



Parks & Recreation Commission Agenda

Tuesday, September 2, 2025

6:30 PM

City Council Chambers

Commission Members: Lindsay Matts-Benson (Chair), Karen Beckman (Vice-Chair), Audrey Arneson (Youth), Luci Botzek, Nick Boulton, Bryan Donaldson, Jayne Harris, Chris Her, Chad Kooistra, Jamison Penny.

(Any times listed are approximate – please note that items may be earlier or later than listed on the agenda)

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Approve Agenda**
- 3. Receive Public Comment**
- 4. Approval of Meeting Minutes**
 - a. Approval of the August 7, 2025 Meeting Minutes
- 5. Business Items**
 - a. Discuss and Consider a Recommendation Regarding the Aldine Street Right of Way
 - b. Prepare for Joint Meeting with the City Council on September 15, 2025
 - c. Maintenance and Operations Center Update (Standing Agenda Item)
- 6. Commission Direction on Member Initiated Agenda Items**
- 7. Other Business**
 - a. Departmental Updates
 - b. Other New or Relevant Communication Items
- 8. Adjourn**

Roseville Parks & Recreation Commission Agenda Item

DATE: September 2, 2025

ITEM: 4.a.

ITEM DESCRIPTION: Approval of the August 7, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Background

Enclosed is a draft of the minutes of August 7, 2025. Please be prepared to approve or amend.

Recommendation

Approve/amend meeting minutes of August 7, 2025.

Attachments

1. 8. Minutes - August 7

40 **5. BUSINESS ITEMS**

41 a) **INITIAL DISCUSSION OF ALDINE STREET RIGHT OF WAY**

42 Staff reviewed maps with the Commission to show the location of the Aldine right-of-way. Staff
43 explained that a right-of-way is a legal designation for City-owned property that allows the
44 public or utilities to access land for public use, typically for transportation or utilities. The City
45 owns and manages numerous acres of right-of-way throughout Roseville.

46
47 Staff noted that the Public Works Department occasionally identifies right-of-way segments that
48 are no longer needed for future roadway purposes and may propose vacating them to adjacent
49 property owners. This process includes a public hearing to gather community feedback.

50
51 Staff highlighted that this right-of-way was not identified as a priority route in the City’s
52 Pathway Master Plan, which guides future pathway projects. However, the Parks and Recreation
53 System Master Plan does identify this segment as a potential “constellation link” which is a
54 conceptual connector that would support system-wide recreation access.

55
56 Staff reviewed Goals 4.1, 4.4, 4.5, and 4.6 of the Parks and Recreation System Master Plan with
57 the Commission. These goals provide guidance for the future development and management of
58 pathways.

59
60 On April 21, 2025, Public Works presented a proposal to vacate a one-block segment of Aldine
61 Street between Ryan Avenue and Roselawn Avenue. During the public hearing, several residents
62 provided feedback to the City Council, with opinions both in support of and in opposition to the
63 vacation. Following the hearing, the City Council directed Public Works to explore the
64 feasibility of establishing a formal pathway within the right-of-way and requested that the Parks
65 and Recreation Commission consider whether a non-traditional pathway could be feasible for
66 this location.

67
68 The issue was further discussed at the June 16 and July 21 City Council meetings. Concerns
69 were raised regarding the impact a traditional pathway might have on existing vegetation,
70 including the removal of mature trees and the need for significant grading.

71
72 Staff reported that the Aldine right-of-way is 30 feet wide. The current informal pathway extends
73 beyond the right-of-way and onto private property. Staff noted that multiple neighboring
74 properties have encroached into the right-of-way, resulting in deviations from a direct route.
75 While challenging conditions exist within the right-of-way, staff indicated that these challenges
76 do not appear to be insurmountable.

77
78 Staff outlined potential pathway options within the right-of-way. A traditional bituminous
79 pathway could be constructed; however, this option would likely require the removal of a

80 number of established trees. Alternatively, a non-traditional pathway may be feasible and less
81 impactful on existing vegetation, though it would still need to meet ADA requirements,
82 including a minimum width of four feet, slope adjustments, and appropriate curb cuts.

83
84 To date, community feedback has reflected a range of perspectives. Many neighbors have asked
85 the City Council to preserve some form of access from Roselawn Avenue to Aldine Street.
86 Adjacent property owners have petitioned the City Council to vacate the right-of-way.
87 Additional themes from community input include a desire to preserve as many existing trees as
88 possible, interest in finding a harmonious solution, and a willingness from residents to participate
89 in developing potential options.

90
91 As part of its exploration of the Aldine right-of-way, the City Council requested the
92 Commission's input on the following questions:

- 93 • Would a non-traditional pathway or park in this location be valuable to the Parks and
94 Recreation system?
- 95 • Is a non-traditional pathway viable in this location?
- 96 • What impact would this have on existing trees and vegetation?
- 97 • What are the estimated installation costs?
- 98 • How would such a pathway be maintained?

99
100 Staff reiterated that the Parks and Recreation Commission is not the final governing body and
101 will not make the ultimate decision regarding the Aldine right-of-way. The Commission has been
102 tasked with providing input to the City Council on the questions outlined above. Staff also noted
103 that Commissioners will not be asked to weigh in on matters beyond the scope of these
104 questions.

105
106 Staff outlined the following planned actions:

- 107 • Conduct a topographical survey including tree locations
- 108 • Analyze grades and potential impacts on vegetation
- 109 • Evaluate the usefulness of the right-of-way for the Parks and Recreation system
- 110 • Return to the City Council with findings for a decision

111
112 Commissioner Harris acknowledged that she lives near the property in question. She stated that
113 she did not feel it was necessary to recuse herself, as she believes she can respond to the
114 questions posed to the Commission without personal bias.

115
116 Vice-Chair Beckmann asked how existing encroachments within the right-of-way would be
117 addressed. Staff responded that, at this time, they anticipate any encroachments would be
118 removed.

119

120 **M. Erickson, 93 Mid Oaks Ln.**

121 Erickson, an adjacent property owner, asked the Commission to apply the “but-for test” when
122 evaluating the Aldine right-of-way in relation to Roseville Parks. She explained that in legal
123 applications, the test is used to determine whether one action is the direct cause of another, and
124 suggested it is also useful in evaluating the reasoning for City action. She made the following
125 points:

- 126 • **New Park Question:** Asked whether the City would create a new 30' x 590' (.4 acre)
127 park absent pressure from some City Council members and residents to formalize an
128 unimproved shortcut while avoiding ADA requirements.
- 129 • **Neighborhood Context:** Cited City Council meeting minutes that she felt supported her
130 claim and questioned whether a 30' x 520' single-purpose park, with zero buffer between
131 eight 60+ year-old homes, would otherwise be pursued.
- 132 • **Community Support:** Asked if there is professional, inclusive, and impartial evidence of
133 widespread neighborhood support for diverting limited park resources to create a limited-
134 access shortcut.
- 135 • **Precedent:** Questioned whether there is precedent for a park of this size, purpose, and
136 proximity to existing homes.

137 She concluded by asking Commission members to consider the broader context motivating the
138 City Council’s request for input regarding the Aldine St. right-of-way.
139

140 **J. Reinert, 1667 Ridgewood Ln. S.**

141 Reinert relayed that the neighborhood has a strong pedestrian character, which he considers an
142 asset. He enjoys meeting new neighbors and greeting familiar ones along the connecting paths
143 that contribute to the area’s pedestrian-friendly environment. He emphasized the following
144 points:

- 145 • **Neighborhood Asset:** The Aldine Street right-of-way is a critical feature for both the
146 neighborhood and the City.
- 147 • **Community Impact:** Without the path, many neighbors are unhappy, while its removal
148 would benefit only a few adjacent property owners.
- 149 • **Personal Use:** He uses the path daily for medical reasons, as it reduces walking time.
- 150 • **Overall Value:** He believes removing the path would not benefit Roseville or the
151 neighborhood.
152

153 **P. Veach, 1661 Ridgewood Ln. N.**

154 Veach stated that she used the Aldine St. right of way weekly and considers it a special feature of
155 the neighborhood. She values the right of way for its wooded and serene atmosphere and noted
156 that wildlife also uses the corridor. She emphasized that she does not view it as a shortcut, but
157 rather as a pathway she relies on regularly, and she advocated for the continued use of the land as
158 a pathway.
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S. Aschenbrenner, 2016 Herschel St.

Aschenbrenner noted that she enjoyed using the Alding St. right of way and appreciated the extensive tree cover, emphasizing the importance of preserving the trees. She shared that short walks have become much longer and more difficult since she has not been able to use the pathway. She expressed excitement about the possibility of a parks solution and stated that she believes many neighbors would be willing to come together to create a solution that, while it may not satisfy everyone, would provide an important opportunity for community.

C. Gallaher, 2009 Herschel St.

Gallaher stated that she has used the Aldine St. right-of-way for 36 years and finds it to be a safer alternative to walking along Snelling Avenue, where she feels the sidewalk is not wide enough for pedestrian safety. She expressed gratitude for the path that was added along Fairview Avenue and asked the Commission to consider the potential benefits of maintaining a connecting path, including supporting property values and fostering a stronger sense of community.

D. Gault, 2021 Herschel St.

Gault shared that he has lived in Roseville for 32 years and has walked on the path more than 3,300 times. He stated that the Aldine St. right of way has become a divisive issue within the neighborhood and expressed his belief that now is the time for healing. He noted that he would not use the Aldine St. right of way unless all neighbors could come to a mutual agreement and emphasized the importance of finding common solutions together. He explained that he stopped walking the Aldine St. right of way after realizing that adjacent property owners were unhappy with its use and concluded that his relationships with neighbors are more important to him than continued access to the path.

A. Lottie, 90 Mid Oaks Ln.

Spoke on behalf of her three school-age children, noting that the Aldine St. right of way provides them with a safe route to friends' houses and as a walking route to school. She emphasized that in a world with limited independence for children, the Aldine St. right of way offers them an important opportunity for independence, as their family feels comfortable allowing the children to walk alone on the path because they are familiar with the neighbors along the route. She expressed hope that a creative solution can be found to preserve the path.

T. Brown, 93 Mid Oaks Ln.

Is a civil engineer and adjacent property owner, he stated that the Aldine St. right of way provides valuable privacy for his home and open space for wildlife. Additionally, he raised several concerns in response to the City Council's questions for the Parks and Recreation Commission:

- **Value/Connectivity:** Asked what parks or neighborhoods the proposed trail would connect.

- **Viability/Drainage:** Noted that a storm sewer with beehive catch basins runs through the corridor to prevent basement flooding in nearby homes. He expressed concern that grading for a trail could disrupt drainage, introduce sediment into the receiving lake, raise the water table, and potentially cause basement flooding to return.
- **ADA Compliance:** Questioned how the steep grade could be maintained, to support the existing irrigation system, while also meeting ADA pathway requirements.
- **Access/Safety:** Expressed concern about pedestrian access from Roselawn Avenue, citing high traffic volumes (approximately 3,000 trips per day per MnDOT). He stated that children walking in the parking lane during rush hour poses safety risks and may require special crossing treatments.

Brown concluded by noting he has additional concerns and hopes adjacent property owners will have the opportunity to share them.

D. Wiswell, 1731 Shryer Ave. W.

Has lived in the neighborhood since 2016, stated that she frequently used the path to walk her dog and expressed concern about the loss of safe access for children in and out of the Mid Oaks neighborhood. She shared the following points:

- **Neighborhood Access:** Stated it is disheartening that children can no longer easily reach friends' houses, Evergreen Park, or schools using the path.
- **Community Transition:** Noted that the neighborhood is transitioning to younger families and that she values accessibility for children to move safely between neighborhoods.
- **Established Feature:** Emphasized that the Aldine St. right of way path has been a longstanding feature of the neighborhood and should be preserved.
- **Equity for Children:** Felt that discontinuing the path would be a disservice to children who rely on it to reach friends and schools safely.
- **Safety:** Stated that use of the Aldine St. right of way along Roselawn is safer than requiring children to walk farther along Roselawn to access other neighborhoods.

She concluded by expressing a desire to find a collaborative solution that would preserve the established path while fostering cooperation among neighbors.

Commissioner Donaldson asked staff to explain the difference between parks and trails. Staff relayed that the Pathway- Master Plan is managed by Public Works. The Master Plan is driven by Public Works, with input from the Parks and Recreation Department to determine the creation of pathways. The Parks and Recreation Department handles any trail within a park as well as providing maintenance to any trail within Roseville.

The Commission discussed how existing pathways in the City were originally established and considered the precedent for creating new pathways.

240 Staff asked what materials they could provide at the next meeting to assist the Commission in
241 making a recommendation. The Commission requested the following additional information:

- 242 • Existing and planned sidewalks in the area
- 243 • Information on trees and vegetation within the right-of-way
- 244 • Potential drainage concerns
- 245 • Guidelines to help ensure the recommendation remains objective
- 246 • A City Attorney letter regarding the legality of using the Aldine right-of-way as a park

247
248 The Commission also discussed whether the City of Falcon Heights should be consulted. Staff
249 relayed that Falcon Heights has not yet been included in the discussion but noted that this could
250 be part of the Commission’s recommendation to the City Council.

251
252 Commissioner Harris inquired about the possibility of a site visit. Staff responded that Open
253 Meeting Law requirements would need to be followed but agreed to look into arranging a tour of
254 the site.

255
256 **b) MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS CENTER UPDATE (STANDING ITEM)**

257 Staff reported that on June 16, 2025, the City Council reviewed options for the Maintenance
258 Operations Center (MOC) and License and Passport Center/City Dance Studio (LPCDS). The
259 Council indicated support for Concept C, which would relocate daily maintenance operations to
260 a renovated facility south of Woodhill Drive and place yard and storage functions north of
261 Woodhill Drive. Concept C also calls for construction of a two-story LPCDS on the southwest
262 corner of the Veterans Park parcel, with expanded shared parking alongside the VFW. This
263 approach reduces yard space and operational efficiency compared to the full Campus Master
264 Plan but preserves much of Veterans Park and allows the VFW to remain in place.

265
266 At its July 7 meeting, the City Council considered whether LPCDS operations should be moved
267 off-campus but voted 3–2 to construct the facility on the City Campus. On July 21, the Council
268 approved release of a Request for Proposals for architectural services and a Request for
269 Qualifications for construction management at-risk services to move the project forward.

270
271 Chair Matts-Benson stated that she feels Concept C represents a potentially great outcome to a
272 complex problem. The Commission discussed how the new concept would affect Veteran’s Park.
273 Staff noted that little work has been done in the park in recent years due to uncertainty about the
274 property’s future and indicated that the park would likely be approached as a blank concept plan
275 when planning begins.

280 c) **QUARTERLY REVIEW OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION GOALS**

281 The Commission discussed the updates that need to be made to the goals and agreed to add the
282 updates to their goal list, including:

- 283 • Recent Commissioner community engagement at the Discover Your Parks (DYP) events
- 284 • 2025 Grant Awards to the Parks and Recreation Department
- 285 • Minnesota Recreation and Park Association Award of Excellence in Management
- 286 Strategies for the 2024 Natural Resources Management Plan Update
- 287 • Bike lanes on Hamline Ave.

288
289 d) **PREPARE FOR JOINT MEETING WITH CITY COUNCIL**

290 Staff reported that the Parks and Recreation Commission is tentatively scheduled for a joint
291 meeting with the City Council on Monday, September 15, 2025. Staff noted that joint meetings
292 provide an opportunity for the Commission to meet with the Council, highlight recent work,
293 share feedback, and receive input or requests from the Council.

294
295 Staff suggested that, to help frame the upcoming conversation with the City Council, the
296 Commission may wish to organize its topics into the following categories:

- 297 • Review of work completed over the past year
- 298 • Commission goals moving forward
- 299 • Priorities for the next year
- 300 • Items on which the Commission wishes to provide feedback to the City Council
- 301 • Areas where feedback from the Council is requested

302
303 The Commission discussed how to address the Aldine right of way with the City Council and
304 potential recommendation options that the Commission could provide to the City Council.

305
306 Vice-Chair Beckman inquired if staff believes the City Council will be looking for a
307 recommendation at the joint meeting. Staff stated that they don't believe that the City Council
308 will be looking for a recommendation at that time. They do want the recommendation to be
309 provided in a timely manner, but they don't believe they will want a recommendation that does
310 not have proper due diligence completed by the Commission.

311
312 The Commission agreed to highlight the following items with the Commission:

- 313
- 314 • Rosebrook Park upgrades
- 315 • Commission Goals
- 316 • Volunteers and Friends Groups
- 317 • Commissioner Community Engagement
 - 318 ○ Include specific examples of feedback received from residents
 - 319 ■ Finding a new park

- 320 ▪ How to get additional demographics to feel welcome at DYP events
- 321 • Park Tour
- 322 • Success of Recreation Programs
- 323 • Cedarholm Update

324

325 Chair Matts-Benson suggested that Commissioners share any stories of community engagement
326 to ensure they are included in the meeting packet.

327

328 Commissioner Botzek recommended highlighting park buildings to help educate on their uses.
329 Staff relayed that they would bring data on park building use to the Commission at a future
330 meeting.

331

332 **6. COMMISSION DIRECTION ON MEMBER INITIATED AGENDA ITEMS**

333 The Commission did not relay any member-initiated agenda items.

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335 **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

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a) **DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES**

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- 338 • Staff reported that the new Puppet Wagon has been a big hit this summer, noting appreciation
339 to the Friends of Roseville Parks for their donation that helped make the purchase possible.
- 340 • The new scoreboard was installed at the John Rose MN OVAL. Thanks to generous
341 contributions from the Friends of the OVAL Foundation and the Midway Speedskating Club,
342 the City was able to purchase a larger scoreboard than originally planned.
- 343 • Staff reported that Rosefest was a great success this year. The Run for the Roses drew more
344 than 400 participants, the parade saw very high attendance, and the Party in the Park and
345 fireworks received positive feedback.
- 346 • The Cedarholm Community Building hosted two Music on the Patio events this summer.
347 These events provide opportunities for non-golfers to enjoy the amenities at Cedarholm.
- 348 • Natural Resource Updates
 - 349 ○ Received a \$251,795 Metropolitan Council Tree Planting Grant
 - 350 ○ Received \$500,000 from MN DNR Conservation Legacy Program Grant
 - 351 ○ Received MRPA Award of Excellence for 2024 Master Plan update
 - 352 ○ Staff reported that the Natural Resources Supervisor position has been filled, with the
353 new hire beginning in August.
- 354 • New entrance signs, siding, and a bike rack have been installed at the Harriet Alexander
355 Nature Center.
- 356 • Despite significant weather and smoke challenges this summer, programs were successful
357 and participant feedback has been very positive.
- 358 • The Roseville Skating Center has updated its dehumidification system along with several
heat pump units.

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- Staff reported that formal community engagement has begun to gather feedback on the design of the new splash pad at Rosebrook Park, with additional engagement sessions scheduled in the coming weeks.
 - The ABBA cover band performance at *Live at the Rog* was a major success, drawing a very large crowd to the Central Park Frank Rog Amphitheatre.

365 b) **OTHER NEW OR RELEVANT COMMUNICATION ITEMS**

366 Chair Matts-Benson commended the summer staff, noting that her children participated in
367 several activities and that the programs were phenomenal. She added that staff were consistently
368 well-trained, kind, and positive influences in the programs.

369

370 Commissioner Kooistra agreed, highlighting the excellent work of summer staff at the Discover
371 Your Parks events. He added that he appreciates living in Roseville because of the wide range of
372 activities and events available to the community.

373

374 Commissioner Kooistra noted that he may not be able to attend next month's meeting and asked
375 if he could still provide feedback on agenda items. Staff responded that his feedback could be
376 included in the meeting packet or as a bench handout in order to comply with Open Meeting
377 Law.

378

379 8. **ADJOURN**

380 Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:51 p.m.

381

382 Respectfully Submitted,

383 Danielle Christensen, Parks and Recreation Department Assistant

Roseville Parks & Recreation Commission

Agenda Item

DATE: September 2, 2025

ITEM: 5.a.

ITEM DESCRIPTION: Discuss and Consider a Recommendation Regarding the Aldine Street Right of Way

Background

At the August 7, 2025, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, the Commission held an initial discussion regarding the Aldine Street Right of Way. That conversation provided an opportunity to review the history of the site, hear public comment, and begin outlining the key considerations related to potential future use. Commissioners raised questions about legal implications, community access, and the broader context of the City's park and recreation system.

The September 2, 2025, meeting is intended to build on that discussion and move the Commission closer to a recommendation. Since that initial discussion:

- On August 21, 2025, several Commissioners toured the site.
- Staff have prepared an inventory of trees on the site (attachment 4).
- Staff are working toward an integrated survey that includes topography.
- Staff have researched accessibility requirements, tree preservation, and other considerations.

This information can be used to provide a foundation for the Commission's decision-making, with a goal of a recommendation for the City Council. The Parks and Recreation Commission has a previously planned joint meeting with the City Council on September 15. This could be a good opportunity for the Commission to check in and:

- Share their progress on the issue with the council,
- Share any recommendations that the Commission currently has, and
- Propose any subsequent steps that the Commission feels would be appropriate to the process.

Questions Asked by the City Council

Given the complexity of the issue, there is some confusion around what the Commission is being asked to provide input on. Below are several specific questions and/or statements that the Council had as part of their discussion on July 27 (either direct quotes or paraphrased for clarity only) (Meeting minutes, attachment 10).

- Is this parcel something that the PRC would like to pursue as a park trail?
- Does this connection provide parks and recreational value?
- How many trees would need to be removed if a non-traditional path is implemented?
- I would like a very detailed understanding of the impacts on vegetation and trees.

- I would like an implementation process to engage the neighborhood and work toward a solution that could be positive for everyone.
- Could Park Dedication funds be considered to fund implementation (in full or in part)?
- What is this path going to look like?
- Does it make sense to have a 30-foot-wide park in Roseville?

It may not be part of the Commission's initial recommendation to answer each of these questions, but to determine if this is an alternative worth pursuing and pursue the other questions further down the line.

Site Analysis

There are a total of 57 inventoried trees (some with multiple tributary branches) on the site with a diameter of at least three inches, 24 of which have a diameter of at least 10 inches. The trees run the spectrum of condition, with some showing signs of decline while others appear to be thriving.

The value of the trees varies based on species quality, size, and condition, but most of the trees generally appear to be in good health. Eight trees are invasive, or green ash, and would typically be removed to align with the City's Natural Resources Management Plan. Removal of those trees would cost an estimated \$3,000 - \$5,000 and could be funded from the forestry budget.

The majority of ground cover vegetation is either buckthorn or other woody invasive species. The City's practice within right of way is typically not to provide natural resource maintenance. In parks, the City would typically remove these invasives and replace them with native species. This could largely be accomplished utilizing an initial intervention with a contractor (Stantec), followed by subsequent work from volunteer natural resources stewards.

There are significant encroachments into the right of way on both the south and north side of the parcel, which makes the parcel feel less accessible than it would if there was a full thirty foot right of way. On the north side, the flattest (and most accessible) portion of the right of way is located within the fence that encroaches on it. On the south side, a fence and plantings requires pedestrians to leave the right of way to continue through to Roselawn St.

By preliminary analysis, it appears that there are potential routes where an informal trail could run through the right of way without extreme tree impact or grade changes.

Tree Preservation

One of the core conversation points has been tree preservation. As has been mentioned, there are a number of significant and valuable trees on the site. Most significantly, there are seven oak trees on the south side with a diameter breast height (DBH) of greater than 20 inches.

According to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, *Compaction within the tree's root zone adversely impacts the tree. Compaction can result from machinery/vehicular traffic, foot traffic, and from stockpiling materials over a tree's root zone. Grading within the tree's root zone, whether cutting or filling, also negatively impacts trees.* Given this guidance, the best practice would be to avoid significant grade changes, and vehicle traffic within a dripline of such significant trees. It is important to note that a feasibility memo prepared by the Public Works department stated that a traditional bituminous path would result in significant tree loss

(attachment 8).

However, a non-traditional approach would likely reduce that impact by choosing the most advantageous route for tree preservation and considering alternate surfaces. It should be noted that even foot traffic can also cause compaction that could adversely affect trees, but the risk is far less than that related to construction and heavy vehicular traffic. There are instances throughout the parks and recreation system of heavily traveled paths that run within driplines.

Although there is no way to guarantee unintentional tree loss will not occur with a construction process, staff feel that if appropriate mitigation strategies are undertaken such risks can be greatly minimized.

At this point in the process, it is difficult to discern exactly how many trees would need to be intentionally removed to provide space for a pathway, but staff feel confident that they can minimize the number of trees removed by narrowing the pathway and prioritizing tree impact in the route selection. An appropriate next step could be to utilize a contracted arborist and an engineer to work together to determine a path that is least impactful to trees.

Accessibility

Based on preliminary staff analysis, it appears that if the City chooses to install a pathway on the site, it would be considered a "shared use path" or "sidewalk," which means the best practice is to comply with the Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG). In summation, the following elements would likely need to be present on any trail through the right of way:

- Pathway must be firm and stable
- Slope not greater than 5% (1 foot of rise over 20 feet)
- 2% slope at pathway width
- Minimum 48-inch wide, with periodic passing space
- Curb cuts/curb ramps on each side of the path

It appears that none of these standards would necessarily preclude a natural/non-bituminous path. City staff are preparing a topographical survey to determine what grade changes would be needed.

