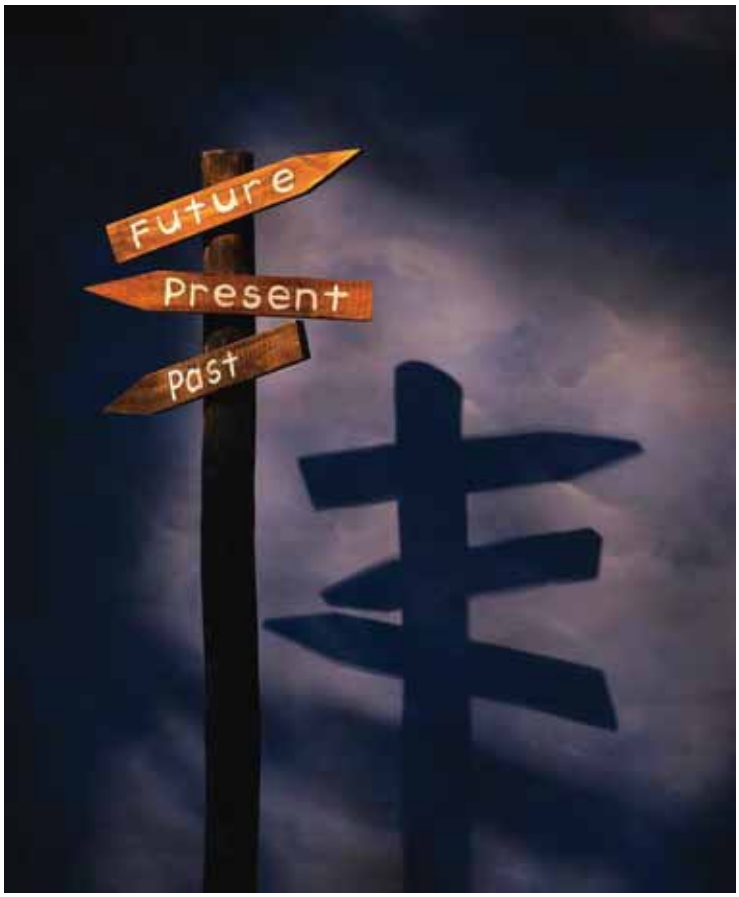

2030 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE
APPENDICES – PART I (A- J)

JUNE 2010

CITY OF BURNSVILLE
2030
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

CITY OF BURNSVILLE 2030 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

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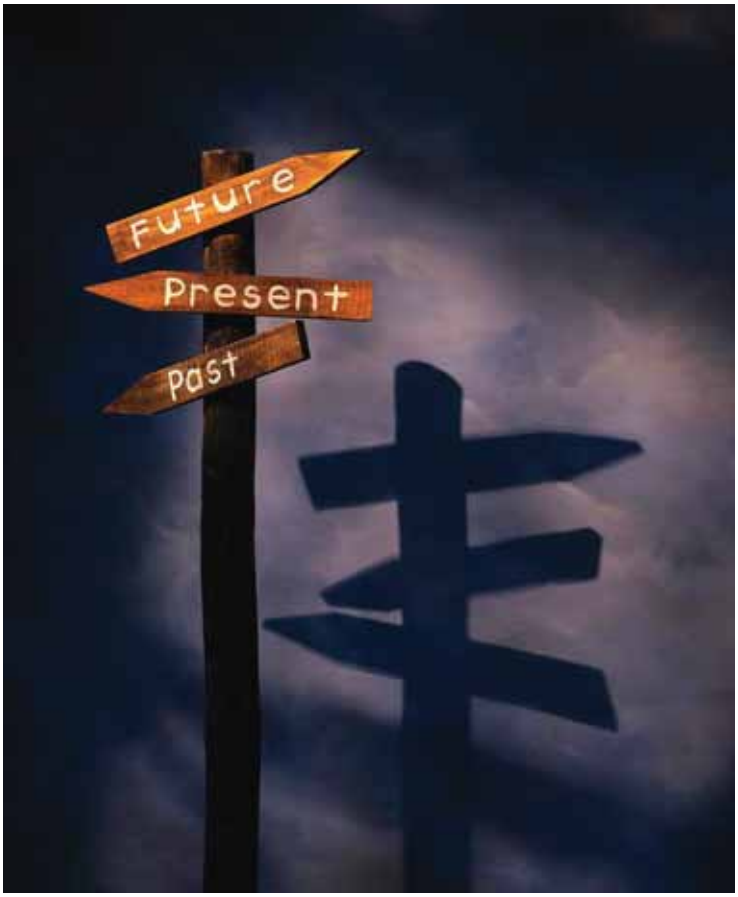


APPENDIX A – BACKGROUND REPORT

FEBRUARY 5, 2007

CITY OF BURNSVILLE
2030
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Part I - INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this background report is to provide a snapshot of the City of Burnsville and to utilize it as a foundation for the 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update. The existing Comprehensive Plan was adopted in December 1998 (prior to the 2000 Census) in response to the Metropolitan Council requirement to submit a plan for development through the year 2020. Before we can begin to update the plan it is important to provide current land use, housing, transportation, public facilities, natural resources, parks, economic development and other data to identify what changes have occurred in the community since the 2000 Comprehensive Plan was adopted. The background report will provide the baseline upon which the future 2030 Comprehensive Plan will be developed.

PREVIOUS COMMUNITY PLANS

- Burnsville has been a planned community since its incorporation in 1964.

- 1965 First Comprehensive Plan Adopted – This plan focused on providing a strong transportation plan with coordinated system of north/south and east/west collector streets and thoroughfares. The Land Use Plan emphasized growth management and orderly development based upon planned infrastructure improvements.

- 1979 Comprehensive Plan Update – This plan was prepared in response to the 1976 Metropolitan Land Planning Act. Emphasis on guiding rapid growth, single-family development, commercial development around Burnsville Center Mall, need for park land and protection of natural features. The Economic Growth Committee was created in 1987, during this planning period.

- 1990 Comprehensive Plan Update – This plan concentrated on aggressive park planning, shifted focus from a rapidly developing community to one reaching full development and had an orientation toward maintenance and redevelopment. The plan addressed Southwest Burnsville Rural Residential Area, incorporated goals and policies to expand community volunteerism programs and the City agreed to comply with Metropolitan Livable Communities Act Local Incentives Program to provide and maintain a wide variety of housing types and affordable housing.

- 2000 Comprehensive Plan Update – When this plan was prepared, the Metropolitan Council considered the City as part of the “Urban Area” with the ability to serve all of Burnsville with links to the metropolitan utility, parks and transportation systems. The plan was structured to maintain a balance of land uses, strong tax base and diverse housing stock including significant component of multi-family residential at densities up to 26 units per acre. Recognizing the City to be fully developed the focus turned to redevelopment, cleaning up contaminated sites, reuse and renovation of existing structures and infill development of vacant parcels. Conceptual plans were established for the end use of the Kraemer Quarry, McGowan Property (amphitheater site), Minnesota River Quadrant, and Heart of the City.

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

In 1967 the Minnesota Legislature created the Metropolitan Council to plan and coordinate the orderly development of the seven-county metropolitan area. Minnesota law requires every

municipality and county within the metropolitan area to prepare and to submit a comprehensive plan to the Metropolitan Council that addresses all required components of the 2030 Regional Development Framework. The City's plan must be consistent with the Metropolitan Council's system plans. To assist local governments in this effort, the Metropolitan Council issues "Systems Statements" to each community which describe the specific areas that must be addressed as part of the local Comprehensive Plan. The City of Burnsville received its Systems Statement in September 2005 and is required to submit an updated Comprehensive Plan to the Metropolitan Council by September 2008.

The City is undertaking the Comprehensive Plan update process to prepare a plan for the next twenty years (through the year 2030). The focus of the plan will be on conformance with metropolitan plans for transportation, (including transit and aviation), water resources, wastewater services, housing, land use, regional parks and open space. The City's plan will be reviewed for consistency with Metropolitan Council policies and plans and compatibility with adjacent and affected governmental units such as Dakota and Scott County, cities of Apple Valley, Eagan, Bloomington, Savage, and Lakeville, school districts and watershed management organizations. The City will also need to coordinate planning efforts with government agencies such as the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Transportation and Pollution Control Agency.

The City of Burnsville is classified by the Metropolitan Council as a "Developed Community" a designation given to all communities where more than 85% of the land in the municipality is developed.

Part II – WHAT'S HAPPENED SINCE ADOPTION OF THE 2000 PLAN?

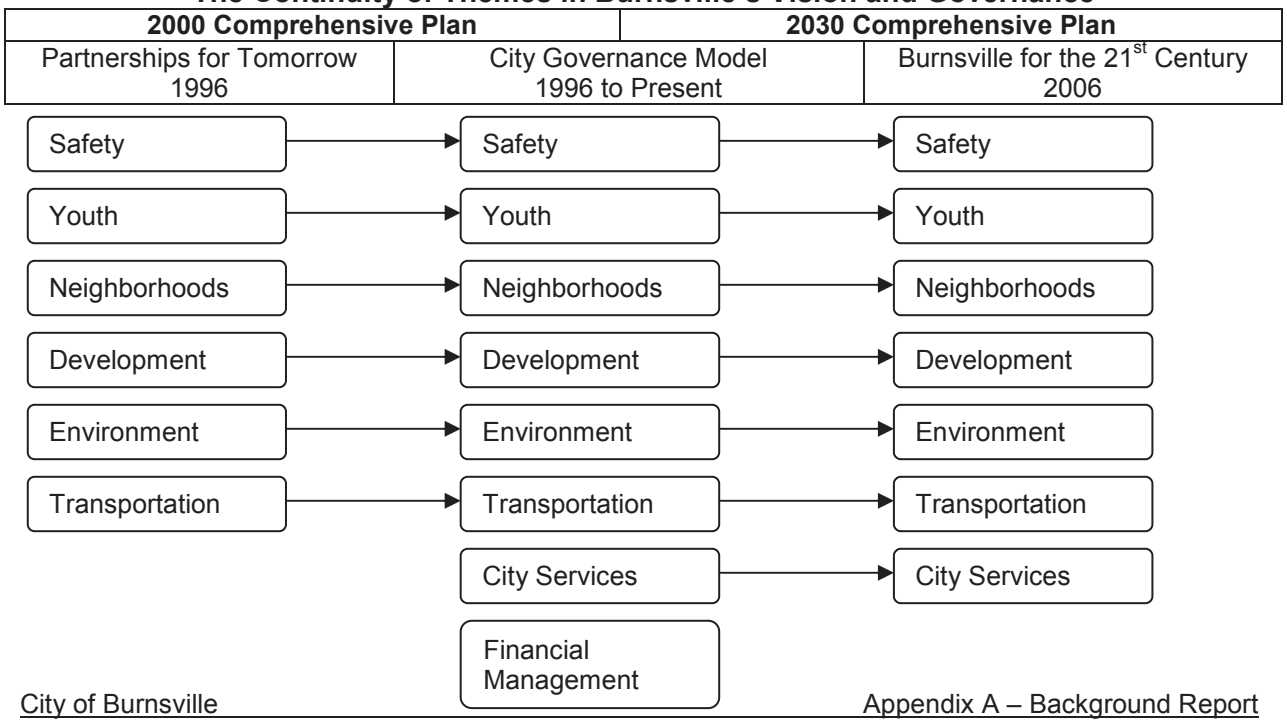
VISION

The vision for the 2000 Comprehensive Plan was based upon the Partnerships for Tomorrow (PFT) process which began in 1993, initially to build on Burnsville's 1988 long-range community planning report called "Vision for Tomorrow." The rapid pace of change in the community resulted in the accomplishment of most of the Vision report's plans in five years instead of the expected 20 years. PFT was intended to establish a process that defined a vision for the community and identified the resources for implementing that vision through partnerships of individuals and organizations. It was determined through a prioritization exercise that six theme areas should be used for planning: Safety, Youth, Neighborhoods, Development, Environment and Transportation. Action plans were created by volunteers in each of the six theme areas. The action plan was intended to bring the community together to achieve the vision and sponsor the action plans. The themes became the framework for the City's "Ends and Outcomes" and continue to serve the City today.

In January 2006, after the City Council received an update on the progress of Partnerships for Tomorrow, they determined it was time to revisit the Themes, test their relevance today, build on those Themes and again create a shared community vision.

Burnsville for the 21st Century began with a kickoff meeting in June 2006. Over 120 community members attended that meeting and volunteered to be part of a committee that would again define the future of Burnsville. Committees were formed based on the existing themes: Transportation, Safety, Youth, Neighborhoods, Development, Environment and City Services. Burnsville for the 21st Century, completed in December 2006, built on the existing Themes to create new goals, strategies and action steps to assist City Council in setting priorities for the future of Burnsville. The Burnsville for the 21st Century Final Report can be viewed at the City's website.

Figure A-1
The Continuity of Themes in Burnsville's Vision and Governance



DEMOGRAPHICS

The following tables and charts contain information on community demographic characteristics to set the stage for the Comprehensive Plan update.

- The April 1, 2005 population estimate for Burnsville was 61,262 people living in 24,380 housing units. In the period between adoption of the 2000 Comprehensive Plan and December 2005, the City added 1,804 housing units and an estimated 4,500 people.

- Burnsville's population growth during the last decade was comparable to that of the Metropolitan Area (17.4% to 15.4% respectively). However, the rate of growth for Dakota County far exceeded the Metropolitan Area as a whole as the County grew over 29% during the same time period.

- The Metropolitan Council estimates that Burnsville will add 3,738 people and 4,320 housing units over the next 23 years for a total population of 65,000 by the year 2030.

- According to the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), job growth in Burnsville increased 2% between 2000 and 2004 with 622 jobs being added for a total employment of 32,387.

- The number of persons per household declined from 1990 to 2000 from 2.67 to 2.53. Declining household size is expected to continue in the future due to people living longer, more single parents and more people waiting longer to marry and start families.

- The number of persons per acre is increasing in Burnsville which is associated with the community nearing full build out but also increasing residential densities in redeveloping areas of the City. From 1990 to 2000, the number of persons per acre increased from 2.95 to 3.49. The "persons-per-acre" statistic is one indicator of sustainable development.

Figure A-2
Metropolitan Council Forecasts

	Population				Households				Employment			
		Forecasts				Forecasts				Forecasts		
	2000 Census	2010	2020	2030	2000 Census	2010	2020	2030	2000 Census	2010	2020	2030
Burnsville	60,220	61,400	63,000	65,000	23,687	25,200	27,000	28,700	31,825	37,700	41,200	43,300

Source: Metropolitan Council

Figure A-3
Comparative Population Data 1960-2000

Year	Burnsville	Burnsville % of Dakota County Population	Dakota County	Metro Area
1960	2,716	3%	78,803	1,535,297
1970	19,940	14%	139,808	1,874,612
1980	35,674	18%	194,279	1,985,873
1990	51,288	19%	275,186	2,288,729
2000	60,220	17%	355,904	2,642,056
% Change 1990-2000	17.4		29.3	15.4

Source: U.S. Census

- In 2000, Burnsville's age groups compared similarly to that of Dakota County and the state of Minnesota.
- In 2000, 35-64 year olds made up the largest age cohort in Burnsville, followed by 0-19 year olds and people 25-34 years of age were the third largest age group in the community.
- From 1990 to 2000, the City experienced a 94.6% increase in the number of people age 65-74 from 2.7% (1,362 people) to 4.4% (2,648 people).
- During this same decade, the number of people over the age of 75 increased over 175% from 1.2% (620 people) to 2.9% (1,710 people).
- Burnsville experienced nearly an 11% decline in the number of people age 25-34 which comprised over 22% of the population in 1990 but only 17% in 2000.

Figure A-4
Percent Population by Age Group Comparative Data 2000

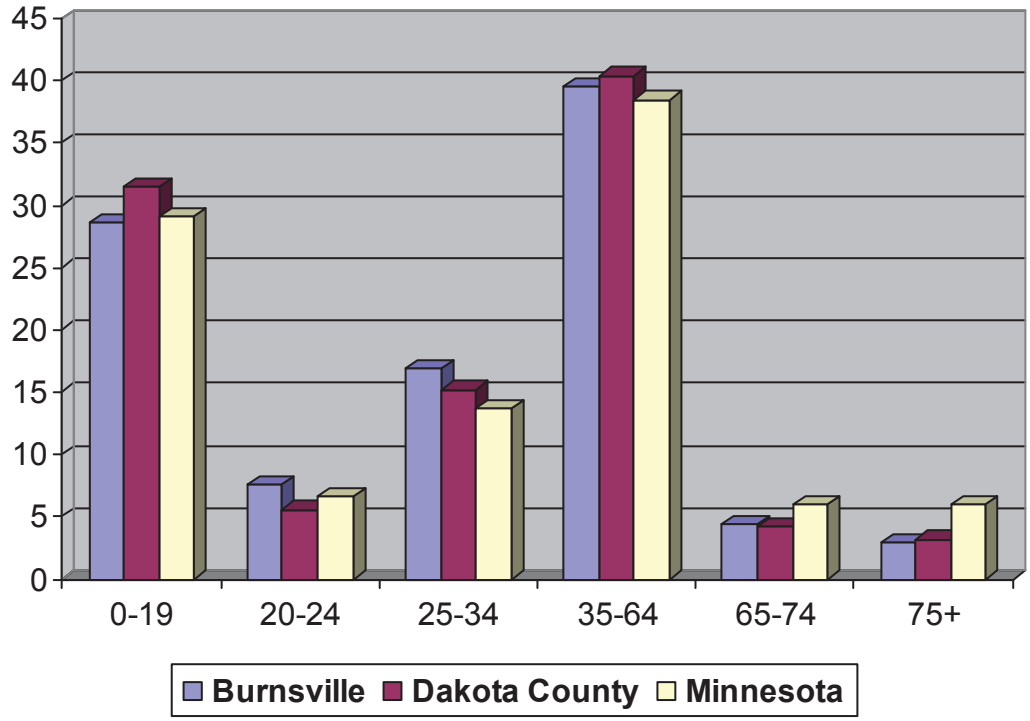
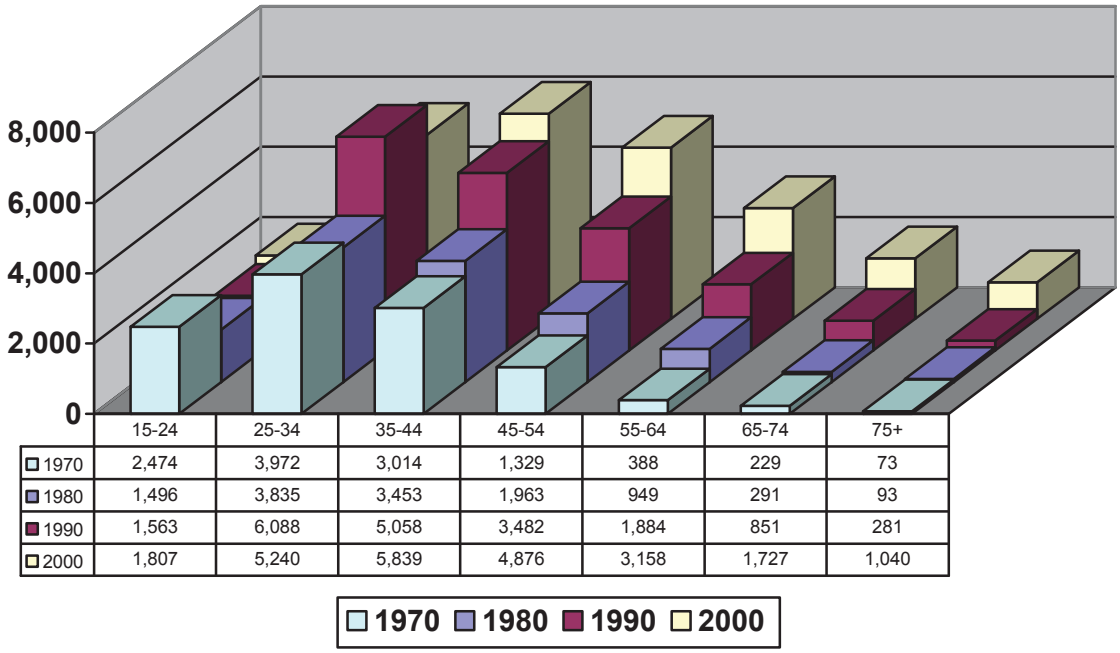


Figure A-5
Distribution of Households by Age, 1970-2000



	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+
1970	2,474	3,972	3,014	1,329	388	229	73
1980	1,496	3,835	3,453	1,963	949	291	93
1990	1,563	6,088	5,058	3,482	1,884	851	281
2000	1,807	5,240	5,839	4,876	3,158	1,727	1,040

- Figure A-5, Distribution of Households by Age, 1970-2000 above indicates changes in the distribution of households in Burnsville by age group over the past three decades. The graphic indicates that the number of households with people in the age groups from 35 and older is increasing over time. The number of households in the 15-24 year old age category decreased in the 1980's but has remained fairly level since that time. The only age category that experienced a decline is the 25-34 year olds. From this it is apparent that a growing proportion of Burnsville's residents are aging and as a result, the type of housing to accommodate increasingly older and a larger proportion of the aging population may change in the future.

Figure A-6
City of Burnsville, Dakota County and Minnesota
Population by Age Group, 1990-2000

	Burnsville					Dakota County					Minnesota				
Age	1990	%	2000	%	Change	1990	%	2000	%	Change	1990	%	2000	%	Change
0-19	15,964	31.6	17,267	28.6	10.0	88,729	32.2	112,231	31.5	26.5	1,293,564	29.6	1,434,845	29.1	10.9
20-24	4,451	8.7	4,602	7.6	3.4	18,707	6.8	19,817	5.6	5.9	316,046	7.2	322,483	6.6	2.0
25-34	11,406	22.2	10,165	16.9	-10.9	58,786	21.4	54,030	15.2	-8.1	779,743	17.8	673,138	13.7	-13.7
35-64	17,756	34.6	23,828	39.5	34.2	91,530	33.2	143,580	40.4	56.9	1,438,830	32.8	1,894,747	38.5	31.7
65-74	1,361	2.7	2,648	4.4	94.6	10,406	3.8	14,842	4.2	42.6	294,522	6.7	295,825	6.0	0.4
75+	620	1.2	1,710	2.9	175.8	7,069	2.6	11,404	3.2	61.3	252,412	5.8	298,441	6.0	18.2
Total	51,288	100	60,220	100	17.4	275,227	100	355,904	100	29.3	4,375,117	100	4,919,479	100	12.4

Source: 1990 and 2000 US Census

- Since 1980, the City has experienced an increase in the number of non-family households and a decrease in family households. In 2000, 66% of the households were comprised of families (two parents and children), which is a decline from over 76% in 1980 and 71% in 1990.

- The number of single male and single female headed households both increased between 1980 and 2000. Single male headed households comprised 3.2% of the total family households in 2000 and single female headed households comprised 10% of family households in Burnsville.

- The number of married couple households has declined from 66% in 1980 to 56% of the Burnsville family households in 2000.

Table A-7
Types of Households, 1980-2000

Household Type	1980	%of HH	1990	% of HH	2000	% of HH	Change 1980-2000
Family	9,152	76%	13,713	71.7%	15,631	66%	71%
Married Couple	8,026	66%	11,427	59.7%	12,503	52.8%	56%
Male Family Head	236	2%	524	2.7%	767	3.2%	225%
Female Family Head	890	7%	1,762	9.2%	2,361	10%	165%
Non-Family	2,928	24%	5,414	28.3%	8,056	34%	175%

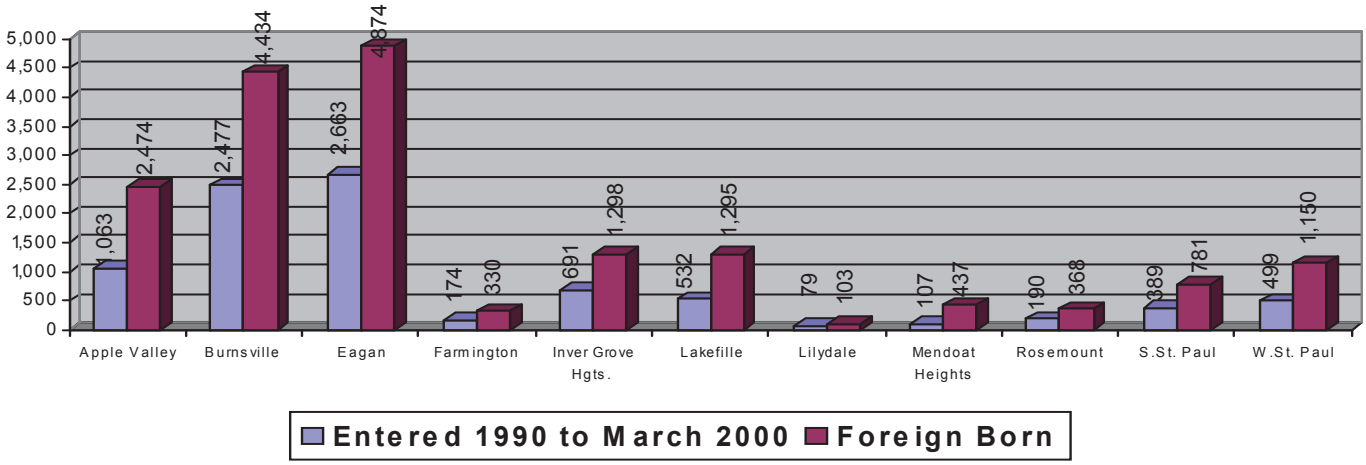
Source: US Census

- The ethnic composition of Burnsville is changing and becoming more diverse over time. The proportion of White persons has decreased from 99% in 1970, 95% in 1990 to 88% in 2000.

- People of Asian or Pacific Islander decent comprised 5% of the population in 2000 with Black or African American decent at 4% followed by Hispanic or Latino races comprising 3% of Burnsville's population.

- Data available from the Census and Dakota County indicate a high level of Foreign Born residents in Burnsville. The City will play an integral role in reaching out to these new residents. Figure A-8, Foreign Born Entering US from 1990-2000 below compares the number of Foreign Born individuals by Dakota County City.

Figure A-8
Foreign Born Entering the US from 1990 to 2000, by City



The following data from the Census provides comparative data with other Dakota County Cities for Families living below the Poverty level.

Figure A-9
Families Living Below the Poverty Level 1990 and 2000

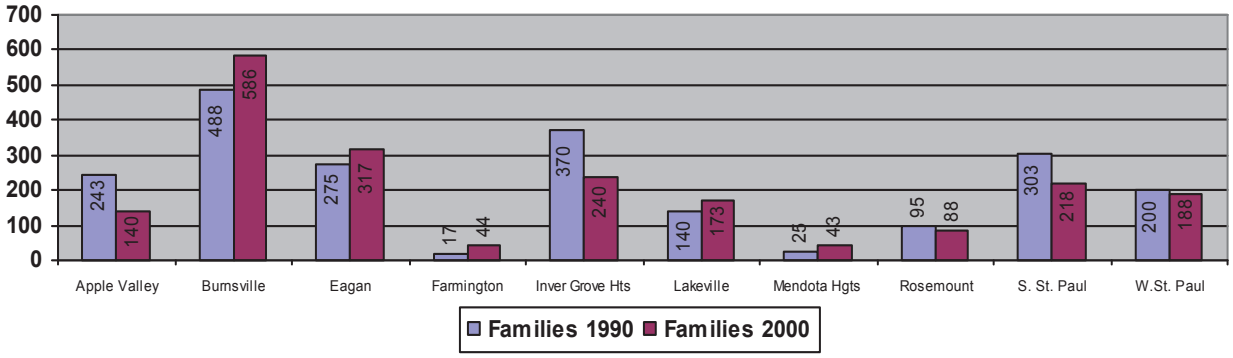


Figure A-10
Living Below the Poverty Level by City

	Families Below Poverty	Female Householder Below Poverty		
	1990	2000	1990	2000
Apple Valley	3%	1%	13%	6%
Burnsville	4%	4%	18%	13%
Eagan	2%	2%	11%	7%
Farmington	1%	1%	6%	12%
Inver Grove Heights	6%	3%	26%	12%
Lakeville	2%	1%	15%	14%
Lilydale	0%	0%	0%	0%
Mendota Heights	1%	1%	6%	9%
Rosemount	4%	2%	10%	9%
South St. Paul	6%	4%	20%	12%
West St. Paul	4%	4%	12%	14%

Census 2000

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Burnsville has evolved from a community of 2,716 residents in 1965 to over 61,262 residents in 2005. The retail, service and manufacturing industries drive the local economy. In 2006, Burnsville was ranked seventh in the state for retail sales and tenth in the state for number of manufacturing firms.

Burnsville possesses 18 major employers, according to the 2006 Community Profile (see Figure A-11, Major Employers, 2006. The largest employers include Burnsville Public Schools-ISD 191, Fairview Ridges Hospital, Goodrich Sensor Systems, Northern Hydraulics Inc., Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company, and Yellow Freight System, Inc.

Figure A-11
Major Employers, 2006

Employer	Description	# Empl.
Burnsville Public Schools - Independent School District 191	Elementary and secondary schools	1,600
Fairview Ridges Hospital	General medical and surgical hospitals	1,400
Goodrich Sensor Systems	Computer and peripheral equipment manufacturing	1,150
Northern Hydraulics Inc.	Industrial machinery manufacturing	600
Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co.	Beverage manufacturing	550
Yellow Freight System, Inc.	Support activities for road transportation	400
Cub Foods	Department Stores	300
Genz-Ryan	Plumbing, heating and air conditioning contractors	300
Asset Marketing Services Inc.	Sporting goods, hobby and musical instrument stores	275
City of Burnsville	Executive, legislative, and other general government support	268
Byerly's Co.	Grocery store	250
Ebenezer Ridges Care Center	Nursing care facilities	250
Frontier Communications of Minnesota	Wired telecommunications carriers	234
Park Nicollet Medical Center	Offices for physicians	225
Apothecary Products	Pharmaceutical preparation, manufacturing	200
Target	Department store	200
Rupp Industries Inc.	Vent, heating, air conditioning, commercial refrigeration equipment and manufacturing	175
Kavouras, Inc.	Communications equipment and manufacturing	150

Source: City of Burnsville; DEED

EMPLOYMENT

The majority of Burnsville's residents are well educated and employed in white collar occupations. Figures A-12, Average Weekly Wages, 2005 and A-13, Percent Employment by Industry, 2000 summarize the occupational characteristics and average wages by industry. As noted in Table A-14, Education Level Attained, 2005, Burnsville leads both Dakota County and the Metropolitan area in the number of residents that have graduated from high school and the number who have Bachelor/Graduate/Professional degrees.

Employment in Burnsville has grown from 25,438 in 1990 (24 percent of Dakota County's total employment) to 31,825 in 2000. The Metropolitan Council forecasts employment opportunities in Burnsville to grow to 37,700 in 2010, 41,200 by 2020, and 43,300 by 2030 totaling 15,062 new jobs and providing 22 percent of the county's employment. From 2010 to 2030, most of these new jobs will occur in the Minnesota River Quadrant (MRQ) area in northwest Burnsville and consist of office and industrial sector employment, with some recreational service employment along the transportation corridors.

Figure A-12
Average Weekly Wages, 2005

Occupation	Burnsville	Dakota County	Metro Area
Manufacturing	$937	$964	$1,436
Non-Manufacturing			
▪ Agriculture, Forestry& Fisheries & Mining	$920 mining	$512	n/a
▪ Construction	$973	$979	$950
▪ Wholesale Trade	$1,014	$1,146	$1,548
▪ Retail Trade	$471	$467	$475
▪ Transportation, Communication & Public Utility	$628	$702	$859
▪ Information	$1,000	$1,187	$1,320
▪ Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	$980	$1,056	$1,550
▪ Professional & technical Services	$1,017	$1,179	$1,553
▪ Educational Services	n/a	$727	$769
▪ Arts, Entertainment, Recreation,	$231	$292	$320
▪ Other Services except Public Admin	$465	$537	$585
▪ Public Administration	$770	$860	$971
▪ Health Care & Social Service	$728	$644	$703
▪ Accommodation & Food Service	$274	$249	$324

Source: State Demographer

Figure A-13
Percent Employment by Industry, 2000

Industry	Burnsville	Dakota County	Metro Area
Manufacturing	12.6	11.3	9.3
Non-Manufacturing	87.4	88.7	90.7
▪ Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries & Mining	0.2	0.5	n/a
▪ Construction	4.8	7.0	n/a
▪ Wholesale Trade	3.9	6.0	2.9
▪ Retail Trade	13.6	13.2	14.0
▪ Transportation, Communication & Public Utility	7.7	5.8	16
▪ Information	3.1	5.0	3.5
▪ Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	10.4	6.9	15.9
▪ Professional, Scientific, Management, Admin. & Waste Mgmt Services	10.8	10.3	15.9
▪ Educational, Health and Social Services	16.0	16.0	9.0
▪ Arts, entertainment, recreation, Accommodation & Food Services	8.7	9.8	10.6
▪ Other Services except Public Administration	5.4	5.3	2.9
▪ Public Administration	2.8	2.9	1.6
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

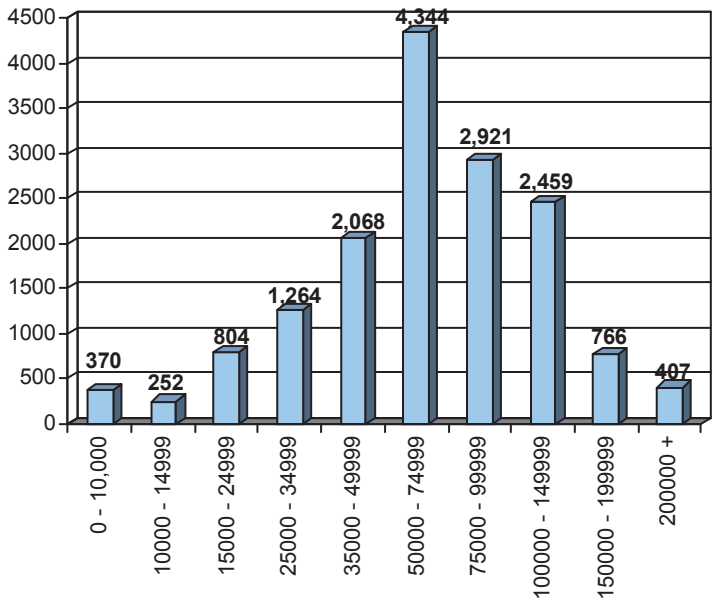
Source: US Census, 2000

Figure A-14
Educational Level Attained, 2005

Level of Education	Burnsville	Dakota County	Metro Area
High School Graduate	93.9	93.2	90.8
Associate Degree	8.9	9.2	7.6
Bachelor Degree	26.7	25.6	24.2
Graduate/Professional Degree	10.2	9.3	10.6

Source: State Demographer

Figure A-15
Family Income Characteristics, 2000



Source: U. S. Census, 2000

Burnsville is fully committed to the creation of employment opportunities and the continued retention of jobs. The Burnsville Economic Development Authority (EDA) has established tax increment financing (TIF) districts within the city and established tax abatement policies. Both are important and useful tools in attracting and retaining businesses. Designed to encourage development that would not otherwise occur, it is essential that they be used appropriately to accomplish the City's development and redevelopment goals and objectives. The Burnsville EDA is responsible for assuring that only those projects that would otherwise not occur be assisted through tax increment financing and tax abatement.

The Burnsville EDA considers tax increment financing and tax abatement for cases that serve to accomplish the City's targeted goals for development and redevelopment, such as projects that would result in the creation or retention of a significant number of jobs that pay wages adequate to support households, the retention or expansion of existing businesses or redevelopment of existing properties to increase the tax base.

In addition, Burnsville works with Dakota Futures, a public/private economic development association that coordinates multi-city efforts in the areas of development, redevelopment, and related economic development issues. The City actively participates with the Minnesota Job Workforce Center to match employers with employees. The City is also a member of Positively Minnesota, a state public/private initiative to promote retention and attraction of business. Lastly, Burnsville actively works with DEED (Department of Employment and Economic Development) on issues related to the expansion needs of city businesses.

Economic Growth Committee, (EGC)

The Burnsville Economic Growth Committee, created in November, 1987 by the City Council, is a joint effort between the City of Burnsville and the Chamber of Commerce. The Committee consists of fourteen members who are residents of or conduct business in Burnsville. Half of the members are appointed by the City Council and the other half are appointed by the Chamber of Commerce.

The Economic Growth Committee is an advisory body to the Burnsville City Council for the purpose of assisting in efforts to expand the tax base and increase job opportunities. The mission of the Committee is:

1. Receive input from the City Council and provide recommendations to the City Council.

2. Act as a sounding board for development and redevelopment projects.

3. Assist in strategic planning and marketing for the area.

4. Serve as a working committee with ability to form task forces and special committees to accomplish goals and objectives.

5. Take the pulse of the community with regard to image and retention of business.

The EGC has developed long range goals consistent with the Ends and Outcomes established by the City Council. The EGC establishes a work plan yearly that is approved by the City Council. The current long range goals of the EGC are:

1. Take a proactive approach to city economic development and redevelopment.

2. Provide employment opportunities, continued retention of jobs and enhancement of the tax base.

3. Actively promote research, development and redevelopment of office/industrial parks.

4. Promote research and redevelopment of Minnesota River Quadrant.

5. Recognize the importance of retail sector to the Burnsville economy.

Since 2000, the Economic Growth Committee has had the following accomplishments:

- Established the Southcross Business Coalition and the North Burnsville Coalition to address issues unique to those geographic areas.
- Crafted an ordinance revision on Exterior Building Materials.
- Created the HOC 1 and HOC 2 Zoning Districts.
- Created the GIM and GIH Zoning Districts.
- Crafted a new “employment sign ordinance”.
- Created the Burnsville Commercial Real Estate Council to promote commercial building leasing.
- Conducted a study of Aging Retail Centers.

- Recommended the City join the Twin City Community Capitol Fund to provide “gap financing” to emerging and growing businesses.
- Created the Burnsville Medical Alliance initiative to “foster the expansion and growth of health care and medical manufacturing”.
- Revised the Business Subsidy Policy, including an appendix for Redevelopment of Aging Retail Strip Centers.
- Created a new parking standards ordinance.
- Completed a broadband access study.
- Developed new Gateway Design Guidelines for the North Gateway District.
- Assisted in the development of the Minnesota Valley Medical Manufacturers Network, Med Net, to promote networking efforts of the companies that manufacture or supply manufacturers of medical products.
- Established a vision and plan for the Minnesota River Quadrant.

Economic Development Authority, (EDA)

The express purpose of the EDA is to promote economic development and to consolidate the economic development and redevelopment activities of the City into one entity. The EDA has the powers and duties given to it under the Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 469, Economic Development, which include, among other things, the authority to hire personnel and expend funds for economic development and redevelopment purposes, to acquire land and buildings for development and redevelopment, and to request the City to levy taxes for the support of those activities. The EDA has all of the powers of a municipal redevelopment authority, as well as all of the powers relating to municipal development districts.

The major advantages of the EDA are as follows:

- Has clear statutory authorization to act as economic development/redevelopment agent for the City, using a broad array of powers

- Can exercise the same powers throughout the City, not just in areas that are ”blighted”

- Has a close interrelationship and limitation of powers, as authorized by the City Council (i.e., the City Council can require un-pledged reserves to be pledged back to the City and that all bonding and budgeting be approved by the City Council)

- Is the authorized Tax Increment Financing (TIF) agent of the City

- Has the right to acquire, sell or lease land and facilities

- May participate in limited partnerships whose purposes are consistent with those of the EDA

- Has statutory powers of eminent domain; power to contract, acquire supplies and materials; establish foreign trade zones; and conduct research

All EDA activities are subject to review and approval by the City Council. The EDA is governed by a Board of Commissioners that is composed of the Mayor and City Council.

FUTURE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EMPHASIS

In the next five to fifteen years the major economic development efforts of the City will focus on two geographic areas and one initiative.

Heart of the City (HOC)

The Heart of the City is a 54-acre smart growth based, mixed use, pedestrian friendly downtown area for Burnsville located in the Burnsville Parkway and Nicollet Boulevard area. The project grew from a citizen driven community visioning project called Partnerships for Tomorrow in the mid 1990's. It started in 1995 as a simple streetscape project and grew to a full-fledged redevelopment effort.

The HOC is focused on bringing arts and cultural opportunities to the area and building tax base to benefit the entire community. The HOC will have retail, office, condominium, and town home components. Twenty percent of the housing options are planned as" work force" housing. A major hotel is scheduled to open in summer of 2008. Cultural amenities will include a Performing Arts Center and various public art sculptures.

Nicollet Commons Park is a central driver for the HOC. The park is a 1.2 acre "town-square" style park in the center of the HOC. The park is host to many concerts and events throughout the year including the Heart of the City Half Marathon, Art and All that Jazz Festival, and the annual Winter Lighting Ceremony.

Minnesota River Quadrant (MRQ)

The MRQ will be the largest redevelopment project in Burnsville's history and will allow for major growth in companies and employment. The Minnesota River Quadrant is located in northwest Burnsville. The vision calls for a redevelopment that will include hotels, offices, residential units, a medical technology campus, and recreational opportunities. Infrastructure improvements have been designed to improve the traffic flow in and around the quadrant. Central to the redevelopment of the MRQ will be the creation of a 350 acre lake when the Kraemer Quarry is exhausted and an 18-hole championship golf course on the Waste Management landfill site following its closure.

Burnsville Medical Alliance

The Burnsville Medical Alliance (BMA) is a "focused economic development initiative to promote the expansion and growth of the City's existing "industry clusters" of medical technology and health care companies." Initial discussions regarding the need to focus on the "clusters" occurred in 2003 and resulted in numerous strategic planning meetings with representatives from the health care and medical technology industries. In 2005, it was decided that the City would be the primary driver of the initiative and an Advisory Panel consisting of a representative from the health care, medical manufacturing, and an at-large delegate, plus a City Council and Chamber of Commerce board liaison was formed. The Chamber president and the Economic Development Coordinator are ex-officio members of the Advisory Panel. The strategic plan of the BMA has four focus areas: marketing, real estate, work force, and financial. Since 2005 the BMA has had the following accomplishments:

- Created a web site.
- Created a marketing brochure
- Exhibits at the Life Science Alley Convention.
- Generates press coverage of initiative activities.

- Has identified land and space for the use of new or expanding companies.
- Created a number of partnerships with Independent School District (ISD) 191, Dakota County Technical Center, and Inver Hills Community College for the education and training of students in the medical fields.
- Promotes both public and private financial incentives available for growing or starting companies.

SUMMARY

Burnsville's excellent location, fine schools and reputation as a "business friendly" City has led to rapid and sustained residential and commercial growth over the past 40 years. The next twenty years will see Burnsville enter into a period of sustained redevelopment. It will need to continue its tradition of comprehensive planning and innovative approaches as it moves from development to redevelopment. The past practice of active involvement of both residential and business citizens will need to continue to ensure that the redevelopment efforts are as successful as the development efforts. Burnsville has been a model for economic development and will strive to be a model for economic redevelopment.

RECENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Completed since 2000 Comprehensive Plan
- Revised Commercial/Industrial Building Materials Ordinance, 2000
- Business Subsidy Policy, 2000,2006
- Employment Signs, 2000
- Off Sale Liquor Ordinance review, 2001
- Aging Industrial Study 2002, 2003
- Redevelopment of Aging Strip Centers, 2005
- I-35W Gateway Design Standards, 2006
- Business Survey,2000 2002, 2004, 2006

Currently Underway
- MRQ Tax Increment Financing Legislation
- County Road 5 and Highway 13 Upgrades
- Highway 35W Interchange Upgrades
- MRQ Infrastructure Improvements

HOUSING

In 2000, Burnsville was classified as part of the "Urban Area" growth management policy area of the Metropolitan Council. Burnsville was further defined as a "developing suburb approaching residential build-out," which assumed that the City would experience increased townhouse and condominium construction, higher development densities and selective redevelopment. In 2006 Burnsville is classified as part of the "Developed Area." Developed communities are at least 85% developed and contiguous with other developed communities. See 2030 Framework Planning Areas on page A.2. Burnsville fits this description as the City is 98% developed and fully embracing redevelopment in a number of exciting ways.

As a maturing community there will be many challenges and opportunities to provide for its residents in regards to housing specifically maintaining housing choice and life-cycle housing within the City. This can be accomplished by expanding redevelopment efforts that include a wide range of housing opportunities. It will also be important to continue and expand current efforts to support and maintain existing housing stock. This will be accomplished through the enforcement of the City's housing maintenance code, promotion of loan and grant programs for rehabilitation, City promoted housing fairs and other neighborhood programs aimed at maintenance , beautification, working with seniors, paint-a-thons and other initiatives.

BUILDING PERMIT TRENDS

As illustrated in Figure A-16, Building Permit Trends 1995-2005 and Figure A-17, Number of Residential Unit Permits, 1995-2005, the City increased its housing supply by 4,479 units between 1995 and 2005. The greatest number of apartment permits during this ten-year period was issued in1995; however, growth remained quite volatile from year to year. Furthermore total apartment permits in 1995 did not come anywhere near the number of permits issued in 1985 (1,262 permits), when apartment construction in the City was at its peak.

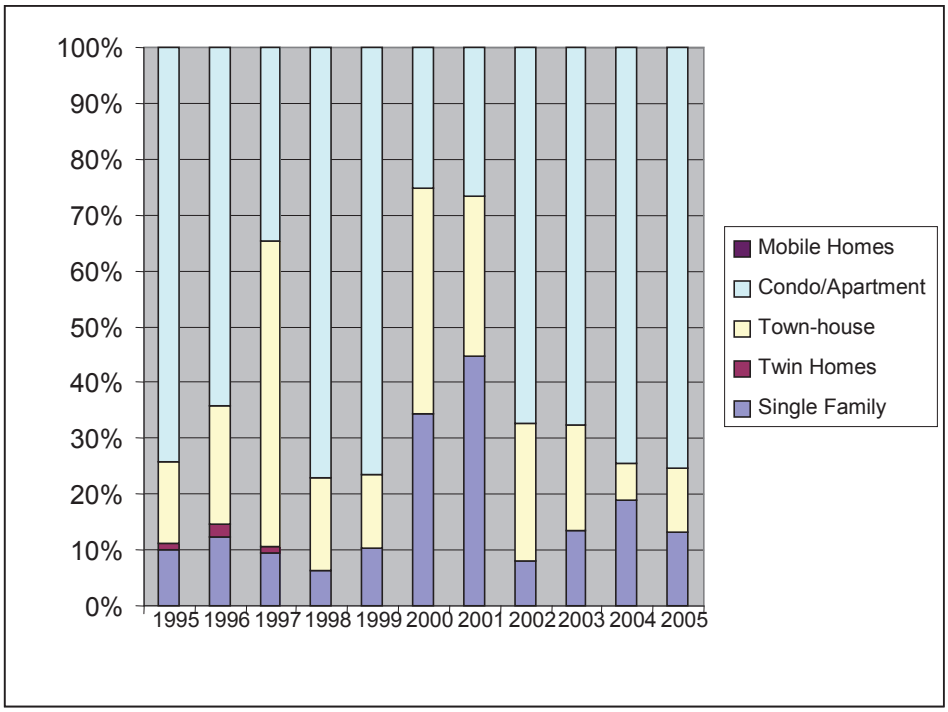
The greatest number of townhome permits were issued in 1997, finally recovering from a marked decline that began in 1988. Single family home construction continues to slowly decline. However, since Burnsville's residential land is 98% developed, building permits for all housing types will never reach the same numbers the City experienced in the1980's.

Figure A-16
Building Permit Trends, 1995-2005

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Total
Single Family	69	53	38	25	47	56	75	30	27	43	28	491
Twin Homes	8	10	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22
Town-house	99	93	220	65	62	66	48	90	38	15	25	821
Condo/ Apart-ment	506	279	139	301	353	41	45	248	136	170	161	2,379
Mobile Homes	0	0	766*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	766
Total	682	435	1,167	391	462	163	168	368	201	228	214	4,479

Source: City of Burnsville ** Total lots available*

Figure A-17
Number of Residential Unit Permits,
1995-2005



Source: City of Burnsville

CURRENT HOUSING DEMAND

Burnsville continues to enjoy a healthy housing market, due to its proximity to the downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul and the MSP International Airport. The City initially attracted families who wanted to distance themselves from the urban area, and who desired newer housing than could be found in the central cities. Good schools, amenities such as the Heart of the City, park system, diversity in housing and the numerous recreational lakes and parks continue to attract buyers from throughout the metropolitan area.

Figure A-18, Historical Housing Units by Type illustrates the growth in housing units between 1964 and 2005. Although the numbers of each type of housing unit increased dramatically by 1990, the combined number of duplex/townhomes and condominium/apartments slightly exceeded the number of single family homes for the first time. This is remarkable in comparison to the percentage of single family homes in 1964; however it has been a trend since 1978, when the percentage of single-family homes began to hover around 50 percent.

Figure A-18
Historical Housing Units by Type, 1964-2005

	1964		1978		1990		1998		2005	
Housing Type	**Number**	**Percent**	**Number**	**Percent**	**Number**	**Percent**	**Number**	**Percent**	**Number**	**Percent**
Single Family	1,752	92%	6,102	54%	9,538	47%	11,779	50%	12,085	47%
Duplex/ Townhome/	--	--	--	--	2,950	15%	3,961	17%	3,295	13%
Condo /Apartment	110	6%	4557	40%	6,997	34%	7,254	31%	9,418	37%
Manufactured Housing	36	2%	663	6%	759	4%	766	3%	766	3%
TOTAL	**1,898**	**100%**	**11,322**	**100%**	**20,244**	**100%**	**23,760**	**100%**	**25,564**	**100%**

Much of the single-family housing stock in Burnsville consists of ramblers and split-entry homes; however, single-family development in the 1980's expanded into a greater variety of architectural types and styles. By today's standards, most of the homes of this type are regarded as "move-up" homes. The graphic on the following page illustrates the location and styles of single family homes in Burnsville.

Figure A-19
Style of Housing in the City of Burnsville, 2004

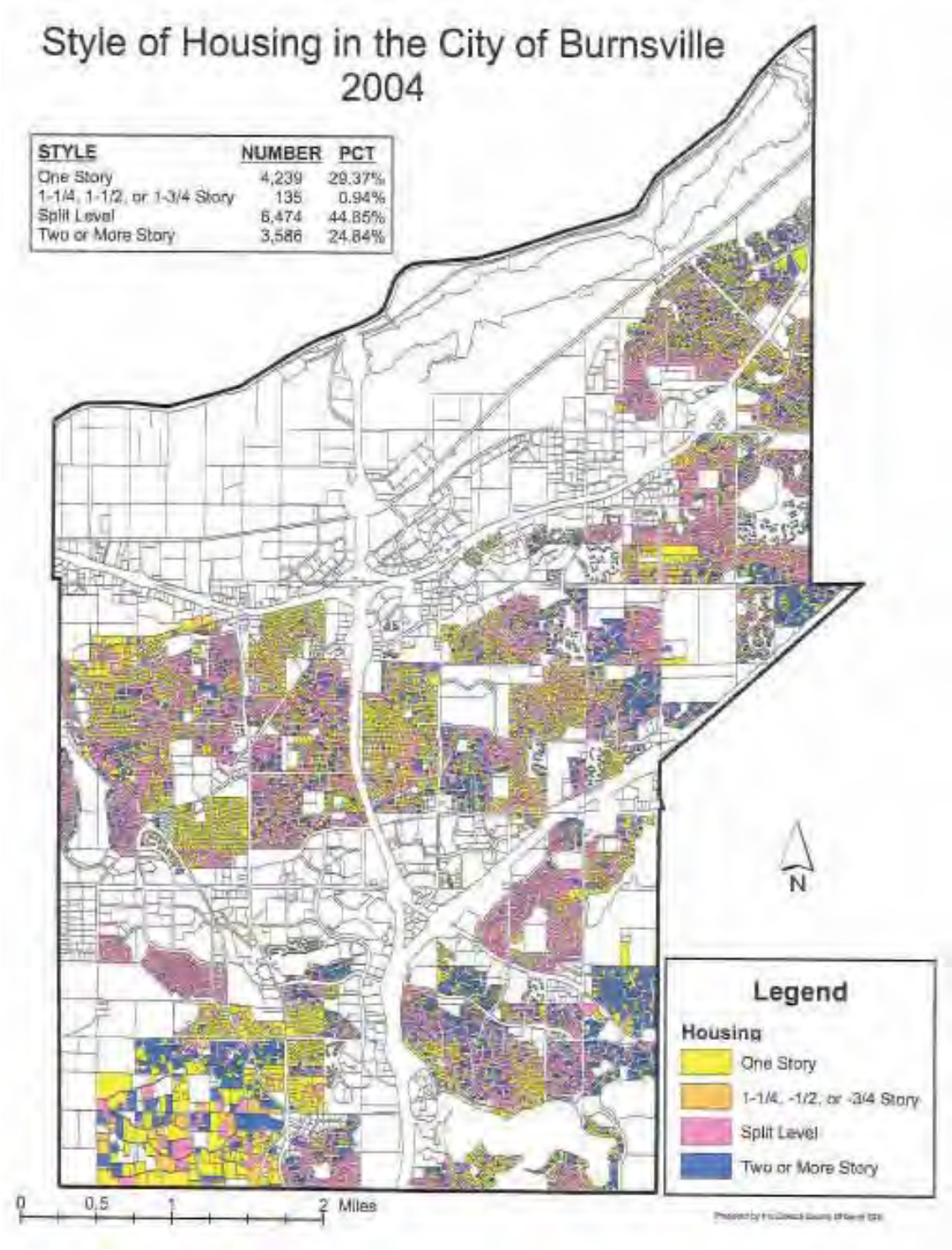


Figure A-20, Number and Percentage of Owners and Renters, 2000 illustrates the number of owner-occupied housing units versus renter-occupied units. In 2000, 68 percent of the units in Burnsville were owner-occupied.

Figure A-20
Number and Percentage of Owners and Renters, 2000

Type	Number	Percentage
Renter	7,545	31.9
Owner	16,142	68.1
Total HH	**23,687**	**100.0**

Source: U.S. Census, 2000

Burnsville's housing is still very much in demand, and vacancy rates remain very low. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, Burnsville possessed a homeowner vacancy rate of 0.4 percent and in 2005 the rental vacancy rate was 6.05 percent. This was a trend of the market and experienced by most cities in the Metropolitan Area.

Figure A-21, Average Rents, 2005 details the average rents in 2005 and amount of decrease from 2004. Burnsville's average rents for 2005 decreased by $16.60 or 1.91%. Average rents for three bedroom units were lower and efficiency, one and two bedroom units were higher when compared to the county averages. Burnsville has 31.6% of the rental market in Dakota County.

Figure A-21
Average Rents, 2005

Unit Size	2005 Average Rents	Dollar Amount of Change	Percent Change
Efficiency	$628.49	($4.86)	-0.77
One Bedroom	$741.21	($16.01)	-2.11
Two Bedrooms	$897.00	($19.03)	-2.08
Three Bedrooms	$1,126.80	($7.50)	-0.66

Source: Dakota County CDA

POPULATION AND DENSITY

Figure A-22, Population and Housing Density illustrates that the City of Burnsville's population will continue to increase. The number of people per household will continue to decrease, which is a function of the aging population and the rise in the number of one-person households. Although Burnsville is 98% developed, infill and redevelopment opportunities will allow for some additional housing units at higher densities. Also, more housing opportunities may arise in the next planning period.

Figure A-22
Population and Housing Density

Year	1964	1970	1978	1990	2000	2005	2010	2020	2030
Population	8,054	19,940	35,484	51,288	60,220	61,262	61,400	63,000	65,000
Land Area	16,996	17,249	17,249	17,249	17,249	17,249	17,249	17,249	17,249
Persons/Acre	0.47	1.16	2.06	2.95	3.49	3.55	3.56	3.65	3.77
Number of Households*	1,898	5,251	11,322	19,127	23,687	24,380	25,200	27,000	28,700
Persons/ Household	4.24	3.80	3.13	2.68	2.54	2.51	2.44	2.33	2.26

Note: Due to an annexation in the mid-60's, Burnsville's land area increased from 16,650 to 17,249 acres.
**This is a household estimate – not a unit estimate.*

DEMOGRAPHIC IMPACT UPON HOUSING

The Metropolitan Council predicts the number of people in their 20's to increase at the same time the number of people in their 60's will be on the rise, creating an increased demand for townhouses, apartments, and condominiums. This will range from affordable housing for senior citizens and single mothers, to amenity-rich townhomes for empty nesters with more disposable income or single people living alone. Senior citizens also will demand more assisted living quarters. Burnsville will be well-prepared to provide life cycle housing to accommodate these changing demographics.

AFFORDABLE & PUBLICLY-ASSISTED HOUSING

Although the City of Burnsville provides a variety of low- and moderate-income housing opportunities to its residents, the demand for subsidized housing continues to increase. This demand may be fueled by the fact that the percentage of affordable housing is so close to the Livable Communities Act (LCA) benchmark. Based upon statistics from 2007, the various types of assisted housing currently provided in Burnsville are illustrated in Figure A-23, Types of Assisted Housing, 2007.

Figure A-23
Types of Assisted Housing, 2007

Assisted Housing	Elderly Handicapped/ Disabled	Family	Total
Section 8 Housing:			
Vouchers	268	364	632
Portable	18	38	56
Project Based	0	89	89
202 (elderly/handicapped)	42	0	42
811 (handicapped)	41	0	41
236 Rental	0	200	200
HOME TBRA	7	13	20
Low Rent Housing (HUD)	0	61	61
CDA Bond Financed Senior Housing	126	0	126
CDA Tax Credit Housing	0	56	56
Non-CDA Bond Financed Housing	0	106	106
Non-CDA Tax Credit Housing	0	105	105
MAX 200 (Short Term Senior)	3	0	3
Shelter + Care	2	0	2
Bridges	0	9	9
DVP (Disaster Voucher Program)	0	3	3
Total Assisted Housing	507	1,044	1,551

Source: City of Burnsville, Dakota County CDA

Additional affordable owner occupied housing is available in the form of single-family detached units, two-family homes, townhouses and mobile/manufactured housing. In 2007 the Metropolitan Council estimated that 25% of the housing units is affordable to households earning 60% or less than the Twin Cities area medium income, which is the new criteria for affordability allocation by the Metropolitan Council as discussed below.

Nationally, new mobile/manufactured homes sell at a range between $28,200 and $47,300. Burnsville is home to three manufactured/mobile housing parks, with a total of 766 lots. Because the owners of homes in mobile/manufactured housing parks do not own their lots, they can be faced with enormous relocation costs if the park owner sells the park for an-other use. To protect mobile/manufactured housing park residents, the Burnsville City Council adopted an ordinance in 1997 that requires the owner and/or developer to pay reasonable relocation costs to the residents. The City is not aware of any planned park closures.

SENIOR CITIZEN HOUSING

As the City's population continues to age, many senior citizens will move into housing that better accommodates their needs and lifestyles. Currently, 1,307 housing units in Burnsville are available to senior citizens. Figure A-24, Senior Housing, details the senior housing units in Burnsville.

Figure A-24
Senior Housing

Facility Name	Number of Units
Assisted Living	
Arbors at Ridges	45
Cardenas Friendship House (two locations)	10
Carefree Living	95
Emerald Crest	60
Leah's Apartments	4
Regent at Burnsville	60
Rivers Manor	58
West Apartments	24
Independent Living	
Eagle Ridge Place	60
Ebenezer Ridge Point Apartments	42
Gramercy Club	126
Meadowood Village	92
Parkway Cooperative	102
Park Ridge Place	66
Realife Cooperative (two complexes)	221
Regent at Burnsville	76
Rivers Estates	120
Woodhurst East Condos	50
Total Units	**1,311**

Additionally, many senior citizens have moved into townhouse developments to retain home ownership without extensive maintenance obligations.

DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL

The City is working to efficiently develop its small amount of remaining vacant infill residential land through zoning, efforts to remove barriers that are inhibiting a parcel's development and through infill.

Utilizing a geographic information system (GIS), the City created a summary of all the remaining vacant land, totaling 417.01 net acres. The main areas of vacant land are commercial zoned land at 94.28 acres, industrial zoned land at 126.72 acres and residential at 143.08 acres with an additional 35.7 zoned R-3C, Regional Center Residential located in the Ridges campus Planned Unit Development (PUD). Of all the vacant residential acreage in the City, 13 percent is zoned single-family residential, 19 percent is zoned rural residential, less then one percent is zoned medium and high density residential.

Currently, 34 percent of the total acreage in the City is utilized as residential; 23 percent of this portion is designated as single family residential, approximately 8 percent is in some form of

multi-family use, and 3 percent is in rural residential use. Residential land constitutes 35 to 45 percent of the total acreage in similar metropolitan area suburban communities, a larger percentage than found in Burnsville. Burnsville however, possesses a greater percentage of multi-family units and more park land than many other communities.

Beyond the 2030 planning period it is possible that more land will be available for housing as part of mixed use developments but this will depend on the final development of the Kraemer PUD and any density changes in the currently unsewered Southwest portion of the City. The City does not anticipate Southwest Burnsville to be sewered before 2020, if at all. The majority of Southwest Burnsville is not serviced with municipal utilities even though all of Burnsville is within the Metropolitan Urban Service Area (MUSA). Single family lots in this area of the City are required to meet a two acre minimum lot size standard (minimum of 2 acres of dry upland area suitable for septic systems). The City's policy is to allow property owners to develop their lands under a PUD at a 1 acre gross density provided municipal utilities brought to the site and are 100% paid for by the developer. Future environmental changes and regulations could require sewer extension, lowering the minimum lot size requirement and allowing for the development of additional housing units. However, major density changes in Southwest Burnsville are not contemplated.

REDEVELOPMENT

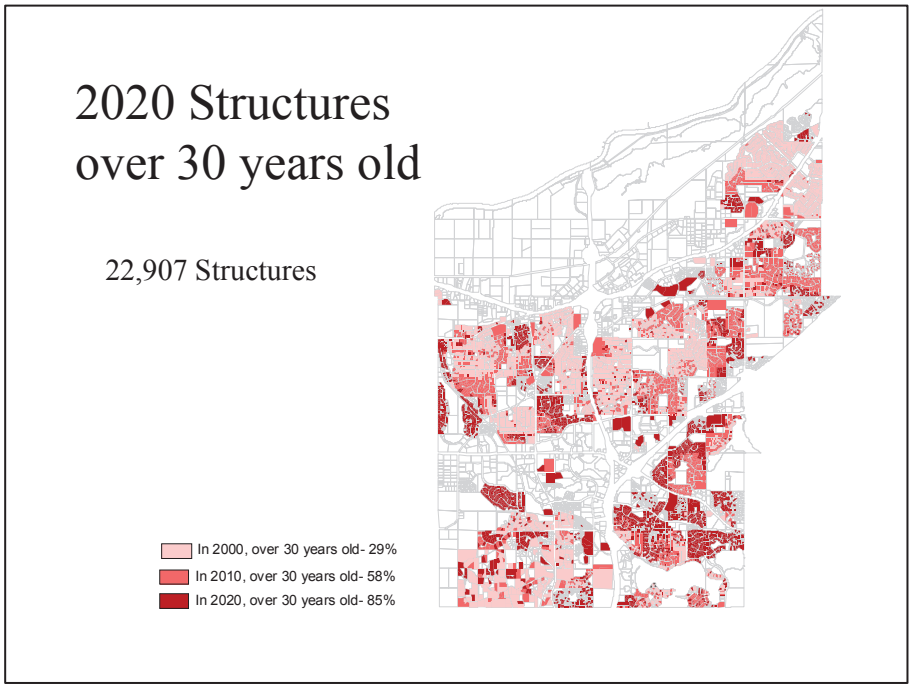
Burnsville's housing, while relatively new to the region, is beginning to age. Most of Burnsville's detached housing was built in the 1970's and 1980's, and the older home styles have become somewhat dated. Of the City's total housing units, almost 78 percent was built prior to 1990 as shown in Figure A-25, Age of Housing and Percent of Total. Structures reaching 20 years of age begin to require major repairs such as siding, roof and furnace replacements, and lack of regular maintenance begins to show.

Figure A-25
Age of Housing and Percent of Total

Year Built	Units	Percent
Pre-1960	637	2.0
1960-1969	4,330	17.0
1970-1979	7,565	30.0
1980-1989	7,346	29.0
1990-1999	4,345	17.0
2000 - 2005	1,341	5.0
TOTAL - 2005	**25,564***	**100.0**

Source: U.S. Census
**Source - Best Estimate: Census + City Permits*

In 2000, there were a total of 14,033 residential housing structures in Burnsville of which 29% were more than 30 years old.



In 2020, 85% of the total hosing structures will be more than 30 years old. According to population projections, another 4,320 housing structures will be built as infill or redevelopment thru 2030.

Burnsville is committed to maintaining its housing supply in good, marketable condition in order to preserve the quality of its neighborhoods and its tax base. To monitor the conditions of the City's single family housing, the City has undertaken periodic Housing Condition Surveys since 1978 with the most recent survey conducted in 2005. The surveys grouped housing units into four categories:

Due to the City's emphasis on housing maintenance in the Protective Inspections Division, housing conditions in Burnsville's single-family neighborhoods are improving. City Inspectors successfully have pursued property maintenance complaints and targeted problem areas. In 1997, the City adopted a comprehensive property maintenance code specifying maintenance standards and created a full-time maintenance inspector position to focus on housing rehabilitation efforts. The inspectors implement the code by contacting and working with property owners to gain cooperation and compliance. The Dakota County CDA also offers grant programs that provide homeowners with up to $1,000 dollars to complete code enforcement corrections on their homes.

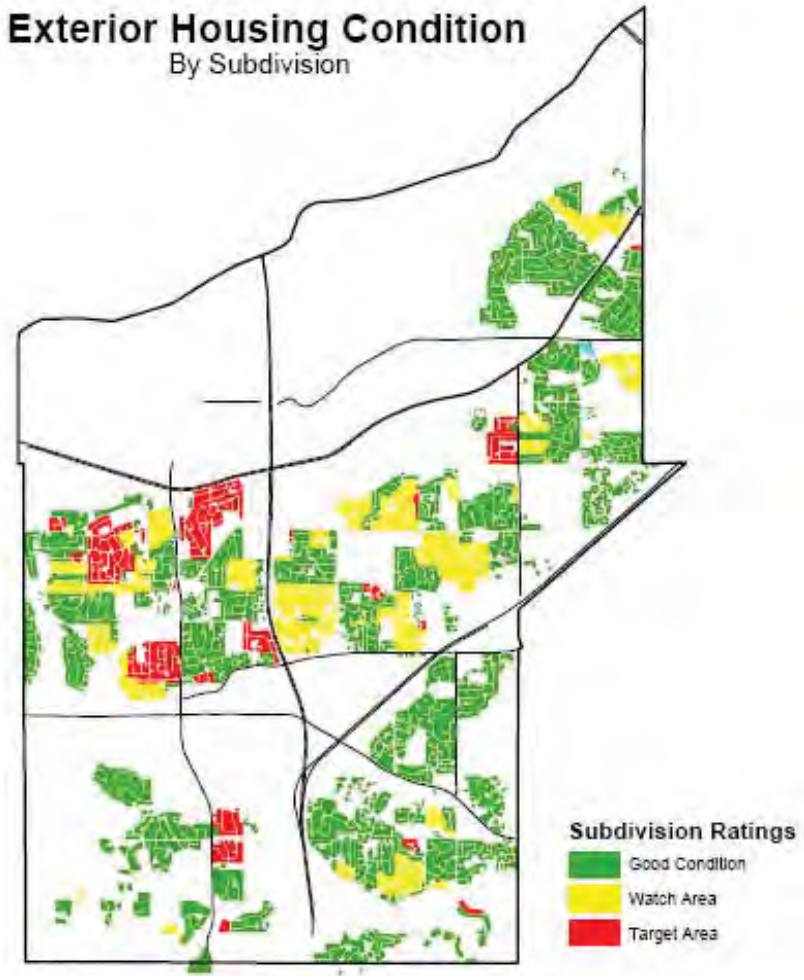
The 2005 Survey followed a similar methodology as earlier surveys and a drive-by windshield survey of housing characteristic was conducted for over 9,000 homes. Criteria used in the 2005 study is shown on the following table:

Figure A-26
Housing Condition Criteria, 2005

1 point	Excellent/Brand New
2 points	Good/newly replaced
3 points	Average/well maintained
4 points	Serious repairs needed
5 points	Beyond repair/replacement mandatory

An overall housing condition by subdivision rating was calculated by taking the average of the rating of each criterion. Furthermore, an overall subdivision rating was calculated by taking the average of the overall housing condition for each house in the subdivision. The overall ratings for each subdivision were mapped using GIS.

The results of the study found that Burnsville's housing stock is in good condition and not in immediately need of substantial rehabilitation. The following map displays the locations and percentages of subdivision housing in good, moderate, preliminary deterioration and deterioration stage. The City will continue its successful efforts with the existing comprehensive property maintenance code specifying maintenance standards and enforcement.



Most property owners want to maintain their properties, but some do not have adequate resources to do so. Assistance is available from various sources, including:

- Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Local Participation
- Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Home Improvement Loans
- Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Home Rehabilitation Loans
- Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Home Energy Loans
- Community Development Block Grant Rehabilitation Loans
- Community Development Block Grant Mobile Home Rehabilitation Loans
- HOME Program Rehabilitation Loans
- Weatherization Programs

The City works on several fronts to maintain neighborhoods and provide services to the community where needed. For example, the City organizes spring clean up and recycling programs, aids seniors using Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) funds for appliance and furniture removal up to $300, chore services are offered along with DARTS for chores for seniors (shoveling, yard cleanup, etc.) and CDA has low interest loans.

The City has continued efforts to increase home ownership opportunities for residents. New multi-family developments have focused on owner occupied units versus rental units. In an effort to promote and encourage the upgrade, enhancement and maintenance of existing housing stock the city organized the 9th Annual Home Remodeling Fair featuring home improvement vendors, seminars, and prizes.

The ordinance pertaining to the outdoor storage of recreational vehicles was amended through the governance process. The Council designated a citizens committee of three residents for change and three residents against change to prepare suggested ordinance amendments related to definitions, hard surface, screening, and enforcement. Through lengthy public comments and Council dialogue, the Council made changes to the definitions, length of vehicles, hard surfacing, and limiting the parking or recreational vehicles and trailer to 14 days in the front yard. This is a compromise to keeping home and neighborhoods attractive as viewed from the street while providing for the storage of such vehicles and trailers on a lot in the side or rear yards.

The City continues to offer and promote programs to improve housing stock in Burnsville, including working with the Dakota County Community Development Agency (CDA) in offering zero and low interest rate rehabilitation loans. These loans utilize a variety of funding sources including Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Minnesota Housing and Finance Agency (MHFA), and Department of Energy funds. CDBG funds are used to preserve and enhance quality housing as well and improve neighborhoods. In 2005/06, the CDBG allocation was $259,700, plus $13,000 in CDA administration reimbursements. An allocation of $259,700 is expected for the 2006/2007 funding cycle,

The Home Remodeling Grant program is designed to assist low-to-moderate single family homeowners bring their homes up to code. Up to $4,500 in improvement dollars are available per applicant. No more than one grant will be awarded to any applicant or property. Maximum grant award is $4,500, no matching funds are required. The residence must be owner occupied. Grant monies must be used to bring properties into compliance with Burnsville's City Code. This program was administered for the first year by the city, but is now administered by

the Community Development Agency, CDA is reporting a balance of approximately $83,000 to continue this program. City staff also offers CDBG funds for chore services as well as the appliance and furniture removal to low-to-moderate income seniors; sixty five seniors have used the appliance removal program and 19 residents received assistance with the DARTS chore service in 2005-2006.

CDA offers the Home Improvement Loan Program, which assists low- and moderate-income homeowners with making repairs and improvements to their homes. Funds are commonly used for roof replacement, furnace replacement, electrical and plumbing repairs, insulation and special needs improvements (such as ramps, bathroom and kitchen modifications). Eligible applicants must own their home, have sufficient equity in the property, a satisfactory credit history and a gross annual income within the program income limits. The CDA offers two types of loans for homeowners - Deferred and Installment. Both loans have a maximum loan amount of $25,000.

The City also has a grant program to improve the appearance of cul-de-sacs where up to $500 of reimbursement is available for renovations or improvements to cul-de-sac islands in Burnsville.

The City of Burnsville's Citizen Corps Council (BCCC) was formed in 2003 to help Burnsville prepare for disasters and emergencies through a strong partnership of community organizations, local government agencies and neighborhood-based volunteers. Partners include:

City Council Liaison	DARTS
Civil Air Patrol	Citizen Volunteers
Community Action Council	ISD #191
Fairview Ridges	MVTA
Chamber of Commerce	City Staff
Senior Center	

2006 BCCC goals were: 1) to develop a 72 hour personal survivability plan for residents; 2) to help businesses become better prepared for disasters and emergencies; and 3) to continue the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training and other volunteer programs. Progress on these goals was good. Personal Survivability kits were demonstrated with the help of local volunteers at the Fire Muster. A "Recipes for a Disaster" cookbook, created by BCCC volunteers, is in its second printing and has been requested nationally by other organizations. It is a practical guide on preparing for a disaster and eating well under primitive conditions. Staff worked with local businesses to develop a web based Business Continuity Planning instrument that is available free on the City's web site. Two new CERT classes were held and the City's Mobil Volunteer network was deployed in support of community events and training exercises.

THE LIVABLE COMMUNITIES ACT

The 1995 Metropolitan Livable Communities Act (LCA) is a State law offering incentives to Twin Cities Metropolitan Area communities to provide more affordable housing, to clean up and redevelop contaminated land, and to encourage innovative housing and neighborhood design. Administered by the Metropolitan Council and supported by three separate funds, money from these funds is awarded to communities on a priority basis but only if they agree to participate

with the Metropolitan Council under the terms of the Act and only if they meet individual goals the community sets for various housing issues in cooperation with the Metropolitan Council.

The City of Burnsville has been a great supporter and benefactor of the LCA program. During the years between 1999 and 2000 the City received $4.1 million dollars in grant funds for the streetscape and beautification efforts for Nicollet Avenue and acquisition, relocation and infrastructure and construction grant funds for the construction of Nicollet Commons Park in the Heart of the City (HOC). These funds were essential to the jump start development in the HOC.

The Metropolitan Council prepared a report in 2006 that determines the affordable housing need in the region between 2011 and 2030. Through an analysis and determination of factors a unit count has been provided to each City of their new affordable housing requirement. Factors used include: 1) household growth potential; 2) ratio of local low-wage jobs to low-wage workers; 3) current provision of affordable housing; and 4) transit service.

Using these criteria it is determined that Burnsville's allocation is 737 new affordable housing units between 2011 and 2030. The definition of affordable is a unit priced at or below 30% of gross income of a household earning 60% of the Twin Cities median family income. Goals for meeting this requirement in addition to anticipated housing demands of all types of housing will be discussed as part of the overall Comprehensive Plan Update.

Housing Studies Since 2000

The City of Burnsville has taken a very active approach to discovering new ways of updating and maintaining the existing housing stock. Several important studies or white papers have been prepared to analyze current conditions and new opportunities for improvements. The following is a summary of these studies.

Model for Strategic Residential Neighborhood Building, A White Paper

This paper was prepared by staff in 2002 in response to one of many City Council outcomes. In the 2001 Council Ends and Outcomes called for the formulation of a "plan and strategy to collaboratively advance the viability of residential neighborhoods." The white paper was prepared to address this measurable.

The white paper reviewed the abundant amount of current City sponsored programs and activities aimed at neighborhoods and their enhancement. The study also reviewed demographics of population, housing and economic trends. The study reviewed what other communities are doing in related efforts to help expand the toolbox available to Burnsville. Finally, the study called out several ideas that can be incorporated into other City policies and as goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan Update. Some of these ideas have already been completed including reduction in residential setbacks for porch and room additions.

The study identified the following ideas:

- Provide direct housing programming- City involvement in rehabilitation programs and funding. Condemning properties, purchase blight, renovation and re-sale. Institute a home maintenance resource center providing services such as how-to and funding.
- Public Relations campaign/Communication- video, paper, media-neighborhood gatherings. Get local business community involved.

- Improve infrastructure- neighborhood signage, decorative streetlights, street signs, mailboxes, provide materials and neighborhood provides labor.
- Provide multi-housing resources for associations and apartments.
- Alter zoning ordinance to allow front porch additions or building additions without variances. (This item was completed in 2003).

Best Practices for Rental Housing

This project was undertaken as a result of a City Council measurable within the 2004 Ends and Outcomes. Based on building permit data, there are currently 7,940 multi-family rental units located within 62 different properties. If assisted living units and their related rental units are included, there are a total of 8,529 units in 69 properties.

The benefits of multi-family housing in the community are varied. From the perspective of the governing body, rental apartments and townhomes can provide for affordable options for housing for residents including young adults, seniors and those employed in the retail and other service industries. Multi-family housing fills a much needed housing niche. With respect to the rental aspect, renting affords residents with housing based on long or short term needs and for many provides transitional housing for those saving to purchase a home. Due to the higher densities, multi-family housing provides a significant tax base to the City, county and school districts.

There are several tools that have been created over the years to assist with the management and preservation of the City's multi-family rental properties. All of these initiatives were created in the 1990's as a result of a community driven need. They include adoption and enforcement of the property maintenance code, Crime-Free Multi-housing initiatives, Multi-housing Property Manager Coalition, and other case-by-case task force initiatives driven by specific properties.

Based on study research, three primary options were identified to preserve/improve rental housing stock. The first option is to do nothing and let the market manage itself. The second option is to implement and enforce a property maintenance code and the third tool is to adopt and require rental registration or licensing. Along with these tools, there are elements of education and voluntary participation such as Crime Free Multi-housing Programs or Property Managers Coalitions, etc. that are implemented on a voluntary/requirement basis. Since this study the City has created a comprehensive property maintenance code and inspection program.

Rental License Program

The City Council established a unique rental license program in 2005 with the assistance of the Minnesota Multi-family Association (MMHA). The program was adopted to promote the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the City, particularly those residents who line in rental properties and neighborhoods surrounding them. All rental properties are required to be licensed annually however, there is no fee associated with the license. A sliding penalty system was established with increased penalties for each violation of the Rental Licensing Program with a three strike limit.

In conjunction with the rental license program the City developed a reward program to encourage owners to participate and maintain their rental properties. The program is know as the STAR (Safer Tenant and Rental) program and it provides property owners and landlords the opportunity to voluntarily partner with the community to promote and maintain Burnsville's high quality of life. The STAR Program has varying levels of commitment by property owners.

Properties are awarded a STAR Level of A, B or C depending on these commitments. In addition to the good will generated by attaining a high STAR level, owners/landlords may lessen their exposure to fines, pay reduced sign permit fees or qualify for free and larger signs in exchange for their participation in the program. There is no fee to participate in the STAR program, and the benefits are designed to help to protect private property investment. The STAR program offers incentives such as allowing additional property signs, plaques, reductions of sign permit fees, listings on the City Website as a STAR certified provider etc, in exchange for levels of participation by private rental owners. The type of private rental owner commitments consist of agreements to conduct background checks on tenants, establish a crime free housing lease addendum, sign agreements to allow the City to be involved in evictions, enforcement of traffic laws on private property, attend City Crime Free Multi-Housing training, host an annual National Night Out Party or obtain MMHA or Multi-Housing Crime Free Certifications. The rental licensing and STAR programs have been successful to date.

City of Burnsville 2004 Mobile/Manufactured Homes Study

This study was conducted by Decision Resources, LTD. The study was conducted via telephone interviews of 267 owners and renters of mobile/manufactured homes. Of the study 97% own and 3% rent. Most desire the affordability of the mobile/manufactured home and see themselves continuing their residency. Eighty-five percent of residents living in the mobile/manufactured home parks cited no problems with their home. The study included demographic information on the survey respondents including data on household tenure, income, education and employment.

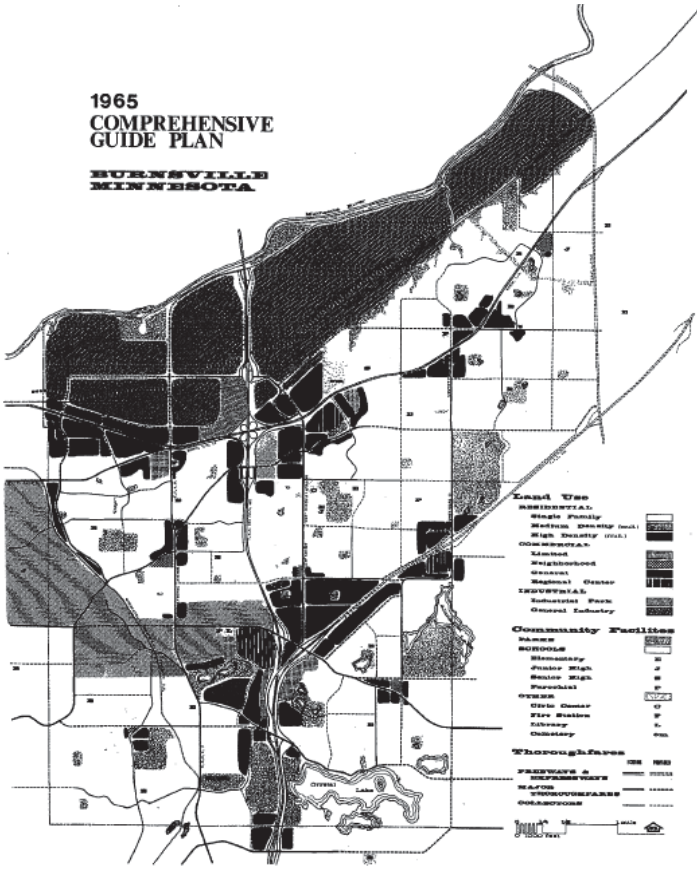
City Wide Surveys

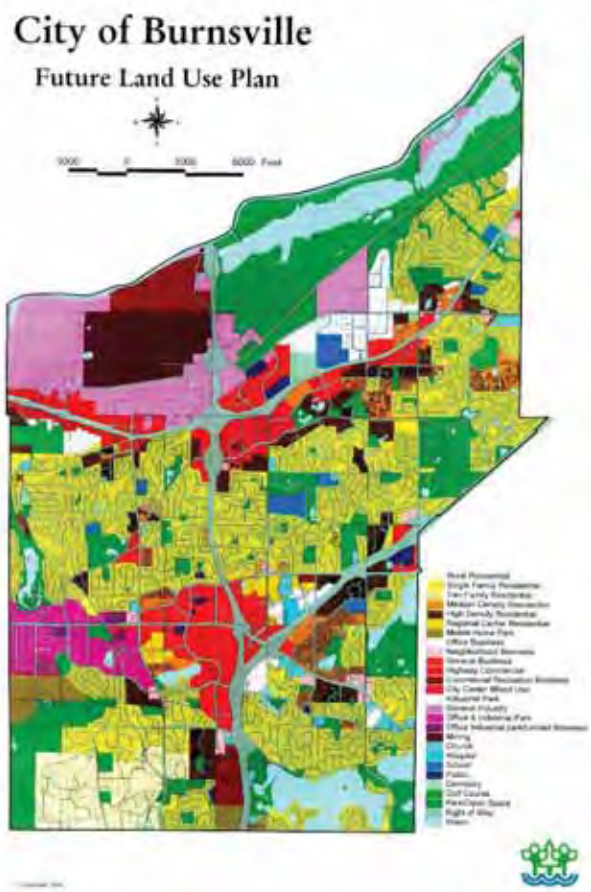
Every year the City of Burnsville conducts a City wide survey of residents and business on alternating years. In 2005 a residential survey was conducted by Decision Resources, LTD. The survey was very broad with questions ranging from quality of life, most and least desired City attributes, view on the direction of the City, quality of services provided by the City, quality of parks and usage, crime and safety, transportation and City communication efforts. The survey also compares results from the five earlier surveys conduced since 1994. The City-wide survey has been an effective tool to communication with residents and to learn their thoughts regarding new activities, policies or budgetary items the City Council may be considering.

LAND USE

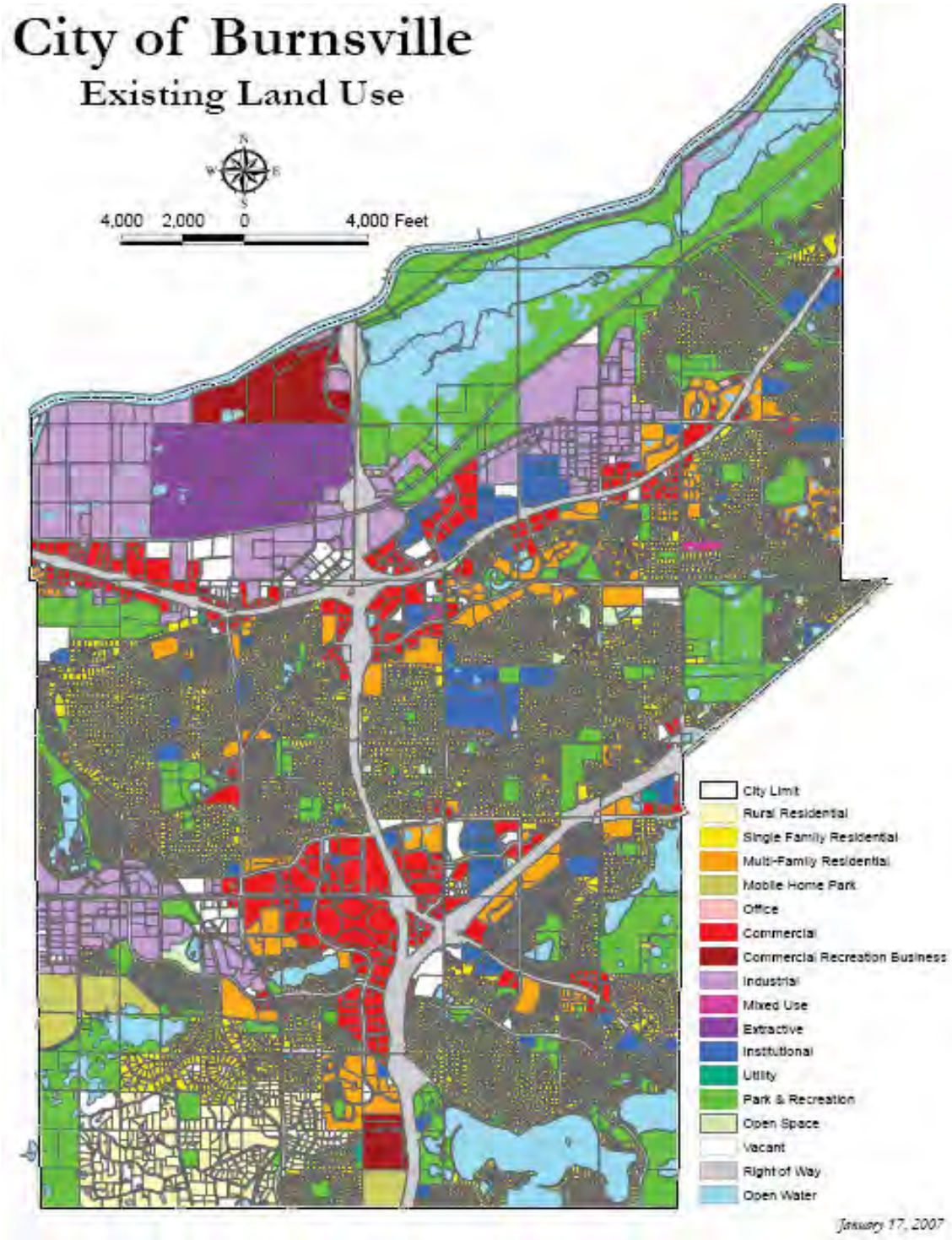
One purpose of the Comprehensive Plan Update is to identify future land use issues and offer suggestions for properly addressing them. The Land Use Chapter of the plan will begin with an inventory of existing land use and look at historical growth in land use categories. This information will also look to vacant land use trends that will give us a good idea of growth patterns in the community and what is available for future development.

The City of Burnsville has taken a strong approach when it comes to land use planning. From the first plan created in 1965 to the current plan today it is evident that the pattern of land use in terms of major commercial and industrial corridors and residential, parks and open space areas has followed the original plan from 1965. Below are the historical land use plan maps from 1965 and 2000.





The 2007 Existing Land Use map is very similar to the 2000 Land Use Plan Map above. As part of the update process, the existing conditions map will be reviewed and put into final form.

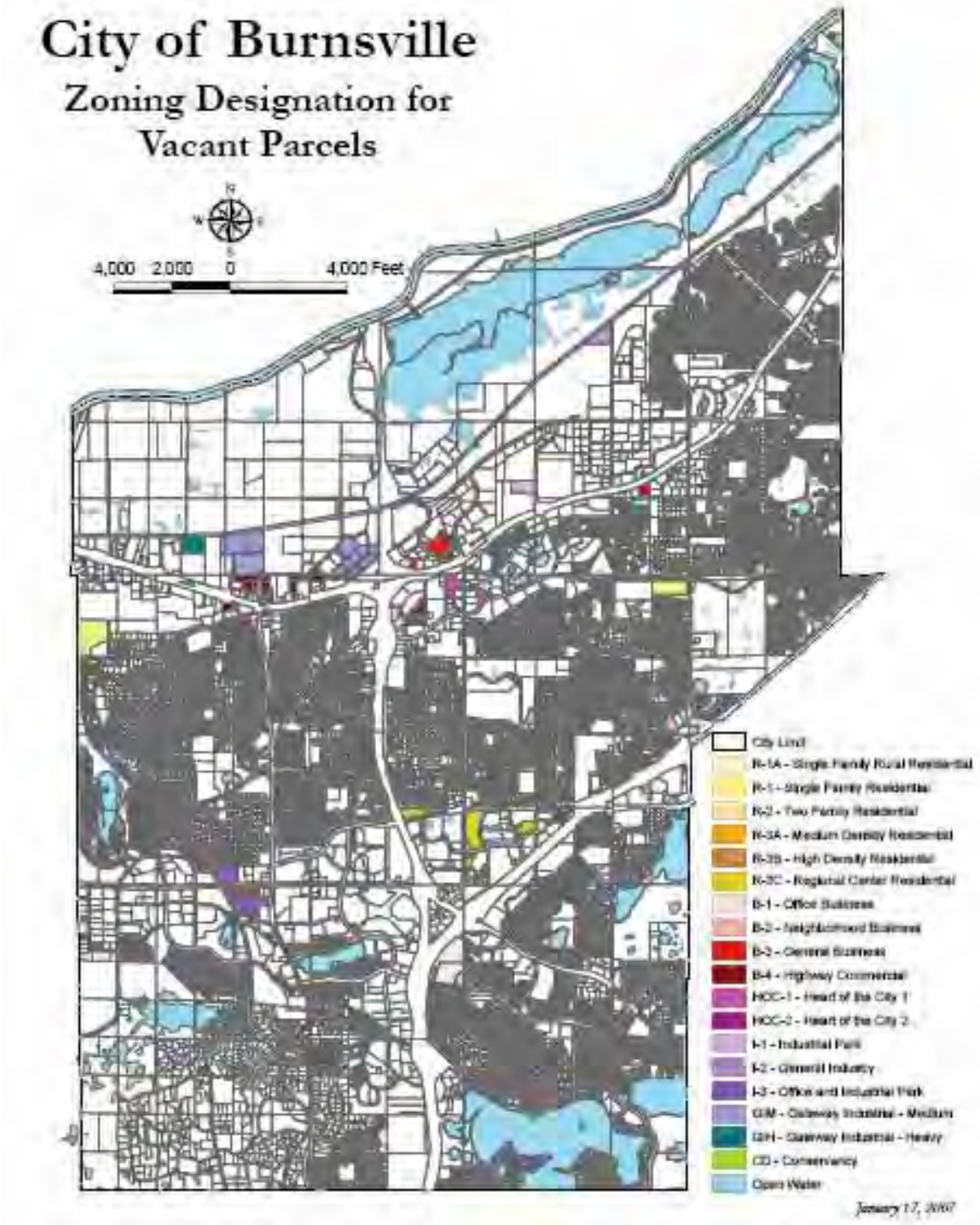


Corresponding with the Existing Conditions map, Figure A-27, 2007 Existing Land Use in Acres displays the growth in acres of the various land use categories from 1965 to present. The City has been considered to be fully developed since 1998.

Table A-27
2007 Existing Land Use in Acres

Land Use	1963	1978	1998	2007
Rural Residential			490.2	476.35
Single Family Residential	1,006	2,614	3,927.20	4,036.62
Multi-Family Residential		453	1,219	1,187
Manufactured Housing		136	172.5	168.05
Office			33.2	2.21
Commercial	104	426	1,280.60	1,017.16
Commercial Recreation				277.56
Mixed Use				14.39
Industrial	164.4	1,054	1,328.90	1,414.64
Extractive			487.7	485.85
Institutional	135.6	442	465.30	524.12
Utility				15.3
Parks/Golf		2,565	2,841.20	2,361.29
Open Space				130.64
ROW	1,235.10	2,091.00	2,849.70	2,878.00
Vacant	13,231.20	6,739	815.4	457.27
Open Water	773.4	737	1,371.40	1,834.59
Total City	16,650	17,257	17,282	17,282.13

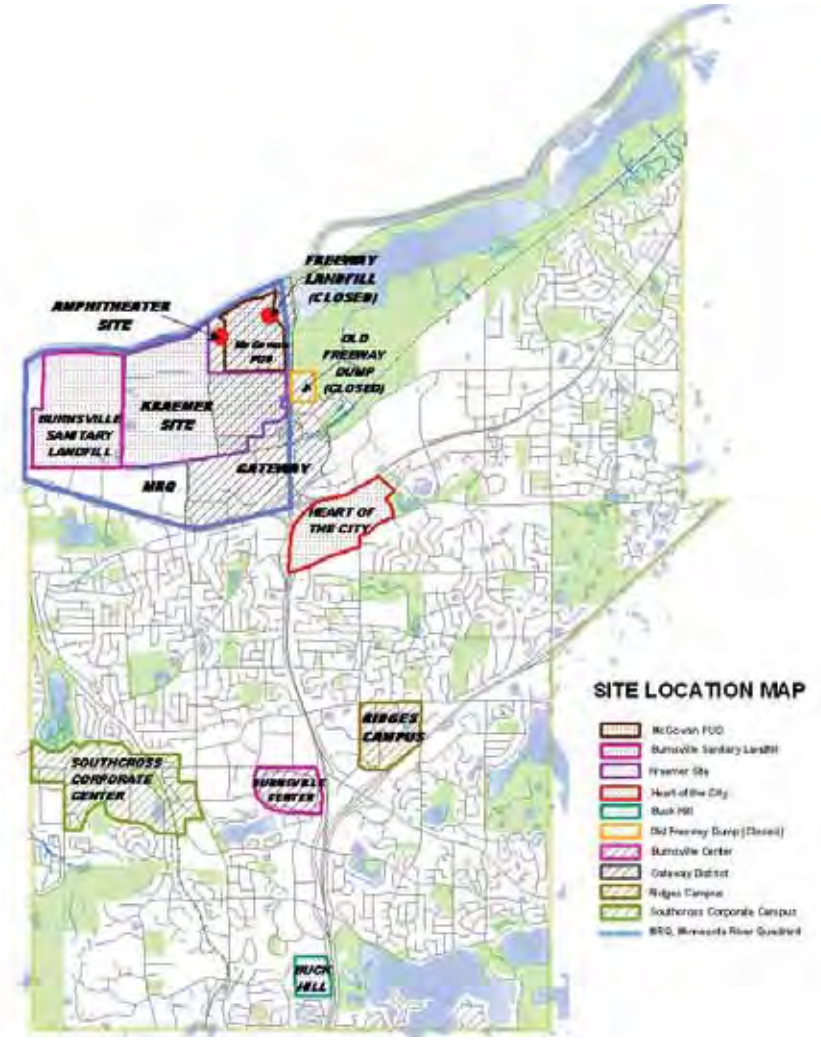
The map that follows shows the location of vacant properties in Burnsville. It is important to note that not all vacant properties are available for development or sale. Many properties are owned by individuals as either investment properties or as private yards or open space. The majority of remaining vacant parcels have development constraints related to severe topography, utility encumbrances, contain poor soils or have contaminated soils from previous land uses.


City of Burnsville
Zoning Designation for
Vacant Parcels
4,000 2,000 0 4,000 Feet
City Limit
R-1A - Single Family Rural Residential
R-1 - Single Family Residential
R-2 - Two Family Residential
R-3A - Medium Density Residential
R-3B - High Density Residential
R-3C - Regional Center Residential
B-1 - Office Business
B-2 - Neighborhood Business
B-3 - General Business
B-4 - Highway Commercial
HCC-1 - Heart of the City 1
HCC-2 - Heart of the City 2
I-1 - Industrial Park
I-2 - General Industry
I-3 - Office and Industrial Park
GIM - Gateway Industrial - Medium
GIH - Gateway Industrial - Heavy
CD - Conservancy
Open Water
January 17, 2007

Because Burnsville is reaching full development, the City is shifting its focus from development activities to the rehabilitation of existing structures and the redevelopment of certain portions of the City. These activities range from home improvement programs to building demolition and reconstruction.

Burnsville possesses a regional shopping mall, (Burnsville Center), surrounding shopping centers, as well as Towne and Country Center on Highway 13 and Cliff Road, the Diamondhead Mall on Burnsville Parkway, east of I-35W, and Valley Ridge on County Road 5, south of Burnsville Parkway. The owners of the Burnsville Center, the surrounding centers, Towne and Country, and Valley Ridge have upgraded their properties and tenant mixes, and most centers are doing well. Independent School District 191 acquired the Diamondhead Mall in the mid-1990's and, in conjunction with Burnsville High School, has converted the mall into a senior campus. Most of Burnsville's office complexes and campuses are also well-maintained. The City of Burnsville will continue to work with building owners to enforce the Property Maintenance Code and, if necessary, explore available resources.

The following map illustrates the locations of development areas within Burnsville that have been and will continue to be the focus of development and re-development efforts for the community.



Burnsville Center

The Burnsville Center was built in 1977 and is located at 915 West County Road 42 (southwest of County Road 42 and I-35W. The Center has been renovated twice since its opening. Burnsville Center is a key component to the economic viability of Burnsville. The Center is a 1.2 million square-foot regional shopping mall with a trade area that extends 18 miles east and west and 5 miles north and south of the facility. Burnsville Center has over 150 specialty retailers and is anchored by Sears, Macy's, JC Penny and Dick's Sporting Goods. The 99 acre site continues to see intensified development. Since 2000 the Burnsville Center has expanded and is developing freestanding retail including Jared the Galleria of Jewlery and Fuddruckers with plans for a new movie theater anticipated in 2007. The Center has also expanded its footprint by adding new retail/restaurants to the north side of the mall, (including Panera, Queboda Grill, and Kirklands Home), commensurate with the opening of Dick's Sporting Goods and Steve & Barry's University Sportsware. Since 2000, the Center has added 17,100 square feet of retail and restaurants to the site.

The City supports the Burnsville Center and recognizes that its economic viability is important to the community. The City has been supportive of expansion plans and has worked with the Center to allow new development in areas of the site that have underutilized parking. Burnsville Center maintains abundant amount of parking that exceeds the current ordinance standards. The Center provides approximately 5,950 parking stalls. The ordinance calculation requires 3,950 stalls. The City continues to work with Burnsville Center to address storm water management requirements, particularly those pertaining to water quality. As part of recent development approvals, the Center agreed to develop a Storm Water Management Master Plan for the entire Burnsville Center. The Plan will identify a list of projects that could be implemented on site to bring it up to current storm water run-off standards.

Southcross Corporate Campus

The Southcross Corporate Center area consists of 300 acres straddling County Road 42 from County Road 5 to the Savage City boundary. In an effort to prevent County Road 42 west of County Road 5 from becoming a commercial strip, the City developed I3, Office and Industrial Park regulations permitting retail development only as a component of a larger mixed-use project, and limiting the scale of retail establishments to serving the surrounding office/industrial park. In addition, development of office/industrial must precede or commence concurrent with the development of the retail portion. The vision was to provide an attractive, well-designed office/industrial park in this area of Burnsville and to promote traffic that flows in the opposite direction of the existing commuter travel on County Road 42, as well as utilize off-peak hours of operation. Today, there are only a handful of lots remaining in the Southcross Corporate Campus area, several of which contain topographic constraints. The remaining vacant properties are located between the railroad bed and County Road 5.

Ridges Campus

The Fairview Ridges Planned Unit Development is an integral part of Burnsville that contains Fairview Ridges Hospital, several medical clinics, senior housing and care, the YMCA and Prince of Peace Church. The PUD is bounded on the north by Nicollet Boulevard, on the west by Fairview Drive, on the south by I-35E and on the east by Ridges Pondview Medical Center. The original Ridges Campus PUD was approved in 1974 and today comprises about 32 acres of land. The original objective of the campus was to establish the Ridges as a focal point for medical and social professional services for Burnsville and Dakota County. Land uses called for in the original PUD closely match what has been built to date within the campus. The PUD called for a hospital, leaseable, privately owned medical and dental clinics, community health center, nursing home, religious facility, elderly housing and other multiple family housing. What has occurred on campus to fill these roles is Fairview Ridges hospital, Park Nicollet, Ridgeview and Fairview Clinics providing leaseable medical and dental office space; Ebenezer Ridges which provides 104 nursing beds, 42 independent senior units and 45 assisted living units; Prince of Peach Lutheran Church which has grown from a neighborhood church to a regional church; and finally the YMCA which can fill the role of the community health center by providing exercise facilities and much more through their programming.

As development occurs within the campus, special attention will be provided to development of an overall stormwater management system, green space and trail system throughout the development. The following graphic illustrates the Composite Campus Development Plan – Anticipated Development for the PUD.

Since 2000, substantial development of the campus has occurred including additions to the hospital, and an addition to Ebenezer Ridges Care Center to link the independent housing at Ridge Point Apartments to Ebenezer Ridges Care Center. Parking lot expansions were approved for the hospital and Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. Ridges Pondview, a new 33,685 square foot medical office building was constructed northeast of the hospital. In 2005, Fairview Ridges Hospital expanded by adding more surgical suites, additional support services, adult inpatient medical services, installed new HVAC (heating, ventilation, air conditioning) equipment and provided additional parking for the hospital campus. The project added two new floors to the hospital and finished out existing shell space. The expansion increased inpatient capacity from 131 to 150 beds and the total square footage of the hospital increased to 323,000 G.S.F. of floor area.

Fairview Ridges anticipates that at the time that phase 3 (the south tower addition) is built, a parking deck or ramp may be required adding approximately 900 spaces to the campus. A parking deck (similar to the Park Nicollet parking deck) would add about 300 parking spaces. The specific location of the parking ramp or deck cannot be determined until the South tower is fully planned. It is anticipated that the final phase of the hospital expansion (development of the south tower and new parking ramp or deck) will occur near 2010.

There have been recent discussions between Fairview and Prince of Peace to consider a land swap to better serve both entities and their future expansion plans. Such plans are expected to be completed during the 2030 planning period.

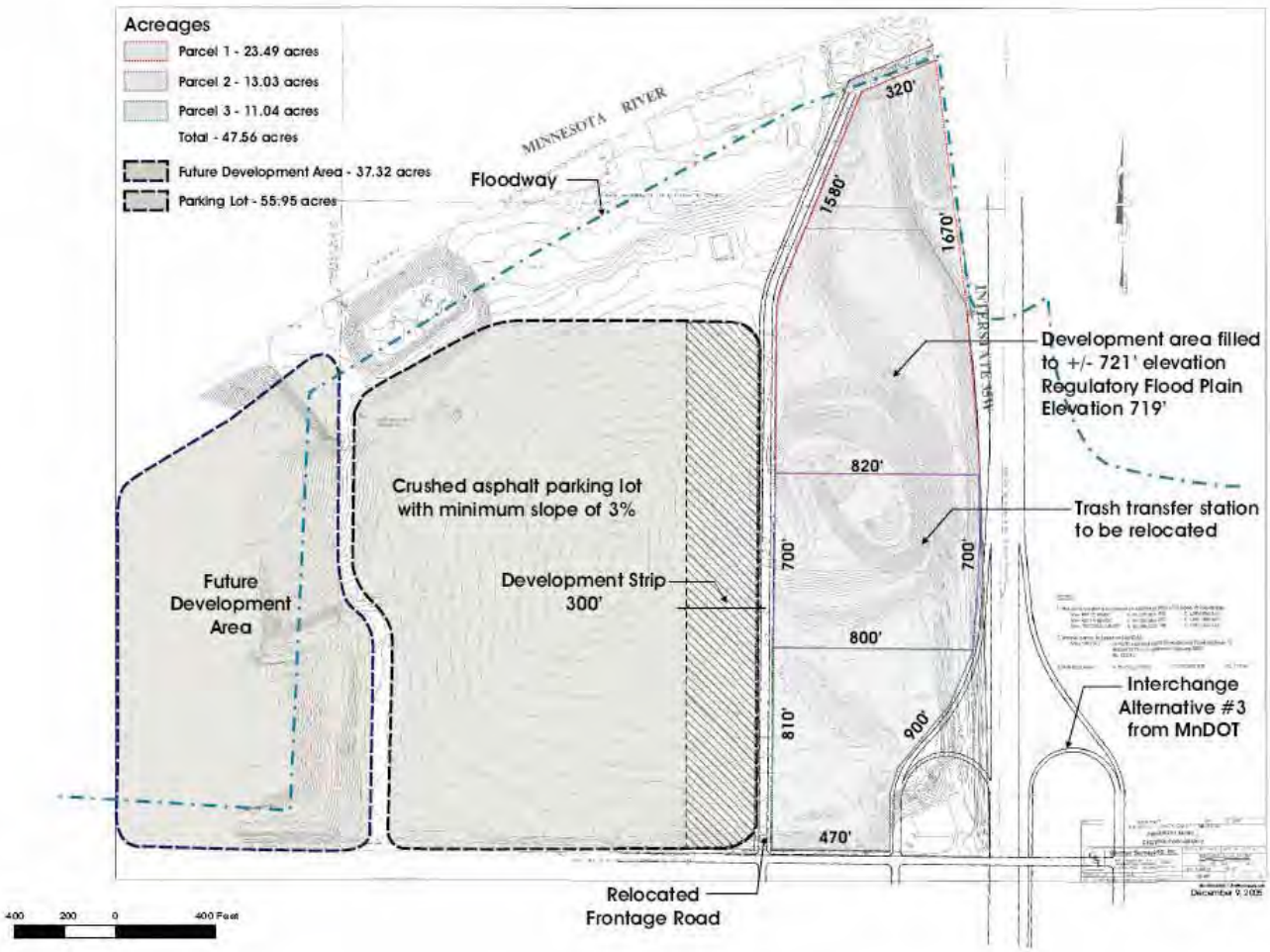
Kraemer PUD

The Kraemer PUD consists of approximately 500 acres of land located between the McGowan PUD and Burnsville Sanitary Landfill site. The Kraemer PUD is bounded on the north by the Minnesota River and on the south by the Union Pacific railroad tracks. Kraemer Mining and Materials Inc., also owns an 11 acre parcel located directly north of Menards. The majority of the PUD is used for the limestone quarry operation which is anticipated to remain open through 2018. City records date back to 1968 indicating mining operations existed at that time. The majority of the site was granted PUD approval in 1994 with the most recent amendment occurring in 1998 (to allow construction of a temporary office building at 2650 West Cliff Road). The PUD approval suggested that the City to conduct reviews of the operation and PUD every five years. As indicated above, it is anticipated that the limestone resource will be exhausted within the 2030 planning period. Once mining ceases, the quarry will be allowed to fill with cold, clean ground water (which is currently being pumped into the Minnesota River) to become a large, deep freshwater lake. The owner has developed a concept land use plan for the site which has yet to be approved by the City. The concept includes re-development of the lands adjacent to the quarry lake with a river oriented mixed use development that would front on I-35W. A key component of the land use concept includes providing recreational open space between the quarry lake and Minnesota River with connections to the national wildlife refuge, a public trail system and public park. The North Gateway Plan and zoning apply to the east part of the Kraemer property and the MRQ plan establishes a preferred new I-35W interchange location for the future interchange consolidating Cliff and Blackdog into one centralized interchange.

McGowan PUD

The property commonly referred to as the McGowan PUD contains about 180 acres of land and is bounded on the east by Interstate I-35W and the north by the Minnesota River. The site contains the Freeway Landfill which is closed but remains on the Minnesota Pollution Control

Agency's list of superfund sites. In recent years both the MnPCA and City have worked with the landowner to complete closure of the superfund site. In 2006 a conceptual plan was developed which would relocate the landfill from the site adjacent to I-35W to the west part of the McGowan property (Amphitheater 1st Addition). The idea is consolidate the garbage into a lined landfill and to fill the area adjacent to I-35W with appropriate soils and open the area for development. The agreements to accomplish this effort are ongoing. The following graphic illustrates the closure concept:



The McGowan property was zoned PUD in 1989 to accommodate a mixed use development including a trash transfer station, marina, and amphitheater to be located at 1001 Black Dog Road. The transfer station was constructed adjacent to Interstate I-35W. In 2000, the plat of Burnsville Amphitheater 2nd Addition was approved along with Development Stage PUD approval for an outdoor amphitheater and dedication of an 11 acre public riverfront park. The project required processing of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and substantial opposition to the project was mounted by residents located north of the river in the City of Bloomington. The developer/owner has not proceeded to complete the EIS and although the PUD remains in effect, there is little chance that the amphitheater will be constructed.

Burnsville Sanitary Landfill

The Burnsville Sanitary Landfill is a 362 acre site located between the Union Pacific rail road and the Minnesota River. The first mining permit was issued in the 1950's for this area and it is believed that land filling was occurring prior to this time. The earliest city records on file date back to 1968, which are for Edward Kraemer and Sons (EKS) Conditional Use Permit (CUP) applications, indicate the landfill was pre-existing. Several minor amendments have occurred since 1971, the most significant include:

- 1993, a CUP amendment to allow methane gas recovery systems was approved.
- 1994, Planned Unit Development (PUD) zoning added 767 acres of EKS property including the landfill and the quarry.
- 2002, Concept Stage PUD approved for expansion of the landfill to the north (North Development Area NDA) and west (West Development Area WDA).
- 2006, Development Stage PUD for proposed landfill expansion and end-use plan defined.

In 2006, the City granted approval of a Comprehensive Plan amendment for the site to change the land use from General Industry to Commercial Recreation Business. The application is currently under review by the Metropolitan Council. Once the land use plan is approved, the City will amend its zoning map to rezone the site to CRD, Commercial Recreation District to reflect the approved Final Development Plan PUD for the site. The PUD approval formally established the end use plan for the landfill site which is the creation of an 18-hole championship golf course and for the public to have access along the Minnesota Riverfront.

The property was platted as part of the PUD and the end use plan addressed all floodplain, future right-of-way, storm water and park dedication requirements of the City. A 43 acre outlot containing land adjacent to the Minnesota River will be given to the City. Of this, 31.9 acres is intended to be within a conservation easement as approved by the US Army Corp of Engineers (COE) permit. The PUD also provides a trail around the perimeter of the landfill. Once the landfill is closed, then the public will have access to the area parks, trails and golf course.

All environmental issues were resolved and agency permits have been approved or are under review for the landfill. The land filling activity is anticipated to continue through the year 2024 and this activity is recognized as an interim use with the golf course and recreational open space as the permanent or long term planned use for the site. The golf course will be sculpted with dirt berms on top of the landfill which are expected to be constructed in four phases:

1. By 2011 the driving range, practice tee, 4 practice holes, range building and parking area are to be constructed.
2. By 2017, 9 holes of the golf course will be constructed.
3. By 2020, existing holes will be modified for challenge and additional holes will be added.
4. By 2025, the 18 hole golf course will be completed and clubhouse constructed.

As part of the PUD, the project is required to be reviewed every five years and BSLI and staff will meet annually to review the status of the landfill and progress towards the end use plan.

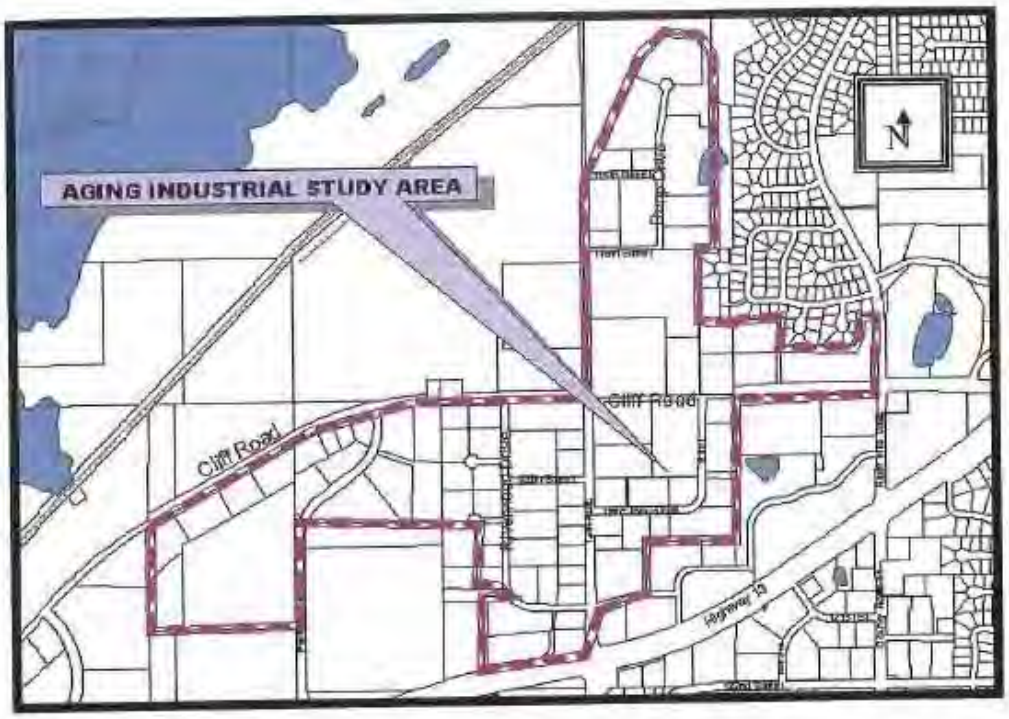
LAND USE STUDIES & AMENDMENTS SINCE 2000

The City has amended the 2000 Comprehensive Plan 27 times since its adoption in 1998 with 24 of the amendments being changes to the Land Use Plan (typically to accommodate a site specific development proposal). Major amendments included designating the boundaries of the Heart of the City on the Land Use Plan, modifying industrial and highway commercial areas to implement new Gateway Industrial Medium and Gateway Industrial Heavy zoning districts in the Minnesota River Quadrant, creating a new MIX (Mixed-Use) land use category and incorporating new Gateway District design standards. Two of the 27 amendments have been to incorporate changes to the Transportation element of the Comprehensive Plan 1) to incorporate the findings of the Highway 13 Corridor Study and 2) to add 126th Street located east of Nicollet Avenue to the Plan. The City also amended the Comprehensive Plan in 2002 to update population and demographics information.

Aging Industrial Study

In 2002 the City Council, with the assistance of the Economic Growth Committee, property owners and tenants, completed a study of Aging Industrial Areas. Two White Papers were developed as part of the City Council Governance process. The study was undertaken to investigate the long-term viability of the aging industrial properties in Burnsville. The study area covered 241 acres of land in the City and a total of 81 properties. The study included an inventory of aging industrial properties and a database was generated to identify general conditions, vacancy rates, market values and taxes generated. The study also evaluated existing and alternative land use controls to ensure that they are flexible and will preserve the value of industrial areas over time and allow for expansions and remodeling of the existing buildings. Funding assistance opportunities were also evaluated. The following graphic illustrates the location of the study area.

Figure A-28
Aging Industrial Study Area

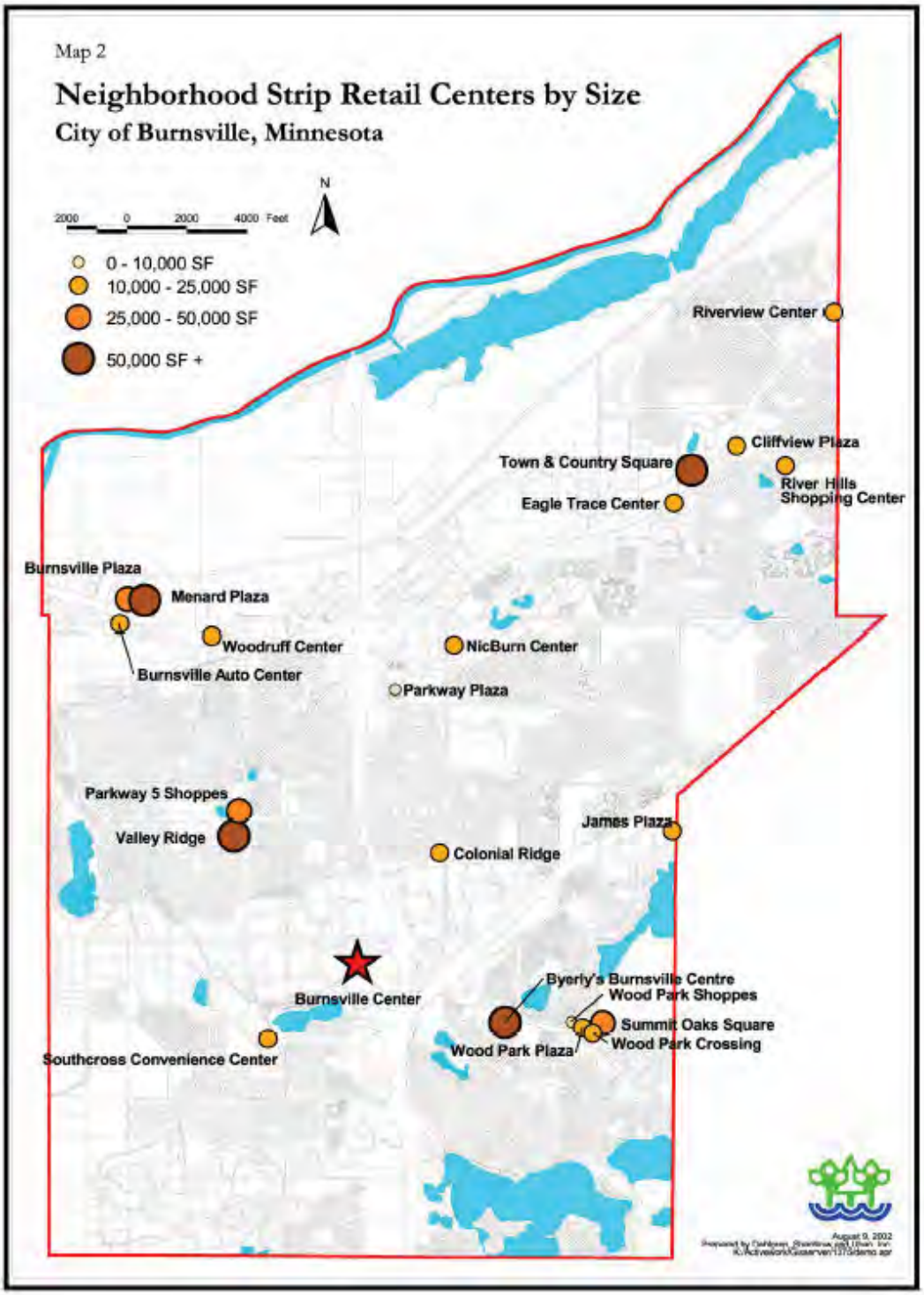


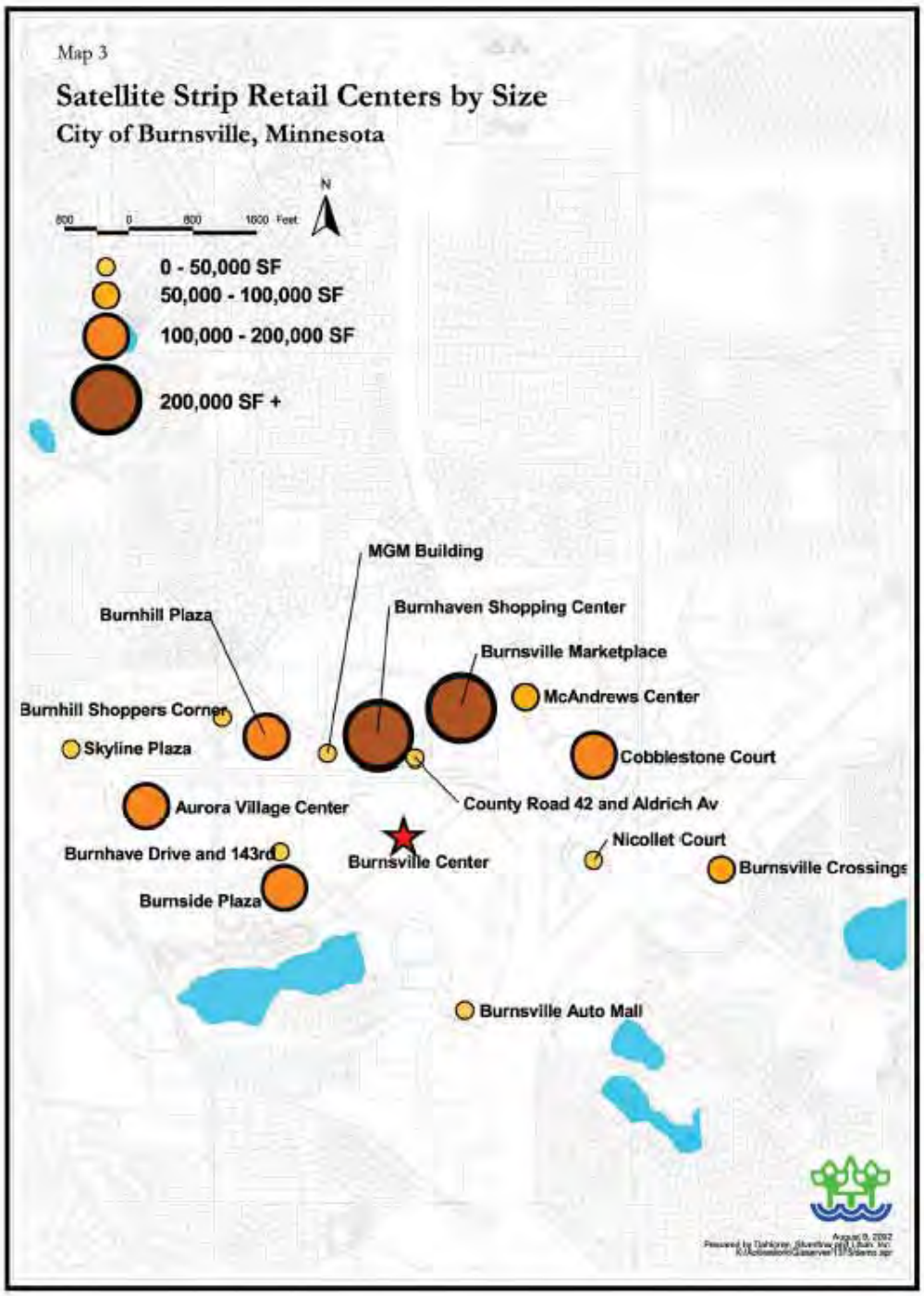
The study revealed that the majority (81%) of industrial properties were generally well maintained however, pockets of deterioration (primarily in the vicinity of 12th Avenue) were noted with prime issues associated with lack of landscaping or dead landscape materials, parking lots overflowing with vehicles, unscreened storage areas or deteriorating exterior materials.

As a result of the study, the City Council adopted a policy outlining evaluation objectives for PUD's in aging industrial districts. The purpose of the policy is to serve as a guideline for staff, Planning Commission and the City Council in evaluating proposals for redevelopment of the older industrial properties. The goals are to allow properties that are presently non-conforming an opportunity to expand their facilities through the PUD process, to provide for flexibility in setback, green space and other requirements, to allow a case-by-case evaluation of proposals apart from the variance process and to introduce aesthetic and environmental improvements into the process as considerations for site deviations. The policy establishes the types of deviations to be considered, methods for the project to off-set the deviations and also establishes the maximum deviation that will be considered. Deviations may be granted in exchange for providing enhanced landscaping, exterior materials, or by implementing Low Impact Development (LID) techniques on site.

A Model for Understanding The Reuse Potential of Strip Retail Centers in Burnsville

In 2001 the City received partial funding from the Metropolitan Council to undertake a study of retail strip centers in Burnsville. Two White Papers were produced on this topic as part of the City Council Governance process. The study analyzed strip centers looking at their performance along several criteria and selected a small number of strip retail centers that could be analyzed for potential reuse. At the time of the study, Burnsville had 36 retail strip centers of varying sizes and ages. Many of the centers were located near the Burnsville Center and took advantage of the mall's substantial, regional drawing power. Other retail strip centers were scattered throughout the community serving neighborhood residents, commuters or daily workers. The City was concerned about poor performance, poor physical characteristics, high vacancy rates, large underutilized parking lots, lack of pedestrian and transit amenities and deteriorated, outdated facades at some of the centers and wanted to find out what could be done to ensure that Burnsville's strip centers perform as strongly as possible. The centers were inventoried and ranked on key measures of competitiveness and performance. The following maps illustrate the location of neighborhood and satellite retail strip centers and their respective size.


Map 2
Neighborhood Strip Retail Centers by Size
City of Burnsville, Minnesota
N
2000 0 2000 4000 Feet
0 - 10,000 SF
10,000 - 25,000 SF
25,000 - 50,000 SF
50,000 SF +
Riverview Center
Cliffview Plaza
Town & Country Square
River Hills Shopping Center
Eagle Trace Center
Burnsville Plaza
Menard Plaza
Woodruff Center
NicBurn Center
Burnsville Auto Center
Parkway Plaza
Parkway 5 Shoppes
Valley Ridge
James Plaza
Colonial Ridge
Byerly's Burnsville Centre
Wood Park Shoppes
Burnsville Center
Summit Oaks Square
Wood Park Crossing
Wood Park Plaza
Southcross Convenience Center
August 9, 2002



The study recommended three retail strip centers be evaluated for potential reuse and redevelopment: Burnside Plaza, Parkway 5 Shoppes and Valley Ridge. Following the study, the City contacted the property owners to determine their level of interest in working with the City to develop design alternatives and standards for buildings, landscaping, open space, parking and other characteristics. The discussions about potential redevelopment will need to be

collaborative and include property owners, tenants and the surrounding neighborhoods. Owners of the Valley Ridge center acknowledged that retail and service may not be the highest and best use for their property and expressed an interest in working with the City to consider redevelopment options. The owner of the Parkway 5 Shoppes, a Korean Presbyterian Church indicated a desire to continue utilizing the site for the church and to lease space for a Korean market and restaurant. The owner expressed an interest to participate with a large redevelopment district plan although they desire to preserve part of the site for a church. The owners of Burnside Plaza recognized that retail may not be the highest and best use of the site however, they continue to reinvest in the property and completed a renovation of the exterior of the center in 2005.

Mixed-Use (MIX) Land Use District

In 2005 the Comprehensive Plan was amended to add a new land use category for mixed use developments. The 2000 Comprehensive Plan had identified that mixed use developments were allowed through the Planned Unit Development (PUD) zoning however, a specific land use category had not been created. This amendment added the "Mixed-Use" land use category to allow for greater flexibility within a land use category and to allow a mix of uses on a given parcel including residential, commercial, office, etc. The district is described as follows:

Mixed-Use (MIX) Mixed Use Developments consist of combinations of retail, commercial, office, professional and personal service designed with specific relationships to housing, particularly medium to high density housing. The mixed use development may also include a transit component as an integral part of overall design. The advantages of mixed-use development include more efficient use of land, lower costs to provide services, a diversity and/or transition of land uses, and a specific sense of community. Mixed-use developments are unique and provide for opportunities to blend varying desired land-uses. Therefore, they are reviewed on a case-by-case basis through the Planned Unit Development (PUD) process.

In 2005, an area adjacent to Buck Hill was guided to MIX but was subsequently guided to High Density Residential with a development project. Currently, there are no properties guided MIX. In the future, this land use designation could be applied to redevelopment of retail strip centers, the Minnesota River Quadrant or other areas of the City.

North Gateway District

In 2006 the North Gateway Design Plan was developed for the areas north of Highway 13 and both sides of Interstate I-35W. While Burnsville has many entrances, its predominant gateway is from the north, along Interstate I-35W, crossing the Minnesota River. The vision for this primary gateway is one "that reflects its steadfast and ongoing commitment to its transformation from its history of intense, land altering industrial activity, to land uses and activities that thrive in sustainable relationships with restored natural resource systems. Businesses strategically located along this gateway are supported by the excellent visibility afforded from this corridor and they have responded to this opportunity by a commitment to excellence in architecture, and site design. They reflect an image of quality and prosperity. They are aesthetically compatible with their neighboring businesses and the natural environment and they reflect and reinforce the signature Gateway Design Standards that have been established and enhanced over time. Opportunities for recreation abound throughout this area, from the golf course high up on the reclaimed landfill, through abundant trails along the river, amid restored floodplain wetlands and prairies, to swimming and boating on the clean, deep lake."

To support this vision and effort at creating appropriate corresponding land use categories, the City adopted a Design Framework Manual for the North Gateway District area that was incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan. Design standards were developed for site design, streetscapes, architectural building treatments, landscaping and storm water treatment and are intended to provide a framework for evaluating projects to and to ensure that they contribute to a positive image for the North Gateway District as they redevelop over time. The following map illustrates the properties within the Gateway District.

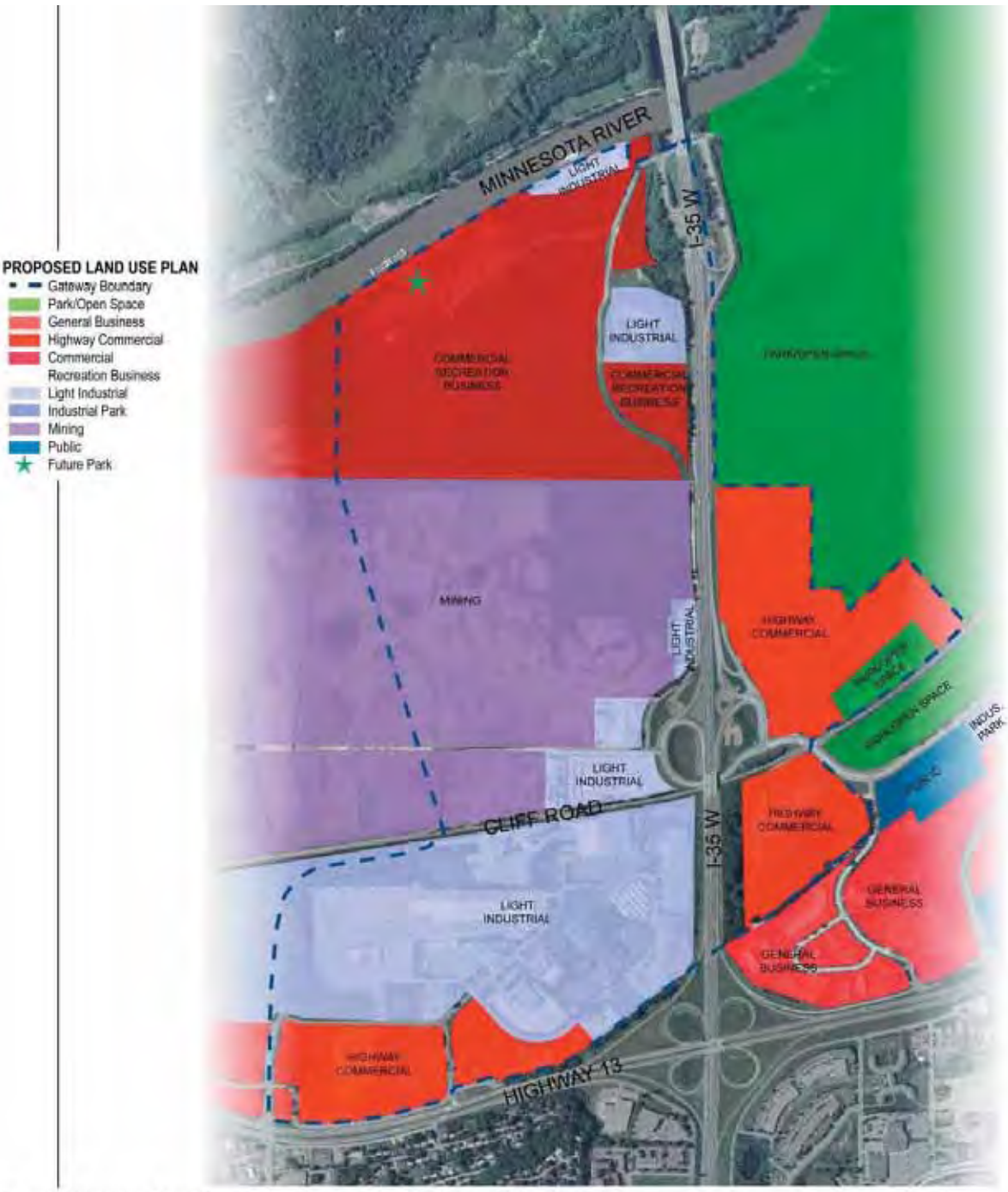


Figure 7: Proposed Land Use Plan

ZONING CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS SINCE 2000

Each land use category has a corresponding zoning category. The zoning ordinance contains all the regulatory tools to implement the goals, objectives and policies of the land use plan. Since 2004, the Planning Commission annual work plans have included a task to review the Comprehensive Plan to incorporate broader land use designations to simplify the categories. The Metropolitan Council suggests use of more generalized land use designations. The generalization will result in grouping more categories of uses together than were previously identified in the 2000 Comprehensive Plan. Figure A-29, Land Use and Corresponding Zoning Category, below displays the land use and corresponding zoning category.

Figure A-29
Land Use and Corresponding Zoning Category

Land Use Category		Corresponding Zoning Category	
RR	One Family Rural Residential	R1A PUD	One-Family Rural Residential District Planned Unit Development District
SFR	One Family Residential	R-1 R-2 PUD	One Family Residential District Two-Family Residential District Planned Unit Development District
MF	Multi-Family Residential	R-3A R-3B R3C PUD	Medium Density Residential District High Density Residential District Regional Center Residential District Planned Unit Development District
MHP	Mobile Home Park	R-3D PUD	Manufactured Housing District Planned Unit Development District
O	Office Business	B-1 PUD	Office Business District Planned Unit Development District
C	Commercial	B-2 B-3 B-4 PUD	Neighborhood Business District General Business District Highway Commercial District Planned Unit Development District
CRB	Commercial Recreation Business	CRD PUD	Commercial Recreation District Planned Unit Development District
I	Industrial	I-1 I-2 I-3 GIM GIH PUD	Industrial Park District General Industry District Office and Industrial Park District Gateway Industrial Medium District Gateway Industrial Heavy District Planned Unit Development District
MIX	Mixed-Use	HOC-1 HOC-2 PUD	Heart of the City District -1 Heart of the City District - 2 Planned Unit Development District
GW	Gateway	GW PUD	Gateway Overlay District Planned Unit Development District
CD	Conservancy	CD PUD	Conservancy District Planned Unit Development District
P	Park	PK PUD	Park District Planned Unit Development District

Land use corresponds to all permitted, accessory, conditional and interim uses in those districts.

As the City has nearly reached full development it is important see where vacant land exists by zoning category for potential new development. Figure A-30, Vacant Land Acreage by Zoning, 2007 shows vacant land by zoning district. Most often these remaining pieces are vacant for a

reason including but not limited to, lack of access, rugged topography, owner is holding the land for investment purposes, the land is encumbered with pipelines, transmission lines or other easements and/or the property may be a tax forfeiture parcel.

Figure A-30
Vacant Land Acreage by Zoning, 2007

Zoning District	Gross	Net
B-1 - Office Business	32.15	27.50
B-2 - Neighborhood Business	7.37	7.37
B-3 - General Business	37.29	37.18
B-4 - Highway Commercial	27.30	22.23
CD - Conservancy	3.62	3.54
GIH - Gateway Industrial - Heavy	11.03	9.03
GIM - Gateway Industrial - Medium	71.43	58.01
HOC-1 - Heart of the City 1	8.03	8.03
HOC-2 - Heart of the City 2	5.58	5.58
I-1 - Industrial Park	9.76	9.76
I-2 - General Industry	11.95	11.83
I-3 - Office and Industrial Park	39.92	38.09
R-1 - Single Family Residential	63.37	55.13
R-1A - Single Family Rural Residential	83.74	79.92
R-2 - Two Family Residential	2.32	1.89
R-3A - Medium Density Residential	3.31	3.04
R-3B - High Density Residential	3.10	3.10
R-3C - Regional Center Residential	36.00	35.78
Total	**457.27**	**417.01**

Commercial Recreation District (CRD)

The intent of the Commercial Recreational District is to include recreation and supporting businesses, such as hotel/conference facilities, water parks, athletic clubs, restaurants, amphitheaters, golf courses and other forms of outdoor recreation, and low- to medium-density housing. An additional intent of CRD is to promote high quality, large-scale recreational uses that preserve the natural character of woodlands, steep slopes, wetlands and other conditions that hinder development. CRD developments are to be designed to fit within the topography and physical features of the site, and must have low profiles so as not to detract from their natural settings. This designation is intended to recognize the special characteristics of these uses. While they are privately owned areas, they serve the general public in a way similar to other publicly owned recreation facilities, such as the indoor ice arenas and Birnhamwood Golf Course.

The CRD designation has been applied to the McGowan property located south of the Minnesota River and west of I-35W. The McGowan property is currently zoned for an amphitheater, marina and waste transfer facility. To encourage the achievement of this objective, the City re-designated the McGowan site from industrial use to CRD. By doing so, the City has made it clear that its intent is to see this area developed for recreational use.

In 2005 Buck Hill was rezoned from One Family Rural Residential to Commercial Recreation District, consistent with the CRB, Comprehensive Plan land use designation. A portion of the

site located north of the tubing hill was rezoned to High Density Residential along with Planned Unit Development approval to establish the end use of the southern part of the site as regional recreation area. The high density residential area is expected to be developed at some future date with owner occupied units.

A Comprehensive Plan amendment is currently being reviewed by the Metropolitan Council to designate the Burnsville Sanitary Landfill site located north of the Union Pacific railroad tracks, south of the Minnesota River and west of the Kraemer Quarry as CRB. In 2006, the City approved the end use plan for the Burnsville Sanitary Landfill site. The plan calls for an 18-hole championship golf course that will be surrounded on the west and north by natural open space.

Park Zoning District

In 2002, the City implemented an objective of the 2000 Comprehensive Plan to rezone City park land from R-1, Single Family Residential to P, Park. The reason for the rezoning was to give park land a more accurate zoning designation, one that also corresponded with the 2000 Land Use Plan Map. The zoning change was reflected on the City Zoning Map and a new chapter was added to the Zoning Ordinance to include all uses expected to occur in parks as well as the type of athletic fields and amenities/equipment located in parks.

Gateway Industrial Medium (GIM) & Gateway Industrial Heavy (GIH Rezonings

In 2002, the City took steps to begin implementation of the Minnesota River Quadrant vision by amending the Comprehensive Plan to simplify industrial land use classifications and to lump them into two basic land use categories, Light Industrial and Heavy Industrial. To implement these changes, the Zoning Ordinance and map were modified to add new Gateway Industrial Medium (GIM) and Gateway Industrial Heavy (GIH) districts. The development of these two districts was a product of hundreds of hours of effort by the City Council, Planning Commission, City staff, consultants, land owners and the MRQ Advisory Board. This group consisted of representatives of a broad cross section of property owners and businesses, as well as the Burnsville Chamber, Economic Growth Committee, and the Parks and Natural Resource Commission.

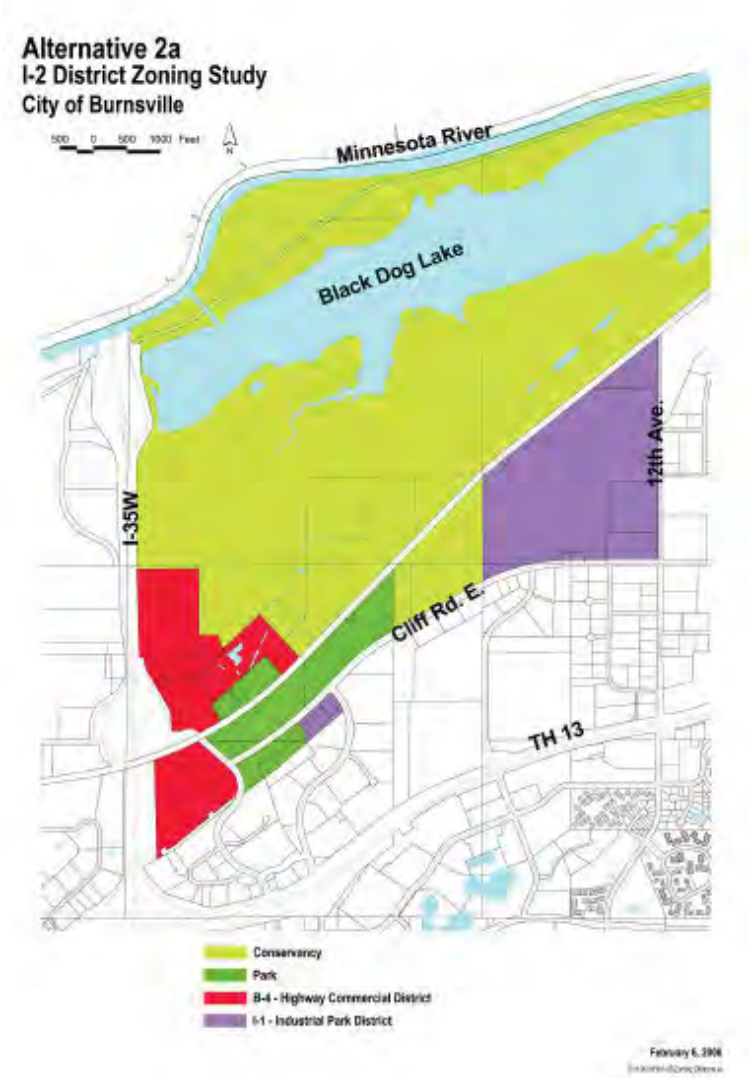
The MRQ plan typifies Burnsville's commitment to work with all stakeholders to develop and implement community planning. The intent is to locate heavy industrial users with outdoor operations and storage needs in the GIH District which is generally located west of Oliver Avenue South between Highway 13 and the Union Pacific railroad tracks. The GIM District, located between Oliver Avenue South, I-35W and south of the Union Pacific railroad tracks is intended to be an area for the location of future business parks, medical technologies and industrial uses that do not require outdoor storage as a component of their operations. The City recognizes that the ultimate redevelopment of the MRQ will likely take many years and the IUP process allows for the temporary use of property for exterior storage/display until conditions arise where permanent uses develop. This is another way of acknowledging that this area under transition and it will not reach its full potential until mining and related activities are eventually phased out. Outdoor storage is required to be 100% screened, which will support an upgrade in the image of the area.

The MRQ also includes an area of Highway Commercial Use which is located east of Oliver Avenue South and north of Highway 13. This area is intended for commercial operations that may have a need for outdoor display or storage. Uses in this area are required to provide 100% percent screening of outdoor storage areas and landscaping/green space improvements.

I-2 General Industry District Zoning Study

As a follow-up to the GIM and GIH rezonings that occurred in 2002, the City approved Comprehensive Plan amendments and rezoning to change the land use designations of a number of properties located north of Highway 13 and east of I-35W in 2006. The process included the creation of an advisory panel to review land use alternatives for this area of the community. The advisory panel recommended rezoning all of I-2, General Industrial properties based upon the rationale that the uses of this district were obsolete (uses such as acid manufacturing, explosives, truck terminals, etc.). The Zoning Ordinance was amended to remove the more objectionable and obsolete uses from the I-2 District and to add other uses to the I-1, Industrial Park District. The result of this process included text amendments to the I-1 and I-2 Districts and the I-2 properties located east of I-35W and north of Highway 13 were rezoned to Highway Commercial, Industrial Park, Conservancy and Park as shown on the following map:

Figure A-31
I-2, General Industrial Rezoning Map



Minnesota River Quadrant (MRQ)

The Minnesota River Quadrant is located in the northwest quadrant of I-35W and Highway 13 and contains some of its most intense uses, including landfills, a limestone quarry, an asphalt plant, a large truck terminal, a tire warehouse, barge loading facilities, and other industrial uses. Two committees comprised of business representatives from the area, Planning Commissioners, and members of the EGC created Gateway Design Standards and new GIM and GIH zoning districts to guide future redevelopment in the quadrant.

This area in the Minnesota River valley was originally planned for heavy industrial uses, with the river viewed as a transportation corridor rather than a natural resource and recreational amenity. Today, the community looks toward this area as a future commercial-recreational area with long term potential for redevelopment. The vision for this area calls for a redevelopment that will include hotels, offices, residential units, a medical technology campus, and recreational opportunities.

Infrastructure improvements are envisioned to improve the traffic flow in and around the quadrant. Improvements to Cliff Road are contemplated and the City is working with landowners to acquire the needed right-of-way for this project. A new interchange at County Road 5 and Highway 13 is in the design process. County Road 5 will be extended to the north to ultimately connect to Embassy Road which will also be aligned and become a frontage road to I-35W. The MRQ plan also calls for the consolidation and closure of the Black Dog and Cliff Road interchanges along I-35W and envisions a new interchange at 118th Street. Chowen Avenue is also envisioned with a new interchange at Highway 13 and upgraded railroad crossing just south of the Burnsville Sanitary Landfill site. Chowen Avenue will eventually connect to a new north/south collector street system that will provide a link between Highway 13 and County Road 16 in Savage. Central to the redevelopment of the MRQ will be the creation of a 350 acre lake when the Kraemer Quarry is exhausted. The areas adjacent to the River are envisioned to become open space with a series of trail connections and a new riverfront park to be located on the former amphitheater site. A new City park and beach with boat launch are envisioned on the northwest side of the future Kraemer Quarry lake. The Burnsville Sanitary Landfill site will be converted to an 18-hole championship golf course following closure of the landfill expected by 2018. A series of regional pond improvements will be needed with a large pond anticipated north of the Menards site.

The following map illustrates the MRQ Plan.

Heart of the City (HOC)

The City's current redevelopment effort in a business area is the Heart of the City redevelopment project and corresponding streetscape improvements on Nicollet Avenue and Burnsville Parkway. Since 2000 numerous projects have been approved and built bringing numerous new commercial, office and residential opportunities to the City in addition to Nicollet Commons park as its community gathering area. New developments approved include 555 residential housing units with a mixture of rental apartments and for-sale condominiums and townhomes. Of the 623 approved, 365 have been constructed. Other developments include a 350 space public parking ramp, office space and retail developments. The development will continue in the HOC as the City looks forward to the construction of the remaining planned

residential and new retail, restaurant, hotel and performing arts center.

The Heart of the City is a 54-acre smart growth based, mixed-use, pedestrian friendly downtown area for Burnsville located in the Burnsville Parkway and Nicollet Boulevard area. The project grew from the citizen driven community visioning project called Partnerships for Tomorrow in the mid 1990's. It started in 1995 as a simple streetscape project and grew to a full-fledged redevelopment effort. In 1999, the City Council adopted a framework design manual and zoning ordinance which outlines design standards and other requirements for redevelopment.

The mission for HOC is to create an attractive, vibrant pedestrian-friendly neighborhood setting in which residents and visitors to our City can enjoy, with their families and friends, a combination of the natural beauty and economically viable local businesses that, together with the Burnsville citizens foster a true sense of community and partnership.

In 2006, the City Council decided to begin work on a Performing Arts Center (PAC) and hotel project that will be constructed on a 6.5 acre parcel of land located north of 126th Street and east of Pillsbury Avenue. The PAC is viewed not only as a cultural venue but also as an economic development tool to keep the Heart of the City vibrant for many years.

The following graphic illustrates the conceptual site plan for the PAC and hotel.

