Spring-Summer 2022

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# Moorhead to vote on Community Center/Regional Library

TIMELINE

Legislative

Task Force

On November 8, 2022, Moorhead voters have the opportunity to approve a local option sales tax to fund a new Community Center and Regional Library. The current regional library is more than 60 years old and has a long list of repairs and needs to meet the standards of modern libraries. A community center is a major part of the plan. Moorhead residents have asked for space to grow and learn and a place to connect with one another for a variety of activities year-round.

Here are some important steps in this process and some key information about both the project and the local option sales tax.

#### **KEY STEPS TO DATE**

- 1. May 2021: The Minnesota Legislature gave the Moorhead City Council the authorization to place a sales tax question on the 2022 general election ballot to fund the project.
- **2. Fall 2021:** Mayor Shelly Carlson assembled a citizen-led Task Force to start to envision the project.
- **3. January 2022:** The Moorhead City Council unanimously agreed to place a 0.5 percent local option sales tax guestion on the November 2022 ballot.
- 4. April 2022: The City of Moorhead
   in conjunction with the Moorhead
  Public Library and the Mayor's Task
  Force held public listening sessions
  to gather input from the community to
  suggest features and functions of the
  new Community Center and Regional
  Library.

#### WHAT WILL THIS BE?

In its work, the Task Force appointed by Mayor Carlson has defined the project as:

- A regional library
- A community center where people can gather and connect
- A place where new ideas and dreams can take shape
- Ideally located in or near downtown

#### **SALES TAX IMPACT ANALYSIS**

To help show the effect of the sales tax, the City of Moorhead worked with the University of Minnesota Extension Center for Community Vitality on a Local Sales Tax Impact Analysis (using 2019 data). This independent external analysis estimates contributions from Moorhead residents and visitors to a local option sales tax. Findings include:

- Approximately 30 percent of sales tax paid in the City of Moorhead comes from out-of-town visitors; Moorhead residents would pay for about 70 percent of a new Community Center and Regional Library.
  - » The current sales tax in Moorhead is 7.375%, which includes a state sales tax rate of 6.875% and a 0.5% Clay County sales tax.
  - » By comparison, Fargo and West Fargo currently have 7.5% sales tax rates (which includes 5.0% state, 0.5% Cass County, and 2.0% city).
  - » The average Moorhead resident would pay just over \$2 a month (or \$25 a year) in sales tax to fund the project. A \$100 taxable purchase in Moorhead would cost 50 cents more than it does now.
- Prior to the pandemic, Moorhead's retail tax base remained strong and steady for more than a decade and should be

expected to remain steady and stable. Fargo also has a local option sales tax, so it is likely Moorhead will not see major shifts in retail patterns.

Detailed Plans

Developed

#### **UPCOMING WORK**

Council

Citizen

Project planning will be further developed over the coming months, including site selection, possible amenities and programming, size, and other details.

# IF MOORHEAD VOTERS APPROVE (MAJORITY VOTE)

- Moorhead citizens will have their voices heard on Election Day. If they vote yes and authorize a sales tax, the design process starts in earnest. The City Council will:
  - » Begin pre-work on municipal bond issuance
  - » Open bids for design and construction services
  - » Accept bids for design and construction services
  - » Select design and construction services vendors
- Moorhead City sales tax begins in second quarter of 2023
- Contractor secures construction permits
- Construction begins (date TBD)

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Visit the Community Center and Regional Library information page at <u>cityofmoorhead.com/library</u>.

# **Cleanup Days Are Coming in May!**

One of Moorhead's favorite times of the year is almost here...Cleanup Days! Furniture, household goods, and appliances will be collected at single-family residence curbs on scheduled garbage day beginning at 5 am at no additional cost.

Cleanup Days occur the OPPOSITE week from your recycling week, so no recycling bins out on Cleanup Days:

- » If you are Recycling A, Cleanup Days are May 2-6 (including Oakport neighborhood May 3).
- » If you are Recycling B, Cleanup Days are May 9-13.

Excess garbage set out before Cleanup Days will be collected for a fee.

Apartments are not eligible for curbside pickup, but residents may bring excess garbage to the transfer station at the times noted below free of charge with proof of residency.

Cleanup Days require a huge amount of effort, coordination and cooperation.

