



# City of Naperville

400 S. Eagle Street  
Naperville, IL 60540  
<http://www.naperville.il.us/>

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### City Council

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Tuesday, April 21, 2026

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

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TO WATCH OR LISTEN TO THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING LIVE: • Watch on WCNC GOVERNMENT ACCESS TELEVISION (Ch. 6-Astound, Ch. 10 - Comcast, Ch. 99 – AT&T U-verse) • Watch online at <https://naperville.legistar.com> or [youtube.com/OfficialNapervilleIL](https://youtube.com/OfficialNapervilleIL)

#### TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:

The public may choose to provide public comment in any of the following ways:

1. Address the City Council live during the City Council meeting in-person in City Council Chambers. Individuals wishing to address the City Council during the meeting must sign up online at [www.naperville.il.us/speakersignup](http://www.naperville.il.us/speakersignup) by 6:30 p.m. on April 21.
2. Individuals can also have their name added to the speaker list by calling the Community Services Department at (630) 305-5300 by 6:30 p.m. on April 21.
3. Submit a written comment to the City in advance of the City Council meeting by 4 p.m. on April 21. Written comments will be compiled and posted with the electronic meeting agenda on the City's website prior to the start of the meeting. The cumulative number of comments will be announced during the City Council meeting.
4. Submit a one-word statement of "SUPPORT" or "OPPOSITION" regarding a specific agenda item by 4 p.m. on April 21. The names of participants who submitted position statements will be compiled and posted with the electronic meeting agenda on the City's website prior to the start of the meeting. The cumulative number of position statements will be announced during the City Council meeting.

There will be no on-site speaker sign up permitted.

**PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION:**

Any individual who may require an accommodation to listen to or participate in the meeting should contact the Community Services Department at (630) 305-5300 by 4 p.m. on April 21. Questions regarding online sign-up may be directed to the Community Services Department by calling (630) 305-5300.

**PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES:** The citizen participation guidelines are outlined in 1-5-6-6: - CITIZEN PARTICIPATION of the Naperville Municipal Code.

**ALL VIEWPOINTS AND OPINIONS WELCOME:** All viewpoints are welcome, positive comments and constructive criticism are encouraged. Speakers must refrain from harassing or directing threats or personal attacks at Council members, staff, other speakers or members of the public. Comments made to intentionally disrupt the meeting may be managed as necessary to maintain appropriate decorum and allow for city business to be accomplished.

**SPEAKER TIME LIMITS:** Speakers must limit their remarks to no more than three minutes. Petitioners may speak on an agenda item first and have up to 10 minutes and are also granted a five-minute rebuttal once all other speakers have commented.

**IF YOU SIGNED UP TO SPEAK,** staff will call your name at the appropriate time during the City Council meeting. Once your name is called you may identify yourself for the public record and then address remarks to the City Council as a whole. Speak clearly and try to limit remarks directly to the matter under discussion. Speakers are called in the order they sign up.

**A. CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Wehrli called the April 21, 2026 Council meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**B. ROLL CALL:****C. CLOSED SESSION - CANCELED**

OPEN SESSION - 7:00 p.m.

**D. ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** 9 - Mayor Scott Wehrli  
Councilwoman Mary Gibson  
Councilman Ian Holzhauer  
Councilwoman Supna Jain  
Councilman Patrick Kelly  
Councilman Josh McBroom  
Councilman Ashfaq Syed  
Councilman Benjamin White  
Councilman Nathan Wilson

Also Present

City Manager Doug Krieger; Deputy City Manager Pam Gallahue; City Attorney Mike DiSanto; City Clerk Dawn Portner; Assistant to the City Manager Marcie Schatz; Deputy Fire Chief Phil Giannattasio; Police Chief Jason Arres; Director of Finance Ray Munch; Director of IT Jacqueline Nguyen; Director of TED Jennifer Loudon; Deputy Director of TED Allison Laff; Budget Administrative Manager Christine Schwartzhoff; Director of Public Utilities - Electric Brian Groth; Director of Public Utilities - Water Darryl Blenniss; Special Events Coordinator Jake Fiedler; Director of Human Resources Helga Oles; Director of Communications Linda LaCloche

Daily Herald, Naperville Sun, NCTV-17

**E. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**F. AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:**

1. Proclaim April 24, 2026 as Arbor Day in the City of Naperville

The proclamation was presented by Councilman Kelly.

