

**CITY COUNCIL
MEETING**

City Hall Council Chambers
September 14, 2026

AGENDA



1. Call to Order - 7:00 p.m.

Attendees please turn off cell phones and pagers during the meeting. A copy of the full meeting packet is available in the binder at the entrance to the Council Chambers.

2. Roll Call

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Informal Open Forum

This is an opportunity for the public to address the City Council on items that are not on the agenda. It is limited to 15 minutes. It may not be used to make personal attacks, air personal grievances, make political endorsements, or for political campaign purposes. Council Members will not enter into a dialogue with the presenter. Questions from the Council will be for clarification purposes only. It will not be used as a time for problem-solving or reacting to the comments made but for hearing the presenter for informational purposes only. The first call will be for those that have notified the Clerk that they would like to speak during the open forum and then ask if anyone connected to this meeting would like to speak. When called upon, please indicate your name and then proceed. Please be sure to state your name before speaking.

a. Meeting Decorum

5. Invocation - Graves

6. Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda

These items are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There isn't a separate discussion for these items unless a Councilmember so requests, then it is moved to the end of the Council Consideration Items.

a. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the following minutes:

- *August 24, 2026, Work Session*
- *August 24, 2026, Regular Session*

b. Approval of Licenses

-Motion to accept licenses as presented.

c. Finance Commission Appointments

- Motion to approve Natasha Hollowell and Morgan Thompson to the Financial Commission.

- d. Resolution Approving a Joint Powers Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, for Continued Participation in the Minnesota Human Trafficking Investigators Task Force
 - *Motion to Approve a Resolution Approving a Joint Powers Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, for Continued Participation in the Minnesota Human Trafficking Investigators Task Force*

7. Presentations/Proclamations/Recognitions/Donations

- a. Proclamation Declaring September 15, 2026, to October 15, 2026, as National Hispanic Heritage Month in the City of Brooklyn Center
 - Motion to accept the Proclamation declaring September 15 to October 15th, 2026 National Hispanic Heritage Month in the City of Brooklyn Center.*
- b. Proclamation Declaring the Month of September 2026 as “Suicide Prevention Awareness Month” in the City of Brooklyn Center
 - Motion to approve the Proclamation declaring September 2026 as "Suicide Prevention Awareness Month" in the City of Brooklyn Center.*
- c. Resolution Honoring Steven C. Davis for a Lifetime of Distinguished Service, Leadership, and Commitment to Family and Community
 - *Motion to approve a Resolution Honoring Steven C. Davis for a Lifetime of Distinguished Service, Leadership, and Commitment to Family and Community*
- d. Brooklyn Center Expanded Response Pilot Report and Presentation
 - *Motion to accept the presentation.*

8. Public Hearings

9. Planning Commission Items

10. Council Consideration Items

- a. Hazardous Building Declaration — 6138 Dupont Avenue North
 - *Motion to declare 6138 Dupont Avenue North as a hazardous property and issue an Abatement Order for the identified code violations.*

11. Council Report

12. Adjournment



COUNCIL MEETING DECORUM FOR THE PUBLIC

To ensure meetings are conducted in a professional and courteous manner which enables the orderly conduct of business, all persons in attendance or who participate in such meetings shall conduct themselves in a manner that does not interfere with the ability of others to observe and, when allowed, to participate without disruption or fear of intimidation.

- A. Decorum. Persons who attend meetings must avoid conduct that disrupts, interferes with, or disturbs the orderly conduct of the meeting or the ability of other attendees to observe and participate as appropriate. To that end, persons who attend meetings are subject to the following:
 - (1) Members of the public may only speak during meetings when allowed under Council Rules and only after being recognized by the presiding officer. The City Council has established time limits for the acceptance of public comments or testimony.
 - (2) Public comments or testimony must be addressed to the presiding officer and not to other Council Members, staff, or others in attendance.
 - (3) All elected officials shall be referred to by their proper title and surname.
 - (4) Public comments should avoid personal accusations, profanity, or other improper content for a public meeting.
 - (5) Intimidating behaviors, threats of hostility, or actual violence are disallowed.
- B. The presiding officer shall request any person(s) who disrupt, interfere with or disturb the orderly conduct of a meeting to cease the conduct and, as necessary, shall issue an oral warning to the individual(s) found to be in violation. If the individual(s) persists in disrupting, interfering with, or disturbing the meeting, the presiding officer may have the individual(s) removed or, under appropriate circumstances, temporarily clear the gallery. If for any reason the presiding officer fails to take such action, a majority vote may be substituted for action by the presiding officer to maintain order and decorum over the proceedings.
- C. The Council Chambers capacity is 76 persons per fire code.

Council Regular Meeting

DATE: 9/14/2026
TO: City Council
FROM:
THROUGH:
BY: Senye Amenti, Administrative Assistant
SUBJECT: Approval of Minutes

Requested Council Action:

Motion to approve the following minutes:

- *August 24, 2026, Work Session*
- *August 24, 2026, Regular Session*

Background:

Budget Issues:

Inclusive Community Engagement:

Antiracist/Equity Policy Effect:

Strategic Priorities and Values:

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2026.08.24 WS
2. 2026.08.24 CC

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL/ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF BROOKLYN CENTER
IN THE COUNTY OF HENNEPIN AND
THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

WORK SESSION
AUGUST 24, 2026
CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CALL TO ORDER

The Brooklyn Center City Council/Economic Development Authority (EDA) met in Work Session, called to order by Mayor/President April Graves at 8:26 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor/President April Graves, Councilmember/Commissioners Teneshia Kragness, Dan Jerzak, Kris Lawrence-Anderson and Laurie Ann Moore. Also present were Interim City Manager Daren Nyquist, Interim Deputy Manager and Public Works Director Liz Heyman, Interim Deputy Community Development Director and Planning Manager Ginny McIntosh, City Clerk Shannon Pettit and City Attorney Siobhan Tolar.

ACTIVE DISCUSSION ITEMS

**COMMUNITY CENTER DEFERRED MAINTENANCE PROJECT: CONSTRUCTION
BID RESULTS AND NEXT STEPS**

Mr. Nyquist explained that the City Engineer Lydia Ener and Interim Deputy Manager and Public Works Director Liz Heyman would be presenting this item. This has been an ongoing conversation as Staff has discovered a cost overrun as they dig into the Community Center rehabilitation project.

Ms. Ener noted that this project has \$5.1 million in DEED Grant Funding. This fund is meant to go towards deferred maintenance, both for the pool and other Community Center needs. Approximately \$3.7 million is dedicated towards the pool maintenance and renovation, and the rest of the money goes towards the Community Center HVAC system, roof D that is on the east side of the building, the associated railings and hoists to meet current code compliance, and City Hall rooftop HVAC units that had significant deferred maintenance needs. She noted that previously a feasibility study was prepared for the pool renovation to assess options, and an aquatic design consultant recommended a Martha pool liner as a cost-effective means that would rehabilitate the pool without the expense of a full demo and reconstruction. The pool improvement scope and capacity were significantly impacted by the DEED grant funds as Staff tried to stay within those allotted funds. The focus was placed on value engineering and code compliance, and the proposed improvements included the pool liner system, gutters, deck drainage, surge tank, deck surface around pool to the hallway, diving boards, lifeguard chair, ADA lift, water slide splash

guard, sump pump, chemical room piping, and mechanical equipment. These things were all chosen because they severely inhibit the ability to safely use the pool, or they are no longer in code compliance.

Ms. Ener continued that when the bidding results came in on August 12, 2026, all of the areas came in higher than estimated. She noted that the estimated bid was prepared by a construction consultant who specializes in aquatics. Due to the scope surrounding the mechanical equipment, changes in procurement, cost of the liner, and inflation and traffic uncertainties, the original estimated bid total was \$2.9 million, or \$5.2 million for the total project, but the actual bid came in at \$3.8 million, with a total project cost of \$6.27 million, which is a 19.32 percent increase. While these are very large numbers, the whole project is a very large project.

Ms. Heyman stated she wanted to speak to this part of the presentation and discuss some options to move forward. She noted that there is no possibility of rescoping the \$3.8 million of work at this point in time; all extra work has been removed or added as a bid alternate, so the focus is really on the pool liner and fixes that are driving the costs. Staff is recommending keeping the alternates that would involve additional future closures such as truss and ceiling repairs, and a new sauna and drainage. She stated the question for the Council tonight is whether to close the gap using City funds, with DEED grant funding covering \$5,100,000 or 81 percent, and the City kicking in \$1,177,200 or 18.75 percent for a total of \$6,277,200. The Council does not need to choose a specific option tonight; the question is really to get Council consensus on whether to close the gap with additional City funds or not, but the contractor team needs a decision by the end of the month to keep the fall 2026 construction on schedule. Deferring a decision could remain within the DEED grant funding deadline but must be spent by December 31, 2028. There are other negative impacts to deferring, where rebidding would become necessary, and inflation is anticipated at five to seven percent if the project is pushed to 2028.

Ms. Heyman added that in working with the Finance team, there are a few options to move forward. Option one includes funding appropriate CIP projects with the Central Garage fund, and some examples would be a few generator projects that were on the docket for next year and the year after, as well as emergency radios that could be pushed over to the Central Garage fund. The Central Garage fund is healthy and would be able to take on those expenses. Option number two would be to defer the CIP projects, like the facility projects for the West Fire generator and the City Hall switch gear, or to pause all park capital investments in 2028 and 2029 to cover this gap. She added that the Council could mix and match some of these options once Staff started to look into detail how to cover the financing gap if that is what the Council opted to do. Option three is not to close the funding gap, but the City would lose the majority of the DEED funds, and it is too close to the funding deadline to rescope a project this large on this timeline and be able to spend those funds. If the Council chose to defer, there would still be deferred maintenance from the pool that would be left unaddressed. She continued that option four is to wait and decide later, but this is the last meeting before the end of the month, and the contractor needs to move forward, and Staff anticipates that a five to seven percent inflation rate would push that pool construction out a year to fall of 2027. She added that with those options laid out before the Council, Staff is looking for feedback and direction.

Councilmember/Commissioner Lawrence-Anderson asked if any of these costs are reflected in the budget for next year. Ms. Heyman stated that they are not, and with options one and two, they would not need to be because the costs would be covered with existing funds within the Central Garage Fund or the Capital Improvement Program.

Councilmember/Commissioner Jerzak stated his choice would be option one, using appropriate funds from Central Garage as long as it is not affecting its ability and cash flow to meet other obligations. He added that this project is not going to get any cheaper, and there are always cost overruns in construction, and asked if it would be appropriate to take on some debt with a bond to pay for this instead. Ms. Heyman stated that could be an option, but the Finance Staff did not recommend that, especially if Staff can mix and match these options in order to pay for it. She added that after Ehlers came in and did work around the Central Garage fund, it is in a much better position than Staff had previously thought. Councilmember/Commissioner Jerzak added that he just would not want to completely deplete that fund, but his preference would still be to use the Central Garage fund.

Councilmember/Commissioner Kragness stated that she has championed the Community Center, and went and testified to try to help get the funds for that project, so she is in favor of ensuring this project moves forward. She continued that she also wants to make sure that Staff are being good stewards of the money that the City has, and for the residents that supported Staff to help get that money. As a result, the Council needs to do everything in their power not to be unappreciative of that, and if the City is in a position where it can move forward with option one, that would be her preference as well.

Mayor/President Graves stated she agreed. Councilmember/Commissioner Moore agreed, and stated her preference is also option one.

Ms. Heyman thanked the Council and stated that she will fill in the details between option one and option two with the understanding that option one is the preference of the Council and will come back with those details, but the project will keep moving ahead on schedule.

Councilmember/Commissioner Lawrence-Anderson stated that she would appreciate at that time that the expertise that Ms. Heyman has within the Staff would also make a recommendation. Ms. Heyman stated she would do that, and would get back with all the details and a recommendation.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor/President Graves moved, and Councilmember/Commissioner Jerzak seconded temporary adjournment of the City Council/Economic Development Authority Work Session at 8:38 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF BROOKLYN CENTER IN THE COUNTY
OF HENNEPIN AND THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

REGULAR SESSION
AUGUST 24, 2026
CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS

1. INFORMAL OPEN FORUM WITH CITY COUNCIL

The Brooklyn Center City Council met in Informal Open Forum, called to order by Mayor April Graves at 7:08 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Mayor April Graves, Councilmembers Dan Jerzak, Teneshia Kragness, Kris Lawrence-Anderson and Laurie Ann Moore. Also present were Interim City Manager Daren Nyquist, Interim Deputy City and Public Works Director Liz Heyman, Office of Community Prevention Health and Safety Director LaToya Turk, Associate Planner Krystin Eldridge, Planning Manager Ginny McIntosh, Public Works Planner Kory Anderson Wagner, Interim Finance Director Dan Tienter, City Clerk Shannon Pettit, and City Attorney Siobhan Tolar.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. INFORMAL OPEN FORUM

Mayor April Graves opened the meeting for the purpose of Informal Open Forum and reviewed the Rules of Decorum.

Lori B. noted that August 31 marks seven years since Kobe Heisler was killed by Brooklyn Center Police. Kobe was 21 years old, autistic, and experiencing a mental health crisis. She noted that Kobe deserved patience and compassion, and instead his life was stolen. His story did not end that day, and his name became part of something bigger alongside Daunte Wright. She added that Kobe's name was placed on the Daunte Wright and Kobe Heisler Safety and Violence Prevention Act, a commitment by the City to reimagine Public Safety and to recognize that not every crisis requires a badge and a gun, and that commitment matters. The work being done by Expanded Response through Canopy Roots and Hennepin County matters. When trained professionals respond to someone in crisis, it creates another possibility for real de-escalation, compassion, and for someone to receive the help they need and still be alive when the crisis is over. That is how Kobe's legacy becomes more than the way that he did. The Community Safety Act cannot simply be words adopted year after year. It must remain a promise to continue building systems that choose humanity before crisis, care before force, and help before harm. As August 31 approaches, may Brooklyn Center remember Kobe not only by saying his name but by continuing the work

done in his name. Protect Expanded Response, strengthen it, invest in it, and make sure that when the next person needs help, they have the opportunity that Kobe should have had to survive. That is how the City honors Kobe.

Amity D. introduced herself as Kobe's mother. She noted that for the rest of her life she will come back to this spot and make sure that Kobe's name is remembered. She added that at this point, this is no longer for her or her son, or that the City owes them something because they did not get anything from the City. She stated she is saying this and doing the work for everybody else's child. She added that she has brought his name all the way to Geneva, Switzerland, and wants to get this initiative worldwide because she does not want any other family to go through this. The Council should not base their reactions on how they feel about her, but should do what is right. The Expanded Response Team is what is right.

Raj stated he is with the Minneapolis NAACP, and wanted to underscore the need for Expanded Response as the optimal alternative option. Maplewood has also implemented one, with a similar population as Brooklyn Center, and the city is benefiting from working with a team approaching all kinds of calls. Just today, the Maplewood Expanded Response got a call about a suspicious person in the neighborhood and was able to go in and talk to this person, who was raising money for cancer research. It was a black woman and a young boy, and the Expanded Response Team came out and was able to address concerns and issues and help this woman prepare herself to present herself in a way that could diffuse the situation. He noted that there was also a domestic violence case last week, and the person requested not to see a male Police Officer, and asked to talk to someone else, so Expanded Responders were able to get out to this individual and address those needs and resolve the issues. There is enough evidence to show that the alternative approach with Expanded Response is working to engage community members to address community needs and issues. In the wake of what happened to Philando Castile ten years ago, citizens are still asking for a better community-centered response versus using the arms of law enforcement.

Mayor Graves stated there were no Public Hearings on the agenda.

Madea B. stated that her property directly borders the proposed site for Planning Commission Application number 2.

Mayor Graves stated that it is on the agenda under the Planning Commission item, and cannot be spoken about during Informal Open Forum.

Councilmember Moore asked if the speaker would have time at the end because the speaker did send the Council an email with concerns.

Mayor Graves stated there is no time for public comment as part of the Planning Commission item unless the Council decides to make time for public comment.

Councilmember Moore noted that in the past, the Mayor has allowed public comment on some subjects, which is why she asked the question.

Mayor Graves stated it would be up to the Council at that time to make that decision. Councilmember Moore asked if Mayor Graves could explain that to the speaker.

Planning Manager Ginny McIntosh stated she was going to let City Attorney Siobhan Tolar speak if she wanted to address the speaker's concerns.

Ms. Tolar explained that the Planning Commission had a Public Hearing on this matter, so the public has had an opportunity to be heard on this, but the Mayor is right if the Council was willing to hear about it in a Public Hearing, they could vote on that.

Mayor Graves moved and Councilmember Moore seconded, to close the Informal Open Forum.

Motion passed unanimously.

5. INVOCATION

Mayor Graves quoted some excerpts from a speech called a Declaration of Conscience by Margaret Chase Smith. These excerpts are about the defense of every citizen's right to disagree without facing social or political ruin. "The United States Senate has long enjoyed worldwide respect as the greatest deliberative body in the world. But recently that deliberative character has too often been debased to the level of a forum of hate and character assassination sheltered by the shield of congressional immunity. think that it is high time for the United States Senate and its members to do some soul-searching—for us to weigh our consciences—on the manner in which we are performing our duty to the people of this nation. Those of us who shout the loudest about Americanism in making character assassinations are all too frequently those who, by our own words and acts, ignore some of the basic principles of Americanism: the right to criticize; the right to hold unpopular beliefs; the right to protest; the right of independent thought." She noted that Ms. Smith was calling out the psychological toll of McCarthy's witch hunts that were taking on everyday Americans. "The exercise of these rights should not cost one single American citizen his reputation or his right to a livelihood, nor should he be in danger of losing his reputation or livelihood merely because he happens to know someone who holds unpopular beliefs. Who of us doesn't? Otherwise none of us could call our souls our own. Otherwise, thought control would have set in. The American people are sick and tired of being afraid to speak their minds. The American people are sick and tired of seeing innocent people smeared and guilty people whitewashed." Mayor Graves added that it is an interesting speech and encouraged the Council to read it, as history has a tendency to repeat itself.

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA.

Mayor Graves moved and Councilmember Kragness seconded to approve the Agenda and Consent Agenda, as amended, with amendments to the minutes as stated during the Study Session, and the following consent items were approved:

6a. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. August 10, 2026 – Study Session

2. August 10, 2026 -- Regular Session

6b. LICENSES

6c. A RESOLUTION RE-APPROVING THE PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PLAT FOR SHINGLE CREEK CROSSING 7TH ADDITION AND AUTHORIZING FINAL PLAT RECORDING

6d. RESOLUTION ACCEPTING FEASIBILITY REPORT FOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT NO. 2027-08, HUMBOLDT AVENUE AND 65TH AVENUE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

6e. RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE BROOKLYN CENTER FIRE RELIEF ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS

7. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/DONATIONS

Councilmember Jerzak recommended doing a proclamation for those individuals involved with BrookLynk and the litter that was picked up. Mayor Graves asked if he meant that should be a proclamation for the next meeting. Councilmember Jerzak confirmed, and because there was no miscellaneous agenda item at tonight's meeting, he wanted to bring it up now if there was a consensus among the Council because those individuals did a wonderful job. Mayor Graves agreed that was a great idea.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

9. PLANNING COMMISSION ITEMS

9a. PLANNING COMMISSION APPLICATION NO. 2026-007 FOR APPROVAL OF A SITE AND BUILDING PLAN (MAJOR) AND CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR 4801 63RD AVE N (UNITY TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST)

Associate Planner Krystin Eldridge noted that this is a Planning Commission application for Unity Temple Church of God in Christ, for a major site and building plan and conditional use permit. She noted that the Applicant is requesting review and consideration of a proposal that would renovate and expand their existing 7,230-square-foot church by an additional 3,893 square feet for a total of 11,123 square feet to accommodate a growing congregation at 4801 63rd Avenue North at the subject property. The renovation contemplates an addition to the existing sanctuary space, a new drive-up to address accessibility issues, a new elevator, Sunday school classrooms, office and support space. The Applicant further intends to expand their existing parking lot to accommodate growth in their congregation. The Applicant is the property owner; the subject property is three acres and is in a low-density residential area.

Ms. Eldridge stated that the Applicant approached City Staff in February this year, after discussing plans to expand the church parking lot and install a secondary curb cut off Perry Avenue North. The Applicant expressed a desire to double the sanctuary space to accommodate 450 to 500 members from its current 200-member capacity. A private temporary easement agreement was granted in 1976 to allow the installation of fences on the subject property for certain residential properties along Perry Avenue North; however, this easement will require termination to further develop the subject property and its expanded parking lot. The grantor of the easement reserves the right to terminate the easement and to require removal of any fences placed thereon by giving 180 days to the property owners. She noted that while it is not required, Staff noted the importance of meeting with adjacent neighbors to explain the possibility of increased traffic at the proposed new curb cut off Perry Avenue North, and a temporary easement agreement that would need to be terminated. The Applicant hosted at least two neighborhood meetings in advance of the Planning Commission meeting, as well as a Public Hearing being held at the Planning Commission meeting.

Ms. Eldridge explained that the site and building plan is required to construct or erect a new building or add on to an existing building that would result in an increase in gross floor area of all buildings on the lot by more than 25 percent, or more than a 20 percent change in the number of parking spaces provided or required. Approximately 1,500 square feet of added sanctuary and entryway space, and an additional 600 square feet would be added along the southernmost portion of the building for clergy seating. The lower level of the property would have additional office and support spaces and added storage. A new expanded parking lot and curb cut would be located along the western and southern portions of the parcel and fronting Perry Avenue North. She noted that the addition would match the current building with the same color of brick, so it would not change much in appearance but would be larger.

