



# City of Victoria Newsletter

## City of Lakes and Parks

7951 Rose Street, P.O. Box 36 Victoria, MN 55386 (952) 443-2363

[www.ci.victoria.mn.us](http://www.ci.victoria.mn.us)

March 2007

### City Council 2007 Goals by Mayor Mary Hershberger Thun

Each year, your City Council and City Administrator take some time and “retreat” for about 1/2 day to establish some overall goals for the City of Victoria to accomplish over the next year. This year, Council spent a late afternoon/evening at the University of Minnesota Arboretum talking about all of the things that Council believes needs to be accomplished over the next year. The Council narrowed many ideas down to six strategic goals, which are intended to guide the work of the Council and staff over the next twelve months. Those six goals are:

1. Continue to redevelop the existing downtown and expand the Central Business District by developing newly acquired land west of the current downtown area.
2. Resolve the Field House Operational and Management Issues.
3. Diversify City Revenues and Tax Base.
4. Complete the Comprehensive Land use Plan Update.
5. Continue to create a Service Culture of Excellence.

#### 6. Improve Transportation and Transit.

Now, the hard work comes! Under the City Administrator’s direction, staff has already put together ideas about how to accomplish each goal. Staff is also formulating a way to measure the successful achievement of each goal.

In another article in this Newsletter, Victoria’s City Planner, Holly Kreft, talks about the Comprehensive Plan document. The City’s Comprehensive Plan update was kicked off on February 21. The Comprehensive Plan will be tied closely to all of the above goals. When completed, the Comprehensive Plan will reflect a blueprint for our future in terms of land use and include, among others, sections on transportation, parks, housing and infrastructure.

In the remaining City Newsletters for 2007, we will talk more in depth about each goal - sharing with the Community how we think we are doing in accomplishing our goals. And, we also welcome your input, which you can share by going to the City’s website at [www.ci.victoria.mn.us](http://www.ci.victoria.mn.us) and completing the easy “Feedback” form.

### 2007 Street Reconstruction Projects

The City is in the process of completing plans and specifications for street improvement projects scheduled for construction during 2007 in accordance with the City Capital Improvement Program. As part of this program, Smithtown Road is scheduled for complete reconstruction. The project will consist of replacing the existing street section the installation of concrete curb and gutters, and new drainage facilities, including drain tile. A sidewalk will also be constructed along the street as part of the project.

Other streets in the City that will be improved are as follows: Smithtown Court, Woodstone Drive, Woodstone Lane, Woodstone Glen and Woodstone Court. These streets will have the surface reclaimed and reshaped, some existing curb and gutter will be replaced, drain tile will be installed and a new bituminous surface will be placed.

Upon completion of plans and specifications, the City will receive bids from contractors for this work. After a contractor has been awarded the projects, scheduling information will be available on the City’s website at [www.ci.victoria.mn.us](http://www.ci.victoria.mn.us).

**Reminder~** Snowmobiles are NOT ALLOWED on the LRT Trail. The Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA) owns these corridors and established a policy banning snowmobiles on the trail. If you have any questions, please contact the HCRRA at 612-348-9260.

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## *City Property Taxes Fund a Variety of Services*

As an owner of a home in the City of Victoria, approximately 37.1% of your total property tax payment in 2007 goes to the City of Victoria to fund many services. For example, a home with an assessed value of \$400,000 will pay in 2007 approximately \$1,484, or \$124 per month, for the following non-inclusive array of services:

- 24-hour fire and police protection.
- Prompt snowplowing of all city streets.
- Street Maintenance, including street sweeping and street lighting.
- Approximately 250 acres of designated park space throughout 27 parks within the present City limits.
- Victoria Field House, a recreational facility that includes an ice arena, gymnasium, and fitness center with walking track.

- Park trails.
- Park and trail maintenance.
- Public tree maintenance.
- Building and zoning code assistance and enforcement.
- Numerous Parks and Recreation programs, including our 2nd Annual "Concerts in the Parks" series.
- Customer service from a staff of 21 full-time employees.
- Treated water from the new Water Treatment Facility Plant.
- Long-term planning to ensure a quality-driven future for Victoria.
- Friendly and respectful office staff to assist residents and answer questions.

