

City VIEW

WINTER 2024

ANOKA
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by Twin Cities Gateway

Hwy 10 Project Update

Major Construction Complete

The return of winter signals the end of major reconstruction on Hwy 10 in Anoka. The many accomplishments during the past two years of construction on the Hwy 10 Corridor include:

- New eastbound and westbound Hwy 10 bridges over the Rum River.
- New bridges now carry Hwy 10 traffic over Main St./Greenhaven Rd., Fair oak Ave., and Thurston Ave. A roundabout also provides access between the highway and Thurston Ave., but although traffic can travel beneath the highway at Fair oak Ave., there is no access to and from Hwy 10.
- Roundabouts north and south of Hwy 10 at Main St./Greenhaven Rd. handle traffic movements at the new interchange.
- New roundabouts also opened in late July on Thurston Ave. and Greenhaven Pkwy.
- The new 4th Ave. overpass west of the Rum River that includes the relocated Rum River Regional Trail was opened in November 2022.

A new single point urban interchange (SPUI) replaces the previous interchange at Hwy 10 and Ferry St. (Hwy 47/169) and it may be unfamiliar to many drivers. This new interchange opened just before Thanksgiving. It will improve traffic flow and safety for motorists at the busy interchange. Although similar to a traditional diamond interchange, the SPUI channels all traffic to a single set of traffic signals and allows opposing left turns to proceed at the same time by combining the two intersections of a diamond into a single intersection over Hwy 10.

Additional work during the past two years included improved frontage roads and access lanes and noise walls along the length of the corridor.

Spring Cleanup

Although major construction is now complete, once the snow disappears and weather allows, construction crews will return to Hwy 10 in the spring of 2024 to carry out minor work and cleanup including:

- Concrete sidewalk on local roads and colored concrete under the Hwy 10 bridge at Thurston Ave. and along Ferry St. and on the new Ferry St. bridge.
- Guardrail, drainage ponds, and right-of-way fencing.
- Curb and gutter installation along local streets.
- Concrete wall painting.
- Digital message sign on westbound Hwy 10 at 7th Ave.
- Permanent seeding, sod, landscape plantings, and irrigation.

All final construction activity should be completed by June 1, 2024.

MnDOT and the City of Anoka wish to thank residents, motorists, and local businesses for your patience and partnership during the two-year construction project.

For more information about this successful project, including project videos, please visit the project website at mndot.gov/metro/projects/hwy10-anoka/index.html.

Anoka City Hall

2015 1st Ave., Anoka, MN 55303
Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



Phone: 763-576-2700 | Toll Free: 1-866-576-2701
anokaminnesota.com

Elected Officials

Mayor

Phil Rice 612-702-8442

City Council

Sam Scott 612-695-5896
Erik Skogquist 763-576-9219
Jeff Weaver 763-427-9574
Brian Wesp 763-576-2718

City Manager

Greg Lee 763-576-2711

Important Phone Numbers

Administration 763-576-2740
Animal Containment Center 763-576-2850
Anoka Municipal Utility (AMU) 763-576-2903
Power Outage (during business hours) 763-576-2903
After 3 p.m. 763-576-2860
Utility Bill Inquiries 763-576-2750
Anoka Senior Center 763-576-4661
Aquatic Center 763-421-7730
Assessing/Special Assessments 763-576-2730
Better Values Liquor East 763-421-3070
Community Development 763-576-2720
Code Enforcement/Property Maintenance 763-576-2716
Planning, Zoning & Building Permits 763-576-2720
Finance 763-576-2770
Fire Non-Emergency 763-576-2900
Green Haven Golf Course & Event Center 763-576-2970
Housing & Redevelopment 763-576-2724
Parks & Recreation, Cemeteries 763-576-2980
Police Non-Emergency 763-427-1212
Public Services (streets, water, sewer) 763-576-2980
After Hours 763-576-2860
Residential Recycling 763-576-2725

Editor

Pam Bowman 763-576-2725

City View is partially funded by the Anoka County Board of Commissioners and State Score Funds (SCORE-Select Committee on Recycling and the Environment).



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City Boards & Commissions Meetings

Monthly meetings unless noted; dates and times are subject to change.

City Council: 1st & 3rd Mondays – 7 p.m.

Economic Development Commission: 2nd Thursday – 8 a.m.

Heritage Preservation Commission: 2nd Tuesday – 5 p.m.

Home Rule Charter Commission: Annually

Housing and Redevelopment Authority: 2nd Monday – 5 p.m.

Human Rights Commission: Bi-monthly or as needed – 5 p.m.

Parking Advisory Board: 3rd Wednesday – 7:15 a.m.

Park Board: 3rd Tuesday – 7 p.m.

Planning Commission: 1st Tuesday – 7 p.m.

Utility Advisory Board: As needed

Waste Reduction & Recycling Board: 2nd Wednesday – 5 p.m.

Lower Rum River Water Management Organization:
3rd Thursday – 8 a.m.

QCTV Live Broadcasts & Replays

Quad Cities Community Television (QCTV) broadcasts regular City Council, Housing & Redevelopment Authority, and Planning Commission meetings on Channel 16 with periodic replays. Visit qctv.org for complete schedule and for video streaming.

City Offices Closed

Monday, January 1 New Year's Day

Monday, January 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

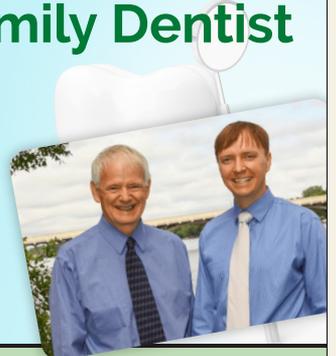
Monday, February 19 Presidents' Day

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Anoka's Main Street Tunnel Mural

Newly Immersed in Nature

The Main Street bridge tunnel in downtown Anoka, just behind Anoka City Hall, has been refreshed with an array of colorful artists' drawings, all scenes displaying a connection to Anoka and nature. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on October 21, 2023, to officially present the creatively designed mural, themed "Immersive Journey through Anoka's Nature," to the community.

