions between vehicles and bikers and therefore will support this plan.

Councilmember Brausen stated he was not in favor of revisiting this project, but now shares Councilmember Mavity’s view, adding this version will save trees and money, and he would like to get the project started.

Councilmember Rog stated she made her views clear the first time, and still hopes share the road will be considered, and prioritizing bikes over cars. She stated she has never seen such opposition from residents, adding this seems like a course correction. She added even with all the time put in by staff, this does not seem to represent the best of the city’s public process, but she will support it.

Councilmember Mohamed stated her main concern was cost, so she is now totally in agreement with the proposal.

Councilmember Kraft stated he will support this as well, adding there will be less pavement, and trees and money will both be saved. He stated this will help with the future of Connect the Park and change the speed limit here. He added he is sensitive to the concerns of residents and anxious to hear more from Councilmember Mavity after her work with staff on the parking issues for neighbors on adjacent streets.

*It was moved by Councilmember Rog, seconded by Councilmember Harris, to adopt Resolution No. 20-086 amending Resolution 20-058 to remove parking bays from Wooddale Avenue between 44th Street and Morningside Road.*

*The motion passed 7-0.*

8c. **Temporary expanded outdoor customer service areas**
Mr. Morrison presented the staff report.

Councilmember Kraft asked about the tent plan and if folks will have to submit a secondary application. He asked how that process can be made as easy as possible. Mr. Morrison stated it is a very simple process, the application can be submitted to the fire department, and can be approved within 1 day.

Councilmember Kraft stated he is very supportive of this policy and thanked staff for their work on this and the small business grant program. He added he would love to see this followed up with street closures so bike, walking, and scooters can get to locations and to alleviate parking.

Councilmember Harris stated she is thankful for the creative ideas of staff on sidewalk seating and sidewalk fitness. She thanked staff for their creativity and bringing the indoors outdoors, adding she is supportive of this.

Councilmember Rog stated she is also appreciative to staff for this creative solution and asked about liability or insurance coverage for business owners. Mr. Morrison stated this has been discussed with business owners, and owners are working with their own insurance companies.

Councilmember Rog asked what the fitness class size limit is. Mr. Morrison stated 10 people. Councilmember Rog also asked if the city will notify neighbors of late activity. Mr. Morrison stated within the permit approval, owners will be requested to notify neighbors and contact them.

Councilmember Rog added the tent seems to be an equity issue, adding if someone lacks funds to rent a tent, there should be a way to remove that barrier.

Councilmember Mohamed agreed this is a creative way for businesses to stay afloat. She added we need St. Louis Park businesses and jobs to keep thriving and asked everyone to be patient as we all strive to live the new normal.

Mayor Spano stated he will support this, adding this is not a silver bullet, it’s a piece of silver buckshot and will work for some but not all.

_It was moved by Councilmember Rog, seconded by Councilmember Brausen, to approve a policy for temporary outdoor customer service areas._

_The motion passed 7-0._

8d. Designate Eureka Construction, Inc. the lowest responsible bidder and authorize execution of a contract with the firm in the amount of $2,437,712.90 for the historic Walker Lake project – phase 2 (4018-1050)

Councilmember Rog requested this item be removed from the consent agenda for discussion as item 8d.
Councilmember Rog stated this is a great project, which is important to the community, but noted the cost of the project since mid-mark has grown an additional $600,000. She asked for clarification on this increase. Ms. Heiser stated the cost increase is related to adding additional ADA improvements to the project, costs of the retaining wall along the stadium which were higher, and some miscounts on quantities. She added the pedestrian flasher also came in higher from the estimate, along with the associated sidewalk and drop in the curb. Ms. Heiser stated this is the nature of bidding, staff tries their best to provide an accurate estimate, but the bids sometimes come in higher.

Councilmember Rog stated there is a new reality now with the budget, so she wanted to point out there is a significant cost increase, and costs need to be lowered, while also remaining within our strategic goals.

Councilmember Brausen noted there were 68 companies that viewed bids online including 8 that are minority owned, and this is the best the city got. He added these additional costs don’t severely hit the budget and to change the project now seems counterproductive. He stated he will support this bid.

Councilmember Kraft stated he has no background on this project but is concerned to see the high cost of the bid. He asked if there are things that can be done to lower the costs, adding that widening or narrowing the street might be one way. He asked about impacts of COVID on the project.

Ms. Heiser stated the bond funds cannot be used for anything other than bikeways, sewers, and watermain, so staff feels the project can move forward in light of COVID. She added there was a public process on the project and while changes can be approved, this should not be done without a public process. She noted there are ways to change contracts, but the reality is to do change orders or re-design the project will cost $25,000 in engineering and administration costs. Additionally, Ms. Heiser stated, if changes are made, there will be delays to the project starting and if it’s delayed too long, it will not be completed before winter. She added with the utilities doing street work now, if the project is not awarded, the streets will then need to be repaved and it will cost $100,000 to put the streets back together before winter as well.

Mr. Harmening stated he was unhappy with the bid result, and shared similar concerns as the council, but felt ultimately it was best to go ahead and complete the project before the end of the year.

Councilmember Mavity stated while she appreciates that it’s the council’s responsibility to review and keep within parameters, there is a social contract with the community and a process. She noted this project was approved and the costs of staff time to redo this will increase costs and delay the project. She stated the council needs to trust the process in place, and if specific items need to be removed, that can be looked at. She added also to revisit the entire project now is disrespectful to staff and the processes in place, and she does not support reopening the project now.
Councilmember Mohamed noted when this project was approved the costs were different. She stated it is within our rights to ask about the costs as councilmembers, but not poke holes in everything. She added if questions are asked of staff by the council, it is not disrespectful of staff time.

Councilmember Kraft stated he trusts staff and the process in place, while understanding the social contract with citizens. However, he added, when a price comes back 26% more and 50% more than the CIP, a discussion is very appropriate. He stated he felt responsible to ask these questions, and he is satisfied with Ms. Heiser’s responses.