Ms. Eldridge noted that for the architectural materials, the existing building is mostly brick and glass, as the proposed development team intends to continue the use of brick. The installation of a dormer will allow additional light into the building with prefinished metal siding on the north/south elevations. The west elevation of the building, which faces Perry Avenue North, would provide additional windows. The maximum primary structure height allowed within the R1 District is no more than 32 feet. As proposed, the Applicant intends to maintain its existing height of 22.6 feet. The Applicant proposes to install a new steeple approximately 15 feet above the ridge of the roof for a total height of 37.6 feet; however, the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA) provides certain protections for the steeple to exceed that height.

Ms. Eldridge noted that City Staff reviewed the steeple and cross against other portions of the code, because the church itself is in the Crystal Airport overlay district and there are certain protections they are allowed because they are a religious institution. Against the Mississippi Corridor Critical Area (MRCCA), the church spires are exempt from MRCCA regulations. The only thing that Staff is currently looking at is to ensure that there is not a hazard to airplanes, radios, and regulations, and anything that could interfere with the Crystal Airport overlay district.

Ms. Eldridge explained that for traffic, full access will be gained through the current curb cut located on 63rd Avenue North, and a new curb cut would be installed on Perry Avenue North.

Primary access will continue to be on 63rd Avenue North, with Perry Avenue North serving as additional relief before and after service times and new ADA spaces on the western portion. A new rear parking lot will be added as well. The new portions of the parking lot would be constructed to meet the minimum 24-foot drive aisle for two-way traffic. The Applicant denoted a sidewalk connection for pedestrians off the trail on 63rd Avenue onto an internal crosswalk into the church. The temporary easement allowed construction of residential fences on the subject property. Given the Applicant and property owner's plans to improve the property, they indicated plans to terminate the agreement. The agreement does provide a minimum notification to those affected properties of 180 days. In reviewing aerial imagery of the westerly portions of the subject property, some residents have installed accessory structures and fences on the subject property, which were not considered part of the temporary easement. The Applicant and property owner would need to work with the affected property owners regarding the relocation of any fencing and accessory structures. She noted that it is a private easement, not a public easement.

Ms. Eldridge added that Staff reviewed City Code and determined that the subject property's use is that of places of public assembly, such as houses of worship, theaters and auditoriums, mortuaries, stadiums, arenas, and dance halls. This use requires a minimum of one parking space for every three seats or persons. The Applicant is proposing 153 stalls, and the breakdown of those provides 145 standard and eight accessible spaces. She noted that the subject property is approximately .045 acres of Zone A (100-year) floodplain. Under City Code, this is considered the City's "General Floodplain District," which allows for parking areas as a permitted use. The southern portion of the property is in the floodplain, but it does allow for that parking lot to be installed. A new trash enclosure would be constructed along the east property line within the parking lot.

Ms. Eldridge noted that a photometric plan was submitted; however, it will require revisions as it does not provide the proper fixtures or proper illumination necessary to determine whether it meets City Code provisions. The fixtures provided are "wall packs," which are only permitted in loading and service zones. The Applicant should provide illumination levels of at least 10-foot candles within five feet of the primary entrances and exits, and along pedestrian ways. Landscaping for the property would be concentrated along the west portion of the subject property along Perry Avenue North, providing additional screening. The Applicant has noted to Staff that no more than 39 percent of the trees are of the same species; City Code caps at 40 percent of the same species to promote species diversity and resilience.

Ms. Eldridge explained that conditional use permits are those uses which have been identified because of their nature, operation, location, and special requirements. Because this is a church, the Applicant does have to file the conditional use permit according to the City's new provisions. She added that a Public Hearing notice was published in the Brooklyn Center *Sun Post* on July 30, 2026, and notices were mailed to surrounding properties located within 350 feet. The Public Hearing notice was published on the City's website as well. No comments were received from the general public in advance of the Public Hearing other than commentary during neighborhood meetings held by the Applicant. City Staff did receive commentary from a resident following the Public Hearing that stated the Applicant has been noncommittal with the resident regarding any changes to the proposed plans and support for replacing the resident's fencing, which would need

to be relocated as part of the project. This is due to the temporary easement granted in 1976 that would need to be terminated in order to forward the project. Commissioners did ask questions of the Applicant regarding the temporary easement, reasons around sanctuary space expansion, proposed secondary curb cut on Perry Avenue North, and parking lot realignment. The Planning Commissioners elected to unanimously (4-0) recommend City Council approval of Planning Commission Application No. 2026-007.

Councilmember Moore asked to clarify if the commentary received by Staff from a resident following the Public Hearing is from the same resident that also sent an email to Mr. Nyquist and the Council today. Ms. Eldridge responded that she did not know.

Mr. Nyquist stated he has not seen that email from a resident yet, but he has been in meetings since three o'clock.

Councilmember Kragness stated she believed it was the same resident.

Mayor Graves moved and Councilmember Kragness seconded to adopt a RESOLUTION approving Planning Commission Application No. 2026-007 for one issuance of a conditional use permit for a "Place for Religious Assembly" and two a major site and building plan for construction of an approximately 3,893-square foot building expansion and certain site improvements at the subject property located at 4801 63rd Avenue North, based on the findings of fact and submitted documentation.

Councilmember Moore stated she had a question that she should have asked earlier, and asked if Staff had a response to the resident who had sent an email about timelines around fence removal. Ms. Eldridge noted that Staff has not seen any response.

Mayor Graves asked if the easement is a private easement, which is not the City's responsibility. Ms. Eldridge confirmed that is correct.

Councilmember Jerzak noted that the motion has already been made, and the timeline of 180 days to respond has passed, and the Planning Commission addressed all of these things in their meeting with the Applicant and voted unanimously to approve it.

City Attorney Siobhan Tolar noted that there is a note in the resolution under number six that is being approved today. She continued that under number six, "The Applicant and property owners shall notify affected property owners of its intent to terminate the temporary grant easement identified as stock number 4253115, and dated June 1, 1976, and per the minimum notification requirements." She stated that in addition to the discussion the Council has just had, the resolution also requires notification.

Councilmember Moore thanked Councilmember Jerzak and Ms. Tolar for clarifying that.

Motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember Lawrence-Anderson stated that she lives near that church, and on Sundays the parking on 63rd Avenue is crazy, so she is happy that more adequate parking will be added.

10. COUNCIL CONSIDERATION ITEMS

10a. 2026 PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

Mr. Nyquist noted that given the recount that happened last week, the City has to re-canvass the election results, but will let City Clerk Shannon Pettit further explain.

Ms. Pettit stated that this is simply a formality for recertifying the election results after the recount. The only difference that the Council will notice in the two resolutions is that one has omitted the Council seats. This is simply recertifying the Mayoral race.

Mayor Graves asked if there were any questions from the Council.

Councilmember Kragness thanked the election judges and City Staff and the City Clerk for the recount process. She stated she was present both days of the recount process, and acknowledged the time that Staff sacrificed to complete that process.

Councilmember Moore noted that she also wanted to thank Ms. Pettit and the election judges, as it was an example of democracy and action and that every voter's intent to vote that day was reviewed and verified as a result of the recount. She stated this is an example of a working system, and the City has the results to prove it.

Mayor Graves asked if there was an extra cost to the City for the recount.

Ms. Pettit responded that there will be, but she was not sure what the cost will be yet. She thanked the election judges as well, and noted that they were wonderful before and after election day.

Mayor Graves moved and Councilmember Kragness seconded to adopt the Resolution regarding the Re-Canvass of the August 11, 2026, Municipal Primary Election.

Motion passed unanimously.

10b. INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH EHLERS INVESTMENT PARTNERS

Mr. Nyquist noted that he asked Ehlers to present to the Council, as discussed in the joint Finance Commission and Council meeting. This is due to recommendations to change investment vehicles to Ehlers Investment Partnerships in order to do better in the markets with investment income. The ask is for the Council to allow Mr. Nyquist and the Finance Director to enter into an agreement, but that will be based on the Council's decision.

Ryan Miles, Managing Director for the Ehlers Investment Team, introduced himself. He noted that the goal of his team is to take some of the burden of work off the City's plate as a fiduciary and investor, while getting better outcomes for the City's overall investment portfolio.

Mr. Miles noted that the Ehlers Investment Team oversees more than \$3.7 billion in assets under management across Minnesota and Wisconsin, has over 320 clients, and offers a wide range of services beyond investments. There is a team of professionals to talk about the investment portfolio as well, which would be described briefly. He noted that part of the services are all-encompassing services to enhance the City's investment portfolio. He added that the Ehlers team needs to do a deeper dive on the cash flow forecasting with the City's fund to identify the core use of the funds to structure the investment portfolio and adjust the portfolio as it currently stands. He stated that the Ehlers Team can add meaningful additional interest for the City as well, and Ehlers plans to do that by becoming the investment advisors of record after going through attorney review of Ehlers' investment agreement as well as having access to the funds to manage them on the City's behalf.

Mr. Miles explained that the Ehlers Team will start an in-depth cash flow review of overall policies and statements and update some of those to move forward within state statute investments and allowable investment and structures. He stated that Ehlers does think there is an opportunity to enhance the City's current portfolio because a lot of funds are sitting in money market funds that could be invested further along the yield curve to provide a meaningful rate of return. He noted that if Ehlers can enhance the portfolio by half a percent to a percent, that could mean a \$50,000 to a \$200,000 increase in income over a year's time, which could have a meaningful benefit to the City. The current portfolio of the City kicks off with \$1.1 million in investable returns, which is about three percent. Overall, the rate of return markets are earning around four to four and a half percent, so the portfolio could be optimized not only with cash but with the current holdings that the City has. He noted that Ehlers will look at ways to do some investment swaps of the City's current investments within state statute investment policies that are allowed for safe investments and could add hundreds of thousands of dollars of meaningful interest income year over year.

Mr. Miles stated he would answer any questions the Council has.

Councilmember Jerzak stated that for transparency, the City has two different positions that Ehlers would be working with the City on. He noted that this was an open bidding process and it was not just handed to Ehlers, and the public needs to know that the process was fair and above board. He asked Mr. Miles to explain that further.

Mr. Miles asked Mr. Nyquist to elaborate on that for the Council. Mr. Nyquist stated that the City went out to bid, looked at the current vehicle, and received a total of three bids from Ehlers Investment Partners (EIP) and Ehlers, which is a different entity under the same corporate name.

Councilmember Jerzak thanked Mr. Nyquist for that clarification. He noted that during the joint Finance Commission and Council meeting, the Interim Finance Director talked about the daily capacity of investing and following those things, which becomes a workload issue for internal City

Staff that are simply not able to follow it as the EIP can. He continued that he has no issues, but wanted to clarify things for the public.

Councilmember Kragness stated that her comment is related to what Councilmember Jerzak brought up, and stated that while it is an easy transition financially, she is concerned about the conflict of interest and the City needs to ensure that there is transparency. Regardless of what entity the City is using, it is still Ehlers that is helping with the finance position, the budget, the audit process, and now helping to develop the City's investment portfolio, so there needs to be complete transparency. Mr. Miles noted the EIP is a nationally registered SEC-registered investment advisor and comes to their clients with an RFP process as mentioned earlier, and was able to be considered as a recommendation.

Councilmember Moore asked if there was City Staff that was assigned and doing some sort of investment work specifically around the City's investments. She stated that when she saw the ROI rate of 2.6 percent, she assumed it had been sitting at that rate there for many years without any review or changes. Mr. Nyquist confirmed that the City did not have Staff assigned to do investment work, and when hiring a new Finance Director, it was brought up. He noted that the City's current investment vehicle is passive, and City Staff had to reach out to a firm to manage that work day-to-day to take that responsibility off of City Staff.

Councilmember Moore stated she wanted to call out Dan Tienter from Ehlers, the City's new Finance Director, and Mr. Nyquist to really prioritize this for the City. She continued that the markets change daily, and because the opportunity that Brooklyn Center may have had in the past and did not capitalize on in investing for many years, she applauded Staff for making this decision on behalf of the City and its residents.

Councilmember Kragness added that historically this was a role of the Finance Director. She added she was not saying anything negative about anyone, and it could have been a workload issue, but whatever the case was, this was something that was typically done in-house. She noted that in the years she was on the Finance Commission, she remembered hearing the Finance Director talk about doing those investments on behalf of the City.

Mr. Miles stated that it is not uncommon for Finance Directors to make those decisions, but there has been a shift towards professional management because of all the duties that Finance Directors have and the complexity of the markets that were not there 10 to 15 years ago. He added that the Ehlers engagement is not a long-term commitment by the City; it is a month-by-month agreement, so if the Council does not feel like there is value there, it can make a transition at any time.

Councilmember Jerzak asked if there will be a follow-up on progress in outcome performance through the Council in whatever time period is determined, because these things should be monitored. Mr. Miles agreed and stated updates will happen.

Mayor Graves asked how this is related to the portfolio specific to the Fire Department's pensions. She asked if it was connected or completely separate. Mr. Miles noted that it is separate. Mayor

Graves stated that it is the same company that is helping with both, though. Mr. Miles stated that he had not necessarily talked about the pension part of the portfolio.

Dan Tienter, Senior Advisor with Ehlers, explained that the Fire Relief Association that supports pension obligations related to the Brooklyn Center Fire Department does have a special fund that has something like \$3.2 million dollars in it and has engaged a separate money manager to manage those funds on their behalf. This engagement would be specific to any City funds, and it is worth noting that the City and the Relief Association under Minnesota state law are two separate entities. He noted that this portfolio would include the City's General Funds, any of the Capital Project Funds, Debt Service Funds, and any funds that are held by the EDA and the HRA.

Councilmember Kragness noted that the consensus from the Council before is that everyone has been satisfied with the service provided, and this seems like more of a one-stop shop and would be interested in what all Ehlers offers.

Councilmember Moore moved and Mayor Graves seconded to authorize the Interim City Manager and Finance Director to enter into an agreement with Ehlers Investment Partners to provide investment management services for the City of Brooklyn Center, subject to the review of the City Attorney.

Motion passed unanimously.

11. COUNCIL REPORT

Councilmember Kragness reported on her attendance at the following events and provided information on the following upcoming events:

- *Shared that she attended the LC Coffee Lounge Open House.*
- *Shared that she spoke at the New Horizon Academy Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.*
- *Shared that she attended the anniversary ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Mexican Supermarket.*
- *Shared that she attended the BrookLynk Summer Celebration where Staff were recognized and Armando Oster and Charles Walker.*
- *Shared that she attended the second Music at the Farm at the Heritage Center, and the next one will be in October.*
- *Shared that she attended the Gus Macker welcome reception and opening day of the basketball tournament in Brooklyn Park.*
- *Shared that she spoke at the Black Business Village Experience presented by McNeil Management.*
- *Shared that she had meetings with Mr. Nyquist and City Staff, and attended the Hennepin County ballot retrieval downtown for the ballot recount as well as the official recounting of the paper ballots at City Hall.*
- *Shared that she attended the BBAY Board meeting.*
- *Shared that she met with several constituents who expressed support for the City.*

Councilmember Jerzak reported on his attendance at the following events and provided information on the following upcoming events:

- *Shared that there was not a miscellaneous agenda item tonight, and wanted to make a brief statement about the Highway 252 project, which is intensifying because it is getting closer to the EIS being released. He noted he has several pages of notes and new developments have happened in the last few days that he would like to discuss, but tonight is not the night. He asked if the Council could schedule a meeting with the Highway 252 Task Force, with the permission of Mr. Nyquist, so they could bring forth their concerns along with MnDOT. He stated he would like to meet with Staff to discuss things first, as the Council is probably aware of a letter sent by the Governor and Senator Pha regarding the project, and he did not want to get in front of that.*
- *Shared that he attended the LC Coffee Lounge Open House, as well as the Mexican Supermarket, and the McNeil Management event along with Councilmember Kragness.*
- *Shared that he attended his one-on-one meetings with Mr. Nyquist and additional meetings with the Highway 252 Task Force and constituents.*

Councilmember Moore reported on her attendance at the following events and provided information on the following upcoming events:

- *Shared that she also attended the ribbon cuttings at LC Coffeehouse and New Horizon, and it was nice to see new things happening in the community after what seemed like mostly exits in the past.*

Mayor Graves reported on her attendance at the following events and provided information on the following upcoming events:

- *Shared that she attended the Northwest Tourism Executive Board meeting.*
- *Shared that she attended the Black Business Expo with McNeil Management at that site.*
- *Shared that she attended a few meetings with potential developers for the City.*
- *Shared that she was the judge for the slam dunk contest at the Gus Macker basketball tournament.*

12. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Graves moved and Councilmember Kragness seconded adjournment of the City Council meeting at 8:04 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Council Regular Meeting

DATE: 9/14/2026
TO: City Council
FROM:
THROUGH:
BY: Shannon Pettit, City Clerk
SUBJECT: Finance Commission Appointments

Requested Council Action:

- Motion to approve Natasha Hollowell and Morgan Thompson to the Financial Commission.

Background:

Budget Issues:

Inclusive Community Engagement:

Antiracist/Equity Policy Effect:

Strategic Priorities and Values:

ATTACHMENTS:

None

Council Regular Meeting

DATE: 9/14/2026
TO: City Council
FROM: Garrett Flesland, Chief of Police
THROUGH: Daren Nyquist, Interim City Manager
BY: Marie Strempeke, Police Administrative Assistant
SUBJECT: Resolution Approving a Joint Powers Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, for Continued Participation in the Minnesota Human Trafficking Investigators Task Force

Requested Council Action:

- Motion to Approve a Resolution Approving a Joint Powers Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, for Continued Participation in the Minnesota Human Trafficking Investigators Task Force

Background:

The Brooklyn Center Police Department has participated as an affiliate member of the Minnesota Human Trafficking Investigators Task Force (MNHITF) since at least 2020 through a Joint Powers Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA).

The MNHITF provides a coordinated, multi-jurisdictional approach to investigating and prosecuting human trafficking, including sex and labor trafficking. The task force utilizes a three-pronged approach of prevention, education, and enforcement and places particular emphasis on identifying and recovering victims and connecting them with appropriate resources.

The proposed Joint Powers Agreement renews Brooklyn Center's participation in the task force for an additional five-year term beginning when all required signatures are obtained. BCPD personnel assigned to task-force activities remain employees of and under the supervision of the City while working cooperatively with the BCA and other participating agencies.

The proposed agreement continues the same basic partnership and operational purpose as the City's prior agreement. The updated BCA agreement includes several updated administrative and operational provisions involving reporting, body-worn-camera evidence, use-of-force coordination, reimbursement procedures, and task-force operations.

Budget Issues:

No new direct budget appropriation is anticipated as a result of renewing the agreement. BCPD members participating in task-force activities remain City employees

and continue to receive compensation and benefits through the City. The agreement provides a process for reimbursement of certain pre-approved eligible expenses by the BCA.

Inclusive Community Engagement:

No separate community-engagement process is required as part of this agreement renewal. Continued participation supports coordinated investigation of human trafficking and connection of victims with appropriate public and private resources.

Antiracist/Equity Policy Effect:

No adverse equity impact has been identified. Participation in the task force supports coordinated services and investigative resources for victims of human trafficking, including vulnerable and exploited persons.

Strategic Priorities and Values:

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Human Trafficking Task Force JPA 2026 - Brooklyn Center PD
2. Human Trafficking Task Force JPA Resolution 2026



STATE OF MINNESOTA HUMAN TRAFFICKING INVESTIGATORS TASK FORCE JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT

This Joint Powers Agreement ("Agreement") is between the State of Minnesota, acting through its Commissioner of Public Safety on behalf of the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension ("BCA"), **and City of Brooklyn Center on behalf of their Police Department, 6645 Humboldt Ave N Brooklyn Center, MN 55430** ("Governmental Unit"). The BCA and Governmental Unit may be referred to jointly as "Parties".

Recitals

Under Minnesota Statutes § 471.59, the BCA and the Governmental Unit are empowered to engage in agreements that are necessary to exercise their powers. The Parties wish to work together to investigate and prosecute human trafficking, which includes sex and labor trafficking. The Governmental Unit wants to participate in the Minnesota Human Trafficking Investigators Task Force ("MNHITF") as an Affiliate member.

Agreement

1. Term of Agreement

- 1.1 Effective Date.** This Agreement is effective on the date BCA obtains all required signatures pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 16C.05, subdivision 2.
- 1.2 Expiration Date.** This Agreement expires five (5) years from the Effective Date unless terminated earlier pursuant to clause 12.

2. Purpose

The Governmental Unit and BCA enter into this Agreement to make the Governmental Unit part of the MNHITF that will use a three-pronged approach to combat human trafficking, which includes sex and labor trafficking: **prevention, education, and enforcement**. The BCA will provide an Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) who will serve as the Commander of the Task Force (Commander) and who reports to a Special Agent in Charge (SAIC). The Governmental Unit will provide to the Task Force an affiliate member(s) ("Members").

3. Standards

The Governmental Unit will adhere to the MNHITF Standards identified below.

- 3.1** Members will investigate human trafficking crimes committed by organized groups or individuals, with a priority on minors being trafficked.
- 3.2** Members will participate in pro-active human trafficking operations and recover victims of human trafficking, having a priority focus on minors, with the goal of identifying their traffickers.
- 3.3** Members will follow state and/or federal laws in obtaining arrest warrants, search warrants and civil and criminal forfeitures.
- 3.4** Members will follow proper legal procedures in securing evidence, including electronic devices.
- 3.5** Members will understand and use appropriate legal procedures in the use of informants including documentation of identity, monitoring of activities, and use and recordation of payments.
- 3.6** Members will use, as appropriate, a broad array of investigative technologies and techniques.
- 3.7** Members will interview and prepare reports of victim recoveries and direct those victims to

appropriate public and private resources to help ensure their safety and integration back into society.

