

[City column – July 2016]
By Mayor Bill Droste

For most of us, the pace slows down in the summer. But that usually doesn't apply to the work of City government. At Rosemount we're well into the annual budget review. And we're busy with an uptick in the number of construction projects proposed in the City.

Some of the most important work underway at City Hall will have a payoff over the next 20 years. We continue in-depth planning for the revision of Rosemount's Comprehensive Plan out to the year 2040. As I reported in this space during the winter, this is a major project for City government to make sure we plan for a better Rosemount, not just a bigger one. And public input is crucial to our success.

Our planning staff has conducted three meetings for specific parts of the community that may face their own issues in the next few years. We've met with stakeholders in Downtown Rosemount and in the southeast corner of the City, where growth may be only a few years away. We've also met with the rural residential neighborhood in the central portion of the community about their future.

We have another meeting coming up on September 22 to which residents and businesses in every part of the City are invited. This will review the challenges Rosemount will face in land use, transportation, and other services. The meeting will be held in the Banquet Hall of the Rosemount Community Center at 6:30 p.m., with a formal presentation starting at 7.

And after that, it may seem quiet for a while, but that doesn't mean the effort has ended. For instance, one of the meetings this spring covered the north central part of the City, roughly east of South Robert Trail and West of Akron Avenue. That is an area that may see demand for development. But it lacks water and sewer service, and our staff will be working for several months to research the issues involved in extending utilities there.

You can keep up to date on this process and how it may affect you by visiting our website at www.ci.rosemount.mn.us/comp. And please plan to take part in the meeting on September 22 to make sure we have the benefit of the opinions of as many citizens as possible.

And if you have questions or comments about the Comp Plan process or any other topics of interest, please stop by the City Council table at this weekend's Leprechaun Days events. Our booth will be on the west side of the Central Park shelter building.

We also look forward to hearing from you at next Tuesday evening's observance of Night to Unite, with neighborhood parties throughout town. It's summertime, but the work never stops to improve our community.

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