Councilmember Mavity clarified that of course, she agrees the council should be asking questions.

Councilmember Rog added if the council does not approve this project, it is within its rights to do so. She added she appreciates staff creativity, but at the same time there are impacts including the reduced 2021 CIP. She stated she would like to know more of what the city is trading in or buying today and suggested the city steward more in light of budget constraints. Councilmember Rog noted she will support this but going forward would hope council and staff can think more about cost saving measures.

Councilmember Rog stated the council has a deep responsibility to make racial equity front and center, including around engineering projects. She stated she liked seeing 8 disadvantaged business owners review the bid, but added she wants to better understand why the city is not supporting more minority business owners.

Councilmember Rog added if the city improves this area, we run the risk of gentrifying this area, rents will go higher and we run the risk of property owners raising rents, making properties unaffordable. She stated she wants to think this through from the beginning and be extremely proactive.

Mayor Spano stated he will support this, adding it is the council’s job to look at cost increases. He agrees on ensuring women and minority owned businesses are included in the bidding process, and in making the process accessible to them.

It was moved by Councilmember Harris, seconded by Councilmember Rog, to approve Eureka Construction, Inc. the lowest responsible bidder and authorize execution of a contract with the firm in the amount of $2,437,712.90 for the historic Walker Lake project – phase 2 (4018-1050).

The motion passed 7-0

9. Communications

Councilmember Mohamed made the following statement:
This past week was very emotional for all of us, we’ve been sad, angry and hopeless, and for me it’s been in that order. We’re always trying to figure out how we can help, but not sure how. This week has amplified those emotions even more than usual. As I was going through the weekend, I can’t imagine the generational trauma the Black Americans and African Americans go through and is passed down like an heirloom. I heard this and it’s such a wonderful expression – where most of us get watches from our grandfather and such, sentimental items, they get this trauma passed down.

I have only been here for 13 years, I have only known what it means to be black for 13 years, so I cannot comprehend. As the George Floyd case progresses, we can only ask and demand for justice. I want us to take this time to reflect how we carry our business here in St. Louis Park because all of us here have some sort of influence and power and makes decisions that influence everybody. Our standard cannot be – and excuse my crude comment – “we don’t kill black people here”. That cannot be the standard, and “this doesn’t happen in St. Louis Park” cannot be an excuse. As councilmembers, one of the first things I was taught is three things – to provide safe water, roads and workable sewage, so anything above that is a vision we have for the city. Same with our engineering team and same for our police officers – they have a bottom line of their job description. And nowhere in our job description does it say be aware of social issues, be racially equitable – these are things we will ourselves to do because we think it’s the right thing to do.

Going back to the decisions we make that affect all of our residents, and the Mayor has spoken about this. He talks about instincts and going “mama-bear” for your folks and making sure they are well served and get the best things. Usually those instincts extend to our family, neighbors, community members and I want us to extend that instinct to anyone we meet and anyone we are serving. This looks like – and we have Alicia – and she does a wonderful job of telling us that might not work, and she says, I have done my job when each one of us can do the work ourselves. We need to start striving for that and get Alicia out – sorry Alicia I know you are on this call, but in the most respectful way ever! For what is happening in our city, we can only make sure we change our city. I have stood hopeless to figure out what I can do for Minneapolis, and I can’t figure it out. All I can come back to is St. Louis Park because that’s where my influence lies. Our biggest problem lies in the “unintended consequences“ and whether we like to or not, unintended consequences hurt and damage just the same. Also, what Councilmember Rog was saying with our community policing is right on track and with the multi-cultural advisory, that’s what our city should be, and not only striving for the basics.

Mayor Spano thanked Councilmember Mohamed for her comments.

Mayor Spano continued he had a conversation with Derek at STEP about bringing supplies into South or North Minneapolis, but he said there are enough folks helping there now. Derek shared some places folks can donate to, but added in 10 days or 2 weeks, that’s when there will be great need. Mayor Spano stated he will share this information with council and staff.

Mayor Spano asked about city staff that live in Minneapolis, and possibly the affected areas. He wanted to be sure if those staff need support, that they get help needed. Mr. Harmening stated he and staff have discussed this and stated the city provides employee resource groups and will provide a listening session, along with wellness information to all staff as well.
Councilmember Kraft thanked Councilmember Mohamed for her comments adding her comment about only knowing what it means to be black for 13 years means we have a lot of work to do.

Councilmember Rog expressed her gratitude to Ms. Sojourner on the statement the council distributed. She also thanked Mr. Harmening and staff for the excellent way they have taken care of the community ongoing and especially this past week. She added it is comforting to feel like we have a good set of leaders making smart decisions, noting the residents and she appreciate this.

Councilmember Harris agreed, and asked if the statement from the city can be shared to the website’s homepage. Mr. Harmening stated he will work on this.

Councilmember Harris added she reached out to two African American men in her district to check in on them, and they said they are still scared when driving. She stated this comment broke her heart, and she continues to listen to people in her district and would like to do a listening session if possible.

Mayor Spano added the city’s race equity web page needs updating, as there is much work that’s been done that is not reflected there, and the city is getting lots of questions around the race equity work of the city. He added he has also had calls on the city policing model and asked if this page can also be updated on the website as a starting point, to direct folks to.

Councilmember Mavity added for questions on policing, the police department has information on the city website that links to the four sessions presented to the council and public by Chief Harcey and his staff last year, along with resources and documents on the city’s policing approach.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

_______________________________________  ______________________________________
Melissa Kennedy, city clerk                     Jake Spano, mayor
The meeting convened at 5:45 p.m.