Parks and Recreation System Master Plan Guidance

The Parks and Recreation System Master plan prioritizes the implementation of pedestrian and bicycling links: "connectivity for pedestrians and bicyclists is a clear desire of the community, and while connections across the community might be a long-term goal, the process of creating a connected community begins locally – by linking neighbors to their parks, and parks to other parks..." (Attachment 3, page B-37). This parcel was identified as a possible constellation connector within the Master Plan (page B-38). Several specific goals of the master plan may fit in with this conversation:

- **Goal 4.1:** Develop, adopt, and implement a comprehensive and integrated trails, pathways, and community connections system plan for recreation and transportation uses, including separate facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists (including off-road

unpaved trails for bikers and hikers) while protecting resources.

- **Goal 4.4:** Maintain the trail and pathway system year-round.
- **Goal 4.5:** Make the park system accessible to people of all abilities.
- **Goal 4.6:** Align development and expansion of non-motorized trails, pathways, community parkways, and other routes with the need to provide connections to and within parks, to open spaces, recreation facilities, and key destinations, as well as between neighborhoods, constellations, and sectors.

Park Access Impacts

The ROW in question is located in constellation K of the Parks and Recreation System Master Plan. Evergreen Park is the closest park to residents who live near the ROW, which is designated as a Community Park which “provides diverse recreational opportunities to the constellation and surrounding constellation” and balances active and passive use spaces. The City currently does not have the technology to track daily park usage.

The southern point of the right of way is .51 miles from Brimhall School and Evergreen Park, using the right of way. The same route, via Roselawn to Fairview, is .69 miles. Residents could also access Falcon Heights Community Park, which is .64 miles away from that same location.

The homes immediately east of the right of way (Mid Oaks) are some of the few homes in Roseville who are not within a 10-minute walk (typically ½ miles) of a park (attachment 5).

Currently, 94% of residents live within walking distance of a park. Although the creation of a trail in this location would not put them within that ½ mile radius, it would reduce their walking distance from .92 miles (from the midpoint of the loop, the corner of Mid Oaks Ln and Mid Oaks Rd), to .70 miles.

Another idea that has been discussed is the conversion of the parcel to parkland, pending legal review. As mentioned, this parcel lies in a portion of the City that currently lacks parkland. At only thirty feet wide, the value of the parcel for parks would predominantly be as a walking trail or natural space, and a connection to larger recreational spaces. Spaces like this are not without precedent in the Parks and Recreation System; as right of way has been used to provide access to parks in several locations, and some parks in the Parks and Recreation system exist solely as natural spaces. However, this would be the smallest park in Roseville’s Parks and Recreation system.

Cost Considerations

The cost of pathway installation would be somewhat unknown without a more formal study. The Public Works Department’s preliminary analysis estimated a hardscape pathway would cost somewhere between \$84,000 and \$177,000 (attachment 11).

A non-concrete pathway could almost surely be installed for far less cost but there is still a wide amount of variability. Because such a pathway would need to meet PROWAG guidelines, some engineering and site work would be required even for a relatively simple path. There have been some conversations about volunteers and parks staff clearing invasive species and creating an informal pathway. In certain areas, this could be an effective strategy. However, where issues of grade and accessibility come into play (particularly near the north and south side of the pathway), third party support would be needed - likely for both design and

installation.

An initial site design (including a comprehensive tree study and route selection) could likely be conducted for \$10,000 to \$20,000, and implementation could be completed for perhaps \$10,000 to \$40,000 for a very preliminary project total of perhaps \$20,000 to \$60,000 for a non-concrete pathway.

Answers to Specific Questions

Throughout the process to date, the Commission has asked a number of specific questions. Answers are provided below.

Question: There are several other short connections in the neighborhood (Attachment 7). What is their history?

Answer: Although the records are not entirely clear, it appears that the smaller connections in this neighborhood were part of the original neighborhood platting process. The City recently vacated all of the excess right of way except where the path is specifically located in these locations.

Question: Does this parcel have to become a park for the Parks and Recreation Commission to make a recommendation?

Answer: No. The Parks and Recreation Commission is free to make any recommendation that it sees fit, similar to how the Parks and Recreation Commission provides input into other projects that impact the city's recreational opportunities (such as new development). In several locations throughout the City, right of way is used for access to parks without being classified as a park. However, staff would encourage that the Commission directly connect their recommendation to parks and/or recreational opportunities.

Question: If a pathway is recommended, can the Parks and Recreation Commission weigh in on the process of implementation?

Answer: Yes – although the implementation process would ultimately lie with staff and likely be led by both the Parks and Recreation and Public Works departments, under the direction of the City Council, similar to many other park planning efforts, the Commission may desire to make a recommendation on how community engagement and other implementation steps are conducted.

Question: Would the construction of a pathway create a flooding risk to adjoining properties?

Answer: From Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer: "There is a storm pipe on the corridor. If a pathway goes in and affects the drainage to the current system and inlets, additional storm pipe could be installed. The pathway would not affect drainage or groundwater in my opinion as mitigation practices can be implemented as needed."

Question: If the right of way is vacated, will the neighbors be required to preserve the trees?

Answer: No. Once the parcel is vacated, the parcel will revert to the adjacent property owners and the City will not have any authority over how the property is used.

Question: If the pathway is installed, will there be a crosswalk planned on Roselawn where the path exits?

Answer: At this time, there is not a crosswalk planned at Roselawn and the pathway. However, Roselawn is a city street and the jurisdiction for such a crosswalk would lie jointly with the City of Roseville and the City of Falcon Heights. If a pathway is constructed, engineering staff will review the need for crosswalk improvements.

Recommendation

Given the complexity of this issue, staff recommend that as part of their joint meeting on September 15, 2025, the Commission considers checking in with the Council and:

1. Provide an update on your progress to date,
2. Provide any recommendations that you are currently comfortable with,
3. Provide proposed next steps and receive feedback,
4. Seek any clarification that is needed from the Council.

To aid in the conversation, staff have broken the request into two possible levels of recommendation and some additional considerations. For each, the Commission should consider whether they are ready to make a recommendation currently, and if not, what additional information is needed to make a recommendation.

POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION ONE

Consider whether the pathway provides value to the parks and recreation system in that it provides residents access to parks and other recreation spaces or serves as a valuable recreational amenity in and of itself.

- **STEP 1: Answer Yes** - move to **RECOMMENDATION TWO**

If no, recommendations could be:

- **STEP 1: Answer No, Option 1:** The ROW in question does not include recreational benefit and the commission recommends that the Council consider vacation.
- **STEP 1: Answer No, Option 2:** ROW does not include recreational benefit, but could in the future – the Commission recommends that the Council retain the ROW but not significantly change it at this time.

POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TWO

If there is a parks and recreation value, the Commission may consider making a recommendation on what the Council should consider for next steps.

- **STEP 2, Option 1:** Recommend that the City Council direct staff to engage with a third party to conduct a detailed study that includes pathway alignment options and specific tree impacts before a final decision is made.
- **STEP 2, Option 2:** Recommend staff begin the implementation of a non-traditional trail process, including neighborhood engagement, hiring a design consultant, and pre-design.
- **STEP 2, Option 3:** Recommend that the City Council install a more traditional “hardscape” path.

- **STEP 2, Option 4:** Given the challenges of the site, recommend that a trail not be installed and ROW be vacated.
- **STEP 2, Option 5:** Given the challenges of the site, recommend that a trail not be installed currently, but the ROW be preserved for a potential future trail.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

If the Commission feels that there is value in the installation of a pathway (either in the short term or long term), they may also consider the following:

- Would it make sense to keep this space as right of way with a path, or consider conversion to a park, pending final legal review?
- If the conversion of a space to parkland is considered, would the Commission be supportive of using Park Dedication funds for installation?

Attachments

1. Aldine ROW Map (Updated)
2. Existing Conditions Survey
3. Parks and Recreation System Master Plan b-36-29
4. Aldine ROW Tree Inventory
5. 10 Minute Walk Map With Location
6. TPL Recommended Area for New Park
7. Other Connections Map
8. April 21 City Council Meeting Minutes
9. June 16 City Council Meeting Minutes
10. July 21 City Council Meeting Minutes
11. Public Works Pathway Feasibility Memo
12. 9.2.25 - Aldine ROW Community Feedback
13. Preliminary Topographical Survey - Bench Handout
14. Aldine ROW Community Feedback - Bench Handout

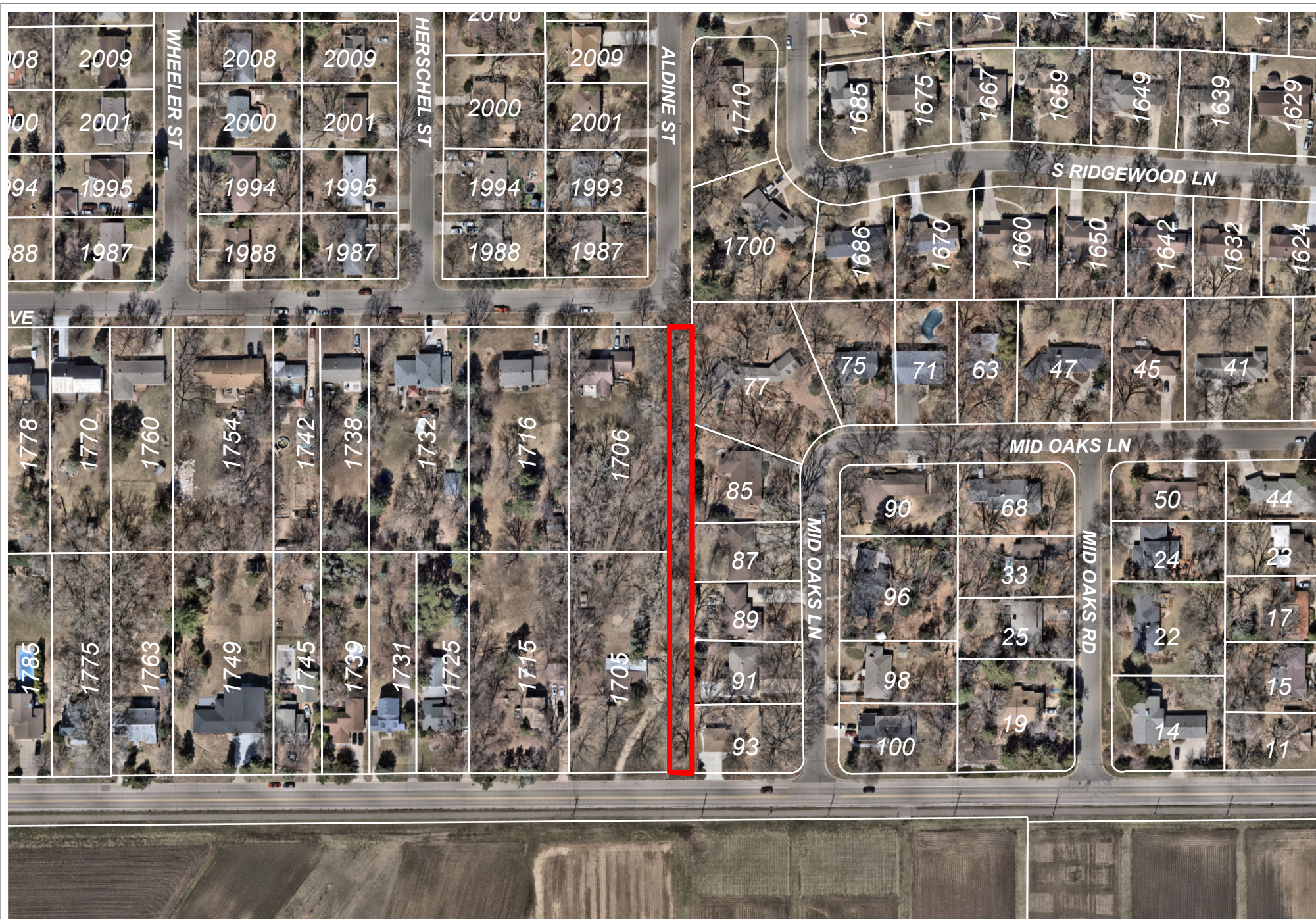


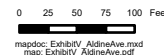
Exhibit V: Aldine Ave Right-of-Way Vacation

ROSEVILLE
 Prepared by:
 Engineering Department
 May 21, 2025

Right-of-Way Vacation Area

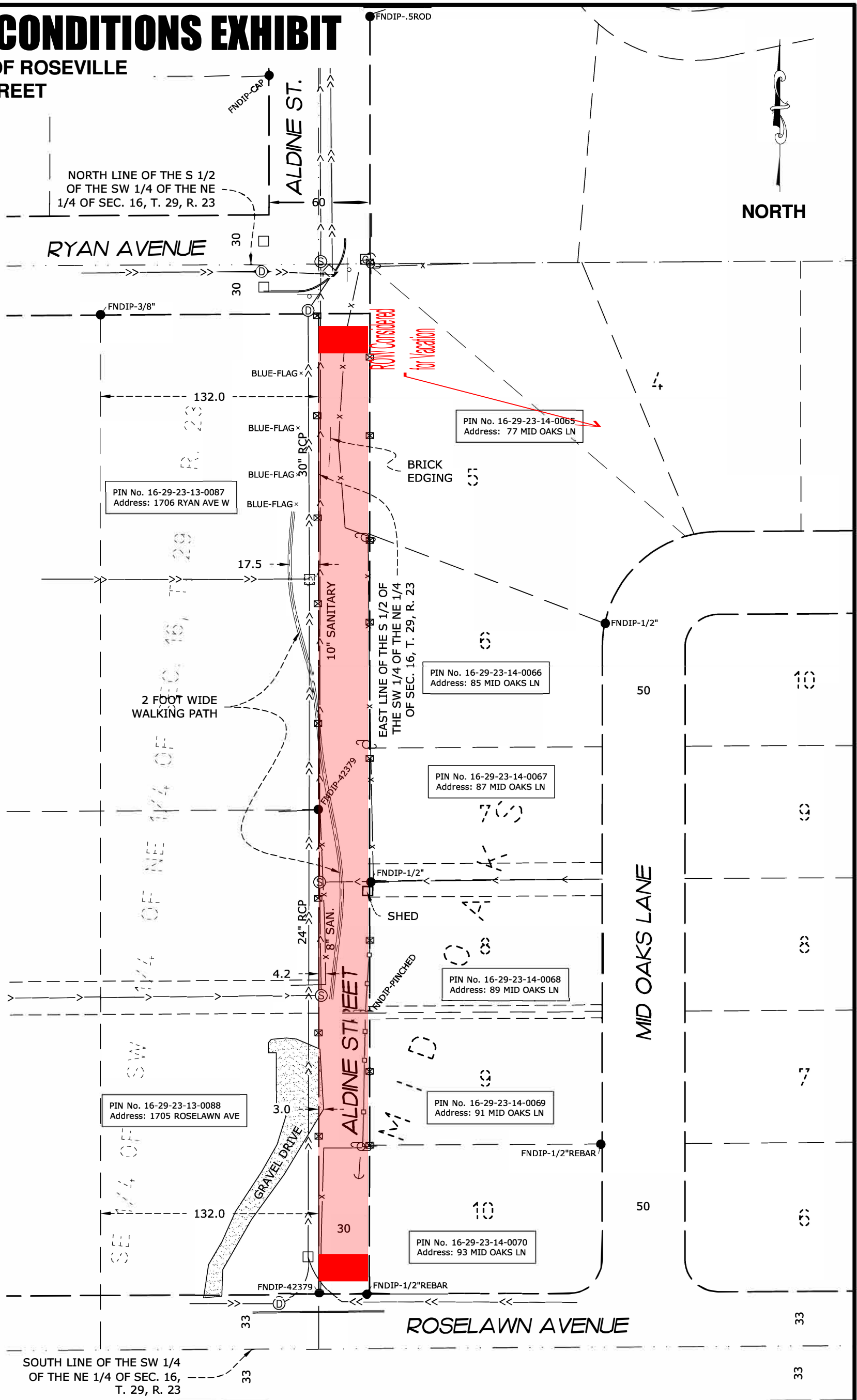
Data Sources and Contacts:
 * Ramsey County GIS Base Map (5/01/25)
 * City of Roseville Engineering Department
 For further information regarding the contents of this map contact:
 City of Roseville, Engineering Department,
 2660 Civic Center Drive, Roseville MN

DISCLAIMER:
 This map is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey and is not intended to be used as one. This map is a compilation of records, information and data located in various city, county, state and federal offices and other sources regarding the area shown, and is to be used for reference purposes only. The City does not warrant that the Geographic Information System (GIS) Data used to prepare this map are error free, and the City does not represent that the GIS Data can be used for engineering, planning or any other purpose requiring accurate measurement of distance or direction or precision in the depiction of geographic features. If errors or discrepancies are found please contact (612) 725-1070. The preceding disclaimer is provided pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §66B.01, Subd. 21 (2000), and the use of this map acknowledges that the City shall not be liable for any damages, and expressly waives all claims, and agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the City from any and all claims brought by User, its employees or agents, or third parties which arise out of the user's access or use of data provided.



EXISTING CONDITIONS EXHIBIT

~for~ THE CITY OF ROSEVILLE
ALDINE STREET

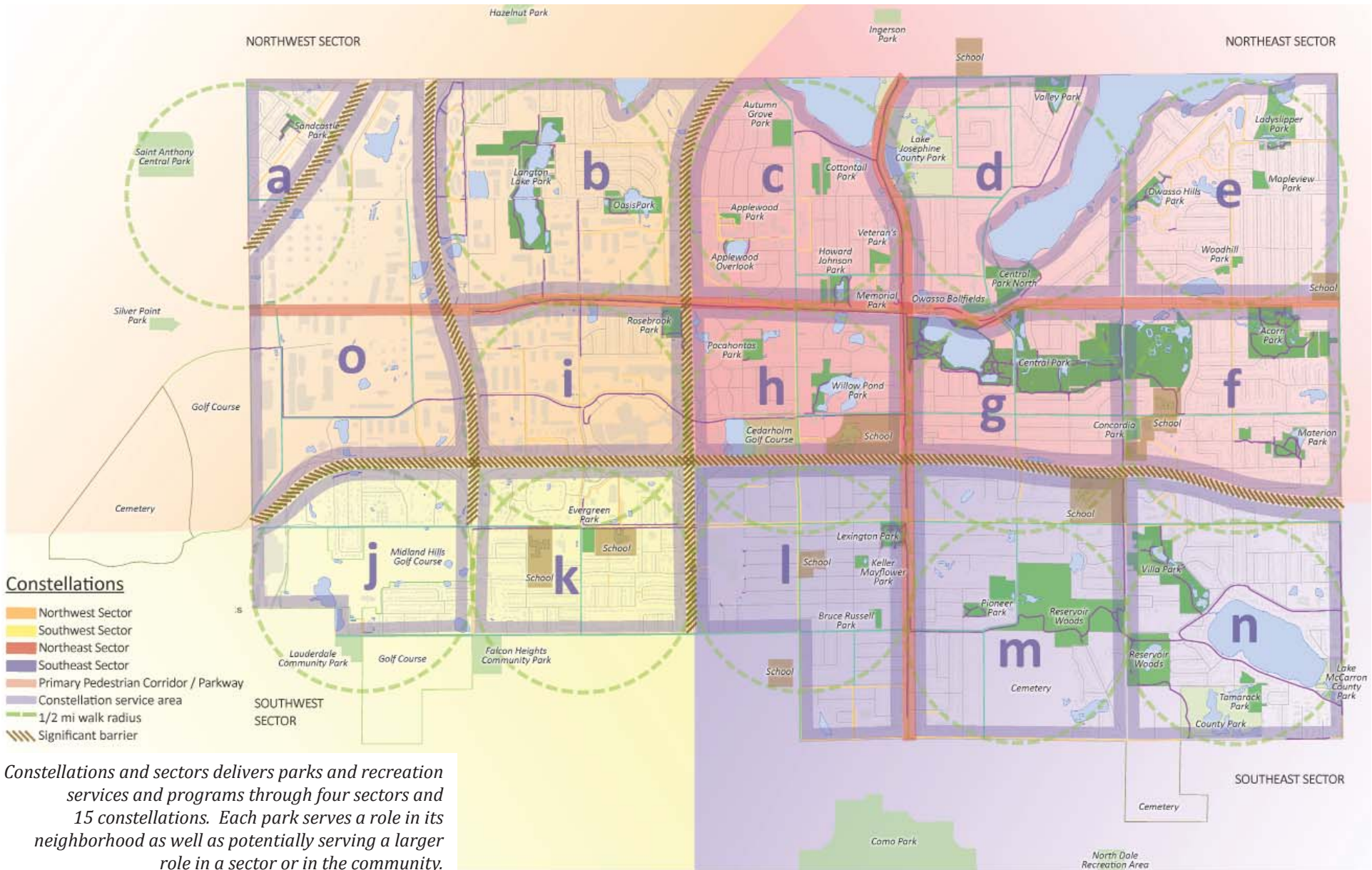


LEGEND

- DENOTES IRON MONUMENT FOUND AS LABELED
- ⊠ DENOTES SET LATH ON LINE
- ⊞ DENOTES CABLE PEDESTAL
- ⊞ DENOTES CATCH BASIN
- ⊞ DENOTES GUY WIRE
- ⊞ DENOTES POWER POLE
- ⊞ DENOTES SANITARY SEWER MANHOLE
- ⊞ DENOTES SIGN
- ⊞ DENOTES STORM SEWER MANHOLE
- x—x— DENOTES FENCE
- x—x— DENOTES WOOD FENCE
- ⊞ DENOTES GRAVEL SURFACE
- x—x— DENOTES EXISTING SANITARY SEWER
- x—x— DENOTES EXISTING STORM SEWER

DATUM: Ramsey County		JOB NO. 25.0719ED	
REVISIONS			SCALE: 1" = 60'
1			DATE: 7/16/2025
2			DRAWN BY: BPN
3			CREW: JH/CB
NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY

E. G. RUD & SONS, INC.
 Professional Land Surveyors
 6776 Lake Drive NE, Suite 110
 Lino Lakes, MN 55014
 Tel. (651) 361-8200 Fax (651) 361-8701
 www.egrud.com



Constellations and sectors

As an evolution from the 1960 Parks and Recreation Plan, and through the process of developing this Parks and Recreation System Master Plan, we see that a new organizational structure can be created to better serve the parks and recreation needs and desires of a nearly full developed community. A sector and constellation concept will organize Roseville into four sectors and 15 constellations. Sectors and constellations are enhanced by green park-like connections that emphasize pedestrian and biking links between parks within a constellation, with extensions to other constellations and sectors.

Constellations and sectors are a foundation of the master plan. Imagine a constellation in the night sky, with a series of stars linked by imaginary lines, and where singular stars—still known by their names—become a part of a larger picture. In Roseville, constellations are formed by a circle encompassing a ½ mile radius—about a ten minute walk, and are separated by roadways or natural features. In most cases, constellations are parks in a neighborhood, and the key is that the individual parks, while retaining their individual identities, form a network of opportunities intended to serve the immediate parks and recreation needs of the surrounding neighborhood.

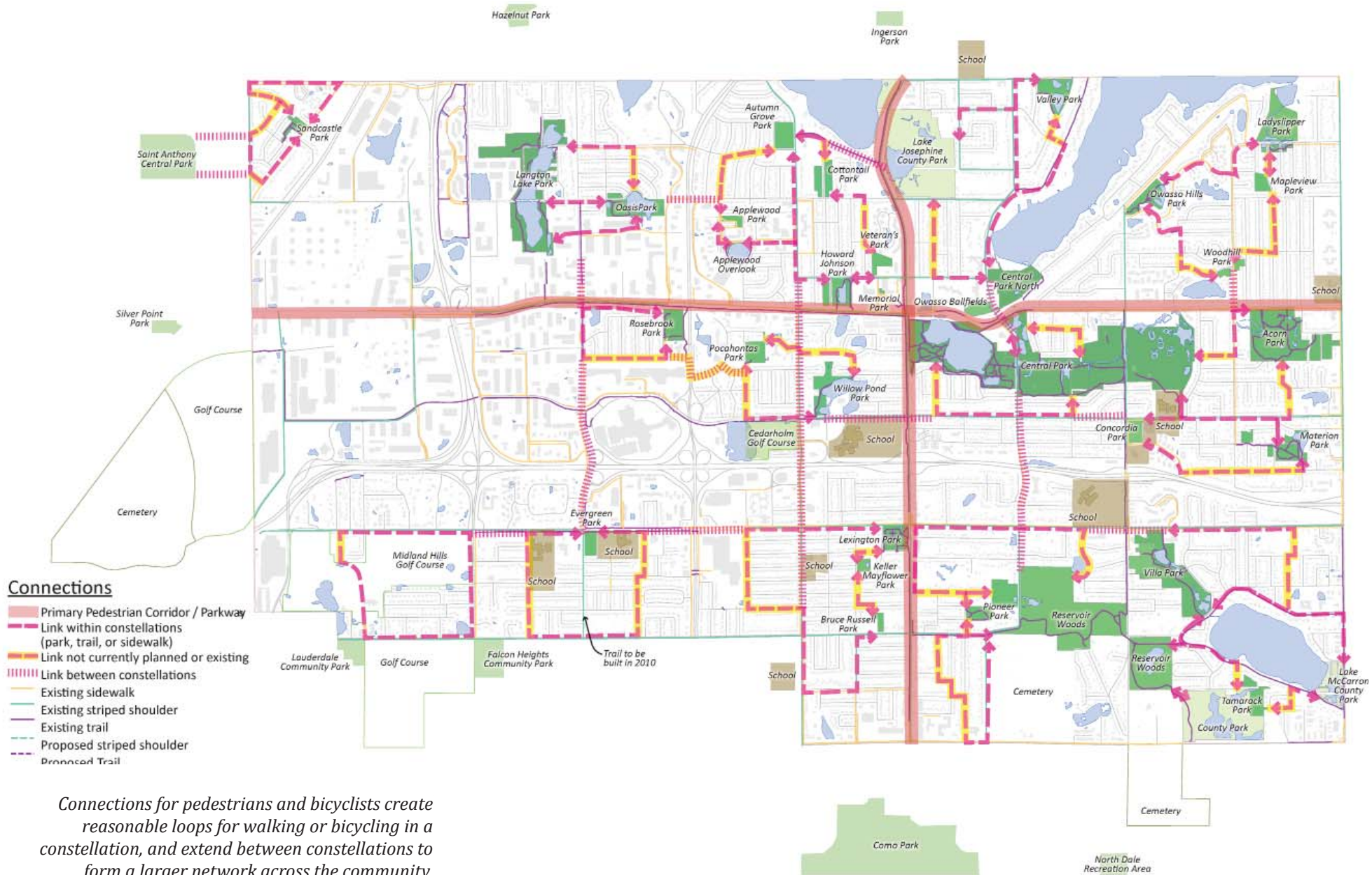
Within a constellation, parks are linked by some level of a trail, sidewalk, or other non-motorized connection. Greater connectivity for pedestrians

and bicyclists is a clear desire of the community, and while connections across the community might be a long-term goal, the process of creating a connected community begins locally—by linking neighbors to their parks, and parks to other parks within a constellation.

