



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION AGENDA

May 04, 2026 at 5:00 PM

7701 County Road 110 West Minnetrista, MN 55364

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.02, one or more council members may participate remotely.

1) CALL TO ORDER

2) DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a)** 2050 Comprehensive Plan Update
- b)** Woodland Cove Crosswalk/Pedestrian Feature Discussion
- c)** Joint Letter about Roundabouts with St. Bonifacius
- d)** Fire District Resolution with St Bonifacius
- e)** Closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.05, subdivision 3(b), attorney-client privilege, to discuss pending litigation - City of Minnetrista v. 1205 Sunnyfield LLC, et. al., Court File No. 27-CV-24-5609

3) ADJOURNMENT

The agenda packet with all background material will be available on the City's website for viewing by the public. Published agenda is subject to change without notice. Information and materials relating to the above items are available for review at city hall by appointment.

CITY OF MINNETRISTA
BUSINESS / DISCUSSION ITEM



Subject: **2050 Comprehensive Plan**

Prepared By: **David Abel, Community Development Director**

Meeting Date: **May 4, 2026**

Issue:
The Metropolitan Council created Imagine 2050 as the region’s long-range development guide. It sets the overall vision and policies for how the Twin Cities metropolitan area will grow, including land use, housing, transportation, water resources, and parks.

As part of this process, all cities and townships in the seven-county metro area must update their comprehensive local plans. These updated plans are due by December 31, 2028.

Background:
Communities are required by state law to complete these updates because of the Metropolitan Land Planning Act, which mandates that local governments update their comprehensive plans every 10 years. The purpose is to make sure local plans align with regional goals and forecasts for population, jobs, and housing.

Discussion:
Updating a long-range plan like this isn’t just a policy exercise, it’s a technical one. It requires an engineering firm to address the technical validation of the goals within the plan. Using WSB for the Imagine 2050 comprehensive plan update is a cost-effective approach that builds on what has already worked well for the city. When the city last updated its comprehensive plan, it followed this same model. WSB already understands our infrastructure systems, development patterns, and long-term priorities. City staff had a preliminary discussion with WSB regarding a proposal for services related to the comprehensive 2050 plan update. We would anticipate bringing a proposal to the city council at an upcoming meeting relatively soon.

In addition to discussing a proposal for services, we would like to establish the framework for a steering committee to guide in this process. A seven-person steering committee hits a practical sweet spot of input and decision-making effectiveness. Seven people is large enough to capture a range of perspectives without becoming unwieldy. With seven members, you can intentionally include representatives with different expertise or viewpoints. If possible, the steering committee would consist of two park commissioners, two planning commissioners, two city council members, and one resident at large. An alternative option would be to utilize the Planning Commission or as many

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willing to volunteer on the Commission for the committee. The council could continue their liaison rotation approach to the committee. City staff would work on asking these groups for volunteers to bring back to council at a future meeting. The committee would likely meet each month for an hour prior the Planning Commission meeting.

Conclusion:

In summary, updating the City’s comprehensive plan is both a legal requirement and a process to align local priorities with the region’s long-term vision under Imagine 2050. Moving forward with WSB provides a practical, cost-effective approach built on existing knowledge and past success, while establishing a seven-member steering committee will ensure balanced input and effective guidance throughout the process. Together, these steps position the city to complete a thoughtful, well-supported plan update ahead of the 2028 deadline.

Fiscal Impact:

This would be incorporated into the 2027 & 2028 budget process. The city could also look to utilize its enterprise funds to help fund portions of the update were deemed appropriate.

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CITY OF MINNETRISTA



WORK SESSION AGENDA ITEM

Subject: Four Way Stop and Crosswalk at Woodland Cove Boulevard/Lotus Drive and Bellflower Drive; LED Pedestrian Crossing Sign at Woodland Cove Boulevard and the Regional Trail

Prepared By: Alyson Fauske, PE (MN), City Engineer

Meeting Date: May 4, 2025

Issue

Should the City install a four way stop and crosswalk at Woodland Cove Boulevard/Lotus Drive and Bellflower Drive, and an LED Pedestrian Crossing sign at Woodland Cove Boulevard and the regional trail?