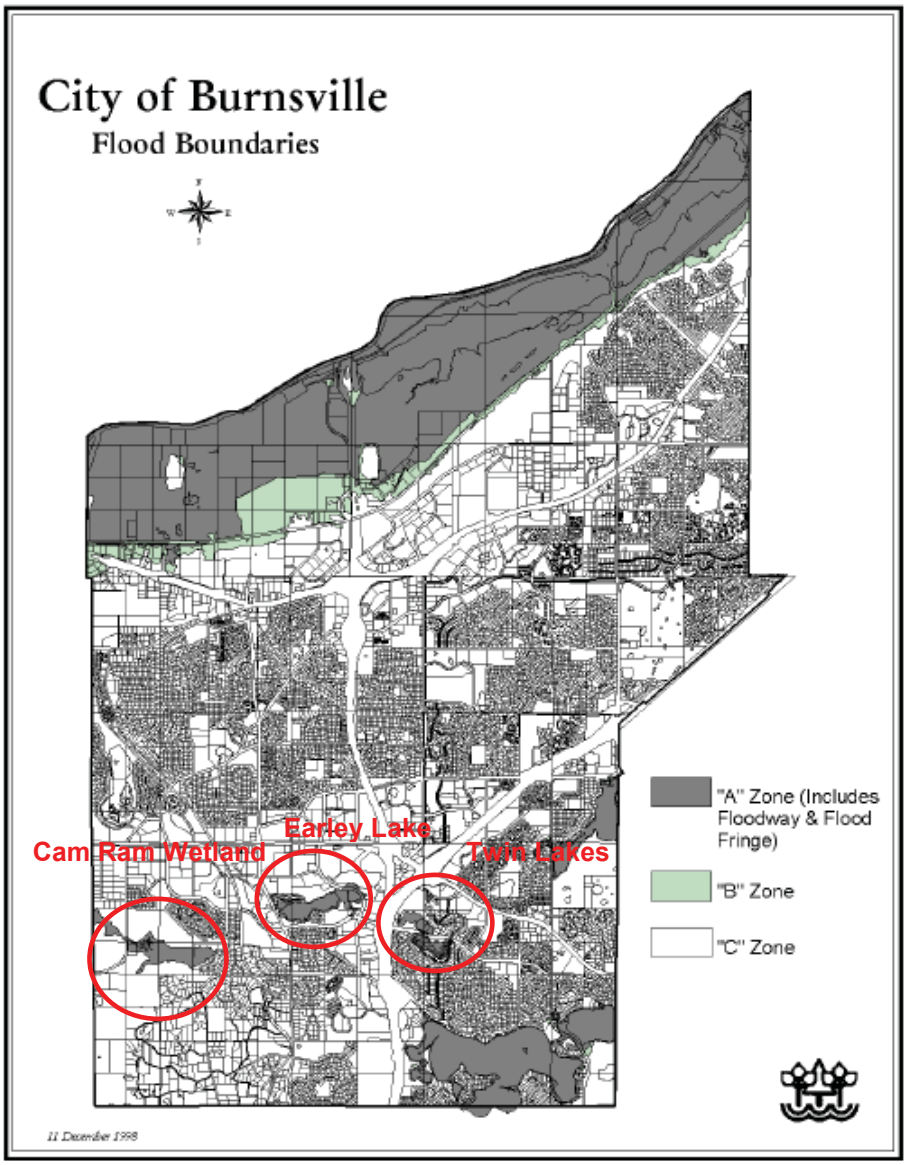
ENVIRONMENTAL BACKGROUND AND PROTECTION

The following environmental studies have been completed since adoption of the 2000 Comprehensive Plan.

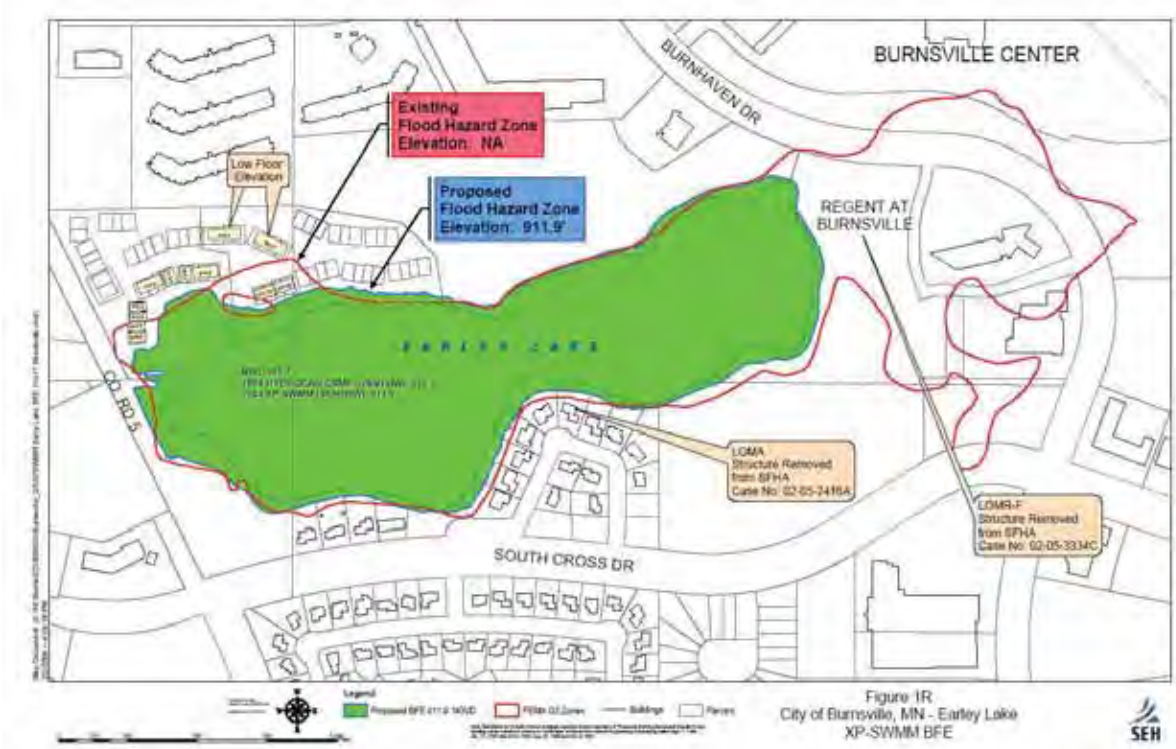
Floodplain

A number of updates to the environmental and natural resources elements of the Comprehensive Plan have occurred or are in process since the adoption of the 2000 Comprehensive Plan. The City has undertaken a number of floodplain re-studies to better define flood hazard areas of the City based upon detailed analysis and data. The following map illustrates the floodplain boundaries that existed in 2000.

Burnsville Comprehensive Plan **2000 Update**



In 2005, the City received approval from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to amend the floodplain boundaries for areas adjacent to Earley and Twin Lakes. The following graphics indicate the new flood boundaries in blue and show that as a result of the re-studies, many homes were removed from the floodplain and the owners of those structures no longer are required to carry flood insurance.



The floodplain restudy for Cam Ram Wetland is still under review by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The following map indicates the preliminary findings and if the study is adopted as proposed, a number of existing mobile homes will be removed from the flood hazard area.

Impaired Waters

Burnsville has responded to the classification of some of its lakes as being impaired by updating the Water Resources Management Plan, conducting a comprehensive Wetland Management Plan, setting water quality goals for each major water body and completing Lake Management Plans for the following lakes: Crystal/Keller Lake, Lac Lavon and Alimagnet Lake. An Earley Lake and a Twin Lakes Management Plan is expected to be completed by summer 2007. Each of these plans includes strategies and projects to improve water quality so eventually the lakes can be removed from the "Impaired waters" list. It will likely take five to ten years to see the full effects of the lake management plans after they have been completed.

Figure A-32, Lake Clarity Report illustrates current lake water quality conditions (as measured by lake clarity) in relation to the City's goals for lake water clarity. The City works with lake homeowner groups, residents, and other agencies to improve and monitor the water quality in our lakes. In partnership with the Black Dog Watershed Management Organization and the Metropolitan Council, citizen monitoring occurs at eight lakes in the community. As part of this program volunteers gather water clarity data every two weeks from the middle of April to the middle of October. The City of Burnsville utilizes water clarity as the primary indicator to track

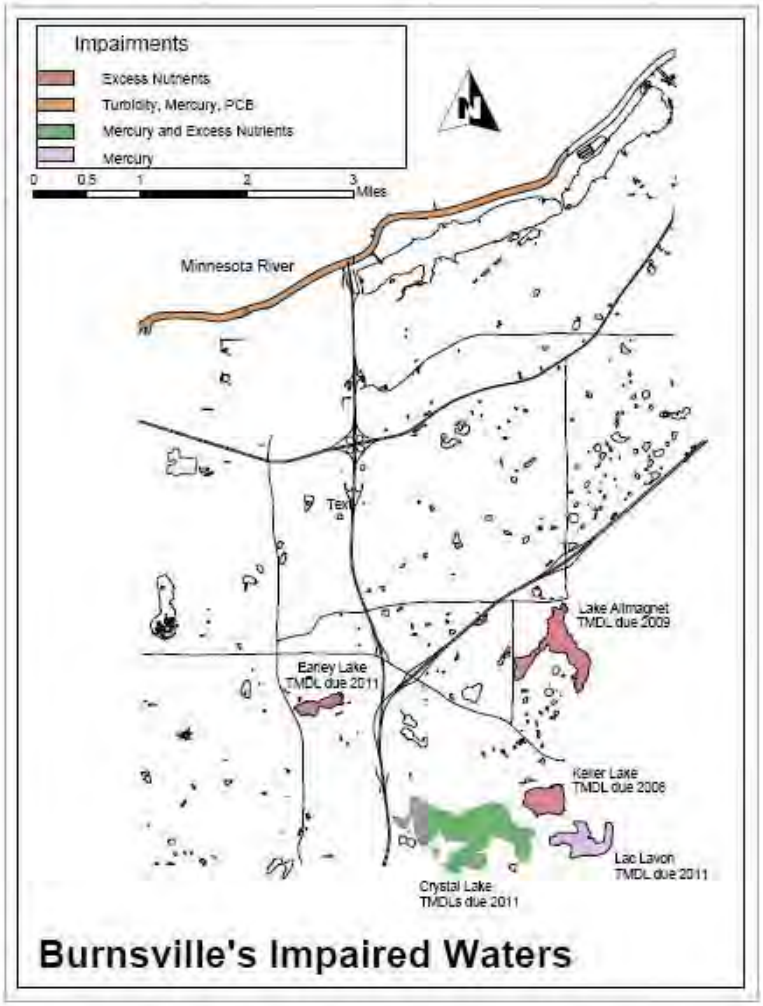
the water quality in our lakes. Generally, higher water quality numbers (depth measured in meters) are indicative of better water quality.

Figure A-32
Lake Clarity Report

Burnsville Lake Clarity Report Card (Depth measured in meters)					
Lake	**2003**	**2004**	**2005**	**3-Yr Avg.**	**Goal**
Alimagnet	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.7
Crystal	1.7	1.9	1.6	1.7	2.6
Earley	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.7
Keller	0.8	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.7
Lac Lavon	3.5	3.4	4.4	3.8	3.6
Sunset Pond	2.1	2.6	N/A	2.4	1.7
Twin Lake	1.5	2	1.5	1.7	1.7
Wood Pond	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.7

The following map illustrates the location of impaired waters within the City and the pollutant issues facing each lake.

Figure A-33
Impaired Waters Map



Natural Resources Master Plan

The current City of Burnsville Natural Resources Master Plan (NRMP) was developed and approved in 1999. The purpose of the NRMP is to identify and evaluate the existing natural resources in Burnsville; identify strategies to protect, preserve and manage those resources, and to educate the community about the importance of doing so. While the NRMP takes a comprehensive look at all of the community's natural resources, the primary focus of this plan has been on our upland or terrestrial resources.

The NRMP is being updated in 2007. It is important the plan be updated periodically to evaluate any changes that are occurring to our natural resources and to update the City's strategies and policies regarding management of those resources. The revised NRMP will contain the following key elements to assist staff and City Council with managing the community's natural resources:

- a natural resource inventory and evaluation
- a comprehensive review of existing plans/polices to ensure they are complementing one another in terms of protecting our natural resources
- management strategies for our native prairie resources
- urban forest management strategies - this will be a new section added with this revision. The city has not had an urban forest management plan up to this point
- monitoring and educational program strategies
- a funding plan

Water Resources Management Plan

In 2002, the City adopted a Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) which updated and replaced the City's 1996 Comprehensive Storm Water Management Plan. To implement the plan, the Zoning Ordinance was amended to adopt environmental overlay districts which contain development regulations and fees to ensure that development is completed consistent with the plan. This Plan identifies goals and strategies to address water quantity issues (flooding), and sets water quality goals for all of the City's major lakes and ponds. It includes a 15 year implementation plan for achieving the community's water resources goals.

The WRMP will be updated in 2007 to bring the policies in-line with those recently adopted by the local watershed management organizations, as required by the Metropolitan Council.

Wetlands Protection and Management Plan

The current City of Burnsville Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan (Wetlands Plan) was developed and approved in 1998. The purpose of the Wetlands Plan is to inventory the existing wetland resources in our community and establish management strategies to protect and preserve those resources.

The Wetlands Plan is scheduled to be updated in 2007. It is important the plan be updated periodically to evaluate any changes that are occurring to our wetland resources and to update the city's strategies and policies regarding management of those resources.

Deer Management Plan

The Burnsville Deer Management Program was adopted in September 2001 to minimize conflicts between deer, habitat and residents. The Program provided recommendations in four key areas: education, monitoring, population control and feeding ban. The Deer Management

Program is available for review on the City's web site under the Natural Resources department heading.

Goose Management Plan

The City of Burnsville adopted a Canada Goose Management program in 2001. The goal of the management program is to maintain a Canada Goose population that is compatible with Burnsville's environmental and recreational goals. The Goose Management Program is available for review on the City's web site under the Natural Resources department heading.

Shoreland Area Impervious Surface Requirements Ordinance Revisions

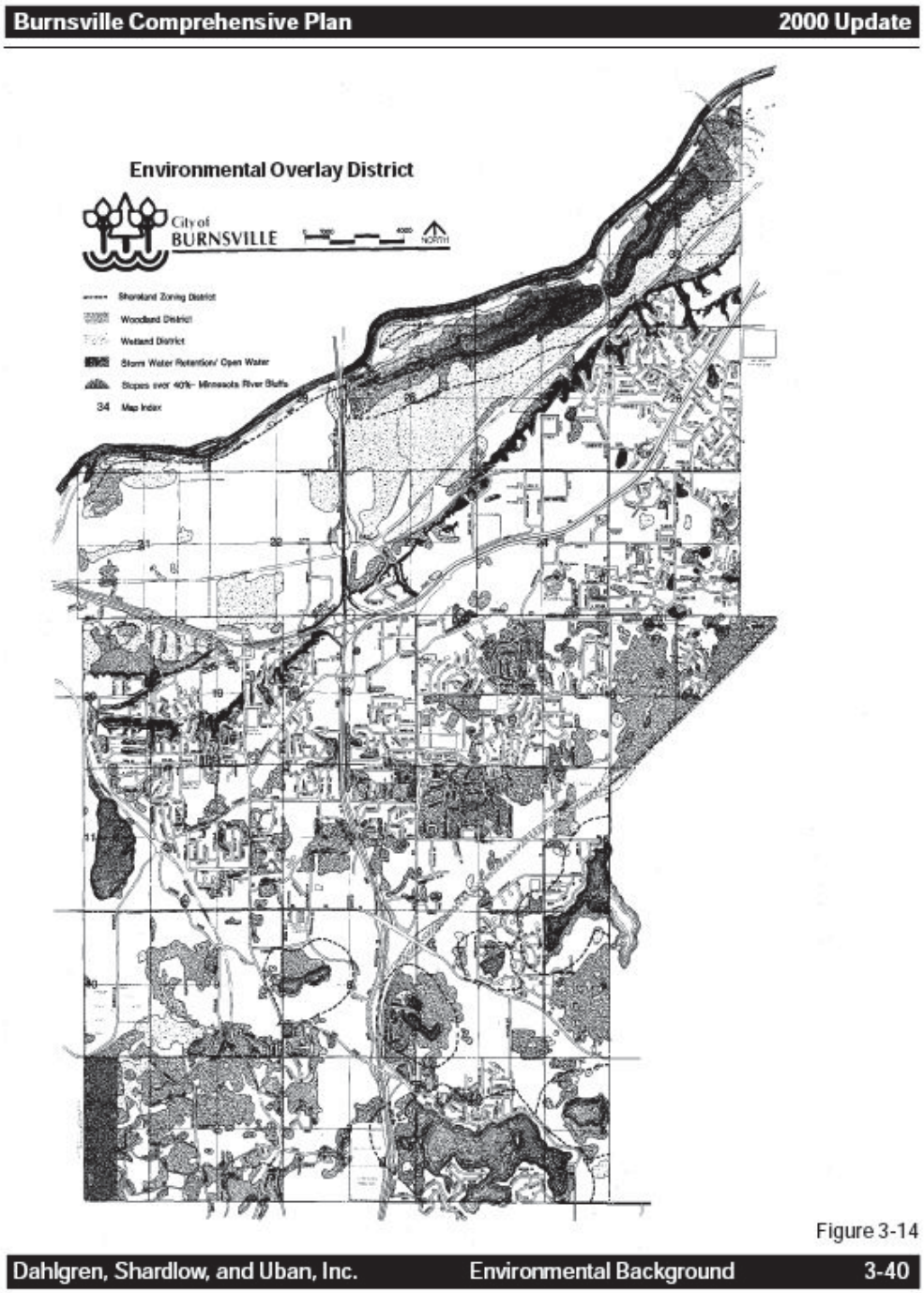
Figure A-34 (Environmental Overlay District Map) illustrates the location of Shoreland Areas within the City. Shoreland Areas are lands located within 1000 feet of a lake (public water as defined by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources), or within 300 feet of a river or tributary. There are Shoreland Districts adjacent to the Minnesota River and ten lakes within the community or along our borders including: Horseshoe, Crystal, Keller, Lac Lavon, Alimagnet, Wood, North and South Twin Lakes, Earley and Black Dog Lake. The City adopted its first Shoreland Management regulations in 1994.

Land uses are restricted in these areas to protect the Shorelands adjacent to the lakes and river. Special lot size, setback, width and other restrictions including limitations on the amount of hard or impervious surface on a lot apply to lands within the Shoreland Districts. In 2003, a citizens advisory group with representatives from each lake association, developer representatives, the MnDNR, Economic Growth Committee, Parks and Natural Resources Commission, and Planning Commission was created to update the Shoreland District regulations.

The following new or revised Shoreland District provisions were adopted: controlled access lots were eliminated; mooring facilities for more than six watercraft are no longer allowed on lakes, marinas are only allowed on the river, and the size of water-oriented accessory structures was reduced from 250 square feet to 120 square feet with an increased OHWL setback from 10 feet to 20 feet. One of the most significant changes related to impervious surface coverage whereby the amount of impervious surface could be increased from 25% to a maximum of 30% for residential lots provided mitigation measures are implemented to restrict the amount of run-off to the 25% standard. In commercial districts up to 75% impervious surface coverage was allowed with a Conditional Use Permit provided mitigation measures were installed back to the 25% run-off conditions. The mitigation measures can consist of buffer strips, rain gardens, cisterns, ponds, etc. The changes to the ordinance also require an impervious surface worksheet to be filed with each permit application.

In 2004, the City amended its Shoreland Ordinance again, to establish guidelines for developing on non-conforming lots of record. The change established new criteria for people to build on contiguous non-conforming lots of record without combining the lots for properties located on Recreational Development class lakes (Alimagnet and Crystal).

Figure A-34
Environmental Overlay District Map (2000)



PARKS & TRAILS

Parks are an integral part of Burnsville's civic infrastructure and the City has an extensive park system which has been planned and built in conjunction with the growth of its residential neighborhoods and commercial and employment centers since its incorporation in 1964. The current park system contains 78 parks (including 99 athletic fields) with over 1,800 acres of total park land or approximately 29 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. Twenty seven of the parks are community parks which include facilities and natural features which serve the whole community. They range in size and amenities from the largest park of 230 acres of woods with hiking and ski trails to several parks with athletic complexes to one of the smallest City parks, a tiny island in the middle of Crystal Lake. Twenty seven of the parks are neighborhood parks which serve general neighborhood park needs as well as providing facilities for youth sports programs. Fifteen of the parks are mini parks which are small in size and contain only limited amenities such as play equipment. Nine of the parks are preservation areas not currently intended for any type of development or active use.

Parks exist within walking or biking distance of most households within the City. Nicollet Commons Park is a new facility in the Heart of the City. Additional parks are anticipated as the North Gateway and Minnesota River Quadrant are redeveloped. With these anticipated additions, the park system is essentially complete. The City is over 98% developed, and the park system plans have shifted from development to issues of maintenance, renovation and enhancement. In the future, the quality of the park system will be the focus as facilities age or become obsolete. The park system will also need to change to address demographic and lifestyle changes in the City's population and determine how the parks system can best respond to these changes to serve the future population.

Alimagnet Park

Cliff Fen Park

Nicollet Commons Park

The City has one private park, the Buck Hills Ski Area which is located in the southern part of Burnsville on the west side of I-35W. Buck Hill Ski area offers winter downhill skiing, snow boarding and tubing and is a regional attraction situated on over 55 acres of land. The Buck Hill ski area is an important amenity to Burnsville and has been in existence for many years. The facility offers lessons, racing and year round banquet facilities with catering. The City approved a PUD for Buck Hill in 2005 to ensure that the recreational use of the land remains indefinitely.

Portions of several regional parks lie within the City's borders: 160 acres of the Murphy Hanrahan Regional Park Reserve and approximately 1,300 acres of the Minnesota Valley Wildlife Refuge. Murphy Hanrehan Regional Park Reserve's implementing agency is the Three Rivers Park District through a joint powers agreement with Scott County. All land adjacent to Murphy-Hanrahan Regional Park is zoned and guided for residential and conservancy uses. The Conservancy District is intended to protect the park and minimize conflicts between existing and proposed programs. The Minnesota Valley Wildlife Refuge is federal land under the jurisdiction of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

Parks facilities and amenities vary and include large natural areas, lakes and ponds, beaches, a boat launch accessing a 300 acre lake, large and small group picnic sites, youth and adult athletic complexes as well as individual youth athletic fields in neighborhood parks throughout the community, winter skating facilities and recreation buildings. In addition, the City owns an ice center with two sheets of ice, a nine hole / par three golf course, two small outdoor performance stages and a portion of the old maintenance center is used for youth sports training. Approximately two-thirds of the parkland consists of natural areas, with the remaining one-third consisting of active use areas. The City has two temporary parks (Rose Park located southeast of the intersection of County Road 42 and Judicial Road) and the Eden Baptist Church site located north of 122nd Street, east of the Minnesota Valley Humane Society. Rose Park is a 14.78 acre property owned by Rosemount Aerospace Inc., and The Eden Baptist Church site is about a 4 acre site. Both of these sites are owned by private entities but through agreements, are used by the City for recreation fields.

The planned development of the park system is for the most part complete, with the exception of the two parks in the Minnesota River Quadrant. Improvements may be needed in existing parks as needs change over time; however, the greatest need will be renovation and replacement of park amenities and facilities as the passage of time and park usage wear them out. The City currently has a well established park renovation plan identifying the various

elements in the park system, estimating their life expectancy and the cost for renovation or replacement. The City considers it a priority to keep its park system in excellent condition both as a commitment to the quality of life in Burnsville and to avoid the need for a park bond referendum in the future to bring its park system back up to community standards.

There are two new parks planned for development in the Minnesota River Quadrant: a large park along the Minnesota River and a smaller park to be located on shore of the Kraemer quarry lake. The Minnesota River park will include land from the Burnsville Sanitary Landfill development which has already been determined and land from the McGowan landfill site, (previously determined in the amphitheater PUD), which have been planned for park development and land or trail access across land associated with the Kraemer quarry. This land / trail access is anticipated to be obtained prior to or at the same time as the final platting and redevelopment of the Kraemer quarry. The intent of these two parks is intertwined in one of the goals for the Minnesota River Quadrant - trail access along the Minnesota River as well as around the Kraemer Quarry future lake and around the future golf course. The trail segment through the Minnesota River Quadrant is a key link in a regional trail along the south side of the Minnesota River running all the way through Burnsville, connecting through Eagan and Savage on either end. The trail is intended to be hard surfaced with the exception of a loop through the wetlands along the river, in which case an alternate and appropriate surface will need to be installed, potentially a boardwalk for portions of the trail.

The other purposes of the Kraemer quarry park are to provide beach frontage and lake access. The Kraemer quarry lake, when it is allowed to fill, will be the largest and cleanest lake in Burnsville and so beach frontage, lake access and a trail adjacent to and circumnavigating the lake are critical.

In the 2000 Comprehensive Plan update, two park needs were identified which have been addressed in subsequent years. First was the development of a youth ballfield complex. This need was met through the acquisition and development of Sue Fischer Memorial Park. The concession stand / restroom building will be complete in 2007 with the hard surfacing of the central court and trails planned for 2008. These two improvements will complete the development of this park. The second was the preservation of Orchard Gardens Golf Course. This site has developed into a single family residential development. The City had attempted to purchase the land, but in the end, it was sold for development.

PARKS MASTER PLAN

The City's current Parks Master Plan was prepared in 2000 and established a vision for the Park System. It contains a list of short term to medium term park development and improvement projects covering a period of up to ten years and identified some potential long term projects for the period of ten years and beyond. The City maintains and annually updates a Parks capital projects list which is derived from a combination of the projects listed in the Parks Master Plan and a current assessment of the Park System's most critical needs. The next five years of this capital projects list is included in the City's annual Park Capital Improvements Program.

There were seventeen short to medium term improvement projects identified in the plan. Ten of these projects have been completed. The remainder are prioritized in the current Parks capital projects list.

The Plan established the concept of Gemstone Parks, which were to be the focused revitalization of a small number of highly visible and important parks. These were to be special parks in which the City invested extra resources to make them attractive places with a special ambiance created by amenities such as fountains, lighting, landscaping, decorative amenities and public art and designed to encourage people to gather and enjoy their leisure time. One specific park, Crosstown West, was revitalized in such a way as to become the City's only official Gemstone Park. State cutbacks and budget realities caused the City to drop the Gemstone Park concept in 2005. Another park, Nicollet Commons Park, in the Heart of the City, also fits the criteria and vision of a Gemstone Park although it was not developed under this program.

TRAIL SYSTEM PLANNING

Burnsville has approximately 100 miles of sidewalks and trails. Sidewalks and trails along streets are considered a vital part of our transportation system. At present the trail construction occurs either when roads are rebuilt and the cost is paid for out of street reconstruction funding or when the specific trail link is included as an individual project in the Capital Improvement Program. Parks and trail funding were blended together in 2005; however, no additional funding mechanisms were provided at that time.

Sidewalks are located mainly along thoroughfares and collectors and were built during initial City development. The City has 8' to 10' wide trails along County Road CR 11, CR 5, and Cliff Road. These were built by the County with the City being responsible for maintenance up to and including mill and overlay. The City has also constructed trails along Nicollet Avenue, McAndrews Road, Highway 13, and Kennelly Road. There are wider sections of sidewalk in the Heart of the City streetscape areas.

A Trail Master Plan was prepared in 2000. It established the concept for a base trail system, established general design standards and provided a general construction cost estimate in current dollars to build the base trail system.

The Trail Master Plan did not, however, establish priorities or address maintenance standards. In 2001 a Trail Plan Implementation Task Force was established to recommend priorities, standards for development, maintenance, signing, and determine detailed costs. Its report was submitted to the City Council in 2002 and included the following recommendations:

The four highest trail development / improvement priorities were:

- NORTHEAST CONNECTION: connecting the community to the northeast with Eagan, the Cedar Avenue pedestrian bridge, Minnesota Valley Trails and beyond. The trail connection should run adjacent to Highway 13 with the ending points being C.R. 11 and Diffley Road.

- BURNSVILLE LOOP: Establish a 10' wide trail loop within Burnsville along Burnsville Parkway, Southcross Drive, and County Road 11 forming a circle route. This would provide access to most major City parks and recreation facilities, major shopping areas, HOC, and transit hub.

- TENNISIOUX - BLACKDOG TRAIL: This is a recreational trail through two parks but was deemed a high priority to the task force. Funding was expected to come from Park capital funding.

- BLACKDOG ROAD FEASIBILITY STUDY: A study was conducted to determine the feasibility of putting a trail along Black Dog Road and along the back access road to the power plant and outlined the following criteria:

    a. Hard surface trails should be 10' wide whenever possible and include flared pedestrian ramps wide enough to provide two way traffic including in-line skaters and bikers.

    b. The City should establish trail marking / signing / publicity standards.

    c. The City should establish trail maintenance standards.

This plan was completed at the same time as the City was undertaking extensive financial planning in preparation for State cutbacks, and as a result all funding for the trail construction / improvement / maintenance needs identified in the plan were put on hold pending a change in the financial climate. In 2005 the park and trail capital funding was combined within the City's Capital Improvements Program. Currently the City has funds in the 2008-09 Parks Capital Improvement Program to construct the Northeast Trail Connection, the highest priority. The construction of the Tennisioux - Blackdog Trail is included in 2009-10 Parks CIP.

REGIONAL TRAIL SYSTEM

Dakota County, in cooperation with the cities in the County as well as other regional agencies, coordinate the development of the regional trail system. The regional trail system utilizes city trail links as critical elements. The City of Burnsville connects its trail system to neighboring communities as part of this overall regional trail effort. In 2005 the City of Burnsville constructed a trail link to the City of Savage via trails in Sunset Pond Park.

City of Burnsville
Parks System Map
Minnesota River
Black Dog Lake
Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge
Amphitheater PUD Riverfront Park - 11 Acre Site
Burnsville Sanitary Landfill Park - 43 Acre Open Space (2006)
Forest Park Heights – 7.91 Acre Open Space Dedication (2006)
Park Types
Regional Park/Reserve
Community Parks
Neighborhood Parks
Mini Parks
Preservation Areas
Schools
Existing 8'-10' Trails
Existing Sidewalk, Proposed Trail
No Sidewalk, Proposed Trail
On Street Trail Connections
0 1/4 1/2 3/4 1
Miles

Burnsville Trail Master System
N
Map Printed: 07/07/2000
rlb
3000
0
3000
6000 Feet
Base Trail System
On Street Trail Connections
Future Trail on Railroad R/W
In Park Trail or Connection
SEH

PUBLIC UTILITIES

STORM SEWER SYSTEM

The City storm sewer system collects surface water runoff from rain and melting snow, channeling it to an interconnected system of storm water retention ponds, which are cleaned and maintained by the City. In 2000, the City storm sewer system consisted of over 170 miles of storm sewers and 6 lift stations that directed storm runoff into 87 detention ponds.

Since 2000, the City has added to the storm sewer system to accommodate new development and redevelopment. The following map illustrates the current City storm sewer system.

Figure A-35
2007 Storm Sewer System

EARLEY LAKE WATERSHED

The City is facing more restrictive storm water management requirements from a variety of sources including the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and various watershed district organizations. Most of Burnsville was developed under either non-existent or less restrictive storm water management standards than are now being required. This means that in order for the City to meet new standards for surface water management and quality, solutions must be found to retrofit areas as they redevelop. The City has worked for several years to introduce rain water gardens into existing residential and commercial/industrial developments. One of the more challenging areas is the watershed of Earley Lake which includes the Burnsville Center, Burnhaven Mall/Super Target area, Buck Hill Road commercial area and adjacent residential developments. Figure A-36, Earley Lake Watershed Area illustrates the lands within the 770 acre Earley Lake Watershed area. The City is required to develop a plan to improve water quality within Earley Lake which is on the list of Impaired Waters.

Figure A-36
Earley Lake Watershed Area

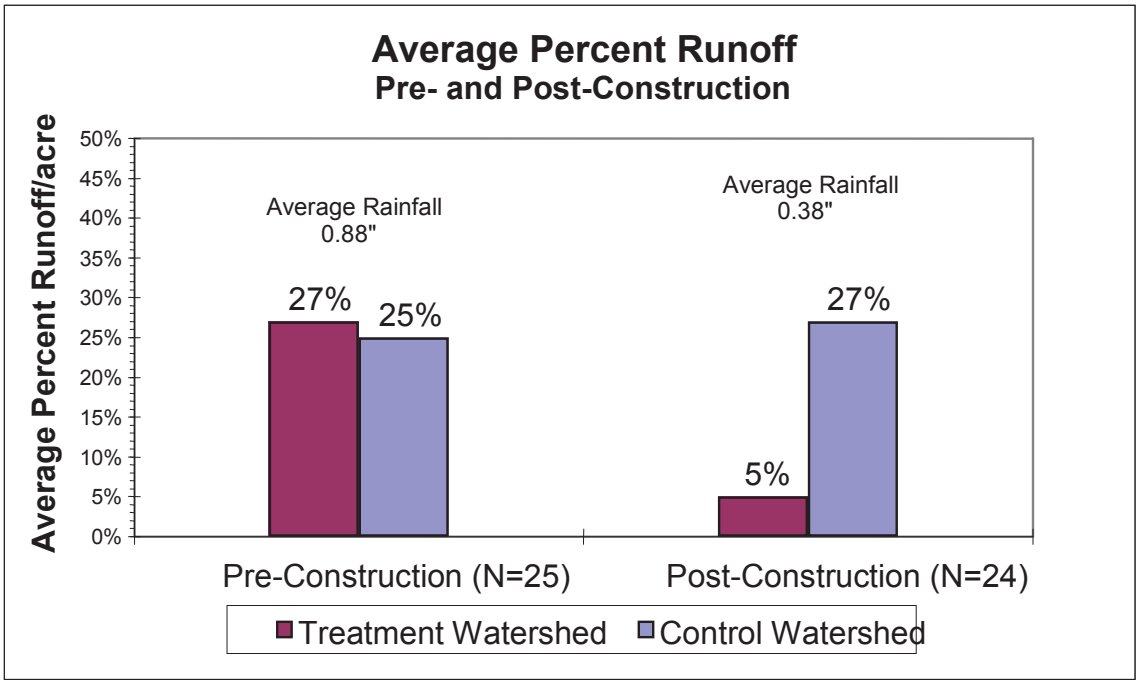
In 2006 the City made great strides toward providing storm water management areas to manage surface water discharged from the Burnsville Center by acquiring a 1.3 acre outlot located northwest of the intersection of Southcross Drive and Burnhaven Drive for a future storm water management pond. The Burnsville Center area was developed prior to many of the City's storm water management requirements (particularly those pertaining to water quality), and as such the run-off from the site currently flows directly into Earley Lake without any pre-treatment ponds or other management practices. Providing some sort of treatment in this area is an important element of achieving the City's goals for Earley Lake. Implementation of this pond improvement will not completely achieve the storm treatment goal for the Burnsville Center area, however it will accomplish 85 – 90% of the goal (removal of 70% of the total suspended solids).

Additional improvements within the Earley Lake watershed will be installed as part of the Super Target re-development located northwest of the intersection of County Road 42 and Aldrich Avenue. The former Target will be torn down and removed from the Burnhaven Mall and a separate Super Target store will be constructed during 2007. The redevelopment project will be a "win-win" for Burnsville in that a larger retail facility and new grocery store will be constructed with storm water management improvements that will meet the 70% removal of total suspended solids (TSS) standard. New private storm sewer systems will be installed on site to treat roof and part of the parking area runoff in addition to an infiltration area that will be installed on the north side of the building. The majority of the parking lot drainage will be directed to filtration areas that will be installed in larger planter islands on the south side of the parking lot. The City utilized the Planned Unit Development tool to address site constraints and allowed deviations to standard parking requirements, based on site analysis provided by Target Corporation, to decrease the parking field. The collaborative effort between Target Corporation, the City and affected landowners resulted in a development design that will not only be an attractive addition to the community but also accomplishes important storm water management goals.

RAIN WATER GARDENS

Burnsville has accomplished a nationally significant demonstration project with rainwater gardens that began in September 2003. Rainwater gardens are specially designed treatment areas for storm water runoff. The rainwater gardens allow water to infiltrate but are designed to look like gardens as opposed to open water. The purpose of the demonstration project was to protect Crystal lake from excess phosphorus and large volumes of stormwater runoff through a rainwater garden system. The system was designed to soak vast amounts of water into the ground rather than routing it via storm sewers to Crystal Lake where it is detrimental to water quality. This is relatively new technology and has produced a stormwater runoff reduction of more than 90 percent.

Two similar watersheds – a control site and the rainwater garden neighborhood – were monitored prior to and after installation of the new stormwater treatment practices. Runoff rates and volumes were collected in the storm sewer pipe at the outlet of each watershed. After collecting data two seasons before and two seasons after the project's implementation, the results provided an overwhelming success. The paired watershed study determined that the rainwater gardens have reduced runoff volumes by approximately 90 percent confirming that existing residential neighborhoods can be successfully retrofitted with rainwater gardens and provide high levels of runoff reduction and stormwater quality improvement. The following graphic illustrates pre and post construction runoff results.



In addition, the high participation rate among homeowners on this demonstration project indicates that rainwater gardens can be viewed as a valuable amenity to property owners.

Before & After Rainwater Gardens Installed

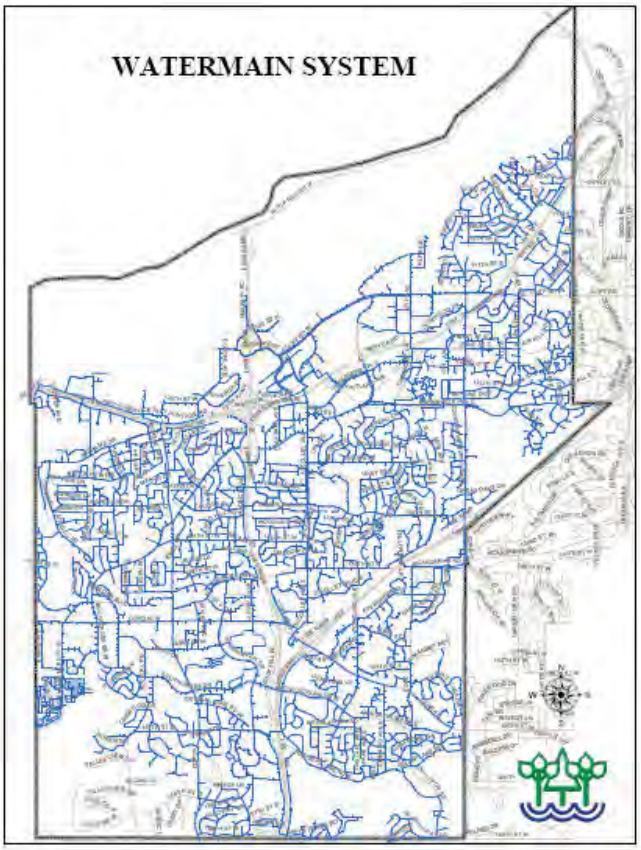
The rainwater gardens were designed to add visual unity to an existing 1980's neighborhood. In all, 17 gardens were constructed – 13 along Rushmore Drive and four in a backyard swale that drains to Rushmore Drive. The gardens feature limestone retaining walls, colorful perennials and shrubs, and gradual side slopes. They were designed for easy maintenance.

SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM

Studies Completed since 2000 Plan

Sanitary Sewer Infiltration and Inflow Study – This study was completed and shows that the City does not have a significant issue with inflow and infiltration. The City completes routine replacement of sanitary sewer as needed through the street and utility reconstruction projects and as separate sanitary sewer projects.

WATER SYSTEM



The City's water system is in very good condition. Older cast iron pipe water main is replaced annually with the City's street reconstruction project. Major and minor maintenance and replacement projects are regularly scheduled through the Capital Improvement Plan which keeps the Water Treatment Plant, the reservoirs, and controls up to date. A major replacement of the water system controlling equipment, the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system, is scheduled for 2007.

Studies Completed since 2000 Plan

- Water Conservation Plan – This is a State/Metro area mandated plan that will be updated in 2008. It documents the City's conservation and emergency management plans.

- Water System Master Plan Update – This will be updated through the Comprehensive Plan process. This plan identifies issues with the water system through computer modeling. No significant issues are expected.

- Wellhead Protection Study – This is a Federal / State mandated study that was completed and will require periodic updates. The study shows the vulnerability of the water system's wells if aquifers are contaminated. The City's wells are not at risk.

TRANSPORTATION

The City's roadway system is in relatively good condition due to good planning both in the actual system and financially. Through the Infrastructure Trust Fund, a fund set up by the City Council to pay for reconstruction of municipal infrastructure, the City is able to reconstruct and rehabilitate 5 to 6 miles annually. The City is a transportation hub with major freeway and expressways including I35W, I35E, TH 13, and CH 42 flowing through the City.

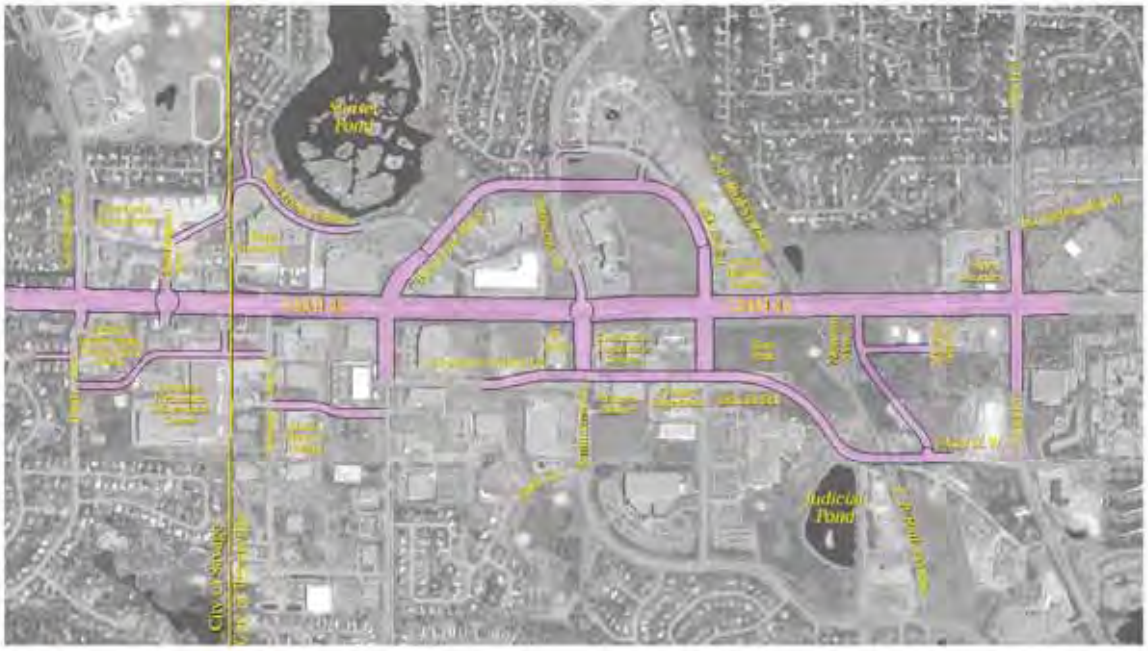
The future challenges will be in pushing both the State and County to fund upgrades to their system; projects which usually include City participation. Projects currently underway include the widening of CH 42 west of CH 5 scheduled for construction in 2007; the design of the TH 13/CH 5 interchange; and the CH 5 extension in the MRQ.

126th Street Comprehensive Plan Amendment

In 2004, the City amended the Comprehensive Plan to add 126th Street (located north of the Nic Burn Center at 12601 Nicollet Avenue) as a local street. The amendment was needed in order to create an official map to ensure that the right-of-way would be preserved for future development within the Heart of the City. The new street was planned to line up with the existing 126th Street located west of Nicollet Avenue to maintain the grid pattern and pedestrian nature of the Heart of the City. Progress toward the completion of the recommendations identified will not take place until the existing strip center is to be redeveloped.

County Road 42 Corridor Study

This study was completed in the late 1990's and identified improvements needed along CH 42 to keep up with the growth of traffic expected. Burnsville and its partners Dakota County and Savage completed necessary frontage/backage road improvements in 2004 – 2006 to assist in taking local trips off of CH 42. In 2007 the County is leading the "Segment 8" improvements which include widening CH 42 to 3 lanes in each direction from CH 5 into Savage.



Trunk Highway 13 Corridor Study and Comprehensive Plan Amendment

Highway 13 is a major east-west route in northern Dakota and Scott Counties, connecting Cedar Avenue (Highway 77), I-35W and Highway 169. Highway 13 is a major truck corridor serving the region including the Ports of Savage on the Minnesota River. The corridor study identified key transportation issues along the corridor and made recommendations for possible improvements to the corridor. This study was a joint effort of Burnsville, Savage, Mn/DOT, Dakota County, Scott County, and the Metropolitan Council.

Study recommendations for the Burnsville portion only, include:

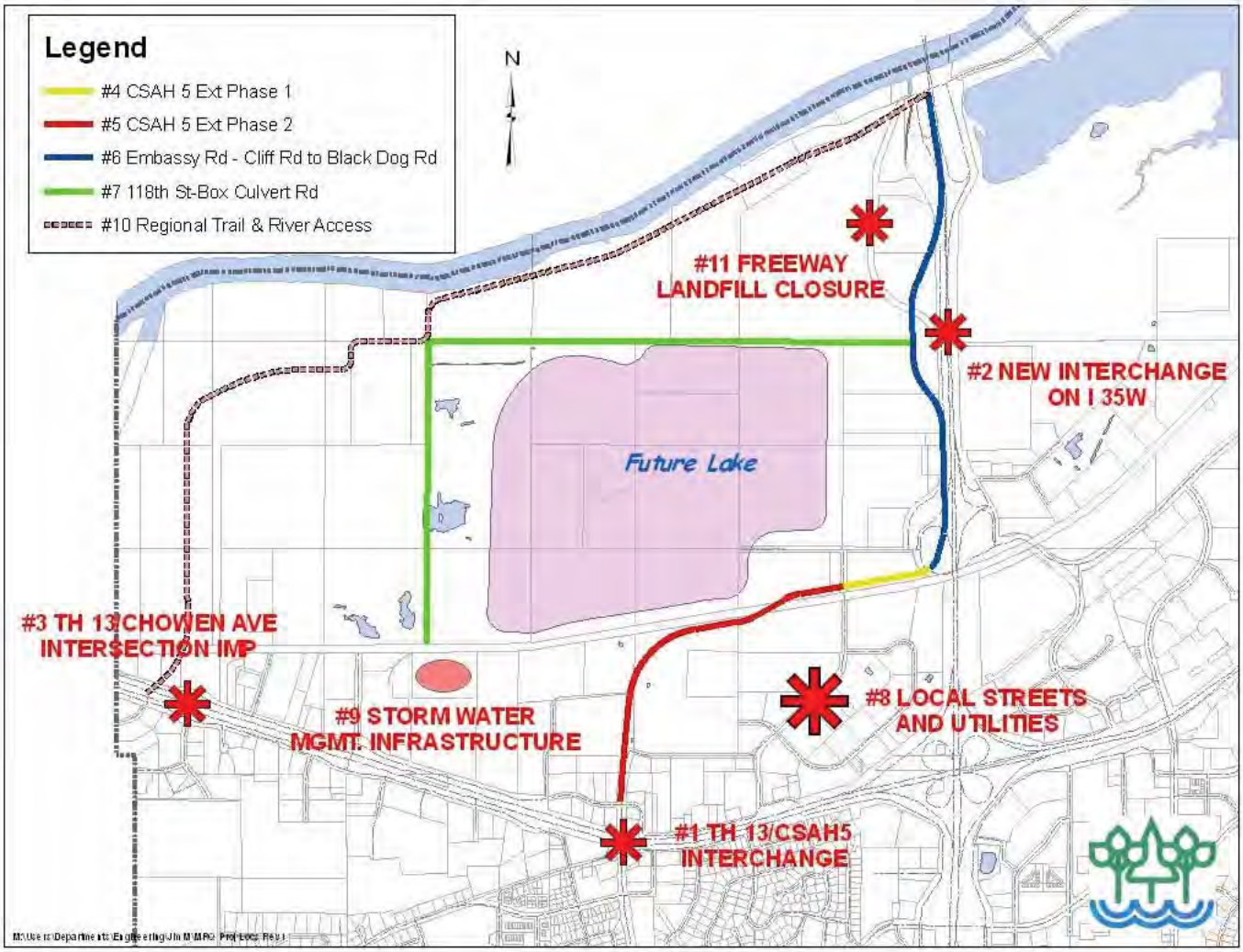
- Interconnect Traffic Signals on Highway 13
- Conduct a feasibility study to determine the long-term plan for access and signalization for the segment of TH13 between Lynn Avenue and Chowen Avenue.
- Add bus shoulder lanes.
- Construct extension of County Road 5 northerly of Highway 13
- Construct a grade separated County Road 5 interchange
- Add third lane to Highway 13
- Signal modifications and pedestrian improvements at Diffley Road, County Road 5, Nicollet Avenue and CR11.

North - South Collector Street Study

A major need identified in the TH 13 Corridor Study is for an improved north – south collector street from the Chowen Avenue area on TH 13 to Scott County 16 in Savage. This would relieve congestion on TH 13, Dakota Co. Road 5, and Williams Drive. A study was completed to investigate the possibility of such a collector and both Savage and Burnsville adopted the findings.

Minnesota River Quadrant

The MRQ plan identifies a number of transportation and stormwater improvements including the realignment of Embassy Road, improvements to Cliff Road, the northerly extension of County Road 5 including a new interchange at Highway 13, a new TH 13 / Chowen Avenue intersection to align with the north/south collector street, a new interchange at 118th Street and I35W, and upgraded railroad crossing at Chowen Avenue, and a pedestrian trail along the Minnesota River.



CSAH 5/TH 13 Interchange

Preliminary design work started in 2006 on this major project. A Burnsville funded Scoping Document and Environmental Assessment were completed and approved by MnDOT and Dakota County. Several alternative designs were studied and brought to the public through several open houses. A final preliminary design was submitted to MnDOT to receive approval as a Staff Approved Layout. The preliminary estimate is about $25 million. To date the City has received $2.0 m in Federal Funds for the project and there are presently no other funding sources identified for the project. The City is considering using a portion of the Federal Funds in 2007 to complete a 30-40% plan completion. This will achieve identification of the construction limits so that right of way acquisition can begin and improve the projects chances in competition for funding.

County Road 5 Extension

This is a long range project identified through numerous studies, but without funding. It would connect the TH 13/CH 5 intersection to the Cliff Road /35W interchange.

TRANSIT

Burnsville transit services are provided by the Minnesota Valley Transit Authority. There are two Park and Ride facilities in the City, the Burnsville Transit Station located at 100 East Highway 13 and the Heart of the City Park and Ride located at 126th Street and Pillsbury Avenue. The Heart of the City Park and Ride has 370 parking spaces and indoor climate-controlled waiting area. The Burnsville Transit Station is the largest park and ride in the metro area and is MVTA's largest facility. The Transit Station provides 1,300 parking spaces, an indoor climate-controlled waiting area and is the home of the Dakota County License Center. The MVTA received approval from the City in 1999 to construct up to three levels for the parking ramp. To date a two levels have been constructed with the third level to be built at some future date.

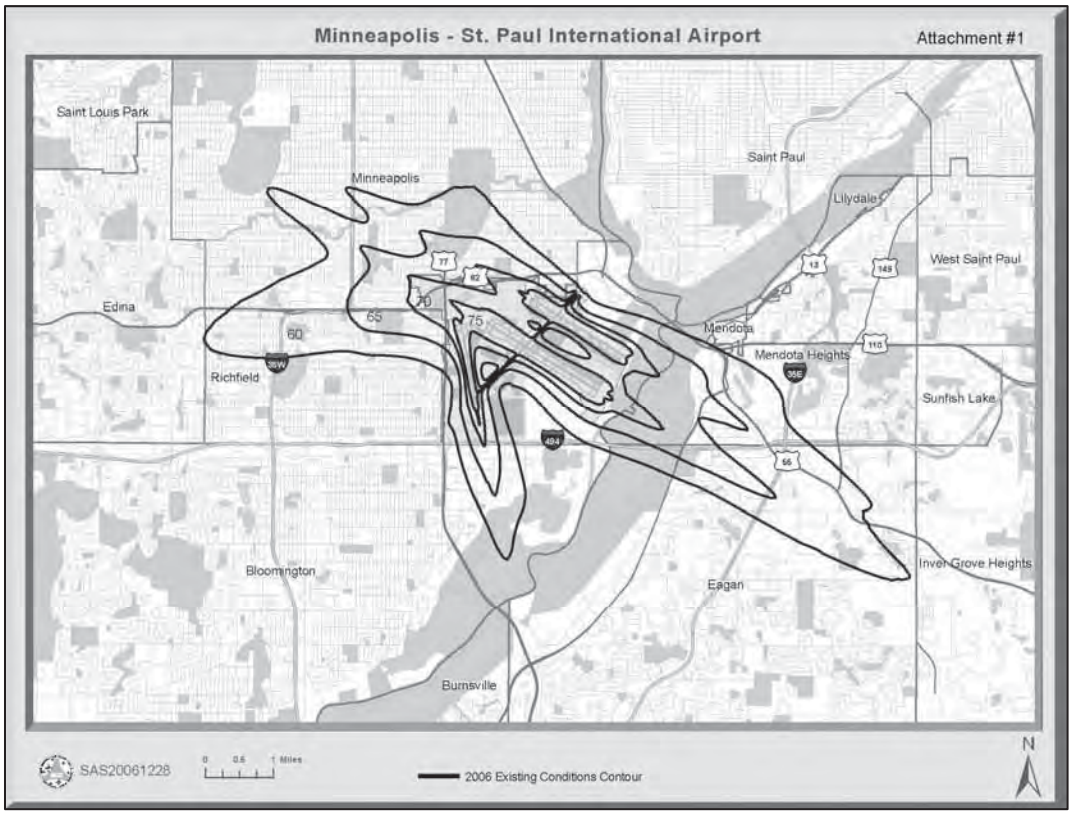
MVTA has also been involved in the Cedar Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and I-35W BRT projects. BRT is a new form of public transportation that uses public roads, right-of-way and transit advantages to provide dependable, high-speed bus service regardless of weather or traffic conditions.

AIR SERVICE

Burnsville's northeastern most residences are located four miles from the departure end of the new runway #17/35 at Minneapolis/St Paul International Airport. Runway #17/35 is expected to be used for 37% of all departures from the airport and 17% of all arrivals to the airport at full capacity.

No part of Burnsville is located within the noise contours used by the federal government to determine the intrusiveness of airplane noise. The contours depicted on the attached map are determined by a fairly complex formula that averages the frequency and intensity of noise events over time. These contours are then used to determine, among other things, what residential areas qualify for noise mitigation assistance provided through the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC). Those residences within the 65 dnl (Day-Night Average Sound Level) contour qualify for such assistance. Those between the 60 dnl and 65 dnl contour lines may qualify for a reduced level of noise mitigation assistance as determined by the MAC.

Although no residence in Burnsville is within the noise contours, northeastern Burnsville residents in particular experienced a sharp increase in airplane over flights with the opening of the runway in late October of 2005. This was exacerbated by a departure restriction the Federal Aviation Administration imposed that tended to concentrate departing airplanes with westerly destinations over the same Burnsville neighborhoods instead of fanning them out over the natural noise management corridor of the Minnesota River valley. A recent accommodation has been reached with the FAA that should significantly increase the fanning of those aircraft and ease the noise concerns of northeastern City residents.


Minneapolis - St. Paul International Airport
Attachment #1
Saint Louis Park
Minneapolis
Saint Paul
Lilydale
West Saint Paul
Edina
Richfield
Mendota
Mendota Heights
Sunfish Lake
Bloomington
Eagan
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COMMUNITY FACILITIES

SKATE PARK

In 1995, a group of students asked the City Council to discuss the feasibility of developing a skateboarding and in-line skating facility. The City agreed to lease a portion of Civic Center Park land to a nonprofit group, Skate Park, Inc., which built a 10,000 square foot Tier II skate park in the summer of 1998. The facility was operated by the City for Skate Park, Inc from 1998 through 2002. In 2003 Skate Park Inc., turned over the ownership of the skate park to the City which operated the skate park for 1 year as a tier II park and in 2004 lowered ramps and eliminated staff making it a tier I skate park.

ICE CENTER

The Burnsville Ice Center is a 65,754 square foot two sheet indoor ice rink. Rink 1, built in 1972, features seating for 1,350 – 2,000 people, while Rink 2 built in 1985 accommodates seating for 500. Both rinks have additional room for “standing room only.”

The Burnsville Ice Center has ten (10) team rooms serving changing and showering needs for players and coaches. Rink 2 is served by 4 team rooms and Rink 1 is served by 6 team rooms with Rink 1 having showers. Changing rooms 9 & 10 were built in 1999 with assistance from ISD 191. In 1998 a “State of the Art” sound system was installed to improve sound quality in both rinks while our lighting system in both rinks exceeds industry standards.

The Burnsville Ice Center is open year round and annually reserves over 5,800 hours of ice and accommodates over 340,000 annual visitors. The Burnsville High School Boys and Girls Varsity and Junior Varsity Hockey Programs practice and play games at the Burnsville Ice Center. The Burnsville Hockey Club (Youth Hockey) also calls the Ice Center “home” and has over 600 members. The Burnsville Hockey Club offers competitive and recreational hockey opportunities to boys and girls in the community.

The Burnsville Ice Center has a progressive Learn to Skate (LTS) Program combining USFSA and ISI requirements to provide an outstanding program for figure skaters, hockey skaters, and recreational skaters. Over 1,600 participants register annually for LTS classes. The Burnsville Minnesota Valley Figure Skating Club calls the Burnsville Ice Center “home” and has over 100 participants.

The Dakota Curling Club was formed and named the Burnsville Ice Center home for it inaugural season in the spring of 2006. With over 150 members the Dakota Curling Club, is the fourth largest curling club in the state.

BIRNAMWOOD GOLF COURSE

Birnamwood Golf Course a nine-hole, par 27 golf course, was built in 1968 and was acquired by the City of Burnsville in the fall of 1988. It is located near the intersection of Burnsville Parkway and Parkwood Drive. The course is 1,258 yards long and water comes into play on three holes. A new irrigation system was installed at Birnamwood in the summer of 2001. On average there are thirteen golf leagues with 600 participants competing at Birnamwood annually. The leagues consist of ten adult leagues, two youth leagues and one mixed league. Seven of these leagues are run by Birnamwood, four leagues by outside groups, and two are BAC youth leagues. Since 2000, Birnamwood has averaged 29,700 rounds per year.

Birnamwood has been a member of Audubon International since 1999 and became certified as an Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary in 2002. Birnamwood is the only nine-hole course in the State of Minnesota to receive this designation. The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program helps golf courses enhance wildlife habitat and protect natural resources for the benefit of people, wildlife, and the game of golf. Birnamwood's environmental responsibilities include monitoring water quality, conserving wildlife and their habitats, and using appropriate cultural and integrated pest management methods to manage turf areas.

FIRE STATIONS

The City of Burnsville has two fire stations and a cooperative fire training facility that it shares with the Cities of Apple Valley, Eagan, Lakeville, and Mankato. Fire Station I is located at 14011 Burnhaven Drive, south of McAndrews Road. Until the new City Hall was completed in 1989, this building housed both fire and police administrative personnel. When the police headquarters, dispatch center and the fire administrative and training offices were relocated to the new City Hall building Fire Station I was remodeled to better utilize the space as a fire and rescue station. Access to Station I has improved with a new road and signal system. In 2006, the easterly part of the site was subdivided and sold to Target Corporation to accommodate redevelopment of a new Super Target. The City Capital Improvement Program (CIP) identifies a future expansion to the fire station to add another bay to the north side of the building. Fire Station II is located northeast of the intersection of 12th Avenue and 122nd Street East.

In 1989, the City Council authorized the purchase of eight acres of land at the northeast corner of Southcross Drive and Portland Avenue for a future third fire station. Since only two acres were needed for Fire Station III, the City sold the remainder of the property in 1997. In 2006 the City determined that there was not a need to retain the site for a third fire station or for other public purposes and the City Council agreed to sell the property for development. The site was re-guided from public to two family residential land use and a Planned Unit Development (PUD) known as Woodbrook was approved for development of 6 single family lots. The developer is in the process of selling the project and the actual land sale of the site is expected early in 2007.

CITY MAINTENANCE FACILITY

The City has two maintenance facilities. The primary maintenance center, located near the intersection of County Road 11 and McAndrews Road, is approximately 60,000 square feet in size. It includes all of the administrative offices, fleet maintenance, repair shops, heated storage, approximately 50 percent of the vehicle storage, and outside storage of aggregate materials. In addition, the City has a 10,000 square foot sand and salt storage building.

The City also has an old maintenance center located in Civic Center Park. This building is 42,000 square feet. Approximately 25,000 square feet are currently being used for vehicle and cold storage related to operations and maintenance. The old maintenance facility is also home to a number of tenants. In 1998, renovations began on 5,815 square feet for the purpose of creating "THE GARAGE" teen center which opened July 1999. It is currently home to the Minnesota Teen Music Association (MTMA), after school programs, and it serves as an excellent concert venue on the weekends. Young people are very involved in all aspects of programming and facility operations. Annual attendance at the GARAGE continues to increase and in 2006 the total number of users exceeded 31,000. The City provides a significant amount of Community Development Block Grant funding to support THE GARAGE. Other tenants at the Old Maintenance facility include: the Burnsville Hockey Club which leases 10,000 square feet for a youth training facility, the Burnsville Athletic Club (BAC) in-house baseball program leases 1,365 square feet for storage and office space, and the community theater leases 700 square feet for storage. Once the addition to the new maintenance center is complete, Operations and Maintenance will move more of its vehicles and storage to the new maintenance center thereby freeing up 16,000 square feet at the old maintenance center for alternate uses. THE GARAGE has plans to expand with an additional 5,500 square feet. The additional space will include restrooms, a small athletic area, and possibly a sound studio. Additionally, the BAC would like to claim 7,000 square feet and move their office and storage area out of their City Hall location. This new space for the BAC would provide adequate storage, a central office, meeting room space, restrooms and possibly some training areas.

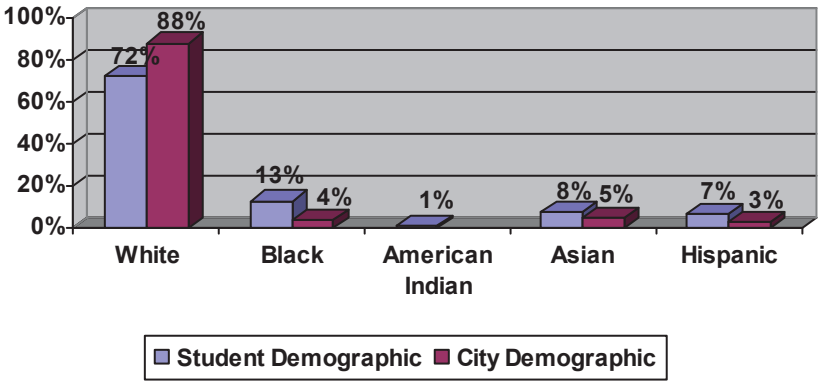
OTHER FACILITIES

Schools

The City of Burnsville is served by three public school districts: Burnsville Independent School District 191, Lakeville Independent School District 194, and Rosemount Independent School District 196.

The 2000 Comprehensive Plan identified that enrollment within District 191, (the District serving the majority of Burnsville), was below projections with 11,418 students enrolled in 1998. Enrollment was projected to flatten out through 2005 due to an aging population and continued growth in the Savage/Prior Lake District. District 191 reported a total student population of 10,500 for the 2005-2006 school year. During this time, there were 470 students from other districts who attended school in District 191 and 586 students from District 191 who attended school in another district. Student demographics provided by the District indicate that the student population was comprised of 72% White, 13% Black, 8% Asian, 7% Hispanic and 1% American Indian. Figure A-__ provides a comparison of student demographics to the 2000

Census demographic for Burnsville and illustrates that the student population is more diverse than the City as a whole. The proportional differences may be related to the fact that the Census data reflects conditions as of 1999 and the student demographic is more current. It is anticipated that Burnsville's population will continue to become more diverse over time.



TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Cable television administration and programming is provided by Burnsville/Eagan Telecommunications Commission. Future direction of information technology will focus on community wide broadband accessibility, Criminal Justice Information Integration Network (CJIIN) Initiatives, continued mobile data computer implementation for Police/Fire, Water and Protective Inspections.

Broadband Services

In 2006, the City Council reviewed the topic of the future of information infrastructure for the City as part of the Governance process. The Council heard from incumbent service providers about the status of current broadband infrastructure in Burnsville and plans for future investment in the community. Testimonials were also provided from professionals involved in the telecommunications/broadband business, and public comments. The City Council wanted to learn more about broadband offerings in the community in order to assess whether the City should or could be doing more to ensure residents and businesses have access to reliable, high quality, and affordable broadband services. The City Council directed City staff to work with incumbent providers or other service providers to define possible partnerships to meet residential and business needs for broadband. The City will continue to work on this matter and progress will be reported as part of the Comprehensive Plan Update.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

Partnerships are a vital element for cost effectiveness and community building. The City has pursued partnerships with a variety of government agencies. Partnering organizations include: Dakota County, Dakota County Drug Task Force, Bloomington, Savage, Dakota County Domestic Preparedness, Dakota County Radio Workgroup, Lakeville, Apple Valley, Eagan, St. Louis Park, Plymouth, Ramsey, Stillwater, Farmington, Dakota County EMS Consortium,

Dakota Communications Center, High Priority Partnerships, Dakota County Economic Preparedness, ISD 191, MVTA and I-35W Solutions Alliance.

One of the recent examples of intergovernmental coordination is the Dakota Communications Center (DCC) which will be a centralized joint dispatch center providing state-of-the art 911 and emergency services (police, Sheriff, fire, emergency medical) to all Dakota County citizens. In 2004 the High Performance Partnerships (HiPP) project, conducted by the Dakota County cities and county, identified the need for the development of a centralized public safety answering point (PSAP) and dispatch center. A combination of factors – attention to homeland security, upgrades in technology, the readiness of various governmental units to act, the availability of grant money, and the financial benefits to participating governments served to bring the idea to reality. Burnsville along with 11 other cities in Dakota County in partnership with the County comprise the members of the DCC. Dakota County is currently building an $11 million 800 MHz subsystem with 9 radio sites located throughout the County. This system will allow all emergency responders to talk to each other during an emergency on one radio network. The public safety agencies, administrators and elected officials of the cities within Dakota County also contributed much time and effort to make this partnership in improving public safety possible. The partnership began in late 2005 and the $7.35 million dollar DCC facility, located in Empire Township, is expected to open in fall, 2007.

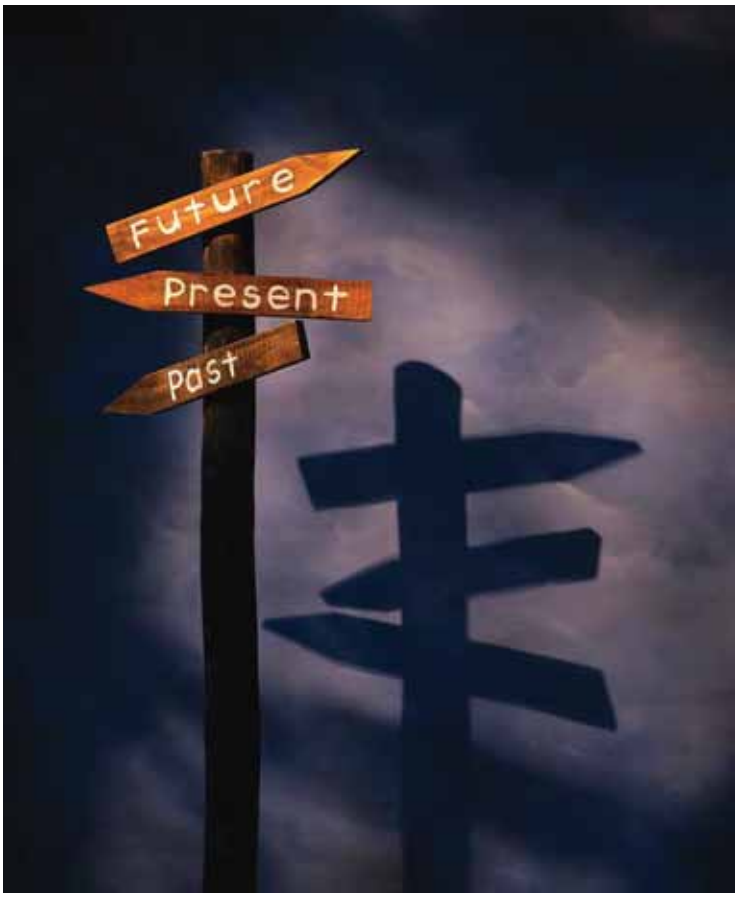
Another example of intergovernmental coordination can be found in the number of grants and donations the City of Burnsville has received from other agencies. Funding has been received from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Department of Homeland Security, Dakota County Drug Task Force, Dakota County Community Development Agency, Metropolitan Council and Dakota Valley Recycling.

Anticipating community needs is essential. Numerous strategic steps have been taken to anticipate community needs by conducting comprehensive reinvestment and redevelopment. This includes enhancing market values, review of the Financial Management Plan, protecting and enhancing the environment, replacing infrastructure, addressing traffic issues and eliminating dependence on State Aids. Burnsville continues to systematically monitor the changing community conditions: continued development and population growth surrounding Burnsville, business assistance policy changes to reflect legislative changes, continued awareness of conflicting issues surrounding Affordable Housing, the needs and challenges confronting low to moderate income residents in Burnsville and the needs and challenges confronting foreign born (immigrant) residents in Burnsville.

Part III – WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE

The information contained in this report is intended to serve as the foundation for the Comprehensive Plan Update process. The report provides a snap shot of what has happened in the community since the adoption of the 2000 Comprehensive Plan. The next step in the process is to identify the issues facing the community followed by development of goals and policies to accomplish in the next 20 year planning period. From that point, land use plan alternatives will be created and once a course of action is identified in terms of a future land use plan, the technical aspects of the Comprehensive Plan can be prepared. Plans for community infrastructure including utilities, transportation, transit, surface water management and potentially others will be prepared by City staff and consultants and then combined into a draft 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update. The draft plan will be presented to the public and

distributed to all affected government jurisdictions for review, comment and modifications. A completed draft plan will then be presented to all of the City standing boards and commissions the Burnsville Planning Commission for public hearing and recommendation to the City Council. The City Council will then act to adopt the plan and a final draft will be prepared and submitted to the Metropolitan Council. Following Metropolitan Council review, any changes will be reviewed by the City Council and a final plan will be adopted and made available for the public. Implementation of the 2030 Comprehensive Plan will then begin.



APPENDIX B – ISSUES REPORT

APRIL 9, 2007

CITY OF BURNSVILLE
2030
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Part I - INTRODUCTION

The Issues Report provides the foundation upon which the goals and policies for the 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update will be developed. The purpose of this report is to document the issues facing the City of Burnsville as identified through the Vision for the 21st Century process, the Public Issues Forum, community feedback received through the City website, and issues identified by the business community, Public Business Forum, and issues identified by City staff, consultants, standing Boards and Commissions. The following sections identify community issues input received from each of these sources.

Part II – ISSUES IDENTIFICATION

VISIONING FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

The City conducted a formal visioning process during 2006 which included a "kick-off" meeting and then many weeks of task force groups meeting to develop vision statements and ideas for several theme areas. The Visioning for the 21st Century document is on file at City Hall and includes the detailed recommendations of each of the committees. The following issues and common themes were identified:

"Kick-Off" Meeting Top Issues:

- Preservation and utilization of natural resources
- Education
- Forward thinking and City planning
- Business retention, development, redevelopment, strong City policy towards business and focus on medical development in the business community
- Minnesota River Quadrant Development
- Safety
- Sense of community and quality of life
- Communication, collaboration and partnerships
- City infrastructure, housing stock and neighborhood up-keep
- Transportation

Common Themes:

- Minnesota River Quadrant development
- Code enforcement and neighborhood upkeep
- Communication
- Continued funding of programs and services throughout the community

CEO FOCUS GROUP MEETING

As part of the Visioning process, a CEO Focus Group Meeting was held on September 8, 2006 and facilitated by Mayor Elizabeth Kautz. The objective of the meeting was to create a vision for the City of Burnsville 15 to 20 years from today and ensure its competitiveness on a regional and global stage. A SWOT (strengths, opportunities, weaknesses and threats) analysis was

used to promote discussion and gather feedback from attendees on their impressions and vision for the City from a business leader's perspective.

1. **Burnsville's Strengths**:
   - Many major road structures to create easy access to major cities, airport.
   - River barrier to keep workers south. Keep shoppers to the south.
   - Good retail around businesses for easy lunch access.
   - Rural feel; family/hometown feel.
   - Community loyalty/commitment.
   - Vocal community.
   - Competitive wages.
   - Good revitalization is some areas.
   - Good/fair income per capita to support businesses.
   - Great demographics.
   - Diversity: age/gender/ethnic healthy for community.
   - Great city leadership and support.
   - HOC to bring community together.
   - Standards not too high; affordable.
   - Good transportation.
   - Employment draws from younger communities south of the river.
   - Affordable housing.
   - Letter and support from Mayor in recruiting packages of some local businesses

2. **Burnsville's Weaknesses:**
   - Weak in hospitality. Need flagship hotel and convention center accommodations.
   - Need trendy, upscale restaurants.
   - Rural feel.
   - Highway splits the city.
   - The City does not have identifiable markings at its boundaries.
   - Unappealing corridor – County Road 42 and Highway 13. Need money to upkeep.
   - Need trendy and new businesses. Current retail is tired and at the end of its product life.
   - Need more businesses and industries.
   - 98% built out/ people like new so we need to redevelop more areas of the City.
   - River as a boundary.
   - Lacking in communications and technology infrastructure – Bandwidth.
   - Need continuing education resource for medical and technical local businesses.
   - Aging community.
   - Lost business: Levitz, Knox, Rainbow.
   - Getting riffraff in community.
   - Too much local government red tape for redevelopment and expansion.
   - Business recruiting.

3. **Burnsville's Opportunities:**
   - Light rail or other transportation corridors.
   - Regional draw and support to have centralized hospitality/convention site.
   - Alternative or cycling housing.
   - Central location to bring in popular stores, shops.
   - Capitalize on centralized use of Landfill.
   - Draw from other communities' resources.

- Incentives for businesses to come into Burnsville.
- Promote the city in recruiting packages.
- Create multiple anchors within the city for residents to have different experiences and choices, like the Heart of the City.
- Provide perks to draw new business.
- Aging community and opportunities for redevelopment
- Encourage revitalization.
- Partnerships and collaboration.
- Mixed use and value-added services.
- Capitalize on higher average income population.
- Performing Arts or Cultural Center will attract higher income people because they are the ones who will pay the money for Arts and Culture events.

4. Burnsville's Threats:

- Becoming Bedroom Community.
- Turn into a Richfield or Farmington.
- Other surrounding and growing communities are providing a competitive environment and have the potential to take businesses away from Burnsville.
- Need attention to the kind of retail to bring in to attract the right people. Need to manage the type versus how much.
- Won't attract high skill base people to increase income base of the community.
- No light rail.
- Being stagnant, not progressing.
- Old-looking retail that does not draw a higher skilled and more educated workforce and higher income taxbase.

5. Burnsville's Key to Success:

- High quality of life.
- Entertainment draw to appeal to the higher income base people: arts & entertainment opportunities.
- Celebrate the city with more promotional advertisement and share with businesses to include in recruiting materials.
- Public & private partnerships.
- Maintain County Road 42 and Highway 13.
- Educational opportunities for workforce and business development.
- Strong infrastructure already in place ("built it and they will come").
- Strong first impression, good snap shot or image of the City overall.
- Capitalize on demographics and market pull.

PUBLIC ISSUES FORUM

A Public Issues Forum meeting was held on February 8, 2007 where attendees participated in a SWOT (Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats) exercise to answer the following questions. Meeting participants ranked the responses as identified below.

1. When you think of the City of Burnsville, what do you believe are its greatest strengths? These are assets or characteristics that should be maintained or enhanced as the community plans for the future.

Strengths

Rank

5 Progressive Police, Fire and EMS Departments
5 Reasonable tax rate
5 Strong retail base
5 Proximity to thoroughfares and regional accessibility
5 Natural resources-trees, lakes, river
5 Hospital and medical resources
5 Safe city
3 Excellent location
3 Well run city
3 County Road 42 Corridor and Burnsville Mall
3 Great recreation opportunities
3 HOC
2 City of Burnsville financial management
2 Variety of housing choices including affordability
1 Excellent schools
1 MRQ Development and River Front
1 Growing diversity in population
1 Receptive government
1 Parks-Gemstone to Crystal Lake
1 Well planned city-good mix of land use
0 Good local infrastructure and summer maintenance
0 Buck Hill
0 Lakes

2. What are the characteristics or aspects of the City that you believe to be weaknesses? These are things about the City that you think should be corrected, improved or eliminated in the future.

Weaknesses

8 Aging housing stock
8 Highway 13 corridor needs improvement
7 Traffic congestion
7 Lack of light rail/mass transit/transit choices
5 East-west transportation adequacy
4 Aging strip malls
2 Too much on street parking
2 Poor snow plowing on streets

Weaknesses *Continued…*

2 Projected decline in financial reserves-having to do more with less
2 Airport noise
2 Lack of coherent trail system
1 Community perception of favoritism to ISD191 students
1 Lack of access to river valley
1 Appearance of the north entrance to the City along I35W
1 Not welcoming to diverse populations
1 Poor assimilation
1 Pedestrian/traffic conflicts, inadequate pedestrian accommodations
1 Too much/disproportionate amount of attention to HOC
0 Poor quality of play equipment
0 Lack of citizen involvement
0 Canadian geese control
0 SW Development guidelines
0 Adequacy of potable water source

3. What do you see as opportunities available to Burnsville in the future?

Opportunities

10 Develop along MN River
5 Park and trail development in MRQ
5 Redevelop aging housing stock
5 Regional and location transportation improved
5 Attract a college campus
4 Preserve Buck Hill as public park
3 Electric mass transit
3 Highway 13 beautification
3 Transportation hub in south Burnsville
2 Intergovernmental sharing-community, county, region
2 Increase the number of neighborhood organizations
2 Increased choices in elderly housing/affordability
1 Improve lake water quality, dredge
1 Add housing to Burnsville Center
1 Improve recycling, environmentally sound process
1 Intensify development by going up versus out
1 Increase diverse population
1 Synergy between redevelopment and demographic changes
1 Opportunities to invest in affordable housing
0 Financial assistance to aging strip malls
0 Capitalize on location and infrastructure
0 Continued development of HOC

4. What do you perceive as threats to a successful future for the City of Burnsville?

Threats

7 Increase in local crime
7 Lack of cultural activities and education

Threats *Continued….*

5 Transportation isolation/lack of access
4 Inability to keep up with service demands-aging population
4 Air traffic and increased noise
3 Declining school quality
3 Negative financial growth
3 Lack of affordable housing for young families
3 Declining neighborhoods
2 Lack of east/west transportation
2 Changes in real estate market leads to changes in home ownership
2 Inadequate regulation of group homes
2 Lack of investment in schools
1 Traffic congestion
1 Terrorism, lack of preparation
1 Inability to control federal, state and county transportation
0 PAC-potential disconnect between service and need
0 Elected officials no living in Burnsville
0 Asian bird flu and other pandemics

The Public Issues Forum attendees were also asked to participate in a brainstorming exercise which asked the following:

Question:

If the City of Burnsville were to prepare and adopt the optimum plan and implement it to successfully achieve all of its opportunities and avoid the factors that threaten it, what will the community look like in 20 years? Feel free to describe this future in any way that is comfortable to you and be as general or as specific as you like.

Responses:

- A well functioning City of involved, enlightened residents who fund schools, the arts, and adequate transportation improvements. In 20 years, the City will be a more diverse and happier place to be.

- Take care of the most difficult, most expensive, and the most important projects first. Since time may prevent some things in the future, the easy things can come later.

- Long range planning for the environment (i.e. Environment similar to the Zoo). Study density: population distribution and high rise.

- I'm pretending that I'm 35 years younger and coming to look at Burnsville as a place for my family to live. I was able to buy a home that we could afford on one good salary, no far from a park and shopping area. I'm choosing Burnsville because of its internal transit system and easy, swift transit access into the core cities. I'm pleased with the diverse community I'm seeing with diverse shopping and restaurant opportunities. I'm also choosing Burnsville because of the highly acclaimed educational system for my young children.

- Burnsville population is aging therefore to combat:
    - Have mass transportation easily available to residents

- Promote affordable higher density residential facilities so people don't have to travel to groceries and other shopping facilities.
- Develop more hiking/walking trails with bridges or underpasses at main highways.

❖ Burnsville would be destination for residents of other cities. A diversified population in sync with each other. Close knit neighborhood communities who work with other neighborhoods. Continued economic growth. Educated residents.

❖ More "Heart of the City" neighborhoods (i.e. high density housing in close proximity to neighborhood restaurants, drug store and groceries) to meet needs of aging population that may not have ability to drive. Safe parks. Educational opportunities for night classes within the city. Ability to walk, bike ride, cross country ski along the river and Black Dog area. Redeveloped residential neighborhoods.

❖ It will look like a "model" city-neighborhoods "kept up", parks maintained-good transportation, more public transportation.

❖ Good parks and clean lakes. Good police and fire departments. Diverse population.

❖ Low crime rate and public perception of safety. High property values and diverse housing. Diverse population and same mix as metro area. Minimal urban blight-most public and private, buildings well maintained. Minimal traffic congestion. Effective and efficient public utilities (water and sewer), minimal cost and minimal service failures. Excellent parks and natural resources, park amenities for all ages, clean lakes, high level of satisfaction as measured by surveys of citizens. Excellent reputation as a desirable city in Metro area, MN and USA.

❖ A fully developed northwest quadrant mix of recreation and residential. Burnsville Center moved into ISD191. Redevelopment of housing restores balance between single family and multifamily. Existing park system maintained or increased.

❖ It has a thriving business community. It has successfully avoided large tracts of housing and apartment building blight. It has improved traffic flow and increased public transit options. It has a bike trail system that increased pedestrian options and access to parks. It has a comprehensive plan for redevelopment of the MRQ. It does not have the highest crime rates in Dakota County.

ADVISORY PANEL SWOT ANALYSIS - ISSUES

The 26 member Comprehensive Plan Advisory Panel met on March 19, 2006 and completed a similar SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) exercise as was done for the February 8th Public Issues Forum. The Advisory Panel provided the following responses and ranked the issues as identified below.

Question:

1. When you think of the City of Burnsville, what do you believe are its greatest strengths? These are assets or characteristics that should be maintained or enhanced as the community plans for the future.

Strengths

Rank	
5	Well-balanced land uses
4	Strong city finance system
6	Strong medical facilities
	Diverse mix of housing
2	Excellent schools
6	Well maintained infrastructure
1	Great place to raise families
1	Strong Chamber of Commerce
2	Strong public safety
9	Location – Location – Location (transportation – regional and river)
6	Parks and trails – excellent system
1	Well functioning city government
3	Highly educated workforce
1	Strong tax base
1	Buck Hill Ski Resort
7	Lakes and national amenities
1	Good youth programs
3	Community volunteerism
	Diverse employment opportunities
1	Limited blight
3	Visionary leadership
5	Professionalism of staff, strong city management

2. What are the characteristics or aspects of the City that you believe to be weaknesses? These are things about the City that you think should be corrected, improved or eliminated in the future.

Weaknesses

Rank	
14	Transit needs
	Multiple school districts within city boundary
1	Accessibility – generally congested and limited
3	Lack of WIFI
	Low public awareness of visitor bureau – low self promotion
	Aging population
	Limited resources for investment into the city
8	Lack of major draw
10	Oversupply of low end rental housing
1	No post-secondary educational facilities
4	Limited bridge crossings and capacity
4	Lack of conference centers and hotels
7	Aging housing stock
8	Aging infrastructure
	Aging commercial and industrial
1	Too political
1	Lack of religious and ethnic sensitivity
1	Taxes too high
1	Poor school quality
2	Dwindling 18 - 34 year old population
	Lack of senior citizen shopping awareness
1	Inconsistent communication among community groups – both public and private
1	Lack of buildable land

3. What do you see as opportunities available to Burnsville in the future?

Opportunities

Rank	
17	MRQ and entire river valley area – world class development
8	Light rail
5	Dan Patch computer rail
3	Job development to the south of the city (reverse commute)
5	Performing art center
8	Medical alliance
2	Improved area lake quality

Opportunities *Continued…*

Rank	
2	Diverse population
	Good city visioning process
4	Technology leader in twin cities
	Commercial opportunities (growth expansion)
2	Excellent atmosphere for small business and incubators
7	Abundant redevelopment opportunities
	Viking's stadium
	Term limits
	Untapped opportunities for the arts
4	Neighborhood restaurant and retail opportunities
	Interstate access
1	Opportunity for potable water supply (Kraemer Quarry)
	More opportunities for intergovernmental collaboration
	More opportunities for intra-community collaboration

4. What do you perceive as threats to a successful future for the City of Burnsville?

Threats

Rank	
	Pandemics
	Degradation of HOC
	Terrorism
2	Reduced school district programs
3	Aging strip malls
2	Economic downturn
1	Diverse population and failure to respond to this change
	Other communities – more innovative → out compete
2	Higher health care costs leading to higher taxes
10	Lack/inadequate transportation funding
7	Inadequate employment opportunities across income levels
1	Continued overbuilding of condos
11	Too much subsidized housing
1	Fiscal disparities
	Mall of America expansion
	Inadequate planning by surrounding communities
9	Aging housing stock
8	Inadequate funding, staff, management of performing arts center
2	Increase in crime rates

Threats

Rank

5 Pollution – noise, groundwater, surface water

2 Energy crisis

Potential move of international airport

2 Continued growth of communities – adding congestion

The Chamber of Commerce provided input based on a SWOT analysis conducted by their Government Affairs Committee and a public input meeting for business owners held on March 27, 2007. The following comments and ideas were recorded:

1. When you think of the City of Burnsville, what do you believe are its greatest **strengths**? These are assets or characteristics that should be maintained or enhanced as the community plans for the future.

   - Burnsville Center Retail Area
   - the upcoming Movie Theater will be a huge improvement to overall area vitality
   - focus on medical is a good thing
   - having Fairview Ridges and the associated health care service providers
   - there's a great balance between commercial, industrial, retail and residential property
   - Burnsville isn't a bedroom community, plenty of jobs right here for those that want them
   - strong location within the broader metro area
   - transportation infrastructure is good (although need to continue to improve)
   - good visibility in this community
   - this is a hub city south of the river
   - city infrastructure is in good shape for future reinvestment by way of the trust funds
   - strong bond rating, have the ability to band if needed
   - good education system overall in the general area, good leadership, Q Comp good
   - city is ahead of the curve on conservation efforts, good thing in spite of the $$ pain
   - storm water treatment/handling is ahead of curve also
   - public safety is a huge plus, full time fire a good thing
   - strong community events are a positive

2. What characteristics or aspects of the City that you believe to be **weaknesses**? These are things about City that you think should be corrected, improved or eliminated in the future.

   - making large expenditures without public hearings or a referendum
   - need wise spending on future development or redevelopment efforts
   - need better planning on redevelopment efforts
   - too much multi-family housing, not enough higher income single family
   - we're landlocked making growth difficult
   - retail sector isn't aging all that gracefully
   - transportation issues are affecting us, 5&13, 42, 35W
   - leadership should be progressive but not out of line with community support
   - lead the community with a vision but don't completely outpace it
   - should do a better job at gaining community support for major efforts

3. What do you see as **opportunities** available to Burnsville in the future?

   - the MRQ and the riverfront allow for major opportunity
   - a major economic engine should be found for the MRQ i.e. riverboat or casino
   - full completion of the HOC will be a good thing
   - strip mall redevelopment will benefit the city
   - continue to capture medical business and to play off of the hospital
   - land is still available!
   - we are the hub south of the river and can continue to develop that concept

4. What do you perceive as **threats** to a successful future for the City of Burnsville?

- ☐ poverty levels within the community need to be watched carefully
- ☐ high density housing brings challenges with it for revitalization, has to be managed
- ☐ the public sector should not consider entering typical private sector markets i.e. broadband
- ☐ area school districts, 191 in particular, are experiencing increasing challenges
- ☐ perception is that drugs/meth are on the increase
- ☐ short sightedness on future planning – being in too much of a hurry sometimes
- ☐ allow for the market to catch up to various efforts and visions
- ☐ things happen without clear evidence of community support
- ☐ degradation of the economic base, can't take it for granted (existing businesses, etc.)
- ☐ lack of residential and business engagement in community issues
- ☐ there's a decrease in the sense of community
- ☐ should avoid disproportionate taxation, i.e. LOST, wheelage tax, transportation impact fee
- ☐ while fees are a good tool, it seems there's an over-reliance on fees to cover "true taxes"
- ☐ Planned utilization of TIF dollars for projects before districts even decertify is bad policy

COMP PLAN BUSINESS FORUM MEETING - ISSUES
MARCH 27TH, 2007

What infrastructure needs and updates does Burnsville need to prepare to be regionally, nationally and globally competitive? Think in terms of transportation, land use, utilities, communication and financing.

- Similar to lifecycle housing, Burnsville needs business lifecycle opportunities. Provide an environment where business can grow (buildings, economic development, highlight available building stock).
- Recognize that there is a need for older, more affordable office space for incubator type businesses.
- Burnsville has a balance of retail, manufacturing and residential. The City should stick up for the business community.
- The City should think carefully about the local tax structure and its impacts on business.
- It may be too late to provide what is needed tomorrow in terms of technology infrastructure. If the City targets specific industries for future Economic Development then the city must also prepare to provide that industry with the technology and infrastructure it needs.
- Visit other cities to see what they have done in terms of infrastructure improvements. Learn from their mistakes and their successes.
- Talk to college kids to understand future technologies and to learn about what this generation is looking for in a community.
- Access to the core cities is still very important and must be maintained and expanded. Provide more ways to get people across the river.
- The City should be more conservative in securing future ROW, infrastructure and easements. Set more land aside now for what may be needed in the future.
- Transportation and interchange projects need to keep moving forward.
- East/West and North/South major roadways need to be maintained.
- Be proactive at the federal level for transportation funding.
- The City should be looking for another bridge corridor over the river.
- Recognize that economic development does not tend to occur with Bus Rapid Transit but that we should be looking at where to locate future stations at key locations and take advantage of economic development opportunities adjacent to future stations.

What can Burnsville do to be more attractive to your future workforce?

- Provide attractive housing stock, affordable without social issues. Neighborhoods and areas for work force housing should be safe and attractive.
- Healthy diverse tax base.
- Stand apart from surrounding cities but look at how the city fits into a regional picture. Be a leader in market-based ways.
- Work collectively (as a region) to get jobs south of the river, diversify types of businesses and job opportunities.
- Highlight what we have that stands out
- Provide a more walkable community and amenities close by
- Amenities are needed that attract a younger population. Find out what that is: pools, community centers, playgrounds, neighborhood parks, elementary school, retail center, restaurants, etc.
- Be easier on businesses for collaboration and partnerships

- Be mindful of how much things cost, regulatory barriers, disproportionate utility costs, etc.
- Accessibility and proximity. Location is important to workforce.
- First impressions are important. The City looks a bit tired, lacks hotels. It needs a newer feel, capitalize on opportunities for redevelopment.
- Use tax abatement or TIF to provide businesses with the opportunity to improve their building, structures, etc.
- Provide nearby training for a changing and diverse workforce that speaks a variety of languages.

From the perspective of the business community, what issues, policies, or goals should the City incorporate into this Comprehensive Plan Update?

- Make the business community an ally. The foundation of the city/business relationship is to foster a healthy working environment.
- The business process within the City should be user-friendly, flexible and accommodating. If there is a better way, then allow it.
- Draw from the diverse workforce.
- Capitalize on riverfront development, maximize this opportunity.
- Be sensitive to surrounding environments in how other cities are dealing with business.
- Capitalize on the social infrastructure advantages that Burnsville has.
- Listen and partner with politicians
- Need to have balance in the entire community-housing, transportation, workforce, etc.
- The City needs to recognize that it cannot be everything to everyone and we should choose what we want to be and work to make our vision happen.
- The Minnesota River should be cleaned up to enhance the resource. The City should support and be a vocal leader for cleaning up the river in Burnsville and upstream.

COMP PLAN WEBSITE FEEDBACK - STRENGTHS:

- Strong business community. A developed city. A safe community for families and business.
- The diversity of the community. I35 intersection and the river.
- Location
- I35 Southern Intersection makes it accessible. Also, the River, which Burnsville isn't using for 2% of its potential.

COMP PLAN WEBSITE FEEDBACK - WEAKNESSES:

- Aging retail space, strip malls, hotels. Too many apartments, townhomes, condos. Losing our only full service health club.
- The city has a poor road system. It doesn't seem to encourage traffic FLOW.
- The current plan isn't 'Big' enough for the potential and need.
- Lack of use of the river. Local roads must have been designed by the engineers who designed St. Paul roads.
- Current zoning is not appropriate for long term plan
- More emphasis is needed to coordinate suppliers with local business/industrial and also attract labor needed for these businesses

COMP PLAN WEBSITE FEEDBACK - OPPORTUNITIES:

- Attract new retail development. Traffic infrastructure (County Road 42, Nicollet & Highway 13).
- Make use of the industry, river, medical facilities, mall, rail and roadways.
- With the good economic and diverse zoning, a strong community can be built. All issues can be resolved due to the resources available.
- City needs to be more flexible to allow business to succeed and change over time
- Need to make better use of the rail corridor – expanded use of the existing railroad infrastructure would be less expensive and potentially a more viable option than light rail due to it’s projected expense.
- Need to review zoning to provide land uses within zones and to make sure that uses are compatible for abutting zones

COMP PLAN WEBSITE FEEDBACK - THREATS:

- Issues of compatibility arise between industrial/commercial and residential uses due to lack of adequate transition areas/buffers – the close proximity of residential uses limit expansion possibilities; add to vandalism; complaints about noise and hours of operation all which hurt business opportunities
- The city is 95%+ developed. An increase in taxes.
- The City is congested and poorly laid out when compared to neighboring cities that are thriving. It will typically not be the first choice for living, working or visiting.
- Get the roads and zoning straightened before Lakeville or Apple Valley take advantage. That would leave Burnsville as a broken down neighborhood.

WEBSITE FEEDBACK – BRAINSTORMING IDEAS:

1. If the City of Burnsville were to prepare and adopt the optimum plan and implement it to successfully achieve all of its opportunities and avoid the factors that threaten it, what will the community look like in 20 years? Feel free to describe this future in any way that is comfortable to you and be as general or as specific as you like.

    - There will be 25% less facilities but more greenspace. The facilities will be bigger.
    - Traffic (cars, buses, trains, boats) will flow freely.
    - 25% closer to being like Mpls.
    - It would be wiser to make it a river, manufacturing and high end residential area.

BURNSVILLE 2030 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE
CITY STAFF DEPARTMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

1. What do you believe are the biggest opportunities for the City of Burnsville within the areas of your department's involvement?

   Coordinators Group Meeting:
   - Performing Arts Center
   - Continued development of HOC (beat cop)
   - Shared opportunities for public safety (Public Safety Support Center)
   - Senior Programming
   - Technology infrastructure/telecommunications in MRQ as revenue tool, attract business
   - Transportation
   - Video conferencing & interaction
   - Maintain basic infrastructure (parks, trails, utilities, streets)
   - Demographic changes & forecasts
   - Working with others on sustainability
   - Healthy City Initiative
   - Minnesota River Quadrant
   - Neighborhood revitalization
   - Improving water quality including the Minnesota River
   - New trends in parks and recreation
   - Shared resources in utilities, streets
   - HIPP (High Priority Partnerships)

   Fire Department:
   - Increase the use of Volunteers for non-emergency functions and tasks.
   - Increase the public's awareness of the fire department, statistics, and public education safety messages through cable access, local paper, and Burnsville Bulletin.
   - Growth for the Fire Department to include: increased staffing, increased level of service, capitalize on technology and data collection.
   - Partnership with other agencies in the metro with our personnel to address service delivery needs regarding Hazardous Materials and Technical Rescue.
   - Research the formation of Fire Districts crossing city and county lines.
   - Reconsider a three fire station concept for Burnsville.
   - Seek opportunities to collaborate with other communities in the delivery of Fire/ Emergency Services.
   - Look for opportunities to increase residential sprinkler systems.

   Natural Resources:
   - Working with other city departments and other organizations (e.g. Dakota County) on sustainability issues.
   - Improving water quality in the MN River and the community's lakes.
   - Making sure that the redevelopment of our community occurs in an environmentally responsible manner
   - Making sure development of the MN River quadrant is both a commercial and environmental success. Burnsville is currently shaping its largest and most pristine

lake – we need to make sure we get it right long before the first water starts to fill the quarry.
- Stopping the degradation of our terrestrial resources (e.g. woodlands, prairies).

Neighborhoods:
- Senior programming/ and or services – needs assessment
- Volunteer opportunities
- Neighborhood revitalization

Parks:
- To follow whatever recreational trends that become popular. There should be many exciting opportunities to add/maintain new amenities to the park system.

Planning:
- Capitalize on the positives of an aging population (more part-time workers/ volunteers etc)
- Capitalize on the positives of an increasingly diverse population (international markets, new customers and business entrepreneurs etc.)
- Land assembly for Burnsville Medical Alliance to control our destiny
- Possibility to create hydroponics operation on top of the freeway landfill
- New technologies that will promote green and environmental initiatives
- As enrollment declines in schools, the possibility of using schools for senior programs and services
- With increasing senior population possibilities for workforce changes to allow more flex time, more part time jobs, perhaps increase hours of operation for businesses and other opportunities (larger number of educated workforce available once people retire from full-time jobs)
- Minnesota River Quadrant redevelopment
- Expansion of broadband and other information technologies
- Assimilation of diverse population into work force

Public Works
- Re-affirm the value and role of parks and trails in the City's quality of life.

Recreation/Facilities:
- Performing Arts Center
- Heart of the City and? Burnsville MRQ recreation areas
- Waste Management Landfill Golf Course
- MRQ lake area
- Full service golf pro shop
- Renovations to ice center with concessions/café
- Healthy City Initiative
- Garage Expansions
- Because of Burnsville's population is both aging and becoming more diverse than surrounding communities, we need to examine what we offer to fit the changing community
- Improvements to current indoor recreation facilities and an increase in the number of recreation facilities particularly in the northwest quadrant.

Source Department Not Known: (Could I help with this one?)

- Environmental Improvements – less parking, ponding, green space
- Mixed Use – pedestrian access
- Redevelopment of aging areas

2. What are the biggest challenges that you see to realizing these opportunities?

Coordinators Group Meeting:

- Money for transportation
- Money for public safety – specialty services
- Resources, staffing, individual types services
- Money for Neighborhoods
- Increase in volunteers and how to accommodate
- Money for staff, partnerships
- Change in attitude toward shared services
- Aging demographics (fire)
- Development & redevelopment (fire)
- Higher service expectations from residents with less resources
- Funding (technology) and service provider challenges/control
- Public transit
- Aging infrastructure
- Change in thinking about natural systems
- Support of policy makers
- Changing communication strategies
- Changing leadership styles, values and approaches

Fire Department:

- Qualified people to become Volunteers for the fire department
- Confidentiality and credentialing of Volunteers
- Time restraints for developing messages for the media (cable, local paper, BB)
- Budget constraints
- Expectation of increased service without increased resources
- Declining Tax bases
- Demographics have changed and have affected the way we operate. Changes include: increased population, more diverse ethnic population, more elderly and elderly housing, more multifamily units, and different city priorities such as the Heart of the City.
- Fiscal constraints of initial start up for joint programs without vision of long-term savings.

Natural Resources:

- Funding
- Changing the way people think – our natural systems cannot support many of our current approaches and lifestyle choices.
- Support by the policy makers to change some of our current practices.

Neighborhoods:

- Space and opportunities to fulfill potential increase in volunteerism
- Seniors – huge gap between older and younger seniors – they have very different needs and ideas about retirement

- Neighborhoods - funding
- Senior programming and services – there will be a wide age gap in the "senior" population. Need to find services and programming to fill needs. "older seniors" and "younger seniors" do not necessarily have the same interests and needs.
- Volunteer opportunities – the aging population could be great for our volunteer program. We need to be flexible and creative in appealing to the "newly retired"
- Neighborhood revitalization – biggest challenge will be organizing neighborhoods

Parks:

- $$ and the historical struggle where maintenance isn't vary glamorous and often gets over looked.

Planning:

- Money
- As senior population grows the need for services increases but support of increasing taxing initiatives to provides services has goes down in the past.
- Providing housing options that are attractive and affordable to a diverse senior population
- Our current transportation system is not pedestrian friendly and needs to be made more friendly to pedestrians than drivers
- Education is a challenge – older people may not be as willing or able to learn new technologies, diverse populations may have much different cultural values and somehow we need to find ways to get common information out to more diverse populations.
- Work force will change dramatically – age discrimination often exists (employers may not want to hire older employees due to expected higher costs of insurance/benefits etc)
- Young people are not getting the same education as older people due to rapid changes in technology and communications (text messaging creates a new language that may not be understood by older generations etc)
- Difficulty for aging, diverse populations and lower income people to keep up with the complexity and speed of change of new technologies
- Lack of a uniform language and varied dialect of ethnic residents can make it more difficult for people to communicate (issues with street lingo, multiple languages, text messaging etc)
- Many of the newer technologies are isolating forces on our society and we will need to work harder to maintain or improve a common sense of community
- Ever increasing cost of healthcare
- Changing definition of family (with more older people it may be necessary to allow for seniors to stay with younger relatives; also cultural differences and increasing diverse populations may result in more people/generations sharing a home or group of homes). This may need to be reflected in local ordinances and regulations may need to change as a result.
- There may be a need to revitalize the predominant single family housing stock in the future to accommodate health needs which could impact zoning regulations, building codes and planning review and inspection services.
- If people are not part of the workforce they may not be exposed to new technologies which may lead to more feelings of isolation
- Work places will continue to change and as such so with the function and design of our buildings. (More electronic work done off-site – see now the increase of services

for internet users in libraries, coffee shops, this will likely increase and we need to be able to accommodate new work environments.
- Our current transportation system is a big divider of our community – a major issue will be how do we integrate an entire community that is bisected into smaller parts by our transportation system.
- Overnight parking – the City will need to change its "suburban" mentality to an urban mentality with regard to parking, density and other issues as Burnsville redevelopes.

Public Works:
- Dealing with the aging infrastructure: streets, water, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, parks, equipment, and "green" (trees)

Recreation/Facilities:
- Money, staffing, cooperation from all parties involved
- Having staff that represent the changing community. Being willing to change how and what we offer, yet staying popular with the community groups we traditionally serve.
- Burnsville is a developed and aging community. Only 25% of the people in our community have children in school and an aging population in general is resistant to tax increases.

Source Department Not Known:
- Reasonable compromise on parking calculations.
- Traffic: CR 42, Hwy 13, Nicollet Avenue
- Parking in HOC
- Enforceable Conditions

3. Are there programs, initiatives or potential investments that are underway or under consideration by groups or organizations outside of Burnsville that could benefit Burnsville?

Coordinators Group Meeting:
- Dakota County Aging Initiative
- Mn Thunder Pro Soccer
- Dakota Communications Center
- Public Safety Support Center
- Grants for technology infrastructure
- Minnesota Department of Transportation 35W Bus Rapid Transit and Mn Pass
- Internet access and information access for in house operations
- Dakota County sharing in human resources.
- Dakota County Sustainability Initiative
- Stormwater management and Best Practices
- Closing of racquetball club and redevelopment
- Virtual Neighborhoods

Fire Department:
- Grant Funding and Private funding sources
- LGA
- Dakota County SOT, DCC, Fire District models do exist for us to look at.
- Joint buying/leasing programs or shared resources.

Natural Resources:
- Dakota County Sustainability Initiative
- Storm Water Credit Program – City of Minneapolis

Neighborhoods:
- Dakota County's Aging Initiative
- Minneapolis/St. Paul have neighborhood revitalization programs
- Dakota County Aging Initiative
- Other cities have organized neighborhoods and neighborhood revitalization projects.

Parks:
- None come to mind but I'm sure that some should develop with time – regionally & nationally

Planning:
- Corporations and private entities are beginning to provide funding for workforce educations such as the Workforce Investment Board; Blue Cross/Blue Shield is investing in healthy/walkable communities by providing grants, other political action committees like AARP are becoming more predominant and taking on providing many levels of services, Grants are available through the state legislature and other government entities.
- State bonding programs – could get funds for BMA purposes
- Possible bio zone designation

Public Works:
- Don't know of any not already identified

Recreation/Facilities:
- Minnesota Thunder Professional Soccer team's interest in relocating to Burnsville.
- The closing of NW athletic club could provide a large area to entice a large commercial or industrial complex in a great business location.
- Landfill- Golf Course
- The Cities of Lakeville and Eagan have undergone a significant renovation to existing parks and have developed new facilities at a number of location of the last several years. These additions and improvements have been great assets for their residents.

4. From the perspective of your department: If you had the undivided attention of Burnsville's citizens, business owners, and elected officials what one message would you want to deliver to them?

Coordinators Group Meeting:
- Prepare for diverse populations, seniors, wide variety of opportunities.
- Award winning trend setting Recreation/Facilities Department, not settled for being average
- Police Dept. get involved early, pay attention to what services customer want.
- Fire – funding support, understand costs
- Service expectations vs. new work force desires
- Financial prosperity and environmental health – think longer term (not always a trade off)

- Listen & provide service creatively
- City is progressive and open to change
- Public Works provides award winning services but must find resources to maintain
- It is ok to dream about dessert, but don't forget the main course.

Fire Department:

- How great the Burnsville Firefighter and EMS service is
- The fire department is staffed by qualified, competent personnel working 24/7
- "We are proud to serve you"
- "The Citizens of Burnsville are blessed that the City of Burnsville allocates and provides for this department to deliver a very high level of service"
- "We stride to provide a quality of service"
- Pooling resources can be an effective way to increase service delivery effectiveness and save tax dollars, i.e. Infra-structure costs, equipment costs, administrative costs.
- The need to increase on duty staffing (front loading)

Natural Resources:

- Sustainability is the common sense notion that long term prosperity and ecological health not only goes together, they depend on one another.
- Our natural systems cannot sustain many of our current approaches, we need to change the things we can control, and take responsibility of the ecological health of our community for future generations.

Neighborhoods:

- Prepare for seniors – need to have more available and attractive to the more active seniors than just the senior center.
- How important neighborhood upkeep and community involvement is. Neighbors knowing and helping neighbors helps reduce crime. Keeps neighborhoods looking great and instills a sense of community, etc.

Parks:

- Listen to the ideas of your employees. Front line employees have a unique perspective of what works well and what people like.

Planning

- Get involved with City government and participate with the process
- When elected officials make negative comments about the business climate in Burnsville and categorize projects as failures, it is not good for economic development.
- "Change Happens"
- Need to change selfish attitudes and recognize that we are all part of a global community and we need to cooperate with each other.
- If you want input on how land develops, you should own it.
- Get the facts.
- We try to be fair to everyone, not just selected people.
- You are not an exception
- Education is an economic driver

Public Works:

- Need to invest in maintenance operations if want to maintain quality community. May not be flashy or politically popular, but it is the foundation of all else. If we let this go, all else is just whitewash.

Recreation/Facilities:

- That we are an award winning/trend setting department that isn't satisfied with being average.
- We offer first class facilities, with top notch programming that benefit residents as well as non-residents.
- The value of green space.
- Just try one of our programs or events, or use one of the facilities. Allow yourself a little recreational time each week.
- Burnsville Recreation and Facilities offers award winning programs and facilities at a great value to the customer. THE GARAGE, Alimagnet Dog Park, the ice center and the golf course are a few examples of facilities and programs that have been recognized nationally for their excellence in the recreation field. In addition, our department offers many other equally excellent recreation opportunities that simply have not been nationally recognized.

Source Department Not Known:

- If you want control of land you should own it
- Compatible redevelopment

5. What would be the second most important message?

Fire Department:

- The prevention division is here to keep you and your employees safe and to assist you in being prepared should you have a fire.
- In the case of a medical emergency of a family member, I would let any Burnsville Firefighter work on my family member.
- To continue the level of success we have had in the Department, we need continued support from the City of Burnsville in our efforts to obtain appropriate manpower levels & equipment.
- Fire Station 1 facility needs (consider budgeting for new Fire Station1 before addition is approved)
- We have quality people in the organization who desire to provide the best service possible to the citizen with good equipment.

Natural Resources:

- We must consider the changing demographics (aging population) as we plan for the next 20 years.

Neighborhoods:

- Importance of knowing your neighbors – decreases crime, importance of neighborhood upkeep and involvement in your community – keeps your neighborhood good, economic development increases, sense of community etc.

Parks:

- To be flexible to the needs of a changing population. We need to be able to provide our customers what they want not what we think they need.

Planning:

- City staff are very good at their jobs and are always willing to go the extra mile.
- Be proactive – anticipate change rather than waiting for it.

Recreation/Facilities:

- Low cost or no cost programs are most successful and more will be needed as our population continues to change.
- That we listen to, and work for them
- It is equally important, but I would say customer service. Giving residents the best service possible.
- Studies show over and over again that Americans need to be more active. The Burnsville Recreation Department offers a variety of programs that facilitate healthy lifestyles for all ages.

Source Department Not Known:

- Meet the ordinance

6. Is there important information, beyond what will be provided through the process as currently designed, that you believe is needed for the community to plan effectively for the future?

Coordinators Group Meeting:

- Information for senior transportation – mobility
- Be more active, encourage active community
- What are needs of residents so police can adjust/accommodate
- Get basic service needs information out, educate.
- Educate for technology and interact, - service provider
- Comprehensive Plan needs to address how to communicate with diverse populations in the future
- No profit motive

Fire Department:

- Find a way to evaluate new initiatives such as Heart of the City to learn from successes and failures.
- Regardless of what direction we move we want to avoid lowering the level of service we currently provide.

Natural Resources:

- It seems like the process that is planned is very comprehensive and thorough.

Neighborhoods:

- Transportation for seniors will be an issue. Need to encourage development to be senior friendly.
- Planning for seniors south of the river. If they are unable to drive, we need to make sure necessities are easily accessible. HOC is a great example. We are lucky because we have Fairview Ridges, but transportation may be an issue for some

seniors who need to get north of the river for doctor appointments, etc. Some cannot even afford DARTS or it's too long for them to sit on a bus because of health problems. Encouraging development to be "senior friendly"

Parks:

- No, other than whatever might change in the future – that we stay current – try and be proactive instead of responding to changes

Planning:

- We need more information on diversity, much more than just relying on the census.
- We need to have more of an understanding of where people come from and what their needs/desires are to be able to service them better.
- More information is needed on diversity, how to better train people for the workforce and how to help people assimilate into the community

Recreation/Facilities:

- I don't think everyone is comfortable or has the time to attend meetings at City Hall.

7. What is the most efficient way to get this information?

Fire Department:

- Local Newspapers
- Partnering with other Communities and Agencies
- Educate them through studies, presentations, and data to demonstrate needs. Use media / website to inform citizens about the department. Have organizational leaders kept up to date on industry standards so they can be informed when making decisions as to how far they want to deviate from the standard along with the potential effects.

Neighborhoods:

- Need to do an assessment of senior needs through survey, public forum and take info from the Dakota County Initiative.
- Looking at needs of seniors through the survey that we plan to send out this year.
- Public forums or taking information from the Dakota County aging initiative.

Parks:

- Take advantage of whatever communication technology is available then.

Planning:

- We need to go to the community to get more information – we could also contact other communities that have older and more diverse populations to learn what they do (example: Richfield – what outreach programs can we do…)
- We could extend the olive branch to neighborhoods and ethnic communities to teach them about issues such as home and property maintenance etc.
- We need to learn from diverse populations and do more education to get our residents and business community to "buy into" common value systems.
- Somehow we need to find a way to break through to diverse populations that may have a fear of government based on their cultural/societal experiences
- DEED (Dept. of Employment & Economic Development) & tap into groups concentrating on diverse populations

Recreation/Facilities:

- Maybe hold a few forums / meeting in places like schools, senior center (although I thing seniors are already present), apartment complexes, etc.
- Online opportunities maybe?
- The City Website or event making a website like (ex: www.burnsvilleicecenter.com) instead of trying to drive through a city website.

Part IV – OTHER ISSUES *(Identified by staff – Metropolitan Council System's Statement)*

DEMOGRAPHICS

1. Potential issues meeting Met Council Employment Forecasts

HOUSING

1. Potential issues meeting Met Council Affordable Housing Goals for LCA Update

LAND USE

1. Modification of the land use plan categories to consolidate use descriptions and be consistent with the Met Council land use designations. May be issues due to case law associated with zoning and requiring consistency between the Land Use Plan and Zoning Map.
2. Potential issues with Met Council density goals for transit market areas especially within Southwest Burnsville.
3. Need to incorporate plans for protection of historical sites, solar access and aggregate deposits.
4. Aggregate Resources must be identified if shown as part of MN Geological Survey:
    a. Areas and type of aggregate must be shown on the existing and planned land use map
    b. Land use plans must address and minimize potential land use conflicts
    c. Planning and regulatory measures to ensure that aggregate resources are extracted prior to urbanization of an aggregate rich site.
5. Consistency with Met Council overall minimum residential density standard of 3-5 units per acre.
6. Consistency with Met Council "Developed Community" policy " Burnsville to focus on protecting natural resources, ensuring sufficient public infrastructure and <u>developing transition strategies to increase density</u> and encourage infill development.

NATURAL RESOURCES

1. Urban Flora & Fauna Issues:
    a. New exotic invasive species
    b. Continued loss of native species/habitat
    c. Changing land use
2. Surface Water Quality Issues:
    a. Lake water quality degradation
3. Storm Water Challenges facing the City:
    a. Federal Regulations
    b. NPDES Permit Regulations
    c. State Listed Impaired Waters
    d. Multiple Watershed Districts w/ different standards
        - Lower Minnesota Watershed District
        - Black Dog Watershed Management Organization
        - Vermillion

4. City must adopt a local surface water management plan required by MS Section 103B.235.
5. Crystal and Lac Lavon Lakes are now on Met Council's priority lake list and as such, development that may impact a priority lake, the developer must complete a nutrient budget analysis for the lake as a part of the environmental review process.
6. Maintaining/inspecting erosion control during development (utility and building permits; enhanced program needed to meet surface water management objectives).
7. Steep slope development – when should slopes be retained and under what conditions should development be permitted (tax forfeiture parcels).
8. Funding

PARKS & OPEN SPACE

1. Gemstone Parks – Continue or Discontinue Program
2. Funding
3. Changing demographics, recreation trends etc.
4. Identify the following regional systems as part of the Park Plan:
    a. The boundary of Murphy-Hanrehan Regional Park Reserve
    b. The general alignment of the proposed Dakota South Urban Regional Trail that will eventually connect to Murphy-Hanrehan Regional Perk Reserve, the Minnesota Zoo, Lebanon Hills Regional Park, the Mississippi River Regional Trail and Spring Lake Regional Park Reserve needs to be shown and acknowledge in the Comp Plan.
    c. The proposed Scott County East Regional Trail connection to connect Murphy-Hanrehan Regional Park Reserve north to the Minnesota River through the north east corner of Scott County and western Burnsville in Dakota County
    d. The general alignment of the Big River Regional Trail (Extension) a proposed trail adjustment to extend the Big Rivers Regional trail south to Scott County
    e. Minnesota Valley State trail and Recreation Area
    f. Minnesota Valley National Wildlife and Recreation Area
    g. Black Dog Scientific and Natural Area

PUBLIC UTILITIES

1. Adopt a management program consistent with state rules (MPCA regulations, Minn. Rules Chapter 7080).

TRANSPORTATION

1. Right-of-Way needs
2. Trails & Sidewalks
3. County Road 42 Corridor Study
4. Airport noise
    a. City continue to be involved with monitoring/participation of noise implementation and mitigation efforts for new runway 17/35 and revise Comp Plan as appropriate. An update of the noise contours is scheduled for 2007.
5. Potential issues with Met Council density goals for Transit Market Areas II and III
    a. Show Transit System Service Area Map
    b. Burnsville divided into two transit market areas

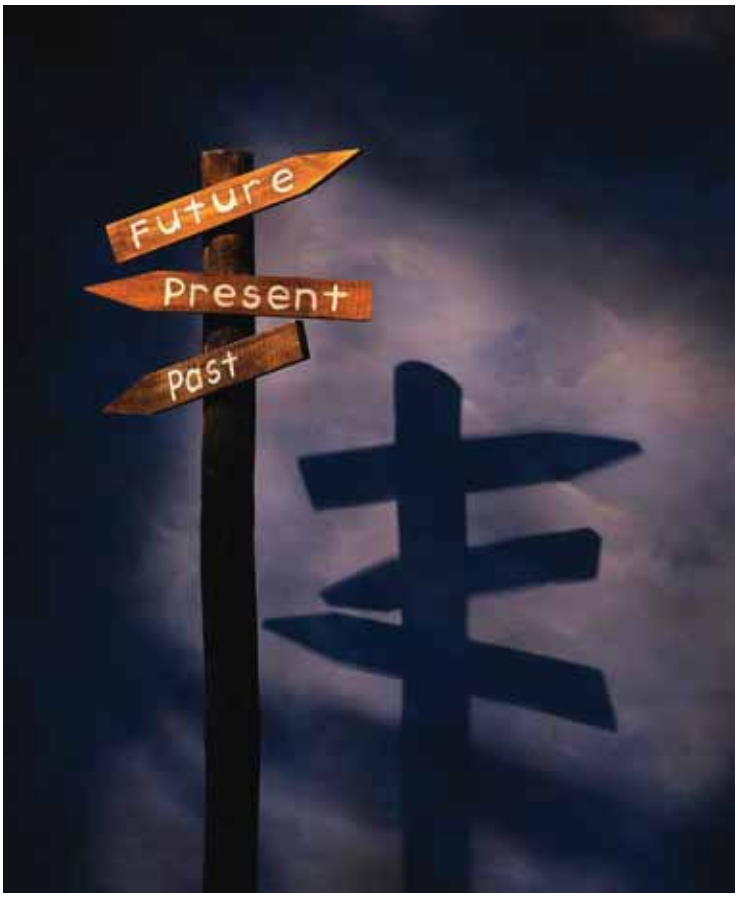
Market Area II – northern Burnsville – regular-route locals, all-day expresses, small vehicle circulators, special needs paratransit (ADA, seniors), and ridesharing.

Market Area III – peak-only express, small vehicle circulators, midday circulators, special needs paratransit (ADA, seniors), and ridesharing.

c. City needs to identify existing transit service & future desired transit service options consistent with the Transportation Policy Plan's transit system service areas.
   - Show Table 4-1
   - Show Appendix M

d. City needs to list transit corridors (express commuter bus corridors and dedicated right-of-way corridors) and identify opportunities to promote higher density initiatives along dedicated transit corridors. Burnsville is located along the I-35W transitway.
   - Show Figure 4-2

6. Need to delete 126th Street from Transportation Plan – now that Parkcrest has been developed, will the street actually be built?
7. Official Mapping
8. Funding



APPENDIX C – LAND USE ALTERNATIVES REPORT

OCTOBER 9, 2007

CITY OF BURNSVILLE
2030
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Part I - INTRODUCTION

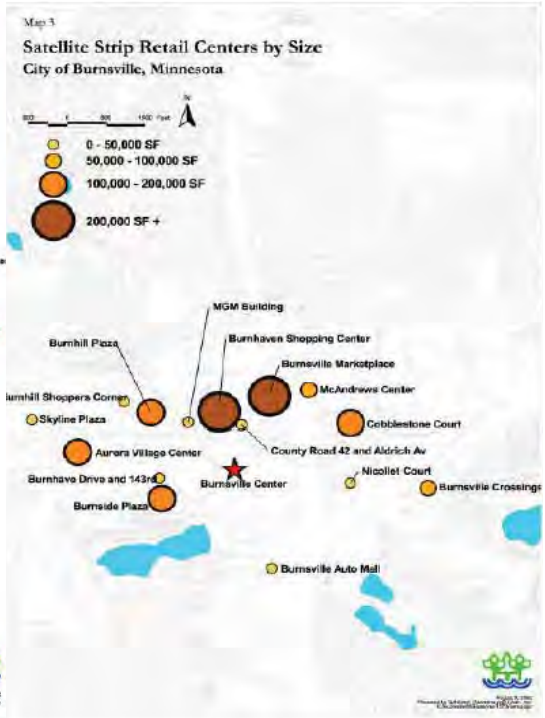
The Land Use Alternatives Report documents the Advisory Panel and public review process used to evaluate land use scenarios and to develop yield plan analysis for the Comprehensive Plan Update. The report includes information on vacant and underutilized sites in Burnsville, results of Advisory Panel site visits to 14 areas of the City, development of yield plans to identify a range of uses and development densities for vacant and underutilized properties. The Report also includes feedback comments received at the August 2, 2007 Alternatives Public Forum open house, results of a questionnaire and feedback from City Staff, Advisory Panel and Planning Commissioners related to the topic of land use alternatives. The following sections identify land use alternatives, suggestions and ideas received from each of these sources.

Part II – VACANT & UNDERUTILIZED SITES

Burnsville is over 98% developed and there are few vacant parcels remaining for development that are not encumbered by difficult topography, marginal to poor soil conditions, utilities or limited access. Some of the vacant properties are held by individuals or owners who are not interested in developing their properties at this time.

Yield Plans

Over the next 23 years, Burnsville will add an estimated 1,804 housing units and 4,500 people. Due to the fact that the City is over 98% developed, the majority of new residential areas will result from redevelopment of existing sites and infill development. The City is utilizing a new planning tool as part of this Comprehensive Plan Update referred to as "Yield Plans," to provide a range of development ideas/densities that could potentially be accomplished through redevelopment. The majority of redevelopment is expected to occur on aging retail strip center sites throughout Burnsville which are shown on the graphics below.



A "Yield Plan" is a concept showing a possible development scenario or series of scenarios in order to identify the maximum development potential for commercial, industrial and/or residential land uses. "Yield Plans" are not proposed land use plans but rather are graphic tools used to develop information about density and land use potential. The results from the "Yield Plan" analysis including all of the aging strip center sites, will help define a range/average development density for the purpose of discerning potential impacts to public utilities, roads, parks, trails and other services. The "Yield Plans" do not represent approved land use or development plans for the parcels examined. In fact, the only Yield Plan that was based on an actual concept plan prepared by a land owner is the Carl Bohn property (Yield Plan #2). All of the other Yield Plan analysis and maps were developed as concepts with the sole purpose to analyze possible development scenarios for the purpose of calculating future land use impacts to City facilities and infrastructure and land use demand.

The tables below indicate the 2007 acreage by land use category and the 2007 gross/net acres further broken down by zoning district designation.

Bonestroo - Need to correct land use information – office is incorrect

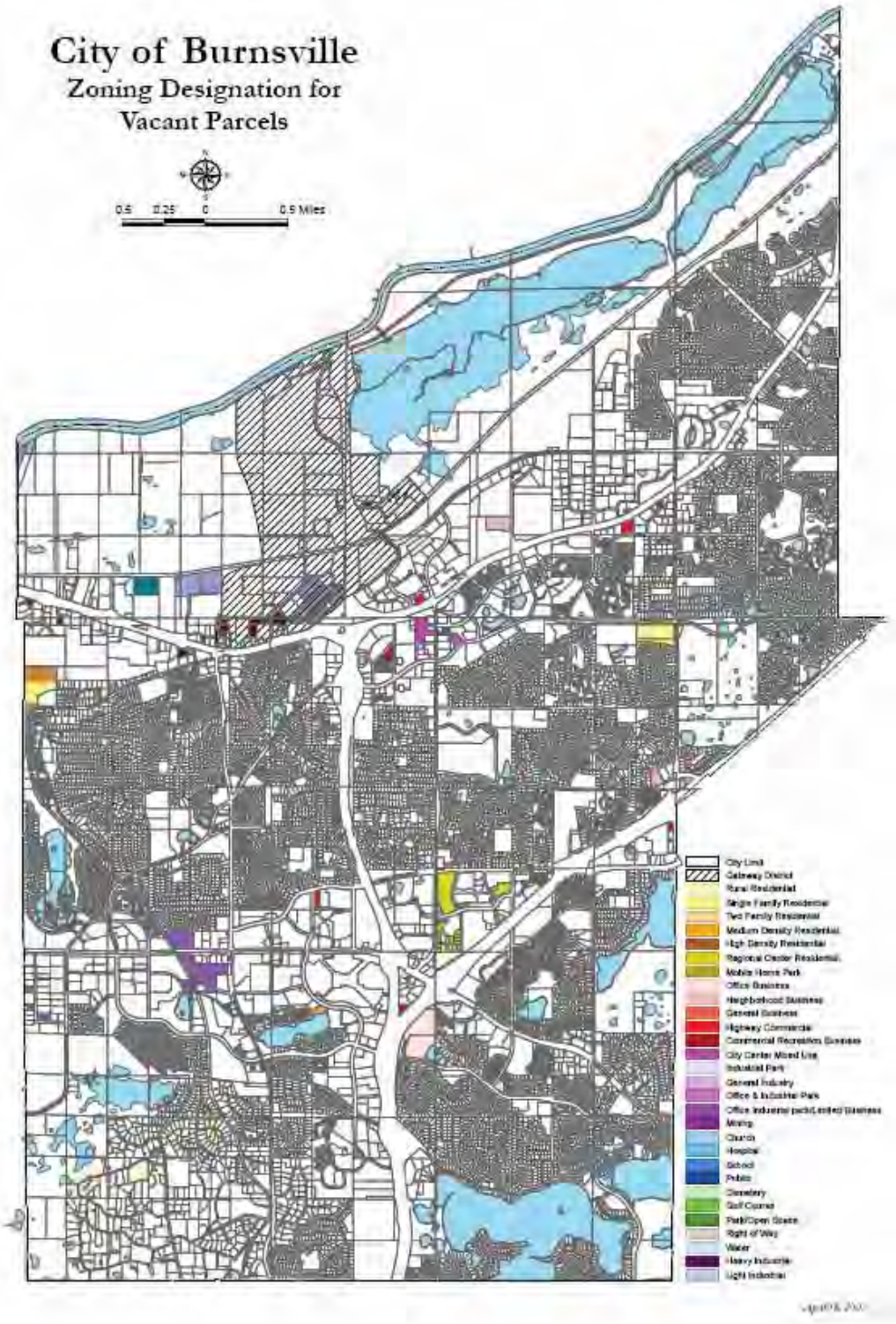
2007 Existing Land Use in Acres

Land Use	2007
Rural Residential	476.35
Single Family Residential	4,036.62
Multi-Family Residential	1,187
Manufactured Housing	168.05
Office	2.21
Commercial	1,017.16
Commercial Recreation	277.56
Mixed Use	14.39
Industrial	1,414.64
Extractive	485.85
Institutional	524.12
Utility	15.3
Parks/Golf	2,361.29
Open Space	130.64
ROW	2,878.00
Vacant	457.27
Open Water	1,834.59
Total City	17,282.13

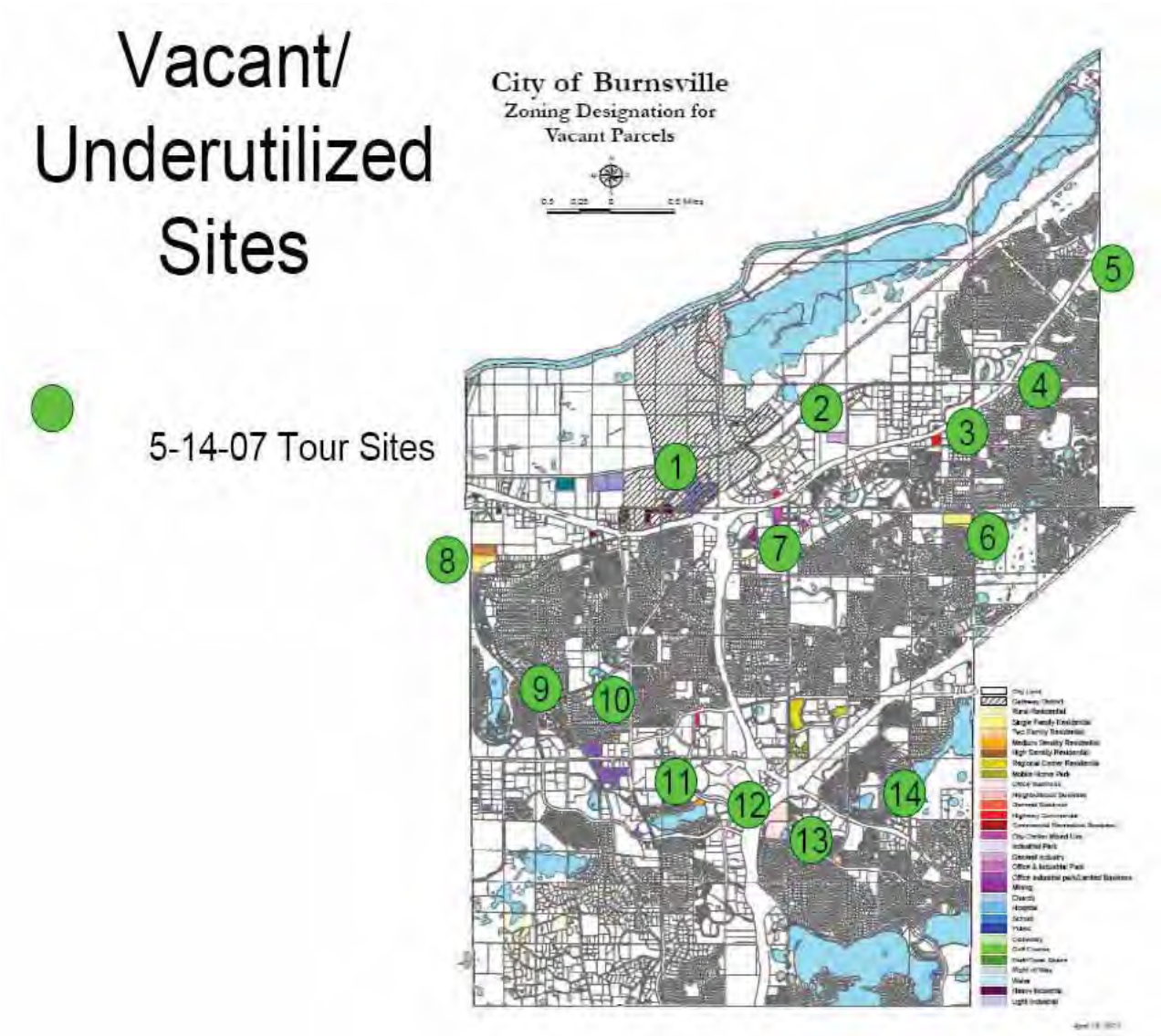
Vacant Land Acreage by Zoning, 2007

Zoning District	Gross	Net
B-1 - Office Business	32.15	27.50
B-2 - Neighborhood Business	7.37	7.37
B-3 - General Business	37.29	37.18
B-4 - Highway Commercial	27.30	22.23
CD - Conservancy	3.62	3.54
GIH - Gateway Industrial - Heavy	11.03	9.03
GIM - Gateway Industrial - Medium	71.43	58.01
HOC-1 - Heart of the City 1	8.03	8.03
HOC-2 - Heart of the City 2	5.58	5.58
I-1 - Industrial Park	9.76	9.76
I-2 - General Industry	11.95	11.83
I-3 - Office and Industrial Park	39.92	38.09
R-1 - Single Family Residential	63.37	55.13
R-1A - Single Family Rural Residential	83.74	79.92
R-2 - Two Family Residential	2.32	1.89
R-3A - Medium Density Residential	3.31	3.04
R-3B - High Density Residential	3.10	3.10
R-3C - Regional Center Residential	36.00	35.78
Total	**457.27**	**417.01**

The map on the following page illustrates the location and current (2007) zoning designation of the vacant parcel in Burnsville.


City of Burnsville
Zoning Designation for
Vacant Parcels
0.5 0.25 0 0.5 Miles
City Limit
Gateway District
Rural Residential
Single Family Residential
Two Family Residential
Medium Density Residential
High Density Residential
Regional Center Residential
Mobile Home Park
Office Business
Neighborhood Business
General Business
Highway Commercial
Commercial Recreation Business
City Center Mixed Use
Industrial Park
General Industry
Office & Industrial Park
Office Industrial park/Limited Business
Mining
Church
Hospital
School
Public
Cemetery
Golf Course
Park/Open Space
Right of Way
Water
Heavy Industrial
Light Industrial

The Comprehensive Plan Advisory Panel toured 14 commercial, industrial and residential sites that are currently vacant, under developed or that have been identified as possible candidates for redevelopment by earlier land use studies such as the 2001 “A Model for Understanding the Reuse Potential of Strip Retail Centers in Burnsville.” The Advisory Panel was divided into two groups, assigned seven sites each, provided zoning maps and aerial photographs of each site, 1979 Comprehensive Plan “Planning Sector Descriptions” were provided to use for background information about the areas of the City where the individual sites are located. The Advisory Panel Members were requested to answer questions intended to identify if the current land use designation should remain or what changes should be considered for the site. Following the site visits, the Advisory Panel met to discuss their findings which are summarized with the site aerial photograph on the following pages along with a consensus opinion about whether the site should retain its current land use designation or be changed to a different land use category.



Site 1 – Melvin Astleford Sites

- Keep as GIM
- Higher & better land use as a result of better transportation system
- Bad soils on site
- Concern with truck traffic along Cliff Rd
- How feasible is it to develop on bad soils
- Adopt-A-Trail along Hwy 13
- TIF may be needed to improve soils for redevelopment
- Could it be allowed to revert to natural river bottom state?

The consensus of the Advisory Panel is that this site should be retained as Gateway Industrial Medium Land Use.

Site 2 – Crystal Lake Cemetery

- Keep as I-1
- Possibly change land use later, site is not suitable for residential
- Steep grade issue, utility issues, apartment buildings on the back, traffic issues at high school intersection, less need for all cemetery land

The consensus of the Advisory Panel is that this site should be retained as Industrial Park Land Use.

Site 3 – Eden Baptist Church

- Change land use to Office Business
- No outdoor storage
- B-3, General Business is current zoning; overhead power lines are an issue
- Buffering for Residential
- Offices no outdoor storage!

North

3.96 acres

The consensus of the Advisory Panel is that this site should be changed from General Business to Office Business Land Use.

Site 4 – Berendt Sites

- Keep as Single Family
- Desire for high density residential
- Great visibility but no access
- Possible site for zero-lot line housing

North

3.79 acres

The consensus of the Advisory Panel is that this site should remain as Low Density Residential Land Use with the possibility of zero lot line development (detached townhomes).

Site 5 – Mr. B's Car Wash & Riverview Shopping Center

The consensus of the Advisory Panel is that this site should be changed to Mixed Use Land Use.

Site 6 – Hilla Site

The consensus of the Advisory Panel is that this site should be retained as Low Density Residential Land Use.

Site 7 – Kraus Anderson Site

•Keep as Heart of the City

North

5.51 acres

The consensus of the Advisory Panel is that this site should be retained as Heart of the City Land Use.

Site 8 – Karl Bohn Site

•Change Land Use to All Single Family

•Access Concerns – traffic through single family area to get to multi-family area

•Take park land dedication next to the preserve instead of cash dedication

North

24 acres

The consensus of the Advisory Panel is to change this site to all Low Density Residential Land Use.

Site 9 – Torbenson Sites

The consensus of the Advisory Panel is that this site should be changed to Medium Density Residential Land Use.

Site 10 – Valley Ridge Center

The consensus of the Advisory Panel is that this site should be changed to Mixed Use Land Use.

Site 11 – Johnson Reiland Site

The consensus of the Advisory Panel is to work with the land owner to change this site to open space/conservancy perhaps with transfer of development rights, grants to purchase to improve water quality for Earley Lake, credit for providing conservation easements or other methods.

Site 12 – Healy Ramme Site

The consensus of the Advisory Panel was to retain this site as Office Business Land Use.

Site 13 – Grandview Commons

- Change to Industrial or General Commercial
- Hotel possible with access off of 145th St
- Access Concerns – the site is hard to get to

North

4.99 acres

The consensus of the Advisory Panel was to change the land use for this site to Industrial or General Business.

Site 14 – Woodpark Plaza

- Needs updated facade
- Consider Mixed Use
- Need to clean up the center – it gives a poor impression in an area where all of the other sites are well maintained and appear to do good business
- Need to clean up the back of the building

North

2.56 acres

The consensus of the Advisory Panel is to retain this site as Neighborhood Business or consider Mixed Use Land Use.

Part III – ALTERNATIVES

ALTERNATIVES PUBLIC FORUM

Based upon input received from the Advisory Panel on the 14 site visits of vacant/underutilized parcels reviewed in Part II of this Report, the City's consultant (Bonestroo) developed a series of "Yield Plans" for review by the public at an open house forum. The Alternatives Public Forum was held on August 2, 2007 in the form of an open house. The public was invited to attend, view a short presentation, review the "Yield Plan" concepts and provide written feedback on the seven sites. The City staff also reviewed and commented on the Yield Plans on September 5, 2007 Coordinators meeting. Each of the seven "Yield Plan" concepts are shown on the following pages and followed by the responses received to four questions relating to how participants viewed the ideas presented in each.

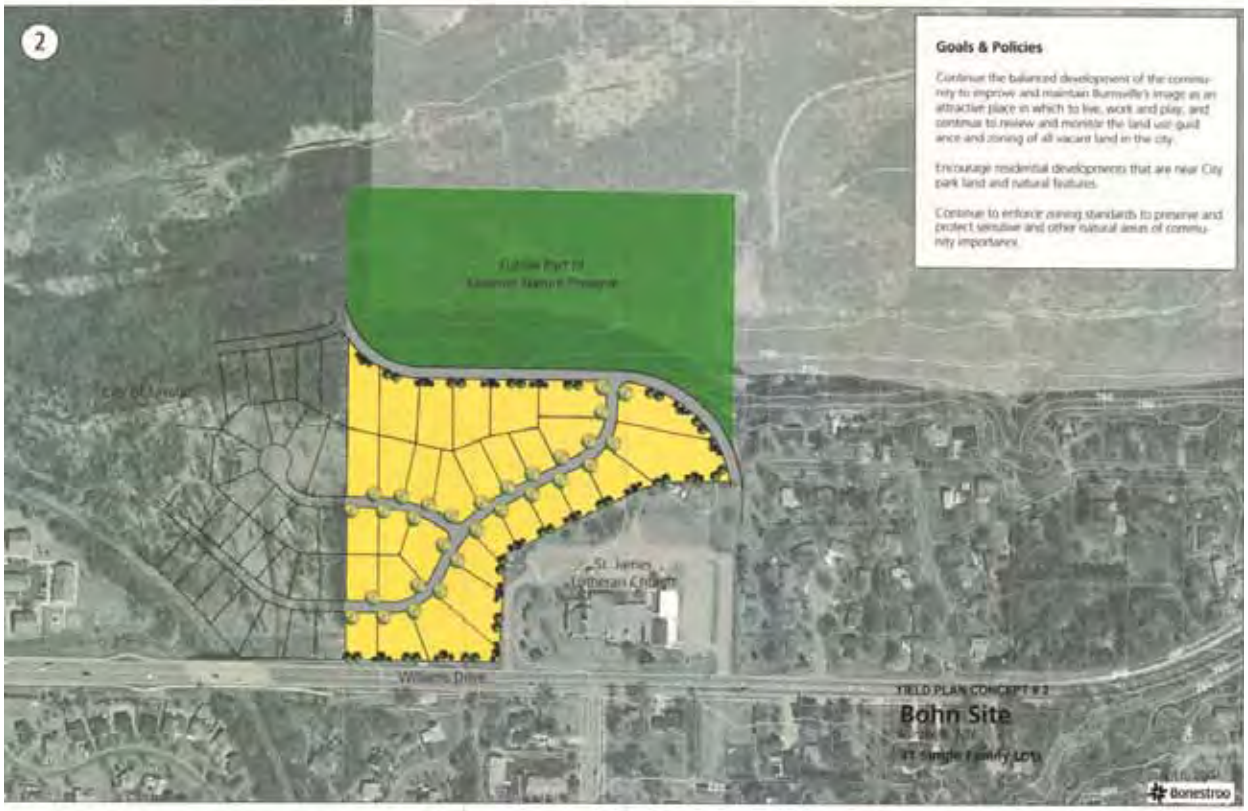
YIELD PLAN 1 – VALLEY RIDGE:

1. **Do you agree with the suggested concept plan?** 8 yes; 1 In Part
   - It needs redevelopment
   - Burnsville cannot lease/sell existing mixed use/office use retail space too many suburbs doing it
2. **Do you have a different idea(s) about lot and/or building layout**?
   - No not really that's pretty good except the prices should be lowered
   - Good job protecting the houses from Burnsville Parkway and County Rd 5 traffic
   - Age 25-34 is being "attracted" by every metropolitan suburb – too far from transit station
   - How can we ensure that it will attract and retain retail?

3. **Do you have other ideas or uses missing from the concept?**
   - I think that the garage should
   - I think that it should be made bigger for more parking space, its real narrow
   - Pedestrian access from C.R. 5 on the south and north ends
   - Too dense – row house parking is too limited – 2+ spaces
   - Make ½ residential
   - Neill Park is an asset to this property – need to make a connection to this asset
   - Neighborhood bar
   - Redevelopment of a portion of Neill Park
   - Small transit site (connection to larger system)
   - Executive home sites????
   - CR5 – could this become a transit corridor?

4. **Are there other development concepts to better tie into the community? Think in terms of aging and changing diversity of the population, changing needs in business and services, recreation opportunities, education opportunities, preservation and protective use of resources.**
   - All of it sounds alright but it seems like it is going to be really narrow
   - 45-55 housing instead of retire – mixed used, larger units – higher prices

YIELD PLAN 2 – BOHN PROPERTY:



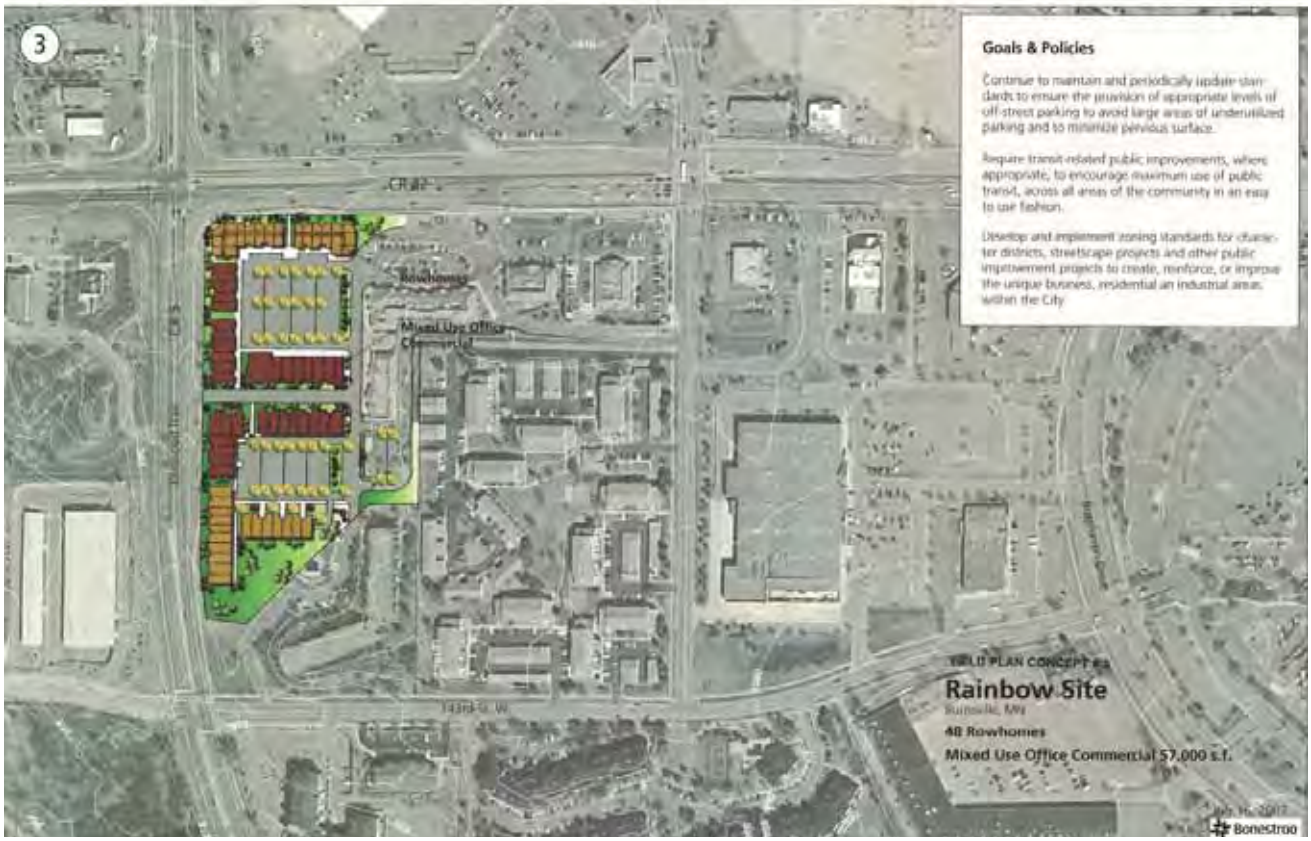
1. **Do you agree with the suggested concept plan?** 7 yes; 1 No
   - Adding high end property values is good since many of the yield plans call for more row houses and lower income housing
   - I agree with the single family portion however I do not agree with the multi-family

2. **Do you have a different idea(s) about lot and/or building layout**?
   - No except considering lowering prices so unfortunate families can afford it
   - Use the multi-family outlined portion as part of the nature preserve

3. **Do you have other ideas or uses missing from the concept?**
   - Just make sure you keep all of the natural resources
   - No split levels – ramblers sell! Gear to "older" families
   - Use the multi-family outlined portion as part of the nature preserve
   - Redevelopment of church site (are they interested in other locations)
   - Major bike route (5-10 miles) could this be incorporated? Burnsville doesn't have anything of significant distance, currently have to cross major roads.
   - Another dog park (partnership with Savage)

4. **Are there other development concepts to better tie into the community? Think in terms of aging and changing diversity of the population, changing needs in business and services, recreation opportunities, education opportunities, preservation and protective use of resources.**
   - No comments provided

YIELD PLAN 3 – RAINBOW:



1. **Do you agree with the suggested concept plan?** 6 yes; 2 No; 1 Partially
   - I would like to see more emphasis on the issue of increasing foot traffic. I commend the goal of decreasing the pervious surfaces!
   - Row homes in back section only do not back them to 42!
   - I want the Rainbow Food there

2. **Do you have a different idea(s) about lot and/or building layout**?
   - No except for lowering prices for families who can't afford it
   - Will more housing create more congestion to the area? Can the roads handle it – even with a re-built C.R. 42?
3. **Do you have other ideas or uses missing from the concept?**
   - This is such a good retail corner in the City. Why not look for more retail to fill the space?
   - Could 2-story row houses be reversed in front ½ - to reduce noise from C.R. 42?
   - The City has a lot of property similar that is not occupied
   - Access makes retail difficult
   - Mixed use may help traffic flow
   - CR42 makes walkability a challenge
   - Site would benefit from future interchange on 35W (upCSAH5)
   - Adjacent housing needs assistance
   - too much concentration of Sec. 8
   - HOC would be a good example of integration
   - Consider pursuing unique restaurant/bar that would be attractive
   - Upscale housing adjacent to Burnsville Center (like Edina facility with apartments, senior living, indoor park, connected retail etc…)

4. **Are there other development concepts to better tie into the community? Think in terms of aging and changing diversity of the population, changing needs in business and services, recreation opportunities, education opportunities, preservation and protective use of resources.**
   - We could use a community center and a public swimming pool. Surrounding cities have these and they are attractive for younger families. The proposals do not seem to address young families. This is a general comment and not just the Rainbow site.

YIELD PLAN 4 – K-MART:

1. **Do you agree with the suggested concept plan?** 3 yes; 5 No
   - I don't think that's right for people who work there and have no place to go
   - This is a bad idea because by building homes your making people loose their
   - Can't rent existing mixed office commercial
   - I think we should keep the K-Mart because people still need it
   - I think that we should keep the K-Mart, people depend on it

2. **Do you have a different idea(s) about lot and/or building layout**?
   - Build a senior home somewhere else
   - Build them off further away from K-Mart
   - Good location for detached townhomes which are in high demand
   - Reduce the number of homes and offices
   - Provide walkways
   - Situate services/business on Burnhaven to provide a transition to the residential component.
   - Nice restaurant to pull people in
   - Move the library or expand the library to include other retail opportunities. (little building on a big site). Draw people in with visibility on 42.
   - Put parking behind for an urban feel.