- 3.8** Members must be willing to respond and/or work jointly on human trafficking crimes within their jurisdiction and complete their assigned duties for the duration of the term of this Agreement.
- 3.9** Members must be licensed peace officers.
- 3.10** Members will investigate cases involving multi-jurisdictional, complex and/or organized groups involving human trafficking, which may require travel to neighboring jurisdictions as investigations expand.
- 3.11** Members will prepare an operational briefing sheet for each active operation related to the MNHITF investigations and activities, to be approved by the Commander.
- 3.12** Members will prepare investigative reports related to the MNHITF investigations and activities to be submitted to the Commander.
- 3.13** Members must submit statistics to the Commander on a quarterly basis.
- 3.14** Members are assigned to their home agencies and may request assistance and resources on a case-by-case basis as approved by the Commander.
- 3.15** Members will utilize a deconfliction system to share and receive information to promote deconfliction with other agencies.

4. Responsibilities of the Governmental Unit and the BCA

4.1 The Governmental Unit will:

- 4.1.1** Conduct investigations in accordance with provisions of the MNHITF Standards, identified in clause 3 above, and conclude such investigations in a timely manner.
- 4.1.2** Maintain accurate records of prevention, education, and enforcement activities, to be collected and forwarded quarterly to the BCA for statistical reporting purposes.
- 4.1.3** Continue to directly supervise Members that are assigned to the MNHITF. Members remain under the employ of the Governmental Unit while assigned to and performing MNHITF assignments. All services, duties, acts or omissions performed by Members will be within the course and duty of the Members' employment and therefore covered by the Workers Compensation and other compensation programs of then Governmental Unit including fringe benefits.
- 4.1.4** Make a reasonable good faith attempt to be represented at all scheduled MNHITF meetings in order to share information and resources among members of the MNHITF.
- 4.1.5** Participate fully in any audits required by the MNHITF.
- 4.1.6** Upon request, provide the BCA with a copy of any body worn camera footage that was captured while working within the capacity of the MNHITF under this Agreement. Said footage must be turned over to the BCA within 48 hours via a secured cloud storage service or thumb drive, as directed by the Authorized Representative for inclusion in the BCA's case files. The copy of the footage will be maintained in the BCA's system.
- 4.1.7** Consult the BCA in advance of any release of body worn camera footage to allow the BCA to consider and consult any private, not public, or confidential data that may require redaction. Any release of data captured in the course of MNHITF operations must adhere to state and federal laws.
- 4.1.8** Adhere to MNHITF's operations plans or other operational guidance issued by the SAIC and ASAIC, including new procedures governing the MNHITF while conducting MNHITF investigations and activities.
- 4.1.9** Comply with the use of force provisions of their home agency's policies and procedures. Members must also comply with directives issued by the SAIC and ASAIC. In the event of a conflict between the use of force requirements of the Members' home agency policy, and the policies or directives of the MNHITF, the policies and procedures of the home agency shall govern. Prior to deployment in the field, Members will confer with the SAIC or ASAIC to identify any potential use of force policy conflicts and work to resolve them in advance of operational activities.
- 4.1.10** Promptly submit to the Authorized Representative any and all investigation reports and supplementary reports created and generated while conducting MNHITF activities.
- 4.1.11** Report any performance measure data collected related to MNHITF to the Authorized Representative on a quarterly basis each year for the duration of this Agreement.

- 4.1.12** Generate quarterly expense reports covering previously approved expenses incurred within that quarterly period. Requests for reimbursement for that quarter's expenses must be submitted to the ASAIC in the requested format for reimbursement within fourteen (14) days from the end of each quarter.
- 4.1.13** Submit requests for reimbursement within fourteen (14) days of notification of the grant's expiration, otherwise, the Governmental Unit will forfeit its reimbursement.

4.2 The BCA will:

- 4.2.1** Provide an ASAIC who will serve as the Commander of the Task Force.
- 4.2.2** Review and approve or decline reimbursement requests under clause 5.1 within three (3) business days of the reimbursement request. To process the request for reimbursement will require fourteen (14) business days upon receipt of the approved request.

4.3 Nothing in this Agreement shall otherwise limit the jurisdiction, powers, and responsibilities normally possessed by a member as an employee of the Governmental Unit.

5. Payment

- 5.1** The Governmental Unit must make a written request for funds and receive approval from the Commander or designee.
- 5.2** The Governmental Unit must supply original receipts to be reimbursed on pre-approved requests. Approved reimbursement will be paid directly by the BCA to the Governmental Unit within thirty (30) calendar days of the invoice date with payment made to the Governmental Unit Authorized Representative's address listed below.

6. Authorized Representatives

The BCA's Authorized Representative is the following person or her successor:

Name:	Lucas Menkelwitz, Commander of BCA-led MNHITF
Address:	Department of Public Safety; Bureau of Criminal Apprehension 1430 Maryland Street East Saint Paul, MN 55106
Telephone:	651-793-1131
E-mail Address:	Lucas.Munkelwitz@state.mn.us

The Governmental Unit's Authorized Representative is the person below or his/her successor:

Name:	Garett Flesland, Police Chief
Address:	6645 Humboldt Ave N Brooklyn Center, MN 55430
Telephone:	(763) 569-3333
E-mail Address:	police@brooklyncentermn.gov

If the Governmental Unit's Authorized Representative changes at any time during this Agreement, the Governmental Unit must immediately notify the BCA's Authorized Representative in writing by email.

7. Assignment, Amendments, Waiver, and Agreement Complete

- 7.1 Assignment.** The Governmental Unit may neither assign nor transfer any rights or obligations under this Agreement.
- 7.2 Amendments.** Any amendment to this Agreement must be in writing and will not be effective until it has been executed and approved by the same parties who executed and approved the original Agreement, or their successors in office.
- 7.3 Waiver.** If the BCA fails to enforce any provision of this Agreement, that failure does not waive the provision or its right to enforce it.
- 7.4 Agreement Complete.** This Agreement contains all negotiations and agreements between the BCA and the Governmental Unit. No other understanding regarding this Agreement, whether written or oral, may be used to bind either party.

8. Liability

The BCA and the Governmental Unit agree each party will be responsible for its own acts and the results thereof to the extent authorized by law and shall not be responsible for the acts of any others and the results thereof. The BCA's liability shall be governed by provisions of the Minnesota Tort Claims Act, Minnesota Statutes § 3.736, and other applicable law. The Governmental Unit's liability shall be governed by provisions of the Municipal Tort Claims Act, Minnesota Statutes §§ 466.01-466.15, and other applicable law.

9. Audits

Under Minnesota Statutes § 16C.05, subdivision 5, the Governmental Unit's books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices relevant to this Agreement are subject to examination by the BCA and/or the State Auditor and/or Legislative Auditor, as appropriate, for a minimum of six (6) years from the end of this Agreement.

10. Government Data Practices

The Governmental Unit and the BCA must comply with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 13, and other applicable law, as it applies to all data provided by the BCA under this Agreement and as it applies to all data created, collected, received, stored, used, maintained, or disseminated by the Governmental Unit under this Agreement. The civil remedies of Minnesota Statutes § 13.08 apply to the release of the data referred to in this clause by either the Governmental Unit or the BCA.

If the Governmental Unit receives a request to release the data referred to in this Clause, the Governmental Unit must immediately notify the BCA. The BCA will give the Governmental Unit instructions concerning the release of the data to the requesting party before the data is released.

11. Venue

The venue for all legal proceedings out of this Agreement, or its breach, must be in the appropriate state or federal court with competent jurisdiction in Ramsey County, Minnesota.

12. Expiration and Termination

12.1 Either party may terminate this Agreement at any time, with or without cause, upon 30 days written notice to the other party. To the extent funds are available, the Governmental Unit shall receive reimbursement in accordance with the terms of this Agreement through the date of termination.

12.2 Upon expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement, the Governmental Unit shall provide the Commander all investigative equipment that was acquired under this Agreement.

13. Continuing Obligations

The following clauses survive the expiration or cancellation of this Agreement: 8, Liability; 9, Audits; 10, Government Data Practices; and 11, Venue.

The remaining balance of this page intentionally left blank.

The parties indicate their agreement and authority to execute this Agreement by signing below.

1. STATE ENCUMBRANCE VERIFICATION
Individual certifies that funds have been encumbered as required by Minnesota Statutes §§ 16A.15 and 16C.05.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

SWIFT PO Number: 3000101894

**3. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY;
BUREAU OF CRIMINAL APPREHENSION**

By: _____

(with delegated authority)

Title: _____

Date: _____

2. GOVERNMENTAL UNIT
Governmental Unit certifies that the appropriate person(s) has(have) executed this Agreement on behalf of the Governmental Unit and its jurisdictional government entity as required by applicable articles, laws, by-laws, resolutions or ordinances.

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

4. COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION
As delegated to the Office of State Procurement

By: _____

Date: _____

Member _____ introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-_____

RESOLUTION APPROVING A JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT WITH THE MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, BUREAU OF CRIMINAL APPREHENSION, FOR
CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN THE MINNESOTA HUMAN TRAFFICKING
INVESTIGATORS TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA), administers the Minnesota Human Trafficking Investigators Task Force (MNHITF) to support the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking, including sex and labor trafficking; and

WHEREAS, the City of Brooklyn Center, through the Brooklyn Center Police Department, has participated in the MNHITF as an affiliate member since at least 2020 and desires to continue this regional partnership; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Joint Powers Agreement continues the City's participation in the MNHITF and its coordinated approach of prevention, education, enforcement, proactive operations, victim recovery, and referral to appropriate resources; and

WHEREAS, the agreement will remain in effect for five years from the date all required signatures are obtained, unless terminated earlier, and establishes updated operational and administrative requirements for participating agencies; and

WHEREAS, continued participation enhances the Brooklyn Center Police Department's ability to work with state and regional partners to investigate human trafficking, protect victims, and hold offenders accountable.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, that:

1. The City of Brooklyn Center approves the Joint Powers Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, for continued participation in the Minnesota Human Trafficking Investigators Task Force as an affiliate member.
2. The City Manager and Chief of Police are authorized to execute the Joint Powers Agreement and any administrative or non-substantive documents necessary to implement and maintain the City's participation under the agreement.

Date

Mayor

ATTEST: _____

City Clerk

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by member
and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:
and the following voted against the same:
whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Council Regular Meeting

DATE: 9/14/2026
TO: City Council
FROM: Shannon Pettit, City Clerk
THROUGH: Kat Ellgren, Deputy City Clerk
BY: Kat Ellgren, Deputy City Clerk
SUBJECT: Proclamation Declaring September 15, 2026, to October 15, 2026, as National Hispanic Heritage Month in the City of Brooklyn Center

Requested Council Action:

-Motion to accept the Proclamation declaring September 15 to October 15th, 2026 National Hispanic Heritage Month in the City of Brooklyn Center.

Background:

This is a time to amplify the voices of Hispanic and Latino residents, honor their achievements, and reaffirm our commitment to building a city where all cultures are celebrated. Declaring this month as Hispanic Heritage Month shows that the City of Brooklyn Center celebrates the power of community.

Budget Issues:

Inclusive Community Engagement:

Antiracist/Equity Policy Effect:

Strategic Priorities and Values:

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Proclamation-National Hispanic Heritage Month



**PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 15, 2026, TO
OCTOBER 15, 2026, AS NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE
MONTH IN THE CITY OF BROOKLYN CENTER**

- WHEREAS, Every year, from September 15 to October 15, our nation celebrates National Hispanic Heritage Month, a time to honor the histories, cultures, and contributions of those whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America;
- WHEREAS, This month provides an opportunity for communities to come together to recognize the resilience and strength of Hispanic and Latino residents who have helped shape our shared story;
- WHEREAS, Highlighting these contributions is crucial to deepening understanding, building connections, and fostering a sense of belonging for all;
- WHEREAS, By officially recognizing September 15 to October 15 as Hispanic Heritage Month, we unite our community members with a shared vision of equity, inclusion, and celebration of culture; and
- WHEREAS, This is a time to amplify the voices of Hispanic and Latino residents, honor their achievements, and reaffirm our commitment to building a city where all cultures are celebrated. Declaring this month as Hispanic Heritage Month shows that the City of Brooklyn Center celebrates the power of community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, April Graves, Mayor of the City of Brooklyn Center, do hereby declare September 15, 2026, to October 15, 2026, as National Hispanic Heritage Month in the City of Brooklyn Center.

September 14, 2026

Date

Mayor

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

Council Regular Meeting

DATE: 9/14/2026
TO: City Council
FROM: Shannon Pettit, City Clerk
THROUGH: Kat Ellgren, Deputy City Clerk
BY: Kat Ellgren, Deputy City Clerk
SUBJECT: Proclamation Declaring the Month of September 2026 as "Suicide Prevention Awareness Month" in the City of Brooklyn Center

Requested Council Action:

-Motion to approve the Proclamation declaring September 2026 as "Suicide Prevention Awareness Month" in the City of Brooklyn Center.

Background:

September is recognized as Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, a time dedicated to increasing awareness about suicide prevention, reducing stigma surrounding mental health and emotional distress, and ensuring individuals and families know where to turn when help is needed.

Suicide can impact people across every age, race, ethnicity, background, and community. Suicide Prevention Awareness Month reminds us of the importance of recognizing when someone may be struggling, creating space for conversations about mental and emotional well-being, and connecting people to appropriate support and resources.

An important resource available nationwide is the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, which provides 24/7 call, text, and chat access to trained crisis counselors who can assist people experiencing a suicidal crisis or any kind of emotional distress.

If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, help is available. Call or text 988 or use the 988 Lifeline chat to connect with a trained crisis counselor.

Throughout September, we encourage our community to learn more about suicide prevention, check in with one another, share available resources, and remember that reaching out for help, whether for yourself, a family member, friend, neighbor, or colleague, can make a meaningful difference.

Budget Issues:

Inclusive Community Engagement:

Antiracist/Equity Policy Effect:

Strategic Priorities and Values:

ATTACHMENTS:

1. September 2026 Suicide Prevention Awareness Proclamation



PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2026 AS “SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH” IN THE CITY OF BROOKLYN CENTER

WHEREAS, September is recognized as Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, a time when millions of people around the world join their voices to promote suicide prevention awareness; and

WHEREAS, understanding the issues concerning suicide and mental health is an important way to take part in suicide prevention, help others in crisis, and change the conversation around suicide; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death among adults in the US, and 2nd leading cause of death among people aged 10 to 24; and

WHEREAS, too many of our Nation’s veterans and active military service members have also considered suicide or taken their own lives; and

WHEREAS, suicide is not inevitable for anyone. By starting the conversation, providing support, and directing help to those who need it, we can prevent suicides and save lives; and

WHEREAS, Everyone in our community can play a role in preventing suicide. We all need the occasional reminder that we are all silently fighting our own battles. A simple phone call, message, or hug can go a long way towards helping someone realize there are other options.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Mayor April Graves, Mayor of the City of Brooklyn Center Minnesota, do hereby proclaim September 2026 as

Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

in the City of Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, and encourage all residents, businesses, and community organizations to participate in activities that increase awareness, promote prevention, and support those affected by suicide and be the one to help save a life.

September 14th, 2026

Date

Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Council Regular Meeting

DATE: 9/14/2026
TO: City Council
FROM:
THROUGH:
BY: Shannon Pettit, City Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution Honoring Steven C. Davis for a Lifetime of Distinguished Service, Leadership, and Commitment to Family and Community

Requested Council Action:

- Motion to approve a Resolution Honoring Steven C. Davis for a Lifetime of Distinguished Service, Leadership, and Commitment to Family and Community

Background:

Budget Issues:

Inclusive Community Engagement:

Antiracist/Equity Policy Effect:

Strategic Priorities and Values:

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Steven Davis Resolution

Member _____ introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION HONORING STEVEN C. DAVIS FOR A LIFETIME OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE, LEADERSHIP, AND COMMITMENT TO FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, Steven C. Davis exemplifies the qualities of an unsung hero, a moral compass, and an invaluable and dedicated community leader whose life of service has strengthened families, neighborhoods, and communities throughout Minnesota and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Steven C. Davis dedicated more than 40 years, 3 months, and 14 days of service to Honeywell, where he exemplified the principles of social responsibility through environmental sustainability initiatives, ethical programming, philanthropy, community giving, fair labor practices, creativity, and a commitment to strengthening the communities in which he lived and worked; and

WHEREAS, throughout his life, Steven C. Davis has demonstrated outstanding leadership and service to his family, spiritual community, Masonic brothers, corporate colleagues, and the broader community, providing moral guidance, mentorship, wisdom, and steadfast commitment to the principles of faith, integrity, selflessness, and service; and

WHEREAS, Steven C. Davis recognizes and honors the legacy of community elders and leaders whose lifetime of service has strengthened the neighborhood and village, and he has devoted his own life to uplifting community voices, building political will, advancing justice and equity, and creating pathways for current and future generations to lead and serve; and

WHEREAS, his commitment to service has included spearheading Hurricane Katrina relief efforts, strengthening Masonic infrastructure and outreach, supporting the Honeywell MPS Car Club, and contributing to programs designed to protect and empower children, including children's identification initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the City of Brooklyn Center recognizes that the wisdom, service, and leadership of community elders such as Steven C. Davis are invaluable to the continued strength of our neighborhoods and the development of future generations of leaders.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, extends its sincere gratitude to Steven C. Davis for the countless contributions he has made throughout his life and for the lasting legacy he continues to build through service, mentorship, compassion, and leadership and is hereby recognized and honored for his extraordinary lifetime of service, leadership, mentorship, and unwavering commitment to family, community, faith, justice, equity, and the betterment of others.

September 14, 2026
Date

Mayor

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by member
and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:
and the following voted against the same:
whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Council Regular Meeting

DATE: 9/14/2026
TO: City Council
FROM: LaToya Turk, Director of Community Prevention, Health & Safety
THROUGH:
BY: LaToya Turk, Director of Community Prevention, Health & Safety
SUBJECT: Brooklyn Center Expanded Response Pilot Report and Presentation

Requested Council Action:

- *Motion to accept the presentation.*

Background:

In September 2024, the City of Brooklyn Center launched the Expanded Response Team (ERT) pilot to expand the City's public safety and behavioral health response capacity. The pilot was designed to provide a non-police, behavioral-health-informed response to eligible welfare checks, mental health calls, and other low-risk incidents received through 911, while allowing police officers to remain available for calls requiring a law-enforcement response. The model was intentionally designed as an additional first-response option, not a replacement for police, fire, or emergency medical services.

The pilot grew from several years of Council direction, community engagement, and planning following adoption of Resolution No. 2021-73, the Daunte Wright and Kobe Dimock-Heisler Community Safety and Violence Prevention Act. Pre-launch 911 analysis identified approximately 2,260 mental health and welfare-check calls annually, establishing measurable demand for an alternative behavioral health response. The pilot, managed by the City's Office of Community Prevention, Health & Safety (OCPHS), aligned Brooklyn Center Police, Fire, Parks and Recreation, Finance and Communications, along with external partners from Hennepin County Behavioral Health, Hennepin County Sheriff's Office, North Memorial Health, and Canopy Roots to develop the current Expanded Response pilot model.

The Expanded Response Model is Brooklyn Center's holistic approach to expanding the response to our community wellness and safety needs. The Expanded Response Team adds an important layer to the city's first-responder system. The Expanded Response Team is designed to make sure residents receive the right help at the right time, supporting individuals and families before concerns escalate into emergencies.

The expanded response model strengthens our city's commitment to compassionate, prevention-focused community wellness and safety by connecting community members with trained responders who address behavioral and mental health needs, wellness concerns, and non-law-enforcement issues.

Budget Issues:

N/A

Inclusive Community Engagement:

Antiracist/Equity Policy Effect:

Strategic Priorities and Values:

ATTACHMENTS:

1. BC_ERT_Pilot_Report_FINAL
2. BC_ERT_Council_Deck FINAL

CITY OF BROOKLYN CENTER, MINNESOTA

Expanded Response Team (ERT) Pilot

Pilot Evaluation & Recommendations Report

Office of Community Prevention, Health & Safety (OCPHS)

Reporting Period: September 2024 – June 2026

Presented to the Brooklyn Center City Council

*Evaluated using the Harvard Kennedy School Government Performance Lab's
Essential Metrics for Alternative Emergency Response Programs*

Contents

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- 2. Background & Original Vision
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1. Executive Summary

Program Overview

In September 2024, Brooklyn Center launched the Expanded Response Team (ERT) pilot to provide non-police, behavioral-health-informed response to welfare checks, mental health calls, and related low-risk incidents, freeing police officers to focus on calls that require a law-enforcement response. The pilot pairs two teams: Hennepin County’s Alternative Response Team (HC ART), a behavioral crisis response model launched September 2024 and staffed 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Monday–Friday; and Canopy Roots, a behavioral crisis response model launched April 2025 and staffed 6:00 p.m.–11:00 p.m. on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays, and 4:00 p.m.–1:00 a.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Combined, the two teams cover most weekdays, daytime and evening hours plus weekends, though gaps remain before 10 a.m. daily and on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

The pilot represents sustained cross-department collaboration between the Office of Community Prevention, Health & Safety, Brooklyn Center Police, Brooklyn Center Parks and Recreation, Brooklyn Center Fire, Hennepin County Behavioral Health, the Hennepin County Sheriff’s Office, North Memorial Health, and Canopy Roots.

