



4646 Dakota St. S.E.
Prior Lake, MN 55372

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 22, 2010

Contact: Michael Peterson, Communications Coordinator
952-447-9804, mtpeterson@cityofpriorlake.com

City Works Quickly to Ensure Safety of Residents at Prior Lake Development

During the public forum portion of the City of Prior Lake's regular council meeting on Monday, April 19, residents spoke concerned that retaining walls at Bluffs of Northwood Meadows were unsafe and failing.

The Bluffs of Northwood Meadows in Prior Lake features 73 single family lots adjacent to Spring Lake Regional Park and the Arctic Lake wetland complex, one block west of Upper Prior Lake and Spring Lake.

Since the Monday meeting, the City of Prior Lake began taking aggressive action to protect the residents and public in this area.

The city is working with the developer to quickly install safety fences and the wall is being regularly monitored.

A structural engineering firm is checking on all of the walls in the development and their report is expected in a few days, and no building permits have been issued since the City learned of the issue. "Money will be placed in escrow for reconstruction, or reconstruction will be required before building permits continue," said Public Works Director and City Engineer Steve Albrecht.

"From the City's perspective the entire wall must be repaired," said Albrecht. "The safety of the residents is the most important thing."