Councilmembers present: Mayor Jake Spano, Tim Brausen, Rachel Harris, Larry Kraft, Nadia Mohamed, and Margaret Rog

Councilmembers absent: Anne Mavity

Staff present: City Manager (Mr. Harmening), City Attorney (Mr. Mattick), Director of Community Development (Ms. Barton), Senior Accountant (Ms. Monson), Senior Planner (Mr. Walther), Planner (Ms. Kramer), Senior Management Analyst (Ms. Solano), and Recording Secretary (Ms. Pappas)

Guests: David Mol, Redpath and Ms. Diaz, Ehlers

1. **CAFR for year ended Dec. 31, 2019 – auditor’s discussion and review**

Mr. Mol presented the 2019 audit report. He noted 4 areas of review including: financial statements, internal controls, legal compliance and governance.

Mr. Mol stated a clean opinion was found for the city’s 2019 financial statements and the city received the award of excellence for the 36th year in a row.

Mr. Mol stated there was one item of financial adjustment related to the valuation of a property at Highway 7, near the SWLRT. This item was finalized at the end of the 2019, and resolved before the audit, but needed to be recorded as income in 2019 and was not. An adjustment was made and there are no longer any issues associated with this.

Mr. Mol stated no items of non-compliance were noted, nor were there any issues with financial statements. He added there were no difficulties conducting the audit, even during the pandemic, and no disagreements with management.

Mr. Harmening thanked the city’s entire financial staff for their work on the audit.

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

__________________________________________________________  _______________________________________
Melissa Kennedy, city clerk                         Jake Spano, mayor
Executive summary

**Title:** TS 730 – Authorize permit parking at 4212 Wooddale Avenue

**Recommended action:** Due to the COVID-19 emergency declaration, this item is considered essential business and is categorized as a **Required Action**

- Motion to adopt Resolution authorizing installation of permit parking restrictions in front of 4212 Wooddale Avenue.

**Policy consideration:** This authorization of parking restrictions is allowed per the city’s special parking permit policy (Sec. 30-160).

**Summary:** In June 2020, staff received a request from a resident at 4212 Wooddale Avenue for a medical needs parking permit. The resident requires curbside access to vehicles adjacent to their property due to mobility concerns.

The city’s code (Sec. 30-160) and past practice allow for permit parking in these types of situations. It has been the city’s practice to use permit parking, which can be removed when the individual needing access no longer resides there or no longer needs the access.

Staff considers the request to be valid and supports the installation of permit parking at 4212 Wooddale Avenue. This recommendation is based on the following:

- A resident of the household has limited mobility and is eligible for a parking permit.
- Conflicting parking tendencies with neighbors will be mitigated.

**Financial or budget considerations:** The cost of enacting these controls is $300 and will come out of the general operating budget. Parking signs can last on the street for roughly 10 years.

**Strategic priority consideration:** St. Louis Park is committed to providing a variety of options for people to make their way around the city comfortably, safely and reliably.

**Supporting documents:** Resolution

- Map

**Prepared by:** Ben Manibog, transportation engineer

**Reviewed by:** Debra Heiser, engineering director

**Approved by:** Tom Harmening, city manager
Resolution No. 20-____

Resolution authorizing installation of permit parking in front of 4212 Wooddale Avenue

Whereas, the City of St. Louis Park received a valid and complete application for permit parking at 4212 Wooddale Avenue; and,

Whereas, the City of St. Louis Park allows for special parking permits for persons with disabilities or medical needs under the city’s code Sec. 30-160; and,

Whereas, the City of St. Louis Park is committed to providing a variety of options for people to make their way around the city comfortably, safely, and reliably.

Now therefore be it resolved by the City Council of the City of St. Louis Park, Minnesota, that the engineering director is hereby authorized to:

1. Install permit parking at 4212 Wooddale Avenue

Reviewed for administration: Adopted by the City Council July 20, 2020

Thomas K. Harmening, city manager

Jake Spano, mayor

Attest:

Melissa Kennedy, city clerk
TS 730 location map

Legend
- Property lines
- Proposed parking restriction

St. Louis Park
Minnesota
Experience L-PF in the Park
Executive summary

Title: TS 731 – Authorize permit parking at 2720 Utica Avenue

Recommended action: **Due to the COVID-19 emergency declaration, this item is considered essential business and is categorized as a **Required Action** **

- Motion to adopt Resolution authorizing installation of permit parking restrictions in front of 2720 Utica Avenue.

Policy consideration: This authorization of parking restrictions is allowed per the city’s special parking permit policy (Sec. 30-160).

Summary: In June 2020, staff received a request from a resident at 2720 Utica Avenue for a medical needs parking permit. The resident requires curbside access to vehicles adjacent to their property due to mobility concerns.

The city’s code (Sec. 30-160) and past practice allow for permit parking in these types of situations. It has been the city’s practice to use permit parking, which can be removed when the individual needing access no longer resides there or no longer needs the access.

Staff considers the request to be valid and supports the installation of permit parking at 2720 Utica Avenue. This recommendation is based on the following:

- A resident of the household has limited mobility and is eligible for a parking permit.
- Conflicting parking tendencies with neighbors will be mitigated.

Financial or budget considerations: The cost of enacting these controls is $300 and will come out of the general operating budget. Parking signs can last on the street for roughly 10 years.

Strategic priority consideration: St. Louis Park is committed to providing a variety of options for people to make their way around the city comfortably, safely and reliably.

Supporting documents: Resolution
                     Map

Prepared by: Ben Manibog, transportation engineer
Reviewed by: Debra Heiser, engineering director
Approved by: Tom Harmening, city manager
Resolution No. 20-____

Resolution authorizing installation of permit parking in front of 2720 Utica Avenue

Whereas, the City of St. Louis Park received a valid and complete application for permit parking at 2720 Utica Avenue; and,

Whereas, the City of St. Louis Park allows for special parking permits for persons with disabilities or medical needs under the city’s code Sec. 30-160; and,

Whereas, the City of St. Louis Park is committed to providing a variety of options for people to make their way around the city comfortably, safely, and reliably.

