Mendota News



**City of Mendota**

**P O Box 50688**

**Mendota, MN 55150**

**Phone: 651-322-0827**

**Email:**

[cityofmendota@gmail.com](mailto:cityofmendota@gmail.com)

**KimberLee West, City Clerk**

**Council Members:**

**Brian Mielke, Mayor**

**Joan Perron**

**Alan Ralston**

**Erick Lehet**

**Melody Rasmussen**

**Building Official:**

**David Neameyer**

**For Inspections and Permits call: 651-600-2176**

**Chief of Police:**

**Mike Aschenbrener**

**City Attorney:**

**Tom Lehmann**

**651-439-2878**

**The City of Mendota holds City Council Meetings at 7:30 on the second Tuesday of the month at the VFW Post 6690**

**1323 Sibley Memorial Hwy.**

**Mendota, MN 55150**

**Spring 2014**

**Public Hearing set for April 8, 2014**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Mendota, Minnesota (the “City”) will meet on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at VFW Post 6690, 1323 Sibley Memorial Highway, Mendota, Minnesota, at or after 7:30 p.m., to hold a public hearing concerning the adoption of a five-year Street Reconstruction Plan for the City (the “Plan”), and the issuance of general obligation street reconstruction bonds (the “Bonds”) under the Plan and Minnesota Statutes, Section 475.58, Subdivision 3b, as amended. The maximum principal amount of bonds to be issued under the Plan is $150,000.

If a petition requesting a vote on the issuance of the Bonds, signed by voters equal to five percent (5%) of the votes cast in the City in the last general election, is filed with the City Clerk within 30 days after the public hearing, the City may issue the Bonds only after obtaining approval of a majority of voters voting on the question at an election.

All interested persons may appear and be heard at the public hearing either orally or in writing, or may file written comments with the City Clerk before the hearing.

**Volunteers are needed for help with organizing Mendota Day**

**Contact Council Member Erick Lehet at 651-338-0776 at lehet\_er@yahoo.com**

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**A road overlay is expected to start in June**

The City of Mendota is resurfacing the roads this June. Road crews will be in the area several days to work on this project. A date will be available soon from the construction company and residents will be notified ahead of time. Please be aware of work crews in the area and remove any vehicles parked on the street.

**Watch for a new playground this summer!**

The City of Mendota has received a grant from the Dakota County CDA. The grant will be used to place a new playground in Veterans Park.

[](http://www.isd197.org/)**School District 197 to hold special election**

On Feb. 3, the District 197 School Board voted unanimously to hold a special election on May 6, 2014. The decision was based on several years of study by district committees, careful planning and engagement with the community.

**Technology - Early Learning/Security**

**Vote May 6, 2014**

**Question 1: Request a renewal and increase of the Technology Levy to $1.7 million annually for 10 years.**

This money will be used to:

1. Maintain current technology systems and infrastructure.

2. Ensure students have equitable and consistent access to technology devices by implementing 1:2 computing (one device for every two students) for grades K-2 and 1:1 computing for students in grades 3-12 district-wide.

3. Create “21st century learning spaces” in all schools that incorporate flexible-use digital equipment and furniture that allows for student collaboration and critical thinking.

**Question 2: Request approval of a Building Bond for Early Learning and Security Upgrades of $11.2 million.**

1. Build an Early Learning Center adjacent to Heritage Middle School to accommodate growing birth to age 5 programs and alleviate crowding at the district’s elementary schools due to K-12 enrollment growth.

2. Update and improve security at all school buildings by adding cameras, remodeling the front entrances to all schools and upgrading features like lockdown buttons, public address systems, and more.

**What this means to you:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Request from district:** | **Annual Tax Impact\*** | **Monthly Tax Impact\*** |
| Q1: Renew and increase technology levy to $1.7 million | $43 | $3.58 |
| Q2: $11.2 million building bond for early learning and security | $14 | $1.17 |
| **TOTAL Q1 & Q2** | **$57** | **$4.75** |

*\*Dollar amounts listed are estimates for a $200,000 home value.*

Community Information Meetings regarding the referendum will be held at **Heritage E-Stem Magnet** **School on April 8th at 6:30 p.m.** and at **Henry Sibley High School on April 22nd at 6:30 p.m.**

Questions? Email: [elections@isd197.org](mailto:elections@isd197.org) or call referendum hotline at 651-403-7557.

Mendota Residents can vote at:

**Friendly Hills Middle School**

701 Mendota Heights Rd

Mendota Heights

 **The Recycling Zone**

3365 Dodd Road

Eagan, MN

**651-905-4520**

The Recycling Zone is located off Highway 149 between Yankee Doodle Road & Highway 55 in Eagan.

Reuse**Drop-Off Hours for Residents**  
Wednesday 9 a.m.–8 p.m.

**Books**

The Dakota County Library, non-profit organizations and used bookstores accept gently used books.

[**Books for Africa**](http://www.booksforafrica.org/)   
651-602-9844

[**The Children’s Chance, Inc.**](http://thechildrenschance.org/)   
763-545-2708

Thursday: noon–8 p.m.

Friday: 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

**Household chemicals and hazardous waste accepted:**

For your safety and The Recycling Zone employee safety, place household chemicals in a box

Earth Day is

April 22

when transporting. Product contents should be labeled and in the original package.

