

# PARK PAGES

A THRIVING COMMUNITY INSPIRING PRIDE WHERE OPPORTUNITIES EXIST FOR ALL



NEWS ABOUT THE BROOKLYN PARK COMMUNITY

JULY/AUGUST 2016

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## Save the DATES!



Get your neighbors together and celebrate National Night Out!



It's never too early to reserve your seat at the ever-popular Brooklyn Park Mayor's Prayer Breakfast



## Update: METRO Blue Line Extension/Bottineau LRT Project PART OF THE REGION'S LONG-TERM TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Because moving people and goods efficiently supports a healthy economy, a well-functioning transportation system is essential to a prosperous regional future. The proposed METRO Blue Line Extension project will bring light rail transit to the northwest communities of the Minneapolis-St Paul Metro as early as 2021. The line, also called the Bottineau LRT, will travel 13 miles northwest of downtown Minneapolis from Target Field Station through Golden Valley before heading north along the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad corridor into Robbinsdale, Crystal, and Brooklyn Park where it will end north of Hwy 610. The route includes 11 LRT stations with five stations in Brooklyn Park.



The METRO Blue Line Extension is expected to carry 27,000 riders daily by 2030. It connects the region's northwest communities with existing LRT on the METRO Green Line, future LRT on the METRO Green Line Extension (Southwest LRT), bus rapid transit on the METRO Red Line, the Northstar commuter rail line and local and express bus routes.

*METRO Blue Line Extension Update continued on page 3...*

## Spotlight on the City's HISTORY

### A Glimpse into the Past OPENING BROOKLYN PARK'S TIME CAPSULE, CIRCA 1976

For nearly four decades, a glimpse into an earlier Brooklyn Park laid undiscovered in the heart of our city. It was hidden, like most things unique, in plain sight where it would undoubtedly go overlooked. Lost among the public library's mass of books was a time capsule.

It began in 1976, when the Brooklyn Park City Council and Mayor gathered a number of items descriptive of the era: pictures, a Tater Daze pin, the city song, and predictions for the year 2000, placing them all in a time capsule which was not to be opened until 2016.

Well, that time has come. On Thursday, May 26, upon the closing of the Brooklyn Park Library (the time capsule's longtime home), it was revealed at a monthly community engagement gathering in the City Council Chambers.

*City Time Capsule continued on page 2...*



## Wednesdays through October 12 FARMERS MARKET

Get fresh fruits and vegetables, breads, meats, crafts and more at the Brooklyn Park Farmers Market, located at Zane Sports Park, 8717 Zane Ave. N. Wednesdays between 2 and 6 p.m. **Eat healthy and shop local!**



**Brooklyn Park**   
Unique. Unifed. Undiscovered.

### City Contacts AT A GLANCE

**City of Brooklyn Park**, 763-424-8000  
[www.brooklynpark.org](http://www.brooklynpark.org)

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#### WEST DISTRICT

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[john.jordan@brooklynpark.org](mailto:john.jordan@brooklynpark.org)

**Bob Mata**, 763-315-8442  
[bob.mata@brooklynpark.org](mailto:bob.mata@brooklynpark.org)

#### NEWSPAPER OF RECORD

Residents interested in receiving the *Brooklyn Park Sun Post* or those who are having delivery problems should contact the paper's circulation department directly at 952-392-6860. Messages should include a delivery address and return phone number. Please note the paper cannot be delivered north of 101st Avenue and distribution is limited in apartments, townhomes and condos.

**PARK PAGES** is produced by Brooklyn Park city staff, published every other month and distributed to residences and businesses. Editor Mary Tan, Communications Coordinator [mary.tan@brooklynpark.org](mailto:mary.tan@brooklynpark.org)

Official meeting schedules and additional City department contacts can be found easily at: [www.brooklynpark.org](http://www.brooklynpark.org)

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@BrooklynPark

Continued from cover...

### City TIME CAPSULE

As each item of the capsule was introduced, residents both young and old reminisced on the growth our city has endured.

"Oh, this is the old City Hall?" one resident asked as he was trying to make sense of a picture. "No kidding. It almost looks like the post office."

Over the 40-year span since the inception of the time capsule, the city landscape has changed drastically. In fact, most residents in attendance had not lived in the city long enough to remember the year in which the time capsule was constructed. But, that didn't stop them from enjoying themselves on a night full of surprises.

It seemed there was an energy about the room, a mixture of curiosity and expectancy, as the facilitator moved from object to object.

