



FEB/MARCH 2026

PL PAPER

The official newsletter for City of Prior Lake

priorlakemn.gov

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Hopes Portage

First transitional housing of its kind in Scott County



Hopes Portage, a new transitional housing community, held a ribbon cutting on January 27. Located across the street from Sheperd of the Lake Church, the 14-unit apartment complex is a collaboration between Scott County Action Partnership (CAP) Agency and the Church. Hopes Portage offers emergency housing for Scott County families with minor children who are experiencing housing instability. The first families are expected to move in mid-February.



Hopes Portage provides comprehensive support services to families during their stay. Owned by Scott County, the CAP Agency will coordinate services and case management to residents, and Shepherd of the Lake will provide support, including a food pantry, welcome supply packs, and special events designed toward housing stability. To volunteer, please visit www.sollc.org/hopesportage

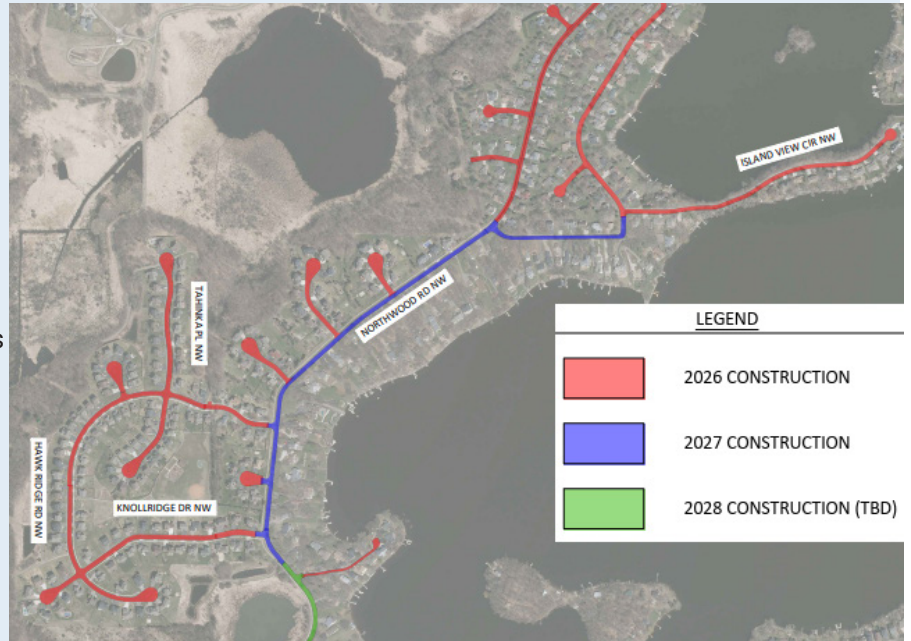
If you or someone you know is experiencing housing instability, you can call Scott County for support and resources at 952-498-8600.



2026 City Improvement Projects

Northwood Road

This spring, the City will start a three-year road and utility improvement project in the Northwood Road area. Work entails replacement of all public utilities and the full reconstruction of Northwood Road. Side street improvements include rehabilitation of roadways, spot curb and gutter replacement, and some spot utility repairs. The primary focus for 2026 will be the side roads and cul-de-sacs off Northwood Road. Full reconstruction of Northwood Road is slated for 2027 and the final stretch along Butternut Circle completed in 2028. For more information about this project, email info@northwoodroadimprovements.com or contact the project hotline at 952-373-0176.

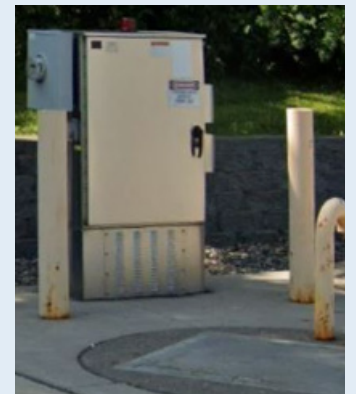
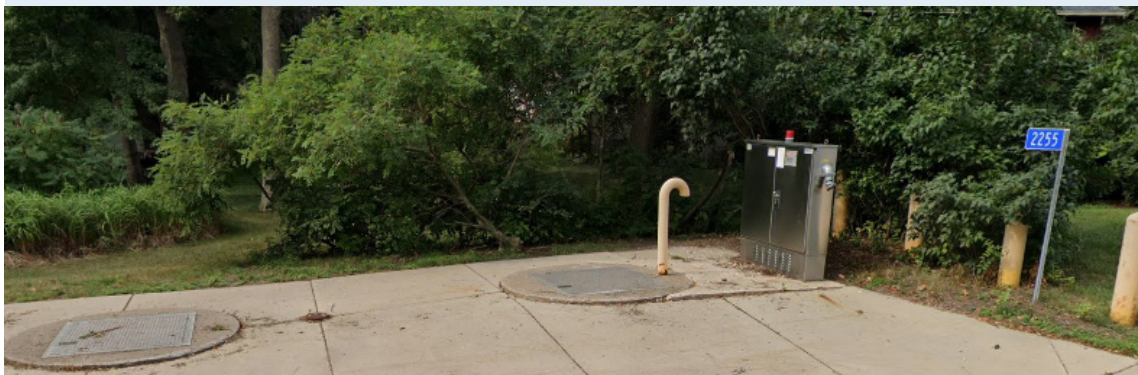


