

AGENDA

City Council Work Session

Monday, February 2, 2026

5:00 PM

City Hall - Conference Room

1. CALL TO ORDER

- a. FOLLOWING THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING:

The Council may choose to reconvene the work session after the adjournment of the regular meeting if the business of the work session is unable to be completed in the allotted time.

2. DISCUSSION

- a. MnDOT Hwy 3 Corridor Study Update
b. Consider Expo 2031 opportunity
c. Fire Staffing Update

3. UPDATES

- a. Staff Reports

4. ADJOURNMENT

City Council Work Session: February 2, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: MnDOT Hwy 3 Corridor Study Update	AGENDA SECTION: DISCUSSION
PREPARED BY: Nick Egger, Public Works Director	AGENDA NO. 2.a.
ATTACHMENTS:	APPROVED BY: LJM
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discussion and feedback only.	

BACKGROUND

MnDOT, in partnership with Dakota County, and the Cities of Rosemount, Eagan, and Inver Grove Heights began work on a 12-mile+ long examination of the Trunk Highway 3 corridor from CSAH 46 (160th Street) in Rosemount to Interstate 494 in Inver Grove Heights last summer. Substantial work collecting and analyzing roadway characteristic and traffic/transportation data, along with conducting initial public feedback opportunities (i.e. at Rosemount's Food Truck Festival in September, online engagement, etc.) has yielded an comprehensive picture of the issues at hand.

MnDOT's consultant for the study, KLJ, will present the scope of the study, the findings to-date, and where we are headed as the study continues to its conclusion later this year. MnDOT staff will also be in attendance for questions.

RECOMMENDATION

Council is requested to take in the presentation, and to provide feedback to the study management team.

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AGENDA ITEM: Consider Expo 2031 opportunity	AGENDA SECTION: DISCUSSION
PREPARED BY: Logan Martin, City Administrator	AGENDA NO. 2.b.
ATTACHMENTS: Expo2031 -Rosemount	APPROVED BY: LJM
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive update on Expo 2031 and provide direction on next steps.	

BACKGROUND

The Port Authority has received a few updates and presentations from organizers of the proposed Expo 2031, which is exploring a land site in Rosemount as a possible location to host this 6-month-long Global Horticultural Expo. Attached is a fact sheet from event organizers adding additional context to the discussion.

The event recently received further approval by the Federal government for a MN location, so it is prudent that the City Council and Port Authority give additional feedback to event organizers on how this opportunity aligns with the City's Strategic Plan and development goals.

RECOMMENDATION

Receive update on Expo 2031 and provide direction on next steps.

EXPO 2031 / ROSEMOUNT PORT AUTHORITY r.11.24.25

RESIDENT / COMMUNITY RESPONSE GUIDES (Proposed)

ROSEMOUNT “MYTH VS. FACT” SHEET / *Friendly clarity for residents & families*

MYTH 1: “Expo 2031 will overwhelm Rosemount with traffic like the State Fair.”

FACT:

Expo traffic is spread out over 180 days, not compressed into 12 giant days. Visitors flow throughout the day and through multiple entrances and shuttles.

This is nothing like State Fair traffic. Think *steady garden visitors*, not massive crowds.

MYTH 2: “This will feel like a giant carnival or loud festival.”

FACT:

Expo 2031 is right-sized featuring gardens, exhibits, trails, and cultural displays—not a carnival. Noise levels stay low, similar to an outdoor arboretum or nature park.

MYTH 3: “Residents will pay higher taxes for the Expo.”

FACT:

Rosemount residents do not pay special taxes for Expo 2031.

Funding comes from:

- State & federal partners
- International participants
- Sponsorships
- Ticketing
- Philanthropy
- Private investment

No planned household assessments.

MYTH 4: “The Expo site disappears after 2031.”

FACT:

Much of the site becomes a permanent mixed- use Legacy District with:

- Parks
- Gardens
- Trails
- Educational space
- Research & training programs
- Community events
- Long-term economic activity

The Expo leaves behind lasting assets—not vacant land.

MYTH 5: “Rosemount is too small for something global.”

FACT:

This is *exactly* why Rosemount was chosen:

- Strong identity
- Open land
- Agricultural heritage
- Beautiful natural setting
- Close to MSP, major roads, hotels, and the Twin Cities

Small doesn’t mean unprepared—Rosemount is uniquely positioned.

MYTH 6: “This will change the character of Rosemount.”

FACT:

Expo 2031 is designed to amplify Rosemount’s identity, not replace it. It highlights what Rosemount already stands for—nature, agriculture, family, and innovation.

Nothing about Rosemount’s character or charm needs to change.

MYTH 7: “This is a short-term event with no long-term value.”

FACT:

The long-term value is one of the biggest reasons to pursue it:

- New parks and gathering spaces
- Economic uplift
- Trails and water features
- Year-round attractions
- Business growth
- Increased property desirability
- New educational and youth programs

This is a 30+ year economic and cultural engine.

MYTH 8: “Only outside organizations will benefit.”

FACT:

Rosemount residents and businesses are prioritized. Benefits include:

- Local job opportunities
- New customers for restaurants and shops
- Expanded community amenities
- Youth engagement and school programs
- Volunteer and cultural participation
- Legacy District revenue for the region

Rosemount is a partner—*not a backdrop*.

MYTH 9: “Decisions have already been made.”

FACT:

We are in the exploration and evaluation phase. Nothing changes without:

- City Council review
- Public meetings
- Community input
- Detailed planning
- Clear benefits for residents

Residents shape the future.

MYTH 10: “The Expo will just be six months of crowds.”

FACT:

Expo 2031 is six months of activity—but the real value is what stays: A year-round destination... new public amenities... new development... new community identity... and new economic pathways for decades.

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AGENDA ITEM: Fire Staffing Update	AGENDA SECTION: DISCUSSION
PREPARED BY: Kip Springer, Fire Chief	AGENDA NO. 2.c.
ATTACHMENTS:	APPROVED BY: LJM
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discussion only.	

BACKGROUND

Citygate Associates will be present to provide an update on the Fire Department staffing study.

RECOMMENDATION

Discussion only.