Across Roseville, the master plan envisions a total of 15 constellations, most of which serve residential areas, with one constellation directed to a commercial-industrial area along I-35W.

Eventually, residents will find that a component of the parks and recreation system is not available within their constellation. Constellations are intended to be linked to other constellations, forming sectors that provide another level of parks and recreation services to residents—this time with facilities that serve larger components of the community than constellations (or neighborhoods). In the master plan, Roseville is divided into four sectors—divided according to the more significant barriers formed by Highway 36 and Snelling Avenue. While the sectors are not equal in area, they offer the next layer in the delivery of parks and recreation services to the community.

Links are proposed across some constellation boundaries. These links would most likely occur at locations where safe crossings can be achieved—at signalized intersections or other locations where the crossings are more controlled. Importantly, the parks and recreation system master plan does not intend to dictate the type of connection (a



Connections for pedestrians and bicyclists create reasonable loops for walking or bicycling in a constellation, and extend between constellations to form a larger network across the community.



sidewalk, trail, or striped shoulder, for instance), as responsibility to implementing a pedestrian or bicycle facility outside of a park falls to the Public Works Department. However, the links posed in the constellation and sector diagrams aim for alignment with the city's existing Pathway Master Plan, with a final location for the link being coordinated with Public Works and the Pathway Master Plan.

Finally, there are features of the parks and recreation system intended for the community as a whole. Larger scale facilities, or parks and recreation system components where only one will exist in the entire community, will be community-centered, but importantly, these facilities will still be located in a park (there may be exceptions, but for the most part, the goal is location in a city-controlled park or facility). Inherent in the location of these facilities is the method of accessing them, with the presumption that many users will choose to access them via their cars, while non-motorized access will still be encouraged by the choice of location and the design of the site or facility.

While some park components or services are best delivered on a community-wide basis, others are better delivered to smaller segments of the community. Through sectors and constellations, each part of Roseville and every neighborhood will be afforded the parks and recreation opportunities it needs, with each park playing a role in the system that balances immediate neighborhood needs with the needs of the broader community. In this approach, parks within walking distance of a

neighborhood are organized to serve a majority of the neighborhood's park and recreation needs.

As parks are organized into constellations and sectors, each must serve its constellation. Each park might also serve a community role—based on the park's ability to support a community-wide activity. Using this structure, the master plan envisions that nearly every park will have these components:

- unprogrammed, open play area
- play structure accommodating up to 20 children
- small wild area
- pavilion or shade structure
- small gathering area
- trails or pathways within the park
- signs or information kiosks

Each constellation will have these components:

- open area programmable for one field activity
- tennis courts and court games area
- play structure accommodating at least 50 children, with a unique feature
- larger wild area
- picnic area and pavilion
- recreation and maintenance storage areas

Each sector will have these types of components:

- field area programmable for more than one use
- major play structure and climbing element



The master plan envisions gathering spaces in every park as a way of building community through parks and recreation.



The master plan maintains an orientation to activity in parks, with a focus on components that can be programmed as well as spaces and components that allow play to happen.



While the most common or frequently used facilities will be available in nearly every park in the parks and recreation system, some of the more unique facilities will be available on a sector or community-wide basis.

- general skating area and hockey rink
- splash pad or other water play feature
- significant wild area
- community garden or display garden
- shelter with meeting rooms that can be programmed or reserved

Community-wide components will include:

- community center
- aquatics facility
- aggregated athletic fields
- other unique recreation facilities

An assessment was conducted of every park in the system for its abilities to fill roles in the constellation and sector concept. Worksheets were prepared to guide this effort, with the most common recreation components identified for their service orientation in the constellation and sector concept, and the components—as either existing or planned facilities—were highlighted for each park. The worksheets, while not definitive about the finite improvements planned for each park, are intended as a tool to assess the ways in which parks and recreation services can be delivered to the community, particularly at the constellation and sector levels.

Parks as a place for civic engagement

Much attention is directed to the physical changes envisioned for our parks and recreation system, but a higher goal must also be realized. During the master planning process, the CAT discussed the need for parks to be a community building tool. In fact, using parks as a way of enhancing the sense of community became an overarching outcome. While other outcomes were articulated, none took on as much significance.

Getting to the point where community happens is important, and it requires a physical space. Participants in Imagine Roseville 2025 imagined civic gathering spaces, and those spaces can find a home in the parks and recreation system. With those spaces in a park and the interactions that result, neighbors may take a greater interest in the enhancement and maintenance of a park. Neighborhoods might take greater ownership and responsibility for their park, gaining a sense of pride and identity from their association with their park. This function of parks cannot be underestimated. As plans for parks are created, including spaces and programs for civic engagement should be a priority. Spaces in some parks might support neighborhood or community events, while in others these spaces might be smaller garden or courtyard spaces. Programs supporting neighborhood-building goals include Night to Unite or neighborhood-focused celebrations, and the Discover Your Park events currently conducted by the Parks and Recreation Department.

Aldine Right of Way Tree Inventory

Tag ID	DBH	Species	Untagged:
1	21,10	Oak white	abundant buckthorn
2	15,13,11	Oak northern pin	~5 White poplar
3	5	Arborvitae	~5 White mulberry
4	4	Arborvitae	~3 amur maple
5	4	Ash green	
6	28	Oak white	
7	8	Cherry black	
8	12	Cherry black	
9	3	Ash green	
10	8	Ash green	
11	8	Ash green	
12	32	Oak bur	
13	12	Oak northern pin	
14	4,4	Box elder	
15	3	Box elder	
16	9	Box elder	
17	7	Box elder	
18	7	Box elder	
19	6	Box elder	
20	19	Oak bur	
21	3	Box elder	
22	8	Elm american	
23	4	Elm american	
24	5	Elm american	
25	10	Elm american	
26	8	Siberian elm*	*not native
27	18	Siberian elm*	*not native
28	15	Elm american	
29	7,4	Box elder	
30	14	Elm american	
31	30	Elm american	
32	6	Box elder	
33	6	Elm american	
34	4	Box elder	
35	11	Elm american	
36	16	Green ash	
37	24,17	Maple silver	
38	3	Box elder	
39	14	Maple silver	
40	20,7	Maple silver	
41	3	Elm american	
42	4	Box elder	
43	3	Green ash	
44	3	Maple silver	
45	21	Maple silver	

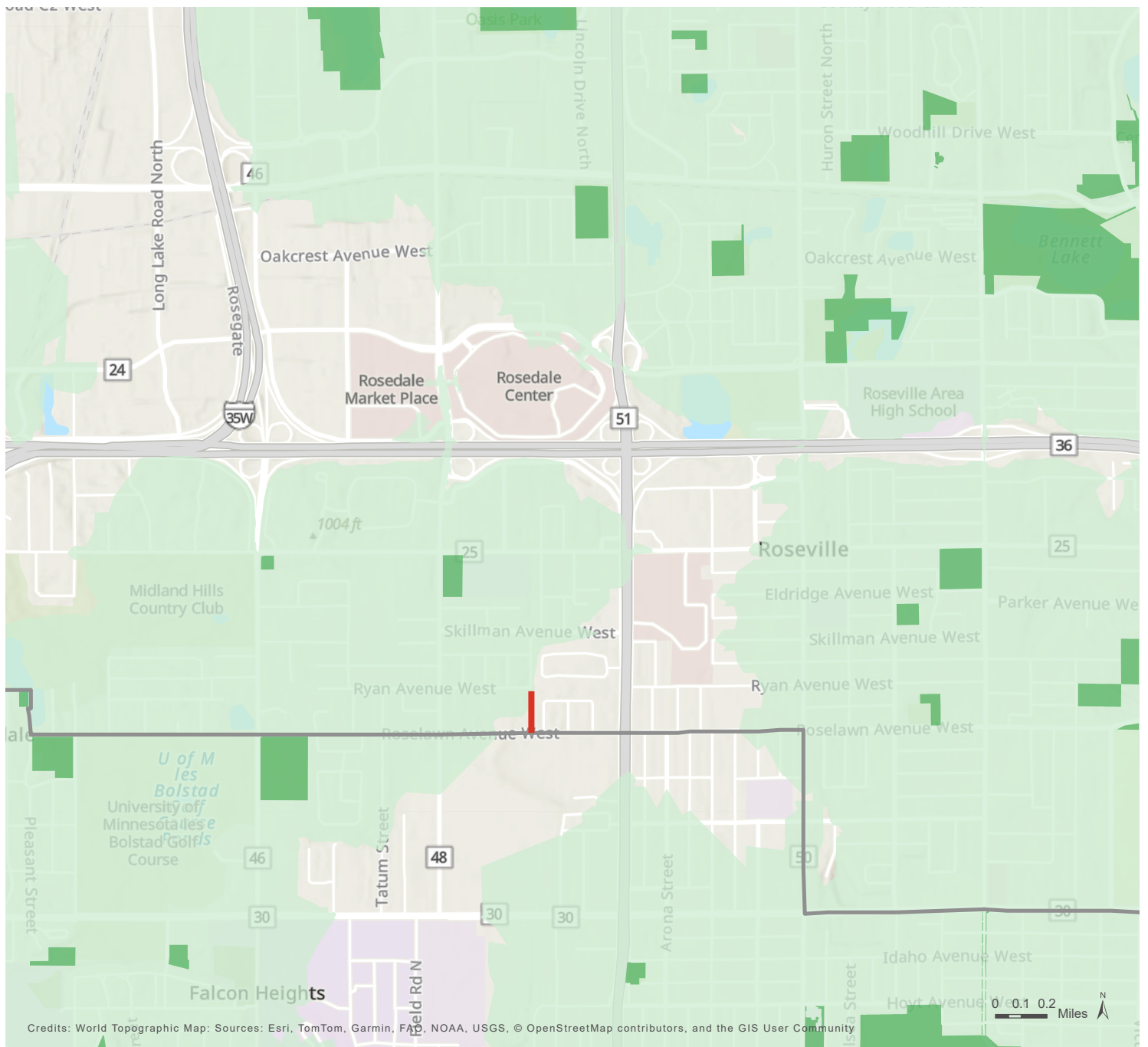
Aldine Right of Way Tree Inventory

46	4	Box elder		
47	11	Box elder		
48	28	Oak bur		
49	8	Basswood		
50	3	Witch Hazel		
51	26	Oak bur		
52	25	Oak bur		
53	21	Oak bur		
54	21	Oak bur		
55	20	Oak bur		
56	22	Oak bur		
57	23	Oak bur		

10 Minute Walk Map

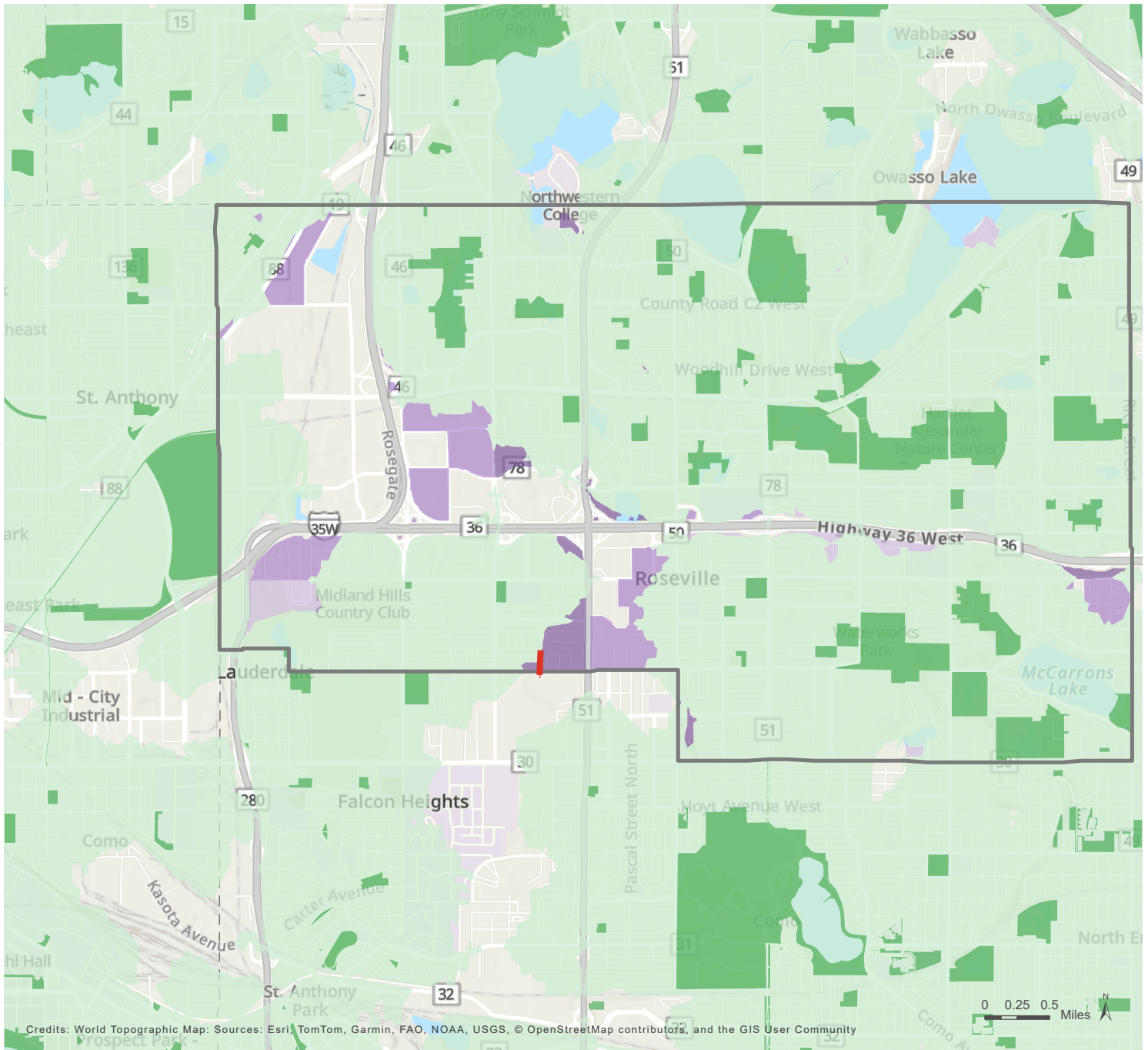


ParkServe®



- ParkServe Place
 - Park with public access
 - 10-minute walk service area
- World_Hillshade

TPL Park Recommendation Areas

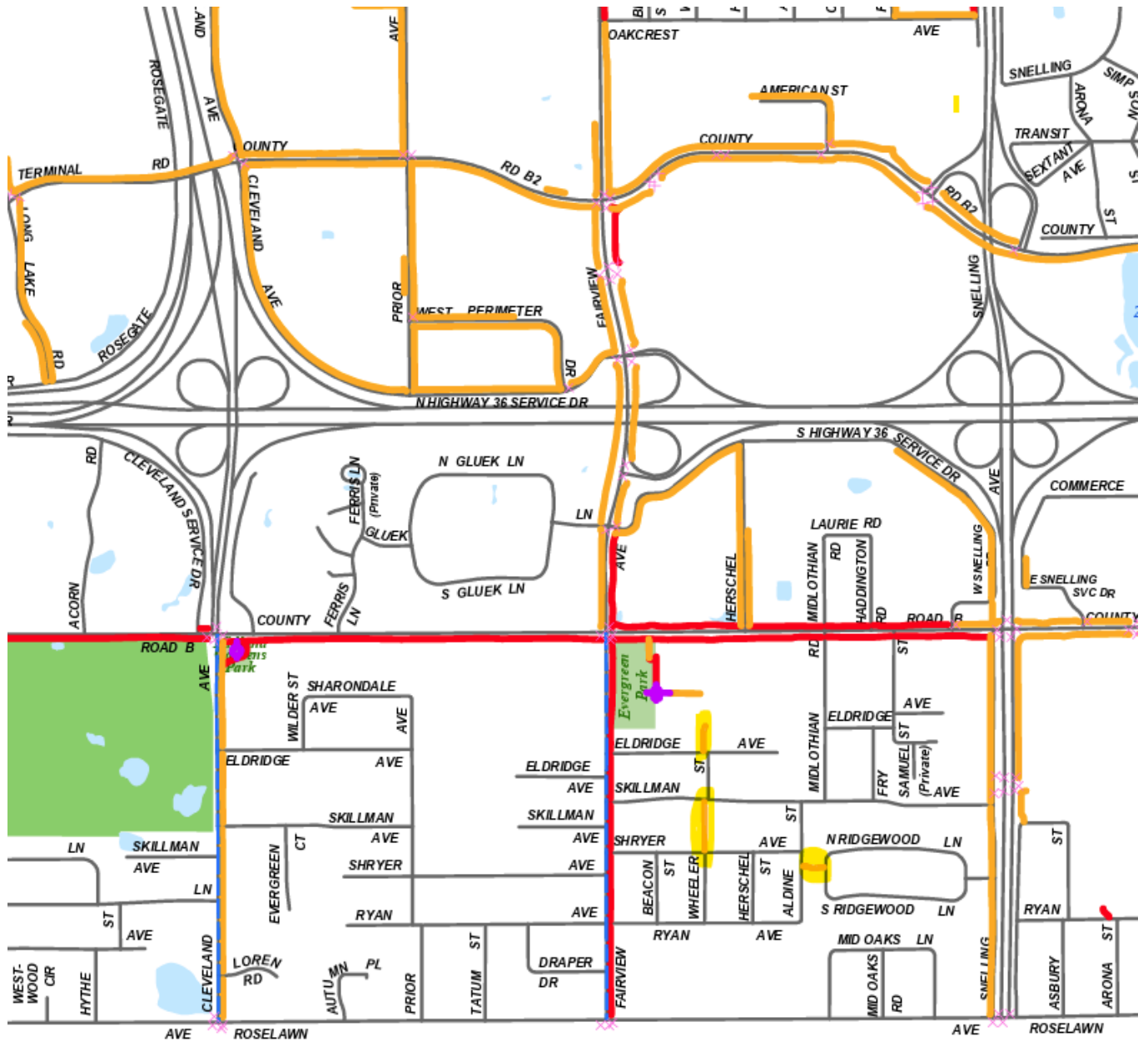


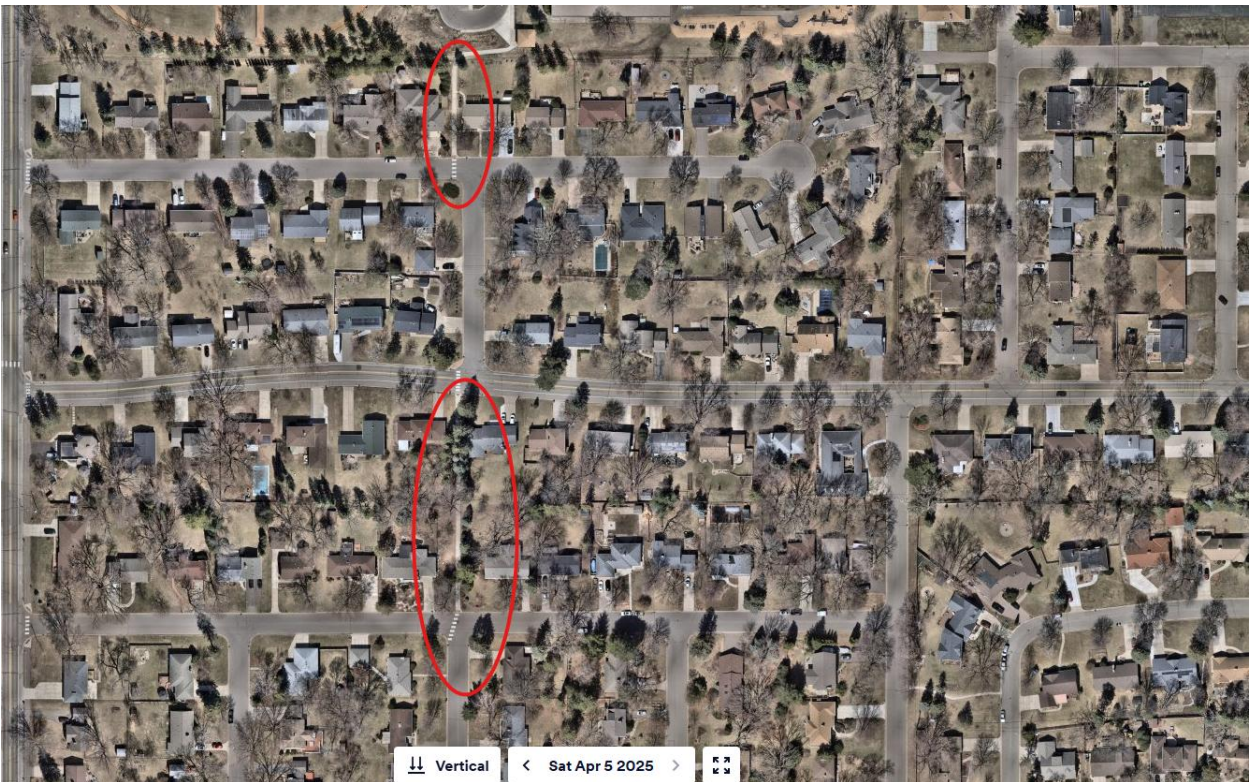
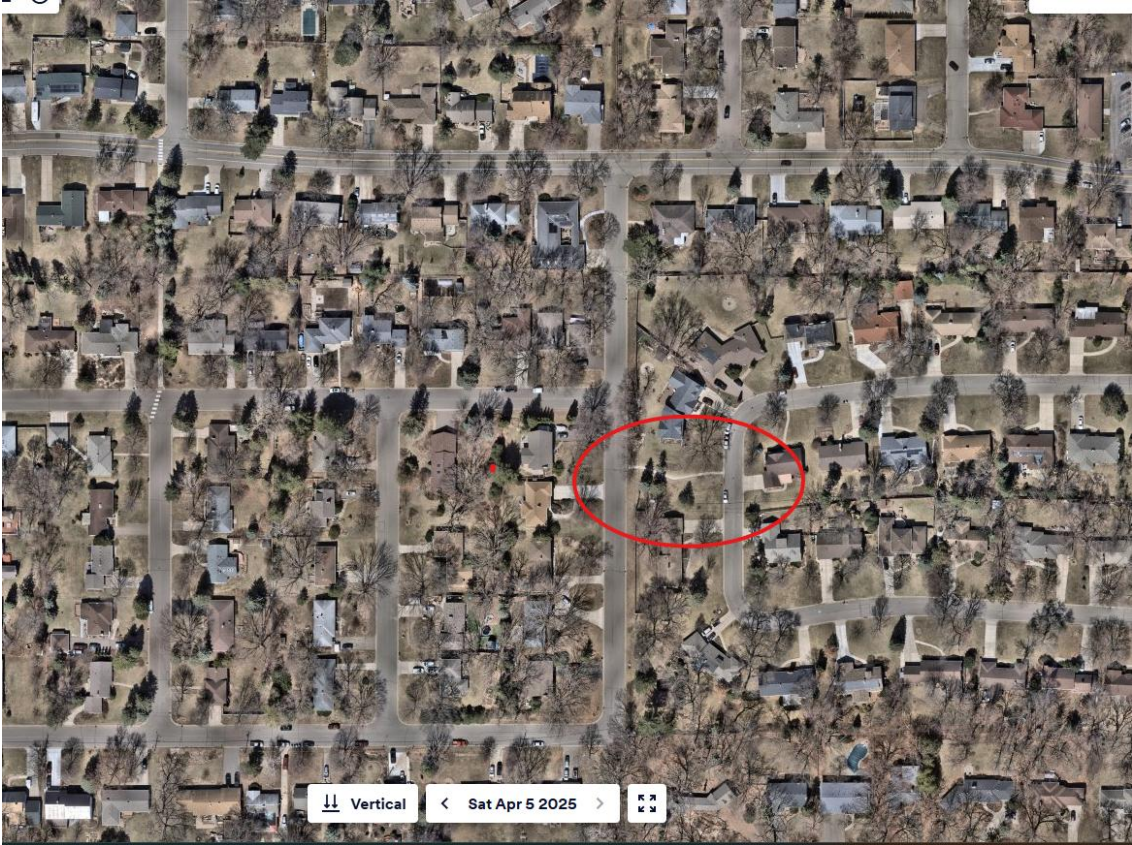
- ParkServe Place
- Park with public access
- 10-minute walk service area
- Priority areas for new parks (place)
- Very high priority
- High priority
- Moderate priority
- World_Hillshade

Credits: World Topographic Map: Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



Other Sidewalk/Pathway Connections Nearby







**Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
City Hall Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive
Monday, April 21, 2025**

1. Roll Call

Mayor Roe called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. Voting and Seating Order: Groff, Strahan, Schroeder, Bauer, and Roe. City Manager Patrick Trudgeon and City Attorney Rachel Tierney were also present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approve Agenda

Groff moved, Strahan seconded, approval of the agenda as presented.

