

## City Calendar

**MONDAY, MAY 6**  
City Council Meeting

**TUESDAY, MAY 7**  
Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

**TUESDAY, MAY 14**  
Hennepin County Special Election

**SATURDAY, MAY 18**  
Spring Clean Up

**MONDAY, MAY 20**  
City Council Meeting

**TUESDAY, MAY 21**  
Planning Commission Meeting

**MONDAY, MAY 27**  
Memorial Day Holiday—Office Closed

**TUESDAY, MAY 28**  
Heritage Preservation Commission Meeting

**MONDAY, JUNE 3**  
City Council Meeting

**TUESDAY, JUNE 11**  
Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

**MONDAY, JUNE 17**  
City Council Meeting

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19**  
Juneteenth Holiday—Office Closed

**MONDAY, JUNE 24**  
Planning Commission Meeting

**TUESDAY, JUNE 25**  
Heritage Preservation Commission Meeting

**MONDAY, JULY 1**  
Council Meeting—Cancelled

**THURSDAY, JULY 4**  
Independence Day Holiday—Office Closed

**TUESDAY, JULY 9**  
Park and Recreation Commission Meeting

**MONDAY, JULY 15**  
City Council Meeting

**MONDAY, JULY 22**  
Planning Commission

**TUESDAY, JULY 23**  
Heritage Preservation Commission Meeting

## A Letter From the Mayor

*"Where your attention goes, your time goes..."*

*-Idowu Koyenikan-*

Sitting down shortly after the New Year, I was reflecting on the work that we accomplished as a City in 2023 – reconstruction of the The Commons Concession Building, creation of The Commons Oak Savannah Preservation Project, improvements to the Oak Hill Cemetery, progress towards Tree City USA, modifications to our Residential Review Guidelines, on-going infrastructure upgrades, approval of the new SoHi Park in the Third Avenue and Division neighborhood, discussions on reconstruction of the historic St. Alban's Bay Bridge, and the groundbreaking on a new parking ramp and multi-unit housing development near our historic downtown.

While we have accomplished a lot, what is more amazing to me is that the work doesn't slow down and that our calendar for 2024 is even busier. Reflecting on the quote above, there are three topics that currently have our full attention: Short-Term Rentals, City Wide Parking, and options for a new City Hall. It is these three areas where we will be spending a majority of our time as we begin our work in 2024.

Regarding Short-Term Rentals, the City of Excelsior currently prohibits the short term rental of residential properties. With over 25 short term rental properties in town, and the prohibition of short term rentals in surrounding communities, the City Council has been discussing the best way to regulate these properties. Our goals are to support Excelsior's strong neighborhoods, support our owner-occupied and long-term rental housing, and supporting our downtown businesses. One option is to allow them anywhere in the City. At the other end of the spectrum the option to create an ordinance that would totally prohibit them or, as we have been discussing for the past five months, is the answer somewhere in the middle? This topic has been polarizing and has been the subject of two public hearings as the City Council continues to deliberate on where short term rentals fit within our community. The ordinance is scheduled for Council review at the May 6th City Council Meeting.

In terms of City Wide Parking, this is a subject that is revisited and discussed every year. What makes this year different is that Excelsior will have a new parking ramp coming on-line in the fall of 2024. With that new addition, City Council and City Staff are taking a comprehensive look at the City's parking requirements and options. Again, this is a complex discussion as we work to find a balance between welcoming our visitors, supporting our businesses, easing congestion for our residents, and securing much needed revenue to fund our infrastructure projects and maintain our AAA bond rating.

(Continued on page 4)

## CONSTRUCTION HOURS

### Keep Construction Neighborly

It's spring! And with the new season comes more construction projects in Excelsior. Construction activity has the potential to spill over the property and become a disturbance to neighbors. City Ordinances are in place to address the impact construction activity can have in the City. Please abide by City requirements:

**Construction Hours:** Construction activity on private property is permitted 7:30 am – 7:00 pm on weekdays and 9:00 am – 6:00 pm on Saturdays. No construction activity is permitted on Sundays.

**Construction Parking:** All vehicles associated with construction activity must follow the City's parking regulations. For example, contractors' vehicles are not permitted to park on streets that are marked as resident-only parking without a permit.

**Construction Site Maintenance:** The construction site must be maintained in a neat and orderly condition. Soil and sediment tracked onto streets or sidewalks must be removed at the end of each work day.

