

city of
golden valley

city NEWS

March • April 2024

www.goldenvalleymn.gov

Golden Valley City Council Hires Noah Schuchman As Interim City Manager

At its March 6, 2024 meeting, the Golden Valley City Council approved an agreement to hire Noah Schuchman as the interim City manager to fill the vacancy left by the March 1, 2024 retirement of Tim Cruikshank.

Schuchman will perform the duties of a Statutory Plan B City manager as outlined by Minnesota law while the City Council works to fill the full-time/regular position.

With more than 20 years of local government experience, Schuchman recently served as City administrator for the City of Duluth from 2018–2024 and director of regulatory services for the City of Minneapolis from 2015–2018.

Schuchman holds a master's degree in public administration from Hamline University and a bachelor's degree in political science from

Marquette University. He is a Credentialed Manager and member of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and serves on the board of directors for the Minnesota City/County Management Association.

For more information about Golden Valley's City manager search process, watch for updates on the City website.

www.goldenvalleymn.gov

cityNEWS

is the official newsletter for the City of Golden Valley

Mayor/Council Message
Line 763-593-8007

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This document is available in alternate formats upon a 72-hour request.

Please call 763-593-8006 (TTY: 763-593-3968) to make a request.

New Format For 2024 State Of The City

The 2024 State Of The City will be posted to the City's website and YouTube channel this spring. Watch for updates via upcoming *CityNews* issues and the City's website and social media channels.

Discuss Your Property Tax Assessment At Open Book Meetings

Each March, Hennepin County mails notices to property owners to show the market value that will be used to determine property taxes for the following year. The County then hosts meetings in April so taxpayers can discuss their assessments. These meetings are designed to provide transparency. Taxpayers can attend any of the meetings, regardless of the city their property is in.

Taxpayers may call their assessor at any time after receiving their valuation notice up until the County Board of Appeal and Equalization deadline for appointments on May 22, 2024. Each valuation notice includes a phone number that will put taxpayers in touch with the appropriate appraiser or assessor for their jurisdiction.

For valuation and property sale information, visit the "Property Assessment" page on the Hennepin County website.

www.hennepin.us/residents/property/assessment

Meetings

RICHFIELD CITY HALL

April 15, 7 pm

PLYMOUTH CITY HALL

April 17, 7 pm

ROGERS COMMUNITY CENTER

April 18, 7 pm

VIRTUAL

April 23, 4–7 pm

MOUND CENTENNIAL BUILDING

April 24, 4–7 pm

GOLDEN VALLEY CITY HALL

April 25, 8 am–7 pm

Women's History Month: Celebrating The Impact Of League Of Women Voters Golden Valley

For Women's History Month (celebrated annually each March), the City recognizes the impact League of Women Voters Golden Valley (LWVG) has had in shaping the community.

Since its beginnings in 1948, the nonpartisan LWVG has been dedicated to empowering voters through education and informed civic engagement, advocating for democracy, and serving as a training ground for women who want to run for public office. "The League's ability to prepare women for public life may be its finest legacy to the nation," said Nancy Neuman, president of the US League of Women Voters from 1986-1990.

In 1959, the LWVG studied various forms of municipal government and presented

Below Patricia Moberg displays a certificate awarded her by Mayor Robert Riggs, recognizing her service on the city council from Jan. 1973 to April, 1975.



Patricia Moberg



In and out

ONE COUNCILMEMBER WITTS SWORE IN, ANOTHER RESIGNED FOR HER SERVICE AS MINNAPOLIS' FIRST WOMAN MAYOR. ABOVE: ROSEMARY THORSEN RECEIVES THE SALT OF OFFICE, ADMINISTERED BY JAMES A. PAUL LAWRENCE.

Rosemary Thorsen

options to the community, which voted for the Golden Valley's current Statutory Plan B format, which consists of a City Council with four members and a mayor, and City manager who serves as the chief executive officer.

