



HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
Virtual Regular Meeting via Microsoft Teams
Thursday, February 18, 2021
6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

+1 218-302-5973 United States

Phone Conference ID: 688 909 082#

If you need these materials in an alternative format or need reasonable accommodations for a Human Rights Commission meeting, please provide the City with 72-hours' notice by calling 763-493-8005 or emailing Wokie Freeman-Gbogba at wokie.freeman@brooklynpark.org. Para asistencia, 763-424-8000; Yog xav tau kev pab, 763-424-8000.

As previously noticed, this meeting of the Human Rights Commission is being conducted by telephone or other electronic means pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.021. All Commissioners are participating by telephone or other electronic means. All Commissioners can hear one another and can hear all discussion and testimony. Members of the public can monitor the Commission meeting by calling into the Conference Call Number: Dial 1-218-302-5973; Meeting ID: 688 909 082# or using the link to join the Microsoft Teams meeting.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order – Chair Aja King – 6:00 p.m.
2. Roll Call/Attendance – Staff Liaison Wokie Freeman-Gbogba – 6:02 p.m.
3. Approval of Agenda – All – 6:04 p.m.
4. **Approval of Minutes from January 21, 2021 Meeting** – All – 6:05 p.m.
5. **Consider Supporting a Domestic Partnership Registry Ordinance** – All – 6:08 p.m.
6. Respond to HRC Questions from Mr. Peter Engstrom of Fairmont – All – 6:30 p.m.
7. **Discuss and Finalize 2021 Workplan** – Chair Aja King – 6:45 p.m.
8. Update on Police Evaluation Project – Commissioners Minn Wang and Thomas Brooks – 7:20 p.m.
9. City Council Liaison Report – Council Member Boyd Morson – 7:30 p.m.
10. City Staff Report – Staff Liaison Wokie Freeman-Gbogba – 7:40 p.m.
11. Old Business – 7:45 p.m.
12. New Business – 7:55 p.m.
13. Adjournment – All – 8:00 p.m.

Brooklyn Park

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

DRAFT MINUTES

Date of Meeting: January 21, 2021

City Hall Facility: Virtual Meeting

Time Began: 6:04 p.m.

Time Adjourned: 8:05 p.m.

Meeting Attendance—Commissioners							
Member	District	Present		Member	District	Present	
		Yes	No			Yes	No
Thomas Brooks	West	X		Mark Hostetler	West	X	
Kate Walton	East	X		Christian Eriksen	At-large	X	
Nausheena Hussain	East	X		Cindy Shevlin-Woodcock	Central	X	
Minn Wang	Central	X		Scott Volltrauer	At-Large	X	
Aja King	At-large	X		Open	Youth		
Wokie Freeman-Gbogba	City Staff Liaison	X		Boyd Morson	Council Member Liaison	X	

Meeting called to order by Chair Aja King and attendance taken by Staff Liaison Wokie Freeman-Gbogba.

The Chair read the statement about a virtual meeting.

Commissioner Volltrauer moved to amend the agenda to allow Commissioner Volltrauer to make a statement to the Commission at the beginning of the meeting. Commissioner Brooks seconded. Motion approved.

Commissioner Walton moved to approve the agenda as amended. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hostetler. Motion approved.

Commissioner Volltrauer made a statement explaining his journey with the commission and his gratitude for participating with the commission. He, unfortunately, will not be able to continue serving on the commission and did not reapply. Chair King and other commissioners thanked Commissioner Volltrauer for his contributions.

Commissioner Hostetler moved to approve the minutes from December 17, 2020. Motion seconded by Commissioner Walton. Motion approved.

Introduction of Council Liaison – Council Member Boyd Morson greeted the commissioners and they all welcomed him as the Council Liaison.

Election of Human Rights Commission (HRC) Officers – Staff Liaison Wokie Freeman-Gbogba

Commissioner Eriksen nominated Commissioner King for Chair. Motion seconded by Shevlin-Woodcock. The commissioners took a vote and elected Chair Aja King to serve another term as Chair.

