City Snapshot

Summer 2011

CITY OF Fargo

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Engineers Study Innovative Flood Protection Methods

What worked and what didn't

The flood of 2011 set the stage as a testing ground for a variety of innovative new types of flood protection methods. In addition to the use of earth levees, HESCO and sandbag dikes, engineers tested Trap Bags, Aqua Fence, Water Inflated Property Protectors (WIPP), and Big Bags. The type of protection used in a particular area was based on ground stability, the amount of space available to construct a flood barrier and the protection height offered by the various products. Engineers are now in the process of writing summary reports on the performance of each type and a recommendation on whether or not they should be used in the future. The City also constructed nearly 12 miles of permanent flood protection this spring, which will reduce the need for temporary dikes in future floods. In total, the City of Fargo constructed 31.48 miles of flood protection in 2011. The chart on the right shows a breakdown.

Temporary flood protection

Type	Miles
Earth	7.44
Earth (Army Corps)	5
Sandbag	2.85
Trap Bag 4 ft	2.06
Trap Bag 6 ft	1.55
Aqua Fence	1,499 feet
WIPP	1,012 feet
HESCO	936 feet
Big Bag	340 feet
Total temporary	19.63

Permanent flood protection

Type	Miles
Earth	10.84
Flood wall	1
Total permanent	11.84
Total all levees	**31.48 miles**

Aqua Fence

Trap Bag

WIPP
Water Inflated
Property Protector

Did you know?

You can now watch TV Fargo 12 online? Find it at www.cityoffargo.com/streaming.

City Commissioners Set Goals for Future Flood Protection

In May, 2011, Fargo City Commissioners adopted a series of flood protection goals. These goals will help guide our community as we move forward with the implementation of flood control measures such as a diversion, FEMA accredited protection, and flood plan management regulations.

Goals

- Flood Diversion
- Protection along rivers and drains
  - -Protection up to 42.5 feet river level or higher
- Permanent protection
  - -Eliminate sandbag levees if possible
  - -Construct earthen levees
  - -Consider structural options if earth levees are not feasible
  - -Construct infrastructure that would allow for rapid deploy protection where other options are not feasible
- FEMA accredited protection
  - -Permanent protection built to meet accreditation requirements
  - -Structural options meet FEMA accreditation requirements
- Institute flood plain management regulations
  - -Property setback requirements
  - -Raise building elevations to 1.5 feet above the building flood elevation
  - -Provide real protection to new subdivisions by raising roads

At Risk Homes Purchased by City

In an effort to strengthen the permanent levee system along the Red River, the City of Fargo has purchased and removed at risk homes. Since 2009, a total of 68 homes have been purchased at a cost of nearly $7.2 million. 21 have been purchased in 2011. These homes were at risk of flooding and/or needed to be moved to make way for a levee. Home buyouts are funded by a half cent sales tax dedicated to flood control. The tax was passed by voters in 2009 and will continue until December 31, 2029.

Yard Restoration Program

The City of Fargo has established a yard restoration program for damage caused in the construction of primary levees to protect the community during flooding. Eligible costs may include vegetation or tree replacement, irrigation system repairs, damaged concrete or paver blocks and other incidentals related to sandbag placement. The program is limited to private property and does not cover the public boulevard.

Eligibility requirements

To be eligible, the property owner must have filed a claim with their own insurance company and the claim must have been denied. Claims for the City of Fargo Yard Restoration Program must be submitted to the Planning Department along with the results of the insurance claim. The application form and additional information is available online at www.cityoffargo.com/flood (click on “yard restoration”) or by calling the Planning Department at 241-1474. **Applications must be submitted by June 30, 2011.**

Summer Sump Pump Ideas

Reduce your water consumption this summer by reusing your sump pump discharge. Sump pump water is similar to well water and can be used for a variety of purposes such as watering your trees, shrubs or lawn. Discharge your sump pump to the nearest storm water inlet if you do not want to use the water on your yard. Please do not discharge your sump pump onto the sidewalk or have your discharge line cross the sidewalk. Lawn sprinkler installers can trench the line under the sidewalk if you want to discharge to the curb. For more information call 461-7867 or visit www.cityoffargo.com/sumppumpprogram.

