

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regularly scheduled meeting of the Spring Lake Park City Council Work Session was held on June 1, 2026 at the Spring Lake Park City Hall, 1301 81st Ave NE, at 5:30 PM.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Acting Mayor Goodboe-Bisschoff called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councilmember Ken Wendling
Councilmember Barbara Goodboe-Bisschoff
Councilmember Lisa Dircks

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Councilmember April Moran
Mayor Robert Nelson

STAFF PRESENT:

Public Works Director George Linngren, Engineer Phil Gravel, Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer Daniel Buchholtz

OTHERS PRESENT:

Anthony Mendoza	Anoka County Sheriff's Office	
Will Jacobson	Anoka County Sheriff's Office	
C Meyer	459 81 st Avenue NE	Spring Lake Park MN
Kristi Cobbs	8085 Jefferson Street NE	Spring Lake Park MN
Jaycee Kilborn	351 79 th Avenue NE	Spring Lake Park MN

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Anoka Regional Crime Technology and Information Center (ARCTIC) Initiative (Antoine)

Mr. Mendoza delivered a detailed presentation regarding Anoka County's proposed pilot program with Flock Safety, encompassing an expansion of Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs) and the introduction of Drone-Assisted Response Systems (DARS).

Mr. Mendoza, explained that ALPR units capture still images of vehicle license plates and compare them against a hot list provided by the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension. He stated that the technology does not employ facial recognition, does not collect personal identifying information, and has no direct access to criminal justice databases. He noted that the retention of ALPR data is limited to 30 days unless the information is preserved as part of an active investigation. He said all system queries require a case number, documented justification, and are individually tied to a specific user login. He noted that comprehensive audit trails are maintained, and both internal and

independent third-party audits are conducted in accordance with state law. He stated that audit results are publicly accessible.

Mr. Mendoza provided several examples in which ALPR data facilitated the rapid recovery of missing children, identification of criminal suspects, and apprehension of individuals fleeing law enforcement. He noted that search parameters related to immigration status, reproductive care, political affiliation, or protected demographic characteristics are prohibited and automatically blocked within the system.

The presentation further addressed Drone-Assisted Response Systems. Mr. Mendoza clarified that drones will not be used for routine patrol. He said that deployment is restricted to incidents that qualify under Minnesota statute, including emergencies posing a risk of bodily harm, missing persons, fleeing suspects, and certain search-warrant exceptions. He noted that Drones are capable of arriving at incident locations within approximately 90 seconds and providing real-time situational awareness to dispatch and responding personnel. He said that they may also support fire operations through thermal imaging. Mr. Mendoza stated that non-evidentiary drone footage is required to be deleted within seven days. He said that State law prohibits the use of drones for surveillance of First Amendment-protected activities, prohibits the use of facial recognition technology on drones, and forbids weaponization.

Mr. Mendoza stated that an initial deployment plan includes fourteen drone sites throughout the county. He described additional safety measures designed for operations near airport airspace and automated collision-avoidance systems.

Mr. Mendoza stated that, if approved, the first twenty-four months of the program would be funded solely by the Anoka County Sheriff's Office, with no cost to the City of Spring Lake Park. Existing city-owned ALPR cameras would be absorbed into the countywide system without reduction in functionality. He also noted that a publicly accessible transparency portal will provide audit information, policy documents, flight logs, and other relevant data throughout the duration of the program.

B. Pavement Management and Street Maintenance Discussion (Gravel)

Engineer Gravel provided a detailed update on street maintenance needs and long-term planning. He reported that the chip seal and seal coat treatments used over the past 20 years are no longer effective and may now be contributing to street deterioration. He stated that most of the city streets were paved between 1998 and 2003 and have since received multiple seal coat applications, resulting in diminishing returns and, in some cases, peeling and surface failure following freeze-thaw cycles. He stated that based on the observations, staff will be recommending cancellation of the 2026 seal coat project, noting that continued investment in seal coating is not a cost-effective use of funds.

Engineer Gravel explained that the majority of street wear is occurring along the outer six to eight feet near the curb, where snowmelt, salt accumulation, and heavy vehicle traffic

such as garbage trucks cause accelerated breakdown. He noted that center sections of most streets remain in relatively good condition with limited cracking or potholing. Staff requested Council direction on expectations for street conditions and on the appropriate long-term maintenance strategy. Options presented included a complete citywide mill and overlay, estimated at approximately \$8 million, or an edge mill and overlay focused on the deteriorated street edges, estimated at approximately \$3.5 million.

In response to questions from the Council, Engineer Gravel explained that no grant funding is available for street resurfacing, though the city continues to receive Municipal State Aid for designated routes. Staff also discussed recurring problem areas, noting that repeated deterioration in some locations is tied to substandard base layers. Engineer Gravel noted that full base replacement is significantly more expensive and was last undertaken on Monroe Street, where reconstruction costs were notably higher than typical overlay projects. He said that streets rebuilt under the city's 1998 pavement management plan now have stronger bases, allowing future maintenance to rely on overlays rather than full reconstruction.

Public Works Director Linngren provided field observations from recent seasons, reporting that seal coat layers are peeling in multiple areas and that patching the same locations repeatedly over the past three years has not led to lasting improvements. He emphasized that applying additional seal coat would not be a responsible investment and recommended redirecting funds to mill and overlay work, which provides a service life of approximately 15 to 20 years. He also described ongoing efforts to improve edge repair methods, including saw-cutting and patching along Spring Lake Park Road as a potential model for future maintenance.

Council members agreed with staff's assessment and supported discontinuing seal coat applications. Council expressed interest in prioritizing mill and overlay work, particularly edge milling, and agreed that funds should be directed toward longer-lasting solutions rather than short-term treatments that require frequent repairs.

The consensus of the Council was that allocating funds to short-term seal coat applications is no longer an effective use of resources and concluded that future investments should be directed toward more durable and sustainable street improvement strategies.

3. REPORT

A. City Council and Staff Reports

Administrator Buchholtz reported that Tower Days events will take place throughout the week. He noted that the parade is scheduled for Thursday, with streets along the parade route closing at 5:30 p.m. He stated the parade will begin at 6:30 p.m., and streets will reopen shortly after its conclusion. He added that Friday's activities will include live music and an AWA wrestling event.

4. ADJOURN

Acting Mayor Goodboe-Bisschoff adjourned the meeting at 6:46 PM.

Barbara Goodboe-Bisschoff, Acting Mayor

Attest:

Daniel R. Buchholtz, Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer