THE CITY OF
NORTHFIELD
MINNESOTA
ESTD 1855

Boards & Commissions



2024

The City of Northfield Boards and Commissions play an important role in the setting of policy and functioning of the City. Many boards play a critical advisory role to the City Council and City staff, both bringing to light new initiatives and working on solutions to civic priorities.

Most boards and commissions are open only to residents of Northfield, but a few allow for limited membership by people from the surrounding area. They are entirely volunteer positions.

Arts and Culture Commission (ACC)

The Arts and Culture Commission approves the commission, installation, movement, and decommissioning of public art, advises the City Council on the development of arts and cultural activities, organizations, and facilities in Northfield, and advocates for the arts, culture and creative experiences as ways for the community to connect with one another, contributing to a vibrant and thriving city.

Charter Commission

The Charter Commission is responsible for reviewing and revising the City Charter to ensure that it meets all applicable State and Federal laws and meets the needs of the citizens of Northfield. The City Charter is the constitution of Northfield's city government. The Charter Commission consists of seven voting members. Each member serves a four-year term as designated by State Statutes. Members do not receive compensation.





Vision

Northfield is an open, safe, and welcoming community, recognized for its world-class colleges and historic riverfront downtown, and is dedicated to sustainably enhancing and preserving its vibrant culture, celebrated arts, strong economy, and an excellent quality of life where all can thrive.

Economic Development Authority (EDA)

The Economic Development Authority (EDA), created in 1991, seeks to improve the economic condition of Northfield. Focusing on appropriate commercial and industrial development, the EDA works to establish a higher tax base and additional job opportunities for the citizens of Northfield. The EDA provides resources and tools, including loans and grants, to support this kind of development.

Environmental Quality Commission (EQC)

The Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) advises on matters concerning environmental quality and natural resources, including the implementation of the environmental policy enacted by ordinance.

Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC)

The Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) seeks to safeguard the heritage of Northfield by preserving sites and structures, which reflect elements of the City's cultural, social, economic, political, visual, or architectural history.

Hospital Board

The Hospital Board oversees the administration, operation and maintenance of all hospitals, convalescent homes, nursing homes or other medical facilities, nor or hereafter owned and operated by the City of Northfield. The board may make such rules, regulations and by-laws concerning the same entities as it may deem for the best interests of such facilities.

Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA)

The Housing and Redevelopment Authority's (HRA) mission is to provide a sufficient supply of adequate, safe, and sanitary dwellings in Northfield. The HRA works to protect the health, safety , morals and welfare of the citizens of Northfield, clear and redevelop blighted areas, follow the City's Comprehensive Plan and remedy the shortage of housing for low and moderate income residents.

Human Rights Commission (HRC)

The Human Rights Commission (HRC) seeks to secure for all citizens equal opportunity in employment, housing, public accommodations, public services and education. The commission works to ensure full citizen participation in the community by assisting the State Department of Human Rights in implementing the Minnesota Human Rights Act and by advising the City Council on long range programs to improve community relations in the City of Northfield. The board also cooperates with other public officials and boards to maintain positive community relations.

Mission

The City of Northfield works for the common good of our residents and businesses and the improvement of our community by providing excellent, innovative municipal services that carry out the City's vision for a high quality of life for all.



Library Board

The Library Board makes recommendations regarding the library administration, policies, annual budget, operations, and maintenance of all library facilities. The board monitors and advocates for legislation concerning public libraries. The board supports and promotes library programs, activities, and services, ensuring equitable access for all in the library's service area.

Northfield Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention (N-ASAP)

Northfield Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention members are advocates for and with youth, committed to creating a community where our youth can lead healthy lives free of alcohol and drug use.

Northfield Area Fire and Rescue Services (NAFRS)

The Northfield Area Fire and Rescue Services advises the City Council on policy for emergency services for the area. It takes the lead in evaluation and implementation of service improvements. NAFRS is open to anyone living in the coverage area.



Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB)

The City of Northfield Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) directly advises staff and officials regarding the public parks system and all public recreational facilities in the City of Northfield. PRAB assists with long-range planning for land acquisition for parks, natural areas and trails, as well as detailed plans for park development and use and recreational facilities.

Planning Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals (PC/ZBA)

The Planning Commission plays a major role in advising the City Council in the preparation, review and implementation of the city's Comprehensive Plan. The commission conducts public hearings and makes recommendations to the City Council on zoning amendments, conditional use permits, preliminary plats and other proposed changes affecting zoning and land use within the city. The Planning Commission forwards information gathered from these public hearings, along with staff and their recommendations, to the City Council for final action. The functions of the Planning Commission are separate from and exclusive of the functions of the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Zoning Board of Appeals reviews and makes final decisions on variances and appeals on land use decisions.

To apply for a board or commission visit
https://weblink.ci.northfield.mn.us/Forms/BCApplication
or stop by City Hall.

For more information on the City's boards and commissions visit
northfieldmn.gov/BC
or contact the Administration department at 507-645-3060.

Board and Commission Meeting Schedule

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	6:00p.m. PRAB	6:00p.m. City Council	6:00p.m. HPC	6:00p.m. HRA	
2	6:00p.m. ACC	6:00p.m. City Council	6:00p.m. Library	6:00p.m. Charter*	
3		6:00p.m. City Council	6:00p.m. EQC	8:00AM NAFRS 6:00p.m. PC/ZBA	
4	6:00p.m. EDA		6:00p.m. HRC	5:00p.m. Hospital 7:00p.m. N-ASAP	

*Meets odd months only