Never mix or pour household chemicals together.

**A complete list can be found on Dakota County web-site.**

* Antifreeze
* Auto batteries
* Fire extinguishers
* Home sharps (needles, syringes, lancets)\*
* Household cleaners
* **Latex/oil paint**
* Lawn and garden products
* Mercury thermometers
* Pesticides
* Pool and spa chemicals
* Propane tanks/gas cylinders
* Used oil/filters
* Accepting most products labeled dangerous, flammable, poison, combustible

or corrosive.

**\*Place sharps into a rigid container such as plastic laundry detergent bottle**

**with the lid taped shut and label the container "Do not recycle: household sharps."**

**Did You Know?**

Every Puffs tissue box is made at the Rock-Tenn Co. facility in St. Paul, often out of your reclaimed telephone books.

**Electronics (E-Waste) Recycling**

Materials Accepted from Residents:

* TV's
* Computers
* Computer peripherals
* VCRs
* DVD players
* Fax machines

**Free recycling for Dakota County residents.**

**Backyard Composting**

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Composting is an easy way to reduce waste while improving your yard and garden soils. Backyard composting turns organic wastes—grasses, leaves, and garden debris, vegetable and fruit scraps— into a nutrient-rich mixture that you can add to your yard or garden. It’s easy to get started.

**Begin with a bin**   
Box compost bins are sold at [The Recycling Zone](http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/RecyclingZone/Pages/default.aspx). Compost bins can also be purchased at many retail and garden stores.  You can also build your own compost bin.

**What goes in a compost pile** **What stays out**

Grass clippings Food with meat, dairy, or oils

Leaves Pet feces

Garden debris Diseased plants

Vegetable and fruit scraps Weeds gone to seed

Coffee grounds Ash from charcoal or coal

Egg shells

Sawdust and wood chips

Cornstalks and straw

**Maintain the pile—aerate and moisten**

Keep your compost pile aerated and moist. To get good usable compost sooner, turn the pile with a pitchfork or shovel about once each week. The microbes need oxygen or they will give off a rotten-egg smell. Add moisture by watering your pile if needed.

**Use the finished compost**   
By using compost, you can dramatically improve your soil and reduce your use of fertilizers and water.

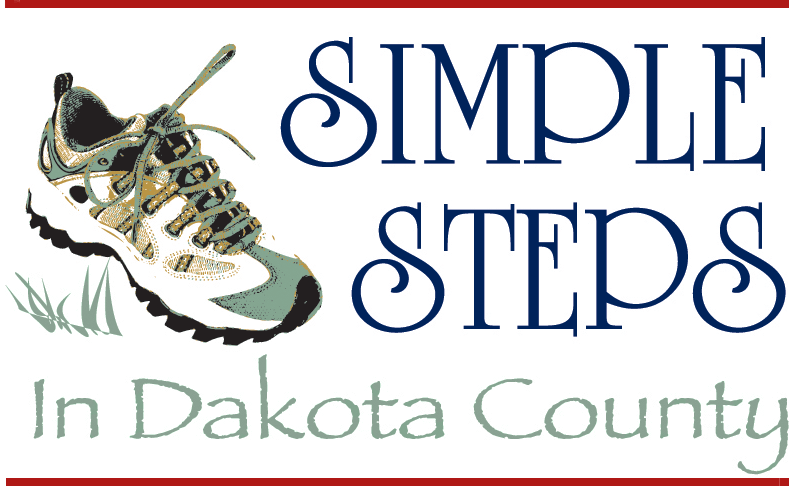
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The Mendota Heights Police Department offers free car seat installation advice and car seat installations by appointment.   Appointments will be available one evening a month.  Car seat installations take approximately 30 min.  To check available dates, please go the City of Mendota Heights web-site. Appointments can be requested online or by contacting Officer Jennifer Fordham at 651-452-1366.  Also feel free to contact her in regards to other seat check resources in the St. Paul area.

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**Simple Steps** is a free walking program offered by Dakota County. Simple Steps is designed to encourage people to be physically active. As you know, regular physical activity is one of the most important things a person can do for their health, helping prevent chronic diseases like diabetes, heart disease, and cancer. Walking is one of the easiest ways to be physically active, and is safe for most people.

Simple Steps is free and easy to participate in – here’s how the program works:

·         Sign-up on [Dakota County’s website](http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/HealthFamily/HealthyLiving/FitnessExercise/Pages/simple-steps.aspx).

·         Record minutes walked April 1 - July 31.

·         Record minutes walked for six weeks

and receive a handy Simple Steps shoe wallet.

·         Simple Steps participants also receive motivational newsletters,

chances to win gift cards from local businesses, and can

join the conversation on the [*Simple Steps* Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/DakotaCountySimpleSteps).

For more information or to register, go to the [Simple Steps webpage](http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/HealthFamily/HealthyLiving/FitnessExercise/Pages/simple-steps.aspx).

Questions? Need materials? Contact Simple Steps at [SimpleSteps@co.dakota.mn.us](mailto:SimpleSteps@co.dakota.mn.us) or by phone at [651-554-6100](tel:651-554-6100).

Be positive – spring is on the way!