



**Wayzata City Council Workshop Meeting Agenda
Wayzata City Hall Community Room, 600 Rice Street
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2025**

WORKSHOP TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Short-Term Rental Ordinance Discussion (5:00-5:45 p.m.)
2. Discussion of Klapprich Park Construction Mitigation (5:45-6:30 p.m.)
3. Discussion of Future Council Topics (6:30-6:35 p.m.)



City Council Workshop City Council Agenda Report

MEETING DATE: August 6, 2025	WORKSHOP AGENDA ITEM: 1
TITLE: Short-Term Rental Ordinance Discussion (5:00-5:45 p.m.)	
PREPARED BY: Alex Sharpe, Community Development Director	
REVIEWED BY: Mike Kelly, Interim City Manager	

DISCUSSION OBJECTIVE:

To receive results from public engagement, review the ordinance proposal, and provide direction to staff on a draft ordinance.

2024-2026 STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITIES RELEVANCE:

Sustain Community Character & Safety

The City strives to keep its neighborhoods safe and maintain their character through reasonable ordinances that balance property rights with the greater vision of the community.

Diversify Revenue

The City Council has sought to diversify the City's revenue to ensure taxes remain manageable. Fees and additional lodging tax could be collected if ordinance amendments are directed.

BACKGROUND:

The City Council last reviewed a potential Short-Term Rental (STR) ordinance on May 6, 2025. At that time, staff presented background information, a summary of surrounding community ordinances and potential ordinance provisions. Council reviewed the materials provided and directed staff to begin public engagement with STR owner/operators, and neighborhoods affected by STRs.

Potential Ordinance Provisions

On May 6, staff presented the following provisions to initiate Council discussion and receive direction on alternative potential regulations.

- Short-term rentals (rentals for less than one month) are prohibited in single/two-family zoning districts with the following exceptions:
 - The property is a homestead and the operator resides on site.
 - The property is within a commercial or multi-family zoning district. (specific to mixed-use properties with single-family)
 - Current short-term rental licensees are permitted to continue operation until January 1, 2027. After such date, all future rentals shall be for a minimum duration of one-month.
- All short-term rental operators shall certify that they are residents of the City of Wayzata, Minnesota.

Both engagement groups reviewed the provisions above; their feedback and the potential impacts are summarized below.

Public Engagement

To ensure that interested parties were able to review all pertinent information, a web page on this topic was created: wayzata.org/shorttermrental. This page includes links to all prior Council items, research, information on public engagement and the summary notes of these sessions.

Engagement with STR Owners/Operators

The first public engagement session was held for STR owner/operators on June 26, 2025. All 16 of the current

license holders were invited to attend via letter and email. Approximately 15-20 operators and neighbors attended the meeting and were asked to provide responses to the following questions:

- How would the provisions proposed affect your property?
- Are there specific regulations in the draft presented to Council that you would support?
- Council noted a desire to cease operations sooner than January 1, 2027. If Council were to support a more restrictive ordinance or prohibition, does the additional time provide a benefit?
- Do operators/owners support providing certification that they are a resident in the City of Wayzata?
- Are there other regulations that you would suggest or support?

Attached to this memo is a detailed summary of responses and letters received by staff. More generalized findings can be found below for quick reference. Operators were also encouraged to send letters or an email with additional comments which are also attached.

- STRs bring benefits to the community, including, affordability, family focus, visitors spending locally, employment of local residents, and renters often have a connection to Wayzata.
- Expressed the feeling of being penalized for a limited number of complaints.
- The current ordinance provisions proposed would require that all but one of the STRs in operation would need to cease being an STR.
- Additional regulations to curtail issues/concerns are supported by a majority. Potential regulations include background checks for renters, local operators and/or owners, limitation on density of units in an area, and noise and parking rules, etc.
- Operators expressed a desire to see their units continue and the limitation of any future units.
- The proposed ordinance provisions are overly restrictive. The City currently licenses STRs and has not adopted regulations seeking to limit their impacts.
- If new regulations are adopted that prohibit their STR operation, operators expressed the desire for a longer period of time before they are enacted as they may already have rentals booked well in advance.

Engagement with Neighborhoods and Neighbors

Determining who qualifies as a "neighbor" is subjective, so staff chose to engage a wider community. Typically, the City uses a 500' or 750' radius around a proposed development. In this instance, staff utilized the 750' radius and then expanded this to ensure that all the homes on a block were selected. Over 400 households were sent an invitation to participate. The engagement session was held on July 10, 2025 and had approximately 25-30 attendees.

Due to the significantly larger group invited, the format for neighborhood engagement varied slightly. An online survey was created to allow additional input after the meeting, which was available from July 10 - July 24. Comments received before/after this date are not incorporated into the survey but are attached to this memo. The engagement session included prompts that were intended to be parallel to those provided to the STR operators. These prompts can be found below:

- How have short-term rentals affected your property?
- Are there any regulations you feel that would allow a short-term rental to operate in your neighborhood that would also reduce impacts?
- Do you support short-term rentals if the resident lives on site?
- Do you support short-term rentals if the owner lives in Wayzata?
- Do you support the draft Ordinance that was presented to City Council?
- If short-term rentals are prohibited, do you support allowing current license holders to continue their operation for a set timeframe? The proposed Ordinance allows their operation until March 2026.
- Are there any other potential regulations that you would support?

The following provides a brief summary of the primary comments made by neighbors. Attached to this memo

is the full summary of comments from the neighborhood meetings. Additionally, the actual survey results are also provided.

- Short-term rentals have negatively affected the neighborhood character for many neighbors. Some expressed concern over impacted property values, both the positive and negative values. Safety and neighborhood privacy were primary issues due to regular turnover every weekend from a STR.
- Some neighbors felt that additional regulations could reduce impacts. However, the majority did not support any short-term rentals, with the notable exception if the property owner lived on site and did not have a shared driveway.
- Neighbors expressed strong opposition to "grandfathering" current STR operations. Several residents have expressed concern over the proliferation of new STR operations and have expressed the desire to see a moratorium put in place.
- A cohort of neighbors understood the desire for current operators to continue operation until 2026, but generally did not support continuing to 2027. Others expressed the desire for STRs to cease operations immediately due to the disruption already caused.
- Residents noted that current STRs are concentrated in specific neighborhoods and/or blocks within a neighborhood. This concentration changes the character of the neighborhood from being a single-family home area to an area with more of a commercial operation feel.

Next Steps

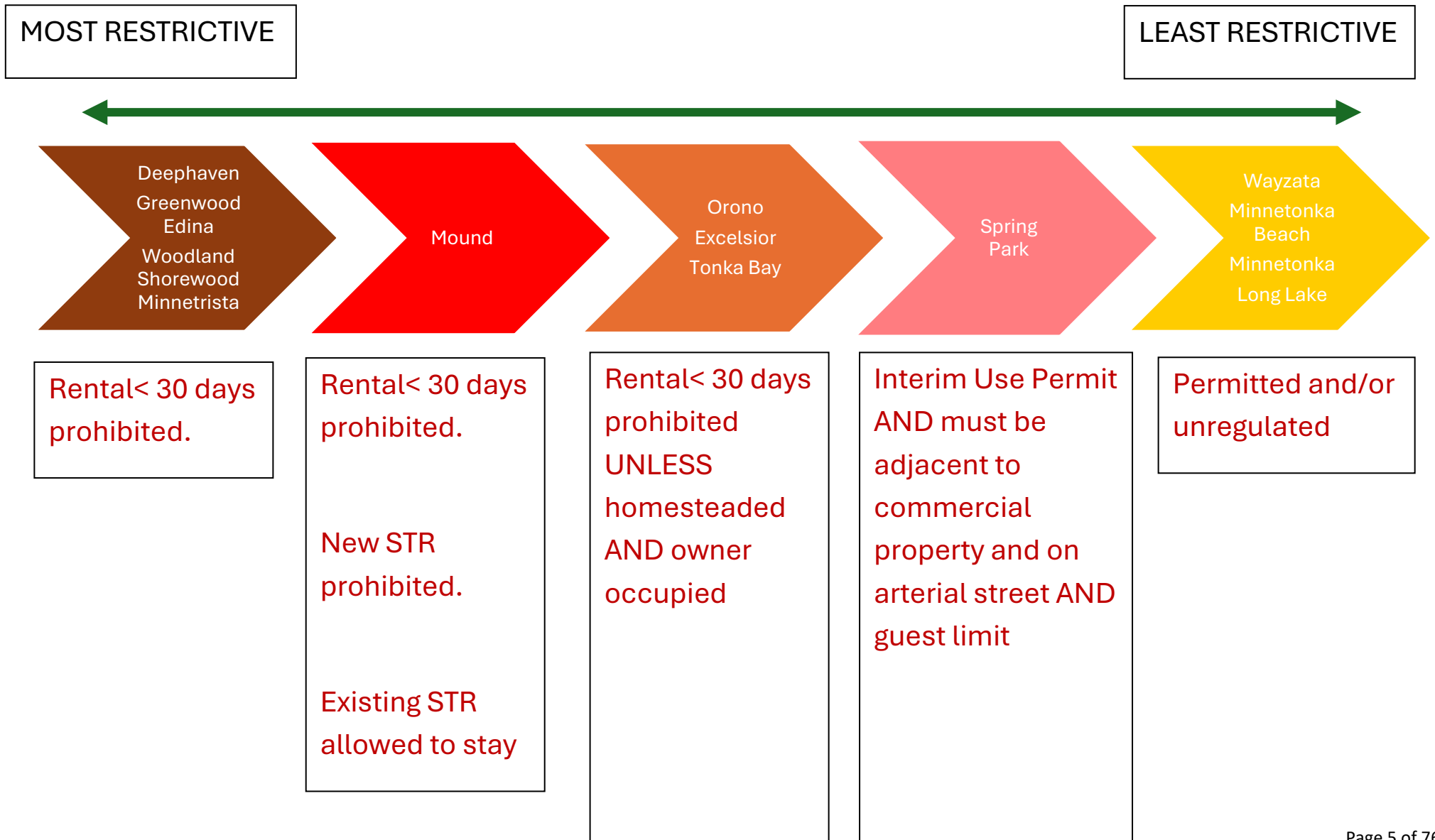
Staff has identified the following as potential next steps. City Council should direct staff to proceed with one of these options, a hybrid of options, or another option presented by Council.

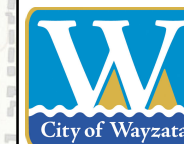
- Direct staff and the City Attorney to draft an ordinance based on the proposed provisions.
 - Council can direct staff to research or amend a specific provision.
 - The current ordinance does not require review by the Planning Commission. The Council would review the first reading at a Council meeting in the near future.
- Direct staff to propose an ordinance that provides additional regulations for STRs but does not limit them to the level proposed.
 - Alternatively and/or additionally, Council may direct staff to further research other community ordinances to provide additional background and/or a potential example ordinance and bring these findings back to a workshop agenda.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. STR Graphic
2. Short Term Rental Map_2025-3-24
3. Final - Memo Summarizing 6.26.25 Outreach Meeting - Final
4. Draft- Memo Summarizing 7.10.25 Neighbor Outreach Meeting and Survey - Draft
5. Combined Comments 8-1-25

STR Regulations in Surrounding Communities

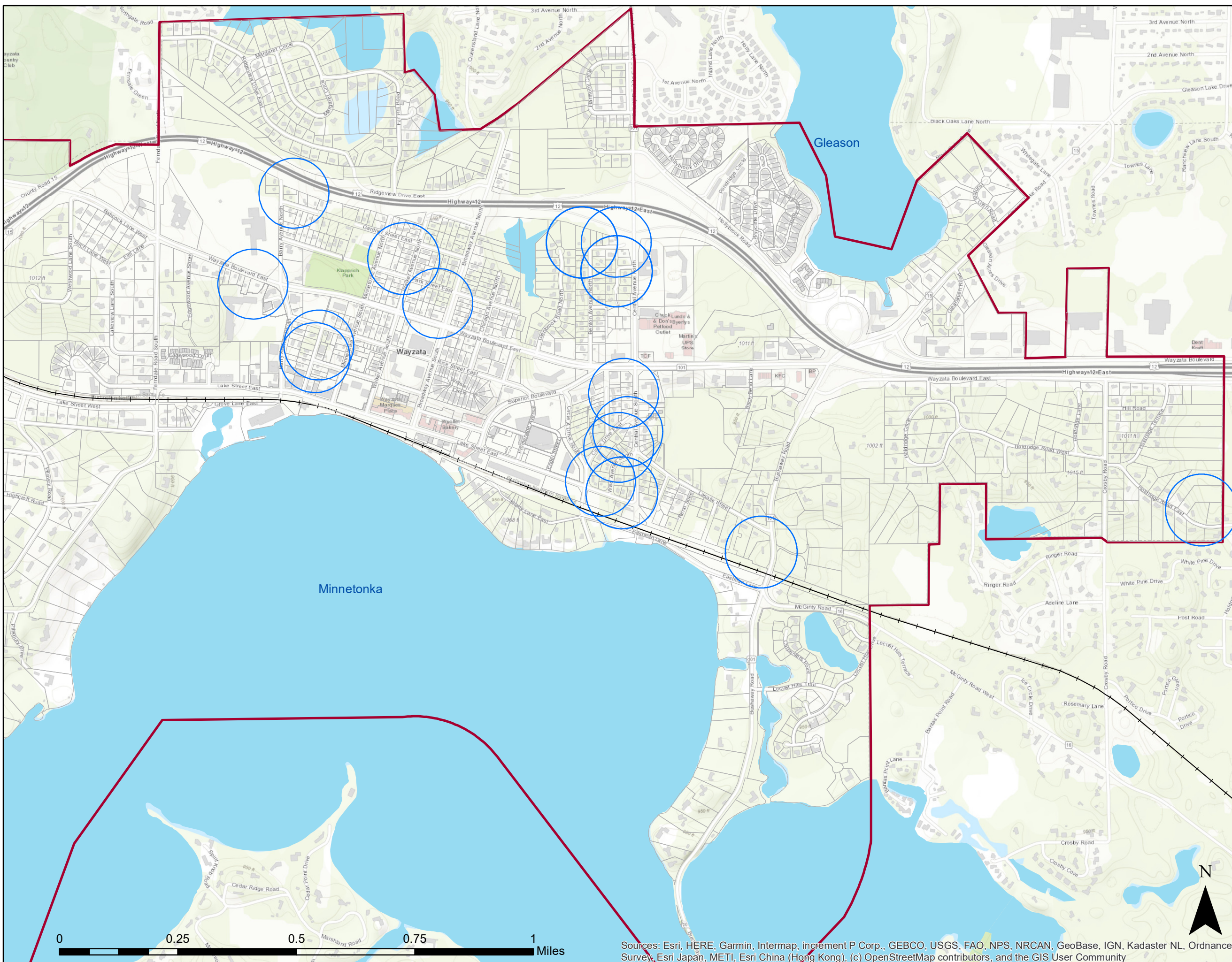




Wayzata Rental Map

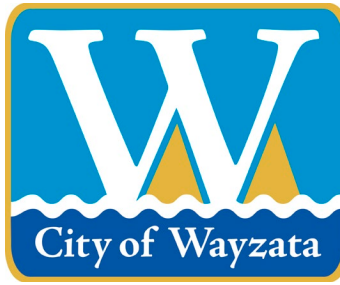
Legend

- Short Term Rental Locations
- 16 Known Locations



This map shows approximate locations of known short term rental properties. Updates to this map will occur as needed.