The new mural gives viewers a glimpse into Anoka's history, provides creative connections to nature, and of course, with Anoka proclaimed as the Halloween Capital of the World, Halloween art is included in the design. Visitors are provided unique photo opportunities to pose in front of dragonfly wings, bat wings, and more.

City staff worked with a diverse group of talented artists associated with the Rumriver Art Center. A \$15,000 grant from the Minnesota Regional Arts Council (MRAC) and generous donations from local businesses including Avant Garden Bookstore, Black Sheep Tattoo, Field Law, MaGillyCuddy's, Reshetar Systems, Rise, Rumriver Art Center, The Mill Site – Events on the River, and Weaver Brothers, Inc. helped make this project possible.

Planning for the updated murals began in the fall of 2022. Over the past winter, the artists developed their sketches and began painting in May. Community painting events followed during the summer, allowing the public to share their talents. The mural was completed in October 2023.

Learn about the artists and the project at anokaminnesota.com/768/Art-in-Anoka.

Round Up for Change Program



Anoka Municipal Utility's program, Round Up for Change, began in January 2012. Voluntary "round up" contributions provide financial assistance to organizations that provide basic human needs to help improve the lives of families, children, and seniors right here in our community.

Since its inception, AMU customers participating in the program have given back approximately \$428,000 to local charitable organizations including ACBC Food Shelf, Alexandra House, Anoka Community Mission, CEAP, and CROSS Services.

To take part in this community giving program, please call 763-576-2750 and ask to add Round Up for Change to your utility bill. The total cost will never exceed \$.99 a month, or \$11.98 a year. The average Round Up participant donates \$6.52 per year.

Together we are making real change with a little spare change in our community. Thank you.





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2024 City Budget Approved

The City of Anoka provides a full range of services, including police and fire protection, construction and maintenance of highways, streets, and other infrastructure, electric, water, and sewer services, recreational activities, and cultural events. The municipal budget is intended to reflect the goals, objectives, and priorities established by the City Council with input from the residents and taxpayers of Anoka. It fairly represents the revenues and expenditures necessary to provide the services and programs desired by the community. The budget adoption is a significant way in which the City Council expresses their leadership. The established budget goals are accurately reflected in this budget.

2024 Budget Objectives

- Maintain a balanced city budget and continue to identify and eliminate excessive taxing and spending.
- Sell city property held for resale and redevelop Tax Increment Finance districts to maximize use of tax increment revenues and improve tax base.
- Continue code enforcement and property inspections to ensure properties are held to high standards established by the City.
- Enhance public infrastructure and amenities, with appropriate funding levels for maintenance and replacement.
- Increase and enhance communication with citizens.

The City Council, through recommendations of city staff, is increasing the general fund operating expenditures by 1.64 percent or \$253,780 in 2024. While this budget increases the expenditure total, when accounting for inflation this represents a decrease to total expenses. The primary increase to expenditures is in supplies and professional services primarily due to the increased cost of goods and services. The City has reduced the 2024 capital expenditures budget for 2024 as the one-time American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding was used to budget several projects in 2023.

The General Fund operating expenditure increases are primarily a result of:

- Wages and Benefits \$390,492
- Supplies \$128,000
- Professional Services \$675,108

The General Fund budget includes total expenditures in the amount of **\$15,727,006**.

The City Council adopted the **final levy**, including debt levy, on December 18, 2023, in the amount of **\$10,147,307**, which is \$1,851,802 or 22.3 percent higher than the 2023 levy. Estimated residential increases based on 2024 market valuation range from 16.2 percent to 34.7 percent, which is largely due to increased property values. Estimated market value and taxable market values for homes in Anoka increased 5 percent on average for

2024. Homes with reduced market value, or little change to value, could anticipate increases of approximately 18 percent, rather than the 22 percent increase to the levy, due to increased tax capacity within the City.

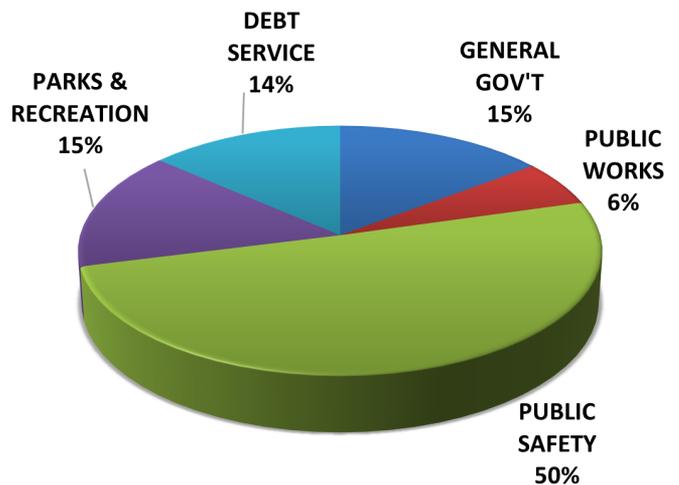
Below is a comparison of three homes and city taxes for 2023 and 2024:

2022 Value	2023 City Tax	2023 Value	2024 City Tax
\$206,811	\$637	\$250,500	\$858
\$310,600	\$928	\$306,000	\$1,078
\$405,800	\$1,247	\$433,600	\$1,578

My monthly taxes pay for:

General government (city council, administration, finance, legal)	\$10.50
Streets and building maintenance	\$5.33
Police and security services	\$39.69
Fire services	\$5.66
Recreation (aquatic center, event center, senior center, playgrounds)	\$4.38
Park maintenance	\$9.48
Planning and community development	\$2.65
Debt service	\$12.17
Total per month	\$89.85

In the 2024 General Fund budget, a Social District department will be added. In 2024, the city will be establishing a Social District in its downtown. In 2023, the city conducted a pilot program of the Social District to determine how to move forward in 2024.



