

CITY INSIGHTS

MOORHEAD MINNESOTA



RIVER CORRIDOR STUDY

Spring 2014

After significant floods in 2009, 2010, and 2011, the City of Moorhead began several flood mitigation projects and acquisition of flood-prone properties adjacent to the river. As a result, a large portion of private property along the Red River has been transferred to public ownership for flood risk reduction.

The River Corridor Study was implemented to answer questions about the use of this public land and to develop a plan to guide future management and maintenance of the river corridor balancing community needs, flood mitigation, transportation, recreation, public/private property, and natural resource preservation and restoration.

The Study will define how the public land in the river corridor will be used, what it will look like, and how it will be managed, and it will:

- Address flood mitigation strategies
- Identify a continuous river trail and pedestrian bridge locations
- Define activities and concepts at recreation sites
- Recommend interpretive themes and strategies
- Guide natural resource stewardship and restoration
- Propose policy for lease/sale of public lands along the river corridor
- Outline strategies for the delineation of public and private land
- Guide implementation: priorities and phasing, capital and operational budgets, funding and partnership opportunities

There are two phases to the River Corridor Study. Phase I, led by Metro COG, was completed in April 2013 and identified the needs and issues related to the River Corridor as well as documented existing conditions, summarized public input, outlined limitations along the River Corridor, and presented a range of needs and opportunities identified by the public, residents, and staff. Phase II of the study is nearing completion and will result in a Final River Corridor Plan which will establish a set of policy and strategy alternatives that can be used to address the issues, needs, and opportunities identified along the River Corridor.

The final public open house will be held in April. If you're interested in being notified of future public input opportunities for the River Corridor Study, please contact the Planning Office at [218.299.5332](tel:218.299.5332) or planning@cityofmoorhead.com.

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CITY OFFICIALS

DEL RAE WILLIAMS

Mayor
218.299.5307

FIRST WARD

Nancy Otto
218.233.2834

Mari Dailey
218.299.5549

SECOND WARD

Heidi Durand
218.443.5742

Jim Haney
218.299.5547

THIRD WARD

Brenda Elmer
218.299.5548

Mike Hulett
218.233.2566

FOURTH WARD

Steve Gehrtz
218.299.5542

Chuck Hendrickson
218.299.5545

CITY ELECTIONS

WHAT HAS CHANGED?

On November 5, 2013 the voters of the City of Moorhead voted to amend the Moorhead City Charter to change the City's municipal elections from odd to even year elections by 57 percent. The Moorhead City Council discussed the change in January 2014 in order to pass an orderly transition ordinance to regulate the terms of current City Council members affected by the change from odd to even years. City Council decided to follow State Statute. Therefore, by default the next City Election will be held in 2016. Below is the adjusted list of the City Council's current term end dates:

MEMBER	TERM ENDS:
Del Rae Williams (Mayor)	December 31, 2018
Mari Daliey	December 31, 2018
Nancy Otto	December 31, 2016
Heidi Durand	December 31, 2016
Jim Haney	December 31, 2018
Brenda Elmer	December 31, 2018
Mike Hulett	December 31, 2016
Chuck Hendrickson	December 31, 2018
Steve Gehrtz	December 31, 2016

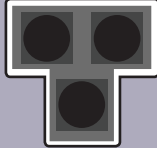

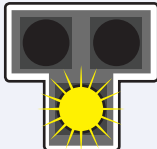



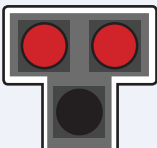

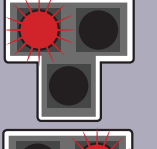

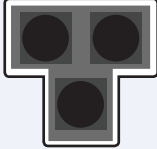

The average cost of an odd-year city election is \$16,172, or \$3.94 per voter. In comparison to the new ordinance passed, an even-year, federal/state election costs the city \$27,552, but only \$1.61 per voter. If you are interested in serving as an election judge for the primary in August and the general in November, please fill out and follow instructions on the attached form on the back page.

