



**City of North St. Paul
City Council
Workshop Meeting Agenda**

**February 17, 2026
5:15 PM**

The City Council Workshop Meeting will be conducted on **February 17, 2026** at 5:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 2400 Margaret St., North St. Paul.

You can watch the meeting on our YouTube channel here: [**tinyurl.com/NSPYouTube**](https://tinyurl.com/NSPYouTube)

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

Council Member Nordby
Council Member Woods
Council Member McKenzie
Council Member Schweer
Mayor Monge

III. Adopt Agenda

IV. Topic(s)

A. Public Works Department: 2025 Year in Review and 2026 Outlook

V. Other Business

VI. Adjournment

Members may be participating by Interactive Technology.

The next regularly scheduled City Council Workshop meeting is March 3, 2026.



To	Date
Honorable Mayor Monge and City Council	February 17, 2026

Agenda Placement # IV.A

Topic(s)

Subject

Public Works Department: 2025 Year in Review and 2026 Outlook

Background/Facts

Financial Impact

Recommended Action

Attachments

1. 2025 PUBLIC WORKS Recap2

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Ritchie, Public Works Director



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PUBLIC WORKS

2025 / 2026 Public Works



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Public Works Goals

- Maintain public works core services to the highest level that we can.
 - streets, parks, water, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, forestry, Buildings
- Take great pride in our work
- Get work done in a timely manner
- Become more pro-active than re-active!



Road Projects

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- Casey Lake reconstruction project Buhl, Gerald and Shawnee
- Mill and overlay, Margaret 17th to 19th and Seppala to 7th ave. hilltop/ Shawnee, Northwood dr.
- Yearly average asphalt usage is 500 tons per year.
- 2026 Pavement Management Project
- Crack Seal every other year



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Snowplowing

- Snow removal is a priority in winter months-complete thoroughly and in a timely manner.
- Downtown Snow Removal, 1am – 6 am.
- Replacement of many of our plow trucks allows us to reduce the amount of salt that is used on a yearly basis.
 - helps offset city cost and lessens environmental impacts.
- Average 15-20 full city plow events per year.



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Street Sweeping

- Average 6-8 complete street sweepings per year.
- Watershed is asking what we need to do more sweeping.
 - Additional staff time
 - Disposal of sweepings
- Sweepings are trucked to landfill in mora to save \$1,000 per load, compared to bringing them to a nearby landfill.



Parks

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- Our park amenities continue to grow, so does the need for maintenance.
 - Including citywide building maintenance and clean up after events that are at the parks.
- Desire to enhance the safety and appearance of park buildings.
 - improving the grounds maintenance, Weed control, irrigation, and Playground Inspections.
- New Playground At Polar Park
- GaGa Ball pit
- Casey Lake Utility / Soccer field



Water

- Street and utility projects require pw staff to work with contractors, turning valves on and off to allow them to replace the old water main on our street and utility projects.
- In the next 2-3 years we will need to start replacing residential water meters due to the meters and radios reaching end of battery life
- Daily Water testing
- Hydrant flushing (approx. 630)
- Fire hydrant replacement (average cost 15,000 per Hydrant)
- Lead service line inventory
- Lead Service line replacement
- Well Maintenance and upgrades (new meters and VFD's)
- Rebuilding manholes
- Gate valve turning is something that we have found to be an ongoing task.
 - As the crews turn the valves the maintenance starts to increase, find rotted bolts, valve starts to leak, etc.
- watermain break- YEARLY AVERAGE 4-6 BREAKS A YEAR



Sanitary Sewer

- We currently maintain 46.84 miles of sanitary sewer, with 4 lift stations.
- The past couple of years, we have been updating our SCADA system to help monitor our lift stations and Wells, with newer technology we can make things run more efficiently and cut down on electrical costs and monitor our systems better
- Lift Station maintenance (4 Lift stations)
- Worked with Homeowners and Contractors for I&I grant Dollars (\$36k) in 2025 (\$42k) in 2026
- Rebuilding manholes
- During the summer season sewer cleaning takes 2 employees most of the summer to get through the 1/3 of the city that is required.
 - The past 3 years Hydro Klean has cleaned & televised our system, should be final year this year
- We also have many “hot spots” that require additional cleaning throughout the year, due to the buildup of grease, and roots.