3. **Do you have other ideas or uses missing from the concept?**
   - You are only looking at increasing the tax base!
   - The City has a lot of property similar that is not occupied

4. **Are there other development concepts to better tie into the community? Think in terms of aging and changing diversity of the population, changing needs in business and services, recreation opportunities, education opportunities, preservation and protective use of resources.** No Comments

YIELD PLAN 5 – HEALY RAMME GRANDVIEW:

1. **Do you agree with the suggested concept plan?** 4 yes; 3 No
   - This is a really good idea.
   - Need is for senior housing! Will this site with modified floor plans offer outdoor opportunities for seniors?

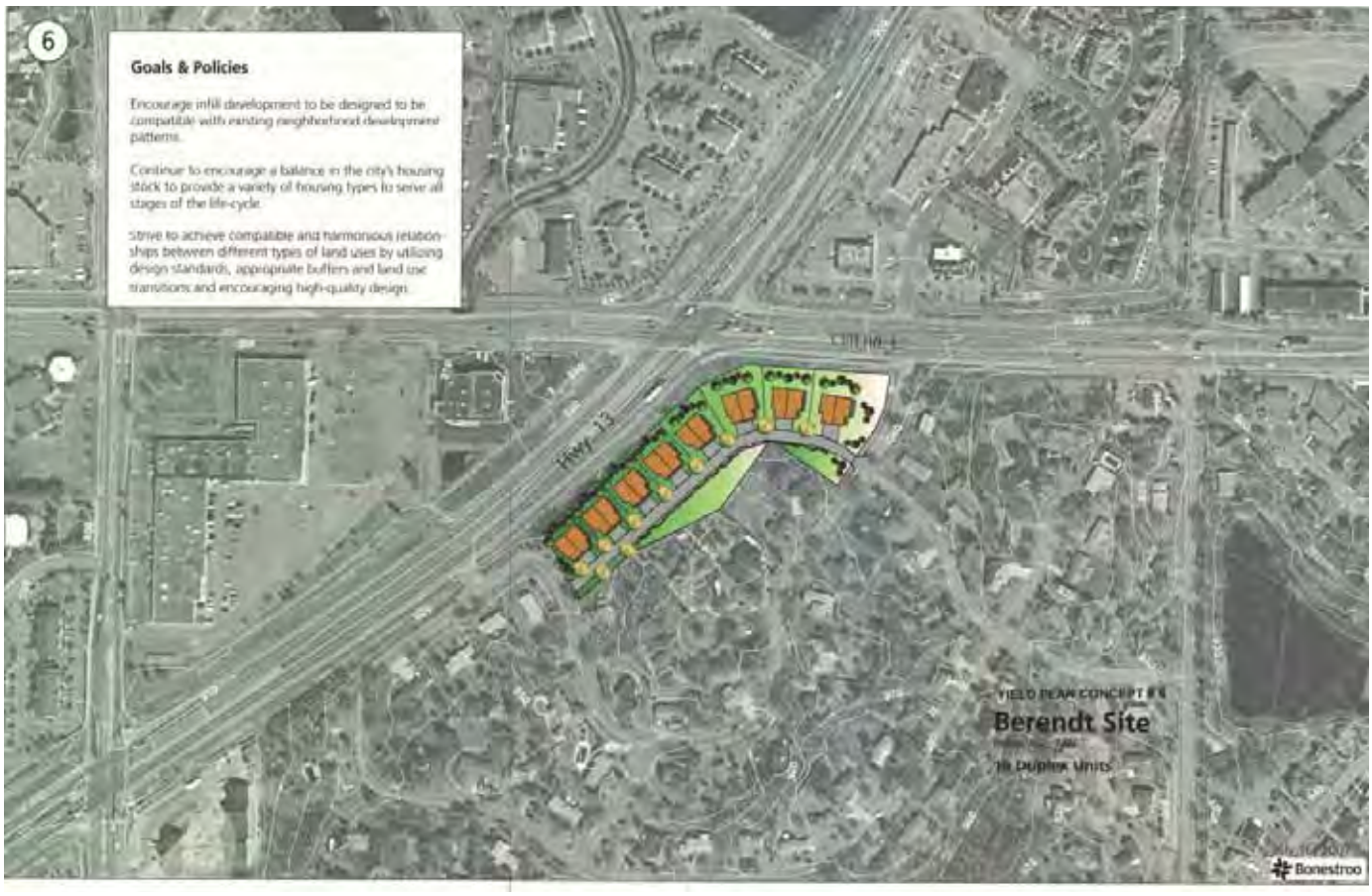
2. **Do you have a different idea(s) about lot and/or building layout**?
   - Private homes instead and develop more into a park
   - Single Family

3. **Do you have other ideas or uses missing from the concept?**
   - Wetland protection plans
   - Residential not appealing because of 35E. Need HOC hybrid with urban, multi-use retail space
   - Bike and walking paths in natural area
   - Consider access issues to this site for public safety
   - Conserve open space, incorporate play equipment area for younger kids and families.
   - Public transit access to site
   - Provide multiple services in the area to create a neighborhood – daycare, grocery, etc.
   - Cater land use to all ages
   - Provide a gathering place and draw of diverse people
   - Provide a cultural event center – place for parties and gathering
   - City purchase property

- Provide food/restaurant
- Provide a trail through the property
- Bore under 35 to get to hotels and surrounding amenities (skyway or tunnel)

4. **Are there other development concepts to better tie into the community? Think in terms of aging and changing diversity of the population, changing needs in business and services, recreation opportunities, education opportunities, preservation and protective use of resources.**
   - No comments

YIELD PLAN 6 – BERENDT SITE:



1. **Do you agree with the suggested concept plan?** 4 yes; 1 In Part
   - Good transit access – terrible placement on property facing noise on both CR 13 & Cliff

2. **Do you have a different idea(s) about lot and/or building layout**?
   - 5 is too dense 1-3 feet between units is unacceptable

3. **Do you have other ideas or uses missing from the concept?**
   - Sound barriers – trees on street site
   - Restore to wetland
   - Transit hub with services
   - Ponding

- Senior center
- Noise rules – restrictions
- Highway buffer
- Seems fitting for commercial, town office?
- Recreational use questionable – bocce park? Dog Park?
- Need to get access under/over highways

4. **Are there other development concepts to better tie into the community? Think in terms of aging and changing diversity of the population, changing needs in business and services, recreation opportunities, education opportunities, preservation and protective use of resources.**
   - No Comments

YIELD PLAN 7 – RIVERVIEW:

1. **Do you agree with the suggested concept plan?** 4 yes
   - Can only be commercial

2. **Do you have a different idea(s) about lot and/or building layout**?
   - No Comments

3. **Do you have other ideas or uses missing from the concept?**
   - Extension of rivers
   - Senior Center
   - Cemetery

- Pond, wetlands
- Park
- Transit hub
- Hotel

4. **Are there other development concepts to better tie into the community? Think in terms of aging and changing diversity of the population, changing needs in business and services, recreation opportunities, education opportunities, preservation and protective use of resources.**
   - No Comments

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS:

- Johnson-Reiland Site (Burnhaven Drive) Should this space be developed? As it is now the vegetation, trees…. Provide water filtering for the lake.

- Everything in all 6 geared to increasing tax base not comfort of living

- MRQ Area Map – "How about moving the beach-boat launch towards a more accessible part of the lake?

- MRQ Area Map – "This may need more roads to access the facilities" – referring to the area on the MRQ Map east of Chowen Avenue, west of Menards between the rail road tracks and Highway 13.

- The City spends a lot of money on trees planted along streets (Burnsville Parkway) however many of the trees are dying or dead due to the drought. The City should develop a watering program to maintain the trees so they do not die out due to drought conditions.

- We need to plan for lively places for people to live, it seems like were planning for building the same old working class development. The lifestyle centers need to incorporate amenities and activities that people want, the things that make the places a nice place to live and want to move to. For example, the Valley Ridge site could be marketed as park front property with a recreation orientation or feel.

- Amphitheater area (using existing natural areas) or amphitheater type facility that could be used year-round. (similar to Riverwalk feel in San Antonio, TX)

- We should leverage Burnsville's strengths in parks and natural resources. I suggest we use architecture and landscaping in our redevelopment projects that's designed for a park setting, instead of an urban setting. We could also use some of the sustainability concepts presented by Dakota County as part of the environmental scan and Vision for the 21st Century project.

- I think that housing needs to be located near retail food distribution, including both restaurants and grocery stores. If we want to attract a big box store, it should be one that includes food distribution.

- With the changing demographics of the city and region, Burnsville should look to have more venues available for adult arts and culture, educational opportunities and general "recreation" with an eye toward learning. I know the arts center will handle a lot of programs along these lines, but I'm thinking more educational such as:

    - A lecture series sponsored by local businesses to bring in big names/authors/important topics i.e. the weather forecasting company could sponsor a forum on global climate change or Fairview and the medical alley could sponsor a bioethics discussion, or someone to talk about political issues of the day. Maybe the speakers could conduct a day or two of workshops, etc. for people specifically involved in the topic but have lectures or forums open to the public… maybe for a small fee? I'm thinking big here, not a local congressman spreading hot air.
    - Do something about the lack of secondary education opportunities in Burnsville by having maybe the U of M or one of the many private institutions have the kind of things the U does with its Complete Scholar program or Curiosity Camp or Split Rock Program
    - Have a formal partnership with some higher ed institution to hold classes and have a presence in Burnsville. Unless I'm missing something, Burnsville doesn't have anything beyond the schools' continuing ed program (which is a little lame in my opinion). Do we have some high tech firms that could jointly sponsor things with the U of M Rochester tech program? Personally, I'd prefer a more liberal arts approach, but maybe the community would prefer a Burnsville satellite location for Dakota County Tech College of Inver Grove Heights Community College or Metro State University.
    - I guess my overriding theme is that the City needs to look beyond meeting the needs of young children and their parents since so many households don't have school-aged children in them.

- To attract 24-34 year olds, (creative class), there needs to be affordable housing for young singles and young families which is also supported by services, recreation and entertainment amenities. The City should provide "up-scale" rental housing options for the young professionals and "boomerang" kids (students who return to live at home following college) that Burnsville seeks to attract.
- The City could work with landowners to utilize existing rental properties as a resource for upgrades and/or redevelopment that improves the livability of the units and complex to attract new renters.
- Burnsville should focus on creating and then market itself as a 24-hour city full of services, retail and entertainment that people on various working shifts and interests can utilize.
- When reviewing new developments, the City should work with developers to provide communal type services for residents including options for medical, entertainment, internet, small restaurant and other desirable attributes to provide a neighborhood feel and ability for the residents to walk to many of the services that are needed on a day-to-day basis.
- To address housing maintenance, a program could be developed to provide "handi-man" and maintenance services to seniors and/or neighborhoods and others that need help at a reasonable price – if multiple owners were involved, perhaps the cost of providing maintenance assistance, lawn care, roofing etc., could be accomplished more economically for homeowners in older neighborhoods.

- Perhaps a volunteer network could be coordinated where people could “trade off for services” – this might be accomplished through neighborhood websites and/or coordination with multiple family projects.
- Park and recreation services will need to be monitored to make sure that City facilities continue to meet mobility, safety and recreational programs desired by a changing population.
- The City should promote Burnsville as an attractive place for employers to locate, south of the River.
- Transit services need to be improved to provide regular service and comfortable, weather resistant and safe stops. Perhaps the City could work with MVTA or another service to provide shuttles between different job centers, retail areas, restaurants, high density residential, senior sites and schools/neighborhoods.
- Zoning laws should be made more flexible to allow more eating establishments in close proximity to multiple family areas and employment centers.
- The City should consider contracting for transit services during winter months to coincide with retail shopping for the holidays and to provide shuttle services between employment and high density areas to Burnsville Center and Heart of the City or for special events such as “Walking around Sunset Park” as a healthy cities event.
- The City should work with the school districts to utilize buildings for incubator space, to provide employment training centers, Vocational/Technical classes and perhaps to utilize Diamond Head for Senior Day Care to allow seniors and students to interact to promote sense of place for our community.
- To utilize seniors and our increasing diversity as a resource, the City should seek ways to maximize interactions including but not limited to: teaching English, providing access to child care and senior day care and/or other support services to allow these populations to participate in community employment, civic programs and events.
- The City should consider partnerships to create a multi-cultural center where services for multi-cultural needs could be brought together, assisting people from other cultures to start businesses in Burnsville, seek out assistance from our medical providers as to how to provide services to a more culturally diverse population, consider multi-cultural and multi-generational forums, actively communicate as opposed to passive communications through website, traditional newspapers etc.
- The City should consider development of an international village that targets educational opportunities, interpretative services, medical/cultural arts, services and convenience items that would be available to residents, employees and employers.

Part IV – QUALITY OF LIFE QUESTIONNAIRES

As part of the Land Use Alternatives process, City staff mailed out over 500 informal questionnaires, made them available to the Alternatives Forum participants and also placed the questions on the City's website. The questionnaires were utilized to obtain feedback related to quality of life characteristics for Burnsville. Information was requested to identify different entertainment and recreational activities that could be provided to make Burnsville a fun place to live, work, dine, and play. People were also asked to comment on technology needs, services, physical improvements and ideas for improving quality of life in Burnsville. As part of the land use alternatives analysis, the City is interested in the types of uses and services that people may want future developments to incorporate into mixed use projects, within neighborhoods and as part of overall re-development. The questions are identified below followed by the responses received to the questionnaire.

Question 1 – If you work outside of Burnsville, what things could be done to allow you to work here either as part of your current job or a different career?

- My job recently moved to Burnsville because of the help from Economic Development Director Neinhaus.
- Computer related jobs; jobs for seniors (soon)!
- Faster broadband internet service
- Prefer to work for large multi-national corp.
- Remove 75% of the lights on 42. Put an interchange at 35 and 42. Be professional.
- Retired.
- Transit center shuttles, more parking, day care there.
- Outstretch buses to different cities.
- Higher speed internet
- Move United Health Corporate Offices
- It would help to have more than retail represented in our business mix. I would have to have a marketing-related writing job, which means a large or medium sized corporation in town.
- I have a government (Federal) job and I love it. There could be a light rail down CR42 to connect to Cedar Ave. in Apple Valley. I worked at the Burnsville Center for 25 years (Sears) and retired. I dislike all the money that was spent on the "Downtown Burnsville" area that was made with Dick Ames, and all his money and tributes to himself and Mayor Elizabeth Kautz. We used to participate in the Burnsville Fire Muster and parade and the Crystal Lake Sportsman Club and the corn/brats booth in the civic area, but now those things have changed, and it has not been for the better. I am so far removed now, from that "Burnsville Downtown" area that it may as well be in Shakopee.
- Better transportation options from Burnsville to Arden Hills (Land O'Lakes). Would take bus or vanpool if viable option existed.
- Better north-south transportation options.
- Set up an advertising agency.
- Retired and happy not to travel roads and highways.
- White collar jobs.
- Probably nothing. I work in Farmington and really enjoy my ride to work – against traffic.
- Wireless internet. VOIP telephone service (Comcast) – allow for competition with Frontier.
- Better transportation options (roads, public).

- Located in Burnsville.
- I would love to work in Burnsville but I can't afford to. There is a discrepancy between the cost of living here versus availability of jobs to afford homes here. We need to attend a more diverse employment/business offering, with positions in the 50K and up salary range.
- Teacher in a different district.
- Bring in more business. Head of household jobs.
- I'm a retired teacher. Wanted to sub in Burnsville, but was turned down – none needed?
- Affordable, modern office space for a one-person business.
- I work both in Burnsville and outside Burnsville.
- Working in Burnsville/Lakeville

Question 2 – If you work in Burnsville, what could be done to improve the business climate in the City?

- More ideas for helping kids find jobs.
- Treat businesses that exist better than the 'Heart of the City' dream.
- Always liked working in Burnsville.
- Look to long range transportation. Improve and build roads by the MRQ and set priorities for transportation. Work on linking to light rail transit. This is a long range idea but we need to look there.
- Prevent undesirable business. The bar drove out Touch of Country. Monitor cleanliness of eating places – like Perkins, Denny's, Red Lobster, Taco Bell, etc.
- Nothing. Everything you do is such an improvement.
- People need to take home daycare more seriously. Without people taking care of the children – who works – this means making things more accessible.
- Attract larger businesses.
- Train across the river (35W)
- Roads are in poor condition. Need major improvements in several instances.
- Availability of skilled workers.
- Convenient restaurants.
- I'm in the teaching field so I'd like to improve our educational system. I know the funding is an issue, but our neighbor schools (ISD 196 and 194) has a better educational curriculum.
- More upscale, quality restaurants.
- More outreach events from local government, churches and community.

Question 3 – If you commute alone outside of Burnsville, what could be done to make it worth your while to use a form of public transit or car pool/rideshare?

- Flexible schedule, more mid-day scheduling
- Over the river rail system, more bridges over the river.
- I did commute alone from Burnsville North for 17 years and it was my work place which was the hindrance to being able to take public transit.
- Light rail.
- If there was more things to do, activities.
- Transportation to Inver Grove Heights, ie East/West or to Eden Prairie or Minnetonka is not available. Have attempted to request rideshare but here have been no responses.
- Comfortable, clean, safe buses. Easy schedules and cheap.
- Add a train into the Dome.

- A transit line would be perfect.
- Bring light rail over the MN River to Burnsville. Good for commute to Mpls, also to MN Twins, Vikings, etc.
- Spread to different cities.
- I think we should build a light rail like the one in Bloomington and Minneapolis.
- Transportation that will cover the Metro Area.
- More frequent service.
- Introduce public transportation in the southern part of Burnsville up to CR46
- Work hours are not standard (ie 8-5) so need flexibility. Having 35W/494 public transit (light rail) may help.
- Currently do carpool with my husband.
- LRT
- Vanpool or bus from Burnsville to Arden Hills and with Light Rail.
- Vanpool, bus, or light rail to Northern St. Paul suburbs (e.g. Shoreview, Arden Hills)
- I already do us the bus system. Commuter rail to Minneapolis. The intersection of East bound 16 needs a arrow light to turn onto County Road 5. Also longer left turn lane off of 13 into transit station.
- Light rail or something similar with more flexibility than a bus – buses don't go between Burnsville and downtown frequently enough.
- Public transit on 169. Apple Valley has far better restaurants than Burnsville.
- Have more buses going to Minneapolis – all day instead of rush hour.
- Part of my job is picking up and delivering stuff – car pools and buses are not going to work for me.
- Faster commute time for public transit.
- Train across the river!
- Frequency of transportation. Availability on off-hours.
- I commuted via bus for 10 years to Mpls using the park and ride lot.
- It would be nice if buses would run up and down 5, Burnsville Parkway, CR42 on a regular basis.
- I am in sales so public transit does not work for me.
- Not in particular. Easier traffic flow and parking in Burnsville Transit would be helpful, per neighborhood feedback.
- No one in my school lives near me.
- I take light rail downtown.
- Too difficult to have public transportation. Too many different schools.
- Both of us commute at off hours (4am and 11am) to places poorly served by "public transit" (as ex-NY'ers we must add "transportation". Here it is a bad joke.
- Public transit is good if I worked downtown Minneapolis or St. Paul. Carpool is hard because of scheduling and trust factor of others.
- Public transit schedule sent to home – advertise the benefits.

Question 4 – Is Burnsville missing a fun, entertainment or recreation opportunity? What could we do to create more fun places in the City?

- More Parks
- Film theaters – 1st run and a theater like Lagoon offering more foreign and independent films.
- Swimming pool outside
- City pool long ago would have been nice, children are grown now.

- Have an “entertainment district” with streetscape focused on people. Perhaps at end of HOC.
- Make a bigger mall and movie theater.
- Considering our aging population, a better developed Senior Center (woodworking/crafts/exercise center) would be very attractive. Theater coming is great! Promote more use of parks and trails. Better bike trails needed.
- Movie theater, mini golf.
- Nothing more is needed. Burnsville does have excellent city parks.
- Reopen Benchwarmer Bobs
- Outdoor theater. Flower garden.
- Make the river a fun place.
- Doing a good job.
- Better shoulders on roads for biking. Go smoke free…better for bowling alleys, restaurants. We are glad to get HOC theater and new movie theater.
- Build a community center and/or swimming pool. This would be attractive to young families and youth. Young families may not necessarily be looking for townhouses, row houses and mixed use facilities.
- Yes, outside noise from 215 FAA heading interferes with neighbors even visiting together.
- A community center (pool, running track).
- Phase II for the Garage so kids can have a place to belong.
- Go through with Phase II of the GARAGE.
- Indoor Heart of the City.
- With proximity to Minneapolis and surrounding suburbs, fun places can easily be reached.
- Our HOC is so beautiful and thanks for Cub.
- City swimming pool for grandchildren, etc. Rather than an Arts Center which wasn’t even voted on.
- Encourage small business owners to open up coffee shops that aren’t affiliated with the major chains. More sit-down, unique restaurants would help.
- Yes, Burnsville could use some outside/outdoor community pools. We have lived here 36 years and I was always looking to take my kids swimming, to be by water, but we just have indoor pools (at the schools) and no community/neighborhood pools.
- Park/Amphitheater along Minnesota river; develop riverfront.
- Keep looking for attractive, social activities for our young people.
- We enjoy biking a lot, but almost always leave the City to find good bicycle trails or paved dedicated bikeways.
- Swimming pool
- Riverfront development
- Community pool/more places for kids, my 7 year old suggest a place with trampolines or a foam ball factory like Valley Fairs. Stay away from video games – kids need to be more active. Do something with Dan Patch Rails – either run a commuter rail through it or make it a bike trail. Don’t just let it sit there.
- We need more interesting, independent (not big chain) restaurants – we seem to always go to Uptown or Downtown for interesting eating options.
- Why not develop a water park or a community pool to attract young families to Burnsville.
- Indoor/outdoor pool. Lighted trails at Terrace Oaks.

- Live entertainment like Chanhassen and Old Log Theater (Comedy).
- The fact we are getting a movie theater again is great. I am not sure whether the Performing Arts Center is a worthwhile idea. Only the Mayor seems to think so.
- We need some small café "nooks" – unique, not rubber stamped from other suburbs, more little friendly places. Jensen's is nice, but pricy and not to everyone's taste.
- Community center with pool – Look at Eagan.
- Probably nothing. We like college level hockey, the Twins, nights out at the downtown theaters and a couple first class entertainment tricks a year.
- City pool or water park.
- Golf course of championship quality – although land and demand may be issues.
- Public swimming pool (indoor and outdoor)
- More bike paths isolated from walking paths.
- No. Leave areas in a natural state. Quit clear cutting and building more affordable housing. People need green space, trees, etc.
- A community center for everyone, a community pool/water park and 18 hole golf course.
- Public outdoor pool or even a kid pool for children 8 and under.
- The Performing Arts Center will help.
- Public swimming pool (outside). I have brought this up a number of times at Burnsville meetings. My kids are now too old to take advantage of this. However, Apple Valley got lots of our money over the years with their outside pool.
- You are with "heart of the city" and the new park. ++
- A community swimming pool/water park.
- Community choir for adults of all ages.
- Yes, our community needs a public pool/water park. The combination of both a water park similar to Cascade Bay in Eagan as well as a nice pool (with depth) would benefit all age groups. Would the empty Northwest Athletic club be an option?
- Need more spots for teens. The Garage and skate park are a start.
- No, we don't want or need the PAC.
- Water park. More good bike, off road, rollerblade and walking paths.
- A concert venue for year-round use, a jazz club (non-smoking).
- Water park/pool
- It would be great to see a recreational facility like a big pool, park, pavilion.
- Provide outside eating at restaurants
- Open parks up for community events besides sporting
- Cool Places: housing, restaurants, trails/riverfront connection
- Green Valley, AZ
- Ring Road Transit Route
- Accommodate elderly and young (wheelable/cart lane, walking lanes, segway system)
- Alternative transportation for elderly (carts, smaller for easier maneuvering)
- Need people (recruit specialized immigrants)
- Need to keep residents here – reinvent ourselves
- Recreation Center/Community Center. Access is an issue, trails, connectivity
- Cultural recreation center – a gathering place
- Get cultural groups to participate
- Need to feel safe
- More "urban" feeling like Lake Street, Grand area, something with character (not sterile), diversity, social opportunities and recreation

- "Fit City" as a niche and unified theme for the City. Fit for health, fit for learning, fit for arts, fit for diversity, fit for all ages. Incorporate the "fit" theme into every aspect of the City.
- Revised education system
- White Castle
- More youth activity and involvement in civic operations
- Burnsville information center (bigger than 1 kiosk) with multiple locations throughout the City.
- Burnsville trolley to provide ease of transit, stops at significant areas in Burnsville, maybe stops that incorporate a unique architectural theme at each.
- Market Burnsville outside of the state on a nationwide level.
- Market recreational activities (other than shopping) to do in the winter.
- Community pool
- Hotel/convention center
- City-run community center with multicultural opportunities.
- Improve Southern gateway to Burnsville (we have a plan for North – what about south?)
- Local opportunities for higher education
- Work with school district (ISD191) on schools that they may consider closing
- City infrastructure
    - Any changes
    - Eliminate visitor/handicap parking
- Acquire rental to convert to senior housing
- How do we improve existing single family housing stock (stop flight to other communities that are more attractive or provide more attractive housing stock)
- Need a Costco or Sam's
- Family Indoor Entertainment options (like Edinborough in Edina)

Question 5 – Are all of the educational opportunities you seek available in the City? If not, what can be provided to meet your needs?

- Language training both beginning and advanced.
- Not likely to do college work in Burnsville.
- A facility like The Marsh
- Local U of M campus facility
- No, there isn't much to do in Burnsville. We need a movie theater.
- Yes and no, Burnsville lags in meeting the needs of high performing and gifted school children.
- Community college with lots of different types of courses offered.
- None are offered. Add extensions to the U of M.
- OK for retired people.
- I would like to see a strong private high school south of the river.
- Focus learning city hall for other cities or places of interest. Senior Center not enough.
- No. Need city to support ISD191 much better. Collaborate in promoting schools, levy referendums, athletics and arts events.
- A theater.
- Minneapolis is close enough to be able to attend school, and there are good transit possibilities there and back.
- More college-type lectures.
- Keep the busing to St. Johns for the older kids. It would be nice to have a transportation system for the younger preschool set. I do home daycare and I believe in preschool. I

load up all my children and taken them to preschool 3 times a week. It would be nice if there were a safe alternative.
- Really wish the MN River of Fine Arts was still open. It was a stellar art school for artists metro wide right here in Burnsville. I miss it.
- Personally OK. However, we have been trying to sell our home and several prospective buyers indicated that ISD191's reputation as an A#! School District has gone downhill. Do something to change this perception. Its killing housing pricing in Burnsville.
- No, the Burnsville school system has deteriorated in the 20 + years we've lived here. BHS is too big – split the high school – all our surrounding districts have done so and they are smaller than us.
- No. I take non-traditional classes. I'm sure there are not enough people in Burnsville that would be interested.
- Public swimming pool (indoor and outdoor)
- Graduate classes
- Early childhood classes are either in Apple Valley or Eagan. Why not here?
- No post secondary education available in City.
- Keep library open for all of us!
- No, community ed classes have limited selection, need some academic, credits, lecture style – history, geography, science, language.
- The Burnsville Library could offer more up to date books and magazines.
- Hell no! As taxpayers without kids the BVHS is a hopeless money pit with a large gang problem, bad reputation and poor outcomes. What Burnsville really needs is a year-round school to keep kids active and out of trouble.
- For my children, Burnsville has done a great job.
- A good hard look at the 191 School District by comparison to surrounding Districts – Burnsville is losing home sales to the surrounding areas promoting better schools.

Question 6 – Are there any technology needs that are currently not available to you?
- Goofy Comcast keeps promising phone service but never comes through.
- Citywide Wi-Fi
- Better pricing and more options with cable TV (Comcast)
- At age 65 would like to learn how to run a computer.
- Wireless internet. Cell phone is spotty in Burnsville.
- Affordable high speed internet!
- Most. Nobody would build a city like this if they started with a river and 35.
- Wi-fi citywide. We still drive to Msp/Bloomington, Mayo and U of M for most medical. Kept park walks on Travelers Trail (cut back for safety). Graffiti/vandalism control whether public or private property.
- High speed internet (world class not currently available DSL, cable)
- Wireless
- Wireless internet.
- Wireless
- Wireless internet for the City.
- Would like less expensive, fast internet.
- Wireless internet availability for Burnsville
- All areas equipped with high speed internet.
- Comcast serves most of Burnsville but not my neighborhood. It would be nice if we could get Comcast service.

- Seniors need to learn new technologies. However, it needs to be taught at their level of understanding.
- Citywide wi-fi
- Yes! Put cameras on high-traffic intersections. There is a lot of ticketable driving going on. Keep the roadways safe. If you're obeying the law, cameras should be just fine with you.
- Wireless service at better prices throughout the City.
- Wifi
- Wireless internet. VOIP telephone service (Comcast) – allow for competition with Frontier.
- Fiber optics to the home.
- Most are here – broadband, cable, telephone and cell towers.
- Move more aggressively with wifi.
- No needs other than a competitive job market for this field in Burnsville.
- I wish Burnsville would go wireless or at least have more possible internet service providers.
- DSL (Qwest said it would cost too much to bring it to us); wireless-enabled city.
- Wi-fi is needed.
- I hope one day the City will be wifi like Korea.

Question 7 – What changes would you need in your current home, neighborhood or in the City to keep you here throughout your lifetime?

- An algae free Early Lake. More green spaces. Too dense development and land is being parceled out for luxury homes rather than public use and restful vistas. The traffic is congested, especially on I-35. There is a jungled, busy, hectic quality of life.
- We bought our home in Burnsville, 1970. Our four children were educated in the Burnsville schools. We still live at the same address. The children have married. We are proud to live in Burnsville.
- I am very unhappy with the new trailer, boat, RV parking rules; neither "Liz" will get another vote from me.
- Industrial/Studio space.
- More sidewalks and pedestrian crossings. This is not a walkable place and should be.
- Less noise.
- I would want people in my neighborhood to be able to live in houses and buy.
- Easy transportation access; low interest loans for home improvements. Better street lighting. Reduction of crime neighborhoods (low income housing).
- Better ways to keep neighborhoods from "de-valuing". Less rental homes – having a crack house in a neighborhood of $250,000 to $325,000 homes makes us want to move.
- Lower taxes. Smaller city government. Stop the Performing Arts Center. It is not needed and will not benefit me, but I'll end up paying for it.
- Safer
- Encourage professionalism.
- Neighborhood wide housing improvement to prevent the aging neighborhoods from falling into decay or lowering property values. Perhaps incentives for home improvements, curb appeal?
- Curbing vandalism and graffiti. Clear park paths. Sell/rent units before building more condo/retail.
- A lot more traffic on Parkwood, driving too fast and I wish this was monitored.

- Phase II of the GARAGE, safety.
- More and brighter street lights. Mass transportation that connects to other areas.
- Make it more walkable.
- More affordable senior housing.
- Better access to public transportation, more bus stops, attractive looking bus stops, light rail on Hwy 13 and CR42.
- I have been here 30 years and people can't get over how beautiful Burnsville is.
- Wireless internet.
- More low cost yard maintenance services. More businesses within walking distance to cut out the commute.
- More of the same.
- Clean up and trim weeds. Nothing has been done in our area. 13 and Nicollet.
- I am a dedicated Burnsville resident. I will move to senior housing within the City when the time comes that makes it necessary for me to move.
- We plan to stay in our Walden home until we can no longer maintain it.
- Less highway and air traffic noise.
- The neighborhoods to be kept up. There are a lot of properties that are not being kept up. Large signs hanging off decks on Brookview. Sheds (also on Brookview) put up right next to the garage (not code – not painted). Keep the rentals to a minimum – people who own their houses take more pride. There is a garage can mailbox and not code shed in Brookview. Shubbery being kept cut and looking nice.
- Better upkeep of yards and homes in general in many of our housing developments.
- Regulations in keeping up property. Our neighborhood has as many vehicles and they pile up all kinds of junk by the garage along side the house and in the back yard.
- Neighbor has junky backyard. He collects everyone's leaves in the fall. All the paper bags are in a pen in his yard.
- Burnsville is "going to pot". Its like Brooklyn Park 20 years ago. I no longer feel as if this is a safe community. We have talked about moving several times because we feel it has changed for the worst.
- I would like to sell my house and move back to Mpls where there is more diversity. However, we are not in a selling market right now.
- Enough already of low income housing! I know this sounds racist but the elements attracted by these programs drive hard working, tax paying, citizens out of the city.
- None the government needs to provide.
- The city needs to police how many people are living in single family homes. This devalues our neighborhood.
- Light Rail. Being senior citizens and fixed incomes – go easy on us and homeowners taxes.
- Affordable housing development.
- Improve water quality of lakes.
- Renew the old shopping centers – fewer convenient stores and junk stores.
- Have you seen my neighborhood? We are the ghetto of Burnsville and I would love to see this change.
- We live in the Portland/Southcross area and walk throughout the area south of CR42. Homeowners between CR42 and Southcross along Lac Lavon are not consistent in trimming when trees that reach over the sidewalk. One in particular has neglected theirs badly. Also, the sidewalk is narrower due to grass, weeds and mulch on the sidewalk.

- Way too much Section 8 housing in Burnsville. We have already built another home up North to live in the future due to this issue.
- Our neighbor waters when ever they feel like and leave trash cans out. Fine them.
- Have lived here (same house) 38 years.
- I don't want to live in my home for my lifetime. No public transportation that I can walk to, no neighborhood socialization. I would consider a senior residence in HOC.
- I would like to see an increase in the availability of better paying jobs. Thru the HOC, we have attracted low income/poverty line residents. We need to provide opportunity for them to increase their economic standing.
- Warm winters.
- Keep our taxes down.
- Support property values by limiting section 8 housing, improving the high school, enhancing police presence in Red Oak Park where the drug dealers use the parking lots.
- No cold weather.
- My husband grew up here, loves it here and its community. I love it too. I may move in the winter months because of the cold.
- Less or at least no more low income and/or "affordable" housing projects. Burnsville seems to have more than our neighboring communities. These neighborhoods do nothing to enhance the value of property and only increase crime.
- Currently in lifetime home

Question 8 – Are there any services or physical improvements in the community that you wish were available to you?

- Light rail, more green space.
- We always felt this community served all of our needs. Good schools, wonderful park system with numerous park programs with many sport tournaments. If I were to voice my concern I personally would not be for the fine arts theater.
- Reduce airplane noise. Reduce street clutter – less unnecessary road signs, less commercial signs.
- A community center with a pool and meeting/banquet facility – not a theater.
- Senior Center with workshops/bike trails off road.
- Citywide wi-fi access.
- Clean up the "green areas".
- No more fast traffic allowed.
- Less mom and pop shops tying up space.
- How about a "welcome to Burnsville" sign on 35W? It doesn't have to be costly. We need something there. What about additional bike/walking paths/trails.
- Don't drive out small businesses that have served residents with high rent dense parking development.
- Phase II of the GARAGE.
- Phase II of the GARAGE.
- I love the Senior (Diamondhead mall area) Center. We need pools though. Not big water slides, just wave pools or something.
- I feel the school district and the city provide access to any service a person might need.
- Community pool – have a buy a brick program to fund. I also wish that the theater in Nicollet Commons would have been put to referendum and not forced on us. Why stay in a community that doesn't listen. Take old Menards or Knox site and put in a water park. Look at Apple Valley, Bloomington – beautiful sites.

- Highway 13 is old, ugly, unkept. The weeds are waist high. There is trash all over. Same with CR42.
- Better bus service to Minneapolis.
- To save our streets….limit trash pickup to one company per area. Negotiate with the companies so all have equal routes.
- No. Probably less would be better.
- Improve water quality of lakes.
- More parks. We don't need a performing arts center when there are so many others around us.
- Take better care of streets, grass and public areas – fences are broken by the freeways.
- Would like to see low interest or no interest loans given to residents to fix up their neighborhood. We should promote neighborhood watch program.
- Aggressive redevelopment to maintain property values. High tech economic engines (ie medical alliance) to maintain quality jobs. Develop the river quadrant.
- H.C. access is substandard. Call me for consulting at $85 per hour.
- More bicycle trails (paved and connected).
- No, than you. I appreciate what we have but can't afford higher taxes to support any more.
- This year's International Festival is a start in celebrating our diverse community.
- Removing three Council members.
- I was very upset when Lifetime Fitness was "allowed" to leave here! Now I have to go outside the City to get a good workout.
- Wireless internet city wide.
- Hallmark cards – not in mall.
- That we provide access to the disabled in anyway we can.
- Not impressed with the many row homes/condo projects shown on the land use maps. Heart of the City is not selling – surely we can do better than add more non-salable housing.

Question 9 – What gives you a sense of connection with the community of Burnsville?

- I appreciate that the City involves citizens in its planning. I know some City officials who work hard for the City. This Week helps – needs to be delivered to apartments and condos and townhouses too.\
- Neighborhood association/schools/local businesses.
- I have lived here 20 plus years, done volunteer work in the city and now work here.
- Location. "Naturalness". Trees – opens space.
- The Pines of Burnsville is centrally located.
- The GARAGE in Burnsville.
- Fire Muster, Neighborhood Night Out. Citizen involvement in Government (ie forums, task forces, committees).
- Youth athletics, city commissions
- 46 years.
- Involvement, easy events to go to.
- Current neighbors all share similar needs.
- Private group such as Red Hats, Senior Center, good restaurants, free entertainment, theater in schools.
- This Week Burnsville newspaper.

- The open space, parks, wildlife. Stop killing the deer and geese. Rochester, MN learned they are valuable to residents.
- My church
- The Garage.
- Being involved with the GARAGE like most people my age do.
- Sun Current newspaper.
- Neighbors/schools
- A home you can enjoy with nice neighbors.
- We seem "de-connected" because of decisions made by Mayor/Council without our consent.
- We're active in the mobile volunteer network and have good neighbors who watch out for one another. That makes me feel a great affinity with and affection for the city.
- My neighbors in the Crystal Lake area.
- Community center activities.
- Not much
- I am active at the Senior Center and work as a volunteer for the City of Burnsville and Dakota County.
- Our Walden neighborhood.
- Neighborhoods/church and school but those are both in Savage. West side of Burnsville needs to be developed. There is an ice cream truck that comes by the kids just love it. I believe the truck is Mexican owned. I feel bad because in the summer people have their windows closed and don't hear him coming through. Perhaps a schedule could be published of when he's coming into your neighborhood. That's home town.
- Crystal Lake is a great community resource. We need to take care of it. Non-native weeds are taking it over.
- As I get older I feel a lessening connection to the City. However, we are involved with community service club and other broader community activities.
- Unitarian church and YMCA.
- Neighbors, friends.
- It has nothing to do with Burnsville. Its my friends that provide the connection.
- Fire Muster – don't change dates from September High School events.
- Heart of the City. Performing Arts Center that is being built.
- Community service – Adopt a Street.
- Friends and quality of life.
- Parks and recreation activities.
- Attending high school sports and activities, high school plays, community activities.
- CERT classes were awesome!
- Initiatives by the City to involve the citizens. Many civic events to participate in.
- So far we have had great neighbors and have enjoyed our neighborhood.
- Our church.
- Very little. I feel more connected to Apple Valley, ISD196 and activities at Bloomington Arts Center.
- I enjoy the annual Fire Muster/fireworks celebration. The Jazz events/Wednesday in the park are also nice!
- Schools, BAC sports, church, community ed classes.
- My neighbors and friends.
- Senior Center
- POAC and traveling baseball coaching.

- I've watched it grow.
- It is safe to live, people respecting each other, and people care about their homes, people and others.
- People I have come to know thru the years – mainly who are concerned with who we are attracting as residents to our fine city.
- National night out, church connection, neighborhood community, golf, forums

Question 10 – Please share any other ideas you have for improving your quality of life in Burnsville.

- More neighborhood-like planning rather than isolated suburban living. More parks – paths – light rail. Burnsville has a large immigrant population and a wide range of incomes. Early childhood education on a sliding scale fee and after school programs would fill a need and would be an investment in our future.
- Water pressure in Vista View area. Roads in need of repair in Vista View area.
- When parks are mowed by the City they don't care if they rip up new sod in the park.
- If there is a water restriction it should be enforced.
- If grass gets too long isn't that enforced public and private property.
- Burnsville needs "world-class" architecture by renowned architects. More connection to river – i.e. access to Blackdog Road other than from 35W. A scenic point (vista of Minneapolis) park development. More neighborhood shops in HOC.
- We have a big problem with speeders on Williams Drive. This needs to be monitored much more, and more speed limit signs should be visible. The left turn lanes have been great, but we need one onto Court Place. When we make left turns there, we almost get rear-ended.
- More senior buildings in Burnsville that go according to income.
- The GARAGE needs Phase II.
- Let's keep our trees and improve our city landscape by providing watering systems to public plantings.
- Citywide wi-fi access.
- Concerned about increasing crime in Burnsville, along with the increase in immigrants and relocation of inner city people to the suburbs. I've noted many of these folks appear to have a total lack of respect of other people.
- Give the city inspectors the authority to enforce simple codes (ie no shade trees in the easements. No noxious weeds allowed anywhere. Noxious weeds; want a list?
- Good/great medical care
- Reduce crime by eliminating low rent districts and troublesome apartments.
- We'd like to see redevelopment of the aging strip malls, particularly Valley Ridge and the Rainbow site. We'd love to see more original retailers and restaurants because we have so many chains. It would make Burnsville more unique.
- Keep wildlife and open space. Stop building more and more smaller density. Attract 45-55 buyers who are sick of condos.
- I hope the park on Traveler's Trail (Crosstown West Park?) will be kept well lit, clean and monitored as other parks and other areas so there is not chance for illegal activity.
- Phase II of the GARAGE.
- Phase II of the GARAGE.
- Keep the parks natural. We enjoy the beauty of Wood Park.
- The City of Burnsville is badly in need of an intensive, regional study on a long range planning, development and redevelopment, construction program by an award winning

architectural firm, who has extensive, national experience with a common goal to establish a rigid, prioritized, 20 year regimen of timely accomplishments, and in cooperation with adjacent suburbs for an "win-win" effort and result for all involved. This in-depth study should also result in a regional, architectural scale model, covered in acrylic plastic for display in the lobby of city hall. This would be for public study, education, state, national and global promotion. Submitted by Harley Jensen, 15726 Maple Island Court, Burnsville, MN 55306, 952.892.5071.

- Diversity of community is changing schools and services needed. Involvement with CAC and ISD191 is crucial to survival of Burnsville as the "original" population of citizens in aging and retiring and leaving.
- Stop all that smoking even at the pool.
- New Mayor!
- I'm not sure if you still do the annual tree sale, but that was very helpful in making landscaping affordable. Perhaps programs for helping neighborhoods pay for landscaping in the circles.
- Keep the "riff/raff" out of the Crystal Lake Beach area. Its getting a little rough/wild around there. I ride bikes in the evening and have noticed changes down there. Could the cops maybe drive thru there sometime???
- More community building as the population changes and matures.
- Better streets not holes in the streets. Better snow plowing.
- I am active at the Senior Citizen Center and with the City of Burnsville and I sincerely hop the City will continue its support for us senior citizens.
- East side gets catered to. Mom and pop stores would be nice – not always big chains of everything.
- Burnsville needs to enforce its property upkeep rules and regulations. Too many unsightly properties going unattended.
- We wish the airlines would fly over the river like they promised instead of over our house and neighborhood.
- I am a active senior citizen at 82 years. Lived in my apartment for 30 years. Its convenient for me because I am close to stores (Cub) and close to the Burnsville Senior Center which is my 2nd home. I just wish that our Senior Center could have more recognition for what we do and the help we get from our school district 191.
- Burnsville is the best city south of the river. Anything you do now would be a plus.
- Too much low-income/rental housing. This has not brought anything good to Burnsville. This town has ghettos. And seedy hotels. Any many properties are unkept.
- Please keep the array of miscellaneous signs off boulevards.
- Less Less Less government.
- More outdoor church services at the park in the HOC. Seems like you are right on track. Keep up the good work.
- The twin city area will never be No.1 until a complete network of light rail is put in place. Have traveled a lot and those cities that invested in light rail are much easier to get around. We have enjoyed living in Burnsville. Moved here in 1977 from the Highland district of St. Paul. The male member was retired but the female was still working for NW Airlines. Driving over the Old Cedar Avenue bridge was a chore especially in the winter months. She only worked a couple years after we moved to Burnsville so was not too bad. I don't think we would live in the Burnsville area if we worked in Mpls or St. Paul. The traffic on 35W and Cedar is to much. I'm a South Metro resident for 91 years and why no planning has been done for rapid transit I'll never figure it out. They could use the 35W and Cedar Avenue corridors for light rail to the Burnsville Center and 42

and Cedar. Out state and local politicians missed the boat about 25 years ago. Enjoy our condo living and still able at 91 and 88 to live independently.
- Quit trying to build all of the affordable housing. We're importing Minneapolis' problems into our community. Drugs, gangs, graffiti, etc.
- Please paint the water towers. It is long past time to identify Burnsville. Thanks for the opportunity to give input. We have chosen to live in Burnsville for 35 years – single home and now town home for past 5 years. We love living here. Very convenient to us as seniors now with the medical facilities. This article from St. Paul Pioneer Press stresses that planners plan alike and it gets boring.
- People should be able to park on street in front of their homes over night. Other cities do and there's no problems. A real pain when we have guests. Thank you for doing this!
- Burnsville must continue to move ahead – push the Medical Alliance!!
- Don't build a arts center and get a good restaurant for evening meals. Then I might stay in Burnsville.
- Put the performing arts center on the ballot and stop all work on it until the citizens have voted in favor of it.
- Improve CR42. Give business deals to fill all these empty strip malls.
- Get people on the Council who listen to the people who live in the City (ex. Arts Center).
- There is sufficient, perhaps too many, multi-family housing units, apartments, etc.
- When the arts center is built I hope that quality plays, concerts, art shows will be provided so that we wont' need to leave Burnsville for culture also art classes an, a community choir.
- My biggest concern for the City involves bringing in employment opportunities for is residents so that we can continue to support its maintenance and growth. Thank you for asking our opinions!
- The City Council should have sent out a survey such as this, at the very least, prior to forging ahead with the PAC. They need to be representatives of the people in the community.
- Get the city out of the development business. Let the private sector do it.
- A Rainbow food store. Why was the one we had "allowed" to leave?
- All power lines underground.
- For us, keep up with our part; our homes, treat people with kindness, and pick up after ourselves in the community.
- Face lifts and improvements to the various empty strip malls and shopping areas – improved quality of housing creates desire for quality businesses to come to our community and fill these empty spaces.
- Community e-mail networking group

EBENEZER RIDGES – SENIORS COMMENTS

Staff met with residents of Ebenezer Ridges on August 14, 2007 to review the 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update process and to request input from the seniors on quality of life issues and suggestions for the type of services and improvements they would like to see in future development projects. The seniors provided the following comments and suggestions:

- New residents to the senior and assisted living centers would like to receive new resident packets from the City to help them to find local retailers, restaurants, parks, trails and other areas of interest.

- There is a need for affordable transportation services to supplement the DARTS system because DARTS does not provide weekend service.
- There is a need to improve pedestrian access across major streets in the City and to provide enough time at stop lights for the elderly to cross safely. The street lights that provide the time (minutes/seconds) to cross the streets are helpful.
- There needs to be more affordable senior housing in the City. There are long waiting lists for senior and assisted living and the future increase of the senior population will make this even more of a need.
- It would be helpful if stores were located closer to senior and assisted housing or even if smaller stores could be located in senior centers so that people could shop and get needed items and foods.
- Medical services and pharmacy should be located close to or inside of the same building as the senior or assisted living centers so the seniors could walk and get prescriptions without having to find transportation to off-site facilities.
- An art studio connected to the Ridges Campus or way for seniors to get to an art studio elsewhere in the City would be a great thing for seniors.
- It would be helpful if information about various financial assistance programs could be developed for people including financial assistance for the YMCA, utilities and other programs.
- The City needs better identification so that when you drive into Burnsville you know where you are. Other Cities have community signs and this would be good for Burnsville to have also.
- The round-about is confusing and it is hard to see because of the tall grasses and landscaping in the middle of the round-about.
- A better bus system with more stops, ability to accommodate wheel chairs, walkers, mobility carts and other equipment used by the disabled and elderly is needed.

I.S.D. 191 SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

City staff attended a Worksession meeting with the ISD 191 School Board on October 11, 2007 to advise the Board about the City's 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update and to discuss mutual issues with regard to demographics, housing, employment, transportation, land use and other items associated with the Comprehensive Plan. The following statements are summary notes from the meeting:

- There is a need to provide more affordable rental housing for seniors and people on fixed incomes to allow people to stay in Burnsville.
- There is a need to provide affordable rental housing so our young people can stay in Burnsville and raise families. Rent to own options will be needed to attract the 25-34 year olds who will not likely be able to purchase a home while paying off student loans, starting careers etc.
- Young teachers cannot afford to live in Burnsville. There is a need to provide up-scale rental opportunities for young professionals who are just starting careers and want to live close to where they work. Also, young professionals want to have units with higher amenities and that are attractive, well constructed and have things like shopping, restaurants, coffee houses etc., close by. They are not interested in living in older apartment complexes.
- We need to work on creating "ties" that will keep kids here once they have grown to young adulthood.

- The City should have more detached townhome type units for seniors and young adults who want the single family feel but don't want all of the maintenance responsibility.
- Point of sale inspections should be done in Burnsville as a way to maintain the condition of housing stock in the City.
- What type of new jobs are expected in the MRQ and what wages?
- Capitalize on our "mix" of opportunity – housing, entertainment and jobs, recreations, parks sidewalks etc., to build sense of community.
- The District has formed an "integration committee" that may be a good place for City participation and on-going communications.
- We need to re-visit the "senior" model of senior center into a diversity thing – re-visit youth piece from the Visioning for the 21st Century project as a start. We are no longer a bedroom community. We have a history and we need places for people to live when they come back to Burnsville.
- There is a need to increase walk-ability in the City and to improve pedestrian crossings so that there is enough time for people to cross before the lights turn; sidewalks and trails need to be connected and crossings provided in places that make sense. Our pedestrian ways need to be designed to be attractive and safe for people to want to walk and use them.
- There is a need to provide better, safer crossings over major roads like McAndrews/CR 5 area – consider tunnels or raised cross walks for safety and to link areas of the City.
- The MRQ needs more thought on how to connect the area to the HOC and also improve the drive/walking experience. Driving through industrial areas, train tracks and storage yards to get to the public areas along the lake and parks will not be a pleasurable experience. More thought is needed to provide better connections to and from the MRQ to the rest of Burnsville.
- The idea of high-tech and green is good in the MRQ but it would be helpful for the District to provide homes for families to help increase student enrollment
- The street lights need to be better coordinated. The pedestrian crossing time is too short at McAndrews.
- There needs to be better traffic enforcement, signage and driver education for intersections that have "No turn on Red when Children Present" signs – there are a lot of cars that do not follow the regulations which makes these areas dangerous for pedestrians and kids.
- MnDOT and the City should evaluate the intersection of Portland Avenue and T.H. 13 to improve circulation and resolve stacking/back up issues at this intersection
- The City and District could possibly collaborate to provide adult language courses on Cable TV to start to improve communications with diverse populations – some grants may be available and could be further investigated
- There is a need for a community center in Burnsville – the District is having difficulty meeting indoor athletic space needs for organizations such as BAC and others. There needs to be a place for kids to recreate without paying high fees that private recreation uses may have
- The District would be willing to review options and partner with the City and/or other agencies in the future to optimize the use of facilities and operations
- The Comprehensive Plan should focus more on schools, how they are integrated into the overall plan, how we can partner to maximize services, volunteers, facilities, communications with residents and operations

- Consider incorporating neighborhood recreation centers into redevelopment areas – perhaps instead of one large facility partnerships could be developed to provide recreational and/or educational space in redevelopment or existing spaces
- We should try to determine how well senior transition is working in Burnsville – define ways to determine if Burnsville's seniors are staying in the community or if they have to leave the City for housing elsewhere
- Volunteerism opportunities should be further explored for students to engage in civic programs and partner with the City's volunteer network for educational research and activities such as assisting seniors with lawn maintenance or other appropriate activities.

PLANNING COMMISSION COMMENTS

The Planning Commission reviewed the Yield Plans at Worksessions held on July 23rd and September 10, 2007 and provided the following comments:

- The City should investigate the Berendt site (Yield Plan 6) to retain the single family farm house as a historic structure or for re-use for a neighborhood restaurant or other use that utilized the existing structure as a historic building for this part of Burnsville.
- The Future Land Use Plan needs to be written to define the purpose of Yield Plans to ensure that they are not used as land use plans for redevelopment.
- The former Northwest Athletic Club site (located southwest of the intersection of Burnhaven Drive and Southcross Drive) should be evaluated as a vacant/underutilized site and the land use changed to Office Business instead of General Business. The site is adjacent to single family neighborhoods to the north and west and the uses in the Office Business zoning district are more compatible with the existing residential development.
- There have been a number of private recreation and athletic uses introduced into the Industrial Park districts located adjacent to County Road 42. The Comprehensive Plan Update should include a discussion on this trend and consider the transition of traditional industrial park uses into athletic type uses.
- The City should initiate conversations with post secondary education providers to locate a campus or other educational opportunities in Burnsville. Consideration should be given to the K-Mart (Yield Plan 4) area to take advantage of the Dakota County Library system, transit opportunities and proximity to business services and high density residential.
- The former Northwest Raquet Club site (14.4 acres located southwest of the intersection of Burnhaven Drive and Southcross Drive), land use designation should be changed from General Business to Office or Neighborhood Business to compliment the adjacent residential neighborhoods.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

The City Council reviewed the site and yield plan concepts at a Worksession held on October 9, 2007. The Council discussed the purpose of Yield Plans as potential concepts used to create a low to high range of development density to measure public utility/service impacts and serve as an advisory tool. The Council indicated that the land use plan should define "Mixed Use" so there is a clear understanding of its meaning. Council requested the Existing Land Use in Acres table to be re-checked for errors, specifically with Office and Vacant Land. The Council provided the following comments related to the site and yield plans:

Site 1: Melvin Astleford Site
- *Council consensus to retain as Gateway Industrial Medium Land Use*

Site 2: Crystal Lake Cemetery
- *Council consensus to retain as Industrial Park Land Use and to guide the easterly part of Pleasantview Memorial Cemetery for future commercial use.*

Site 3: Eden Baptist Church
- *Council consensus to change to Office Business Land Use*
- Staff will need to meet with the property owners regarding this change.

Site 4: Berendt Site (Yield Plan 6)
- *Council consensus to retain Low Density Residential Land Use – remove "with the possibility of zero lot line development (detached townhome)."* Consider extending the frontage road along this site.

Site 5: Mr. B's Car Wash & Riverview (Yield Plan 7)
- *Council consensus to retain as Commercial with option for Mixed Use Land Use without residential.*

Site 6: Hilla Site
- *Council consensus to retain as Low Density Residential Land Use.*

Site 7: Kraus Anderson Site
- *Council consensus to retain as HOC Land Use*

Site 8: Karl Bohn Site (Yield Plan 2)
- *Council consensus to change to Low Density Residential Land Use. Review the site to incorporate the north/south collector street.*

Site 9: Torbenson Site
- *Council consensus to change to Medium Density Residential Land Use*
- Staff will need to meet with property owners regarding this change.

Site 10: Valley Ridge Center (Yield Plan 1)
- *Council consensus to change to Mixed Use Land Use* with some residential (Neighborhood retail/residential center coinciding with TIF policy

Site 11: Johnson Reiland Site
- *Council consensus to retain as Medium Density Residential Land Use, but describe development constraints and consult with the land owner regarding a conservation easement or transfer of development rights*

Site 12: Healy Ramme Site (Yield Plan 5)
- *Council consensus to retain as Office Business Land Use*

Site 13: Grandview Commons
- *Council consensus to retain as Office Business Land Use*

Site 14: Woodpark Plaza
- *Council consensus to retain as Commercial or allow Mixed Use Land Use without residential.*

Yield Plan 3 – Rainbow
- Uses should be complimentary. Need to heed constraints from the County. *Council consensus to retain commercial with no residential.*

Yield Plan 4 – K-Mart
- *Council consensus to retain as Commercial*

NW Athletic Club Site:
- *Council consensus to monitor the site with possible future land use change to office business to be compatible with adjacent residential*

The general consensus of the Council was that the sites reviewed as part of the alternatives analysis and located along the County Road 42 corridor should be guided for commercial use.

Council discussed the possibility of locating a secondary education complex within the City. The general consensus of the Council was not to pursue establishing the old farmhouse on the Berendt site as a historic structure.

Part IV – SUMMARY & NEXT STEPS

SUMMARY

The City of Burnsville is over 98% developed and there are about 457 acres of vacant land left in the City most of which is difficult to develop due to poor soils, topography, utility encumbrances or owners who are not ready to develop at this time. The Advisory Panel toured 14 vacant/underdeveloped sites and provided feedback on whether the current land use designations should be retained or changed to some other land use.

Following the Advisory Panel site visits the City's consultant (Bonestroo) prepared a number of Yield Plan concepts for consideration. Yield plans differ from traditional development or land use plans in that their purpose is to identify a range of uses/densities that could possible occur in order to determine and plan for impacts to public facilities and services. Future development will likely occur through redevelopment of aging strip centers throughout the City. Seven sites were utilized to review redevelopment scenarios for typical strip centers and big box sites. The seven Yield Plans were reviewed by the Advisory Panel, adjusted to incorporate their suggestions and then presented to the public at the November 2, 2007 Alternatives Forum. The comments received from the Alternatives Forum, other public meetings and the City website are summarized in this Report. The City Council reviewed the alternatives and yield plans providing direction to work with property owners to consider the following land use plan changes:

Site 3: Eden Baptist Church
- *Council consensus to change to Office Business Land Use*

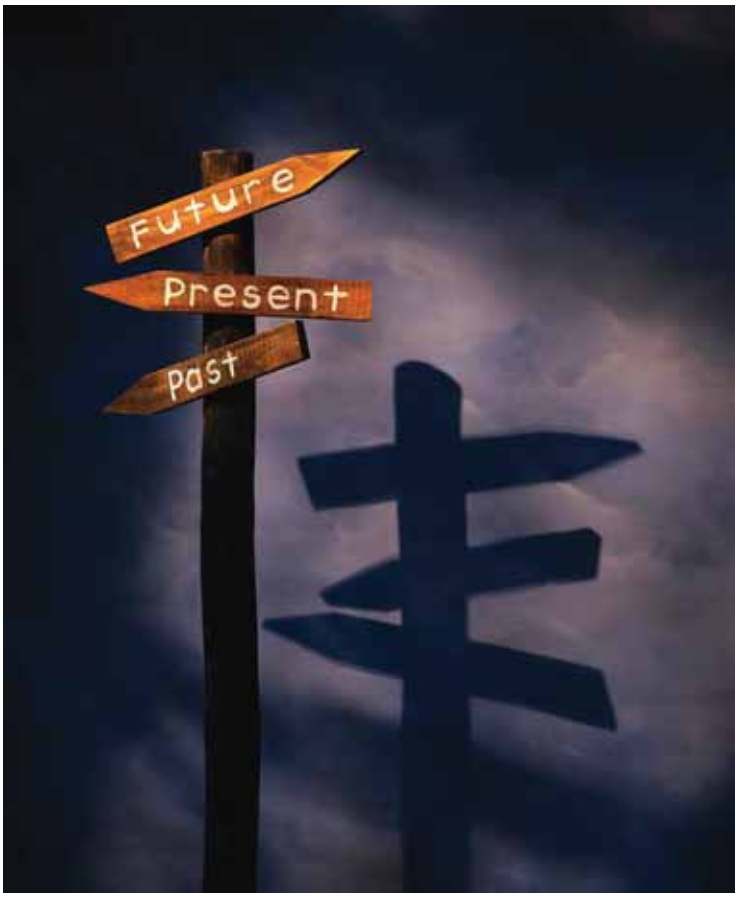
Site 8: Karl Bohn Site (Yield Plan 2)
- *Council consensus to change to all Low Density Residential Land Use. Review the site to incorporate the north/south collector street.*

Site 9: Torbenson Site
- *Council consensus to change to Medium Density Residential Land Use*

Site 10: Valley Ridge Center (Yield Plan 1)
- *Council consensus to change to Mixed Use Land Use with some residential* (Neighborhood retail/residential center coinciding with TIF policy)

NEXT STEPS

Bonestroo will be conducting an analysis of all of the strip centers to help define a range/average development density for the purpose of discerning potential impacts to public facilities and programs. The Background Report (Appendix A) provided a snap shot of what has happened in the community since the adoption of the 2000 Comprehensive Plan. The Issues Report (Appendix B) documented issues facing the community and was utilized to prepare draft Goals and Policies statements for the Comprehensive Plan Update. The information compiled for this Report (Appendix C) in addition to the yield plan analysis, will provide direction for development of the Land Use Chapter of the 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update.



APPENDIX D – BURNSVILLE SYSTEMS STATEMENT

SEPTEMBER 12, 2005

CITY OF BURNSVILLE
2030
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

System Statement

City of Burnsville

Following the January 2004 adoption of the 2030 *Regional Development Framework*, and the more recent adoptions of the *Transportation Policy Plan*, the *Water Resources Management Policy Plan*, and the *Regional Parks Policy Plan*, the Metropolitan Council is issuing system statements pursuant to state statute.

Receipt of this system statement and the metropolitan system plans triggers communities' obligations to review and, as necessary, amend their comprehensive plans within the next three years. The complete text of the *2030 Regional Development Framework* as well as complete copies of the recently adopted metropolitan system plans are available for viewing and downloading at http://www.metrocouncil.org/planning/framework/timeline.htm. Paper copies are available by calling the Council's Data Center at 651-602-1140.

Metropolitan system plans are long-range comprehensive plans for the regional systems--transportation and airports, wastewater services, and parks and open space, along with the capital budgets for metropolitan wastewater service, transportation and regional recreation open space. System statements explain the implications of metropolitan system plans for each individual community in the metropolitan area. They are intended to help communities prepare or update their comprehensive plan, as required by the Metropolitan Land Planning Act:

> *Within three years following the receipt of the metropolitan system statement, every local governmental unit shall have prepared a comprehensive plan in accordance with sections 462.355, subdivision 4, 473.175, and 473.851 to 473.871 and the applicable planning statute and shall have submitted the plan to the Metropolitan Council for review pursuant to section 473.175.*

Local comprehensive plans will be reviewed by the Council for conformance with metropolitan system plans, consistency with Council policies and compatibility with adjacent and affected governmental units.

The system statement includes forecasts at densities that assure regional growth is achieved consistent with adopted policies. These forecasted densities help ensure regional services and costly regional infrastructure can be provided as efficiently as possible, and that development and growth within the metropolitan area occur in a coordinated manner. The system statement also contains an overview of the transportation and aviation, transit, wastewater, and regional parks system plan updates, and system changes affecting each community.

Forecasts.

The following forecasts are part of the 2030 *Regional Development Framework* (adopted January 14, 2004 and updated on August 24, 2005). They are used by the Council to plan for its regional systems. Communities should base their planning work on these forecasts. However, given the nature of long-range forecasting, the Council will maintain an on-

going dialogue with communities to consider any changes in growth trends or community expectations about growth that may have an impact on regional systems.

Forecast of population, households and employment:

			Revised Development Framework		
	1990	**2000**	**2010**	**2020**	**2030**
Population	51,288	60,220	61,400	63,000	65,000
Households	19,127	23,687	25,200	27,000	28,700
Employment	25,438	31,825	37,700	41,200	43,300

The Council forecasts growth at appropriate densities for communities in order to protect the efficiency of wastewater, transportation and other regional system investments, and to help ensure the metropolitan area can accommodate its projected growth by the year 2030.

Growth Management Strategy.
The Regional Development Framework sets an overall minimum residential density standard of 3 to 5 units per acre in developed and developing areas where urban service is located or planned. The average minimum standard of 3 units per is important to the efficient use of regional systems, including wastewater system investments. Communities that significantly over-utilize or under-utilize regional systems can cause inefficiencies in the use of regional resources. Additionally, achieving housing at these density levels may help communities meet their obligations under the Metropolitan Land Planning Act to plan for and address their housing needs.

Geographic planning area.
The city of Burnsville is designated as a “developed community” geographic planning area in the *2030 Regional Development Framework*. Geographic planning areas are shown on the 2030 Planning Area map. The planning area sets overall densities that the planned development patterns in your community can be expected to achieve. (If there are discrepancies between the 2030 Framework Planning Area map, and the metropolitan systems plans because of adjustments that occurred subsequent to the adoption of the *2030 Regional Development Framework* document, communities should follow the specific guidance contained in this system statement.)

As Burnsville plans for current and future residents, it should focus on protecting natural resources, ensuring sufficient public infrastructure, and developing transition strategies to increase density and encourage infill development.

Specific strategies for developed communities are found on pages 24-25 of the *2030 Regional Development Framework.*

System statement review process.
If your community disagrees with elements of this system statement, or has any questions about this system statement, we urge you to contact Victoria Dupre, 651 602-1621**,** to review and discuss potential issues or concerns.

The Council and local units and districts have historically resolved questions about forecasts and other components of the system statement through discussions.

Request for hearing.
If a local governmental unit or school district and the Council are unable to resolve disagreements over the content of a system statement, the unit or district may by resolution request that a hearing be conducted by the Council's Land Use Advisory Committee or by the state Office of Administrative Hearings for the purpose of considering amendments to the system statement. According to Minnesota Statutes section 473.857, the request shall be made by the local unit or district within 60 days after receipt of the system statement. If no request for a hearing is received by the Council within 60 days, the statement becomes final.

System statement issue date:
The official date of the issuance of this system statement is September 12, 2005.

Transportation System Statement-- Burnsville

Key Changes in the Plan

The revised *Transportation Policy Plan* adopted by the Metropolitan Council in December 2004, is the metropolitan system plan for airports and transportation with which local comprehensive plans must conform. This system statement summarizes significant elements of the metropolitan system plan and highlights those elements that apply specifically to your community. In addition to reviewing this system statement, your community should consult the entire *Transportation Policy Plan*, the *2030 Regional Development Framework* and other pertinent regional planning and policy documents, including the *Aviation Policy Plan*, to ensure your community's local comprehensive plan and plan amendments conform to the metropolitan system plans. A PDF file of the entire revised *Transportation Policy Plan*, the *2030 Regional Development Framework*, the *Local Planning Handbook* and other regional planning and policy documents of the Metropolitan Council are available online at the Metropolitan Council's Web site: http://www.metrocouncil.org/planning/framework/timeline.htm. The *Aviation Policy Plan*, adopted in 1996, is not available electronically, but a copy can be obtained by contacting the Metropolitan Council's Data Center at 651-602-1140.
Adopted by the Metropolitan Council in December 2004, the revised *Transportation Policy Plan* incorporates the following changes:

The revised *Transportation Policy Plan* incorporates the following changes:

- The planning period has been extended from 2025 to 2030
- No significant increase in the level of transportation funding was assumed.
- The expenditures shown in the *Transportation Policy Plan* must be constrained by the level of funding that is anticipated. However, the revised plan also examined two alternative scenarios – what could be built if highway revenues were increased by 30% over the next 25 years, and what it would cost to provide enough additional capacity to hold congestion to the 1998 levels.
- The highway expansion projects shown in the plan have changed little since the 2001 plan, due to this lack of additional resources. (See Fig 4-11 for highway expansion proposals.) Metropolitan Highway System Plan investment priorities no longer contain the "Improvements" category. Most improvement corridors are now designated "Management" corridors.
- The new investment timing provisions are contained in the Plan. Table 4-11 contains projects in Mn/DOT's Highway Work Plan (scheduled in 2009-2013) construction, reconstruction, and bridge replacement greater $10 million. Table 4-12 contains Regional Priority Project to move into the 10-Year Highway Work Plan, if there are resources available in the 2005-2009 time period.
- Funds have also been allocated to obtain right of way for new crossings of the Mississippi River between NW Hennepin and Anoka Counties and of the Minnesota River in the vicinity of Chaska. Construction dollars for these projects are not foreseen before 2030.

- Chapter 5 contains new policies and procedures on managing the scope, cost and revenue sources of projects to insure that sufficient resources are available to implement the region's transportation priorities as shown in this plan. This includes procedures to manage the use of Federal High Priority Project (HPP) funds and matching funds for these federal dollars. The Council and Mn/DOT will monitor scope and costs to ensure major projects continue to meet regional objectives in a cost effective manner.
- The plan envisions significant improvements in the bus system, including new express bus routes, arterial corridor enhancements, suburb-to-suburb service, transit stations, park-and-ride lots and other features. The goal is to increase transit ridership 50 percent by 2020 and double it by 2030.
- The plan proposes additional express commuter bus corridors as well as enhancement and expansion of existing bus service in freeway corridors. Within each corridor, express bus routes will be supported by park-and-ride facilities, circulator networks, and "transit advantages."
- The plan includes construction of five new "transitways" on dedicated rights-of-way by 2020 to help slow the growth in traffic congestion and improve mobility, and three additional transitways by 2030. Unlike the 2001 plan, the technology for each corridor was not identified in the Plan; rather the most appropriate and cost-effective mode for any given corridor is best determined after extensive study of the individual corridor. Figure 4-2 (attached) shows the 2030 Transitway System and Express Commuter Bus System.
- The plan now includes detailed information on the facilities needed for transit passengers, such as stations and park and ride lots, as well as facilities needed to support the transit system, such as garages and bus layover sites (Figures 4-5 and 4-6). Communities should plan for development and redevelopment around stations and park-and-ride lots.
- Policy 18 (previously policy 17) on transportation and land use elements in local comprehensive plans was rewritten and more detail provided in some strategies as to what the Council expects in local comprehensive plans.
- The TPP now includes references to the regional aviation system as defined in the *Aviation Policy Plan*. The 1996 Aviation Policy Plan remains in effect with the exception of the *Land Use Compatibility Guidelines for Aircraft Noise.* These guidelines have been updated and included in the TPP as Appendix H.

System Plan Considerations Affecting Your Community

1. Metropolitan Highways

Metropolitan highways and regional highway investment priorities for 2030 are shown in Figure 4-11. There are no expansion plans for the metropolitan highways located within the city of Burnsville.

2. Transit Routes and Facilities

Burnsville is within the Metropolitan Transit Taxing District. The northern portion of Burnsville is within Market Area II. The southern portion of Burnsville is located in Market Area III. Service options for Market Area II include regular-route locals, all-day expresses, small vehicle

circulators, special needs paratransit (ADA, seniors), and ridesharing. Service options for Market Area III include peak-only express, small vehicle circulators, midday circulators, special needs paratransit (ADA, seniors), and ridesharing.

Burnsville should identify existing transit service (available on the Council's website) and desired future transit service options consistent with the Transportation Policy Plan's transit system service areas (Table 4-1 and Appendix M). ADA paratransit service is provided by Metro Mobility.

Burnsville should list transit corridors (express commuter bus corridors and dedicated right-of-way corridors) and identify opportunities to promote higher density initiatives along dedicated transit corridors (see Figure 4-2). Burnsville is located along the I-35W transitway.

Burnsville should identify existing transit passenger and support facilities and future improvements to and expansion of these facilities. Passenger and support facilities include shelters, transit centers, stations, and park-and-ride lots. Existing park-and-ride lots are located at the Burnsville Transit Station and Heart of the City.

3. Aviation Plan and Facilities

The TPP/APP includes policies and text on protection of the region's airspace resources. The airspace policy states that both Federal Aviation administration (FAA) and MnDOT Aeronautics safety standards must be a major consideration in the planning, design, maintenance and operation of air transportation facilities and services. There are no existing or planned aviation facilities within Burnsville. However, each community has a responsibility to include airspace protection in its comprehensive plan. The protection is for potential hazards to air navigation including electronic interference. Airspace protection should be included in local codes/ordinances to control height of structures, especially when conditional use permits would apply. The comprehensive plan should include policy/text on **notification to the FAA** as defined under code of federal regulations CFR - Part 77, using the FAA Form 7460-1 "Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration". Instructions can be found at www.faa.gov/arp/ace/part77.cfm.

The TPP/APP identifies a region-wide need for additional runway and hangar area improvements for traditional general aviation users, and the new light sport aircraft and very light jets that will soon be joining the fleet. Restrictions on General Aviation development at MSP are still in place and limit growth for aircraft basing and transient operations. Virtually all of that growth is expected to use the region's general aviation airports. Projects associated with this demand should be reflected in future capital improvement programs. The MAC is currently evaluating on-site parcels for potential new [non-aeronautical] revenue opportunities at its reliever airports. In addition, a MAC task force is reviewing their reliever airports, examining such issues as a revenue funding plan, use of outside management, and ability to close and/or sell airports. The city should be involved in those discussions.

The MSP airport's airspace must be protected from potential obstructions and electronic interference to aircraft operations by meeting state requirements. A joint airport/community

zoning board has been organized, an airport zoning district established, and an airport zoning ordinance, including land use safety zoning, adopted/approved that reflects the 2010 development plan. The city should review potential effects on an ordinance from recent changes to MnDOT Rules Chapter 8800.

The Council approved the MSP Airport 2010 long-term comprehensive plan in 1995; it includes a new north/south runway-including a precision instrument landing system, substantial terminal and support facility projects, and a significant noise mitigation program. The airport is connected to central sewer and water systems, has a glycol recovery system in operation, and NPDES permits for both glycol and aircraft fuel control that are to be monitored and re-issued by MPCA as appropriate. A Part 150 program, for DNL 60-64 areas of the 2007 noise exposure map, is being reviewed by the FAA and components of the program are included in Appendix H of the TPP/APP. The new runway 17/35 is scheduled to open in October of 2005. It is expected that the city will be involved in monitoring/participation of noise implementation and mitigation efforts for newly impacted areas and revision to comprehensive plans as appropriate. An update of the noise contours is scheduled for 2007.

It is expected that, after the current MSP 2010 development is in place, that the MAC will update the long-term comprehensive plan and ALP to a new 10 year planning horizon. The city should be involved in these processes to ensure local input to the aviation planning process.

Figure 4-2
2030 Transitway Corridors

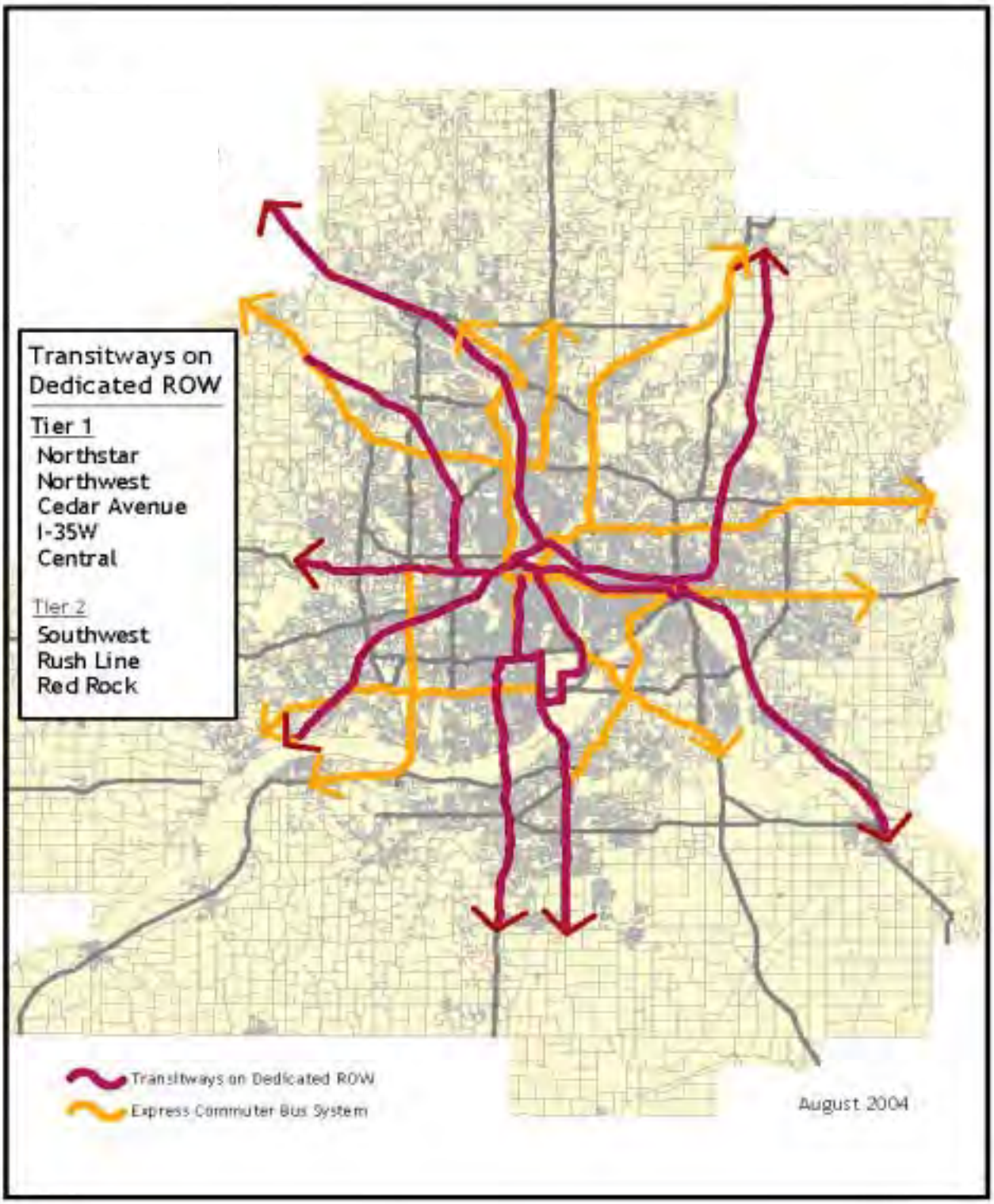


Figure 4-5
Transit Passenger Facilities

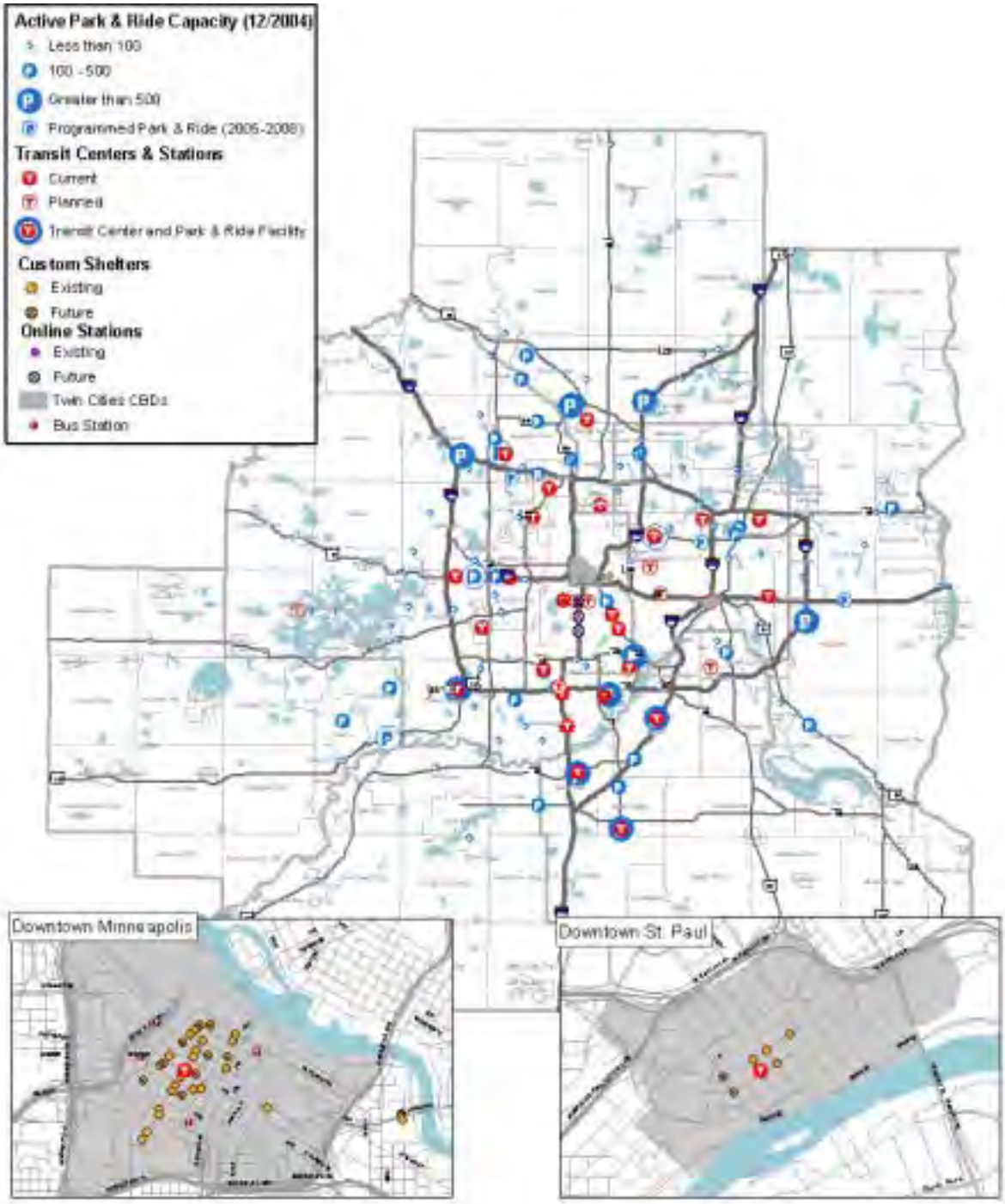


Figure 4-6
Transit Support Facilities

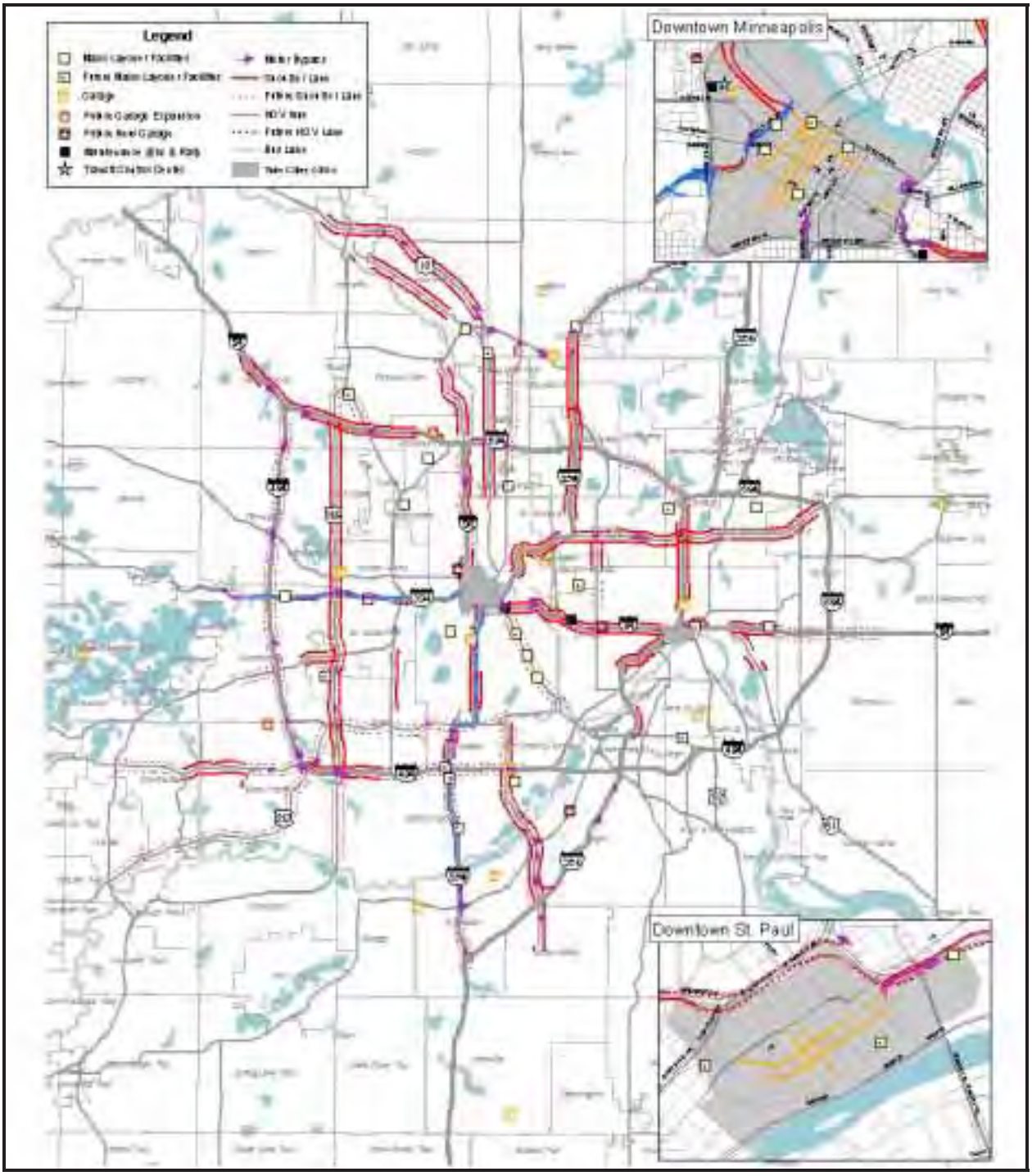


Figure 4-11
2030 Constrained Metropolitan Highway System Plan Investment Priorities

Table 4-1
Transit Market Area Features and Improvements

Market Areas	Land Use Pattern	Service Options	Service Characteristics
I	Highest concentrations of activity, housing and jobs	Regular-route locals, all-day expresses, special needs paratransit (ADA, seniors,) ridesharing	**Frequencies:** 5-15 minute local and circulator **Span of Service:** 18-24 hours, 7 days per week **Access:** Locals spaced 0.25-0.5 mile apart with 8-10 bus stops per mile
II	Moderate concentrations of jobs, housing and activities	Regular-route locals, all-day expresses, small-vehicle circulators, special needs paratransit (ADA, seniors,), ridesharing	**Frequencies:** 15-30 minute or 30-60 minute depending on land use pattern **Span of Service:** 12-20 hours per day, 7 days per week **Access:** Locals spaced 0.5-1.0 mile apart with 6-8 bus stops per mile
III	Generally lower concentrations with intermittent pockets of moderate concentrations (pockets would receive highest service levels)	Peak-only express, small vehicle dial-a-ride, midday circulators, special needs paratransit (ADA, seniors,), ridesharing	**Frequencies:** Peak-period-only expresses, 1-2 hour midday frequencies, dial-a-ride advance registration **Span of Service:** 10-14 hours per day, weekdays and limited weekends **Access:** Services tied to park-and-ride lots and hubs
IV	Lowest concentrations of housing and jobs	Dial-a-ride, volunteer driver programs, ridesharing	**Frequencies:** As needed **Span of Service:** 8-10 hours per days, weekdays **Spacing:** Services tied to park-and-ride and park-and-pool lots

Appendix M.
Regional Transit Standards

Transit Market Areas

While several factors influence the propensity to use transit, the primary predictors of transit productivity are density of origination and destination. There are four categories of transit markets in the metropolitan area. Transit markets in the Twin Cities are identified using four primary criteria: 1) population density, 2) employment concentration and job density, 3) trip volumes and patterns, and 4) transit dependent segments of the population. Different types and levels of transit services should be used for each transit market area.

The region has four distinct market areas. Transit Market Area I has the highest density of population and employment, and is able to effectively support frequent regular route transit service. Because this is the most productive transit service area in the region, it should also be the area that receives a prioritized investment of transit resources.

Transit Market Area	Area Characteristics
Area I	Population Density = 15 or more persons/acre **(or)** Job Density = 50 or more jobs/acre and 10,000 more contiguous jobs
Area II	Population Density = 9 to 14.9 persons/acre augmented by contiguous High Transit Dependency areas
Area III	Population Density = 5 to 8.9 persons/acre (excluding isolated pockets) augmented by: (a) Contiguous areas with Job Density = 10 to 49 jobs/acre and 3,000 or more contiguous jobs **Or** (b) Contiguous areas with Major Travel destinations: 50 or more non-home bound trips/acre
Area IV	Population Density less than 5 persons/acre
Pockets	Areas meeting at least one of the following: 1. Population Density = more than 5 persons/acre (isolated pockets only) 2. Job Density = 10 to 49 jobs/acre and 3,000 or more contiguous jobs (isolated pockets only) 3. Major Travel destinations: 50 or more non-home bound trips/acre (isolated pockets only) 4. High Transit Dependency areas (isolated pockets only)

Transit Market Area II has high to moderate population and employment densities yielding a market area that is conducive to regular route operations and also other forms of transit service delivery.

The lower population and employment densities of Transit Market Areas III, IV, and Pocket areas increase the complexity and challenge of matching transit service to transit need. Due to the lower concentrated demand, it becomes more difficult to provide efficient transit service at reasonable costs in these areas. In the longer term to meet transit needs in suburban and rural settings, we need to promote the right type of land use and development densities that can sustain transit operations.

Transit Markets/Service Options

The table below identifies transit strategies that appear to be most appropriate for the different transit markets that are in the metropolitan area. The service delivery strategies presented are only illustrative and not exhaustive. Detailed analysis of specific communities within the metropolitan area may generate other creative means of delivering effective transit services.

Transit Market Area	Suggested Service Type	Suggested Service Characteristics
Area I	Primary emphasis on big bus/regular route service complemented by paratransit service. Downtown area circulators possible.	*Orientation* – Focus on both CBD's *Availability* – Up to 24 hours/day and 7 days/week *Access* – Route spacing (.25 – .50 miles) with 8-10 bus stops per mile *Frequency* – Generally 5 – 15 minutes
Area II	Primary emphasis on big bus/regular route service complemented by paratransit service. Neighborhood circulators should tie in with limited stop regular route service.	*Orientation* – Link CBD's/suburban transit stations and centers *Availability* – Up to 20 hours/day and 7 days/week *Access* – Route spacing (0.5 – 1.0 miles) with 6-10 stops per mile *Frequency* – Generally 15 – 30 minutes
Area III	A mix of big and small bus/regular route and community circulator service complemented by paratransit service. Community circulators should tie into regular route regional service at a transfer point.	*Orientation* – Link CBD's/suburban transit stations and centers *Availability* – Up to 18 hours/day and Up to 7 days/week *Access* – Route spacing (0.5 – 1.5 miles) with 6-10 stops per mile *Frequency* – Generally 30 – 60 minutes
Area IV	Primary emphasis on: 1) small bus/dial-a-ride service providing county or rural circulation, and 2) community bus service tied to major park-and-ride facilities to create travel volumes.	*Orientation* – Suburb to suburb and central cities *Availability* – Peak-period express and midday circulators; weekday only *Access* – Express routes tied to major park-and-rides/circulators link to transit stations and centers *Frequency* – Advance registration for dial-a-ride services
Pockets	Primary emphasis on 1) small bus service providing community local or dial-a-ride circulation, and 2) commuter bus service may have localized service in addition to linking with major park-and-ride facilities to create travel volumes.	*Orientation* – Localized *Availability* – Varies by pocket; primarily weekday service *Access* – Door-to-door or modified circulation; express routes primarily tied to park-and-ride facilities *Frequency* – Up to 2 hours for circulator services. Advance registration for dial-a-ride

Transit Service Design Standards

A consistent set of transit service design standards ensures regional coordination and consistency. Regional design standards are custom-tailored for each transit market area.

	Area I	Area II	Area III	Area IV	Pockets
Transit Service Options					
Regular Route	*Services Considered:*				
Express	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Radial	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Crosstown	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Circulator	Downtown	Neighborhood	Community	Specific	Specific
Limited Stop	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Specific
Paratransit					
General Public	No	No	Specific	Yes	Yes
Metro Mobility	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Specific
Service Span					
Regular Route	*Days and Times of Service:**				
General Availability	Up to 24 hours	Up to 20 hours	Up to 18 hours	Up to 14 hours	Up to 14 hours
Express	Pk/Day/Nt/Wkend	Peak/Specific	Peak/Specific	Peak Only	Peak Only
Radial	Pk/Day/Nt/Wkend	Pk/Day/Nt/Wkend	Pk/Day/Nt/Specific	N/A	N/A
Crosstown/Circulator	Pk/Day/Nt/Wkend	Pk/Day/Nt/Wkend	Pk/Day/Specific	Specific	Specific
Limited Stop	Peak/Specific	Peak/Specific	Peak/Specific	N/A	N/A
Paratransit					
General Public	N/A	N/A	Specific	Pk/Day/Specific	Pk/Day/Specific
Metro Mobility	Pk/Day/Nt/Wkend	Pk/Day/Nt/Wkend	Pk/Day/Nt/Wkend	Specific	Specific
Service Levels					
Regular Route	*(Miinimum Frequency for New/Existing Routes:*+*				
Express	15” Peak/60” Day	3 Pk Trips/60” Day	3 Pk Trips/Specific	2 Peak Trips	2 Peak Trips
Radial	15” Day/30” Night	30” Day/60” Night	60” Day/Specific	N/A	N/A
Crosstown/Circulator	30” Day/60” Night	30” Day/60” Night	60” Day/Specific	60” Day/Specific	60” Day/Specific
Limited Stop	Specifich	Specific	Specific	N/A	Specific
Paratransit					
General Public	N/A	N/A	Specific	Specific	Specific
Metro Mobility	Specific	Specific	Specific	Specific	Specific

* Minimum service levels must be justified; with loading standards/connectivity dictating frequency above minimum.
\+ In services with 15 minute or less frequency, clocked headways (or consistent departure times) shall be emphasized.

	Area I	Area II	Area III	Area IV	Pockets
Route Spacing					
Regular Route	*Acceptable Range:*				
Express	Specific	Specific	Specific	Specific	Specific
Radial	.25-.50 Miles	.50-1.0 Miles	.50-1.5 Miles	N/A	N/A
Crosstown/Circulator	.50-1.0 Miles	1.0-2.0 Miles	Specific	N/A	Specific
Limited Stop	Specific	Specific	Specific	N/A	N/A
Paratransit					
General Public	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Metro Mobility	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bus Stop Spacing	Relates to local pick-up portion of the route				
Regular Route	Maximum Allowable:*				
Express	8 per Mile	8 per Mile	8 per Mile	P&R or 8 per Mile	P&R or 8 per Mile
Radial	8 per Mile	8 per Mile	8 per Mile	N/A	N/A
Crosstown/Circulator	8 per Mile	8 per Mile	8 per Mile	N/A	8 per Mile
Limited Stop	Specific	Specific	Specific	N/A	N/A
Paratransit					
General Public	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Metro Mobility	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* An allowable exception to standards may be CBD's and major traffic generators.

Bus Stop Siting

Regular Route	Near side stops are preferred in most areas. In CBD's and other high commercial density areas, where traffic movements are major impediments to smooth bus operations, far-side/mid-block stops are generally preferred. Individual stop sites must be evaluated for: 1) traffic conditions in area (i.e., right turns, merging, etc.); 2) curb availability (see stop dimensions table below); and 3) general suitability for stop (i.e., curb cuts, ADA considerations, obstructions, etc.).

Bus Stop Dimensions+	**Mixed Use Stop**	**Small Bus Only Stop**
Near-side Stop	100 ft.	75 ft.
Far-side Stop	120 ft.	90 ft.
Mid-Block Stop	150 ft.	110 ft.

+ Bus stops which have multiple buses stopping at the same time require more space.

Passenger Waiting Shelter Warrant	*Central Cities*	*All Other Areas*
Regular Route	≥40 peak hour boardings	≥25 peak hour boardings

	Area I	Area II	Area III	Area IV	Pockets
Branch Warrant	Route productivity measured as passengers per revenue hour for express and pass. Per revenue mile				
Regular Route	**Minimum Requirement:**				
Express	Specific	15 PPRH & 30”	15 PPRH & 30”	15 PPRH & 30”	15 PPRH & 30”
Radial	1.5 rte. prod. & 30”	1.0 rte. prod. & 30”	0.5 rte. prod. & 60”	N/A	N/A
Crosstown/Circulator	1.5 rte. Prod. & 30”	1.0 rte. prod. & 30”	0.5 rte. prod. & 60”	N/A	N/A
Limited Stop	30” Peak Frequency	15 PPRH & 30”	15 PPRH & 30”	N/A	15 PPRH & 30”
Paratransit					
General Public	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Metro Mobility	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Directness	Express service is measured from beginning of route and compared with average auto travel time (including 10 min. remote parking time). Local service is measured using passenger boardings per mile operated.				
Regular Route	*Minimum Requirement*:				
Express	1.35 Avg Auto Time*	1.35 Avg Auto Time*	1.35 Avg Auto Time*	1.25 Avg Auto Time*	1.35 Avg Auto Time*
Radial	1.0 route product. +	1.0 route product. +	0.5 route product. +	N/A	N/A
Crosstown/Circulator	1.0 route product. +	1.0 route product. +	0.5 route product. +	N/A	N/A
Limited Stop	1.0 route product. +	1.0 route product. +	0.5 route product. +	N/A	N/A
	* Avg. auto time includes assumption of 10 minute remote parking related time. + Increase in trip rides must be greater that thru rides inconvenienced (i.e.: new rides>thru rides). If deviation is more than 3 minutes, new trip rides must exceed extra time for thru riders (i.e., new rides>(thru riders X extra time)).				
Paratransit					
General Public	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Metro Mobility	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Network Transfer Connectivity					
Regular Route	*New Route Design Consideration: (includes peak and midday service only)*				
Express	3-15” w/ all others	Specific	Specific	3-10” at hubs & P&R	3-10” at hubs & P&R
Radial	3-15” w/ all others	3-10” at hubs	3-10” at hubs	N/A	N/A
Crosstown/Circulator	3-15” w/ all others	3-10” at hubs	3-10” at hubs	3-10” at hubs	3-10” at hubs & P&R
Limited Stop	Specific	Specific	3-10” at hubs & P&R	N/A	3-10” at hubs & P&R
Paratransit					
General Public	N/A	N/A	3-10” at hubs	3-10” at hubs	3-10” at hubs
Metro Mobility	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

	Area I	Area II	Area III	Area IV	Pockets

Customer "Peak Period" Load Guidelines

Guidelines are based on maximum load point of route and would be somewhat more flexible on fringe of peak period.

Regular Route	**Minimum and Maximum Targets on a Consistent Basis:***				
Express	70-100% of Seat Cap.	70-100% of Seat Cap.	70-100% of Seat Cap.	70-100% of Seat Cap.	70-100% of Seat Cap.
Radial	85-125% of Seat Cap.	85-125% of Seat Cap.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Crosstown/Circulator	75-115% of Seat Cap.	50-100% of Seat Cap.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Limited Stop	80-110% of Seat Cap.	80-110% of Seat Cap.	N/A	N/A	N/A

* Maximum customer load average over 15 minute period.

Paratransit					
General Public	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Metro Mobility	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Customer "Off-Peak" Load Guidelines

Guidelines are based on maximum load point of route.

Regular Route	**Minimum and Maximum Targets on a Consistent Basis:+**				
Express	65-100% of Seat Cap.	60-100% of Seat Cap.	50-100% of Seat Cap.	50-100% of Seat Cap.	50-100% of Seat Cap.
Radial	60-100% of Seat Cap.	60-100% of Seat Cap.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Crosstown/Circulator	50-100% of Seat Cap.	50-100% of Seat Cap.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Limited Stop	65-100% of Seat Cap.	60-100% of Seat Cap.	50-100% of Seat Cap.	50-100% of Seat Cap.	50-100% of Seat Cap.

+ Maximum customer load average over 30 minute period.

Paratransit					
General Public	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Metro Mobility	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Transit Performance Standards

The primary performance standards to measure service are Subsidy per Passenger and Passengers per In-Service Hour. Performance standards are used to evaluate the relative productivity and efficiency of the services provided. To be responsible and dynamic, a transit system must consistently measure and adjust service in unproductive routes and address insufficient service in productive areas. The use of two regional performance standards provides better insight into the operational and financial performance of individual routes and services.

Subsidy per Passenger

Subsidy or net cost is the difference between the total cost of providing service offset by revenue from passenger fares. Subsidy per passenger represents the net cost divided by the number of passengers using the service. This standard identifies services that are not operating within efficiency ranges and focuses corrective actions for those services. Subsidy thresholds are determined by calculating the non-weighted subsidy per passenger average within each service classification plus fixed percentage deviations from that average.

Threshold No.	Level of Subsity per Passenger Performance	Monitoring Goal	Possible Action
1	20 to 35% over peer average	For Quick Review	Minor Modifications
2	36 to 60% over peer average	For Intense Review	Major Changes
3	More than 60% over peer average	For Significant Change	Restructure/Eliminate

Passengers per In-Service Hour

The passenger per in-service hour standard establishes a minimum threshold of performance for light rail transit, big bus fixed route service, small bus fixed route service and paratransit operations. Passengers per in-service hour represents the total passengers carried divided by the in-service time. This measure is most often calculated at the route level, but can also be measured less rigidly at a trip level.

Type of Service	Average Passengers per In-Service Hour	Minimum Passengers per In-Service Hour
Light Rail Transit	≥70	≥50
Big Bus Fixed Route – All Day	≥20	≥15
Big Bus Fixed Route – Peak Only	≥20	N/A
Small Bus Fixed Route	≥9	≥5
Small Bus Non-Fixed Route	≥3	≥2
Other/Rideshare/Shared Ride Taxi	≤2	N/A

Table 4-11
MnDOT Highway Work Plan, 2009-2013
Major Construction, Reconstruction and Bridge Replacement Greater Than $10 Million

				Project Cost Estimates				
Highway	**Project Description**	**Program**	**Construction Fiscal Year**	**Design Estimate ($000)**	**R/W Estimate ($000)**	**Year-of-Construction Estimate ($000)**	**Construction Engineering Estimate ($000)**	**Total Project Cost ($000)**
35E	I-94 to Maryland Ave. in St. Paul, grading, surfacing, brs., etc., including Cayuga Br. and Phalen Blvd. connection	MC	2010	7,687	Limited	76,755	6,140	90,571
35W	At Lake St. in Minneapolis, reconstruct inter-change (Ph. 1)	MC	2009	1,160	Contin-uous/ Major	11,600	928	13,688
35W	At Lake St. in Minneapolis, reconstruct inter-change (Ph. 2)	MC	2010	1,785	Contin-uous/ Major	17,850	1,428	21,063
36	At Lexington Ave.. in Roseville, replace Br. 5723 and reconstruct interchange	MC	2009	1,380	Limited	13,804	1,104	16,289
100	36th St. to Cedar Lake Rd. in St. Louis Park, grading, surfacing, Brs., etc. for 6-lane freeway	MC	2011	6,150	Contin-uous/ Major	61,500	4,920	72,570
169	Near CSAH 6 in Belle Plaine, grading, surfacing, Br., etc. for new interchange	MC	2010	1,904	Limited	19,040	1,523	22.467
694	E of I35W in Arden Hills to E of Lexington Ave.. in Shoreview, grading, surfacing, Brs., etc. to add third lane and correct weave at TH 10/51	MC	2012	6,960	Minimal/ Spot	69,596	5,568	82,123
TOTALS				27,015		270,145	21,611	318,771

Table 4-12
Regional Priority Projects to Move into
10-Year Highway Work Plan, 2005-2009

Highway	Project Description
I-35E	TH 110 to TH 5, add one through lane
I-494	TH 55 to I-94, add one through lane
TH 610	CSAH 81 to I-94, Complete four-lane freeway
Total: $ 300 million	

Wastewater System Statement -- *Burnsville*

Key Changes in the Plan

The revised *Water Resources Management Policy Plan*, adopted by the Metropolitan Council in March 2005, is the metropolitan system plan for metropolitan wastewater services with which local comprehensive plans must conform. This system statement summarizes significant elements of the metropolitan system plan and highlights those elements that apply specifically to your community. In addition to reviewing this system statement, your community should consult the entire *Water Resources Management Policy Plan*, the *2030 Regional Development Framework* and other pertinent regional planning and policy documents to ensure your community's local comprehensive plan and plan amendments conform to the metropolitan system plans. A PDF file of the entire *Water Resources Management Policy Plan*, the *2030 Regional Development Framework*, the *Local Planning Handbook* and other regional planning and policy documents of the Metropolitan Council are available online at the Metropolitan Council's Web site: http://www.metrocouncil.org/planning/framework/overview.htm.

The revised *Water Resources Management Policy Plan* incorporates the following changes:

- A coordinated approach to water supply planning in the metropolitan area with the goal of providing for a sustainable, reliable and secure supply of high quality water to support orderly economic growth and maintain the region's high quality of life.

- An approach to surface water management that ties together the control of pollution from point and nonpoint sources. Local surface water management plans will be reviewed for impacts on the regional wastewater system.

- A policy under which the Council will consider acquiring and operating local wastewater treatment plants in rural growth centers upon request where enough growth is projected to make it economically feasible for the Council to become involved.

- A plan that provides for cities to reduce excessive inflow and infiltration (I/I) of clear water into the metropolitan sewer system. A financial assistance/surcharge program is included that will provide a funding mechanism to help solve the I/I problem.

- A policy that continues to require inspections of individual sewage treatment systems (ISTS) at least once every three years by trained individuals. In addition, the Council has added further clarification on what is needed in a community's local ISTS management program.

System Plan Considerations Affecting Your Community

1. Metropolitan Sewer Service

Forecasts:

The forecasts of population, households, employment, and wastewater flows for Burnsville as contained in the adopted *Water Resources Management Policy Plan* are listed below. These forecasts are for sewered development. The sewered housing forecasts were estimated based on SAC data, annual city reports, current trends and other information relating to your community. The wastewater flows are based on historical wastewater flow data and the projected sewered housing and employment data.

Table 1

Year	2010	2020	2030
Sewered Population	60,800	62,400	64,400
Sewered Households	24,952	26,778	28,500
Sewered Employment	37,700	41,200	43,300
Average Annual Wastewater Flow (MGD)	5.82	5.84	5.87
Allowable Peak Hourly Flow (MGD)	13.39	13.43	13.5

The flow projections represent the Council's commitment to a level of service, assuming that the Council's underlying demographic forecasts are maintained. Adjustments may be required based on verified growth or lack of growth. The city should contact Council staff to discuss any proposed adjustments. Flow projections do not represent an allocation of interceptor capacity except in the event a temporary system constraint occurs. The community must strive to keep its wet weather flows within the allowable peak hourly rate.

At a minimum the Council will reevaluate flow projections every five years. Moreover, the Council will also continue to monitor each city's flow on a continuous basis and note any significant changes. The Council will use these growth and wastewater flow forecasts to plan all future interceptors and treatment work needed to serve your community. The Council will not design future interceptor improvements or treatment facilities to handle peak hourly flows in excess of the allowable rate for your city. Burnsville, through its comprehensive planning process, must decide the location and staging of development, and then plan and design its local wastewater collection system to serve this development. If you plan a total wastewater flow from your community in excess of the Council's forecasts, your assumptions will be analyzed by the Council for their potential adverse effects on the capacity or operation of the metropolitan system.

You should also note that urban development at overall densities that are substantially lower than identified for your community in the Council's Growth Management Strategy

Section of the Systems Information Statement will also be analyzed by the Council for their potential adverse effects on the cost of providing metropolitan sewer service.

Description of Metropolitan Disposal System Serving your Community:

The attached map shows the location of the Metropolitan Disposal System (MDS) serving your community. The following paragraphs contains information on the existing and planned metropolitan facilities serving your community.

The wastewater flow from the City of Burnsville is treated at the Seneca WWTP located within Eagan, MN. There are many scheduled for the Seneca WWTP through 2030. These projects will improve its ability to meet required permit standards.

The City of Burnsville is served by Council interceptor 7033. This interceptor currently has an available capacity for the long-term needs of the city. The Council has numerous interceptors within the city that provide wastewater services to upstream communities. The Council shows no proposed interceptor improvement projects necessary to serve the 30 years needs of the city. The city needs to verify its long-term needs as part of its comprehensive plan update. If necessary, detailed information regarding metropolitan facilities is available from the Council's Municipal Services Section by calling the staff at (651) 602-1005.

Increases in growth rates and resulting increases in flow beyond those shown in Table 1 may result in short-term capacity limitations within the MDS.

Inflow/Infiltration Reduction Goal

The Council's *Water Resources Management Policy Plan* states that the Council will establish I/I goals for all communities discharging wastewater to the MDS. Communities that have excessive I/I in their sanitary sewer systems will be required to eliminate the excessive I/I by 2012. The Council will begin the implementation of an I/I assistance/surcharge program in 2007. The money collected from the communities with excessive I/I may be used by those communities to remove I/I from their systems. The Council will limit increases in service within those communities that have not met their I/I goal(s) starting in 2013. The Council will meet with the community and discuss this alternative before it is implemented. This time period may be shorter if excessive I/I jeopardizes the Council's ability to convey wastewater without an overflow occurring. In this case the Council may limit increases in service within those communities that have excessive I/I immediately upon notification to the community. The Council plans to implement a wastewater rate demand charge program, starting in 2013, for those communities that have not met their I/I goals. These revenues will be used to help defray the cost of providing attenuation within the MDS to recover the capacity lost to excessive I/I.

The I/I goal established for the City of Burnsville is the allowable peak hourly flow rate as shown in Table 1 and varies based on annual average flow. The Council's metering program shows that the city's 2004 annual average flow was 5.4 mgd. The current I/I goal for your community is an allowable peak hourly flow of 12.47 mgd.

Specific Requirements for the Sewer Element of the City's Comprehensive Plan

The Council has completed a review of the current information in the city's existing comprehensive plan and has determined that the following information is needed to update the sewer element of the city's comprehensive plan/local sewer policy plan:

- A sewer map showing the city's existing service area and proposed trunk sewer system through 2030 and ultimate sewer service area.
- A table showing the projected population, households, employment and flow forecasts for the city for 2010, 2020 and 2030.
- A table showing projected flow forecasts for the city by interceptor for 2010, 2020 and 2030.
- A description of the city's I/I program. What efforts does the city make in the maintenance of its sanitary disposal system? Does the city prohibit the connection of sump pumps, rain leaders and passive drain tile from the sanitary sewer system?

2. Management of Individual Sewage Treatment Systems

The Metropolitan Land Planning Act requires the sewer element (local sewer policy plan) of the local comprehensive plan to describe the standards and conditions under which the installation of individual sewage treatment systems will be permitted and to the extent practicable, the areas not suitable for public or private systems.

The new *Water Resources Management Policy Plan* states that the appropriate density for development with individual sewage treatment systems depends on the suitability of the soils to treat wastewater and whether space is available for a primary and back up drainfield. It is the Council's position that all municipalities and counties allowing individual sewage treatment systems should incorporate current MPCA regulations (Minn. Rules Chapter 7080) as part of a program for managing individual sewage treatment systems in the sewer element of their local comprehensive plan and implement the standards in issuing permits. Burnsville should adopt a management program consistent with state rules. An overview of Burnsville's management program must be included in the community's local comprehensive plan update. If adequate information on the management program is not included; the comprehensive plan will be found incomplete for review until the required information is provided to the Council.

3. Surface Water Management

In 1995, Minnesota Statutes section 473.859, subd. 2, was amended to make the local surface water management plan required by Minnesota Statutes section 103B.235 a part of the land use plan of the local comprehensive plan. Section 103B.235 provides that a local surface water management plan should be prepared once a watershed plan for the area has been approved. Section 103B.235 also generally identifies the content requirements for the plan. The local surface water management plan must be submitted to both the watershed management organization(s) within whose watershed the community is located and to the Metropolitan Council for its review. For guidelines on the contents of local surface water management plans, please refer to Appendix B2-b of the Council's *Water Resources Management Policy Plan.*

Council records indicate that Burnsville is in the Lower Minnesota Watershed District, the Black Dog Watershed Management Organization, and the Vermillion River Joint Powers Board Planning Area (see attached map). The Lower Minnesota River watershed plan was approved by BWSR in 1999. The Black Dog watershed plan was approved by BWSR in 2002. The Vermillion River Joint Powers Board is currently updating its watershed plan. The plan should be approved in 2005 or 2006. Therefore, Burnsville will be required to update its local surface water management plan by the end of 2007 or 2008. The city's plan should be submitted to the Council for its review concurrent with the review by the watershed organizations. Failure to have an updated local surface water management plan consistent with the local surface water management plan content requirements found in Appendix B2-b of the *Water Resources Management Policy Plan* will result in a metropolitan system impact.

The Council also updated its priority lake list that was first developed in the 1980s as part of the *Water Resources Management Policy Plan* update. There are 2 priority lakes, Crystal and Lac Lavon, in Burnsville. The Council uses the priority lake list to focus its limited resources. The list is also used in the environmental review process. Where a proposed development may impact a priority lake, the project proposer must complete a nutrient budget analysis for the lake as part of the environmental review process.

Advisories

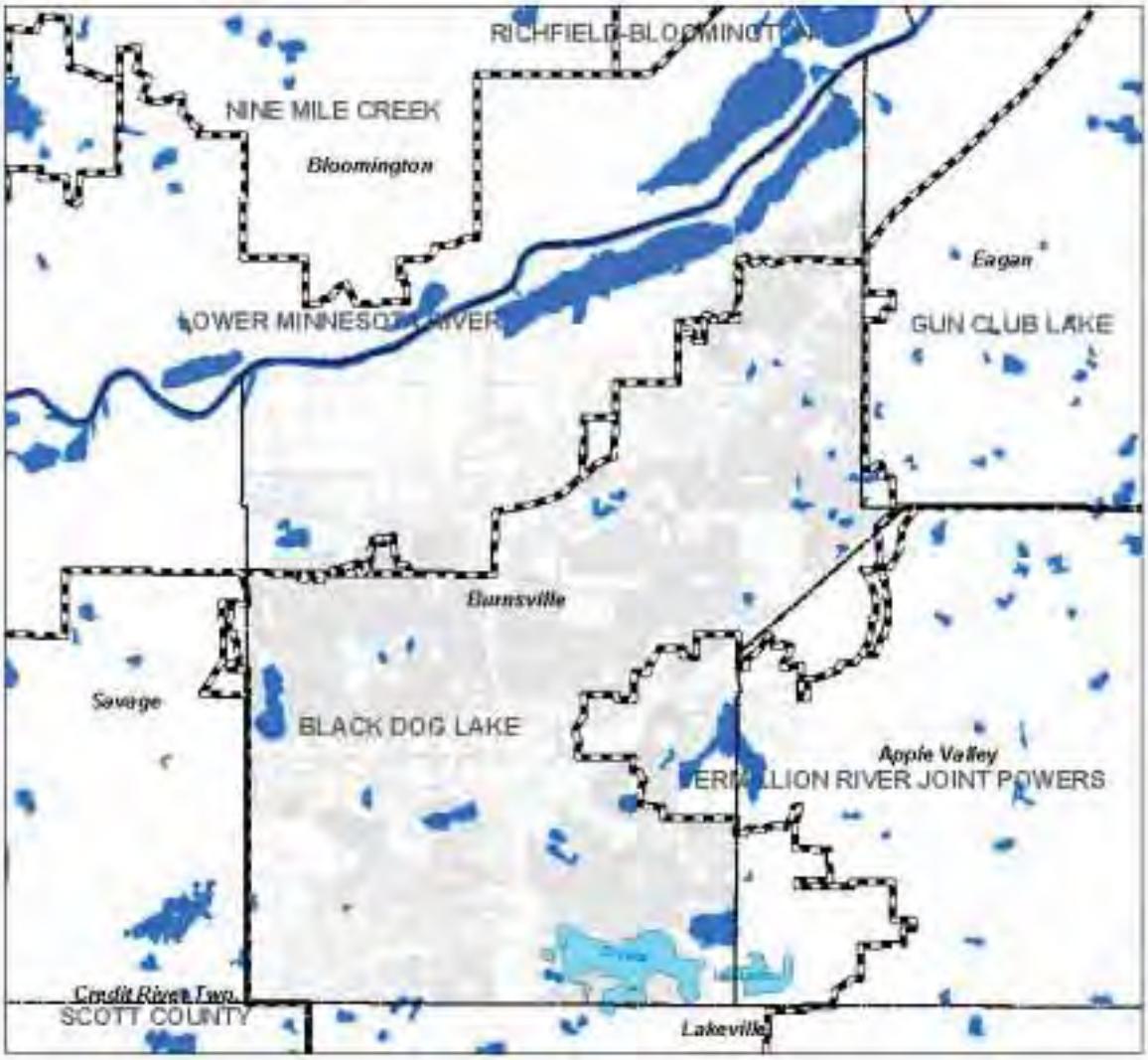
1. Water Supply Planning

Minnesota Statutes section 473.859, subd.3 requires cities with a municipal water supply system to develop a water supply and conservation plan and submit it to the Council for its review. Communities serving more than 1,000 people are required by Minnesota Statutes section 103G.291 to submit the emergency and conservation plan to the Department of Natural Resources. The guidelines for water supply plan updates were released in 2005. Burnsville needs to update its local water supply plan consistent with the new guidelines and submit the water supply plan to the Council for its review. For contents of local water supply plans, please refer to Appendix B2-c of the Council's *Water Resources Management Policy Plan.*

Burnsville

MCES Meter
MCES Interceptor
Meter Shed
M501A
U630
Framework 2030
Developed Area
Developing Area
Rural Residential

Burnsville


RICHFIELD-BLOOMINGTON
NINE MILE CREEK
Bloomington
Eagan
LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER
GUN CLUB LAKE
Burnsville
Savage
BLACK DOG LAKE
Apple Valley
VERMILLION RIVER JOINT POWERS
Credit River Twp.
SCOTT COUNTY
Lakeville

Watershed Management
Priority Water Features
Community Boundary
Parcel Boundary
Service Area

Regional Parks System Statement
City of Burnsville

Key Changes in the Plan

The *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan* adopted by the Metropolitan Council in June 2005 is the metropolitan system plan for regional recreation open space with which local comprehensive plans must conform. This system statement summarizes significant elements of the metropolitan system plan and highlights those elements that apply specifically to your community. In addition to reviewing this system statement, your community should consult the entire *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan*, the *2030 Regional Development Framework* and other pertinent regional planning and policy documents to ensure your community's local comprehensive plan and plan amendments conform to the metropolitan system plans. A PDF file of the entire *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan*, the *2030 Regional Development Framework*, the *Local Planning Handbook* and other regional planning and policy documents of the Metropolitan Council are available online at the Metropolitan Council's website: http://www.metrocouncil.org/planning/framework/timeline.htm.

To meet the needs of the region in 2030, the *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan* includes the following changes to the current regional parks system.

✓ **Designate two existing county parks and three trails as "regional."**

- In Washington County, Pine Point Park
- In Ramsey County, Tony Schmidt Park
- In Ramsey County/St. Paul, three regional trails – Trout Brook, Summit Avenue, and Lexington Parkway

✓ **Acquire and develop three new parks. Search areas include:**

- Northwestern Anoka County
- Empire Township in Dakota County. Please note that the Metropolitan Council approved a park master plan and a boundary for the park has been established.
- Blakeley Township in Scott County

✓ **Acquire and develop seven new trails. Search areas include:**

- The Crow River, in Carver County and Three Rivers Park District
- Both a north/south and an east/west trail traversing Dakota County
- An east/west trail traversing Scott County
- In Three Rivers Park District, a trail connecting parts of Baker Park Reserve; a trail connecting Baker and Crow-Hassan Park Reserves; and a trail connecting Crow-Hassan and Elm Creek Park Reserves

✓ **Acquire land within the current boundaries of 30 existing parks and four trails.**

✓ **Acquire natural-resource lands adjacent to six existing parks and six existing trails.**

To meet the needs of the region beyond 2030, the Council proposes four new regional parks or reserves and three new trails be acquired. These parks and trails would not be developed until after 2030, but the opportunity to acquire them will likely be lost if the lands aren't identified and purchased before 2030. The goal is to complete the acquisition of the regional park system and secure opportunities for future generations. Search areas include:

- ✓ **Parks – Miller Lake area and Minnesota River Bluff and Ravines in Carver County; southwestern Dakota County; and Cedar Lake area in Scott County.**

- ✓ **Trails – northwestern Anoka County; central to south Carver County; and Minnesota River to Spring Lake in Scott County.**

Figure 1: All additions and changes to Regional Park System Plan

1. Regional Park System Plan Considerations Affecting Your Community

Regional parks and trails in your community

The following regional parks and trails within Burnsville as contained in the adopted *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan* are listed below.

Table 1: Regional Parks and Trails in Burnsville

Regional Park or Trail Unit Name	Master plan boundary of unit is set. Comprehensive plan should acknowledge boundary	Master plan boundary is not set. Comprehensive plan should acknowledge general location with final boundary or alignment subject to park or trail master plan
Murphy-Hanrehan Regional Park Reserve	X	
Dakota South Urban Regional Trail		X
Scott County East Regional Trail		X
Big River Regional Trail (Extension)		X

Murphy-Hanrehan Regional Park Reserve – This is an existing regional park reserve with an established park boundary. The park boundary as shown in Figure 2 should be acknowledged in the city's comprehensive plan. This park reserve is managed by Three Rivers Park District. Jonathan Vlaming is the contact person from Three Rivers Park District. He can be reached at 763 694-7632.

Dakota South Urban Regional Trail – This is a proposed regional trail that will eventually connect to Murphy-Hanrehan Regional Park Reserve, the Minnesota Zoo, Lebanon Hills Regional Park, the Mississippi River Regional Trail and Spring Lake Regional Park Reserve. The Regional Trail does not have an approved master plan yet. Dakota County will conduct a master planning process in the future to determine the trail alignment. The county will include Apple Valley and others in this process. The general alignment of the trail as shown in Figure 2 should be acknowledged in the city's comprehensive plan. Steve Sullivan, Dakota County Parks Director is the contact person for Regional Park facilities in Dakota County. He can be contacted at 952-871-7088.

Scott County East Regional Trail - This is a proposed regional trail to connect Murphy-Hanrehan Regional Park Reserve north to the Minnesota River through the north east corner of Scott County and western Burnsville in Dakota County. The general alignment of the trail as shown in Figure 2 should be acknowledged in the city's comprehensive plan. Steve Sullivan, Dakota County Parks Director is the contact person for Regional Park facilities in Dakota County. He can be contacted at 952-871-7088.

Big River Regional Trail (Extension) – The *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan* includes six regional park boundary adjustments and seven regional trail boundary adjustments. One of the proposed trail adjustments is to extend the Big Rivers Regional Trail south to Scott County. Dakota County will conduct a master planning process in the future to determine the trail alignment. The county will include Burnsville and others in this process. The general alignment of the trail as shown in Figure 2 should be acknowledged in the city's comprehensive plan. Steve Sullivan, Dakota County Parks Director is the contact person for Regional Park facilities in Dakota County. He can be contacted at 952-871-7088.

State and Federal lands

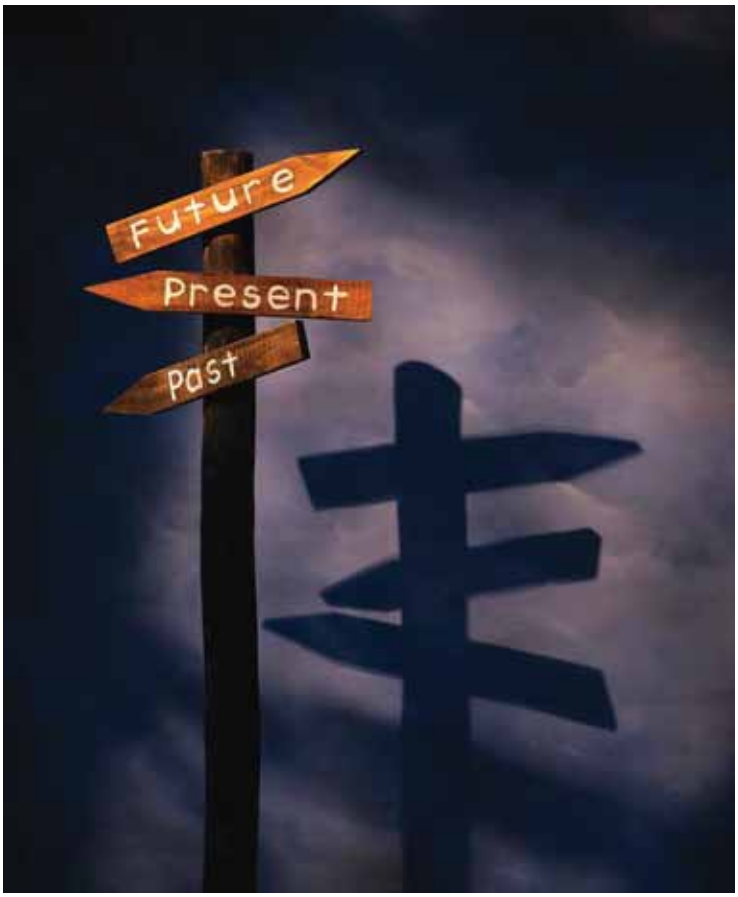
The following State and Federal park and open space units provide outdoor recreation opportunities and natural resource conservation for the public and are considered part of the regional recreation open space system. These facilities as shown in Figure 2 should be acknowledged in the city's comprehensive plan.

- Minnesota Valley State Trail and Recreation Area – Minnesota DNR
- Minnesota Valley National Wildlife and Recreation Area – US Fish & Wildlife Service
- Black Dog Scientific and Natural Area – Minnesota DNR

For more information about the DNR sites call 651-296-6157. For more information about the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge call 952-854-5900.

Figure 2 shows the location of all parks and trails listed above in Burnsville, plus any parks and trails adjacent to the city's border.

Figure 2: Map of Burnsville with regional parks and trails in and adjacent to the city

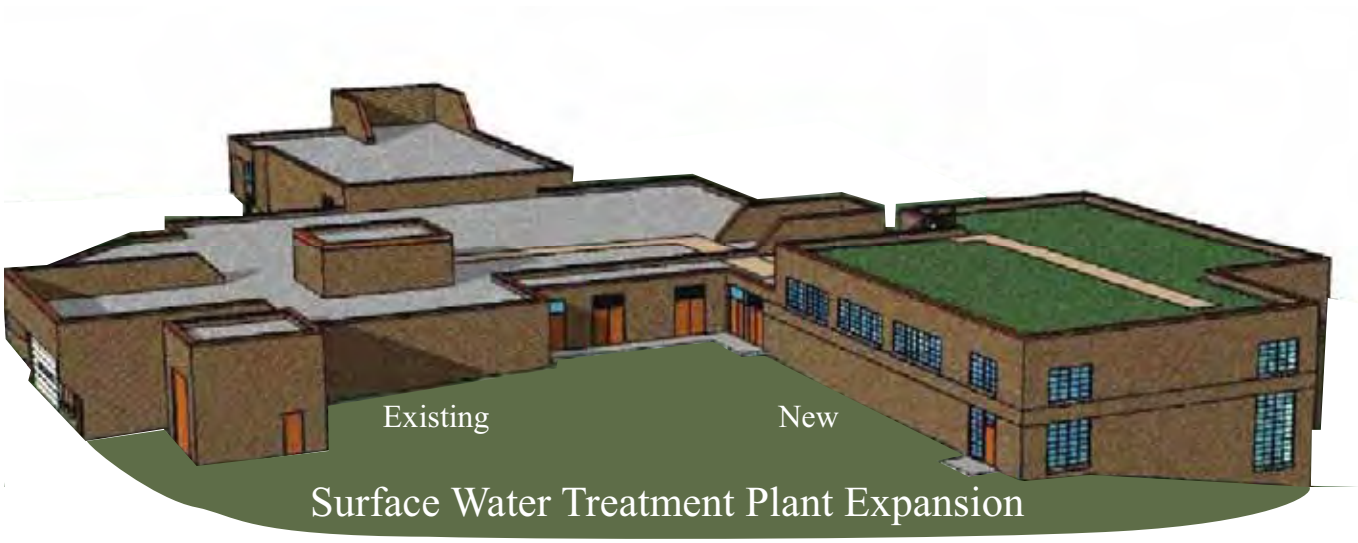


APPENDIX E – BURNSVILLE C.I.P. 2008-2012

DECEMBER 17, 2007

CITY OF BURNSVILLE
2030
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

CITY OF BURNSVILLE



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

2008 – 2012

Adopted
12/17/07

CITY COUNCIL

Elizabeth B. Kautz, Mayor
Charlie Crichton
Dan Gustafson
Dan Kealey
Liz Workman

CITY STAFF

Craig Ebeling, City Manager
Tom Hansen, Deputy City Manager
Tammy Omdal, Chief Financial Officer
Bud Osmundson, Director of Public Works/City Engineer
Bonnie Buck, Engineering Assistant

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PLAN POLICY OVERVIEW

1. Introduction

2. Sources of Revenue Summary

- This table shows all of the proposed funding sources proposed for financing the proposed improvements outlined in the CIP each year. The table also shows the extent each funding source is contributing each fiscal year.

3. Projects by Funding Source Summary

- This table shows the proposed projects categorized by their funding source. The table also shows the funding source(s) and the extent of the funding source that will be financing each project.

4. Individual Projects by Department & Funding Source

- This table shows the proposed individual projects with their funding source listed below. The table also shows the funding source(s) and the extent of the funding source that will be financing each project.

5. Un-Programmed

- This table shows the proposed individual projects that are not scheduled for any certain year or funding source identified at this time.

6. Parks

- This table provides a summary of proposed renovations and improvements to City parks.

7. Vehicles, Equipment, and Facilities

- This table provides a summary of replacement schedules for city property including the following:
  - Replacement schedule for city vehicles and large equipment
  - Improvements and large maintenance items for city buildings and facilities
- The table provides a summary of proposed revenue sources.

8. Maps & Diagrams

- Maps of the proposed Street Reconstruction and Rehabilitation areas
- Well Rehabilitation Matrix diagram

CITY OF BURNSVILLE
2008 – 2012
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

INTRODUCTION

The City of Burnsville has prepared this plan as decision information consistent with the City's Governance Model. The City of Burnsville believes that it is necessary to annually review and update its Capital Improvements Plan. The information contained herein is the result of the City Council's desire to establish Ends and Outcomes that answer the questions: What Good, for What People, at What Cost.

The CIP is an important part of the implementation of specific projects. It is important to remember this document is only a plan. Subsequent project specific considerations and actions must be made by the Council prior to the implementation of individual projects.

WHAT GOOD

This plan includes the scheduling of public improvements for the community over a five-year period, taking into consideration the community's financial capabilities as well as its goals and priorities. The CIP is directly linked to the goals and policies of the City's Comprehensive Plan and acts as a work plan for the City's staff. The primary objective of this plan is to integrate the specific goals, policies and Council recommendations with the City's capability to pay for and maintain capital improvements.

WHAT PEOPLE

The demand for services and the cost of building and maintaining the City's infrastructure continues to increase. No City can afford to accomplish every project or meet every service demand. Therefore, a methodology must be employed that identifies a realistic mix of Commercial and Residential needs and a financing plan to meet those needs. This plan attempts to prioritize improvements to the City's infrastructure so Burnsville continues to be a community with an effective, multi-modal transportation system that connects people and goods with their destination points, and an infrastructure system that continues to provide high quality service to the City's businesses and residents.

WHAT COSTS

In 1994 the City Council adopted a Financial Management Plan which establishes policies and procedures in the areas of the CIP and debt management. The CIP development process is set forth as follows:

- Compile and prioritize projects. Staff will consolidate and prioritize recommended projects into the proposed plan.
- Devise funding sources for proposed projects. Recommended funding sources will be clearly stated for each project.

As part of the project development process, the City Council will evaluate the feasibility of each individual project and determine if it is consistent with the proposed financing plan and appropriate for implementation.