Commissioner Shevlin-Woodcock nominated Commissioner Wang for Vice-Chair. Commissioner Wang declined because he wants to focus on the Police evaluation work. Commissioner Wang nominated Commissioner Hostetler. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brooks.

The commissioners took a vote and elected Vice Chair Mark Hostetler to serve another term as Vice Chair.

The commissioners declined to elect a secretary position and asked the staff liaison to continue in that role.

Review/Discussion of HRC 2020 Workplan

The Commission had to table many of the items because of COVID-19 and also after the death of George Floyd and the focus on police reform and racial justice.

Discuss Proposed 2021 Workplan Items

There was a discussion about tabling most of these items to focus on the police reform work and the recommendations that will come from the 3rd party evaluator. Also, two of the commissioners will be actively involved with that process.

The commission should consider developing a long-range plan so that the work is not all year-to-year. The commission could be called upon to respond to things unforeseen.

Leave space open for things that are more reactive. Plan for that to be part of the cycle. Human Rights issues are overlasting, and there is a need to understand human rights violations. Think of aggressively taking proactive measures and identify and point out human rights violations and make sure Brooklyn Park is not participating in violating anyone's human rights. Council member Morson suggested that the commissioners view a series of public service announcements called, "Youth for Human Rights".

<https://www.youthforhumanrights.org/what-are-human-rights/>

Instead of being reactive, have some items that can be long-term. It is incumbent upon this commission to make a statement representing all the diverse people of this community. How does this commission let the community know that the HRC is doing something? Be proactive about injustices and make a stance. Council member Morson wants the community to be leaders in Brooklyn Park and pioneers related to defending human rights.

When doing the Police Reform work, there was originally a recommendation to have a civilian advisory committee. There are some details to work through regarding information that civilians can have access to. Council member Morson said he will share a blueprint for police reform and transformation with the commissioners.

The commissioners have been working very hard over the last year.

One thought was that the items from the 2020 workplan be the Long Range Plan and focus on the items that were brought forth to the Council for 2021.

Find out the ways to bring out the best from all our commissioners and empower each other to do some work. What area does each commissioner want to focus on? Is there some room to identify other issues to address?

Take an opportunity to look at the training videos sent out about housing. These are recorded League of MN Cities sessions of the Facing Forward Series on systemic racism in housing.

<https://www.lmc.org/learning-events/previous-events/recorded-webinars/facing-forward-series-part-one-systemic-racism-in-housing/>

<https://www.lmc.org/learning-events/previous-events/recorded-webinars/facing-forward-series-part-two-systemic-racism-in-housing-continued/>

Going back to the HRC's last recommendations to the Council in November 2020, identify which of these items to work on while waiting for the results of the police evaluation.

- Advocate for community policing.
- Expand relationship building opportunities between officers and youth.
- Review funding for mental health team.

- Support ongoing mental health training for police officers, including options beyond week-long initial training.
- Develop an inclusive communications system to build community awareness (especially in crisis situations).
- Clarity on HRC and MACC job description (especially as it relates to police-community relations)*
- Improve and increase de-escalation training with an emphasis on culturally appropriate procedures.
- Implement crisis response team.

How can the commission focus on working against bias and racism? Focus training on bias.

We need to clarify our role, get training about human rights, and all be on the same page of the language that we are using as a foundation. Then, take that information and create a PSA. We need to focus on all the lives that matter (Latino family, Liberian family, Somali family, Hmong family, and so on) and help everyone engage in the conversation.

To summarize the items for the 2021 Workplan:

- Focus on Police reform
- Define what HRC is about
- Get additional training on Human Rights
- Start working on a publicity campaign on Human Rights

Spend time at the February meeting finalizing the workplan and identify specific tasks with each item.

Update on Police Evaluation Project

Staff Liaison Wokie Freeman-Gbogba mentioned there is an Advisory Committee that is convening next week on January 28. Commissioners Wang and Brooks will participate, as will Council members Morson and Jacobson and other members of the community.

City Council Liaison Report – Council Member Boyd Morson did not have more to add.

