

CITY INSIGHTS



Summer 2019

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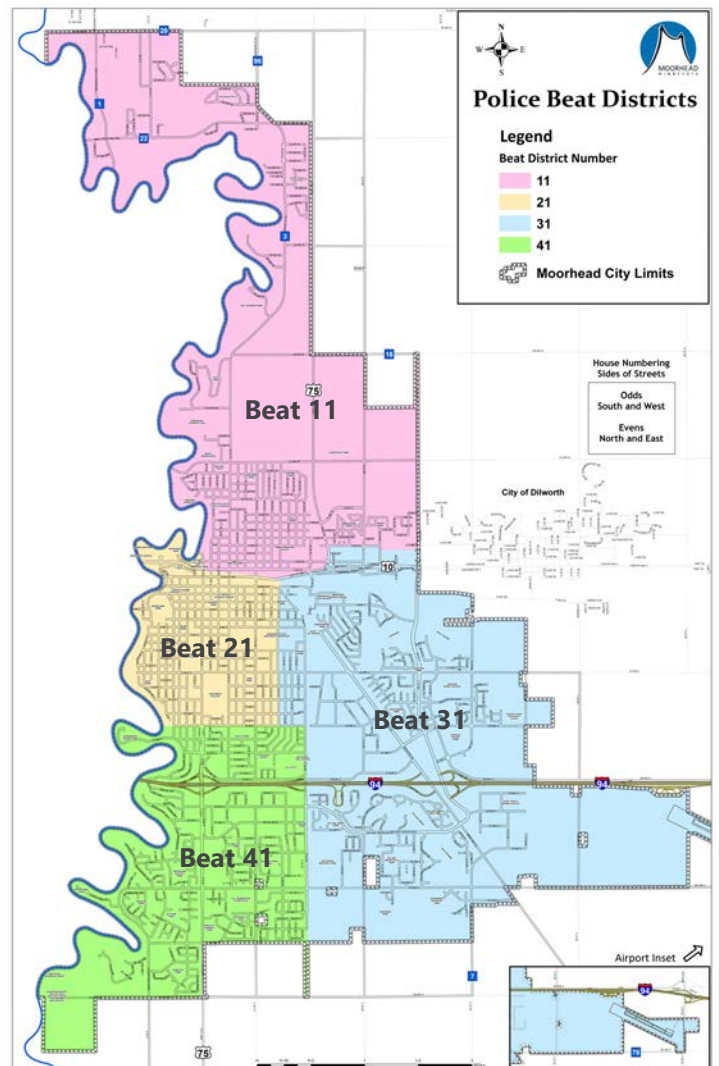
Moorhead Police Reinvesting in Community Oriented Policing Efforts

The Moorhead Police Department is returning to its community-oriented policing roots. Renewed efforts are underway to bring officers closer to the public to form partnerships in order to solve neighborhood problems. As Moorhead grows, the demands for police services are also growing. In examining crime and call statistics, there have been a number of repeat calls, indicating there has not been a meaningful impact on the root causes of the problems.

Staffing challenges in recent years have caused our Police Department to become reactive to the increasing call load, however, the department is returning to a personal approach where neighborhoods get to know their beat officers. This will build trust, identify problems, and encourage partnerships. Working together, the Department and community members will tackle issues and improve the livability and quality of life in our Moorhead neighborhoods.

The Police Department Mission Statement serves to orient the delivery of police services:

Our mission is to maintain peace and order through the provision of police services that are of the highest quality and responsive to the needs of the community. We will contribute to the safety and security of the community by apprehending those who commit criminal acts, by developing partnerships to prevent, reduce or eliminate neighborhood problems, and by providing police services that are fair, unbiased, judicious, and respectful of the dignity of all individuals.



In 2019, changes were made within the department to re-focus on Community Policing. A mid-level management position (lieutenant) was split to allow for two entry-level patrol officer positions to immediately bolster staffing with nominal budget impact. The patrol division that was led by three lieutenants, one per shift on each of three shifts, was reduced to one lieutenant to streamline command. Each of the three patrol shifts are supervised by two sergeants in this 24/7/365 operation.

