

# CITY OF SAINT PETER HOT SHEET



All the City news you need to know and a little bit more!  
City Info Line 507-934-0675 TDD #711  
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The following information is a publication of the City of Saint Peter, City Administrator's Office, 934-0663, 227 South Front Street. Please contact us at [barbaral@saintpetermn.gov](mailto:barbaral@saintpetermn.gov) [www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter](http://www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter)



01/04/17



## MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE) – So here it is...

In December the Council held a quarterly goal session. These sessions are really designed to do a couple of things. One of those things is to drill down on a few topics in great detail so that members have opportunity to really understand it and ask questions and formulate ideas about possible changes in policies or finding that best solution. The second is to dream a bit bigger; to think about where they see the community heading, and where they think you want the community headed.

It's that brainstorming opportunity that is so vital to good management and governance. One of the tools they try to use is this list of Items of Vital Importance. This is the list they started working with and underneath that you will find the newly revised list.

**ITEMS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE**

- Exceptional schools
- Thriving business community
- Available early childhood care and educational opportunities
- Affordable housing
- Plan for changing demographics

**ITEMS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE**

- Community that treats all people like neighbors
- Proactive housing solutions
- Availability of quality health care
- Thriving business community
- Action on the changes in our demographics
- Aesthetically distinctive
- Improved Sustainability
- Available early childhood care and educational opportunities and Exceptional Schools

As you can see there are a few differences, but nothing that is too earthshaking. Still some of the changes may be important to you and are for sure important to them. The goal of this list

is that it provides a framework, or maybe a "lens", for how the Council sees and measures those things that they see as being important in the community. Some of these things are maybe a bit more measureable in the short term, while others are about slow, ongoing changes or big views on what is needed for the best future of our community.

I know that some of this discussion is a bit squishy but I think that squishiness is okay. As the City Council and staff work over the next few months you can help us make sure we are keeping these Items of Vital Importance in the forefront. Much like a vision or mission statement, these are things that we should see reflected in the actions that are taken, in the resources that are spent and in the way your business is conducted.

Will you notice that reflection? It makes me wonder.....



**TRANSIT CHANGES** - On January 1, 2017 Saint Peter Transit and Le Sueur Transit completed a merger and became Minnesota River Valley Transit (MRVT). The majority of passengers should not notice changes other than the buses will have a different logo, however, there are some important things to know about the new system.....

Saint Peter fares will NOT change. However, as part of the merger, the MRVT governing board changed fares and the ticket structure for rides to and from Kasota. The new Kasota cash fares will be:

- Adults \$5.25

- Seniors \$3.00
- Children (0 through 5) \$1.50

There will no longer be Kasota specific tickets. Instead, Kasota passengers will use regular tickets. For those going to or from Kasota, the fare will be three yellow tickets for adults or three red tickets for seniors. Passengers who still have Kasota specific tickets may use those until the end of March.

The transit system has also begun to schedule rides and a toll free number (888-880-4696) has been put in place to do so.

- For rides between now and January 15th, passengers should call 934-6070 as they have in the past.
- For rides scheduled for January 16th or later, please call (888) 880-4696 between 8 am – 4 pm (Monday-Friday).
- Starting on January 16<sup>th</sup> all calls for rides, both immediate and scheduled should be made through the toll-free number at (888) 880-4696.
- Also starting on January 16<sup>th</sup> the toll free number will be answered from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM Monday through Friday and from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM on Saturdays

Beginning January 7th, Saturday hours will expand in Saint Peter to 9 am – 7 pm.

Here's the info on the new corridor route between Le Sueur/Saint Peter/Mankato.

- Begins Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>
- Operates Mondays and Thursdays and the second Saturday of the month.
- Fare - \$6.00 for adults and seniors and \$2.00 for those ages 0 through 5 years.
- Pre-sale of corridor tickets will be available in the future, but for now it will be a cash only ride.
- The corridor route schedule will be:
  - Leave Valley Green Square Mall in Le Sueur at 8:30 AM and stop at Family Fresh Market in Saint Peter.
  - Leave Family Fresh at 8:50 AM.
  - The next stop is the Cinemark Movies 8 entrance to the River Hills Mall in Mankato.
  - The bus will leave River Hills Mall at 9:10 AM.
  - The last stop on the corridor route is at the Mankato Clinic at Main Street (at about 9:20 AM) and Mayo Clinic at Marsh Street (at about 9:25 AM).
  - At 9:30 the bus will leave Mankato from the Mayo Clinic building and return to Saint Peter at Family Fresh Market.

- The bus will leave Family Fresh at 10:10 AM and return to Le Sueur Valley Green Square Mall.
- The next route will begin at 10:30 from Le Sueur.

- Routes start in Le Sueur at 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:30 PM, 2:30 PM and finally at 4:30 PM. The Saturday route will not start until 10:30 AM.
- Rides can be scheduled by calling (888) 880-4696.
- The buses only have two wheel chair positions, so those using wheelchairs or scooters must schedule their rides in advance to reserve their space. Ambulatory passengers are also encouraged to call to schedule as scheduled rides will have priority over non-scheduled passengers.