City Staff Report

Staff Liaison Freeman-Gbogba said she had reached out to Dr. Watts for training for racial healing facilitators. She will follow up on that training.

Old Business - none

New Business - none

Commissioner Hostetler moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eriksen. Motion approved.

Minutes respectfully submitted by City Staff Liaison Wokie Freeman-Gbogba.

City of Brooklyn Park Request for Council Action

Agenda Item:	7.1	Meeting Date:	June 25, 2012
Agenda Section:	General Action items	Originating Department:	Administration
Resolution:	N/A	Prepared By:	Elizabeth Tolzmann, Community Engagement Coordinator and Staff Liaison to Human Rights Commission
Ordinance:	FIRST READING		
Attachments:	2	Presented By:	Jessica Gorski and Evelyn Staus, City of Brooklyn Park Human Rights Commissioners
Item:	FIRST READING of an Ordinance Adding Chapter 42, Domestic Partnership Registry, to Title III – Administration of the City Code Relating to Registrations of Domestic Partnership Applications by Residents of Brooklyn Park		

City Manager's Proposed Action:

MOTION _____, SECOND _____, TO WAIVE THE READING AND ADOPT ON FIRST READING AN ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 42, DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP REGISTRY, TO TITLE III – ADMINISTRATION OF THE CITY CODE RELATING TO APPLICATIONS OF DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP REGISTRATION BY RESIDENTS OF BROOKLYN PARK.

Overview:

The Brooklyn Park Human Rights Commission (hereinafter "HRC") voted unanimously on April 19, 2012, to recommend that the City Council adopt an appropriate ordinance establishing a Domestic Partnership Registry (hereinafter "DPR"). The adoption of such a registry would send a positive message that our community is welcoming and affirming to an array of families, and shows that we fully embrace all of our diverse residents. On June 4, 2012, Human Rights Commissioners Evelyn Staus and Jessica Gorski presented the topic for discussion before the City Council. City Council members shared their questions, opinions, and feedback on the matter.

The Council then directed to have city staff draft a DPR ordinance based upon the information packet provided by the HRC. Nineteen cities in Minnesota including Minneapolis, Saint Paul, Duluth, Rochester, Red Wing, Edina, Golden Valley, Richfield, St. Louis Park, Maplewood, Robbinsdale, Falcon Heights, Crystal, Shorewood, Hopkins, Eden Prairie, Edina, Eagan, and Shoreview have adopted a DPR ordinance in their communities. The attached ordinance was drafted and modeled after the ordinances of the cities of Duluth, Red Wing, Golden Valley, Edina, and Robbinsdale as included in the information packet provided by the HRC.

Primary Issues/Alternatives to Consider:

Based upon the discussion at the Council Meeting on June 4, 2012, some of the issues that were posed included the scope of intangible benefits the DPR would actually provide; what legal rights and privileges, if any, the DPR would convey; whether it would generate significant and worthwhile revenue for the city; and

whether the DPR may be construed as being in support of the constitutional amendment banning legal recognition of same-sex unions that is before the state in November.

The information packet provided by the HRC noted that the DPR is independent and distinctive from the proposed constitutional amendment and would be applied broadly to include recognition of unmarried couples who live together in permanent, mutually-dependent relationships; there would be minimal administration expense and no creation of legal rights the city would need to enforce or monitor; partners would be recognized with the ability to visit respective partners in healthcare facilities; and the adoption of such ordinance would create an atmosphere of tolerance, inclusiveness, and equity consistent with the city's current mission of *"Brooklyn Park, a thriving community inspiring pride where opportunities exist for all."*

Budgetary/Fiscal Issues:

If the ordinance is adopted, the proposed application fee for the registration of domestic partnership is \$20.00 (twenty dollars) per application to be administrated and recorded by the City Clerk.