Community Policing continued on page 2

Community Policing *continued from page 1*

Moorhead is currently divided into four patrol beats. Each shift must have a minimum staffing of four officers, led by a sergeant, to cover each beat. Since each neighborhood fits within a beat, police staff will get to know business owners/managers, landlords, block clubs, and the citizens that reside in that area. The Police Department strives to work as partners to identify neighborhood problems and reduce calls for service, especially repeat calls, through prevention and focused enforcement or by bringing in other resources from investigations or partner agencies within the City or County.

The Police Department has monthly staff meetings in which the patrol lieutenant provides an overview of call statistics per beat and

identifies trends. Beat sergeants present initiatives to their officers to build relationships and respond to trending crimes or problems. They also discuss results or impact of these efforts and plan for necessary adjustments. It is the City's goal to reduce crime through prevention, identify issues that affect the quality of life in our neighborhoods, and work together for a better Moorhead.

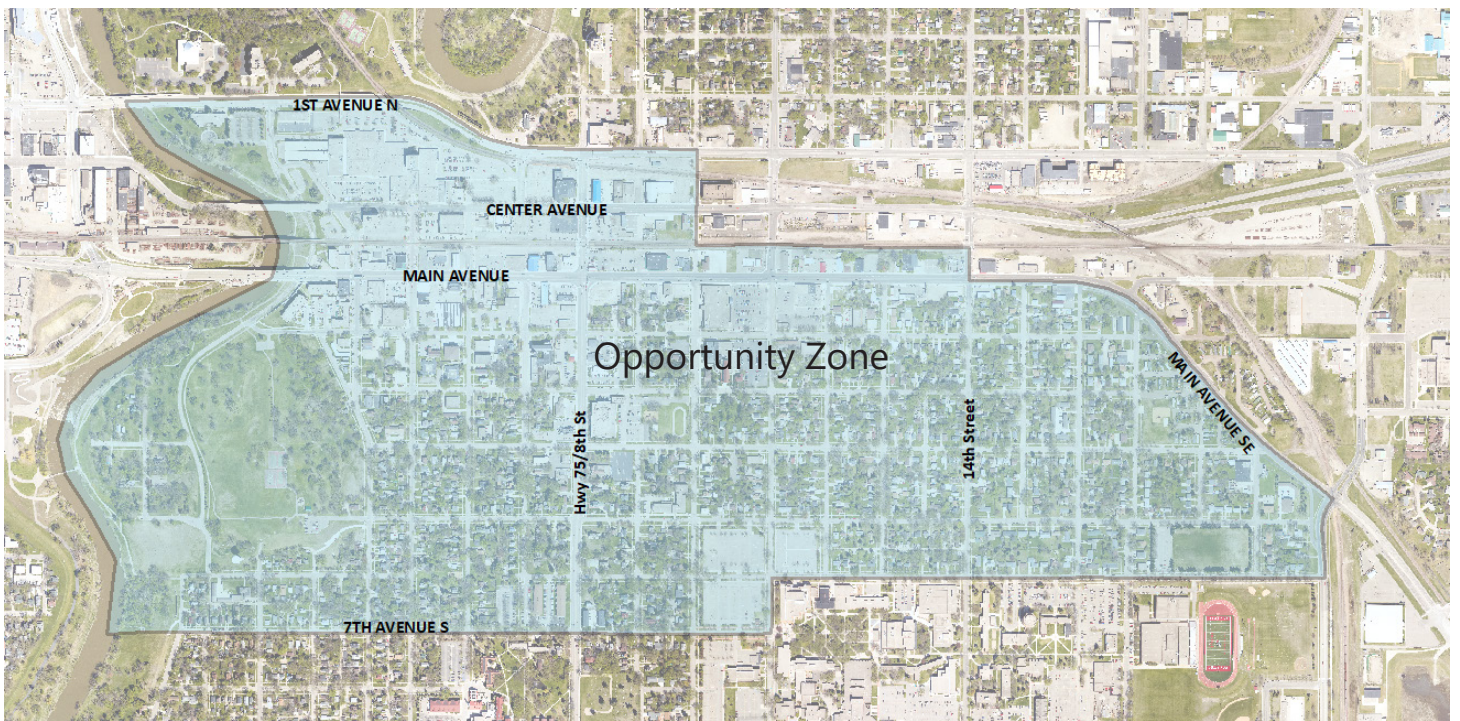
You can help by calling in suspicious activity, getting to know your neighbors through a neighborhood block club, and participating in Night to Unite. Contact our Community Policing Coordinator at 218.299.5143 to learn more.