#### Please follow these guidelines:

- » Tires will NOT be collected. Homeowners will need to dispose of them at retail tire stores.
- » Separate appliances, furniture, brush, household garbage, metal, etc. into piles; different trucks collect specific items.
- » Use disposable containers such as cardboard boxes (no loose garbage please).
- » Do not set items out more than one day early.
- » During Cleanup Days, crews will not return to pick up garbage set out after your garbage day.
- » Two appliances per household will be picked up free of charge. Remove refrigerator and freezer doors for safety.
- » Do not place food or waste inside appliances.
- » No commercial waste will be accepted.
- » Keep your garbage tote at least 4 feet away from other Cleanup Days items.
- » Empty propane tanks will also be collected (valves do not need to be removed).



#### **Weekly Curbside Yard Waste**

Seasonal pickup under way on regularly scheduled garbage days

#### Weekly Curbside Branch Pickup

Runs May 2-September 30 (on regularly scheduled recycling days or by request year-round)

Guidelines for curbside pick-up: cityofmoorhead.com/departments/public-works

#### **Solid Waste Transfer Station**

**Year-round** (except holidays) (Monday- Friday, 8 am-4:15 pm)

#### **Compost Site**

April 11-November 18 (weather permitting) (Monday-Friday, 8 am-4:15 pm Saturday, 8 am-11:45 am)

If you would like to get a jump on spring cleanup, bring furniture, household goods, and excess garbage to the Solid Waste Transfer Station from April 25 - May 13 during normal business hours, free of charge. (This also applies to apartments.) Fees will apply for demolition/construction materials; proof of Moorhead residency required (i.e. driver's license).

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Additionally, crews will not collect the following items curbside (disposal info below):

» TVs/computers/electronics (no fee); take items to:

Clay County Electronics Collection (Clay County residents only); 1300 15 Ave N, Moorhead (behind the DMV)

May 2, 4, 9, 11 from 8 am-4 pm

May 3, 10 from 4-6 pm

May 7 from 8 am-noon

Regular hours (4-6 pm every Tuesday) resume May 12

If you have questions, call 218.299.7329 or visit cleanupweek.com/claycounty.htm

» Demolition/construction materials (lumber, concrete, sheet rock, fencing material, windows, doors, asphalt shingles, etc.; fees apply); take items to:

Clay Demolition Debris Landfill, 4 miles east of Glyndon on Hwy 10; 218.498.2430

Moorhead Transfer Station, 2727 Hwy 10 E, Moorhead; 218.299.5465

» Hazardous household materials waste (no fee); take items to: Clay County Household Hazardous Waste Facility, 2729 Hwy 10 E, Moorhead; open Monday and Wednesday from 8 am-4 pm.

# Moorhead Police Use Crime Analysis to Aid Intelligence-Led Policing

As the metro population grows, it is increasingly vital for the Moorhead Police Department to be efficient with its resources. In order to better understand and respond to crime trends in the community, the department added its first Crime Analyst, Cameron Jenson, in March 2021. "This position has been a goal of mine for the department since becoming chief as I believe intelligence-led policing is critical to utilizing our resources efficiently and effectively," police chief Shannon Monroe said.

As Crime Analyst, Jenson provides reports, analysis, and investigative support to the department's administration, detectives, and patrol officers. He combines information gathered from briefings with data collected by the department to identify crime patterns occurring in the community. Jenson also uses mapping software to visualize where specific crime types occur throughout the city.

Before hiring a full-time analyst, Moorhead Police had a data analyst intern position. Because of the beneficial impact of crime analysis on community policing, the department recently brought back this role by adding Lucas Clark Burnette, a senior at Minnesota State University Moorhead. The analyst internship program provides value to the department by increasing its analytical capabilities and also allows the intern to utilize their skills and education in an exciting field and possibly consider it as a career path.

While larger police agencies might have multiple analysts with specialized roles, Jenson's time is split among numerous departmental projects. "My role has evolved over the course of the last year as I have received training to develop skills and techniques within the field, as well as implement new software to leverage during investigations and regular analysis," Jenson said. He added that building from the ground up in a new position has been challenging but rewarding. "We're learning something new every day. Crime analysis will continue to benefit the community in ways we may not even have imagined yet."



**Cameron Jenson** is from Worthington, MN and earned his BA in Mathematics and Applied Physics from Concordia College.



Lucas Clark Burnette grew up in Mahnomen, MN and is currently a senior at MSUM majoring in Engineering-Physics with a minor in Mathematics. Following graduation, he plans to pursue a Master's Degree in Civil Engineering at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.



**Transform Downtown Moorhead into the 'heart of the community'** by incorporating a range of housing and retail options, cultural amenities, parks, and public services.