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



City Council

Mayor Andrew Mullin
Jeff Parkhill
Molly MacDonald
Alex Plechash
Ken Sorensen

Interim City Manager

Mike Kelly

July 2, 2025

Memorandum Summarizing Engagement Meeting Comments

Re: Short-Term Rental Ordinance Amendment Outreach to Owners and Operators

The following are comments and feedback heard by Community Development Staff at the community outreach meeting with Short-Term Rental (STR) Owners and Operators in the City of Wayzata. The meeting was facilitated on June 26, 2025, from 3:00-4:00pm at City Hall and open to the public.

Event Goals: To engage with current Short-Term Rental license holders in a constructive discussion regarding ways the City may mitigate the potential impacts of the ordinance, as well as the effects of short-term rentals on neighboring properties.

Questions Related to History of STR Ordinance Amendment Request:

- How did the discussion or need for regulation come about?
- Where can the public find information on the proposed ordinance amendments and the research that has been completed by staff related to STRs in neighboring communities?
- Is there information related to the number and type of complaints submitted to the City regarding STRs in recent years?
- How can owners/operators provide additional data and context to the benefits that STRs bring to the community?

General Comments Received:

- STR properties offer affordable accommodations for visitors in Wayzata. Many owners/operators shared that their guests often have ties to the Wayzata community; either former Wayzata residents looking for a place to stay while returning to the city or family members and friends hoping to stay in close proximity. Some shared that they frequently have guests who are current Wayzata residents looking for a temporary places to stay during a remodel or construction on their own property.

- It was brought up that the only alternative short-term stay option in Wayzata is the Hotel Landing. STR owners and operators feel their properties offer unique opportunities for guests in Wayzata, and able to offer things that hotels cannot provide such as availability for multi-room group stays, kitchens, pools, access to private lake property, etc. Hotel Landing is also more expensive per night than the average STR rate in town, and many meeting attendees expressed the opinion that the hotel is cost prohibitive for their guests.
- STR owners and operators shared that many of them employ local residents for operations, upkeep, cleaning services, and more. This creates local jobs and ensures that STR's are monitored to ensure if issues arise, a local agent is able to respond promptly.
- Many owners of STR properties use their property to be able to stay or come and go in their own neighborhood if they live or work outside of the Twin Cities. Several expressed that they would like to return to the community some day and use a STR as a temporary solution while they are required to be away for work or other life obligations.
- Many owner and operators are residents or former residents of Wayzata, their STR property may not be homesteaded but they live within local vicinities.
- Meeting attendees shared that many STR listing companies require a high standard of upkeep, and that marketing their property creates a higher desire to maintain the property and curb appeal. This sparked a conversation regarding the difference between short- and long-term rentals. Several owners and operators have managed each type of rental property and stated that STR guests are less destructive on their properties.
- Owner/operators argued their businesses play a role in increasing commerce and visitor traffic within city, meaning they contribute to local business revenue.
- The collective group expressed feeling like they are being penalized for complaints that have not been brought against their individual properties/guests.

Comments Received in Response to Agenda Discussion Questions:

Question: How would the provisions proposed affect your property?

- If the proposed regulations were to be adopted, it was expressed by a majority of owners/operators in attendance that their business would be dramatically impacted or cease operations entirely. Many expressed that the proposed ordinance may result in the sale of the property.

- One owner said they would lose over one-third of their total income if STR rent periods were required to be 30+ days, as a majority of guests stay less than 30 days. She stated that guests who stay over 30 days are typically staying only in winter, which is a slower time for most STR businesses.

Question: Are there specific regulations in the draft presented to Council that you would support?

- Some owners and operators shared that many of them already perform background checks on their guests and that the process is simple. Many owners expressed being selective with the guests they approve (i.e. only 5-star guests).

Question: Council noted a desire to cease operations sooner than January 1, 2027. If Council were to support a more restrictive ordinance or prohibition, does the additional time provide a benefit?

- This question was not directly addressed. Most owners and operators at the meeting instead shared that a more restrictive ordinance or prohibition would greatly affect their business and cause many no longer rent the property. Owners did add that long term rentals often cause more damage to a property, are less invested in the property appearance, and more disruptive to neighborhoods.

Question: Are there other regulations that you would suggest or support?

- Ordinance provisions that require best practices for operating and maintaining STR properties in small communities like Wayzata.
- Ordinance provisions that limit enforceable items like parking, noise, total number of guests, total number of bedrooms, total number of STRs in community, etc.
- Proactive guidelines and regulations that directly address complaint concerns rather than a blanket ordinance.
- Require owners and/or operators to be engaged within the Wayzata community.
- Require a local operator, if not owner, for each property.
- Allowing existing licensed STR properties to remain, or 'grandfathering' them into the updated ordinance. Limit future licenses.

**City Council**

Mayor Andrew Mullin
Jeff Parkhill
Molly MacDonald
Alex Plechash
Ken Sorensen

Interim City Manager

Mike Kelly

July 30, 2025

Memorandum Summarizing Engagement Meeting Comments

Re: Short-Term Rental Ordinance Amendment Outreach to Neighbors and Neighborhoods

The following are comments and feedback heard by Community Development Staff at the community outreach meeting with Short-Term Rental (STR) neighbors and neighborhoods in the City of Wayzata. The meeting was facilitated on June 26, 2025, from 3:00-4:00pm at City Hall and open to the public.

Event Goals: To engage with the neighbors and neighborhoods surrounding current Short-Term Rental license holders in a constructive discussion regarding potential ordinance amendments, understand how STR's impact neighborhoods, and whether additional regulations could reduce those impacts.

Questions Related to History of STR Ordinance Amendment Request:

- How do residents know where STRs are located in the city, and how many exist?
- What was the basis for the specific provisions included in the draft STR ordinance?
- Can a temporary moratorium be enacted on STRs until a new ordinance or policy is adopted? An attendee noted that a known operator has recently acquired another property.
- What staff resources are currently allocated toward STR enforcement and policy development?
- Is the STR application process available online, and under what circumstances are applications denied?

General Comments Received:

- Residents expressed concerns regarding increased traffic, noise from parties, safety for children, and general disruption from guests unfamiliar with the neighborhood.
- At a minimum, STR owners should reside in Wayzata to maintain accountability.
- There are ongoing issues related to the number of vehicles associated with STRs, contributing to congestion and parking difficulties.
- Several attendees commented that the neighborhood no longer feels residential and has begun to feel commercialized.

- STRs should be located in commercial or mixed-use zoning districts, rather than residential neighborhoods.
- Attendees referenced existing traffic-calming infrastructure, including the roundabout at Lake Street East and Eastman Lane, speed bumps, and the exit-only configuration on LaSalle Street. These were all intended to reduce traffic, and residents feel STRs are counterproductive to these goals.
- One resident mentioned difficulties caused by sharing a driveway with an STR, including conflicts over parking and increased traffic—both from guests and cleaning staff.
- There is strong opposition to the idea of “grandfathering” current STRs under a new policy.
- General sentiment expressed that STR properties are not maintained to the same standard as owner-occupied homes.
- Residents stressed expediency for a new ordinance. Delaying or allowing STR until 2027— is unacceptable. Others noted that they understood the desire for STR operators to continue to operate for a limited time due to existing reservations.

Comments Received from Survey Responses and Summary of Discussion Questions:

Question: How would the provisions proposed affect your property?

A cohort of neighbors expressed positive perceptions for STRs, these are outlined below:

- Consistently occupied homes vs. vacancies.
- Avenue for property stewardship in older neighborhoods rather than redeveloping or teardowns.
- Well-maintained STRs can contribute to the overall appearance and upkeep of a neighborhood (regular maintenance/landscaping services, etc.).
- Visitors may contribute to local commerce and economic vitality.

A majority of the neighbors expressed concerns and adverse impacts of STRs on their neighborhood and property. Some of these have been identified in the general comments, additional impacts are noted below:

- Loss of neighborhood character and the ability to get to know your neighbors.
- Concerns for safety due to transient visitors.
- Lack of proper maintenance for some units.
- Traffic concerns for both speed and increased visitors.
- Density of units shifts the use of the neighborhood from residential to a commercial feel.
- Parking of guest vehicles crowds the streets and/or the property.

Question: Do you support the draft ordinance provisions presented to the City Council?

- 58.5% of neighbors stated “yes” they support the draft provisions.
- 41.5% of neighbors stated “no” they do not support the draft provisions.

Question: Why do you support the draft ordinance provisions or why don’t you support the draft ordinance provisions.

- The majority of responses note support for rentals of 30-days or longer.
- Some responses felt that STRs should be banned entirely and did not support the draft ordinance provisions that would allow owners to live on site.
- Of the responses which did not support the draft ordinance, the majority cited that it was overly restrictive and did not include any nuanced regulations to mitigate impacts.
- The draft ordinance does not allow for any flexibility for families who use STRs for visiting family members.
- Other expressed a desire to see STRs no longer permitted as soon as possible.

Question: Are there any regulations you feel that would allow a short-term rental to operate in your neighborhood that would also reduce impacts?

- A significant number did not support any regulations that would allow STR's to operate in a single family neighborhood.
- Several responses noted the following suggested regulations
 - Limitation on number of guests
 - No street parking
 - Annual inspections
 - Defined nuisance standards (noise, trash etc.)
 - Local contact requirements
 - A cap on the total licenses permitted in the city.
- Owner occupation or local Wayzata resident was noted by several responses.
- Several users sought longer than 30-day minimums for all rentals. Suggestions included quarterly, bi-annually, and yearly lease minimums.
- Suggestions also included regulations such as requirement that property owners must live on site for a minimum duration each year.

Question: If short-term rentals are prohibited, do you support allowing current license holders to continue their operation for a set timeframe? The proposed ordinance allows their operation until March, 2026 or 2027?

- Resident responses for this were mixed. Some sought immediate removal of all STR licenses. Others felt that March of 2026 is acceptable, however, they did not support allowing them to continue to 2027.
- Responses also felt that prohibition of STRs is unnecessarily punitive.

Question: Do you support short term rentals if the resident lives on site?

- 34% of neighbors stated "yes" they support allowing STRs if the owner lives on site.
- 66% of neighbors stated "no" they do not support allowing STRs even if the owner lives on site.

Question: Do you support short term rentals if the owner lives in Wayzata?

- 13.2% of neighbors stated “yes” they support STRs if the owner lives in Wayzata.
- 86.8% of neighbors stated “no” they do not support allowing STRs even if the owner lives in Wayzata.

Question: Are there any other potential regulations that you would support?

- Longer rental periods with a minimum of one year.
- Support for STR in R-5 high density districts
- A strong preference was expressed for prioritizing residents throughout the survey, which was emphasized in answers with this question.
- Emulate neighboring city regulations (Edina, Deephaven, Woodland etc.)

Feedback on Proposed Short-Term Rental Ordinance – Support for Balanced Regulation

July 16, 2025

Ariel Johnson
1045 Lake Street East
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Mayor Mullin and Members of the Wayzata City Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in recent discussions regarding the future of short-term rentals (STRs) in Wayzata. I appreciate the city's thoughtful engagement with both homeowners and residents, and I am writing to share my perspective as a licensed STR owner, part-time resident, and long-term steward of one of Wayzata's historic homes.

Personal Connection & Property Stewardship

I purchased my home—one of the oldest houses in Wayzata—in 2020 with the intention of living in it full-time while working as an executive at UnitedHealth Group. I chose this house and community with the intention of making a long-term investment, not just financially, but personally.

Since purchasing the home, I have made substantial improvements to restore and elevate its appearance, safety, and functionality:

- Removed a condemned garage and began plans for a new one.
- Completed over \$100,000 in landscaping.
- Installed a boulder retaining wall to maintain slope and honor Wayzata's aesthetic.
- Added a ribbon driveway to provide ample off-street parking while preserving the historic feel.
- Removed a dangerous staircase and buried overhead power lines.
- Cleared a dying tree and ensured cars are no longer parked on the street.

Due to a career change, health concerns, and tax considerations, I temporarily relocated to Florida in January 2024. The STR model has allowed me to sustain ownership, continue maintaining the property, and remain actively connected to Wayzata with the hope of returning full-time in the future.

Who My STR Serves

The guests who stay in my home are typically:

- Families with infants or small children,
- Relatives visiting elderly residents at facilities like Folkestone,
- Professionals on short or long-term work assignments,
- Prospective homeowners evaluating whether to move to Wayzata,
- Friends and family of neighbors who live nearby.

To ensure guests are a good fit for the home and the community, I do not accept automatic bookings, requiring me to personally review all Airbnb profiles before approving bookings, and only accept guests with proven 5-star guest ratings. I also limit bookings to a 3-night stay minimum and often have guests who stay for multiple weeks to a month; my average stay is 5 nights. Implementing these practices, protects my property and ensures respectful, responsible visitors.

Ongoing Maintenance & Local Management

I do not receive the homestead tax credit and pay full property taxes. The home is professionally managed by a local operator based in Minneapolis and is supported by a local cleaning team, landscaping crew, and snow removal service. I reinvest heavily in the property and conduct seasonal maintenance such as permeable paver driveway maintenance, sprinkler system checks and gutter cleaning.

Concerns About the Current Draft Ordinance

The current draft ordinance would:

- Prohibit STRs in single/two-family zoning districts unless owner-occupied,
- Require STR operators to be Wayzata residents,
- Sunset all current STR licenses after January 1, 2027 (recent updates indicated conflicting information of March 31, 2026).

Given that only 16 out of 2,566 homes in Wayzata—just 0.6%—are STRs, these regulations would eliminate a tiny group of homeowners who are committed to property quality and community respect.

As noted in the city's June 26 memo, "Many owners use STRs as a way to maintain ownership of a property they plan to return to." That's my situation exactly. I am not profiting; I am simply avoiding significant financial loss while keeping my property viable.

Proposals for Balanced Regulation

I respectfully offer these policy alternatives to preserve neighborhood character while supporting responsible ownership:

1. Occupancy & Parking Limits
 - Max 2 guests per bedroom.
 - No street parking allowed.
2. Annual Inspection Requirement
 - All STRs undergo yearly city inspection or certification.
3. Clear Nuisance Standards
 - Define specific nuisance behaviors (e.g. noise, trash, parking) and enforce penalties for verified violations.
4. Guest Transparency (Optional)
 - Voluntary text thread for immediate neighbors to receive: first name of guest, stay dates, reason for visit, and number of guests/pets.
5. Owner Orientation
 - Require all STR licensees to complete an annual city-run orientation or ethics session (in-person or via Zoom with video on).
6. Local Contact Requirement
 - All STRs must have a local manager within 30 minutes of the property.
7. Grandfather Current Licenses
 - Allow licensed STRs to continue post-2026 with annual review.
8. Cap Total Licenses
 - Cap total STRs to maintain a low share of the housing stock.
9. Lodging Tax Contribution
 - Dedicate a portion of lodging tax revenue to neighborhood beautification or code enforcement.
10. Create an STR Task Force
 - Establish a quarterly forum including city staff, residents, and STR owners to review compliance and concerns.