In 1973, Golden Valley voters elected Pat Moberg as the first female City Council member, and in 1976 they elected Rosemary Thorsen

as the first female mayor. Both were LWVG members.

From advocating for comprehensive city planning and open space protection, to recommending a responsive and service-oriented police department, to supporting diverse housing options, essential community services, and initiatives like curbside recycling pick up, the

LWVG has been at the forefront of shaping the community.

Today the LWVG continues to ensure community members are equipped with the knowledge and resources needed to make informed decisions at the polls. This includes conducting voter registration drives, hosting educational presentations, organizing fair and nonpartisan candidate forums, and encouraging residents to take the census, among other activities.

All residents, inclusive of gender and starting from age 16, are invited to join the LWVG in their mission. For more information, visit lww.org and search for the Golden Valley chapter.

City Considers Establishment Of Sacred Communities

Last fall the Minnesota Legislature passed a bill authorizing religious institutions to create residential "micro-units," or tiny homes, on their properties for persons who are unhoused. The new law took effect Jan 1, 2024.

While most regulations and requirements for Sacred Communities are outlined in state statute, Golden Valley, along with other communities, must update its zoning code to reflect them.

The proposed ordinance would allow for Sacred Communities as accessory uses to places of worship in all zoning districts where this is allowed. It would also require the dwellings to be less than 400 square feet, anchored in place, insulated, provide traditional or low voltage electricity, have smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, and have either dry, plumbed, or compostable toilets, among other conditions. The nearby religious institution could provide facilities for cooking

or a kitchen, showers, and laundry facilities.

Several metro area cities have already adopted code to meet the intent of the new legislation that allows Sacred Communities, including St Louis Park, Richfield, Minneapolis, and St Pau, to name a few.

City staff will be before the Planning Commission, and eventually City Council, in April for adoption of the code amendments. Watch the City website for more information.

www.goldenvalleymn.gov

Spring Brush Pick-Up Starts April 29

Golden Valley's annual spring brush pick-up is around the corner. Residents can conveniently dispose of tree limbs and brush at their curb for collection as part of the City's recycling program. Scheduled from April 29 to May 18, the City will be divided into three sections, with a week designated for pick up in each section. If there is a lot of brush, pick up may take longer than a week.

Pick Up Schedule

Section 1: Week of April 29

Area north of Hwy 55 and east of Douglas Dr

Section 2: Week of May 6

Area north of Hwy 55 and west of Douglas Dr

Section 3: Week of May 13

Area south of Hwy 55

Please Observe The Following Guidelines

- Brush must be placed on the curb by 7 am Monday the week of pick-up.
- Limbs and brush must be less than 4 inches in diameter and no longer than 8 feet.
- Stack brushes neatly with larger ends facing the street.
- Do not use plastic bags.
- Condense brush to one pile per household.
- Keep brush and limbs completely clear of sidewalk, mailboxes, street lights, sign poles, landscaping and fences, overhead tree branches, and power lines.
- If piles don't fit between the curb and sidewalk, place them on the boulevard behind the sidewalk.
- Avoid mixing in leaves, grass clippings, stumps, roots, limbs exceeding the size limits, building lumber, landscape timbers, or bags of garbage. If any of these items are mixed in the brush stacks, the entire stack will be left behind. The contractor will not sort through brush stacks for acceptable material.

www.goldenvalleymn.gov/Yard-Waste-Disposal

No-Mow May Is A Buzzworthy Initiative For A Greener Tomorrow



As the weather warms, the City encourages residents to participate in another year of No-Mow May. This initiative, designed to support ground-nesting pollinators like bees, asks residents to set aside their mowers and embrace a month of natural growth.



No-Mow May isn't just about letting grass grow, it's a commitment to biodiversity and environmental stewardship. By refraining from mowing, using harmful chemicals, and tending to dandelion flowers before they seed for the month of May, you

are playing a vital role in nurturing the local ecosystem. You don't have to abandon your lawn entirely; start small, perhaps with your backyard or a side yard. If your grass grows too long, trim no more than a third at a time.