Find more information about City of Moorhead officials and elections at www.cityofmoorhead.com.



HAWK SIGNAL

The HAWK light is an overhead flashing traffic signal that is activated by a pedestrian and utilizes yellow and red lights to warn drivers when a pedestrian is crossing the roadway. A new HAWK Signal light has been installed on 8th Street between 7th and 10th Avenues South. Here are directions for drivers and pedestrians:

For Drivers...	For Pedestrians...
 <p>Proceed with caution</p>	 <p>Push button to cross</p>
 <p>Flashing</p> <p>Slow Down (Pedestrian has activated the push button)</p>	 <p>Wait</p>
 <p>Prepare to Stop</p>	 <p>Continue to Wait</p>
 <p>STOP! (Pedestrian in crosswalk)</p>	 <p>Cross with caution</p>
 <p>STOP! Proceed with caution if clear</p> <p>Flashing</p>	 <p>Continue Crossing (Time limit)</p> <p>Flashing</p>
 <p>Proceed if Clear</p>	 <p>Push button to cross</p>

WOULD YOU LIKE TO REDUCE YOUR UTILITY BILL BY UP TO \$12 PER MONTH?

Thrifty Watts® is a residential load management and energy conservation program offered by Moorhead Public Service (MPS). Thrifty Watts® allows MPS to cycle your central air conditioner, or both your central air conditioner and electric water heater, on and off during periods of high electric usage in return for a credit applied to your monthly utility bill.

There is **NO COST TO YOU** nor do you need to supply or purchase any special equipment.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THIS PROGRAM?

MPS' residential electric customers are eligible for Thrifty Watts®; however, dual-fuel customers already have these savings available to them through the Dual-Fuel Program, so dual-fuel customers are not eligible to participate in Thrifty Watts®.

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES?

- By cycling the air conditioner you should notice very little, if any, change in your comfort level, but you will feel good about the credit applied to your monthly utility bill from MPS.
- MPS will credit your utility bill \$9/month during the summer months of June, July, and August for allowing MPS to cycle your central air conditioner.
- Receive an additional credit of \$3/month year-round by allowing MPS to also control your electric water heater.
- You will know that you are playing a significant role in helping MPS reduce the amount of higher-cost power purchased during peak electric usage periods.

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

Go to www.mpsutility.com and click on "Sign Up for Thrifty Watts®"!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

If you have additional questions, please visit our Web site at www.mpsutility.com or contact MPS' Energy Services Manager at **218.299.5225**.

VISIT MOORHEAD PUBLIC LIBRARY

WHAT WE OFFER

In addition to print books, audiobooks, DVDs, magazines, and music CDs, The Lake Agassiz Regional Library offers eBooks and eAudiobooks through a subscription service called OverDrive, or the "Lake Agassiz Digital Library." Looking for eMagazines? Try Zinio, a subscription service offering digital access to most popular magazines. These resources are compatible with most mobile devices and are always available anywhere with an internet connection.

The Moorhead Public Library has a fun and inviting atmosphere with friendly and knowledgeable staff. Stop by to read the morning paper, attend an event, use a public computer, or simply enjoy a cup of coffee and smiling faces.

EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

Join us at the Moorhead Public Library for one of our many weekly or monthly events! Storytime is held on Tuesday nights and Wednesday mornings, Computer Training is every Monday and Wednesday, and Origami Club is on Monday nights, just to name a few. Kids, get ready for the Moorhead Public Library's Summer Program, "Paws to Read," kicking off in June. Go online at www.larl.org/moorhead for a complete schedule of events.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The LARL Digital Collection – moorhead@larl.org
Moorhead Public Library – Megan Krueger, Moorhead Library Director at kruegerm@larl.org
Moorhead Library schedule of events – www.larl.org
Lake Agassiz Regional Library – Liz Lynch, Regional Library Director at lynchl@larl.org

For more information, call **218.233.7594**.

