

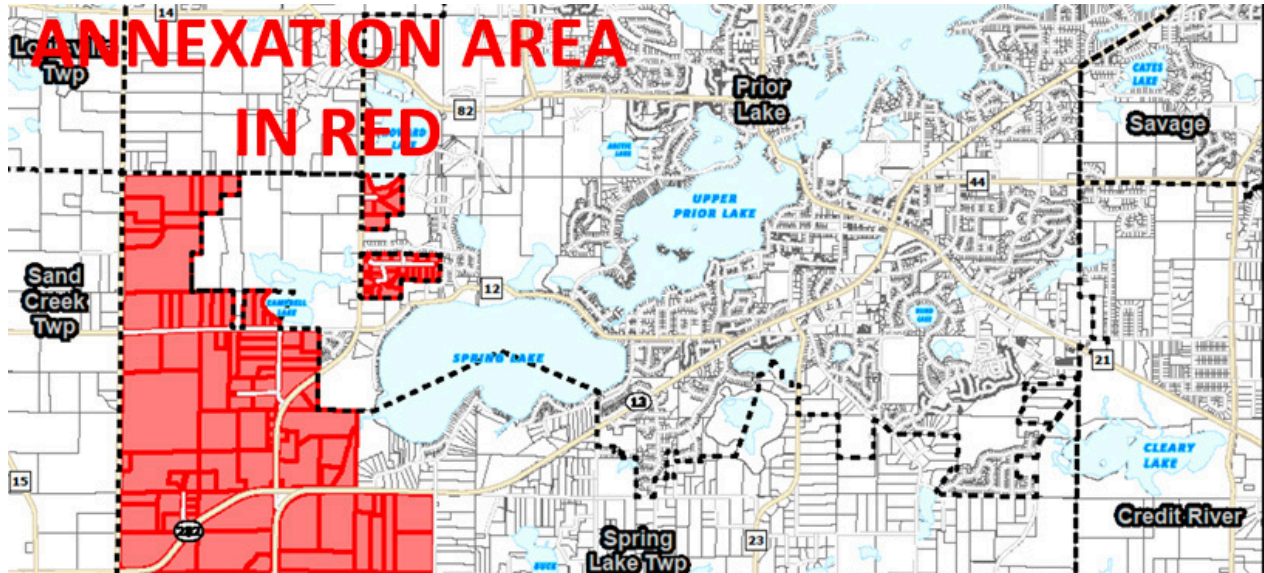


# PL PAPER

priorlakemn.gov

Phone: 952-447-9800

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## Annexation Agreement

by Jeffrey DeMars, *Communications Manager*

A new agreement between the City of Prior Lake and Spring Lake Township establishes the framework for the future annexation of approximately 1,900 acres of land to the City of Prior Lake.

The Prior Lake City Council voted unanimously to approve the orderly annexation agreement (OAA) at its council meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 10.

Previously, Spring Lake Township voted unanimously to approve the OAA at its meeting on Aug. 22.

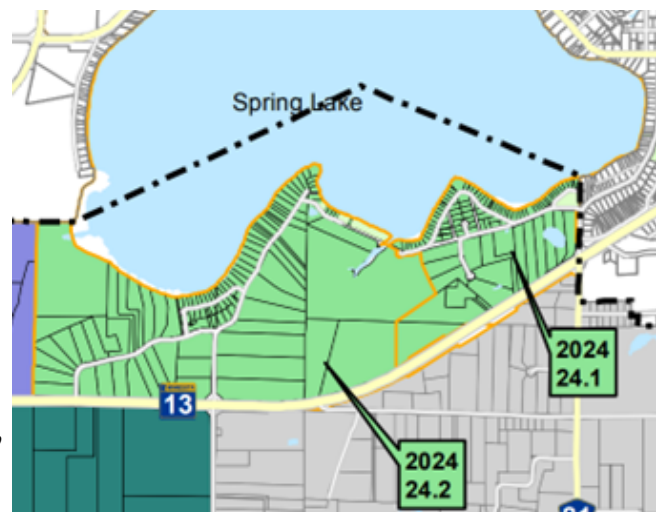
Under the terms, the future western border of the City of Prior Lake will extend past Spring Lake to Baseline Avenue, and a neighborhood of homes that borders the southern edge of Spring Lake will remain within the Township. (cont.)

Parcels within the orderly annexation area are eligible for annexation by property owner petition if the parcel is adjacent to City boundaries and is within 150 ft. of City sewer and water services. Parcels may also be eligible for annexation by the City for the purpose of extending public infrastructure. Though none of this will happen overnight, the OAA makes the annexation process easier to navigate.

The OAA provides the City with additional commercial, industrial, and residential growth areas to expand and diversify the tax base. It also protects the City's infrastructure investments in the area (sewer, water, roads, etc.) and allows for proper planning and expansion of infrastructure to serve the annexation area. Additionally, the OAA provides property owners with more flexibility and opportunities to maximize the value of their land through future development.

For more than 50 years, the City and Township have had an OAA in place. The first was in 1972, followed by a second in 2003, which expires on Dec. 31, 2025. This new agreement replaces the others and is expected to be approved by the Minnesota Office of Administrative Hearings within the next 30 days.