To assist with the continued improvements, the City Council increased the water volume charges by 9.7 percent, the sewer volume charges by 6.5 percent, and a 3.0 percent increase to electric rates. City Council continues to support capital project

funding for parks, streets, and buildings through transferring of funds from electric reserves.

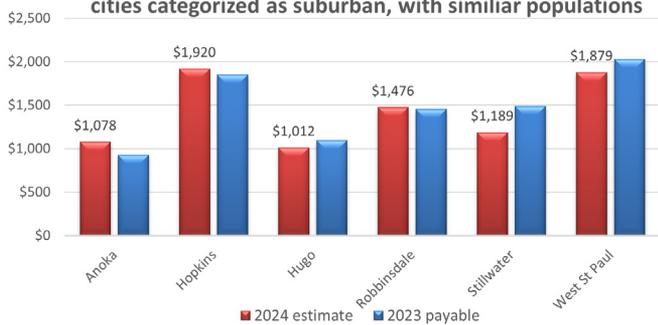
The emphasis in 2024 includes development and redevelopment throughout the city. New home construction in the Commuter Rail Transit Village including 56 detached townhome units constructed and developed by David Weekly Homes is almost completely built out, and Volunteers of America (VOA) Phase 3, which includes an 80-unit senior affordable building, is near completion. City staff is working with interested development groups for sites located at 2nd & Van Buren, 2nd & Harrison, and 4th & Johnson, as well as others. Development and redevelopment continue to increase the tax base for the City of Anoka, thereby keeping tax rates lower for all property owners.

2024 Monthly Service Costs for Average Residential Property of \$306,000

\$ 89.85	Taxes (includes debt service)
3.00	Gas franchise fees
22.09	Water distribution, average use
26.93	Sewer collection, average use
5.20	Storm sewer drainage
4.75	Recycling
\$ 151.82	Total

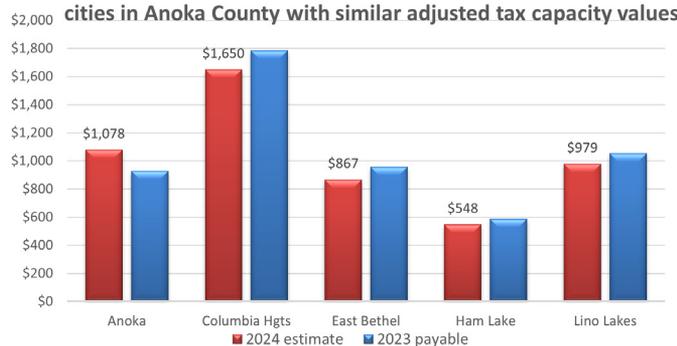
How does the City of Anoka compare with other suburban cities across the Metro Area with populations around 18,100?

2024 City taxes for homes with market values of \$306,000 for cities categorized as suburban, with similar populations



How does the City of Anoka compare with cities in Anoka County with similar adjusted tax capacity values of around \$29 million?

2024 City taxes for homes with market value of \$306,000 for cities in Anoka County with similar adjusted tax capacity values



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Winter Recreation

Public Ice Skating

City rinks are open through mid-February (weather permitting). Rink locations have a warming house, restroom (indoor or portables), lights, and an attendant when open. They also have either a general skating area, a hockey rink, or both. Not all hockey rinks are regulation size. Please park in the designated, plowed parking areas only and do not drive on the ice.



- Public Services employees work hard to provide the best skating facilities possible.
- Rinks are typically flooded Monday-Friday when temperatures are below 30 degrees.
- Rinks will not be cleared of snow until city roadways and sidewalks have been cleared.

Seeking Skates

Please consider donating gently used ice skates for shared use at Lincoln Elementary School's warming house. Skates may be dropped off at Anoka City Hall during business hours or at the warming house when open. Thank you.

Location	Address	Hockey Rink	Pond Hockey	General Rink	Snowshoes (free)	Skates (free)
George Enloe Park	631 Lund Blvd.	✓		✓	✓	
Lincoln Elementary School	540 South St.		✓			✓
Rick Sorenson Park	2015 State St.	✓		✓		
Rudy Johnson Park	611 Polk St.			✓		
Wilson Elementary School	1025 Sunny Ln.	✓		✓		

Warming House Facilities

Warming houses are equipped with first aid kits and benches. They are supervised by an attendant with authority to enforce rules and regulations posted in the facilities. Rink attendants are responsible for overseeing rink scheduling, safety, and general operation during open hours. Facilities with free use equipment must be checked out by the rink attendants during open hours.

Warming House Hours

Monday - Friday	4-8 p.m.
Saturday - Sunday	Noon-8 p.m.
All School Release Days	Noon-8 p.m.

Additional Winter Activities

Anoka Ice Arena	763-427-8163
Anoka-Hennepin Community Ed	763-506-1260
Anoka Area Hockey Association	763-427-9919
Anoka County Parks Dept.	763-757-2820

Winter Disc Golf at Green Haven

The Cedars of Green Haven disc golf course is a full 18-hole course utilizing the elevated portion of the property on the north and west side. While the course offers a challenging layout for the advanced level player, it is still enjoyable for the intermediate and novice players. Leagues will be available on Tuesdays and every other Sunday. Tournaments will occur throughout the season. Participants can enjoy delicious food and beverages at Tavern at Green Haven during restaurant hours. The course is free to the public.

Visit Parks & Recreation at anokaminnesota.com.

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Cross Country Ski Trails

Whether you cross country ski for sport, exercise, or fun, the groomed trails at Green Haven Golf Course and the Anoka Nature Preserve are sure to meet your needs. City crews will begin grooming these trails when weather permits. A minimum of six inches of snow is needed to start preparing the trails. Trails will be groomed based on snowfall amounts and use.