North Water Tower

The north water tower off County Road 42 and Crest Ave. will be repainted in 2026. The tower will be offline during this project, but no interruption to service is anticipated. The color scheme will match the south tower that was painted in 2021. More details will be shared as the project gets closer.

Raymond and Spring Lake Lift Stations

The City has 41 sanitary sewer lift stations to transport wastewater to the water treatment location. These lift stations are inspected weekly and rehabilitated every 15-20 years to help prevent costly backups in the system. Raymond and Spring Lake lift stations are scheduled for rehabilitation in 2026.



For more information about city street, utility improvement projects, and much more visit: priorlakemn.gov/maps

Cora Apartments Breaks Ground

Project years in the making now underway



The first phase of construction on the Cora Apartments development officially began January 20 with the demolition of two single-family homes on Dakota Street between City Hall and Lakefront Plaza.

The \$32 million mixed-use project includes 105 market-rate rental apartments, a street-front restaurant with rooftop deck, tenant outdoor amenities, underground parking, and an additional 28 off-street public parking stalls and six on-street parking spaces.

Other notable projects under development or completed:

Chula's Mexican-Latin Food & Spirits, 4636 Colorado St SE, expected to open this spring.

Dunkin' Donuts & Baskin Robbins, 5020 160th St. SE, opening to be determined.

Valvoline Instant Oil Change, 4120 Village Lake Drive, is now open.



Prior Lake Police Department Police Officer and Support Services Person of the Year Award



At the January 27 City Council meeting, the City recognized two Police Department employees for their outstanding service.

Officer Amanda Ley (left) was named 2025 Police Officer of the Year. In 2025, Officer Ley recorded 52 DUI arrests which reflects her proactive approach to impaired driving enforcement. Officer Ley is widely respected for her work ethic, professionalism, and commitment to our community.

Heidi Burton (below) was also honored as 2025 Support Services Person of the Year. Burton served as the PLPD's Evidence Technician, a critical role that ensures crime evidence

is managed properly to assist with police investigations. Burton stepped down from her position this January to transition to the next chapter of her life – motherhood. Burton is expecting her first child later this year.

Selected by their PLPD peers, both honorees were praised for their exemplary performance and contribution to the PLPD. Congratulations to Officer Ley and Heidi Burton on their well-deserved recognition.



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City of Prior Lake Calendar

February 10 City Council Meeting City Hall/7pm
February 16 President's Day City Offices Closed
February 19 CEC City Hall/4pm
February 24 City Council Meeting City Hall/7pm
February 26 Arts & Culture Comm. City Hall/4pm

March 2 Planning Commission City Hall/6pm
March 9 EDA City Hall/4pm
March 16 Planning Commission City Hall/6pm
March 19 CEC City Hall/4pm
March 24 City Council Meeting City Hall/7pm
March 26 Arts and Culture Comm. City Hall/4pm

Looking Ahead:
2026 Summer Parks and Recreation Registration begins March 3.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE
 Feb. 11, March 11, April 8




PARTY IN THE CLUB
 Saturday, Feb. 21 and March 21




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 4646 Dakota Street SE
 Prior Lake, MN 55372
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City Council

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PRIOR LAKE POLAR PLUNGE

Saturday, February 21 | 12 PM

📍 Sand Point Beach

The Polar Plunge is a tradition that brings people together to do something bold, fun and deeply meaningful. Every brave Plunger helps create opportunities for Special Olympics Minnesota athletes to shine on and off the field.



REGISTER NOW!

3.21 FUN!

A CELEBRATION FOR WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY

FRIDAY, MARCH 20
 4:30-7 PM
 TWIN OAKS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Games, Prizes, Crafts, Music,
 Food, Face Painting and More!

FREE EVENT - OPEN TO ALL