2. Proclaim April 22, 2026 as Earth Day in the City of Naperville

The proclamation was presented by Councilman Kelly.

**G. PUBLIC FORUM:*****SPEAKERS***

John Doyle (Naperville) discussed adding the word affordability to the City's mission statement.

Due Process and Municipal Property Use Ordinance

Karen Peck (Naperville) is in favor of adopting a due process and municipal property use ordinance.

Hoovers Herpetology - endorsement as your animal educational company.

Derek Adam Hoover (Naperville) discussed an amendment to the E-Bike Ordinance.

PUAB

Ashley Penick (Naperville) is in favor of renewing the IMEA contract.

3 minutes with NEST

Joe Hus (Naperville) discussed the definition of sustainability, climate change and the Will County Board approved a 260 megawatt solar project.

Draft ordinance discussed 4-7

Signe Gleeson (Naperville) is in favor of adopting a due process and municipal property use ordinance.

Diana Torres (Naperville) is in favor of adopting a due process and municipal property use ordinance.

Celebrating this year's River Sweep participation  
Amy Phillips (Naperville - The Conversation Foundation) discussed the 35th Annual DuPage River Sweep.

Marilyn Schweitzer (Naperville) is in favor of adopting a due process and municipal property use ordinance

Council discussed the City's legislative priorities related to Illinois House Bills 1429 and 5626, the process for supporting or approving pending legislation, the recent Public Utilities Advisory Board (PUAB) meeting, including a presentation from District 203 on development of a climate action plan, the timing of upcoming Electric Utility presentations and whether related materials can be provided in advance of Council meetings, and how Naperville's lower-income ratepayer assistance program compares to similar programs offered at the State level.

Schatz stated that the City works closely with government partners and bill sponsors when evaluating legislation. Staff reviews proposed legislation to determine whether bills align with the City's priorities and to assess their potential impact. For HB1429, the City determined the bill would have no significant impact and therefore did not take a position. The bill did not advance out of committee and is not expected to move forward this session. HB5626, a comprehensive housing bill, includes one House proposal and six Senate bills, and the City is actively engaged in discussions on all related legislation. A primary concern is the potential impact on local zoning authority, including provisions that could allow duplexes and triplexes in areas currently zoned for single-family homes, as well as changes to the permitting process. Schatz noted that these measures would represent a significant shift away from local control. None of the bills have advanced out of committee, but the City is closely monitoring developments and is prepared to take action if necessary given the potential impact on municipal operations. She added that maintaining local control is important because the Mayor and City Council are most familiar with the community and its needs.

Groth stated that posting presentation slides earlier than the standard Council packet release would be difficult, as staff continues revising the materials and awaiting necessary data up to the submission deadline.

Krieger stated that the City does not collect household income data from its ratepayers. To evaluate the chart presented by Mr. Doyle during Public Forum, staff would need to compare it with City census data, which would take time but could be done. As of the Council meeting, 844 residents qualified for affordable energy credits. Staff indicated that the chart could be addressed in a future Electric Utility presentation. Krieger added that because the Electric Utility operates as an enterprise fund, any expansion of assistance to additional low-income residents would require an alternative revenue source to support

the added cost.

**WRITTEN COMMENTS ONLY**

John Baker (Naperville) Dear Mayor and City Council,  
I am writing to urge the City to strengthen its regulations regarding the operation of electric bicycles on sidewalks. Recent incidents, including one in which I was nearly struck by a fast-moving e-bike on the sidewalk along 95th Street this evening, make it clear that current rules are not sufficient to protect pedestrians. I reported this incident and was informed that others in the city have complained about those on electric bicycles. As you can see from the photos, the sidewalks in this area are uneven and next to a road with heavy traffic. This area also includes Neuqua Valley High School, where large numbers of students walk before and after school. I have a daughter that attends NVHS and her friends frequently use this area. High-speed electric mobility devices traveling on sidewalks near a high school create extremely high risk of serious injury. To address this concern, I respectfully request that the City to adopt an ordinance that: Bans all electric scooters on any public sidewalk and imposes clear and escalating penalties for violations including citations, fines and safety education and/or impound scooters for repeat offenders. Strong and targeted enforcement near 95th street and 59th street. Establish a reporting hotline for residents to document and notify the city regarding violations. Thank you for your attention and for your continued commitment to public safety.

