



»» NEWSLETTER ««



CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS
2077 LARPENTEUR AVENUE WEST
FALCON HEIGHTS, MN 55113
651-792-7600

STATEMENT REGARDING RECENT ICE ACTIVITY IN OUR REGION

The City of Falcon Heights is deeply saddened by the fear and trauma that is rippling across our community. We extend our deepest condolences to the family, friends, and neighbors of Renee Good and Alex Pretti. We understand that recent events and reports of federal immigration enforcement activity in our region have created fear, anxiety, and grief for many residents, particularly within our immigrant communities.

Per our city's long-standing policies and practices, no City of Falcon Heights department, official, employee, or agent provides assistance or support for civil immigration enforcement, as such activities are outside the scope of the City's legal authority. Nor does the City share information with, or receive information from, the federal government related to civil immigration enforcement.

Our commitment remains steadfast: to serve every member of the Falcon Heights community with dignity, fairness, and respect, regardless of background or immigration status. The City's focus is, and will continue to be, the safety, well-being, and trust of our residents, neighbors and visitors.

In response to community concerns about increased federal immigration enforcement activity, on January 28, the Falcon Heights City Council is considering a Resolution to reaffirm Falcon Heights' values and clarify the City's limited role in civil immigration enforcement and the use of City resources.

IMMIGRATION RESOURCES

With recent reports of immigration officials targeting immigrant populations in the Twin Cities, the City of Falcon Heights wants to ensure that residents can connect to the proper resources that they need.

It is important to stay calm during an encounter with immigration officials or law enforcement. If you are stopped by an officer, first ask if they are from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) or Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

Regardless of immigration status, you have the right to speak to a lawyer. You are allowed to have a lawyer with you when being questioned by ICE or CBP.

You can learn more about your rights by visiting the [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) website. There are quick cards to "Know Your Rights" in 56 different languages created by the [Immigrant Legal Resource Center](#).

Additional Resources:

- [Immigration Law Center of Minnesota](#)
- ["Know Your Rights" Information Sheets](#)
- [International Institute of Minnesota](#)
- [Find A Lawyer, Minnesota State Bar Association](#)



HOW YOU CAN HELP

If you are interested in supporting the people in our community during this time, below is a list of local organizations in need of support:

Falcon Heights Elementary PTA Family Support Drive

- Falcon Heights Elementary PTA is collecting non-perishable food, personal care products, and toilet paper for families in need. Cash donations will be appreciated. All money donated will be converted to grocery gift cards for families in our community who express need, or to purchase grocery items for a district food bank.

Brimhall Elementary PTA Community Care & Support Fund

- The Brimhall Elementary PTA is raising funds to help provide direct support to families in need within our school community. Donations will be used to assist with essential needs and to offer relief and stability.

Roseville Area Schools Food & Personal Products Drive

- Roseville Area Schools is hosting a food drive to support the Roseville Area Schools Food Shelf, located at Roseville Area High School. From January 21-30, every school and building in Roseville Area Schools will have a collection bin in its main office.

Keystone Community Services

- Keystone Services in St. Paul are collecting, packing and delivering food to residents in need.

Every Meal

- Every Meal is launching an effort to provide an additional 20,000 food bags to children and families across our community in response to increased need for food support across Minnesota.

If you wish to share your thoughts on ICE's presence in Minnesota reach out to your Federal Representatives below:

- U.S. Representative Betty McCollum (4th Congressional District)
 - Call 202-225-6631 (Washington D.C. Office)
 - Call 651-224-9191 (St. Paul Office)
 - Click [this link](#) to submit a contact form
- U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar
 - Call 202-224-3244 (Washington D.C. Office)
 - Call 612-727-5220
 - Click [this link](#) to submit a contact form
- U.S. Senator Tina Smith
 - Call 202-224-5641 (Washington D.C. Office)
 - Call 651-221-1016 (St. Paul Office)
 - Click [this link](#) to submit a contact form



>>> CITY COUNCIL

The City Council meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM at City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur Avenue. Meetings are streamed live from NineNorth (formerly CTV) and televised on public access channel 16.