This report summarizes outcomes through the second quarter of 2026, evaluates the pilot against the Harvard Kennedy School’s Essential Metrics for Alternative Emergency Response Programs, and presents recommendations for the program’s next phase.

ERT is an additional first responder, not a replacement for one

The Expanded Response Team was designed to widen Brooklyn Center’s first-response capacity, not to substitute for it. The purpose is to pair the right response with the correct responder: a resident in a behavioral health crisis is met by a behavioral health professional, while officers remain available for calls that require a law-enforcement response. ERT is a second front door to emergency response, and the measure of its success is whether the response matched the need, not whether it displaced a police unit.

Pilot at a Glance

1,325 Total ERT-handled incidents (Sept 2024 – Mar 2026, CAD data)	1.7% Share of ALL citywide PD calls handled by ERT	17.3% Share of welfare-check / mental-problem demand routed to ERT	79% Of ERT incidents are welfare checks or mental-problem calls
547 Individuals opened by HC ART (cumulative, Sept 2024 – Jun 2026)	436 Documented Canopy Roots calls (Apr 2025 – Jun 2026)	82.6% Canopy Roots contact-made rate (360 of 436 calls)	5 National, statewide and regional presentations, convenings and site visits (2024–2025)

Key Finding: The Right People Reached

The pilot’s clearest result is that ERT reached the people it was designed to reach and reached them successfully. Across the pilot, HC ART/BC ERT made contact with 94% of the individuals it opened cases with, an unusually high engagement rate for voluntary behavioral health outreach. Roughly 79% of all ERT incident volume fell into the four call types the program was built for (welfare checks and mental-problem calls, including behavioral-health-flagged variants), confirming that dispatch routing sent ERT the right calls rather than diluting the team across unrelated work. That combination, correct call routing plus high contact success, is the core evidence that the model works.

HC ART’s individuals-served volume declined sharply across the first half of 2026: 79 individuals in Q4 2025, falling to 63 in Q1 2026 (–20%) and then to 12 in Q2 2026 (–81% quarter-over-quarter). Hennepin County has confirmed the cause for both quarters: a hiring slowdown followed by an extended hiring process reduced the team’s effective staffing capacity.

A second staffing disruption affected Canopy Roots over the same period. Taken together, the two events point to a structural feature of small response teams rather than a failure of either partner: at 1–2 FTE per team, a single vacancy is immediately visible in service levels.

Recommendation Summary

Four options are being evaluated for the ERT’s next phase for staff recommendations. City Administration is reviewing a hybrid approach with a continued focus on a regional ERT approach while expanding embedded social work capacity into Parks & Recreation, OCPHS, and Community Development, combined with bringing one additional social worker position directly in-house within the Police Department to support both the Police and Fire Departments.

2. Background & Original Vision

Where This Program Came From

Brooklyn Center's Expanded Response work began with local tragedy. In August 2019, Kobe Dimock-Heisler, a young man on the autism spectrum, was killed by Brooklyn Center police during a mental health crisis in his home. In April 2021, Daunte Wright was killed by a Brooklyn Center police officer during a traffic stop. One month later, in May 2021, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2021-73, the Daunte Wright and Kobe Dimock-Heisler Community Safety and Violence Prevention Act, which called for 911 to route eligible calls to a community response team and for stronger public safety accountability structures.

That local mandate converged with a broader Hennepin County effort to rethink emergency response for behavioral-health-related 911 calls. The concept traces back to recommendations from the Hennepin County 911 Mental Health Task Force, which led the County to pilot an "Alternative Response" model, pairing a social worker with a community paramedic, in the city of Brooklyn Park beginning in October 2022. Hennepin County first presented that forthcoming pilot to Brooklyn Center in October 2021. The Brooklyn Park pilot was designed as a two-year evaluation with the explicit intent to expand to additional Hennepin County cities if successful.

Locally, the pilot was driven by two converging forces: the City Council direction formalized through the Community Safety and Violence Prevention Act, and prior work already underway in Brooklyn Center's public safety sector, an existing Police Embedded Social Worker Joint Powers Agreement that the expanded response pilot expanded upon rather than replaced. The Office of Community Prevention, Health & Safety (OCPHS) itself stood up with funding from the Pohlad Family Foundation, in conjunction with the Act, giving the City a dedicated department to lead the expanded response effort rather than housing it inside an existing department.

Council Direction and Community Input

The pilot was not designed in isolation from residents or from the Council. In October 2022, community engagement findings on reimagining public safety beyond police were presented to the City Council. In December 2022, the Council approved a two-year, grant-funded pilot for a community response to mental health 911 calls, with additional General Fund dollars approved in December 2023. In March 2023, the Daunte Wright and Kobe Dimock-Heisler Implementation Committee presented its recommendations to the Council, and in August 2023 City staff presented the Alternative/Expanded Response model itself. In March 2024, Canopy Roots and Hennepin County each presented directly to the Council on their operating experience, Canopy Roots on the Minneapolis Behavioral Crisis Response team, and Hennepin County on the Brooklyn Park ART program. The Council approved the two parallel pilot contracts in September 2024.

Documented Demand Before Launch

The design of the pilot was grounded in measured call demand rather than assumption. Hennepin County Sheriff's Office 911 data compiled for the two-year window of July 28, 2021, through July 28, 2023, identified 4,524 Brooklyn Center 911 calls related to a mental health crisis or welfare check, roughly 2,260 per year, or about six per day. That analysis, presented publicly in November 2024, also mapped demand by hour and day of week:

- Demand peaked in the late afternoon and early evening, with the 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. hours the busiest of the day citywide (292 and 290 calls respectively across the two-year window).
- Volume remained substantial throughout the evening, with the 6:00 p.m. through 9:00 p.m. hours, each drawing between 238 and 256 calls.

- The lowest-demand window was between 3:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m., with the 6:00 a.m. hour the quietest of the day (67 calls across two years).
- Demand was broadly consistent across all seven days of the week, ranging from 608 calls on Saturdays to 710 on Tuesdays.

This baseline directly informed the coverage design of the two teams and remains the best available measure of the total addressable demand against which pilot volume should be read.

Standing Up the Program

Before HC ART’s September 2024 launch, OCPHS led approximately six months of planning meetings with every partner department and agency involved in the pilot, a collaboration format new to the City, and continued hosting recurring virtual implementation meetings with stakeholders beginning in July 2024. Interdepartmental participants included Brooklyn Center Police, Brooklyn Center Fire, Brooklyn Center Finance, Brooklyn Center Parks & Recreation, Brooklyn Center OCPHS, and Brooklyn Center Communications, along with external partnerships with the Hennepin County Sheriff’s Office, Hennepin County Behavioral Health, North Memorial Health, Canopy Roots, and other regional jurisdictions and stakeholders with relevant experience. This planning period established the interagency data-sharing, dispatch, and coordination agreements the pilot has operated under since launch.

A key technical piece of that work was call/problem nature coding: Brooklyn Center did not build its dispatch codes from scratch, but mirrored the coding structure already established by Brooklyn Park’s Alternative Response pilot and built it in compliance with the Hennepin County Sheriff’s Office’s own dispatch triage standards. This ensured that Expanded Response incidents could be consistently identified, routed, and compared against county-wide data from day one, rather than requiring retroactive reconciliation.

The Original Vision for Brooklyn Center

OCPHS designed Brooklyn Center’s Expanded Response Model as a four-part framework, spanning multiple departments and partners:

Component	Owner	Function
Community Engagement & Intervention	OCPHS	Violence interruption, hot-spot engagement, community stabilization
Park Outreach Team	Parks & Recreation	Community engagement, resident outreach, resource navigation
Police Embedded Social Worker	BCPD / Hennepin County	Officer referral model, follow-up services, referral coordination, walk-in
Expanded Response Team	OCPHS / Hennepin County / Canopy Roots/North Memorial	Alternative first response, behavioral health response, crisis stabilization

The operational framework sat inside a broader City model for community safety built on four stages, Prevention (exposure and educational opportunities), Intervention (real-time engagement), Response (community impact and first responders), and Recovery (connection to resources), with the Expanded Response Team primarily occupying the response layer.

Original Success Measures

At launch the partners publicly committed to a shared set of intended outcomes, divided between program-focused and community-focused measures.

Measure	Focus	Intended outcome
Broadening & aligning skills	Program	Increased skill and alignment among first responder agencies dispatched by 911 to mental health or substance use crises, handled with care, empathy, and safety.
Service effectiveness	Program	Increase positive resolutions to mental health / substance use 911 calls; reduce repeat calls to 911.
Service efficiency	Program	Reduce the 911 call load historically assigned to and handled by Police.
Cost efficiency	Program	Reduce overall first response costs by diverting eligible 911 calls to lower-cost unarmed response teams; reduce repeat service needs for the same recipient.
Reduced police interactions	Community	Reduce interactions with police for residents experiencing a mental/behavioral health or substance use situation.
Trust in response	Community	Increase community trust in calling 911, knowing the right response will be sent.

3. Timeline

The Expanded Response pilot is the product of five years of Council direction, stakeholder input, and interagency planning.

Origins and Council Direction (2019–2023)

Date	Milestone
Aug 2019	Kobe Dimock-Heisler, a young man on the autism spectrum, is killed by Brooklyn Center police during a mental health crisis in his home.
Apr 2021	Daunte Wright is killed by a Brooklyn Center police officer during a traffic stop.
May 2021	City Council adopts Resolution No. 2021-73, the Daunte Wright and Kobe Dimock-Heisler Community Safety and Violence Prevention Act, directing that 911 route eligible calls to a community response team.
Oct 2021	Hennepin County presents to Brooklyn Center on its forthcoming Alternative Response Team (ART) pilot in Brooklyn Park.
Oct 2022	Community engagement findings on reimagining public safety beyond police are presented to the City Council.
Oct 2022	Hennepin County launches the predecessor “Alternative Response” pilot (social worker + community paramedic) in Brooklyn Park, evaluated over two years with an eye toward countywide expansion.
Dec 2022	City Council approves a two-year, grant-funded pilot for community response to mental health 911 calls.
Mar 2023	The Daunte Wright and Kobe Dimock-Heisler Implementation Committee presents its recommendations to the City Council.
Aug 2023	City staff present the Alternative/Expanded Response model to the City Council.
Dec 2023	City Council approves additional General Fund dollars for the pilot.

Design, Launch and Operation (2024–2026)

Date	Milestone
Mar 2024	Canopy Roots presents to the City Council on operating the Minneapolis Behavioral Crisis Response team; Hennepin County presents on operating the ART program in Brooklyn Park.
~Mar–Aug 2024	OCPHS leads approximately six months of interagency planning meetings with BCPD, BCFD, Finance, Parks & Recreation, OCPHS, Communications, the Hennepin County Sheriff’s Office, North Memorial Health, and other stakeholders, establishing data-sharing, dispatch, and coordination agreements, including nature coding mirrored from Brooklyn Park and compliant with HC Sheriff’s Office dispatch triage standards.
Jul 2024	City staff begin hosting recurring virtual implementation meetings with pilot stakeholders.
Aug 26–28, 2024	City delegation travels to Albuquerque, New Mexico for a Collaborative Solutions site visit studying one of the longest-running municipal alternative-response systems in the country.
Sept 2024	City Council approves parallel contracts with Hennepin County and Canopy Roots. The Hennepin County Alternative Response Team (HC ART/BC ERT) launches under Joint Powers Agreement Contract #A2513298 between Hennepin County (HSPHD and HCSO) and the City. The County assigns 2.0 FTE social worker/community paramedic capacity to the partnership.
Sept–Dec 2024	First full HC ERT reporting period: 117 individuals opened, 86 unduplicated individuals served.

Date	Milestone
Nov 19, 2024	Brooklyn Center, Hennepin County, and Canopy Roots present jointly at the Minnesota Justice Research Center's Re-Imagining Justice Conference in Minneapolis, the pilot's first public presentation as a three-party partnership.
Apr 2025	Canopy Roots begins providing contracted evening/weekend behavioral crisis response (6–11 p.m. Mon/Thu/Fri; 4 p.m.–1 a.m. Sat/Sun), extending ERT availability beyond HC ERT's weekday daytime hours.
Jun 3–5, 2025	Brooklyn Center attends the Advancing the Field of Alternative Response Convening, hosted by the Policing Project at NYU School of Law.
Apr–Oct 2025	First full Canopy Roots reporting period: 190 documented calls, 157 with contact made (82.6%).
Oct 6, 2025	OCPHS Director LaToya Turk is a featured speaker on the National League of Cities' national webinar on people-centered public safety infrastructure, alongside Minneapolis and Golden Valley leadership.
Dec 12, 2025	Brooklyn Center takes part in an All Cities Gathering of Minnesota municipalities operating alternative and expanded response programs.
Jan 2026	HC ART/BC ERT Joint Powers Agreement is renewed for a new term (January 1 – December 31, 2026), continuing the 2.0 FTE assignment with a federal DOJ grant covering 1.0 FTE through approximately mid-2026.
Q1–Q2 2026	A County hiring slowdown followed by an extended hiring process reduces HC ART/BC ERT effective staffing capacity, driving a sharp decline in individuals served (63 in Q1, 12 in Q2).
May 2026	Canopy Roots' Professional Services Agreement is extended an additional three months (to Sept 1, 2026) with a \$165,000 compensation amendment.
2026	OCPHS convenes two internal Expanded Response System Review meetings to formally evaluate the pilot and develop recommendations for City leadership, the direct basis for this report.

Scope Changes Since Launch

Two design elements shifted between what was presented publicly at launch and what the pilot actually operated.

Coverage hours narrowed. The launch design called for HC ART/BC ERT coverage Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m., and Canopy Roots coverage Thursday–Monday evenings (Thu/Fri/Mon 6 p.m.–12 a.m.; Sat/Sun 4 p.m.–12:30 a.m.) — collectively about twelve hours a day, seven days a week.

Actual operating hours are somewhat narrower for both teams.

- **Both contracts were extended.** HC ART/BC ERT was originally scheduled to run September 2024 through December 2025 and has since been renewed through December 2026. Canopy Roots was originally scheduled through May 2026 and has been extended to September 30th, 2026.

How OCPHS Evaluated the Pilot

Rather than assembling this report from data alone, OCPHS convened two structured review meetings with partners, city administration and staff to evaluate the pilot's performance and shape recommendations for its next phase.

Review Meeting #1 — Pilot Evaluation & Performance Review

This session revisited the original four-part vision, then worked through ERT performance data (operations, dispatch data, outcomes, geographic and demographic analysis), a full review of contract and deliverable completion, and department-by-department perspectives from Police, Parks & Recreation, and OCPHS, closing with a structured discussion of lessons learned that fed directly into this report.

Review Meeting #2 — Future State & Recommendations

Building on those findings, this session reviewed four future-state concepts for the program, evaluated service hours, contract structure, and funding sustainability, and developed the recommendations carried into this report:

Concept	Name	Description
A	Maintain current ERT model	As-is HC ART + Canopy Roots structure
B	Expand ERT hours	Broaden the daily/weekly coverage window
C	Rebuild fully expanded-response ecosystem	Community Intervention + Outreach Team + Embedded SW + ERT, restoring the original four-part vision
D	Hybrid model	ERT and/or ESW by day; Outreach & Intervention Team evenings/weekends

4. Regional Standing, Presentations & Recognition

Over the course of the pilot, Brooklyn Center has moved from studying other jurisdictions’ alternative response programs to being invited to present its own. The record below is presented chronologically.

Statewide Presentation — Minnesota Justice Research Center (2024)

On November 19, 2024, ten weeks after launch, Brooklyn Center presented the Expanded Response model at the Minnesota Justice Research Center’s annual Re-Imagining Justice Conference at the University of Minnesota’s McNamara Alumni Center. The session, “City-County-Community Partnership: Expanding 911 First Response Beyond Police in Brooklyn Center,” was delivered jointly by the City, Hennepin County, North Memorial Health, and Canopy Roots, the pilot’s operating partners presenting as a single panel rather than as separate agencies. The panel walked a statewide audience of criminal legal system practitioners, scholars, and community members through the City’s journey from the 2021 Community Safety and Violence Prevention Act to a live two-team response model, including the 911 demand analysis, the projected outcome measures, and the first eight weeks of results.

Panelist	Role	Organization
LaToya Turk	Director of Community Prevention, Health & Safety	City of Brooklyn Center
Tony Martin	911 Director	Hennepin County Sheriff’s Office
Adesola F. Jaiyesimi	Area Manager for Criminal Justice Behavioral Health	Hennepin County
Maria Stevenson, NREMT-P	Community Paramedic Supervisor	North Memorial Health
Candace Hanson, LPCC	Executive Director	Canopy Roots
Taylor Crouch-Dodson, MPP	Director of External Affairs	Canopy Roots

The conference session also presented the pilot’s earliest documented outcomes: approximately 70 referrals to the Hennepin County/North Memorial team between September and November 2024, roughly 50 of them unduplicated individuals, with 98% of referrals related to mental health or substance use and 44% originating from congregate care facilities, an early signal of the congregate-living pattern that has held throughout the pilot.

National League of Cities (2025)

On October 6, 2025, LaToya Turk, OCPHS Director, was a featured speaker on the National League of Cities’ national webinar “How Cities Are Expanding Their Public Safety Infrastructure to Include a People-Centered Approach,” alongside Melanie Rucker, Interim Fire Chief, City of Minneapolis; and Kirsten Santelices, Deputy City Manager, and Alice White, Interim Police Chief, both of the City of Golden Valley. This feature positioned Brooklyn Center’s pilot as a nationally referenced model for civilian-led response design.

National Convenings & Peer Learning

Advancing the Field of Alternative Response Convening (NYU School of Law Policing Project), June 3–5, 2025. Brooklyn Center was among the jurisdictions selected for sponsored attendance at the 2025 Advancing the Field of Alternative Response Convening, a national gathering of alternative-response programs organized by the Policing Project at NYU School of Law. Sponsorship of attendees was provided by the Pohlad Family Foundation and the Collaborative Solutions to Reduce Harm Initiative. The City was represented by LaToya Turk, OCPHS Director, and Richard Gabler, Commander,

Brooklyn Center Police Department, sending public health and police leadership together to the same national forum, mirroring how the pilot has been governed locally.

Collaborative Solutions site visit, Albuquerque, New Mexico, August 26–28, 2024. Days before the Expanded Response September 2024 launch, a City delegation traveled to Albuquerque to study one of the longest-running municipal alternative-response systems in the country. The delegation included Dr. Teneshia Kragness, Mayor Pro-Tem; Dr. Reggie Edwards, City Manager; Garret Flesland, Police Chief; and LaToya Turk, OCPHS Director, bringing elected leadership, city administration, police command, and public health into the same room. The timing matters: this was direct, hands-on preparation completed during the final weeks of the six-month interagency planning process.

Regional Peer Network

On December 12, 2025, Brooklyn Center took part in an All-Cities Gathering convening the Minnesota municipalities operating alternative and expanded response programs. The session brought together police, fire, public health, and city administration leadership from three cities to compare program design, staffing models, and coverage strategy. Leadership from Minneapolis and Golden Valley participated alongside Brooklyn Center, evidence of a sustained working relationship across jurisdictions.

City	Representatives in attendance
City of Brooklyn Center	LaToya Turk, OCPHS Director
City of Golden Valley	Alice White, Interim Police Chief; Seth Kaempfer, Equity and Inclusion Manager; Kirsten Santelices, Deputy City Manager
City of Minneapolis	Jared Jeffries, Deputy Commissioner of Community Safety; Melanie Rucker, Interim Fire Chief

These peer relationships are an asset the city retains. Brooklyn Center is a known participant in both the national and Minnesota alternative-response networks, with standing access to the operational experience of Minneapolis, Golden Valley, and Hennepin County.

Regional Context

Brooklyn Center’s model sits within a broader regional movement toward alternative emergency response. Minneapolis’s Behavioral Crisis Response program (operated by Canopy Mental Health & Consulting) has responded to roughly 20,000 calls since its 2021 launch on a \$5.9M annual budget, diverting an estimated 9% of all citywide 911 calls to non-police response. Golden Valley has run a Police Embedded Social Worker program since 2019 in partnership with Hennepin County Behavioral Health, and in 2025 conducted a community-input process on further expansion. Hennepin County continues to explore a county-wide regional approach to alternative response; every recommendation option in this report preserves the option to monitor and potentially join that regional effort as it develops.

5. Program Data & Outcomes

This section presents pilot outcomes organized around four categories: Public Safety, Public Health, Community, and System Impact, cross-referenced against the Harvard Kennedy School Government Performance Lab’s Essential Metrics for Alternative Emergency Response Programs.

Data sources and reporting windows

- Dispatch / CAD data (call volume, call type, time on scene, first-in unit): September 2024 – March 2026. Source: Hennepin County Sheriff’s Office CAD, units 9432 (HC ART/BC ERT) and 9482 (Canopy Roots). Monthly unit-level detail in this report runs through January 2026.
- HC ART/BC ERT outcomes (individuals opened, contact made, referrals, demographics, residence): September 2024 – Q2 2026, where Q2 2026 ends June 30, 2026. Source: Hennepin County HSPHD quarterly department-view outcome reports.
- Canopy Roots outcomes (documented calls, call outcomes, services provided, demographics): April 2025 – June 2026. Source: Canopy Roots contract reporting.

5.1 Public Safety Impact

Calls diverted from police, officer time saved, and reduced law enforcement involvement in low-risk behavioral health calls.

