



# CITY INSIGHTS

## Fall/Winter 2015



Published by the City of Moorhead

# Homebuyers Love Their Neighborhoods

The City of Moorhead surveyed all 2014 purchasers of existing and newly constructed homes regarding their home buying experience and their impressions of Moorhead. The respondents included 28% first-time homebuyers, and of all buyers, 20% bought newly constructed homes.

### Where did buyers come from?

One-third of the respondents previously lived in Moorhead and one-third in Fargo, West Fargo, or elsewhere in North Dakota. The remaining lived elsewhere, mostly in Minnesota (not in Moorhead).



### Other than home features, what influenced buyers' decisions?

- Value of the home purchased
- Neighborhood features
- Wanted to be a Minnesota resident

### What do buyers like best about their neighborhoods?

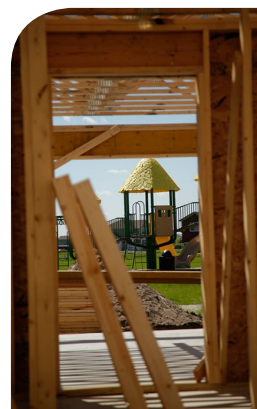
- Near natural or recreational amenity (e.g. green space, water, golf course, pathways)
- The neighbors or neighborhood
- Quiet and peaceful
- Well established with mature trees
- Ease of access to I-94, Hwy 10, major arterial streets

### How did homebuyers rate Moorhead's community features?

- 88.4% were satisfied or very satisfied with their neighborhoods
- 75.8% were satisfied or very satisfied with Moorhead's affordability and cost of living, which is a higher satisfaction score than last year
- 82.6% were satisfied or very satisfied with Moorhead's K-12 education, which is a higher satisfaction score than last year
- 80.5% were satisfied or very satisfied with Moorhead's Parks and Recreation opportunities

### What would they say to other homebuyers about buying a home in Moorhead?

- Better home value than surrounding areas (e.g. larger homes/lots for less cost)
- It's nice, quiet, and friendly
- Great neighborhoods and community, especially to raise a family
- Small town feeling
- It's on the grow



See more survey results and share with prospective homebuyers.

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

Moorhead residents are ambassadors for our city!

# Parks and Recreation

**Greater Moorhead Days: September 10 – 18**  
*See back page for more information*

## **Farmers Market: Get fresh. Go local.**

Tuesdays through September 29, 3 – 6 pm  
Moorhead Center Mall, corner of 4th St/Center Ave

## **Haunted Mall: Spooktacular fun on Halloween!**

October 31, 3 – 7 pm  
Moorhead Center Mall, 500 Center Ave  
Trick-or-treating, exploring scary and not so scary spaces, and more family-friendly activities.

## **Tree Lighting**

November 24, 5 pm  
Memorial Park Log Cabin, 210 8 St N  
Listen to the Moorhead High School Carolers, enjoy cookies and cider, and watch as Mayor Williams turns the lights on the official City tree!

## **Skate with Santa**

December 13, 2:15 – 4:15 pm  
Moorhead Sports Center, 324 24 St S  
Free open skate and visits with Santa. Skate rental available (limited sizes).

## **Sleigh Rides through Viking Ship Park**

December 27 – 30, 1 – 4 pm  
Hjemkomst Center, 202 1 Ave N  
Enjoy horse-drawn rides for \$4 per rider (2 and under free). Advance reservations not needed.



## **Polar Party 2016**

February 20, 10 am – 2 pm  
M.B. Johnson Park  
3601 11 St N

Free frosty fun for the whole family! Hot chocolate, outdoor games, sleigh rides, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, and bonfire.

## **Program Brochures**

Programs for youth, adults, and seniors! The fall/winter program brochure was mailed to all Moorhead residents in mid-August. Additional copies available at the Moorhead Sports Center, City Hall, Moorhead Center Mall, Moorhead Library, or the F-M Convention and Visitor's Bureau.



## **Fall Golf Special**

The Meadows and Village Green golf courses are open through October 31. One will remain open into November, weather permitting. Beginning September 21, pay for 9 holes and play 18 at either course.