The new hours for the Moorhead Public Library are:
Monday - Thursday: 10:00 am - 8:00 pm
Friday - Saturday: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm



Jenny Rodger, Jenna Kahly, and Megan Krueger

FLOOD INFORMATION

FLOOD INSURANCE

Any Moorhead resident can buy flood insurance. FEMA's Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 took effect on July 6, 2012. Key provisions of the legislation require that flood insurance premiums be raised to reflect true flood risk. The changes will result in premium rate increases for some, but not all, policyholders in the SFHA (Special Flood Hazard Area or 100-year floodplain).

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

The new law eliminates subsidized rates and discounts previously available to certain properties resulting in increased flood insurance rates on subsidized policies in the SFHA. The full risk rate for a property is determined by an elevation certificate. Buying or selling a property, or allowing a policy to lapse, can trigger a rate change. Homeowners and business owners are encouraged to learn more about their flood risk and talk with their insurance agent on how these changes may affect their property and flood insurance policy. Owners of primary residences can keep their subsidized rates as long as they own the property, but full-risk rates will apply for the next owner.

FLOOD MITIGATION PROJECT ACCREDITATION

Over the next two years, the City will be working to achieve FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) accreditation for flood mitigation improvements constructed subsequent to the 2009 flood of record.

Projects proposed for accreditation are those that affect the largest number of floodplain properties and meet FEMA's technical criteria. To meet FEMA's criteria, the City will need to complete construction of levee (or floodwall) projects, and complete construction of several stormwater improvements that will ensure that snowmelt and precipitation do not cause flooding on the "dry-side" of levees. The City has requested State funding to complete this work.

Provided that funding is available, the City will construct the necessary improvements in 2014. Upon completion, the City will submit accreditation applications to FEMA for specific areas within the City. If successful, flood insurance requirements for most, if not all, properties in the current SFHA (Special Flood Hazard Area) will be removed.

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Lenders, insurance agents, realtors, and citizens can call **218.299.5387** and speak with the City's Certified Floodplain Manager to obtain information on whether a property is or is not within the SFHA. Information is also available on the City's website. The Engineering Department maintains on file the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), Letter of Map Change, and other flood related information.

ELEVATION CERTIFICATE

Elevation certificates are available for some properties within the City. If the City does not have an elevation certificate on file, the services of an engineering consultant will be needed.

FLOOD SAFETY

- If your home is about to be flooded, contact Moorhead Public Service at **218.299.5400** (after hours **218.299.5418**) to have your power turned off and the City of Moorhead at **218.299.5386** to inform staff that the sewer has been plugged.
- Be alert for gas leaks—if you smell gas, report it to Xcel Energy at **1.800.895.2999**.

EMERGENCY PREPARATION

Being prepared for a flood will not only help keep your family safe, but also will help minimize potential flood damage and accelerate recovery efforts. In addition to purchasing flood insurance and understanding its policy, you can protect your family by safeguarding your home and possessions and developing a family disaster plan.

WEBSITE INFO AND FLOOD WARNING SYSTEM

On City's website, www.cityofmoorhead.com, search for topics such as floodplain information, maps, and permits, as well as, flood insurance and flood mitigation projects. Check out the interactive GIS mapping tool which helps residents determine if a property is located in the 100-year or 500-year floodplain.

Receive emergency flood warning information on your phone by signing up for the CodeRED system. To learn more about CodeRED visit www.cityofmoorhead.com.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

More detailed information regarding flood related issues are available at:

- Wastewater Department 2121 28th St N
- Moorhead Floodplain Information **218.299.5387**
- www.floodsmart.gov

STORMWATER

LET'S TALK ABOUT POOP...

...dog poop to be more exact. There's nothing worse than stepping in doo-doo when out for a stroll. Besides the mess, pet waste is full of bacteria which can be a health risk to people and pets. Another environmental issue occurs when the snow melts or it rains—any waste gets carried into the storm sewer system and discharged to the Red River. To avoid this, please refer to **Ordinance 6-1-4** and follow these guidelines:

- Carry a plastic bag when walking your pet and be sure to dispose of it properly.
- Clean up pet waste in your yard frequently.
- Never hose pet waste into the street or gutter.