1,325	1,513	17.3%	1.7%
Combined ERT incidents (Sept 2024 – Mar 2026)	Person-hours of ERT time (848.5 unit-hours)	Share of citywide BH demand routed to ERT	ERT share of ALL citywide PD calls

ERT Impact

Four related call types: Welfare Check, Mental Problem, BH Welfare Check, and BH Mental Problem (the latter two being behavioral-health-flagged variants) account for 79% of all combined ERT incident volume and the large majority of staff time invested:

Call Type	Incidents	% of ERT Volume	Avg Min/Call	Person-Hours
Welfare Check	328	24.8%	37.1	371.6
Mental Problem	289	21.8%	40.1	347.4
BH Welfare Check	254	19.2%	38.2	280.2
BH Mental Problem	170	12.8%	39.0	197.5
Four-code total	1,041	78.6%	—	1,196.7

Citywide Diversion

Of 74,577 total citywide PD calls for service (Sept 2024 – Mar 2026), ERT handled 1,325, a small overall share, by design, since ERT is intentionally scoped to low-risk behavioral-health-adjacent calls. Within that target band, though, the share is

substantial: 17.3% of “Mental Health/Behavioral Health” demand (Welfare Check + Mental Problem, including BH-flagged variants) went to ERT rather than a patrol officer, rising to 17.4% for Mental Problem calls specifically and 11.0% for Welfare Check calls specifically.

Read against the pre-launch baseline, approximately 2,260 mental-health and welfare-check 911 calls per year, ERT is currently absorbing roughly one in six of the calls it was designed to take. Closing the remaining coverage gaps (before 10 a.m. daily and Tuesday/Wednesday evenings) is the single largest available lever for increasing that share.

Call Origin, Response Type and Response Time

Hennepin County Sheriff’s Office dispatch supplied additional CAD extracts covering September 1, 2024, through March 31, 2026.

How calls reached ERT

Call origin	Calls	Share
911	964	72.0%
Non-emergency line	298	22.3%
ERT initiated (self-dispatch)	61	4.6%
Officer initiated	12	0.9%
BCPD front desk	3	0.2%
Total	1,338	100%

Roughly 28% of ERT responses arrived by a route other than 911, most of them through the non-emergency line

Primary response versus co-response

ERT responded alone, or arrived first, on 597 responses (45.0%), and responded alongside an officer on 730 (55.0%). A majority of ERT responses therefore also committed a patrol unit. Raising the share of genuine primary responses is the single largest available improvement that requires no additional spending.

Response time, by component

Measure	HC ART/BC ERT (9432)	Canopy Roots (9482)
Call processing — time on the phone	3:52	4:23
In queue — call received to dispatch	14:22	16:54
Travel — dispatch to scene	14:28	17:16
Response time — dispatch to arrival (team performance)	15:19	17:52
Total response time — call placed to arrival (Harvard metric)	26:33	34:30

Where ERT responded

Location type	HC ART/BC ERT	Canopy Roots	Total	Share
Group home	268	239	507	37.8%
Premise	285	97	382	28.5%
General address	274	102	376	28.1%
Police department	44	6	50	3.7%
School	8	—	8	0.6%
Other (bank, park, hotel, government, residential)	14	3	17	1.3%
Total	893	447	1,340	100%

Group homes account for 37.8% of all ERT responses, and for 53.5% of Canopy Roots' responses specifically — an outright majority. This confirms with dispatch data what Canopy Roots' responders reported in their own words in Section 7: group homes made up the bulk of their calls. It is consistent with the congregate-living pattern in the County outcome data, and it sharpens the awareness question. A service reaching residents overwhelmingly through congregate facilities is not yet reaching the wider community.

Transports

ERT transported an individual 146 times across roughly 1,325 incidents (11.0%), 89.0% of ERT incidents were resolved without a transport of any kind.

Transport destination	Transports	Share
Community or residential address	70	47.9%
Hospital or emergency department	64	43.8%
Group home	6	4.1%
Shelter or housing services	4	2.7%
Crisis, stabilization or treatment facility	2	1.4%
Total	146	100%

Fewer than half of the transports that did occur went to a hospital emergency department, 64 across the nineteen-month period. The rest went to homes, group homes, shelters and community locations. The great majority of behavioral health calls ERT handled ended without an emergency department visit, and most of the few transports that happened were to somewhere other than an ED.

Forgone opportunities

Historical analysis and reporting indicate ERT could appropriately be dispatched to roughly 3–7% of the Police Department's total call volume. Applied to 74,577 Brooklyn Center calls for service over the same period, that implies between 2,237 and 5,220 ERT-eligible calls. ERT responded to approximately 1,325 of them, between 26% and 60% of the

eligible band, leaving roughly 900 to 3,900 eligible calls that ERT did not take. The range is wide because the underlying share is an estimate rather than a tracked field; narrowing it requires flagging eligible-but-unresponded calls in CAD

5.2 Public Health Impact

HC ART/BC ERT: Referrals and Contacts

Across all quarters from launch (Sept 2024) through Q2 2026, HC ART/BC ERT opened cases with 547 individuals and made contact with the individual accepting resources or services in 514 of those cases, a 94% contact rate. In FY2025 alone (the first full calendar year), HC ART/BC ERT made 609 total referrals across 261 intakes, reaching 177 unduplicated individuals with at least one referral.

Period	Individuals Opened	Contact Made	Total Referrals	Intakes w/ Referrals
Q4 2024 (launch)	117	98	203	90
FY2025 (full year)	355	345	609	261
Q1 2026	63	62	149	37
Q2 2026	12	<10	28	<10
Pilot-to-date total	547	514	989	397

Data note: Cell values below ten are suppressed to protect resident privacy, consistent with Hennepin County reporting practice.

Canopy Roots: Crisis Response and Stabilization Services

Canopy Roots made contact in 360 of 436 documented calls (82.6%) from launch (Apr 2025) through Q2 2026. Beyond contact, responders logged specific stabilization services, the clearest available evidence of what happens once a team is on scene:

Service	Times Provided (pilot-to-date)
Emotional Support	312
De-escalation	158
Psychoeducation	110
Welfare Check	83
Safety Plan	67
Advocacy	64
Voluntary Transportation	52
Suicide Assessment	46
Connection to Services	25

5.3 Community Impact

Race and Gender

Basis for these tables. The HC ART/BC ERT race and gender figures use unduplicated individuals (235 distinct people served in FY2025). The age table below uses individuals opened (355 case-opening events in FY2025, of which 354 have a recorded age), because the County reports age on that basis. The two are different denominators, not a discrepancy: one counts people, the other counts case openings, and a resident whose case was opened more than once in the year appears once in the first and more than once in the second.

Responder Team Composition. The Canopy Roots ERT team brought a wide range of cultural backgrounds, identities, and lived experiences to their work with Brooklyn Center residents. This diversity strengthened the team's ability to connect with residents, understand different perspectives, and provide responsive, person-centered support. It also reflected Canopy Roots' broader commitment to culturally responsive care, dignity, and meeting people where they are. Hennepin County's responders provided immediate community impact with their tenure in community work, representation and cultural diversity.

Category	HC ART/BC ERT (FY2025, unduplicated individuals, N=235)	Canopy Roots (pilot-to-date, N=392)
Race: Black	91	116
Race: White	69	214
Race: Two or More Races / Multiracial	25	18
Race: Unknown	33	22
Race: Hispanic/Latino, Asian, American Indian	each <10	Hispanic/Latino 11; Asian <10; Native American <10
Gender: Male/Man	120	251
Gender: Female/Woman	113	136
Gender: Other categories	<10 (Unknown)	Nonbinary <10; Transgender Man <10; Transgender Woman <10

Age

HC ART/BC ERT age band (FY2025, individuals opened)	Count	Canopy Roots (pilot-to-date)	Count
17 and under	20	Minor	26
18 to 24	27	Adult	365
25 to 34	61	Recipient not visible	<10
35 to 44	85		
45 to 54	54		
55 to 64	42		
65+	65		

HC ART/BC ERT age band (FY2025, individuals opened)	Count	Canopy Roots (pilot-to-date)	Count
Total	354	Total	392

Residence and Referral Context (HC ART/BC ERT, FY2025)

The largest single residence category served by HC ART/BC ERT is congregate living facilities (188 records, senior housing, group homes, and similar settings), followed by private residences (62) and individuals experiencing homelessness (58). This is consistent with a program targeting welfare checks and mental health calls rather than acute street crises, and it matches the earliest data reported at the November 2024 MNJRC conference, when 44% of the team’s first 70 referrals came from congregate care facilities.

Medical/Other Health (127 referrals) and Case Management (123) were the leading referral categories in FY2025, followed by Mental Health (98), Wellness (66), and Housing (58). 93% of individuals had health insurance at referral, and the County bore financial responsibility for 81% of cases.

5.4 System Impact

Interagency Coordination

The pilot required sustained coordination across multiple parties, Brooklyn Center OCPHS, Brooklyn Center Police, Brooklyn Center Fire, Brooklyn Center Finance, Brooklyn Center Parks & Recreation, Brooklyn Center Communications, Hennepin County (Human Services and Public Health Department, and the Sheriff’s Office for dispatch/CAD access), North Memorial Health, and Canopy Roots, beginning with the six-month interagency planning process and formalized through two contracts (the HC ART Joint Powers Agreement and the Canopy Roots Professional Services Agreement), recurring implementation meetings, and OCPHS’s two internal Expanded Response System Review meetings.

Cost Effectiveness

Full cost details are presented in Section 6, Financial Analysis. In brief: HC ART/BC ERT cost to the City is capped and substantially offset by a federal DOJ grant (\$88,431 annualized once the grant window ends); Canopy Roots is a direct consultant contract totaling \$915,000 across the Sept 2024 – Sept 2026 term.

Sustainability

The pilot’s most significant sustainability risk surfaced directly in 2026: a Hennepin County hiring slowdown followed by an extended hiring process cut HC ART’s effective staffing capacity, driving individuals served down 81% quarter-over-quarter (63 to 12) between Q1 and Q2 2026. With only 1–2 FTE assigned per team, the program has very little staffing redundancy, a single vacancy has an outsized, immediately visible effect on service levels. This risk, more than any single outcome metric, is central to the recommendations in this report.

Canopy Roots experienced the same structural risk, independently. Beginning May 29, 2025, Canopy Roots operated with a permanent hole in its Brooklyn Center schedule following the unexpected death and loss of a seasoned responder. Several months later, the team’s only other full-time staff member went on leave, compounding the gap. The effect is visible in the dispatch record: Canopy Roots averaged 43.6 responses per month from April through August 2025, then 28.8 per month from September 2025 through January 2026, a 34% decline that tracks the staffing timeline rather than any change in demand.

County scale is a mitigating factor. Hennepin County has noted that one structural strength of a county-held program is a wide pool of social workers from which to reassign staff when a vacancy occurs, a redundancy no single-city team of 1–2

FTE can reproduce on its own. The 2026 experience shows that this depth is not automatic, but it remains a real advantage of the County model and a relevant consideration in weighing the options.

Sustainability through Medicaid and third-party billing. Hennepin County is converting these positions to a financial model that allows the County to draw down Medicaid and third-party billing revenue to offset the use of tax dollars. This matters directly to Brooklyn Center: it creates a path to program sustainability and growth with reduced reliance on local property taxes, and it is a structural advantage the City could not replicate by employing behavioral health staff directly. The County has also applied for an additional grant to offset the cost of one FTE; a response is pending.

Essential Metrics Coverage Scorecard

Harvard's framework recommends 19 essential metrics for any alternative response program. The table below shows which of those Brooklyn Center's current data systems can already answer, which are partially answered, and which represent genuine gaps.

Metric	Status	Note
Call volume	Have	1,325 combined incidents, tracked by CAD.
Call type	Have	Full call-code breakdown by team and combined.
Response duration on scene	Have	Avg. 37–40 minutes per call, by team.
Police calls diverted	Have	Proxied via ERT's share of "Big 4" demand (17.3%); not the exact Harvard definition (no-backup-called), but the closest available.
Call outcome	Have	HC ART/BC ERT contact-made rate; Canopy Roots call-outcome categories.
Referral types	Have	HC ART/BC ERT referral categories; Canopy Roots services provided.
Service recipient demographics	Have	Age, race, gender for both teams (suppressed <10).
Staff retention	Partial	2026 staffing disruption documented qualitatively; no clean retention percentage.
Transport location	Have	146 transports across roughly 1,325 incidents; destinations categorised — 64 to a hospital or emergency department, the remainder to community, group home, shelter and treatment locations.
Follow-ups	Partial	Implied by HC ART/BC ERT intake and referral process; dispatch holds no follow-up field, and neither team reports it as a standalone metric.
Call origin	Have	1,338 responses broken out: 964 via 911, 298 non-emergency line, 61 ERT-initiated, 12 officer-initiated, 3 BCPD front desk.
Response time (call to arrival)	Have	Both measures reported: dispatch to arrival 15:19 (HC ART/BC ERT) and 17:52 (Canopy Roots); call placed to arrival — the Harvard metric — 26:33 and 34:30. Disaggregated into call processing, in-queue and travel time.
Response type (primary vs. co-response)	Have	597 responses alone or first to arrive (45.0%); 730 alongside an officer (55.0%).
Call geography	Partial	Location type now available for all 1,340 unit responses (group home 37.8%, premise 28.5%, general address 28.1%). Neighbourhood-level and hot-spot mapping still not compiled.

Metric	Status	Note
Forgone opportunities	Partial	Estimated at roughly 900–3,900 eligible calls not taken, derived from a 3–7% eligibility assumption rather than a tracked CAD field.
Emergency medical calls diverted	N/A	Out of scope. ERT was not dispatched to medical calls, so there is no diversion to measure. Medical response remained with Fire and EMS throughout the pilot.
Responder safety	Have	Responders met regularly with supervisors throughout the pilot. No responder reported a lack of police backup, or a safety concern they were not equipped or prepared to address. Basis is supervisory review rather than a formal responder survey.
Staff demographics	Have	Both teams brought a range of diversity across culture, language spoken, and community representation, reflective of the community served. Reported narratively rather than as counts: with only 1–2 FTE per team, published demographic counts would risk identifying individual staff.
Complaints	Have	No complaints regarding ERT service delivery were forwarded to OCPHS during the pilot period.

One of the nineteen essential metrics, emergency medical calls diverted, does not apply to this pilot, since ERT was not dispatched to medical calls. Of the eighteen that do apply, fourteen are now fully answerable and four partially.

6. Financial Analysis

Original Funding Model

At launch, the City publicly reported that the two parallel pilots were funded from two sources: approximately 13% from the City’s General Fund and approximately 87% from grant funds provided by BlueCross BlueShield of Minnesota and the Pohlad Family Foundation. The City stated at that time that it was actively exploring sustainable funding sources for growth beyond the pilot period. That grant-heavy structure is the essential financial context for Council’s decision: the pilot as launched was not built on a sustainable General Fund base, and any option that continues or expands the program must resolve how the grant share is replaced.

HC ART/BC ERT (Hennepin County)

HC ART/BC ERT operates under a Joint Powers Agreement with Hennepin County (Contract #A2513298): the County assigns 2.0 FTE to the Brooklyn Center partnership, with a federal DOJ grant fully covering 1.0 FTE through approximately June 2026. Beyond that grant window, the City’s cost-share is capped at \$51,585 for July–December 2026 (\$88,431 annualized), with additional provisions for vacancy coverage.

Canopy Roots

Canopy Roots operates under a Professional Services Agreement, structured as a flat consultant fee rather than a cost-share. The original agreement (executed September 2024) totaled \$750,000 through May 2026: \$330,000 for the 2024 program-development and launch period, \$320,000 for 2025, and \$100,000 for the first four months of 2026. A May 2026 contract extension added \$165,000 for June–August 2026 (approximately \$55,000 per month), bringing the total contract value to \$915,000 across the full Sept 2024 – Sept 2026 term.

Cost Structure Comparison

The two teams are funded very differently. HC ART/BC ERT cost to the City is capped and largely offset by a federal grant and County staffing; Canopy Roots is paid directly by the City as a consultant contract, with the bulk of cost concentrated in 2024–2025 program build-out and staffing.

Category	HC ART/BC ERT (Hennepin County)	Canopy Roots
Funding structure	Joint Powers Agreement (County-employed staff)	Professional Services Agreement (consultant)
2024–2025 cost to City	Not available in current records — in development	\$650,000 (\$330K ‘24 + \$320K ‘25) — of which \$230,000 is staffing and \$420,000 is vehicle capital and build-out
2026 cost to City	Capped \$51,585 (Jul–Dec) / \$88,431 annualized	\$100K (Jan–Apr) + \$165K extension = \$265,000
Total contract value	Pending 2024–25 City-share figures	\$915,000 (Sept ‘24 – Sept ‘26)
Current term end date	Dec 31, 2026 (JPA renewal)	Sept 30, 2026 (contract extension)

Cost Per Response: Police vs. Expanded Response

The City has been asked for a direct cost comparison between a traditional police response and an Expanded Response Team response. The analysis below uses the Police Department’s own average officer cost and the pilot’s own dispatch record. Before reading the figures, three framing points matter.

- **ERT adds capacity; it does not delete a police cost.** An officer is paid for the shift whether or not a given call comes in. Diverting a call to ERT does not produce a cash refund, it produces redeployed officer time. The savings are in capacity, not in cash.
- **The two responses are not the same product.** An ERT response includes assessment, de-escalation, referral, and follow-up. A patrol response resolves the immediate call. A higher cost per ERT response partly reflects that ERT delivers more per contact.
- **Downstream costs are excluded.** This comparison counts responder time only. It does not count avoided ambulance transport, emergency department visits, transport holds, jail bookings, or repeat 911 calls, the costs ERT is specifically designed to prevent. County data shows 69–72% of individuals opened by HC ART/BC ERT were not transported.

Cost Inputs

Input	Value	Source
Average fully loaded cost, BCPD officer	\$145,000 / year	Brooklyn Center Police Department
Standard annual work hours	2,080 hours	Standard full-time equivalent
Cost per officer hour	\$69.71	Calculated
ERT average time on scene	38.4 minutes	CAD: 848.5 unit-hours ÷ 1,325 incidents
Cost of 38.4 minutes of officer time	\$44.64	Calculated

What the Canopy Roots contract actually bought

Canopy Roots’ Professional Services Agreement is a flat consultant fee but Exhibit A of the agreement breaks that fee into three categories. Separating them changes the cost picture materially, because only one of the three is recurring service delivery.

Category	Apr–Dec 2024	Jan–Dec 2025	Jan–Apr 2026	Total
Vehicles	\$100,000	\$40,000	\$30,000	\$170,000
Staffing	\$30,000	\$200,000	\$40,000	\$270,000
Operations	\$200,000	\$80,000	\$30,000	\$310,000
Total	\$330,000	\$320,000	\$100,000	\$750,000

- **Vehicles (\$170,000) is one-time capital.** This covers the responder van, its outfitting, maintenance, fuel, and supplies across the contract term. The van is a retained asset. If the City continues an expanded response program in any form, this cost does not recur, and it should not be loaded onto a per-call figure used to compare against patrol response.
- **Operations (\$310,000) is program build-out and overhead.** Per Exhibit A this category covers program development, rent, utilities, personnel costs and benefits, uniforms, finance, legal, training, tax preparation, IT services, hiring,

recruitment, and background checks. It is heavily front-loaded into 2024 (\$200,000 of the \$310,000), when Canopy Roots was standing the unit up and had not yet responded to a single Brooklyn Center call.

- **Staffing (\$270,000) is the recurring cost of the service itself.** This is the supervisor and responder staff, full-time and float, assigned to the pilot unit, and it is the figure most comparable to an officer’s salary and benefits.

Staffing cost per response

Measure	HC ART/BC ERT	Canopy Roots
Responders funded	2	2
City staffing cost, CY2025	\$88,431	\$200,000
Non-staffing costs (vehicle, equipment, overhead)	Covered by federal DOJ grant	\$120,000, City-paid
Responses, CY2025	580	348
Staffing cost per response	\$152.47	\$574.71

Adjusting for volume

Part of the difference is call volume rather than price. Canopy Roots covered evenings and weekends and recorded 348 responses in 2025; HC ART/BC ERT covered weekday daytime hours and recorded 580. Holding volume constant narrows the gap but does not close it.

Scenario	Staffing cost	Responses	Cost per response
HC ART/BC ERT, actual	\$88,431	580	\$152.47
Canopy Roots, actual	\$200,000	348	\$574.71
Canopy Roots at HC ART/BC ERT volume	\$200,000	580	\$344.83
Canopy Roots at pre-disruption run rate	\$200,000	523	\$382.41

At equal call volume the County team costs the City roughly \$152 per response against Canopy Roots’ \$345. On a per-responder basis the City paid about \$44,000 per County responder per year against \$100,000 per Canopy Roots responder, which reflects a public-sector salary schedule and County cost-sharing on one side and a private consultant fee inclusive of supervisor time, float coverage, and margin on the other.

For reference: patrol comparison

Response type	Cost per response	Multiple of a two-officer response
BCPD patrol — one officer	\$44.64	0.5x
BCPD patrol — two officers	\$89.28	1.0x
HC ART/BC ERT — staffing	\$152.47	1.7x
Canopy Roots — staffing, volume-adjusted	\$344.83	3.9x

Reading the tables. Measured consistently, an expanded response cost the City between roughly \$152 and \$345 per call in staffing, against \$89 for a two-officer patrol response. That premium buys a behavioral health professional on scene for 38 minutes, plus assessment, referral, and follow-up that a patrol response does not include, and it does not net out the downstream costs ERT avoids. The County-delivered model is the lower-cost of the two on staffing, but that advantage rests on grant support and County cost-sharing rather than on a lower underlying wage, which is the central caution in weighing the options.