Roll Call

Ayes: Groff, Strahan, Schroeder, Bauer, and Roe.

Nays: None.

4. Public Comment

Mayor Roe called for public comment by audience members on non-agenda items.

Mr. Rich Nymoan, 2825 Arona, Roseville, addressed the City Council about housing affordability issues. He blamed zoning restrictions and upside-down property tax systems and called for zoning reform and land value tax districts to help young adults afford homes.

Mayor Roe thanked Mr. Nymoan for his comments.

5. Recognitions, Donations, and Communications

a. Volunteer Month Proclamation

Mayor Roe read the Volunteer Month Proclamation.

Strahan moved, Schroeder seconded, proclaiming Volunteer Month, April 21, 2025.

The council expressed gratitude for the city's long tradition of volunteering.

Roll Call

Ayes: Groff, Strahan, Schroeder, Bauer, and Roe.

Nays: None.

b. Proclaim May 2025 Mental Health Awareness Month

Mayor Roe read the Mental Health Awareness Month Proclamation.

6. **Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**

7. **Business Items**

a. **Public Hearing and Approve Resolutions Approving the Vacation of Multiple Streets, Easements, and Rights-of-Way**

Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request For Council Action and related attachments dated April 21, 2025.

Mr. Freihammer presented the four areas for easement vacation. He explained the process and the intent to vacate the rights-of-way while maintaining utility easements.

Mayor Roe reviewed the public hearing protocol and opened and closed the hearing at approximately 6:28 p.m. to receive public input on the above-referenced Vacation K, County Road C, with no one appearing for or against.

Schroeder moved, Groff seconded, adoption of Resolution No. 12151 (Attachment 1) entitled, "Resolution Approving the Vacations of a Portion of Eustis Street."

Roll Call

Ayes: Groff, Strahan, Schroeder, Bauer, and Roe.

Nays: None.

Mayor Roe reviewed the public hearing protocol and opened and closed the hearing at approximately 6:30 p.m. to receive public input on the above-referenced Vacation U, Aldine Street. No one appeared for or against.

Strahan moved, Bauer seconded, adoption of Resolution No. 12152 (Attachment 2) entitled, "Resolution Approving the Vacation of a Portion of Aldine Place that lies within the Plat of Ridgewood."

Roll Call

Ayes: Groff, Strahan, Schroeder, Bauer, and Roe.

Nays: None.

Mayor Roe reviewed the public hearing protocol and opened the hearing for Vacation V, County Road C, at approximately 6:32 p.m.

Mayor Roe noted emails were received from Ms. Rachel Brown, Mr. Kevin Watson, and Ms. TamMcGehee.

Public Comment

Ms. Stefanie Kiihn Aschenbrenner, 2016 Herschel Street

Ms. Kiihn Aschenbrenner addressed the City Council and indicated she supported maintaining the pathway for neighborhood use.

Ms. Linda Strahan, Wheeler and Ryan

Ms. Strahan concurred with Ms. Kiihn Aschenbrenner. She noted it was another quiet place in Roseville, a nice place to walk.

Ms. Cindy Gallaher, 2009 Herschel Street

Ms. Gallaher explained that she lived in Roseville and used the path for 35 years. She indicated she was grateful for it and hoped a solution could be found so that people could pass through the area safely for another 35 years or longer.

Ms. Sara Quinn, 89 Mid Oaks Lane

Ms. Quinn expressed her concern about the impact on mature oak trees and the safety of a formal pathway.

Mr. Tim Brown and Mrs. Cindy Erickson, 93 Mid Oaks Lane

Mr. Brown explained that he and his wife were excited to see that the City Council was moving forward with these vacations and freeing this up for the residents to maintain, because it is sometimes a mess. He noted they did not favor the trail, mainly because of concerns about removing mature oak trees.

Ms. Olivia Gault, 2021 Herschel Street

Ms. Gault indicated she loved the path and hoped it could remain a path, not a formal sidewalk/trail. She noted the trail has been an excellent resource for the residents in the area.

Ms. Rachel Brown, 1705 Roselawn Avenue West

Ms. Brown explained that the property owners maintained the informal trail and not the city, which weaved between eight properties. She indicated her property overlooks the cornfields, which are research fields of the U of M, not a park. While she appreciated that children could walk from Mid Oaks to Brimhall school, she felt that planning a path for the small number of children to walk to school is not sensible. She noted she has lived at the property for 25 years and has felt from the moment they moved in that eventually they would fix the garage and gravel driveway problems that were created when the house was built. She indicated she was eager to work with the City to ensure that the easements required for the property would be appropriate once the land was vacated.

Ms. Brown indicated that the eight property owners want this now because it is not just a trail to walk by homes a few times a week; it is their property 24/7, as well as their backyards and sideyards. She noted she has been gracious and kind to people who walk by, but this is 293 feet of her property where people walk by whenever they want, which is intrusive. She wanted to thank the series of eight

property owners who have been learning so much and working together as a community.

Mr. Kevin Watson, 2001 Aldine Street

Mr. Watson felt this was a tremendous connection for this neighborhood, the Ridgewood neighborhood, and the Mid Oaks neighborhood. He thought it was a nice amenity. He noted that, looking at the city's strategic plan, pedestrian connections were one of the priorities. He thought environmental sustainability, encouraging people to walk, was one of the city's priorities, and inclusivity was another. He thought this was a way for people who did not always have a vehicle or other means of transportation to get around. This was a pathway for them to get to or through the neighborhood. He indicated he sent a video to the city council to show them that this path was well-used. He asked the City Council to keep the trail as a connection, a pedestrian connection, and to talk to the neighbors.

With no one else appearing to speak, Mayor Roe closed the public hearing at approximately 6:53 p.m.

Council Discussion

Councilmember Strahan commented on keeping the pedestrian connection open. She noted her support making it a pathway as her sister-in-law lived in the area and they often utilized the area.

Mayor Roe and the Council members discussed the need for further clarification on the resolution language with staff.

Councilmember Groff expressed concerns about the proposed pathway's safety, particularly the lack of sidewalks and crosswalks on Rose Lawn and Mid Oaks Lane.

Councilmember Schroeder echoed Councilmember Groff's concerns, emphasizing the importance of not harming trees and maintaining the area's natural beauty.

Mr. Freihammer discussed the City's responsibility to maintain any developed pathways and the potential for adjacent property owners to keep the edges. He clarified that the current corridor was not a formal pathway but a utility corridor, and any maintenance would depend on the Council's decision.

Mayor Roe and Councilmember Groff discussed the history of maintaining City pathways and the potential for property owners to keep the edges.

Mr. Freihammer explained that the City currently maintains utility corridors and could prioritize maintenance based on need.

Mayor Roe noted concerns with the language for this Vacation as it differed from others. Mr. Freihammer noted this was the result of how the original Right of Way was conceived.

Councilmember Bauer agreed that additional wording for this Vacation would make it clear and was in favor of tabling the motion to allow for the wording change.

The Council discussed whether to table the decision on the pathway or take action immediately, with Councilmember Strahan proposing to table it for further discussion.

Strahan moved, Groff seconded, tabling the decision pending further discussion and clarification by the City Attorney's Office and staff.

Roll Call

Ayes: Groff, Strahan, Schroeder, Bauer, and Roe.

Nays: None.

Mayor Roe opened the public hearing at approximately 7:26 p.m. for Vacation of shoulders and Rights-of-Way.

Public Comment

Ms. Olivia Gault, 2021 Herschel Street

Ms. Gault expressed confusion about the proposed changes and the maintenance responsibilities for dead trees along the pathway.

Ms. Janet Risinger, 1797 Shryer

Ms. Risinger emphasized the importance of maintaining the pathway as a sidewalk for children walking to school and questioned who would be responsible for tree maintenance.

Ms. Cindy Gallaher, 2009 Herschel Street

Ms. Gallaher pointed out discrepancies in property ownership and maintenance responsibilities along the pathway.

Mr. Kevin Watson, 2001 Aldine Street

Mr. Watson suggested educating neighbors about their property rights and responsibilities along the pathway.

With no one else appearing to speak, Mayor Roe closed the public hearing at approximately 7:31 p.m.



Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
City Hall Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive
Monday, June 16, 2025

1. Roll Call

Mayor Roe called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. Voting and Seating Order: Schroeder, Groff, Bauer, Strahan, and Roe. City Manager Patrick Trudgeon and City Attorney Rachel Tierney were also present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Roe acknowledged the tragic murder of former Speaker of the House Melissa Hortman and her husband Mark, as well as the shooting of Senator Hoffman and his wife, who miraculously survived.

A moment of silent reflection was observed.

3. Approve Agenda

Groff moved, Schroeder seconded, approval of the agenda as presented.

Roll Call

Ayes: Schroeder, Groff, Bauer, Strahan, and Roe.

Nays: None.

4. Public Comment

Mayor Roe called for public comments by audience members on non-agenda items. No one came forward to speak.

5. Recognitions, Donations, and Communications

a. Proclaim July 2025 Parks and Recreation Month

Mayor Roe read the proclamation for Parks and Recreation Month. The proclamation highlights the importance of parks and recreation in promoting community health, economic prosperity, and environmental well-being.

Strahan moved, Groff seconded, proclaiming July 2025 Parks and Recreation Month.

Council Discussion

Councilmember Strahan thanked Mr. Matt Johnson, Director of Parks, for his continued attentiveness to the public and his sensitivity to everyone's needs. She pointed out that on Saturday or Sunday afternoons, anyone can visit a park, and the

Mayor Roe suggested that Nine North should keep considering appropriate policies for video content, especially as AI technology progresses. He thanked Mr. Ongstad for the presentation.

b. Consider Approval of Aldine ROW Vacation

Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request For Council Action and related attachments dated June 16, 2025.

Mr. Freihammer provided background on the Aldine right-of-way vacation, noting that the city owns only the eastern 30 feet of the right-of-way. He explained that the feasibility report indicated constructing a pathway would impact numerous trees and cost between \$84,000 and \$177,000.

Councilmember Groff asked whether city staff had been going through Roseville to identify pieces of land that have not been used or connected, and that the Council has been initiating some of those.

Mr. Freihammer explained that back in 2022, the staff submitted a list to the council of properties the city wanted to vacate, and this right-of-way was included on that list. This marked the fifth phase of right-of-way vacations brought back for review.

Councilmember Groff explained that when this item was first presented, the city was unaware of the pathway.

Mr. Freihammer indicated that it was correct. The city was not aware of an existing pathway, which was not identified on the pathway master plan.

Councilmember Strahan asked Mr. Freihammer if he could confirm whether a pathway had been cut there for a potential path.

Mr. Freihammer indicated that on the north side of Ryan, there is a curb cut, but he did not have any history about why it exists. However, it was probably done in the 90s when the road was redone.

Councilmember Schroeder asked if the city were to proceed with the pathway, a number of mature trees would have to be removed.

Mr. Freihammer indicated that it was correct. Creating any type of improved pathway there would impact the trees, resulting in significant tree loss.

Mayor Roe sought clarification on the impact of asphalt on tree health, even if no trees would be removed.

Mr. Freihammer explained that, depending on the type of tree, some trees are more susceptible than others. If the city were to improve the pathway, it would need to

meet ADA requirements and be leveled to some degree, which would also impact the trees.

Councilmember Strahan asked for confirmation on whether any items in the pathway could obstruct it, such as semi-permanent fixtures, fences, and the like.

Mr. Freihammer explained that he had walked that corridor once, and a complete survey had not been conducted, so he did not know for certain, but he thought there were probably some encroachments.

Councilmember Bauer asked which side of the street the public utilities are on and whether the city needs to secure them.

Mr. Freihammer explained that the city has a sanitary line running along most of the corridor and a storm sewer that spans the entire length of the corridor. He noted that these are located within the existing twenty feet. He also indicated that staff will need to collaborate with the City Attorney on a process to ensure the city secures those easements.

Mayor Roe asked if the city also has any utilities in the thirty-foot segment.

Mr. Freihammer explained that the city lacked utilities in that corridor, but there are power lines and other semi-public utilities. This is why there is a thirty-foot easement retained in the proposed vacation resolution: to access those utilities.

Mayor Roe opened the floor for public comment and explained the rules, with Councilmember Strahan emphasizing the need for civility from everyone.

Public Comment

Ms. Anne Lottie, 90 Mid Oaks Lane

Ms. Lottie shared her family's experience and conveyed a message of unity and hope regarding the path issue at hand. She indicated that she had mixed feelings and could empathize with both sides. She noted that her family uses the path regularly and has friends and neighbors who live along it. She found it sad to see the tight-knit community become divided, as the path has been connecting people and neighbors for decades. She addressed safety concerns regarding the children who walk the path, as well as the sense of community that surrounds it. She also discussed the environmental impact of paving the pathway and mentioned that a less formal option, such as a natural footpath or low-impact pathway, could be constructed. She advocated for some form of compromise. She explained that the Aldine path has contributed to the community's fabric and connections for decades. She urged the council to maintain the right-of-way as it is for now, hoping for a plan that preserves an informal, quiet, natural footpath.

Ms. Eleni Skevas, 17 Mid Oaks Lane

Ms. Skevas addressed the council and thanked Ms. Lottie for her excellent presentation. She also advocated for the city to maintain the right-of-way and highlighted that the footpath provides access to Evergreen Park and Brimhall, making it a lovely walk for the community.

Mr. Joe Donaghue, 1642 Ridgewood Lane South

Mr. Donaghue explained that he uses the pathway twice a day and has done so for years, since he discovered it while walking his dogs. He thought it was a wonderful pathway filled with nature, and he enjoyed it. He agreed with the previous speakers.

Ms. Mary Bland, 1639 Ridgewood Lane

Ms. Bland indicated that she has been walking the pathway for between 40 and 50 years and feels it is a little piece of heaven. She hopes the council will consider preserving it for future generations to enjoy as well.

Mr. Andrew Rehmann, 44 Mid Oaks Lane

Mr. Rehmann stated that he has been using the pathway since 1994. He mentioned having a five-year-old son who will start at Brimhall, and he is looking forward to his son being able to use the path. He indicated that he used the pathway as a child and hopes his children will have the same opportunity.

Mr. Art Quinn, 89 Mid Oaks Lane

Mr. Quinn indicated that he supported keeping the path. He explained that he didn't mind people walking up and down it. He noted that he would consider the idea of a natural path because he didn't want trees to be removed for a paved pathway.

Ms. Olivia Gault, 2021 Herschel Street

Ms. Gault stated that she spoke at the last meeting in support of maintaining a natural pathway. She expressed her surprise at the animosity toward people using the path. She explained that she and two other neighbors collected 98 signatures from fellow residents in just one week, asking to preserve the path.

Mr. Kyle Fitzwater, 32 Mid Oaks Lane

Mr. Fitzwater indicated that he and his husband have lived at 32 Mid Oaks Lane for the past 21 years. He urged the council to vote against vacating the land in question. He explained that generations of families have come to rely on the access and use of the pathway. The path has become a safe alternative that allows adults, children, and pets to avoid traffic. The path is a neighborhood asset and serves many residents and neighbors.

Ms. Michelle Pribyl, 1738 Skillman Ave

Ms. Pribyl explained she was at the meeting to speak in favor of not vacating the pathway. She frequently uses the trail to walk her dog and enjoy a beautiful stroll in the neighborhood. They appreciate the woodland path as it is and support keeping it as an informational pathway while preserving as many trees as possible.

Ms. Carla Lewis, 71 Mid Oaks Lane

Ms. Lewis indicated that she lives in the neighborhood and considers herself a neutral party. Her concern is that there is considerable confusion regarding what will happen with the pathway. She mentioned that some residents who do not use the path and do not have dogs are worried about its appearance. She understands that for liability reasons, there may need to be pavement, maintenance, and additional liability considerations. She would like to know what the pathway will look like and how it will impact those who live very close and own property adjacent to it.

Mr. Kevin Watson, 2001 Aldine Street

Mr. Watson explained he lived three doors up from the start of the path. He has three kids, a large dog, and uses the path frequently. He understood that many people use the path and enjoy it, but he thought they have to think about the people who are coming with new development in the area, and he thought it would be a nice connection to a neighborhood to connect with people or places that are across Roselawn.

Mr. Tim Brown, 93 Mid Oaks Lane

Mr. Brown indicated that he attended the meeting a couple of months ago and was one of the adjacent property owners who, for several reasons, prefer the vacation of the right-of-way. He explained that one of his concerns was about the talk of a “magical dirt trail” and how it would become an amenity the city planned to engage in and take responsibility for, but it might not be suitable for everyone unless it was ADA compliant. He believed the Council needed to consider that whatever is approved should be accessible to people in wheelchairs and those with limited mobility. He noted that many bikers zoomed through the trail, which raised safety concerns for pedestrians. He believed that making the pathway ADA compliant and ensuring a safe connection at Roselawn was necessary for public safety.

Ms. Cindy Gallaher, 2009 Herschel Street

Ms. Gallaher indicated that she attended the last meeting and believed that, regarding ADA compliance, the pathway could use crushed rubber or limestone instead of asphalt, as this would have a less significant impact on the area.

Ms. Mindy Erickson, 93 Mid Oaks Lane

Ms. Erickson asked the Council to vote to vacate the Aldine Street right-of-way. She indicated that the right-of-way was established about seven decades ago for a street that was never built and was identified by city staff in 2022 as no longer necessary for public benefit. This segment is not included in the Roseville pathway plan because it is approximately a quarter mile from existing paths along both Fairview and Snelling, and the existing path spacing already meets the layout goals. In addition to deviating from layout norms, a city path on this right-of-way could create a peculiar singular deviation from path location norms. It would create the first and only city path situated between eight residential properties. The segment

ranks very low when all city path priorities are taken into account. She asked the council to vote for the original city proposal, which included the complete vacation of the Aldine Street right-of-way.

Ms. Rachel Brown, 1705 Roselawn Avenue West

Ms. Brown believed the staff did an excellent job presenting the two options and explaining the reasoning behind the vacation. However, she found the pathway to be intrusive, noting that part of it crosses private property. She agreed that if the pathway were to be constructed, it should be done correctly and made ADA accessible.

Ms. Sherri Middendorf, 87 Mid Oaks Lane

Ms. Middendorf indicated that her property abuts the path and that she supports the vacation because much of the path currently runs on private property. Rerouting the path would disrupt a lot of the tree canopy that everyone cherishes.

Mr. Joe Pribyl, 1738 Skillman Avenue

Mr. Pribyl requested that the city consider a broader context. There is a nice right-of-way between Aldine and Roselawn. Still, there is also a network of other right-of-ways in the neighborhood that work in conjunction with this one, making the area more walkable and inherently safer, especially when pedestrians and those using these walkways do not have to share a surface with motorists. He concurred with all the comments regarding what contributes to the greatest good achievable with the available resources. He acknowledged the need for ADA compliance but believed it unnecessary to engage in further discussion about the idea that if it were not ADA compliant, it could not be used by anyone with a disability. They aim to be sensitive to everyone. He felt they could collaborate to create a solution that works well for all, maintaining a public space that serves the greater good and benefits the most significant number of people, allowing everyone to contribute in a way that benefits them.

Ms. Stephanie Kiihn Ashenbrenner, 2016 Herschel Street

Ms. Kiihn Ashenbrenner explained that she had spoken at the last meeting, where this was presented, and she believed a more creative response was needed that struck a balance, allowing for a win-win situation. She questioned whether the decision needed to be made at this meeting, suggesting that there were still alternatives to consider and that a full evaluation of them might be in everybody's best interest.

Ms. Sarah Quinn, 89 Mid Oaks Lane

Ms. Quinn explained that she has lived in her home for four years, even though the property technically belongs to the city; she had taken care of it lovingly. She indicated she has eliminated all of the buckthorn and has a beautiful understory of wooded plants there. She noted that she had never minded the people walking back there, but she wanted to save the trees. Given that the entrances were each on private

property, she did not know how the path could exist as it did now. She asked the council to vacate the right-of-way.

Mayor Roe closed public comment. He thanked the public for their comments and emphasized the importance of finding a solution that benefits the community.

The council discussed the feasibility of constructing a pathway, the impact on trees, and the potential costs involved.

Councilmember Groff asked about the public use of the right-of-way and the city's ownership of utilities in the area.

Mr. Freihammer confirmed that the city owned the sanitary and storm utilities in the area and would work with the city attorney to secure the necessary easements.

The Council considered the options of vacating the right-of-way or retaining it for a public pathway, with a focus on finding a compromise that addressed community concerns.

The Council acknowledged the complexity of the issue and the need for further discussion and evaluation.

Groff moved, Strahan seconded, denying the right-of-way vacation of Adline, not adopting the Resolution.

Council Discussion

Councilmember Groff indicated these issues are challenging, having listened to the comments tonight. However, once the council approves a right-of-way vacation, there is no turning back. If this occurs, that property is permanently lost, and the city will never regain it. He believed enough discussion was presented tonight regarding pathways and other alternatives. Perhaps considering a different type of pathway or exploring a surface that could be ADA compliant is worthwhile. As a councilmember, he felt uncomfortable proceeding with a decision that would result in the permanent dissolution of the right-of-way, which is why he is voting to deny the vacation.

Councilmember Strahan reiterated her earlier comments and expressed hope that this would not serve as a divider in the neighborhood, but rather as a chance for opportunity.

Councilmember Schroeder explained that if this passes, it must be acknowledged that twenty feet is no longer available, making that part of the path not an option for people to walk through others' property. Please respect the owners' rights and

wishes. She stated she did not want to see anything done to the mature trees, so she would not support making this an official path.

Councilmember Bauer agreed with Councilmember Schroeder. His concern for the future is that if the city were to return this property to the neighborhood for their decision, what would happen? He worried that if the city continues to designate this as a right-of-way, it will be necessary to improve the pathway, potentially resulting in the loss of trees. Vacating this property does not mean a path cannot exist; it simply means the neighborhood will have the authority to decide. He believed it made sense to vacate this and hand it back to the neighborhood to determine the next steps. He expressed significant concern that the city should not maintain involvement.

Mayor Roe reminded everyone that the motion is not to adopt the resolution or vacate the right-of-way, essentially maintaining the status quo. He was not sure that this is the ideal solution due to many of the points made. For example, a point was made about the current setup being unavailable because it could be on private properties, which would require workarounds. If the city pursues the step of identifying it as a planned pathway, the status quo may be impaired because development will be ongoing. The City still has the issue of private property conflict. He believed that vacating it provides some certainty to the property owners, but it does not address access and long-term use. There may be other solutions out there that none of them are aware of at this point. In the future, there could be some kind of action to return the property to a form of private ownership that might not necessarily involve the adjacent property owners.

Mayor Roe explained that if this is a City facility, it is City property, and the City must take action to improve it. He noted he would support maintaining the status quo although it is not an ideal solution.

Roll Call

Ayes: Groff and Strahan.

Nays: Bauer, Schroeder, and Roe

Mayor Roe indicated the motion failed and asked if there was another motion to be made.

Schroeder moved, Bauer seconded, adoption of the Resolution (Attachment 1) entitled, "Resolution Approving the Vacation of a Certain Portion of Aldine Street".

City Manager Trudgeon noted a bench handout for the resolution.

Mr. Freihammer clarified the bench handout regarding the maintenance of the utility easement along the right-of-way.

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Mayor Roe confirmed with the maker and seconder of the motion that the bench handout resolution was what was being moved.

Councilmember Schroeder stated that this is what the staff presented. Initially, it was meant to pass this as the city has done with many other properties. She expressed significant concern about the tree canopy, and now that the city doesn't have the twenty feet, it changes many things.

Councilmember Bauer seconded Councilmember Schroeder's thoughts. He indicated that he had complete confidence that the best use of this for the neighborhood is to vacate it, giving it back to the neighborhood, allowing them to decide what to do with it going forward, and providing clarity for the future.

Councilmember Groff did not believe it would be returning to the neighborhood. It conveys the property to the adjacent property owners. He did not want to mislead the residents by suggesting that it was being returned to the neighborhood, as they do not have the option to work on and build a pathway through that area.

Councilmember Bauer clarified that returning it to the neighborhood would allow them to develop their solutions and collaborate on either maintaining this path or considering other options, as the mayor previously mentioned, such as forming a pathway association or something similar.

Councilmember Strahan agreed with Councilmember Groff. If the city returns this pathway to the owners on the east side, it effectively becomes their property and is no longer available for the community to consider.

Mayor Roe expressed uncertainty about whether the vacation was the right decision at this time. He believed he had the luxury of opposing both motions while maintaining the status quo.

Roll Call

Ayes: Schroeder and Bauer.

Nays: Groff, Strahan, and Roe

Mayor Roe clarified that the motion to vacate the right-of-way has failed, and the status quo remains in effect. He acknowledged the need for further investigation and possible future actions to address the right-of-way and pathway issues.

Recess

Mayor Roe recessed the meeting at approximately 8:00 p.m. and reconvened at approximately 8:08 p.m.

c. Joint Meeting with Finance Commission

Mayor Roe briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request For Council Action and related attachments dated June 16, 2025.

Councilmember Strahan welcomed another move toward a city with an electric fire truck, setting an example as a forward-thinking community in clean energy.

Mayor Roe explained to members of the public what equipment certificates are.

Roll Call

Ayes: Groff, Bauer, Strahan, Schroeder, and Roe.

Nays: None

c. Consider Approval of Aldine ROW Vacation

Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request for Council Action and related attachments dated July 21, 2025.