As June approaches, City staff will resume regular maintenance, but your participation in No-Mow May will greatly help.

To participate, register for free on the City website.

www.goldenvalleymn.gov/Pollinators

City Discontinues Private Ash Tree Condemnation

At its Feb 20, 2024 meeting, the Golden Valley City Council voted to pass an amendment to the current shade tree ordinance that will discontinue private ash tree condemnation.

The amendment will relieve private property owners from the obligation to remove infested ash trees from their property. Under the previous ordinance, property owners were required

to remove infested ash trees from their property. The City will continue to remove trees with emerald ash borer in the public right-of-way.

To learn more, visit the City website.

www.goldenvalleymn.gov/Tree-Management



Golden Valley
Recycles

If your recycling is missed, call Republic Services at 763-972-3335, Option 5, before noon on the following Monday. If you have specific recycling questions, call 763-593-8083. www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recycling
Sign up to receive emailed recycling updates and reminders. www.goldenvalleymn.gov/subscribe
The Golden Valley Recycling Program is partially funded by the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners.

Pollinator Pathways Designed To Enhance The Environment

A new initiative aims to transform Golden Valley into a haven for pollinators and wildlife. The Golden Valley Garden Club (GVGC) envisions Pollinator Pathways as a public-private-corporate effort that will provide a healthier environment for pollinators, pets, and people for years to come.

Pollinator Pathways seeks to create "a pesticide-free corridor of native plants that provides nutrition and habitat for pollinators and helps them to disperse into new habitats," according to a definition by the Canadian Wildlife Federation.

The goal is to develop pathways that connect the City's existing green corridors and native buffer zones with pollinator-friendly pocket gardens. It will start with a small

model or pilot program involving residents' yards in targeted areas.

Residents in those areas who want to participate will receive free native pollinator plants donated by the GVGC (enough to create an approximately 3' x 5' pocket garden). Plants, supplies, and planting instructions will be available for pick-up in May or June.

All newly planted pocket-sized gardens may potentially serve as neighborhood demonstration plots to inspire other residents to plant more pollinator-attracting species in their yards.

Pollinator-attracting plants will also be available at the GVGC plant sale (May 18, noon–3 pm), and on Pollinator Day at Market In The Valley (June 23). Learn more at the GVGC website.

<https://gvgardenclub.com>

City Urges Utility Customers To Take Lead Pipe Survey

The City of Golden Valley is creating an inventory of all water service lines in its system, and City utility customers can help by taking a survey to identify their service line material. Because lead or galvanized pipes pose numerous serious health concerns, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is requiring all cities to complete these inventories by August 2024.

The survey asks customers to provide contact information (name, address, phone number) and identify the material type of their water ser-

vice line. If you are unable to do this, contact the City at 763-593-3962 to schedule an inspection to verify the type of your water service material. The City will reach out to anyone who does not take the survey or make an appointment. The sooner you identify the material type of your water service line, the sooner you may be eligible for potential grants to cover any necessary replacements.

To help with the survey, the EPA provides an online interactive guide called Protect Your Tap: A Quick

Check For Lead that includes pictures, step-by-step directions, and additional resources.

Learn more about Golden Valley's water system at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/Water-System.

Take the Golden Valley Water Service Line Material Survey at <https://bit.ly/3Hk979X>.

Visit the EPA site at <https://bit.ly/48NDxqs>.

Preparing For The Storm: Severe Weather Awareness Week Is April 8–12

Severe Weather Awareness Week, April 8–12, helps educate and prepare individuals for the seasonal threats posed by severe weather, especially tornadoes. Understanding these risks is key to ensuring the safety of yourself and your loved ones.

Minnesota experiences an average of 29 tornadoes annually, according to data from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDPS). Severe Weather Awareness Week is the time for Minnesotans to prepare for if the worst happens.