Integrate a mix of mutually supportive land uses and experiences in redevelopment areas by building upon and strengthening existing retail centers and utilizing experience-based marketing.



Connect neighborhoods to parks and trails and provide multimodal access to downtown, the Red River, and community amenities.



**Embrace resilient environmental and equitable solutions,** planning for infrastructure, building development, energy, and climate adaptation while building a greener community.



**Build and nurture local businesses as key partners,** in building and maintaining a prosperous community.

# **Comprehensive Plan Update**

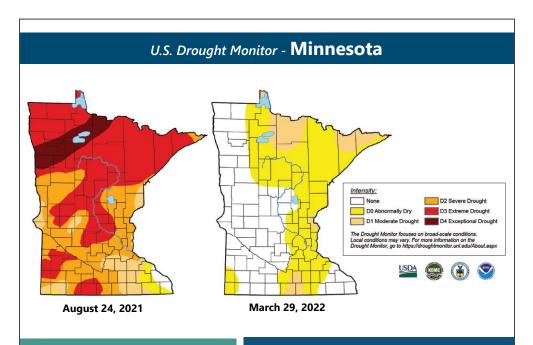
You did it, Moorhead! The update to the City of Moorhead Comprehensive Plan is complete and was approved by the City Council on March 28, 2022 after more than a year of public input.

Based on your comments, the Plan will help set the stage for prioritizing growth and development over the next 10 years. The plan looks at future issues, goals and visioning to prepare for changes in our community as it continues to grow.

The next step is to implement your ideas. We will start with the top priorities of the Plan, which are encompassed in the Five Big Ideas (at left). These ideas will be the basis for action over the next five years to help bring your vision for your community to life.

If you would like to review the Plan or the Plan process, check out the Onward Moorhead! webpage: cityofmoorhead.com/onwardmoorhead

If you have any questions about the process or the Plan, please contact planning@cityofmoorhead.com.



No current watering restrictions, but conservation remains important

In 2021, much of the Red River Valley area experienced severe drought conditions that led to Moorhead Public Service requiring mandatory watering restrictions. Over the past 4-6 months, the Red River Watershed has recovered significantly. The graphics show how statewide drought conditions have changed from Aug. 24, 2021, to March 29, 2022.

Mandatory watering restrictions for Moorhead and Dilworth were lifted on Nov. 12, 2021, when drought conditions began easing in the Red River Valley. That means that this spring and early summer

will not begin with any mandatory watering restrictions in place, which is great news. There are steps that residents and businesses can take to continue to be good stewards of our water resources including:

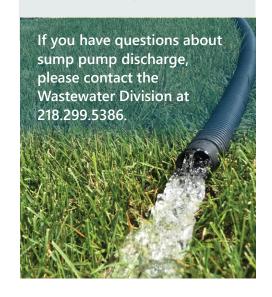
- Limited watering of lawns. Healthy, established lawns need about one inch of water per week to stay green. Fifteen minutes of watering every other day provides plenty of water.
- Waiting to water lawns until early in the morning or later in the evening when less water will be lost to evaporation.
- Installing rain sensors on irrigation systems and timers help to prevent overwatering of lawns.
- Fixing leaks in irrigation systems, toilets, faucets, pipes, etc.
- Shutting off faucets when not in use when brushing teeth, doing dishes, etc.
- Installing low-flow appliances and bathroom fixtures to save water.

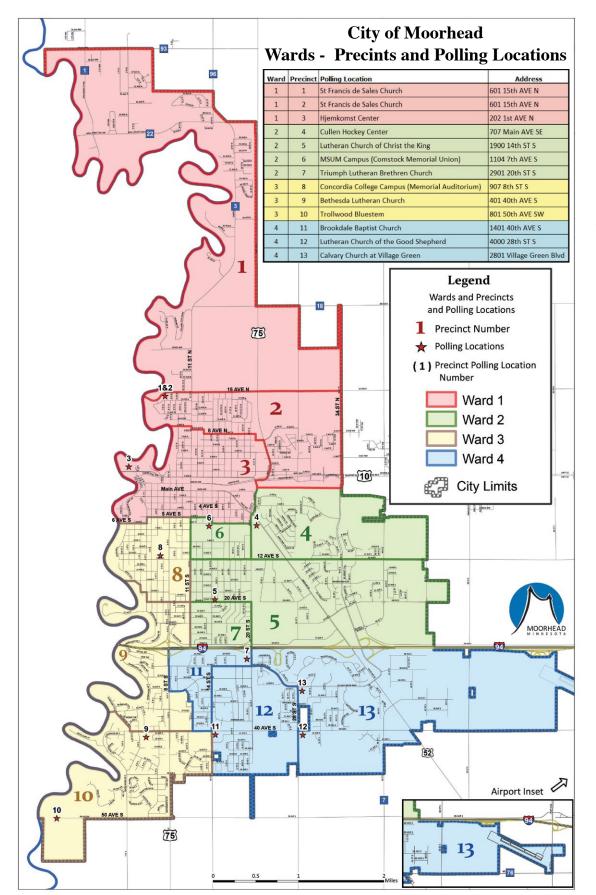
# Make sure sump pumps are disconnected from sanitary sewer system