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Storm Sewer

- Aging infrastructure and damage from road salt-requires re-building more catch basins than we can get to in a summer.
- New construction also creates maintenance- storm water ponds that are required to be put in place to capture storm water, means on going maintenance.



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Student built house

- Finished last student-built house with 916/ century college and started new program with St Paul College
 - Coordinating utilities, gas electric
 - Subcontractors for excavation, foundation, plumbing, electrical, HVAC, sheetrock, taping, floor covering, etc.



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Forestry

- 200 ash trees removed in 2025; 125 new trees planted in 2025 with grant and another 75 trees planted with our regular budget
- **Last Full year of MN DNR Releaf Grant \$400,000**
 - \$300,000 for Public ash removal, \$100,000 for low-income private ash removal
 - Private Ash: 38 applications, 81 Private ash trees removed
 - ≈\$72,000 Grant remaining, we have roughly 150 ash trees left to remove 80 are being treated. Take down 35 trees and plan around 75 new trees.
- Trimming of our roadside trees, park trees
- Maintaining new trees planted
- When all ash trees have been removed and new trees planted, we will have more trees in town than when we started



Building Maintenance

- Oversee maintenance that is performed on the city building
- Work with Contractors to make sure they have what is needed to complete jobs
- Trouble shooting problems to determine if they can be completed in house



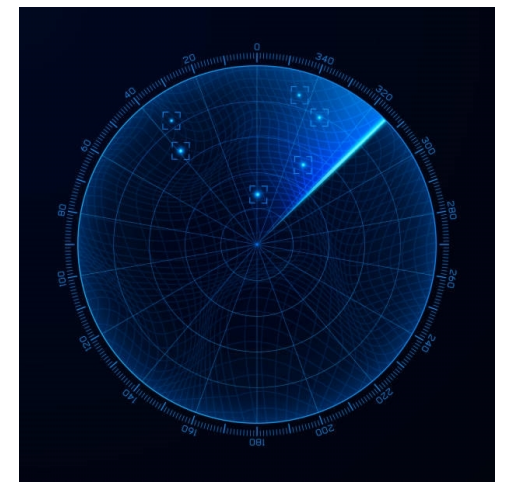
Mechanic Shop

- 1-FTE
- 205 pieces of equipment that require routine maintenance
- Mechanic comes in during snow events in case of breakdowns to keep our operations efficient.
- Upgraded fleet maintenance software, with the object to be able to track many different categories, fuel cost, maintenance costs.



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On the radar



- New water tower.
- Upgrading mapping to ensure we can create correct maps and records for the future.
- Ensure correct city building maintenance is being done in a timely manner.
- Water meter replacement
- Lead service line identification / Replacement

Daily work sheet

DUTIES			STAFF
MOWING (2)	BLACKTOPPING (4-5)	WATER VALVE TURING	PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE WORKER 1
BALLFIELDS (2)	STREET SWEEPING (1-2)	REPAIR WATER/SEWER MANHOLES	PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE WORKER 1
PARK TRASH (MON/WED/FRI) (2)	REPAIR/CLEAN CATCH BASINS	LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY	PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE WORKER 1
GRASS TRIMMING	PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS	WATER METER REPLACEMENT	PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE WORKER 1
ICE RINKS	POND INSPECTIONS	EVENT SET UP	PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE WORKER 1
RUN DUMPSTERS	CITY BUILDING MAINTENANCE	LSL Inspections	PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE WORKER 1
TREE TRIMMING(2-3)	CAR SHOW SET-UP/CLEAN-UP		PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE WORKER 1
DOWNTOWN/VETS PARK/ GARDEN BEDS	BUILDING MAINTENANCE		PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE WORKER 1
SEWER JETTING (2)	SNOW PLOWING/SALTING		PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE WORKER 1
SEWER TELEWISE (2)	SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE		PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE WORKER 1/FORESTER