Valid on adult green fee rates only, no carts. Course updates will be posted at [www.moorheadgolf.com](http://www.moorheadgolf.com).

**More information and events calendar**  
[www.moorheadparks.com](http://www.moorheadparks.com) or 218.299.5340



## **Coffee with the Mayor**

**Join Mayor Williams for coffee and visit about your city.**

Mayor Williams invites citizens of Moorhead to join her for coffee at the Moorhead Center Mall. Coffee with Mayor Del Rae Williams is held on the third Wednesday of every month from 10 am – noon and 7 – 9 pm in the Moorhead Center Mall Atrium, 500 Center Ave. Free and open to the public. Coffee provided.

## **eNotifications: Sign up today**

The City of Moorhead offers an eNotification system that lets you sign up to receive emails when news and events are posted to the City's website. Visit [www.cityofmoorhead.com](http://www.cityofmoorhead.com) and click the eNotification link at the top of the homepage. Share your name and email address, then select the categories in which you are interested. Receive updates regarding City Council, boards and commissions, Fire, Police, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, and more. The eNotification system is the best way to hear about what is happening in Moorhead, your hometown.

# Fall/Winter Reminders

## On-Street Parking and Mail Delivery

Some residents have reported mail not being delivered due to parked cars blocking U.S. Postal Service (USPS) vehicles from mailboxes. For safety reasons, USPS' driving route

carriers are instructed not to get out of their vehicles to deliver mail. USPS protocol is to leave notes on cars blocking mailboxes three times, but subsequently USPS does not deliver mail when a vehicle is blocking a mailbox.

Work together and leave room. Utilize garages and driveways to the greatest extent. Do not park near mailboxes during mail delivery times; advise guests and tenants to follow the same courtesy. If cars are blocking mailboxes, politely request owners give the mail carriers room to deliver the mail. Your neighbors thank you for your cooperation!

## Curbside Yard Waste Pick-up

Service ends for the season on November 20 and will resume April 15, 2016. Place all leaves, grass clippings, and garden/flowerbed waste in transparent lawn bags or a garbage can (up to 32 gallon size) to ensure collection on your garbage day. Each container must not exceed 30 lbs, but there is no limit on the total amount that may be picked up.

**Yard Waste Compost Site, 1800 Hwy 75 N**  
**Monday - Friday, 8:00 am - 4:15 pm**  
**Saturday, 8:00 am - 11:45 am**  
**Open April 15 - November 20, 2015**

Yard waste is processed at the City's Compost Site. Residents can haul brush and other yard waste to the Compost Site free of charge. Large loads of brush (1-ton trucks and above) will be subject to a nominal disposal site fee. Finished compost is free to all Clay County residents (up to 2 cubic yards per household).

Visit [www.cityofmoorhead.com](http://www.cityofmoorhead.com) for more information.



## Curbside Branch Pick-up

Weekly service ends on September 30. After September 30, you may request branch pickup online at [www.cityofmoorhead.com](http://www.cityofmoorhead.com) or **218.299.5422**. Weekly service will resume May 1, 2016.

## Holiday Garbage Collection

On days following a holiday, collection will begin at 4 am; to ensure collection, place garbage out the night before. Garbage may be collected later in the day due to the double route. If a holiday falls on a Friday, garbage will be picked up the following Monday. If a holiday falls on a Monday, garbage will be picked up on Tuesday. **See the back page for holiday dates and page 2 to sign up for eNotifications (choose 'Service Alerts') for email reminders on holiday garbage days.** The Garbage Transfer Station and Compost Site are closed on holidays.

## Christmas Tree Pickup

Crews will collect trees on your regularly scheduled garbage pick-up day for two weeks, beginning Monday, January 4 through Friday, January 15, 2016.

## Snow and Ice Removal

### Sidewalks

The occupant and/or owner of buildings and unoccupied lots must clear the sidewalk by 9 pm each day and keep it clear of snow and ice.



