

**Addenda  
Minnetonka City Council Meeting  
Meeting of December 6, 2021**

**ITEM 12A – Ordinance amending Minnetonka City Code Section 835 relating to waste collection/disposal and recycling**

The attached correspondence was received after distribution of the packet.

**ITEM 14A – Items relating to the 2022 operating budget and levies**

The attached correspondence was received after distribution of the packet.

**ITEM 14D – Concept Plan for redevelopment of the property at 14317 Excelsior Blvd**

The attached correspondence was received after distribution of the packet.



14600 Minnetonka Blvd. | Minnetonka, MN 55345 | 952-939-8200 | minnetonkamn.gov

**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** Will Manchester, P.E., Director of Public Works  
Darin Ellingson, P.E., Streets and Parks Operations Manager

**DATE:** Dec. 6, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Change Memo for Dec. 6, 2021 City Council Meeting

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**ITEM 12A – Ordinance amending Minnetonka City Code Section 835 relating to waste collection/disposal and recycling**

The attached correspondence was received after the distribution of the packet.

**From:** [Jane Ball](#)  
**To:** [Will Manchester](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Comment re: City Code amendment  
**Date:** Monday, December 6, 2021 2:45:42 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Thanks again. I appreciate your work on this.

On Dec 6, 2021, at 2:40 PM, Will Manchester <[wmanchester@minnetonkamn.gov](mailto:wmanchester@minnetonkamn.gov)> wrote:

Hi Jane,

Republic has typically sent the vouchers in the spring. We will reach out to them on their specific timeframe for 2022 and make sure to share it with you as soon as we have something. Thanks.

Will

**William D. Manchester, P.E.** | Director of Public Works  
City of Minnetonka | [minnetonkamn.gov](http://minnetonkamn.gov)  
Office: 952-988-8403

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**From:** Jane Ball <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 6, 2021 2:34 PM  
**To:** Will Manchester <[wmanchester@minnetonkamn.gov](mailto:wmanchester@minnetonkamn.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Comment re: City Code amendment

Will - Thanks very much for your response. I will keep an eye out for my voucher, which I don't think I have received for a few years. Do you have any idea the month or season that Republic will mail out the voucher?

Jane

On Dec 6, 2021, at 1:27 PM, Will Manchester <[wmanchester@minnetonkamn.gov](mailto:wmanchester@minnetonkamn.gov)> wrote:

Ms. Ball,

Received your below regarding the city code amendment item on tonight's council agenda. It has been discussed at previous meetings and wanted to also share the link to the most recent Nov. 15 study session. At that meeting the direction of the city's organics collection was discussed further prior to tonight's proposed city code amendment.

<https://www.minnetonkamn.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/9904/637721559380170000>

To answer your specific questions:

- 1) I don't see that the proposed ordinance provides a framework for the fees that a service may charge for organics collection?

This ordinance does not cover fees, however fees were discussed at the Nov. 15 meeting and are covered under a different section of the ordinance in which no increases are proposed to the city's recycling fee from 2021 to 2022. The costs of organics recycling, which will be required to be offered by all licensed garbage haulers, would continue to be determined by the specific hauler each resident chooses to use.

- 2) Can different services charge different amounts?

Yes, it would be up to the hauler to determine their costs to residents.

- 3) Do the services charge different amounts depending on the city (e.g., from the website [wayzata.org](http://wayzata.org), it appears to be free in Wayzata)?

These charges could vary city to city based on a number of factors including number of subscribers, layout of a city, location to disposal, etc. It is up to the hauler to determine their pricing, however we would expect to see competitive pricing between licensed haulers.

- 4) I have been paying for Randy's (now Republic) Sanitation Blue Bag Organics for several years. I think the service is expensive. They have offered as part of the service a "free" bag of compost every year. However, I have had to pick up the bag at their facility in Delano or Burnsville. For the last 3 years, a bag has not been available to me. Other than 2020 due to covid, apparently the bags have been available at the annual Mtka tree sale, but I have never received notification of that. I think that is a better alternative than having every resident drive 50-75 miles to pick up their bag (distinctly NOT environmentally friendly). I would appreciate some uniformity and better communication about when and where the compost bags are available, and that the bags be available somewhere in Minnetonka.