Attachments:

- 7.1A ORDINANCE
- 7.1B DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP REGISTRATION APPLICATION

ORDINANCE #2012-

ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 42, DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP REGISTRY,
TO TITLE III – ADMINISTRATION OF THE CITY CODE RELATING TO
APPLICATIONS OF DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP REGISTRATION
BY RESIDENTS OF BROOKLYN PARK

~~Text with strikeout is proposed for deletion~~

Underlined text is proposed to be added

The City of Brooklyn Park Does Ordain:

Section 1. The Brooklyn Park City Code is amended by adding the following Chapter:

CHAPTER 42: DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP REGISTRY

Section

42.01 Purpose

42.02 Definitions

42.03 Registration of Domestic Partnerships

42.04 Amendments

42.05 Termination of Domestic Partnerships

42.06 Visitation in Healthcare Facilities

42.01 PURPOSE

The purpose and intent of this section is to establish a voluntary program of registration of domestic partnerships. The domestic partnership registrations is a means by which unmarried, committed couples who reside or work in Brooklyn Park and who share a life and home together may document their relationship, and enjoy recognition of and respect for their human rights. Establishing this registry will provide convenience for employers in determining eligibility in providing benefits for such partners and their dependents. The City does not provide legal advice concerning domestic partnerships. Applicants and registrants may wish to consult with an attorney for such advice including but not limited to wills, medical matters, finances and power of attorney, children and dependents, medical, health care and employment benefits.

42.02 Definitions

For purposes of this Chapter, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

“Domestic Partners.” Any two adults who:

1. Are not related by blood closer than permitted under marriage laws of the state;
2. Are not married or related by marriage;
3. Are competent to enter into a contract;
4. Are jointly responsible to each other for the necessities of life;

5. Are committed to one another to the same extent as married persons are to each other, except for the traditional marital status and solemnities;
6. Have no other domestic partner;
7. Are both at least 18 years of age.

“Domestic Partnership.” The term “domestic partnership” shall include, upon production of valid, government-issued documentation, in addition to domestic partnerships registered with the city of Brooklyn Park, and regardless of whether partners in either circumstances have sought further registration with the city of Brooklyn Park:

- A. The relationship of two persons who have a currently-registered domestic partnership with a governmental body pursuant to state, local or other law authorizing such registration. The term “domestic partnership” shall be construed liberally to include unions, regardless of title, in which two individuals are committed to one another as married persons are traditionally committed, except for the traditional marital status and solemnities; or
- B. Marriages that would be legally recognized as a contract of lawful marriage in another local, state or foreign jurisdiction, but for the operation of Minnesota law.

42.03 Registration of Domestic Partnerships

1. The City Clerk shall accept an application in a form provided by the City to register domestic partners who assert in such application that they meet the definition of domestic partners.
2. The City Clerk shall charge a reasonable fee (\$20.00) for application of the registration of domestic partners, for providing certified copies of registrations, or amendments.
3. The City Clerk shall provide each domestic partner with a registration certificate.
4. An application and certificate may be used as evidence of the existence of a domestic partner relationship.
5. The City Clerk shall keep a record of all registrations of domestic partnership, amendments to registrations and notices of termination. There shall be no charge for termination of a domestic partnership. The records shall be maintained so that amendments and notices of terminations are filed with the registration of domestic partnership to which they pertain.
6. The application and government data and will be subject to disclosure pursuant to the terms of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act.

42.04 Amendments

The City Clerk may accept amendments for filing from persons who have domestic partnership registrations on file, except amendments which would replace one of the registered partners with another individual.

42.05 Termination of Domestic Partnership

Domestic partnership registration terminates when the earliest of the following occurs:

1. One of the partners dies; or
2. Forty-five (45) days after one partner: (a) sends the other partner written notice of termination of the partnership; and (b) files the notice of termination and an affidavit of service of the notice on the other partner with the City Clerk.

42.06 Visitation in health care facilities.

If a patient has not designated, permitted or restricted visitors, a facility shall allow the patient's domestic partner, the children of the patient's domestic partner, or the domestic partner of the patient's parent or child to visit consistent with visitation policy pertaining to other family members, unless no visitors are allowed, or the facility determines that the presence of a particular visitor would endanger the health or safety of the patient or patients, or would endanger the primary operations of the facility.



**City of Brooklyn Park
Application for Registration
as a Domestic Partnership**

We hereby apply to register as Domestic Partners.