GO 2030
go2030.net
FARGO COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Citizens Working Today to Plan a Better Tomorrow!

If you have a vision for Fargo's future, now is your opportunity to be heard. The Go2030! Comprehensive Planning Study is currently underway and we are looking for your input.

What is the Fargo Comprehensive Plan?

The Fargo Comprehensive Plan will establish the community's vision for the future of Fargo. It will ensure that city government, the private sector, and the public are all working together to achieve a common vision. The comprehensive plan will consider all of the systems that make up our city (e.g. infrastructure, flood mitigation, energy, transportation, natural resources, land use, and quality of life) and will identify policies, projects, and other investments that will move Fargo ahead.

Why plan?

The common vision established in the comprehensive plan will provide the primary direction for decision makers in the future. An ambitious comprehensive plan will boost Fargo's economy, improve its quality of life, and foster the advancement and prosperity for generations to come. With an engaged citizenry, a visionary City Commission and a robust private sector, Fargo can move together toward a better future. The last comprehensive plan, finished in 1995, provided critical direction for numerous accomplishments, including the downtown revitalization and the NDSU technology park. This plan will build on the successes of the past and create the next big ideas for Fargo's future.

The NDSU Technology Park and revitalization of downtown Fargo were both key projects in the 1995 Comprehensive Plan.

Get involved

Attend a public meeting
The planning team will host a series of public meetings throughout the planning process. Please join us for our first public meeting on Thursday, June 23 to establish the over arching vision and goals for Fargo in the year 2030. The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at Centennial Hall in the Fargo Civic Center, 207 4th St. N., Fargo.

Submit you ideas online
Submit your ideas on our interactive townhall webpage www.go2030townhall.com.
Vote for the best ideas.

Attend a lecture
We are hosting a forum for speakers to share their ideas about the future of Fargo and this planning process. Meetings will be held at 7 p.m. in the Commission Room at Fargo City Hall, 200 3rd St. N., Fargo
June 9: Energy Independence and National Security with Vice-Admiral Dennis McGinn.
July 20: The Role of Design in Creating Resilient Communities with Prof. Thomas Fisher.

Visit our Web site
Check the Web site often. Stay up to date on the latest news and events by visiting www.go2030.net.
We will update this site with news, events, videos, documents and more.

Students Unveil "Project Blue Thunder"

Students will see their own handy work when the School Resource Officer (SRO) drives into the school parking lot next year. The Fargo Police Department along with Fargo Public Schools and several private sponsors are proud to unveil Blue Thunder. The vehicle was seized in 2008 by Fargo Police as the result of a traffic stop. Methamphetamine, marijuana, drug paraphernalia and cash were discovered in the car, which was used in the delivery of narcotics in the Fargo area. Now the car is a school project for students involved in several programs such as automotive technology, Skills USA, manufacturing, art, video production and photography as they update Blue Thunder with mechanical modifications, police equipment and even a student designed logo.

Blue thunder will be driven by Fargo SROs on a rotating basis. It will also be used as a special events squad car for community events and as a show-piece for the Fargo Public Schools Skills USA program. Police say the real value of Blue Thunder is the relationships created between youth and law enforcement which benefits school and community safety.

Hybrid Transit Technology Arrives in Fargo!

MATBUS has reduced its carbon footprint with the addition of four hybrid buses, the first of their kind to join the MATBUS fleet. The new vehicles include two 35-foot 2011 New Flyer fixed route hybrids (each costing $595,000) and two Paratransit Ford hybrids. The diesel-electric New Flyers offer a 50% reduction in fuel costs, lower maintenance costs and a smoother, quieter ride. Many components for these vehicles were produced by Fargo-based companies and vendors. The gas-electric Ford Paratransit buses (each costing $124,000) provide better fuel economy, lower maintenance costs and longer vehicle life.

Read Books & Ride with MATBUS

From June 1 through August 31, MATBUS will provide free rides to youth (grades K-12) going to and from the Fargo, West Fargo or Moorhead Public Libraries when they show the bus driver their Library Card.

Visit MATBUS at the Fargo Community Picnic

Come and visit with MATBUS staff at the Fargo Police Department's Community Picnic on Tuesday, June 28 from 5 to 8 p.m. One of the MATBUS vehicles will be at Island Park so you can "get on board and give MATBUS a try today!" MATBUS staff will be on hand to answer any questions that you may have about riding the bus and there will be games to play. Prizes will be given out while supplies last.

