

CITY'S OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

MAPLEWOOD LIVING

February 2018



In This Issue

- 2 Imagine Your City
- 3 Message from the Council
- 4 Police Strategic Plan
- 5 State of the City Recap
- 8 Notice of Public Hearing for Comcast Franchise Renewal
- 8 Strengthening Democracy

Maplewood City Council Adopts 2018 Budget and Property Tax Levy

Property Tax Levy will Increase 3.5%
The Maplewood City Council adopted the City's operating and capital budget for 2018 on December 11, 2017. The 2018 budget required a property tax levy of \$21,465,600, which is 3.5% or \$726,767 more than the 2017 property tax levy.

Tax levy: Pg 6

A bold transition to meet a new generation of Maplewood emergency services

By Chiefs Michael Mondor and Steve Lukin, Maplewood Fire and Emergency Medical Services

Maplewood provides a vast array of high-quality services to our community. We are very pleased with the feedback we receive from residents for our police, fire, parks, and other City services. To make sure we continue to operate at a high standard, we're constantly evaluating our service delivery by considering customer feedback, learning from other suburbs and examining independent data.



Steve Lukin
Fire Chief



Michael Mondor
EMS Chief

For the past three years, we have been carefully examining trends in our Fire/EMS services. Two important trends have led us to rethink some of the assumptions we continue to make about these services:

- Emergency Management Services (EMS) calls are rapidly increasing, becoming the most frequent service of our fire department (85 percent of all calls); and
- The demands for worker training continue to increase, especially when it comes to part-time firefighters.

After examining nearly every scenario with our Fire/EMS Workgroup and independent consultant (Fitch and Associates), we have concluded that Maplewood needs to transition from a mix of full- and part-time firefighters to investing in a completely full-time fire department.

A full-time staff of firefighters will provide a sustainable, well-trained workforce for the more than 9,000 annual Fire and EMS calls that we are projected to receive in 2025. That represents over double the number of calls responded to in 2011 (4,100). As we approach a time where 90 percent of our calls are likely to be EMS, the need for more stability within the department is clear.

Next generation of EMS: Pg 7

Elected Officials

Nora Slawik: Mayor(651) 738-7099
 nora.slawik@maplewoodmn.gov
 Marylee Abrams: Councilmember(651) 249-2000
 marylee.abrams@maplewoodmn.gov
 Kathleen Juenemann: Councilmember(651) 771-3670
 kathleen.juenemann@maplewoodmn.gov
 Bryan Smith: Councilmember(651) 888-0085
 bryan.smith@maplewoodmn.gov
 Tou Xiong: Councilmember(651) 444-0531
 tou.xiong@maplewoodmn.gov

City Manager

Melinda Coleman: City Manager(651) 249-2055
 melinda.coleman@maplewoodmn.gov

Frequently Called Numbers

City Hall	(651) 249-2000
Maplewood Community Center	(651) 747-0922
Recreation	(651) 249-2120
Public Works	(651) 249-2400
Police Non-Emergency	(651) 767-0640

Visit the City website at www.maplewoodmn.gov for the meeting schedule of the City Council, Commissions and Boards.

To advertise in this newsletter call Joe Sheeran at (651) 249-2061 or email joe.sheeran@maplewoodmn.gov.



Imagine Your City from the Eyes of a Child



Sophia Grund and Aryane Mih Dzekedze join (from left to right) Sergeant Paul Thienes, Mayor Nora Slawik, and Officer Tommy Kong, at the Maplewood Nature Center before the Imagine Your City Tour

By Shann Finwall, Environmental Planner

Flying cars and hover boards, that is what 11 year old Brady St. Sauver envisions for the City of Maplewood in 20 years. While it's an ambitious vision, we're encouraged he's thinking boldly about Maplewood's future.

If you're a frequent Maplewood Living reader, you know the City has been busy updating its 2040 Comprehensive Plan, a Metropolitan Council mandate for all cities in our region. The Comprehensive plan guides Maplewood's future economic development, housing, natural resources, transportation and other critical community assets over the next generation. For the last year, the City has been gathering input from a wide variety of community stakeholders, including business leaders, the faith community, those con-

cerned about the environment and residents. (A plan draft is currently moving through the community review process.)