Now therefore be it resolved by the City Council of the City of St. Louis Park, Minnesota, that the engineering director is hereby authorized to:

1. Install permit parking at 2720 Utica Avenue

Reviewed for administration: Adopted by the City Council July 20, 2020

Thomas K. Harmening, city manager Jake Spano, mayor

Attest:

Melissa Kennedy, city clerk
TS 731 location map

Legend
- Property lines
- Proposed parking restrictions

St. Louis Park, Minnesota
Experience Life in the Park
Executive summary

Title: Approve Xcel easement for Dakota-Edgewood bikeway and bridge project (4019-2000)

Recommended action: **Due to the COVID-19 emergency declaration, this item is considered essential business and is categorized as Time Sensitive**

- Motion to authorize mayor and city manager to execute the utility easement with Xcel Energy for burying of the overhead power lines. This is necessary to facilitate the construction of the Dakota-Edgewood bridge.

Policy consideration: Does the city council support the installation of the Dakota north bikeway and bridge identified in the Connect the Park Capital Improvement Plan?

Summary: The city council approved the plans, specifications and authorized ad for bid for the Dakota north bikeway and bridge project on March 16, 2020. The project consists of the following segments:

- 0.20 miles of enhancements to the multi-use trail in Dakota Park from 26th Street to the North Cedar Lake Trail.
- 0.30 miles of pedestrian and bicycle bridge over the BNSF Railroad connecting Dakota Park to Edgewood Avenue.
- 0.35 miles of multi-use trail along the east side of Edgewood Avenue between the BNSF railroad right of way and Cedar Lake Road.

Xcel Energy’s overhead utility lines run parallel with the North Cedar Lake Trail and the BNSF railroad property along the north side of Dakota park. These conflict with the main span of the pedestrian and bicycle bridge and need to be relocated. The city has worked with Xcel to identify a location to bury the existing overhead lines along the north property line of Dakota Park, see the attached sketch for the easement location. The Xcel line is necessary to continue to feed electricity to the main baseball field. Xcel will complete the relocation of the power lines without interruption to electrical service in the area.

Staff has been working with Xcel Energy to complete the terms of the easement. The city attorney has reviewed the easement agreement and is satisfied with the language.

Financial or budget considerations: There is no cost to the city for granting the easement to install the Xcel Energy underground electrical lines.

Strategic priority consideration: St. Louis Park is committed to providing a variety of options for people to make their way around the city comfortably, safely and reliably.

Supporting documents: Easement sketch

Prepared by: Jack Sullivan, senior engineering project manager
Reviewed by: Debra Heiser, engineering director
Approved by: Tom Harmening, city manager
Title: Southeast area bikeway amend resolution 20-058 – project no. 4018-2000
Executive summary

Title: Special assessment – sewer service line repair at 1801 Ford Road

Recommended action: **Due to the COVID-19 emergency declaration, this item is considered essential business and is categorized as a Required Action**
  - Motion to adopt Resolution authorizing the special assessment for the repair of the sewer service line at 1801 Ford Road, St. Louis Park, MN, P.I.D. 01-117-22-44-0090.

Policy consideration: The proposed action is consistent with policy previously established by the city council.

Summary: Derek and Jennifer Magdal, owners of the single-family residence at 1801 Ford Road, have requested the city authorize the repair of the sewer service line for their home and assess the cost against the property in accordance with the city’s special assessment policy.

The city requires the repair of service lines to promote the general public health, safety and welfare within the community. The special assessment policy for the repair or replacement of water and/or sewer service lines for existing homes was adopted by the city council in 1996. This program was put into place because sometimes property owners face financial hardships when emergency repairs like this are unexpectedly required. Plans and permits for this service line repair work were completed, submitted, and approved by city staff. The property owners hired a contractor and repaired the sewer service line in compliance with current codes and regulations. Based on the completed work, this repair qualifies for the city’s special assessment program. The property owners have petitioned the city to authorize the sewer service line repair and special assess the cost of the repair. The total eligible cost of the repair has been determined to be $10,000.00.

Financial or budget considerations: The city has funds in place to finance the cost of this special assessment.

Strategic priority consideration: Not applicable.

Supporting documents: Resolution

Prepared by: Jay Hall, utility superintendent
Reviewed by: Mark Hanson, public works superintendent
  - Emily Carr, assessing technician
  - Cynthia S. Walsh, director of operations and recreation
Approved by: Tom Harmening, city manager
Resolution No. 20-____
Resolution authorizing the special assessment for the repair of the sewer service line at 1801 Ford Road, St. Louis Park, MN
P.I.D. 01-117-22-44-0090

Whereas, the property owners at 1801 Ford Road, has petitioned the City of St. Louis Park to authorize a special assessment for the repair of the sewer service line for the single family residence located at 1801 Ford Road; and

Whereas, the property owners have agreed to waive the right to a public hearing, right of notice and right of appeal pursuant to Minnesota Statute, Chapter 429; and

Whereas, the City Council of the City of St. Louis Park has received a report from the Utility Superintendent related to the repair of the sewer service line.

Now therefore be it resolved by the City Council of the City of St. Louis Park, Minnesota, that:

1. The petition from the property owner requesting the approval and special assessment for the sewer service line repair is hereby accepted.

2. The sewer service line repair that was done in conformance with the plans and specifications approved by the Operations and Recreation Department and Department of Inspections is hereby accepted.

3. The total cost for the repair of the sewer service line is accepted at $10,000.00.

4. The property owners have agreed to waive the right to a public hearing, notice and appeal from the special assessment; whether provided by Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 429, or by other statutes, or by ordinance, City Charter, the constitution, or common law.

5. The property owners have agreed to pay the city for the total cost of the above improvements through a special assessment over a ten (10) year period at the interest rate of 3.50%.

6. The property owners have executed an agreement with the city and all other documents necessary to implement the repair of the sewer service line and the special assessment of all costs associated therewith.