Prior to Covid, each year Randy's would mail a voucher to their Blue Bag customers that indicated locations and dates that they could pick up their free bag of compost, one of which was the Minnetonka tree sale. We typically had been a pick up location on the dates of the tree sale when it was hosted in the spring. This was a convenient way to make the bags available to the public and residents of Minnetonka. Randy's chose alternative pickup sites in in 2021, however we will certainly check in with them again on our desire to offer a location in Minnetonka to make convenient for residents.

- 5) I would also appreciate some assurance that the fee for the service is reasonable and consistent.

We have discussed with other comparable city's and found that generally, the cities using the organics collection pickup option similar to Minnetonka, have found similar pricing.

If there is anything you'd like to discuss further or have additional questions, don't hesitate to give myself (contact below) or Darin Ellingson (952-988-8414), who manages waste and recycling for the city, a call.

Thank you.

Will



**William D. Manchester, P.E.** | Director of Public Works  
City of Minnetonka | [minnetonkamn.gov](http://minnetonkamn.gov)

14600 Minnetonka Blvd. | Minnetonka, MN 55345  
Office: 952-988-8403

**From:** [minnetonkamn@minnetonkamn.gov](mailto:minnetonkamn@minnetonkamn.gov) <[minnetonkamn@minnetonkamn.gov](mailto:minnetonkamn@minnetonkamn.gov)>

**Sent:** Saturday, December 4, 2021 5:33 PM

**To:** Kyle Salage <[ksalage@minnetonkamn.gov](mailto:ksalage@minnetonkamn.gov)>

**Subject:** \*NEW SUBMISSION\* City council and EDA email comments

## City council and EDA email comments

**Submission Date:** 12/04/2021 5:33

### Name

Jane Ball

### Full Address

3422 Meadow Lane  
Minnetonka, MN 55345  
Hennepin

### Comment

I don't see that the proposed ordinance provides a framework for the fees that a service may charge for organics collection. Can different services charge different amounts? Do the services charge different amounts depending on the city (e.g., from the website [wayzata.org](http://wayzata.org), it appears to be free in Wayzata)? I have been paying for Randy's (now Republic) Sanitation Blue Bag Organics for several years. I think the service is expensive. They have offered as part of the service a "free" bag of compost every year. However, I have had to pick up the bag at their facility in Delano or Burnsville. For the last 3 years, a bag has not been available to me. Other than 2020 due to covid, apparently the bags have been available at the annual Mtka tree sale, but I have never received notification of that. I think that is a better alternative than having every resident drive 50-75 miles to pick up their bag (distinctly NOT environmentally friendly). I would appreciate some uniformity and better communication about when and where the compost bags are available, and that the bags be available somewhere in Minnetonka. I would also appreciate some assurance that the fee for the service is reasonable and consistent. Thank you.



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**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** Darin Nelson, Finance Director  
**DATE:** Dec. 6, 2021  
**SUBJECT:** Change Memo for Dec. 6, 2021

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**ITEM 14A – Items relating to the 2022 operating budget and levies**

Two public comments were received since the agenda was distributed late last week. Both comments are attached.

Attachment #1 - Mr. Mehle at 2009 Runnymede Ct indicated he had trouble submitting feedback online. I reached out to him early this morning via e-mail and then later this morning via telephone to solicit his feedback. I have not heard back from him at this point.

Attachment #2 – Mr. Cherryhomes resides at 5921 Creek Point; I am including a response I sent to him earlier today in addition to his comments and questions.

# Customer Service Request

Requested:

Routine Maintenance:

Emergency:

Address 1  
 Address 2  
 City  
 State/Province  
 Zip/Postal Code

Please provide additional contact information such as a cellular number or fax number if available. Landline: [REDACTED]

Describe your concern or question in detail  
 The current issue of 'Minnetonka Memo' has information on the proposed budget levy for 2022. Page 2 of the Memo says to 'Submit feedback online at: minnetonkamn.gov/request. I have tried a number of times and cannot get a dialogue box to open up so that I can provide my feedback/input.

Is there any information that you would like to provide regarding your comment or concern  
 Please contact me so that I can give my feedback/input on your 2020 budget proposal.