Be responsible. Be a part of the solution, not the pollution.

ONLY RAIN IN THE STORM DRAIN!

CLEAN-UP WEEK

The City of Moorhead welcomes spring each year with a week devoted to cleaning out the house and garage. Get to know the facts and plan your refreshing Clean-Up Week!

In 2013, the Operations Department hauled over 50 extra semi-truck/trailer loads of garbage to the sanitary landfill.

TIPS AND REMINDERS:

- Please separate trash, appliances, and tires; no more than two appliances per household.
- Do not include computer monitors, television sets, lumber, concrete, building materials, batteries, paint, hazardous chemicals, oil, or anti-freeze—there will be a disposal fee for these items.
- Trash placed at the curb BEFORE the start of Clean-Up Week will be collected and billed as a special pick-up at a \$15 minimum charge.

For more information and details about Clean-Up Week, call **218.299.5347** or visit **www.cleanupweek.com**.

Earth Day is a day set aside to bring awareness to environmental issues that affect our planet. Founded in 1970 by former U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson, it was inspired from witnessing an oil spill off California's coast. He hoped for public consciousness of pollution, and today, people from all walks of life are participating. More than 1 billion acts of green commitments have been registered by the Earth Day Network. Help the world reach 2 billion green acts and more! Visit **www.earthday.org** for more information on the global environmental movement.

For activities happening in the Fargo-Moorhead community, check out **www.valleyearthresource.org**.

MATBUS

MATBUS RIDERSHIP INCREASED BY 4.4% IN 2013!

The F-M metro's public transit system, MATBUS, significantly reduces traffic congestion and alleviates parking demands. In 2013, the combined MATBUS fixed route system provided 2,134,900 rides (1,682,300 were given in Fargo and 452,600 in Moorhead). In addition, 53,400 riders used the complimentary Paratransit service. Are you a MATBUS rider? If not, now is the time to hop on board and give MATBUS a try.

CHECK OUT MATBUS' NEW ROUTE 6

Beginning in January, MATBUS's fixed route services were expanded into Dilworth with the new Route 6. The thirty-minute route begins and ends at the Walmart in Dilworth, and provides service to areas including Cashwise Foods, CVS Pharmacy, Houge Estates, Dilworth Elementary School, Red River Recovery Center, Dakota Boys Ranch, and much more.

Visit **www.MATBUS.com** for more information or check us out on Facebook or Twitter – keyword MATBUS.

GET YOUR "CAN" ON MATBUS DURING EARTH WEEK

Celebrate Earth Week by using public transit April 21 - 26. Riding MATBUS will only cost one aluminum can! Taking MATBUS to work or school makes a big difference in conserving our natural resources. One bus carrying 50 people saves 32 gallons of gas in one day, which preserves the air we breathe and conserves fossil fuels. So remember, reduce air pollution and conserve energy during Earth Week – get your "Can" on the bus!

All proceeds from collected cans will be donated to charity.

Enter the drawing on the MATBUS vehicles or Ground Transportation Center (GTC) for iGoEco nylon performance shirts to be given away during Earth Week.

This promotional fare only applies to the fixed route service.

EARTH DAY - April 22

PARKS AND RECREATION

NEW PROGRAM: AQUA ZUMBA

Splash your way into shape with an invigorating, low-impact aquatic exercise program! Known as the Zumba Pool Party, Aqua Zumba integrates the Zumba philosophy with traditional aquatic fitness disciplines. Aqua Zumba is a cardio-conditioning, body-toning, and most of all, exhilarating workout!

Register at www.moorheadparks.com or call **218.299.5340**.