We figured why should adults have all the fun and get all of the say? That's why in last spring's edition of Seasons we held a kid's contest called Imagine Your City. Maplewood area kids were asked what they would like to see in the City twenty years from now. In addition to Brady, three others submitted their vision for Maplewood:

- Love, peace, and Dr. King's dream (Sophia Grund, age 10)
- Pollution free, more nature ponds for all animals, parks with recreation centers, park activities that are free, kid-friendly places to eat as a family, and biodegradable plates, napkins, and silverware (Gerald James Forrest, age 9)
- A white house, kid's character store, and, most of all, I hope our City will have a huge amusement park with water (Aryane Mih Dzekedze, age 8)

Recently two of the kids joined Mayor Nora Slawik on a police-car-tour of the City, a DQ treat, and an afternoon of fun at the Nature Center.

Maplewood is still seeking the public's feedback on the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. Share your thoughts on the future of Maplewood by visiting www.maplewoodmn.gov/2040.

“I didn’t know that.”

By Marylee Abrams, Councilmember



I really enjoy connecting with citizens out in the community and at City events. I am happy to field questions about City services, and help people find answers to their questions and concerns. I try to help where I can and believe if we pay attention to the small things, we may be able to prevent

things from growing into bigger issues. The common response I get from citizens is “I didn’t know that.”

I have relayed a street icing concern to Public Works Director Steve Love, to make sure a trouble spot where ice tends to build up in south Maplewood, gets special attention to avoid a winter car crash. I have fielded multiple questions on recreational backyard fires and sought assistance and intervention from our Fire Chief, Steve Lukin. I routinely refer complaints and code violations to our Environmental and City Code Specialist, Chris Swanson. He is a cracker jack at helping work through complaints and code violations, choosing first to educate residents and businesses before issuing tickets or violations. A typical Chris Swanson email or phone call goes like this, “Hi Chris, I was out walking my dogs in one of our many parks, and a citizen complained to me about their neighbor’s trash carts. They told me the carts at [such and such location]

are never properly stored away and are an eyesore.” Chris then inspects the property and educates the residents on our City ordinance that covers the proper storage of trash carts. Trash, recycling and yard waste containers must be stored behind the front line of the dwelling, in the garage, or screened from view from the street.

I have learned that about 80% of the code violations reported to City staff concern parking vehicles on grass, (they must be parked on paved surface, not grass) junk vehicles, (all vehicles must be operable and properly licensed) and improper storage of garbage, recycling, and yard waste containers. Another little known but frequently violated City ordinance is outdoor storage. City Ordinance prohibits outdoor storage of building materials, scrap wood, boxes, machinery, equipment, refuse, junk, brush, furniture and similar materials.

For more information about all the little things you didn’t know about living in Maplewood, please check our City website <http://maplewoodmn.gov/>. If you are aware of a possible code violation, or if you want to read our City code, there are links for both on Maplewood’s homepage. Complaints are also accepted via email at code@maplewoodmn.gov or by phone at 651-249-CODE (2633).

FLOOR HOCKEY LEAGUE

AT EDGERTON COMMUNITY GYM

Game Times:
K - 1st: 9AM or 10AM
2nd - 3rd: 10AM or 11AM
4th - 5th: 11AM or 12PM

Cost: \$55.00

SATURDAYS, APRIL 7 - MAY 12

This league teaches the basic floor hockey skills and promotes cooperation and the value of sportsmanship. Participants will play every position during the season.

Volunteer parents needed for each team to assist in game play and substitutions. For more information call 651-249-2121.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 16
(Leagues are combined grades of K-1, 2-3, 4-5)

How do I register?
In Person (8am-4:30pm): Maplewood Parks & Rec: 1902 County Rd B E
By Phone: 651.249.2111
Online: <https://apm.activecommunities.com/Maplewoodmn/Home>

Balance Transfer A Fresh Start.

Get **2%** Cash back on all balance transfers

TO A CITY & COUNTY CREDIT CARD. NOW THROUGH MARCH 31, 2018.

GET STARTED TODAY!

(651) 225-2700
CCCU.COM

APR= Annual Percentage Rate. 2% Balance transfer promotion ends 3/31/18 and excludes transfers from CCCU Loan Accounts. Balance Transfer rebate will be deposited to the share account by 5/31/18 and any balance transfers paid in full by 05/31/18 will not be eligible. Cash advance fee is 2% or a \$2.00 minimum. Foreign Transaction fee is 1% of each transaction in U.S. dollars. See Mastercard Credit Card Terms & Conditions for complete details. Excludes Business Credit Cards.