Moorhead residents are reminded it's time to disconnect sump pump hoses from the sanitary sewer system. Drainage should be directed to the street, backyard or side yard (please be courteous to your neighbors when choosing where to discharge). Sump pump discharges to the sanitary sewer during this time period creates a risk of overloading the sanitary sewer system, which can lead to basement back-ups for you and your neighbors.

Residents may request a seasonal waiver to allow sump discharge into the sanitary sewer from November 1-March 31. Because the risk of significant rain events is lower during this time, the sanitary sewer system is capable of handling this extra water. That changes during the spring and summer months.

We appreciate your cooperation to ensure the capacity of our wastewater treatment. Thank you!





# Election judges needed; ward/ precinct map changes slightly

#### **ELECTION JUDGES**

Interested in the election process and want to participate beyond voting? The City of Moorhead needs election judges for the August 9 Primary and November 8 General elections. Hours are 6 am-8pm (half shifts available; election judges earn \$10/hour (\$11/hour for head judges).

Judges must be 18 or older and eligible to vote in Minnesota. Duties may include:

- Setting up the polling place and operating voting equipment
- Directing and assisting voters
- Registering individuals to vote and ensuring all qualified voters are permitted to vote
- Demonstrating how to vote
- Distributing ballots
- Closing polling place following voting
- Determining and certifying polling place results

You will learn everything you need to know at training prior to the elections. Two hours' training is required (three hours for head judges).

#### Interested?

Fill out an application online.

### WARD/PRECINCT/POLLING LOCATION CHANGES

Due to population changes and shifts based on the 2020 U.S. Census, the City of Moorhead ward and precinct map has changed slightly for 2022. Additionally, some polling locations have also changed. Please see the attached map showing the changes. The map may also be found at cityofmoorhead.com/government/elections.

# Moorhead offers some great incentives for newly built homes

New homes built in Moorhead expand the property tax base and benefit our whole community. To add to the excitement of owning a new home, the City of Moorhead has some "Moorhead Perks" for investing in a newly constructed home.

#### **Make Moorhead Home Property Tax Rebate**

The Make Moorhead Home Property Tax Rebate is a property tax break for the first two full years after a new home is built as an incentive to grow the City. The rebate saves a new home buyer thousands of dollars. On a new \$300,000 home, the total value of the rebate may be as much as \$7,700. After the rebate period, the homeowners pay the same tax rates as other homeowners. You don't need to be a first-time home buyer. As long as you are building a new home or buying one that has not yet been occupied, you are eligible.

No application needed—when a building permit for a new home is issued, the property is automatically enrolled in the rebate program. The rebate of the eligible portion of the tax payments will be refunded in December of each year of eligibility. If you have any questions on the program timing, just contact the City Assessor's Office at 218.299.5310. This program is available through December 31, 2022 unless extended.

#### **Welcome Home Pass**

The Welcome Home Pass is another special gift to buyers of newly constructed homes that allows Moorhead's newest neighbors to experience all that Moorhead Parks and Recreation has to offer. The pass offers the homeowner and everyone living in the immediate household access to golf (season pass) and swimming (family pass), and recreation programming (12 months) for both kids and grownups. There are a number of new housing neighborhoods under development in Moorhead.

For additional details about the Make Moorhead Home property tax rebate and the Welcome Home Pass, please visit MakeMoorheadhome.com.

# MATBUS Connect Offers New Mobile Payment Options



MATBUS is excited to launch its new fare payment system – MATBUS Connect! Connect's features will give riders greater flexibility and freedom in how funds are managed through a new mobile app, online payment portal, and connected smart card.