Green Haven Golf Course (2800 Green Haven Road): Provides approximately two-and-a-half kilometers of trail winding around the north and east side of the course loop. Classic and skate skiing trails provide flat and hilly terrain challenges for beginner and intermediate skiers. To protect the greens and fairways, skiers must stay on the groomed trails and only use the cutbacks provided to get back to the parking lot. Please keep all dogs leashed, off the classic ski tracks, and clean up after them.

Anoka Nature Preserve (4299 Parkview Lane): Provides nearly five kilometers of partially wooded trails with moderately flat terrain for skiers. Trails will be groomed for multi-use to be shared for skiing, snowshoeing, and walking/hiking. A groomer will be used to smooth trail surfaces, but will not be setting classic ski tracks. Classic skiers wanting to ski in groomed tracks are encouraged to use the trail at Green Haven. Please keep all dogs leashed and clean up after them.

Visit Parks and Recreation at anokaminnesota.com.

Community Gives Back

Thank you to the organizations and individuals who participated in our Adopt-a-Park and Pick-a-Park programs, and the many people who have donated benches for the city parks and trails. For information about these programs, call Public Services at 763-576-2980.



Waterfowl for Warriors

Anoka held its eleventh annual Waterfowl for Warriors hunting program in the Anoka Nature Preserve last fall. Approximately 55 acres were opened and secured for five hunts, which included a youth hunt for children and grandchildren of veterans and active service members.

Anoka is proud to offer these hunts as a way to say thank you to our nation's heroes by providing them the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful outdoors. This program provides a quality hunting experience for approximately 60 veterans and active service members each year.

Thank you to Waterfowl for Warriors organizers, the more than 30 volunteers, and to Federal Premium Ammunition, The Weaver Brothers Company, Big Dog Duck Calls, Mike Haste LLC, and Polaris/Kolpin for their ongoing support of the hunts.



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play Pebble Beach and hear the waves crashing on the beach or in the desert and hear the birds chirping, you will be astounded by the realism.

Call or book online at greenhavengolfcourse.com. A private room is also available to rent for your company outing, bachelor party, or birthday party. Food from Tavern at Green Haven can be delivered at your request!

Ski Trails

Our cross country ski trails are groomed and ready for skiers (weather permitting). See Parks & Recreation (page 7) for full details.

Golf Leagues

We offer the following leagues:

- **Men's Club** – Whether it is a club championship, season long match play, 18-hole or 9-hole league, there is an option to fit every golfer.
- **Women's Leagues** – Tuesdays with an 18-hole league in the morning and a 9-hole league in the afternoon. Both are seeking golfers.
- **Senior League** – Wednesday mornings; open to male golfers over the age of 50. Formats vary weekly.
- **Business Leagues** – There are a few limited openings for evening corporate or group golf leagues.

To learn more, visit greenhavengolfcourse.com or call 763-576-2972.

Tavern at Green Haven

Tavern at Green Haven will be open for dining this winter. Visit greenhavengolfcourse.com for the menu, hours, and updates.



Anoka Social District Update

Resulting from the month-long pilot program in September of 2023, the Anoka City Council, along with city staff and business owners, are moving forward with the Social District in 2024. It will occur beginning Wednesday, May 1 through Sunday, Oct. 6, 2024, during the hours of 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Find more information this spring, prior to the May 1st opening, through the city website, social media platforms, and the spring edition of the City View newsletter (arriving at the end of March).

Stay informed through anokaminnesota.com.

Organized Garbage Hauling Update

The Anoka City Council and city staff continue to discuss the possibility of organized garbage hauling, much like the organized recycling hauling that is in place. Negotiations began with the hauling companies in November of 2023.

More information will be available in the coming months to prepare residents to vote on this 2024 ballot item.

Learn more and follow the updates at anokaminnesota.com.



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3D LEAGUE
5, 6 & 7PM Wed & Thurs Nights
12 weeks - Starting Jan 10th

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12 weeks - Starting Jan 9th

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Better Value Liquors is proudly owned and operated by the City of Anoka.

One-hundred percent (100%) of the profits that are generated benefit the community of Anoka.

Our goal is to offer you a safe, pleasant, and convenient shopping experience. We appreciate our loyal customers and look forward to serving you in the future.

Events and Promotions

- **Spring Wine Sale** – Thursday, March 21 through Saturday, April 6, 2024, every regular priced wine item will be on sale for 22 percent off.
- **THC Gummies, Seltzers, and Cocktails** – In June 2023, the state of Minnesota legalized the sale of THC gummies, seltzers, and cocktails in liquor stores. We began selling these products on July 21, 2023. Some of the controls put in place by the state of Minnesota include gummies being placed in an area where customers do not have access to the product. Also, anyone purchasing THC products must have their age verified, regardless of how old a person appears or how often they come in to a particular store. At this time, we are only allowed to accept cash payments for THC products. An ATM is located in the store for your convenience. We started with a minimal selection, so if there is a particular product you would like us to stock on a regular basis, please let staff know and we will make every effort to stock it.
- **Senior Discount Day** – Seniors 55 and over, Tuesday is your day to save 10 percent off your entire purchase of regular priced liquor, beer, and wine items.
- **Military Discount Day** – Current military and veterans, Wednesday is your day to save 10 percent off your entire purchase of regular priced liquor, beer, and wine items.
- ****NEW** Wednesday Wine Day** – Beginning January 3, 2024, ALL NON-SALE wine will be discounted 10 percent off every Wednesday.

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Monday- Saturday: 8 a.m.-10 p.m.
Sundays: 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

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Anoka's Year on QCTV

The year 2023 has been great for the City of Anoka and QCTV has had the pleasure of bringing you the latest news and information from the city!

