



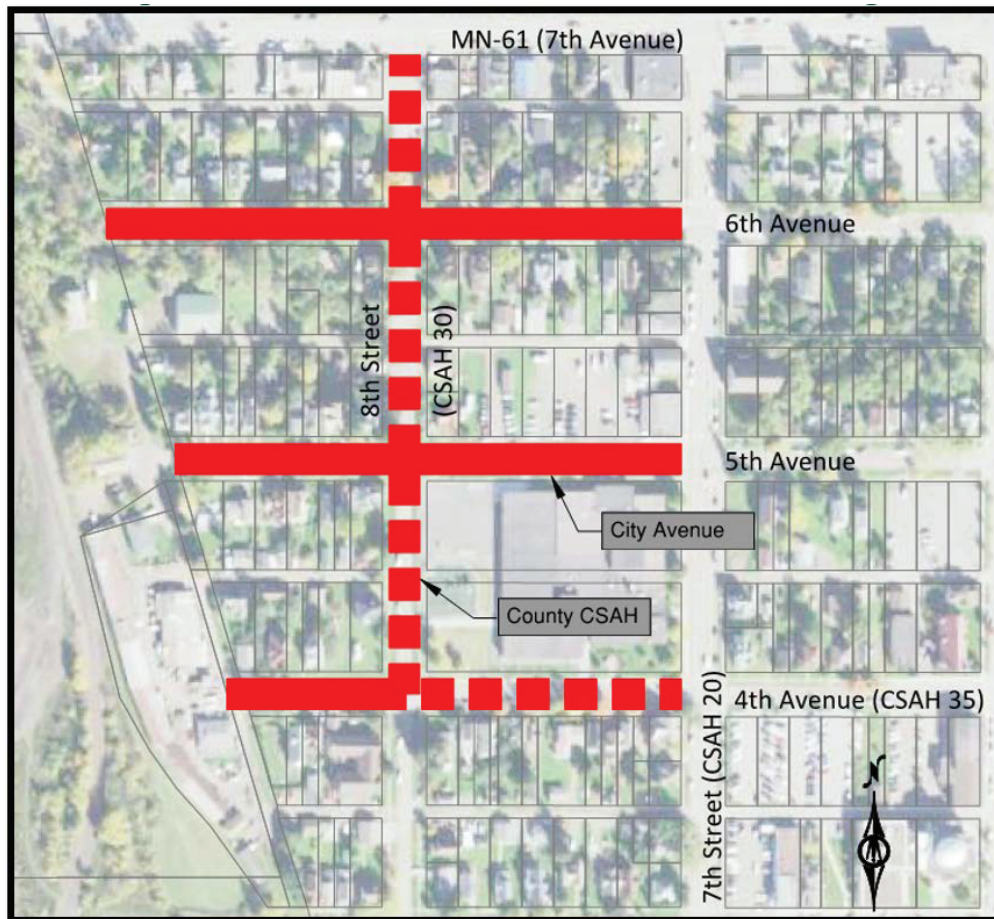
A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF TWO HARBORS, MN

VOLUME 11, NO. 3

September 2021

2021-2022 Street Improvement Project

Work is in progress on the 2021-2022 Street Improvements Project! The project is a joint venture between Lake County and the City of Two Harbors and includes 4th, 5th, and 6th Avenues west of 7th Street, as well as 8th Street from 4th Avenue to 7th Avenue. See the map for the project area.



The contractor for the project is Ulland Brothers, Inc. from Cloquet. Construction began May 11th. Work on each block is a full reconstruction of the street section, including replacement of the sidewalks. The sewer and water utilities are also being replaced on the avenues.

As of August 11th the surfacing is complete on the 700 block of 6th Avenue, and paving is in progress on the 700 block of 4th and 5th Avenues as well as 8th Street from 4th to 5th Avenue. Those three blocks adjacent to the Minnehaha School should be done in time for the start of the school year. Storm sewer installation and street base work is underway on 8th Street from 5th Avenue to 7th Avenue. Work on 8th Street is scheduled to be complete by October 15th. Continued on Page 2.