Catch a MATBUS with the Summer Youth Pass!

If your family's busy summer schedules have you wondering how you will ever find enough time to shuttle your children around, MATBUS is here to help! The "Summer Youth Pass" allows youth in grades kindergarten through 12 to use unlimited rides on the MATBUS system from June 1 through August 31. The pass is only $26 and can be purchased from any of our dispatch team members at the Ground Transportation Center at 502 NP Avenue.

Plan Your Summer with the Fargo Police

Don't forget your friends at the Fargo Police Department when organizing your summer events calendar. The whole family is invited to take part in these fun and safe activities:

June 9: Safety Safari at the zoo – This event is a partnership with AAA of North Dakota, Safe Kids FM and Essentia Health. Enjoy a free day at the zoo from 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. where kids can go from station to station and learn safety facts.

June 28: Fargo Police Department Community Picnic - This is the Police Departments biggest community event of the year! Stop by Island Park between 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. to learn about resources available to residents, enjoy games, displays and free food. New to the picnic this year is the Cultural Corner. It will include booths with information about the many different cultures within the FM community.

August 2: Night to Unite – Police encourage neighborhoods throughout Fargo to host block parties on this evening. Officers will be out and about to visit as many as they can.

The Fargo Police Department will also have representation at all Fargo Park District Community Block parties held throughout the summer.

From the Firehouse

With Fire Marshal Norm Scott

Recreational Fires

The Fargo Fire Department periodically receives questions about campfires or recreational fires within the City of Fargo. Although these types of fires are legal and a permit is not required, there are a few basic rules that need to be followed.

Recreational fires cannot be located within 25 feet of a structure (including decks and fences) or other combustible material. Any condition that could cause a fire to spread within 25 feet of a structure needs to be eliminated before lighting the fire. The fire cannot be more than three feet in diameter and must be two feet or less in height.

All recreational fires must be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. It is a good idea to have a fire extinguisher or a garden hose available for immediate use.

Do not burn anything other than good dry wood. Any recreational fire that will be offensive or objectionable due to smoke or odor emissions is prohibited.

All open burning is banned when the fire index is at the extreme level. To check the current fire index, visit www.fargofire.com and click on "recreational fires".

Norm Scott
Fire Marshal

Fencing Requirements for Pools

Fargo Cass Public Health would like to remind Cass County residents that fences must be placed around pools before they are filled.

Under City of Fargo and Cass County ordinances, any swimming pool that is more than two feet deep and has a recirculation system is considered a permanent swimming pool. So even if a pool sits on a lawn and is put away at the end of summer, the permanent pool regulations may still apply. All permanent swimming pools, both in and above ground, must be completely enclosed by a fence or other permanent barrier that is at least five feet high. The fence around a pool should include a gate or door which latches from the inside.

For more information on properly enclosing a pool, or to report an unfenced pool, contact staff in the environmental health division of Fargo Cass Public Health by calling 476-6729 or e-mailing them at health@cityoffargo.com.

Calling All World Travelers!

Readers of all ages can travel the globe this summer as the Fargo Public Library presents "One World, Many Stories" during the summer reading program. Children will explore places from the Amazon to Australia through stories, crafts, music, dance, and other activities. The Summer Reading Program features events, programs, prize drawings, story hours, and more. Registration for the Summer Reading Program begins Wednesday, June 1. The program runs through Saturday, August 6 with programs and events planned each week for kids, families, teens and adults.

Other Summer Reading Program events include:

June
Free Friday movies (June - August)
Papyrus bookmark and hieroglyphics
Duct tape wallets
Lefse making workshop

July
Performance of *Cinderella, the World's Favorite Fairy Tale*
Kids & teen talent show
Teen texting competition

August
Teen art show & book swap
Summer Reading Program wrap up party

For more information on these events, call the library at (701) 241-1472 or visit our Web site, www.fargolibrary.org.