CODE	DATES	DAYS	TIME
FAZ01	June 14 - August 9	Saturday	10-11am
AGE	LOCATION	FEE	
16+	Municipal Pool	\$50	

NOTES: Registration Deadline is June 7, Minimum 10 people, No program July 5, Weather related make up is August 16

EVENTS CALENDAR

Celtic Festival

- March 8 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
- Hjemkomst Center
- Free Admission

Moorhead Ice Show

- March 14 - 15 at 7:00 pm; March 16 at 1:00 pm
- Moorhead Sports Center
- Tickets: \$5.00 (ages 4-12); \$7.00 (ages 13 and older)

Save the Dates

- **RiverArts** – June 10 and 24, July 8 and 22, August 12
- **Watermelon Festival** – June 26
- **Summer Splash** – July 24
- **Dog Swim** – August 18
- For more information on any of these events, call **218.299.5340**.



WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Volunteering is an easy way to make a difference in your community. Just a little bit of your time is all it takes. Volunteers are needed during the spring, summer, and fall in Parks throughout the city.

- Consider our **Adopt A Park** program where groups or individuals visit a park to pick up litter, rake leaves, clean up small branches, and weed flowerbeds.
- Our **Adopt The Red** program focuses on cleaning up the banks of the Red River.
- The **Adopt A Flowerbed** program is committed to planting and maintaining downtown flowerbeds throughout the summer.
- Volunteers are also needed to assist with recreational programming.

Please consider giving your time and talent to one of our volunteer positions! It's easy to get started. Call **218.299.5296** or visit www.moorheadparks.com today.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Get involved in our spring and summer programs today! Spring and Summer program guides were mailed to Moorhead residents in early February, and more are available at the Parks and Recreation Office, City Hall, or the Moorhead Library. An interactive brochure can also be found on our website.

Summer programs fill up fast and the baseball deadline is right around the corner, so make your plans early and register today!



PARKS AND RECREATION CONTACT INFORMATION

www.moorheadparks.com

218.299.5340

324 24th Street South

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL SOCIETY OF CLAY COUNTY

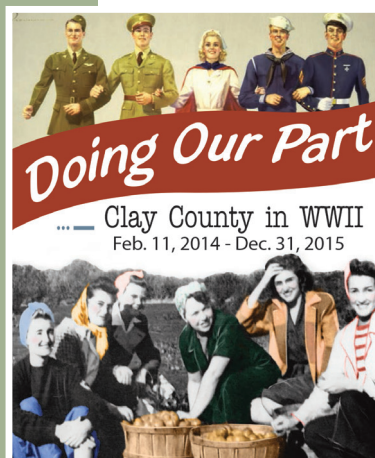
DOING OUR PART: CLAY COUNTY IN WWII

The Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County is proud to present **Doing Our Part: Clay County in WWII**, their latest Clay County history exhibit at the Hjemkomst Center. The exhibit is on display now through December 31, 2015. This historical exhibit tells the stories of the men, women, and children of Clay County who were affected by the war and how it changed the fabric of everyday life. Families sending loved ones off to war, scrap drives, and rationed food became part of daily life from 1942 to 1945.

Visitor Services Coordinator Markus Krueger says,

“One aspect of the war that we are going to explore is the acute shortage of farm laborers caused by thousands of local men going to war and thousands of other workers being lured away by high pay in factories in other parts of the country.”

The Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County will be presenting several programs in conjunction with the exhibit. See www.hcscconline.org for more information, or contact Tim Jorgensen at **218.299.5511 ext. 6737** or email tim.jorgensen@ci.moorhead.mn.us.



Hjemkomst Center
202 1st Ave N

POLICE DEPARTMENT GONE GLOBAL



In January 2013, Moorhead police officer Nicole Reno was privileged to represent Minnesota in Pyeongchang, South Korea at the International Special Olympic World Winter Games. While there, she helped raise awareness and promote Special Olympics athletes through various ceremonies held throughout the countryside and by interacting with the public.

Reno recalls the great participation from many people when the Moorhead Police Department began the Final Leg for Minnesota on June 17, 2013. The Final Leg is a globally-recognized Law Enforcement Torch Run to support the Special Olympics. Reno would like to send a big thank you to Moorhead's Fire Department for their involvement in the Torch Run and truck pull, and their donations for her trip to Korea.