### An Election Update from Brooklyn Park City Clerk Devin Montero: DON'T FORGET TO GET OUT AND VOTE!

#### City Welcomes New Electronic Poll Books

This year, the City will be using new electronic poll books. In 2014, the state legislature authorized the use of these devices. They will replace the current voter check in process and will:

- Speed up lines at the polls
- Help election judges through each step of the process, including election day registration
- Allow instantaneous absentee ballot updates to be received wirelessly
- Provide cities data on polling place activity and election judge performance
- Enable the cities to hire fewer election judges

#### Council Candidates for the August 9 Primary Election:

##### Council Member – East District

Reva Chamblis  
Robert Gaskins  
Lisa Jacobson

##### Council Member – Central District

James Jackson  
George Lessard  
Mark Mata

##### Council Member – West District

Chris Christopherson  
Michael Fowler  
Amy S. Hanson  
Greg Jasicki  
Yelena S. Kurdyumova  
Susan Pha  
David True



### 2016 General Election TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Tuesday, November 8, 2016, will be the 58th quadrennial U.S. presidential election...remember, **every vote counts**. Brooklyn Park encourages all its citizens to vote—**voting is an honor, a privilege and your civic duty!**

**Know Where You Vote!** Polling places will change for some East District voters—to find out where you should vote, go to: <https://gis.brooklynpark.org/neighborhoodinfo/>.



Continued from cover...

## METRO Blue Line Ext. **PROJECT UPDATE**

### Municipal Consent

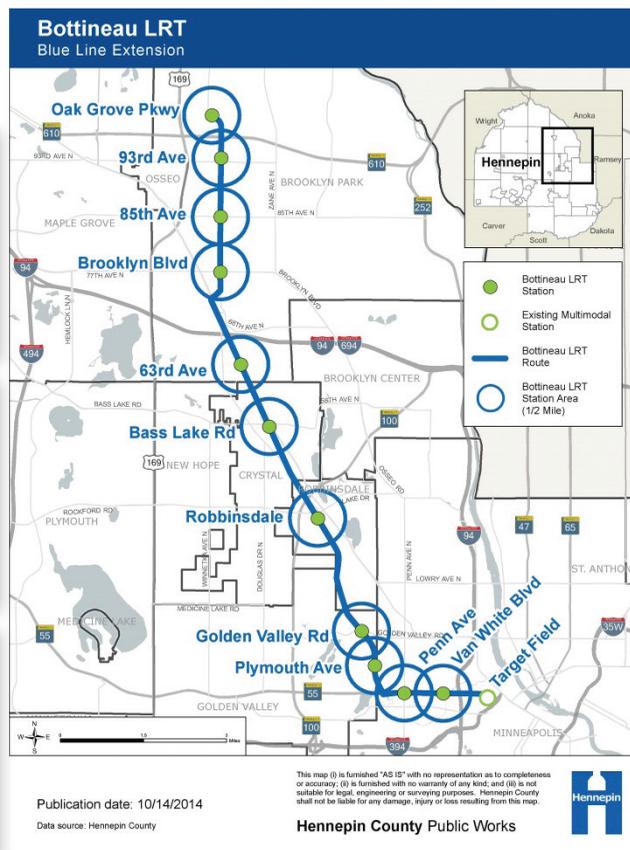
In December 2015, after more than a year of joint work between cities, Hennepin County, and the METRO Blue Line Extension Project staff, the Met Council approved a revised project scope and cost estimate for the METRO Blue Line Extension LRT project. The new scope includes several items that will come to Brooklyn Park: five light rail stations (at Oak Grove Parkway, 93rd Avenue, 85th Avenue, Brooklyn Boulevard and 63rd Avenue).

On February 22, the Brooklyn Park City Council approved the municipal consent plans by a 5-2 vote. The municipal consent plans include features such as the LRT track alignment, location of station platforms, and other basic elements. The public was invited to view preliminary design plans and give comments and feedback to the City and the Met Council.

Many community stakeholders, businesses, and schools are already anticipating the benefits of increased connections to the rest of the metro. Dr. Barbara McDonald, President of North Hennepin Community College recently said “the Blue Line Extension LRT will provide a critical access point for our students, faculty and staff. We are delighted to hear that the project has received municipal consent and look forward to the services it will provide our community.”