## *Board of Appeal and Equalization*

The Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting of the City of Victoria will be held on Thursday, April 12, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located at 7951 Rose Street, Victoria, Minnesota.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide residents an opportunity to appeal the assessed value of their homes. Although it is not required, we encourage residents, if they are planning to appeal their home's assessed valuation, to contact the Office of the Carver County Assessor at (952)-361-1960, in advance of the meeting.

All those interested are encouraged to attend or contact City Hall at (952)-443-2363, for further information.

## *2007 Seal Coating Projects*

As part of the City of Victoria's Capital Improvement Plan, the City will be hiring a contractor to sealcoat several of the city streets. This work will likely be completed in July and August. The sealcoat process consists of an application of a thin layer of liquified asphalt covered with a layer of aggregate to extend the life of the street. The asphalt seals cracks to eliminate the penetration of water and the aggregate provides a wearing surface. There is an excess amount of aggregate initially applied that will be driven on for a few days. Because the aggregate is loose, if driven on too fast, there is a chance for spinouts or for the aggregate to be thrown into the air and potentially into windshields. The location of the streets to be sealcoated can be found on the City's website at: [www.ci.victoria.mn.us](http://www.ci.victoria.mn.us).

## *Comprehensive Plan Update*

The City of Victoria has started its Comprehensive Planning process that will guide the City for growth and services until 2030. An important component of the public participation will be a community survey for every household and property in Victoria and its growth area.

Watch your mailboxes in mid-March for a postcard that will give you a code to complete the survey on-line. If you do not have access to the internet, or would like to complete a paper copy of the survey, please contact City hall and one will be mailed to you. We are also developing a youth survey that will be distributed through the school systems.

A Comprehensive Plan Task Force has been formed to provide direction and community input into the process as well. The Task Force will meet the 2nd Wednesday of every month starting at 6:30 p.m. These meetings will be held at the Community Room of the Water Treatment Plant over the course of the next 9 to 12 months.

If you are interested in learning more about the Plan, or how you can become involved, please contact Holly Kreft, Director of Planning, at (952) 443-2363. The City website will also be updated frequently with information about this process.

### **New Businesses**

The City of Victoria would like to welcome the following new business into town: Parker Tannin's Wine Shop, Mackenthun's Meats and Deli, Kelly Green Irrigation, Superior Mortgage, Inc. Snap Fitness, Power of Life Chiropractic, Joel's Barber Shop, Rising Star Dance Academy, and CEI Ventures, LLC.

## ***Bruce Osborn, Public Works Superintendent***

The heavy snowfall is interrupted by the loud noise of the snowplows coming through the Victoria neighborhoods about 3 AM! But we can all go back to sleep with the knowledge that either Bruce and/or his crew are out in the middle of the night making sure that we can get out at the “late” hour of 7 AM. And when we climb out of bed, we can confidently turn on the water faucet and know the water is “safe”. These are just two of the responsibilities our Public Works Superintendent has!

Bruce has been with the City of Victoria since 1993.

Previously, he worked construction part-time with another city, built golf courses, worked with his father, and for four years, was a contractor. Bruce also attended automotive school for two years. Currently, Bruce supervises 6 Victoria Public Works’

employees.

Bruce stated that he believes his most important responsibility is “the safety of the community.” He spends much of his time managing Victoria’s new Water Plant and ensuring that our roads and parks are maintained for our use. Victoria also has 18 lift stations that need to be serviced and periodically cleaned. He welcomes questions from people because he would like the community to understand his job responsibilities. Thankfully, Bruce takes his job very seriously.

Next time you see those blue trucks on the street, be sure to wave to Bruce and his crew --- it’s a small thanks for their hard work in Victoria.