MATBUS Connect is account based, which means that riders load funds to an account, rather than purchasing monthly passes. Instead of paying one month upfront, you can pay as you go, never spending more money than you need to. This allows you to get the best value for your money,

because payments will be capped once you hit daily or monthly spending limits. An adult will never pay more than \$3 a day or \$42 a month.

MATBUS is also making it more convenient to load money to accounts. You can add funds from anywhere with Internet access through the MATBUS Portal website or the MATBUS Connect App on a smartphone. Then you can pay on the bus with your linked smart card or by loading tickets on the app. Riders can also continue to pay with cash on the bus or at the downtown Customer Care Center.

MATBUS Connect is expected to launch in May 2022. For more details and a list of frequently asked questions, visit **MATBUS.com/connect**.

# Minnesota property tax refunds can benefit both homeowners and renters

**Homeowner's Homestead Credit Refund:** To qualify, you must have owned and lived in your home on January 2, 2022. The refund amount is based on household income, tax filing status, and property taxes paid on principal residence. The maximum refund is \$2,930.

**Special Homeowner's Homestead Credit Refund:** This refund is based on the increase of your property tax over the previous year regardless of household income. You must have owned and lived in your home on both January 2, 2021 and January 2, 2022, and your property taxes on your home increased by more than 12% and at least \$100 from 2021 to 2022, not due to improvements you made to the property. The maximum refund is \$1,000.

**Renter's Property Tax Refund:** Renters may also qualify for a Renter's Property Tax Refund. You will need your 2021 Certificate of Rent Paid. The maximum refund is \$2,280.

**Filing Instructions:** Visit revenue.state.mn.us to find information on how to file. You will need information from your 2022 Clay County property tax statement (mailed in March/April 2022) and your 2021 federal income tax return to fill out Form M1PR

**Timing:** The filing deadline is August 15. You have one year from the due date to file and claim a prior year refund.

#### 56560 Rummage Sale

#### May 14, 7 am – 1 pm / Cullen Hockey Center, 707 Main Ave SE

Join the fun for this community-wide sale, open to businesses trying to get rid of clearance items, or a citizen just clearing out the garage. Concessions and/or food trucks will be available.

Admission is \$1/per person (kids 17 & under are free).

#### **Moorhead Farmers Market**

Tuesdays, May 31-September 27; 3-6 pm Hjemkomst Center Parking Lot, 202 1 Ave N

Find items such as vegetables, fruit, baked goods, honey, jams, jellies, pet products, and hand-crafted items available for purchase. SNAP Benefits are accepted with matching dollars courtesy of Hunger Solutions of Minnesota.

# Moorhead Police Department Sponsors: Safety Fair & Bike Rodeo

Monday, June 6, 5:30-7:30 pm

Law Enforcement Center 911 11 Street N

Safety Fair featuring public safety vehicles! Lots of free activities including bike rodeo (bring your helmet), face painting, make a phone # ID Bracelet and much more! Food will be available for purchase.

#### **Moorhead RiverArts**

#### Four Tuesdays, 5:30-8pm / Memorial Park, 111 8 St N

June 14: Zach Thomas and a Petting Zoo June 28: Rick Adams and Barrel Car Rides July 26: Gina Powers Band and a Fishing Clinic August 9: Front Fenders and Carnival Games

This family-friendly event features carriage rides, kid-friendly art activities, inflatable games, yard games and more. Entertainment acts perform for the crowd and businesses and organizations set up booths to participate in crafts or games.

#### **Special Edition: Moorhead RiverArts**

#### July 12, 5:30-8 pm / Woodlawn Park, 400 Woodlawn Dr

This special edition of RiverArts at Woodlawn Park will feature art activities, inflatable games, yard games, a photobooth, and a performance by Brianna and Lars!

#### **Dive into Summer**

#### June 7, 6:30-8:30 pm / Moorhead Municipal Pool, 800 19 St S

Kick off summer and enjoy a night of family fun at the pool with free open swim, chips, and pop (while supplies last) and a chance to win some great summer prizes! Children 8 years and under must be accompanied by an adult. Season pool passes will be available for purchase.

#### **Tennis Carnival**

June 24, 9-11 am

Horizon Middle School Tennis Courts, 3601 12 Ave S

The free Tennis Carnival is for youth of all ages and skills.

#### **Summer Splash**

#### July 14, 2-4 pm / Moorhead Municipal Pool, 800 19 St S

Splash into an afternoon of FREE fun at the pool with games, a diving contest, water inflatables, and more!