Officer Capacity Redirected

The practical return to the Police Department is officer time returned to patrol. Using the 1,152 ERT incidents recorded in CAD through January 2026, and assuming two officers would otherwise have responded:

“First-in” means ERT arrived on scene before any other unit. ERT was first-in on 514 of the 1,152 incidents (44.6%); on the remainder a police unit arrived first, committing both a patrol unit and an ERT unit to the same call.

Basis	Officer-hours returned	Value at \$69.71/hr	FTE equivalent
All ERT incidents (1,152)	1,475 hours	\$102,854	0.71 FTE
ERT first-in only (514)	658 hours	\$45,892	0.32 FTE

The Prevention Cost Ladder

Cost per contact rises sharply as a resident moves from prevention toward emergency response. Preventive outreach reaches many residents per staff hour and is not time-critical; a dispatched emergency response reaches one household at a time, on demand, with a responder held in readiness. The figures above price only the Response tier, the most expensive rung on the ladder.

Stage	Typical delivery	Cost driver
Prevention	Outreach teams, education, programming	Many contacts per staff hour; schedulable
Intervention	Outreach teams, community engagement, training	Group and repeat contact; schedulable
Response	ERT teams and first responders	One call at a time; readiness capacity held on shift
Recovery	Internal staff, outreach teams, community	Follow-up caseload; prevents repeat response

The policy implication is straightforward: every resident stabilized at the Prevention or Intervention stage is a resident who does not generate a Response-stage cost. Quantifying that fully requires cost-per-contact figures for the City’s outreach and programming budgets, which are not compiled in this report and are recommended as a next step.

National Salary Benchmark: Is \$88,431 the Full Cost?

Because the City's payment to Hennepin County and its payment to Canopy Roots are structured so differently, federal wage data provides an independent check on both. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports wages for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers under occupation code 21-1023, the classification that covers the licensed behavioral health staff both teams field.

Benchmark (BLS OEWS, May 2025 estimates)	Annual base wage
National median, SOC 21-1023	\$60,280
Minnesota median, SOC 21-1023	\$75,020
National 10th percentile	\$39,740
National 90th percentile	\$104,170

Minnesota is among the highest-paying states in the country for this occupation, roughly 24% above the national median. A Brooklyn Center comparison should therefore use the Minnesota figure, not the national one. Adding a public-sector fringe and benefit load of 30–40% produces a fully loaded cost of roughly \$97,500 to \$105,000 per responder, or \$195,000 to \$210,000 for a two-responder team.

What the benchmark reveals

Team	City staffing cost, 2 responders	Implied cost per responder	Against Minnesota benchmark
HC ART/BC ERT	\$88,431	\$44,216 fully loaded	About 44% of benchmark
Canopy Roots	\$200,000	\$100,000 fully loaded	About 99% of benchmark

- **The \$88,431 is confirmed as a partial share, not a full cost.** At \$44,216 per responder fully loaded, the implied base wage is roughly \$32,750 below the national 10th percentile of \$39,740, and less than half the Minnesota median. No employer staffs licensed behavioral health responders at that rate. The figure is the City's capped contribution; Hennepin County and the federal DOJ grant carry the remaining 56% or so of the team's true personnel cost.
- **Canopy Roots' staffing line is at market, not above it.** At \$100,000 per responder fully loaded, Canopy Roots' \$200,000 staffing cost sits within 2% of the Minnesota benchmark for a two-person team. Whatever else the contract carried, the City was not overpaying for behavioral health labor.

Cost per response at true personnel cost

Restating both teams at benchmark personnel cost, the figure the City would face if it funded either model without grant or County subsidy, removes the last distortion from the comparison.

Team	Benchmark staffing cost	Responses (CY2025)	Cost per response
HC ART/BC ERT, at Minnesota benchmark	\$202,554	580	\$349.23
Canopy Roots, actual staffing	\$200,000	348	\$574.71
Canopy Roots, volume-adjusted	\$200,000	580	\$344.83

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, May 2025 estimates, SOC 21-1023 (Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers).

7. Lessons Learned

Partner Perspective: Responder Feedback

The City met with the responders who staffed Brooklyn Center shifts and requested their feedback directly. The responses received were consistent with the feedback offered by responder leadership and are reproduced below because they identify operational constraints the dispatch data alone does not surface. This reflects the input of a small responder team rather than a formal survey instrument.

- **Community awareness limited the program's reach.** Responders wondered whether the program could have had more impact if more people in the city knew it existed.
- **City investment in promoting the service was questioned.** Responders raised the City's level of investment in advertising the program, so that the wider community could benefit from it beyond group homes, which appeared to them to make up the majority of their calls.
- **Dispatch protocol was not consistently honored.** Responders experienced police units picking up calls coded as mental health even after responders had already self-assigned, as they had been instructed to do. This is the operational counterpart to the first-in finding.
- **Partnership buy-in was uncertain.** Responders hoped for more buy-in and more space to do their work and questioned whether the Police Department was fully committed to the partnership.

These points are consistent with the dispatch record and should be read as actionable rather than as criticism: awareness, dispatch discipline, and interagency buy-in are all within the City's control and are addressed in the recommendations that follow.

The following themes emerged from OCPHS's internal Expanded Response System Review process.

- **Staff continuity is fragile and consequential.** The 2026 hiring slowdown and hiring-process gap did not just reduce volume, it visibly affected service reliability and trust with the Police Department during the disruption and shifted call-type patterns that PD had to absorb in the meantime.
- **Turnover is extremely difficult for a program of this size, on both sides of the partnership.** With only 1–2 FTE at stake per team, a single staffing gap has an outsized, visible impact on service levels. The same fragility ran through the City side of the work. Vacancies, staff reductions, interim appointments and turnover in critical roles, across the founding department and the departments it depended on, meant institutional knowledge left faster than it could be written down, and decisions repeatedly waited on people who were acting in a role rather than holding it. The procedural structures that normally absorb that churn, such as written protocols, defined escalation paths and documented handoffs, did not yet exist, because the program and the department housing it were being built at the same time. For most of the pilot OCPHS was load bearing for the entire effort with no redundancy behind it, and the program was held because individual staff absorbed the disruptions. That is not a durable design and is a structural risk.
- **Cost is a real constraint for the Brooklyn Center budget.** Any path forward needs a clear-eyed cost comparison against traditional police response, not just an outcomes case. This is sharpened by the funding structure at launch: roughly 87% of pilot funding came from external grants, so continuation decisions are also decisions about replacing grant revenue.
- **Standing up a new program inside a new department is a heavier lift than it appears.** OCPHS built new operational infrastructure, including a six-month, multi-agency planning process, while simultaneously coordinating across Police, Fire, Finance, Parks & Recreation, Communications, Hennepin County, North Memorial Health, and Canopy Roots. It

did so with limited staffing, departmental budget cuts, leadership opposition, and multiple senior-level staffing changes in priority roles. Expecting a durable program to emerge under those conditions does not reflect how successful models elsewhere were built, and the cross-department coordination mandate should not be underestimated in future planning.

- **Measurement should be designed in, not added later.** Fourteen of the eighteen applicable Harvard essential metrics can now be reported and four partially, but almost all of the recent gains came from a single dispatch data request made near the end of the pilot rather than from measurement built in at the start, and several of the answered metrics still rest on narrative attestation rather than a measurement instrument, and three of the six outcome measures the partners committed to publicly at launch, repeat-call reduction, responder skill alignment, and community trust, were never given a measurement instrument. Whatever future model is selected, the data plan should be scoped and funded alongside the service model.
- **Delivering mobile crisis care carries risk, liability, and regulatory obligations.** Behavioral health response is healthcare delivery. Residents’ private mental health information must be handled, documented, and retained in accordance with health-data regulations, and the supervising entity carries clinical oversight and liability responsibility. Hennepin County has flagged that any model placing the management, training, and clinical supervision of mental health workers inside a police department warrants specific review by the City Attorney before adoption. This is a governance question, not only a staffing or budget question.
- **Coverage design should follow the demand curve.** The city had detailed hour-and-day demand data before launch showing peak need in the late afternoon and evening and lowest need before 7 a.m. Current coverage broadly follows that curve, but the remaining Tuesday and Wednesday evening gaps fall inside the peak window and are the most consequential to close.

8. Recommendations

Four options were evaluated for the pilot’s next phase. All four share a common thread: continue monitoring Hennepin County’s regional alternative-response approach and remain open to joining a regional model later, since coverage gaps still exist outside current ERT hours (before 10 a.m. and Tuesday/Wednesday evenings) even with HC ART/BC ERT and Canopy Roots operating together.

Option	Description
1. Maintain Current ERT Model	As-is structure (HC ART/BC ERT via Hennepin County JPA + Canopy Roots contract)
2. Bring Fully In-House	City hires and manages its own expanded-response staff directly, ending the JPA/contract model.
3. Utilize ERT Ecosystem: Embedded Social Worker — Parks & Rec / OCPHS / CD/PD/Fire (2 FTE)	Add one embedded social worker serving Parks & Recreation, OCPHS, and Community Development. Add embedded social worker serving Police/Social Worker. Community Intervention + Outreach Team + Embedded SW + ERT, restoring the original four-part vision
4. Hybrid Model	ERT and/or ESW by day; Outreach & Intervention Team evenings/weekends

Cross-Cutting Priorities

Four priorities emerged from the review process and from continuing conversation with Hennepin County. They apply regardless of which option Council selects.

- **Consistency and predictable availability.** The City's most immediate operational concern is knowing when an ERT resource is actually available. Any agreement the City enters should specify guaranteed hours of availability and a defined coverage protocol for vacancies.
- **A more proactive posture.** ERT staff currently respond primarily to 911 calls and officer requests. There is a clear opportunity for proactive outreach at known locations and with individuals who repeatedly come into contact with the system, work that would move cases upstream from the Response tier toward Prevention and Recovery, where cost per contact is far lower.
- **Resolving information-sharing between law enforcement and behavioral health.** Responders continue to work through these constraints using real-world scenarios reviewed with attorneys, in order to define clearly when information can be shared and to build guidance and training rather than defaulting to "no." Brooklyn Center should participate in that work, since the outcome directly governs how well officers and responders can coordinate on shared cases.
- **Integration between COPE and embedded social workers.** The County is working toward better integration between its COPE mobile crisis service and embedded social workers, including shared documentation systems, so that both sides have continuity and visibility into work being done with the same individuals. COPE operates 24/7 for all ages countywide at no out-of-pocket cost and already covers hours ERT does not. Aligning with COPE is the lowest-cost route to closing Brooklyn Center's remaining coverage gaps.

City Administration recommendations will continue to be explored for a recommendation based on next steps:

Expanding embedded social work capacity into the departments listed (Parks & Recreation, OCPHS, Community Development), combined with bringing one social worker position directly in-house within the Police Department for BCPD and BCFD direct support, while engaging with regional approach structural planning, blends the needed elements.

With any option explored, various items should accompany the decision: the cost-per-response analysis, extended to include cost-per-contact figures for prevention and outreach programming, a funded measurement plan that closes the highest-value data gaps, measured calls for service data, and continued participation in the Hennepin County regional conversation and the Minnesota peer network.

9. Letters of Support & Appendices

Appendices (source documents)

- Appendix A — Hennepin County ERT Joint Powers Agreement, Contract #A2513298 (2026 renewal term)
- Appendix B — Canopy Roots Professional Services Agreement (Sept 2024) and contract extension (May 2026)
- Appendix C — Harvard Kennedy School Government Performance Lab, Essential Metrics for Alternative Emergency Response Programs
- Appendix D — BC ERT Pilot Data Compiled workbook (call volume, outcomes, demographics, cost modeling)
- Appendix E — “City-County-Community Partnership: Expanding 911 First Response Beyond Police in Brooklyn Center,” presentation to the Minnesota Justice Research Center Re-Imagining Justice Conference, November 19, 2024 (City of Brooklyn Center, Hennepin County, North Memorial Health, and Canopy Roots)
- Appendix F — Hennepin County Sheriff’s Office 911 demand analysis: Brooklyn Center mental health crisis and welfare check calls by hour and day, July 28, 2021 – July 28, 2023
- Appendix G — National League of Cities webinar materials, “How Cities Are Expanding Their Public Safety Infrastructure to Include a People-Centered Approach,” October 6, 2025
- Appendix H — Hennepin County COPE (mobile crisis response) client flyer. COPE provides mobile crisis services 24/7 to anyone in Hennepin County, for all ages, at no out-of-pocket cost, with bilingual and bicultural staff. The caller defines the crisis, and the stated goal is to avoid police involvement or hospitalization. Services include crisis risk assessment and safety planning, de-escalation and coping-skills education, referral to crisis residences and stabilization services, means-restriction education, and free lockboxes and gun locks.

Expanded Response Team (ERT) Pilot

Pilot Evaluation & Recommendations

Office of Community Prevention, Health & Safety | Reporting period September 2024 – June 2026

*Evaluated against the Harvard Kennedy School Government Performance Lab's
Essential Metrics for Alternative Emergency Response Programs*



This Was Not the City's Work Alone

The pilot was delivered by a partnership of agencies, providers and responders

Hennepin County

Human Services & Public Health assigned 2.0 FTE of behavioral health social work capacity under Joint Powers Agreement #A2513298. The Sheriff's Office provided 911 dispatch; CAD access and the triage standards the pilot's call coding was built to.

North Memorial Health

Provided community paramedic capacity paired with County social workers, bringing a medical response alongside the behavioral health response.

Canopy Roots

Recruited, trained and supervised the contracted evening and weekend response unit, extending coverage into the hours the pre-launch demand analysis identified as the busiest of the day.

City of Brooklyn Center

OCPHS led the effort, with Police, Fire, Parks & Recreation, Finance and Communications each carrying part of the work through six months of planning and two years of operation.

To the responders and partners with us tonight, Thank You.

The trusted and valued partners and stakeholders who funded the work, attended the meetings, and responded to dispatch calls for service; whose names don't show up in the records



In Memoriam

Steven Flucas

Canopy Roots Responder

A seasoned responder who met Brooklyn Center residents at some of the hardest moments of their lives and did it with skill and care. His loss was felt by his team, by his colleagues across this partnership, and by the residents he served.



In Memoriam

Why This Program Exists

Council direction, community mandate, and measured demand

● August 2019

Kobe Dimock-Heisler, a young man on the autism spectrum, is killed by Brooklyn Center police during a mental health crisis in his home.

● April 2021

Daunte Wright is killed by a Brooklyn Center police officer during a traffic stop.

● May 2021

Council adopts Resolution 2021-73 — the Daunte Wright and Kobe Dimock-Heisler Community Safety and Violence Prevention Act — directing 911 to route eligible calls to a community response team.

Demand was measured, not assumed

4,524

Brooklyn Center 911 calls for a mental health crisis or welfare check, July 2021 – July 2023 — roughly 2,260 a year, or about six a day.

An additional first responder

ERT was designed to widen the City's first-response capacity, not to replace it. The purpose is to pair the right response with the correct responder — a resident in a behavioral health crisis is met by a behavioral health professional, while officers remain available for calls that require a law-enforcement response.



ERT Internal Planning and Cross Agency Collaboration

Six months of interagency planning before a single call was taken

1 Planning

Roughly six months of interagency planning led by OCPHS with Police, Fire, Finance, Parks & Recreation, Communications, Hennepin County, North Memorial Health and Canopy Roots — a collaboration format new to the City.

2 Dispatch design

Call and problem-nature coding mirrored from Brooklyn Park's pilot and built to Hennepin County Sheriff's Office triage standards, so incidents could be identified and compared from day one.

3 Two teams launched

HC ART/BC ERT began September 2024 with 2.0 FTE on weekday daytime hours. Canopy Roots added evenings and weekends in April 2025.

4 Ongoing governance

Recurring implementation meetings from July 2024, and two formal Expanded Response System Review sessions in 2026 that produced this evaluation.

Coverage today

Together the two teams cover weekday daytime, weekday evenings and weekends. Gaps remain before 10 a.m. daily and on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, both inside the peak-demand window identified before launch.



Regional Standing & National Recognition

Brooklyn Center moved from studying other programs to being asked to present its own

Aug 2024	Albuquerque site visit	Mayor Pro-Tem, City Manager, Police Chief and OCPHS Director studied one of the country's longest-running municipal alternative-response systems, days before launch.
Nov 2024	Minnesota Justice Research Center	The City, Hennepin County, North Memorial Health and Canopy Roots presented as a single panel at the Re-Imagining Justice Conference — ten weeks after launch.
Jun 2025	NYU Policing Project convening	Selected for sponsored attendance at the national Advancing the Field of Alternative Response Convening, represented by OCPHS and Police leadership together.
Oct 2025	National League of Cities	OCPHS Director LaToya Turk featured on the NLC national webinar on people-centered public safety, alongside Minneapolis and Golden Valley.
Dec 2025	Minnesota All-Cities Gathering	Convened with Minneapolis and Golden Valley leadership to compare program design, staffing models and coverage strategy.

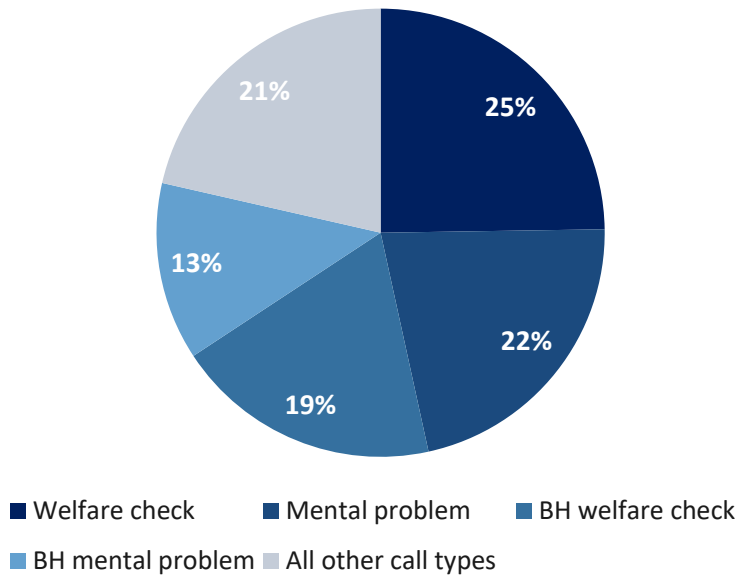
These peer relationships are an asset the City retains, with standing access to the operational experience of Minneapolis, Golden Valley and Hennepin County.



What the Data Shows

Dispatch and outcome data, September 2024 – March 2026

What kind of calls ERT handled



1,325

ERT-handled incidents

79%

of volume was welfare checks or mental-problem calls

94%

HC ART/BC ERT contact rate
(514 of 547 individuals)

82.6%

Canopy Roots contact rate
(360 of 436 calls)

The right calls reached the right responders

Dispatch routing sent ERT the calls the program was built for, rather than diluting the team across unrelated work.

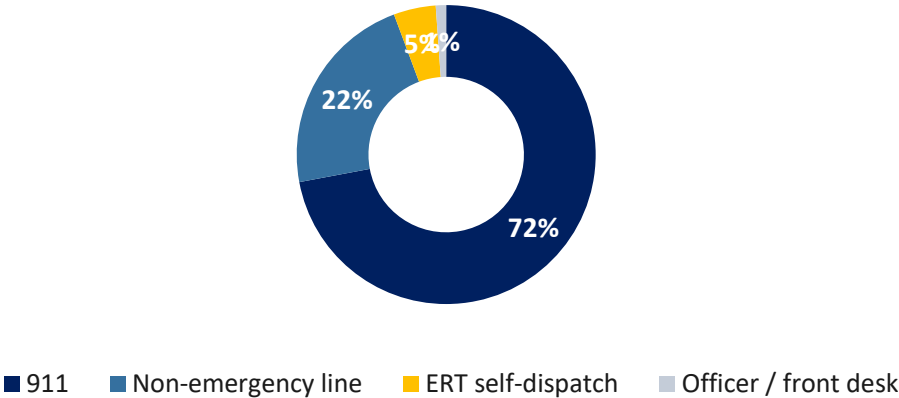


How Calls Reached ERT

Hennepin County Sheriff's Office dispatch data, September 2024 – March 2026

Over a quarter arrived by a route other than 911; 61 were ERT self-dispatching.