Mr. Freihammer submitted the petition to vacate part of Aldine Street's right-of-way. Residents initiated the petition due to the low priority given to the pathway and the associated environmental and financial costs of building an ADA-accessible path. He explained the history of the right-of-way, the survey results, and the potential costs of constructing a city path. He mentioned that the council was asked to either approve the vacation or to retain the right-of-way and designate it as a public pathway.

City Attorney Tierney submitted a memo on the legal issues of designating dedicated right-of-way as parkland without a specific transportation connection.

Mayor Roe thanked Mr. Freihammer for the presentation. He also expressed appreciation to Attorney Tierney for the memo, as he believed that after the last meeting about this matter, the idea of possibly considering a park-based solution had occurred to him and might have occurred to others as well. The question was whether that could be a possibility.

Mayor Roe summarized the memo from the city attorney.

Public Comment

Mayor Roe opened the floor for public comment.

Ms. Mindy Erickson, Mid Oaks Lane

Ms. Erickson requested that the Council vacate the Aldine Street right-of-way. She explained that in 2022 and again over the past few months, city staff used the city's own criteria, processes, and plans to determine whether there is a city purpose for retaining the right-of-way. In 2022, city staff determined that this segment, along with many others across the city, was no longer needed for its original city use. The 1938 Mid Oaks plat described the segment as Aldine Street. This portion of Aldine Street was never built and is no longer planned. More recently, staff and city officials evaluated the construction of a city path. The June 10 path feasibility

memo reports that building an ADA-accessible city path in the right-of-way would be both environmentally damaging and expensive. The memo also notes that the segment ranked extremely low compared to paths already planned across the city. And finally, the recent land survey by the city shows that about three-quarters of the length of the much-discussed dirt shortcut was on private property west of the right-of-way, in the open, flat, low corridor around the storm sewer alignment. The city establishes processes and plans, in part, to guide fact-based decision-making amid misinformation, conflicting opinions, and emotion. Please cast your vote to respect the city's processes and plans, to preserve dozens of mature trees, to recognize the city investments already made in paths along Fairview and Snelling, and to redirect the city's limited resources—both time and money—toward critical infrastructure, housing, public safety, and other city-wide challenges facing our community. Please vote to vacate the Aldine Street right-of-way promptly.

Mr. John Reinart, 1667 Ridgewood Ln S

Mr. Reinart urged the Council to vote against the petition. He explained he and his wife bought their starter home on Ridgewood Lane 35 years ago and have enjoyed living in the neighborhood ever since. As long as he could remember, they had used that path. For the past decade, he has had a home office for his employer, Oracle, where he works as a software engineer. He stated he uses the path multiple times a day, enjoying it and using it daily for medical reasons, taking walks, and reaping the health benefits. The city, considering closing the path, does not benefit the neighborhood. It seems to benefit only a few people, but it does a disservice to the much larger majority.

Mr. Dan Gallaher, 2009 Herschel Street

Mr. Gallaher stated that his family had lived about two blocks away from the north entrance to the trail since 1989, using the path in question frequently during that time. To understand the issues at hand and explore the potential justification for vacating public land for private use, he explained that he conducted online research to determine the basis for this decision and found a Minnesota statute that speaks to the vacation of streets. It is 412.851; the critical part that's relevant to this discussion is that it says no vacation shall be made unless it appears in the interest of the public to do so. This path is frequently used. It's used by many people in the neighborhood. The petition that you received addresses this point, and consequently, it's challenging for him to understand how making that path unavailable by vacating the land for private ownership would be in the public interest. And so, he would ask the city council not to do that, not to vacate the land, but to take public land and give it to people who have been occupying it for 60 years, perhaps longer. So that's one point. The second point is simply that you're all familiar with the 2040 comprehensive plan. He would like to draw their attention to the final part of the first sentence of that plan, where it states that the plan is intended to develop over the coming decades and reflects the desires of the entire community. And he would argue that the overwhelming number of people in this community favor maintaining a path of some sort through there. He has heard

several times references to trees and damage to trees. He stated it was nonsense. It's very easy to put a path through there without damaging any trees. No trees need to come down. He thought that was obvious to anybody who would walk the path and look at it. So, he would urge the council not to vacate the land. It belongs to the public now, and it should remain so. The city should be allowed to make a path through that area for the continued enjoyment of the many dozens, perhaps 100 people, who use that path. Thank you for your time.

Ms. Anne Lottie, 90 Mid Oaks Lane

Ms. Lottie explained she lived at 90 Mid Oaks Lane with her husband and three children. She stated that her family's perspective is somewhat unique, as they used to live in one of the Mid Oaks homes that abutted the path for 17 years; the path was a quiet, lightly used feature of their backyard. It gave them a chance to say hello to the occasional passerby and their kids a place to explore and play in the woods. At the start of the pandemic, they relocated 30 minutes away to an outer-ring suburb, where neighbors were farther apart and tended to keep to themselves. Four years later, this last summer, they moved back to the Mid Oaks neighborhood just around the corner from their old house. She noted they missed their village, its warmth, its walkability, and most of all, its strong sense of community. She thanked the city for conducting a survey and providing clarity regarding property lines. Since the last meeting, her family has effectively stopped using the path. Their school route is now uncertain. If the remaining 30 feet are vacated, she feared they would lose the opportunity for a practical, common-sense path solution. She explained she would happily clear buckthorn, lay mulch, etc, to create a clearly defined path that is fully on the right of way. If a path ceases to exist, it would be a great loss, not so much for her, even though she enjoyed passing through the woodland, but for all the kids. Yes, they can ride the bus to school or walk the longer, less safe route along Fairview or Snelling Avenues to friends' houses. And while those options are feasible. They don't offer the same joy, freedom, or connections. The Aldine path has been in existence for decades. Over the years, the route has shifted, fences have been erected, vegetation has encroached, and epic stick battles have ensued. Native woodlands have been restored, and their community has felt a connection. Please vote against vacation tonight, not to take sides, but to give the city and its community time to come together and find a thoughtful solution, one that preserves a simple footpath and the spirit of connection it represents.

Ms. Mary Parnell, 1760 Ryan

Ms. Parnell stated she lives at 1760 Ryan. If Wheeler were extended from Brimhall to Roselawn, it would run along the east side of their property. She noted that they currently experience traffic from Roselawn through their home on Wheeler because there are hard-surface walkways between Schreyer and Skillman, and again, between Eldridge and the school. She explained they haven't discouraged anyone from doing that. They have a similar wooded area, which she called no man's land, between their home and the home on Roselawn, but she asked the council to vote

against vacating it. She mentioned that it might be better to find a creative solution for the existing easement rather than increasing traffic, as there is a need for schoolchildren to travel from those neighborhoods to their school. There is no fence right at Roselawn. There's about a six-foot piece of fence that needs to be removed. The fence running north and south could stay in place, and the path could be placed on the other side of that fence. Creating a simple, natural path instead of a paved one wouldn't have to cost much, and maybe neighbors could help with that.

Ms. Janet Risinger, 1797 Schreyer

Ms. Risinger explained that she lived at 1797 Schreyer, which is not very close, but close enough to the pathway that they have used since moving into their home in 1991. She stated that they love that path, but ever since she discovered it, she has never understood why the chain-link fence is up at the end. And to her, the simple solution is to have that fence put where the line should be, so that you can walk where it is and not where the path should be, instead of going through the driveway of that neighbor. She noted she would like to know the reason why that chain-link fence is there. It doesn't seem like it's in the right place.

Mr. Donald Gault, 2021 Herschel Street

Mr. Gault explained that he lives at 2021 Herschel Street here in Roseville. He stated that he and his wife moved into their house 32 years ago, so they have lived there for nearly half their lives. He noted he would not go into details about that, but he has truly been living in Roseville for almost half of his life. One thing he wanted to start with was saying that they love living in Roseville. He was reading the city newspaper, which talks about the work this city does that all of you lead, which is to connect us. You create a connected, caring community. He has walked on that path thousands of times—literally thousands. If you take 32 years, multiply that by two or three times a week at a minimum, and by 52 weeks a year, it totals 16,384 walks down that path. During those times, he has seen neighbors with homes bordering the path, and everyone waves and smiles at each other. There has never been any concern he's known of until this issue of vacation came up. He said this should be funny because vacation always sounded like a happy word to me, but this situation has caused great harm. He was not saying that to judge anyone here or to criticize city staff or any of you. No one truly understood what you were doing, and he thought at the time that this vacation request went through, there were probably dozens or hundreds of similar requests. One question he had was, have any other communities come forward with concerns and care about vacation requests like this one has raised? He was not asking the council to say yes or no tonight. What he was asking was for the council to help find and lead a healing process for our community. When they drove to City Hall tonight, he noticed, and he thought many of the residents did, that they were looking at each other, wondering, "Are you on my side or the other side?" He explained that they are neighbors, and our country is struggling right now, and everyone needs to be the adults who show how people can live and care for each other. So, whatever happens tonight, we must move forward and find ways to be caring neighbors again.

Mr. Daniel Ruen, 20 Mid Oaks Lane

Mr. Ruen stated he lived at 20 Mid Oaks Lane. He noted he had lived there with his spouse, Claire, for the last four years. He wanted everyone to imagine a playground where kids have been playing together for years and have even grown to love each other. Then, a PTA Working Group and a playground use Task Force decided to allocate the tire swing area to only one group of kids, who happen to use it more frequently than others. Naturally, the kids will start fighting, but it's not the PTA Task Force's fault. They're just applying this rule across the school district. However, what those kids need at that moment is for the principal, school counselor, or some caring teachers to step in and say, "Hey, you know what? We didn't think this through. Let's bring everyone together and figure this out for everyone's best interest." He knew all analogies can break if stretched too far. He didn't see himself as a child who couldn't work things out with neighbors, but he hoped everyone would take away two important points from his analogy. First, this isn't their fault. As this gentleman said, "Well, this isn't our fault. The city imposed this situation." It's really on all of you to help us address it, not just legally but relationally. Second, we are trying to follow the rules given to us, but we need your support to think outside those rules with the help of a neutral third-party mediator. Because, beyond wanting a community walking path—which I support—we need positive, trusting relationships in our community. He truly enjoys his neighbors, especially Art and Sarah, who are here, and Tam, along that right-of-way. Our relationships are essential now, and will be more so in the future. Lastly, he believed the city was overlooking a key opportunity to build resilience as a trusting community. At the last meeting on this issue, he heard many say, "We want to work together on a compromise. We ask for your help to be creative. We want to slow this down. We can find a different way forward." He explained he was willing to volunteer his time, so he asked, if the city can't guide them through such situations, what will happen when they face 15 inches of rain, straight-line winds knocking down trees, or a tornado? Or what if ice accumulates and causes more people to disappear for ridiculous reasons? We just heard alarming reports from the county. These challenges are already here. It means they will need each other, and the residents will need the city. As a resident, he was not very encouraged by what he had experienced so far. So, he urged the council to look beyond this situation, beyond legal or policy issues, and think about the real investment in Roseville: our relationships. It's not purely about money; it's about our collective will. He explained he is a pastor at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, working closely with the Community Council and Community Foundation, which offers resources for pro bono, neutral third-party mediators, perfect for this kind of situation. He would be happy to share that info with the city. Please, slow down this process, work with the residents, and fulfill their roles as teachers, principals, and counselors, so we can strengthen our resilience and relationships.

Ms. Michelle Pribyl, 1738 Skillman Avenue W

Ms. Pribyl explained that she lives at 1738 Skillman Avenue West. She mentioned that she had emailed everyone over the weekend, so she wouldn't read her email now, but she wanted to highlight a few key points to ensure everyone heard them. First, she thanked Mr. Freihammer for answering her question about the path and the constellation related to the Parks Department. It's important to note that not only those present who signed the petition about using the path recognize its importance, but the Parks Department also acknowledged it as crucial for connecting the neighborhood to schools and the park system. In her work, she often navigates conflicting rules to find creative design solutions—that's what we need here: an innovative solution that can address multiple issues. There are precedents for options that are not necessarily what was initially proposed for the path. It doesn't need to be a six- to ten-foot-wide concrete or asphalt path; there are ADA-compliant paths made of crushed rock, which are much narrower, and we have examples of this in Roseville. Sunset Park, mentioned earlier, utilizes some of the crushed rock on County Road B, allowing you to see how it's applied there. Additionally, paths just north of this area, such as the one between Aldine and Ridgewood, are about four feet wide, narrower than the pathways shown. There's also precedent for pathway easements on private property. We have focused on creating a pathway within the existing right-of-way, which she understood was the topic tonight. However, she understood that an easement might be needed for utilities on the current private property, and there could be an opportunity to create a new pathway easement that follows the existing path. This could help preserve trees, fences, and other vegetation while allowing fences to remain intact for neighbors. She believes there is a way forward that can keep the community connected, and she hopes the council will consider it.

Mr. Tim Brown, 93 Mid Oaks Lane

Mr. Brown stated he lives at 93 Mid Oaks Lane. He explained they face the right-of-way, so they have frequent, ongoing experience with that area. What they mainly see is that it's a convenient shortcut, which adds value. It doesn't reach the recreational level that has been somewhat implied here, and honestly, they don't see much traffic there. Their position is that this public right-of-way was dedicated in 1938 and hasn't received any maintenance, improvements, or development for nearly 90 years. It is neglected—a no man's land—just a dirt path that comes and goes, cutting through private property and being freely used. Bikes race through, people walk their dogs off-leash, and they don't pick up after them. It's a chaotic and poorly maintained area, raising many questions about what should be done there. He explained that they strongly support the city's policy of adjusting property rights and management responsibilities, allowing property owners to benefit from releasing land from the right-of-way. They also see that the city's pathway plan doesn't prioritize this area highly in terms of value. He mentioned there are many projects around the city, some much larger in scope, that are prioritized for transportation purposes. When setting priorities, this should probably be low on the list due to its limited quality and usage. For these reasons, they ask the council to vacate that right-of-way so residents can properly

maintain it and move forward, as this has been a challenging process over the summer.

Mr. Richard McGehee, 77 Mid Oaks Lane

Mr. McGehee explained that he lives at 77 Mid Oaks Lane and has lived there for 50 years. He mentioned that he was somewhat surprised by what he heard tonight because he has lived near that path for the same 50 years, and he does not recall seeing so many people walking down there. There are occasional pedestrians, but it's not as busy as described, and he hasn't seen the romanticism being depicted. What he has observed there, besides some people walking their dogs, includes some kids in the past who gathered and used it as a spot to smoke marijuana. He knows it is legal now, but it wasn't back then. He has also seen kids causing mischief in that area. Finally, he thought it was quite harsh to suggest that those who bought the property without much knowledge should now have the fence taken down. It just seems like a particularly cruel thing to do to your neighbors.

Mr. Joe Pribyl, 1738 Skillman Avenue West

Mr. Joe Pribyl stated he lived at 1738 Skillman Avenue West in Roseville. He thanked the council for allowing more public comment on the issue. He just wanted to say that every time we have a public comment, the longer this process continues, the more information we learn, and it's important. To think that a decision could have been made weeks ago, or even longer, to vacate this property without the information we now have would suggest that we made a hasty decision. There probably needs to be more time to consider the options, especially given what we are learning now, tonight, and recently. He could see a real danger in vacating public land to private owners because once the discussion is closed, the land will likely never be available for public use again, and he did not know what process would be needed for it to be made available again. Many of the concerns expressed can be or have been addressed. He wanted to emphasize that we all come with goodwill. We can find reasons to vacate and reasons not to, but there is a clear majority opinion, if not consensus, about what to do with this connection. At the very least, he asked that the city avoid making hasty decisions or decisions based on ideology that may have already predestined the outcome for this right of way. Please consider the views of the majority of the public, especially those who live here, and strive to find a fair solution for everyone.

Ms. Rachel Brown, 1705 Roselawn Avenue W

Ms. Rachel Brown explained that she lives at 1705 Roseland Avenue West and wanted to thank the Mayor and Council members for the opportunity to speak again. She finds it interesting that the survey continues to be referenced or that people claim the majority, and she understands there's a large crowd here today. However, she has spoken to many who aren't present but have been respectful, kind, and thoughtful—people who have stopped walking on the private trail on their private land. She urges the council not to define what constitutes a majority based solely on the number of people present. Many have moved on after learning the

facts. She wanted to address three points. First, she asked the council not to do anything. As an English teacher by training, she intentionally used a double negative, "do not do nothing," because people act as if this issue is settled. She understands the sense of loss for those who enjoyed the shortcut trail. But many are not interested in the facts, and misinformation persists, particularly regarding the 20-foot detail. In some comments and documents, it was falsely claimed that land was ceded or given back, which is not true. The city did not return twenty feet; it was never the city's to give. The original ownership dates to the 1950s, when city officials considered some land exchanges but never finalized them. So, it has always been private land. It's troubling that some continue to spread this misinformation. It's also clear where her land begins, as you can walk right through the driveway past her house. What's less clear is the northern half, which Council Member Schroeder has seen, but she doesn't know if anyone else has, since the survey was completed. Nearly three-quarters of the shortcut runs on private property, and people continue to walk on it, often ignoring property lines. She has had to post signs and ask people to respect private property. She states she now sits on her front stoop, wondering if someone might just wander by. She's fine with the usual neighborhood sounds, but imagine someone walking along your home, backyard, or side yard. For the six property owners involved, the current or proposed trail would move closer to their yards, nearer to patios, play areas, and backyards. She has endured months of people walking over her bee balm, despite her efforts to deter them with signs. She thanks the council for listening. She asks the council to vote to vacate the land, respecting that this community, built around these eight property owners, has been gentle and respectful in its engagement with staff and the council. Please prioritize decisions that benefit those most impacted: the eight property owners.

Mr. Kevin Watson, Aldine Street

Mr. Watson explained that he lives a couple of doors down from the north end of the trail. He asked the council to consider two options. First, a prescriptive easement over the current path on private property, which would maintain public use of that path. You can consult your city attorney about what that process might involve, or the city could assist neighbors in establishing a new path on the existing right-of-way; a new dirt path could avoid trees if fences were relocated. It sounds like this plan is part of the constellation, although he was unsure what that meant. The constellation plan has been considered over the years and envisioned, perhaps not recently or by this council, but it exists. He sent the council an email with many examples of dirt paths and connections throughout the Northeast Metro. One example he wanted to highlight tonight was the final drive. At the end of Heinle Drive, near Lake Owosso, there's a path extending from the cul-de-sac, crossing the railroad, and serving as a dirt path between the railroad and County Road C, ending at County Road C. There's no ADA ramp or crosswalk, similar to the trail at the end of Aldine Drive. Some say this is a trail to nowhere because it terminates at Roselawn, but it connects the Mid Oaks neighborhood to Brim Hall and Evergreen Park. It also provides access for residents in Ridgewood and Woodside

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neighborhoods to farm fields, the Roselawn trail, or the State Fair. Likewise, the Heinle trail probably links to Central Park or the County Road C trail. Recently, you learned this has been identified as a connection. He encouraged the council to honor that constellation plan and support the neighborhood. It seems that volunteers, including myself, are willing to help install a dirt path if fences can be moved to access the right of way. Thank you.

Mayor Roe closed the public comment period. He expressed gratitude to residents and acknowledged the need for further review and possible action on the petition.

Mayor Roe and councilmembers discussed the need for additional information and the potential benefits of a parkway woodland path.

Councilmember Strahan highlighted the absence of fence permits for certain properties and how it affects the use of the path.

Councilmember Groff apologized for the city's part in the issue and proposed focusing on shared solutions.

Councilmember Schroeder expressed concern about tree removal and the safety at the path's end.

Councilmember Bauer highlighted the importance of maintaining the neighborhood's beauty and discussed the challenges of developing a path.

Mayor Roe proposed delaying the issue so the Parks and Recreation Commission could review it.

Groff moved, Strahan seconded, to table this item until further information is received from the Parks and Recreation Commission about the possible use of the right-of-way as a park containing a more natural type of path.

Roll Call

Ayes: Groff, Strahan, Schroeder, and Roe.

Nays: Bauer

Recess

Mayor Roe recessed the meeting at approximately 8:16 p.m. and reconvened at approximately 8:24 p.m.

- d. Receive County Road C Project Update and Crossings to Acorn Park**
Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer Jennifer Lowry briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request for Council Action and related attachments dated July 21, 2025.



Public Works Department

Memo

To: Roseville City Council

From: Jesse Freihammer, Public Works Director

Date: June 10, 2025

Re: Feasibility Memo: Pathway Installation within Aldine Street Right-of-Way Corridor

1. Executive Summary

The City of Roseville Public Works Department is evaluating the feasibility of constructing a public pathway within the Aldine Street right-of-way corridor between Ryan Avenue West and Roselawn Avenue West. This analysis was initiated in response to the City Council tabling a resolution on April 21, 2025 to vacate certain portions of Aldine Street (public right-of-way) following a public hearing where residents expressed differing opinions regarding the proposed vacation. While residents abutting the right-of-way supported the vacation to eliminate pedestrian traffic near their homes and obtain rights to the land, others advocated for preserving pedestrian access and incorporating the corridor into the City's pathway network.

This memo assesses the feasibility of formalizing a pathway through the corridor and includes planning context, constructability analysis, cost implications, and environmental and neighborhood impacts.

2. Purpose

This memo is intended to address the request by the City Council on the April 21, 2025 council meeting to provide a feasibility analysis regarding the potential installation of a public pathway within the Aldine Street right-of-way corridor. The north-south pathway would connect Roselawn Avenue W to Ryan Avenue W, with a focus on addressing concerns raised during a public hearing regarding the vacation of this right-of-way and the desire of some residents to maintain the currently informal walking path as well as residents who expressed a desire for a full vacation with no pathway installation.

3. Background

Aldine Street right-of-way is an unimproved right-of-way that extends from Ryan Avenue W to Roselawn Avenue W. The right-of-way was initially identified for vacation by the City on April 11, 2022, as there are no plans to construct a road through the area. Additionally, the 2021 Pathway Master Plan had not identified this corridor as a pathway connection as both Fairview Avenue and Snelling Drive have existing north-south pathways that meet the goals and intent of the plan. This, along with numerous other rights-of-way identified by staff as no longer necessary for public benefit were brought before the Council over five (5) phases since 2022, with a sixth and final phase still planned to be presented to Council at a future date.

The Aldine Street corridor, presented for vacation with the fifth phase of vacations on April 21, 2025, is generally wooded and features a well-worn path, used by local residents for walking, but not officially designated or maintained as a public pathway. During the public hearing regarding the Aldine Street vacation, residents expressed concerns about the loss of this informal pathway and requested that portions of the right-of-way be preserved as a pathway easement.

While some residents support the idea of keeping the right-of-way intact and converting it to an improved pathway (concrete or bituminous), others preferred to keep the pathway “natural” and unpaved, while others, particularly those with properties abutting the proposed vacation area, expressed opposition to any public access, preferring to retain the property rights that would be granted if the right-of-way was vacated. As a result of these differing viewpoints, the City Council tabled the resolution to vacate the right-of-way and directed staff to prepare this feasibility memo.

4. Right-of-Way Overview and Constraints

The Aldine Street right-of-way corridor extends approximately 590 feet in a north–south alignment between Ryan Avenue W and Roselawn Avenue W. The corridor lies between 1705 Roselawn Avenue W, 1706 Ryan Avenue W, and the rear lots of 77, 85, 87, 89, 91, and 93 Mid Oaks Lane. Historically, the corridor has remained unimproved and is primarily wooded, with a well-worn informal footpath that has developed over time through use.

Initially, the right-of-way was understood to include a 30-foot easterly portion, dedicated through the Mid Oaks plat in 1938, and a 20-foot westerly portion that appeared to have been established through condemnation proceedings in 1951. Because there was no clear record of the condemnation being formally recorded, the proposed vacation resolution presented to the City Council included language to vacate the 20-foot westerly portion out of an abundance of caution, essentially functioning as a quit-claim action to release any potential interest the City may have had.

Following the public hearing, further investigation was conducted by staff and the adjacent property owners in coordination with the Ramsey County Recorder’s Office. This effort confirmed that no right-of-way or easement over the western 20 feet was ever recorded, and as such, the City does not legally hold right-of-way over that portion of land and it is considered private property. Consequently, only the 30-foot easterly portion of the corridor is public right-of-way. County/City GIS data has been updated to reflect this clarified status.

The public right-of-way is currently encumbered by public utilities that accommodate existing sanitary sewer and storm sewer infrastructure, as well as private utilities such as the overhead electric that extends along the full-length of the eastern boundary of the corridor. These utilities and required easements will remain in place regardless of whether the right-of-way is vacated or retained.

The 30-foot easterly portion of the corridor is densely wooded, with numerous mature trees that would be affected by any pathway development. The informal path currently in use traverses both the now known private property and this wooded area but is not improved, maintained, or part of the City’s 2021 Pathway Master Plan.

While a 30-foot right-of-way currently exists, a formal pathway typically requires a 20-foot wide easement in order to properly maintain the improvement. If a pathway were installed, the right-of-way would still be vacated after the improvement was installed and a pathway easement would be retained through the vacation process. This would be similar to other vacations the city has approved since 2022 where existing, formal pathways existed.

5. Constructability Analysis

The existing conditions of the Aldine Street corridor, while not ideal for immediate pathway installation, do present an opportunity to construct an improved pathway. The corridor is mostly flat and lies within a 30-foot-wide right-of-way corridor that could facilitate the construction of a pathway. However, several challenges must be considered for pathway installation.

First, the only alignment that can be considered is within the 30 feet of the right-of-way platted with Mid Oaks, and not in areas where the pathway meanders into private property unless easements are granted by those property owners. The construction of an improved path would require the removal of trees, many of which are large and mature. Staff conducted a tree survey of size and count within this portion of right-of-way, seen in the table below. Tree classification, or the species of trees, was not determined during this survey.