Here are just a few of our top Anoka stories this year:

- Anoka Halloween Live Coverage (Big Parade of Little People, Grande Day Parade, and Royal Ambassador Coronation)
- *Live and Local: Anoka* (March and September shows)
- "How Anoka Became the Halloween Capital of the World" (Story from *Live and Local: Festivals*)
- "Anoka's Giant Pumpkin Grower and Small Business Owner – Travis Gienger" (Story from *Live and Local: Anoka September Edition*)
- "Rum River Dam – Past, Present and Future"
- "Hwy 10 June 2023 Updates" (Story from *The Post*)
- "Anoka Kindness Rock Garden Ribbon Cutting" (Story from *The Post*)
- "Pumpkin Festival 2023" (Story from *The Post*)
- "Anoka Vintage Fest 2023 Preview" (Story from *The Post*)
- Anoka Volleyball Section 7AAAA Game Recap



Watch all of these programs and more on QCTV's YouTube channel at [YouTube.com/QCTV](https://www.youtube.com/QCTV), our website QCTV.org/LIVE, and Comcast Channel HD859/SD15. Follow us on our social media platforms and subscribe on

YouTube so you never miss our latest Anoka stories!

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Anoka partners with Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) to offer financing designed to help residents improve and purchase homes in the city. With winter upon us, now is a great time to use these programs to get your home ready for the cold weather.

Available Loan Programs:

- Anoka Home Improvement Loan
- Anoka Deferred Home Improvement Loan
- Anoka Down Payment Assistance Loan
- Anoka Senior Deferred Loan

To learn more about the specific program rates, terms, and eligible improvements, visit mncee.org/anoka.

If you have questions, call 612-335-5884 and get support from one of CEE's loan officers.

Not sure where to start? Schedule a **FREE** Remodeling Advisor Visit. This free visit can help you identify and prioritize your improvements. To schedule your visit, call 612-335-5856.

See all of the details of the HRA's Housing Loan Programs on the flyer inserted in this newsletter.

Curb Appeal Residential Enhancement Grant Program

Anoka's Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA) is offering a grant program aimed at curb appeal enhancements to homes.

Curb Appeal Residential Enhancement (CARE) Grant Program provides grant money for exterior enhancements made by homeowners to the street side of their home to increase curb appeal.

There are no income limits to participate.

Program details:

- Grant amounts of \$1,000 to \$5,000 are available. Homeowners must pay at least \$4,000 of their own funds to receive the minimum grant of \$1,000 from the city.
- 15 percent grant for basic improvements (siding, roof, windows, soffit/fascia, etc.)
- 25 percent grant for beautification improvements (brick, stone, shakes, covered front porches, exterior lighting, landscaping, new front doors/garage doors, driveways, etc.)
- Each application must have at least one beautification project to be eligible. See website for further details.

If you meet the eligibility requirements, fill out an online application beginning Jan. 1, 2024 at anokaminnesota.com/710/CARE-Grant-Program. Applications accepted through Feb. 29, 2024. Recipients will be chosen by lottery drawing on Friday, March 1 at 3 p.m.

NOW OFFERING FINANCING!

CALL TO SCHEDULE A CONSULTATION
(320) 558-4445

JK LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION
jklandscape.com Jerry@jklandscape.com
19512 Hubble Road, Clearwater, MN 55320

WATERFRONT SERVICES	LANDSCAPE SERVICES
• BARGE SERVICES	• IRRIGATION
• BEACH SAND DELIVERY	• LANDSCAPE DESIGN
• BOATHOUSE CONSTRUCTION	• LANDSCAPE LIGHTING
• DECKS / PERGOLAS / PAVILIONS / GAZEBOS	• PAVER PATIOS / WALKWAYS / DRIVEWAYS
• ICE RIDGE DAMAGE	• OUTDOOR LIVING
• WATERFRONT WINTER PROJECTS	• RETAINING WALLS
• SHORELINE RESTORATION	• TREES/SHRUBS/PERENNIALS
• STEEP SLOPE PROJECTS	

**Feed kids.
Feed spirits.
Empower communities.**

**Join the cause.
Fund and pack
lifelong meals today.**

fmsc.org

Community Happenings



Anoka Winterfest – 10 Days of Winter Fun

January 25 - February 3, 2024

Join us for a flurry of activities at Anoka Winterfest, now a 10-day event to appeal to all age groups! Experience a variety of outdoor (and indoor)

activities. Enjoy the great outdoors and all

that Anoka's parks system has to offer.

January 25 – Wolf Moon (Full Moon)

- 5:30-7 p.m. – Luminary ski, snowshoe, fat tire bike, or walk the groomed trail at Green Haven Golf Course
- 6 p.m. – Wolf Moon Disc Golf doubles at The Cedars at Green Haven
- 7-8 p.m. – Skate under the moon – all city ice rinks lights off, warming houses open

January 26 – Crafts with Anoka Women of Today

- 5-6:30 p.m. – Rudy Johnson Park, 605 Polk St.

January 27 – Bags Tournament

- 11 a.m.-4 p.m. – Anoka American Legion, 400 W. Main St.

January 28 – Cookie Decorating with Anoka Kindness Rock Garden (preregistration required)

- 12-3 p.m. – Rick Sorenson Park, 2015 State St.

January 29 – “Cocoa with the Cops” and “S’mores by Fire”

- 5-7 p.m. – Hosted by Anoka Public Safety at George Enloe Park, 631 Lund Blvd.

January 30 – Meg Bingo

- 7 p.m. – Tavern at Green Haven, 2800 Green Haven Road

January 31 – To Be Determined

February 1 – Get Out and Skate Night!

- 5-8 p.m. – Anoka Area Hockey Association at Wilson Elementary, 1025 Sunny Ln.

February 2 – Winterfest Bingo

- 1 p.m. – Anoka Senior Center, 1500 6th Ave.

February 3 – Sled & Snow Dance

- 11 a.m.-2 p.m. – Hosted by the Anoka Leos and Anoka Lions Club at George Enloe Park, 631 Lund Blvd.