MAYOR RANDY GUSTAFSON

RANDY.GUSTAFSON@FALCONHEIGHTS.ORG

COUNCIL MEMBER PAULA MIELKE

PAULA.MIELKE@FALCONHEIGHTS.ORG



COUNCIL MEMBER GEORGIANA MAY

GEORGIANA.MAY@FALCONHEIGHTS.ORG

COUNCIL MEMBER JIM WASSENBERG

JAMES.WASSENBERG@FALCONHEIGHTS.ORG



COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES MOGEN

JAMES.MOGEN@FALCONHEIGHTS.ORG

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Wednesday, January 28 - City Council Workshop - 6:00 PM
- Wednesday, January 28 - City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM
- Wednesday, February 11 - City Council Workshop - 6:00 PM
- Wednesday, February 11 - City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM





CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP



CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 28, 2026
6:00 PM

AGENDA

POLICY ITEMS

- Consideration of Resolution 26-12 Affirming Community Values and City Action Related to Immigration Enforcement and Responsible Stewardship of City Resources
- Direction on Designating an Acting Mayor for 2026

The full City Council agenda packet can be found [here](#).





CITY COUNCIL MEETING



CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 28, 2026
7:00 PM

AGENDA

PRESENTATION

- Presentation by the State Fair Task Force - Final Report to the City Council

MINUTES

- December 22, 2025 City Council Meeting Minutes
- January 7, 2026 City Council Special Workshop Minutes
- January 14, 2026 City Council Meeting Minutes

CONSENT AGENDA

- General Disbursements, Payroll, Wire Payments
- City Licenses
- Approval of Resolution 26-07 Accepting Donation from Falcon Heights/Lauderdale Lions Club
- Approval of Resolution 26-08 Appointing Mark Miazga to the Planning Commission
- Approval of Resolution 26-09 Appointing Erica Bjelland to the Environment Commission
- Approval of Resolution 26-10 Appointing Naomi Loud Heinsch to the Parks and Recreation Commission
- Approval of Resolution 26-11 Declaring the Public Works F-250 as Surplus to Sell to Purple Wave Auction
- Approval of the City of Falcon Heights 2026 Pay Equity Report Submission

POLICY ITEMS

- Consideration of Resolution 26-12 Affirming Community Values and Stewardship of Community Resources Amidst Immigration Enforcement Operations
- Appointment of Acting Mayor

The full City Council agenda packet can be found [here](#).



COMMUNITY <<< EVENTS & UPDATES

COYOTE SIGHTINGS

January/February is coyote breeding season, which prompts more activity as last year's juveniles are pushed out and these new adults are looking for their own territory to set up housekeeping. New pups are whelped in April or early May.

It's important to note that Animal Control and police officers do not respond to coyote sightings except when dangerous.

Most coyotes avoid people and domestic animals. However, incidents have been reported in Minnesota and other states. Experts believe these incidents are more likely after a coyote has become accustomed to humans, or after being fed by humans.

Consider the following don'ts:

- do not feed coyotes
- do not leave pet food outside
- do not allow cats and small dogs outside, unattended

More information can be found [here](#).

AARP TAX-AIDE APPOINTMENTS

AARP Tax-Aide appointments will return to Falcon Heights City Hall starting on Thursday, February 5.

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide provides in-person and virtual tax assistance to anyone, free of charge, with a focus on taxpayers who are over 50 and have low to moderate income. AARP membership is not required.

Appointments will be made online this year. [Click here to make an appointment online](#), or scan the QR-code below. If you are unable to make an appointment online, please call 651-504-5098 and leave a voicemail for a volunteer to return your call.



FALCON HEIGHTS ICE RINKS

Public Works will continue to create layers of ice at the skating rinks located at The Grove and at Curtiss Field. Please stay off the ice and do not toss items onto it whenever "No Skating" signage is posted. That will help ensure better ice quality and not cause delays in the ice being ready for skating.