Size	4”-8”	10”-14”	15”-18”	20”	24”	27”	30”	36”
Quantity	32	10	9	1	8	2	2	2

The removal of these trees could generate concern regarding the loss of canopy and neighborhood aesthetic. While it is unknown how many trees would ultimately be impacted without a formal survey and initial grading plan, based on staff’s experience a majority of the trees would be anticipated to be impacted.

In terms of construction, the pathway would need to meet the standards of the 2021 Pathway Master Plan for off-road paths and its considerations for accessibility, e.g. requiring an improved surface such as concrete or bituminous. Additionally, an appropriate width that accommodates both pedestrian and potentially cyclist traffic (multimodal) must be considered. While the 2021 Pathway Master Plan identifies widths that vary between 6-12 feet, the typical minimum width is 8 feet to accommodate multimodal use, with a 12 feet width being the maximum. This would involve grading throughout the corridor to ensure a proper base section for the pathway while also maintaining adequate drainage, with more impactful grading near Roselawn Avenue W in order to match the existing grade of the

street. In addition, bituminous pathways typically have two-foot clear zones on either side of the path for safety and maintenance.

Once the path reaches Roselawn Avenue W, there isn't a pathway to directly connect to on the north side of Roselawn. Pedestrians and cyclists would either need to use the painted parking lane/shoulder along Roselawn or cross to the existing pathway on the south side of Roselawn, which is in the city of Falcon Heights. Providing a safe and accessible mid-block crossing of Roselawn Avenue W at that location would require further design efforts to identify the appropriate treatment and ensure the improvements meet the city's current Crosswalk Policy.

6. Cost Considerations

A preliminary estimate for the construction of an improved pathway along the Aldine Street right-of-way would vary based on the final design, materials, and width chosen. The City typically installs 8- to 10-foot-wide multimodal pathways for these types of connections, but could elect to install a 6-foot wide concrete sidewalk. General construction costs are estimated as follows:

- 6-foot-wide concrete sidewalk: Estimated at \$80–\$100 per linear foot
- 8–12-foot-wide bituminous pathway (multimodal): Estimated at \$100–\$130 per linear foot

For a 590-foot pathway, the estimated cost for installation would range between \$47,000 and \$77,000, depending on material choice and width.

Additional costs would include tree removal (estimated at \$25,000–\$75,000), signage/amenities (estimated at \$2,000–\$5,000), and ADA-compliant curb ramps (estimated at \$5,000–\$10,000 each). With engineering costs factored in, the installation of a pathway is estimated to cost between \$84,000 and \$177,000. The wide range of costs is contingent upon the various unknown factors not readily available at the time of this feasibility memo. Additional considerations such as tree plantings, fencing, minor stormwater conveyance, and intersection lighting were not able to be considered at this stage.

In addition to pathway construction, costs for potential mid-block crossing improvements at Roselawn Avenue W must be considered. These improvements might include curb bump-outs, median refuges, or other more intensive enhancements, with costs ranging between \$45,000 and \$80,000 based on the complexity of the treatment. If mid-block crosswalk enhancements were installed, the total cost for a pathway could be between \$129,000 and \$257,000.

7. Environmental and Natural Resource Impacts

The Aldine Street corridor is heavily wooded, particularly within the 30-foot right-of-way, where large, mature trees are present. Removal of these trees would be necessary to accommodate a pathway, and such actions would impact the neighborhood and adjacent land owners.

In terms of stormwater, the introduction of impervious surfaces would increase runoff, but the corridor is already served by existing storm sewer infrastructure, meaning no major drainage issues

are anticipated, yet additional stormwater improvements may be necessary such as drain tile or other conveyance piping. This project would be exempt from Rice Creek Watershed District stormwater management standards since it is a pathway in right-of-way and under 10,000 square feet of impervious.

8. Neighborhood and Community Impacts

The Aldine Street corridor directly abuts several residential properties, and any change to the unimproved right-of-way will have seemingly significant implications for these homeowners. Some residents, particularly those with properties directly adjacent to the right-of-way, have voiced strong opposition to retaining public access. They express concerns about reduced privacy and increased pedestrian traffic behind their homes. Many prefer the vacation of the right-of-way, as it would expand their property lines and eliminate public access.

Conversely, surrounding residents have advocated for the pathway, particularly those who currently use the informal walking path. They view the installation of a formal pathway as an improvement to pedestrian connectivity. Without the potential 590' pathway, pedestrians and cyclists wishing to get to Roselawn Avenue would need to travel roughly a third of a mile (or 3.3 times further) via Fairview or a half mile (nearly 5 times further) via West Snelling Drive. It is understandable why there is currently a worn dirt pathway as the corridor does provide a direct connection to Roselawn Ave W, albeit does not currently direct people to a safe crossing as outlined as a one of the benefits per the Pathway Master Plan if people were trying to access the existing pathway on the southside of Roselawn Avenue.

To illustrate the preference of a potential pathway installation within the Aldine Street right-of-way, staff calculated its score in accordance with the six criteria outlined under Section 6 of the 2021 Pathway Master Plan. The six criteria are:

1. Connects to multiple destinations
2. Volume of usage
3. Connects to regional system
4. Addresses a gap or barrier in the transportation network
5. Connects to transit, and
6. Connects high-density residential to transit or parks

Based on these criteria and the applicable scoring, with a higher score giving higher preference to the installation, the Aldine Street pathway scored a total of 7 points. The current plan has pathways scoring in a range from 25 points to 5, therefore the proposed path would be a lower preference installation.

While the score does not determine whether a pathway should or should not be installed in any right-of-way corridor, this evaluation simply provides the preference of installation between approved pathways within the plan.

9. Options and Staff Summary

Given the feedback from residents and the various factors outlined in this memo, the following options are available for City Council consideration:

a. Proceed with Full Vacation of the Aldine Street Right-of-Way

This option would eliminate public access through the corridor, granting the land to adjacent property owners, subject to utility easements. It would address concerns regarding privacy and property rights but remove the opportunity for future pedestrian access.

b. Retain Right-of-Way and Designate a Public Pathway; Update Pathway Master Plan

This would preserve the 30-foot right-of-way and initiate an update to the Pathway Master Plan. A formal pathway would be scored and prioritized through the evaluation process and constructed in the future, requiring tree removal, grading, and capital funding. Once constructed, the right-of-way would be vacated and a pathway easement retained.

c. Do Nothing - Retain Right-of-Way with No Pathway Improvements

The City could maintain the right-of-way without pursuing pathway improvements at this time. This option would preserve the land for potential future use while deferring the financial and design decisions until a later date.

Correspondence Summary:

All public correspondence received through the date of this memo's finalization is included in Appendix A for reference. This includes written comments, emails, or petitions submitted by residents in support of or in opposition to either pathway installation or vacation.

From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [*RVParksCommission](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Parks and Recreation Commission
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 6:16:50 PM

Caution: This email originated outside our organization; please use caution.

Contact Parks and Recreation Commission

Please complete this online form and submit.

Subject: Please SUPPORT the Aldine Right-of-Way Path

Contact Information

Name: John Reinart

Address: [REDACTED]

City: Roseville

State: MN

Zip: 55113

How would you prefer to be contacted?
Remember to fill in the corresponding contact information in the fields below.

Email

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Please Share Your Comment, Question or Concern

Dear Roseville Parks and Recreation Commission Members,
Please SUPPORT the Aldine Right-of-Way Path (path from Aldine to Roselawn).
I urge you with all my heart to SUPPORT the Aldine Right-of-Way Path. This decision is critical to preserving the path that has benefitted our neighborhood for decades, and supporting the path is the most prudent alternative to keep the door open to a solution for reopening the cherished trail. For 35 years, I've treasured this path, walking it several times daily for medical reasons, and losing it to privatization would deeply sadden me. Vacating the path would be a terrible misstep—a one-way door

that eliminates any possibility of reopening the path in the future. Supporting the path preserves flexibility to explore creative solutions, such as a park or easement, offering hope for our neighborhood. Please take a prudent stand and SUPPORT THE PATH.

Sincerely,
John Reinart



Unless restricted by law, all correspondence to and from Roseville City government offices, including information submitted through electronic forms such as this one, may be public data subject to the Minnesota Data Practices Act and/or may be disclosed to third parties.

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [*RVParksCommission](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Parks and Recreation Commission
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 6:10:39 PM

Caution: This email originated outside our organization; please use caution.

Contact Parks and Recreation Commission

Please complete this online form and submit.

Subject: Aldine right of way path

Contact Information

Name: Sonja Rehmman

Address: [REDACTED]

City: Roseville

State: MN

Zip: 55113

How would you prefer to be contacted? Email
Remember to fill in the corresponding contact information in the fields below.

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Please Share Your Comment, Question or Concern

I am unable to come to the meeting tonight (august 7th). I am messaging to ask that the aldine right of way be preserved as a park to preserve the trees and walkability of our neighborhood. We have a child starting kindergarten at brimhall this fall and were planning to walk to school using this path before it was closed. We also loved to use the path to recreate and hope it could become a park.

Unless restricted by law, all correspondence to and from Roseville City government offices, including information submitted through electronic forms such as this one, may be public data subject to the Minnesota Data Practices Act and/or may be disclosed to third parties.

From: [Matthew Johnson](#)
To: [Danielle Christensen](#)
Subject: Fw: Fwd:
Date: Thursday, August 21, 2025 9:42:43 AM

From: Donald Gault
Sent: Sunday, August 17, 2025 7:53 PM
To: Matthew Johnson <matthew.johnson@cityofroseville.com>; Olivia Gault
Subject: Fwd:

Hi Matthew

We hope you have been having a lovely weekend.

We were in Madison this weekend for a family event, and during a neighborhood walk there came upon a home and path invitation & design that we found to be beautiful and inspiring, and perhaps something we might try to emulate/recreate for a positive resolution re: the Aldine forest path.

The attached photos show the entrance and path to "The Labyrinth", a walking path through the beautiful garden this family has in front of their home. We thought the style, welcoming sign and path simplicity could be something to think about and offer up to the community to resolve our current impasse. In this case, the family has (so kindly) created the path in their own front yard. As we think about the Aldine path, perhaps something equally simple could be developed in a small portion (~5 feet) of the existing right of way, leaving the remainder to our neighbors whose homes sit next to the ROW. While this would likely require making some modifications to the existing fences that sit in/obstruct the ROW, perhaps something simple and lovely along these lines, which would also allow the remaining 20-25 feet to be vacated, could lead to a solution that we could all be happy with?

Please take a look and see what you think. And again, thank you for your consideration and all of your work to help reconnect our neighbors and neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

Olivia and Donald Gault

--

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." -- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



From: Mindy Erickson

Sent: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 8:50 AM

To: Lindsay Matts-Benson; Karen Beckman; Audrey Arneson; Nick Boulton; Luci Botzek; Bryan Donaldson; Jayne Harris; Chris Her; Chad Kooistra; Jamie Penny

Cc: Matthew Johnson; Erik Henricksen; Mindy Erickson

Subject: Aldine Street right-of-way: protect and preserve the trees

Hello Chair Matts-Benson and Commissioners,

Please use the attached information as you continue considering the questions from the City Council to you related to the Aldine Street right-of-way. Please also include the attached in upcoming packets for meetings that consider the Aldine Street right-of-way issues.

Thank you.

Mindy L. Erickson, Ph.D, P.E. (she/her)

Adjunct Professor

Soil, Water, and Climate

University of Minnesota

Hello Parks and Recreation Commission members,

As you continue your consideration of the five questions from the City Council about the Aldine Street right-of-way (ROW), please consider, first and foremost, protection and preservation of the many majestic oaks and other trees in and near the ROW. All stakeholder groups agree that tree preservation is paramount.

Many of the established trees have a dripline diameter that exceeds 30 feet. The ROW is only 30 feet wide, so there are inherent limitations to following construction “best practices” in proximity to these established trees. The International Society of Arboriculture and other sources note key facts and best practices related to construction projects around established trees:

1. A barrier or fence surrounding trees at the driplines is one of the most effective damage-prevention measures during construction. A barrier at a tree’s dripline during construction protects both the above-ground portion of the tree and the highly sensitive root system.
2. Most established trees, including oaks, will not tolerate any appreciable disturbance of the root system without showing some adverse effects. Few, if any, species, will withstand extensive changes in aeration of soil around the root system without being injured.
3. Reduced aeration of soil around the root system can suffocate tree roots. Reduced aeration is caused by compaction of soil under trees due to movement of machinery, trampling, piling construction materials, and purposeful mechanical compaction.
4. Fill to raise a grade causes many changes in soil aeration, drainage, and soil microflora. Clay fill can result in reduced aeration, lower nitrogen, higher pH, and improper drainage.
5. Cuts to lower a grade should position new retaining walls at or near tree driplines so that the original depth of soil covering the root systems will be maintained. Removal of large amounts of soil from the root system of an established tree will cause permanent damage.
6. Most common shade tree species, including oaks, grow best in slightly acidic soil. Limestone gravel is alkaline and can raise soil pH, making soil more alkaline. When soil becomes too alkaline, it interferes with the tree's ability to absorb essential nutrients, leading to nutrient deficiencies and increased vulnerability to other damaging stresses.
7. Construction-related tree injury increases vulnerability to drought, winter, disease, and pests.
8. Invisible, irreparable tree injury may present itself only long after construction ends.

Environmental conservation is espoused in Roseville’s mission statement. All stakeholder groups agree that preservation and protection of the oaks and other established trees in the ROW is a predominant factor in decision-making. Please carefully weigh whether rerouting a shortcut from private property to the ROW is “valuable” or “viable” on balance with endangering dozens of established trees.

Construction damage can cause long, slow tree death years after project completion. Two nearby City paths already exist, so is the risk of killing any to many of the established trees a reasonable trade-off for a shortcut?

Thank you for your consideration of the majestic oaks and other trees in and around the ROW.

Melinda Erickson


From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [*RVParksCommission](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Parks and Recreation Commission
Date: Friday, August 22, 2025 11:49:51 AM

Caution: This email originated outside our organization; please use caution.

Contact Parks and Recreation Commission

Please complete this online form and submit.

Subject: Questions from Thursday ROW visit

Contact Information

Name: Tam McGehee

Address: [REDACTED]

City: ROSEVILLE

State: MN

Zip: 55113

How would you prefer to be contacted? No need to contact me

Remember to fill in the corresponding contact information in the fields below.

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Please Share Your Comment, Question or Concern

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners,

I was not present last evening, but I have learned that you would like to know about the timing of the "encroachment fence" behind [REDACTED] at the Ryan end of the ROW.

In 1975 when my husband bought the property the entire area inside the fence had been mowed, used, and maintained for years by the previous owners (and included a huge air conditioning unit right near where the fence is now. When I arrived in 1978 with two large dogs, I put a fence at the top of the

rise along the edge of the mowed yard. My neighbors, Harlan and Margaret Smith (now deceased) mowed and maintained the flat area below the rise while I maintained the area inside the fence to the rise.

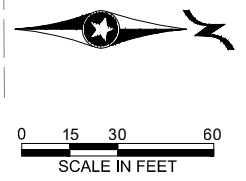
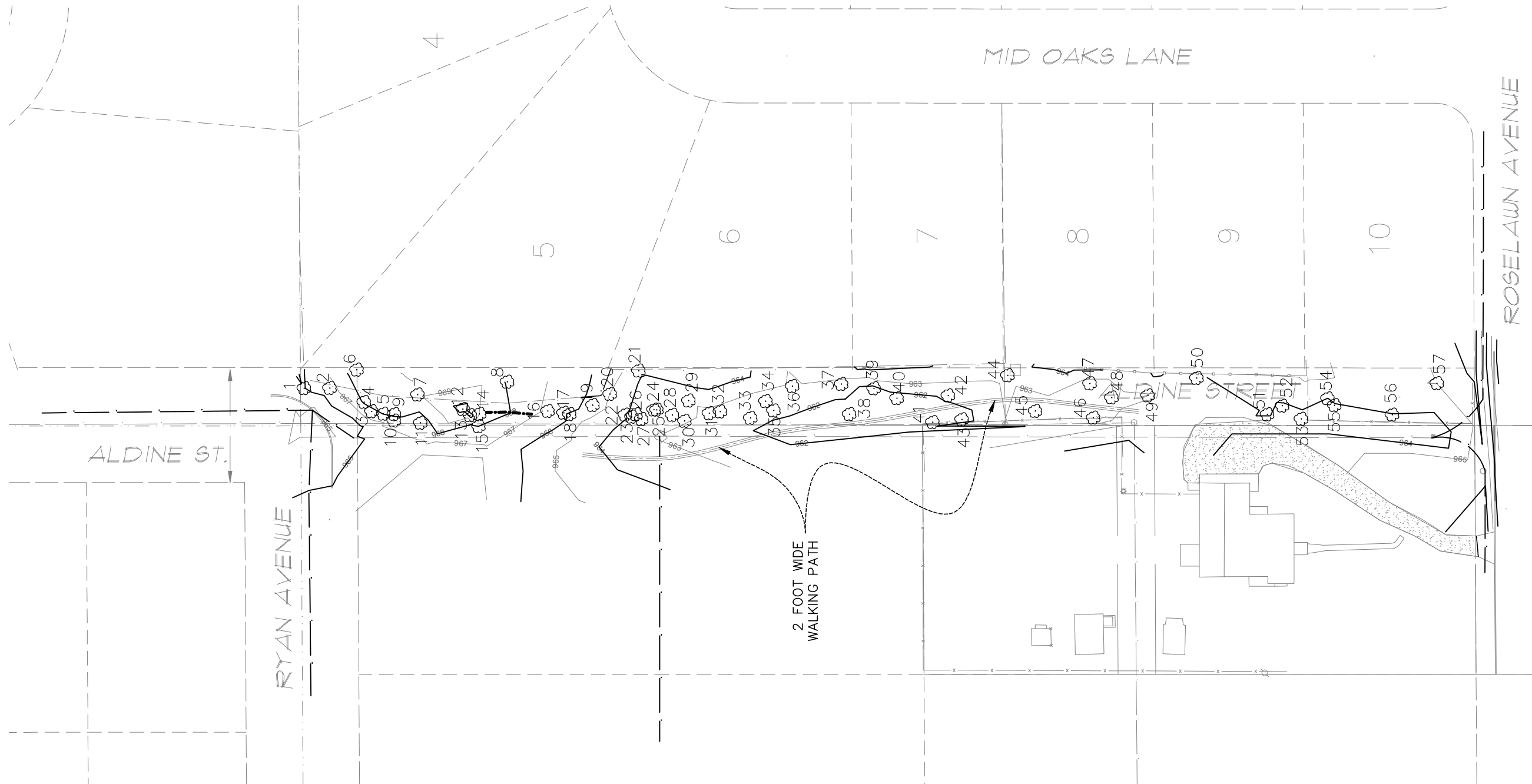
The house at [REDACTED] is on the Roseville Historic Trail with a portion built in the 1860s and another section added in the early 1940s, before Roseville was incorporated as a village in 1948. The Mid Oaks Plat was done in 1938. It was required at that time to provide a 30' easement for any area that might become a road as a condition of approval of a plat. Thus the 30' were taken from Mid Oaks for the purpose of providing space should the township (as it was then) decide to put Aldine in as a street. They did not make a decision to connect Aldine to Roselawn and cannot now for a variety of reasons.

A question was asked about the plantings inside the "encroachment." With the exception of the large oaks in the ROW which I have had fertilized and trimmed every few years since I came, I have done all the other planting. I have converted the mowed yard into a National Wildlife Certified habitat, replacing mowed grass with native plants to provide both food and cover for wildlife, including pollinators.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any additional questions.

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Plot Date: 06/29/2025
 Drawing Name: C:\Public\Works\CAD\Projects\2025\Aldine Tree Project\Production_01.dwg
 Author: Robert Downing



ALDINE STREET TOPO EXHIBIT

SHEET NO.	
1	1
SHEET NO. OF SHEETS	

From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [*RVParksCommission](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Parks and Recreation Commission
Date: Friday, August 29, 2025 7:36:51 AM

Caution: This email originated outside our organization; please use caution.

Contact Parks and Recreation Commission

Please complete this online form and submit.

Subject: Number of children by the Aldine ROW

Contact Information

Name: Rachel Brown

Address: [REDACTED]

City: Roseville

State: MN

Zip: 55113

How would you prefer to be contacted?
Remember to fill in the corresponding contact information in the fields below.

Email

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Please Share Your Comment, Question or Concern

During the tour of the Aldine ROW, one of the Park Commissioners noted that having data about the number of children in the neighborhood would help you balance cost and need for a possible park/trail.

In particular, there was interest in knowing how many children/families could use a trail as an option to get to/from school at Brimhall instead of riding the bus. (There is full bus service to Brimhall for children in the neighborhood).

I have compiled that information. Given the many school choice

options available - schools in-district (e.g., Spanish Immersion, Parkview, Harambee, Falcon Heights), open enrollment to other districts, private schools, and public charter schools - I included notes on total # of children along with their school type.

Mid Oaks Lane/Road neighborhood - 636* properties total - 3 households attend Brimhall (6 children)

*Updated to 36 properties per Rachel Brown request. -DC 9.2.25

27 households with no K-12 or younger children

4 households with only middle school or high schoolers

* ages 12, 14

* ages 13, 15

* age 15

* age 17

5 households with elementary age or younger

* ages 10, 10, almost 12 (grades 4,4, 6 at Brimhall)

* ages 6, 8 (both at Brimhall)

* ages 5, 3 (1 starting at Brimhall this year)

* ages 0, 0, 3, 6, 7 (private school)

* ages 8, 12 (public charter school)

Roselawn - 7 properties - 1 household attends Brimhall but uses another shortcut - 2 children

4 households with no K-12 or younger children

1 household with high schooler (went to another ISD 623 public elementary)

2 households with elementary age or younger

* ages 5, 7 (at Brimhall but use a yard shortcut, could use a trail at ROW but said not needed)

* ages 6, 8 (private school but have used old trail to get to Brimhall playground)

Methods

I used the following steps to get the most accurate information I could find.

* I used google maps to identify the # of households in the Mid Oaks neighborhood and just over half of the ones on Roselawn, west of the ROW. I did not count the other 7 on the second western half of Roselawn as those households are closer to the Fairview sidewalk. I also did not include the households on Snelling south of Roselawn as they all can easily continue on the Snelling sidewalk through Ridgewood Lane for a shortcut.

* For the over half of the families that I know, I verified ages and schools with them. (High schoolers I just estimated ages based on their current grade levels.)

* For the 3 families I do not know very well, I got age and school information from one of the Mid Oaks parents.

* I removed identifying information for kid and family privacy.

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [*RVParksCommission](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Parks and Recreation Commission
Date: Saturday, August 30, 2025 11:46:42 AM

Caution: This email originated outside our organization; please use caution.

Contact Parks and Recreation Commission

Please complete this online form and submit.

Subject: Resident perspective on the the Aldine ROW

Contact Information

Name: Rachel A Brown

Address: [REDACTED]

City: Roseville

State: MN

Zip: 55113

How would you prefer to be contacted?
Remember to fill in the corresponding contact information in the fields below.

Email

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Please Share Your Comment, Question or Concern

My entire adult working life I have worked in public schools, non-profit arts organizations, and a state agency so believe me when I say I deeply understand and am committed to centering the public good in my decision making.

I respect the public service you on the Park Commission are providing and know your task is to make decisions on what is best and most cost effective for the city and good for our environment and our communities. I also appreciate the very professional work of the Park and Rec Department staff who are being thoughtful, methodical, and forthright.

As you work to make your recommendation to the Council about the Aldine ROW, I ask you to center the perspective of the Roseville community who will be the most impacted by your decision: the 24 Roseville residents (21 current and 3 arriving by birth or marriage this fall) who live along it.

Just as there is no day without night, there is no public without private. A decision to change this roadway ROW to a park with a trail, will impact all these private property owners.

I did not purchase my home 25 year ago because of the ROW. Having people walk all along my property at any time of day or night was not an amenity I sought but a condition I had to accept. My 1706 Ryan neighbors, my fiancé, and I are thankful to have learned the 20 feet that was considered ROW is our private land and are eager to continue to tend it and now, with full control of it, to use it more effectively.

Similarly, I ask you to not take away that same opportunity for the 6 other properties along the ROW. They did not choose to purchase homes along a park. When the one property was purchased in 1975, the recently closed shortcut trail did not even extend all the way to Roselawn. Children cut through backyards along Mid Oaks. The other 5 properties were all purchased with existing and non-intrusive use of the ROW, including all but one fence placed along what was then believed to be the homeowners' property lines.

If the ROW is not vacated and instead turned into a park with a trail, all 8 properties along the ROW will bear financial costs. For example:

* Many, if not all of us, are looking to build 6 foot 6-inch privacy fences along our portions of it. We have been told this will be a private owner cost, which is, of course, significant. (If the vacation happens, I will quickly replace my encroaching fence with a low metal one, similar to the old existing fence, needed only for my dog space. I believe others will also maintain their fences with low visual impact.)

* If the City requires removal of the one existing tall privacy fence, installed by previous owners, the family will not only lose existing backyard space for their young children but will also have to pay to remove and then install a new fence a few feet to the east.

* Replacing the woodland feel of the yards with long lines of privacy fences will also re-shape the character of the properties and potentially their value.

There are also social and emotional costs for us, a small but vibrant Roseville community and part of the public you serve. Currently we chat across low fences, text with wildlife updates, see parties and playtime unfold in backyards, and enjoy the sight lines through neighbors' woodland spaces and pollinator plantings from our windows and yards. That will be lost if one by one we build tall fences along a park, buffers to maintain some privacy in our yards.