### City Abatement Removal

Inspectors will leave a notice at the property when sidewalks are not cleared in a timely way. The notice will have a short compliance timeline. If the sidewalks are not cleared by the compliance date, the City will hire the snow removal and the property owner will be charged for all costs.

### Depositing Snow on Streets

Property owners must make arrangements to keep snow off the street and away from intersections.

### Reporting

If a public sidewalk has not been cleared, contact the City and an inspector will initiate the notification and enforcement process. Call **218.299.5434** or email [neighborhood.services@cityofmoorhead.com](mailto:neighborhood.services@cityofmoorhead.com).

# Police Department

## School Bus Safety: Back-to-school tips

Per Minnesota law, when an identified school bus is stopped on a street or highway and is displaying an extended stop-signal arm with flashing red lights, the driver of a vehicle approaching the bus must stop at least 20 feet away from the bus. The driver must stay stopped away from the bus and not move until the school bus stop-signal arm is retracted and the red lights are no longer flashing. Be a mindful driver and help keep our kids safe!



## Vacation House Checks

Police Volunteers will check the security of your home while you are away. Make the request for this free service if you are leaving town on vacation, for an extended period of time, or if you travel south for the winter.

Residents requesting house checks must secure all doors and windows before leaving. Any open doors and windows will be investigated by an officer and the house will be secured.

Citizens may submit a house check request online at [www.moorheadpolice.com](http://www.moorheadpolice.com) or by calling **218.299.5120**.

Enjoy your time away without the worry!



**City Auction** Moorhead, Barnesville, and Clay County will hold a public sale of impounded vehicles at 10 am on Saturday, September 26 at the Moorhead Impound Lot, 2206 15 Ave N. Vehicles being sold in this sale are court ordered forfeitures and unclaimed vehicles.

# Library

## Updated Meeting Rooms at the Moorhead Public Library



Librarians: Jenny Rodger (left) and Nicole Boewood (right)

The library is an Otto Bremer Foundation Grant recipient! This funding will allow improvements to public meeting rooms, which include one large meeting room, one small meeting room, and a kitchenette. Updates will include paint, carpet, chairs, tables, and technology.

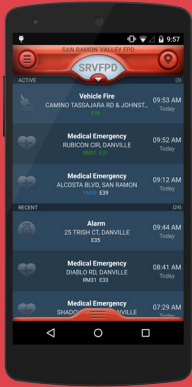
The library, a branch of Lake Agassiz Regional Library, serves a growing area that values education and the arts, and is home to community groups and non-profit organizations that rely on the library's free meeting spaces. These rooms are in high-demand and are often reserved months in advance. Updating these rooms will contribute to this vibrant community and offer opportunities for economic, civic, and social participation.

The vision is to provide modern and functional spaces for the community to use and enjoy. The grant will allow the library to continue providing this community service, while fulfilling the needs of a modern space. In addition to general renovation, new technical equipment will be installed, including wireless microphones, digital projectors, projector screens, and televisions with DVD players.

On behalf of the community members who will benefit from this update, the Moorhead Public Library, along with Lake Agassiz Regional Library, thanks the Otto Bremer Foundation for making this possible.

**Moorhead Public Library Director Megan Krueger**  
[kruegerm@larl.org](mailto:kruegerm@larl.org)  
**Lake Agassiz Regional Library Director Liz Lynch**  
[lynchl@larl.org](mailto:lynchl@larl.org)

# Fire Department



## GET THE APP. SAVE A LIFE.

Be alerted to sudden cardiac arrests in your immediate vicinity, so you can start CPR in the critical lifesaving minutes before EMS teams arrive.

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

Click on the PulsePoint logo.



When a person suffers cardiac arrest, bystander CPR is performed only 32% of the time, and where Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) were available, they were only utilized 4% of the time. In both cases, the largest contributing factor was a lack of information; people in the area were not aware of the CPR event and did not know an AED was available.

Smart phone apps, such as PulsePoint, connect trained bystanders with people suffering from cardiac arrest and provide information about nearby AEDs. PulsePoint runs in your phone's background and sends an alert if you are near someone in cardiac arrest.