Alignment with City's Memo and Recommendations

These proposals align with those surfaced during the City's June 26 Owner/Operator Meeting. As captured in the memo, STR operators themselves proposed: "Annual inspections, rules for noise and parking, a cap on STRs, penalties for bad actors, and the formation of a working group."

These suggestions were offered in the spirit of preserving neighborhood character while supporting legitimate, well-run STRs like mine.

Closing

I love Wayzata. I'm younger, unmarried, and still working—unlike many of my retired neighbors—but I deeply value the peaceful, small-town charm of this community. During the winters I remember when nearly every house on the block was empty, its owners off to warmer climates. Yet today, visitors bring life, dollars, and diverse stories to our town throughout the year.

Please consider these proposals as a path forward—one that addresses community concerns without penalizing responsible homeowners like myself.

Sincerely,
Ariel Johnson

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ariel Johnson', written in a cursive style.

Haily Hedblom

From: Ariel Johnson <[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com>
Sent: Thursday, July 24, 2025 3:52 PM
To: CommDev
Subject: Feedback on Proposed Short Term Rental Ordinance - Letter Attached
Attachments: 1045 Lake Street STR Letter_Johnson.pdf; 1045 Lake Street STR Letter_Johnson.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hi Alex and team,

I hope this message finds you well. Please find attached my letter providing feedback on the proposed ordinance regarding short-term rentals in the City of Wayzata.

As both a homeowner who temporarily relocated to Florida and would like to return to reside in Wayzata in the future and licensed short-term rental operator, I care deeply about preserving the character of our community while supporting thoughtful, enforceable regulations. The attached letter outlines my experience, concerns with the current draft ordinance and several policy alternatives that I believe would address neighborhood impacts without requiring a full prohibition.

I want to thank you for your time, your service to the community and your continued efforts to listen to the diverse perspectives of Wayzata residents and property owners.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you would like to discuss any of the ideas in more detail. I look forward to staying engaged as this important process continues.

Warm regards,

Ariel Johnson
1045 Lake Street East

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Ariel Johnson PhD
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Alex Sharpe](#)
Subject: Negative Impact of Short Term Rentals in Wayzata
Date: Wednesday, June 18, 2025 9:31:29 AM

Hello Alex,

My name is Adam Watt, and I've owned a house on Benton Ave in Wayzata for the past 5 years. I've lived in Wayzata the past 8 years.

I am writing as a concerned resident to formally express my deep concerns regarding the growing prevalence of short-term rentals (STRs), such as those listed on Airbnb and Vrbo, in our community. While these platforms may offer economic opportunities to some, the negative impact on our neighborhood's safety and cohesion is becoming increasingly apparent.

1. Safety and Security Risks

The transient nature of short-term renters poses serious safety concerns. Unlike long-term residents, these visitors have no investment in the well-being of the neighborhood. We have witnessed an increase in unfamiliar individuals coming and going at all hours, creating anxiety and unease among families—especially those with children. In some instances, STRs have hosted large parties, leading to noise disturbances, and public intoxication. We've noticed this specifically on our street on Benton Ave.

2. Erosion of Community Character

Short-term rentals disrupt the fabric of our neighborhood. We chose to live here because of the sense of community, trust, and mutual respect that comes with stable, long-term residency. STRs turn homes into revolving doors of strangers, undermining neighborly relationships and diminishing the neighborhood's identity. When more homes become investment properties rather than residences, the sense of belonging erodes.

3. Decline in Property Values

Contrary to some claims, the proliferation of STRs can reduce property values for neighboring homes. Prospective homebuyers are less likely to invest in areas where homes are routinely rented out to short-term visitors due to concerns over noise, safety, and the absence of a stable community environment. Additionally, the wear and tear on homes converted into high-turnover rentals can lead to visible neglect, further diminishing curb appeal and neighborhood desirability. We already have to contend with the extremely unattractive houses that were recently built at the end of Benton Ave along 394.

4. Increased Parking and Traffic Problems

STRs also contribute to parking shortages. Many of these homes are not designed to accommodate the volume of visitors they host, forcing renters to park on already crowded streets and creating friction with neighbors over limited space.

5. Inequitable Burden on Residents

Long-term residents are often left to deal with the consequences of poorly managed STRs—without any benefit. We are the ones calling the police for disturbances, addressing litter left behind, and feeling the day-to-day impact on our quality of life, while the property owners profit from a distance, often without living in the area themselves.

We urge the city to consider stronger regulations on short-term rentals, including tighter permitting, occupancy limits, and meaningful enforcement measures. We also support caps on the number of STRs allowed in residential neighborhoods, particularly in areas designed for family living and long-term community building.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We hope our city leaders will prioritize the long-term health and safety of our neighborhoods over STRs.

Sincerely,

Adam Watt

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Alex Sharpe](#)
Subject: Short term rental comment
Date: Friday, June 27, 2025 10:29:46 AM

Dear Alex,

I understand that we are to write any comments regarding the short-term rental issue to you. I attended the session on June 26th at city hall to be able to hear the comments by the owners/operators of STRs.

My wife and I moved to 1037 Lake Street E. in 2022, so have lived here for 3 years. We understood our neighborhood was zoned residential and was a quiet neighborhood not far from downtown Wayzata. After moving in, we found out that we had a short-term rental just across Wise Avenue located at 1020 Lake Street E. That location has multiple people, cars and activity, much of it on weekends. The house just to the east of us (1047 Lake Street E.) has been turned into a short-term rental in the last year or so after the owner moved out of state and is rarely here. The house has not been taken care of as well as it was when the owner lived here.

There is not a lot of room for parking on the streets in our neighborhood due to the width of the streets and the configuration of the streets with sharp curves etc. The extra cars from the STRs only add to the challenge of that. Multiple times we have had the renters in the STRs park in areas that are marked "no parking" by the city.

If our area was zoned mixed use or commercial, we would understand the existence of the short-term rentals. But when we are zoned residential, we do not think STRs are appropriate in the neighborhood. It definitely adversely affects our neighborhood.

We understand that other towns such as Excelsior, Edina, and Deephaven have banned all short-term rentals. At a minimum, we think it would be appropriate to ban short-term rentals in areas that are zoned residential.

In your neighborhood, you get to know your neighbors and who you expect to be there. With short-term rentals, there is constant turnover and you have no idea who is appropriate to be there or not. So it also becomes a safety issue.

Sincerely,

Jeff Nelson
1037 Lake Street E.

Haily Hedblom

From: Scott Tripps [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 4:35 PM
To: Alex Sharpe; Haily Hedblom
Subject: STR letter

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

To: Wayzata City Council Members
From: Scott Tripps
Re: Short Term Rentals

Hello.

It's been a long time since I was at a City Council meeting -- for many years I attended regularly in person; however, life with children got the best of my time and I have not attended in person since...

Recently, the topic of Short Term Rentals caught my attention because we own/operate a Short Term Rental in the Watertown Neighborhood (R-3A Single & Two Family Residential Zone). I took time to study all of the posted public information, I attended two public meetings, I arranged a virtual call with other STR owners/operators, and I met with Alex and Haily. These experiences gave me great appreciation of the time and effort you are spending on STR's.

Please consider my perspective given that:

- I have been a Wayzata resident for 32 years -- I respect the efforts/work of City Council and City Staff.
- I am an owner/operator of an STR -- I support establishing regulations for STR's.
- I am the direct neighbor of an STR -- I understand the concerns expressed by neighborhoods.

I would like to submit the following:

- STR's can have a positive impact in neighborhoods when operated responsibly and respectfully.
- It is imperative to have regulations and guidelines for STR's in Wayzata.
- The current draft ordinance will effectively close all but ONE of the current STR's.
- Strategic and careful adoption of new regulations can allow all of the current STR's in Wayzata to stay in business.
- A more thoughtful and appropriate ordinance can be written for Wayzata to address City concerns, neighborhood concerns and owner/operator concerns.
- I ask that the City Council does not adopt the drafted STR ordinance. Instead, I suggest considering an ordinance that fits the unique situation and character of Wayzata:
 - Zoning, capacity, density, streets, etc.
 - Variable licenses, improvements, fees, penalties, etc.
 - History/longevity, etc.

In closing, I would like to share our most recent experiences as owners/operators over the last three weeks:

Two weeks ago we hosted a young family who returned to the area to visit parents (and bring their kids to see grandparents). Since we live next door we witnessed this wonderful reunion as the grandparents came over daily to spend time in the home, in the yard and walk to the park on a daily basis. What made it even more special, was that I realized that I was the swimming coach for this young mom when she was ages 8-11! It was great to see her again, to meet her family, and to reunite with her parents.

Last week, the parents and sibling of our friends/neighbors (a young family who lives across the street) stayed in our STR. They all were elated to be just 2-3 houses away, as they walked back and forth to visit each other, spend time with children/grandchildren/aunt & uncle. Other neighbors were also excited to see them gather as a family in our neighborhood, spending time together just as we do with our families.

This week, as we were cleaning for our next guest, the mother/grandmother of the guests stopped by and introduced herself. She is a Wayzata resident who is elated that her daughter and family have come "home" to visit from the east coast, and that they get to be so close to each other. She told us that she has room in her home to accommodate them, but that our STR is a wonderful way for them to be home yet have their own family time when needed.

Our next guests are a family of 5 who are relocating to the Wayzata area from out of state. They want to stay in a local neighborhood as they consider their next home.

I hope that you will strongly consider avoiding the current draft ordinance, and taking time to do what is more fitting for Wayzata.

Sincerely,
Scott Tripps

From: Penny
To: Alex Sharpe
Subject: Fwd: Letter of Concern regarding STRs and invitation
Date: Friday, August 1, 2025 7:28:57 AM

Alex,
Sorry. I should have included you in this email also.

Thanks,
Penny and Mark Sherry

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Penny <[REDACTED]>
Date: Thu, Jul 31, 2025 at 8:31 PM
Subject: Letter of Concern regarding STRs and invitation
To: <AMullin@wayzata.org>, <jeffreyparkhill@wayzata.org>,
<AlexPlechash@wayzata.org>, <mmacdonald@wayzata.org>, <ksorensen@wayzata.org>

Dear Wayzata City Council Members,

We are writing to you as residents of the East neighborhood to express our deep concern about the growing number of short term rentals in our community and the significant changes they are bringing to the character and feel of our neighborhood.

As someone who loves Wayzata's reputation as a quaint, close-knit community, it's sad to witness how STRs are shifting the environment from a neighborhood defined by its residents to one increasingly turning into a transient rental business neighborhood.

We did fill out the survey and expressed our concerns and opinions. We and many of the neighbors in our surrounding neighborhood feel strongly that the sense of community, neighborliness, and identity that has set Wayzata apart is at risk of being eroded as more homes are purchased, not for occupancy, but for the sole purpose of investment income.

This leads us to respectfully ask: Does the City Council's strategic plan prioritize individuals and businesses seeking to acquire homes for short-term rental income over the residents who choose to make Wayzata their home? We believe this is a really important question for the future of our city and preserving our neighborhoods.

To better understand the impact of these STRs, we would like to invite all members of City Council to join my husband and myself for a brief walk through the immediate neighborhood. In just 10-15 minutes, we can show you the proximity and clustering of the STRs, as well as the long-term rentals in our area that currently coexist with the residents. We believe that seeing the neighborhood firsthand and hearing directly from a resident will provide important perspective on how the neighborhood has already begun to shift, and what may be at stake.

We look forward to your reply and opportunity to better inform you as this important decision moves forward in our community.

Sincerely,

Penny and Mark Sherry
1053 Lake Street E
[REDACTED]

From: Penny
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Subject: Fwd: Letter of Concern regarding STRs and invitation
Date: Friday, August 1, 2025 7:28:57 AM

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We look forward to your reply and opportunity to better inform you as this important decision moves forward in our community.

Sincerely,

Penny and Mark Sherry
1053 Lake Street E
[REDACTED]



City Council Workshop City Council Agenda Report

MEETING DATE: August 6, 2025	WORKSHOP AGENDA ITEM: 2
TITLE: Discussion of Klapprich Park Construction Mitigation (5:45-6:30 p.m.)	
PREPARED BY: Nick Kieser, Parks and Environment Planner	
REVIEWED BY: Mike Kelly, Interim City Manager	

DISCUSSION OBJECTIVE:

To review the proposed options to mitigate concerns regarding the Klapprich Park Improvement Project and provide direction to staff on which option to pursue.

2024-2026 STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITIES RELEVANCE:

Sustain Community Character and Safety

The proposed Klapprich Park improvements would accomplish the Strategic Initiative, "Complete Klapprich Park Improvements" which would enhance the City's most significant community park while maintaining its character.

BACKGROUND:

Neighborhood Concerns

Since the start of construction on the Klapprich Park Improvement Project, residents have expressed significant concerns regarding various aspects of the project and its potential impacts on the surrounding neighborhood. To address these concerns, a neighborhood meeting was held on July 2 with Council members, Parks and Trails Board (P&T Board) members, and staff to provide an opportunity for residents to share their feedback. The primary concerns raised during the meeting included the following:

Tree Removal

- Visual and aesthetic impacts on homes along Park Street, including increased visibility into and from Klapprich Park
- Safety concerns related to increased viewsheds between Wayzata Boulevard, the Park and Ride facility, and the park
- Increased light pollution, particularly from field lighting and vehicle headlights entering the park

Addition and Location of Hillside Stairs and Slide

- Traffic safety concerns on Park Street, particularly regarding speeding
- Increased parking pressure from park users utilizing Park Street to access the hillside stairs and slide
- Safety risks to park users at the top of the stairs and slide near Park Street, especially in the context of increased traffic
- Residents noted their desire to remove the hillside stairs and slide from the project

Communication and Project Process

- Residents expressed frustration with a lack of communication regarding the project, specifically related to the hillside stairs and slide
- Concern over the change in the location of the hillside stairs and slide late in the planning process

Project Budget

- Concerns were raised about the overall cost of the improvement project

Background

Proposed improvements to Klapprich Park were first introduced in the Parks and Trails Master Plan, which was adopted in November 2019. Since the adoption of the Master Plan, funding for these improvements has been incorporated into the Parks and Trails Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Beginning in 2021, the P&T Board initiated work on the Klapprich Park Improvement Project. The original scope focused solely on replacing the playground equipment. However, in October 2022, the City Council directed staff and the P&T Board to expand the scope to include a more comprehensive park improvement effort.

In early 2023, the City entered into agreements with consultants WSB (for overall site improvements) and HCM (for improvements to the warming house) to prepare construction plans. Since that time, the P&T Board has reviewed and refined numerous iterations of the improvement plans for Klapprich Park. Community engagement has been a central element of the planning process to ensure that the improvements reflect the needs and preferences of stakeholders. The following summarizes the community engagement efforts:

Open Houses/Surveys:

- **October 2022:** Klapprich Park Online Preference Survey for playground equipment preference and overall park input.
- **August 29, 2022, and July 12, 2023:** Community meetings at Klapprich Park, notifying the surrounding neighborhood (Barry Ave to Chicago Ave and Rice St to Highway 12) via direct mailing.
- **April 2024:** The Klapprich Park Design Survey was distributed via the City's Portal and Wayzata Weekly, including proposed plans.