For more details, visit anokaminnesota.com, call the Parks Department at 763-576-2980, or follow on Facebook at [CityofAnokaMN](https://www.facebook.com/CityofAnokaMN).



North Suburban Home Show – March 9

The 24th Annual North Suburban Home Show is set for Saturday, March 9, 2024, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Andover Community Center located at 15200 Hanson Boulevard NW.

With over 100 exhibitors, you are sure to find answers to your questions and ideas for your projects. This show will connect you with experts and the best resources in the area to help with money-saving tips, remodeling ideas, the latest and greatest features, and everything you need for your home, inside and out.

Admission is FREE! Nonperishable food items and monetary donations for the ACBC Food Shelf will be collected by the Boy Scouts of America. Thank you.

Event is sponsored by the cities of Andover, Anoka, Coon Rapids, and the Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce. For more details, visit northsuburbanhomeshow.com or call 763-767-5168.

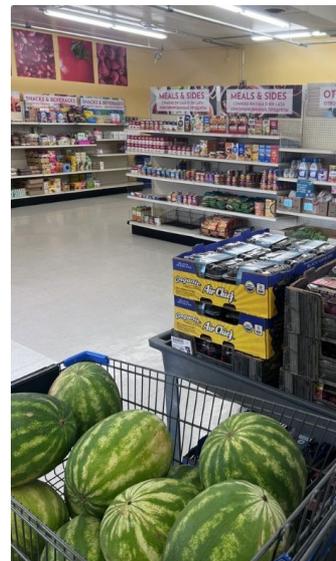


ACBC Food Shelf

Thank you to all who helped support ACBC Food Shelf in 2023! It was another

record-breaking year as we provided an average of 5,000 family members each month with food, clothing, and resources. Although we continue to evaluate services, add programming, and improve access, there is still much to be done. We appreciate the donors, volunteers, and community partners who continue to help ACBC respond to the growing need.

ACBC participates in the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign. For all food and financial donations received February 26 through April 6, 2024, ACBC will receive a proportional match, making your donation go even farther. To learn more, email support@acbcfoodshelf.org, visit acbcfoodshelf.org, or call 763-422-0046. Together we can fight to end hunger in our community!



Donations:

- Drop-off: 2615 9th Ave. N., Anoka, 55303
- Mailed to: PO Box 774, Anoka, 55303
- Donation hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Street Renewal Program

Reconstruction: 2024 Street Renewal Program



The Street Renewal Program (SRP) began in 2000, and has reconstructed over 33 percent of the city's roadway system. This program was developed to reconstruct streets that are in poor condition of the bituminous surfacing,

concrete curbing, and poor stormwater surface drainage. This also includes replacing the existing sanitary sewer, undersized watermain, and storm sewer that has aged and deteriorated over time.

The 2024 SRP project will continue the program in the Franklin Area neighborhood which is bounded by Hwy 10 to the north, West Main Street to the south, Ferry Street to the east, and Main Motors to the west. The next area being proposed to be reconstructed includes portions of Branch Avenue (W. Main St. to Gray St.), Calhoun Street (Branch Ave. to Ferry St.), Clay Street (Branch Ave. to Ferry St.), Webster Street (Branch Ave. to Ferry St.), and alleys (Clay St. to Ferry St.). The 2024 area includes a total of 0.87 miles of roadway at an estimated cost of \$2,608,000.

Phase II of the project is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2024, with final completion in late fall of 2024.



Rum River Dam Modification Project

In 1935, the City of Anoka became the owner of the Dam at Anoka and was deeded the flowage rights forever. As the owner, the city has been and continues to be responsible for the ongoing operations, maintenance, repairs, and modification/replacement of the dam. The Anoka Rum River Dam is a major asset to the region with the recreational pool extending over six miles upstream, thus benefiting multiple communities.

The City of Anoka has secured \$500,000 in State funding from the Minnesota Department of Commerce (Energy) for a comprehensive feasibility study, design, engineering, and environmental analysis related to the repair and reconstruction of the Rum River Dam. The feasibility study will assess the feasibility of adding a lock or other means for boats to traverse the dam to navigate between the lower Rum River and upper Rum River; assess the feasibility of constructing the dam in a manner that would facilitate recreational river surfing at the dam site; and assess the feasibility of constructing the dam to generate hydroelectric power. The report will also assess the operation and safety improvements, fish passage, and enhanced environmental benefits. Recreational opportunities will be further enhanced through the proposed dam modifications as they will reestablish the connection to the Mississippi River.

Lower Rum River Water Management Organization

Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at 8 a.m. in the worksession room at Anoka City Hall. Storm and surface water issues are discussed. Meetings are open to the public. Contact Assistant City Engineer Ben Nelson at 763-576-2980 with any questions.

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!



To learn more about donating online, volunteer opportunities, or to schedule an appointment to shop for food, visit acbcfoodshelf.org or call 763-422-0046.

ACBC is accepting donations of:

Nonperishable Food | Diapers (Size 4-6)
Hygiene Products | New or Gently Used Clothing

DONATION HOURS: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday
LOCATION: 2615 9th Ave N, Anoka



City Job Openings

If you are looking for full time, part time or seasonal employment, watch our job page at anokaminnesota.com/386/Anoka-Jobs and follow the City of Anoka on social media.

Important Sewer and Water Information

BE PREPARED – Sanitary Sewer Backup Information

Are you prepared AND insured against a sewer backup?

- **ALWAYS call the City of Anoka FIRST** if you are experiencing a sewer backup affecting all of your home's drains or if you do not have water. During business hours, call 763-576-2923 or 763-576-2980. After hours, call 763-576-2860.
- **Get insurance for a sewer backup** – If you have concerns regarding the damage a sewer backup could do to your property, **contact your insurance carrier and review your coverage.**
- **DO NOT** dispose of any inappropriate items into the sewer system.

Visit anokaminnesota.com for more sanitary sewer information.

