2024 ANNUAL *REPORT*

CITY OF MINNETONKA

Each year when we ask residents how long they plan to live in Minnetonka, the top answer is always 30 years or more. This is a community where people put down roots by building connections, participating in local activities and working to create a place where everyone is welcome.

Minnetonka's annual survey is a reflection of that strong community. Residents rank safety as the top thing they like about the city. While taxes rank as a concern, the value of city services provided relative to taxes paid receives an 84-percent positive rating. Eighty-one percent of residents say creating a diverse, inclusive and fair community should be a priority. Those quality of life rankings place Minnetonka among the top three suburbs in the greater metropolitan area.

How many years do you plan to live in Minnetonka?	
30+	30%
21+	17%
11+	17%
6+	13%
2+	4%
1	3%

2024 Minnetonka Resident Survey

Safe and Healthy Community

Ninety-one percent of residents give recreational facilities, services and programs favorable ratings.

The Community Facilities Study offers a blueprint for the growth and development of amenities, such as The Marsh. Revenues grew thanks to increased memberships, fitness programs and lease agreements. The health and wellness center offers members 100 weekly classes along with a cafe, spa, retail area and physical therapy.

Minnetonka police and fire services receive top rankings for the greater metropolitan area.

Police added four patrol officers and plan to add an additional detective in 2025.

The addition of more full-time firefighters will support Station 5 as it begins 24/7 operations.

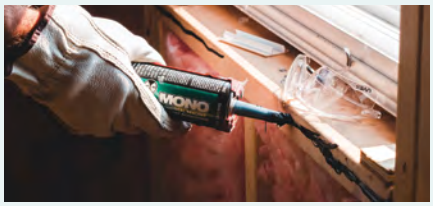
Police and Fire continue to coordinate on the most efficient response to increased EMS calls.

Sustainability, Resilience and Natural Environment

Residents rank water and energy conservation, along with waste reduction, as top priorities. The city and community members completed a Climate Adaptation and Action plan in 2024 to guide this work.

Stormwater inspections help identify the source of pollutants entering community wetlands and waterways.

More than 100 residents took advantage of free home energy audits in 2024, offering strategies to reduce heating and cooling bills.



The city's popular tree and shrub sale opens for orders in May. The sale is open to all residents and will allow everyone to see how their property is impacted by climate change. A Community Forest Management plan will also help the city develop new strategies to preserve and enhance Minnetonka's tree canopy.

The city now accepts leftover building materials at Community Drop-off Day.

Livable and Well-planned Development

Housing development and affordability are key strategies supporting the growth of Minnetonka's local economy. In the past five years, the city has added 2,809 multi-unit households. Twenty-eight percent are long-term affordable.

The city council created a work group to review Minnetonka's zoning ordinances. The goal is to make ordinances easier to understand and ensure they reflect the comprehensive plan goals.

Minnetonka Matters
MinnetonkaMatters.com

Minnetonka Matters now hosts all planning and development projects, making it easier for residents to track progress and provide feedback.

The city partnered with the Wayzata West Metro Chamber of Commerce to create the Minnetonka Business Council.

Work continues on the creation of a public space, wayfinding and trail connections as development picks up pace in the Opus Area.

Infrastructure and Asset Management

The city worked on 26 major construction projects in 2024, an increase from 12 projects the previous year. Work is guided by the streets and trail improvement plans.

Hopkins Crossroad Trail opened in the fall of 2024, adding two miles to the city's 104 miles of sidewalks and trails. Planning is underway for new trail segments on Minnetonka and Excelsior boulevards. Minnetonka's park and trail system continues to be ranked among the highest in the greater metropolitan area.

Minnetonka's Capital Improvement Plan identifies opportunities to reduce energy costs through greater use of alternative sources of energy.

Public Works has begun replacing water meters throughout the city. They will provide better leak detection and allow residents to track water usage.

GIS mapping technologies help analysts detect leaks and other infrastructure issues before they become expensive problems.

Community Inclusiveness

More than 15,000 people attended a full calendar of free and affordable community events last year.

100-percent of applicants received scholarships to attend youth programs. Another 21 took advantage of youth inclusion services.

The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Commission began work in 2024. Commission members work to connect with members of the Minnetonka community who do not always receive news about city programs, events and services.

No lights and sirens! Sensory-friendly events and spaces make community activities accessible to residents who might otherwise avoid attending them.

A new Community Connection newsletter provides multi-family housing managers and residents information about Minnetonka events, programs and services.

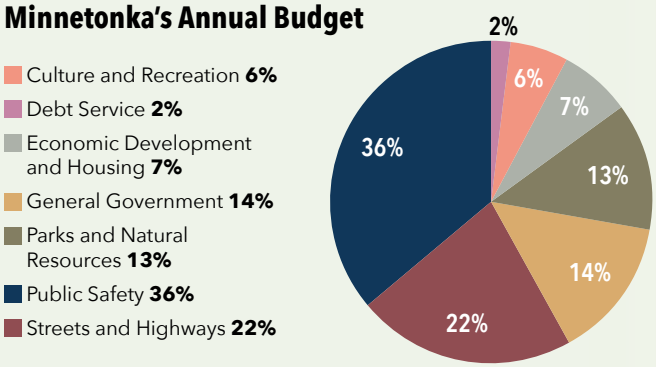
Financial Strength

Minnetonka continues to maintain an Aaa bond rating.

Minnetonka's Aaa bond rating is valuable because it strengthens financial stability and lowers borrowing costs. It requires disciplined financial management, low debt levels and strong economic performance.

Creating Minnetonka's budget is a year-long process that begins each winter. The Finance Department reviews economic forecasts and long-term levy projections. City staff begins work on the strategies and outcomes outlined in Minnetonka's strategic plan adopted by the city council. The council also reviews the annual community survey, something Minnetonka has used for more than 25 years, to ensure the budgets and operations align with community expectations.

Minnetonka's Annual Budget



By mid-year, the council has reviewed departments' operations and goals, along with the master plans adopted to guide the growth and development of the city. In early fall, the council begins to assemble an overall budget. State law requires cities, counties, school districts and other taxing districts to set a preliminary levy by the end of September. Residents receive tax notices by mail and public hearings are scheduled. At this point, the council can choose to lower the proposed levy but cannot raise it.

As the calendar turns to December, the council continues budget deliberations and holds a public hearing before adopting the budget. By law, municipal budgets must be balanced each year and approved by Dec. 31.

My Community

Mike Funk
City Manager

Moranda Dammann
Assistant City Manager

Julie Wischnack
Community Development Director

Corrine Heine
City Attorney

Darin Nelson
Finance Director

Kevin Fox
Fire Chief

Scott Boerboom
Police Chief

Will Manchester
Public Works Director

Kelly O'Dea
Recreation Services Director

CITY OF MINNETONKA

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MINNETONKA CITY COUNCIL
FROM LEFT TO RIGHT,

Patsy Foster-Bolton	(Ward 1)
Brad Wiersum	(Mayor)
Kissy Coakley	(Ward 4)
Paula Ramaley	(Ward 3)
Deb Calvert	(At Large Seat A)
Kimberly Wilburn	(At Large Seat B)
Rebecca Schack	(Ward 2)

The council also serves as the city's Economic Development Authority and Local Board of Appeal and Equalization.