



# Chaska City Hall Bulletin

## Chaska City Hall

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

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## FLOODING PREDICTIONS

With spring rapidly descending upon us and the large amount of snow pack we experienced over the winter, NOAA (National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration) is predicting that it is likely the Minnesota River will flood. This could cause issues with road closures in the southwest metro area.

NOAA has predicted there is a 70% chance of flooding, which would close Highway 41 north of 169 and south of First Street in Chaska. While flooding is difficult to predict, conditions do seem favorable to experience very high levels in the Minnesota River, given the rate at which the snow is melting, along with the recent rain.

With the addition of the flood levy in 1996, all properties in the City limits of Chaska, with the exception of Athletic Park are now out of the 100-year flood plain. However, if the river does get to flood stage, the water would not get high enough to cross the Highway 41 bridge. The low-lying areas between downtown Chaska and Highway 169 are subject to flooding however. The last time Highway 41 was closed due to flooding problems was in 2001. If Highway 41 were to close north of Highway 169, it is likely the Highway 101 bridge to Shakopee would also close. In 2001 the alternative river crossings were Highway 25 in Belle Plaine and the Bloomington Ferry Bridge to the east of Shakopee.

The City of Chaska will keep residents advised of any eminent closures. Public Works Director Tim Wiebe will issue daily flood reports as we near flood stage, in approximately two weeks. Email him at [Twiebe@chaskamn.com](mailto:Twiebe@chaskamn.com) if you would like to be included on the contact list.



**PLANNING RECOMMENDATIONS**

At the Monday, March 15<sup>th</sup> Council meeting at 7:00 pm at Chaska City Hall, consideration will be given to approval to two items recommended by the Planning Commission last night. These are the preliminary and final plat for the West Creek Corporate Center and the Conditional Use Permit for construction of a storage facility for the Jonathan Association at the Karen House.

The proposed storage facility at the Karen House would measure 1800 sq feet and would be situated toward the southwest corner of the site. The applicant is proposing a gambrel, or barn-like, roof with dark brown asphalt shingles to match the Karen House’s roof shingles. The proposed exterior material is a cedar board and batten siding, with battens installed 12 inches on center. The cedar plywood would be stained a light cream color compatible with the Chaska brick of the Karen House. The doors would be painted with a deep rust color to contrast with the color of the siding. There will be a window on the second floor of each gambrel end (east and west elevations) and the north elevation would contain three separate garage doors that could accommodate trucks. The south elevation, which is adjacent to the residential area to the south, would contain three windows.

The West Creek Corporate Center project being considered is the first phase in the Chaska BioTech Coporate/Industrial development. This portion of the park will be located just off the interchange of new Highway 212 and north of Engler Boulevard west of Clover Ridge Drive. This first phase will encompass approximately 40-50 acres of developable land, with the first user coming in this

summer and building a 218,000 sq ft data center facility. Upon approval of the preliminary and final plats, the developer would like to move forward this spring with the completion of infrastructure. The City will also be working with Carver County to complete the final improvements on Engler Boulevard between West Creek and the Highway 212 interchange. These improvements will serve the corporate industrial areas on both the north and south side of Engler Boulevard and will also address some of the significant traffic and safety issues particularly at Clover Ridge Drive intersection. Turn lanes will be incorporated, as well as a signal at Engler Boulevard and Clover Ridge Drive.

While the major construction on Engler Boulevard will not occur until the summer of 2011, some preliminary work will be started in the late summer of 2010, including a temporary signal and passing lanes necessary to phase construction of the work.

The City of Chaska is excited about this development as it will immediately bring one large business to the location and open the entire area to be ready for future corporate/industrial development. The creation of this job center is included as one of the top five strategic goals the Chaska City Council identified last year during their strategic planning session.

Questions about either planning item may be directed to the City Administrator, Matt Podhradsky at 952-448-9200.

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Chaska City Council Meeting  
Monday, March 15, 2010  
7:00 pm  
Chaska City Hall  
Go to [www.chaskamn.com](http://www.chaskamn.com) for complete  
agenda information.

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**CHRISTMAS IN MAY**

As a reminder, March 15<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to apply for help with home repairs through the Christmas in May program. Residents who need assistance with painting, yard clean up or other home repairs, should contact 952-448-7715 Extension 0. The elderly, disabled households, and those families with modest incomes are encouraged to apply. All work will be performed on Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup>.

**RECYCLE YOUR CELL PHONE**



April 22<sup>nd</sup> is Earth Day and the Chaska Police Department is participating in a program called "Recycle your Cell Phone." Forty years ago on April 22, 1970 the first Earth Day was inaugurated as a day to promote a cleaner world. Earth Day events aim to inspire awareness of and appreciation for earth's environment. It is currently observed in more than 140 countries around the world.

Many companies are going green, and as such, Officer Julie Janke, of the Chaska Police Department is organizing a cell phone recycle campaign through [www.CellPhoneBank.com](http://www.CellPhoneBank.com). Chaska City Hall, the Community Center, and the Municipal Services Building will all have collection boxes to recycle your old cell phone beginning March 26<sup>th</sup>. The old phones will be cleaned up and given new cords and chargers. They will then be distributed to seniors and victims of abuse to provide emergency 911 assistance.

Start digging through your cupboards and drawers now for your old cell phones and be ready when the collection boxes become available on March 26<sup>th</sup> through April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Your old cell phone could be the critical link between law enforcement and someone in trouble.



**Chaska Community Center Activities**

**Teen Kickball Tournament**  
**Agens 11 to 15**

We may not be able to play outside yet, but we can still enjoy this playground favorite inside! Grab your buddies and get ready for some fun. Any size group or individual can register. Groups will be combined to create a team of nine total. Registration will close at 2:50 p.m. The original game will be modified to complete the tournament. There will be prizes for the winners and refreshments for participants.

Date: Thursday, March 18  
Time: 2:30–4:00 p.m.  
Place: Upper Gym  
Cost: FREE

**Zany Zoo Animals – Under the Sea**  
**Agens 3 to 8**  
**Parent/Child Class**



It's a jungle out there! Looking for a great family activity? This is the perfect place for some creative family fun.

Does paint, foam, plaster, feathers, rice, bells, glue, and more sound like fun? In each class we will create several crazy zoo animals based on the under sea theme, have a tasty animal snack, and even play a few games. Join us for the wild fun!

Date: Saturday, March 20  
Time: 9:30–11:00 a.m.  
Cost: \$10 Member  
\$12 Non-Member