

Edition:Edina



MARCH 2023
Volume 10, Issue 3

CITY GOALS:



Strong Foundation



Reliable Service



Livable City



Better Together

Longtime Edina Community Foundation Executive Director Set to Retire For 20 Years, Crockett Has Used His Passion for Service to Better the Community

BY BRITTANY BADER

While there are many people to thank for programs like Connect Card, Connecting with Kids, Edina Reads and the annual 4th of July parade, one person in particular is longtime Edina Community Foundation Executive Director Dick Crockett.

On March 15, Crockett will retire, ending a tenure that has measurably shaped the Foundation and the Edina community. His retirement day coincides with his 20th work anniversary, bringing his career with the Foundation full circle and much to celebrate.

The Edina Community Foundation (originally the Edina Foundation) was founded in 1977 as a charitable organization for the City of Edina and Edina Public Schools. Decades later, its name and focus were changed to serve the wider community.

When Crockett came to the Foundation in 2003, he was new to the part-time role, but not to the nonprofit sector. He had previous experience working with nonprofits by doing legal work for higher education institutions and as board chair for the Fargo-Moorhead Area Foundation. He said it was through these experiences he realized he was more motivated and challenged by service work. So, in 2002 when he received the City's *About Town* publication that mentioned the position, he felt called to pursue it.

At the time, Crockett said he was tasked with developing programs to fulfill the Foundation's mission and increase donor support.

"I wanted to create more offerings for people living in Edina. We didn't have that when I started 20 years ago. We were an idea without actual programming behind it yet," said Crockett.

"I started with bringing my own values to the community in terms of what would make Edina a better community to live in and combined that with meeting specific needs people brought to me."

Fast-forward to today, Crockett says he has a list of more than 400 people he has worked with who have had a connection to the Foundation in some way.

As the Foundation's services have grown, so has its mission statement. When reflecting on



In Dick Crockett's time with the Edina Community Foundation, over \$500,000 in public art has been contributed to the City. Among the art is "Reflecting on Friendship," a bronze piece by Nick Legeros that Crockett and his wife, Suzie, donated. (Photo by Dan Doar)

highlights from his career, Crockett said one of his favorite memories is when a group collaborated on improving the Foundation's mission statement, from the original "Strengthening our community" to "We bring people together to serve, strengthen and celebrate our community."

He is very happy for the impact the words of the mission statement have had over the years – particularly the point of celebrating the community. He's most proud of the public art contributions, starting Edina Reads and growing the Community Impact Program, which helps small causes raise money and awareness.

"I am particularly proud of the way we've been able to grow the Community Impact Program because it has helped create a much broader cultural community here than an ordinary suburban community has," Crockett said. "And our partners are always very happy to get the service and work with us. It's a way of serving and strengthening the community as well as celebrating their interests and bringing them to the attention of the broader community."

Like many retirees, Crockett plans to do more traveling. Notably, in the fall, he is

looking forward to his annual cycling trip. He also looks forward to spending more time with his family and friends.

However, one thing will certainly stay the same: his passion for service work. He has committed to volunteer one day each week to assist a new director or interim director through June. He also plans to continue leading the Edina Reads Committee.

"Through my time at the Foundation and being an Edina Rotarian for 18 years, I've learned the value and satisfaction of serving other people individually and collectively. I expect that will continue. One thing that I expect to do in retirement is to find another organization to serve."

