



City of Vadnais Heights
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If you have suggestions for what you would like to see in this newsletter in the future, please contact us.

V H view from the heights

A newsletter for the Vadnais Heights business community **Summer 2017**



WELCOME TO THE CITY BUSINESS NEWSLETTER

This business newsletter is an outcome of directives from our Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E) survey project. The City of Vadnais Heights and the Vadnais Heights Economic Development Corporation initiated the project to assist local businesses while serving to strengthen the network of businesses and organizational leaders in the community. The data from the survey project was reviewed by the University of Minnesota Extension Office. The Vadnais Heights BR&E Task Force focused on six priority projects to respond to business concerns and needs.

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One of the projects is to improve communication by creating a city-wide newsletter with informational topics, creating better connections between the City and area businesses. At this time, the new business newsletter is scheduled to be distributed bi-annually. More information on the BR&E Project Report can be found on the City website at www.cityvadnaisheights.com under the Doing Business tab.

CITY CODE TO BE CODIFIED

The City Council recently authorized staff to contract with Municode to provide codification services and host the City Code online. Codification is the process of consolidating regulations and organizing them into a logical and sequential format. The process will include a full review of the City Code to ensure it is grammatically correct, free of conflicts and internal inconsistencies, and conforms to state law. A Code that is well arranged, well edited, easy to read, and up-to-date is a cost effective management tool for local governments and a benefit to anyone who does business with the City. Residents, businesses, and developers will be able to easily search the code for answers regarding setback requirements, fences, etc. This process is long overdue and will begin this summer with a 9-12 month completion timeline. Once complete, it will be a great compliment to the newly updated City website.

URBAN LAND INSTITUTE (ULI)

The City Council will be hosting a workshop facilitated by the Urban Land Institute (ULI) called "Navigating Your Competitive Future" on **Wednesday, June 28 from 5 – 7 p.m.** at City Hall, 800 East County Road E. The

program will feature presentations of national and state trends that are influencing the real estate market and demographic community change data for Vadnais Heights, followed by a roundtable discussion between the City Council and ULI industry professionals. The panelists will include industry experts in planning/economic development, commercial/industrial development, housing/mixed-use, and public finance. Members of the business community are invited to attend. For more information, visit www.cityvadnaisheights.com.



**Urban Land
Institute**
Minnesota

BUSINESS AWARDS/HIGHLIGHTS

Congratulations to **Reell Precision Manufacturing** for being the recipient of the 2017 Minnesota Business Ethics Award.

Congratulations to Vadnais Heights **Summit Orthopedics Surgery Center** on receiving The Joint Commission's Advanced Certification for Total Hip and Total Knee Replacement. The facility is one of just two nationwide to receive the prestigious certification.

Congratulations **Innovative Office Solutions** for being named one of the 50 Fastest-Growing Women-Owned/Led Companies, presented by Women's Presidents' Organization. Innovative featured at #32.

Congratulations to **Megan Willcoxon (Peoples Bank Midwest), Sara Stafki (F&M Bank), and Randi James (Renstrom Dental Studio)** for being named 2017 VHEDC Rising Stars.

CITY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The City of Vadnais Heights and Bolton & Menk will be undertaking a process to update the Comprehensive Plan in 2017 and 2018. City staff and consultants will be working with the



Planning Commission, City Council, residents, and businesses to get feedback and comments during the planning process. A Comprehensive Plan defines the vision, goals and aspirations for the long-term development and redevelopment of the community. The plan is intended to shape land use and transportation patterns, conserve natural resources, and identify needs for utilities, housing and parks and open space. The Comprehensive Plan also guides decisions on both public and private investments in infrastructure and facilities.

State law requires all municipalities in the 7-county metropolitan area update their Comprehensive Plans at least every 10 years. Local plans must align with the Metropolitan Council's regional system plans related to highways, transit, airports, wastewater services, parks and open space. An updated plan must be submitted for Metropolitan Council review by December 31, 2018. The Plan update will address the following: Land Use; Housing; Water Resources; Transportation; Public Infrastructure; Parks and Trails; Economic Competitiveness; and Implementation.

Staff is planning to present additional information at the June 28 Business Council meeting and would encourage all businesses to check the City's website for more information and take the online survey: www.cityvadnaisheights.com/comprehensiveplan.

For further information contact Planning/Community Development Director Nolan Wall at 651-204-6027 or nolan.wall@cityvadnaisheights.com.

VADNAIS HEIGHTS BUSINESS COUNCIL MEETING



Join us for the next Vadnais Heights Business Council Meeting on **Wednesday, June 28 from 7:30 – 8:30 a.m.** at the Holiday Inn and Suites, 1100 East County Road E. Attendees will be given an update on City developments as well as hear about the City's Comprehensive Plan Update process. There will be a short presentation about local economic data and a chance to provide feedback. A light breakfast and refreshments will be served.