Maplewood Police Department

Strategic Plan 2018



The Maplewood Police Department is focused on community and problem-oriented policing. Working in collaboration with citizens, businesses, schools, and other community stakeholders, we strive to provide a safe environment and a high quality of life.

2018 DEPARTMENT GOALS:

1. A renewed focus on Community-Oriented and Problem-Oriented Policing.
2. Increased effectiveness through technology and human intelligence in the areas of crime trends, locations of concern, and persons known to have frequent police contacts.
3. Ensure employee wellness includes a body-mind-spirit approach.



2018 STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES:

1. Determine and utilize best practices to identify and target crime, disorder, offenders, and locations.
2. Engage our community partners and stakeholder groups to enhance our problem-solving efforts by gaining insight from others' experiences.
3. Increase communication within the department and with the citizens to increase awareness, safety concerns or suggestions, and focus attention on trouble spots in the city.
4. Implement Department's newly-created Strategic Plan to ensure resource allocation fulfills the mission.
5. Set all officers on a training path to accomplish today's mission and enhance personal and leadership development for the future -- includes tactical skills and knowledge-based training.
6. Implement a health and wellness guide focused on physical and mental fitness.



“Excellence Through Service”

Read the Strategic Plan at: <http://bit.ly/2DFVqDY>

1830 County Road B East, Maplewood MN 55109

(651) 249-2600

Stronger Business Partnerships, Workforce Development, Emphasis on Community Policing Help Set Bold Agenda for State of Maplewood Address

By Joe Sheeran, Communications Manager

Listing a variety of new and expanding housing developments, medical facilities, eateries, and stores, with more on the way, Maplewood Mayor Nora Slawik's State of the City speech outlined a bold and ongoing effort to re-make a mature, developed suburb that attracts new families and retains long-time community members.

"With every ribbon cutting, business expansion celebration, and park and trail dedication, we are building a thriving city," said Mayor Slawik. "This work helps ensure our residents have exciting and convenient places to live, work, shop and dine in our community."

She highlighted a recent initiative with the Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce to meet with more than two dozen legacy and growing business and organizations in Maplewood to evaluate the City's assets. Generally, these firms say Maplewood is a great place to do business, citing the City's responsiveness and outreach, a strong K-12 school system and professional public safety services.

With the hiring of a new Public Safety Director, Police Chief Scott Nadeau, the mayor also discussed how the department will expand its community building efforts and outlined the police department's new approach to proactive problem solving. She pointed to the work of the City's Police Use of Force Task Force, as providing a statewide example for involving the community in helping set policy regarding racial equality efforts.

The event also featured a keynote address from Century College President Angelia Millender, who discussed public-private-educational partnerships to develop a workforce for the future.

At the State of Maplewood Luncheon, the City's Housing and Economic Development Commission recognized three organizations that have gone above and beyond to make Maplewood a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

State of Maplewood 2018 Awardees

Premier Bank – *Entrepreneurship/Innovation/Growth Award*

Gethsemane Lutheran Church – *Environmental Sustainability Award*

The YMCA – *Community Contribution Award*



Premier Bank founder Don Regan with his wife, family and Mayor Slawik after receiving the Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Growth Award



Students from Gethsemane Lutheran Church and School, Environmental Sustainability Awardee, with (from left to right) Mayor Nora Slawik, Dan Thompson, Gethsemane Lutheran Business Administrator, Bob Waedekin, Gethsemane Principal, Tou Xiong, Councilmember



(from left to right) Mayor Nora Slawik, Shane Hoefler, White Bear Area YMCA Executive Director, Kristin Reither, Branch Director, Maplewood YMCA Community Center, Chad Lanners, YMCA Senior VP of Operations, Terrina O'Conner, Member Service Director, Tou Xiong, Councilmember

Cont. from pg 1 - Tax levy

Tax Increase will Provide New Services

The increased property tax levy will fund inflationary increases, begin the Emerald Ash Borer eradication program, improve fund balance in the City's General Fund, enhance communications between the City and its residents, increase efficiencies with the purchase of new technology, and provide for street and capital improvements. It will also improve the fund balance in the Ambulance Fund and facilitate the City's new debt reduction strategies.