Movies @ Main

To celebrate the library's Summer Reading Program for adults, titled "Novel Destinations", we will be showing free movies at the downtown Main Library. Movies will be screened at 6:30 p.m. the 2nd and 4th Thursday of June, July and August beginning June 9 and continuing through August 25. Free popcorn will be served. In keeping with the "Novel Destinations" theme, some of the titles scheduled are "An American in Paris", "The Talented Mr. Ripley", and "Gunga Din". Pick up a complete movie schedule at any Fargo Public Library location, view it online at www.fargolibrary.org or call the Main Library at 241-1472. Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult.

Native American Storyteller & Artist to Visit Carlson Library

Black Pinto Horse

The library welcomes nationally renowned Native American artist, educator, presenter and storyteller Monte Yellow Bird, Sr. He is known in the art world as Black Pinto Horse, and he will visit the Dr. James Carlson Library for a storytelling session Friday, July 8 at 2 p.m. His presentation will share the beauty, culture and traditions of the Indigenous tribes of America. Mr. Yellow Bird Sr. is an Arikara/Hidatsa artist who grew up in the town of White Shield, North Dakota. All ages are welcome; no registration is required. Free. For more information, call the Fargo Public Library's Children's Services at (701) 241-1495.

Library's Summer Hours Begin June 1

Downtown Main Library
Monday - Thursday: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday: closed
For more information, call 701-241-1472.

Dr. James Carlson Branch
Monday - Thursday: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Fridays: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday: closed
For more information, call 701-476-4040.

Northport Branch - Unchanged
Monday - Thursday: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Fridays: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday: closed
For more information, call 701-476-4026.

Fargo Public Library

Summer Snip-Its from Solid Waste

Residential Road Construction

If your street or avenue is under construction and traffic is being detoured, our garbage and recycling trucks will not be able to reach your home. Please place these items on the nearest street or avenue that is accessible. Questions, call 241-1449.

Home Construction Projects

The City of Fargo has roll-off construction containers available for residents who are considering a home remodeling or shingling project. Please call 241-1449 for additional information.

Freebee Web Site

Check out the freebee web site where you can find or give away free items. Giveaway categories include electronics, furniture, home, lawn and garden, pet equipment and more. www.fmgiveaway.com or call 241-1449.

Household Hazardous Waste Facility

Fargo's Household Hazardous Waste Facility is located at 606 43 ½ Street North (located east of 45th Street, on the south side of 7th Ave North).

The facility is open:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wednesday: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.,
Second Saturday of every month: 8 a.m. to noon.

Household hazardous waste includes TVs, computers, and items labeled dangerous, toxic, poisonous, corrosive, combustible or flammable. For more details, call 281-8915 or visit www.fargogarbage.com.

Yard Waste Disposal

Yard waste will not be collected May 9 – October 10. All yard waste (grass, leaves, garden trimmings, excess fruits and vegetables) must be hauled to a recycling center or composted in your back yard. At the recycling centers, large green containers are available for the yard waste and small white containers are available for bags and boxes that are used to haul the waste. Call 241-1449 for recycling center locations, or visit www.fargogarbage.com for a list of sites.

We provide a service for elderly and physically challenged residents who are unable to haul their yard waste. Please call 241-1449 for details.

Summer Garbage Collection Schedule

Independence Day, Week of July 4: Garbage and recycling will not be collected on Monday, July 4. Monday will be collected on Tuesday, the remainder of the week is on schedule. The Sanitary Landfill will be closed on Monday, July 4 .

Labor Day, Week of September 5: Monday collection will be on Tuesday; the remainder of the week on schedule. The Sanitary Landfill will be closed on Monday, September 5.

FARGO CITY COMMISSION
200 N. 3RD ST.
FARGO, ND 58102

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Streets Alive!

On Sundays, August 28 and September 18 from noon to 5 p.m., Fargo Moorhead will close three miles of downtown streets to motorized traffic and open them to any form of human-powered movement. Walkers, bikers, runners, skaters, skateboarders, and dancers will take to the streets and bring the Streets Alive! 6,500 people participated in 2010. This year's events will include a destination "Come Play in the Streets" for 2-11 year olds, more fun exercise classes like zumba and pilates, and a one mile race/run. Bring YOU to the streets - your music, your dance and your friends. Help us bring the Streets Alive! with movement. Visit **www.fmstreetsalive.org** for more information.