Reviewed for administration: Adopted by the City Council July 20, 2020

Thomas K. Harmening, city manager Jake Spano, mayor

Attest:

Melissa Kennedy, city clerk
Executive summary

Title: Special assessment – sewer service line repair at 3304 Utah Avenue South

Recommended action: **Due to the COVID-19 emergency declaration, this item is considered essential business and is categorized as a Required Action**

- Motion to adopt Resolution authorizing the special assessment for the repair of the sewer service line at 3304 Utah Avenue South, St. Louis Park, MN, P.I.D. 18-117-21-14-0025.

Policy consideration: The proposed action is consistent with policy previously established by the city council.

Summary: Kathy Vinson, owner of the single-family residence at 3304 Utah Avenue South, has requested the city authorize the repair of the sewer service line for their home and assess the cost against the property in accordance with the city’s special assessment policy.

The city requires the repair of service lines to promote the general public health, safety and welfare within the community. The special assessment policy for the repair or replacement of water and/or sewer service lines for existing homes was adopted by the city council in 1996. This program was put into place because sometimes property owners face financial hardships when emergency repairs like this are unexpectedly required. Plans and permits for this service line repair work were completed, submitted, and approved by city staff. The property owner hired a contractor and repaired the sewer service line in compliance with current codes and regulations. Based on the completed work, this repair qualifies for the city’s special assessment program. The property owner has petitioned the city to authorize the sewer service line repair and special assess the cost of the repair. The total eligible cost of the repair has been determined to be $5,397.50.

Financial or budget considerations: The city has funds in place to finance the cost of this special assessment.

Strategic priority consideration: Not applicable.

Supporting documents: Resolution

Prepared by: Jay Hall, utility superintendent
Reviewed by: Mark Hanson, public works superintendent
Emily Carr, assessing technician
Cynthia S. Walsh, director of operations and recreation

Approved by: Tom Harmening, city manager
Resolution No. 20-____

Resolution authorizing the special assessment for the repair of the sewer service line at 3304 Utah Avenue South, St. Louis Park, MN
P.I.D. 18-117-21-14-0025

Whereas, the property owner at 3304 Utah Avenue South, has petitioned the City of St. Louis Park to authorize a special assessment for the repair of the sewer service line for the single family residence located 3304 Utah Avenue South; and

Whereas, the property owner has agreed to waive the right to a public hearing, right of notice and right of appeal pursuant to Minnesota Statute, Chapter 429; and

Whereas, the City Council of the City of St. Louis Park has received a report from the Utility Superintendent related to the repair of the sewer service line.

Now therefore be it resolved by the City Council of the City of St. Louis Park, Minnesota, that:

1. The petition from the property owner requesting the approval and special assessment for the sewer service line repair is hereby accepted.

2. The sewer service line repair that was done in conformance with the plans and specifications approved by the Operations and Recreation Department and Department of Inspections is hereby accepted.

3. The total cost for the repair of the sewer service line is accepted at $5,397.50.

4. The property owner has agreed to waive the right to a public hearing, notice and appeal from the special assessment; whether provided by Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 429, or by other statutes, or by ordinance, City Charter, the constitution, or common law.

5. The property owner has agreed to pay the city for the total cost of the above improvements through a special assessment over a ten (10) year period at the interest rate of 3.50%.

6. The property owner has executed an agreement with the city and all other documents necessary to implement the repair of the sewer service line and the special assessment of all costs associated therewith.

Reviewed for administration: Adopted by the City Council July 20, 2020

Thomas K. Harmening, city manager Jake Spano, mayor

Attest:

Melissa Kennedy, city clerk
Executive summary

**Title:** Special assessment – sewer service line repair at 3305 Aquila Lane South

**Recommended action:** **Due to the COVID-19 emergency declaration, this item is considered essential business and is categorized as a Required Action**

- Motion to adopt Resolution authorizing the special assessment for the repair of the sewer service line at 3305 Aquila Lane South, St. Louis Park, MN, P.I.D. 18-117-21-24-0036.

**Policy consideration:** The proposed action is consistent with policy previously established by the city council.

**Summary:** Brian and Laura Seiwert, owners of the single-family residence at 3305 Aquila Lane South, have requested the city authorize the repair of the sewer service line for their home and assess the cost against the property in accordance with the city’s special assessment policy.

The city requires the repair of service lines to promote the general public health, safety and welfare within the community. The special assessment policy for the repair or replacement of water and/or sewer service lines for existing homes was adopted by the city council in 1996. This program was put into place because sometimes property owners face financial hardships when emergency repairs like this are unexpectedly required. Plans and permits for this service line repair work were completed, submitted, and approved by city staff. The property owners hired a contractor and repaired the sewer service line in compliance with current codes and regulations. Based on the completed work, this repair qualifies for the city’s special assessment program. The property owners have petitioned the city to authorize the sewer service line repair and special assess the cost of the repair. The total eligible cost of the repair has been determined to be $6,377.00.

**Financial or budget considerations:** The city has funds in place to finance the cost of this special assessment.

**Strategic priority consideration:** Not applicable.

**Supporting documents:** Resolution

**Prepared by:** Jay Hall, utility superintendent
**Reviewed by:** Mark Hanson, public works superintendent
  - Emily Carr, assessing technician
  - Cynthia S. Walsh, director of operations and recreation

**Approved by:** Tom Harmening, city manager
Resolution No. 20-____
Resolution authorizing the special assessment for the repair of the sewer service line at 3305 Aquila Lane South, St. Louis Park, MN
P.I.D. 18-117-21-24-0036

Whereas, the property owners at 3305 Aquila Lane South, has petitioned the City of St. Louis Park to authorize a special assessment for the repair of the sewer service line for the single family residence located at 3305 Aquila Lane South; and

Whereas, the property owners have agreed to waive the right to a public hearing, right of notice and right of appeal pursuant to Minnesota Statute, Chapter 429; and

Whereas, the City Council of the City of St. Louis Park has received a report from the Utility Superintendent related to the repair of the sewer service line.

