

**CITY OF NORTH ST. PAUL
CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP AGENDA
March 16, 2021
5:00 PM**

The City Council workshop will be conducted on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting location is the City Council Chambers of City Hall, located at 2400 Margaret St., North St. Paul.

The City Council workshop will also be meeting by interactive TV under Minn. Stat. 13D.02. Members of the public are permitted to attend the meeting in person, however, it is strongly encouraged to participate in the meeting remotely. Instructions can be found below.

The **March 16, 2021 Zoom meeting can be accessed [HERE](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84409094358?pwd=bEhid2pNREtCcXdHZAHDhHK2Y5SUk4dz09) or via:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84409094358?pwd=bEhid2pNREtCcXdHZAHDhHK2Y5SUk4dz09> (from a PC, Mac, tablet, iPhone or Android device)

Meeting ID: 844 0909 4358

Password: 041469 or by phone at 1-929-205-6099, meeting ID 844 0909 4358, password 041469.

The City Council Zoom meeting will be ‘open to the public’ to listen in, but will be muted from contributing at all times with the exception of a Public Hearing and open to the public forum.

Please join the meeting early to test your audio and video settings.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Council Member Thorsen
Council Member Petersen
Council Member Wong
Council Member Cole
Mayor Furlong

III. ADOPT AGENDA

IV. TOPIC(S)

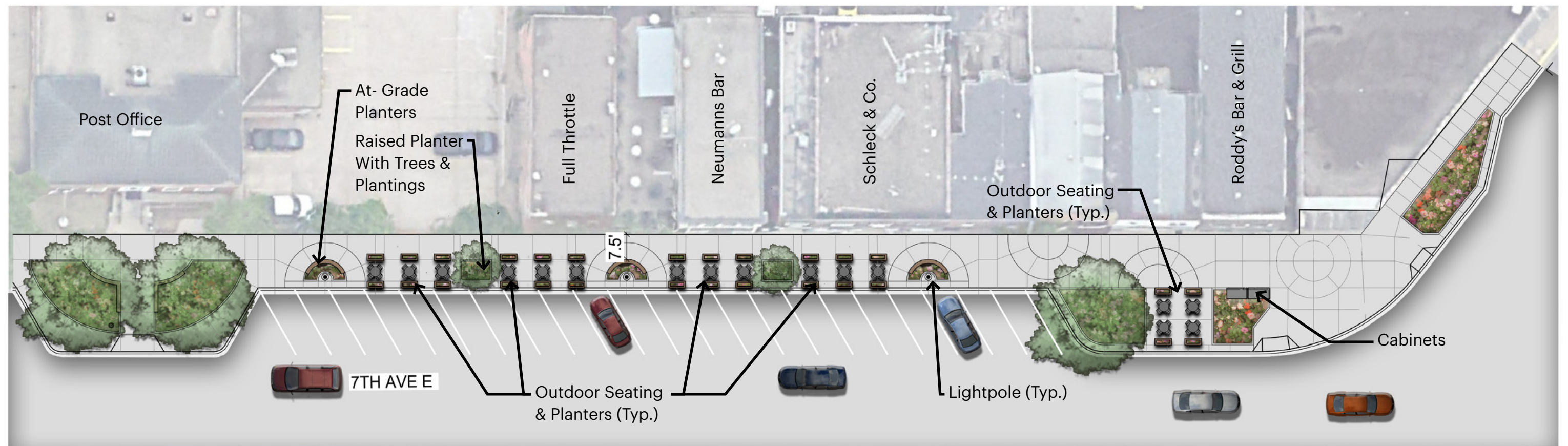
- A. Ball Field Use / Rental Fees
- B. Review Downtown Sidewalk / Streetscape Plan
WSB will attend and provide plans for review at the workshop.
- C. Ramsey County HRA
- D. Fire Chief Operational Updates
- E. City Manager Operational Updates

