



Bridges

Keeping The Naperville Community Connected



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City Council is Closing the Financial Gap

Significant progress has been made in closing next year's projected financial gap. The gap of \$11.2 million can partially be attributed to the reduction in revenues caused by the economic downturn, but to a larger extent, it is the result of rising pension, benefit and roadway maintenance costs. Council's goal continues to be identifying the maximum opportunity to reduce costs prior to considering any increase to taxes or fees.

At the workshop on Monday, December 7, 2009, City Council agreed to \$6.7 million of cost reduction actions. Just over half of these savings will be made through changes in the city organization and staffing levels. Council was clear to identify cost savings with little or no direct impact on residents. As a few examples, they did not approve any changes to snow removal activities but did agree to reductions in the street

sweeping and brush removal programs.


Revenue options will now be considered to close the remaining \$4.5 million gap. Council's intent is to leave the property tax flat and to hold sales taxes at their current level. They are considering a potential increase to the gasoline tax and implementation of a residential garbage fee. Also being discussed is a change to the citywide food and beverage tax ordinance which, while maintaining the tax at its current rate, would allow for a portion of the funds to be used for city services rather than special events and cultural amenities (SECA).

The budget is not finalized until April, so Council has several months to continue these discussions before they need to reach firm decisions. The conversations will continue at the next scheduled workshop on January 25, 2010. 

State of the City Address

Join Mayor A. George Pradel as he looks back at the events of 2009 and focuses on the challenges and opportunities facing the City of Naperville in 2010 during his 15th annual State of the City address.



The luncheon event, sponsored by the Naperville Area Chamber of Commerce, begins at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, January 25 at the Holiday Inn Select, 1801 N. Naper Boulevard. Registration is required. For reservations or more information, visit www.naperville.net. 

Jefferson Avenue Bridge

The City of Naperville will begin reconstructing the Jefferson Avenue Bridge in early 2010. During construction, the bridge will be closed to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

While the start date for the closure is dependent on weather, the new bridge will reopen no later than August 27, 2010. Once a date for the closure is confirmed by the contractor, the city will notify residents and motorists. The closure date will be announced roughly ten days prior to the start of construction. Residents and commuters are encouraged to sign up to receive the latest news on the Jefferson Avenue Bridge reconstruction project via e-mail at www.naperville.il.us/enews.aspx.

Bridges Transitioning to a Quarterly Publication


Starting in May, Naperville's resident newsletter *Bridges* is transitioning to a quarterly publication.

Rather than a bimonthly edition of *Bridges*, residents can now expect to receive the same important information about city events, initiatives and projects delivered straight to their mailbox four times a year.

"The City of Naperville is always looking for more efficient ways to deliver information to our residents," Community Relations Manager Nadja Lalvani said. "By transitioning to a quarterly publication, we are using less natural resources as well as cutting costs. I assure our residents that they will continue to receive all the information they have come to expect in *Bridges*."

The first quarterly edition of *Bridges* will cover the months of May, June and July and be delivered to homes by the last week of April. Future editions of *Bridges* for the remainder of the year include the August, September and October 2010 edition, and the November, December and January 2010/2011 edition.

"I encourage residents to contact my office with ideas of information they would like to see included," Lalvani said.

For more information on *Bridges*, visit www.naperville.il.us/bridges.aspx. 

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What's Happening


Bridal Showcase

Friday, January 8 and Saturday, January 9

If you're planning a wedding, you won't want to miss the opportunity to meet with an array of quality local vendors at this up-close and personal showcase taking place from 5:30 to 9 p.m. on Friday, January 8 and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, January 9 at Naper Settlement, 523 S. Webster St. Admission is free and includes food, drink and cake tastings. For more information, visit www.napersettlement.museum. 


