



**New Brighton Parks, Recreation, and Environmental Commission
Agenda
Upper Level | Conference Room
New Brighton City Hall 803 Old Hwy 8 NW, New Brighton , MN
6:30 PM December 3, 2025**

Members of the Parks, Recreation, and Environmental Commission will attend the meeting in person unless eligible to attend remotely per MN Stat. 13D.02.

To participate in this meeting, members of the public may:

- **Attend the meeting in person.**
- **Watch the meeting electronically.** Tune into CTV Channel 8023 (CenturyLink) or Channel 16 (Comcast). To observe the meeting as a livestream or a webcast, visit NBMN.info/View-A-Meeting

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

Chair Julia O'Rourke

Commissioner Irie Haig

Vice-Chair Abe McEathron

Commissioner Kristin Hicks

Commissioner Pauline Alfors

Commissioner Becky Slabiak

Commissioner Gary Bank

Commissioner Laura Sokol-Kraft

III. Approval of Agenda

IV. Approval of Past Minutes

A. October 1, 2025 Minutes

V. Business Items

A. Introduction of Shared City Campus Concept

VI. Informational Items

A. Introduction of new PREC member, and update on Commissioner Fallas

VII. Announcements

VIII. Adjournment



MINUTES
Parks, Recreation and Environmental Commission
October 1, 2025 City Hall
6:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call:

Members Present: Commissioners Pauline Alfors, Gary Bank, Abe McEathron, Julia O'Rourke (Chair), Becky Slabiak and Laura Sokol-Kraft.

Members Absent: Commissioners Sebastian Fallas and Kristin Hicks.

Also Present: Assistant Director Jason Hicks and Community Assets and Development Director Craig Schlichting.

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion by McEathron, seconded by Bank to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Bank, seconded by Alfors to approve the August 6, 2025 minutes as presented. Motion carried 4-0-2 (Commissioner Slabiak and Chair O'Rourke abstained).

V. Business Items

A. Community Assets and Development – Yearly Update

Assistant Director Hicks stated each year the Commission creates a work plan. One of the items that is on that list is a yearly update, hearing from the Community Assets and Development department (DCAD) about upcoming initiatives and projects. He reported PREC would be receiving that update from Director Schlichting at this meeting.

Director Schlichting provided the Commission with a recap for 2025. He reviewed the roadway projects that were completed this year and noted the MSA streets that would be improved in 2026, provided an update on a potential public/private partnership for the

Brightwood Hills Clubhouse, commented on the work that was completed on Well 16, noted the Gardenview culvert had been replaced, discussed the Climate Action Plan and Housing Study, and discussed the future projects that would be completed by Ramsey County, which included Silver Lake Road, 10th Street and the Old Highway 8 Bridge.

Discussion included:

- The Commission was really pleased with the manner in which the City was addressing the flooding issues in the community.
- The Commission thanked Director Schlichting for his detailed presentation.

VI. Informational Items

A. Department Updates

Assistant Director Hicks stated he visited Hansen Park several times this week and was pleased to report the park building was moving along and the playground has been installed. He reported the building should be completed by December 1 and trails will be installed the week of October 6.

Assistant Director Hicks explained staff is working with WSB and the DNR to complete the required steps necessary to get the grant agreement in place for Vermont Park. He stated this would include a Statewide Historic and Preservation Office assessment, initial soil borings and pre-design. He commented the goal would be for 2026 construction, but likely construction would begin in late summer due to delays with the State.

Assistant Director Hicks stated the ThrivExpo was held last week and over 300+ seniors attended. He explained Tails on the Trails would be held on Saturday, October 4 in Freedom Park. He encouraged the Commission members to mark their calendars for the Annual Pumpkin Walk, which would be held on Friday, October 24. He noted the City was looking for volunteers to help with traffic flow and safety.

Assistant Director Hicks stated he was pleased to report the Brightwood Hills Golf Course was on pace to beat last year's numbers by rounds and revenues by mid-October.

VII. Announcements

Chair O'Rourke reported the fire department open house would be held on Monday, October 6 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

VII. Adjournment

Motion by Bank, seconded by Sokol-Kraft to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m. Motion carried 8-0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Hicks". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jason Hicks
Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation



Agenda Section:	Business Items
Report Date:	11/26/2025
Meeting Date:	December 3, 2025

REQUEST FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ITEM DESCRIPTION: Introduction of Shared City Campus Concept

Action Requested:	
Public Hearing	Motion
Discussion	Informational X
Form of Action:	
Resolution	Ordinance
Contract/Agreement	N/A or Other X
Votes Needed:	
3 Votes	4 Votes
5 Votes	N/A X

Summary Statement:	<p>Following the City’s recent facilities assessment, the City Council directed staff to continue exploring long-term facility needs and potential opportunities for improved service delivery. As a next step, staff have been asked to work with Kraus Anderson on a high-level feasibility analysis, including preliminary site considerations, conceptual scenarios, and broad community engagement to understand values, priorities, and barriers.</p> <p>At this early stage, the Shared City Campus is simply a concept. Staff are beginning the work of gathering foundational information, identifying</p>
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	<p>what community members expect from their civic spaces, and evaluating whether a more coordinated or co-located facility model could support accessibility, efficiency, sustainability, and a stronger civic identity. The purpose of this introduction is to familiarize the Parks, Recreation and Environmental Commission with the direction from Council, share the approach to step two analysis, and invite initial feedback as the discovery phase begins.</p>
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Recommendations:	No recommendation is being requested at this time. Staff seek initial thoughts, questions, concerns, and values the Commission believes should guide future assessment and engagement.
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Applicable Deadlines:	N/A
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Community Impact:	Introducing this concept early ensures residents, facility users, neighborhood partners, and underrepresented voices help shape whether and how a Shared City Campus should move forward. The exploration process will prioritize transparency, belonging, accessibility, and community benefit.
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Legislative History:	December 2, 2025 - Council Work Session Discussion August 5, 2025 - Council authorized staff to enter into an agreement for a feasibility analysis
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Strategic Priority:	Financial Sustainability	Staff Capabilities
	Economic Development X	Community Engagement & Belonging X
	City Assets X	N/A

Fiscal Impact:	Financial Impact: Is there a financial consideration?		No X	Yes \$
	Financing Sources:	Budgeted	Budget Modification	

	New Revenue	Use of Reserves	Other
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Attachments:	
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