Communications:

- **Since 2021:** The Klapprich Park Webpage on the City website has been continuously updated with concept plans, design plans, and construction documents.
- **Since June 2023:** Wayzata Portal articles have included regular updates (June 2023, April 2024, and a planned July 2025 article).
- **Since May 16, 2025:** Wayzata Weekly has consistently included updates on construction plans and schedules.

The Council reviewed the plans at their January 28, 2025 workshop and directed staff to pursue alternate bid items. The Council then approved the plans and authorized staff to solicit bids at the March 25, 2025 meeting. Bids were received on April 28 and the Council awarded contracts on May 6, 2025. Construction began shortly thereafter.

Concerns from the neighborhood began to surface following the tree removal that occurred in mid-June. In response, the neighborhood meeting was held and following that meeting, the neighborhood was notified that their concerns will be discussed at the August 6 Council workshop meeting. In the meantime, City staff have directed the site contractor to pause work related to the hillside stairs and slide until a resolution is determined.

Reasoning

Hillside Stairs and Slide Location

The final design decisions regarding the exact location of the hillside stairs and the specific play equipment were among the last components finalized in the improvement plan. A concept plan showing a stairway along the western hillside was reviewed by the Parks and Trails Board originally in May 2023, but since that meeting, the stairway was shown along the eastern hillside until February 2025. In February 2025, the Parks and Trails Board requested options for a hillside stairway along the western hillside due to the reasons listed below. A previous version of the plan for the eastern stairway is attached for reference.

After consideration of various options, the P&T Board recommended relocating these elements to their currently approved location, just north of the playground area, based on the following rationale:

- Preservation of the eastern portion of the park as a natural and quieter space, consistent with overall project goals
- Eliminated significant tree removal, as the trees in the western location were already in poor health (see below)
- Cost savings, due to significantly reduced need for stair and sidewalk construction
- Consolidation of play elements to increase safety, allowing all playground features to remain grouped in one area rather than split across the park
- Reduce the amount of impervious surface and allow more space for open green space and ice
- The proposed playground equipment was facing ADA accessibility concerns with the eastern layout

Tree Removal

One of the most frequently cited concerns from the neighborhood involved the recent tree removal along the park's western edge. The removed trees were all Colorado Blue Spruce suffering from fungal pathogens and environmental stress. The City has been removing similarly affected trees throughout the community for the same reason. Staff saw the Klapprich Park improvements as an opportunity to address these issues by removing infected trees and planning for more diverse, healthy, and sustainable plantings.

Tree preservation was a key consideration for the P&T Board. The original eastern configuration would have required extensive grading and would have impacted healthy, mature trees. To avoid this, the Board selected the western configuration, which required fewer and more strategic removals.

Proposed Solutions

Hillside Stairs and Slide

Given the prominence of community concern regarding the hillside stairs and slide, staff have developed three potential options for City Council consideration:

1. Proceed with the project as currently approved
2. Proceed as approved, with additional landscaping/screening
 - A proposed landscaping plan and rendering have been developed for Council review (see attached "Alternative A")
 - The landscape improvements would address visual and aesthetic concerns and enhance privacy
 - Plantings would include large spaded trees, an arborvitae hedge, and a mix of new tree species along the slope
 - A small retaining wall would be required to accommodate the spaded trees on the upper slope due to steep terrain
 - This option would require additional landscaping funding, as outlined in the attached budget
3. Remove the hillside stairs and slide from the project and provide additional landscaping/screening
 - The slide and stairs' footprint would be replaced by an expanded version of the landscape plan described in Option 2 (see attached "Alternative B")
 - The hillside slide has already been custom-manufactured and cannot be returned
 - The supplier, Midwest Playscapes, has indicated willingness to work with the City to address costs related to turf, concrete base, and installation of the hillside slide
 - The cost of the slide alone is \$39,484
 - This option would require additional landscaping funding, as outlined in the attached budget

Parking and Traffic Concerns

Klapprich Park currently lacks on-site parking. The improvement plan includes the addition of an 18-stall parking lot near the western entrance. In response to neighborhood concerns about parking and traffic along Park Street, staff have identified the following potential mitigation measures:

- Install a speed radar to collect traffic data
- Post “No Parking” signs along one side of Park Street
 - Some residents have expressed concerns about losing on-street parking
 - Alternative options could include time-restricted parking or permit parking zones
- Increase police presence for traffic enforcement and safety considerations
- Coordinate with Wayzata Public Schools regarding student pick-up/drop-off parking impacts
- Continue efforts to reduce the speed limit on Park Street (already underway)

Staff recommend monitoring the conditions following completion of the project before implementing traffic or parking modifications.

Parks and Trails Recommendation

The Parks and Trails Board participated in the July 2 neighborhood meeting and reviewed public feedback and staff proposals at their July 8 meeting. After discussion, the Board voted to recommend **Option 2**—proceeding with the project as approved, but incorporating additional landscaping/screening.

The Board noted that the hillside stairs and slide will provide a meaningful recreational benefit to the community, and that the enhanced landscaping plan will help to mitigate visual and privacy impacts for adjacent residents. Additionally, they recommended monitoring post-construction conditions to determine whether further action on traffic or parking is warranted.

More extensive information on the Parks and Trails Board perspective and recommendation is attached to the Council packet for review.

Public Comments

Staff has attached public comments received, this week, through July 31 (City Council members were also copied on these emails). Staff notes that there was also a significant amount of email correspondence from the stakeholder group that attended the neighborhood meeting, with their concerns noted above in "Neighborhood Concerns". Staff wants to ensure that those concerns are specifically noted since those emails are not attached as they were not sent in as a public comment for this workshop item.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Planting Concept with Hillside Stairs and Slide
2. Existing Conditions and Renderings of Potential Landscaping
3. Planting Concept without Hillside Stairs and Slide
4. Parks and Trails Board Information and Recommendation
5. Eastern Stair Options
6. Public Comments Received

ALTERNATIVE A

With hillside stairs and slide

AB - *Abies balsamea*
 AS - *Acer saccharum*
 PS - *Pinus strobus*
 TA - *Tilia americana*
 TO - *Thuja occidentalis*

Understory species (☼)

Amelanchier laevis
Cornus alternifolia
Corylus americana
Ostrya virginiana
Sambucus racemosa

Groundcover species No-

mow fescue
 Other TBD

Modular block wall (match)



RETAINING / SEAT
 WALL, SEE DETAIL

2
 L6.2

PLAY EQUIPMENT BY OTHERS,
 COORDINATE AS REQUIRED

EXISTING LIGHT
 POLE TO REMAIN

946

ALTERNATIVE A

Planting Schedule

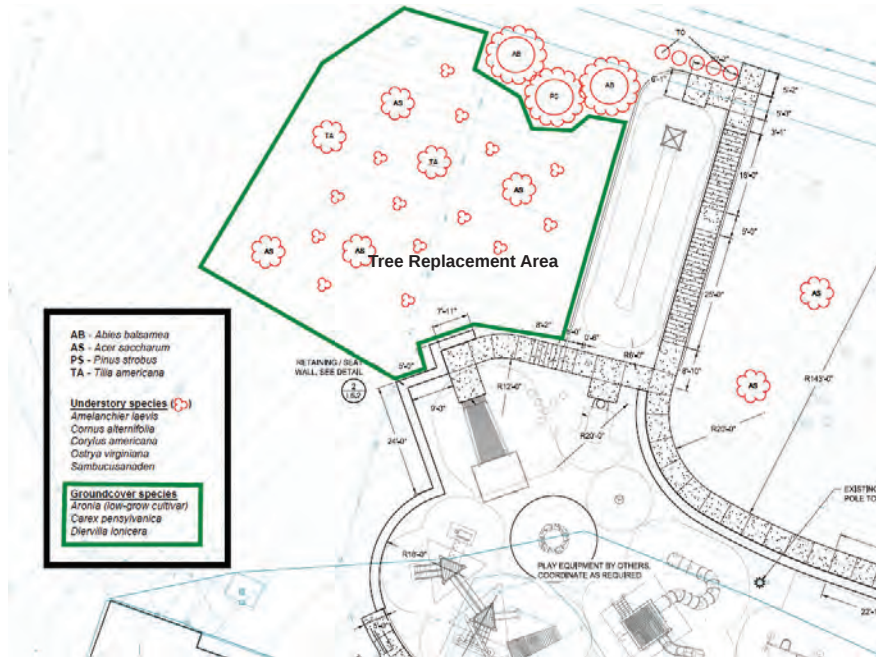
SPECIES	COMMON	FORMAT	PLANTING	QTY	STAFF TIME	PRICE	TOTAL
<i>Abies balsamea</i>	Balsama Fir	12' spade	By 10/15 or spring	2		\$1,680.00	\$3,360.00
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple 'Fall Fiesta'	#20 potted	fall/spring	6	X	\$212.66	\$1,275.96
<i>Pinus strobus</i>	White Pine	12' spade	By 10/15 or spring	1		\$1,680.00	\$1,680.00
<i>Tilia americana</i>	Basswood	2" ball & burlap	fall/spring	2	X	\$0.00	\$0.00
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	Arborvitae 'North Pole'	6' ball & burlap	By 10/15 or spring	5	X	\$215.60	\$1,078.00
<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	Serviceberry	2" ball & burlap	fall/spring	2	X	\$392.00	\$784.00
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	Pagoda Dogwood	#15	fall/spring	5	X	\$100.94	\$504.70
<i>Corylus americana</i>	Hazelnut	#5	fall/spring	3	X	\$21.56	\$64.68
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Ironwood	#10	fall/spring	2	X	\$166.60	\$333.20
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	Elderberry	#3	fall/spring	2	X	\$31.36	\$62.72
<i>misc.</i>	Groundcover						
TOTAL							\$9,143.26
Additional modular block wall to match							EST. TOTAL \$10,000.00

EST. GRAND TOTAL \$19,143.26

DRAFT

Existing Conditions

Option 2 (with hillside stairs and slide) - Landscaping Plan



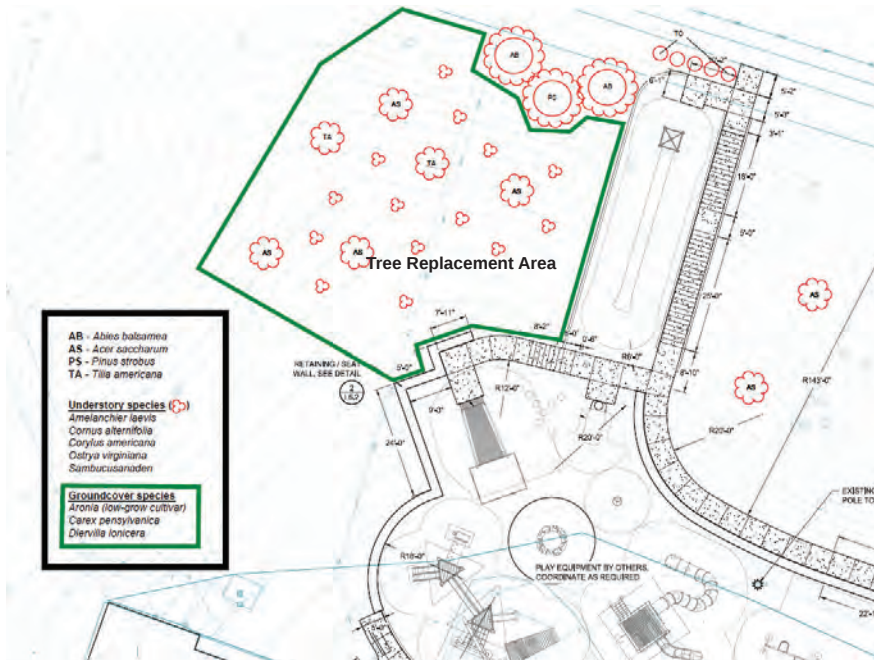
View Looking South - July 2025



View Along Sidewalk - July 2025

DRAFT

Renderings of Potential Landscaping



View Looking South - Across Park Street (First Year)



Balsam Fir
 Mature Height 30'+
 Growth Rate: 1-2' per year

Sugar Maple
 Mature Height 50'+
 Growth Rate: 1-2' per year

Eastern White Pine
 Mature Height 60'+
 Growth Rate: 2-3' per year

American Basswood
 Mature Height 50'+
 Growth Rate: 1-2' per year



Serviceberry
 Mature Height 10-20'
 Growth Rate: 1-2' per year

Native Elderberry
 Mature Height 6-12'
 Growth Rate: 1-2' per year

Hophornbeam
 Mature Height 25'+
 Growth Rate: 1-3' per year

Pagoda Dogwood
 Mature Height 25'
 Growth Rate: 1-2' per year

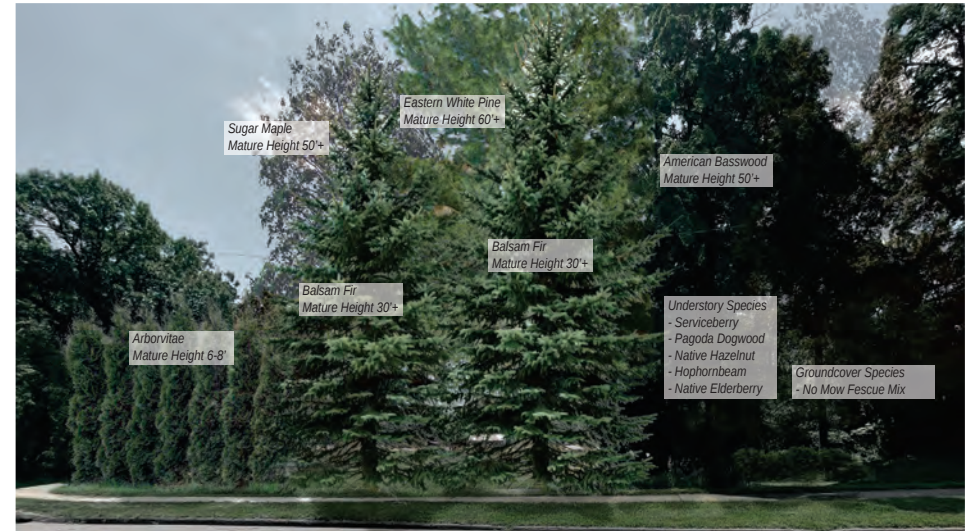
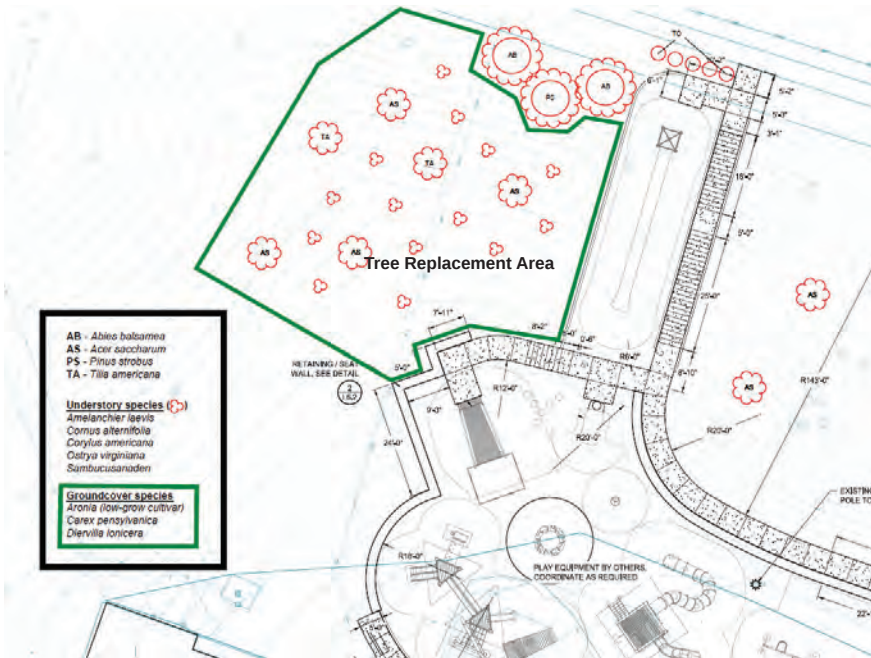
No Mow Fescue
 groundcover