Chocolate Festival

Saturday, January 16

The 7th Annual Chocolate Festival will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Neuqua Valley High School Freshman Center, 3220 Cedar Glade Drive. The festival will include two rooms of cooking demonstrations with celebrity chefs from local restaurants, family entertainment and kid friendly activities, chocolate vendors and more. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$3 for seniors and children ages 5 to 12. Children younger than 5 are free. The proceeds from this event support the programs and services of NCO Youth & Family Services. For more information and a schedule of events, visit www.ncoyouth.org or call (630) 961-2992. 

S.O.S. Trouble in the Trench

Saturday, January 23 and Sunday, January 24

The Naperville Park District presents its dance performance of S.O.S. Trouble in the Trench at 7 p.m. on January 23 and 3:30 p.m. on January 24 at Naperville North High School, 899 N. Mill St. For more information, including how to purchase tickets, visit www.napervilleparks.org. 

Town Hall Meeting

Saturday, January 30

The Mayor's Advisory Commission on Disabilities (ACD) will conduct a town hall meeting from 10 a.m. to noon in Council Chambers at the Municipal Center, 400 S. Eagle St. The purpose


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Noteworthy



City Hires New Emergency Management Coordinator

The city is pleased to announce that Joe Henderson, a former Emergency Management Specialist for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), has been hired as the city's new emergency management coordinator.

Henderson's experience includes working as a training and exercise administrator for the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, deputy director of operations in the Office of Emergency Management for the Baltimore City Fire Department, plans officer for the Central Maryland Urban Search and Rescue Team, adjunct professor with the University of Maryland and firefighter/paramedic with the Baltimore City Fire Department. He holds a Bachelors Degree in Fire Science Management from the University of Maryland, a Masters Degree from the Johns Hopkins University and is a graduate of the Fire and Emergency Medical Service Executive Leadership Program at the Johns Hopkins Division of Public Safety. He and his family formerly resided in Baltimore, Maryland. 

Naperville's Snow Team Ready for Winter Operations

The primary goal of the city's ice and snow control program is to provide the public with a safe roadway system, regardless of winter weather conditions or time of day. The city has a goal of clearing all streets within 14 hours after the end of a snowfall. Heavier snows, defined as those over four inches, will take longer to clear.


During heavy snowfalls, city crews concentrate on keeping main arterial roadways clear for traffic and emergency vehicles. The city has established a priority plowing system for its roadways so that main traffic routes and thoroughfares, such as Washington Street, Naper Boulevard, Diehl Road and 95th Street, are plowed first, followed by residential side streets and cul-de-sacs. The city is also responsible for clearing snow from all of the municipal parking lots, the Route 59 Metra station parking lot north of the railroad tracks, the areas surrounding the downtown Naperville train station and the sidewalks in the Central Business District.

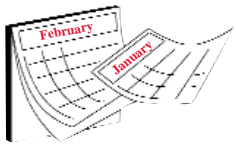
Department of Public Works (DPW) crews will begin applying salt to the roadways when precipitation, either snow or ice, begins to accumulate and cause unsafe traveling conditions. Crews will begin plowing operations whenever two inches of snow have accumulated on paved services and snow is still falling.

The city would like to remind residents

of the following tips to make winter operations safer and more efficient for all:

- Residents should not park on the street during a winter snow event. Parked cars are an obstacle to the snow plows. In addition, plowing around parked cars leaves large areas of snow and ice on the roadway.
- Property owners are responsible for plowing commercial parking lots, driveways and public sidewalks adjoining their homes and businesses.
- Shovel snow from driveways into the parkway and not into the street. This will help to avoid creating dangerously slippery conditions for both motorists and pedestrians. Shoveling snow into the street is a city code violation.
- Shovel out fire hydrants that are in or around your property and around meters to aid utility meter readers.
- Clear sidewalks of snow for the safety of pedestrians and children walking to school. Not keeping sidewalks clear is a city code violation.
- Uncover your mailbox.
- Help your neighbors. For many residents, age or medical conditions make it difficult to shovel snow without risking health.

For more information on any of Naperville's snow removal programs, call the DPW at (630) 420-6095 or visit the city's Web site at www.naperville.il.us/snowremoval.aspx. 