The newly combined transit system should be a fairly seamless transition for Saint Peter transit users; however, passengers are encouraged to be patient and to call the Transit Compliance Manager at 934-0668 for additional information on how the new system works if needed

**WARMING HOUSE HOURS AT VET'S PARK RINKS** - A warming house/rink attendant is on duty during the following scheduled hours:



Mon.–Fri. from 4–9 p.m.,  
Saturdays 10 a.m.–9 p.m.,  
Sundays 1–9 p.m.  
School Vacation Days from 1–9 p.m.

*Leisure Skating Only will be available at one of the Veteran's rinks during the following days/times:*  
*Monday–Friday, 6–7 p.m.*

*Saturday/Sunday from 1–3 p.m.*

Warming House/Rink Closure Guidelines: The rink/warming house will be closed if any of the following conditions exist:

Air temperature at -15 or colder,  
wind chill temperature at -20 or colder,  
temperatures that soften the ice,  
more than 1" of snow accumulates on the ice and maintenance crews are not available (e.g. holidays, weekends).

The Warming House/Rinks may also close early due to lack of skaters.

For more information on warming house/rink closures please call the Rec Hotline at 934-0070. We also encourage parents to call the Rec Hotline prior to dropping kids off or sending them to the rink to make sure the warming house is open. And finally, for more questions please talk with the

warming house/rink attendant or contact the Recreation Department at 507-934-0667 or by email at [jenh@saintpetermn.gov](mailto:jenh@saintpetermn.gov).

**SNOWSHOES FOR RENT** - Bundle up, get outside (when the weather cooperates!), and experience nature. Enjoy the winter by taking a snowshoe stroll through the woods. The Saint Peter Recreation Department and Treaty Site History Center provide adult and youth size snowshoes for rent. Rental fees: \$5 per pair per day, \$10 for the weekend, (Deposit of \$50 per pair due upon pick up). Adult and youth sizes are available. Please call ahead for larger groups. Call 934-0667 (Recreation) or 934-2160 (Treaty Site History Center) for more information.

**COMMUNITY CENTER ADVERTISING** - Advertise for your business or organization in the gymnasium at the Saint Peter Community Center! Every week hundreds of people have the opportunity to spend time in the gym and on the walking/running track. Activities in the gym include school volleyball and basketball practices and games for middle school and 9<sup>th</sup> grade teams, noon hour basketball, adult volleyball, open gym, fencing, senior exercise classes, Pickleball, Creative Play Place Fitness Days, special events, and much more. The walking/running track attracts all ages throughout the day. By purchasing an advertising panel and renting advertising space at the community center gym your business or organization will be viewed by thousands throughout the year. Of the thirty ad panels on the perimeter of the gym there are only nine remaining spaces open. Don't miss this opportunity to reach out to the community. Once you purchase and have your advertising panel installed, the advertising rental rate is only \$400 per year. For information on securing an advertising space, please contact the Recreation and Leisure Services Department at 507-934-0667, or email [jane@saintpetermn.gov](mailto:jane@saintpetermn.gov).

**CHRISTMAS TREE CURBSIDE COLLECTION** - City crews will collect real Christmas trees curbside on January 9th and 10th. The trees are chipped and used for composting.

Residents need to have all decorations removed from the trees and then place them curbside (not in the street). Trees should NOT be in bags.

And remember, no artificial trees, garlands or wreaths will be accepted.

And for those who need or want to dispose of their tree before this time, real trees may be taken to the City's compost site located at the southwest corner of the West St. Julien/North Swift Street intersection.



**METER READERS/MAIL CARRIER HELP** - With only a small amount of snow on the ground, now is the perfect time to start a nice habit of clearing out a path to utility meters for the City's Meter Readers and from house to house for the Mail Carriers. Having a clear path to travel when reading meters (and delivering mail), helps eliminate slipping and falling over toys and equipment left in the yard all winter and lets our staff do their jobs in a safe manner. So, if you can do so, please help out by clearing at least a shovel wide path to your utility meter each time it snows. Doing so each time you shovel will make the job much easier. Thanks for your assistance!



**CHRISTMAS LIGHT RECYCLING PROGRAM** - Have you replaced your old Christmas light strings with new LED lights? The City has a program to help you recycle the old lights.



Collection bins are located in the entryway of City Hall (227 South Front Street) and in the lobby of the Community Center (600 South Fifth Street). Lights will be accepted until January 16th and the program is free.

And don't forget to check with the City's Finance Department (934-0664) if you are buying new LED lights as rebate funds are available for a limited time!

**CITY MEETING CALENDAR** - This calendar is subject to change. Should you have a question on a meeting date/time, please contact the City Administrator's Office at 934-0663 or visit the City's website at [www.saintpetermn.gov](http://www.saintpetermn.gov).

Monday

January 9

7:00 p.m.

City Council Meeting

Tuesday	January 10	5:30 p.m.	Library Board
Monday	January 16		MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY – City Offices closed
Tuesday	January 17	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Tuesday	January 17	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Monday	January 23	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Wednesday	January 25	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday	January 26	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	January 27	8:00 p.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	January 30	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Tuesday	January 31	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission

\*\*\* Please contact the City Administrator's office (934-0663), check out our website ([www.saintpetermn.gov](http://www.saintpetermn.gov)) or the City's Facebook page at [FACEBOOK](#) for up-to-date meeting information.\*\*\*