Overview

At the March 23, 2026 City Council meeting a resident of Woodland Cove spoke at the “Persons to be Heard” portion of the agenda, asking that a four-way stop and crosswalks be installed at Woodland Cove Boulevard/Lotus Drive. City Council directed staff to review the intersection and bring the item back for discussion.

There are two technical factors that support the installation of a four-way stop at this location:

- The horizontal curve of Woodland Cove Boulevard as you approach the intersection from the west
- The vertical curve of Lotus Drive as you approach the intersection from the east

Currently there are stop signs on Bellflower Drive, so a four-way stop would require the installation of two new stop signs. A “Stop Ahead” sign would also be installed on Woodland Cove Boulevard and Lotus Drive to alert drivers of the upcoming stop condition.

The association pool north of the intersection draws pedestrians during the summer months therefore Public Works supports having a crosswalk across Lotus Drive and across both legs of Bellflower Drive. An ADA-compliant curb ramp needs to be installed at the west corner of Lotus/Bellflower.

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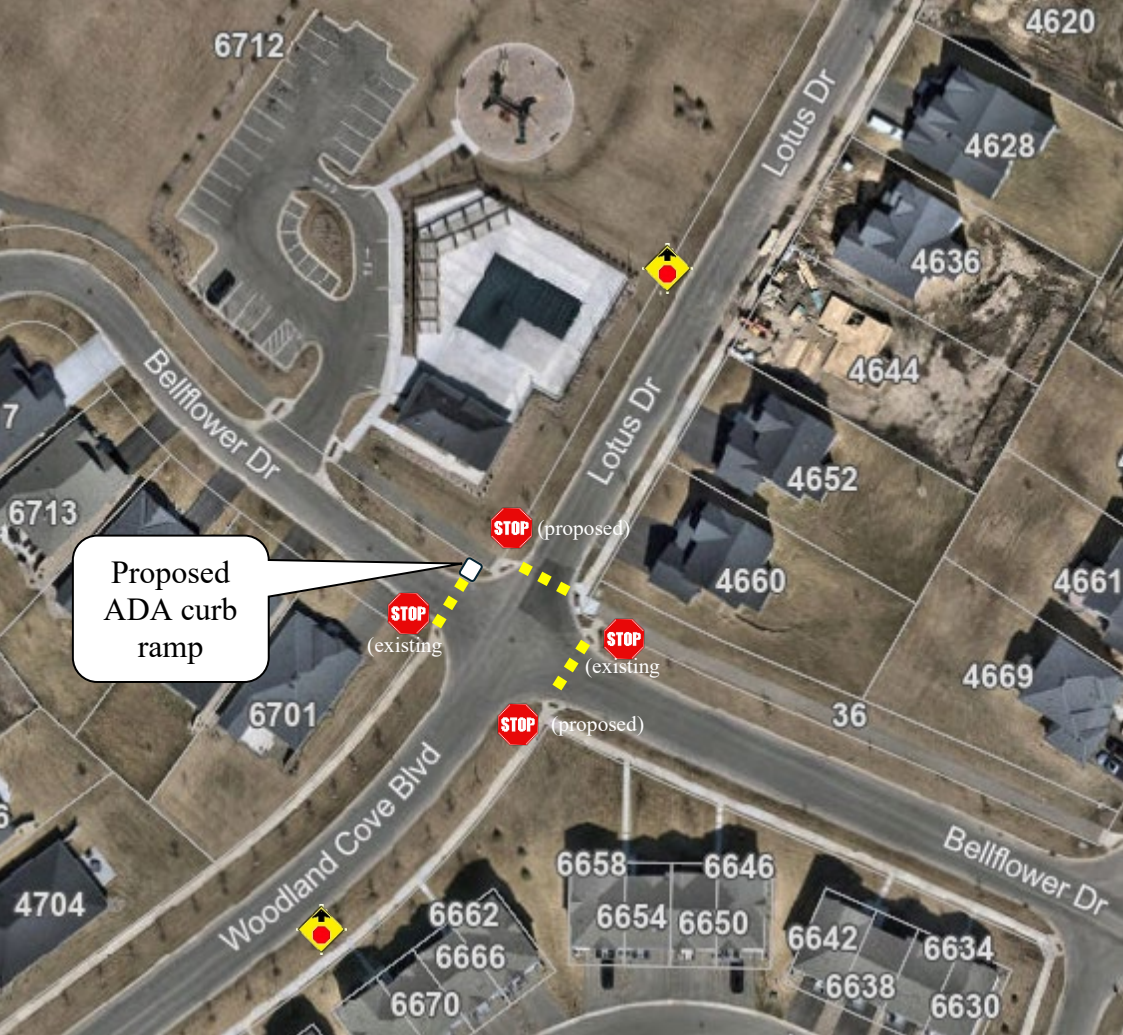