A map shows you the emergency location and nearby AEDs. You can use the app to see Fire Department call history, listen to live dispatch audio, and more. **Download the app today for iPhone® or Android®.**



## Fire Department Annual Open House

Sunday, October 11, 1 - 4 pm  
Station 1, 1120 1 Ave N

Station and equipment tours, demonstrations, games, and "Squirt House" for kids. Free hotdogs, chips, and soda (while supplies last).



# MATBUS

## MATBUS iGoEco Challenge: Listen to Liddy and go eco



#LiddysLessons

MATBUS invites you to take part in the iGoEco Challenge, September 14 through November 8! Give up your car for a more eco-friendly mode of transportation, for at least one trip every two weeks. It's all about carpooling, MATBUSing, walking, biking, skateboarding, or rollerblading. You can mix and match your eco-friendly options!

Visit [www.iGoEcoChallenge.com](http://www.iGoEcoChallenge.com) to register. A MATBUS gift will be given to the first 250 people who register for the Challenge. Meet the goal during each two-week period and your name goes into a drawing for prizes valued at \$500+ each. Complete all four Challenges to qualify for a grand prize worth \$1,000. Update your status each two-week challenge period for more

chances to win. Save money, save time, reduce traffic, get off the gas pump, save the environment...and win awesome prizes!



## LinkFM: Fun, fast, and free!

This summer, MATBUS unveiled its new downtown circulator route, LinkFM, connecting the communities of Fargo and Moorhead.

LinkFM operates from 7 am – 7 pm, Monday through Friday, and from 10 am – 5 pm on Saturday. The route features a continuous loop with ten designated bus stops, starting and ending at the Moorhead Center Mall. LinkFM arrives every 12-15 minutes at each stop along its route and is within walking distance of numerous popular destinations. It is a fare-free route and transfers are allowed onto other MATBUS routes. For more information or to view the route map, visit [www.GoLinkFM.com](http://www.GoLinkFM.com).

# I-94 and Hwy 75/8 St Interchange

A major interchange reconstruction project led by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) will affect traffic on I-94 and Hwy 75/8 St during the 2016 construction season. The project is designed to reduce delays and move traffic more safely and efficiently.

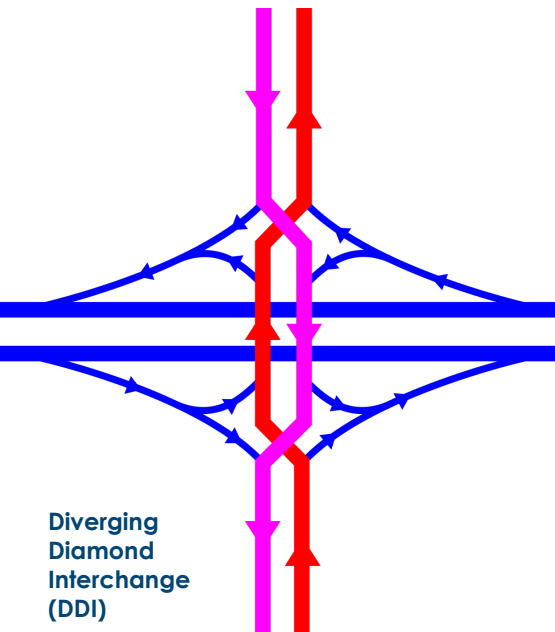
Email alerts from MnDOT  
Driving through a DDI video  
[www.mndot.gov/d4/projects/moorhead](http://www.mndot.gov/d4/projects/moorhead)

## Project Highlights

- Reconstructing the I-94 and Hwy 75/8 St interchange to a Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI)
- Adding one lane in each direction to I-94 between Hwy 75/8 St and 20 St S
- Resurfacing and widening Hwy 75/8 St (in select areas) between 22 Ave S and 35 Ave S

## Timeline and Traffic Impacts

Drivers should expect delays and detours throughout the project. The project will be constructed from spring to fall over four phases. From June to August, the Hwy 75/8 St bridges over I-94 will close, but the entrance and exit ramps will remain open when they are not being reconstructed. I-94 will remain open and access to businesses will be maintained.