## EXCELSIOR PARKING STUDY

The City of Excelsior is preparing to open its first public parking garage in late 2024. It will be located on West Drive and will have 244 public parking stalls, along with parking for the new apartment development. This new garage will change the downtown parking experience. The city is creating a strategic plan for operating, managing, and financing our downtown parking system. The study is considering how to balance the needs of residents, businesses, and visitors, and create a system that fairly allocates the cost of providing public parking. The City Council will be considering the consultant recommendations early this summer. Information about the parking study can be found on the city website.

## 2024 ELECTIONS



The Polling Location for all Excelsior Residents is now at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church—301 County Road 19.

Upcoming Election Dates:

Primary Election: August 13

General Election: November 5

If you would like to serve as an election judge or have questions call Nalisha Williams at 952-474-5233.

## CITY HALL AND CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER LOCATION

City Hall has moved to 350 Highway 7, Suite 230.

City Council and Commission meetings will now be held at 106 Center Street.

If you have questions please call City Hall at 952-474-5233.

## PREVENT STORMWATER POLLUTION

As a community member, you play a large part in detecting illicit discharges in our City. An "illicit discharge" is the illegal act of disposing, dumping, spilling, or other discharge of any substance other than rainwater into the streets, gutters, ditches, and ponds that make up our stormwater drainage system, or directly into streams or lakes themselves. What can you do about illicit discharges? If you see anyone releasing any material other than rainwater into the street or storm drains, please report it to Public Works at (952) 474-3464. For potentially hazardous materials, call 9-1-1 FIRST when there is an immediate threat to life or property.



Photo Credit: MPCA

## UTILITY BILLS

First Quarter 2024 bills went out April 9<sup>th</sup>, they are due May 10<sup>th</sup> 2024. You can sign up for auto pay or pay on line at

<https://www.ci.excelsior.mn.us/> choose

Bill Pay at the top of the screen and follow the online instructions. If you need further assistance, please contact Jenny Palmer at 952-653-3677 or via email at [jpalmer@excelsiormn.org](mailto:jpalmer@excelsiormn.org).

## CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

To advance consumers' understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources, the City is issuing the results of monitoring done on its drinking water for the period of January 1 - December 31, 2023. The results can be found on:

<https://excelsiormn.org/DocumentCenter/View/2715/2023-Drinking-Water-Report>

If you would like to request a paper copy please call Nalisha Williams at 952-474-5233.



## SPRING CLEAN UP

The annual Spring Clean Up is scheduled for Saturday, May 18. All items must be curbside no later than 6:45 A.M. The City has contracted with Republic Services to pick up all ITEMS listed below at your curbside. Please note that the Public Works Facility is NOT accepting materials and will be closed on Clean Up Day. If you have additional questions about eligible items please call Republic Services at 952-941-5174.



### ITEMS PICKED UP CURBSIDE WITH A VOUCHER PURCHASED FROM CITY HALL (EACH ITEM MUST HAVE A VOUCHER ATTACHED—NO EXCEPTIONS.)

- **Appliances**  
(washers, refrigerators stoves, etc.) \$38.00 each
- **Tires** \$12.00 each
- **TV's** \$45.00 each
- **Small box of electronics** \$25.00 each
- **Electronics** \$25.00 each
- **Window Air Conditioners** \$40.00 each
- **Large Bulky Items**  
(couch, loveseat, mattress, box spring, etc.) \$35.00 each

### Items NOT Accepted:

- Motor oil
- Paint
- Cement
- Railroad ties
- Hazardous Materials

### Items Picked Up Curbside Without a Coupon:

- Household trash, small pieces of furniture, grills, toilets and sinks.
- Weeds, leaves, and lawn clippings (bagged in compostable bag and placed separate from other items).
- Brush and limbs MUST be bundled in lengths of 4 feet or less.

These vouchers are available for purchase by filling out the form online at [www.excelsiormn.org](http://www.excelsiormn.org). Click on the news flash item regarding Spring Cleanup and there will be a link to an online form for you to fill out.

## LEAD SERVICE LINE

In response to the Environmental Protection Agency's new drinking water standards, the City is compiling a material inventory of all water service lines in our service areas. These lines carry water across the city and can be made of various materials.

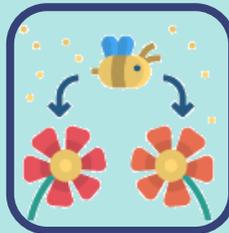
Excelsior water customers will receive details about completing the inventory at a later date.