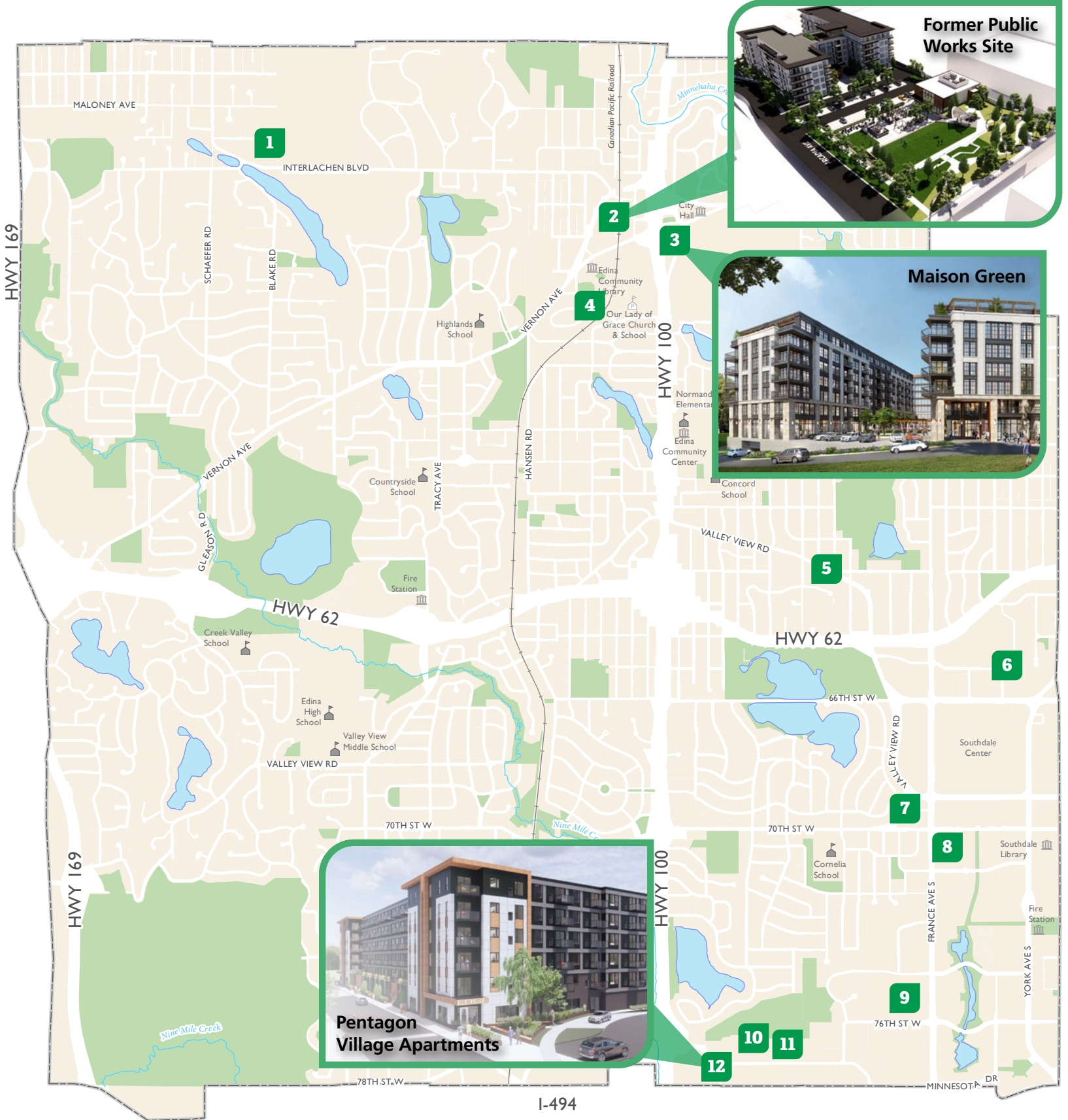
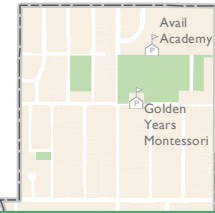
To learn more about the Edina Community Foundation, visit EdinaCommunityFoundation.org.



Dick Crockett (Submitted Photo)

Development Tracker

The City of Edina Development Tracker includes reconstruction or new construction projects that have been completed in the past six months, are currently under construction, have filed a formal application to the City or have been substantially approved.



View the Development and Construction Tracker online at EdinaMN.gov by clicking on the "Learn About Projects" button.

1 Interlachen Country Club

Location: 6200 Interlachen Blvd.

Developer: Interlachen Country Club

Status: Under Construction

The club is expanding its boundaries by adding a new parking lot and expanded practice area off Waterman Avenue. The Country Club owns two single-family homes that will continue as single-family homes to serve as a buffer to the homes to the west. A gate will be constructed at the end of Waterman, just after the homes owned by the Country Club.

2 Former Public Works Site

Location: 5146 Eden Ave.

Developer: Edina Housing & Redevelopment Authority, United Properties and Jester Concepts

Status: Approved

The proposal includes a 6.5-story, 90-unit senior cooperative (owner-occupied) project with 173 underground parking spaces. Ten percent of the units will be affordable. The project will include a two-story, 13,500-square-foot restaurant and a 30,000-square-foot public park with pedestrian walkways to a bridge that would connect to the municipal parking ramp next to the building housing Jerry's Foods and Jerry's Hardware.