Moorhead's Opportunity Zone

The 2017 Tax Cut and Jobs Act created a new program to direct investment into historically disadvantaged communities and neighborhoods known as Opportunity Zones. The program provides tax benefits for holders of capital gains if they invest their returns in new projects in these zones.

Moorhead has a designated Opportunity Zone covering most of the downtown area down to 7th Ave S. Moorhead is expected to be a center of growth in the region, the opportunity zones provide a chance to join in on this spectacular investment opportunity.

Moorhead is looking to connect developers with big project ideas to investors with unrealized capital gains through Opportunity Funds in order to create new opportunities in Downtown Moorhead. Call 218.299-5441 or email today economicdevelopment@cityofmoorhead.com



Moorhead Fire Department Update

Our Fire Department responded to 3,810 calls for service in 2018, averaging over 10 calls for service each day. Of those calls, 64.8% were related to medical and rescue, the remaining 35.2% were related to fires, hazardous materials, and other incidents. This was a seven percent increase in call volume from 2017.



The total value of property involved in fire-related calls in 2018 totaled \$9.08 million. Fire damage was estimated at \$1.34 million resulting in an 85% save rate.

The Insurance Services Office (ISO) recently conducted an analysis of Moorhead's fire protection capability and reaffirmed ISO Class 3 rating (lower numbers on a 1 to 10 scale are better). This places the Moorhead Fire Department in a better rating bracket than 88% of fire departments in the United States, and generally translates into lower fire insurance rates for homes and businesses (2017 ISO statistics).

The City of Moorhead also recently purchased a new Rescue Pumper which replaces a 2006 model. The new rescue pumper will serve as "Engine #1" and will be housed at Station One located on 1 Avenue and 12 Street North. Engine #1

responds to fires, fire alarms, vehicle accidents, and hazardous condition calls. The 2006 model will serve as a backup response pumper for the next ten years.

Update on Center Avenue Improvements

Water main replacement on Center Avenue from the River to 8 Street and Center Avenue bridge repair will be completed this summer. Additional street improvements were planned and bid, but the single bid received for the street improvements was approximately \$800,000 (37%) higher than the engineer's cost estimate. The bid was formally rejected to allow a revision of the plans that may result in more competitive bids in line with the project budget.

In the short-term while the bridge and water main project are underway, the City of Moorhead is moving forward with some of the low-cost items that were part of the original project, including:

- Tree removal north of US Bank and straightening of curb and street (complete)
- Tree removal, sign relocation, and modification of a planter to achieve sight distance at 7 St
- Pavement repair following water main replacement
- Restripe to 3-lane section west of 7 St
- Removal of traffic signal at 7 St
- Change other traffic signal heads to reflect restriping

Continued evaluation and consultation with Center Avenue stakeholders will help the City to develop a recommendation on how to proceed with the larger scope of street improvements in the future, but not during the 2019 construction season.

Property owners and businesses will be notified of future opportunities for involvement. In the interim, please contact the Engineering Department at 218.299.5390 or Derrick LaPoint of Downtown Moorhead Inc. at 218.443.1361 with any questions.