Tornado Drill

On Thursday, April 11, outdoor warning sirens will sound at 1:45 pm and 6:45 pm as part of the state-

wide tornado drill. The first drill serves as a practice session for institutions and businesses; the evening drill is intended for second shift workers and families. The City will also test GV Emergency, its mass emergency notification system, at 1:45 pm.

For more information about severe weather, including fact sheets, checklists, data, and other resources, visit the MNDPS website.

bit.ly/severe-weather-week

Get Hired To Put Out Fires.

The Golden Valley Fire Department (GVFD) is seeking dedicated individuals to join its team. With a history of service spanning 75 years, the GVFD emphasizes top-notch training, a sense of community, and quality fire engines and equipment.

By becoming a paid, on-call firefighter, you will work alongside passionate professionals committed to safeguarding the community. Applicants from diverse

backgrounds are encouraged to apply, ensuring a tradition of inclusivity and excellence in service.

Mark your calendars for May 20, when applications open. Visit goldenvalleyfire.com to learn more about the recruitment timeline and how to apply. Applications are due Sunday, August 18 at 11:59 pm.



Building Bridges: GVPD And Damascus Way Revitalize Partnership

Over the past year and a half, the Golden Valley Police Department (GVPD) has worked to revitalize its partnership with Damascus Way, a local re-entry center that helps men transition from the correctional system back into the community. The collaboration fosters support and transformation, with roots in a shared vision of redefining relationships between law enforcement and individuals re-entering society from incarceration.

Before this work began, the only time GVPD personnel would interact with Damascus Way residents was when officers would pick up or report a predatory offender, explains Assistant Police Chief Alice White. Her goal is to seek ways to engage with individuals being released from prison, ensuring they feel welcomed and integrated into the community.

Tierre Webster, executive director of Damascus Way, says he saw an opportunity to "change the narrative around policing and foster authentic community policing practices." The partnership aims to empower current and former Damascus Way residents

to become esteemed members of their community, starting with ongoing, positive interactions with police officers. "If we do this right, intellect will change, and then behavior will change," Webster adds.

"For the GVPD, this partnership offers a unique way to engage differently with individuals at their most vulnerable moments, such as during arrests," said White. "Often, individuals who are arrested have a dual diagnoses, such as mental illness and substance abuse, so forming a relationship allows officers to know who these people are outside of their worst

moments. It gives space for compassion."

Webster and White say such relationships can go beyond traditional law enforcement roles, ultimately contributing to the successful reintegration of individuals back into society.

Looking ahead, the overarching goal is to reshape perceptions of law enforcement for formerly incarcerated individuals, explains White. By demonstrating that engaging with law enforcement is not taboo, the hope is to pave the way for these folks to be embraced as valued members of the community.

Gear Up For Street Construction Season

It's almost that time of year to prepare for what to expect this summer as construction projects kick into gear.

2024 Pavement Management Program (PMP)

The 2024 PMP will reconstruct 1.17 miles of street in the neighborhood south of Medicine Lake Rd, west of Winnetka Ave. The project will upgrade underground infrastructure (sanitary sewer, water main, and storm sewer) and install a new sidewalk on Duluth St to connect Winnetka Ave to General Mills Nature Area. Work will begin in spring and is expected to end in fall.

Hwy 55 Lift Station Replacement

The project will replace the sanitary sewer lift station west of Schaper Park and relocate it out of the floodplain it is currently in. Work will occur from summer to fall.

Adair Ave Water Main Rehabilitation

Crews will replace the water main system on Adair Ave near Duluth starting in early summer and ending in fall. Expect minor traffic impacts and temporary water outages during the project.

County Projects

Hennepin County will apply pavement preservation product to Douglas Dr (Cty Rd 102) and the west end of Duluth St (Cty Rd 66) this summer. The process is expected to last a few days and will require some traffic closures. More information will be provided when available.