**Pictures submitted by Mr. Baker are included under the City Council meeting details.**

Lili Burciaga (Naperville) As a Naperville resident, I appreciated the opportunity to listen to the recent City Council discussion regarding the proposed Due Process and Municipal Property Ordinance. What stood out to me most was the level of confusion about what this ordinance actually does. This ordinance is not about overriding federal law or interfering with immigration enforcement. It is about defining how our City uses its own property and resources, which is well within local authority. Under established legal principles, including the anticommandeering doctrine, local governments are not required to use their resources to carry out federal enforcement. As a home rule municipality, Naperville also has the authority to regulate how its property and resources are used. For that reason, this ordinance does not conflict with the Supremacy Clause. It does not prohibit federal action. It simply defines local policy regarding local resources. This distinction matters. No one is suggesting that federal law is not the supreme law of the land, and this ordinance does not challenge that. Some of the framing during the April 7 Council discussion suggested otherwise, which creates unnecessary confusion. What we should all agree on is that the public deserves clear and accurate information. Without that clarity, responses can vary, and that uncertainty has real impact on how residents understand and

experience local government. I also believe it is important that the City look to other municipalities that have already implemented similar policies. There is value in learning from their legal analysis, their implementation, and their outcomes rather than approaching this in isolation. I support continued review and discussion, and I hope that process remains focused on providing clear, accurate information so that residents can understand what is being considered and why it matters. I also respectfully ask that the Council provide a clear timeline, including a specific date for when this item will return to the agenda for further discussion.

Becky Glimco (Naperville) I am writing to urge the Naperville City Council to adopt the Naperville Due Process and Municipal Property Ordinance. As a member of this community, I believe this ordinance reflects our city's core values of People, Trust, Respect, and Pride - and I ask for your support. Our family chose to move to Naperville for a job but also for so much more. We could have stayed in Lagrange where we had lived for 15 years but we wanted something more. When we chose to move to Naperville, we didn't just move for great schools and a bigger house. We chose to move to Naperville because we valued the diversity we saw in the community. We wanted our children to grow up in an area that was welcoming to families from across the world. This ordinance reflects that reality. The reality that by protecting the Constitutional rights of all, we have a safer community for all. The reality that our law enforcement and city officials protect our community and restrict use of public space as outlined in The Illinois Trust Act and Illinois Way Forward Act. The reality that all people present in Naperville and the USA are protected by federal and state laws including the use of judicial warrants. The reality that our city-owned property are for community use and not for immigration enforcement activity. I hope you look at this ordinance closely and see the benefits that allow our community to be safe for all. Please move this ordinance on to the next phase for further discussion and investigation to its merits.

## **H. CONSIDERATION OF MOTION TO USE OMNIBUS METHOD FOR THE CONSENT AGENDA:**

**A motion was made by Councilman White, seconded by Councilman Kelly, to use the Omnibus method to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by a voice vote.**

## **I. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**A motion was made by Councilman White, seconded by Councilman Kelly to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 9 - Wehrli, Gibson, Holzhauser, Jain, Kelly, McBroom, Syed, White, and Wilson

1. Approve the Cash Disbursements for the period of March 1, 2026, through March 31,

2026, for a total of \$36,000,827.27

**Council approved.**

2. Approve the April 7, 2026, regular City Council meeting minutes

**Council approved.**

3. Approve the City Council meeting schedule for May, June, and July 2026

**Council approved.**

4. Receive the year-to-date budget report through March 31, 2026

**Report received.**

5. Approve reappointments to various Boards and Commissions

**Council approved.**

6. Approve the award of the first, two-year extension to Contract 21-155, Banking Services, to Wheaton Bank and Trust, N.A. (a Wintrust Community Bank) for an amount not to exceed \$295,000

