

## Top Ten Highlights of 2009

1. The city launched a new and innovative initiative surveying residents in informal discussions at a number of Community Café's throughout the community. As a result, a panel of residents has been gathered and will work with city staff representatives to set goals and make changes for the future of Brooklyn Park.
2. New sustainable savings plans are in the works. Careful budget planning has resulted in a tax decrease for the median value home. Plus, geothermal energy will soon heat and cool the Community Activity Center ice rinks saving the city \$60,000 in energy costs per year.
3. Highway constructions continue on schedule to make Brooklyn Park even more accessible from Highways 169, 81 and 610.
4. The Zanewood Recreation Center is an even better place for teens to hang out. The Teen Zone is now open 7 days a week. Teens can hang out with their friends, play basketball or video games, read and get advice from adult mentors.
5. The city purchased and rehabbed a number of distressed, foreclosed homes and nearly all have already been resold. Families that are facing foreclosure can find lots of help and information through the city including free foreclosure prevention counseling each Tuesday at City Hall.
6. We provide recreational programs for people of any age including our regionally recognized adaptive recreation programs and our new Silver Sneakers fitness programs for Seniors. Whatever your age, interests or athletic ability the Recreation and Parks has hundreds of class offerings.
7. We built and sold a MN Energy Star green home and are making other environmentally conscience steps. Our fire department has downsized to smaller utility vehicles and uses them whenever possible to save on gas and wear on the big fire vehicles.
8. We are increasing the capacity of the water treatment plant to meet the future needs of our growing city going from pumping 19 million to 26 million gallons per day. Construction is underway and is anticipated to finish by the end of 2010.
9. Despite our down economy, there was a 7% increase in building permits including new constructions such as 3Rs Daycare Center, The Shops at Village Creek, La Fogata Mexican Restaurant and CVS.
10. The Neighborhood Action Program (NAP) continues to positively affect our city. The addition of Police crime tracking programs ([www.crimemapping.com](http://www.crimemapping.com)) and alerts ([www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com)) keep our residents even more informed of what is happening around them.