MnDOT Projects

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) will resurface Hwy 55 from General Mills Blvd to Old Rockford Rd in Plymouth. Most of the project area is located in Plymouth, but there will be some traffic impacts in Golden Valley. Directional and weekend closures are needed to complete the work.

Sign Up For Email Construction Updates

Sign up 2023 PMP, 2024 PMP, and general street project updates at **GV DirectConnect**, the City's email subscription service.

www.goldenvalleymn.gov/subscribe



www.goldenvalleymn.gov/262/Street-Utility-Projects

Help Create The Future Minnesota State Freight Plan

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) seeks feedback to help shape Minnesota's freight network for the next two decades. Your input will be crucial in guiding investments and strategies to update the State Freight Plan to align with previous engagement efforts and regional freight plans.

This initiative is aimed at improving the transportation of online purchases and food, which often requires various modes of transportation.

Enhancing freight access, reliability, and connections ultimately helps improve transportation efficiency and supports economic growth.



Take the survey online (available in English, Spanish, and Somali) to share your thoughts at talk.dot.state.mn.us/state-freight-plan.

RUN THE VALLEY
2024
29TH ANNIVERSARY | 5 & 10K WALK & RUN

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

7:45 am: 0.2k Kids Fun Run | 8 am: 10k Run
8:10 am: 5k Run | 8:15 am: 5k Walk

For more information and online registration, visit www.goldenvalleymn.gov/RTV or scan the QR code.





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Communications
City of Spring Lake Park
1301 81st Ave NE
Spring Lake Park MN 55432-2188

40 12195



UPCOMING EVENTS

www.goldenvalleymn.gov/Community-Events

Run The Valley

Saturday, April 20 | See page 7

Spring Brush Pick-Up

See page 4

Hands-Only CPR & AED Training

Thursday, April 25 | 7-8:30 pm
Brookview Golden Valley
www.goldenvalleymn.gov/fire-education

Step To It Challenge

May 1-28
Register at www.steptoit.org

Bike Rodeo

Thursday, May 2 | 6-8 pm
Lakeview Terr Park, Robbinsdale
www.goldenvalleymn.gov/bike-rodeo

Concerts In The Park

Mondays, June 3-Aug 5 | 7 pm
Brookview Park

Market In The Valley

Sundays, starting in June
Golden Valley City Hall
www.marketinthevalley.org

Music on the Patio

Sunday, June 23 | 5-8 pm
Three One Six Bar + Grill
www.brookviewthreonesix.com/gather

BAEGV: Building & Retaining An Equitable City Workforce & Supplier Pool

Thursday, June 13 | 6-8 pm
Brookview Golden Valley
www.goldenvalleymn.gov/BAEGV

Public Safety In The Parks

Multiple dates and locations
throughout the summer
www.goldenvalleymn.gov/PSITP

Golden Valley Gear Sale

Daily, July 9-15
Brookview Golden Valley

Public Safety Open House

Wednesday, June 26 | 5 pm
Public Safety Building
www.goldenvalleymn.gov/

Recruitment Information Meeting

Thursday, July 11 | 9:30 am & 6:30 pm
Fire Station One
www.goldenvalleyfire.com

COFFEE

WITH A COP

Fri, May 17

More information coming soon.

www.goldenvalleymn.gov/Police-Community-Events

REGISTER FOR
SPRING/SUMMER
PARKS & REC PROGRAMS
WWW.GOLDENVALLEYMN.GOV/PARKS

Enter The 2024 Views Of The Valley Photo Contest



Golden Valley's *Views Of The Valley* Photo Contest invites residents of all ages to submit up to three photos taken within city limits for a chance to win a cash prize.

The contest encourages participants to capture the beauty of Golden Valley through various perspectives, including its recreational amenities, locations, community events, and people. Photos of flora and fauna are also welcome.

The deadline to enter is June 7, 2024. Visit the City website for details.

www.goldenvalleymn.gov/photo-contest