**Council approved.**

7. Approve the award of Cooperative Procurement 26-116, Multi-Function Printers Cost-per-Copy Program - 2026 Replacement Group, to Canon Solutions America, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$284,859.25 and for a five-year term

**Council approved.**

8. Approve the award of Cooperative Procurement 26-118, Advanced Distribution Management System Infrastructure and Professional Services, to Continental Resource, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$557,532.17

**Council approved.**

9. Approve the award of Cooperative Procurement 26-117, Electric Meters and Gatekeepers, to Wesco Distribution for an amount not to exceed \$360,760

**Council approved.**

10. Approve the award of Cooperative Procurement 26-113, Large Wire Trailer Equipment Replacement - Unit 088, to Global Rental Company, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$247,831

**Council approved.**

11. Approve the award of Option Year #1 to Contract 25-170, Alerton Building Automation System Maintenance Services, to Syserco Midwest, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$212,301 and for a three-year term

**Council approved.**

12. Approve the award of Option Year #1 to Contract 25-111, Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Dehumidification Services, to Beery Heating and Cooling, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$160,000

**Council approved.**

13. Approve the award of Option Year #2 to Contract 22-109, Engineering Services for the Springbrook Water Reclamation Center, to CDM Smith, Black & Veatch Corporation, Carollo Engineers and Donohue & Associates, Inc. for a one-year term

**Council approved.**

14. Approve the award of Work Order 22-067-WATER-26-05, Construction Engineering Services for Odyssey West Water Main Improvements, to Crawford, Murphy and Tilly, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$188,540 and for a 57-month term

**Council approved.**

15. Approve the award of Work Order 22-067-WATER-26-06, Construction Engineering Services for the Springbrook Prairie Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation, to Crawford, Murphy and Tilly, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$304,980 and for a 57-month term

**Council approved.**

16. Approve the award of Change Order #2 to Contract 25-007, 2025 Southeast Waterworks Generator Replacement, to William T. Connelly, Inc, dba Connelly Electric Co. for an additional amount not to exceed \$144,838.41, a total award of \$824,838.41, plus a 3% contingency

**Council approved.**

17. Approve the award of Change Order #4 to Contract 14-098, Harris Radio System Maintenance Agreement, to L3 Harris Corporation for an amount not to exceed \$53,526 and a total award of \$6,116,551.22, plus any additional as-needed costs defined in sections C and D of the Addendum, and for an additional one month

**Council approved.**

18. Approve the award of Bid 26-062, Odyssey West Water Main Improvement, to H. Linden & Sons Sewer and Water, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$930,410 plus a 3% contingency

**Council approved.**

19. Approve the award of Bid 26-041, 2026 Pavement Marking, to Maintenance Coatings Co. for an amount not to exceed \$109,179.65, plus a 5% contingency

**Council approved.**

20. Approve the award of Bid 26-008, 2026 Pavement Crackfill Program, to Denler, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$556,201.44, plus a 3% contingency (Item 1 of 2)
- Council approved.**
21. Adopt the IDOT resolution in the amount of \$556,201.44 to allow expenditure of State Motor Fuel tax dollars to fund the 2026 Crackfill Program (Item 2 of 2)
- RES. 26-014
- Council adopted.**
22. Adopt the resolution approving the intergovernmental agreement between the City of Naperville and the Illinois Telecommunicator Emergency Response Taskforce (IL-TERT).
- RES. 26-015
- Council adopted.**
23. Approve the award of Single Source Procurement 26-095, VTSCADA Upgrade, to Trihedral, Inc. for the amount not to exceed \$134,040.60 and for a five-year term
- Council approved.**
24. Approve the award of Single Source Procurement 26-107, PowerAssist Outage Management Services, to Util-Assist for an amount not to exceed \$128,000 and for a two-year term (Item 1 of 2)
- Council approved.**
25. Waive the first reading and pass the ordinance amending Section 8-0.5 (Naperville Public Utilities Customer Bill of Rights) of the Naperville Municipal Code to add outage management services as a permitted third party service (requires six positive votes) (Item 2 of 2)
- ORD. 26-040
- Council passed.**