Hot Water Heater Problems

Many complaints about water are due to problems that originate in the home. If you detect an odor in your hot water, it could be due to your water heater. A harmless type of bacteria can contaminate a water heater and convert natural sulfate to hydrogen sulfide gas, which has a pungent odor. This problem is made worse if you are away from home for long periods of time and the water heater stands idle. Flushing the water heater can help; consult your owner's manual for instructions. Other remedies include replacing the magnesium anode with an aluminum one or increasing the temperature setting to 160 degrees (high setting) for a few hours. **CAUTION: Make sure the water tank has an operable pressure relief valve before attempting this remedy and remember to lower the setting after about three hours.**

If you notice small white particles in your faucet aerators, check to see if they float. If they do, your water heater dip tube may have disintegrated into small pieces. The dip tube is an extension of the cold water, extending nearly to the bottom of the tank. This prevents the incoming cold water from diluting the temperature of the hot water. Few homeowners have the tools to know how to replace a dip tube; it is best to have a plumber perform this repair.

Winterizing Your Home's Water System

- Fill in foundation cracks.
- Wrap exposed pipes with insulation.
- Keep basement or crawl space warm enough to prevent freeze-ups.
- Detach hoses from outside faucets.
- Store lawn furniture more than three feet from utility meters.
- Clear snow away from nearby fire hydrants.

Please call the Anoka Water Department at 763-576-2923 with any questions.



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At Saint Therese at Oxbow Lake, our residents are valued members of a vibrant, close-knit senior living community. Rooted in Benedictine values, we offer a full continuum of care to meet the ever-changing needs of our residents. In addition, we offer a variety of activities, amenities, spiritual, and social opportunities for all preferences and lifestyles.

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Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

📞 763.493.7048

🌐 sainttherese.org/communities/brooklyn-park



Public Safety

Anoka-Champlin Fire Department



Help Keep Fire Hydrants Clear
During the winter season, the Anoka-Champlin Fire Department asks for your assistance with our fire suppression mission by keeping neighborhood fire hydrants clear after snow events.

It's a proven fact that every minute a fire burns, it can double in size. This makes it extremely important for the responding fire departments to have access to the hydrants for fire suppressions. If firefighters have to shovel out a fire hydrant during a response to a fire, it will cause considerable delay in extinguishing the fire. Please assist us by keeping a four foot clearing around hydrants in the residential areas near your home to ensure easy access. Thank you. Please call 763-576-2900 with any questions.

Anoka Police Department

Anoka Police Annual Review

The 2023-2024 edition of the Anoka Police Annual Review will be published in spring of 2024. For 37 years, the Anoka Police Department and the Anoka Police Federation have teamed up to create this informative magazine. Funds raised by ads sold in the magazine stay in the community and are focused on youth activities and scholarships.

The 2022-2023 Anoka Police Annual Review is available now. The Review includes crime statistics and articles about the Anoka Police Department.

If your company is interested in placing an ad in the next edition or if you would like a copy of the current publication, please call Julie Spletstoeser at 763-576-2830.

Overnight Parking

The City of Anoka's parking ordinance prohibits parking on any city street from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. every day. Short-term exceptions can be made by calling the Police Department at 763-576-2800. No exceptions are granted during city snowplowing or within 24 hours of a predicted snowfall.

Anoka Police Pals – Spring of 2024

This program has limited enrollment and is only open to Anoka residents with children in grades 3 through 5.



Topics covered will include:

- Meet the Police (first night)
- Drug education
- Home alone safety
- Basic first aid
- K9 demo
- Meet and greet (last night)

Your child will have a small group opportunity to meet and get to know Anoka Police Officers and to ask questions and gain knowledge on the above-mentioned topics.

Watch our social media for upcoming registration or contact Nicole Neis at nneis@ci.anoka.mn.us to be notified when the registration goes live.

Coffee with a Cop

Building relationships. One cup at a time. Coffee with a Cop brings police officers and the community members they serve together to discuss issues and learn more about one another while enjoying a warm cup of coffee. Watch our social media pages for upcoming dates and times.





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CITY OF ANOKA SENIOR CENTER

1500 6th Avenue
763-576-4661

Lunch & Activities

Enjoy a delicious and nutritious lunch Tuesday-Friday at the Anoka Senior Center for a suggested donation of \$5.00. Your meal includes milk, coffee, and dessert! Call 763-427-6646 four days in advance to reserve a meal.

We offer fun trips and events, cards and games, writing club, exercise classes, presentations and programs, entertainment, driver improvement classes, and foot care. Stop in for coffee and conversation, too!

Join Jeanie's Journeys



Panama Canal with Caribbean, Central and South America

- January 28 - February 8, 2024
- \$2,998/per person, based on double occupancy.
- Includes round trip airfare from Minneapolis to Fort Lauderdale, one checked bag, one night hotel in Florida, all transportation in Florida, 10-day cruise aboard the Ruby Princess with stops in Jamaica, Colombia, Panama, Costa Rica, and Cayman Islands.



Mackinac and The Grand Hotel

- May 13-17, 2024
- \$1,597/per person, based on double occupancy.
- Includes RT transportation in a deluxe motor coach, two night's accommodations in the famous Grand Hotel, one hotel night each way, four breakfasts, three dinners, ferry ride and tour of Mackinac Island by carriage, tour of Lambeau Field, and a tour of Leinenkugel Brewery.

Call Melissa at 763-576-4661 or stop in for information and flyers on these trips and the many other trips and activities the Anoka Senior Center offers.



HOPE 4 YOUTH

Our mission is to provide pathways to end youth homelessness.



If you or someone you know is experiencing homelessness or at-risk of becoming homeless and are 16 - 24 years old, we are here for you! Our Drop-In Center provides services such as, basic need items like food and hygiene, clothing, laundry facilities, one-on-one support, hot meals, and so much more.

