



# Chaska City Hall Bulletin

From the desk of Mayor Van Eyll

"The Best Small Town in Minnesota"

## Chaska City Hall

[www.chaskamn.com](http://www.chaskamn.com)

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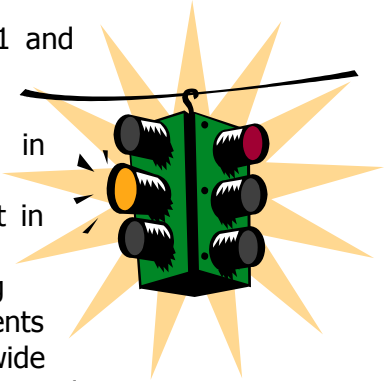
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## HWY 41 & 2<sup>ND</sup> ST. SIGNAL SLATED FOR SPRING

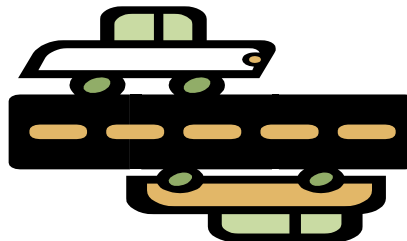
The traffic signal slated for the intersection of Hwy 41 and Second Street, originally scheduled to begin installation in November, has been pushed back to the spring. Chaska and MnDOT are however, making progress in finalizing the construction plans. Since this signal will not meet MnDOT warrants or criteria for a traffic light in terms of traffic volume, turning movements or pedestrian crossings, MnDOT is intent on improving overall corridor flow by restricting left-hand turn movements at the non-signalized intersections. A six (6) foot wide median is proposed between First and Fifth Streets as noted on the attached plan sheet. Other provisions of the project include:



- An update and simplification of traffic signage in the TH41 right-of-way.
- Replacement of all intersection pedestrian ramps to meet ADA code requirements.
- Removal of the abandoned railroad crossing signal (this work is dependent on federal and railroad approval that is still pending).
- Installation of design features, such as bollards, banner poles, and planters, in the median area.

This stage of the TH41 improvements does not impact any parking along TH41. The existing parking lane on the east side of the corridor will remain unchanged. Construction of the improvements will begin in March/April of 2010 and be completed in early June.

If you have questions about this project, please contact the City Engineer, Bill Monk, at 952-448-9200.



## CELEBRATE CHASKA HIGH SCHOOL GRAND RE-OPENING

This upcoming school year will be an exciting one at Chaska High School, as they will begin a new era in Hawk tradition! With the opening of a second High School in Chanhassen, Chaska High School will once again serve the geographic boundaries of our community, providing us with tremendous opportunities to help build and strengthen our community.

To help celebrate the grand re-opening of Chaska High School, the City of Chaska, in partnership with Chaska High School, will be hosting a beginning of the year celebration entitled: "*Excellence-Tradition-Community: A Celebration of Community*". This event will be held throughout the day on Thursday September 3, 2009, in conjunction with the first home varsity football game at Chaska High School.

With events being planned such as a "roving" community pep fest, a family carnival and tailgate party prior to the game, a half-time show by the Chaska High School Marching Band, and a post game fireworks show and bon fire, there will be plenty of opportunities to get the entire community involved to help celebrate our High School and kick off a great partnership between the City and Chaska High School.



### Chaska Community Center Activities

Cost: **FREE**

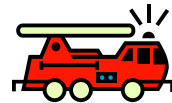
#### Touch-A-Truck

Date: Thursday, August 20

Cost: FREE

Place: Chaska Community Center

Time: 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.



#### Mom's/Dad's Morning Break

Your children will participate in crafts, stories, and songs while you take a morning break to get caught up on things or meet a friend for coffee. There will also be time to play in the gym and the castle. A snack will be provided. Please register at the CCC or online at [www.chaskacommunitycenter.com](http://www.chaskacommunitycenter.com).

Ages: 1-6 years old

Date: Tuesday, August 18

Time: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Cost: \$15 Member/\$20 Non-Member

#### Movie Mondays

Come to the CCC for a free movie in the theater. An adult must accompany children under 11.

Place: CCC Theater

Time: 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Date: August 17 – "**Bolt**"

Bring the kids to sit on, touch, and experience the vehicles of the City of Chaska and meet the Chaska staff who operate them.

Carnival: 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Play games and win prizes as you learn about the youth associations and organizations available to you in Chaska.

Refreshments: 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Enjoy a hot dog, soda, popcorn and an ice cream cone sponsored by Northern Lights Café, Klein Bank/Chaska, Chaska Kiwanis Club, Chaska Lions Club, and Chaska Park Board.

Concert: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Shake, rattle and roll to a lively performance by "The Sticks and Tones."

**This event will take place rain or shine.**

#### Jazz Festival

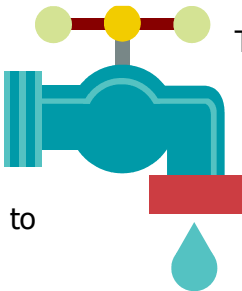
Sponsored by the Chaska Park and Rec Department. The Joel Shapira Jazz Quartet will perform at 5:30pm and the Paul Cherba Jazz Quartet will play at 7:15pm at City Square Park on Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup>.

## CITY COMPLETES WATER RATE ANALYSIS

**(THE CONDENSED VERSION – WE’RE GOING TO KEEP PRINTING THIS UNTIL WE’RE SURE EVERYONE KNOWS ABOUT IT!)**

Over the past 2 months, the City of Chaska has been in the process of completing a water rate analysis.

We currently have a flat water rate of \$1.17/1,000 gallons of water. This means that no matter how much water a resident uses, they will always be charged the same rate per unit of water. With Chaska’s water rate being significantly lower than the average rate of those in the metro area, this has not created the incentive that the State has wanted to see put in place to help promote the conservation of water in our system. On an average winter day, the City of Chaska will pump approximately 2.5 million gallons of water into our system. On a peak summer day, that number will jump to over 8 million gallons of water per day. This incremental difference is primarily accounted for through the addition of residents and business irrigating their lawns.



The City completed an analysis of our water rates to look at how to implement the State mandates for water rate structures. The City also utilized this study to look at our entire water system to determine if our rate structure was sufficient to maintain and operate a sustainable water system both in the short term, and into the future as we start needing to reinvest into our aging infrastructure system.

The findings of the study show that if the City were to meet its current and future obligations, the rate of the water for the average residential customer (7,000 gallons/month) should be at \$2.01/1,000 gallons. In addition, unlike other cities, Chaska has never recouped its fixed costs such as utility billing and meter replacement, and to cover these fixed costs, a fixed customer service rate should be charged. The rate determined to be necessary to cover these costs was \$2.27/month. This compares to the average of surrounding cities which is \$7.94/month on a utility bill.

To help ease the implementation of the proposed new water rates to our customers, the City is proposing to implement 50% of the increase on January 1, 2010, with the other 50% coming on January 1, 2011. For the average user of 7,000 gallons per month, this would increase their bill by approximately \$4 per month in 2010 (from \$8.19 to \$12.23), and \$8 per month in 2011, with this ultimate rate going to \$16.27 in 2011 for 7,000 gallons of water per month.

Questions on this proposal can be referred to City Administrator Matt Podhradsky at 952-448-9200.

### **A Town Course Update from John Kellin – Golf Pro**

So far PGA week has been great at the Town Course. Wednesday was especially fun. We had visitors playing the course from 25 different states and 5 different countries. (Spain, Germany, Chile, Canada, England).