City of Burnsville, Minnesota

Capital Improvements Plan

2008 thru 2012

FUNDING SOURCE SUMMARY

Source	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
2005 HPP Funds	800,000	800,000				*1,600,000*
City of Savage	2,300,000					*2,300,000*
Dakota County	110,000	260,000	250,000			*620,000*
EDA	200,000	200,000				*400,000*
Infrastructure Trust Funds	2,500,000	3,050,000	3,000,000	2,450,000	2,850,000	*13,850,000*
MSAS Funds	555,000	1,370,000	400,000	1,800,000	550,000	*4,675,000*
SAFTEA-LU				800,000		*800,000*
Special Assessments	1,285,000	1,250,000	950,000	1,650,000	2,900,000	*8,035,000*
St. Light Utility Revenue Bonds	1,250,000					*1,250,000*
St. Lighting Utility	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	*200,000*
Storm Water Utility	1,875,000	1,040,000	1,715,000	1,565,000	1,365,000	*7,560,000*
Storm Water Utility Bonds	3,600,000		2,250,000			*5,850,000*
Street Revolving Fund		50,000				*50,000*
TIF 1 & 2	85,000			200,000		*285,000*
TIF 1 & 2 Bonding	2,980,000					*2,980,000*
Water & Sewer Funds	7,425,000	3,440,000	3,340,000	990,000	3,590,000	*18,785,000*
Water & Sewer Revenue Bonds	3,000,000					*3,000,000*
Water & Sewer State Bonding Grant	5,500,000					*5,500,000*
GRAND TOTAL	**33,505,000**	**11,500,000**	**11,945,000**	**9,495,000**	**11,295,000**	***77,740,000***

City of Burnsville, Minnesota

Capital Improvements Plan

2008 thru 2012

PROJECTS BY FUNDING SOURCE

Source	Project#	Priority	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
2005 HPP Funds								
TH 13/CSAH 5 Interchange (Eng/ROW)	*05-105*	n/a	800,000	800,000				*1,600,000*
2005 HPP Funds Total			**800,000**	**800,000**				***1,600,000***
City of Savage								
Surface Water Treatment Plant	*05-WS*	n/a	2,000,000					*2,000,000*
CSAH 42 Watermain Interconnect w/ Savage 03-808	*06-WS*	n/a	300,000					*300,000*
City of Savage Total			**2,300,000**					***2,300,000***
Dakota County								
CSAH 11/146th Street	*05-Sig*	n/a		110,000				*110,000*
McAndrews/Burnhaven	*06-Sig*	n/a		150,000				*150,000*
CR42 Street Lights	*07-202*	n/a	55,000					*55,000*
Cliff Rd./Nicollet Ave. (Signal & Turn Lanes)	*07-Sig*	n/a			250,000			*250,000*
Cty. Rd. 11 /134th Street (Turn Lanes)	*08-Sig*	n/a	55,000					*55,000*
Dakota County Total			**110,000**	**260,000**	**250,000**			***620,000***
EDA								
TH 13/CSAH 5 Interchange (Eng/ROW)	*05-105*	n/a	200,000	200,000				*400,000*
EDA Total			**200,000**	**200,000**				***400,000***
Infrastructure Trust Funds								
Street Reconstruction	*08-101*	n/a	2,000,000	2,550,000	2,500,000	1,950,000	2,350,000	*11,350,000*
St. Rehabilitation	*08-102*	n/a	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	*2,500,000*
Infrastructure Trust Funds Total			**2,500,000**	**3,050,000**	**3,000,000**	**2,450,000**	**2,850,000**	***13,850,000***
MSAS Funds								
Burns. Pkwy. /Pillsbury Ave.	*01- Sig*	n/a				300,000		*300,000*
Judicial/Southcross	*02-Sig*	n/a					300,000	*300,000*
Nic Ave/126th St Signal	*03-Sig*	n/a		250,000				*250,000*
Judicial Road S/155th Street Construction	*03-Street*	n/a		350,000				*350,000*
150th Street/Burnhaven	*04-Sig*	n/a		400,000				*400,000*
CSAH 11/146th Street	*05-Sig*	n/a		110,000				*110,000*
McAndrews/Burnhaven	*06-Sig*	n/a		150,000				*150,000*
Cliff Rd./Nicollet Ave. (Signal & Turn Lanes)	*07-Sig*	n/a			250,000			*250,000*
St. Rehabilitation	*08-102*	n/a	510,000	110,000	150,000	1,500,000	250,000	*2,520,000*
Cty. Rd. 11 /134th Street (Turn Lanes)	*08-Sig*	n/a	45,000					*45,000*

Source	Project#	Priority	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
MSAS Funds Total			**555,000**	**1,370,000**	**400,000**	**1,800,000**	**550,000**	***4,675,000***
SAFTEA-LU								
Ped. Crossing @ T.H. 13 & Nicollet	*01 C\T Exp.*	n/a				800,000		*800,000*
SAFTEA-LU Total						**800,000**		***800,000***
Special Assessments								
Judicial Road S/155th Street Construction	*03-Street*	n/a		250,000				*250,000*
Black Dog Rd	*04-Street*	n/a					1,400,000	*1,400,000*
CR42 Street Lights	*07-202*	n/a	85,000					*85,000*
Street Reconstruction	*08-101*	n/a	900,000	750,000	700,000	650,000	750,000	*3,750,000*
St. Rehabilitation	*08-102*	n/a	300,000	250,000	250,000	500,000	250,000	*1,550,000*
MN River Quadrant Ponds	*12-SWM*	n/a				500,000	500,000	*1,000,000*
Special Assessments Total			**1,285,000**	**1,250,000**	**950,000**	**1,650,000**	**2,900,000**	***8,035,000***
St. Light Utility Revenue Bonds								
St. Lights Southcross Dr.\Burnhaven	*02 Street*	n/a	1,250,000					*1,250,000*
St. Light Utility Revenue Bonds Total			**1,250,000**					***1,250,000***
St. Lighting Utility								
St. Lighting Replacement	*01 Street*	n/a	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	*200,000*
St. Lighting Utility Total			**40,000**	**40,000**	**40,000**	**40,000**	**40,000**	***200,000***
Storm Water Utility								
Water Quality Imp.	*01-SWM*	n/a	20,000	20,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	*115,000*
Storm Water Basin/Sediment Trap - 27th & Hayes	*02-SWM*	n/a					400,000	*400,000*
Control Structure Blackdog Fen	*03-SWM*	n/a				100,000		*100,000*
Rupp Drive Storm Water Pond	*04-SWM*	n/a			800,000			*800,000*
Alimagnet - Pond 1A Improvement (CF)	*05-SWM*	n/a	20,000					*20,000*
Aquatic Plant Harvester	*06-SWM*	n/a		150,000				*150,000*
Lac Lavon Park - Water Quality Improvement (CF)	*07-SWM*	n/a	40,000					*40,000*
Street Reconstruction	*08-101*	n/a	325,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	*1,725,000*
St. Rehabilitation	*08-102*	n/a	50,000	50,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	*280,000*
Lateral Drainage Modifications	*08-301*	n/a	170,000	70,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	*480,000*
Pond Cleanout/Outfall Improvement Program	*08-305*	n/a	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	*1,500,000*
Raleigh Drive Storm Sewer Improvement	*08-306*	n/a	100,000					*100,000*
River Hills Storm Sewer Improvement	*08-307*	n/a	650,000					*650,000*
Rain Gardens in Priority Watersheds	*10-SWM*	n/a		50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	*200,000*
Wood Pond Projects	*11-SWM*	n/a	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	*250,000*
Sunset Pond Study & Projects	*13-SWM*	n/a				50,000	50,000	*100,000*
Surface Water Treatment Plant Green Roof Install	*14-SWM*	n/a	150,000					*150,000*
MN River Bluff - Add/Enhance Existing Ponds	*15-SWM*	n/a				500,000		*500,000*
Storm Water Utility Total			**1,875,000**	**1,040,000**	**1,715,000**	**1,565,000**	**1,365,000**	***7,560,000***
Storm Water Utility Bonds								
Twin Lakes Projects	*08-SWM*	n/a			2,250,000			*2,250,000*

Source	Project#	Priority	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
Earley Lake Projects	*09-SWM*	n/a	2,600,000					*2,600,000*
MN River Quadrant Ponds	*12-SWM*	n/a	1,000,000					*1,000,000*
Storm Water Utility Bonds Total			**3,600,000**		**2,250,000**			***5,850,000***
Street Revolving Fund								
T.H. 13/Nicollet Avenue	*09-Sig*	n/a		50,000				*50,000*
Street Revolving Fund Total				**50,000**				***50,000***
TIF 1 & 2								
Ped. Crossing @ T.H. 13 & Nicollet	*01 C\T Exp.*	n/a				200,000		*200,000*
CR42 Street Lights	*07-202*	n/a	85,000					*85,000*
TIF 1 & 2 Total			**85,000**			**200,000**		***285,000***
TIF 1 & 2 Bonding								
CSAH 42 - Segment 8 (Mainline Const.)03-803	*03-803*	n/a	2,530,000					*2,530,000*
CSAH 42 Segment 8 (Mainline Eng.) 03-806	*03-806*	n/a	450,000					*450,000*
TIF 1 & 2 Bonding Total			**2,980,000**					***2,980,000***
Water & Sewer Funds								
Trunk Water main - Plant to 130th St.	*01-WS*	n/a	450,000					*450,000*
Northwest Loop	*02- WS*	n/a			450,000			*450,000*
Well Repair	*03-WS*	n/a	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	*1,000,000*
Reservoir Rehab (CF)	*04-WS*	n/a	400,000					*400,000*
Surface Water Treatment Plant	*05-WS*	n/a	2,500,000					*2,500,000*
CSAH 42 Watermain Interconnect w/ Savage 03-808	*06-WS*	n/a	300,000					*300,000*
150th Street Watermain	*07-WS*	n/a		250,000				*250,000*
Street Reconstruction	*08-101*	n/a	3,150,000	2,950,000	2,650,000	750,000	3,350,000	*12,850,000*
St. Rehabilitation	*08-102*	n/a	125,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	*285,000*
Buck Hill Water Tank/Geo-Tech Wall	*08-WS*	n/a	200,000					*200,000*
Existing Water Treatment Plant Roof Replacement	*09-WS*	n/a	100,000					*100,000*
Water & Sewer Funds Total			**7,425,000**	**3,440,000**	**3,340,000**	**990,000**	**3,590,000**	***18,785,000***
Water & Sewer Revenue Bonds								
Surface Water Treatment Plant	*05-WS*	n/a	3,000,000					*3,000,000*
Water & Sewer Revenue Bonds Total			**3,000,000**					***3,000,000***
Water & Sewer State Bonding Grant								
Surface Water Treatment Plant	*05-WS*	n/a	5,500,000					*5,500,000*
Water & Sewer State Bonding Grant Total			**5,500,000**					***5,500,000***
GRAND TOTAL			**33,505,000**	**11,500,000**	**11,945,000**	**9,495,000**	**11,295,000**	***77,740,000***

City of Burnsville, Minnesota

Capital Improvements Plan

2008 thru 2012

PROJECTS & FUNDING SOURCES BY DEPARTMENT

Department	Project#	Priority	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
Collector\Thoroughfare Exp.								
Ped. Crossing @ T.H. 13 & Nicollet	01 C\T Exp.	n/a				1,000,000		1,000,000
SAFTEA-LU						***800,000***		***800,000***
TIF 1 & 2						***200,000***		***200,000***
CSAH 42 - Segment 8 (Mainline Const.)03-803	03-803	n/a	2,530,000					2,530,000
TIF 1 & 2 Bonding			***2,530,000***					***2,530,000***
CSAH 42 Segment 8 (Mainline Eng.) 03-806	03-806	n/a	450,000					450,000
TIF 1 & 2 Bonding			***450,000***					***450,000***
TH 13/CSAH 5 Interchange (Eng/ROW)	05-105	n/a	1,000,000	1,000,000				2,000,000
2005 HPP Funds			***800,000***	***800,000***				***1,600,000***
EDA			***200,000***	***200,000***				***400,000***
Collector\Thoroughfare Exp. Total			**3,980,000**	**1,000,000**		**1,000,000**		***5,980,000***
Intersection Improvement								
Burns. Pkwy. /Pillsbury Ave.	01- Sig	n/a				300,000		300,000
MSAS Funds						***300,000***		***300,000***
Judicial/Southcross	02-Sig	n/a					300,000	300,000
MSAS Funds							***300,000***	***300,000***
Nic Ave/126th St Signal	03-Sig	n/a		250,000				250,000
MSAS Funds				***250,000***				***250,000***
150th Street/Burnhaven	04-Sig	n/a		400,000				400,000
MSAS Funds				***400,000***				***400,000***
CSAH 11/146th Street	05-Sig	n/a		220,000				220,000
Dakota County				***110,000***				***110,000***
MSAS Funds				***110,000***				***110,000***
McAndrews/Burnhaven	06-Sig	n/a		300,000				300,000
Dakota County				***150,000***				***150,000***
MSAS Funds				***150,000***				***150,000***
Cliff Rd./Nicollet Ave. (Signal & Turn Lanes)	07-Sig	n/a			500,000			500,000
Dakota County					***250,000***			***250,000***
MSAS Funds					***250,000***			***250,000***
Cty. Rd. 11 /134th Street (Turn Lanes)	08-Sig	n/a	100,000					100,000
Dakota County			***55,000***					***55,000***
MSAS Funds			***45,000***					***45,000***
T.H. 13/Nicollet Avenue	09-Sig	n/a		50,000				50,000
Street Revolving Fund				***50,000***				***50,000***
Intersection Improvement Total			**100,000**	**1,220,000**	**500,000**	**300,000**	**300,000**	***2,420,000***
Storm Water Mgmt.								
Water Quality Imp.	01-SWM	n/a	20,000	20,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	115,000
Storm Water Utility			***20,000***	***20,000***	***25,000***	***25,000***	***25,000***	***115,000***

Department	Project#	Priority	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
Storm Water Basin/Sediment Trap - 27th & Hayes	02-SWM	n/a					400,000	400,000
Storm Water Utility							***400,000***	***400,000***
Control Structure Blackdog Fen	03-SWM	n/a				100,000		100,000
Storm Water Utility						***100,000***		***100,000***
Rupp Drive Storm Water Pond	04-SWM	n/a			800,000			800,000
Storm Water Utility					***800,000***			***800,000***
Alimagnet - Pond 1A Improvement (CF)	05-SWM	n/a	20,000					20,000
Storm Water Utility			***20,000***					***20,000***
Aquatic Plant Harvester	06-SWM	n/a		150,000				150,000
Storm Water Utility				***150,000***				***150,000***
Lac Lavon Park - Water Quality Improvement (CF)	07-SWM	n/a	40,000					40,000
Storm Water Utility			***40,000***					***40,000***
Lateral Drainage Modifications	08-301	n/a	170,000	70,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	480,000
Storm Water Utility			***170,000***	***70,000***	***80,000***	***80,000***	***80,000***	***480,000***
Pond Cleanout/Outfall Improvement Program	08-305	n/a	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	1,500,000
Storm Water Utility			***300,000***	***300,000***	***300,000***	***300,000***	***300,000***	***1,500,000***
Raleigh Drive Storm Sewer Improvement	08-306	n/a	100,000					100,000
Storm Water Utility			***100,000***					***100,000***
River Hills Storm Sewer Improvement	08-307	n/a	650,000					650,000
Storm Water Utility			***650,000***					***650,000***
Twin Lakes Projects	08-SWM	n/a			2,250,000			2,250,000
Storm Water Utility Bonds					***2,250,000***			***2,250,000***
Earley Lake Projects	09-SWM	n/a	2,600,000					2,600,000
Storm Water Utility Bonds			***2,600,000***					***2,600,000***
Rain Gardens in Priority Watersheds	10-SWM	n/a		50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	200,000
Storm Water Utility				***50,000***	***50,000***	***50,000***	***50,000***	***200,000***
Wood Pond Projects	11-SWM	n/a	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	250,000
Storm Water Utility			***50,000***	***50,000***	***50,000***	***50,000***	***50,000***	***250,000***
MN River Quadrant Ponds	12-SWM	n/a	1,000,000			500,000	500,000	2,000,000
Special Assessments						***500,000***	***500,000***	***1,000,000***
Storm Water Utility Bonds			***1,000,000***					***1,000,000***
Sunset Pond Study & Projects	13-SWM	n/a				50,000	50,000	100,000
Storm Water Utility						***50,000***	***50,000***	***100,000***
Surface Water Treatment Plant Green Roof Install	14-SWM	n/a	150,000					150,000
Storm Water Utility			***150,000***					***150,000***
MN River Bluff - Add/Enhance Existing Ponds	15-SWM	n/a				500,000		500,000
Storm Water Utility						***500,000***		***500,000***
Storm Water Mgmt. Total			**5,100,000**	**640,000**	**3,555,000**	**1,655,000**	**1,455,000**	***12,405,000***
Street Projects								
St. Lighting Replacement	01 Street	n/a	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	200,000
St. Lighting Utility			***40,000***	***40,000***	***40,000***	***40,000***	***40,000***	***200,000***
St. Lights Southcross Dr.\Burnhaven	02 Street	n/a	1,250,000					1,250,000
St. Light Utility Revenue Bonds			***1,250,000***					***1,250,000***
Judicial Road S/155th Street Construction	03-Street	n/a		600,000				600,000
MSAS Funds				***350,000***				***350,000***
Special Assessments				***250,000***				***250,000***
Black Dog Rd	04-Street	n/a					1,400,000	1,400,000
Special Assessments							***1,400,000***	***1,400,000***
CR42 Street Lights	07-202	n/a	225,000					225,000
Dakota County			***55,000***					***55,000***
Special Assessments			***85,000***					***85,000***

Department	Project#	Priority	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
TIF 1 & 2			*85,000*					*85,000*
Street Reconstruction	08-101	n/a	6,375,000	6,600,000	6,200,000	3,700,000	6,800,000	*29,675,000*
Infrastructure Trust Funds			*2,000,000*	*2,550,000*	*2,500,000*	*1,950,000*	*2,350,000*	*11,350,000*
Special Assessments			*900,000*	*750,000*	*700,000*	*650,000*	*750,000*	*3,750,000*
Storm Water Utility			*325,000*	*350,000*	*350,000*	*350,000*	*350,000*	*1,725,000*
Water & Sewer Funds			*3,150,000*	*2,950,000*	*2,650,000*	*750,000*	*3,350,000*	*12,850,000*
St. Rehabilitation	08-102	n/a	1,485,000	950,000	1,000,000	2,600,000	1,100,000	*7,135,000*
Infrastructure Trust Funds			*500,000*	*500,000*	*500,000*	*500,000*	*500,000*	*2,500,000*
MSAS Funds			*510,000*	*110,000*	*150,000*	*1,500,000*	*250,000*	*2,520,000*
Special Assessments			*300,000*	*250,000*	*250,000*	*500,000*	*250,000*	*1,550,000*
Storm Water Utility			*50,000*	*50,000*	*60,000*	*60,000*	*60,000*	*280,000*
Water & Sewer Funds			*125,000*	*40,000*	*40,000*	*40,000*	*40,000*	*285,000*
Street Projects Total			**9,375,000**	**8,190,000**	**7,240,000**	**6,340,000**	**9,340,000**	***40,485,000***
Water System								
Trunk Water main - Plant to 130th St.	01-WS	n/a	450,000					*450,000*
Water & Sewer Funds			*450,000*					*450,000*
Northwest Loop	02- WS	n/a			450,000			*450,000*
Water & Sewer Funds					*450,000*			*450,000*
Well Repair	03-WS	n/a	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	*1,000,000*
Water & Sewer Funds			*200,000*	*200,000*	*200,000*	*200,000*	*200,000*	*1,000,000*
Reservoir Rehab (CF)	04-WS	n/a	400,000					*400,000*
Water & Sewer Funds			*400,000*					*400,000*
Surface Water Treatment Plant	05-WS	n/a	13,000,000					*13,000,000*
City of Savage			*2,000,000*					*2,000,000*
Water & Sewer Funds			*2,500,000*					*2,500,000*
Water & Sewer Revenue Bonds			*3,000,000*					*3,000,000*
Water & Sewer State Bonding Grant			*5,500,000*					*5,500,000*
CSAH 42 Watermain Interconnect w/ Savage 03-808	06-WS	n/a	600,000					*600,000*
City of Savage			*300,000*					*300,000*
Water & Sewer Funds			*300,000*					*300,000*
150th Street Watermain	07-WS	n/a		250,000				*250,000*
Water & Sewer Funds				*250,000*				*250,000*
Buck Hill Water Tank/Geo-Tech Wall	08-WS	n/a	200,000					*200,000*
Water & Sewer Funds			*200,000*					*200,000*
Existing Water Treatment Plant Roof Replacement	09-WS	n/a	100,000					*100,000*
Water & Sewer Funds			*100,000*					*100,000*
Water System Total			**14,950,000**	**450,000**	**650,000**	**200,000**	**200,000**	***16,450,000***
GRAND TOTAL			**33,505,000**	**11,500,000**	**11,945,000**	**9,495,000**	**11,295,000**	***77,740,000***

City of Burnsville, Minnesota

Capital Improvements Plan

2008-2012

PENDING PROJECTS

	Project Cost
Minnesota River Quadrant Projects	
Embassy Road Improvements from Cliff to Black Dog	10,000,000
Phase I CSAH 5 Ext. 05-103 & 05-104	6,000,000
Lady Bird Lane	750,000
CH 5 Extension Phase II	27,000,000
118th Street and Box Culvert Road	4,000,000
Levee @ MN River	5,000,000
TH 13/CSAH 5 Interchange (Const.)	27,000,000
I35W Interchange	40,000,000
Chowen Ave/TH13 Intersection Improvements	9,500,000
MRQ Local Streets and Utilities	14,800,000
MRQ Storm Water Management Infrastructure	5,000,000
MRQ Subtotal	**149,050,000**
Miscellaneous Projects	
Judicial Road/Williams Drive Intersection Improvmt	250,000
Heart of the City (NW Parking Ramp)	6,000,000
Maple Island Lift Station	200,000
Pedestrian Bridge Diffley & T.H. 13	1,000,000
Gateway Monument Signs	400,000
CSAH 42 Fence & Retaining Wall	200,000
Pedestrian Bridge Cty Rd 11/TH 13	1,000,000
Misc. Subtotal	**9,050,000**
GRAND TOTAL	**158,100,000**

Capital Improvements Plan
City of Burnsville, Minnesota
Department Summary

Parks Capital
2008 thru 2012

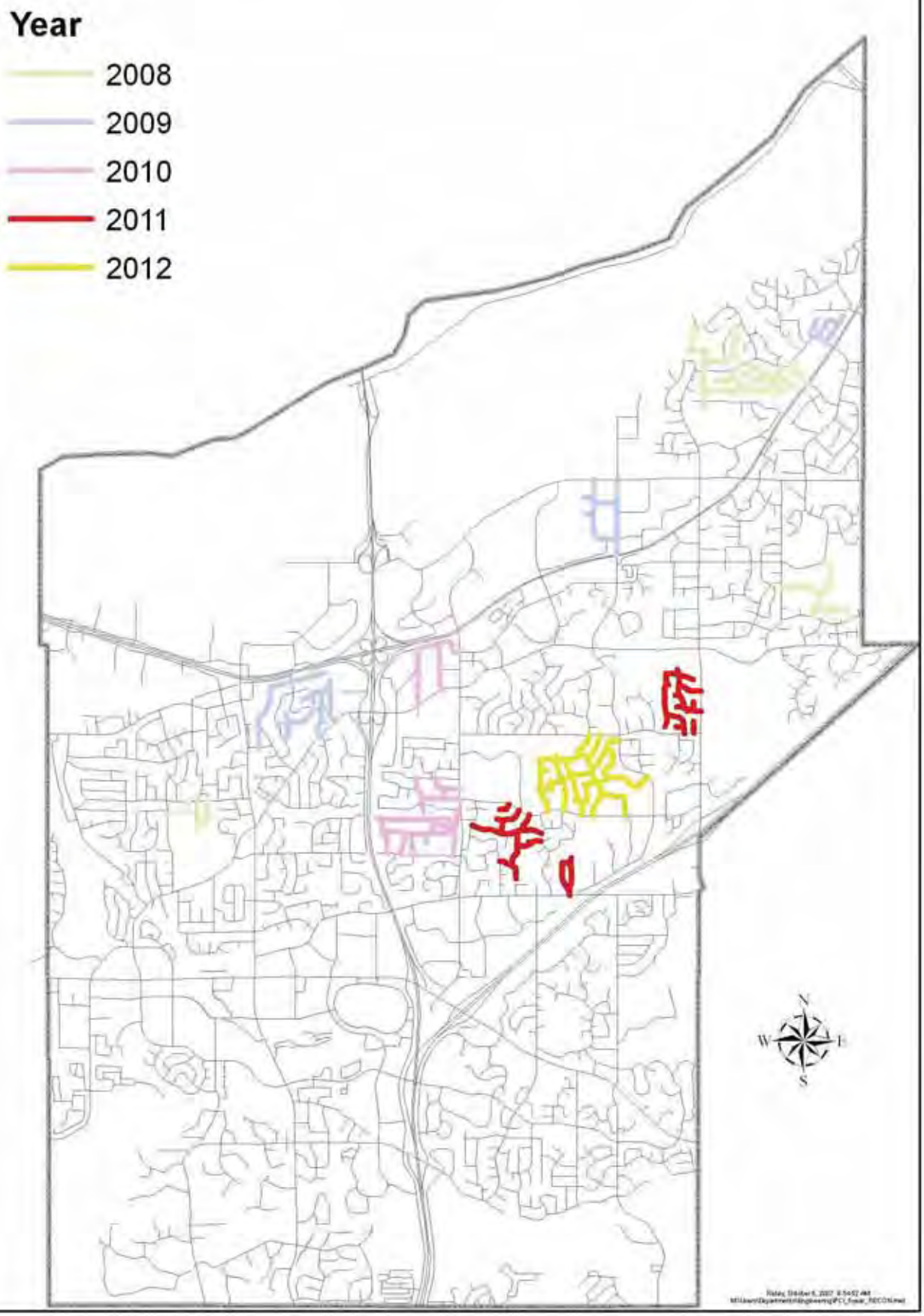
Summary of Future Needs	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Park Renovations					
General park renovation/amenities	31,500	33,000	34,500	36,000	37,500
Bituminous & concrete surfaces	73,900	183,000	417,300	320,600	453,550
Fencing			34,500	78,700	
Hockey rinks	31,500	33,000	38,500	36,000	37,500
Lighting systems	281,300	147,000	230,000	42,000	
Play equipment	153,000	173,000		174,300	196,250
Structures & buildings	33,600	58,000	55,200	18,000	
Tennis court resurfacing	25,200	33,000		14,400	25,200
	630,000	660,000	810,000	720,000	750,000
Park Improvements					
Basic park amenities	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Neill improvements					
Sue Fischer building & bituminous					
Black Dog parking lot		65,000			
Nicollet Commons Park - improvements to vault	150,000				
Lions Park - Parkway & Nicollet	20,000				
Soccer field lighting			150,000		
Vista View building			30,000		
Park trail - Tennisioux to Blackdog			165,000		
Park trail - Blackdog to 12th Avenue				165,000	
Lac Lavon restrooms & concession stand				250,000	
Lac Lavon scoreboards on E & F					25,000
Kraemer Nature Preserve picnic shelter					55,000
Sunset Pond Park permanent fishing dock					20,000
Wood Park picnic shelter					45,000
Crystal West - hard surface trail					60,000
MN Riverfront Park hard surface parking lot					40,000
Lighted soccer field					150,000
	180,000	75,000	355,000	425,000	405,000
Trail System Development					
Northeast connection - Diffley to N. River Hills Park	300,000				
Northeast connection - N. River Hills Park to Cty 11		300,000			
	300,000	300,000	-	-	-
Total Parks Capital	1,110,000	1,035,000	1,165,000	1,145,000	1,155,000

Capital Improvements Plan
City of Burnsville, Minnesota
EQUIPMENT, VEHICLES, FACILITIES
2008 thru 2012

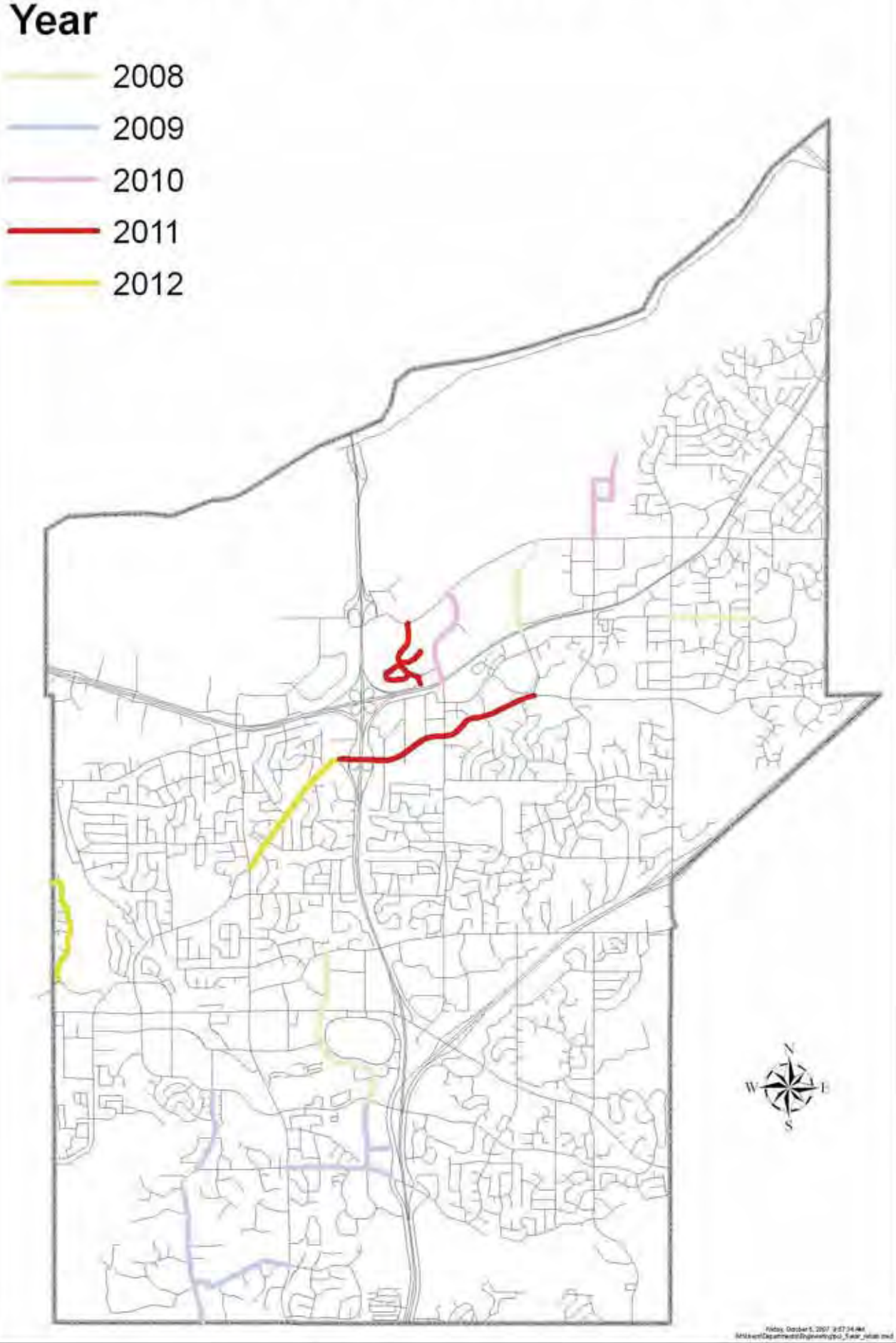
Summary of Future Needs	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Facilities					
Fire Station #1 Bay Additions		600,000			
City Hall Roof Replacement				451,000	
City Garage - add bathrooms to middle bay		100,000			
City Garage - bathroom renovation		60,000			
City Hall basement renovation		40,000			
City Hall security / alarm system replacements			80,000		
Accustical Ceiling replacement			60,000		
Replace boiler / heat plant					50,000
Other facility replacements needs	76,200	30,500	32,000	9,000	
Bond issuance costs		20,000			
	76,200	850,500	172,000	460,000	50,000
Funding Sources:					
Bonding - Building		*620,000*			
Pay-go funding / general fund	*76,200*	*230,500*	*172,000*	*460,000*	*50,000*
Equipment & Vehicles					
Police	227,020	237,370	166,304	144,324	195,000
Fire	67,000	92,157	120,000		
EMS	137,500		143,638	32,000	144,000
Inspections		18,000	55,500	19,000	
Streets	325,500	223,000	200,000	685,000	335,000
Parks	292,856	442,750	294,000	238,000	322,000
Maintenance facility equipment		12,800	30,000		
Recreation					25,000
	1,049,876	1,026,077	1,009,442	1,118,324	1,021,000
Funding Sources:					
Pay-go funding	*1,006,676*	*1,026,077*	*1,009,442*	*1,033,324*	*975,000*
Water & Sewer	*43,200*			*85,000*	*46,000*
Maintenance Facility Expansion	3,720,000				
Funding Sources:					
Bond Proceeds	*847,000*				
General Fund	*828,000*				
Water & Sewer Fund	*1,815,000*				
Storm Water Fund	*330,000*				
Pay-go funding	*(100,000)*				
Youth Center Expansion		1,000,000			
Funding Sources:					
General Fund		*500,000*			
Youth Center Fundraising		*400,000*			
Youth Center Fund Balance		*100,000*			
	4,846,076	2,876,577	1,181,442	1,578,324	1,071,000

Summary of Revenue Sources	2008	2009	2010	2010	2010
Bond Proceeds	847,000	620,000	-	-	-
Pay-Go funding	982,876	1,256,577	1,181,442	1,493,324	1,025,000
General Fund	828,000	500,000	-	-	-
Water & Sewer	1,858,200	-	-	85,000	46,000
Storm Drainage	330,000	-	-	-	-
Youth Center	-	500,000	-	-	-
	4,846,076	2,876,577	1,181,442	1,578,324	1,071,000

5 YEAR RECONSTRUCTION PLAN



5 YEAR REHABILITATION PLAN



WELL REHAB MATRIX

Last Done Rehab	Well	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1997	1							X					
2004	2					X							X
2003	3					X							
2001	4		X							X			
2002	5			X							X		
2002	6				X								X
2003-Emergency	7				X							X	
2000	8	X							X				
2004-Emergency	9				X						X		
2002	10			X								X	
2004	11				X						X		
2003	12			X							X		
2000	13		X							X			
2004-Emergency	14	X						X					
1999	15							X					
2001	16	X							X				
	17							X					

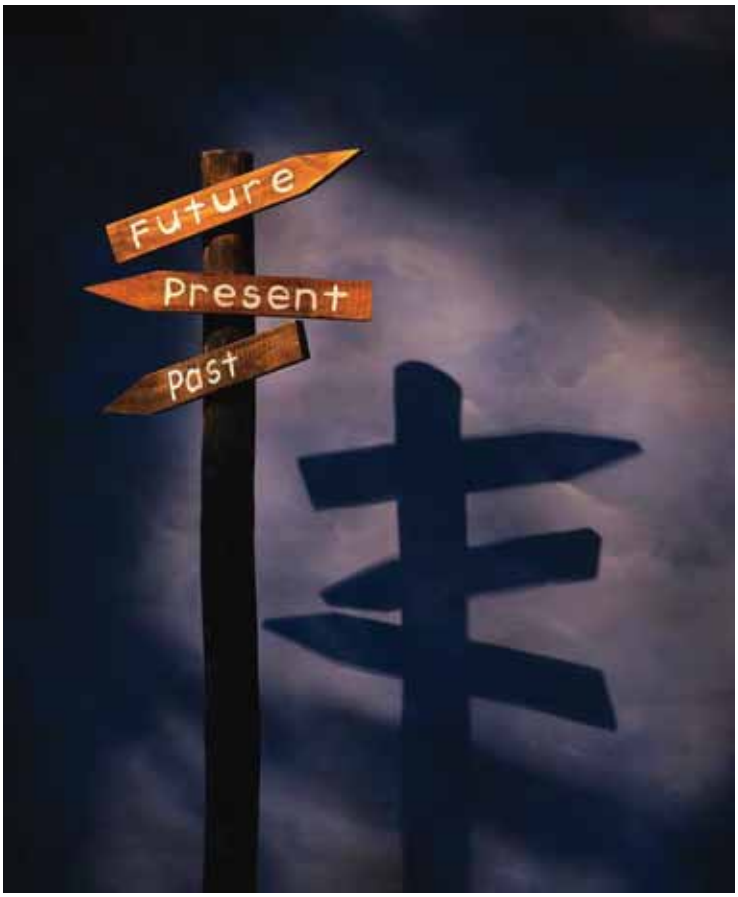
Well 9,11 and 14 - 6 Year Cycle - Well 3,6,and 19 - 8 Year Cycle

City of Burnsville, Minnesota

Capital Improvements Plan

CARRY FORWARD

Department	Project#	Previously Allocated	Spent	Carry Forward to 2008
Intersection Improvement				
Burn. Pkwy/35W Signals (07-502)	*3-Sig.*	350,000	0	*350,000*
Intersection Improvement Total				**350,000**
Storm Water Mgmt.				
Terrace Oaks Park Drainage Diversion (05-402)	*03-SWM*	605,000	0	605,000
Burnsville Center Area Ponding	*10- SWM*	3,800,000	1,000,000	*2,800,000*
Kraemer Trail Project (99-402) (Nature Center)	*15-SWM*	53,000	0	53,000
Alimagnet - Pond 1A Improvement	*16- SWM*	390,000	30,000	*360,000*
Lac Lavon Park - Water Quality Improvement	*18 SWM*	40,000	0	*40,000*
Storm Water Mgmt. Total				***3,858,000***
Water System				
VFD - WTP 5 & 6 (06-311)	*01 WS*	525,000	0	*525,000*
Reservoir Rehab	*05 WS*	850,000	0	*850,000*
Valving Sys-Eliminates 2MG Stand Pipe 06-313	*09 WS*	150,000	0	*150,000*
Water System Total				***1,525,000***
GRAND TOTAL				***5,733,000***



APPENDIX F – BURNSVILLE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY VISIONING PROJECT

DECEMBER 2006

CITY OF BURNSVILLE
2030
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Burnsville for the 21st Century Visioning Project

Final Report

December 2006

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PREFACE

The Challenge

It is not every day citizens are asked to help design their community's future. Yet, in early 2006, that is exactly what 120 brave volunteers agreed to do for Burnsville.

This isn't the first time. Burnsville has a history of strong citizen involvement. In 1988 and again in 1996, the City asked citizens to outline the kind of future they wanted for themselves and their children. The most recent effort, Partnerships for Tomorrow, resulted in an impressive document establishing six major theme areas and 64 detailed Action Plans for the community to pursue. After reviewing the remarkable progress made on those plans, the City Council decided it was time again to revisit the future launching *Burnsville for the 21st Century.*

A visioning process is important now for many reasons. In the lifecycle of cities, Burnsville is nearing middle age. It is almost completely built out. Burnsville faces the unique challenges and exciting opportunities of a mature city: infrastructure maintenance and replacement; redevelopment; environmental protection; neighborhoods renewal and preservation; cultural diversity; and an aging population, to name just a few. It is imperative to determine that the vision the City uses to set priorities is the vision shared by its residents and stakeholders.

The Process

The net was cast far and wide to encourage attendance at the Burnsville for the 21st Century kickoff meeting in June 2006. Faith communities, civic organizations, community groups, schools, the business community and individual residents were invited through personal invitation, posters and flyers, newspaper ads, newspaper articles, City publications, City website and cable television public service announcements.

The kickoff meeting was facilitated by Jim Benson, President Emeritus of Bemidji State University. Benson dynamically engaged the crowd in answering three questions: "What are we good at?", "What are we passionate about?", and "What will bring us prosperity?" (Based on Jim Collins' *Good to Great*). Attendees were asked to contemplate our assets, capabilities and abilities, and identify the resources on which to build the

future of Burnsville. The attendees generated 676 ideas that day and volunteered to continue working on committees to help build Burnsville's vision for the 21st Century.

In July, 2006, committees were convened in seven theme areas (six of which were created during the Partnerships for Tomorrow effort): Youth, Transportation, Safety, Neighborhoods, Environment, Development and City Services. They concluded their meetings in November 2006. The initial committee meeting began with City staff giving a "state of the City" update. In addition, each committee member was given the current Ends and Outcomes, the Partnerships for Tomorrow report, the update to Council on Partnerships for Tomorrow, the kickoff meeting "Good to Great" ideas and any other information or data that was requested. This provided background information for each committee to begin work.

An additional all-committee informational and educational meeting was conducted in September 2006. This environmental scan provided the committees with information on sustainability, demographic trends and economic forecasts. To explore another layer of the community, a CEO Focus Group was also convened in September 2006. Leading officials from some of Burnsville's largest employers discussed Burnsville's strengths and opportunities from a business perspective.

The Goal

The overall goal of this process was to engage citizens and stakeholders in defining the kind of community we should be actively seeking to attain with far-reaching and future-thinking vision statements and goals. Staff worked with committee members to envision an ideal place, look to the future and see the picture of Burnsville from a "40,000 foot level".

At times potential funding tools or funding sources were considered and in turn documented. However, it was not the mission of these committees to be tactical or to assign funding priorities in each theme area. On the contrary, these committees identified long-term vision statements and broad reaching goals. Strategies were suggested to help clarify the intent of the goals, and measurement tools were added so outcomes could be clearly identified.

The Future

This document will serve as a reference tool for future strategic planning when the City of Burnsville, Burnsville City Council and City of Burnsville staff are determining tactics. Each section of this report has a relatively similar format. The Discussion section summarizes and clarifies the rationale behind the vision, goals and strategies. The terms “strategies” and “action steps” have been used synonymously throughout the document. Also, “success measures”, “success index” and “measurement tools” have all been used in a similar way to measure or define success for each goal.

In some cases the committees had duplicate ideas. Instead of segmenting the work, it seemed to make a greater statement about the importance of an idea or goal if it occupied two different sections of the report. Duplicate ideas that had relevance across themes were neither encouraged nor discouraged.

Timelines were not identified in this report because not all goals can realistically be achieved simultaneously; some goals were identified as on-going or long-term with the City Council ultimately determining funding strategies, timelines and priorities in each Theme area.

Committees asked that City staff prepare a progress report every five years, similar to the progress report for PFT that was presented to Council in March 2006. Committee members asked to be provided with the progress report and/or be notified of the Council meetings when this report would be discussed.

Past visioning processes have laid the expectations for the *community* of Burnsville. The City has worked diligently to fulfill those expectations. The past visioning projects established significant goals that have been dreamed and accomplished. The Burnsville for the 21st Century visioning project will no doubt bear similar results.

The Burnsville for the 21st Century final report is a valuable planning tool that will guide and shape the future of Burnsville for years to come.

Youth Committee

Committee Members:

- Joe Duea - Chair
- Alan Spillers - Vice Chair
- Sandi Novak
- Golda Kosi Onyeneho
- Vicki Roy
- Andrea Sjogren
- Tom Taylor
- Connie Erickson
- Sharon Diedrich
- John Seipp
- Helen Waldock
- Diondria Duckett
- Trevor Ramlow
- Jessie Patterson

City Staff: Gary Harker, JJ Ryan, Eric Billiet, Bridget Dalrymple

Introduction:
It was a pleasure to have youth serving on this Youth Visioning Committee. The perspective they brought to the group on what is important to youth, today and into the future, was invaluable. This insight laid the foundation upon which the committee formed the vision, the goal, strategies, action steps and measurement tools for the future of youth in Burnsville.

There were numerous times when committee members began to strategize about which system and philosophy should be undertaken, how the work group should be formed, what tasks the work group should undertake, how the communications plan should be implemented and what funding opportunities are available to youth committees. This visioning project has motivated people who are excited about carrying forward these goals for youth. The underlying strategic work in this report does not rest on one organization, however, it is an effective and efficient use of the City's resources to initiate and be a catalyst for bringing individuals and organizations together who work toward this vision for youth in Burnsville.

This is not about a new program but about a new philosophy in the way we view our youth in this community. Therefore, there is only one goal for this committee that is repeated on every page. It is a broad goal that truly captures all of what this committee hopes can be accomplished for the future of Burnsville youth. By creating a system and philosophy from which programs, organizations, stakeholders, individuals, families and the entire community can work, then the vision for the youth of Burnsville can be realized.

YOUTH VISION: Burnsville is a community where all youth are valued and thrive.

YOUTH GOAL: Develop a coordinated and sustainable system and philosophy that promotes the healthy development of all Burnsville youth.

Youth Strategy A: Organize a youth committee or work group made up of both youth and adults.

Discussion: Many of the committee members currently serve, work or volunteer with youth-serving organizations and are familiar with youth development philosophies and systems. The committee feels strongly, as evidenced in the goal statement, that a new system and philosophy needs to be created in Burnsville. The committee discussed existing systems and philosophies (such as the Search Institute's 40 Developmental Assets) to adopt in carrying forward the goal.

Fostering an overarching system and philosophy that the entire community can embrace is essential. There is a need to combine resources and energy and share information and ideas among existing and any new youth-serving or youth-interested organizations. The committee wanted these organizations and the entire community to work toward a common vision of youth development and subscribe to an overarching, guiding approach. The City could serve as a catalyst to bring these organizations together and engage community partners.

- **Action Steps:**
  - Include youth, businesses, civic groups, members of the faith community, schools and health organizations who are representatives of the community of Burnsville as valuable partners and committee volunteers and organizers.
  - Identify who and what each potential work group member represents.
  - Group should meet on a regular basis.
  - Group should determine roles and responsibilities of engagement in the initiative.

YOUTH GOAL: Develop a coordinated and sustainable system and philosophy that promotes the healthy development of all Burnsville youth.

Youth Strategy B: Create and implement a strategic communications plan to increase awareness and educate the community with regard to asset development and the overall campaign and system.

Discussion: A communications plan needs to be developed so that the information sharing, program offerings and opportunities for youth can be shared throughout the community. An information hub was suggested so that residents could find answers and information in one location. This is one strategy in a broader communications need. It is important that the information be available to diverse populations and that the communications initiative be easily identifiable in terms of a recognizable brand, name or logo. There would need to be careful consideration in the related messages being communicated so as to reach all segments of the community.

- **Action Steps:**
  - Develop and utilize web sites, newsletters, public service announcements, newspapers, logo, etc. to relay information about initiative.
  - Create an identity for the youth initiative and begin to use the materials in publications.
  - Make sure that communication is cognizant of diversity within the community. Analyze whether communication is capturing and reflecting diversity in community.
  - Communication should include information on how people might be involved and how everyone can contribute to a community that supports youth.
  - Communication should include timely information about activities and events that support healthy youth development.
  - Develop collateral materials that illustrate the importance of a youth-serving initiative.
  - Information and communication should be housed in an accessible place that people know about and have continual contact with.

YOUTH GOAL: Develop a coordinated and sustainable system and philosophy that promotes the healthy development of all Burnsville youth.

Youth Strategy C: Recruit, support and develop collaborative networks, partners and volunteers in the community.

Discussion: The Committee discussed the importance of having all segments of the community buy into the system and philosophy, working toward developing youth that are active and productive members of society. Even businesses and senior populations should be encouraged to support youth in Burnsville, be active, volunteer and take ownership whenever possible. By creating these networks there are more opportunities for youth to be involved, which was directly identified as a high priority from the younger committee members involved in this project.

- **Action Steps:**
  - Make certain that every home, school, business, church and individual takes ownership for what they can provide to ensure a healthy community for youth.
  - Make certain that all are committed to asset development in youth to whatever degree they are able to be involved.
  - Seek out what exists and what needs to be done to enhance what we already have with regard to youth. Determine how we move from a good youth-serving community to an ideal youth-serving community.
  - Build the capacity and capability of individuals, schools, community groups, businesses, health organizations and the faith community to develop assets in Burnsville youth.
  - Influence community decision makers and opinion leaders to leverage financial, media, policy and other resources in support of this system and philosophy.
  - Establish liaisons on the Chamber of Commerce, City Council and other civic group as deemed necessary.
  - Encourage inclusion of youth on boards, committees and councils whenever possible.
  - Determine what individuals, schools, community groups, businesses, faith communities, health organizations and the city presently do, or might possibly do, that will empower youth to

build assets in their own lives, in the lives of peers, and in community-wide initiatives.

YOUTH GOAL: Develop a coordinated and sustainable system and philosophy that promotes the healthy development of all Burnsville youth.

Youth Strategy D: Create and implement a short and long-term funding plan.

Discussion: Financial continuity of the system and philosophy should not fall solely on one organization. The cost of supporting youth in our community should be shared among a variety of organizations, individuals and businesses. Available resources should be researched and partnerships should be leveraged to enable the work group to carry out the system and philosophy community-wide.

- **Action Steps:**
  - Create a budget that will allow this philosophy to flourish.
  - Do a cost analysis to weigh the total expected costs of launching and sustaining this initiative against the total expected benefits in order to determine priorities and make choices.
  - Seek out grants, business donations, private donations, foundation support, and the like to sustain the philosophy of the youth initiative.
  - Develop/facilitate sponsorship opportunities for youth-serving programs.

YOUTH COMMITTEE
Strategies for Measuring Success

Measure the success of the system and philosophy by evaluating the effectiveness and impact of the initiative.

Discussion: The Youth Committee felt strongly that the system and philosophy be evaluated regularly. It is imperative that the work group subscribe to common goals and outcomes, but also know when goals and strategies have been accomplished. There should be on-going accountability and reporting across all levels to promote sustainability and continuity of the system and philosophy.

- **Measurement Tools:**
  - Review the goal, strategies and action steps to discern what it will take to achieve them fully.
  - Evaluate progress regularly. Conduct short-term and long-term surveys as well as longitudinal studies to measure progress.
  - Ensure that there is research done prior to launching initiative and throughout time.
  - Develop and conduct a community-wide survey (or surveys) with regard to healthy youth and healthy communities. Analyze information to determine the next steps for the initiative.
  - Ensure that effectiveness is able to be measured in quantifiable ways.
  - Measure the level of awareness among participating groups regularly.
  - Communicate findings routinely and at least annually via an annual summary that describes the overall effectiveness of the system and philosophy.

Transportation Committee

Transportation Committee

Committee Members:

- Scott Bemis - Chair
- Nancy Nystuen – Vice Chair
- Andrew Krueger
- Robin Selvig
- Patrick Tillemans
- Amie Burrill
- Steve Cherney
- Timothy Ivers
- Daron VanHeldon

City Staff: Bud Osmundson, Ryan Peterson, Bridget Dalrymple

Introduction:
Transportation improvements are expensive and very few of the transportation corridors that are in need of reform in Burnsville are under the City's jurisdiction. Fully understanding these facts, the Visioning Transportation Committee feels strongly that Burnsville can be a leader in spearheading some of the much needed change. Engaging local communities, counties South of the River, the State and even Federal governments in partnerships for support and funding is essential.

Because of the regional impact of transportation projects, the Committee knows that many of these goals and strategies will not be accomplished in the next year or two. The Committee was concerned with creating a long-term vision for transportation in Burnsville regardless of current political or economic hurdles.

Vision: The efficient movement of goods, people and services.

Transportation Goal A: Increase capacity on River crossings over Minnesota River.

Discussion: Understanding the logistical difficulties in creating additional crossings over the Minnesota River, the Committee suggests increasing capacity through transit solutions and promoting the acquisition of easements for future expansion on the existing crossings. The implementation of MNPass on 35W should be vigorously promoted and pursued. This should be a top priority for increasing capacity on Minnesota River crossings.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Promote the use of MNPass on I-35 W HOV lane or find and implement better alternatives for increased utilization of the lanes.
  - Support Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) on Cedar Avenue, I35W, I35E and 169.
  - Stay educated and informed of trends and changes in transportation technology leading to the creation and use of alternative forms of transportation (i.e. commuter rail, light rail, Personal Rapid Transit, etc.).
  - Secure easements and corridors for expansion of existing modes of transportation and future alternative modes of transportation.

- **Measurable:**
  - Increased capacity and/or additional river crossing options.

Transportation Goal B: Play a major role in determining solutions to regional transportation problems.

Discussion: Some of the strategies listed below are outside of Burnsville's jurisdiction or financial capacity to control because the project areas are controlled by County, State or Federal agencies. These are, however, transportation concerns that directly impact Burnsville residents and businesses. The committee feels strongly that Burnsville can take an active role in advocating for change or jumpstarting campaigns to determine solutions to these problems. The committee would like Burnsville to lead the region in, and advocate for, transportation solutions.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Advocate improvements to TH13 to improve traffic flow to the Bloomington Ferry Bridge.
  - Advocate for a transit hub at 494 and 35W to improve traffic flow on 35W in Burnsville and allow 35W transit users an east/west transit hub at 494.
  - Recommend cities and counties south of the River establish a coalition to lobby for state and federal transportation funding for south of the River projects using I35W MnPass and BRT as catalyst projects. The coalition could advocate east-west improvements between the counties as well and other non-I35W related transit issues.
  - Encourage Lakeville to join MVTA and build a Park and Ride.
  - Support I-35W/Cliff Road interchange study.
  - Develop alternative east/west corridors for second beltway through neighboring counties.

Transportation Goal C: Reduce traffic congestion in Burnsville.

Discussion: The majority of strategies under this goal focus on the reduction of traffic congestion by increasing knowledge about transit options and ultimately increasing transit use. The committee spent a significant amount of time discussing "alternative" transit options in Burnsville and as well as in the region. Additional work could be done to encourage the usage of systems currently in place which could correlate directly to a decrease in traffic congestion.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Increase information dissemination on options for alternative methods of transportation and metro commuter services in and around Burnsville (i.e. MVTA services, Metro Transit services, Metro Mobility services, DARTS, bus system, bike, Segway, scooter, telecommuting, flex route schedule, etc.).
  - Increase the number of alternative transportation options and increase the utilization of alternative options. (For example, increase the number of bus routes AND increase the number of people riding the bus or provide more bicycle-friendly paths AND increase the number of people using this mode of transportation).
  - Create a program, engaging Burnsville Chamber of Commerce and Burnsville businesses, to provide incentives to employees that participate in alternative commuter activities. Encourage local businesses to participate in joint marketing efforts on transit and help in dissemination of route and fare information.
  - Support BRT on I-35W.
  - Continue transit improvements, including park-and-ride facilities and the development of infrastructure for and shuttle bus service between businesses along CSAH 42.

Transportation Goal D: Improve traffic flow in Burnsville.

Discussion: Burnsville has unique transportation challenges because of the significant transportation corridors that travel throughout the City. Meshing the regional transportation needs on major roadways with the local transportation needs on local roadways is important. Moving motorists smoothly, safely and quickly is essential. But, because of these unique characteristics, Burnsville also has an opportunity to be an innovator in traffic design and improved traffic flow.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Support an interchange at Highway 5 and TH13, construct improvements of Chowen Avenue intersection with TH13 and implement signal synchronization on Nicollet Avenue.
  - Conduct accident study and additional flow enhancement design programs to decrease accidents at Highway 42 between Nicollet and the 35W/35E split.
  - Research more efficient traffic flow techniques and designs to decrease congestion (i.e. roundabouts, etc.).
  - Continue implementation of City Capital Improvement Program as it relates to traffic capacity and safety.
  - Encourage expanded use of transit services.

Transportation Goal E: Expand use of transit services.

Discussion: Burnsville is a key partner in the Minnesota Valley Transit Authority and other transit service organizations. Existing transit services should be advocated and promoted whenever possible. The use of transit services benefits the community by improving traffic flow, decreasing traffic congestion, decreasing the negative impact on the environment by decreasing the number of automobiles on the road, provides a service for transit challenged residents and much more.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Support expansion of Burnsville MVTA ramp to provide for more parking.
  - Increase point-to-point transit for the whole community (special event service, service to seniors, transit challenged and all others that need/want it).
  - Encourage use and expansion of existing transit services and systems: CAP, County, CAC and others.
  - Work with area transit providers to evaluate rider-ship and establish options for mixed use busing (for example: using school buses for public transportation when not being used for school purposes, sharing vehicles, sharing drivers or sharing riders when practical, etc.)
  - Increase transit marketing and communication efforts.
  - Provide improved and increased bus stop signage, shelters and benches throughout the City.
  - Advocate Burnsville and Minnesota Valley Transit Authority projects in Dakota and Scott County's Capital Improvement Program, including clearly marking bus stops.

Transportation Goal F: Develop user friendly bike and walking trails which will support recreational opportunities and link people to jobs and business locations.

Discussion: This goal is identical to the Partnerships for Tomorrow (PFT) goal. The PFT discussion said, "If this goal is not accomplished now, it will be an even more difficult goal to accomplish in 5 to 10 years." Although linking all of Burnsville via trail seems to be a financially daunting and seemingly unachievable goal, the Committee wanted to advocate that the City continue to work toward this end. Although past surveys have noted trails as being low on the priority list for residents, trails play a key role in the overall quality of life and sense of community. Trails help to link key areas of the City (neighborhoods, businesses, attractions, healthcare providers, parks, schools, natural amenities, etc.), provide a fun activity for families and citizens of all ages, promote a healthy community, and provide an alternative mode of transportation for commuters, employees, and residents alike. Trails should be assessed for their transportation significance as well as their recreational significance.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Support implementation of the Trails Master Plan.
  - Plan and create a trail system along the Minnesota River and pursue additional trail improvements through City and County Capital Improvement Programs.
  - Determine use/potential use of trail commuting, economic benefits and determine priority for funding for trails. Funding for trails should be shared between Transportation and Parks budget, based on end-user benefits.
  - Improve safety and way-finding signage on trails (at intersections, use of bike logos on bike lanes, route identification, etc.)
  - Encourage businesses to provide safe places to leave bicycles, encouraging more rider-ship.
  - Distribute bicycle educational materials, such as bike trail maps, through local bike shops, on distribution racks, at special events, in schools, on Cable TV, on the City's website, etc.
  - Support the construction and maintenance of walkways and bikeways on the pedestrian overpass at Nicollet and TH13, on the old Cedar Avenue Bridge, on the Bloomington Ferry Bridge, on I35W, on CSAH 42 and TH13.

Safety Committee

Safety Committee

Committee Members:

- Mike Hughes - Chair
- Karen Oravis - Vice Chair
- Mike Costello
- Jamie Jones
- Steve Foster
- Larry Meadors
- Jacki Nelson
- Duke Powell
- Ken Selby
- Steve Hegdal
- Mary Ajax
- Carole Abrahamson
- Marilyn Johnson

City Staff: Bob Hawkins, Steve Harklerode, Bridget Dalrymple

Introduction:
The Safety Committee was comprised of a diverse team of residents with varying points of view. The discussions were wide-ranging and in-depth. The committee analyzed police and fire statistics over the past several years. The committee began by compiling priorities into a goal tree with action steps and success measures listed. However, after continued discussion, it was difficult for the committee to focus their energies on such varying topics.

Committee discussion focused on three main areas: the level of public safety service, funding for public safety, and community support for public safety. The broad goal tree quickly became three distinct goal statements and all the priorities listed on that goal tree were incorporated thereto. Once these three topics were sifted out, the committee was in consensus and a vision statement was easily identified.

The committee felt that there are two distinctive thoughts in terms of public safety: that citizens <u>are</u> safe, as measured by safety statistics that are publicly available AND that citizens <u>feel</u> safe, as measured by police surveys and the City's annual survey. If only one of these areas is being met, then Burnsville is not truly succeeding at public safety.

The committee did not spend a significant amount of time discussing funding solutions or determining strategic plans for accomplishing the goals. As charged, the Committee spent most of their time determining broad ranging, long term goals with potential options for accomplishing the

goals. When funding or more strategic planning was discussed it was included in this report. The committee felt confident that staff could more effectively offer solutions in the areas of funding, research and strategic planning.

Vision: All Burnsville citizens ARE safe and all Burnsville citizens FEEL safe.

Safety Goal A: Maintain and improve the level of public safety service.

Discussion: During May 2006, roughly 80% of "customers" rated public safety service as excellent or good in the Police Department Survey. Burnsville's Residential and Business surveys consistently display even higher approval ratings. Overall, the Safety Committee believes the level of public safety service in the community is excellent. Therefore, many of the goals and strategies suggest maintaining the level of service that already exists and/or improving the level of service if feasible.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Increase patrols in neighborhoods and in multi-housing units.
  - Install video monitoring cameras in high risk areas as a crime deterrent.
    - Locations of the video cameras could be determined by the Police Department's maps showing crime clusters.
    - Video cameras can amplify the performance of officers so that more area can be covered during patrols.
    - Camera feeds can be linked to squad cars for additional surveillance opportunities.
    - This is a lower cost alternative to hiring more staff.
    - Monitoring of the video can be performed by non-licensed, but trained, volunteers during high crime times.
    - Funding for video cameras and equipment could be obtained through partnerships with area businesses or through grant programs.
  - Enforce current ordinance regarding building numbers and signage (10-30-2).
  - Standardize address identifiers on private roads (i.e. Town home complexes).
  - Offer low cost program to paint numbers on curbs to decrease response time by emergency response units.
  - Increase enforcement in the areas of rental housing licensing, commercial smoke alarm requirements and commercial vehicle weight limits and load coverage requirements.

- **Success Measures:**
  - Burnsville should have the lowest Part 1 and Part 2 crime rates when compared with similar recognized comparable cities (i.e. Stanton Group comparables).

- Utilize customer surveys to gauge public perception of public safety.
- Improve or maintain emergency response time as the identified benchmark in the Fire Department study.

Safety Goal B: Public safety needs to be funded and needs to be a funding priority.

Discussion: The Safety committee discussed how other municipalities might be seeing problems in their own public safety departments due to funding cuts. Therefore, the committee feels strongly that public safety should be a funding priority when considering all city services. The number of personnel and personnel discretionary time speaks to maintaining the level of service and allows personnel to put more effort toward community relations.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Restore specialty positions in public safety departments and continue to add personnel as needed based on crime trends. Initiate partnerships to share costs for a retail officer with area business that will benefit (especially in the areas of Burnsville Center, Burnhaven, Highway 42 Corridor and other surrounding retail areas).
  - Continually analyze public safety personnel, facility and equipment needs to ensure that the funding schedule adequately reflects current needs AND future projections.
  - Increase the number of personnel and/or personnel discretionary time so that more safety education, crime prevention and fire prevention campaigns can be employed. The intent is to increase community safety, increase the time each officer can spend on community outreach and increase or maintain the level of personnel job satisfaction.
  - Capitalize on local and regional partnerships (communication and cost sharing) when practical especially in the areas of recordkeeping, shared specialized equipment and personnel, homeland security, terrorism and bioterrorism.

- **Success Measures:**
  - Burnsville will have the most efficient use of public safety equipment and personnel utilization of similar sized cities in the metro area.
  - Maintain or increase the amount of staff discretionary time.
  - Burnsville public safety personnel will have high levels of job satisfaction as determined through exit interviews, the number

of employee grievances, turnover and length of service/retention.

- Burnsville public safety departments achieve their goals while operating within budget.

Safety Goal C: Everyone in the community should be encouraged to support public safety, become involved through volunteerism or community service in public safety and continue to participate in public safety efforts.

Discussion: Volunteerism and community service are a valuable resource. Community involvement in each public safety department builds mutual trust and respect. The committee discussed numerous times the concept of organizing a Public Safety ACTION Committee (PSAC).

Creating a PSAC would provide assistance in reaching these visioning goals. The committee felt that this should NOT be an advisory board or give recommendations to the Council on funding in the police department. Instead, the PSAC could assist the City in carrying out the goals and action steps identified, could act as a liaison between the public safety departments and the citizens, could help to recruit and organize volunteers for tasks that do not need licensed officers and could help to engage the community in public safety education campaigns and initiatives.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Organize a Public Safety Action Committee to bring public safety-minded and concerned people together to assist in carrying out the action steps and strategies to accomplish the public safety goals.
    - Examples of existing groups that could be involved in the PSAC include: CERT, Mobile Volunteer Network, Burnsville Citizen Core Council, Community Action Council, Neighborhood Watch, Block Captains, Explorers, citizens and City staff liaisons.
  - Provide a forum for open discussion by stakeholders for priorities of resource delegation (i.e. traffic versus burglary) through block captains and neighborhood meetings.
  - Offer a Citizen's Academy for both police and fire.
  - Increase the number of safety education, crime prevention and fire prevention campaigns offered such as anti-speeding campaigns, decreased cell phone use while driving and over-serving and drunk driving campaigns.
  - Increase the number of volunteer opportunities and actively recruit for membership especially in organizations such as

CERT, Mobile Volunteer Network, Neighborhood Watch, Block Captains and others.

- Encourage residents and businesses to utilize Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) best practices which are the proper design and effective use of the built environment in order to lead to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime, and an improvement in the quality of life.
    - Research how other communities are implementing CPTED practices such as Tempe Arizona, Mesa Arizona and Victoria British Columbia.
    - Communicate to and educate both residents and businesses as to what the CPTED best practices are.
- Educate local liquor license holders to decrease over-serving and encourage them to offer transportation to intoxicated patrons.

➢ **Success Measures:**

- Maintain or increase level of trust in public safety personnel (as measured by survey results).
- Maintain or increase rate of citizen volunteerism in public safety.
- Maintain or increase the amount of citizen awareness of Burnsville public safety campaigns (as determined by survey results) and increase the number of participants in campaigns.

Neighborhood Committee

Neighborhood Committee

Committee Members:

- Chris Teiken - Chair
- Bob Viering – Vice Chair
- Tom Harmening
- Steve Dale
- Pat Roehrick
- Mary Sherry
- Norman Tubbs
- Leonard Vassbotn
- Lois Vassbotn
- Karolyn Anderson

City Staff: Tom Hansen, Julie Dorshak, Bridget Dalrymple

Introduction:
The Neighborhood Committee felt that there are two distinct and equally important areas of healthy neighborhoods: the physical, "touch it" type of aesthetic appeal of homes and neighborhoods and the "feel good" qualities of neighborhoods. Although the physical characteristics are easier to see and measure, ensuring that residents feel good about their community is much more meaningful. Through this, two vision statements were created, both dependent on the other. By obtaining a high level of aesthetic quality in neighborhoods, residents will feel good about their neighborhood and have pride in Burnsville. Vision A is an avenue to obtain Vision B and can be a self improving cycle.

During the course of four months, two specific areas were continually discussed and therefore seen as high priority goals for obtaining the vision statements and ensuring the future quality of neighborhoods in Burnsville: residential code enforcement and communication with residents.

Funding for additional neighborhood improvement programs and additional residential inspection personnel was discussed. The committee advocates the maximum usage of CDBG funds if possible, City-funded and/or partnerships for enhancement of neighborhoods and the use of volunteers when possible for increased code enforcement.

VISION A: To preserve the quality of life in Burnsville the community shall maintain property aesthetics, physical appearances and quantitative standards.

Neighborhood Goal A: The City shall increase and maintain a high level of code enforcement in the City.

Discussion: Seen as one of the highest priorities by this committee, code enforcement was discussed at length. Although the City's inspection department is made up of residential and commercial inspectors, the committee felt strongly that additional personnel (full time and/or volunteer) should be added to residential inspections and code enforcement. The committee also wanted to advocate that the City take a more proactive role in enforcement. Instead of a complaint-initiated system, the City should consider initiating inspections in areas of the City that historically have a higher number of code violations. The City should focus on these areas initially, working to cover the entire City over several years.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Organize a "best practices" neighborhood panel
    - Research the implementation of this type of program in other communities to establish a "best practices" for organization of the panel, responsibilities of the panel and authority granted to the panel.
    - Pass ordinance to grant authority to the panel to enforce City Codes and aid in rectification of violation.
    - Panel would act as mediation step before going into the legal system, would assess problems and offer solutions when appropriate.
    - The panel could utilize City staff, Community Action Council and other community organizations when exploring solutions.
  - Allocate the resources necessary to increase code enforcement.
  - Implement a proactive, concerted code enforcement program.
  - Promote the upkeep of properties and overall neighborhood appearance through effective and increased code enforcement.

- **Success Measures:**
  - Research and implementation of a neighborhood panel
  - Increased number of personnel dedicated to code violations and code enforcement.

- Increased number of code violations that are rectified before entering the legal system.

Neighborhood Goal B: The City shall increase and maintain communication with residents and shall create marketing and educational materials for programs and services in the community.

Discussion: Seen by the committee as one of the highest priority topics, communication was included both under Vision A and under Vision B. The committee felt strongly that the City's current communication efforts are good, however, as the diversity of the community continues to grow, we need to explore methods to expand communication. We need to understand differences in communication styles and learn what the best methods are for reaching out and communicating with different segments of the community.

- **Strategies/Action Steps**
  - Facilitate communications between Associations.
  - Increase communication about existing neighborhood improvement programs such as the annual tree sale, block grants, cul-d-sac improvement grants, etc.
  - Communicate, in simple language, common zoning codes to every residence in Burnsville, in a variety of languages through a variety of communication venues.
  - Communicate building standard changes (i.e. front setbacks to accommodate front porches) that could encourage home improvement and redevelopment.
  - Create and market Neighborhood Improvement Grants for common areas, trash removal and house painting aiding diverse populations including minorities and seniors.
  - Encourage home improvement for upcoming home sales to increase sales, price, etc. Realtors could put home sellers in touch with agencies/City that could provide low interest loans, etc. with a goal of 100 homes assisted per year.

- **Success Measures:**
  - Assess the needs of diverse populations (seniors, minorities, young families, etc.) via surveys and data collect
  - Assess programs for success.

VISION B: To preserve quality of life in Burnsville the community shall maintain community pride, social connectivity and qualitative standards.

Neighborhood Goal C: Create a sense of neighborhood through identification and organization of neighborhoods throughout Burnsville.

Discussion: It is imperative to foster the power of neighborhoods to create a sense of community pride in Burnsville. In that, the Committee wanted to encourage a sense of strong neighborhood organization through community building activities, community safety, neighborhoods having a consolidated voice, promoting neighbors knowing one another and working together on neighborhood improvement projects.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Research how other communities identify and organize neighborhoods successfully (i.e. formalize large neighborhoods, then allow pockets or sub-neighborhoods within those larger neighborhoods to self organize).
  - Communicate the advantages of neighborhood organization by providing positive examples (neighborhood improvements, beautification of neighborhoods, cul-d-sac grants, Neighborhood Watch, newsletters, etc.).
  - Identify existing and develop new strong, organized neighborhoods. Be deliberate in neighborhood organization.
  - Explore "I Neighborhoods" concept, which includes web-based organizing of neighborhoods. See how this method can serve neighborhoods in a variety of ways.
  - Provide educational and informational materials to neighborhoods so they can more easily organize themselves and set standards for organization (provide sample bylaws and examples of organizational tools).
  - Build leadership in the community by identifying neighborhood leaders and having these leaders come together regularly to talk, share ideas, plant seeds and be catalysts.

- **Success Measures:**
  - An increased number of organized neighborhoods.
  - Tools available for neighborhoods to organize.

- More neighborhood leaders identified and meeting regularly.
- Neighborhoods identified on a map.

Neighborhood Goal D: Protect property values by encouraging a higher percentage of homeownership versus rental property in the City of Burnsville.

Discussion: The Committee felt that when a resident invests in buying their own home, they have a greater stake in maintaining their investment and have a greater desire to be involved in neighborhood activities. Therefore, the City should encourage lenders and other agencies to find new, diverse homeowners. Some residents may not feel that they qualify to purchase a home, but they should be encouraged to invest in the community.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Work with lenders and social service agencies to provide financial literacy and special programs to encourage and increase homeownership.
  - Maintain or improve Rental Licensing Program coordination
  - Promote utilization of County programs such as HUD 1st Home Buyer Programs, etc.

- **Success Measures:**
  - Maintain and/or increase the number of owner-occupied homes in Burnsville.
  - Maintain and/or increase the number of identified and licensed single-family rental properties.

Neighborhood Goal E: Increase volunteerism and citizenship opportunities in Burnsville.

Discussion: It is important to bring people together, to get involved and volunteer that care about our city. This will help to foster a sense of community pride, get people out of their homes and more involved with their neighbors, allow residents to feel good about their community and encourage them to make the City a better place to live, work and play. By encouraging more volunteerism and providing citizenship opportunities, leaders will be identified and more easily transition into leadership roles community-wide.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Bring community-minded people together to be involved and volunteer.
  - Maintain a strong sense of community pride, foster the original Burnsville pioneering spirit that can be passed on to future generations.
  - Bring more people into leadership roles in the community.
  - Continually promote the benefits of volunteering by highlighting successful City or community volunteers.

- **Success Measure:**
  - Continually measure the culture or "community spirit/quality of life" satisfaction level.

Neighborhood Goal F: The City shall increase and maintain communication with residents and shall create marketing and educational materials for programs and services in the community.

Discussion: The City needs to use communication as a catalyst for community pride. By having a clear and positive identity for Burnsville, residents can rally around that identity, take ownership and pride in the positive identity and help to spread the word about the community. It is important to provide forums for communication that will inform and educate citizens about programs and services within the community.

- **Strategies/Action Steps**
  - Create a clear and positive community identity.
  - Articulate community identity and create programs such as Healthy Communities or asset-based community development programs that foster that identity and bring neighbors and neighborhoods together.
  - Implement annual neighborhood meetings.
  - Create Town Home Association Management Standards/Manual
  - The Council should remain aware of trends in building standards so that the building standards, zoning requirements and City Codes can be flexible to accommodate changing times.

- **Success Measures:**
  - Continually measure the culture or "community spirit/quality of life" satisfaction level through surveys.

Environment Committee

Environment Committee

Committee Members:

- Paula O'Keefe - Chair
- David Scheerer – Vice Chair
- Curt Enestvedt
- Michael Falk
- Tony Fragiacomo
- Lloyd Hansen
- Len Nachman
- Cindy Rice
- Darlene Tworzyanski
- Michael Kerns
- Pat Nanninga
- Tom Smith
- Dan Watts
- Mary Oaster
- Donna Salzle

City Staff: Terry Schultz, Randy Oppelt, Daryl Jacobsen, Sue Bast, Johanna Schussler, Bridget Dalrymple

Introduction:
The committee consisted of a variety of environmentally minded and concerned citizens. Some of the members are educated in this field, some volunteer or work in the field, and some are the leaders of lake associations. Collectively, this committee was concerned with addressing every aspect of the environment: personal health, air, water, land and wildlife. Each of these topics impacts all residents of Burnsville and has a significant impact on surrounding communities. The work of this committee is a charge to the City to act locally and think globally by partnering with businesses, school districts, developers, landowners, multi-housing managers and all citizens of Burnsville.

Overall, the Environment Committee wants the City to incorporate an environmental emphasis in all aspects of the community-"Walk the Talk" and be a model city for health and progressive environmental practices. Once the environment goals are combined and considered with all the other committees' goals a more community-wide healthy and happy City target can be reached. The committee feels that communication is essential. The City must initiate communication and education campaigns for existing programs and new programs as they are developed.

Because of the large number of active members, this committee divided up into work groups that created goals and strategies in the following key areas: Minnesota River Quadrant, waste management, water resources,

energy conservation and overall quality of life. The committee believes that many of the strategies should be acted on as early as next year. Once these ideas were formed, the vision statement developed quickly. The vision statement is the foundation for which the goals, sub-goals and action steps should be built on.

Vision: Burnsville must sustain a healthy, clean and environmentally friendly community for current and future generations.

Environment Goal A: Ensure that the development of the Northwest Minnesota River Quadrant is not only a commercial success, but that the highest quality natural resources value and recreational value is achieved.

Sub Goal 1: Create a steering/advisory committee for the development of the Minnesota River Quadrant similar to the Heart of the City steering committee.
Discussion: The more involved citizens are the more successful projects will be because there is ownership for the future of Burnsville. This will allow a very important and beneficial partnership with city officials, city staff, and citizens. This committee will be critical to help facilitate public education, communication, input and "buy-in" from the community.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - The committee should be composed of a variety of knowledgeable and interested citizens, including representation from environmentally knowledgeable individuals.
  - There is an urgency to begin this process and establish a committee by the start of 2007.

Sub Goal 2: Modify the existing Kraemer Quarry planned unit development (PUD) to include the following goals for water quality.
DISCUSSION: The eventual development of the Kraemer Quarry from a mining pit to a spring fed lake has presented the community with the opportunity to create one of the metropolitan area's most pristine and beautiful lakes. The future golf course, Quarry Lake, river front and the surrounding development will be the gateway to Burnsville. This area will be visible to travelers on I-35W, and it will rapidly define the City of Burnsville to people visiting and traveling through the City.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - <u>Develop a healthy lake fishery</u>
    Direct the City Natural Resources Dept. to develop a lake plan that will result in a high quality self sustaining fishery in Kraemer Lake. Work with Kraemer to ensure that continuing mining activities meet the requirements of this plan. An example is that future mining should follow a plan for lakeshore contouring that will help support a healthy fishery.
  - <u>Protect future drinking water resource</u>
    Excess quarry ground water is now being pumped into the Minnesota River. The City should work with Kraemer and the

State to ensure that the water supply from the Kraemer pit and from the future lake is available for municipal drinking water use now and into the future.

- Prohibit all industrial development, both light industrial and heavy industrial, on land adjoining future lake shore
  Elimination of industrial development well help eliminate pollution of the future lake. A model for developing the Kraemer Quarry area is the Centennial Lakes area in Edina, MN. Centennial Lakes once was a gravel pit. Today it is a beautiful mixed-use community with lakes, residential and commercial properties, and no industrial use. Any industrial use of property within 1,000 ft. of the future quarry lake should be prohibited. In addition the City will ensure that all development in the future lake area meets or exceeds all MN DNR shore land ordinances and building restrictions.
- Create shorelines that are naturally shaped and aesthetically pleasing
  Begin now working closely with Kraemer Quarry to ensure that the lake will have as naturally shaped shorelines as possible, especially the west and east shorelines.
- Create natural buffer areas
  Ensure that some land along and near the lake shore consists of natural buffer areas of native plantings similar to the gardens surrounding Centennial Lakes.

Sub Goal 3: Modify the existing Kraemer Quarry planned unit development (PUD) to include the following goals for public access and a recreational water resource.

➢ **Strategies/Action Steps:**

- Develop a significant public park with a swimming beach on the new lake
  The current Northwest River Quadrant plan includes a small public park on the northwest corner of the new Kraemer Lake. Since Kraemer Lake will be one of the metropolitan area's most pristine and beautiful lakes, a much larger public park with a public swimming beach must be a part of the PUD. Work with Kraemer to ensure that continuing mining activities allow for the development of the future swimming beach.
- Build public boat access onto the new lake

The PUD should be amended to include a requirement for motorized boat access to the new lake. The public boat access should include vehicle and boat trailer parking.

- Develop a hiking and biking trail system to and from the new lake

  Trails from the future lake area to the Minnesota River should be included in the PUD. A trail from the future lake area to the Heart of the City area should also be included. These trails should connect to other trails throughout the Minnesota River valley and to other trails throughout the City.

Environment Goal B: Support new options for Waste Management by focusing on best management practices "from the cradle to the grave".

Sub Goal 1: Create a new emphasis on **packaging** materials and reduction

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Educate and encourage businesses and residents to purchase products with environmentally preferable packaging.
  - Adopt local ordinances mandating the use of recycled/recyclable packaging (i.e. Stonyfield Farms yogurt containers).
  - Research how more waste can be eliminated to become a resource instead of a liability, i.e. feedstocks.

Sub Goal 2: Create a new emphasis on **recycling** materials from businesses and households

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Explore and utilize new technologies for recycling.
  - Research and establish city-wide collection/recycling days with curbside collection
  - Adopt local ordinances for mandatory recycling programs for businesses (office paper, cardboard, glass, plastics, metal, etc.).
  - Encourage local businesses to have take-back programs for materials, i.e. electronics.
  - Increase opportunities for the city to provide incentives and assistance to businesses.
  - Improve communication with owners, managers and residents in multi-family housing units regarding recycling options.
  - Increase participation of youths/students in recycling and reuse programs.
  - Begin education/public relations campaign regarding costs and benefits for landfills versus recycling, composting and reuse of collections.
  - Increase the City's emphasis and involvement with the ARROW program.

Sub Goal 3: Create a new emphasis on **composting** (yard waste)

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Implement a compost-at-home processing/backyard collection with usable bins on-site at residences.

- Research the feasibility of a city collection pile to be used by the residents.
- Inform and clarify to property managers, association boards and lawn contractors in multi-family housing about the responsibility and opportunities for proper management of materials.

Sub Goal 4: Create a new emphasis on **management of organics** (food waste)

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Implement programs with ISD #191, Burnsville Center, Ridgeview and others to give local farmers or compost facilities excess food and food waste (i.e. Second Harvest, farmers, NRC composting) .
  - Improve communication with owners, managers and residents in multi-family housing units regarding disposal of organics.
  - Research how multi-family housing units can establish organic collections.
  - Expand collections of organics in single family residence neighborhoods (i.e., North River Hills).
  - Pursue a pilot project that gives variances for yard waste and organics to be mixed for collection (i.e., Chanhassen and Hutchinson).
  - Seek grants and other assistance as needed to implement programs.

Environment Goal C: Identify and preserve the City's valuable water resources.

Sub Goal 1: The City will focus on achieving the highest water quality possible for all City lakes, ponds, wetlands, and streams.
DISCUSSION: The citizens of Burnsville place a very high value on water quality. The City currently has a comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan and the City should continue their commitment to this plan. In addition, the City should re-evaluate the plan on a regular basis to see if the goals of the plan continue to meet the City's residents' vision for high water quality.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Continue evaluation of water quality goals
    The lake water quality goals identified in the Water Resources Management Plan should be re-evaluated in 2008 in partnership with the lake associations and the residents, and every five years thereafter.
  - Build strong lake associations
    The City will work with lakeshore property owners to improve existing lake associations and to organize new lake associations where none exist today. Active lake associations are a valuable asset for residents and City staff as they work together to achieve water quality goals.
  - Restore wetlands
    The City will aggressively work to restore wetlands. This may include converting some park properties to wetlands. It may also include purchasing property for wetland restoration.

Sub Goal 2: Explore and adopt new technologies for storm water management
DISCUSSION: Federal and State mandated goals and requirements for storm water management will continue to place a substantial burden on the City. The City should be proactive in anticipating these requirements, taking action to meet goals, and even exceed goals, so that the community can enjoy the highest wetland, pond, lake, and river water quality possible.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Adopt new technologies
    The City will be proactive in adopting new storm water management technologies as they become available. The

City's shall be a leader in the field and its storm water practices shall be an example for others to follow.

- Work with nature
  Where possible, the City will focus on solutions that work with nature, as opposed to mechanical methods, for managing storm water. New technology designed to develop engineered wetlands should be used to pre-treat storm water.
- Develop on-site storm water pretreatment
  Develop a comprehensive plan for pretreatment and management of storm water runoff from residential, commercial and industrial properties by property owners.
- Rain gardens and buffer strips
  Educate, encourage and provide incentives for residents to create rain gardens and buffer strips to help filter and divert storm water from lakes, ponds and wetlands.
- City will set the example
  The City will set the example by incorporating storm water management "best practices" for all City owned properties, including:
  a. Building rain gardens on City owned property
  b. Watering City property from ponds and lakes
  c. Building curb cuts from City owned parking lots and streets into boulevards, street medians, and other City owned property so that storm water runs into areas where it can percolate into the ground rather than run into the storm water drain pipes.
- Work with other agencies
  The City will work with other government agencies such as the Dakota County Soil and Water Management District to improve water quality.

Sub Goal 3: Preserve, enhance, and restore the Minnesota River and the Minnesota River Valley for public use.

DISCUSSION: The Minnesota River and the Minnesota Valley Wildlife Refuge are a tremendous natural resource for the community. The Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge is one of only four urban wildlife refuges in the nation, a place where coyotes, bald eagles, badgers, and beavers live next door to three million people.

Poor river water quality and lack of convenient public access are barriers to public use of the river, the river valley, and the Minnesota Valley Wildlife Refuge.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Improve Minnesota River water quality
    The City will work with and they will support the efforts of other government agencies and private organizations working to improve Minnesota River water quality.
  - Develop public access to the Minnesota River
    The City will work with federal agencies to develop public access to the Minnesota River and the Minnesota Valley Wildlife Refuge along the City's northern border.
  - Develop boat access to the river
    The City recognizes that the Minnesota River is a valuable asset to the citizens of Burnsville. The City will work with other agencies to develop a City of Burnsville municipal boat launch, parking facility, and possibly even a public marina on the Minnesota River on the City's northern border.

Sub Goal 4: The City will encourage water conservation

DISCUSSION: Recognizing that water is a limited and precious resource and that the treatment, transportation, and storage of potable drinking water is expensive, the City will encourage conservation of water resources.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Increase enforcement and education of the watering ban for residences and businesses.
  - Consider changes to the watering ban in the future as water demands rise. For example, extend the no watering hours to include more of the warmer and windier time of the day.
  - Educate business owners and homeowners about future cost savings with more native plantings and less manicured lawn, such as, less watering, mowing, fertilizing, maintenance, etc.
  - Include requirements in redevelopment plans and provide incentives to businesses to have more native landscaping /plantings and less manicured lawn.
  - Require new construction and redevelopment to install low flow showerheads, faucets, toilets, and appliances that are water saving.

Environment Goal D: Make sustainable energy conservation a focus and priority for community planning through planning, education and incentives.

Sub Goal 1: Promote and create energy educational materials

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - We need to see the value in energy conservation. It will be important to educate all stakeholders on the impacts of the decisions they make relative to energy including how it impacts them economically as well as the impact to the environment.
  - Create a staff position dedicated to exploring new technologies, education and developing an office of "Sustainability and Energy Efficiency" for Burnsville and perhaps invite neighboring cities to share the support of this office.

Sub Goal 2: Optimize and utilize the best available and emerging technologies

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Make sure building codes are reviewed annually to reflect new developments that materially reduce the energy consumption of a proposed building.
  - Make sure that the local citizens are made aware of new technologies to the extent possible through established communication systems, such as, community information mailings or an energy specific section in the various community publications.
  - Explore alternative energy options, such as: wind, fuel cells, solar power, heating and cooling systems, energy storage systems, and geothermal systems.
  - Educate and encourage more citizens to support alternative energy by purchasing wind power through their power company.
  - Have the city purchase environmentally friendly vehicles, such as hybrids, for their city staff and police car fleets

Sub Goal 3: Integrate new locations into the light rail system and mass transit systems

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - When new areas are developed, such as those being contemplated on the west side of 35W, consider access and integration into the light rail system and mass transit system be considered in the planning and design phase.

Sub Goal 4: Require and create incentives for new development and redevelopment to be energy efficient.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Create conservation incentives especially when public financing supports development efforts in the community.
  - Develop measurements and cost effective ways to realize benefits for the environment.

Sub Goal 5: Provide for cost effective energy conservation/management support in all new buildings and redevelopment. This is to be especially employed in City and public buildings.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Integrate all new construction and redevelopment into an “ECO City” or “green building” concept by including features such as double door entrance and exit requirements, most efficient lighting requirements, applying as many "green building concepts" as possible, etc.
  - Integrate energy conservation in public redevelopment projects.
  - Encourage residents and businesses to plant trees near their buildings for energy conservation.
  - Require in building permits to save as many existing trees as possible.

Environment Goal E: Work toward continually improving the environmental Quality of Life and Aesthetic appeal of Burnsville.

Sub Goal 1: Improve and maintain all green spaces, open spaces, and parks within the city.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Preserve existing green space and promote the increase of green space in re-development areas. Also promote incentives to reduce impervious surfaces in re-development.
  - Preserve and maintain all existing public recreational areas within the city.
  - Consider a wildlife reintroduction plan throughout the city. This could include installing nesting structures and bird houses where appropriate, such as osprey nesting platforms, wood duck boxes in parks, bluebird houses, etc. Partner with community volunteer groups to implement.
  - Establish community garden areas within the city and plan community events to plant and maintain these gardens.
  - Assist residents in identifying diseased trees and invasive plant species on private property in order to maintain the natural beauty of the land and allow for species diversity.
  - Encourage the planting of native species. Educational programs should be more widely available to residents to teach and encourage planting native species which do not require constant watering and energy consumption.
  - Consider changes in landscaping of the city boulevards to include capture of rain water in order to conserve water and maintain the health of trees and plants on the boulevards.

Sub Goal 2: Improve the existing bike and pedestrian trail way system interconnecting parks, scenic areas, and amenities within the city.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Work with the city of Bloomington to create a bike and pedestrian crossing along the old Cedar Ave. Bridge in order to connect Burnsville's trails to Bloomington and the northern suburbs and to provide a historic connection to the Minnesota River and our past.
  - Complete an improved east-west off-street bike and pedestrian trail north of highway 13. The city should consider a trail connecting the River Hills Drive path in the eastern half of the city with the Minnesota River Quadrant in the west.

- Establish a trail connection to the northeast along Highway 13 into Eagan.
- Establish a trail connection from the Heart of the City area to the aforementioned east-west trail north of Highway 13.

Sub Goal 3: Identify and reduce noise pollution in areas where people live and work. The city should recognize that noise pollution is a typically overlooked environmental problem that directly affects our quality of life.

➢ **Strategies/Action Steps:**

- Investigate and adopt any new technologies that can help reduce freeway and highway noise in Burnsville's residential areas.
- Work with the Metropolitan Airports Commission to find ways of reducing the number of jets flying directly over the higher density residential areas of Burnsville.
- Periodically measure noise pollution levels during both daytime and nighttime hours in the higher density residential areas throughout the city and identify areas that have above normal levels.
- Utilize volunteer resources to acquire sound measurement data. (Similar to the county model used for acquiring water quality data.)
- Determine the exact sound sources causing peak noise level readings in a given area. Sources such as: Trucks, jets, trains, loud cars or motorcycles, etc.
- <u>Enforce</u> the existing city noise ordinances and investigate noise mitigation technologies that can reduce noise pollution in the areas found to have above normal noise pollution levels.
- Because the Union Pacific railroad passes through the city, the city should be aware that very loud train horn noise in areas like the Heart of the City and the developing Minnesota River Quadrant district may be a problem for residents moving into these areas. Investigate establishing a railroad line <u>Quiet Zone</u> for current and future rail line road crossings. (Examples: Dupont Ave. and Cliff Road) New technology such as Automated Wayside Horns used in conjunction with existing crossing gate systems could allow the establishment of a Quiet Zone within the city.

Development Committee

Development Committee

Committee Members:

- Sam O'Connell – Chair
- Jim Stachowski – Vice Chair
- Jeff Colegrove
- Warren Hartwell
- Wayne Huelskoetter
- Bill Jorgensen
- Tom Keenan
- Adeel Lari
- Doug Silkey
- Jennifer Williams
- Steve Saefke
- Rich Abbruscato
- Diane Sweeney
- Richard Daly
- Jan Morphew
- Harley Jensen
- Kate Onyeneho

City Staff: Jenni Faulkner, Skip Nienhaus, Chris Slania, Bridget Dalrymple

Introduction:
The Development Committee had a significant amount of interest from citizens and therefore was the largest committee with active participation. The committee had "50,000 foot level" ideas and spent very little time discussing funding for these action steps. The work produced here reflects what the committee sees as the priorities for development of Burnsville.

Work began by building off of Jane Jacob's vision for communities: "The greatest asset a city can have is something different from every other place". The Development Committee felt passionate about making Burnsville a unique location, with unique architecture, unique attractions and noticeable identifiers-an identity all its own. Understanding that the whole picture needs to be addressed and that there is more need than funds available, a clear vision is essential to accomplishing the goals. That means that all committee work will need to be combined together to create a global picture of Burnsville's future.

Vision Statement: We will uplift our whole community and preserve the pride we have in Burnsville.

Development Goal A: Secure our economic future with technology.

Discussion: To stand out from other cities in the area, the committee would like Burnsville to focus its economic development future in progressive and lucrative fields such as medical devices, biotechnology, nanotechnology and related suppliers. Capitalizing on existing strengths such as the Burnsville Medical Alliance and potential partnerships with current leaders in these fields is imperative. Burnsville should consider a Wi-Fi network and other technologies available to bolster its image as a high tech community and to provide affordable services to the business community and residents. The City will need to be flexible in its zoning so that attractive space can be identified and, if necessary, rehabilitated to provide locations that will facilitate new business development in these progressive fields.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Develop affordable Wi-Fi and other communication networks to be competitive now and in the future.
  - Be a world leader in the bio/nano/high tech industry and in the development of medical devices.
  - Enhance and strengthen the Medical Alliance with increased funding and business incentives. Encourage the Medical Alliance to continually engage in a high priority partnership with Fairview Ridges to secure additional specialties south of the river. Encourage the Medical Alliance to pursue such projects as telemedicine, research facilities and incubator programs.
  - Increase strategic partnerships with innovative organizations like U of M, Mayo Clinic and Fairview Ridges.
  - Redevelop smaller, older commercial areas with innovative uses.
  - Create a cycle of learning by working with higher education to train/retrain workers.

  Toolbox:
  - Make a commitment to use existing tax incentives for business expansion.
  - Partner with medical leaders.
  - Support the Medical Alliance with appropriate resources and budget from the City.

  Measures:
  - Develop a K-12+ technology curriculum

Development Goal B: Declare the Heart of the City the Soul of the City.

Discussion: The committee got creative with this goal and envisioned an area in the community that could be "alive". The Heart of the City was innovative but since its inception other communities are following suit with similar projects. It will be essential to challenge ourselves and identify unique characteristics in this area. The Heart of the City needs to be a place that is fun, hip and entertaining, a destination that residents would be proud to bring visitors (a true economic engine with regional appeal). There is the potential for the Heart of the City to inspire, educate and be world-class.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Anchor the HOC with a unique, multi-purpose attraction that cannot found anywhere else in the Twin Cities (e.g. Center for Creativity/Future/Sustainability, Conference and Community Center).
  - Create a "24/7" lively atmosphere:
    - Integrate and upgrade existing farmer's market area
    - Create more outdoor seating
    - "Pipe-in" outdoor music
    - Include a hotel, B&B and themed inns
    - Keep in mind pedestrian safety
  - Seek a signature "rooftop" restaurant/bar and take advantage of vistas.

  Toolbox:
  - Increase EDA funding to levy maximum
  - Develop a 30-year vision for HOC

  Measures:
  - City of Burnsville should continue lighting and flowering program if the organizations currently conducting these programs cannot continue.
  - Aggressive promotion through brochures, maps, web, articles, etc.

Development Goal C: Invest in the Minnesota River Quadrant.

Discussion: The Development Committee feels that this is another area in Burnsville where a BOLD vision can be created with tangible results. The MRQ needs signature, iconic buildings and infrastructure with a new look. By pursuing federal clean-up dollars a kick-off project could be undertaken and jump start development in the Minnesota River Quadrant.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Accelerate MRQ "master plan", identify tangible and achievable goals for development that embraces a "bold" vision.
  - Include a Professional Class A office building on McGowan property.
  - Include mixed-use expertise from cutting-edge locations other than Minnesota (not more of the same).
  - Protect the environment – employ sustainable building and living practices.
  - Create a "24-hour" atmosphere.

  Toolbox:
  - City of Burnsville should convene a Citizen's Advisory Committee to develop and implement a vision for the MRQ (similar to HOC Advisory Board)
  - Develop the resources to implement MRQ Vision
  - Increase EDA levy to funding maximum

  Measures:
  - Develop a "fast track" plan

Development Goal D: Take advantage of our proximity to regional assets.

Discussion: With the MOA doubling in size, how can Burnsville capitalize on this and other regional opportunities or assets? The committee feels strongly that Burnsville needs an identity and spent some time brainstorming catch phrases: “Burnsville, the place your heart calls home”, “Feel the burn-visit Burnsville” or “A community close to your heart.” Burnsville should identify or create unique features that could draw visitors similar to how people travel to the northern part of Minnesota to see big plastic fish, ox and Paul Bunyan.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Capitalize on the Mall of America’s expansion plans in Burnsville’s NE quadrant.
  - Identify all gateways into Burnsville with unique features.
  - Honor new and historic neighborhoods with local monuments.
  - Showcase the Minnesota River through amenities, trails, lighting, building orientation and take advantage of visual assets.

  Toolbox:
  - Conduct an image/branding exercise with a national, award-winning firm. Involve the community and a broad range of organizations within the community to create a favorable, creative and beneficial brand and image.

  Measures:
  - Burnsville has an identity

Development Goal E: Connect focus areas through "smart" corridor and city planning.

Discussion: Burnsville currently has hubs of activity. By capitalizing on and connecting these hubs Burnsville could create a greater sense of place.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Connect MRQ, HOC and Ridges Campus by:
    - Technology: use WI-FI and large data transfer networks
    - Physically: walking and biking pathways, transit
    - Aesthetics: "high-impact" streetscaping, water features, public areas, way finding signage and art
    - Community: signature buildings and icons
    - Sustainability: Encourage new development or redevelopment to embrace LEED building standards
    - Extend to Co Rd. 42, Hwy 13, CO Rd. 5 and I-35

  Toolbox:
  - Reduce parking requirements

City Services Committee

City Services Committee

Committee Members:

- Bill Johnson - Chair
- Jack Phillips – Vice Chair
- Deb Burrell
- Paula Nelson
- Ram Singh
- John Oravis
- Steve Moore
- Lorraine Parker

City Staff: Tammy Omdal, Jim Skelly, Tom Venables, Bridget Dalrymple

Introduction:
The City Services Committee addressed the issue of delivery of city services. The Committee found it challenging work to distinguish this Theme Area from others. The Committee noted how the topic of delivery of city services is integral with the other Theme Areas. For example, the group was interested in discussing city services as it relates to transportation challenges across the community as well as other neighborhood and housing stock issues, which the Committee understood to be topics under discussion at the other committees.

As part of its process, the Committee agreed to each draft three priority statements with ideas as to how to accomplish, measure, and track timelines for each item. After drafting priority statements, the Committee agreed that the statements generally fit, with a few exceptions, within the following three main goal areas: customer service practices in the delivery of city services, community relations and pride of ownership in private and public assets.

Several of the priority statements identified by the Committee focused on the effective and efficient delivery of city services. In discussing customer service, the Committee recognized that the delivery of city services in a "customer focused manner" is important to the community and should be a factor in city decision-making.

The Committee believes it is important for city government to be a positive face for the entire community in welcoming and integrating new members into the community, especially members with diverse ethnic backgrounds. The Committee noted the importance of effectively welcoming not only new residents but also new businesses to the community.

In addition, the Committee recognized the importance of community members, both residents and business owners, having open access to elected officials as wells as the management staff of the city.

The Committee recognizes the importance of maintaining the quality of Burnsville's aging housing stock as well as its many commercial buildings. The Committee expressed concern with the impact just a few poorly maintained properties can have on neighboring properties. The Committee was encouraged by ideas discussed to help ensure Burnsville's housing stock is well maintained and ideas to support reinvestment in commercial property to keep it viable. Furthermore, the Committee expressed concern with other aspects of maintaining the appearance of the broader community, including signage (i.e., sometimes poor appearance of temporary garage sale signs).

Vision Statement: The City of Burnsville values its customers – which are the residents, business owners, and visitors to this community. This value is consistently reflected through how city services are delivered to the public.

City Services Goal A: Promote effective and efficient customer service practices in the delivery of city services to the community.

DISCUSSION: The Committee recognized the success the City has had in maintaining property taxes at a reasonable level and continuing to provide value for the taxes paid. The Committee feels the City is doing a good job in this respect and want to ensure that it will continue.

- **Strategies/Action Steps:**
  - Maintain property taxes at no more than suburban average while maintaining financial strength of the City.
  - On-Going: Annually communicate to the citizens what the City is doing to effectively manage its finances, including its cash reserves.

  Success Index:
  - Citizen surveys indicate strong public support for the City's taxation level in correlation to the services provided.

City Services Goal B: Promote strong community relations throughout the community.

- **Strategy 1:** Identify a way to recognize and coordinate community efforts with the many community groups located within Burnsville.

Discussion: The discussion focused on how the City could be the entity that helps to focus and coordinate the efforts of the many local community groups within the City. The Committee recognized that our community has a good reputation because of its high community involvement and wants the City to use this as an incentive to encourage businesses and residents to locate within Burnsville. Specifically, the Committee discussed ways that the Council may become more accessible to more people outside of the official meetings of the Council, but still in an organized and planned way. The Committee discussed how City management staff was accessible to them because of the hours they keep at City hall but did not feel the Council was as accessible because of other commitments the Council has outside of City Hall.

Action Steps:

- Year 1: Conduct informal, public meetings with elected city officials and city department heads two times per year.
- Consider conducting meetings by geographic area to address specific issues and reach out specifically to non-English speaking areas of the City.

Success Index:

- There is continued investment in our community by both current and new residents and current or new and expanding businesses.

- **Strategy 2:** Identify ways to encourage a broad-range of citizens to take an active role in community programs and activities, including serving on city committees and commissions.

Discussion: The Committee recognized the success of National Night Out as an example of great community participation. The Committee would like the City to consider other ways of helping the community to take an active role in keeping our community safe. The Committee believes this type of effort is correctly placed under the City Services Theme.

Action Steps:

- Year 1: Consider a plan for improving how we utilize block captains, implement communitywide initiatives such as “Healthy Communities”.

Success Index:

- Burnsville is a safe city where citizens are active partners in maintaining a high quality of life.

➢ **Strategy 3:** Develop a plan for welcoming new residents to the community.

Discussion: This idea grew out of discussion that the community needs to address diversity challenges within the community through reception, outreach, inclusion, and involvement of new residents of a different culture. The Committee suggested using the city website, cable television, the Burnsville Bulletin and recreational brochures as an initial means to reach out to community members for their interest in becoming involved in the community. Further discussion included creating a welcome packet and coordinating with the “Welcome Wagon”, collaborating with other organizations including schools for information and distribution.

Action Steps:

- Year 1: Identify an action plan for how the City could proactively welcome new residents to the community.
- Year 2: Implement the action plan.

Success Index:

- Residents of diverse cultural backgrounds are represented on community groups and city government.

City Services Goal C: Promote pride of ownership in both private (homes and businesses) and public assets.

- **Strategy 1:** Create an appeal board for home owners/proprietors to appeal violations.

Discussion: This idea grew out of discussion of the concern of maintaining the quality of housing and commercial property in Burnsville. The Committee focused on how the City could play a role, through delivery of city services, in promoting pride of ownership. The process would provide a venue for those considered violators by the city to have their case heard by community residents or business owners. It would also provide a venue for the violator to hear feedback from the community on the impact the violation may be having on the broader community.

Action Steps:

- Year 1: Conduct a Governance Process concerning this idea to consider models followed by other communities. The Outcome of this process will drive the next step for this concept.

Success Index:

- Individuals or proprietors understand the importance of maintaining their homes or businesses in good order and how not doing so affects not only their own property value but also the broader community.

- **Strategy 2:** Continue to prepare and implement long-range plans for public infrastructure.

Discussion: The Commitment recognizes the need for long-range planning for public infrastructure maintenance. As the city continues to age, the Committee believes to ensure a vibrant and attractive city for families and businesses the city must maintain a strong commitment to its infrastructure. The act of forward thinking in terms of infrastructure replacement is seen as positive.

Action Steps:

- On-going: Continue to dedicate the necessary resources, including property taxes, for the maintenance of public infrastructure.

Success Index:

- Burnsville is a vibrant and attractive city for families and businesses to thrive.

➢ **Strategy 3:** Identify a plan for how the city can support the development and maintenance of community aesthetics.

Discussion: The Committee discussed how the city might give people a reason to choose the Burnsville community to call home. There was discussion on how to make residents feel like they belong to a "true" community. The Committee discussed the importance of ensuring the availability of "workforce" (affordable) housing and a safe community.

Action Steps:

- Year 1: Form a volunteer committee to create a plan. The plan should emphasize "small", incremental improvements to improve the overall aesthetics of the community.

Success Index:

- Burnsville is a community that residents are proud to call home because of community aesthetics.

CEO Focus Group

CEO Focus Group

DATE:	Friday, September 8th, 2006
FACILITATOR:	Mayor Elizabeth Kautz
ATTENDEES:	Charlie Crichton – Council Member Ryan Katula – Northern Hydraulics Corp. Chuck Albright – Northern Hydraulics Corp. Ron Ames – Ames Construction Shawn Dahl – Ames Construction Robbin Hahn – Burnsville Shopping Center Sara Crieger – Fairview Ridges Brian Gora – Goodrich Corp. Bridget Dalrymple – City Staff Vickie Martin – City Staff

INTRODUCTION:
Each attendee introduced themselves. The Mayor gave a brief overview of the objective of the meeting which was to create a vision for the City of Burnsville 15 to 20 years from today and ensure its competitiveness on a regional and global stage. A SWOT analysis was used to promote discussion and gather feedback from attendees on their impressions and vision for the City from a business leader's perspective.

DISCUSSION:

1. **Burnsville's Strengths**:
   - Many major road structures to create easy access to major cities, airport.
   - River barrier to keep workers south. Keep shoppers to the south.
   - Good retail around businesses for easy lunch access.
   - Rural feel; family/hometown feel.
   - Community loyalty/commitment.
   - Vocal community.
   - Competitive wages.
   - Good revitalization is some areas.
   - Good/fair income per capita to support businesses.

- Great demographics.
- Diversity: age/gender/ethnic healthy for community.
- Great city leadership and support.
- HOC to bring community together.
- Standards not too high; affordable.
- Good transportation.
- Employment draws from younger communities south of the river.
- Affordable housing.
- Letter and support from Mayor in recruiting packages of some local businesses

2. Burnsville's Weaknesses:

- Weak in hospitality. Need flagship hotel and convention center accommodations.
- Need trendy, upscale restaurants.
- Rural feel.
- Highway splits the city.
- The City does not have identifiable markings at its boundaries.
- Unappealing corridor – County Road 42 and Highway 13. Need money to upkeep.
- Need trendy and new businesses. Current retail is tired and at the end of its product life.
- Need more businesses and industries.
- 98% built out/ people like new so we need to redevelop more areas of the City.
- River as a boundary.
- Lacking in communications and technology infrastructure – Bandwidth.
- Need continuing education resource for medical and technical local businesses.
- Aging community.
- Lost business: Levitz, Knox, Rainbow.
- Getting riffraff in community.
- Too much local government red tape for redevelopment and expansion.
- Business recruiting.

3. Burnsville's Opportunities:

- Light rail or other transportation corridors.

- Regional draw and support to have centralized hospitality/convention site.
- Alternative or cycling housing.
- Central location to bring in popular stores, shops.
- Capitalize on centralized use of Landfill.
- Draw from other communities' resources.
- Incentives for businesses to come into Burnsville.
- Promote the city in recruiting packages.
- Create multiple anchors within the city for residents to have different experiences and choices, like the Heart of the City.
- Provide perks to draw new business.
- Aging community and opportunities for redevelopment
- Encourage revitalization.
- Partnerships and collaboration.
- Mixed use and value-added services.
- Capitalize on higher average income population.
- Performing Arts or Cultural Center will attract higher income people because they are the ones who will pay the money for Arts and Culture events.

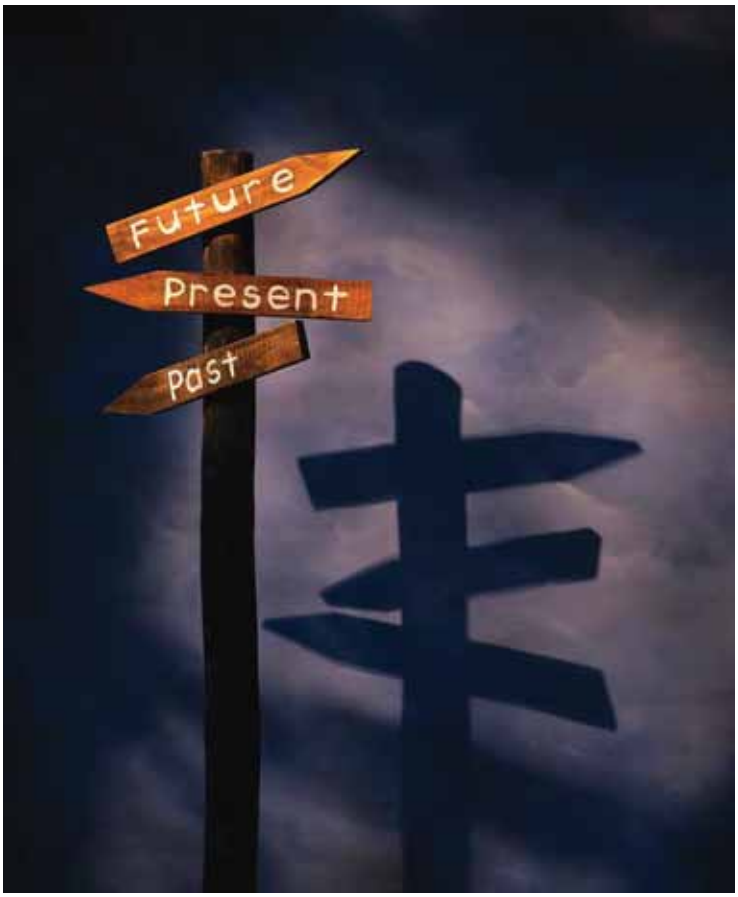
4. Burnsville's Threats:

- Becoming Bedroom Community.
- Turn into a Richfield or Farmington.
- Other surrounding and growing communities are providing a competitive environment and have the potential to take businesses away from Burnsville.
- Need attention to the kind of retail to bring in to attract the right people. Need to manage the type versus how much.
- Won't attract high skill base people to increase income base of the community.
- No light rail.
- Being stagnant, not progressing.
- Old-looking retail that does not draw a higher skilled and more educated workforce and higher income taxbase.

5. Burnsville's Key to Success:

- High quality of life.
- Entertainment draw to appeal to the higher income base people: arts & entertainment opportunities.

- Celebrate the city with more promotional advertisement and share with businesses to include in recruiting materials.
- Public & private partnerships.
- Maintain County Road 42 and Highway 13.
- Educational opportunities for workforce and business development.
- Strong infrastructure already in place (“built it and they will come”).
- Strong first impression, good snap shot or image of the City overall.
- Capitalize on demographics and market pull.



APPENDIX G – BURNSVILLE MONITORING REPORT

JANUARY 2008

CITY OF BURNSVILLE
2030
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

CITY OF BURNSVILLE
MONITORING REPORT
To Mayor & City Council

JANUARY 2008

CITY OF BURNSVILLE
2007 MONITORING REPORT

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2007 MONITORING REPORT OVERVIEW

This is the ninth Annual Monitoring Report to the Burnsville City Council. The information provided herein is the data available as of the 4th Quarter of 2007. To the extent possible, the information provides comparative data without merely duplicating the survey information provided in the Monitoring Report completed January 2007. This information is a comprehensive supplement to the ***Staff → Council*** communication provided in the Bi-weekly Monitoring Reports. The City's Governance Model says that monitoring information should be "judgmental, evaluative, and retrospective."

ORGANIZATION OF REPORT

This Monitoring Report is arranged according to the current organizational model, with performance measurement data reported by the major departments or work areas. This reporting is intended to:

- **Verify alignment of City services with the City Council's ENDS & OUTCOMES.**
- **Facilitate effective evaluation of spending priorities within the 2007 & 2008 Budgets.**
- **Help staff and Council to learn about needed changes from the data trends.**

LIMITATIONS OF PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

At the outset, it should be recognized that applying Performance Measurement in the public sector presents a number of limitations including:

- Information can be subjective and highly dependent upon each individual data source used
- There is no single measure of success, like profit in the private sector
- Data is not all-inclusive, a precise science, a quick fix or the only tool available for decision-making
- There can be numerous conflicting priorities, expectations and interests involved

However, these observations do not eliminate the need for using performance measurement and developing standards for establishing benchmarks for comparison with other cities.

It should be recognized that using the term "Performance Measurement" can raise conflicting expectations because of the wide variety of personal experiences that each of us brings to our role in the organization. Although the two key characteristics of performance measurement *Efficiency & Effectiveness* are intertwined, we intend to emphasize indicators of organizational *Effectiveness.* Our persistent goal must be to focus on refinement of the *Desired Results* we seek to effect by the actions of our City government; rather than the usual focus on the means & programs to pursue those results.

We must be concerned about doing the right things and doing things right. This report provides data that is consistent with the role of the City Council as the "Board of Directors", instead of reporting data primarily used by managers to measure the *Efficiency* of individual tasks. Finally, use of this type of data should not be interpreted to be a substitute for leadership or analysis.

BURNSVILLE CITY COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES
(Updated through December 2007)

SAFETY

END STATEMENT:
People find Burnsville a safe community, participate in Homeland Security, and are willing to prevent fire and crime.

OUTCOMES:
1. People have an overall feeling of safety.
    a. Neighborhood Watch groups will experience improved training, networking and organizational opportunities.
2. Customers and employees feel safe in a shopping environment.
3. People feel children are safe playing in the parks.
4. People trust in public safety response and service rendered.
    a. Fire and EMS will reach 80% of the emergency calls in seven minutes or less.
    b. Fire and EMS Services are provided in the most cost effective manner perhaps in partnership with surrounding communities.
5. Citizens, including youth, are active participants in community safety.
    a. People are pro-active in reporting suspicious/unusual activity.
    b. People are aware of and adhere to safe driving practices.
    c. Citizens participate in Homeland Security.
    d. Public safety needs to work with community partners to proactively address drug-related crimes with an emphasis on curbing methamphetamine use.
6. Pedestrian safety will be preserved and enhanced through engineering and education.

TRANSPORTATION

END STATEMENT:
People find Burnsville a community with an effective, multi-modal transportation system connecting people and goods with destination points.

OUTCOMES:
1. People feel that the transportation system is effective for connecting them to destination points.
    a. Advocate for collaborative efforts & shared resources for intra-city transit services.
    b. Begin mainline improvements for the approved CSAH 42 Segment 8 Implementation Plan in 2007.
    c. Prioritize TH 13/CSAH 5 intersection upgrades.
2. People feel that multiple methods of transportation are easily available, safe and convenient.
    a. Support efforts to bring Bus Rapid Transit to Burnsville.
3. People feel that the community roadway systems are well maintained at a reasonable cost.
    a. Use alternative funding options: TEA-21, Federal, etc.
4. Transportation system adequately serves City businesses.
    a. Advocate adequate access from County, State and Federal roadways to ensure a viable business community.
    b. Efforts will be made to obtain funding for significant safety and mobility improvements on Trunk Highway 13.
5. The safety, longevity and quality of our residential neighborhood streets are maintained, improved or enhanced.
6. New initiatives for transportation funding by MnDoT and Dakota County will be supported when City and County businesses are not disadvantaged.

DEVELOPMENT/REDEVELOPMENT

END STATEMENT:
People find Burnsville a balanced city of residential and business development enhanced by redevelopment.

OUTCOMES:
1. Job creation, retention and an enhanced tax base are assured by growth, redevelopment and sustained viability of commercial and industrial property.
2. People are involved in Economic Development and Redevelopment initiatives.
    a. Heart of the City
    b. Minnesota River Quadrant
        i. MRQ Infrastructure Review – Quarry to Savage
    c. Monuments at Key City Entrances
    d. Viability of Aging Retail Properties
    e. EKS / Waste Management PUD Review
3. Specific development or redevelopment assistance will provide for business and residential projects consistent with established policies.
    a. Effective business assistance policies are maintained and updated.
4. Explore, define, create a TIF District in the Minnesota River Quadrant area.

HEALTHY CITIES INITIATIVE

END STATEMENT:
People find Burnsville to be a community of healthy lifestyles, neighborhoods, and environment

OUTCOMES:
1. Citizens, including youth, participate in a wide variety of physical activities.
2. The City's active participation with local schools results in healthier children.
3. The City's regulatory codes support healthy environments.
4. The City's partnerships with the health community and businesses results in healthier nutrition opportunities for all or our citizens.
5. A coordinated media plan effectively promotes community wide involvement in health building activities.

YOUTH

END STATEMENT:
Youth find Burnsville a nurturing and supportive community.

OUTCOMES:
1. Youth are involved in community decisions.
    a. Youth are active participants on City Boards and Commissions wherever possible.
2. All youth have the opportunity to participate in a broad range of programs, community service and facilities.
    a. Youth programs are built on strong partnerships that are sustainable.
3. Youth are aware of community activities, programs, facilities, and support systems.
4. Community partnerships will have significant impact on reducing or even eliminating youth tobacco and alcohol use.
5. Develop the old Maintenance Facility for youth programs in conjunction with the new Maintenance Facility expansion.

NEIGHBORHOODS

END STATEMENT:
People feel connected to their neighborhoods.

OUTCOMES:

1. People have pride and ownership in their neighborhoods.
    a. City will devise a plan and strategies to collaboratively advance the viability of residential neighborhoods.
2. People know and care about their neighbors and participate in solving problems and creating celebrations in their neighborhoods.
    a. Public recognition is given to neighborhoods solving problems and creating celebrations in their neighborhood.
3. Neighborhoods are enjoyable, safe and stable places to live, work, and recreate.
    a. Staff will facilitate the distribution of information to and the involvement of neighborhoods likely to be affected by airport operations, particularly in northeast Burnsville.
4. People feel Burnsville has quality housing.
    a. Promote home ownership: Goal is 70% owner occupied, 30% rental.
    b. Promote and encourage the upgrade, enhancement and maintenance of existing housing stock.
    c. Partner with organizations to achieve affordable home ownership.
    d. Community and agency partnerships will result in measurable quality of life improvements at distressed multi-family housing sites.
    e. Connelly Estates and Horizon Heights will be upgraded to their highest best use.
    f. Create Best Management Practices for rental housing.
5. As an organization, the City practices a philosophy that encourages City employees to learn from, build relationships with and facilitate the participation of citizens in identifying needs, addressing challenges and affecting change in their community.
    a. Meaningful connections with diverse populations in the City will be achieved through active community partnerships.
    b. Diverse populations will be incorporated into the community celebration.
6. An active Citizen Corps Council will be maintained.

ENVIRONMENT

END STATEMENT:
People find Burnsville is an environmentally sensitive community ensuring preservation and enhancement of its natural resources.

OUTCOMES:

1. People find that Burnsville is an environmentally sensitive community and they understand their role in pursuing this result.
2. Development and Redevelopment occurs in an environmentally sensitive manner, preserving our natural resources.
3. People find Burnsville to be an attractive, clean city and are willing to keep it that way.
4. Citizens value natural water bodies and recognize the importance of preserving them.
5. Residents and businesses are assured that there is long term, dependable, and environmentally sound plan for providing potable water.
6. The City will review its Water Resources Plan to address redevelopment projects.

CITY SERVICES

END STATEMENT:
People find the City of Burnsville delivers quality essential services in a cost effective, timely manner.

OUTCOMES:

1. Residents and Businesses recognize city services as a positive value.
2. Citizens perceive City employees as customer service oriented.
3. City Services and City employees are focused on community building.
    a. Employees will be increasingly involved in Community Building activities.
4. Citizens are informed about issues, feel positive about City services and are aware of opportunities for increased involvement in community initiatives.
5. Burnsville is a preferred community with a great quality of life.
6. Businesses and residents are attracted to Burnsville because of a visible commitment to technology that supports an enhanced quality of life.
    a. Burnsville facilitates community wide accessibility to broadband technology.
    b. Burnsville provides effective community wide electronic-government (E-Gov.) services.
7. Burnsville is an organization that provides a supportive and collaborative environment encouraging employee learning and participation in the decision-making process.
8. Service consolidations and partnerships with Dakota County and other cities will be implemented.
9. The City will work with its partners to establish a future home of Burnsville/Eagan Community Television.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

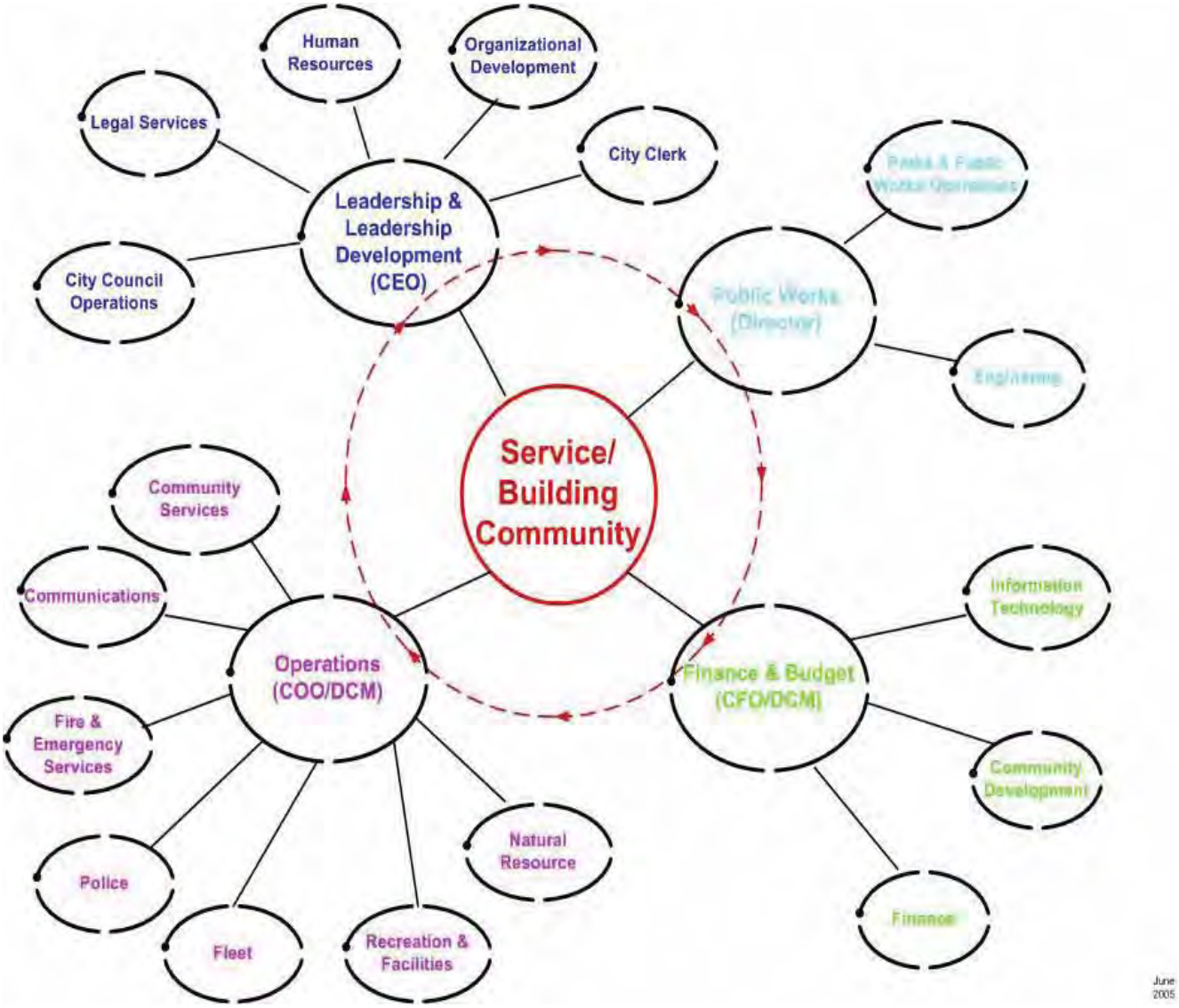
END STATEMENT:
People find the City of Burnsville managed in a cost-effective responsible manner, maintaining the highest standards of service, to enhance the community's quality of life for a reasonable investment.

OUTCOMES:

1. Citizens perceive the cost of City services as reasonable compared with other cities.
2. City maintains a comprehensive Financial Management Plan.

Organizational Model

The City of Burnsville is organized at the direction of the City Manager. As Chief Executive Officer, the Manager is the sole employee of the City Council. The current organizational configuration is non-traditional and has been described as a "molecular model" which seeks to emphasize the relationship of work groups while de-emphasizing hierarchy. The organizational arrangement illustrated above is fluid and can change at the discretion of the City Manager. This current structure is the result of a gradual evolution over the life of the City and will continue to evolve as the needs of the community change.



Organizational Model

MANAGEMENT TEAM, COORDINATORS AND SUPERVISORS

In the ideal, the City of Burnsville strives to recognize the potential for leadership at all levels in the organization. However the demands and complexity of local government services require that lines of accountability exist for organizational performance, as delegated by the City Manager. The City strives to reduce the layers of reporting ("flattening the organization") with two layers only between the front line service providers and the Management Team.

Management Team The first level of responsibility lies with this group of employees who assist the City Manager with overall guidance of the organization:

City Manager – Craig Ebeling

Deputy City Manager/Chief Operations Officer – Tom Hansen

Deputy City Manager/Chief Financial Officer – Tammy Omdal

Director of Public Works / City Engineer – Bud Omundson

Human Resources Manager – Jill Hansen

Coordinators The next level of responsibility lies with the primary managers of these areas:

Communications Coordinator – Jim Skelly

Deputy City Clerk – Macheal Brooks

Director of Natural Resources – Terry Schultz

Director of Parks & Public Works – Randy Oppelt

Director of Recreation & Facilities – Gary Harker

Financial Accounting Director – Kelly Strey

Financial Operations Director – Steve Olstad

Fire Chief – Steve Harklerode

Information Technology Coordinator – Tom Venables

Police Chief – Bob Hawkins

Police Captain / Operations – Eric Gieseke

Police Captain / Support – Eric Werner

Supervisors The next level of responsibility lies with the direct supervisors of front line employees and service providers throughout the organization.

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES

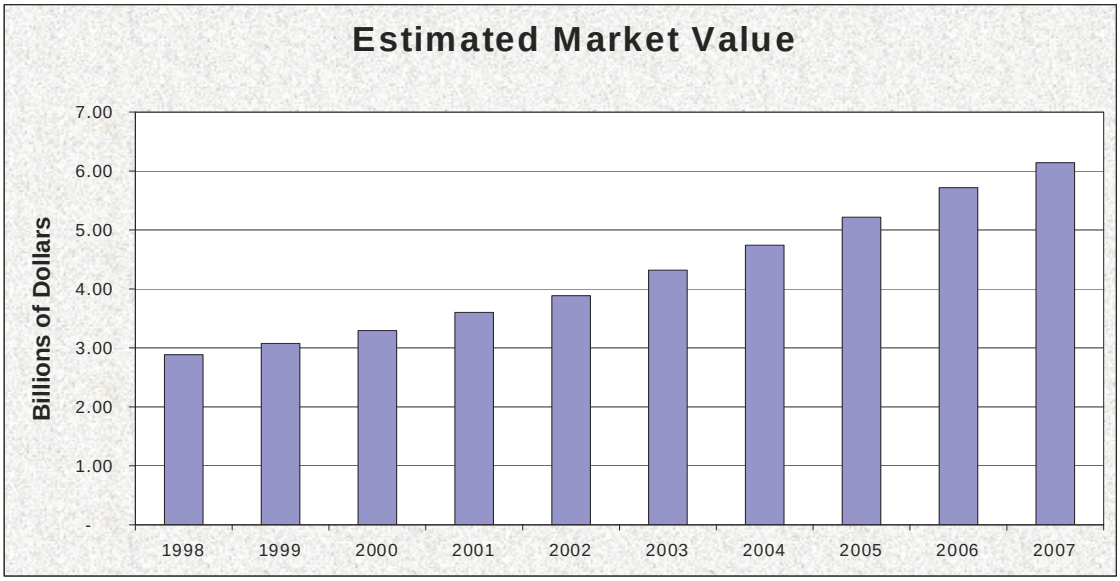
The primary purpose of the entire organization is to *Provide Service and Build Community* in alignment with the City Council's policy expectations as described in the ENDS & OUTCOMES. All members of the city organization are responsible for aligning their work with the ends & outcomes and are evaluated accordingly.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA

In line with the Council's adopted governance statements, the most important statistics are incorporated throughout this document. When considering the overall performance of the entire organization, particular attention should be given to the following areas:

MEGA END STATEMENT - People find Burnsville an attractive, well balanced city of residences and businesses, which through a combination of amenities and public/private partnerships, provides a wide range of opportunities for citizens to live, work, learn and play, for a reasonable investment.

One of the single most significant indicators of perception about the attractiveness of our City is demonstrated in the consistent growth in total market value. From 1998 to 2007, total estimated market value has more than doubled from $2.9 billion to $6.2 billion, increasing 7% in 2007 and over 10% per year in each of the previous four years. This "bottom line" demonstrates that people find our City an attractive place to invest.



Another indicator of financial stability is the credit rating assigned by independent rating agencies. Independent evaluation of a municipalities' credit risk is most likely the single most important independent indicator of overall prudent financial and administrative management. Since 2001, ***Moody's Investor Service*** has assigned a bond rating of Aa1 to the City of Burnsville's bonds. This is the second highest rating possible. The evaluation considers many factors including property value information, tax capacity rates, outstanding debt, fund balances, budget results and other financial information. Population and demographic statistics of employment and wealth are also considered. The City retained its Aa1 rating during the bonding process in December 2007.

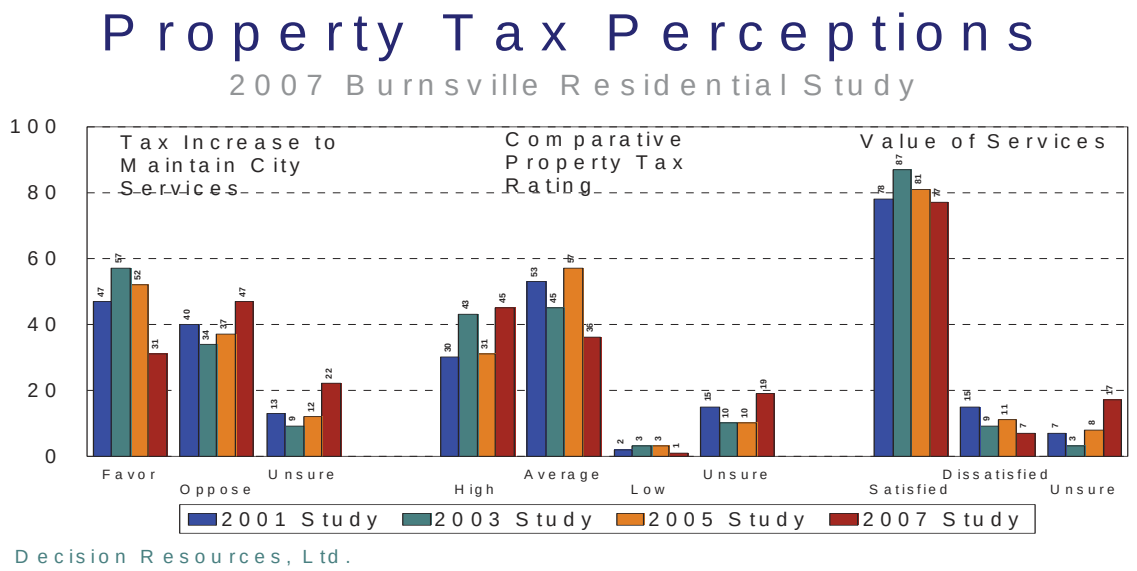
MOODY'S CREDIT RATING SYSTEM

Aaa ***Aa1*** Aa2 Aa3 A1 A2 A3 Baa1 Baa2 Baa3

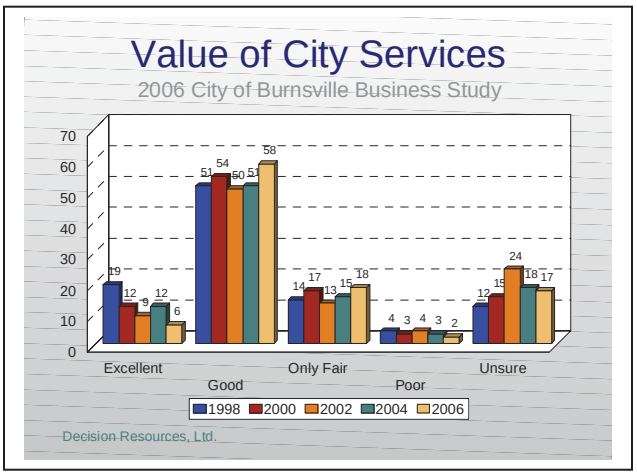
strongest ⟶ weakest

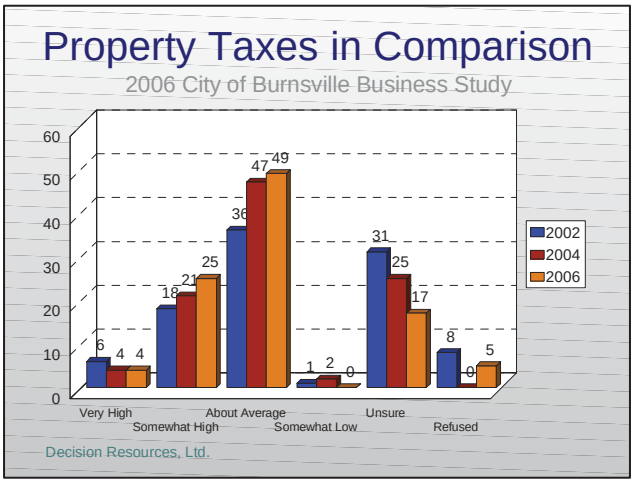
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT END- People find the City of Burnsville managed in a cost-effective responsible manner, maintaining the highest standards of service, to enhance the community's quality of life for a reasonable investment

Over the past four residential surveys the majority of respondents indicated support for a tax increase to maintain city services; while rating comparative property taxes with nearby areas about average and further indicated a high level of satisfaction with the value of city services.



Over the past three business surveys, respondents rated the value of city services for property taxes paid as "Good or Excellent", **59%** in 2002, **63%** in 2004 and **64%** in 2006. The largest number of 2006 Business survey respondents rated city property taxes about average compared to nearby areas.





Financial Comparison Data

City Tax Rates

The following table shows a comparison of our 2007 adopted and 2008 ***proposed*** city tax rates for city services with other Dakota County cities. Burnsville's proposed tax rate is below the average for other Dakota County cities. Final adopted rates are not available at this time. On December 17, 2007, the Burnsville City Council adopted a levy that represents a $1.2 million increase over the 2007 levy. The following charts reflect only the City tax levies and do not include special levies, such as HRA or EDA levies that cities may also certify.

Dakota County Cities	Adopted 2007 Tax Rate	Proposed 2008 Tax Rate
1 Hastings	49.235	49.451
2 Farmington	41.883	43.784
3 West St Paul	42.082	43.696
4 Rosemount	42.521	42.509
5 Inver Grove Heights	36.514	37.740
6 South St Paul	34.143	36.127
7 Apple Valley	34.891	35.647
8 Burnsville	**34.564**	**35.105**
9 Lakeville	31.583	34.181
10 Eagan	25.232	25.887
11 Mendota Heights	26.398	24.821
Average of 11 Dakota County Cities	26.277	37.177

The next table shows a comparison of our 2007 adopted city tax rate for city services with other market cities. Burnsville's tax rate was the highest out of the ten market cities; however, it was slightly lower than the state-wide average. This information is not available for the 2008 proposed or adopted tax rates at this time. We anticipate that Burnsville's comparison to our metro market cities will remain similar for the year 2008.

Metro Market Cities	Adopted 2007 Tax Rate
1 Burnsville	35.414
2 Brooklyn Park	35.254
3 Apple Valley	34.891
4 St. Louis Park	34.738
5 Lakeville	31.583
6 Coon Rapids	30.610
7 Minnetonka	28.416
8 Eagan	25.232
9 Plymouth	23.280
10 Edina	21.150
Averages of Ten Market Cities	30.057
State-wide average	36.09

Building Community, Leveraging Resources – saving tax dollars through grants, donations

Another way to consider the effectiveness of city services are the grants and donations received over the past few years. Following are some of the major grants & donations:

Safety

- Homeland Security Citizens Corp Grants (2006-2008) $134,805
- Pandemic Flu Planning (2007) $12,000
- Assistance to Firefighters Grant (2007) $106,860
- Bulletproof Vest Grant (Annually): provides 50% of cost for bulletproof vests for officers approximately $15,000 annually
- MN DPS Homeland Security Command Center (2004-2005) $368,875
- MN DPS Auto Theft Prevention Grant (2004-2005) $55,000
- Homeland Security Grant (2003-2005) for Police OT $87,387
- Burnsville Fire Muster Reimbursement (2005) $10,000
- CERT Trailer (2006) $14,865
- CDBG – EMS Grants to low-income patients $28,140

Youth- THE GARAGE

- MN Dept of Public Safety (2004-05) $75,000 (2006-07) $110,000 (2008-09) $160,000
- Community Development Block Grant (2004-07) $192,949 (3 year total allocation)
- McKnight Foundation (2005) $25,000 (2006) $30,000 (2007) $30,000 (2008) $30,000

Transportation

- Dakota County Traffic Safety (2006) $6,000 (2007) $6,000 (2008) $160,000

Neighborhoods

- Community Development Block Grant Funds (2005-07) funds used in partnership with Dakota County CDA in projects for senior citizens and low/moderate income residents.
  - Home Remodeling Grants $109,000
  - Senior Services, including Senior Center Support $44,000 annually
  - Ethnic Outreach/Recycling Program- funds for providing materials on recycling to multi-family sites with high density Somali and Spanish speaking residents. $4,500
- Novartis Foundation, Alimagnet Dog Park fencing (2005) $10,000
- Rathman Family Foundation, Alimagnet Dog Park lighting (2005) $71,000

Healthy Cities Initiative

- Blue Cross/Blue Shield – Healthy Cities Initiaitive (2007) $35,000

Environment

- State of MN Bonding Grant for surface water treatment plant (2008) $5.5mil
- Metropolitan Council Grant (2005)for Low Impact Development (HOC) -$75,000
- Dakota County Grant (2007) Dakota Valley Recycling Program- $127,000 – annually
- Dakota County CDA Grant (2007) for the Burnsville Center Area Ponding Project - $250,000
- Dakota County SWCD Grant (2007) for Wood Park Pond Shoreline Restoration – $3,500
- Young Fishers, Inc. Grant (2007) for Wood Park Pond Fishing Dock – $11,000

City Services

- BA 191 Improvements to Alimagnet Baseball Fields (2005) $42,886
- BAC – Sue Fischer Fields (2005-2007) $177,000, Neill Baseball Fields (2006) $75,000

Cost Saving Partnerships

Partnerships are a vital element for cost effectiveness and community building. The City has pursued partnerships with a variety of other government agencies as well as private groups to collaborate to achieve results in each of the community themes. All city departments take advantage of many opportunities to join forces and interact with different agencies and groups on an on-going basis, however this is a list of a few of the partnerships that have had and will continue to have an impact on city operations:

Partnering Organization	Partnership Focus
Safety	
▪ Dakota Communications Center	Consolidated 911 Dispatch for Dakota County & Dakota County cities
▪ Dakota County	Radio Workgroup - 800 MHz Radio
▪ ALF Ambulance Service	Consolidated medical director services
▪ Dakota County Drug Task Force	Multi-city partnership formed to fight illegal drugs
▪ County/Cities/Bloomington/Savage	Public Safety Regional Mutual Aid
▪ Dakota County	Domestic Preparedness - Special Operations Team
▪ Lakeville, Apple Valley, Eagan	Fire training site
▪ Dakota County Cities and Savage	Fire Dept. Automotive Mutual Aid
▪ Dakota County	EMS Consortium - EMS Services
▪ Scott County	Scale Initiative – public safety training facility
▪ Dakota County & Cities	CJINN – Improve efficiency and access to public safety information
Youth	
▪ Burnsville Athletic Club	Sue Fischer Memorial Park / youth ball field
▪ Burnsville Hockey Club	Ice Center & BHC Training facility
▪ BA 191 Baseball	Alimagnet Park baseball improvements
▪ South of the River Recreators	Joint Recreation Programming
▪ ISD #191	Youth Relations Officers
▪ YMCA	Community Education Youth Program
▪ Burnsville Youth Center Foundation	The GARAGE
Neighborhood	
▪ ISD #191	Senior Center

Development/Redevelopment

▪ Dakota County	Economic Partnership - Dakota Futures
▪ City of Bloomington	Electrical Inspector
▪ Burnsville Community Foundation	Heart of the City
▪ Burnsville Medical Alliance	Promote medical development
▪ Chamber of Commerce	Promote economic development
▪ Bville Commercial Real Estate Council	Promote economic development
▪ Burnsville Rotary	Nicollet Commons Park Arbor

Environment

▪ Stewards to Our Parks	Preservation of Terrace Oaks Park
▪ Cities of Apple Valley/Eagan	Multi-city partnership of recycling programs
▪ Cities of Apple Valley/Lakeville	Lake Management Programs
▪ Cities of Lakeville/Savage	Water Sharing
▪ Local youth groups	100 oak trees planted at Birnamwood Golf

Transportation

▪ MVTA	HOC parking ramp
▪ North Dakota County	Public Works Directors (CONDAC)
▪ I35 W Alliance	35 W Transportation issues
▪ Dakota County	County Rd 42 Improvements
▪ City of Savage, Scott County	County Rd 42 Frontage Road project

City Services

▪ Eagan	Community Television
▪ Apple Valley/St. Louis Park/Plymouth Minneapolis/Ramsey/Stillwater	Dental Insurance
▪ Dakota County/Dakota County Cities	HiPP- cost savings/service enhancing opportunities in IT, HR & Public Safety.
▪ People of Alimagnet Caring For K-9's	Alimagnet Dog Park improvements
▪ Burnsville Softball Council	Lac Lavon, Neill, Alimagnet improvements

Financial Management

▪ MN New World Systems User Group	Financial software user information sharing

Burnsville - An Award Winning City

One way to consider the effectiveness of City Services is through independent awards received by the City and it's departments over the past several years.

Safety

- MN Chiefs of Police, Distinguished Service Award to Officer Patrick A. Gast (2007)
- V.F.W. J. Edgar Hoover Gold Medal Award for Law Enforcement to Officer Steven M. Stoler (2007)
- School District 191, Outstanding Partnership Award to Burnsville Police Department's BLUE in the School Program
- Fire Investigator Jan Trom received an 2nd place award for photography of accidental causes from the MN Chapter of International Assoc. of Arson Investigators (2007)
- Officers Megan Mikulski, Rick Porras and Bev Price were presented "Medal of Honor" awards from the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association
- Officer Steve Stoler received the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association's "Distinguished Service Award" and "TOP COPS Honorable Mention Award" from the National Association of Police Organization
- Officer Steve Adrian received the VFW J. Edgar Hoover Gold Medal Award for "Law Enforcement Officer of the Year"
- Officer Liam Duggan received the Mothers Against Drunk Driving "Law Enforcement Award"
- Police Sergeant Jef Behnken received the Minnesota Chiefs Distinguished Service Award and the National Association of Police Organizations Outstanding Achievement in Law Enforcement Honorable Mention (2004)
- Investigator Steve Adrian received a Meritorious Service Award from the MN Chiefs Association and a TOPCOPS nomination from the National Association of Police Organization (2005)

Youth

- THE GARAGE and Police Department were selected by the National League of Cities' Institute for Youth, Education and Families Institute and US Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services as one of "2006 Best Practices for Mayors and Police Chiefs working together for America's Youth"
- THE GARAGE was selected by The Finance Project (DC) as a "2006 Federal Best Practices for Creative Financing Strategies: Youth Engagement and Community Support for Youth Programming"
- THE GARAGE was awarded the ThisWeek Newspapers Best of the Bunch "Best Teen Entertainment Award" (2005, 2006, 2007)
- THE GARAGE was awarded City Pages "Best All Ages Music Venue 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007

Neighborhood

- National Night Out Participation Award (annual award – ranked 15th Nationally in 2007)
- Fire Muster Guinness World Record fire truck parade (2004)
- Award of Excellence for Nicollet Commons Park, Minnesota Parks & Recreation Association (2005)
- Award of Excellence for Nicollet Commons Park, MN Chapter of Landscape Architects (2006)

Development/Redevelopment

- E-Commerce Certification from MN Department of Employment & Economic Development (2003)
- Best Workforce/Training Initiative project, Economic Development Association of Minnesota for 2006 - Vital Signs Minnesota (VSM) English Learning Training Program

Environment

- 2006 Community Conservationist Award to Terry Schultz, Natural Resources Director from MN Assoc. of Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- MnGREAT AWARD, Dakota Valley Recycling Program (2004)
- American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) Honor Award, Cliff Fen Wetland Restoration Project (2004) (2005)
- Minnesota Environmental Initiative Award, Burnsville Rainwater Gardens Projects (2005)
- Northern Lights Communication Association Award of Excellence for Public Service Announcement on the Disposal of Sharps and Prescription Medication, Dakota Valley Recycling Program (2007).

Transportation

- American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) Honor Award, HOC Parking Ramp (2004).

City Services

- James Padgett Award, MN Ice Arena Managers Association for excellence in arena operation (2004 & 2007). Burnsville is the only 2-time award winner.
- Cable Commission of the Year, MN Assoc. of Cable Television Administrators (MACTA) (2004)
- "Burnsville Mobile Volunteer Network" 2nd Place and "WWII History Bus" 2nd Place, Video Programming Awards, MN Association of Cable Television Administration (MACTA)
- 2005 Top 3 Dog Parks in the Country, Dog Fancy Magazine

Financial Management

- Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, Government Finance Officers Association
- Comprehensive Annual Finance Report (CAFR), Government Finance Officers Association,

Highlights of Budget Initiatives for 2007
Organized by City Council/Community Theme.

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES

The primary purpose of the entire organization is to *Provide Service and Build Community* in alignment with the City Council's policy expectations as described in the ENDS & OUTCOMES. All members of the city organization are responsible for aligning their work with the ends & outcomes and are evaluated accordingly.

Below are some highlights of major initiatives throughout the organization in each of the ENDS & OUTCOME theme areas. More detailed information on department activities related to each area can be found in the Division and Department Budget Section of this document.

SAFETY

Strengthen public safety response to street crimes – additional officer
Partner with surrounding communities for fire and emergency medical services
Transition to shared County-wide Public Safety Radios
Transition to new consolidated dispatch facility (Dakota Communications Center)

- New law enforcement records management systems
- Computer aided dispatch implementation

Community Notification System implementation (reverse 911)
Emergency Management Coordinator
New fire engine to replace 1980 engine & refurbish two current engines

YOUTH

Continue to provide broad range of programs and promote awareness of program opportunities
Continue partnerships/programs to reduce or eliminate youth tobacco & alcohol use
Continued park system improvements & replacements through parks capital program

NEIGHBORHOODS

Promote home ownership and maintenance of existing homes
Continue to work with rental housing to promote best practices and to upgrade the lowest properties
Continue wide variety of efforts to help residents connect with neighborhoods
Maintain active Citizen Corps
Volunteer and Neighborhood service delivery initiatives continue
Assist non-English speaking residents with communication barriers

DEVELOPMENT / REDEVELOPMENT

Comprehensive Plan update
Promote Minnesota River Quadrant & investment in infrastructure
Continue Heart of the City redevelopment initiatives
Continue to analyze needs of aging retail
Promote Burnsville as a leader in the healthcare & medical industries through Burnsville Medical Alliance
Promote job creation and job retention through existing & future businesses
Continue to foster relationships beyond our borders

ENVIRONMENT

Seek partnerships to aid in the usage of EKS quarry water for municipal purposes
Enhanced public education on surface water quality and recycling
Continue lake water quality improvement projects
Complete the design of storm water ponds to treat run-off from Burnsville Center area
Continue to implement strategies identified in the following management plans:

- Natural Resources Master Plan,
- Wetlands Management Plan,
- Water Resources Management Plan, and
- Wildlife Management plans.

Begin adding bio-diesel E-85 Flex Fuel vehicles through vehicle replacement program

TRANSPORTATION

Improved snow / ice removal with more salt product & less sand
Continue CSAH 42 Improvement project with Dakota County
Continue to support Bus Rapid Transit through Burnsville by continued participation in Cedar Ave Corridor Study and I35 W Corridor Study
Continue commitment to Infrastructure Trust Fund (tenth year)
Street reconstruction program and numerous street improvement projects
Prioritize the Highway 13/CSAH 5 intersection

CITY SERVICES

Complete redesign of www.burnsville.org website
Continued new electronic-government (E-Gov) services, 24x7
Web-streaming of City Council meetings, other meetings & other programming
Facilitate community wide accessibility to broadband technology
Wireless technology implementation
Participation in a study with other cities and Dakota County on service consolidations and partnerships

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

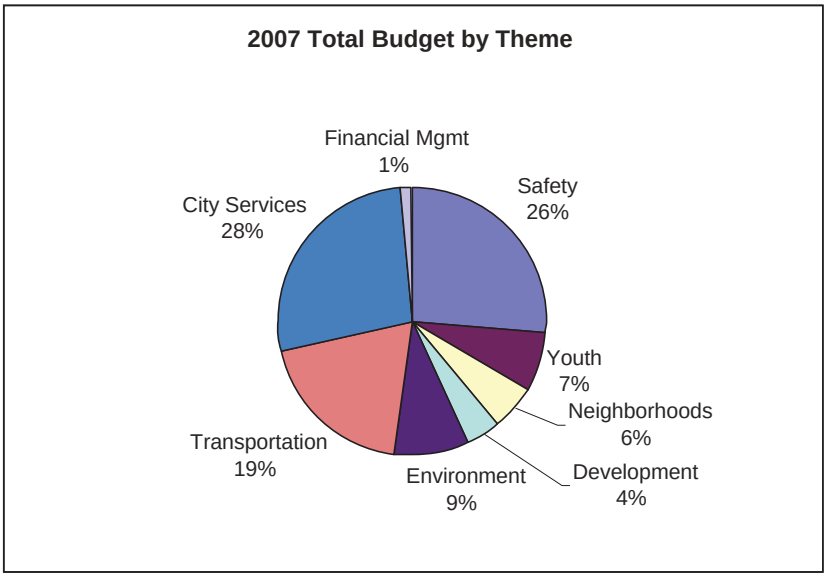
Implement Enterprise Resources Management system (ERMS) computer system for Finance, Payroll, Human Resources & Utility Billing
Implement monthly utility billing
Implement auto bank pay for utility customers
Implement electronic document management system

2007 Budget by City Council ENDS / Themes

The City Council's Ends and Outcomes are divided into eight themes: Safety, Transportation, Development/Redevelopment, Financial Management, Youth, Neighborhoods, Environment and City Services.

Each department budget may be aligned with one or more of these themes. To demonstrate the level of commitment to each of the themes, an estimated allocation of each department's budget to the eight themes is shown here. The first chart shows the entire operating budget. The smaller charts following the large chart are theme budgets for each of the departments. The department budget pages include narratives which further address how each of the departments meet the Council's ENDS and OUTCOMES.

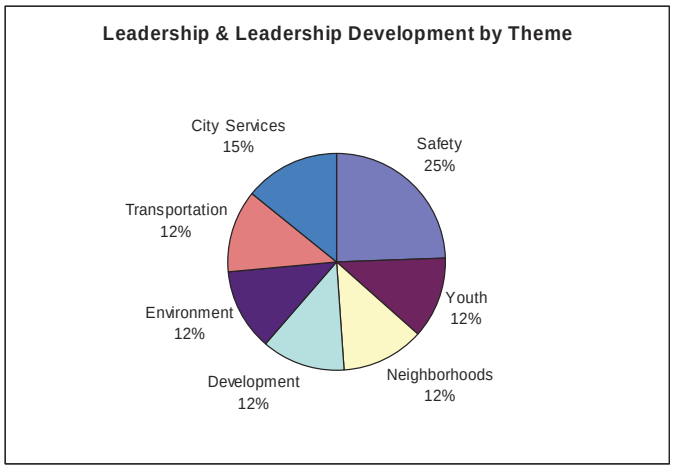
The following charts represent the 2007 Budget divided into these themes (excluding debt services).

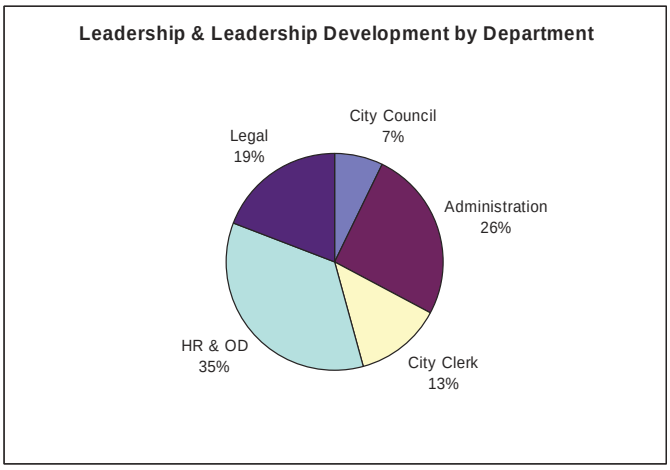


Department Budgets by Council ENDS / Themes

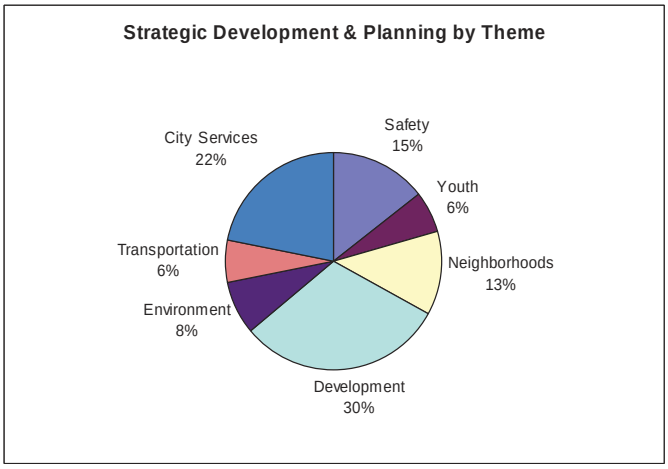
The following charts illustrate the budget in each division. There are two charts for each division. The first chart is shows the budget by the Council themes and the second chart shows the department budgets represented in each division.

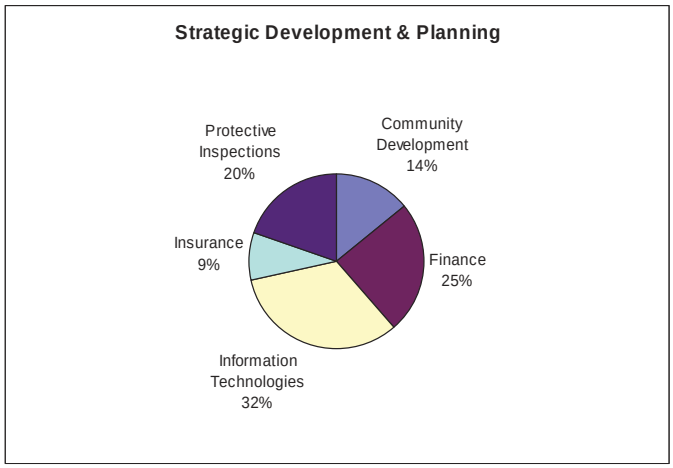
Leadership & Leadership Development



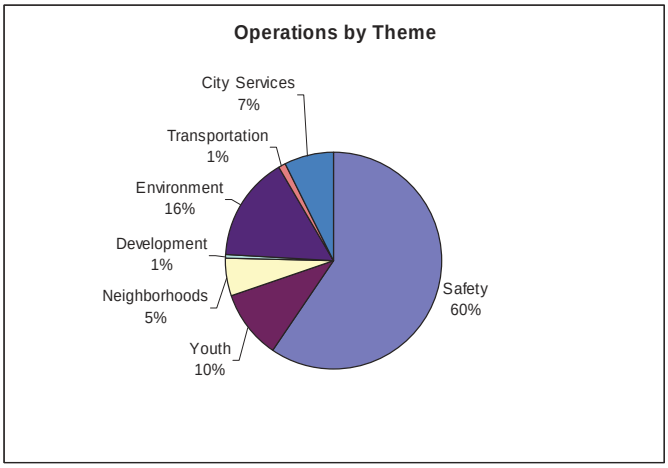


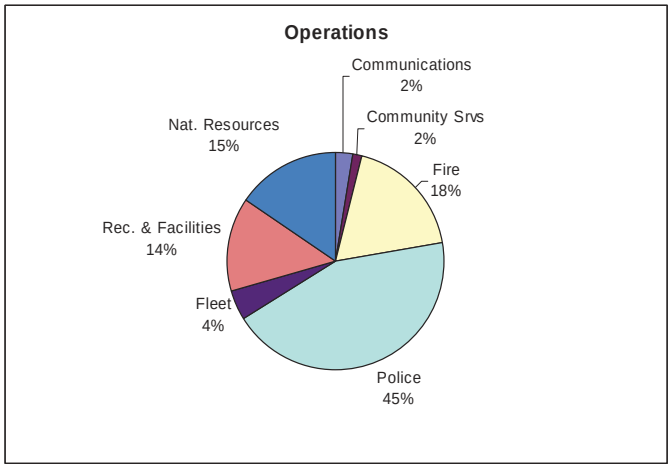
Strategic Development & Planning



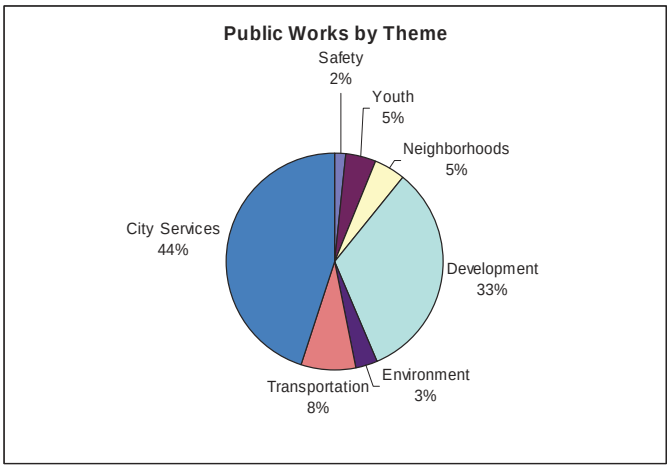


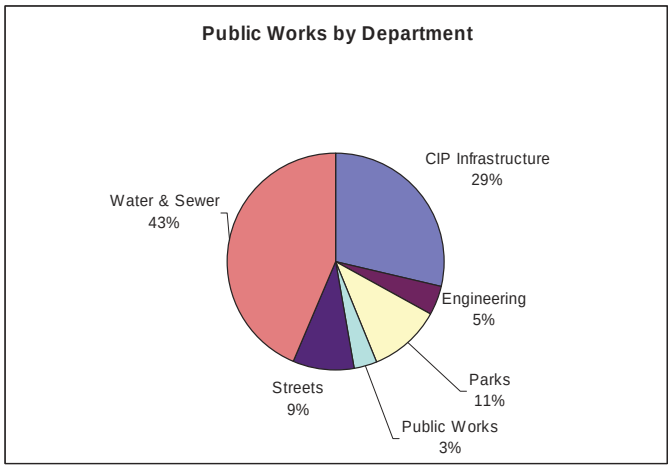
Operations





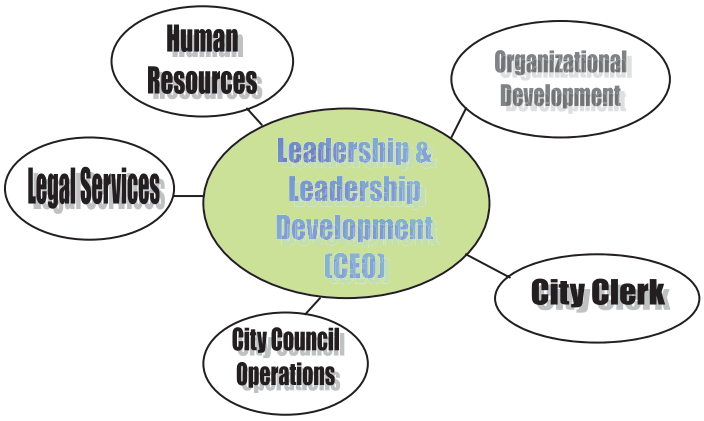
Public Works





Leadership & Leadership Development

Administration



PRIMARY SERVICES

Under the direction of the City Manager as CEO, the primary services provided by this division are:

1) Support, Enhancement, Compliance and Implementation of City Council Policy
2) Public Relations and Communications
3) Overall Financial Management stability
4) Ensure compliance with all legal requirements
5) Serve as "ombudsman" to help address constituent complaints & problems
6) Setting the overall *tone,* attitude, vision and strategic direction for the organization

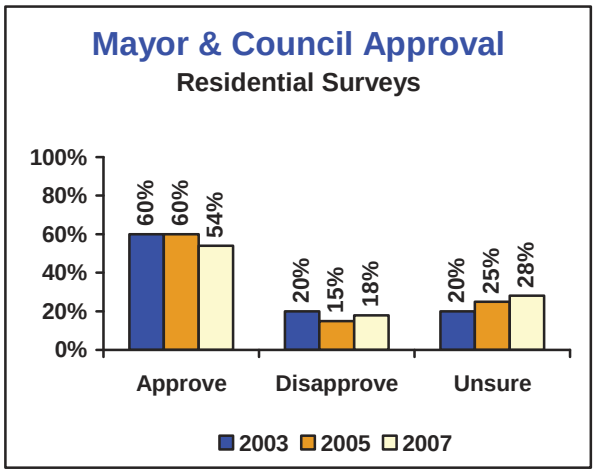
ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES

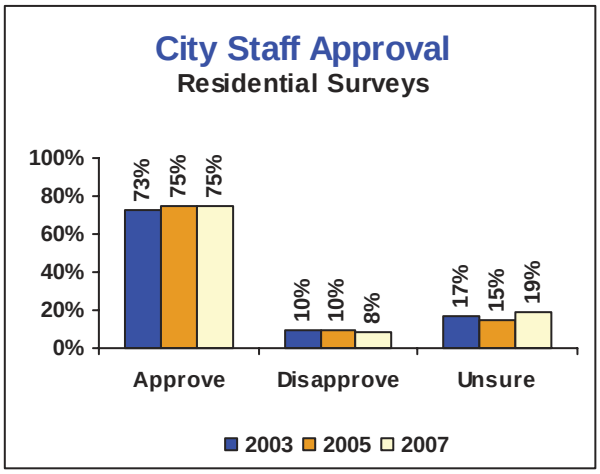
The primary purpose of the department is to provide overall guidance, motivation & direction to carry out the policy expectations of the City Council, in particular:

MEGA END STATEMENT - People find Burnsville an attractive, well balanced city of residences and businesses, which through a combination of amenities and public/private partnerships, provides a wide range of opportunities for citizens to live, work, learn and play, for a reasonable investment.

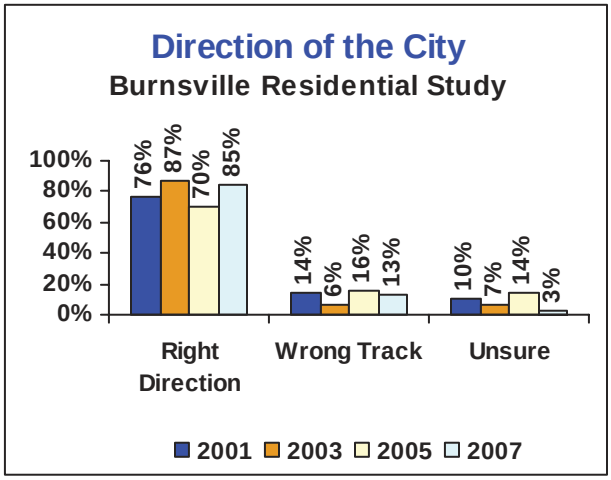
PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA

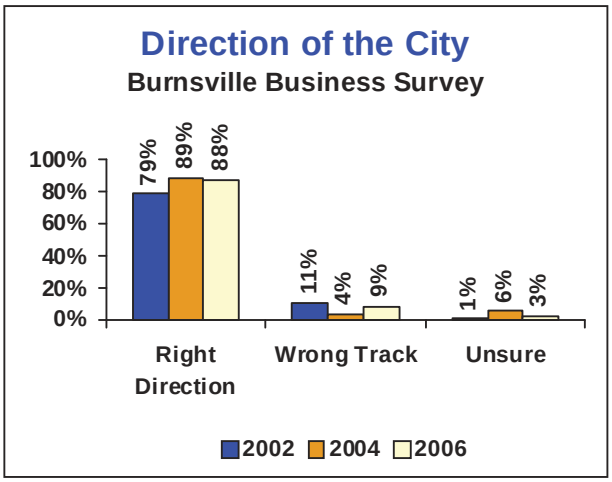
The most important indicators of successful management are provided throughout this entire document. By supporting City employees as our greatest asset, there is a great deal of evidence of the positive effect this organization has on our community. Other general indicators of activity and effectiveness include very high approval ratings of City Government and staff as exhibited in the past three residential surveys.





In 2005, the positive responses dropped down to 70% to the question: "All in all, do you think things are headed in the right direction, or do you feel things are off on the wrong track?" However, a significant improvement is noted in the 2007 survey with the positive responses rebounding to 85%. This same question was added to the 2006 Business survey with 88% of respondents indicating the City is headed in the right direction.





STRATEGIC PLANNING AND ANTICIPATING FUTURE COMMUNITY NEEDS/CHALLENGES

Over the past six years numerous strategic steps have been taken to anticipate community needs:

Comprehensive Reinvestment & Redevelopment

- Enhancing Market Values
- Review of Financial Management Plan
- Protecting and Enhancing the Environment
- Replacing Infrastructure
- Addressing Traffic Issues
- Eliminating dependence on State Aids

This comprehensive approach includes multiple components and initiatives:

- Dealing with Budgetary Constraints
- Infrastructure Trust Fund
- Full Funding of Depreciation in all three Utility Funds
- Police Guide Plan and Speeding Initiative

- Multi-family Housing Crime Prevention Initiatives & Burnsville Neighborhood Alliance
- Heart of the City Development and Redevelopment
- Building Maintenance Code enforcement
- Neighborhood Service Delivery
- Community Building activities
- Redevelopment plans for Minnesota River Quadrant
- Rental Licensing Ordinance

SYSTEMATIC MONITORING OF CHANGING COMMUNITY CONDITIONS IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

1. Continued Development & Population Growth surrounding Burnsville

The continued pace of development and population growth in cities surrounding Burnsville continues to provide many challenges and opportunities for our community, particularly in the area of infrastructure (CR42, TH13 & water system) and potential impacts on our local businesses.

2. Business Assistance Policies will change to reflect legislative changes

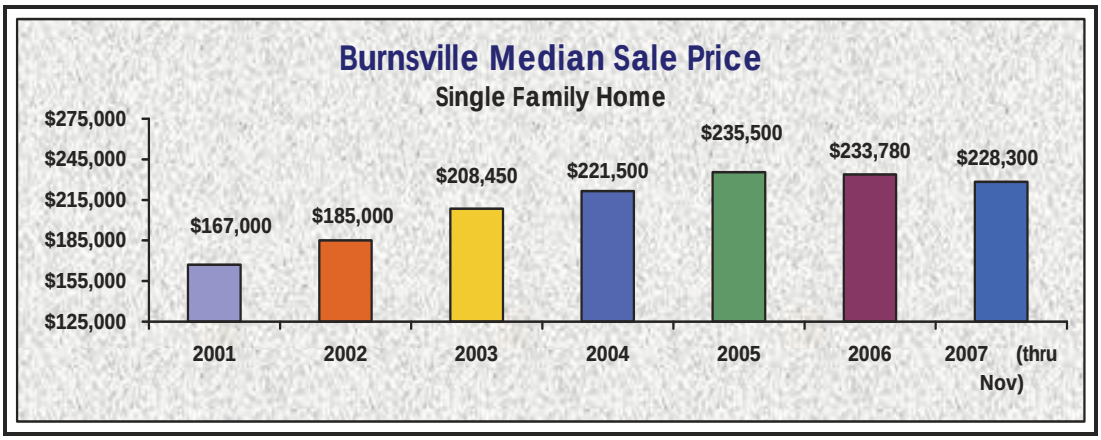
There will be less dependence on tax increment funding and more usage of tax abatement and the economic development levy.

3. Continued awareness of conflicting issues surrounding Affordable Housing

There is a large demand for housing affordable to low and moderate income people in Burnsville and the Twin Cities metro area. Consideration of the housing needs raise increasingly complex issues, such as:

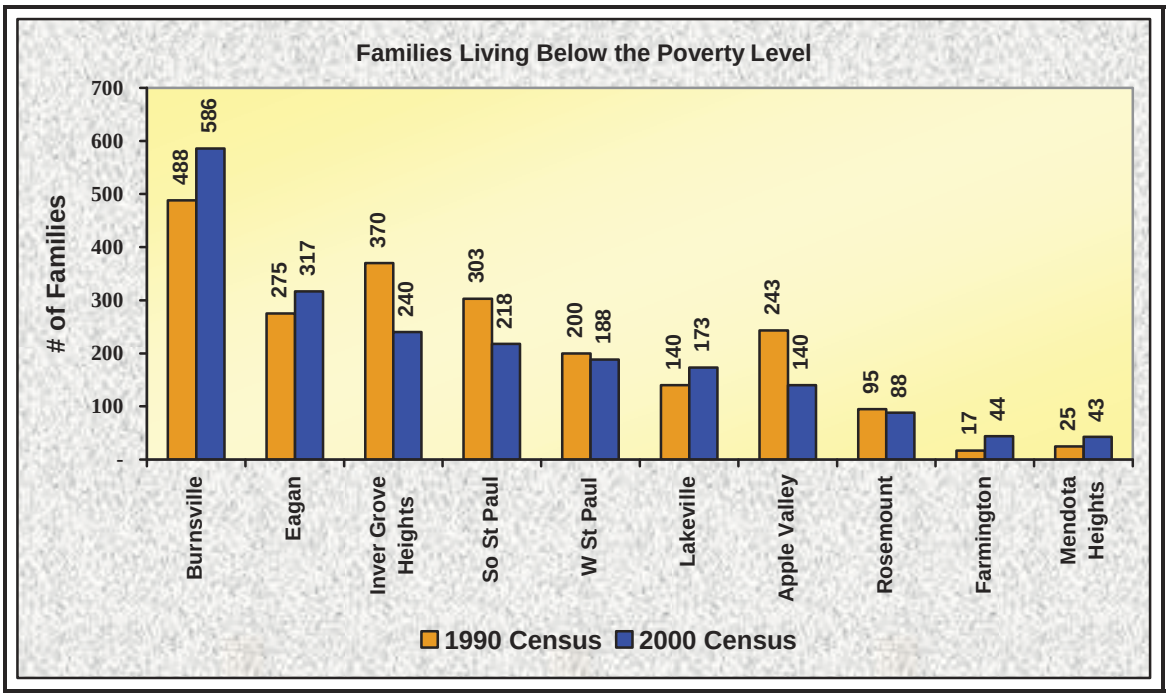
- Employer workforce needs: **33%** of respondents to the Business Survey indicated that **availability of housing affordable to their workforce is an issue** with retaining/ recruiting employees; and
- Maintenance of our community's residential housing stock preserves tax base, but may make housing less affordable for lower income residents

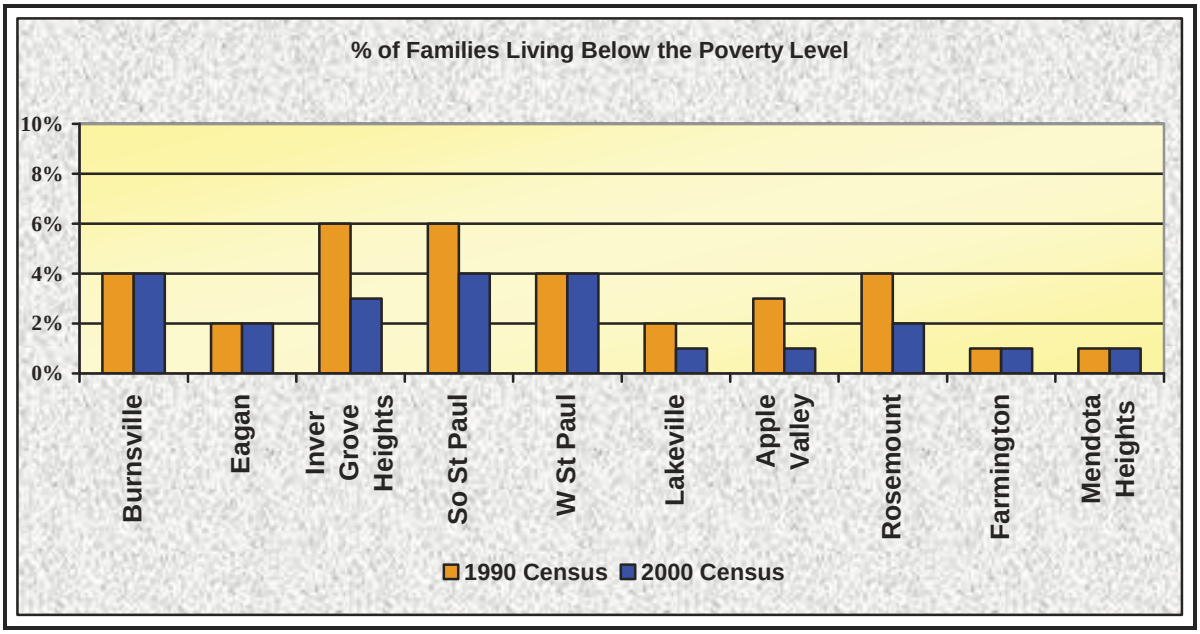
The following chart shows recent sales data provided by the Southern Twin Cities Association of Realtors for the City of Burnsville, indicating that the median sale price in Burnsville has decreased for the second year in a row after several years of increasing by double-digit percentages that outpaced wage growth over the period. The housing market in the entire metro area remains cool and median sales have continued to decline throughout the region.



4. ***The Needs & Challenges confronting Low/Moderate Income residents in Burnsville***

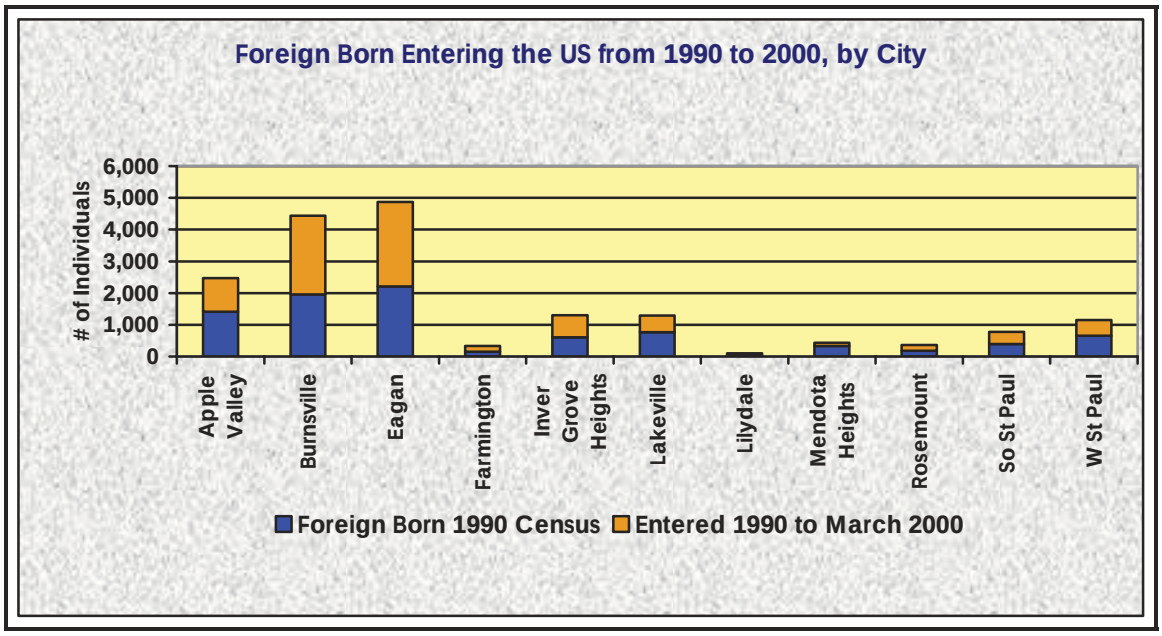
Data available from Dakota County and the Community Action Council have indicated that Burnsville has the highest number of people receiving assistance in the various *Welfare to Work & Social Services* programs. This observation should not cause undue alarm since Burnsville is the 2nd largest city in the County, however we should continue to monitor the situation for potential avenues for the City to play a role in improving the range of opportunities for this portion of our population. The following data from the Census provides comparative data with other Dakota County Cities for Families living below the Poverty line.





5. <u>The Needs & Challenges confronting Foreign Born(Immigrant) residents in Burnsville</u>

In addition to increasing Ethnic Diversity, Data available from the Census and Dakota County indicate a high level of Foreign Born residents in our City. The City will play an integral role in reaching out to these new residents. The chart compares the number of Foreign Born individuals by Dakota County City.



2008 BUDGET OVERVIEW

City Council/City Manager

- Council participation in local and national City groups is continued
- City memberships in various advocacy groups is maintained

City Clerk

PRIMARY SERVICES

City Clerk's Office:

- Prepare agenda packets
- Provide notice of regular and special meetings
- Maintain minutes, ordinances, resolutions, and other City Council action.
- Coordinate publication of ordinances and codification of City Code
- Coordinate posting and publication of official notices as may be required
- Coordinate Council communications and correspondence
- Coordinate recruitment and appointment of Advisory Boards
- Administer preparation and filing of official records and documents
- Maintain the city's policies and procedures
- Maintain a Records Management Program for all public records
- Respond to inquiries from public officials, city staff, and citizens
- Coordinate Community Builders/Volunteer Recognition Event

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES

In the 2008 budget, the department will continue to provide the basic level of services established and implement new communication strategies through laserfiche technology by providing user friendly access to records both internally and publicly. In addition, this technology will be integrated into the city's Records Management Program to increase the efficiency of records retrieval and retention.

CITY SERVICES END: People find the City of Burnsville delivers quality essential services in a cost effective, timely manner.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA

In line with the Council's adopted governance statements, the most important statistics include:

- Ordinances published within two weeks of adoption by the City Council 98%
- Draft minutes of City Council meetings prepared within one day 97%
- Council Agenda packets out four days prior to the meeting 98%
- City Clerk's Office response to constituent inquiries within one day 95%
- Response to City Council inquiries/complaints within seven days 100%

Number of Community Volunteers identified and invited to the annual recognition

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
375	414	624	562	532	528

Human Resources & Organizational Development

PRIMARY SERVICES

The Organizational Support and Development Division includes Human Resources, Organizational Development and Support Services. Human Resources provides recruitment, compensation and benefit administration, training, policy development and labor relations. Organizational Development assists employees in managing and adapting to change, measuring performance and meeting customer expectations. Support Services includes direct customer service by support personnel throughout the organization.

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL END AND OUTCOMES

The primary purpose of the division is to: Provide information, support and consultation to our internal customers to assist them in delivering quality, cost effective city services to the public and accomplishing the ends and outcomes identified by the City Council.

CITY SERVICES END - People find the City of Burnsville delivers quality essential services in a cost effective, timely manner.

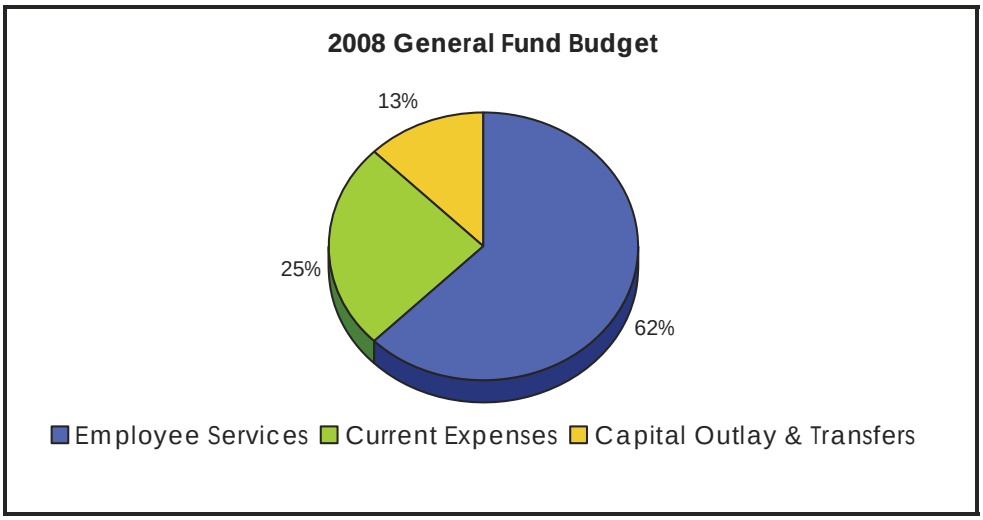
PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA

The Division provides Human Resource service to the employees of the entire organization, striving to assist with expanding productivity within confined resources and increasing demand for services.

	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	61,262	61,048	61,048	61,048
Number of Employees	288	292	283	283
Population per employee	***213***	***209***	***216***	***216***

* The employee numbers includes full-time and regular part-time employees. Population estimates for 2005 & 2006 are from the Met Council estimates. 2007 and 2008 estimates assume no change in population.

Cost of Employee Services The Total Cost of Personnel Services for the City of Burnsville is estimated to be $24.1 million by the conclusion of 2008 including General Operating and Enterprise Funds. As the following chart indicates our investment in Employee Services is 62% of the City's 2008 General Fund.



Health Insurance Costs – A significant portion of employee service expenditures are for Health Insurance premiums. For years, Burnsville has been able to avoid the double digit health insurance increases experienced by most organizations and the result has been low premiums and savings to both the City and our employees. Burnsville was also one of the first cities to offer a high deductible plan combined with a VEBA. Our health insurance funding is structured in such a way to encourage employees to select the high deductible VEBA plan and this philosophy will continue in the future.

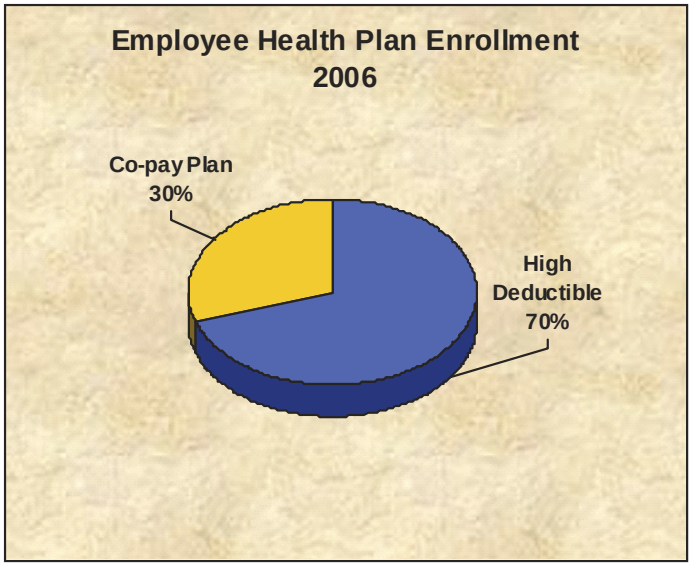
MARKET CITY INSURANCE COMPARISON
2004-2008

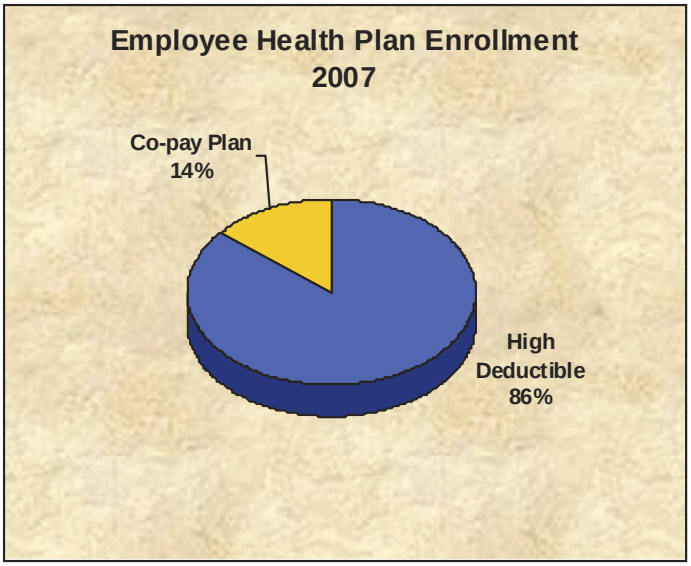
Year	Burnsville Family Open access co-pay Plan	Market Cities Avg. Family Rate	Burnsville City Contribution	Market City Average Contribution	Burnsville Employee Cost	Market Average Employee Cost
2004	$720	$886	$485	$585	$234	$300
2005	$723	$948	$490	$610	$234	$338
2006	$847	$1040	$520	$679	$327	$371
2007	$919	$1100	$550	$738	$369	$362
2008	$1,120	$1,297	$575	$789	$545	$508

Number of employees taking the high deductible health plan:

2005	2006	2007	2008
222	214	*205 (70%)	*249 (86%)

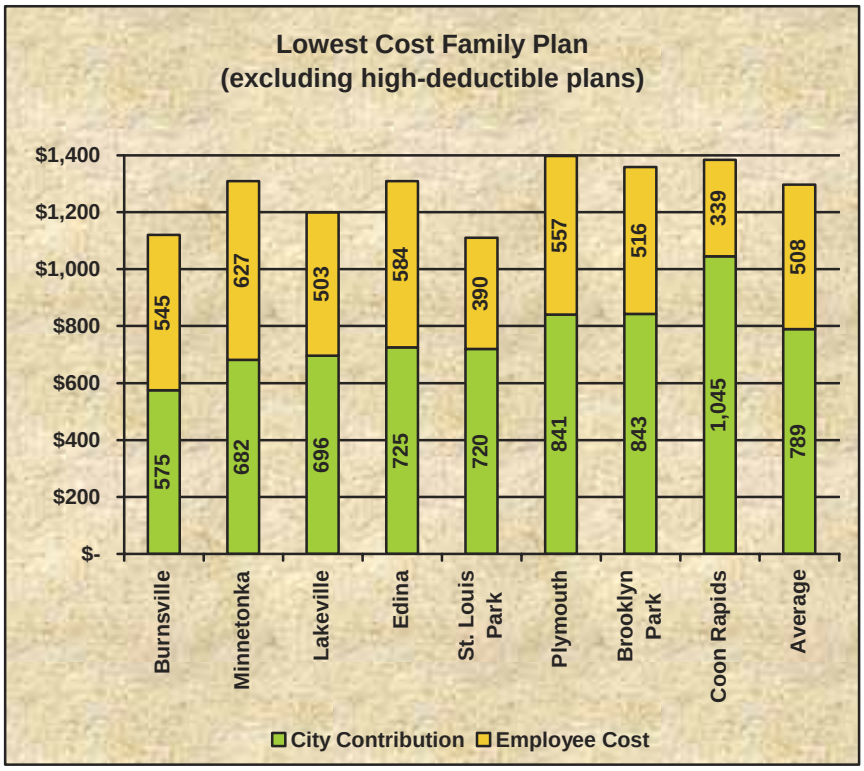
* 2007 includes the loss of Burnsville Dispatchers from the plan.





The following table compares the cost of the open access co-pay Family Health Insurance Plans for Burnsville and our Metro-area Market Cities for 2008. Deductible plans are difficult to compare because the amount of the deductible and out of pocket maximum varies by City .

2008 Lowest Cost Family Plan, Excluding High Deductible Plans			
	City Contrib	Employee Cost	Total Cost
Coon Rapids	$1,045	$339	$1,384
Plymouth	$841	$557	$1,398
Minnetonka	$682	$627	$1,309
Edina	$725	$584	$1,309
St. Louis Park	$720	$390	$1,110
Apple Valley	$760	$549	$1,309
Brooklyn Park	$843	$516	$1,359
Lakeville	$696	$503	$1,199
Average	$789	$508	$1,297
Burnsville	$575	$545	$1,120



City Services End - Burnsville is an organization that provides a supportive and collaborative environment encouraging employee learning and participation in the decision-making process.

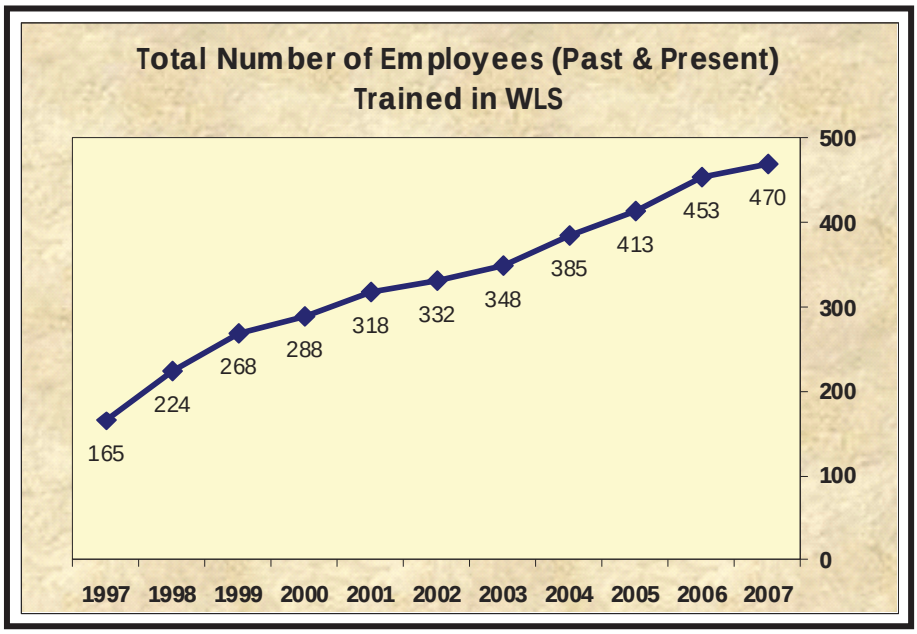
- Number of employees participating in City's Tuition Reimbursement Program for continuing education.

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
34	32	40	35	32	35

- Employees participate in significant decision-making processes including:
  - -Health Insurance Plan changes – drop co-pay plan and carrier change
  - -Evaluation and selection of new employees
  - -Wellness & Safety program components
  - -Development of Post Employment HRA
  - -Maintenance center expansion recommendations
  - -Fire Truck committee

Workplace Learning Skills training is offered twice per year to new employees. This training provides the initial introduction to the concept of a learning organization and is the basis for our citywide organizational development program. It provides a common language for discussions about learning and teaching and insight into one's own learning and thinking styles.

Ninety-seven percent (97%) of employees are trained in Workplace Learning Skills.



Other Indicators of the workload of Division include:

- A total of **Five (5)** labor contracts are negotiated and administered by the City and only **One (1)** contract renewal has gone to arbitration in the past eleven years.

- Number of regular full-time/part-time recruitment's conducted each year:

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
20	19	21	26	13	8

- Average full-time employee attrition each year:

2007	5.8%
2006	4.6%
2005	8.0%
2004	7.0%
2003	5.4%
2002	3.0%

2008 BUDGET OVERVIEW

Human Resources and Organizational Development

- Insurance – In 2008 the focus will be on adapting to a change in medical carriers to Medica, improving participation in our wellness program and continuing to refine and strengthen our high deductible VEBA health plan. In 2008 we eliminated one of the two co-pay plans and are now offering one co-pay plan and one deductible plan. In 2008, 48 employees switched to the deductible plan for a total of 249 employees (86%) total on this plan. Staff will also be evaluating new investment options for our VEBA funds.

- Technology – At the end of 2007 Human Resources implemented a new HR/Finance/Payroll system. In 2008 staff will be integrating various modules such as Benefit Administration and Personnel Actions into this new system. It will take some time to fully understand and utilize all of the functions of this new system and this will be the focus for 2008.

- Benefits – In 2007 HR staff began researching and implementing a Post Employment Health Reimbursement Arrangement (PEHRA) for union employees. In 2008, staff will complete this implementation and introduce the same program to non-union employees. A PEHRA is an employer sponsored program that requires employees to set aside money tax-free into an account to pay for health expenses and/or health insurance premiums after termination of public service. The money that is deposited into this fund comes from funds the employer would have paid to the employee upon termination (i.e. vacation, comp time) and does not require any additional contribution by the employer.

- Labor Relations – In 2008, negotiations will begin with all five unions for the contract period beginning on January 1, 2009.

Legal

PRIMARY SERVICES

The primary services provided by the City Attorney are in the area of Criminal prosecution of crimes enforced by the Burnsville Police Department, Civil prosecution of violations of City Ordinances, providing counsel on land use and other civil matters, and defense of the City when litigation occurs as a result of actions by City officials. The City of Burnsville does not have a full time office of City Attorney. The City Attorney has office hours at City Hall on most Tuesday afternoons. In 2004, Requests for Proposals for both General Legal and Prosecution Services were reviewed and the City now utilizes one law firm for both services.

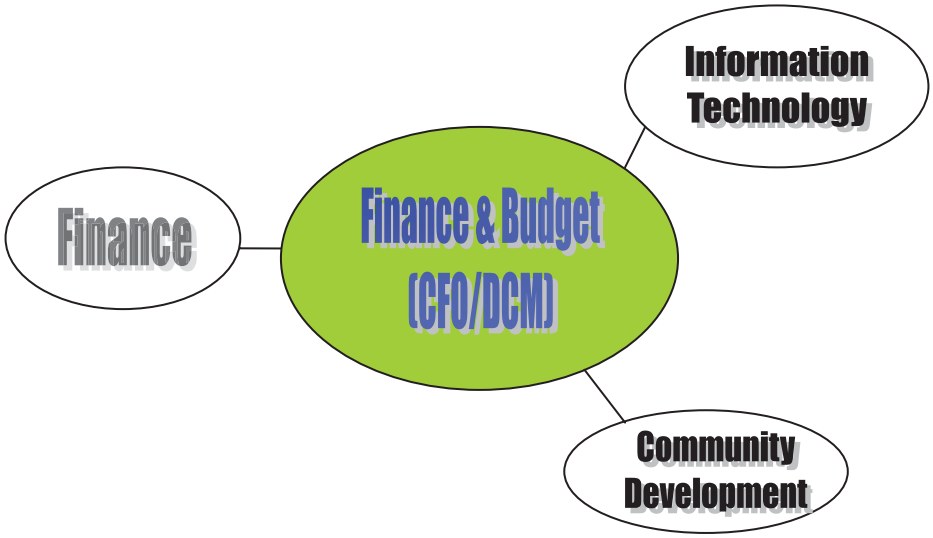
ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES

The City Attorney works directly with the City Manager & City departments; however the City Attorney has a direct communication relationship with City Council. Their primary role in relation to the Council ENDS & OUTCOMES is to support the work of City departments in each of the eight themes, by insuring procedures are in place to maintain compliance with all legal requirements.

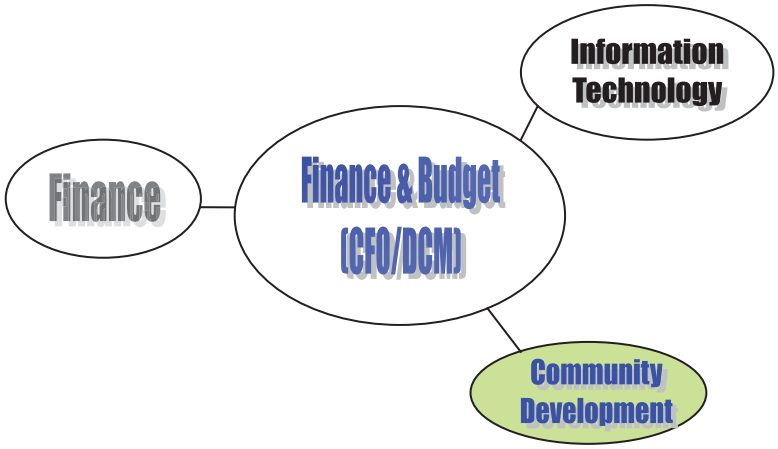
PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA

Under the direction of the City Manager, a performance review is conducted on at least an annual basis by surveying those City staff who worked most closely with the City Attorney.

Strategic Development & Planning



Community Development – Economic Development



PRIMARY SERVICES

Through the leadership of the Community Development Director and working with the engineering department, this division provides support services to guide, facilitate and regulate development & redevelopment within the City of Burnsville as well as fostering new growth through Economic Development.

Other sections of the monitoring report describe in more detail the services provided in the areas of Planning, Protective Inspections and Engineering. The primary services provided by this division in the area of Economic Development include:

1) Supporting the Burnsville Economic Development Authority (EDA).
2) Supporting the Economic Growth Committee (EGC).
3) Supporting the Burnsville Medical Alliance (BMA) industry cluster initiative.
4) Administration of the City's Tax Increment Financing Districts, Tax Abatement & Project Areas.
5) Administration of financial incentives to encourage business development.
6) Monitoring the cross-divisional development review work team.
7) Promoting balanced development and job creation.
8) Advocating for business within the boundaries of City Council policy.

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES

The primary purpose of Economic Development efforts in Burnsville is to seek a balance between enhancing the quality of development desired by our community, while promoting an expanding tax base through "development friendly" policies. Fundamentally this expected role is best described in the following City Council END STATEMENT:

DEVELOPMENT / REDEVELOPMENT - People find Burnsville a balanced City of residential and business development enhanced by redevelopment.

In 2007 the department continued to provide the basic level of services established. Particular attention was paid to:

- monitoring the health of the City's TIF districts
- monitoring the impacts of the City's tax abatement policy
- utilization of tax abatement for the Performing Arts Center
- exploring other options for business incentives
- continuing to guide our shifting focus from development to redevelopment as our City matures
- preparing for expanded development in the Heart of the City

- planning for redevelopment in the MN river quadrant area
- planning for the redevelopment of aging retail areas
- land assembly guidelines adopted

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA

In line with the adopted END statement, the most important statistics for this area are shown below.

DEVELOPMENT / REDEVELOPMENT - People find Burnsville a balanced City of residential and business development enhanced by redevelopment.

Tax Increment Financing

Burnsville's use of TIF has been responsible and effective in building long term tax base and adding jobs, within and outside of the TIF districts. Some highlights of the results produced by the use of TIF are best illustrated by the following data:

EDA Projects Approved (non-HOC)	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Number of jobs retained	111	10	---	17	--	--
Number of new jobs created	41	5	25	50	--	400
Total new square feet	163,320	25,001	168,839	184,260	--	150,000

Note – Two new contracts were approved in 2007 – construction of related office buildings will commence in 2008

Heart of the City TIF District

With the establishment of the Heart of the City Renovation and Renewal TIF district, tax base growth will be monitored closely. As a baseline, the initial Market Value of the area was roughly $12 million, generating $260,000 per year in total property taxes.

The projected potential Market Value is in excess of $160 million with an estimated at $3 - $4 million in expected property taxes when fully developed. The graphic to the right shows the projects constructed since 2003 in the Heart of the City.

Heart of the City

Projects Constructed since 2003

Red Lion Liquors	$ .8 M
Grand Market Place	$ 25.9 M
Infrastructure (east & west)	$ 4.1 M
CDA rental townhomes	$ 6.2 M
Nicollet Commons Park	$ 3.1 M
Park N' Ride Ramp	$ 5.5 M
Nicollet Plaza	$ 70.0 M
Villas in HOC	$ 5.0 M
Uptown Landing	$ 10.0 M
Parkcrest on Nicollet	$ 17.7 M
	$148.3 M

The Heart of the City projects completed/under construction to date are comprised of the following:

- 589 housing units.
- 23,370 s.f. office (150,000 s.f. approved 2007, construction in 2008)
- 136,958 s.f. retail (25,000 s.f. approved 2007, construction in 2008)
- 8,465 s.f. retail/office
- 8,000 s.f. banquet/culinary center
- 1000 seat Performing Arts Center

Tax Abatement
With less land available in TIF Districts One and Two, the City will begin to rely more on tax abatement. The Council approved tax abatement in 2007 for the construction of a 1000 seat Performing Arts Center.

Burnsville Medical Alliance
In 2007, The Burnsville Medical Alliance (BMA) economic development initiative "to promote the expansion and growth of the City's existing "industry cluster" of medical technology and health care companies continued to show progress. The Burnsville Medical Alliance is a sub committee of the Economic Growth Committee. It has an Advisory Panel that gives guidance to the City on its' efforts.

The BMA created a newsletter, "The Microscope", to communicate with the over 200 medical companies in Burnsville. A marketing campaign was initiated that created an ad for the newsletters and a web presence with the Economic Development Association of Minnesota (EDAM) and LifeScience Alley. Staff also has exhibited at a number of medically related conventions.

Economic Development Partnership
Throughout our operation, staff succeeds in maximizing the benefit of partnership with community residents and businesses. Following are some of the most significant on-going partnerships:

Heart of the City Initiative
Economic Growth Committee
MRQ Marketing Committee
Dakota County Work Force Investment Board
Burnsville Commercial Real Estate Council
Burnsville Medical Alliance
Burnsville Chamber of Commerce

In an effort to foster relationships beyond our borders, in 2007 the City has continued a relationship with Positively Minnesota (state economic development initiative), Lifescience Alley (industry cluster), TCCCF (Twin City Community Capital Fund for financing opportunities), EDAM (Economic Development Association of Minnesota), participated in Dakota Future (general countywide economic development initiative) events, Minnesota Valley Med Net (medical manufacturing network), BioBusiness Alliance (public-private partnership to grow biobusiness in Minnesota), and the Minnesota Shopping Center Association.

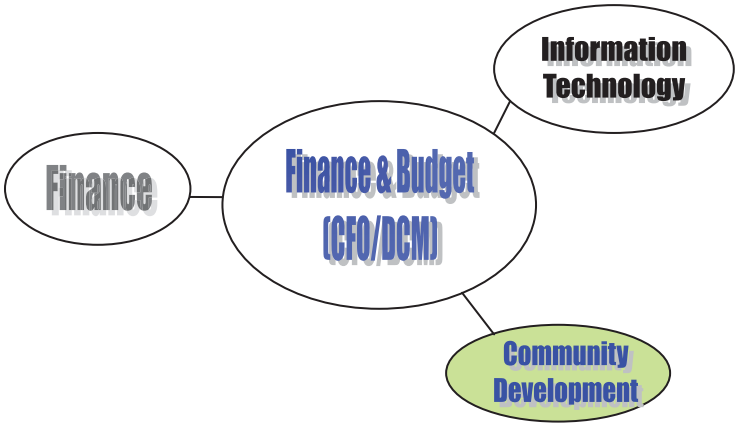
Our partnerships resulted in both job expansion and creation in 2007. Through a partnership with DEED and the Dakota County Technical College we were able to assist Frontier Communications with a presentation to their parent company to retain their call center in Burnsville. This resulted in saving 125 jobs and will result in the hiring of up to another 125 employees. Frontier Communications also received a Job Skills Partnership grant for incumbent and new hire training.

2008 BUDGET OVERVIEW

- Continue the redevelopment initiative in the Heart of the City.
- Continue to emphasize and promote marketing of the Minnesota River Quadrant and investment in infrastructure.
- Promote job creation and job retention through existing and future businesses.

- Provide support for growth in industrial and commercial areas that expand our tax base.
- Maintain the City's strong retail and manufacturing/technology businesses.
- Promote Burnsville as a leader in the health care & medical industry through the Burnsville Medical Alliance.
- Continue to foster relationships beyond our borders.
- Assist in the formation of a Higher Education Partnership to provide post-secondary options in Burnsville.

Community Development - Planning



PRIMARY SERVICES

The Planning Department provides the following services: current development review; long range/comprehensive planning; zoning information and mapping; legal documentation of land use regulations and development decisions; special studies; and redevelopment/improvement grant applications and monitoring.

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES

One of the primary purposes of the Planning Department is to guide the development review process consistent with City Council Ends & Outcomes, particularly in the areas of ***Development /Redevelopment, Neighborhoods, Transportation and Environment.*** This responsibility includes monitoring the quality of all development, promoting balanced growth, redevelopment and sustained viability of housing & commercial/industrial property and participating in redevelopment initiatives.

DEVELOPMENT / REDEVELOPMENT - People find Burnsville a balanced City of residential and business development enhanced by redevelopment.

The Planning Department pursues sources of economic assistance for redevelopment activities and assists in the establishment of special districts. Activities also include development of Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance amendments to keep regulations current, maintaining progressive development review processes, completing development review in an accurate and timely fashion, and maintaining/enhancing the City's aesthetics standards. This Department also focuses on researching opportunities for policy improvement through the governance process. In addition to public participation and review by the Planning Commission and Council, Planning coordinates the development review by all other City departments and government agencies with jurisdiction over the project.

NEIGHBORHOODS - Residents and businesses feel connected to their neighborhoods.

In order to enhance community building within the City of Burnsville, activities include neighborhood informational meetings for development proposals conducted when appropriate. Planners are also heavily involved in neighborhood issues through the Council governance process. The Department is involved in key initiatives including

Heart of the City, the Minnesota River Quadrant, Healthy Communities, Neighborhood Revitalization, Sustainability and the Comprehensive Plan Update.

During 2007, the Planning Department coordinated three of five phases to update the Comprehensive Plan. A number of Advisory Panel task force meetings were held to review background information, identify issues facing the community, review goals and policies, and develop land use alternatives. Three community input forums were held to obtain feedback from the public related to the City's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats, goals and policies and land use alternatives. Special meetings with the business community, I.S.D. 191, Ebenezer Ridges residents, and Economic Growth Committee were also held to obtain input for the Comprehensive Plan. As part of the process over 500 questionnaires were mailed to residents (utilizing block captain, volunteer, recreation and "gov.doc" mailing lists to obtain information about quality of life issues for Burnsville.

TRANSPORTATION - People find Burnsville a community with an effective, multi-modal transportation system connecting people and goods with destination points.

Within the overall context of development review activities, the Planning Department coordinates development proposals with transit systems, participates in County-wide efforts to improve access management, and continues to require transportation system improvements along with development.

In 2007, the City began the review and update of the Transportation Plan as part of the 2030 Comprehensive Plan process. The Transportation Plan addresses transit, street functional classification, access management, bicycle and pedestrian access/routes as well as airport impacts. The Dakota County Transit Plan is in the process of being reviewed by staff and is expected to be formally adopted by the County in 2008. In 2006-2007 the City Code and Zoning Ordinance were updated to modify transit bus bench standards and staff continues to work with Dakota County to allow uniquely designed bus benches with signage along County right-of-way within Burnsville.

During 2007 the Planning Department coordinated the ordinance amendment and permitting process to facilitate implementation of a community-wide wireless internet service that Frontier Communications will install utilizing City right-of-way and facilities. This is a unique approach and public/private partnership that allows private vendors to utilize City controlled right-of-way, drainage and utility easements and public infrastructure through a master lease agreement.

ENVIRONMENT - People find Burnsville is an environmentally sensitive community ensuring preservation and enhancement of its natural resources.

The primary activity in this area is to review the City's environmental overlay standards, and assure that new development and redevelopment occur in an environmentally sensitive manner to preserve and enhance the City's natural resources. The Planning Department assisted the Natural Resources Department with review of the Wetlands Plan Update and meetings with neighbors/business owners to review impacts to properties based upon proposed standards. The Department also administers the Floodplain Ordinance, assisting property owners to meet requirements, process floodplain map revisions and maintain records to so Burnsville property owners can obtain insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program .

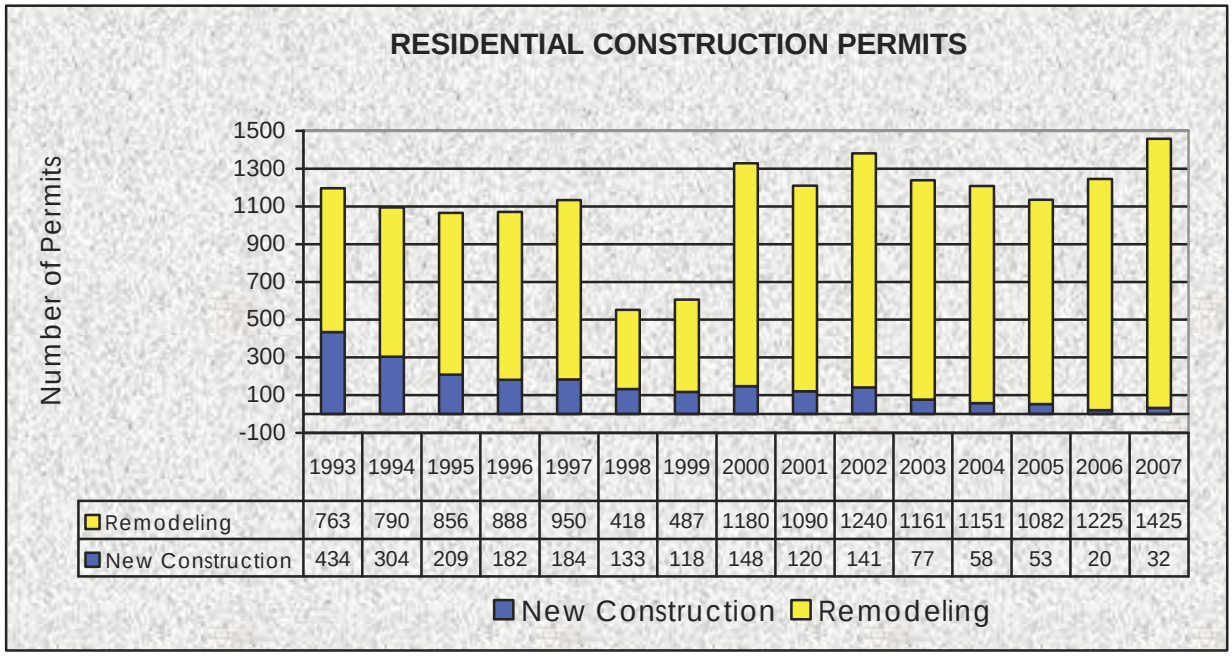
PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA

In line with the Council's adopted governance statements, the results of Planning, Housing & Redevelopment activities are best illustrated in the healthy growth in Estimated Total Market Value (bar graph chart included in the introductory section of this document). Other important indicators of staff activity include:

Development Review Activities:	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Variances	5	8	15	11	6	7	5	9	2	3
Planned Unit Developments	21	12	16	11	20	17	29	30	20	23
Conditional Use Permits	33	15	17	18	14	12	21	13	10	6
Preliminary Plats	14	9	18	9	9	12	14	16	15	7
Rezonings / Comp. Plan Amendme	14	6	9	7	9	9	13	6	10	4
Interim Use Permits	4	1	1	1	1	-	-	0	0	0
Zoning Ordinance Amendments	5	8	5	2	9	2	7	5	10	5

It should be recognized that simply reviewing the number of applications fails to illustrate the complexity of the development review process, which includes agenda preparation for at least 24 Planning Commission and City Council meetings per year. Staff must anticipate all aspects of each development, conduct public hearings & neighborhood meetings and attempt to balance all competing interests. Each review takes a minimum of 45-60 days and a majority of applications contain multiple requests. Large projects such as the AAA property and Performing Arts Center that are coordinated by the City require significantly more time to process due to the project management component that is above and beyond the standard application development review.

A significant amount of staff time is spent working on projects for the governance process and to bring forth issues for discussion through City Council worksessions. During 2007 the Planning Department assisted the Natural Resources Department with research, investigation and presentation of sustainability opportunities through the Council Governance Process.



	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Remodeling	763	790	856	888	950	418	487	1180	1090	1240	1161	1151	1082	1225	1425
New Construction	434	304	209	182	184	133	118	148	120	141	77	58	53	20	32

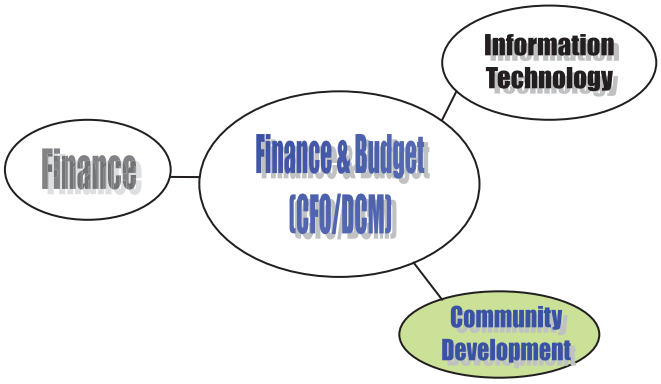
The City is continuing to respond to the needs of new development, while preparing for the future redevelopment of aging residences and businesses. Burnsville is over 98 percent developed and our efforts have shifted from a high volume of residential development toward

an emphasis on redevelopment including residential remodeling, commercial and industrial development and remodeling. Planning staff works with the Inspections staff to insure that policies and procedures are in place to support this shift in annual residential development: New residential construction permits have declined from a high of 434 *permits in 1993 to 20 in 2006. For 2007, new residential construction permits increased slightly to 32.* Remodeling permits continue to increase from 418 in 1998 to 1,425 in 2007. The prior chart illustrates residential permit activity from 1993 to the present.

2008 BUDGET OVERVIEW

- Maintain City's Zoning Map, Land Use Plan Map, and several information serves including Current Development Data, Zoning/Floodplain Web map, Multiple Family Developments interactive map and the Zoning Line
- Complete Comprehensive Plan Update
- Assist in the development of a sustainability plan for the City
- Provide efficient review of development projects for issuance of a building permit and for review by Planning Commission/City Council
- Provide response to public inquires for Zoning and other assistance
- Monitor necessary Zoning Ordinance updates to incorporate new industry standards for construction, environment, uses, livability and sustainability
- Provide specific efforts in the HOC and MRQ redevelopment areas
- Provide review of Policies/Ordinance via the Governance Process
- Bring the department on line with the City's new electronic data management system

Protective Inspections



PRIMARY SERVICES
Under the leadership of the Chief Building Official, Protective Inspections provides the following services: Plan Review, Issuance of Building Permits, Field Inspections and Zoning Enforcement (i.e. property maintenance and sign inspections).

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES
The primary purpose of the department is to safeguard life, health, property and public welfare through a common sense approach to code enforcement. This approach is based on a tradition of strong customer service, particularly in alignment with the following three ENDS:

DEVELOPMENT / REDEVELOPMENT – People find Burnsville a balanced City of residential and business development enhanced by redevelopment.

NEIGHBORHOODS – Residents and businesses feel connected to their neighborhoods.

SAFETY – People find Burnsville a safe community and are willing to prevent fire and crime.

Protective Inspections works closely with all development related departments. The success of proper inspections during the building and construction period is particularly critical in our community. In addition, the focus of this work group is becoming increasingly intent upon housing maintenance issues, including the maintenance of multi-family dwellings. The work group will continue to participate in a cross-divisional effort in an area of the community. In 2007, the hiring of part-time code enforcement personnel has helped significantly in property maintenance.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA
In line with the Council's adopted governance statements, the most important statistics are shown below. Most of the information provided indicates staff activities. However, the effects of their efforts are seen in two areas: 1) the overall market value growth of the City (bar graph chart included in introductory section of this document); and 2) the positive perception of relative fire safety of the community indicated by the **85%-94%** Good/Excellent rating of the Fire Service in the 2007 and 2005 Decision Resources Residential Survey.

A strong customer service approach leads to achieving the following standards:

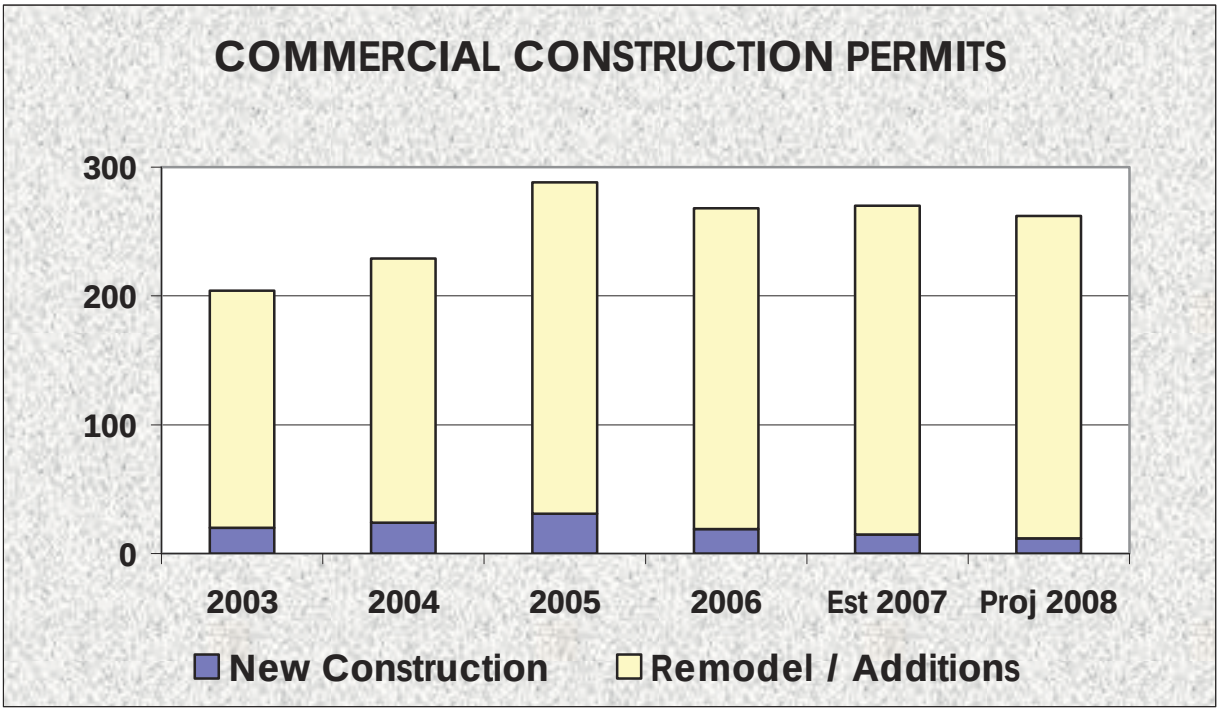
- **PLAN REVIEW:** Building plan review response within five (5) working days after submittal for Residential and two (2) weeks for commercial plans**.**
- **PERMITS:** All permits are issued within 24 hours after plan review and applicant pays for permits.

	2003	2004	2005	2006	Estimated 2007	Projected 2008
Plan Review -						
Number of Plans Reviewed	1,001	847	829	757	700	826
Permits Issued -						
Number of Permits Issued	5,551	5,259	5,465	5,650	6,000	5,585
Field Inspections						
(Bldg, Plbg, Htg, Gas, S&W)	11,552	10,546	10,291	10,652	10,500	10,708
Zoning Inspections						
Number of Zoning Inspections	1,714	2,338	2,407	3,184	4,000	3,643

Following are the most recent statistics of staff activity:

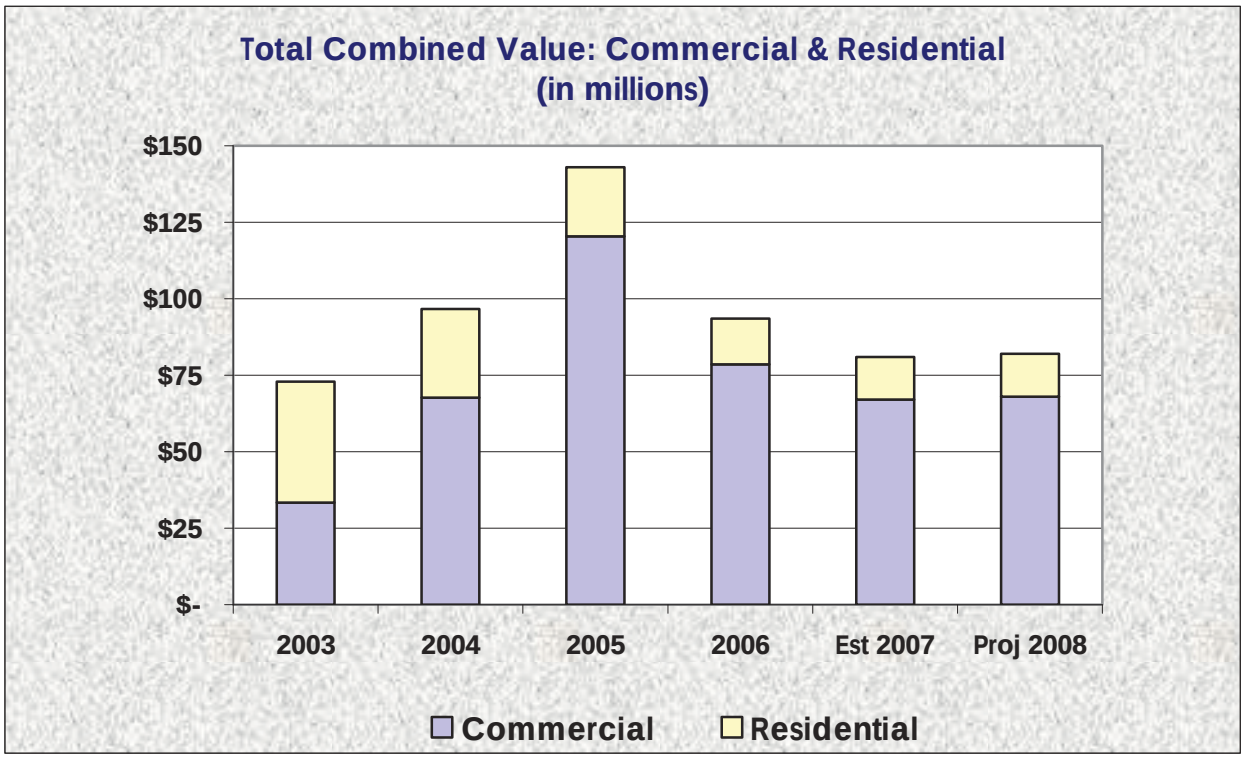
Just as Residential construction is shifting to a greater amount of remodeling instead of new construction (as illustrated by the area graph in the Planning section), the same is true of Commercial Industrial construction in Burnsville as this chart illustrates the number of permits per year.

In 2006 there were 19 new commercial construction and 249 commercial remodeling permits. For 2007, 15 new construction and 255 remodeling permits are projected.



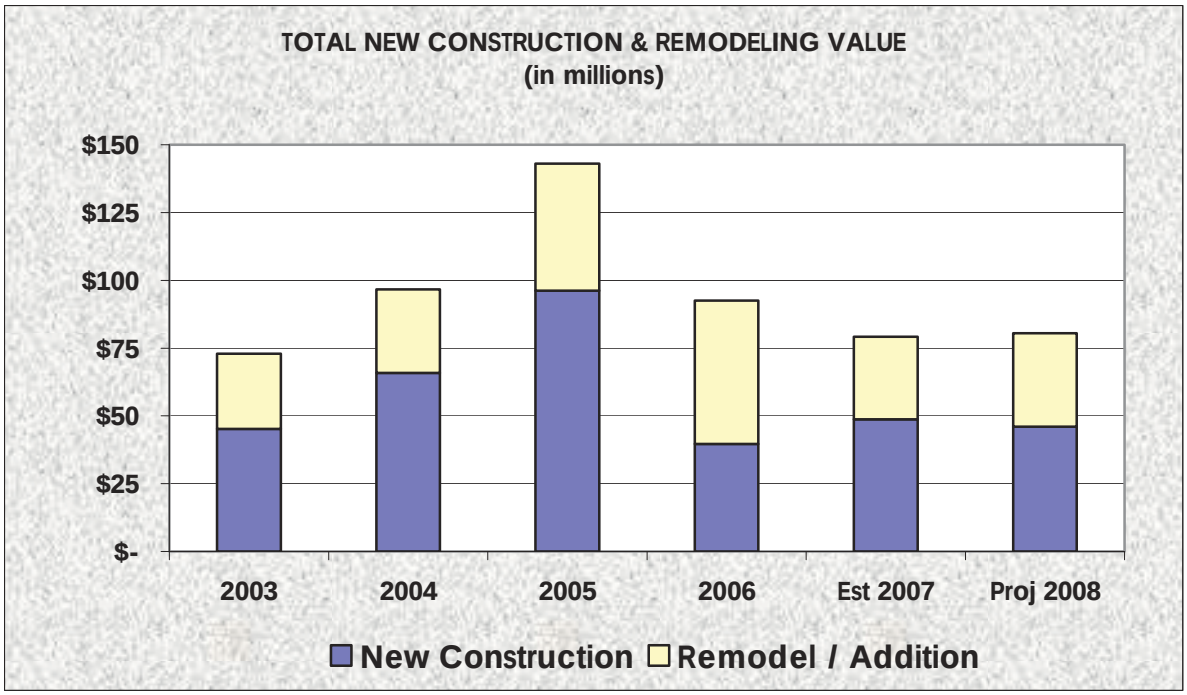
Although the City is nearing full development, Protective Inspections continues to regulate significant additional market value to our community each year as the following chart illustrates. Of particular notice is the proportional value between annual commercial and residential permits:

	Actual 2006	Estimated 2007	Projected 2008
Commercial	$ 78.6	$ 67.0	$ 68.0
Residential	14.9	14.0	14.0



Finally, another way of looking at total market value added annually is to: 1) Combine Commercial & Residential Remodeling; and 2) Combine Commercial & Residential *New Construction*. The benefit of this combination is to emphasize that although the volume of remodeling permits is high, the value of New Construction significantly exceeds the value of remodeling permits. Therefore, as the space available for New Construction declines in Burnsville, the value of new tax base added each year will decline even though our Protective Inspections work group may be as busy processing a similar number of permits & field inspections.

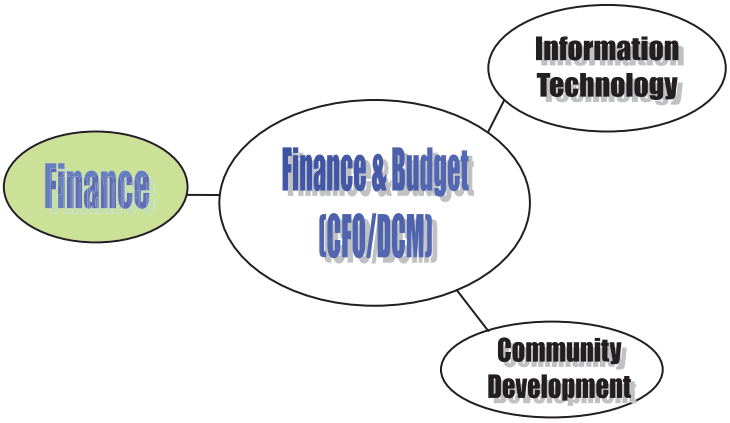
In 2006 new residential and commercial value equaled $39,658,730 and remodeling residential and commercial equaled $52,970,759 in added value.



2008 BUDGET OVERVIEW

- Continue to work with the Community Officers of the Burnsville PD to keep apartment complexes in compliance with the property maintenance code and the sign ordinances.
- Continue to present property maintenance information to the public through the Burnsville Bulletin.
- Provide Police with information on how best to coordinate between Inspections, Public Safety and City Ordinances.
- Stay active with the Emergency Preparedness committee.
- Participate in the "Remodeling Fair".
- Continue to provide the following services in a professional and timely manner i.e. building plan review, building inspections and zoning inspections.
- We will continue to work closely with the attorney's office to bring cases to resolution through effective communication and follow-up. We will get the attorney's involved on large cases sooner.
- Continue agreement with Dakota County Social Service representatives to assist them in cleaning up any trash houses they find.
- Continue to track vacant homes and follow-up on property maintenance as needed.
- Strive to find a qualified person to fill the part-time seasonal code enforcement position.
- Pilot project with CDA for remodeling services.

Finance



PRIMARY SERVICES

The Finance Department provides financial support services to the entire organization, including:

- Accounts payable
- Accounts receivable
- Payroll
- Project accounting
- Implementation of financial controls
- Budget preparation
- Grant administration
- Risk management
- Banking relations
- Cash & investment management
- Debt service analysis & bond payments
- Tax levy administration
- Utility billing
- Utility rate analysis
- Financial reporting
- Long-range financial planning
- Capital Improvement Plan

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES

The primary purpose of the department is to provide overall support & financial guidance consistent with:

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT END- People find the City of Burnsville managed in a cost-effective responsible manner, maintaining the highest standards of service, to enhance the community's quality of life for a reasonable investment

The City has adopted a Financial Management Plan which is reviewed and updated annually. The purpose of this plan is to establish principals to guide both staff and Councilmembers to make consistent and informed financial decisions. The plan addresses the following areas:

- Revenue Management
- Cash and Investments
- Reserves
- Operating Budget and Compensation Philosophy
- Capital Improvements Plan
- Infrastructure Trust Fund
- Debt Management
- Accounting, Auditing and Financial Reporting
- Risk Management

A copy of the Financial Management Plan is included in the 2008 budget document. The Financial Management Plan provides guidance for the Finance staff in the financial management and financial planning for the City. It also guides staff in establishing the policies and procedures for the daily accounting activities to ensure the safeguarding of the City's assets.

In 2007, the Finance staff continued and updated the preparation of comprehensive multi-year finance plans for each of the budgeted funds. Assistance from staff in other departments was obtained in completing these important planning documents. The finance plans aid in projecting future needs and evaluating the effects of today's decisions on future years. These finance plans were integral in the 2008 budget decision process and are included in the 2008 budget document.

Utility Billing -

The Finance Department made some significant changes in service to our utility customers in 2007. Utility billing for water and sewer services converted from a quarterly billing cycle to monthly billing early in the year. As part of the shift to monthly billing, we also added an automatic withdrawal option for utility payments and contracted the printing and mailing of our utility bills to an outside vendor.

Monthly billing was considered for a number of years and it provides many benefits to our entire customer base as well as allowing city staff to operate more effectively. Some of the major benefits of monthly billing include:

- Aligns our billings with other utilities such as electric and gas providing more timely and consistent billings. By being timelier, this assists customers in understanding their billing cycle and when services actually occurred.
- Bills are more manageable assisting customers with their monthly budget.
- Helps promote water conservation by keeping the customer informed of water usage for a considerably shorter time period assisting them in understanding their water usage patterns.
- Provides City staff and customers an improved ability to detect leaks and assists in lessoning significant water loss. This saves the City resources and the customer money by not having to pay for water running down the drain.
- Aligns the billings closer to the actual cost of providing the services assisting in cash flow.

As part the monthly billing program implementation, an automatic withdrawal option for payments was implemented. This has been a popular payment method as nearly 2,700 customers have their payments automatically withdrawn from their accounts each month.

For 2008, utility billing will continue to change our processes and service delivery by implementing new utility billing software as part of the ERMS upgrade. Customers will be given the option to sign up for e-statements and receive an e-mail indicating their bill is ready for viewing on a secured web site. The customer will be able to make a payment on-line by using a credit card if they choose by using the e-statement process.

Enterprise Resource Management System (finance computer system) -
The finance department completed a thorough evaluation of options for replacing the City's financial computer software that has been in place for the past 14 years. Working with the I.T. department it was determined that the City should pursue an Enterprise Resource Management System (ERMS) that would integrate system needs across many departments using web-based technology that would facilitate better e-government applications.

After a thorough two year process of researching available systems and determining the City's needs with the help of staff in many different departments, a system was chosen. The base financial and the payroll / human resources systems were implemented in 2007. The utility billing system is in process with go-live early in 2008. The implementation process will expand to other departments and new systems over a two to three year period.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA
EMS Billing -
The City changed Emergency Medical Services (EMS) billing service providers at the beginning of 2006. The City outsources the billing of ambulance services to an ambulance billing company due to the specialized nature of medical billing. An RFP was awarded to Digitech Computer Systems, Inc. for billing beginning January 1, 2006. Cash collections have improved significantly over the past two years due to improved billing and collections procedures.

	2005	2006	2007
Cash received	1,204,091	1,348,892	1,417,000
Increase		144,801	68,108
% Increase		11%	5%

Note: Includes current status accounts only.
Delinquent accounts in collections are excluded.

Banking & Investments -
The City continued to implement many enhanced banking services available through Wells Fargo and adding security and efficiencies including the addition of ACH vendor payments. In addition, in 2006 the City moved all of it's investments to Wells Fargo Trust for independent centralized safekeeping.

The Finance Department is responsible for the City's cash and investment management for all funds. The City's financial management plan provides the general policies for investment of City funds. A separate, more detailed investment policy providing more specific guidelines for investment practices was prepared this year and adopted by the City Council.

City funds are invested to attain a market rate of interest while preserving and protecting the capital of the overall portfolio. Investments are made based on statutory constraints, in safe, low-risk investments. The primary objectives, in priority order, are safety, liquidity, and yield. The City uses a laddered approach to cash management and the portfolio is invested in a variety of maturity lengths to meet short-term and longer term cash flow needs. The investment decisions are made with consideration of the current investment market within the City's investment policies with the intention of holding investments to maturity.

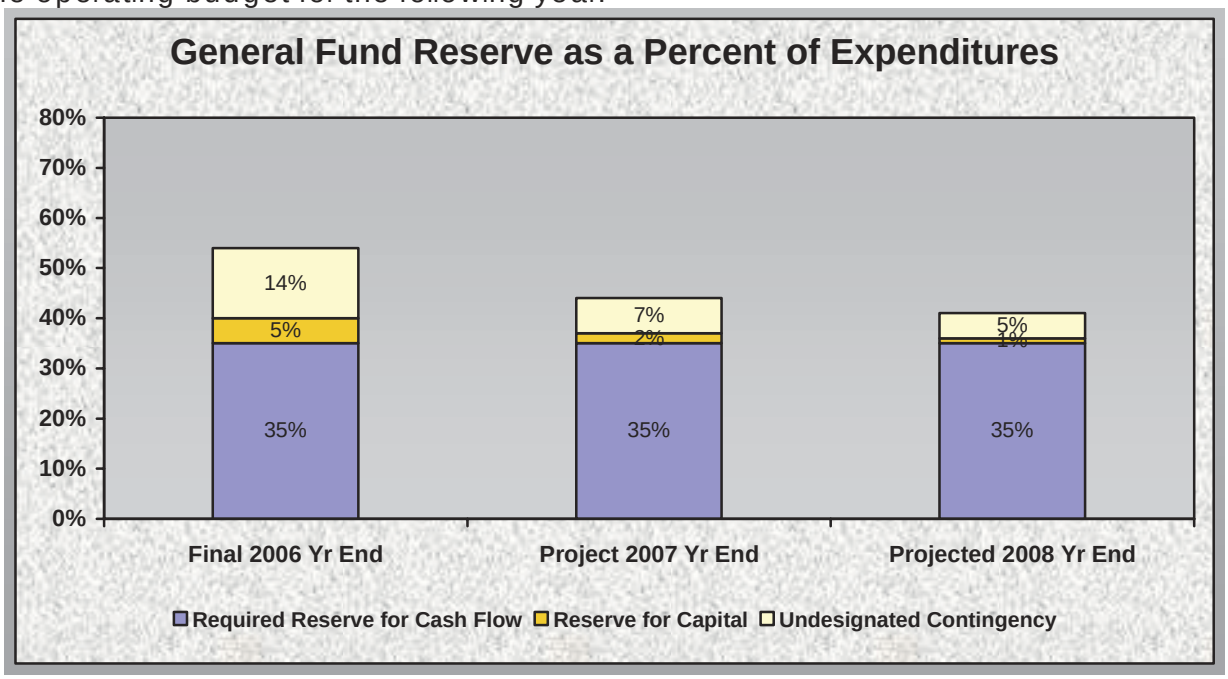
At the end of the 3rd quarter 2007, the City's annualized return on invested balances was 4.56% compared to 4.14% for the year 2006. Short-term and long-term interest rates fluctuated during 2007 ending lower. The market yield curve at the throughout the year was unusually flat or inverted with short-term interest rates very close to long term interest rates.

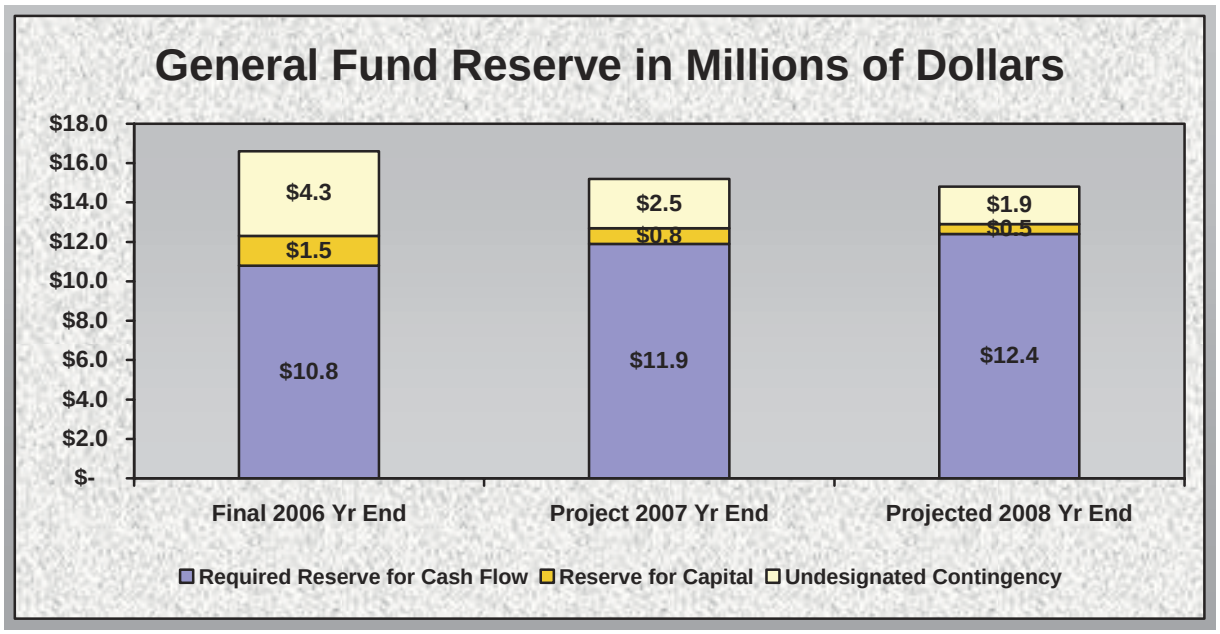
Fund Balance -

The reserve policy in the City's Financial Management Plan states:

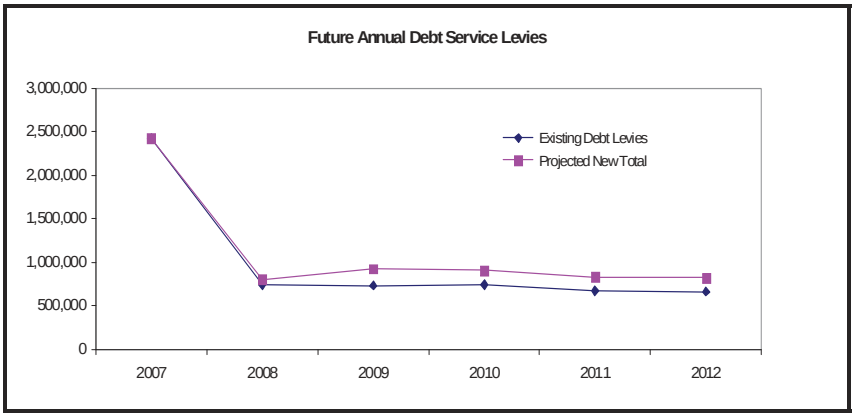
The City maintains fund balances in the General Fund at a level which avoids issuing short-term debt to meet the cash flow needs of the current operating budget. Generally, the goal would be to maintain a minimum General Fund balance of 35% of the operating budget for cashflow purposes; however, this need could fluctuate with each year's budget objectives and appropriations such as large capital expenditures and variations in the collection of revenues.

The following table illustrates the yearend unreserved General Fund balance as a percentage of the operating budget for the following year.

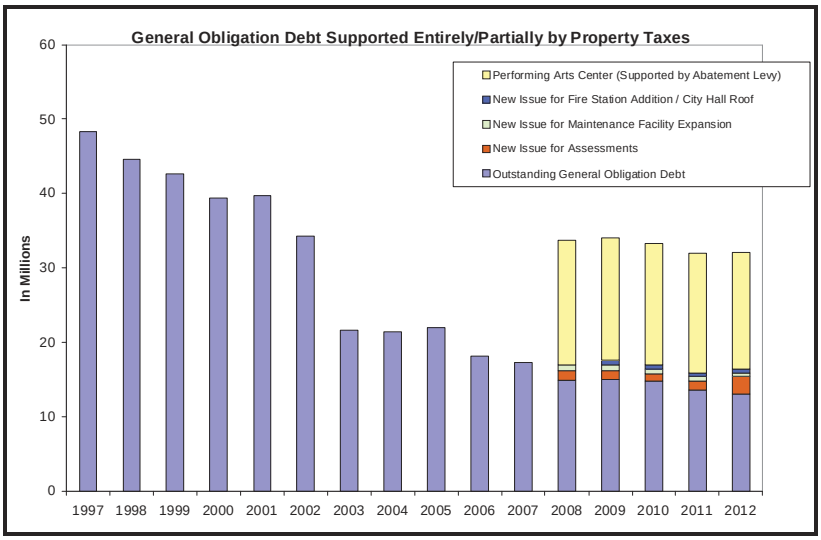




Debt Management -
The following charts show evidence of responsible debt management. Even while the City pursues an ambitious capital projects program to enhance tax base, the debt the annual debt service levies are projected to decline.



The debt analysis prepared for the 2008-2012 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) projects a continual decrease in the level of general obligation debt and the corresponding tax levies. The table below indicates the total amount of General Obligation debt owed by the City of Burnsville, including the debt for future projects.



Additionally, the City's Aa1 bond rating was reaffirmed by Moody's Investor Service in December 2007 with issuance of G.O. Improvement Bonds for 2007. Aa1 is the second highest rating for municipalities.

Financial Reporting Awards -
Annually, the Finance Department prepares an audited Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). Each year for the past 11 years, the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) has awarded Burnsville the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for our CAFR. The 2007 CAFR will be submitted for the award as well and we anticipate receiving the award.

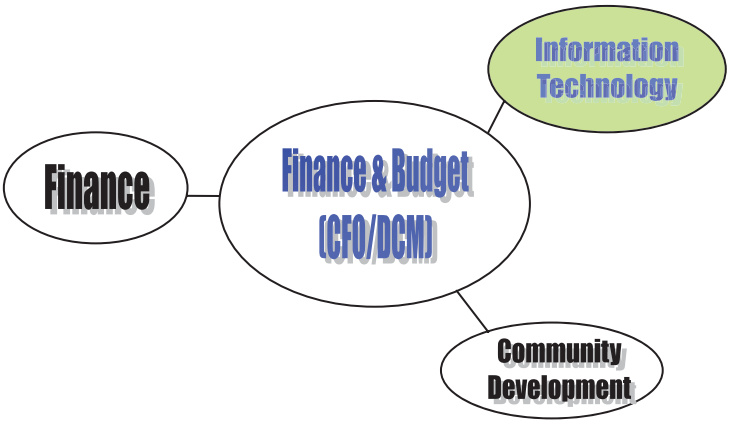
In addition, for the past eight years the City has received the GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the preparation of the City's budget document. The current budget document will be submitted for the award and we believe that it also meets the criteria for the award.

2008 BUDGET OVERVIEW

The finance department has a variety of new challenges for 2008 including:

- Continued implementation of the utility system portion of the Enterprise Resource Management (ERM) system for integrated financial reporting and other computer systems throughout the organization;
- Expansion of the electronic document management system in various finance system areas

Information Technology (I.T.)



PRIMARY SERVICES

Under the leadership of the IT Director, the department has several functions:

1. Research, Evaluation, planning, implementation and management of the City's information technology infrastructure, including personal computers, Enterprise Resource Management Systems, Electronic Document Management System, Public Safety Systems, Mobile systems, GIS systems, Recreation Management systems, Community Development – Permitting and Inspections System, Voice Over IP phone & voicemail system, email infrastructure, internet facilities, eGovernment services, security systems and linking several hundred devices into an efficient, seamless network.
2. Training knowledge based workers on complex new technology, applications, serving to enhance employee productivity and improve processes while keeping City systems compatible to customers external to the City.
3. Essential daily operational support and maintenance for the several hundred system components within the organization, including 24x7 on call support for critical systems.
4. Keeping informed of changes in technology likely to affect the City and make timely recommendations on aligning technology with the business processes of the city operation.

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES

The primary role of the IT department is to support the effective and efficient delivery of all City services.

CITY SERVICES - People find the City of Burnsville delivers quality essential services in a cost effective, timely manner.

Businesses and residents are attracted to Burnsville because of a visible commitment to technology that supports an enhanced quality of life.

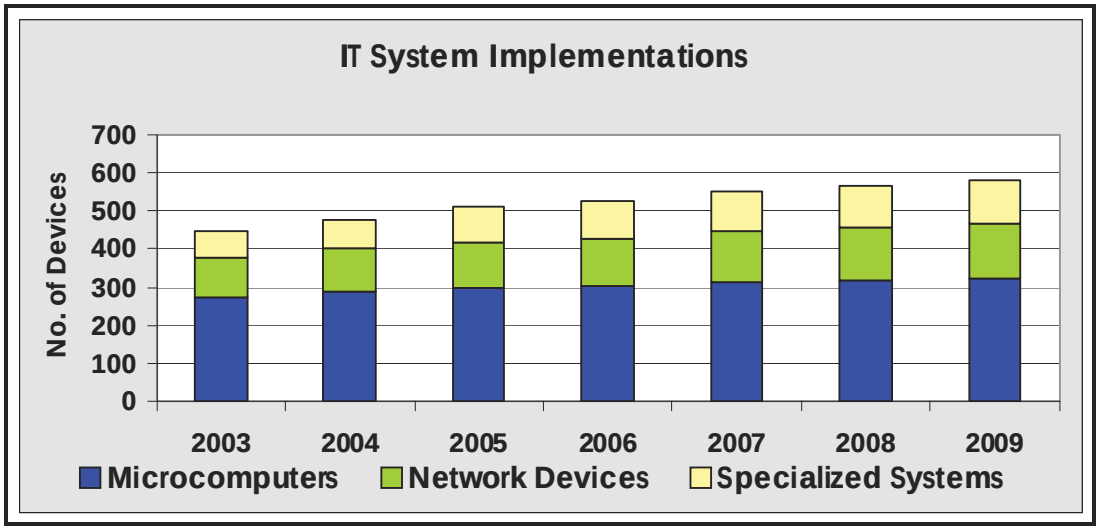
a) Burnsville facilitates community wide accessibility to broadband technology
b) Burnsville provides effective community wide electronic-government (E-Gov.) services.

Service consolidations and partnerships with Dakota County and other cities will be studied Key IT activities and programs supporting this End Statement and Outcomes include:

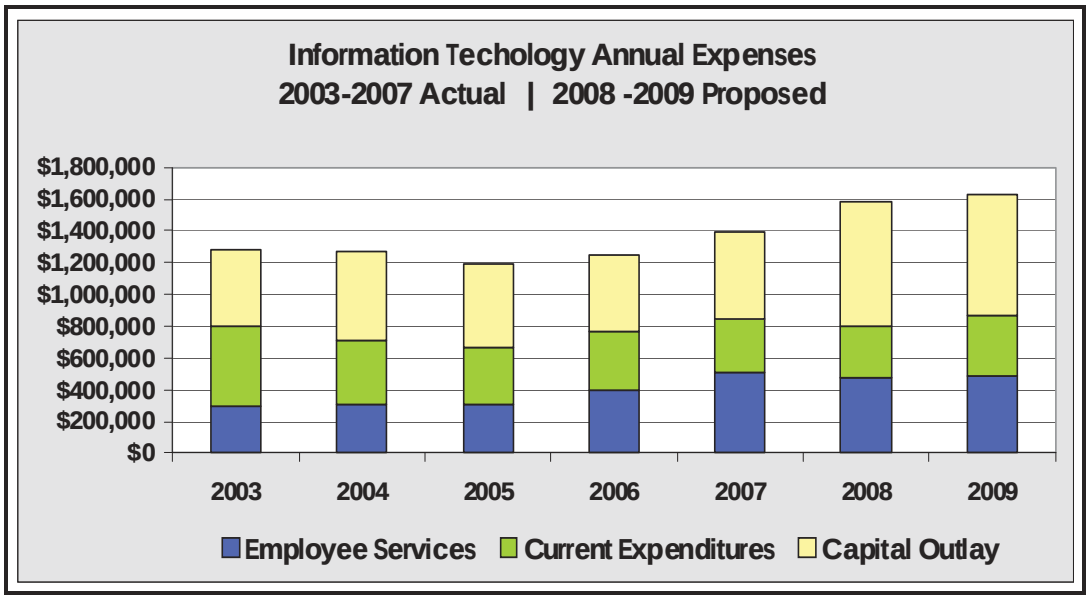
Broadband Governance Process	Dakota Communication Center Operations
City -Wide Area Network infrastructure	Facilities Security system enhancements
City - Local Area Network infrastructure	Remote access management/development
Network Security management	Employee training
Geographic Information Systems (GIS)	Mobile Data Computers in Police/Fire depts.
Web site support for Internet/Intranet	Police/Fire Computer Aided Dispatch and Records Management systems coordination and strategic development
Internet/Intranet Access Management	Management of vendor contracts
Email/GroupWare systems management	Systems evaluation, acquisition, deployment
Integrated telephony services	Electronic Document Management System
Voice Over IP Enterprise Phone System	Wireless systems support/solutions
Enterprise Resource Management System	Support of CJIIN initiatives
Support of HiPP initiatives	Emergency Operations/Disaster Recovery

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA

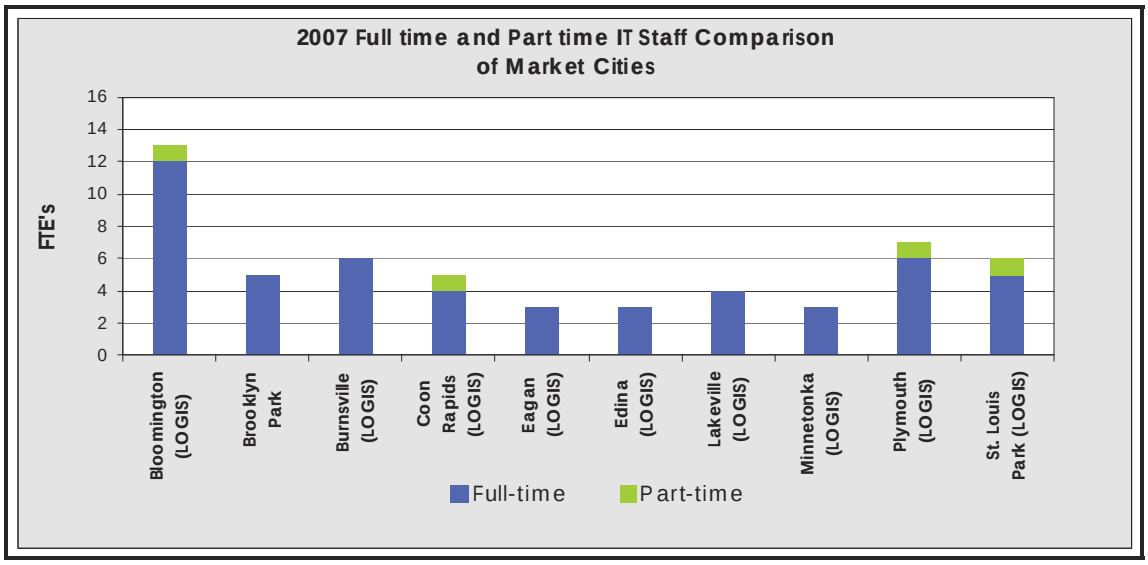
The growth of IT systems implemented has been steadily increasing from year to year for multiple departments and types of systems. The growth will continue to occur because of the addition of a wireless mobile workforce solutions anticipated in several areas of operations over the next few years, the new Enterprise Resource Management System, and new e-government based services.



The increase in total devices and capabilities has been accompanied by a steady investment in capital outlay, current expenses, and employee services. The next graph illustrates the IT budget expenditures from 2003 to 2007 and the proposed budgets in 2008 to 2009. IT operating expenses increased in 2005 with the addition of an IT Technician position and the addition of a new sunset IT position from October 2005 through 2008.



Burnsville is a progressive community in the implementation and utilization of technology to provide services. It is apparent within a few examples: our Internet/Intranet presence and solutions, Institutional Network for wide-area networking, public safety systems, mobile/wireless projects, systems integration, and government partnerships. Solutions have been implemented with a relatively small investment in employee services. Ten of eleven market cities are members of the Local Government Information System (LOGIS), a consortium of Minnesota local government units that receive locally supported management information systems, data processing services, and related support services. The graph below illustrates a 2007 comparison of our market cities full time and part time IT staffing levels. It does not take into consideration staff augmentation through contract services. It does identify LOGIS member cities.



January 2008 is the first full year mark in which Burnsville participated as a member in the LOGIS consortium for Law Enforcement Records Management System Services, Police and Fire mobile software as part of the Dakota Communications Center project. Additionally, the city added Special Assessments applications services from LOGIS to automate an annual process which was mostly manual in the past.

Future Direction for Information Technology

The focus will be on:

- Community Wide "Big" Broadband Partnerships
- High Performance Partnerships (HIPP) Initiatives
- Criminal Justice Information Integration Network (CJIIN) Initiatives
- Continued new eGovernment services, 24x7
- Wireless Technology implementation
- SCADA infrastructure, monitoring, and alerting improvements
- Employee technical knowledge development
- Continued deployment of integrated systems and systems security
- Customer Oriented Systems deployment (CRM, ERMS, VOIP)
- Disaster Recovery strategic planning
- Phase II and III of EDMS Document Imaging/Management solutions
- Remote User/Site deployment
- Continued Growth in GIS partnership with Dakota County
- Continued Mobile Data Computer implementation for Police/Fire,Water, and Protective Inspections.
- Fiber Optic interconnection partnerships

2008 BUDGET OVERVIEW

The 2008 Information Technology Department's primary projects will be a focus on completion of phase one of the new Enterprise Resource Management System (ERMS) with the "go live" of the new Utility Billing module in March and the start of phase II which includes the implementation of a new Community Development module and eGovernment on-line applications interfaced to ERMS. Additionally, a new Recreation Management System replacement will be implemented in March to enhance recreation programs throughout multiple facilities. This will also provide a new e-Recreation on-line services in 2008.

The IT Capital Budget continues to include regular replacement schedules for personal computers, public safety mobile data computers, servers, printers, network infrastructure devices, software licenses and other miscellaneous items. In addition, other large IT projects are planned for 2008. Some of these include:

- Completion of Phase II and start of Phase III of the new Enterprise Document Management System (EDMS) implementation into Inspections, Engineering, Licensing and other departments.
- Implementation of a new Fire Records Management System endorsed by the Dakota County Chiefs Association and will interface with DCC Dispatch applications.
- Implementation of a new "paperless" Fire Inspectors application with PC tablets for in the field "real time" electronic Fire inspections.
- Replacement of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC)/Training mobile laptop lab
- Implementation of an all new Asset Management and Work Order system for Public Works.
- New Public Safety Automatic Vehicle Locator applications for vehicle monitoring and resource allocation by the DCC and Burnsville staff
- Countywide Emergency Notification System (Reverse 911) implementation with DCC

Operations

Fire/EMS
Police
Recreation/ Facilities
Community Service
Operations - DCM
Natural Resources
Licensing/ Elections
Fleet
Communications
BECT

BIRNAMWOOD
PUBLIC
GOLF COURSE

Police

PRIMARY SERVICES

Under the leadership of the Chief of Police, the Police Department provides public safety services utilizing a community-oriented policing philosophy to achieve their mission—"WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE THROUGH EXCELLENCE IN POLICING." Budget areas in 2007 include Administration, Services, Patrol, Community Resources, Investigation, Animal Control, Grant Coordinator and Emergency Preparedness.

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES

SAFETY: People find Burnsville a safe community and are willing to prevent fire and crime.

This is the primary service area of the Police Department—providing public safety services to the community and utilizing the community-oriented policing focus to align with this Outcome. The department's philosophy and organizational strategy of community policing allows the police and community to work closely together to solve problems and increase the quality of life in local neighborhoods.

Patrol officers are assigned to geographical areas in order to develop a working knowledge of the area and people in the neighborhoods that they serve. Police, Fire and EMS units are dispatched to life-threatening, hazardous, suspicious and in-progress criminal activity calls. Investigators work with citizens and business people to bring successful prosecutions against law violators.

In addition to general Patrol Officer and Investigator assignments, some of the specialty units the Police Department has developed to address this Outcome include:

Community Resources Unit	***Emergency Action Group–Tactical Team***
Dakota County Drug Task Force	***Emergency Action Group–Negotiations Team***
Domestic Abuse Response Team	***Street Crimes Unit***
K-9 Unit	***Traffic Unit***
Physical Evidence Program	***Youth Relations Program***

The two-person **Street Crimes Unit**, which became full-time in June 2006, has been extremely effective in providing a flexible, proactive response to serious crime issues, hot spots and

emerging trends that arise in Burnsville. The Street Crimes Unit has been able to provide a number of concentrated enforcement initiatives—from their extensive undercover work focusing on lewd behavior within the Black Dog Wildlife Refuge Area, to prostitution issues in both multi-housing and hotel/motel areas, and partnering with our Patrol Unit, Investigation Unit and the Dakota County Drug Task Force. As a result, we have seen an increase in prostitution charges and a reduction in narcotics-related offenses.

YOUTH: Youth find Burnsville a nurturing and supportive community.

The Police Department continues to partner with the school district to place officers in schools through our ***Youth Relations Officer Program***. The two Youth Relations Officers assigned to Burnsville High School and the one officer assigned to Nicollet Junior High School handle several hundreds of calls annually and provide classroom instruction on such topics as bullying, youth violence, Constitutional Law, and the harmful effects of using drugs and alcohol Law. Youth Relations Officers have attended special anti-violence training with school personnel in an effort to provide a safe learning environment in these times of school violence and have developed a School Intruder Plan. The Youth Relations Officers serve as strong mentors for students by being involved in the day-to-day contacts with students, and are also present during Dakota County Peer Court on the days that it is held at the high school.

The innovative "**BLUE in the School**" (Building–Learning–Understanding–Educating) program received a School District Partnership Award in May 2007. Under this program, officers regularly visit elementary schools in their patrol areas, becoming a resource for school staff and building a foundation for the future with students through positive interaction.

NEIGHBORHOODS: Residents and businesses feel connected to their neighborhoods.

The department-wide focus of community-oriented policing continues to be the philosophical underpinning of all public safety activities focusing on problem-solving partnerships. Specific activities include ***Multi-Housing***, ***Crime Watch-Mall Watch-Neighborhood Watch, National Night Out, Mobile Volunteer Network, Senior Safety Camp, Citizens' Academy, Rental Best Practices Program, Predatory Offender Registration*** and ***Alcohol/Tobacco Compliance Checks.***

Community preparedness has been promoted throughout the year through the efforts of our Emergency Management Coordinator. City table-top exercises and numerous community presentations were conducted in preparation for an influenza pandemic, as well as promoting individual and family preparedness for disasters through handouts in City utility bills and web site development. In September 2007 a City-wide disaster drill was conducted to evaluate our operational readiness and response to a situation as well as identify areas needing additional attention. To that extent, this drill was a huge success and we can be confident that our City is better prepared to deal with a large-scale disaster.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA

The **2007 Residential Survey** indicated the following responses:

- **87%** of the respondents rated the quality of police service as good or excellent, **88%** trust the City's public safety efforts, and **84%** believe police response is timely.
- **72%** respondents feel the amount of police patrolling in their neighborhood is about right, and **47%** are aware a police officer is assigned to their neighborhood.

- **52%** respondents believe crime in Burnsville has remained the same, with **40%** believing crime has increased.
- **96%** residents have an overall feeling of safety, **98%** feel safe shopping in Burnsville, **78%** feel safe in their neighborhoods and **78%** feel children are safe playing in parks.
- **51%** respondents rate the City's Emergency Preparedness efforts as excellent or good.
- With regard to public safety issues, residential respondents' opinions were as follows:

Residential Study on Public Safety Issues	Very Serious	Somewhat Serious
Traffic–Speeding	12%	42%
Drugs	16%	34%
Youth Crimes	7%	39%
Stop Sign Violations	11%	33%
Pedestrian Safety	10%	32%
Residential Crimes	6%	34%
Gangs	6%	25%
ID Theft	4%	22%
Web Predators	5%	15%

Responses to the **2006 Business Survey** indicated that:

- **93%** businesses feel that customers and employee feel safe shopping and doing business in Burnsville.
- **66%** businesses feel that crime is about the same in Burnsville, with **24%** feeling crime has increased; **55%** feel the impact of crime on their business is not at all serious.
- With regard to public safety issues, business respondents' opinions were as follows:

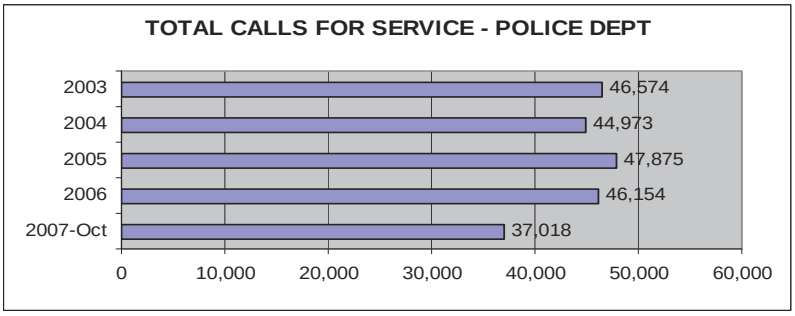
Business Study on Public Safety Issues	Very/Somewhat Serious	Not Too/Not at All Serious
Shoplifting	13%	86%
Vandalism	17%	83%
Burglary	17%	83%
Fraud / Bad Checks	19%	80%
Graffiti	6%	93%
Petty Thievery	7%	92%
Identity Theft	8%	91%
Potential for Terrorism	1%	97%
Computer Crime	1%	98%
Violent Crime	2%	97%
Gangs and Drugs	5%	93%

Other Performance Indicators

- The **National Night Out** event continues to be a great success in terms of turnout and citizen contacts. In 2007, a record **144 neighborhood parties were held in Burnsville**; compared to 138 celebrations in 2006. For communities with populations of our size, Burnsville's 2007 National Night Out celebration **ranked 15th in the nation**; a significant improvement over the 27th ranking in 2006.
- Two waves of **Alcohol and Tobacco Compliance Checks** were conducted in 2007 resulting in a total of **10 alcohol and 10 tobacco sales violations to minors**; this compares to a total of 10 alcohol and 3 tobacco sales violations in 2006.

Activity Summary

Burnsville Case Clearances		
Year	% Part I Cleared	% Part II Cleared
2003	25.8%	70.1%
2004	32.5%	71.9%
2005	26.7%	70.3%
2006	**27.4%**	**70.0%**

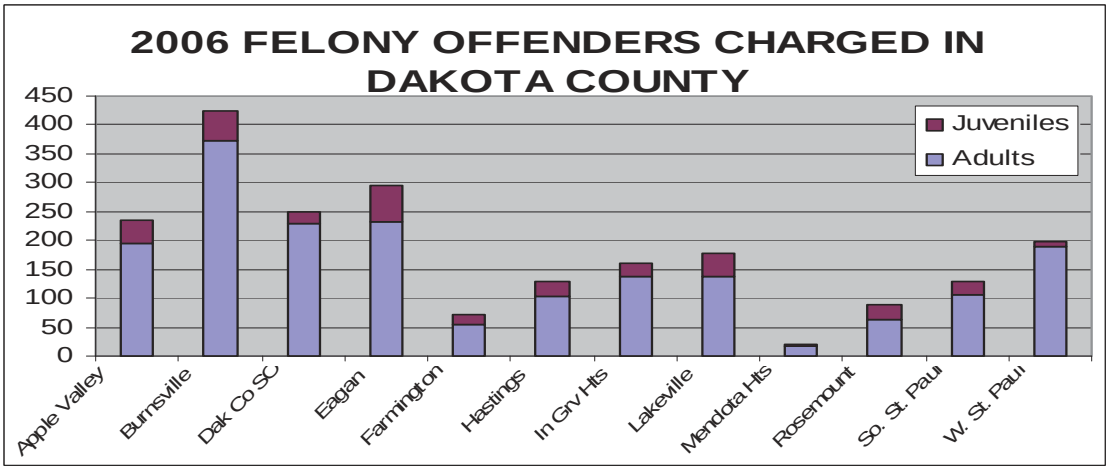


Criminal Prosecution Volume

The City of Burnsville generates a high volume of criminal prosecutions. The City Attorney is responsible for Misdemeanors and Civil violations. The Dakota County Attorney is responsible for Felony cases. While comparative data is not available for the City Attorney, this table illustrates Felony case load generated by law enforcement agencies in Dakota County.

In 2006, 372 adult felony cases were charged by the County Attorney's Office, compared to 335 cases in 2005. For the first time in several years, **Burnsville experienced a significant increase in juvenile offenders charged with 349 cases in 2006**, compared to 276 cases in 2005.

County-wide, drug offenses continue to represent the largest category of cases charged by the County Attorney's Office, accounting for over 35% of the total number of felony charges. When including all of the property crimes committed to finance illegal drug habits and the crimes of violence associated with the illegal drug trade, it is estimated that about 50% of all felony prosecutions in Dakota County are related to the sale or use of illegal drugs.



Increased Traffic Enforcement

The Police Department's Traffic Unit continued working to address the traffic safety concerns of the citizens of Burnsville by increasing efforts in responding to specific complaints and safety issues while continuing to work general traffic enforcement. **Of the 11,251 citations issued for traffic violations in 2006, 3,835 of the citations were identified as Burnsville residents**. Consistent with the City Council's emphasis on Speed Reduction and Traffic Enforcement, this table compares 2003 to YTD September 2007.

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT	2003	2004	2005	2006	YTD OCT 2007
Speed Citations	4,975	3,421	2.956	2,729	2,090
Other Moving Citations	2,587	2,278	2,632	2,562	2,115
Parking Citations	1,626	1,335	1,112	1,940	2,187
Other Citations	3,944	4,171	3,329	4,020	3,881
Total Citations	**13,132**	**11,205**	**10,029**	**11,251**	**11,087**

Investigation Unit

The Investigation Unit continues to observe a consistent increase in case load over previous years. Specifically, **530 new cases were assigned to detectives since the end of September 2007, with an average of 59 new cases occurring each month; this compares to 630 new cases for year-end 2006.** This workload necessitates placing the highest priority on violent crimes such as Sexual Assault, Robbery and Homicide; while not immediately investigating property-type crimes such as Forgeries, Credit Card Fraud, Identity Theft and Non-Sufficient Checks, as well as Residential and Commercial Burglaries.

Predatory Offender Registration Checks were conducted in 2007. These surprise checks aid the police department and the community in assuring these offenders are in compliance with state law. **Information on the 73 predatory offenders residing in Burnsville was updated along with obtaining current photographs;** three offenders were found to be out of compliance and additional investigations are being conducted. In 2006, 63 offenders were checked; no violations were found. To date, Burnsville has had no Level III offenders living in our community.

Part I Criminal Offenses

Reported Part I Criminal Offenses (Violent Crimes) for **YTD October 2007** compared to the same time period in 2006, **decreased -4.4%.** Some key areas of interest:

- Rape decreased by -38%, from 32 to 20 reports
- Robberies decreased slightly from 29 cases to 24
- Residential Burglaries increased 24%, 152 to 189 reports
- Commercial Burglaries are down -56%, from 101 to 44 cases
- Larceny/Theft cases decreased slightly from 1,455 to 1,421 reports

Part II Criminal Offenses

Reported Part II Criminal Offenses (all other offenses) for **YTD October 2007** compared to the same time period in 2006 showed an overall **decrease of -8.9%.** Some key areas of change in 2007 are:

- Assaults are down -13%, 260 to 224
- Fraud increased 20%, from 172 to 206 reports
- Vandalism increased 13%, 491 to 553 reported incidents
- Disorderly Conduct is down -8%, from 200 to 184 incidents
- Driving Under the Influence incidents decreased -34%, from 352 to 231
- Narcotics decreased from 530 to 405 incidents, down 24%
- Forgery/Counterfeiting has increased 8%, from 80 to 86 cases
- Criminal Sexual Conduct has increased 92%, from 26 to 50 incidents

Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART)

The DART team is a unique approach to address the growing concern of domestic violence by following up with victims after initial incidents and interacting closely with investigators, prosecutors, victim advocates, courts, probation officers and the community. These efforts help to identify resources and support needed for victims and their families, and helps to build stronger cases to hold those accountable for the abuse. Of the **1,969 reported domestic calls for service in 2006, DART officers followed up on 94 of those cases**. Domestics reported for 2005 totaled 1,346.

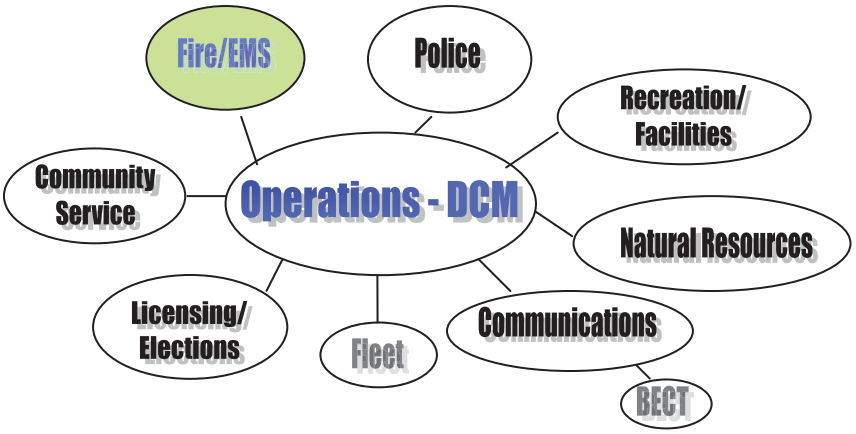
2008 BUDGET OVERVIEW

In 2008, the goal of the police department is to strike a balance between prudent spending and maintaining the high quality of service the residents, business owners and visitors to Burnsville have grown to expect. In doing that, we will continue to look at areas where we can curb expenditures and areas where the spending must be increased, such as Emergency Management and the department's Street Crimes initiative. From a budgetary standpoint, it is our responsibility to spend wisely but not at the cost of the quality of life in Burnsville or the safety of the dedicated professionals that deliver that high level of service.

2008 budget considerations include:

- Transition to new consolidated dispatch facility (Dakota Communications Center)
- Transition to shared county-wide public safety 800 MHz radio system
- Continue to develop partnerships and agreements within Dakota County (CJIIN)
- Continue National Emergency Management Network training
- Continue mentoring and training a young police force

Fire & Emergency Services



PRIMARY SERVICES
Under the leadership of the Fire Chief, the Fire Department provides the following safety services: fire suppression, paramedic ambulance service, rescue, fire prevention, code enforcement, fire investigation, and public education.

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES
The primary purpose of the department is to provide effective fire and life support response within department service areas; provide community youth with fire education, demonstrations and mentoring activities that will help citizens live safer lives; provide prevention and training services to residents and businesses; and provide community-wide disaster prevention and planning service. These services are aligned with the *SAFETY END & OUTCOMES.*

SAFETY - People find Burnsville a safe community, and are willing to prevent fire and crime.

- Full time fire service
- Full time Emergency Medical Service (EMS)
- Fire inspection program
- Fire prevention program
- Extensive training program
- Fire Department Technical Rescue Team (TRT)
- Dakota County Special Operations Team (SOT)
- Disaster prevention and preparation
- Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
- 7 min response for 80% of fire and EMS calls
- Fire Station open house-neighborhood comments
- National Night Out
- Fire safety training
- Youth programs (pre-school, daycares, elementary, Safety Camp)
- Community partnering effort
- Fire Muster

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA
There are numerous measures that can be used to illustrate departmental performance and effectiveness, the following are among the most important:

Response Time Measurements The use of fractal reporting for measuring the response time data for the fire department was adopted by the City Council in 2004. An outcome

statement of "Fire and EMS will reach 80% of emergency calls in seven minutes or less" using the fractal reporting system was established. The response time elements involved in this measurement include dispatch processing time, turnout time, and travel time. The definition of an emergency response is a call that classified as a *Code 3*—or one that incorporates the use of emergency lights and siren in the response.

In 2007, the Burnsville PSAP Center officially became part of the DCC. Part of this process involved implementing a new CAD program that was currently being used by the other agencies throughout the county. While this program is functional, there are identified constraints that hinder the analysis of response time components. However, it can be assumed that the standard of efficiency in call processing exhibited by our Dispatchers in 2006 continued into 2007 once the learning curve associated with the new program diminished. Analysis of call data from fire records revealed that for the time period of January through November, there were 2909 reportable calls (calls that were classified emergency with a code 3 response). Of these calls, the response time segment of notification to arrival on scene was reached 82.06% of the time in 6½ minutes or less. This data coupled with the assumption that the same efficiencies achieved by our Dispatchers in 2006 were also realized in 2007, would offer that the response time benchmark of reaching 80% of the emergency calls in seven minutes or less has been achieved this past year.

Fire Department Technical Rescue Team (TRT) The fire department formed a Technical Rescue Team (TRT) in 1999 to overcome mitigation deficiencies in areas of specialty rescue. The team is made up of eleven department members who are trained to the level of *technician* in numerous rescue disciplines. In 2007, TRT trained more than 80 hours as a team and in turn provided training to the rest of our firefighters in the following areas: High and Low Angle Rope Rescue, Trench Rescue, Water Rescue, and Vehicle/Machinery extrication.

In March, a joint training exercise with Dakota County Special Operations Team (DCSOT) was conducted at the vacant AAA building. The teams concentrated on structural steel cutting, breeching of precast concrete, and building shoring. The activities reinforced the collaborative relationship we have between Burnsville's TRT and DCSOT in addition to validating our response competencies.

In October, TRT provided assistance in a special operation conducted at Xcel Energy's Black Dog Power Plant. The Xcel Energy Special Construction Group was making an entry into a river intake tunnel that had not been opened over the past 22 years. TRT provided their knowledge and expertise to Xcel in areas of confined space entry and rescue. A Team representative participated in planning and safety briefings as well as making several site visits during the four-day operation. Our participation was greatly appreciated and was very reassuring to all involved during this rather dangerous operation.

Dakota County Special Operations Team (SOT) Dakota County Special Operations Team (SOT) is an emergency response unit that provides unique specialized rescue and emergency response services that augment existing community fire and law enforcement responses. The team operates under a joint powers agreement (JPA) signed by the eleven jurisdictions within Dakota County. SOT is part of the state's structural collapse team and is known as Minnesota Task Force 1 (Mn-TF-1). The full complement of Mn-TF-1 consists of units from Minneapolis, Edina, St. Paul, and Rochester fire departments and Dakota County's SOT. The SOT structure is comprised of fire, police, and EMS personnel from each of the jurisdictions operating under the JPA. The team is authorized to operate at a level of thirty-six members with two of these members from Burnsville Fire and one from Burnsville Police.

Notable activities that occurred in 2007 were:

- SOT achieved the Mn-TF-1 goal of having a minimum of 30 members trained to the level of Technician in the discipline of Structural Collapse.
- SOT conducted joint training with the Burnsville Fire Department's Technical Rescue Team at the AAA building.
- SOT was activated to assist with a removal of a victim that fell 25 feet into a storm sewer this past summer.
- In August, SOT was activated for the 35W Bridge Collapse as a part of Mn-TF-1. The team was split into two groups, one-half being sent to the collapse site and the remaining team members staged at South Metro Fire Station. Team members that were at the collapse site performed search and recovery activities for the operation over a six-hour period.
- MN-TF-1 conducted a notification exercise in November of 2007 through the State Duty Officer. The purpose of this drill was to ensure the call-out system was functioning for a Task force deployment.
- Over the course of this past year, the SOT conducted several telephone consults for hazardous materials incidents.
- In addition to the emergency calls for assistance, the Team participated in public education events and individual city events such as the Burnsville Fire Muster.

Local Public Survey data The City has been conducting surveys through Decision Resources for several years. The results of these surveys in the area of customer approval for the Fire Department have ranged between 85% to 94% satisfaction in the good to excellent range. Specifically, the survey completed in 2007 resulted with an overall rating for the Fire Department as 85% in the good to excellent range. Of those surveyed 12% of the responses actually used services from the department. Of those responses, 98% were satisfied with the services they received. Likewise, the overall rating for the fire Department's Ambulance service resulted with an 88% rating in the good to excellent range. Of those people surveyed, 15% actually utilized the ambulance service and resulting in an approval rating of 95% satisfied.

Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) The fire department has been busy with our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program this year. We taught two classes and trained an additional 25 Burnsville citizens. Most notable was the CERT class held this past fall for residents of the River Woods Townhome Community. To date, we have 28 people from the River Woods Townhome Community trained in CERT. In 2007, the City received another Citizen

Corp grant for $17,140. A large portion of the grant money went to the Police Explorers to purchase new uniform items.

Public Education Public education has always been a priority for the fire department. This year, we continued to have numerous opportunities to educate the community on injury and fire prevention. The fire department was again active on National Night Out as well as having displays and the smoke house at the annual Fire Muster celebration. For National Fire Prevention Month, we held two major events. We hosted our open house at fire station one that included vehicles on display, station tours, and the smoke house. We also spent two weeks visiting the elementary schools and giving fire and injury prevention presentations to approximately 1400 Kindergarteners, Second-graders, and Fourth-graders.

Fire Inspection Program The Fire Prevention Division implemented a new Prevention Plan for 2007. One of the main focuses of the plan is to inspect specific occupancies on a regular basis. All of the on-sale liquor establishments received an inspection in the spring, as did the hotels and schools. In the fall, we began inspecting apartment complexes. The division continues to review plans for new construction or remodeling projects, as well as handles any complaint that the fire department receives regarding fire code violations.

Disaster Prevention and Preparation The City conducted a major disaster drill on September 9. The scenario involved the Dispatch Center receiving multiple calls from the Burnsville Center Food Court claiming there were numerous injuries and damage to the shopping mall from an object that crashed through the roof. Upon arrival of Police and Fire, it was noted that an aircraft engine had fallen off a plane and crashed through the Burnsville Center roof. The drill evolved into a situation with multiple casualties, obvious structural damage to the shopping center, and an aircraft crash site at Buck Hill. Personnel realized the magnitude of the incident and called for additional resources, including the activation of the EOC. Personnel were tested in the areas of incident management and mitigation capabilities, both on the front-line and in the EOC utilizing a Unified Command system. There were over 60 drill participants acting as victims at the Burnsville Center and moulaged to simulate a variety of injuries. Police and Fire personnel located, treated, and transported them to Fairview Ridges Hospital within 1.5 hours from the onset of the incident. Other participants in this disaster drill included volunteers from Burnsville High School, Boy Scout Troops, MVN, MVTA, and Emergency Management staff from other Dakota County police and fire agencies. The drill identified some opportunities for improvement but overall was considered an overwhelming success.

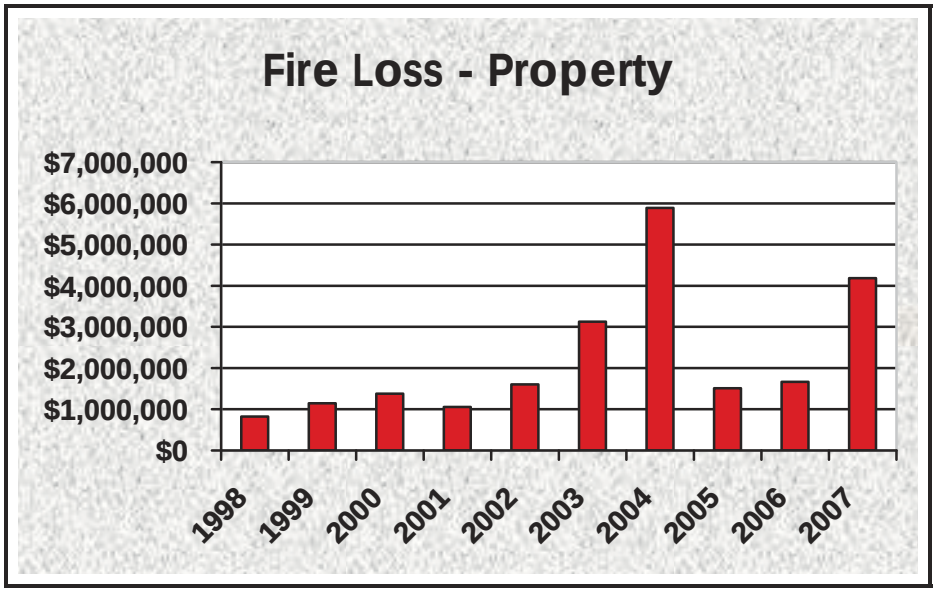
The Federal Government under a Presidential Directive mandated training in the areas of Incident Command System (ICS). Identified City Employees and City Council members attended training to varying degrees in areas of IS700, ICS100, and ICS200 during 2006. In December 2007, the State of Minnesota Homeland Security Emergency Management (HSEM) hosted a Minnesota Incident Management (MnIMS) class in Burnsville that encompassed the aspects of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) for IS700, and ICS 100-400. City staff with the responsibility of EOC operations or front-line Incident Command attended the training. Additional training opportunities in these areas will be available in 2008. To date, 80% of fire department staff have completed all of the requirements for IS700, ICS100, and ICS 200.

Dakota County Incident Management Team (IMT) Incident management is critical to the overall success of a large-scale incident or disaster situation. A special team of personnel with advanced training in incident management has been formed and known as the Dakota

County Incident Management Team (IMT). The IMT is supported by Dakota County Fire and Police Chiefs Associations. The Dakota County Domestic Preparedness Committee oversees and coordinates the funding of the team. Currently there are 27 members on the team from Fire, Police, Public Works, EMS, and Public Health; two of the members are from our fire department and are certified as an *Operations Section Chief* and a *Safety Officer*. IMT trained with the State's Type 2 and Type 3 Incident Management Teams this past year and were contacted several times for possible activation; however, each of the incidents were mitigated before an actual activation was required.

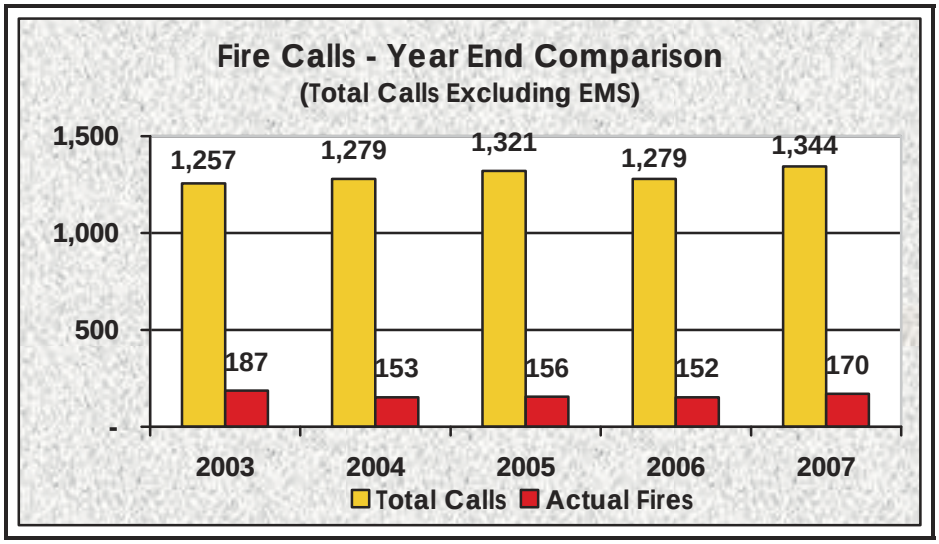
Fire Calls and Property Loss The following chart shows a ten-year history in property loss due to fire (including the fire property loss from January – November 2006). Property loss figures are unadjusted losses. Typically, final adjusted amounts are higher.

- 2003 Data reflects two major fires that account for over $2,000,000 in property damage (Dakota County CDA Housing; Grace United Methodist Church).
- 2004 Data reflects an estimated $5,000,000 property loss for the Gramercy II fire.
- 2007 Data reflects two major apartment complex fires that account for over $2,650,000 in property loss (Raven Hills Apartments and Whispering Pines Apartment Complex).



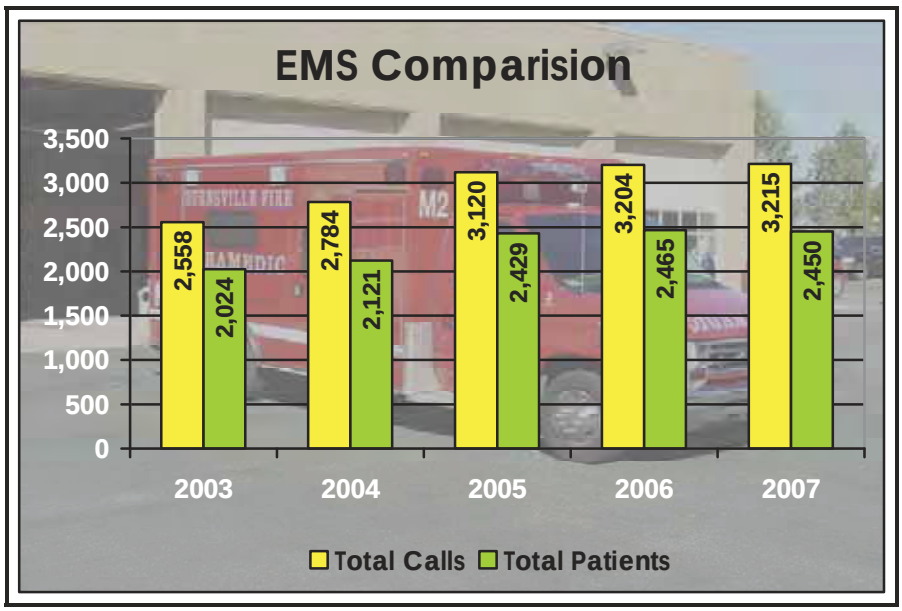
Note: Values for 2007 are for the period of January through November

Fire Calls and Actual Fires Fought The charts show the most recent five years of Fire activity.



Note: Values for 2007 incorporate an averaged number for the month of December.

EMS Calls and Total Patients Served The charts show the most recent five years of EMS calls and patients served.



Note: Values for 2007 incorporate an averaged number for the month of December.

Dakota County EMS Consortium The Fire Department continues to play an influential role in the Dakota County EMS Consortium which has grown and developed into a well-respected EMS presence among metro services since its inception in 2001. The Consortium, coordinated through Dakota County Public Health, now includes 10 services and continues to foster excellence at all levels of emergency medical services.

Activities of note in 2007 included:

- Completion of a comprehensive medical treatment guideline revision (publication to be completed in early 2008)
- Assessment of continuing medical education (CME) requirements for 2008 - 2009 to meet state and national educational recertification imperatives
- Issuance of a Request for Proposal for educational sessions to meet the above requirements, from which vendors were chosen
- Evaluation of the newly-formed Medical Education and Training (MAT) subcommittees - Quality Assurance/Data Collection, Training, Equipment, and Yearly Skills Review – which revealed an overall increase in MAT Committee efficiency and decreased meeting length
- Approval to fund and fill a .5 time support position, following months of study and examination of member needs and resources, to assist Consortium services with data collection, quality assurance and continuing education tasks
- Evaluation and purchase of a state-of-the-art simulation mannequin (with designated funds carried over from the 2006 Consortium budget) for both Consortium training sessions and individual service use

With several recent inquiries from small services outside Dakota County requesting either membership or use of the Dakota County EMS guidelines (medical treatment protocols) the subject of consortium growth beyond county borders, specifically the potential impact on the quality of service to present members, and possible conflict with the mission of Dakota County Public Health has been discussed at length. There are no plans to take on additional members, but other avenues to assist less-advantaged systems have been discussed.

Medical Director The Fire Department partnering with ALF Ambulance Service contracted with Allina Health System for the medical direction services of Dr. Lawrence Erickson, who had provided his services during the search process. During the search/interim period, emergency physicians working for Dr. Erickson's primary employer, Regina Hospital in Hastings became employees of the Allina system, specifically United Hospital in St. Paul. As a result, administrative and malpractice considerations required the contract be drawn and endorsed by Allina, and included additional administrative support as well as that of Dr. Joseph Westwater, Emergency Department Medical Director, United Hospital.

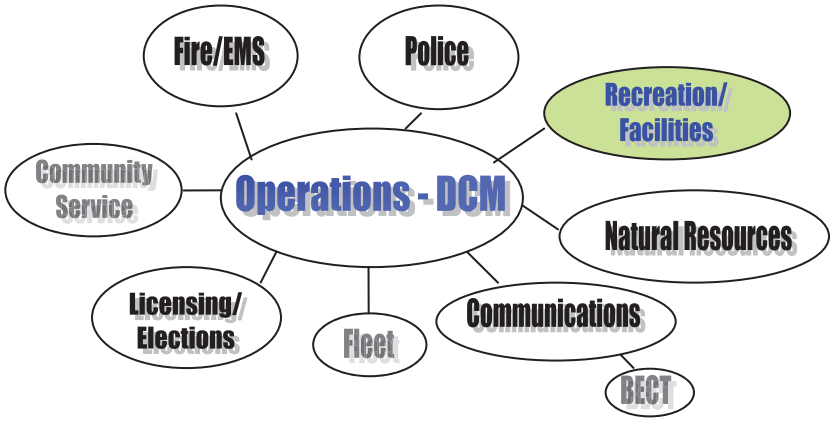
Our decision to enter a contract with Allina was based on our (Burnsville Fire and ALF Ambulance) commitment to excellence, desire to maintain our identity, and our confidence in Dr. Erickson's knowledge, skills and interpersonal abilities. The contract allowed our services to maintain our "Dakota County" identity while offering the support and expertise of the Allina system.

EMS Billing As part of ongoing Finance-EMS meetings, continuing efforts to quantify the financial effect of changing billing companies have been a struggle. Analysis of our previous and current billing agencies (Expert T and Digitech, respectively) fiscal efficiency in terms of return on fees paid is somewhat subjective in that the quality and quantity of records reflecting performance are so dissimilar. Though per-call costs are higher with Digitech, it is clear that the increased expense is offset by improved accountability, speed and accuracy in the billing process and the manifest professionalism apparent to city staff and the public. In addition, Digitech staff is well versed regarding issues and changes in insurance, industry and Medicare regulations, and maintains meticulous records of activities and contacts made regarding each account. As a result, satisfaction with Digitech's performance is high.

2008 BUDGET OVERVIEW

- **Fire Hose Replacement Program Continued into 2008:** The department implemented a fire hose replacement plan in 2006. This plan was enacted to provide a scheduled process for replacement of fire hose that has been in service for an extended period of time. In 2008, the budget reflects $8,500 that was submitted for the continued process of replacing fire hose that has met its designated service-life.
- **12 Lead EKG Units:** The department is in need of replacing two of the five existing EKG monitor/defibrillators, for which $52,000 has been submitted for 2008. The units in need of replacement were purchased in 1996, are currently five years beyond the manufacturer's recommended field use, and no longer conform to current standards of medical practice. Our medical director strongly recommended the replacement for safety, patient care, and liability reasons.
- **Ambulance Replacement:** The replacement of the 2002 Ambulance is planned for within the Fleet Maintenance Vehicle Replacement Schedule and has $137,500 budgeted for the process. The replacement of the Ambulances on a fixed schedule was implemented several years ago to address a situation of equipment reliability. Due to the extensive use of the Ambulances responding duel role on both Fire and EMS calls, rising maintenance costs and reliability issues are addressed with the replacement program.
- **Chief and Fire Marshal Vehicle Replacement:** The Chief's and the Fire Marshal's vehicle are both in the Fleet Maintenance Vehicle Replacement Schedule for 2008. These procurements will replace a 1997 Ford Taurus currently being driven by the Fire Chief and a 2000 Crown Vic that was rolled down from the Police Department and currently being driven by the Fire Marshal. It is anticipated that these new vehicles will be in-service for approximately the next 10 years.
- **Resurfacing the Concrete Floor - Fire Station #2:** The apparatus bay floor at Station #2 is in need of being resurfaced and having repairs made to the concrete around the drains. The cost of this project has been budgeted for in the amount of $25,000. The repairs will extend the overall life of the apparatus floor for an extended period of time.
- **Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Replacement:** The replacement of the department's Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) was identified in the 2007 budget. Existing SCBA units have reached a stage where they require frequent maintenance and do not comply with the new federal standards. The cost associated with the replacement of these SCBA units is expected to be $171,400. As a means of offsetting the cost, an application for a federal grant known as Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) through Homeland Security was submitted. The grant requires a 20% match for award recipients. Burnsville was awarded a AFG in the amount of $106,000 in April of 2007. While the grant offsets a major portion of the expected costs, additional monies in the amount of $31,000 were budgeted in 2008 to accomplish the replacement of the SCBA units. The combination of the grant award, dollars being carried over from the 2007 budget ($34,300), and $31,000 budgeted for in 2008 will accomplish the task of replacing the SCBA units.

Recreation and Facilities



PRIMARY SERVICES

The Recreation and Facilities Department has five sections providing the following services:

- Facilities – Plan, coordinate, and supervise maintenance, mechanical and custodial services for City buildings (excluding the Ice Center and Golf Course).
- Recreation – Promote and coordinate the use of recreation facilities through programming for youth, family and adults to provide a wide range of leisure time activities for the community.
- Ice Center – Provide, promote, schedule and maintain the indoor ice facility for hockey, figure and pleasure skating for youth, families and adults.
- Golf Course – Provide, promote, schedule and maintain the par 3, nine-hole golf operation to include leagues, tournaments and open golf for youth, families and adults.
- Teen Center – "THE GARAGE" provides promotes and coordinates youth driven programs in a safe, positive and diverse environment for junior and senior high students.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA

The 2007 Decision Resources Residential Survey respondents indicated the following perceptions about City of Burnsville Recreation and Facilities:

- **94%** of the respondents rated our Parks, Recreation and Facilities services as good or excellent.
- **64%** of respondents feel youth opinions; teens in particular, are valued in our community.
- **63%** of residents use our large community parks, **56%** our trail system, **45%** Nicollet Commons Park, **21%** Birnamwood Golf Course and **22%** the Ice Center.
- **94%** of the respondents believe that all Burnsville residents have equal access to the city's recreational facilities.

The residential survey is conducted every other year with the next survey scheduled for 2009.

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES

YOUTH - Youth find Burnsville a nurturing and supportive community. OUTCOMES

1. *Youth are involved in community decisions*
   - Youth participation on Parks & Natural Resources Commission and LACA
   - Dakota Youth Planning Commission
   - Community of Promise
   - Youth participation on "THE GARAGE" advisory board

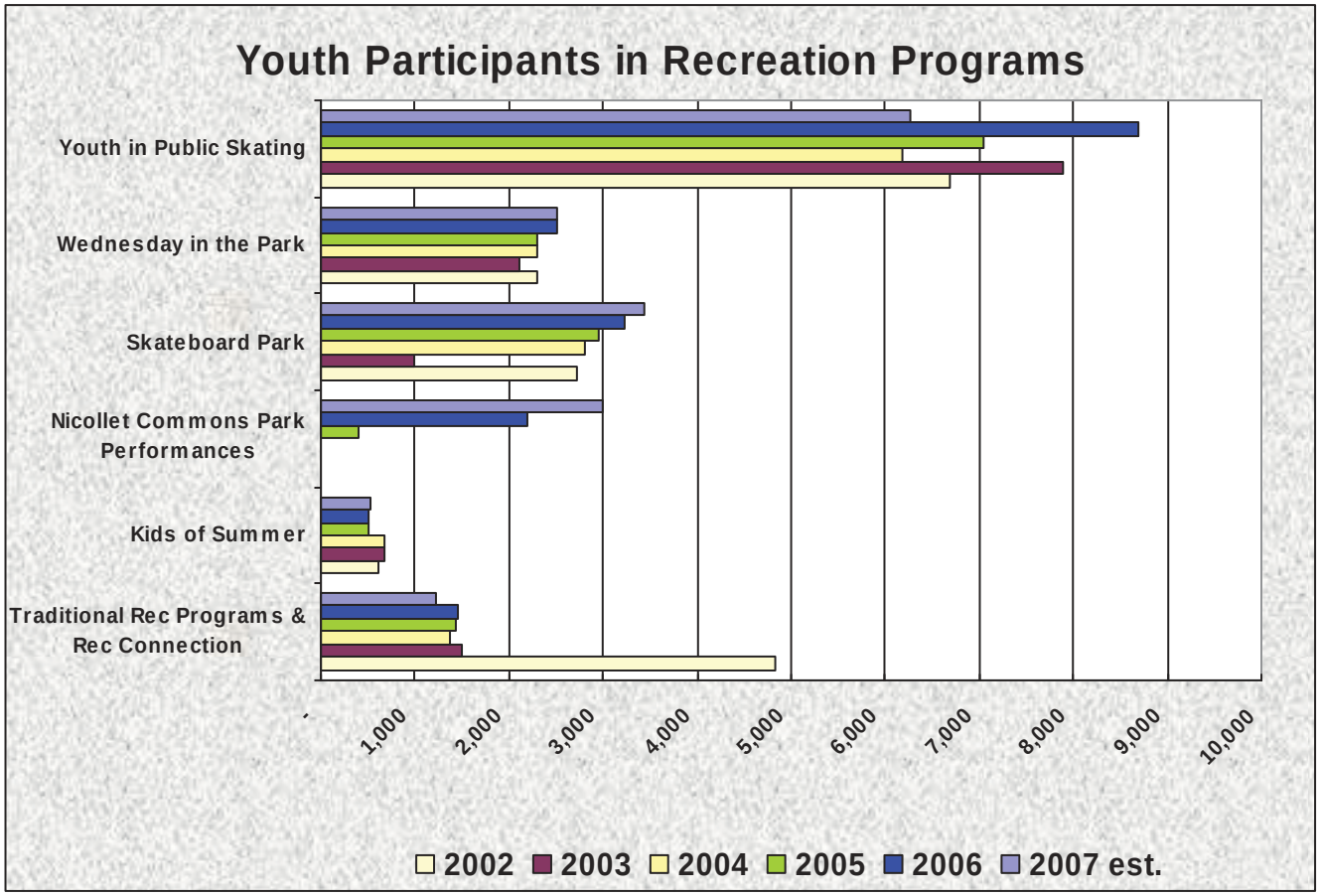
– Burnsville for the 21st Century Visioning

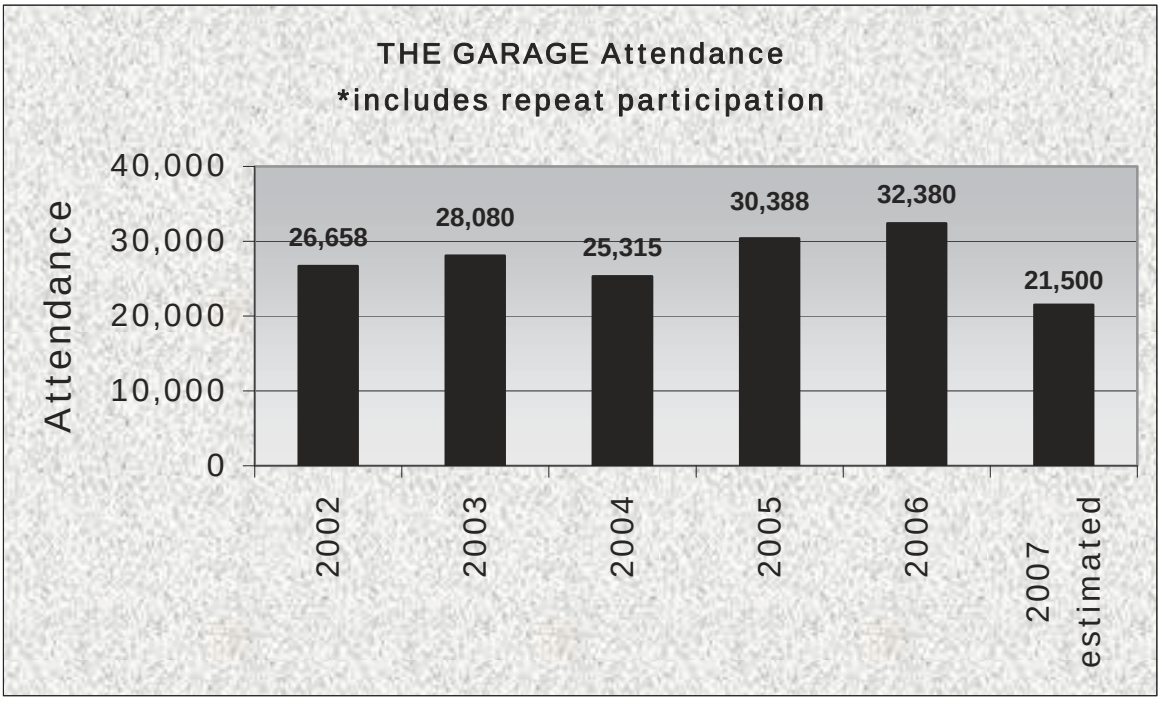
2. *All youth have the opportunity to participate in a broad range of programs, community service and facilities.*

- Skate Park
- South of the River Recreation
- Adaptive programs
- Camps and festivals
- Golf leagues
- Indoor ice skating programs
- Wednesday in the Park
- THE GARAGE – music
- Cross county skiing
- Kids of Summer Program
- Nature programs
- Public beaches
- Teen programs
- Swimming programs
- Youth Athletic Associations
- Athletic tournaments
- Outdoor ice skating facilities
- Pre-school programs

3. *Youth are aware of community activities, programs, facilities, and support systems.*
   - Web site
   - Recreation Times Brochure and fliers
   - Burnsville Bulletin
   - Cable television
   - THE GARAGE Advisory Board
   - Gov Docs (e-mail notification)

YOUTH PARTICIPANTS IN RECREATION ACTIVITIES





THE GARAGE 2006 survey results:

Youth

- **70%** registered for recreation programs are ethnic minority.
- **62%** registered for recreation programs are in the Free/ Reduced Lunch Program.
- **83%** of THE GARAGE participants feel THE GARAGE is very cool or cool.
- **99%** of participants feel safe at THE GARAGE.
- **80%** of participants have increased their art, music, and/or drama ability and enjoyment.
- **89%** of participants are comfortable expressing themselves at THE GARAGE.
- **90%** feel invited to plan things at THE GARAGE. (**100% of females)**
- **96%** of youth felt THE GARAGE helps young people realize they are valuable and important.

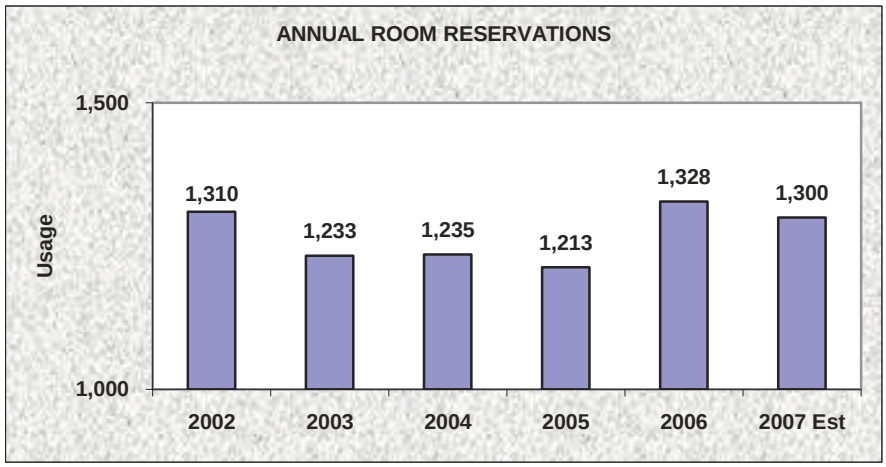
Parents

- **92%** of THE GARAGE parents feel happy or very happy with THE GARAGE services.
- **76%** of parents reported feeling THE GARAGE provides a good variety of opportunities for youth.
- **88%** of parents felt THE GARAGE helps young people realize they are valuable and important.
- **89%** of parents felt THE GARAGE impacted their child's self esteem.

CITY SERVICES - People find the City of Burnsville delivers quality essential services in a cost effective, timely manner.

Facilities/Custodial Management

City staff rents out meeting facilities in City Hall for use of the Community Room, City Council chambers and conference rooms. The following table indicates the number of reservations per year:



Facilities staff survey internal customers every other year regarding custodial services. The 2007 survey results indicated:

- **97%** of internal customers rated the custodial service as good or excellent.
- **99%** of internal respondents rated the custodial staff courtesy as excellent.
- **97%** of the respondents rated their overall satisfaction of the custodial staff as good or excellent.
- **99%** rated the timeliness of service excellent or good.

Note – In 2007 the Facilities Department replaced the air conditioning unit for City Hall. As a result of the new more energy efficient unit, we have realized a utilities savings of $3,500 from May through October.

Adult Athletics

The Burnsville Recreation Department experienced another very successful adult softball season in 2007. The program included almost 5,000 participants playing on 324 teams at Lac Lavon, Neill and Alimagnet fields. The season included new records for both the number of games played (2,978) and the number of individual recreational experiences (89,340) provided. Part of this increase included the addition of the 12 team Monday night Over-35 softball program. This program was formerly managed by both Wayne and Mary Murphy. With the unfortunate passing of these individuals, the Over-35 managers selected the City of Burnsville as their 2007 league administrator and provided feedback that they were very pleased with the new program management.

Healthy Cities Initiative

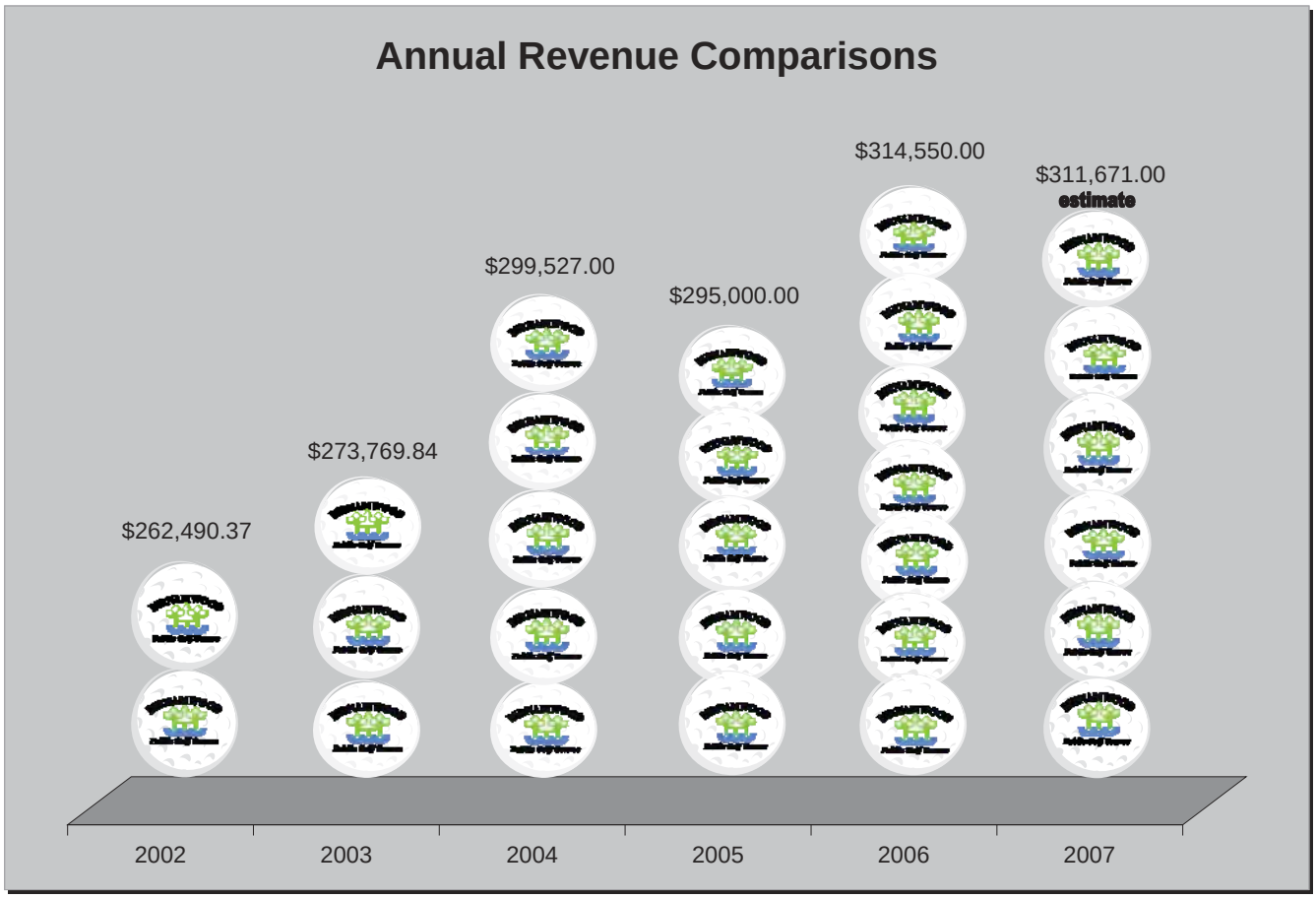
The Healthy City Initiative began in 2007. With funding from Blue Cross Blue Shield we were able to develop a walking program and other healthy activities. Throughout the year a number of community partners have joined the effort to become the Healthiest City in America including: Pepsi, Fairview, the Minnesota Valley YMCA and Burnsville Center. The

year-round walking program had over 892 participants and an additional 662 people have participated in all other Healthy City activities since October.

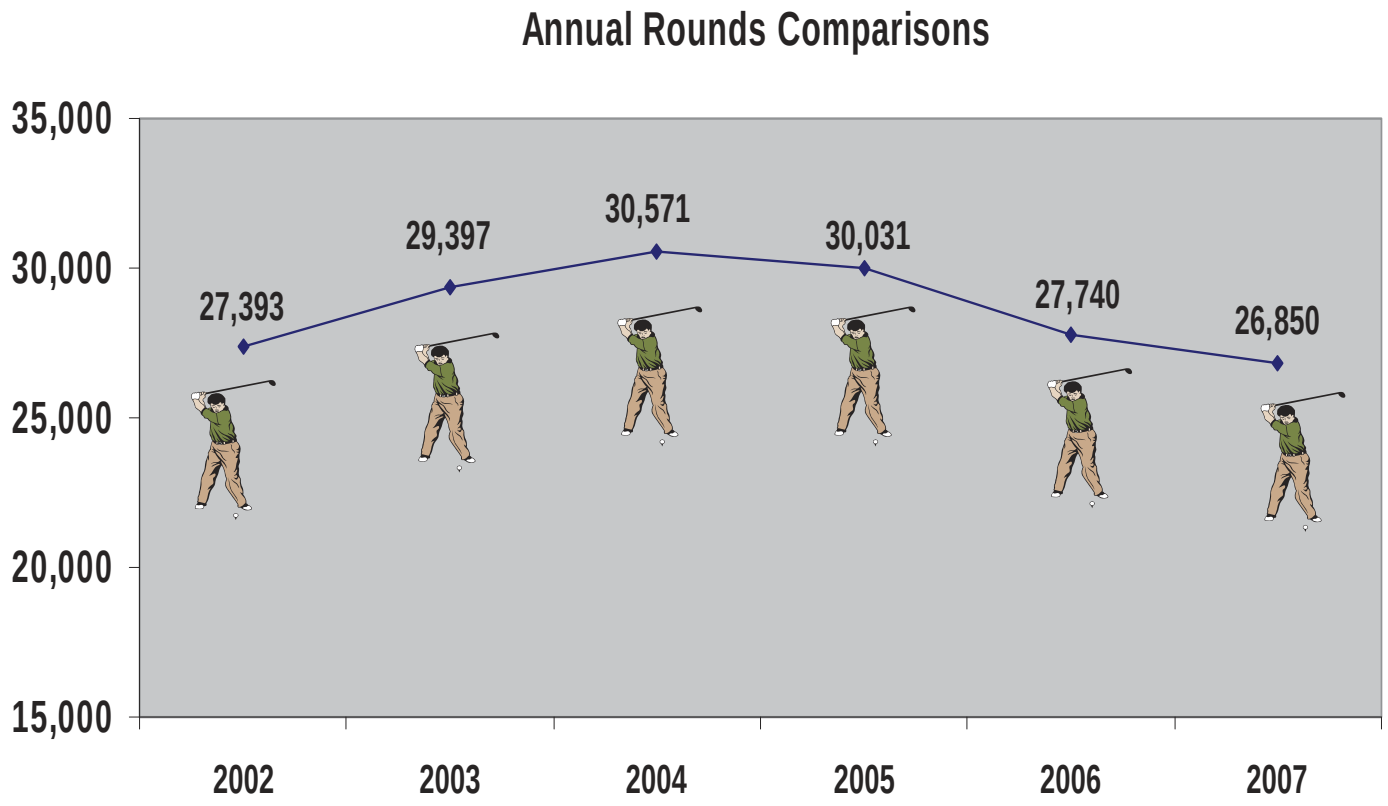
The 2007 Decision Resources Residential Survey respondents indicated the following results regarding healthy lifestyles:

- 70% of families have adopted healthier eating habits.
- 85% of individuals get 30 minutes of moderate physical activity at least 3 times per week

Birnamwood Golf Course



During the 2007 golf season, **league rounds** rose to an all time high reaching 6,268 rounds. This number represents all leagues including Adult, Senior, Junior, and private leagues. The Adult, Senior and private league rounds were comparable to 2006. There were 3,048 junior league rounds played at Birnamwood this season, an increase of 78 rounds. The late summer months of August, September, and October were the wettest in the history of Minnesota, and as a result the **total rounds** were down compared to last year. However, revenue is projected to be the second highest on record for Birnamwood.