Continued from front page. The contractor has the option to do the blocks of 4th Avenue, 5th Avenue, or 6th Avenue west of 8th Street yet in 2021, or to wait until 2022. The contractor is in the process of determining whether they want to start any of those blocks in 2021. If they do, they will be required to get the street back to its existing surface condition (gravel or pavement) yet this year.

The contract requires all work on the project to be complete by August 1, 2022.

The full-time project inspector, Adam Nix, is on-site daily. Construction-related questions or concerns should be directed to Adam, who can be reached by phone at (218) 830-0512. Non-construction questions or concerns should be directed to City Hall. Project information is available on the City's website: www.twoharborsmn.gov/2021-2022_street_project. Updated construction schedules are usually posted on the website Thursday or Friday of each week.

Thank you to all the residents and other members of the public affected by the work on this project. Your cooperation and understanding during construction is greatly appreciated!



1898 Sanitary Storm Sewer System Cover



5th Avenue Street Base Work



5th Avenue Water Main Installation



Work on 6th Avenue

Stormwater Management Plan

The Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) obtained a Clean Water Fund grant from the State of Minnesota. The SWCD approached the City of Two Harbors about using the grant to prepare a Stormwater Management Plan for the City. The City and County entered into an agreement in July 2020 for preparation of the plan.

The goal of the Stormwater Management Plan is to protect Skunk Creek and Agate Bay and improve their water quality. The plan includes an inventory of the storm water system, hydraulic modeling, and identifying and locating potential Best Management Practices (BMPs) to benefit Skunk Creek and Agate Bay. Opportunities can then be sought to incorporate those BMPs as the City, County, and Minnesota Department of Transportation develop roadway and other projects in Two Harbors.

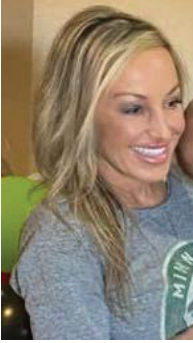
The Storm Water Management Plan was completed in March 2021 and was formally adopted by the City Council on June 28th. The total cost of the plan was approximately \$50,000. Funding was comprised of \$30,000 from the Clean Water grant, \$10,000 in-kind contribution from Lake County, and \$10,000 from the City of Two Harbors.

Another important benefit is the Stormwater Management Plan positions the City and County to pursue additional grant money for stormwater improvements. A grant of \$32,000 has already been obtained to furnish and install two special structures as part of the current project to reconstruct 8th Street. These structures were identified as BMPs in the Stormwater Management Plan, and will improve the quality of water entering the Skunk Creek tunnel. In July 2021 Lake County SWCD was informed it has been awarded a \$734,000 grant from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, which is federally funded through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This grant will be used to design and construct BMPs identified in the Stormwater Management Plan to improve the quality of surface runoff entering Agate Bay.

It can be seen the modest investment of \$10,000 each by the City and County to prepare the Stormwater Management Plan is paying huge dividends. The Plan has been leveraged to obtain almost \$800,000 in grant funds so far, with many more opportunities anticipated in the future!

Please contact City Hall if you would like to learn more about the Stormwater Management Plan or to review a complete copy of the plan.





Community Development Planner

Hope everyone is having a great summer! It's been busy for sure. For those who don't know me, my name is Jennifer and I am the City Planner. My duties include economic development, residential development, and planning & zoning. I also staff the Planning Commission, Two Harbors Economic Development Authority, Trees and Trails Commission, and the Public Arts Commission in addition to authorizing sign permits, short-term rental permits, and vendor market permits. Thank you to all the Commissioners and community members who dedicate their time to make Two Harbors a wonderful community.