Youth homelessness is unacceptable.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED:



Volunteer



Donate Items



Give Monthly

For more information on the services we provide or to get involved, scan the QR code or visit hope4youthmn.org:



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Resource Document Available

The Anoka Human Rights Commission has developed a resource document that provides valuable information in an effort to offer a balance of crisis and uplifting resources.

The resource document is available on the City of Anoka's website under the Human Rights Commission at anokaminnesota.com/322/Human-Rights-Commission. It is also available in print form at Anoka City Hall.

Emergency information is included at the beginning of the document, with non-emergency contacts following. Each of the

following resources are included and information is placed in order of city, county, and state in each category.

- Medical or Mental Health
- Domestic Violence
- Financial & Energy Assistance
- Food Shelves
- Housing Assistance
- Senior Services
- Veteran Services
- Voting Resources
- Volunteering & Giving
- Youth Services

To contact the HRC, email aoehlers@ci.anoka.mn.us or call 763-576-2712. **Please call 911 in an emergency.**

Recycling Programs

Anoka's Waste Reduction & Recycling Board (WRRB) members coordinate and offer the following programs and events to help reduce waste, encourage reuse, and increase recycling efforts.

Recycle Holiday Lights at City Hall

Recycle your old, unwanted holiday string lights at Anoka City Hall, 2015 First Ave., now through January 31, 2024, M-F, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (excluding holidays).



Please only bring string lights; no rope lights or any type of holiday decorations accepted. The collection boxes are in the lower level of City Hall. Place your clean bag/box of string lights in the collection boxes and we will recycle the lights properly. Remember, **do not** put the lights in your curbside recycling cart.

Organics Drop-Off Program

Have you signed up yet for Anoka's organics drop-off program? If not, it's easy and it's FREE!

The collection is located at the surface lot at 7th Avenue & Garfield Street. ACE Solid Waste is the service provider and will haul the organics to a compost site on a weekly basis.

If you are interested in composting organics from your household, please sign up online at anokaminnesota.com, call

763-576-2725, or email Pam at pbowman@ci.anoka.mn.us. You will then receive a FREE starter kit (to be picked up at Anoka City Hall) including compostable bags and information needed to participate in the program.

For more detailed information about general organics composting, please visit the Anoka County website at anokacounty.us/2446/Organics.

Support Waterfowl for Warriors Program

There are two aluminum can collection trailers in Anoka to support the Waterfowl for Warriors Program.

- Better Values Liquor Store at 847 East River Road
- Parking lot west of Gray Ghost Field (east of the Anoka Ice Arena) off Castle Field Boulevard



All proceeds from the recycling of the cans go toward the Waterfowl for Warriors program, which provides an opportunity for veterans to hunt each fall at the Anoka Nature Preserve.

Please drop off your aluminum cans in the recycling collection container (no bags, please) at either location. Thank you for your support! Questions? Call Pam at 763-576-2725.

Programs funded by the Anoka County Board of Commissioners & State SCORE funds (Select Committee on Recycling and the Environment).



City of Anoka Loan Programs

The City of Anoka has partnered with the local nonprofit Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) to offer low interest loans for Anoka homeowners to make improvements in their homes.

Matching Deferred Loan

Interest Rate: 0% (.108% APR)*

Loan Amount: \$10,000 maximum

Loan Term: 100% forgiven if the owner remains on the property for 30 years from the loan closing date.

Eligible Properties: 1-4 unit properties located within the City of Anoka.

Income Limit: Income limits apply

Match: Match may be required

Eligible Improvements: Qualifying improvements based on a site visit to the property.

*APR based on \$10,000 for 30 years

Rental Conversion Deferred Loan

Interest Rate: 0% (.108% APR)*

Loan Amount: \$50,000 maximum

Loan Term: 100% forgiven if the owner remains on the property for 30 years from the loan closing date.

Eligible Properties: 2-4 unit properties located within the City of Anoka.

Eligible Improvements: Any work required to convert a 2-4 unit residential property into a single family owner-occupied property.

*APR based on \$10,000 for 30 years

Rental Conversion Loan

Interest Rate: 0% (.320% APR)*

Loan Amount: \$50,000 maximum

Loan Term: Up to 15 years

Eligible Properties: 2-4 unit properties located within the City of Anoka.

Eligible Improvements: Any work required to convert a 2-4 unit residential property into a single family owner-occupied property.

*APR based on \$10,000 for 10 years

Senior Deferred Loan

At least 1 borrower must be 62 + years of age

Interest Rate: 0% (.108% APR)*

Loan Amount: \$10,000 maximum

Loan Term: 100% forgiven if the owner remains on the property for 30 years from the loan closing date.

Eligible Properties: 1-4 unit properties located within the City of Anoka.

Eligible Improvements: Qualifying improvements based on a site visit to the property.

*APR based on \$10,000 for 30 years

Home Improvement Loan

Interest Rate: 3% (3.18% APR)*

Loan Amount: Up to \$35,000

Loan Term: Up to 15 years

Eligible Properties: Owner-occupied 1-4 unit residential properties located in the City of Anoka.

Eligible Improvements: Most interior and exterior remodeling and maintenance.

Income Limit: No income limits; Closing cost apply.

Bid: 1 bid is required from a properly licensed contractor.

*APR based on \$35,000 over 15 years

Down Payment Assistance

Interest Rate: 0% APR

Loan Amount: \$2,500

Loan Term: Loan is forgiven if the owner remains on the property for 30 years from the loan closing date.

Eligible Properties: 1-4 unit, owner-occupied properties located in the City of Anoka.

Income Limit: Income limits apply

Eligible Use of Funds: Funds may be used for down payment or closing costs.

Bid: 1 bid is required from a properly licensed contractor.

For more information, call **612.335.5884** or visit **mncee.org/anoka**



The current loan terms and conditions stated, including interest rates, do not constitute a commitment to lend or an offer to enter into an agreement, and such an offer may only be made pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 47.206(3) and (4).