## **J. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

## **K. OLD BUSINESS:**

## **L. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

## **M. AWARD OF BIDS AND OTHER ITEMS OF EXPENDITURE:**

1. Approve the award of Bid 25-009, Springbrook Prairie Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation, to Visu Sewer, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$5,230,148 plus a 3% contingency
- A motion was made by Councilman White, seconded by Councilman Kelly, to approve the award of Bid 25-009, Springbrook Prairie Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation, to Visu Sewer, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$5,230,148 plus a**

3% contingency. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 9 - Wehrl, Gibson, Holzhauer, Jain, Kelly, McBroom, Syed, White, and Wilson

## N. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

## O. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Receive the report and direct staff to prepare an ordinance amending Section 11-2A-8 of the Naperville Municipal Code (All Night Parking) to allow parking between 2:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. on one side of the street

### **SPEAKERS**

Marilyn Schweitzer (Naperville) is not in favor of the proposed changes to the overnight parking ordinance

Tim Messer (Naperville) is not in favor of the proposed changes to the overnight parking ordinance.

Council discussed the fiscal impact of the proposed ordinance changes, potential enforcement challenges, and whether the matter should be referred to the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) for review and recommendations. Additional discussion included the possibility of establishing a permit and fee system, changing family dynamics and their potential impact on the ordinance, coordinating with homeowners associations (HOAs) to gather input, how other municipalities regulate overnight parking, whether the proposed changes raise public safety concerns, and whether parking enforcement should transition to a complaint-based system similar to the City's code enforcement process.

### **WRITTEN COMMENTS ONLY**

Steve Cushman (Naperville) - Do not change the overnight parking regulations as doing so changes one reason why people move to Naperville. It degrades the quality of life for the vast majority of residents. The staff proposal also does not address Fall leaf collection interference of the proposal and the already narrow streets in areas such as the West and East Highlands.

Derek Miller (Naperville) - I think the city's overnight parking ban should stand as is. I agree with the street parking relief provided to neighborhoods with multi-family dwellings that might have limited parking available, but for neighborhoods primarily made up of single-family homes I think the drawbacks outweigh the benefits. Single-family home neighborhoods are more likely to have children around and a lot of cars parking on the street can limit visibility. The city already provides a way for people to temporarily park on the street overnight and I think that current practice should continue.

Chris Santucci (Naperville) - Honorable Members of the City Council, My name is Chris Santucci. I serve as Chairman of the Naperville Historic Preservation Commission; however, I am writing as a resident of Naperville's Historic District, not in my official role. I respectfully wish to comment on the April 21

agenda item regarding the overnight parking program. As a resident living adjacent to North Central College, on street parking during school hours and on weekends is already extremely limited. Vehicles are frequently parked outside designated areas, further compounding the issue. My concern is that simply eliminating the overnight parking ban (or exempting one side of the street) would result in streets surrounding the college and downtown areas being perpetually full and effectively treated as long term parking. This will impact residents and their visitors who rely on street parking on an occasional basis and city services such as trash pickup, snow, and leaf removal. At the same time, I recognize there is a legitimate need for overnight street parking for residents. For that reason, I would support an expansion of the existing exemption currently provided to multi family neighborhoods. If managed appropriately-such as through a resident sticker or permit program-I believe the City could strike a balance that offers meaningful relief to families struggling under the current restriction while preserving reasonable parking availability in these impacted areas. The current 3-day/month limit on temporary exemptions is still too restrictive for their needs. It will however increase the burden on the city to both manage and enforce the expansion as the current program is administered by the HOAs. Thank you for your consideration.

Janet Zavoral (Naperville) - I do not support lifting the overnight parking ban for all Naperville streets. The current ban works for most areas of the city. Homeowners who moved here after 1960 were well aware of the ban and by agreeing to move to Naperville have agreed to abide by its laws including the parking ban. I do understand that in some areas of the city that off street parking is extremely limited. The city has provided an option for residents in those areas to allow on street overnight parking. Maybe the areas just need to be reevaluated and expanded. Some have complained that they simply have too many cars to be able to park on their own property. That is not their neighbors' problem. Neither is their garage being unusable due to being stuffed with storage or "project" cars or the business they run out of their garage. But once they get the go ahead to street park 24/7 it becomes their neighbors' problem. The visual clutter and obstacles to cyclists, drivers, and pedestrians will become an issue because even though it seems like the only change will be from 2AM-5AM, in reality more cars will be street parked at all hours of the day. The incentive to get them off the street will be gone. We currently have mechanisms to allow overnight parking for certain circumstances such as driveway repair. The city also already regularly suspends the ban over holiday weekend when many residents have visitors. Naperville seems to have done a good job of identifying tight areas and creating a program for those neighborhoods. Having multiple cars is nothing new and we (the residents) managed to figure things out all these years. Please do not lift the ban for the entire city

