



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 27, 2015

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CITY OF BROOKLYN CENTER ESTABLISHES MORATORIUM RESTRICTING NEW RENTAL PROPERTIES AND RESIDENCY LOCATION OF PREDATORY OFFENDERS

As of October 26, 2015, the City of Brooklyn Center placed a Moratorium of 180 days on new rental properties and residency location of predatory offenders. After significant increases in the number of rental properties and recent increases in the number of Level 3 Predatory Offenders placed in the City, the City Council decided to establish a Moratorium while the issues are being studied.

In order to rent a house in Brooklyn Center, a rental license is required from the City. During the Moratorium, no applications will be accepted for new rental licenses for single family and single family attached houses. During this time, the City will consider the impact that density of rental properties has on the residential neighborhoods, as well as the long-term stability of the community. The number of rental licenses has increased from 459 in 2007 to 873 in 2015, primarily due to the increase in rented single family houses. While Brooklyn Center has seen significant improvements to its rental housing in recent years with the implementation of a performance-based rental license program, the concentration in some neighborhoods has resulted in resident concerns about nuisances, public safety, and appearance.

The Moratorium will also restrict the residency of Level 3 Predatory Offenders to locations greater than 2,000 feet of a school, park, or place where children congregate. Currently the City does not have an ordinance regulating the location of predatory offenders. During the Moratorium, the City will be considering options to address the public safety and community impacts of such placements. According to City Manager Curt Boganey, "State law requires that the location of residences of Level 3 Predatory Offenders should take into consideration the proximity to schools and to each other. We believe that the proposed ordinance will

ensure that due consideration is given to the critical factors affecting public safety and quality of life.”

Recently, the City has found that a disproportionately high number of predatory offenders are being placed in the city. Since 2006, zero to two Community Notification Meetings were held each year, in accordance with Minnesota State law. So far in 2015, the City has been informed of seven placements that would require Community Notifications. Until the Moratorium is concluded, two of these placements will be on hold.

For more information, view City Council Resolution No. 2015-166 available at www.cityofbrooklyncenter.org.

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