V. OTHER BUSINESS

VI. ADJOURNMENT

PARK & RECREATION FEES

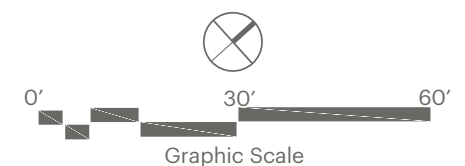
Canoe Storage Rental (Seasonal)			2020
		Resident	\$50.00
		Non-Resident	\$75.00
Park Building Rental (Casey Lake)			2020
	Weekday (Monday-Thursday) Per Day	Resident	\$125.00
	Weekend (Friday-Sunday) Per Day	Resident	\$200.00
	Weekday (Monday-Thursday) Per Day	Non-Resident	\$175.00
	Weekend (Friday-Sunday) Per Day	Non-Resident	\$300.00
Weekday Meeting Rentals (Non-Profit) Per Hour		Resident	\$25.00
Weekday Meeting Rentals (Non-Profit) Per Hour		Non-Resident	\$40.00
	Wedding Rate Per Day	Resident	\$400.00
		Non-Resident	\$500.00
* Rates based on Park Reservation Policy.			
Park Building Rental (Hause)			2020
	Per Day	Resident	\$100.00
	Per Day	Non-Resident	\$150.00
* Rates based on Park Reservation Policy.			
Open-Air Park Shelters (Northwood, Silver Lake, Hause & Colby Hills)			2020
	Per Day	Resident	\$45.00
	Per Day	Non-Resident	\$55.00
* Rates based on Park Reservation Policy.			
Open-Air Park Shelters (Casey Lake Park Booya Patio & Tower)			2020
	Per Day	Resident	No Charge
	Per Day	Non-Resident	No Charge
* Rates based on Park Reservation Policy. Booya patio and Tower shelter are first-come, first-served.			
Ballfield Rental			2020
	Softball League	Per Game Night	\$72.00
	Baseball	Per Field Prep	\$25.00
	Contract League Softball	Per Field, Per Day	\$75.00
	Softball Tournament	Per Field, Per Day	\$125.00
	Sunday Church League	Per Field, Per Night	\$72.00
Recreational Programming			2019
		Per Program	Varies



Downtown Intersection | Proposed Plan View

North St. Paul, Minnesota

March 16, 2021 | WSB Project number: 017145-000





Downtown Intersection | Roddy's Streetscape Area

North St. Paul, Minnesota
March 16, 2021 | WSB Project number: 017145-000



Downtown Intersection | Neumann's Streetscape Area

North St. Paul, Minnesota

March 16, 2021 | WSB Project number: 017145-000

RAMSEY COUNTY HRA LEVY

*Preserving and providing
homes for all.*



Starting in 2022, funds collected would preserve and create affordable housing for Ramsey County residents, providing a long-term resource to combat the existing housing crisis.

Ramsey County is exploring a property tax levy for its Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) to address the longstanding housing crisis that has been exacerbated due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent economic downturn.

Our challenge

Many Ramsey County residents live in poverty and struggle to find or afford stable housing. The current market is not building or preserving enough affordable housing to meet the needs of these residents, including seniors, low-wage workers and others who make less than \$25,000 annually. This challenge is anticipated to grow, placing further strain on the housing market and county services for all households.



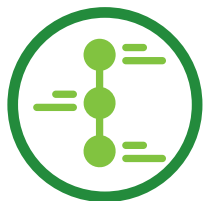
Housing and redevelopment authorities

To help solve these challenges, many local units of government levy for affordable housing through their Housing Redevelopment Authorities – public entities that specifically focus on housing and redevelopment. While Ramsey County has an HRA, it is the only county in the Twin Cities metropolitan area that does not actively levy for affordable housing.



What will the levy fund?

Funds collected through a Ramsey County HRA Levy would support the preservation of existing and creation of new affordable housing developments and build community wealth by creating pathways to homeownership. This would be done by offering gap financing and land acquisition funds as well as allocating resources to increase the competitiveness of local community housing projects in Ramsey County applying for state grants.



Timeline

Ramsey County's HRA plans to begin levying in 2022. However, communities that had active HRA levy authorities prior to 1971 are statutorily required to pass a resolution to participate in Ramsey County's levy as well. This currently applies to the cities of Saint Paul and North St. Paul.



Learn more at ramseycounty.us/HRA

Additional information



Contact: Kari Collins, Community and Economic Development Director
Kari.Collins@ramseycounty.us | 651-266-8010

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RAMSEY COUNTY



65,000 households
in Ramsey County pay
more than 30%
of their income on housing.

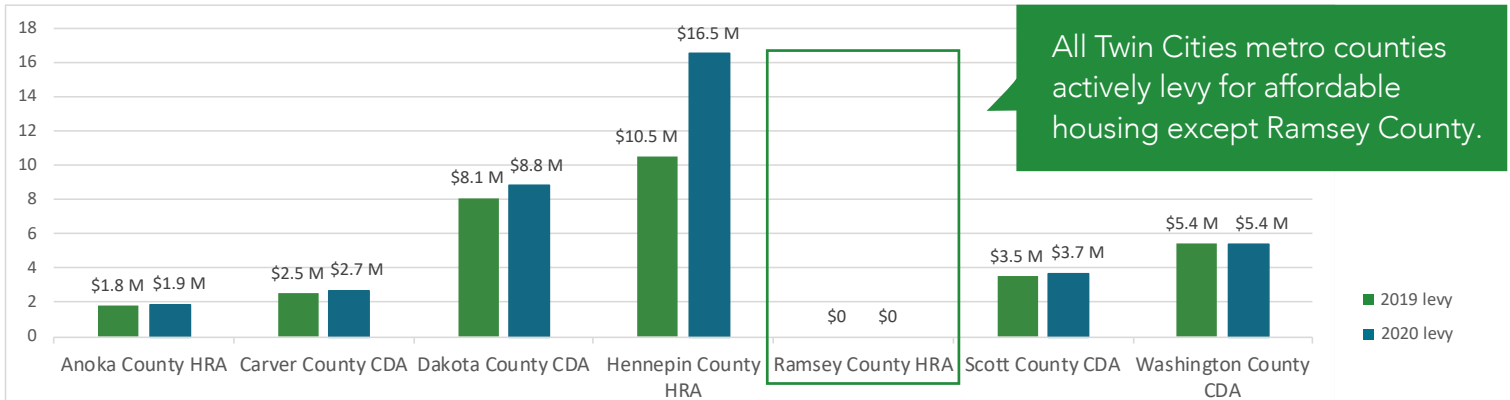
There are 209,000 households in Ramsey County.*

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019.