How calls reached ERT (1,338 responses)



Response time — two measures, both reported

	HC ART/BC ERT	Canopy Roots
Dispatch to arrival	15:19	17:52
Call placed to arrival	26:33	34:30
of which, waiting for dispatch	14:22	16:54

Dispatch to arrival measures the responders, and both teams do well on it. Call placed to arrival is what the resident experienced. The gap between them is time waiting for dispatch

45.0%

of responses were ERT alone
or first to arrive

89.1%

of responses resolved with
no transport at all

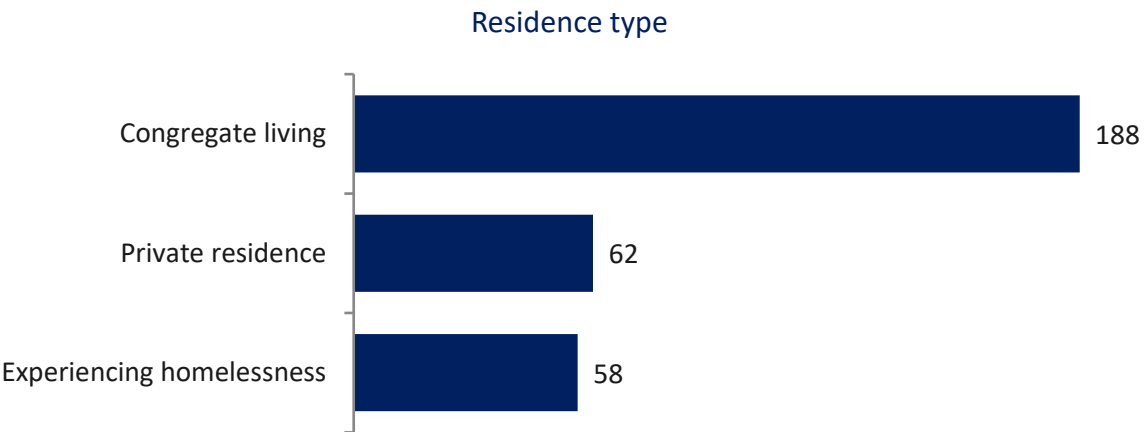
37.8%

of responses were at group homes
(53.5% for Canopy Roots)



Who ERT Response Data

HC ART/BC ERT residence and referral patterns, FY2025



Leading referral categories

Medical / other health	127
Case management	123
Mental health	98
Wellness	66
Housing	58

80%

of individuals contacted were referred
to additional County resources

93%

had health insurance at referral

609

total referrals made in FY2025
across 261 intakes



Hennepin County

Human Services & Public Health Department and the Sheriff's Office

The County assigned 2.0 FTE of behavioral health social work capacity to Brooklyn Center under a Joint Powers Agreement, and provided the 911 dispatch, CAD access and call-triage standards the pilot was built on. Its Brooklyn Park pilot was the model Brooklyn Center's program was designed from.

547

individuals opened by HC ART/BC ERT across the pilot

94%

contact-made rate — 514 of those individuals

989

referrals made to County and community resources



Canopy Roots

Contracted evening and weekend behavioral crisis response

Canopy Roots recruited, trained and supervised the unit that covered Brooklyn Center's evenings and weekends from April 2025 — the hours the pre-launch demand analysis identified as the busiest of the day. The team also operates Minneapolis's Behavioral Crisis Response program.

436 documented calls across the pilot period

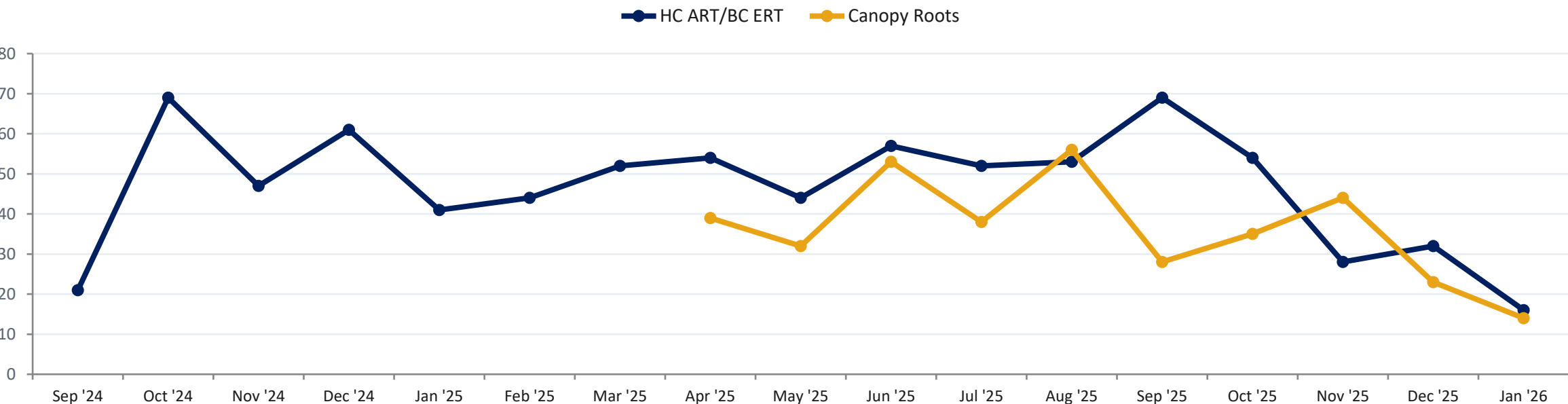
82.6% contact-made rate — 360 of those calls

312 instances of emotional support provided on scene



The Staffing Disruption, Visible in the Data

Monthly ERT responses by team, September 2024 – January 2026



-39% HC ART/BC ERT

53.6 responses a month through Sept 2025, then 32.5 from October on.

-34% Canopy Roots

43.6 a month through August 2025, then 28.8 after the loss of a responder.

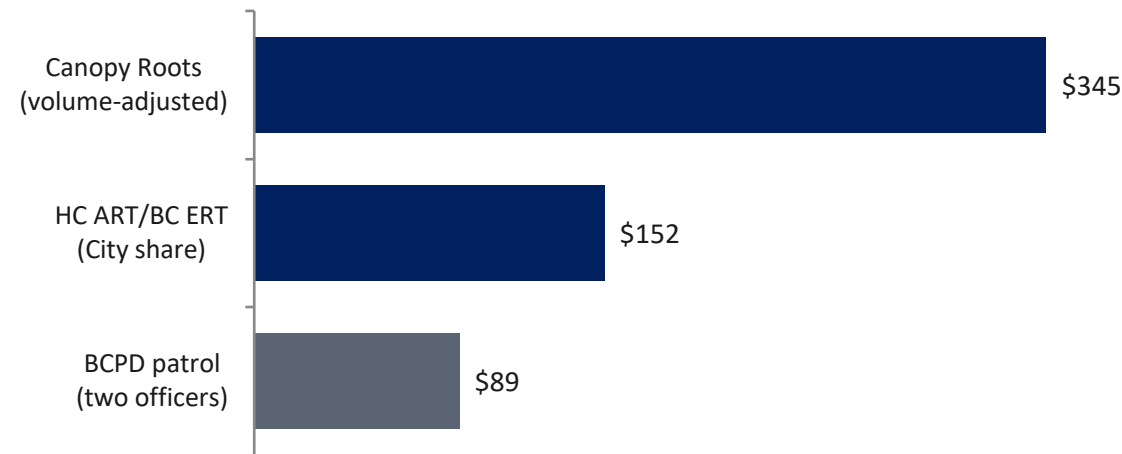
Two teams, two unrelated causes, one pattern

At 1–2 FTE per team, a single vacancy is immediately visible in-service levels.



What It Costs

Staffing cost per response, calendar year 2025



Priced at true personnel cost, both models land at about \$345–\$349 per response.

Delivery model is not a cost lever

Whichever partner delivers the service, the City pays about the same for the same behavioral health labor. The decision should turn on coverage, continuity and sustainability, not on price alone.



Lessons Learned

From OCPHS's internal review and direct responder feedback

Turnover is difficult on both sides of the partnership

A single vacancy is immediately visible at 1–2 FTE per team. The same fragility ran through the City side: vacancies, staff reductions and interim appointments meant knowledge left faster than it could be written down. For most of the pilot OCPHS was load bearing for the whole effort with no redundancy behind it.

Measurement must be designed in

Fourteen of eighteen Harvard metrics can be reported. That came during the pilot, not built in at the start, and three of the six original outcomes did not have metric tools in place.

Grant dependence is the core financial risk

Roughly 87% of pilot funding came from external grants. Continuation decisions are also decisions about replacing grant revenue.

Awareness and dispatch discipline

Responders reported that residents did not know the service existed, and that police units sometimes picked up mental-health-coded calls after ERT had self-assigned. ERT responded alone or arrived first on 45.0% of responses.

Risk and liability are governance questions

Behavioral health response is healthcare delivery. Any model placing clinical supervision inside a department warrants City Attorney review.

Standing up a new program is a heavy lift

OCPHS built the operational infrastructure while coordinating eight partner agencies, with limited staffing, budget cuts and multiple senior-level changes.



Recommendations

Four options evaluated; all preserve the option to join a regional model later

Option 1 Maintain current ERT model As-is structure — HC ART/BC ERT via the Hennepin County JPA, plus the Canopy Roots contract	Option 2 Bring fully in-house City hires and manages its own expanded-response staff, ending the JPA and contract model	Option 3 Utilize the ERT ecosystem Embedded social workers across Parks & Rec, OCPHS, Community Development, PD and Fire — restoring the original four-part vision	Option 4 Hybrid model ERT and/or embedded social work by day; Outreach and Intervention Team evenings and weekends
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Still being explored. City Administration continues to weigh a hybrid approach: Expanding embedded social work into Parks & Recreation, OCPHS and Community Development, with one social worker brought in-house to support Police and Fire directly, while engaging in regional structural planning. No single option has been fully vetted internally.

Priorities that apply whichever option Council selects

Predictable availability Specify guaranteed hours and a defined coverage protocol for vacancies.	A more proactive posture Outreach at known locations and to frequent utilizers, upstream of 911.	Information sharing Clear guidance for what police and behavioral health can share, and when.	Integration with COPE The County's 24/7 crisis service already covers hours ERT does not.
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With any option explored, several items should accompany the decision: cost-per-contact figures extended to prevention and outreach, a funded measurement plan, measured calls-for-service data, and continued participation in the Hennepin County regional conversation and the Minnesota peer network.



Expanded Response Team (ERT) Pilot Questions



Council Regular Meeting

DATE: 9/14/2026
TO: City Council
FROM: Xiong Thao, Housing and Community Standards Manager
THROUGH: Ginny McIntosh, Planning Manager
BY: Xiong Thao, Housing and Community Standards Manager
SUBJECT: Hazardous Building Declaration — 6138 Dupont Avenue North

Requested Council Action:

- Motion to declare 6138 Dupont Avenue North as a hazardous property and issue an Abatement Order for the identified code violations.

Background:

January 13, 2025: Community Development staff received a complaint stating that the Subject Property located at 6138 Dupont Avenue North had a large hole in the roof at the south corner of the primary dwelling.

January 14, 2025: Staff completed an inspection and attempted to contact the Property Owner, David Dahlgren, but were unable to connect during a site visit or by phone. A compliance notice was mailed to Mr. Dahlgren.

March 3, 2025: Staff completed an exterior inspection and noted that the property conditions had not changed since the initial visit. Staff met the Property Owner and outlined the identified property code violations. The Property Owner stated that he needed assistance. He was referred to Hennepin County Social Services and Senior Community Services. A copy of the compliance notice was posted on the door.

May 2, 2025: A follow-up inspection was completed, which found the violations had yet to be addressed. A compliance notice was sent to Mr. Dahlgren. Administrative Citations were issued for the accumulation of rubbish, unlicensed vehicles, and yard maintenance.

May 29, 2025: A follow-up inspection was completed, which again found the violations had yet to be addressed. Staff left the City's flyer about the City's rehab loan programs at the side door. Administrative Citations were issued for blocked address numbers, roof repair, gutter repairs, inoperable vehicles, rubbish, and yard maintenance.

July 14, 2025: A follow-up inspection was completed, and the violations had not been addressed. Staff posted copies of the Administrative Citations on the side door. Administrative Citations were issued for blocked address numbers, roof repair, and gutter repairs.

August 8, 2025: A follow-up inspection was completed, and the violations had not been addressed. Administrative Citations were issued for blocked address numbers, roof

repair, and gutter repairs, inoperable vehicles, rubbish, and yard maintenance.

September 5, 2025: A follow-up inspection was completed, and City staff met Mr. Dahlgren, but he did not want to talk about the code violations or the Administrative Citations. The code violations were not corrected.

September 17, 2025: A follow-up inspection was completed, which determined the violations had not been corrected. Administrative Citations were issued for blocked address numbers, roof and gutter repairs, inoperable vehicles, rubbish, and yard maintenance.

October 22, 2025: A follow-up inspection was completed, and the violations had not been corrected. Staff called and left a voicemail regarding the code violations at the property, and offering suggestions on how to bring the property into compliance.

November 3, 2025: A follow-up inspection was completed, and violations were not corrected. Staff spoke with Mr. Dahlgren and explained the code violations. Staff informed Mr. Dahlgren that he will need to get tabs for the vehicles since they had expired between 1994 and 2024. Mr. Dahlgren stated that he does not have insurance and will need to get insurance before he can purchase tabs for the vehicles. Mr. Dahlgren stated that he got a quote to repair the roof for \$8,000 but did not have the money for the repair. Mr. Dahlgren stated he has not applied to any of the City's rehab programs. Staff informed Mr. Dahlgren that he would need to get the vehicles taken care of; otherwise, the City would tow them, and he needed to address the repairs required to his roof. A compliance notice was sent to Mr. Dahlgren.

December 4, 2025: a follow-up inspection was completed, and the violations were not corrected. Staff called and left a voicemail informing Mr. Dahlgren that if the vehicles are not in compliance, the City would have them towed and if the roof is not repaired, the City would eventually need to condemn the house. A compliance notice was sent to Mr. Dahlgren.

April 16, 2026: A follow-up inspection was completed, which found the violations had not been corrected. Staff delivered two City rehab program brochures to Mr. Dahlgren. Staff spoke with Mr. Dahlgren and informed him that he needed to call and apply to the programs to get the roof repaired. Mr. Dahlgren stated he broke his hip so he could not move around. Staff made a referral to a Hennepin County social worker and called Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) to look for Mr. Dahlgren's application. He was informed that a follow-up inspection would be completed in May (2026) and if there was no progress in having his roof repaired, the City would begin the condemnation process. A compliance notice was sent to Mr. Dahlgren.

April 17, 2026: Jill DeMars from Hennepin County emailed City staff and stated there might be someone who can fix the roof.

May 6, 2026: Ms. DeMars stated that she had an appointment with Mr. Dahlgren

regarding the home repairs.

May 20, 2026: Staff received an email from Habitat for Humanity providing an update on the status of a home repair application that had been submitted. The email stated that the application was in queue and applications are processed in the order they are received.

June 29, 2026: An inspection was completed, which affirmed the property conditions had not changed. Staff followed up with Ms. DeMars; however, City staff were informed she was no longer with Hennepin County. Staff contacted Habitat for Humanity and left a voicemail inquiring about an update on the application and repairs.

July 10, 2026: An email was sent to Habitat for Humanity and the embedded Brooklyn Center social worker, Binta Barry, regarding the status of Mr. Dahlgren's application.

July 22, 2026: An email was received stating Mr. Dahlgren did not qualify for Habitat for Humanity's rehab program due to ownership issues relating to a reverse mortgage.

July 28, 2026: An inspection of the property was conducted and staff met with Mr. Dahlgren. Staff requested access to the interior of the home. Mr. Dahlgren declined access to view the interior of the home. Staff informed him about the next steps the City would take as the repairs had not been completed in over a year. Mr. Dahlgren informed staff that the ceilings and rooms have damage from the holes in the roof and that the house has a lot of stuff that he did not want the inspectors to see. Mr. Dahlgren stated he is open to moving and just wanted a place to live. He noted he preferred senior living and relayed that he was not attached to the property. Staff informed Mr. Dahlgren that a follow-up would be made the following week to see if he had changed his mind about providing access to the interior of the home.

August 10, 2026: Staff were given permission by Mr. Dahlgren to enter the home. Photos of the home's interior were taken for documentation.

Due to the penetrations in the ceilings, walls and ceiling damage, trash and debris throughout the property, the property was determined to be not habitable. Access through the home was limited to a small walkway leading from the back door through the kitchen, to the living room, and the bathroom hallway. Mr. Dahlgren stated he still has water at the property, but this was not confirmed by City staff. The bathroom had limited access and staff were not able to verify that the bathroom facilities were operational. Staff were able to view the bedrooms where the roof damage is located. The ceilings and walls in the rooms have deteriorated due to ongoing exposure to the elements. Mr. Dahlgren stated there is a hole in the living room where water seeps in when it rains. The hole is not visible, but the damage caused by the water is visible. Mr. Dahlgren stated he does not have trash service because he is not able to bring his trash bin to the curb due to hip surgery. Staff could not view the entire basement and access the rooms due to the amount of trash. After the inspection, it was explained to Mr. Dahlgren that the City will be pursuing a hazardous building declaration due to the

condition of the property.

Mr. Dahlgren stated that he understood and was hoping the City or Hennepin County could assist him in finding senior housing so that he is not homeless. The photos of the property were shared with City staff, Hennepin County Social Services and Public Health, and Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity — A Brush With Kindness.

August 12, 2026: Staff posted the property as a hazardous property.

August 18, 2026: Brooklyn Center OCHPS staff contacted Hennepin County's Streets to Housing team and requested assistance in identifying potential alternative housing for the Property Owner. Hennepin County staff emailed back and indicated they would be able to schedule a meeting with Mr. Dahlgren for August 19.

August 24, 2026: Staff made a referral to Hennepin County Environmental Health to have the property evaluated as a public nuisance. Staff went to the property and met with Mr. Dahlgren to schedule the health inspection and talked about the property ownership issue flagged by Habitat for Humanity. Mr. Dahlgren stated he never signed a reverse mortgage with anyone and the property was paid off in 2016. He asked if it could be a fraudulent transfer as he is aware of scams among seniors. Staff stated he would need to investigate that if he thinks it could be a false transfer.

Staff then requested a copy of the title search from Habitat for Humanity and, after reviewing it, noted the title work was for the wrong address. It was requested that Habitat for Humanity re-run the title work using the correct address. A new title search was conducted with the updated address and the ownership records confirmed Mr. Dahlgren is the sole owner of the property.

Habitat for Humanity went out and met with Mr. Dahlgren about rehabbing the property. Mr. Dahlgren stated that he did not want to rehab the property because it would cost too much and eventually declined services. Mr. Dahlgren is actively working with Toinette Battle, BCPD Embedded Senior Social Worker, to find alternative housing options. With the help of Ms. Battle, Mr. Dahlgren toured one housing option, which he declined. Ms. Battle will continue to assist with finding alternative housing if Mr. Dahlgren is willing to look for other housing options.

August 28, 2026: Hennepin County Environmental Health and Code Enforcement staff completed an inspection of the property. Additional photos of the property were taken. Hennepin Environmental Health determined that the property is uninhabitable, and the violations would need to be abated.

City staff are including photos of the exterior property conditions at 6138 Dupont Avenue North, a PowerPoint presentation, and a resolution ordering the correction or removal of the hazardous condition of the property for City Council review and consideration. The attached resolution declares the Subject Property building as

"hazardous" per Minnesota Statutes section 463.15, orders the issuance of an Abatement Order, to be served on all parties with an interest in the Subject Property, and for the City Attorney to authorize and take all necessary legal steps to secure compliance with the Abatement Order and obtain authority to remove and abate the hazardous conditions on the Subject Property by court order or consent, and assess the costs thereof against the Subject Property.

Budget Issues:

None to consider at this time; however, if the City Council elects to pursue an abatement on the property or demolition of the primary dwelling, those charges would be specially assessed.

Inclusive Community Engagement:

Antiracist/Equity Policy Effect:

Strategic Priorities and Values:

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution — Ordering the Correction or Removal of the Hazardous Condition of Property at 6138 Dupont Avenue North in the City of Brooklyn Center
2. City of Brooklyn Center Compliance Notice — 6138 Dupont Avenue North (August 20, 2026)
3. Hennepin County Environmental Health Notice of County Action for Abatement — 6138 Dupont Avenue North (August 28, 2026)
4. Exterior Property Conditions — 6138 Dupont Avenue North
5. PowerPoint Presentation — Hazardous Building Declaration (6138 Dupont Avenue North)

Member
and moved its adoption:

introduced the following resolution

RESOLUTION NO.

RESOLUTION ORDERING THE CORRECTION OR REMOVAL OF THE HAZARDOUS CONDITION OF PROPERTY AT 6138 DUPONT AVENUE NORTH IN THE CITY OF BROOKLYN CENTER

WHEREAS, the property located at 6138 Dupont Avenue North and legally described as Lot 012, Block 003, Cederberg Addition (the “Subject Property”) contains, among other things, a single-family home (the “Building”); and

WHEREAS, the Subject Property is located in the City of Brooklyn Center (“City”) and is owned by David Dahlgren (the “Owner”); and

WHEREAS, substantial deterioration of the Building, including a hole in the roof and overgrown trees next to the foundation, is visible from the exterior of the Subject Property; and

WHEREAS, City code enforcement and housing standards staff viewed the interior of the Building with the Owner’s permission on August 10, 2026, and confirmed that the Building is in a hazardous and unsafe condition, including a hole in the roof and related extensive interior water damage, and as additionally described in the attached compliance notice dated August 20, 2026; and

WHEREAS, City staff determined after the August 10, 2026, inspection that the Building is unfit for habitation, and posted notice of same on the Building on August 17, 2026, including a provision that the defects must be remedied per Section 12-1103 of the City Code of Ordinances by September 19, 2026; and

WHEREAS, City staff have corresponded repeatedly with the Owner regarding the need for correction of the hazardous conditions of the Building; and

WHEREAS, the Owner has acknowledged the poor condition of the Building but has not corrected the hazardous conditions thereof; and

WHEREAS, City staff have recommended that it will not be feasible for the City to repair the Building because of the cost and time that would be involved, and that the only reasonable course if the City is required to abate the hazardous condition will be for the Building to be either boarded up and secured or demolished in order to abate the hazardous condition; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes section 463.16 authorizes the governing body of any municipality to order the owner of any hazardous building within the municipality to correct or remove the hazardous condition; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes section 463.15, subdivision 3, defines a “hazardous building” as any “building . . . which because of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation, physical damage, unsanitary condition, or abandonment, constitutes a fire hazard or a hazard to public safety or health”; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes section 463.161 et seq. authorizes a city to correct or remove a hazardous condition of any hazardous building if the owner of record fails to do so after a reasonable time and the district court enters a judgment sustaining the city’s order,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Brooklyn Center, Minnesota as follows:

1. The foregoing recitals are adopted as factual findings.
2. The Building is a hazardous building within the meaning of Minnesota Statutes section 463.15.
3. An Abatement Order substantially similar to that attached hereto as Exhibit A shall be served upon all parties with an interest in the Subject Property in order to effectuate this Resolution, and constitutes the order of the governing body of the municipality under Minnesota Statutes chapter 463.
4. The City Attorney is authorized to take all necessary legal steps to secure compliance with the Abatement Order and to obtain authority to remove and abate the hazardous conditions on the Subject Property by court order or consent, and assess the costs thereof against the Subject Property.