## ***Dog Owners***

Dog(s) licenses are required for any dog over the age of three months. Residents are required to license their dog(s) annually. To receive a dog license, you must fill out an application, provide a current rabies vaccination certificate and pay the applicable fee. The fee for a dog license is \$15.00. If the dog has been spayed or neutered, the fee is \$7.50. Applications can be found on the City’s website at [www.ci.victoria.mn.us](http://www.ci.victoria.mn.us) or can be obtained at City Hall. Any owner of a dog caught running at large shall be responsible for the impoundment fees and running at large offense fees. Please be a responsible pet owner and pick up anything your dog may leave behind.

## ***Storm Water Inlets***

To control maintenance costs and the amount of debris and phosphorus entering lakes and ponds, residents are encouraged to use materials other than wood chips for landscaping in areas around storm water inlets. During heavy rains, these materials can easily be washed into storm sewers, causing back-ups and potential flooding. If you live near a storm water inlet that appears to be clogged, please call the Public Works Department at 952-443-2116.

*Reminder: Blowing grass clippings, raking debris and other materials into the storm water inlet/drainage system is prohibited. Your cooperation is appreciated!*

## **Council on Cable**

The Lake Minnetonka Communications Commission (LMCC) provides local cable access service to the City of Victoria. The City of Victoria City Council meetings are broadcast on Cable Channel 8. A complete list of broadcast times can be found at [www.lmcc-tv.org](http://www.lmcc-tv.org). Council meetings may also be viewed any time at [www.lmcc-tv.org](http://www.lmcc-tv.org) via video streaming on the web. You may access the LMCC’s website from a link on the City of Victoria’s website at [www.ci.victoria.mn.us](http://www.ci.victoria.mn.us).

## ***Water Conservation Notice***

With spring approaching and summer right around the corner, the City of Victoria Public Works Department would like to remind residents of the City’s Odd/Even Water Ordinance. The use of the City’s water supply system for lawn and garden sprinkling, irrigation, car washing and other non-essential uses is limited to an **odd/even schedule** corresponding to property addresses from May 1st through September 30th. This means that homes with even numbered addresses are allowed to water only on even numbered calendar days, and odd numbered addresses are allowed to water only on odd numbered calendar days.

The City will be issuing citations for property owners found violating the watering restrictions. For the first violation, a warning will be issued; for the second and all subsequent violations, a fine of \$100 per day of violation will be added to the property owner’s quarterly bill. Special watering permits will be issued to residents with new seed or sod. Please call City Hall for more information at 952-443-2363.

Water conservation measures are necessary to protect our natural resources and remain within the City’s DNR water usage allocation. Failure to conserve water will result in higher costs for all our residents, so please water responsibly.



7951 Rose  
P.O. Box 36  
Victoria, MN 55386

**PRSRT STD**  
**US POSTAGE**  
**PAID**  
**Permit #1**  
**Victoria MN**

*Victoria Resident*  
*Victoria, MN 55386*

### ***Victoria City Council Members***

Mayor: Mary Hershberger Thun (952) 470-1212

E-mail: mlhthun@mchsi.com

Council Members:

Tim Amundsen (952) 443-2363  
Jim Paulsen (952) 443-2363  
Kim Roden (952) 443-1866  
Rick Tieden (952) 443-3191

### ***City Information***

City Hall (952) 443-2363

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday—Friday

E-mail: info@ci.victoria.mn.us

David Urbia, City Administrator (952) 443-2363

E-mail: durbia@ci.victoria.mn.us

Victoria Field House (952) 443-3140

5:30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. Monday—Friday

6:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

### ***Meeting Schedules***

City Council	2nd & 4th Thursday of each month	6:30 p.m.
Business Development Committee	4th Wednesday of each month	5:00 p.m.
Finance Committee	4th Tuesday of each month	3:30 p.m.
Park & Recreation Committee	1st Thursday of each month	6:30 p.m.
Planning Commission	1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month	7:00 p.m.
Senior Commission	1st Tuesday of each month	9:00 a.m.
Comprehensive Plan Task Force	2nd Wednesday of each month	6:30 p.m. at the Water Treatment Plant