Here is an update on what our Commissions have been up to:

Planning Commission – The Planning Commission recently finished the zoning code update. The City Code can be found on the City's website (www.twoharborsmn.gov). Cities update their zoning codes periodically to keep up with legislation and the changing needs of a community. This update was made possible with a grant from the Lake Superior Coastal Program. We are also actively pursuing additional housing options for the Community. We understand the need and are making this a priority project.

THEDA - THEDA recently started meeting again. We have a 5-person Commission made up of local business owners & professionals as well as local leaders. THEDA has been working on an economic development strategy for Two Harbors. We are taking an aggressive approach to retaining existing businesses and attracting new ones. We will work to diversify the economy, create new jobs, and make Two Harbors a great place to live, work, and visit.

Trees and Trails Commission - Trees and Trails always has a full agenda. Currently we are working on the Odegard Park Trail "The Trail by the Rail". We just completed a wetland delineation and will start designing a pedestrian/bicycle trail that will run parallel to the Odegard Park area. This is part of the City's Trail Plan and is partially funded by a generous grant through the Duluth Superior Community Area Fund & Two Harbors Area Fund. The Commission continues a great partnership with LCSWCD to tackle forest management, enhance our native plantings, and manage invasive plant species in the community.

Public Arts Commission - The Public Arts Commission collaborated with Two Harbors Arts & Events to bring the Harbor Wave Project to town. A grant by RETHOS Springboard for the Arts allowed 15 local creatives to showcase their talent over the summer. We had a lot of great projects as a result. Please support these creatives by stopping by and saying hi.

SHORT TERM RENTALS

All short-term rentals require an annual permit in Two Harbors. Renewals will start in November and must be completed by December 31st, 2021. Applications can be found on the City website, by calling or stopping into City Hall, or by emailing info@twoharborsmn.gov or jsterbenz@twoharborsmn.gov

Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

Jennifer A Sterbenz
jsterbenz@twoharborsmn.gov

Fences now require zoning approval. Please contact me prior to constructing a fence of any kind.

Two Harbors Family Dental Expands Practice



Dr. Robert B. Yankovich and Two Harbors Family Dental P.A., will soon be relocating its existing office. They won't go far, as the new building will be conveniently located just next door at 514 First Ave. The office will increase in size from 2,500 to approx. 3,900 square feet.

Expanding dental care services in Two Harbors is good for our residents and our economy. It adds to the quality of life, keeps patients doctoring in Two Harbors and increases our commercial tax base.

With the expansion, Two Harbors Family Dental will hope to add in the future 5-8 employees for a total of 14-17 permanent full and part time positions including dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants and support staff, as Dr. Yankovich hopes to bring in another full-time dentist in the future. In addition, the new building has already or will provide 15 construction jobs over the planned 6 month building project.

Two Harbors Family Dental P.A. has provided dental care in Two Harbors since 2016, when Dr. Yankovich acquired Dr. Iverson's longstanding and highly regarded dental practice. This is a privately funded project.

FUTURE HOME OF:

*Two Harbors
Family Dental*



www.twcinc.com • 800-478-4892



Tree Replacement

The City of Two Harbors is designated as a Tree City USA. This is a great honor that we work hard to sustain. We recognize that trees provide both ecosystem benefits (water quality, street cooling, stormwater reduction) and social benefits (traffic calming, safety).

We strive to protect trees to the greatest extent possible during all City street projects, however, this is not always possible.

The City has adopted a tree replacement policy to ensure that trees affected by a City street project are replaced as soon as conditions allow.

Anticipated Tree Replacement Schedule

2018 & 2019 Street Project – Approximately October 2021.

2021-2022 Street Project – Starting Spring 2022

More information will be sent to property owners in the next few weeks!



Just a few of the RETHOS Springboard for the Arts projects happening in Two Harbors. Thank you to all the creatives for participating!



Curling, crashing waves will be painted on the blue exterior wall at the corner of 1st Avenue and 6th Street (Waterfront Drive), opposite the Post Office. (Superior Finds). The Summerblue Arts camp staff and youth will collaborate in creating this mural.

