



**New Brighton Equity Commission
Agenda
Upper Level | Conference Room
New Brighton City Hall 803 Old Hwy 8 NW, New Brighton , MN
6:30 PM August 20, 2026**

Members of the Equity 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 and Roll Call

Chair Kami Miller

Vice-Chair Cathy Forbes

Commissioner Kisten Thompson

Commissioner Liz Erstad-Hicks

Commissioner Laura Connolly

Commissioner Methok Namsey

Commissioner Michael Postle

Commissioner Melissa Spiess

Commissioner Kristan Clow

II. Approval of Agenda

III. Approval of Past Minutes

- a. July 16, 2026

IV. Business Items

- a. Community Roundtable

V. City Staff Update

VI. Chair Update

VII. City Council Update

VIII. Adjournment

- a. Next Meeting: September 17, 2026



MINUTES
New Brighton Equity Commission
Regular Meeting – July 16, 2026
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 Laura Connolly, Kami Miller, Methok Namsey, Michael Postle and Kisten Thompson.

Members Absent: Commissioners Kristan Clow, Cathy Forbes, Liz Erstad-Hicks and Melissa Spiess.

Also Present: DEI Coordinator Hue Schlieu.

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Postle, seconded by Commissioner Connolly to approve the agenda as presented.

Approved 5-0

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Postle to approve the minutes from the June 18, 2026 meeting.

Approved 5-0

V. Business Items

A. Questions Preparation

Schlieu stated one of the Equity Commission's work plan topics is a Public Safety Update. This discussion will help identify the questions and areas of focus that will make the upcoming presentation and conversation most meaningful. Additionally, the Commission will discuss its participation in the upcoming Mobile City Hall and identify key topics or questions to elevate in conversations with residents. This discussion will help ensure the Equity Commission's questions and community engagement efforts reflect resident interests and support meaningful dialogue on public safety and other community priorities.

Discussion included:

- The Commission was interested in learning how cannabis and the new cannabis ordinance was impacting the community.
- The Commission requested further information regarding the number of group homes in the community and who was being served in these homes.
- The Commission requested further information regarding the social worker that would be embedded in the public safety department.
- The Commission wanted to know if they were receiving an uptick in false calls.
- The Commission supported taking a closer look at what “safety” or “safe” means to the community and what were the most common crimes in the City.
- The Commission wanted to learn more about the hate crimes/hate speech that was occurring in the community.
- The Commission asked for more information on the number of officers responding to police calls.
- The Commission wanted to learn more about the regulations that were in place regarding e-bikes and e-motos and how the City was educating the public.
- The Commission requested further information regarding Flock cameras (ALPRs in general) and how they are being used by the public safety department.
- The Commission asked how the public safety department determined where the speed trailers would be placed in the City. In addition, the Commission wanted to know if the public safety department believes the change to 25 miles per hour was proving to be beneficial.
- The Commission was interested in learning if the public safety department had a crisis response team.

Chair Miller left the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

VI. City Staff Update – Hue Schlieu, DEI Coordinator

There was nothing further to report.

VII. Chair Update – Kami Miller

There was nothing further to report.

VIII. City Council Update – Emily Dunsworth

There was no report from the City Council.

IX. Adjournment – Next Meeting: August 20, 2026

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hue Schlieu
DEI Coordinator



Agenda Section:	Business Items
Meeting Date:	August 20, 2026

REQUEST FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ITEM DESCRIPTION: Community Roundtable

Action Requested: <u>Discussion</u>
Form of Action: <u>N/A or Other</u>
Votes Needed: <u>N/A</u>