3 Maison Green

Location: 4917 Eden Ave.

Developer: Reuter Walton

Status: Under Construction

Reuter Walton tore down the Perkins restaurant and office building on the site. The developer is building a seven-story, 208-unit luxury apartment building with a 3,700-square foot restaurant/coffee shop. Ten percent of the units are set for those with 50 percent area median income.

4 Our Lady of Grace Expansion

Location: 5051 Eden Ave.

Status: Completed

Improvements included a new priest residence, activity center, expansion of the school and parish gathering space and remodeled areas of existing buildings.

5 Valley View Row

Location: 4404 Valley View Road

Developer: City Homes

Status: Proposed

City Homes is developing the vacant site. The new plans include construction of two, two-unit row houses.

6 Bhatti GI Gastroenterology

Location: 6500 Barrie Road

Developer: MSP Commercial

Status: Under Construction

The applicant tore down the existing 16,032-square-foot medical office building to build a new three-story, 24,000-square-foot medical office and surgery center.

7 Cornelia View Apartments

Location: 4040 W. 70th St.

Developer: Ecumen and Lupe Development Partners

Status: Under Construction

Ecumen and Lupe Development Partners are constructing a new four-story, 118-unit senior affordable housing project with 86 underground and 23 surface parking stalls.

8 70th & France/U.S. Bank Site

Location: 7001 and 7025 France Ave.

Developer: Orion Investments, ESG and Mortenson

Status: Under Construction

Phase one of this project is complete with the construction of a one-story, 6,500-square-foot U.S. Bank building with a drive-thru. The bank opened in February. The next phase includes a 24-story, 267-unit apartment building with 1,500-square-feet of retail; a six-to-seven-story, 189,430-square-foot office/retail building; and an eight-level, freestanding 540-stall parking ramp with a 1,300-square-foot bike space. Demolition of the old bank building is scheduled for this spring, with construction of these next phases to follow.

9 The Sound on 76th

Location: 4100 W. 76th St.

Developer: The Sound on 76th / AEON

Status: Completed

After removing notable artwork, the building that once occupied FlyteTyme Studios and later the Minneapolis Media Institute was demolished. A four-story apartment building with 80 affordable housing units and underground resident parking was built on the site.

10 The Fred at Pentagon North

Location: 4660 77th St. W.

Developer: Solhem Companies

Status: Under Construction

The applicant tore down two office buildings on the site and is constructing a five- to seven-story, 408-unit market rate apartment building.

11 Pentagon North Phase II

Location: 4620 77th Street W.

Developer: Solhem Companies

Status: Approved

The developer plans to tear down one of the existing office buildings at Pentagon Park and construct a seven-story, 276-unit apartment building in its place. Ten percent of the units would be for affordable housing. One of the main features of the plan is the provision of a new entrance to Fred Richards Park on the east side of the existing office building.

12 Pentagon Village Apartments

Location: 4911 77th St. W.

Developer: Rise Development

Status: Under Construction

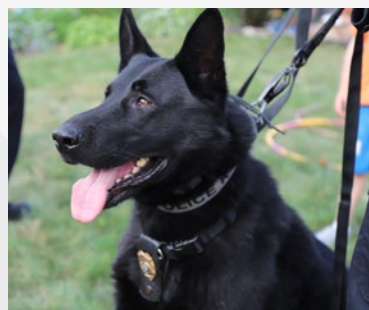
A six-story, 200-unit apartment building is planned for the southeast corner of Pentagon South. Ten percent of the units will be for affordable housing.

BY THE NUMBERS

K-9 Units



The Edina Police Department's K-9 units are certified by the U.S. Police Canine Association in patrol and narcotics detection. These dogs typically respond to calls involving suspect tracking, searching for narcotics or searching areas or buildings. Edina's dogs, K-9 Blitz and K-9 Gryf, are partnered with Patrol Officers Sean Young and Mike Bengtson. 🌿



16

Weeks of training before a K-9 can work a shift

100

Usual number of calls that K-9 Gryf handles each year



8

Typical years in the career of a police dog

- COMPILED BY RENEE MOTTET



Iskaan-garee koodhkan oo ku fiiri

soomaali

EdinaMN.gov/SomaliEE



Escanee este código para ver en

español

EdinaMN.gov/SpanishEE

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, March 1

Women's History Month begins

Wednesday, March 1, 11:30 a.m.