Now therefore be it resolved by the City Council of the City of St. Louis Park, Minnesota, that:

1. The petition from the property owner requesting the approval and special assessment for the sewer service line repair is hereby accepted.

2. The sewer service line repair that was done in conformance with the plans and specifications approved by the Operations and Recreation Department and Department of Inspections is hereby accepted.

3. The total cost for the repair of the sewer service line is accepted at $6,377.00.

4. The property owners have agreed to waive the right to a public hearing, notice and appeal from the special assessment; whether provided by Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 429, or by other statutes, or by ordinance, City Charter, the constitution, or common law.

5. The property owners have agreed to pay the city for the total cost of the above improvements through a special assessment over a ten (10) year period at the interest rate of 3.50%.

6. The property owners have executed an agreement with the city and all other documents necessary to implement the repair of the sewer service line and the special assessment of all costs associated therewith.

Reviewed for administration: 

Adopted by the City Council July 20, 2020

Thomas K. Harmening, city manager

Attest:

Melissa Kennedy, city clerk

Jake Spano, mayor
Executive summary

**Title:** Special assessment – sewer service line repair at 3305 Utah Avenue South

**Recommended action:** **Due to the COVID-19 emergency declaration, this item is considered essential business and is categorized as a **Required Action****
- Motion to adopt Resolution authorizing the special assessment for the repair of the sewer service line at 3305 Utah Avenue South, St. Louis Park, MN, P.I.D. 18-117-21-14-0022.

**Policy consideration:** The proposed action is consistent with policy previously established by the city council.

**Summary:** Robert Toomey, owner of the single-family residence at 3305 Utah Avenue South, has requested the city authorize the repair of the sewer service line for his home and assess the cost against the property in accordance with the city’s special assessment policy.

The city requires the repair of service lines to promote the general public health, safety and welfare within the community. The special assessment policy for the repair or replacement of water and/or sewer service lines for existing homes was adopted by the city council in 1996. This program was put into place because sometimes property owners face financial hardships when emergency repairs like this are unexpectedly required. Plans and permits for this service line repair work were completed, submitted, and approved by city staff. The property owner hired a contractor and repaired the sewer service line in compliance with current codes and regulations. Based on the completed work, this repair qualifies for the city’s special assessment program. The property owner has petitioned the city to authorize the sewer service line repair and special assess the cost of the repair. The total eligible cost of the repair has been determined to be $9,097.50.

**Financial or budget considerations:** The city has funds in place to finance the cost of this special assessment.

**Strategic priority consideration:** Not applicable.

**Supporting documents:** Resolution

**Prepared by:** Jay Hall, utility superintendent

**Reviewed by:** Mark Hanson, public works superintendent
  Emily Carr, assessing technician
  Cynthia S. Walsh, director of operations and recreation

**Approved by:** Tom Harmening, city manager
Resolution No. 20-____

Resolution authorizing the special assessment for the repair of the sewer service line at 3305 Utah Avenue South, St. Louis Park, MN P.I.D. 18-117-21-14-0022

Whereas, the property owner at 3305 Utah Avenue South, has petitioned the City of St. Louis Park to authorize a special assessment for the repair of the sewer service line for the single family residence located at 3305 Utah Avenue South; and

Whereas, the property owner has agreed to waive the right to a public hearing, right of notice and right of appeal pursuant to Minnesota Statute, Chapter 429; and

Whereas, the City Council of the City of St. Louis Park has received a report from the Utility Superintendent related to the repair of the sewer service line.

Now therefore be it resolved by the City Council of the City of St. Louis Park, Minnesota, that:

1. The petition from the property owner requesting the approval and special assessment for the sewer service line repair is hereby accepted.

2. The sewer service line repair that was done in conformance with the plans and specifications approved by the Operations and Recreation Department and Department of Inspections is hereby accepted.

3. The total cost for the repair of the sewer service line is accepted at $9,097.50.

4. The property owner has agreed to waive the right to a public hearing, notice and appeal from the special assessment; whether provided by Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 429, or by other statutes, or by ordinance, City Charter, the constitution, or common law.

5. The property owner has agreed to pay the city for the total cost of the above improvements through a special assessment over a ten (10) year period at the interest rate of 3.50%.

6. The property owner has executed an agreement with the city and all other documents necessary to implement the repair of the sewer service line and the special assessment of all costs associated therewith.

Reviewed for administration:                      Adopted by the City Council July 20, 2020

Thomas K. Harmening, city manager                      Jake Spano, mayor

Attest:

Melissa Kennedy, city clerk
Executive summary

Title: COVID-19 pandemic: face coverings

Recommended action: **Due to the COVID-19 emergency declaration, this item is considered essential business and is categorized as Time-Sensitive and Required Action**

- Motion to adopt Resolution approving emergency action calling for face coverings

Policy consideration: Does the city council want to approve the emergency action resolution calling for face coverings?

Summary: The City of St. Louis Park and the State of Minnesota have been in a state of peacetime emergency since March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The CDC recommends that individuals wear a cloth face covering or face mask over their nose and mouth in all public places where it is difficult to stay 6 feet away from others. To reduce the spread of COVID-19, many communities across the nation and in Minnesota including Minneapolis, St. Paul, Edina, Minnetonka, Mankato, Rochester and Winona have adopted face covering requirements. These requirements ask that residents wear face coverings in public settings where maintaining social distancing measures is not possible.

The council discussed face coverings at their study session meeting on July 13, 2020. During this meeting staff provided information on: COVID-19 situation update, face covering requirements by other communities, update on the city’s face covering campaign, race equity considerations, election considerations and lastly enforcement considerations. At this meeting, a majority of the council agreed on the following:

- The mayor will issue a proclamation urging the wearing of face coverings (July 17, 2020).
- At their regular meeting on July 20, 2020, the council will consider a resolution strongly urging the wearing of face coverings in St. Louis Park.
- The mayor will send a letter to Governor Tim Walz urging uniform face covering requirements statewide (letter sent July 17, 2020).
- City staff to expand on the face covering campaign for businesses and the public.