Capital Improvements

Several capital improvements will be implemented in 2018. The Farrell/Ferndale and Londin-Highpoint area streets will receive a combination of pavement rehabilitation and full reconstruction, including replacement of road pavement, installation/replacement of concrete curb and gutter, expansion of storm water facilities, and utility replacement and repairs. The City will also invest in park improvements in 2018, including the replacement of the main building and the addition of meeting rooms and parking facilities at Wakefield Park. Redevelopment will begin in the Gladstone area with the purchase of properties for rehabilitation purposes.



Wakefield Park Improvements are among the capitol projects

Total Governmental Spending

Property taxes provide approximately 62% of total revenues for the governmental funds of the City. The largest category of expenditures is public safety, making up about 52% of current (operating) expenditures in the governmental funds. Property taxes will also support two of the City's enterprise (business-type) funds in 2018. The Ambulance Fund and the Community Center Fund will receive an infusion of cash from the property tax levy to improve fund balances and fund capital improvements. Both activities have been restructured to improve efficiencies and curb future operating losses.

Questions?

Questions on the budget can be directed to City Manager Melinda Coleman (651) 249-2055 or Finance Director Ellen Paulseth (651) 249-2902.

City of Maplewood City Summary Budget Statement		
The purpose of this report is to provide summary 2018 budget information concerning the City of Maplewood to interested citizens. The budget is published in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 471.695. This budget is in summary form: the complete budget may be examined at Maplewood City Hall, 1830 County Road B East, Maplewood, MN 55109 or at http://mn-maplewood2.civicplus.com/101/City-Budget . The City Council approved this budget on December 11, 2017.		
Governmental Funds 2018 Adopted Budget		
Budgeted Governmental Funds	2017 Original Budget	2018 Adopted Budget
Revenues:		
Property Taxes	\$ 19,933,829	\$ 20,965,600
Tax Increments	1,381,000	1,760,000
Other Taxes	1,378,000	1,394,000
Special Assessments	1,745,390	1,308,910
Licenses and Permits	1,251,600	1,346,900
Intergovernmental Revenue	2,757,250	4,319,530
Charges for Services	2,261,900	2,440,260
Fines and Forfeits	245,000	210,000
Interest on Investments	212,110	139,840
Miscellaneous	463,780	165,900
Total Revenues	31,629,859	34,050,940
Other Financing Sources		
Proceeds from Borrowing	3,919,022	8,261,868
Sale of Capital Assets	25,000	20,000
Transfers from Other Funds	4,454,935	13,991,522
Expenditures:		
Current:		
General Government	3,818,039	4,040,180
Public Safety	11,180,480	11,415,920
Public Works	3,857,020	3,891,990
Culture and Recreation	1,281,180	1,352,160
Economic Development	1,258,060	1,411,350
Total Current Expenditures	21,394,779	22,111,600
Debt Service - Principal	12,750,820	13,062,283
Interest and Fiscal Charges	2,388,000	2,208,049
Capital Outlay	7,591,800	12,432,400
Total Expenditures	44,125,399	49,814,332
Other Financing Uses		
Transfers to Other Funds	2,452,755	10,359,055
Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance	(6,549,338)	(3,849,057)
Property Tax Levy Required to Fund this Budget	20,738,833	21,465,600

T-Ball & Baseball

Sunday T-Ball: Boys/Girls Ages 4-8 (must be 4yrs by June 1)
SUNDAYS, JUNE 10 - AUGUST 5 (NO CLASS JULY 1)

There will be 20-25 minutes of practice time led by the Lil' Sluggers coach with each team's parent coach(s) working with their team, followed by 40-45 minutes of game play. During the game play, the Lil' Sluggers coach will help with proper positioning, encouragement and general game help. The parent coaches will set the lineup, manage the players' position, play time and rotation, base coaching etc.

4 - 5 YEARS, 5:00PM-6:15PM: Always hit off a tee **Cost: \$65**
6 - 8 YEARS, 6:15PM-7:30PM: Opportunity to hit coach pitch, then hit off a tee



Both leagues will need volunteer coaches for their teams. If interested in volunteer coaching, please indicate so during the registration process or contact the League Director.

Youth Baseball Grades 2-5

Maplewood Parks & Recreation is offering baseball for boys & girls in 2nd - 3rd (C League) and 4th - 5th (B League) with teams from Roseville and Little Canada. These leagues are recreational and instructional with the goal of ensuring that the kids have fun while improving their baseball skills. Practices start mid/late April (weather permitting), Games start late April. Registration deadline is March 21.