An HRA levy in Ramsey County
**could raise up to
\$11.6 million a year**
to fund affordable housing.



HRA Levies by Metro County (2019 and 2020)



There is currently a shortage of
15,000+ homes that are affordable
for Ramsey County households making
between \$30,000-\$50,000 per year and
50,000+ homes that are affordable
for households making less than
\$30,000 per year.



New construction would take
20-50 years
to meet the current need, and
would still require subsidies.

The proposed HRA Levy
would increase annual taxes on a
median value residential property
by about \$45.

“ **THE COST OF INACTION IS TOO GREAT.**

If we wish to chart a path toward recovery and create a more resilient future,
then we must ensure our commitment to our most vulnerable residents.

When our most vulnerable residents thrive, we all thrive. ”

– Economic Competitiveness and Inclusion Plan participant



Learn more: ramseycounty.us/HRA

CITY OF NORTH ST. PAUL

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-xxx

WHEREAS, Ramsey County, the City of North St. Paul, and our entire region are facing an affordable housing crisis that has been exacerbated due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its subsequent economic downturn; and

WHEREAS, many residents of the City of North St. Paul and Ramsey County struggle to find or afford stable housing along the full housing continuum; and

WHEREAS, nearly half of renters and 20% of homeowners in Ramsey County are cost-burdened, spending more than 30% of their income on housing; and

WHEREAS, the current market is not building or preserving enough affordable housing to meet the needs of these residents, including seniors, low-wage workers, and others who make less than \$25,000 annually; and

WHEREAS, at the current pace of construction and if all construction was dedicated to affordable housing, it would take more than 21 years to build enough units to meet the demand; and

WHEREAS, this housing shortage is anticipated to grow in the City of North St. Paul and Ramsey County, and will place further strain on the housing market and city and county services for all households; and

WHEREAS, throughout the county the availability of land is scarce and nearly all development that occurs or will occur will be redevelopment, and

WHEREAS, redevelopment challenges are very site specific and contributes to the added cost and time necessary to ready and advance projects, and

WHEREAS, affordable housing is a smart investment of taxpayer dollars and a long-term solution addressing the root cause of homelessness; and

WHEREAS, many local units of government levy for affordable housing through their housing redevelopment authorities to support affordable housing projects, including every county in the Twin Cities metropolitan area besides Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, the City of North St. Paul established its Housing and Redevelopment Authority on or about May 17, 1971, and was eligible to begin levying a tax upon all taxable property within the City of North St. Paul pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 469.033, subd. 5; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County established its Housing and Redevelopment Authority on or about March 9, 1993 for purposes of ensuring sufficient supply of adequate, safe and sanitary

housing, assist in the redevelopment and revitalization of blighted corridors and sites, and to remedy the shortage of housing of low and moderate income residents ; and

WHEREAS, to help support the preservation of existing and creation of new affordable housing developments as well as the redevelopment and revitalization of blighted corridors and sites across Ramsey County, including in the City of North St. Paul in 2022, the Ramsey County Housing and Redevelopment Board of Commissioners plans to begin levying a tax upon all taxable property within the County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 469.033, subd. 5 (the “County Levy”); and

WHEREAS, funds collected through the County Levy would be used in the City of North St. Paul and across Ramsey County to expand homeownership programs, offer gap financing and land acquisition funds, and to allocate resources to increase the competitiveness of City and Ramsey County housing projects when applying for state grants; and

WHEREAS, the Ramsey County Housing and Redevelopment Authority will also be involved in broader development and redevelopment efforts in the City of North St. Paul and the entire County that advance the County’s goals; and

WHEREAS, the County Levy could collect up to \$11.6 million each year to fund affordable housing and broader development and redevelopment efforts that advance the County’s goals, with a portion of that amount supporting projects in the City of North St. Paul; and

WHEREAS, the Ramsey County Housing and Redevelopment Authority would seek authorization from the City of North St. Paul to implement a project in the City’s jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, because the City of North St. Paul established its HRA in 1971, in order to participate in the County Levy, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 469.012, subd. 3, the City of North St. Paul may adopt a resolution authorizing the Ramsey County Housing and Redevelopment Authority to exercise the County HRA’s powers within the City of North St. Paul at the same time that the City of North St. Paul is exercising its own powers; and NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the City Council for the City of North St. Paul authorizes the Ramsey County Housing and Redevelopment Authority to include the City of North St. Paul in its area of operation to both levy funding and create and support projects within the City of North St. Paul.