

October 2025

CALENDAR

City Council Meetings

Oct 14, 6:00pm

Oct 28, 6:00pm

Fire Prevention Week

Oct 5—Oct 11

EDA Meeting

Oct 15, 4:00pm

Park Board Meeting

See City Calendar online

Planning Commission

Meeting

See City Calendar online



CITY OF PELICAN RAPIDS News

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Safety First: Navigating Downtown's Shared Use Path for Cyclists and Pedestrians

Downtown's shared use path is a lively corridor that connects residents, visitors, pedestrians, and cyclists, offering an excellent opportunity to explore the city on foot or two wheels. As this area becomes busier, it's essential that everyone follows safety best practices to prevent accidents and ensure a pleasant experience for all. Here's a comprehensive guide to safe sharing of our downtown pathway.

Stay Alert and Mindful

With a wide variety of users, staying alert is crucial. Cyclists should regularly check their surroundings, especially at intersections, crosswalks, and areas with limited visibility. Pedestrians should remain attentive, avoid distractions like phone use, and watch for approaching bikes. Remember, your awareness helps prevent collisions and keeps everyone safe.

Keep to the Right and Maintain Proper Lane Discipline

To promote organized movement, everyone should keep to the right side of the path unless overtaking. Cyclists should ride in a single file when passing pedestrians, and pedestrians should walk on the designated side. This simple rule ensures predictability, reducing sudden movements and surprises that could lead to accidents.

Adjust Your Speed to the Environment

Cyclists are encouraged to reduce their speed in crowded areas, crossings, or near intersections. Pedestrians should confidently walk at a comfortable pace, especially in areas where bikes are passing. Slowing down offers more control and reaction time, making the shared space safer for everyone. Remember, it's better to arrive a little later than to risk a collision.

Use Signals and Clear Communication

Clear communication prevents misunderstandings. Cyclists should use hand signals when turning or overtaking—pointing left or right, or slowing down with a hand extension. Cyclists can make eye contact or verbally alert others when passing or approaching. Ringing a bell when passing pedestrians or announcing yourself is a courteous and effective way to notify others of your presence.

Exercise Courtesy and Respect

Sharing is caring. Cyclists should give pedestrians ample space when passing, especially children, seniors, or those with mobility devices. Cyclists must be patient, slow down when approaching pedestrians, and avoid aggressive riding or weaving. Mutual respect fosters a friendly environment for all users and encourages continued shared use.

Keep the Path Clear and Accessible

Never stop suddenly in the middle of the trail, as it can cause accidents. If you need to pause, pull over safely to a side or designated area. Bikes and equipment should always be stored out of the way of moving traffic to keep the path accessible and safe for everyone.

Remember, Safety Is a Collective Effort

By adhering to these safety guidelines, each of us contributes to a safer and more enjoyable downtown environment. Everyone has a role—from cyclists to pedestrians to community members—to maintain a respectful and vigilant attitude toward shared space.

Let's work together to keep downtown's shared use path a safe, welcoming space for everyone to enjoy. Slow down, stay aware, and share the spirit of community on our busy city streets!

Thank you,

Pelican Rapids Police Department

OCTOBER 5–11, 2025: FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

The "3 A's" of fire safety, are Activate, Assist, and Attempt.

Activate: Pull the alarm to alert everyone to the fire, and call 911 to contact the fire department. Have someone else do this if you are evacuating. **Assist:** Help anyone in immediate danger or who needs assistance to evacuate the building. You should only do this if you can do so without putting your own safety at risk. **Attempt:** If it is safe, and after you have activated the alarm and assisted others, you can attempt to put out the fire with an extinguisher.

The 3 "P's" of fire prevention: prevent, plan and practice. Make sure your home has working smoke alarms, your family has a fire escape plan, and you have practiced it.

The 5 core fire safety rules are: have working smoke alarms, create and practice an escape plan, have and know how to use fire extinguishers, practice safe cooking habits, and use electricity safely to prevent electrical fires. These actions help with prevention, early detection, and safe evacuation in the event of a fire.

Here's a breakdown of each rule:

-Install and maintain smoke alarms: Install alarms on every level of your home, AND inside AND outside every sleeping area. Test the alarms monthly to ensure they are working correctly. Replace batteries at least once a year.

-Create and practice on escape plan: Identify 2 ways to get out of every room. Designate a safe meeting place outside your home. Practice the plan with your family at least twice a year to ensure everyone knows what to do in an emergency.

-Have, and know, how to use a fire extinguisher: Keep fire extinguishers in accessible locations, such as the kitchen and garage. Learn how to use the extinguisher's "PASS" method (Pull, Aim, Squeeze, Sweep").

-Practice safe cooking habits: Never leave cooking unattended. Keep flammable items like dish towels and curtains away from the stove.

-Use electricity safely: Avoid overloading electrical circuits. Have electrical systems inspected and maintained to prevent malfunctions, which can be a common cause of fires.

For more information, search MN Fire Prevention Week 2025 and do a deep dive on all the information!

CEDA Bulletin: Updates from Jordan: Business Development Blooms in PR!

Pelican Rapids is buzzing with new life and entrepreneurial spirit as we celebrate an outstanding year of business development. Here's a spotlight on the exciting changes and new ventures shaping the town.

One of the most notable transformations this year is the old Family Dollar building. It has found new purpose as the home of **Wishy Washy Laundry**. The newly renovated laundromat is a much-needed addition for locals and travelers alike, providing fresh, clean convenience right in the heart of town. But that's not all—work is underway to introduce a **24/7 gym** in the other half of the building. This addition will offer flexible fitness options for our active community. Plus, there's still a large commercial space available for retail rent—a golden opportunity for entrepreneurs ready to make their mark in Pelican Rapids. Nettetstad Insurance has entered a new era as the **Solbergs** assume ownership. They're not wasting any time, already undertaking an exterior update to give the building a fresh new look. Their refreshing commitment to both the business and the community is exciting! The old American Family Insurance building has been acquired by **Lage Retirement**, who are investing in a full renovation. This renewal ensures that downtown Pelican Rapids remains vibrant and well-maintained while providing essential services for our retirees. **Brew Haven** continues to be a local favorite. Their menu is expanding, featuring seasonal specials that celebrate the tastes of each month. **Rebel Shed** made a splash in its first season, offering a fun and fresh experience for all ages. The response was fantastic, and we're excited to announce they'll be back next summer with even more events, activities, and community spirit to offer. Another new business, **Water Lilly Massage**, has made its debut this year. Their first year in town has been a success, providing relaxation and wellness to our residents and adding a valuable service to our business community. Looking forward, the **old Bell Bank** building is undergoing an ambitious renovation. When finished, it will be transformed into a stylish Airbnb, offering guests a beautiful view of the Pelican River.

Pelican Rapids is truly on the move. With new businesses, renovations, and community spirit, the town is thriving like never before. If you have a dream or an idea, now is the perfect time to become a part of the Pelican Rapids business community! Reach out to me if you are looking for commercial space in town. There are some great options available. Happy Fall!