Figure 1. Proposed Installations at Woodland Cove Boulevard/Lotus Drive at Bellflower Drive: Stop Signs, Stop Ahead Signs (locations shown are approximate), Crosswalks (shown in yellow, will be painted white), and an ADA Curb Ramp

A few years ago pedestrian crossing signs were installed on Woodland Cove Boulevard at the regional trail crossing between Foxglove Drive and Bluestem Way. Public Works continues to get complaints about the crossing and recommends that the existing signs be replaced with LED flashing signs. The LED signs are intended to draw drivers’ attention to the crossing more than a traditional sign.

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Figure 2. Regional Trail crossing at Woodland Cove Boulevard

Fiscal Impact:

The estimated cost for these changes are as follows:

ADA compliant pedestrian curb ramp:	\$2,000
Stop signs and Stop Ahead signs:	\$ 500
<u>LED pedestrian crossing signs:</u>	<u>\$6,160</u>
	\$8,660

The resident that spoke at the March 23, 2026 City Council meeting indicated that the Homeowners Association may be willing to participate in the cost of these items. Staff requests council direction on the proposed cost share.

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CITY OF MINNETRISTA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM



Subject: MnDOT Roundabout Joint Letter

Prepared By: Jasper Kruggel, City Administrator

Meeting Date: May 4, 2025

Issue: Mayor Lisa Whalen would like to discuss a joint letter from herself, and the Mayor of St. Bonifacius related to MnDOT plans to install a roundabout at the intersection of Trunk Highway 7 (TH 7) and Wildwood Avenue.

Overview: Attached you will find a letter that has been drafted to MnDOT related to a request to move a planned roundabout at TH 7 and CR 92 to the intersection of TH 7 and Wildwood Avenue. Before signing, Mayor Whalen would like to discuss this letter with City Council and receive consensus to send.

Recommended City Council Action: Staff request City Council engage in a discussion about the letter to MnDOT and provide guidance to Mayor Whalen related to consensus to send the letter to MnDOT.

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Mayor Lisa Whalen
City of Minnetrista
7701 County Road 110 West
Minnetrista, MN 55364

Mayor Tim Eiler
City of St. Bonifacius
8535 Kennedy Memorial Drive
St. Bonifacius, MN 55375

April 30, 2026

Ryan Wilson, West Area Manager – Hennepin County
Minnesota Department of Transportation
395 John Ireland Boulevard
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Request to Relocate Planned Roundabout on Trunk Highway 7 from CR 92 to Wildwood Avenue/Hunters Trail

Dear Mr. Wilson:

We are writing jointly as the Mayors of the Cities of Minnetrista and St. Bonifacius to respectfully request that MnDOT relocate the planned single-lane roundabout on Trunk Highway 7 from the intersection with County Road 92 (CR 92 / Main Street) to the intersection with Wildwood Avenue and Hunters Trail. The recent Hwy 7 Corridor Study (Hopkins to St. Bonifacius) recommended a series of roundabouts to improve safety and mobility, including a single-lane roundabout at TH 7 and CR 92, while designating only a $\frac{3}{4}$ intersection at Wildwood Avenue/Hunters Trail. While we fully support MnDOT's efforts to enhance the corridor and appreciate the extensive public engagement process, we believe relocating this particular roundabout would better serve the long-term transportation needs of our communities and the traveling public. Our request is based on the following key considerations:

1. Traffic Increases Due to Development in the Wildwood Avenue/Hunters Trail Area
Significant new residential and mixed-use development is planned and occurring in the Wildwood Avenue/Hunters Trail corridor, including large-scale projects in Minnetrista that are expected to generate substantial additional traffic volumes accessing TH 7. A full roundabout at Wildwood Avenue/Hunters Trail would more effectively accommodate this anticipated growth, improve traffic flow, and provide safer access for local residents, employees, and visitors.