#### **Night to Unite**

#### August 2

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. Call 218.299.5143 for more information.

#### **Doggy Dip**

August 15, 3:30-7:30 pm South Park Wading Pool, 2102 14 St S Northeast Park Wading Pool, 1817 8 Ave N

**\$5 per dog** (all proceeds benefitting the Moorhead dog parks)
Dogs should have a collar, carry ID tags, be properly licensed, vaccinated, and in good health to swim.

#### **Greater Moorhead Days**

#### September 8-17 / Various Locations

Celebrate our amazing community with Greater Moorhead Days! Enjoy a variety of fun and exciting events for all ages, including the Greater Moorhead Days Parade, Bridge Bash, and Kids Fest! This 10-day celebration is the perfect time to express your Moorhead pride! More events and information can be viewed at: moorheadparks.com

#### **Citizens Police Academy**

#### September 15-November 17, 6-9 pm

The Academy will lead citizens to a better understanding of what it is like to be a police officer. Experience K-9 demonstrations, SWAT, narcotics investigations and more. Apply at cityofmoorhead.com (search Citizens Police Academy) or call 218.299.5143. Class size is limited.

#### **River Paddling Excursions**

#### Various dates, 6-8 pm / Hjemkomst Landing, 202 1 Ave N.

Join the River Paddling Excursions for a relaxing downtown river tour as local guest speakers share their expertise. All skill levels are invited. Each session begins at 6 pm with the basics of canoeing and kayaking.

Participants must register in advance. \$10/person if you own your own vessel; \$15/person for canoe/kayak rental.

Register now at moorheadparks.com.

For more information, call (218) 299-5340.

# Birds of the Red, hosted by Fargo-Moorhead Audubon May 18

Learn about the different species of birds that live along the Red River and those that utilize it while migrating.

# Discover the Red, hosted by River Keepers June 1 & July 6

Enjoy the beauty of the Red and learn interesting facts about the history, ecology, and how people have changed the river.

# History of the Red, hosted by the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County / June 15 & August 3

Ever wonder what Moorhead was like "growing up"?

# Animals and Habitats of the Red, hosted by the Red River Zoo / July 20

Learn about the many habitats of wildlife living along the river.

# Trees of the Red, hosted by the City of Moorhead August 17

Learn about the many habitats of wildlife living along the river.

# Urban Wilderness Excursion, hosted by the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County / September 11 from 1-4 pm

Retrace the Murie brothers' canoe route and learn about how these Moorhead kids helped keep American wild!

# EVENTS

# **City Calendar**

#### cityofmoorhead.com/calendar

141771	/IAI	
2-6	Cleanup Days for Recycling A schedule	
3	Oakport Neighborhood Cleanup Day	
9-13	Cleanup Days for Recycling B schedule	
14	56560 Community Rummage Sale	
26	MBA Annual Golf Tournament	
30	Memorial Day   City offices closed   no garbage*	
31	Farmers Market opens at Hjemkomst	

#### JUNE

ΜΔΥ

7	Dive into Summer-Moorhead Pool
14	RiverArts at Memorial Park

(Tuesdays through September 27)

- 24 Tennis Carnival
- 28 RiverArts at Memorial Park

#### JULY

- 4 Independence Day | City offices closed | no garbage\*
- 4 MBA Moorhead Proud 5656OOH & AAH 4th of July fireworks celebration12
- 12 RiverArts at Woodlawn Park
- 14 Summer Splash
- 26 RiverArts at Memorial Park

#### AUGUST\_

- 2 Night to Unite
- 9 RiverArts at Memorial Park
- 15 Doggy Dip

#### SEPTEMBER \_\_\_\_

5	Labor Day   City offices closed   no garbage*
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- 8-17 Greater Moorhead Days
- 15 Citizens Police Academy (runs to November 17)
- 17 MBA Bridge Bash



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



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# **Moorhead City Council**



Mayor Shelly Carlson 218.299.5307



Ward 1 Shelly Dahlquist 218.299.5549



Ward 3 Larry Seljevold 218.329.9214



**Ward 1**Matthew Gilbertson 218.299.5541



**Ward 3**Deb White
218.299.5548



**Ward 2** Laura Caroon 218.299.5543



**Ward 4**Steve Lindaas
218.299.5542



**Ward 2**Heather Nesemeier 218.299.5547



Ward 4 Chuck Hendrickson 218.299.5545

City Council meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 5:30 pm at the Hjemkomst Center. Visit our website for agendas and materials.

## **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