Call the recorded weather line at 651-792-7607 to hear current skating conditions.



MARNIE THIES VIOLIN LESSONS

Marnie Thies Violin Lessons offers private violin lessons for children (ages 5+) and adults at Falcon Heights United Church of Christ, 1795 Holton St., Suite 102, St Paul, MN 55113.

Marnie has been teaching Suzuki violin lessons in the St. Paul area since 2004. Lessons are flexible and supportive for learners with ADHD and autism.

Learn more about lessons and scheduling [here](#).

COMMUNITY <<< EVENTS & UPDATES

IMPROVE YOUR HOME'S EFFICIENCY FOR FREE

Is your home less comfortable this winter than you remember it being last year? Home Energy Squad® can help.

Home Energy Squad is an energy efficient program offered by CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy to their customers. When you have a visit, energy experts will visit your home and complete an energy efficiency assessment. They'll check your insulation, air leakage, heating system, water heater and more, making recommendations for updates that will help you save energy.

As part of your visit, the experts who visit your home will also provide and install energy-saving products, like LED light bulbs, door and attic hatch weatherstripping and more, as needed based on the findings of your assessment. You may even be able to purchase a smart thermostat and have it installed during the visit for no additional cost.

Thanks to Falcon Heights, your Home Energy Squad visit will be free with code Winter Chill. Schedule your visit today to receive the energy assessment, products and guidance at no cost to you now through February 28.

For more information on the Home Energy Squad and to schedule your visit, please visit [their website](#) or call 651-328-6220.



COMMUNITY <<< EVENTS & UPDATES

ST. ANTHONY PARK AREA SENIORS

Card-Making Workshop

Presented by St. Anthony Park Area Seniors

Card-maker and SAPAS volunteer Sharon Moore is offering a card-making workshop. Create and take home your own cards and crafts!

No experience necessary, and supplies will be provided. This workshop is offered free of charge. All are welcome, though registration is required as space is limited!

- Date: Thursday, February 5, 2026
- Time: 9:30 – 11:00 AM
- Place: 2200 Hillside Avenue West, go to Door 2

Call the SAPAS office at 651-642-9052 or e-mail sc@sapaseniors.org for more information and to register.

RADON TESTING

January is National Radon Action Month

Radon is a naturally occurring, radioactive gas. It is odorless, tasteless and invisible. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), radon is the nation's second leading cause of lung cancer. The Minnesota Department of Health recommends every home be tested for radon.

Radon may enter a home anywhere there is an opening between the home and the soil. These openings include cracks in the foundation, floor drains and sumps. The levels of radon that can build up indoors vary according to the amount of radon in the source material and its rate of entry into the building.

Test for radon: The only way to know the radon level in your home is to test. Testing is easy and inexpensive. Residents can purchase a radon test kit at many retail stores or order one from us. It is accurate and will give you the information you need to determine the level of radon in your home.

Order a short-term radon test from Ramsey County for a reduced price [here](#).



GIBBS FARM - WINTER CRAFT SERIES

Collage Valentines 2026

Join Gibbs Farm for their Winter Craft Series - Collage Valentines 2026. They've got all of the collage materials, paper doilies, sequins, glitter, and stickers you need to create one-of-a-kind valentines. Great for all ages!

Details

- Saturday, February 7
- Two Sessions 1:00 PM-2:30 PM or 2:30 PM-4:00 PM.
- Price: \$7 or \$5 for RCHS Members
- Location: Gibbs Farm (2097 W Larpenteur Ave.)

Learn more and register [here](#) or email Clare@RCHS.com with inquiries and questions.

JOIN THE PLASTIC-FREE CHALLENGE IN FEBRUARY

Take part in the Twin Cities Plastic-Free Challenge, a month-long effort to earn points while you reduce plastic consumption, especially single-use plastics, in ways that fit best in your lifestyle and have the most impact on reducing your footprint. Join an existing team, start your own, or be a part of the community team. Join the challenge at tcplasticfree.ecochallenge.org

COMMUNITY <<< EVENTS & UPDATES

COMMUNITY PARK UPDATE

Crews have installed the prefabricated building and picnic shelter.