Would you like city staff to follow up with you? If yes, please provide contact information above  
 Yes |

Reference No: W056719-120521  
 Request Status: New Request  
 Service Request Type: Other Topic  
 Priority: Medium  
 Assigned To: Darin Nelson  
 Email: [REDACTED]  
 Name: Mike Mehle  
 Phone: [REDACTED]  
 Address: 2009 Runnymede Ct  
 City: Minnetonka  
 State/Province: MN  
 Zip/Postal Code: 55305-2650  
 Create Date: 12/5/2021 2:38:50 PM  
 Update Date: 12/6/2021 8:42:39 AM  
 Source: Web

## Employee Responsibility

**Note:**  
 All requests are posted as "Open" and will remain on this report until you return this form to customer service as either "Completed" or "No Action Taken".

Action Taken:	Date:
	Time:

No Action Taken (Reason):	Date:
	Time:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



# Other Topic (W056720-120521)

## Other Topic Details

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Please provide additional contact information such as a cellular number or fax number if available.:

Describe your concern or question in detail:

I was reading over the 2022 budget summary and it doesn't make sense. It says the increase is partly to reinstate "a portion of the levy dedicated to capital projects and equipment purchases that were suspended in 2021". I did not have a commensurate tax reduction so saying the 5.5% is partly to reinstate funding does not seem right from my tax burden. Further, why in this affluent district with very few problems are we spending 21% on public safety, including a whopping 2.2% of the increase going to firefighters. Do we have a public safety failure today? It sure doesn't seem like it. 16% goes toward recreation and parks & environment which is a very high number; what recreation do we have that requires that much money? I'm all for beautiful parks and things like the summer fest, but I can't see that taking so much of the capital. Have you actually examined the expenditures by category and asked whether it's truly needed at that scale? It seems like you're just spending more money and never trying to manage within a fixed budget like any business would have to do.

Is there any information that you would like to provide regarding your comment or concern:

Tax hike is a problem

Would you like city staff to follow up with you? If yes, please provide contact information above:

Yes |

## Message History

Date

On 12/6/2021 11:35:23 AM, Darin Nelson wrote:

Date

CC: kodea@minnetonkamn.gov; mfunk@minnetonkamn.gov;

**Subject:** Service Request Updated :: W056720-120521

**Body:**

Good morning Mr. Cherryhomes,

Thank you for your feedback, it is very much welcomed and appreciated. I will do my best to answer your questions, but please follow up if you have any additional questions or concerns.

During the preparation of the 2021 budget which began in the spring of 2020 and not long after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was unclear as to what long-range impacts the pandemic would bring. We knew residents and businesses were seeing immediate impacts from the shutdown in the national and worldwide economy. Long-range forecasts for the city's levy had initially called for about a 5.8% increase in the 2021 levy, council and staff knew this was not viable given the uncertainty of the pandemic. Budget modifications were enacted to reduce the levy increase to 3.5% from the initial 5.8% increase. The largest modification included suspending capital equipment purchases and other capital projects initially slated for 2021 and beyond. By suspending these projects/equipment purchases in 2021, they need to be reinstated for 2022 which means increasing the levy dedicated to these areas in 2022, which is about 2.3 percent of the 5.6 proposed levy increase.

As for a commensurate tax reduction in 2021 to your specific property taxes, the city's 2021 tax impact for the median valued home that increased in value 3.4 percent to \$390,000 was estimated to decrease \$5 annually. This was based on a 3.5% levy increase. This calculation is an average and may or not correlate to your specific property.

The city's public safety expenditures relate to police, fire, legal and public health. The 2022 budget is requesting the addition of 9 full-time firefighters to supplement the current staffing needs. Our current model of paid-on-call firefighters is not sustainable as our response times are increasing and it is more and more difficult to find part-time firefighters. The city does an annual resident survey that continues to indicate that public safety and the parks/natural environment are top priorities of the public. These priorities obviously come with a cost.

The charts in the memo may be a bit misleading, it is true that recreation and parks & environment account for 16% of all city expenditures. However, recreation programming does generate program fees that are not included in the expenditure chart. Many of the recreation programs charge a fee that covers a percent of the programs expenditures. The percentage varies depending upon the type of program. For instance, adult softball covers more than its costs, but swimming lessons are subsidized to ensure everyone has access to this important life skill. Trail expansion is also a high priority for the residents and council. Trail construction is very costly and is included in this percentage as well.

The development of the city's budget each year is done over the course of about 9 months. The staff and city council review various sections of the budget throughout this timeframe. We understand the burden of tax increases and do not take them lightly. We strive on providing quality public services at a reasonable value.