Under the new plan, the South Shore and Vergus neighborhoods in the Township (areas 24.1 and 24.2), which encompass approximately 220 properties, will not be annexed. City sewer and water were extended to 24.1 and 24.2 in the late 90s and early 2000s with the expectation they would be annexed into the City of Prior Lake in 2024. Because of the new agreement, that will no longer happen.



Area NOT annexed

To review the OAA or learn more about the process, go to [priorlakemn.gov/annexation](http://priorlakemn.gov/annexation).



## **Early Voting for 2024 Election is underway at City Hall**

Absentee in-person voting at City Hall started Friday, Sept. 20. You may vote during regular business hours, Monday - Friday from 8am to 4:30pm through Thursday, Oct. 17. Absentee in-person voting is similar to voting absentee by mail (secrecy envelope) without having to mail-in your ballot.

On Friday, Oct. 18, direct ballot voting begins at City Hall, which is similar to election day voting when you place your ballot directly into a tabulator. Direct ballot voting hours are Monday - Friday from 8am to 4:30pm with extended hours on the following days:

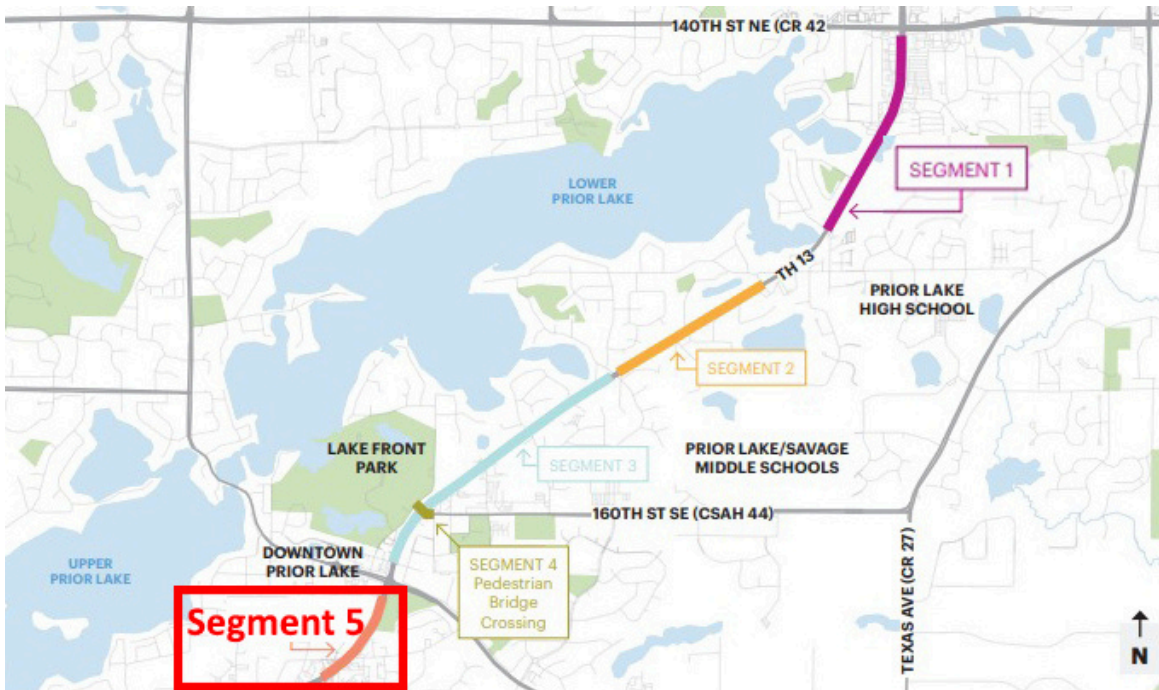
- Monday-Friday 8am to 4:30pm
- Extended hours: Saturday, Oct. 26 (9am to 3pm)
- Extended hours: Saturday, Nov. 2 & Sunday, Nov. 3 (9am to 3pm)
- Extended hours: Monday, Nov. 4 (8am to 5pm)

The City has two mayoral candidates running for election: Kirt Briggs and Kevin Burkart. The City also has two city council positions open and two candidates: Zach Braid and Ethan Hellier. To watch the candidate forum from Tuesday, Oct. 1 sponsored by the Prior Lake Chamber of Commerce, go to [priorlakemn.gov/pltv](https://priorlakemn.gov/pltv). You can also view the school board candidate forum from Wednesday, Oct. 2 at [priorlakemn.gov/pltv](https://priorlakemn.gov/pltv).

General Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 5 and polls are open from 7am to 8pm. To check if you are registered to vote, find your polling place, or view what's on your ballot, go to [priorlakemn.gov/elections](https://priorlakemn.gov/elections).

## CITY CALENDAR:

A ribbon cutting ceremony with city and state leaders is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 10 at 2:15pm near Versatile Vehicles (16450 Anna Trail SE). The event will signify the official opening of the Segment 5 trail from Anna Trail to Pleasant St SE. Eventually the trail will run along Hwy. 13 to County Road 42. Next year, Segment 1 is scheduled to be constructed. The City received a state grant and federal funds to build the trail.



The Downtown Candy Crawl is scheduled for 10am-1pm on Thursday, Oct. 31. The daytime trick-or-treat event is for PL's youngest residents. Start at City Hall and watch for a map of participating businesses to be posted at [priorlakemn.gov](http://priorlakemn.gov) at the end of October. Thank you to Sonnet Montessori for sponsoring the event!



**CANDY CRAWL 2024**

Thursday, October 31, 10am-1pm