Lead Artist: Lon Church



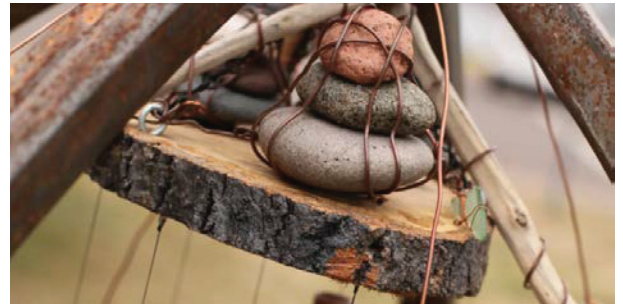
This parklet project is designed to entice people who are exploring the waterfront, to walk closer to downtown and hopefully increase foot traffic on 1st Ave by providing a colorful area visible from the waterfront. The parklet is located in front of Louise's Place Cafe + Pantry Provisions. A parklet is a sidewalk extension that provides additional space and amenities for those using the street / sidewalk. I will provide seating, tables with games, greenery, and safety measures for the parklet. I hope this will be a fun place for families to hang out. This parklet will incorporate the Little House in the Garden project.

Lead Artist: Kenna Coan



Our main goal of the project is to create an accessible place for families to bring their young children. Our little library in a garden bed will carry books, chalk and art projects for young children (1.5 years old to 8 years old). We envision a beautifully painted Little Library filled with handmade books and art projects in a bed of local plants at a child's height. It will be located near Louise's Place Pantry + Provisions

Lead Artists: Valencia Ruprecht & Marc Wallace



Wind in the Leaves is a sculptural installation. It will consist of a steel sculpture frame with four sides, each side is shaped like a leaf. The sculpture will invite people out of their cars to listen to the chimes and to enjoy looking at how the light is caught by the wire wrapped sea glass. In using items like driftwood, smooth Lake Superior stones, and sea glass, the installation will speak to the sense of place of the Two Harbors while beautifying a small patch of the downtown. The sculpture is located between the Train Depot and Voyageur's Art Center.

Lead Artists: Rachel Baxter & Megan Finegan

HERITAGE DAYS WRAP UP

Here we are with another Heritage Days weekend done! It seems to have been here and gone so quickly this year! I guess we all just needed some fun time to share with family and friends.

While our vendor numbers were lower this year we still had amazing crowds everyday walking around enjoying the vendors, the entertainment and the food! The parade route had been reversed but it worked very well and we have received many, many great comments about it!

The street dance was a bit of a challenge when at the very last minute we found ourselves in need of a stage! Thankfully, with the help of Lovin Lake County we were able to locate a stage at the last minute that proved to be just what we needed for the band. Speaking of the band, The Northwood's Band once again entertained us with a phenomenal performance. It was great to have their special guests Scott Savage and Jason Manning from KQDS radio and local all around great guy, Brien Getten join the band in entertaining the crowd. The crowd was fantastic!!! It always makes me smile to see the entire block filled from end to end with people enjoying the show! We hope they will be back again next year! The Lutefisk toss and the ventriloquist were also big hits and have been asked to come again next year! The outstanding Car Show at Danny's Auto always brings some "fine art" on wheels that we all enjoy!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that donated to the Heritage Days fund. We run on the generous donations from businesses and citizens and with the help of two very important grants one from Co-Op Light and Power and one from the Two Harbors Community Area Foundation. Thank You So Much!

Lastly, I want to Thank the following very special people: The City of Two Harbors Staff that help to make this one of the best weekends for our town, Cathy Erickson who puts together the golf tournament, and Linda Schuler that puts together the Lutefisk toss each year. Most importantly is the rest of the Heritage Days Committee, Bill and Ruth Rabold who every year can be counted on for anything I need and to Brianna Sundstrom who joined us this year when we unexpectedly had a resignation from the committee at the last moment and needed someone to take over a position not easy to run with the crafters and vendors. She pulled off the show we needed during the time of covid with the restrictions we had put in place earlier. Once more, THANK YOU to all the citizens that came out and participated in any way! We have started planning for next year being held July 7-10, 2022. We hope we see you there!