### What's Next?

Now that municipal consent is complete, the Blue Line Extension



Project staff are continuing to advance their work. Engineering work is progressing—from the current 15 percent level of design to 30 percent by late summer. The Final Environmental Impact Statement is expected to be published very soon. Also later this year, final decisions on what property will need to be acquired will be decided as engineering plans become more detailed.

Planners and designers will soon begin to work on the streetscape design for

West Broadway Avenue. In the fall, a design team will be looking for input from community members and stakeholders on streetscape design elements such as landscaping, lighting, trails, trees and other public amenities.

**Stay tuned for more information.**

Want to learn more about the **METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION?**

### Online Resources

[www.bluelineext.org](http://www.bluelineext.org)  
[www.hennepin.us.bottineau](http://www.hennepin.us.bottineau)  
[www.brooklynpark.org/light-rail/](http://www.brooklynpark.org/light-rail/)

### Contact Information

METRO Blue Line staff:  
[www.bluelineext.org](http://www.bluelineext.org)  
 Hennepin County staff:  
[www.bottineau@hennepin.us](mailto:www.bottineau@hennepin.us)  
 Brooklyn Park staff:  
[lrt@brooklynpark.org](mailto:lrt@brooklynpark.org)

## Resilient Communities Project

### **PARTNERSHIP WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA**

Brooklyn Park has been selected as a 2016-2017 Resilient Communities Project (RCP) partner community. RCP is a year-long partnership with the University of Minnesota to research 24 community-identified projects during the Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 semesters. The estimated value of this partnership is \$250,000 in the shape of analysis by faculty experts, innovative approaches, outreach support, publicity, and the development of new Brooklyn Park ambassadors.

Help us **kick off this exciting partnership at a community celebration on September 19, from 5 to 7 p.m.** at the Council Chambers at City Hall. Learn more about RCP and ways to get involved in the 24 projects proposed for our community by contacting Angelica Klebsch at [angelica.klebsch@brooklynpark.org](mailto:angelica.klebsch@brooklynpark.org) or 763-493-8089.

SEP 19







Summer is in full swing...it's the perfect time to **GETUP&GO!**

For a complete guide on all recreation programs going on, pick up a copy of the summer issue of *GetUp&Go*, at the Community Activity Center, located at 5600 85th Ave. N. or pick one up at City Hall, located at 5200 85th Ave. N. You can also go online at [www.brooklynpark.org](http://www.brooklynpark.org) to sign up for programs or get more details. Youth scholarships are available. The fall issue of the guide will be out in mid August.

Summer Recreational Opportunities **FOR ALL!**

**POP-UP BOOK NOOKS IN THE PARK**

Kids—don't get caught in the "summer slide"! Come and read in your neighborhood park, pick out your favorite story and do a short project each week. **Receive free books the first time you pop in!**

**Mondays, July 25 to August 15**

Trinity Gardens, 10 to 10:45 a.m.  
Norwood Park, 11 to 11:45 a.m.  
Pinebrook Park, 6 to 7 p.m.

**Tuesdays, July 26 to August 16**

Bass Creek Park, 10 to 10:45 a.m.  
Hartkopf Park, 11 to 11:45 a.m.  
Willowstone Park, 6 to 7 p.m.

**Wednesdays, July 27 to Aug 17**

Monroe Park, 10 to 10:45 a.m.  
Norwood Park, 11 to 11:45 a.m.  
Willows of Aspen Park, 6 to 7 p.m.

**Thursdays, July 28 to Aug 18**

Hamilton Park, 10 to 10:45 a.m.  
Central Park, 11 to 11:45 a.m.  
Monroe Park, 6 to 7 p.m.



**SUMMER REC ON THE GO!**

Enjoy recreation this summer at one of the FREE Rec on the Go sites! A new vehicle will be bringing recreation to parks with equipment and activities for youth and teens (5 to 18 years): games, sports, arts and crafts, activities and more! Through September 1 at the following locations:

**Edinbrook Park**

Mondays and Tuesdays  
10:30 a.m. to Noon

**Autumn Ridge Apartments**

Mondays and Tuesdays  
12:30 to 2 p.m.

**Eden Park Apartments**

Mondays and Tuesdays  
3 to 4:30 p.m.

**Orchard Trail Park**

Mondays and Tuesdays  
5 to 6:30 p.m.

**Trinity Gardens Park**

Wednesdays and Thursdays  
10:30 a.m. to noon

**The Willows Apartments**

Wednesdays and Thursdays  
12:30 to 2 p.m.

**Villa Del Coronado Apartments**

Wednesdays and Thursdays  
3 to 4:30 p.m.