Financial or budget considerations: Not applicable.

Strategic priority consideration: Not applicable.

Supporting documents: Resolution
Proclamation
July 12, 2020 Study session report (link)

Prepared by: Maria Solano, senior management analyst
Reviewed by: Soren Mattick, city attorney
Approved by: Tom Harmening, city manager
Resolution No. 20-___

Resolution to Approve Emergency Action
Calling for Face Coverings

Whereas, when issuing Executive Order 20-74 Governor Walz has strongly encouraged Minnesotans “to wear a manufactured or homemade cloth face covering when they leave their homes and travel to any public setting where social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies) and to follow face covering guidelines issued by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Such face coverings are for source control (to help limit the person wearing the covering from infecting others)”; and

Whereas, the CDC and MDH along with other public health experts have determined that the virus can be transmitted before an infected individual shows symptoms and that a significant portion of individuals with COVID-19 do not have symptoms and can still transmit the virus; and

Whereas, the CDC and MDH are urging the general public to wear non-medical grade face coverings to help curb the spread of COVID-19, by preventing the transmission of respiratory droplets that contain the virus; and

Whereas, public health experts recommend using cloth face coverings to reduce the risk of transmission in addition to physical distancing, hand washing, and other prevention measures, understanding that face coverings are not a replacement for these activities; and

Whereas, pursuant to the authority granted to the Mayor pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, § 12.29 and the St. Louis Park Peace Time Emergency Resolution 20-066, the Mayor has proclaimed an emergency action which strongly urges the wearing of cloth face coverings as recommended by the federal and state government and health organizations; and

Whereas, the St. Louis Park City Charter §1.02 allows the City to “define, prohibit, abate and suppress all things detrimental to the health, morals, comfort, safety, convenience and welfare of the inhabitants of the City and all nuisances and causes thereof.”

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of St. Louis Park, Minnesota, as follows:

1. Individuals are strongly urged to wear a face covering when in an indoor space that is accessible to the public.

2. The following shall also apply:
   a. Restaurants and Bars. Are strongly urged to include in their COVID-19 Preparedness Plan that all customers wear a face covering when not seated at their table.
b. Spaces of Public Accommodation. Owners and managers of spaces of public accommodation are strongly urged to include in their COVID-19 Preparedness Plan that all employees wear a face covering when the individual is within any area open to the public or within six feet of another person. Customers should wear a face covering before entering the spaces of public accommodation and are strongly urged to wear the face covering until exiting.

c. Public Transportation. Users are strongly urged to wear a face covering before boarding a bus and wear the face covering until the user exits the bus.

d. Entertainment Venues. Users are strongly urged to wear a face covering when the user is within six feet of another person. When the user is seated and not within six feet of a person they can remove the face covering, but are strongly urged to wear the face covering when walking to or from their seat and while standing in or walking through public areas such as lobbies and restrooms.

e. Common Spaces in Multi-Family Residential and Multi-Tenant Office Buildings. Residents of multi-family housing buildings, and their guests; and tenants, employees and their guests in multi-tenant office buildings are strongly urged to wear a face covering when in common spaces such as hallways, corridors, lobbies, restrooms, mail rooms, elevators, trash and recycling rooms, fitness rooms, recreation rooms, laundry rooms, and other space owned and used in common by the residents, employees, and tenants of the building.

f. Outdoor Spaces. When in outdoor spaces, it is strongly recommended that every individual wear a face covering when physical distancing cannot be maintained.

3. To the extent anything in this Resolution is inconsistent with the Governor’s Executive Order 20-74, the language of the Executive Order 20-74 shall take precedence.

4. This Resolution is effective 12:01 a.m. (CST) on July 20, 2020.

5. Definitions:

   a. “Space of public accommodation” means a business, refreshment, entertainment, or recreation facility, or an institution of any kind, whether licensed or not, whose goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations are extended, offered, sold, or otherwise made available to the public. Examples include retail stores, rental establishments, City of St. Louis Park government buildings, and service establishments as well as recreational facilities, and service centers. This definition includes establishments and facilities that offer food and beverage not for on-premises consumption, including grocery stores, markets, convenience stores, pharmacies, drug stores, and food pantries.

   b. “Face covering” means a cloth or other covering that fully covers an individual’s nose and mouth, secured to the head with ties or straps or simply wrapped around the lower face. The terms “mask” and “face covering” are synonymous.

   c. “Physical distancing” means maintaining six (6) feet of separation between individuals of different households.

6. This emergency action does not apply to:
a. Individuals actively eating or drinking;

b. Children under the age of 5;

c. Individuals unable to wear a face covering due to medical reasons, disabilities, or developmental reasons.

d. Individuals speaking to an audience, whether in person or through broadcast, as long as the speaker remains six feet or more away from other individuals.

e. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing or an individual who is speaking to someone who is deaf or hard of hearing and requires the mouth to be visible to communicate.

f. Individuals who are unable to remove the face covering without assistance.

g. Individuals temporarily removing the face covering for identification purposes.

h. Participants in youth sports, as defined by the city of St. Louis Park, are exempt from this emergency action but subject to all requirements under the governor’s executive orders.

i. Facilities operated by the county, state or federal government.

j. Personal care services (i.e. salons) that already have state face covering requirements.

k. Medical facilities that already have face covering requirements.

l. Indoor athletic facilities. Indoor athletic facilities are urged to follow CDC and MDH guidelines. Patrons are not required to wear face coverings or masks while actively participating in permitted athletic activities but are urged to wear face coverings when not actively training.

m. Places of worship

n. Public and private school facilities

7. This emergency action is not a substitute for other critical health practices such as hand washing, staying home when sick, and physical distancing.