State of the Community,
Braemar Golf Course

Sunday, March 5, 6 p.m.

Brooklyn Big Band, Edinborough Park

Tuesday, March 7, 7 p.m.

City Council meeting, Edina City Hall

Wednesday, March 8

Holi

Wednesday, March 8

International Women's Day

Thursday, March 9, 7:30 a.m.

Housing & Redevelopment Authority
meeting, Edina City Hall

Friday, March 10, 1 p.m.

Veterans resource event,
Edina Senior Center

Friday, March 10, 6:30 p.m.

Family Movie Night, "Lyle, Lyle
Crocodile," Edinborough Park

Saturday, March 11, 10 a.m.

St. Paddy's Craft Party, Edina Art Center

Sunday, March 12, 6 p.m.

Gypsy Mania Trio, Edinborough Park

Sunday, March 19, 6 p.m.

Westwind Big Band, Edinborough Park

Tuesday, March 21, 7 p.m.

City Council meeting, Edina City Hall

Wednesday, March 22

Ramadan begins

Thursday, March 23, 7:30 a.m.

Housing & Redevelopment Authority
meeting, Edina City Hall

Sunday, March 26, 6 p.m.

The First John Philip Sousa Memorial
Band, Edinborough Park

*For a complete listing of meetings
and events, visit EdinaMN.gov.*

Watch City Council, Housing &
Redevelopment Authority and Planning
Commission meetings live:

- Edina TV (Comcast Channels 813 or 16)
- Facebook.com/EdinaMN
- "Watch a Meeting" web page at EdinaMN.gov/LiveMeetings

Ordinance Changes Will Help Protect Trees From Construction

Residential Building Permits Now Require a Tree Protection Permit

BY DEBBIE TOWNSEND

Since the City's Tree Protection Ordinance first went into effect in 2015, one consistent complaint has come from Edina residents: It doesn't do enough to protect trees or replace those lost during construction.

"The biggest complaints have been that the tree replacements are too small. They would cut down a 100-year-old oak tree and only have to put in a 2.5-inch diameter sapling to replace it," said City Forester Luther Overholt. "More trees were being removed than replanted. Of those that were replanted, many weren't cared for and often died."

That also conflicted with the City's Climate Action Plan goal of increasing the tree canopy to 40 percent by 2030, up from the estimated 35.9 percent in the 2021 Ground Cover Survey. Trees are one of the most effective ways to mitigate climate change, noted Sustainability Manager Grace Hancock.

"Edina is lucky to have a relatively healthy urban forest already, but there are a lot of threats, including increased development and climate change," she said.

To better protect existing mature trees, preserve the character and beauty of Edina's tree canopy and help mitigate the loss of trees when they do have to be removed, the City amended the ordinance effective in 2023. Among the changes:

- Designating larger trees as "protected" or "heritage," and each status requires a much more significant replacement if removed.
- Prioritizing the critical root zone around a tree to be undisturbed during construction.
- Requiring a 36-month financial guarantee to ensure tree replacement rules are followed.

Residential building projects that require a building permit are now required to obtain a



City Forester Luther Overholt stands inside the fencing that protects a fir tree and its critical root zone from pump station construction at West 72nd Street and Oaklawn Avenue. (Photo by Tom Cornell)

tree protection permit as well. Those include demolition or grading permits; subdivision applications; building permits for homes or accessory structures such as a garage, deck or pool; and additions.

"This applies to a resident redoing a deck themselves or contractors building pools or grading over 10 yards of dirt," Overholt cited as examples.

Any heritage tree removed must be replanted with equivalent replacements of a minimum size. For example, if someone cuts down a 40-foot conifer, it could be replaced by four 10-foot conifers. To ensure a replacement of this "heritage" status tree, the financial guarantee is 110 percent of the tree replacement value, which is \$500 a foot. So this 40-foot tree's escrow amount would be \$22,000. Half the escrow would be refunded upon the project's completion and the other half refunded three years later if the replacement tree remains healthy.

To learn more, visit EdinaMN.gov/TreeProtection or contact Overholt at LOverholt@EdinaMN.gov.