New City Prosecutor's Office

The City of Moorhead began operation of its new City Prosecutor's Office on February 1, 2019. In Minnesota, cities are required to provide prosecution services for traffic offenses, misdemeanors and some gross misdemeanor crimes. Those services had been provided under contract from Clay County for the past 18 years, and by contract with local attorneys before that. After considering several options, and recognizing how much the city has grown, the City Council decided that prosecution would be best provided by developing an in-house department devoted solely to this work.

The office, located in City Hall, is led by the City Prosecutor, Cheryl Duysen, along with Assistant City Prosecutors, Steve Beitelspacher and Alex Stock. Erin Fildes, Paralegal, and Lacy Johnson, Victim Witness Services Specialist and Legal Assistant, provide support services. Together, the team prosecutes the majority of assaults, driving offenses, and property crimes committed in Moorhead, as well as vehicle forfeitures from repeat DWI offenders. The office has also taken on prosecution for the neighboring cities of Dilworth, Glyndon, and Barnesville, through agreements with those cities. Clay County continues to prosecute most gross misdemeanor and all felony crimes as required by state law.

Areas of focus in the office include:

1. Driving offenses, especially impaired driving. All users of our roads deserve to use them with the reassurance of safety. When people are driving impaired, too fast, uninsured, or otherwise dangerously, prosecutors work with police officers who cited

them to make sure unsafe drivers are held accountable and are deterred from repeating their mistakes.

2. Assaults, especially domestic assaults. When the peace of our neighborhoods and homes is disturbed, prosecutors seek to hold offenders accountable and protect those who have been hurt. They also seek rehabilitation for offenders and prevention of future violence through court-ordered counseling or domestic violence programming.
3. Property crimes. When property is taken or damaged, or a person steals from a business, prosecutors work to restore the harm done and hold the offender accountable. In addition to fines, people are court-ordered to pay for what was taken.
4. First time offenders. When a person commits an offense, police, prosecutors, and judges naturally turn their attention to catching and punishing the offender. However, that is only half of the story. People who commit offenses are also people who live in our community. Therefore, rehabilitation is just as important as punishment. The City Prosecutor's Office knows this and offers opportunities to many first-time offenders to learn from their mistakes while minimizing damage to their criminal and driving records.

The City is pleased to be able to provide this improved service to the residents of Moorhead and neighboring towns, and the employees of the City Prosecutor's Office enjoy the opportunity to launch this department that contributes to making Moorhead even better.

Stormwater

Stormwater runoff from rain and snow flows over rooftops, streets, driveways, sidewalks, parking lots, and yard to storm drains. As it flows, it picks up pollutants such as pet waste, salt, pesticides, fertilizer, oil and grease, and other pollutants. The water drains directly into nearby ditches, stormwater ponds, and the Red River without treatment. Please check for vehicle leaks and responsibly dispose of all pollutants to help keep our City and river clean. If a hazardous spill has occurred, call 911.

Tips

Dispose of chemicals, motor oil, and other contaminants at the Clay County hazardous Waste Facility - www.co.clay.mn.us.

Never hose down pollutants or illicit discharge (non-stormwater discharge) into a storm drain, street, or gutter.

Report illicit discharge at 218.299.5886 or stormwater@cityofmoorhead.com.



Good Stewards of Water Conservation

Every year since 1990, the Moorhead Public Service Commission has implemented voluntary lawn-watering restrictions in an effort to remind us all how important the impacts of our daily water use can be. Being efficient with our water consumption ensures our infrastructure and source waters have sufficient supply for us all now and well into the future.

As summer temperatures rise, Moorhead Public Service (MPS) reminds everyone of water restrictions that helps make Moorhead a more sustainable city. Restrictions include odd-even lawn watering, where even numbered addresses water lawns on even days of the month and odd numbered addresses water lawns on odd days of the month. Similar timing for washing cars helps Moorhead remain a steward of water conservation. MPS customers are encouraged to conserve water throughout the summer when water is in its highest demand. Additional conservation tips are available on MPS' website at www.mpsutility.com/index.php/water-conservation.