## What is the Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI)?

Traffic temporarily crosses to the left side of the road to help facilitate turn movements between Hwy 75/8 St and I-94.

## What are some of the benefits of the DDI?

Eliminates left turns in front of oncoming traffic, reduces overall delays, moves traffic more safely, and saves money by allowing crews to use existing bridges.

## How do I drive the DDI?

See image to the left. When driving the DDI, motorists on Hwy 75/8 St will proceed through a traffic signal at the entrance to the interchange, and simply follow their lane to the opposite side of the roadway. Motorists needing to access I-94 will turn left on the on-ramp without having to stop for additional traffic signals or wait for oncoming traffic to pass. Motorists needing to continue on Hwy 75/8 St will drive straight through the intersection, proceed through a second traffic signal, and follow their lane back to the right side of the road. Pavement markings and signals will direct motorists to where they need to go.

# Moorhead Public Service

## High Service Pumping Station

Moorhead Public Service (MPS) is constructing a new High Service Pumping Station (HSPS), which is an important step in improving the reliability and redundancy of MPS' finished (treated) water pumping capabilities.

## Project Highlights

1. Replacing outdated high service pumps from the 1950s to increase energy savings and improve operability.
2. Adding water distribution pipe around the Water Treatment Plant to increase efficiency.
3. Installing a 1.3 megawatt natural gas generator to provide backup power supply in emergencies and meet load management requirements. This will enhance electrical and water service to the city during natural disasters.



# City on the Red River

Floods can happen at any time and are one of the most common hazards. Floods can affect a local area, impact a neighborhood, or an entire river basin. The flood hazards for our area include spring flood events for the Red River and the Oakport Coulee. Standard homeowner and commercial property insurance policies do not cover flood losses.

## Property Protection Measures

If your property is susceptible to flooding, there are flood damage reduction measures you can employ.

- Make sure your downspouts drain away from your house.
- Utilities and appliances can be elevated.
- Watertight seals can be applied to brick and block walls to protect against low-level flooding.
- The entire structure can be elevated or relocated.

**Stormwater** 218.299.5386

**Flood Manager** 218.299.5387

**Flood Info** [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov)

**Interactive GIS Mapping Tool**  
[gis.cityofmoorhead.com](http://gis.cityofmoorhead.com)

## Flood Insurance

Do you have a flood insurance policy? If so, make sure you have contents coverage.

- Don't wait. There is a 30-day waiting period before a flood insurance policy takes effect.
- Elevation certificates are available for some properties.
- Questions may be answered at [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov).

Lenders, insurance agents, real estate agents, and citizens can call and speak with the Floodplain Manager or visit [www.cityofmoorhead.com](http://www.cityofmoorhead.com) to determine if a property is within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA).

## Drainage System Maintenance

Keeping the storm sewer system free of debris can dramatically improve run-off capacity, as well as reduce the possibility of blockage that contributes to flooding. Dumping debris or other materials such as grass clippings, tree branches, earth fill, or other materials that can degrade the quality of waters within the system is prohibited by City Code 3-8A-2. If you see someone dumping prohibited materials into the storm sewer system call the 24-hour Stormwater Hotline.

## Flushable Wipes: Deadly to pipes

Many household products are labeled and marketed as disposable, dispersible, or flushable. However, these items do not readily break down and have become a major problem for sewer systems. Not only can they clog the sewer line at your home or business; they create blockages in the public sewer system, clog lift station pumps, and cause equipment failures at the treatment plant. Moorhead has experienced these problems, including sewage backing up into basements. **Toilet paper is the only product designed to break down in the sewer system.**

*Lift station pump clogged with "flushable" wipes.*



The following items should NEVER be flushed:

- Disinfecting wipes, baby wipes, towelettes
- Q-tips
- Toilet cleaning pads
- Mop or "Swiffer" type refills
- Rags and paper towels of any kind
- Diapers, feminine hygiene products





# September 10 - 18 Celebrate our amazing city!

**Thursday, September 10**  
**CCRI Superhero 5K / Sidekick Youth Run**  
Gooseberry Park, 100 22 Ave S  
5 pm registration