As the weather has changed, crews have paused exterior work. Over the winter, they will continue interior work.

During the renovation, park visitors are advised to use caution around construction areas. The remainder of the park will remain open.

More information about the Community Park renovation can be found [here](#).



NATURE NEWSFLASH <<<

WINTER SALT WEEK 2026

January 26th-30th is Winter Salt Week!

Salt prematurely ages vehicles, roads, and bridges and degrades our freshwater lakes, streams, and drinking water.

Falcon Heights is working this winter to implement smart salting practices. City plow truck operators attend a Smart Salting Program by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. This certification is designed to help operators reduce chloride pollution in Minnesota's lakes, rivers, and groundwater without compromising public safety. The program provides training and certification to help organizations reduce salt use by 30-70%.

This winter, operators began using salt brine, a liquid that is 23% salt and 77% water. It's applied to the roads 48 hours before a storm, and prevents snow and ice from bonding to the pavement, making it significantly easier for plows to clear the surface. Salt brine also begins the de-icing process instantly.

As we dive head-first into winter, you can help protect Minnesota's freshwater resources by following the 4 S's:

- Shovel (or snow blow) and sweep as much snow as possible before spreading salt.
- If needed, scatter salt so there is space in between the grains (no piles!).
- Switch from salt to sand (or a treated de-icer) if the temperature is under 15°F.
- Sweep up excess salt after the ice has melted.

Follow the 4 S's and you will save money, protect our community's infrastructure, AND keep salt out of our waterways! To learn more about salt pollution and salt reduction success stories, check out January 2026 Winter Week events at www.wintersaltweek.org.



>>> PARKS AND RECREATION <<<

City Hall Programming

Tae Kwon Do <<<

Tae Kwon Do Basic and Intermediate/Advanced sessions are held on Tuesday evenings, with classes running from January 6 through February 10. See the specific schedule online.

Cardio Kickboxing classes are held on Thursdays, with classes running from January 8 through February 12 from 5:30 to 6:15 PM.

All classes are held in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Classes are instructed by Joshua Jordan, a 2nd-degree black belt. These classes help develop self-defense skills, mental strength, focus, self-confidence, physical health and flexibility.

For more information and to register, [click here](#):

>>> Yoga

Yoga classes are held on Mondays at 4:30 PM in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Whenever classes are underway, you may still purchase single or multiple drop-in sessions and join!

Classes are instructed by Shaila Cunningham, who has over 20 years of experience and was certified in 2001 in-residence at Kripalu. Appropriate for healthy beginners or for those wanting to explore "deeper practices," classes will combine classical yoga with best practices, served up with a side of humor. Shaila serves as instructor for North Oaks and Midland Hills Golf Clubs and offers additional classes at YogaHotDish locations.

For more information, to see the class schedule, and to register, [click here](#):



>>> PARKS AND RECREATION <<<

City Hall Programming

Breathwork <<<

Calling all folks looking to ground, release, move stuck energy and restore! With minimal tools (it's just you and your breath), breathwork allows for an immediate shift so we may let go of stress, pain & stuckness to create space for new life, energy and flow.

During these circles, we practice a 3-part breath, sometimes referred to as conscious connected breath (in through the belly, in through the chest, and exhale-all in and out through the mouth). Speed this up just a bit, and there you have it. Find a pace that works for you and enjoy the ride.

Class will be held from 6:30 to 8:00 PM on the following three Thursdays in the Council Chambers at City Hall:

- Thursday, February 5
- Thursday, March 5
- Thursday, April 2

You can register for one, two, or all three classes! Payment is on a sliding fee scale of \$17/\$27/\$37 per class. Pay what you can!

For more information and to register, [click this link](#).





The mission of ComoConnects is to organize community volunteers, professionals, and family members to provide care for their neighborhood seniors in ways that support choice, dignity, and independence.