MATBUS



90-Day Youth Pass for kids K-12

For just \$26, youth in grades K-12 can get unlimited rides on all metro-area fixed routes. The passes are an excellent way to teach young adults to be more independent, or to introduce younger riders to public transportation during family outings. The 90-Day Youth Pass is sold at the Ground Transportation Center, NP Avenue in Fargo.

The MATBUS App Puts Info Right @ Your Fingertips

The MATBUS app is your on-the-go resource for everything you need to know about riding MATBUS! Plan your trip with Google Maps or individual route maps and schedules. Once you're ready to ride, use the live bus tracking to see when your ride will arrive in real time. Other features include up-to-date detours, how-to-ride information, college route brochures, instant cancellation notices and direct feedback links. Download today on Google Play and the Apple Store!

U-Pass Program gives college students transportation freedom

Students attending MSUM, Concordia and M State this fall can ride MATBUS free with their student ID! This program, through a partnership with the schools, gives students the freedom to travel the entire Fargo-Moorhead metro area. No need to worry about paying for parking passes, fuel or repairs – MATBUS can take you there!

Take the MATBUS iGoEco Challenge September 9-October 6!

Substitute your car for an eco-friendly mode of transportation for at least one trip a week, and you could win! It's all about carpooling, MATBUSing, walking, biking, skateboarding or rollerblading – or mix and match. If you meet the goal each week, your name goes

into a drawing for weekly prizes. Complete all five Challenges and you are qualified for an amazing grand prize valued at \$1,000. To register for the Challenge, go online to iGoEcoChallenge.com. Then, in less than one minute, update your status each week for a chance to win fantastic prizes! Save money, time, and the environment while reducing traffic...Go Eco with MATBUS!

Try MATBUS Week October 21-26

MATBUS invites you to join those who took 2 million rides in 2018 and try MATBUS! During Try MATBUS Week, ride MATBUS fixed route vehicles for a half fare of 75 cents Monday-Friday, and enjoy free rides all day Saturday. There will also be customer and team appreciation activities held this week.

Quarter Days for Holiday Shopping

MATBUS will be offering a special rate for riders on prime shopping days this holiday season! On Black Friday and Small Business Saturday (November 29-30), plus every Saturday in December, you can ride MATBUS fixed route buses for just 25¢! Avoid cold cars and busy parking lots, and hop on a warm MATBUS vehicle during Quarter Days.

Important MATBUS Dates

September 2 – Labor Day – No Bus Service

September 9 – October 6 – iGoEco Challenge

October 21-26 – Try MATBUS Week

November 28 – Thanksgiving Day – No Bus Service

November 29-30, Saturdays in December – Quarter Days – Ride the bus for just 25 cents!

December 24 – Christmas Eve – All MATBUS routes ending early

December 25 – Christmas Day – No Bus Service

Contact MATBUS: call 701.232.7500 or visit MATBUS.com

500 in 5 Housing Goal

Around the country, interest in urban housing has grown exponentially. And it's not just the millennial generation that is fueling this trend. Empty nesters, people with vacation homes, and households of all kinds are excited about downtown city living. With housing already underway in downtown and near-downtown Moorhead, the momentum has started. The Mayor and City Council and the citizens of Moorhead all recognize that our downtown needs revitalization. Housing is a critical element of the success of Downtown Moorhead bringing more customers to businesses. With this idea in mind the Mayor and City Council endorsed the goal of creating 500 housing units in the downtown area within 5 years. Now, just one year later, the Moorhead has already added 162 housing units to downtown. It is very exciting that many development companies have chosen



to invest in Moorhead and we are looking forward to seeing our downtown continue to evolve.

Facts About Your Moorhead Library

Do You Have a Library Card?

Did you know that all Clay County residents are eligible for a free library card, which unlocks access to thousands of books, movies, magazines, eBooks and eAudiobooks and much more? You can sign up for a library card at any Lake Agassiz Regional Library location with a photo ID or official document with your current address. Library cards expire every three years. To renew your card, call the Moorhead Public Library at 218-233-7594.