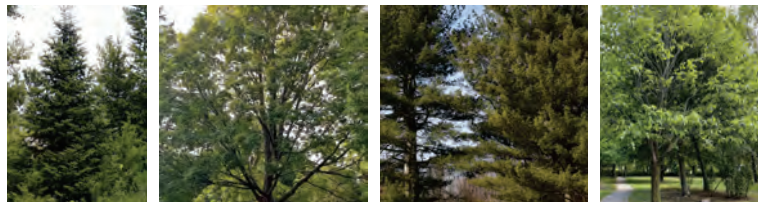
View Along Sidewalk - Park Street Heading West (First Year)

DRAFT

Renderings of Potential Landscaping



View Looking South - Across Park Street (7-10yrs after planting)



Balsam Fir
Mature Height 30'+
Growth Rate:
1-2' per year

Sugar Maple
Mature Height 50'+
Growth Rate:
1-2' per year

Eastern White Pine
Mature Height 60'+
Growth Rate:
2-3' per year

American Basswood
Mature Height 50'+
Growth Rate:
1-2' per year



Serviceberry
Mature Height 10-20'
Growth Rate:
1-2' per year



Native Elderberry
Mature Height 6-12'
Growth Rate:
1-2' per year



Hophornbeam
Mature Height 25'+
Growth Rate:
1-3' per year



Pagoda Dogwood
Mature Height 25'
Growth Rate:
1-2' per year



No Mow Fescue
groundcover



View Along Sidewalk - Park Street Heading West (7-10yrs after planting)

ALTERNATIVE B

Without hillside stairs and slide

AB - *Abies balsamea*
 AS - *Acer saccharum*
 PS - *Pinus strobus*
 TA - *Tilia americana*

Understory species

Amelanchier laevis
Cornus alternifolia
Corylus americana
Ostrya virginiana
Sambucus canadensis

Groundcover species

No-mow fescue blend
 Other TBD

Modular block wall



RETAINING / SEAT
 WALL, SEE DETAIL

2
 L6.2

7'-11"

8'-2"

5'-0"

24'-0"

9'-3"

R12'-0"

R20'-0"

R18'-0"

R22'-0"

PLAY EQUIPMENT BY OTHERS,
 COORDINATE AS REQUIRED

R143'-0"

R20'-0"

EXISTING LIGHT
 POLE TO REMAIN

29'-8"

22'-1"

18'-0"

946

ALTERNATIVE B

Planting Schedule

SPECIES	COMMON	FORMAT	PLANTING	QTY		STAFF TIM PRICE	TOTAL
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<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Ironwood	#10	fall/spring	6	X	\$166.60	\$999.60
<i>Sambucusanaden</i>	Elderberry	#3	fall/spring	6	X	\$31.36	\$188.16
<i>misc.</i>	Groundcover						

TOTAL **\$13,818.42**

Additional modular block wall to match EST. TOTAL **\$20,000.00**

EST. GRAND TOTAL \$33,818.42

Parks and Trails Board

Attachment



FAQ: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Parks and Trails Board Attachment

What's a quick summary?

City Council requested the Parks & Trails Board propose a holistic update to Klapprich done “in one phase”. The Master Plan cites Klapprich as a city-wide park so the Parks Board sought city-wide input – engaging over 350 residents across 3 open houses, 3 online surveys, ~4 public workshops, ~40 public meetings, & 8 Council workshops/meetings, with ~80% of residents ultimately approving of the final design rendering. These residents echoed what ~400 residents said during the Master Plan: updated play (playground & in-hill/nature) is their top Klapprich priority. Slides were always the top #1-3 (depending on the survey) priority within playground equipment, and renderings received positive feedback during each public engagement. Residents said there should be multiple slides (big for big kids, small for small kids) and they should utilize the hillside topography as much as possible. While originally on the eastern hill, the stairs & slide were consolidated west for ~10 reasons (addressed on slide FAQ page) after Council suggested it during design review.

What are some neighbor's primary concerns, and suggested solutions?

- (1) **Visibility / exposure from cut trees** (for which they're requesting additional landscaping)

The Board agrees with this concern & solution, & voted to request Bennett put proposal before Council that would enhance current replantings

- (2) **Potential increased traffic / parking on Park Street** (for which they're requesting outright removal of the hillside slide & stairs)

This wasn't a sentiment heard from the public, and **the Board disagrees** for several reasons:

- Only a handful of families are expected to use Klapprich playground at the same time on a typical day
- Families would have no reason to park on Park Street when there will be 18 new parking spots that are closer, on level ground (perfect for strollers), highly visible, and directly off the main road (Wayzata Blvd.). If anything, this new parking lot may decrease Park St. parking
- If parking near houses ever *does* become an issue, the city could instantly install “Wayzata-Permit only” or “No Parking” restrictions on Park Street, immediately solving the problem
- Some of neighbors' traffic concerns spawn from middle school traffic, which is out of scope for this project but being discussed with school
- Throwing out the entire slide is wasteful (the city can't recoup the \$40k already spent), goes against public feedback, and conflates issues. If a connection to Park Street is not desired, Council can simply remove the top ~20% of stairs (thus preventing / discouraging Park St access)

What is the Parks & Trail Board's perspective on those concerns?

The Board read through all residents' feedback, walked the Klapprich site with both neighbors & staff twice, and reconsidered the design plans during a formal public meeting on July 8th, where they voted 5-1 in favor of:

- (1) Requesting more hillside trees (where possible) to fill gap, deferring to Bennett for recommendation,
- (2) Keeping the stairs & slide where Council approved, and
- (3) Being open to (but not immediately recommending) parking restrictions if/when a parking issue were to materialize

Note: The one dissenting vote (Chair Schalkle) doesn't reflect opposition to the approved plan. Instead, it reflected a desire to create multiple Board-endorsed options for Council to consider. The rest of the Board, however, felt strongly that the best option for all residents is the one already approved.



FAQ: TREES (root concern: visibility / exposure)

Note: Landscaping & tree preservation/improvement align to the Board's overall vision & their explicit request to WSB & staff

Why were the trees cut?

They were diseased per the city arborist. Throughout, the Parks Board “noted [to WSB] the need to preserve all of the trees in the Park” if possible. However, the city arborist noted that these were diseased (some visibly so, but many more were in the early stages of disease/insect issues) and should be replaced now. A map of impacted trees was part of the public City Council plan approved by Council.

Will the trees / treeline be replanted?

Yes. Board & adjacent neighbors are aligned in **rebuilding prior tree coverage as much as possible, as soon as possible.** **Replanting was already planned** but, after July 2025 discussions with neighbors & staff, the Board **recommended the city further increase landscaping plans**, including spading in taller, fuller, more mature trees as much as feasible for the topography & overall budget.

Note for Council: Mature trees will be (1) more expensive, (2) not as drought-resistant, (3) not the entire height of current diseased trees (because the slope can't sustain larger plantings), and (4) technically the same size as younger planting in a few years. Nonetheless, the Board supported these so that the 3-4 impacted houses won't need to wait as long for immediate treeline coverage. Bennett will be creating recommendations & visuals for Council to review at workshop



FAQ: SLIDES (root concern: Park St. traffic / parking)

Why a long in-hill slide? Why not remove it altogether?

- **Slides were always a top resident priority** for updated playground equipment (which itself was an explicit Master Plan & public priority). For instance – **slides were voted the 3rd highest playground priority** (with 2x as much interest as the next most popular item) in the initial 2022 survey filled out by 154 residents.
- As slide concepts were explored, there was consistent public feedback for slides that were...
 - **Multiple:** “Multiple slides would be nice”...“It would be nice to have a big kid slide & little kid slide”...“Slides for all ages”
 - **Shaded:** “Build/design and placement in mind with sun in mind as they get so hot”...“Metal is hot”...“Prefer covered”
 - **Utilizes the uniquely long / steep hillside:** “Large exciting zipline, [etc.] down hill”...
 - The Klapprich neighborhood themselves at an open house said:
 - “Should have an “active” side & more “natural” side that relates to the existing topography and landscape.”
 - “Nature play element tucked into the trees near the top of the hill”
 - Though not recorded in the surveys, we had heard multiple public comments that “the longer, the better” and the one “fun” feature a hill could have was longer slides since the hill is long & steep
- Based on that feedback, the Board & Council liaison requested WSB add “a slide that utilizes the existing topography near the slide or playground area”. That concept always had strong support:
 - As early as 2021, residents said “**Custom hillside tube slide**” was **#1 desired item** for a renovated playground
 - As late as 2024, residents said **embankment & hill slides were their #2 most prioritized combined update**
 - “Embankment slides! How cool!” ... “I love the plans for the slides plus stairs”

Although it’s already been custom-made, the Board unanimously supports keeping the slide because (1) it reflects the broader community’s preference, (2) the interim visibility concern is being met (via more mature trees), and (3) any uncontrollable slide crowd, parking, or traffic isn’t viewed as likely and, if it is, can be more directly addressed via parking solutions, fencing, etc.



FAQ: SLIDES (root concern: Park St. traffic / parking)

Why put the slide on the western side? Why not move it east?

An in-hill (embankment) slide had long been planned for the western hill, with longer in-hill slides on the eastern hill (because it was assumed stairs were needed to keep the Bell Court connection). This faced numerous challenges. As WSB noted: *“The plan includes a sidewalk [and stairs] on the east side of park which could be difficult to construct with the grade, trees, and overhead utilities, but will be kept in the plans for now.”*

Then, during the Jan 2025 “50% construction document review” with City Council, Council asked if the eastern stairway & slides could be reduced in cost (& reused for the zipline) or **“could the stairway be placed on the western side of the park above the proposed playground?”** Over the next 2 months in a public workshop & meeting, the Parks Board considered this & agreed, finding that moving the slide & stairs west would:

1. **Save ~\$200-300k** (in equipment, labor, earthwork) by simply consolidating stair & slide locations. (Note: The customized-slide is already built)
2. **Reduce concrete / hardscape** in the middle of the park, keeping it more green and open for running
3. **Increase the ice rink** by increasing skatable space
4. **Preserve the sledding hill** better than the other plan
5. **Make maintenance easier.** (As one resident previously commented: *“Installing a sidewalk in the (east) open lawn areas will only lead to more problems...due to the flooding of the rinks in winter and the soft ground year round”*)
6. **Preserve more trees / foliage**
7. **Avoid ADA challenges** the eastern slide design was facing
8. **Improve safety:** It was mentioned that keeping the slide to the east could be dangerous for two reasons:
 - It physically separated parents monitoring kids on the playground from their kids using the slides, and
 - It may encourage families to park on top of the hill at Bell Court (instead of in new parking lot by warming house), which would increase children’s foot-traffic on the street where Bell Court users may be backing out or pulling in
9. **Draw parking & traffic away from Park Street.** If access was kept by Bell Courts, it encourages the current habit of parking at Bell to access Klapprich (and requires an unideal trek). Instead, consolidating activity down the hill creates every incentive to use the new parking lot as a closer, shaded, flat access point.
10. **It removes a pointless pathway** The existing path from Bell is also no longer needed because there will be few Bell + playground / warming house “dual users” in one trip



FAQ: STAIRS (root concern: Park St. traffic / parking)

Note: Stairs fit into the overall express prioritization of Council & the public to improve ease-of-access & connected walkability

Why are there *stairs* on the western side of Klapprich?

There's two parts to the stairs, each with a different purpose:

1. **The top** (northern ~20%) portion **connects Park Street** to the playground / warming house, and
2. **The middle & lower** (southern ~80%) portion **lets kids get on and off the slide** (and thus needs to be where the slide is)

Why connect the stairs all the way to Park Street, if that's some neighbors' concern?

Connecting Park Street (i.e. the top ~20% of the new stairs) to the warming house / playground was largely based on:

1. **Explicit feedback from Council / neighborhood liaison** & Council workshop (Oct 2022) to connect the lower portion of Klapprich with Park Street / upper portion
 - *"General [Council] agreement around adding stairwell to connect to park from north & incorporate a slide along the stairs."*
2. **Some public comments** that supported the Council / neighborhood liaison's view
 - *"There should be easy access from park street to the warming house ice rink in the winter. Create a trail stairs path from Park Street at that end of the park."*
 - *"...Have a cement walkway to playground"*

Note: If this sentiment has changed, the city could remove the top 20% of the stairs so Park Street is not connected and/or add shrubbery or a small fence in front of the stairs to deter direct street entrants



TIMELINE

TIMELINE: 2017-2021

- 2017 **1** For 2 years, Parks Board & outside firm engages **~400 residents in 12+ public workshops and surveys** to understand residents' vision & priority for each park
- Nov 2019 **2** City Council unanimously approves the Parks & Trails Master Plan
- Based on Master Plan prioritization (& staff direction), Parks Board launches Klapprich playground refresh, bundling vendor proposals with Beach playground refresh to maximize taxpayer savings
- 3** Landscape architect from vendors shows ADA accessibility to current site requires a significant amount of hillside sidewalks
- Oct 2021 **4** Using vendor renderings, Parks Board & staff **sends "Klapprich Park Preference Survey"** to understand which playground features to prioritize
- Aug 2022 **5** Parks Board & city staff host **open house where 20-30 residents** looked at options for various playground elements to understand public priority
- A **special mailer was sent to nearby neighbors** (all houses from Barry Ave to Chicago Ave, Rice St to Hwy 12)
 - Staff also promoted on **social media & city-wide weekly email**
- Oct 2022 At public **City Council workshop**, "Council noted that Klapprich Park was the highest priority and directed staff to work on creating a comprehensive and holistic plan for the Park overall rather than just moving forward with the playground updated planned for 2023"
- Oct 2022 Shortly after workshop, **Council assigns Council Member MacDonald as liaison** (to Parks & Trails Board) for Klapprich renovations and she begins attending some Parks & Trails Board meetings for design discussions & input

Klapprich implication

"Of the 7 major park areas, most residents only recognize a few as City parks (Klapprich Park and Wayzata Beach)"



Slide / stair implication

- Community's top 2 Klapprich priorities were **"updated play" space & "nature play"**
- "Renovated & relocated playground"** (with "addition of nature play") & **ease of access improvements** ("new & existing trails", "renovated driveway & parking", "pedestrian crossing improvements") **were the top explicit priorities in Council's approved Master Plan**

To prevent visual blight of long, zig-zagging sidewalk path in the middle of Klapprich, the Board **moved the playground down off the hill so it could be accessed on level/ ADA ground** (e.g., utility drive)

"Custom hillside tube slide" was #1 desired item for a renovated playground (tied with others)

Multiple residents requested multiple slides ("have a **big kid slide** and a **little kid slide**"; both covered and/or shaded) & **cement walkway to playground** ("have a **cement walkway to playground**")

Public clearly prioritized updated playground & nature play. Interestingly, residents here said Klapprich parking was a low priority

Council requested all of Klapprich be in scope for near-term renovations

During workshop, Council requested improved connected walkability & ease-of-access, explicitly calling out (1) extending Minnetonka sidewalk and (2) **connecting the lower portions of the park to the upper portion of the park or Park Street**

Council liaison reiterated desire to **connect Park Street to lower play area**



TIMELINE: 2022-2023

See appendix for raw material / detail

Oct 2022 6 Based on Council's new direction and scope, Parks Board engages entire community in **another online survey** to understand public's priorities for Klapprich Park as a whole.