**Norwood Park**

Wednesdays and Thursdays  
5 to 6:30 p.m.

*Free meals will be provided at most sites for youth, ages 5 to 18 (adults may purchase for \$3).* For more information, visit [www.brooklynpark.org/RecGo](http://www.brooklynpark.org/RecGo) or call 763-315-8444.

**FREE CONCERT THURSDAYS!**

Thursday evenings, 7-8 p.m.  
Eidem Homestead, 4345 101st Ave. N.

Thursday, July 21

**Pushing Chain**—a folky-tonk Minnesota duo with Americana-roots sound

Thursday, July 28

**Choo Choo Bob's Engineer Paul**—young children especially enjoy this show about trains!

Thursday, August 4

**Roe Family Singers**—this hillbilly band blends old-time sound with rock n' roll

Thursday, August 11

**Dirty Shorts Brass Band**—enjoy this seven-piece brass band with rock n' roll to swing

Thursday August 18

**The Riddle Brothers**—an eclectic blend of pure Americana, Folk, and original songs

**FREE OUTDOOR MOVIE FRIDAYS**

Bring the family and your neighbors and enjoy a park or the Farm! All movies start at dusk and are open to the public. Concessions will be available—enjoy some popcorn, something for your sweet tooth or something cold to drink.



Friday, July 29

**"Inside Out" (2015) (PG)**

Central Park (on the hill),  
8440 Regent Ave. N.

Kickoff to National Night Out! Family activities will begin at 7 p.m.—including a kids' bouncy, police car, fire truck, fun demos, and crime prevention information. Come early and enjoy all the activities with your family. The movie will start around 9:15 p.m.  
Runtime 95 mins.



Friday, August 5

**"Finding Nemo" (2003) (G)**

Hartkopf Park, 7300 Florida Ave. N.  
Movie begins at dusk; runtime 100 mins



Tuesday, August 9

**"Flicka" (2006) (G)**

Eidem Homestead (on the barn!),  
4345 101st Ave. N. (at Noble)  
Movie begins at dusk; runtime 95 mins

**FREE SUMMER SPLASH NEIGHBORHOOD CELEBRATION!**

Thursday, July 14, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
Zanewood Recreation Center  
7100 Zane Ave. N.



Enjoy live music, water features, inflatables, door prizes and more.

**BARK PARK EXPO**

Saturday, September 17,  
noon to 3 p.m.

Brookdale Dog Park,  
7650 June Ave. N.

Bring your pooch and pals to the 4th annual Bark Park Expo. All leashed dogs are welcome!

**FREE!**



**City Staff WIN NATIONAL AND STATE AWARDS**

**GIS Coordinator John Nerge Wins Innovation Award**

John Nerge, a Geographical Information Systems expert recently accepted an Outstanding Achievement in Innovation Award at the Transforming Local Government conference in St. Paul this month. The Alliance for Innovation presented the award for the city's public map gallery, which provides city data in easy to consume and accessible formats. Other recipients of the award included Palo Alto, CA and Phoenix, AZ.

In his work as a GIS Coordinator, John has created everything from traffic accident maps to where bees reside in the City. You can see his maps at [www.brooklynpark.org/maps](http://www.brooklynpark.org/maps).

**Recreation Program Supervisor Gina Norris Wins MRPA Horizon Award**

Gina Norris, Recreation Program Supervisor in the city's Recreation and Parks Department, was recently awarded the Minnesota Recreation and Parks Association (MRPA) Horizon Award.

As a Recreation Program Supervisor, Gina works with members of the community to schedule facilities and plan events and programs. Gina also leads the marketing and communication efforts for the Recreation and Parks Department.

Gina won the Horizon Award by being an exceptional member of the MRPA with eight years or less of professional experience. She is also considered an "up and coming" professional, an active contributor to MRPA and someone who has great leadership skills.

"I first met Gina when I began working in Brooklyn Park. Immediately I could see [her] drive and passion for recreation," said Recreation and Parks Director Jody Yungers recently.

Leadership at City Hall is very proud of Gina's achievement and is looking forward to what she will bring to department and the City in the future.

**Congratulations John and Gina!**



**Tater Daze 2016**

**THANK YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS!**



Tater Daze 2016 has come and gone and the city's community festival wouldn't have happened without our amazing volunteers.