_____ We have read and understand the terms and conditions of Chapter 42 of the Brooklyn Park Code of Ordinances attached to this registration.

_____ We affirm that we meet the definition of Domestic Partnership and are eligible for registration.

_____ We have paid for the application in-person by cash or enclosed a check for \$20.00, made payable to "City of Brooklyn Park" for the application fee.

Applicant Information:

Names:

1. _____

(Print)

(Signature)

(Date)

2. _____

(Print)

(Signature)

(Date)

Address:

(Street)

(City)

(State)

(Zip)

Information collected on this document is public and will be available to all requestors per MN Data Privacy Statute.

Please Return to: City Clerk's Office, 5200 85th Avenue North, Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

Excerpt of letter from Mr. Peter Engstrom dated January 28, 2021

Hello,

My name is Peter Engstrom. I live in Fairmont, MN. I am 64 years old, grew up in Fairmont, left in 1978 and returned to Fairmont in 2015. I have two amazing children one living in Alabama and a second child living in Washington, D.C.

All of you have responded positively to my, possibly unusual, request on the subject of human rights commissions. I appreciate your responses to my inquiries.

The purpose of this letter is to ask a few questions about the work of human rights commissions in Minnesota cities. Fairmont had a human rights commission that was started in 1998. It is to have nine members with one member being from the city council. In 2021, the commission is not active. Following the list of questions I have for commission members is a copy from the city ordinance in Fairmont about the duties of the commission.

Questions:

- 1) Why did you become a human rights commission member?
- 2) What is the purpose of a human rights commission in a city?
- 3) What are the activities that the human rights commission does? For example, do you have an annual writing contest in the school about human rights?
- 4) Do you promote and celebrate various people and events related to human rights?
- 5) Do you work with the local schools?
- 6) Are your members from different organizations? Churches, schools and businesses?
- 7) Is your city's population varied in its ethnic makeup?
- 8) What is the best way to attract citizens to join a city's human rights commission?
- 9) Does the commission have a budget?
- 10) Are all positions on the commission voluntary?

My Goals:

I plan to approach the city council in Fairmont sometime this spring to ask the council members to help me reinvigorate the Human Rights Commission. I want to have all my ducks in a row. I need to know what I am talking about and why it is useful and valuable for a small, farming community of 10,000 people in southern Minnesota to have and support an active and energetic Human Rights Commission. I want the city to be swamped with applications for the commission positions. And I want this commission to be active and useful and make a positive contribution to Fairmont for the next twenty years.

Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,

Peter G. Engstrom

Workplan | Human Rights Commission

Mar. 2020 - Feb. 2021

Time frame	Project or Task(s)	BP2025	Purpose (see next page for info)
March – Dec 2020	Housing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide preventative training for property managers and landlords to better understand the link between mental health and housing disparities; in response to ongoing homelessness. Review and/or amend Housing Policies and make recommendations on potential changes. Identify common violations of housing right 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Report/Comment <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Act Initiated by: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commission <input type="checkbox"/> Council <input type="checkbox"/> City Manager
March-Dec 2020	Develop Long Range Plan for HRC (5 Year) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify projects and engagement plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get things on paper Identify issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tater Daze – add international food and dance 	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Report/Comment <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Act Initiated by: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commission <input type="checkbox"/> Council <input type="checkbox"/> City Manager
March – Dec 2020	HRC Publicity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop recognition program to acknowledge demonstration of noteworthy human rights advocacy and agency Annual Human Rights BP Community Assembly Utilize and update HRC webpage and brochure 	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Report/Comment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Act Initiated by: <input type="checkbox"/> Commission <input type="checkbox"/> Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Manager
Feb 2020	Host a meeting for City officials to identify removable barriers to diversity recruitment	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report/Comment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend <input type="checkbox"/> Act Initiated by: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commission <input type="checkbox"/> Council <input type="checkbox"/> City Manager
March – Dec 2020	DHR Interactions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend human rights training/convening sponsored by the MN Department of Human Rights to learn about statewide initiatives and human rights work in other communities Invite DHR to conduct training on role of local HRCs in partnership with surrounding communities Explore opportunities for engagement with state DHR boards/commissions 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Report/Comment <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Act Initiated by: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commission <input type="checkbox"/> Council <input type="checkbox"/> City Manager
March – Dec 2020		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Report/Comment <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Act Initiated by: <input type="checkbox"/> Commission <input type="checkbox"/> Council <input type="checkbox"/> City Manager

1: United Community 2: Beautiful Places 3: Thriving Economy 4: Healthy & Safe People 5: Increased Equity 6: Effective & Engaging Gov't

Workplan Projects: What's the purpose?