Wireless Printing

Send your documents to the library to print from anywhere using your phone, tablet or computer! Visit the library within 48 hours to pick up your documents, which will be printed when you arrive at the library. For more information and pricing, visit www.larl.org/wirelessprinting. Plus, take advantage of the library's free wireless internet access and public computers.

Regular Events for Kids and Adults

The library offers a variety of regular events for kids, teens and adults, including weekly Storytimes (Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m., Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. and the second Saturday of the Month at 11 a.m.) and

Baby Bounce for preschoolers (Thursdays at 10:15 a.m.). Adults may wish to join one of the library's many book clubs, which cover a variety of genres and topics, or stop by an "Ask a Techspert" session (Mondays at 2 p.m.) for help setting up and using their phones, computers or tablets, or attend a monthly Puzzle Exchange. A full list of events can be found at www.larl.org/locations/Moorhead.

eBooks and eAudiobooks

Access free downloadable eBooks and eAudiobooks using your library card by visiting larl.org/eBooks. The library's collection contains thousands of titles that can be downloaded to an e-reader, tablet, phone or computer.



Moorhead Library

118 5 St S | Moorhead, MN | 218.233.7594
larl.org

Monday – Thursday, 9 am – 9 pm
Friday & Saturday, 10 am – 6 pm
Sunday, closed

Events

Night to Unite August 6

Plan a family-friendly neighborhood gathering to connect with your neighbors. Register events at cityofmoorhead.com [search Night to Unite] to receive a party planning kit. Contact the Community Policing Coordinator at 218.299.5143 for more information. Close-knit neighborhoods are safe neighborhoods!



Doggy Dip August 12, 3:30-7:30 pm South Park Wading Pool 2101 14 St S

Let your dog cool their paws with our annual Doggy Dip! \$4 per dog, with all proceeds benefiting the Moorhead Dog Park.

City of Moorhead NEW IDENTITY PARTY!
September 10, 7-9 pm
Bluestem Center for the Arts
801 50th Ave S



Watch for more details!

Citizens Police Academy September 12 – November 21 (Thursdays), 6 pm – 9 pm

The Academy will lead citizens to an understanding of what it is like to be a police officer. Experience K9 demonstrations, S.W.A.T., narcotics investigations, and much more! Applications at cityofmoorhead.com [search Citizens Police Academy] or call 218.299.5143. Class size is limited; apply for this free, hands-on class today!

Greater Moorhead Days September 5 – 12 Various Locations moorheadparks.com

- 5 – MBA Bridge Bash – Welcome Back All College Students (FREE Event)
- 6 – Greater Moorhead Days Parade
- 7 – Wings & Wheels Air Fly In & Car Show
- 7 – FM Flatlander Rotary Ride
- 9 – 11 Medallion Hunt
- 10 – Midco Kids Fest / Moorhead IDENTITY PARTY
- 11 – 9/11 Commemoration



Events *continued*

German Kulturfest
September 14, 10 am – 4 pm

Join us for a family-friendly celebration of the area’s German and German-American traditions. Styled after the many Volksfests celebrations held annually throughout Germany, German Kulturfest offers a full day of food, drink, and entertainment in an effort to preserve and share a prominent piece of the region’s local history and heritage.



Haunted Mall
October 31, 5 pm – 7:30 pm

Enjoy an evening of trick-or-treating in a safe, controlled environment, that offers an alternative option for families on Halloween night. Activities planned include trick-or-treating throughout the mall, scary and not-so-scary spaces, pumpkin decorating, photo booth, and a variety of crafts and hands-on activities for kids and families. Admission is free!

Pangea—Cultivate Our Cultures
Saturday, November 16, 10 am – 4pm
Hjemkomst Center

Join us for the largest free, family-friendly celebration of cultural diversity in the community. In fact, one of the few festivals of its size and kind in the Midwest, Pangea marks its 25th year

of highlighting the global roots of the local Fargo-Moorhead community and continues to offer visitors a chance to immerse themselves in the region’s vibrant diversity through food, music, arts, crafts, stories, and children’s activities. Bus service will be available.