Carbon Monoxide Safety

CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) POISONING



Did you know?

More than 150 people in the US die every year from accidental non-fire carbon monoxide poisoning.

Carbon monoxide or CO is a colorless and odorless gas. CO poisoning can occur when a fuel-burning appliance or machine, such as a furnace, heater or generator, is not working or vented properly. Breathing in CO at high levels can be fatal. Learn what you can do to protect your family from the dangers of CO.

- *Install and maintain CO alarms in a central location outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of your home.*
- *Use portable generators outdoors in well-ventilated areas away from all doors, windows and vents.*
- *Make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove & fireplace are clear of snow and other debris.*
- *Check/change batteries of each CO detector every six months.*

A Safety Message from

**Head of the Lakes
Natural Gas Group**

ComfortSystems - Duluth
Superior Water, Light & Power
Hibbing Public Utilities

Northwest Gas
Virginia Public Utilities
Two Harbors Public Utilities

holnaturalgas.com



GAS, ELECTRIC, WATER & SEWER FOR ANY EMERGENCY DIAL 911

For any other concerns

M-F 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

(218) 834-5631

After Hours

(218)834-5566

Visit us at: twoharborsmn.gov

Email us at: info@twoharborsmn.gov

From the Mayor's Desk

There's something about the church bells chiming at noon and six every day, and how the sound reminds us of the steadfastness and sweetness found in a small town like Two Harbors. There's consistency and comfort in that.

This summer there was also another sound that was just as regular, but it was the sound of change and progress. Every day since mid May there was the sound of road crews starting their workday. At 7:00 am like clockwork the engines would start up, backup signals began, and trucks hauling and rumbling down the road could be heard. That is the sound of progress. The project was called the 8th Street Project, and it really marked the start of something good and special going on in Two Harbors. What's admirable and unique about the 8th Street Project is that it was also a project in which the city and the county were working together. Both found themselves with the same streets and avenues needing to be addressed at the same time, and last winter the planning began to make it happen as a team.

Since then the \$4.5 million project went smoothly and swiftly considering its magnitude. The success even brought hope for more collaboration and cooperation in the future. It made sense to get both city and county projects done at similar times, logically and financially. It prevented having to go back and tear up or redo one project or intersection that maybe the city or county had just completed a few years before, or would be doing a few years down the road. Synchronize and get it all done at the same time. That's something we can be proud of.

The City of Two Harbors has an amazing staff and council that are bringing big changes by working together. Slowly and surely we are following the outline of the CIP, determining which roads, alleys, and sidewalks need to be fixed first, working through the tough issues, and getting things done. We are looking at ways to solve the housing problem in our town, looking at how to bring more businesses and entrepreneurs here, looking at how to better keep our town beautiful and exciting for residents and tourists, and looking at ways to celebrate and care for our waterfront. We are making great strides with the much needed improvements of our Wastewater Treatment Facility, we are making progress around town with smaller projects like sidewalks, expanding our campground, and making constant improvements to enhance handicap accessibility for everyone to have the opportunity to enjoy all we have to offer.

The storm of July 26th brought a bit of change as well. A very special thanks goes out to our Public Works and Utilities departments, and our city crews for their tireless efforts and long hours in restoring power, cleaning up downed trees and limbs, and keeping everyone safe in the process. Your hard work does not go unnoticed and is very much appreciated. Thank you.