The next Torch Run event will be held in June 2014. If you are interested in buying a Torch Run t-shirt, email nicole.reno@moorheadpolice.com or call **218.299.5120**.

Reno has been involved in many other programs including winning the Police Department's first annual truck pull and assisting with the Minneapolis Polar Plunge at Lake Calhoun. The Polar Bear Plunge is a unique opportunity for individuals, organizations, and businesses to support Special Olympics athletes by jumping into frigid Minnesota waters. She also helped Moorhead in supporting and raising money for the Fargo Polar Plunge which will take place on March 1, 2014.



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ELECTION JUDGES NEEDED

The City of Moorhead is looking for election judges in August and November to assist citizens during elections at the polling sites.

Qualifications

- You must be eligible to vote in MN, be able to read, write, and speak English, and be available during August and November
- You cannot be a candidate or the spouse, parent, child, or sibling of any election judge serving or a candidate on the ballot in the same precinct at the same time
- College students at least 18 years old may serve as judges

How to Apply!

Complete and mail the *Election Judge Application* on page 8 to:

City of Moorhead
Attn: City Clerk
500 Center Avenue, Box 779
Moorhead, MN 56561

Or email a scanned application to:

cityclerk@cityofmoorhead.com.

*If you are a college student, please provide your address at school and phone number

CALENDAR - SPRING

MARCH

- 5 – Ash Wednesday
- 9 – Daylight Savings Time begins
- 16 – Purim
- 17 – St. Patrick's Day

MAY

- 1 – May Day
- 5 – 9 Clean-Up Week
- 11 – Mother's Day
- 17 – Armed Forces Day
- 26 – Memorial Day

APRIL

- 1 – April Fool's Day
- 15 – Passover
- 20 – Easter Sunday
- 22 – Earth Day
- 23 – Administrative Professionals Day
- 26 – City Auction
218.299.5422



City of Moorhead
500 Center Avenue
P.O. Box 779
Moorhead, MN 56560

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

ECRWSS
RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

FARGO MARATHON IN MOORHEAD

FARGO MARATHON INVOLVEMENT AND PRESENCE IN MOORHEAD

To register for the Fargo Marathon, May 8 - 10, visit the Fargo Civic Center. The Youth Run, 5K, and Full and Half Marathons all enter Moorhead this year! Residents and businesses adjacent to the routes will get mailings from the Marathon organizers. All volunteers are welcome and the whole community is encouraged to support all participants. The thousands of visitors to the annual event have a great economic impact on our communities. Visit the website www.fargomarathon.com for more information!

FORESTRY: TREE-PLANTING

The City Forestry crews planted 780 trees in Moorhead in 2013. That number was the high point for planting over the past several years. Once again, the City of Moorhead Forestry department will be planting trees on boulevards throughout the city in 2014 and replacing lost trees during the summer and into the autumn months.

Call the Moorhead Forestry office at **218.299.5430** for a more detailed list of subdivisions. Also, if you live in an older area of Moorhead near the boulevard where a tree could be planted, call us and we will review the area.

HOMEOWNER'S TIPS FOR TREE CARE

- Watering is the most important thing to keep newly planted trees alive.
- 1 gallon of water for a 1 inch diameter tree is needed for every day it doesn't rain in hot summer months.
- Trees also need to be watered throughout their second growing season.
- Use a 2-inch thick layer of wood mulch around the new tree. However, do not stack the mulch against the trunk.

If you have questions or want more information on tree-planting, please visit the Forestry Department section of the website at www.cityofmoorhead.com or call the Forestry office at **218.299.5430**.

ELECTION JUDGE APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Primary Phone: _____

Email: _____

Party Affiliation:

- Democrat Party
- Independence Party
- Republican Party
- No Party
- Other

Please list top three polling sites:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

For more information about polling sites, please visit: www.cityofmoorhead.com/government/elections or call City Clerk at **218.299.5352**.