If you have immediate questions, contact Nalisha Williams at 952-474-5233.

## NEW RESIDENTIAL ZONING STANDARDS

On April 1<sup>st</sup>, new zoning standards went into effect for our single and two-family residential zoning districts. The standards that were amended include building coverage, side yard and rear yard setbacks, and building height. Over the past few years, the city has experienced existing homes, original to Excelsior, torn down and replaced with homes that are much larger. The goal is for new homes built in Excelsior to be more compatible with the mass and scale of existing homes. Contact City Hall with questions.

## NO MOW MAY



Registration is now open to owner-occupied residential properties and renters with landlord consent. The registration process allows administrative staff and the Weed Inspector to review who is in compliance with the ordinance and resolution. If they receive a complaint about a lawn that is not participating, staff will reach out to the property owner to encourage registration. If the property owner does not register for "No Mow May," the City will move forward with City Code enforcement actions. On June 1, the Weed Inspector will allow a 2-week grace period for participating properties to come into compliance before taking any enforcement action. Full enforcement will return on June 17, 2024.

Residents who opt to participate in "No Mow May" would be exempt from Section 16-39(c) of the Excelsior City Code, specifically that "Any weeds or grasses, whether noxious as defined by law or not, growing upon any lot or parcel of land outside the traveled portion of any street or alley within the corporate limits of this municipality to a greater height than eight inches or which have gone or are about to go to seed are a nuisance" from May 1, 2024 to June 16, 2024, while continuing to enforce the Minnesota State Mandate regarding the management of noxious weeds.

Residents may complete the form to participate in No Mow May online at: <https://excelsiormn-city-of-excelsior-e-forms-build-and-test.app.transform.civicplus.com/forms/31941> or by stopping by City Hall.



350 Highway 7, Suite 230  
Excelsior, MN 55331

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## LETTER FROM THE MAYOR (CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)

Finally, the City Council continues to maintain its focus on developing or purchasing a new location for City Hall. We are currently in the process of conducting a feasibility study that will help provide additional direction. The information from this study will be presented to the City Council over the next couple of months. Whether we build a new City Hall or purchase an existing site, it is the Council's goal to create a City Hall that can be a convenient gathering place for our residents and offer a desirable working environment for our City employees.

As I have stated before, my continued thanks to City Staff, the volunteers on Excelsior's City Commissions, the City Council and you - the residents - for weighing in and getting involved in your community. On behalf of Councilmembers Jennifer Caron, Lou Dierking, Ann Hersman, and Rob Tyler, it is a privilege and a pleasure to continue to serve you.

Should you have any questions, concerns or suggestions for improvement, please reach out to City Hall at 952-474-5233, visit the City website at [www.excelsiormn.org](http://www.excelsiormn.org) or send me an email at [tcarlson@excelsiormn.org](mailto:tcarlson@excelsiormn.org). Please continue to look out for your neighbors, support our local businesses, and care about your community.

All my best as we continue to move onward and upward together!

Todd Carlson

## FOOD TRUCKS

The season for graduation parties and other outdoor events is around the corner!

All food trucks in Excelsior must obtain a City License and must pass a safety inspection with the Excelsior Fire District. Food trucks may locate in Excelsior on private property, as part of a City festival or civic event, on the street in a residential neighborhood with a Street Use Permit, and may not locate within 100 feet of Water Street (unless part of a sanctioned City event). The fee for the license and inspection is \$175.

If you plan to have a food truck for an event this year, contact City Hall at 952-474-5233 for the license application.

## CONTACT US

City Hall	952-474-5233
Public Works	952-653-3676
Police	911
Fire	952-401- 8801

## EXCELSIOR CITY COUNCIL

Todd R. Carlson, Mayor  
[tcarlson@excelsiormn.org](mailto:tcarlson@excelsiormn.org)  
(707) 738-9903

Jennifer Caron, Councilmember  
[jcaron@excelsiormn.org](mailto:jcaron@excelsiormn.org)  
(612) 812-3695

Lou Dierking, Councilmember  
[ldierking@excelsiormn.org](mailto:ldierking@excelsiormn.org)  
(651) 283-7703

Ann Hersman, Councilmember  
[ahersman@excelsiormn.org](mailto:ahersman@excelsiormn.org)  
(952) 470-9519

Rob Tyler, Councilmember  
[rtyler@excelsiormn.org](mailto:rtyler@excelsiormn.org)  
(952) 412-8047