Our Tater Daze committee spent hundreds of hours making sure there was something for everyone to come, see and do. It started with the parade, which had almost 80 floats and an amazing attendance of 6,500 people. Friday's weather didn't dampen the spirits of those who attended and the Westside Band played to an energetic crowd. Of course the 5K Spud Run was a huge hit and Saturday a ton of people came out to experience the activities in the hot and sunny weather. The festival ended with a spectacular display of fireworks.

A huge thank you to 2016 committee members Mike Albert, Jennifer Cantrell, Snoti Jappah, Michelle Mersereau, Eric Palosaari, Richard Post, Scott Simmons, Sade Tejuoso, Scott Tollefson, Kristiana Turnquist, Tait Turnquist and Vickie Provo.



**BrookLynk Interns on the job at City Hall: BUILDING PATHWAYS TO COLLEGE AND CAREERS**

This summer the City of Brooklyn Park is hosting several BrookLynk interns who are doing a wide range of duties in the Community Engagement Division, the Community Development, the Recreation and Parks Department and the Police Department. They are organizing community meetings, spreading the word about city initiatives and taking part in city events like Tater Daze.

BrookLynk is a public-private partnership that builds pathways to college and career for youth through work readiness training, paid summer internships and exposure to careers. This summer 68 teens have paid summer internships, which will create \$102,000 in earned income for youth. In its inaugural year, BrookLynk placed 32 young people in summer jobs. Employers like Boston Scientific in Maple Grove have more than doubled the number of internships they are offering—from five in year one, to 13 pledged internships for this summer. Boston Scientific believes creating this early exposure to their business will help meet their business needs in the short and long-term.

For details on the BrookLynk program go to [www.BrookLynk.works](http://www.BrookLynk.works). If you're interested in learning more, please contact Luis Salado-Herrera at [luis.salado@brooklynsallianceforyouth.org](mailto:luis.salado@brooklynsallianceforyouth.org), at 763-398-0796.



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## Brooklyn Park Eco-Conscious Families LEAD THE WAY



Attention RESIDENTS!

### 2016 Controlled Archery Deer Hunt WILL TAKE PLACE THIS FALL

The 2016 Controlled Archery Deer Hunt will take place beginning **October 3 and run through November 16**. Signs will be posted at all formal access points. The Metro Bowhunters Resource Base conducts the hunt on behalf of the City. **Parks will remain open to the public; park users are to remain on all formal trails and maintained areas.** Dates and locations of the hunt are as follows:

#### Northwoods Park and Regent and 102nd Trail

- October 3, 4 & 5 (all day)
- October 17, 18 & 19 (all day)
- October 31, November 1 and 2 (all day)
- November 14, 15 & 16 (all day)

#### West Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park

- October 3, 4 & 5 (all day)
- October 31, November 1 & 2 (all day)

#### Environmental Nature Area and Izaak Walton/ Banfill Island

- October 3, 4 & 5 (all day)
- October 17, 18 & 19 (all-day)
- October 31, November 1 & 2 (all day)
- November 14, 15 & 16 (all day)

#### Palmer Lake Nature Area

- October 3, 4 & 5 (all day)
- October 17, 18 & 19 (all-day)
- October 31, November 1 & 2 (all day)
- November 14, 15 & 16 (all day)

Want \$50?

### ONE SMART BROOKLYN PARK FAMILY GOT A WATER EFFICIENCY REBATE...AND YOU CAN TOO!

The City of Brooklyn Park received a grant from the Metropolitan Council to give rebates to residents who purchase water efficient clothes washers, toilets and/or irrigation controllers. We recently met up with Brent and Jennifer Broden who received a \$50 rebate on their clothes washer.

#### Why did you decide to buy a water efficient clothes washer?

*We recently moved to Brooklyn Park and did not have one in the new home. However, we had upgraded to a water and energy efficient clothes washer at our previous home and were very happy with the results.*

#### What differences have you noticed?

*As parents of a 15-month old, aside from a difference in our water bill, we also have noticed better quality in our wash as the newer model also offers more settings including one called "eco-warm wash."*

#### What would you tell others about your water efficient washer?

*We love it!*

#### Anything else you'd like to share?

*We hope more residents take advantage of the rebate program as incentive to upgrade. Many places offer great financing options both in-store or with a local bank that make the switch hassle-free, including delivery and install.*

To see how you can qualify for a Water Efficiency Rebate visit [www.brooklynpark.org](http://www.brooklynpark.org) or call 763-493-8007.



*Brooklyn Park residents Brent and Jennifer Broden show that being eco-smart pays off—literally!*