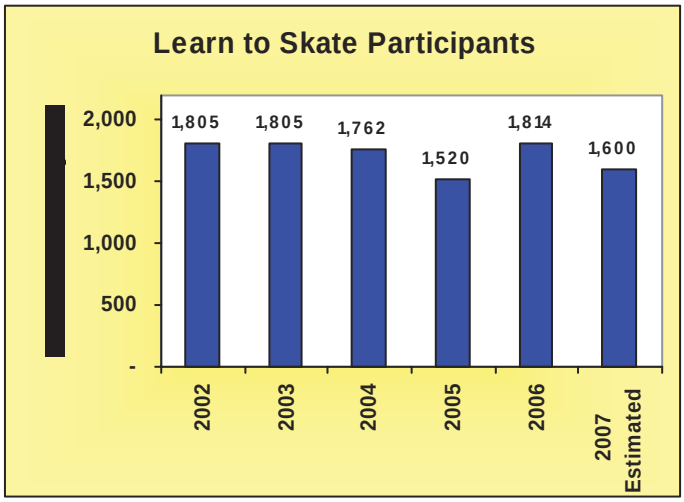
A 2007 survey of annual pass holders indicated the following results at Birnamwood.

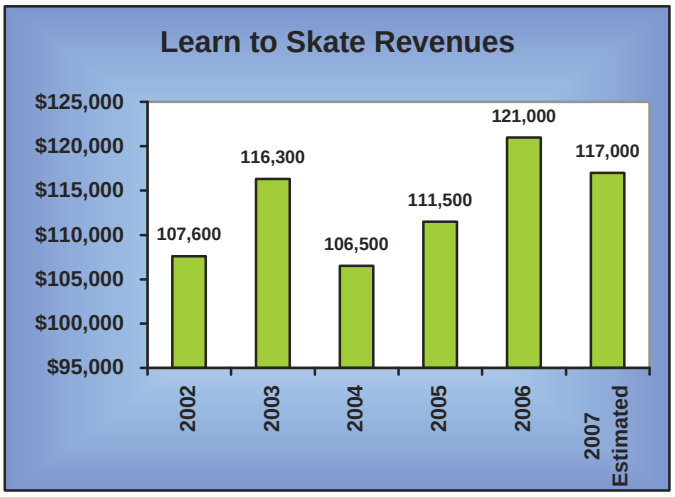
- **100%** rated the playing conditions of the course as good or excellent.
- **100%** rated the friendliness of staff as good or excellent.
- **100%** rated the cleanliness of the clubhouse as good or excellent.
- **93%** of respondents rated the value of their annual pass as good or excellent.

Ice Center

A 2007 survey of Learn to Skate parents who had their children enrolled in either the fall or winter classes resulted in the following:

- **87%** of respondents said the teachers' ability to teach classes was good or excellent.
- **94%** said the Ice Center staff was excellent or good in responding to the students/parents requests.
- **91%** of the parents indicated that the cost for the program is good to excellent.
- **99%**of the parents rated the organization of the program as good or excellent**.**





2008 Budget Overview
In 2008 the Recreation and Facilities Department will implement a new Recreation Management software system. With online registration up 45% in 2007 (840 total online registrations), the need for a more user friendly and reliable system has become a necessity.

The Healthy City Initiative will again be a focus area in 2008. The initiative, designed to assist residents in making healthier choices has gained momentum and will continue to grow with the addition of the Switch program in two elementary schools and the Burnsville Healthy Business Plan. Three to five healthy activities are planned for each month in 2008.

In 2008 Facilities will be replacing the humidifiers in both air handler units at City Hall and the Police wing. The new equipment will be replacing an aging and obsolete unit. The new equipment will also be more cost effective from a maintenance stand point.

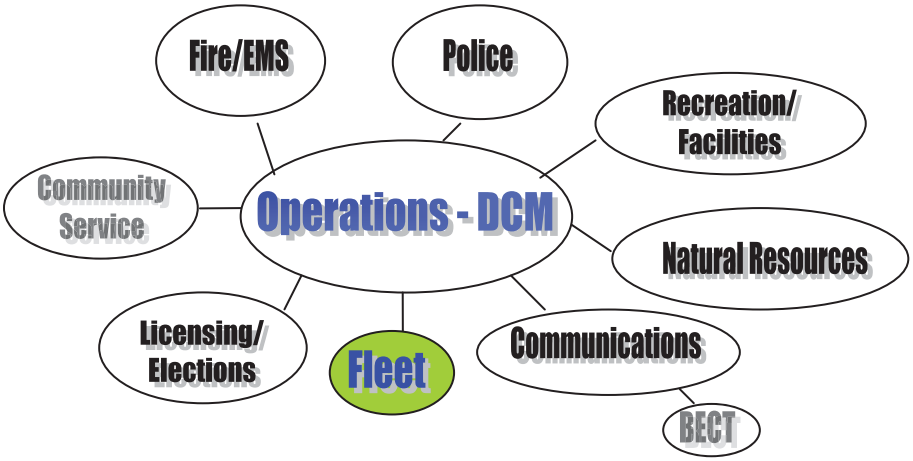
Beginning in 2008, Birnamwood will take over the responsibility of the Junior Golf league from the BAC. There are openings for 328 participants in the junior league each season. The league runs for nine weeks on Mondays and Wednesdays and also offers an instructional clinic before the first week of play.

2008 Capital Expenditures
FACILITIES
- Replace wallpaper in Police wing lower level
- Replace the humidifiers in both air handlers

BIRNAMWOOD GOLF COURSE
- Replace rotary rough mower

ICE CENTER
- Replace skate sharpener
- Replace outside entry doors on Rink 1

Fleet



PRIMARY SERVICES

The Fleet Department provides the following basic City services:

- Repair and maintenance of City's vehicle fleet and wide variety of equipment
- Planning responsibility for vehicle and equipment replacement schedule
- Facility maintenance

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES

The primary purpose of the Fleet function is to acquire, maintain and replace city vehicles and equipment in the most effective manner possible.

CITY SERVICES - People find the City of Burnsville delivers quality essential services in a cost effective, timely manner.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA

- Completed 10% more repair activities and 5% more preventative maintenance services in 2006
- 305 vehicles maintained, 23 new vehicle setups and 24 vehicles sold.

2006 BUDGET OVERVIEW

- Start the Greening of the City's Fleet, replace two vehicles with E-85 Flex Fuel Vehicles, and increase the use of Bio-Diesel from 2% to 5% or more in all diesel fueled equipment.
- Change out the existing two-way radio systems to a 800 megahertz system for the Police and Fire vehicles.
- Continue to developing a Maintenance Facility Expansion Plan for Council consideration.

Natural Resources

PRIMARY SERVICES

- Commercial and residential recycling programs
- Licensing of solid waste haulers
- Neighborhood Block Rate Program
- Community waste collection events
- Participation in local Watershed Management Organizations
- Review of development plans for environmental impacts
- Wildlife management programs
- Natural resource public education programs
- Surface water management and monitoring programs
- Prairie management and monitoring programs
- Wetlands management and administration of Wetlands Conservation Act
  - Staff support for the Parks & Natural Resources Commission and the Black Dog Watershed Management Organization
  - Coordination of the City's sustainability efforts

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES

The primary purpose of the Natural Resources Department is to protect, preserve and manage the community's natural resources. Accordingly, the department is an integral part of achieving the City's Environmental End statement and related outcomes.

> ***ENVIRONMENT END STATEMENT***
> ***People find Burnsville is an environmentally sensitive community ensuring preservation and enhancement of its natural resources.***

Programs Supporting the Environmental Outcomes:

-Public education programs
-Partnerships with Lake Associations
-Goose & deer management programs
-Review of development plans
-Natural Resources Master Plan
-Water Resources Management Plan
-Special waste collection programs
-Lake management plans
-Water resources grant program
- Sustainability Plan & Programs
-Breeding bird atlas volunteer program
-Lake and wetland monitoring programs
-Parks and Natural Resources Commission
-Environmental protection ordinances
-Wetland Protection and Management Plan
-Prairie management programs
-Solid waste hauler licensing
-Commercial/residential recycling programs
-Watershed Management Organization partnerships

The Natural Resources Department also provides support towards achieving the City's "Youth" end statement:

> ***YOUTH END STATEMENT***
> ***Youth find Burnsville a nurturing and supportive community.***

Programs Supporting the Youth Outcomes

- Youth representation on the Parks and Natural Resources Commission.
- Partnerships with the local schools to provide educational opportunities.

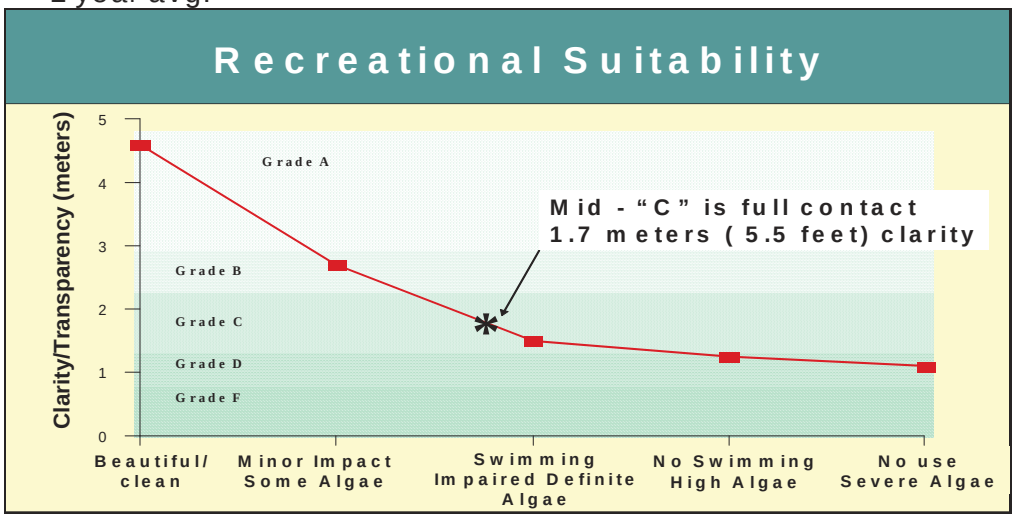
PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA

The City continues to work with lake homeowner groups, residents, and other agencies to improve and monitor the water quality in our lakes. In partnership with the Black Dog Watershed Management Organization and the Metropolitan Council, citizen monitoring occurs at eight lakes in our community. As part of this program volunteers gather water clarity data every two weeks from the middle of April to the middle of October. The City of Burnsville utilizes water clarity as the primary indicator to track the water quality in our lakes. Generally, higher water clarity numbers (depth measured in meters) are indicative of better water quality. Following are the water clarity results from the citizen-monitoring program for the three most recent years available:

BURNSVILLE LAKE CLARITY REPORT CARD
(measured in meters)

Lake	2004	2005	2006	3-Yr Avg	**Goal**
Alimagnet	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	1.7
Crystal	1.9	1.6	1.8	1.8	2.6
Earley	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.7
Keller	1.5	1.5	1.17	1.4	1.7
Lac Lavon	3.4	4.4	3.3	3.7	3.6
Sunset Pond	2.6	N/A	1.7	2.15*	1.7
Twin Lake	2.0	1.5	1.3	1.6	1.7
Wood Pond	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.7

* = 2 year avg.



The 2007 Residential Survey indicated:

- 70% of residents rated the City's goose management program as "good", 2 % as "excellent"
- 75% of residents rated the City's deer management program as "good", 3 % as "excellent"
- 86% of residents felt informed about the link between their actions and the impact on the natural environment
- 68% of residents felt the City's surface water, lakes and ponds are clean and well maintained
- 93% of residents recycle at least once per month
- 67% of the City's households have participated in the spring or fall waste collection events

Materials collected at the 2007 Spring Appliance & Electronics Collection event:

• Appliances recycled (129)	13,165 lbs
• Electronics recycled (computers, televisions, etc.) (527)	13,809 lbs

Materials collected at the 2007 Fall Collection event included:

• Appliances	49,872 lbs
• Electronics (computers, televisions, etc.)	104,330 lbs
• Household Hazardous Waste	118,280 lbs
• Scrap metal	18,860 lbs
• Furniture and mattresses	136.43 tons
• Tires	30
• Total Cars Served	2,426

2008 BUDGET OVERVIEW

The Natural Resources Department funding supports programs that help our community achieve the Environmental End identified by City Council; "An environmentally sensitive community ensuring preservation and enhancement of its' natural resources". Highlights of the activities planned for 2008 include:

- Continue to implement the strategies identified in the Natural Resources Mater Plan, Wetlands Management Plan, Water Resources Management Plan, and wildlife management plans.
- Continue the work of Dakota Valley Recycling
- Complete updates to the City's Water Resources and Wetlands Management Plans
- Continue lake and pond dredging program to improve water quality
- Complete the management plan for Wood Pond
- Construct ponds in the Earley Lake watershed to improve water quality
- Complete pond project in Lake Alimagnet watershed to improve water quality
- Continue to implement projects to improve water quality in our lakes as identified in the various lake management plans
- Continue efforts to promote the use of Low Impact Development practices
- Conduct a city-wide effort to cleanout unwanted items from households and clean-up litter in neighborhoods
- Develop a Sustainability Plan for the community
- Partner with the Black Dog Watershed Management Organization to complete Total Maximum Daily Load Studies for Crystal, Keller, and Earley lakes
- Apply an aluminum sulfate treatment to South Twin Lake

Communications

PRIMARY SERVICES

The primary services provided in the area of communications are:

- Coordination and production of the Burnsville Bulletin, Recreation Brochures, other print communications
- Administration of the Burnsville/Eagan Telecommunications Commission
- Production of Cable Television programming
- Web communications and email lists,
- Overall relations with media outlets, and,
- Internal communication with employees

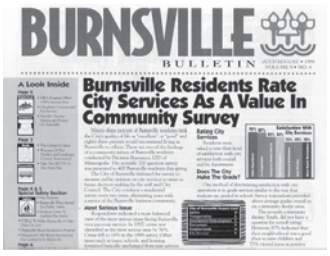
ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES

The primary purpose of the department is to help make City government more accessible, keep citizens better informed of the effectiveness of City services, maximize the value of partnership resources and help to foster a greater sense of community. The department is completely aligned with the City Council's ENDS & OUTCOMES, and all major communications vehicles are tailored to these themes for consistent and effective communication.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA

Consistent with the Council's adopted governance statements and communications planning documents, the most important performance indicators include:

Printed Communications


BURNSVILLE
BULLETIN
Burnsville Residents Rate City Services As A Value In Community Survey

Burnsville Bulletin

The City of Burnsville's newsletter continues to be an effective method for communicating with residents. A national award winner, collecting the City and County Communications and Marketing Association, (3CMA) Silver Circle Award, the *Bulletin* was received by 92% of residents with a full 80% reporting that they read it. Readership of the Bulletin is up from a low of 67% in 1997.

The Communications Department created three issues of the *Burnsville Bulletin* in 2007 and mailed to every household and business in the city. According to the residential survey, only 1% of residents say they receive too much information from the city.

Recreation Marketing
The marketing of recreation activities and events has increased to include a Summer Recreation Brochure and Winter Recreation Brochure. The 2007 brochures incorporated full-four color printing and a brighter, less cluttered design in an attempt to improve marketing the marketing approach and image.

Cable Television Administration
The Burnsville/Eagan Telecommunications Commission met five times in 2007, highlights for the year include:

- Supported efforts to communicate city's position on national franchise legislation.
- New Joint Powers Agreement formed, commission membership reduced by one member per city.
- Managed transition of Chair Chris Teiken leaving for Planning Commission.

Cable Television Programming
The Communications Department continues to work with Burnsville/Eagan Community Television Department to create programming for the six cable television channels under the city's partnership with Eagan.

Web Communications
Utilization of the internet as a communications and business tool continues to increase in importance. An ever increasing number of residents with web access and improved content delivery by the city are two key factors to impact this trend. New this year was a complete redesign of the site.

From a statistical standpoint, visitor traffic to www.burnsville.org increased in 2007 with average site visitors ***increasing by 11%*** from 1,755 to 1,969 visitors daily. Average monthly statistics show that one-time visitors ***increased 33%*** from 12,201 to 18,311, and multi-visit users ***increased 20%*** from 4,611 to 5,757. The average user views four pages during a visit to www.burnsville.org. The HR department received 486 online job applications, and 339 requests were received through the Request Tracker system.

The www.burnsville.org web portal supports the city's effort to become a "24-Hour City Hall" with reports showing the most active times for site use is on weekdays during business hours. Top visited pages are jobs, newsflash, THE GARAGE, and the city calendar. Leading the list of documents downloaded for viewing are the job application, dog park permit application, Monitoring Report, parks trail maps and various permit applications.

Email Subscription Service
Research shows that residents are more than twice as likely to read email from the city as look for information on the web site. Burnsville added a subscription email service that provides a high level of convenient service. The number of subscribers, and the amount of information available, continues to grow. The 2007 statistics showed 194, 724 total email messages sent through the GovDelivery system.

2007 Email Subscription Service

9282 Total subscribers	139 Total documents

Most popular information:

Category	# of Subscribers
Employment Opportunities	4942
Council Agendas	379
Council Minutes	334
Press Releases	621
Heart of the City Updates	661
THE GARAGE Newsletter	1527

Web Sites Maintained:

- www.burnsvilleheartofthecity.com
- www.burnsvillehealthycity.org
- www.dakotavalleyrecycling.org
- www.burnsvillemedical.com
- Insite

Provided Communications/Public Relations support to the following efforts:

- Web Streaming public meetings
- "Cops and a Cause" Alcohol Awareness concert held in partnership with THE GARAGE
- Broadband and "wireless" governance public relations support
- Water Quality Update information for utility customers
- Heart of the City Map/Brochure
- National Night Out Final Report
- Healthy City Kick-off Luncheon
- Healthy City Marketing/Website
- Mayor's Reception – Jazz Festival
- Performing Arts Center Public Information
- International Festival Marketing/Website
- New Resident Open House
- Business Watch Postcards/email list
- State of the City Address
- Garden and Landscape Contest
- Holiday Lighting Contest
- Fire Muster Medallion Hunt
- Heart of the City Holiday Lighting Ceremony
- Burnsville Wireless Alerts (Text Messaging)
- Chamber of Commerce Newsletter Column

2008 BUDGET OVERVIEW

The 2008 Budget will allow for the continuing support of city communications and will include:

- Five issues of the Burnsville Bulletin
- Two comprehensive Recreation Brochures
- Publications in city utility bills
- Webstreaming of City Council Meetings other government meetings and city programming
- Website, email, e-gov, and Wireless Alert/Text Messaging programs.

Community Services

PRIMARY SERVICES

The primary activities of Community Services include: recruiting volunteers, supervising all of the City's volunteer programs, supporting many of the neighborhood programs, and managing the city's entire grants process. Examples of volunteer activities include the in-house volunteers, Mobile Volunteer Network and Citizen Corp Program. Community Services also provides resource and referral for seniors as well as offering Safety Camps, Senior Eco-Tours and in 2008 opportunities to participate in the Healthy City Initiative. Examples of neighborhoods development activities include managing neighborhood programs such as National Night Out and the Holiday Lighting and Landscaping Contests, and the appliance removal programs.

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES

The primary purpose of Community Services is to lead the organization in fulfillment of the City's goals in our residential and business neighborhoods. The overall priorities of this area are particularly aligned with the following City Council END statement:

NEIGHBORHOODS - Residents and businesses feel connected to their neighborhoods.

Activities include a Welcome Packet for new residents, opportunities to participate in Neighborhood Watch and the beautification contests. The city also has an active volunteer program which includes opportunities to volunteer throughout the city. Citizens may volunteer at city hall and become an "in-house volunteer" or they may choose to have a more informal volunteer experience by helping to volunteer in their neighborhood parks through Adopt-a Park or the Adopt-a-Street program. In 2008, we will be encouraging neighbors to help their neighbors with snow shoveling, brush clean up, etc. especially for seniors in their area. Also new in 2008 will be a Community Wide Garage Sale and Community Wide Clean Up Day.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA

Achieving success through responsive neighborhood service delivery is difficult to measure accurately. In addition, building neighborhood relationships is a difficult concept within a highly mobile suburban community. However, there are several items that should be monitored in this area to provide some indicators. Some of the most important are included below. The Business Watch program was also implemented in 2007. Currently 150 Businesses have become part of the program.

1) Public Survey Data - The 2007 Residential survey and 2006 Business surveys asked several questions about public perception of neighborhoods in Burnsville. Following is a highlight of some of the other survey results on neighborhoods in Burnsville:

2007 Residential Survey	Yes	No	Don't Know
People have pride and ownership in our neighborhood	92%	6%	2%
This neighborhood is a good place to raise children	93%	5%	3%
I feel a part of my neighborhood	86%	14%	0%
Businesses and residential neighborhoods are enjoyable and stable places to live, work and recreate in Burnsville	94%	3%	4%

2) Meaningful Connections with Diverse Populations

According to the Minnesota Department of Education, the Burnsville School District ranks second (behind West St. Paul) in Dakota County in ethnic diversity (23%) which has tripled in the last decade. Our diverse population speaks over 52 languages. However, there are very few minorities participating in city programs and committees. City staff has worked to bridge this gap and has worked with the International Festival committee to encourage participation in the Community Visioning Process, the 2030 Comprehensive Plan and other city commissions.

On June 30th, 2007 city staff and members of the International Festival of Burnsville pulled together to offer the first ever outdoor International Festival. The event was very well received and approximately 2000 people attended. The free event featured live ethnic music and dancing, cultural foods and displays showcased by individuals from various countries who now live in Burnsville. The event showcased the wide diversity of our city. City staff has assisted the committee in receiving a $3000 grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council to assist them in becoming more independent from the city. The celebration in 2008 is currently being planned for June 28, 2008.

THE GARAGE is in the second year of a two year $100,000 Community Crime Prevention grant from the Department of Public Safety for 2006 and 2007 to continue to offer after school programming as well as to create new programs to better support the increasing cultural diversity of the City. THE GARAGE often seeks community partners to offer specific programming. The Storefront Group provides African American and Latino cultural liaisons for support groups, the Community Action Council provides a social worker for support groups and mental health outreach. As a whole, THE GARAGE also continues to reach out to a wide

spectrum of youth through all varieties of programs and music styles. All programs and services are created by the diverse board to meet the needs and interests of the students. The grant has recently been awarded an extension for 2 years for 2009 and 2010, for an additional $160,000.

The Police Department has continued to explore opportunities to connect and communicate with diverse populations. The high school liaison officers continue to communicate with the Somali students at the BHS. In addition, The Community Resource Officers are working with the Chancellor Manor management and residents to build a Community Building Program at the complex. The program is set up similar to the Neighborhood Watch Program. The group will work on creating a newsletter in 2008. The police department also continues to work to improve communication with all non-English speaking residents through the use of the Language Line. In addition, the department has a few police officers that speak Spanish and Russian.

3) People feel Burnsville has quality housing.

The city has continued efforts to increase home ownership opportunities for residents. New multi-family developments have focused on owner occupied units versus rental units. In an effort to promote and encourage the upgrade, enhancement and maintenance of existing housing stock the city participated in the 10th Annual Home Remodeling Fair featuring home improvement vendors, seminars, and prizes. The visioning process has also indicated a strong need for improved code enforcement and in 2007 an additional 0.5 FTE position was added to enforce and educate residents about the housing codes. New in 2008 will be the addition of a consultant to assist with Home Remodeling Advisory Services. This new service will provide homeowners with an opportunity to review options for remodeling their home with an architect.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds are used to preserve and enhance quality housing to improve neighborhoods. In FY 06/07 and FY 07/08 the allocation was consistently $259,700, plus $13,000 in CDA administration reimbursements. Funding for 2008/09 has not been approved therefore the additional administration is not listed. Listed below is how the funding has been allocated by amount and percentage to each category by fiscal year.

CDBG Program	July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007	July 1, 2007- June 30, 2008	Proposed July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009
Housing/Rehab Projects	$130,653 – 48%	$135,320 -- 50%	$135,320 – 53%
Public Services	$120,047 – 44%	$114,880 – 43%	$101,880 – 39%
General Administration	$22,000 – 8%	$20,500 – 8%	$20,500 – 8%
TOTAL	**FY 07-08 $ 259,700** **CDA Admin 13,000** **$ 272,700**	**FY 07-08 $ 259,700** **CDA Admin 13,000** **$ 272,700**	**$ 259,700**

The city continues to offer and promote programs to improve housing stock in Burnsville, including working with the Dakota County Community Development Agency (CDA) in offering zero and low interest rate rehabilitation loans. These loans utilize a variety of funding sources including CDBG, MHFA, and Department of Energy funds.

The Home Remodeling Grant program is designed to assist low-to-moderate single family homeowners in bringing their homes up to code. Up to $4,500 in improvement dollars are available per applicant. This program is administered by the Community Development Agency, CDA is reporting a balance of approximately $61,000 to continue this program. There are currently three homeowners participating in the program. City staff also offers CDBG funds for chore services as well as appliance and furniture removal to low-to-moderate income seniors; 13 seniors have used the appliance removal program and 20 residents received assistance with the DARTS chore service in Fiscal Year 2006-2007.

4) Active Citizen Corps Council

The City of Burnsville's Citizen Corps Council (BCCC) was formed in 2003 to help Burnsville prepare for disasters and emergencies through a strong partnership of community organizations, local government agencies and neighborhood-based volunteers. Partners include:

City Council Liaison	DARTS
Civil Air Patrol	Citizen Volunteers
Community Action Council	ISD #191
Fairview Ridges	MVTA
Chamber of Commerce	City Staff
Senior Center	

2007 BCCC goals were: 1) to partner with the Red Cross to promote Ready MN and develop a 72 hour personal survivability plan for multi-family complexes; 2) Promote the BCCC by conducting a PR Campaign, 3) to Conduct a 2007 Disaster Drill.

2008 Budget Overview

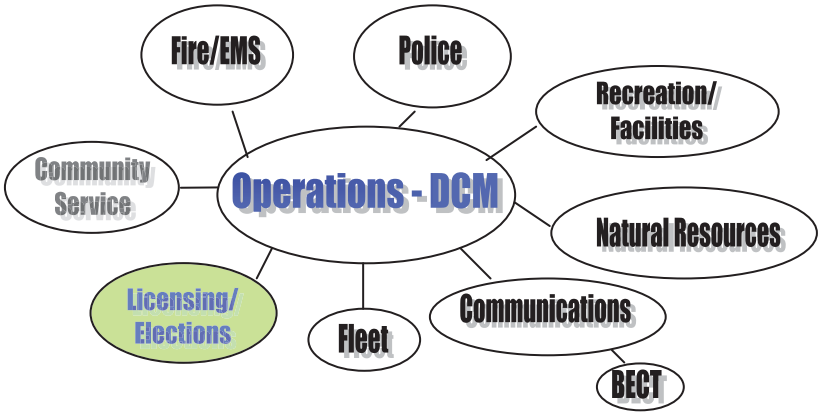
Continuation of Services:

- Volunteer program
- International Festival
- Holiday and Landscaping Contests
- National Night Out

New in 2008:

- Home Remodeling Advisor pilot program offered in coordination with the Dakota County CDA.
- Community Clean Up Day, Graffiti Removal Program, Community Garage Sale and Neighborhood Revitalization Projects

Licensing/Elections



PRIMARY SERVICES

- Administration of the election process
- Manage voter registration and absentee voting
- Prepare election notices and materials
- Select and train all election judges
- Arrange polling precincts and prepare voting equipment
- Supervise the tabulation and delivery of election results
- Manage city licensing procedures, process applications and issue licenses
- Enforce license violations and prepare necessary documents
- Compile and maintain accurate statistics related to licensing
- Coordinate rental licensing program among licensee and City staff
- Keep abreast of laws governing licensing and elections
- Maintain budget for licensing and elections
- Monitor website material for licensing and election concerns

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES

CITY SERVICES: Community and agency partnerships will result in measurable quality of life improvements at multi-family housing sites.

In 2007, total police calls for multi-family housing sites totaled are 6428 through the end of November. The final total for 2006 total police calls was 7529 The real impact of rental licensing is less in the total police call count than in the fact that almost none of the 2006 calls are for repeat offenses. With the implementation of rental unit licensing, property owners/managers are evicting problem tenants earlier than what was the previous practice. There has not been a three strike offender and there have been very few second offenders. All second offenders were contacted in some manner by the management/owner of the property.

The Council recognized the first STAR Level A participants in 2007. Acrylic plaques and certificates were presented to six owners representing 13 properties. In 2008, three properties will join this elite group. Wood plaques were given to two properties for attaining STAR Level B in 2007 and two more will join this group. STAR Level C participants receive a certificate for their accomplishments and each property was issued a window cling indicating their level of achievement and placed on the City's website. Future recognitions will be made to any property that increases their level of participation.

We currently have 74 multi-family properties encompassing approximately 7400 units and as of December 2007 we license 479 single family residences. Single family residential units continue to become known through the efforts of the inspections, utility billing and police departments.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA

CITY SERVICES: Complete Implementation of Best Management Practices for rental housing.

With the implementation of rental licensing in full swing, situations that had not been a consideration at the onset of the program have been brought forward; reviewed and new policies and procedures became necessary. A new policy is being considered currently for administering the property maintenance and fire code violations in association with rental properties. Different processes that have been utilized for the implementation of the resident strikes have been discussed. Forming of a STAR Coalition Board is underway and the STAR Coalition meetings being held every other month, here at City Hall will be implemented after the first of the year. Administrative hearing procedures will be reviewed as well. It continues to be a work in progress!

The Police, Fire, Protective Inspections and Rental departments have joined forces and have implemented a new program. STAR Assessments was implemented in December of 2007. The main goal of these assessments is to provide education and information on the rental licensing ordinance, inspect common areas of properties for both maintenance and fire code issues, and provide proactive police action to deal with possible tenant issues of our multi-family properties. Different areas of the city are reviewed prior to deciding which properties will be visited. We will be attempting to visit a different property a couple times a month. Each property is notified a week prior to us coming and is requested to make themselves and a maintenance staff available to meet with us and walk the property.

CITY SERVICES: People find the City of Burnsville delivers quality essential services in a cost effective, timely manner.

In 2008, procedures will begin for the preparation of the Primary and General Presidential Election. Processes will be reviewed and the need for new supplies and materials to operate will be established. This election year is being anticipated to be extremely well attended and the procedures and supplies will need to emulate that. The contract for our AccuVote Tabulating machines will be ending in 2008 and processes have already begun by Dakota County to look at replacement machines for future elections. For the 2008 elections, the County did assess the maintenance cost of the current machine to the cities.

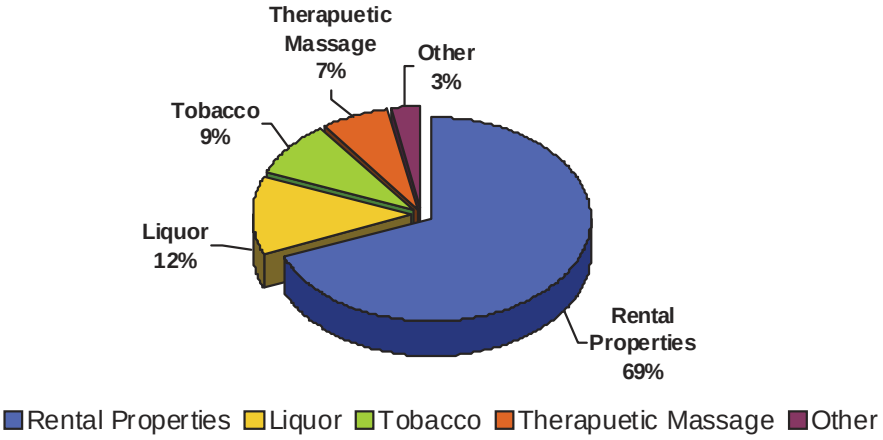
In 2007 the city learned that there will be a need to change polling places. Changing locations in 2008 was not a possibility. However, the 2010 census may indicate the need to split some precincts in the future. There are many factors that play into deciding if a place is suitable to use as a polling location and causes some limitations. This is something that will remain to be a priority for the future of elections.

In line with the Council's adopted governance statements, the most important statistics include:

Election Statistics:

	Total Voters	Absentee Ballots	New Registration
2002	26,204	1,472	4,394
2004	32,770	3,307	7,949
2006	24,292	2,026	3,476

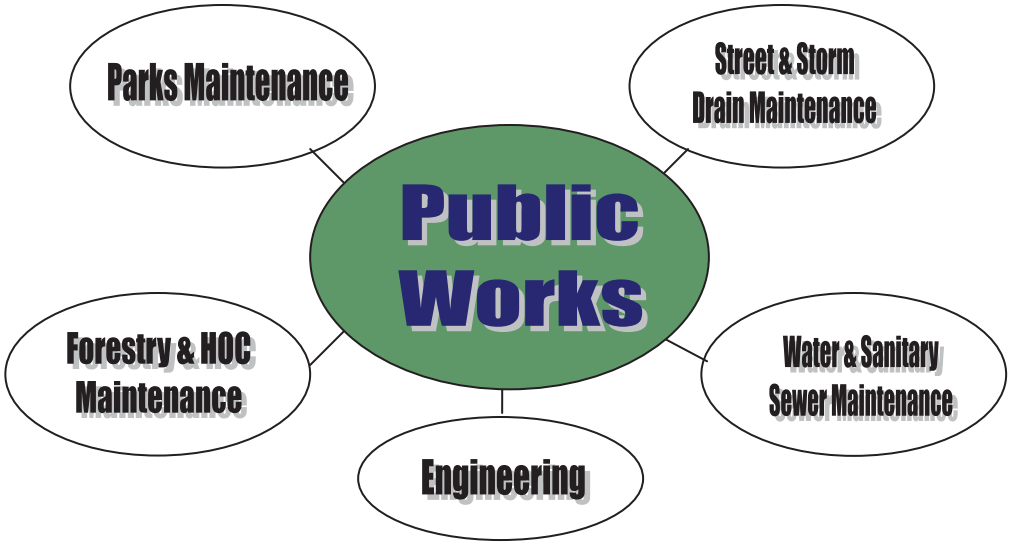
Licensing Statistics

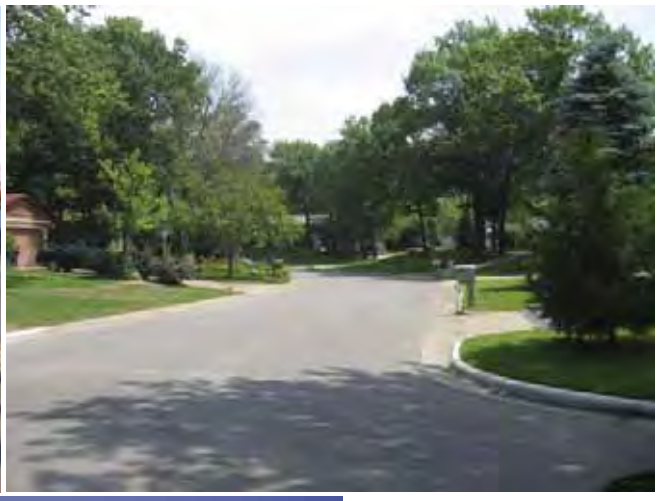


2008 BUDGET OVERVIEW

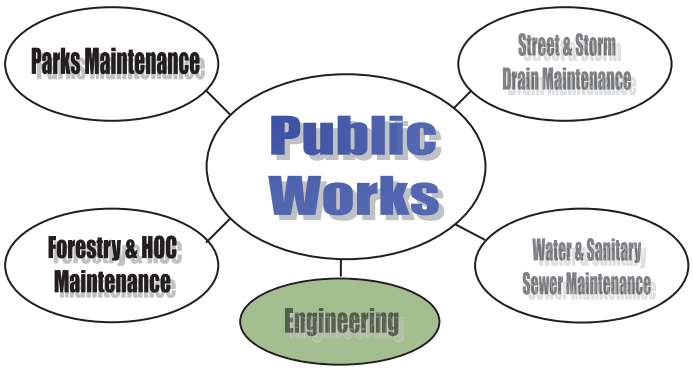
The 2008 Budget will allow for the continuing support of licensing and the implementation of the Primary and General Elections.

Public Works





Engineering



PRIMARY SERVICES

Under the leadership of the Director of Public Works/City Engineer, the Engineering Team provides support services to guide the design, management, reconstruction and construction of the City's infrastructure. There are six broad divisions of responsibilities: Technical Administration, Development Review, Design, Construction, Administration/Information Management and General Administration/Traffic/ROW.

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES

In cooperation with other departments, Engineering facilitates cost effective management of the City's infrastructure within the overall policy goals of the City Council. Engineering strives for a balance between many competing interests, primarily within the outcomes listed below:

TRANSPORTATION - People find Burnsville a community with an effective, multi-modal transportation system connecting people and goods with destination points.

Active projects include: Right of way management, Street Reconstruction and Rehabilitation; I35/Cliff Road Interchange study; CR 42 engineering, design, and improvements; State Hwy. 13/County Road 5 intersection preliminary design; Neighborhood Traffic Calming Investigations; Pedestrian cross-walk investigations and numerous intersection safety improvements.

DEVELOPMENT/REDEVELOPMENT - People find Burnsville a balanced City of residential and business development enhanced by redevelopment.

The work is integrally involved with the Heart of the City and Minnesota River Quadrant projects, as well as 2007 developments: Forest Park Heights, River South Business Park, Cinemajic, Burnsville Sanitary Landfill platting, and smaller land developments throughout the City.

ENVIRONMENT - People find Burnsville is an environmentally sensitive community ensuring preservation and enhancement of its natural resources.

Active Projects: Annual Lateral Drainage Program/Pond Cleanouts including Storm Water Improvements Projects, Judicial Pond, Surface Water Treatment Plant Planning, and Burnsville Center Storm Water Planning.

SAFETY - People find Burnsville a safe community, participate in Homeland Security, and are willing to prevent fire and crime. .

2007 Projects: signal coordination along Nicollet Avenue from 134th to Travelers Trail. Speed Display sign installed on Lac Lavon. Pedestrian ramp installed at Neill School along with Pedestrian Count Downs installed at various signals. Pedestrian crossing warning lights installed on Nicollet Boulevard and Nicollet Avenue in the HOC. Worked with a number of neighborhoods on various traffic concerns and implemented various sign changes throughout the city.

CITY SERVICES - People find Burnsville delivers quality essential services in a cost effective, timely manner.

Street lighting projects-Engineering offers residents the opportunity to have street lights installed in their neighborhoods. In our 2008 projects we will install the Street lights along County Road 42 from County Road 5 to the railroad crossing and begin the replacement of the street lights along Southcross Drive from McAndrews Road to 150th Street.

Our GIS capability allows us to produce quality maps from various perspectives. We also provide in-depth parcel, property, and assessment information.

NEIGHBORHOODS - People feel connected in their neighborhoods.

Street reconstruction projects can spur neighborhood improvements by generating pride in the aesthetics of the neighborhoods, leading to repair of driveways and maintenance of yards and houses.

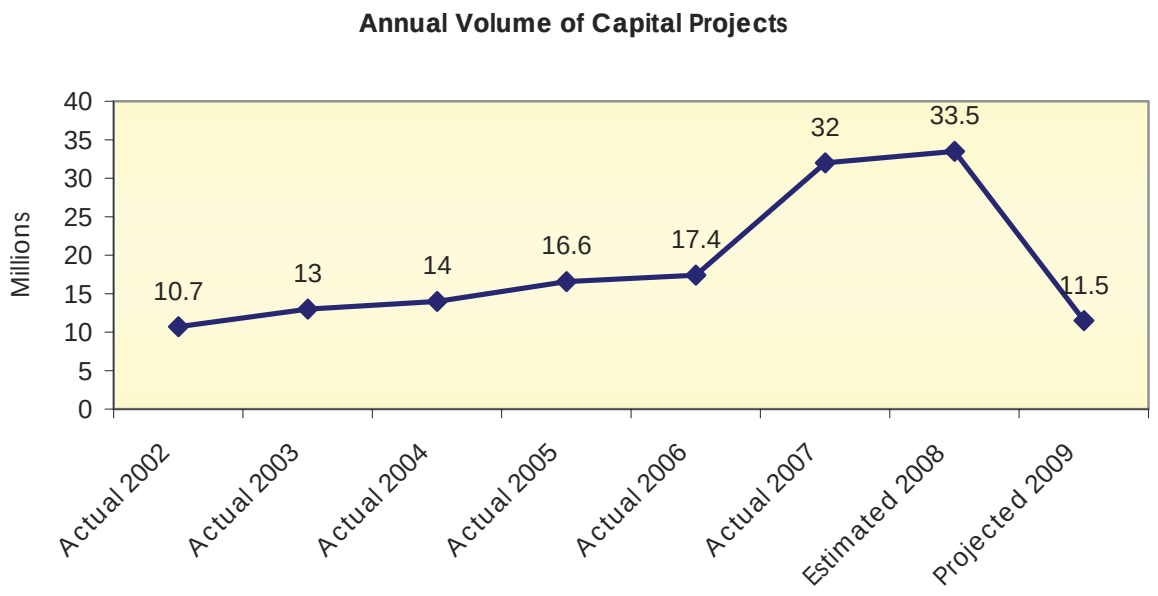
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT - People find the City of Burnsville managed in a cost-effective responsible manner, maintaining the highest standards of service to enhance the community's quality of life for a reasonable investment.

The Engineering Department is responsible for administering lease agreements for space on city owned water towers and monopoles on City property which will generate a projected $394,000 in 2007 and $423,000 in 2008. The towers provide Burnsville with wireless technology for telephone, internet, paging, and emergency communication services. In addition, businesses have the opportunity to utilize two-way radio communication.

Yearly street reconstruction/rehabilitation projects provide preventative street maintenance and replacement of underlying utilities.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA

In line with the Council's adopted governance statements, the most important statistics are shown below. For Engineering, the single most significant area of community impact is in the coordination of major Capital Improvement Projects, which are projected to approach $33.5 million in 2008, excluding Parks projects. By referring to the 5-yr. Capital Improvement Plan, this level is expected to be somewhat lower after 2008.



On most projects there are multiple funding sources, each adding separate levels of accountability and complexity. Among one of the most complex funding mechanisms is the Special Assessment process, which adds one of the main administrative components to the task of completing most major projects. Under state law, the Special Assessment process includes numerous required steps to identify the proportional cost of a project to an individual property, based on a legally defensible determination of "benefit" to the value of that property. Nearly every individual property in the City of Burnsville will be affected by the Special Assessment process at sometime over a 10 to 25 year period.

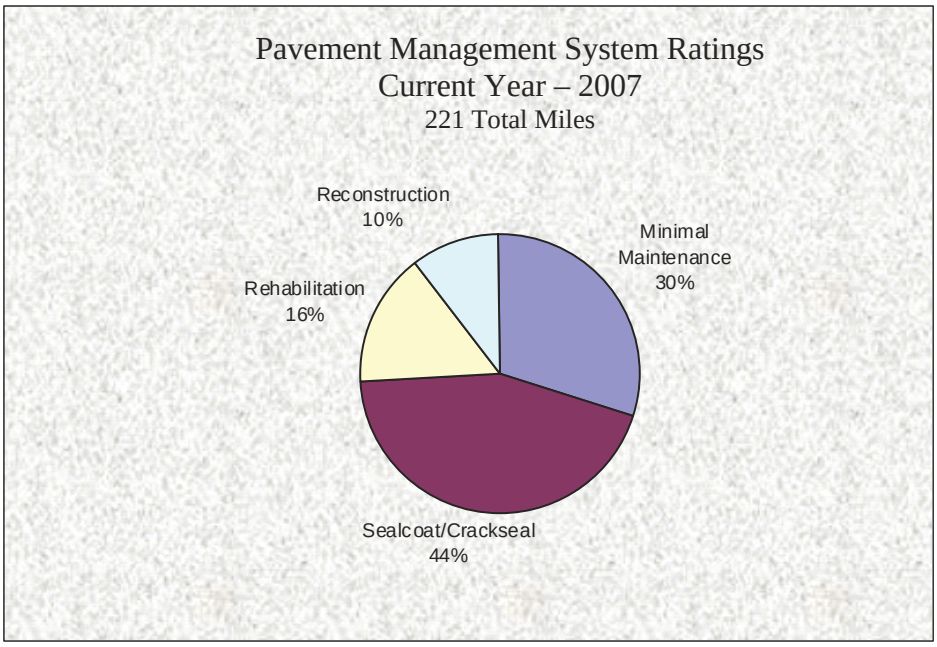
ANNUAL VOLUME OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT LEVIES

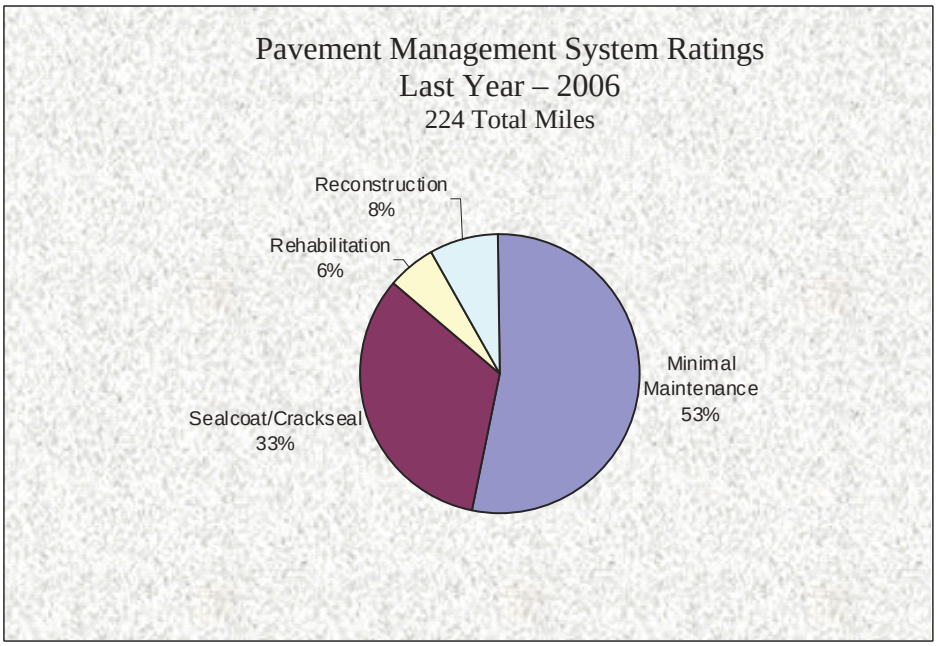
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Projected 2008
Revenue	$854,700	$2,698,525	$2,281,011	$1,062,968	$1,448,412	$755,700	$1,570,400
Parcels	1,108	556	2,084	1,101	723	563	1,174

The Engineering department operates as a business enterprise, striving to maintain independence from direct tax levy support by tracking all staff hours devoted to specific capital projects, in the same way a private consulting firm charges "billable" hours to a client.

Another key area of responsibility is the coordination of the Pavement Management Program in cooperation with Public Works. One-third of the City streets are re-evaluated each year. This Pavement Management Program assists the staff in determining which streets should be sealcoated, crack-sealed, overlayed or reconstructed annually. In 2007 the City performed general maintenance, crack-sealing and seal-coating maintenance on 175 miles of streets; rehabilitated (overlayed) 1.9 miles; totally reconstructed 3.3 miles.

The graph below indicates the evaluation of the condition of Burnsville City streets, categorized by the type of improvement work that will be needed at some point in the foreseeable future. Reconstruction means entire grade/subgrade & base replacement and Rehabilitation indicates some form of resurfacing. [Note: during reconstruction, the project also may include replacement of water/sewer utilities.]

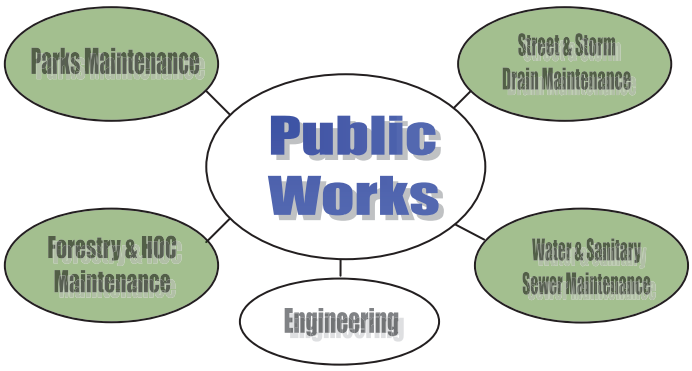




The City utilizes the Pavement Management Program to create future planning maps for sealcoating, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

The engineering staff currently has 15 years of reconstruction areas planned and 10 years of street rehabilitation proposed. Plans can be modified if conditions warrant.

Parks & Public Works



PRIMARY SERVICES

The Public Works Maintenance Divisions provide the following basic City services:

- Snowplowing and street sweeping
- Street & Storm water system repair and maintenance, including City street signage
- Repair, maintenance and operation of potable Water system and the Sanitary Sewer system
- Maintenance of park system including: Mowing, landscaping, trimming of boulevards, parks lands, and parks infrastructure
- Maintenance of the City's athletic fields, skating rinks and other active use facilities
- Management of City's forests including pruning, planting, disease control, and tree removal
- Maintenance of the Streetscapes and Heart of the City improvements including Nicollet Commons Park and the parking ramp

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL ENDS AND OUTCOMES

The primary purpose of the Public Works Maintenance Department is to manage, operate and maintain the City's extensive infrastructure of roads, storm sewers, sanitary sewers, water production and distribution facilities, and parks and recreation system. The following major department activities directly relate to Council established ENDS AND OUTCOMES.

TRANSPORTATION - People find Burnsville a community with an effective, multi-modal transportation system connecting people and goods with destination points.

- Pavement management programs
- Street & sidewalk maintenance, snowplowing, and street sweeping
- Bike trail maintenance

YOUTH - Youth find Burnsville a nurturing and supportive community.

- Providing and maintaining a comprehensive park system including athletic fields, skating rinks, sport courts and other recreational facilities are part of meeting the needs of our youth.
- There is a youth representatives on the Parks and Natural Resources Commission.

ENVIRONMENT – People find Burnsville an environmentally sensitive community ensuring preservation and enhancement of its natural resources.

- The City has implemented and enforces outside water use restrictions. Public education is provided regarding water conservation.
- The City's wells are used in a manner that limits impacts on the river bluff fen.
- The parks system is maintained utilizing no phosphorus fertilizer and good turf aerator practices.

CITY SERVICES - People find the City of Burnsville delivers quality essential services in a cost effective, timely manner.

All the Operations and Maintenance services fall under this theme: Streets, Storm Sewer, Water, Sanitary Sewer, Parks, Forestry & Community Landscaping, and Fleet Maintenance.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT MONITORING DATA

The City surveys residents regarding their perceptions of City services every two years. The ratings from 2001 showed a significant drop in the ratings for snow plowing and street maintenance. The City placed additional focus and allocated additional resources in these service areas in 2002 and 2003. The 2003 results from the Decision Resources Residential Survey show a major improvement in the ratings in these service areas. The higher rating in snow plowing and street repair & maintenance remained the same through 2007. The efforts made in this area starting after 2001 have been continued and staff will monitor this situation to see if additional changes might be necessary. Parks maintenance achieved its high level in 2007.

Area of Service	Rating of Good or Excellent			
	2001	2003	2005	2007
Street Repair & Maintenance	47%	78%	74%	77%
Snow Plowing	62%	86%	86%	86%
Park Maintenance	82%	92%	91%	95%

The City surveys business community on alternate years. The business survey in 2006 showed a 91% satisfaction rating in the area of snow plowing and 96% satisfaction rating in the area of street maintenance.

2008 BUDGET OVERVIEW

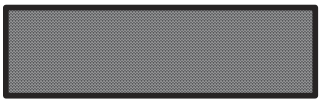
The Park and Public Works operating budgets for 2008 will be used to operate and maintain the City's infrastructure. There are several new aspects to this service including:

- We have continued funding in the Snow & Ice Control budget for additional salt and Clearlane, which is a modified salt product that works well in colder temperatures. This has allowed the City to go to 100% use of salt in its daily snow and ice control. This results in better ice control and less accumulated sand to sweep up in the spring and remove from lakes and ponds in future years. This is a significant financial benefit from reducing the amount of sand that ends up in lakes and ponds, and is also a significant environmental benefit.
- The City will be replacing a dump truck, tractor, large capacity and regular riding mower and pickup trucks in 2008. The newer equipment will be less expensive to maintain, but the savings will be offset by the balance of the fleet being one year older.
- The Capital Improvements Program (CIP) includes funding to renovate or replace elements of the park infrastructure. The CIP includes funding to continue the athletic field improvements to Sue Fischer Memorial, Neill and Alimagnet Parks begun in 2005. These projects are in partnership with BA191, BAC and the Adult Softball Council.
- The CIP also includes funding for the construction of the "Northeast Connector" trail from Diffley to CH 11 along TH 13. Half the funding is in 2008 and half in 2009.
- A major expansion of the Maintenance Center is included in the CIP for 2008. This will provide housing for a number of public works vehicles that are currently stored outside.
- The addition of the Surface Water Treatment Plant (SWTP) will provide a substantial increase in potable water capacity for Burnsville and Savage. This SWTP will provide many additional advantages to the City in WTP maintenance scheduling flexibility and to the environment.

STREET & STORM SEWER PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS - 2006

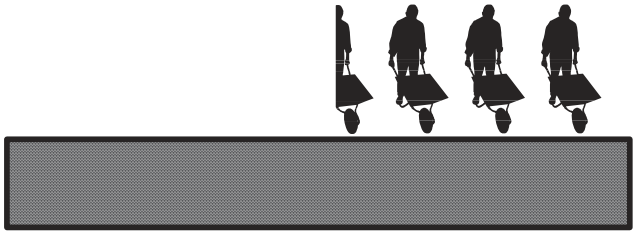
City	Pop.	F-T Staff	P-T Staff	Miles of Streets	SNOW & ICE CONTROL: With City Staff	By Contract	Cul-De-sacs	Center Islands	Trails & Sidewalks	Storm Sewers Maintained
Burnsville	61,355	12	2	230	170 Miles Equip: 20 Units	60 Miles Equip: 8 Units	450	yes	118 Miles	Pipes, Ponds, Catch Basins & Manholes
Eagan	67,000	10	3	235	205 Miles Equip: 25 Units	30 Miles Equip: 4 Units	627	Some	Contracted 62 Miles	None – Utilities Dept. Maintains
Apple Valley	51,000	14	6	165	165 Miles Equip: 31 Units	0 Miles	313	No	12 Miles	Utilities Dept. Maintains Balance
Lakeville	51,800	18	2	250	250 Miles Equip: 24 Units	0 Miles	450	No	60 Miles	Ponds, Pipes, Catch Basins & Manholes

= 4 FT employees


= comparative miles of streets to maintain

Burnsville

Eagan



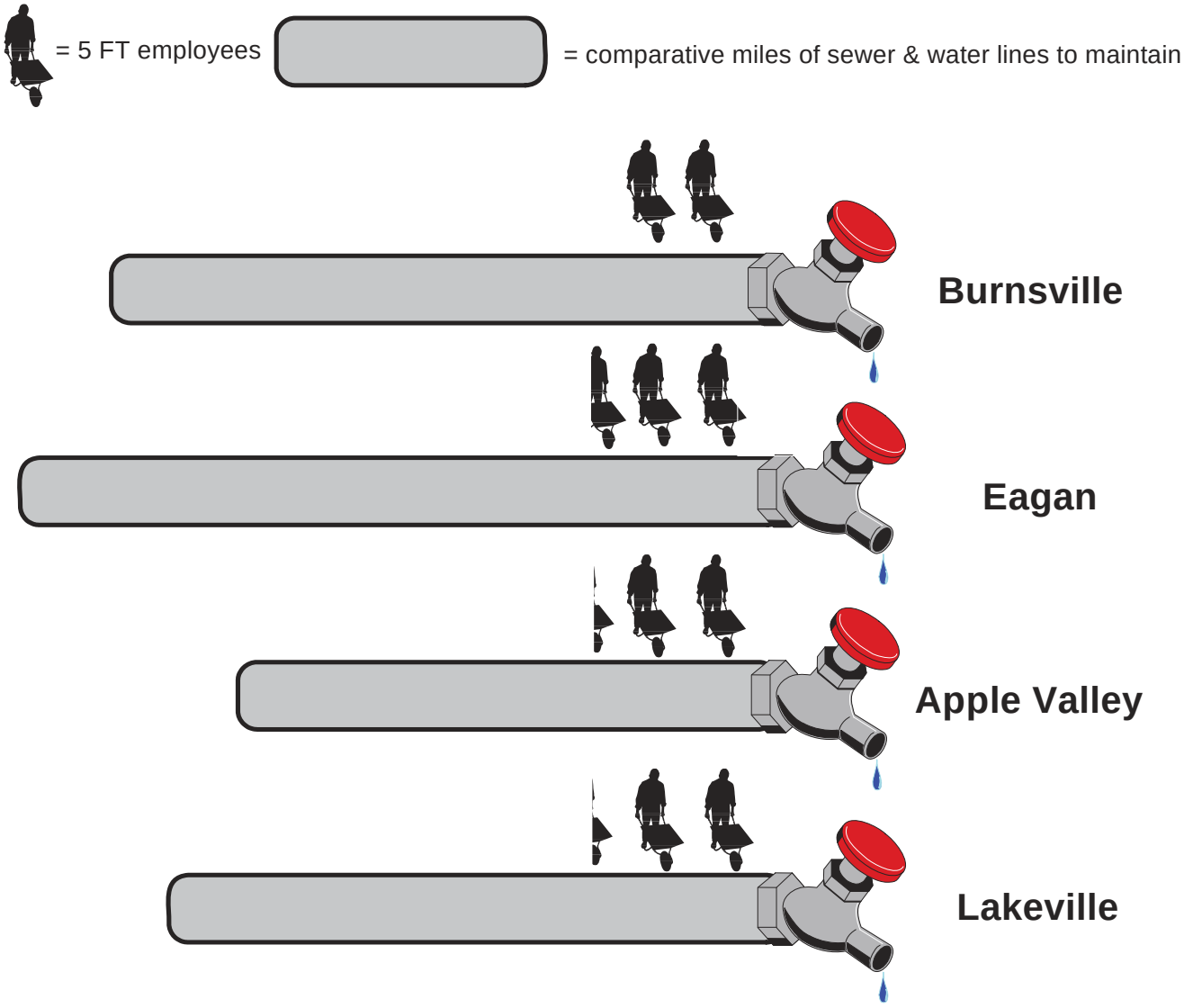
Apple Valley

Lakeville

Miles of Sewer & Water Lines and F.T.E.'s

SEWER & WATER PERFORMANCE MEASURES – 2006

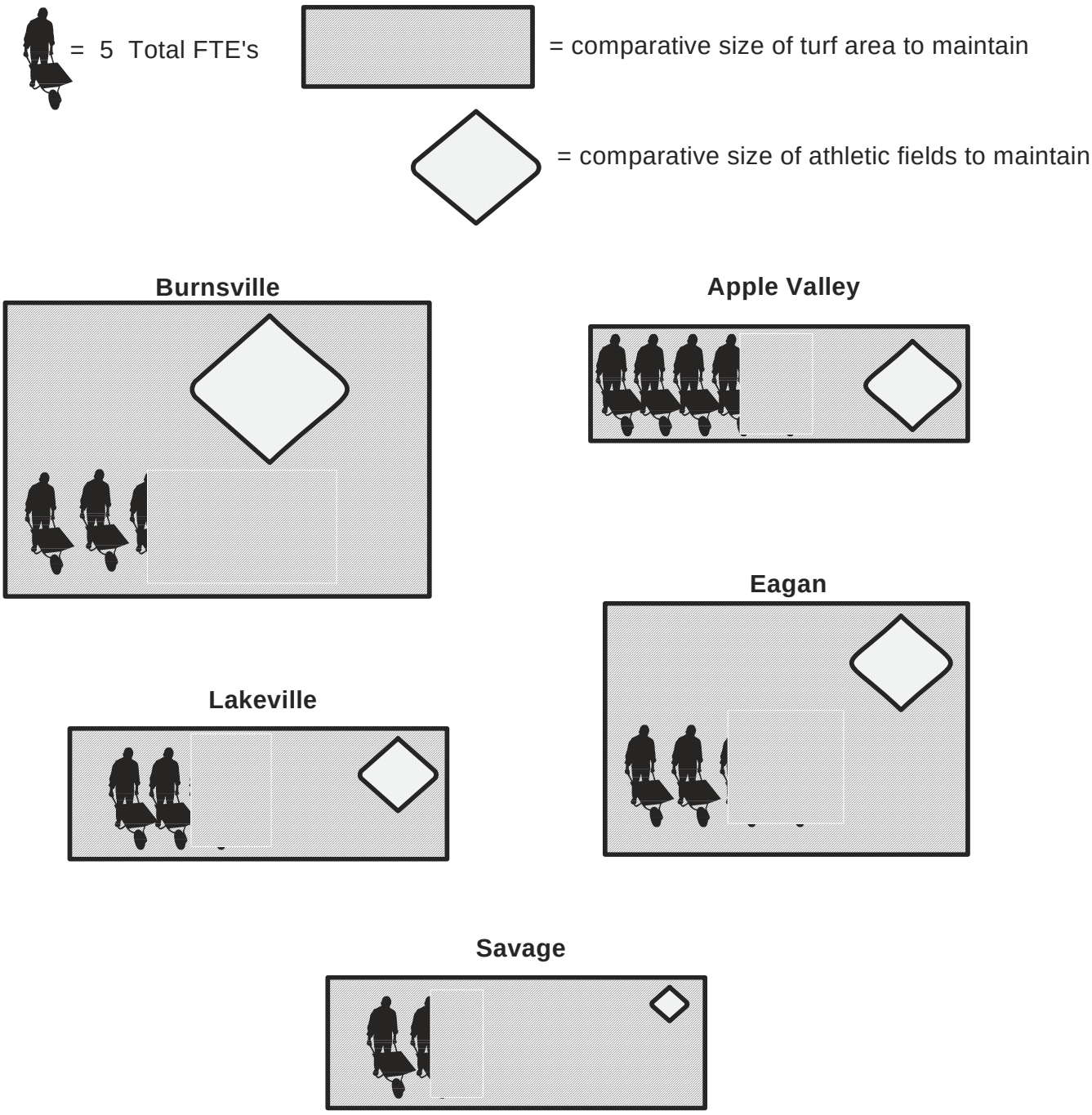
CITY	POPULATION	FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	SEASONAL EMPLOYEES	WELLS	PRESSURE ZONES	MILES OF WATER LINES	MILES OF SEWER LINES	SANITARY LIFT STATIONS
Burnsville	61,355	10	3	17	12	261	233	14
Eagan	67,000	12	3	21	3	320	270	13
Apple Valley	51,000	11	5	18	3	230	190	9
Lakeville	51,800	11	5	16	3	240	224	23

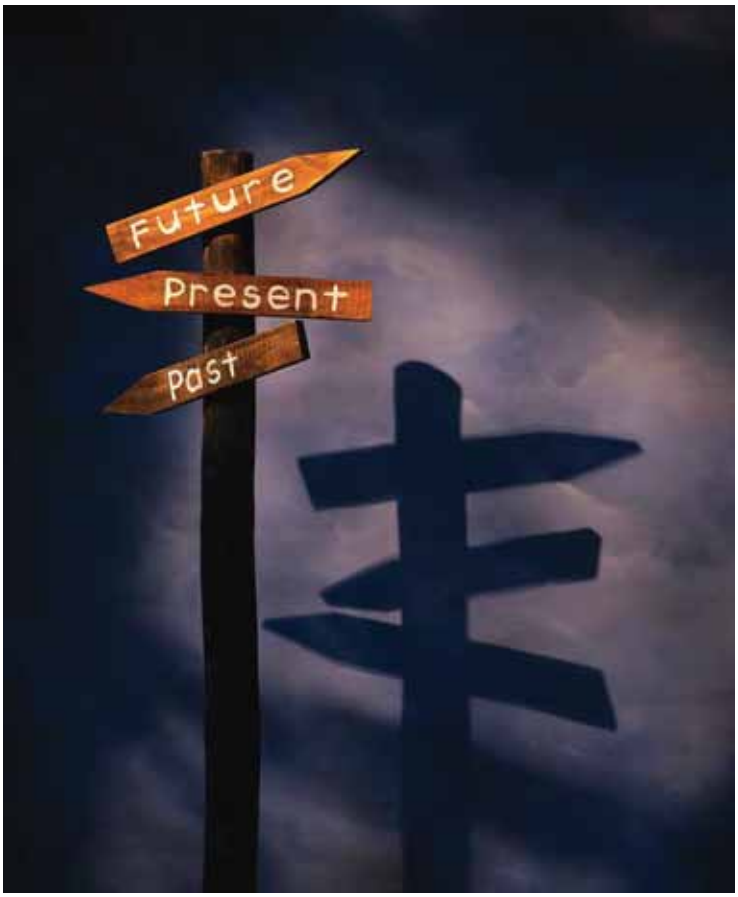


Park Acres and F.T.E.'s

PARKS PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS – 2006

CITY	POPULATION 2006 Estimate	FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	SEASONAL EMPLOYEES	FTE'S	ACRES OF TURF MAINT	ATHLETIC FIELDS MAINT	RINKS MAINT.
Burnsville	61,355	12	38	22.3	645	142	43
Apple Valley	51,000	19	30	27.1	300	100	23
Eagan	67,000	11	45	23.2	500	178	29
Lakeville	51,800	10	27	17.3	350	115	25
Savage	23,500	8	8	10.2	320	32	10





APPENDIX H – SW PUBLIC SERVICES STUDY

1990 & 1994

CITY OF BURNSVILLE
2030
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

SOUTHWEST AREA PUBLIC SERVICES

OVERVIEW

This report summarizes a study that was conducted by the City of Burnsville over a period of more than three years. The findings of the study have been summarized in numerous memoranda and reports. This information has been presented at several public information meetings and public hearings. The purpose of this report is to present an abridged summary of the problems and issues that this study addressed, but most importantly to present the basic policy decisions that the Burnsville City Council made to guide the future of this area as a result of this study.

A review of the existing conditions and some of the problems within the study area is presented in the following section. This information is followed by a review of the planning process and the approach that the City took to respond to these problems and conditions. This included a program of inspection of all existing individual sewage disposal systems in the area and the development and adoption of ordinance modifications to strengthen the regulation of these systems in the future. It also included the design of a master plan to guide the future development of the study area and to correct platting and boundary survey errors over time. This master plan is also coordinated with designs for future public infrastructure systems (sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and water) to serve the area, if they are either requested by the majority of owners, or necessitated by environmental conditions.

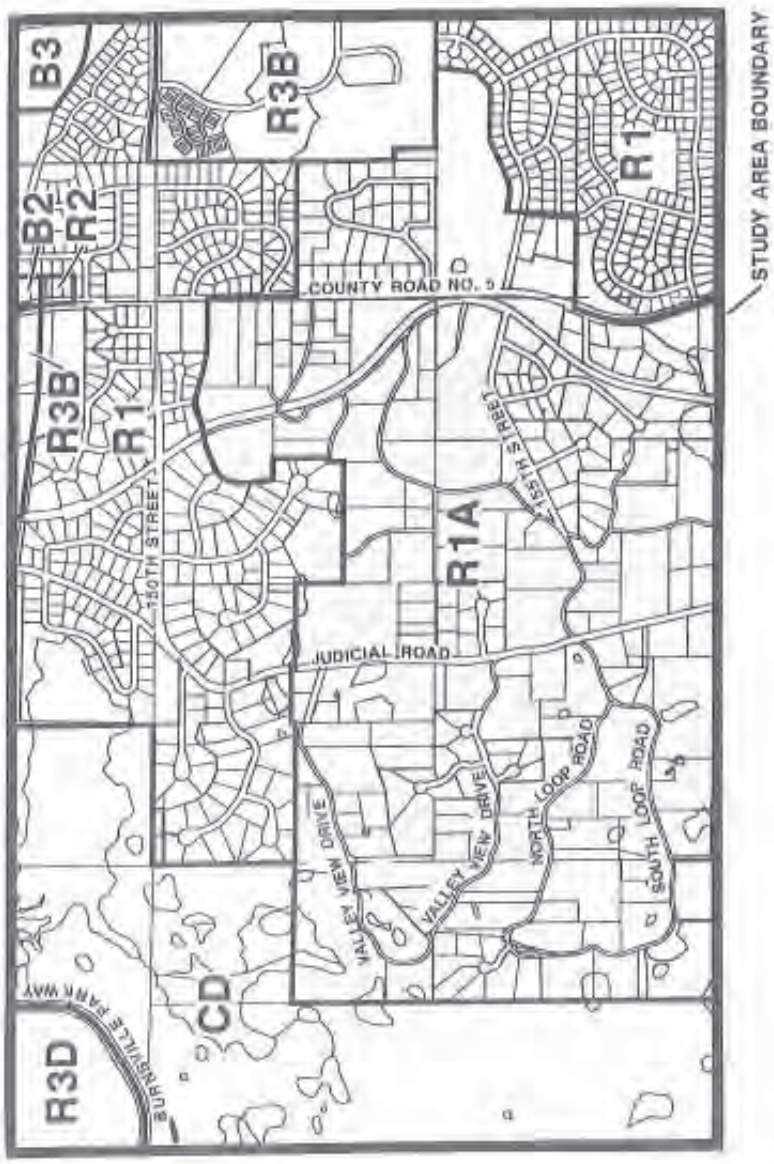
BACKGROUND

The extreme southwestern corner of the City of Burnsville is unique for a number of reasons. First of all, the area contains rolling topography with areas of very steep slopes, as well as many of the largest remaining stands of trees within the community. The area included in this study is illustrated on Figure 1. As this figure shows, the southern boundary of the study area abuts the City of Lakeville and the western border of the study area abuts the City of Savage. A small portion of the Murphy Hanrehan Regional Park Reserve is located in the western section of the study area. A more complete summary of the natural characteristics within the study area are reviewed in the next section. The area is also unique, however, due to the fact that it si the last remaining area within the City of Burnsville that is not served by public sanitary sewer and other utilities. The area shaded in blue is the unsewered portion of the study area and the focus of the study and master planning.

Much of the land within the heart of the study area was originally platted as part of the Benham Investment Company Addition back in 1915. All of the lot splits and subdivisions that have occurred in the area since that time have been based on the survey information included in the old Benham Addition. Due largely to the age of this survey information, there are numerous problems that exist in the accuracy of the survey information in this neighborhood. These problems are identified and discussed in greater detail in the following section.

The first Comprehensive Plan prepared by the City of Burnsville was adopted in 1965. The 1965 Comprehensive Plan contained a number of growth management strategies to encourage the City to develop efficiently on the northern end and proceed in an orderly fashion to the south. All of the land within the study area was zoned residential and the vast majority of that was zoned R-1A Single-Family Residential. The minimum lot size in this zoning district was 1 acre. Individual sewage disposal systems were regulated by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency standards.

FIGURE 1 – FOCUS AREA MAP



FOCUS AREA
S.W. PUBLIC SERVICES STUDY
City of BURNSVILLE
FIGURE 1

In 1979, the Comprehensive Plan was updated. The review of the study area resulted in the adoption of an individual on-site sewage disposal ordinance that limited minimum lot sizes to 5 acres. However, this ordinance allowed lots to be divided to as small as 1 acre, with proof that adequate drainfields could be located on-site. Experience with this standard has been problematic as discussed later in this report.

Since that time, there has been a number of plats filed in the area and considerable interest expressed about additional subdivision in the area. This study was initiated to respond to the need to provide for a future road system in the area that was adequate to serve its population and to correct the survey problems that proliferate throughout the area. An important side issues that has been dealt with in considerable detail as a result of the study process has been

the establishment of more stringent requirements for the design and periodic mandatory inspections for individual on-site sewage disposal systems.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT CONDITIONS

Natural Features

The natural features within the Study Area are illustrated in Figure 2. As shown, the upland areas are covered extensively by woodlands, while the lower areas include numerous ponds and wetlands. Figure 3 illustrates the considerable topographic relief within the Study Area. The highest elevation is 1,133 feet MSL (Mean Sea Level) and the lowest elevation is 875 feet MSL, a difference of 258 feet.

Much of this change in grade occurs in a ridge that runs in an east-west direction between Valley View Drive and Loop road. While Valley View Drive is platted as a loop, the roadway between Valley View Drive and Loop Road was never built primarily due to the extreme change in topography. As a result, Valley View Drive is a cul-de-sac that is approximately 2,800 feet long. In order to complete the connection between Valley View Drive and Loop Road, as platted, additional right-of-way and grading easements would have to be acquired. This construction would have substantial impact on the existing land form and tree cover in this area. In addition to the obvious access problems and the provision of suitable road configuration, the topography in the area make the efficient extension of sanitary sewer very challenging.

The pattern of development within the study area is illustrated on Figure 4. County State Aid Highway 5 is the main north-south thoroughfare located on the eastern side of the Study Area. Judicial Road is a collector street paralleling CSAH 5 slightly more than 1 mile to the west, 150th Street is a thoroughfare and provides access in an east-west direction through part of the Study Area, and 155th Street connects County Road 5 and Judicial Road in the south central portion of the Study Area. The predominant land use within the Study Area is large-lot, single-family residential. There are some sewered subdivisions located to the east of County Road 5 and these subdivisions include lots that are consistent with the City's R-1 zoning standard sizes.

In the extreme northwest corner of the study area is a portion of the mobile home park that exists to the north and west of Burnsville Parkway. Other land uses within the area include approximately 160 acres of the Murphy Hanrehan Regional Park Reserve and 120 acres of the Cam Ram Park within the City of Burnsville. The Cam Ram Park is almost totally wetland. As Figure 4 illustrates, there is very little public park land available within the Study Area, with only Loop Park and Judicial Park being available to serve future public recreational needs.

Figure 5 illustrates the boundary between the sewered area and the unsewered area within the Study Area. This figure also illustrates the location of all of the utility systems in the area surrounding the unsewered area.

FIGURE 2 – NATURAL FEATURES MAP

FIGURE 3 – TOPOGRAPHY MAP

FIGURE 4 – PARKLAND, ROADS & TRAILS MAP

FIGURE 5 – EXISITNG UTILITIES MAP

As previously mentioned, there are numerous problems evident within the Study Area due to inaccuracies in the survey information related to the subdivisions that have occurred throughout the area's history.

Figure 6 illustrates a simplified graphic summary of a number of these problems. This figure illustrates all of the misaligned road rights-of-way or areas where the existing right-of-way is more narrow than the City's standard. It also illustrates the locations of platted rights-of-way that are not currently being utilized to provide access to residential properties, as well as the location of some parcels within the study area that do not have access on a public street and, therefore, are essentially landlocked. Finally, Figure 6 illustrates those parcels within the study area that are smaller than 1 acre in size. Since there has been considerable interest in intensifying the development and further subdividing the area within the study boundaries, it was

important to take inventory of the existing lot conditions and vacant land summaries within study boundaries.

Figure 7 presents a graphic summary of the development status of all parcels within the Study Area. Parcels are either occupied, meaning there is an existing residence on the property, or vacant. In each case, parcels can be developed, partially developed or underdeveloped, depending on future subdivision possibilities. There are 240 unsewered lots within the Study Area that are defined according to development status as follows:

- *Occupied/Fully Developed – 143 Lots:* These lots cannot be further split or subdivided due to area, inadequate lot or right-of-way width, lack of access to public right-of-way, or topographic constraints. Some of these lots could be combined with adjacent parcels to create new lots.

- *Occupied/Partially Developed – 43 Lots:* These are lots that cannot be further split or subdivided to a minimum of 2 acres of dry, buildable area. Some of these lots could be combined with adjacent parcels, split, or subdivided to a minimum of 1 acre if the Study Area were to be provided with public sanitary sewer sometime in the future.

- *Occupied/Underdeveloped – 21 Lots*: These are lots that can be either split or subdivided to a minimum of 2 acres of dry, buildable land.

- *Vacant/Partially Developed – 7 Lots*: These lots cannot be further split or subdivided to meet the current standard of 2 acres of dry, buildable land.

- *Vacant/Underdeveloped – 5 Lots*: These lots can be either split or further subdivided to meet the new minimum of 2 acres of dry, buildable land.

<u>Individual Sewage Disposal Systems</u>
As previously noted, this Study was conducted over a period in excess of three years. Much of the time and interest at both public information meetings and public hearings focused on whether or not the Study Area should remain unsewered for the foreseeable future. The vast majority of the property owners who attended the meeting expressed a strong desire to keep the area unsewered. Therefore, one of the first important questions that the Study addressed was: What is the condition of the current individual sewage disposal systems in the area? If problems exist, can they be readily corrected, and a related question was how well suited is the area to accommodate on-site systems for future development.

FIGURE 6 – PLATTING DISCREPANCIES MAP

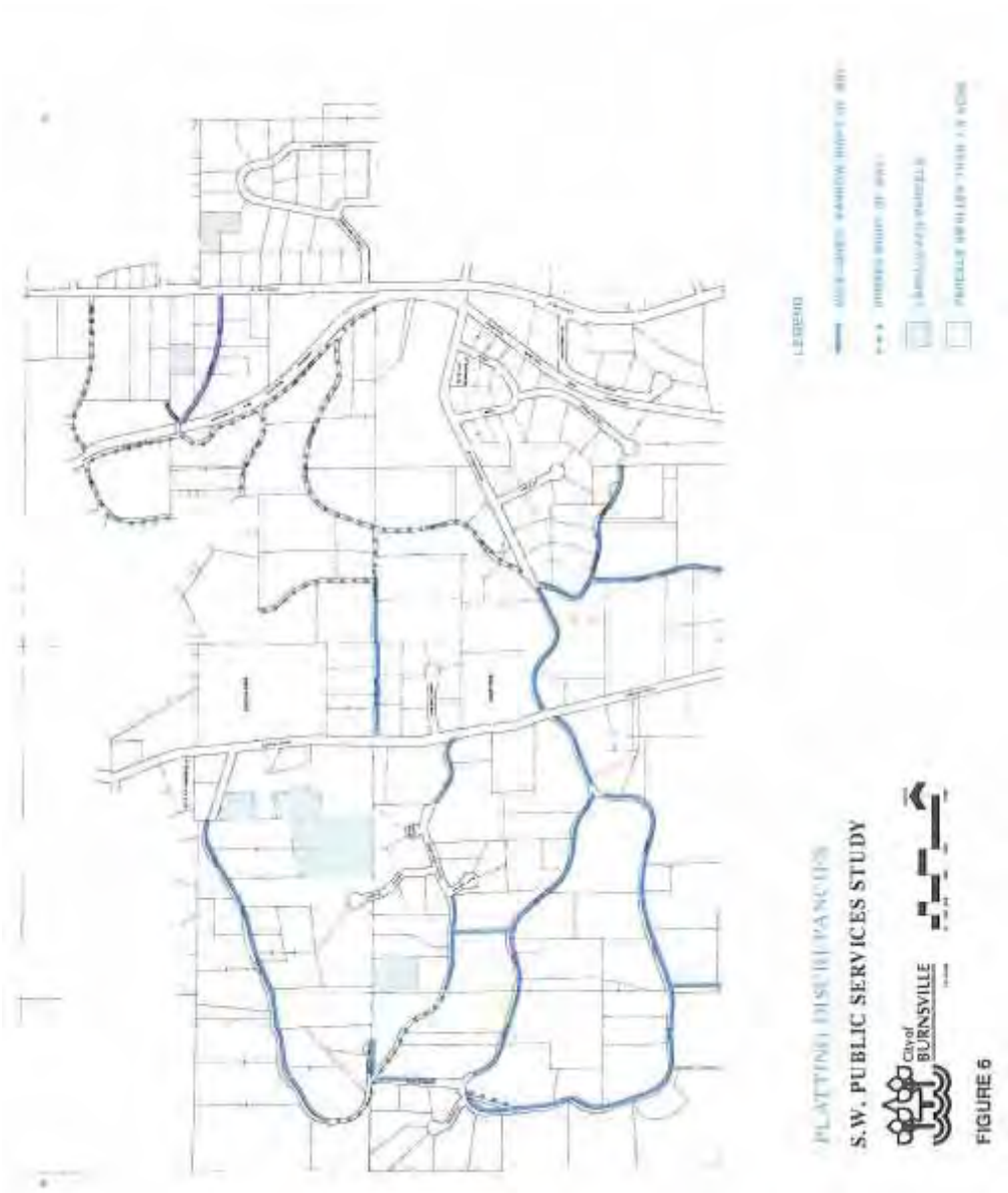
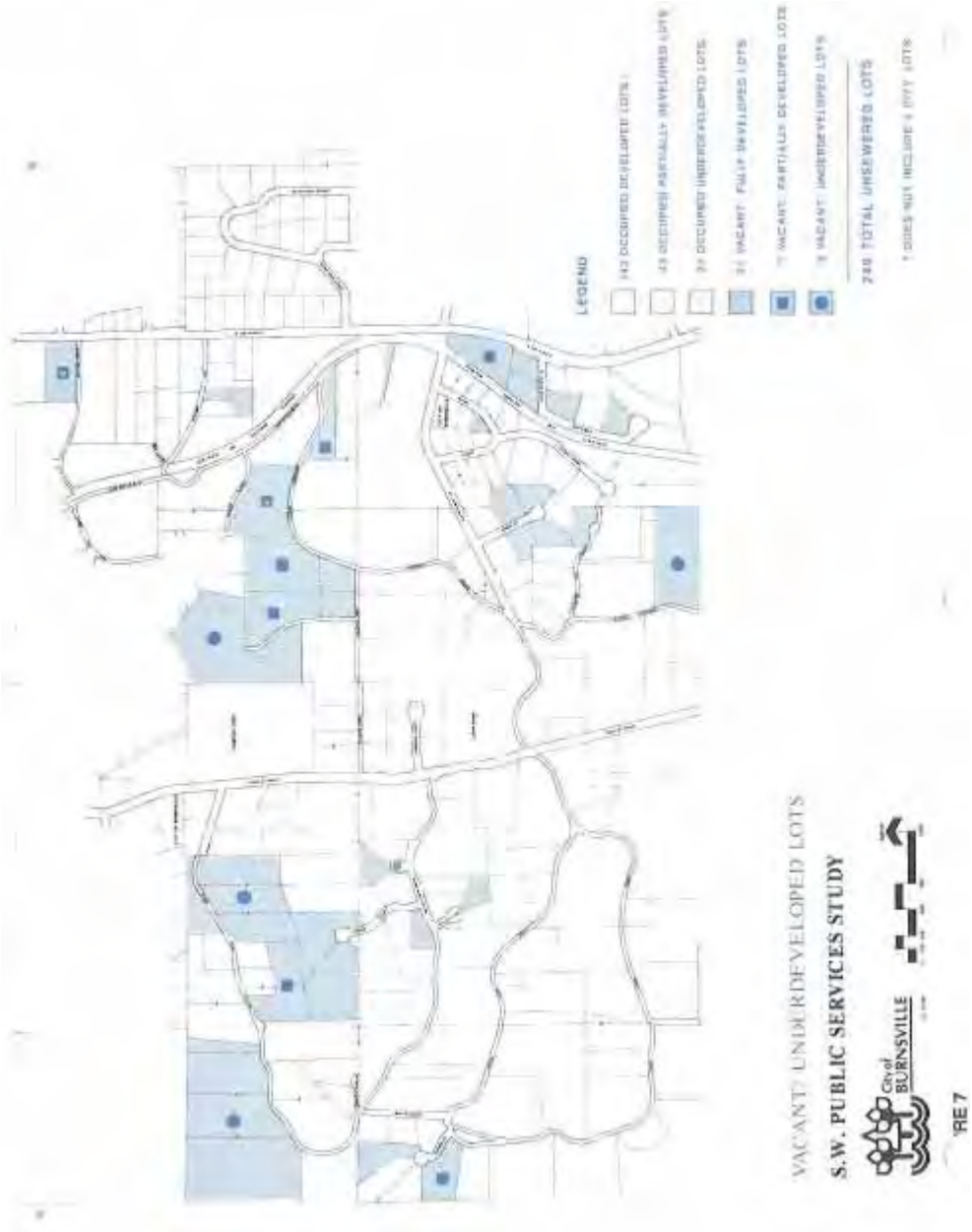


FIGURE 7 – VACANT/UNDERDEVELOPED LOTS MAP



To determine the condition of current sewage disposal systems, an inspection program was initiated. This started with an initial round of 70 inspections selected throughout the area. A summary of those initial inspections is presented on Table 1 and an explanation of the grading system used to rank the individual sewage treatment systems is presented in Table 2.

Table 1
Summary of Individual Sewage Treatment System Inspection Results
For Southwest Area of Burnsville

Grade	Number of Systems	Percent	General Description of System
A	12	17%	New System
B	16	23%	Better Older System
C	15	22%	Questionable
D	17	24%	Very Questionable
F	9	13%	Failing System
I	1	1%	Inspection Not Allowed at this location
TOTAL	70	100%	

Table 2
Explanation of Grading System Used to Rank
Individual Sewage Treatment Systems

Grade	Explanation
A	These systems are newer systems designed and constructed to current MPCA Standards, Minnesota Rules, Chapter 7080 (See Appendix A). Little or no future problems with these systems are foreseen.
B	These systems are either better designed, older systems or systems that have been upgraded with the addition of drainfield area. Although these systems may not meet current MPCA standards, it is unlikely that problems should occur in the near future.
C	These systems are considered to be questionable based on the presence of one or more undesirable factors in regard to the site or drainfield system design. This classification includes older systems that consist of cesspools or seepage pits, and/or systems that are located on or adjacent to steep slopes or fill areas. Also included are systems built in areas of coarse sand and gravel where little or no treatment of the wastewater is accomplished due to high soil permeability. These systems obviously do not meet current MPCA standards and the ability of these systems to function on a long-term basis is questionable.
D	These systems are also listed as questionable with more undesirable factors present and stronger reasons for doubt. These systems are usually older systems that are obviously undersized and/or simply have outlived their useful life expectancy. Other factors such as proximity to steep slopes, the likelihood of surface discharge, high static level of effluent in the drainfield and/or limited area for expansion may also be indicated. Seasonal problems or problems with increased use of these systems are likely to occur in the future.
F	These systems were failing at the time of inspection. In each case, the system showed visual evidence of surface discharge or hillside seepage of effluent. All of these systems were obviously undersized or under maintained. Many of these systems included the use of a pipe connected to the septic tank that discharged directly to the surface of the ground. These systems require extensive work to eliminate this surface contamination.

The results of the first 70 inspections raised serious concerns about the conditions that exited within the Study Area. If the City Council were to support the wishes of the majority of area owners and leave the area unsewered, several important things would need to happen. All of the issues would be addressed through a substantial amendment to the current zoning standards governing individual sewage disposal systems.

The first step in the process was to complete the inspection of every individual sewage disposal system in the area. The results of the inspection of all 204 individual sewage disposal systems in the study area is presented in Table 3. An explanation of the revised grading system used to rank the individual sewage treatment systems is presented in Table 4.

Table 3
Summary of Individual Sewage Treatment System Inspection Grades
For Southwest Area of Burnsville

Grade	Number of Systems	Percent	General Description of System
A	55	27%	New System
B	55	27%	Better Older System
C	82	40%	Questionable
F	12	6%	Failing System
TOTAL		100%	

Table 4
Explanation of Grading System Used to Rank
Individual Sewage Treatment Systems

Grade	Explanation
A	These systems are newer systems designed and constructed to current MPCA Standards, Minnesota Rules, Chapter 7080. Provided proper maintenance is performed, these systems should provide adequate wastewater treatment for the life of the system.
B	These systems are either better designed older systems or systems that have been upgraded with the addition of drainfield area. Although these systems may not meet current MPCA standards, it is not expected that problems should occur in the near future.
C	These systems are considered to be questionable based on the presence of one or more undesirable factors in regard to the site or drainfield system design. This classification includes systems that consist of cesspools or seepage pits, or systems that are located on or adjacent to steep slopes or fill areas. These systems are usually older systems that are obviously undersized and/or simply have outlived their useful life expectancy. Other factors such as proximity to steep slopes, the likelihood of surface discharge, seasonal problems, problems with increased use, high static level of effluent in the drainfield and/or limited area for expansion may also be indicated. Also included are systems built in areas of coarse sand and gravel where little or no treatment of the wastewater is accomplished due to high soil permeability. These systems obviously do not meet current MPCA standards and the ability of these systems to function on a long-term basis is questionable.
F	These systems were failing at the time of inspection. In each case, the system showed visual evidence of surface discharge or hillside seepage of effluent. All of these systems were obviously undersized or under maintained. Many of these systems included the use of a pipe connected to the septic tank that discharged directly to the surface of the ground. These systems require extensive work to eliminate this surface contamination.

The second step was to develop a program to compel land owners to bring their systems into compliance with current standards. The specific timing for bringing systems into compliance would be tied to the seriousness of the observed problems with failing systems corrected immediately. The third important element of the program was mandatory periodic inspection of all systems in the future, with detailed records of every system kept on file at the City. A copy of the amended ordinances that now regulate private water and sewer systems is attached at the end of this report.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

The key policy decision that resulted from the Southwest Public Services Study was that the City would adopt an official master plan for the future of this area and require all future subdivisions to be consistent with this plan. The design of this plan attempted to work with existing traveled rights-of-way as closely as possible and to balance the burden of coming into conformance with the master plan between adjacent property owners. Throughout the review of this study and the numerous public meetings that occurred, the City Council has reaffirmed the fact that sanitary sewer will not be extended into the study area unless it is requested by a majority of the property owners, or a public health condition necessitates it. The City of Burnsville feels strongly that it is absolutely essential that a plan be available to sewer the Study Area in the event of an emergency. The master plan that has been prepared for the area incorporates a design for the extension of public sanitary sewer, public water service, and the provision of stormwater drainage improvements.

It is anticipated that the Study Area will remain unsewered at least throughout the planning period. Therefore, any new lots to be created through either a lot split or the platting process will need to demonstrate consistency with a master plan that divides the Study Area into lots that contain a minimum of 2 acres of dry buildable land. This is the standard that has been established as a minimum area to accommodate an individual on-site sewage disposal system. All of these lots, as well as all of the existing lots, shall be governed by the City's zoning standards related to the regulation of individual sewage disposal systems. The City will not allow private community sewage treatment systems under any conditions.

Figure 8 illustrates the development master plan to accommodate the maximum number of unsewered lots within the Study Area. It should be understood tht the information that this design was based on is generalized and that the approval of specific lots can only follow the review of detailed information related to soil conditions and other information necessary to ensure the safe and sanitary function of individual sewage disposal systems and their drainfields.

While it is the commitment of the City of Burnsville to allow the Study Area to remain unsewered for the foreseeable future, the City also feels that it is responsible for planning for the future and, in all likelihood, the distant future means that this area shall be served by public sanitary sewer. Therefore, the City has adopted the policy of requiring future subdivisions to demonstrate the house to be located on the proposed lot shall be located in such a way that will allow the property to be further subdivided to a 1-acre minimum lot size then the public sanitary sewer is available.

The master plan that anticipates the development pattern at a 1-acre density is illustrated on Figure 9. This shall become the guide for reviewing and approving future subdivisions within the Study Area.

The future sanitary sewer plan to serve the development of the Study Area is illustrated on Figure 10. This design, by no means inexpensive to implement, follows existing roadways as closely as possible and works with the significant topographical relief in the area to the maximum possible extent. It is also important to note that this system utilizes entirely a gravity system and no lift stations are required to provide service to the Study Area. In addition to sanitary sewer, stormwater service and related ponding areas will be required to serve the Area in the future.

A comprehensive master plan for future storm sewer and ponding areas is illustrated on Figure 11. The review and approval of all future subdivisions will need to demonstrate and be required to dedicate all easements needed to facilitate the implementation of this plan.

FIGURE 8 – DEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN – 2.0 TO 2.5 ACRE MINIMUM LOTS MAP

FIGURE 9 – DEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN – 1.0 ACRE MINIMUM LOTS MAP

FIGURE 10 – FUTURE SANITARY SEWER MAP

FIGURE 11 – FUTURE STORM SEWER & PONDING MAP

4. Continued - Consider Proposed Addendum to the Comprehensive Plan Southwest Area Provisions.

The following persons appeared:

Curt Saunders	- 1801 W. 152nd Street
Melissa Perez	- 2400 Alcana Lane
Carl Orth	- 2301 Alcana Lane
Jeff Zrucky	- 2400 Alcana Lane
Sue Voight	- 15400 Marcia Ann Lane
Tom Olsen	- 15725 Judicial Road
Dana Turner	- 3400 Valley View Drive - submitted written statement
Chuck Meyer	- 1701 W. 152nd Street - submitted written position as member of Task Force
Marilee Moerschel	- 13612 Parkwood Drive
Jerry Brastad	- 2901 Valley View Drive
Jeff Brandt	- 1908 W. 155th Street
Mike Babcock	- 15522 Loop Road - phoned in statement
John Shardlow	- Dahlgren, Shardlow, & Uban

Motion by McKee, seconded by Crichton to approve the Task Force recommendations as presented. Ayes - McElroy and McKee. Nays - Crichton, Kautz and Shover. Motion failed.

Motion by Crichton, seconded by Kautz to direct staff to:

1. Prepare an ordinance requiring well water testing as recommended by the SW Area Task Force and proceed with a hearing before the Planning Commission.
2. Consider redefining R-1A zoning to require two acre unsewered lots and one acre sewered lots.
3. Modify the Comprehensive Plan to clarify the policy on utility extensions to require that they be contiguous to development with utilities.

Ayes - Crichton, Kautz, McElroy, McKee and Shover. Nays - None. Motion carried.

Council requested that items 2 and 3 be scheduled for discussion at a future worksession. D-94-172

POSITION STATEMENT

Date: December 5, 1994.
To: Burnsville City Council.
From: Charles J. Meyer, Southwest Area Task Force Member.
Subject: Position statement on the proposed addendum.

First, I wish to thank the City for giving me the opportunity to serve on the Task Force to study the land use, the extension of roadways, sewer and water, water management, and the other issues that were identified at the July 22, 1993, meeting.

My position for the Southwest Area Study:

I believe in a sound approach to a limited development of this area based on the needs and wishes of ALL parties affected by our decisions, yet making a final determination based on the best solution for the whole City of Burnsville. I would remind all of us, the members of the Council, Task Force members, and area residents, that we were to be working for the whole community, not to use our offices or our volunteer positions to satisfy personal agendas.

Unlike rich cream that finds its way to the top of milk, the personal agendas that have become more noticeable the longer this study has taken place, have come to the surface as scum clouding a clear pond. If something is right, it would not take over a year and forty to seventy thousand dollars of the taxpayer's money to try to make it appear right. The Task Force would not have had to be over-balanced with 12 people for the addendum and 2 for standing with the comprehensive plan as is. I do not believe that in the election year, where the nation cried out to keep government intervention at a minimum, that the Council of my City is even thinking about taking the rights of some of its citizens away with an addendum that will not allow them to go before their city planners and the Council to have their options heard and a fair decision made.

The Council, with having to use force in this area to bring the on-sight systems into compliance with its new ordinance, has now put the City in line for the total liability for water purity for drinking. The same people who violated this most important ordinance, and who wanted to be left alone in 1990, are the same ones who want a guarantee from the City that the City will not bring sewer and water into this area. If this was something that could be guaranteed by the City, we would be saying that the City could throw away the Master Plan for this area. We know the City cannot do this. The best defense that the ones who want this addendum have is: if it doesn't work, they can come back and have the City change it back to the way it was. The proposed addendum does not allow this.

D-94-172

My position for the Eastern portion of the Southwest study area: WDS

We should use the natural boundary set up by the railroad tracks as the line that would run from the north at 150th St. to the Lakeville border on the south. I feel we should continue this line from the northern border of the study area to the Lakeville border, not eliminating the area south of 155th St. and west of County Road 5.

Any new subdivisions or sewer extention in this area should be and are already controlled by the existing policies.

The driving range and golf course abuts R-1 zoning on the south and R3B zoning on the northeast. We were advised that the owner will want to develop this land at some time. I would advise the owners of the properties in this area that it will be possible that this area could be rezoned R-1 or R3B, both of which are high density.

My position of the area of the Southwest study west of the tracks:

As I understand it, and in my opinion, all of the land west of the railroad tracks is R1-A and the extension of road and utilities cannot be started by the City. Anyone wishing to subdivide has to petition the City under the present Comprehensive Plan. Lakeville's northwest area will not have sewer and water for the next 20 years as the Task Force was informed at our December 3, 1993, meeting. People in the southern portion of the study area should not be concerned about public sewer and water. Your new ordinance took care of that in 1990. The only properties with sewer and water available are the ones along the northern portions of the study area and are the only logical ones allowed to petition for rezoning to R-1 for the extension of utilities.

I feel that when properties are to be rezoned to R-1, lots should average 1 acre density. Costs of extension of streets and utilities would be paid for by the owner or developer. At no time should the City of Burnsville allow a subdivision that is in line and abuts public utilities to go in without the safety of modern utilities and full urban streets. No owner abutting sewer and water should be able to tie into an approved subdivision utility unless their on-sight system fails or that owner files for a subdivision. At that time, the party petitioning for rezoning would pay all hook-up charges and all deferred assessments.

I think it is our priority now to reassure owners that under the current Comprehensive Plan, public utilities will be extended only within the boundaries of any new subdivision and that the cost will be incurred by the owners of that property. The people of this area, with the proper understanding of the law laid out in the current Comprehensive Plan, should be made to understand that it will be virtually impossible for everyone to have utilities extended into this area. Why change the current plan.

NOTE: Scare tactics used about sewer extension, even as late as the Thursday night before the last Council meeting, should be dealt with and looked upon as someone shouting fire in a dark theater.

As a member of the Task Force, I have taken the opportunity to read the ordinances and guidelines and to look at area maps on roads, water management, sewers and to study the Comprehensive Plan. Aside from individual agendas that have arisen, and in spite of misinformation on how far streets and utilities would be extended, and keeping in mind that the Comprehensive Plan is to be used as a guide with the City Council overseeing its proper use, I feel the City has already given us a workable basis for the people who want this area to remain as a low density area.

The people of this area did not take care of their own sewer and water assignment when left on their own. Yet they are asking you to use your power to rob their own neighbors (and incidentally, rob themselves) of the right to go before the city planners and the Council to have their petitions heard. Rights like this are given in the Constitution of the United States, not to be taken away, especially through satisfaction of personal agendas.

In my opinion, I don't think I would like to be an elected official having to use the following:

#1: Contrived percentages. 72% of the people who <u>responded</u> is actually only 43% of the whole area. Even people who don't respond to a referendum, count as a no vote.

	203 units
Less	<u>104</u> non-respondents
	99 respondents
Less	<u>12</u> respondents who live outside the study area
Equals	87 of 203 units or 43%.

THIS IS NOT A MAJORITY AND ALL OTHER NUMBERS BASED ON THE MISLEADING 72% ARE ALSO WRONG.

#2: Using misinformation. Telling the people that this is a sewer issue when that issue was taken care of in 1990. The action taken on sewers in 1994 was a maintenance up-date on an already existing ordinance. This is a road issue and it has been ignored.

#3: The mis-use of the word, majority. The people have been led to believe that a Task Force of 14 members were making decisions when the actual number of people making the decision was 6 to 8 members.

If I were an elected official, I would want all the right information to support my decisions before I was mis-led to use my governmental powers to support personal agenda.

Or how would you like your next campaign signs to read: I am for taking away the rights of the people.

I can at this time suggest a formula to make the two acre minimum for the Southwest Area work:

*1. Officially redefine the borders of the area.

*2. Obtain a total of 100% of the land owners to give up the right to change their properties.

*3. Have the City, county, and state do a special tax base for this area. If you have 1/2 acres or 10 acres, you pay the same. That way everyone would pay equal amounts of taxes. And everyone who wants to look at the birds and the bees and the flowers and the trees would all be paying the same amount. This would truly make Orchard Gardens a historical neighborhood.

But the left Shoe is one day going to fall.
You Still have the Master Plan and also your Metal swords hang over head

Charles J. Meyer

City of
BURNSVILLE

COUNCIL AGENDA BACKGROUND

Meeting Date: 12-5-94

Item Number: 4

PRESENTERS

Barb Anderson, City Planner
John Shardlow, DSU
Pete Willinbring, OSM

ITEM

Continued - Consider Proposed Addendum to the Comprehensive Plan Southwest Area Provisions.

BACKGROUND

The City Council considered a proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendment for the Southwest Area at the November 21, 1994, Council meeting. Many residents attended, and several of them filled out comment cards, either requesting time to speak or submitting written comments for the Council's consideration. Attached are copies of the cards from residents who do not want to speak. Not everyone who wanted to speak on November 21 was able to because of time limits, but Staff expects each one to be in attendance on December 5 to speak.

Staff had included in the November 21 Background Report some options that the Council could consider. These options were fully discussed and considered several times by the Task Force in meetings with Staff. The Task Force determined that its recommendation of two acre, unsewered lots was the best option for preserving the area as a unique residential living environment. The Task Force does not endorse the options included in the report because the group did not feel they would be in the long term best interest for the area. Staff included the options in the Report to show what an alternative would be to either the current policy or the Task Force recommendation.

Many people have questioned why a discussion of land use and density has to include a discussion about the use of septic systems. The two issues are interrelated for two reasons. First, the two acre minimum is important for the viability of the septic systems over time. Second, the septic systems allow people to own large lots without being financially impacted. The long term usage of septic systems is a viable option, provided the systems are properly installed to meet State requirements, and are regularly inspected, pumped, and maintained. Properly working systems should not pose a threat to health and water quality. It is very important that adequate maintenance requirements and periodic water testing be a part of a plan for long-term septic system usage.

Water Quality

As the Council considers the Task Force recommendation, it is important to look at current water quality conditions and to discuss a system of periodic tests. The engineering consulting firm OSM tested water from 30 wells, including the 5 that had been tested in 1989. The water samples were analyzed for their concentrations of nitrates and coliform bacteria.

Water Quality (cont.)

The tests indicated that only one sample had coliform bacteria present in excess of EPA standards. This sample came from a property with a failing septic system. Three other samples had non-coliform bacteria present, which does not necessarily constitute a health risk. The tests also indicated that only one sample exceeded the recommended EPA standards for nitrates. Seven other samples contained some nitrates but not in excess of the EPA standards. Of the five wells that were retested, nitrate levels had dropped slightly in all samples, and none of the samples exceeded EPA standards for nitrates and coliform bacteria. A copy of the well water testing report is attached. Most wells in the Southwest Area are between 200 and 300 feet deep.

Septic System Compliance

All septic systems were assigned a grade in 1989. Also at that time, new septic system standards were adopted consistent with new State rules. Of the 198 older systems in existence in March of 1994, the following compliance levels with the new standards had been achieved:

GRADE	UPGRADED	NOT UPGRADED
A	7	48
B	26	24
C	63	18
F	10	2

Since March, the City Inspections Division has actively pursued compliance. To date, the following compliance has been achieved:

GRADE	UPGRADED	NOT UPGRADED
A	55	0
B	44	6
C	76	5
F	11	1

This represents a compliance level of 94%. Of the remaining non-compliant owners, the City has taken the owner of the F system to court, where he pleaded guilty and has 30 days to upgrade his

Septic System Compliance (cont.)

system or post a bond to guarantee that the work will be done by June of 1995. Staff is working with the City Attorney on the owners of the B and C systems. Of these 11 owners, 2 are involved in litigation with the City and have not upgraded their systems in anticipation of extending public utilities. The November 2, Background Report stated that seven systems had not been brought into compliance, but that figure did not include the C systems.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council conclude the discussion, if appropriate, and take action on the proposed Addendum.

ATTACHMENTS

Comment Cards
Well Water Testing Report

BA:dmd
c:\wpfiles\reprt-cc.94\sw-area.cc

COMMENT CARD

MEETING DATE 11/21/94 AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 PHONE NO. 435-6422

NAME Gordon E. Peters REPRESENTING Self

ADDRESS 15620 Crest Drive SUBJECT S.W. Area Plan

I WANT TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL/COMMISSION ____ YES X NO

COMMENTS I heartily support the recommendation of the Southwest area task force.
2 acre unsewered, and grandfather existing < 2 acre properties.
I have no problem with well testing on a 3 year rotation.

COMMENT CARD

MEETING DATE 11-21-94 AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 PHONE NO. 435-7103

NAME MIKE WALKER REPRESENTING TASK FORCE MEMBER

ADDRESS 1950 ALCANA LANE SUBJECT SUBDIVIDING

I WANT TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL/COMMISSION ____ YES X NO

COMMENTS REGARDLESS OF YOUR DECISION ON THE LAND USE PROPOSAL, YOU HAVE GOT TO CONSIDER MR. WOODWARDS PROPOSAL TO USE OUTLOT A THROUGH WILDWOOD ESTATES THE CORRECT DECISION. OUTLOT A WAS PUT THERE EXACTLY FOR THAT REASON, DO NOT LET THE BIG MONEY FOLKS INFLUENCE YOUR DECISION.

D-94-172

COMMENT CARD

MEETING DATE 11/21/94 AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 PHONE NO. 898-4295

NAME JOHN + BETTY HUDDOCK REPRESENTING

ADDRESS 2100 155th ST. W SUBJECT Comprehensive PLAN

I WANT TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL/COMMISSION ____ YES ✓ NO

COMMENTS

Want to maintain and change the plan to 2 Acre Minimum Standard Lot Size We purchased property this year on that basis.

COMMENT CARD

MEETING DATE 11/21/94 AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 PHONE NO. 435-5686

NAME MRS. ELEANOR BERGLAND REPRESENTING

ADDRESS 15732 SCENIC LN. BURNSVILLE, MN 55306 SUBJECT 2nd Addenum to Comp. Plan

I WANT TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL/COMMISSION ____ YES X* NO

*COMMENTS I have sent letters on my feelings.

2 acre — no public extensions

COMMENT CARD

MEETING DATE 11/21/94 AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 PHONE NO. 435-7263

NAME Dolores + Arne Schutt REPRESENTING

ADDRESS 1908 Sumac Lane SUBJECT Addendum to Comprehensive Plan

I WANT TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL/COMMISSION ____ YES X NO

COMMENTS We are in favor of keeping with the 2 acre unsewered lots where the wild animals - deer, woodchucks, birds, squirrels, etc can live without danger + our trees can keep putting the oxygen into the air we need. We love our 3 acres the way they are. Where else can you sit on your porch + watch 8 deer playing in your front yard + only 1½ from the Burnsville Center!

COMMENT CARD

MEETING DATE 11/21/94 AGENDA ITEM NO. ____ PHONE NO. 435-6961

NAME Charlene Lang (+Bill) REPRESENTING

ADDRESS 15501 Kings Ct SUBJECT S/W Development / Orchard Gardens

I WANT TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL/COMMISSION ____ YES ✓ NO

COMMENTS We strongly encourage you to keep S/W Burnsville 2 acre lots without city water + sewer for 100 years or more.

COMMENT CARD

MEETING DATE 11-21 AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 PHONE NO. 891-2805

NAME Marilee Moerschel REPRESENTING

ADDRESS 13612 Parkwood SUBJECT S. W. area

I WANT TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL/COMMISSION ____ YES ____ NO ?

COMMENTS My husband & I are former residents of the area, living on 152nd St. We enjoyed the rural area & would like to see it maintained, but we believe that can be accomplished by leaving the comprehensive plan as it is. The less gov. interfere in what must be done the better.

INDIVIDUAL WELL WATER TESTING

SUMMARY REPORT

FOR THE
SOUTHWEST AREA OF BURNSVILLE, MINNESOTA

PREPARED BY:

ORR-SCHELEN-MAYERON & ASSOCIATES, INC.
300 PARK CENTER
5775 WAYZATA BOULEVARD
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55416-1228
(612) 595-5775

OSM PROJECT NO. 5144.09

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision, and that I am a duly Registered Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota.

Peter R. Willenbring, P.E.

Date: June 14, 1994

Reg. No. 15998

I. INTRODUCTION:

This report summarizes the results of a water quality analysis of 30 wells in the southwest area of the City of Burnsville. The water quality analysis focused on determining concentrations of total coliform bacteria and nitrate plus nitrite nitrogen in this well water. The well sampling was conducted on May 25 and 26 of 1994 and attempted to obtain a representative sampling of wells covering the geographic area bordered by 152 Street on the north, the southern border of the City of Burnsville on the south, Circle High Drive on the east, and Loop Road on the west. A map showing the geographical locations of the wells sampled is included in the back folder of this report (Appendix D).

The following sections of this report provide an outline of the sampling procedures and methods followed, the results of the sample analysis, and general background information on nitrates and coliform bacteria in drinking water.

II. PROCEDURES AND METHODS FOLLOWED

Thirty (30) samples were collected from wells within the southwest area of Burnsville. Specific sampling locations were identified in order to get an representative sample from most geographic regions within the southwest area as well as focus on sites where past drain fields system failures have been documented. Samples were collected by first attempting to obtain a sampling spigot which was not connected through a water softening system, applying a flame to the spigot to eliminate any bacteria existing on the outer portion of the spigot, running the water for approximately 5 minutes to obtain a sample that was not stagnant within the house piping system, and collecting the sample in a sterile container. The sample was then placed in a cooler with ice and transported to the laboratory within 8 hours of sample collection.

III. RESULTS

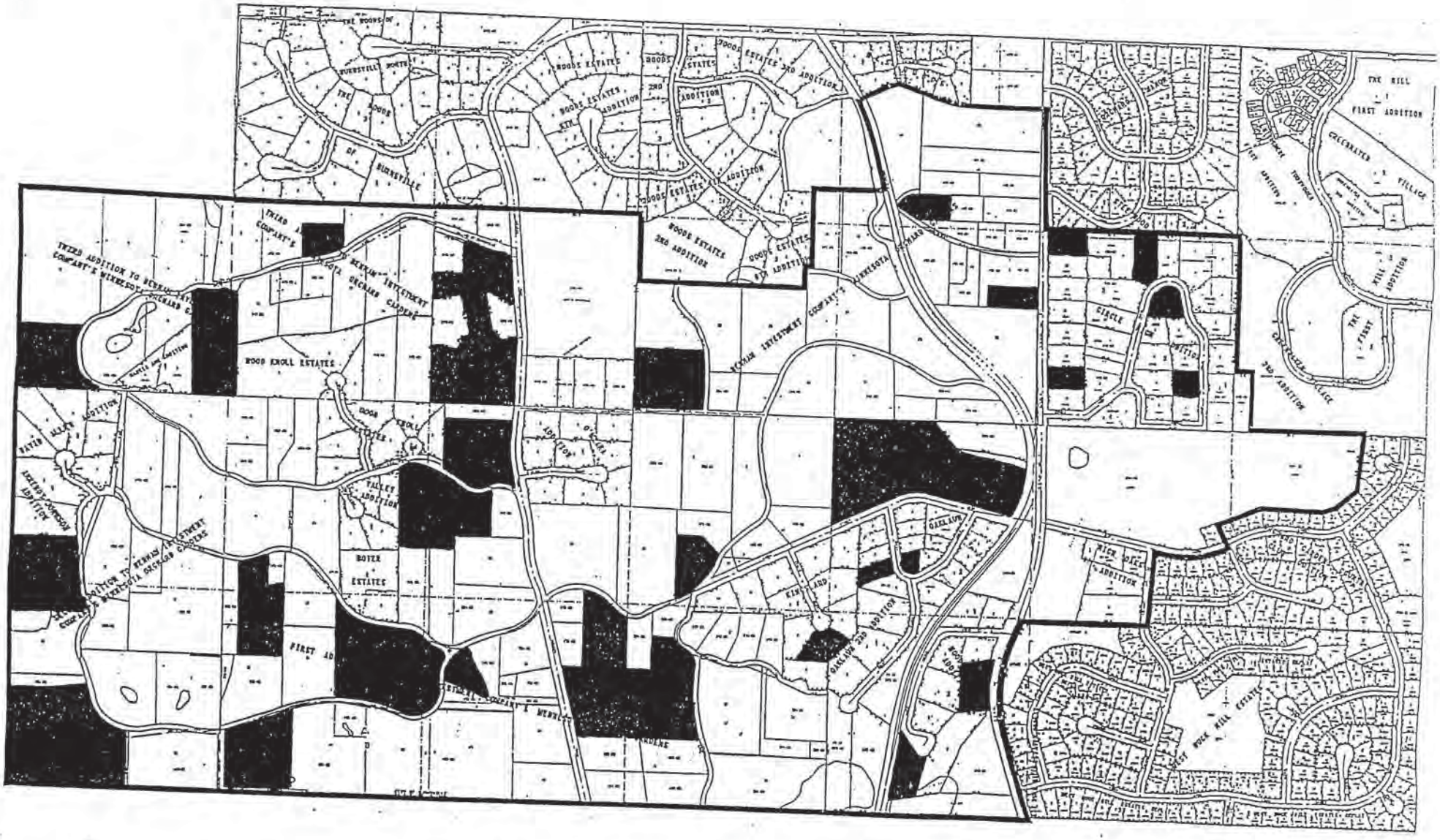
The results of the well water sample analysis are summarized on Table 1. As can be observed from this Table, negative coliform bateria results, indicating satisfactory water quality, were observed in 29 of the 30 samples collected. The detection of any coliform bacteria indicates unsatisfactory water quality. The well from which positive readings were obtained should be resampled.

In addition to the total coliform bacteria analysis, the sampling indicated non-coliform bacterial colonies were present in two well samples collected. Additional samples should be collected to verify the presence of non-coliform bacterial colonies and determine the type of bacteria present. Usually, non-coliform bacteria are soild related and typically do not pose a health risk.

In regard to the nitrate plus nitrite nitrogen sampling, one of the well water samples had a nitrate plus nitrite nitrogen concentration that exceeded the established EPA standard of 10 mg/l. Nitrate plus nitrite nitrogen concentrations less than 1 mg per liter typically indicates satisfactory water quality. Concentrations above 1 mg per liter usually indicate the presence of contamination, typically from a septic system, animal or feed lot, or application of agricultural or lawn fertilizers. Seven (7) wells tested had a concentration level between 1 mg per liter and 10 mg per liter.

IV. FINAL NOTES, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The results of this investigation indicate one of the 30 wells had coliform bacteria present, 7 wells had limited nitrate contamination, and one well had nitrogen concentrations exceeding EPA standards. To allow you to further interpret this data, additional background information on nitrates and coliform bacteria in drinking water is attached in Appendix A and B. It is recommended additional well water quality monitoring be conducted for the problem wells identified as part of this study, and for the remaining wells in southwest Burnsville to further quantify potential problems with well water quality in the area.


THE WOODS OF
BURNSVILLE
THE WOODS
WOODS ESTATES
WOODS ESTATES 2ND ADDITION
WOODS ESTATES ADDITION
WOODS ESTATES 3RD ADDITION
WOODS ESTATES 4TH ADDITION
THIRD ADDITION TO BERWIN INVESTMENT COMPANY'S MINNESOTA ORCHARD GARDENS
BERWIN INVESTMENT COMPANY'S MINNESOTA ORCHARD GARDENS
WOOD KNOLL ESTATES
WOOD KNOLL ESTATES
FALKEY'S ADDITION
BOYER ESTATES
FIRST ADDITION TO BERWIN INVESTMENT COMPANY'S MINNESOTA ORCHARD GARDENS
FIRST ADDITION
BERWIN INVESTMENT COMPANY'S MINNESOTA ORCHARD GARDENS
OAKLAND
OAKLAND 2ND ADDITION
RICK BOYER ADDITION
FIRST ROCK HILL ESTATE
THE HILL
FIRST ADDITION
CHEERLEADER VILLAGE
THE HILL
FIRST ADDITION
CHEERLEADER VILLAGE
3RD ADDITION
CIRCLE
ADDITION
MANOR
FIRST ADDITION TO FOOTBALL
MEETING PLACE FOR WRITTEN

CITY OF BURNSVILLE
WELL WATER TESTING OF SOUTHWEST AREA
1994

TABLE 1

SOUTHWEST AREA RESULTS					
NAME	ADDRESS/SITE	NITRATES NO2 & NO3 mg/l	TOTAL COLIFORM colonies/100ml	DATE SAMPLED	COMMENTS
Giles, Dave and Sharon	2110 Alcana Lane	0.3	<1	5/25/94	
Benson, Eric	1201 Circle High Drive	<0.02	<1	5/26/94	
Hastings, Roger and Gail	1204 Circle High Drive	<0.02	<1	5/26/94	
Robinson, Myron	1105 Circle High Drive	18.5	<1	5/26/94	Exceeds recommended EPA standard of 10/L for Nitrates
Langevin, Gene and Mary	15201 County Road 5	<0.02	<1	5/26/94	
Randall, Casey	15309 County Road 5	3.72	<1	5/26/94	Does not exceed EPA standard for Nitrates, but indicates possible contamination
Robinson, Steven and Juanita	15208 County Road 5	0.08	<1	5/26/94	* Non-coliform bacteria present
Serbinsky, John	15620 County Road 5	<0.02	<1	5/26/94	
Forrest, Daniel and Cheryl	15514 Crest Drive	4.2	<1	5/25/94	Does not exceed EPA standard for Nitrates, but indicates possible contamination
Olson, Gary	15515 Crest Drive	4.6	<1	5/25/94	Does not exceed EPA standard for Nitrates, but indicates possible contamination
Drangstveit, Kenneth and Helen	15715 James Avenue	<0.02	<1	5/26/94	* Non-coliform bacteria present
Rotten, Gary	15420 Judicial	2.44	18	5/25/94	Exceeds EPA standard of <1 organism/100ml for Total Coliform. Does not exceed Nitrates standards, indicates possible contamination.
Geary, Rodney E. and Rachel	15701 Judicial	0.32	<1	5/25/94	
Schmitt, Wilfred and Florence	15320 Judicial	<0.02	<1	5/25/94	
Reeves, Mark	15515 King's Court	<0.02	<1	5/25/94	
Grossi, Greg	15612 Scenic Lane	<0.02	<1	5/26/94	
Belcher, Mark and Christine	2605 South Loop Road	2.80	<1	5/25/94	Does not exceed EPA standard for Nitrates, but indicates possible contamination
Dudley, Victor	3005 South Loop Road	0.06	<1	5/25/94	
Duffy, George H.	2904 North Loop Road	<0.02	<1	5/25/94	
Reimer, Wilbert	15512 South Loop Road	0.04	<1	5/25/94	
Sorvari, Roger	15708 South Loop Road	<0.02	<1	5/25/94	
Swan, Carl	2801 South Loop Road	<0.02	<1	5/25/94	* Non-coliform bacteria present
Kiresuk, Thomas	2605 Valley View Drive	0.06	<1	5/25/94	
Kondes, Sharon	3108 Valley View Road	<0.02	<1	5/25/94	
Rahl, Arlan and Gretchen	2900 Valley View Road	<0.02	<1	5/25/94	
Turner, Dana and Cheryl	3340 Valley View Road	<0.02	<1	5/26/94	
Bennett, Gerald and Catherine	1712 West 152nd Street	<0.02	<1	5/26/94	
Mattison, Marilyn	2301 West 155th Street	4.3	<1	5/25/94	Does not exceed EPA standard for Nitrates, but indicates possible contamination
Novak, Frank	2113 West 155th Street	0.42	<1	5/25/94	
Thiry, Robert	1608 West 155th Street	3.48	<1	5/26/94	Does not exceed EPA standard for Nitrates, but indicates possible contamination

* Non-coliform bacteria in sample does not necessarily constitute a health risk.
Additional analysis is required to determine type of bacteria present.

Revised 6/14/94
Comm. #5144.09

CITY OF BURNSVILLE
WELL WATER TESTING OF SOUTHWEST AREA
1994

TABLE 2

SOUTHWEST AREA							
NAME	ADDRESS/SITE	1994 NITRATES NO2 & NO3 mg/L	1989 NITRATES NO2 & NO3 mg/L	1994 TOTAL COLIFORM bacteria colonies/100ml	1989 TOTAL COLIFORM bacteria colonies/100ml	COMMENTS	DATE SAMPLED
Hastings, Roger and Gail	1204 Circle High Drive	<0.02	3.2	<1	<1		5/26/94
Olson, Gary	15515 Crest Drive	4.6	5	<1	<1	Does not exceed EPA standard for Nitrates, but indicates possible contamination	5/25/94
Reimer, Wilbert	15512 South Loop Road	0.04	0.12	<1	<1		5/25/94
Kiresuk, Thomas	2605 Valley View Drive	0.06	0.07	<1	<1		5/25/94
Bennett, Gerald and Catherine	1712 West 152nd Street	<0.02	0.06	<1	<1		5/26/94

Revised 6/21/94
Comm.#5144.09

APPENDIX A

NITRATES IN DRINKING WATER

NITRATES IN DRINKING WATER

Nitrates is one of most common contaminants found in well water. Nitrate contamination of groundwater is sometimes thought of as a rural problem caused by livestock and agricultural practices but, in fact, nitrate from sewage systems, fertilizers and other land-use practices also affects suburban and municipal drinking water supplies. While most groundwater is not contaminated, studies have shown that a significant percentage of wells have nitrate levels exceeding drinking water standards and that nitrate levels in some areas are increasing with time.

A. Nitrate-Nitrite-Nitrogen

Nitrogen is a very common element in water, air and soil. Nitrogen may combine with two atoms of oxygen and form nitrite (N_2), ammonia (NH_3, and nitrite are usually converted to nitrate.

B. Nitrate Sources

Nitrate may occur naturally in groundwater resulting from decayed vegetation, atmospheric nitrogen contained in rainfall, and minerals found in certain soils and rock. In most cases, natural sources contribute very small concentrations of nitrate to groundwater. The major sources of nitrate are animal and human wastes, nitrogen fertilizers and, to a lesser extent industrial wastes, waste waters and landfills. Nitrate can enter the groundwater from improper management of nitrate wastes, over-application of nitrogen fertilizers or failing septic systems.

C. Nitrate as an Indicator of Contamination

Nitrate is used as one of the principal indicators of water quality both because of the potentially serious health effects to infants who consume high nitrate water and because the presence of nitrate may indicate the presence of other contaminants. Nitrate is found in many common contamination sources, dissolves readily in water, and is not easily filtered in the earth. Nitrate, therefore, may act as an early warning of contamination or may indicate the possible presence of other contaminants.

D. Health Concerns

High nitrate concentrations may cause a condition known in some infants as methemoglobinemia or "blue baby syndrome." The normal body processes of some infants are affected by high nitrate levels. The toxic effects of nitrate occur when nitrate is converted to nitrite in the stomach as well as in saliva. Nitrite acts in the blood to change the hemoglobin to methemoglobin, which reduces the capability of the blood to carry oxygen to the tissues.

Infants under six months of age are most susceptible, but because of individual differences, not all infants are affected to the same extent. In an infant is affected, the lack of oxygen will result in the skin turning blue. If this condition is observed, medical help should be obtained immediately. The infant is becoming asphyxiated because oxygen cannot be transported by the blood. Prompt medical attention will normally result in quick recovery of the infant.

Most adults can consume large quantities of nitrate in drinking water or food without developing methemoglobinemia. The adult stomach contains strong acid that does not promote the growth of the bacteria which convert nitrate to the more toxic nitrite. Infants are more susceptible, in part, because their stomach is less acidic.

Recently, some researchers have expressed concern about a possible connection between nitrate and cancer. Nitrate, converted to nitrite, may combine with amines (proteans found in some food, medications, and water) to form nitrosamines, which have been found to be carcinogenic. While some studies have suggested that exposure to high levels of nitrate may be associated with increased stomach and esophageal cancer, the magnitude of the risk is not clear.

E. Measuring Nitrate Levels

Nitrate concentrations in drinking water are commonly measured either as the amount of nitrate plus nitrite reported as nitrogen (NO_3 plus NO_2 as N) or as nitrate NO_3). The Minnesota Department of Health laboratory and many other health department and private testing laboratories measure the concentration of nitrate plus nitrite as nitrogen. In most cases, nitrite concentrations are very low so that the combined result represents predominately nitrate. The result is reported as the concentration in milligrams per liter (mg/l). One milligram per liter is approximately equal to one part per million (one part of nitrogen in one million parts of water).

F. Interpretation of Results

Nitrate nitrogen concentrations less than 1 mg/l indicate satisfactory water quality. Concentrations above 1 mg/l usually indicate the presence of contamination, typically from a septic system, animal yard or feedlot, or application of agricultural or lawn fertilizers. If nitrate nitrogen concentrations are between 1 and 10 mg/l, the following steps should be taken:

1. The well should be inspected. You may wish to contact your local health department, the Minnesota Department of Health, or a licensed well contractor. Repair or reconstruction should be done if defects are found.

2. Nearby sources of nitrate contamination should be reduced or eliminated if possible. This may include better management of fertilizers and animal wastes, modification or repair of septic systems, or removal of contamination sources.

3. The water should be tested on an annual basis to determine if nitrate levels are increasing. Since the presence of nitrate may indicate the presence of other contaminants, consideration should be given to analyzing for other chemicals and for coliform bacteria.

A drinking water standard of 10 mg/l has been established for public water supplies and is the recommended maximum concentration for private water supplies. Water containing more than 10 mg/l should not be given to infants less than six months of age either directly or in formula. The source of the contamination should be eliminated, well defects corrected, or a safe alternate water supply obtained.

G. Safe Water Supplies

The best remedy for nitrate-contaminated water is to find a safe long-term supply. It may be possible to locate and remove the nitrate source. A solution may also include drilling a new well into a deeper protected water bearing formation if the existing well is in poor condition, is shallow, or is drilled into a vulnerable water bearing formation such a near-surface sand or limestone. In some circumstances, it may be possible to connect to another safe well or a public water system. Short-term solutions include using bottled water or hauling water from a safe source.

H. Water Treatment

Water treatment is not a substitute for a properly located and constructed well. However, in circumstances where a well will not produce safe water and where other alternatives do not exist, properly designed and operated water treatment systems are an option. Unfortunately, there is no ideal water treatment system. Well water treatment devices are limited to removal of only certain contaminants, all require testing to determine that the unit is operating properly, all have initial purchase and operating expenses, and none will treat the entire water supply cost effectively. Water softeners, sediment filters, carbon filters, and refrigerating or allowing the water to stand will not remove nitrate. Boiling will not reduce but will actually increase nitrate concentrations. Some water treatment units which can reduce nitrate concentrations include distillation, reverse osmosis, and selective ion exchange systems.

APPENDIX B

COLIFORM BACTERIA IN DRINKING WATER

COLIFORM BACTERIA IN DRINKING WATER

Bacteria are small living organisms consisting of a single cell. The life of an individual organism is usually brief, measured in hours or days. Because bacteria can multiply rapidly (intestinal bacteria can multiply every 30 minutes), populations of bacteria can grow. Some types of bacteria are beneficial such as the organisms which aid human digestion. However, other types of bacteria are pathogenic or capable of causing diseases such as typhoid fever or gastroenteritis.

A. Coliform Bacteria as Indicators of Contamination

Historically, the largest number of illnesses transmitted by drinking water have been intestinal diseases caused by bacteria, viruses, and other microorganisms found in human and animal wastes. Isolating and identifying individual organisms in water is very expensive, time consuming, and impractical. Instead of testing for each type of organism, water samples are routinely tested for "indicator organisms" such as coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are a group of over 15 different species which share common characteristics such as their rod-like shape and their ability to digest lactose (a sugar) and produce gas (mainly carbon dioxide), contamination for a number of reasons: they are commonly found in human and animal wastes; they are usually present when disease causing organisms such as salmonella or shigella are present; they are usually present in much high concentrations than most disease-causing organisms; they are as resistant as many other organisms in water; and laboratory analysis is relatively safe, inexpensive, and reliable.

Coliform bacteria are some of the most numerous organisms in the intestinal tracts of man and other warm-blooded animals, often numbering in the millions of organisms. Animal and human wastes contain large quantities of coliform bacteria. Therefore, the presence of coliform in water may indicate contamination from a sewer, septic system, feedlot, wastewater application, or animal yard. Some coliform organisms also live in surface water or soil, therefore, a flooded well will typically have coliform bacteria present. Coliform contamination often results from an improperly constructed or sealed well, a defect or failure in the well or plumbing system, or a well drilled into a water-bearing soil or rock such a limestone, fractured rock, coarse sand, or gravel that is vulnerable to contamination. Coliform bacteria will generally not survive for long periods of time in groundwater. Therefore, the presence of coliform usually means that the contaminants are rapidly reaching the well.

Coliform bacteria may be introduced into a well or plumbing system during construction or repair. Coliform bacteria are wide spread in the environment and can be easily transferred from soil or hands to piping materials or well casing. If the well and plumbing system are property constructed and sewage or surface

infiltration is not occurring, a complete disinfection of the well and water system will usually eliminate bacteria introduced during construction or repair.

B. Health Concerns

Bacteria, viruses, and other microorganisms are among the oldest public health threats to drinking water quality and are the agents currently responsible for most waterborne illnesses. The majority of coliform organisms do not normally cause disease. However, some coliform species can cause gastroenteritis or diarrhea illness and may cause secondary or opportunistic infections particularly in susceptible individuals such as the young, elderly, or those with other illnesses. Not all individuals will be affected to the same degree. It is important to remember that the presence of coliform may indicate the presence of other potentially hazardous microorganisms.

C. Measuring Coliform

Coliform bacteria are measured by collecting a water sample in a sterile container and testing the sample by one of two methods. The first method is the Membrane Filter or MF method. In this method, the water sample is filtered, nutrients are added, and the filter incubated for approximately one day at a constant 95 degree temperature. During that time, individual bacteria multiply to become colonies of bacteria. The number of colonies are counted and represent the number of individual bacteria contained in the water sample. The second method, which is used by the Minnesota Department of Health laboratory, is the Most Probable Number or MPN method. In this method, the water sample is divided into five test tubes containing a lactose sugar solution. If coliform bacteria are present, gas will be produced. The number of test tubes with gas are counted. The results are reported as a statistical average and may be fractional, such as 2.2.

D. Interpretation of Results

Water quality results are reported as the number of coliform organisms detected in a volume of water, usually 100 milliliters (approximately 3.4 ounces). A negative results indicating satisfactory water quality is reported as < 1 organism/100 ml (less than one coliform bacteria in a 100-milliliter sample of water) for the MF method and <2.2 organisms/100 ml (less than 2.2 organisms in a 100-milliliter sample of water) for the MPN method. The detection of any coliform bacteria indicates unsatisfactory water quality.

Analysis of a water sample indicates the quality of the water sample at the time the sample was collected. Water quality can change as the well and plumbing

system age, after repairs are made, or when changes occur near the well. It is important that a well be tested periodically for the presence of coliform bacteria.

E. If Coliform are Detected

If coliform bacteria are found, the water should not be used. The well, plumbing and water storage system should be disinfected with a product such as chlorine bleach. After disinfection, another water sample should be collected for analysis. If after disinfection and resampling the well continues to show the presence of coliform bacteria, the well, plumbing system, and the area around the well should be evaluated to determine if any defects can be corrected. If corrections cannot be made and additional tests still show the presence of coliform, an alternate safe supply of water should be obtained.

F. Safe Water Supplies

The presence of coliform bacteria indicates a contamination problem. In some cases, the problem may be solved by locating and removing the coliform source or by repairing the well. A well located in a pit, a well without a water-tight cap, or a well with a poor seal may often be corrected. Drilling a new well into a deeper protected aquifer may be necessary if the existing well is poorly constructed (such as cracked or corroded casing), is shallow, or is drilled into an aquifer vulnerable to contamination such as a near-surface sand or a shallow limestone. In some circumstances, it may be possible to connect to another safe well or to a public water system. Short-term solutions include using bottled water or hauling water from a safe source.

H. Water Treatment

Water treatment for control of coliform bacteria is generally not recommended. Treatment methods, including boiling and continuous disinfection, may be warranted in some circumstances such as emergencies or have a safe supply is not available. If boiling is used, it is important that the water be boiled for at least 15 minutes. Since boiling will increase nitrate levels, it is important that the nitrate concentration be known. Continuous disinfection with sodium or calcium hypochlorite (chlorine bleach or swimming pool chlorine) and some other disinfectants will destroy coliform bacteria. Sufficient disinfectant concentration and contact time must be used. Disinfection with chlorine may not be effective against some microorganisms such as viruses and giardia.

ADDENDUM NUMBER 1

AMENDMENT TO THE SOUTHWEST PUBLIC SERVICES CHAPTER

BACKGROUND

Over the course of the Spring and Summer of 1993, the City deliberated an application for subdivision approval for a residential plat in southwestern Burnsville. The property in question is located within the area known as the Southwest Area and the area affected by the Southwest Public Services Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan.

The proposed subdivision required an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan since it intended to vary from the approved roadway system master plan for the area. Opposition to the planned access to this property was the focus of much of the concern for surrounding property owners. Ultimately, the meetings in which this matter was reviewed involved residents from throughout the Southwest Area.

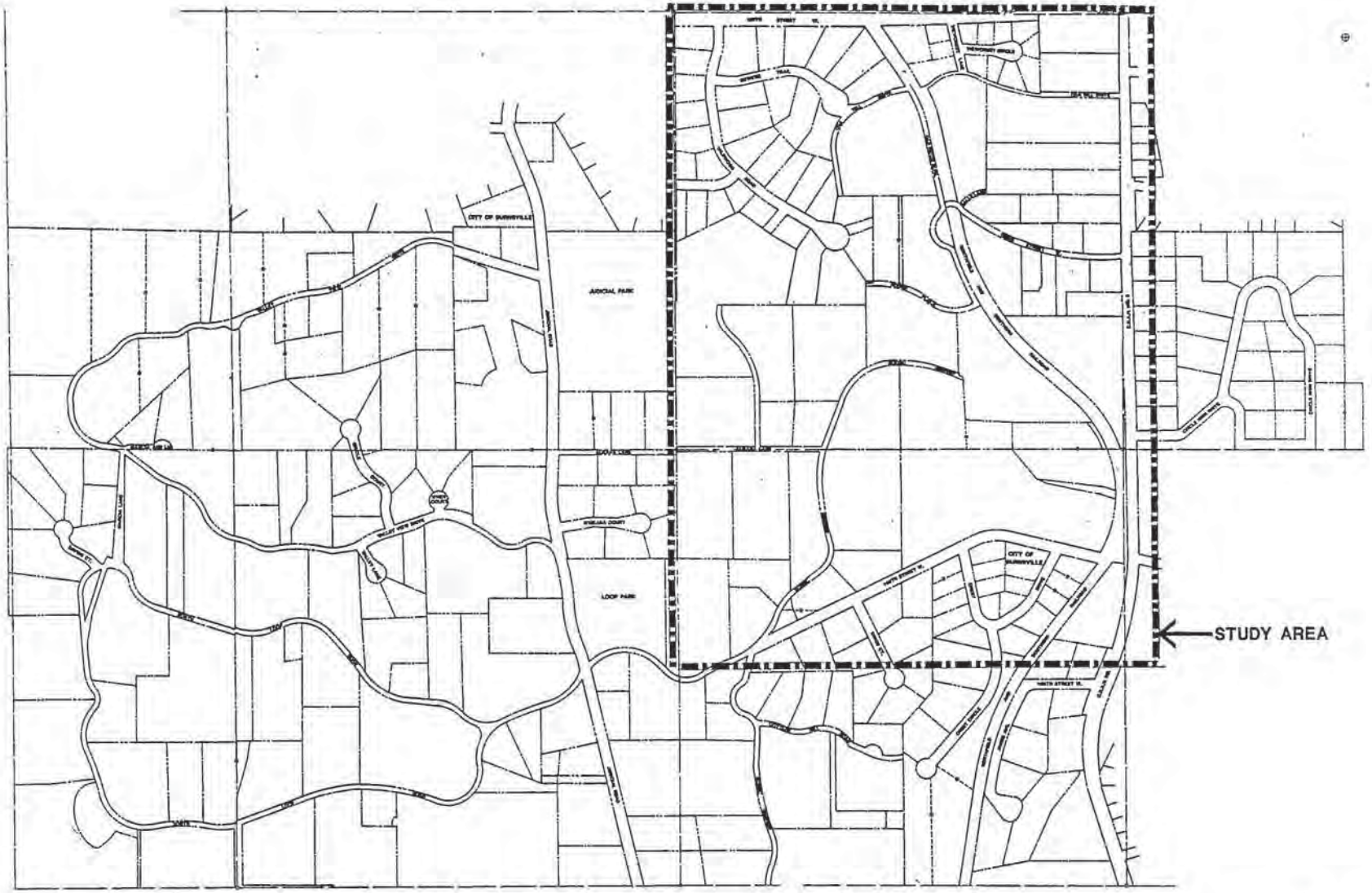
To respond to these concerns the City retained planning and transportation consultants to study the proposal and other available alternatives and formulate a recommendation. The area included in the consultant's study is delineated on Figure 1. As this figure illustrates, this study area was the northeastern section of the area covered by the Southwest Public Services Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan.

The information included in this addendum is an abridged summary of the studies, maps and testimony that was considered by the City Council in making their decisions. It is not intended to replace the entire public record surrounding this proposed comprehensive plan amendment.

EVALUATION OF ALTERNATIVES TO THE ADOPTED MASTER ROADWAY PLAN

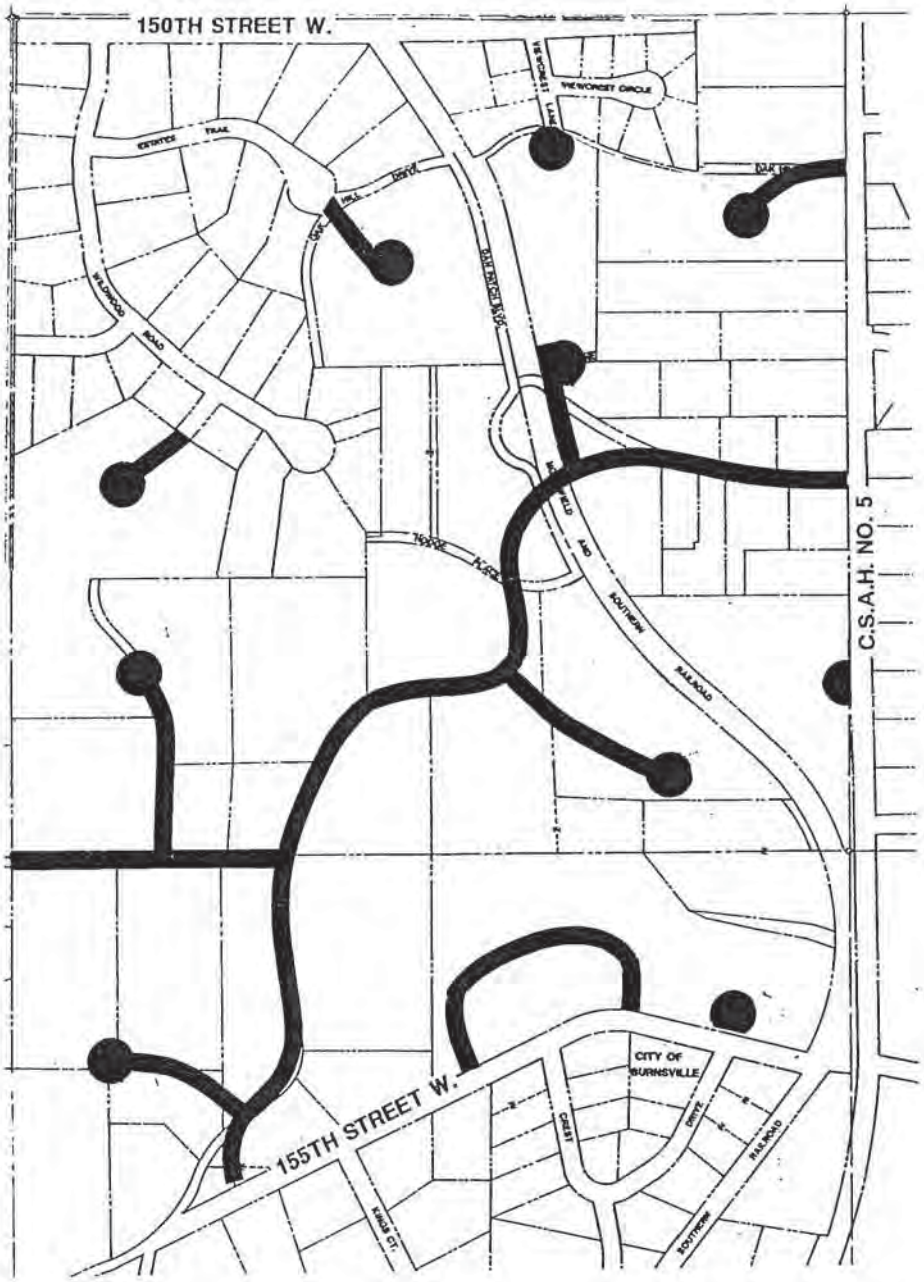
The portion of the Development Master Plan within the Study Area is shown on Figure 2. One of the advantages that was identified to simply requiring compliance with this plan was that it represented the plan that had been adopted following extensive public participation. This plan also had the benefit of providing strong east-west roadway continuity, with the extension of 152nd Street to the west across the railroad tracks, with planned connections to Alcana Lane and 155th Street West.

While these positive features were acknowledged, the consultants also identified several negative features associated with the adopted plan. In fact, the very railroad crossing that facilitated good future roadway continuity, carried the negatives of being expensive to construct and inherent public safety concerns. The switchback alignment of the planned roadway, as it approached the crossing from the west was also noted as a negative. From the perspectives of neighboring property owners, the increase in through traffic on 152nd Street was also identified as a potential negative.



LOCATION MAP

FIGURE 1



DEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN **FIGURE 2**

In response to these negatives, the consultants explored a number of alternatives. All of these alternatives sought to achieve reasonable future street system continuity within the area without requiring a railroad crossing. Figures 3 and 4 illustrate two of these alternatives that were considered. The following is a brief review of the positive and negative characteristics of both alternatives.

The first alternative was suggested for evaluation by the Planning Commission and it is shown on Figure 3. Alternative 1 eliminated the railroad crossing and included an extension of Wildwood Road all the way down to 155th Street West, with a connection with Alcana Lane. Both of the two alternatives that will be discussed called for a northward looping of 152nd Street, on the east side of the railroad tracks. This was in compensation for the loss of continuity resulting from the elimination of the east-west through street.

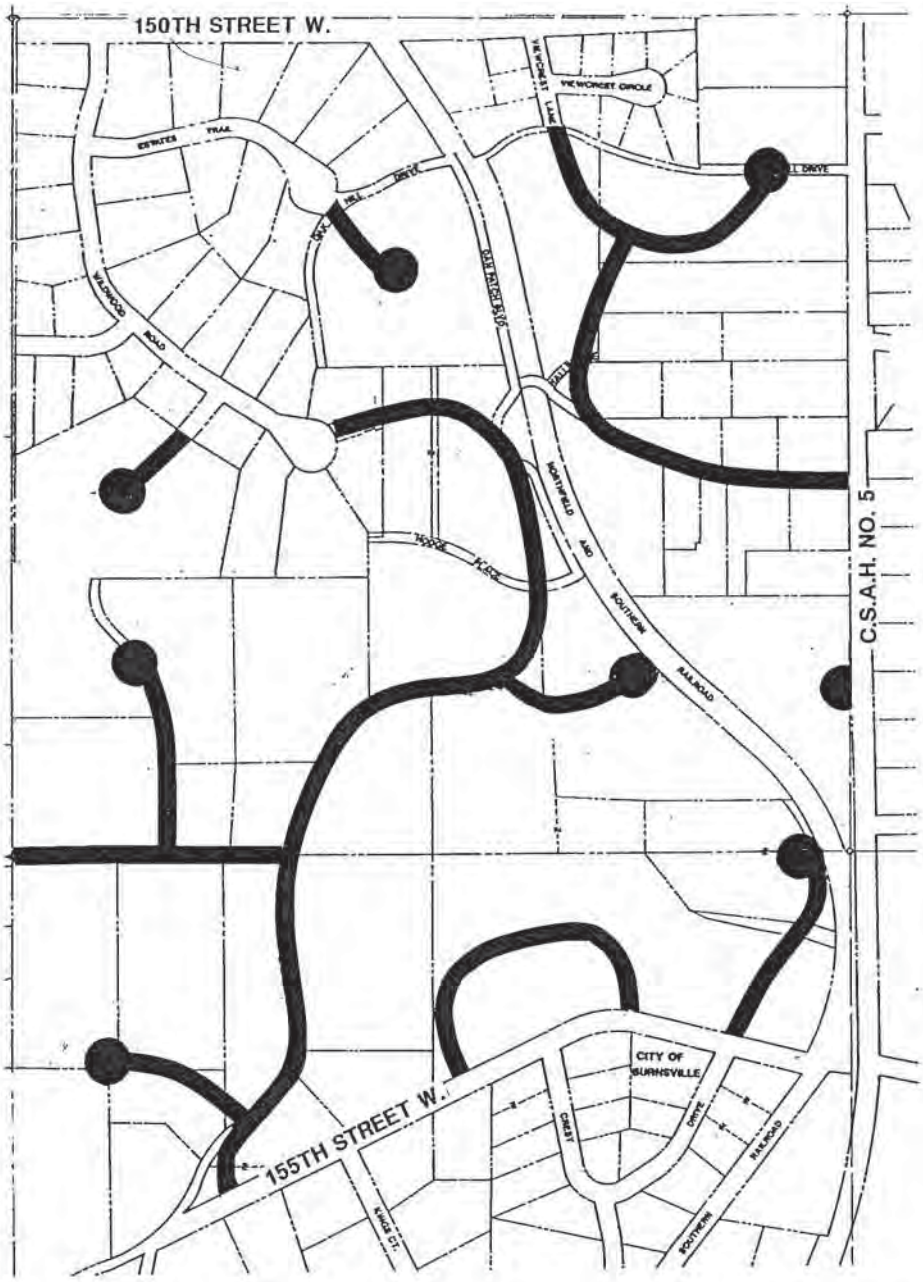
Alternative 1 obviously would have eliminated the expense and safety concerns associated with the railroad crossing. It also would have resulted in a direct continuation of urban development, with its tie into the Woods of Burnsville subdivision to the north. Although the interim condition would have involved a further extension of an already excessively long cul-de-sac, it ultimately would have connected to 155th Street West. In the meantime, the proposed new subdivision could have been served with a roadway without forcing any unwanted roadway improvements on any property owners to the south or west.

The negative features of Alternative 1 are in some ways simply different aspects of the same design. For instance, the interim condition (for an intermittent time period) would have resulted in a cul-de-sac length of 3,750 ft. The extension of Wildwood Road would have resulted in an awkward connection into an existing cul-de-sac. The north-south alignment of this roadway was also poor, due to topography and ownership patterns.