Amy Cox (Naperville) - One reason we moved to Naperville was the safety record. While crime has gone up some, I believe that a change to the overnight parking ban would further increase it and make our community less safe. Keeping our streets clear prevents criminal behavior, and it allows the police to easily see and respond to problems. Furthermore, keeping our streets clear give more space to emergency vehicles. Our streets are not wide enough to support parking on both sides, and changing the ban will encourage more

people to park in the street with regularity. Additionally, when my neighbors park in front of my mailbox the post office does not deliver to my house, so encouraging people to park cars in the same spot could prevent people from receiving mail in neighborhoods where the post office delivers by driving mailbox to mailbox. I would like to suggest that if the overnight parking ban is ended that there be a rule with fines to prevent people from parking in a way that obstructs other people's mailboxes. Additionally, I wonder, as a taxpayer, how much the signage explaining parking rules will cost to post. I think these questions need to be answered before the parking ban is removed. If paid permits are allowed, they should be limited to people who want to park in front of their own house (only), as those could be monitored to make sure that streets were not overly congested.

Jeff Klug (Naperville) - I have lived in communities without overnight parking bans. Garages quickly become storage units and streets fill up with cars, making them difficult to navigate. One thing I love about Naperville is the ability for my children to play, including in cul de sacs and biking through neighborhoods. Adding significant numbers of cars will reduce visibility for drivers and make streets less safe for children to bike, scooter, and skate. This will significantly reduce the value of living in this area, as many residents move here for the quality of life for their children. Additionally, as a resident who lives on a cul de sac, but not in the end, I object to having everyone on the end of the cul de sac parking all of their cars on the small, straight part of our short cul de sac. It will be difficult to get out of my driveway when all the cars are concentrated on the end of the street. It will block my mailbox, which means I won't get mail, and I will have nowhere to put my leaves in the fall. The overnight parking ban was in place when anyone complained about it purchased in Naperville, don't change a good thing.

Braeden Smith (Naperville) - Please allow overnight parking within cul-de-sacs. These households are not immune to the increasing number of cars per household. Families in these areas rely on this space for additional parking just as much as any other street, so what is the city's intended solution for parking for these households? Currently, many residents are forced to cram cars into their driveways to comply, only to block sidewalks, which is a violation of Illinois law. It seems to me that the best solution would be to allow overnight parking. Additionally, I fail to see how fire operations will be negatively impacted between 2:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. any more than it would by parking during the day or overnight parking on other parts of the street. Should it truly be a problem, I would encourage you to consider the location or size of the cul-de-sac.

### **POSITION STATEMENTS**

#### **OPPOSE**

Steve Cushman (Naperville)  
Joe Stacho (Naperville)  
Karen Stacho (Naperville)

**A motion was made by Councilman Kelly and seconded by Councilman White to receive the report and direct staff to review the relevant provisions of the**

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**Naperville Municipal Code related to the Overnight Parking Ordinance, in conjunction with the Transportation Advisory Board, and return with recommendations at a future meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 9 - Wehri, Gibson, Holzhauser, Jain, Kelly, McBroom, Syed, White, and Wilson

2. Receive the report of funding options for the Indian Community Outreach Organization's 2026 India Day Parade and Celebration and direct staff accordingly

**SPEAKERS**

Rachna Prasad (Naperville) is opposed to allocating funds to the India Day Parade and Celebration.

Judith Brodhead (Naperville) is opposed to allocating funds to the India Day Parade and Celebration.

Viral Shah (Naperville) is in favor of allocating funds to the India Day Parade and Celebration.

Marilyn Schweitzer (Naperville) is opposed to allocating funds to the India Day Parade and Celebration.