I do care about the wider community of walkers, some of whom are longtime and dear friends of mine. I do understand the feelings of loss that arose when the truth about the 20-foot portion was discovered and caused the existing trail to close. I do appreciate that your charge is to keep a perspective on wider community needs.

And ... I ask you to deeply consider and carefully tend to the public and private needs of the Roseville community at the center of this decision about the Aldine ROW, the families in the 8 properties most connected to it.

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [*RVParksCommission](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Parks and Recreation Commission
Date: Sunday, August 31, 2025 12:37:01 PM

Caution: This email originated outside our organization; please use caution.

Contact Parks and Recreation Commission

Please complete this online form and submit.

Subject: Aldine Street ROW comment

Contact Information

Name: Melinda Erickson

Address: [REDACTED]

City: Roseville

State: MN

Zip: 55113

How would you prefer to be contacted? Email
Remember to fill in the corresponding contact information in the fields below.

Phone Number: *Field not completed.*

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Please Share Your Comment, Question or Concern

Please include this comment as part of the meeting packet for September 2, 2025.

Dear Park and Recreation Commission members,


As you continue your consideration of the Aldine Street right-of-way, please expand the view of consideration. After reading the staff memo and other materials in the packet, two important omissions immediately stand out.

First is little mention of the potential for real property damage

(tree injury, yard drainage, yard slope stability, wet basements) and no mention of infringement on quiet enjoyment by the owners of the 8 homes adjacent to the right-of-way. We adjacent homeowners will be affected by any decision 24-7-365 in perpetuity. Through city processes thus far, I've been pointedly reminded that we can never be more than 8 families trying to gain a voice for fair consideration. We don't have a city council member working from our perspective and advocating on our behalf - so it would be a refreshing change to at least be respectfully acknowledged and meaningfully included as key stakeholders in the decision-making process.

Second is no mention of the Falcon Heights Community Park (FHCP) as a park option for the Mid Oak neighborhood and other residents. We in the Mid Oaks neighborhood know and use the FHCP as THE primary playground. It also has a nice walking path around the pond. FHCP is an important, well-used neighborhood recreation and exercise amenity adjacent to Roseville and near our neighborhood; it should be included in analyses.

Thank you.

Melinda Erickson


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Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission,

I wish to reinforce the information earlier provided by Dr. Mindy Erickson regarding protection of the trees in the ROW. (Attachment C) I have included a graphic comparison between Cottontail Park which was discussed as a model for converting the Aldine ROW into a park for the purpose of developing a path. (Attachment B) Cottontail Park is very large relative to the ROW and the path there is limestone and relatively level. The Cottontail Park path is located over 50' from the nearest residence, not 18 to 30 feet as it would be if a path were created in the Aldine ROW.

According to Dr. Lee Frelich, Director of the University of Minnesota Center for Forest Ecology, changing the level of soil more than 2-3" can be damaging to oaks. Compaction by machinery and cutting off of portions of the root system can increase the likelihood of tree mortality. Dr. Frelich knows of no injection that can protect the oaks from construction damage. As for species susceptibility, he said that red and white oak are more vulnerable to construction damage than burr or swamp oak

As Dr. Erickson noted, the International Society for Arboriculture has provided guidelines and best practices. With trees in the 30' ROW identified it is possible to compute the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) for the trees using the book entitled Managing Trees during site Development and Construction, Third Edition, published by the International Society of Arboriculture. The book defines the tree protection zone (TPZ) as the "area within which certain activities are prohibited or restricted to prevent or minimize potential injury to designated trees. The size and shape of a TPZ should consider tree species' response to construction impacts, size, condition, and maturity....".

The method of determining the TPZ used in the publication takes the diameter at breast height (DBH) and multiplies by a factor between 6 and 18 based on the species' construction tolerance and the trees' maturity. A chart for construction tolerance by species and a chart for maturity of individual trees is provided in the publication. (pg.19) It is further recommended that "when the minimum calculated TPZ is less than 5 ft in radius, a 5 ft radius should be recommended..." (Attachment A) An example supplied states, "a mature tree with medium tolerance to construction damage (a factor of 12) and a 30-inch trunk diameter would have a TPZ radius of 360 inches which is equal to 30 ft" (pg.18)—the entire width of the ROW.

Additional best management practices state that "if trees on adjacent properties have branches and roots extending into the construction area, TPZs should be established on the project site itself. Tree protection measures for trees on adjacent properties should be similar to those for on-site trees." (pg.20) It should be noted here that many of the adjacent properties contain large oaks whose roots and branches extend well into if not across the ROW.

A group of trees, in a stand or where closely spaced, share root space and shelter each other from wind. The best management practices for groups of trees suggests that "preserving a mix of tree

ages, species, and understory plants within a stand will conserve a natural assemblage and reduce exposure to interior vegetation.” (pg.21)

Using the measurements and information created by the city and the best management practices of the International Society of Arboriculture, one can compute a few of the TPZ for mature trees along the ROW. Working with only the oaks which are known to have considerable issues with soil disturbance, compaction, and change in grade, white being more susceptible than Burr, I used Medium species tolerance for Mature Burr oaks (12) and Low species tolerance for Mature White oak (15). (Chart pp19).

Near Ryan,

Tag	Species	DBH	TPZ
6	White Oak	28	35'
12	Burr Oak	32	32'

Near Roselawn,

48	Burr Oak	28	28'
----	----------	----	-----

Near Roselawn, partial group

51	Burr Oak	26	26'
52	Burr Oak	25	25'
55	Burr Oak	20	20'
57	Burr Oak	23	23'

With the information compiled by the city departments of Parks and Recreation and Public Works, it appears irrefutable that any attempt to install even a “dirt path” within the 30-foot ROW would result in significant mortality among the large, mature oaks. Work of the type necessary to level the grade would negatively impact and possibly kill oaks in the ROW and possibly some on the adjacent private properties along Mid Oaks Lane. In addition, due to the narrow dimensions of the ROW, any pathway would be much closer to residential homes than the paths in Cottontail are to residential homes.

We appreciate thoroughness and the work done by the city to complete a survey of the ground, to map the topography, and to identify the trees within the ROW. We hope the Commission will support best management practices find that this area is unsuitable for either a park or a path.

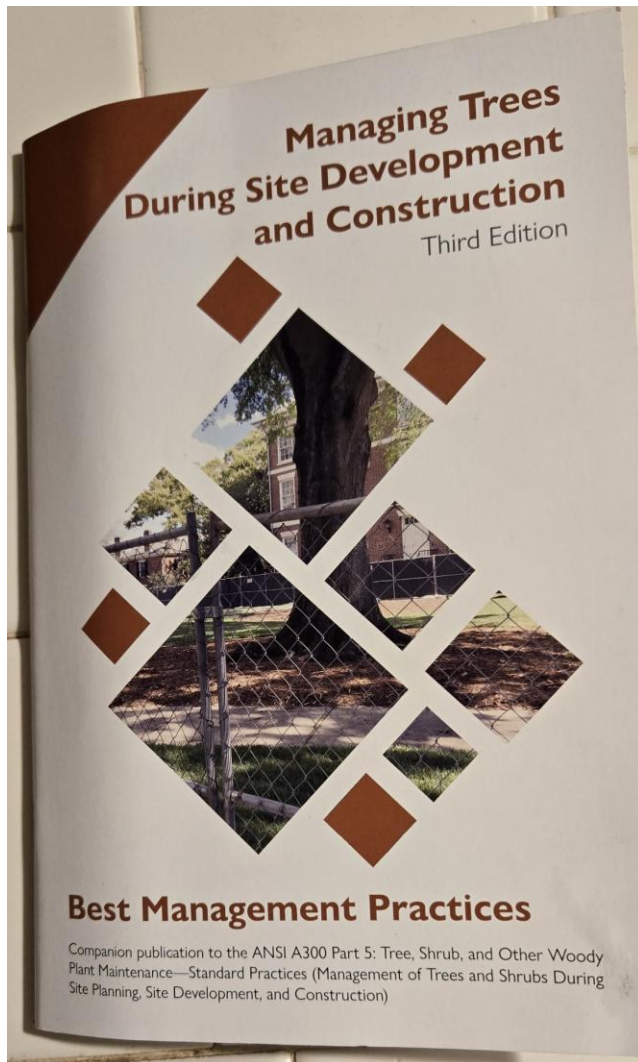
Thank you,.

Tam and Dick McGehee

Attachment A:

This contains the relevant charts for computing the tree protection zones for trees within a construction site. It has one graphic, the species chart showing tree tolerance of disturbance, and the multiplication factors based on tree maturity.

It also contains a picture of the book cover as well as the inside page indicating that it is the Third Edition, published in 2023 by the International Society of Arboriculture.





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Nelda Matheny (Figure 9 Plan Detail)

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Table 1. Examples of species tolerance to construction damage. Note that tolerance ratings may vary with geographic location (adapted from Matheny and Clark 2023).

Common Name	Scientific Name	Tolerance to Construction	Comments
Sycamore maple	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Medium	
Red maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	High	Response probably associated with geographic location. Tolerant of root pruning and saturated soils.
European birch	<i>Betula pendula</i>	Low	
Atlas cedar	<i>Cedrus atlantica</i>	Medium	
European hackberry	<i>Celtis australis</i>	Medium	Needs irrigation postimpact.
Eastern redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Medium	Response constrained by soil aeration and availability.
Camphor	<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	Medium	Avoid fill, wet soils. Best with irrigation after impact.
River red gum	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	High	Tolerant of fill and wet soils.
European beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Low	Mature trees particularly susceptible.
White ash	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	Low	Tolerant of root loss. Intermediate in tolerance to saturated soils. Low of mechanical injury (poor compartmentalization). Response constrained by soil and water availability.
Ginkgo	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	High	Tolerant of root pruning.
Thornless honeylocust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos f. inermis</i>	High	Tolerant of root pruning and site disturbance. Intermediate in tolerance to saturated soils.
Kentucky coffeetree	<i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>	Medium to High	Intermediate in tolerance to root loss and saturated soils. Tolerant of site disturbance.
Monterey cypress	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Low	Low of site disturbance.
Black walnut	<i>Juglans nigra</i>	Low to Medium	Low of root loss. Intermediate in tolerance to saturated soils. Low of mechanical injury (poor compartmentalization). Response constrained by soil aeration and water availability.
Black gum	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	High	Response constrained by soil aeration and water availability.
Canary Island date palm	<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	High	
Norway spruce	<i>Picea abies</i>	Low to Medium	Often windthrows. Low of root loss.
London plane	<i>Platanus x hispanica</i>	Low to High	Response appears to be location dependent. In western United States, tolerant. In eastern United States, stress intolerant in northern part of range. Best with irrigation after impact.
Flowering cherry	<i>Prunus serrulata</i>	Medium	Best with irrigation after impact.
Pin oak	<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Medium to High	Intermediate in tolerance of root loss and saturated soils.
Japanese zelkova	<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	Medium	Best with irrigation after impact.

Table 2. Guidelines for calculating tree protection zone radius for trees in good condition (adapted from Matheny and Clark 2023). To use this table, determine the TPZ multiplication factor based on the species tolerance to construction damage and relative tree age. That number (TPZ multiplication factor) is then multiplied by the tree trunk diameter (DBH). The result is the radius of the TPZ in the same units used to measure DBH. That number is usually converted to feet or meters.

Species Tolerance to Construction Damage	Relative Tree Age*	Multiplication Factor
High	Young or semimature	6
	Mature	8
	Old	12
Medium	Young or semimature	8
	Mature	12
	Old	15
Low	Young or semimature	12
	Mature	15
	Old	18

*Young to semimature = less than 40 percent life expectancy; mature = 40 to 80 percent life expectancy; old = greater than 80 percent life expectancy

The calculated TPZ is most helpful to the design team at the end of the planning phase or at the beginning of the design phase when use of space is being determined. The design team can use the calculated TPZ to plan for adequate space to preserve the trees (Figure 4). Calculated, circular TPZs are a good starting point, and some projects will use these calculated TPZs throughout the project. However, in practice, tree protection barrier configurations that follow the limits-of-disturbance and preexisting structures are more common than circular barriers.

As the design phase progresses, more in-depth decisions about whether trees are likely to survive construction and the best way to protect them may be required. The arborist may need to adjust the calculated TPZ depending on site-specific conditions to define the location of the specified TPZ.

The arborist determines the specified TPZ by evaluating on-site conditions, orientation of the canopy and visible roots of the specific tree, and planned construction. As an example, the specified TPZ may be increased in one or more directions to protect a low scaffold branch that extends beyond the calculated TPZ (Figure 5). Reducing the size of the specified TPZ on one or more sides of the tree may be necessary if planned construction cannot be

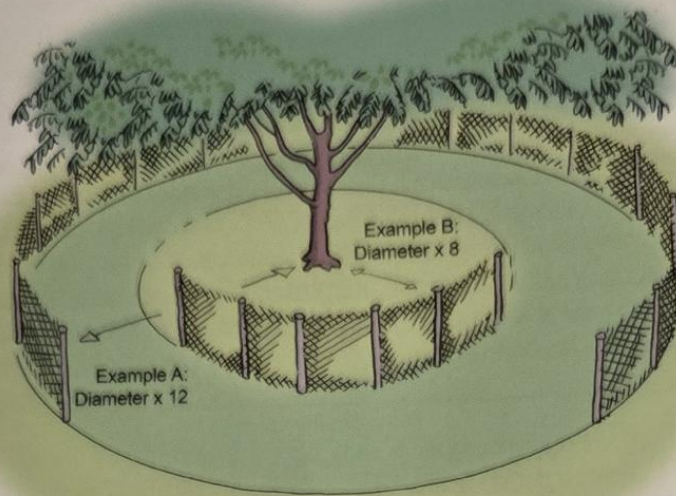


Figure 4. The calculated tree protection zone (TPZ) based on tree diameter, species tolerance to construction damage, and maturity. Applying the trunk formula method of determining the calculated TPZ by multiplying $DBH \times TPZ$ multiplication factor = TPZ radius.

Example A: Calculated TPZ for a medium-tolerance, mature tree with a diameter of 20 in (51 cm). $DBH \times 12 = 20$ in (51 cm) $\times 12 = 240$ in (610 cm) = 20 ft (6 m) radius.

Example B: Calculated TPZ for a high-tolerance, mature tree with a diameter of 20 in (51 cm). $DBH \times 8 = 20$ in (51 cm) $\times 8 = 160$ in (406 cm) = 13.3 ft (4.1 m) radius.

located outside the calculated distance. In some cases, increasing the specified TPZ on the opposite side of the tree may help compensate for roots lost elsewhere. The specified TPZ should not be reduced to the point where serious tree damage is expected.

If trees on adjacent properties have branches and roots extending into the construction area, TPZs should be established on the project site. Tree protection measures should be similar to those for on-site trees.

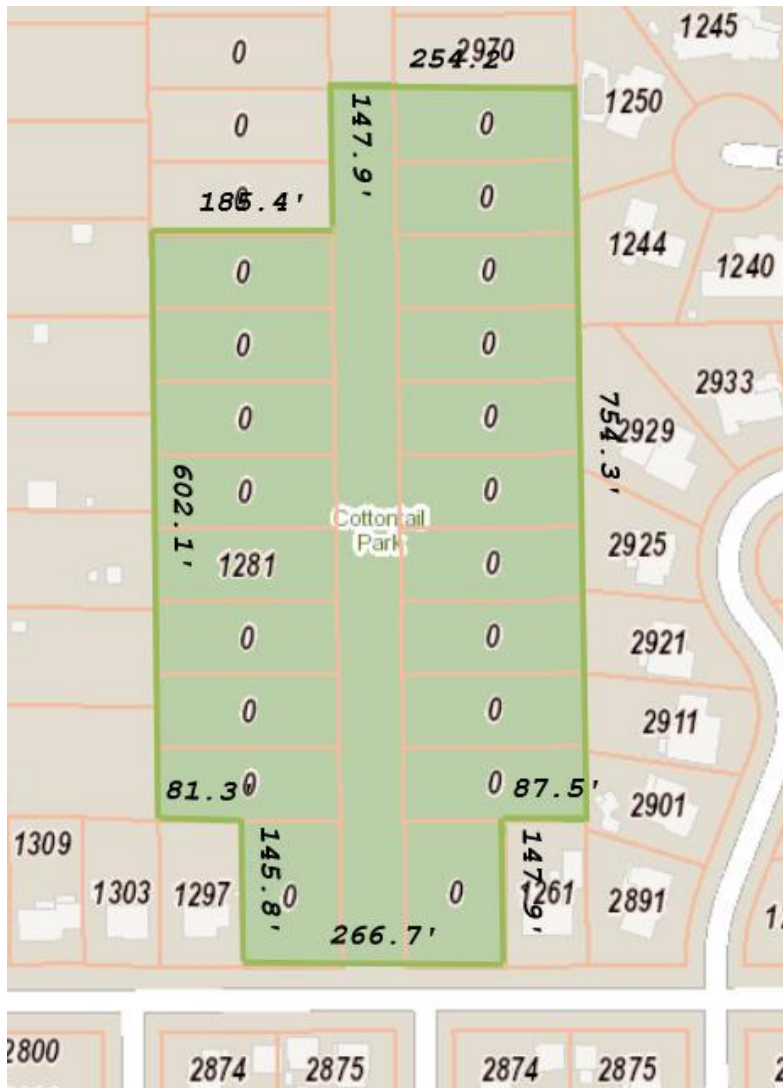
In addition to preserving existing trees, additional areas for root growth or tree planting should be preserved in a protected, undisturbed state, if possible. The goal is to protect the soil structure and resources so trees will thrive.

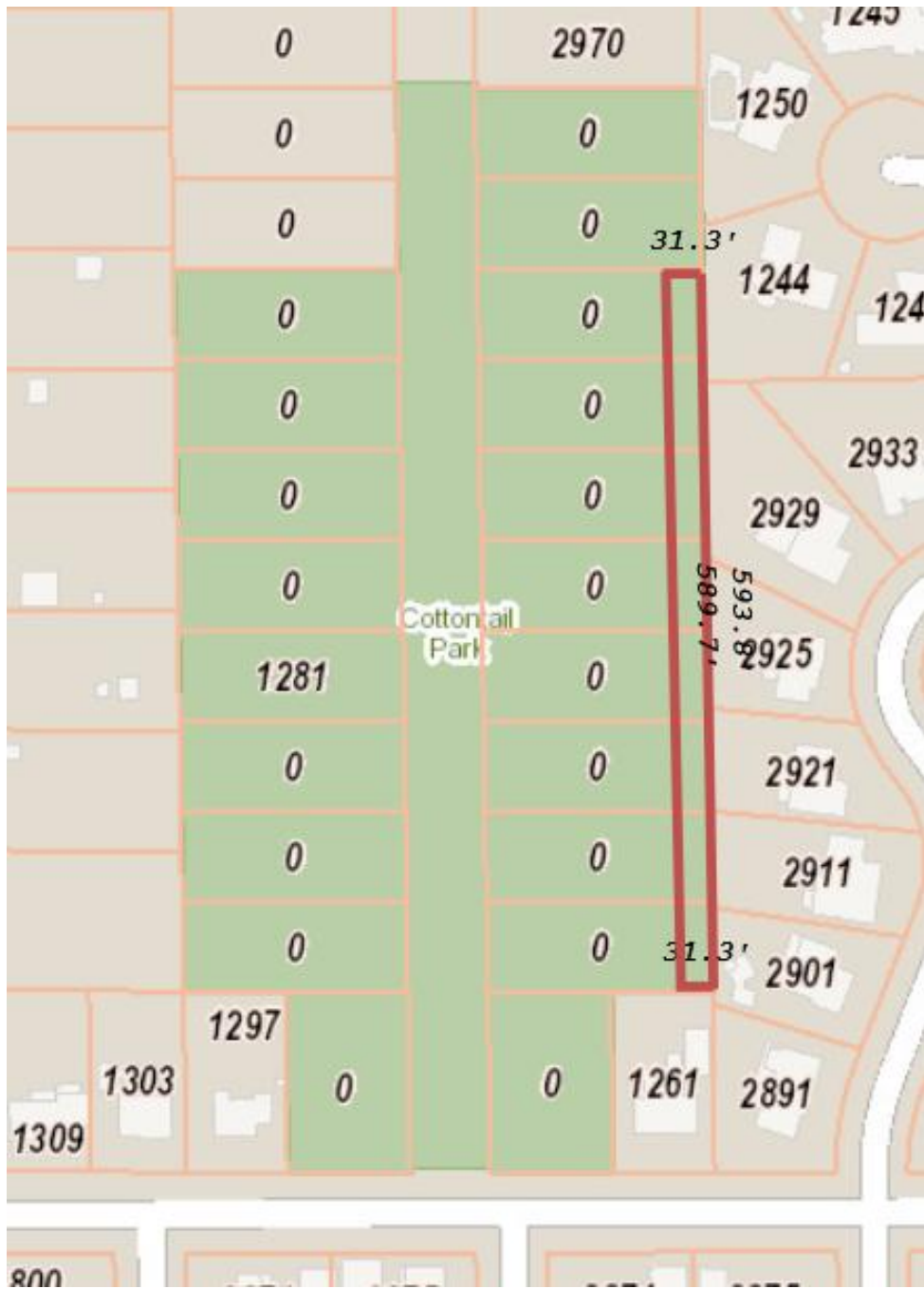
Attachment B:

There are three maps created using the city's GIS program showing the size of Cottontail Park. This was the park used as an example of a park with unpaved walking paths. Map one shows the relative size of the park, 270+ feet wide and 600-700 feet long. Substantially larger than the Aldine ROW at 590 feet by 30 feet wide.

The second map shows graphically the difference between Cottontail Park and the ROW, shown in red and drawn inside the map of the park.

The third map shows the closest residences to the park trails, 54.2 feet on one side and 97.9 feet on the other. The corner of the Aldine ROW is only 18 feet from the nearest home.







Attachment C:

Dr. Mindy Erickson's memo regarding the trees and their protection.

Hello Parks and Recreation Commission members,

As you continue your consideration of the five questions from the City Council about the Aldine Street right-of-way (ROW), please consider, first and foremost, protection and preservation of the many majestic oaks and other trees in and near the ROW. All stakeholder groups agree that tree preservation is paramount.

Many of the established trees have a dripline diameter that exceeds 30 feet. The ROW is only 30 feet wide, so there are inherent limitations to following construction "best practices" in proximity to these established trees. The International Society of Arboriculture and other sources note key facts and best practices related to construction projects around established trees:

1. A barrier or fence surrounding trees at the driplines is one of the most effective damage- prevention measures during construction. A barrier at a tree's dripline during construction protects both the above-ground portion of the tree and the highly sensitive root system.
2. Most established trees, including oaks, will not tolerate any appreciable disturbance of the root system without showing some adverse effects. Few, if any, species, will withstand extensive changes in aeration of soil around the root system without being injured.
3. Reduced aeration of soil around the root system can suffocate tree roots. Reduced aeration is caused by compaction of soil under trees due to movement of machinery, trampling, piling construction materials, and purposeful mechanical compaction.
4. Fill to raise a grade causes many changes in soil aeration, drainage, and soil microflora. Clay fill can result in reduced aeration, lower nitrogen, higher pH, and improper drainage.
5. Cuts to lower a grade should position new retaining walls at or near tree driplines so that the original depth of soil covering the root systems will be maintained. Removal of large amounts of soil from the root system of an established tree will cause permanent damage.
6. Most common shade tree species, including oaks, grow best in slightly acidic soil. Limestone gravel is alkaline and can raise soil pH, making soil more alkaline. When soil

becomes too alkaline, it interferes with the tree's ability to absorb essential nutrients, leading to nutrient deficiencies and increased vulnerability to other damaging stresses.

7. Construction-related tree injury increases vulnerability to drought, winter, disease, and pests.
8. Invisible, irreparable tree injury may present itself only long after construction ends.

Environmental conservation is espoused in Roseville's mission statement. All stakeholder groups agree that preservation and protection of the oaks and other established trees in the ROW is a predominant factor in decision-making. Please carefully weigh whether rerouting a shortcut from private property to the ROW is "valuable" or "viable" on balance with endangering dozens of established trees.

Construction damage can cause long, slow tree death years after project completion. Two nearby City paths already exist, so is the risk of killing any to many of the established trees a reasonable trade-off for a shortcut?

Thank you for your consideration of the majestic oaks and other trees in and around the ROW.

Melinda Erickson 93 Mid Oaks Lane

Roseville Parks & Recreation Commission Agenda Item

DATE: September 2, 2025

ITEM: 5.b.

ITEM DESCRIPTION: Prepare for Joint Meeting with the City Council on September 15, 2025

Background

The Parks and Recreation Commission is scheduled for a joint meeting with the City Council on Monday, September 15, 2025. Joint meetings provide an opportunity for the Commission to meet with the Council, highlight recent work, share feedback, and hear any input or requests from the Council.

At your August 7, 2025 meeting, the Commission held an initial conversation about items that they would like to discuss with City Council.

Following that meeting, staff met with the chair and vice chair to confirm information and create a memo (attachment #1) and presentation slides (attachment #2) regarding potential topics to guide your conversation with the City Council.

Recommendation

Review memo and presentation slide, make updates, and discuss Commissioners roles for the conversation.

Attachments

1. Draft Joint Meeting Memo to City Council
2. DRAFT Joint Meeting Prep Slides

Memo

To: City Council
From: Parks and Recreation Commission
Date: September 2, 2025
Re: Topics for Joint Meeting on September 15, 2025.