C LEAGUE BASEBALL: 2nd - 3rd Grades (Pitching Machine)
GAMES: Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:15PM
LOCATIONS: Fields in Maplewood, Roseville and Little Canada **Cost: \$90**

B LEAGUE BASEBALL: 4th - 5th Grades (Intro to Kid Pitch)
GAMES: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:15PM
LOCATIONS: Fields in Maplewood, Roseville and Little Canada **Cost: \$100**

For more information about either program please call 651-249-2204

How do I register?

In Person: Maplewood Parks & Rec, 1902 County Rd B East

By Phone: 651.249.2111

Online: <https://apm.activecommunities.com/Maplewoodmn/Home>



Cont. from pg 1 - Next generation of EMS

A full-time staff will also reduce the demands on our training program, allowing us to focus our training resources on advances in fire and EMS services. For example, to cover the equivalent of three full-time positions, the City has to recruit and hire 20 part-time firefighters. With training and equipment costs running about \$8,000 - \$15,000 for each new part-time firefighter hired, it's a more responsible use of taxpayer resources to invest in a smaller personnel pool that will be able to commit to a more stable, annual schedule moving forward.

At the January 25, 2018 City Council Meeting, Maplewood's Fire Administration and Fitch and Associates presented the results of its six-month study and recommendations for a transition to a full-time staff. The City Council approved transitioning to a fulltime fire department.

With this plan comes the difficult decision to transition away from part-time firefighters. While we hope some of them will remain with the department as one of the nine new full-time employees, it's important we take time to honor all of their service and dedication to Maplewood. This transition is occurring because of changing needs within Maplewood, not because of concerns about the quality of the work of part-time employees.

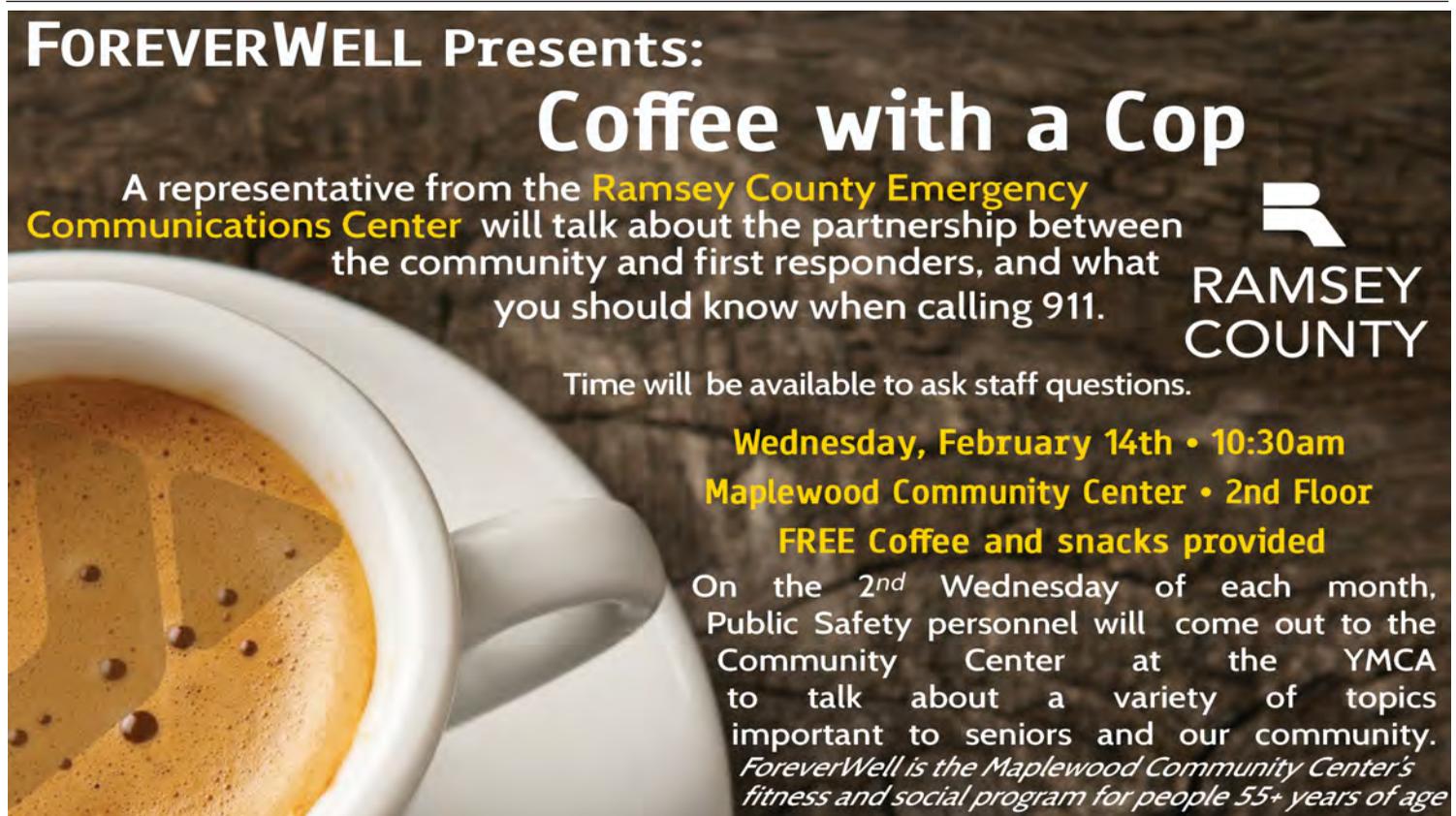
The City is working with the part time firefighters that make up their Fire Relief Association on a transition plan and severance package. All part-time firefighters will retain the retirement compensation they have earned during their years of service.

