



Planning Commission Work Session
Anoka City Hall Work Session Room
Tuesday, March 17, 2026
5:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Discussion: 2025 Accomplishments/2026 Goals
2. Discussion: Preview of upcoming applications
 - i. Highland Park Residential Redevelopment



2026-2027 CITY COUNCIL GOALS

Primary Goals



Economic Development & Fiscal Responsibility

- Develop a responsible city budget.
- Only use bonding if there is a revenue generating component which does not affect the levy.
- Citizen engagement – identify “third places” growth and development.
- When considering business proposals, ensure consideration for local growth when possible.
- Reserve dedicated monies for eventual replacement of city assets.
- Maximize revenue from enterprise funds.



Redevelopment of City-owned Properties

- Continued focus on sale and development of city-owned properties including: 7th & Main St., 7th & Bunker, 2nd & VanBuren, and sale or lease of the Miller building.
- Agricultural Area – must be preserved if there is a façade easement in place, and a Letter of Intent with a potential long-term buyer.



Anoka County Jail Solution

- Work with Anoka County on a mutually agreeable solution for the upgraded jail.
- Address issues with releasing inmates.
- The scale and scope of a facility in any new location that is agreed to should fit with its surroundings.

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Improving Public Safety / Community Well Being

- Address public safety and health issues with the introduction of a city-based social worker.
- Invest in staff, resources, training and infrastructure that maintains Anoka’s commitment to citizen safety.
- Continue to evaluate security and redundancy of susceptible city assets and operations and create action plans to ensure stable services.
- A second canine for the Anoka Police Department.



Multimodal Transportation

- Adopt a plan to increase sidewalk/trail connections enhancing multimodal transportation.
- Support transition of Northstar train to an Amtrak/Borealis train station in 2026.
- Encourage multimodal transport options by adding more bike racks, striping for bicycles where appropriate, and adding charging capabilities for e-bikes and e-scooters where appropriate.



Improving Community Amenities / Other

- Green Haven Golf Course Improvements / Renovations
- Implement Infill Standards
- Rum River Dam Project
- River Recreation & Rum River Trail Walk
- Public Amenities/Infrastructure
- Community Center
- Anoka Social District
- Municipal Liquor Store
- Hidden History
- Youth Representation
- City Institutions