With the spirit of "Neighbors Helping Neighbors," ComoConnects provides a spectrum of services, bringing neighborhood health professionals, volunteers, caregivers, and community leaders together to provide high-quality, long-term care.

They provide services to residents aged 65 and better in the community of Como Park as well as areas of Falcon Heights.

To learn more about ComoConnects, visit their website [here](#) or call 651-642-1127

TUBMAN LEGAL SERVICES

For over 48 years, Tubman has helped people of all ages, genders, and cultural backgrounds who are experiencing relationship violence, exploitation, mental and chemical health issues, and other forms of trauma.

Throughout the Twin Cities, Tubman provides safe shelter, housing legal services, counseling, youth programming, violence prevention, community education, and other wraparound services.

More information can be found [here](#).

>>> RESIDENT RESOURCES

NORTHEAST YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES



NYFS is here for you!

Immediate openings are available for
mental health clients age 4 and over

Call us at 651-486-3808 or
[request an appointment online today!](#)



Northeast Youth & Family Services (NYFS) is a nonprofit, community-based and trauma-informed mental health and community services organization that has been serving people in the northeastern suburbs since 1976.

NYFS services include clinic-based and telehealth counseling for all ages, school-based services, day treatment services for middle and high school youth, diversion programming for youth, Community Connections programming for isolated youth, and Community Advocate services.



RESIDENT <<< RESOURCES

Online BIPOC Support Groups

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) has coordinated various online support groups to help BIPOC. Please click [here](#) for more information.



Energy Cents Coalition

Are you looking for help paying your Xcel bills or are you in need of a replacement furnace, water heater, or refrigerator? Call 651 - 774 - 9010 to check if you are eligible.

Protection & Crisis:

There are protection & crisis resources available that are provided by Ramsey County. Click [here](#) for more information regarding protection and crisis resources.

Emergency Assistance:

Get help with shelter payments, such as past due rent, to stop evictions or foreclosure. Click [here](#) for more information that could help!

Blood Pressure Clinics

Sponsored by



COMOCONNECTS
Resources & support for neighborhood seniors



Love your heart! Take advantage of these **free/donation-based** Blood Pressure Clinics.



1st & 3rd Mondays from 2-3:30 PM at Arbor Pointe Apartments

2nd & 4th Mondays from 2-3:30 PM at Falcon Heights City Hall

1st & 3rd Wednesdays from 10-11:30 AM at Hendrickson Apartments

Food Assistance:

There are many meal and food assistance programs that are available in Ramsey County.

Visit the Ramsey County website for information regarding food resource guides, programming, emergency support and more! Use the interactive map to find resources near you, including delivery services, free dining and meal sites.

United Way

United Way 2-1-1 provides free and confidential health and human services information for people in Minnesota. They are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to connect you with resources and information. Just call 2-1-1



>>> RESIDENT RESOURCES

MAKE SURE YOUR HOUSE IS LEAD SAFE

Lead is a toxic metal that is harmful to humans, especially children under 6 and pregnant or breastfeeding adults. The most common source of lead exposure is paint and dust on windows in homes built before 1978. Any amount of lead exposure is dangerous. If you or someone in your household may have been exposed to lead, contact your healthcare provider.

Lead removal grant:
Ramsey County provides grant funding to reduce lead poisoning in children.

How it works:

- An environmental health specialist tests for sources of lead in your home.
- Windows that test positive for lead-based paint are replaced.
- Other lead hazards found in the home are addressed.
- Grant funds cover 80% of the project cost, homeowner is responsible for remaining 20%.

To learn more about qualifications, and how to clean up sources of lead in your residence, [visit this website](#).

FREE LEGAL HELP FOR RENTERS

HOME Line provides free and low-cost legal, organizing, education, and advocacy services so that tenants throughout Minnesota can solve their own rental housing problems. We work to improve public and private policies relating to rental housing by involving affected tenants in the process.

The hotline service is confidential.