Holiday Kickoff/Tree Lighting
November 19, 5 pm
Moorhead Center Mall

Greet the festive season as we light the City of Moorhead’s Holiday Tree! Enjoy refreshments and the Moorhead High School Carolers.

Xcel Energy Holiday Lights Parade
November 19, 6:30 pm
Downtown Moorhead

A magical evening with hundreds of participants that feature spectacularly lit parade floats, marching units, and equestrian entries.

Skate with Santa
December 8, 2:15 – 4:15 pm
Moorhead Sports Center


Lace up your skates and enjoy free open skate with Santa! Free hot chocolate and cookies will be served. Skate rental will be available (limited sizes).



Comstock House
 506 8 St S
 Moorhead, MN
 218.291.4211

comstockhouse@mnhs.org

Winter hours by appointment. Call for group tours and school field trips.



Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County (HCSCC)Hjemkomst Center
 202 1 Ave N | Moorhead, MN | 218.299.5511
hcsconline.org

Monday – Saturday, 9 am – 5 pm
 Sunday, noon – 5 pm
 Tuesday evenings, 5 – 8 pm (Apr – Dec)



COFFEE WITH MAYOR JUDD

Follow us on facebook or sign up for e-Notifications to find out about the next community coffee with Mayor Judd and Ward Council Members.



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cityofmoorhead.com

click on e-Notification in the top menu

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City Calendar

cityofmoorhead.com/calendar



August

- 6 Night to Unite
- 12 Doggy Dip
- 13 RiverArts at Memorial Park

September

- 2 Labor Day| City offices closed | no garbage*
- 5-12 Greater Moorhead Days
- 5 MBA Bridge Bash - Welcome Back College Students
- 6 Greater Moorhead Days Parade
- 10 City of Moorhead - NEW IDENTITY PARTY!
- 12 Citizens Police Academy
- 14 German Kulturefest
- 24 Farmers Market Closes

October

- 31 Haunted Mall

November

- 5 Election**
- 11 Veteran's Day| City offices closed | no garbage*
- 16 Pangea: Cultivate Our Cultures
- 19 Holiday Kickoff and Tree Lighting
- 19 Holiday Lights Parade
- 28 Thanksgiving Day| City offices closed | no garbage*

*Garbage collection will begin at 4 am on the next business day following the holiday.

**City Council Vacancy/Election

Fourth Ward City Council Member Steve Gehrtz has resigned his council seat effective August 15, 2019. The seat will remain vacant until the results of a special election on November 5 are certified. Filing details and deadlines are under development as of this writing. Fourth Ward residents interested in running for this vacant seat should contact the City Clerk's office at cityclerk@ci.moorhead.mn.us as soon as possible. The successful candidate will serve the remainder of Mr. Gehrtz's term, expiring 12/31/2020.

Moorhead City Council



Ward 1

Shelly Dahlquist
218.299.5549



Ward 3

Joel Paulsen
218.299.5544



Ward 1

Sara Watson Curry
218.299.5541



Ward 3

Deb White
218.299.5548



Ward 2

Heidi Durand
701.541.2684



Ward 4

Steve Gehrtz
218.299.5542



Ward 2

Shelly Carlson
218.299.299.5547



Ward 4

Chuck Hendrickson
218.299.5545

City Council Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 5:30 pm in the Council Chambers, 1st Floor, City Hall.

City Services

Administration (general information)	218.299.5166
Engineering	218.299.5390
Community Development	218.299.5434
Moorhead Public Library	218.233.7594
Police (non-emergency)	218.299.5120
Fire (non-emergency)	218.299.5298
Parks and Recreation	218.299.5340
Public Works	218.299.5422
Moorhead Public Service (MPS)	218.477.8000

Emergency 911



218.299.5166



500 Center Ave, Moorhead, MN 56560



cityofmoorhead.com