- This was promoted by city (e.g., social media), garnering **154 residents' opinions** (many pickleball advocates)

Mar 2023 Using community feedback as input, the city hires WSB as design firm for Klapprich redesign project, launching "version 2" of the project

May-Jun 2023 7 Park Board reviews multiple design concepts from WSB for Klapprich. After giving preliminary feedback that narrowed to 2, "the Board agreed they would like to present two concept plans to the community to gather high-level feedback then Board could further refine."

Jul 2023 8 Parks Board & staff **hosts open house** at Klapprich park "to present two concept plans to the community to... understand (1) which overall design is most liked and (2) which elements are most and least liked"

- **A special mailer was sent to nearby neighbors** (all residences from Barry Ave to Chicago Ave, Rice St to Hwy 12) to encourage their awareness & participation
- **20-30 residents attended** and "**most of the stakeholders that were engaged live in close proximity to the Park**"

Jul 2023 9 Using the open house feedback, Parks Board (with Council Member MacDonald in attendance) "voted on specific items to be included in an updated final preferred concept plan" from WSB

Klapprich implication

- **53% of residents want larger or same playground footprint (only 9% wanted smaller).** Board kept similar playpad area
- Residents approve moving playground

"The Board noted [to WSB] the need to preserve all of the trees in the Park, no matter what the overall improvements are."

Slide / stair implication

Of all playground equipment, **residents clearly prioritized 3 items**: swings, climbing structure, and a **slide (with 38% prioritizing**, which was ~2x the next most popular option)

WSB mocked up a concept with stairs connecting Park St. to playground



Klapprich neighborhood expressed desire to:

- **Use existing topography**
 - "Nature play element tucked into the trees near the top of the hill"
 - "Should have an "active" side and the more "natural" side that **relates to the existing topography and landscape.**"
- Improve ease of access (sidewalks, stairs)
- Keep play area next to warming house & **preserve the eastern sledding hill (i.e. don't put sidewalks or playground there)**

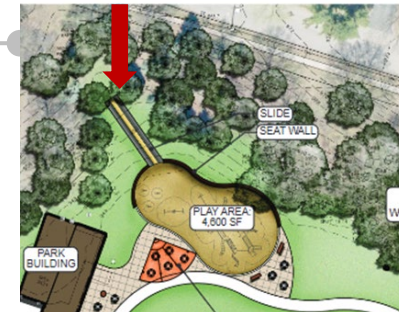
Based on neighbor feedback, **Board & Council liaison requested WSB add "a slide that utilizes the existing topography near the slide or playground area"**



TIMELINE: 2023-2024

Klapprich implication

Slide / stair implication



Large slide built into western hill reviewed by council & directionally approved

Sep 2023 10 WSB updates concept renderings. Parks Board **reviews with City Council**

- **“City Council liked the direction of the Klapprich Park concept plans** that were discussed at the Council workshop.”
- **“Council was pleased with the direction of the concept plans** and would like to review more detailed plans once they are available.”

Fall 2023 Staff reviews concept plan with **Energy & Environmental Committee** and the **Heritage Preservation Board**

Both citizen board / committee liked plans as-is for this portion of park

Winter 2023 As WSB turns concept into specific design plan, they find engineering difficulty with an eastern stairway to Park Street. Although western stairway was considered, Park Board requested WSB attempt to keep stairway on eastern slide, with hesitation noted in comments (on right)



During public meetings, WSB or Board noted:

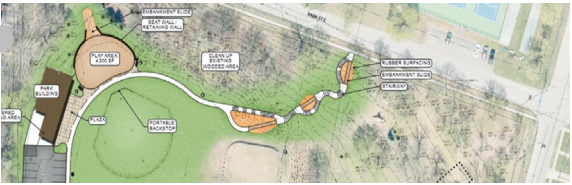
- “The plan includes **a sidewalk on the east side of park which could be difficult to construct with the grade, trees, and overhead utilities**, but will be kept in the plans for now.”
- “General **agreement around adding stairwell to connect to park from north and incorporate a slide along the stairs.**”
- “The Board would like to keep a slide on the west side of the park, but do not want stairs up to Park Street at this end. The eastern stairs should stay to connect Bell Courts to Klapprich Park. An idea was noted that a hillside slide near the playground could stay, but without the... stairway to the top.”

TIMELINE: 2024

Apr 2024 **11** Parks Board solicits public feedback on WSB's drafted detailed plan (the prior were design concepts) with **an online survey** and **onsite availability** at Klapprich with design consultants

- We heard from **~100 residents**
- Concept had large embankment slide on west & stairs on east

Klapprich implication



4 out of 5 residents polled approved of the drafted plan

Slide / stair implication

Public opinion:

- **Strongly supported the playground** - #1 most prioritized update. Example comment:
 - "The improved playground is the most important aspect as a young family in the neighborhood."
- **Strongly supported the embankment & hill slides** - combined for #2 most prioritized update
 - "Embankment slides! How cool!"
 - "I love the plans for the slides plus stairs"
- **Mixed/ critical reaction to eastern stairway (which received lowest total votes)**
 - "There should be easy access from park street to the warming house ice rink in the winter. **Create a trail stairs path from Park Street at that end of the park.**"
 - "Installing a **sidewalk in the (east) open lawn areas will only lead to more problems...**due to the flooding of the rinks in winter and the soft ground year round"

Apr 2024 Parks Board **receives first cost estimates on design elements**

- "There was significant discussion on the stairway & hillslide slides that connect Bell Courts to Klapprich Park. The cost for this improvement is significant, but there could be a need to find more cost-effective solutions"

Two new points of feedback (surprisingly high cost estimate and recent public open house comments) **made Board reevaluate the eastern stair & slide**

Apr 2024 **12** Parks Board & WSB reviews cost estimates & design at **City Council workshop**. Comments include:

- "Lots of proposed pavement, can this be reduced or be more "green"?"
- "Stairs are expensive, necessary? Includes hillside slides, just play area?"

Council's questions, combined with surprisingly high cost estimate and open house commentary, further solidified that the **Parks Board should revisit the eastern stair system**



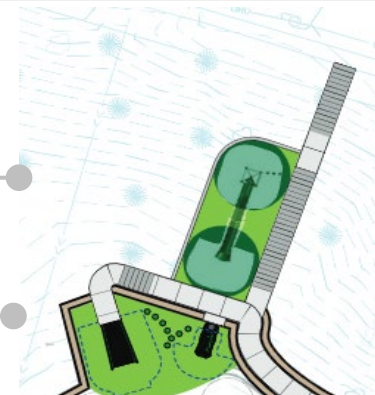
TIMELINE: 2024-2025

See appendix for raw material / detail

Klapprich implication

Slide / stair implication

May 2024	Given comments at Apr Council workshop, the Board bids Minnetonka sidewalk and hillside stairs/slide separately than the "lower" Klapprich Park improvements		
June 2024	At a City Council workshop , Council instructs the Parks Board and Staff to "move forward with all the proposed improvements in one phase", and allocated additional funds to Parks		Even though bid separately, Council confirms they wanted all to be built together
July 2024	City Council approves design plans for Klapprich	Park cited as primarily for city use (not neighborhood or regional) with 5-10 kids on playground at peak	"The park features large open space to play and a large, shaded hill. We want a layout that utilizes these features "
	Parks Board holds public meeting to finalize vendor bid package		
Fall 2024	Parks Board reviews playground equipment proposals in both public Board meeting and public workshop	"Overall, the City Council liked the direction of the plan and wanted to continue moving forward with the entire project"	"The hillside stairs and play equipment are the only aspects of the project that have not been finalized at this point."
Jan 2025	City Council Workshop reviews "50% construction documents" and cost estimates. Council requested Board "Complete the construction as soon as possible in the spring and summer." "Explore ways to decrease the proposed costs as much as possible"	"The City Forester has provided a map of the significant trees that should be preserved along the hillside"	Council asked: "Could the stairway be placed on the western side of the park above the proposed playground?"
Feb 2025	WSB mocks up specific hillside embankment stair & slide construction documents . Board reviews at public meeting		
Mar 2025	Parks Board holds dedicated public workshop to review potential western stair/slide options		
Mar 2025	City Council approves new design going out for bid with no changes. ("Council...expressed strong support for the all of the project items. ")		

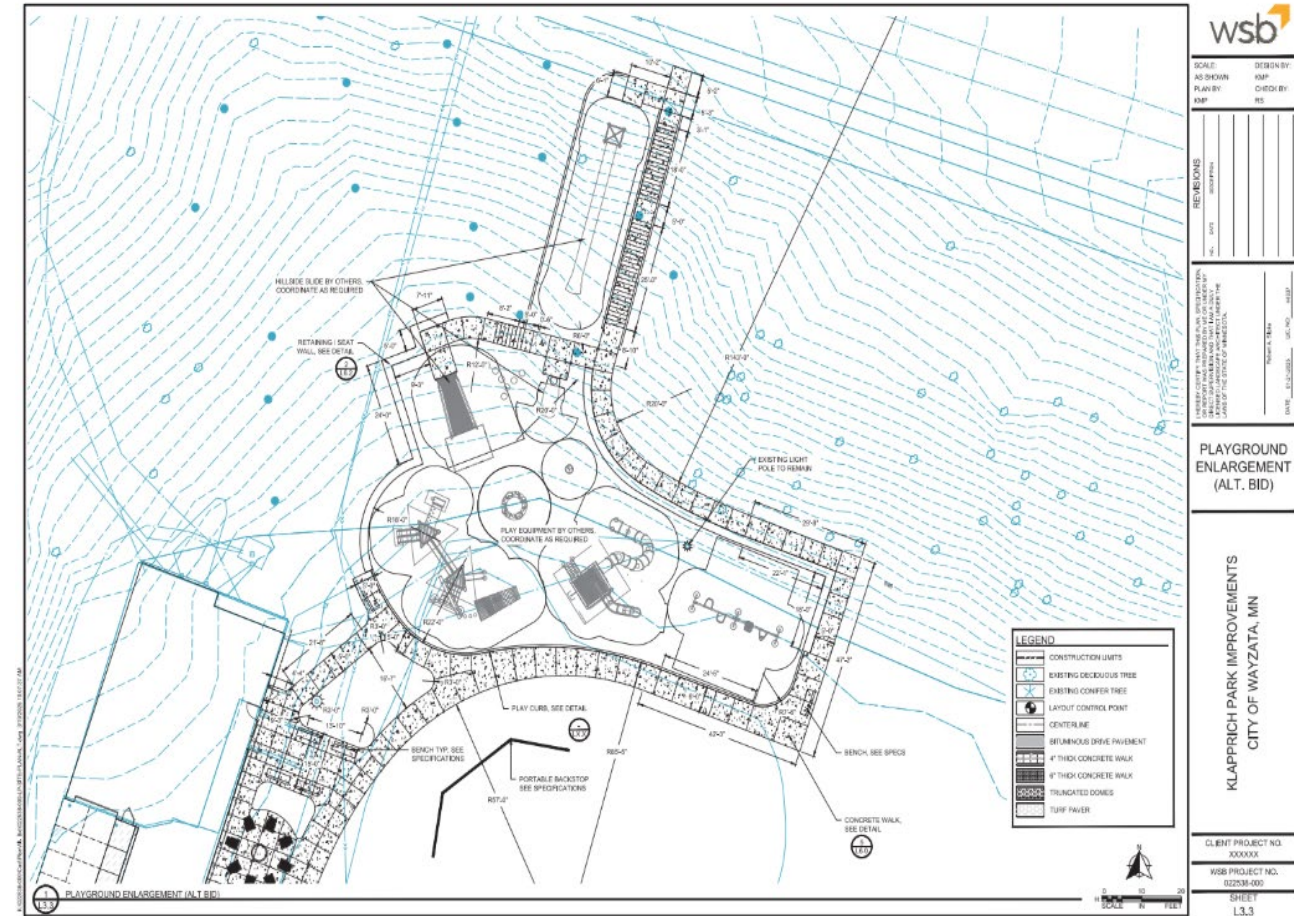


Based on above feedback, the Board voted to "**move the stairs/embankment slide to the west side** of the park above the new playground [with] stairs going to Park Street" since it:

- Saves significant money
- Reduces overall hardscape & size
- Avoids ADA challenges
- Wouldn't remove "significant trees" like prior plan
- Addresses prior concerns from Council & public (regarding safety, flooding issues, etc.)

TIMELINE: 2025

- May 19 2025 **City Council approves** all received bids for Klapprich Park, sending full scope of park improvements to construction phase
- July 2025 **Parks Board read all neighborhood concerns** to staff
- July 2025 **5 of 7 Board members walk Klapprich with staff & neighbors** (led by Mayor)
- July 2025 **Parks Board rewalks Klapprich again with staff and neighbor** to discuss potential solutions. Based on that, **Park Board voted 5-1 to:**
 - Request staff increase landscaping, and thoughtfully add more mature landscaping** (as topography, cost, etc. allow), since quickly repairing tree coverage is primary neighborhood concern and in interest of broader community
 - Keep slide and stairs in location approved by Council**, since the fundamental reasons for making west more optimal location have not changed and likelihood of untenable parking situation on Park St. viewed as unlikely and with other solutions (like parking restrictions
 - Hold on any potential parking restrictions on Park St.**, since these would be a solution to a problem that doesn't exist now, could create problem if not needed, and could quickly be revisited & implemented if ever needed





What options did the Board consider after feedback?