Our City is growing and the service needs are becoming more complicated. Maplewood isn't the only community considering this path. Other suburbs are weighing the benefits of a fire department that only employs full-time trained staff.

While this transition will be disappointing for some of our part-time firefighters, transitioning to an all full-time fire department is an important, necessary step to maintain Maplewood's public safety needs over the next decade.

We welcome feedback from anyone in the community who would like to discuss this issue further. To learn more about the staffing report and recommendations, go to <http://maplewoodmn.gov/104/Fire-Paramedics>

michael.mondor@maplewoodmn.gov; 651-249-2822
Steve.Lukin@maplewoodmn.gov; 651-249-2802



FOREVERWELL Presents:

Coffee with a Cop

A representative from the **Ramsey County Emergency Communications Center** will talk about the partnership between the community and first responders, and what you should know when calling 911.

RAMSEY COUNTY

Time will be available to ask staff questions.

Wednesday, February 14th • 10:30am
Maplewood Community Center • 2nd Floor
FREE Coffee and snacks provided

On the 2nd Wednesday of each month, Public Safety personnel will come out to the Community Center at the YMCA to talk about a variety of topics important to seniors and our community. *ForeverWell is the Maplewood Community Center's fitness and social program for people 55+ years of age*

City of Maplewood

1830 County Road B East
Maplewood, MN 55109
Phone: (651) 249-2000
www.maplewoodmn.gov

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit #32324
Twin Cities, MN

*******ECRWSS****
RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

Upon request, this newsletter will be made available in an alternate format.

Printed on 10% post consumer product.

MINNESOTA

COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY

Strengthen your local democracy
by participating in the
Maplewood Community Assembly.

Share your opinion, make a difference,
and earn a stipend!

Join other Maplewood residents for lively discussions on shaping the future of government in Maplewood.

Participants must be available the Spring 2018.

If accepted to participate, each individual will receive a stipend upon full completion of the assembly.

mnassembly.org/apply/maplewood.html or 651-523-2180



Public Hearing Notice for Comcast Franchise Renewal

February 26th, 2018 at 7:00 pm

The City of Maplewood will hold a public hearing in the Council Chambers at City Hall to consider issues regarding the renewal of the cable television franchise to Comcast.

Any person may speak to the City Council concerning the renewal of Comcast's cable television franchise at the time of the public hearing. Topics of interest to the City include customer service, quality and reliability of cable signals, use of the right-of-way by Comcast to install its cable system facilities, programming, and related issues regarding the delivery of cable services in the City of Maplewood.

Comments regarding the rates charged by Comcast for cable services and the type of programming to be carried on Comcast's cable system are not encouraged as federal law limits the City's regulatory authority in these areas. Any person may submit written comments by addressing those comments to the City Manager at City of Maplewood, 1830 County Road B East, Maplewood, MN 55109.