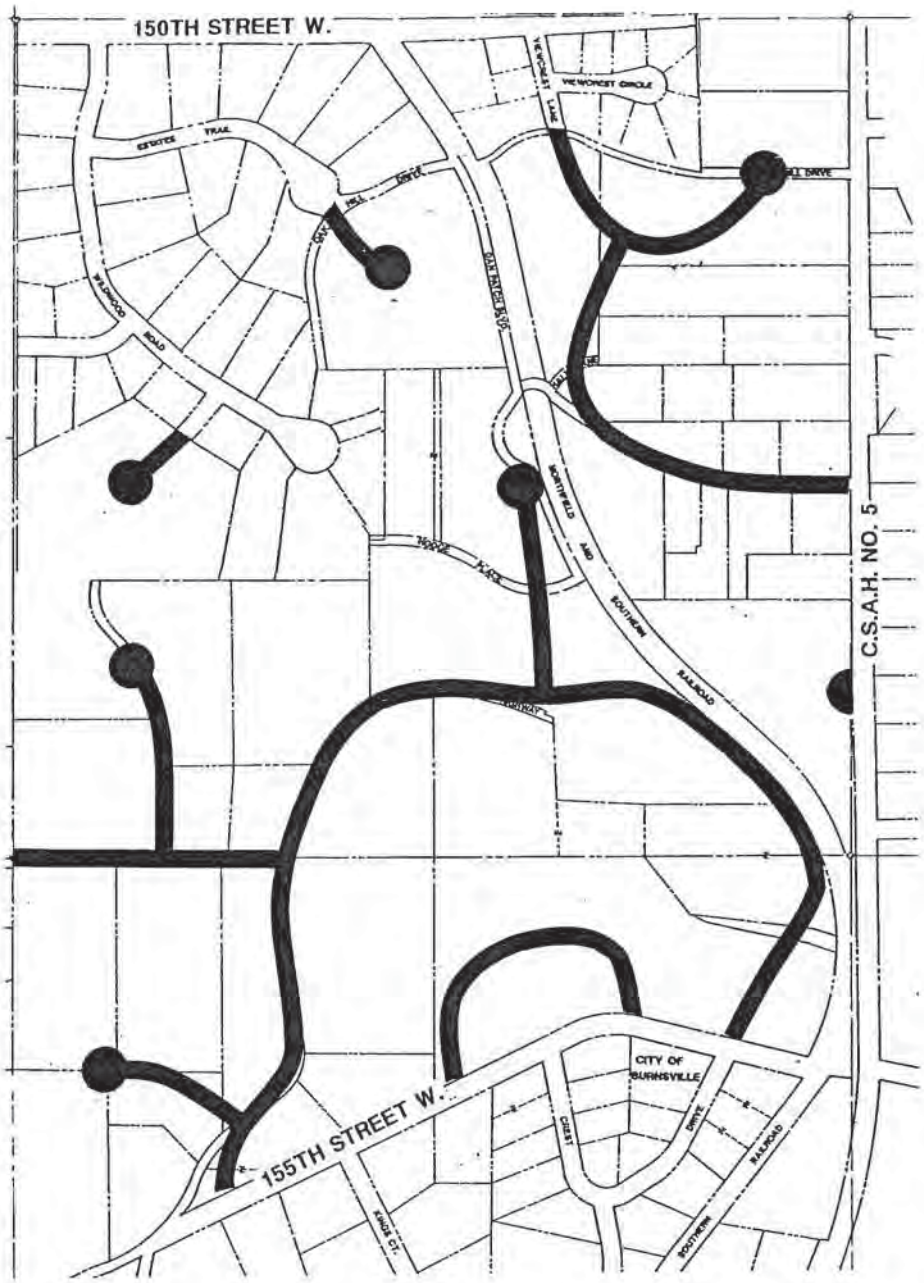
Alternative 2 is illustrated on Figure 4. This alternative proposed to resolve the issues of excessive cul-de-sac length and continuity by looping the principal roadway back to connect with 155th Street West.

The same advantages related to the removal of the railroad crossing, noted in Alternative 1 would be realized with this scheme. It would also reduce the through traffic on the east side of the railroad tracks, which would be a local benefit. This alignment served the proposed development very efficiently.

On the negative side of the ledger, the interim cul-de-sac length is very long (3,500 ft.) with no definitive time table for resolving the problem. It also requires at least some improvement to either Alcana Lane, or the roadway proposing to connect with 155th Street West. In other words, some measure of urban improvements would be required adjacent to properties to the west or south that did not desire them.



ALTERNATIVE NO. 1 **FIGURE 3**



ALTERNATIVE NO. 2

FIGURE 4

After reviewing all of these alternatives, and hearing extensive public testimony, the City Council concluded that none of the alternatives represented compelling advantages over the adopted plan (Figure 2). Therefore, they voted to affirm the adopted Development Master Plan for this portion of the Southwest Area, with one refinement.

The refinement relates to the roadways serving parcels in the southwest quadrant of C.S.A.H. 5 and 150th Street West (See Figure 5). The adopted Master Plan called for the northeastern corner of this area to be accessed via a cul-de-sac off C.S.A.H. 5. As Figure 5 shows, the revised plan calls for these parcels to be served by a cul-de-sac extension of Viewcrest Lane. This change represents the only plan amendment that resulted from either the landowner's request or the consultants studies.

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Although the initial focus of the community residents attending public meetings related to the proposed development was road connections and alignment, by the end of the process the majority of attention had shifted once again to the extension of public utilities. More to the point, the sentiment expressed by many participants was in opposition to the City's long standing policy of approving the extension of municipal services when petitioned by a majority of property owners.

To respond to these concerns the City Council scheduled a community workshop in October. The purpose of the workshop was to fully inform the public about the specifics of the City's past practices and current policies regarding the extension of public services in general and in the Southwest Area in particular.

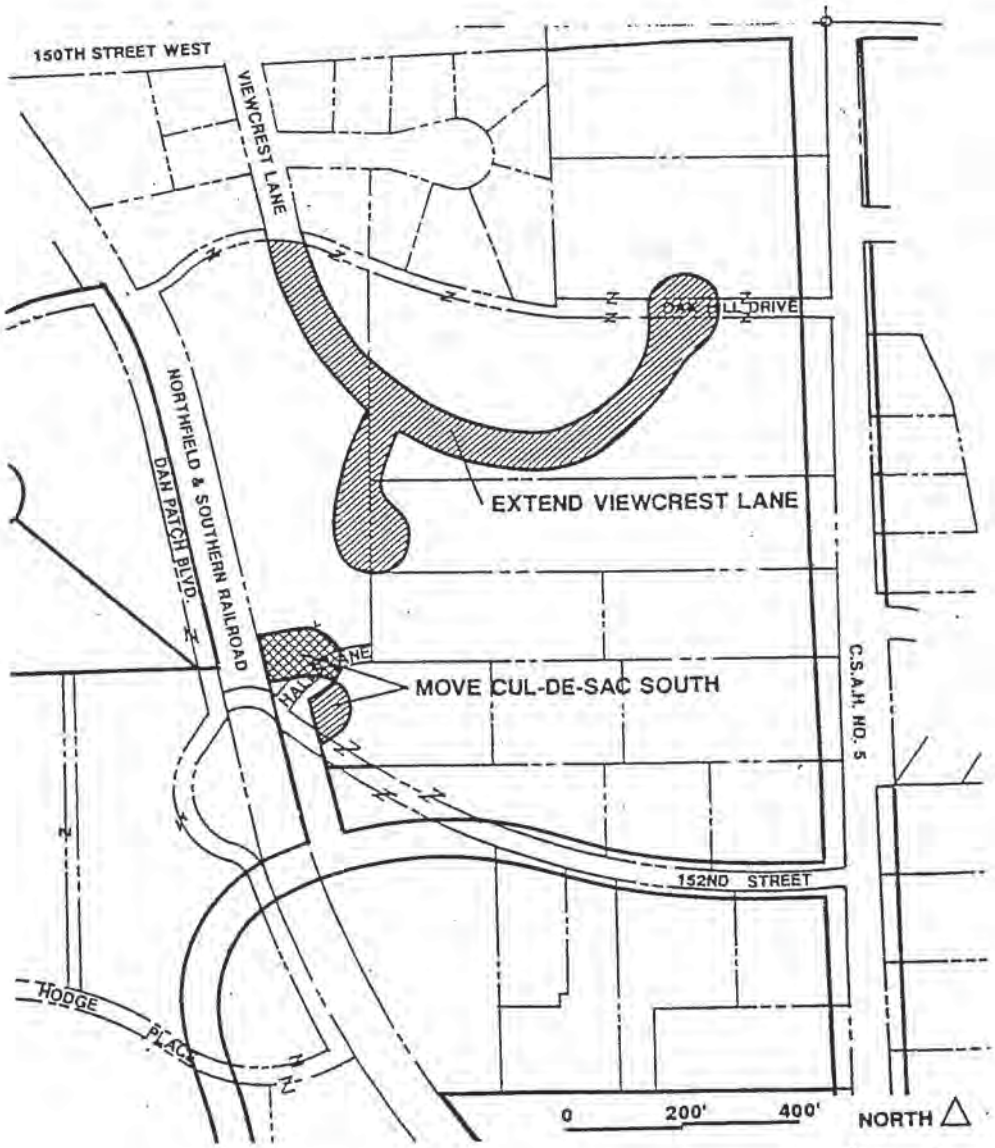
Following this informational portion of the meeting, participants were asked to express those issues that they believed to be the most important to the future of the Southwest Area. These issues were then ranked in order of importance.

Finally, participants were asked to indicate their preference for one of four alternative development policies for guiding the future of the Southwest Area. The six policy choices are as follows:

Basic Policy Options (short version)

1. The southwest area is developed in accordance with Benham's Addition Plat, in large lots. The current development pattern should be formally established for the future, with no additional lot splits or roadway extensions.

2. The current two acre lot size should be affirmed without public utilities.



REVISED DEVELOPMENT MASTER ROADWAY PLAN
S.W. QUADRANT C.S.A.H. NO. 5 AND 150TH STREET

FIGURE 5

3. A minimum lot size of one acre for new sewered lots in the area would be created after an area meets established criteria.

4. Applications for rezoning to R-1 (10,00 sq. ft. lots) and the extension of public utilities would be accepted if certain criteria is met.

5. The City would rezone the entire area R-1 and approve the extension of utilities when property owners petition for their extension.

6. Other.

Following the community workshop, the results of the participants responses were tabulated. The City also sent follow up letters and questionnaires to area residents who had not participated. The final results of both the workshop and responses returned by mail are shown on Table 1.

TABLE 1

	1/2 - 1.9 Acres	2 - 2.9 Acres	3 - 3.9 Acres	4 - 4.9 Acres	5 + Acres	Totals
#1	13	6	5	0	5	29 (17.5%)
#2	49	11	4	6	9	80 (48.2%)
#3	7	3	0	2	2	14 (8.4%)
#4	3	1	2	0	5	11 (6.6%)
#5	0	0	1	0	0	1 (.6%)
#6	10	1	2	2	4	20 (12.1%)
#1 & 2	3	4	2	1	1	11 (6.6%)
Totals	84	26	15	11	26	166 (100%)

SOUTHWEST AREA TASK FORCE

With the results of the community workshop and survey in hand, the City Council appointed a task force to study the issues and make recommendations regarding potential policy changes for this area. Members of the task force were selected through a process of random selection, with interested residents being drawn from pools, weighted to represent the relative proportions of policy preferences illustrated in Table 1.

The task force met several times and generally delved in greater depth into the issues related to future development of Southwest Burnsville. The task force paid particular attention to questions related to how the area would be served by municipal services. They also evaluated a wide range of alternative criteria to serve as prerequisites to the extension of services. These focused heavily on the affects on adjacent and neighboring properties. In addition the group reviewed all of the geographic subareas identified in the actual sanitary sewer master plan for this area. All of this review directed at determining if there were an acceptable set of preconditions, or distinguishable geographic sub area that could allow the extension of public utilities and resulting increase in density without adversely affecting the greater area.

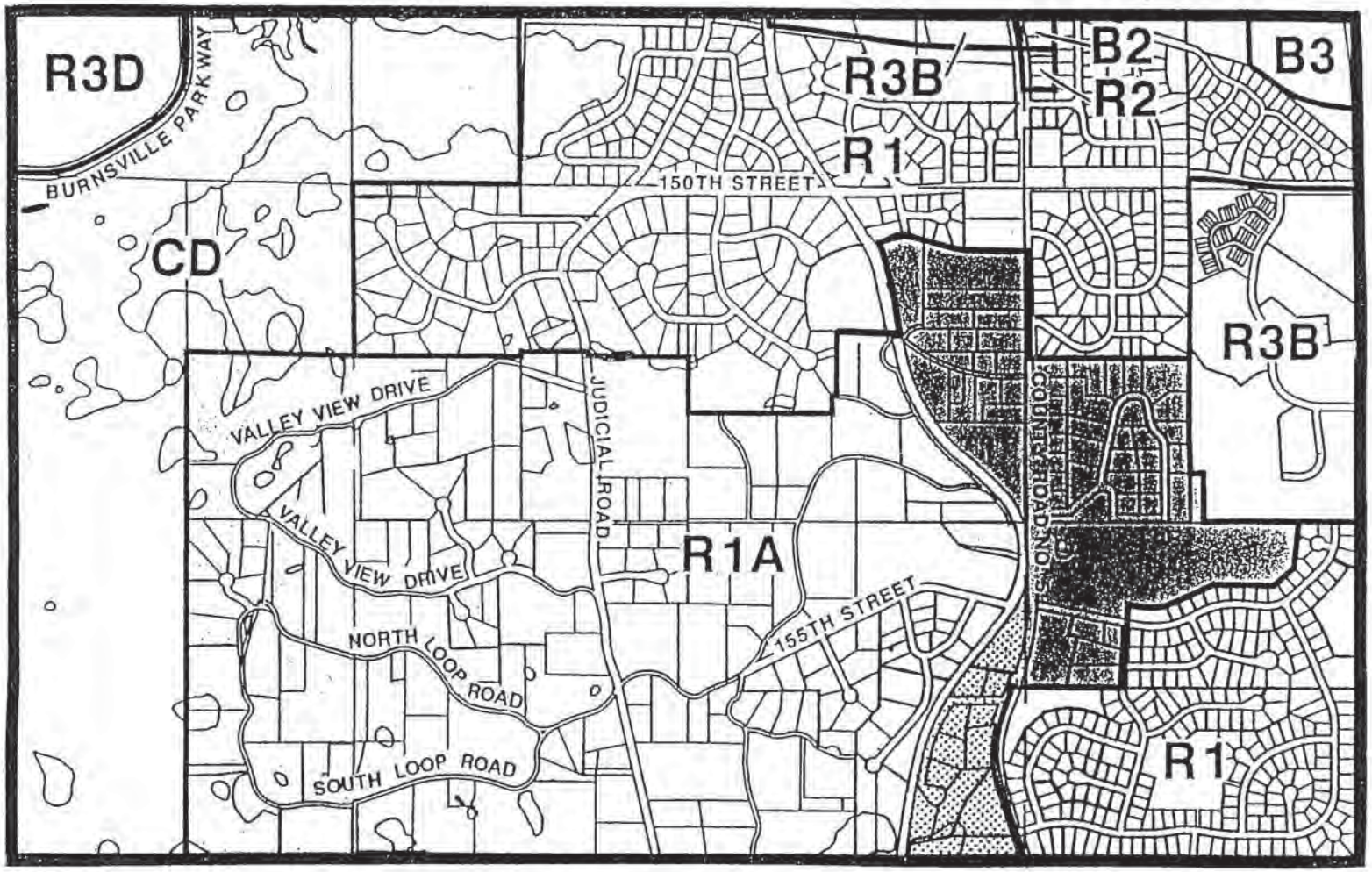
Figure 6 illustrates the results of that evaluation. The area covered by the Southwest Public Services Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan is recommended to be reduced in size. Specifically, the area located to the east of the railroad tracks down to the point of its intersection with C.S.A.H. 5, and from that point the area to the east of County 5 is shown outside the area.

It is important to note that the Task Force felt strongly that the decision to request rezoning from R 1A and the extension of utilities should still be up to the prevailing attitudes of the residents within this excluded area. They simply concluded that this area was sufficiently removed from the remainder of the Southwest Area that it could develop at a different density without adversely affecting the remainder of the area.

COMMUNITY PLANNING GOAL FOR THE SOUTHWEST AREA

One of the most important recommendations of the task force was also one of the simplest. Whereas the previous policy of the City had been to not initiate the extension of municipal services into the area, the City always stood ready to respond favorably to requests from property owners to do so. The task force recommended that the City adopt the following goal to guide all future policy decisions related to Southwest Burnsville.

IT IS THE GOAL OF THE CITY OF BURNSVILLE TO MAINTAIN THE CHARACTER OF THE SOUTHWEST AREA BY LIMITING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA TO UNSEWERED LOTS OF A MINIMUM OF 2 ACRES IN SIZE.



AREAS THAT COULD BE EXCLUDED FROM SW AREA POLICY

KEY:

- CONSENSUS TO EXCLUDE

- OPTIONAL

FIGURE 6

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND MAINTENANCE

Since the City was incorporated in 1965, the expectation has been that at some point Burnsville would be fully developed to a consistent urban standard. All parcels would have access on public streets and be served with all public utilities. Consequently, every planning and public improvement decision related to the Southwest Area has been made with this "ultimate" condition in mind.

The policy changes contained in this Addendum represent a fundamental shift in thinking and policy regarding this "ultimate" condition. Now when new development occurs, or street reconstruction is undertaken in the area, the City must rethink the street standards for this area.

Many area residents feel that a full public street with concrete curb and gutter is inconsistent with the aesthetic character of the area. Most also agree that gravel roadways are very expensive to maintain and they generate dust. Temporary street design standards, with less improvement to subgrades, thinner paved surfaces, and asphalt curbing, are also problematic. They last one third as long as standard streets, the curbing is frequently sheared off by snow plows and they are difficult and costly to maintain when they start to deteriorate. Simply stated, there are no simple answers to the question of appropriate street standards and there are tradeoffs associated with each.

In response to these challenges, the Plan establishes the following standards for the area. The two streets within the area that are designated as collectors (Judicial Road and 155th Street between Judicial and County Rd. 5) must be constructed and maintained to a full urban standard. Other existing streets in the area can remain gravel or in a temporary design. The City will not initiate any projects to compel these streets to be built to a full urban standard.

If area residents petition for the improvement of area streets (other than the collector streets noted above) they will have the choice of requesting a full urban street, or a temporary design. Likewise in situations in which roadways have been improved to a temporary standard and need to be redone, the property owners will have the opportunity to choose to either have the City construct a full urban street or another temporary design.

New streets in this area shall be built to the full urban standard. If a new street is constructed to a full urban standard and it has to be torn up to install sanitary sewer, as a result of a public health emergency, the City shall assess the cost of this reconstruction at its reconstruction rate, as opposed to the rate for new construction.

INDIVIDUAL WELL WATER TESTING

The proposed policy change for Southwestern Burnsville prompted questions regarding the quality of private well water in the area. Prior to the adoption of the Individual Sewage Treatment

Systems Ordinance in 1990, the City conducted some random well testing. The results of those tests did not indicate serious contamination problems, though there were some wells that had elevated nitrite levels.

Since the policy changes proposed by the Southwest Task Force would make individual sewage treatment systems the standard for this area throughout the planning period, the City recognized the need to know the current status of well water quality in the area. To get this information the City commissioned the sampling of 30 wells within the area. The sampled sites included all of the wells tested previously. The remainder of the 30 wells were identified in order to get a representative sampling from most of the geographic subregions within Southwest Burnsville. Sites where past drain field system failures have been documented were also included.

The results of these 30 well tests are illustrated on Table 2. As this table illustrates, only one of the 30 wells indicated the presence of coliform bacteria. The property on which this well was tested happens to have a sewage disposal system that was graded an F and after exhausting its administrative attempts to cause the property owner to correct this situation, the City is in the process of taking legal action to force compliance with Ordinance 374.

In addition to this one well with coliform bacteria present, 7 wells had limited nitrate contamination, and one had nitrogen concentrations that exceed EPA standards. The results of this initial sampling did not identify significant well water contamination in the area, but it did indicate the need to complete follow up tests at those sites with elevated nitrite and nitrogen levels and justified the sampling of all of the wells within the area.

INDIVIDUAL WELL TESTING PROGRAM

In response to the results of the initial well water testing, the City established an on-going well water testing program for Southwestern Burnsville. This program calls for all of the area wells to be tested initially. The results of this sample from all of the area wells will form the base data for the area.

Property owners whose samples indicate non-compliance with primary EPA water standards shall be required to take the necessary steps to correct these problems. The appropriate number and frequency of follow up tests will be determined based upon the nature and degree of problems identified on the site.

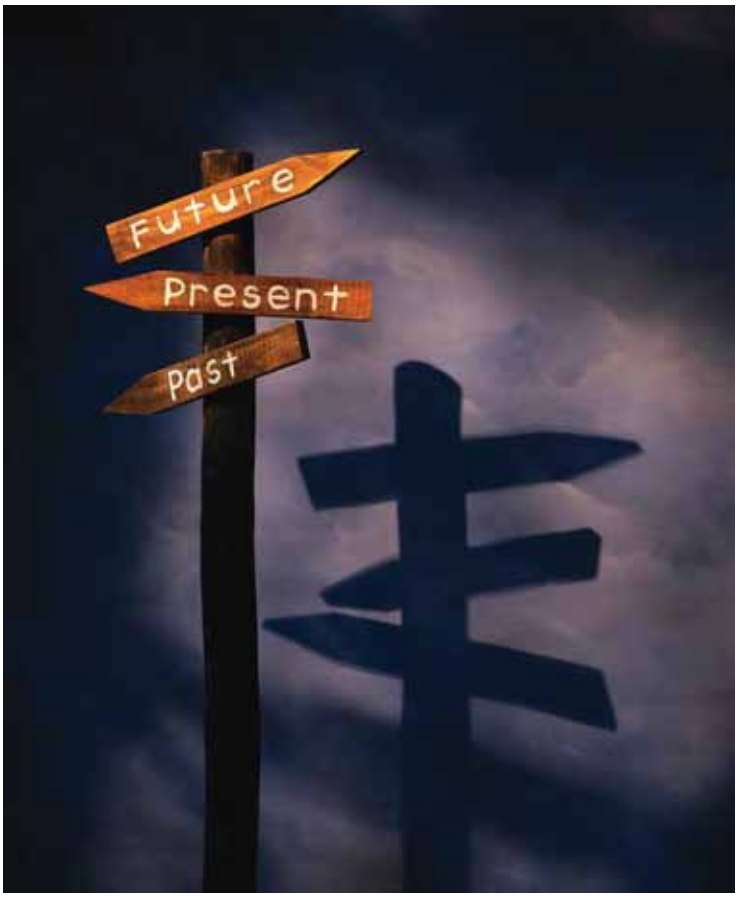
After the original round of tests and all of the initial problems are corrected, area property owners will be required to have their well water tested every three years. Property owners will receive a notice to let them know when the initial and regular testing is to occur. The City shall contract to have the tests taken and bill the property owners. Scheduling and payment of follow up testing after the detection of contamination shall be the owner's responsibility.

TABLE 2

CITY OF BURNSVILLE
WELL WATER TESTING OF SOUTHWEST AREA
1994

SOUTHWEST AREA RESULTS					
NAME	ADDRESS/SITE	NITRATES NO2 & NO3 mg/l	TOTAL COLIFORM colonies/100ml	DATE SAMPLED	COMMENTS
Giles, Dave and Sharon	2110 Alcana Lane	0.3	<1	5/25/94	
Benson, Eric	1201 Circle High Drive	<0.02	<1	5/26/94	
Hastings, Roger and Gail	1204 Circle High Drive	<0.02	<1	5/26/94	
Robinson, Myron	1105 Circle High Drive	18.5	<1	5/26/94	Exceeds recommended EPA standard of 10/L for Nitrates
Langevin, Gene and Mary	15201 County Road 5	<0.02	<1	5/26/94	
Randall, Casey	15309 County Road 5	3.72	<1	5/26/94	Does not exceed EPA standard for Nitrates, but indicates possible contamination
Robinson, Steven and Juanita	15208 County Road 5	0.08	<1	5/26/94	* Non-coliform bacteria present
Serbinsky, John	15620 County Road 5	<0.02	<1	5/26/94	
Forrest, Daniel and Cheryl	15514 Crest Drive	4.2	<1	5/25/94	Does not exceed EPA standard for Nitrates, but indicates possible contamination
Olson, Gary	15515 Crest Drive	4.6	<1	5/25/94	Does not exceed EPA standard for Nitrates, but indicates possible contamination
Drangstveit, Kenneth and Helen	15715 James Avenue	<0.02	<1	5/26/94	* Non-coliform bacteria present
Ratten, Gary	15420 Judicial	2.44	18	5/25/94	Exceeds EPA standard of <1 organism/100ml for Total Coliform. Does not exceed Nitrates standards, indicates possible contamination.
Geary, Rodney E. and Rachel	15701 Judicial	0.32	<1	5/25/94	
Schmitt, Wilfred and Florence	15320 Judicial	<0.02	<1	5/25/94	
Reeves, Mark	15515 King's Court	<0.02	<1	5/25/94	
Grossi, Greg	15612 Scenic Lane	<0.02	<1	5/26/94	
Belcher, Mark and Christine	2605 South Loop Road	2.80	<1	5/25/94	Does not exceed EPA standard for Nitrates, but indicates possible contamination
Dudley, Victor	3005 South Loop Road	0.06	<1	5/25/94	
Duffy, George H.	2904 North Loop Road	<0.02	<1	5/25/94	
Reimer, Wilbert	15512 South Loop Road	0.04	<1	5/25/94	
Sorvari, Roger	15708 South Loop Road	<0.02	<1	5/25/94	
Swan, Carl	2801 South Loop Road	<0.02	<1	5/25/94	* Non-coliform bacteria present
Kiresuk, Thomas	2605 Valley View Drive	0.06	<1	5/25/94	
Kondes, Sharon	3108 Valley View Road	<0.02	<1	5/25/94	
Rahl, Arlan and Gretchen	2900 Valley View Road	<0.02	<1	5/25/94	
Turner, Dana and Cheryl	3340 Valley View Road	<0.02	<1	5/26/94	
Bennett, Gerald and Catherine	1712 West 152nd Street	<0.02	<1	5/26/94	
Mattison, Marilyn	2301 West 155th Street	4.3	<1	5/25/94	Does not exceed EPA standard for Nitrates, but indicates possible contamination
Novak, Frank	2113 West 155th Street	0.42	<1	5/25/94	
Thiry, Robert	1608 West 155th Street	3.48	<1	5/26/94	Does not exceed EPA standard for Nitrates, but indicates possible contamination

* Non-coliform bacteria in sample does not necessarily constitute a health risk.
Additional analysis is required to determine type of bacteria present.



APPENDIX I – NATURAL RESOURCES MASTER PLAN

2007

CITY OF BURNSVILLE
2030
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Natural Resources Master Plan

City of Burnsville

Prepared by Barr Engineering Company
with assistance from Kunde Company Inc.

2007

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Executive Summary

In 1999, Burnsville created its first Natural Resource Master Plan, and one of the first in all of the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area. This progressive act set in motion programs and policies to protect Burnsville's natural resources, such as a prairie management plan, a water resources management plan, and goose and deer management policies, and initiated a policy to direct the private development of remaining open space in an environmentally sound manner. Periodic updates to the plan were also recommended.

This 2007 Natural Resources Master Plan (NRMP) and the work behind it assesses the current state of natural resources in Burnsville and makes recommendations for their preservation and restoration on both public and private lands. This plan also reviews and makes recommendations for Burnsville's various natural resources related plans and policies, in order to synchronize the effort to manage natural resources.

In creating this document, a study was conducted to survey the ecological status of Burnsville's publicly owned upland natural areas. New in this plan is an extensive urban forestry component which evaluates and makes recommendations for street trees, developed park trees and natural areas forests. The entire city, including private lands, was mapped for land cover type (see Figure 1) which maps developed and undeveloped land throughout the city.

The inventory found that Burnsville has made great strides in protecting and improving water resources, protecting and restoring prairies, and is taking an ecological approach in developing private open space. Forces degrading Burnsville's natural resources, however, are mounting, and Burnsville should next direct attention to its upland natural resources, in particular its remaining natural woodlands and trees in built areas. Degradation caused by invasive plant species encroachment, and the stress put on native plant communities due to the urban heat island effect (caused by heat accumulated on pavement) and climate change are occurring at a surprisingly rapid rate and are degrading Burnsville's natural areas. Communities throughout the metro area are all facing these challenges.

To complement Burnsville's current work to protect natural resources, this plan recommends actions to be taken to protect and enhance its vulnerable natural resources. The plan makes recommendations for monitoring, land management and restoration of publicly and privately owned lands. Focus is now given to upland natural resources since diligent work has accomplished significant protection to the city's water resources. Recommendations of this plan include:

Why a Natural Resources Master Plan?

It is important to the health of our community and future generations to protect, preserve, and manage our natural resources. Natural resources offer opportunities for air and groundwater purification, carbon sequestration, stormwater management, sustaining biodiversity, passive recreation, education, improving the aesthetic appeal of a community, increased property values, and preserving an overall great place to live.

Every citizen has an impact on Burnsville's natural resources, and has a role in their preservation.

First Priority

- Expand buckthorn and invasive species control program in all RMUs.
- Create a boulevard tree planting program. (50 trees/year)
- Create a Buckthorn Brush Pickup Program for private landowners.
- Conduct a Dutch elm disease program.
- Expand the built environment tree maintenance program for younger trees.
- Create a City Center RMU Sustainability Demonstration project.
- Reduce deer population to 5 deer per square mile in select woodland restoration areas.
- Provide staff support for implementing strategies. Create education programs on buckthorn, garlic mustard and tree planting.
- Consider establishing a parking lot shading ordinance.
- Conduct a native herbaceous plant sale in conjunction with the Annual Spring Tree Sale.
- Establish and conduct a monitoring program for natural areas and forests.
- Update Woodland Preservation ordinance & update planting related ordinances.

Second Priority

- Expand existing prairie management program.
- Expand built environment tree pruning and removal budget for storm damaged and mature trees.
- Provide staff support to complete inventory of city park and street trees.
- Increase funding of existing oak wilt program.
- Create a Polka Dot Forest Regeneration Program.
- Consider establishing a Soil Protection ordinance.

This report is about solutions. The good news is that it's not too late to improve the quality of Burnsville's upland natural resources—and therefore, living conditions for the people of Burnsville. Here is where the people of Burnsville get involved. It will take the effort of every citizen to lighten negative impacts on Burnsville's natural resources, both on publicly and privately owned land.

Sustainability—meeting our needs today without negatively affecting future generations' ability to meet their needs

1.2 Introduction

Sustainability has become a focus within Burnsville government. A variety of efforts are underway to keep Burnsville a healthy place to live. Sustainability can be defined as meeting our needs today without negatively affecting future generations' ability to meet their needs. The concept of sustainability also pertains to our natural resources. Are we protecting Burnsville's natural resources to the extent that future generations can benefit as we do? Are there forces depleting Burnsville's natural resources? What should be done to ensure the preservation and enhancement of Burnsville's natural resources? These questions are answered in this plan document.

Natural resources—for the purpose of this plan—are water, soil, plants, wildlife, atmosphere and people. These manifest as terrestrial (upland), wildlife and aquatic natural communities, but also include the built environment. This plan takes a holistic look at Burnsville's natural resources, irrespective of land-ownership boundaries, but focuses on terrestrial resources. Management of aquatic resources is discussed in detail in the Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan and in the Water Resources Management Plan.

Burnsville's Natural Resources

Water	Soil	Plants	Wildlife	Atmosphere	People
In the form of precipitation, natural water bodies, and stormwater	Earth substrate that provides the basis for life	Native forests, prairies, wetlands and vegetation in parks, in home landscapes and open space	Birds, insects, mammals reptiles and amphibians	Oxygen, CO^2, sunlight and wind	Critical component of regenerating the environment

1.3 History of the Plan

In 1999, the first Natural Resources Master Plan for Burnsville was completed. The plan was built on information derived from extensive field work, and the vision of the 1997 City Council's End Statement on the Environment. The master plan suggested strategies to protect, preserve and manage natural resources, and to educate the community.

Burnsville's End Statement on the Environment

In 1997, the Burnsville City Council adopted an end statement on the environment that articulated the following vision for the city's natural resources:

"People find Burnsville is an environmentally sensitive community ensuring preservation and enhancement of its natural resources."

In stating this vision, the city council identified several long-term commitments for the city and its citizens, including:

1. The people of Burnsville acknowledge their role in preserving and enhancing the city's natural resources.
2. The city ensures that development occurs in an environmentally sensitive manner.
3. The people find Burnsville to be an attractive, clean city and are willing to do what is necessary to preserve that characteristic.
4. The citizens of Burnsville recognize the value of preserving natural water bodies.

This 2007 Plan was commissioned to update the 1999 plan. It does so by:

1. evaluating changes in the quality of Burnsville's natural resources since that time
2. updating the strategy for protecting and managing natural resources
3. providing an added level of specific management actions and goals
4. providing an urban forest management plan for natural areas and for developed parks, streets and parking lots

Several other city plans manage aspects of Burnsville's natural resources, and they have been reviewed for consistency with this Master Plan. Recommendations for unifying and providing consistency within these plans are part of this Master Plan.

1.4 Purpose and Approach

The purpose of this plan is to evaluate the quality of existing natural resources in the City of Burnsville; identify strategies to protect, preserve and manage those resources; educate the community about the importance of doing so; and lastly, to educate the community on how to carry this out.

An ecological approach is being taken to protect and manage natural resources. Ecology is the study of interactions of plants and animals with their physical environment, and an ecological approach recognizes the interdependence of all natural resources. The function and value of any one natural resource is dependent on interactions with adjacent and connected resources, both natural and built.

This report sets forth a strategy for managing and therefore preserving Burnsville's terrestrial resources. This plan does not cover topics such as solid waste, potable water use, and waste water.

Ecology is the study of interactions of plants and animals with their physical environment.

2.0 Natural Resources Inventory

The Natural Resources Inventory has been a systematic accounting of the status of Burnsville's natural resources. In an effort to focus management strategies, the Natural Resources Inventory has been broken into two parts. The first is the assessment of publicly owned natural areas that have not been developed, and the second is the assessment of publicly owned trees in the built environment.

This document refers to trees in the **built environment**. The built environment means developed parks (with lawn), street trees and public parking lots.

2.1 Natural Areas Inventory

The public upland natural areas owned by the citizens of Burnsville have been field evaluated to identify land cover type and for ecological quality.

2.1.1 Natural Areas Inventory Process

The Minnesota Land Cover Classification System (MLCCS) was used to inventory land cover. This system classifies natural and cultural landscapes for use in planning. Results of the land cover type are displayed in Figure 1. Paired with this inventory is the ranking of the ecological quality of the same areas (Figure 2). The ecological quality assessment of Burnsville's natural areas began with the review of existing Dakota County MLCCS maps. Ecologists took these maps with them to the city's natural areas to examine each land cover unit (polygon). Each polygon was given a high, medium or low ecological quality rating. These ratings are relative assessments of the natural areas within Burnsville, and are not intended for broader comparison with natural areas in less urbanized settings.

Ecological Quality Ratings

The ratings were based on the following criteria:

High Sites with little or no human disturbance, important to preserve. Less than 5 percent invasive species.

High-quality sites include many species typical of the natural community. Few weedy plants, either native or nonnative, are present. Most natural processes are occurring, including disturbances such as fire or flooding, if appropriate. There is little or no evidence of human disturbances such as logging or livestock grazing.

Medium Sites with some disturbance, but with potential for restoration. Between 5 and 40 percent invasive species.

Medium-quality sites often lack many of the species typical of the natural community. Weedy species may be abundant, but they are not more prevalent than typical native species. (In communities with multiple layers of vegetation, weedy species do not dominate any one layer.) While natural processes may be interrupted and human disturbance apparent, the nature of the community has not been altered beyond recognition.

Low Very disturbed sites, most appropriate for alternative uses or total restoration. 40 percent or more invasive species.

Weedy species are common or dominant in any or all layers of vegetation. Natural processes are highly altered and extensive human disturbance is evident. The community may not resemble any naturally occurring community (that is, one described by DNR Natural Heritage Database).

As in all urban areas, the natural resources of Burnsville receive significant stress from the surrounding cultural environment:

- heat and cold radiating off pavement
- invasive plant species
- habitat fragmentation by roads and development
- fertilizer and pesticide drift from lawn application
- lack of predators to keep animal populations in balance
- fire suppression
- soil compaction from construction and maintenance equipment
- other urban influences

Native woodland deterioration in the metropolitan area is due to two primary influences: 1) invasion of exotic plant species, and 2) deer over population.

Garlic mustard

Whitetail deer

2.1.2 Natural Areas Inventory Results

The ecological quality assessment of the public upland natural areas owned by the citizens of Burnsville evaluated the degree of ecosystem degradation as the result of human disturbance. Direct human disturbances have historically included activities such as logging, grazing, and tilling. There are also indirect disturbances to the ecosystem through the suppression of fire that allowed trees to overtake savannas, and the elimination of predators that resulted in growing deer populations. When land is disturbed, either directly or indirectly, natural cycles are interrupted; hydrologic and nutrient balances shift. This interrupts native plant life cycles and allows for weed invasion, causing further erosion and general degradation of habitat. The changes in the types of plants in a community in turn affect the types of insects, birds and animals that inhabit the community and that play a role in its sustained regeneration. Because of this, disturbance and invasive-plant-species invasion can develop into self-perpetuating problems that require active management to slow and reverse.

Despite the efforts implemented with adoption of the 1999 Natural Resources Master Plan, natural communities in Burnsville continue to experience a decrease in biodiversity. This is common throughout the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area, as native woodlands are rapidly deteriorating due to two primary influences: 1) the invasion of exotic plant species such as European buckthorn and garlic mustard, and 2) deer over population. There are other causes, but these are the most direct and easiest to control. Since 1999, extensive invasion of buckthorn has occurred. The result of this alarming rate and extent of invasion is that the vast majority of plant species in Burnsville's woodlands no longer have the ability to regenerate. The density of buckthorn poses a significant strain on the ability of oaks, the historic native dominant trees of the area, to regenerate. With the change in tree species, many song bird, mammal, amphibian and reptiles will be extirpated (locally extinct) from the city, along with countless plant species. Deer browse is also negatively impacting Burnsville's forests. A good effort is in place to control the population, but the program should be expanded in order to further protect the forests.

If buckthorn is not controlled, future forests of Burnsville (in 50 years) will be an impenetrable thicket of buckthorn with very few other species.

Knowing the types and quality of Burnsville's natural resources enables the citizens and the city staff to answer the question: what natural resources do we have, and in what condition are they? This plan has taken this information and presents a strategy for protecting and improving the city's natural resources. See Section 3.0.

When land is disturbed (left), such as by grazing, native plant life cycles are interrupted, resulting in weed invasion. A highly degraded forest floor (right) will not support the natural regeneration of native trees and plants, requiring active management.

2.1.3 Terrace Oaks Park Sample Inventory

As part of the urban forest inventory, foresters conducted a detailed evaluation of the woodlands that comprise Terrace Oaks Park. This park was selected to represent Burnsville's natural areas due to its size and varied environments. A baseline inventory was conducted using a series of permanent plots that will allow for return inventories to aid in monitoring recommended restoration efforts.

Results show that Burnsville's largest park has significant buckthorn encroachment, and that native trees, especially oaks, have great difficulty reproducing. The good management efforts initiated by city staff, with the assistance of volunteers, should be stepped up to curb this problem. See Appendix A for more detail.

Buckthorn has taken over the forest understory in most of Terrace Oaks Park.

2.1.4 Historic Conditions

For purposes of formulating a natural resources management approach, it has been helpful to review the native plant communities of Burnsville prior to European settlement. Figure 3 shows the native plant communities of Burnsville as they existed during the original land survey of 1853-1856. Although it is not necessarily possible or desirable to restore undeveloped lands of Burnsville to the communities shown on the map, it serves as a guide in thinking about what is suited for the local environmental conditions.

Prior to European settlement, most of the area that is now Burnsville was wooded to some extent while the remainder was open water, prairies or wetlands. Four different types of wooded areas could be found. These are listed in order of land covered by each community:

1. Oak Openings and Barrens (often called oak savannas). Fire dominated these areas, minimizing the presence of trees intolerant of fire such as maples and basswood. The result was an open park-like

Some native grasses still remain in the oak savanna remnants of Terrace Oaks park, but are threatened.

In this photo, taken in mid-October, buckthorn's leaves are green. Buckthorn holds its leaves late into the fall. You can easily spot buckthorn from mid-October until the first of December by its green leaves.

vista of scattered oaks growing amongst herbaceous woodland and prairie plants. Little of the expansive presettlement oak savanna remains in Minnesota.

2. Big Woods Forest. Fire was rare in these wooded areas and species such as sugar maple, basswood and elm made up a large portion of the canopy, though oaks, ash, ironwood and bitternut hickory could also be found. The forest canopy was continuous, or nearly so. Shade tolerant plants such as spring ephemeral wildflowers and ferns grew on the forest floor. The Trust for Public Land reports that only 0.01% of the original Big Woods remains in Minnesota. Remnants of the Big Woods are home to rare species like the dwarf trout lily.

3. Aspen-Oak Land. This was likely a transition area (in time and in space) between oak savannas and the Big Woods forest. After a long period without fire, shrubs and trees intolerant of fire would colonize an area. Aspen are a pioneer species that can colonize Openings and Barrens. Old oaks remained, growing high above young aspen creating a canopy that was varied in height and with varying amounts of shade on the forest floor. Other pioneer tree species such as boxelder and paper birch were likely found here as well, but in smaller numbers. Aspen-Oak land is frequently found in Burnsville today. Typically they are former oak savannas that have been colonized by a variety of trees in the absence of fire.

4. River Bottom Forests. These forests are still found along the Minnesota River. Tree diversity is not high but the function of these forests in facilitating silt deposition and filtering stormwater cannot be understated. Cottonwood, elm and silver maple are common. Flooding may be frequent or seldom, but soil moisture is typically in ample supply. Dutch Elm Disease has lowered the number of elms found in these forests over the past half-century, yet they still persist.

2.2 Built Environment Tree Inventory Process

An inventory of publicly owned trees in the built environment was undertaken in the fall and early winter of 2006. Built environment trees, for the purpose of this plan, are defined as those trees that exist outside of natural areas, such as trees in groomed (developed) parks, in parking lots, in lawns and along streets. The inventory is broken into two components: 1) the developed city parks inventory, and 2) the street tree inventory.

Sample-based inventory techniques were used to tally and assess trees in maintained areas of parks and on city road right-of-ways. The assessment determined the effectiveness of current tree planting and mainte-

nance programs and makes recommendations for future plantings and maintenance needs.

To that end, several parks were selected to represent typical developed parks throughout the city. Park age, park size, usage and location within the city were factors used in park selection so that the selected parks were a faithful representation of all parks. Similarly, several neighborhoods were selected for a right-of-way inventory to represent different areas of the city with respect to such factors as age of the neighborhood, street width and traffic volume.

2.2.1 Developed City Parks Inventory

Developed parks are those groomed parks in which trees grow within lawn.

A total of 467 trees were tallied, identified, measured and assessed in six parks: Burnhaven, Highland Forest, Sue Fischer Memorial, Echo, Wolk and South River Hills. This sampling allowed for statistical analysis of the trees in city parks.

Thirty six different species were found with green ash the most common accounting for over 21% of all trees.

The average diameter of all surveyed trees is 9.56 inches. All trees were rated for condition based on a scale of 0-10 with rating of 0 representing a dead tree while 10 represents a hypothetical, perfect tree.

- Trees rated in the 1-3 range are of poor quality and condition. No amount of pruning or other maintenance will improve the quality to great degree.
- Trees in the 4-5 range are of fair quality and condition.
- Trees in the 6-7 range are good overall.
- Those few trees ranged 8 or 9 are very good to excellent.

Most trees in this inventory fall in the 2-8 range with an average condition of 4.9.

Analysis of this data brings out several items of note. First, one species (green ash) is more than twice as common as the next most common species while the differences in representation between other species is relatively small. In other words, green ash accounts for too much of the overall park tree population which increases the exposure to tree loss from a single pest such as Emerald Ash Borer (see page 12). A lesser proportion of the city's urban forest would be lost from such an event if the city's tree population were more evenly distributed among many species. Of a positive note, all other trees are more evenly distributed among the remaining species.

Built Environment Tree Inventory

The built environment tree inventory is broken down into two components:

1. Developed city parks inventory (467 trees inventoried across six parks)
2. Street tree inventory (564 trees inventoried across three neighborhoods of varying ages)

Tree Species Distribution in Developed City Parks

Species	Percent	Species	Percent
Ash, green	21.6	Pine, white	4.1
Basswood/Lindens	9.0	Pine, Austrian	3.6
Crabapple	8.4	Spruce, white	3.2
Pine, Scots	7.7	Maple, silver	3.0
Hackberry	5.8	Ash, black	2.8
Maple, red	4.9	Hawthorn	2.1
Maple, Norway	4.3	All other	15.4
Honeylocust	4.1		

Second, the average condition of 4.9 is more typical of a natural, unmaintained woodland in the Twin Cities area rather than a maintained park. This hints to the need to increase tree pruning frequency in developed parks. Strategy 4 under Goal 3 (page 24) addresses this concern.

Finally, oaks of any species are rarely found planted in the maintained areas of city parks despite being common in Burnsville's woodlands and historically one of the most common and important native trees in Burnsville. In fact, all oak species together only account 2.1% of all trees and most of the 10 trees counted in this inventory are swamp white oaks. This plan suggests that oaks be a high priority species for new plantings in Burnsville.

2.2.2 Street Tree Inventory

Three neighborhoods were selected to be part of the street tree sample inventory. The River Hills neighborhood is an older neighborhood in Burnsville and one of the few with trees planted in tree lawns formed by curb and sidewalks. A second neighborhood near Buck Hill (20 years old) was selected as a sample inventory area, as was a neighborhood between Chicago Avenue and Lac Lavon Drive, north of Crystal Lake Road and south of County Road 42 (also about 20 years old). A sample area representing the newest neighborhoods was not selected as these neighborhoods tend to have few, if any, street trees.

564 trees representing 38 species were counted and assessed for this three neighborhood inventory. The average diameter of all trees is 13.5 and the average condition is 4.7. The most common tree is green ash accounting for 48% of all trees, primarily due to its predominance in

the River Hills neighborhood. About 80% of the green ash were found in this neighborhood.

Although it is important to note the predominance of green ash, it is not unusual to find a predominance of one tree species in a neighborhood. The common texture, size, shape and color of a single species acts as a matrix that visually binds the landscape together. The result is more pleasing to the eye than an incongruity of colors, shapes and textures. However, in light of the lesson provided by Dutch elm disease where streets lined with a single elm species were decimated and now the potential threat of Emerald Ash Borer (see page 12), neighborhoods such as this may be especially hard hit if the threat becomes a reality.

A few of the species found in the road right-of-way are not commonly recommended as street trees. Cottonwoods are often too large for a space by a street and tend to shed too many twigs, while few people like the "cotton" shed each year. Colorado Blue spruce makes a good specimen tree in a lawn but can present site line problems near the road and often get infected with diseases that result in a shortened life span. In recent years Norway maple has fallen out of favor due to its shortened life span resulting from frequent splitting and a canker that deforms the trunk and opens the tree to decay.

This map shows the locations of the three neighborhoods chosen for the street tree inventory.

Street Tree Inventory Species

Species	Percent	Species	Percent
Ash, green	48.2	Spruce, white	2.8
Spruce, Colorado Blue	13.7	Basswood/Linden	2.0
Maple, red	4.8	Cottonwood	1.8
Crabapple	4.6	Maple, sugar	1.6
Maple, silver	4.6	Olive, Russian	1.6

Also of note is that 18 of the 38 species are represented by a single tree. This is likely due to the fact that in the two neighborhoods other than River Hills, most if not all trees in the right of way were planted by homeowners or builders. Selection then comes from what is attractive or what is available rather than from a planting program that utilizes

Evidence of Emerald Ash Borer damage along a residential street in Michigan.

Emerald ash borer is an exotic insect, metallic green in color and approximately 1/2 inch long. It is not yet in Minnesota.

economy of scale while selecting the most tolerant species for steetside growing conditions. The diversity is good but the species selection is sometimes questionable. The good news here is that several of these infrequently found trees could be, and should be planted in greater numbers within the road right of ways. Honeylocust, hawthorn and Japanese tree lilac are examples. See Appendix B for a list of recommended and not recommended trees for Burnsville.

Like the representative sample of park trees, the overall condition of street trees is rather low indicated by the average of 4.71. It is very common for trees growing in the adverse conditions found along city streets to exhibit poorer growing conditions than those in parks. The City of Burnsville can combat this problem by increasing the maintenance and removal of dying trees or those in poor condition. Contributing to the low condition is the fact that few of the older green ash were properly pruned when young, so that a good branch structure could be maintained. The result is trees that frequently have side branches larger than the central leader and many of these large branches hang low above the street. The lesson learned here is that it is critical for the longevity of a street tree to be pruned regularly when young in order to establish the proper form. It is recommended to increase pruning efforts and budget for Burnsville's street trees.

Emerald Ash Borer

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is a small boring insect that feeds on ash trees. The greatest damage is done when the larva feed undetected under the bark. Eventually this cuts off the flow of water and nutrients resulting in a period of decline and, eventually, death of the infested tree. In Michigan, EAB has killed more than ten million ash trees in five years. Millions more have been removed as a preventive attempt to control the spread of the insect to unaffected areas.

The EAB has not yet been found in Minnesota but the threat is real. The sample inventories performed in preparation for this plan indicate large numbers of ash trees in the City of Burnsville. Therefore, there is reason to be concerned over the potential for losing many of these trees to this threat, the loss of associated benefits, and the cost of sanitation and control.

3.0 Strategy for Natural Resources Management on Public Property

Priority A rankings for each site were determined by:

- Any site containing areas of plant community found to be of "high" ecological quality
- Any site that contain rare species designated in the Minnesota County Biologic Survey (MN DNR)
- All Resource Management Units (RMUs) because of their large acreage
- Sites where the level of disturbance is low enough to allow for effective management results in a relatively short time frame, and with lower costs.

Priority B rankings for each site were determined by:

- Sites where native forest canopy is intact along with some colonies of native understory vegetation.
- Sites where the extent and complexity of disturbances necessitate management actions that may take longer to complete, and at higher costs.

3.1 Priorities for Natural Areas Management

Undeveloped land owned by the citizens of Burnsville has been field evaluated for ecological quality (See Figure 2) and has been ranked to determine where to most effectively invest a limited natural resources budget to preserve Burnsville's highest ecological quality lands. All public lands in Burnsville are decreasing in ecological quality primarily due to invasive species. In order to guide decisions on where best to invest in preserving or restoring ecological quality, a priority ranking system was developed.

Priority A

Sites with rare species, and sites where plant community (especially forest understory) recovery is highly probable. These sites have a significant number of native species present which can serve as a seed source for reproduction. These sites will receive first priority for management funding. See Appendix C and Figure 5 for more information on rare and threatened species in Burnsville.

Priority B

Sites where plant community (especially forest understory) recovery is possible, but likelihood of success unknown. A seed bank study would be necessary to determine the likelihood of recovery. These sites will be managed by volunteer groups as they step forward. City staff will be available to direct volunteer groups. The 'polka-dot' forest regeneration program (see Section 3.1.5) will be made available for priority B sites.

The table on the next page lists publicly owned sites that rank for management as priority A or B.

All other public properties owned by the citizens of Burnsville will not be managed for invasive species at this time. These sites lack biodiversity due to invasive species encroachment and past land use. Restoration would require considerable expense and effort. Due to limited funding, these sites will not receive management through the city or by volunteers until all higher priority sites have been fully funded and managed. If strong citizen interest for restoring any of these properties arises, city staff will provide the expertise necessary to guide a restoration effort. The 'polka-dot' forest regeneration program (see section 3.1.5) will be made available for these sites.

Individual site management plans have been created for the sites listed in the Priority Sites for Management table on the next page. The management plans set forth are on-the-ground strategies for invasive species control to allow for native plant community regeneration. These plans can be found in Figures 6-23 and on the City of Burnsville web site at www.ci.burnsville.mn.us.

Priority Sites for Management

Priority	Park Name/RMU	General Quality Range	Outcome to Effort Ratio
A	Alimagnet RMU	M	High
A	Bluff Valley RMU	M	Moderate–Low
A	City Center RMU	M	Moderate
A	Crystal Lake RMU	M	High
A	Forest Heights	H-L	High
A	Judicial Park	H-M	High
A	Kraemer RMU	H-L	High
A	Quarry RMU	H-M	High
A	Southwest RMU	M-L	Moderate
A	Sunset Pond RMU	M	High
A	Terrace Oaks RMU	M-L	Moderate
B	Chateaulin	M-L	Moderate
B	Crosstown West	M-L	Moderate
B	Hollows	M-L	Low
B	Krestwood	M	Moderate
B	Neill Park	M	Moderate
B	North River Hills	M-L	Moderate
B	Wellington Crest/Water Tower (north slope)	M	Moderate

Resource management units (RMUs) as defined in the 1999 Natural Resources Master Plan are high concentrations of natural resource sites and important lakes and rivers. RMUs were created based on the concept that important resources are to be protected at the core of a resource complex. Figure 3.1 illustrates this concept. Following this concept, high priority areas are core sites for preservation and management.

The boundaries of the RMUs have been changed from those designated in the 1999 Plan (see Figure 4). The boundaries have been reduced to encompass only significant natural areas, excluding surrounding private property. Private property is not directly managed through this plan, but education and direct assistance programs recommended in Section 4 can influence these properties if the owners so choose. The boundaries have been reduced also to focus management efforts due to the limited management resources available.

3.1.1 Greenways and Corridors

Greenways and corridors potentially serve as movement pathways for plants and animals and bridge disjunct complexes of natural communi-

ties. Often they are linear and follow streams and rivers. Power line corridors can, to some extent, function as corridors for animal movement. However, these areas are strictly maintained to exclude the type of taller, forested growth that makes for more effective corridors. The scale of a greenway varies from a minimum of 200 feet in most cases to several thousand feet in the case of large river valleys. The Minnesota River Valley is an example of a large scale corridor.

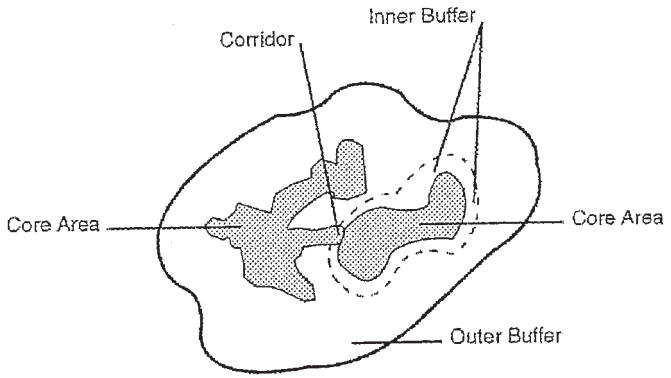


Figure 3.1

Potential greenways were identified after being analyzed in the 1999 Natural Resources Master Plan. It was found that no significant linear greenways or corridors run through Burnsville, other than the river valley. The Minnesota River Valley runs along the northern border of the City of Burnsville and this area should be the focus of any efforts to connect areas managed by Burnsville and state and federal government agencies.

3.1.2 Revised Recommendations on Land Acquisition

A list of lands recommended for acquisition was presented in the 1999 Plan. This recommendation was based on the Park and Natural Resources Commission recommendations to City Council in 1992. Land protection efforts focused on acquiring land which connects to existing habitat rather than acquiring land which is disjunct from existing habitat.

Follow-up on these goals show that the following properties still have potential for purchase, or may be preserved through a conservation easement or park dedication:

1. Minnegasco site: Still undeveloped; current land owners are in the process of restoring this forest.

2. Kraemer Nature Preserve (Chowen site): Consider expanding the existing Kraemer Nature Preserve through the city's use of its Park Dedication requirements.

All other sites recommended for acquisition in 1999 have been developed.

3.1.3 Natural Resources Management Strategies for RMUs and Individual Parks

Individual management strategy maps have been created for each of the Priority A and B sites listed in the Priority Sites for Management table on page 14. See Figures 6–23. Management for each site focuses on invasive species control. Within each site, invasive species control begins within that area that is of the highest ecological quality. It is important to protect these areas of highest biodiversity first in order to prevent further species extirpation. Common buckthorn, hybrid honeysuckle and garlic mustard are the primary invasive plant species in wooded areas, whereas spotted knapweed, leafy spurge and brome grass are encroaching into prairies and meadows.

After securing highest quality nodes within each site, management should proceed into areas of diminishing ecological quality. Removing invasive seed source from around the highest quality node reduces the likelihood of re-colonization. Invasive species removal continues in an outwardly manner as illustrated on the management maps until invasive species have been removed from the parcel. At that point the site should be evaluated for native species reintroduction, and kept on a maintenance schedule to remove occasional invasive species re-colonization.

3.1.4 Buckthorn Removal Strategies

Buckthorn control strategies include cutting the branches and leaving them on the ground to decompose.

Buckthorn removal in Burnsville's natural areas is given high priority in this plan. Techniques and cost for its removal varies upon the extent of invasion on a site and the accessibility of the site for restoration crews. Appendix D contains a series of alternative removal techniques appropriate for different conditions within an infestation, as well as a table outlining the costs of buckthorn control. These techniques were developed by Prairie Restorations Inc. in conjunction with the City of Minnetonka for a series of parks in that city.

A five-year process was developed. Typically provided by a contractor, this process involves an intensive buckthorn removal event the first year to extricate all standing plants. After initial removal, four years are committed to intensive seedling management to kill resprouting stumps and to kill small seedlings that will germinate from seed stored in the ground. After the fifth year of control by a contractor, volunteers are used to walk each site (once per year) to pull any new seedlings that might venture onto the site. It is necessary to continue this once a year volunteer event indefinitely because birds spread buckthorn seed. See Appendix D for a detailed description of buckthorn removal techniques.

Buckthorn Control Costs

Park Name or Resource Management Unit	Year 1 Buckthorn Removal Cost for Management Core Areas* ($4,000/acre**)	Management Cost for Years 2–5 for Core Areas ($1,700/acre/year)
Alimagnet RMU	$4,500	$2,000
Bluff Valley RMU	$8,400	$3,600
City Center RMU	$3,600	$1,500
Crystal Lake RMU	$17,400	$7,500
Forest Heights	$1,500	$4,000
Judicial Park	$5,400	$2,500
Kraemer RMU	$0	$0
Quarry RMU	$17,400	$7,500
Southwest RMU	$900	$500
Sunset Pond RMU	$900	$500
Terrace Oaks RMU	$14,700	$6,500

* Management Core areas pertain to the acreage encircled with the yellow line on the individual site management maps.

** Cost will vary depending on site characteristics.

3.1.5 Polka Dot Forest Regeneration Program

Some of the forests of Burnsville have evolved from land that was completely cleared for agriculture in the last century. Once farming ceased, the land was left fallow, then colonized by undesirable tree species such as boxelder, Siberian elm and Amur maple. These fast growing, weak wooded trees do not support a diversity of ground plain species, and are poor wildlife habitat. In the ecological inventory these forests rate as low quality, and they do not meet the criteria for management priority. Therefore, a concerted effort for management is not planned.

The polka dot forest regeneration program is designed to restore a minimal level of diversity to these forests by clearing small patches of undesirable vegetation and planting native trees, primarily oaks. These patches of oaks would grow and over time provide a seed source for the native forest to expand. In the future when resources become available to fund forest regeneration projects, restorationists will be able to build from these nodes of established native trees.

The program will be funded by grants or donations from local groups interested in seeing the forests of their neighborhood restored. Staff will be made available to coordinate site preparation and planting, but much of the establishment and maintenance work will be conducted by volunteers.

Open areas such as this that are colonizing with weedy trees are great places to introduce native oaks through the "Polka Dot Forest Program."

3.1.6 Prairie Management and Regeneration

Prairies and savanna remnants are an important component of the diverse natural features in Burnsville. As with many other cities and towns in southern Minnesota, Burnsville exists in part because the proximity of Big Woods timber and the prairie's rich soils made the area attractive to settlers. The city recognizes this connection between its natural resources and its history, and continues to work toward maintaining the quality of those resources, including its prairie and savanna remnants.

Purple prairie clover is a native plant that could be reintroduced easily to Burnsville prairie remnants.

An additional valuable function of prairies has become increasingly recognized in recent years. That is the ability of prairies to sequester, or hold, carbon. Carbon dioxide, or CO^2, is a major greenhouse gas contributing to climate change. Prairie plants, unlike typical turf grasses, develop long roots that extend deep into the soil, and are long-lived. CO^2 taken up by the prairie plants goes into the formation of the roots, and is held there for the life of the plant. Even after the plants die, the carbon in their roots remains in the soil as part of other processes in the carbon cycle.

Moreover, since prairie plants have evolved to the climate of the Upper Midwest, it takes far less effort to maintain them. Mowing, fertilizing and other maintenance activities that are normally important and intensive on turf grasses are not as vital and can even be unnecessary in prairie communities. Since these maintenance activities consume and release CO^2 and other carbon compounds, the use of prairie plantings can further reduce overall carbon release. The low maintenance requirements of prairie also save the City the time and expense that is required for upkeep of turf grass areas.

By protecting and expanding its prairie and savanna remnants, Burnsville recognizes both the historic and current value of these unique plant communities. Burnsville prepared the "City of Burnsville Prairie and Savanna Areas Management Plans" in 2005, with a 2006 update. This plan provides a detailed, comprehensive set of management goals and strategies for each of six areas within the City that have notable prairie and/or savanna restorations and remnants. Species lists, suggested plant palettes, information on monitoring and tools for maintenance are also reviewed. Because of the comprehensive approach to prairie management in the existing plan, there is no current need to prepare a new prairie management plan. The recommended approach to prairie and savanna management in Burnsville is to incorporate by reference the goals and strategies of the existing prairie plan, following the maintenance and monitoring direction provided there. Please refer to Section 5.0 Review of City Plans for a more detailed assessment of the existing prairie plan.

3.1.7 Monitoring to Evaluate Success

3.1.7.1 Natural Areas Monitoring Recommendation

This plan calls for restoration projects in several forms. However, the installation of a restoration project does not guarantee that these objectives will be met or these goals achieved. Restoration of a plant community (through management) is a process for which the goal of biodiversity is achieved over time. Therefore monitoring is necessary to track the success of a project over time.

Monitoring efforts should be directed at evaluating two key measures: 1) species richness (or diversity) and 2) community (vegetation) structure—the vertical layering of vegetation and the horizontal distribution of species. Data gathered from a scheduled monitoring program are useful in measuring these attributes, and can guide future management efforts.

Monitoring of natural areas should include three habitat types 1) high quality forests where invasive plant species removal is occurring, 2) high quality forests where invasive plant species removal is not occurring, and 3) managed prairies.

Managed Prairies Map

Key

1. Sue Fischer Prairie
2. Kraemer Prairie
3. Terrace Oaks Savanna
4. Alimagnet Prairie
5. Cam Ram Neighborhood Restoration
6. Cliff Fen Park Wet Meadow
7. Sunset Pond SW Prairie
8. Sunset Pond W Prairie
9. Day Park Prairie
10. Cam Ram Oak Savanna Restoration

Species richness is determined by the number of different plant species that grow in a given area. The greater the number of species, the greater the richness and the higher the ecological quality.

Community structure is the vertical layering of vegetation and the horizontal distribution of species.

Monitoring allows land managers to evaluate the success of management practices, and indicates if changes are necessary.

In high quality forests, a monitoring program utilizing permanent sampling transects and uniform sampling techniques should be employed. The relevé methodology is suggested to document species richness and community structure. One transect should be established for each high quality natural area with the length and number of sampling points based upon the size of the area. Large areas such as Cam Ram Park should have three to four locations. Smaller high quality areas should have at least one location that is representative of the overall site. Relevé plot placement is determined after initially observing the vegetation in each parcel and locating each of the plots to be representative of vegetation in the parcel.

Details on the relevé monitoring technique can be found in the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources 1999, Relevé Methods Manual.

RMUs with unmanaged high quality habitats should also be monitored in order to watch for potential degradation.

It is also recommended that prairies also be monitored to survey the effectiveness of their management program. Each site should receive three relevé plots located along a transect through each management area. Plot placement is determined after initially observing the vegetation in each parcel and locating the plot to be representative of vegetation in the parcel.

All three types of sites should be monitored once per year, ideally in the spring for forests, and mid summer for prairies.

Burnsville currently conducts natural resources monitoring through three citizen-based programs:

- Lake water quality monitoring through the Citizen Assistance Monitoring Program
- Wetland monitoring through the Wetland Health Evaluation Program
- Bird surveys in each of the RMUs (every 5th year)

3.2 Strategies for Management of the Built Environment

Several goals have been identified to maximize the benefits of trees within the developed portions of Burnsville. For each of the following goals, one or more strategies are put forth to achieve maximum results in the most practical, efficient manner.

Goal 1. Increase tree cover and diversity

1. Begin an aggressive tree planting program on city right-of-ways. Many of the major thoroughfares have significant boulevard space or tree lawns that could sustain large trees. Most major U.S. cities have significant street tree populations flourishing in small or forbidding planting spaces. Burnsville has a lot of room to grow trees. It should be kept in mind that the value of tree benefits is nearly three times the cost of planting, maintenance and removal.

2. Expand on the sample inventories of street and park trees. Use the results to further guide the selection of trees to plant and the loca-

tions available to plant. If necessary use these inventories to update recommended and non-recommended tree lists.

3. Increase the ratio of overstory trees to smaller trees in city parks. The number of trees planted in city parks likely does not need adjustment. But an effective means for increasing tree canopy without increasing the number of trees planted is to utilize some large tree species. Showy trees such as crabapples and Japanese tree lilacs are always welcome, but large trees such as oaks, elms and "cottonless" cottonwoods provide relatively large canopy cover from a single tree while adding to the community's tree height diversity—an important component in some bird-habitat requirements.

Goal 2. Reduce and prevent tree loss due to existing and potential threats

1. Continue the current oak wilt program with ongoing emphasis to the timely removal of possible spore producing, infected red oaks. Use the "Treat to the Line" method recommended by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources whenever possible and when the situation warrants. Also called "Cut to the Line," this treatment involves removing all oaks inside a created barrier line and optionally treating oak stumps with herbicide to ensure oaks inside the barriers will not regraft and continue to spread the disease. Though this is a radical treatment of oak wilt, it is appropriate when eradication of the disease is the goal.

2. Develop a Dutch elm disease program similar to the current oak wilt program. Many communities make the mistake of leaving diseased elms up too long, providing a host for the beetles that spread the disease. The sooner diseased elms can be removed, the better. Elms that are long dead from Dutch elm disease are no longer a threat to harbor spore spreading beetles. Priority should be given to removing recently diagnosed elms or those most recently dead.

3. Prepare for the event of an Emerald Ash Borer outbreak by occasional drive-by monitoring of the city's significant ash population. This monitoring can be performed in conjunction with oak and elm inspections. The State of Minnesota has added Emerald Ash Borer to continuing education programs focused toward State Licensed Tree Inspectors. While there is still much to be learned about this pest, the use of state licensed tree inspectors will be key in early detection. Remove the poorest quality ash trees from city parks and on city streets whenever the opportunity arises. This pest prefers ash trees under stress; whenever a dying, diseased or significantly damaged ash is found, removal should be a priority. The city has a high percentage of its planted trees represented by ash species, which could present a significant financial burden should Emerald Ash Borer invade the area.

Bare boulevards, like the one pictured above, offer wonderful tree-planting opportunities.

This location offers space for street trees. Tree-lined streets shade the pavement and reduce heat; add beauty to the community; and can slow traffic by reducing the perceived width of the street.

Benefits of Trees

Trees provide many benefits to the environment and community. The past few decades of tree research has focused on documenting and quantifying the benefits of trees. Early on, researchers were quantifying the amount of greenhouse gases trees remove from the atmosphere (about ½ ton of carbon dioxide per tree per year) and pollutants (about 4.3 pounds of pollutants per tree per year). Since then, researchers have begun to document an ever growing list of benefits that may not be so obvious.

Leaves and branches reduce the amount of rainwater that reaches the storm system—preventing flooding.

Trees reduce temperatures by shading streets and sidewalks.

Benefits to the Environment

In addition to the direct removal of greenhouse gases and pollutants, mentioned above, trees:

- Reduce temperatures by shading streets, sidewalks and other hardscapes, resulting in reduced use of electricity for cooling and a corresponding reduction of any non-renewable fuels used to generate that electricity. Furthermore, there is a reduction in the emission of greenhouse gases and pollutants associated with the use of fossil fuels.
- Increase the amount of water that reaches the groundwater table as rainfall follows tree root systems down below the soil surface.
- Intercept rain with leaves and branches reducing the amount of water that reaches the storm system, particularly when properly placed to grow over streets, sidewalks, parking lots and rooftops. This results in a downstream reduction in the erosive force of large volumes of runoff to natural water bodies and flooding.
- Add organic matter to the soil which further improves the water-holding capacity of the soil.
- Improve the resiliency of soil to respond to rain events by removing water from the soil which can reduce saturated conditions which exacerbate storm water load. One mature tree can capture over 5,000 gallons of water in a year.
- In whole, trees can reduce storm water by about 2% for each 5% increase in the community's tree canopy. Despite its many tree-covered subdivisions, Burnsville has many opportunities to increase the tree canopy along streets, sidewalks and parking lots.
- Reduce soil erosion with dense root systems. Less soil, contaminated or clean, reaches the storm water system, creeks and rivers.

Benefits to the Community

Trees help promote pride in the community and a sense of place. Other benefits of trees affect us either directly or indirectly in our daily lives or have direct effects on our roads, utilities and businesses. Here is some of what we know to be true:

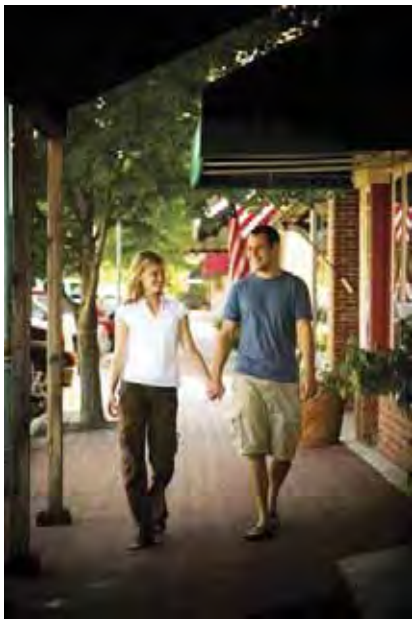
- Street trees are an important factor in reducing road maintenance costs. Recently, researchers showed that streets shaded by medium-sized trees required less frequent resealing than streets fully exposed to the sun.
- Tree-filled neighborhoods show lower levels of domestic violence.
- Street trees can calm traffic and lower traffic speed by reducing the perceived width of street. Streets without trees have the opposite effect, appearing "wide open."
- Trees help reduce noise levels.
- Trees are known to shorten hospital stays.
- Trees can reduce workplace stress.
- Trees can be used to screen unsightly views.
- Our trees are part of the legacy from those who came before us.

Healthy trees in neighborhoods enhance property values:

- The sales price for a home increases by about 1% for each large front yard tree.
- But a single, large, specimen tree in a yard can add 10% to the property's value.

Trees are also good for business. Surveys of shoppers in commercial districts with tree-lined streets reported that:

- They shop there more frequently
- They shop for longer periods of time



Surveys indicate that shoppers spend more time and money in commercial districts with tree-lined streets.

- They are more willing to pay for parking
- They spend, on average, 12% more on goods.

All when compared to shopping in areas without trees.

Adding it All Up

When the benefits that can be quantified are weighed against the cost of trees (i. e. purchase, planting, pruning and removal), these benefits outweigh the cost by a margin of about three to one. This doesn't include the benefits we cannot quantify such as community pride or reduction in stress and domestic violence. The City of Burnsville has been reaping and continues to reap these benefits, which started with proper planting of trees on streets and other city property, and by encouraging appropriate planting on private property. It is important to continue planting trees in Burnsville and ensure the urban forest is properly maintained to prevent an erosion of these benefits and an increase in costs associated with neglect.

Burr oak is a highly desirable native tree that is drought tolerant and supports many wildlife species. Good in any landscape situation.

Goal 3. Improve the quality and sustainability of tree plantings in the maintained areas of city parks

1. Remove Siberian elms from parks regardless of their condition or health. Siberian elms are an exotic, potentially invasive tree that often has an unappealing form, can harbor Dutch elm disease—and the bark beetles that spread it—without obvious symptoms. There are not many Siberian elms currently growing in city parks, but if crews are on site removing other trees, any Siberian elm in that park should be removed during that trip. Also, the invasive nature of this tree makes it likely that more will be found in city parks over the coming years.

2. Finish the inventory of city parks begun as part of this Plan. Use the inventory to identify all trees of low quality or potentially hazardous and remove them.

3. Increase the number of desirable trees used in future park plantings. See the tables in Section 4.1.3 or desirable/recommended and undesirable/not recommended tree species.

4. Create a strict policy of formative pruning during the early years of a tree's growth. Current research points to avoiding pruning until a newly planted tree becomes established with the exception of removing damaged or dead branches and multiple leaders. Once established (two to five years), it is critical to improve the branch structure of young trees because it is quick, inexpensive, prevents large and expensive pruning projects years later and promotes healthy, attractive and stronger branch structure and an attractive overall shape.

5. Use more native, fruit-bearing trees and shrubs. Provide birds alternatives to buckthorn. Serviceberries, cranberrybush, mountain ash and plum are among several native plants used by birds for food, all adapted to our locale and attractive in flower.

Goal 4. Update Tree Preservation and Planting Related Ordinances

Update current ordinances to reflect goals and strategies in this Natural Resources Master Plan using a discernment process to help the city determine:

- What it wishes to preserve, including which tree species, what size trees, forests versus individual trees, etc.
- Whom it wishes to hold accountable (who are the involved parties)
- Who will enforce the new policies/code
- How will it be enforced

The existing ordinances include:

- Woodland Protection Standards (Title 10, Chapter 8, Section 9) that holds builders and developers accountable for tree preservation and replacement,
- Title 8, Chapter 3, Section 3 that addresses planting on public right of ways,
- Title 11. Chapter 5, Section 5 that addresses tree planting in new subdivisions.

See Appendix E for specific recommended changes to tree-related ordinances.

3.2.1 Built Environment Tree Monitoring Recommendation

Monitoring trees in maintained areas of parks and along the city streets, will allow the city to assess the effectiveness of the strategies laid out in this plan, identify new pests and stressors, and closely follow existing, chronic problems such as oak wilt, Dutch elm disease and invasive exotics. This monitoring can take place by several means.

1. Existing program of oak wilt inspections with the addition of elm and ash inspections. These additional inspections, performed in conjunction with the oak wilt inspections, will provide sufficient monitoring of the existing, chronic problems of oak wilt and Dutch elm disease while forming the first step to quick response should emerald ash borer infest the City's ash population.
2. Completing the street tree and park tree inventories. Some of the data collected during these inventories, like the sample inventories already performed, will complete the database of information on species diversity, size and age diversity, tree maintenance needs, planting opportunities, spatial distribution and tree survival. This information can then be used to assess past tree maintenance techniques and schedule new maintenance, focus planting efforts, adjust species diversity, respond to new or existing pests and assess the success of different tree species within the city.
3. Inspect all current and future exotic species control sites. No matter how effective the method of removing and controlling buckthorn, as long as mature trees and utility poles provide perch sites for birds, sites will be reseeded. Other plants such as Siberian elm and garlic mustard can reseed into previously controlled sites. Keep in mind: anything that can happen once can happen twice. Frequent monitoring of these sites is necessary to initiate a quick response that will make new infestations easier to remove than if left to thoroughly establish.
4. Frequent inspection of the "Polka Dot Forest." Young oaks planted in wooded parks will be particularly vulnerable. In the best of con-

American Forests (a non-profit organization that supports reforestation) suggests a 40% tree canopy for best building energy efficiency and comfort in cities. The tree canopy of Burnsville is currently at 24.5%.

ditions the survival rate of newly planted trees is often disappointing. But planted into a previously hostile growing environment out of site from casual inspection, these trees will require a commitment greater than what might be necessary for trees planted in a maintained area of a park. Response to new infestations of exotics will need to be quick to favor the growth of young oaks. Timely replacement of dead oak saplings can only be done if these sites are frequently monitored.

3.3 Strategies for Addressing Climate Change

One impending force that will affect Burnsville's natural resources is climate change. Predictions indicate that Burnsville will experience more days over ninety degrees, increased wind, more intense but less frequent storm events, and less snow cover with higher average winter temperatures, among others. The ecosystem evolved under conditions other than what is now expected. This means that climate changes will affect natural resources. Increased drying of soils and lower water levels in lakes, wetlands and streams, stressed trees, frequent drought, intense (but infrequent) storm events, and many other effects will result.

Preparation for these changes should begin now and can happen in many ways. It is important to capture stormwater where it falls and infiltrate it into the ground for use by trees and to recharge ground water. This is suggested in the Water Management Plan through an infiltration requirement, and should be expanded throughout the city. It is important to shade buildings and pavement to keep ambient air temperatures moderate and save on energy costs. An urban forest canopy cover of fifty percent will block winter winds, also saving on energy costs. The tree canopy cover of Burnsville is currently 24.5%. It is important to pay attention to changes in our forests and wetlands to be sure that species are not being displaced by forces under our control (such as by invasive plant species and over grazing by deer). The challenges will become more evident in the next few years.

Climate change predictions include:

- More days over 90°
- Increased wind
- More intense but less frequent storm events
- Less snow cover with higher average winter temperatures

Preparation for climate change begins with:

- Capturing stormwater where it falls
- Appropriately shading buildings and pavement
- Monitoring changes in forests and wetlands

The strategies brought forward in this plan (and summarized in the conclusion) all focus on the protection of natural resources, but at the same time strengthen them to face environmental change. Much can be done to sequester carbon and to reduce the release of greenhouse gases, while also saving energy costs and dependence on foreign oil. Suggested actions are listed in the table on pages 43 and 44. Many other actions not listed in the table can be taken in the areas of transportation, architecture and life style that are beyond the scope of this document.

4.0 Strategy for Natural Resources Management on Private Property

Burnsville's natural resources are not confined to public property. Our ecosystem reaches across public and private land, and beyond the city limits. All properties affect neighboring lands so it is important to take a consistent ecological management approach throughout Burnsville.

This plan suggests two avenues of influencing the management of private property natural resources. The first approach is through education programs and the second through direct assistance programs.

4.1 Education Programs

When citizens understand environmental issues and the effect they are having on natural resources, they become motivated to change their behavior. Knowledge is crucial for the preservation of Burnsville's natural resources. Burnsville's public land is surrounded by private property. When both are managed to the ecological advantage, the expense and difficulty in managing both drops considerably.

Valuable information regarding Burnsville's natural resources could be provided to the citizens of Burnsville. The next page lists possibilities. One issue, however, looms greatest as a threat to natural areas in town—invasive plant encroachment in our woodlands. Two species are severely degrading the woodlands, and to control them requires that citizens remove these species from their property in concert with the efforts taken on public property. The invasive species of greatest concern are common buckthorn and garlic mustard.

4.1.1 Buckthorn Education Program

An internet-based buckthorn education program is recommended. Busy citizens are most apt to investigate an issue if the information is presented in an easy-to-access format on their home computer. Video-based programs are especially effective.

Topics to address in this program include buckthorn identification and life cycle, the impact of buckthorn on our woodlands and wildlife, and techniques for removing buckthorn and prevention of its re-colonization.

4.1.2 Garlic Mustard Education Program

Garlic mustard is an herbaceous, woodland understory plant that is invading metropolitan woodlands at an astonishingly fast rate. It quickly reproduces and displaces native wildflowers, ferns and grasses, completely eliminating them wherever it establishes.

This program should be web based as well, so that it is accessible at citizens' convenience. Citizens should understand how the plant affects the environment, how to identify it, and how to eradicate the plant.

Garlic mustard invades forests and prevents tree regeneration. Homeowners should learn to identify and control this invasive species.

Internet-based education programs reach citizens in the convenience of their own homes.

Educational Program Suggestions

After first-priority education efforts are underway, further educational programs can be developed to protect Burnsville's natural resources. Suggestions for further educational programs include the following:

Education programs pertaining to privately owned lawn landscapes

- Landscaping for energy efficiency. Learn how to place trees in your yard for best solar gain and wind protection. Save up to 15% on your heating and cooling bills.
- Alternatives to Lawn. Learn how to reduce the amount of fertilizer, pesticide, water and fossil fuels consumed in managing your lawn. Introduction to easy-to-care-for alternative ground covers to lawn. Reduce soil compaction (especially when planting trees)
- Capturing Valuable Stormwater on Your Property. Learn the value of treating stormwater as a resource. Learn why and how to collect water from roofs, driveways and streets. Learn about rainwater gardens, rain barrels and other techniques.
- How Climate Change will Affect Your Landscape. Learn what you can do in your yard to prepare for hotter summers, greater but less-frequent storm events, and higher winds. Learn how to prevent the release of carbon dioxide (the burning of fossil fuels) while culturing a landscape that sequesters carbon (through photosynthesis by deep-rooted plants).
- The importance of compost in the landscape to recycle nutrients, hold soil moisture, and sequester carbon. Learn how to build your own compost bin and put the final product to good use.
- Maintaining an Environmentally Sound Lawn. Learn how to care for a beautiful lawn without the use of fertilizers, water and pesticides.
- Cats on the Prowl. Learn about the destruction caused by feral cats.

Education programs pertaining to privately owned wooded areas

- Residential forest management including the importance of biodiversity, and the removal of weedy, non-native trees such as Siberian elm, Amur and Norway maples.
- Adding diversity to forest understory by planting wildflowers, ferns and sedges. Learn about native wildflowers. Learn to protect and enhance what you have; add diversity.
- Urban Wildlife 101. Learn how wildlife survives in urban areas. Learn how best to serve their needs and not cause damage to the ecosystem as a whole.
- Tree diseases program. Learn how to prevent, identify and control tree diseases on your property, including Dutch elm disease, red oak wilt, emerald ash borer, and others.

4.1.3 Tree Planting Education Program

This program too could simply be information posted to the city's web site. Most of the private land in the city was developed several decades ago. Therefore, many of the trees planted are now reaching maturity and the tree canopy is beginning to close. Here many of the benefits of trees are being realized. So in these maturing neighborhoods the issue is not "plant more trees" but rather, improve the quality of the urban forest by:

1. Replacing dying trees with tree species appropriate to the site and of better quality and higher potential value (see the Recommended Trees table in Appendix B). Trees once valued have since fallen out of favor because of poor performance or their ability to become invasive. An example is Norway maple. Invasive in some parts of the United States, this tree's poor branch structure and propensity to develop cankers make this a high maintenance and short-lived tree. Short-lived or week-wooded trees like silver maple and boxelder (see the Trees not Recommended table in Appendix B), should be replaced with trees such as oaks and sugar maple when the opportunity arises. These trees are potentially of higher value and can become "legacy trees" that benefit the entire community. Encourage use of a recommended tree list for all landowners.

2. Tree selection should be guided by the adage "right tree in the right place." Selected trees must be able to tolerate the growing conditions at that particular site. Honeylocust can thrive on dry sites, while it flounders on wet sites. Other trees such as bur oak are adaptable and can grow on dry, wet or mesic sites. The mature size of a tree must always be considered. Avoid planting tall trees under other trees or powerlines. Avoid planting trees with low-hanging branches near roads.

3. Promote proper maintenance of trees on private property by encouraging the use of International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborists and by timely removal of dead and dying trees.

4.2 Direct Assistance Programs

Publicly supported programs motivate private property owners to care for their land in an ecologically sound manner, and improve the overall quality of natural resources. Three of Burnsville's existing programs illustrate this success. Similar programs can build on this model of preserving Burnsville's natural resources. Current programs include:

1. The bare-root tree sale each spring
2 The Cul-du-Sac Island Improvement Grant Program
3. The Neighborhood Water Resources Grant Program

Planting trees is not only good for the environment, it can be a fun family activity as well.

When planting trees along streets:

- Call the city forester for free advice
- Get a free permit (required), so that appropriate species are planted
- Know where underground utilities are—they may prohibit the planting of trees along some streets

Two additional programs are suggested in this plan.

4.2.1 Buckthorn Brush Pick-up Program

One of the primary deterrents for citizens in removing buckthorn from their property is the difficulty of disposing brush that accumulates in the process. Most citizens do not own the equipment required to remove the brush. Burnsville could establish a program that, on appointment, city crews would remove and dispose of curbside buckthorn brush from private property. The City of Eagan has undertaken such a program. Burnsville could mimic this successful program for which Eagan finds to be economical and effective. Their program involves an initial visit to the property by a city forester to educate the property owner and to be sure they are removing the appropriate species and doing it in a way that is effective. Stringent guidelines for what, when and where the brush is picked up are set and enforced. This program would be an efficient way to access motivated citizens and spread the word about the importance of removing this invasive species.

It is recommended that Burnsville develop a buckthorn brush pickup program, the cost of which would be comparable to Eagan's program.

4.2.2 Native Herbaceous Plant Sale Program

Herbaceous plants are those non-woody herbs that grow in natural areas—be that prairie, savanna or woodland. Many of these species have been extirpated from local environments by invasive plant species, lack of burning, deer browse, and other causes. Because the seed source is gone, they may not regenerate after the destructive force is eliminated; for example, after buckthorn is removed. This program makes available these plants, along with providing information on which plants belong on individual sites, and how to prepare the site, plant and maintain the plants. This plant sale program could be dovetailed into the existing bare-root tree sale.

5.0 Review of City Plans

In an effort to harmonize Burnsville's plans and ordinances that support natural resources, they have been reviewed and recommendations have been written. Section 5.0 is a review of those plans.

5.1 Burnsville Comprehensive Plan (2000)

A local comprehensive plan is a public document that describes how a community agrees to develop over a specified time period. A Comprehensive Plan is a policy document that describes the goals, policies, and strategies intended to achieve the community's goals. Burnsville last updated its Comprehensive Plan in 2000 (adopted in December 1998) and is now in the process of the latest plan update with a targeted adoption date of September 2008.

When the 2000 Comprehensive Plan was prepared, the Metropolitan Council considered the Burnsville to be part of the "Urban Area" with the ability to serve all of Burnsville with links to the metropolitan utility, parks and transportation systems. The 2000 plan projected a desire to maintain a balance of land uses, ensure a strong tax base and provide a diverse housing stock. The Plan recognized that the city was fully developed and that redevelopment, contaminated sites clean up, reuse and renovation of existing structures and infill development would be the main development activities into the future. Since the adoption of the 2000 Comprehensive Plan, conceptual plans have been developed for Kraemer Quarry, the McGowan Property (amphitheater site), Minnesota River Quadrant, and Heart of the City that added park lands and natural resource holdings to the city.

The 2000 Comprehensive Plan is organized in a goals and policy framework. Goals are a general statement of community aspirations and desired objectives that project the broad social, economic, or physical state towards which Burnsville officially agrees to move. The Environment goals are the plan goals most closely targeted to the natural resources of Burnsville. Environment Goal #1 states that the city will "Promote the protection, conservation, and enhancement of natural resources within Burnsville for the community's long-term use, benefit, and passive enjoyment."

The 2000 Comprehensive Plan presents a number of polices for each of the plan goals; policies are an adopted course or method of action intended to be followed in order to accomplish the stated goals. A number of the Environment Policies (numbered below as per the 2000 Plan) are directly related to natural resource protection and management. The pertinent environmental policies state that the city shall:

#1. Continue to develop, redevelop, and maintain an organized system of open space, greenways, corridors, and active and passive parks to improve community character and protect natural resources.

#3. Manage the community's wildlife resources to protect and preserve native habitat and wildlife, and to protect human safety.

#6. Implement and maintain the Natural Resources Master Plan, and maximize opportunities to preserve such resources by partnering with County, State, Regional, Federal and private programs.

#7. Identify, preserve and maintain natural, recreational, and cultural landmarks that are unique and essential to Burnsville's identity.

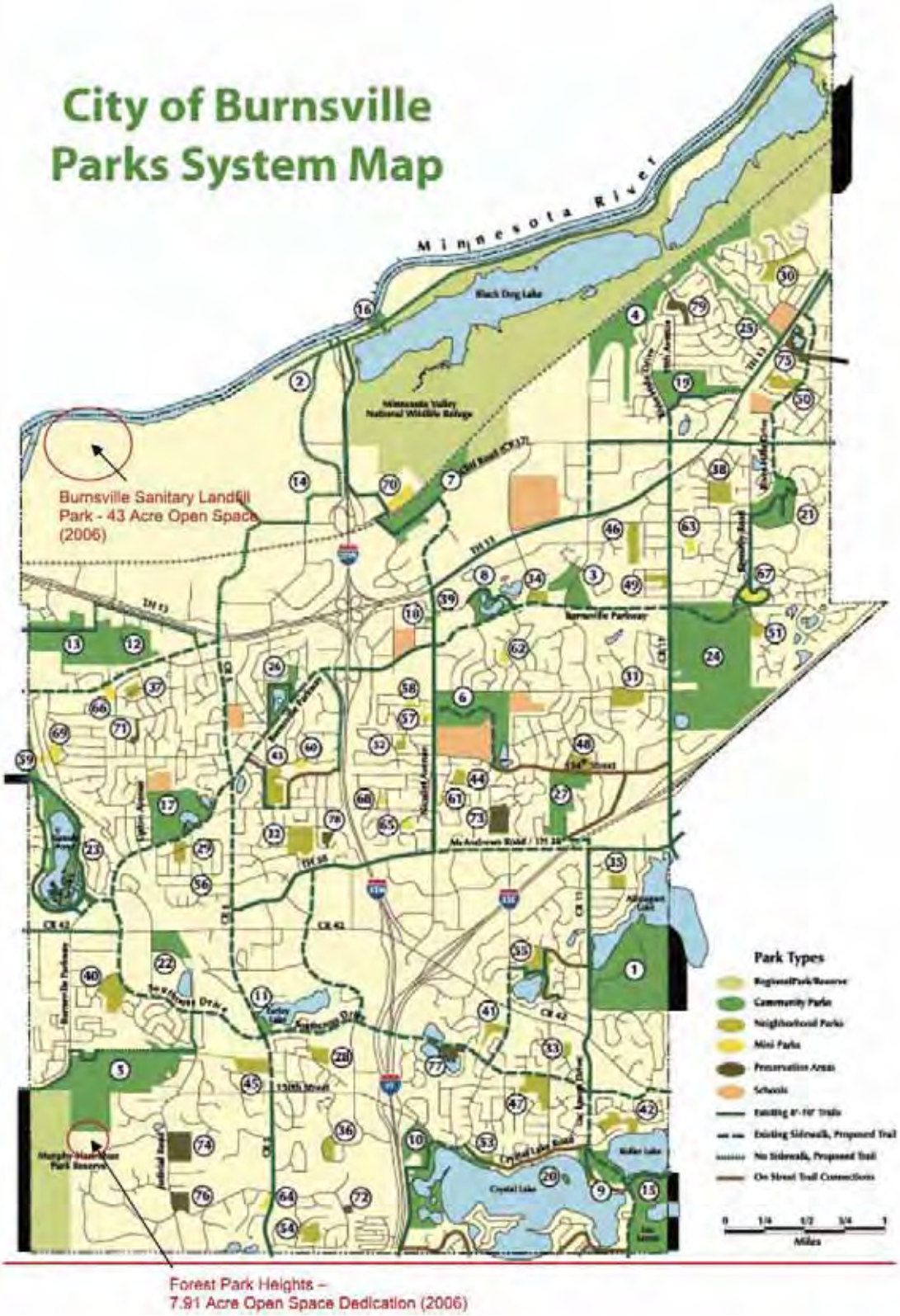
#9. Continue to monitor and preserve open space in Southwest Burnsville, respecting its natural character.

#22. Protect native vegetation, such as trees, understory growth, prairies, and other wildlife habitat; develop and implement an Urban Forest Management Plan designed to preserve and protect the trees within Burnsville; and require reforestation of areas cleared by development.

Since the 2000 Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 1998 two new parks have been planned for development in the Minnesota River Quadrant: a large park along the Minnesota River and a smaller park to be located on shore of the Kraemer quarry lake. The Minnesota River park will include land from the Burnsville Sanitary Landfill development which has already been determined and land from the McGowan landfill site. This land / trail access is anticipated to be obtained prior to or at the same time as the final platting and redevelopment of the Kraemer quarry. An additional area of park land will be added in the Southwest RMU adjacent to Cam Ram Park on the northwest corner of the Forest Park Heights development.

The locations of these new park parcels are shown on the map on the following page.

This 2007 Natural Resources Master Plan is considered to be part of the 2008 Comprehensive Plan. It is an implementation plan that follows the policies set forth in the 2000 Comprehensive Plan. This is accomplished by adding an urban forest component to this plan and by addressing the numbered points listed above.


City of Burnsville
Parks System Map
Minnesota River
Black Dog Lake
Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge
Burnsville Sanitary Landfill Park - 43 Acre Open Space (2006)
Burnsville Parkway
Crystal Lake
Park Types
Community Parks
Neighborhood Parks
Mini Parks
Preservation Areas
Schools
Existing Sidewalk, Proposed Trail
No Sidewalk, Proposed Trail
On Street Trail Connections
Miles
Forest Park Heights –
7.91 Acre Open Space Dedication (2006)

5.2 Water Resources Management Plan

The City of Burnsville Water Resources Management Plan was issued in October 2002. It is a comprehensive review of the management issues affecting the City's lakes, ponds, wetlands and other water resources, with recommendations for management strategies to address those issues. The Water Resources Management Plan outlines twelve goals for water resources planning and management functions. These goals tie into the 1997 End Statement on Environment and satisfy the requirements of MN Statutes 103B.201 and 103B.251 for water resources planning.

The plan reviews Burnsville water resources, including an overview of existing stormwater management, including proposed improvements and a review of alternatives for financing them. The plan summarizes a 1997 wetland and pond inventory and classification system, and provides detailed information on the City's Vermillion, Black Dog and Lower MN River watersheds and subwatersheds. For each subwatershed, the plan provides goals, identified problems and proposed solutions.

The plan advocates a "comprehensive approach to storm water management (which) requires management of water resources, drainage systems and land use in a unique combination of balance and prioritization." In taking this approach, the plan considers the entire hydrologic cycle, including the influence of varying land uses and cover types in the water cycle. In fact, Goal 12 of the overall plan is to "recognize the relationship between land use cover and water resources management."

This is the point where the Water Resources Management Plan is most closely coordinated with the 2007 Natural Resources Master Plan. Much of the water resources plan deals with treatment strategies and stormwater management designed to improve water quality in the lakes and wetlands. These management strategies for water quality solutions should be coordinated with the appropriate proposed NRMP management strategies. For example, the 2007 NRMP includes suggestions for promoting and expanding rain gardens, reducing areas of impervious surfaces and planting more trees for shade. These are all examples of recognizing the relationship between land use and water resources management (Goal 12).

It is recommended that the October 2002 Water Resources Management Plan remain in place for the management of the City's water resources, with incorporation of appropriate land management recommendations in the 2007 NRMP into the subwatershed action plans.

5.3 Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge and Wetland Management District Comprehensive Conservation Plan

The Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) was approved in 2004, and provides a comprehensive overview of the natural resources of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge (MVWNR). The 1400-acre Black Dog Unit of the MVWNR stretches along the northern border of Burnsville east of I-35W, and is contiguous with Cliff Fen, Black Dog, Tennisioux and Cedarbridge Parks. The CCP is an important tool for maintaining the ecological integrity of the refuge in the face of development pressures. Many of the management goals and strategies that the CCP details for the refuge can be extended into the contiguous Burnsville parks.

The CCP describes the natural communities and habitats of the refuge, as well as its land use history, geography, hydrology, climate, cultural and socioeconomic contexts. It details past, ongoing and planned activities for habitat management, fish and wildlife monitoring, public environmental education outreach and mitigation projects. Broad biological goals are set for six biological criteria:

- Floodplain Forests
- Wetlands
- Upland Forests
- Grasslands and Oak Savannas
- Land Protection
- Public Use

Within each goal, objectives are set for meeting the goal. In turn, specific management strategies are laid out to meet each objective.

The City of Burnsville should continue to coordinate management efforts in its contiguous parks with the applicable objectives and management strategies found in the CCP. Specifically, management of upland forest and transitions into wetlands and floodplain forest at Black Dog and Tennisioux Parks should follow or complement the management strategies found in the CCP for those resources. Partnership brings a unified effort to buckthorn removal and deer population control. Moreover, the implementation discussion in the CCP (Chapter 5) articulates the need and the benefit of working with local governments to "seek creative partnership opportunities to achieve (the CCP) vision for the future." This NRMP and continuing work with the MVWNR staff accomplishes the goal of cooperating with the CCP.

5.4 Trail Master Plan (2000)

The Trail Master Plan analyzed the status of the trail system in 2000 and made recommendations for its improvement. The new trails shown in the Plan do not impact public natural areas, therefore routing of new trails does not further dissect these habitats. When constructing new trails or repairing existing trails improvements to the surrounding environment would bolster the quality of Burnsville's natural resources. These improvements include:

- Plant trees to shade trail. This makes the trails more comfortable while extending the life of pavement and contributing to reducing stormwater runoff volumes.
- Plant deep- rooted native grasses and wildflowers along trails rather than turf grasses in order to reduce mowing, increase atmospheric carbon sequestration, increase stormwater infiltration and contribute to bird and butterfly habitat.
- When disturbing soil around trails, decompact the soils by deep tilling and adding organic matter. This allows for healthier vegetative growth along side trails, better stormwater infiltration and water storage in the soil for plant uptake, and greater carbon sequestration.

5.5 City of Burnsville Parks Master Plan

The September 2000 Parks Master Plan recognizes that parks are an integral component of Burnsville's civic infrastructure. Since the park system was essentially complete at the time of the plan's preparation, the plan focuses on the quality of the parks over the quantity of parks. The plan analyzes existing conditions in the park system, including the types and distribution of parks, demographic trends affecting the parks and public perception of the system. The goals of the Parks Master Plan are organized into a series of maps, policies and recommendations called the Parks Framework Plan, which is divided into eight topics:

- Parks System Organization
- Natural Resources and Management Priorities in the Parks
- Park-Trail Connections
- Park Management Policies
- Gemstones in the Park System: A Framework for Park Enhancements
- Site-Specific Park Improvements
- Future Parks: A Conceptual Framework
- Potential New Facilities

In terms of using undeveloped portions of parks, portions of the Parks Framework Plan would clearly be superseded by the 2007 Natural Resources Master Plan. Specifically, the Park Framework Plan sections on Natural Resources and Management Priorities in the Parks, Park Management Policies and Site-Specific Park Improvements should be reviewed to identify policy and recommendations that will be updated by the 2007 NRMP, including the management strategy maps contained in the 2007 NRMP.

Other portions of the Parks Master Plan should remain as the primary guidance for managing Burnsville parks. These include the sections of the Parks Master Plan on trails, maintenance of basic park elements and renovation and replacement of facilities. The cost estimate for parks maintenance, provided in the plan's implantation section, should be updated where applicable.

5.6 Terrace Oaks Park Master Plan (1996)

This plan created an ecological vision for the park and set goals for its use and management. The plan identifies invasive species as a concern for the quality of the park and states that an invasive species removal plan will be created.

This plan includes a strategy for managing invasive species in the park (see Figure 16). The 1996 plan also identifies that large populations of deer are a problem in the park. This plan recommends that the city re-evaluate it's policy and deer removal to increase the number removed and therefore reduce the stress on the few native plants growing in the park.

Tree diseases, especially oak wilt are identified in the plan. Current, good efforts to control tree diseases in the park should continue.

Native prairie exists on the west end of the park north of the parking lot. The master plan recommends a selective burning regime be implemented along with reintroduction of native prairie species. A fire regime has been established in the park along with some buckthorn removal in the area of the prairie remnant. These efforts should be stepped up and this unique habitat area expanded.

With the implementation of this Natural Resources Master Plan, the natural resources management component has been removed from the Terrace Oaks Park Management Plan (TOPMP) and placed in this NRMP. Park use plans remain in the TOPMP.

5.7 Prairie and Savanna Management Plans (2005 with a 2006 update)

The City of Burnsville has developed "Prairie and Savanna Areas Management Plans" that are updated annually. These plans focus on six main areas of prairie and/or savanna within the City, establishing goals and management strategies for each. The plans also provide management histories for each area and maintain current lists of plant and animal species observed within each area. The six areas of focus are:

- Alimagnet Park restored prairie;
- Cam Ram Park remnant oak savanna;
- Rudy Kraemer Nature Preserve restored and remnant prairie;
- Day Park;
- Sunset pond restored prairie;
- Terrace Oaks West Park restored prairie and remnant oak savanna.

The existing plan acknowledges that other prairie and savanna areas exist within the parks and other public lands. These include Wolk, Judicial, Loop and Cliff Fen Parks. Restoration plantings have also been installed in several other parks. In addition, the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge has within it an outstanding, diverse remnant prairie.

Management of the six focus areas began as early as 1987 for Alimagnet to 2002 for Day Park. Typical management activities have included mowing, spot-spraying and broadcast spraying. In some areas weeds have been pulled manually. Seed mixes that have been used have been typical to Minnesota prairies, and have been adjusted to the soil moisture regime.

It is recommended that the city continue to use the existing plan for guidance in managing the focus prairie areas. Restoration and management of additional prairie or savanna areas within the city should continue as time and staff area available. Additional suggestions for management of the focus prairie areas include incorporating fire management into selected areas, and restoration of additional prairie remnants in North River Hills and Chateaulin Parks.

Fire management (burning) is included as a management tool in the existing plan. Burning mimics the natural conditions under which prairie species evolved, and is the most effective means of controlling woody plant intrusion and eliminating non-natives. Public education and coordination with neighborhood groups can effectively overcome public resistance to fire management. These plant communities greatly benefit from fire. Burn management should continue in each park on a planned, but irregular schedule.

A recommended area for additional prairie restoration is in North River Hills and Chateaulin Parks. Areas currently in old field, non-native herbs and grasses should be prepared and seeded with prairie seed mixes similar to those used at Alimagnet. The specific sites within North River Hills Park are east of the ballfields and on either side of the path leading in from the southern entrance to the park. See the Management Plan Map for this park.

5.8 2001 Deer Management Program and the 2005 Update Report

An in depth study was undertaken in 2001 to determine the impact of Burnsville's deer population on natural resources and to suggest strategies to reduce deer impact. Several strategies were suggested and adapted at that time including an education program, adoption of an ordinance banning deer feeding, and a harvesting program. Good progress has been made to reduce the impact of deer on Burnsville's native plant communities.

The field survey conducted for this plan found extensive browse damage to native woody vegetation in Burnsville's natural areas. Native trees are having a difficult time reproducing both because of deer browse and suppression by buckthorn. As buckthorn invasion expands to encompass large natural areas, deer concentrate feeding on preferred browse—native vegetation. Remaining populations of native plants are being severely impacted by deer browse.

The 2001 Deer Management Program refers to recommendations which have set desired deer populations for other communities as low as five per square mile. The report suggested fifteen deer per square mile would be adequate for Burnsville, and that has been the target goal since 2001. At this rate the woodlands are being stressed by deer browse. These woodlands require a five year respite from browse in order to recover. For this, the deer count in Burnsville would need to drop to five deer per square mile (John Moriarity, Ramsey County Wildlife Biologist personal communication). Due to the plant community stress observed in Burnsville's woodlands, staff should be authorized to manage deer to a 5-deer-per-square-mile density in areas being restored.

6.0 Conclusion

We live in a time of environmental change. It is important that our attitudes toward the environment change as well. We can no longer assume that our natural resources will continue to serve our needs without us contributing to their sustainability. We have to take care of our natural resources in order to reap the benefits and to preserve them for our children.

The City of Burnsville has made good efforts to address natural resource issues. For example, great strides have been taken to preserve and improve the city's water resources. But degrading forces are mounting, and require the attention of the citizens of Burnsville.

Negative influences on our natural resources are increasing. Climate change is affecting—and will continue to affect—Burnsville's natural resources. Urban heat-island effect will continue to drive up building cooling costs. Invasive plant species have already established in our natural areas, and will continue to prevent native species from reproducing unless we step in. Wildlife populations are off balance. Stormwater is being sent downstream rather than being held on the land where it is needed. Soils are compacted and preventing healthy plant growth and stormwater infiltration.

6.1 Summary of Recommendations

A number of recommendations are made in this plan. Some are more urgent than others and all take some level of financial commitment. The tables below and on the following page bring these recommendations together in priority ranking.

Summary of Strategies for Implementing Natural Resources Master Plan

Priority One
A. Expand buckthorn and invasive species control program in all RMUs.
B. Create a boulevard tree planting program. (50 trees/year)
C. Create a Buckthorn Brush Pickup Program for private landowners.
D. Conduct a Dutch elm disease program.
E. Expand the built environment tree maintenance program for younger trees.
F. Create a City Center RMU Sustainability Demonstration project.
G. Reduce deer population to 5 deer per square mile in select woodland restoration areas.
H. Provide staff support for implementing strategies. Create education programs on buckthorn, garlic mustard and tree planting. (+1.0 FTE)
I. Consider establishing a parking lot shading ordinance. (Existing staff)
J. Conduct a native herbaceous plant sale in conjunction with the Annual Spring Tree Sale. (Existing staff)
K. Establish and conduct a monitoring program for natural areas and forests.
L. Update Woodland Preservation ordinance & update planting related ordinances. (Existing staff)

Summary of Strategies (continued)

Priority Two
A. Expand existing prairie management program.
B. Expand built environment tree pruning and removal budget for storm damaged and mature trees.
C. Provide staff support to complete inventory of city park and street trees. (+.35 FTE – Intern)
D. Increase funding of existing oak wilt program.
E. Create a Polka Dot Forest Regeneration Program.
F. Consider establishing a Soil Protection ordinance. (Existing staff)

Teach by Example

A potential project to show Burnsville's citizens how to initiate change in their landscape could be to retrofit the City Center complex (RMU) to reduce lawn and impervious surface, where practical, and replace them with deep-rooted plants that function to sequester carbon, and do not require the burning of fossil fuel for maintenance. This can be done in an attractive manner that inspires residents to do the same.

The demonstration gardens at the Hennepin County recycling center educate and inspire the public.

Funding Plan

The strategies recommended in this plan are new or expanded programs that will supplement the programs identified in the 1999 Natural Resources Master Plan. Increased funding above and beyond what is currently allocated will be needed to address the issues identified, and to continue the city's work towards achieving the environmental end identified for our community. Operating budget funding to implement the strategies is proposed to be phased in over a four-year period. The phasing will require an increase of approximately .35 FTE (full time equivalent) per year, totaling 1.35 FTEs and an estimated $163,000 at the end of year four. Additional capital funding of approximately $60,000 would be necessary as well. The strategies will be implemented according to the two priorities identified in the strategy summary table.

6.2 Moving Forward

What can be done to protect Burnsville's natural resources in this period of environmental change? Many things, but first and foremost, it is essential that adequate budget and staff time be made available to meet the recommendations made in this plan.

Burnsville citizens can do many things to steward natural resources to a sustainable landscape in an effort to preserve native plant communities, to sequester carbon, reduce fuel consumption and dependence on foreign oil, to reduce energy needs and associated costs, and to create a beautiful, comfortable environment in which to live. Everyone must participate for successful change to happen. All of us can think of more ways to lighten our impact on the environment—and take action.

Of note in the strategy is the need to devote more resources to the built environment forest. Many of Burnsville's trees are maturing, and many dying. To retain the canopy, regular pruning must occur, and to expand the canopy to 40%, additional trees must be planted.

The table below (and on the following page) summarizes potential solutions for the primary natural resources issues Burnsville (and the region) is facing.

Solutions for Change

Impacts to Burnsville's Natural Resources	Solutions to Reduce Impacts
Development • Destroys habitat • Compacts soil • Increases stormwater runoff	• Conservation housing development design to preserve open space • Soil protection (not disturbing or compacting soil) and remediation by decompacting • Alternative storm water management such as implementing rainwater gardens and green roofs
Urban heat island effect • Increases energy costs • Elevates overnight low temps, year round • Impacts human health	• Reduce the amount of paved surfaces which absorb heat and prevent rain water infiltration. • Plant trees to shade streets, parking lots and buildings and reduce cooling costs.
Invasive plant species • Eliminates natural diversity and plant community resiliency • Causes soil erosion and water pollution	• Monitor their encroachment. • Control where ever possible. • Plant native plants where invasives have been eradicated.
Climate change • Extreme fluctuations in temperature • More days over ninety degrees • Increased intensity of humid and dry days • Increased rainfall intensity with decreased frequency • Decreased snow cover & increased average winter temperatures • Increased wind • Increased competition from warmer-zone non-native species • Increased over wintering of insect pests • Increased stress on heat-intolerant species	• Solutions for fighting climate change include everything found in this column of this table. • It is important to reduce lawn and plant deep rooted plants. Plants sequester carbon through photosynthesis and store it in the soil. In order to have healthy, deep rooted plants, loose, fertile soils are necessary. Loose soils allow roots to penetrate deep, and reach water in times of drought. Loose soils also allow for water to easily soak into the ground rather than running of the surface, where plants can use access it when it's needed. • Plant trees which pull carbon out of the atmosphere and store it in their wood. When planted in the correct spot, they reduce energy use in buildings.
Soil compaction • Decreases storm water infiltration and soil water storage capacity • Decreases aquifer recharge • Supports fewer plants • Decreased carbon sequestration • Decreased plant growth; Trees do not mature • Favors many weed species	• Prevent compaction by keeping vehicles off natural areas and lawns. • Preserve natural areas. • Ameliorate compaction through aeration, deep tilling with the incorporation of organic matter, and by the introduction of soil microbs through compost tea. • Mulch or plant open soil. Never allow soils to be exposed.

continued on next page

Solutions for Change (continued)

Impacts to Burnsville's Natural Resources	Solutions to Reduce Impacts
Exporting stormwater (via pipes) • Treats this precious resource as a waste product • Deprives plantings of water • Increases downstream flooding • Is expensive • Reduced groundwater recharge • Reduced stream, lake and wetland base flow	• Capture stormwater in rainwater gardens, cisterns, green roofs, or a variety of other methods to hold stormwater on-site and soak it into the ground. This provides water to plants and recharges groundwater. • Plant trees to capture stormwater.
Wildlife populations off balance • Spreads disease • Reduces wildlife diversity • Degrades native plant communities through over browsing • Destroys home landscapes • Road kill/property damage • Decreases water quality	• Reduce the deer populations to the carrying capacity of natural areas dominated by buckthorn. • Continue goose control program
Unmanaged open space/forests • Loss of biodiversity and plant community resiliency • Lost habitat • Soil erosion • Open space fragmentation	• Control invasive plants • Plant native trees • Consolidate and expand existing open space through land purchase.

Appendix A—Terrace Oaks Management

Terrace Oaks Park is one of the largest parks in the city's park system and represents a portion of what was once Oak Barrens or savanna. We know this from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources study of original survey notes that date back to the 1800's. Though some of the veteran oaks still stand in the park, the savanna is now overgrown by invasive species such as buckthorn and native species no longer suppressed by fire (i.e., black cherry, elms, etc.).

In order to better understand the present condition of this park and provide a benchmark from which to assess restoration and maintenance programs, ten plots within the park were selected for sampling. Each plot was 1/10th acre in size. The location of each plot was randomly selected. All trees and saplings within each plot were identified and tallied. The shrub layer and tree seedlings, if present, were noted. The location of each plot center was recorded using GPS then marked by embedding in the soil a one-foot long section of rebar. The quality at each of the ten sites surveyed was either medium (six sites) or low (four sites). This means that the natural process of regeneration of native trees is significantly impacted and in many areas of the park non-existent. Most of this impact is from non-native invasive small tree species, European buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*), common in this forest understory. At one plot, no tree seedlings or shrubs were found other than buckthorn. Tartarian honeysuckle, another invasive species, was found in three of the plots while buckthorn was found in all ten sites and throughout the park.

Other than buckthorn, black cherry was the most common seedling found with some green ash, American elm and hackberry. Dutch elm disease was also noted at the site with elm seedlings. Red oak seedlings

Tree Species Inventory in Terrace Oaks Park

Species	Percent	Species	Percent
Elm, American	25.4	Hackberry	3.0
Cherry, black	20.3	Ash, green	1.5
Boxelder	14.9	Oak, white	1.5
Oak, red	14.0	Basswood	0.6
Aspen	11.9	Apple	0.3
Oak, bur	6.3	Elm, red	0.3

were found at only one site and no bur oak seedlings were found. Wild raspberry was the most common shrub but prickly ash, sumac and nannyberry also grows here when not out-competed by buckthorn.

Three hundred thirty-five trees were recorded within the ten plots. The largest was a 31” diameter red oak. Fifteen of the eighteen trees that are 15” or greater in diameter are oaks. At the other end of the spectrum, only six of the 44 trees that are 2.0” in diameter or less are oaks.

The overall quality of the wooded portion of this park is low and will continue to degrade, if actions are not taken to alter this trend. The lack of fire has led to the conversion of an oak savanna to overgrown woodland. Restoration here will be necessary if the legacy of oak savannas is to be part of Burnsville’s urban forest diversity in the future. See Figure 16 for a management strategy map of Terrace Oaks Park.

Appendix B—Tree Selection Recommendations

Recommended Trees

Evergreen

Common Name	Scientific Name	Notes
Balsam fir	*Abies balsemea*	Can withstand shade; not too large
White spruce	*Picea alba*	Good substitute for blue spruce; some good varieties such as Black Hills spruce
Jack pine	*Pinus bank siana*	Good for dry, sunny sites
Red pine	*Pinus resinosa*	Minnesota state tree
White pine	*Pinus strobus*	Soft-textured pine once much more common in Minnesota, can withstand some shade
White cedar	*Thuja occidentalis*	Commonly used as hedge but can grow to over 20 ft

Deciduous

Sugar maple	*Acer saccharum*	Good for shady areas, once common in the Big Woods area of southern Minnesota
Ohio buckeye	*Aesculus glabra*	Medium sized tree good for shady lawns
Downy serviceberry	*Amelanchier arborea*	Small flowering tree with good fall color
River birch	*Betula nigra*	Good substitute for paper birch or weeping willow, can grow in wet areas
Paper birch	*Betula papyrifera*	Underplanted in the Twin Cities area, likes roots shaded
American hornbeam	Carpinus caroliniana	Small tree with good fall color
Bitternut hickory	*Carya cordiformis*	Native to the forests of southern MN; under-planted
Hawthorn	*Crataegus spp.*	Can be substituted for crabapple
Hackberry	*Celtis occidentalis*	Hardy tree becoming more popular; requires more pruning than many trees
Honeylocust	*Gleditsia triacanthos*	Look for thornless varieties, light shade good for lawns
Black walnut	*Juglans nigra*	Can be detrimental for lawns, but good for areas occassionaly wet
Tamarack	*Larix laricina*	Deciduous conifer found in wetlands but can grow in sunny lawns
Ironwood	*Ostrya virginiana*	Common understory tree; can withstand some shade
White oak	*Quercus alba*	Large tree good for mesic sites
Bur oak	*Quercus macrocarpa*	Large tree good for wet or dry sites
Red oak	*Quercus rubra*	Large tree good for mesic sites
American mountain ash	*Sorbus americana*	Good small tree that can grow in light shade
Showy mountain ash	*Sorbus decora*	Good small tree that can grow in light shade
Japanese tree lilac	*Syringa reticulata*	small, showy tree overused in some cities, but not common in Burnsville
Elm, disease resistant	*Ulmus spp.*	the U of M has a list of disease resistant elms worth considering

Trees Not Recommended

Evergreen

Common Name	Scientific Name	Notes
Colorado Blue Spruce	*Picea pungens*	Overplanted, susceptible to diseases; white spruce a better choice
Austrian pine	*Pinus nigra*	Susceptible to tip blight disease, red pine a good substitute
Scotch pine	*Pinus sylvestris*	Poor form

Deciduous

Amur maple	*Acer ginnala*	Overplanted and invasive non-native tree
Norway maple	*Acer platanoides*	Prone to canker disease and often with poor form
Silver maple	*Acer saccharinum*	Brittle wood, tree requires a lot of pruning
European white birch	*Betula pendula*	More prone to borers than native paper birch
Northern catalpa	*Catalpa speciosa*	Short-lived tree
Russian olive	*Eleagnus angustifolia*	Prone to diseases
Ash (all)	*Fraxinus spp.*	Green ash already overplanted, all ash species threatened by emerald ash borer
Butternut	*Juglans cinerea*	Prone to butternut canker that shortens lifespan
Mulberry	*Morus spp.*	Short-lived tree usually with poor form, can be invasive
Lombary poplar	*Populus spp.*	Short-lived tree

Appendix C—Burnsville's Rare Species

Figure 5 shows the distribution of DNR records of rare plant and animal species and unusual plant communities in Burnsville. Some of these are records of plants and animals observed in Burnsville as long ago as 1913. However, most of the observations were recorded within the last 25 years.

Most of the DNR records are concentrated along the river, within the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. Another grouping of rare species records is in the southwest corner of the city, near Murphy-Hanrahan Regional Park and Cam Ram Park. In all, there are records of eleven rare plant species and ten rare animal species in Burnsville. There are also examples of remnant prairie and savanna, oak woodlands, calcareous fens, wet prairies and ash swamps within the city limits.

Debris can be stacked and burned, chipped and hauled away, or chipped and spread on the forest floor.

Invasive species control requires many approaches to control. Judicial application of herbicide is very effective.

Fire is an important management tool for retaining or restoring biodiversity in prairies, savannas, and oak woodlands.

Appendix D—Buckthorn Removal Techniques

Buckthorn Removal—First Removal Techniques

These techniques are used as appropriate for site conditions.

Cut-Slash: This technique involves cutting buckthorn, laying the tree on the ground and cutting the branches into pieces that will slowly decompose. The stumps are coated with an herbicide to prevent resprouting. This process saves the expense of hauling the buckthorn off site.

Cut-Chip-Spread: This technique involves cutting buckthorn, applying herbicide to the stumps, dragging the buckthorn to a chipper, and then spreading the chips on the forest floor. This technique saves the expense of hauling the wood chips off site, but can only be used when infestations are low. Too many wood chips on the forest floor prevents native plant regeneration

Cut-Chip-Haul: This process is the same as the previous except that the wood chips are hauled off site. Removal is necessary in heavy infestations where large amounts of chips would smother emerging vegetation of the forest floor.

Cut-Pile-Burn: This process includes cutting buckthorn, applying herbicide to the stumps, dragging the buckthorn into a pile in a safe place to be burned. This technique saves the expense of chipping and hauling. Burning should be conducted in a safe place where forest soils will not be sterilized.

Buckthorn Control—Management for Years 2 through 5:

Three different management tools are available for years two through five, including:

Burning: Fire is nature's tool for maintaining savannas and open woodlands. It is very effective in killing non-native species not adapted to fire such as buckthorn, invasive honeysuckles and garlic mustard. Timing is critical to set fire to invasive plants when they are most vulnerable and before they produce seed. Fire is the least time intensive, least expensive and possibly the most effective management tool.

Over-spray: A natural bud inhibitor (Krenite) is sprayed on stump resprouts and small seedlings in late fall or early winter to prevent the plants from producing leaves in the spring. Without leaves the plant quickly dies.

Critical Period Cutting: Stump resprouts and seedlings are cut at the end of May or early June just after they have used considerable energy to produce new shoots and leaves. This depletes the plant of energy and makes them especially susceptible to fire or over-spraying.

These techniques are used in years 2-5 as is appropriate for site conditions, extent of buckthorn invasion and budget. A specific plan is created for each site based on these factors.

After the five years of buckthorn removal and control it is important to prevent buckthorn from re-establishing. Seed will continually be distributed in bird droppings, but at a very slow rate. The few seedlings that emerge after the five year program can easily be controlled by volunteers.

Appendix E—Recommended Changes to Existing Tree-Related Ordinances

The following recommendations relate to those ordinances that most directly affect tree preservation and tree planting on public and private property. The recommendations put forth here have not been reviewed by an attorney or any expert in such legal matters.

Title 8. Chapter 3, Section 3. Permits

In order to facilitate planting in road right of ways and on other city-owned property, it is recommended that existing language be changed to exempt the city from the need to issue itself a permit to plant trees on streets or public property.

When issuing permits to applicants, it is recommended that the site be inspected by the City Forester who then provides the applicant with a list of trees acceptable for planting on that particular site prior to issuing a permit. In this way, appropriately trained staff can take into account the site (soil type, sunlight levels, overhead or underground obstructions,) local and citywide tree diversity (trees under or over-planted), and insect and disease threats (EAB, Dutch elm disease, etc.).

A list of recommended trees, such as that found in Appendix B, should be made available to permit applicants. This list should be dynamic; reviewed every year or two then changed when necessary to reflect changes in tree diversity, insect and disease pests or other issues of concern to the city.

The City Forester should reserve the right to be more restrictive, when necessary, than the current recommended tree list. However, the Forester should recommend several substitutes in cases where the applicant might list inappropriate trees on their permit application.

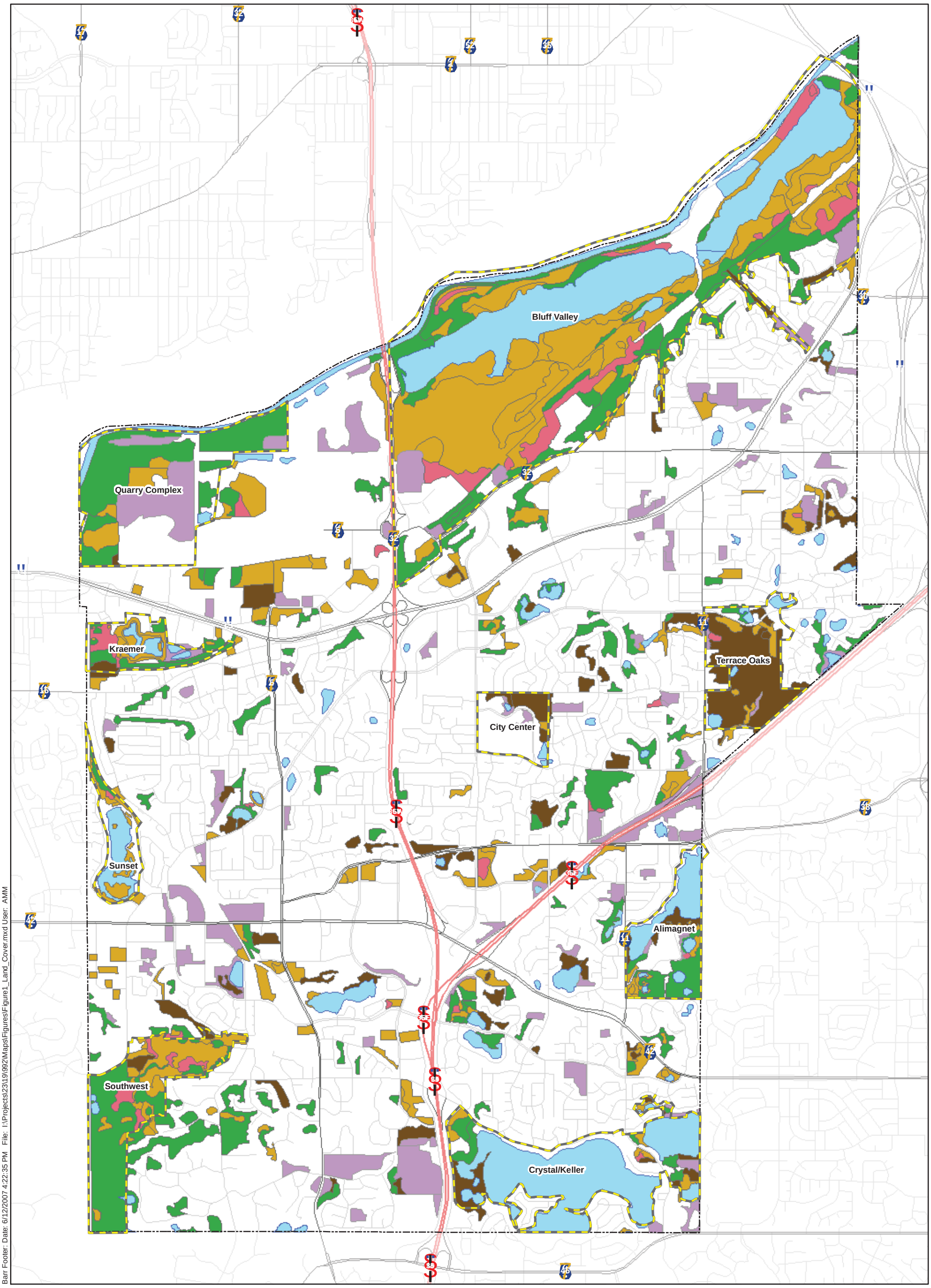
Title 10. Chapter 8, Section 9. Woodland Protection Standards

Change the existing ordinance away from one that focuses on tree values and replacing stems to one focused on preserving tree canopy, rather than number of stems. For example, one mature bur oak may provide as much canopy as half a dozen crabapples. As suggested earlier, a discernment process involving representatives of several interested parties may be effective in coming to terms with what the city wishes to preserve, where that preservation should take place, who is responsible and what goals (such as 50% canopy cover city-wide) should be set forth.

Title 11. Chapter 5, Section 5. Requirements Applicable to Trees in New Subdivisions

Paragraph (D) requires trunk diameter to be measured at four feet above the planting line of the tree while the instruction for filling out the tree evaluation form mandates the standard height of four and one-half feet as the location to take this measurement. For internal consistency in keeping with standard measurement techniques, a height of 4 ½ feet (54”) above ground should be used.

The City Forester should have final approval on the species selected for planting in new subdivisions. To that end, either replace the tree list in paragraph (F) with Appendix B or have the City Forester indicate early in the permit process which trees should not be used on this site. The later approach allows selecting trees that match the site conditions and promote tree diversity within the neighborhood.



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RMU boundary

Burnsville City Limits

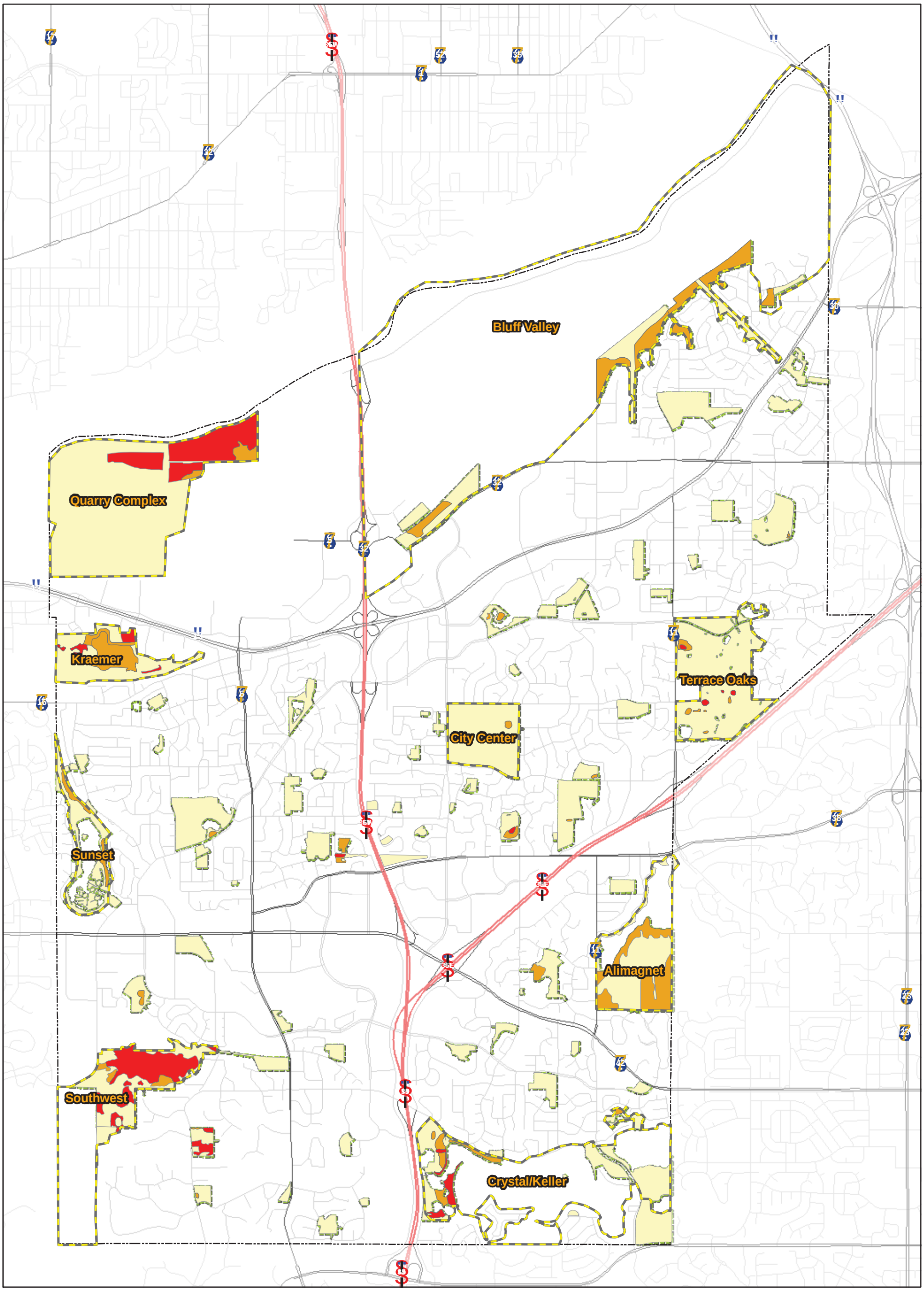
Land Cover Classification

- Urban
- Planted or Cultivated Vegetation
- Forest
- Woodland
- Shrubland
- Herbaceous
- Sparse Vegetation
- Water

0 3,000 6,000 Feet

Figure 1
LAND COVER MAP

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan



RMU boundary
Burnsville City Limits
High
Medium
Low

0 3,000 6,000 Feet

Figure 2
ECOLOGICAL QUALITY RANKING MAP
for Publicly Owned Land

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan

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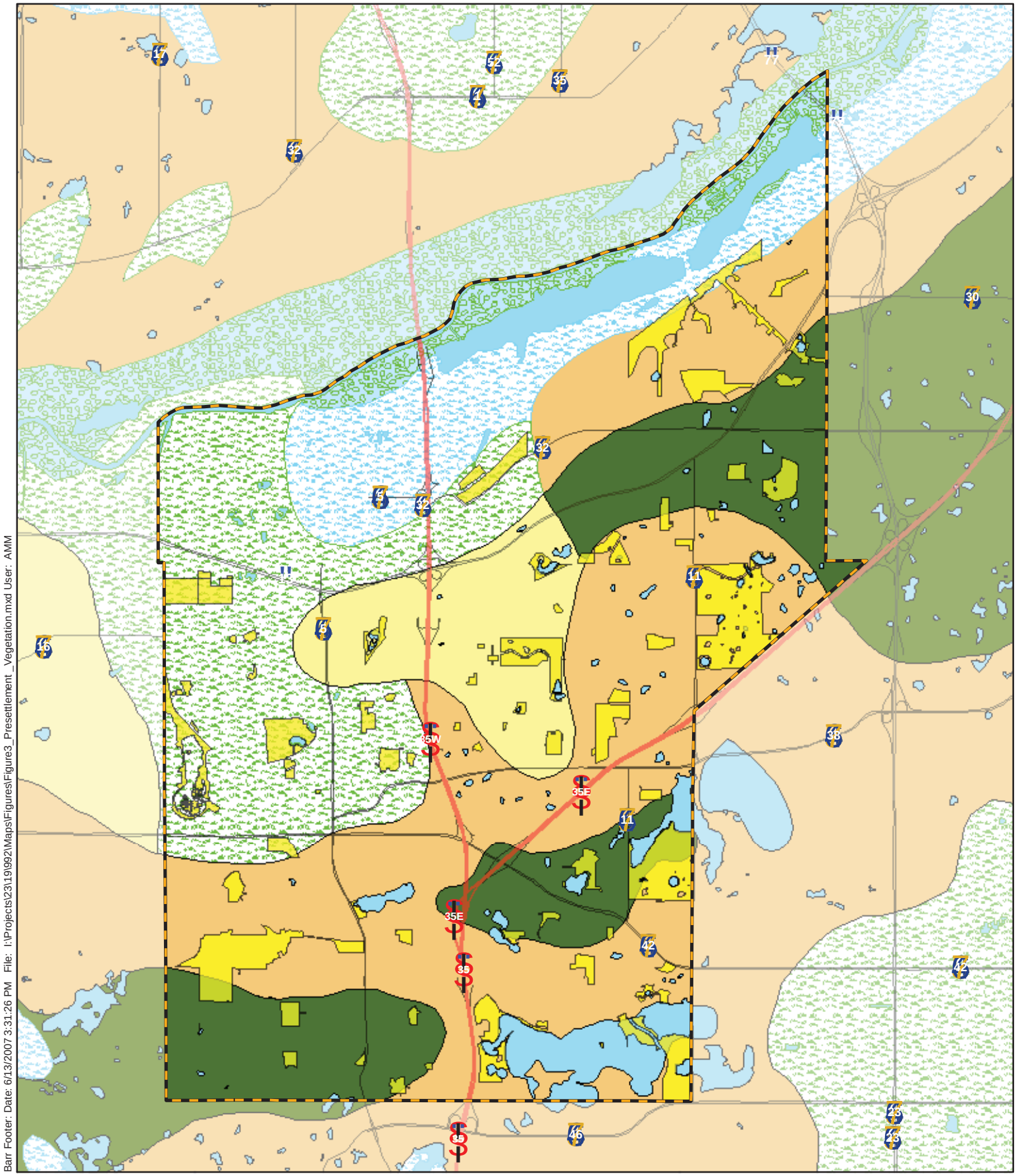

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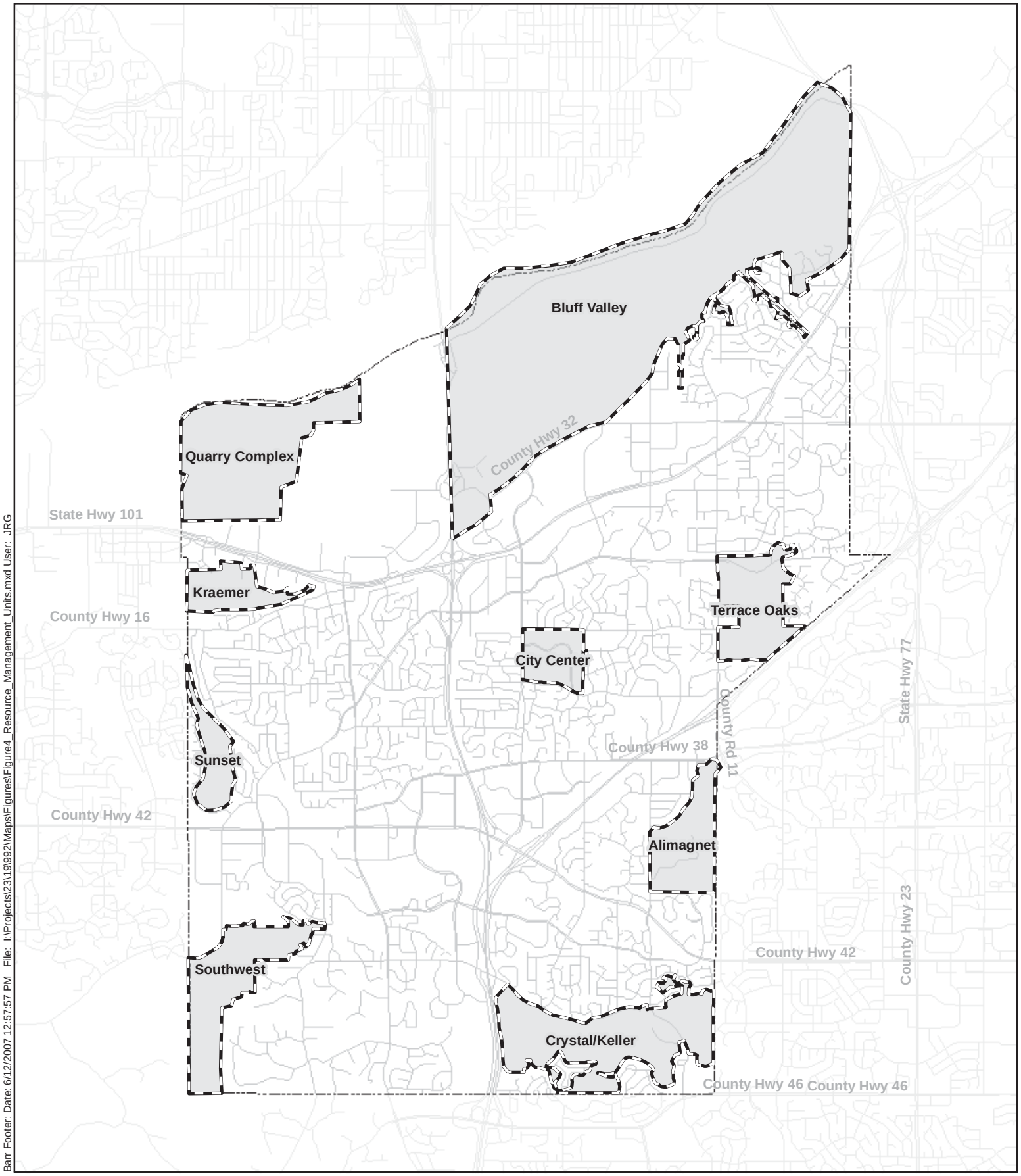
Burnsville City Limits
City Parks
Aspen-Oak Land
Big Woods - Hardwoods
Lakes / Open Water
Oak openings and barrens
Prairie
River Bottom Forest
Wet Prairie

0 2,500 5,000 Feet

Figure 3
PRE-EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT VEGETATION

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan



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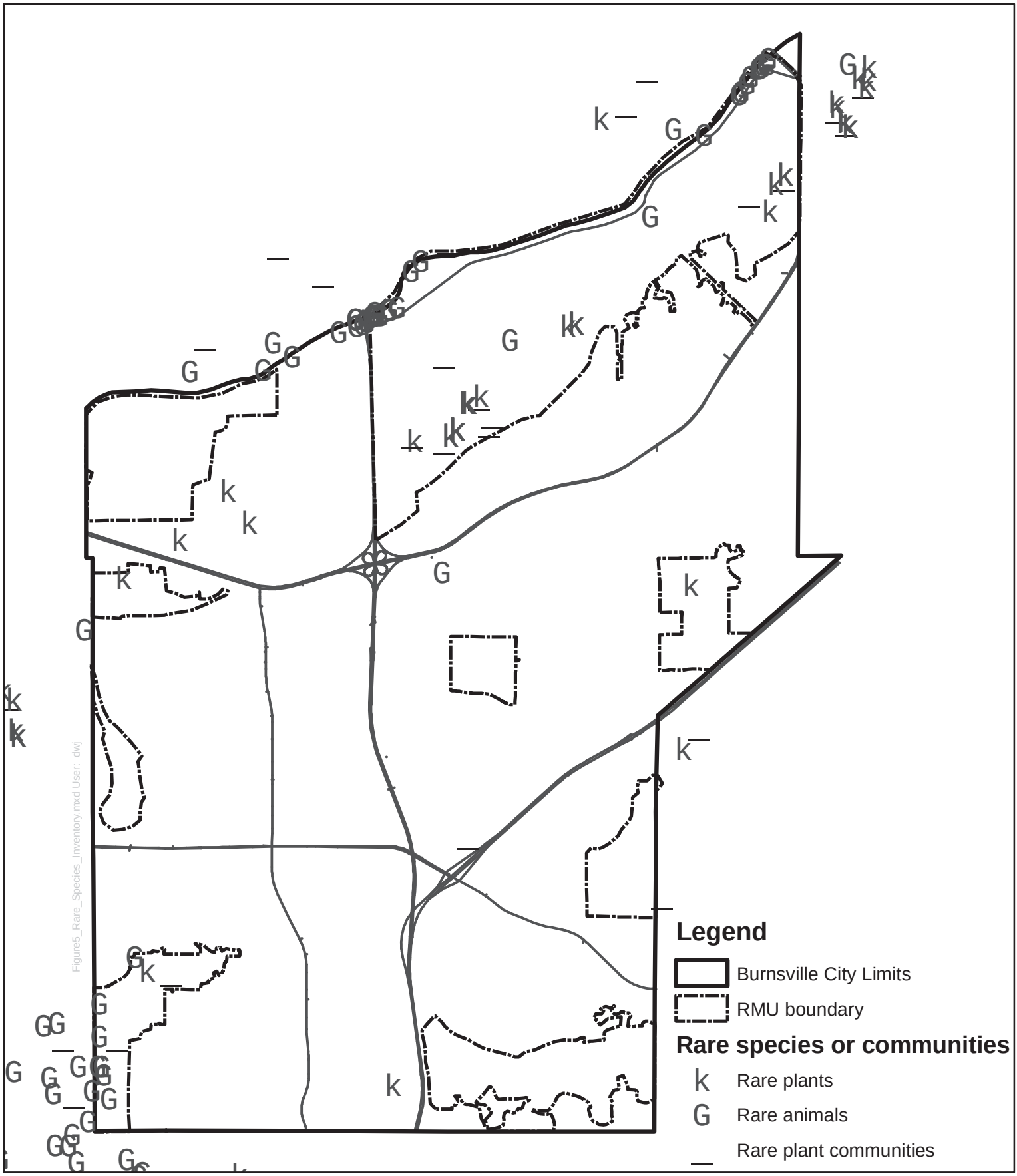
RMU boundary

Burnsville City Limits

0 2,500 5,000 Feet

Figure 4
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT UNITS (RMU)

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan



Miles
1 0 1

Feet
5,000 0 5,000

Figure 5
Rare Species Inventory Map

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan

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RMU boundary
Gravel Trails
Paved Trails
First mgmt priorities
Second mgmt priorities
Eventual mgmt areas
Best Quality Veg Community Node

Figure 6
Alimagnet RMU
Management Plan

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan

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RMU boundary
Gravel Trails
Paved Trails
bike trail
First mgmt priorities
Second mgmt priorities
Eventual mgmt areas
Best Quality Vegetation Community Node

Figure 7
Bluff Valley RMU
Management Plan

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan

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RMU boundary
Gravel Trails
Paved Trails
Bike Trails
First mgmt priorities
Second mgmt priorities
Eventual mgmt areas
Best Quality Vegetation Community Node
Garlic Mustard

Figure 8
City Center RMU
Management Plan

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan

RMU boundary
Management_Areas
First mgmt priorities
Best Quality Vegetation Community Node
Second mgmt priorities
Eventual mgmt areas
Gravel Trails
Paved Trails
bike trail
Garlic Mustard

Figure 9
Crystal Keller RMU
Management Plan

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan

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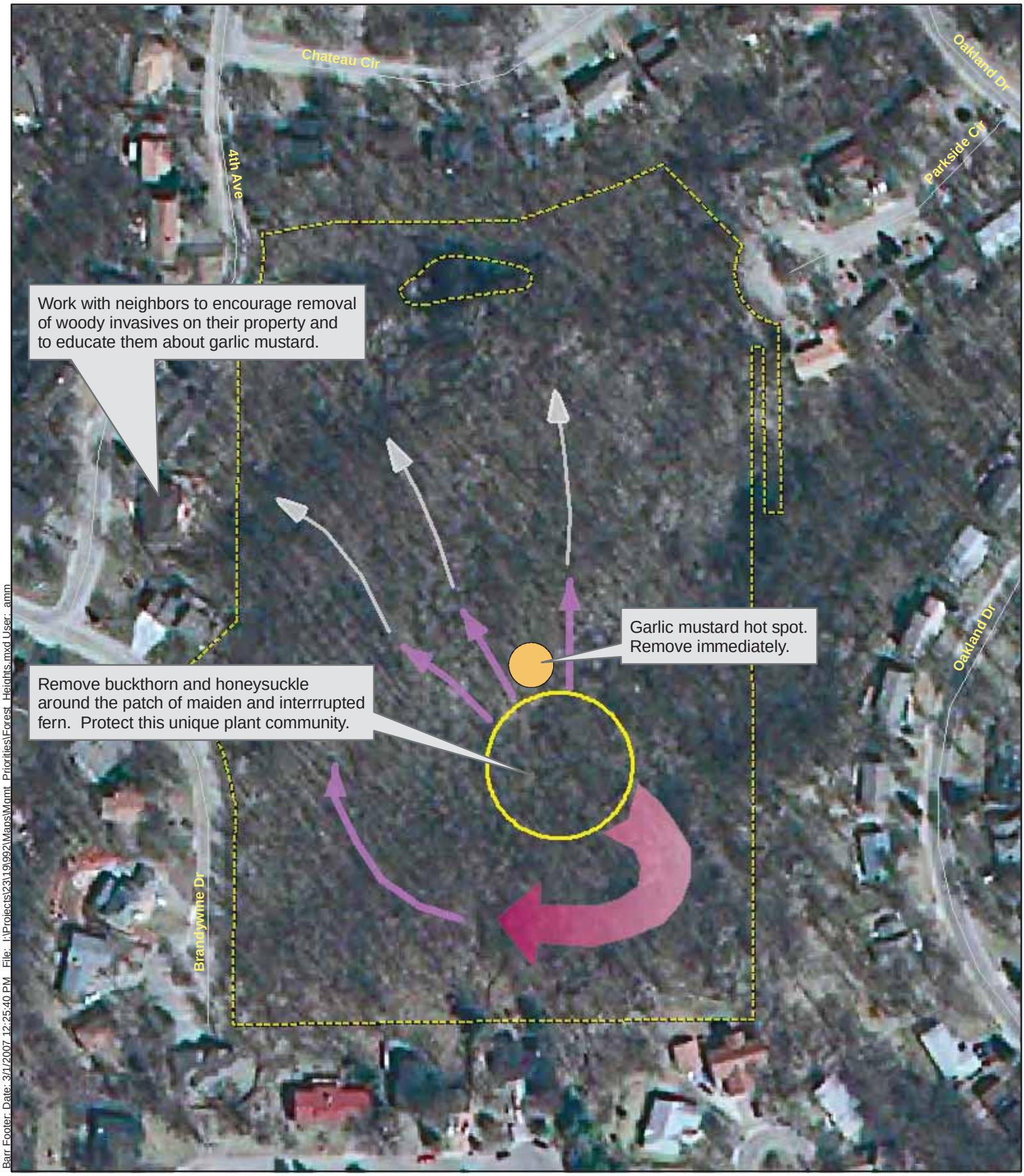

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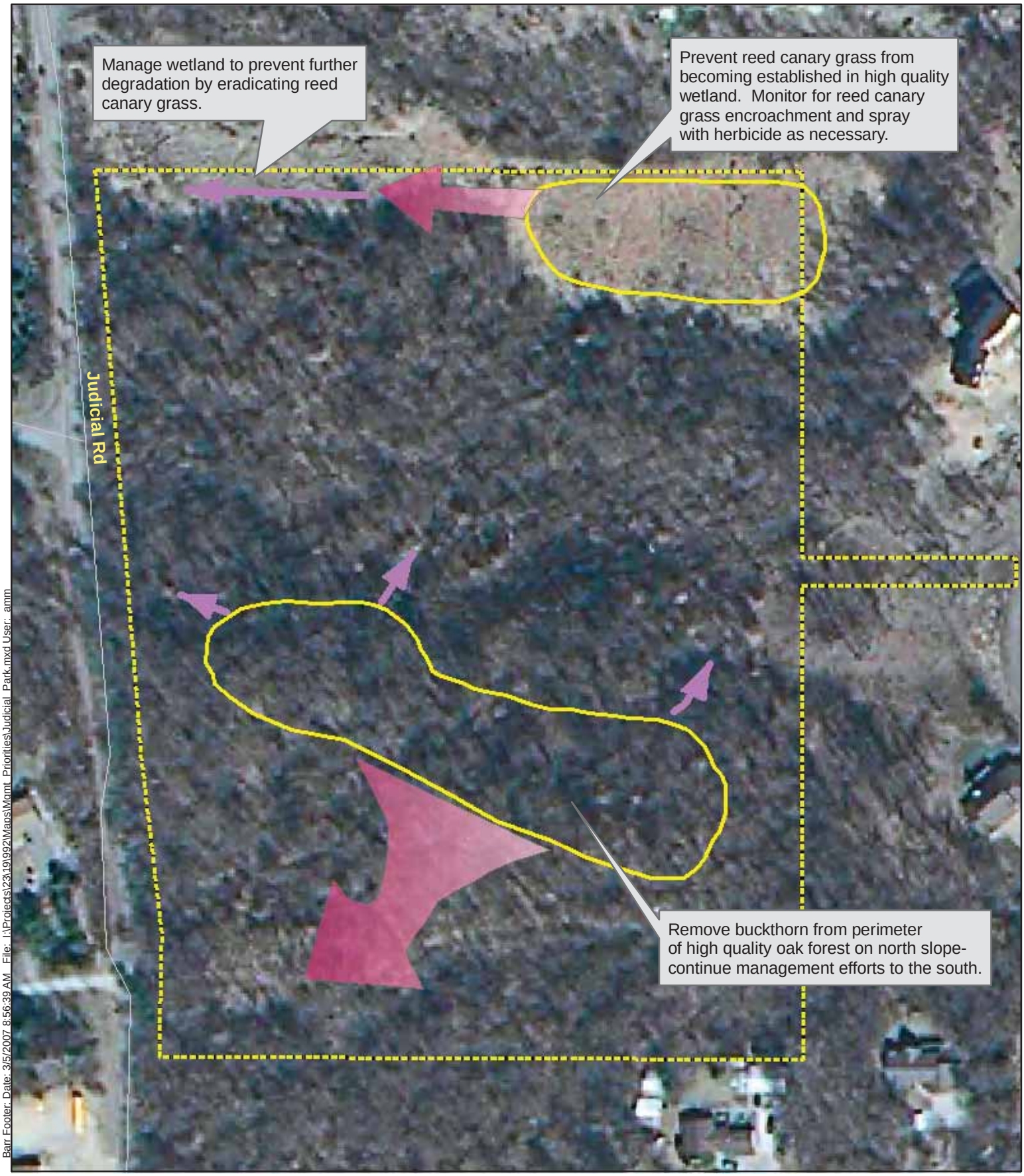
RMU boundary
City parks
Gravel Trails
Paved Trails
First mgmt priorities
Second mgmt priorities
Eventual mgmt areas
Best Quality Veg Community Node
Garlic Mustard

Figure 10
Forest Heights
Management Plan

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan



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RMU boundary
City parks
Gravel Trails
Paved Trails
bike trail
First mgmt priorities
Second mgmt priorities
Eventual mgmt areas
Best Quality Vegetation Community Node

Figure 11
Judicial Park
Management Plan

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan

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RMU boundary
Gravel Trails
Paved Trails
First mgmt priorities
Second mgmt priorities
Eventual mgmt areas
Best Quality Vegetation Community Node

Figure 12
Kraemer RMU
Management Plan

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan

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RMU boundary
City parks
Gravel Trails
Paved Trails
bike trail
First mgmt priorities
Second mgmt priorities
Eventual mgmt areas
Best Quality Veg Community Node

Figure 13
Quarry Complex RMU
Management Plan

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan

Keep buckthorn cut back along edges of all high quality wetlands.

