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MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CC: JOSH TETZLAFF, CITY ADMINISTRATOR
FROM: KEN ONDICH, PLANNING / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: APRIL 1, 2023 POPULATION ESTIMATE
DATE: JULY 8, 2024

The City has received its April 1, 2023 population estimates from both the Minnesota State Demographer (for the LeSueur County side of the City) and from the Metropolitan Council (for the Scott County side of the City).

As of April 1, 2022, the 2022 population estimate was:

Population: 8,340
Households: 3,104

As of April 1, 2023 (over one year ago), the City's Population Estimate was:

Population: 8,283 (-57)
Households: 3,066 (-38)

The immediate reaction staff had to the estimates was that it did not make sense that the City's population and households went down from 2022 to 2023, while at the same time the average household size increased slightly up to 2.661. In a conversation staff had with Matt Schroeder (Principal Researcher with the Metropolitan Council), it was noted that in the 2022 estimate, 19 new homes were double counted in the totals (they were LeSueur County homes that were inadvertently additionally counted by the Met. Council on the City's Scott County side). It was also noted that occupancy rates (as used in the formula for calculating estimates) had declined, which more than off-set the small increase in average household size. Additionally, Mr. Schroeder noted that the state estimates are calculated differently than for the Met. Council (because of different datasets being available). In any case, they believe the estimates for 2023 are back in line with there they should be, it's just unfortunate the correction makes it look like we lost population when we did not over this time.

Staff Recommendation

No action is needed on this item. It was provided for informational purposes only.

Summary of New Prague's population (as of April 1, 2023)

The Metropolitan Council and the State Demographic Center estimate New Prague's population jointly.

The Metropolitan Council produces estimates for the Scott County portion of New Prague,

while the State Demographic Center does so for the Le Sueur County portion.

Here is the population breakdown for the two portions of New Prague.

A more detailed report covering the Scott County portion is also enclosed.

	New Prague, Scott County (Metropolitan Council)	New Prague, Le Sueur County (State Demographic Center)	Total
Total households	1,786	1,280	3,066
Total population	4,691	3,592	8,283
Population in households	4,639	3,521	8,160
Population in group quarters	52	71	123
Average household size	2.597	2.751	2.661