City Calendar Jan./Feb.

January 19, February 3 & 16 - City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
January 6 & 20, February 4 & 17 - Plan Commission Meeting, 7 p.m.
January 9, February 6 - Transportation Advisory Board Meeting, 8 a.m.
January 12, February 9 - Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting, 7 p.m.

** All the above-listed meetings are held in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Center, 400 S. Eagle St. City Council, Plan Commission and Transportation Advisory Board meetings are broadcast live on the city's government access channel WCNC (Ch. 6-WOW, Ch. 10-Comcast and Ch. 99-AT&T). Residents can also view City Council and Plan Commission meetings live or on-demand online at www.naperville.il.us/granicus.html.*

City Council Workshops

All workshops are held in the Lower Level Meeting Rooms and are scheduled for 5 p.m. Potential topics for discussion include the Strategic Plan/Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Social Services Grant Allocations on January 11, Healthcare/Overtime/Revenue on January 25, CIP/Healthcare on February 8 and CIP/Budget #1 on February 22.

2010 Guaranteed Ride Home Program

The City of Naperville is now accepting applications for the 2010 Guaranteed Ride Home Program. Through the Guaranteed Ride Home Program, commuters who use Pace Bus service to access the downtown Naperville or Route 59 Metra stations will be reimbursed for travel costs if they need to return unexpectedly when the feeder buses are not in service. Registered Pace commuters may receive up to 12 vouchers annually that will allow them to take a taxi from one of the Metra stations to their home or designated Park-n-Ride.

The Guaranteed Ride Home Program

achieved much success in its first year in 2009 with more than 290 registered participants. The program offers more flexibility in commuter schedules by guaranteeing a ride home should they need to return to their residence when the feeder route buses are not in service.

All 2009 participants must re-register for the 2010 program. In addition, the pink 2009 vouchers will not be valid after December 31, 2009. For more information on the Guaranteed Ride Program or to enroll online, visit www.naperville.il.us/guaranteedridehome.aspx.

Track Your Home's Energy Usage

Home Energy Savings Program

The City of Naperville is currently seeking applications for the Home Energy Savings Program. This program is designed to provide qualified residents an opportunity to improve their home's energy efficiency through a free home energy evaluation. Program participants will also receive a 50 percent reimbursement up to \$1,500 for qualifying energy improvements.

To qualify, applicants must own a home in incorporated Naperville built prior to 1980 and be age 55 or older. Applications are available for download on the city's Web site at

www.naperville.il.us/HESP.aspx. For more information, call the city's Home Energy Hotline at (630) 420-6077 or visit www.naperville.il.us/HESP.aspx.

Home Energy Calculator

Consumers looking to lower their home energy costs can now go to Naperville's Web site for some fast and fun assistance. Naperville's new HomeEnergy Calculator™ will analyze your home's current energy use and allow the homeowner to simulate various energy saving measures to see the corresponding dollar savings. For more information, visit www.naperville.il.us/hec.aspx.

What's Happening

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of the meeting is to gather final public comment on the Community Needs Survey conducted in late 2009. For more information, please contact Accessibility Coordinator Marita Manning at (630) 420-6725 or manningm@naperville.il.us.

Naperville READS

**Tuesday, February 23 and
Wednesday, February 24**

Join the Naperville community for the visit of internationally known author Neil Gaiman, author of "Coraline," "Stardust," and more. Naperville READS is a partnership between Anderson's Bookshop, Naperville Public Library, Naperville Community Unit School District 203 and Indian Prairie School District 204, and is partially supported by a grant from the City of Naperville. For more information, visit www.napervillereads.org.

Voice Your Opinion on City Technology

The City of Naperville will host a technology open house to gather input from residents and other constituents for its Strategic Technology Plan.

The open house will be held on Tuesday, February 9 from 5 to 9 p.m. in Meeting Rooms A, B and C at the Naperville Municipal Center, 400 S. Eagle St. As part of the open house, staff presentations and live demonstrations of current e-government technology and services will be provided.