Reviewed for administration: Adopted by the City Council July 20, 2020

______________________________
Thomas K. Harmening, city manager

Attest:

______________________________
Melissa Kennedy, city clerk
Proclamation

Emergency Action Calling for Face Coverings

I, Jake Spano, Mayor of the City of St. Louis Park and Emergency Official for St. Louis Park subject to the authority granted to me pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 12.29 and the St. Louis Park Peace Time Emergency Due to COVID-19 Health Pandemic as well as all other applicable laws, rules, regulations, orders, and declarations, do hereby proclaim the following Emergency Action:

Whereas, when issuing Executive Order 20-74, Governor Walz has strongly encouraged Minnesotans “to wear a manufactured or homemade cloth face covering when they leave their homes and travel to any public setting where social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies) and to follow face covering guidelines issued by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Such face coverings are for source control (to help limit the person wearing the covering from infecting others)”; and

Whereas, the CDC and MDH along with other public health experts have determined that the virus can be transmitted before an infected individual shows symptoms and that a significant portion of individuals with COVID-19 do not have symptoms and can still transmit the virus; and

Whereas, the CDC and MDH are urging the general public to wear non-medical grade face coverings to help curb the spread of COVID-19, by preventing the transmission of respiratory droplets that contain the virus; and

Whereas, the CDC and MDH recommend using cloth face coverings to reduce the risk of transmission in addition to physical distancing, hand washing, and other prevention measures, understanding that face coverings are not a replacement for these activities; and

Whereas, pursuant to the authority granted to me pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, § 12.29 and the St. Louis Park Peace Time Emergency, Resolution 20-066 I am authorized to take emergency action directed or recommended by federal and state government or health organizations, including those otherwise inconsistent with established laws, policies, and procedure as determined to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

Now, therefore, I, Jake Spano, Mayor of the City of St. Louis Park, do hereby proclaim the following:

1. Individuals are strongly urged to wear a face covering when in an indoor space that is accessible to the public.

2. The following shall also apply:
a. Restaurants and Bars. Are strongly urged to include in their COVID-19 Preparedness Plan that all customers wear a face covering when not seated at their table.

b. Spaces of Public Accommodation. Owners and managers of spaces of public accommodation are strongly urged to include in their COVID-19 Preparedness Plan that all employees wear a face covering when the individual is within any area open to the public or within six feet of another person. Customers should wear a face covering before entering the spaces of public accommodation and are strongly urged to wear the face covering until exiting.

c. Public Transportation. Users are strongly urged to wear a face covering before boarding a bus and wear the face covering until the user exits the bus.

d. Entertainment Venues. Users are strongly urged to wear a face covering when the user is within six feet of another person. When the user is seated and not within six feet of a person they can remove the face covering, but are strongly urged to wear the face covering when walking to or from their seat and while standing in or walking through public areas such as lobbies and restrooms.

e. Common Spaces in Multi-Family Residential and Multi-Tenant Office Buildings. Residents of multi-family housing buildings, and their guests; and tenants, employees and their guests in multi-tenant office buildings are strongly urged to wear a face covering when in common spaces such as hallways, corridors, lobbies, restrooms, mail rooms, elevators, trash and recycling rooms, fitness rooms, recreation rooms, laundry rooms, and other space owned and used in common by the residents, employees, and tenants of the building.

f. Outdoor Spaces. When in outdoor spaces, it is strongly recommended that every individual wear a face covering when physical distancing cannot be maintained.

3. To the extent anything in this Proclamation is inconsistent with the Governor’s Executive Order 20-74, the language of the Executive Order 20-74 shall take precedence.

4. This Proclamation is effective 12:01 a.m. (CST) on July 20, 2020.

5. Definitions:

a. “Space of public accommodation” means a business, refreshment, entertainment, or recreation facility, or an institution of any kind, whether licensed or not, whose goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations are extended, offered, sold, or otherwise made available to the public. Examples include retail stores, rental establishments, City of St. Louis Park government buildings, and service establishments as well as recreational facilities, and service centers. This definition includes establishments and facilities that offer food and beverage not for on-premises consumption, including grocery stores, markets, convenience stores, pharmacies, drug stores, and food pantries.

b. “Face covering” means a cloth or other covering that fully covers an individual’s nose and mouth, secured to the head with ties or straps or simply wrapped around the lower face. The terms “mask” and “face covering” are synonymous.
c. “Physical distancing” means maintaining six (6) feet of separation between individuals of different households.

6. This emergency action does not apply to:
   a. Individuals actively eating or drinking;
   b. Children under the age of 5;
   c. Individuals unable to wear a face covering due to medical reasons, disabilities, or developmental reasons.
   d. Individuals speaking to an audience, whether in person or through broadcast, as long as the speaker remains six feet or more away from other individuals.
   e. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing or an individual who is speaking to someone who is deaf or hard of hearing and requires the mouth to be visible to communicate.
   f. Individuals who are unable to remove the face covering without assistance.
   g. Individuals temporarily removing the face covering for identification purposes.
   h. Participants in youth sports, as defined by the city of St. Louis Park, are exempt from this emergency action but subject to all requirements under the governor’s executive orders.
   i. Facilities operated by the county, state or federal government.
   j. Personal care services (i.e. salons) that already have state face covering requirements.
   k. Medical facilities that already have face covering requirements.
   l. Indoor athletic facilities. Indoor athletic facilities are urged to follow CDC and MDH guidelines. Patrons are not required to wear face coverings or masks while actively participating in permitted athletic activities but are urged to wear face coverings when not actively training.
   m. Places of worship
   n. Public and private school facilities

7. This emergency action is not a substitute for other critical health practices such as hand washing, staying home when sick, and physical distancing.

Wherefore, I set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the City of St. Louis Park to be affixed this day of July 17, 2020.

_________________________________
Jake Spano, mayor