



# City of Northfield

City Hall  
801 Washington Street  
Northfield, MN 55057  
northfieldmn.gov

## Meeting Minutes - Draft Environmental Quality Commission

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Wednesday, June 18, 2025

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

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### 6:00 PM - REGULAR AGENDA CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Provancha called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**Present:** 6 - Chair Michael Provancha, Commissioner Bruce Anderson, Commissioner Daniel Jones, Commissioner Janet Petri, Commissioner Susannah Shmurak and Vice Chair Rob Hanson

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner George Kinney

*Also present: Risi Karim, Assistant to the City Administrator; Matt Bailey, Meeting Associate; Davin Sokup, Council Member (Non-Voting Ex Officio Member)*

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to approve the agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yes:** 6 - Chair Provancha, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Jones, Commissioner Petri, Commissioner Shmurak and Vice Chair Hanson

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [25-323](#) May 21, 2025 EQC Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Shmurak, seconded by Commissioner Petri, to approve the May 21, 2025 EQC Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yes:** 6 - Chair Provancha, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Jones, Commissioner Petri, Commissioner Shmurak and Vice Chair Hanson

### OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

*No public comment was received.*

### BOARD MEMBER AND COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- Commissioner Hanson requested clarification from City Staff on the expectations for the Board and Commissioner Reports section of the agenda.
- Hanson requested the opportunity for the EQC to comment on the City Council's support for the construction of a data center in Northfield.
- Commissioner Anderson requested further clarification from City Staff regarding the EQC's purview to make recommendations for best practices for construction

*environmentally conscious data centers to City Council.*

## REGULAR AGENDA

### 2. [25-324](#)

#### 2025 Work Plan Updates

- *Zero Waste Plan Implementation: Chair Provancha reported on continuing public outreach of this subcommittee.*
- *Community Engagement Campaign: Energy Efficiency, HVAC Contractor and Homeowner Education: Commissioner Anderson reported on his discussions regarding training and certification with local contractors offering heat pump installation. Commissioner Hanson reported on plans to offer a public educational event regarding energy savings, incentives, and rebates. Assistant to the City Administrator Risi Karim provided information on already-scheduled Zero Waste ordinance open house dates in the Fall of 2025 where this outreach might be appropriate. The EQC discussed additional options for public outreach events.*
- *Native Planting Ordinance: Tree Planting & Vegetation: Commissioner Jones reported that the subcommittee is waiting for the finalization of the Land Development Code to provide comment on its allowances for native plantings on public land. Jones will provide to City staff what notes and suggestions the subcommittee already has. Commissioner Shmurak requested and update from City staff regarding the City's plans for tree removal.*
- *Water Quality & Conservation: Commissioner Shmurak reported on the subcommittee's meeting with Met with City Communications staff to update language on handout materials for City rebates.*
- *Research Level 3 Charger Use and Need: Chair Provancha presented a final recommendation from the subcommittee for the installation of Level 3 chargers in the City. The members of the EQC provided comment on the recommendation.*

## STAFF UPDATES

### 3. [25-325](#)

#### Staff Update.

*Assistant to the City Administrator Risi Karim provided updates from City staff.*

## ADJOURNMENT

**A motion was made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Shmurak, to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Chair Provancha, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Jones, Commissioner Petri, Commissioner Shmurak and Vice Chair Hanson