

WWW.CI.BLOOMINGTON.MN.US BRIEFING



CELEBRATING-OUR-SESQUICENTENNIAL

DECEMBER 2008

- PAGE 2. Mayor Winstead's road map to success.
- PAGE 3. Check out what's developing.
- PAGE 4. Earth Action Heroes.
- PAGE 5. News you can use.
- PAGE 6. Parks and recreation.
- PAGE 7. Arts and ice!
- PAGE 8. Community news.

HEALTHY LIVING

CREEKSIDE HOSTS WELLNESS FAIR



BLOOMINGTON HUMAN SERVICES, Parks and Recreation, and Public Health are joining forces with the College of St. Catherine's Physical Therapy Department to present an important health and wellness fair at Creekside Community Center, 9801 Penn Avenue South, on **Wednesday, January 14, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.** The event is free to residents.

For more information, call *Ask the City* at 952-563-4957 V/TTY.

PLANNING A TRIP?

PASSPORT SERVICES AVAILABLE

ARE YOU PLANNING A TRIP where you will need a passport? The City Clerk's Office, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, is a designated Passport Acceptance Facility. Passport applications and passport photo services are available. For more information, call 952-563-4923 or visit the City's website at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: Passport.

NATIONAL AWARDS

CITY PUBLICATIONS HONORED

BLOOMINGTON'S NEWSLETTERS are among the best in the nation. The City was an Award of Excellence winner in the categories of internal and external newsletters at this year's City-County Communications and Marketing Association Savvy Awards contest in Lake Tahoe, Nevada.

Judges described the *Briefing* as "a great effort" that was also "very informative with an appealing design."

Bloomington has captured awards in this prestigious national competition every year since 1999, for a total of 20 awards, more than any other city or county in Minnesota.

BLOOMINGTON-YESTERDAY



In 1962, Donaldson moved its general office to Bloomington and the company has since entered a number of industrial markets.

DONALDSON COMPANY

A BLOOMINGTON INSTITUTION FOR NEARLY 50 YEARS

THE DONALDSON COMPANY has a long and prosperous history in Bloomington. As our city celebrates its sesquicentennial, Donaldson approaches its centennial, half of which was spent in Bloomington.

W.H.L. Donaldson, the first family member to arrive in Minnesota from Scotland, settled in Rochester in the late 1800s and soon found success running a hardware and tin shop. One of his five children, Frank Donaldson, Sr., graduated from the University of Minnesota with an engineering degree. After he developed an air cleaner to solve a farmer's tractor problems in 1915, he founded the Donaldson Company in St. Paul. In the late 1920s, crop fires caused by engine sparks fueled a demand for exhaust products. Success and innovation in agricultural equipment led directly to opportunities in the construction, mining and, later, over-the-road truck markets.

Today, the Donaldson Company has more than 13,000 employees and operations in 37 countries, yet it still calls Bloomington home.

LYNDALE AVENUE BRIDGE PROJECT BEGINS CONSTRUCTION WILL REPLACE BRIDGE OVER I-494

THE I-494/LYNDALE AVENUE Interchange Project will reconstruct the Lyndale Avenue interchange into a design similar to the Penn Avenue interchange.

The interchange is being rebuilt to conform to current construction standards and to reduce motorist delays. Construction began in October to replace the Lyndale Avenue bridge over I-494 in Richfield and Bloomington. A new bridge will be built by Lunda Construction of Wisconsin. Although construction is currently underway, the existing bridge will not be torn down until January 2009. The bridge is expected to be completed by fall 2009.



TRAFFIC RELIEF IS COMING I-35W CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS

Improvements will be made to the I-35W corridor stretching from Minneapolis to Lakeville. The City of Bloomington and Hennepin County are part of the Urban Partnership Agreement, a U.S. Department of Transportation initiative to provide innovative choices in traffic congestion relief through tolls, transit, technology and telecommuting.

Preliminary work has already begun. Look for a progress report in the February *Briefing*.

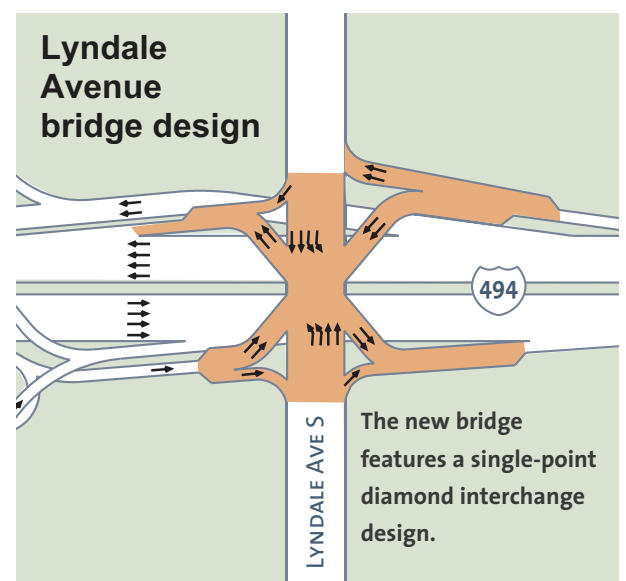
The new construction will include several special features such as street lights and landscaping at all four corners of the bridge. In addition, the interchange will:

- Improve traffic flow on Lyndale Avenue by providing turn lanes.
- Reduce motorist delays by removing one signal.
- Provide standard clearance over I-494. The new interchange/bridge is

the third step in a plan, following upgrades to Penn Avenue and 76th Street and is consistent with future plans to reconstruct the I-494/I-35W interchange.

The exit and entrance ramps at Lyndale Avenue will be closed during construction through October 30, 2009. The closures are subject to change by the contractor. The interchange will be completed and reopened to traffic in early November 2009.

To minimize disruption to local businesses, this project is on an accelerated schedule. The primary



detour route will be Nicollet Avenue and American Boulevard.

The reconstruction is the latest in ongoing improvements planned by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) along the I-494 corridor. The project is a joint effort between the City of Bloomington, City of Richfield and MnDOT.

For more information, contact Deputy Director of Public Works Jim Gates at 952-563-8730 or visit www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/lyndalebridge.



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