2. Limiting Large-Vehicle Access to Residential Areas

Large vehicles tend to use Wildwood Avenue as a shortcut to gain access to CR 92. This creates a safety issue as these large trucks moving through a residential neighborhood with children is problematic. A roundabout at Wildwood Avenue/Hunters Trail and TH 7 could be designed in a manner that would reduce the likelihood of large vehicle through traffic.

3. Safety Concerns Related to Sight Distance

The intersection of Wildwood Avenue/Hunters Trail and TH 7 offers some sight distance challenges, and with future higher traffic volumes, we anticipate additional accidents. A roundabout at Wildwood Avenue/Hunters Trail and TH 7 would slow traffic and allow for proper ingress and egress into adjacent neighborhoods. The intersection of TH 7 and CR 92 already has a full-access stoplight system; utilizing that area along with the Wildwood Avenue/TH 7 intersection as a roundabout will enhance overall safety in the area.

We are confident that relocating the roundabout to TH 7 and Wildwood Avenue/Hunters Trail would align more closely with local land-use plans, future traffic patterns, and community priorities, while still advancing the overall safety and operational goals of the Hwy 7 improvements.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this request in greater detail with you or your staff at your earliest convenience. Our cities remain committed to a collaborative partnership with MnDOT and stand ready to provide any additional local traffic data, development projections, or engineering insights that would assist in your review.

Thank you for your leadership and for MnDOT's continued investment in improving safety and mobility along the TH 7 corridor. We look forward to your positive consideration of this request. Sincerely,

Lisa Whalen
Mayor, City of Minnetrista

Tim Eiler
Mayor, City of St. Bonifacius

CITY OF MINNETRISTA

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM



Subject: Resolution to Examine Fire District with St. Bonifacius

Prepared By: Jasper Kruggel, City Administrator

Meeting Date: May 4, 2025

Issue: Representatives from the cities of St. Bonifacius and Minnetrista recently met to discuss fire services in the community. At that meeting, it was recommended to examine the possibility of creating a fire district between the two communities. Before you is a resolution supporting the initiative to examine the possibility of a fire district.

Overview: The formation of a fire district or fire partnership in the western Lake Minnetonka region has been discussed in concept for 25 years. The overall partnership plan between the entire region has been put on hold for an estimated five more years, and it has been determined that an evaluation of a fire district between the cities of St. Bonifacius and Minnetrista be examined in the shorter-term to provide a long-term sustainability in fire service in the area.

If approved, the cities of St. Bonifacius and Minnetrista would work together to develop a framework for a district, engaging elected officials. If a viable fire district model is developed, it would allow for participation from other entities as determined by the group.

Recommended City Council Action: Staff request City Council evaluate this resolution, and if they are agreeable to proceeding, they can choose to add this resolution to the regular meeting on May 4th, or direct staff to include on the agenda for the May 18th Regular City Council meeting.

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RESOLUTION NO. 57-26

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE FORMATION OF A FIRE DISTRICT
BETWEEN THE CITIES OF MINNETRISTA AND SAINT BONIFACIUS**

WHEREAS, the cities of Minnetrista and Saint Bonifacius have recognized a shared need for efficient and reliable fire protection services for their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, collaborative efforts through a Fire District will enable these cities to pool resources, optimize response times, and improve emergency services through unified regional fire protection; and

WHEREAS, a Fire District for fire protection would allow for more consistent service delivery across municipal boundaries, leveraging shared resources, personnel, and infrastructure to the benefit of all participating communities; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Fire District would also promote fiscal responsibility and sustainability, enabling a cost-effective model for fire protection and emergency response services; and

WHEREAS, collaboration between the cities of Minnetrista and Saint Bonifacius will enhance the safety and welfare of their residents through improved fire protection capabilities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Minnetrista hereby expresses its full support for the formation of a Fire District among the cities of Minnetrista and Saint Bonifacius for the purpose of establishing a regional fire protection authority; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Minnetrista City Council authorizes it's designated representatives to engage in discussions, planning, and necessary steps towards the formation and implementation of the Joint Powers Agreement in partnership with the other participating municipalities.

This resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Minnetrista on the 18th day of May 4, 2026, by a vote of ____Ayes and ____Nays.

Lisa Whalen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ann Meyerhoff, City Clerk