The Commission will review highlights of work that has been completed since the last joint meeting:

- I. **Commission Meeting Discussion Highlights (Full List Attached)**
 - a. Reviewed and Updated Natural Resources Management Plan Update
 - Grant funding received to implement
 - Commissioners have attended several events
 - b. Reviewed and Provided Feedback on 2026 Capital Projects
 - c. Revamped Parks and Recreation Goals based on City Council feedback to be more action-oriented, trackable, prioritized, and regularly conduct goal check ins
 - d. Provided recommendation to move forward with Rosebrook Park Updates, including replacement of the wading pool and splash pad
 - e. Reviewed operations for projects, recreation programs, Cedarholm and has forthcoming presentation regarding the Skating Center and Park Maintenance.
- II. **Commission Goals Moving Forward (Attached)**
 - a. Share how goals have impacted change
- III. **Priorities for the Next Year**
 - a. Continue to look for ways to support Friends groups (Friends of Roseville Parks, Friends of the OVAL Foundation, and the Central Park Foundation)
 - b. Ensure that the Campus Master Plan sufficiently supports Parks and Recreational needs of the community.
 - c. Implementation of key capital projects to ensure modern parks that are accessible to all
 - i. Rosebrook Park Upgrades
 - ii. Autumn Grove Park Capital Improvements (2026-2027)
 - iii. Sandcastle Park Playground Update

- d. Engage with the community both formally and informally and provide feedback to staff and the City Council
- e. Support a possible update to the Parks and Recreation System Master Plan
- f. Provide feedback on and support ongoing growth of volunteer program

IV. General Items of Feedback to the City Council

- a. Park Tour Summary
 - i. Reservoir Woods
 - ii. Oasis Park
 - iii. Autumn Grove Park
- b. Positive Experience
- c. Campus Master Plan Implementation
- d. Recreation Programs Quality
- e. Impact Parks and Recreation Services Have on Community and Quality of Life
- f. Summer Recreational Programs
- g. Rosefest
- h. Staff Support

V. Aldine Right of Way Update

Parks and Recreation Commission Joint Meeting

September 15, 2025



Work Highlights

Reviewed and updated Natural Resources Management Plan

Grant funding received

Commissioners have attended several events

Reviewed and provided feedback on the 2026 Capital Improvement Projects

Revamped the Parks and Recreation Goals based on City Council feedback to be more action-oriented, trackable, prioritized. The Commission conducts regular goal check-ins.

Provided a recommendation for moving forward with Rosebrook Park updates, including replacement of the wading pool and splash pad

Operational Overviews: Projects, Recreation Programs, Cedarholm



Commission Goals

2025 Parks & Recreation Commission Goals (Updated July 29)

Goal	Action/Initiative	Timeframe	Commissioner Steward	Progress
Equity and Access				
Find ways to be visible in the community utilizing an "equity lens"	Short Term Goal Continue to ensure that an equity lens and equity analysis is utilized when discussing parks projects and initiatives	Ongoing	Matts-Benson	Reviewed fee assistance program, and reach for resources
	Long Term Goal Identify gaps in the City's Parks and Recreation offerings that lead to underutilization by underrepresented populations and determine possible strategies for remediation.	1-3 years		Utilizing more creative engagement tools - Discover Your Parks for Rosebrook, neighborhood committee for Maintenance and Operation Center
Understand residents' experiences with their local parks. Work to find historically underrepresented voices in the community.	Short Term Goals: Periodically review data and demographics (survey feedback, new recreation management software, etc.)	Ongoing		Discover Your Parks engagement events
	Identify methods for the City to capture better data on participation, and feasibility of implementation.	1 year, Ongoing	Matts-Benson, Beckman	
	Utilize equity lens when providing feedback regarding items that the commission reviews.	Ongoing		
	Commissioners make a conscious effort to formally AND informally engage with diverse individuals and perspective within the community and ensure that that feedback is shared and included. (Discover Your Parks, Conversations with Neighbors, Others. .)	Ongoing		
	Long Term Goal Identify gaps in the City's Parks and Recreation offerings that lead to underutilization by underrepresented populations and determine possible strategies for remediation.	1-3 years		Discussed Master Plan update
Engagement, Connection, and Access				
Continue to support and advise Parks & Recreation staff on already identified projects and potential opportunities	Short Term Goals: Complete installation of a more inclusive play structure at Lexington Park	1 year	Matts-Benson	Completed
	Review options for, and make a recommendation to staff and the City Council on planned improvements to Rosebrook Park including wading pool vs splash pad, increased parking, play structure replacement (etc)	1-2 years	Beckman	Contractor procured, working through plan
	Plan for replacement of Autumn Grove Playground in the coming years including creation of a strategy for the development of AG South parcel, considering moving the playground, addition of irrigation, other ideas.	1-3 years	Beckman	Conducted a site visit, discussed options
	Long Term Goal Bring new ideas, projects or opportunities to the Commission for discussion and education.	Ongoing		
and encourage residents outdoors and nature.	Short Term Goal Develop a strategy and plan (including possible funding, and timing) to install adequate bike infrastructure in each park	1 year	Kooistra	New Bike Racks Installed @ Central Park Lexington - still need to develop a phased plan
	Review the City's Community Garden Program. Determine if current plan/number of gardens is sufficient.	1 year	Penny	Site visit, pilot program @ Hwy 88 under way
	Long Term Goal Explore ways to encourage more connection to the Harriet Alexander Nature Center, Reservoir Woods and other natural/outdoor spaces	1-3 years	Boulton	
Ensure that Volunteers and others wanting to Give Back are Connected to the Parks and Recreation System.	Short Term Goals: Periodically review how volunteers are used in the Parks and Recreation System (update from volunteer coordinator)	1 year, Ongoing	Kooistra, Penny, A. Arneson	Reviewed in February
	Determine ways in which volunteers may be currently underutilized and recommend plans (and required resources) to ensure their inclusion.	2 years	Kooistra, Penny, A. Arneson	
Support and grow the Roseville Central Park Foundation, Friends of Roseville Parks and Friends of the OVAL in their work in enhancing the Roseville Parks and Recreation System.			Botzek, Boulton	Presentation in January
Natural Resources				
Focus on green spaces. Specifically, native animal habitat and climate change.	Short Term Goal Ensure that sustainability/climate resilience is explicitly addressed when planning projects and initiatives	Ongoing	Kooistra, Harris	Events completed, \$700,000 in grant funding received in 2025
Support and participate in the Natural Resource initiatives of the Parks and Recreation Department (Natural Resource Stewardship Program, Accelerated EAB Project, etc.)	Short Term Goals: Support the implementation of the 2024 Natural Resources Management Plan through participating and feedback (ongoing)	Ongoing	Kooistra, Harris	Ongoing
	Periodically review progress on Natural Resources Management, including benchmarks and tangible progress	1-2 years	Harris	
	Ensure adequate resources exist to continue progress on the 2024 Natural Resources Management Plan	Ongoing	Harris	
	Long Term Goal: Ensure long-term success/viability of investment already made in the Natural Resources Management program.		Harris	
Visioning and Planning				
Ensure Parks and Recreation is well represented in EnVision Roseville/Strategic Planning	Short Term Goals: Ensure that the Commission is kept up to date on the City's strategic plan. Periodically review progress relevant initiatives within the strategic plan with the PRC to determine whether progress is being made.		Beckman	Ongoing updates
	Long Term Goal Ensure that feedback that was received in EnVision Roseville is reflected in initiative planning.			
Campus Master Plan Project	Short Term Goals: Work to ensure that Parks and Recreation is factored into the Campus Master Plan and that there is thoughtfulness regarding the loss of Veterans Park	1 year	J. Arneson, Matts-Benson	Standing Agenda Item, Veterans Park preserved, dance included
	Receive updates and provide feedback on Parks and Recreation related items in the design process (Dance Studio, Storage Spaces, etc)	1-2 years	Matts-Benson	
	Long Term Goal Ensure that Parks and Recreation and affiliated group storage needs are considered in long-term facility planning.	5 years plus		

Priorities for the Next Year

Continue to look for ways to support Friends groups (Friends of Roseville Parks, Friends of the OVAL Foundation, and the Central Park Foundation)

Ensure that the Campus Master Plan sufficiently supports Parks and Recreational needs of the community.

Implementation of key capital projects to ensure modern parks that are accessible to all

- Rosebrook Park Upgrades
- Autumn Grove Park Capital Improvements (2026-2027)
- Sandcastle Park Playground Update

Engage with community both formally and informally and provide feedback to staff and the City Council

Support a possible update to the Parks and Recreation System Master Plan

Provide feedback on and support ongoing growth of volunteer program

Other Discussion Topics

Park Tour Summary

- Reservoir Woods
- Oasis Park
- Autumn Grove Park

Campus Master Plan Implementation

Recreation Programs Quality

Impact P&R services have on community and quality of life

- Summer Recreational Programs
- Rosefest

Staff Support

Aldine Right of Way





Council Feedback

THANK YOU

Parks and Recreation

Roseville Parks & Recreation Commission Agenda Item

DATE: September 2, 2025

ITEM: 5.c.

ITEM DESCRIPTION: Maintenance and Operations Center Update (Standing Agenda Item)

Background

At each meeting throughout the planning and construction process, staff will provide updates on the progress of the Maintenance and Operations Center.

Recommendation

Receive update, ask questions, and provide feedback.

Attachments

None

Roseville Parks & Recreation Commission Agenda Item

DATE: September 2, 2025

ITEM: 7.a.

ITEM DESCRIPTION: Departmental Updates

Background

At each Commission meeting, city staff provides updates on Parks and Recreation activities and projects.

Recommendation

Receive report and provide feedback.

Attachments

1. 9.2.25 - Meeting Flyers

Harriet Alexander Nature Center

Art Night in Nature

Tap into your creativity in a welcoming space with other adults!

With nature as your inspiration and guidance from a experienced art teacher, you'll be amazed at what you can create. All skill and experience levels welcome!



6:30–9:30 PM

**UPCOMING DATES: AUGUST 16,
SEPTEMBER 13, NOVEMBER 8,
OCTOBER 18**



Scan for details and registration



**COME ONE
TIME OR EVERY
MONTH!**



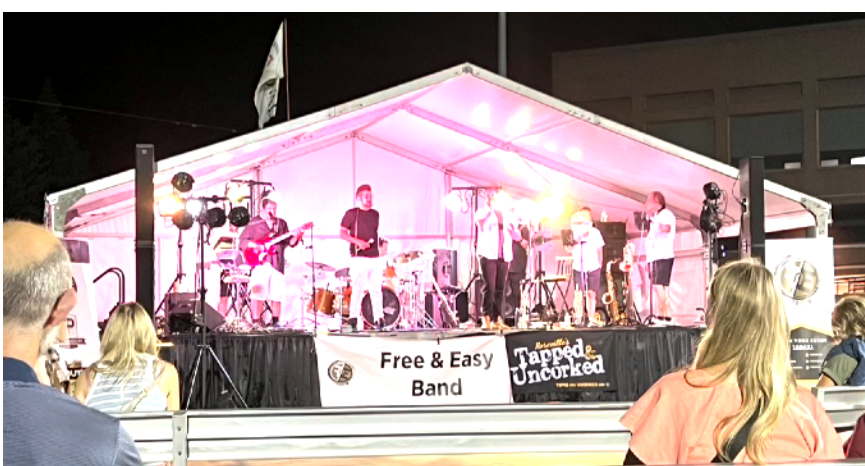
651-792-7012
cityofroseville.com/hanc

Roseville's 11th Annual Tapped & Uncorked 9.19.25

Roseville's 11th Annual CRAFT BEER, WINE & SPIRITS RAISING MONEY FOR YOUR PARKS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2025

BEER • WINE • CIDER • SPIRITS • FOOD TRUCKS • GAMES



LIVE MUSIC



FreeandEasyBand.com

6-10PM 21+EVENT RAIN OR SHINE OUTDOORS AT THE OVAL

FRIENDS OF
ROSEVILLE
SINCE 1969 **PARKS**
RAISING MONEY FOR
YOUR PARKS

Purchase tickets online or
at Roseville City Hall

TAPPEDANDUNCORKED.COM



21st ANNUAL

WILD RICE FESTIVAL

A CELEBRATION OF WILD RICE, THE FALL SEASON,
AND DAKOTA AND OJIBWE CULTURE

SEPTEMBER 27 10AM-4PM

Free admission,
all-day fun!



FEATURING:

- Native American Dance and drumming
- Wild ricing demonstrations
- Hands-on apple cider pressing
- Language learning activities
- Pollinator Bioblitz
- Crafting demonstrations and sale
- Food and beverages available for purchase



This is a
ZERO
WASTE
event



CityofRoseville.com/wildrice

HARRIET ALEXANDER NATURE CENTER

2520 N. DALE ST., ROSEVILLE, MN 55113

651-765-HANC (4262)

HARRIET ALEXANDER NATURE CENTER

Field Trips

2025/2026



- Hands-on, inquiry-based learning
- Experienced staff naturalists
- Memorable outdoor experiences

Schedule your group visit today!
naturecenter@cityofroseville.com
651-792-7163



Pre-K Programs

Designed for ages 2-6, Can also be adapted for Kindergarten
1.5 hours long

Get to Know Nature



Seasons Offered: Year-round

Look, listen, touch, and smell as we use our senses to discover the outdoor world! Go on a scavenger hunt, meet a live ambassador animal, and visit two different habitats. This program is all about exploration and using our senses.

Minnesota Animals



Seasons Offered: Year-round

Who are our animal neighbors? Learn all about the types of animals that live here in Minnesota. Meet a live ambassador reptile, touch some furs, hike the trails looking for animal signs, and act out animal movements.

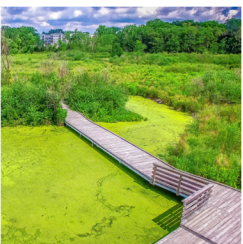
Spectacular Seasons



Seasons Offered: Year-round

Nature is full of patterns and cycles! Check out the trails to see how plants and animals are getting ready for the next season and use your senses to observe the weather. Specific activities will vary with the season.

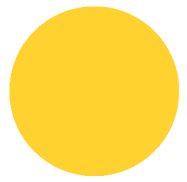
What is a Wetland?



Seasons Offered: Spring, Summer, Fall

Visit a wetland and discover what makes it a special place! We'll take a walk on the boardwalk, use nets to see what's living in the water, and engage with the plants and animals that make their homes in the wetland.

K-6 Programs



Program activities and content will be tailored to specific age groups.

Groups with more than one class (around 25 students) will be divided into class-sized groups and rotate through stations. Groups with more than three classes (around 75 students) should plan for a two-hour visit.

All About Insects



Seasons Offered: Summer, Fall

Grade Levels: K-4

Length: 1.5 hours

Overturn logs, sweep in the grass, or dip in the water as we search for insects. We'll find out about insect body parts, lifecycles, what they eat, and what eats them.

Animal Architects



Seasons Offered: Year-round

Grade Levels: 1-6

Length: 1.5-2 hours

How do animals change their environment to meet their needs? From nests to tunnels, this program is all about animals that build! Examine animal artifacts, check the trails for homes, and try your hand at building like a bird.

Animal Olympics



Seasons Offered: Year-round

Grade Levels: K-6

Length: 1.5 hours

Explore animal movements! Students will interact with animal artifacts to understand how different species excel in their natural abilities, and cheer each other on as they mimic local wildlife in physical challenges.

Art in Nature



Seasons Offered: Year-round

Grade Levels: K-6

Length: 1.5-2 hours

Nature is full of patterns and inspiration. We'll explore outdoors and items from the collections, then students will create their own small natural art projects to reflect their experiences.

Creature Features



Seasons Offered: Year-round

Grade Levels: K-6

Length: 1.5-2 hours

From tails to scales, jaws to claws, we'll relate animal parts to their function through observation of both live animals and specimens. Students will make comparisons, identify patterns, and learn how animal structures help in survival.

Habitat Investigation



Seasons Offered: Year-round

Grade Levels: K-6

Length: 1.5-2 hours

Discover the relationships between what animals need and the places they live. We'll visit both a forest and a wetland to study the diversity of plant and animal life, plus play a habitat survival game.

How Animals Grow



Seasons Offered: Spring, Summer

Grade Levels: K-2

Length: 1.5 hours

From look-alikes to total transformations, this program is all about animal life cycles! We'll examine artifacts, then hit the trail to search for signs and match baby animals to the adults they'll become.

Our Nature Neighbors



Seasons Offered: Year-round

Grade Levels: K-6, best program for multi-age groups

Length: 2 hours

This program is all about the ecosystems and organisms in our suburban neighborhoods. We'll investigate two distinct natural spaces, meet a live wildlife ambassador, and play a habitat game.

Plant Powers



Seasons Offered: Year-round

Grade Levels: K-6

Length: 1.5-2 hours

Explore what makes plants unique. We'll look closely at individual plants and match up parts to their functions. We'll also learn the life cycle of a plant and figure out why different plants grow in different areas.

Seed Investigation



Seasons Offered: Spring, Fall

Grade Levels: 2-6

Length: 1.5 hours

We will examine a variety of different botanical fruits and discover the variety of ways seeds are dispersed. Students will learn about how different structures perform different functions, and build seed models of their own.

Tapping Time



Seasons Offered: Late Winter/ Early Spring

Grade Levels: 1-6

Length: 1.5-2.5 hours

Discover how syrup makes it from tree to table. Students will learn to identify maple trees, tap a tree, role-play the flow of sap, and taste real maple syrup. A pancake cooking session can be added for an additional \$5/person.

Tracking Weather



Seasons Offered: Year-round

Grade Levels: 2-6

Length: 1.5-2 hours

How does weather happen? Students will collect data and make observations of current conditions. We'll experiment with how air temperature and pressure affects the weather we experience.

Water in Motion



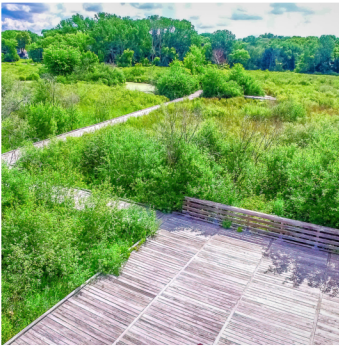
Seasons Offered: Spring, Summer, Fall

Grade Levels: 2-6

Length: 2 hours

Students will search for water in unexpected places and explore how it moves through a watershed. We'll play a game to follow water's journey and experiment with water's unique properties.

Wetland Ecology



Seasons Offered: Spring, Summer, Fall

Grade Levels: K-6

Length: 2 hours

Learn about the unique features of a wetland habitat. Students will study plant life and animal life, meet an ambassador animal, and recognize how the wetland ecosystem provides benefits to humans, too.

What about Winter?



Seasons Offered: Winter

Grade Levels: 2-6

Length: 1.5-2 hours

Surviving winter is a challenge for animals. Discover how Minnesota creatures use strategies like migration and hibernation, hike the frozen grounds, and participate in a winter adaptation challenge.

Outreach Programs

Let HANC bring the program to you! Our naturalists will share nature artifacts, facilitate interesting discussions, and provide hands-on experiences.

Outreach programs can be adapted to any age group.

We are currently only booking outreach programs with 10 miles of HANC.

Classroom-Style Program (select from onsite programs):

\$5.50/student plus \$50 travel fee.

Large Group Presentation (select from below):

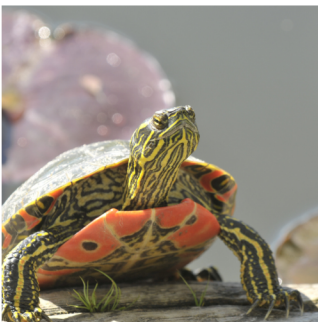
\$275 for 1 hour

Animal Architects



How do animals change their environment to meet their needs? This program is all about the animals that build! Examine artifacts like nests, hives, and gnawed logs.

Minnesota Animals



Who are our animal neighbors? Meet a live ambassador reptile, touch some furs and scales, look at bones, and find out more about the animals that live here in Minnesota.

Skulls and Skeletons



What can we learn from animal bones? We'll look at a variety of animal skulls and skeletons to find out how different animals move, eat, and grow.

Additional Information

Location:

Harriet Alexander Nature Center (HANC) is a 52-acre park with forest and marsh habitat. Our interpretive center features two classrooms and an interactive exhibit space. HANC is also a part of Roseville's Central Park, which has 225 acres of parkland connected by trails, and features natural spaces, playgrounds, ball fields, shelters and, right across the street from HANC, the Muriel Sahlin Arboretum.

Fees and Payments:

Our onsite programs are \$5.50/student with a \$65 minimum. Parents and chaperones are free.

Groups or schools scheduling more than one trip in a school year qualify for discounted pricing of \$5/student.

Payment is due within one month of booking confirmation. Payments are processed through Roseville Parks and Recreation and can be made by credit card, check, or cash. Instructions will be provided at the time of booking.

Chaperones:

A minimum ratio of 1 chaperone (teachers, parents, paraprofessionals, etc.) to 12 students is required. Chaperones are expected to actively supervise students throughout the visit and intervene if students are being unsafe or disruptive.

Weather:

All participants should be prepared for the weather and outdoor terrain, including sturdy shoes or boots, layers, and rain gear when needed. Please bring your own insect repellent and sun protection.

In the case of severe weather, HANC will adapt activities for indoor spaces, or reschedule if possible. We will contact the group lead to coordinate changes.

Lunch:

Groups may request to eat lunch onsite outdoors. HANC staff will not be available during the lunch break.

Cancellations:

Cancellations made more than 48 hours before the scheduled program will not be charged.

Cancellations made fewer than 48 hours in advance, or no-shows without notice, will be billed 20% of the total program fee to cover staff time and materials.

If HANC must cancel due to weather, staffing, or facility issues, no fee will be charged.

FALL GYMNASTICS 2025

SEPTEMBER 8 - NOVEMBER 8

REGISTRATION OPENS TUESDAY, AUGUST 26TH.
WWW.CITYOFROSEVILLE.COM/PARKS

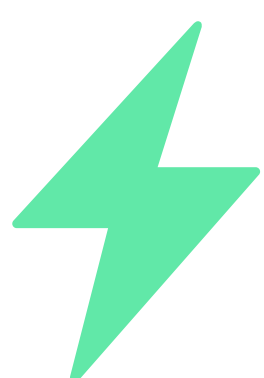
PRESCHOOL (AGES 3-5)

BEGINNER I	MON	4:45-5:30 pm	2111.786
	MON	6:45-7:30 pm	2111.787
	TUES	5:45-6:30pm	2111.788
	WED	4:30-5:15 pm	2111.789
	SAT	9-9:45 am	2111.790
BEGINNER II	MON	5:45-6:30 pm	2111.791
	TUES	4:45-5:30pm	2111.792
	WED	5:30-6:15 pm	2111.793
	SAT	10-10:45 am	2111.794
INTERMEDIATE	WED	6:30-7:30 pm	2111.795
	SAT	11 am-12 pm	2111.796
ADVANCED	TUES	6:45-7:45 pm	2111.797

INSTRUCTIONAL (AGES 6-14)

BEGINNER I	MON	4:30-5:30 pm	2121.803
	TUES	4:45-5:45 pm	2121.804
	THUR	6:15-7:15 pm	2121.805
	SAT	10:45-11:45 am	2121.806
BEGINNER II	MON	5:45-7 pm	2121.807
	WED	4:30-5:45 pm	2121.808
	SAT	12-1:15 pm	2121.809
INTERMEDIATE I	THUR	4:30-6pm	2121.810
	SAT	9-10:30 am	2121.811
INTERMEDIATE II	TUES	6-7:30pm	2121.812
	WED	6-7:30 pm	2121.813
ADVANCED I	SAT	9-10:30 am	2121.814
ADVANCED II	TUES	6-8pm	2121.815

SCAN FOR MORE INFO!



**ROSEVILLE
GYMNASTICS
CENTER**

P: 651-792-7006
A: 1238 W. County Road B2 attached to the HS
E: RosevilleGymnastics@cityofroseville.com
W: www.cityofroseville.com/parks

SPROUTS

FALL 2025 SESSION

Build a love of nature with hands-on science, art, and fun!

10AM-11:30AM | WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, OR FRIDAY
AGES 1-5 WITH ADULT PARTNER

OCTOBER

WILD COLORS

Explore how plants make color! Crush berries, pound flowers, and dye with leaves.

NOVEMBER

WHIMSICAL WIND

Glide like a hawk, experiment with things that move in the wind, and make your own wind toy!

DECEMBER

COLD WEATHER CRITTERS

What do animals do when winter comes? Touch fur, crawl into a “den,” and follow a migration path!

3-MONTH SERIES

\$43 Roseville resident, \$48 other

SINGLE DATE

\$17 Roseville resident, \$19 other

Wednesdays: Oct 1, Nov 5, Dec 3

Thursdays: Oct 2, Nov 6, Dec 4

Fridays Oct 3, Nov 7, Dec 5



Discounts apply for siblings.
Scholarships available.
Scan to register or call 651-792-7006.

HANC



ROSEVILLE
Parks & Recreation Department
Page 16 of 418

FALL BREAK CAMPS



Harriet Alexander Nature Center

Ages 6-12

SPOOKY SEASON

Oct 15 | 9 AM - 4 PM



From bats, snakes, and owls to rustling leaves and mysterious sounds, we'll dive into all the things that make fall in the forest so exciting. Enjoy nature games, creepy crafts, and outdoor adventures.

Details and registration



SURVIVAL SKILLS

Oct 16-17 | 9 AM - 4 PM



Discover the basics of outdoor survival! Learn how to read a map, use a compass to find your way, build a shelter using natural materials, and safely start a campfire.

Details and registration



 651-792-7163

 cityofroseville.com/hanc

 2520 Dale St N

Roseville Parks & Recreation Commission Agenda Item

DATE: September 2, 2025

ITEM: 7.b.

ITEM DESCRIPTION: Other New or Relevant Communication Items

Background

At each commission meeting, city staff provides updates on city activities and projects ongoing within the city that pertain to Parks and Recreation activities.

Recommendation

Receive report and provide feedback.

Attachments

None