September 14, 2026

Date

Mayor

ATTEST: _____

City Clerk

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by member

and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

and the following voted against the same:

whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

EXHIBIT A

Abatement Order

STATE OF MINNESOTA

DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Case Type: Other Civil

In the Matter of the Hazardous
Property Located at 6138 Dupont Avenue North,
Brooklyn Center, Minnesota

**ORDER FOR ABATEMENT
OF HAZARDOUS
PROPERTY CONDITION**

TO: All owners, occupying tenants, if any, and all lienholders of record.

The City Council of the City of Brooklyn Center hereby orders that within 20 days of service of this Order you abate the hazardous conditions which exist on the property located at 6138 Dupont Avenue North, in the City of Brooklyn Center ("City"), which property is legally described as:

Lot 012 Block 003 Cederberg Addition
(the "Subject Property").

The City, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes sections 463.15 to 463.261 and based on the authorization of City Council Resolution No. _____, adopted on September 14, 2026, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated by reference herein, finds that the single-family home (the "Building") located at the above-referenced property constitutes a hazardous building within the meaning of Minnesota Statutes Section 463.15, subdivision 3.

Pursuant to the above-referenced statutes, it is hereby ORDERED that you abate the hazardous conditions within 20 days of the date of service of this Order, **either** by demolishing the Building (after obtaining a demolition permit from the City) and properly disposing of all garbage and debris; **or** by boarding up and securing the Building, **or** by making each the following repairs to the Building after obtaining proper permits:

- a. Replace roof and roof structures, including but not limited to roof decking, shingles, any truss/rafters that are damaged by the elements (MN IRC Chapter 9 provisions).
- b. Replace attic insulation meeting MN Energy code 402.1.1.
- c. Replace exterior wall framing members and sheetrock throughout the house (MN IRC Chapter 6 provisions).
- d. Replace wall insulation meeting MN Energy code 402.1.1.
- e. Remove any trees and brush that may impose structural damage to the property (IPMC 304.3).
- f. Replace damage soffit, fascia, and gutters (IPMC 304.1).
- g. Remove trash, debris, and materials damaged by the elements throughout the house. Provide a clear path of egress throughout the property (IPMC 305.1 & 305.3).
- h. Provide documentation for pest control treatment for mice (IPMC 302.5).
- i. Provide documentation that an electrician has inspected electrical wiring and there is power to each outlet and light throughout the house (IPMC 604).
- j. Repair or replace any damaged window throughout the property (IPMC 304.13).

- k. Ensure that property has required utilities (gas, water, and electricity) to the property (IPMC 601.2).
- l. Remove mold and mildew on walls, ceilings, and floors throughout the property (IPMC 305.1 & 305.3).
- m. Provide weekly trash service with a licensed trash hauler (City Ordinance 7-102).

You must apply for and obtain the appropriate permit(s) for the work you intend to perform from the appropriate City offices before abating the hazardous conditions. This Order is not a permit.

You are further advised that unless such corrective action is taken or an Answer is served on the City and filed with the Court within 20 days of the date of service of this Order upon you, a motion for summary enforcement of this Order will be made to the Hennepin County District Court.

You are further advised that if you do not comply with this Order and the City is compelled to take any corrective action, all necessary costs incurred by the City in taking the corrective action will be assessed against the property pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 463.21. In connection thereto, the City intends to recover all its expenses incurred in carrying out this Order, including specifically, but not exclusively, filing fees, service fees, publication fees, attorneys' fees, appraisers' fees, witness fees, including expert witness fees, and traveling expenses incurred by the City from the time this Order was originally made pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 463.22.

Dated: August _____, 2026

KENNEDY & GRAVEN, CHARTERED

By: _____

Siobhan L. Tolar (#0392502)
Zachary T. Brennan DesAutels (#0392151)
Fifth Street Towers, Suite 700
150 South Fifth Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402
(612) 337-9300

**ATTORNEYS FOR THE
CITY OF BROOKLYN CENTER**



City of Brooklyn Center

6301 Shingle Creek Pkwy
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430
763-569-3330
www.brooklyncentermn.gov

August 20, 2026



To: David A Dahlgren
6138 Dupont Ave N
Brooklyn Center MN 55430

RE: 6138 Dupont Ave N
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430

Dear Property Owner:

The Brooklyn Center City Council has adopted certain ordinances in an effort to keep our city clean and maintain good relations between neighbors. The following violation(s) were noted at your property.

Your cooperation in taking care of the items would be appreciated. If the property code violations are not corrected, additional enforcement action may be taken to include issuing an Administrative Citation(s) and/or a formal complaint to ensure compliance with city ordinances.

Please correct the following violation by **09/19/2026**:

Hazardous Building 12-1103; IPMC 108



City of Brooklyn Center

6301 Shingle Creek Pkwy
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430
763-569-3330
www.brooklyncentermn.gov

Based on the interior inspection of the property on August 10, 2026 the corrections must be made:

1. Replace the damage roof shingles and all other parts of the roof to prevent water intrusion. A building permit is required.
2. Replace attic insulation in accordance to MN Energy code 402.1.1. A building permit is required.
3. Due to limited access to the attic space, an assessment of the truss/rafters will be required. A structural engineer's assessment may be required once access is provided.
4. Replace or repair any exterior wall framing members. Replace any damaged sheetrock throughout the property. A building permit is required.
5. Replace exterior wall insulation in accordance to MN Energy code 402.1.1.
6. Remove any trees and brush that may impose any structural damage to the house. Remove brush that is blocking address numbers in the front of the property.
7. Replace damaged soffit, fascia, and gutters.
8. Remove all trash, debris, and materials damaged by the elements in the house. Egress (clear path) must be provided throughout the property.
9. Provide documentation that there has been a pest control treatment(s) for mice.
10. Have an electrician check electrical wiring to ensure there is no damage to wires and there is power to lights and outlets throughout the house.
11. There was limited access to the basement, an assessment of the basement will need to be conducted.
12. Repair or replace any damaged windows throughout the property.
13. Ensure that all required utilities (gas, water, electricity) is active to the property. Utility billing has notified inspection staff that the water meter will need to be replaced.
14. Remove mold and mildew on walls, ceiling, and floors throughout the property.
15. Weekly trash service must be provided to the property by a licensed trash servicer with the City of Brooklyn Center.

The listed corrections are what is viewable at the time of inspection. At anytime during the hazardous building process, additional corrections and requirements may be issued based on access to the property and what is viewable during the inspection and/or assessments from 3rd party contractors.

Doing your part to keep the City of Brooklyn Center a great place to live will be appreciated. If you have questions or cannot complete the repairs by the above date(s), please contact me at (763) 569-3312.

Sincerely,



City of Brooklyn Center

6301 Shingle Creek Pkwy
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430
763-569-3330
www.brooklyncentermn.gov

Na Vang
Housing and Code Enforcement Inspector



City of Brooklyn Center

6301 Shingle Creek Pkwy
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430
763-569-3330
www.brooklyncentermn.gov

August 20, 2026

To: Current Resident

6138 Dupont Ave N

Brooklyn Center MN 55430

RE: 6138 Dupont Ave N

Brooklyn Center, MN 55430

Dear Current Resident:

The Brooklyn Center City Council has adopted certain ordinances in an effort to keep our city clean and maintain good relations between neighbors. The following violation(s) were noted at your property.

Your cooperation in taking care of the items would be appreciated. If the property code violations are not corrected, additional enforcement action may be taken to include issuing an Administrative Citation(s) and/or a formal complaint to ensure compliance with city ordinances.

Please correct the following violation by **09/19/2026**:

Hazardous Building 12-1103; IPMC 108



City of Brooklyn Center

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Based on the interior inspection of the property on August 10, 2026 the corrections must be made:

1. Replace the damage roof shingles and all other parts of the roof to prevent water intrusion. A building permit is required.
2. Replace attic insulation in accordance to MN Energy code 402.1.1. A building permit is required.
3. Due to limited access to the attic space, an assessment of the truss/rafters will be required. A structural engineer's assessment may be required once access is provided.
4. Replace or repair any exterior wall framing members. Replace any damaged sheetrock throughout the property. A building permit is required.
5. Replace exterior wall insulation in accordance to MN Energy code 402.1.1.
6. Remove any trees and brush that may impose any structural damage to the house. Remove brush that is blocking address numbers in the front of the property.
7. Replace damaged soffit, fascia, and gutters.
8. Remove all trash, debris, and materials damaged by the elements in the house. Egress (clear path) must be provided throughout the property.
9. Provide documentation that there has been a pest control treatment(s) for mice.
10. Have an electrician check electrical wiring to ensure there is no damage to wires and there is power to lights and outlets throughout the house.
11. There was limited access to the basement, an assessment of the basement will need to be conducted.
12. Repair or replace any damaged windows throughout the property.
13. Ensure that all required utilities (gas, water, electricity) is active to the property. Utility billing has notified inspection staff that the water meter will need to be replaced.
14. Remove mold and mildew on walls, ceiling, and floors throughout the property.
15. Weekly trash service must be provided to the property by a licensed trash servicer with the City of Brooklyn Center.

The listed corrections are what is viewable at the time of inspection. At anytime during the hazardous building process, additional corrections and requirements may be issued based on access to the property and what is viewable during the inspection and/or assessments from 3rd party contractors.

Doing your part to keep the City of Brooklyn Center a great place to live will be appreciated. If you have questions or cannot complete the repairs by the above date(s), please contact me at (763) 569-3312.

Sincerely,



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Na Vang
Housing and Code Enforcement Inspector

HENNEPIN COUNTY

PUBLIC HEALTH

NOTICE OF COUNTY ACTION FOR ABATEMENT OF A PUBLIC HEALTH NUISANCE

David A Dahlgren
6138 Dupont Ave N
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430

Regarding: Abatement of the Public Health Nuisance located at:
6138 Dupont Ave N Brooklyn Center, MN 55430

Dear Property owner,

On 8-28-2026, you were issued the following orders to abate the nuisance on your property listed above:

(Violations Checked – referring to Hennepin County Ordinance 25, Section 2.01):

- ☐ C. An unsecured hole or opening caused by improperly abandoned cistern, well pit, sewage treatment system, unused or non-maintained swimming pool, mine shaft or tunnel.
- ☒ D. Failure to keep waste, refuse, or garbage in an enclosed building or properly contained in a closed, insect and rodent proof, container designed or reasonably adapted for such purpose, except for the immediate time preceding pick-up by a refuse hauler.
- ☐ E. Accumulation of carcasses of animals, birds, or fish by failing to bury or otherwise dispose of in a sanitary manner within 24 hours after death. This provision shall not apply if the animals, birds, or fish are intended for human consumption.
- ☒ F. Accumulation of decaying animal or vegetable matter, animal or human feces, trash, rubbish, garbage, rotting lumber, packing material, scrap metal, tires or any other substances in which flies, mosquitoes, other disease carrying

insects, rodents or other vermin can harbor; this definition does not include compost bins or compost sites which are being managed in accordance with acceptable standards.

- ☒ G. Accumulations of rubbish or junk as to become dangerous or injurious to the health and safety of any individual or to the public.
- ☒ H. Any structure that has become dangerous for further occupancy because of sanitary defects.
- ☐ I. Infestations of flies, fleas, cockroaches, lice, rats, mice, fly larvae, or hookworm larvae.
- ☐ J. Unnatural breeding grounds which support mosquito larvae and mosquitoes capable of carrying West Nile Virus, La Crosse Encephalitis Virus, or any other disease-causing microorganism.

You have ten calendar days following the date of service of this notice or the date of posting of this notice to appeal the above determination and request a hearing. You have ten county business days following the date this notice was received to request an extension for the time needed to abate the nuisance.

An appeal request or an extension of time request must be in writing or emailed (you can email Seid.Sheka@hennepin.us or you can mail or drop off a letter addressed to Seid Sheka using the address listed at the bottom of this letter.

The ten calendar day period to appeal the determination will start 8-28-2026, and will end on September 7th at 4pm.

The ten business day period to request an extension will start 8-28-2026, and will end on September 11th at 4pm.

If this office does not receive a written or emailed notification from you or your representative that you would like to appeal or request an extension by the aforementioned deadlines, Hennepin County and The City of Brooklyn Center intend to take action to abate the public health nuisance.

The abatement measures Brooklyn Center and Hennepin County Public Health intend to take are including but not limited to:

- Remove garbage and unnecessary articles from the dwelling.
- Remove accumulation of decaying plant or animal organic matter.
- Provide clear passage through rooms.
- Provide egress to all doors and windows, so emergency personnel can enter the home safely.
- Repair structure to be safe.
- Remove and dispose of all decaying and putrid organic matter.

Hennepin County Public Health
479 Prairie Center Dr., Eden Prairie, MN 55344
612-543-5200 | Epi-envhlth@hennepin.us



- Buildings must be cleaned out and access for animal harborage must be blocked.
- The dwelling must be treated for insect infestation to remove pests.
- The toilet must be fully functional.
- Clean the restroom and kitchen area of debris and soil.
- Remove any substances in which flies, mosquitoes, or other disease carrying insects, rodents or other vermin can harbor

ALL COSTS RELATED TO THE ABATEMENT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH NUISANCE ON YOUR PROPERTY, PLUS ANY ADDITIONAL EXPENSES SUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, REIMBURSEMENT FOR HENNEPIN COUNTY THE CITY OF BROOKLYN CENTER STAFF FOR THEIR TIME TAKEN FOR THESE ACTIONS WILL BE ASSESSED TO YOUR PROPERTY TAXES.

Seid Shaka Environmentalist

William Alken Senior Environmentalist

Received by

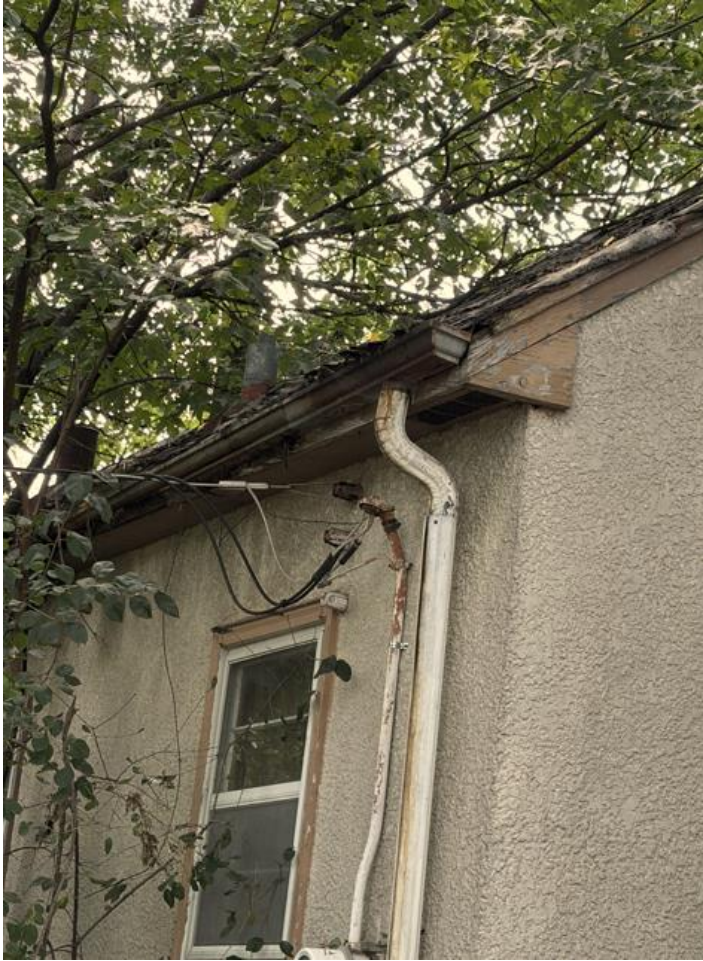
Dated: 05128126

Dated: 8-28-26

Dated: 8-28-26











Hazardous Building Declaration: 6138 Dupont Avenue North



City Council Meeting | September 14, 2026

Ginny McIntosh, Interim Deputy Community Development Director and Planning Manager

Background

Property Address: 6138 Dupont Avenue North

Property Owner: Daivd Dahlgren

Initial Complaint: January 13, 2025

- An approximately two-foot wide hole in the roof on the south corner of the house.

January 14, 2025: Community Development staff completed inspection and found the hole in the roof. Staff attempted to talk to the homeowner. A compliance notice was sent to the property owner.

March 3, 2025: Staff were able to talk to Mr. Dahlgren regarding the property conditions. Mr. Dahlgren understood the condition of his property and asked if there were any services that could assist him. Mr. Dahlgren was referred to Hennepin County Social Services and Senior Community Services.

- For the next several months, staff continued to conduct site visits at the property and talk to Mr. Dahlgren but no forward progress was made in bringing his property back into compliance with City ordinances. Staff issued Administrative Citations for the code violations that were not completed on the property. The roof issues were not repaired and Mr. Dahlgren did not proactively seek out options for assistance or loans to address the damage.



Background

- **November 3, 2025:** An inspection was completed and staff spoke with Mr. Dahlgren about the roof violation. He stated that he received a quote for \$8,000 to repair the roof but he did not have the money to pay for it. Mr. Dahlgren also stated that he has not applied to any of the City's rehab programs.
- **April 16, 2026:** A follow up inspection was completed and brochures of the City's home rehab programs were given to Mr. Dahlgren. Staff made a referral to Hennepin County Social Services and informed Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) that Mr. Dahlgren would be contacting them about loan options.
- **Between April and May 2026:** Hennepin County and Habitat for Humanity tried to assist Mr. Dahlgren in applying for home rehab loan—specifically, A Brush with Kindness.
- **July 22, 2026:** staff were notified that Mr. Dahlgren did not qualify for their home rehab program as a reverse mortgage was identified on the property.
- **August 10, 2026:** Mr. Dahlgren gave permission to view the interior of the home. During the visit, staff documented the conditions of the property and issued corrections.

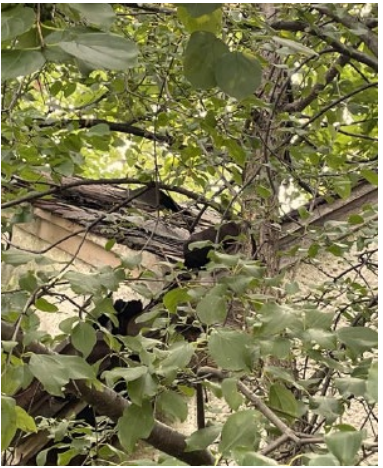
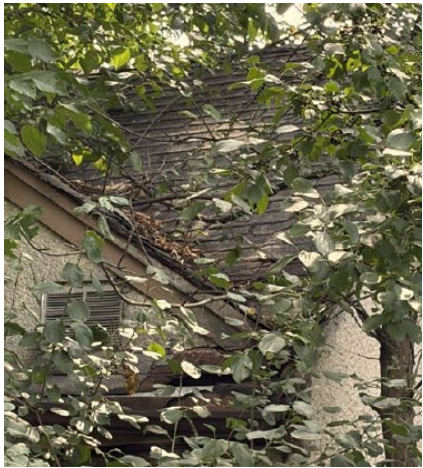


Background

- **August 17, 2026:** Staff posted the property as a hazardous/unfit property. Staff did talk to him while posting the property but was able to later reach him by phone. Staff informed Mr. Dahlgren of the posting and informed him that he cannot stay in the property.
- **August 19, 2026:** Hennepin County social services were able to meet with Mr. Dahlgren and start the process of finding alternative housing.
- **August 20, 2026:** A hazardous building compliance notice was posted on the property and mailed by USPS.
- **Since August 20:**
 - Staff has been able to connect Mr. Dahlgren to Habitat for Humanity home rehab program which he has declined the rehab services citing the cost of rehab is too high.
 - BCPD Embedded Social Work Toinette Battle has shown him a housing unit, which he has declined. Ms. Battle is continuing to work with Mr. Dahlgren on finding a unit prior to having to vacate the property.
- **August 28, 2026:** HC Environmental Health and Code Enforcement staff inspected the property and additional photos were taken. HC Environmental Health ordered the violations to be abated.



Exterior Photos of Property



Interior Photos of Property



Next Steps | Requested Council Action

- Declare the property as a hazardous property based on the inspection, photos, and findings in the code compliance report.
- Order the abatement (Abatement Order) of the code violations as outlined in the City of Brooklyn Center code compliance notice, dated August 20, 2026, and Hennepin County Environmental Health orders, dated August 28, 2026.
- Order the Property Owner vacate the property due to the hazardous conditions identified in report.
- If the code violations are not abated within the allowed timeframe, City Council can consider:
 - Abating the code violations, or
 - Demolishing the property



Requested Council Action

Motion to declare 6138 Dupont Avenue North as a hazardous property and issue an Abatement Order for the identified code violations.



Questions?