City of Moorhead  
500 Center Ave  
PO Box 779  
Moorhead, MN 56560

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 478  
Moorhead, MN 56560

## Friday, September 11

**I Spy Photo Contest (inside City limits)**

5 pm clues posted at [www.moorheadparks.com](http://www.moorheadparks.com)

## Greater Moorhead Days Parade sponsored by M/State

20 St S, begins at 28 Ave S  
then north to 8 Ave  
6 pm parade start

**Greater Moorhead Days Info**  
[www.moorheadparks.com](http://www.moorheadparks.com)  
**218.299.5340**

ERCWSS  
POSTAL CUSTOMER

## Saturday, September 12

**Wings and Wheels Fly-in and Car Show**

Moorhead Municipal Airport, exit 6 on I-94  
8 am - 2 pm aircraft on display, youth airplane rides, Fargo Custom Car Show, Sanford rescue team with helicopter, pancake feed (8 am - noon), and sky dive exhibition (noon)

## Monday, September 14

**Midcontinent Kids Fest**

Gooseberry Park, 100 22 Ave S  
5:30 - 7:30 pm Penny & Pals, Games Galore, pony rides, clown, and more

## Medallion Hunt (inside City limits)

Clues announced September 14 - 17. Clue boards located at Moorhead Library, both Hornbacher's locations, Hjemkomst Center, and Moorhead Center Mall. Grand prize is a \$1,000 gift card to Hornbacher's.

# Business Directory: Register Today

The City of Moorhead offers a complimentary, online business directory for our business community. Register your business by visiting [www.cityofmoorhead.com/business/directory](http://www.cityofmoorhead.com/business/directory).

### September

- 1 Farmers Market
- 7 Labor Day / City Hall closed / no garbage pick-up / no bus service
- 8 Farmers Market
- 10-18 Greater Moorhead Days
- 14 MATBUS iGoEco Challenge (to Nov 8)
- 15 Farmers Market
- 22 Farmers Market
- 26 City Auction
- 29 Farmers Market
- 30 Curbside branch pick-up ends

### October

- 11 Fire Department Annual Open House
- 19-24 Try MATBUS Week (half fare rides on fixed route; free rides on Tuesday)
- 31 Halloween / Haunted Mall / golf courses close (one course open later, weather permitting)

### November

- 1 Daylight Savings Time ends (clocks back one hour)
- 11 Veterans' Day / City Hall closed / no garbage pick-up / bus service ends early
- 20 Curbside yard waste pick-up ends
- 24 Tree Lighting / Holiday Lights Parade
- 26 Thanksgiving Day / City Hall closed / no garbage pick-up / no bus service
- 27-28 Half-Fare Days on MATBUS

### December

- 5 Half-Fare Day on MATBUS
- 12 Half-Fare Day on MATBUS
- 13 Skate with Santa
- 19 Half-Fare Day on MATBUS
- 24 Christmas Eve / City Hall closed / bus service ends early

- 25 Christmas Day / City Hall closed / no garbage pick-up / no bus service
- 26 Half-Fare Day on MATBUS
- 27-30 Sleigh Rides at the Hjemkomst

### January

- 1 New Year's Day / City Hall closed / no garbage pick-up / no bus service
- 18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day / City Hall closed / no garbage pick-up / no bus service

### February

- 15 Presidents' Day / City Hall closed / no garbage pick-up / no bus service
- 20 Polar Party

# City Calendar

## City Council

FIRST WARD    SECOND WARD    THIRD WARD    FOURTH WARD

**Del Rae Williams**  
Mayor  
218.299.5307

**Nancy Otto**  
218.233.2834  
**Mari Dailey**  
218.299.5549

**Jim Haney**  
218.299.5547  
**Heidi Durand**  
218.299.5543

**Brenda Elmer**  
218.299.5548  
**Mike Hulett**  
218.299.5544

**Steve Gehrtz**  
218.299.5542  
**Chuck Hendrickson**  
218.299.5545