



# City Council Conference Meeting

May 27, 2025

5:30 PM

Fridley City Hall, 7071 University Avenue N.E.

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## Agenda

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- [1.](#) Northstar Commuter Rail Update
  - [2.](#) Police Staffing
  - [3.](#) Public Art Program Update
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- Yog tias koj xav tau kev pab txhais lus los sis txhais ntaub ntawv dawb, ces thov tiv tauj rau Lub Nroog cov neeg ua hauj lwm.
- Haddii aad u baahan tahay tarjumaad bilaash ah ama kaalmo tarjumaad, fadlan la xiriir shaqaalaha Magaalada.

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# INFORMATIONAL UPDATE

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**Date:** May 27, 2025

**Submitted By:** Paul Bolin, Asst. Exec. Director - HRA

## **Title**

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Northstar Commuter Rail Update

## **Background**

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Metro Transit has started the process of eliminating Northstar commuter rail service. Over the past month, staff have attended three meetings to hear preliminary plans for the shuttering of the Northstar line.

Community Development Staff provide an overview of the discussions to date and the impact closing of the Northstar service will have on the Fridley station.

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## **Vision Statement**

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



# AGENDA REPORT

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**Meeting Date:** May 27, 2025

**Meeting Type:** City Council Conference Meeting

**Submitted By:** Ryan George, Public Safety Director

## **Title**

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Police Staffing

## **Background**

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Staff and the City Council will discuss various staffing topics within the Police Division.

## **Attachments and Other Resources**

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- None

## **Vision Statement**

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# AGENDA REPORT

**Meeting Date:** May 27, 2025

**Meeting Type:** City Council Conference

**Submitted By:** Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director  
Scott Hickock, Community Development Director

**Title:**

Public Art Program Update

## Background

Several significant developments are underway for Fridley's public arts program including:

- Transition of staff liaison for the Public Arts Commission from Community Development Director Scott Hickock (retiring) to Parks and Recreation Director, Mike Maher. Engineering Technician Jesslyn Quiram will additionally play an instrumental role as a second staff contact representing the Public Works Department. Jesslyn and Mike will work together closely to ensure that public art projects meet the goals of the Public Arts Commission but are also seamlessly integrated into city infrastructure and are maintainable, safe and durable.
- The Public Arts Commission has provided a recommendation for an artist to complete a sculpture for the Commons Park site, with the goal of completion and installation by June of 2026. A public request for proposals was prepared and published for the project and 19 qualifications were submitted by artists from across the nation.
- Through a combination of application scoring and thoughtful discussion at a public meeting held on May 7th, the Public Arts Commission narrowed the field down to two artists that they felt were best qualified to realize the vision for the project, with a budget not to exceed \$50,000.
- Two artists were interviewed at a meeting of the Public Arts Commission held on May 14<sup>th</sup>. Based on interviews and discussion, the Commission provided a recommendation to enter into agreement negotiations with artist Ken McCall, based in Garden City, Idaho. During his 20-year career, Ken has completed public art projects in many states and Canada.
- A budget of \$50,000 was established for the Commons Park public art project, to be installed in a circular, raised bed area of the four-season plaza to the east of the park building. These funds have been committed by the Fridley Creative Arts Foundation, a nonprofit organization established in 2024 to foster the development of the arts in Fridley through fundraising and financial support.
- An agreement is currently being reviewed by the City Attorney to represent the interests of the artist, City of Fridley and Fridley Creative Arts Foundation.
- A sculpture of a Northern Leopard Frog being completed by artist Jessica Turtle is being completed in her studio. Staff are currently coordinating the logistics of transportation and installation of the sculpture, which will be placed at the recently renovated Moore Lake Park.

## Vision Statement

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**Financial Impact**

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None. The Fridley Creative Arts Foundation has committed funds for the Commons Park Public Art project and the Northern Leopard Frog sculpture to be installed at Moore Lake Park was funded through a grant from the Rice Creek Watershed District and a generous donation from Mary Tjosvold.

**Recommendation**

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None

**Focus on Fridley Strategic Alignment**

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vibrant Neighborhoods & Places   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Identity & Relationship Building |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Stability & Commercial Prosperity | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety & Environmental Stewardship             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational Excellence                   |  |

**Attachments and Other Resources**

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**Vision Statement**

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