✓✓✓ More favorable
✓ Less favorable

Choice				Residents' concern			Neighbors' concern		Consideration
Rough visual				Slide (in-hill, big)	Ease-of-Access	Additional costs	Traffic / parking	Visibility	Consideration
	A Council-approved (prior plan)			✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓ New lot	✓ Some trees	Neighbors concerned about visibility & traffic with this option
	B Board-amended (more trees; potential parking restriction)			✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓ More trees	✓✓ Lot <u>and</u> sign	✓✓✓ More trees	Balances residents' and neighbors' concerns
	G Neighbor-proposed (add more trees and kill stairs & slide)			✓✓✓	(Not requested)	✓ More trees; wasted slide	✓✓✓	✓✓✓	Needlessly removes slide feature and ignores request of community

Note: Other options were discussed but are outside Staff's options for Council

Resident-centric

Neighborhood-centric

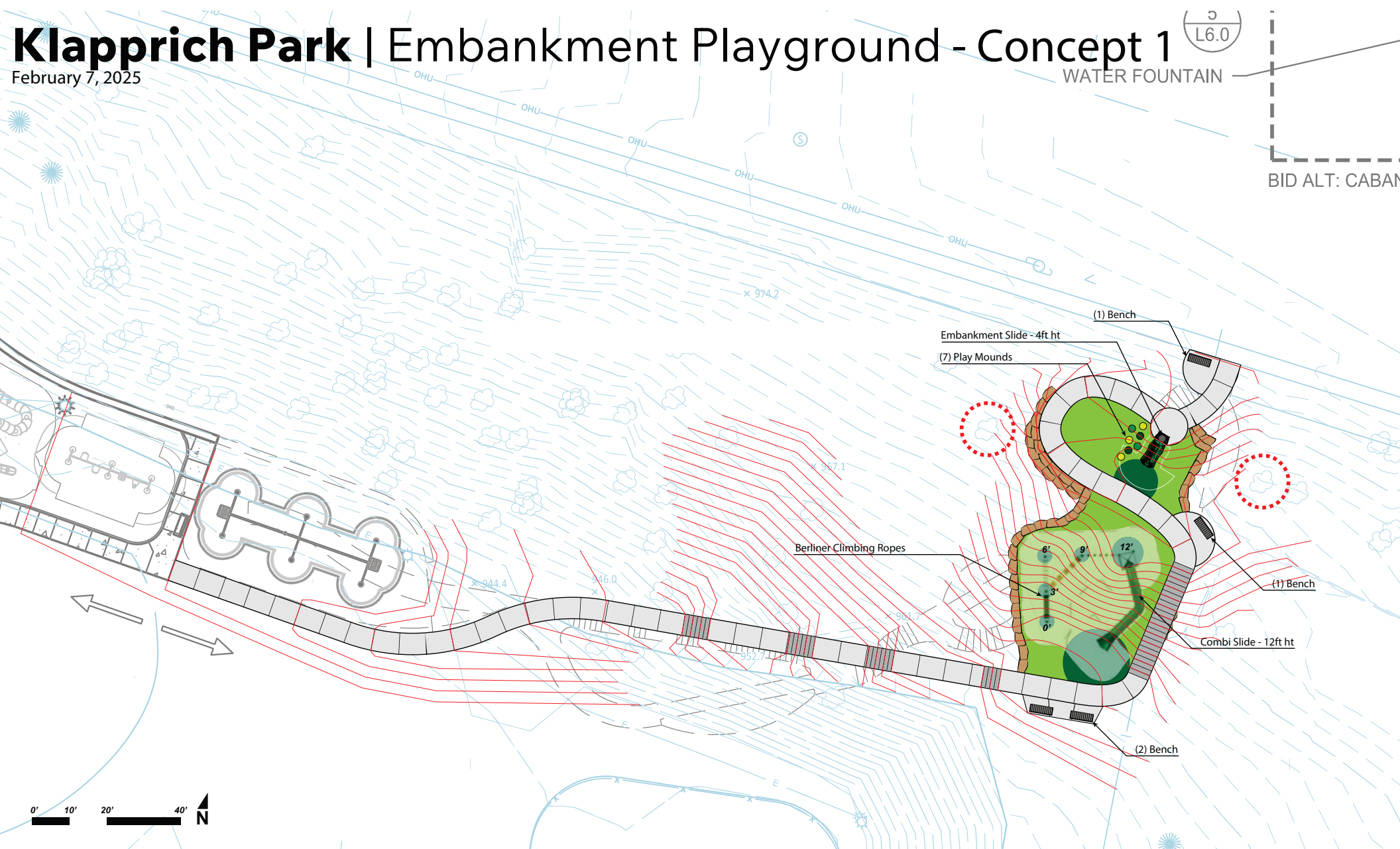
Klapprich Park | Embankment Playground - Concept 1

February 7, 2025

3
L6.0

WATER FOUNTAIN

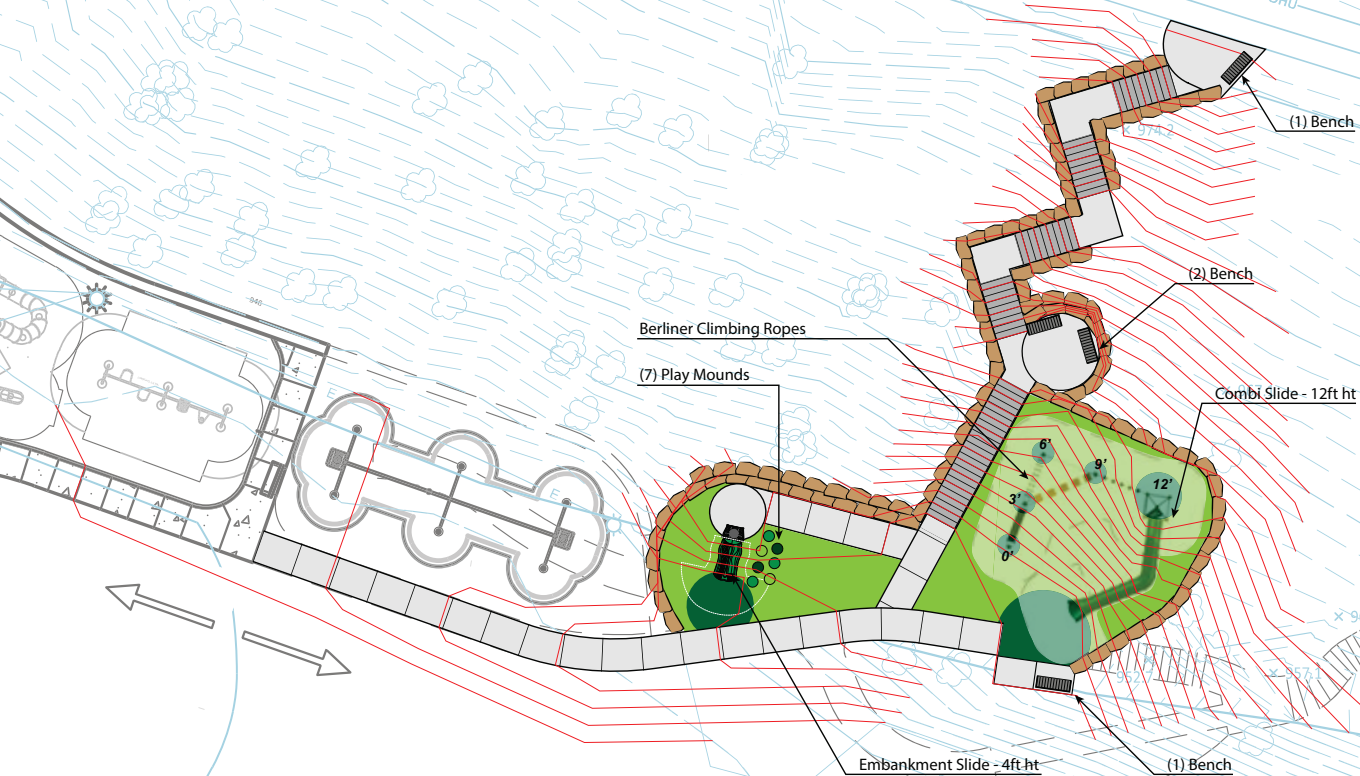
BID ALT: CABAN



Klapprich Park | Embankment Playground - Concept 2

February 7, 2025

BID ALT: CABAN



From: [Mike Kelly](#)
To: [Nick Kieser](#)
Subject: FW: Support the Klapprich Park Updates
Date: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 11:32:25 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Public Comment



Michael H. Kelly, Jr., P.E.

Interim City Manager / City Engineer / Director of Public Works

mike@wayzata.org | 952-404-5316

299 Wayzata Blvd W | Wayzata, MN 55391

www.wayzata.org



From: Leigh Spilseth [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 10:34 AM
To: Alex Plechash <alexplechash@wayzata.org>; Ken Sorensen <ksorensen@wayzata.org>; Andrew Mullin <AMullin@wayzata.org>; Molly MacDonald <mmacDonald@wayzata.org>; Jeffrey Parkhill <jeffreyparkhill@wayzata.org>; Mike Kelly <mike@wayzata.org>
Cc: Andrew Spilseth [REDACTED]
Subject: Support the Klapprich Park Updates

Dear Wayzata City Council,

I'm writing to voice my strong support for the Klapprich Park updates — especially the hillside slide and new stairs! (LOVE IT!!) These improvements reflect thoughtful design that provides unique play while utilizing the natural landscape. And my kids will love it.

With Beach playground often crowded, it's encouraging to see Klapprich refreshed as a better year-round space for children to enjoy. And as a Wayzata resident, I believe those improvements funded by all of us should reflect the requests of all of us — not just those who live nearby...

I look forward to bringing my kids to play, explore, and enjoy this space when the updates are complete. Thank you for continuing to support projects that reflect the future of Wayzata.

Sincerely,
Andrew and Leigh Spilseth

333 Margaret Cir, Wayzata, MN 55391

Leigh Spilseth

From: [Mike Kelly](#)
To: [Nick Kieser](#)
Subject: FW: Concern with Klapprich Park
Date: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 11:38:40 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Another Public Comment



Michael H. Kelly, Jr., P.E.

Interim City Manager / City Engineer / Director of Public Works

mike@wayzata.org | 952-404-5316

299 Wayzata Blvd W | Wayzata, MN 55391

www.wayzata.org



From: Ashley Drill [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 11:24 AM
To: alex.plechash@wayzata.org; Ken Sorensen <ksorensen@wayzata.org>; Andrew Mullin <AMullin@wayzata.org>; Molly MacDonald <mmacDonald@wayzata.org>; jefferyparkhill@wayzata.org; Mike Kelly <mike@wayzata.org>
Subject: Concern with Klapprich Park

Dear Wayzata City Council,

We are writing on behalf of several concerned residents regarding the proposed installation of stairs and a slide at the top of the hill of Klapprich Park. As well as the removal of many beautifully preserved trees.

While we fully support efforts to update and improve the park for families and children, we have serious concerns about the current plan for the stairs/slide placement as well as the removal of the beautiful trees.

Locating the slide and stairs at the top of the hill will likely increase vehicle / foot traffic and noise in areas immediately adjacent to existing homes. More importantly, opening that area of trees to the homes is a potential risks for security concerns for nearby residents, as their homes are now exposed to Wayzata Blvd.

We respectfully ask the council to reconsider this particular element of the plan and explore alternate locations or designs that preserve both the safety of park users and the privacy of neighboring homes. We value having a vibrant, updated park, and we believe there is a way to achieve this without negatively impacting the surrounding community.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to seeing the solution that benefits both park visitors and residents.

Sincerely,

Ashley and Adam Drill

346 Ferndale Road North

612-600-7615

From: [Mike Kelly](#)
To: [Nick Kieser](#)
Subject: FW: I Support the Klapprich Park Updates
Date: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 9:53:30 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Public Comment



Michael H. Kelly, Jr., P.E.

Interim City Manager / City Engineer / Director of Public Works

mike@wayzata.org | 952-404-5316

299 Wayzata Blvd W | Wayzata, MN 55391

www.wayzata.org



From: Chase Salsbury [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 9:50 AM
To: Alex Plechash <alexplechash@wayzata.org>; Ken Sorensen <ksorensen@wayzata.org>; Andrew Mullin <AMullin@wayzata.org>; Molly MacDonald <mmacDonald@wayzata.org>; Jeffrey Parkhill <jeffreyparkhill@wayzata.org>; Mike Kelly <mike@wayzata.org>
Subject: I Support the Klapprich Park Updates

Dear Wayzata City Council,

I'm writing to voice my strong support for the Klapprich Park updates — especially the hillside slide and new stairs. These improvements reflect thoughtful design that provides unique play while utilizing the natural landscape.

With Beach playground often crowded, it's encouraging to see Klapprich refreshed as a better year-round space for children to enjoy. And as a Wayzata resident, I believe those improvements funded by all of us should reflect the requests of all of us — not just those who live nearby.

I look forward to bringing my kids to play, explore, and enjoy this space when the updates are complete. Thank you for continuing to support projects that reflect the future of Wayzata.

Chase Salsbury
607 Gardner St E

From: [Mike Kelly](#)
To: [Nick Kieser](#)
Subject: FW: I Support the Klapprich Park Updates
Date: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 11:32:12 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Public Comment



Michael H. Kelly, Jr., P.E.

Interim City Manager / City Engineer / Director of Public Works

mike@wayzata.org | 952-404-5316

299 Wayzata Blvd W | Wayzata, MN 55391

www.wayzata.org



From: Joelle Gehle [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 9:27 AM
To: Alex Plechash <alexplechash@wayzata.org>; Ken Sorensen <ksorensen@wayzata.org>; Andrew Mullin <AMullin@wayzata.org>; Molly MacDonald <mmacDonald@wayzata.org>; Jeffrey Parkhill <jeffreyparkhill@wayzata.org>; Mike Kelly <mike@wayzata.org>
Subject: I Support the Klapprich Park Updates

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I look forward to bringing my kids to play, explore, and enjoy this space when the updates are complete. Thank you for continuing to support projects that reflect the future of Wayzata.

Sincerely,

Joelle

133 Ridgeview Drive E

From: [Mike Kelly](#)
To: [Nick Kieser](#)
Subject: FW: I support Klapprich Park updates
Date: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 4:46:36 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Public Comment



Michael H. Kelly, Jr., P.E.

Interim City Manager / City Engineer / Director of Public Works

mike@wayzata.org | 952-404-5316

299 Wayzata Blvd W | Wayzata, MN 55391

www.wayzata.org



From: Katie Theilmann [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 2:32 PM
To: Alex Plechash <alexplechash@wayzata.org>; Andrew Mullin <AMullin@wayzata.org>; Molly MacDonald <mmacDonald@wayzata.org>; Jeffrey Parkhill <jeffreyparkhill@wayzata.org>; Mike Kelly <mike@wayzata.org>; Ken Sorensen <ksorensen@wayzata.org>
Subject: I support Klapprich Park updates

Dear Wayzata City Council,

I'm writing to voice my strong support for the Klapprich Park updates — especially the hillside slide and new stairs. These improvements reflect thoughtful design that provides unique play while utilizing the natural landscape. The beach park remodel was a wonderful addition to our summer park/activity rotation but we live two blocks from Klapprich and have eagerly anticipated these updates since we moved to the neighborhood seven years ago. We are excited to see the space better utilized as a year-round space for all children to enjoy.

As a Wayzata resident, I believe improvements funded by all of us should reflect the requests of all of us and I look forward to bringing my young kids to play, explore, and enjoy this space when the updates are complete. Thank you for continuing to support projects that reflect the future of Wayzata.

Sincerely,

Katie Theilmann

627 Gardner Street
Wayzata, MN

From: [Mike Kelly](#)
To: [Nick Kieser](#)
Subject: FW: Support for Klapprich Park Updates
Date: Thursday, July 31, 2025 7:23:17 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Public Comment



Michael H. Kelly, Jr., P.E.