And so as this summer was a season of growth and change, fall will bring its own growth and changes. At the city level, we will begin again with planning for next summer's projects, we will assess what objectives need to be met, and monitor what challenges lie ahead. Fall is a time to reflect and recharge. It's a time to prepare for the long winter, plan what progress to bring when the snow finally melts, but as always will be a time for our city council and staff to work together. Change is a very consistent thing, but also just as consistent is each councilor, staff member, and our mayor's desire to absolutely work towards what is best for two Harbors and its residents. And we will do it together. That is a kind of change we can embrace and enjoy.

-Mayor Swanson

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS

<u>GROUP MEETING</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>MEETING PLACE</u>
October 2021			
Library Board	5	5:00 PM	Council Chambers
Planning Commission	5	6:00 PM	Council Chambers
Utilities Committee	6	4:00 PM	Council Chambers
Public Safety Committee	7	4:30 PM	Council Chambers
Committee of the Whole/Agenda	11	5:00 PM	Council Chambers
City Council Regular Meeting	11	6:00 PM	Council Chambers
HRA	12	3:30 PM	TBD
THEDA	12	5:30 PM	Council Chambers
Recreation Board	13	6:45 PM	Council Chambers
Public Works Committee	14	4:00 PM	Council Chambers
Public Affairs Committee	19	3:30 PM	Council Chambers
Utilities Committee	20	4:00 PM	Council Chambers
Edna G. Commission	20	6:00 PM	Council Chambers
Finance & Budget Committee	21	2:00 PM	Council Chambers
Trees & Trails Commission	21	6:00 PM	Council Chambers
Committee of the Whole/Agenda	25	5:00 PM	Council Chambers
City Council Regular Meeting	25	6:00 PM	Council Chambers
Charter Commission	26	7:00 PM	Council Chambers
Personnel Committee	27	3:30 PM	Council Chambers
Airport Commission	27	6:00 PM	Airport Electrical Building
Public Works Committee	28	4:00 PM	Council Chambers
Public Arts Commission	28	5:00 PM	Council Chambers

November 2021

			Library Meeting Room
Library Board	2	5:00 PM	Council Chambers
Planning Commission	2	6:00 PM	Council Chambers
Utilities Committee	3	4:00 PM	Council Chambers
Public Works Committee	4	4:00 PM	Council Chambers
Committee of the Whole/Agenda	8	5:00 PM	Council Chambers
City Council Regular Meeting	8	6:00 PM	Council Chambers
HRA	9	3:30 PM	TBD
THEDA	9	5:30 PM	Council Chambers
Recreation Board	10	6:45 PM	Council Chambers
Public Affairs Committee	16	3:30 PM	Council Chambers
Utilities Committee	17	4:00 PM	Council Chambers
Edna G. Meeting	17	6:00 PM	Council Chambers
Finance & Budget Committee	18	2:00 PM	Council Chambers
Public Works Committee	18	4:00 PM	Council Chambers
Public Arts Commission	18	5:00 PM	Council Chambers
Trees & Trails Commission	18	6:00 PM	Council Chambers
Committee of the Whole/Agenda	22	5:00 PM	Council Chambers
City Council Regular Meeting	22	6:00 PM	Council Chambers
Charter Commission	23	7:00 PM	Council Chambers
Personnel Committee	24	3:30 PM	Council Chambers



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Hours/Closings

City Hall Winter Hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding major holidays

Upcoming Holidays-City Offices Closed

Monday, September 6, Labor Day

Thursday, November 11, Veterans Day

Thursday, November 25, Thanksgiving

Friday, November 26, Thanksgiving

Friday, December 24, Christmas Holiday

Monday, December 27, Christmas Holiday

Monday, January 3, 2022, New Year's Holiday

Seasonal Reminders

Cemetery:

Flowers must be removed by October 31st of each year.

Off Street Parking:

it is unlawful to park or leave any vehicle on any street between the hours of 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. every day from November 1 of each year to April 30 of the year next following.

Liquor Store Winter Hours:

Monday through Thursday: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Friday and Saturday: 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Sunday: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Closed Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day

2022 Upcoming Events

Heritage Days July 7-10