Summary Statement:	The City of New Brighton has made incredible strides in the last few years to improve communication and engagement with its residents. The City has increased the number of parks programs and free events, coordinated award-winning National Night Out engagements, hosted several cultural celebrations, increased partnerships with community organizations, hosted New Brighton Connect, and more! The next step in building a more sustainably engaged and connected city is to bring everyone to the same table. The City would like to begin by hosting the New Brighton Community Roundtable, which invites all the City's stakeholders to come together to build relationships with one another and strengthen their connection to the City. How we do this matters. The Equity Commission will provide feedback on the scope and purpose of these events.
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Recommendations:	• Learn about New Brighton Community Roundtable • Provide feedback to ensure the initiative is meaningful to residents and sustainable for the City
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Applicable Deadlines:	None
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Community Impact:	The potential community impact of a successful series of Community Roundtables is immeasurable. By creating a cohesive network of stakeholders that hold different identities, roles, and connections to the City, it supports each stakeholder to be more informed, more successful in their respective missions, and more influential in how the City supports its community. We are inviting leaders across different sectors (housing, social, cultural, etc.), which will indirectly connect us to more residents consistently. This ensures that our community members are more connected to services, programs, and opportunities.
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Legislative History:	None
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Strategic Priority:	<u>Community Engagement & Belonging</u>
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Fiscal Impact:	Financial Consideration?	<u>Yes</u>
	Revenue/Expenditure Amount:	\$ Unknown
	Financing Source:	<u>Budgeted</u>
	Notes:	Food costs depend on how many people attend

Attachments:	<table> <tr> <td>1.</td><td>2026-08-20 Community Roundtable</td></tr> </table>	1.	2026-08-20 Community Roundtable
1.	2026-08-20 Community Roundtable		



Community Roundtable

Equity Commission
August 20, 2026



Agenda

- How has the City engaged the community?
- New Brighton Community Roundtable
- Discussion

How has the City engaged with the community?

- Park Discovery Days
- National Night Out
- Community Iftar
- Project Engagements (Surveys, Focus Groups)
- Mobile City Hall
- New Brighton Connect
- Partnerships with MVPS
- Faith-Police Partnership
- Multifamily Building Managers Partnership
- City Commissions
- Youth Community Connectors
- And more!

What's Next?

“One City, One Team” = One Community, Many Voices

- Our responsibility to create an interconnected community
- Break down silos - cross-department / cross-topic / cross-identity connections
- Bring everyone to the “same” table
- Sustainable, ongoing, consistent relationship cultivation

How will we do this?

New Brighton Community Roundtable

- A recurring space that brings people from various lines of differences and connections to the City together.
- Opportunities to build relationships, share perspectives, and strengthen connections with one another.
- Community members benefit from having better access to City initiatives and resources, being part of a more cohesive network, and shaping the City's understanding of community needs and experiences.
- The City benefits from being able to hear what matters to the community.

Who's Invited?

- Businesses
- Educators
- Faith Leaders
- Cultural Leaders
- Local Nonprofits
- Multifamily Housing Managers
- Neighborhood Connectors
- Youth Leaders
- Commissioners
- Elected Officials
- City Staff
- Residents

What Topics Will Be Covered?

- What does “feeling safe” in New Brighton mean to you?
- Where are people building relationships and community?
- What makes it easier or harder for people to find stability and put down roots in New Brighton?
- In what ways is the City accessible and approachable, how is it not?
- How do current transportation systems impact you? (buses, streets, sidewalks)
- Where do physical, communication, or other accessibility barriers show up in your community?
- What experiences should City leaders better understand?
- What do you need from one another or the City to feel a sense of belonging?
- What community spaces are missing?

FAQs

- How is this different from what we are already doing?
 - Commissions advise
 - Mobile City Hall brings services to residents
 - Youth Community Connectors bring opportunities to residents and input back to the City
 - NB Community Roundtable brings people together and focuses on relationship building
- How often will you meet?
 - Ideally quarterly, but will assess after first meeting to better understand interest & investment
- Is this the end goal?
 - No, we will implement City Ambassadors and explore adult Community Connectors

Discussion

- What would make this gathering genuinely valuable to community members rather than primarily valuable to the City?
- What should the City be trying to learn or accomplish through these conversations?
- How do we prevent this from becoming performative engagement?
- How should the City demonstrate that participation mattered?
- What relationship should exist between these conversations and the Equity Commission or other commissions?

Thank you