Interim City Manager / City Engineer / Director of Public Works

mike@wayzata.org | 952-404-5316

299 Wayzata Blvd W | Wayzata, MN 55391

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From: Kelsey Meyer-Schalkle [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 9:54 PM
To: Alex Plechash <alexplechash@wayzata.org>; Ken Sorensen <ksorensen@wayzata.org>; Andrew Mullin <AMullin@wayzata.org>; Molly MacDonald <mmacDonald@wayzata.org>; Jeffrey Parkhill <jeffreyparkhill@wayzata.org>; Mike Kelly <mike@wayzata.org>
Subject: Support for Klapprich Park Updates

Dear Council,

I'm writing to share my wholehearted support for the Klapprich Park updates — especially the hillside slide and new stairs. These improvements reflect such thoughtful design, creating unique play opportunities while celebrating the park's natural landscape.

It's exciting to see Klapprich being revitalized. As a Wayzata resident, I appreciate that these projects are shaped by the needs and hopes of the entire community — a space for everyone to enjoy.

I can't wait to bring my children to play and explore when the updates are complete. Thank you for your dedication to making Wayzata's parks even more welcoming and vibrant for the future.

With gratitude,
Kelsey

From: [Mike Kelly](#)
To: [Nick Kieser](#)
Subject: FW: I Support the Klapprich Park Updates
Date: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 9:54:17 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Public Comment



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mike@wayzata.org | 952-404-5316

299 Wayzata Blvd W | Wayzata, MN 55391

www.wayzata.org



From: Kim Gharrity [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 25, 2025 11:50 PM
To: Mike Kelly <mike@wayzata.org>
Subject: I Support the Klapprich Park Updates

Dear Wayzata City Council,

I'm writing to voice my strong support for the Klapprich Park updates — especially the hillside slide and new stairs. These improvements reflect thoughtful design that provides unique play while utilizing the natural landscape. Additionally, I'm not sure who thinks there are "very few kids in Wayzata?" When our boys were growing up in the Margaret Circle neighborhood, there WERE "very few kids" here, but now our neighborhood is bursting with kids, close to 70 in our neighborhood alone, which is a quick walk over the walking bridge (Highway 12) to Klapprich Park. I guess, honestly, I don't understand the objection... it's a park dangit... were the adjacent property owners unaware of that when they moved in? With Beach playground often crowded, it's encouraging to see Klapprich refreshed as a better year-round space for children to enjoy. And as a Wayzata resident, I believe those improvements funded by all of us should reflect the requests of all of us — not just those who live nearby.

I look forward to bringing my grandkids to play, explore, and enjoy this space when the updates are complete. Thank you for continuing to support projects that reflect the future of Wayzata.

Sincerely,

Kim Gharrity

A resident at 201 Ridgeview Drive for 32 years
Margaret Circle / Ridgeview / Far Hill neighborhood
Wayzata

From: [Mike Kelly](#)
To: [Nick Kieser](#)
Subject: FW: I STRONGLY Support the Klapprich Park Updates
Date: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 7:12:34 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Public Comment



Michael H. Kelly, Jr., P.E.

Interim City Manager / City Engineer / Director of Public Works

mike@wayzata.org | 952-404-5316

299 Wayzata Blvd W | Wayzata, MN 55391

www.wayzata.org



From: Lauren Salsbury [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 2:03 PM

To: Alex Plechash <alexplechash@wayzata.org>; Ken Sorensen <ksorensen@wayzata.org>; Andrew Mullin <AMullin@wayzata.org>; Molly MacDonald <mmacDonald@wayzata.org>; Jeffrey Parkhill <jeffreyparkhill@wayzata.org>; Mike Kelly <mike@wayzata.org>

Subject: I STRONGLY Support the Klapprich Park Updates

Dear Wayzata City Council,

I'm writing to voice my strong support for the Klapprich Park updates — especially the hillside slide and new stairs. These improvements reflect thoughtful design that provides unique play while utilizing the natural landscape.

With the Beach playground often crowded, it is encouraging to see Klapprich refreshed as a better

year-round space for children to enjoy. And as a Wayzata resident, I believe those improvements

funded by all of us should reflect the requests of all of us — not just those who live nearby.

I look forward to bringing my kids to play, explore, and enjoy this space when the updates are complete. Thank you for continuing to support projects that reflect the future of Wayzata.

Sincerely,

Lauren Salsbury

607 Gardner Street
Wayzata

From: [Mike Kelly](#)
To: [Nick Kieser](#)
Subject: FW: Klapprich Park update support
Date: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 9:53:54 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Public Comment



Michael H. Kelly, Jr., P.E.

Interim City Manager / City Engineer / Director of Public Works

mike@wayzata.org | 952-404-5316

299 Wayzata Blvd W | Wayzata, MN 55391

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From: Pat Gharrity [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 27, 2025 1:42 PM
To: Molly MacDonald <mmacDonald@wayzata.org>; Alex Plechash <alexplechash@wayzata.org>; Ken Sorensen <ksorensen@wayzata.org>; Andrew Mullin <AMullin@wayzata.org>; Jeffrey Parkhill <jeffreyparkhill@wayzata.org>
Cc: Mike Kelly <mike@wayzata.org>
Subject: Klapprich Park update support

Jeff Parkhill
Alex Plechash
Molly MacDonald
Ken Sorensen
Andrew Mullin

Klapprich Park Improvement

Dear Wayzata City Council,

I support the Klapprich Park improvements, and I especially appreciate the diligent work the Wayzata Parks Board did on behalf of the City Council and the entire Wayzata citizenry.

I'm surprised to hear there are park neighbors resisting this wonderful upgrade for our town. As a Wayzata resident, who is helping fund the improvements, my/our voice should have equal consideration as those who live nearby.

Please trust your Parks Board with your approval of ALL their recommended improvements.

We'll be bringing our grandchildren to play when it is completed..

Sincerely,

Pat Gharrity
201 Ridgeview Drive
Wayzata, MN

cc: Mike Kelly

From: [Mike Kelly](#)
To: [Nick Kieser](#)
Subject: FW: I Support the Klapprich Park Updates
Date: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 4:47:03 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Public Comment



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299 Wayzata Blvd W | Wayzata, MN 55391

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From: Stephanie Krezinski [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 10:07 AM
To: Alex Plechash <alexplechash@wayzata.org>; Ken Sorensen <ksorensen@wayzata.org>; Andrew Mullin <AMullin@wayzata.org>; Molly MacDonald <mmacDonald@wayzata.org>; Jeffrey Parkhill <jeffreyparkhill@wayzata.org>; Mike Kelly <mike@wayzata.org>
Subject: I Support the Klapprich Park Updates

Dear Wayzata City Council,

I'm writing to voice my strong support for the Klapprich Park updates — especially the hillside slide and new stairs. These improvements reflect thoughtful design that provides unique play while utilizing the natural landscape.

With Beach playground often crowded, it's encouraging to see Klapprich refreshed as a better year-round space for children to enjoy. And as a Wayzata resident, I believe those improvements funded by all of us should reflect the requests of all of us — not just those who live nearby.

I look forward to bringing my kids to play, explore, and

enjoy this space when the updates are complete. Thank you for continuing to support projects that reflect the future of Wayzata.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Krezinski

From: [Mike Kelly](#)
To: [Nick Kieser](#)
Subject: FW: I Support the Klapprich Park Updates
Date: Thursday, July 31, 2025 7:44:15 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Public Comment



Michael H. Kelly, Jr., P.E.

Interim City Manager / City Engineer / Director of Public Works

mike@wayzata.org | 952-404-5316

299 Wayzata Blvd W | Wayzata, MN 55391

www.wayzata.org



From: Jana Gaffaney [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 31, 2025 7:42 AM
To: Alex Plechash <alexplechash@wayzata.org>; Ken Sorensen <ksorensen@wayzata.org>; Andrew Mullin <AMullin@wayzata.org>; Molly MacDonald <mmacDonald@wayzata.org>; Jeffrey Parkhill <jeffreyparkhill@wayzata.org>; Mike Kelly <mike@wayzata.org>
Subject: I Support the Klapprich Park Updates

Dear Wayzata City Council,

I'm writing to voice my strong support for the Klapprich Park updates — especially the hillside slide and new stairs. These are excellent proposed improvements, thoughtfully designed to maximize the natural landscape to provide a positive play experience for children.

I love the city of Wayzata and all it has to offer, and believe that we should continue to develop our city with families in mind. Klapprich Park provides a year-round space for children and families to enjoy. Our family was happy to see that the city was investing in improving the space. It is an investment in the future of city, which I firmly believe requires that we continue to invest to attract and retain families.

I am discouraged to hear that a few homeowners nearby are attempting to block these improvements. Our city parks and public spaces are intended to serve the needs of all Wayzata residents, not just those that live adjacent to the spaces. In the near past, the city has made significant improvements that are primarily focused on Lake

Street, meeting primarily the needs of adults. I support those improvements as well, but we cannot focus only on one area of the community or serve only the adult population. Our children deserve an investment in the future of the city. And for those that argue that few children live in Wayzata, let our street be a counter to that — I estimate we have more than 35 children under the age of 12 in our neighborhood alone. Those children — and all the children of Wayzata — deserve a planned place to play, supported by the tax dollars we contribute.

I look forward to bringing my kids to play, explore, and enjoy this space when the updates are complete. Thank you for continuing to support projects that reflect the future of Wayzata.

Sincerely,

Jana Gaffaney
274 Ridgeview Drive, Wayzata

From: [Mike Kelly](#)
To: [Nick Kieser](#)
Subject: FW: Wayzata Residents' Support for Klapprich Improvements
Date: Thursday, July 31, 2025 1:08:04 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Public Comment



Michael H. Kelly, Jr., P.E.

Interim City Manager / City Engineer / Director of Public Works

mike@wayzata.org | 952-404-5316

299 Wayzata Blvd W | Wayzata, MN 55391

www.wayzata.org



From: Kevin Meyer [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, July 31, 2025 12:59 PM

To: Alex Plechash <alexplechash@wayzata.org>; ksorenson@wayzata.org; Andrew Mullin <AMullin@wayzata.org>; Molly MacDonald <mmacDonald@wayzata.org>; Jeffrey Parkhill <jeffreyparkhill@wayzata.org>; Mike Kelly <mike@wayzata.org>

Subject: Wayzata Residents' Support for Klapprich Improvements

Warning! Mesh suspects this email is **Spam**. [From: [REDACTED] **External**]

Contact your IT Provider before clicking on any links or responding to the email.

Dear Wayzata City Council,

First, thanks for your investment in our city. My wife, Grace, and I moved to Wayzata a little over two years ago. We love it. You have done well in creating a wonderful community.

The reason I'm writing is to voice my strong support for the Klapprich Park improvements, especially the hillside slide and new stairs. These improvements reflect thoughtful design that provides unique play while utilizing the natural landscape.

It's encouraging to see Klapprich playground area improved. I believe improvements funded by all of us should reflect the requests of all of us, not just those who live nearby.

We love skating with our grandchildren during the winter months and now look forward to playing, bringing our grandkids to explore, and enjoying this space during the Spring, Summer, and Fall once the updates are finished. Thank you for continuing to support projects that shape the future of Wayzata.

Sincerely,

Kevin and Grace Meyer
Wayzata Residents

From: [Mike Kelly](#)
To: [Nick Kieser](#)
Subject: FW: I support the Klapprich Park updates
Date: Thursday, July 31, 2025 1:11:47 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Public Comment



Michael H. Kelly, Jr., P.E.

Interim City Manager / City Engineer / Director of Public Works

mike@wayzata.org | 952-404-5316

299 Wayzata Blvd W | Wayzata, MN 55391

www.wayzata.org



From: Lucia Harmon [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 7:42 PM
Subject: I support the Klapprich Park updates

Dear Wayzata City Council,

I'm writing to voice my strong support for the Klapprich Park updates — especially the hillside slide and new stairs. These improvements reflect thoughtful design that provides unique play while utilizing the natural landscape.

With the Beach playground often crowded, it's encouraging to see Klapprich refreshed as a better year-round space for children to enjoy. And as a Wayzata resident, I believe those improvements funded by all of us should reflect the requests of all of us — not just those who live nearby.

I look forward to bringing my grandkids to play, explore, and enjoy this space when the updates are complete. Thank you for continuing to support projects that reflect the future of Wayzata.

Sincerely,
Lucia
Wayzata Resident

From: [Mike Kelly](#)
To: [Nick Kieser](#)
Subject: FW: I Support the Klapprich Park Updates
Date: Thursday, July 31, 2025 1:11:30 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Public Comment



Michael H. Kelly, Jr., P.E.

Interim City Manager / City Engineer / Director of Public Works

mike@wayzata.org | 952-404-5316

299 Wayzata Blvd W | Wayzata, MN 55391

www.wayzata.org



From: Brooke Schrider [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 5:59 PM
To: Alex Plechash <alexplechash@wayzata.org>; Ken Sorensen <ksorensen@wayzata.org>; Andrew Mullin <AMullin@wayzata.org>; Molly MacDonald <mmacDonald@wayzata.org>; Jeffrey Parkhill <jeffreyparkhill@wayzata.org>; Mike Kelly <mike@wayzata.org>
Subject: I Support the Klapprich Park Updates

Dear Wayzata City Council,

I'm writing to voice my strong support for the Klapprich Park updates — especially the hillside slide and new stairs. These improvements reflect thoughtful design that provides unique play while utilizing the natural landscape.

With Beach playground often crowded, it's encouraging to see Klapprich refreshed as a better year-round space for children to enjoy. And as a Wayzata resident, I believe those improvements funded by all of us should reflect the requests of all of us — not just those who live nearby.

I look forward to bringing my kids to play, explore, and enjoy this space when the updates are complete. Thank you for continuing to support projects that reflect the future of Wayzata.

Sincerely,

Ryan Peltoma and Brooke schrider

Sent from my iPhone



City Council Workshop City Council Agenda Report

MEETING DATE: August 6, 2025	WORKSHOP AGENDA ITEM: 3
TITLE: Discussion of Future Council Topics (6:30-6:35 p.m.)	
PREPARED BY: Mike Kelly, Interim City Manager	
REVIEWED BY: Not Applicable	

DISCUSSION OBJECTIVE:

To discuss and prioritize future workshop and general topics.

2024-2026 STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITIES RELEVANCE:

Not Applicable.

BACKGROUND:

Below is a list of planned workshop topics. These are subject to change:

- **Aug 6** Klapprich Park Discussion
- **Aug 6** Short Term Rentals
- **Aug 19** Preliminary General Fund Budget Status Update
- **Aug 19** Council Member Recruitment
- **Sept 9** Public Safety Facility Needs Assessment/Tour
- **Sept 9** Subdivision Ordinance
- **Sept 23** Open - Topics To Be Determined
- **Oct 7** Open - Topics To Be Determined
- **Oct 21** Strategic Plan Update
- **Nov 5** Final CIP Review
- **Nov 18** Final Budget Status Update
- **Nov 18** Legislative Priorities
- **Dec 2** Board and Commission Interviews
- **Dec 16** Potential Charter Amendment for Purchasing/Contracts
- **Dec 16** Franchise Fees

ATTACHMENTS:

None