Continue savanna restoration - remove brush and thin canopy with prescribed burns.

Continue managment in this area. Prescribed burn regime is needed.

Manage buckthorn to protect understory layer. Very little work is needed here.

Remove sumac and buckthorn, thin canopy and conduct prescribed burns.

Work with TRPD to prevent buckthorn invasion of sedge meadows and shrubs swamps.

150th St
Hanrehan Dr
Hanrehan Rd
Hanrehan Lake Blvd
Burnsville Pkwy W
Westcliffe Dr
Crestmount La
Burnell Park Dr
Deerwood Dr
Viewcrest La
Oakwood Dr
Sharon La
150th St W
Wildwood Rd
Estates Tr
Woods Tr S
Woods Tr
Wildwood Ct
Wildwood Tr
Valley View Dr
Judicial Rd
Scenic Hwy

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RMU boundary
Gravel Trails
Paved Trails
bike trail
First mgmt priorities
Second mgmt priorities
Eventual mgmt areas
Best Quality Vegetation Community Node

Figure 14
Southwest RMU
Management Plan

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan

RMU boundary
Gravel Trails
Paved Trails
bike trail
First mgmt priorities
Second mgmt priorities
Eventual mgmt areas
Best Quality Vegetation Community Node

Figure 15
Sunset Pond Park
Management Plan

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan

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RMU boundary
Gravel Trails
Paved Trails
First mgmt priorities
Second mgmt priorities
Eventual mgmt areas
Best Quality Veg Community Node

Figure 16
Terrace Oaks RMU
Management Plan

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan

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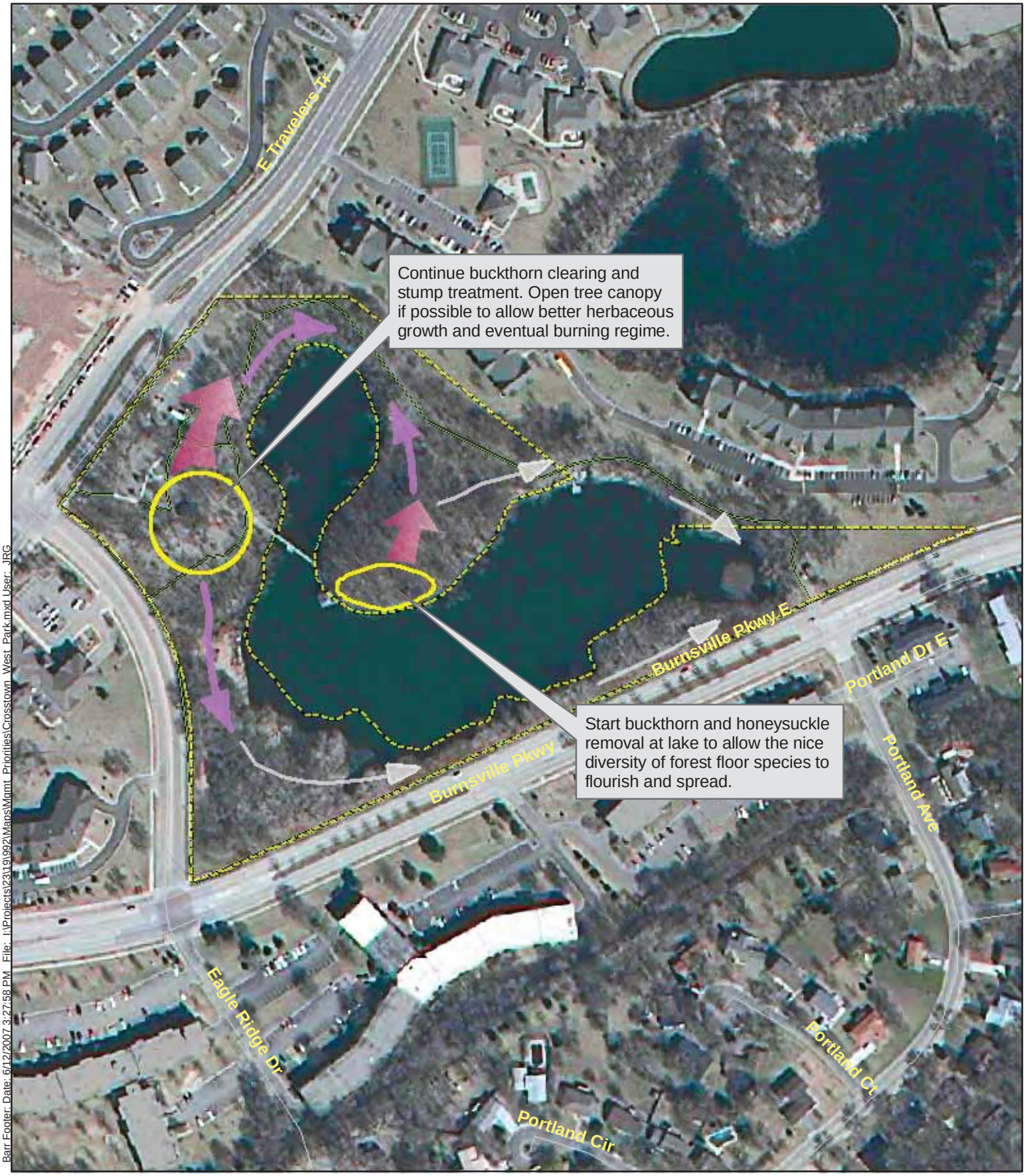
RMU boundary
City parks
Gravel Trails
Paved Trails
First mgmt priorities
Second mgmt priorities
Eventual mgmt areas
Best Quality Veg Community Node

Figure 17
Chateaulin Park
Management Plan

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan



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RMU boundary
City parks
Gravel Trails
Paved Trails
Bike Trails
First mgmt priorities
Second mgmt priorities
Eventual mgmt areas
Best Quality Veg Community Node

Figure 18
Crosstown West Park
Management Plan

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan

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RMU boundary
City parks
Gravel Trails
Paved Trails
First mgmt priorities
Second mgmt priorities
Eventual mgmt areas
Best Quality Vegetation Community Node

Figure 19
Hollows Park
Management Plan

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan

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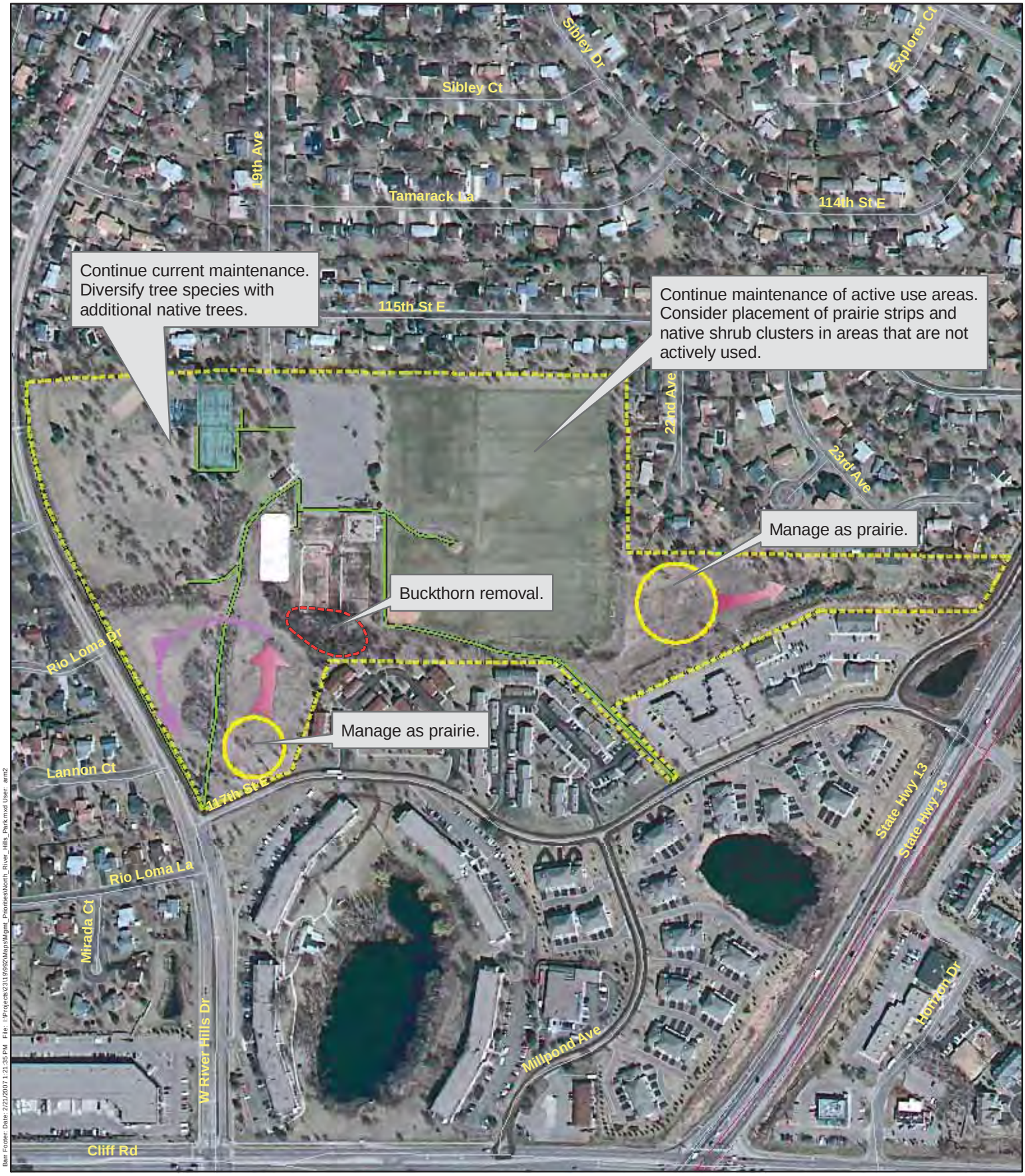
RMU boundary
City parks
Gravel Trails
Paved Trails
bike trail
First mgmt priorities
Second mgmt priorities
Eventual mgmt areas
Best Quality Vegetation Community Node

Figure 21
Neil Park
Management Plan

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan



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RMU boundary
City parks
Gravel Trails
Paved Trails
Bike Trails
First mgmt priorities
Second mgmt priorities
Eventual mgmt areas
Best Quality Vegetation Community Node
Management_Areas

Figure 22
North River Hills Park
Management Plan

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan

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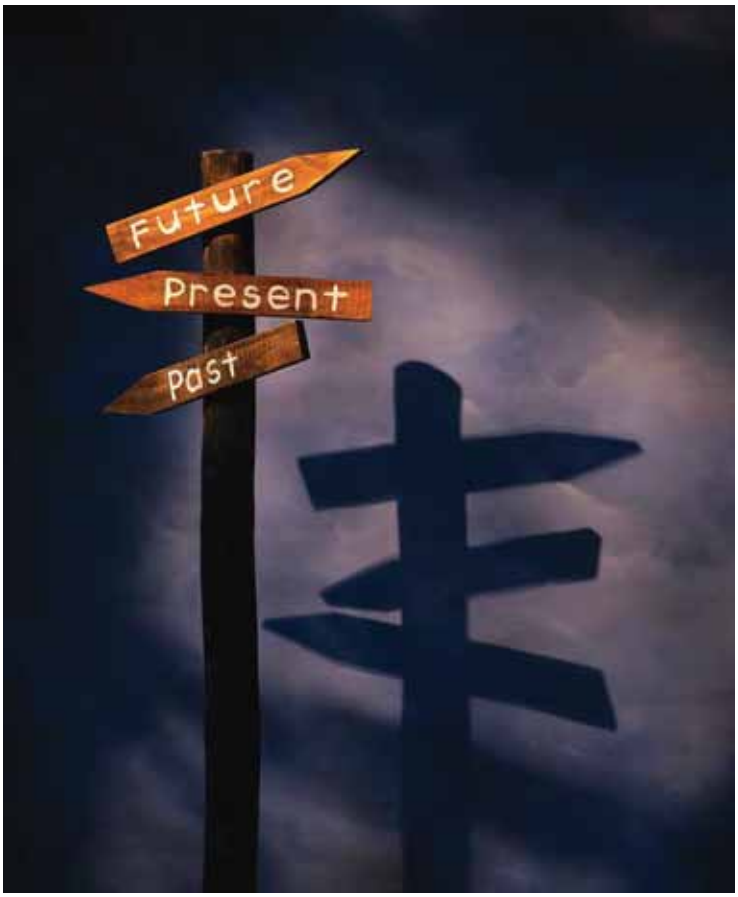
RMU boundary
City parks
Gravel Trails
Paved Trails
First mgmt priorities
Second mgmt priorities
Eventual mgmt areas
Best Quality Veg Community Node

Figure 23
Wellington Crescent/Water Tower
Management Plan

Burnsville Natural Resources
Master Plan



APPENDIX J – DRAFT WETLAND PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

2007

CITY OF BURNSVILLE
2030
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Wetland Protection and Management Plan

BURNSVILLE

BWSR Review

City of Burnsville, Minnesota

Executive Summary

The City of Burnsville (City) covers approximately 17,282 acres, of which approximately 2,785 acres, or 16 percent, are wetlands or other water features. These surface water resources include six lakes, 266 wetlands, 59 storm water or other created ponds, and portions of three designated trout streams that are located wholly or partially within the City. Wetlands alone constitute 1,824 acres, or about 11% of the city area. One of the most prominent features in the City is the Minnesota River and the extensive backwater and wetlands associated with it. The Minnesota River associated wetlands and Black Dog fen within the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge account for 913 acres, or about half of the wetland habitat within the city limits.

The City of Burnsville is located at the northern boundary of Dakota County (Figure 1). The City includes portions of four watersheds; the Black Dog, Lower Minnesota River, Vermillion River, and Credit River (Figure 2). These watersheds are managed by several watershed organizations, of which the City is an active member. This Plan has been drafted to comply or exceed the requirements of these organizations.

This Wetland Protection and Management Plan has been developed to provide the City with an updated wetland inventory and functions and values analysis, to provide enhanced management strategies to preserve and protect the wetland resources, and to comply with local watershed organizations plans. The regulatory framework developed in this Plan will be incorporated into the City's existing planning and zoning regulations and implemented by ordinance. This Plan is an update to the original Plan completed in 1998.

Wetlands within the City have been classified into four categories to provide a range of protection standards. These categories are Protection, Improvement, Management, and Management II. The first three categories are unchanged from the 1998 inventory and Plan. The exception to this is the automatic classification of any Outstanding Resource Waters as Protection. The validity of the 1998 classification system was tested using the Minnesota Routine Assessment Method Version 3.0 (MnRAM) to see if the older classes continue to accurately represent the wetland functions and values. Comparison of a subsample of the of the 1998 inventory to the MnRAM-derived classifications demonstrated that the older inventory was equal or more conservative than the more current methods, and was therefore still acceptable. A new category, Management II, has been added to the updated Plan to provide a category for wetlands currently being used for storm water management purposes, but would be regulated as a wetland.

This Plan update includes:

- Updated inventory of the wetlands in the City; including accurate mapping, functions and values analysis, and classification;
- Differentiation of regulated wetlands from other water features;
- Development of regulatory and non-regulatory options for wetland preservation and protection;
- Identification of potential wetland mitigation sites within the city;
- Refinement of a GIS-based wetland management system.

Purpose of the Plan

The purpose of this Plan is to establish a comprehensive wetland protection and management program to protect, conserve, and manage the wetlands within the City. The Plan also recognizes that development and redevelopment will continue well into the future, and will serve as a guide for City staff and developers to follow as they evaluate the potential impacts of a given project. The Plan will serve as the toolbox for the City, and includes the best available mapping of the wetlands and water resources, differentiation of wetlands from other water features, and development of regulatory policies and goals. This Plan is also intended to

meet or exceed the requirement of the watershed management organizations within the city, and allow the City to continue managing its wetland resources in accordance with the Plan.

Basis for the Plan

This Plan has been prepared following the requirements of Minnesota Rule Chapter 8420.0650, Local Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plans. These statutes and rules allow for the City to regulate wetland policy, provided that minimum standards are met. The planning process must include the following:

- Provide for resource agency and public participation;
- Wetland functional assessment information for the plan area;
- High priority area identification;
- Meet no-net loss of wetlands within the plan area;
- Follow Wetland Conservation Act requirements; and
- Adopt a local ordinance that implements the plan.

This Plan has also been prepared with the requirement that it comply with the standards of the local watershed management organization plans. The City is located within four major watershed units as shown in Figure 2. These watersheds are regulated by three organizations including: Black Dog Watershed Management Organization (BDWMO), Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD), and Vermillion River Joint Powers Organization. The fourth watershed, Credit River, is administered by the BDWMO for the portion of the watershed within Dakota County.

Goals and Objectives

The main objective for the updated Wetland Protection and Management Plan is to provide a current inventory of the wetland resources in the City, differentiate regulated wetlands from other water features, and develop a comprehensive approach to regulate and protect wetlands based on wetland functions and associated public values.

This Plan includes an update of the results of a complete field inventory of the City along with an assessment of the quality of the wetland resources completed in 1998. It is intended to provide a guide for City staff and residents to make informed decisions about the future development and redevelopment of the City with respect to the protection, conservation, and management of wetland resources.

Wetland Inventory Database

The 1998 wetland inventory was reviewed and updated using recent high-resolution aerial photographs. The previous inventory used field-based attributes, but the boundaries were based on the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) (Figure 4). The NWI is a good reference, but is not accurate enough to substitute for a current wetland inventory. This revised database replaces the former inventory. Review and updating of the 1998 inventory was needed as many of the former basins were not mapped correctly, mapped basins were not present, and some wetlands may have been missed. The results of the 2006 inventory are shown in Figure 5, which includes the management classification for each wetland. The official inventory will reside within the City's GIS database.

Classification of Wetland Basins

Each basin within the city has been classified into one of four categories. These categories are the basis for which protection standards have been established. The 1998 inventory attributed classifications based on the Natural Resource Evaluation, supplemented with data from the City's 1994 Storm Water Management Plan, the Dakota County Biological Survey and other sources.

The database and supplemental information were used to determine the classification of each wetland basin by sorting the data according to total points and applying the ranking strategy. The resulting classifications include the following:

- *Protection Areas* - Basins with Native Grades of A or B, sites with complete Community Structure, any sites supporting rare species, and any sites within or adjacent to significant natural communities as identified by the Dakota County Biological Survey. This is comparable to the Preserve Classification used in the MnRAM.
- *Improvement Areas* - Basins with 3 of 4 of the Community Structure criteria, sites greater than ten acres in size, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Protected Waters and Wetlands (Public Waters), and basins within existing City parks that are not classified as Protection Areas. Although there is some overlap, this classification is similar to the Manage I and Manage II MnRAM classifications.
- *Management Areas* - Remaining wetlands, but generally of low quality and located outside of protected areas. Management wetlands are also likely to receive untreated storm water runoff, but have not been altered to enhance treatment capabilities. This classification is comparable to the Manage II and Manage III MnRAM classifications.
- *Management II Areas* – These basins include any of the water features that may have been historic wetlands, and would remain subject to the requirement of the Wetland Conservation Act. These basins will have minimal protection standards as they currently function primarily to provide storm water management.

A detailed description of the classifications and ranking strategy is included in the Wetland Inventory and Classification section of this report.

In 2006, the older classification system was reviewed to determine if the wetland designations were still accurate and comparable to more recent assessment methods. To accomplish this, random samples of ten wetlands from each of the management classes were selected for review using the Minnesota Routine Assessment Method Version 3.0 (MnRAM). This provided a total of 30 basins to be assessed and compared to the older classifications. A detailed discussion of the comparison is included in Section III, however it has been determined that the existing classification system remains adequate or even more protective than the comparable MnRAM classification.

Wetland Restoration Areas

In addition to identifying the current wetlands, the plan update has identified areas of potential wetland restoration. This has been completed by comparing the updated inventory, mapped hydric soils, the National Wetlands Inventory, current land use, and recent and historic aerial photographs to identify areas that have the potential to either be restored or created wetland. Several areas, mainly along the northern 1/3 of the City, have been identified. These areas have been shown in Figure 5.

Major Changes from 1998 Plan

While much of this plan is a general update to the 1998 plan, there are some areas of significant change that should be identified. Although described in greater detail in the main document, the following are major changes of note:

1. The wetland inventory has been refined to separate wetlands from other water features. This includes a removal of lakes and created ponds from the wetland inventory. The result of this is that a direct comparison of wetland areas from 1998 to 2006 would reflect a significant decline. This is not accurate, however, as lakes and ponds have been categorized as non-wetland features. In reality, the amount of wetland is unchanged.

2. Storm water ponds that were created since 1998 and are in upland soils have been excluded from the wetland inventory, but have been included as a separate GIS coverage and discussed in the Surface Water Management Plan.

3. Storm water ponds that may still be WCA regulated have been classified as a new management classification called Management II. This allows them to remain in the inventory as wetlands, but have appropriate management strategies applied to them.

4. The buffer requirements have been changed from a standard setback of 20 feet for all wetlands to a setback of 20 feet for Management II, 25 feet for Management, 35 feet for Improvement, and 50 feet for Protection.

5. Storm water pretreatment requirements have been improved to require removal of 90% of total suspended solids (TSS) and 60% of total phosphorus (TP) for areas of new development, and 70% of TSS and 30% TP removal for areas of redevelopment. Infiltration requirements have also been established. All of these are regulated in accordance with the updated Surface Water Management Plan.

6. Hydrologic guidelines have been changed to be more specific for the wetland management classes. Protection wetlands will require that excess hydrology be diverted if it is isolated or does not currently received storm water. If a Protection basin is not isolated, or currently receives untreated discharge, than the bounce on a 10-year event must be less than 6 inches, and must not exceed existing inundation by more than 1 day for 1 and 2 year events and 3 days on a 10 year event. Improvement basins allow for a bounce on a 10-year event of 9 inches, and inundation duration to be existing plus 3 days for 1 and 2 year events, and 5 days for 10-year events. Management basins allow for a bounce on a 10-year event of 12 inches, and inundation to be existing plus 5 days for 1 and 2-year events and 15 days for a 10-year event. Outlet controls standards have also been established to limit water level manipulations.

Acknowledgements

City Council

Elizabeth Kautz	Mayor
Charlie Crichton	Council Member
Dan Kealey	Council Member
Dan Gustafson	Council Member
Liz Workman	Council Member

Parks and Natural Resource Committee Members

Mike Hughes	Chairman
John Oravis	Vice Chairman
Tague Moehn	Member
Steve Steuber	Member
John Wallace	Member
Tracy Stewart	Member
Eric Spieler	Alternate

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Bryan Tolcser	Wetland Scientist
Brad Kovach	Project Manager
Steve Hack	GIS Technician

Reviewing Agencies

Black Dog Watershed Management Organization
Vermillion River Joint Powers Organization
Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
Board of Water and Soil Resources
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District
Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge

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Wetland Protection and Management Plan

BWSR Review

Prepared for Burnsville, Minnesota

1.0 Introduction

The City of Burnsville (City) is located in the northern portion of Dakota County as shown in Figure 1. The City is bordered to the north by the Minnesota River, which forms a boundary between the Cities of Burnsville and Bloomington. To the east lie the Cities of Eagan and Apple Valley, to the south is the City of Lakeville. The western portion of the City lies along the Dakota and Scott County line and the City of Savage. A very small portion of the southwest side of the city is also adjacent to Credit River Township. The city is located within four watersheds, including the Black Dog, Lower Minnesota, Vermillion River, and Credit River. The locations of these watershed organizations are identified in Figure 2.

The City has completed this updated Wetland Protection and Management Plan (WPMP, the Plan) to improve the accuracy of the previous wetland inventory, review the existing classification system compared to current assessment methods, differentiate wetlands from unregulated water features, and establish a more useful and up-to-date resource to guide future planning. This Plan builds on the City's 1998 Plan, and addresses some of the deficiencies present in the previous Plan, while presenting contemporary methodologies and policies.

This introductory section begins with a brief description of the purpose and basis for this updated Plan, followed by an outline of the major sections of goals that were used to guide development of the Plan.

1.1 Purpose of the Plan

The purpose of this Plan is to establish a wetland protection and management program that protects, conserves, and manages the quality of the wetlands within the City. The Plan also recognizes that development and redevelopment will continue well into the future, and will serve as a guide for city staff and developers to follow as they evaluate the potential impacts of a proposed project. The Plan will serve as a toolbox for the City that includes the best available mapping of the wetlands and water resources, differentiation of wetlands from other water features, and development of regulatory policies and goals.

1.2 Basis for the Plan

This plan has been prepared following the requirements of Minnesota Rule Chapter 8420.0650, Local Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plans. This Plan

formally serves as an alternative to the rules adopted under Minnesota Statutes, section 103G.2242. However, before this occurs, the Plan would need to be approved by the Board of Water and Soil resources (BWSR), be adopted by the City, and must require equal or greater standards and procedures as compared to the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA). This is the intention of this Plan.

The benefits of a WPMP include a current functions and values assessment for management and wetland ordinance development, greater flexibility in sequencing and replacement standards for wetlands, and improvement and management of higher quality wetlands within the City. The planning process must include the following:

- Provide for resource agency and public participation;
- Wetland functional assessment information for the plan area;
- High priority area identification;
- Meet no-net loss of wetlands within the plan area;
- Follow Wetland Conservation Act requirements; and
- A local ordinance that implements the plan.

This Plan has also been prepared with the requirement that it comply with the standards of the local watershed management organization plans. The City is located within four major watershed units as shown in Figure 2. These watersheds are regulated by three organizations, including: Black Dog Watershed Management Organization (BDWMO), Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD), and Vermillion River Joint Powers Organization. The fourth watershed, Credit River, is administered by the BDWMO within Dakota County. All three of the organizations have jurisdictional authority within the City, and therefore each must review the City's Plan to evaluate consistency with their respective WMO Plan.

1.3 Goals and Objectives

The main objective for the updated Plan is to provide a current inventory of the wetland resources in the City, differentiate regulated wetlands from other water features, and develop a comprehensive approach to regulate and protect wetlands based on wetland functions and associated public values.

This Plan includes an update of the results of a complete field inventory of the City along with an assessment of the quality of the wetland resources completed in 1998. It is intended to provide a guide for City staff and residents to make informed decisions about the future development and redevelopment of the City with respect to the conservation, protection, and management of wetland resources.

This Plan has been developed to provide the City of Burnsville with an updated comprehensive inventory of the existing wetland resources in the community and establish management strategies for wetland preservation and protection. This plan will be implemented by City staff through the City's adoption of an amended wetland ordinance.

The 1998 Plan and wetland inventory was initiated by the City under the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources 1997 Challenge Grant Program which provided financial support for the project. It also fulfilled the goal of the City's Storm Water Management Plan to develop a wetland management plan.

This plan update includes:

- Updated inventory of the wetlands in the City; including accurate mapping, functions and values analysis, and classification;
- Differentiation of wetlands and other water features;
- Development of regulatory and non regulatory options for wetland preservation and protection;
- Identification of wetland mitigation sites within the city;
- Refinement of a GIS based wetland management system.

The Plan will be the basis for wetland regulation in the City of Burnsville and the implementation of the WCA. The regulatory framework developed in this Plan will be incorporated into the City's existing planning and zoning regulations and implemented by ordinance.

1.4 Plan Overview

The Plan seeks to provide appropriate protection to the City's wetland resources. To accomplish this, a series of goals and goal statements have been generated (Table 1). These goals will be accomplished through the updating of the wetland inventory, refinement of the wetland functions and values, identification of a wetland classification system, and establishment of regulatory criteria to protect the resources.

Table 1
Plan Goals and Goal Statements

Goal Number	Goal	Goal Statement
1	Wetland Inventory	Map and characterize the existing wetlands within the city
2	Define Wetlands	Differentiate regulated wetlands from other unregulated or non-jurisdictional water features
3	Develop Policy	Update and refine policies to incorporate current standards
4	Wetland Mitigation	Map and identify wetland mitigation sites
5	Refine GIS	Develop GIS process to maintain active wetland tracking

1.5 City of Burnsville Outcomes

It is a priority of the City of Burnsville to maintain and improve the quality of the natural resources in the community. To that end, the City has adopted an end statement and a set of outcomes that reflect the overall philosophy or approach to wetland protection and management. This Plan has been developed with the intention of supporting he community's efforts to achieve those end goals and the related outcomes.

City of Burnsville's Environmental End Statement and Related Outcomes

Environmental End Statement:

People find Burnsville is an environmentally sensitive community ensuring preservation and enhancement of its natural resources

Related Outcomes:

- People find that Burnsville is an environmentally sensitive community and they understand their role in pursuing these results.
- Development and redevelopment occur in an environmentally sensitive manner, preserving our natural resources.
- Citizens value natural water bodies and recognize the importance of preserving them.

1.6 Review Process

The review process was designed to involve as many of the wetland resource stakeholders as possible. The Plan has been initially reviewed by City staff to determine the adequacy and applicability of the recommendations, goals, and policies. Based on preliminary City staff review, the Plan was submitted to the Parks and Natural Resource Committee for additional internal review.

Once the internal review was complete, an Agency Review Draft of the Plan was prepared and submitted to the agencies and organizations that have jurisdiction in the City of Burnsville for their review and comment. In addition, the Plan was made available for public review during this period, including a formal Public Hearing process. Once this review process was complete, and comments and revisions were made, and the Plan was finalized, submitted to the BWSR Board for approval, and adopted and implemented by the City Council.

2.0 Background Information

The City of Burnsville covers approximately 17,282 acres, of which approximately 2,785 acres, or 16 percent, are a wetland or water features. These surface water resources include six lakes (as identified in the City's Lakes Ordinance, except for Wood Pond and Twin Lake, which are included in both), 266 wetlands, 59 storm water ponds, and portions of three designated trout streams that are located wholly or partially within the City. Wetlands alone constitute 1,824 acres, or about 11% of the city area. One of the most prominent features in the City is the Minnesota River and the extensive backwater and wetlands associated with it. The Minnesota River associated wetlands and Black Dog fen within the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge account for 913 acres, or just over half of the wetland resources within the city limits.

Within the city limits are four primary watersheds and three watershed management organizations (Figure 2). The majority of the City is within the Black Dog WMO, which also regulates the portion of the City within the Credit River watershed. The Black Dog WMO regulates about 66% of the City. The Lower Minnesota River Watershed District covers approximately 27% of the City, which includes the entire northern portion of the City. This watershed includes the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Black Dog Fen Scientific and Natural Area, and the City's only trout streams. The Credit River watershed is located in the southwest portion of the city and drains west into Scott County. The most notable wetlands in the watershed are located in the Cam Ram Park. The final watershed in the City is the Vermillion River, which is represented in approximately 6% of the City and includes the Lake Alimagnet area. The Vermillion River watershed is distinct in that it drains to the Mississippi River, not the Minnesota, and represents a divide in major watersheds.

2.1 Wetlands

Wetlands are defined in the Federal Register as:

"Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas."

Wetlands are characterized by unique vegetative communities that are adapted to anaerobic conditions that result when soils are saturated for extended periods of time. Saturated soils also develop unique physical and chemical characteristics that distinguish them from other upland soils.

2.2 Wetland Classification

Wetlands are primarily classified using dominant hydrology and vegetation characteristics. While there are several classification systems available, there are several that are used most frequently. These classifications systems are described in the following pages.

2.2.1 Circular 39

The classification method developed for the initial state wetland protection program is entitled Wetlands of the United States. It was published by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as Circular 39 in 1956 and republished in 1971. The system was utilized in the Protected Waters Inventory legislation of 1976 and 1979 and in the 1996 amendments to the Wetland Conservation Act. The Circular 39 classification method describes 20 types of wetland basins, eight of which are found in Minnesota. The system classifies wetland basins primarily on the basis of vegetation and depth and seasonality of water. The eight types of inland fresh wetlands are listed below.

Type 1 Seasonally Flooded Basins or Floodplains: Type 1 wetlands are seasonally flooded basins or flats in which soil is covered with water or is waterlogged during variable seasonal periods but usually is well-drained during much of the growing season. Type 1 wetlands are located in depressions and in overflow bottom lands along water courses. Vegetation varies greatly according to the season and duration of the flooding, and includes bottom land hardwoods, as well as herbaceous plants.

Type 2 Wet Meadow: Occurs along the shallow edges of lakes, marshes and floodplains, or in perched depressions. The soil is usually without standing water during much of the growing season, but is waterlogged within at least a few inches of the surface. Vegetation includes grasses, sedges, rushes and various herbaceous plants.

Type 3 Shallow Marsh: Soil is usually water logged during the growing season, often covered with as much as six inches or more of water. Vegetation includes grasses, bulrushes, cattails, arrowheads, smartweeds and other emergent aquatic vegetation.

Type 4 Deep Marsh: Soil covered with six inches to three feet or more of water during growing season. Vegetation includes cattails, reeds, bulrushes and wild rice. Open water areas may contain pondweeds, naiads, coontail, water milfoils and other submergent aquatic vegetation.

Type 5 Open Water: Water is usually less than six feet deep and is fringed by a border of emergent vegetation. Vegetation includes pondweeds, naiads, coontail, water milfoils and other submergent aquatic vegetation.

Type 6 Scrub shrub: Occurs along sluggish streams or on floodplains. The soil is usually waterlogged during the growing season, and is often covered with as much as six inches of water. Vegetation includes alder, willow, and dogwood.

Type 7 Wooded Swamp: Occurs along sluggish streams, on floodplains, on flat perched depressions and in shallow lake basins. The soil is waterlogged to within a few inches of its surface during the growing season and is often covered with as much as one foot of water. Vegetation typical to this wetland includes tamarack, white cedar, black spruce, balsam fir, red maple and black ash.

Type 8 Bog: Occurs along sluggish streams, on flat perched depressions and shallow lake basins. The soil is waterlogged and supports a spongy covering of mosses. Vegetation typical to this wetland type includes sphagnum moss, heath shrubs and sedges. Minnesota bogs contain leatherleaf, Labrador tea, cranberries and pitcher plants. Scattered stunted black spruce and tamarack also are common features of bogs.

2.2.2 Cowardin

A second type of wetland classification system that is often used is the Cowardin system. This classification system is used by the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) and is based on a tiered system. This system identifies a wetland based on hydrology and vegetation composition, plus any special modifiers. The hierarchical structure progresses from Systems and Subsystems at the most general levels to Classes, Subclasses, and Dominance Types at the most specific levels.

2.2.3 Eggers and Reed

A third classification system has recently been adopted for use in determining wetlands for the purposes of identifying in-kind wetland replacement. The Eggers and Reed (1997) system recognizes 12 wetland types, rather than the eight recognized by Circular 39. The

advantage of Eggers and Reed is that it expands the Circular 39 classification to be more specific to some of the vegetative and ecological variability of wetlands. The 12 wetland classifications are identified below.

Shallow Open Water: Submergent aquatic systems or shallow open water, usually less than 6.6 feet in depth. Vegetation dominated by submergent and floating leaved species. Equivalent to Type 5

Deep Marsh: Emergent and submergent aquatic communities in water depths ranging from 6 inches to 3 or more feet. Vegetation composed of bulrushes, water lily, and duckweed. Equivalent to Type 4.

Shallow Marsh: Emergent aquatic community with hydrology ranging from saturated to 6 inches. Vegetation composed of emergent species such as cattails, arrowheads, and sedges. Equivalent to Type 3

Sedge Meadow: Inland fresh meadow dominated by sedge species. Soils are typically peat or muck. Equivalent to Type 2.

Fresh (Wet) Meadow: Inland fresh meadow dominated by grasses and forbs in roughly equal numbers. Equivalent to Type 1 and Type 2.

Wet to Wet-Mesic Prairies: Inland fresh meadow dominated by an open herbaceous plant community dominated by native grasses. Equivalent to Type 1 and Type 2.

Calcareous Fen: Unique plant communities supported by groundwater inflow rich in carbonates. Plants are dominated by calciphiles. Equivalent to a Type 2 or a Type 6.

Open Bog or Coniferous Bog: Unique communities growing on saturated and acid peat soils. Open bogs are dominated by sphagnum mosses and shrubs, while coniferous bogs are dominated by black spruce and tamarack trees. Equivalent to Type 8.

Shrub-Carr or Alder Thicket: Plant community composed of tall deciduous shrubs growing on saturated or seasonally flooded soils. Plants may be willows, dogwoods, or alder. Equivalent to Type 6

Hardwood Swamp or Coniferous Swamp: Wetlands dominated by tree species and having soils saturated for much of the growing season and short-term inundation as much as 1-foot. Equivalent to Type 7

Floodplain Forest: Wetlands dominated by deciduous hardwood trees growing on alluvial soils associated with riverine systems. Soils are inundated during flood events, but are well-drained during much of the growing season. Equivalent to Type 1.

Seasonally Flooded basins: Poorly drained shallow depressions that may have short-term inundation, but are dry for majority of the year. Often composed of exposed mud flats or pioneering vegetation. Equivalent to Type 1.

2.2.4 Natural Heritage Program

A third classification system that is used is based on the classifications used by the Natural Heritage Program (NHP) at the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. This program has developed the Minnesota's Native Vegetation: A Key to Natural Communities to classify wetland as well as other natural communities. The key was designed as a tool for recognizing and preserving important natural communities in Minnesota. The NHP provided much of the basis for the development of the 1998 Plan.

2.3 Functions and Values

Wetland functions are defined as natural processes that occur in wetlands. Wetland functions vary according to the type of wetland, the season of the year, location within the watershed, and surrounding land uses. Individual wetlands can provide one or many functions. Wetland values are typically subjective benefits that are realized to society through the natural processes that occur to a different extent in various wetland types. The SEH Natural Resource Evaluation was used to evaluate wetland functions and values in the 1998 Plan. The method allows for direct comparison of wetland and terrestrial resources while addressing the functions and values included in Minnesota Statutes 103B.3355 (Wetland Functions for Determining Public Values). The Minnesota Routine Assessment Method for Evaluating Wetland Functions (MNRAM) was developed by the Minnesota Interagency Wetland Group as a field evaluation tool to assess wetland functions on a qualitative basis.

The method used in the 1998 Plan provided an assessment of the wetland functions and values listed below. The list is limited to the functions and uses typical of the urban nature of the study area.

Wetland Functions

A. Floral Diversity & Integrity

B. Wildlife Habitat

C. Fisheries Habitat

D. Flood & Storm Water Attenuation

E. Water Quality Protection

F. Shoreline Protection

G. Groundwater Recharge and Discharge

H. Aesthetic/Recreation/Education & Science

Wetland values can be associated with one or more wetland functions. Those functions typically associated with individual value are indicated by the letter(s) following each of the listed wetland values. Wetland values can be subjective and different between individuals depending upon their perspective. The MnRAM has sought to standardize the determination of wetland values by eliminating some of the subjectivity.

Wetland Values

A. Flood protection (D)

B. Sediment control (E)

C. Nutrient removal (E)

D. Recreation (A, H)

E. Open space (A, B, H)

F. Aesthetics (A, H)

G. Plant and animal refuges (A, B, C)

H. Education and research (A, B, C, H)

I. Erosion control (D, E, F)

J. Historical and archeological resources (H)

K. Threatened and endangered species habitat (A, B, C, H)

L. Water quality (E)

M. Water supply (G)

2.4 Land Use

The City of Burnsville is a nearly fully-developed community, but has had recent increases in interest of redevelopment. A majority of the land-use in the city is residential, although there are concentrations of commercial development, primarily in the northwest portion of the City and around Burnsville Center. The City has made a commitment to maintain open space and parks, and public areas are plentiful. Many of these public areas are dominated by wetland, including the vast expanse of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, but there are also significant upland and mixed land cover classifications in several major parks, including Sunset Pond Park, Lac Lavon Park, Alimagnet park, Terrace Oaks, Kraemer Preserve, and Murphy Hanrehan Park Reserve.

2.5 Unique Wetland Features

The City of Burnsville has numerous wetland resources, but has several that are worth noting for their unique or outstanding values.

The following paragraphs summarize some of the unique water and natural resource features within the City.

2.5.1 Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge

The majority of the wetlands along the Minnesota River are included within the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge (MVNWR). The area lying between the railroad grade and the Minnesota River is part of the Black Dog Unit of the Refuge, and is under the authority of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The lands within the refuge are managed in accordance with the “National Wildlife Refuge and Wetland Management District Comprehensive Conservation Plan” completed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 2004.

2.5.2 Black Dog Fen and Scientific and Natural Area

The Black Dog wetland complex is located within the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge south of Black Dog Lake and is a designated calcareous fen by Minnesota Rules (part 7050.0180, Outstanding Resource Waters). Fens are unique wetlands, in that they are hydrologically supported by upwelling of calcium–rich groundwater. Fens commonly harbor unique aquatic vegetation, and are often identified as critical wildlife habitat.

The Black Dog Scientific and Natural Area (BDSNA) is a designated protected area, which includes portions of the Black Dog fen. The BDSNA also includes areas of wet meadow and mesic prairie. The BDSNA is managed by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR) and the Nature Conservancy.

2.5.3 Cam Ram and Murphy Hanrehan Park Reserve

Located in the southwest portion of the city, the Cam Ram and Murphy Hanrehan Park Reserve areas have been designated as a high-priority site in the City’s Natural Resources Master Plan. The County Biological Survey also indicates that this area has critical habitat and contains state-listed plant species. The Cam Ram wetland is also monitored through the Wetlands Health Evaluation Program (WHEP). This area is relatively undeveloped, and has high quality uplands, and a high density of wetlands overall.

2.6 Lakes

The City of Burnsville is blessed with numerous lakes and other waterbodies. Most lakes are deeper than six feet, which is considered to be deep water habitat, and therefore do not meet the jurisdictional criteria of a wetland following the guidelines of the 1987 manual. This is typically true for lakes that are also identified as Public Waters by the MNDNR, for which administration of the WCA does not apply for areas below the Ordinary High Water (OHW) elevation. For this reason, the management of lakes is not included in this Plan. Many lakes, however, do have wetland fringe areas that may extend above the OHW, or have never had an OHW established. In these instances the WCA would still have jurisdiction for the wetland areas above the OHW. The removal of lakes from the wetland plan does not decrease the level of protection placed upon them as the city has identified goals and policies for the protection of lakes in the Water Resources Plan.

The 1998 Plan included lakes in the wetland inventory, which is also how they are identified on the NWI. The 2006 revision has removed seven lakes from the wetland inventory, which allows for a better representation of the actual wetland resources. The seven lakes removed from the wetland inventory include: Black Dog Lake, Alimagnet Lake, Crystal Lake, Earley Lake, Keller Lake, Lac Lavon, and Horseshoe Lake. These lakes are all identified and protected by the City's Lake Ordinance. Wood Park and Twin Lake are also identified in the Lake Overlay District, but are small and function more like a wetland than a lake. These two lakes are identified in both the wetland inventory and the Lake Overlay. Lac Lavon is a unique lake as it is not identified in the City's lake overlay district or the wetland inventory. Lac Lavon is a deep lake created from a former quarry and is not a wetland or natural water body. It is also not regulated by the MNDNR as a Public Water.

Several of the smaller lakes and ponds remain in the wetland inventory, notably Sunset Pond, as they have considerable wetland areas and tend to have large areas shallower than six feet. If lakes have extensive areas of emergent vegetation, that portion has been included within the inventory. Extensive emergent areas are not abundant, but mapping of them allows for both the inventory of all wetland areas, and for tracking changes in the extent of emergent vegetation on subsequent wetland inventory updates. It is important to note, however, that the wetland inventory did not use the OHW to establish wetland boundaries. The OHW is a jurisdictional, not ecological, boundary, and requires a site specific survey to identify.

2.7 Streams and Linear Waterways

While the City has abundant wetlands and lakes, it is relatively sparse in streams and other linear waterways. Linear features include ditches, grassed swales, and other areas designated for conveyance of surface waters.

The City does have designated trout streams in the northeast portion of the City. These include Unnamed Trout Stream Segment #7, One Mile Creek (also identified as Segment #4), and a very small portion draining into Harnack Creek (Segment #1). All of these drain into the Minnesota River through the Black Dog Lakes. These trout stream segments are several remnant trout streams identified by the DNR as part of its' Metro Trout Stream Watershed Protection Initiative.

The Minnesota River forms the northern boundary of the City, and is an important navigable waterway. This section of the river has extensive wetlands associated with it, many of which are of high quality and receive significant state and federal protection. The entire area east of Interstate 35W along the river is within the Minnesota Valley Wildlife Refuge. The river west of I-35W is primarily just the main channel, but has several docking facilities.

2.8 Storm Water Ponds

The 1998 wetland inventory used the NWI as a guide to identify the wetlands in the city, and as a result, several storm water treatments ponds were included. Most of these were well-defined basins, and are classified as Type 4 or Type 5 wetlands. If a pond was created in a non-wetland area without the intention of being wetland, it may not be regulated under the WCA, or may have less stringent requirements, such as not requiring wetland mitigation for impacts. The 1998 inventory did not make the distinction between storm water treatment ponds and natural wetlands and as a result, several treatment ponds were mapped and classified as wetlands. This is problematic as the designation of a basin as a wetland triggers buffer, bounce, and water quality pretreatment requirements before discharge. Most of these basins were classified as Management, which has the lowest protection standards; however this remains contrary to the intention of these basins. The removal of unregulated and non-jurisdictional water features from the inventory is one of the primary goals of the inventory and Plan revisions.

In 2006, a total of 94 basins used as storm water treatment ponds were mapped within the City. The total area of these features within the city was approximately 61 acres. Of the ponds mapped, 35 were included in the 1998 inventory, but were determined to currently function for storm water treatment. These 35 basins have been included in the inventory, but have been classified as a new management classification called Management II. The purpose of this additional classification is to allow for less stringent wetland management standards for areas currently functioning for storm water treatment. These basins, however, were likely to have been wetland prior to conversion for storm water treatment.

Historically, natural wetlands were used extensively for storm water treatment, either through restricting outflows or excavating wetlands to create additional open water areas and storage volume. While this practice has since been discouraged, many of the older storm water ponds were likely wetlands that have been converted. Inclusion of storm water ponds that are still regulated as wetland within the inventory allows these basins to be tracked and managed appropriately. Storm water ponds created out of upland areas and that were not wetland previously have been mapped and are discussed in the Surface Water Management Plan.

3.0 Wetland Inventory and Functions and Values Analysis

One of the requirements of a Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan (MWPMP) is to provide a wetland inventory and functions and values analysis. This was completed with the 1998 Plan, but has been reevaluated with the 2006 revision. This is necessitated as several issues have been detected through review of the 1998 inventory. One of the biggest needs was to differentiate wetlands from other water features. The 1998 plan includes many storm water treatment ponds, which may still be regulated under the WCA, but would not be subject to buffer, bounce, and water quality pretreatment standards. The 1998 inventory also included lakes, which would also not be regulated as wetlands, but would remain protected as Public Waters, and through the Surface Water Management Plan.

The primary goals of the updated wetland inventory are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2
Wetland Inventory Goals and Methods of Accomplishment

Goal Number	Goal	Goal Statement
1	Improve accuracy of wetland inventory	Review 1998 mapping using recent high-resolution, rectified, aerial photographs. Edits include adjustment of boundaries, removal of basins no longer present, and additional of new features.
2	Differentiate wetlands from other water features	Review aerial photographs, 1998 Plan, and GIS storm water infrastructure coverages to determine which features are wetlands, from those that are other water features. Lakes, which are considered to be deep water habitat, would also be removed.
3	Prioritize wetland regulations based on functions and values	Evaluate the classifications used in the 1998 Plan to determine if they are still representative of the wetland functions and values. Compare 1998 outcomes to current function and value classification methodologies.
4	Identify the status and trends of wetlands from the 1998 inventory through the 2006 revision	Compare number and size of wetlands to determine if there are any detectable changes in wetland size, type, or quality since 1998 Plan approval.

3.1 Summary of 1998 Inventory

In 1998, the City completed a wetland inventory for the original CWPMP. The 1998 Plan was based on the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) map and the City's Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP), which were used as the initial base maps for the field inventory. Existing wetlands identified on the NWI and SWMP maps were visited during the field inventory.

Data for the function and value assessment were collected during a brief visit to each wetland basin or complex. The Natural Resource Site Survey Form was used to collect data at each location and the approximate location, size, and boundary was compared to the NWI map. The forms include a physical description of the basin, characterization of the plant community such as dominant species of vegetation and any exotic or rare species, hydrologic

characteristics, and wildlife and fishery habitat. Copies of the completed data sheets from the survey can be obtained from the City.

Characterization of adjacent upland areas was also noted for land use, disturbances, or other influences on the wetland basins. Photographs of each basin were taken and are maintained on file at the City as a historic reference.

Wetlands discovered to no longer be present were deleted from the maps, while major changes to the boundaries were also completed. Field mapping of wetland boundaries was not completed, however.

The field assessment resulted in the collection of data on 314 wetland basins, complexes and riverine segments and a total of 2,678 acres of wetland habitat. This total included all of the lakes, any storm water treatment ponds that were also on the NWI, and tended to divide complexes into separate basins based on wetland type, rather than as contiguous units. The intention of this was to maximize management opportunities, but has had the end result of including lakes and ponds in the survey. These features are generally not regulated as wetlands, and their inclusion in the 1998 plan has had the effect of amplifying the total number of basins acres of wetlands within the city. This is exemplified by the wetlands around Black Dog Lake. The 1998 Plan includes the lake, and has mapped the area surrounding the lake as 12 different wetlands. The 2006 revision has removed Black Dog Lake as a wetland, and has the surrounding area identified as two unique wetlands divided by the railroad.

3.1.1 Wetland Inventory Database

The 1998 Plan made a bold step and advanced the usefulness of the wetland inventory by maintaining the data electronically and classifying each basin into a management class. The SEH Natural Resource Evaluation Method was used in the assessment and ranking of the wetland resources in the City. This evaluation method was unique, but similar to the first generation of the Minnesota Routine Assessment Methodology. Similar criteria for evaluation of the wetland basins can be found in the Minnesota Natural Heritage Program (NHP), and several other sources in order to evaluate both natural and disturbed communities and other open spaces. The SEH evaluation method was also used in the City's original Natural Resources Master Plan.

3.1.2 Wetland Classification

For each wetland, a numeric point value was assigned for each wetland function, which resulted in a total point value for each basin. Additional information was assembled from the Wetland Inventory, the City's existing GIS data, the City's 1994 Storm Water Management Plan, the Dakota County Biological Survey and other sources. Those wetlands containing endangered, threatened, or special concern species and those located within significant communities identified by the Dakota County Biological Survey were given special consideration. Public Waters were identified from the MNDNR's Protected Waters Inventory Maps.

The existing classification from the City's Storm Water Management Plan was reviewed with City staff and revised when necessary. The presence of man made hydrologic connections (storm sewer) and level of surrounding development was also used in the determination. The sensitivity to storm water impacts was determined according to the Guidance for Evaluating Urban Storm Water and Snowmelt Runoff Impacts to Wetlands. Lastly, the proximity of each basin to other wetlands and existing City parks was determined. Although no points were

applied to this additional data, the information was used in the final determination of wetland classification and influenced the proposed management of wetland resources.

The database and supplemental data were used to determine the classification of each wetland basin by sorting the data according to total points and applying the following ranking strategy.

- *Protection Areas* - Basins with Native Grades of A or B, sites with complete Community Structure, any sites supporting rare species, and any sites within or adjacent to significant natural communities as identified by the Dakota County Biological Survey. This is comparable to the Preserve Classification used in the MnRAM.
- *Improvement Areas* - Basins with 3 of 4 of the Community Structure criteria, sites greater than ten acres in size, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Protected Waters and Wetlands (Public Waters), and basins within existing City parks that are not classified as Protection Areas. Although there is some overlap, this classification is similar to the Manage I and Manage II MnRAM classifications.
- *Management Areas* - Remaining wetlands, but generally of low quality and located outside of protected areas. These wetlands are also likely to receive untreated storm water runoff, but have not been altered to enhance treatment capabilities. This classification is comparable to the Manage II and Manage III MnRAM classifications.

3.2 Description of 2006 Inventory

During the summer of 2006, the results of the 1998 inventory were reviewed to determine if it was still accurate, both with respect to mapping accuracy and to the management classification. This involved tasks of reviewing the mapping of each basin to determine if the wetland was still present, if the boundary was accurate, and if the basin was wetland or a non-wetland water feature.

The mapping of the 2006 inventory was accomplished by comparing the 1998 inventory to high resolution aerial photographs of the City taken in 2005. The inventory was reviewed again in 2007 using high resolution 2006 aerial photographs that had become available following the initial field reviews. The use of high-resolution photos is a marked improvement upon the technology available for the 1998 Plan. Each basin was reviewed, and the boundaries adjusted appropriately. Adjustments ranged form very minor boundary changes to elimination of the basin as it was no longer present.

Several changes to what was included in the inventory also occurred. For starters, seven lakes were dropped from the inventory. These are classified as deep water habitat, and would not be regulated under this plan, but would remain regulated under other plan and agencies. No protection was reduced with the changes to the inventory. The other change was the removal of any area that currently functions to provide storm water treatment, and have been verified to have been created in non-wetland areas. Ponds that have been potentially created from former wetland have remained, but have been designated as a Management II classification. The Management II classification would still be regulated under the Wetland Conservation Act for alterations, but would not require additional protection from this Plan.

Additional Classification added to the 2006 plan update:

- *Management II Areas* – These basins include any of the water features that may have been historic wetlands, and would remain subject to the requirement of the Wetland

Conservation Act. These basins would not be subject to reduced wetland protection standards, however, as they no longer function as natural wetlands.

3.2.1 2006 Inventory Results

The 2006 inventory mapped a total of 264 wetlands, which are shown in Figure 5. These wetlands covered 1,794 acres of land, and represent all of the Circular 39 types, with the exception of Type 8 bog. For the purposes of this Plan, wetlands have been classified as one primary wetland type, even though a majority of the wetlands are not solely just one type.

Table 3 lists the distribution of the wetlands identified in the 2006 inventory.

Table 3
Summary of Basins Based on Wetland Type

Wetland Type	Description	Number of Basins	Total Area[1] (acres)
Type 1	Seasonally Flooded	16	55
Type 2	Wet Meadow	11	12
Type 3	Shallow Marsh	72	1,041
Type 4	Deep Marsh	54	73
Type 5	Shallow Open Water	52	158
Type 6	Scrub Shrub	7	35
Type 7	Wooded Swamp	18	418
Riverine	Rivers and Streams	1	1
Pond	WCA-regulated Storm Water Ponds	35	31
Total		**270**	**1,824**

[1] Rounded to nearest whole number

3.2.2 Comparison of Wetland Inventories

As previously noted, the 1998 inventory contains several lakes and ponds, and significantly fragmented the basins to provide both a high number of wetlands, and also a larger wetland area. For this reason, a direct comparison of the two inventories isn't legitimate, as the 2006 update will appear to be much smaller, and suggest a significant loss of wetlands. To accurately compare the 1998 and 2006 inventories, the data for the lakes and storm water ponds must be considered. Table 4 shows the comparison of the two inventories.

Table 4 Comparison of NWI, 1998, and 2006 Inventories		
Wetland Type	**Total Area (acres)**	
	1998[1]	**2006**
Type 1	62	55
Type 2	8	12
Type 3	944	1,041
Type 4	174	73
Type 5	1,103	158
Type 6	128	35
Type 7	166	418
Riverine	93	1
Storm Water Ponds[2]		31
Storm Water Ponds[3]		30
Lakes[4]		931
Totals	**2,678**	**2,785**

[1] Note that lakes and storm water ponds are included as wetlands

[2] WCA-regulated

[3] Created in upland areas and are exempt under WCA

[4] These are regulated through the Surface Water Management Plan and shoreland ordinances, except for Wood Park and Twin Lakes

Including lakes and storm water ponds to the totals, the area of wetlands and water features between the NWI, 1998 inventory, and 2006 inventory are similar. The slight increase of 107 acres of wetland and water resources between 1998 and 2006 is at least partially explained by the addition of more storm water ponds and wetland restoration work completed in the City since 1998. Changes in mapping accuracy also account for some of the differences.

In summary, the 2006 inventory has improved the accuracy of the mapping, and has demonstrated that there has not been a significant change in the amount of wetland and water resources in the City since 1998. Based on these values, it appears that the goal of “no net loss” has been achieved.

3.3 Functions and Values Assessment and Wetland Classifications

In additional to more accurate mapping, the 2006 inventory sought to evaluate the wetland classification system to see if the 1998 system was comparable to more recent assessment methods. This was completed by subsampling the 1998 inventory and assessing each basin using the MnRAM 3.0. The results of this comparison are described on the following pages.

3.3.1 Comparison of Wetland Classifications

The objective of this comparison was to reevaluate a subset of wetlands in the City of Burnsville using the MnRAM 3.0 and verify that the current management classes established in 1998 (Protection, Improvement, and Management) still accurately represent the basins. The MnRAM electronic database allows the user to answer questions relating to wetland vegetative quality as well as functions such as flood attenuation, maintenance of an area’s hydrologic regime, wetland water quality, shoreline protection, aesthetics, and wildlife and fish habitat, among others. A score is calculated for each of the wetland functions, and one of the following overall management classes is assigned to the wetland: Preserve, Manage 1, Manage 2, and Manage 3. Details of the MnRAM process are included in Appendix D.

The Management II classification was added after this comparison and incorporates the storm water ponds that are presumed to have formerly been wetland. This fourth category used in the updated plan does not affect the comparison between the 1998 classifications and the 2006 MnRAM evaluation.

Ten wetland basins in each of the Protection, Improvement, and Management classes were chosen at random and reevaluated using the MnRAM. Wetlands obviously impacted by recent development, wetlands converted to storm water ponds, and wetlands in the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge were not included as potential resurvey locations, as the MnRAM results may be skewed and not allow for accurate comparison.

Table 5 illustrates the comparison between the current management class and the MnRAM management class for each of the thirty wetlands reevaluated. The table includes the current city identification, identification code created by the MnRAM, the identification of the basin if it is a Public Water, the classification of the basin in the current system, the classification generated by the MnRAM, and a note if the classification systems are significantly different between the two methodologies. A significant difference is a change in any direction greater than one step in classification. This is used since the city classifications originally used in the 1998 plan had three categories, while the MnRAM has four, and direct comparisons are not possible. The addition of Management II to the 2006 Plan, is not necessarily a direct comparison to the Manage II classification used in the MnRAM.

Table 5 Comparison of Wetland Management Classes					
Wetland ID		MN DNR PWI	1998 Classification	2006 MnRAM 3 Classification	Major Change
City ID	MnRAM 3 ID				
Protection Class					
11	19-115-21-20-011-A		Protection	Manage 1	No
62	19-115-21-27-062-A		Protection	Manage 1	No
93	19-115-21-34-093-A		Protection	Preserve	No
141	19-115-20-17-141-A	192W	Protection	Manage 2	Yes
152	19-115-20-29-152-A		Protection	Manage 2	Yes
155	19-115-20-29-155-A	358P	Protection	Manage 1	No
188	19-115-21-24-188-A		Protection	Manage 1	No
206	19-115-20-29-206-A		Protection	Manage 1	No
259	19-115-21-34-259-A		Protection	Preserve	No
312	19-115-21-34-312-A		Protection	Preserve	No
Improvement Class					
46	19-115-20-32-046-A		Improvement	Preserve	Yes
68	19-115-21-35-068-A	382W	Improvement	Manage 1	No
80	19-115-21-35-080-A		Improvement	Manage 2	No
117	19-027-24-36-117-A	174W	Improvement	Manage 2	No
157	19-027-24-35-157-A		Improvement	Manage 1	No
161	19-027-24-35-161-A	171W	Improvement	Manage 2	No
164	19-115-20-18-164-A	114W	Improvement	Manage 1	No
168	19-115-20-18-168-A	116W	Improvement	Manage 2	No
232	19-115-20-17-232-A		Improvement	Manage 1	No
247	19-115-20-17-247-A		Improvement	Manage 1	No
Management Class					
110	19-027-24-36-110-A		Management	Manage 2	No
116	19-027-24-36-116-A		Management	Manage 2	No
121	19-027-24-36-121-A		Management	Manage 2	No
144	19-115-20-17-144-A		Management	Manage 2	No
165	19-115-20-18-165-A		Management	Manage 2	No
167	19-115-20-18-167-A		Management	Manage 2	No
178	19-115-20-17-178-A		Management	Manage 2	No
198	19-115-20-30-198-A		Management	Manage 2	No
213	19-115-20-29-213-A		Management	Manage 2	No
215	19-115-20-29-215-A		Management	Manage 2	No

Out of ten wetlands in the current Protection class that were reevaluated using the MnRAM, three were rated as Preserve, five were rated as Manage 1, and two were rated as Manage 2. It was expected that wetlands in the Protection class would be rated as Preserve and Manage 1. The wetlands that were reevaluated and rated as Manage 2, Wetlands 141 and 152, have undergone severe vegetation or hydrology alterations. Wetland 141, previously dominated by native sedges, is now dominated by purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*). Wetland 152, also previously dominated by native sedges and rushes, is now dominated by smartweeds and reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) and has seen a measurable decrease in hydrology. In

general, the basins that were expected to be protect, but no longer meet the highest criteria, have had a significant change causing them to drop in status.

Out of ten wetlands in the current Improvement class that were reevaluated using the MnRAM, five were rated as Manage 1, four were rated as Manage 2, and one was rated as Preserve. It was expected that wetlands in the Improvement Class would be rated as Manage 1 or Manage 2. The wetland that was reevaluated and rated as Preserve, Wetland 46, is a shoreline wetland on the fringe of Keller Lake. It received a high rating for shoreline protection, therefore was designated as Preserve by the MnRAM, the older methodology would not have considered this as highly as MnRAM does, which would explain the lower classification.

All of the ten wetlands in the current Management class that were reevaluated using the MnRAM were rated as Manage 2. It was expected that wetlands in the Management class would be rated as Manage 2 or Manage 3 by the MnRAM. Manage 3 wetlands are rated as low for vegetative diversity and also rate low for most other wetland functions except flood attenuation and downstream water quality protection. It is possible that wetlands that would be rated as Manage 3 by the MnRAM are already functioning as storm water ponds and therefore were not included in this resurvey. In general, MnRAM does not assign a significant number of basins to the Manage 3 category as these basins must be degraded and also fail to provide water quality improvement and/or flood attenuation. Most degraded wetlands function highly for storm water and flooding, so they end up being classified by the MnRAM as Manage 2.

With the exception of two wetlands out of 30 that declined in protection, all of the reviewed basins were similar or had improved protection under the 1998 classifications. As the comparison between the 1998 classifications and the more recent MnRAM provide similar results, it has been determined that there is no need to redo the entire functions and values assessment for the remaining basins. The three wetlands that did have a significant change (Wetland IDs 46, 141, and 152) have been updated to follow the MnRAM classifications, all other wetlands will retain the 1998 classifications in the current Plan. The exceptions to this are for areas of critical resources, which are described next.

3.3.2 Critical Resources

With any functions and values assessment, one of the first measures is to determine if a wetland is identified as a critical resource. Wetlands in the assessment area are evaluated for designation as critical resources based on several features defined by Minnesota Statutes. These critical wetland resources should be classified into the Protection management class due to their special functions. This classification is automatic, and will be used regardless of what classification is actually determined using the evaluation method.

Criteria for designating wetlands as critical resources are as follows:

- Outstanding Resource Value Waters (Minn. Rules 7050.0180)
- Designated Scientific and Natural Areas (Minn. Rules 86A.05)
- Wetlands with known occurrences of Threatened or Endangered Species (Minn. Stat. 84.0895)
- State Wildlife Management Areas (Minn. Stat. 86A.05, subpart 8)
- State Aquatic Management Areas (Minn. Stat. 86A.05, subpart 14)
- Wellhead Protection Areas (Minn. Stat. 103I.101, MN Rules Chapter 4720)

- Sensitive Ground Water Areas (MN Rules 8420.0548, Subp. 6)
- Designated trout streams or trout lakes (MN Rules 6264.0050)
- Calcareous fens (MN Rules 8420.1010 through 8420.1060)
- High priority areas for wetland preservation, enhancement, restoration and establishment (MN Rules 8420.0350, subpart 2)
- Designated Historic or Archaeological Sites
- State or federal designated wild and scenic rivers (MN Rule Chapter 7050)
- MN Pollution Control Agency "special waters search" mapping utility

A description of the critical resources located within the city follows.

3.3.3 Calcareous Fens

Calcareous fens are defined in MN Rules 8420.1020 as peat-accumulating wetlands dominated by distinct groundwater inflows having specific chemical characteristics. The water is characterized as circumneutral to alkaline, with high concentrations of calcium and low dissolved oxygen content. The chemistry provides an environment for specific and often rare hydrophytic plants. Minnesota Rules 8420.1010-1070 sets out minimum standards and criteria for the identification, protection, and management of calcareous fens as authorized by Minnesota Statutes, section 103G.223. The MNDNR is charged with identifying and maintaining a list of calcareous fens in the state and maintains a database of them. Calcareous fens are also listed in the Classifications for Waters in Major Surface Water Drainage Basins. Finally, the rules for Nondegradation of Outstanding Resource Value Waters also list identified calcareous fens in the state.

3.3.3.1 State Wildlife Management Areas

State wildlife management areas are established to protect those lands and waters which have a high potential for wildlife production and to develop and manage these lands and waters for the production of wildlife, for public hunting, fishing, and trapping, and for other compatible outdoor recreational uses. State wildlife management areas satisfy the following criteria:

- Includes appropriate wildlife lands and habitat, including but not limited to marsh or wetlands and the margins thereof, ponds, lakes, stream bottomlands, and uplands, which permit the propagation and management of a substantial population of the desired wildlife species; and
- Includes an area large enough to ensure adequate wildlife management and regulation of the permitted recreational uses.

3.3.3.2 Designated Trout Streams

Designated trout streams and lakes in the state of Minnesota are inhabited by trout other than lake trout. Fishing and other restrictions have been placed on these waterbodies to protect and foster the propagation of trout. Wetlands associated with these streams and lakes are an integral part of the whole ecosystem that functions to maintain the characteristics necessary to support the cold-water fishery.

3.3.3.2.1 *Wetlands with Known Occurrences of Threatened or Endangered Species*

Endangered and threatened plant and animal species are protected under Minnesota Statute 84.0895 and are designated as one of three categories:

- Endangered, if the species is threatened with extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.
- Threatened, if the species is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.
- Species of Special Concern, if although the species is not endangered or threatened it is extremely uncommon in this state, or has unique or highly specific habitat requirements and deserves careful monitoring of its status.

In 1987 the state began a systematic survey of rare biological features through the Minnesota County Biological Survey. The goal of this survey was to identify significant natural areas and to collect and interpret data on the distribution and ecology of rare plants and animals. The data collected by the county biological survey is available through published maps of each county. The data available for Burnsville is through the *Natural Communities and Rare Species of Dakota County, Minnesota*. This resource identifies rare natural communities or rare plant species within the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Murphy-Hanrehan Regional Park, and south of Lake Alimagnet.

The City of Burnsville has wetlands that meet some of these criteria including the large wetlands along the Minnesota River, which are part of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge and the Minnesota Valley Wildlife Refuge. This also includes Black Dog Fen, and the Black Dog Scientific and Natural Area. One Mile Creek and two unnamed creeks would also be included as they are designated trout streams, although they are not associated closely with any wetlands. The City also has an abundance of high quality habitats that are known to contain threatened and endangered species. These areas are not restricted to wetlands, although the wetlands would be the prime emphasis for protection under this Plan. The 1998 Plan has several of the basins along the Minnesota River as Improvement and Management classes, although they are located in the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. These basins have been upgraded to Protection status.

3.3.4 Summary of Wetland Classification results

The classification system from 1998 has been tested to still be relevant, and will be maintained as the classification system for the Plan update. There are some exceptions to this generality; however, including:

- Any Critical Resource wetland has been attributed to the Protection classification regardless of what the classification was in 1998. This has significantly increased the amount of wetland in the Protection classification by adding the wetlands along the river and Black Dog fen to that category. This is somewhat deceiving as the summary of results in Table 6 shows a decrease, but all of the lakes, which are now removed from the wetland inventory, had previously been included as Protection basins.
- The three wetlands (ID's 46, 141, and 152) that had significant differences between the 1998 classification and 2006 MnRAM have been changed to the equivalent MnRAM-determined classification.
- Eight lakes and all of the storm water ponds that were not formerly wetland have been removed from the inventory. This reduces the total wetland area, but provides a more accurate measure of how much is protected under the wetland plan.
- The Management II classification has been added, and is used to categorize storm water ponds that are still regulated as wetlands. This additional classification dilutes the results

somewhat, but does not constitute a significant percentage of the basins or changes that were made.

Overall, the amount of wetland that has been categorized within the Protection category is nearly three quarters of the total wetland area. Granted this is skewed by the vast amount of wetland along the Minnesota River, but nonetheless provides maximum protection for the majority of the resources. A comparison of the changes in classification from 1998 to 2006 demonstrates that there is no plan to diminish protection. If anything, both the protection standards and the number of protected basins are significantly increased with the 2006 Plan.

Table 6 summarizes and compares the distribution of wetland classifications in 1998 and 2006.

Table 6
Summary of 1998 and 2006 Wetland Classifications

Classification	Total Area (acres)			
	1998		2006	
	Acres of Wetland[1]	Percent of Basins in Category	Acres of Wetland	Percent of Basins in Category
Protection	1,521	57	1,375	75
Improvement	887	33	247	14
Management	272	10	171	9
Management II[2]	0	0	31	2
Totals	**2,680**		**1,824**	

[1] 1998 Plan included lakes and storm water ponds, which gives an higher total acreage of wetlands than the 2006 plan. This is a change in what is included as wetlands, and does not reflect a loss of wetlands between the inventories

[2] Management II was not a category in the 1998 Plan

3.4 Analysis of Wetland Restoration and Creation Opportunities

As part of the investigation of the wetland inventory, there was also an opportunity to look for potential areas of wetland restoration and creation. The 1998 Plan had identified areas of restoration opportunities, but relied on identifying areas that contained mapped hydric soils, but were not currently wetland. The assumption was that areas of mapped hydric soil were wetland, and that opportunities to restore these areas were probable. Refinement beyond correlation between hydric soils and no wetlands being present was not completed.

The 2006 Plan has also looked for opportunities to either restore wetlands or create new wetland areas. While the basic concept of looking for hydric soils that are not currently wetland is still used, the process has been refined. The current identification of potential restoration opportunities has been completed by compiling a significant amount of GIS data, including: Hydric soils, the National Wetlands Inventory, subwatershed divides (to determine potential drainage areas), landuse (defining open space, parks, public lands, and vacant properties), topography, and storm water infrastructure. This information is available on the City's GIS database. Maps used in this analysis are available in .pdf format upon request.

All of the available data was compiled to try and find areas where a majority of positive features, such as hydric soils, on vacant land, with a large contributing watershed, were present. Using topographic information and high resolution area photographs, the sites with positive indicators were investigated further to see if conditions would allow for restoration

opportunities to occur. The focus was on larger areas, typically exceeding one acre in size. Smaller areas where wetland could be created are certainly present, but would be difficult to discern in a large scale review. Potential areas located on private property have also been identified, although it is understood that restoration in these areas will not be feasible without the owner's participation. Several of the identified potential wetland creation areas are also wooded. Often wooded sites are not selected as the tree removal is undesirable, but in identifying potential areas, this has not been used to reject sites.

Several potential areas were identified that would be suitable for additional investigation. The majority of the potential areas are located in the north third of the city near the river. There appears to be considerable areas of mapped hydric soils, but the drainage patterns have been altered, or the areas have been filled in. The northern portion of the city has an advantage as it is lower in elevation and has some storm water flow toward that area. Excavation and manipulation of drainages may be sufficient to provide hydrology to these areas.

There are fewer opportunities in the southern two thirds of the city as it is mostly developed, and has less available land for restoring wetlands. There is also more topographic variation, with much more relief that is generally not favorable for ponding water. Most of the small depressions and waterways are currently wetland, or are nor suitable for restoration/creation. Some small opportunities are available in some of the city parks, however.

Figure 5 includes the potential wetland restoration or creation areas.

4.0 Existing Wetland Management Priorities and Objectives

Although one of the main purposes of the WPMP is to allow the City to regulate and manage their wetland resources, there are several layers of protection already in place. These regulations may be implemented at the state, local, or federal level, and can come from a variety of agencies and organizations. The following are summaries of some of the main agencies and organizations that may be encountered.

4.1 Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (WCA)

The WCA was first passed in 1991 and has been subsequently amended as the Act has evolved. The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) is the lead agency for administering the WCA, and its guidelines are published in Minnesota Rules 8420. The BWSR website posts the most current wetland regulatory information available (http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/index.html) The intent of the WCA was to achieve no net loss of wetlands in the state. This is achieved by regulating the filling, draining, excavation, and alteration of wetlands within the state. There are some notable exemptions, such as allowing temporary impacts, utility crossings, farming of wetlands, and allowing small impacts to occur (de minimis). If an activity cannot avoid impacts and certain thresholds of impacts are met, creation of new wetland, or restoration of an altered or drained wetland must occur.

The WCA is administered by the Local Government Unit (LGU), which is the City of Burnsville for all areas within the city limits. This authority, within the rules of the WCA, allows the city to regulate wetland impacts and replacement criteria. The city is assisted with the administration of the WCA by a Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP). The TEP is comprised of the LGU, plus representatives of the BWSR, the County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), and the MNDNR. Other agencies and experts may be invited to attend TEP meetings, but are not voting members.

4.2 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has regulatory authority of Protected Waters and Protected Water Wetlands, which are identified on the Public Waters Inventory (Figure 3). Public Waters include both Protected Waters and Protected Water Wetlands. Regulatory authority is to all areas below the Ordinary High Water (OHW) elevation of lakes and any area below the top of bank for rivers and streams. If an OHW has not been set, which is often the case for Protected Water Wetlands, the jurisdiction will be the delineated wetland edge.

Within the city, there are eight listed Protected Waters, 36 Protected Water Wetlands, and three waterways, which are also the designated trout streams. Public Waters maps are also available for viewing at the MNDNR's website (http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/watermgmtsection/pwi/maps.html). Work below the OHW or within the channel of a Protected Water may require a permit from the MNDNR. Water appropriations may also require permits depending on the rate and amount of water used. Administration of the MNDNR's regulations is conducted by the Area Hydrologist.

4.3 United States Army Corps of Engineers

The USACE regulates filling and excavation of wetlands through Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. It also regulates impacts to navigable waters through Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, which includes the Minnesota River. The USACE has regulatory authority over any navigable water, and any wetlands hydrologically connected or adjacent to them. Currently, the USACE does not have the authority to regulate isolated wetlands, which are relatively abundant in Burnsville. Future legislative action may change this restriction,

however, so care should be taken that regulations in place at the time a project commences be reviewed.

Any impacts, including filling, dredging, or excavation may require a permit from the USACE. Additionally, the USACE also approves wetland delineations, and can participate on a Technical Evaluation Panel. Permitting is conducted through the regulatory branch, and agents are identified on a by county basis. More specific information of the USACE regulatory process can be found at their website (http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil).

4.4 Watershed Management Organizations

Within the city limits are three watershed management authorities including Black Dog Watershed Management Organization, the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District, and the Vermillion River Joint Powers Organization. The former Credit River organization is currently administered through the Black Dog WMO. These organizations may have additional regulatory requirements which must also be complied with for both the surface water and wetland components of the Plan. All of these organizations have management plans and requirements for compliance in their respective areas.

More information on these organizations can be found on their websites

Black Dog WMO - http://dakotacountyswcd.org/watersheds/blackdogwmo/

Lower Minnesota River WD - http://www.watersheddistrict.org/index.html

Vermillion River JPO - http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/CountyGovernment/PublicEntities/VermillionJPO/default.htm

4.5 City of Burnsville

There are numerous planning tools which can be used to implement and guide the land-use and development decision-making process with regard to wetland resources. They can be divided into regulatory and non-regulatory categories. The best strategy is to utilize a combination of planning tools.

4.5.1 Non Regulatory Tools

Non-regulatory planning tools are strategies to protect a resource by obtaining it and choosing not to develop it. These tools are likely to have a more permanent impact than regulatory tools. Rules and regulations may change if the political climate changes, but if a property or its development rights are obtained and it is designated for non-development, it is more likely to remain undeveloped. Listed below are nine non-regulatory planning tools appropriate for consideration in protecting wetland habitats.

- Outright Purchase
- Purchase of Development Rights
- Grants
- Land Banking
- Land Trusts or Conservancies
- Cooperative Agreements
- Covenants
- Endowments

- Condemnation

4.5.2 Regulatory Planning Tools

Regulatory planning tools are those rules and regulations that are designed to protect adjacent land uses from one another and are intended to be used as a guide on how development should occur. Regulatory planning tools are mandated by government agencies and consist of set rules and procedures that are to be followed. These regulations can be designed to protect and preserve wetlands and other natural areas. A combination of regulatory planning tools is recommended as the best strategy to ensure the preservation of natural areas. Listed below are six different regulatory planning tools that can be used in natural resource preservation.

- Overlay Zoning
- Performance Zoning
- Cluster Development
- Planned Unit Development (PUD)
- Subdivision Regulations
- Dedication

The City of Burnsville is the Local Government Unit (LGU) responsible for implementation of the WCA within the boundaries of the City. The WCA is enforced through Chapter 8 of the City Zoning Code, Environmental Overlay Districts. The Environmental Overlay District ordinance provides for the protection of wetlands and other natural resources, including restrictive and erosive soils, woodlands and shoreland areas.

5.0 Wetland Protection and Management Plan Strategies

It is a priority in the City of Burnsville to preserve and enhance the quality of the natural resources in the community. The following are the policies that will be utilized by the city of Burnsville to preserve and evaluate the community's wetland resources.

- Maintain primary responsibility for managing water resources at the local level but continue coordination and cooperation with other agencies and organizations.
- Establish appropriate protection criteria based on wetland functions and values
- Achieve water quality standards in lakes, streams, and wetlands consistent with their designated uses and established classifications.
- Protect and rehabilitate wetlands to maintain or improve their function and value.
- Minimize soil erosion and sedimentation in wetlands. Improve Water Quality.
- Use GIS and available resources on restorable wetlands to identify likely areas of wetland restoration. Identify opportunities to control invasive species.
- Provide information and educational resources to improve knowledge and promote an active public role in management of water resources.

5.1 Management Standards

Following are the strategies and standards that will be used to protect, preserve, and manage Burnsville's wetland resources. The requirements apply to all areas meeting the regulatory definition of wetland habitat, regardless of their inclusion in this wetland inventory. The classification of wetlands identified outside of this inventory will be calculated using the MnRAM version in use at the time of discovery. A discussion of the MnRAM process and conversion table from MnRAM derived classifications to the City classifications is in Appendix D.

The following management strategies will apply to both new development and redevelopment projects submitted to the City for review and approval. Any wetland habitat on the property to be developed will be subject to the following management standards, as well as the rules and requirements of the Wetland Conservation Act and other City regulations, regardless of the proposed direct or indirect impacts to wetland habitat.

5.1.1 Educational and Cultural Strategies

1. The City will distribute information on pertinent water and wetland management issues via the Burnsville Bulletin. The Bulletin will be the primary source of information to identify opportunities for residents to participate in wetland management activities.
2. The City will make an ongoing effort on both a local and regional level toward educating the public by distributing information to its residents on responsible practices they should employ to protect water resources within the community. The program shall also educate residents on the proper use of fertilizer and lawn chemicals, and the effects of these on wetlands and waters.
3. The City will promote the use of native vegetation to buffer shoreland and wetland fringe habitats.

5.1.2 Regulatory Standards

1. The City of Burnsville will accept the local governmental unit responsibility for wetland management and will protect and manage these wetlands in conformance with the requirements of the Wetland Conservation Act, as amended, and its associated rules (Minnesota Rules Chapter 8420).

2. The City of Burnsville will utilize the available technical resources of outside agencies, such as the members of the Technical Evaluation Panel, Dakota Soil and Water Conservation District, the Board of Water and Soil Resources, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and/or the Watershed Management Organizations for review of private developments and City-proposed projects that may affect wetland resources. The City will utilize the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge for review of projects that abut the Refuge.

3. The City will utilize the wetland inventory information developed in this Plan to preliminarily identify the general location of wetlands. Project proposers must provide field delineation in accordance with applicable rules and regulations to determine the jurisdictional boundaries of wetlands. The City will only accept delineations completed by a Certified Wetland Delineator, or a wetland delineator that has been preapproved by City staff. A report of the results of the field delineation, including the methodology and findings of the delineation and a printed and electronic copy of the approved delineation boundary will be required. Electronic copies of the coordinates of the delineated boundary shall also be provided either in ascii, cadd, or GPS compatible format.

4. Prior to any site development activities, the City will complete a site inspection to identify the location and extent of any wetlands present. The results of the inspection will be compared to the field delineation data provided by the developer. Protection of wetland functions and values will be provided in accordance with the requirements of this Plan through the City's Wetlands Overlay District Ordinance.

5. Any review of a proposed wetland encroachment will initially address the issue of avoidance and project alternatives. It will be the City's policy that, prior to allowing any wetland encroachment, all reasonable attempts to avoid such alteration must be demonstrated. This avoidance must also consider the reasonableness of the no build alternative. This process is described collectively as sequencing.

6. Sequencing Flexibility, as defined in the Wetland Conservation Act, may be applied to Management Area wetlands. Sequencing Flexibility shall not apply to wetlands classified as Improvement or Protection. Before approved, projects must still demonstrate that efforts have been taken to both avoid and minimize impacts to all wetlands.

7. Replacement for unavoidable wetland impacts will be provided by the developer within the City of Burnsville, and within the same watershed in accordance with the requirements of the Wetland Conservation Act. If wetland mitigation is not possible within the City limits, the replacement wetlands should be located as close to the impacted wetland as possible, preferably within the same watershed. Minimum replacement ratios shall follow those identified in the WCA, but the City may increase the replacement ratios for replacement outside of the City Limits, up to a maximum of 4 to 1

8. Completion of a MnRAM assessment shall be completed on all impacted wetlands to establish the functions and values of that basin. All replacement areas will also require a MnRAM assessment to document that lost functions and values have been replaced. The

MnRAM assessments shall be completed by a Certified wetland professional using the most current version of the assessment tool available, and should be submitted with a replacement plan.

9. Credits for non-wetland creation/restoration/preservation (such as upland buffer) will be allowed in accordance with current WCA standards.

10. The City will not allow excavation or other non-filling related alterations to an existing wetland without the expressed written approval of the LGU. Excavation within the boundaries of existing wetlands will be allowed only if the action will not change the use or character of the basin.

11. Excavation within wetlands may be allowed without replacement in basins classified as Management if they are Type 1 or Type 2 wetlands, provided this is consistent with the WCA. Excavation will not be allowed in Type 1 or Type 2 wetlands classified as Improvement or Protection Areas, unless it can be shown that the proposed excavation will improve or enhance the functions and values of the basin. No excavation will be allowed in the permanently or semipermanently flooded portions of Type 3, 4, and 5 wetlands regardless of classification without replacement.

12. Regulation of storm water impacts on wetlands shall be in accordance with the requirements of the Storm Water Management Plan. A summary of the requirements is presented in Appendix E.

13. The City of Burnsville will require the inclusion of oil skimmers in the construction of new pond outlets. The City will add skimmers to the existing system whenever feasible and practical. The designs shall conform to the requirements of the City's Storm Water Management Plan.

14. Buffers of natural vegetation must be maintained outside the wetland boundary in accordance with Table 7. Exceptions to the width of the buffer can be made for Management Areas if the buffer results in a hardship. The presence of a buffer is beneficial to the pollutant and nutrient removal capabilities of all wetlands.

Table 7
Wetland Buffer Requirements

Wetland Classification	Permanent Buffer Strip Average Width (feet)	Minimum Permanent Buffer Zone Width (feet)	Percentage Native Vegetation
Protection	50	30	Entire
Improvement	35	25	Entire
Management	25	20	Majority
Management II	20	20	Majority

15. Erosion and sedimentation control plans shall be reviewed and enforced by the City of Burnsville for all new developments and redevelopments. These plans shall conform to the general criteria set forth by the City's erosion and sediment control ordinance.

16. The City of Burnsville supports the use of wetland banking for the replacement of wetland impacts to Management Area wetlands. Those proposing banking projects are encouraged to locate mitigation banks in those watersheds within the City having lost significant wetland habitat and at sites approved by the City. Restoration of wetland habitat is preferred to wetland creation, when possible. Priorities for wetland

banking include the potential restoration sites identified in this plan, interspersion of wetland types, successful revegetation with diverse native species, areas greater than 10 acres in size and position within a watershed that provides needed functions.

17. The City will encourage developers to include wetland improvement as well as wetland protection strategies in proposed development and redevelopment projects.
18. The City will use the potentially restorable wetland areas identified in the Plan to look for future opportunities to restore wetlands. The City will assess opportunities for purchase of vacant properties with restoration or wetland improvement opportunities. Incentive to explore property acquisition may include the need for wetland mitigation or banking for City projects, identification of a significant resource needing preservation, identification of tax forfeited property, or offer of purchase by the property owner.
19. Annual monitoring of wetland replacement, banking, and improvement projects will be required as specified in the rules of the Wetland Conservation Act. The City will maintain an escrow account for each development or redevelopment project requiring wetland monitoring. A portion of the escrow will be returned to the developer each year upon receipt of the annual report. Any remaining balance in the account will be returned to the developer upon approval of the project by the Technical Evaluation Panel.

5.1.3 Management Strategies

1. The City will observe the strategies of this Plan in the management of public golf course and park and recreational lands, including open space and athletic fields.
2. The City will continue its involvement in the Wetlands Health Evaluation Program (WHEP) and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP).
3. The City of Burnsville will sweep the streets at least two times annually. Furthermore, future purchases of street sweeping units will give consideration to street sweepers which have the greatest ability to remove nutrients from the streets within the community.
4. The use of open space and overland flow will be encouraged to improve infiltration wherever it is practical and reasonable to do so.
5. The City will clean all sump catch basins or sump manholes at least annually and more often if inspection demonstrates that more frequent clean out is necessary.
6. The City will develop a retention/treatment basin clean out and maintenance plan that will address maintenance to the extent feasible and practical.
7. The wetlands and associated recreational and wildlife habitat opportunities within the areas zoned as Conservancy Districts will continue to be protected to a maximum practical extent.

Appendix E includes a summary of the water quality, hydrologic alteration, and buffer requirements for the wetland management classifications.

6.0 Implementation Plan

The implementation plan summarizes the schedule for recommended actions, as well as the prioritization of administration, inspections, permitting, public involvement and monitoring programs.

6.1 Wetland Management

Table 8 outlines activity steps that are intended to guide the City in achieving the wetland goals of this Plan. Table 8 also shows a list of possible resources available, the measurement system, and a project target date for each of the identified activities.

Table 8
Wetland Implementation Plan

ID	Activity/Project	Resources	Measurement	Schedule
1	Implement the wetland management program	• Wetland inventory • GIS database • Development reviews	• Project review • Implemented projects • New wetland created	Ongoing
2	Maintain Wetland Inventory. Update known changes	• Development projects • MnRAM, GIS Database	• Maintained, updated database	Ongoing
3	Update wetland management ordinance	• Wetland inventory • Wetland Ordinance	• Completed ordinance update	2007
4	Assess wetland restoration and banking opportunities	• Wetland inventory • Plan guidelines • GIS database	• New wetland created	Annually
5	Continue citizen participation and education	• Burnsville Bulletin • Local papers	• Citizen participation • Citizen feedback	Ongoing
6	Review inspection and maintenance of sumps, catch basins, and treatment ponds	• City Staff • GIS database	• Annual NPDES report	Annually
7	Develop summary of wetland guidelines for developers, residents, and city staff	• Plan guidelines	• User feedback	With any Plan revision
8	Sweep streets giving priority to drainage area of Protected class wetlands	• GIS database • City staff	• Number of street sweeps	2 times annually

6.2 Wetland Monitoring

In order to measure the success of the Plan objectives, it is recommended that periodic monitoring be accomplished. Wetlands are not static. Land use changes and landscape level activities will influence the functional status of wetlands. Changes in the amount of surrounding open space, surface water systems, and ground water can lead to changes in wetland bio-diversity, habitat, dominant vegetative cover, and hydrology.

Monitoring is suggested by periodic review of the inventory and evaluation of the functions and values assessment. Monitoring can be facilitated by requiring a MnRAM assessment to be completed on any impacted wetland as part of any project review. This will allow comparison of the classification to the one in the Plan. This will also be useful to measure and ensure that any replacement wetlands adequately replace the lost functions and values, not just the lost wetland area.

A second monitoring program can look at wetlands in more depth than the MnRAM. The City, in partnership with the Dakota County Environmental Education Program, operates a volunteer wetland monitoring program named the Wetland Health Evaluation Program

(WHEP). Burnsville's WHEP program allows citizens to assist in monitoring the health of several wetland areas in the City by sampling and documenting wetland plant, frog, and invertebrate communities. Volunteers are trained in how to gather and document the health assessment information. The city will continue to use the WHEP program to assess the health of the community's wetland resources.

6.3 Amendments to Plan

While the intent of the Plan is to remain as dynamic as possible, there is the potential that portions will require updating before the next major revision. The Plan anticipates this reality, and provides guidelines for amending the plan.

6.3.1 Amendments to Wetland Inventory

The WPMP is intended to be a dynamic and flexible document that will adjust easily to changes in policy and the desires of the City. It is intended that features such as the wetland inventory, wetland boundaries, and other GIS-related features will be reviewed as more accurate data becomes available. For example, an approved wetland delineation should replace the wetland boundary identified in the wetland inventory. The entire inventory will be reviewed for boundary accuracy and to track the status and trends of wetlands a minimum of every 10 years. More frequent review will occur if needed, and can be limited to partial city review if specific areas of interest are identified. Adjustments to wetland boundary, types, and classifications do not require a formal revision to the plan. City staff will be in charge of maintaining the official wetland inventory, which will be the "Wetland Inventory" coverage in the City's GIS database, rather than a hard copy map.

6.3.2 Amendments to Wetland Classifications

As described in the functions and values section, the official inventory classifications will remain Protection, Improvement, and Management, even though more current classification systems have been developed. The decision to maintain the older classifications is based on a comparison of the two methods, and concluded that the older method was similar or even more protective than the classifications generated using the MnRAM. A project applicant, however, can request a change in the classification by appealing the previous classification. The applicant, however, must demonstrate that the current classification is not accurate. This will require submittal of a request to change the classification, and will use the recommended functions and values assessment method in place at the time of the appeal.

For the purposes of the Plan, the protection standards associated with the Protection, Improvement, and Management will remain in effect. If the appeal to accept the MnRAM classification is approved, the standards and requirements will still be used based on the current three class system. Table 9 shows the conversion to be used from MnRAM –derived management class to the Plan management class.

Table 9
Functional Classification Conversion Chart

MnRAM Classification	Plan Classification
Preserve	Protection
Manage 1	Improvement
Manage 2	Management
Manage 3	Management II

6.3.3 Amendments to Policies, Strategies, and Standards

Revision to the plan, policies, and goals require additional review and approval. Amendment requests can be made by any individual, and will initially be reviewed by City staff, which will make a decision as to the completeness and validity of the request. Staff will reply within 30-60 days of a written request to amend the plan, and can respond in one of three ways:

1. Reject the amendment. Staff will reject the amendment if the request reduces, or has the potential to reduce, the Plan's ability to achieve the goals and policies of the Plan, or will result in the Plan no longer being consistent with one or more of the watershed district's plans.
2. Accept the amendment as a minor issue, with minor issues collectively added to the plan at a later date. These changes will generally be clarifications of plan provisions or to incorporate new information available after the adoption of the 2006 Plan. Minor changes will generally be evaluated on the potential of the request to help staff better implement and achieve the goals and policies the Plan. Minor issues will not result in formal amendments but will be tracked and incorporated formally into the Plan at the time any major changes are approved. Adjustments to maintain consistency between the Wetland Plan and other city Plans (i.e. the Surface Water Management Plan, Natural Resources Management Plan) shall be considered minor issues.
3. Accept the amendment as a major issue, with major issues requiring an immediate amendment. In acting on an amendment request, staff should recommend to the City Council whether or not a public hearing is warranted. In general, any requests for changes to the goals and policies or the development standards established in the Plan will be considered major amendments.

Staff will make every attempt to respond to the request within 30-60 days of receiving sufficient information from the requestor. The timeframe will allow staff to evaluate the request internally and gather input from the WD/WMOs and other technical resources, as needed. The response will describe the staff recommendation and which of the three categories the request falls into. The response will also outline the schedule for actions, if actions are needed to complete the requested amendment.

All proposed major amendments must be reviewed and approved by the appropriate Watershed Management Organizations and Water Districts prior to final adoption of the amendments. Staff will review the proposed amendments with the WD/WMOs to determine if the change is a major amendment and if determined to be major amendment, then will assess the ability of the requested amendment to maintain consistency with WD/WMO plans.

Major amendments and the need for a public hearing will be determined by staff. The requestor will be given an opportunity to present the basis for, and intended outcomes of, the request at a public hearing and will be notified of the dates of all official actions relating to the request.

The initiation of a public hearing will allow for public input or input based on public interest in the requested amendment. Council, with staff recommendations, will determine when the public hearing should occur in the process. Consistent with other formal Council actions and based on the public hearing, Council would adopt the amendment(s), deny the amendment(s) or take other action.

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Appendix A

Figures

Figure 1 – City Location Map

Figure 2 – Watershed Boundaries

Figure 3 – Public Waters Inventory

Figure 4 – National Wetlands Inventory

Figure 5 – Wetland Inventory, Management Classification, and Potential Wetland Restoration/Creation Areas*

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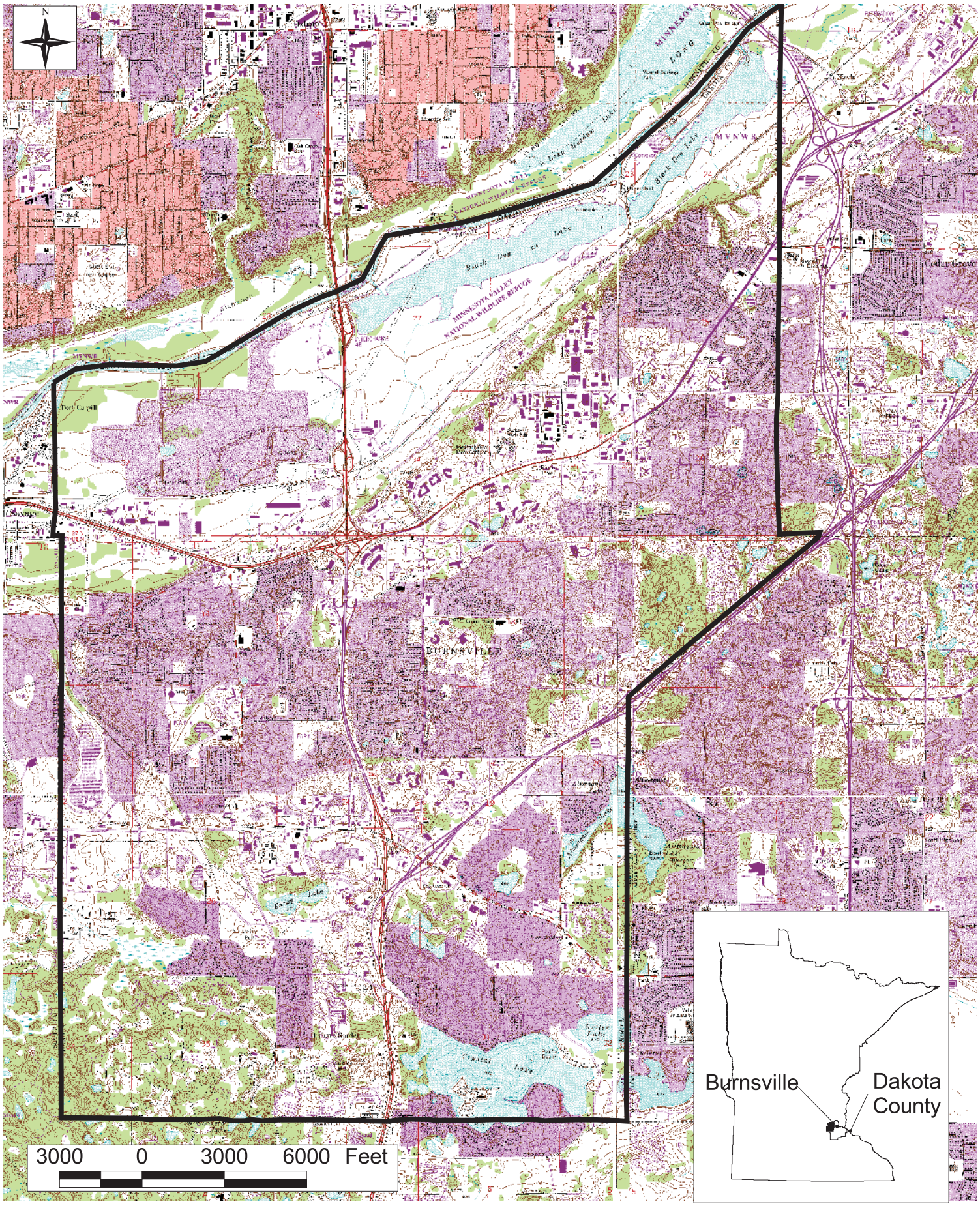

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City of Burnsville
USGS Topographic Map

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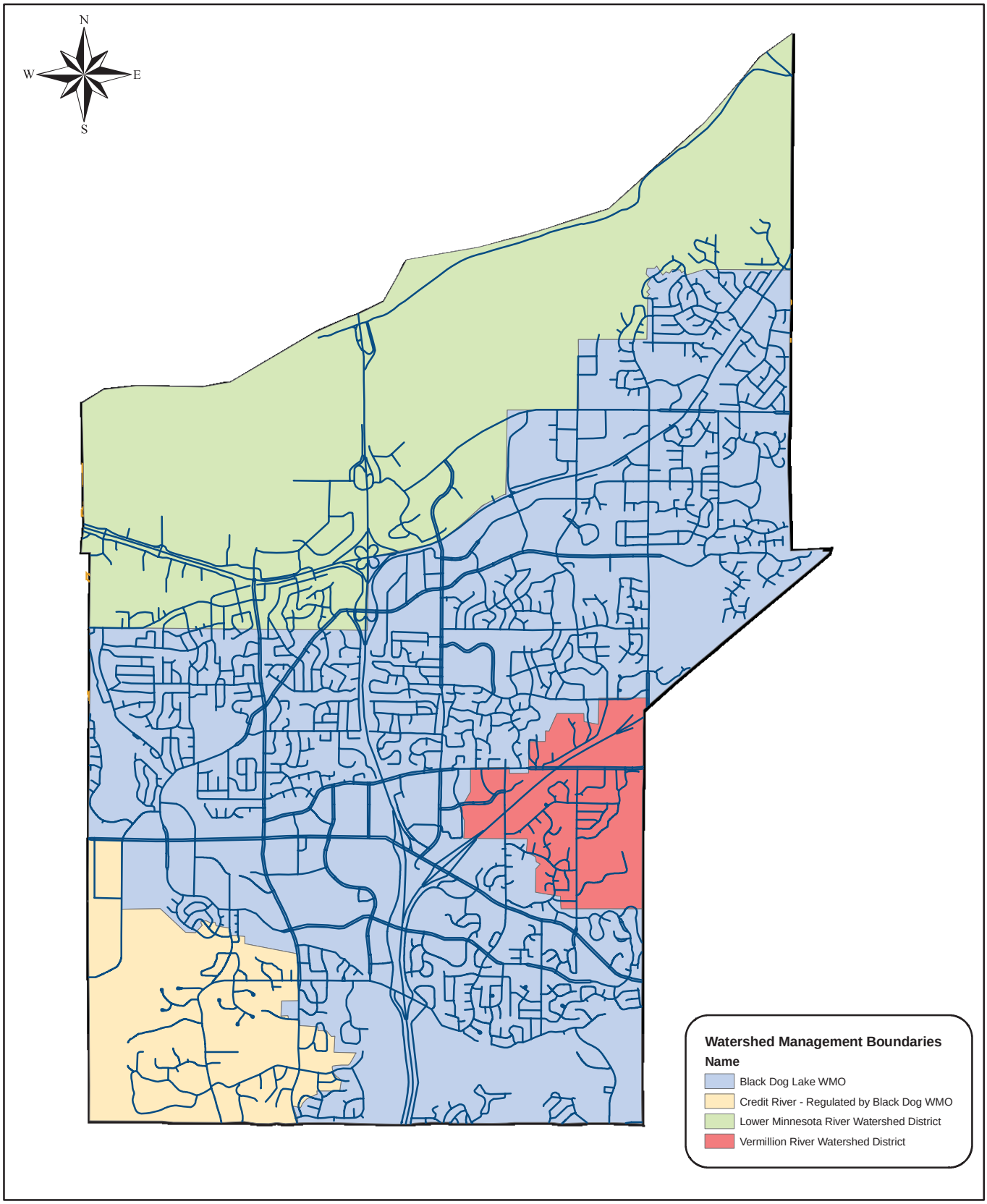
Figure 1



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City of Burnsville
Watershed Management Organizations

Figure
2

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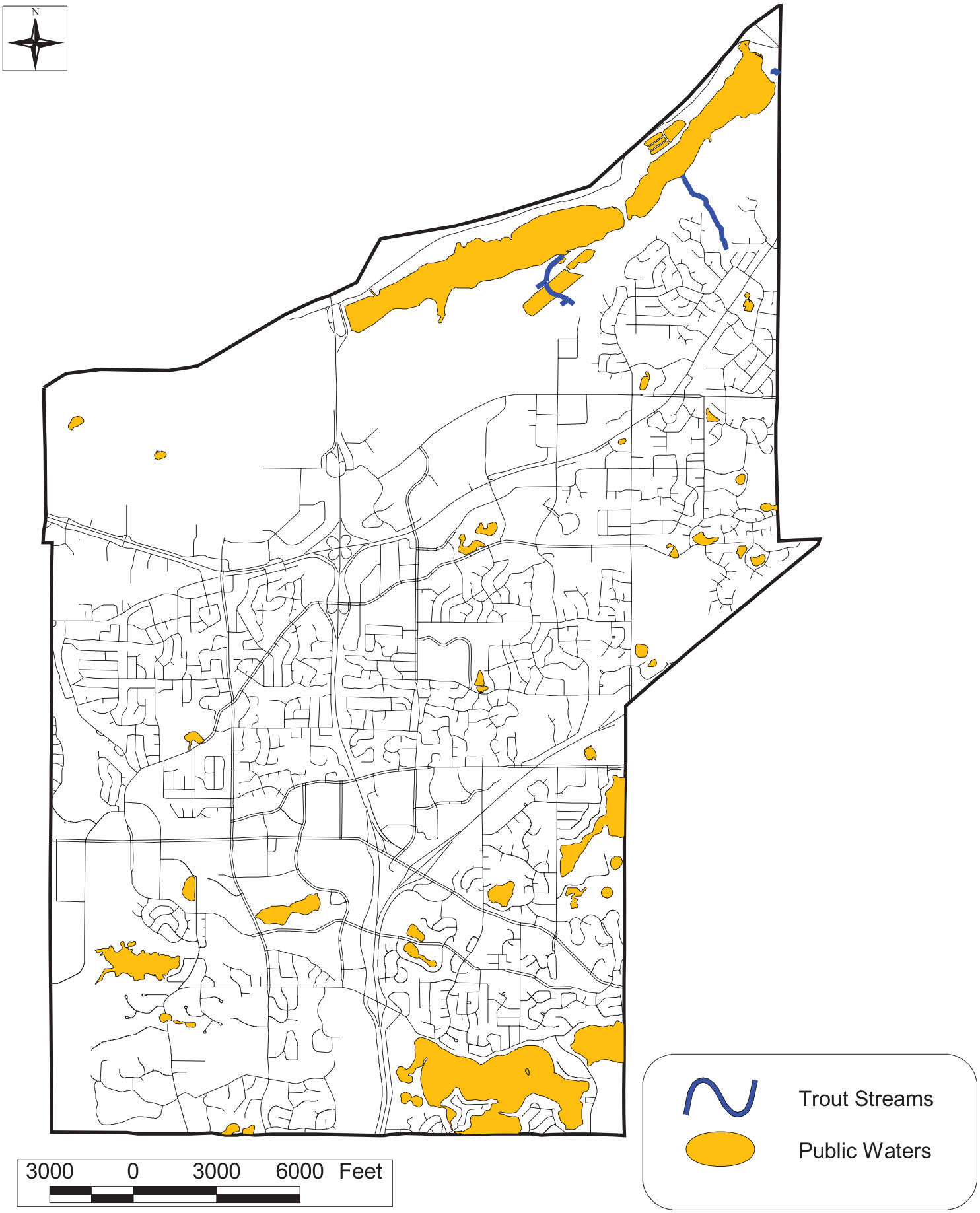

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City of Burnsville
Public Waters and Trout Streams

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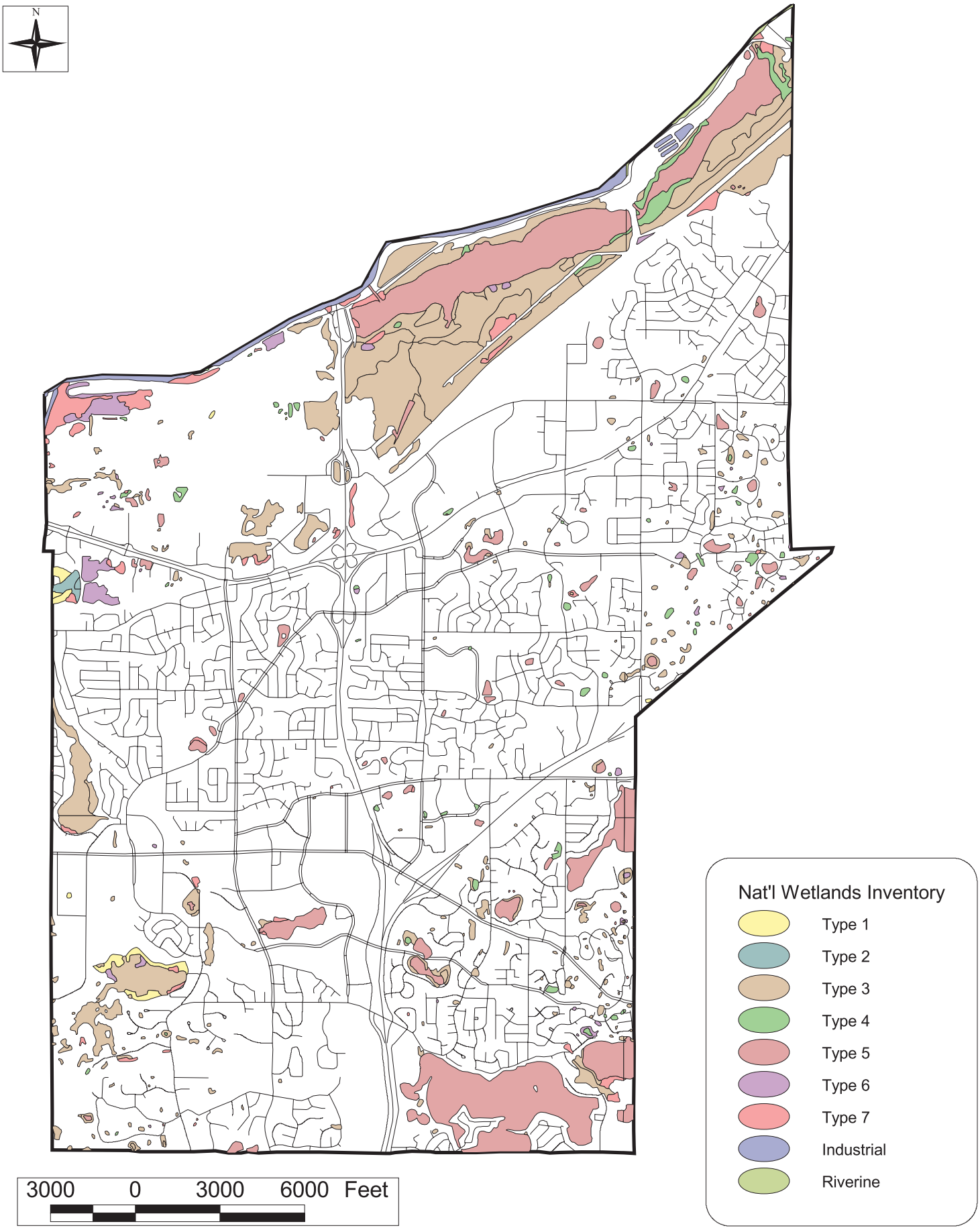
Figure 3



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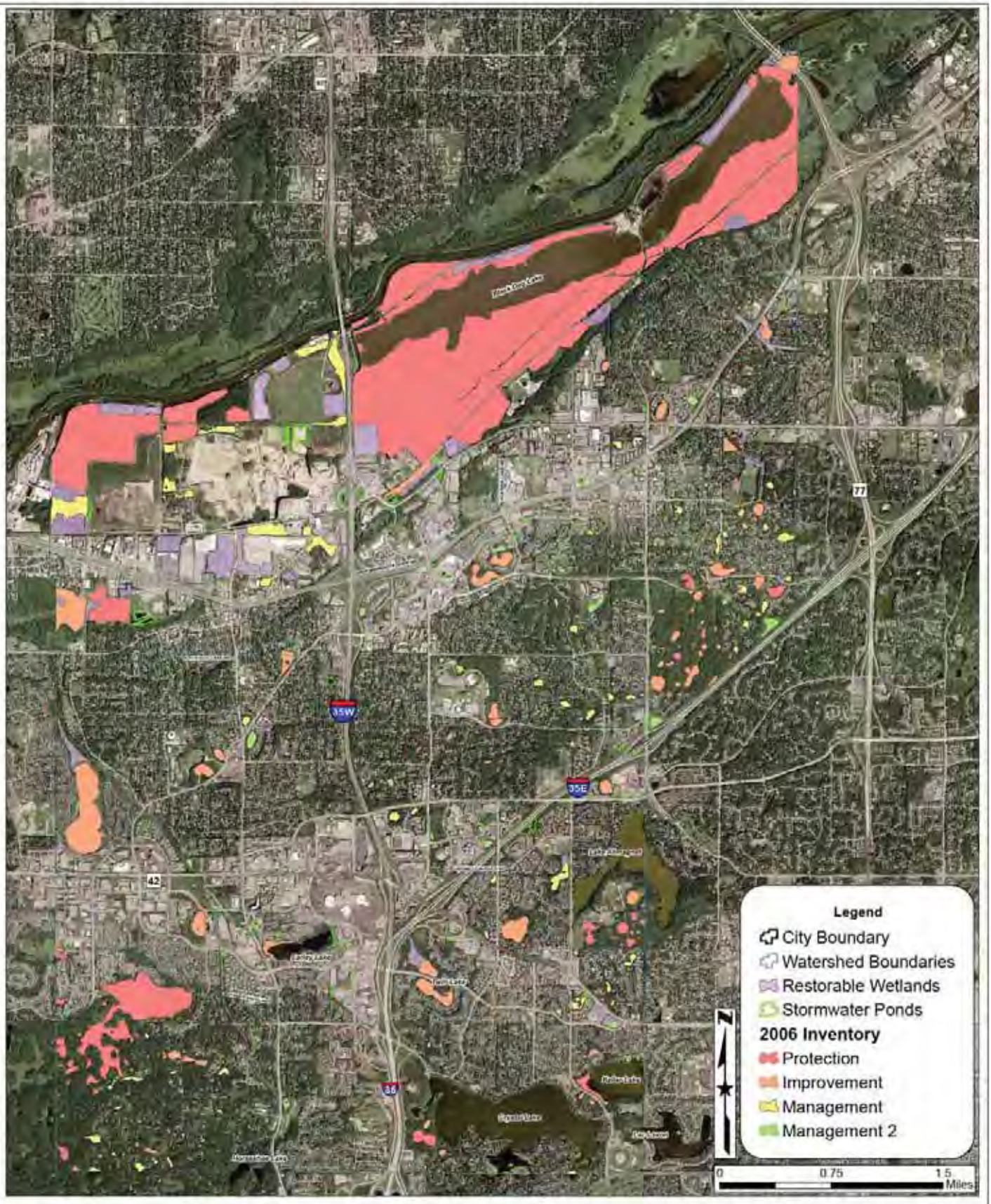
City of Burnsville
National Wetlands Inventory

A-BURNS0608.00

Figure 4



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04/01/2008

Wetland Classification Map

Wetland Management Plan Update

2006 Aerial Photograph

BURNSVILLE, MINNESOTA

Figure

5

Appendix B

Acronyms and Glossary

Acronyms

BDWMO	Black Dog Watershed Management Organization
BWSR	Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
MNDNR	Department of Natural Resources
GIS	Geographic Information System
GPS	Global Positioning System
LMRWD	Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
MnRAM	Minnesota Routine Assessment Method
MPCA	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
SCWMO	Scott County Watershed Management Organization
SWCD	Soil and Water Conservation District
SWMP	Surface Water Management Plan
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
VRWJPO	Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization
WCA	Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act
WHEP	Wetlands Health Evaluation Program
WPMP	Wetland Protection and Management Plan
WD	Watershed District
WMO	Watershed Management Organization

Glossary

Agricultural Land: Any land designated specifically for agricultural production. This may include row crops, pasture, hayland, orchards, or land used for horticultural purposes

Army Corps of Engineers (USACE): The United States Army Corps of Engineers is a regulatory agency involved in design, permitting and construction projects related to or impacting navigable waters of the United States including lakes, waterways and wetlands.

Best Management Practice (BMP): A combination of land use, conservation practices, and management techniques, which when applied to a unit of land will result in the opportunity for a reasonable economic return with an acceptable level of water quality or water quantity improvements.

Bluff: A natural topographic feature such as a hill, cliff, or embankment having the following characteristics: (1) The slope rises at least 25 feet above the toe of the bluff; and (2) The grade of the slope from the toe of the bluff to a point 25 feet or more above the toe of the bluff averages 30 percent or greater; and (3) An area with an average slope of less than 18 percent over a distance for 50 feet or more shall not be considered part of the bluff.

Buffer: The use of land, topography, difference in elevation, space, fences, or vegetation to screen or partially screen a use or property from the vision of another use or property, and thus reduce undesirable influences such as: sight, noise, dust, and other external effects. Also defined as area immediately adjacent to a wetland that is unmowed and/or unmanaged. Buffers are ideally dominated by native vegetation and add to the ecological health of the wetland by adding habitat and assisting and filtering pollutants from surface water runoff.

Buffer Strip: An area of vegetated ground cover abutting a water body that is intended to filter sediment or other pollutants from runoff.

BWSR: Board of Water and Soil Resources. This is the lead regulatory agency that oversees the Wetland Conservation Act in the State of Minnesota.

Circular 39: Wetland classification system developed by United States Fish and Wildlife Service in 1956 that categorizes wetlands in Minnesota into eight types. This is the same classification system generally accepted by the State of Minnesota for wetland classification.

Comprehensive Plan: As defined in Minnesota Statutes 394.21, the policies, statements, goals and interrelated plans for private and public land and water use, transportation and community facilities that guide future development (and growth).

Cowardin Classification: Wetland classification system developed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service in 1979. This system defines wetlands by a tiered system and is more detailed that the Circular 39 method. The Cowardin System is the classification System used in the National Wetlands Inventory.

Detention: The temporary storage of runoff from rainfall and snowmelt events to control peak discharge rates and provide an opportunity for physical, chemical and biological treatment to occur.

Development: The construction, installation or alteration of any structure, the extraction, clearing or other alteration of terrestrial or aquatic vegetation, land or the course, current or cross section of any water body or water course or division of land into two (2) or more parcels. See also re-development, new development and existing development.

Draining: The removal of surface water or ground water from land.

Easement: A grant of one or more property rights by a property owner for use by the public, a corporation, or another person or entity.

Erosion: The wearing away of land surface and soil by the action of natural elements (wind and/or water).

Eutrophication: Process by which overabundance of nutrients in a waterbody lead to accelerated productivity and general decrease in water clarity and quality.

Existing Development: A property or parcel of land that has previously been subject to development, and that is not undeveloped property.

Exotic Species or Invasive Species: Non-native plants or wild animals that can naturalize, have high propagation potential, are highly competitive for limiting factors, and cause displacement of, or otherwise threaten, native plants or native animals in their natural communities.

Flood: A temporary rise in stream flow or stage that results in inundation of the areas adjacent to the channel or water body.

Flood Frequency: The average frequency, statistically determined, for which it is expected that a specific flood stage or discharge may be equaled or exceeded.

Floodplain: Floodplains are lowland areas adjoining lakes, wetlands, and rivers that are susceptible to inundation of water during a flood. For regulatory purposes, the floodplain is the area covered by the 100-year flood and it is usually divided into districts called the floodway and flood fringe. Areas where floodway and flood fringe have not been determined are called approximate study areas or general floodplain.

Floodplain Forest: Wooded area adjacent to stream or river that is periodically flooded. Within this plan, floodplain forests have been specifically identified as a separate wetland category due to their unique ecology and protection needs.

Floodway: The floodway is the channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas which must remain open in order to discharge the 100-year flood.

Forbs: Vegetation that is not a tree, grass or shrub. Usually associated with flowering plants.

Geographic Information System (GIS): Computer database of georeferenced information on the City's various resources.

Global Positioning System (GPS): Network of satellites used to map and identify locations on the earth. Data is used with a portable datalogger called a GPS Unit

Hydric Soil: Soils that are saturated, flooded, or ponded long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part.

Hydrophytic Vegetation: Macrophytic plant life growing in water, soil, or a substrate that is at least periodically deficient in oxygen as a result of excessive water content.

Impervious Surface: The portion of the buildable parcel which has a covering which does not permit water to percolate into the natural soil. Impervious surface shall include, but not be limited to, buildings, all driveways and parking areas (whether paved or not), sidewalks, patios, swimming pools, tennis and basketball courts, covered decks, porches, and other structures. Open, uncovered decks are not considered impervious for the purposes of this ordinance. The use of patio blocks, paver bricks or class 5 gravel material are considered impervious surfaces as a majority of water runs-off the surface rather than being absorbed into natural soils underneath. Some exceptions to these conditions may include paver blocks or pavement systems engineered to be permeable with the underlying soils suitable for infiltration.

Infiltration Basin: An impoundment where incoming storm water runoff is stored until it gradually infiltrates into and through the soil of the basin floor.

Infrastructure: Public facilities and services, including transportation, storm water pipes, structures and ponds, water and sewer pipes and structures, telecommunications, recycling and solid waste disposal, parks and other public spaces, schools, police and fire protection, and health and welfare services.

Invasive Species or Exotic Species: Non-native plants or wild animals that can naturalize, have high propagation potential, are highly competitive for limiting factors, and cause displacement of, or otherwise threaten, native plants or native animals in their natural communities.

Local Government Unit (LGU): Agency that has the primary responsibility of administering the Wetland Conservation Act. The City of Burnsville acts as LGU for all wetlands within the City limits and shares responsibility for basins that border adjacent municipalities.

Mesotrophic: Describes a lake of moderate photosynthetic productivity.

MNRAM: The Minnesota Routine Assessment Method as referenced by Minnesota Rules 8420. MNRAM is the primary tool used to assess wetland functions and values on a qualitative basis. The MNRAM evaluates wetlands based on vegetation, wildlife habitat, water quality, flood and storm water attenuation, recreational opportunities, aesthetics, fishery habitat, groundwater interactions, and commercial use. The version referenced in this plan is Version 3.0.

Monotypic: Used to describe vegetation communities in which only one species is present. Most often used to describe areas that are entirely dominated by reed canary grass or cattails.

Navigable Waters. Waters defined by the United States, 33 Code of Federal Regulations Section 329.4 as those waters that are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide and/or are presently used, or have been used in the past, or may be susceptible for use to transport interstate or foreign commerce.

New Development: Development of a property or portion thereof that is currently undeveloped property.

Ordinary High Water Level (OHWL or OHW): The boundary of public waters and wetlands, and shall be an elevation delineating the highest water level which has been maintained for a sufficient period of time to leave evidence upon the landscape, commonly that point where the natural vegetation changes from predominantly aquatic to predominantly terrestrial. For watercourses, the ordinary high water level is the elevation of the top of the bank of the channel. For reservoirs and flowage, the ordinary high water level is the operating elevation of the normal summer pool. In Burnsville all of the lakes have an OHW established. For streams and waterways, the OHW is considered the top of bank. Areas below the OHW are under the jurisdiction of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and are not regulated by the Wetland Conservation Act.

Protected Water: Any water or wetland designated by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and identified by statute on the Protected Waters Inventory.

Public Waters: Those waters of the state identified as public waters or wetlands under Minnesota Statutes, Section 103G.005.

Reach: A hydraulic engineering term to describe a longitudinal segment of a stream or river influenced by the natural or man-made obstruction. In an urban area, the segment of a stream or river between two (2) consecutive bridge crossings would most typically constitute a reach.

Redevelopment: Any development including but not limited to rebuilding, renovation, revision, remodel, reconstruction or redesign of or at an existing development.

Riprap: A combination of large stone, cobbles and boulders used to line channels, stabilize banks, reduce runoff velocities, or filter out sediment.

Runoff (Storm Water): The overland and near surface flow from storm water and snowmelt.

Runoff Conveyance: Methods for safely conveying runoff to a BMP to minimize disruption of the stream network, and promote infiltration or filtering of the runoff.

Sequencing: The process used by the Local Government Unit to evaluate the necessity of an activity impacting a wetland. The party proposing the impact must demonstrate that the activity proposed complies with the following principles in descending order of priority.

Avoids direct or indirect impacts to the wetlands that may diminish or destroy them;

Minimizes the impact to the wetland by limiting the degree or magnitude of the wetland activity and its implementation;

Rectifies the impacts by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected wetland;

Reduces or eliminates the impact to the wetland over time by preservation and maintenance operations; and,

Replaces unavoidable wetland impacts to the wetland by restoring or, if wetland restoration opportunities are not reasonably available, creating substitute wetland areas having equal or greater public value as provided for under the Wetland Conservation Act.

Shoreland: Land located within the following distances from public waters: one thousand feet (1,000') from the ordinary high water level of a lake, pond, or flowage; and three hundred feet (300') from a river or stream, or the landward extent of a floodplain designated by ordinance on a river or stream, whichever is greater. The limits of shoreland may be reduced whenever the waters involved are bounded by topographic divides which extend landward from the waters for lesser distances and when approved by the Commissioner of the DNR.

Storm Water Treatment: Detention, retention, filtering or infiltration of a given volume of storm water to remove pollutants.

Shoreland Wetland Protection Zone: The land located within 1,000 feet from the Ordinary High Water Elevation of a Protected Water, 500 feet from the Minnesota River or the landward extent of the designated floodplain, and 300 feet from any stream designated in the shoreline management ordinance.

Storm Water: (See Runoff)

Storm Water Treatment Pond: Any waterbody that has been specifically created to remove sediment and nutrients and “treat” surface water runoff. Storm water ponds that were created from existing wetland are still regulated as wetlands. Storm water ponds created from upland areas are not wetland and are exempt from regulatory jurisdiction.

Subwatershed: A subdivision based on hydrology corresponding to a smaller drainage area within a larger watershed.

Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP): A panel of technical professionals from the Board of Water and Soil resources, Carver or Hennepin County Conservation Districts, and a Minnesota Department of Natural Resources representative. Additional members can also be invited, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The TEP provides decision making support for the LGU for many wetland and regulatory issues.

Upland: General term to describe any area that is not a wetland.

Vegetated Filter Strip: A vegetated section of land designed to accept runoff as overland sheet flow from upstream development. It may adopt any natural vegetated form, from grassy meadow to small forest. The dense vegetative cover facilitates pollutant removal. A filter strip cannot treat high velocity flows; therefore, they have generally been recommended for use in agriculture and low-density development. A filter strip can also be an enhanced natural buffer, whereby the removal capability of the natural buffer is improved through engineering and maintenance activities such as land grading or the installation of a level spreader. A filter strip differs from a grassed swale in that a swale is a concave vegetated conveyance system, whereas a filter strip has a fairly level surface.

Watershed: A topographically defined area within which all runoff water drains to a point.

Wetland: Transitional land between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is at or near the surface or the land is covered by shallow water. For purposes of the plan, wetlands must have a predominance of hydric soil, be inundated or saturated to the surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support a prevalence of hydrophytic vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soils; and under normal circumstances supports a prevalence of hydrophytic vegetation.

Wetland Conservation Act (WCA): In 1991 Minnesota adopted the initial Wetland Conservation Act (Minnesota Laws Chapter 354) to protect the states wetland resources. This act has been amended and updated periodically, but is used by reference to the current program, and any future amendments.

Wetland Delineation: The process and procedure by which an area is adjudged a wetland or non-wetland including a determination of the wetland boundary based on the point where the non-wetland areas shift to wetlands or aquatic habitats.

Wetland Mitigation: Wetlands created to replace wetland areas destroyed or impacted by land disturbances.

Wet Pond: A conventional wet pond has a permanent pool of water for treating incoming storm water runoff and a live storage component for flood storage and additional water quality treatment detention (see typical cross section in Appendix D).

Appendix C

Literature Review and Website Links

Literature Review

1. Black Dog Watershed Management Organization. 2002. *Watershed Management Plan*
2. Burnsville, City of, Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan, 1997.
3. Cowardin, L.M., V. Carter, F.C. Golet, R.T. LaRoe. 1979. Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, FWS/OBS079/31, 103 pp.
4. Eggers, S.D. & D.M. Reed. 1997. Wetland Plants and Plant Communities of Minnesota & Wisconsin. 2nd edition. US Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul.
5. Lower Minnesota River Watershed District. 1999. *Lower Minnesota River Watershed District Water Management Plan.*
6. Minnesota County Biological Survey Map Series No. 16. Dakota County, Minnesota. 1997.
7. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Protected Waters and Wetlands Inventory Map, Dakota County, Electronic format.
8. Scott County Comprehensive Water Resource Management Plan, 1994.
9. Shaw, S. and C.G. Fredine. 1956. Wetlands of the United States Circular 39. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.
10. *Storm -Water and Wetlands: Planning and Evaluation Guidelines for Addressing Potential Impacts of Urban Storm-Water and Snow-Melt Runoff on Wetlands, State of Minnesota*. Storm-Water Advisory Group, June, 1997
11. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1987. Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual. Technical Report Y-87-1. Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, Mississippi.
12. U.S. Department of the Interior, 1988. National List of Plant Species that Occur in Wetlands: North Central (Region 3). Biological Report 88 (26.3), Fish and Wildlife Service. In cooperation with the National and Regional Interagency Review Panels. Washington, D.C.
13. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 1984. Comprehensive Plan, Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Recreation Area and State Trail. U.S. Dept. of the Interior. 187 p.
14. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2004. Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge and Wetland Management District Comprehensive Conservation Plan. U.S. Dept. of the Interior.
15. Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization. 2006. Draft Standards

Water Management Agency/Organization Contacts

Numerous agencies and organizations in Minnesota have varying authorities and/or interest in surface water management activities relative to the City's Plan. A summary of these agencies and organizations is listed below with a link to their respective website at the time this Plan was created. More detailed information is available on each web page including contacts and key responsibilities relative to surface water management.

Agency/Organization	**Website Link**
State	
MN Pollution Control Agency	http://www.pca.state.mn.us
MN Department of Natural Resources	http://www.dnr.state.mn.us
Board of Water and Soil Resources	http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us
Local	
City of Burnsville	http://www.ci.burnsville.mn.us
Carver County WMO	http://www.co.carver.mn.us/water
Dakota County	http://www.co.dakota.mn.us
Dakota County SWCD	http://dakotacountyswcd.org
Scott County WMO	http://www.co.scott.mn.us
Watersheds	
Black Dog WMO	http://dakotacountyswcd.org/watersheds/blackdogwmo/
Lower Minnesota River WD	http://www.watersheddistrict.org
Vermillion River JPO	http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/CountyGovernment /PublicEntities/VermillionJPO/default.htm
Federal	
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	http://www.epa.gov/
Natural Resources Conservation Service	http://www.nrcs.usda.gov

Appendix D

Summary Of MNRAM 3.0 Methods And Classifications

Currently, most wetland functions and values assessment are completed using the most recent version of MnRAM, which is version 3.0. While the same functions and values are measured, the current version specifically measures the following functional criteria:

The functional criteria that are evaluated in the MnRAM are:

- Maintenance of Characteristic Vegetative Diversity/Integrity
- Maintenance of Hydrologic Regime
- Flood/Storm water Attenuation
- Downstream Water Quality
- Maintenance of Wetland Water Quality
- Shoreline Protection
- Maintenance of Characteristic Wildlife Habitat Structure
- Maintenance of Characteristic Fish Habitat
- Maintenance of Characteristic Amphibian Habitat
- Aesthetics/Recreation/Education/Cultural
- Commercial Uses
- Ground Water Interaction

Additional Evaluation Information

- Restoration Potential
- Sensitivity to Storm Water & Urban Development
- Additional Storm Water Treatment Needs

As described in the functions and values section, the official inventory classifications will remain Protection, Improvement, and Management, even though more current classification systems have been developed. The decision to maintain the older classifications is based on a comparison of the two methods, and concluded that the older method was similar or even more protective than the classifications generated using the MnRAM. A project applicant, however, can request a change in the classification by appealing the previous classification. The process to request an appeal is described in Section 4 Part D. The applicant, however, must demonstrate that the current classification is not accurate. This will require submittal of a request to change the classification, and will use the current system, which is the MnRAM.

For the purposes of the Plan, the protection standards associated with the Protection, Improvement, and Management will remain in effect. If the appeal to accept the MnRAM classification is approved, the standards and requirements will still be used based on the current three class system. Table 12 shows the conversion to be used from MnRAM –derived management class to the Plan management class

The remainder of this appendix describes the MnRAM-derived classification system and how it compares to the Plan classification.

The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) has established recommended guidelines for classifying and managing wetlands based on the result of the MnRAM analysis. The BWSR guidelines provide two classification standards based on wetland recommendations and in compliance with the WCA, state water quality standards, and multiple wetland management plans. Suggested classifications are either Basic Protection or Increased Protection, with the local authority determining which level of protection is most appropriate. Both standards are illustrated in the following flowcharts, although the City has selected to use the Basic Protection Standard. The Increased Protection Standard will remain for reference purposes, and may be used as an alternative if an additional level of protection is warranted.

The Basic Protection Standard is the minimum recommended to satisfy no net loss goals, protect critical resources, and allow for use of some wetlands in developing areas. The increased Protection Standard will include more wetlands in the Preserve category that would otherwise be considered Manage 1. This has the net effect of protecting more wetlands with higher standards.

Using the system recommended by BWSR, each wetland will be classified into one of four categories: Preserve, Manage 1, Manage 2, or Manage 3. The Preserve category is for exceptional and highest-functioning wetlands, or those sensitive wetlands receiving conveyed storm water runoff that have yet retained a medium level of vegetative diversity/integrity. These wetlands are those that should be preserved in (or improved to) their most pristine or highest functional capacity with wide, natural buffers, in perpetuity.

In the Manage 1 category are high-quality wetlands that should be protected from development and other pressures of increased use, including indirect effects. Maintaining natural buffers will help to retain the significant function these wetlands provide. In the event that impacts to these wetlands cannot be avoided, replacement ratios for mitigation should exceed the state-required minimums. Manage 2 wetlands provide medium functional levels and the wetland extent should be maintained. These wetlands often provide optimal restoration opportunity. Manage 3 wetlands have been substantially disturbed and have the lowest functions and values.

1. Preserve

This is comparable to the Protection classification used in the Plan.

Wetlands classified as Preserve have at least one of the following characteristics.

- Are identified as Critical Resources
- Wetlands rated with exceptional vegetative diversity/integrity, which may include wetlands with natural communities not significantly impacted by invasive species or other human-induced alterations, wetlands harboring endangered or threatened plant species, or rare wetland habitats classified as imperiled (S1) or critically imperiled (S2) by the state rankings.
- Wetlands rated as exceptional for wildlife habitat. These include wetlands known to harbor endangered or threatened animal species, rare communities, or wildlife refuges and fish and wildlife management areas whose purpose is maintaining suitable habitats for wildlife.
- Wetlands rated as high for amphibian habitat.
- Wetlands rated as exceptional for fish habitat. These wetlands include those specifically managed for fish management; designated trout streams, lakes or adjacent wetlands; and known spawning habitat for game fish.

- Wetlands rated high for shoreline protection. Wide wetlands bordering lakes and feeder streams that have persistent, emergent, submergent, or floating-leaved vegetation are critical to protecting the water quality of the lakes from bank erosion and sedimentation from upstream.
- Wetlands rated exceptional for aesthetics/education/recreation/cultural and rated high for wildlife habitat, include those located on public lands that provide a unique or rare recreational, educational, or cultural opportunity, and have high functional level for wildlife since that is typically a primary focus for users.
- Wetlands that are exceptionally sensitive to storm water impacts and have a vegetative diversity/integrity rating of medium or higher were also placed in this category. These wetlands may have suffered some degradation from human influences due to their heightened sensitivity. The vegetative quality of the wetland is such that improved management may allow for restoration of the community.
- Wetlands with a high vegetative diversity/integrity rating and a high rating for wetland water quality. The vegetative community in these wetlands typically has been only slightly affected by humans and still maintains high functioning to maintain water quality, which is critical to wetland sustainability.
- Wetlands with a high vegetative diversity/integrity rating and a high rating for hydrologic regime. The vegetative community in these wetlands typically has been only slightly affected by humans and still maintains high functioning levels for hydrologic regime, which is critical to wetland sustainability.

2. Manage – 1

This classification is comparable to the Improvement class in the Plan

Wetlands classified as Manage 1 have at least one of the following characteristics:

- Wetlands rated with high vegetative diversity/integrity, which typically include diverse wetland plant communities with less than 20 percent cover of non-native or invasive species.
- Wetlands rated as high for wildlife habitat. These generally include wetlands located within large tracts of undeveloped land or in parks, which allow for wide high quality upland buffers. In addition, this includes seasonal wetlands that are well buffered.
- Wetlands rated as medium for amphibian habitat. This includes seasonal wetlands that are well buffered.
- Wetlands rated as high for fish habitat. These wetlands are lacustrine/riverine or are contiguous with a permanent waterbody or watercourse and provide spawning/nursery habitat, or refuge for native fish species in adjacent lakes, rivers or streams.
- Wetlands rated medium for shoreline protection. These wetlands include those that are moderately wide and support persistent emergent, submergent, or floating-leaved vegetative cover bordering lakes and feeder streams.
- Wetlands rated high for aesthetics/education/recreation/cultural and medium for wildlife habitat, include those that provide a number of benefits that may include: spatial buffering, accessibility, public ownership, multiple recreational opportunities, and medium-quality wildlife habitat.
- Wetlands which are highly sensitive to storm water impacts and have a vegetative diversity/integrity rating of medium or high. The vegetative quality of the wetland is such that improved management may allow for restoration of the community.

- Wetlands with a medium vegetative diversity/integrity rating and a high rating for wetland water quality. The vegetative community in these wetlands has only been moderately affected by humans and still maintains high functioning levels for water quality, which is critical to wetland sustainability. These wetlands would likely benefit from active management.
- Wetlands with a medium vegetative diversity/integrity rating and a high rating for hydrologic regime were placed in the Manage 1 category. The vegetative community in these wetlands has only been moderately affected by humans and still maintains high functioning levels for hydrologic regime, which is critical to wetland sustainability. These wetlands would likely benefit from active management.
- Wetlands rated high for commercial use. These wetlands provide important social value without having an altered hydrology.

3. Manage – 2

This is comparable to the Protection classification used in the Plan.

Wetlands classified as Manage 2 have at least one of the following characteristics:

- Wetlands rated with medium vegetative diversity/integrity, which typically include wetlands with less diversity and up to 50 percent cover of non-native or invasive species.
- Wetlands rated as medium for wildlife habitat. These often include wetlands that are increasingly separated from natural communities and wildlife corridors; they often lack significant upland buffers and are increasingly altered.
- Wetlands rated as low for amphibian habitat. These wetlands are increasingly altered, but they still have some opportunity to provide either breeding, over wintering, or resting habitat for amphibians.
- Wetlands rated as medium for fish habitat. These wetlands include those which are intermittently connected to waterbodies supporting native fish populations
- Wetlands rated low for shoreline protection. While these wetlands are not providing the highest level of protection to the lake or river systems, their mere presence provides some level of protection that should not be dismissed. These wetlands are typically narrow, with little emergent, submergent, or floating-leaved vegetation.
- Wetlands rated Medium for aesthetics/education/recreation/cultural and Low for wildlife habitat.

4. Manage – 3

Wetlands classified as Manage 3 include all of the remaining wetlands that did not fit into any of the above-described conditions. All of these wetlands would rate low for vegetative diversity/integrity. Many of these wetlands rate medium or high for downstream water quality protection and for flood storage/attenuation. This correlation is expected since wetlands that provide higher levels of water quality treatment and runoff/rate control often suffer from ecological degradation.

Flow Sheets used to identify the MnRAM-derived management classification are included on the following pages.

Figure 1.1
Wetland Management Classification Process Flowchart for Basic Wetland Protection

Each wetland will be ranked into a Wetland Management group by the highest rated function for the wetland.
Follow the arrows through numbered boxes in progression through the tables; classify wetlands into the first group that applies.

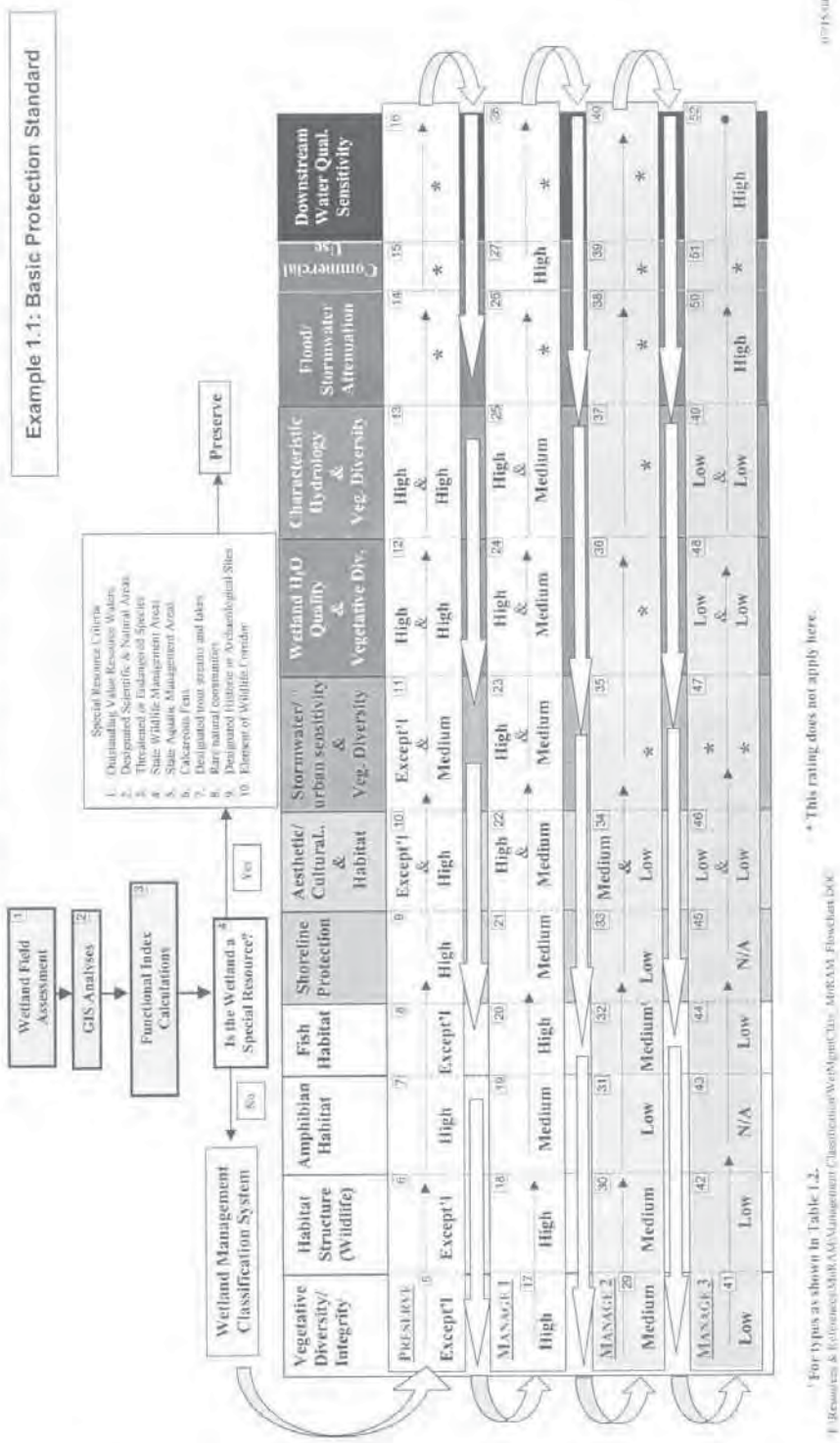
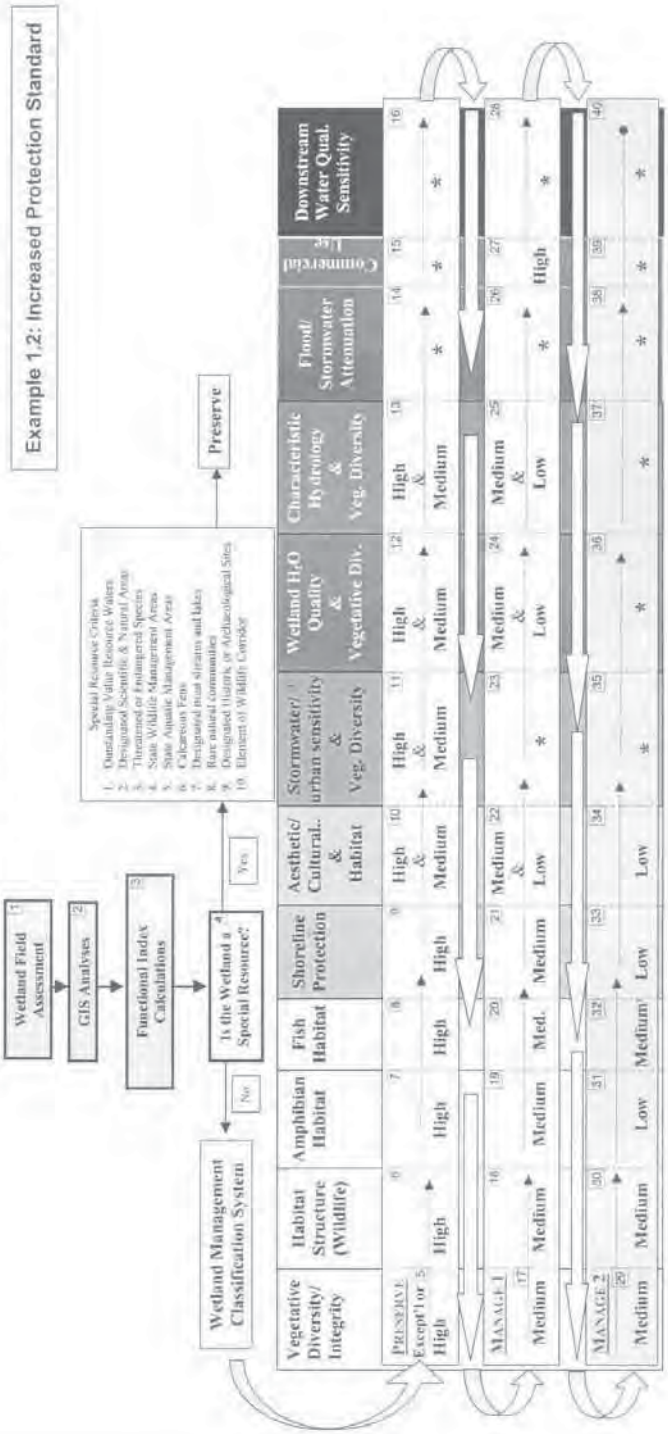


Figure 1.2
Wetland Management Classification Process Flowchart for Increased Wetland Protection

Each wetland will be ranked into a Wetland Management group by the highest rated function for the wetland.
Follow the arrows through numbered boxes in progression through the tables; classify wetlands into the first group that applies.



Appendix E

Summary of Wetland Protection and Management Policies

Summary of Proposed Wetland Management Categories and Strategies

Management Class	Management Strategy	Storm Water Treatment	Minimum Buffer	Mitigation Standard	Hydrologic Guidelines
Protection	Maintain wetland and existing functions, values and wildlife habitat. Possible need for active management of wetland to protect unique features. Apply strict avoidance standards. May be appropriate to develop a conservation easement.	New Development - Treatment to 90% TSS removal, 60% TP removal, 1.0 inch infiltration volume where allowed Redevlopment - Treatment to 70% TSS removal, 30% TP removal, 0.5 inch infiltration volume where allowed	50 feet Require monuments to mark buffer edge.	WCA minimum or greater replacement ratio with documented replacement of functions/values. Consider requiring buffer replacement. Emphasis on replacement within watershed	**If isolated or currently not receiving storm water:** Maintain existing hydrology—divert increased flows. **If flow-through or currently receiving discharge** *Bounce (10 yr)*: Existing + 6” *Inundation (1 & 2 yr):* Existing plus 1 days *(10 yr)*: Existing plus 3 days *Outlet Control:*[3] No Change
Improvement	Maintain wetland without degrading existing functions, values and wildlife habitat. Apply WCA sequencing process.	Rate controls - no increase from existing conditions for 1 or 2, 10 and 100 year events Storm water modeling needed if more than 5,000 square feet of new impervious or more than one half acre disturbed See Water Resources Management Plan for more detailed design criteria	35 feet Require monuments to mark buffer edge.	WCA minimum or greater replacement ratio. Emphasis on replacement of functions and values on-site	*Bounce (10 yr)*: Existing + 9" *Inundation (1 & 2 yr):* Existing plus 3 days *(10 yr)*: Existing + 5 days *Outlet Control:*[2] No Change
Management	Maintain wetland footprint. Improve wetland biological and plant community diversity/integrity or enhance other functions if possible. Apply WCA sequencing process. Consider for restoration. Consider sequencing flexibility with justification		25 feet Require monuments to mark buffer edge.	WCA minimum or greater replacement ratio. Emphasis on replacement of functions and values on site if possible. Allow sequencing flexibility if MnRAM 3.0 data supports Manage 3 Classification	*Bounce (10 yr)*: Existing + 12” *Inundation (1& 2 yr):* Existing plus 5 days *(10 yr)*: Existing + 15 days *Outlet Control:* [2] 0 to 2.0 ft above existing outlet
Management II	Maintain storm water treatment	Pretreatment required, minimum of grit removal, required to existing storm water ponds that have capacity for the contributing area	20 feet	May be subject to WCA, Allow sequencing flexibility	See Water Resources Management Plan for more detailed design criteria