Arthur Zards (Naperville) is opposed to allocating funds to the India Day Parade and Celebration.

Bhadresh Patel is in favor of allocating funds to the India Day Parade and Celebration.

*By consensus the Council approved resident Isha to speak on item O2*

Isha (Naperville) is in favor of allocating funds to the India Day Parade and Celebration.

Council discussed ways to make the event more sustainable without relying solely on a single organization for planning and execution, using the Food and Beverage Fund to treat City service costs for parades as a City obligation, the SECA process and equitable use of public funds for events, the organizers' absence from the SECA public meetings to present their request and answer questions, and limiting City services for the event to the parade only. Council also inquired about the SECA timeline for CY26, the amount of funding requested by the India Day organizers, funds raised to date, the reason for the delay in appealing the Commission's funding decision, and whether the organizer could guarantee the parade would take place if funding is approved.

Fiedler stated that SECA applications for CY2026 opened in September 2025 and closed one month later. In November, applicants had the opportunity to present their applications and answer questions from the Commission. The Commission reviewed and discussed all the applications in December and made unified recommendations for each application. Those allocations were then presented to the City Council for review and approval in February 2026.

Viral Shah (Indian Community Outreach) stated that the organization requested \$600,000 from SECA for 2026 and has raised \$175,000 in sponsorships to date. He noted that over the past 12 years, the India Day Parade and Celebration has followed a consistent event format, and the organizers believed continued attendance at SECA Commission meetings was unnecessary because the Commission and staff were already familiar with the event and its funding request. He added that the organizers did not want their attendance to appear as lobbying, and that staff had historically relayed Commission questions to the organizers for response.

Shah stated that the organizers were surprised to learn the 2026 allocation was zero and were unaware of the decision until reviewing the February 17, 2026 Council agenda item after the funding had been approved. He noted that an email was then sent to the Mayor, after which staff requested a meeting to discuss the matter further. That meeting occurred at the end of March, and the organizers were advised to appeal the decision at the April 7, 2026 Council meeting, which they did during Public Forum.

Shah stated that since the event began in 2015, the only cancellations were in 2020 due to COVID and in 2025. He noted that although the Parade and Celebration could not be held in 2020, the organizers hosted a car parade in south Naperville, which he said demonstrated their commitment to the event and its continued growth. He added that during the post-event debrief with the Special Events Team last year, the Police Department recommended additional security measures due to the event's growth. Based on the organizers' research, those added security costs were significant and could not be raised with only three months remaining before the 2025 event.

Shah stated that if additional funding is not allocated for the 2026 event, the organizers will need to seek a new location. He also noted that no decision has been made on whether the organizers would proceed with only the Parade if City services were provided for that portion alone. He stated it would be difficult to raise an additional \$60,000 to hold only the Parade, and that separating the Parade in Naperville from the Celebration at another location would not be feasible, as the two are intended to function as one event.

**WRITTEN COMMENTS ONLY**

Janet Zavoral (Naperville) - I do not support funding the India Day parade or celebration. The organizers cancelled the parade and celebration in 2025. They did not present their case at the SECA workshop in November 2025, only submitted a request form for a 2026 event. For a \$400,000 request, they did not put much effort into it. The SECA decision was made not to fund and now they organizers want to go around the process and have an exception made for them. NO. Follow the procedures, show that you're invested in your proposal in the first place. Plan an event with a reasonable cost and value to all residents that can justify your request. DO not set the precedent that every group that fails to get a grant can just go ask City Council for other taxpayer money to support their unique cause. I ask the Council not to fund this request

**A motion was made by Councilman Holzhauser, seconded by Councilman White,**

to award \$24,738 in City Services to Indian Community Outreach for the proposed 2026 India Day Parade. The funds would be awarded from the 2025 SECA balance. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 5 - Wehrl, Holzhauer, Jain, Kelly, and White

**Nay:** 4 - Gibson, McBroom, Syed, and Wilson

**P. NEW BUSINESS:**

No New Business.

**Q. ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by Councilman White, seconded by Councilman Kelly, to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting of March 21, 2026, at 9:29 p.m. The motion carried by a voice vote.

/s/ Dawn C. Portner  
Dawn C. Portner  
City Clerk