The city is soliciting feedback on current e-services as well as gathering suggestions on future implementations. For interested parties unable to attend, please visit the city's Web site at www.naperville.il.us/strategictechplan.aspx to participate in an online survey. The open house will be aired live on the city's government access television station WCNC (Ch. 6 - WOW, Ch. 10 - Comcast, Ch. 99 - AT&T) as well as re-broadcast throughout the next several months. Also, watch for on demand video of the open house on the city's Web site in late February.

Ban on Text Messaging While Driving In Effect

The City of Naperville has the safety of its residents as its highest priority. The city would like to remind residents that not only is text messaging, reading e-mail or otherwise composing or sending any type of electronic message while driving unsafe, but starting January 1, 2010, it is also illegal in the State of Illinois. An exception to this law exists for those people who use hands-free or voice-activated devices with their phones.

Another new ban that begins on January 1, 2010, includes talking on cell phones while in construction and school speed zones. Users of hands-free or voice-activated devices are also exempt.

Please do your part to keep our roadways safe and refrain from performing these actions from behind the wheel. 🚗

Voter Registration

Voter registration services for DuPage and Will County residents are available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at the City Clerk's Office in the Municipal Center, 400 S. Eagle St. 🗳️

Last day to register to vote for the General Primary Election: January 5

Early voting: January 11 - January 28

General Primary Election: February 2

City of Naperville

Mayor - A. George Pradel

City Council

James Boyajian	Paul Hinterlong
Judith Brodhead	Douglas Krause
Robert Fieseler	Kenn Miller
Richard Furstenu	Grant Wehrli

City Manager - Douglas A. Krieger

Remember to dial 1 + Area Code

General Information, Services and Events(630) 420-6111
(TDD) 305-5205

Emergency Ambulance,
 Fire & Police 911
 Non-emergency Police(630) 420-6666
 Non-emergency Fire(630) 420-6142
 Report Power Outages, Electric,
 Water & Sewer Problems
 24 Hours a Day(630) 420-6187
 Office of the Mayor(630) 420-6018
 City Manager's Office(630) 420-6041

City Council agenda documents are available on the city's Web site at www.naperville.il.us.

Naperville DPU - Electric Named Tree Line USA Utility

The Arbor Day Foundation, in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters, has recognized the City of Naperville's Department of Public Utilities - Electric as a Tree Line USA utility. This accreditation recognizes public and private utilities across the nation that demonstrate practices that protect and enhance America's urban forests.

The Tree Line USA program promotes the dual goals of dependable utility service and abundant, healthy trees in America's communities. This recognition demonstrates cooperation, goodwill and the need for continuous tree care to the community. 🌳

Jefferson Avenue Bridge

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When complete, the new bridge will include two lanes, each wide enough to accommodate both vehicle and bicycle traffic, as well as protected sidewalks on each side for pedestrians.

For more information, visit www.naperville.il.us/jeffersonbridge.aspx. For questions or concerns about the project, please e-mail jeffersonbridge@naperville.il.us. 🗳️

Live Christmas trees will be collected on your normal garbage collection day during the weeks of January 4 and January 10. Trees must be free of all ornaments, tinsel and lights. Any stands, plastic or bagging material must also be removed.

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Keeping Naperville Connected

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City Web Site

www.naperville.il.us

Government Access Television Station WCNC

Channel 6 - Wide Open West

Channel 10 - Comcast

Channel 99 - AT&T

City Radio

WFPF - 1610 AM

RSS Feeds

www.naperville.il.us/rssfeeds.aspx

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E-news

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 Naperville, IL 60540

2010 Census is Almost Here

It's almost time to be counted in the 2010 Census! The 2010 Census questionnaire takes approximately ten minutes to complete. The city encourages households to participate by providing key demographic information.

In February and March 2010, census questionnaires will be mailed or delivered to households. For more information on the census, visit www.census.gov. 🗳️