Commissions can either initiate a project themselves OR be asked by the Council or City Manager to do one of the following:

Report/Comment

- Commission studies a specific issue or topic and **reports its findings or comments to the Council**, either in writing or in a Council meeting.
- Commission does not vote.
- No direct action is taken.

Example: Charter Commissioner provided a memo on the topic of Council Members being employed by the City part-time, at the Council's request.

Recommend

- Commission reviews a specific policy issue and **makes a formal recommendation** to City Council on what action to take.
- A recommendation requires a majority of the Commissioners' support.
- Individual member comments are not included.

Examples: Planning Commission recommends approval on land use actions; RPAC made a recommendation on amplified sound policy.

Act

- Commission **initiates or takes on a project**, approved by Council through their workplan.

Example: HRC partnered with a community organization on an event; City Manager requests that HRC coordinate the "All Are Welcome" sign contest.

Brooklyn Park 2025 Community Goals

**Working together to make Brooklyn Park a thriving community
inspiring pride where opportunities exist for all.**

We asked and you answered! Our community wants to accomplish these goals by the year 2025:

Unified Community

A united and welcoming community, strengthened by our diversity.

- We have connected neighbors who understand and celebrate our unique cultures.
- Brooklyn Park is unified with a strong positive identity and image.
- Our community's activities, events and services are inclusive, multi-cultural, and accessible.
- We have places and spaces for diverse communities to gather.
- Residents of every age contribute to our community.

Healthy and Safe People

People of all ages have what they need to feel healthy and safe.

- Neighborhoods are empowered and supported by strengthened positive relationships with police.
- Youth are engaged in positive and quality experiences.
- Aging adults have services and amenities to thrive and age in place.
- Everyone has access to quality healthy food options.
- People have access to quality medical and emergency care.

Beautiful Places

Beautiful spaces and quality infrastructure make Brooklyn Park a unique destination.

- Modern transportation options (drive, ride, walk, bike) connect people to education, jobs, and recreation.
- Quality recreation and park amenities inspire activity for all ages and interests.
- Our rich diversity is showcased through our vibrant music, art, food, entertainment, and cultural scene.
- Attractive key corridors, corners, and city centers create destinations that meet community needs.
- Neighborhoods are well-maintained with quality housing for all ages and incomes integrated throughout the community.

Increased Equity

Partnerships that increase racial and economic equity empower residents and neighborhoods to prosper.

- Each resident has access to the training and support needed to get and keep a living wage job.
- Each student graduates high school with a pathway to college or career.
- Aging neighborhoods and commercial centers are revitalized through continuous investment.
- The community provides necessary supports and services for community members to overcome life challenges such as hunger, mental illness, and homelessness.

Thriving Economy

A balanced economic environment that empowers businesses and people to thrive.

- People of all ages and backgrounds enjoy financial stability.
- Residents and visitors support an abundance of retail stores, restaurants, and entertainment venues.
- Our business environment inspires private investment and job growth.
- Business and organizations of all types, sizes and specialties start, stay and grow here.
- We are a leader in environmental sustainability, benefiting our economy and community.

Effective, Engaging Government

Effective and engaging government recognized as a leader.

- The City provides quality services at a reasonable cost.
- Elected officials, commissions, and City staff reflect the diversity of the community and are culturally competent.
- City information is clear, accessible, and delivered in ways that meet the community's needs.
- City laws are understandable, equitably enforced, and relevant to the community.
- The City is well-managed and recognized as a great place to work.