- For English, call 612-728-5767 or email your question to one of our housing attorneys.
 - Toll-free from Greater Minnesota: 866-866-3546
- HOME Line ofrece servicios en español. Para Español, llame al 612-255-8870.
- HOME Line waxay bixisaa adeeg ku baxa Afka-Soomaaliga. Af- Soomaali wac 612-255-8860.
- Peb lub koom haum HOME Line muaj neeg txhais lus Hmoob. Hais lus Hmoob, Hu 612-255-7104.



CITY COMMISSIONS <<<

The City of Falcon Heights has four City Commissions, which serve the City Council in an advisory capacity. All commissioners, including youth members, receive a \$50 stipend per formally noticed meeting attended, provided they are present for the majority of the meeting. Commissioners may decline compensation and serve voluntarily.

Commission vacancies are noted on the respective pages for each commission for a period of at least 30 days, with a post and end date stated. [To learn about any vacancies, please click here.](#)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMISSION

The Community Engagement Commission advises the City Council on matters related to community needs and issues, crime and prevention, public awareness, community involvement, and human rights issues. The commission also helps plan and facilitate community events such as Human Rights Day and the Ice Cream Social.

The Community Engagement Commission meets on the third Monday of the month at 6:30 PM at City Hall.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

The Parks & Recreation Commission advises the Council on matters related to the operation of the City's public parks and the City recreation program.

The Parks & Recreation Commission meets on the first Monday of the month at 6:30 PM at City Hall.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission advises the City Council on matters related to planning, zoning, and land use. Meetings are streamed [live from NineNorth](#) and televised on public access channel 15.

The Planning Commission meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM at City Hall.

ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

The Environment Commission advises the City Council on matters related to environmental issues, including recycling and waste disposal, community gardens, and stormwater runoff. The Commission also develops and recommends the implementation of environmentally friendly initiatives such as rain barrels and solar panels, supporting and advancing the City's participation in the [GreenStep Cities](#) program.

The Environment Commission meets on the second Monday of the month at 6:30 PM at City Hall.

CITY RENTAL FACILITIES <<<

>>> CITY HALL

Full Council Chambers

Full Capacity: 150 / 75 seated

Pricing: \$125 + tax for 3 hours \$200 + tax for a half day \$275 + tax for a full day

A \$200 refundable damage deposit is required and setup fees may also apply.

Partial Council Chambers

Half Capacity: 75 / 30 seated

Pricing: \$60 + tax for 3 hours \$115 + tax for a half day \$175 + tax for a full day

A \$200 refundable damage deposit is required and setup fees may also apply.

Conference Room

Capacity: 8 maximum

Pricing: \$35 + tax for 3 hours \$70 + tax for a half day \$125 + tax for a full day

A \$200 refundable damage deposit is required and setup fees may also apply.

Kitchen

Capacity: 10 / 6 seated

Pricing: \$30 + tax for 3 hours \$60 + tax for a half day \$75 + tax for a full day

A \$200 refundable damage deposit is required and setup fees may also apply.

City Hall reservations are only available for PUBLIC use; no private events may be held here.

Reservation Form

FIELD/COURT <<<

The City has various courts and fields that can be reserved at Curtiss Field and at Community Park. For details and specific pricing, please see the [reservation form](#)



CONTACT US <<<

City Hall

651-792-7600

Jack Linehan

651-792-7611

City Administrator

Kelly Nelson

651-792-7617

Administrative Services Director /
Deputy Clerk

Elke Johnson

651-792-7621

Administrative & Communications
Coordinator

Alyssa Landberg

651-792-7628

Interim Finance Director

Hannah Lynch

651-792-7613

Community Development Coordinator/
City Planner

Colin Callahan

651-792-7618

Public Works Director

FIRE

Fire protection is provided by the
St. Paul Fire Department.

Emergencies 911

Non-emergency 651-266-8989

POLICE

Police protection is provided by the
St. Anthony Police Department

Emergencies 911

Non-emergency 651-767-0640

CITY HALL HOURS:

Monday - Friday:

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