Thank you again for your comments, we truly appreciate residents taking the time provide their feedback. I will be including this response and your initial feedback in an addendum to our agenda packet for tonight's council meeting. This will ensure the entire council receives your feedback prior to the meeting. Any private information will be redacted from the public addendum, but will contain your name and address.

Again, please feel free to reach back out with any additional questions or comments you may have.

Thank you,

Darin Nelson

952-939-8253

On 12/5/2021 3:15:19 PM, System Generated Message:

**Subject:** Minnetonka Mike Admin Request :: W056720-120521

**Body:** Thank you. Your request has been submitted.

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Track the issue status and respond at: [https://mygovhelp.us/MINNETONKAMN/\\_rs/RequestEdit.aspx?rid=56720](https://mygovhelp.us/MINNETONKAMN/_rs/RequestEdit.aspx?rid=56720)

On 12/5/2021 3:15:18 PM, David Cherryhomes wrote:  
Request Created on Public Portal

## ▼ Request Details

Reference No:	W056720-120521
Create Date:	12/5/2021 3:15 PM
Update Date:	12/6/2021 11:35 AM
Completed/Closed:	No
Required Completion Date:	12/10/2021

Status: New Request  
Priority: Medium  
Assigned Dept: Finance  
Assigned Staff: Darin Nelson

Customer Name: David Cherryhomes

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Source: Web



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**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** Loren Gordon, AICP, City Planner  
**DATE:** Dec. 6, 2021  
**SUBJECT:** Change Memo for Dec. 6, 2021, City Council Meeting

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#### **Item 14D – DJR Concept Plan 14317 Excelsior Blvd.**

The attached comments were received after the packet was distributed.

- Mary Dahlin, 14301 Stewart Ln., Apt. 104:

#### **Comment**

I would like to make the following comments regarding the DJR Architecture Plan at 14317 Excelsior Boulevard (concept plan). (1) Traffic and safety -- Safety is a major concern along Stewart Lane as people walk, bike, and skateboard up and down the small hilly Stewart Lane. Adding seventy-two or more cars driving in and out of the underground garage right at a point where there are multiple of driveways seems to add hazards to this already dangerous situation. From the Glen Lake Neighborhood Study (June 2016) it specifically states to "...keep traffic off of the much narrower Stewart Lane." (2) Density and size-- The size of this building is about the same as the other two proposals for this small site. Even though the building would have fewer units, its imprint on the site seems too large both in mass and density. It is four stories while other proposals have been three stories. From the Stewart Lane view it would be 4 ½ stories. Again, some comments from the Glen Lake Neighborhood Study (June 2016) : Ø Substantial amount of density already in the area, concern that development is not matching the existing scale and character of the neighborhood. What do I think would be acceptable for our neighborhood? 3- 4 townhouses. The Renneke plot of land is about the same size as the southeast side of Glen Lake Dr where the Lakeside Estate Townhomes are. So, about four townhomes would fit in well without adding much more traffic. Please suggest a much smaller development on that plot of land. Thank you for your consideration of these concerns and comments of mine. Mary Dahlen Stewart Lane resident [REDACTED]

- Judy Brusseau, 14301 Stewart Ln., Apt. 103:

#### **Comment**

The concern regarding Stewart Lane still exists. It is an accident waiting to happen with heavy pedestrian traffic using the "Lane" to access Kinsel Park. What will/can be done? Adding additional traffic to this narrow road seems irresponsible.

- Gail Lindblom, 14301 Stewart Ln., Apt. 301:

**Comment**

I live at Zvago Cooperative, 14301 Stewart Lane. I am concerned about pedestrian safety along Stewart Lane. Currently there is no sidewalk along Stewart Lane. Pedestrians must walk in the street to access Excelsior Blvd. businesses and amenities, to access the Kinsel Park Pathway (along the east side of Zvago), and to access residences along Stewart Lane. With the addition of 40 or more vehicles to the neighborhood, a pedestrian-vehicle accident seems very likely. The sharp corner turn of Stewart Lane (southeast corner) is already a hazard; cars traveling through this corner frequently cross over the center line. Therefore, I request additional signage and a painted crosswalk to warn drivers to watch for pedestrians in this area and to reduce their speed when approaching the corner turn. The site plan for the proposed property at 14317 Excelsior Blvd. shows a sidewalk on the south side of Stewart Lane, but it does not show a sidewalk on the east side of Stewart Lane. I recommend that the proposed sidewalk continue completely around the proposed property development to provide a safe pedestrian transit.